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Email addresses: UCU encourages us to use our home email when we retire.

For more information please contact:

ucu.swest@gmail.com

Are you getting all the info?

If UCU HO has your email you should also receive regular updates on campaigns from UCU head office as well as occasional branch emails.

If this is not the case let us know and we can check with the H.O on your behalf.

or contact the officers below:

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SW NPC D/C Liza Sentence lizasentance@hotmail.com
and Tom Murray tom.murray2@blueyonder.co.uk

1. Branch meeting & AGM

Monday 16th March 2020

Time: 12.00 noon – 3.00pm

Venue: UCU Office.

1st floor, Brittany House,

New North Road. Exeter, EX4 4EP

Public transport travel expenses will be reimbursed and light refreshments will be provided.

Newsletter: A termly newsletter for retired UCU members is sent to all branch members for whom we have email addresses.

2. National Pensioners Convention

Some of you will already be individual members of the NPC.
<https://www.npcuk.org/join-us-and-get-involved>

In this branch we are affiliated with Western NPC and Devon and Cornwall branches; Liza Sentence, Ruth Amias and Tom Murray are our reps.



The annual Pensioners' Parliament is widely regarded as one of the most important activities in the pensioner movement's calendar.

The NPC SW AGM will be held in Plymouth In March 2020 and they would be delighted to see any of our members there.

Your branch delegates to NPC are

Ruth, Tom and Liza

3. Care Quality Commission Annual Report. NPC London shared this: <https://www.cqc.org.uk/publications/major-report/annual-report-accounts-201819>

Some key comments from the report received from London NPC (Nov 2019)

What we did: We reviewed how the local area works within and across three key areas:

Maintaining people's health and wellbeing at home

Care and support when people experience a crisis

Supporting people when they leave hospital.

What we found:

Organisations intended to work together but mostly focused on their own goals. Although there was good planning between services, the way services were funded did not support them to work together
Organisations: were prioritising their own goals over shared responsibility to provide person centred care did not always share information with each other which meant they weren't able to make informed decisions about people's care were not prioritising services which keep people well at home planned their workforce in isolation to other services.

The regulatory framework focuses only on individual organisations.

Recommendations

Reform of planning and commissioning of services.

An agreed joint plan, funded in the right way, should support older people in their own homes, help them in an emergency, and then to return home safely.

A new approach to system performance management. This would measure how organisations collectively deliver improved outcomes for older people.

Joint workforce planning.

This would allow flexible and collaborative approaches to staff skills and career paths.

Better oversight of local system performance.

New legislation so CQC could regulate how people and organisations work together to support people to stay well.

London NPC 11.11.19

4. In The News.

October

It was 50 years ago today...

So may I introduce to you

The coin you've known for all these years?

Arnold Machin's 7-sided coin.



The 50p coin entered circulation on 14 October 1969, in the run-up to D-

Day on 15 February 1971, when the UK moved to a decimal currency. Guardian Money searched prices of goods in 1969 and compared them with today. This shows that in real terms, food, clothes, electrical goods and holidays have collapsed in price and we can afford much more. But there has been a vast relative increase in the price of housing. A look through the Guardian's classified job adverts on the day the 50p was launched gives a snapshot of what real jobs paid. The Open University, which had just been established, was hiring professors at £3,780 a year (equal to £62,532 today), lecturers on a range of £1,240 to £2,850 (£20,153-£47,147), and secretaries on £756-£1,068 (£12,506-£17,668).

The Open University is still hiring – and its adverts suggest that real pay for academics has barely edged ahead in 50 years. It currently has an advert for a professor of economics on a range of £67,700-£75,800, while it pays lecturers £33,000 to £49,000. But the secretary job pays lots more in today's money, with the OU advertising a role at £23,000 to £26,000.

The Royal Mint produced no £2 or 20p coins in 2017 as people used change in a rush to get rid of their pound coins as the old ones went out of circulation.

You can read the whole article here
<https://www.theguardian.com/money/2019/sep/14/50p-britons-living-costs-1969-spending>

How prices have changed:
Item Price in 1969 Price adjusted for inflation. Actual price today

Average wage (male, full time)
£1,560 **£24,050** £31,834
Average wage (female, full time)
£847 **£13,068** £26,103
Milk (one pint) 4.4p **73p** 50p
Eggs (dozen, large) 20.2p **£3.34**
£1.89
Instant coffee 21.8p **£3.60** £1.89
First-class stamp 2.2p **36.5p** 70p
Electricity (per kwh) 0.78p **12.9p**
14.4p

Jo Corke SW RMB

5. History in Stamps.

Charity surcharge postage stamps.
Alternative Funding the NHS?

Charity Stamps are issued to raise money for a particular purpose (such as a charitable cause) and sold at a premium over the postal value.



Typically the stamp shows two denominations separated by a plus

sign, but in many cases the only denomination shown is for the postage rate, but the buyer pays more.

The first “semi-postal” was actually a postal card sold to commemorate the Uniform Penny Post in 1890, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland issued a card with a face value of one penny, but sold it for sixpence, with the difference given to a fund for postal workers.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Semi-postal_stamp

Some of the first semi-postal stamps which were issued by the Australian colonies of New South Wales and Victoria, who both marked the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1897 with stamps sold for 12× increase over the face value.



There's a 1945 New Zealand "Health" stamp charging two pence for postage and a premium of one penny for charity.

6. From the Archives

Bah Humbug Mr Adam.

The Dover Junior Imperial and Constitutional Association had a joint meeting with the Dover Women's Suffrage society, reported in the local newspaper of 18 March 1910.

Mr Alex Adam, a member of the Junior Imperial Association thought that women would be degraded by active involvement. The Imperialists as a whole opposed women's suffrage because they were told that at the Creation man was destined to rule over women. Speaking at the meeting was Dr Brunyate, Dover's first medical practitioner who attended Girton College 1892-7, did her medical training in Durham, and obtained a doctorate from St Hugh's College, Oxford. She was a co founder of Dover Women's Suffrage Society in 1909 and was later to become Assistant Medical Officer of Health of Lindsey, Lincolnshire. 1872-1937.

Bah Humbug Mr Adam.

[Verne Hardingham Rugby](#)



The Royal Mail in 1975 sold this stamp for Health and Handicap funds with a 4 1/2p denomination and a premium of 1 1/2p for charitable causes making the total cost 6p, with funds going to health and handicap charities. The stamp issue was not considered a success and there have been few UK semi-postal issues since. Other countries have had more success.



This 1998 USA breast cancer awareness stamp had a surcharge of 6 cents. It has been re-issued several times, the most recently in 2014.

[Jo Corke SW RMB](#)

7. Environmental Matters.

At our October 2019 branch meeting the following motion proposed by Tony Staunton, seconded Jo Corke.

This branch formally resolves to offer full support to the next Global Climate Strike day on November 29th and calls upon the Trades Councils and their affiliated branches in the South West to support and mobilise for the day.

It was carried unanimously and it was agreed that the motion from the SW RMB should be sent to the SW TUC with a request to forward it to TCs. Our branch TC delegates can raise it at TC themselves too.

Following the recent declarations of a climate emergency by Bristol City Council, South Gloucestershire Council and the University of Bristol, staff at UWE have called on UWE's board of governors to declare a climate and ecological emergency on behalf of UWE.

The TUC South West, representing half-a-million workers in the region, wants to see trade unions at the heart of every workplace discussion.

The TUC calls for:

- *A Just Transition Commission: a cross-party national commission including business, consumers and unions to plan a clear and funded path to a low-carbon economy.

*Workplace Transition

Agreements: to put workers' voices at the heart of transition plans in every workplace where change is required.

- *Transition skills funding: so that every worker has access to training in the new skills needed for a low carbon economy, and guaranteed pathways to new work.

- *Employment standard protections: to ensure new jobs in the low carbon economy are not of lower quality than jobs that are changed or superseded.

- *Trade Union Green Reps: trained and supported to champion environmental protection at work.



Liza Sentence SWRMB

8. What are you doing now?

In our May 2018 newsletter was a letter from Terence Bickford, a SW RMB member suggesting that, in addition to specific union matters, we include information about

educational opportunities that abound for retired members.

We know that there are branch members who have continued in retirement to explore not only their own subject, but branched out into other interesting areas.

The AGM 2019 agreed that we ask our members if they would like to write something for the newsletter and/or give a presentation to a branch meeting.

9. SOUTH WEST TUC

Pensioners' Annual Conference:
20.10.19 at Weston College, WSM.

Stephainie Tailby from our branch was among 67 trade union delegates who attended this conference.



SW RMB

10. Teachers' Pensions | For Members

My Pension Online is the Teachers' Pension online portal designed to help you manage your pension more efficiently.

<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/members/faq/s/my-pension-online/my-pension-online.aspx>

11. Editors Note.

Contributions to the newsletter are welcome. Recently, as you may have guessed, I have been looking through my stamp collection and featured some of them in this issue. If you have a stamp with some relevant interest that you'd like to feature, please send a photo and short piece of text about it.

We have found a place to send the stamps we don't want – Stamp Active is a voluntary organisation which promotes stamp collecting for young people in the UK.

<https://www.stampactive.co.uk/>

We send them to: Stamp Active Network, **Stamp Active:**

Peter Barham, 2E Broomwood Road, Orpington, Kent, BR5 2JH.

The patron of course is Alan Johnson former Home Secretary and Member of Parliament and was once a postman. He says "Stamp collecting has given many hours of pleasure to millions of people over the years. It is a remarkable offshoot of Rowland Hill's most famous initiative combining the appreciation of art, geography and communications in one satisfying pursuit."

Jo Corke SW RMB

12. Branch AGM.

If you wish to stand for a position in the branch please contact us either by email ucu.swest@gmail.com or by post c/o the UCU Exeter offices 1st floor, Brittany House, New North Road. Exeter, EX4 4EP

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13. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Monday, March 11th 2019 at the UCU Offices, Exeter

1. Present: John Daniell (Chair), Tom Murray, Alan Cousins, Barbara Segal, Liza Sentance, Ruth Amias, Charles Henderson, Pat Mee, Margaret George, Peter Bailey

2. Apologies: Jo Corke, Jeremy Comerford, Peter Burkill, Stephanie Tailby, Stephen Noreiko.

3. Minutes of the previous AGM held on March 28th 2018: Agreed

4. Matters Arising: None

5. Accounts: Barbara Segal to become third signatory, together with Liza Sentance and Pat Mee. Two signatories needed at any one time. BS will also be a checker. Electronic accounting to be operational for the next financial year.

6. Election of Branch Officers. The following were declared elected:-

Chair: Tom Murray (proposed BS, seconded Henry Parry)

Vice Chair: John Daniell (proposed TM, seconded BS)

Secretary: Tom Murray (proposed LS, seconded RA)

Treasurer: John Daniell (proposed LS,

seconded Jo Corke)

Membership Secretary: Jo Corke (proposed Mike Broussine, seconded Henry Parry)

Returning Officer: Alan Cousins (proposed JC, seconded HP)

Equality Officer: Ruth Amias (proposed MG, seconded LS)

Notes: Tom Murray will take on the titular position as Chair, and take on the substantive role as Secretary. There was a short discussion on the need for an Equality Officer. The branch agreed that this would be beneficial.

7. Regional Representatives: Margaret George, Liza Sentance, Charles Henderson (proposed JD, seconded PM). TM to be a reserve.

Liza Sentance to continue as UCU branch Environmental Representative.

8. Confirmation of delegates to affiliated bodies and election of new delegates:

Trades Councils.

The following will continue as delegates:-

Torbay: Liza Sentance

Exeter: Tom Murray, Peter Bailey (added at today's meeting)

Gloucester: Ruth Amias

Bristol : Barbara Segal

Taunton and West Somerset: Charles Henderson

Notes: PB added as second Exeter delegate (proposed MG, seconded AC)

The situation regarding **Mendip** is uncertain as Bevis Miller is away. It was agreed that JD should withhold cheque until this matter is resolved.

National Pensioner Convention Gloucestershire, Avon and Somerset (GAS): Barbara Segal, Ruth Amias.

Devon and Cornwall: Liza Sentance.

Notes: JD to withhold money to Devon and Cornwall due to inadequate

communication. LS unable to attend next meeting of Devon and Cornwall NPC.

9. Any Other Business

The branch agreed that a letter should be sent to Sally Hunt, expressing our appreciation of her services.

The meeting ended at 12.50 p.m.

14. AGM Agenda March 2020.

University and College Union South West
Region Retired Members Branch

Annual General meeting

Monday March 16 2020 at Regional
Office Exeter at 12.00 midday.

1. Chairs Welcome

2. Apologies

3. Minutes of AGM 2019

4. Matters arising from AGM 2019

5. Branch Reports:

Chair/Secretary

Treasurer

Membership

Environmental Officer.

Equality Officer

6. Election of Officers:

Chair

Vice-chair

Secretary

Treasurer

Membership Secretary

Environmental Officer

Equality Officer

Returning Officer.

7. Election of Regional Representatives

8. Confirmation of delegates of affiliated
bodies and election of new delegates:

Trades Councils

Plymouth

Exeter

Gloucester

Bristol

Mendip

Taunton and West Somerset

National Pensioners Convention

Gloucester Avon and Somerset (GAS)

Devon and Cornwall in the South West

9. AOB

10. Date and Venue of 2021 AGM

END

