



1/1148 branch Newsletter  
 ■ No. 2 ■ Spring 2007

The

# WORKER

## Vote YES for a stronger union!

Welcome to our second Branch newsletter, THE WORKER at the end of what has been a positive year for the Branch and start of a year of great change and opportunity with the proposed merger of our Union and AMICUS

The merger of the two unions will bring about a bigger stronger union that

will be better able to represent workers throughout the voluntary sector.

The Special Biennial Delegate Conference in December 2006 endorsed and supported the merger and in early 2007 T&G members will be balloted.

If you want to be a member of a bigger, stronger union – **VOTE YES!**



## Raising our public profile

2006 saw the Branch raise its public profile in the community by having a presence with Lambeth TUC, GLATUC and TUC at Clapham Pride, RISE, Lambeth Country Show and Soho Pride.

We also sent delegates to the Palestine Solidarity Campaign Trade Union Conference, Latin America 2006 and the AGM of the United Campaign for the Repeal of Anti-Trade Union

Laws.

Our banner was on the London May Day march organised by the TUC. This was the largest event to date in support of the Trade Union Freedom Bill.

2006 also saw the launch of our branch website – [www.tgwu-1-1148.org.uk](http://www.tgwu-1-1148.org.uk) our thanks to

Seamus MacBride for his work on the site and keeping it updated.

We have been able to be active in the Region 1 ACTS Trade Group Committee and the Region 1 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Forum by having a delegate to both.

This has given the branch a voice at a Regional level, which we have not had before.

## Double threat to jobs

The challenge for our members working in the voluntary sector in 2007 is the funding of organizations that employ our members – the cuts in ALG grants and Supporting People. Both funding streams are putting our members, jobs, pay and working conditions under threat.

It was agreed at the last Region 1 ACTS Trade Group

to submit a motion to National ACTS Trade Group calling on the Union to campaign nationally on Supporting People.

The Branch is committed to supporting members in their workplaces. Members who are affected by cuts in ALG grants and in Supporting People are therefore, a priority for our branch.

### Not a member? Join the T&G

Name: .....

Workplace: .....

Address: .....

Return to TGWU 1/1148, BWTUC 898 Garratt Lane SW17 0NB – we will send you a membership form.

### Are you a T&G rep? Let us know

Name: .....

Are you  a Convenor  Shop Steward  Health & Safety Representative  Learning Representative?

Workplace: .....

Address: .....

Telephone: ..... email: .....

Return to Anton Johnson, TGWU 1/1148, c/o BWTUC, 898 Garratt Lane SW17 0NB

## TUC activity

The Branch has been very active in local Trade Union Councils, in particular Battersea & Wandsworth TUC, Croydon TUC and Lambeth TUC and through them the Greater London Association of Trade Union Councils – [www.glatuc.org.uk](http://www.glatuc.org.uk)

## Branch's Star turn

We have also been able to support the regeneration the *Morning Star* Readers & Supporters Group in Region I.

If you are interested in promoting the paper in the Region or would just like advice on where to buy copies for yourself or your workplace, please contact Anton on 07858.261.354.

A motion submitted by our branch calling on the Region to increase their shareholding in the paper and to promote readership was passed by the Region I ACTS Trade Group. The ACTS Trade Group will now send the motion to the Regional Council.



## Which paper do you read?

The Branch is a member of the People's Press Printing Society – which owns Britain's only daily left paper the *Morning Star*. Buy the only daily left paper for peace and socialism. at your newsagents or on line at [www.morningstaronline.co.uk](http://www.morningstaronline.co.uk)

# The WORKER



## Giving a lead on LGBT

In November the Branch sponsored the Southern & Eastern TUC LGBT NETWORK Conference, which saw two of our members elected to officer posts – Julia Brandreth is one of the Co-Chairs and Anton Johnson is Secretary to the Network.

Busy year planned for 2007

## Join us on May Day

For our meetings in 2007 we will be organizing speakers on topics such as the merger, fight against fascism and the Trade Union Freedom Bill. Please pass your suggestions for speakers to us.

We hope you can attend

and participate in the Branch in the coming year.

In addition to regular meetings, the details of which can be found on our website, we will be participating in the London May Day March on 1 May and the Croydon TUC March in

defence of public services on 29 April.

Look for details in the *Morning Star* and on our website. If you can help carry our banner or would like to meet and march with other branch members, please contact us.

## BRANCH MEETINGS

EVERY SECOND TUESDAY of the month

Time: 6pm

Venue:

Transport House,  
128 Theobald's  
Road WC1

Write for *The Worker*

If you have any items or news that you would like included in **THE WORKER** please send them in to us, by post or by email.

## UNITE AGAINST FASCISM Conference

Saturday 17th February 2007  
Congress House,  
Great Russell St WC1

The branch will pay travel costs and child care expenses to any member who wishes to attend.

## 1/1148 Branch Officers

Chair – Seamus MacBride  
Branch Secretary – Anton Johnson  
Vice-Chair – Martin Graham  
Branch Organiser – Faryal Velmi  
Treasurer – Graham Jones  
Press – Anthony Burbage



## Branch contact details

c/o Battersea & Wandsworth TUC,  
898 Garratt Lane, London SW17 0NB  
Email: [mabuse@mabuse.plus.com](mailto:mabuse@mabuse.plus.com)  
telephone: 07858.261.354