

UNISON NI B&MW Mini ebulletin (January)

1. Monthly Immigration Advice Clinics
2. Monthly support group
3. English classes in UNISON
4. UNISON College – education courses

❄️ ❄️ ❄️ **Happy New Year to all our members** ❄️ ❄️ ❄️

Delegates from our group will be heading to UNISON Black Members' Conference in January. We will send a full bulletin with feedback from the conference and updates on the work permit / repayment clauses research and other campaigns in February.

In the meantime, we send you all our **best wishes for 2023** as well as a couple of notices of events / courses happening in UNISON in January.

1. Monthly Immigration Advice Clinic

Our monthly Immigration Clinics with an immigration solicitor from the Law Centre NI are now back up and running monthly.

Clinics will take place in the UNISON office, **every second Thursday of the month**, 10.00-13.00

Next clinic: **Thursday 12th January**

To **book a slot** please email Nathalie n.donnelly@unison.co.uk

Note current UNISON members can also access immigration advice over the phone through UNISON Direct 0800 0 857 857

2. UNISON Black and Migrant Workers Group Drop-in sessions

UNISON NI's Black and Migrant Workers Group has been hosting drop-in support sessions for its members since September 2022.

These sessions take place on the **first Monday of every month at 2.30pm-3.45pm** and are facilitated by Black and Migrant Worker's Co-Chair, Dean Lee who is a BACP Accredited Counsellor and Community Development Facilitator with over 20 years' experience of working predominantly in the voluntary sector in Northern Ireland.

Each session will begin with a brief introduction by Dean on a chosen theme related to how we can support ourselves emotionally and practically as Black and Migrant Workers and Trade Union members. Participants are then invited to share their own thoughts, feelings, and experiences on the theme in a safe, confidential, and mutually supportive atmosphere.

The sessions last no longer than 1 hour and 15 mins (with 15 mins for arrivals and introductions) and take place over ZOOM and occasionally in person. Issues raised by participants can be further addressed if necessary through signposting to Nathalie Donnelly, B&MW Project Local Organiser.

Next session: **Monday 9th January, 2.30PM** - “New Beginnings - Turning over a new leaf”

To register and secure a place on any one or the whole series of monthly support workshops, please email n.donnelly@unison.co.uk.

Dates for your Diary – 2023

Session 1: Monday 9 January - “New Beginnings - Turning over a new leaf”

Session 2: Monday 6 February - “Communication - Turning Words into Action”

Session 3: Monday 6 March - “Burnout - Refilling the cup of Compassion”

Session 4: Monday 3 April - “Spirituality - Have some faith?”

Session 5: Monday 8 May - “Responsibility - Going above and beyond”

Session 6: Monday 5 June - “Intersectionality - Multiple Struggles to Belong”

Session 7: Monday 3 July - “Politics - From Disenfranchisement to Activism”

Session 8: Monday 7 August - “Creativity – The Art of Healing”

Session 9: Monday 4 September 2023 - “Reconciliation - Give my head Peace”

Session 10: Monday 2 October - “Racism and Xenophobia - Our wee country?”

Session 11: Monday 6 November - “Self-Fulfilment - Who cares?”

Session 12: Monday 4th December - “Achievement – Too busy to celebrate?”

More detailed descriptions of monthly themes and confirmed times, dates and venues for the sessions will be circulated on social media and through e-bulletins, as the following may be subject to change.

3. English classes in UNISON

UNISON offers two weekly classes for those who want to prepare for an IELTS (International English Test System) or OET exam (Occupational English Test - *for doctor and nurses*). The class is for those who require a Level 6.5 or above in IELTS and OET equivalent -typically for NMC or GMC registration.

Classes take place in the UNISON office **every Thursday** (with Hybrid / Zoom option available)

IELTS 10.30 to 12.30

OET 2.00 to 4.00

The January intake starts on **Thursday 5th**, but you can still join this batch throughout January.

The class is delivered by Susan Good.

Contact Nathalie Donnelly directly n.donnelly@unison.co.uk to receive the assessment exercise to join the class.

We still have spaces in both classes.

Classes are also open to asylum seekers and refugees as part of UNISON’s commitment to supporting inclusion.

4. UNISON College – education courses

Please follow the links for a list of upcoming courses. To register for any of these courses please email educationni@unison.co.uk with the course name your name and membership number if you know it.

Our education grants, eLearning modules with Nursing times, and Skills Academy and pre-recorded lectures can be found on <https://padlet.com/caitcac8/memberlearning/wish/2427383621>



UNISON College offer over 700 different course topics to our members each year, ranging from in person accredited learning to virtual and eLearning CPD modules.



Do you have any colleagues not in UNISON?

Encourage them to join now for advice and support in the workplace.

[Join UNISON Online](#)



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