

Young workers need UNISON.

UNISON needs young members.

If you are not already a member of UNISON we want you to join. Why? Because working together means we can

- make a positive difference to your pay, conditions, and workplace

- support each other when things go wrong at work

- build a more effective union that gets things done

For most of us being a young worker is a good experience - a satisfying job, learning new skills, making money and new friends. Sadly, for many young people it just isn't like that. Low pay, dangerous jobs, harassment, and bullying can make working a nightmare.

That's why young workers need the protection of a trade union.

UNISON:-

- organises to win improved working conditions and pay

- campaigns for better rights, and

- actively challenges harassment, bullying and inequality.

Over 75,000 young workers have already made the decision to join UNISON. They are already making a significant impact in the union's bargaining and campaigning agenda.

NEWS

Youth unemployment nears 1 million

UNISON's young members national conference in May discussed the worsening position of youth unemployment.

And the figures have got much worse since!

The unemployment rate for young people (16-24) is now nearly 1 in 5. Almost 1 million were without a job at the end of July.

This is a massive increase of a quarter of a million in just 18 months.

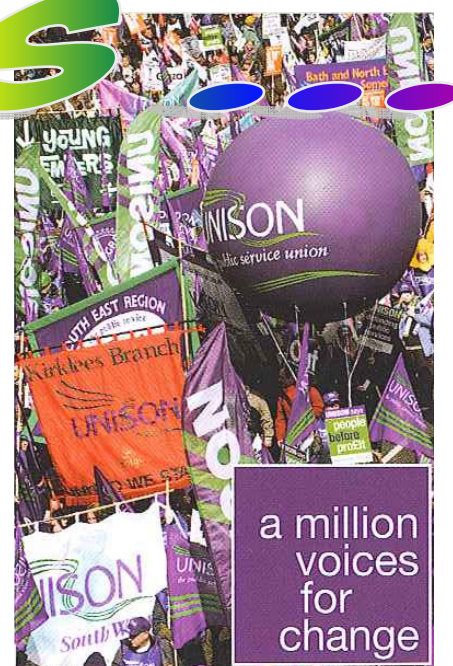
That increase is twice as much as those aged 25-49, and three times as much as those aged 50 and over.

Young people are particularly badly affected by the experience of unemployment.

Research has shown it leads to long-term impacts in loss of skills, earnings and progression.

How long did it take you to find a job? And does your job hold any future or do you consider it 'dead-end' at minimum wage levels. Let us know your story!

Email maz.jeffery@unisondc.co.uk



For too long our employers and our politicians have put profit and private gain before people and the public interest. A tiny minority have been getting rich at the expense of the rest of us.

Because of a crisis caused by the irresponsibility and greed of that minority, we see people lose their jobs, their homes, their pensions, and all their hopes and dreams in the worst global recession since the second world war.

We need to say - never again. We're not going back to business as usual - tax cuts and bonuses for millionaires while everyone else works longer and harder to make ends meet and look after their families.

Public service workers are on the

frontline of dealing with this recession.

We want to make sure our members get the support and the resources they need to help people through hard times.

This is an international crisis, it's the crisis of an international economic system that has got out of hand and let people down.

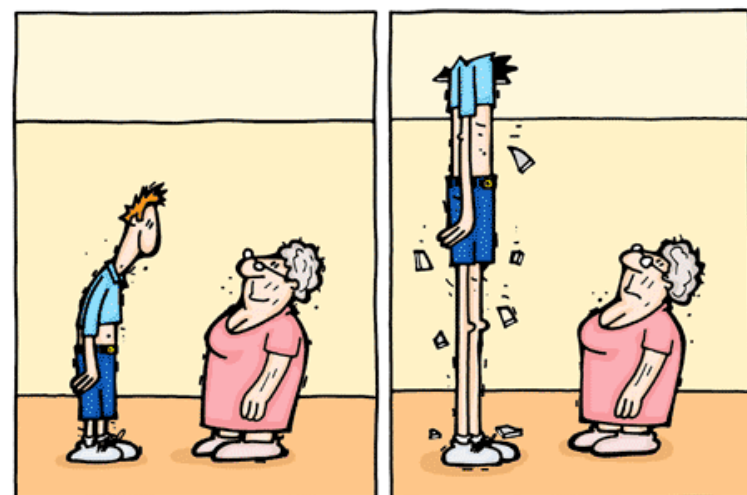
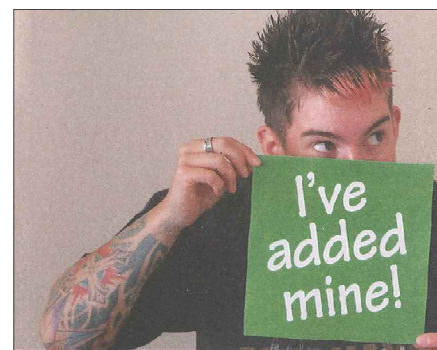
We're calling for:

- **social justice** help for those facing redundancy, repossessions and poverty - not bonuses and tax cuts for millionaires

- **good jobs** environmentally sustainable and socially useful jobs, with decent pay and pensions and a strong union voice

- **quality public services** no more privatisation. Increased investment in accountable public services like health, education and housing.

Add your voice at www.unison.org.uk/million/branch.asp Maz did!



GROWING YOUTH

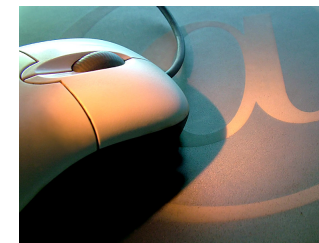
GROWING YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

Minimum wage increase

From 1st October 2009 the national minimum wage rates are

Age band	Old rate	New rate
16-17 years	£3.53	£3.57
18-21 years	£4.77	£4.83
22 years and above	£5.73	£5.80

If you are having problems at work with your wage levels, contact the branch office urgently 01629 582266.



JOIN OUR YOUNG MEMBERS EMAIL LIST

...just send an email to branch@unisondc.co.uk with your name and the subject "YOUNG" and we'll add you to our list today.



Because you want to make a difference

We need ordinary members who want to get things done, who are ready to work with other members on common issues, and who want to make a positive change people's everyday lives.

Because you've got something to say

We've all got opinions and ideas on what happens at work and in our lives outside work, but we don't often get the chance to share them and really feel we make a difference. Getting involved means you get to speak out on behalf of members just like you on issues such as:

- your workplace, working conditions, and pay;
- issues in the wider world;
- how the union works.

Because you want to develop your skills and knowledge

Being involved in UNISON is like any other life experience - an opportunity to learn and to grow. And the skills you learn, and the knowledge you pick up are transferable to your work or private life. This can help with both personal development and career development. Similarly there may be skills and/or knowledge you already have that you want to practise. Very often you can find an outlet for these through involvement in UNISON.

Such skills might include:

- Communication - verbal and written
- Interpersonal - empathising, listening, advising, persuading, leading
- Problem-solving - analysing, thinking creatively
- IT - record-keeping, creating publicity, accounts

UNISON can help you acquire these skills through training, teamwork, and support. Give us a call to see how you can get involved.

MAZ JEFFERY



I'm 23 and work as a youth worker in Amber Valley where I also live. I became a shop steward earlier in the year and was also elected the branch youth officer in April.

Outside work my interests include playing rugby, running and riding my beloved motorbike!

Young workers often tend to face the worst of all worlds at work. We're last in the pecking order for annual leave, we tend to get the lowest pay and sometimes managers think we're easy to push around.

In some work places, we're on a minimum wage which is even lower than the poor rate for most adults. Yet our costs remain the same - I haven't yet seen a loaf of bread being sold with a special young person's discount!

My first task is convincing more young workers of the need to join UNISON. These days trade unions are like job insurance; if you own a car, a house or even a motorbike you will have appropriate insurance.

You took out job insurance with UNISON. And you can help me by passing on a membership form to a friend of yours so they too can be covered.

The idea of a trade union is strength and safety in numbers, fighting for better pay and conditions – it's not all about going on strike!

I'm also here to raise concerns you have in your workplace, listen to any issues and be a friendly voice on the end of the phone!

SO! - If you're under 27 give me a call, drop me an email maz.jeffery@unisondc.co.uk or send a pigeon!

UNISON runs an annual young members' weekend where young UNISON activists can meet together and discuss their experiences. It's a great chance to meet, work and socialise with other young members, find out more about the union, and learn key organising skills. If you will be under 27 on 16th May 2010 and are interested in attending, contact me.

Costs (including meals, accommodation, travel and childcare) are paid by UNISON. Spaces are limited so ... don't delay, call me today!

MAZ 07740 807778



**YOUNG MEMBERS' WEEKEND 2010
FRI 14 - SUN 16 MAY CROYDE BAY**

**WHAT DO YOU WANT TO READ ABOUT
IN THIS BULLETIN? LET MAZ KNOW!**

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YOUNG MEMBERS

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