

UNISON South East Regional Women's Committee Newsletter



March 2018



In Britain today every British citizen over the age of 18 has the right to vote but it wasn't always that way. Women, the working class and younger people did not always have the right to vote but had to fight, often bitterly, for it.

2018 marks one hundred years since women were given the right to vote. The campaign for the parliamentary vote for women was a long and bitter struggle that began in earnest in the 1860's. Although the movement is often marked as beginning around 1860, women's consciousness about full political citizenship had its roots much earlier (for example, Mary Wollstonecraft's *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* which was published in 1792).

The campaign for the vote for women that begun in the 1860's, and stretched over a period of more than 40 years, had been one of peaceful demonstrations, petitions to parliament, public meetings, lobbying of MP's from all political parties including the new Independent Labour Party. In 1897, various women's suffrage societies came together to form the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies (NUWSS) led by Millicent Fawcett.



Mary Wollstonecraft



Millicent Fawcett

Under the leadership of Millicent Fawcett the NUWSS continued to campaign by peaceful means. Disheartened by the slow progress being made, Emmeline Pankhurst founded the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) in 1903. Assisted by her daughters (Christabel, Sylvia and Adela), the WSPU initially engaged in creative peaceful protests but grew frustrated by the stubbornness of the Liberal government of the day, who had over a long period of time debated women's suffrage bills but had clearly no intention of passing them. With the slogan 'Deeds not Words' the suffragettes were encouraged by the leadership of the WSPU to abandon 'ladylike tactics' and to not just continue to ask for their democratic right to vote, but to demand it.

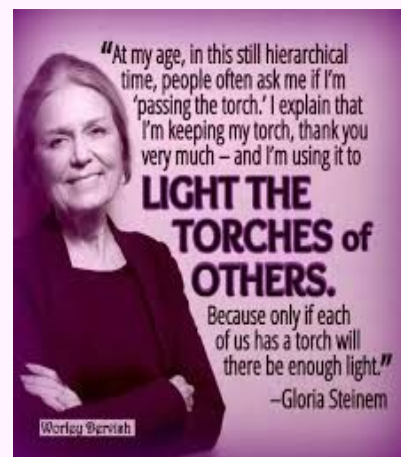
The government prohibited women from protesting in public spaces and from 1912 the activities of the suffragettes became more militant and included direct action such as, smashing windows and vandalising letter boxes, but never did their tactics endanger human life. As a consequence, hundreds of suffragettes were arrested and imprisoned during these years of direct action. **(Continued on page 5...)**

About International Women's Day

International Women's Day is generally observed around the world on 8th March. The day celebrates the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women and also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity.

International Women's Day (IWD) has been observed since the early 1900's - a time of great expansion and turbulence in the industrialized world that saw booming population growth and the rise of radical ideologies. No one government, NGO, charity, corporation, academic institution, women's network or media hub is solely responsible for International Women's Day. Many organizations declare an annual IWD theme that supports their specific agenda or cause, and some of these are adopted more widely with relevance than others.

"The story of women's struggle for equality belongs to no single feminist nor to any one organization but to the collective efforts of all who care about human rights," says world-renowned feminist, journalist and social and political activist Gloria Steinem. Thus International Women's Day is all about unity, celebration, reflection, advocacy and action - whatever that looks like globally at a local level. But one thing is for sure, International Women's Day has been occurring for well over a century - and continues to grow from strength to strength.



UNISON NATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE—LIVERPOOL 2018

This year's national women's conference took place in Liverpool from the 1st to the 3rd of February. It was the largest women's conference to date and the South East delegation included over 70 women members and activists. There was a strong conference agenda incorporating some of the most pressing issues for women today including - the government's decision to limit child tax credit to the first two children, and the so called 'rape clause'; violence against women and fighting the cuts to women's refuges; the changes to pension age and unique health challenges faced by an ageing female workforce and misogyny as a hate crime. There were strong debates on the lack of women working in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) as well as motions on UNISON democracy with motions on proportionality, branch women's officers becoming a 'rule book' position and training programmes for mentoring and



Cathy Roblin (Chair, S.E. Women's Committee & Dr. Helen Pankhurst

developing women especially amongst low paid women members. The South East regional reps Cathy Roblin and Debbie Hollingsworth did a great job leading the delegation meeting and moving the regional motion on 'supporting women suffering with mental health' which was carried.

Conference warmly welcomed excellent guest speakers including members of the striking homecare workers in Birmingham who addressed conference on the second day and received a standing ovation. Margaret McKee, UNISON President and hospital catering assistant gave a passionate speech about the impact of the cuts on the NHS. Margaret said "I see first hand what is happening in the NHS... People are dying before they can be operated on".

Next year's women's conference will take place in Bournemouth, 14 to 16th February 2019.

International Women's Day timeline journey

1908

Great unrest and critical debate was occurring amongst women.

Women's oppression and inequality was spurring women to become more vocal and active in campaigning for change. In 1908, 15,000 women marched through New York City demanding shorter hours, better pay and voting rights.



1909

In accordance with a declaration by the Socialist Party of America, the first National Woman's Day (NWD) was observed across the United States on 28 February. Women continued to celebrate NWD on the last Sunday of February until 1913.

1910



In 1910 a second International Conference of Working Women was held in Copenhagen. **Clara Zetkin** (Leader of the 'Women's Office' for the Social Democratic Party in Germany) tabled the idea of an International Women's Day. She proposed that every year in every country there should be a celebration, on the same day (a Women's Day) to press for their demands. The conference of over 100 women from 17 countries, representing unions, socialist parties, working women's clubs agreed with the suggestion and with unanimous approval, International Women's Day was the result.

1911

Following the decision agreed at Copenhagen, International Women's Day was honoured for the first time in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland on 19 March 1911. More than one million women and men attended IWD rallies campaigning for women's rights to work, vote, be trained to hold public office and end discrimination. Less than a week later on 25 March, a tragic incident - the 'Triangle Fire' in New York City took the lives of more than 140 working women, most of them Italian and Jewish immigrants. This disastrous event drew significant attention to working conditions and labour legislation in the United States that became a focus of subsequent International Women's Day events.

1913-1914

On the eve of World War I campaigning for peace, Russian women observed their first International Women's Day on the last Sunday in February 1913. In 1913 following discussions, International Women's Day was transferred to 8 March and this day has remained the global date for International Women's Day ever since.

In 1914 further women across Europe held rallies to campaign against the war and to express women's solidarity. In London there was a march from Bow to Trafalgar Square in support of women's suffrage on 8 March 1914.



Emmeline Pankhurst being arrested

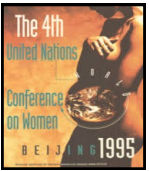
1975

International Women's Day was celebrated for the first time by the United Nations in 1975.

Then in December 1977, the General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming a United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace to be observed on any day of the year by Member States, in accordance with their historical and national traditions.



1995



The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, a historic roadmap signed by 189 governments, focused on 12 critical areas of concern, and envisioned a world where each woman and girl can exercise her choices, such as participating in politics, getting an education, having an income, and living in societies free from violence and discrimination.

2000

By the new millennium, International Women's Day activity around the world had stalled in many countries. The world had moved on and feminism wasn't a popular topic (if it ever was!). International Women's Day needed re-igniting. There was urgent work to do - battles had not been won and gender parity had still not been achieved.

2011

2011 saw the 100 year centenary of International Women's Day - with the first IWD event held exactly 100 years ago in 1911 in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland. In the United States, President Barack Obama proclaimed March 2011 to be "Women's History Month". The then Secretary of State Hillary Clinton launched the "100 Women Initiative: Empowering Women and Girls through International Exchanges". Celebrity activist Annie Lennox lead a superb march across one of London's iconic bridges rising awareness in support for global charity Women for Women International.

2018 and beyond

The world has witnessed a significant change and attitudinal shift in both women's and society's thoughts about women's equality and emancipation. Many from a younger generation may feel that 'all the battles have been won for women' while many feminists from the 1970's know only too well the longevity and ingrained complexity of patriarchy. With more women in the boardroom, greater equality in legislative rights, and an increased critical mass of women's visibility as impressive role models in every aspect of life, one could think that women have gained true equality.

The unfortunate fact is that women are still not paid equally to that of their male counterparts, women still are not present in equal numbers in business or politics, and globally women's education, health and the violence against them is worse than that of men. However, great improvements have been made.

We do have female astronauts and prime ministers, school girls are welcomed into university, women can work and have a family, women have real choices. And so each year the world inspires women and celebrates their achievements. A global web of rich and diverse local activity connects women from all around the world ranging from political rallies, business conferences, government activities and networking events through to local women's craft markets, theatrical

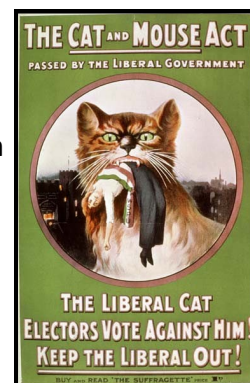




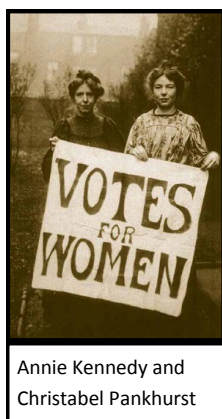
(Continued from page 1...)

Many of the imprisoned suffragettes adopted the hunger strike as a political tool, and endured force feeding in prison.

There was such a public outcry about women being force-fed and the government responded with the introduction of the 'Cat and Mouse Act' which allowed the authorities to release women from prison when their health became a serious concern. However, as soon as the women had recovered they would be arrested again and brought back to prison - the suffragettes would immediately go on hunger strike again. The suffragettes were daring and brave and they often put their own lives at risk for the cause.



The activities of the WSPU were brought to a halt during the First World War but the activities of the NUWSS continued during the war years. Eventually in 1918 eight and a half million women were given the right to vote. However, the legislation was restricted to women aged 30 and over, who owned property or was married to someone who owned property. Millions of working class women and younger women would have to wait a further ten years before all women would have the right to vote on equal terms with that of men.



Annie Kennedy and
Christabel Pankhurst

So what about women's rights today? Millicent Fawcett is acknowledged widely as the founder of The Fawcett Society which is still a campaigning force to be reckoned with. The Fawcett Society campaigns on the barriers and obstacles that women still face such as equal pay, underrepresentation in parliament and in boardrooms. They work with other well know organisations and trade unions to campaign against violence against women, sexual objectification and sexual harassment as well as pregnancy and maternity discrimination. It acts as a major influencer of public policy for women and families today. The Fawcett Society has recently published a **Sex Discrimination**

Law Review (January 2018) which demonstrates clearly that whilst much progress has been made since 1918, there is still much to be done. The review states that *"The gender pay gap remains stubborn, violence against women and girls is endemic and access to justice is limited."* The review raises the question of whether the current equality legislation is robust enough to enable real progress towards equality for women and goes further by making recommendations for change. For more information and to download the report go to www.fawcettsociety.org.uk

Dr. Helen Pankhurst, granddaughter of Sylvia Pankhurst was warmly welcomed to UNISON national women's conference in February and spoke about the 'feminist moment' she believes we are having today. She has recently published a book 'Deeds Not Words' and she told delegates that during her research she found that, *"while there are many types of inequalities that women face today, violence against women was the overriding problem"*. She also believes that *"the objectification of women is without doubt the most important area we need to act on"*. Her book is on sale now in hardback - paperback version is due out later this year.

Great Women of the past

Sylvia Pankhurst (1882-1960)



Sylvia was born in Manchester on May 5th 1882. She was the daughter of Suffragette founder Emmeline Pankhurst. Her father was a radical socialist and his teachings stayed with Sylvia for life. She went to Manchester High School for Girls and in 1900 won a place at the Royal College of Art in South Kensington. She developed a friendship with Keir Hardie, the founder of the Independent Labour Party. Her views, on the direction of the WSPU, began to differ to that of her mothers and her sister, Christabel. In 1913, she left the WSPU and worked with Keir Hardie to set up her own suffrage organisation. First called the East London Federation of Suffragettes the name changed twice and eventually was called the Workers' Socialist Federation.

As a Suffragette, Sylvia was imprisoned and force-fed more than any other campaigner. During her years with the WSPU she organised demonstrations, rallies and marches all over Britain, publicising the Women's Social and Political Union, trying to persuade the Government to give women the vote. She designed flags, banners and gifts for sale, decorated halls and meeting rooms and spoke to huge audiences. Women came in their thousands to hear her speak. Like her mother Emmeline, Sylvia also lectured overseas on woman's suffrage for example, in the United States in 1911, as well as in Scandinavia in 1913, and in central Europe in 1914. The suffragists and suffragettes not only campaigned for the vote, but campaigned on wider issues of inequality for women, such as women's rights to their property (including their incomes), pension rights, equal pay, prostitution, violence against women and girls. Like many of the women involved in these campaigns, Sylvia continued campaigning long after the vote for women was finally won in 1928. In the mid-1930's Sylvia became a fervent supporter of Haile Selassie and in 1936 set up the 'New Times and Ethiopian News' to keep the British public alert as to what was happening in Ethiopia after the invasion by Mussolini's Italy. She became an advisor to Haile Selassie and in 1956 moved to Addis Ababa. Here she founded the 'Ethiopian Journal' that reported on life in Ethiopia. Sylvia died in Ethiopia on 27th September 1960 and was given a state funeral and is buried in the Holy Trinity Cathedral. At her funeral Haile Selassie named her an 'honorary Ethiopian'.

Marie Stopes (1880-1958)

Marie Stopes was born on 15 October 1880 in Edinburgh to an archaeologist father and scholarly mother who was also a suffragist. Her studies as a paleobotanist took her to universities in London and Munich, then to Manchester where she became the first female member of the science faculty at the university.

She became a leading 20th-century campaigner for women's rights and birth control. She was highly controversial and divisive, but her influence on sexual and reproductive health remains strong over 50 years after her death.

Stopes was educated as a scientist. She gained public attention in 1918 with the publication of her first book, *Married Love*. The book was a sensation because it discussed sexuality and birth control within a marriage of equal partners. It was condemned by the church, press and medical establishment. However, it sold out rapidly. Stopes was inundated with letters from women wanting further advice. More books followed, and in 1921 Stopes provided practical help by opening the first family planning clinic in North London. It was a free service, but only for married women.



Great Women of the present

Tierra Guinn – science



Tierra Guinn's story echoes 2017's acclaimed film *Hidden Figures*, the true and little-known story of three brilliant African-American women who played instrumental roles at NASA during the Space Race. Guinn's love of numbers was inspired by her accountant mother, who encouraged her with maths games in the supermarket.

From Georgia, her goal from an early age was to become an engineer ("One day I saw a plane fly by and I just had this realisation, 'huh, I can design planes,'"). She chose a middle school with good STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) prospects. Now at just 22 years old, Guinn works as a Rocket Structural Design and Analysis Engineer for Boeing, which along with NASA is creating the most powerful rocket, ready for deep space. She designs and analyses parts of the rocket – a role she took up even before graduating from Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a degree in aerospace engineering.

She wants to encourage other women of colour to enter the field, and this year returned to Lindley Middle School, delivering a speech which inspired students and teachers alike. *"There's no telling where we'll be going next,"* Guinn said on a separate occasion. *"Maybe we'll make it to Pluto. But diversity is a key component."*

Kath Sansom – activism, women's health

The past few years have seen the "biggest health scandal since thalidomide" was blown wide open, and nobody has done more to expose the truth than Kath Sansom. In 2015, after she received a vaginal mesh implant to treat incontinence, she suffered agonising pain and knew something was wrong. She began to do some research online, and stumbled into a world of pain and ignored suffering: what would become known as the vaginal mesh scandal.

As she herself wrote: *"It probably needed a journalist to be mesh injured, to provide the final media push needed for the issue to get to Westminster."* Since her surgery and particularly this year, Sansom has used her extensive research and expertise to bring the scandal to light, keeping it in the national news agenda and tirelessly campaigning for awareness via the group she founded, **Sling the Mesh** at <https://slingthemesh.wordpress.com>

In October 2017, Sansom spearheaded a cross-party debate in Parliament, and succeeded in bringing the issue enough attention to warrant a BBC *Panorama* investigation. Jeremy Hunt has agreed to a review but not into the 'science' which is a major problem for campaigners as this is exactly the area that needs reviewing. The Cambridge Times recently quoted a Spanish doctor who said "women are used as cannon fodder in the mesh implant disaster" which campaigners want banned as *"the plastic is as sharp as shrapnel"*. Kath Sansom said: *"If a woman has had a good outcome it is only for now any woman who has had mesh is a ticking time bomb.."* because the product can shrink or twist years down the line and no amount of surgeon training can counteract that. Sansom is more than a campaigner; she's a lifesaver, and if her activism leads to a full ban on mesh implants, that's exactly what she'll be.



#Me too

Most people have now heard of the #MeToo campaign and the sexual harassment scandal to emerge from Hollywood last year. What has shocked so many people however, is how endemic this problem is in societies across the globe and the fact that sexual harassment is not limited to certain sections of society or to specific jobs, age groups or genders. The fact is that sexual harassment is endemic around the globe and knows no boundaries. Feminists have been saying this for decades but thankfully recent campaigners, using social media, have been able to expose this in a way that has never been achieved before!

Tarana Burke (below) is the founder of the Me Too movement. She started the original campaign from her home town of Harlem, USA more than 10 years ago and used the phrase "Me Too" as



Tarana Burke, founder, Me Too movement

the name for her activist group helping those who had been sexually harassed and assaulted. Tarana Burke, is creating a documentary titled *Me Too*, and said she was inspired to use the phrase after being unable to respond to a 13-year-old girl who confided to her that she had been sexually assaulted. She said that she later wished she had simply told the girl, "me too". Now, her organisation coordinates outreach in local schools and provides educators with resource kits to use in their classrooms.

Tarana Burke has laid out specific goals for the #MeToo movement including: processing all untested rape kits in the

US, investigating the vetting of teachers, better protecting children at school, updating sexual harassment policies, and improving training in workplaces, places of worship, and schools.

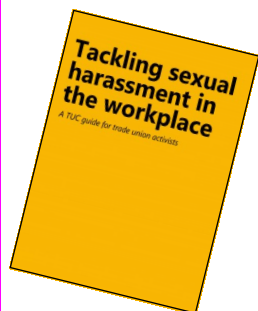
In 2017 the #MeToo hashtag campaign filled social media. The idea for the hashtag campaign started with singer/actress Alyssa Milano who used Twitter and Facebook as a means of addressing the prevalence of sexual harassment and assault in the entertainment industry in America. The celebrity posted on Twitter, asking people who had experienced sexual violence to reply "me too" to her tweet. Since the exposure of the Hollywood sexual harassment scandal last year, there is a broader movement emerging and the #MeToo campaign has become a global one.

In the UK in 2016 the governments Women and Equality Select Committee launched an inquiry into the shocking levels of incidents of sexual harassment and sexual violence in schools in the UK. The inquiry was prompted by a series of smaller scale surveys and research undertaken by various agencies such as Girl Guiding UK, BBC, End Violence Against Women, Everyday Sexism Project. The BBC research found that over a three year period 5,500 sexual offences had been reported to the police as having taken place in UK schools, including 600 rapes. This might equate to a rape in school every day of the academic year. Among the causes for this is the link to the exposure to pornography from an incredibly young age. Culture Reframed estimate that children younger than 11 years of age are being exposed to porn on the internet.

Culture Reframed take a "public health approach to prevent, build resilience to, and ultimately eradicate the harms of pornography." Culture Reframed provides education and support to promote healthy child and youth development, relationships and sexuality.

(...Continued on page 9)

CULTURE REFRAMED	
<p>Dr. Gail Dines, founder of Culture Reframed.</p> <p>For more information go to</p> <p>www.culturereframed.org</p>	A portrait photograph of Dr. Gail Dines, a woman with short brown hair, wearing a dark top and a necklace.



Sexual harassment at work

Trade unions represent roughly 6 million workers in the UK and have a crucial role in ensuring that all workers are able to do their jobs free from sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is a serious workplace issue which can have lasting effects on those who experience it.

Sexual harassment is sometimes dismissed as being “banter” or just a joke. In fact, sexual harassment often has the effect of making the recipient feel ashamed, humiliated, undermined and frightened and can have a lasting impact on mental health. Workplaces where a culture of sexual harassment is allowed to flourish are unattractive and intimidating and can create a significant barrier to women entering male dominated sectors such as construction and engineering. Sexual harassment may drive those experiencing it to leave their job altogether. One of the most important thing a union representative can do is ensure that their employer has policies for preventing and dealing with sexual harassment.

It may be that the policy is part of a wider bullying and harassment or dignity at work policy or it may be a stand alone policy. Such a policy should be seen as part of the employer’s obligation to combat discrimination. It is equally important that these policies are well publicised everyone in the workplace and are kept under regular review. The TUC (www.tuc.org.uk) who carried out extensive research into the scale of sexual harassment in the workplace in 2017 have produced excellent guides for reps and branches. The Equality and Human Rights Commission (<https://equalityhumanrights.com>) and ACAS (www.acas.org.uk) all have very good information and guidance for employees as well as for employers. All can be accessed on their respective websites.

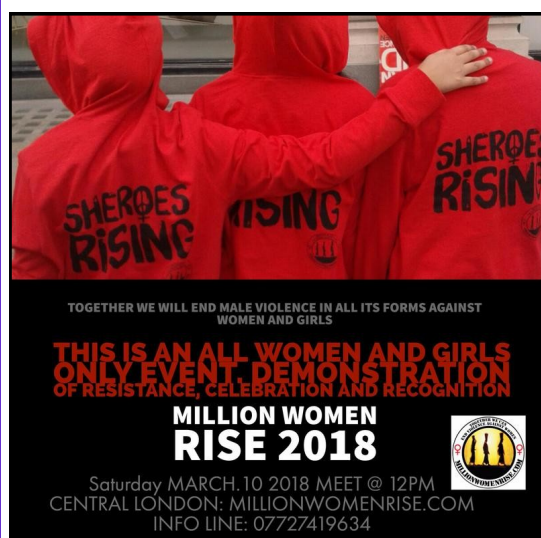


Million Women Rise 2018, 10th March, Central London @ 2pm

The cost of domestic violence alone to the UK economy is £23 billion pounds a year with approximately 1 in 8 women experiencing domestic violence every year. Yet, government cuts to women’s services, legal aid and Refuges are forcing more women and children to live with abusive men. The number of places in refuges are diminishing and women and children are not able to access safe spaces and are left vulnerable. Support programmes for women and children are also being closed for the same reason - lack of funding. 10 women a week in the UK commit suicide due to the trauma of domestic and sexual violence. 2 women every

week are murdered by male partners. This is the reality within which women and children live.

This Saturday, join the 10 000 women and children from across the UK outside Selfridges on Oxford Street at 12 noon as they march across London to raise awareness of male violence. The march ends at Trafalgar Square at 3PM where a mass rally will take place with amazing women speakers and artists.





Women's Forum 2018



28-30 September (3 days)

The View, Eastbourne

The Regional Women's Forum is an annual event organised by the regional Women's Committee to give women members and women stewards the opportunity to meet each other, network and share experiences. With 1 million women members in UNISON, this event inspires, informs and builds the confidence of women to become active in their branches and raise awareness of issues that affect women in the workplace and society. If you have ever thought about getting involved in the union and making a difference then come along to the Women's Forum and learn about 'Women In UNISON' and how we work together to campaign for change. The forum is open to all women members.

Meet The Team—Women's Equalities

Fiona Roberts

Regional Women's Officer
f.roberts@unison.co.uk



Fiona offers support to branches in developing policies and strategies that encourages greater participation of women in UNISON as well as advice on sex discrimination issues in the workplace. Fiona is secretary to the regional Women's Committee and works with the committee to develop and facilitate the South East women's training courses in the South East Region. Contact details above.

Danielle Bruce

Local Organiser/Regional Women's Committee Administrator
d.bruce@unison.co.uk



Danielle deals with administration for the regional women's committee and also helps with queries relating to the regional women's courses. She works closely with the Regional Women's Officer.

Are you interested in becoming more active in UNISON?

There are a variety of ways you can help support members in the workplace – such as a steward or health and safety rep to name just two. Getting involved in your trade union can be a very fulfilling experience. UNISON is committed to providing development and support, to enable you to do your role. We also have a vast amount of materials available to support you.

There are 1.3 million members in UNISON and a million of those are women so it is really important that there are plenty of women stewards and branch officers to help represent

the majority of the membership and to lead on issues relevant to our women members, whether in your workplace, your local branch or at regional and national level.

If you would like more information, please email seequality@unison.co.uk or at education@unison.co.uk

Please provide an up to date email address as this helps us to keep you up to date with women's training courses and women's events in UNISON. Application forms can be found on the South East website.





Women's Course 2018



Women's History Part One, 23-25 March (3 days)

THE VIEW, Eastbourne

This course is open to all women members and/or women activists who want to learn about the history of women's struggle for equality in all sphere's of life. As women make up half the population and workplace in the UK, this course focuses on the history of women workers and trade unions and puts into context the relationship between the two, both past and present.

Branch Women's Officer, 27-29 April (3 days)

THE VIEW, Eastbourne

This course is for newly elected Branch Women's Officers. The aim of the course is to provide a brief overview of some of the issues that affect women in the workplace and society and equip you with the knowledge and resources that you need to assist members. By the end of the course you will also have a good knowledge of UNISON structures and principles of proportionality and fair representation.

Assertiveness Skills Training, 15-17 May (3 days)

UNISON, Guildford

Assertiveness is the quality of being self-assured and confident without being aggressive and is a skill you can learn. This course will focus on behaviour types and body language and you will practice using assertive behaviour during the course.

Women's History Part Two, 6-8 July (3 days)

THE VIEW, Eastbourne

This course is only open to women Stewards and members who have completed Part 1. It will explore in greater detail some of the women's issues explored in Part 1 and will equip women activists with the knowledge to speak more confidently on women's discrimination issues.

Pregnancy and Maternity Rights 17 & 18 July (2 days)

UNISON, Guildford

Maternity Rights in the UK can be extremely complicated. It is estimated that approx 30,000 women are sacked every year for declaring that they are pregnant to their employer. Women also face discrimination on their return from maternity leave. This course will provide information about the current legislation and how trade unions have negotiated improved maternity policies for members over the years. The course is for branch women's officers and women stewards.

Domestic Abuse & Violence Against Women (3 days)

This is a demand driven course. Please download the expression of interest form at:
http://www.unionsoutheast.org.uk/union_education

Introduction to Equal Pay (1 day)

This is a demand driven course. Please download the expression of interest form at:
http://www.unionsoutheast.org.uk/union_education

Women, Work and Health (2 days)

This is a demand driven course. Please download the expression of interest form at:
http://www.unionsoutheast.org.uk/union_education



Events - Women's History Month



OXFORD INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FESTIVAL, 24 FEB—11 MARCH 2018

About: www.oxfordinternationalwomensfestival.co.uk/festival-2018/
Venue: Oxford
Info: Exhibitions, workshops, talks, performances and social events celebrating women's achievements

WONDER WOMEN, MARCH 2018

About: www.creativetourist.com/event/wonder-women/
Venue: Manchester
Info: Music, art, debates, history, performances and much more

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BRIGHTON DOME, 3 MARCH 2018

About: www.brightonmuseums.org.uk/discover/events/international-womens-day/
Venue: Brighton Museum
Info: Inspiring speakers, activists and innovators, workshops, arts and crafts, causes and campaigns for all the family

WOW-WOMEN OF THE WORLD FESTIVAL, 7—11 MARCH 2018

About: www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/festivals-series/women-of-the-world
Venue: Southbank Centre, London
Info: The festival celebrates women and girls, and looks at the obstacles that stop them from achieving their potential. debates, concerts, performances, art installations, workshops and more

AGAINST VULNERABILITY: 100 YEARS OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN EUROPE, 7 MARCH

About: www.eventbright.co.uk
Venue: Institute of Advanced Studies, Ground Floor, Wilkins B, UCL London, WC1E 6BT
Info: A special opportunity to mark the centenary of women's suffrage in Central and Eastern Europe, including Austria, Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Russia, as well as the Representations of the People Act in the UK .

IWM: LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUTURE LEADERS, 8 MARCH 2018

About: www.eventbright.co.uk
Venue: The Vincent Rooms, Kingsway College, 76 Vincent Sq, London, SW1P 2PD
Info: In 2017, 78% of council employees are women, but only 33% of chief executives are women. We want to help remove the barriers, both real and perceived, that prevent women from reaching the top.

MILLION WOMEN RISE MARCH, 10 MARCH 2018

About: www.millionwomenrise.com
Venue: Central London, meet @ 12 (noon) outside Selfridges on Oxford Street
 Trafalgar Square rally @ 3pm