

Feb/Mar 2005

UNISON

SOUTHERN DERBYSHIRE HEALTH BRANCH
Gen. Sec and Political Fund Ballot Special

edited by Bill Whitehead



More cleaners = cleaner hospitals

UNISON's action plan for cleaner hospitals

Dirty hospitals increase the risk of hospital acquired infections such as MRSA and are unacceptable to patients and staff.

Yet the number of cleaners working in the NHS has almost halved in the last 18 years.

UNISON believes that more and better-trained cleaning staff are key to improving standards of hospital cleanliness.

Hospitals need to have sufficient, properly trained and equipped cleaning staff, who are valued and rewarded as an important part of the healthcare team.

UNISON general secretary Dave Prentis:

"The 'market' halved the number of cleaners, cut their pay and conditions, and standards plummeted. Now, spiralling hospital acquired infections cost the NHS more than £1 billion and at least 5,000 lives a year.

"We want to shift the focus onto the failures of the contracting process and under resourcing of staff - we need more cleaners and sufficient equipment if we are to achieve decent levels of hygiene in our hospitals."

Political Fund Ballot



Protecting our pension schemes from attack; defending public services; campaigning for an end to unequal pay.

Our Political Fund is what allows us to take these campaigns out of the workplace and into the political arena. Without a political fund we would have no voice.

That's why we must win a yes vote in the postal ballot starting on 11 February 2005.

YOUR UNION YOUR VOICE

Use it don't lose it

If you do not receive your ballot paper call the hotline on 0845 355 0845.

Britannia

Britannia Building Society

Exclusive offers for UNISON members

Over the years our partnership has developed and Britannia now offer UNISON members a range of preferential rates, exclusive products and genuine benefits on a variety of products.

Officer Election Results from Branch Annual General Meeting on 2 Feb

2005 Branch Officers

Secretary	Jayne Barnard Tel. 01332 254685
Treasurer	Ian Currie
Chair	Maureen Seaton
Health & Safety Officer	Vacant
Education Coordinator	Vacant

Conveners

Mental Health	Nick Stocks
Acute Hospitals	Jayne Barnard
PCTs	
Amber Valley	Elaine Morris 01773 525026
Erewash PCT	Val Gamble