

GMB @ DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

**Welcome to the
GMB Local
Authority
Branch
Summer 2022
Newsletter**

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The 136th Durham Miner's Gala is nearly here!



Durham Miner's Gala 2022

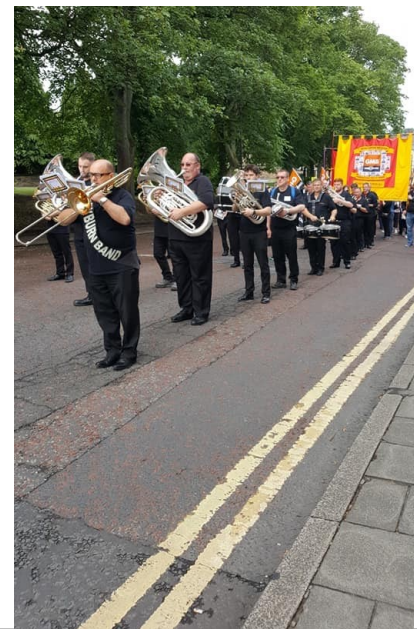
GMB

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Following the cancellation of the Miners Gala over the past two years due to the Covid pandemic, the 136th Big Meeting is returning on Saturday 9th July 2022

The Gala is one of the biggest social events for trade unions and their members and provides an amazing atmosphere for the entire family



Durham Miner's Gala 2022

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Members are welcome to join the branch on the march through the streets of Durham to show their support for the GMB

We will be meeting in Market Place at 08:30am for anyone who wishes to carry a flag and march behind the Union banners



As always, GMB will have a marquee at the Racecourse for members to meet and rest after the march with refreshments and activities for the children



Durham Miner's Gala 2022 Social Evening

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**This year's Miners Gala Social Night will be held at the
Radisson Blu Hotel Durham**



**On Saturday 9th July
7.00pm - 12.00am**

Come along and enjoy the night!

Admission is strictly by ticket only

**Contact the branch on
03000 268135 / 03000 268136
Or e-mail gmb@durham.gov.uk**

Changes to Branch Commission



Branch Commission Changes

Following a decision made by GMB Central Executive Committee and endorsed by GMB congress, branch commission/funding has been reduced. We all must accept this as it was a democratic decision.

What does this decision mean for the branch and our members?

This decision means that we will have to revisit what funds and expenditure can be spent on social events and merchandise to members, which was discussed and planned back in November's branch meeting.

The branch committee have made the decision not to renew the football season tickets and we have had to cancel the order for the 2023 diaries. We appreciate this will be disappointing for some.

We will discuss with members over the coming months what events could take place, as due to Covid we have some funds that were not used during this time.

The Miners Gala event will still take place this year as it was planned for 2020.

GMB Fees and Support

On a much more positive note, your GMB subs have been frozen for the third year running as we know that the cost of living crisis is impacting many of our members.

The branch will continue to campaign and support our members in their workplace.

Please contact the branch if you have any queries regarding the above on **03000 268135** or **gmb@durham.gov.uk**

Congress 2022

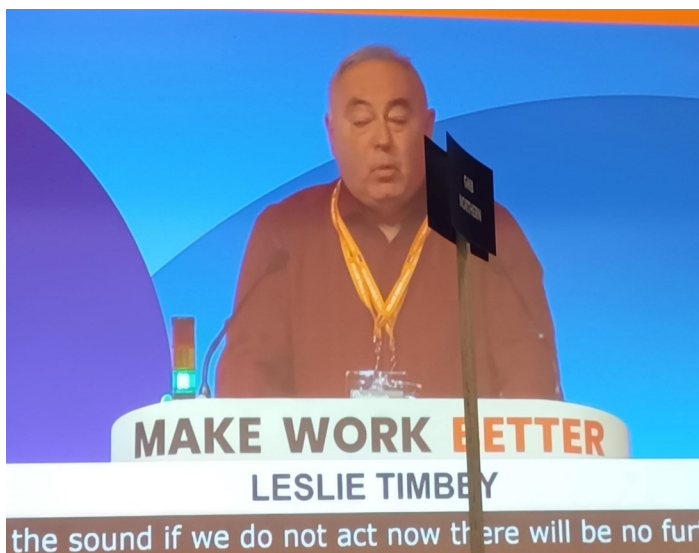
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GMB Congress this year was held in Harrogate on 12th-16th June

The branch was represented at Congress by our branch president Les Timbey and full time branch officer David Clegg



Congress 2022

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Northern Region delegates raised £497 with a lunchtime bucket collection for motor neurone disease.



Pay Talks 2022

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The joint union NJC Pay Claim for 2022 has now been submitted to employers for their consideration.

Thank you to all GMB members who responded to recent surveys regarding your aspirations for pay this year. All of the results were collated and considered by your GMB teams of Officers and Reps and the GMBs National Local Government and Schools Committees.

GMBs National Committees agreed that our claim should include: an increase of no less than RPI; a Covid recognition payment, review of term time only contracts and consideration of retainers; a reduction in the working week (without loss of pay) to 35 hours (34 hours in London); a review of mileage rates. claim, as agreed by all three unions, and which has now been submitted is:

Pay Talks 2022

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GMB presented this claim to Unison and Unite in discussions to agree this year's joint union pay claim. The final pay claim, as agreed by all three unions, and which has now been submitted is:

- **A Covid-19 recognition payment**
- **Review of term time only contracts and consideration of retainers**
- **A headline claim of an increase of £2,000 on each pay point, or of the current RPI rate, whichever is the greater**
- **Reduction in the working week (without loss of pay) to 35 hours (34 in London)**
- **One additional day of annual leave across the board**
- **Introduction of a home working allowance for all staff who are working from home**
- **A national minimum agreement on homeworking policies for all councils**
- **A separate urgent review of all mileage rates currently applying**

Employers will now consider the pay claim ahead of pay negotiations starting.

GMB members who completed surveys, also indicated other key issues of importance this year. All results are being analysed by regional teams to identify potential local campaigning targets outside of this national pay claim. If you and your colleagues want a GMB campaign in your workplace to improve your terms and conditions, please contact your local GMB Representative.

Looking After Your Mental Health

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As the cost of living crisis continues, GMB are aware that many of our members and their families are facing some challenging times

During these tough times, it is easy to neglect our mental health, so the Union have compiled a list of organisations out there to help support members if required



Samaritans

116 123



Mind | Infoline

0300 123 3393



HOPELINE UK (under-35s)

0800 068 4141



Bereavement Support

0300 303 4434



Crisis Support

Text 'FRONTLINE' to 85258



CALM

0800 58 58 58



Parenting Helpline

0808 800 2222



Relationship Counselling

0300 0030396



Domestic Violence Helpline

0808 2000 247

Looking After Your Mental Health

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Anxiety UK

03444 775 774



OCD Action

0845 390 6232



Panic Attacks

0844 967 4848

Addiction Helplines



National Gambling Helpline

0808 8020 133



Action on Addiction

Action on Addiction

0300 330 0659



NHS/Drinkline National

0300 123 1110

GMB are always there for our members who are going through tough times so please make sure you do not suffer in silence

There is always someone out there to help support everyone

IT'S OKAY TO
NOT BE OKAY

Benefits & Services

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GMB Extra

As part of your membership with GMB, you can access a range of discounts for you and your family. More information on all of these discounts can be found in the **My GMB** area of the GMB National Website (www.gmb.org.uk). These discounts include:



20% off National Express

We are proud to partner with [National Express](#) to offer all of our members this quality discount when travelling with National Express. This offer is a 20% discount off National Express full range of fares, including the cheapest online 'Restricted Fares'. The discount will apply to GMB members plus up to 3 others travelling with them and there will be a requirement to book at least 3 days in advance.



10% off at Go Ape!

Looking to discover some seriously adventurous things to do outdoors? Go Ape offer outdoor experiences and activities across 34 locations UK wide. From zip wires, to super-springy trampoline nets in the trees, to off-road Segways, Go Ape have an adventure for everyone. So, if you're looking to get the blood pumping, take on a challenge, or just have fun with your Tribe, a day of unforgettable action, laughter, and achievement awaits. Who will you share adventure with? GMB is proud to partner with Go Ape to offer our members 10% off.



Up to 49% discount at Alton Towers

We are proud to partner with [Alton Towers](#) to offer all of our members this quality discount. Unleash the 'Power of the Towers' this year as you share joy, laughter and thrills with family and friends at Britain's Greatest Escape! Enjoy an awesome choice of world-class rollercoasters including Wicker Man, Nemesis, Oblivion and The Smiler and a host of fantastic family attractions including the brand new 'Peter Rabbit™ Hippy Hop' ride

Benefits & Services

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Up to 48% off at LEGOLAND Windsor



We are proud to partner with [LEGOLAND Windsor](#) to offer all of our members this quality discount. For an awesome family day out this year visit the LEGOLAND® Windsor Resort and experience the ultimate LEGO® adventure! With over 55 rides, live shows and attractions set over 150 acres of parkland plus a fully LEGO themed hotel on site, the LEGOLAND Windsor Resort is a family destination that is not to be missed!

Up to 49% discount at Warwick Castle



We are proud to partner with [Warwick Castle](#) to offer our members this quality discount. Experience 1,100 years of Great British history in one of England's finest medieval fortresses. Experience the fun of real history on a visit to Warwick Castle! Warwick Castle is one of the most exciting historic locations in Europe, set in the heart of Shakespeare's England with over 1,100 years of fascinating architecture and amazing views in 64 acres of beautifully landscaped grounds.

Save up to 40% at Shrek's Adventure! London



We are proud to partner with [Shrek's Adventure](#) to offer our members this quality discount. Join the search to find Shrek! A brilliantly bonkers interactive and immersive walkthrough experience, where the whole family can journey through Far Far Away as the stars of the show. See, hear, touch and smell the adventure by exploring 12 fairytale themed live shows, collecting the special ingredients that you will need in order to find Shrek and make it home safely!

Benefits & Services

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Discount at Haven Holidays

Your perfect UK break. Haven offer the perfect base for your short break or holiday. When you join us on a Haven holiday, all our award-winning family holiday parks will give you the warmest welcome possible. We've made sure each of our 37 parks is on or near the coast, so the sound of the sea's never too far away. From under 5s getaways to dog friendly holidays and couples' retreats, we cater for everyone here at Haven. With over 100 indoor and outdoor activities to choose from at Haven, we have something suitable for the whole family, whatever your age or ability. All of our parks have great facilities and entertainment for all the kids – big ones and little ones. There's plenty to keep everyone busy. You'll find plenty of time to be together on your chosen Haven UK holiday.



Up to 40% off at LEGOLAND Discovery Centre

We are proud to partner with the [LEGOLAND Discovery Centre](#) to offer all of our members this quality discount. For a super fun family day out visit one of a LEGOLAND Discovery centre – the ultimate indoor LEGO® playground. In Birmingham you can enjoy a 4D Cinema, two rides, a build and test zone to improve all of your LEGO building skills, as well as a LEGO cafe to sit back and enjoy after a day of building. In Manchester you can enjoy three LEGO® rides, 11 LEGO® play zones, a 4D cinema AND the opportunity to become a NINJA with the awesome LEGO® NINJAGO® City Adventure!

PRIVILEGE PURCHASE CLUB

Privilege Purchase Club Discounts

Introducing the Hotpoint [Privilege Purchase Club](#) offering exclusive pricing on over 850 different appliances including four great brands to choose from, Kitchenaid, Whirlpool, Hotpoint & Indesit. Products range from washing machines, refrigeration, cookers and dishwashers to Hotpoint's Small Domestic Appliance range. Some appliances are already pre-discounted and in addition we offer at least an **extra 15% off** using their monthly voucher code, displayed on the homepage.

Benefits & Services

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20% off Crown Paints

We are proud to partner with Crown Paints to offer all GMB members and their friends and family a 20% discount. With over 150 stores nationwide you're never too far away from your local Crown Decorating Centre to grab your discount. For more information about Crown Paints check out their website [here](#).



Save on Glasses and Eye Tests at Vision Express

Built on a passion for the optical profession and a drive for unparalleled customer service, Vision Express take vision seriously. With coverage across the UK in over 600 stores, including selected Tesco Extra Stores.

- Free eye test, including digital retinal photography, upon purchase of complete glasses over £50
- Current national offer (e.g. 2 for 1 designer glasses) or save £30 on complete glasses
- 3-month's supply of soft disposable contact lenses when joining our contact lens Direct Debit scheme (Complete Contact Care) – terms and conditions apply
- 10% off non-prescription sunglasses
-
- We'll allow a friend or family member to benefit from every one of these discounts as well, so let those closest to you receive the expert eye care they deserve.

funkypigeon.com

Funky Pigeon 20% discount

GMB is proud to partner with [Funky Pigeon](#) to offer all of our members this 20% discount on their products.

Benefits & Services

GMB

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Hermes 10% discount

Need to send a parcel? As one of the UK's largest parcel delivery companies, Hermes offer a range of flexible, affordable & convenient delivery options. As 'The Parcel People', they know every parcel you send means a lot, which is why they mean a lot to Hermes too. So it's no surprise they're trusted to deliver over a million parcels in the UK every day, 7 days a week! With over 90% of you living within 2 miles of one of their 4,700 drop off locations, whatever it is you're sending, Hermes have you covered. With prices starting from as little as £2.26, you'll also get full tracking included as standard. GMB is proud to partner with [Hermes](#) to offer all of our members this 10% discount on their services.



Proven Lost Luggage Protection

TRACE ME Lost Luggage Protection Discount

We are proud to partner with [TRACE ME Luggage Tracker](#) to offer all of our members this discount.

Every year over 1 million bags go missing at airports globally, and are never returned to their owners. [TRACE ME Smart ID](#) luggage tag helps prevent that happening to you. It is compatible with baggage handling systems and works at virtually all airports and airlines around the world. It's secure, anonymous and provides you with complete peace of mind when you travel. No moving parts or batteries, always works where RFID, GSM or GPS signals are compromised. If your bag doesn't arrive, TRACE ME prevents it being lost forever and accelerates its return. You can get 40% off when you purchase TRACE ME Smart ID packs

UIA—Home Insurance Offer

Just one phone call to us today could cut the cost of your home insurance, so what are you waiting for?



- Great Value
- Interest-free monthly payments
- Extra 10% discount on Combined Buildings & Content policies
- Get up to £50 towards any switching costs your current insurer might charge
- 97% of people would recommend us**
- 100% UK-based call centres
- A dedicated, highly experienced Claims Team from the start to finish of any claim

Just call 0800 072 9922 (0143 876 1651 for mobile users)

GMB Road Traffic Fund



If you drive as part of your work then the Road Traffic Fund is ideal for you.

For just an additional 10p per week to your GMB contributions, the fund offers a variety of benefit for those who drive as part of their work, including the payment of speeding fines (conditions apply)

Joining the Road Traffic Fund couldn't be easier.



Highly rated insurance from LV=

Good news... GMB members are entitled to exclusive discounts on a wide range of LV= insurance products through your union membership.

5 Star rated cover – awarded by Defaqto, the independent financial researcher, for the 11th year in a row for being one of the best quality car insurance products on the market. With our comprehensive cover we offer features and benefits including accidental damage and personal accident cover.

LV= also offer caravan insurance as well as discounted rates to GMB members on the following insurance cover:

Classic car insurance – our comprehensive car insurance policy offers you protection for your pride and joy in case something should ever happen.

Motorcycle insurance – motorbike lovers can enjoy our motorcycle insurance with full cover of helmet and leathers and can protect their no claim discount if they have 4 years claim free for the life of their policy.

- Accidental damage to your car
- Uninsured driver promise – no loss of No Claim Discount and no excess to pay
- Misfuelling cover if you accidentally fill your car with the wrong fuel
- New locks and keys if your keys are lost or stolen
- Unlimited cover for factory fitted phone, audio and sat nav equipment
- A new-for-old car replacement if yours is less than 12 months old
- £10,000 personal accident cover – if you or your partner are injured
- Replacement child car seats
- £200 cover for personal belongings in your car

Contact the branch for more details

Social Media

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**Please follow the GMB
Durham Local Authority
Branch on Social Media**



@durhamgmb



@GMBDurham



@durhamgmb

**Or visit our branch
website**

www.durhamgmb.info



Keeping In Touch

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The branch are keen to ensure that our members are always kept up to date

latest news

We are constantly updating our social media feeds, website and bulletin board with the latest news and events

Please ensure we have your correct contact details



Are your
**CONTACT
DETAILS**
up to date?

In order to ensure that you are able to have your say in any ballots, the branch need to have your most up to date contact details

Please contact the branch to ensure we have your correct



Latest Restructures:

Sports & Leisure Phase 1 concluded

Personal Assistants now concluded

Please contact the Branch if you receive a
Section 188 notice or your Service is going through a restructure.

Call us on 03000 268135

or email: gmb@durham.gov.uk

GMB Bulletins

Please note: up-to-the minute information for members is posted onto the Durham County Council Intranet bulletin board (under Trade Unions) and the Schools Extranet

Application Form (Direct Debit)

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Join  now for protection, support and advice.

Hand this form to your local GMB representative, or seal it and put it in the post (you do not need a stamp). Questions? Email us at info@gmb.org.uk or visit our website: www.gmb.org.uk where you can also join instantly.


PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

SIGN WHERE YOU SEE THE **X**s

TELL US ABOUT YOU. This will help us do the best possible job for you.

Forename <input type="text"/>	Home address <input type="text"/>	Work address <input type="text"/>
Surname <input type="text"/>		
Title <input type="text"/>	Date of Birth <input type="text"/>	
Home phone number <input type="text"/>	Email address <input type="text"/>	Job title <input type="text"/>
Mobile number <input type="text"/>	Employer <input type="text"/>	Hours a week <input type="text"/>

THE IMPORTANT BITS. Please authorise the Direct Debit.

Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit		
Please fill in the form and send back to FREEPOST GMB		Service User Number <input type="text"/>
Name & full postal address of Bank/Building Society		
To the Manager of Address: <input type="text"/>	Bank/Building Society Postcode <input type="text"/>	
Name(s) of account holder(s) <input type="text"/>		
Account number <input type="text"/>	Sort code <input type="text"/>	
Reference (FOR GMB USE ONLY) <input type="text"/>		
Instruction to your Bank or Building Society. Please pay GMB Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with GMB & if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.		
Signature(s) <input type="text"/>		Date <input type="text"/>
Banks/Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of account.		

PAYMENT DATE. Please select a payment date.

If you are paid monthly ☐ 1st ☐ 8th ☐ 15th ☐ 22nd ☐ Last day of the month* OR if you are paid 4 weekly ☐ 1st Friday ☐ 2nd Friday ☐ 3rd Friday ☐ 4th Friday
* or next working day

STAYING IN TOUCH. We want to make it as easy as possible to talk to each other.

GMB contacts members by email, phone and SMS about issues related to membership, membership services and campaigns.

Tick if you DO NOT wish to be contacted by: ☐ Email ☐ Phone ☐ SMS

GMB has a political fund to pay for political campaigning, which you can opt-in to for 1p a week. In the past, the fund has helped win rights such as the minimum wage and maternity leave. There will be no detriment to you if you do not opt-in.

Do you want to opt-in to the political fund? ☐ YES ☐ NO

AND JOIN. I agree to abide by GMB rules.

Signed

Date

Welcome to the GMB Union family!

To read the GMB rulebook please visit www.gmb.org.uk/rules For our privacy policy go to www.gmb.org.uk/your-privacy
You can change your contact preferences at any time by logging into your MyGMB area at www.gmb.org.uk/mygmb

FOR GMB
USE ONLY

Section

Branch/
outlet

Membership
number

Join
date

Application Form (Check Off)

GMB**UNION**

Join  now for protection, support and advice.

Hand this form to your local GMB representative, or seal it and put it in the post (you do not need a stamp). Questions? Email us at info@gmb.org.uk or visit our website: www.gmb.org.uk where you can also join instantly.

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

SIGN WHERE YOU SEE THE 

TELL US ABOUT YOU. This will help us do the best possible job for you.

Forename <input type="text"/>	Home address <input type="text"/>	Work address <input type="text"/>
Surname <input type="text"/>		
Title Ms Miss Mr Mx Mr	Date of Birth <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
Home phone number <input type="text"/>	Postcode <input type="text"/>	Postcode <input type="text"/>
Mobile number <input type="text"/>	Email address <input type="text"/>	Job title <input type="text"/>
	Employer <input type="text"/>	Hours a week <input type="text"/>

THE IMPORTANT BITS. Please authorise us to take your fees from your wages.

Section 68, Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidated) Act 1992 as amended

I authorise my employer to deduct from my pay each week/month the sum of

£ or other amounts as may be fixed by GMB from time to time.

Pay number

- Please start the deductions immediately and pay the amounts to GMB.
- I note that this agreement may be cancelled by one month's notice in writing.
- I give permission to my employer to notify GMB of any future change of address.

Signature(s)



Date

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Tick if you DO NOT wish to be contacted by: ☐ Email ☐ Phone ☐ SMS

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Do you want to opt-in to the political fund? ☐ YES ☐ NO

AND JOIN. I agree to abide by GMB rules.

Signed 

Date

To read the GMB rulebook please visit www.gmb.org.uk/rules For our privacy policy go to www.gmb.org.uk/your-privacy

You can change your contact preferences at any time by logging into your MyGMB area at www.gmb.org.uk/mygmb

Welcome to the GMB Union family!

FOR GMB
USE ONLY

Branch

Branch

Membership

Number

Join

Date