THE FORUM

The UNISON Cymru Wales Communications Forum Newsletter



IN THIS ISSUE

COMMS FORUM HANDBOOK LAUNCH -HAVE YOU HAD YOURS?

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MAKING PRESS WORK EASY

This newsletter was put together by CF volunteers. Please forward any queries or suggestions for future volumes to: <u>a.gittins@unison.co.uk</u>

Cymru Wales Communications Forum handbook

Earlier this year, UNISON Cymru Wales Communications Forum launched its first ever handbook for communications officers across the region - and beyond!

Communications Forum Chair Terry Evans and Vice Chair Helen Doughty took to the floor at Regional Council to introduce the bilingual handbook which aims to empower current and prospective communications officers all over Wales. The handbook provides hints and tips for those just getting started, or for experienced officers after new ideas. It was put together by a hard-working volunteer group and received great feedback from delegates in attendance.

Copies of the handbook can be requested from Alastair in the region or downloaded via this link: <u>https://cymru-</u>

wales.unison.org.uk/content/uploads/sites/9/202 3/02/Communications-Forum-Handbook-Bilingual.pdf



THE HANDBOOK LAUNCH AT REGIONAL COUNCIL IN FEBRUARY. L-R: DOMINIC MACASKILL (REGIONAL SECRETARY), HELEN DOUGHTY, TERRY EVANS AND JAN TOMLINSON (REGIONAL CONVENOR)

Making Press Work Easy

With Rupert Denholm-Hall

My job involves handling all incoming press enquiries from outlets ranging from online news sites to national television and radio broadcasters. My role involves maintaining and developing the news section of the UNISON Cymru/Wales website and social media channels. I also write press releases to promote campaigns

Dates for Your Diary

The next Communications Forum events are taking place on:

 Fri 23 June – Sun 25 June, residential training weekend, Llandrindod Wells, Metropole Hotel



 Fri 29 Sept – Forum meeting, Llandrindod Wells/hybrid, Media Resource Centre

Book your place with Alastair: <u>a.gittins@unison.co.uk</u>



we are working on and to highlight the impact of issues such as the cost-of-living crisis on the many thousands of public sector workers we represent across Wales.

In addition to this I ensure our branch secretaries, organising team and communications officers are aware of the media work we are involved with by sharing press coverage we receive, as well as encouraging the sharing of any social media content we have created, and any online coverage UNISON has received in Wales.

As a former print journalist and press officer to a shadow front bench MP, I am also on hand to provide advice and media training for any potential candidate who is going to be interviewed by a journalist.

Rupert is the press and media officer for UNISON Cymru Wales and is on hand support branches in their media work, on press releases around branch workplace campaigns, and on getting good news stories out there. Please contact him if you would like help with your press work: <u>r.denholm-hall@unison.co.uk</u>