



## **North West Region Centenary Dinner 2010**

The North West Welfare Committee worked hard over the last few months organising a fundraising Centenary Dinner at the De Vere Whites Hotel at the Reebok Stadium in Bolton, the town where Jabez Darricotte started a welfare fund for widows and children one hundred years ago. In this time of the Coalition Government's cuts and attacks on our Welfare System, UNISON Welfare is keeping the focus on those UNISON members who are affected and will need help and assistance.

The aim of the night was to raise substantial funds at this time when many of our members are fighting to keep their jobs, pay their bills and maintain viable pensions. One hundred and sixty people helped us to celebrate UNISON Welfare and its history with a special raffle, an auction of shirts, pennants, guest speakers and a disco.

Guests included the Head of Welfare Julie Grant, Angela Ishmael Principal Consultant who provides a service to employers on Diversity and Dignity at work and Dave O'Brien a National Case Worker who has researched the history of UNISON Welfare. Both Angela and Dave were our speakers on the night - Angela a last minute rescuer when Jane Clack from Payplan took ill. We wish her a speedy recovery and hope we can invite her to another event in the future.



A bottle of champagne was donated by the TUC, the winner newly engaged celebrated with panache. The dinner went very well the food and service was excellent with a disco to round the evening off in great UNISON style. The amount raised on the night was £910, this total will increase substantially from ticket sales when we have paid out expenses incurred.

We extend many thanks to those who supported the Committee, those who donated, the branches, helpers, affiliates, sponsors and all the members and friends who rocked the night away and who made the night such a success. Special thanks to Diane Daniels and June Poole who worked very hard to ensure the night was such a special one.

**Anne McAleer**  
*Chair, North West Regional Welfare Committee*





# Welfare Seminar 26 February 2011

The next Seminar presented by the Welfare Committee on 26 February 2011 at Arena Point will be on the importance of making a Will, provision and arrangements for funerals. This sounds like a daunting subject, but along with the practicalities we aim to have some humour.

The Seminar will run from 9.30am for coffee to lunch at 1pm. We have provisionally asked the Co-op to talk on funerals and Thompsons solicitors to discuss the subject of Wills which are free to UNISON members. We also have a vicar attending the Seminar to give you some insight into his role at funerals. There will also be a video to lighten the day and some music. See the proposed programme below:

- 9.30 am Coffee
- 10.00 am Welcome and housekeeping
- 10.15 am Co-op provision and organising a funeral
- 10.45 am Local Vicar
- 11.10 am Comfort break
- 11.30 am Video
- 12.00 noon Thompsons Solicitors "Making a Will"
- 12.30 pm Musical thoughts
- 12.45 pm Evaluation
- 1.00 pm Lunch



For an application form please email Angela Lysons at [a.lysons@unison.co.uk](mailto:a.lysons@unison.co.uk)

## Planning ahead

*"Being prepared today could help your loved ones tomorrow."*



### Money Saving Top Tips

Use your Library, not only can you read books, weekly magazines, and daily newspapers for free, you can use and surf the internet for free. They are a great source of local information informing you of free events and places to go in your area. They also offer various free computer courses for even those who have never used a computer in their life.



Take the kids to the cinema for pennies not pounds. Remember the Saturday morning matinee, well most cinemas still do it, showing kids films. Try Vue Cinemas [www.myvue.com](http://www.myvue.com) they do a Kids Club every Saturday morning for 95p per person.... Bargain.



Christmas Shopping – gone are the days when the sales started on January the 1<sup>st</sup>. It is now price wars before Christmas and all the high street stores and supermarkets are fighting for your money. Be a savvy shopper and you can save up to 50% on your purchases this Christmas with all the pre-Christmas sales offering money off, even this season's must have toys.

If shopping online, use a cash back website. Top Cash Back is an excellent one, [www.topcashback.co.uk](http://www.topcashback.co.uk) – recommended by Martin Lewis of Money Saving Expert. No registration fee, no minimum reclaim amount, and higher rates of cashback than others similar cashback websites. A UNISON member received over £50 in cashback over a period of 6 months on purchases they would have normally made.



**If you would like to share any money saving tips in this publication please email them to [a.lysons@unison.co.uk](mailto:a.lysons@unison.co.uk)**

If you require a copy of this Poster for your workplace please email [a.lysons@unison.co.uk](mailto:a.lysons@unison.co.uk)

We know that at times life can be difficult and you need a little help.



UNISON Welfare is the charity exclusively for UNISON members and their dependants.

Whether its practical information, financial support or debt advice, we are here to help in whatever way we can.

- Confidential support
- Signposting and information
- Wellbeing breaks
- Financial support
- Debt advice



**Call: UNISON Welfare on 020 7551 1620**

Between 9am – 5pm Monday – Friday

**UNISON Debtline on 0800 389 3302**

for immediate advice if you have debt worries  
Between 8am – 9pm Mon-Fri & 9am – 3pm on Saturday

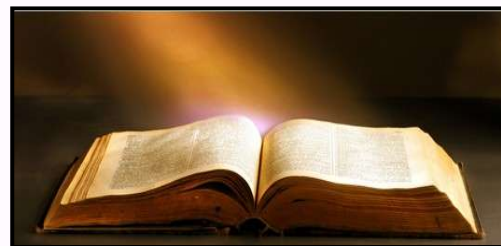
Or visit our Website:  
[www.unison.org.uk/welfare](http://www.unison.org.uk/welfare)

**UNISON Welfare**  
Making a difference in members lives

Registered Charity No. 1023552

**BAILIFF ADVICE ONLINE**  
PROVIDING BAILIFF ADVICE & INFORMATION

[www.bailiffadviceonline.co.uk](http://www.bailiffadviceonline.co.uk)



An online company which provides advice in connection with all aspects of bailiffs and the entire process such as a levy, warrants of executions and walking possession to name but a few.

This site has attempted to give to you sufficient information so that you would be able to write a letter of complaint personally, not only to the bailiff company, the company that instructed them but the courts also, in a way that is clear and easy to understand. A small fee of £5 is charged for unlimited access to all these documents.

If you require immediate advice and need to speak to someone on the helpline they offer a telephone service of which is charged 60p per minute from a BT landline **TELEPHONE SUPPORT LINE: 0906 802 0273** (be aware other operators such as Virgin, NTL and Talk Talk charge much more). There is also another alternative fee of £10, whereby you can submit a question to them via e-mail and included in this fee you will be provided with free access to all of their Download documents.

Details of *Bailiff Advice Online* are contained within the webpages of <http://www.payplan.com/debt-library/bailiffs-bailiff-law.php> who provide an overview of bailiffs and their processes.

# PLAY OCTOPUS

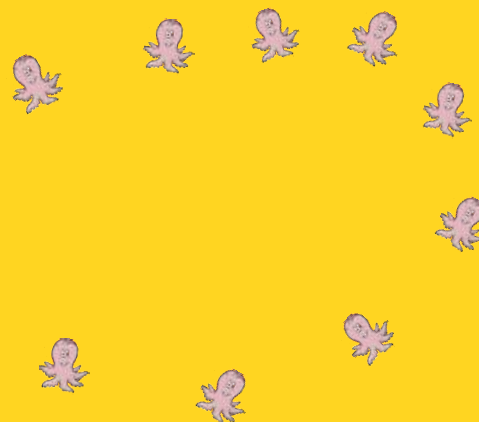
## The UNISON Welfare Monthly Prize Draw



Have you joined the  
UNISON Monthly Prize  
Draw yet?



North West NEC member Mark Clifford is glad that he joined. He had a lovely surprise just before Christmas when he scooped the first prize of £1,000.



Over 50 cash prizes every month!

£1,000.00 first prize  
£500.00 second prize  
£250.00 third prize  
And 50 Prizes of £50 each

With the UNISON Welfare Monthly Prize Draw you could win great cash prizes every month and support UNISON Welfare.

UNISON Welfare is a registered charity providing a unique and confidential service just for UNISON members and their families.

Every year UNISON Welfare helps thousands of members with grants, wellbeing breaks, free debt advice and support.

You can buy up to a maximum of 10 numbers per month at just £1 each.

Unlike other prize draws or lotteries you don't have to remember to buy a ticket for each draw. Once you have filled out an application form and direct debit instruction we'll collect the money from your bank account and enter your numbers in each draw. You can cancel or change your direct debit at any time.

To play *octopus* call **0845 355 0845** or visit [www.unison.org.uk/octopus](http://www.unison.org.uk/octopus) for an application form.

The first one thousand members to sign up will be sent a **FREE Octopus fridge magnet**

For more information about UNISON Welfare visit [www.unison.org.uk/welfare](http://www.unison.org.uk/welfare)

### Members of the Regional Welfare Committee for 2010 are:-

- A McAleer (Chair)
- J Poole
- A Beech
- H Clarke
- R Ellison
- P Goodier
- B Gowrie
- K Narramore
- C Phillips
- J Richards
- M Seraj
- D Skelhorn
- S Talbot
- P Wiggins
- A Douglas

Welfare Officers are welcome to attend Regional Welfare Committee meetings as observers. Please notify us in advance if you would like to attend a meeting (Branches to cover the cost of travel and subsistence).

Date of the forthcoming meeting is:  
• **14 December 2010 at 11 am**

Meetings take place at the UNISON North West Regional Centre.  
Contact: [a.lysons@unison.co.uk](mailto:a.lysons@unison.co.uk) / 0161 661 6205



50% of all ticket revenues will be paid out in prizes and 40% will go to UNISON Welfare. Only 10% is used for administration costs.

## UNISON Welfare

Registered Charity No. 1029552

Octopus Lottery is managed by UK Lottery Management Services Limited. UK Lottery Management Services is registered as an External Lottery Manager under the Gambling Act 2005 and under the Companies Act No. 5448677. Octopus Lottery is registered with the Gambling Commission under license number 018076.