

GENERAL UNION OF HOUSE  
CARPENTERS & JOINERS

UNION OF CONSTRUCTION, ALLIED TRADES AND TECHNICIANS 1971



GLOUCESTER BRANCH

INSTITUTED 1827

UNITED TO PROTECT BUT NOT

COMBINED TO INJURE

# union history

Discovering, saving, storing and celebrating  
West Country working-class history

Friday 23 November 2007 10am - 3.30pm

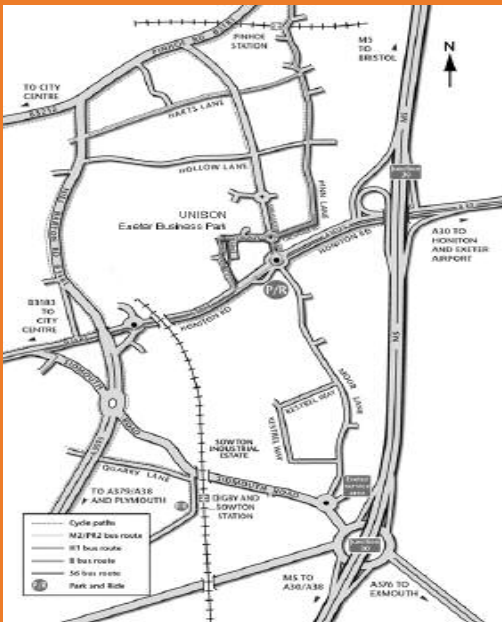
UNISON, Emperor Way, Exeter Business  
Park, Exeter EX1 3QS

# union history

The West Country has a rich history of working class and radical struggle. It is often hidden or lost amongst old minute books or in dusty attics. When uncovered it tells of brave acts of defiance and solidarity.

The South West TUC is working with partners including the University of the West of England to develop a project to discover, protect and celebrate trade union, radical and working class history in the region. A range of initiatives are planned including this event.

This free conference is open to trade unionists and students of history who want to learn more about the social history of the South West and who want to help preserve our archives.



## Venue

UNISON office is close to the Met Office, just off junction 30 of the M5. There is very limited car parking at the office but plenty at the nearby Park and Ride.

The office is fully accessible.

# Agenda

10.00 Registration, tea and coffee

**Photo presentation of South West union banners**

10.30 Welcome with **Gillian Foxton**, South West TUC Chair

**Nigel Costley** South West TUC Regional Secretary and **Dave Chapple** South West TUC Executive Member

10.40 **West Country working class history**

**Steve Poole**, Regional History Centre,  
University of the West of England

11.00 **National archives – local history**

**Helen Ford**, Deputy Archivist, Modern Records Centre,  
University of Warwick

**Christine Coates**, Librarian, TUC  
Library Collections, London Metropolitan  
University



11.40 tea and coffee

11.45 **West Country working class heroes?**

groups to learn more about:

◆ **Ernie Bevin**, Somerset farm boy to union leader to Foreign Secretary, with **Dave Chapple**, South West TUC Executive Member

◆ **Margaret Bondfield**, from Chard: shopworker union to first woman cabinet minister with **Belinda Burton**, Taunton Trades Council and UNISON

◆ **John Gregory**, Bristol Shoemaker Poet with **Gerrald Sables**, Barnstaple Trades Council

12.30 **Solidarity in Jamaica**

with **Richard Hart**, now living in Bristol, veteran of the Jamaican labour movement, historian and author

1.00 Lunch and showing of **Winning Equal Pay** film

1.45 **Winning Equal Pay** - archive project around the fight for equal pay with **Jo Morris**, TUC Senior Policy Officer

2.15 **West Country workers united**

groups to learn more about local histories including:

◆ **Story of the Stokes Cannon papermakers' strike**

◆ **Cornwall's Hidden Socialist History** with **Veronica Kelly**  
Cornwall Oral History Archive

Application form – Please use BLOCK LETTERS

## union history 23 November 2007

Your full name

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contact address (including postcode)

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Daytime tel

Email address

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Male

Female

Do you define yourself as disabled?

Yes

No

All access needs will be met where reasonably practicable. If you have any requirements regarding access, dietary or childcare/care needs please let us know using the space provided below. Please also let us know if you require information in alternative formats:

The TUC is anxious to encourage greater ethnic minority participation in trade union education. To assist us to achieve this aim it would be helpful if you could provide details of your ethnic origin by ticking the appropriate box. This information is for monitoring purposes only and will be treated confidentially.

African

Asian/Pacific

Caribbean

UK/European

Other

Union or organisation

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*Please return to*

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