

Branch Meeting

**Tuesday
30th
August
6.30 p.m.**

STUC
333 Woodlands Road
Glasgow
G3 6NG



Branch Chair Donald Sime
presiding over the June
meeting of the Greater
Glasgow NHS Group of
amicus

Page 2

- Parental Leave
- Directors' Pay
- Glasgow Committee
- Electronic Newsletter

Donald Sime elected to top GGHB post

Branch Chair Donald Sime has been elected unopposed as the Staff-Side Chair of the Greater Glasgow Health Board Partnership Forum. In addition to being nominated by amicus, Donald was nominated by the Society of Radiographers and GGHB North Division Joint Trade Unions and Professional Organisations Committee. As no other nominations were received, Donald will take up his new position with effect from the 1st October, 2005.

As Staff-Side Chair, Donald's name will now go forward to the Minister of Health as our sole nominee for the post of Employee Director of Greater Glasgow Health Board.

Donald's unopposed election is a considerable tribute to the hard work which he has carried out on behalf of the amicus members within Glasgow, and all staff within the North Division. The Branch Officers and Committee offer Donald their heartiest congratulations.


Payback time for Yorkhill's 'save the QMH' rebels

Most of Yorkhill's senior managers are paying the price for having opposed Greater Glasgow Health Board's (GGHB) plans to close the Queen Mother's Hospital and break its link with the adjacent Royal Hospital for Sick Children. In the first round of management reorganisation, the top posts in Women and Children's Health have gone to 'outsiders'. The Chief Executive post has gone to Rosslyn Crocket, who was a member of the team which recommended the closure of the Queen Mothers Hospital. Glasgow MSP Sandra

White said "There's a purge going on. Call me a cynic, but you have to ask 'is the Health Board settling scores?'"

The Health Board's response is that the appointments are the result of a 'fair and transparent process'. Unfortunately for them, they appear to be the only people who believe this—the staff side of the partnership forum was unable to agree the process, one doctor at Yorkhill summed it very succinctly: "It's payback time" and the Evening Times described the scale of the changes as stunning.

Contacts

		
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Safety Officer	Derek Anstee	0141 211 2128
Women's Officer	Helen McFarlane	0141 211 0800
Education Officer	Ian Forbes	0141 211 4523
Newsletter Editor	James Ito	0141 201 0798

Parental leave saga drags on, but end in sight?

GGHB's refusal to implement PIN policy on paid parental leave continues. Amicus now has three test cases which have been through formal procedure (in the Yorkhill, North and Primary Care Divisions) and all have been refused. However, time is running out for GGHb—the Scottish Executive's Central Legal Department is of the opinion that, in Scotland, paid parental leave is a contractual right under the Agenda for Change agreement, and amicus' solicitors are advising that we involve Queen's Counsel in our efforts to force GGHb to live up to their contractual obligations. Equally of interest is how long will the Minister of Health tolerate GGHb's refusal to follow his instructions, especially if it involves them spending taxpayer's money defending the indefensible in court.

Directors' pay up by more than 16%

The pay of directors at Britain's top companies rose by 16.1% last year compared to average earnings for other employees which rose by 4% and NHS staff who were rewarded with just over 3%. These increases mean that the average chief executive is now paid almost £2,500,000 per annum — 113 times more than the average British employee.

Greater Glasgow Group Committee

All amicus Group Representatives/Shop Stewards (whether formerly MSF or AEEU) within Greater Glasgow Health Board are reminded that they are entitled to attend the monthly meetings of the Greater Glasgow Group Committee. In the current times of significant change throughout all areas of the Health Board, all representatives/stewards are encouraged to attend and participate. Usually, the meetings are held on the last Thursday of the month in the STUC Conference Centre, 333 Woodlands Road at 2.00 pm. If you are not currently receiving an invite to attend these meetings please contact the Branch Chair, Donald Sime.[dwsime@bigfoot.com].

Electronic Newsletter

Printed copies of the Branch Newsletter are distributed to Group Representatives within the Branch. However, all members on request can receive an electronic copy by email (usually up to a week before the paper copy arrives). If you wish to take advantage of this service, send a blank email with the subject line "subscribe newsletter" to james.ito@bigfoot.com and you will be added to the next email distribution.

Branch Meeting Tuesday 30th August

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of previous meeting and arising.
3. Correspondence.
4. Reports.
5. Motions.
6. A.O.C.B.

The next meeting of the Branch will be held on Wednesday 28th September at 6.30 p.m. All meetings are held in the Scottish Trade Union Congress, 333 Woodlands Road, Glasgow G3 6NG. (Tea, coffee & biscuits 6.15 p.m.)

