

Report by Ian Lorimer - Retired Members Section Chairperson

CWU Lancs & Cumbria Branch,

Report for Branch Meeting Thursday 18th January 2018

On behalf of the Retired Members of the Branch, I would like to wish a Happy New Year, to the Branch Officers and also to the ordinary members whose monthly subscriptions are allowing us pensioners to live the life of "Reilly".

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It seems to be quite a while since I last reported to the branch on the activities of the Retired Members Section, however before I begin I would like it to go on record to thank Doreen Watson our Retired Members Section Secretary, who relentlessly strives to keep the "branch pensioners" informed of what's happening and what is on offer from the branch to support the members should they need any assistance.

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Together Doreen and I sat down in the office on or about the 15th November and drafted the letter informing the retired members of the forthcoming Christmas Meeting and Lunch due to be held on Weds 6th December 2017. It is no mean feat stuffing envelopes with invites and menus and then addressing them all by hand due an unforeseen glitch with the address labelling machine, however approximately 200 were dispatched and in the post by the end of the day.

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Wednesday 6th December saw the Retired Members Section Christmas Meeting & Lunch take place in the Greyfriar (Weatherspoons) on Friargate in Preston. 32 retired members attended, with apologies from 7. Although the meeting was short and sweet the only item on the agenda was to elect 2 members to attend the CWU Retired Members Conference in London to represent Lancs & Cumbria Branch. Members present were asked if anyone wanted to attend but this drew a nil response from the floor. Doreen and I asked to be considered to attend and a show of hands confirmed we could apply to attend.

It was nice to see so many old faces and some new as well especially our "old management team" those being Glenn & Heather attending their first meeting and also not forgetting Steve Parks who was in tow with Heather.

Once again I have to thank our Section Secretary for organizing and running the event and on behalf of all those who attended and enjoyed the get together, may I say a huge thankyou to Doreen Watson.

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In the week preceding Xmas, Doreen with the help of some branch officers managed to get the diaries out in time for the New Year, so another mammoth task was completed.
Now that Christmas and the New Year festivities are well and truly out of the way we can settle down to plan for the future of the branch.

Doreen Watson and I will be attending the CWU Retired Members Conference in London on the 31st January 2018, I hope to bring a full report to the branch after the event and also in time for our AGM in March

The continued membership of both the rank and file as well as the retired members who are the backbone of the branch, need to support the branch officers' and the committee who work tirelessly to support us, and are continually striving for a better future for the workforce. Whilst it is difficult and painstakingly hard to be negotiating for pay and pension rights, the officers of the branch are attending meetings up and down the country for your future. Please give them the support they deserve and I am sure they will come out with a better future for us all.

Here endeth my report

Ian Lorimer - Retired Members Section Chair