



# NEWSLETTER



December  
2024



**UNISON**  
Communications and campaigns  
committee

**Communications  
awards 2024**

*Lothian Health*

**GOLD**



**Communications Award** - Lothian Health Branch has only gone and won UNISON's Gold Award for Communications, specifically for our website and online presence on social media.

A massive well done to our Communication Team, Stewart Young and Robert Pollock for all their hard work.



**Refurbed UNISON Office.** East Lothian Community Hospital - opposite reception in the main mall has been refurbished.

Stewards are available 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Office number 01620 642667

Cath Henderson Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday  
Sharon Jamieson Monday, Thursday & Friday  
Liam Kerr Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

- Here to give advice, support and help when you need it!
- Legal help for you at work and your family at home
  - Financial assistance and debt advice in times of need
  - Compensation for accidents and injuries at work
  - Health & Wellbeing
  - Pension issues.



**Princess Alexandra Eye Pavilion.** In September it was announced that the PAEP needed urgent repairs carried out to replace 2 copper waste pipes and some asbestos needed to be removed for the work to be carried out safely. A decision was made that the building would need to be closed for six months so that the work could be carried out safely. Staff were given four weeks notice of this decision. The PAEP has one of the busiest outpatient departments in Lothian. The UNISON Corporate team ensured they were on site day and night regularly over the very short period of time from the announcement to the closure date at the end of October to keep staff up to date and support them through this process. We ensured the move to their new premises was as smooth as possible for staff and that all staff did not face any changes to their conditions of employment.

**STAFF LOTTERY -**

25 winners EVERY SINGLE MONTH. Will you be one of them? It's simple to play, so if you haven't already, sign up today. The quickest and easiest way to sign up is by visiting: [nhslothiancharity.org/staff-lottery](https://nhslothiancharity.org/staff-lottery).







**A Strong Voice for Occupational Therapy** - Six BAOT/UNISON Stewards from NHS Lothian attended this years RCOT/UNISON Trade Union Development Programme held in Leeds. Debbie Reilly, NHS Lothian, is the Chair of the National Occupational Therapy Stewards Panel. This is a great opportunity for all OT UNISON Stewards across the nation to come together and share skills and knowledge. This year, learning and development focussed on:-

- Pay, reward, and recognition
- Our role in multidisciplinary teams
- Our potential role in services, and skills for organisation change
- Role design, job evaluation, and job descriptions
- Career pathways



### 🎅 UNISON Brings Smiles & Gifts to Patients Across NHS Lothian -

As Christmas draws closer the Stewards in UNISON Lothian Health Branch wanted to do something to cheer up our elderly patients across NHS Lothian. So they donned their festive gear and visited patients in East Lothian Community Hospital, Midlothian Community Hospital, Liberton Hospital, Ellens Glen, Findlay House, Ferryfield, Tippethill and Maple Villa and dropped off a wee gift for each patient courtesy of UNISON. Here are a few photos of the day. NB - patients shown were able to and gave permission for their pics to be used. Merry Christmas.



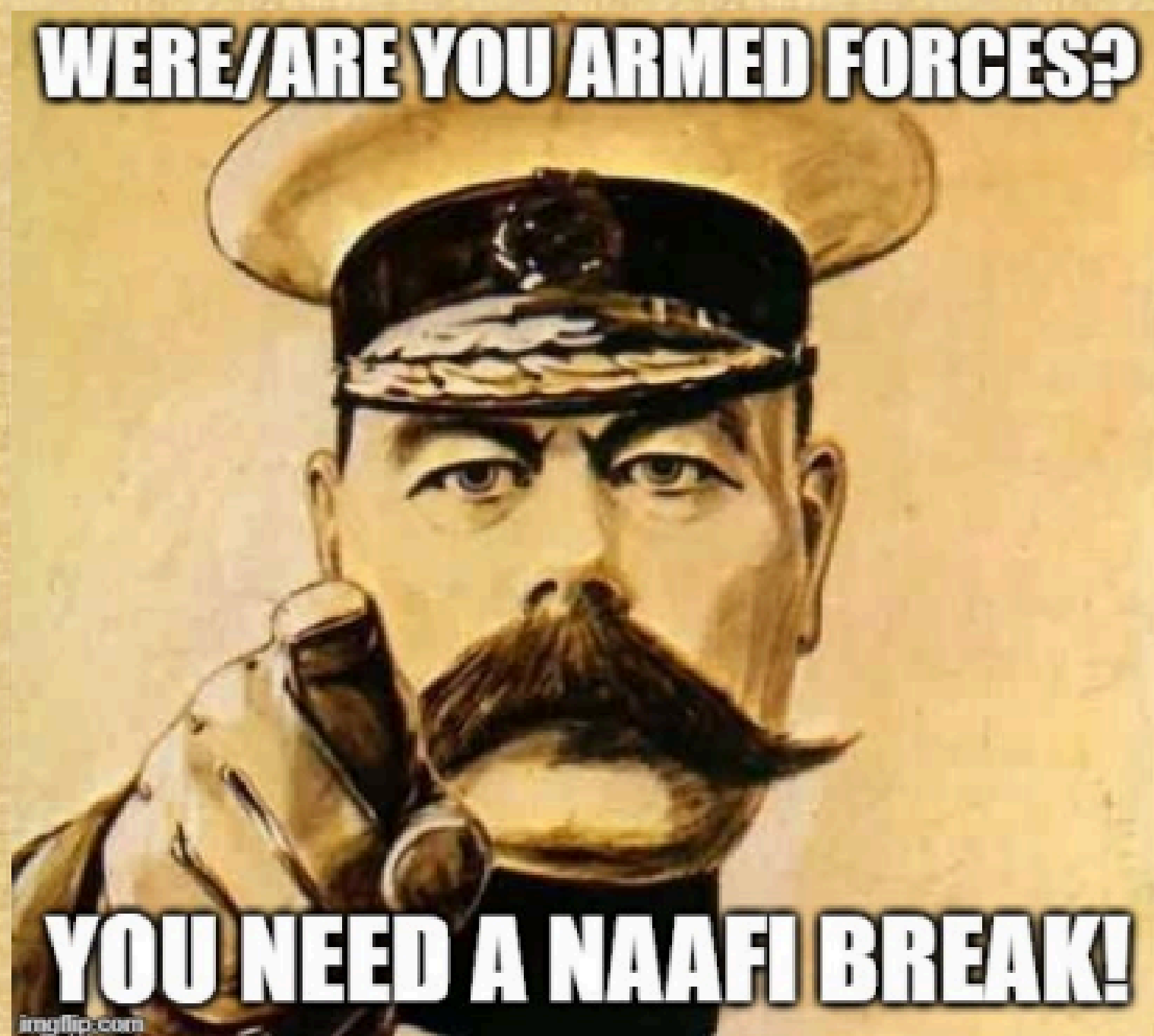
**Not content** with delivering a wee present to our elderly patients across NHS Lothian on Tuesday, Santa and three elves paid a visit to RHCYP today to give gifts to all of the kids on behalf of Unison Lothian Health Branch. A massive thanks to all of our santas and elves.





**National Elf Service Day.** The NHS Lothian Charity is the official charity of NHS Lothian. The charity supports NHS Lothian to excel for all the communities it serves: patients, families, carers and staff. The charity are dedicated to supporting NHS Lothian patients and staff and to improving the health and well being of the population in Lothian. Unison have signed up again this year to support the charity by taking part in National Elf Service Day on the 12th of December to raise money for the charity.





## NAAFI BREAK

### **The Armed Forces and Veterans Network**

The Armed Forces Network is an evolving group of Serving, Reservist and Veteran staff willing to come together to form an informal network for support and sharing ideas.

*The network is for all members of the Armed Forces, both serving and veteran, and for those staff members associated with the Armed Forces, i.e., family and dependants.*

The NAAFI Break has been created to rekindle and foster the sense of camaraderie found within the Armed Forces.

#### **When and Where:**

**From 10:00hrs till 11:00hrs.**

**At the WGH in the Anne Ferguson Building Canteen on the second Wednesday of the month.**

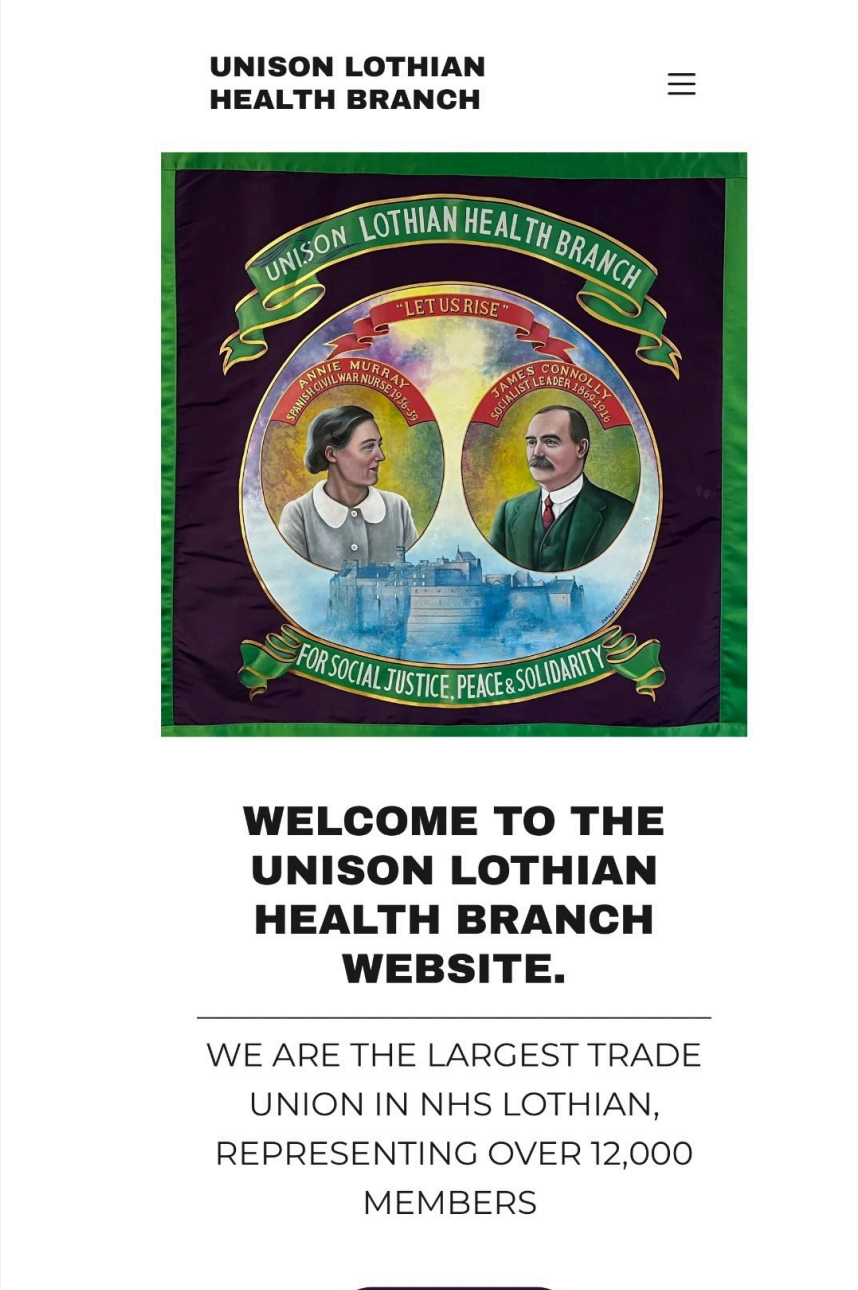


All outlets now have access to the digital edition of Morning Star

for Peace and Socialism

# Morning Star





In January 2024 we launched our new Branch website [unisonlothianhealth.org](http://unisonlothianhealth.org) to compliment our X, Facebook and Youtube social media channels

# TOGETHER WE RISE IN UNISON

UNISON is Scotland's biggest and liveliest public service trade union, representing workers delivering public services across Scotland.

We represent members, negotiate and bargain on their behalf, campaign for better working conditions and pay, and for public services.

**UNISON**  
*Scotland*

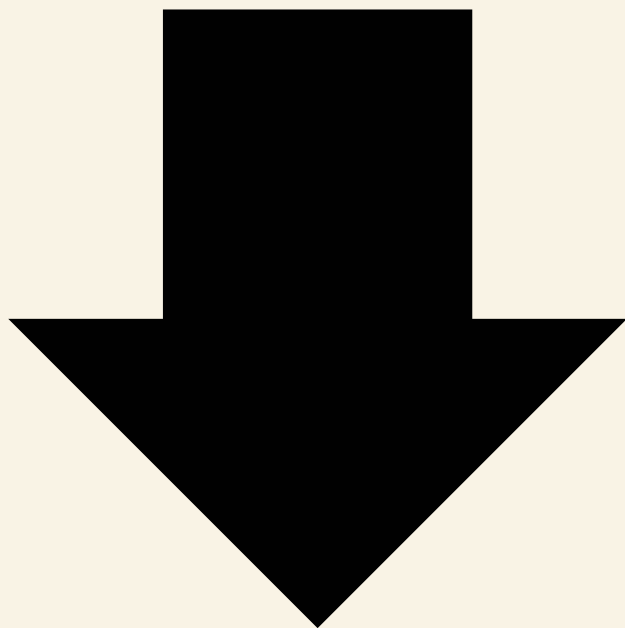
Three simple ways to join UNISON today and get essential cover wherever you work

Join online at  
[joinunison.org](http://joinunison.org)

Call us on  
0800 171 2193

Ask your UNISON rep  
for an application form

Scan QR code to join UNISON



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*Lothian Health Branch*