

Equalities Update

February is LGBT+ history month

NISON City of Edinburgh branch extends its best wishes to all our LGBT+ members.

We have much to learn from our history and the struggles of the past. Understanding the history helps us in the development of our campaigns to end the discriminations of today.

There have been many changes in attitudes and laws over the years that have gone a long way in improving things for the LGBT+ communities, but we know that discrimination is still out there, and we need to be challenging and changing that.

The branch is keen to set up a LGBT+ group. http://www.unison.org.uk/about/what-we-do/fairness-equality/lgbt/





UNISON has a proud and extensive history campaigning for the end of discrimination and for LGBT+ rights. The following is a <u>slideshow</u> cataloguing its own history in campaigning for <u>LGBT+ rights</u>, from the early 1970's to 2020 when much campaigning had to go online. The slideshow is available on our National LGBT+ resources page.

Their Voices and Visibility wallchart is available to download here.

Our other self-organised groups are for <u>black</u> <u>members</u>; <u>disabled members</u>; and <u>women</u> <u>members</u>. We also have equality groups for <u>young members</u> and <u>retired members</u>.

I would encourage you to consider becoming part in these important groups.

If you are interested, please let us know and we will get something set up.

Having groups set up would enable the true and authentic voice to be heard and would shape the direction and policies of the branch. It would also enable members to be engaged in education, campaigning work and attend Scottish and UK conferences it is also a good excuse to meet and engage with like-minded people and after Covid-19 has passed, it could be a great opportunity for wider socialising.

Proud to be in UNISON

Tom Connolly, Branch secretary