

Stephen Smellie

8 June 2009

BR/SEC/GEN/SS/JT

To: **All Scottish Branch Secretaries**

Dear Colleague

**Fun Day Out For All Unison Members at New Lanark
Sunday 13th September 2009**

I am writing to let you know that South Lanarkshire, North Lanarkshire and Lanarkshire NHS Branches have organised a members Fun Day out at New Lanark on 13th September 2009.

Our intention is to host a day out for members and their families in an area which is central to all with many on site attractions so that if it is typical Scottish weather it can still go ahead. New Lanark is a World Heritage site and through its associations with Robert Owen is central to the origins of trade unionism, early years education, health and safety legislation and the Co-operative movement (Robert Owen is also seen as one of the founders of modern personnel management, but that is a different story!).

New Lanark has recently agreed a discount of 25% for Unison members on production of their membership card for entry to the Award Winning Visitors Centre. On the 13th September this is further enhanced by the "Open Doors Day" which allows access to areas not normally included in the price of the entry fee. New Lanark recently added a roof top garden to their site. The entrance fee is £6.95 for an adult and £5.95 for a child/concession then reduced by 25% for up to 2 adults and 2 children with your Unison membership card.

WE hope to have many different activities during the day but this is still at the planning stage at the moment. We would hope that you will try to encourage Unison members in your branch to attend. Some branches including our own will endeavour to run buses from Hamilton, East Kilbride etc to help members get to and from the venue. The venue is however, accessible by public transport using the train service to Lanark then the bus to New Lanark. Taxis are also available just outside the train station at Lanark. There is adequate parking facilities within walking distance to New Lanark and disabled members would be able to access parking within the village and the website will provide further details for disabled visitors.

Members could decide to use the New Lanark Mill Hotel & Self Catering Waterhouses which we hope to get a special rate for. The hotel has excellent leisure facilities and is an ideal base for exploring the village and has beautiful scenery. There is also New Lanark Youth Hostel where all rooms are en-suite.

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The area has some stunning walks along the banks of the Clyde leading to the Falls of the Clyde. We hope to be able to provide guided walks to the falls by rangers from the Scottish Wildlife Trust.

I have enclosed a number of leaflets that I would ask you to distribute to your members and we are looking into using the Unison Scotland website. We will contact you in writing prior to the event with further details.

If this proves to be popular we intend making this an annual event for Unison Members and their families.

If you would like further information please contact Catherine McClymont on 01698 455894 or email at catherine.mcclymont@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

STEPHEN SMELLIE
BRANCH SECRETARY

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NB The website for New Lanark World Heritage is www.newlanark.org