

DO I GET ANY RETIRED MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS?

Yes, for example...

Legal services: Personal injury compensation claims *for members and their dependents*, with no legal costs, and claimants receive 100 per cent of their compensation.

Employment law advice and representation *for members only*, where appropriate, with no legal costs.

Free simple will service *for members and their partners*, with complex wills provided at reduced rates.

Assistance available – including reduced costs, pre-agreed fixed-fee rates and other concessions – with probate issues, conveyancing, powers of attorney and other matters.

Occupational pension info & support: You may still need the union to give you advice on any problems, queries or other issues you might have concerning your occupational pension. Whilst our older retired members will probably be in a single, final salary, defined benefit pension scheme, many of our recently retired members may be in two or three pension schemes when they retire and this can be very confusing.

The union has an input into these schemes either via our representatives on the trustee boards or the administration boards, which enable us to keep an eye on them and raise relevant issues.

And finally: Your retired membership entitles anyone you have nominated to receive a one-off payment of £941* after you pass away. It's something none of us want to think about, but sadly, it comes to us all and the CWU Death Benefit Grant can help somebody after you have gone.

(*Current level of benefit with effect from October 2022. The grant is payable to a person nominated by you, provided that you have retained retired membership within six months of your retirement).

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST ME?

The monthly contributions for retired membership (with effect from 1st January 2023) are £6.96 (if opting into the political fund) and £6.09 (if opting out).

OK, SO HOW DO I JOIN?

To join, or enquire further about the CWU Retired Members Section, please contact:

Membership Department
CWU
150 The Broadway
London
SW19 1RX

membership@cwu.org

Tel: 020 8971 7447

CWU RETIRED MEMBERS
The communications union

RETIRING SOON? WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS?

WHATEVER YOU DO IN THE FUTURE...

... YOU'RE VERY WELCOME TO STAY IN THE CWU

PLEASE HAVE A LOOK INSIDE TO FIND OUT WHAT THE CWU RETIRED MEMBERS SECTION IS ALL ABOUT

rm.cwu.org



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The Communications Union



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If you're ending your working career soon, we want to thank you for your support over the years and wish you a well-earned long and happy retirement, whatever plans you have ahead of you.

But we also want to take the opportunity to invite you to stay in the CWU, as a valued member of the Retired Members Section.

WHAT'S THE RETIRED MEMBERS SECTION?

Glad you asked! It's a Section of the union specifically for members who have now left the world of full-time work, but who want to stay active in the union's wider campaigns, or pass on their expertise, skills and knowledge to the new generations, or who simply want to keep in touch with former workmates.

IS IT A SEPARATE ORGANISATION?

No, it's very much still a part of the CWU, with an elected National Retired Members Committee, and the national officer with responsibility for retired members is the senior deputy general secretary Tony Kearns.

As a CWU retired member, you can continue to play an active role within the union. You remain affiliated to your existing branch and you can still hold and/or stand for election to non-industrial branch roles.

There is an annual sectional conference, which you are welcome to apply to be a delegate to or attend as a visitor. This is a policy-making conference, which sends motions and delegates to the union's national general conference.

WHY DOES THE UNION WANT RETIRED PEOPLE?

We highly value our retired members and the contribution they make. Experience, skills and knowledge gained through many years – often decades – of union activity are priceless. Branches and regions always need willing volunteers to help organise all kinds of events and are very grateful for the efforts of long-serving activists in particular.

Protesting: Last December's national rally in support of our striking Royal Mail members or last June's New Deal demonstration, for example, could not have been such huge successes without the active assistance of so many of our retired members helping in their local areas, assisting with transport arrangements and spreading the word to friends and among their local communities.

Supporting pickets: During the Royal Mail and BT and Post Office strikes last year, for example, some of our retired members were visiting their local picket lines, often bringing teas and sandwiches for the strikers and raising members' morale at a crucial time.

Yes indeed, our retired members, our CWU Veterans, are priceless.

WHAT ELSE DOES THE RETIRED MEMBERS SECTION DO?

As well as our work within the union, CWU retired members are playing their part in campaigning more widely for older people's rights. We are affiliated to the National Pensioners Convention (NPC) and we have close ties with the WASPI (Women Against State Pension Inequality) group.

Among the various campaigns for pensioners' rights, we've stood alongside like-minded unions and organisations to protect the state pensions triple lock, demanded more investment both locally and nationally in social care, and better public transport provision. Recently, we've supported protests against rising energy prices and highlighted to those in power the extent to which this impacts severely on older people. We're also strongly supporting the NPC's push for the appointment of a Government Minister with specific responsibility for elderly welfare.

But as well as supporting older people in society, the CWU Retired Members Section also stands in solidarity with our younger generation in backing campaigns such as our own New Deal for Workers struggle and community movements against homelessness and for a decent standard of living for all.

WHAT DO I GET FROM MY RETIRED MEMBERSHIP?

Lots, for example...

Publications: You will receive a copy of The Veteran. It's a retired members' journal produced by the union, edited by Retired Members NEC representative Norman Candy. It features articles of interest to retired members and issues affecting them, as well as useful contact details and other information. Contributions and letters are welcomed, and we make every effort to include all points of view. The Veteran will be sent to your home address with each edition of The Voice (which you will also continue to receive).

Activities: As well as regional and national conferences, many branches organise events such as Christmas dinners, day-trips, excursions and other activities for retired members.



The CWU Retired Members National Committee, pictured with CWU vice-president Jane Loftus



Your CWU Retired Members regular publication



NPC protesting over fuel prices

