

Dear Colleague

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the Staff Union representative for zone 5.

I joined Britannia in November 1982 working in the branch network as a Clerk / Cashier. I stayed within the network for seventeen years and have carried out virtually every branch role including Branch Manager.

I have been a BSU rep since 1990 and was elected as an Officer of the Union in 1996. As an Officer I have carried out the roles of Vice Chair and Chair and I was very proud to be elected to my current position as General Secretary in 2005.

As one of the Union's officers I am a member of the negotiating committee and therefore I am directly involved in additional activities such as negotiation and consultation with the Society. This includes the annual pay and benefit negotiations but this is only a small part of our work.

As an officer I am also involved with restructures across the business, changes to contracts and other terms and conditions, policy design and amendments etc. The officer group is also responsible for the internal Union activities such as its finances and very importantly the development and support provided to our Representatives and the service we offer to members.

The amount of work that the Union puts in to maintaining and improving your working environment at Britannia has increased tremendously in recent years. We are here to help with a range of subjects, from salary negotiations and contractual changes, through to disciplines and grievances - areas where we can provide real support and guidance.

Members of BSU have access to a dedicated team of representatives, who between them have an enormous amount of knowledge and skills, combined with a great understanding of Britannia's policies and procedures. Whether you need representation or find yourself in an uncertain situation and just need the reassurance gained from sitting down and talking it through with somebody, we are here to help.

You can also take advantage of the many discounts we offer ranging from discounted insurance policies (car, holiday, pet, etc.) through to discounted balloon flights.

If you have any questions or would like to know more about BSU's activities please contact me on 01538 399 627 and I'll be happy to talk to you.

Yours sincerely

John Stoddard
Zone 5 Representative & General Secretary