

Summer / Autumn,

From Janice Gemmell

Hi everyone,

I hope that as many of you as possible have had a really good break over the Christmas New Year period. I am aware many of you work in the 7 day 24 hour per day industry so you may not have had breaks, if this is you I hope you can get a good break soon.

NUPE this year will continue to work hard to be available and accessible to you when matters arise. NUPE will be focusing on safety in your workplaces. This has always been a priority for NUPE but this year we will be actively and strongly focusing on this across all our groups particularly the frontline that deals directly with their patients, clients, offenders.

During the break I did read the Pike River Book Why did 29 Men die? (Get right title and author). I strongly suggest you read this, it is an easy read and really challenging about what we all as employees put up with at times believing it is 'just the job'.

We need to make sure we **'keep safe at work'**

NUPE had a planning day in early February looking at what areas each organiser will be looking after. Most of you will be seeing the same organisers as before however in a couple of areas more than one organiser will assist when and if matters arise. NUPE will be seeking to be as available as possible within a reasonable time frame.

We will be aiming to get round as many of the members as possible during 2014. We will aim to have paid union meetings across areas throughout the year so please watch out for these as these meetings are a really good opportunity to catch up on matters.

Janice

Secretary