



Network News Update

2020 NEWS UPDATE **FOUR** - NOV 2020

Hello OLB Members, A lot has happened since our last update. (From OLB Chair - Caron Lyon)

The [1st update this year](#) was back in February. The [2nd update](#) was [about the ARC](#). The [3rd update](#) was about digital hustings for General Secretary. At that point, Covid, Lockdown 1.0 and The Pandemic were ringing the doorbell. But no one had yet answered!

Updates of note

- We have a new branch organiser; Dominic Bascombe (He also looks after the NE and Yorkshire branches)
- For the [1st time since our official foundation in 2016](#), we were [listed in the Equity Magazine](#)
- [Paul Fleming](#) is the new General Secretary
- There is a new [Council for 2020-22](#)

And... (drumroll)

The committee would like to invite you to an informal Online Branch members-only gathering!

This will be held on Zoom, with no set agenda. **Our guests will be Equity President Maureen Beattie (also on the branch committee). And it will be an opportunity to meet our organiser, Dominic.**

Fixed-time, official meetings are not an OLB thing, the branch must exist from any location but also at any time. However, since the onset of COVID-19, many of the physical branches have adopted Zoom to help bridge the social distance so we'll be delighted to reconnect with you there while we drive forward with our redevelopment. With a new organiser comes a welcome new communication channel to connect with you.

So, put the date in your diary: **Tuesday 8th December, 6:30 pm to 8 pm**

[Click Here To Sign Up](#)

Your Committee

							
Caron R	Helen	Jason	Julia	Lee	Maureen	Terry	Caron L

A FEW WORDS NOT FROM ME!

Maureen Beattie - Equity President

"Along with my fellow Online Branch Committee members, I am delighted to see the branch gaining real momentum towards being fully functioning after so many trials and tribulations. There has never been a greater need for an Online Branch in these days of the pandemic, when it is easier than ever for us to feel isolated from our fellow performers and creative practitioners, even when we are not distanced geographically. I have been amazed and deeply heartened by the passion and unwavering commitment of the committee to bring this vital platform to all our members, wherever they may be in the world. Watch this space!" - MBx

Terry Victor - Branch Committee

"The potential of an online branch has always been exciting to me. That it is now within reach, after so many years on a rollercoaster of underachieving and superhuman problem solving, is cause for even greater excitement. To have the means to be engaged with my branch, in a safe and democratic environment, whatever the time and wherever in the world I may be, is a thrilling prospect." - TVx

Lee Ravitz - Branch Committee

"I chose to help develop the online branch because it is the adjunct that I consider a 21st-century union to need. The potential for 24/7 access, immediate notifications, a flexible dialogue with officers and fellow performers, the chance to remotely propose and vote on motions, a searchable archive of useful reference data: all these are functions that an Online Branch can provide. It can (or should) serve every member who would like to sign up to it, in my view, and shouldn't be considered a 'typical' branch, but an online resource for all. Developments have been tried in the past, and come up short. We have things right now, and the new OLB will be accessible, intuitive to use, and driven by member need. I hope that the Online Branch above all else serves YOU!" - RLx

HAVE YOU GOT A QUESTION? HAVE YOU GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

Until this point none of us would have thought it possible we could send statements like this with conviction and sincerity. It really is happening.

Please email moderator@equityonlinebranch.co.uk

Caron-Jane Lyon

Online Branch Committee Chair and Moderator

[CLICK HERE to Sign Up for the 8th December OLB Zoom](#)