

Autumn 2022

# SOLIDARITY

The quarterly newsletter of One Fund For All

## POWER TO THE PEOPLE!



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## ***'We Can't Afford to Live'***

Derbyshire Unemployed Workers' Centres have partnered with Unite Community to highlight how the catastrophic rise in energy bills is hitting households across the country.

Our team has helped produce a short film calling for the renationalization of the power companies. Privatisation has certainly worked for the energy businesses who have made billions. It is the ordinary consumer who has lost out and will have to pay higher bills for a very long time as the Government bails out the companies rather than freeze prices in taking control of the energy supply sector.



You can watch our video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yfOqrtdWoAY>

On Friday, 26th August, campaigners from Nottingham and throughout the East Midlands descended on the E-on call centre in the heart of the city. Banging pots and pans people made a noise and made their views known, calling for no disconnections, lower prices and the renationalisation of the power companies.



The companies are making huge profits from providing light, power and heating, which are the basic necessities of life-things that should not be in private hands.

In Scotland, people gathered outside Scottish power, SSE and OFGEM making similar demands, displaying huge banners saying freeze prices not people. Young people symbolically burnt the company's' bills in a brazier.



The campaigners of the Wyndford estate in Maryhill Glasgow have had success in forcing SSE to get around the negotiating table. They have frozen bills not just at Wyndford but for all 10,000 customers supplied by SSE operated district heating schemes across Scotland.

***This shows the power of the people to bring power to the people.***

We will continue to help people get their voices heard. It is the job of DUWC to speak out for those who come in increasing numbers through our doors. Helping people to maximize their incomes is important as well as preventing people from being ripped off. However, this will never be enough if prices continue to skyrocket whilst wages and benefits remain stagnant or, worse still, reduce with redundancy and benefit sanctions and refusals.



There must be an immediate increase in Universal Credit with the restoration of the £20 per week given during the pandemic. DUWC will continue to raise these issues with all politicians regardless of party affiliation.

***Power to the people!***

## ***DUWC—Claim All You Are Entitled To!***

Derbyshire Unemployed Workers' Centres can offer free, independent and confidential advice on all aspects of your benefit and credit entitlements. We can carry out benefit checks, help to fill in claim forms and help challenge decisions made by the Department for Work and Pensions right through to Social Security Appeals Tribunal if necessary. No appointment is needed, please contact us and we will always help.

For people in work we can help with Tax Credits/Universal Credit. For those unable to work through ill health or disability we can help with Personal Independence Claims and advice, as well as Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit and Carers Allowance. For the elderly we can help with queries regarding Pension Credit and Attendance Allowance. If you are a disabled person who is unable to leave the house, we can also offer a home visit service. Call us on 01246 231441 (Mon – Friday 8am – 4pm) for more details on this or any other aspect of our work.

See our website: [www.duwc.org.uk](http://www.duwc.org.uk)

**If you have an older peoples luncheon club or coffee morning / afternoon in your area please ask if they would like a speaker from our organization to talk through the eligibility criteria for Attendance Allowance. As winter approaches we need to look after the older people in our communities in particular.**

Recently, in Shirebrook, our Adviser Karen Seymour addressed the Wednesday afternoon 'chit chat' club and as a result 11 appointments were made. 9 have so far been dealt with, all of them successful in claiming Attendance Allowance and 4 of them claiming Pension Credit.

We are sure that there are thousands of older people in Derbyshire missing out because they are unaware of this support they can claim. Please don't hesitate to contact us and spread the word.



**Have you reached state pension age?**

**Have you had a health condition for at least 6 months?**

If you are not currently claiming Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment you may be entitled to **Attendance Allowance**

**Remember:** Attendance Allowance is worth more than £60 per week and **is not** means tested, nor affected by income or savings.



**Derbyshire Unemployed Workers' Centres**  
Call 01246 231441 weekdays 8am – 4pm  
or visit [www.duwc.org.uk](http://www.duwc.org.uk)

## **Mayor Of Wirksworth raises £4,435.29 for the Derbyshire Unemployed Workers' Centres**

Elisa McDonagh, Mayor of Wirksworth has climbed her Everest. She ascended Loads Road / Longside Road in Holymoorside 46 times. This equals the elevation of Everest, the highest mountain in the world. Elisa decided to take on this epic challenge in order to raise funds for the Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centres (DUWC) where she had volunteered as an adviser during 2021. She had seen the invaluable work that the DUWC carries out with and on behalf of some of the poorest and powerless in the County and wanted to give something back.

At 4:07 a.m she set out climbing the hill and returning to the base camp outside the Lamb Inn within 18 minutes. After dawn, supporters came down to cycle with her and cheer her on. Colin Hampton, Coordinator at DUWC said "We all knew that as fatigue kicked in Elisa would do well to finish her final ascent in daylight – and so it proved." The Lamb Inn hosted supporters in the beer garden, who could be heard urging Elisa ever onwards to the top. Just before 8.0 pm she was down to single figures in the number of ascents needed to reach her goal. Each climb was ever more gruelling but Elisa's determination and resilience could be seen by all. Climbs were now taking five minutes longer and the rejuvenating bag of snacks was diminishing fast.



Shortly after 11 pm supporters ascended Longside Road and waited for Elisa to make her final climb.

As she reached the top she was greeted and covered with snow confetti to give her that 'Everest' summit experience. Back at the Lamb Inn, the landlord treated her to a well earned pint and she was presented with a bottle of champagne by the DUWC Coordinator Colin Hampton.

DUWC would like to thank the Lamb Inn, supporters and the people of Holymoorside for their support and contributions.

*It's 11.30pm and Elisa is presented with a bottle of Champagne outside The Lamb Inn at the end of her grueling challenge.*



*Just after dawn Elisa reaches the top of the Hill on Beeley Moor with nearly 40 more climbs to complete*

## **Staveley Councillor Anne-Frances Hayes to run Chesterfield 10k**

DUWC are delighted that our long-time supporter Anne-Frances Hayes will be running the Chesterfield 10k to raise funds for the centre. What's more, Coordinator Colin Hampton and Assistant Coordinator Matt Hunt have agreed to join the run too. Anne stated:

*'I am pleased to announce I'll be running the Redbrik Foundation Chesterfield 10k on behalf of the Derbyshire Unemployed Workers' Centres (DUWC).*

*The DUWC, which runs a free advice office in my Division at Staveley Library, aims to prevent or relieve poverty amongst the unemployed, underemployed, unwaged and those in receipt of or entitled to benefits and credits as well as other disadvantaged people in Derbyshire.'*



*We would appreciate any donations you can make to Anne, Colin and Matt via the link below:*

<https://www.collectionpot.com/pot/3028021/>

## ***Derbyshire Asbestos Support Team:***

### ***Caped defenders of Justice take on Cape offenders of Justice***

A demonstration will be held outside Cape/Altrad, Head Office in Thurnscoe by the Asbestos Victims Support Groups' Forum dressed as Caped Defenders of Justice on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 1pm to demand that Cape Intermediate Holdings Ltd pay £10million towards medical research to find a cure for mesothelioma.

Mesothelioma is a cancer caused almost exclusively by exposure to asbestos. Cape Intermediate Holdings played a central role in causing thousands of needless industrial deaths from the sale of asbestos products from which they profited.



A historic legal victory by the National Charity, Asbestos Victims Support Groups' Forum (The Forum) which proved that Cape had intentionally withheld their own data which showed that handling and working with their asbestos products such as Asbestolux was far more dangerous. Asbestolux was widely used in public buildings including schools. The Supreme Court granted access to documents which are now publicly available and will help many victims receive legal justice where previously their claim may have failed.



**#CAPEMUSTPAY!**

**“No one said it was dangerous, I went home covered in it every time I used it, and what's more, I used to travel on public Transport”**

Joiner/Asbestos Victim who used Capes Asbestolux Product

Joanne Gordon, Co-ordinator of DAST and Chair of the Forum explained “Thanks to the Forum’s case against Cape Intermediate Holdings, many victims who may have previously been denied compensation, will have a greater chance of justice as a result of the evidence contained in documents now freely available. That’s a modern day superhero story.”

Many who access the Forum’s services worked either in Cape’s asbestos factories or worked with products like Asbestolux, which Cape produced and profited from, whilst working class workers died from the devastating cancers.

Joanne continued “We need to find a cure for mesothelioma, a cancer caused by asbestos and Cape can afford to pay. Parodying their name we are taking to the streets as superheroes to fight for mesothelioma victims and demand £10 million with hope for a cure.”

**Join the Forum for the Cape Must Pay Demonstration  
Friday 30th September 2022 at 1.00pm**

## Where to get advice

<p><b>ALFRETON</b> Alfreton House High Street</p> <p>Tues, Weds 9.00am—12.00pm 1.00pm-4.00pm Thurs 1.00pm-4.00pm</p> <p><b>01773 832237</b></p>	<p><b>BELPER</b> Belper Library Derwent St</p> <p>Not open at Present</p> <p><b>01773 832237</b></p>	<p><b>BOLSOVER</b> Library Church St</p> <p>Tuesdays 1.00pm—3.30pm</p> <p><b>01623 748161</b></p>	<p><b>BRIMINGTON</b> Community Centre High Street</p> <p>Mondays 9.00am-12.00pm</p> <p><b>01246 231441</b></p>
<p><b>CLAY CROSS</b> Adult Education Centre Market Street</p> <p>Not open at present</p> <p><b>01246 231441</b></p>	<p><b>CLOWNE</b> Community Centre Recreation Close</p> <p>Wednesdays 1.0pm—3.30pm</p> <p><b>01623748161</b></p>	<p><b>CRESWELL</b> Limestone House Elmton Road</p> <p>Thursdays 1.00pm -3.30pm</p> <p><b>01623748161</b></p>	<p>Clay cross <b>Eckington</b> <b>Grassmoor</b> North Wingfield</p> <p>Closed at present due to NEDDC Cuts</p>
<p><b>GRASSMOOR</b> Community Centre New Street</p> <p>Not open at Present</p> <p><b>01246 231441</b></p>	<p><b>HASLAND</b> Hasland Working Mens Club</p> <p>Wednesdays 1.00pm—3.30pm</p> <p><b>01246 231441</b></p>	<p><b>HEANOR</b> Buxton Room Heanor Town Hall</p> <p>Thursdays 9.00am—11.30am</p> <p><b>01773 832237</b></p>	<p><b>NEW HOUGHTON</b> Community Hub Rotherham Rd</p> <p>Thursdays 10.00am—2.00pm</p> <p><b>01623 748161</b></p>
<p><b>PINXTON</b> Church Hall Kirkstead Road</p> <p>Mondays 9.30am—12.00pm</p> <p><b>01773 832237</b></p>	<p><b>SHIREBROOK</b> <b>54 Patchwork Row</b></p> <p>Mon, Tues, Weds 9.00am- 11.30am and 1.00pm—4.00pm Thurs, Friday 9.00am—11.30am</p> <p><b>01623 748161</b></p>	<p><b>SOMERCOTES</b> Parish Hall Nottingham Road</p> <p>Mondays 1.30pm—4.00pm</p> <p><b>01773 832237</b></p>	<p><b>STAVELEY</b> Library</p> <p>Monday and Thursday 9.30am—12 noon</p> <p><b>01246 231441</b></p>

## CHESTERFIELD 1 Rose Hill East

**Callers  
Mon—Fri  
9.30am—1.00pm**

**or  
Call  
01246 231441  
Mon-Fri  
8.00 am—4.00pm**

### Don't Forget...

To remember Derbyshire One Fund For All in your will, or to ask for donations in lieu of flowers at your funeral.

Let our future be your legacy.

Donate through our website:  
**[www.duwc.org.uk](http://www.duwc.org.uk)**

## If you should need the advice and representation services of DUWCs

### Welfare Rights Team:

Andrew Parkes

Katrina Hudson

Tim Wilkinson

John Power

Karen Seymour

Joanna Zon

Marcin Proc

Jon Jarvis

Brigit Long

Keren Gladders

### Co-ordinator

Colin Hampton

[colin.hampton@duwc.org.uk](mailto:colin.hampton@duwc.org.uk)

### Assistant Co-ordinator

Matt Hunt

[Matthew.hunt@duwc.org.uk](mailto:Matthew.hunt@duwc.org.uk)

*Not forgetting our wonderful team of volunteers*

**Tel Chesterfield: 01246 231441**

**Tel Shirebrook: 01623 748161**

**Tel Alfreton: 01773 832237**

**[info@duwc.org.uk](mailto:info@duwc.org.uk)**