

# AMICUS EC ELECTIONS 2003 - EAST MIDLANDS



Prior to falling prey to market forces, I worked in a public utilities industry which benefited from job security. I am a fitter by trade but since 1994 have only managed to achieve mainly short term agency contracts, and gained an insight into the insecurity and indignity associated with temporary work. I will campaign for the implementation of the European Employment Rights for Temporary Workers Directive.

The opportunity to achieve a democratic union has been vastly improved by the election of a General secretary, who against the odds won the election on a platform of reform - returning the union to its members. I am standing for the East Midlands EC seat on the same platform. I want to help build a union that puts its members first. My support comes from within both the AEEU and MSF sections from colleagues who want a fairer campaigning union without internal divisions.

There are problems in manufacturing (Amicus has less than 50% of its members employed in manufacturing), our Regional Development Agency is forecasting a further loss of 80,000 jobs by 2010. It is therefore essential that Amicus campaigns for a level playing field for British Manufacturers, including government funds for regional research/development. We have a right to share in the wealth created and not to have our jobs exported to other countries.

Private employers now subcontract their workers, consequently wages and conditions have declined. Gradual privatisation of public services is furthering this decline. Our members in the NHS are faced with significant changes i.e. "Agenda for Change", Performance related pay, and Foundation Status. University members are concerned by the research funding proposals, which could inevitably lead to job losses. Amicus needs to campaign for strong, adequately funded public services, which encompass good working conditions for its employees.

If elected I will campaign on the following issues: democratic elections at all levels within the union, transparency, accountability, and financial openness. I am opposed to all forms of discrimination, in terms of race, gender, religion, disability and sexual orientation.

Electing a new EC will start this process - a process that will lead to a fairer future for members and their families. With a General secretary dedicated to democracy, and a like minded executive committee Amicus would be a force to be reckoned with.

## VOTE FOR MATT SIMMONS - VOTE FOR A FUTURE

- **LENGTH OF UNION MEMBERSHIP:** 32 years
- **EMPLOYER:** Stanton Bonna Ltd.
- **BRANCH:** Long Eaton
- **REGION:** East Midlands.

➤ **POSITIONS HELD:**

- Branch President
- Erewash Trades Council delegate.

➤ **PREVIOUS POSITIONS:**

Shop & Safety Steward, Convenor, Chair works committee, Secretary Safety & works committee, Derby District Committee delegate, Chairman Joint Shop Stewards Committee Electricity Supply Industry (ESI) Delegate National Conference ESI, member of National Industrial Committee ESI, Chair of the Industrial Regional committee.

**Amicus unity gazette**

**For a democratic union controlled by the members**

We are standing for election as part of a group of candidates committed to returning the union to its members. We are supported by Amicus Unity Gazette, the grouping that was central to Derek Simpson's election campaign, bringing together activists from both AEEU and MSF.

For more information, see [www.amicusunitygazette.com](http://www.amicusunitygazette.com) or write to Bill Young, 22 Swale Road, Rochester, Kent ME2 2TT. If you want to send a donation, please make cheques payable to "Engineering Gazette".