

# AMICUS EC ELECTIONS 2003 - EAST



**MICK LONGLEY**

I have been a member of Amicus and its predecessor unions since starting work in 1965. From 1986 until its unnecessary closure in 2002, I was the AEEU convenor at Vauxhall Motors, Luton plant, I am now a qualified TUC tutor.

I am an active member of the Labour Party but I believe and have campaigned for the party to do more in support of the trade unions and their members.

I stand in this election as the Unity Gazette candidate. I am proud to do so because the Unity Gazette platform reflects my beliefs, in particular, lay member democracy. I still remain amazed at the arrogance of certain members of the current AEEU section EC, including an individual who claims to represent the Eastern Region membership, who were responsible for attempting to reverse the democratic wishes of the members, when brother Simpson was elected General Secretary.

This blatant example of self-interest should not be forgotten by the members in the East of England

I am committed to amicus being a progressive union, built on the belief that the union is its members and where campaigning in defence of and the advancement of our members interests is the union's priority.

The Eastern Region is a major region industrially, economically and politically. I believe the heart of the union is in its industrial work. Amicus is a union of many different industries and sectors and this is the case in the East of England. Yet from the experience I have gained, in speaking to members, many of the issues are the same; employment protection; especially in multinational companies where it is easier and cheaper to close operations here in the UK than it is in mainland Europe; outsourcing; a current issue in the finance industry, where our jobs are sold to make greater profit; and wages and conditions; where even in our health service "agenda for change" appears to confuse, be unmanageable and undermines a proportion of our members current wages and conditions. We need to ensure when we enter agreements with employers that they are in the interest of our members and particularly where partnership agreements exist we must ensure these do not interfere with our members rights to protect themselves and their jobs, as we have recently seen at Aviva.

There are many more of these examples and I know as a regional EC member I would need to listen to our members in all industries and sectors, as well as understand the regional significance of those industries. Only then, would I be able to adequately represent you. If elected, I would want to be approachable to members and visit as many branches and workplaces, as often as possible, to listen to our members

I believe amicus Eastern Region can be a major voice on behalf of our members at the EC and industrially and politically within the region.

Thank you

**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.**  
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