



A benefit from birth

Community is proud to announce that nearly one year on from its introduction on 1 January 2008 the union's Child Benefit has been a great success. More than 450 'union children' have been registered on the scheme - and it has been warmly welcomed by members from all regions.

The benefit means that members receive a £50 'baby bonus' after the birth or adoption of a child.

Only member parents of all children born on or after 1 July 2004 are eligible for the 'baby bonus', while member parents of children born on 1 July 2004 receive an additional £50.

All children registered under the scheme will receive ongoing support from Community, including birthday cards and vouchers at key stages in their life for items such as school uniforms, books and equipment. At age 16, the child will receive a membership application form and access to advice and guidance on work and education.

This benefit is payable to any member on the birth or adoption of their child, providing they have held membership for at least 12 months before the child's birth/adoption.

If both parents are members, then both can claim. Any child under the age of 16 can be registered under the scheme, although those born before 1 July 2004 won't be eligible for the 'baby bonus'.

Members should fill out the Child Benefit form available through branch secretaries, regional offices or the website. Any claim must be accompanied by a copy of the birth certificate, which must contain the name of at least one member as either the father or mother.

Here are a few of the beautiful babies born to our members and their families recently and what their parents and grandparents think about the benefit:



Pat's pride

Pat Wiggins, secretary of the Sheerness Branch 8, would like to introduce his first granddaughter, Evie-Grace, to the union. 'The union's Child Benefit meant not just help when my grandson and Evie-Grace were born, but it means support throughout their education,' explains Pat. 'I'll be really proud when they join the union at 16! This far-reaching benefit secures not only their futures, but the union's, too.'



Nappiness is...

Wayne Taylor, Port Talbot TLS branch, is the proud father of James, pictured here with big sister, Emily. Wayne says, 'I've found the union's Child Benefit very useful. It's amazing how many nappies you use. Thank you Community.'



Sweet baby James

Edward McSherry, Intersnack 01 branch, County Durham is the proud father of son James. Edward says that 'Community was happy to help. James is now registered under the scheme, which is good to know.'

For information on any member benefits and services, members can contact their regional office, or call the Member Service Centre on
FREEPHONE 0800 389 6332