

The logo for GMB (General Medical Board) is displayed in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters on an orange rectangular background.The text "SOUTHERN REGION" is written in white, sans-serif capital letters on a black rectangular background, positioned below the GMB logo.

An introduction!

Southern Region Retired Members Association

New officers were elected at the 2021 Southern Region RMA conference – we are introducing ourselves to you below.



President Megan Dobney

It is a privilege to be elected as President of the region's Retired Members' Association and to have the opportunity to work with and for you in our Region.

To introduce myself – I worked for over 30 years in the print and was a Mother of the Chapel in print unions NGA and GPMU. I then worked for the Trades Union Congress as Regional Secretary covering London,

the South East and East of England – this was when I joined the GMB.

Since I retired from that post I have become an Accompanying Rep, looking after our members in workplaces with no elected Rep in the South London General Branch (K19). I also have a voluntary role as Secretary in the International Brigade Memorial Trust – the organisation that keeps alive the memory and spirit of the men and women who fought fascism and defended democracy in the Spanish Civil War.

I view the RMA as an opportunity to not only campaign for the interests of retired members, but also to do what we can to support the GMB's working membership. Along with the

other officers I seek to build our RMA into a really valuable part of our Region – but this requires your support and contribution as well! So please join in our activities, respond to our emails, and share your opinions.

Many of our retired members have a tough time – and collectively we can make it better.



Secretary Ken Marshall

Hello I'm Ken, who has recently been elected as your Secretary, and want to

let you know that during my employed years, with British Airways, I was a Workplace Rep on the Ground, for the GMB, representing the largest group of members at this Branch.



Treasurer Gary Marmion

Now it's time to look after our group of Retired Members within the Southern Region. My passion is to see in our growing years, our standard of living enhanced, and that Social Care is a top priority, and that our Union is a 'Champion', in campaigning for the rights of older workers reaching retirement.

I would like to introduce myself as your new treasurer for the RMA Southern region. I'm Gary, before I retired in 2018 I worked for British Airways for 35 years. I have a passionate interest in diversity and inclusion and will be a champion for these issues especially as they

relate to our retired members.

My hobbies include travelling, and I have been lucky enough to visit many countries around the world. I am a martial artist, training for many years in the Genbukan school of traditional Japanese martial arts. I also train with Kyushindo Judo. I look forward to meeting you, and working with Megan and Ken on your behalf.

A reminder – what is the aim of the GMB's RMAs? The national RMA constitution says:

- The GMB RMA aims to provide practical assistance to the recruitment, retention and organisational objectives of the GMB wherever and whenever possible.
- The GMB RMA aims to campaign on behalf of retired GMB members, to bring about dignity in retirement.
- The GMB RMA will work in partnership with like-minded pensioner groups whenever it is appropriate to do so.
- The RMA aims at all times to comply with Equal Opportunity policies of the GMB.

None of these important aims will be won by officers and committee alone – we need your support and involvement! Please contact Secretary Ken Marshall to get involved. ken.marshall@gmbactivist.org.uk