

THE FRINGE

All fringe meeting rooms are on the upper galleria level of ACC Liverpool and can be accessed by lift or escalator

Sunday 10 September

18:30-19:45

The Case for a National Climate Service: reorganising the state for the climate emergency, people and public ownership Campaign Against Climate Change Trade Union Group, PCS, Greener Jobs Alliance

The impacts of climate breakdown are intensifying: more than ever, a rapid transition away from fossil fuels is needed. But this government's failure to address the crisis have left ordinary people facing soaring energy bills, and crucial infrastructure like public transport failing, while energy giants pocket obscene profits.

A transformation is needed. A national climate and biodiversity service could deliver on decarbonisation and biodiversity targets at the pace and scale demanded by science. By providing coherence and coordination across government, including devolved, regional and local government, an NCS will organise, plan, train and deliver the huge number of jobs required for a rapid and far reaching transition that puts economic and social justice for workers and communities at its heart.

Speakers

John Moloney, PCS; Suzanne Jeffery, CACCTU; Stephen Smellie, UNISON
Chaired by Tahir Latif, Greener Jobs Alliance

Venue

Room 4a

18:45-19:30

Building a Movement for the Future Unite and the TUC Young Workers Forum

Unions are the best way to advance the lives of working people and win change. Yet far too few young people are members of a union and 40 per cent of our membership is set to retire in the next 10-15 years.

From sexual harassment to pay, this fringe will focus on the issues that matter to young people, what unions need to do to organise young workers and share stories of young workers winning across our movement.

Venue

Room 4b

20:30 until late

GFTU Congress Social Sponsored by Morrish Solicitors

Venue

Love Lane Brewery, 62-64 Bridgewater Street, Liverpool L1 0AY
(free entry, food and entertainment provided, cash bar)

20:30

Trade Unions and the Law: the drift towards authoritarianism Institute of Employment Rights and the Campaign for Trade Union Freedom; sponsored by Thompsons Solicitors

The pernicious Strikes (Minimum Service Levels) Bill has now been passed by Parliament. Alongside the increasingly anti-trade union legislation already on the statute books, we are now faced with the question of how the movement should respond to this latest attack on workers' rights, designed to delegitimise trade union activity.

Come and hear from academics, labour lawyers and leading trade unionists how we might counter

this existential threat and the drift to authoritarianism. As part of this discussion, we will be looking at how our movement has responded to threats of illegality in the past, and how that might inform our collective response.

Speakers

Prof Keith Ewing, Kings College London; Lord John Hendy KC: Daniel Kebede, NEU; Lydia Hayes, University of Liverpool; Mick Lynch, RMT; Neil Todd, Thompsons Solicitors; Mick Whelan, ASLEF; speaker from War on Want

Chaired by Sarah Woolley, BFAWU

Venue

Love Lane Brewery, 62-64 Bridgewater Street, Liverpool L1 0AY
(refreshments provided)

Monday 11 September

08:30-09:15

Breakfast reception and launch of faith and belief network CWU

This network aims to develop an ongoing dialogue with faith organisations, develop and build relationships, and explore connections on the dignity of labour and trade union rights.

As well as defending workers' rights through industrial action, trade unions are concerned about long-term solutions to the social and political issues that affect working-class people. Trade unions have stepped up their commitment to support local and community-based organisations. This is a recognition that the well-being of local communities is a matter for trade union members, their member's families, and neighbours.

Speakers

Maria Exall, TUC president, others tbc
Chaired by Kudsia Batool, TUC

Venue

Room 11a
(refreshments provided)

12:45-14:00

Better Workplace Relations in a Volatile Environment

Acas

When do you go to Acas for help?
When things get tough? When relations
have fallen down? When you are
balloting for action?

De-escalation before reaching
this step is better for members,
better for business and better for
workplace relations.

In this fringe meeting, Acas chief
conciliator Marina Glasgow and
Acas council members will provide
insights on employer and employee
perspectives and share tips for better
negotiations based on their insights
from some of the most challenging
negotiations of our times.

You will get the chance to meet the
new Acas dedicated professional team
and discuss how you want to keep
in touch.

Marina Glasgow will be 'in
conversation' with members of the
Acas council - Mike Clancy, general
secretary of Prospect and Neil
Carberry, chief executive of REC
- about how to maintain positive
workplace relations, even in a volatile
uncertain environment.

Speakers (as listed above)

Venue

Room 13

Democracy Under Attack in Israel: a trade union perspective

Britain Israel Trade Union Dialogue (BITUD)

This informative fringe will discuss the
recent and ongoing upheaval in Israel
over the proposed judicial reforms
advocated by the current government.
The country has seen unprecedented
opposition to this with some of biggest
demonstrations seen in decades
opposing the changes.

We are proud to have as one of our
speakers, the director general of the
Histadrut, Peter Lerner, and the session
will also be a chance to discuss the
developments and what the Israeli
trade union movement has done
to bring the country back together,
including calling a General Strike. This
and other contemporary issues will be
up for discussion.

Speakers

Peter Lerner, the Histadrut (Israeli TUC),
others tbc
Chaired by Jackie Marshall, POA

Venue

Room 4b
(refreshments available)

Digitisation in the Public Sector - the reality, the risks and what you can do about it

PCS

Digitisation and automated systems
are a fact of life in the public sector.
Soon to be joined by AI. Of course, the
trade union movement has repeatedly
found itself in this situation, where
technology threatens a mass change in
employment through radical changes
in work processes. The question posed
then, as in now, is who will benefit from
those changes.

Join to discuss digitisation in the
public sector, its effects and a new
guide that equips public sector reps to
push back.

Speakers

Christina Colclough, The Why Not
Lab; John Moloney, PCS, Sonja Hall,
NASUWT
Chaired by Kamaljeet Gill, TUC

Venue

Room 10

Global LGBT+ Rights: challenging international homophobia, biphobia transphobia and the far right

CWU, UCU and UNISON

Come along to this meeting to discuss
the upsurge in homophobia, biphobia
and transphobia worldwide and how
this is a key axis in the advancement of
the international far right.

We will hear from Levent a UCU
activist who was an organiser of the
banned Istanbul Pride and James who
is the LGBT+ rights officer of Public
Services International. We will be joined
by Nadia Whittome the Labour MP
for Nottingham East and campaigner
for equality.

Speakers

James Cavalluzzo, PSI; Levent Piskin,
UCU; Nadia Whittome MP
Chaired by Kate Hudson, CWU

Venue

Room 11b
(refreshments available)

Investing in Rail for a Greener Future

ASLEF

Join ASLEF, the train drivers' union, and
representatives from across the UK, to
talk about investing in rail as part of a
greener future.

Rail is key to tackling the climate
crisis, lowering emissions and reducing
congestion on the roads. We'll hear
about projects that have worked, what's
in the pipeline and ASLEF's vision for
the future of rail.

Speakers tbc

Chaired by Mick Whelan, ASLEF

Venue

Room 11a
(refreshments available)

Migration: making Britain great

Show Racism the Red Card and NEU

Speakers

Ken Monkou, former Southampton,
Chelsea and Huddersfield player;
Paul Kearns, Show Racism the Red
Card; Emma Rose, NEU; Elizabeth
Cameron, SRtRC North West Advisory
Committee; John Barnes MBE former
Liverpool and England player tbc

Venue

Room 12

Strike Wave: building on a year of industrial militancy

Morning Star

Speakers

Morning Star editor Ben Chacko will be joined by a host of general secretaries and activists.

Venue

Room 3b

The Windrush Scandal is Far From Over - what's next for us?

RMT/NASUWT

We aim to talk about how the current immigration system and its racist policies has adversely affected Black communities. Drawing from the motion that has been passed at the TUC Black Workers Conference on Windrush. This outlined an urgent need to investigate the full extent of the damage that the creation of a hostile environment has had on the lives of people who have a legitimate right to live in the UK and access public services. We also aim to explore how the Windrush Compensation Scheme is 'not fit for purpose' given that only one per cent of appeals are successful. We will be continuing our call for an official independent inquiry into the insidious immigration policies and practices that have impacted adversely and gravely on the Windrush generation.

Speakers

Mick Lynch, RMT; Dr Patrick Roach, NASUWT; Gloria Mills, UNISON and TUC Race Relations Committee; Glenda Ceasar, Windrush campaigner; more tbc
Chaired by Mel Mullings, RMT and TUC Race Relations Committee

Venue

Room 11c
(lunch provided)

What Would Workers' Rights Look Like Under a Future Labour Government?

Trade Union Co-ordinating Group

Labour's Green Paper titled *A New Deal for Working People* contains measures which, if implemented, would go a long way to improving the living standards of workers and their rights in the workplace. But how many of these

pledges will survive into the election manifesto or be carried out by a future Labour government?

What can we expect in the first 100 days of a Labour government in terms of restoring and extending workers' rights?

Speakers

Justin Madders MP; Daniel Kebede, NEU; Sarah Woolley, BFAWU; Steve Gillan, POA; Paul Fleming, Equity; Michelle Stanistreet, NUJ
Chaired by Mick Lynch, RMT

Venue

Room 4a
(refreshments available)

13:00-14:00

World-Class Heritage, Second-Class Pay Prospect

Heritage workers - in museums, galleries, historic houses and gardens, libraries, archaeological sites, and the natural environment - make an enormous contribution to education, well-being, community cohesion, and the economy. Yet, they are low-paid, often in insecure jobs, and without opportunities for career progression. This fringe, held in one of Liverpool's world-class museums, is part of Prospect's 'Heritage in the North' tour and 'World-class heritage, second-class pay' campaign.

Speakers

Alison McGovern MP (tbc); Jay McKenna, TUC; Dr John James Wilson and Lewis Robinson from the heritage sector

Venue

International Slavery Museum
(lunch provided)

17:30-19:00

Labour's New Deal for Working People - rally and reception

Labour Unions

Join Angela Rayner, Deputy Leader of the Labour Party, and Mick Whelan, chair of Labour Unions, to hear all about Labour's comprehensive plan

to improve the lives of working people by strengthening individual and collective rights.

Speakers

Angela Rayner, Labour; Mick Whelan, ASLEF and Labour Unions
Chaired by Maria Exall, TUC president and Labour Unions

Venue

Room 12
(refreshments available)

17:45-19:15

Cuba Under Blockade: fighting sanctions and building solidarity

Cuba Solidarity Campaign

Cuba is facing unprecedented shortages due an inhumane 61-year-old US blockade and exacerbated by the world economic crisis. In addition, its inclusion on the US government's spurious 'state sponsors of terrorism' has further strangled economic development and access to resources.

Hear how Cubans are resisting despite current difficulties, as well as practical measures that the trade union movement can take to help and demonstrate their solidarity.

Speakers

Bárbara Montalvo Álvarez, Cuban ambassador to the UK; Kevin Courtney, Cuba Solidarity Campaign; Simon Dubbins, Unite; Alex Gordon, RMT; Gawain Little, GFTU; plus guests
Chaired by Sarah Woolley, BFAWU

Venue

Room 11b

Fashioning the Future With Justice

War on Want

Fashion is big business. Producing an estimated 100 billion items of clothing a year, it generates trillions in corporate profits, but millions of workers across its vast global supply chain live on poverty wages, working long hours in poor conditions with their labour rights routinely denied. Fashion is increasingly in the spotlight for its role in accelerating the climate crisis. How can unions representing workers in the UK and across borders work together to show solidarity and build workers'

voice and power? How can we ensure that people are at the heart of truly sustainable fashion?

Our panel will discuss ideas from a new War on Want report and a trade union delegation to Sri Lanka.

Speakers

Paresh Patel, Unite; Anton Marcus, Free Trade Zones and General Services Employees Union (Sri Lanka); Swasthika Arulingam, Commercial and Industrial Workers Union (Sri Lanka); Paddy Lillis, Usdaw (tbc)

Chaired by Ruth Ogier, War on Want

Venue

Room 11c

(refreshments provided)

Should trade unions be leading the fight for a four-day working week? 4 Day Week Campaign

The trade union movement won us the weekend a century ago. Now, 100 years later, there are demands for a four-day working week with no loss of pay.

Has the time now come for trade unions to lead the fight for a four-day working week?

Speakers

Jo Grady, UCU; Martin Smith, GMB; Nicola Smith, TUC

Chaired by Joe Ryle, 4 Day Week Campaign

Venue

Room 4a

The Unemployed Are More Than a Statistic London Unemployed Strategies

London Unemployed Strategies, funded (hosted) by the TUC and Trust For London, was founded in 2012 by trade unionists, the unemployed and their supporters. We aim to give a voice to unemployed people to stand up against the injustices of the social security system. We support seven know your rights type groups of organised people around London offering peer to peer support to each other based on their own real life experiences of claiming benefits. We

offer our information and evidence to decision makers in government including shadow cabinet, the media and others, hoping to be part of bringing about real change to the lives of people who claim benefits for whatever reason. We co design projects with Joseph Rowntree Foundation and others to build strong links with louder voices than our own for change, and to encourage unity. We need urgent action to lift everyone experiencing poverty out of danger, and to ensure each of us can fulfil our own potential without fear of harm to our mental and physical health, of starvation and homelessness.

Speakers

Maria McCaul (plus volunteers), London Unemployed Strategies; Commission on Social Security COSS; Paul Griffin, Unemployed Workers Centres
Chaired by Maria McCaul

Venue

Room 4b

(light bites and drinks)

Tuesday 12 September

12:45-13:50

■ The Rise of the Far Right: building an international trade union response TUC/REDES

This event will bring together representatives of the REDES anti-fascist network of international union centres. The discussion will focus on how trade unions in different parts of the world are organising to tackle the far right in the workplace and in politics.

Speakers

Salvatore Marra, CGIL Italy; Rodrigo Borrás, CTA Argentina; Cristina Faciabén, CCOO Spain; Lewis Norton, Unite
Chair tbc

Venue

Room 10

(refreshments available)

12:45-14:00

Collective Pensions: improving income after work First Actuarial LLP

Many members of trade unions no longer have access to good quality defined benefit pensions. Instead they are auto-enrolled into individual defined contribution schemes often with very low employer contributions which are unlikely to provide dignity in retirement. Legislation now allows a new type of scheme: collective defined contribution. These schemes have the potential to really improve the income workers receive in retirement. This session will look at how these schemes work, where they might be appropriate and how trade unions can get them onto their bargaining agenda.

Speakers

Andy O'Regan, TPT; John Gray, UNISON; Derek Benstead, First Actuarial LLP

Chaired by Hilary Salt, First Actuarial LLP

Venue

Room 13

(refreshments provided)

Flexible Working in the Public Sector RCM, CSP, NASUWT and FDA

Flexible working is essential for parents, carers, disabled workers and older workers to get into and progress at work. It is important for everyone's work life balance yet too often public sector and frontline workers are unable to access it.

Join RCM, CSP, NASUWT, FDA and Gingerbread (Flex For All partner) to talk about how we win flexible working for public sector workers, how to organise flexible working in the public sector, the benefits it can bring for staff recruitment, retention and experiences of work and the impacts of new legislation on flexible working.

Speakers

Alice Sorby, RCM; Steven Littlewood, FDA; Alexandra Jones, CSP; and other speakers from CSP, Gingerbread and NASUWT

Venue

Room 4b
(refreshments provided)

Not enough teachers: how to fix the recruitment and retention crisis in education? NAHT and NEU

Forty thousand teachers left the profession last year - a staggering nine per cent of the whole teaching workforce. The government looks likely to miss its recruitment targets for new teachers in secondary schools by 50 per cent. Parents and pupils see first-hand the effect that this has every day across the country. Children are being taught by teachers with no qualification in the subject they are teaching. Join the National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT) and the National Education Union (NEU) to discuss how to fix the recruitment and retention crisis in our schools and deliver the best possible education for our children.

Speakers

Paul Whiteman, NAHT; Daniel Kebede, NEU; others tbc; chair tbc

Venue

Room 11b
(refreshments provided)

Safe Passage for Refugees Public and Commercial Services Union (PCS)

PCS has been at the forefront of campaigning for a safe and legal means for refugees to claim asylum without resort to the dangerous Channel crossing in small boats and free from the exploitation by those that profit from it.

Last year, PCS in partnership with Care4Calais published our *Safe Passage for Refugees: humane alternative to the Rwanda policy* paper, which garnered support across the trade union movement and beyond.

With the government's Illegal Migration Act receiving royal assent in July this year, the context of our campaign is shifting and adapting. This fringe meeting will address that and discuss how the movement can take forward the campaign for refugees' rights.

Speakers

Mark Serwotka, PCS; Clare Moseley, Care4Calais; Weyman Bennett, Stand Up To Racism
Chaired by Fran Heathcote, PCS

Venue

Room 12
(refreshments provided)

The Struggle for Worker Rights and Peace in Colombia Justice for Colombia

Trade unions are supporting the efforts of Colombia's first progressive government to advance peace, human rights and social justice. But conflict is still impacting many communities, with activists, trade unionists and former FARC guerrillas under attack. Meanwhile, ambitious attempts to improve worker rights have been blocked by the political right. Join JFC for an update from the president of Colombia's equivalent of the TUC, the CUT, and trade unionists who recently visited Colombia.

Speakers

Fabio Arias, CUT Colombia; Janet Farrar, UCU; Barbara Plant, GMB; Hasan Dodwell, JFC
Chaired by Mick Whelan, ASLEF and chair of JFC

Venue

Room 11a
(lunch provided)

The NHS at Tipping Point - time for renewal Rebuild Britain

For decades, workers and their trade unions have been fighting to stop things getting. Now is the time to fight to make things better. The struggle for wages and conditions has always been, at its core, and in its small print, motivated by the desire to save the

NHS. The latter must now become the headline, the banner, the large print with improved pay and conditions as two important steps towards it. Nothing less than a change in mind set is required.

Speaker

Prof Allyson Pollock, formerly director of the Institute for Health & Society and Newcastle University Centre of Excellence in Regulatory Science. Chaired by Doug Nichols, Rebuild Britain

Speakers

Room 11c
(sandwiches and tea/coffee)

■ TUC Digital Lab

Changing our unions to grow and win. If unions are going to turn the tide on cuts, stagnant wages and attacks on our rights, we'll need new ways to reach, engage and organise workers everywhere. Digital technology can play a big part in this, offering organisers greater speed and impact, and providing today's members with the ways of working that they increasingly expect from us. But in complex organisations like unions, change isn't always easy to get right.

At this fringe, we'll hear stories of innovation from across unions. We'll discuss the role that digital has to play in building a bigger, stronger and more diverse union movement. And we'll look at what's needed if digital change in our unions is to succeed.

Speakers

Kevin Courtney, NEU; Helen Kelly, Nautilus International; Guste Matuleviciute, RCM; Chris Webb, CWU
Chaired by Antonia Bance, TUC

Speakers

Room 4a
(lunch provided)



12:45-14:15

Claim the Future and Arise - a festival of left ideas Labour Assembly Against Austerity

What are the socialist economic policies needed to end austerity for good?

The global economic crisis and cost-of-living emergency in Britain are deepening. Join the discussion on what the economic alternative is to never-ending cuts, and how we win real change.

Speakers

John McDonnell MP, Mark Serwotka, PCS; Sarah Woolley, BFAWU; Zita Holbourne, Black Activists Rising Against Cuts (BARAC)

Venue

Suite 1, Leonardo Hotel (formerly Jurys Inn) 31 Keel Wharf, Liverpool L3 4FN
(lunch and refreshments provided)

17:45-19:00

After the KC Sexual Harassment Inquiries: how do we get transformative change and justice in the trade union and Labour movement? #MeTU

In the last three years, sisters, including those in the growing #MeTU campaign, have had huge victories in exposing the sexual harassment and bullying in our movement. This was reflected in the motions and discussions at the TUC Women's Conference this year, and will be again at Congress.

But where are we up to with a strategy to reclaim the movement? How do we get rid of misogyny and inequality and make ourselves a truly fighting fit force for change? Please join us and be part of the discussion.

Speakers

Sarah Woolley, BFAWU; Zilda Perkins, Cant Buy My Silence; Fliss Premru, MeTU/TSSA; Jo Grady, UCU and trade union officials and leaders invited.

Venue

Room 11c

Supporting Industrial Action - lessons from the first year of the TUC Solidarity Hub TUC

Join us and reflect on 12 months of industrial action across the movement. With a wide range of digital and ballot support, fundraising, learning materials and solidarity stories all available, the Solidarity Hub continues to grow, with 26 unions now being supported through our suite of resources. The Solidarity Hub was designed to help bring together the TUC's support for unions engaged in campaigns and disputes, and to be more visible and more practically supportive of

industrial action. Our unions are key to shaping its development and continued success.

This event will bring together an experienced panel of speakers whose unions have used the project to build successful campaigns and outline how they think the Solidarity Hub could develop in the future.

Speakers

Paul Nowak, TUC; Liz Snape, UNISON*; Patrick Roache, NASUWT*; Sarah Wooley, BFAWU*; Charlie Gray, GMB; Naomi Pohl, MU* (*invited, tbc)
Chaired by Antonia Bance, TUC

Speakers

Room 4a

17:45-19:15

Against Apartheid and Occupation - the next steps in solidarity with Palestine Palestine Solidarity Campaign

Under the most extreme right-wing, ultranationalist government in its history, Israel is increasing the brutality of its assaults on Palestinians and repression of their rights. Instead of taking action to hold the Israeli government to account, the UK government is instead trying to bring in an anti-boycott bill intended to hamper campaigns in solidarity with the Palestinian people.

Join us to hear how in this repressive environment we continue to grow the solidarity movement, and what you can do to take action to support the Palestinian struggle for justice and liberation! All are welcome. Please make sure to visit the PSC stand in the exhibition area.

Speakers

Mark Serwotka, PCS; Jo Grady, UCU; Eddie Dempsey, RMT; Liz Wheatley, UNISON; Simon Dubbins, Unite; Ben Jamal, Palestine Solidarity Campaign
Chaired by Louise Regan, Palestine Solidarity Campaign and NEU

Venue

Room 11a
(refreshments provided)

A World to Win: learning from progressive reform around the world TUC

This panel will showcase speakers from sister union centres around the world where unions and progressive governments are working together to initiate pro-worker reforms.

Speakers

Cristina Faciabén, CCOO Spain; Sue Ferns, Prospect; Jesús Gallego, UGT Spain; Steiner Krogstad, LO Norway; Antônio Lisboa, CUT Brazil; chair tbc

Venue

Room 10
(refreshments provided)

18:00-20:00

How Proportional Representation can Unlock Economic Equality Politics for the Many, Make Votes Matter and Unlock Democracy with Labour for a New Democracy and Labour Campaign for Electoral Reform

Economic equality cannot be achieved without political equality. To achieve that we need a fairer voting system so the voices of working people are heard clearly in Westminster at all times.

A growing number of unions are now backing a proportional voting system (PR) because they can see the current system isn't working for working people. PR is about ensuring that workers' rights and pay improve over time. It's about reversing the trend where FPTP over-represents governments hostile to working people and, as a consequence, sees their rights and conditions eroded over time.

Join us in a sociable environment to get your questions answered and hear about how PR can ensure trade unionists always have a seat at the table.

Speakers

John McDonnell MP; Dr. Justine Mercer, UCU; Maria Iacovou, University of Cambridge and LCER; Mark Serwotka, PCS; Rob Ford, University of Manchester

Chaired by Lynn Henderson, Politics for the Many

Venue

Revolución de Cuba, Unit 17, Albert Dock, Liverpool L3 4AF
(tapas, wine, beer and soft drinks)

18:30

Special preview screening of the 2016 film: London Recruits TUC and GFTU

1970. Apartheid South Africa. The anti-apartheid struggle has a new secret weapon.

Oliver Tambo has a daring plan to infiltrate young, British activists into Apartheid South Africa posing as tourists. Their mission, in the face of brutal lockdown by the racist regime, is to help inspire ordinary South Africans to join a liberation movement that will never give up until freedom is won. This film tells the story of the young women and men who answered Tambo's call.

Venue

Picturehouse at FACT Liverpool, 88 Wood Street, Liverpool L1 4DQ
Doors open at 20:00; film starts at 20:30; short Q&A after screening

Where next for fighting unions? Joint union rally

Organising the left to protect workers in the workplace. We need to build together, we need to work together, we need to fight together.

Speakers

Richard Burgon MP; John McDonnell MP; Daniel Kebede, NEU; Libby Nolan, UNISON, Alex Gordon, RMT; Fran Heathcote, PCS; Matt Gould, Unite; Holly Turner, NHS Workers Say No
Chaired by Andrea Egan and Sarah Woolley

Venue

Adelphi Hotel, Ranelagh Street, Liverpool L3 5UL