



Annual Report 2024



121 Niddrie Mains Road, Edinburgh, EH16 4GN, United Kingdom

[07475761810](tel:07475761810) contactus@tuic.org.uk

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SUNDAY 20th OCTOBER 2024

1300 - 1500

TUIC HUB

121 NIDDRIE MAINS ROAD

EH16 4GN

AGENDA

- 1. Minutes of previous meeting**
- 2. Officers reports**
- 3. Election of Officers**
- 4. The Way Forward for TUIC**
- 5. AOB**



CHAIRS ADDRESS 2024

It has been an enormous pleasure to have been the Chairperson of TUIC in what an indifferent year, it has been.

Our success are obvious, from the response we have achieved from the food collections for the community, delivered via the Venchie, something I believe we should try and build on, as clearly the cost of poverty is going to continue, until a socialistic order of society is with us. Our fun day and the march prior to the opening of the event is something we should be extremely proud of, and a big thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who made such it a great success, two migrant workers joined Unite the Union, as a direct result of attending that day. And a special thanks to Unison Health Branch.

The growth of the event was clear, for all to see, and the inclusion of so many different cultures and faiths, at a time when the far-right was causing so much division, and hatred in much of the UK, we proved that communities will not be divided by their rhetoric, if trade unions get involved.

We must recognise that the number of volunteer's we can rely on for our daily functioning, is a problem, and if we are to continue with current opening days/hours, we will need to somehow address that concern. Also, if we are to utilise the mobile unit to the full, we would need to recruit more volunteers.

Various initiatives are being discussed and promoted from recruitment to campaigning, something most of us have some experience in, let's build on this and put TUIC at the heart of the community

Solidarity and thanks.

Brian Reynolds

JOINT SECRETARY REPORT



Being nominated to the role of Joint Secretary at last years AGM was unexpected but welcome. I want to thank Brian Reynolds (Chair), Willie Black (Joint Secretary) and all our volunteers, activists, and supporters.

In the last 12-months TUIC activists have shown our commitment to the Trade Union, Labour, and anti-war movement in many ways. We continue to support and speak at the Palestinian and Ukrainian peace demonstrations. We have participated in demonstrations outside the Leonardo's factory, Willie's even managed to get himself charged a few times, that's another story.

Several of our volunteers have active roles within the Edinburgh TUC and Edinburgh, Lothians, and Borders May Day committee, as well as various other campaign groups. We have had an international delegation to the Spanish Civil War Memorial in Spain, shown our respects on International Workers Memorial Day and celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Miners' Strike, in 1984.

Our support for the Sheku Bayoh Public Inquiry has been unwavering as we enter the latest phase of the inquiry in September, and we will continue to support the Bayoh family, until they get justice for Sheku's murder. In early September we started our campaign for the reinstatement of the winter fuel allowance.

Regrettably, we have also seen the rise of the far-right in the UK and other parts of Europe. TUIC have taken an active part in the anti-racist mobilisation against these fascists and their political supporters. There is no place for racism or any form of discrimination in our workplaces or in today's society. All of this has taken place whilst we deal with our own industrial disputes, and we continue to show solidarity and support to all our sister unions taking strike action.

But there has been time to celebrate and our TUIC Big Fun Day was a huge success brining the local community together in a day of fun, music, and food.

Ian Mullen & Willie Black





UNION LIAISON OFFICER REPORT

TUIC would like to thank all our trade union branches and individuals who continue to financially support us and to those volunteers that give up their free time to keep the HUB open. However, we do require more volunteers, and this has been highlighted to trade union branches, it was also part of my presentation to the UNISON and Unite the Union retired members branch meetings, my thanks to both branches for inviting me to speak.

TUIC activists continue to support our sister unions who have taken part in industrial action over the last 12 months, and we will continue to show our solidarity on the picket lines and other demonstrations, when and wherever required.

It was hoped that with a new labour government in place, workers would get a better deal, but within months of taking office, it's clear that addressing austerity is not a priority, nor will Starmer and his right-wing cabinet address the issue of taxing the rich and multinational companies that benefit from loopholes in the tax system. That additional money could be injected into what Labour now claims is a broken NHS or into public services that have been underfunded for decades. Instead, they place additional funding into the defence budget, whilst continuing to support genocide in Gaza.

TUIC is not affiliated to any political party, and we will work with any politicians that address the needs of the vulnerable and working class. Please consider becoming part of the TUIC team.

Ian Mullen



SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

This report highlights our exciting progress and initiatives across social media platforms, including “X” (formerly Twitter), YouTube, our official website (TUIC.ORG.UK), and Facebook.

“X” (formerly Twitter)

2024 has been a big year for our presence on “X”! Our account, @TUIC_ORG_UK, saw growth, with followers increasing from 134 to 304. This surge is thanks to our consistent posts about union rights, community involvement, and up-to-date union activities that resonate with our audience. In terms of engagement, our 114 tweets generated 36,161 views, a 20% increase from last year! It’s clear that our content is reaching and engaging more people than before.

YouTube

Our YouTube channel, @TUIC_ORG_UK, continues to play a limited role in reaching new audiences through video content. In 2024, we added 7 new videos, bringing our total to 23. The channel received 1,344 visits this year, with 162 videos watched. While our subscriber count is small, we’ve increased from 9 to 13 subscribers. Slow but steady progress!

TUIC.ORG.UK

Our official website has been a cornerstone for delivering news and updates to our community. Over the past year, TUIC.ORG.UK attracted 5,093 visitors, with 31 new articles posted in our news feed. We’re proud to have 33 subscribers signed up to stay informed via our website, and we are excited to keep growing our digital presence.

Facebook

We launched our Facebook page in January 2023, and it has been going strong thanks to our dedicated volunteer, Gary Clark, who has been keeping it updated for the past 10 months. During this time, our page has attracted 149 members, becoming an important space for our community to connect.

Looking Ahead

We’re committed to strengthening our social media presence and expanding our reach even further. Plans include launching a regular subscriber newsletter to keep our growing community informed and engaged.

Robert Pollock



VOLUNTEERING

At Trade Unions In Communities, volunteers are at the center of everything we do. Our work would not be possible without the incredible people who generously give their time and energy to support us.

Right now, we are lucky to have 13 dedicated volunteers from a range of unions who keep our TUIC Hub running smoothly, Monday to Friday, from 10 am to 1 pm. On top of that, we're supported by a network of volunteers who help bring our events to life, like our annual Family Fun Day!

We are always on the lookout for new volunteers to join our growing community. While traditional recruitment routes, such as Edinburgh Volunteer Centre, are not available to us, we are please to be welcoming 4 new volunteers this year —thanks largely to word of mouth. We would also like to extend a special thanks to the significant number of volunteers from UNISON Lothian Health Branch, who have been with us every step of the way since we opened in December 2022.

If you are interested in volunteering with TUIC and want to make a real difference in your community, we would love to hear from you! Feel free to drop by the TUIC Hub for a chat with one of our team members, give us a call at 07475761810, or reach out via email at contactus@tuic.org.uk.

Join us and be a part of something special!

Robert Pollock





TREASURER'S REPORT

Thanks to our affiliated branches and those that make one off donations, TUIC remains in sound financial health. TUIC endeavours to secure the best price for services and keep costs down by using our wide network of supporters, including community groups such as Connecting Craigmillar, and friends who often provide skills and services for free.

Being an affiliate of TUIC not only financially supports the vital work we do in the community – it makes the movement visible to our communities. It shows that the Trade Union movement is committed to our communities and understands the challenges faced by many who live in substandard housing and must make stark financial choices on a daily basis.

Lynne Williamson

STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT



“Edinburgh No1 & Portobello Branch are proud to support the TUIC. This initiative carries out vital work within the local community, offering a warm welcome and helping hand to those who need it. The well-attended Family Fun Day that took place this year is a testament to the growing success of the TUIC Hub”

Joanne, Branch Secretary
RMT Edinburgh No1 & Portobello



“RMT Glasgow Shipping Branch, proudly supports this fantastic initiative. The work around food collections and the cost of living crises campaign is commendable Solidarity from all members of RMT Glasgow Shipping Branch”

Graham & Brian, Secretary and Chair
RMT Glasgow Shipping Branch



“As we approach the end of the second year of TUIC, it is with great pride I am able to say that UNISON Lothian Health Branch continues to support this amazing venture. Our Shop Stewards spend time each week in the Hub giving advice and support to those who come in. The relationships we have now built with comrades from other Trade Unions grow stronger and the mutual aid and support we give each other during times of industrial dispute is solely down to the time spent together in the Hub, listening to the challenges working people face from all professions.

Being part of TUIC is a privilege – unity is indeed strength”

Tracy Anne Miller, Branch Secretary
UNISON Lothian Health Branch



“This branch was made aware of Trade Unions In Communities last year through our fraternal contacts from within RMT , Bro Brian Reynolds of RMT Glasgow Shipping in particular who has regularly reported on the aims, outcomes and progress of the sterling work Trade Unions In Communities has been carrying out. We are proud to have donated some of our Branch Funds in supporting TUIC and hope this can help the organisation continue it's work in reconnecting the local community with the local workplace and having a direct impact on the quality of people's lives and job security. Onwards! “

David Douglas , Branch Secretary
RMT Aberdeen Shipping Branch

