



# Annual Report 2025





## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**SUNDAY 19th OCTOBER 2025**

**1100 - 1330**

**TUIC HUB**

**121 NIDDRIE MAINS ROAD**

**EH16 4GN**

### **AGENDA**

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





## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

What has become clear since our last Annual General Meeting is that the work carried out by Trade Unions in Communities is indeed desperately needed.

The rise of the right, far right, racists, fascists and indeed political parties has made it vitally important that the work TUIC carry out, in opposing their vile ideologies, must spread to other parts of the country and fast. This is no easy task, but without it, our communities will suffer, and discussions are ongoing.

Another year of notable successes, many new volunteers trained and participating daily in the hub.

Our contribution to the Craigmillar festival brought many residents out onto the streets to enjoy the parade.

Our Fun Day was a massive day for the local community, and the coming together of so many local people, enjoying the music, the stalls, and the food, ensured it was a great success.

The Migrant Workers' Café is growing week by week, providing solidarity, advice, and companionship. It is a friendly place that is open to all and is going from strength to strength. Well done to all involved.

We continue to assist in food collections for the Venchie and participate in the monthly lunch club meetings that are held there. We can now utilise a room in Leith's CWU offices, which we need to build on.

We facilitated a meeting to promote MAP fundraisers in the Craigmillar/Niddrie area.

An eventful year and lots to build on, well done to all.

Solidarity

**Brian Reynolds**

## JOINT SECRETARY REPORT



This year has been another successful year for TUIC, with our recognition in the community growing massively. Within the Craigmillar/Niddrie area we have continued to develop our relationships with the other community groups and had a leading role in this years Craigmillar festival – organising the parade and ensuring a massive Trade Union presence!

We also had another brilliant “Big Give Away/Family Fun Day” with hundreds joining us for a festival of music, food, entertainment and FREE stalls housing everything from brand new clothes (labels still on!) to kids toys. We have also continued with our foodbank collections which are gratefully received by the Venchie, who ensure those in need are looked after.



This year has also seen the advent of our new Migrant Workers’ Café which is held every Saturday at the Hub. You can read more about this massively successful innovation later in this publication. All these activities are designed to draw local attention to the role of Trade Unions in society and how our movement can protect and enhance the lives of working people.

However, our main focus this year has again, unfortunately, been on the scandalous atrocities in Palestine and the continued genocide being inflicted upon its people. Our Government continues to be complicit in these atrocities by supplying weapons and surveillance to aid the ruthless Israeli Government. The UK Government has taken a hard line... not against the Zionist leadership but against us who have the audacity to campaign against genocide and apartheid. Whilst they proscribe Palestine Action for being a terrorist organisation, they ignore the nazi salutes given regularly by the extreme right-wing fascists that are attacking vulnerable refugees. Shame on them.

We held a very successful Lobby of our MP's surgery (in Portobello) due to his refusal to hold a surgery in the Craigmillar/Niddrie area. Whilst he feels it is right to deny them the Winter Fuel Allowance, attack their disability benefits and refuse to abolish the two-child benefit cap, he denies the people the right to question his decisions. He sheds crocodile tears on the Palestinian question, whilst doing absolutely nothing to oppose his government's complicity. Shame on him and his Government!

Our clear ambition when we started out, was to spread the idea of Trade Unions in Communities to other parts of the country. As we enter our 4th year, we are delighted to report that, thanks to the CWU Scotland No2 branch, who have provided us with an office 1 day per week, we will now extend our reach into the Leith and North Edinburgh area. Further to this, a brand new TUIC is to be launched in the Falkirk district, and we will lend support until it is established. Upwards and Onwards!!

Solidarity  
**Derek Durkin & Willie Black**



## UNION LIAISON OFFICER REPORT

I 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 and support our solidarity campaigns.

Our volunteers are the vital link between the trade union movement, the local community and the activities that we organise with local community groups. But we do require more volunteers, and that is why I am asking all our trade union members to raise this subject at their branch committee meetings, even if volunteers can only do one or two days per month, that would be appreciated.

Since our last AGM, I have attempted to contact several sister trade unions that have previously shown an interest in becoming involved in our campaigns and volunteering. Regrettably, we have not received much feedback, but we remain hopeful that others will come on board. TUIC activists continue to support our sister unions who have taken part in industrial action over the last 12 months. We have been actively supporting the Sheku Bayoh Inquiry, Palestine and Ukrainian Solidarity Campaign's Stand Up To Racism events, and mobilising against the rise in far-right activity in Scotland.

Our political campaigns have highlighted the shameful decisions taken by our local MPs against workers and the most vulnerable in society. These campaigns included a petition and demonstration/s outside Chris Murray and Ian Murray's offices.

Ending on a positive note, we organised the parade for the opening of the Craigmillar festival and had our third successful Funday and Big Give Away, which saw local residents from all ethnic minority groups come together to enjoy the stalls, music, food, and kids' entertainment.

**Ian Mullen**

**TUIC Trade Union Liaison Officer.**





## **SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT**

### **X (formerly Twitter)**

Our activity on X remained strong this year, with 52 new posts shared through @TUIC\_ORG\_UK. Engagement continues to grow, and our follower count has reached 227, a reflection of steady and continued interest in our updates.

### **YouTube**

Our YouTube channel (@TUIC\_ORG\_UK) plays a smaller but meaningful role in our outreach efforts. Over the past year, the channel received 571 visits, and our community of subscribers increased from 13 to 14 – slow, steady progress as we explore new ways to share our message through video content.

### **TUIC.ORG.UK**

Our official website remains the central hub for news, updates, and resources. This year, 5,263 visitors accessed the site, and we published 16 new articles on our news feed. We're delighted to have 50 subscribers who've chosen to stay informed directly through the website, a testament to our growing online readership. From the 26th October, we will streamline our email contact by ceasing use of the [contactus@tuic.org.uk](mailto:contactus@tuic.org.uk) and focus on [administration@tuic.org.uk](mailto:administration@tuic.org.uk)

### **Facebook**

Launched in January 2023, our Facebook page has quickly become a vibrant space for community connection and discussion. With 194 members and 667 visitors in the past 12 months, it's proving to be a valuable tool for engagement and outreach.

**Robert Pollock**

## VOLUNTEERING REPORT

At Trade Unions In Communities, volunteers are at the core of everything we do. Our work is made possible by the dedicated individuals who generously contribute their time, skills, and energy to support our mission and the communities we serve.

Over the past 12 months, we have trained **nine** new volunteers, each bringing valuable experience and enthusiasm to our organisation. Their contributions have been instrumental in developing new initiatives such as the Migrant Workers' Café, which continues to foster inclusion and support across our community networks.

If you are interested in volunteering with TUIC and contributing to meaningful community change, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please visit the TUIC Hub to speak with a member of our team, call us on 07475 761810, or email [administration@tuic.org.uk](mailto:administration@tuic.org.uk).

**Robert Pollock**







## TREASURER'S REPORT

### Financial Report September '24 – August '25

Income	£	Expenses	£
A Jarvie	120.00	Website	(658.72)
B Reynolds	120.00	Publicity	(1,174.07)
ASLEF ED	100.00	Lease	(5,250.00)
CWU	1,200.00	Insurance	(363.86)
RMT AB	250.00	WIFI	(214.92)
RMT E&P	1,200.00	Utilities	(893.49)
RMT GSB	600.00	Phone	(72.00)
RMT Region	200.00	Bank Charges	(158.40)
UNITE CEC	200.00	Miscellaneous	(1791.83)
UNITE RM	500.00	(TUIC funday, volunteer exp, MW Café)	
UNISON CEC	1000.00		
UNISON LHB	3,600.00		
One off donations	<u>100.00</u>		
<b>Total income to date</b>	<b>9,190.00</b>	<b>Total expenses to date</b>	<b>(10,577.29)</b>

Thanks to our affiliated branches and those that make one off donations, TUIC remains in sound financial health. 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. In this current climate with the rise of the far right, there has never been a more important time for Trade Unions to be in communities.

**Lynne Williamson**



## MIGRANT WORKERS' CAFÉ

Migrant Workers often experience job insecurity, exploitation, discrimination in recruitment processes, difficulties getting qualifications recognised, and restrictive visa policies that further limit opportunities and safety. As a direct response to this, Trade Union In Communities created a physical space for Migrant Workers who were interested in learning more about their employment rights, meeting other people in similar situations, or simply having a space to socialise with other fellow workers. The overall aim has always been for Migrant Workers to have ownership over the Café and determine the purpose and direction of the Café (within the overall vision of the wider TUIC). TUIC will continue to offer support through volunteers, resources and direct advice on work-related issues, joining unions, and signposting on issues out-with our expertise.

The first Café was held on the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2025, and it was agreed by the group that they would meet weekly. Since the initial meeting, 47 people have participated, including children, with 25 unique individuals, and we have discussed/offered support on a wide range of issues.

### Reasons for joining the café



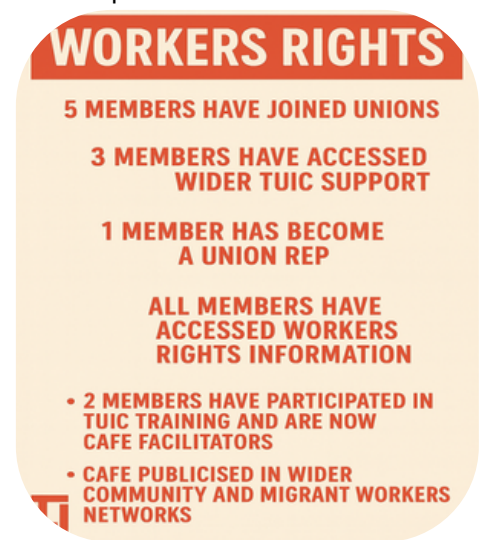
### Issues discussed/support



### We asked café members - How does the café make you feel?



### Members feedback on practical outcomes



In solidarity Mhairi McKean & Carmen Simon

## STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT



RMT Glasgow Shipping Branch, are proud to be a supporter of the work carried out by TUIC and commend the volunteers who carry out this work at a time when communities are under attack from Political, Industrial and the Far Right groups and send Solidarity to all connected with Trade Unions in Communities

**Solidarity**

**Graham Wallace**

**RMT Glasgow Shipping Branch Secretary**



The Communication Workers Union, Scotland No 2 Branch, recognise and supports the vital work that Trade Unions In Communities are doing. This organisation and its volunteers have taken their time and knowledge and are using it in the very best way – to benefit those in their Community. Whether through the advice clinics they offer or their charitable endeavours, we are proud to support their work and commendable initiatives.

**In Solidarity**

**Fiona Henderson**

**CWU Scotland No2 Branch Secretary**



I'm so happy to be volunteering at the Mirant Workers' Cafe on Saturday whenever I have free time. I started coming to Migration Care on the very first day when it opened in April 2025. At the TUIC, I met two lovely women, Mhari and Carmen, also a few others. It's a truly rewarding experience to connect with a diverse and like-minded community where we can meet new people and learn, and share with each other. The cafe itself is more than a gathering; the cafe is a safer space for sharing information, learning, and community action. Every week, we discuss issues attendees are facing, and the TUIC volunteer members ensure that an action plan is followed up. But the real heart of the cafe is the food. We share and take turns to cook the dishes that are symbolic of our identity and culture. I always believe that food is what brings community together and allows us to share love.

It's a genuinely good and impartial experience!

**Moi Sum (Cindy)**

**TUIC volunteer**



As we move into 2026, I am delighted that TUIC continues to deliver trade union activities in the heart of working-class communities. UNISON Lothian Health Branch participates fully in all of the trade union and community activities organised. Our Stewards continue to provide their time in the hub, both weekdays and at the Migrant Workers' Café at weekends. I am proud of the dedication of these Stewards and of all of the people who work so very hard to deliver this service. TUIC started as an idea and ambition for two Stewards in Lothian Health Branch (Ida Russell and Derek Durkin), and to see so many trade unions working together to deliver is heartwarming and inspirational. We are all looking forward to another year of amazing activities and working alongside our comrades from across the movement.

Unity is strength.

**Tracy-Anne Miller**

**UNISON Lothian Health Branch Secretary**



