

Reconnecting Trade Union
and Community Organisations:



**Working with
the Community
As Trade Unionists**

Context

Community work organisations and trade unions are natural allies. Most community organisations share the progressive values of the trade unions - social justice, anti-discriminatory practice, and empowerment of people, democratic and accountable organizational processes.

Furthermore, most workers are active members of

Their communities. More workers volunteer time to be active in community organisations than in trade unions. There are also major employers. Yet there has been little cross fertilisation between the sectors to learn from the best practice. Indeed both sectors have unhelpful myths about each other which need to be worked through.

Intended Audience and Course aims

- The course is aimed at union members, activists and officers who want to undertake a meaningful community project. It will
- Explore the history and principles of community development, community organising and trade unionism, including undertaking some mutual myth busting.
- Look at community work approaches and identify areas of mutual learning and common cause.
- Introduce the ideas of community mapping, identifying what services, groups and opportunities there are in the local area,
- Work with participants to create joint projects and campaigns and build local alliances.

Course structure

The course will start with an overnighter at Quorn Grange Hotel, from early evening till lunch time the next day, followed by some online support and then a further day the following month.

There are no exams or formal assessment although we would like participants to present their learning from the course through the presentation of a real or intended community project/ campaign on the follow up day.

The course will be facilitated by Professor Dr Mike Seal and guest speakers.

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He has worked within Community development for 30 years and is a Committed trade unionist. He is a consultant, National Officer of the Professional Association of Lecturers in Youth and Community Workers and Visiting Professor at Newman University.

He is a Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and a National Teaching Fellow. He co-edited 'Trade Union Education: Transforming the World' and has written or edited 14 other books on community development and education.

Venue

Quorn Grange Hotel
88 Wood Lane
Quorn
Leicestershire
LE12 8DB

Dates

Thursday 11th May - Friday 12th May 2023 (overnighter)

Follow up Wednesday 14th June

Thursday 18th May - Friday 19th May 2023 (overnighter)

Follow up Wednesday 21st June

Fees

These courses are free of charge to GFTU Affiliated Unions. GFTU will cover one accommodation, breakfast and dinner for those courses involving an overnighter.

For further information please contact Mike Seal on 07773 781810

For course and Quorn Grange Hotel bookings please contact Mark Robinson (GFTU) markr@gftu.org.uk

Deadline for booking is 14 days before the course start date

Application Form

Part A to be completed by delegate and Part B to be completed by Union Officer.
All fields below are mandatory. Applications will be referred back if any element of the form is not completed.

Please note: Course nomination forms must be returned to Mark Robinson at markr@gftu.org.uk.

Part A

Course Code: N/A		Course Date:	
Course Title: GFTU Working with the Community as Trade Unionists 2023			
Title (please circle): Mr / Mrs / Ms / Miss / Dr	Forename:		Surname:
Address:		Home Tel No:	
		Work Tel No:	
Postcode:		Email:	
Date of Birth:		Ethnicity:	
Union:			
Union Section (if any):		Union Position:	
Time in Union Posts:			
Employer/Company:			
Special Requirements (e.g. large print, tape, braille, disabled access, etc. For child care please phone our Education Trust team on 01509 410977 to discuss):			
Dietary Requirements (please tick): <input type="checkbox"/> Vegan <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/> Non-vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please state):			
Accommodation Required (please tick): <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Terms and Conditions for Applicants Please insert an X in the boxes to add to your preferences and declarations			
<input type="checkbox"/> Opt out of marketing emails regarding upcoming courses		<input type="checkbox"/> Opt out of GFTU monthly newsletter	
Signed:		Date:	

Part B

The Nomination Form must be approved by the Union's General Secretary or a senior official having responsibility for making nominations.

Approved by:	
Position:	
Signed:	Date: