

Unite Rank & File Launched

Working class people face huge challenges at work and in our communities. We have endured decades of high unemployment, deregulation, anti-union legislation, privatisation, cuts and outsourcing, alongside an inadequate response from our unions. Many have felt powerless and vulnerable as our jobs, pay and conditions, services and rights are attacked.

Yet workers continue to resist, and when we do, we usually achieve some measure of success. Workers create all the profits, and we have enormous power – if we have the consciousness and organisation to use it.

The low turnout and lacklustre results of the senior officials standing in the Unite elections earlier this year showed that there is a large and growing disconnect between our union's leadership, structures, and members. They also showed that a significant minority of members want to see a more radical, robust and bottom-up response to the challenges facing us – just as the response to Jeremy Corbyn shows that millions want something more than a fresh gloss on the same old free-market fundamentalism. There is a widespread desire for a more democratic culture, where discrimination is not tolerated. This is essential if we are to maximise involvement in building a strong union.

“Unite Rank and File: solidarity across the union” is a new unofficial network of Unite members which aims to:

- Build solidarity
- Encourage resistance and make our union do more to encourage it
- Put activists in touch with each other, share information and ideas
- Champion independent workers' organisation and challenge the toxic “in partnership with management” culture so widespread in Unite
- Supporting the development of rank and file networks and campaigning initiatives throughout our union
- Campaign to reform and reinvigorate Unite's democratic structures to promote a bottom-up culture where members participate, challenge discrimination and are in control
- Campaign to change Unite policies e.g. against Trident and for workers' rights to move freely and be treated equally

While the impetus for the new grouping came out of the campaign to elect Ian Allinson as General Secretary, we are not seeking to create yet another electoral faction within Unite. We welcome your participation irrespective of your views on the recent elections or whether or not you are affiliated with any of the electoral groupings such as United Left.

SOLIDARITY ACROSS THE UNION
UNITE Rank & FILE

www.uniterankandfile.org

 [@UniteRankNFile](https://twitter.com/UniteRankNFile)

 [/UniteRankAndFile](https://www.facebook.com/UniteRankAndFile)

 email@uniterankandfile.org

Solidarity Needed

Construction: Mears & MWL

Unite members at Mears & Manchester Working Limited resume their strike for pay parity from Monday 13 November – with 49 more strike days announced. Messages of support to Colin Pitt via colinpitt65@hotmail.co.uk. Donations payable to UCATT UD.393 Manchester 1st Branch, sent to Andy Fisher, Unite, 2 Churchill Way, Liverpool, L3 8EF, or online to account 46034412 sort code 60-83-01.



Passenger: Arriva North West

Strikes over pay continue every Monday this month at 11 depots. Contact Neil Clarke on 07734 743460 for details of how to donate.



GPM & IT: Fujitsu

Fujitsu workers across the UK continue their dispute over jobs, union recognition, victimisation of reps, pay and pensions. See <https://ouruniontest.wordpress.com/fujitsu-national-dispute/> for how to support them.



Finance & Legal: Capita

Capita members recently staged a national 9-day strike over pensions. More information via “Unite Members in Capita” on Facebook (source of this photo).



Many more battles

There are many more campaigns, many of which haven't involved strikes but which are nonetheless vitally important to members.

Members in the public sector are resisting the pay cap and continuing austerity cuts. Community members are battling against the murderous Universal Credit.

Whenever we're up against it, it should feel like there are a million members behind us, not as if we're left on our own.

If you have a dispute or campaign you want publicising, let us know.

We need strong networks and communication between rank and file members to give each other solidarity. Help build them.

Get involved with Unite Rank & File

Leave your details via our web site if you want to get involved.

We are not aiming to create yet another electoral faction within Unite and we welcome your participation whether or not you are affiliated with any of the electoral groupings such as United Left.

www.uniterankandfile.org