



BRISTOL TRADES UNION COUNCIL

Founded 1873

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED TO THE 2021 AGM ON
WEDNESDAY 24TH FEBRUARY





BRISTOL TRADES UNION COUNCIL
(Founded 1873)

ANNUAL REPORT

2020

PRESENTED TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 2021

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	SHEILA CAFFREY	NEU
VICE PRESIDENT	HUGH KIRKBRIDE	UNITE
TREASURER	TOM MEWIES	PCS
SECRETARY	SIMON CREW	UNITE
COMMUNICATIONS	ALEX KEMPSHALL	UNITE

EXECUTIVE

SHEILA CAFFREY	NEU	(President from July)
SIMON CREW	UNITE	(President until July, Secretary from June)
HUGH KIRKBRIDE	UNITE	
TOM MEWIES	PCS	
ALEX KEMPSHALL	UNITE	
SOFY CREW	UNITE	(from June)
IAN FLOWER	USDAW	(from July)
ROGER THOMAS	PCS	
MIKE LUFF	UNITE	(from July)
ANDY ROBERTSON	RMT	(Secretary until June)

AFFILIATED UNIONS AND BRANCHES

ASLEF BRISTOL
FBU BRISTOL
GMB AVON AND WESSEX
GMB X34GMB@PCS
NEU BRISTOL
NUJ BRISTOL
PCS ARMS
PCS PINS
PCS DSG SOUTH WEST
PCS DFE SOUTH WEST ENGLAND AND SOUTH WALES
RMT BRISTOL
RMT RETIRED MEMBERS
UCU UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL
UCU BRISTOL RETIRED MEMBERS
UNISON UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL
UNISON UWE
UNITE BRISTOL COMMUNITY
UNITE BRISTOL RETIRED
UNITE FIRST BUS
UNITE BRISTOL GPM & IT
UNITE FILTON AEROSPACE
UNITE BRISTOL FINANCE & LEGAL
UNITE SW OFFICERS
UNITE BRISTOL TRANSPORT & FOOD
UNITE ROLLS ROYCE
UNITE UCATT
USDAW A038

27 Branches (24) affiliated on approximately 20000 (19000) Members and were represented by 43 (54) Delegates.

Figures in brackets are for 2019

ATTENDANCE AT BRISTOL TRADES UNION COUNCIL MEETINGS 2020

	ATTENDEES	APOLOGIES
JANUARY	12	6
FEBRUARY		
JUNE	15	2
JULY	18	1
SEPTEMBER	20	2
OCTOBER	19	4
NOVEMBER	19	1
DECEMBER	17	4

Secretary's Report

2020 was a unique year for the Trade Union movement with the Covid 19 pandemic, lockdowns, working from home, furloughs, Brexit and threats of mass redundancies that have completely changed the world of work. Bristol Trades Council has continued to fight for our members during these difficult times. After three months of not having physical full council meetings we started our monthly meetings again remotely in June, these meetings have been a success and we have had better attendances than for several years. We have also encouraged different unions to provide reports to the meetings about their work which has been interesting. I'm pleased to say we now have an Executive Committee of 9, again the most for several years and your executive met 8 times during the year.

Some events of the year

In January our Vice-President represented us at a meeting between SWTUC and the Mayor of Bristol where items such as the Living Wage Campaign, Bristol Airport Expansion and the Mayoral manifesto were discussed.

In February we had a successful AGM with guest speakers from Equity.

In March the executive met just before lockdown to start planning May Day and Workers Memorial Day. As lockdown was rapidly imposed reps started working at campaigning and representing members virtually.

In April the President represented us at a meeting with SWTUC and the Mayor of Bristol to discuss the covid situation. Many members took part in Worker's Memorial Day activities including posting photos on our website and social media.

In May members took part in virtual May Day celebrations. The President and Communications Officer attended the "Bristol: Why we are not going back to work until it is safe" meeting.

In June an historic event occurred in Bristol with the toppling of the Colston Statue, many Trade Unionists were at that demonstration. Bristol Trades Council has strongly supported the Black Lives Matter Movement and currently strongly supports the Colston 4 who are being so unjustly prosecuted. We started our monthly meetings again and asked Key Worker delegates from the NEU and USDAW to be the main speakers. We held a minutes silence in memory of those who had died of coronavirus including our former delegate from UNITE First Bus branch Martin Egan.

In July we took part in the virtual Tolpuddle Festival and Organise 2020. The Secretary spoke for us at the NSSN SW Regional Meeting. A meeting to replace the Trades Councils Conference was held on Zoom. ASLEF provided the main report at our monthly meeting.

In August we agreed to join together with Gloucester and Bath Trades Councils to start organising for key workers as part of the "Glos strikes" group. The Executive agreed that it would start meeting monthly again. We supported NHS demos, our banner was present and the President spoke.

In September we paid tribute to Nina Franklin who sadly died and will be remembered for her huge contribution to the movement, our banner was present at the funeral. RMT provided the

main report and TUCJCC rep Dave Chapple also addressed our meeting. We passed a motion from GMB to work with others in setting up a Bristol Unemployed Workers Movement. We also agreed to re-establish the Bristol May Day Committee.

In October SWTUC Regional Secretary Nigel Costley was our guest speaker where we had interesting discussions. The Secretary attended Gloucester Trades Council to discuss final plans for our "Key Workers Summit". Members took part in a "Rally for Jobs" in Broadmead.

In November several members attended the Bristol Unemployed Workers Movement Founding Meeting. There was also a good attendance at the first "Key Workers Summit". At our meeting a PCS delegate lead the reports and we supported the Airbus First responders successful industrial action.

In December the importance of Health & Safety and strong unions was again shown by the tragic deaths of 4 workers in Avonmouth, we held a silence and sent a message of support to unions involved.

REPRESENTATION

We have representatives on the SWTUC Regional Council, SWTUC Regional Executive, University of Bristol Court, Bristol May Day Committee, Bristol Unemployed Workers Movement and its working groups, Glos Strikes campaign, NSSN Steering Group and NSSN SW Steering Group. We also send delegates to the SW Annual Trades Council Meeting and national annual Trades Councils Conference. Our representatives at these meetings report back to us and raise issues on behalf of our members. We also regular make representations to politicians and decision makers, although Covid-19 has been the most urgent issue this year, other issues that we have discussed and made representations on include the climate emergency, proposed airport expansion, USDAW shopworkers campaign, Living Wage Campaign and safety at work.

APPRECIATION

2020 saw the end of an era for Bristol Trades Council when Andy Robertson stood down as Secretary after many years service, we thank Andy for all his hard work over the years and once lockdown is over look forward to organizing a social event to properly thank him for his contribution.

Sheila Caffrey was elected President and thanks to her and Vice-President Hugh Kirkbride for chairing our meetings in a comradely and efficient way, not easy as we got used to meeting on Zoom!

Thanks also to our Communications Officer Alex Kempshall, it is only since I have become secretary that I have realised how much he does for us on the website, social media and in his other contributions, which greatly helps me as Secretary.

And thank you to all our executive it is great to have such a strong and committed team as we take Bristol Trades Council forward to the new normal of work post covid.

BRISTOL TRADES UNION COUNCIL
FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1ST .JANUARY TO 31ST. DECEMBER 2020

INCOME

AFFILIATION FEES	1819.70
DONATION**	100.00

EXPENDITURE

AFFILIATIONS*	40.00
DEL.FEES & EXPS+	55.20
INK CARTRIDGES	39.99
POSTAGE	52.20
BANK CHARGES	28.30
TUC REGISTRATION	10.00
PPPS ADVERTS	90.00
PARKING	8.00
DONATION++	50.00
RETURN OF G. HOWELL'S DONATION	6600.00

SUB TOTAL	1919.70
BALANCE 1 JANUARY 2020	17865.22
TOTAL	£19784.92

SUB TOTAL	6973.69
BALANCE 31 DEC 2020	12811.23
TOTAL	£19784.92

** INDIVIDUAL DONATION 100.00

* ACTSA 40.00

++ UCU HARDSHIP FUND 50.00

+SWRTUC & EXEC 55.20

Tom Mewies
Treasurer