



The BFAWU declares climate emergency!



Lauren McCourt BFAWU Executive Council member attended a planning meeting for the 20th September with the group Campaign Against Climate Change (CCAC) on our behalf after emergency motion 8 was passed at conference (see page 2) in which we declared Climate Emergency!

They talked about branching out beyond school strikes and involving more groups and organisations, including trade unions. Making sure that there are demonstrations and actions all over the country and not just in London.

Lauren said that the meeting talked a lot about alternatives to strike action due to the stringent anti trade union legislation we have in the UK, they looked at Walk in's, short work stoppages and events to be held during break times at work. The important part is to make sure that any activity is prominent, imaginative and demonstrates solidarity.

UCU are putting a motion to TUC congress this year calling for a 30 minute stoppage on the day across the country to protest climate change which the BFAWU will be supporting!

She said the meeting was well attended with people from a wide range of groups, with lots of teens taking lead roles in conversations which she felt was amazing to see! Thanks Lauren for attending and giving us a fantastic report.

Welcome to Greener future

Hello and welcome to edition 4 of *Greener future* — The BFAWU's official newsletter on all things environmental, intended to bring you articles and features on the issues facing the environment as we continue to put economic and production growth over care and concern for our world at the detriment of the people living on it.

We will include reports on areas of concern, explanations of current issues and notification of the rallies and events we are organising (or which others are mounting) which will promote a more balanced view of our environment.

You may have noticed a change in the name of the newsletter, we felt *Greener Future* was a more fitting name and thanks to the young people taking action across the world it will be a reality!!

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Emergency motion 8 on climate change

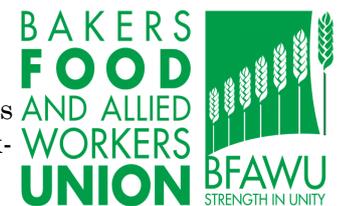
This year we had 3 motions to conference around climate change, but whilst there 2 of our younger delegates moved the following emergency motion which was passed unanimously it went as follows;

This conference welcomes;

- That parliament has declared climate emergency on May 1st, a move that follows the same initiative as over 50 local councils
- The impressive protests and direct actions organised by extinction rebellion during April 2019 and the climate strikes
- The calls for a general 'earth strike' on the 20th September 2019 and for a worker led transition to zero carbon emissions by 2030.

This conference therefore;

- Instructs the BFAWU executive council to declare climate emergency on behalf of BFAWU members
- Agrees that all branches should be encouraged to request their employers they also declare climate emergency
- Agrees that all branches should be encouraged to demand green forums are set up in their workplaces with trade union representation and that urgent measures are discussed and implemented to reduce carbon emissions, improve recycling rate, develop transport plans.. As in line with BFAWU national climate/green policies
- Instructs all branches in the union to appoint green reps and request facility time for green reps from their employers
- Agrees to endorse the general 'earth strike on the 20th September 2019
- Instructs the EC to issue communication about the above bullet points and to ensure the climate work by the BFAWU continues to the same excellent standard.



National Greggs SHE reps

The reps have recently received their second session of environmental training. This time based on energy we found out some interesting facts;

8 of Greggs supply sites have solar panels

95% of Greggs electricity comes from renewable sources with a plan to reach 100% including gas and transport fuel by 2030.

Electricity, diesel, gas and refrigerants are the biggest areas of energy use .

In the shops the biggest energy guzzler is HVAC (air conditioning) which is over a quarter of all energy use!

Greggs are committed to becoming a Zero Carbon business which is fantastic!!



Warburtons

In **Bolton** a combined heat and power (CHP) plant has been installed at the site which should be operational in the new year. The plant will reduce site energy costs by around 30%. They will use all energy sources from the CHP plant to lower the use and cost of energy on site.

Tuscany Park has invested in a new basket wash which is reducing water carry over from 30g to 4g per basket, a huge improvement in efficiency! The site is also seeing the benefits of their new combined heat and power (CHP) plant. A savings tracker shows that the plant is reducing energy bills by a whopping £1200 per day!

(taken from Warburtons internal newsletter)



Putting Green Issues first for our children and our children's children

What can you do at home?

Recycling

Put a box for your recyclables next to the bin so that its easy to sort them from your non recyclable rubbish

Squash drinks cans and plastic bottle. They'll take up less space at home, and less space in the recycling lorry or collection point

Flatten cardboard boxes, again, this will save you space at home and they'll take up less room in the collection bank or lorry

Put empty food containers by the sink so they can be easily swilled out—a quick swish around in the washing up water before you empty the bowl will do

Keep a bag or an old shoebox in the hall so you can collect junk mail easily, ready for recycling. Put boxes in other areas of the house where recyclable items are used too

If there are items your council wont collect in your regular recycling collection, combine a visit to the recycling point with another trip, maybe the school run

Nominate someone in the house to be in charge of recycling, making sure the right items are recycled and that the household collecting point is emptied frequently

Find out exactly what you can recycle locally, either via a kerbside collection or at the tip, and make sure everyone in the house knows too

Don't be tempted to put things out for recycling if they're not listed as recyclable by your local council/ rogue items can contaminate batches of clean recyclable material

Remember that anything made from paper or cardboard can be recycled; greetings cards, non-metallic gift wrap, magazines, envelopes...



Taken from save the planet one day at a time journal

Water



Turn the tap off while you're brushing your teeth

Install a cistern block in the toilet to reduce the amount of water flushed each time

Pop a bucket in the shower to catch water while its heating up, then use it to water the garden

Don't flush the toilet after every visit, remember the mantra 'if its yellow let it mellow!'

No chemical cleaning

Vinegar is great for making window cleaner, and combining with bicarbonate of soda to unblock drains. Any sort will work but white smells less strong

Bicarbonate of soda is a fantastic degreaser, abrasive, stain remover and odour absorber. You can buy in bulk from hardware shops rather than using small pots from the baking aisle

Lemon juice contains citric acid which is antibacterial and great for shifting stains and soap scum. It smells good as well!

Citric acid is a manufactured version of the naturally occurring acid found in citrus fruits, this powder is useful if you need large quantities

Soda crystals aren't the same as bicarbonate of soda, soda crystals can be used in laundry as a degreaser and a water softener amongst other things

Castile soap is a plant based soap that's great for shifting grease, and can be mixed with water to clean pretty much anything. Its biodegradable and non toxic

Salt mixed with lemon juice or vinegar ,makes a mildly abrasive cleaner. Sprinkle it over spilled food in the oven while its still hot and it will absorb (then brush out when its dry)

Tea tree oil is a natural antibacterial agent, tea tree oil can be mixed with water for a simple disinfectant spray or added to a laundry load

Essential oils, a few drops of your favourite scent aren't essential in home made cleaners but will help them smell nice!

Empty spray bottle and other containers can be washed out and filled with you home made versions. Remember to label them though!

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What's in Season?

Cherries, Cucumber, Curly Lettuce, Raspberries, Plums, Cos Lettuce, Blackberries, Runner Beans, Courgette, Broad beans, Beetroot, Spinach, Lamb, Potatoes, Aubergine, Radishes, Leeks, Butternut Squash, Mackerel, Peaches, Pears



GFTU climate motion

Back in May, we moved a motion at the GFTU's biannual conference, similar to the one at TUC congress in 2017 but with the added ask of the GFTU developing a training programme and running it or environmental/Green reps. It was passed unanimously, we will keep you updated on the progress but this is exciting for the future of our reps and environmental work!



TUCAN update

Workplace pollution needs a solution.

We now have an agreed charter that the BFAWU has signed up to that can be found [here](#)

There is a lot of work going on in the background around the campaign and we are looking at holding a conference in Manchester towards the end of this year, beginning of next year. The idea being to bring together reps from different industries to talk to each other, share best practice and learn more! They have produced a Guidance on air pollution for union reps which can be found [here](#) but is also on the Green Stuff Facebook page!



And Finally....

Thank you to everyone who took the time at national conference to fill in a green survey, transport and plastic survey. We are working through inputting all of the information onto the system and will put together a report of all of the findings as soon as possible!

Links to more Information..

www.frack-off.org.uk

www.drillordrop.com

www.eattheseasons.co.uk

www.shrinkthatfootprint.com

www.thestoryofstuff.org

<http://eatseasonably.co.uk/what-to-eat-now/calendar/>

<http://www.greenerjobsalliance.co.uk/>

Free courses on green issues;

http://www.greenerjobsalliance.co.uk/?page_id=31

www.lowimpact.org

www.fuelpovertyaction.org.uk

www.meen.org.uk

www.campaign.cc.org

www.peopleandplanet.org

www.foe.co.uk

[Greenpeace uk](http://www.greenpeace.org.uk)

[Www.futurelearn.com](http://www.futurelearn.com)

Unionsforenergydemocracy.org

lovefoodhatewaste.com/

We will support the newsletter with

@BFAWUGreenstuff - on Facebook

@bfawuS - on Twitter

Don't forget to fill in a Green Survey, which you can find [here](#) on the BFAWU website page 2 of the blogs.

As always if you have an article, something interesting going on in your workplace or local areas, or feedback please get in contact with us via sarah.woolley@bfawu.org using 'green stuff info' as the subject!

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