

MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS SOCIETY

Secretary: Dr Stephen Mustchin, University of Manchester

stephen.mustchin@manchester.ac.uk

Website: www.mirs.org.uk Twitter: @ManchesterIRS

Union organising in the hospitality sector and the 2018 strikes at TGI Fridays

Anthony Curley
Organiser, Unite North West region

6.00 pm 6 December 2018
Lecture Theatre LT34, Ground Floor,
Manchester Metropolitan University Business School,
All Saints Campus, Oxford Road, (near Oxford Road Railway Station)

The hospitality sector has long been considered a problematic area of employment from the perspective of trade union organisation, due to relatively weak traditions of collective representation, high levels of staff turnover, precarious work and anti-union employers. Despite this context, in 2018 employees working in TGI Fridays staged a series of strikes, including the walkouts on 4 October involving coordinated strike action alongside McDonalds, Wetherspoons, Deliveroo and UberEats workers, which were supported by the Unite and BFAWU trade unions. Anthony Curley is a union organiser for the Unite trade union in the North West of England with a particular focus on the service industries, and the talk will cover the TGI Fridays campaign along with wider issues relating to union organising in the hospitality industries.

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