

THE MEMBERS' CHOICE

NUJ reps, branch activists, Members of Honour, National Officers, and NEC members from across the union have united to pledge their support for Laura.

Past Presidents, National Officers & Members of Honour

Gerry Curran, *joint vice president*
Fran McNulty, *joint vice president, presenter, RTÉ*
John Barsby, *honorary general treasurer*
Jim Boumelha, *member of honour, past president*
Anita Halpin, *member of honour, past president*
John Toner, *past president, former Scotland organiser*
Jeremy Dear, *former NUJ General Secretary*
Pete Murray, *past president, former FoC BBC*
Chris Morley, *past president (personal capacity)*
Michelle Stanistreet, *NUJ General Secretary*
Donnacha DeLong, *past president*
Barry McCall, *past president*
Tim Dawson, *past president, NEC Freelance*
Sian Jones, *past president, Head of Coms, Equity*
Pierre Vicary, *past president, BBC World Service*
Francis Beckett, *past president*
Alex Pascall, *Black Members' Council*
Pat Healy, *Member of Honour, former SOC, LFB*
Pauline Norris, *former chair SOC, Solent Branch*
John Lister, *former Chair SOC, Birmingham Branch*
Mary Curtin, *Member of Honour, Dublin Broadcasting*
Anna Wagstaff, *Member of Honour, Oxford Branch*

NUJ Reps and chapel activists

Emily Pennink, *PA chapel co-chair*
Jonathan Brady, *PA chapel co-chair*
Natasha Wynczyk, *Daily Mirror, nationals rep, Reach Group chapel*
Kate Cronin, *National World rep*
David Gallagher, *Joint FoC, BBC Radio Future Media chapel, BBC London Branch*
Dominic Cotter, *BBC acting Secondee Nations and Regions*
Sian Harrison, *co-author McNae's Essential Law for Journalists (former PA rep)*
Maytaal Angel, *Thomson Reuters chapel rep*
Carolyn Cohn, *Thomson Reuters chapel rep*
Catherine Usher, *Reach Magazines rep*
Keith Miller, *Telegraph group rep*
Nick Dermody, *Chair BBC Wales chapel branch*
Martin Fisher, *FoC ITV Yorkshire, Chair of Broadcasting Industrial Council*
Martin Shipton, *Nation.Cymru, former Reach group chapel chair*
John MacInnes, *Scottish Weeklies National World FoC, former group chapel co-chair*
Mohammed Elfeniche, *Presenter, Al-Ghad TV*
Shohreh Joulani, *MoC, Iran International*
Oren Gruenbaum, *Guardian committee rep*
Brian Ging, *FoC, Al Jazeera English*
Alan Jones, *PA industrial cor and former FoC*
Emma Boyde, *FT rep*
Brian Vokes, *former joint FoC Usborne Books*
Brid Fitzpatrick, *former MoC, BBC Newcastle*
Matt Spivey, *BBC, former rep MyLondon, Reach*
Philip Bradfield, *rep, The Newsletter, National World*
Mark Ellis, *former FoC and industrial cor, The Mirror*
Sarah Standing, *Photographer, rep, Portsmouth National World*
Henry Widdas, *National World group chapel committee, Chair North West Lancashire Branch*
Pritha Sarkar, *Thomson Reuters*
John Hess, *former political editor, East Midlands BBC, Nottingham Branch*

Judith Mora, *chapel rep EFE*
Nick Morrison, *chapel rep Agence France-Presse*
Michelle Adamson, *MoC BBC Radio Manchester*
Ursula Milton, *chapel rep, FT*
Sam Tobin, *UK legal reporter, Thomson Reuters*
Bob Dale, *FoC BBC Radio Kent*
Marc Gaier, *FoC BBC Radio Merseyside*
Jo Palmer, *MoC, BBC Solent*
Nic Rigby, *FoC, BBC East*
Colin George, *health & safety rep, BBC Studios*
Patrick Gearey, *FoC BBC Sport*
Matthew Hill, *FoC BBC West*
Fiona McCarthy, *MoC, BBC Sussex and Surrey*
Gerry Jackson, *Acting FoC, BBC TV Newcastle*
John Clark and the chapel committee, *Racing Post*
Francis Whittaker, *former rep BuzzFeed*
Kelly Oakes, *freelance and former rep, BuzzFeed*
Aileen Moynagh, *BBC rep, Belfast*
Sam Volpe, *rep, Newcastle Reach chapel*
Estel Farrell Roig, *Bristol Reach chapel*
Steve Bird, *chair, FT chapel branch*
Jackie Craft, *rep, Newsquest Northern Echo*
Joe Harrigan, *chair, Newsquest Group Chapel*
Abbie Wightwick, *rep, Cardiff Reach chapel*
Carmelo Garcia, *LDR rep, Reach*
William Telford, *Plymouth Reach chapel*
Mel Cullinan, *former joint FoC Racing Post*
Elgan Hearn, *LDR rep, Newsquest*
Nino Bantic, *FoC, Associated Press Television Network, Broadcasting Industrial Council*
Richard Alcock, *chapel committee, Guardian*
Simon Rocker, *chapel rep, Jewish Chronicle*
Mark Sleightholm, *PA chapel welfare officer*
Tony Chopra, *Reuters NUJ rep*
Andrew Brassleay, *Newsquest striker*

NEC & Branch officials

Georgina Morris, *NEC North East & Yorkshire, former group chapel chair, National World*
Kathryn Johnson, *NEC Northern Ireland, Irish Executive Council, Belfast & District Branch*
Roger McKenzie, *NEC Black members, Black Members' Council*
Laura Downes, *NEC Magazines (jobshare)*
Pierre Vicary, *NEC London, World Service Branch*
Christina Zaba, *NEC, Chair New Media Industrial Council*
Cearbhall Ó Siocháin, *RTE, chair, Irish Executive*
Debbie Cavaloro, *chair SOC, PR & Coms Branch*
Tim Gopsill, *chair London Freelance Branch, former Editor of The Journalist*
David Baines, *treasurer Newcastle Branch, former FoC Newcastle Journals*
Matt Capon, *chair London, Digital Media Branch (ProfCom, former Reach group chapel and Mirror rep)*
Andy Comfort, *chair of the NUJ East Yorkshire Branch, former BBC Local Hull FoC*
Donnacha DeLong, *treasurer London, Digital Media Branch*
Richard Palmer, *chair London Central Branch, former FoC Express, Reach group chapel*
Martin Fitzpatrick, *chair Dublin Newspapers Branch*
Ronan Brady, *Dublin P&PR, former chair, Irish Executive Council*
Jim Symons, *chair Dundee Branch*
Ray King, *former FoC Express Newspapers, London Central Branch*

Steve Usher, *former FoC Daily Star, London Central*
Paula Dear, *Brussels Branch*
Di Peasey, *former chair Nottingham Branch*
Sally Chidzoy, *chair Cambridge Branch*
Julian Swainson, *vice chair, New Media Industrial Council*
Simon Hinde, *Programme Director for Journalism & Publishing, London College of Communication, London Central*
Phil Mac Ghiolla Bháin, *IEC, New Media Industrial Council, Derry & North West Branch welfare officer*
Ahmed Elsheikh, *New Media Industrial Council, former FoC BBC Arabic Service & Al Arabiya*
Kieran Fagan, *Dublin Freelance branch, former NEC member*

Freelances

John Harris, *photographer, Report Digital*
Andy Aitchison, *photographer, Photographers' Industrial Council*
Mark Thomas, *photographer, London Freelance Branch*
Andrew Wiard, *photographer, London Freelance Branch*
Colin McPherson, *photographer, Edinburgh Freelance*
Mark Pinder, *photographer, Chair Newcastle Branch*
Chris Wheal, *London Magazine Branch*
Datshiane Navanayagam, *presenter and reporter*
Paul Mason, *investigative reporter and presenter*
Barrie Clement, *industrial correspondent, Brighton Branch*
Eugene Costello, *London Freelance Branch committee*
Mike Wilson, *former secretary Edinburgh Freelance*
Ian McKenzie, *London Freelance Branch*
Lisa Hughes, *Magazine editor, Welfare officer LFB*
Richard Shrubbs, *New Media Industrial Council, Disabled Members Council*
Sylvia Edwards Davies, *New Media Industrial Council*
Paul Box, *photographer London Freelance Branch*
Alex King, *editor-at-large Huck magazine*

Officials and former officials

Michelle Stanistreet, *NUJ General Secretary*
Natasha Morris, *NUJ Legal & Equality Officer*
David Ayrton, *NUJ Senior Organiser, Freelance*
Andy Smith, *NUJ Freelance and Newspapers Organiser*
Mostafa Rajaai, *NUJ London Organiser*
Jeremy Dear, *former NUJ General Secretary*
John Fray, *former Deputy General Secretary*
John Toner, *former NUJ Senior Organiser, Scotland*
Paul Siegert, *Former NUJ National Broadcasting Official & BBC secondee*
Sian Jones, *former NUJ National Broadcasting Official*
Peta Steel-Van Den Bergh, *former NUJ freelance organiser*

Other

Samira Ahmed, *presenter*
Susie Fowler-Watt, *presenter, BBC Look East*
Pam Royle, *presenter, former MoC ITV News, Tyne Tees & Border*
Anthony Bellanger, *IFJ General Secretary*

VOTE LAURA

DAVISON

NUJ GENERAL SECRETARY



"Laura is a skilled union organiser – compassionate, fearless and unflappable. Without her energy, support and counsel, our long campaign for recognition would have failed"
– Emily Pennink PA rep

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WHY I'M STANDING



I'm Laura Davison, the NUJ's broadcasting organiser, standing to be our union's next general secretary. I was a BBC journalist – for the last 17 years I have been an NUJ organiser, supporting chapels, and engaged in negotiations at the BBC, the Guardian, the FT, Reach and many others.

I've won improved pay, saved jobs, and co-ordinated our successful recognition campaign at PA.

Three qualities qualify me for this job. Broad experience of delivering for NUJ members. I have done my learning on the job – I'm ready to step up.

Vision for the NUJ's future – an independent union with courage to defend journalists. Be it jobs, pay, media freedom, public-service broadcasting, or freelance rates, the NUJ I lead will be hardworking.

And I have support. Our strength is our activists, more than 140 support me. This guarantees real collective strength.

To win, I need your vote. With the NUJ in a workplace journalists are better treated and paid. NUJ support for freelancers protects copyright and gets invoices paid. Supporting legal challenges defends and extends journalists' rights. NUJ petitioning sways governments. This all requires the leadership that I can provide – give me your vote, for an NUJ that is committed and campaigning, and unequivocally supports its members.

The professional choice – the members' choice

Nick Morrison
AFP London, chapel chair

"I've worked closely with Laura on our lengthy and ultimately successful campaign to achieve recognition in 2022. She's unfailingly helpful, committed and professional, notably when she guided us through the often complex recognition procedure involving negotiations overseen by ACAS. Her advice on recruiting members over the years has been hugely appreciated – it will stand her in good stead should she become general secretary."

Mark Ellis, former Mirror FOC and NUJ life member

"Laura has fought tirelessly on key issues like pay and redundancies, gender equality, terms and conditions at work and union recognition. She will be an outstanding General Secretary as she is principled and tough, but fair in all negotiations. Above all, she never forgets that all she does is for NUJ members really one matters."



Michelle Stanistreet,
General Secretary

"Laura brings a wealth of industrial experience and the passion to deliver for members. She will be an excellent General Secretary, combining an impressive track record with the ideas and energy to take our union forward. Under Laura's leadership, the NUJ will be in great hands."

Fran McNulty, joint Vice President, RTE anchor

"I have seen first-hand the strength of Laura's experience in securing union recognition for our members in the PA – a landmark breakthrough. That has inspired us all. Laura's experience as a union organiser in the BBC will stand her in good stead as General Secretary in our great union, in particular for members at RTE"

Tim Dawson,
NEC Freelance, vice chair
Freelance Industrial Council

"Freelancers need a General Secretary who understands their issues, and ensures that they are a priority. Laura ticks both these boxes, as well as having a strong record on delivering for freelancers in the workplaces where she operates."

Sian Jones, Former President

"I have worked closely with Laura. She has the experience, vision and tenacity to take the NUJ to the next stage."



Debbie Cavaldoro, chair of Standing Orders Committee

"An effective general secretary needs broad support from members and activists. Laura has that in spades, that's why she gets my vote."

Jim Boumelha, IFJ Treasurer

"Laura has shown formidable skills connecting NUJ journalists in dispute with international colleagues. Obtaining support from sister unions in Japan and the US when it mattered most to NUJ members demonstrated a unique competence and one that will serve her well as General Secretary."

Sam Tobin, Thomson Reuters

"Laura has been a massive part of our successful pay negotiations with management. Her experience makes her the ideal person to lead the NUJ forward."

Christina Zaba, Chair New Media Industrial Council

"I know first-hand Laura's skill in negotiating and organising, and her experience and commitment to members and to recruitment. Laura understands the vital importance of digital to our industry, and will stand up for journalists and journalism in all its many forms. The NUJ needs a General Secretary who can keep her nerve in a turbulent and shifting industrial space. Laura is that woman."



Samira Ahmed,
presenter

"I've seen up close Laura's long-term dedication to supporting members and fighting for the best outcome: calm, informed, diplomatic. She was a remarkable rock of support to me when I was at Channel Four News."

Francis Whittaker, former rep, BuzzFeed

"Anyone who's been in a room with Laura when she's sticking up for members against difficult bosses knows what a warrior she is. She's cool-headed, committed and conscientious. I was delighted when she told me she intended to run to lead our union. I can't think of a better person to take the NUJ forward."

Sian Harrison, co-author McNae's

"Laura has been a huge support both to me personally and to my former colleagues at PA. Her knowledge of the industry and the difficulties facing all members is exactly what is needed to meet the challenges head on."

Anna Wagstaff, Oxford and District Branch

"Laura will inspire our members and harness their strength, to fight for the future of our industry and union."

REASONS TO VOTE FOR ME

New collective agreements

Organising new recognition deals is my first priority. It is the most efficient and effective way to recruit members and improve conditions. Even when managements resist with every trick, we have shown at PA that organising and persistence wins in the end. Imminent changes in UK law will provide speedier routes to recognition and opportunities to get access to journalists, even those workplaces where management is most hostile. These must be exploited.

Better freelance pay

Despite comprising around a third of the NUJ's membership, freelancers have suffered most grievously in recent decades. Employers have exploited changes in our industry to freeze or push down

rates. Casualisation has pushed more into precarious working, the pandemic and cost-of-living crisis have increased pressures. Addressing this must be pursued with increased vigour, challenging employers who exploit freelancers, examining legal routes to challenge publishers, and organising freelancers to demand better. None of this is easy, but increased momentum towards collective agreements will provide new allies amongst staff.

Defending media freedom

Campaigning for our right to report has created much of journalism's legal framework – including critical test cases like those of Goodwin and Mullin to protect sources. Driving out SLAPPs and promoting safety are equally important. I have nearly two decades of professional experience, including working with lawyers and lobbying politicians and will use this to ensure this work continues to benefit us all. The NUJ also has a proud tradition of extending international solidarity and meaningful support. This record will continue to be fostered under my watch.

**VOTE LAURA DAVISON
NUJ GENERAL SECRETARY**