



Samantha Mason

I have been a co-opted member of War on Want Council of Management (CoM) since the summer of 2022. I'm a long-time trade union activist, and currently work as a policy officer for PCS trade union, covering sustainability, climate change, trade and international work. Prior to that I was at the TUC and various NGOs/voluntary sector organisations.

Nearly 12 years of this was with Amnesty International at the International Secretariat overseeing the grants programme focused on supporting member activism in Africa, Asia Pacific, Latin America, MENA, and Eastern and Central Europe. I was also the departmental lead for the Mexico High Level Development Strategy.

I've had several representative positions within trade unions such as shop steward, equality rep and a strike committee lead on setting up of a strike fund. Currently I'm a delegate to the Waltham Forest Trades Council, and active in several local environmental and social justice campaigns. I have been a long-time anti-nuclear campaigner and am a member of CND General Council.

My experience of working across a range of collective labour, human, economic and social justice rights areas will complement the existing CoM. Particularly, in support of the work of the staff in developing strategy to strengthen links within the trade union movement in the UK and internationally. I always strive to undertake any role with my full commitment and will do likewise as a trustee and elected member of the CoM of WoW.



Norina O'Hare

A lifelong trade unionist, I am the former Head of Policy and Equality at PCS where I worked for over 26 years. I am passionately committed to supporting workers' rights and defending social justice and human rights at a time when the world is facing the global challenges of climate crisis, increasing inequality and the resurgence of far-right politics.

Women and girls bear the brunt of global poverty with lack of access to land, education and income and the threat of physical and sexual violence

remains. Gender justice and women's rights remains central to the work of War on Want and its partners in empowering women.

At a time of growing threats from extreme right wing populist governments here and across the world, War on Want speaking out, in defence of human and trade union rights, social justice and advocating the radical change that is needed to tackle global inequalities and injustice, remains vital. So too is our unique partnership working with grassroots social movements, trade unions and workers' organisations to empower people to fight for their rights. I was privileged to be elected to the CoM for six years and to use my wide ranging skills and Trade Union experience of strategic change and governance on the CoM. With your support I am excited to be elected again to contribute to the next phase of the organisation's development and to help fulfil War on Want's necessary and unique role.



Amber Williams

Trade unionism runs in my blood and it's something I am proud to have knowledge around and be a part of. I began organising international solidarity work after losing my mother, and the need to create a legacy for Palestine that she would be proud of has always been at the forefront of my mind, as it was always a wish of my mother's to help liberate the Palestinian people from the current regime.

In 2020, I helped set up The Nina Franklin Fund which provides material solidarity through endeavours such as the building of schools, teachers' rooms and the purchasing of educational resources. In 2 years, the Fund has raised over £35k for education in Palestine. I had the honour of being able to visit Hebron, Jaffa, Ramallah, Jerusalem and Bethlehem on my last trip to Palestine and attended the inauguration ceremony for the Huwara School in Hebron, that The Nina Franklin fund has helped to build.

I have been in the education sector since leaving school at 16. As a trustee at War on Want, I will be able to contribute my knowledge of organising and my experiences of activism. I am able to recognise shortfalls and deliver solutions where necessary. I am an active listener and will undertake all responsibilities with all seriousness in order to create and maintain the change we need. I work tirelessly for causes I believe in and I am looking forward to the opportunity to transfer my skills of charity organising to War on Want.

WAR ON WANT

FIGHTING GLOBAL POVERTY

Candidates for Council of Management

The Council of Management is responsible for guiding the overall direction of War on Want's campaigns, partnerships and organisational strategy, ensuring that funds are used correctly and ultimately holding the organisation accountable to our members.

War on Want received eight valid nominations for eight trustee vacancies, this means the elections for the Council of Management 2023 has run uncontested and so an election will not be needed.

This leaflet will introduce you to the new trustees. They will be joining the ongoing trustees: Esther Giles, Anna Stone and Roger McKenzie. Some of these new trustees have served on our Council of Management in previous years, and some are currently co-opted in and will be confirming their role on the council. You can find out more about our current trustees on our website at: waronwant.org/AGM.

We are proud to welcome these new trustees to the Council of Management. Each individual brings a wealth of knowledge and experience. War on Want is proud to have a diverse and representative Council.

One additional trustee with a specialism in fundraising and communications is currently being sought through an open recruitment process.



Alia Al Ghussain

I am currently a Researcher/Adviser working on technology and human rights at Amnesty International. I have previously worked in campaigns and communications for a number of organisations, including Amnesty International, Greenpeace UK and War on Want. I have worked on a broad range of issues including corporate accountability, human rights, climate justice and militarism and security issues. I have also been active in Palestine solidarity work for a number of years. My writing and journalism has been published in a number of publications including Al Jazeera English.

My combination of charity work and grassroots campaigning makes me a strong candidate to serve on War on Want's Council of Management.



Shaben Begum

I have extensive experience of working as a leader in the third sector in Scotland, I'm a skilled campaigner on the rights of disabled people. I have successfully influenced legislation in the Scottish Parliament including Social Security (Scotland) (2018) Act and have held membership of several Ministerial groups, most recently Disability & Carers Benefits Expert Advisory Group

(DACBEAG) where I shared my expertise on independent advocacy, issues of equality, diversity, human rights and making systems accessible and easy to use for everyone. My role as a Director meant I led on all operational strategic goals and worked with the Board of Directors to ensure we delivered on all legal and governance responsibilities.

I'm the vice chair of Long Covid Scotland, a grass roots organisation led by people with lived experience of Long Covid. I have led on lobbying and campaigning to ensure that parliamentarians and key decision makers are educated about the impact of Long Covid on the lives of people living with the condition.

I am motivated by a strong sense of justice, I'm an effective advocate and am unafraid to speak truth to power.

My lived experience as a British Asian, Muslim woman growing up in the UK has informed my interest in politics, discrimination and equality and enhanced my understanding of intersectional dynamics of how society, organisations and systems operate. I will use my skills and knowledge to contribute to the success of War on Want as an organisation fighting poverty and defending human rights.



Mike Cushman

I have previously served as a trustee for six years until I stood down last year, as required by our constitution.

I wish to stand again as I believe I was able to contribute valuably to the work of the charity and it gave me great satisfaction to do so. I served four years on the Finance and Resources Committee and helped to steer us through some

difficult times both financially and to withstand vexatious complaints about our activities raised with the Charity Commission. We were in a far healthier position to continue our essential work when I stood down.

I bring a lifetime's experience in the trade union and labour movement and in international solidarity work; experience of charities as a chair of trustees and as an academic researcher; and experience as a senior public sector manager responsible for strategic direction, budgets and staffing.

I am currently membership secretary of Jewish Voice for Labour and look forward to resuming working with War on Want's staff on Palestinian Rights. I had previously been involved in support for liberation in Vietnam, the former Portuguese colonies, South Africa, Chile and more. My work in Community Education enabled me to work with many groups experiencing oppression in inner London,

My engagement with War on Want educated me on many issues that I had only limited knowledge of before from the Western Sahara, to extractivism, to the conditions of Garment Workers.

I am honoured to resume this work.



Steve Davies

I am an Honorary Research Fellow at the Wales Institute of Social and Economic Research and Data (WISERD) at Cardiff University. I am also an Associate Fellow of the Global Labour University. I have been a Senior Lecturer at Cardiff University's School of Social Sciences (SOCSI), from where I took early retirement, where I taught and carried out research on globalisation, public services and trade unions.

Before that I worked for the Public Services International Research Unit (PSIRU) on privatisation. The PSIRU was funded by UK public service unions and the international public service union federations, EPSU and PSI.

I spent eleven years as a trade union full time officer with SCPS/NUCPS (predecessor unions of PCS). I began as a research officer, during which time I worked closely with WoW on Union Aid and authored a pamphlet for the union on aid as a trade union issue (Towards a Strategy on Aid and Development). Later, I worked in the General Secretary's office as Assistant to the General Secretary

I have been a committed trade unionist since leaving school and active within various unions and workplaces as a rank and file activist, a shop steward, a branch (local) officer, branch committee member, conference delegate, and full-time union official.



Mark Luetchford

I joined War on Want as a member in 1987 and have acted as a trustee for much of that time. I started my career at War on Want as a volunteer and then went on to work for Oxfam and the Soil Association. After a period working in the civil service and local government, I now work for the NHS as a communications manager. Like War on Want, I have been a long term supporter of the rights of

the people of Western Sahara. I am a chair of the Western Sahara Campaign that campaigns for the UK government to act to implement international law and push the UN to organise a referendum of self-determination.