

An invitation to engage in a discussion and debate:

# **The Role and Future of Trade Union Education**

**Saturday 27th March, Ruskin College (Walton Street site), Oxford  
(For travel information please email  
Ian Manborde on imanborde@ruskin.ac.uk)**

In 1909, Ruskin College students and their supporters formed an organisation called the Plebs League to fight so-called 'reforms' which threatened the independent and working-class nature of their education. Over a hundred years later the relevance of their arguments remains with us. A new campaign for independent working-class education (IWCE) has convened this event to discuss the future of trade union education as a feature of working-class organisation and politics, and to examine the challenges which now confront us.

## **Programme:**

10.30 - 11.30 Tea and coffee available

11.30 Welcome and opening comments  
*Sheila Cohen (NUJ, author of Ramparts of Resistance)*

11.45 Independent working-class education - historical background  
*Colin Waugh (author of 'Plebs': the Lost Legacy of Independent Working-Class Education)*

12.15 Key themes of the focus on TU Education and IWCE  
*Ian Manborde (Ruskin College)*

12.45 Lessons from activist education in the US  
*Kim Moody (Labor Notes)*

1.15 Lunch - not provided but plenty of places to buy lunch nearby

2.30 Session for practitioners:  
What is TU education for ?  
The post-election scenario?  
The role of TU educators - an established profession?  
A need for a labour educators' network?

3.30 Proposals for further activity

4.30 End