1919 represents a seminal year for the labour movement beginning with coordinated strike action across industries in Scotland, Ireland and internationally. In Glasgow, the events of 1919, the general strike, particularly the riot that took place on 31 January which became known as ‘Bloody Friday’ or ‘the battle of George Square’ are part of Glasgow’s historical DNA.

Following Bloody Friday Lenin referred to Glasgow as “the Petrograd of the West”.

These events grew from a decade of industrial and community resistance built on the Clyde not only factory by factory but also neighbourhood by neighbourhood. Often under-examined is the role of women as workers and as political activists alongside young people and children in participating in the general strike and the role that community organising had played in establish an infrastructure that brought another layer to the workers’ organisation during that strike and beyond.

Red Clyde was born in 1919, but its legacy is not only of industrial militancy, but a labour movement that extended to the whole working class community including women and the unemployed.

Jennifer McCarey is chair of Glasgow Trades Council. The trades council, along with the Joint Shop Stewards Committee, and the Scottish TUC, were the three organisations that called for the General Strike of 1919. She is a Unison full-time official.

Sponsored by the Sylvia Pankhurst Memorial Committee, the National Assembly of Women, and Wortley Hall.

The lecture will be followed by light refreshments.

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If you require accommodation at Wortley Hall for the night please contact them on 0114 2882100, info@wortleyhall.com  www.wortleyhall.org.uk

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