

**WELCOME**

**TO**

**AMPLIFY  
SUMMIT**

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND AGM**

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**





# WELCOME TO AMPLIFY SUMMIT 2025

This event welcomes activists and members from across the Amnesty International UK movement for an inspiring, enriching and fortifying weekend of activism, democracy, connection, learning and much more.

We hope you'll make the most of your weekend at the Amplify Summit: engaging with Amnesty UK democracy during the AGM, meeting friends old and new in the Activism Village and developing your skills in the activism workshops.

Let's celebrate our collective power to make change happen.

## How to make the most of your weekend

- We encourage you to attend the **AGM 101** session (page 8) at 10am on Saturday to get a sense of what to expect from the weekend and to familiarise yourself with how the AGM works.
- Check the 'at-a-glance' schedule (pages 6-7) to decide what you want to participate in and use the venue map (pages 4-5) to find your way around.
- AGM resolutions are spread across Saturday and Sunday in the Main Lecture Hall.
- Apart from the Main Lecture Hall, most rooms have limited space and access to workshops will be on a first-come, first-seated basis. Please note we can't guarantee admission.
- Workshops will take place twice on the same day. This is designed to provide greater flexibility and ensure all members taking part in the debates and voting can attend at least one workshop per day. Please check the schedule to make your selection.
- Members can collect their voting cards from the members' registration desks on the first floor. Non-members can observe the AGM but cannot take part in debates or vote.
- Tea, coffee and snacks will be served during breaks. Lunch will be served in the Oculus building. Dinner will be served in the Rootes restaurant. There are also shops on campus should you need any other food.
- Feeling creative? Drop into the Creative Space, open throughout the weekend. Contribute to an action on trans rights, and find a library of human rights books to settle down with during breaks.
- Don't miss the Activism Awards Ceremony on Saturday at 18:15. We'll be celebrating activists with a fun, entertaining ceremony before dinner.
- Any questions? Our staff members wearing pink T-shirts are here to help.




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## Safer spaces

The Amplify Summit is a safe, welcoming space for everyone. Please respect others' identities and opinions. Harmful or marginalising behaviour is not tolerated in any circumstance. Microaggressions, gaslighting, minimisation, tone-policing and all other behaviours that make someone feel othered or excluded are prohibited. Everyone present (staff, organisers, speakers and attendees) must be aware of, and take responsibility for, their own behaviour. If you have any concerns, please speak to a member of staff in a pink Amnesty T-shirt.

All attendees should comply with the Activist Code of Conduct at all times. Printed copies are available at the registration desk.

## Access

All buildings used for the Amplify Summit are fully wheelchair accessible. Hearing loops are available in plenary spaces. BSL interpretation is offered for all sessions taking place in the Main Lecture Hall, as well as some additional sessions (see  in the schedule).

For any assistance or questions relating to the venue, please speak to a member of staff.

The prayer room and the quiet room are both situated on the first floor of the Oculus building (see floor map on pages 4-5). Please knock before entering either space.

Accessible, all-gender toilets can be found on the ground floor of the Oculus building.

If you need any support while in attendance, please speak to a member of staff in a pink Amnesty T-shirt.

## Staff

Amnesty staff working at the event can be identified by their pink Amnesty-branded T-shirts. Please ask them if you need help.

## Catering

All food provided is vegetarian, with vegan and gluten-free options available. All allergens are clearly noted. For special diets or any allergen concerns, please speak to a member of the catering staff.



# ACTIVISM VILLAGE

**Spread across both floors of the Oculus building, the Activism Village will be open primarily during break times. Drop in to meet with activists and staff, purchase Amnesty merchandise and find out about the work taking place across our movement. You will be able to find the following stalls:**

- Standing Orders Committee
- Anti-Racism Network
- Disabled People's Human Rights Network
- Student Groups and STAN
- Children's Human Rights Network, Youth Collective and RiseUp
- Regional Activism Network and Local Groups
- Anti-Death Penalty Network
- Feminist Network
- Rainbow Network
- Country Coordinators (split by geographical region)
- Human Rights Education
- Amnesty UK Community Platform
- Amnesty UK Fundraising
- Amnesty UK Campaigns

## Meet senior staff

If you'd like to meet and ask questions of Amnesty UK senior staff members, they will be available during the tea/coffee and lunch breaks on the 1st floor, in the large alcove to the left of the Main Lecture Theatre.

## Networking

The Amplify Summit welcomes members and activists from across the UK and across the Amnesty movement. This weekend is an opportunity to meet friends old and new, so make the most of networking opportunities during all tea/coffee and lunchtime breaks, as well as the dedicated networking session on Saturday.

Attendees are encouraged to collect badges from the registration desk to pin to your

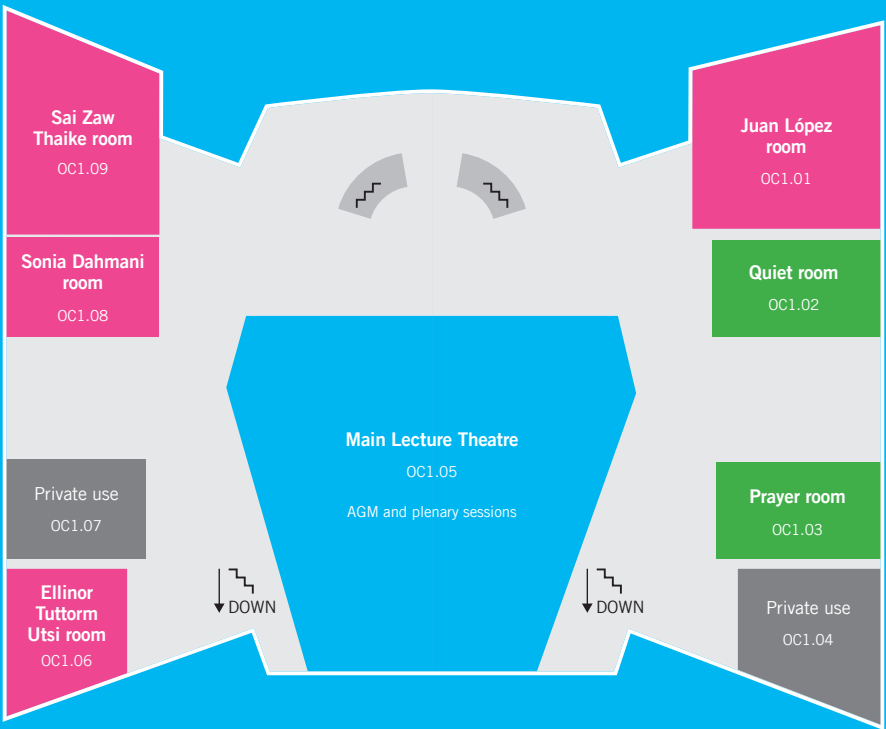
lanyards. These will help identify your region and involvement with Amnesty.

## Saturday evening

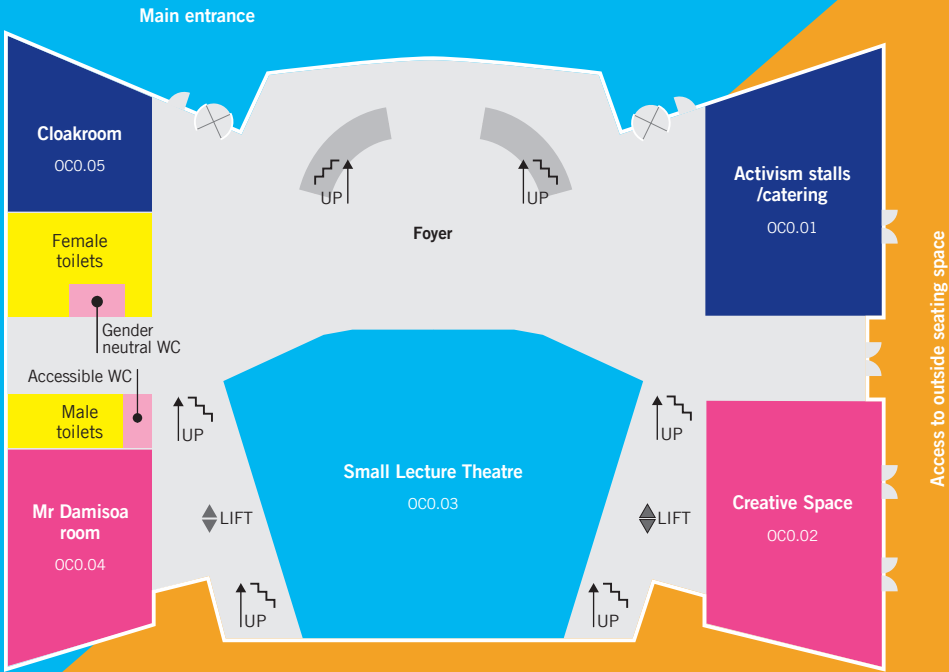
Still have energy after a long day?

- There is a free screening of documentary *The Encampments* at cinema two in the Warwick Arts Centre (21:00-22:45). Show your delegate badge for free entry.
- Keen to spend more time getting to know fellow members and activists? Benugo Bar in the Warwick Arts Centre and Fusion Bar inside the Rootes building are both open to the public in the evening.

# OCULUS FIRST FLOOR



# OCULUS GROUND FLOOR



# AMPLIFY SCHEDULE

## KEY

- AGM session
- Workshop / panel
- Catering
- Networking
- Plenary session
- BSL interpretation

## SATURDAY 5 JULY

DAY 1	Atrium Activism Village open all day	Main Lecture Theatre	Small Lecture Theatre	Mr Damisoa room	Juan López room	Sai Zaw Thaike room	Ellinor Guttorm Utsi room	Rootes Restaurant	Warwick Arts Centre
9:00	9:30-10:30								
10:00	Arrival Tea and coffee		10:00-11:00 AGM 101 and Amplify orientation						
11:00		11:00-13:00 WELCOME							
12:00		AGM business							
13:00	13:00-14:00 Lunch								
14:00			14:00-15.15 Tools for building local power	14:00-15.15 Social Insecurity: Everyday rights in 2025		14:00-15.15 How to campaign on Prevent	14:00-15.15 Evolving our activism for Palestine		
15:00	15.15-15:45 Tea and coffee	15:45-17.45							
16:00		AGM: Resolutions 1st session		16:00-17.15 REPEAT Social Insecurity: Everyday rights in 2025	16:00-17.15 REPEAT Tools for building local power	16:00-17.15 REPEAT How to campaign on Prevent	16:00-17.15 REPEAT Evolving our activism for Palestine		
17:00	17:30-18.15 Networking Light bites and drinks								
18:00		18:15-19.30 Evening address and Activism Awards							
19:00								19:45-20:45	
20:00								Dinner	
21:00									21:00-22.45 Film screening: The Encampments

## SUNDAY 6 JULY

DAY 2	Atrium Activism Village open all day	Main Lecture Theatre	Small Lecture Theatre	Mr Damisoa room	Juan López room	Sai Zaw Thaike room	Ellinor Guttorm Utsi room	Sonia Dahmani room
9:00	Arrival Tea and coffee 9:00-9:30	9:30-10.30						
10:00		AGM: Board Q&A						
11:00		10:45-12.45		10:45-12.00	10:45-12.00	10:45-12.00	10:45-12.00	
12:00		AGM: Resolutions 2nd session		USA and human rights	Tools for direct action	Tools for working with young people and schools	Tools for activist wellbeing	12:00-12.45 Literature and Art as Resistant Joy
13:00	12:45-13:45 Lunch							
14:00			13:45-15.00 REPEAT USA and human rights	13:45-15.00 Activism and education strategy workshop	13:45-15.00 REPEAT Tools for direct action	13:45-15.00 REPEAT Tools for working with young people and schools	13:45-15.00 REPEAT Tools for activist wellbeing	
15:00		15:15-15.45 AGM: Closing remarks						

# SESSIONS AND WORKSHOPS

## AGM 101

**Sat 10:00 to 10:45**

Small Lecture Theatre

**Abby Loucks** (BPM) and  
**George Randall** (AIUK Board)

How do I make the most of Amplify? What happens at an AGM? How does a membership-led organisation govern itself? How are resolutions debated? Join this session hosted by two of Amnesty's young activists to find out all you need to know for the weekend ahead. An essential session if this is your first Amnesty AGM, or a refresher on what to expect for more experienced members and activists.

## Welcome Keynote

**Sat 11:00 to 11:30**

Main Lecture Theatre

**Sacha Deshmukh** (AIUK) and  
**Agnès Callamard** (Amnesty International)

Welcome to the weekend from Sacha Deshmukh, Amnesty UK's CEO, and a keynote speech from Agnès Callamard, secretary general of Amnesty International.



## Social Insecurity: Everyday Rights in 2025

**Sat 14:00 to 15:15** and  
repeats **16:00 to 17:15**

Small Lecture Theatre/Mr Damisoa Room

**Bex Barnes** (AIUK), **Neil Gow** (Society Matters Group) and **Emily Watson** (Citizens Advice)

Social security is fundamentally linked to human rights as it ensures the right to an adequate standard of living, including access to food, housing, healthcare and education. Instead of dealing with what's



driving poverty and soaring living costs, this government is choosing to make cuts that particularly target those who are ill, disabled or unemployed. This workshop will explore Amnesty's recent report on the UK's social security system and the devastating impact on human rights – and how, together, we can campaign for change.

## Tools for Building Local Power

**Sat 14:00 to 15:15** and  
repeats **16:00 to 17:15**

Juan López Room

**Ethan Chua**, **Maymuna Osman** and  
**Nanou Thassinda** (Migrants Organise)

migrants  
organise

Explore different ways to build power for successful campaigns and to make change happen in your local area. Migrants Organise provides a platform for refugees and migrants to organise for power, dignity and justice, combining advice and support for individuals subjected to hostile immigration policies with grassroots organising, advocacy, research and campaigning to dismantle structural racism.

## How to Campaign on Prevent

**Sat 14:00 to 15:15** and  
repeats **16:00 to 17:15**

Sai Zaw Thaike Room

**Benicio Gorga** (University of Warwick Amnesty Society), **Tiff Hui** and **Şenay Ahmet** (Anti-Racism Network) and **Rachel O'Brien** (AIUK)

Prevent is part of the government's counter-terrorism strategy, but has been found by Amnesty and many others to be both inherently racist in who gets swept up in it, and ineffective in keeping people safe.



Prevent operates in schools, colleges and universities among other public bodies. This session will explore why we should be concerned about it and how to successfully campaign against it.

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## Evolving our Activism for Palestine

Sat 14:00 to 15:15 and  
repeats 16:00 to 17:15

Ellinor Guttorm Utsi Room

**Shaz Brown** (Seeds for Change),  
**Jack Farrar** (AIUK Country Coordinator)  
and **Amika George** (AIUK)



The ongoing apartheid and genocide inflicted on the Palestinian people is horrifying. It presents a serious challenge for how we campaign in the face of entrenched structural violence, failures to uphold international legal obligations and global complicity. How do we, as activists and as Amnesty, organise effectively against genocide and towards the dismantling of apartheid? This workshop will provide a space to reflect on current campaigning approaches and explore imaginative, principled strategies that move beyond the familiar.

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## Activism Awards

Sat 18:15 to 19:30

Main Lecture Theatre

Hosted by **Angus Lindsay** and **Motaz Amer**



A fun, light-hearted ceremony celebrating activists from across the Amnesty movement and their achievements – both big and small. No better way to wrap up our first day.

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## Film Screening: *The Encampments*

Sat 21:00 to 22:45

Warwick Arts Centre – Cinema 2

Admission is free for delegates. First come, first seated – limited capacity. *The Encampments* offers an urgent, intimate portrait of America's student movement,

ignited at Columbia University as students protested their universities' ties to the war on Gaza. Featuring activist Mahmoud Khalil, alongside professors, whistleblowers and organisers, the film captures the deeper stakes of a historic moment that continues to reverberate across the globe. Directed by Michael T Workman and Kei Pritsker. Rated 15.

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## USA and Global Human Rights

Sun 10:45 to 12:00 and

repeats 13:45 to 15:00

Mr Damisoa Room/Small Lecture Theatre

**Paul O'Brien** (AIUSA)

Join the executive director of Amnesty International USA, who will be with us in person to explore the current human rights crisis unfolding in the USA. What does it mean for human rights in the USA itself, how does it impact on human rights globally – and how we can resist?

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## Tools for Direct Action

Sun 10:45 to 12:00 and

repeats 13:45 to 15:00

Juan López room

**Robin Wells** (Fossil Free London)



So you want to do a stunt or an action but don't know where to start? Worried about what direct action might mean or not sure how it can help your campaign? Fossil Free London will demystify everything in this session, getting you excited, upskilled and ready to deliver direct actions safely, creatively and effectively.

Fossil Free London is a climate justice organisation dedicated to disrupting the fossil fuel industry and the financial and political structures that sustain it. Through direct action, strategic campaigning and movement building, we challenge the social licence of elites and corporate polluters. We advocate for a rapid and just transition towards a sustainable and equitable society.

# WORKSHOPS continued

## Tools for Working with Young People and Schools

**Sun 10:45 to 12:00** and repeats **13:45 to 15:00**

Sai Zaw Thaike Room

**Elle Suttill** (AIUK Youth), **Kim Hurd** and **Chris Baker** (AIUK Educators) and AIUK's HRE Team

Working with schools is a great way to build knowledge about human rights and to boost your campaign – but it can also be challenging. Join four experts – two educators, a young person and a member of Amnesty's Human Rights Education team – to find out why working with schools and young people can be transformative, what works, and how you can build your confidence to access schools in your local area.

## Tools for Activist Wellbeing

**Sun 10:45 to 12:00**

and repeats

**13:45 to 15:00**

Ellinor Guttorm Utsi Room

**Laura Fisher** and **Melissa Smith** (Grapevine)



Juggling activism and campaigning alongside daily life can be difficult, and caring for yourself and those around you as you continue to fight for human rights can sometimes be hard – but it is essential. How can you continue to build your activism while looking after yourself and your community? This session will explore ways of centring your wellbeing while also embedding collective care into your activism.

Grapevine helps all kinds of people experiencing isolation, poverty and disadvantage in Coventry and Warwickshire.

## Literature and Art as Resistant Joy

**Sun 12:00 to 12:45**

Sonia Dahmani Room

Anti-Racism Network representatives

Explore the intersection between activism and joy in a relaxed space. Read and discuss a selection of short poems and literature to strengthen your anti-racist practices in a reflective, creative environment. This session will be a safe space for People of Colour.

## Activism Strategy Workshop/ Consultation

**Sun 13:45 to 15:00**

Mr Damisoa Room

Amnesty UK Activism and Education

Join this interactive session to have your say in the development of Amnesty UK's new activism and education strategy and help shape its direction.

## Closing remarks

**Sun 15:15 to 15:45**

Main Lecture Theatre



Wrapping up a busy weekend and looking ahead to another year of activism, advocacy and campaigning.

# SPEAKER BIOS

**Şenay Ahmet** (she/her)

Şenay is the Anti-Racism Network Committee representative on the Building a Powerful Movement subcommittee for Amnesty UK.

**Chris Baker**

Chris is a member of the Teacher Advisory Group for Amnesty UK.

**Bex Barnes** (she/her)

Bex is a campaigner for Amnesty UK, working on economic, cultural and social rights.

**Sharon (Shaz) Brown** (she/her)

Shaz has been involved in environmental and social justice campaigns for 20 years. This has mostly been national campaigns against things like fracking and the arms industry but also some small, local campaigns where she lives in Cumbria. As part of Seeds for Change, she has worked with many campaign groups over the past 15 years and loves picking up tips, suggestions and creative ideas from these groups and spreading them far and wide within the UK grassroots movement.

**Agnès Callamard** (she/her)

Agnès is the secretary general of Amnesty International. She leads the organisation's human rights work and is its chief spokesperson. Agnès has been a prominent figure in the human rights world for decades. In 2016, she was appointed as the United Nations Special Rapporteur on extra-judicial, summary or arbitrary killings. Along with her UN work, Agnès was also the director of global freedom of expression at Columbia University in New York. Previously, she was executive director of the freedom of expression organisation Article 19.

**Ethan Chua** (any)

Ethan is the access to healthcare organiser at Migrants Organise, where they coordinate the Patients Not Passports campaign – an alliance of healthcare workers, migrants and community

members opposed to migrant charging and bordering practices in the NHS. They also have experience in faith-based organising and student activism, and are a published poet.

**Sacha Deshmukh** (he/him)

Sacha was appointed chief executive of Amnesty International UK in 2021. He is an expert on human rights around the world, and is Amnesty's leading spokesperson in the UK on human rights issues around the world and in the UK. Before joining Amnesty, Sacha had a varied career in the not-for-profit, public and private sectors over the last 25 years, including as chief executive of Unicef UK, chair of War Child UK, executive director of the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman and chief executive of a large advertising and marketing creative agency group.

**Jack Farrar** (any)

Jack is an organiser, researcher and photographer based in London and Belfast. He currently serves as a country coordinator in the Middle East and Gulf Team at Amnesty UK, supporting grassroots activism and campaigning on Palestine.

**Laura Fisher** (she/her)

Laura is the team leader for Shifting Power at Grapevine Coventry and Warwickshire and leads its team of community organisers. Laura is also the founder of Survivor Sanctuary, a survivor-led grassroots organisation for people who have experienced sexual violence.

**Amika George** (she/her)

Amika is the community organiser for local activism for Amnesty UK.

**Benicio Gorga** (he/him)

Benicio is the country coordinator for Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Australia, Nauru, New Zealand and South Pacific Islands for Amnesty UK, and a member of the Warwick University Amnesty Society.

# SPEAKER BIOS continued

**Neil Gow** (he/him)

Neil works as the head of strategy, social policy and research for Society Matters Group in Gateshead. He joined after a career in teaching, marketing and working with homeless teenagers. A firm believer in the power of stories, Neil champions community voices in his work life, and writes about narrative gaming and folklore in his spare time.

**Tiff Hui** (she/her)

Tiff is a member of the Amnesty UK Anti-Racism Network. She has been involved in Amnesty at school, university, the Youth Collective and now the Anti-Racism Network. Tiff is particularly interested in how diaspora communities and allies in the UK can come together for racial justice, instead of being divided by arbitrary enemy lines that have been decided for us by other people.

**Kim Hurd** (she/her)

Kim is a member of the Teacher Advisory Group for Amnesty UK.

**Angus Lindsay** (he/him)

Angus is an actor, comedian and activist. In response to the latest assault on Gaza, he set up the Stand Up for Gaza Comedians Collective to put on gigs to raise awareness and funds for a group of Gazan families and local community kitchens. An ex-Amnesty staffer, Angus has been involved in organising various campaigns and stunts, including delivering missiles made from toilet rolls (designed by Amnesty legend Dan Jones) to Downing Street to highlight UK complicity in war crimes in Yemen.

He led 100 weeping Statues of Liberty outside the US embassy to mark the first 100 days of Trump and has organised and taken part in die-ins and lobbying training for the Arms Trade Treaty campaign.

**Abby Loucks** (she/her)

Abby is a current Amnesty Student Action Network (STAN) representative, representing students from London and the South East, as well as being the student-led campaign Officer for STAN. She also sits on the Building a Powerful Movement Subcommittee, as well as the Campaigns and Impacts Subcommittee. Outside of her Amnesty commitments, she has just completed her LLM in human rights.

**Paul O'Brien** (he/him)

Since April 2021, Paul has been the executive director at Amnesty International USA. Over his career, he has done human rights research and advocacy in more than 50 countries, including most recently Mexico, Israel, Gaza and the West Bank. He lived for 10 years in Africa, working for local and international organisations, and for five years in Afghanistan.

**Rachel O'Brien** (she/her)

Rachel is the community organiser for coordinators and networks for Amnesty UK. Her background is in organising on domestic equalities issues, especially disabled people's human rights and worker's rights. Previously, she worked at the National Union of Students as the disabled students' officer, and the London-wide Deaf and disabled people's organisation, Inclusion London, focusing on running campaigns and organising on issues such as social security and independent living.

**Maymuna Osman** (she/her)

Since joining Migrants Organise in 2018, Maymuna has developed and delivered numerous organising campaigns and power-building sessions. These range from electoral organising to local and issue-based campaigns focusing on housing rights, as well as Solidarity Knows No Borders Movement Building.

**George Randall** (he/him)

George is a children's rights activist. He joined Amnesty UK's Children's Human Rights Network Committee in 2023 and was elected to Amnesty UK's board of directors in 2024. Alongside this work, George has authored the Teen Politics blog since 2020, hoping to increase young people's political engagement and participation. He has been an elected member of Kent Youth County Council since 2021, advocating for the views of young people to decision makers.

**Melissa Smith** (she/her)

Melissa is an illustrator, activist and unapologetic joy-bringer who believes creativity is a weapon against burnout. Based in Coventry, she's a community organiser with Grapevine Coventry and Warwickshire, helping to power grassroots movements like Connecting for Good and Coventry Youth Activists. Her practice centres wellbeing, joy and collective care as tools for resilience, healing, and radical change.

**Elle Suttill** (she/her)

Elle is a member of her school's Amnesty Youth Group and a member of the Activist Events Committee for Amnesty UK.

**Nanou Thassinda** (she/her)

Nanou is a community activist with Migrants Organise.

**Emily Watson** (they/she)

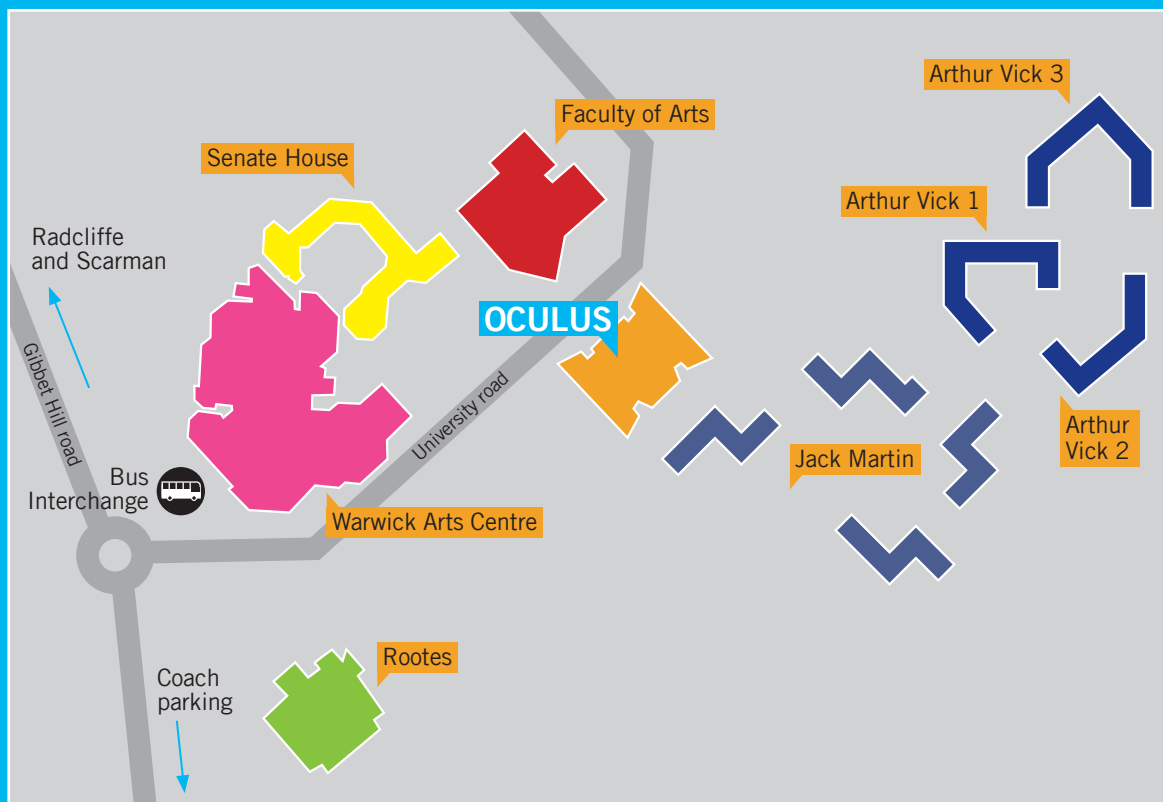
Emily is the research and campaigns coordinator for Society Matters Group, Gateshead.

**Robin Wells** (she/her)

Robin is the Director of Fossil Free London, a protest organisation she founded in 2021 having been part of the grassroots climate movement for many years. Previously, a support worker for refugee young people, she is now a spokesperson for climate action, delivering speeches, creating digital content and planning protests to challenge Big Oil.

**AMPLIFY  
SUMMIT**

# WARWICK UNIVERSITY CAMPUS



## SURVEY

Thank you for attending the Amplify Summit 2025. We hope the event met your expectations. We'd love to hear your feedback and thoughts, so please spend five minutes completing this short survey. At the end of it, you can enter a competition to win some goodies from the Amnesty shop. Thank you.



## GET INVOLVED

If you'd like to find new ways to get involved with Amnesty, there are plenty of options – becoming a member, joining a group in your local area, setting up a youth group at your school or taking on a challenge event. Find out more at [amnesty.org.uk/get-involved](https://amnesty.org.uk/get-involved)

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