

Support

WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY

in BLACKBURN with DARWEN

Workers Memorial Day - who is it for?

It's for you, your loved ones, sons/daughters, sisters, brothers, parents, neighbours and all working people at risk of being made ill, injured, disabled or killed by work.

On Workers Memorial Day, 28th April each year, we remember all those killed by work incidents or work-related illnesses. But crucially we campaign for the welfare of today's workers by demanding that employers & government make all workplaces safe.

Working people in the UK and elsewhere are at a much greater risk than the authorities like to acknowledge. Up to 1,500 people are killed while involved in work-related activity each year (up to 1,000 in work-related road incidents). A further 50,000 die from work-related illnesses - 18,000 from work-related cancers and asbestos-related diseases.

Almost every one of these deaths could, and should have been prevented. And millions more workers are made ill every year by work activity

- ◇ cardiovascular diseases caused by overwork, long hours or unhealthy shiftwork
- ◇ stress and workplace bullying
- ◇ lung diseases caused by polluted atmospheres
- ◇ skin/neurological diseases caused by chemicals
- ◇ muscle-skeletal damage caused by poor work design

Some workers are at a greater risk:

- * young workers and temporary workers on precarious contracts (inexperienced or eager to please)
- * women workers expected to do poorly-paid, intense repetitive work
- * migrant/non-union workers, open to greater abuse.

What can we do?

Join a trade union because, as all the evidence shows, you are twice as safe in a union-organised workplace

Become a safety representative if you are already in a trade union. *Safety reps save lives!*

Join us in campaigning to ensure that employers, the government and the H.S.E reduce deaths, injuries and illness caused by work.

Use your vote wisely: David Cameron has already pledged himself to further undermining of a seriously-weakened Health and Safety system

Safety reps, the trade union movement and the Hazards Campaign have achieved a great deal, but any complacency would be disastrous. The official HSE statistics for North West 2008/09, while grossly under-reporting injury, reveal that, **despite the recession**, 22 NW workers were killed by work, *the same as the year before*, with only slightly less suffering serious injury.

This is not good enough:

No matter which government is elected, join the Campaign for Safe Workplaces

Our 2010 message is:

Workplace H&S is a **right not a privilege** - all workers are entitled to earn a living without endangering their lives or their health.

WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY ♦ 28TH APRIL Remember the Dead: Fight for the living

Join us to commemorate WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY

12.30, lunchtime, Wednesday 28th April

by the Workers Memorial Tree, (Sudell Cross) end of Northgate

**Union workplaces
are safer workplaces!**

