

Workers Memorial Day, what's it for?

It's for you, for your family, for all workers at risk of being seriously injured, being made ill or worse, being killed at or by work. On 28th April every year we remember all those killed by work incidents and by illnesses caused by work, and we fight for the living by standing up together and calling on employers and government to make all workplaces safe and healthy for all workers.

'Remember the Dead & Fight for the Living'

Is work still risky these days?

Unfortunately workers are at much greater risk than is generally publicised. Up to 1,500 people are killed in work incidents every year -up to 1,000 in work-related road incidents - and up to 50,000 die from work-related illnesses -18,000 from work-related cancers including asbestos cancers. Almost every one of these deaths could have, and should have been prevented. Millions more workers are made ill with: cardiovascular diseases caused by the stress of long hours, shift work, over work, bullying and harassment; work-place cancers; lung diseases caused by dusts and chemicals; neurological illnesses caused by chemicals; musculo-skeletal problems caused by poor work design and too few breaks, and so on.

More people are killed or made ill by work each year than are killed in wars worldwide

Some workers are at a much greater risk than others: young workers, migrant workers, agency, and temporary workers and non-union workers.

All workers are entitled to safe & healthy work

What can we do about it?

Join a trade union because you are twice as safe and healthy in a union organised workplace as a vast amount of evidence shows.

Become a safety representative if you are already in a trade union, and save lives!

Join us in campaigning to put pressure on employers, the HSE and LA enforcement agencies, and on the government to stop deaths, injuries and illness caused by work.

What did campaigning ever do for us?

Whatever H&S standards and protection, and the enforcement regime we now have, were only gained by unions and activists campaigning! Everything we have, we fought for, don't let them take it away from us now.

For example, some H&S laws giving us the right to safe and healthy workplaces; banning of asbestos and other hazardous chemicals, reducing exposures of others; cutting working hours; putting stress put on the agenda, and now we have forced the government to recognise Workers Memorial Day and the harm caused by work. But there is much to fight for, just to get the rights we have enforced, and not cut.

Don't let the next government risk your life

Vote for your lives at next election

Don't vote for any party that will cut your health & safety! Reject: proven-to-fail self-regulation, H&S self-auditing, barring inspector schemes and any cuts in H&S regulations; Demand: increases in preventative enforcement by HSE and Local Authority inspectors; more enforcement support for safety reps and workers; directors to be made legally responsible for H&S; more support for the real victims of poor H&S - workers and their families - not the employers who create the risks but pay less than 25% of the costs of the harm they cause.

Even the official HSE statistics for the North West 2008/09, which exclude most of those killed by work and grossly under report injuries & sickness, reveal that despite the recession the same number of people were killed by work as the year before, 22, and only slightly less injured and made ill.

On Workers Memorial Day 2010 send employers and government our message:

'H&S at work is our right not a privilege, enforce it'

**We invite everyone to join us
on 28th April at our event overleaf.**

Families of those killed by work, trade unionists, workers, activists, everyone is welcome. Come and help us show our respect to those killed, and add your strength our campaigning to stop avoidable workplace deaths and get the good workplace health and safety all workers deserve.

Useful links:

NWTUC http://www.tuc.org.uk/tuc/regions_info_northwest.cfm

Hazards Campaign www.hazardscampaign.org.uk

Hazards Magazine www.hazards.org/wmd

RISKS <http://www.tuc.org.uk/newsroom/register.cfm>

G.M. Hazards Centre WMD resources

<http://www.gmhazards.org.uk/WMD%202010%20-%20resources.doc>; mail@gmhazards.org.uk

Families Against Corporate Killers www.fack.org.uk

GMAVSG <http://www.asbestos-victims-support.org/>

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

**Union workplaces
are safer workplaces!**

