



WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY
28 APRIL 2017 #IWMD17

International Workers Memorial Day
Friday 28 April 2017
#iwmd17
info@hazardscampaign.org.uk

INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY
28 APRIL 2017 #IWMD17

We are all sickened by inequality at work
Good health & safety for all workers whoever they are

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

Union workplaces are safer workplaces!

Briefing and Resources for #IWMD17

The Hazards Campaign brought International Workers' Memorial Day (IWMD) to the UK in the 1990s from Canada and USA, with two aims: to "*Remember the Dead*" and to "*Fight for the Living*". We ask Trade Unionist to focus on both aims by holding events or memorials to remember all those killed through work but at the same time campaigning to prevent such preventable tragedies from happening in the future. We need to educate, agitate and organise to build trade union organisation, to demand stricter enforcement, higher penalties for breaches of health & safety laws, to make work safer and healthier.

No-one should ever die just for going to work

Millions do every year because employers do not care, and governments let them get away with it
Almost ALL workplace death, injury and illness is PREVENTABLE

International Workers Memorial Day is now commemorated throughout the world, recognised by dozens of countries including the UK Government in 2009. This year, 2017, the theme agreed by ITUC and Trade Unions internationally is

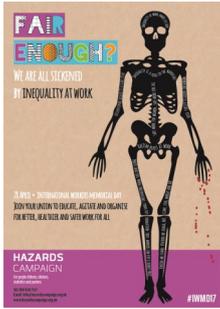
UNSAFE AND UNFAIR – DISCRIMINATION AT WORK HURTS US ALL

We all want good health and safety at the heart of decent jobs and decent lives for all workers whoever they are, wherever they come from and wherever they work. On #iwmd17 we will address all the actions needed to protect the health and safety of the most vulnerable in our workplaces, due among others, to class, gender, origin, and sexual orientation. The ITUC will produce and share background documents/research on these issues to help elaborate the international background for the day. Check out international resources at ITUC/Hazards Magazine: <http://28april.org/?p=1148> & ands Facebook: Workers Memorial Day* 28 April <https://www.facebook.com/groups/170025585213/>

The TUC theme is **Good health and safety for all workers whoever they are** and will focus on inequalities in occupational health and the role unions play in narrowing the inequalities gap, and on the hidden and new gig economy, the risks faced by migrant workers and the issues of gender and class. TUC List of events across the UK: <https://www.tuc.org.uk/wmd2017> Check out TUC for a range of #iwmd17 resources on health & safety inequality and the gig economy; Gender sensitive health and safety checklist etc: <https://www.tuc.org.uk/workplace-issues/health-and-safety/workers-memorial-day>

Badly paid work guarantees more than hardship. Low pay goes hand in hand with low health and safety standards, occupational injuries and diseases like diabetes and cancer frequently come with the job. Work cancer is mostly a blue collar condition as are most of the major workplace killers. For most work health and safety problems, the risk goes up as your pay goes down. It is pretty obvious why. Low pay affects your choices: whether you work more overtime, extra shifts, report an injury, take sick leave, or can raise health & safety issues without getting the sack. And it leaves you in jobs that typically have the insecure, dirty and dangerous hallmarks of risky work, or are mind numbingly dull & depressing: <http://www.hazards.org/workingworld/lowblow.htm>

On top of class, social and economic inequality, other inequalities and discrimination in the workplace: e.g. sexism, racism, islamophobia, xenophobia, transphobia make work even more unsafe, unhealthy, and often deadly for women, black and ethnic minority, LGBT, migrants, young, disabled and other workers. Work does not have to be like this and trade unions organise to make it better! We stand together: **#An injury to one is an injury to all** **#We are all sickened by inequality at work**



UNSAFE AND UNFAIR – DISCRIMINATION AT WORK HURTS US ALL

Wear a purple forget-me-knot ribbon

Around 51,500 deaths, over 621,000 injuries and Millions made ill by work in GB every year. Almost all work deaths are due to employers' mismanagement, and inequality and discrimination at work mean that the most vulnerable workers—the poorest, women, young, ethnic minority, migrant, LGBT workers— are at more risk of being made ill, injured or killed by work.



Here are some suggested taglines to develop work around or use in events and speeches: **Inequality is a pain in the workplace; Safe work for women, safe work for all; Workplace safety is a class issue; Occupational disease is a class issue; Profit and loss: When irresponsible firms put production first, workers can pay a deadly price; Racism hurts at work; Fair enough? We are all sickened by inequality at work; United we stand: Divided we cough, ache, limp, itch, wheeze and die; Inequality at work makes us sick; An injury to one is an injury to all; Inequality at work can get you killed .** **What you can do on #iwmd17**

- Find out what is happening in your area on 28 April., see TUC list all the local activities, email details to healthandsafety@tuc.org.uk
- If nothing is happening then get together with some of your workmates or others in the area where you work and organise some thing. It can be a commemorative rally, a workplace meeting to discuss health and safety, or just a small get-together;
- Organise a minute's silence in your workplace on the day;
- Ask your local council, or any other public body, to fly official flags at half-mast on the day. Remember that the day is officially recognised by the UK government;
- Arrange an event such as planting a memorial tree in a public place, putting up a plaque, dedicating a sculpture, a piece of art, or a bench, to remember workers who have been killed at the workplace or in the community;
- Workers' Memorial Day on 28 April, then it is important you consider how you can best use local media both before & on the Day.
- If you are planning any event for the day, or you want to raise awareness: distribute and wear purple 'forget-me-not' ribbons, put up posters, and remember to let people know about anything that happens in your area on the day;
- When tweeting or posting to Face Book use the unifying hashtag #IWMD17 and check it for new resources and retweet.

Contact **Greater Manchester Hazards Centre** at mail@gmhazards.org.uk for resources and information:

Purple Ribbons the symbol of the day: purple forget-me-knot £30 per hundred inc p+p: <http://www.gmhazards.org.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/WMD-Order-Form-2015.doc> ; **Union Workplaces are Safer Workplaces Car Stickers**: £30 per hundred + p+p <http://www.gmhazards.org.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/wmd-car-sticker-order-form.pdf>; free poster order form:

<http://www.gmhazards.org.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/WMD-Poster-Order-Form-2017.doc>

GMHC IWMD Background Leaflet: <http://www.gmhazards.org.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/WHY-WE-ARE-FIGHTING-FOR-OUR-LIVES-updated.pdf>

Our estimates of the real toll of deaths and illnesses caused by work which are far greater than HSE publishes or press/media report

"The Whole Story": <http://www.gmhazards.org.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Hazards-Campaign-challenging-the-HSE-statistics.pdf>

New GMHC film :**"On the importance of Workers Memorial Day"**: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OB80D0MD0w0&feature=youtu.be>

#IWMD14: Deregulatory Daleks tied up in red tape! : <http://www.youtube.com/watch=FGydrnhBZ0>

Carol Harte, widow of Hazards Campaigner Tommy Harte on why he brought WMD to UK with aims : Remember the Dead and Fight for the Living

: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aE_Q6YDM-Pw&feature=youtu.be

Hartlepool TUC WMD 2016:- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hFYuY-qJFTA>

Families Against Corporate Killers, FACK, work with families of those killed by work: BellyflopTV: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EzRGtdFX2oA&feature=youtu.be> See also Facebook: Families Against Corporate Killers

FACK ers tell their stories: 'Face the FACKs: the Human Face of Corporate Killing'

Face the FACKS Part 1 :: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IX4L-zWV_sA; Part 2: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e-i_6IVJ0Is

Part 3: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c4I0UnnLYBU> ; Part 4: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K3om3Qwpj5I>

Cameron Minshull: <https://www.facebook.com/bbcnorthwestonight/videos/1002228529808209/?fref=nf>

<http://www.hazards.org/deadlybusiness/cameronminshull.htm>

Hazards Campaign c/o GMHC. Windrush Millennium Centre, 70 Alexandre Road, Manchester, M16 7WD
info@hazardscampaign.org.uk @hazardscampaign Face Book: We Didn't Vote to Die at Work



Resources

The real figures for deaths and harm caused by work: **The Whole Story**": <http://www.gm hazards.org.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Hazards-Campaign-challenging-the-HSE-statistics.pdf>

Two Free posters: <http://www.gm hazards.org.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/WMD-Poster-Order-Form-2017.doc>

Purple forget-me-knot ribbons: £30 per hundred inc p+p, <http://www.gm hazards.org.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/WMD-Order-Form-2015.doc>

Union Workplaces are Safer Workplaces Car Stickers: £30 per hundred inc. p+p <http://www.gm hazards.org.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/wmd-car-sticker-order-form.pdf>

GMHC film: **On the importance of Workers Memorial Day**": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OB80D0MD0w0&feature=youtu.be>

Meetings are going on all over the UK to organise the huge number of events that take place every year.

Find one nearest you on the TUC listing: <https://www.tuc.org.uk/workersmemorialday>

Scottish events: <http://www.stuc.org.uk/campaigns-and-external-events/international-workers-memorial-day>

North West #IWMD17 events GMHC supports and attends most of the events in the North West:

Facebook: International Workers Memorial Day in Manchester#IWMD17

Salford 22 April: 1pm Agecroft memorial, Agecroft Road , Salford

Blackburn 28 April 12 noon at WMD Tree, Northgate, Blackburn

Bolton Sunday 30th April 11:00 The Hub Bold St Bolton BL1 1LS 11:30 Victoria Square 11:30-12:00 Speakers 12:00 Minutes Silence followed by laying of wreath

Chorley 28 April Short march from Astley Park (the park gates) Park Road ,at 5:45 pm and service at the Unite WMD tree at 6pm until 6:20pm. All welcome to join. Banners and flags welcome.

Liverpool 28 April Rally at Liverpool Man Island, on the South Piazza of Georges Dock Building, (Corner of Mann Island and the Strand), Pier Head, Liverpool L3 1DD. Assemble at 11.00am with rolling programme of events throughout the day with the Bob Tressell Festival. Speakers to be confirmed

Manchester 28 April Rally in Lincoln Square 12 noon to 13.00 Speakers: Lynn Collins NWTUC, Workers, TU Safety Reps, Tracey Seward, Families Against Corporate Killers; GM Asbestos Victim Support Group; Leo McCann, trauma in emergency workers; Debbie Abrahams Shadow Sec State, Mick Whelan GS Aslef; Andy Burnham, Labour GM Mayoral candidate; Phil Liptrot, Thompsons Solicitors. Names of those killed at work, Laying of wreaths and one minutes silence. Music by Claire Mooney. Purple Tear Drops to remember people. <http://www.gm hazards.org.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Manchester-iwmd17-flyer.pdf>

Preston 29 April Meet on Preston Flag market at 11.45am with a musical build up to a minutes silence at noon followed by speeches, release of doves. There will then be a march with banners through Preston to lay wreaths at the Lune Street memorial in remembrance of those who lost their lives through work, any organisation can either order a wreath through us or bring their own. Purple Tear Drops to remember people.