

HAZARDS CAMPAIGN

International Workers Memorial Day #IWMD23



Organising for Safe and Healthy Work

Every year on 28 April all over the world, trade unions, workers, and families hold remembrance events to mark International Workers Memorial Day because work continues to kill millions globally every year, and over 50,000 in the UK, 140 a day before the pandemic arrived to make things worse. In the UK thousands of workers have died from Covid-19 and we will never know the true number because many of them weren't tested, hospitalised or recorded and reported as work related infections and deaths. Last year we estimated the number to be more than 20,000 workers. The vast majority of them will never be investigated as a work related infection or death.

'2023 will be a key year for trade unions and working people. Last year, we secured recognition that a safe and healthy work environment is a fundamental right for workers. This has given a new impetus to organising for health and safety – a crucial part of union action. This year's Workers' Memorial Day, April 28 is dedicated to this core union priority.'

Owen Tudor, ITUC deputy general secretary.
ITUC newsletter, 6 February 2023.

According to the UN 'Each year, an estimated 2.78 million workers die from occupational accidents and work-related diseases while an additional 374 million

workers suffer from non-fatal occupational accidents. This means 7,500 people die from unsafe and unhealthy working conditions every single day. Workplace-related deaths exceed the average annual deaths from road accidents (999,000), war (502,000), violence (563,000) and HIV/AIDS (312,000).'

The Hazards Campaign brought Workers Memorial Day to the UK in 1990s with twin aims, to Remember the Dead and also to Fight for the Living. We call on workers across the UK to join workers across the world to take action on 28th April and to share your event on <https://www.tuc.org.uk/iwmd-events>

Hazards Campaign 2023 resources and information

What are you doing for International Workers Memorial Day?

- ❖ Hold a **one minute silence at 12.00** to remember all those who have died because of work.
- ❖ Are you organising an **online event or a socially distanced event** at your workplace? - have you arranged for a speaker from FACK Families Against Corporate Killers (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/16054748370>) or the Hazards Campaign? If you need one please contact me and we can try to arrange it.
- ❖ Although IWMD - International Workers Memorial Day is on April 28th there are events taking place across the week, and **put your event on the map** - 28April.org
- ❖ Are you going to **read out the names of people from your sector, industry or region**, who have died this year because of work? - see HSE fatalities RIDDOR reported list <https://www.hse.gov.uk/foi/fatalities/2022-23.htm>
- ❖ Use the **Hazards Campaign 'Whole Story'** numbers to talk about the true number of people who have died over the last 12 months because of work - <http://www.hazardscampaign.org.uk/thewholestory>
- ❖ If you know of anyone who has been killed because of work put their name on the Workers Memorial Wall <https://www.tuc.org.uk/workers-memorial-wall>

Resources are available to purchase from GMHC - which include forget-me - knot purple ribbons, face coverings, car stickers, and posters
- <https://gmhazards.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Resources-to-support->

More information and organising tools can be found at:

- ❖ *International events - 28april.org*
- ❖ *Hazards magazine
information/resources - <https://www.hazards.org/wmd/background.htm>*
- ❖ *Hazards Campaign information and resources
- <http://www.hazardscampaign.org.uk/workers-memorial-day>*
- ❖ *TUC information and resources - <https://www.tuc.org.uk/international-workers-memorial-day-iwmd>*

Use the hashtag on social media **#IWMD23** to spread the word

Films to use on # IWMD23:

- ❖ Lean on Me – Families against corporate killers supporting families of those killed at work, <https://youtu.be/iKgHlh4ODnU>
- ❖ Hazards Campaigners talking about IWMD means to them. <https://youtu.be/GcP0KzWg0mY>
- ❖ **Fallen tears** <https://youtu.be/HdXICUM9IBI>
- ❖ Carol Harte's film of Tommy Harte bringing IWMD to the UK https://youtu.be/aE_Q6YDM-Pw
- ❖ What is International Workers' Memorial Day <https://youtu.be/OB80D0MD0w0>
- ❖ *FACKers tell their stories: 'Face the FACKs: the Human Face of Corporate Killing'*
[Face the FACKs Part 1](#) [Face the FACKs Part 2](#)
[Face the FACKs Part 3](#) [Face the FACKs Part 4](#)

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