

WORKER'S MEMORIAL DAY

Saturday, 28th April is **Workers' Memorial Day**. The main focus in Scotland is a wreath laying ceremony in George Square in Glasgow at 1.00PM on Saturday. The Scottish Region, and Glasgow City Branch have ordered wreaths from the STUC. 14 Scottish councils have so far agreed to fly their flags at half mast and now over 20 countries have declared it a national holiday.

The STUC has compiled a list of events taking place throughout Scotland on Friday and Saturday of this week. <http://www.stuc.org.uk/press-releases/387/international-workers-memorial-day-remember-the-dead-fight-for-the-living>

UNISON is launching a campaign on Friday, 27th April asking the UK government to give official recognition to 28 April, Workers' Memorial Day, to be recognised as a national day of remembrance for those killed or injured by their work.

To mark the launch of the campaign, there will be a short meeting at the front of each of the UNISON offices in Scotland at 12.00 on Friday, 27 April, which will include a UNISON-wide minute's silence.

FAMILIES AGAINST CORPORATE KILLERS (FACK)

At a fringe meeting at the STUC in April **Families against Corporate Killers (FACK)** was launched, and highlighted the number of people killed in work related incidents each year, condemned by STUC General Secretary, Graham Smith, as "unacceptable". The group aims to campaign for an end to work-related deaths, as well as support for bereaved families.

They are also campaigning for tighter legislation to hold bosses of companies found to be guilty of negligence leading to injuries or deaths accountable for the killings. The Corporate Manslaughter Bill has become stuck in the House of Lords over the issue of deaths in custody. The TUC is urging all union reps and campaigners to back a proposal for more serious safety penalties on dangerous employers.

<http://www.labourspace.com/campaign.php?whichcampaign=89>

PHONE RAGE

UNISON has been working with the Scottish Executive in drafting new Scottish Executive guidelines on phone rage. This is part of the Safe at Work project that has also been extended for a further year. We have achieved a Scottish Labour manifesto commitment to extend it further as well as further strengthening the legal remedies including a review of the Emergency Workers Act.

NEW BULLETIN

This newsletter aims at highlighting issues raised in the Scottish Health & Safety Committee. It will also include electronic links and new databases which may be of interest to Health & Safety activists in UNISON.

For further information please contact [Diane Anderson](#) or [Dave Watson](#) in the Policy & Information Team

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on **Tuesday, 12 June**.

CONFERENCE - Date for your Diary!

The Scottish Health & Safety Conference will be held on **Friday 12 October** in the Lecture Theatre of Stirling Royal Infirmary.

Notification will be sent to branches when the programme and speakers are confirmed.

Main topics will include:

- Bullying & Harassment
- Stress Management



PERSONAL INJURY CASES

Despite the fact that there are literally thousands of assaults against our members, each year, particularly in Health and Local Government, only 515 cases were referred to Thompsons last year. Branches must learn to identify cases where our members have been assaulted and refer them to Thompsons, so that they can be investigated and, if viable, taken up on behalf of the members concerned.