

LETTER TO BRANCHES



No. 080 /25

17th April 2025

To: All Branches

International Workers Memorial Day Monday 28th April 2025

Dear Colleagues,

Every year more people are killed at work than in wars.

International Workers Memorial Day (IWMD) on 28th April commemorates those workers. We are calling upon CWU Branches, Regions, Reps and Members to please support your local IWMD events and come together to remember those who have lost their lives to work, been injured or disabled and to further renew our trade union commitment to fight for the safety and health of the living and make workplaces and working methods safer.

TUC List of IWMD Local Events

The TUC has published the details of a list of local events across England and Wales which are taking place on 26th,27th & 28th April, these can be viewed by clicking on the link below.

International workers memorial day events | TUC

Scottish TUC List of Local Events

The STUC has published the details of a list of local events across Scotland from 25th April 2025 through to 28th April 2025

International Workers Memorial Day | STUC

Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU) WMD Event

The Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU) will mark International Workers' Memorial Day with a wreath laying ceremony IWMD Commemorative Tree in the grounds of Parliament Buildings on 29th April at 12:30pm, Stormont Estate, Stormont Ct, Belfast BT4 3LP For further details on this event email: info@ictuni.net





TUC Cymru have also organised a Wales' National Workers' Memorial Day event in Cardiff on Monday 28th April 2025 - 10:00 to 12:00

Wales' National Workers' Memorial Day event, Cardiff | TUC

Many more events will take place on International Workers Memorial Day 2025 which may not be officially listed. We therefore advise branches to make enquiries with local Trades Councils and other Trade Unions, Local Authorities, Hazards and other Campaign organisations for details of local IWMD events that Branches and Reps may further wish to support.

CWU 2025 International Workers Memorial Day Poster

A CWU Workplace poster is embedded below which draws attention to this year's them of; Occupational health and safety: A fundamental right at work. This year, there will be an explicit additional focus on the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) and digitisation of occupational health and safety. The HSE has indicated it wants to reach a point where AI risk is 'no longer novel' and is managed in the same way as any other risk.

The link below is to a recent report from the Labour Research Department (LRD) which has been produced especially in time for IWMD 2025.

Counter intelligence? Artificial intelligence and workers' health and safety | LRD



'Light up Purple' CWU campaign for IWMD

The CWU Northwest Region started the 'light up purple' campaign in the name of the CWU in 2022 by asking for landmarks, buildings, bridges to 'light up for IWMD' to remember the estimated 2.7 million workers who die globally each year because of occupational accidents or workrelated diseases. A few of the many landmarks, buildings, bridges that will be lighting up purple on the 28th April 2025 are listed below

Fairfield General Hospital Bury, BL9 7TD The Christie Hospital, Manchester M20 3DA Rochdale Infirmary OL12 0NB Chorley Town Hall, PR7 1DP Salford Royal Hospital M6 8HD Royal Oldham Hospital, England, OL1 2JH The Blackpool Tower England, FY1 4BJ Greystone & Archway Road bridges, Knowsley, L14 The Mersey Gateway Bridge, WA7 9DW Salford Civic Centre Manchester M27 5DA Royal Blackburn Teaching Hospital BB2 3HH





For more information on the 'Light up Purple for IWMD' campaign please click on QR code link below.



If you are interested in more information on the Global IWMD events campaigns and further guides and news items, you can visit the 28April.org website which contains details of the hugely valuable work undertaken by Hazards magazine and the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC). 28 April | Remember the dead, fight like hell for the living

Finally, we are raising awareness of TUC endorsed Big Zoom solidarity meeting & Memorial Call to action in memory of Zane Gbangbola on International Workers Memorial Day 28th April 6 pm to 6.20 pm

Eleven years ago, 7-year-old Zane Gbangbola tragically died when the basement of his home in Chertsey was flooded with water from the Thames. There is very strong evidence that this allowed hydrogen cyanide gas from a former landfill site nearby to seep into the house. Hydrogen Cyanide is a colorless gas, which has in the past been linked to historic landfill sites. Andy Burnham has been a high-profile supporter of the family campaign for several years and he will be speaking at this online event.

Big Zoom in solidarity with the family of Zane Gbangbola | TUC

If you have any questions or need any further information relating to this LTB, please contact Jamie McGovern on imcgovern@cwu.org.

Yours sincerely

Dave Ward

General Secretary



