

Hazards campaign

20th National Hazards Conference
Hazards 2009
will be held at
Manchester University
from 10th – 12th July 2009

Hazards 2009 Sponsorship Appeal

Our thanks to the 289 sponsors of Hazards 2008. Ever reliable support came from unions at all levels, and Hazards campaigners and union-linked personal injury solicitors all contributed. 505 delegates registered for the conference, and there were a number of guests. Thanks also to all the local activists from Stoke-on-Trent and elsewhere who contributed to the success of the conference as helpers & stewards.

We opened the conference with a well-received drama on Death at Work, and showed 3 DVD's; on mesothelioma, Simon Jones and the memorial to former miner's leader Mick McGahey.

Dame Carol Black, whose recent investigation into, and report on work-related health were criticised by the Hazards Campaign and many trade unions as failing to identify and tackle the real problems, declined our invitation to defend her position due to another commitment. Our keynote speaker was Karen Messing, Chair of the Gender & Work Committee of the International Ergonomics Association, who spoke about how they had helped Canadian unions gain recognition of musculoskeletal problems affecting working women. Michael Lees and Andy Turner both spoke on different aspects of occupational health. Mike Ironside, Keele UCU Branch president appealed for support in their continuing dispute with Keele management over course closures.

FACK won the 2008 'Alan' award for campaigning on work-related death, and Hazards awarded a silver badge to Bill Edmondson of POTASH in recognition of its work in the area over 30 years.

Debates on the idea of "Work at any price"; "Elf & safety gorn mad" and "The Black Approach" were all well-attended, and Hazards 2008 approved a statement and resolution critical of Carol Black's investigations & report. The statement & motion, and a draft letter to MP's can be downloaded from the link on the Hazards Campaign website at www.hazardscampaign.org.uk

There were meetings on asbestos, fire safety, gender and OSH, RSI Action, life-work balance, FACK, the HSE's work-related stress project, cancer, and the environment. GMB, PCS, UNISON & Unite the Union all held their own delegate meetings during the weekend.

Hazards 2009 is back in Manchester, at the City Centre Campus of the University. As ever we will need your financial support. Please ask your organisation to consider this appeal positively.

Cheques should be made payable to **Hazards 2009**, and sent to: Hazards 2009, C/o GMHC, Windrush Millennium Centre, 70 Alexandra Road, Manchester, M16 7WD. **Tel: 0161 636 7558; e-mail: hazconf@gmhazards.org.uk**

Thank you in advance for your support.

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We want to sponsor the 20th national Hazards Conference.

Please send us booking forms when they are printed in February.

I enclose a sponsorship cheque for £..... payable to **Hazards 2009**.

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