

Hazards campaign

**25th National Hazards Conference
Hazards 2014**
to be held at
Keele University, Stoke-on-Trent
29th – 31st August 2014

Hazards 2014 Sponsorship Appeal

We acknowledge the vital and continued support for Hazards conferences and are grateful for generous support for Hazards 2013 from our sponsors in Unions nationally, regionally and at branches, trades councils, individuals and union-linked personal injury solicitors.

We try to ensure all Hazards conferences are good, but delegates' feedback was that Hazards 2013 was a real cracker! The theme 'Stop it You're Killing us' marked the effects of 3 years of sustained attack on all aspects of health and safety including cuts to HSE funding and activity, repealing of regulations downgrading of ACoPs to Guidance, attacks on facility time and restriction of access to justice, are beginning to have major effects on workers' health and safety. Delegates, half of whom were new, showed great enthusiasm for fighting back.

In the Friday evening plenary, Omana George from the Asian Monitor Resource Centre in Hong Kong, described AMRC's work and how the Asian garment factory fires and the Rana Plaza collapse, shows the need for international solidarity to make all workers safer. Dave Smith of the Blacklist Support Group gave a rousing update on the campaign and its many successes. Louise Taggart spoke eloquently about the work of FACK through the stories of the families who know that health and safety is not a joke but the difference between life and death.

The Saturday morning plenary was led off by Professor Phil Taylor's lively presentation on the new Workplace Tyranny where HR management now combines punitive sickness absence policies, lean management techniques and performance management to intensify work, make it nastier, more brutish, less secure, and is making workers seriously ill. Scott Donohoe, UNISON Glasgow, described his work in risk assessing work-

stress and tackling the causes. Professor Rory O'Neill, editor of Hazards Magazine, finished the session with an inspirational manifesto for workers health and safety: 'We Love Red Tape', because the problem at work is not too much red tape but too many bloody bandages. This was overwhelmingly endorsed by conference see www.facebook.com/votehazards.

Keynote meetings examined government changes to sickness absence procedure, how we gain support for our campaigns, and the lack of an EU Strategy on health and safety with input from Dr. Aida Ponce Del Castillo of ETUI. As usual workshops focussed on improving our performance as safety reps, on taking up issues with employers, recruiting members and giving reps the confidence that comes from knowing their functions are supported by the SRSC Regulations. We also ran specific issue workshops such as using social networking, MSDs, and violence. For presentations and videos: www.hazardscampaign.org.uk

Government policies are undermining the health, safety and welfare of UK workers, by reducing standards and enforcement, threatening our member's lives and health. It is essential that we maintain Hazards as a forum to educate, organise and to campaign. For the lives and health of our members at work, we need to say we are not having it any more, enough is enough, and find ways to reject continued attacks.

Please consider our appeal positively. Cheques should be payable to Hazards 2014, and sent to: Hazards 2014, GMHC, Windrush Millennium Centre, 70 Alexandra Road, Manchester, M16 7WD. Contact us for more information on **0161 636 7557**, or e-mail hazconf@gmhazards.org.uk
Thank you in advance for your support.

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We are sponsoring the 25th National Hazards Conference.

Please send uscopies of the booking forms when they are printed in 2014.

I enclose a sponsorship cheque for £..... payable to **Hazards 2014**.

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Please return the form with your sponsorship cheque to: Hazards 2014, C/o GMHC, Windrush Millennium Centre, 70 Alexandra Road, Manchester, M16 7WD