

fack families against corporate killers

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FACK update – 12th September 2008

Hi All of you who signed up to support FACK at the Hazards 2008 conference or other events, many thanks. This is just a quick update, check www.fack.org.uk which we try to keep updated.



FACK ers receiving the Alan Award at Hazards 2008, Keele, July 2008 !!

On left Dawn Adams, Linda Whelan, Linzi Herbertson and Mick Murphy;
On right Eve Barker, Hilda Palmer, Linda, Mick and Bet Murphy, Linzi and Dawn

FACK won the Alan 2008 which is awarded by the Hazards Campaign at the annual Hazards Conference to an individual or an organisation which is most like Alan Dalton, an inspirational Hazards Campaigner – see Alan's obituary at <http://www.hazardscampaign.org.uk/hazardsconference/alan2008.pdf>. There was stiff competition this year but FACK won and were awarded the Alan by Alan's partner Eve Barker, who is also an active Hazards campaigner and designer of Hazards magazine.

I attach a sheet outlining what FACK has done in 2 years - very brief and does not cover all we do as there is a lot of advising and supporting families every day.

Mick Murphy has been very active on health and safety for young people, giving TV and radio interviews, and an article in the BSC magazine to accompany the British Safety Council launch of course for young people. Mick and Bet's son Lewis was 18 when he was killed in a fire at a garage in Brighton on 24th February 2004 see his story at <http://www.hazards.org/2young2die/#lewismurphy>. Mick has made it very clear that the issue is that employers must be made to fulfill their legal obligations towards young people, it is not just about training young people, and that young workers need to be empowered to speak out against unscrupulous or careless bosses.

Attached also is a letter we've written to Scottish Minister of Justice about the Scottish Coal trial over the deaths of two men at opencast mine in Ayrshire supporting the families call for a Public Inquiry, see link for Sunday Herald story:

http://www.sundayherald.com/news/heraldnews/display.var.2436876.0.the_cost_of_coal.php
Messages of support for the families involved to James.walls@unitetheunion.com

Forthcoming issues:

Trial at Dundee Sheriff's Court starting 15th September for 3 weeks of Mitie Engineering and three Directors/Managers over the electrocution of Michael Adamson, 26 years old, killed on 4th August 2005 at JJB Sports, Dundee see his story at

<http://www.hazardscampaign.org.uk/fack/about/michaeladamson.pdf> .

The three individuals are being charged with Section 37 of HASAWA offences which means that they could face imprisonment. Messages of support to Louise at adamsons126@hotmail.co.uk

The Fatal Accident Inquiry into the death of Graham Meldrum killed 12th July is entering its final week at Glasgow Sheriff's court starting 15th September, see his story at

<http://www.hazardscampaign.org.uk/fack/about/grahammeldrum.pdf>;

<http://www.hazardscampaign.org.uk/fack/about/grahammeldrum2.pdf>

Messages of support to Graham Meldrum Memorial Campaign at gmmc@hotmail.co.uk

Inquest for Mark Wright - Mark Wright killed in a recycling plant in North West on 13th April 2005 see his story at <http://www.hazardscampaign.org.uk/fack/about/michaeladamson.pdf> - will be held soon. Pre-Inquest meeting in Warrington on 15th September under new coroner as the original coroner charged Mark's parents Dorothy and Douglas for information, which is not allowed, and also resisted their attempts to ensure the Inquest would be wide ranging enough and thorough. Messages of support to Dorothy and Douglas at

dorothy@kirklands65.freerve.co.uk

FACK have responded to the latest consultation on Draft Charter for bereaved people from Ministry of Justice and are awaiting a meeting with Bridget Prentice on all issues relating to Inquest and Coroner's courts.

Katy Clarke MP is planning an Adjournment Debate in House of Commons on Inquests and using Mark Wright's Inquest and coroner's bad behaviour to highlight injustices families face. We are hoping to publish some information for families on how to deal with Coroners.

We are meeting Gravis Snook of Rok Construction on 23rd October about his employment practices which are to employ workers directly not to have false self-employment which is rife in the industry and GS believes is key in poor H&S record of construction. We want to talk about this and how they can influence Gov, Construction Forum etc.

We are also planning a demo in Scotland when the ICL Public Inquiry recommences in the Autumn, we await the families and others tell us the best date to do this.

FACK has been invited to a round table discussion on Directors Duties at DWP with Lord Bill McKenzie on 6th November.

Louise Adamson from FACK will help run a workshop at the Scottish Hazards Conference at the STUC in Glasgow on Thurs, 13 November.

FACK will have speaker at next CCA Conference in London on 24th November.

We are also discussing making a DVD and writing an article for Photofile for next Hazards magazine.

FACK would appreciate donations, cheques made out to GMHC with letter stating it is for FACK.

Hilda Palmer For FACK 0161 636 7557