

Health and Safety 2009/10

The last year has been a busy year with the usual day to day health and safety issues being raised with the Branch. The main events of note that have happened are:

- Preparing for an event to mark Workers Memorial Day on 28th April 2010. This is being done with assistance from Dudley MBC and in conjunction with Dudley Trades Council.
- The Branch is now represented on UNISON's Regional Health and Safety Forum.
- UNISON now has representation on all Directorate's Health and Safety Groups.
- UNISON continues to be represented on the Corporate Health and Safety Management Group.
- After many years without one we now have a Branch Health and Safety sub-Committee which all Branch Health and Safety Representatives can attend.

Events planned for next year include:

- A UNISON Regional Health and Safety Seminar for UNISON Health and Safety activists from around the West Midlands.
- A Workers Memorial Day Event – For those killed or injured in the course of their work – “to remember the dead and fight for the living.”

The next few years are expected to be a difficult time with pay cuts, attacks on pensions and job losses. As unions concentrate on these areas, it is important that Health and Safety is kept on the agenda and hopefully these events will help to do that.

I would like to thank the Branch Officers, Branch Office staff and particularly our stewards who act as Safety Representatives for the work they have put in in respect of Health and Safety over the last year.

Andrew Maybury

Branch Health and Safety Officer