

GMB MILTON KEYNES CITY BRANCH



MILTON KEYNES WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY 2014



REMEMBER THE DEAD. FIGHT FOR THE LIVING





WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY

Workers Memorial Day is commemorated throughout the world and some UK cities have conducted ceremonies for a number of years.

The first time Milton Keynes City celebrated Workers Memorial Day was on Sunday the 27th April 2014 at the Rose Bowl in Campbell Park.

From 11.30am members of the public, together with individuals and representatives from Trade Union Branches of the CWU, GMB, NAHT, Musicians, RCN, Unison, Unite and other organisations, with their flags and banners, gathered at the Rose Bowl.

At noon a bell was rung. A minute's silence was held. Then came the laying of wreaths and flowers.

Following this formal ceremony GMB National Health and Safety Officer, John McClean, gave a stirring account of the reasons behind this special commemoration i.e. the enormous number of work-related deaths and injuries of workers over many years throughout the world. How these can be reduced by continuing improvements in Health and Safety rules and regulations. Therefore why Governmental cuts in such legislation must be firmly resisted.

Other accounts were given and the ceremony ended with a poignant Miners Union song from the Musicians Union representative.

Our thanks, for organising this first ceremony, go to Dennis Brett of the GMB MK City Branch, ably assisted by his Branch Secretary Jim Hiom, who conducted proceedings. The Parks Trust are being approached for a Rose Bowl post to be worded Workers Memorial Day and include the words as written on our wreath "FIGHT FOR THE LIVING. REMEMBER THE DEAD".

It is intended that the Workers Memorial Day will attract more public attention by being commemorated every year at the Rose Bowl. Union members of Unite have offered to organise next year's event.

D Woodward