

TUC spells health and safety

It took union campaigns to deliver the comprehensive health and safety legislation that the UK workforce enjoys. But it takes union know how, resources and campaigns to make workplaces as safe as possible. Unions provide high calibre resources and training for trade union safety reps. The South West TUC backs this up with conferences and events aimed at union officers, reps and supporters.

Health and Safety Issues for Women

Many factors have helped keep occupational health a “men only” issue, from bad science to prejudice, to the jobs we do. The two enduring myths are that men do all the risky work and when women do get hurt it is explained by differences in gender, not jobs.

Women are more exposed to repetitive and monotonous work and to stressful conditions, young women are more likely to be assaulted at work than men and women are more likely than men to experience back strain, skin diseases, headaches and eyestrain.

It is important to look at the question of women's health for a number of reasons:

- much less is known about the risks that women face;
- women are concentrated in certain occupations and industries, and therefore certain risks apply;
- legislation makes no distinction between women's and men's jobs, and many norms have been developed by men for men;
- there are physical differences between men and women, that have an impact in the workplace; and
- most women have the major responsibility for unpaid work in the home, in addition to the paid shift in the workplace.

Venue

Jan Cutting Healthy Living Centre
Scott Business Park,
Beacon Park Road, Plymouth PL2 2PQ
www.scottbusinesspark.co.uk

The Healthy Living Centre is owned and operated by Wolseley Trust and provides a meeting place and a centre for community focus.

Scott Business Park is situated about five minutes drive from Plymouth City Centre. As you approach Plymouth from the East, remain on the A38 and proceed over the fly-over. Take the left exit labelled ‘St. Budeax’, the B3369.

This will bring you down to Camels Head. Stay in the left hand lane. When you see the speed camera, go past the first set of lights, keeping left, then up to the next set of lights and turn left, again keeping into the left hand lane. You are now on the Wolseley Road (A3064) heading for the City Centre. Proceed along Wolseley Road keeping in the left hand lane. Take the left turn just before the lights. This leads you onto Beacon Park Road. Proceed up the hill, go straight through the lights and you will come to a mini-roundabout, the entrance to Scott Business Park is the 2nd exit.



Restoring the Balance

a workshop for trade union women on health in the workplace

Saturday, 1 October 2005
10.30 – 3.00 p.m.

Jan Cutting Healthy Living Centre
Scott Business Park
Beacon Park Road
Plymouth
PL2 2PQ

TUC 

Restoring the Balance

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Programme

10.15 Registration

Tea/Coffee on arrival

10.30 Welcome by

Jackie Longworth Chair of the
South West TUC Women's
Committee

10.35 Jobs for the Boys?

**Health Issues for Women in
non-traditional jobs** with a
Union Representative from the
Transport Industry

11.00 Workshops

12.30 Lunch

1.15 Workshops

2.45 Closing Remarks

What's it about?

"What! Isn't health and safety the same for everyone?" is a common response to the idea that we need to be alert to the different issues that affect working women and men. Women are workers but they are also mothers, sisters, grandmothers, daughters, partners, nieces and granddaughters. They experience the full cycle of life while they are at work, and each stage has implications for the health and safety standards that employers and trade unions should apply.

Who Should attend?

Women trade unionists, officers, reps and activists, students and other interested women.

Workshops

Each participant will have the choice of one workshop during each session.

1. Body Mapping

To help you identify hazards experienced by women workers and decide campaign priorities for your workplace

2. Facilities and Welfare

Jobs for the Boys? Health Issues for Women in non-traditional jobs

3. Hidden Health Issues

The European Agency for Safety and Health Report, in its report 'Gender Issues in Safety and Health', identifies how health and safety is often geared to standards, work practices and equipment that hold as the norm the average male worker's body and size and eight-hour shift patterns. Working women's particular concerns are hidden.

REGISTRATION

The Workshop is free of charge with buffet lunch supplied.

Name _____

Name of Organisation _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Dietary needs/Access needs _____

Creche: please give names and age of children
(closing date 7 days before event)

Workshop Choice

(please select in order of preference 1, 2, 3)

Body Mapping

Facilities & Welfare

Hidden Health Issues

Tick this box if you do not wish this information to be kept by the TUC so that we can contact you regarding similar events which may be of interest to you.

Please return the completed form to:
South West TUC,
Church House, Church Road, Filton, Bristol, BS34 7BD
t 0117 9470521 f 0117 9470523
e southwest@tuc.org.uk

Closing date is Friday, 23 September when
acknowledgement will be sent to each participant