

Union Workshop:

How can trade union activists best fight Work Choices?

Can militant unions survive and thrive under Work Choices?

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 28
GEELONG TRADES HALL
127 Myers St, City**

What do we do about:

- Welfare to Work
- Jobs going overseas
- Apprenticeships and skills
- 457 visas & exploitation of guest workers

12 noon – *Meetings of industry/union groups* (lunch available)

1-1.05pm: *Welcome/Introduction* – Tim Gooden (Secretary of Geelong Trades Hall Council)

1.05-1.20pm: *The French workers/students victory in 2006* - Stephane Lequeux (French academic/activist)

1.20-2.45pm: *Building the struggle against Work Choices – Can militant unions survive and thrive?*

- Do we have to make ourselves a small target to survive?
- How do we reach out to unorganised workers and the rest of the community?
- What do we do if Labor wins the next federal election? What do we do if Labor loses?
- Community picket lines – the Union Solidarity experience

2.45-3.15pm: *Break & unveiling of a memorial to John Cummins*

3.15-4.45pm: *If we could write the ALP industrial relations policy, what would it be?*

4.45-5pm: *Adopt a set of demands/rights* to be put to all political parties.

5pm: *Drinks/snacks and screening of Builders Labourers Federation* film (tbc)

7pm til late: *Dinner, drinks and entertainment*

The day will be organised in a workshop format with a facilitator. All proposals and suggestions for action will be recorded so that people can take the suggestions back into their own unions and workplaces.

Participants invited include activists, delegates and officials from the Maritime Union, National Tertiary Education Union, Union Solidarity, NSW National Union of Workers, NSW Firefighters, Posties, Manufacturing Workers Union, Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union, Electrical Trades Union, Unite, United Casual Workers Alliance, regional areas such as Latrobe Valley and Portland, and recent industrial disputes, such as Amcor, Hawker de Havilland, Heinemann Electric, Toyota, Finlay Engineering, the CSR construction project, Qantas and the Radio Rentals dispute, and the taxi drivers attempting to establish their own union

INITIATED BY THE SOCIALIST ALLIANCE

For more information or to indicate attendance, contact Sue Bolton on (03) 9663 7429, 0413 377 978 or sue_bolton@hotmail.com, or phone Tim Gooden on 0438 088 112.