In Memoriam 2024

A feature of Umskin Press publications was the In Memoriam section, an idea of Jack McGinley's to record the passing of those serving the movement. In many cases, the notice of their deaths in the Umiskin books was the only printed record of their passing. The Irish Labour History Society has decided to maintain Jack's idea by publishing annual lists under the heading In Memoriam. Suggestions for additions to the listings can be sent to poduibhinn@gmail.com.

Samuel 'Uel' Adair, a prominent member of the Amalgamated Engineering Union in Derry, opposed the 1974 Ulster Workers' Council stoppage maintaining 'I believed and still believe working people would be better united than divided'. In 2007, he was elected President, Irish League of Credit Unions and received an MBE in 2010 for his services to the movement. He died on 31 December 2024.

Louise Asmal, born Louise Parkinson, began her activism in the National Council for Civil Liberties in London, before, with her husband Kader, becoming an outstanding figure in the Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement. She died in Cape Town on 23 November 2024.

Emmet Bergin was an acclaimed stage and television actor best known through his portrayal of Dick Moran in *Glenroe*. He gained his socialist outlook from his father Paddy, trade union activist, Labour Senator and former President, Irish Labour History Society, and theatre from his mother Nora. He died on 15 March 2024

Nicholas 'Nick' Broughall was the long serving Irish Secretary for the National Graphical Association and its successors, the Graphical, Paper & Media Union and Amicus. He died on 30 July 2024.

Alexander 'Al' Butler began as a fitter in Guinness and the ESB, becoming active in TASS (Technical, Administrative Supervisory Section). In 1980, he joined the Local Government & Public Services Union as a Regional Officer. On retirement in 2005, he was a National Officer, IMPACT. Active in the European Federation of Public Service Unions, he died on 15 October 2024.

Denis Carr was a long-serving Branch Secretary, ITGWU Dublin 6/8 Branch and SIPTU Clothing & Allied Trades Branch. He died on 17 November 2024.

Neilius Coyle [Nelius Mac Giolla Chomhaill] was the long-serving Secretary of the ITGWU/SIPTU Derrybeg Branch. Ó Ardaí Bheag, comrádaí ciúin, bhí sé seasmhach ina chosaint ar chearta oibrithe. He died on 7 January 2024.

Dónal 'Donie' Doody, from Coolgarrive, Killarney, was the long-standing Secretary of the ITGWU/SIPTU Kerry Nursing & Allied Trades Branch and champion of health service workers. He died on 12 December 2024.

Macdara Doyle, a lifelong member of the National Union of Journalists, wrote *for An Phoblacht*, *In Dublin*, *Big Issue*, *Hot Press*, *Sunday Tribune*, *Fortnight*, *Magill* and *Eolas Magazine* challenging corruption and championing workers' rights. He became Communications Officer with Concern and ICTU Campaigns Officer. He died on 24 August 2024.

Tom Dunne, a proud Laois man, originally worked in the meat industry and subsequently served as Assistant to the General Secretary of the FWUI and SIPTU before becoming Premises Manager of Liberty Hall. A popular and well-regarded colleague, he died on 21 December 2024.

John Graham was a Workers' Union of Ireland activist in Guinness before becoming a Tutor with the Irish Congress of Trade Unions and later SIPTU College. He died on 3 December 2024.

Denise Murnane Lyons, a retired Industrial Official, SIPTU Film & Entertainment Branch, died on 10 November 2024.

Keiran 'Jack' McGinley worked in the Library at Trinity College and was a lifelong member of the Federated Workers' Union of Ireland/SIPTU, serving in many capacities including the National Executive Council and the

Irish Congress of Trade Unions Standing Orders Committee. A former President, Irish Labour History Society; he was prominent in SIPTU Solidarity With Cuba and an important figure in the development of Clanna Gael Fontenoy GAA Club. He was Principal and the driving force of Umiskin Press. He died suddenly on 25 November 2024.

Nicola Clarke McKeon worked in SIPTU's Finance Department in Liberty Hall. She died on 1 October 2024.

Henry Moloney, a Waterford Crystal worker and 'legend' of his home city, was active in the Amalgamated Transport & General Workers' Union/Unite and Waterford Council of Trade Unions. He died on 5 August 2024, aged eighty-seven.

Sam Nolan, a carpenter, was active in the Dublin Unemployed Workers' Movement that elected Jack Murphy as Unemployed Workers' TD in 1957. A member of the Communist Party of Ireland, her later served on the Labour Party Administrative Council. Active in the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, he became an Official with UCATT (Union of Construction, Allied Trades & Technicians) and the long-serving Secretary of Dublin Council of Trade Unions. He died on 14 April 2024.

Séamus Ó Brógáin served the Communist Party of Ireland as Branch Officer and Executive member for half a century and was a sub-editor of *Socialist Voice*. He wrote fictional and non-fictional works and schoolbooks *as gaeilge* and his editing skills were highly sought after by publishers. He died on 22 January 2024.

Patrick 'Pat' Powell, originally from Clifden, was a car industry Shop Steward, Connolly Association and Communist Party activist while in Birmingham. He returned to Galway to serve as a long-standing ITGWU/SIPTU Branch Secretary. He maintained his radical politics through activity in the Trades Council and other progressive bodies. He died on 2 April 2024.

Séamus Rodgers [**Séamus Mac Ruairí**], from Anagaire, was a long-serving ITGWU/SIPTU Official in Donegal and contested a number of Dáil and European elections. He was elected to Donegal County Council, 1960-1999, representing, in turn, Sinn Féin, Workers' Party, Democratic Left and Labour Party. Ba mhór an trodaire é ar son na Gaeilge agus oibrithe in Iarthar na hÉireann. Fuair sé bás ar 20 Samhain 2024.

Deirdre Smyth, a tireless worker for her class, was Vice President SIPTU Dublin Regional Committee and the Northside Centre for the Unemployed. She died on 31 October 2024.

Jimmy Somers, from Cabra, was Dublin Airport Branch Secretary, Irish Transport & General Workers' Union, active in Dublin Council of Trade Unions, and unsuccessful Labour candidate in Dublin North West, 1973 and 1983; and Dublin Central, 1981 and 1982. He was SIPTU Vice President, 1994, and General President, 1997-1999, before holding positions in the Labour Court and Labour Relations Commission. He was ICTU Treasurer, 1999-2001. Married to Alice, he died on 12 January 2024.

Emmet Stagg was born on 1 October 1944 in Hollymount, Mayo, and became a Medical Laboratory Technologist in Trinity College Dublin, He represented Celbridge on Kildare County Council, 1979-1993, 1999-2003, and was elected Labour TD for Kildare, 1987-1997, and Kildare North, 1997-2016. In January 1993, in the Fianna Fáil–Labour Party Coalition Government, he was Minister of State at the Department of the Environment, with Special Responsibility for Housing and Urban Renewal, 1992-1994, and, in the Rainbow Coalition of Fine Gael, Labour and Democratic Left, was Minister of State at the Department of Transport, Energy and Communications, 1994-997. He died on 17 March 2024.

Majorie Trimble began work in Whiteabbey Hospital in 1991 and became UNISON Joint Branch Secretary, United Hospitals Branch and the Northern Health Branch covering Antrim, Whiteabbey and Holywell Hospitals. She made a significant contribution to the Peace Process and was an ICTU representative on the EU Peace Programme. She died 19 April 2024.