

# The Joseph Mairs Memorial 2021



## ‘What We Must Demand - Covid or No Covid’

EDEN HAYTHORNTHWAITE·SATURDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2020·READING TIME: 2 MINUTES

**The Joseph Mairs Memorial Committee welcomes everyone to the 19th Annual Joseph Mairs Memorial. We will begin at 1 pm Sunday January 24th, 2021.**

**Though we wish it were otherwise we must do things differently this year.**

**As a result of concerns around Covid and distancing etc., we have decided to hold the memorial at the graveside of Joseph Mairs which is located in the Ladysmith Cemetery at 4th Avenue and Christie Road.**

**Please gather at the parking lot of St Mary’s Church Hall, 1135 4th Avenue in Ladysmith at 1 pm if you wish to march with our piper to the graveside.**

**Or if you prefer, meet us at the cemetery.**

**It will be a shorter event and though we will dispense with a keynote speaker, we will welcome a few of our regulars to say a few words and encourage our participants to speak briefly if they wish.**

**Come and join with other working people to honour Our Labour Martyr, Joseph Mairs.**

**As always, our general theme for the day is 'Our Common Condition'.**

**Our theme this year will be 'What We Must Demand – Covid or no Covid'**

**Please contribute to our day by bringing flowers for the cairn from individuals, families or organisations.**

**As always, we welcome interest from media.**

**Joseph Mairs was a trade unionist and a coal miner. He died in 1914, a month short of his 22nd birthday, after being arrested by government troops during the Occupation of Ladysmith.**

**This struggle which coal miners on Vancouver Island waged was for the eight-hour day, health and safety regulations and union recognition. Joseph rests in the Ladysmith Cemetery beneath a cairn his fellow miners erected in his honour with the inspiring inscription:**

***"A Martyr to a Noble Cause - The Emancipation of His Fellow Men".***

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**Find us on Facebook at Honour Our Labour Martyr Joseph Mairs and 'What We Must Demand – Covid or no Covid'**