

DIRECT

Industrial Workers of the World

ACTION

An Injury To One - Is An Injury To All!

SOLIDARITY WITH SACKED P&O WORKERS

The Trade Union movement rallied behind sacked P&O workers at the Port of Larne.

Members of the RMT called a protest outside the gates of Larne Harbour following from their mass sacking of eight-hundred seasoned seafarers in March of this year.

The sacked staff, joined by fellow workers from across the trade union movement, protested at the entrance to Larne Port's freight entrance.

Nearly as soon as banners were unfurled and placards waved, Police officers attempted to move workers along.

Police at all times had open lines of communication with the scab staff inside the Port – going so far as to redirect freight away from the entrance to avoid having to face sacked workers.

The British Government, and their enforcers in the PSNI, have ignored the outrageous actions of bosses and board members of P&O Ferries and DP World. Instead, ordinary workers are targeted while bosses and board members reap the benefits of their assault on workers rights.

Speaking to the sacked P&O workers, their anger was palpable – several in attendance today had worked onboard P&O services for over two decades.

They still have not been able to retrieve their personal belongings from cabins onboard their former workplace. Former workers rightly pointed out that P&O's actions – and the British Government's tacit acceptance of it – signal a step-change in corporations attitudes to organised labour.

By dismissing well-trained, and hard-working staff, they have paved the way for other employers to do the same. Now, more than ever, workers need to come together and organise to protect the gains the labour movement has made, and fight the ongoing cost-of-living crisis.

However, all those in attendance were pleased to see that P&O Ferries disdain for ordinary workers is clearly costing them financially.

One worker present said that the busy Friday crossing to Cairnryan was woefully under-filled in both passenger and freight traffic, suggesting that the calls to Boycott P&O are having the desired effect.



Larne Port: Unions Place Pickets at both Larne and Wealden

Only one lorry attempted to cross the picket line. Workers stood firm and blocked lorry from entering the port. Seeing this, PSNI officers rushed in to 'clear a path'. One officer shoved an ex-worker and trade unionist further into the road.

The same officer then claimed the worker had assaulted him, and arrested him on the spot. In the face of eight-hundred job losses, forced removal from their vessel in March, and no access to personal belongings still onboard, police attacked workers demanding basic respect.

NEW DATE CONFIRMED FOR RESCHEDULED AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday June 4th 2022 - Online

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD

THE ONE BIG UNION



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ULSTER UNIVERSITY WORKERS: LOCKED OUT!



Trade union activists took part in solidarity action, mid-May, with University staff at Magee, Derry.

Prior to this, news broke that bosses at Ulster University effectively declared a 'Lock Out' of staff taking action short of industrial action, in the form of a Marking & Assessment Boycott.

Representatives of a number of unions locally expressed their solidarity at the gates of Magee university. A spokesperson for the Industrial Workers of the World in Derry from the picket line said "We are here with UCU members and other trade union activists who want to show our solidarity with workers who have been effectively locked out of their jobs by management.

"We have been informed that bosses told staff participating involved in action short of strike action, such as the Marking and Assessment boycott, then "they have have withdrawn their labour and will not be remunerated.

"This is for want of a better word a lock-out of staff by another name.

"We stand in solidarity with the University workers and demand that this effective lock-out is withdrawn immediately and get back to the negotiation table with the unions involved and address the issues that staff need addressing."

Following the solidarity action at the University a spokesperson for the UCU on social media issued a brief statement informing members and supporters that the lockout at Ulster University **"ended following constructive discussion with employers.... Talks will continue next week...."**

"Our participation in the marking and assessment boycott remains ON, but @UlsterUni management have offered to engage in further negotiations.

"Many thanks to all our sister branches, members, followers and supporters for all the solidarity shown this few days."

STRIKE NEWS!

If you attend strike action or pickets in your area then please make a report of it for Direct Action!

LABORATORY WORKERS STRIKE ACTION

Earlier this month Medical Laboratory workers across a number of hospitals carried out a one-day work stoppage to draw attention to their battle over issues on pay equality and career development.

Several attempts made from workplace representatives, the Medical Laboratory Scientists Association (MLSA), confirmed that calls for immediate talks with HSE bosses HSE and the Department of Health simply fell silent last week, despite widespread publicity and support for the health workers strike demands.

A member of the Industrial Workers of the World and Medical Laboratory worker said that "It is inevitable that strike action looks set to continue, workers have been silent for too long. Strike action is a decision that health workers do not take lightly but we can see by the increase in strike action over the next few days, workers are fully determined to achieve pay equality for everyone involved. The Industrial Workers of the World extends our solidarity with every worker taking part in industrial action over the next several days and beyond."

Industrial action by members of the Medical Laboratory Scientists Association (MLSA) on Tuesday and Wednesday will mean a further withdrawal of laboratory services from on both days as workplace representatives renew their continue demands for talks with the HSE and the Department of Health.

DIRECT ACTION SUBMISSIONS

If you have an issue, a story, a short news article or would like to advertise an event from your area then please remember to submit it to **Direct Action**.

If you take part in any workers solidarity actions at work, on picket lines or on the streets then consider writing or take some photographs to share for further support and solidarity.

Remember, Direct Action is printed and produced each month by volunteer labour of members. If you would like to help out then please get in touch, details below.

Your can send your submissions directly to **Direct Action** at: ireland@iww.org.uk

Your can write to **Direct Action** at our postal address listed across the bottom of this page.

WOBBLIES GET ACTIVE! CONTACTS IN YOUR AREA

IWW Members in each area meet each month to discuss, support and organise activity locally. If you would like to become active in you area then we urge you to please get in touch with your local organiser.

Contact your closest local organiser at the following email nearest you or online via Facebook or Twitter:

Dublin: dublin@iww.org.uk
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