

voice *atwork*

Quarriers special Sept 2011 vol.2 no. 3

the electronic bulletin for unison scotland community members

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SUPPORT QUARRIERS WORKERS

ON STRIKE TUESDAY 6th SEPT 2011

The men and women who care for some of Scotland's most vulnerable adults and distressed children have voted massively for strike action. UNISON members at Quarriers are determined to resist brutal pay cuts on staff which will see over 560 staff take a pay cut of 10% while others will lose as much as 23%.

The postal ballot for strike action returned a 76% yes vote for strike action and an even higher 85% result for action short of a strike. When the ballot result was announced UNISON repeated their offer to take the ongoing dispute to ACAS, but Quarriers management have spurned the offer.

In addition to pay cuts, which will see some members lose £400 a month. There are also proposed cuts to sick pay, increased pension contributions and other protections removed.

Stephen Brown, UNISON Quarriers

branch Secretary said today, "The attacks Quarriers are making on our members are unprecedented. No one can cope with a 23% pay cut and for Quarriers to suggest that they will set up a Hardship Fund for their own staff funded out of their own pay cuts shows how much the organisation has lost touch with its values.

William Quarrier set up Quarriers in

" William Quarrier set up Quarriers in the 1870s to help underprivileged children not to use wage cuts to drive staff into poverty."

UNISON Branch Secretary, Stephen Brown

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Speaking today Simon Macfarlane



Picture: R. Rae

UNISON Regional Organiser said " Our members want to be doing their jobs caring for people - not arguing with Quarriers management. But the proposed cuts will force many to consider leaving the care sector which will have a knock on impact on the people Quarriers support.

Also some members are facing such big losses they face losing their homes, it is inevitable this will impact on people's morale and ability to do the job to the same high standards as now. If you are sick with worry it is hard to focus totally on the care you deliver."

A 3 to 1 vote for strike action must surely send a message to Quarriers that their proposals are unacceptable.

We call on Quarriers to get back round the table and to remove their threat to dismiss and reengage all their staff – let's take this to ACAS

continued over

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT AT OUR PICKETS

We will be organising pickets at the following projects at the following times:

- **Seafield School**, 86 Eglinton Road, Ardrossan KA22 8NL
8.00am to 10am Tuesday 6th September
- **James Shields**, 100 Pollokshaws Rd, Glasgow G41 1PZ
8.00am to 10am Tuesday 6th September
- **Stopover**, 200 Pollokshaws Rd, Glasgow G41 1QB
8.00am to 10am Tuesday 6th September
- **Green Street, Saltcoats**
8.00am to 10am Tuesday 6th September
- **Head Office & Gateway**, Quarriers village 8.00am to 10am Tuesday 6th September.

Come along and give us your support.

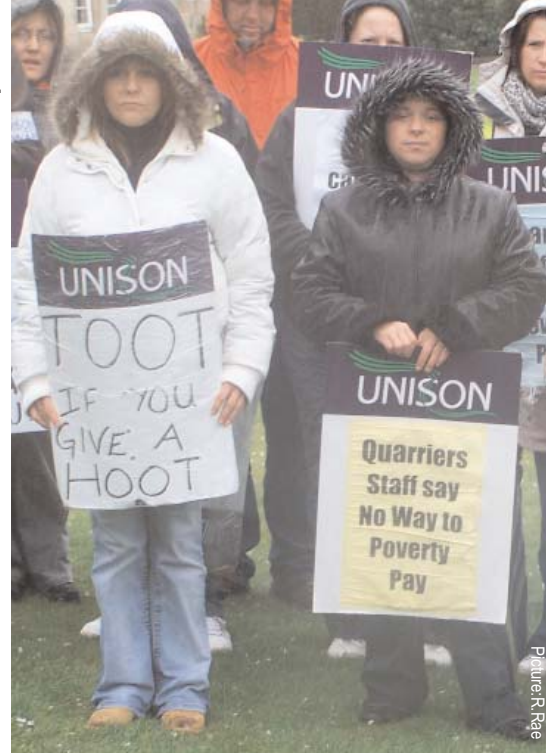
Join the rally in George Square in solidarity with Quarriers workers

We have organised a rally in George Square, Glasgow from 12 noon until 1pm on Tuesday 6th September.

All Quarriers members and supporters should make every effort to be at the rally. We will be publicising this widely and thus we need to have a good show of support and strength.

Please arrive early as we will be handing out placards and campaign t-shirts etc. We will be organising buses and will put information on the branch website

(www.quarriersunison.org.uk) about these. If there is not a bus from your area and you think you can fill a mini bus or similar let us know and we will help you organise this.



Picture: R. Rae



JOIN US!

Support Quarriers Workers *continued*

and see if it can be resolved

In recent weeks Quarriers have seemed to be more intent on attacking UNISON instead of negotiating. We call on these attacks to stop and for Quarriers to get down to the real work of trying to find a way forward.

Don't forget you can keep up to date with the latest developments by visiting the branch website www.quarriersunison.org.uk

The strike will last from 8 am on 6th Sept to 7.59 am on 7th Sept.

The union for ALL workers
in the Community and
Housing sectors

