

SEA PICKET

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NO.1 MAY 21st

Seafarers from the P&O shipping company have been on strike since the 6th of February, 1988.

The NUS members took action against the company's plans to make 500 redundancies and to bring in new working practices. These include a system of 7 day working - 7 days on the ship and 7 days off.

The company want members to work 16 'payed' hours in every 24 hours. This would mean that the men and women of the NUS would be on board the ship for 56 hours of the week with no pay. The 8 hours that the members are not on duty they will still be on emergency standby.

The safety standards on the ferries are already low, as was shown by the Zeebrugge tragedy, job cuts and making people work 16 hours shifts will not improve this situation.

This is yet another trade union busting exercise by a multi-national company.

Another group of workers are having to defend against their wages being driven down, their working conditions and living standards being dismantled and the management allowing little or no trade union representation to defend them against further attacks.

Despite the major propaganda exercises of the company, the threats of bringing in 'strikebreakers' and the inticement of individual offers to members, the strike will continue.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Below are a list of support groups which are supporting the seafarers. If there is a group in your area, please send the address to us and we will publish it.

Tower Hamlets Support Group - Meet 7pm Tues, St Georges Hall, Cable St, Stepney E.1.

Hackney Support Group - 489 Kingsland Rd, Hackney E.8.

Enfield Strike Support Group - 324a High St, Ponders End, Enfield EN3 4HF.

Leicester Support Group - 138 Charles St, Leicester.

Southwark T.U.S.U. - 42 Breganza St, SE.1.

Oxford Support Group - 2 Allin Close, Blackbird Leys, Oxford.

Brixton Strike Support Group - 121 Railton Rd, Brixton SE24.

Manchester Support Group - C/O 188 Wilmslow Rd Manchester M14 6LJ

appeal

This is an appeal from supporters of the striking seafarers. Those groups that have set up in London must come together to form a single strike organisation and fund. This should be controlled by strikers themselves.

1988



P&O STRIKE

HACKNEY
EMPIRE
291 Mare St. THEATRE London E.8.
SEA SERPENT PRESENTS
Save Our Seafarers
MON 23rd MAY
CITY LIMITS
Ilan Saville Happy End
Mark Steel Vicious
John Hegley
J.D. Douglas Jag Man
Allison Goldie
Plus SPEAKERS FROM THE STRIKE COMMITTEE
DOORS 7pm SHOW 8-12pm
BOX OFFICE: 11am-6.30pm Tel: 985 2424/986 9666

'Sea Picket' will be a weekly strike bulletin. If you have any reports, please send them to the address at the bottom of the page. Published by supporters of the seafarers.

489 KINGSLAND ROAD, LONDON E8 4AU

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road, track or
taken as evidence

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of Her Majesty
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