

Solidarity News



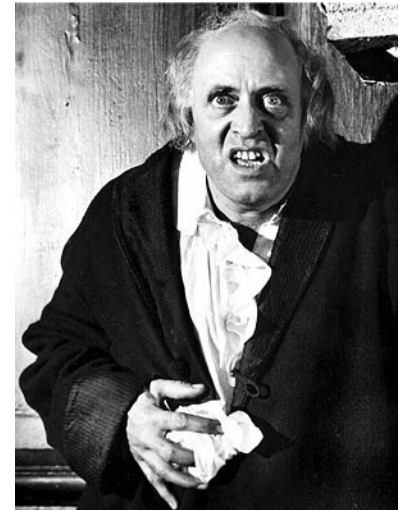
USW Council at Pilkington

DECEMBER
2009

News for Local Unions 9, 19, 252, 418, 7703 & 9465

Bah Humbug:

Unite the union says Scrooge Pilkington is Trying to Steal Christmas in the UK! !



Looks like Pilkington is trying to win the Scrooge of the Year award.

Unite the union has informed us that it has taken steps to file a lawsuit against Pilkington early in the new year. The lawsuit alleges that the company illegally deducted earnings from employees' wages at the Kings Norton auto glass plant in England.

The lawsuit says that Pilkington's actions violated the U.K. Employment Relations Act by deducting overpayments from Unite members' December paychecks without the members' permission. Just in time for the Holidays!

It gets worse. Pilkington laid off over two hundred workers at the Kings Norton plant earlier this year. And now, the company is on the verge of provoking a pay dispute with Unite the union. This comes after Unite agreed to a pay freeze until September 2009, at which time Pilkington committed to open talks with Unite on a pay increase. When Pilkington finally met with Unite, the Company said there would be no pay increase at the plant in 2009.

This is an outrage and we will not stand for it. Steelworkers at Pilkington are demanding that Pilkington treat workers fairly at the Kings Norton plant.

We will continue to monitor this situation and may seek your participation in solidarity actions to support workers at Kings Norton.

The USW recently formed a partnership with Unite the union called Workers Uniting. Workers Uniting brings our unions together for joint work in a number of areas, including through working together at common employers like Pilkington.

Learn more at www.workersuniting.org

