

LESBIANS AND GAYS SUPPORT THE MINERS' !

Minutes of a meeting held at the 'Fallen Angel' N1 at 6pm, 4th November '84

Present: Dave Lewis (acting Sec.), Ray Goodspeed, Carl Astley, Gethin Roberts, Nigel Young, Martin King, Alex Russell, Arthur Leary, Mark Ashton, Stephen Holdsworth, Polly Vittorini, Kate Fearnley, Kevin Graal, Andy Matheson, Jeff Cole, Connie Giannaris, Ben Benson, Derek Hughes, Steven Browning, Jim McNicholas, Gerard Mulaky, Mike Jackson
Apologies: Keiran, Martin Goodsell, Brett Haran, Johnnie Orr, Mike Jackson would be late; as would Rob Cooper
Chair: Jeff Cole

Collections up to 28th October

Bell, Sun 28th Oct	22.48
P.Policemans Ball 21st Oct	14.00
Vauxhall	14.00
Bell, Thurs 25th Oct	15.69
Bell, Fri 26th Oct	28.37
New Depression, Sat 27th	13.25
'Gays the Word' Sat 27th -	69.64½
-£12.20 of which was from	
raffle tickets sales	
TOTAL	<u>177.43½</u>

Collections up to 4th November

Fallen Angel, Mon 29th -	
no collection, raffle tckts.	
Tues, Black Cap	6.00
Wed, Two Brewers	15.00
Thurs, Bell	23.19
Thurs, Union	12.82
Fri, Bell	38.21½
G.T.W., Sat	26.14
Sat, New Depression	7.49
TOTAL	<u>128.85½</u>
ADD: Bell, Sun 22nd	<u>39.59</u>
Total for two weeks	<u>345.88</u>

This figure excludes approx. 126.00 raised at the Fallen Angel Benefit

Collections for week 4-11th November '84

Bell, Sun - Mark, Connie, Andy	
Fallen Angel, Sun - Monty, Robert K	
Cellar Bar, Tues - Derek, Jeff C	
Vauxhall, Tues - Monty, Mark A	
Black Cap, Wed - Ben, Martin	
Two Brewers, Wed - Derek, Andy M	
Racketts, Weds - Polly, Kate	
Bell, Thurs - Gethin, Monty	
Union, Thurs - Dave L, Ray G	
Bell, Fri - Martin K, Connie	
George IV, Fri - Alex, Jerry, Kate T	
*Camden Town tube, Sun - Mark A, Monty, Ray G, Kevin G, Jeff C, Reggie	
*Elephant & Castle (Bakerloo), Thurs eve - Johnnie, Mark A, Kevin G, Dave L	
*Earls Court, Fri - Robert K, Martin G (?)	
*South Bank, Weds - Andy M (?), Derek, Reggie, Monty, Mark A --- 7pm	
*Demo Weds 7th, Burgess Park 11am - Mark A, Derek, Stephen, Connie	
*NLP, Patrick Harrington Picket - Alex, Polly, Carl	
'Gays the Word', Saturday	
11- 2pm - Jim, Gethin	
2- 3pm - Gethin	
3- 4pm - Alex, Connie	
4- 5pm - Connie	

Rugby, Sat 10th - members attending take buckets
 Bell, Sat - Polly, Kate T
 New Depression, Sat - Gethin, Reggie, Ray A
 Fallen Angel, Fri - Monty, Jim

(pewh!)

Matters arising from Minutes of previous meeting, 21st October

Raffle: Nigel had paid for the raffle tickets personally and needed to be paid for this. A cheque was given to Nigel. Stubs to be returned to Rob C, money to Collectns.

Benefit: The electric ballroom wanted to take a percentage of the door takings, Connie reported. Connie will report back more fully at the next meeting, including the amount of publicity that we, as a group, will need to handle.

Leaflet: There was some discussion about a reference to 'Solidarnosc' in the leaflet which Clive had prepared. Discussion was hampered because neither Clive, nor the leaflet were present. The group agreed to delete any reference to 'Solidarnosc' in order to avoid any sectarian antagonism (see Constitution).

24 hr. Picket o/s S.Africa House Nobody turned up as AA suggested nobody attend

Dulais Trip Report Back Polly reported that £400 was handed over to the Dulais Support Group at the social on Saturday night at the Onllwyn Miners Welfare Hall. Their support group now produce and distribute a bulletin: 'The Valley Star' which published the fact of our visit and warmly received our support and the visit, Andy M. read out the relevant section from the 'Star. We were invited to visit them again anytime we wished. Polly was given a platform at a Miners rally on Saturday afternoon at which a thousand people had turned up to. Her speech received solid support both from the other speakers on the platform and the Miners, Women Against Pit Closures, Trade Unionists and others supporters present.

Dulais report back (Cont'd)

Andy Denn Addressed the people present at the social at the Onllwyn Welfare on Saturday evening. He expressed out total support for their struggle and talked about the important links that were being built during this historic strike. His contribution went down well with the three hundred people present. Ally Thomas, from the Dulais Support Group, thanked LGSM for our work and expressed the pleasure that it was bringing to their community in being able to meet us personally. Andy then presented them with £400. There was much merriment that evening and vast quantities of alcohol were consumed, much friendship extended between our group and the women and men of Dulais. Sunday morning we visited Treforgan Colliery and witnessed the appalling under investment at the mine. In the afternoon we attended their support group meeting. Mike J. gave a short message of solidarity and thanked them for their generous and warm hospitality. Tom Jones (Dulais) then presented us with a gift in recognition of our support (this was a gleaming piece of anthracite and a miniature Miners lamp mounted together on a wooden, varnished plinth). Dave Donovan addressed the meeting just before we left to return to London. He reported that our visit had been a success in the eyes of the people of Dulais. In addressing those from his own community he said that LGSM members had been wearing NUM badges on our lapels for months now and that, as a mark of solidarity, they should wear our badges 'with respect and pride'.

Mark Ashton reported that the visit was the best experience of his life. (Mine too! - MJ)

Ray G. reported that on Saturday 3rd Nov several members had the pleasure of meeting some of the Dulais people at a social in Green Lanes

Police Bill Campaign Paul Canning sent on a cheque that the campaign had given to us. It was agreed that part of this money would go towards the outstanding costs of the Public Meeting. Mike to write thanking them.

Vauxhall Labour Party - had also sent a contribution which Dave Lewis handed over.

Dulais Transport Costs The levies for transport costs had not been finalised. All members who have not yet paid are expected to give £10 to Mark Ashton asap unless they cannot pay it in which case special arrangements will be made. Mike has some of this money. It was decided that the Dulais Sub-group meet again to sort this out and payment to Tim Bray for, the Volkswagon.

Public Meeting Sub-group Report Back

Ray Goodspeed reported that this group was proposing a meeting at Brixton Town Hall on either 19th or 20th December. It was agreed that preference would be given to inviting the following speakers: KAY SUTCLIFFE, STUART HALL M.P., BRIXTON CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE POLICE BILL, DULAIS SUPPORT GROUP AND LGSM

Cardiff LGSM Paul Canning sent a written report after meeting them.

Leicester LGSM Mark Ashton, Robert Kincaid and Mike Jackson took up the invitation from Leicester Trades Council's Miners Support Group to talk about the Miners Strike and LGSM. Mike read out a letter of appreciation that Lesbians and Gays in Leicester sent as a result of the meeting which had helped them start an LGSM group in Leicester, with about eight people to start with. Comrades present wished LGSM Leicester every success with their group.

City of London Polytechnic Gaysoc Meeting Nigel Young, Robert Kincaid and Mike Jackson gave a talk at their meeting on Wednesday evening.

Request for LGSM (London) Speakers A member of Ruskin S.U. will be asking their S.U. meeting on Wednesday for LGSM speakers - Mark Ashton, Ray Goodspeed and Mike Jackson to attend if invited; confirmation through Mike. Nigel reported that Sussex University Students Union wanted speakers for 20.11.84 Nigel and Ben are prepared to attend, Nigel to confirm. Southampton LGSM wanted speakers for 11.11.84 - Robert and D/R (?) to attend. April Housing Co-Op also requested speakers for 29.11.84 - Gethin and Reggie to attend.

Lesbian and Gay Socialist Conference in Edinburgh 24/25th Nov All comrades were urged to attend this conference.

Rugby Demo. Sat 10th Nov. Paul Canning sent information that LCGR had arranged coaches (tickets available at GTW bookshop), £4.50 waged, £2.50 unwaged. NALGO were also reported to be sending coaches, Hugh Robertson at NALGO H.Q., Mabledon Place will supply further details (Research Dept) £4.50 waged. LCGR coach leaves outside GTW at 8.15 am.

Picket: Neasden Power Station: 6am Mon 5th Nov. Several members agreed to attend.

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Video Some video shots had been taken in Dulais but it was agreed that a video team should visit Dulais again. Martin King and Robert Kincaid are taking responsibility for organising this and anyone interested should contact them.

Press & Publicity Robert reported on the tasks of the post he holds. He proposed that we have a campaign publicising the group. Alex and Robert to write an article for Socialsit Worker. Andy Matheson and Monty are to write an article for Labour Briefing. Robert is working on an article for Square Peg. Martin King is to write a reply to an article in Sunday Times. Mark Ashton to reply to an article in Capital Gay.

BINGO ! Following the example of the gutter press Robert proposed that we hold a Bingo session at a Pub one evening.

Sponsored Swim Monty to organise a sponsored swim.

Discussion on involvement of Black and Lesbian people in LGSM to be discussed at next meeting.

Next Meeting: Fallen Angel, Sunday 11th November, 6pm. Nearest Tube: Angel - the Fallen Angel is in Graham St N1, off City Road. The rear door gives access to the meeting which is upstairs (the pub itself does not open until 7 pm).

Contacts: Robert (Press) 444 5442, Mike (Secretary) 833 4785, Martin/Brett 263 9484

STOP PRESS !! People from the London College of Printing Film and Video Course are making a documentary: "Controlling Forces in our Lives", examining the police, multinationals, the trade unions and government policy. They will be looking in particular at the NUM and the current dispute. They would like to bring video and sound recording equipment along to our next meeting and record parts of the meeting and also interview people afterwards. If anyone has any objections to them coming along then please contact Robert immediately and let your objection be known, otherwise they will be invited to our next meeting.

6.11.84