

LESBIANS AND GAY MEN SUPPORT THE MINERS !!!

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Minutes of a meeting at the 'Fallen Angel' - 6th Jan '84 at 6pm.

Chair: Reggie Blennerhassett

Admin. collection raised £24.00

Strike Report: Nigel Young

Attendance: 34 members were present

Apologies: Rosie Leach, Kate Thomas, Sally Bild, Richard Tarry, Bernie O'Connor, Shane Enright, Johnny Orr.

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Collections up to 6th Jan '85

Collection for week 6-13th Jan '85

Bell	19.02	Bell, Sun - Mike J, Andy M
Fallen Angel 19 Dec	28.01½	Bell, Thurs - Gethin, Joe
Bell Fri 21st Dec	37.67½	Bell, Fri - Mark F, Monty, Robert K
Bell Fri 4th Jan	15.46½	F.A. Sun - Reggie, Mark A
Fallen Angel Sat 5th Jan	29.65	F.A. Mon - Derek, Johnny O
F.A. 31st Dec/1st Jan	61.28	F.A. Weds - Brett, Martin G
Two Brewers -	6.60	F.A. Thurs - Mike P, Tom S
Two Brewers -	13.34	F.A. Fri - Jonathon, Kevin A
Bell 3rd Jan	31.00	F.A. Sat - Reggie, Mark F
Gays the Word Bookshop 5th Jan	51.62	Two Brewers, Weds - Derek, Adny M
F.A. 16th Dec	25.20	Coleherne, Fri - John L, Lionel, Ricky
G.T.W. 22nd Dec	17.00	New Depression, Sat - Mike J, Rob C
G.T.W. 29th Dec	70.00	Camden Town, Sun 12noon-2pm - Robert K,
Camden Town tube. 30th Dec	52.00	Mark S, Tom S, Gethin, Kevin A
Camden Town tube 6th Jan	31.83	George IV, Fri - Richard, Alex (?)
F.A. 21st Dec	24.95	Union Tav, Thurs - Kevin G, Mark A
F.A. 22nd Dec	30.63	Union Tav, Fri - Dave L, Davy M
F.A. 4th Jan	33.60	Bell, Sat - Sally, Kate T, Rosie
'Go-go Boys' benefit 22nd Dec	117.00	Gays the Word, Sat
G.T.W. -	97.00	11am - noon - Mike J
F.A. -	32.00	Noon - 1pm - Mike J, Bernie O'C, Ben, Iain
Bell -	34.00	1pm - 2pm - Gethin, Reggie, Bernie, Iain
Bell -	23.00	2pm - 3pm - Gethin, Reggie, Mike P
TOTAL.....		3pm - 4pm - Mike P, Gareth
		*4pm - 5pm - ..... ..
		5pm - 6pm - ..... ..

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Matters Arising from previous minutes (16th Dec)

Video No report

Public Meeting Ray Goodspeed stressed the urgency of distributing the publicity leaflets at lesbian/gay venues and organised such leafletting with comrades present. Mike J. to duplicate a further 3,000 a.s.a.p. John McKay will produce poster size copies and deposit them fro comrades to collect from Union Place, Camberwell by Tuesday 8th, Ray organised distribution of these posters. Ray also urged comrades to meet at 6pm at Lambeth Town Hall on 17th Jan to prepare the meeting room. The meeting agreed that Ray would chair the meeting. A speaker from LGSM had not been decided upon and it was suggested that Polly be contacted, or Sally if Polly couldn't speak(Ray to contact).

Ray: 806 3996

Raffle It is not clear yet whther the prizewinners had all received their prizes, or exactly which members were looking after the prizes. No one present could clarify this. Rob C posed the question 'Has anyone seen Mari Wilson's Dress ?' Could comrades who can help solve these problems please let Rob C. or Mike J. know the answers. Contact Rob C. (home) 326 4859/(w) 262 6790 x 266

Thorpe-Willoughby Rosie and Kate Thomas met the miners concerned over the Xmas break, John Lindsay reported. They did not make a contribution because they were individuals and not a formal NUM group. The meeting agreed that the individuals concerned should be invited to London (LGSM to pay bus fares if necessary) - preferably around the weekend of the Public Meeting. John L. said that he would arrange accomodation for them.

'Go-Go Boys' Benefit. Martin Goodsell reported that the benefit had been a success and that they sent a cheque for £100 (proceeds) and a further £17 cash was collected at the door. Although a success it was reported that if we had publicised the event better then it could have been better attended. It was felt that the Dec.10th benefit had sapped people's energies and also many people had gone away for Xmas who might otherwise have attended. Brett agreed to write to them, thanking them for their work and support and take up their offer of another benefit performance, allowing ourselves plenty of time to publicise the event. Ben Benson also reported that the Gate Theatre had offered its facilities free to LGSM if we wished to stage other benefits there too. Brett to write to Gate thanking them.

VW Minibus repairs A further collection was made towards these costs.

A.O.B.

Arrest.  
It was reported that a member of the group had been arrested earlier in the afternoon and charged with 'illegal street collecting' outside 274 Camden High St NW1. Our member was taken to Kentish Town Police station and detained for over an hour. The police dropped their charge but persuaded our comrade to sign a 'caution'. The police retained a small sum of money from his collecting bucket and did not say what they would be doing with this cash. John agreed to write to the station sargeant asking for the money to be returned. Our comrades had been standing on the private shop frontage and had been given permission to collect on this patch by a licensed Sunday stallholder who rented the space. There was some discussion on the legality of collecting on private forecourts as this may affect collecting outside 'Gays the Word'. Mike J. agreed to contact the N.U.M., N.C.C.L., and the G.L.C. Police Committee and inform them of this incident.

'The Miner' In the context of street collecting it was agreed that we should obtain x500 copies of the 'Miner' on a regular basis to sell (plus a donation!) on the streets. Action: Mike J.

Illustrated Talk 'The History of the S.Wales Mining Communities 1860-Present Day'

Miner Cliff Grist from Seven Sisters, Dulais has offered to come to London to present the above event. It was agreed that Mike try and book the Margery St., Community Centre, WC1 for 25th January. The seating capacity is 40 although there is room for more. Mark A. agreed to produce tickets to sell in advance for the event, which will include food. Mike J. to contact Cliff. Nigel to offer accomodation for Cliff. Ticket price: £1.50/50p UB40 min.

'Il Manifesto' & 'Boston Gay Community News'

It was reported that members of the group had been interviewed by the above. Rob Elliot from Bologna had also been negotiating with 'Bronski Beat' to try and get them to play a benefit for the miners in Bologna, N.Italy, which could raise £20,000 proceeds. If the event is confirmed LGSM are invited to send a speaker over in order to publicise UK lesbian and gay support and help to further increase support in Italy. Mike J. to ask Rob to try and get 'FIORI !!' to feature our article in 'Square Peg' written by Robert Kincaid.

Lesbians Against Pit Closures. Their letter was warmly received by the meeting LGSM to send a reply expressing our solidarity with them and to encourage close communication and support.

Press Officer

Due to increased personal commitments Robert Kincaid felt that he had to resign as Press Officer. LGSM paid tribute to Roberts excellent hard work in maintaining such a good media profile for the group and applauded his efforts. There was so much work to be done in this area that it was decided to form a Press Group. Mark A, Nigel, Steven B, Colin, Gethin and Martin were elected and will meet soon to decide on th convenor.

Next Weeks Chair: John Lindsay. Strike Report: Gethin Roberts.

Next Meeting: Sunday 13th Jan, 'Fallen Angel' 6pm.

Contacts: Sec. Mike 01 833 4785. Treasurers: Martin/Brett: 263 9484