

LESBIANS AND GAYS SUPPORT THE MINERS !

Minutes of a meeting at the Fallen Angel, 16th Dec '84 at 6pm.

Chair: Polly Vittorini

Strike Report: Rosie Leach

Apologies: Lionel Starling, Mark Ashton, Richard Coles, Martin Goodsell, Ben Benson, Bernie O'Connor, Sally Bild, Bernard Padden.

Attendance: There were about thirty people present.

Collections up to 16th Dec.

F.A. Sun	30.17
F.A. Weds	18.00
F.A. Thurs	9.98½
Bell Fri	23.94
F.A. Fri	15.74
Champions Fri	15.00
Bell Sat	22.50
Old Vic Sat	14.00
Camden Town, Sun	181.00
G.T.W. Sat	73.52½
G.T.W. Thurs	37.67
Donation	50.00
Bell Thurs	35.00
Party (Mike)	10.50
TOTAL	<u>537.03</u>

Collection for week 16-23rd Dec.

F.A. Sun - Howard, Mark S
Bell Sun - Martin K, Toby K
New Dep Weds - Gethin, Ray
F.A. Weds - Mark F, Gareth K
2 Brewers Weds - Andy M, Nigel
Dover Castle, Weds - Roddy, John McK
Bell, Thurs - Bernard
F.A. Thurs - Martin K, Mike P
Bell, Fri - Monty, John, Spike, Ray A
George IV, Fri - Richard, Terry
Coleherne, Fri - Lionel, John, Ricky
F.A., Fri - Michael P, Kevin
Union Tav, Fri - Connie, Jeff C
Champions, Fri - Roddy
F.A., Sat - Kevin A
Camden Tube, Sun - Mark S, Kevin A, Tom S, Ben, (Monty?)

Admin. costs: members present contributed £15.73

Matters Arising from previous minutes:

Video: Jeff Cole reported that the intended visit to Dulais had been postponed. The Dec. 10th benefit had been a priority and not enough preparation had been done to ensure a successful filming because of this. Jeff suggested a more serious effort be made immediately in the New Year.

Lesbians Against Pit Closures LAPC sent a verbal message of solidarity to LGSM. (Secretary has since received a letter of solidarity, written collectively by LAPC.) Lesbians from SWP also made a formal statement expressing their regret at some of the lesbians leaving LGSM to join LAPC. SWP lesbians made it clear that they would remain actively committed to LGSM, tackling sexism when it occurs.

Benefit Report: Connie gave a brief report on the income raised from the benefit on Dec. 10th. £

Expenses.....	1,038.67	Income	
		Ticket Sales.....	3,682.06
		Bucket Collection.....	1,027.02
		Miscell. (late returns)	941.08 (approx.)
		Total.....	<u>5,650.16</u>

Connie reported that Jenny from Kiverton Park mining community would receive £928.46 from the proceeds of the bucket collection in time for Xmas distribution within their community. Hatfield Main mining community would receive £200.00. The bulk of the proceeds, approx. £4,000.00 would be sent to Dulais, again, in time for Xmas.

A vote of thanks was extended to members of the Benefit sub-group who had worked very hard to ensure such a successful benefit.

A.O.B. A motion was presented by Steven Browning which was accepted by the meeting.

The motion was as follows:

'When anyone present at a meeting feels that a sexist comment has been made, they should feel free and be encouraged to halt all business so that the comment should be challenged. Should the meeting agree that the comment is offensive, it should be withdrawn.'

If anyone consistently causes the meeting to be disrupted in this way the group should ask the person concerned to consider their effectiveness as a member of the group.'

Raffle Rob Cooper reported that 4,766 raffle tickets had been sold and had raised £953.20. The draw had taken place at the benefit and Johnnie Orr had the winning tickets.

Thorpe Willoughby SWP members read out a letter sent to LGSM c/o 'Socialist Worker'. It contained an appeal for money from a group of striking miners who had formed a Gay Group. They explained that as gay miners they were single and experiencing particular hardship. Rosie Leach offered to meet the group as she was going to Yorkshire around Xmas. The meeting agreed in principle to donate £50.00 on Rosie's return to London after she had made contact with members of the group.

'Go-go Boys' Benefit Brett urged members to attend the benefit, the proceeds of which would be given to LGSM.

VW Minibus Repairs A collection was made at the meeting which raised £20.10, this is about a third of the costs, please be prepared to make another contribution at the next meeting if you can afford it - especially those who went on the Dulais trip in November.

Workshop Format The meeting agreed that the next meeting would be split into smaller groups with the intention of members giving some time to new and additional methods of fundraising and discussing any other ideas or problems and strategies towards further assisting the miners' struggle.

LGSM Public Meeting Ray Goodspeed confirmed that Kay Sutcliffe, Stuart Holland M.P., National Campaign Against the Police Bill and Dulais Miners Support Group would speak at the meeting at Lambeth (Brixton) Town Hall Acre Lane SW2 at 7.30pm on Thursday 17th January 1985. (Leaflets have now been printed and will be ready for members to collect at the next meeting - Sec.) The title of the meeting is '1985 FORWARD TO VICTORY'.

Date of Next Meeting: Sunday 6th January at the 'Fallen Angel' 6pm, Graham St, off City Rd N1. Rear door, upstairs meeting room. Nearest tube: Angel. No disabled access.

Chairperson: Reggie Blennerhassett

Strike Report: Nigel Young

Collections 23rd Dec-6th Jan. were left unplanned but members who were in London over the Xmas period were encouraged to arrange collection with other comrades.

HERE'S WISHING COMRADES A HAPPY NEW YEAR AND A VICTORY FOR US ALL IN 1985 !!!

Contacts

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