

SEA PICKET

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NO. 3 JUNE 4th 88

May 26th

A fire on a P&O ferry following on from Mondays fire on a Sealink vessel only went to prove what most of us know already, that the safety standards are no better since Zeebrugge. It was sad to see that little was made of these situations politically. The slogan 'It's Safer With Sealink' was shown up for all it was worth. Sherwood was allowed to come out of the recent sequestration event looking like the good guy who loves the trade unions. His remarks about implementing the same agreements as P&O were quickly forgotten. With the help of the NUS he was able to pull off a major propoganda coup. The fires proved that conditions on board P&O and Sealink are no different.

May 27th

Mass meeting behind closed doors at the Railway Club, Dover. Attempts were made to finish the dispute off. The union's lawyer tried to persuade the strikers to accept putting just six pickets on the line. As this is the only real focal point the strikers have got at the moment, this would lead to demoralisation and confirm the belief that the National Union want to wash their hands of the whole affair. The rank and file made it clear that mass picketing would continue.

The union now intends to say it is no longer liable for the actions of its members as far as mass picketing is concerned when it goes back to the High Court on Tuesday to try and get the funds back.

The union moved even further away from fighting the dispute through industrial action when it stated that it was going to claim for unfair dismissal. This means relying on our old friends the courts (ever heard judge with a Geordie or Scouse accent?) and at best ending up with a pittance in compensation. Hmmm... wonder how many of the union's hierachy are going to find themselves on the dole at the end of this dispute?

WHERE IS SAM ?

Rumour has it that Sam having been told to rest has gone off to Barbados. (Hope he didn't travel on the Canberra!) It would appear that Sam is totally exhausted after working exactly the same number of hours that P&O are trying to impose. This no doubt means that as we are all equals, the union will be sending loads of knackered seafarers off to Barbados next year to recuperate. 'Son of Sam', Roger Wilkins has also cracked under the pressure of it all. The strikers are willing to pay for him to go to some small, deserted ~~Devil's~~ island, as long as it's a one way ticket.

ABERDEEN

There are still 100 NUS members sacked in Aberdeen after the Nation Strike farce. These people seem to have been forgotten by the National leadership, but the rank + file and support groups have made sure that money is coming their way.

DONATIONS AND MESSAGES OF SUPPORT CAN BE SENT TO 'SEAFARERS COMFORT FUND'. C/O ABERDEEN TRADES COUNCIL, 24 ADELPHI, ABERDEEN.

FUNDRAISING SOCIAL

FOR THE P+O STRIKERS

date SATURDAY JUNE 18th 8pm

venue NEWHAM SOUTH LABOUR CLUB

BARKING RD.E.13.

1988



P&O STRIKE

BAR

DISCO

RAFFLE

TICKETS £2.50

SOP UNWAGED

CONTACT, JIM LOCK N.E. 5198840

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BRIXTON STRIKE SUPPORT GROUP REPORT

The Brixton Strike Support Group was set up on the 7th of May by local anarchists. We are at the moment having weekly meetings with an attendance of between 10 and 15 people. Every evening during the week and Saturday mornings we have been collecting money on behalf of the Dover strikers and have so far raised nearly £400 which we are forwarding to the Deal Women's Support Group. We hope to be organising benefits in the near future to raise more money.

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

****LATEST RESULTS****

Barclays Accident League

DIVISION ONE

Sealink 1 : P&O 1

Match reporter, ...
Cockleshell Hero.

After a fiery, blazing first half, both teams settled down low in the water. The subs came on early, but weren't used.

Man Of The Match.....
.... Whoever dropped it!

HACKNEY EMPIRE BENEFIT
The money raised at The Hackney Empire Seafarers Benefit on May 23rd came to £1,215 and is on its way to the kitchens.

If you have any reports, please send them to the address below.

LONDON DEMO IN SUPPORT OF SACKED P&O SEAFARERS

WEDNESDAY JUNE 29th

Assemble 12 noon at Hyde Park corner

We will march to P&O's

Headquarters in Pall Mall

and Picket

Called by all the London Support groups

Published by supporters of the seafarers.

489 KINGSLAND ROAD, LONDON E8 4AU