

# SEA PICKET

NO.2 MAY28th

## May 21st

The first major demo and rally at Dover. Around 2,000 strikers and supporters assembled at the Elms Vale Football Club. As most people had only had about one weeks notice, this wasn't a bad start to build for bigger and better things. Several of the London Support Groups brought coaches and buses full of supporters along with fair sized delegations from the Leicester and Oxford Support Groups.

John McCreadie and Dennis Skinner were joined by rank and file strikers on the platform. The NUS chose not to supply an official speaker after taking legal advice! What are these people doing? If they can't even talk to their own members then they should be told to go.

The march set off for the Eastern Dock but was eventually stopped by the thin blue slime at the Army Recruitment centre... but no-one was persuaded to join. As usual there was an array of law not displaying their numbers. (These definitely had been to the Army Recruitment centre.)

Only six were allowed through, but it was noticable that the march caused considerable disruption and delay to much of the port traffic. With tighter organisation this disruption could be escalated to help towards making the port unpalatable for holiday and commercial traffic. The need for pickets to spread themselves away from the main picket (and police) line showed through on Saturday. It was great to see printers from the Wapping dispute in fine voice along with NUPE schoolkeepers.

While the union leaders search for ways not to escalate the dispute, there is a real need for more demos, rallies and pickets to put pressure on from rank and file level.

## May 23rd

Over 500 people turned up at the Hackney Empire to support the strikers and have a good time while doing so. Comedians (no, not Norman) and singers from the cabaret circuit appeared free of charge. The badges and sweat shirts were very popular and the raffle and bucket collections added to a very successful evening. More money will be making its way back to the kitchens soon.

## May 24th

On Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th, supporters from the Brixton/Lambeth Support Group collected over £220 for the strikers and their families outside a tube station in South London.

May 24th contd.

Back to the law courts to get the unions £2.8 million returned. Having been told to behave, the union even went to the lengths of not having any officials from the NUS on the platform at Saturday's demo. Well, it's a bit risky having to talk to the members isn't it? Surprise surprise! The order was lifted from Sealink, but reimposed on behalf of P&O. The bloke with the robes and funny wig (obviously a working class type) then gave his version of what was happening on the line making a point of saying that the picketing was definitely not peaceful. Well of course, we've all read in The Scum and other nasty little tabloids about the riots that have been going on down at Dover haven't we? Sam's reaction was "it's gone 3 o'clock and the pubs are shut"... Nice one Sam... very political! There appeared to be no reaction at all from the TUC. Perhaps this is a new tactic, keep quiet and hope nobody notices. How far are the trade union leaders prepared to grovel and back away from the law and in doing so walk away from their members?

## FUTURE EVENTS

Anti-fascist activists have got an invitation for strikers to speak to workers in Dusseldorf in Germany from 12th to 19th of June.

LONDON DEMO IN  
SUPPORT OF SACKED  
P&O SEAFARERS

WEDNESDAY JUNE 29th

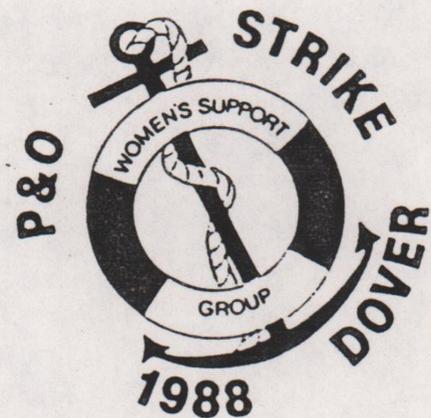
Assemble 12 noon at Hyde Park corner

We will march to P&O's

Headquarters in Pall Mall

and Picket

Called by all the London Support groups



### SUPPORT GROUPS

Below are a list of support groups who 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