

Fitzwilliam 9 Defence Campaign
c/o 4 Rockingham St.,
Fitzwilliam,
Nr Wakefield.
20th November 1984

Dear Comrades and Friends,

We are writing to you concerning the case of 9 people from the mining village of Fitzwilliam, who were arrested on the 9th of July following a brutal attack made by the police on the village. As one miner said, when the police entered the village "People were beaten, arrested, and handcuffed to lampposts. People who would never have dreamed of fighting were having a go because they were threatened and terrified".

The attack was made in an attempt to intimidate and demoralize the Fitzwilliam people who have, for the duration of the strike stood solidly behind it. The nine who were arrested were charged with 'Breach of the Peace' and subject to a 7 pm to 7 am curfew.

On December 3rd the Fitzwilliam 9 will be up in court, to be dealt with by a stipendiary magistrate who will be intent on finding them guilty for crimes they did not commit.

Your support and attendance at the Demonstration and Lobby of the Magistrates Court at 9.30am, Osgoldcross, Castleford, is crucial and we would be grateful if you could come along and join us in demanding that the charges are dropped. Because some of the Fitzwilliam have been arrested while on the pickets, it is possible that if found guilty they could face prison sentences, it is therefore absolutely vital that organisations and individuals mobilize as much as possible for the Lobby on December 3rd. *Meet Bfd Interchange at 7.10 a.m.*

Fitzwilliam miners are willing to speak at any of your meetings if you would like to hear more about the Fitzwilliam 9 and would like to support the Lobby. Please write to the above address if you request a speaker or require further details about the campaign. Donations are also urgently required to pay for any fines and also to cover the costs of publicity and transport. Any excess of monies will be given to the Soup Kitchens.

We would also be grateful if your Group or branch could pass a resolution of support for the campaign, and could sign the enclosed petition.

Yours in Solidarity,

Dennis Doohey

On behalf of the Fitzwilliam 9.

*Defend the Fitzwilliam 9
Victory to the Miners!*

For local details you can write to: Fitzwilliam 9, DC, c/o the Starry Plough Bookshop,
6 Edmund Street, Bradford 5