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Coar file

MINER/IAN BAIN

CARY LLOYD: Ian Bain made his lone attempt to return to work in a Coal Board van. His police escort took him into the back gate to avoid a confrontation with angry pickets. Kinsley Brift mine has been closed for 8 months and was extensively vandalised during an occupation in July. Pickets were determined it should stay strike bound. A union delegation went in to persuade Ian Bain to go home. The Lodge Secretary did the persuading.

with a young family and he had been requiring some advice, which we have given him and he's seen the sense of the advice we have given him and he has accepted that he will not attempt to work again until the strike is over.

LLOYD:

A father of three children, Ian Bain said he went back to work to feed his family.

IAN BAIN: We have hardly got any food and I thought it was getting beyond a joke the children having to be living off scraps.

LLOYD: Do you feel in any way intimidated?

BAIN:

Not really. I do, I feel a bit bitter about the way that the men congregate, when somebody wants to work. I didn't have a chance whether I wanted to come out on strike or not, and it has hit me very hard.

LLOYD: And what does it mean now for you?

BAIN:

Back to normal, scrimping and scraping to make ends meet and try and feed the wife and children. Since the strike started, I've lost a stone and a half in weight.

LLOYD: Ian Bain says many miners feel the way he does but they are afraid to go back to work. He won't try again because too many people could get hurt.