Songsheet for Strikers

1 Bella Ciao

Now we can win if we stand together,
Bella Ciao, bella ciao, etc…
We can win if we stand together
But divided we will fall.

Come join a union to fight injustice,
Bella Ciao, bella ciao, etc…
join a union to fight injustice,
For together we can win.

They want to weaken our resistance,
Bella Ciao, bella ciao, etc…
They want to weaken our resistance,
But the union makes us strong.

Repeat verse 1

2 Bandiera Rossa

Avanti popolo, a la rescossa
Bandiera rossa, bandiera rossa
Avanti popolo, a la rescossa
Bandiera rossa, trionfera

Bandiera Rossa trionfera (x 3)
Eviva socialism e la liberta

Arise you people, unto the struggle
The red flag flying, the red flag flying
Arise you people, unto the struggle
The red flag flying triumphantly

Chorus

Arise you workers, fling to the breezes
The scarlet banner, the scarlet banner
Arise you workers, fling to the breezes
The scarlet banner, triumphantly
Chorus

3 There is Power in a Union *Billy Bragg*

There is power in the factory, power in the land
Power in the hands of the worker
But it all amounts to nothing
If together we don't stand
There is power in a Union

The Union forever defending our rights,
Stand with the picket, all workers unite
With our sisters and our brothers
In many far off lands
There is power in a Union

Now I long for the morning when they realise
Unjust laws cannot defeat us
But who'll defend the workers who cannot organise
When the bosses send their lackeys out to cheat us?

Chorus

4 Solidarity Forever

The unions inspiration lies in solidarity
We fought together side by side & won our liberty
The many gains the people made through strength and unity
For the union makes us strong
Chorus
Solidarity forever, Solidarity forever
Solidarity forever for the Union makes us strong
Combine the might of many to exceed the strength of one
A union of all people everywhere beneath the sun
A global girth to span the earth the battle can be won
For the union makes us strong

Chorus

5 Step By Step

Step by step the longest march can be won,
can be won.
Many stones to form an arch, singly none,
singly none.
And by union what we will
can be accomplished still.
Drops of water turn a mill, singly none, singly none.

6 We shall not give up the fight

We shall not give up the fight,
we have only started,
we have only started,
we have only started x2

7 Which side are you on?

Which side are you on?
Which side are you on?
Which side are you on?
Which side are you on?

Come all you good people
Our comrades and our friends
Once more our backs are to the wall
We're being attacked again

Which side are you on?
Which side are you on?
Which side are you on?
Which side are you on?

The MPs and the bosses
Give themselves a rise in pay
They send us to the foodbanks
While they strip our jobs away

Chorus

Hikes in gas and 'lectric
Won't affect the likes of them
It's freeze or starve for many
While their profits rise again

Chorus

8 THE INTERNATIONALE *Billy Bragg*

Rise up, all victims of oppression
For the tyrants fear your might
Don't cling so hard to your possessions
For you have nothing if you have no rights
Let racist ignorance be ended
For respect makes the empires fall
Freedom is merely privilege extended
Unless enjoyed by one and all

So come brothers and sisters
For the struggle carries on
The Internationale unites the world in song
So comrades come rally, for this is the time and place
The international ideal unites the human race

Let no one build walls to divide us
Walls of hatred nor walls of stone
Oh greet the dawn and come and join us
We'll live together or we'll die alone
In our world, poisoned by exploitation
Those who have taken now they must give
And end the vanity of nations
We've but one earth on which to live
Chorus

And so begins the final drama
In the streets and in the fields
We'll resist united 'gainst their armour
We'll defy their guns and shields
When we fight, provoked by their aggression
Let's be inspired by life and love
For though they offer us concessions
Change will not come from above

Chorus