



No 8

# GAY NEWS

10p

## Pornography, Obscenity and Gays

# Lord Porn Lashes Back

The law as it stands makes certain kinds of published material 'obscene', and therefore illegal, if, in the opinion of the jury, that material tends to 'deprave and corrupt' the people who might read it or see it.

There has been considerable dissention, not least in legal circles, over what depravity and corruption is, and how its effects can be measured. I would contend that propaganda which, in order to make a case for certain views, distorts what truth it sees where it does not ignore it outright, which would contain and condemn sexual expression within confines pleasing only to its authors, which seeks, in effect, to pervert natural, free and honest human sexuality in literature, art, the cinema into the narrow confines of heterosexual marriage only, is pornographic within that definition.

The Longford Report on Pornography is just such a book. Although the enquiry was a totally independent one (ie set up by individuals not a government body), it has received assistance from government sources and has been aided (for which thanks are offered) by the police.

As regards gays, the book is a total distortion of the truth and perpetuates all the myths about us, despite evidence from CHE in the person of Ian Harvey. The only sugges-

Das Kapital. This is the Festival of Lighters handbook.

"Hard pornography is intended to appeal to the person who wishes to go well beyond

Their definition of pornography is wider than most of us would accept. They see no value or service in magazines such as Forum, since these do not moralise as they would. They see 'sex-aids' as a further 'corruption'. They see the whole field of sexual education and pornography as an addiction, leading happily married men and women (who defines their happiness?) to experiment with other forms of sexual activity which, without porn, they might have remained ignorant of. They see it as 'perverting' children away from 'normal' (ie hetero/married) sex to experiment with 'perversions'. They ignore the diversity and richness of the human-sexual spectrum, and would repress and confine human development.

Despite the confusion in the evidence, and the examples of the American report and the Danish experiment, they cannot accept that pornography can suffer from over-exposure, and that it might in the process do some good. They point out that, since pornography is 'bad' (which they have failed to prove), it must have a bad effect.

After all, they say, who can argue that what people see and read does not affect them? Why else, they ask, do advertisers spend millions of pounds on television time and display space? Why do parents and the state spend so much to educate a child? Because all these have an effect.

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Photograph: Syndication International



Lord Longford not reading *The Daily Telegraph*.

tion offered as regards gays is that, if we are prepared to seek it out, we ought to be allowed our wank literature. We are one more, 'perversion' along with prostitution, bestiality pederasty, sado-masochism, though none of these are explored, but accepted as such. Likewise, the terms 'normal' and 'decent' pepper the book without any exploration of their meaning or implication. They are taken to mean heterosexual intercourse within marriage and chastity before (despite the fact that more than one 'witness' underscores the impossibility of this).

The inquisitors themselves clearly state the propoganda intention of the inquiry, and therefore the book.

### HOW FAR CAN WE GO ?

"These were the terms of reference of the committee: 'to see what means of tackling the problem of Pornography would command general support'." In short, they accepted the existence of a problem and the 'need' to do something about it. Their only concern was 'how far can we go and get away with it.' (my quotes). That alone destroys any confidence one might have had in any conclusion they might produce. This is not a serious enquiry into porn and its effects - it is a political exercise by a minority in an attempt to impose their views on the majority, and should be read as such. As should Mein Kampf, and

simply acquiring some erotic literature. It builds its own market by appealing quite unashamedly to various groups of inadequate or sexually maladjusted people." That, among others, is us, of course.

As regards children, they accept the common attitude that a child's introduction to sex is the prerogative of the parent. They know, but hardly take account of, the refusal or reluctance of most parents to undertake this duty. They nowhere mention the obvious point that a child ought not to need 'introduction' to sex, but that it ought to be an open and freely stated part of his/her life from birth onwards. On the contrary, they seem to want to keep the child unaware of any sexual relationship between his/her parents, until the child becomes disturbed enough about his/her developing sexuality to want to ask about it. They stress sex as essentially a private and family matter, not a subject for public discussion or display. They want parents to have the right to keep the child in ignorance by withdrawing them from sex-education lessons.

Great play is made at one point of the fact that the BBC sex education series gave no stress to moral standards, to the point that the pregnant woman in the film wasn't wearing a wedding ring.

In short, they want the right to pervert, repress, and distort a child to suit their politics. They would destroy a child's right to freedom, development and love.

## The Gay Militant

The Church Militant flew into London last week after a whistle-stop tour of Europe in the ample form of the Rev Troy Perry, the now-famous founder of the now-famous church for gays. The Metropolitan Community Church, which Perry founded, is fast becoming known as a 'gay church' because Troy Perry and the pastors at the church's 36 branches across the USA, from Hawaii to New York, will perform marriage ceremonies for gays.

In an exclusive interview arranged with Gay News, Troy Perry said that even if he was gay and his church attracts gays back to church, the MCC is not a specifically gay church. He added: "We say gay is just as good as heterosexuality in the eyes of God. Neither is better, they are just equal."

"At the Los Angeles church about 60 per cent of the congregation is male homosexual, 20 per cent female homosexual, and the other 20 per cent heterosexual."

"But at our church in Long Beach, the proportion is about 50 per cent men to 50 per cent women."

"In Los Angeles the main Methodist church has seating for 33,000. They're lucky to get just 300 in. Meanwhile we have standing room only at our main services on Sundays. So we must be giving people what they want."

Troy Perry isn't all talk though. He's been married twice. First time around it was at the age of 19 to the attractive blonde daughter of a Pentecostal minister.

He says: "I come from the south of the USA, and there the attitude was 'get yourself a good girl, and that will sort you out' if you thought you were gay. It doesn't work."

The marriage split up when he told her he was gay and she got a court order to stop him seeing their children both of them boys.

His second marriage was in January this year to a Roller Derby star, Steve Jordan.

Troy happily describes him: "He's just 5 ft 8 in tall, 23, Mexican-American and beautiful. We are very happy."

The gay marriages the MCC performs have attracted most attention to the sect. But the church has strict rules about the gays it will marry. Troy Perry says: "To get married they have to have been together for at least six months - usually they have been living together for three years. Sometimes a couple who have been living together for up to 25 years want to get married."

Are gay marriages happy? Troy Perry says: "Out of the 200 ceremonies that I have personally performed, only about four or five couples have separated."

Are they legal? "In California the law does not say that one person who is to be married must be a man and the other a woman. So far no-one has tried to get a divorce, so we don't know how the courts would treat the marriages."

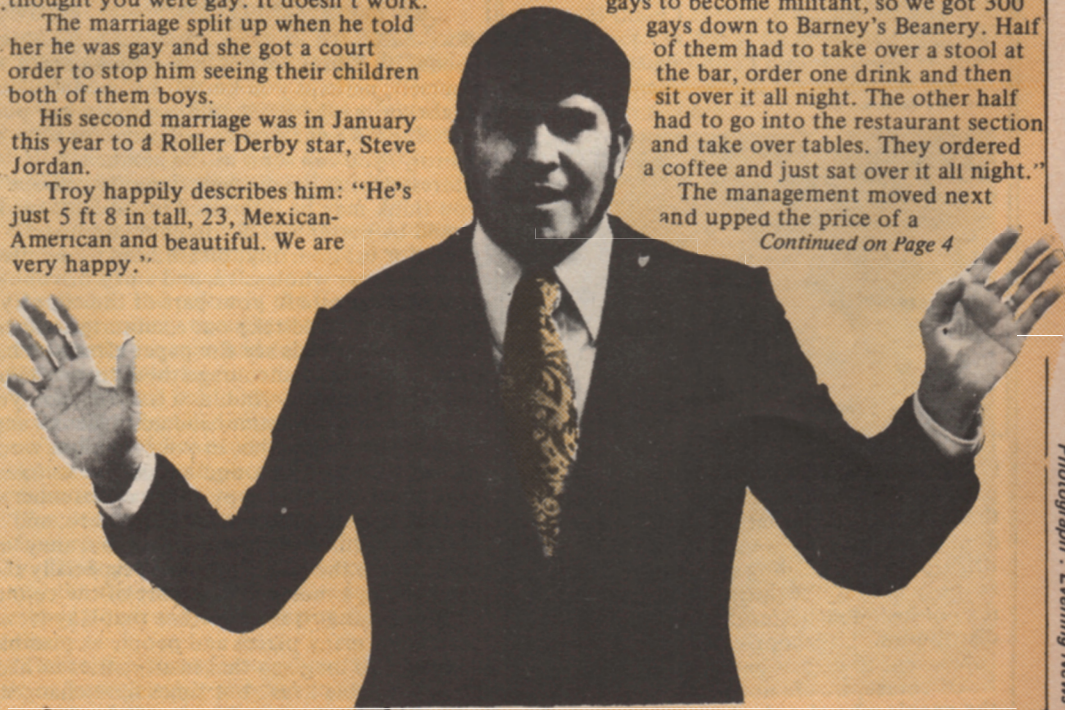
Troy Perry does not see his church's work ending at the church door. In fact, he's arranged several gay demos in the Bay Area.

He remembers the battle of Barney's Beanery. He says: "There used to be a sign in the window - 'Faggots Stay Out'."

"We found society never expected gays to become militant, so we got 300 gays down to Barney's Beanery. Half of them had to take over a stool at the bar, order one drink and then sit over it all night. The other half had to go into the restaurant section and take over tables. They ordered a coffee and just sat over it all night."

The management moved next and upped the price of a

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Photograph: Evening News



## GAY NEWS

## Joint Editors and Members of the Editorial Collective

Richard Adams (Design), Martin Corbett, Ian Dunn (Scotland), Charlotte Corday, Bob Fletcher, Julian D. Grinspoon, Peter Holmes, David Hart, Denis Lemon, Alastair MacDougall, Glenys Parry (Manchester), Suki J. Pitcher, Doug Pollard, David Seligman, Peter Waldschmidt and Graham Chapman, David Sherlock.

## Gay News Special Friends

Roger Baker, Denis Cohn, Barry Conley, Laurence Collinson, Brian Dax, Martin Grant, Antony Grey, Peter MacMillan, Manus Sasonkin.

## Special Thanks To:

Richard & Norman, Ken & Allan, Angus, John, Stanley, Peter, Anthony, David, Ken, Wolf and all the other Friends & Loved Ones.

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# Editorial

Despite continuing financial, distribution and organisational problems, here we are again with issue No. 8. At least no-one can say that we are just a 'seven-issue wonder'. And although the problems pertaining to the paper's existence still continue, we of the collective are coming to terms with how much work and commitment is needed to carry on bringing out a regular fortnightly newspaper. It's also becoming much more fun for us to be involved with such a project; even the rows and unpleasant situations we have recently found ourselves taking part in have not stopped us from realising that an aura of happiness from each member of the editorial collective is an important factor in getting out each edition of Gay News. We don't want to bore you with the long hours etc. bit, but you really can do just about anything if you keep smiling.

Our money and distribution problems are closely tied together. You have no doubt noticed that under the credits and contents section on this page, we claim that distribution is done by 'Us, You and A Prayer Book'. Well, strictly speaking that's true. We do have three or four small distribution companies helping us, but the majority of copies you see in the limited number of shops that stock the paper are there because we supplied them. The shops have them either because they responded to a letter we wrote to them; because the shops got fed up with being asked for the paper by their customers, or because one of you wrote or telephoned us giving details of outlets you thought were worth us following up. (Thanks a lot, and keep it up). Also, as many of you will know, we regularly sell the paper in the major gay pubs in London, and we believe that copies are available in a few pubs and clubs around the country.

But unfortunately these distribution outlets are still not enough to support our continued existence. We must sell more copies to carry on, and we hope that as a result of a lot more effort on your part, and help from you whenever you can supply it, that we will be able to sell more of each edition, both in London and, more importantly, in the rest of the country.

There are so many areas of the country we never reach and then there are places where the amount sent is, in our opinion, ridiculously small. One such place is Manchester, where it

possibly can in those places where our circulation is so disastrous, but we appeal to all gay people who live in places where the paper is rarely seen to help alter this situation. There are a number of ways you can do this for us. Firstly, you can sell them for us, whether in your local gay pubs or clubs, or just to your circle of friends and acquaintances.

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Seymour Press Group



Our Ref: RAW/CC 7th September 1972

Mr. Denis E. Lemon,  
Gay News,  
19 London Street,  
London W2 1HL.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter dated 4th September and copies of GAY NEWS.

We have considered carefully the possibility of distributing your publication, but feel that a really specialised operation is called for which could best be operated by yourselves.

Yours faithfully,  
SEYMOUR PRESS LIMITED

R. A. WESTWOOD  
Director.

Secondly, if you are not into selling copies yourself, perhaps you know of someone who might, or maybe you could approach gay pubs and clubs in your area to sell them for us. Thirdly, you can send us the names and addresses of any newsagents and bookshops you think may be interested in stocking us. It would be better still if you could approach them for us. Fourthly, please send us details of newspaper wholesalers and small distributors that operate in your part of the country. Lastly, you could take out a subscription and let all your friends see the paper after you have read it, and then encourage them to also take out a subscription. And, as a last thought, you could send us the names and addresses of any people you know who, in your opinion, would like to see Gay News, and would like us to send them a sample copy of a back number so that they can see what we are up to, and all being well, they might decide that they want to see the paper regularly, especially if they live in a more isolated part of the country. We feel that it is important that Gay News reaches as many places and people as possible. It wasn't so long ago that nearly all of us had to live 'double lives', but times have changed and although the situation is still far from

ideal, at least not as many of us have to live in dread and in isolation for being what we naturally are. So it is essential that Gay News takes its place alongside of all the other newspapers and periodicals at newsagents, street vendors pitches and bookshops. Gay News has 'come out' and must stay out in the open and not be relegated to just a few sympathetic retailers and porn shops. In time we hope that we will be joined by other gay publications, and not just the ones that are out to exploit you.

It looks now that distribution will always be our responsibility (with a little help from our friends and you). In past issues we have shown you the 'polite' and 'understanding' but unco-operative letters from major distributors who have refused to handle us. In the columns of this editorial we reproduce two more such letters. The addresses of these firms should be legible, so may we suggest that you write to these companies and tell them that wide distribution is necessary for the paper, and also let them know about the difficulties you have encountered in obtaining copies. And anything else you may care to add. We suggest you do this as soon as possible; it just might make someone at Seymours or one of the other organisations such as W.H. Smiths wake up to the reality that it is not just us that want Gay News to be as widely available as possible.

We dislike to be continually appealing for your help, but if we are to survive, we must have your support. This is *your* paper, don't forget, and there are no nameless, faceless people trying to make a fortune out of you. Nor is it the aim of Gay News to subvert you with one particular political viewpoint. Your political opinions are your affairs, just as the ones we individually hold are ours. There is a need though for a change in the existing legislation that affects gay people, but one does not have to subscribe to just one political party or organisation to attempt to obtain these much needed alterations to the statute books.

Eventually, through more efficient and wider distribution of the paper around the whole of the country we hope to alleviate most of our money problems. And add to this the increased advertising which we hope to attract, and maybe soon we will be in a more secure financial position. But at present we are very short of cash. And what national newspaper isn't. But we feel that what we are attempting to provide through the news and information that appears in our pages is something that papers such as The Times, The Sun do not print, and they have no positive plans to include such items in their columns, no matter what the need. So if you feel that we are a valuable asset to the gay community, please help us to carry on, in any way that you are able.

Since the completion of GN No 7 and the

appearance of this issue, we have gone through a number of changes in our organisational structure. At times this has led to some bitter quarrels and truth games amongst ourselves, but all is now resolved. The result is that we feel that Gay News will be a more effective and streamlined operation, which will mean both a more comprehensive and objective system for the gathering in of news and articles, as well as generally tightening up our office procedures. The last point being somewhat boring but necessary, although we hope to avoid all the bureaucracy that so many organisations fall foul of. The addition of new members to our editorial collective, who bring with them both experience and new ideas, will in time make it possible for us to boast a 'new improved' Gay News.

There is also a good possibility that we will be moving to larger offices next month (at no extra cost, we hope). Those of you who have braved 79 steps up to our present office will understand why it is necessary for this move, and will be relieved to hear that our new premises will be on basement level.

We apologise for not letting you know what happened to the Biograph Review in the last issue. We leave it to Julian D. to explain what has been going on in his column in this edition. Also Denis Lemon will be commenting on the recent legal proceedings he has unfortunately been involved in.

Some of you may have noticed a number of design errors in GN No 7. These were due to the fact that the collective had to get the paper together, for the first time, without the invaluable aid of our resident designer. Everything is back to 'normal' in this issue though, we are glad to say.

We hope you all find something interesting and informative in the pages of this issue. But please remember that it is basically up to you whether or not we succeed in being useful and entertaining, not forgetting too that we need all the help you can give us in just keeping the paper alive, well and 'kicking'. Take care of yourselves, write to us, and to misquote the words of a past Gay News 'queen of the month': 'Come up and see us sometime'.

So many of you complained when we went back to 12 pages again last issue that we've relented and given you 16 again. Apart from anything else we couldn't have fitted everything in otherwise. I only wish you were as eager to send in your spare cash as you are to moan when we try and do something better.

BEDFORD, PLYMOUTH, STOKE, DONCASTER, YORK, ABERDEEN, CARDIFF, BOURNEMOUTH

In some of these towns, Gay News is not as available as we would like. If you live in these towns and want to sell 'Gay News' in bulk (10 or more copies) at 7p each, write or phone GAY NEWS, 19 London Street, London W2. Tel. 01-402-7805.

## Your Letters

Please note that any letters received by us at Gay News are liable to be published unless you state otherwise.

### First Class Male

Dear Gay News,

I am writing this short note to gay brothers and sisters everywhere, with small hope of change.

I am simply fucking fed up with being classed as a screaming queen. First of all, let me explain the cause of this letter. It is simply to say the queens who prance about, drag up, and fucking let down the gay side of life when they go to those stupid GLF marches ought to be shot. If only they would stop to think what a bloody fool they are making of themselves it might change their attitude.

Please don't get me wrong, I am gay and jolly well proud of it. I am, needless to say, the normal gay. Get that folks, *normal!* I dress normal, go to gay pubs and clubs etc, but I feel so ashamed when I see some of the pranks those queens get up to. So come on all you normal gays, there must be thousands around, put ink to paper and write to Gay News.

Isn't there some sort of club or organisation we could all join apart from GLF etc. I do apologise if I have caused any ill feelings, but once again I got fed up with being classed as the queens who attend marches!

Philip

PS These GLF marches etc are the only side of the gay life the public sees and we've got to be bloody well classed with them. Bloody cheek, if you ask me!! PPS Gay News is great. Keep up the great work.

### 'Go On Boys, Don't Mind Me'

Dear Collective,

Michael Kaye's little piece on 'Coming Out' (GN No 6) reminds me of an experience about ten years ago, when I was still a good little civil servant. I got into the Cheltenham train at Paddington one evening and found an empty compartment, in which I was joined by two railwaymen, evidently just off duty and still in their working gear. They were both nice-looking well-built chaps in their thirties, and I was struck by their rather pre-occupied manner. As the train neared Reading I became aware of the extreme intensity of the silence in our compartment and glanced up from my newspaper to see that they were both leaning forward with their knees wide apart, their elbows resting on their knees, and their hands clasped in front of them. (They were sitting side by

side and I was sitting directly opposite them.) The right knee of the one was very firmly laid against the other's left.

I was immediately paralysed with embarrassment. I longed to say, 'Go on boys, don't mind me!' but couldn't have spoken to save my life. I thought of myself as they must have seen me, a very proper Establishment figure in my trilby and city overcoat, looming over them. I thought of moving to the other end of the compartment, to give them more privacy, but I felt I couldn't do so without their interpreting my action as one of disgust. Instead, I buried my head in my newspaper, hoping that if I could be out of sight to them, I might also become out of mind. This lasted till Swindon, where they got out. As they stood up, one of them looked down at me over the top of my paper with an expression of mingled grief and hatred that I have never forgotten. Perhaps this was the first and last time in their lives that they could be together, and by my presence I had spoilt it for them.

Well now, boys and girls, the moral of this little anecdote is as follows: that respectable citizen who seem momentarily such a blot on you and your lover's landscape - give him the benefit of the doubt. He may be really on your side. He may be rejoicing in your mutual happiness and anxious to encourage you, but too shy to say so, too scared of seeming intrusive.

On the other hand, of course, he may not!

J. D. Blount

### NO POLITICS

Dear Gay News,

The piece on Hoover (Friends in High Places, No. 6) turned me up!

Are we expected to forgive this man for hounding hundreds of decent Americans because he laid off a few gays? This is "Fuck you, Jack, I'm all right" with a vengeance.

Can anyone work out similar pleas for Hitler?

Of course GN should be open to many points of view, but we keep hearing "no politics!"

In heaven's name, why? However much we shout, the age of consent won't be lowered or the Act extended to Scotland till Parliament amends the law.

And the police are "politics" too!

Ed.

More Letters on Page 6

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RC/lh

Mr. A. MacDougall,  
Collective Editorial,  
"GAY NEWS",  
19, London Street,  
LONDON W2 1HL.

6th September, 1972

Dear Mr. MacDougall,

Your letter of August 30th, concerning your publication "GAY NEWS" and addressed to Hachette Gotch Limited, has been passed to us, as we are the subsidiary of Hachette dealing with the distribution of periodicals in this country.

Unfortunately, we are unable to accept distribution of this publication, as we do not feel it would fit in with our existing range.

Nevertheless we wish you success in your new venture.

Yours sincerely,

*Lynette Holland*

Lynette Holland (Mrs.)  
Secretary to the Managing Director

is left to one or two people to try to get the paper to the whole of the gay population of that city. It's crazy that we should sell almost double the quantity we sell in Manchester in Brighton. Even Reading sells almost as many as the major city of the north of England. And it's not just Manchester that has such poor distribution. Liverpool, at present, has less copies sent to it than Bath.

Of course, we are not trying to put down the people who already do as much as they



# Lord Porn Lashes Back

Continued from Front Page

Firstly, as I have noted, they have failed to prove any conclusive effect one way or other in the majority of cases.

Secondly, advertising is designed to persuade — porn, along with other kinds of depiction, merely *shows*. Of course literature has an effect — there would be no point in writing it otherwise. But if a display of pornographic material affects someone (ie arouses them), that arousal or offence is their reaction, it comes from them, not the porn. It does not create that person's sexuality, simply exposes it.

As a second line of defence, they point out that even the people who deny the corrupting effect of pornography agree with the sanctions preventing the ridicule and abuse of coloured people, so doesn't that prove 'an effect'? They ignore the fact that such sanctions exist to prevent damaging *lies* from creating a damaging effect on the way people live together. Do they regard the depicted sex-act as a lie? Even if a woman wears a wedding ring?

Perhaps the nastiest and most unreasonable part of a thoroughly nasty and unreasonable book is the attack that Malcolm Muggeridge, disguised as the Sub-Committee on Broadcasting, perpetrates upon the BBC. The report itself, in other sections (notably Frank Gillard's refutation of the Sub-Committee report) shows up the lack of investigation, thought or concern for truth of Mr Muggeridge, so I do not propose even to discuss these lies. Unfortunately, they are well-phrased:

"Family viewing' (the practice of placing more adult programmes after 9pm), therefore, like family planning, more aptly describes a

process which is destructive of family life." Need I say more?

The result of this superficial and prejudiced 'enquiry' is a proposed Bill to change the law on obscene publications. These changes would appear to have been discussed with the police beforehand.

A publication (or programme, or film) would become obscene if "its effect, taken as a whole, is to outrage contemporary standards of decency or humanity accepted by the public at large." In other words, once more publishers will not be able to discover whether they are breaking the law or not until the jury decides. Thus the police will have an even freer hand to close things they do not like. To them, the existence of a gay newspaper could be an outrage.

It would remove the defence of literary merit or public good — on the grounds that if it is well written it must be more effectively corrupting!

It would increase the penalties for everything.

If it ever became law it would be an artistic disaster.

I note with apprehension that shortly after the publication of this report the police chose to raid the *least* offensive of porn — the Paul Raymond magazines.

The only thing I can say in conclusion is that the report continually equates porn with Nazi anti-semitic propaganda. I would have thought that this report itself was open to a not dissimilar charge. More than that it is not necessary to say.

Doug Pollard

# Customers Wore Drag

LONDON: Drag gays arrested at Notting Hill Gate's Champion pub are wrong to accuse the manager of bullying his customers, he told Gay News.

Terry Mahon, who's managed the pub for a year said: "One reason why I don't like the drag lads drinking in the pub is because it upsets the rest of my customers. My regular customers just don't want the drag people in the pub.

"And it's my job to give the customer what he wants." The licensee of any pub has

obstructing the footpath, using threatening words and using threatening behaviour.

They appeared the next day — a Saturday — at Marylebone magistrates court and were remanded on bail until October 24.

Richard Chappel, Douglas McDougal, Peter Bourne, Peter Reed and Andrew Lumsden were the five gays arrested. They were held by the police from 10.30pm until about 2 am, when after being stripped, searched and questioned they were released.

They charge the police with insulting



Drag gays line up outside Marylebone Court

Photograph: London News Service



the right to refuse permission to serve anyone who he doesn't want to serve. So Mr Mahon's alright there.

Before taking over the Champion, Mr Mahon did a three-month relief managership at the Boltons in Earls Court. Now he has asked Bass Charrington, the brewery that owns both pubs, to let him stay at the Champion for another two years after his two-year managership runs out.

He told Gay News: "I've got nothing against gay people. In fact I've made some good friends among them. That's why I want to stay on longer than the brewery normally lets its managers stay at a pub.

"This pub just isn't the sort of place where drag is welcomed by the customers. When I first moved in I suggested we should have one drag night a week — a night when all the customers wore drag. And the customers were so indignant I dropped the idea right away."

Mr Mahon's answer came after accusations that he bullied his customers from some of 20 drag gays who were refused service in the pub — as reported in GN7.

In a scuffle at the pub following this incident five of the gays were arrested and charged with a number of charges including

them, pulling their hair and refusing to allow them to use the telephone.

Mr Mahon told his side of the story to Gay News: "I told them I wasn't going to serve them, then they sat down and I asked them to move out. So I called the police.

"I don't think these GLF lads who come in realise my customers don't want them around. If I served them regularly I'd lose half my customers.

"The other night, after they had been thrown out by the police, when I came back I had about a dozen drinks bought for me and people walked up and shook me by the hand.

"They say I bully my customers, but how can one man bully 300 people at the same time? It's ridiculous."

## CORRECTION

In GN7 it was said that the five gays arrested at the Champion, Notting Hill Gate, would appear at Marlborough Street magistrates court, whereas, in fact, they were remanded to appear at Marylebone magistrates.

We regret this error, which was caused by incorrect information being given to the newspaper by Scotland Yard early on the morning following the arrests.

# Kemp Bashing

LONDON: Mime artist Lindsay Kemp was beaten up in his home when he got home from the premiere of Ken Russell's *Savage Messiah*, in which he has a role.

And when the police arrived they found the ends of cannabis cigarettes in an ashtray, and Mr Kemp ended the night being interviewed about the drugs by Scotland Yard drugs squad men.

He said afterwards: "It all happened after I returned from the premiere — and it was the worst night of my life.

"I called in the police in the first place because I genuinely thought a man was trying to murder me — a man had too much to drink and just went berserk.

"I was covered in blood and in a terrible state when I barricaded myself in one of my rooms and called Scotland Yard from an extension after the main phone had been torn out from its socket.

"I've gone through an awful experience — confronted with a hammer and cut about the body. I had also seen my flat wrecked.

"By the time the police arrived it had quietened down and there seemed no cause for alarm.

"Then the police spotted about half-a-dozen roaches (cannabis dog-ends) in an ashtray.

"I told them I certainly hadn't smoked them. In fact I'm not at all interested in drugs myself, although I don't disapprove of people smoking cannabis, which I consider far less harmful than alcohol."

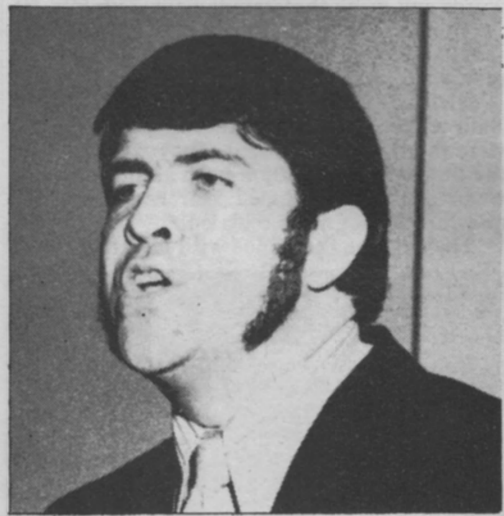




# The Gay Militant

Continued from Front Page

coffee to two dollars. So Troy Perry ordered a coffee, drank it. "Then I went to the check-out and refused to pay. The owner called the police. When they arrived they took one look at my collar and took the



Photograph: Time Out

## Happy Memories

A young American visitor to London was arrested outside the Coleherne pub in Earls Court, for obstructing the footpath, and — even though he chose to be imprisoned rather than pay a fine — the police removed £7 from his wallet before setting him free.

Jim, the American, was a newcomer to London and after leaving the Coleherne he waited for his friend to come out when the police arrested him for obstructing the footpath.

He was held overnight before appearing at Great Marlborough Street Magistrates Court. There the magistrate decided to give Jim the choice of paying a £7 fine or going to jail for 14 days. He was taken to a cell, because he chose jail.

Then a policeman came and gave him back his possessions and told him he was free. They had removed the £7 fine.

When Jim was in court he was refused permission to call witnesses. When he was picked up by the police he was called "an American fairy."

Jim has now left the country.

## Pier Unsafe for Gays

MANCHESTER: Last August Weymouth Council told the Campaign for Homosexual Equality it was reversing its Entertainments Committee's decision to allow them to hold their first conference at the Pavilion, Weymouth. This decision was aided by a great deal of support from the national and local press.

CHE then made what they thought to be definite alternative arrangements to hold the conference, due to take place in April, at Morecambe. They had planned to hold it in the theatre at the end of the pier — and all seemed to be going smoothly. Now, apparently, Morecambe Council are backing out.

A CHE spokesman said: "In order to discourage us the Council has put out a trail of red herrings such as saying the pier is too unsafe for us to hold our conference there. Curiously though they haven't cancelled the fire brigade conference due to take place in the same building shortly after ours."

Is it possible the Council are just being kind and imagine that should the building collapse, a group of firemen could rescue themselves from the rubble whereas we poor things couldn't?

Gay News has not yet spoken to Morecambe Council.

## Drug Cure Fails

ALDRESHOT: The town's magistrates have sent a London man for sentence at Crown Court for an alleged indecent assault, which they agree did not happen.

George, of London NW10, admitted "assaulting" a boy behind the Aldershot police station. He has spent 27 years of his life in jail for indecency offences.

During his jail terms George had been subjected to drug treatments to curb his sexual impulses, his solicitor told the magistrates.

owner in the back room. They suggested it wasn't such a good idea to bring a court case against a priest. The police said he was losing business and losing money, so why didn't he take that sign down?

The sign came down pretty soon. It's hanging in our kitchen now."

He says he knew he was gay from the age of five. "I used to go to kiddies' matinees at the movies in Talahassee, Florida and Tarzan used to turn me on. That's when I knew I was different from the rest of the boys.

When I told my mother I was gay she was absolutely hysterical." But now his 56-year-old widowed mother lives with Steve and Troy. He says: "There are no hang-ups in our family."

Historically: Troy Perry became licensed to preach at the Pentecostal Church at the age of 15. When he decided that he was gay, he told his immediate superior, who told him not to be so silly. When the bishop got to hear about the gay priest, he paid him a call and asked him to resign.

So the 33-year-old son of a bootlegger founded a church that would dispense God's love to all. That's why he called his book *The Lord is My Shepherd And He Knows I'm Gay*.

George had been on parole since March and had been released from his latest ten-year jail sentence in July.

Mr John Cottrell, George's solicitor, said that George, a driver for Kensington and Chelsea Council, admitted the offence, but it was "nothing more than an erotic fantasy".

Since leaving prison, George had stopped taking the anti-sex drug.

Mr Cottrell said: "Compared with the previous offences, this matter before you is of a very minor nature. It's not a serious offence taken by itself.

"Although the record is very heavy,

George was cured by that drug after his last term of prison, and is anxious to resume treatment."

Mr John Ellis, for the police, said that George drove up to three boys who were playing in a sandpit. He started talking to them and showed them his moped. He gave them rides on his moped.

Later the conversation turned to sex and George "assaulted" one of the boys. Then it began to rain. The boys ran for shelter and George drove off. The boys took George's number and reported him to the police.

He said that George had five previous convictions, once for assaulting a girl and the others were matters concerning young boys.

After they had retired the magistrates said: "We agree nothing happened, but the intention was there."

George, whose application for bail was refused, was sent to Winchester Crown Court for sentence.

## The Gay Vote

"The Gay vote" is not a factor which politicians include in their calculations in this country. But, nonetheless, if gays constitute (at a conservative estimate) one in twenty of the population, then we could wield considerable influence to better our position, especially in local elections.

This lesson does not seem to have got across to gay politicians in this country — they seem to prefer negative actions to combat prejudice rather than positive ones such as this.

In Canada, the Gay Alliance Towards Equality (GATE) has been active at all the meetings, rallies and so on in the provincial elections in Vancouver, British Columbia, with a considerable degree of success.

On the 9th August, seven candidates appeared to answer questions in front of an audience of 100 people, including members of GATE. Maurice Flood, GATE's chairman, asked them: "In view of the fact that leaflets listing gay demands have been given to all the candidates, where do the candidates stand on granting full civil liberties to homosexuals?" The Liberal, Conservative and New Democratic Party candidates all said that they supported equality, whilst the Social Credit candidates said: "I support the family; whether you fit into that picture or not is up to you."

Roedy Green, of GATE, challenged the Social Credit candidate's claim that his party stood for the protection of minority rights by pointing out that they had not extended the Human Rights legislation to apply to gays.

However the Social Credit candidate was much more outspoken a fortnight later when faced with further questioning on the subject of gay rights. He said that people who belong to such movements are in a dangerous situation because "one day society will want to castrate the lot of you to stop you reproducing your kind." He was greeted by prolonged jeering and booing from the audience.

He had been asked if he would end "the

involuntary hospitalisation of gays (supposedly for their own good." The other candidates had said that they would.

All this has made candidates of all parties aware of the injustices in society towards homosexuals, and has had the whole issue extensively reported in the Vancouver papers. There's a lesson in that somewhere.

## Big Boys Only

LEEDS: The city is getting its first 'adults only' play in the shape of Mart Crowley's 'Boys in the Band'.

The play, which starts as a comedy and becomes tragic as it moves on through the lives of a group of homosexuals is being performed in Leeds by the city's Cosmopolitan Players, who usually put on trivial farces and such diversions.

The Boys In The Band is the first time that an 'adults-only' restriction has been put on any play at the Civic Theatre, where the play is being staged this week, according to Mr Fred Mower, who's been designing sets for the Civic for the last 20 years.

Mr Nigel Peacock, a member of the Cosmopolitan Players said he wasn't worried that the restriction might reduce the group's box-office take.

In fact, Mr Peacock, who has a part in the play, feels that the 'adults-only' restriction may attract audiences.

He said: "Certainly with films, an 'adults-only' billing seems to attract audiences, and there's no reason why it shouldn't work with plays.

The Leeds production will not be pulling any punches. "It will all be there, as written," Mr Peacock promised.

## All Quiet on the Fulham Front

FULHAM: More than 350 gays, of all sexes, turned up for the latest in the Gay Liberation Front's series of dances at Fulham Town Hall — and all was peace and love, instead of the queer-bashing of a few weeks ago.

There were no reports of disturbances either during or after the dance, although the town hall had been the scene of ugly violence some weeks back.

Maurice of Gay Lib's London office said: "It was just beautiful — just how we wanted it. There was no hustle at all. Everybody enjoyed themselves and the dance was open to everybody who wanted to come."

Even if "straights" were allowed in, the majority of the crowd at the peaceful dance were gay. In the words of the Shepherds Bush Gazette — whose prose style will never be equalled — "Wearing all kinds of conventionally outrageous costumes, including long evening dresses and black fishnet body stockings, gay young men danced with one another to the accompaniment of records to suit all tastes.

"Many of the youngsters had travelled in their gay garb on the Underground, but the police said there had been no trouble.

"It seems these gatherings are having their desired effect of dispelling many of the inhibitions that gay people have."

Right on SBG, welcome to the world.

The next GLF dance is on October 6 at Fulham Town Hall.

## Advice and Consent

GATESHEAD: The town has lost its sex-adviser because he has been sent to prison for admitting having sex with six boys aged between 12 and 14.

Robin Robert Roe, who is a state-registered nurse, had been Gateshead's health education organiser — or sex adviser, for short.

He was sent to prison for two years for the six charges of indecent assault on boys by Newcastle Crown Court, and Judge Myrella Cohen said: "A certain degree of moral guilt should lie on Gateshead Corporation for employing someone like you in a position of trust with these boys.

"It is a shattering reflection that someone like you, who in 1958 had a conviction for a very serious offence, should have found this particular type of employment."

Councillor William Collins, chairman of Gateshead's health committee was the man who headed the selection committee that chose Robin Roe as the town's sex adviser. He said that Robin had been sacked after the court hearing. Councillor Collins was praised in court for the energy he showed in carrying out his duties.

All six sex offences were committed outside working hours.

Councillor Collins said: "I am horrified that this could have happened, but how could we have known? I don't have a crystal ball."

## Open Minds

Gay News is researching the subject of psychiatry and psychosurgery used on gays.

So, if you've been subjected to treatment by hormones, operations or aversion therapy, especially using erection measurement machines, please contact Peter Holmes at Gay News, 19 London Street, London W2 or phone (01) 402-7805.

Whatever you say will be treated in the utmost confidence. Your secrets will be safe. So please contact us and help stamp out anti-gay psychiatry.

## Kinky Call-Boy

Twenty-four year old Roy Davis was sentenced to four months imprisonment, suspended for two years, and fined £45, on charges of possessing drugs, importuning and keeping a brothel.

He and another man were living in a flat in Nevern Square, Earls Court, which the police observed for a period of time. Clients were obtained through 'male model' advertisements, and test phone calls to the number given elicited an offer of 'very kinky services'. The police, however, were content with observation.

Davis was alleged to have been operating as a call-boy himself. He admitted importuning, and being in breach of a two-year probation period imposed last December for unauthorised possession of 64 dextroamphetamine tablets.

The magistrate advised him to get a job of work and become a normal and decent citizen.

Source: Kensington News and Post.

## Criminals, Queers, Etc.

LONDON: The London Medical Group, a Christian-Medical group is running an open debate on Society's Responsibility to the Homosexual on October 17. And among the speakers will be a high-ranking criminal psychiatrist.

The meeting's chairman will be Dr Trounce, the sub-dean of Guy's Hospital Medical School, who is a physician, Mr T. J. West, MD, DPM, of the University of Cambridge's Institute of Criminology, Mr Michael Hollings, author of *Counselling the Homosexual*, and Anthony Grey, of the Albany Trust.

The meeting will be open to the public at 5.45 at Guy's Hospital Medical School.

## Councillor Gay

DURHAM: The city now has a Gay Lib councillor. For Sam Green has won the Crossgate seat on the council for the Liberal Party. And throughout his election campaign he has made a point of telling people he belonged to GLF. And you can't get more honest than that.

Sam's gay honesty impressed the people of Durham so much he ousted the sitting councillor who had been there for 18 years.

Sam, who is a 31-year-old psychiatric nurse, has tried to get on the council twice before. He told Gay News: "I have made a point of telling my friends at work and in the Liberal Party that I am gay, and have found no real opposition from them."

"So when I was contesting the local election in Durham I pointed out I was a member of the Gay Libs in the same way that other candidates point out that they are members of the Rotary Club or sit as school governors. The press followed with banner headlines 'candidate is member of Gay organisation' and my opponent travelled the ward telling everyone I was 'one of those', a puff, a nancy boy, and spent most of his time sounding off about the corruption of youth etc.

"The silent majority — the lot that is supposed to want homosexual oppression were not silent. The dear old ladies would come to their doors and say 'I've been a Conservative all my life but I am voting for you. GET HIM OUT!!"

"I think people are not really interested in our private sex lives, but I do think my election result shows that if we present our case fairly and do not project our own failings and weaknesses onto others, we will win through. But we must keep faith in ourselves, queens, faggots, cottagers, CHE, Gay Libbers.

"The main tactic of all oppressors of demo-



NEWS

cratic traditions is to cloud the issues. We must not by our tactics give them a chance, but fight for democracy with a truly libertarian society with tolerance for all."

It is more than a personal victory for Sam or just a victory for gays, he is also the Liberal's first councillor in Durham in living memory.

Jealousy

Gay Bank Robber : More Facts

It was Donald Matterson, aged 18, who was killed by an FBI agent at Kennedy airport, not 'Salvatore Naturelle' as originally printed. The FBI identified him after death through his fingerprints. There is no evidence to suggest that he is gay, unlike John Wojtowic.

Wojtowic is reported to have staged the hold-up to raise cash for a sex-change operation for Ernest Aarons, his lover, according to one of his hostages. Wojtowic had been in the care of a psychiatrist since January.

Aarons and Wojtowic had been married by a defrocked Roman Catholic priest last December, after having lived together for several months. Aarons wore a four hundred dollar wedding gown.

Two days before the hold-up attempt, Aarons attempted to commit suicide after the apparent end of their marriage during a quarrel. Wojtowic is said to have been 'insanely jealous'. It is thought that this, coupled with Wojtowic's problems about his own sexuality, led him to embark on this venture.

None of the hostages were hurt; all of the money was recovered. Wojtowic is now awaiting trial; bail has been set at \$250,000.

Thanks to: The Advocate

Gay News Sells Out

The editorial collective and directors of Gay News regret any inconvenience caused to our readers by the shortage of GN7, which sold out within four days of publication.

This was caused by an unusually high sales of that issue of the paper.

If you missed out on Gay News 7, it is possible that some newsagents will not have sold all the copies they ordered and back-dates may become available.

In the meantime, Gay News is doing everything it can to satisfy its readers. But we would remind readers that one sure way to get it is to subscribe to Britain's only homosexual newspaper.

Chosen One

Cliff Richard has been chosen to sing for Britain in the Eurovision Song Contest next year, and he becomes the first singer to be chosen twice to sing in the event.

He came second in 1968 with 'Congratulations', one vote behind the winner.

Announcing the surprise choice Mr Bill Cotton, BBC's Head of TV entertainment said: "Cliff is the biggest selling singer in Europe. He was the obvious choice."

Cliff, and his group were recently banned from appearing in Singapore, because of his alleged long hair.

Chedio London

The Campaign for Homosexual Equality got almost three hours of airspace when they took over Radio London's 'Platform' programme - the programme being especially extended to cope with the large number of phone calls from listeners wishing to question the studio panel and audience.

The programme opened with a series of statements (delivered in pseudo-working-class tones) of the conventional prejudices, interspersed with cold, calm, facts, delivered in a distinctly middle-class tone. Which was, in fact, the tone of the entire programme. It constituted a plea for the civil rights of gay people, for greater knowledge and understanding, for more honest and comprehensive sex education, for the right of gay people to marry, adopt children, buy houses - in other words, it requested the right to be as respectable, as conformist, and as dull as the rest of suburbia. Put on your pinny, Lavinia, you're going to be a real housewife. If CHE has its way.

The reactions of the audience (who phoned in) were interesting, but one couldn't help the impression that most people who phoned in knew someone on the programme (I did, for example). Perhaps the bulk of the audience were bored away by the initial part of the programme, which consisted of four speeches taped by four different types of gay person - one young man, one old man, one woman and one rather more adjusted young man (since joining up), - followed by a studio discussion of each one. I'd heard a lot of it before, and it seemed to me to go on for too long. But these things were being said over Auntie Beeb's airwaves, were being talked out frankly and in

Kidd in the Past

Kidd Starts Storm over Festival Club

A protest will be made tomorrow to Edinburgh police about homosexuals using the city's festival Club as their 'headquarters'.

The protest will come from Councillor John Kidd, who claimed yesterday that he had seen homosexuals "cuddling on the stairs". He added that he had been attending a conference for overseas journalists at the time and had been "ashamed at what these visiting press men saw. What image of Edinburgh will they take back to their own countries after seeing that?" he asked.

The Club is one of the centres of attraction for visitors to the city during the International Festival. In past years there have been protests to the police about 'gay' invasions of the club. Councillor Kidd went on: "There appears to be nothing done to stop them. But, on Monday, I am going to contact the Assistant Chief Constable. I was absolutely disgusted when I saw these men on the stairs in the club. They were standing with their arms around each other and cuddling. It's the sort of affection you expect a young man to show for his girlfriend."

Last night a spokesman for the club said he had "No knowledge of any such incidents."

From the Scottish "Sunday Mail", September, 1971

Scarborough

According to a friendly letter, signed "yours gayly" and with kisses, the gay bars in Scarborough are no longer the Equestrian and the Carlton.

The places to go now are the SCOTCH BAR of the CLIFF INN, and the STUDIO CLUB, ALBEMARLE CRESCENT. Have yourselves a lovely time, dears, and thanks for the info J.A. Bona News Service.

All's Well

With reference to our report in the last issue that the London G.L.F. office was blocking information about dances and meetings, we have been informed that the individual concerned was acting without the knowledge of the London G.L.F. office collective, and that in future they will be supplying us with full information about their meetings, discos and dances. Gay News

Not Gay

The Carousel Club in Panton Street, London W1, on being approached for a possible write-up, said: "It's absolutely pointless you coming down here. This isn't a gay club. It's rather mixed. You must be thinking of somewhere else. It isn't gay at all, really!"

And that was after the guy who originally answered the phone had told him (in a whisper) not to be too unkind. Thank you very much. Bona News Service



Photograph: Radio London

out to be gay, as was suggested by a listener, that was no worse than being straight). Here, even the studio panel and audience disagreed - several of the women thought that a child needed a mother, but had no use for a father. Others thought that if a child had a loving, adult relationship to grow up in the shadow of, that was all that mattered.

Listeners also phoned in raising the questions of joint mortgages and bank accounts for gay couples (both are already possible in some areas, notably Halifax) and similar We-want-to-be-just-like-them questions (I thought gay people had seen by now that marriage doesn't work, even for straights). Some listeners, notably one John Myers, didn't accept that gay was as good as straight; he suggested that since homosexuality was (in his words) an abnormality, wouldn't CHE be better off devoting its time to researching the causes of it so that in future it could be prevented or cured at an early age. He was politely told that to look for a cause was to look for a cure, and since homosexuality

wasn't a disease it didn't have a cure. Many have looked for one and none have been found. People like him had just to get used to us.

CHE also explained its position on cottaging (in response to a phoned-in question from yours truly) which was: We do sympathise, we don't approve; the police say they only act when a member of the public complains - we would like that member of the public to make his complaint in court to the magistrate; we would like to see and hear less of police soliciting such offences (which they do); we would like offenders in this respect to be put in touch with us by the courts; we hope to have a bust-fund to help people who want to fight against such arrests instead of pleading guilty to avoid the publicity.

All in all, not so stuffy a programme as I, for one, had been expecting, some lively discussion, and most issues squarely faced. A good statement of where CHE is at and going to, and, thank god, made in public.

Doug Pollard.



Virgin Sperm Dance Double Dutch Sex Change Sensation  
 Kamikaze Kids From Pearl Harbour to Tel Aviv a Divine Wind  
 is Breaking Hot Rats The Desperate War Against Rodent Hordes  
 Bummer Of '72 Loathing and Fearing in Amsterdam & London  
 McGovernment! McGovern Nudist Victory; Political Forecast  
 Menstruation Red Sails In The Sunset - You'll Never Believe It!  
 IT'S ALL IN THE NEW OZ 25p AT YOUR LOCAL NEWSAGENT.



# A Point Of View

In the last three issues of Gay News you have probably read about Denis Lemon (me) and his brush with the law of the land. To go back over old history, I was arrested in Wharfedale Street, which runs parallel to the Old Brompton Road, and is directly behind the Coleherne public house. Although this pub needs no introduction to the majority of London gay men, it might be useful to out-of-towners to know that the Coleherne is one of the busiest gay pubs in London.

On Saturday 12th August shortly after closing time I was taken into custody for wilfully obstructing the footway, and eventually, after a series of remands and one false start, I was found guilty of obstructing the highway in Wharfedale Street, holding up traffic. That's how it must have seemed to Magistrate John Hooper anyway.

I was fined £5 which was duly paid by a close friend of the Gay News editorial collective. The costs of the case — my solicitor's fees, court time, police expenses, etc. — were paid by the state. The amount the case cost the taxpayers of this country could be conservatively estimated at being no less than £100.

Now the case itself is an extremely minor one, it happens to numerous people every day in every city across Great Britain. But at the risk of boring you even further with this petty case (except to the taxpayer) I would like to make a few comments on the magistrate's decision; why I was arrested and the implications the case raises.

Nine out of ten persons, who plead not guilty in magistrates courts, and who are subsequently found guilty, still insist that they have had the wrong decision passed in judgement upon them. I am joining that majority. To me being in the middle of the road means just that, to be where one of those white or yellow lines are that run down the centre of roads. When I was arrested, I was no further than two feet away from the curb. I was also standing between two parked cars, so unless motor vehicles now have wings attached to them I don't see how I could have been obstructing anything except the mentality of PC David Ford (480).

But apparently 'policemen cannot lie' (or even be mistaken) so game, set and match went to bearded PC Ford. This happened despite the evidence offered by Wolfgang von Jurgen who must now be, in the opinion of Magistrate Hooper, either an incompetent idiot with extremely poor eyesight or a per-

collective members, it was decided that we ought to take some action. So to be fair, to both the people who had complained to us and to the police, it was decided that as well as taking statements from witnesses of this alleged harassment, it would be best to take a series of photographs spanning a period of several weeks, to use as photographic evidence. This increasing amount of evidence, as we have said before, will eventually be passed on to the correct authorities, which include the National Council for Civil Liberties, the Albany Trust, members of the House of Commons, and Scotland Yard (with copies to the Kensington and Chelsea Police stations). We have stated on various occasions that any photographs included in this investigation will have the recognisable features of everyone except the police officers blacked out by us, as already happened to a photograph used in GN 6.

The police's first action concerning this collection of evidence was to arrest me, a member of the press. I didn't at that time possess a National Union of Journalists identification card, which I am now told by informed people would have stopped the incident, but at no time was I asked if I was a union member, and it was only after considerable argument that the police believed I was from the press.

Now, I am not saying that the whole of Chelsea police station are abusing their powers, I am not even saying that all the officers who are almost nightly sent down to the Coleherne are, but a number of police officers are abusing their powers, and as a result are helping to create a bad name for the whole of the Metropolitan Police force in London, as well as causing considerable ill-feeling amongst the pub's customers, who in time might be pushed just a little too far by certain uniformed bullies. I suggest that, even before Gay News's report is finished, the police themselves start an investigation into this unnecessary harassment and time-wasting. Aren't they themselves



The police have stated that Coleherne Road is blocked as a result of the pub's customers obstructing the highway. This photograph shows that the usual police practice of double parking is responsible.

juror. That must go for me too, because I also said on oath, that I was at no time anywhere near the centre of the road in Wharfedale street.

But as I said before, most convicted criminals (like myself) claim to be innocent when proven guilty.

I would like though — now that the case is no longer *sub judice* — to offer some explanations on what I was exactly guilty of. I was guilty of taking photographs of uniformed Metropolitan Police Officers whilst executing their duty. Their duty, or specifically PC Ford's duty was that evening to "move on the queers" as it was so aptly put by the Station Sergeant of Kensington Police Station. And it is obvious now, PC Ford doesn't like having his picture taken. In fact, he gets hysterical about it. Neither do any of the other officers who have been snapped whilst doing their almost nightly "move on there or you'll be nicked" game outside of the Coleherne. One uniformed inspector from Chelsea Police Station got so uptight that he sent his sergeant scuttling across the road into Kensington "territory" to find out what my "game was".

My "game" was to take photographs of police activity outside the Coleherne, also to take shots of the surrounding area and of any obstructions that may cause the footway and highway to be blocked. After an increasing number of arrests outside that pub, and the visual evidence of a number of Gay News

always saying that as a result of a lack of manpower, a lot of serious crime is not being prevented, and that detection is hindered continually for the same reason?

I would add that I regard the whole affair (and the incident described in GN 6, where I was taken into custody for a few hours for suspected possession of a stolen camera) as yet another example of the police overstepping their authority, and as proof that homosexuals are still subject to the sort of ridicule and harassment that has been a common feature of gay life for far too long. Can one completely condemn the mindlessness of "queer-bashing skinheads" when they are set such a good example by those who should most certainly know better? I would think it only right to ask for the dismissal from the force of any police officers who are proven to have exceeded their powers in cases such as this.

Gay News is now trying to hopefully prevent such events happening again, and our report on the situation will be completed. Until that time we would appreciate it if any member of the public, be they a Coleherne customer or otherwise, would report any incident to us, no matter how trivial it may appear to them, that they might witness or experience in the vicinity of the pub after 10.30 pm on any evening.

Denis Lemon

# Letters Continued

## STIFF QUALITY

Dear Gays,

First observation — I like the quality of Gay News. Its stiffness is nice to handle.

Secondly — congratulations to be conveyed to our friends who posed uninhibitedly for us in No 4. No 4 edition, I mean. Thanks Graham and Denis.

Third — a nod of appreciation to the lady whose husband has discovered sex and in consequence would banish us all to another planet. Just think — all of us, young/old/middle aged/ and don't care a damn — all waiting to greet the next batch of astronauts! Some, no doubt, have odd tastes and would be willing to accept the Australian shop lifters, male models, actos and others who are too shy to carry on their craft under the hot antipodean sun.

Fourth — apart from Denys, who must be exhausted working so hard to give us an occasional smile, there isn't much humour, is there? Liberation Fronts, etc. all sound so serious. Surely our fronts have been liberated since the beginning of time! And we do laugh at ourselves — Our Creator saw to that... which is more than can be said about our 'virile' sportsmen and their maidenly coiffures.

Fifth — best wishes and may you continue to swell — in circulation.

Bye for now. Take care and endeavour to remember those wise words we must have read in the Throne Room — 'Put it away you may be on Candid Camera'.

D.B.

## TIME WASTING POLICY

Edgely, Stockport, Cheshire.

Dear Sirs,

I have paid just over double the subscription because I noted the comments in the Editorial, namely the struggle to survive, and although this isn't much, I'm sure it's better than nothing.

I think it's a great pity that a gay "newspaper" can't be subsidised by the large gay groups which have been formed, as the Labour Weekly is supported by subscriptions and the Labour Party etc.

I have enjoyed Gay News 5 and am sorry that I had not heard of the paper earlier, it was only by seeing an advert inserted by a Manchester shop in an underground paper that I became aware of it.

I cannot go into detail as to which articles I enjoyed most as I am sure you haven't the time for long letters.

But the one I must mention was the article on police harassment, they (the police) are always crying out what a tough job they have and manpower shortages, but they show up in great force for such things as harassing minority groups, such as our own and flexing their muscles with miners, dockers etc.

E.R.

PS Lots of luck with the paper. I sincerely hope that it does not fail like the previous mags etc.

## New Gay News Logo

Dear Gay News,

With regard to your Issue No 6 and the prize competition for a motif, I would put up the suggestion that this is "two clasped hands" as you see lovers do, not a handshake, but down by the side of the legs.

To your readers this would symbolise unity, friendship, comradeship, a sense of "belonging to" — a sign that would mean much to them. You could also bring out a small discreet lapel button, or pin, that they could wear and instantly recognise one another.

I am not good at art work, suggest the outline of one side, showing left leg and left arm with right leg and right arm on the other side, with the hands clasped near the seam of the trousers.

If you consider this good enough, will be delighted to have dinner with Julian Denys Grinspoon and also try out the Safari in the Biograph.

I am a bit shy about publishing my name and address, so you could place a line or so in the Gay News under "Jack" giving your verdict and perhaps then I could arrange a date with Julian from your London Street Office.

Jack

## Thoughtful Sexuality

Hutton Weston-s-Mare

Dear Collective,

The writer of 'The Piccadilly Affair', unless he has his tongue in his cheek, surely illustrates to perfection the naivete of homosexuals. He meets a 'golden boy' and this is it!!! Well, there can be love at first sight, but it's probably wise for all of us to realise that love at first sight is probably sex at first sight, and that sex at first sight is not worth breaking your heart over, however hard it is on the wallet!

Love is something that has to be worked for very hard, very slowly, very patiently, especially among gay people, and 'in love' certainly isn't the same as the love that leads to an attempt at a personal relationship.

The writers poem is by A. E. Housman, I think. Surely its most significant line is:

"You are not a god, you are the boy I am."

One of the biggest difficulties a gay person faces is that he can only love someone like himself; in mirror image, if you like. And it is rather boring to be faced with yourself all the time. Straights do have it easier, since men and women are different, emotionally as well.

Perhaps you'll publish this as a follow up to 'I'm tired of being gay'. Your paper appears to be moving in the right direction, away from the adolescent idea that sexual freedom means sexual licence = liberation, towards a more thoughtful attitude towards our situation.

J. H. Maynard

## No love at GLF

Folkestone, Kent.

Dear Gay News,

I came across your paper (issue 3) at a GLF

meeting which I have recently discovered. I am not too happy with GLF as yet — it seems to be completely disorganised, and plagued with bitchy back-biters. I would like to see some of the love-one-another in evidence which is so fondly preached about. If we cannot display and practice this among ourselves — we may as well hang up our shovels and join the sick-sick world as it has been created up to date. A world so full of despair and man's inhumanity to man, where true love is so conspicuous by its absence.

A further thing which impressed me at the recent GLF meeting which I attended was the apparent meanness of most of those attending. Unless of course they were all very poor and living on the breadline so to speak — which I doubt. If we gays are not prepared to support financially in a reasonable way the movement which is endeavouring to regain the freedom which is rightfully ours, then there is no good crowing about what we haven't got. It must be obvious to all concerned that in this very material world, little or nothing, usually nothing, can be achieved without money. Therefore surely we should all be prepared to give as generously as possible.

On the other hand there should also be an efficient and business-like method of governing the finances of GLF. There was not much evidence of this that I could see.

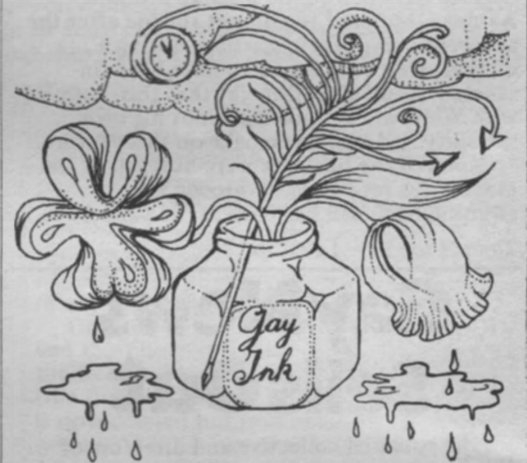


Illustration: Jean-Claude Thevenin

What are the answers to these problems? I dunno! Perhaps for the former a rhymed slogan which becomes the motto for GLF and is a constant reminder to all members to display love, charity and understanding to all their brothers and sisters — whether gay or not. Further that no contemptuous thoughts or remarks or discrimination should be held in abeyance.

The problem of finances — again I dunno! Maybe an occasional donations week — where all donations are gratefully received and the sum result of the gathering is published the following week. Remember the orthodox — and the unorthodox churches are fond of doing this. If there is a hole somewhere or the roof blows off, a notice for donations usually goes up outside.

The third one — business procedure — again, I dunno! What I do know is that there are many finer heads than mine, who can get their brains ticking over and come up with answers to all these problems.

Then it is up to all those professing to be gay and desiring to regain their freedom to give them their full support.

I was glad to find Gay News. I enjoyed reading it. It is like a breath of clean air, a light shining in the wilderness — long may you shine and your light grow brighter,

With love from

Jimmy

## Miserable CHE

Ifford, Essex.

Dear Sirs,

Like that other Queen, I was 'not amused' by the comments of BN, a member of CHE, who has the audacity to throw mud at Gay News.

Anyone who has suffered membership of that organisation, must be all too painfully aware of the trite, miserable contents of their own publications, producing a bellyful of moans month after month. Six months of that rubbish was more than enough for me.

CHE seems to be made up of a vociferous minority of intellectual Tory (another dirty four-letter word) snobs, who hope to change laws in this Capitalist ridden country. What a hope! Leo Abse was wise enough to know that any change can only come about under Socialist administration. What a shower the CHE people put on in that BBC2 programme a few months ago — did anyone understand it?

It has for a long time seemed to me that what is needed, even indeed more than the publication of this newspaper which presumably circulates throughout most of the UK, is a definite Gay Club in London with possible provincial branches, along the lines popular in some Continental countries. Without too much profit motive either, but a meeting place large enough to accommodate dancing, bars, theatre/cinema, baths etc. Perhaps the YMCA would care to donate?

I should be interested to hear other readers' views, My best wishes for the future,

"Lady" Rona Gainsborough.

## BEWARE!

Twickenham, Middx.

Dear Gay News,

I don't know if you've experience of the latest pig-trickery. They now send their sows round the trollying areas as I recently found out at Twickenham Green.

Beware of the "nice" little old ladies in light green macs out for walks with their labradors. You can imagine the embarrassment when they start bawling at you in front of passers-by.

J. Dixon



# Trolling in Russia

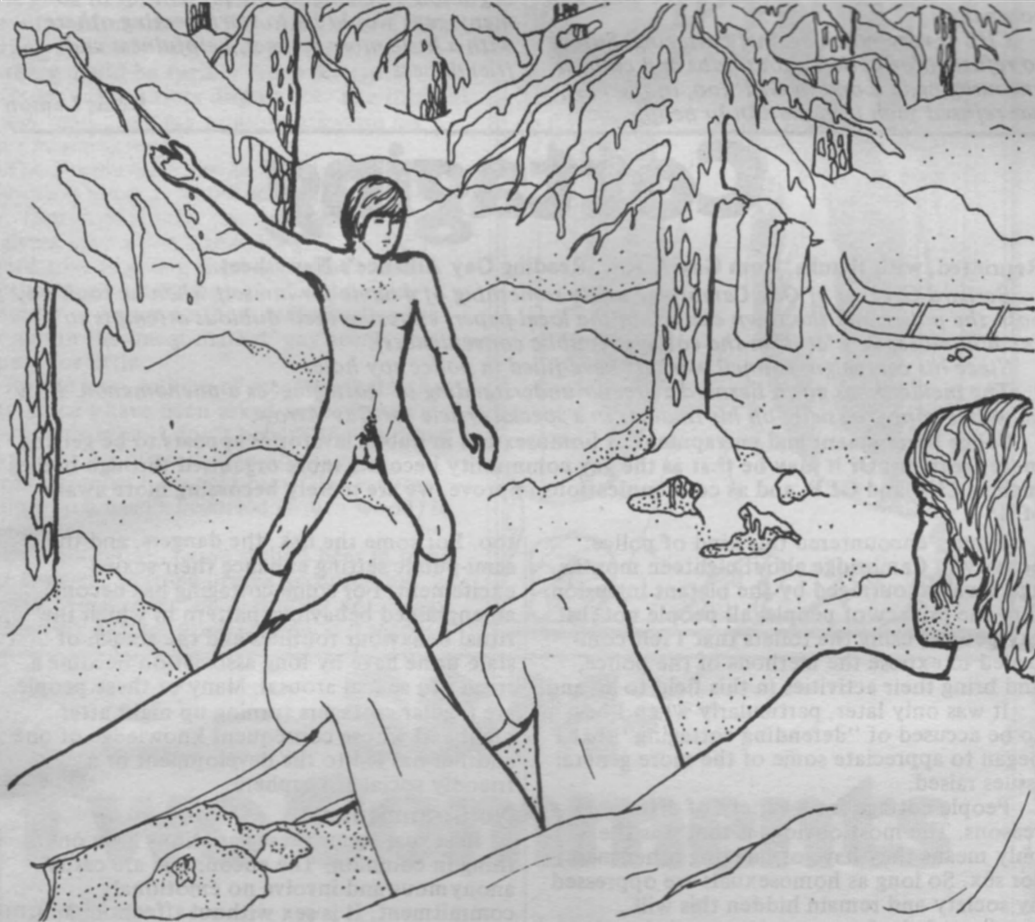
## There are no Homosexuals in the USSR

The Russian government has never liked to admit that anything as 'decadent' as a homosexual could be living within the confines of the Soviet Union. But of course, if such a thing as a Russian homosexual does exist, it must be admitted that he hardly has the opportunity to live anywhere else. So what is the truth of the matter?

I have always been amused to contrast the prevailing Soviet Government attitude with that of certain gay publications in the West, who state that certain areas in Moscow, notably Red Square and the square in front of the Bolshoi, are two of the gayest cruising patches on earth. A discrepancy, you might say! But the truth is this: that in the summertime the vast majority of those trolling at midnight in Moscow are Americans or their ubiquitous counterparts, the Japanese. And

Russians. But another Russian friend, a nurse, said that she suspected that it was nearer one in a hundred. Bearing in mind, though, that the majority of British people also seem to regard homosexuals in Britain as being rarer than they actually are, then perhaps these Russian estimates are nothing to go by, and are merely indication of a prevalent attitude.

After all, the general British public are only becoming more aware and tolerant now that



Fantasies don't make realities.

in the winter, at twenty degrees below zero centigrade, you can keep yer outside cruising!

So what about the Russian homosexuals? Do they exist and if so, where would you find them? The answer is, I'm afraid, that you won't find them, though they might find you! And it is probably true that there is a lower incidence of male homosexuality in the USSR than in the West.

Consider the structure and prevalent attitudes of society for a start. To use 'sexist' terms, it's as if the whole of society has taken two paces towards the 'male principle' - in other words, if little Oedipus Oedipanovitch has made a sub-conscious decision to follow closely in his mother's footsteps, and his mother happens to be a bricklayer or a crane-driver, the psychological effects may well not be as far-reaching as those upon his counterpart in the West, whose mother could be anything from a plain Mum to a top grade fashion model (but not, probably, a crane driver).

Thus it follows that a certain type of male homosexual may indeed have been partially (and only partially) eradicated in the Soviet Union. But conversely, if this has happened, then it also follows that the incidence of female homosexuality could be higher in the Soviet Union than in the West, especially when you consider that there is a very serious national shortage of men. Unfortunately, there are no statistics available.

The Russian people seem to regard homosexuality as being very rare. When I was in Russia, one intelligent friend of mine said that he thought that there were no more than one or two homosexuals in every ten thousand

homosexuals in our society are becoming less worried about being recognised for what we are. Whereas in Russia it is still exceedingly dangerous for a Russian to let it be generally known that he is homosexual. All homosexual acts in the USSR are, for a start, illegal. And although it does not always follow that a person convicted of a 'homosexual offence' will be sent to a prison (or worse!) it does normally follow that anyone who is discovered to have homosexual leanings will be generally excluded from all positions of responsibility within the state. And since the state runs everything in Russia, a Russian homosexual knows that once he has made a false move, all chances of a decent career are gone.

Which is why there appear to be no homosexuals in Russia. To put it bluntly, the chances of a homosexual factory worker in Russia 1972 are comparable to those of an English country vicar in the reign of Queen Victoria. If not worse. And with such an official attitude, coupled with the fact that in many Russian cities, almost all apartments are shared between two or three families and there is no privacy, the chances of cementing any sort of permanent gay relationship are nil.

So next time you hear the claim that "There are no homosexuals in Russia" remember that what it really means is that homosexuals in Russia have no chance at all to live freely and love as they want to - that there are very few practising homosexuals in Russia, and an awful lot of very unhappy people.

An-An  
(and did anyone ever wonder why I didn't want Chi-Chi?)

- A. As a penniless artist it was a way of eating;
- B. I was exploring my own feelings or hang-ups about prostitution;
- C. I was meeting the needs of certain people;
- D. It was more honest than most gay one-night sex games, played in the name of love.

None of these reasons appear to make me any the less human or qualify me for the heart-breaker of the year award.

I cannot defend the Australian boy for not making the position clear - that, I feel, was dishonest. (The Piccadilly Affair - GNS).

But I do not defend him over the broken heart. For in a business deal of this sort no-one is talking about love. The product is sex and maybe the satisfaction of someone else's unusual desires; ie sado-masochistic fantasies. (How many gays have been sickened to find that their man for the night was 'kinky' or vice-versa?)

You say you love him: question what you love. Do you have any idea of him as a real person? Please be honest with yourself. Love is more than a body and a voice. Did you express your true feelings to him? Why 'be daft' and give him £5 when there was no pressure? Perhaps you should have shown him the poem instead and tried to discover the real person you had just had sexual contact with.

I have been hired by many people and few have wanted to discover me as a person, though one did and we developed a real friendship outside of any business relationship, which was rewarding for us both.

I have no guilt over my hustling days, but I have experienced guilt, dishonesty and pain in non-commercial gay relationships from people who claimed to love. Love for me is the whole person, not separate parts, it's a truth between people, a beauty that does not wither with age.

One of my fellow hustlers met his friend and lover through a client and they have been together ever since, and that was eleven years ago. So please try to see rent boys as having



Illustrations: Jean-Claude Thevenin

hearts and that they too can fall in love, but not to order.  
Peter.

## HET OF THE MONTH



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## Love on Demand

You Can't have Love to Order at the Dilly

Dear People,

I want to thank Gay News and everyone who supports it for giving gay people everywhere the chance to discover themselves through its pages. Here gay ideas and experience can meet and be explored so that we can all examine our prejudices and myths and perhaps for the first time realise who we are. For being gay is not GLF or CHE, it is people, all people being aware of the reality of each other.

I enclose an answer to the article 'The Piccadilly Affair', which I hope you print. It won't please a lot of people, but that is what discovering oneself is really about. We have to live together side by side and try to love and understand that which we don't always like or want to see. We are the bars of our own cage.

I've been a hustler in the past, and can give several reasons for being one.



# Arrant Nonsense

I am writing in outrage at the recent item from the "Evening News". It appeared in the column of the (?noble) Lord Arran.

I have in my time read a not inconsiderable amount of material concerning "our" world and could fairly say that this particular jeremiad on the emergence of the gay scene is only describable as ArranT (sic) nonsense.

For years gay people have been harried and hassled; in the past by blackmailers, and currently by certain elements in the police. As regards the latter, of course, the practice of entrapment (inducing someone to commit an

unlawful act, and then arresting him for it) is far less rampant in the UK than elsewhere (viz. USA). It's just unfortunate that certain cottages in London seem presently to be the nightly haunt of those fuzz who delight in 'nicking' gays.

However, to return to my original theme, the noble Lord seeks to condemn - in just a few scanty paragraphs - the fact that gays are coming out, and not skulking furtively in the shadows of a limited number of "gay bars". He wonders if we are really better off in these times of gay plays, films, etc. Well, why should an individual not be liberated? Just because I prefer to go to bed with a boy rather than a girl, why should that make me - or any of us - unacceptable to society at large?

Arran quotes the reaction of an "elderly gentleman"; is this really valid in regard to the gay scene as a whole today? There always have been, and will be, closet queens: if they choose to be so that is up to them.

The article concludes by stating yet again that old, old (oh, so very old) chestnut about some gays "used positively to enjoy the risks" (ie prior to the 1967 Act).

Apart from a very minor few masochistic types who thrive vicariously on possible danger, such a statement is lamentable only by its crass stupidity. Not only that, it also displays a fundamental lack of knowledge of how most gays think, of how they wish to be integrated into society and not treated as outcasts or different.

Take two boys walking down the street holding hands. OK, I know not everyone wants to do this. But even so, one has always at the back of one's mind the thought of reactions.

I am in the process of producing a detailed study on the "International Times" case, which I hope to present to "Gay News" when it has been completed and considered by a barrister.

Just one little quote relating to my comments re holding hands (which apply equally to kissing or any displays of affection) arising out of my researches into the I.T. case. In a House of Commons debate on 2nd August, 1972, on the subject of the I.T. prosecution, Mr William Hamling who had raised the matter, quoted (\*) from the book by Lord Devlin 'The Enforcement of Morals' as follows:-

*"If... two men were to be similarly charged with flaunting their relationship in public, a jury might be expected... to convict."*

I can only conclude by saying that, according to legal advice which I have very recently received, the above quotation still applies today, here and now, 1967 Act notwithstanding.

Let us try to do something to alter this unhealthy state of affairs.

Love to all - gay IS good,

Stevie Williams

(\*) Hansard (Commons) Vol. 842: No 170, at c. 922



THE EDITOR of a "gay" magazine sends me a copy. He says rather pathetically "I don't expect you will approve." I don't. But you could say it was all my fault.

One nostalgic piece from an elderly gentleman is revealing. He writes "We... looked forward to the day we would be legal just like the Jews await the Messiah" "Now it is all legal, gay plays, gay films, gay Lib. I sometimes wonder are we really any better off? Perhaps it is just distance lending enchantment, but those were the days my friends..."

This bears out what people have told me that some of the homosexuals used positively to enjoy the risks. Some perhaps, certainly not all.

# Pederasty

It is accepted now in educated circles that the right to enjoy sex is a basic human liberty, not to be denied for example to homosexuals. Your paper again draws attention to the viciousness of the law in Scotland and Northern Ireland (fortunately rarely enforced) and to the remaining archaic restrictions on homosexual activity in all the United Kingdom.

May I mention the position of pederasts, people who seem to have been overlooked in the past?

Pederasts, who are attracted to boys aged from say 15 to 19, are little more attracted to men than they are to women, if at all. Sexual activity with boys is totally illegal, although they frequently have more experience than quieter men ten years older. Pederasts must be reconciled, on leaving their 20's to paying heavily for their sexual satisfaction for the rest of their lives, something not easy for those on incomes of less than £2,000 p.a.

They have to face the neo-Puritan hostility to prostitution of GLF; and they cannot find sexual partners in CHE, all members of which have to be over 21.

They cannot advertise in your columns. The 1967 Act has increased the penalties they are liable to suffer. In effect, they have to choose between sexual starvation, furtive crime or exile abroad.

It may not be possible to offer paedophiles anything other than prison, electric 'cures' or prep-school teaching sublimation.

There is no reason why the fate of the pederast should be the same. Reform of the law, concerning pederasty must be one of the major priorities of the homophile movement.

Peter Kelsey

ED. This is, we believe, the first time that pederasty has been written about in Gay News.

Perhaps it is time then that this paper ran some information on pederasts, paedophiles and their present plight. The gay world is made up of many different preferences, all of which have a right to understanding and tolerance.

It is up to you to send us information and articles on these subjects.



# Not a Member

An Open Letter to all Gay Organisations

*It's depressing to have to be continually critical of the gay organisations; they are all much needed and have their work cut out for them attempting to procure changes in existing legislation and in society's attitudes towards homosexuality. But it is important that these organisations co-operate with each other, and more importantly, that they are tolerant, amiable and useful to the very people whom they are trying to get the necessary changes for.*

*So it seems to us here at Gay News that it is unnecessarily silly and bureaucratic when we hear that when a person rang up the Manchester office of the Campaign for Homosexual Equality to enquire about where gay rendezvous are in Norwich, that he should be rudely refused this information. He was told that because he was not a member of CHE that such details could not be given to him despite the fact that the person involved did not know Norwich at all and that he would probably have to spend his time there completely on his own. Or resort to cottaging, the only other means available to him if he did not know anywhere else to go to meet gay company.*

*CHE is very much against cottaging. Surely to refuse information about pubs and clubs is encouraging it. London GLF too, in the past, has refused such information to people on*

*their own in a strange city or to visitors to this country. Enquirers have received comments like all pubs etc. are ghettos and that it is reactionary to patronise them. Such dogmatism surely hasn't been influential in gaining them more understanding and support.*

*Gay News hopes that we will not have to be critical in this way again. It is bad enough that so many gay men and women are isolated and lonely. Before any other changes come about this is the most significant problem to concentrate on, and work out effective ways of removing it forever.*

*Don't you think CHE, that a good beginning to changing the present lot of so many gays would be to start treating others with a little more respect, helpfulness and friendliness?*

Denis Lemon

# Cottaging

Reprinted, with thanks, from Gay Arrow, Reading Gay Alliance's Newsheet.

*Bernard Greaves of Gay Cambridge made something of a name for himself when he took on both the police and the town council in the local paper, exposing their dubious attempts to catch homosexuals 'at it' in the cottages (public conveniences).*

*Since his campaign, council workers have filled in police'spy holes.*

*The incident has given Bernard a greater understanding of 'cottaging' as a phenomenon. Now he writes contrbversially on his findings in a special article for Gay Arrow.*

*Police harassment and entrapment of homosexuals in public lavatories appears to be getting more frequent. Or it may be that as the gay community becomes more organised through bodies such as CHE and GLF, and as communications improve, we are merely becoming more aware of it.*

When I encountered this kind of police activity in Cambridge about eighteen months ago I was so outraged by the blatant intrusion into the privacy of people, all people not just gay people, using the toilets that I felt compelled to expose the methods of the police, and bring their activities in this field to an end.

It was only later, particularly when I began to be accused of "defending cottaging" that I began to appreciate some of the more general issues raised.

People cottage for a variety of different reasons. The most obvious is that it is the only means they have of meeting other men for sex. So long as homosexuals are oppressed by society and remain hidden this will continue. It is also anonymous and therefore, in spite of the risks, is regarded as safe. Unlike a gay club or bar there is always a perfectly legitimate excuse for one's presence to satisfy acquaintances met by chance. Some men travel 30 or more miles by car to cottage to increase their feeling of safety and in the hope that if they are arrested the case will not be reported in their local papers. These people are often utterly respectable with good jobs, wives and children. They have a lot to lose, and this seems to them the safest way of satisfying their homosexual desires.

Other Reasons

But there are other reasons for cottaging

Bernard Greaves.

# Gay Liberation Films

The 26th Edinburgh International Film Festival includes two short documentaries about Gay Liberation, one British, one American. The British film, *Come Together*, shot in early 1971, was made by John Shane (not his real name, it seems, which is hardly a shining example of liberation). It is colourful, confused and rather appealing, like GLF itself. There are restrained examples of meetings and demonstrations, and the film is held together by crosscutting with interviews of half a dozen or so varied representatives of the movement. Political statements tend to cancel out: GLF must ally itself with the struggle of all oppressed people, GLF must concentrate on Gay issues. By its warmth and vitality the film should (if they ever manage to see it) convey a message of hope to timid provincials wistfully longing to escape from their closets. To straight society it says, successfully I think: homosexuals are real people, not the stereotypes you try to make out of us, and we want a fair deal.

By comparison the American film, *Some of Your Best Friends* (University of Southern California, directed by Kenneth Robinson) is more coherent, more searching, perhaps just a shade clinical. What basically gives it its different flavour is the more abrasive American situation, and the correspondingly more determined and purposeful action of Gay militants. A meeting is told how a landlord has tried to evict a Lesbian by force. John Platania (a screen natural) describes with vigour and humour his arrest by a police agent provocateur and the subsequent court case. We see the Christopher Street West parade of 1970, catching just a glimpse of that famous Vaseline jar float, and fascinating action shots of the take-over by GLF of a meeting of psychiatrists assembled to hear a lecture on aversion therapy. In an attempt to range across the whole activist scene, there are shots of a meeting of the Westside Discussion Group, a more CHE type of organisation; and someone makes the entirely valid point that most people cannot be expected to jump from the closet to the streets in one fell leap.

But the impact of this sequence is vitiated cinematically by the fact that the participants did not want to be identifiable on the screen. Let us face once and for all the truth that those shadowed faces and wingbacked chairs are horribly counterproductive, reinforcing in the public mind the image of the homosexual as a lurking, inhuman creature of the dark.

In the same programme (now I wonder why?) a preview of a film made by Brian Mahoney for Scottish Television about our incomparable Lindsay Kemp. The title sequence contains the most quintessential Lindsay, as with his sweet-sad-vulnerable face he stands and creates some of those fragile, Cocteauesque drawings. The rest is perhaps a little thin, despite some charming shots and a commentary that contains interesting *apercus*: his work, he says, is about failure, as the work of great clowns usually is. I said a preview, but it seems that someone in STV has had cold feet about the full frontals, and so Scottish sitting-rooms will stay unviolated for the present.

Mike Coulson



# Transvestism

Judging from the tone of your centre page feature in GN 6 and from your readers' correspondence it would appear your journal has some things against transvestism.

Perhaps your journal (which I may take to be a reflection of the opinion of the 'straight' gay world) realises that a great deal of TV's are not homosexual. Most regard themselves as women, not as gay men. Besides I have found out from experience that gay men just don't want to know us, they regard us as being altogether much too feminine.

Note I use term 'Feminine' as opposed to 'Effeminate'. The two are poles apart. I for one don't 'camp it out in drag'. Drag is a word I never use. I dress in clothes. Many TV's I know (myself included) appear in female clothing most of the time. Tastefully dressed in a style to suit the individual and properly made (not the hideous war-paint as worn by 'queens') up we are accepted without question as women. We wouldn't wish it otherwise.

A great deal of straight people seem to have the impression that all TV's are gay and dress as they do solely to attract partners for sex. Nothing could be further from the truth, homosexual practices disgust me. The thought of any man using my body to alleviate his lust nauseates me!

The people who give us a bad name are 'gay camp queens' who flutter their eyelashes, etc. Therefore if your contributors regard TV's as giving gays a bad name, so then do TV's regard gays as giving them the same. Also another reason why gays give us the cold-shoulder - we are to them quite useless for sex and in the 'meat-market' gay scene, this counts for little.

By the way, talking of meat-markets, the only place I have been asked to leave was a pub of this type. I don't believe the landlord found out for himself, one of our gay 'brothers' must have told him! This is something which hasn't occurred (touch wood) in a straight.

One last point - gays should bear in mind that they are to some degree accepted by society, whereas we are definitely not. A gay, by his very nature, must be seen and recog-

nised as such to attract partners. A TV is the diametrical opposite. A TV must play his chosen role to the full and merge completely into the surroundings if he is not to be found out.

Please do not think from what I have written that I have any dislike of gays. As we are all oppressed to some degree, we need all the friends we can get. Jan.



involving hetero S&M - the hotel keeper who accidentally suffocated his wife in their love-play; the city gent who required his wife to tie him up and trample on him in high heels, which would, even if there were no other evidence, establish the contrary. You say that 'although gay liberationists have strongly supported transvestites and pederasts... sado-masochism has been completely ignored.' It seems to me that sado-masochism is simply a perverted mode of expressing sexuality of any sort, be it hetero, homo, pederasty (or, no doubt, bestiality as well). It thus differs in

kind from the other 'perversions' with which it is always lumped, as, eg in the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* which describes it bluntly as the substitution of hate for love in sexual relations. My point is simply that, so far from being something about which we should feel especially ashamed and guilty, S&M, in its nasty way, is something that links us to mankind as a whole. The article you reprinted might add to your readers' psychological burdens, instead of alleviating them. Society has done enough to make us feel guilty as it is.

J. D. Blount

A Response

## Gays in High Places

Your piece on J. Edgar Hoover in GN No 6, was "reprinted with love". That seems pretty insulting to any readers except top-drawer lovers protected by wealth, penthouses, friends in high places, and Novasque conformity. Maybe your readers are mostly like that or wishing they were. Maybe they're concerned only to clamber over one another's backsides clear of the exploitation by job-managers, home-managers, school-managers and leisure-managers. Maybe they think that with a few more pushes from CHE and Gay News they can emerge hand in hand with Mr Rite into the sunny world of love and dishes, spiced with bitching and cocktails, oppressed by no-one but themselves.

J. Edgar Hoover, like many other people, politicians, writers, as well as pigs, made a career out of the great American nightmare - reds under the bed - that unholy alliance of evil-doers comprising kidnappers of millionaires' sons, scientists who sold atom-secrets to the wrong customer this year, diplomats who thawed the cold war, factory militants who hampered the dealing of big corporations and big labour-contracting "trade unions", teachers and writers who muddled the washed brains of the young, anyone who threatened to cut the bonds of fear and shame by which Hoover and corporate America held their victims. Update the list to your own taste.

Of course Hoover didn't shit on fags. He didn't need to as long as everyone else was (and still is) doing it for him. As your article says, communists were "vehement in their persecution of homosexuals". Hoover could sit there pulling the strings of his protection racket, he himself protected by the brainwash that keeps all that energy fighting itself rather than uniting against the real enemy. Keep the commies shitting on the fags, and the fags on the commies, with little handbooks (separate editions) on how to recognise a trouble-maker. (What do you hear about Gay Lib in the Wardour Street Clubs?) Gay Lib, like Women's Lib, had its origins in political activists who

became aware that the oppression they were fighting was also happening right there inside their own movements. That awareness was a big step forward. The "unholy alliance" was beginning to be transformed from a much-plugged myth into something real and creative.

Hoover "never used his files against a gay brother... never did wrong to a fellow homosexual"! This conjures up the absurd image of thousands of lefties feeling the FBI's hot breath on their necks, hurriedly building up a dossier for faggoty, and just scraping into sanctuary before the agent's grope closed. Our police are very liberal - each has his special friends - XX is a nigger-lover, YY's for shop-stewards and ZZ has a soft spot for women or gays. Whenever the call of duty conflicts with personal feelings they always swap duties.

So J. Edgar never nailed anyone for homosexuality. That makes him top commissar of all those bosses of our homes, schools and jobs who never let themselves get nailed for nailing a gay. After all if they want to get you there's usually something else to get you for. What do you think rules are for? So toe the line brother, or fuck off to crawl through the arsehole of some other boss brother. The shade of J. Edgar Hoover is waiting for you.

Peter.

# S&M- Two Comments

### Comment One

"By ignoring, and even persecuting the S&M people, organised homosexuality... (has) done exactly what straight society has done to the rest of us." Good. good. But where does the article on S&M (Gay News 6) go from there? Doesn't it fall into exactly the same traps of liberalism that straight society has with gays? "We have no moral right to pass judgement on those who cannot help themselves." Isn't this identical to the patronising, alienating position taken up by drawing-room intellectuals over any group whose activities they find distasteful and therefore compromising to their 'humane' sentimentalities? The only use such statements serve is to maintain the writer in a state of smug satisfaction - secure in the knowledge that the accusation "prude" or "reactionary" can't be levelled against him.

That fetishism depersonalises was well argued, but is it necessary then to set sado-masochists apart as a bunch of wierdos bent on their own destruction? The writer seemed to be in just that state of confusion (unable to decide between what he believes and what he suspects it might be proper to believe) that produces false arguments and justifications. Now, I thought it was risky to have any sort of sexual contact with someone who has VD. You don't have to piss on one another. The suggestion that SM is sick and dirty made by

linking urination to blindness through sado-masochism has well-worn parallels. Remember the linking of buggery to VD through homosexuality first by the denouncers of, and later by the apologists for, gays? But we mustn't condemn, we're told, because "Within each of us there are elements of sadism and masochism." Familiar?

The article twists and turns, caught between the extremes of radicalism and reaction that typify liberal apology. It advocates liberation for all gay people, which must surely presume the surmountability of repression in our society, but then declares that heterosexuality will always breed inequality "because of the differences between men and women." Women's Liberation groups may as well give up the ghost then. Woman's role at present isn't a despicable aberration that we have evolved into and can hopefully evolve out of again. No, no - it's all part of the immutable plan. Or was perhaps this just an unconscious piece of gay chauvinist piggery? I hope so.

Still, the article was, as you suggest, a step forward. SM has been discussed. But let's hope that as straight society will grow out of limp liberalism to understanding and acceptance, then gay society might do the same.

Mick Wallis

### Comment Two

The article on S&M that you 'lifted' from *Gay Sunshine* is fascinating and valuable, but once I had finished drooling over the luscious leather lad in your first photo (but whatever is he wearing underneath? A plain rollneck sweater seems the only appropriate accompaniment for a garment as complex in cut and detail as a rocker jacket.

However, I didn't set out to write fashion notes. Now where was I? It struck me that Mr Hanson's rather congested prose gives the impression, accidentally I hope, that S&M is a peculiarity of homosexuals. I'm not expert, in any sense, in this field, but I very much doubt if this is so. I can recall several court cases



Photograph: David Hart

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# Last of the Biograph?

Is this the last Biograph Review? Why was there no Bio Review in GN No 7? What has happened to Julian? Has Julian contravened the Obscenity Laws or sold out to Lord Longford? Has the Bio turned the lights off?

These and other unasked questions will be answered by Julian in his following article, which could possibly be his return and his departure!

Oh loves, you won't believe it! Your own dear Julian has been nobbled. I've been interfered with by forces out of my control. And it's all very nasty I can tell you. In fact I will tell you. Here's what has been happening to yours truly.

Those of you who have been wise enough to buy this delightful publication since it first appeared will no doubt have regularly noticed, if not read, this little feature of mine called the Biograph Review.

It was written in the hope of communicating to you some of the pleasures I have enjoyed at that little cinema. Or my little haven as I used to call it. I also, so you wouldn't be quite so much in the dark about some of the more glorious celluloid creations they often show there, provided details and reminders about what's on and when. I also passed a comment or two about past and future showings, and said the occasional word about the comforts to be found in the Bio. And now and again I've been a little critical about either the films or the running of the cinema. Remember what I had to say about torch flashing.

Well, after thrilling you for six issues of this paper — and drawn a few comments I'd rather forget from some of you — it came to the time when I had to phone Mr Wheelan, manager of the Bio, to get the information I needed to write my review for the next issue.

When I got through to Mr W, the reception I received wasn't quite the one I had anticipated. His greeting was somewhat curt, to say the least, and when I asked him for the forthcoming programme I was told that he felt he would rather not have the Bio mentioned or written about by me in this paper. Well you could have knocked me down with a half empty packet of Boots cotton wool. When I had gathered myself together I ventured to ask why he had taken such a turn towards me. To this I was told that he considered my writings to be malicious. Oh, that hurt — me, sweet little Jules, accused of maliciousness. I've had a few things said about me in my time, but that one takes the cake and eats it.

By this time, I might say, I was beginning to get a little cross, but not wanting to make the situation worse, I calmed myself down, and bravely and charmingly tried to find out what specifically was upsetting him so. But he wouldn't say much more, apart from again stating that he considered the aims of my writings to be malicious towards his cinema, and that I didn't realise that his establishment was for the benefit and pleasure of all. I replied that I had seen ladies there, but also had heard stories about the trouble they sometimes caused. I also reminded him that it was patrons

like myself who not only made him his bread and butter, but also helped to put a fair portion of jam on top of it.

But he wasn't interested in anything I had to say. Even reminding him further of the free advertising I gave the Bio (as well as the full programme being advertised in the paper) came to no avail.

So Julian's been sabotaged. My career as a respected cinema critic has had its roots pulled up. I don't quite know, at the time of writing, what I can do about the situation. If you feel strongly about your Jules being censored, I suggest you give Mr 'Bio' Wheelan a ring at his cinema (01-834 1624) or at his office (01-493 8771-3), and tell him exactly what you think of him and his dirty trick on me.

I do have a little plan about how I can get the information needed to write my piece, but have no guarantee that it will be successful. It has been suggested by my editors that I move on to other and better things to write about. Maybe restaurants or fashion — it has even been recommended that I take on the task of reviewing the new 45 RPM single records. I would much rather continue with the Bio Review though, but even if I don't (or can't) your Julian will come up with something super to titillate you with.

I might add that my mind's been in turmoil for the past couple of weeks. I was so sorry about letting down all you people who had taken a liking to my column. But let me say this, being nobbled isn't easy, as some of you must surely know, especially after a certain age, but that's another story, isn't it?

Just bare with me for a little while, Julian isn't beaten yet. Take care of yourselves dears. Flowers care of this paper's office please.

*Julian Denis  
Crompton*

ED. Will Julian come bouncing back? Watch this space in our next issue for the continuing saga of adorable Jules. He's a wise and canny old bird really, so there should be more goodies in store for you all. RIP little Bio. Kill the crabs.

—Somewhat obsessive wouldn't you say? A touch repressed somewhere perhaps?

"He opens doors for ladies, stands up for them . . ."

—What about us women?

" . . . buys them chocolates and flowers — not the mass-produced corner-stand rosebuds either, but proper long-stemmed roses, with genuine thorns on them."

—That is, he treats ladies as pretty dolls, entices them with extravagance.

"He's also been known to send one girl friend . . . a list of rules on how to behave, including 'Do not arrive unannounced' 'Do not telephone more than once a day' and, inevitably, 'Do think of me.'"

—This is the biggest give-away of all. Arrogance, selfishness. Little evidence of a willingness to sacrifice his own desires there.

"He once dropped a girl friend he loved because she slept with someone else — it hurt him too much."

—Hurt his pride presumably. Or perhaps the poor girl had used up her one allowed daily phone call to apologise for putting her long-stemmed roses in his filing system and couldn't explain that someone more sinuous (or possibly more human?) had come her way. Or maybe he was performing the almost impossible at the time.

MISS BLANDFORD CONCLUDES that it is encouraging to find *Penthouse* valuing such sensitivity. "Normally the magazine jangles girls on a man's chatelaine like so many keys of doors he may or may not want to open some night"

Doesn't she realise that she herself has just spent seven and three-tenths inches (which reminds me of something we didn't learn about Mr L) praising a man who wears exactly that chatelaine?

Oh, I almost forgot. "Alexander Lange considers he is unusually nice."

Roger Baker.

# How Important is Perfume?

Living in the countryside one's sense of smell is keener than the city dweller, with his nasal passages clogged by pollution from factories, cars etc. . . . When I arrive in London I am conscious of lots of new smells which excite my senses. Coffee and cheese wafting down the Old Crompton Road from Italian delicatessens. Garlic and other herbs crushed by the greengrocers and left outside their highly coloured shop fronts in Soho. Tar bubbling up through the thin layer of dirt on the busy roadway . . . all excite the nostrils.

But as a 'gay' member of society I am more excited by the exotic perfumes from the models, debutantes, shop manageresses and other sophisticated women I pass in the bustling streets. I long to stop them and ask the name of that 'heady' perfume, that subtle fragrance or that delicate woodland grassy odour . . .

I dare not go into the big department stores and try their sample bottles because of the strange stares from the assistants. Anyway I find that after using both wrists and the backs

Messire, one I discovered this morning in our local branch of Roses. I went to buy Arramis which has proved a real bomb at parties. But my nose was attracted by this new thrilling scent. I enquired immediately what was this new fragrance I didn't recognise. The young lady rushed at me waving the sample bottle, and in seconds I was in a fragrant cloud.

Drugged by the overpowering excitement I reached into my pocket for that last fiver of the week and bought a modest sized bottle for £2.25.



# Bachelor of the Year

All readers of *Gay News* must, we are convinced, be afflicted with desperate longings to hear all about Alexander Lange who has been selected by *Penthouse* as Bachelor of the Year. None of us see *Penthouse* very often, but we found out about him through a write-up (hardly profile, or even interview) by Linda Blandford in *The Sunday Times*. Mr Lange's main qualification, apparently, is his 'sensitivity towards women', so Miss Blandford trotted along, all a-quiver, to find out for herself. The article is revealing, for between his quotes and her comments, we find a portrait of what can only be called an arrogant bully. Under a thin guise of olde worlde courtesy a new standard of male chauvinism, approved of and encouraged by Miss Blandford emerges.

"I couldn't care less what is fashionable and what is old-fashioned — I find it almost impossible to sleep with more than one girl at a time."

— Presumably Mr Lange doesn't mean that he can't make it with two or more different girls in the same night, but that he can't keep two or more mistresses going at once. But notice that "almost impossible". Also, disclaimers of modishness usually indicate a preoccupation with it.

"It's a question of feelings, of giving myself, of wanting to be fair and honest with any girl I love, even to the point of sacrificing my own desires sometimes."

— A noble sentiment. But again we have a qualification — "sometimes."

"He's 29, 6' tall and moves with the sinuous appeal of a man whose clothes only just become him more on than off."

— How does she know? Or maybe it's a bit of wishful thinking.

"He's a curious mixture: French on his father's side, German on his mother's, Swiss by birth and a product of Yale University and the United States army . . ."

— It's kinda dangerous for smart lady journalists to let their repressed xenophobia surface. What's so curious about a mixed parentage? The world is small, people do travel. In describing him as a "product", Miss Blandford is herself seeing him an object, as part of a consumer survey.

"He drives a white Porsche . . . (has a) . . . white and oatmeal flat chomped with elegance . . ."

—Sexual desirability assessed by conspicuous consumption. And we couldn't care less about fashion, remember . . .

"He keeps lists of everything and files it away in neat rows in his meticulous (flat)."



of both hands, my poor nose is bewitched and my memory cannot sort out one perfume from another, they have mingled. . . .

I did once pluck up enough courage to do just this in our local branch, and went back to my own place of work reeking like a Turkish brothel on a hot Saturday night.

Yet I still love perfumes. All through my life I have used them even though my father called me a 'nancy boy' and 'Pouffe' etc. Luckily most people I worked and spent my leisure time with appreciated that 'I smelt nice'.

It wasn't until a French friend came to stay that I discovered the names of some of the more expensive colognes for men (or women).

My first real love was 'Habit Rouge' or 'Hunting Pink' by Guerlain. This drove me into a frenzy and I longed to use it in buckets full but so crafty was the fragrance, so full of promise that a little was enough and proved itself over and over again. It travelled with me from Hong Kong to Thailand, Singapore and Bombay. It lasted through Mombassa, Durban and Dakar and when we finally docked in Marseilles the bottle was empty and I longed to reach Paris and buy more of this wonderful cologne.

But here I discovered another, more exciting cologne. It was Nina Ricci's 'Signor Ricci'. When I wore this around the gay clubs I was never left 'on the shelf'. I received many compliments.

Now after travelling in America and sampling their after-shaves and colognes, I find them all rather boring. They all bear lusty butch names and nearly all smell like Old Spice (Cat's Piss in my opinion) or Brut. Now is the time for all good 'gays' to branch out and be more daring in their choices because there are so many new 'smells' about . . . longing to be tried.

The newest little treasure is M&W de

Within half an hour of returning I had two builders turn and stare. An electrician pause in his work and sniff, and all had that mysterious puzzled look of the male in search of his mate . . . yippee . . .

Just how important is perfume. One hundred percent. If it took my last penny I'd buy colognes. They are an investment. The most ugly young man with pimples and buck teeth becomes desirable when using a subtle cologne.

When you work with the general public one begins to realise just how many use perfume wrongly, to cover up other smells. BO cannot be covered or disguised. Soap and water is the only answer. Strangely enough in these modern times it's the men who smell better than the women. Perhaps they have more cash to spare. Once the tweed-jacketed, pipe-smoking farmer could be counted on to bring that piggy manure odour into the store with him. Now he smells of *Aqua Manda*. The delivery boy uses *Aqua di Selva*, a pine-woods nostalgic scent. The young man in the boy's boutique is even more bold in his choice — he uses *Chamade* by Guerlain. Too strong for many youths but this boy invites rape at every glance.

I can only thank god for my nose . . . I enjoy life so much more by sniffing my way around London and indeed around the world. I can hardly wait to set off again, nose held high to discover some other exotic perfume.

Some recommended colognes for the more adventurous

<i>Vent Vert</i> by Balmain	<i>Arramis</i>
<i>Acquamarine</i> by Revlon	<i>Moustache</i>
<i>Quadrille</i> by Balenciaga	<i>Tabac</i>
<i>De Messire M &amp; W</i>	
<i>Habit Rouge</i> by Guerlain	
<i>Chamade</i>	
<i>Pino Silvestre</i> and <i>Acqua di Selva</i>	

David A. Johnstone



# GRABS

'Crabs' are lice. There are head lice, body lice and genital lice (crabs). The crab or genital louse likes to live around the hairs of cocks and cunts but often can be found wandering in armpits, chest or even eyebrow hair. They look a bit like sea-shore type crabs but are about the size of a pinhead and when you catch one, if you hold it up to the light you will be able to see that it is not a speck of fluff or dirt because it has legs and claws that move. They cling onto your hairs and bite into your skin, sucking your blood and shitting, causing intense itching and making small reddened patches which will get larger when scratched and may become severely infected, needing antibiotic treatment. Tender lumps in the groin or armpit - see your doctor!

These itchy little gits also lay tiny but quite visible oval eggs (nits'), which cling to hairs (like the 'nits' of the head louse) and hide in clothing, particularly seams, bed-linen, towels etc.

"The best way to get rid of them is never to catch them" - Some unwordly medical wit thought that one up, but is best to have a good look at whoever you may feel like scoring with. Cleanliness is not next to godliness - but it scares the shit out of lice! If you have it off all over the place and you can't wash *thoroughly every day* - then you're mad - and a danger to everybody. If you've got crabs without knowing it then you're simple, because from now on you'll be able to look carefully for the creatures, especially if you're scratching a lot.

When you've got crabs. We are all a bit simple occasionally, so when you've got crabs buy yourself some QUELLADA LOTION from any chemist (use QUELLADA PC as a shampoo if you've got head lice) - have a shower or bath and put on lotion *strictly according to instructions on the bottle*. Don't put any of the same clothes back on. Wash them and iron them - particularly the seams. Don't use the same towels or bedclothes again until they've been thoroughly washed.

One application should be enough but it's best to repeat the whole thing again after seven days. Not before that and not again in the same infestation. Don't wear clothes you think you may have worn *since* you caught crabs unless they are washed or dry-cleaned first. Quellada is the most effective way of getting rid of crabs or lice that I know. It has a pleasant, faint smell, doesn't sting your balls, labia or arsehole - (but keep *well away* from eyes or mouth), stops the itching within minutes and as well as killing crabs and their eggs, also gets rid of *scabies*.

## Scabies

Very tiny little mites which cause intense itching because they burrow into your skin, lay eggs and shit there, causing reddening and tiny blisters over their tunnels. Scabies are easily caught through sexual contact. Infected 'bed-mates' should be treated, if you've got CRABS or SCABIES. Lice from domestic animals are NOT attracted to man and mites from cats and dogs may *invade* man's skin but cannot continue their life-cycle there. So don't blame Rover or Tibbs! Writing this has made me feel itchy, so I'm off to have a good look...

A Reelll Doctor.

what each and all have been doing. About 10 minutes later our numbers were called, the voice coming out of a little letter box by a door. So we went in to see our Doctors and I was asked "What symptoms have you got and who and when did I last have intercourse with?" I took a deep breath and told him I hadn't had intercourse with a man, but sexual relations with a woman. Fast and furious scribbles took place on my notes! More questions about symptoms and then I was put

into a little room, whereupon I was asked to remove my underwear. During which time three female nurses charged in for a chat, I wondered what my Doctor had been saying about me. I couldn't help wondering if they were homosexual too. Just as I finished having my tests done - these being painless but uncomfortable, I saw the doctor whom my colleague was attending, rush in to see my Doctor, have a few words and nodding of the head and rush out again. After the internal examinations I got dressed and went into another corridor for a blood test. There I met my colleague sitting stony faced and obviously annoyed.

It appears her Doctor had asked 'What is the problem?' and she answered 'No problem. I am here with my girl friend who is having a check up.' "Have you had intercourse?" "I have not" she replied. "Oh! Have you had sexual contact with your friend?" "Yes" she says. He then got up, went out of the room, came back about five minutes later then asked her to get ready for the internal examinations. This caused her great concern and she hesitated at the realisation of what she had to go through. He may be a Doctor, but he was still a male. She therefore froze during the examination, making it more difficult. When he finished he went back to the file and wrote HOMOSEXUAL across it. Now she is not ashamed of being homosexual, but she was quite right in saying that he need not have been so blatant about it. So that the nurses, social worker, receptionist and whoever else might have access to the file would read it and would cause her embarrassment if she had to return again. In order to follow this visit through we telephoned for our results a few days later. Relieved to report that they were both negative. To be fair, it was a well-run clinic and cancer smears were also taken so even if you are a female homosexual do not be put off going there if you need to. After all you are attending a *special* clinic and we are classed, are we not, by society as something special.

Sheila A. Whyment-Lester.



Illustrations: Jean-Claude Thewissen

## Roundhead or Cavalier

A gay male has many roles to enact during his existence upon this earth. For example the pretence of normality in the company of heterosexuals, and his appearance, physically and mentally, with his fellow gays. His main attribute is the thing between his legs that plays such an important part in his make-up, and comes under many varied titles and headings ie dick, tool, weapon, etc. This comes in many varieties, large, small, thick, thin, with foreskin, circumcised - many permutations of these are available. There seems to be varying ideas and thoughts as to whether circumcision is better or not, but it is usually agreed that it is more hygienic and makes personal hygiene easier.

There are, however, certain instances where the growth of the foreskin lags behind and does not follow the same rate as the penis. This prevents the foreskin being drawn back easily and subjects you to discomfort during sex, not to add that personal cleanliness can suffer.

For some unknown reason gay persons with this complaint rarely seek advice or medical help, in fact I too was reluctant to obtain help until a friend who had been in the same situation as myself had just come out of hospital after having a circumcision operation. Because of his help and persuasion, together with his recent knowledge and explanation of all that was involved, I too am now the proud owner of a new cock.

The operation itself lasts for only about thirty minutes under a general anaesthetic and the stay in hospital lasts only three or four days. When you return from hospital careful attention has to be paid to certain aspects to ensure a quick return to circulation. Loose fitting clothing has to be worn for about two weeks, bathing twice daily in salt water and the changing of dressings was all quite simple. The only pain experienced is during the first two or three erections but after this only slight discomfort is felt. When the last of the soluble stitches has disappeared the wound heals very quickly and the new weapon now starts to take on its new shape. Trying out your new toy cannot be hurried, but after about a month we both found after comparing notes that we had at the same time tried a little wank.

Progression after this comes in gradual

stages but about two months after the operation, all is back to normal, excuse the pun! When I think back that for years I put off having the operation, and with the know-



ledge that I now have, I can only say that any readers with the same problem should go to their doctor and get advice. The operation itself is not pleasant, and you will suffer discomfort, plus the fact that you'll be off the scene for a while, but believe me I wouldn't have my foreskin back even for a night in with Steve McQueen.

The writer of this piece has requested to remain anonymous but has offered to help any genuine person whom he can assist with any further details from his own personal experiences. Any correspondence will be forwarded to him by Gay News. Write to Box R/C, c/o Gay News, 19 London Street, London W2 1HL

## Gay Women and VD A Personal Experience

I first rang the hospital to check the times of opening and was told that the Special clinic stayed open until 6.30 pm. to allow for people to attend after work. So we arrived there in the middle of the afternoon to avoid the rush. For anyone who is trying to be discreet about attending a Venereal Disease clinic, they might become embarrassed as they find huge notices SPECIAL CLINIC outside the building. So any passers-by that might be watching know full well what you have been up to.

On entering we registered with a very nice receptionist taking note that "Men" one side, "Women" the other. You are then given a little orange card with a number on. It is important you don't lose this as you are called

by number and not name. We then went to the Social Worker's office, who took us to the Nurse in charge and we were asked to sit down and wait in line with other women. Giving everybody plenty of time for thought as to

## How Liberal We Are

"One In Twenty" By Brian Magee

Anyone who is not a positive nut-case can see easily enough through the filth of Reuben's squalid and shameful little book. The array of vegetables and kitchen utensils supposedly used in sex is so absurd that one can only feel happy the street theatre of G.L.F. in one of its less crazy moments geyed this pernicious nonsense.

But Brian Magee's book is couched in seemingly such reasonable terms, I feel like adapting to it the term of Mark Antony in his funeral oration over Caesar "but Brutus is an honourable man, all honourable men." How sorry he is for a poor homosexual who cannot bring his love to a B.B.C. or television House party or dance. Why the hell not! He goes to "gay" clubs, spends the evening there and reaches the amazing realisation that, after all, this love is not unnatural and abnormal.

Whenever I see the word "normal" my hackles rise. As someone fairly proficient in existentialist and phenomenologist types of thinking, I believe that abstract universals do not apply to any concrete and particular individual. A tree, a book, a shoe is nothing but itself. Man, on the other hand, is a combination of choices, each unique and gratuitous. There is no universal precedent for right action, because all actions are unique and singular outcomes of choice.

Brian Magee so generously deplures the fact that there are no serious homosexuals. I need not embarrass my readers by quoting examples to the opposite from twenty civilisations. Is he so happy not to be Leonardo, or Michelangelo, or Plato, or Winckelmann, or Christopher Marlowe, or, in more modern times, Proust, Gide, Cocteau? What is, in fact, remarkable is not how few serious homosexuals there are but how vast in every significant field of achievement their contribution to art, science, music, the theatre, ballet and philosophy is!

He is patronising to such an extent that he seems never to have realised either that every woman has a masculine side (ANIMUS) and every man a feminine side (ANIMA). He seems to have no idea of the incidence of homosexuality in all primitive as well as advanced

cultures, nor sub-cultures nor all species from self-pollinating plants up to the anthropoids. How much wiser Goethe was who said far from being a perversion, homosexuality in its noble-love and ideal friendship went a long way to accounting for the glory of Greece and the greatness of Rome.

But Magee is even more vicious when, seeming so compassionate, he deplures that so many of his friends endure the degradation of cruising and cottaging. Since the Law forbids homosexuals to contact each other and noble Welfare workers have organised clubs and societies where they can meet even if they are at present breaking an insane law, it is because they care for human beings not to express, as Magee does, the gladness of being heterosexual.

More vicious still, this loathsome and repulsive book, the only book I have ever destroyed because of its underhand hostility marked by generous concern, is as repulsive as a film like "Detective" which theoretically attacks homosexual persecution but shows every homosexual in the film as a chronic or potential psychopath or the sort of fairy that no homosexual I know, certainly not myself, would look at twice. Out and out lunatics like Reuben are easy to deal with; but people like Magee are the real enemy. They want to present us as shallow frivolous moral morons but they put it in such charming, apparently reasonable terms that one friend of mine became through reading the Magee book so hostile to homosexuals saying "he deals with the average sort, not the few geniuses," it provoked in me a real sense of waste. Above all, beware of the enemy posing as a liberal.

David Lutyens





## Light in the Shadows

Robin Maugham's autobiography "Escape from the Shadows". Published by Hodder and Stoughton at £3.50.  
ALSO "Testament: Cairo 1898" his latest short story published by Michael de Hartington Publishers.

Robert Maugham belongs to that legion of writers who have emerged from the English right wing establishment, and who while holding on to their traditional political and social values and ideas of sexual propriety, have managed to write brilliant books which seem to invalidate them, "The Servant" being the most famous of these in Maugham's case. This seems terribly schizophrenic and this is just what he is as we learn from quite early on in his autobiography, when he introduces us to "Tommy" who all through childhood and adolescence is the rough, tough, games playing, fucking girls Robin, and later on a daring soldier, war tactician, captain of a tank regiment, personal friend of Churchill. In between times the other Robin is homosexual, a musician, scholar and eager to emulate his famous uncle Willie and become a famous writer. Thus he has a tremendously varied life and his book is fascinating reading.

The "escape from the shadows" is his gradual departure from fearing and hiding his homosexuality, from which he has now almost escaped, his father a stern lawyer, who was obsessed with the idea that his son must follow his profession, and his uncle William Somerset Maugham, who wasn't nearly so great an influence in Robin's life as one would suppose. More so it was the people Robin met on his visits to his uncle's chateau: Harold Nicholson, T. S. Eliot, Noel Coward and many others. One almost feels at some points in the book that he's indulging in name dropping, what with his long passages on Churchill and Gilbert Harding et al, but he's not being a William Hickey; he is pointedly honest about these people and their weaknesses and difficulties, rises and falls.

It becomes clear in the last sad chapter that he has written his autobiography at the comparatively tender age of 56, because he believes he is dying. He has diabetes and a heart condition; he is lonely and lives only to write; his boyfriend Jim whom he met in what he persistently calls a "queer" club, who lived with him for 20 years has gone. He seems drained of the vitality which made him surge through so many different avenues of life when he was younger.

This book is compulsive reading if you have enjoyed Robin Maugham's work, or if you are interested in his uncle W's work or the host of famous literary and political figures he has come into contact with and about whom he writes both honestly and entertainingly. And of how a man who has the advantages and freedom money and upper class privilege can buy, has to struggle with his sexuality for so long.

"TESTAMENT: CAIRO 1898" tells the story of a young soldier, who, while in hospital after being injured, finds himself in a bed next to a young, sensitive, sixteen-year-old who, needless to say, he falls in love with, with shattering results. He knows the boy is gay because they visit a brothel together and he can't get an erection with a girl, and of course the boy is friendly and charming to him and he is absolutely sure that he is going



to want to go to bed with him. After an age, this opportunity comes and after one caress, the boy struggles, screams and pushes him away - all our nightmares. At this point our hero, saddened and angry, pays a young Arab boy to sleep with him, and of course they fall in love. It sounds dreadfully corny, and I suppose it is, but so beautifully, feelingly, skilfully written, that I completely forgot to treat it as an entertaining fantasy, and took it absolutely seriously.

David Seligman.

## The Other Side

The ABZ of Pornography. Edited by Richard Michael, with illustrations by John Kent (creator of 'Varoomshka'). Published by Panther, 50p.

The first comment I have to make about this book is that it is 10p cheaper than Lord Longford's thick and wearisome Porn Report. Secondly it's a good deal more informative about what is said to be pornographic and obscene than Lord L's effort and is considerably less biased, which is another merit it has over its rival.

Whilst the official Report waffles on endlessly, this book tells you 'Everything you wanted to know about pornography (but were scared to ask)', to quote the blurb from the back cover. And writers and editor attempt to shed a little light on this sensitive subject in the

only rational way possible - with a little humour. At the same time it answers a lot of questions put by those of you who have been wondering what all the fuss has recently been about, and also provides some historical facts about porn and its rise to fame as the present day moralists need for salvation 'red herring'.

If the whole overblown issue of porn and its corrupting consequences hasn't bored you to death yet, and you want the facts without an imposed halo on them, I thoroughly recommend this literary venture that tries to set the record straight without all the righteousness and 'doom is at hand' theatricals.

By the way, did you know that Kinsey found 'one male in twelve seems to have used an animal for sexual gratification at some time ...'

Denis Lemon

## On the Heath

Body Charge by Hunter Davies. Weidenfeld & Nicholson - £2.

I really enjoyed Franco's companionship for two or three nights. Franco is not a new boy-friend of mine, but the true hero of this novel ...

### DRAG MOBILE DISCOTHEQUE

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62, Glenthorne Road, London W6.  
Wednesday Nights - THE  
PONTEFRAC CASTLE,  
48, Chapel Street, Edware Road Tube.

Dancing Permitted, complete with  
Drag Show featuring: Mr Jean  
Fredericks, Peter Martindale &  
Diamond David. Drag Welcomed.

Come Along And Have A Dance !!!

He has a very fashionable job as an unlicensed mini-cab driver, but he is always wearing at least one part of his football gear even when he is working. For Franco doesn't seem to like anything better than this sport and spends all his time off playing it on London's Hampstead Heath with the first people who come along; a hobby which makes his grandmother ashamed of him. If he lives and shares his nice flat with her, it's only because it's more convenient. A very simple kind of life, indeed, and at first Franco's character could appear as a kind of strange thirty-year-old school-kid, chatting about his contemporaries' fantasies from a lucid although rather camp point of view.

Then he unfortunately gets involved in a fairly complicated adventure. Protagonists of this special drama are Zak, a sort of university drop-out, his sexy wife and small children, and Joff who is an unbearable BBC producer, who finds it's not easy to share his life with both his young lover Eddie and his very straight

wife.

A naked and strangled body is found in the Wild Pond one sunny morning on the Heath. Then a police inspector turns up, who asks Franco some very insidious questions about his way of life, and tries to make the amateur footballer admit he is a "homosexual", a word which doesn't echo in Franco's head at all ... while the police continue their investigations, he later discovers that his mate Ginger's favourite sport isn't football as he naively believed, but rather the high excitement of "fag hunting" in Hampstead Heath bushes.

I saw the book as a very professional "zoom", to use a photographic term, on a guy completely lost among quotidian events who is led to find out his actual identity. But I wonder why such a "straight" - if the biographical information on the cover of the book is true - writer as Hunter Davies has de-

cidied to give us a rather honest explanation of "queer bashing", and how he managed to write a few good pages of his novel about the Gay Lib Street Theatre ...

Anyway, it's time for straight literature to abandon its long-lasting stereotypes and clichés about gayness, isn't it? Most of the time we are amazed to see the almost total ignorance of the subject when treated by so-called heterosexual authors, completely unable to go beyond the fascination/repulsion that homosexual relationships exercise on them. But then a "straight" reader could be disappointed not to find the usual emphasis on the stigma which *must* put a strain on all *queers* lives, but he has very little to lose really except a few misconceptions on the matter by reading "Body Charge".

Jean-Claude Thevenin

## Telling it Like You Know it is

Laura Nyro isn't everybody's idea of a good time - at first. But like all good things, she grows with knowing, and if you don't know her you're missing a treat. She has the emotional appeal of Garland without the hysteria latent in all Judy's later work, the sophistication of Streisand minus the supper club associations, and above all she's got Soul, capital S.

Since 1967, the year of her first record and a disastrous appearance at the Monterey Festival (they just weren't ready for her recreation of a late 50's Apollo act) that turned so many names into instant Superstars, she's been achieving not only an ever widening underground audience, but also creeping into public consciousness through the recordings of her own songs by Barbra Streisand - Stony End; the 5th Dimension - Stone Soul Picnic; Sweet Blindness, Wedding Bell Blues; Blood Sweat & Tears' And When I Die and Three Dog Night's Eli's Comin.

Born and bred in New York City of Italian/Jewish stock, Laura is the epitome of city soul. Her songs are about life, love, dope, wine, and the streets - the city kid's environment in fact - and many of them just have to be autobiographical.

Her songs are hard to describe - some are heavy versions of the best of Bacharach/David, others with their broken time signatures could link with Jimmy Webb. But one thing they all have in common - they swing, and none so much as *Gonna Take a Miracle* (the latest album). For a non-believer this is the record to get into first, the record that proved to the sceptics that she's been where they were going - rather like Charlie Mingus had to cut Blues and Roots before he was able to record his more complex themes on his own terms. *Miracle* is the re-creation of the great early 60's sounds that just hasn't been bettered. Backed by Patti Labelle's group Labelle, side one starts with an acapella version of *I Met Him On A Sunday* - the sort of thing you could hear groups of kids singing in New York subways (great for tone and echo) in the middle 50's. The Bells contains some of the funkiest back up wailing against Laura's lead vocal you'll ever hear. Cold sweat music indeed. *Dancing in the Street*, *You Really Got A Hold Of Me*, *Spanish Harlem* and *Jimmy Mack* are recreated and completely renewed without losing any of the urgent vitality of the originals.

It's one of the funkiest, funniest, saddest, joyful recreations of a past era ever attempted, and the liner notes (this is all of them) sum

it up well:

*Nights  
in New York  
street angels  
running down steps  
into the echoes of the train station  
to sing ...*

four crazy angels indeed. And one of the most neglected and underestimated records of this or any other year.

On the other three available records - *Eli and the Thirteenth Confession*, *Christmas and the Beads of Sweat* and *New York Tendaberry* (the first record, originally released by MGM, is now deleted but rumoured for imminent re-release) the songs run the gamut from joy - *Sweet Blindness*, *Stoned Soul Picnic*, *Lucki, Time and Love*, to autobiographical songs that have obviously been painful to live through and helped her to write about.

On most of the songs she double-tracks and manages to produce the effect of a very together Motown back-up group.

All these albums are essential listening to anyone sick of the mindless immediate inanities of T. Rex and their ilk. These records will be valid for a long time - they get under your skin and stay there. Listen in a warm room on winter evening (or for that matter in a cool room in summer) with someone you love. Be still, let it come to you. Feel mellow then feel mellower - you know what I mean?

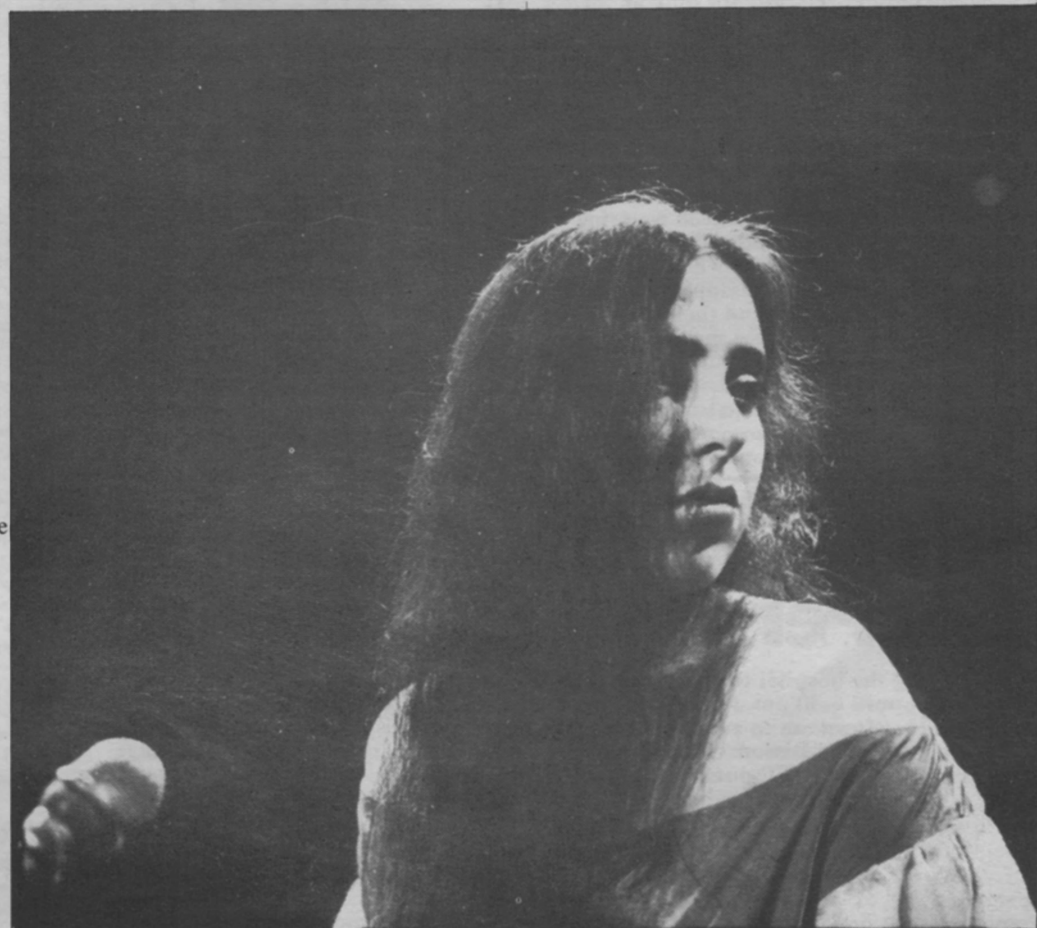
Laura Nyro records have probably never made CBS a fortune, but as a songwriter the royalties are rolling in, and it's rumoured that a two million dollar contract has been recently signed.

Laura insisted, and got, complete control of production and packaging, and for once it's completely justified.

A consummate artist/songwriter doing what she *knows* is best. Now it's only up to you to hear and agree.

Denis Cohn

*Eli and the Thirteenth Confession* CBS 63346  
*New York Tendaberry* CBS 63510  
*Christmas and the Beads of Sweat* CBS 64157  
*Gonna Take a Miracle* CBS 64770





# Noble Savage

**Savage Messiah** Starring Scott Anthony and Dorothy Tutin.

Don't be put off by those earnest souls who tell you that *Savage Messiah* is about the role of the artist in society. And don't be conned by people who tell you it's a heart warming love-story. It's both.

Ken Russell makes movies about artists mainly, I think, because he sees the artist, who is at one remove from society, having to suffer yer everyday trials etc on his own far more than yer average man-in-the-street.

I don't know whether Mr Russell believes that artists feel things more, or any of that old stuff, but all that's immaterial.

What Ken Russell does with every movie he makes is he comes up with a visually stunning piece of work that has a lot to say about the way we live.

The Russian authorised version of Tchaikovsky's life is neither as interesting nor as good to look at as *The Music Lovers*. And Russell cut his teeth on telly biopics of people like Debussy, Rosetti, Richard Strauss and so on. His artists are larger than life. But what the hell? Especially as every movie has a

serious core to it - quite apart from the sensational bits the publicity kids like to publish.

The *Savage Messiah* in question is a young artist, Henri Gaudier, who has a platonic relationship with a neurotic failed novelist lady called Sophie Brzeska. He goes to war, against his principles, and dies.

Scott Anthony - just two weeks out of drama school - got the plum part of being the young artist. Dorothy Tutin is superb as the hopelessly jumpy woman who won't let her pretence of grandeur go as she gouges out the rotten bits of the vegetables she's picked up to make yet another inedible stew.

Because Sophie won't let Henri sleep with her (in fact, she even gives him five bob to buy himself a tart at one stage) and because they love each other, they form a union of sorts - they share names. Which makes both of them Gaudier-Brzeska.

Their intimacy and lack of it - and the actual cruel opposites of intimacy that Russell uses makes this an intelligent person's Love Story. Because, more than any other recent movie, this investigates what love is.

Peter Holmes



Scott Anthony in 'Savage Messiah'

# Thrillville USA

**"Prime Cut"** starring Lee Marvin and Gene Hackman. Colour and Panavision. Directed by Michael Ritchie. A Cinema Center Presentation released by 20th Century Fox.  
**"Fast Kill"** starring Tom Adams. Technicolour and Techniscope. Produced and directed by Lindsay Schonteff. Distributed by 20th Century Fox.

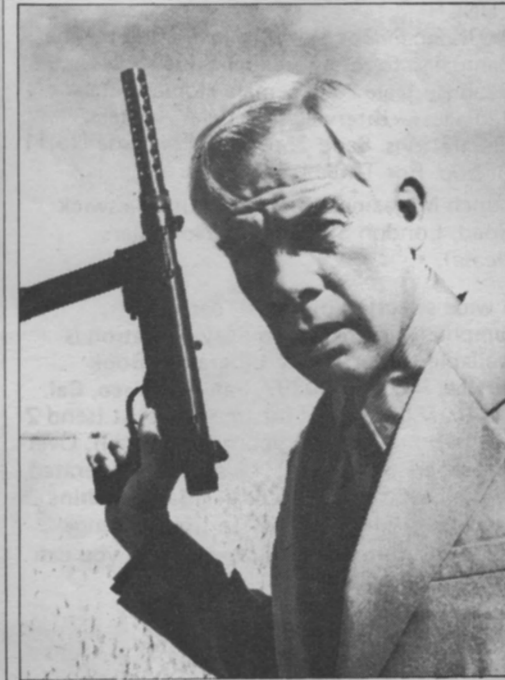
These two fine thrillers showing in a double bill couldn't be more contrasting. *Fast Kill* starts off in a very old fashioned vein - it could almost have been made in the fifties. Big time wealthy gangster with mid-atlantic accent and a flat in Belgravia, rides around the East End in a Rolls, plans the biggest diamond robbery ever staged. This makes it necessary for him to fly around various European capitals to gather the best available talent - pictures of planes taking off and landing and interiors of bars, plus of course, an assignation beneath the Arc de Triomphe. Just like one of those Edgar Wallace shorts - remember them?

But suddenly it all changes - one of the woman members of the gang turns out to be one of your actual lesbians. Now that's decidedly modern isn't it. We all know there weren't any lesbians in the fifties. But the film does really get better as well; more ruthless, full of suspense and generally exciting.

The robbery and later on the way in which the gang leader disposes of most of the rest of the gang, in order to secure a larger share of the loot, introduces an exceedingly well presented brand of extreme 1972 bloody violence. Taken as a whole the film is an extremely watchable, entertaining piece of trivia.



Tom Adams in 'Fast Kill'



Lee Marvin in 'Prime Cut'

By complete contrast, *Prime Cut* follows the current American cinematic trend of developing the basic theme of the film, by making it into a semi-documentary on aspects of American life, through filming almost entirely on location. One of the big Kansas landowners has got slightly behind (to the tune of \$500,000) with his protection payments to a Chicago gang, who are despatched to Kansas to collect. Thus we have the usual procedure of fights, threats and shootings, and even a combine harvester rather than car chase - all of which are skillfully and suspensefully directed. What considerably enlarges the film is the fascinating wide screen picture of modern rural factory large scale

farming, as practised in Kansas and how the people who run it are just like large urban factory owners. It must be sounding a bit repetitive to those of you who read my reviews regularly, but really this is basically a film about atmosphere, the atmosphere of a certain part of rural America today. The fact that it is a thriller makes it exciting in parts, but it is really only incidental. If you're fascinated by the great American sickness it is a film from which you will get a great stimulus, but if you follow the publicity and go because you're expecting an exciting thriller and nothing else, you might be disappointed.

David Seligman

# Coward and How to Play Him

Two of the biggest hits in London theatres today are works by Noel Coward. At the Mermaid a compilation of many of his songs, sketches and writings for an evening's entertainment titled **COWARDY CUSTARD**, whilst the Queens Theatre in the West End houses his 42 year old comedy, **PRIVATE LIVES**.

Back in the 40's and early 50's a generation of theatregoers were able to enjoy many intimate revues starring such talented people as the Hermiones (Gingold & Baddeley), Henry Kendall, Betty Marsden, Max Adrian, Moira Fraser, Ian Carmichael, Joan Sims, Dora Bryan and Joan Heal. With the advent of **BEYOND THE FRINGE**, the whole style of humour in revue changed overnight. All of these artists knew their craft well. They could wring humour out of a mere sentence by the tone of their voice, or the expression on their face. Which brings me first to **COWARDY CUSTARD** and what I think is wrong with it.

Coward's material in the main is still very funny but the handling of his works in this show is unworthy of him. I have enjoyed Una Stubbs comedy playing in several TV shows, and like Elaine Delmar on records. Richard Waring is a fine stage actor, as is John Moffatt. But none of these people seem able to adapt themselves to revue playing. The direction is pretty poor and the cast enters and leaves the stage so frequently one gets dizzy watching them.

The one shining light in this production is Patricia Routledge. It has been said of some performers that they could give a reading of the telephone directory and it would hold an audience. In Miss Routledge's case, she could read the same book and manage to make it

funny. She is indeed a very funny lady, and rightly stops the show with the old Beatrice Lillie song 'I went to a marvellous party' - but for myself 'one performer does NOT make a show.'

On the other hand if you enjoy sophisticated comedy and would like to see it brilliantly performed, I urge you to join the queue at the box office to see **PRIVATE LIVES** at the Queens Theatre. This slim tale of a divorced couple who have both remarried and find themselves in adjoining suites on their second honeymoons with their respective new partners is played for all it's worth by four fine players who understand the art of playing Coward.

Robert Stephens as the twice married man is ably supported by Polly Adams and James Villiers as the new partners. Which brings me finally to the star performance of Maggie Smith. She began her career in intimate revue and it certainly shows in her portrayal of Amanda. Watch what she does with a line like "who's yacht is that?" and you'll see what I mean. On two occasions she lunges forward for a cigarette, and lighting it, puffs furiously in a Bette Davis take-off. Her costume in the third act, particularly that hat, is alone worth the price of admission. A superbly funny performance in a gem of a comedy.

Barry Conley.

# Wait and Watch

THE POSSESSION OF JOEL DELANEY

Starring Shirley Maclaine, Perry King, Michael Hordern. Directed by Warris Husein, Colour, an ITC Production. Distributed in the UK by Scotia Barber Distributors Ltd.

Some films have a good script and leaden direction. Some have a lousy script and brilliant direction. Films in both categories often come off really well. 'Joel Delaney' is of the second type.



The film is mainly a chillingly beautiful contrast between the two faces of New York - the smart middle-class home with its smart middle-class mum and well-controlled kids, and mum's brother, living amongst Puerto Ricans in the heart of Spanish Harlem. From the schizophrenic city come schizo people - like Joel Delaney. Sometimes he's a bored and rebellious middle American, sometimes he's a raving maniac who beheads women with a flick-knife.

How, who, why, when and who's next is the meat of the film. The tension, the uncertainty, the gruesomely understated deaths (look over the fridge door when Shirley goes into the kitchen to get the kid's breakfast in the beach house), the powerful use of music. All these masterly touches from Waris Hussien lift what is sometimes a boring script into the realm of fear and tension. You might be tempted to walk out early on in the film, when nothing seems to be happening and the dialogue is banal. Don't. Wait and watch. It's worth it.

Doug Pollard

# Steal this Movie

*The Burglars* starring Dyan Cannon, Omar Sharif. Written, produced and Directed by Henri Verneuil. A Columbia Picture. Colour and Panavision.

*The Burglars* is a very bad film, but it's also a very entertaining and exciting one. The acting is drab 1950's style. The direction abysmally unimaginative, except for the predictable, but nevertheless exciting car chase (not directed by Verneuil). Other cliches abound like flowery hats at a vicarage tea party. Dyan Cannon plays an American pin-up star and Jean Paul Belmondo survives an 800 feet fall. The burglars break into a solid steel safe in about 60 seconds. The dubbing is in a kind of mid Atlantic French. It's all so terrible but such fun.

David Seligman

# Halloween Knickers Ball

Porchester Hall. Saturday October 28. 7.30pm to 11.45pm.

Theme: *The Virgin, The Tart, & The Witch Beauty Parade Prizes* plus additional prize for the zaniest knickers, if you dare show them.

Tickets: £1 in advance, or £1.20 at the door. Write to: J. Watson, 55 Bloemfontein Road, London W12. Bar - Buffet - Band - Discotheque

FUN - FUN - FUN - FUN - FUN



# Twelve Inches of Pleasure

All the Young Dudes — Mott the Hoople—CBS 65184

Following the success of their recent single, Mott The Hoople have released a new album, their first for CBS. Having had four LP's issued by Island, they now have changed not only their record label, but also their image. This is considerably helped by having David Bowie as their producer, who replaces Guy Stevens. And what they have come up with is their best recording to date.

Mott The Hoople, whilst suffering from poor record sales in the past, have always been a fine band to see live. Now some of this live appeal comes across on the record. Their hit single, which is also the title track of the album, *All The Young Dudes*, has moved them up a few rungs on the group status ladder to stardom, and this is apparently the sort of image they now want to project, that of budding little superstars. *Young Dudes* was written by Bowie, as is obvious by the way Ian Hunter delivers the vocal, and is up to the standard of the best material being produced by *darling* David.

Bowie's influence is felt throughout the record, especially in the eclectic choice of minor rip-offs from the other groups — on *Young Dudes* for instance there is a Lennon/McCartney chorus melody line that Bowie is so fond of using. Also, knowing of Bowie's present involvement with Lou Reed, the inclusion of his song, *Sweet Jane*, comes as no surprise.

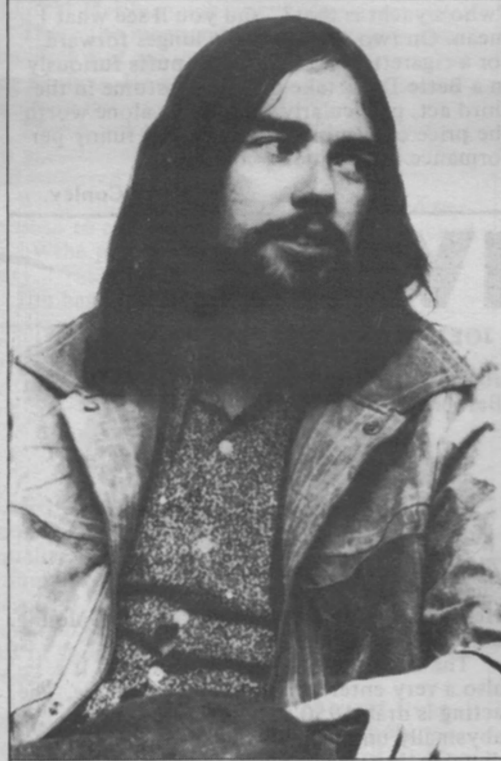
The Mott's playing has improved since their last release. Their sound is a lot less cluttered than before, and Mick Ralphs' guitar playing is far more effective and precise. For instance, Ralph's break on *Jerkin' Crocus* is a superb.

Letters — Jim Webb. Reprise K44173

Jim Webb, creator of the classic *MacArthur Park*, has a new LP of his own released. And whereas his past outings have been very much an artist's artist trip, this offering communicates a lot more to the average listener.

Webb's songs have always been about love, and its pain, and moments of supreme happiness. He writes with a sincerity, obviously from personal experience, which is the main power of his songs. And this time round, Jim is as explicit as possible about his feelings and observations, and also shows a fine sense of comedy and self-parody.

The most humorous track is *Once In The Morning*, which also advises "and once at night", and "once in the afternoon and once at twilight, once for the money and again 'bout midnight". The song



tells of a few adventures such as meeting with Jan the Fan Dancer who says: "You play with this son and I'll play with that". Also a man he meets in London tells him: "And I like some of yours if you'll please take some of mine".

In a slightly more serious vein Webb comments on air-play censorship: "If you want me to I'll sing about fuckin' — Sing about it fast and sing about it slow — Wanna hear it on the radio tho' . . ." And why not, it's a pleasure and a unity we all share.

Most of the other songs tell the usual tales of love and its ups and downs. He includes his very beautiful *Galveston*, that was a big success when recorded by Glen Campbell.

This record is much more of a rock record than his past releases, as well as being without the sometimes confusing dynamic orchestrations.

In conclusion the album is a warm, tender and aware contribution to popular music. Its explicitness will shock a few, but most people who hear it will be moved by the 'letters' and thoughts Jim Webb shares with us.

*Nervous on the Road* — Brinsley Schwarz — United Artists UAS 29374

After being completely converted to the Brinsleys after their last album, *Silver Pistol*, I'm afraid that I find this latest effort a little disappointing.

I still love the relaxing images the group create and the, more than ever, togetherness of their playing which shows up a lot of other groups. But somehow this just misses being anything else except competent. The happiness and feeling of 'good times' that come across so strongly on their last release, a more country influenced collection of songs, is not as obvious as before. This record has far more of a rock feel to it.

The Brinsley's have always produced albums that needed a little time to get into, and as I listen to this record more often, a few of the tracks start to stand out more than they did to begin with. *Surrender To The Rhythm* for example, is a fine rocker, and the

Mott's lyrics are very sexually orientated, more than enough to upset Lord Porn, and liable to send Mrs Whitehouse screaming to the Director of Public Prosecutions. But luckily no reasonable person takes much notice of these bringers of 'fire and brimstone'. Lines which sound suspiciously like: "My baby calls me when she wanna play" (or is it "lay"), and another line: "You can smoke my cigar all night" from a song called *Sucker*, make their intentions and meaning crystal clear. On the beautifully titled *Jerkin' Crocus* with Ian Hunter doing a full Mick Jagger, he delivers this memorable phrase: "I know what she wants, Just a lick of your ice cream cone". Tasty, so is *Ready For Love* on side two.

Whether Mott The Hoople is going to make it big at long last remains to be seen. If they disappear to America, we will know that they have. But this time round they have brought out an album that is at times stunning and they have certainly rewarded their fans who have been waiting quite a while for a recording as good as this.

Particularly recommended for hearing on headphones if you're lucky enough to own a pair, or two — so your boyfriend or girlfriend can share the same experience.

title track, *Nervous on the Road (But Can't Stay Home)* displays a good degree of wit, as well as moving along at a pleasing pace.

Their version of Chris Kenner's *I Like It Like That* on side two, showcases the group's affection for old rock 'n' roll classics, which are now very much a part of their live performances. Their treatment of this classic rocker shows an understanding or the essence of good rock. It's a shame that they didn't include one of the Sam & Dave numbers they are also so fond of.

The organ and piano playing of Bob Andrews is one of the consistent pleasures of Brinsley music and heightens the effect of most of the numbers they are working with at present.

A lot of my friends are raving about this album, so I suggest you give it a listen and draw your own conclusions. It's superior rock but the total of the rewards on hearing it are in your head.

*Soulful Tapestry* — Honey Cone — Hot Wax SHW 5005

Honey Cone is an American soul vocal group, comprising three black girls. And this album contains two of their biggest hits to date, *One Monkey Don't Stop No Show* and *Want Ads*. Although the group have not met with much success in this country so far, they are firm favourites in discotheques and with soul fanatics.

Their sound is very commercial but with a few dashes of originality that put them above a lot of other groups working in this musical area. The arrangements are slightly reminiscent of Tamla Motown ones, but without the over-production now often associated with that company. And their style is less earthy than that of companies such as Stax and Atlantic.

The songs move along at a good pace and are ideal dance music. My only complaint would be that after one listens to both sides of the album, they become a little mechanical and predictable. Basically they are a 'singles' group and to keep one's interest throughout a whole album is quite a task. But with slightly more inventiveness in the arrangements and a choice of stronger material, they should put matters right on future LP releases.

*Soulful Tapestry* is a must for soul enthusiasts and for those of you who want to hear something a little different to what more established soul music companies are churning out.

Incidentally, Honey Cone's *Want Ads* is one of Gay News' theme songs. I surely don't need to explain why do I? Just turn to the next to last page of the paper.

*Portrait of Donny* — Donny Osmond — MGM 2315108

Much to my surprise I found that Donny Osmond's first solo album is an absolute delight. The choice of material is ideal for Donny's voice, and the arrangements are nicely spectacular and especially suitable to the emotional elements in the songs.

Included on the album is *Puppy Love*, the 'teen' hit of the year. This song is largely responsible for bringing the praise and success that Donny now enjoys. In this country he even outsells that other idol of *kid culture*, David Cassidy. Written and originally recorded by Paul Anka (Donny's equivalent of the late-fifties), *Puppy Love* contains a degree of protest about adult non-understanding and intolerance that young people can identify with. Also the sentiments expressed in all the songs not only touch this particular section of the record buying public, but also reach a wider audience with their simple sincerity. The Goffin/King number *Hey Girl* works on the same level, as does *All I have to do is Dream* and *This Guy's in Love With You*.

Eddie Holman's sadly underrated *Hey There, Lonely Girl* is another good choice by Donny, whilst the dynamics of *Love Me* make it hard to believe that the song is being sung by a twelve-year-old.

All in all, Donny has produced an immensely enjoyable album, that is far more than one might at first have thought possible.

*Super Fly* — Curtis Mayfield—Buddah 2318065

Curtis Mayfield's new album is his first entry into Isaac Hayes territory, for it is the soundtrack of a new 'black' movie called *Super Fly*.

Although I don't know much about the film I gather from the lyrics that it is about drug addiction and 'pushing' in a black ghetto. The film is directed by Gordon Parks Jr, who was responsible for the *Shaft* movies.

Those of you who are into Mayfield and what he has been doing since he left the Impressions will

find this record as good as his recent releases. If you aren't into his brand of funky/city soul yet you will probably turn on to it if you hear a track from the album at a discotheque. But otherwise I think it is a success and a must, only for those already converted to this type of sophisticated soul music.

*Fables* — England Dan & John Ford Coley — A & M AMLS 64350

*Fables* is the second album to be released by England Dan & John Ford Coley. This duo sing and play melodic, thoughtful, full-of-love songs and music. Their material ranges from graceful to medium-heavy rock, but without ever being excessive. Much of the time they are very beautiful. Dan and John's approach is simple but direct. Something like the old Simon & Garfunkel sound.

Some of the best 'stories' told on this record are *Simone* (their latest single) and *Casey*, whilst *What I'm Doing*, which closes side one, is a minor anthem of love and the bewilderment it can cause.

Unfortunately a lot of records similar to Dan and John's are being released. This will probably be unheard and unnoticed like so many others. It's very much a disc you like immediately and play a lot, or dismiss completely. Personally *Fables* makes me feel good whenever I listen to it, could possibly do the same to some of you. Play it if you come across it.

Denis Lemon

Walter Carlos' *Clockwork Orange*—CBS73059

Inevitably many copy versions of the music featured in 'A Clockwork Orange' are now beginning to appear on the market, most

of these only having the orchestral passages. CBS has released Walter Carlos' entire synthesised score for and about this book/film.

Many of the pieces, of course, were composed before the film was made, but Carlos has inserted some original works. Thankfully, we now have the full "Timesteps" music, of which we were only given a tantalising portion on the soundtrack. What a pity Carlos wasn't invited to write the score for Kubrick's previous film '2001; A Space Odyssey'. This piece shows what Carlos is capable of doing. Along with 'Timesteps' the album contains two other Carlos compositions, 'Theme from A Clockwork Orange (Beethoveniana)' and 'Country Lane' — two exciting pieces, the latter not heard in the film, but an evocative interpretation. A deeply moving piece.

The choreographed 'Ultra-violence' scenes were accompanied by the orchestral passage of Rossini's 'The Thieving Magpie'. Here Carlos has included the electronic version. Marvellous in stereo. Also this album has several other synthesised classical works as featured on the soundtrack.

In comparison I find this album far more satisfying than the actual soundtrack. For a reminder of the film buy the soundtrack — for an experience, buy this record. Real horror-show.

Anthony Godden.

## Stop Press

CHE in Morecambe

*Confusion reigns over whether CHE will be allowed to meet in Morecambe or not. It now appears that although the Council don't want CHE, the owners of the pier on which the conference was going to be held still do. The council have suggested that the pier is 'unsafe', but this is strongly refuted by the pier's owners and manager.*

*It seems that it has only just dawned on the Council that the letters stand for Campaign for HOMOSEXUAL Equality, — so they're objecting on 'moral' grounds. Like Weymouth, they don't fancy the idea of a gay 'invasion'.*

*The only remaining stumbling block is the approval of the town's Publicity Committee*

FOR LATECOMERS SPECIAL OFFER

Just in case you weren't a Gay News reader all the time and you've missed an issue or two, we've kept a special supply of copies of each issue in our vault at London Street in elegant Paddington.

So to celebrate our continued existence we offer you issues one to six, sent to you in a plain sealed envelope by our dedicated distribution staff, at a very special price of 50p including postage. Why don't you join the British Museum in keeping for posterity copies of Gay News. And don't forget, we'll only be able to continue this offer for a limited period.

In case you've only missed one issue, back numbers of Gay News are available at 13p per copy, including postage. Send cheques/P.O.'s to Oldies Dept., Gay News, 19 London Street, London W2 1HL.

LUNCH

An Independent Monthly (affiliated to The Campaign for Homosexual Equality). Read By Male And Female Homosexuals. 32 Pages — Interviews, Articles, Letters, Illustrations. Send 25p. Now For Issue No.11 Or 50p. For Three Back Issues. Lunch Magazine, 16 Avon Court, Keswick Road, London SW15 2JU. (No Callers Please).

A wide selection of books, periodicals, pamphlets and posters on gay liberation is available from the Gay Liberation Book Service, P.O.Box 40397, San Francisco, Cal. 94140, U.S.A. Write for free price list (send 2 international reply coupons for airmail). Overseas orders welcomed. The service is operated by the group which publishes Gay Sunshine a radical gay liberation paper. In exchange for four international reply coupons you can get a sample copy of the paper.

— who have said that they originally endorsed CHE's application on 'incomplete information'.

*Other problems have arisen over accommodation — only two hotels amongst all those written to, gave a favourable reply. Elsewhere empty hotels are suddenly 'full' when CHE needs rooms.*

*The issue has now become a matter of public debate — the 'Morecambe Guardian' has pointed out that the council could be liable for damages for breaking their contract. The story has also been reported in the 'Morecambe Visitor' and 'Lancashire Evening Post'.*

*CHE has decided to go to Morecambe anyway, booking their accommodation and facilities privately (since it is now too late to change their venue) and will lobby councillors and appeal to the people of Morecambe to raise enough cash to pay for it all.*

Gay News Universal Service

The Full Frontal Monthly

## The Gay Times

A new, gay, glossy monthly. 48 pages packed with exciting photographs, articles and stories. Available from bookshops or direct from the publishers: Plato Publications Ltd., 12 Wyndham Place, London W1H 1AS. 60p per copy, including postage. £6.00 - 12 months subscription.



This Ad was refused by Private Eye.

If you live in CUPID'S CRESCENT Watch out, or the Sexual Avenger will get you! Read about his truly dreadful career in the new soft-cover novel: CUPID'S CRESCENT by LAURENCE COLLINSON WHICH which is comic and erotic and contains lashings of gayness.

This novel is being published by subscription because even those established British publishers who have been most enthusiastic about it are still hung-up about sex.

The manuscript will go to the printers as soon as there are enough subscribers - not longer than about three months, the author/publisher hopes. In the meantime, the money will be held in trust and returned if the project fails to get off the ground. There will be a special limited edition of 350 copies, signed and numbered by the author, at £2.00 per copy. The ordinary edition will sell at £1.00 per copy. Both prices include postage.

Send cheque/P.O. made out to 'Grandma Press', c/o Laurence Collinson, 30 Andrewes House, Barbican, London, EC2Y 8AX.



ILLEGAL PAGE

# Love Knoweth No Laws\*

Owing to certain pressures put upon us by the law, we hold the right to cut, change or refuse to print any personal ads sent to us. We must also warn male 'minors' (under 21) that you may have unpleasant legal nasties unloaded on you, and us, if you attempt to use and reply for certain reasons connected with the meeting of someone for immoral purposes, namely making love. Apart from those antiquated legalities, men and women are welcome to use these columns as they wish.

\* Chaucer.

Personal Ads

REPLIES TO BOX ADS: when replying to a box ad please write the box number on the envelope, and send it to Gay News, 19 London Street, London W2 1HL. Box number replies cannot be discussed on the telephone. If you wish to send a stamp with your box. no. reply, please do not attach it to reply.

GAY MALE, 31, mature. Social life restricted due to shift work. Wishes to meet similar for relationship. Box 248

MAN (50) OWN PAD, South Coast, seeks active genuine partner, same age or older. Box 249

LONG HAIRD BODY BUILDER, really keen to meet similar for lasting friendship, aged up to 30. Someone who appreciates physical and artistic things and is sincere. Photo please, ALA. Box 250

GAY CHAP YOUNG LOOKING, 34, severely jilted after 8 years, wants to forget the past and make new friends. Versatile and adaptable. Own house, London. All answered but photo Please. Box 251

EDINBURGH INDIAN, 26, Tall, slim, hirsute would like meet/respond others 26-40 for lasting relationship. Interests sports, music. Photo appreciated and returned. Genuine replies only please. Box 252

MALE (30) in Southampton/Bournemouth area with rubber, pvc, leather & denim gear would like to meet similar type. (21-35) Box 253

GUY (22) would like to meet girls, preferably gay, like myself! Box 254

YOUNG EXECUTIVE, inexperienced. Own flat, car, North London, seeks young man to share with. Qualities appreciated, honesty, sincerity and sense of humour. Box 255

ANY SPORTS MINDED GAYS interested in forming table tennis/football or other sports teams/clubs? Please write me. Suggestions welcomed. Box 256

ACTIVE BACHELOR, seeks young compatible friends for mutual pleasure & intimate relationship. Photo appreciated and returned. Phone No. if possible. Box 257

LONELY MASCULINE GUY OF 29, seeks an attractive well-built companion in Essex. Photo appreciated. Box 258

LECTURER, 39, anti-authoritarian, room near Paris (Veteran of 1968!) welcomes younger friends/visitors. Box 259

PETER, 24, seeks young genuine gay friends in London area - Photo appreciated. Box 260

SOUNDS. Drag-Mobile Disco/lights. Simply the best. Built-in drag show or male floor show if desired. Pete: 01-743 9930 (5-7 pm)

S & M, LEATHER, - any nice boy, beardless, under 23, ready to teach curious slim chap, 20's? No electronics. Also will be (passive) partner in usual stuff. Photo appreciated. Box 261

GAY GUY, 22, educated German, English speaking, seeks correspondence with gay, muscular males (25-40). Meetings assured. Photos appreciated. Box 262

LONDON - WHITE GUY, 23, would like to meet any non-European gay guys. Prefer non-camp. Box 263

GAY WOMEN (35) would like to hear from others, 30-40. All letters answered. Box 264

YOUNG IRISHMAN, 27, would like to hear from Irish readers. Photo ensures reply. Box 265

23 YEAR OLD CANADIAN wishes to meet someone around same age for friendship and lover purposes. I am 5'6" black hair, blue eyes. Enjoy dancing, theatres and evenings at home. Picture please. Will answer all. Box 266

ELDERLY TRANSVESTIST, desires to meet others. Varied interests. Gardening, etc. Country lover. Box 267

KINKY LEATHER/DENIM GUY wishes contacts (25-35). Only reply if genuine. Box 270

YOUNG MAN, (30) own house, North East Kent Coast, wishes to meet Gay Males, (preferably younger). For friendship and pleasures. Can accommodate at weekends, expenses paid for right people. Photo please. A.L.A. Box 268

SLIM GAY STUDENT (21) is lonely and wishes to meet young males up to 23yrs for intimate friendship and mutual pleasures. London/Midlands. Box 269

ESSEX - LONDON BORDERS, GUY 26 wants friends, same age, same area, to stave off boredom. Photo appreciated. All Letters Answered. Box 271

MAN SEEKS PIN UP PHOTOS of muscle men, must be full length and close up and very cheap. In colour if possible. Box 272

LOVING GAY GUY, 39, hirsute, requires passive slim non-materialistic mate. Age nationality immaterial. Photo appreciated, A.L.A.; Box 273

CHEERFUL WELL-BUILT ACTIVE LONDONER wanted for occasional companionship: manual worker especially welcome. Photo please. Box 274

ATTRACTIVE SINCERE MALE 30's varied interest, seeks someone nice for full warm friendship under 30. Photos exchanged please, all replied to. Coventry or district. Box 275

FOR SALE: French language (linguaphone) 45 rpm record course. Slightly used. Cost £22 - £6 o.n.o. Box 276

GOOD LOOKING PROVINCIAL YOUTH, 23, seeks friends under 30 (especially skinheads & leather boys). Also any others living in or near London. Please send photo. Will answer with mine. Box 277

BACHELOR ARTIST OFFERS fortnight Brighton, to clean, muscular, adonis, in return for modelling and light domestic work. Photo essential, age under 25. Please write fully. Box 278

MAN (42) S.E. LONDON, no special hangups. Interests politics, people, etc. Seeks friends for a drink or what have you. Box 279

LONDONER, 40, become socially insular, offers help (mutually, accommodation for one/two male potential friends. Box 280

LONELY HOMOSEXUAL MALE NURSE, seeks friends. All letters answered. Photos appreciated. Box 282

YOUNG MAN, 22, would like to meet male up to 25 interested in swimming, travel, music, cinema, to form a sincere, affectionate and permanent friendship, eventually to share flat. Photo if possible, returned with mine. Box 283

LONELY GIRL wants very much to meet nice friend 20 to 35 who lives in the West Country, around Salisbury or Bristol. All letters answered. Box 284

GAY GIRL WOULD LIKE TO SEE LONDON, any girl like to show me about? for a weekend. Box 285

ENTHUSIASTIC BUT LONESOME weight-trainer (28) seeks similarly dedicated training partner or introduction to gay orientated gym. Is there (another) handsome muscle guy in London to help me? Box 287

BACHELOR, 48, own flat seeks sincere and genuine male companion between 21-30. Only sincere replies please. Photograph essential. Good home for right person. Box 288

I am extremely lonely and would like people to write to me. I am 19 years old and am interested in music and the occult. My address is Robert Hranichny, Schallergasse 7/5, 1120 Wien, Austria.

Anyone Lonely in Guernsey - either sex - any age, like to form social group? Alternatively anyone interested in coming to my house for coffee and conversation? (Lesbian, single, 40) Box 209

Robin De Layne-Harvey. Please return two rare books you borrowed - immediately. David.

One Man Wanted to Help Distribute "Gay News" in Edinburgh. 30% commission. Contact Ian Dunn at 15 Hope Park Terrace, Edinburgh.

21 YEAR OLD seeks pen friends in U.K. Write to: Ed Wong, Flat A1, 5th Floor, 2 Oaklands Path, Hong Kong.

EXECUTIVE, 34, TRANSFERRED TO LONDON SHORTLY seeks young social contacts, any race, maybe roommate. I'm masculine, young looking & thinking & can afford a few of the nicer things in life. Sincere only. Photo helps, will be returned. Let's correspond! MAX, PO Box 26017, Los Angeles 90026, USA.

TRENDY, STRAIGHT-LOOKING GAY (21), interested in leather, only recently come out, - am I really so alone? Box 290

MALE, MID 40's won flat, seeks friendship with working class mate, 30 to 45. All letters answered. Box 291

LONELY MALE (42) 6'2" tall, slim, affectionate, active, seeks reliable, tall, slim young male under 30 for permanent genuine and sincere relationship. Camp/effeminate guy welcome. London/Southend area. Photos exchanged. Box 292

YOUNG MAN, good appearance and physique, considerate, seeks similar, 21-40, London area. Lasting friendship, sincere. Please send photo. (Returned with mine). Box 293

WHERE IS the personable intelligent young man needing pad and older-brother figure? Come live with me and be my love. Phone 603 3646 or Box 294

INEXPERIENCED GAY GIRL requires experienced gay girl for friendship. Midlands area. Box 295

GENTLE, SINCERE GUY (24) wants to contact similar - W.London. Love of music, finer things in life - an advantage. Photo much appreciated. Box 296

YOUNG MALE GRADUATE, attractive, intelligent, 25, seeks similar. Photo and details please. Box 297

MICHELLE IS A SLIM ATTRACTIVE LITERATE 45 year old TV who wishes to have warm companionship with mature gay 40-60 for mutual pleasures. Croydon/SE London area. Sincere replies only please. Box 298

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS - Pleasant young man (27) wishes to meet someone nice, own age or younger. Box 299

LONELY COUNTRY BOY, blond, age 28, now living in suburbs N.W.Lancs, would like to meet young man for genuine friendship. Interests music, travel and horticulture. Please send photo. Box 300

"Peter - see you at the Drag Discotheque Aug 9 or any wednesday after - Pontefract Castle, 48 Chapel Street, London NW1. (Edgware Road tube station.) - am doing wild go-go dancing there. John."

Scottish Bachelor Clan. If you want good company, regular social gatherings, pen-friends etc. send S.A.E to Secy. c/o 1070 Dumbarton Road, Glasgow W4.

Calling All Gays (Male & Female) in the Belsize Park area. How about coming together for a drink and social evenings. Write to: Garry, 40 Belsize Park Gardens, London NW3.

"Copy of Jeremy magazine Vol.1. No.7 urgently required; write - Brian Hart, 1 Trinity Road, Folkstone, Kent. Telephone 54698"

AVA - Are you still singing in Manchester? Can you write to Denis (Fly Me To The Moon) for possible Gay News interview. Gay News, 19 London

Street, London W2 1HL. Tel: 01-402 7805.

Gay Artist (chick) sick of pretentious pseud's, seeks real people to share mediaeval freak outs and much love. Box 141

Dear Boys and Girls, please make life a little easier for the phantom typesetter of Queensway by making sure that your ads are easy to read. It takes so long doing translations. Thanks a million and a half - good luck with all your ads.

Any personal ads containing any form of racial prejudice will be immediately rejected, and money paid for insertion will NOT be refunded. Gay News collective.

Travel

LONDON - ISTANBUL - DELHI Private trip by van attached to fire-engine. Mixed easy-going group leaving end October. All conveniences aboard, including food, shower, stereo etc. One way £75. Return £150, negotiable. Phone, call, write, Winston Ross, between 2pm-5pm. - 27 Chiddingstone Street, Parsons Green, London SW6. Phone 01-736 4946.

Employment

PARTNER (21-40) for business project. I am 56, 5'10", 11 stone, agile and versatile. (West London) Box 240

GAY ACCOUNTANT, 33, EX-MN Purser, Seeks worthwhile employment outside commerce. Sick of aiding and abetting rip-offs. Secretary/Factotum. Any suggestions welcome. Box 241

WANTED. Cleaner/Driver, hard work, good pay, experienced/happy/pretty preferred. Box 176

Accommodation

QUEENSWAY W2. 2nd Young Man for comfortable S/C flat. All facilities. Own room. £10. Phone C.Bekdik at 229 5593

BACHELOR, 30, requires civilised person to share house in Aylesbury. Own room. Most creature comforts provided. Reasonable rent. (Alternatively share flat/house, same area.) Box 242

THREE GAY GUYS have place in S/C flat for one more, share room with one other. T.V. Phone. £4.50 pw. Hornsey N8. Box 243

ACCOMMODATION OFFERED. To share flat off Kensington Church Street. Own room £10 exclusive. Phone 937 6694 between 6 and 7 pm.

HAVE YOU A ROOM FOR A YOUNG GAY ARTIST in desperate accommodation plight, studio, attic, garret, shed? In exchange for all domestic duties. Genuine! Box 244

NOT GAY? Never mind. Young Lad 23 needs sensible, reliable person to share small but nice W4 flat. T.V./Electric, £5.50, 01-994 1333 (evenings).

PAD SUIT TWO MATES, reasonable rent, also bedsitter available. Box 244

YOUNG MAN (22) urgently requires own room in gay household. Bromley area or S.E. London. Box 246

PUTNEY, 2 ROOM FLAT S/C for 1 or 2 nice gay guys or girls from mid October. £11.50 p.w. Phone 01-789 3570

YOUTH 23 requires accommodation, or other young gays who can accommodate me or weekend visits to London. Box 247

HAMPSHIRE MAN, 30, has room available in own home for similar. Convenient for Southampton. Phone Ken on Romsey 512959 (evenings or weekends).

ANY GIRL that would like to spend a week or weekend in the West Country for free please let me know soon. Box 286

REPLIES TO BOX ADS: when replying to a box ad please write the box number on the envelope, and send it to Gay News, 19 London Street, London W2 1HL. Box number replies cannot be discussed on the telephone. If you wish to send a stamp with your box. no. reply, please do not attach it to reply.

Classified Ads

GAY RIVERBOAT SHUFFLE. Wednesday 18th Oct. 8-11pm. From Tower Pier. Tricky Dicky Disco. Tickets £1, Dicks Inn. Father Redcap. or S.A.E. - 203, Clayhill Avenue Ilford, Essex.

Ladies Salon urgently requires hair stylists, gay or otherwise, to start work immediately. Above Average Rates. Tel: 01-405 7499 (9am-6pm)

MEN WELL WORTH WAITING FOR

We know it must be hard to wait, But patience brings a gay reward: In roughly two weeks from the date You send to our address abroad The little sum of twenty pence You'll get a brochure crammed with scenes Of naked guys from our immense Stores stacked with films and magazines. The movies fly: when docks don't strike, Mags take four weeks to come (and one Comes free first time). You're bound to like These goodies full of gay nude fun.

LUX PUBLICATIONS (Dept GNU), PO Box 10269, Amsterdam, Holland.

Elton John, David Bowie and Gilbert O'Sullivan provide the music - we provide the haircut. Smashing Atmosphere - Superb Styling.

STEPHEN AUGUST LTD., 87 Chester Row, S.W.1. By Appointment. Telephone 730 7753

CURIOUS Magazine: medical and sex advice, all queries answered, universal sex education monthly (no sexist discrimination), 50p and four colours. Available from bookstalls/newsagents, shops of easy virtue. Or direct from: Curious, London W1A 3AF. Subs: £6.60 pa.

Have A Clean Up! For General House Cleaning or Spring Cleaning. Phone: 723 8842 or 402 6881.

Nude Youth Magazine £1. (S.A.E.) Johnny, BM/FBGH, London WC1V 6XX.

GAY REMOVALS AND CAR HIRE

Any distance Cheap rates for gay only Ring 01-560 2865.

Gay Films-Books-Fotos-Slides-Sex Aids-Etc. Free Illustrated Lists S.A.E. New World Sales, 1581 London Road, Norbury, London SW16.

York. Gay News available from Woof's Stall, Newgate Market, York, on Thursdays and Saturdays.

FAG FUND It would help our petty cash situation if you could send us your ciggy coupons... ta, my dears.

WANTED. STREET-SELLERS to sell, you guessed it, GAY NEWS. You make 3p a copy. We can't sell them all ourselves.

THE UNICORN BOOKSHOP, 50 Gloucester Road, Brighton BN1 4AQ. For many literary delights, and regular stockists of Gay News. Send for lists (enclosing SAE) or pay them a visit.

You can regularly buy Gay News at Bookends, 23a Chepstow Mansions, Chepstow Place, London W2. Send S.A.E. for their lists of fantasy/sf/comic books.

Classified Ad Rates

COMMERCIAL ADS. 5p a word. No Box Number service available. NON-COMMERCIAL ADS. 2p a word. Box Numbers 30p. PERSONAL ADS. 2p. a word. Box Numbers 50p. (Owing to lack of space, we ask users of the Personal Ads to try and not use more than 30 words.) SEMI-DISPLAY (Boxed Classified) £1.50 extra. All information listings are free. All Ads must be prepaid.

Display Ad Rates

Prices quoted on request.

Personal and Classified Ads Form

Please insert in the next issue  
BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

.....

.....

Please find enclosed a cheque/postal order made payable to Gay News Ltd. for the sum of

£..... for an Ad of .....words.

Send to Gay News, 19 London Street, London W.2.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....



# Information

*This corner is really a long list - of places, people you might like to know about or one day need. We can only, of course, publish the information that comes to us.*

**OPPIDAN ADVISES AND BEFREINDS** the lonely gay needing help. Oppidan's accommodation service has started, but it needs MORE OFFERS of rooms, beds or other accommodation such as flat share, etc.. Write to Box 99, c/o Gay News, or ring: 769-7965.

'CHALLENGE' is a London based homosexual group with branches at Marble Arch, Ealing and Hampstead. We meet each week for a drink and a chat - why don't you join us? Ring Martin at 427 8175

**Sappho** meets every first Monday in the month, at the Museum Tavern 7.30pm, upstairs room, Great Russell Street, London WC1. All women are welcome. Sappho magazine is available at 30p inc. postage for single copies. (Subs rates are unchanged) from Sappho Publications Ltd., BCM/Petrel, London WC1.

**CHE**. An All-London Political Action Group is in the process of formation. Will anyone who wants further information on this campaigning group write to: Derek Brookfield, 7 Briston Grove, Crouch End, London N8 9EX.

**Campaign for Homosexual Equality London Information Centre**, 22 Great Windmill Street, London W1. Tel: 01-437 6117/8. Until the last week of September the office will only be manned between 12 noon to 6.00 pm, seven days a week.

**HOMOSEXUAL GROUP**, meeting Fridays in NW London, with fairly serious interests (and a sense of humour) discusses sex, people, religion, politics; listens to good music; hears poets and playwrights read their own work - and that of others; makes a genuine attempt to befriend and help the lonely from the teenager to the senior citizen. For further details and a friendly chat ring either: 769-7965 or 450-4318

**Women's Liberation Workshop**, 3 Shavers Place, London W1. Tel: 01-839 3918.

**GAY CAMBRIDGE** - all Freshers at University go to Stall at Corn Exchange October 3 to 5. Contact Pat Jones, 611 Kings College First.

**Putney/Wimbledon/Richmond CHE group forming.** Men AND Women. We plan to meet at least once a month. Write: Fred Green, 368 Upper Richmond Road, Putney SW15 2TU.

**Gay Unity, Harrow.** For details phone Janie at 863 1184 or Alex at 422 7890. Meets on Mondays.

'**Gay Cambridge**', a joint CHE/GLF group covering both the town and university. Meets every fortnight, weekly in university term. Contact Bernard Greaves, 29 John Street, Cambridge, phone Cambridge 52661 or Pat Jones, 48 Milton Road, Cambridge, phone Cambridge 55772.

**YOUNG GAYS** meet regularly in London. The C.H.E. Youth Group meets fortnightly around Central London. Details from Mike or Jim at 01-385 7246.

**READING GAY ALLIANCE:** regular discos and socials, counselling, quiet meetings, public meetings, and action. Town and university. SAE for Newsheet: Room 7, 30 London Rd, READING GAYSOC: For homosexual men and women in any college or school of London University. Social, political, campaigning; a means for gay students to get together the sort of campus scene hets enjoy, and to tackle the illiberalism of beer-swilling undergrads. Watch college newspapers, "Sennet", "Octopus", "What's On", "Gay News", for details, or write: ULLU, Malet Street, WC1. (All letters treated with absolute confidentiality).

**FRIEND** is the advisory and befriending service of the Campaign for Homosexual Equality. Call (Monday and Friday 7.30 to 9.30 pm) or write to: Friend, Centre, Broadley Terrace, London NW1.

**LESBIAN LIBERATION.** Meetings Wednesday 8.00pm, at the South London Women's Liberation Centre, 14 Radnor Terrace, SW8. All women welcome. Tel: 01-622 8495

## CAMPAIGN FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY.

- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Cambridge                         | South Essex (Basildon)                  |
| Chilterns (Berkhampsted/Amersham) | South Herts (Watford/St.Albans)         |
| Colchester                        | Southampton/Bournemouth                 |
| Cornwall                          | Stoke-on-Trent                          |
| Crouch End                        | Swansea/Carmarthen                      |
| Croydon                           | Teeside                                 |
| East Kent (Canterbury)            | Tunbridge Wells                         |
| Guildford                         | Tyneside                                |
| Halifax/Huddersfield              | Windsor                                 |
| Ilford                            | Wirral                                  |
| Leeds                             | Wolverhampton                           |
| Lewisham                          | Wolverhampton & District worker's group |
| Liverpool                         | York                                    |
| LONDON                            | STUDENT GROUPS                          |
| Acton/Ealing                      | London                                  |
| Central                           | Manchester                              |
| Highbury/Islington                | Oxford                                  |
| Kensington                        | Kent                                    |
| Kilburn                           | Liverpool                               |
| Manchester                        |   |
| Newport/Cardiff                   |   |
| Northampton                       | PROPOSED GROUPS                         |
| Norwich                           | Devon                                   |
| Nottingham                        | Leicester                               |
| Oxford                            | Enfield                                 |
| Portsmouth                        | Barking                                 |
| Reading                           | Preston                                 |
| Sheffield                         | Taunton                                 |
| Shropshire                        |   |

Many local group organisers are wary of having their names and addresses publicised, so for the time being please contact all CHE groups via the national office: 28 KENNEDY STREET, MANCHESTER 2. Telephone 061-228 1985.

## GAY LIBERATION FRONT GROUPS

At present there are GLF groups in operation in the following areas:

- |              |                  |                 |
|--------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Aberystwith  | Essex University | Heading         |
| Bath         | Folkstone        | Sheffield       |
| Bristol      | Greenoch         | Swansea         |
| Brent        | Guernsey         | Sussex          |
| Bedfordshire | Higham Ferrers   |                 |
| Birmingham   | Hull             | LONDON          |
| Belfast      | Keele University | South London    |
| Bradford     | Lancaster        | West London     |
| Cambridge    | Leicester        | East London     |
| Cheltenham   | Leeds            | Notting Hill    |
| Canterbury   | Manchester       | Hackney         |
| Cardiff      | Newcastle        | Youth Group     |
| Colchester   | Norwich          | Religious Group |
| Derby        | Oxford           | Women's Group   |
| Durham       | Portsmouth       |                 |
| Edinburgh    | Potteries        |                 |

The addresses of these groups may be obtained from the G.L.F. Office at 5 Caledonian Road, London N1. Tube Kings Cross. Tel: 01-837 7174. Also contact here for other G.L.F. information.

Religious Gay Lib Group, meets various Sundays at 2.30 pm. Phone 278 1701 for details.

Bath Gay Awareness Group has moved again. Meetings Thursdays, contact John, Bath 63168 or Hugh Bath 4738 for further information.

Bristol Gay Awareness Group, c/o Tony, 20D, West Mall, Clifton, Bristol, Tel: 0272-32669.

Essex GLF University, contact Brian Roberts, c/o Student Pigeon Holes, University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester.

Leeds GLF Liberation Office, 153 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds 2. Tel: 0532-39071 ex 57. Meetings every Friday at 7.30pm at the Liberation Office.

Leicester Gay Awareness Group, Contact John Page, 126 Nansen Road, Leicester LE5 5NJ. Phone: Leicester 738832.

Reading Gay Alliance, Room 7, 30 London Road, Reading.

Sussex GLF meets Tuesdays at 8.15pm upstairs/back bar Stanford Arms, Preston Circus Brighton. Contact: Doug Coupe, 40 Ashford Road, Brighton, or phone Ray at 686939.

Gay Women's Lib. (North London) Meet at The Crown and Woolpak, 397 St Johns St. EC1. (Angel Tube) 8pm on Mondays.

West London G.L.F. meets in the Committee Room of Fulham Town Hall, Fulham Broadway on Thursdays at 8pm.

## SCOTTISH MINORITIES GROUP

EDINBURGH from 7.45 to 9.00pm on Mondays in the basement of 23 George Square. Saturdays from 9.30pm coffee/food/dance at the same address. There is also a Womens Group. Check with Mike Coulson 031-225 4395 between 1pm and

10pm any day.

**GLASGOW** from 8pm on Tuesdays at Bruce Briggs, 8 Duncan Street, Glasgow C4 and Third Friday of every month at 214 Clyde Street (Library of Community House) with invited speakers from 8pm. There is also a Womens Group. Check with John Breslin 041-771 7600.

**DUNDEE** from 10.30pm on Fridays at 1 Airline Place, drinks and dance. Check with Len McIntosh 0382-452433 evenings.

**ABERDEEN** and **SALTCOATS** check with John Breslin 041-771 7600

## Discos

**GLF DANCE**, October 6, Fulham Town Hall, 8.00pm-12.00 midnight. Admission 50p Groups, disco, bar.

Reading Gay Alliance: Weekly Disco at Railway Tavern: 8pm.

**BIRMINGHAM'S GAY SCENE WELCOMES YOU.**

**FREE Disco** every fortnight (every other Friday Night). At the Shakespeare Inn, Summer Row, Birmingham 3. Drinks at bar prices.

**ALSO GAY FAWKES & BIRTHDAY PARTY** at Digbeth Civic Hall, Digbeth, Birmingham 5. 4th November

(5 mins from City Centre). Saturday 4th November, 8.00-12.00pm. Groups - Disco - Bar - Dancing - Wear what you want. Open House, Everyone Welcome!!!

Father Red Cap, 319 Camberwell Road, SE5. (Camberwell Green).

**PALACE OF DRAG** - Drag every night. Upstairs Bar now open 7 nights a week - Tricky Dicky Boys Only Disco now on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays. Also mixed, Disco on Wednesday and Saturdays. Girls Only Disco on Friday. Gay intimate evening on Mondays. Free Admission Mondays and (for a limited period) Tuesday's Boys Only Disco.

South London G.L.F. Disco every Monday except first Monday of the month. At The Crypt, St Matthews Church (opposite Town Hall, Brixton). BR/Tube. Buses 35, 37, 109, 59, 2, 3. Admission 15p - Beer and sandwich bar. Love - Kisses - South London G.L.F.

West London G.L.F. presents a dance at Hampstead Old Town Hall on December 22nd. Tickets 50p; Disco, Groups, Lightshow, and Bar.

Camden G.L.F. weekly disco in the discotheque next to the Bull and Gate Pub (200 yds Kentish Town Stn) every Wednesday from 8pm to 11pm.

**DRAG MOBILE DISCOTEQUE** Tuesday Nights - ROYAL OAK, 62 Glenthorne Road, London W6.

Wednesday Nights - THE PONTEFRAC CASTLE 48 Chapel Street, Edgware Road Tube.

Dancing Permitted, complete with Drag Show featuring Mr Jean Fredericks, Peter Martindale & Diamond David.

**Sussex G.L.F. Disco every Friday 8-11pm at Stanford Arms, Preston Circus, Brighton. Only 15p.**

**KINGS ARMS**, Liverpool Street, London. (corner of Pinder Street) Tube/BR Liverpool Street. Buses 8,8A,22,6, 47,97. Tricky Dicky Show on Saturday Nights, 8.30 11.00. Admission Free. Saloon Bar. Disco, Impersonations etc. Gay Atmosphere.

Gay News is on sale at all Tricky Dicky Disco's.

**KINGS ARMS**, Liverpool Street, London. (corner of Pinder Street) Tube/BR Liverpool Street. Dicks Inn, Gay Disco every Monday Comper Tricky Dicky.

**THE ARABIAN**, Cambridge Heath Road, London (corner of Bishops Way). Tube Bethnal Green/Bus 277 Dicks Inn, Gay Disco - closed for the Summer. Re-opens early October.

## Drag and Cabaret

**ROYAL VAUXHALL TAVERN.** 372 Kennington Lane, SE11. (Vauxhall).

Regular Comper - Pat Kelly - with The Keltones.

Sunday. (Lunch) Bow.

Friday. Mr.Tammy.

Saturday. Lee Paris.

Sunday. (Night) Mr.Tammy.

**ROYAL OAK**, 62 Glenthorne Road, W6. (Hammersmith) Drag every night. Regular

artists include Jean Fredericks.

**ELEPHANT & CASTLE**, South Lambeth Place, SW8. (Vauxhall) Drag every night except Tuesday Regular Comper Jackie. Recommended by Gay News for happy and friendly atmosphere.

**OXFORD TAVERN** 256 Kentish Town Road, NW5 (Kentish Town) Drag on Tues, Wed, and Thurs. Resident host Perri St. Clair. Partly gay on these nights

**THE NEW BLACK CAP** 171 Camden High Street, NW1. (Camden Town Tube) Drag Every Night.

Featured Artists include Mark Fleming, Bow, Mrs Shuffelwick, Jean Fredericks, New Dumbells, Sandy Graham, Chris Kay.

**Alan McGorin** is Gay News's super salesman at The Black Cap. Be nice to him, he works very hard for us.

**THE CRICKETERS**, Battersea Park Road, SW11. (BR Battersea Park).

Sun. The Trilletes. Fri. Various Artists. Tues. Steel Band. Sat. Singalong & Dancing. Wed. Various Artists. Comper/Organist. Thurs. Talent Night. Kenneth Mancell.

**WINDSOR CASTLE**, 309 Harrow Road, W9. (Westbourne Park) Drag on Wednesday and Sunday. (Lunch & Eve).

This is a list of some of the pubs in London that regularly have Drag Acts. Information of out of London pubs featuring drag will be added to this list as we receive it. So if your local has something good happening at it, let us know; and that goes for you landlords as well.

## Friendly Outlets

GAY NEWS will always be on sale at the following pubs:

**MARSH HOTEL** (Mike & Eileen) Canute Road, Southampton.

Semi-Gay. Disco every Thursday night. Also:

**THE ANCHOR** (Pat & Geoff) East Street, Southampton. Gay girls and boys. Disco every Fri & Sat

**MARIO'S CLUB**, Stenford Street, off Castlegate, Nottingham.

**Nottingham** - Roebuck, Mansfield Road, upstairs

**THE PAVILION CLUB**, 123 Shardlow Road, (A6), Shardlow, Derbys. Tel:Shardlow 581.

Open Wed, Fri, Sat & Sun from 8.00pm.

Gay News, wishes to thank the management and staff at the Colherne and the Boltons (at Earl's Court) and the Champion (at Notting Hill Gate) for their help in letting us sell Gay News in their establishments. Gay News will regularly be on sale in these three pubs in West London.

**The DisKotheque (D O K)**, 2a Lowndes Court, London W1 (off Carnaby Street) regularly has Gay News on sale. Thanks.

Gay News thanks Roddy and The Masquerade - the paper is always available at the door.

**Masquerade Club**, 310 Ears Court Road, SW5 **THE FATHER RED CAP** Boys Only, Girls Only, and Mixed Disco's.

Gay News is always on sale at the Father Red Cap (upstairs disco).

Thanks to "LOS CHICOS", 312 Old Brompton Road Earl's Court, for selling Gay News.

## Pubs

**WILLIAM IV**, Heath Street, Hampstead NW3. Hampstead Tube.

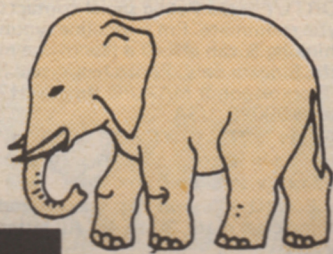
**THE SALISBURY**, St Martins Lane. Near to Trafalgar Square and Leicester Square tubes.

**THE CHAMPION**, Bayswater Road. Nearest tube is Notting Hill Gate.

**THE BOLTONS** and **THE COLEHERNE** are opposite each other at the junction of Earl's Court Road and Old Brompton, Earl's Court Tube.

A FRIENDLY WELCOME AWAITS YOU AT

## THE PINK ELEPHANT



Old and new members welcome

Monday - Saturday 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Sundays till 11.30 p.m.

Kerry Lane at the piano during the Supper Licence extension period.

9 Newport Place, London, W.C.2. Tel: 01-437 1611

(Near Piccadilly Circus of Shaftesbury Avenue)

## BRIGHTON THE QUEEN OF CLUBS

has been enlarged.

A friendly welcome is waiting for old and new members.

**DANCING - MUSIC**  
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25 Bedford Square, Brighton.  
Tel: Brighton (0273) 775049

