

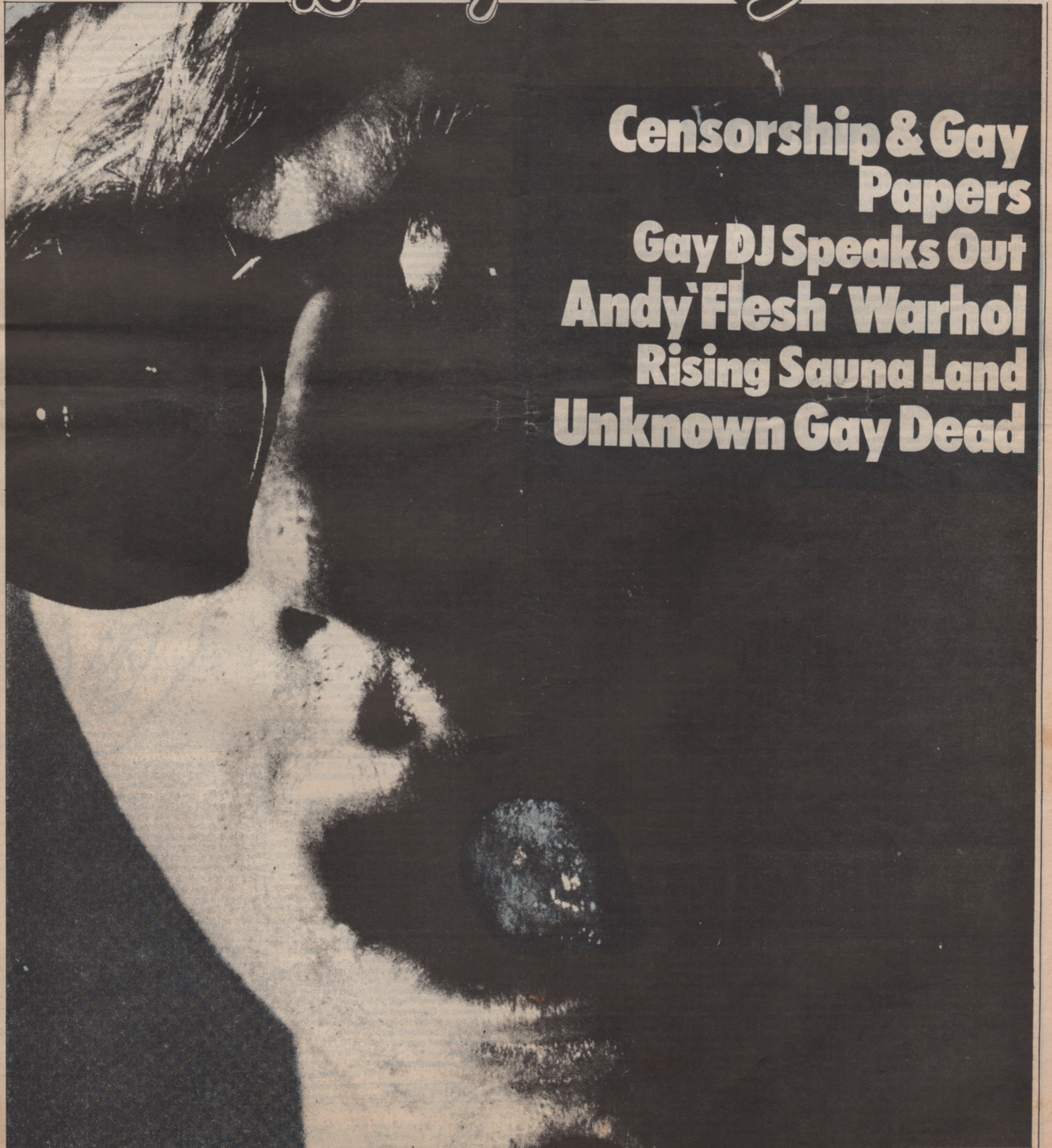
Now Gayer Than Ever



No
12

GAY NEWS

10p



**Censorship & Gay
Papers**
Gay DJ Speaks Out
Andy 'Flesh' Warhol
Rising Sauna Land
Unknown Gay Dead

THE ONLY INDEPENDENT NATIONAL NEWSPAPER FOR HOMOSEXUALS IN GREAT BRITAIN

GAY NEWS

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Special Thanks To:

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

Contents

Serious Editorial.....	Page 2	Feedback.....	Page 10
News.....	Page 3-5	Stage & Nostalgia.....	Page 11
Gay News Speaks.....	Page 6	Books.....	Page 12
Common Failings ?.....	Page 7	Films.....	Page 13
Tricky Dicky.....	Page 8	Records.....	Page 14
Land of the Rising Sauna.....	Page 9	Personal Ads.....	Page 15

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Editorial

We live in a democracy. It means we're free to do and say what we like — and that's official. But the way society is run might tempt cynics to say that British democracy means we have the right to do and say what the state and certain self-appointed arbiters of behaviour ordain.

The 1967 Sexual Offences Act — which made gay love "legal" — specifically excludes members of the armed forces from equality with other gays, already a minority unequal with "straight" society.

At least the law spells out the ground rules even if they are, undoubtedly, wrong. For instance laws that limit gay sex to those not in the armed forces, over 21 and in two's, in private, are clearly indefensible because they make us unequal with the rest of society.

The main failing of the law, as it stands at present, is that it does not give gays the legal equality, however grudging, that black people must receive.

But far more oppressive than open harassment and legal inequality for blacks and gays alike is the sinister form of silent censorship that Gay News and all the gay organisations experience.

The Campaign for Homosexual Equality came up against the Angry Silence twice earlier this year when it was trying to fix the place for its first annual conference. Both Weymouth and Morecambe fought shy of having *fairies* at the end of the pier.

Recently CHE won a victory by managing to lay a wreath to the Unknown Gay Soldier at the Cenotaph in Whitehall on Remembrance Sunday. When almost any old ex-Servicemen's Club and association representing those who allow themselves to be ruled by traitors — that is, Rhodesia — are allowed to lay wreaths, the inequality of not allowing the Gay Liberation Front to lay just such a wreath last year shrieks of a society where the homosexual is not equal even with traitors in the view of the elite law-forming body, Parliament.

Gay News has troubles with the Angry Silence in many directions and they have taken a new turn of late.

We're used to news wholesalers and retailers such as Smiths, Menzies and Selfridges, joining in the elitist freezing out of gays. And you're used to reading about our distribution problems by now.

The latest bizarre turn in this "free-speech" state is the Evening Standard's refusal of an advertisement for a sex-education movie quoting Gay News.

The man at the Standard told Cobra Films' representative that the paper wouldn't mind running the ad if only they would quote a "respectable film critic, for instance Alexander

Walker".

Once again the Standard has shown that whilst it will use the word 'gay' in headlines to sell the paper, it will not countenance the fact that gays *live, are organised and have their own newspaper*.

The ad-man at the Standard said that the GN crit of Cobra-1 was "near-pornography". He is entitled to his views, but the Standard should print views it does not agree with, as the press should leave its columns open to all sectors of society as Charles Wintour, the Standard's editor says in his recent book on the press.

Indeed, many of us feel that the views put forward as the paper's official policy — in its leaders — and other right-wing pontifications carried in its pages are pornographic.

Mr Wintour is responsible for all the opinions expressed in the Evening Standard, including the writings of the "respectable" Alexander Walker, who was brought to the Standard by Godfrey Winn who discovered him in Brighton.

Many of the views put forward by the Standard work towards an elitist society and towards eroding free speech so that a school-teacher may not be gay — and honest — and keep his job (GN11).

They are promoting a society where a lie is preferable to the truth. And that really is pornographic. In strictly legal terms it's liable to deprave and corrupt the 'Bristows' of this world. If that's democracy at work, no wonder so many of the more radical gays see the fight for gay equality as part of a much bigger and economic change in society.

But we at GN are used to being excluded from the press. Time Out — to whom we are grateful for many things — would not publish our ad which mentioned the personal ads in the back of GN on the advice of their legal eagle.

The silent censorship of the Cobra Films ad by the Evening Standard shows that society is not willing to accept a gay newspaper as a genuine newspaper — and it follows that if Gay News isn't accepted as a paper by our fellow journalists, no gay can expect to be treated as anything but a curio by Charles Wintour and others like him who affect the way the power-holding elite think — no individual gay or gay organisation.

Your Letters

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

Scandalous Behaviour

Woodsetts, nr. Worktop, Notts

Dear Gay News,

I have been going to write to you for some time but have kept putting it off through laziness. What has at last impelled me to shake off my torpor is the appalling and scandalous action of Mr Martin Stafford as reported in Gay News no 11.

As a fellow member of CHE's Executive Committee, I am well aware of the petulant and selfish attitude that he adopts. But I am horrified that even he could go to the lengths that you have reported. To disagree with your policy of publishing contact ads is one thing; but to go over to the enemy in this way is something that ought not even be considered by someone holding any official position in an organisation such as CHE. I am absolutely sure that the overwhelming majority of

CHE members will join with me in condemning such action in the strongest possible terms. I must congratulate Gay News for its objective (even kindly) reporting of the episode. It is time that CHE took some firm action to put Mr Stafford in his place as the squalid little nuisance that he is.

On the same subject, more or less, I find it very sad that so many of our brother and sister homosexuals, while looking for and expecting sympathy and understanding for their own problems find it so difficult to be sympathetic and understanding of those of others. Typical is the letter of VJM of Dublin in GN11. What is so awful about camping it up in female clothes that a repressed pederast finds so hard to accept?

In the meantime, it's an ill wind... etc. I have at last got round to telling you what a good job you are doing and sending you the small donation and the cigarette coupons that I have been meaning to do for some time.

With congratulations and all good wishes for continued success.

H. E. (Ike) Cowen

Good News. Bad News

London WC1

Dear Friends and Lovers,

Congratulations on what must be the very best issue of Gay News yet (No. 11). What with one of my very favourite people on the cover and that splendid interview with Shuff, I sat transfixed in the laundromat long after my knickers had finished tumbling dry. Mrs Shufflewick is certainly the best drag artist working today, a comedian of genius. The interview proved that the success of such articles (which only come off now and then) lies in asking the right question at the right stage in the conversation. So congratulations to Shuff's interrogators.

Now the bad news. I felt that Peter Homes' report of the German gay movie at the NFT was inadequate and rather silly. The event was not, I agree, as important as all that. But it was interesting and both the film and the audience's reaction had messages for us that deserved a rather more serious discussion than that offered.

Finally, your reporter with a cold who couldn't stay on for CHE's evening show after the fair has embarrassed me considerably. I certainly did not conceive the one-act musical that was put on, nor did I take part in it. In fact my only contribution to the evening was to appear in a five-minute sketch. Credit where credit's due, etc — so thank Rex, Michael, Marie and Gavin for the show.

Lots of love,

Roger Baker

Forced to be Free

National Federation of Homophile Organisations, 65 Shoot-up Hill, London, NW2 3PS

Dear Friends,

I don't consider myself to be "Britain's number one homosexual"; I simply told the London Medical Group audience that I had publicly been referred to in that way at another recent meeting, so I had no objection whatever to telling them that I was gay. This was in response to a "come out" challenge to the panel by a gay visitor in the audience. I added that the Chairman had set us an impossible task by asking for a "dispassionate and objective" account of homosexuality, because everybody in the world speaks from his or her own personal subjective sexual viewpoint, and I was no exception. But I hoped that having told them I was gay myself would not preclude my hearers from accepting that what I had to say was the result of knowledge gained through ten years' professional work and responsible experience of running the Albany Trust. We have to scotch the absurd notion that only the "straight" can speak authoritatively about the "gay" (or vice versa).

This little episode did, however, cause me to reflect about "coming out". It is good to be able to: but not everyone yet can without running considerable social and professional risks. Isn't it somewhat unfair for those who are in a more fortunate situation not to recognise this? To taunt a panel of three professional people, only one of whom (myself) was able to publicly lay homosexuality on the line without almost inevitable and immediately damaging repercussions in their own sphere of work, strikes me as oppressive. It's utterly wrong, of course, that such repercussions should still happen, but until we have all done much more to put society right in this respect, each one of us must surely be left to decide how far, and in what ways, we can come out. I have fought as hard as anyone for gay liberation and other civil rights causes; but I would resent being "forced to be free" a la Rousseau.

What those who still feel bound to remain "in the closet" can do, however, is to make the work of those of us in the various homophile groups and publications more effective by seeing to it that we aren't starved out of existence. The entire homophile movement is in a state of chronic financial crisis that threatens its continued life. I hope all your readers will carefully consider the urgent needs of the Albany Trust, the NFHO and its member organisations, GLF, Gay News, and the various other homophile publications and see to it that if they can't yet come out of their closets, they do dig deeper into their pockets so that we can all do more to make 1973 a year that is safer for gay people to come out in.

Love and Peace,

Antony Grey,
Chairman

Slagging Julian

Queenies Castle
Sussex

Dearest Darling Gay News,

Much though I love your newspaper, I have just one teensy-weensy complaint. I refer of course dear, to our little friend Julian Denys Grinspoon. Really, I don't know why he bothers! He doesn't give anything worth having; and what a pseud name!

Well really, loves, who wants to know what films are on at our dear old Bio? No one ever goes there for the films, do they? One gets enough carnal knowledge from just sitting there; and as for active participation, well I don't think I need tell you old queens anything about that! Jules makes such a fuss just because some silly duchess at the cinema wouldn't give him what he wants. Then he makes a big thing about telling us about all the people he eventually got it from (the programme of course). As if we want to know about his private life anyway.

The double-entendres are just too much, personally I don't like that sort of thing. He's always doing things behind people's backs just to get his own way. That sort of thing was illegal you know! So, why do all you lovelies at Gay News waste your space (and time) on him? Anyway, loves, he's so camp and that's one thing I cannot stand!

Thanks for your mag.

Lots of love,

A straight reader and friend,

Sebastian

Call to All Gay Sisters

Dear Gay News,

This is really a call to all lady gays. I fervently agree with the letter from Sappho (GN10) and I sing in chorus "where have all the ladies gone?"

I'm sure I am not the only female reading this wonderful newspaper. But the guys rule the waves once again, don't let them hog all the paper. I know lots about them and have seen plenty of their arses. How about giving me a little of what I want. Let's have a few of our lady friends saying something about themselves. I don't see why we couldn't have a sexy little ladie's page if we tried hard enough. But there is only you who can bring that about, so write in and say something — anything! Like, where a few of you lovely ladies hang out! I'm a fresher to London and am still looking for lots of friends and a tour around the gay places. So don't keep your info to yourselves, let's all know about it. I'm looking for an opening — don't keep me waiting! Write and tell me, and lots like me I'm sure, where we can meet some of you lovely ladies.

Love to you all,

Lynne

ED: Please get in touch with us Lynne, you forgot to put your name and address on your letter. Without your address we cannot forward any letters to you.

No GLF At CHE

London W6

Dear Collective,

May I bring this information to the attention of your readers. Going down to the CHE London Information Centre to do my lunchtime stint on the rota on Monday, November 6, I was told by the office manager that on the previous Sunday a decision was taken by the London Management Committee of CHE to remove all GLF literature in LIC.

The reason given was that LIC had too much of a left-wing flavour, and that GLF literature was too much in evidence. I observed that other gay literature including one of full frontal nudes was untouched by this censorship.

LIC exists surely to provide first information, on CHE, then information on all other gay organisations regardless of any political, religious or any other basis. I certainly was not aware that GLF dominated the display, nor was I conscious of the left-wing flavour of LIC — whatever sinister spectre that term conjures in certain narrow minds. It is sad to see this rage over gay-red-under-the-bed getting the better of some of our brothers and sisters, or is there some deeper motive behind this first move? Whatever the reason I am sure this decision is a bad one and must be resolutely opposed. Group Chairmen, please note.

Teck Ong

Truer Homosexuality

Durham

Dear Gay News,

The article in a recent Gay News about so-called pederasty prompted me to get my thoughts on the subject in order and write this.

Basically I'm bisexual. At the moment I'm more heterosexually than homosexually inclined, but this is more because of 'supply' than 'demand'. As far as the homosexual side of my sexual make-up goes I could be defined as a pederast, because I'm chiefly attracted to guys in an age-range of about 15—22. I doubt whether I could get it on with anyone older than this. I've thought about the reasons for my choice, and they're something like this.



Physically and mentally, I'm a pretty fair balance between masculine and feminine. I'm also 19 (so that makes half my sexual make-up illegal but I don't care, it's the law that's wrong), and I'm attracted to similar people. Maybe this is truer homosexuality than that seen in many couples where the butch/bitch syndrome is their basis. Anyway, there's an elusive blend of masculine hardness and slimmness with feminine softness which really turns me on. Quite a lot of guys in this age-group have it, and so do some women; the only trouble is, all the guys are straight! So I do the next best thing and go with women...

I've written mainly about physical characteristics; but before anyone writes a nasty reply, I do take mental characteristics into account, indeed very much so, however I can't get it on with a guy or chick unless I fancy them. What a hangup! Chris

Letterette Of The Month

Sidcup, Kent

... Thanks a lot... great reading... love the ads... love it all... Happiness is egg shaped... and so am I. EL

Gay Movie

46, Cavan Drive, St Albans, Herts.

Dear Gay News,

I am in the process of finishing a gay film 'Love Of My Own' and I would like to hear from interested parties, in getting it on celluloid. Script-writers, film-directors with experience, actors, non-actors, and people with finance. This film calls for actresses (not in drag). I would like any gay director of a company to give permission to use the board room, and also anyone with a large house with swimming pool, so come on, let's really make this film for 1973. RL

Your Letters continued on page 6.

London's Week Of Warhol

LONDON: London has just finished a week when Andy Warhol's latest movie was shown in the London Film Festival and his older "Trash" was given a certificate after almost two years of campaigning.

The renter of all Warhol's movies in this country, Jimmy Vaughan, announced that the censor had approved of Trash having an X-certificate rating rather fittingly just before a Film Festival screening of Heat, which will be the next Warhol movie to run the gauntlet of the censor's office, following Flesh and Trash.

Mr Vaughan also announced that Trash would open its London screening early next year in the West End, and not in Chelsea as had been planned.

The announcement on stage just before another movie was fitting because it matched the Hollywood world of stars that Heat is about. And for the same reason, it was rather fitting that Mr Vaughan decided to throw a party to celebrate his success at the end of the campaign to get Trash a certificate.

Joe Dallesandro who was the rent-boy in Flesh plays a trash-picking junkie in Trash and goes on to become a former child-star in

Heat. All the movies are directed by Paul Morrissey.

Trash tells of the degradation through heroin of Joe who ultimately can't make it with anyone, not even the drag queen he lives with.

Heat is a bizarre parody of the American dream of Tinsel Town. Joe is pestered by a strange group of women; there are a partly gay unmarried mother and her ex-movie queen mother pursuing him. They all live in a motel run by an immense madam, who also tries to get a bit of the action with Joe. Just to finish things off the motel is also populated by a pair of boys who work in a stage sex show.

The Warhol movie factory moved from its native New York to Hollywood to shoot Heat.

Presumably censor Stephen Murphy will take another two years before deciding to allow Heat to be shown to the public.

In Memory Of The Unknown Gay Dead

WHITEHALL: Sunday 11am, 12th November, 1972: A large crowd falls silent by the command of a cannon from Horse Guards Parade and the tolling of Big Ben. The hypocrisy of the church mourning the dead of wars and still allowing them to continue...

Where are the big guns, daddy? The Last Post. The ritual begins. For Queen and country, she's there with the old man and the kids. The politicians with plastic flowers,

the army with rifles and a brass band, the Air Force (royal) with a brass band, the navy with swords and a brass band, and the police with their personal radios, and, you guessed it, a brass band.

Daddy lift me up. Music and marching and they're all gone. They did a good job this year, at least three times as many people as last, or maybe they were just tourists.



CHE members laying their wreath for the unknown dead gays of World War 2.

Will people wishing to file past the Cenotaph please join the queue now forming at the entrance to Downing Street.

A long queue, it took nearly an hour to pass, in the middle a few members of CHE, not carrying the usual red, but pink, in the form of a triangle. The pink triangle used by the Nazis to identify homosexuals in the concentration camps of the Third Reich. The lowest of the low, the most dispensable. Very few survived. The wreath laid, the group moved off. An attendant, tidying them, went to move the triangle, and as if he had burnt his hands, visibly jumped, then read the attached card more closely. 'In memory of our brothers and sisters who died in two world wars, especially the victims of the Third Reich. From The Campaign for Homosexual Equality.'

The pink triangle is still there (Wednesday) but the card's gone.

Martin Corbett

ED: In the Theory and Practice of Hell by Eugen Kogan the reality of being gay in a Nazi concentration camp is shown to be

truly a nightmare: "Homosexual practices were actually very widespread in the camps. The prisoners, however, ostracised only those whom the SS marked with the pink triangle. The fate of the homosexuals in the concentration camps can only be described as ghastly. They were often segregated in special barracks and work details. Such segregation offered ample opportunity to unscrupulous elements in positions of power to engage in extortion and maltreatment.

This consigned them to the lowest caste in camp during the most difficult years. In shipments to extermination camps, such as Nordhausen, Natzweiler and Gross Rosen, they furnished the highest proportionate share."

There were five types of triangles branded onto people in the camps. They designated those who were: political, exponents of the Bible, anti-social, professional criminals and homosexuals.

Love to Lesbian's Come Together for the above.

"Gay Sex Ed. Is A Must"

LONDON: A teach-in in London was told a teachers' information service should be set up to advise teachers on how they can introduce gayness into sex education in schools.

The teach-in was held at the London Collegiate Centre by the Campaign for Homosexual Equality and the London Homophile Society. The subject was introducing homosexual education into schools.

It lasted all day and was split into three sections.

In the first session, called Identifying The Problem, the speaker was Malcolm Johnson. The second session was Methods of Education with David Bell as speaker. David said that if a teacher had a healthy loving relationship with his pupils they would accept his sexual orientation as an incidental and healthy part of his total personality. Too often, gay teachers simply comply with acceptable heterosexual standards and to that extent have a hollow negative relationship with their pupils.

The third part of the teach-in was on practical action with Glenys Parry of CHE speaking.

In question time one teacher said he felt that a teachers' information service should be set up to advise teachers on the best way to

sexuality. Apparently, they said, the heads saw freedom making happy healthy heterosexual children and adults, and that homosexuality is the result of negative environmental pressures.

One teacher said that real live homosexuals should be allowed to be guest speakers at schools to avoid a discussion on homosexuality becoming too abstract. But this idea the teach-in thought, would be a challenge to school authority structures and the establishment's thinking, and would be difficult to implement.

Glenys's session on practical action was on the ways teachers could come out and influence their pupils' minds by discussing the real nature of figures in history and introducing the subjects into religious instruction lessons.

Whilst the teach-in admitted that it would be difficult to introduce homosexuality into some subjects, such as metalwork, Wallace Grevatt, who did much of the organising that got the teach-in to happen, said he hoped a teachers' action group to provide an in-



Teachers learn about gay sex.

teach pupils about gayness.

Others criticised Michael Douane, of Risinghill School and N. S. Neil - who are seen as progressive in education - were reactionary in their approach to homo-

formation service and to create pressure upon educationalists to consider the possibility of introducing homosexual education into school curricula.

Sssch-Press Silence

LONDON: A sex-education movie that may be bought by the Inner London Education Authority may not be advertised in the Evening Standard, because Cobra Films who made the movie want to quote the criticism of Cobra-1 that appeared in Gay News.

Cobra-1, also called *etcetcetc*, approaches the subject of sex from a standpoint that values relationships higher than "the perfect position" for a couple.

When Cobra Films booked the space in the Standard the advertisement department could see no objection to running the ad. But when Geoff Richards, formerly of the Electric Cinema Club in Portobello Road, which gave Cobra-1 its premiere, took the copy for the ad along to the Standard, he was told by the assistant advertisement manager that the Gay News criticism was "near-pornography". The man at the Standard

suggested that Cobra should find a "respectable film critic to quote - like Alexander Walker" if it wanted to run the advertisement.

But Cobra Films, who maintain that the Gay News criticism (in GN10) was the only crit that approached the movie on its own terms refused to change the wording and would not cut off the by-line tag: "Peter Holmes, Gay News."

The result is that no advertisement for Cobra Films' first movie appeared in the Standard. The shareholders of Beaverbrook Newspapers are the losers.

Gay Deceivers

I'll take peoples' prejudices — up to a point, because of my own. A healthy prejudice is as integral to character as kindness. What I WON'T take is the furred mind of the holy heterosexual pontificating virtuously without being aware of his own pernicious immorality of the double standard society. THE OBSERVER — that great platform of Liberal philosophy will not 'accommodate' a classified ad for Sappho Magazine. THE SUNDAY TIMES — that trendy sparkling weekly won't print the word 'gay' in the classified ad column to describe Sappho magazine. So single shot men write for a copy imagining it to be a pix magazine. The women we wish to subscribe ignore the ad for the same reason.

THE STAGE AND TELEVISION TODAY refused our ad as the managing director Frank Comerford explains: 'We receive quite a number of requests to include advertisements for publications with a pornographic content or inviting indiscriminate social introductions. It is true that many respectable papers do have a more permissive policy but we take the view that these advertisements do not enhance our paper. We cannot be involved in too much detailed argument as to the content of individual publications that come within a broad description of homosexual magazines. I know that you have a more serious purpose and that it is not your policy to include pornographic material, but I am afraid that insertion of any copy which might be useful to you would make it much more difficult for us to sustain our policy and involve us in arguments out of all proportion to the value of the advertising . . .'

LET'S LOOK AT THE ADS THE STAGE WILL PRINT:

WANTED Topless Go-Go dancers, striptease artists. Top rates.

Actress/Dancer required for Broadway and Road show in America. Very good figure to appear semi-nude.

ASTOR CLUB, Berkeley Square. All types of acts required. Striptease, Belly dancers.

Topless Go-Gos if you want extra work with hotel and travel paid

Respectable young ladies as dancing partners. No previous experience necessary . . . and so on and so on . . .

A well-sustained policy of indiscriminate social introductions would you say?

Fully clothed lesbians advertising a non-puritan magazine are filthy. Nude boobs, belly buttons and bottoms servicing jaded late-night society in the crudest manner

imaginable is clean living. The most vicious in their self-righteousness is a particular type of female het. One example is in an Adoption Society. She used the most unchristian language at the mere IDEA of female homosexuals adopting children.

Another owns Bensons Newsagent in Crawford Street, London. In front of her mother, her husband and several customers she flew into a foaming fit about Sappho magazine without even opening it. "Filthy . . . it's dirt . . . disgusting people get out of my shop . . ." which was stuffed with distorted boobs, belly buttons and bottoms . . . Come again, Comerford:

'On the more general point you asked for a responsible attitude and I feel that there is more than one way to demonstrate this. The problem of homosexuals are reflected in much theatrical material with which we are concerned and I think you would be hard put to detect any bias or unwillingness to deal with these matters in so far as they are relevant.'

I fail to see the relevance of straight actors playing gays for public entertainment compared with the REALITY OF LIVING LESBIANS which is not reflected in any responsible way by society.

Responsible attitudes are demonstrated every which way in the prevailing double standard morality by the peddling of pornography (including homosexuality) for a heterosexual market to the exclusion of non-puritan homosexual publications.

Porno comes from the Greek meaning harlot. Pornocracy means dominant influence of harlots, especially in government in Rome in the tenth century. Today the pornography of the prestocracy is only too evident.

Sappho

I'm No Pervert

All I want is sympathy, because I am no longer a filthy pervert, after a lifetime of fervent dedication and grinding.

On June 10th last I left the Picador Club in Manchester and en route to my bus-stop, called into the cottage on High St. The place was not empty, neither was it interesting, so after a slash I left by the back exit. Once outside I was approached by a dirty looking dosser who asked if I could suggest anywhere for him to spend the night.

As I am in Manchester GLF and was wearing my badge openly, I could hardly refuse to help him crash somewhere. So off we went, me making sure he wasn't a mugger or some odious being and him making the odd grunt.

Having decided to try the trusty and lovely Steve as a possible solution, I changed direction to go towards his place. After about half an hour I wanted to piss again, so I nipped under a bridge near the Union Hotel. In mid-stream I was grabbed and told that two pigs (the speaker being one of them) had followed me for thirty minutes from High St cottage.

They trumped up a charge of gross indecency even though the dosser was some 70ft away from me (can you imagine the kind of cock he must have had?)

At Bootle St the usual insults were hurled — I had annoyed them by refusing to go to the police station until one of them threatened to "throw me in the fuckin' canal". I was called a poof, a pervert and homo etc, all of which I am — I do them exceedingly well.

One of the pigs was so resentful of my obvious talent and ability that he said he'd like "to cut the bollocks off all queers". The dosser was found guilty, in the station, of having the same surname as one of the arresting pigs — so he was duly smashed about the head.

I was told that my GLF badge, manifesto and some leaflets would be sufficient to convict me. The dosser was told that he didn't have a chance because of previous convictions (all 19 of them for het sexual offences). All a load of crap, obviously, as was the statement that if this nasty pig (a mere constable) opposed my application for bail I wouldn't get it.

"Plead guilty" they said. "get it over with cheaply and discreetly and with no chance of remand in custody" — so the dosser did and was remanded at Risley for two weeks for probation reports.

I pleaded not guilty and after several appearances before magistrates eventually reached the Crown Court. The jury couldn't reach a majority verdict — in my opinion because the judge's summing-up was slightly biased against me.

Re-trial four weeks later in two sessions: prosecution on Friday, me (starring) the following Monday. I said I was gay and had a

previous conviction for soliciting and that I was in and supported actively GLF.

The prosecution asked me if I knew High St cottage was a homosexual lavatory. I explained that a lavatory has no sexuality, het or homo, and the judge told the prosecution how to say what he had intended "was it frequented by homosexuals".

I told him that all gays use lavatories. After stressing that the facts as stated by me were contradictory to those alleged by the pigs, the prosecution said "so in fact these policemen have told the court a pack of lies?" I said that I agreed entirely.

In summing up the Judge (Steele) said "Let's get down to brass tacks — the policemen allege that the defendant was tossing off another man and the defendant says how could he when he and the other man were some considerable distance apart."

The Judge also gave a brief resumé of the history of the law regarding gays, with particular reference to the barbarity of some aspects and sent the jury out. Fifteen minutes later the jury returned a unanimous verdict of not guilty and I was discharged.

One gay voice has destroyed the grunting of two pigs — so we are getting somewhere. So all gays, "Fight hard enough and you will win".

Many thanks and much love to the lovely gays who gave me moral support, brandies and cigs throughout, and to the two navvies from the public gallery for the congratulatory slap on the back.

John Probert

ED: While the term 'pigs' used in this news item is not necessarily the terminology which would be used by the GN collective, it is the policy of the paper to reproduce worthy articles as we receive them. We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate John Probert on the outcome of his court experiences and to further commend him for taking the course of action he took, as all too often gays take the easy and faint-hearted way out.

Liberation Landslide In Debate

Saturday November 11th saw a house packed to the gallery at Newcastle University for what was billed as the "Gay Liberation Debate", with a local Methodist minister, The Rev. J. M. Furness, proposing that "This House deplores the Emergence of Homosexual Self-Confession and Self-Justification". Mr Furness who assures us that most of his knowledge of the subject was gained from books borrowed from the library that morning, spent quite a lot of time trying to define who these homosexuals were. And by the time he had excluded you-know-what in public schools, in the armed services and in prison cells, his case that homosexuality was an aberration the flaunting of which struck at the very roots of society began to look a little thin. By the time he reached the responsibilities of older men with families to fight against the corruption of the young, it began to feel a little thin. And when he got to the bit about homosexuals deserving sympathy not condemnation, but that we should, presumably like the people with only one arm to whom he had compared us, be neither seen nor heard, it was clear that his seconder was not going to have an easy task.

After this it seemed a bit unfair on him that Michael Barnes opposing on behalf of Newcastle GLF should start off in a clarion-call voice and style resembling Henry V on the field of Agincourt. He was certainly going to be heard and he made it clear that sympathy was the last thing he had in mind, unless it was sympathy with any homosexual who should be unlucky enough to turn to Mr Furness for advice. Not a beer-glass rattled through his rousing speech and he made sure every member of the audience knew that there was still discrimination against us in law, socially and in our jobs, discrimination which would continue unless gays did come out and fight for the right to live in a way which others regarded as their birthright, fight against inhumanity like that of the Newcastle employer who recently announced that he'd not rest while a "fucking poof" continued working in his office.

Richard Webster, secretary of Tyneside CHE, seconding for Michael under the Gay Lib banner (who said Brighton is the only place where there's co-operation?) would have a hard job to knock down Dr A. S. Wigfield, Consultant Venereologist at Newcastle General Hospital, who seconded for the proposition. This wasn't one of those venereological ogres but someone, evidently nearly as unhappy with the motion as he was with the VD figures, who in a witty speech delighted the audience with some of the best bad puns for a long time and condemned the commercial exploitation of sex in terms with which many gays would be happy to agree. But it was a pity that his peroration against permissiveness was rather spoilt by a cheerful

inability to resist a dig at the idea of gay marriage with the comment that we seemed to be wanting "our bride bartered on both sides".

Richard was against "permissiveness" as well, but on rather different grounds. What right, he wanted to know, had Society to take upon itself to "permit" fellow human beings to be themselves? If (as he pinned a GLF badge on one side of his nice new suit, and a CHE one on the other) by confessing himself in public he had done something to help just one other gay person to feel proud of himself as a fellow human being, he'd have done something worthwhile. But as for self-justification, that term came from those who believed we had something — the plague? — we needed to justify. He knew he had not.

After which we sat back with bated breath waiting for what the Floor would say. One brave girl made a brief speech in defence of married life, and then . . . silence. Throughout the evening scarcely anyone had nipped out for a pee, hardly a whisper of disinterest had reached the platform (except while Mr Furness was consulting his borrowed books), yet no one else would speak. Had we all been so brilliant that there was nothing left to say? Had everyone a raging thirst? Could it be that all these liberated students weren't liberated enough to speak on such a delicate topic? We don't know. We don't know either what the voting figures were: there was no point in counting all those hands when they were raised so overwhelmingly against the motion and in our favour.

Newcastle GLF/Tyneside CHE News Service

Block On Gay Mags

LONDON: Production of gay magazines has been hit by a refusal of firms that fold the magazines to do the work. They blame the print workers' union for deciding not to handle the magazines, but a union boss told GN that the firms were "lying".

A spokesman for Quorum magazine said that the magazine's printers had been told by firms specialising in finishing — folding and stapling — magazines that the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades had sent a directive to its members telling them not to handle gay mags, along with many other magazines, including much pornography of a very explicit nature.

Quorum isn't the only magazine to be hit by this ban by the firms.

Follow-Up magazine's third issue is now three weeks late in publication.

Don Busby, who runs Follow-Up told Gay News: "This is hitting me especially hard, as Follow-Up is still running at a loss without this sort of thing happening to make things worse. It's having to exist on the money that comes in from Male International Nude."

"With things like that, the last thing I need is a hold-up in production of Follow-Up. It means that there's no new money flowing into the magazine, and there won't be for some time."

Follow-Up was due for publication on

November but it has had to be rescheduled for publication on November 21. Male International Nude, Don Busby's other magazine, is not hit by the finishers' war-of-nerves, because it has less pages and folding it is, therefore, not a specialist job.

The story that a directive had been sent to print workers was given to the magazines' printers by, among other firms, Stewart Phillips, of Golden Square, Foldform of Blackfriars, Hatch Pinner, of Farringdon Road and Howgate of Triangle Road, London E8.

But Mr Joe Flynn, the general secretary of SOGAT told Gay News that: "Those firms are lying. There has been no such directive sent out. In fact, our members even work on International Times, which, I think, shows they're not narrow-minded."

The Managing Director of Hatch Pinner told Gay News: "We never refused to handle any magazine, we have never received a directive from SOGAT leaders."

"If the magazines' publishers say we are refusing to handle the magazine, they are mistaken, that's all I can say."

We're Doing Something

EDINBURGH: People working for homosexual law reform in Scotland were astonished to read GN11's Editorial which — while making very pertinent points on Age of Consent and the heavy task ahead for those who will be promoting sexual law reform in the UK — failed to take account of progress in Scotland in 1972.

The main work has been carried out by the Scottish Minorities Group (Law Reform sub-committee), and by some office-bearers of the Scottish Council for Civil Liberties, to which SMG is affiliated. The whole work was greatly assisted by a donation from an SMG member of £100. Without this vital cash, SMG would not have been able to get beyond the "talking shop" stage.

The moves began in May 1971 when I (the SMG Chairman) successfully guided through an SMG Motion to the SCCL Annual General Meeting, calling on SCCL to take a firm stand on remaining social and legal discrimination against homosexuals in Scotland. This motion was on similar lines to

that adopted by the National Union of Students (Scottish Region) in March 1971. A much expanded version is before the NUS Margate Conference, November 1972, proposed by the University of Reading.

In December 1971, the SMG Annual General Meeting adopted Councillor Ian Christie's motion which instructed the Executive Committee (a) to consult with the SCCL upon the introduction of parliamentary legislation to repeal the 1885 Act as far as it applies to Scotland in order to legalise homosexual acts between consenting adults, and (b) to conduct an energetic campaign to enrol public opinion in Scotland in favour of such law

reform. We got off to a brisk start in January when the SMG pamphlet "The Case For Homosexual Law Reform in Scotland" was circulated to all 71 MPs who represented a Scottish constituency, and to a fair cross-section of Members of the House of Lords who had spoken out in favour of law reform in the 1960's. The pamphlet was accompanied by a covering letter signed by Peter Wallington, the then Chairman of SCCL. The response was disappointing. Those MPs who even bothered to reply said they'd oppose Law Reform, or said that they were "sympathetic" but didn't think it was an urgent issue. Liverpool CHE got much the same response when they wrote to all MPs in their area in May 1972. Disappointed as we were, we followed up the letters with an insistent lobbying campaign in the Edinburgh Area. The results of our conversations were quite encouraging (for the first time MPs were face-to-face with homosexuals, and it wasn't so easy to be evasive), and we gradually realised that our best chances of success lay in the introduction of a Bill in the House of Lords. Meanwhile (June 1972) we had completed our analysis of the (English) 1967 Act. A summary of this appeared in GN3 (July 1972). The analysis procedure was carried out over a series of committee meetings. We sought the views of SMG members through SMG NEWS, and wrote to several people with a knowledge of Scots law. We also began to write to the major religious and social institutions calling on them to inform SMG of their attitudes towards homosexual law reform, and to support the SMG campaign. So far, the Society of Friends in Scotland (Quakers) has expressed clear support for the SMG proposals. This was the grimmest period of our work. The task was difficult and often distasteful. The existing law is couched in highly pejorative and emotive terms. Reluctantly we realised that we couldn't hope to "clean up" all the phrases. The idea of a sexual "offence" is retained in our final proposals, as is the distinction between "sodomy" (buggery in England and Wales) and other types of sexual "offences". Our legalisation proposals are fixed at 18 absolutely, with strong defence safeguards for 16 and 17-year-olds. No less

than 5 Acts (3 exclusively relating to Scotland) are repealed in part or amended, and this explains why we felt it necessary to promote a "Scotland only" Bill — we really doubt whether an English Act could successfully take into account the fundamentally different aspects of Scots law. We have sent a copy of the Bill to Gay News. The Bill will be formally published on 2nd December 1972, and copies can be obtained from Mike Coulson, 9 Moray Place, Edinburgh, 3 at a cost of 30p each, post free. Although we have had one definite response from a Member of the House of Lords, who has agreed "as a last resort" to introduce our Bill, we are still in the process of sounding out other Members' views. Our lobbying campaign continues (up-to-date details from our Annual Report for 1972, issued 1st December), and the Crown Agent has congratulated us on the draughtsmanship of the proposed Bill. His main criterion is whether or not reform proposals are enforceable, and our proposals are "thoroughly enforceable". We have come under much pressure — even attack — from many homosexuals, some "figure-heads", for pushing ahead with Scottish proposals. When people haven't been questioning us on the need for law reform (why bother, we're okay thanks,brigade) others have criticised us for being too timid. Most people seemed to forget that the Law Reform Committee was (and is) working within the terms of the SCCL and SMG Annual Meeting instructions. Within these terms, we maintain, we have made good and solid progress towards Homosexual Law Reform for Scotland. Ian Dunn

ED: The editorial in GN11 was written deliberately with the hope that we would receive such a response as above. To date we have received no replies from Campaign for Homosexual Equality or Gay Liberation Front. We do though, consider it a great pity that SMG have settled for eighteen as being the consenting age for male homosexuals, for as we said in our editorial — "The age of consent should and must be sixteen, as it is with girls — for to settle for anything else would be an admission on our part that homosexuality is something different and strange."

who was constantly on the verge of appearing but never seemed to arrive. The first half of the epic length debate consisted of Ian Harvey giving his famous Dunkirk speech that everyone has heard before, and dear old Anthony Grey looking for all the world like the undertaker to the gay world, and saying how much he liked being in with all his Jewish friends. Things didn't improve when a show of hands revealed that less than half the people present were actually Jewish. But never mind . . . Simon Benson was obviously enjoying every moment of it, and everyone agreed that it was very good of him to have arranged the whole thing. There were the usual stories of How I Told Momma — spiced on this occasion by a few leaden Jewish jokes. The break came as a great relief. In the interval the Star Turn appeared — looking very biblical with his long beard and eating sandwiches wrapped in tinfoil. He held out much promise. By the second half, many had left, and the Jewish element in the audience had the strange experience of being a minority in an establishment run primarily for them. The Star Turn gave us hard stuff about the Jewish attitude to the homosexual. Jewish law does not recognise the existence of homosexuals — only homosexual acts; these are forbidden. If I followed the talk correctly, the soul was regarded as being bisexual, and could only attain full unity when partnered with its other half, which, I gathered, could only happen within heterosexual marriage. When asked what he would say to a Jew who asked him how to be a good Jew and a practicing homosexual as well, the distinguished speaker was at a loss. Finally he said that he would have to say "do your own thing . . ." Ten years ago that would have been a fairly radical statement, and the distinguished speaker thought that it was still a radical point of view, because he asked the reporter from the Jewish Chronicle not to report this part of the proceedings. When the understandably flabbergasted reporter asked why, she was given a pathetic string of implausible horrors that could befall Jewish teachers who step out of line. I was depressed, and I left soon after. On my way out I saw Anthony Grey coming up from the loo, still looking for all the world like the undertaker. He gave me a short, tight smile and went back to the meeting, obviously bored beyond words. Jakov Geissmann

The case was dealt with recently by Judge David O. Boehm at Munroe County Court. Before passing sentence he asked prison officials about the potential danger to a homosexual inmate. "They were very candid," said Judge Boehm. There had been stabbings and fights over this situation yet all the prison officers could do was to give verbal instructions to the prisoners. Judge Boehm said he just couldn't see throwing Michael into that situation. "It would be cruel and unusual punishment. He'd become an object of barter there, completely dehumanised, if he wasn't killed." Judge Boehm placed Michael on probation on condition that he sought psychiatric help and stayed away from the victim of the assault. He told Michael that if he violated any condition of parole, it "will be clear indication that you're not concerned, as I am, with what might happen if you're sentenced to prison." Judge Boehm added: "I resent the fact that we have no alternatives. This is a heck of a thing and the public ought to know about it. I resent the fact that another person may come up who's a homosexual and he may have a more serious crime and I'm stuck." Right on Judge Boehm and here's hoping your views come to the notice of your English colleagues.

Monday Club Uses Gays

A pamphlet is currently circulating around London called The Monday Club: a danger to British Democracy. It is an exposure of this ultra-right-wing group and makes for far from delightful reading. It names names, makes accusations and unearths unsavoury details about the private lives of many well-known Monday Club members and supporters. It is highly libellous, which is, presumably, why it lacks the names of author, printer or publisher.

One particularly interesting section is headed: Fairies at the Bottom of Their Garden and begins: "The homosexual aspect is vital if one is to investigate the intrigue that is going on in and around the Monday Club." It continues: "A Poetry Society covered some of these activities and involved a man . . . who has been in trouble with the police for his gay behaviour. . . (he) is far better known as one of the leaders of the one-time Revolutionary Communist Party. Today, this man is able to mix amongst Conservatives, including Members of Parliament, because of his gay friends and now Right-wing political associates.

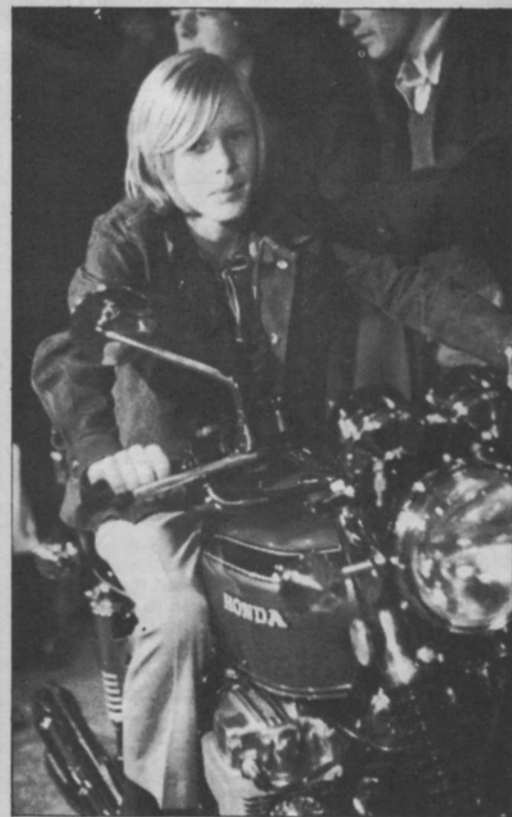
"It is always observed that homosexuals are bad security risks as they are open to blackmail and other forms of pressure. Certainly it would appear that those Right extremists in the Monday Club are seeing that homosexuals are being placed in positions where they can be influenced at a later date."

The item goes on to name two such men. Roger Baker

Dreams For Bike Boys

A glittering showcase of hard steel and power greeted me on the last day of the Motor Cycle Show at Earls Court. Big uns and Little uns of every shape and size to suit every taste available if you happen to have a few hundred spare quid lying around in your bottom drawer. Magical names like Triumph, Norton, Kawasaki, Honda evoking thoughts of speed and hot summer days but dear me! not a BMW in sight save my old R60 lying in a side street. Really 'very tasty' some of these machines were too, and the exhibitors actually encouraged people to get on the machines and feel them for themselves. (Good sales psychology that!) The younger element were having a

whale of a time doing just that — twisting throttles and jumping up and down on kick starts though there was little chance of them starting up minus batteries and petrol. Pity that might have been rather fun. After two hours or so of this heady atmosphere and looking at these beautiful machines, not to mention the beautiful boys your reporter staggered to the bar in search of a quick snorter but not until he had overheard this from a six year old to his dad. "Dad, can I have that Red one over there?" The Red one happened to be a 450cc Ducati priced at £460.80. I guess that's something one little boy won't be getting in his stocking for Christmas. David Hart



Photographs: Boy Studio

Gay Dentist Banned

SOUTHPORT: A dentist has been banned from practicing as a dentist because he is gay, and the General Dental Council's disciplinary committee in London admit that he has never behaved in "anything but a skilled and professional manner in the surgery." The dentist, who has been deprived of his livelihood for his off-duty life, came to the disciplinary committee's attention when he was convicted of a sex 'offence' at Preston in May. The gay dentist, who is 48 years old, was said to be a homosexual by his defence counsel, who added that he had undergone treatment for his gayness since the conviction before last, which was in 1967. The defence counsel said: "The offence

committed in May this year was an isolated breakdown." The dentist is given 28 days to appeal against the committee's decision. If he does not, his name will be erased from the dentist's register and he will be out of work.

National Jewish Talk In

LONDON: It was a bit of an anti-climax, really. Eight hours devoted to the subject of homosexuality and the Jew was enough to put off even the most devout Jew — or devout homosexual for that matter. There we were, gathered in Holborn on a wet Sunday afternoon, each ready to bare his or her soul to the distinguished speaker

Enlightened Sentence

ROCHESTER, N.Y.: An enlightened American Judge gets this month's award for diplomacy. Faced with the problem of sentencing a gay convicted of first-degree assault he "reluctantly" placed him on probation because of fears that the man — 29-year-old Michael Dodd — would be "dehumanised if not killed" if sentenced to a term of imprisonment.

Horror Wave Sweeps Earls Court

Look out. Here it comes. It's the biggest Gay News the world has ever seen. The next Gay News is a monster. It's the only issue next month, so we're making it special. The Great Christmas Issue Conspiracy has been uncovered. Reports reaching here suggest the paper published on December 13 will be so packed with goodies you won't be able to put it down for a month.

It stars Peter Straker (in a Gay News exclusive interview), Robin Maugham (a story that's never been published outside Gay News) and Judy Garland (an exclusive look through the tinsel at the lady behind the legend). Plus news, reviews, games, fun and entertainment guides.

Special guest star: the entire script of the gay sketch the BBC banned from its top-rating comedy show. Know what we mean?

With a goodie like that coming your way you owe it to yourself to order your Christmas Gay News from your newsagent or by sending a cheque or PO (made payable to Gay News Ltd) to Santa, Room 1, Gay News, 19 London Street, London W2 1HL.

Give A Friend Some Fun For Christmas

Don't be alone in enjoying the monster Christmas Gay News. Give a friend a little pleasure from December. No matter where your friend lives we'll help you, and we'll go on helping you give that friend a little pleasure every fortnight next year.

Pleasure means Gay News. Christmas means presents. Give your friend a subscription to Gay News for Christmas. Remember make it special and start the subscription with the monster Christmas Gay News. I enclose £1.20 for 10 issues/£2.30 for 20 issues. Start with issue (Copies are posted in a sealed envelope). Please make cheques/postal orders payable to Gay News Subscriptions, and send to 19 London Street, London W2 1HL. Tel: 01-402 7805 PLEASE SEND 10/20 ISSUES OF GAY NEWS TO:

NAME: ADDRESS:

Please enclose the following message with the first issue you send:

I AM:

Here We Are Again

The Gay News Collective has decided to change the format of our Editorial leaders. We all thought that the Editorial should be used in future for serious comments on events in the news relating to gayness and advancements and deteriorations in the present position of homosexuals in society. As the old format of the Editorial was mainly concerned with internal goings-on of the paper and the difficulties and successes we were experiencing, not forgetting our constant appeals for one thing or another, we realised that this would hinder the object of the new style editorial leader.

But we think it is extremely important to communicate to you the 'life and times' of Gay News, as we still stand firmly by what we first said in our earlier editions, that this paper belongs to the gay community and not to those who want to preach their own particular political beliefs or for the monetary ambitions of those producing GN. So to carry on keeping you in the know of what's happening to us and the paper, we will now run this regular column called Here We Are Again. The reason we decided to call it that was because of the number of times that phrase appeared in past editorials. Yes, we know how our writing styles can be shocking but we're trying to learn and improve. So, despite our sometimes obvious limitations, here we are again.

Christmas Issue

The Christmas issue, even if we say so ourselves, looks as if it will be as good as we had hoped. Definites for that edition to date are a Robin Maugham short story, a feature entitled The Garland Legend which is in keeping with the current nostalgia trend, an intimate interview with pop star Peter Straker, and a very special, hilariously funny, surprise scoop that we're keeping a secret until the issue is out. Also there will be the ultimate gay game for four players, plus many other novelties and seasonal delights. And of course there will be the latest gay news and all the other regular features and review pages. GN's size will be at least twenty pages for that issue but it will still only cost you 10p.

Subscriptions for Gifts

To pay for all the extras of our enlarged Christmas issue, we will be trying very hard to sell as many copies as possible. It will be the only edition in December so we expect you all to buy one, and also copies for friends. It will be extremely naughty of you if you continue sharing one copy between six of you for this special issue.

In this issue you will notice that there is a special subscription form whereby you can take out a sub as a gift for a friend or loved one. And what could be a better present than ten or twenty issues of 'big GN'. Seriously though, we know a lot of people still don't get to see us, so why not help to unbiasedly inform them of what's happening in the gay world. Subs are an important factor in our survival and continued existence, so why not treat yourself to mailed editions of GN for the coming new year even if you don't feel we are a suitable gift for someone else.

Love and Kisses

We would like to thank all those people who had enough faith in us to renew their ten copy

subscriptions. At least 95% of you did and we feel very flattered. This type of confidence in the paper is such an encouraging sign to us, and your continuing support of GN will make it possible for us to endeavour to always be improving and expanding and to eventually start some of the plans we would like to turn into reality. In case your sub is due to expire in the next few weeks, we advise you to renew it soon, as the usual Christmas postal chaos may cause delays. And you wouldn't want to miss our Christmas special would you?

New Offices

We unfortunately still haven't been able to find new offices. The present amount of working space is quite a problem and the only way of solving it is by finding larger premises. They must of course be available at a reasonable (cheap) rent. If any of you know of anywhere suitable, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

The only major stipulation we need to insist upon is that the offices be situated in central London, ie Fleet Street. Those of you who have visited our present offices will know of the difficulties we are working under, so to you especially, help!

Word Machines

A magic word to use at the moment, which is guaranteed to get hunched shoulders straightening up at a rapid pace and interest beaming from our innocent faces, is 'typewriter'. The two manual machines that are still operating are slowly giving up the ghost and no amount of coaxing and bribing with new ribbons or machine oil will help restore their lost youth and effectiveness.

Two others have sadly moved up to that great 'typing pool in the sky' and with the two we have left threatening to be reunited with them, typewriterwise we are in a sorry state.

After that convincing lead-in, now comes another famous GN appeal. If you have a typewriter you don't use and would like to see it put to use, we will gladly guarantee that it will be over-worked. Also if any of you want to automate our surroundings, a gift or the paying of rent for an electric model(s) would mean loving smiles and very grateful thanks from all of us.

A Final Word

We have tried to cram as much of everything into this issue. The last one was so filled with news items we had very little room for featurettes and feedback. So we're making up for it this time. Hope you find many things to your liking and taste. Take care of yourselves and enjoy your paper.

Gay News Editorial Collective

Your Paper And Gay Lib

Gay News is, as has been said many times in the paper, an unaffiliated, independent newspaper, that is open to all forms of opinions and comments. It is not a Gay Liberation Front paper, any more than it is a mouthpiece solely for Campaign for Homosexual Equality, or any of the other active gay organisations operative in Great Britain.

That most certainly does not mean though, that the ideas and aims, as well as reportage of the activities of these organisations, will not appear in our pages. They are welcome to submit copy to us which we will almost certainly print, the same as any other individual is more than welcome to express his/her viewpoints, whether through a letter, an article or by informing us of some news that is relevant to all gays.

So we wonder why some members of London Gay Lib find it necessary to be so openly hostile by threatening to 'take over' Gay News if we do not print a letter of theirs. GN prints the majority of letters received, and the only time we reject readers'/organisations communications is when we have a large number making exactly the same point, or when we can't read the writing. Other reasons would be when we considered the letter to be racist, slanderous non-factual or unfairly offensive. We do not censor letters and whether the members of the editorial collective agree or disagree with what is being said is immaterial to whether they are reproduced. A quick look at the many letters we have printed in past issues would show that what we are saying is correct.

Why then the hostility from this small group of radicals? Is it because we are not a GLF paper? — for that we most certainly won't ever be, as we will never be any other organisation's publication. Is it because GN is critical of some London GLF activities and policies? — possibly, for up until the advent of Gay News no gay organisation received any serious criticism from gay people themselves. Does this mean to say that some London Gay Libbers are so right, so completely pure, that they don't have to examine their motives, or consider the opinions of others, or even want to be bothered to attempt to communicate their ideas to others who haven't reached the same advanced state of personal awareness as themselves.

The Gay News Office was invaded just after the publication of our first issue, by a GLF faction calling themselves Radical Feminists (we understand that they are now known as Radical Queens). They objected to us including an article critical of them in the issue we were preparing for publication. After screaming at us for an hour or so, they then disagreed amongst themselves, resulting in extreme boredom for us and a loss of valuable working time. They eventually trooped out, leaving us none the wiser to why they were above or afraid of criticism.

The only point of near communication that we were left to ponder was the slogan 'Where's your head at?' which was frequently bellowed during the incident. This quaint phrase first came into use during the psychedelic boom of 1967, and was subsequently dropped from 'hip' language much the

same time as 'flower power' died.

Does this new takeover threat mean that we will have to endure another hysterical screeching session, or maybe they will go farther and destroy our notes and intended copy, remove our files, damage our typewriters and light fittings and generally behave like a bunch of thugs from the National Front, as they did when invading the Time Out premises a year ago. You can rest assured that nothing more constructive will be coming from them, unless by some sort of miracle they manage to prepare an issue of the paper, which would surely be a one-sided, dogmatic rendering of their own exclusive cant.

The GN collective would of course never allow this to happen, as in the same way we will not allow any form of censorship, whether through intimidation or otherwise. Why can't these people see that any articles they submit to us will take their place among all the other opinions and criticisms from other organisations.

Is it also necessary for GN street sellers to receive threats such as "What will you do if I rip up your papers?" as happens every so often. On more than one occasion, copies of GN have in fact been destroyed by agitated London Gay Libbers. What is the sense in this, for such action is on a par with book burning.

It is not intended by this piece to attack or even criticise the whole of the Gay Liberation Front movement. Many London members, despite ideological differences with Gay News, manage to maintain a civilised relationship with us, and also do much good and important work for the improvement of the lot of gays generally. Also relations with Gay Lib outside of London couldn't be better, many of these groups, in fact, sell GN at their meetings and also in their surrounding areas. We have even received generous donations from one or two of these groups.

As we feel that no-one is exempt from constructive criticism and we will never pander to pressure groups by withholding news, censoring our opinions and editorial comments, or allowing one faction or group to have more of a say or influence than another. The day we did allow this would be the time for us to quit publishing, for it would be betraying the trust people have in us, who rely upon our independent position to inform them factually, unbiasedly and without any preaching or politicising.

In a recent London GLF Diary (Nov 9-18) the embittered faction responsible for that edition suggested that people read such American Gay Lib publications as Gay Sunshine, Gay Liberator, Flaming Faggots as they would prove more palatable than reading Gay News'. Apart from these papers

only being available in limited numbers at a few bookshops, the writer(s) of the quoted piece completely fail to explain or communicate their reasons for such criticism. Possibly the truth and realities of matters and events nearer home are unpalatable. Possibly the vacuity of London Gay Lib during the last year is a matter they would rather sweep under the carpet.

We remain the only national fortnightly, independent gay newspaper in this country, and we mean to stay just that. No matter what threats we may

receive.

Gay News Editorial Collective

ED: The complete list of periodicals mentioned in the GLF Diary are as follows: The Body Politic, Lesbian Tide, Flaming Faggots, Gay Sunshine, Fuori and Gay Liberator. We would add to that list The Furies and The Advocate, America's largest selling gay newspaper. Bookshops in London likely to have a few copies of these papers in stock are Housmans, Agitprop and Compendium.

Julian's Column

Ooow dears, hasn't it been cold lately? I've started wearing my gloves — knitted by an old dearly loved friend of mine called George — weeks before I usually do. I've been thinking of getting one of those hairy Afghan coats, in white, but they are a bit too much really. But as that lady says on the television, 'Naughty, but I like it.'

Sorry to disappoint you all, but the Biograph has not got back to its usual form yet. By that I mean the films in future programmes are less than exciting. But at least the temperature there is fairly constant, know what I mean loves? For those though that are into men, as men are supposed to be according to Playboy and other mags full of nude ladies, Cliff 'Sock it to me' Robertson and William 'Got it all here' Holden show off their celluloid masculinity in *Devil's Brigade*, which is the Sunday special on 3rd December. Support, for those who care, is *Kill A Dragon* (the Bio's manager, Mr Wheelan, ought to watch this) and displays the talents of that sexy latin lover Fernando 'Tango' Lames and Jack 'You can be in my film' Palanca.

That's all about the Bio till next issue, so here's a bit about my experiences during the last couple of weeks. And not the sort you lot think either.

I was at the Masquerade Club in Earl's Court the other night and saw Mark Fleming performing. What a wicked lady she is. I'm glad I'm not a member of the Royal Family, I can do without the type of slugging she gives all the Queens, Duchesses and Princes. I noticed that she's making a lot of cracks about the Bio. She apparently spends most of her time there in a cubicle in the 'Ladies'. Wonder why, it must be rather lonely there.

I went up to the new gay bar the other evening. It's the Green Room at The Wheatsheaf in Goldhawk Road. Mind you I wouldn't like to live in Shepherds Bush, give me Brixton anytime. But I had a nice time there. I thought it would be a little quiet, but it was really busy. And lovely people too. The night I was there a few of those nice motorcycle boys were also sampling the delights. They must get cold in this weather, that leather just doesn't look thick enough to keep them warm. The Green Room has a very pleasant atmosphere, and I love those palms. Reminds me of better days before everything went

modern and flashy. In my day it was the people who were flashy. They might not have been as affluent, but they always had their flash. I keep on losing track, don't I? The Green Room will certainly feel my presence again, and a few other times if they keep it as nice and friendly as it is now.

You won't believe it but guess what I was sent in the post? A couple of introduction cards, one of which wanted me to 'come as a stranger and leave as a friend'. The establishment where these goings-on happen is The Bristol Suite, 'the club which is run entirely by the "City Girls"'. You are supposed to 'retreat to our intimate Bristol Lounge bar', for whatever charms they have to offer during your discreet evening. The other card advertised the Burlesque of Berkeley Square. Here they offer you 'lovely naughty burlesque spots every twenty minutes', as well as 'intimate seating'. They have a supply of 'talkable danceable waitresses' and are 'all geared to the taste of the busy Executive who wants to loosen his collar after a day's work' and stiffen up a few other things no doubt. Fancy sending such details to me. Must be an error somewhere. In case their pleasures actually appeal to you, both establishments are situated at 14-16 Bruton Place, Berkeley Square, Mayfair W1. This is a line taken from the Burlesque card, 'luxurious Louis XVI decor... yet casual ambience'. Somebody's got a poetical dictionary.

Well all, love you and leave you. See you next issue. Julian's Column will be there for you to grasp some interesting tit bits from. Wrap up warm and don't trip over any extra large feet at the Bio.

Julian Denis
Grimston

Your Letters Continued

Bigoted Letters

London EC2

Dear Gay News,

May I be permitted space in reply to the bigoted letters of Michael Harth and J B Marr in GN10.

Both are concerned with what Michael refers to as 'screaming queens' and Mr Marr as 'gyrating freaks'.

It is always my expectation that the victims of prejudice and irrationality will be capable of recognising such attitudes within themselves when they are confronted by 'deviations' that they find disturbing in other people. This expectation is frequently disappointed. As the film *It Is Not The Homosexual Who Is Perverse* etc. puts it, gays who are, in general, put down by the society in which they live are often anxious to find others at whom they themselves can point the finger of scorn.

Of course, this is a phenomenon that applies not merely to gays, but is worldwide. The lighter-skinned black likes to feel superior to the darker-skinned; the Western Jew likes to feel superior to the Eastern Jew; the white-collar worker likes to feel superior to the tradesman or labourer, the pink-skinned 'white' likes to feel superior to those who have black, yellow or red skins; and so on... Oppressed and exploited himself, and very often not conscious of his own oppression, the superior person needs to compensate for his feelings of inferiority. The most obvious expression of this phenomenon is the dominant male/dependent female relationship.

Messrs Marr and Harth, to judge by their language, apparently believe that they themselves are acceptable to the society in which they live, and are afraid that they may lose their 'respectability' by being linked with their more obvious brothers. Both rationalise their fear and anger, Mr Marr by using emotive terms like 'mimcing', 'unwashed' and 'perverts' to describe the objects of his abhorrence and suggesting that they are obsessed with sex, conveniently forgetting or not realising that the heterosexual world's preoccupation with sex is so overwhelming that we hardly even notice it any longer — the mere fact that men wear trousers and women wear dresses is a display of sexual preoccupation (and differentiation) so enormous that we have come to take it for granted!

Michael Harth is able to rationalise his detestation by defining 'us' (that is, himself) as 'true' homosexuals and 'them' as pseudo-heterosexuals. How clever of Michael to be able to reach such a satisfactory conclusion when most of the people doing research in the field of homosexuality find the subject so complex that they feel unable to draw any conclusions, or, if they do, their conclusions are frequently at variance, one with the other!

What Michael and Mr Marr fail to understand is that the problem (if that is what it should be called) has nothing to do with the screaming queens but is entirely in their own heads. If some males of the human species prefer to dress and act differently from the manner in which your two correspondents think they ought to dress and act, that is not Michael's or Mr Marr's concern. Every human being has the right to choose his or her own way of life as long as it does no physical or mental harm to others. If other people choose to be offended, that is their option, but being offended is not the same as being hurt or victimised or brainwashed.

One small amendment to my remark about the

'queen's' life-style not being Michael's concern. Michael appears to be proud of belonging to CHE. But CHE is an organisation for all gays, and its specific aim is equality in society for all gays. If he wishes to exclude from CHE those gays whose way of life is not to his taste, then he has either to do some hard re-thinking or to resign from CHE. To that extent, the 'screaming queens' are his concern. I hope Michael will re-collect the words of one of his favourite philosophers, Schopenhauer... "The truth was not found because... the intention was to find preconceived opinion..."

Love and peace,

L Collinson

Biased or Objective?

London

Dear Gay News,

I was sorry to see that your reporting of the Champion trial was so biased. As a defence witness I saw a number of things which your reporter failed to notice, for reasons best known to himself. For instance, the fuzz not merely grabbed someone's camera but kicked members of the public downstairs, simply because some of them were objecting to the way the MacKenzie lawyer was being treated.

I also think that at a time when we should be fighting together, your reporter's bitchy remarks about Peter Reed are unnecessary and useless. Whatever Peter did or did not do, I'm sure the reporter might have managed to remember to get hold of the testimony of the defence witnesses. I find it a rather poor excuse for his lack of reporting.

Incidents such as these embitter relations between GLF and Gay News; and it would be sad if what is otherwise a very good paper continued to print deliberately unfavourable reports about Gay Lib.

Yours,

Frank Honore

Vassall Supervision?

Bromley

Dear Gay News,

I read your item about William Vassall (GN10) with interest, but remain curious about one aspect that is not mentioned by you.

Since he had been sentenced to 18 years imprisonment, in normal circumstances after allowing for good conduct remission of one third, he would have been discharged after twelve years. In view of every reports' reference to his exemplary behaviour in prison, one can quite safely assume that this would have been the case. As he is released on parole I believe that he is subject to some form of supervision for the remainder of his original sentence — another eight years from now.

The authorities by releasing him two years earlier (ten years instead of twelve) have managed therefore to retain control of William Vassall for a further eight years from the date of his sentence. He would have been released in two years time, with no supervision for the following six years.

Can any of your readers let me know whether I have got my facts right?

All best wishes,

Michael

FEATURETTE

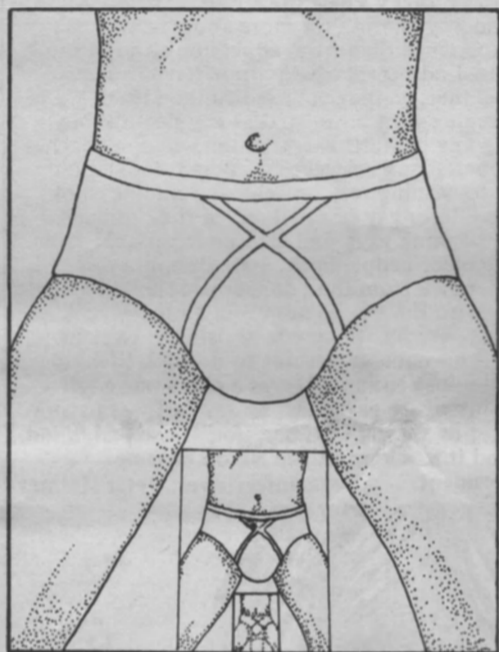
Preference, Prejudice, Perversion - Or Common Failing?

An answer to all those who complain of their ill-treatment by the gay world because of their age or plainness - and a few thoughts about why.

Take a look at the personal ads page. Read the ads there. It's clear that words like 'young', 'dolly', etc are used frequently. 'Same age or younger' is a common turn of phrase employed. Yet many times I hear complaints that the younger guys are only interested in one another, and not in their older gay brothers. Lots of people see this as something wrong in the gay scene - as though this rejection were something one had to suffer if you're a gay man. A part of our 'difference'.

Well, it isn't. It's a normal reaction that one finds in every situation, gay, straight or twisted. Its power, however, is increased greatly by the myth-machine which produces adverts, films, books, plays.

How the wig-makers, cosmetic firms, car manufacturers, boutiques must laugh sometimes - all the way to the bank with your money! After all, a gay man, by the time he's thirty-five or so, can reasonably expect to be earning a reasonable wage - he can also reasonably be expected to be spending a large proportion of that income on trying to convince himself and others that he's younger than he is. Clothes, toiletries, cars, furnishings - the middle-class, middle-aged gay must be an ad-



man's idea of a perfect consumer. Put a pretty boy in a pair of coloured underpants in the Y-front ads and watch sales figures soar in Kensington and Earls Court!

But... it doesn't make you any younger, or prettier, really. You'll still look the same when you drop 'em.

But... the biggest but of all... take a look around and you'll see that we aren't the only ones to fall for it. Look at the ads for 'body-belts' (one firm has renamed them sexi-belts), wigs, bronzers. The straight male buys just as much of this sort of thing as some of us do - he'll buy a sporty looking car, bronze his skin, adjust his toupee, and drive off up West to try to 'pull' a dolly bird.

His wife will have an even more comprehensive range of creams, powders, clothes and sprays to appeal to her desire to look and be young again. And when she's put it all on she will invite that nice young milkman in for a cuppa. Honestly, everyone admires and chases young and pretty sex-objects.

And if you're young but not very pretty - Johnny can sit all night in a club - whether

either nude or in heavy clogs, striped tights, peek-a-boo pop eye make-up, teenform bra. Tampax, Femfresh, Mum Rolette (etc) gaucho pants and a smock, sit is all she'll do.

Both of them will quite likely get talking to some nice girl/boy (perm any two from four) at work, or on the tube, or anywhere, and eventually settle into a relationship. But they won't hit it off with anybody in the sort of situation where you have to be a sex-object all the time - like a gay pub or club.

If we were all known as who and what we are at all times in all places, the same might happen to all of us - in fact I'm sure it would. But most of us are only able to openly be gay in the hothouse atmosphere of a pub - and if you aren't young and/or beautiful, that sort of thing doesn't really suit you. You're looking for HIM - while all we youngsters are looking for IT. Undue emphasis gets placed on this young-and-lovely because it looms large when you don't come out and you don't know who is and who isn't. Try it and see.

It's hiding away like this that makes this natural phenomenon look much more cruel and unnatural than it really is.

Right - having established that the youth and beauty cult isn't a special 'hang-up for gays', where does it come from?

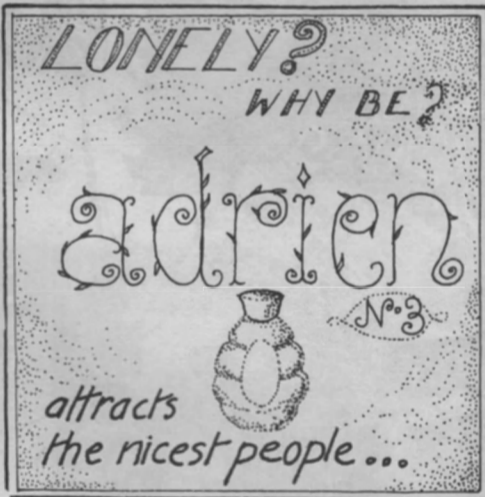
It is forced on your attention all the time in the form of ads - posters, telecommercials, on the sides of buses, shop windows - the message is the same everywhere. Buy this and you'll be irresistably sexy.

'Things happen after a Badedas bath' croons the dripping young lady with a towel almost making her decent.

'We'll make you blush whatever kind of cheek you've got' says the Woolworth lady peeping from behind her lace curtains.

'You too, can have a Morley like mine' grimaces the straining hulk in a tight blue tee shirt.

But you don't judge a book by its cover - so why should you judge what degree of sexual stimulation/satisfaction you're going to get (if



you must look at people that way) by who's teeshirt, bra or aftershave he/she's wearing?

Face it, you lifelong bachelor uncles of this world, he might not be the bang of the century but your old school chum is a lot more likely to be able to talk on your level about things that interest you both, has spent as many years as you have collecting hints and tips for use around the bedroom and kitchen, and is probably as well off as you are. He won't deafen you with the stereo, won't cost you nearly as much in nights at the club, and he won't perpetually be calling you grandpa when you're cross. Not, like our little chickens, however, pretty.

Don't get too conned by the adman and his sexopolistic world - they even try and sell fire extinguishers on sex appeal now. It's lying there, on fancy-wrapping and ribbon, with a romantic lovey-dovey message on a card - and what does the slogan say?

'TAKE ONE HOME TONIGHT - IT'S MUCH MORE THOUGHTFUL THAN FLOWERS'. How romantic - he/she will fall into your arms in rapture and you'll have the world's foamiest bed that night. Oh yes, I can see it now. Soft lights, sweet music and a quick squirt on the sofa!

And where else in the world do you find



rose-tinted youths skipping into impossible sunsets with demure young blossoms draped in their arms? That one is perpetuated by the Barbara Cartland School of Smarm and others. Think of the unreal way 'love' is presented in all the kids books you ever read - no sex, white weddings, and intense conversations on

the library sofa. No wonder everybody chases the common idea of beauty (which is just another sort of fashion) and supposedly care-free youth. Everyone, mind you, gay and straight. Like other pressures, we feel it more in our isolation.

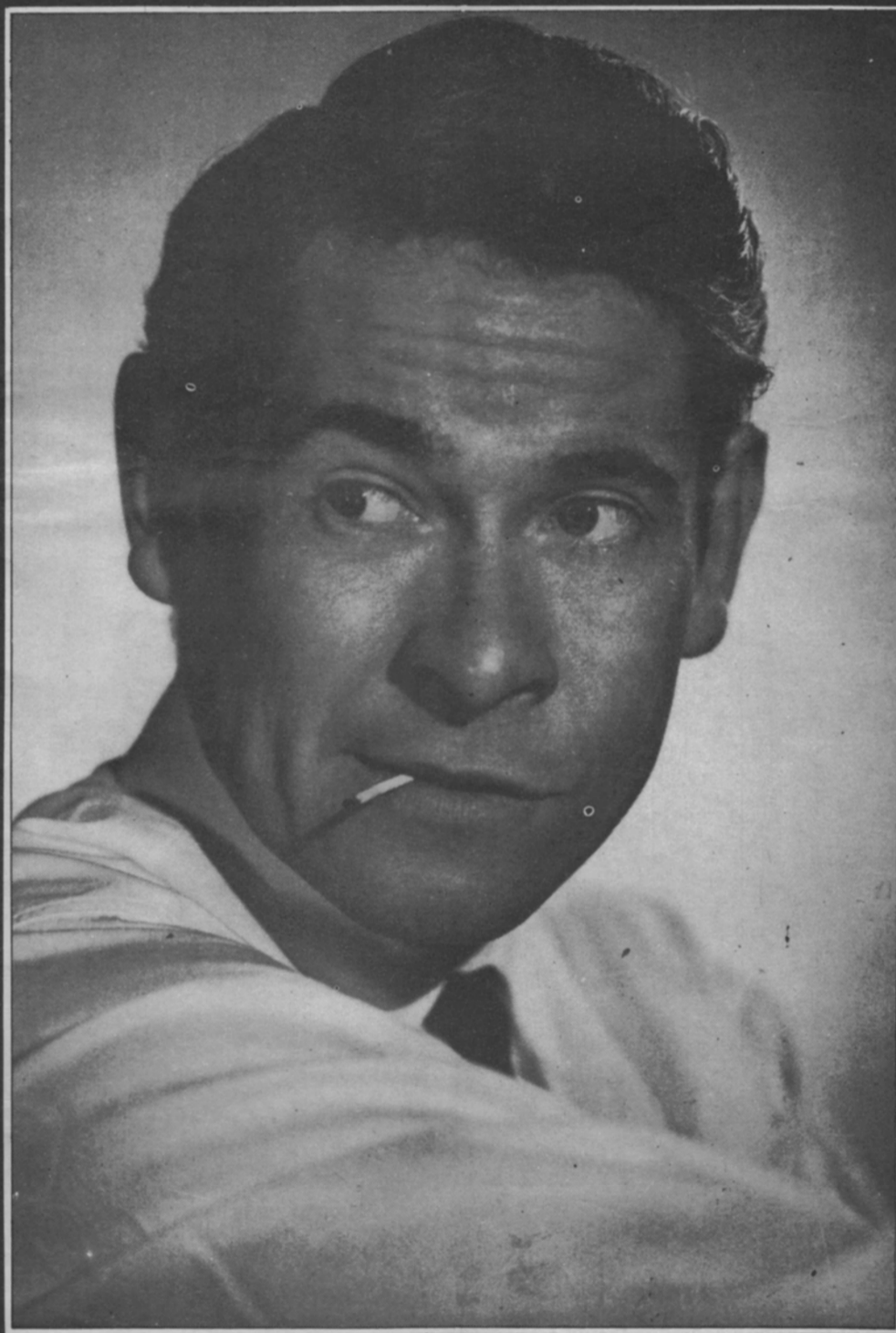
Of course some people are more attractive than others - but that's a matter of personal taste and preference. Of course it's nice to taste a little youth, both literally and vicariously, by the company of young people. But, I'm afraid there's nothing odd about youngsters preferring their own company in the bedroom.

Just remember that it's much nicer to grow old gracefully than to try and look, act and be younger than you are. After all, age ought to have its pleasures too. It makes a lot more sense to pursue them than to try to regain what has gone, I'm afraid, for ever.

Doug Pollard

ED: Doug's article on ageing can only cover a single aspect of one of the most important subjects in gayness. So, if you agree with him or disagree with him, write to Gay News and tell us what you think. We want to give all points of view an outlet, that's the policy of independent GN.

MATCH OF THE MONTH



Photograph: Anthony Buckley, Camera Press London

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it's Bumpers or the Masquerade doesn't matter, but unless he's traded in his hornrims for contacts, his pimples for 'bronzer', and his grey flannels for tight jeans, he's quite likely to go home alone.

Vera can sit there all night, but unless she's

Tricky Dicky The Gay Liberator

Less than two years ago Richard Scanes was a public health inspector with a reputation for pulling the girls. Now he's Tricky Dicky, the gay dee-jay who's given up the pretence of living a straight life, but puts all his energy every night of the week into getting gays to come out and into their home surroundings.

Tricky Dicky has a discotheque booking every night of the week in places well out of the usual gay areas. And that's one of his aims, he told Gay News. He started at The Father Red Cap in Camberwell, now he has discos at The Kings Arms in Liverpool Street and the Arabian in Bethnal Green as well as monthly discos in Southend and the occasional shuffle up the Thames.

He told GN: "Usually a gay stays anonymous in his home area and only takes off his protective overcoat when he gets to Earls Court and the gay ghettos, as they have been called in Gay News.

"What's happening now is that people are opening gay bars and gay discos in their areas and it's possible for the gay to come out

wouldn't wear full drag. At present I'm formulating my act for Leader of the Pack.

"The Redcap would like me to do more evenings a week, but I want to get discos going in other areas, so I won't increase the number of nights I spend there."

He says he tries to make his evening's work more entertaining than just someone putting on a record after another. He plans the evening's show. But that's not the only thing he plans. He says: "Gay discos can get bigger and better, and that's what we're working on now. In fact, we are something like six or eight years behind straight discotheques. There always have been gay places in the West End, but one day there'll be strings of gay discotheques all over London

why he'll be featuring all the Christmassy tracks by soul singers later next month.

Of the 170 gays at his last disco at Southend, only 50 came with Tricky Dicky from London.

For the 32-year-old DJ that's a success because "it's something like treble the number we had at the one before, the first one. And it means that 120 gays from all round Southend got a chance to go to a gay disco, and they don't get that chance very often."

Tricky Dicky is trying to find new places to hold gay discos. He'd like to have a place in North London. At present, he's south of the river at Camberwell and in East London. Being at two places in the East End pleases Dick no end. "There must be just as many gays per square mile in the East End as there are in Earls Court. And I'm an East Ender born and bred. Only about five years ago there were about four or five pubs you could single out as being gay. But they've changed now, I don't know why, so someone has got to give the East End gays a social life."

For someone who is working almost full-time for gays - apart from weddings on Saturday afternoons - Tricky Dicky is fairly recently come-out. He says: "When I was a public health inspector, until 18 months ago, I pretended to be straight, because there weren't any other gay public health inspectors. At least, there weren't as far as I could see.

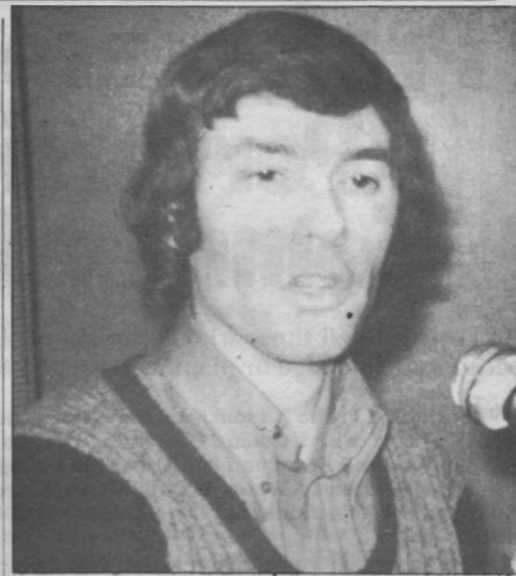
"I really started to come out when I was 25, when I broke off my engagement. No-one could understand why. I was only three months off being married before I realised which path to take.

"When I told my mates I was gay most of them said 'You're kidding'. But then I had been going up to the Ilford Palais with them pulling the birds and trying to lay them in the back of cars. They couldn't believe I was gay because I seemed so normal to them.

"One thing I've noticed about the way people behave through my discos is people coming up and saying 'You're camp up on stage,' but they never thought that when I was pretending to be straight. I think it shows that a lot of people's everyday behaviour can be interpreted as 'camp' if others want to see it that way.

"If we are going to have parallels between gay entertainment and straight entertainment, it means we have to have equality in the quality of the entertainment on offer, as well as equality in social life.

"If that's what gay equality means then I'm doing what these GLF and CHE people are supposed to be working for. There are



enough people worrying about the politics of equality, so I'm just giving the people equality in my way. I've never been very keen on GLF, but then I've only seen it from the outside.

"All I saw was the intense political side, which is what you see from the outside. But then, most people can only see it from the outside until they get into it. And if the outside appearances put them off they're never going to get into the inside to see it from that way round."

We suggested there was more toleration of gays in the East End than in the middle class areas of West London. As an East Ender, Tricky Dicky knew the answer: "The East End boy learns a lot more about sex from experience than from education. And in the East End brothers very often have to sleep together, so they get used to the idea of sleeping with boys. And as any healthy boy is going to start masturbating when he reaches puberty, sex between brothers is looked on as something very normal, and no-one thinks it's odd or gay or at all out of the ordinary.

"I think gays find greater acceptance from the older people in the East End, but less tolerance from the younger people."

With the US elections only a few weeks back, Tricky Dicky was at pains to explain that his name is nothing to do with Richard Millhouse Nixon. "It was a nickname a girl in my office gave me," he says. "I was having a bit of a thing with her, nothing sexual, mind. And it was long before Nixon became president."

Interviewer: Peter Holmes



Photographs: Peter Holmes

in the East End, and we've got to learn to do that.

"The places I work at are in the middle of nowhere, but then all the big discotheques are in the West End. Now DJs are taking discotheques to the people. I offer people a show of the same standard as they'll get in a West End club but in the area they live in.

"And in the places I work gay people have the liberty they should have. You go to the Catacombs and try dancing together there. All these big names won't let boys dance together, perhaps they are being leant on, but all that they have is something like a parade.

"At my discos the gay boys and gay girls can dance together and no-one is going to say a word. This time last year you wouldn't have seen gay people dancing together."

Now Tricky Dicky is playing sounds for gay girls and men to dance to every night of the week, thanks to his break at the Father Redcap.

He says: "About 18 months ago I had heard that the governor of the Father Redcap was gay and I phoned him and said 'I am gay, I am a DJ' and he gave me the chance to get started.

"Now it's up to three nights a week disco there and one night of stage show, when I play records and do impressions. I might put on a wig or something like that, but I

and in the bigger provincial towns.

"Maybe it won't be Tricky Dicky who'll be running them, but, at least, I'll have done something towards making them possible. I'm in this business to make money. I wouldn't pretend otherwise, but my main aim is to entertain my fellow gays, and to play my favourite sort of music - soul music, which has a very strong following among gays."

We spoke to him one Thursday night. The night before he'd done The Arabian in Bethnal Green. "Last night," he said cheerfully, "I made £1.50. No-one can say I'm making a fortune at that rate. The Southend trips I've run have made a small profit. The Brighton trip made a small loss. And the riverboat shuffle - well, I thought I was going to be running the thing at a loss until the night when all the people turned up. By the Wednesday before I'd only sold about 60 tickets. It looked like being a disaster."

But the prospect of a financial disaster doesn't stop Tricky Dicky ploughing the money he makes back into equipment and other stunts. He insists that gay mobile discos must be the same high quality as you'd get in a major West End club and that gays must have a parallel of every event that the straight world organises for itself. If there are straight New Year's parties, he says, there should be gay New Year's parties. That's

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Land Of Rising Sauna

NORWAY Freedom Under Law - At Last

Since 1902, Norway has been operating repressive laws against the male gay population, similar to those recently repealed in England. In 1970 the Norwegian Association of Homosexuals decided to work actively towards the reform of these laws. In just two years, after a multi-media attack (the press, lectures to schools, social workers, doctors, priests, parents, teachers, the church and political organisations) the association managed to break down many of the traditional barriers between society and the gay world. In 1971 Parliament discussed the legal position of homosexuals, and on April 14, 1972, Norway became the first of the Scandinavian countries to abolish the Homosexual Penal Clause, and with it legal discrimination against homosexuals.

Not only that triumph, but the Health Department provided the Association with 10,000 kroner (£600) to publish a brochure on homosexuality to be distributed to all Norwegian schools and members of the public. And society's attitude is already said to be changing for the better.

SWEDEN Job Discrimination Begins To Crumble

The Swedish Union for Sexual Equality (RFSL) is investigating if there are professions who still consider sexual inclinations in their assessment of applicants. Last year they managed to force educational authorities in Sweden to declare openly that the sexual inclinations of a teacher are of no importance. However, would-be sailors can still be refused

if it's discovered they're gay (this doesn't apply to the girls, though). After a certain amount of lobbying however, the Establishment is finally listening, and there are now chances that this discrimination will stop.

Bearded Ladies?

One of the strangest battles the RFSL is having with the Establishment at the moment is who should pay for beard removal for sex change cases. The operation has been legal since July, paid for by their equivalent to our National Health. But the complex and expensive treatment to remove the beard is considered a beauty treatment and the individual concerned expected to pay the full costs themselves. As RFSL point out, changing sex involves a lot of mental and practical problems

and mustn't include financial troubles as well. From the way RFSL seems to be getting results, there won't be many bearded ladies around in Sweden for much longer.

Marriage a la Mod

A Government appointed committee is looking into the reform of marriage laws in Sweden. This is understood by the RFSL as being total reform. So far the committee has resolutely ignored homosexual marriage, and this has made RFSL rather cross.

They have circularised the committee and press with a few suggestions. These include Family Allowances for legally married homosexual couples. The mind boggles! Seriously though, their ideas appear straightforward and valid, in fact they seem to be about ten light years ahead of us in their social reform thinking. They want a marriage that is exactly equal to a heterosexual couple - the simplified Registry Office type, or the full white wedding bit as desired.

Basically their aims are:

- 1 Marriage as a form of security (emotional in our case and not so much economic) should be equally available to all.
- 2 Financial support for gay couples, if necessary (Family Allowances)
- 3 Reform of Death Duty and Inheritance Rights for gay couples, to bring it in line with that for the straights.
- 4 Reduction of age of consent to that for straights.

Their argument is that the acceptance of gay marriages will help us to feel stronger and more secure in ourselves.

Right on RFSL. Move over CHE.

Where It's At In Scandinavia

For those of you heading north this winter, or even next summer, we've compiled a list of clubs, bars and organisations that might make life and love easier for the tourist on the look for a gay night out. But be prepared, those Scandinavians aren't only famous for their blue eyes and blonde hair!

Sweden

For general help and information, write or contact: RFSL, Box 850, 10132 Stockholm 1, Sweden. The office is open on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays between 7pm and 9pm, and the telephone number is 08/153001.

Clubs where you could expect to find sympathetic company include:
Stockholm - Club Timmy, Timmermansgatan 24nb, 11649 Stockholm. The telephone no. is 08/848030 and they're closed during the summer.



Illustration: Jean-Claude Thevenin

Club Albert, Timmermansgatan 24. Tel. 08/848030 open Tuesdays in summer.

Gothenberg - Friends Club, 400 14 Gothenberg.

Malmö - Club Max, Ostra Farmvagen 21c. Every night 9.30 to midnight. Dancing.

Gay House, Per Weijersgatan 8. Tel. 117850. Daily from 4pm.

Denmark

Copenhagen - Pan Club, Nybrogade 28. Tel. 01/143917. 9pm till 2am every night but Monday.

Norway

The Norwegian equivalent to CHE is Norske Forbundet AV 1948, and you can write to them at Postbox 1305, Vika, Oslo 1. Tel. Oslo 271003.

Oslo - Gay dances are held every Wednesday and Sunday at the Venstres Hus, Mollergaten 16, Oslo.



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Preference Or Prejudice

As the perpetrator of the now, it seems, infamous "black young and gay" advertisement (GN4) I can't let R.L. Stratton-Watt's Feedback letter in GN9 pass without comment.

Firstly, I would like to apologise to Mr Stratton-Watts and to any other black readers who feel as he does, for any offence caused them by my advertisement. I am well aware of the large sexual and male chauvinist component in racism, as epitomised by the familiar 'would you let your daughter marry one?'. I accept that there will be those who will see my advert as perpetuating the black man as sex-object syndrome. Nonetheless, I justify myself on the following grounds.

Mr Stratton-Watts uses the words "prejudice and preference" in the same breath, as if they were synonymous. For me the essence of racialism is discrimination against a disadvantaged group, racially defined. Thus, to advertise for whites only would most certainly be racist as it would extend the area from which blacks are excluded.

But to maintain the converse would not be true, as it would assume an equality of advantage between black and white, which in our racist society does not exist. To call discrimination in favour of a disadvantaged group "racialism" is to make nonsense of the word. If this seems like splitting hairs, consider this: I am Scottish and Scottish people are in no way discriminated against in Britain today. Would Mr Stratton-Watts have been so outraged if I'd advertised for a fellow Scottish gay?

I also detect in Mr Stratton-Watt's rather involved argument an idea which appears fairly widespread in the gay movement and in GLF in particular and which seems a hip but direct descendant of medieval body-denial. According to this view, not just prejudice but also sexual preference is unliberated and wrong and one can and should dispense love physical and spiritual, equally and indiscriminately to all men and women of all ages everywhere.

I cannot accept this neo-Gnosticism which seems to want to spiritualise physical sex out of existence and refuse to acknowledge its less ideal aspects. Male homosexuality is, after all, about cocks and spunk and arseholes as well as love, peace and revolution.

Some of us like black skins, some hairy limbs and chests, some huge cocks, some (like me!) are turned on by all three and more. If we can accept these preferences and integrate them into the rest of our personalities, we shall be able both to love and cherish and respect any guy/girl and thrill to his/her dark skin, leather knickers, green eyeshadow, or whatever makets us horny.

In the integrative process we may also find the compulsive aspect of those preferences diminishes.

It's when an oppressive, sexist society makes

men ashamed of their desires that the desires are split off and disowned and projected onto the minority group of the moment, to whom is attributed remarkable sexual prowess and who are feared as rivals and envied for their forbidden freedom. The prejudiced man hated himself by proxy, and the proxy is too often the gays and the blacks. The person who accepts



his or her preferences is free to build constructive relationships with all sorts of people while realising that, quite involuntarily, he or she will be physically aroused more by some than by others.

This letter carries two signatures. The second is that of a wonderful black guy I met as a result of my advertisement. If nobody else got any pleasure out of it, we certainly did!

Jim Scott and Baldwin Spencer

we have ruled out those disabled by inhibition and those overwhelmed with desire? Perhaps a sort of benevolent teacher-figure would be the best choice; but even this is not easy to implement because of the popularly accepted (and increasingly noticeable) insulation between teacher and pupil in our schools - the extent of which is to be judged from the recent recommendation that no teacher should talk to a child alone, or touch or embrace him in any way, even if the teacher considers it will be beneficial to the child. What a difference to the situation in ancient Greece, where the value of a tutor was suspect if he was not in love with his pupil, and a teacher-pupil homosexual relationship was considered by many to be essential in the education of every well-born boy.

Let us not try to copy the Greeks, however. Our problems are more complicated than theirs, because we have more history to worry about.

I must confess, after all these words, that I don't really know the exact form of the best boy-lover image for the future; but I am quite sure that such an image is vitally necessary.

The reason is this: I would like all people, including those who love boys, to have the psychological benefits of happiness and freedom from neurosis. At present, pederasty is considered a perversion, and so pederasts are in constant danger of accepting the role of pervert without realising it. In many cases they have a wretched feeling of desolation and

loneliness, leading them quite unwillingly into the cottages, or into a miserable solitary existence with only pictures of boys for company. In other cases, the sexual urge has been so strong as to at least lead them out onto contact with boys, if only for a night; but who can really keep up the pretence that their needs are purely physical? No matter how much a person may disparage emotional relationships or be afraid of forming them, he would surely feel better inside if he knew that the pretty young fellow lying in his bed really loved him and was not just waiting to go away and spend his night's earnings? Sex is second-best only, and no complete fulfilment of a persons needs.

There are all shades of difficulty and anxiety associated with pederasty, but most would be eliminated by generating a spirit of belonging rather than isolation, of subscribing to some common principle or identifying with some common ideal rather than making the best of a bad situation and finding oneself a bit of pleasure just to ease the pain of living.

It is quite vital that we ourselves recognise the authenticity and potential value of boy-love, (even if it is too much to expect of society at present) and eventually work out a formula to eradicate the anxiety-producing aspects of today's situation, in the hope of removing the need for anything other than a free and open approach to love in all its manifestations.

Mark Adams

New Directions

EDINBURGH: The 1972 SMG Annual Report, just out, shows how the Group has developed over the past year.

The Group has nucleated into Regional Areas, and the AGM on December 2nd adopted a new Constitution which recognises development. Power has been handed over to the local gay groups. The right to raise money and to advertise locally has now been written into the SMG Constitution. The National Executive will only step in when the local group wilfully goes against the 4 Aims of SMG. Even these 4 aims have been recast to take account of past experience and the changing climate in Scotland. Their wording is "tougher and terser"

SMG's most successful enterprise is the

Saturday night Club at the COBWEB in George Square in Edinburgh (unfortunately closed over the holiday period, in case you're thinking of visiting Edinburgh), and each Area group is now looking for similar premises, preferably under direct SMG-control and on a seven-days-a-week basis. The Annual Report points to the success of the Annual Conference in August, and the boom in the gay publications field - referring particularly to GAY NEWS.

For the price (and the small effort) of a large stamped self-addressed envelope, the National Secretary will send you a copy of the Report. So, for the low-down on how to run a successful gay organisation, write to the Secretary, SMG, 214 Clyde Street, Glasgow, G1 4JZ.

Sporran News Service

STOP PRESS

Breakthrough In Eire

There is a distinct possibility that CHE may soon be able to form a local group in Dublin. This is the result of a visit made there by one CHE member, Allan Crossley, during which he contacted *The Irish Times*, the Samaritans and an already existing homophile group.

The established group is called The Legion of Mary and is described as "an apostolic organisation aiming to achieve the personal sanctification of all its members". The group has about 50 contacts, and its leaders (both married men with families) agreed that not all homosexuals who came into contact with them could accept their approach and methods, especially if they did not wish any involvement with the church. The group accepted CHE literature which has been distributed to members.

All Irish newspapers have refused to mention this group and have refused to accept any advertisements from it. *The Irish Times* did, however, publish an interview with Allan (November 21), a short article which, while stating CHE's aims quite clearly and correctly, lent its emphasis to the fact that

'buggery' and 'gross indecency between males' are illegal in Ireland. Which indicates that the full implications of being homosexual are completely unknown - to the writer of the article at least. However there is, at the time of writing, a 90% chance that the same newspaper will agree to carry a CHE advertisement on its back page of personal ads.

Allan was also able to give CHE literature and posters to the Dublin Samaritans, and to put the idea into their heads that a speaker on homosexuality might be invited along.

Roger Baker

Counter Miss World

LONDON: Gay Liberationists and Women's Liberation have joined forces in planning a counter-Miss World contest, which is to be held outside the Albert Hall in London.

A spokesman for GLF said the rendezvous for demonstrators against the competition was 7pm December 1, at South Kensington tube station.

As the demonstration will be a mock Miss World competition everyone is invited to wear national costume, bathing suits or the like. Anyway, the demo's organisers want people to wear something silly

Re-Building The Image

Do lovers of boys today have a characteristic ideal or image of pederasty which can be compared to the images invented in the past? Is there, for example, a modern equivalent to the philosopher who ascends to the highest point of goodness 'by right use of his love of boys' as we read in Plato? Or do we have anything which compares with the 'perpetuation of chivalry' achieved by the medieval knight through his young squire? Or with the lyrical sensuality of André Gide, or the Uranian poets who asked only for the touch of those 'whose lips were hotter than little unfledged birds' to drown their fear of society and eternal damnation in a surge of almost beatific ecstasy?

No, we have no such image. Because of the inexplicable heaves and vacillations of society's million-year gestation (one day it will be born, I think) the image has become splintered, and our energy dispersed.

Examples of this splintering are very common. One person will quite readily hop into bed with the first obliging chick he meets on his regular weekend London cruise; but another will see a schoolboy looking lost on the Underground and be too terrified of what people might think to offer help or advice. It is the extreme diversity of cases which makes strength impossible.

It must seem that I am advocating a kind of uniformity or conformity among pederasts; and this is true to a certain extent. Shop stewards would prefer to use the word 'solidarity' though; and it is the binding effect of thinking together that I stress. Every time a person thrusts back an impulse to show affection for a boy, every time someone regresses to 'prep-school teaching sublimation', a few ounces of the binding force, the collective psychic energy, have been dissipated and lost.

Does this mean I would rather pederasts went to the opposite extreme and made seduction and promiscuity into a species of carefree sport, regardless of the effect on the boys involved? Certainly not. We can make life unbearable for our young friends if we approach the relationship in a purely selfish and insensitive manner. We have our own subculture to protect us from the viciousness of society, but youngsters are much more vulnerable.

Moreover, few people would say that selfishness and love can possible co-exist in any human relationship; and love is quite fundamental in any lasting archetype of a sexual



preference. Sex without love just can't rise to the standards required for unity and strength unless we resort to some Procrustean method of inflation - and that would only call down the society-god's thunderbolts on a latter-day Sodom.

Where, then, are we to find our 'image' if

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 INN (The Viking Club), East Street, Southampton. Saturday nights - Girls only (Ask for Jan).

THE PUBLIC HOUSE, not just another bookshop. 21 Little Preston Street, Brighton. Phone 28357.

LE FAUNE Restaurant, 23 Praed Street, London W2 1NJ. Tel: 01-723 5170
Thanks to SHANE'S CLUB, 71 Compayne Gardens, West Hampstead, London NW6 for selling Big GN.

THE PAVILION CLUB, 123 Shardlow Road, (A6) Shardlow, Derbys. Tel. Shardlow 581. Open Wed, Fri, Sat & Sun from 8.00pm.

THE LORD ROBERTS, Canal Walk, Southampton, (June & Mike).

THE GLOBE, Bernard Street, Southampton. 'Always a warm welcome from:- Kath, Dick & Peter'

THE ROBERT BURNS, 9 South Front, Southampton. 'The small pub with a BIG welcome:- Doris & Dennis.'

CLUB CONTINENTAL, High St. Below Bar, Southampton. (Disco) "Strictly Gay".

THE GREEN MAN, The Place, Winchester, Hants. Your Host - David M. Powrie.

PRINCESS ROYAL, 172 Wellingborough Road, Northampton. Your Hosts - Pem and Vim.

THE NIGHTINGALE CLUB, 50 Camp Hill, Birmingham 12 (021-772 2665) sell Gay News. (They also get a gold star for the best address we have seen so far for a club or a pub.)

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 Earls Court Road, SW5.

The Father Red Cap. Boys Only, Girls Only and Mixed Disco's. Gay News is always on sale.

Valentine's - Georges Club (off Gay Street), Bath. Gay News is always on sale.

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

Thanks to DON JOHNS, one of the North's foremost Gay Clubs, for selling Gay News. Ronnie will be selling Gay News in THE GREEN ROOM at The Wheatshaf, Goldhawk Road, Shepherds Bush.

When you stay at MAGGIE'S PLACE Hotel you can also buy Gay News to read in bed.

All Talking, All Singing

Last month I reviewed some film sound-tracks of the mid 50's which was an easy task as I grew up familiar with them from seeing them in the cinema and playing many of the original recordings at home. This month is a different kettle of fish as I must first claim that with very few exceptions all of these recordings are well before my time. But to borrow a popular expression of the late 30's and early 40's when most of these tracks were recorded, they are all 'super duper'.

STARS OF THE SILVER SCREEN 1929-1930.
RCA LSA 3074

Here are 16 tracks which serve as a fine example of what screen music was like in those early days of the talkies. The big surprise to me in this LP is the excellent singing voice of Gloria Swanson on the track 'Love, your magic spell is everywhere'. I see from the line notes that she had vocal training and more's the pity that she only sang in one film during her entire career. Sophie Tucker's rich singing voice in 'He's a good man to have around' also came as a surprise, as I'd grown used to her older 'talking' voice over the years. The original versions of 'My mothers eyes' by George Jessell and 'Louise' by Maurice Chevalier are also included. Bebe Daniels displays her fine voice on 'You're always in my arms' and Dolores Del Rio is pretty terrible singing 'Ramona'. The original 'Boop a doop girl' Helen Kane sings 'He's so unusual' and comedienne Fanny Brice is in fine voice with 'Cooking breakfast for the one I love'. There are two fine male voices in John Boles 'It happened in Monterey' and Dennis King 'Nichavo Nichavo'. Yes 16 items that will be new to most folk and very reasonably priced at £1.69.

HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD RCA LSA 3085

Sixteen tracks, many of them available for the first time ever, and most of them interesting from a film fan's point of view. Ginger Rogers opens the show with 'I used to be colour blind' from the film 'Carefree'. Never renowned for her singing, I found her in pretty good voice on this track. La Dietrich follows with her famous 'Lola' sung in German - it's a trifle antiquated now but the tune as always is very catchy. Allan Jones (father of Jack in case anyone doesn't know) does a fine job on 'Alone'. Next comes a surprise with Joan Crawford making a rare visit to the recording studios. It is easy to spot her distinctive voice, and whilst she lacks a true singer's intonation it is still a pretty good attempt. Eleanor Powell 'the screen's foremost tap dancer' is next featured both singing and tap dancing, and Fred MacMurray follows in a 1930 recording which holds up well... Dorothy Lamour's distinctive voice on 'Paradise' serves as a reminder of her many musical film appearances. The first side is completed by Deanna Durbin in what was probably her finest musical moment on screen singing 'When April sings' from the film 'Spring Parade'.



Side Two takes us to the fifties with Fred Astaire repeating his fine 'Something's gotta give' followed by Marilyn Monroe singing 'I'm gonna file my claim' (a rather dull song this one). James Cagney does his George M. Cohan imitation on 'Mary's a

grand old name'. I can never hear his voice without recalling all the many and varied impersonations of him I've had to watch over the years. I've always been a Betty Hutton fan and her track of 'It's oh so quiet' comes as a surprise as I've not heard it before. She gives it the full Hutton treatment which is fine for me, but possibly not for others. Bob Hope has often recorded some fine songs and Gershwin's 'That certain feeling' is certainly up to par from him. Ann Southern is a surprise name next, singing 'The saga of Jenny' from a TV version of 'Lady in the dark' she did some years back - no singer she... There follows Harpo Marx' delightful version of 'Stardust' played on the harp (well, naturally). To close the record, Mickey Rooney singing one of his own compositions 'I couldn't be more in love'. The disc carries some very comprehensive line notes about both the singers, their careers, and their particular songs, as well as good photographs of each artist. I certainly recommend this one at only £1.69.



THE BAND WAGON RCA LSA 3082 (£1.69)

The dictionary has its own definition of the word 'Elegance' but for my money I'll always connect the word with Fred Astaire. Both his singing and dancing sum up the word for me and these recordings made way back in 1931 have the same charm that I found when watching him on a recent TV show from America. His sister Adele appears on one or two songs with him in this cast album of the original show and many of these lovely melodies by Arthur Schwarz were sadly dropped when MGM filmed it back in the 50's. On the reverse side Astaire does a few of the songs he introduced plus some others not associated with him. In case you wondered just who sang 'Night and day' here is the answer. The majority of tunes on this side will be unknown to you, but if you dig Astaire you'll soon get to know them as I have done.

FANNY BRICE & HELEN MORGAN RCA LSA 3076 (£1.69)

These two famous ladies have both had film biographies made of their lives. Barbra Streisand of course, scored a tremendous success in her first film, 'FUNNY GIRL' portraying Brice, and some years before Ann Blyth surprised everyone with a pretty fair performance as Helen Morgan in the film 'Both ends of the candle' (the singing voice for that one being dubbed by Gogi Grant). I enjoyed Brice's singing of straight songs and comedy very much but can't say I cared much for Helen Morgan although I'll grant you the lady must have had something as she was a very big star in her day. If you are curious and unsure I suggest you listen to one track by each of them in the earlier mentioned 'Hooray for Hollywood' before deciding.

Barry Conley

Money' and others of that era. Then there is the dancing - in those days no musical was complete without at least one tap dancing routine, and here there are several. How refreshing it is to hear again the clicking of tap shoes, reminding one of a bygone age. Gillian Gregory has done a fine job in arranging the choreography.

The intimate atmosphere of this theatre is admirably suited to this small show which features only 6 performers. Nicholas Bennett, Freddie Eldrett and Richard Owens are the male leads, and they all make their marks with their songs and dancing. As the dumb heroine who makes good, Debbie Bowen is very funny and in her song 'Raining In My Heart', is particularly touching. Barbara Young as her friend reminds one of both Joan Blondell and Ginger Rogers and uses her knowledge of revue work to good effect in her witty dialogue and in her singing of 'Good Times Are Here To Stay'.

There remains Pip Hinton as the temperamental star of the show. I first saw her in INTIMACY AT 8.30 when she was an ingenue in support of the stars of that show, and even then she made her presence felt in every appearance. She has a great sense of humour and a bewitching smile and it delighted me to see her in a role that allows



Debbie Bowen in 'Dames At Sea'.

full scope for her fine singing voice and comedy playing.

Paul Ciani has ably directed this grand little show and a year's membership is very reasonable, and as all seats are only 70p for the late night show I urge you to consider going along to enjoy the fun.

Barry Conley

Long Title, Short Play

THE EFFECT OF GAMMA RAYS ON MAN-IN-THE-MOON MARIGOLDS at Hampstead Theatre Club, Swiss Cottage, NW3.

This is a strange play which unfortunately fails to live up to the promise of its early scenes. The character of Beatrice, an eccentric woman bringing up two teenage daughters and forced to look after an elderly invalid in order to earn money, is very reminiscent of the mother in Tennessee William's play 'The Glass Menagerie'. Similarly, her youngest daughter reminds one of the heroine in that same play. The mother, with her overwhelming burden of responsibility in life is never far away from a nervous breakdown, and her almost non-reaction to her daughter's sudden success at college is understandable.

In the difficult role of the mother, all nerve ends and near hysteria, Sheila Hancock gives the finest performance of her career. Yvonne Antrobus is extremely moving as the shy and studious daughter, and her awkward stance and forlorn face are entirely in keeping with the role. In perfect contrast is Pamela Moiseiwitsch as her chatty epileptic sister.



Sheila Hancock in 'Marigolds'.

Very little occurs on stage and yet I felt throughout that any moment something special was about to occur. But in spite of its lengthy title the play ended within 2 hours (including a 15 minute interval) and I felt slightly cheated. I feel that I shall have to read the text of this play at a future date as in spite of its shortcomings it left an impression with me.

Barry Conley



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Tap, Tap, Here Comes Nostalgia

DAMES AT SEA at the Hampstead Theatre Club, Swiss Cottage, NW3. With nostalgia a key word in entertainment these days it is not surprising that someone had the bright idea of reviving DAMES AT SEA. This delightful parody of all those Busby Berkeley musicals of the 1930's enjoyed a moderate success in London's West End 3 years ago, and now it's returned in a shortened version to the Hampstead Theatre Club, showing nightly at 11 pm, until early January.

This backstage musical has for its heroine a naive platinum blonde tap dancer who comes to a Broadway Theatre on the morning she arrives from out of town. She gets a job in the chorus line of a show due to open that night, and is immediately befriended by a tough wisecracking chorine. Our heroine falls in love with a young song writing sailor who momentarily gets involved with the star of the show being produced. The demo-

lition squad arrive to pull down the theatre and somebody suggests that they open the show instead on board the sailor's battleship. The star falls ill and the heroine goes on in her place that night, and of course, is an overnight success.

That's the plot in a capsule, but there's so much more. Firstly, the songs - many of them quite charming, and they rightly remind one of 'Shuffle off to Buffalo', 'We're In The

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No Sad Tears Or Fantasies

FADEOUT by Joseph Hansen. Published by Harrap, £1.80. (187 pages)

Under various names Joseph Hansen has published a number of paperbacks, as well as articles and poetry. 'Fadeout' is his first novel to appear in his own name. Hansen and his wife live in Los Angeles, where he is one of the directors of the Homosexual Information Centre and assists in selling their magazine.

The above background information is relevant only to the fact that the subject of homosexuality is treated in this novel in one of the most sensible and realistic ways I can recall reading. None of the worn-out, sad stereo-types, usually served up to represent gays — that heterosexual writers are so fond of — turn up in this story. I strongly recommend any misinformed members of the literary profession to read this book and try to learn something, for slandering gays will not always be legally possible.

'Fadeout' is a suspense story, and as such I will not spoil any possible readers' enjoyment by giving away too many details. The plot involves the inquiries of insurance claims investigator Dave Brandsetter into the non-recovery of Fox Olsen's body, who is thought drowned after his battered, flattened car is discovered a mile downstream from where it supposedly tumbled off a treacherous road into the river below. With little or no co-operation from the dead man's relatives or friends, Brandsetter begins to realise that to find the corpse of Olsen will not be sufficient. He must also uncover the reasons why he died and exactly how the accident happened. He works hard and relentlessly trying to unravel the mysteries and secrets that stop him from discovering the truth, with an ever-growing personal conviction that the tragedy is less of an accident than the facts first imply. The tale twists and turns, and the final chapters offer the reader one red herring after another before the reality of the situation is revealed.

The hero of the story, Dave Brandsetter, is gay, but his choice of sexuality is purely incidental to the plot. Hansen in no way exploits his character because of his gayness, just intertwines Brandsetter's personal thoughts and life with the solving of the case he is on. In the first chapters he find him bitter and restless, coping with the emptiness left by the untimely death — through natural causes — of his life partner, Rod. By completely immersing himself in his work he hopes to put to flight the memories of his dead lover that so painfully haunt him. But the loss of a loved one is not used to indulge in romantic, over-sentimentality or trashy artificial melodramatics.

The plot is effective enough for 'Fadeout' succeeds well in the suspense novel genre. But because of the general handling of gayness throughout the book, this reviewer finds that the level the book works on is expanded and is socially important to those who know no better than to rely solely on myths and prejudices for their facts. It is a considerable advancement in literature when homosexuals appear as they do here — as people, not tinsel caricatures of human beings.

Dave Brandsetter will be returning in Hansen's new suspense novel 'Death Claims', that by all accounts should be as worthwhile and compelling reading as 'Fadeout'. And one can rest assured that the author will not have to resort to bucketsful of sad tears and fantasy titillation as substitutes for talent and awareness.

Denis Lemon

Land Of Dreams

THE WORLD'S DESIRE by H. Rider Haggard and Andrew Lang. Pan Books paperback, 40p.

This fantasy was written by Haggard and Lang between 1888 and 1890 as a sequel to Homer's Odyssey. The three main characters are Odysseus the Wanderer, Meriamun, the Queen of Egypt, and Helen of Troy. Helen is the title, 'The World's Desire', the symbol of perfect ideal beauty.

I have since schooldays enjoyed Haggard's other stories with their tales of lost cities, tyrant Queens and immortal life. The World's Desire, however, seems to be written with a heavier hand, being somewhat dull and over-Classical; it didn't hold my interest at all. But then I'm one of those social outcasts who never even liked Tolkien.

Bob Fletcher

UNDERWORLD USA by Colin McArthur. Published by Secker & Warburg. Paperback £1.10

Colin McArthur's Underworld USA is a study of

gangster/thriller films, that have, in his opinion, been seriously neglected by critics and cinema researchers. He argues that they are an important aspect of American cinema and to ignore them would be to miss the significance of directors working in this area.

The book is in two parts. The first is devoted to the genres, and the remainder of the book to some of the directors who have worked with them. They include Don Eiegel, Samuel Fuller, Elia Kazan and Robert Diodmak. Stills illustrating various aspects of these film makers' work are abundantly included.

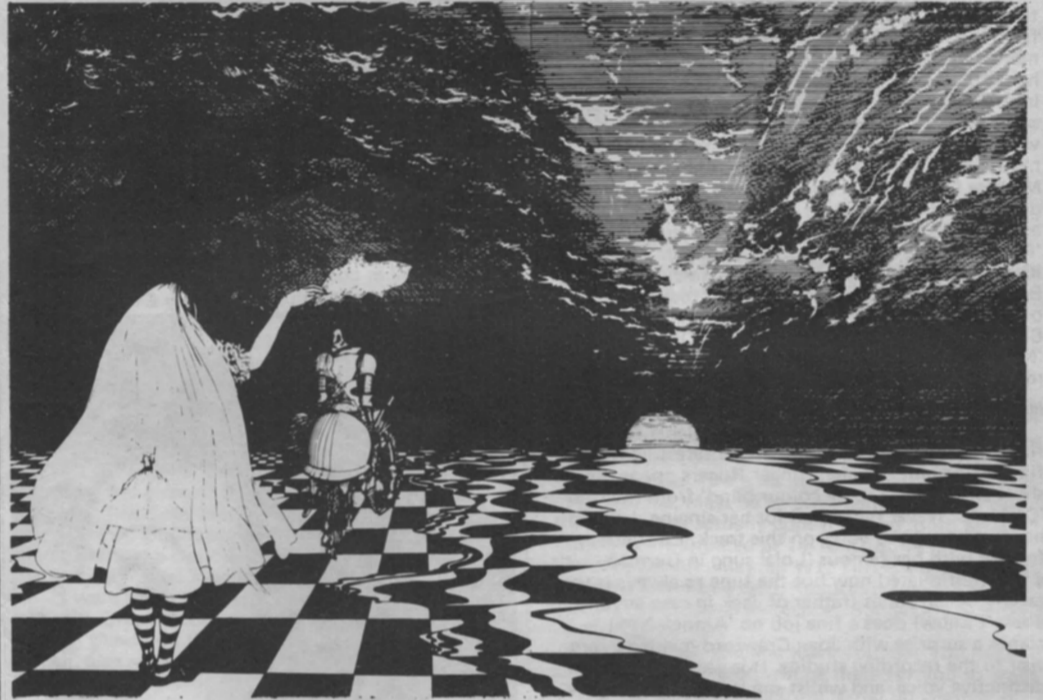
Whilst Underworld USA is primarily for the more serious student of the cinema, it certainly doesn't mean that it is not of interest and value to the general film fan or devotee of gangster movies.

Denis Lemon

EVENOR by George MacDonald. Pan Books paperback, 40p.

MacDonald wrote in the same century as Haggard but has such a simple straightforward style that he might have penned it last week. Three stories make up the volume, the first and longest is The Wise Woman, almost a moral tale about the transformation of two very different but horrible children. It's compulsive reading once you begin and told with a nice, sly humour. Second is the Caryason, involving fairies, magic, wine, goblin cobblers and all. The last gem is entitled the Golden Key told in such a beautifully visual style it might have been written in technicolor. Interesting to note that MacDonald's greatest admirer was C. S. Lewis, of Narnia fame. A good book and well worth the money.

Bob Fletcher



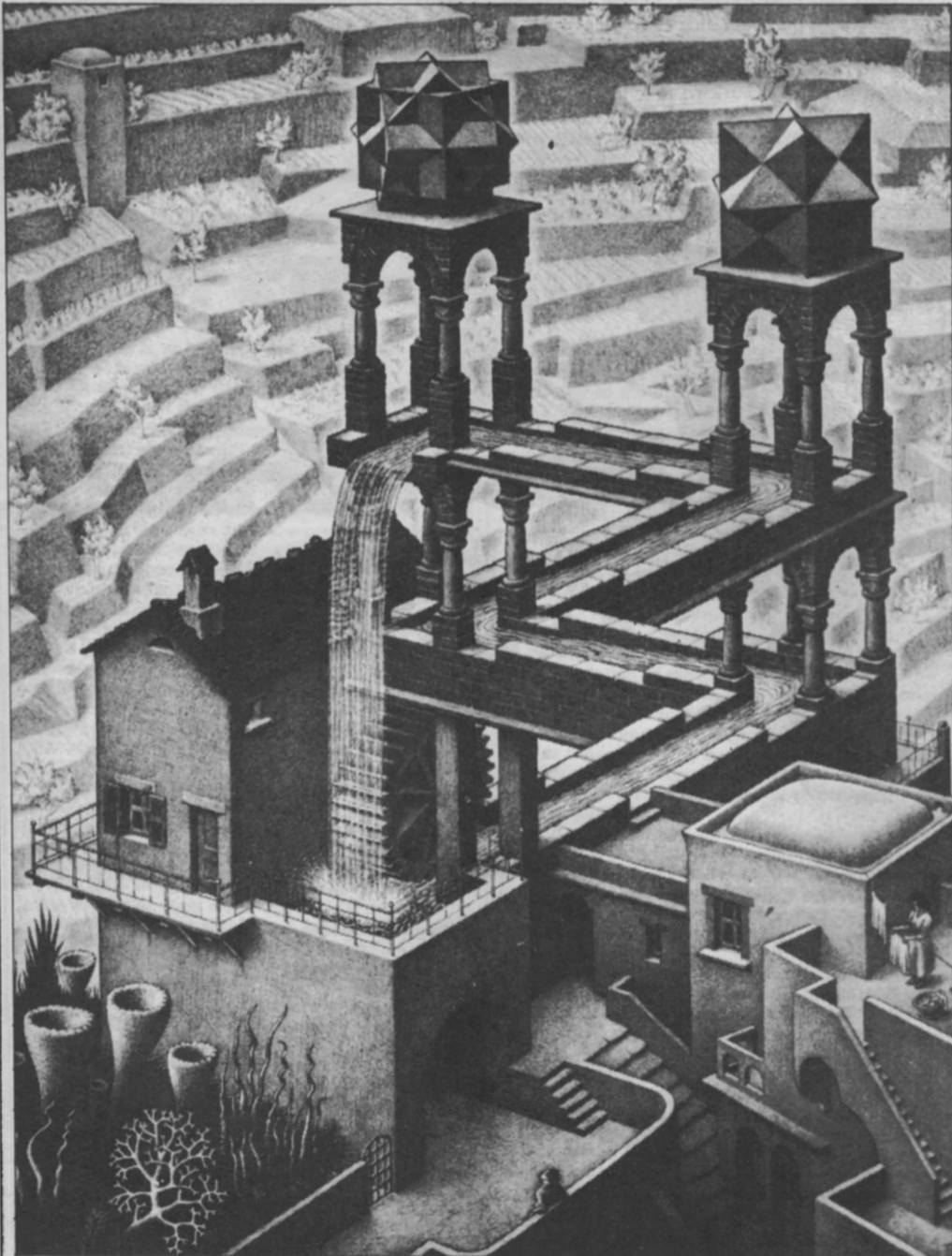
The above is one of Ralph Steadman's illustrations from the new edition of Lewis Carroll's **Through The Looking Glass**. Published by MacGibbon & Kee at £3.25, it makes an ideal present for lovers of Alice and her adventures.

Throughout the book, Ralph Steadman's highly original pen and ink drawings add new life and depth to this classic tale that has delighted children and adults alike since its first publication.

This is the first time the text has appeared exactly like this in print. 'It is basically the 1897 edition, the last which Carroll himself corrected, but it also includes all Carroll's corrections for the People's edition of 1887, which were somehow overlooked in the preparation of the final text.' This Centenary Edition has been prepared by the Committee of the Lewis Carroll Society.

And despite all that, Alice and the looking glass world come again vividly alive with the invaluable assistance of Mr Steadman.

ED: Apologies to the publishers and Ralph Steadman if our reproduction of the drawing is not up to the same high standard as the book.



The above is 'Waterfall' and is taken from **The Graphic Work** of M. C. Escher. This soft cover edition is one of the first from a new series of 'Fantastic Art' books being published by Pan/Ballantine.

The first two titles are the former and Magritte. The colour reproduction of the latter is superb; so good in fact that we didn't dare attempt to reproduce it in GN.

The generous size of the books and printing on high quality paper, make them very good value at £1.25. It is extremely pleasing that at long last editions of the work of remarkable artists be available at such a low price and produced to this high standard.

The series is edited by David Larkin and further titles will be appearing in 1973. All of them sound just as fantastic.

ED: Advance apologies to the publishers if our reproduction standard is not what it should be.

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To Fall Like Lucifer

By Ian Harvey

The personal story of the M.P. and Junior Minister who had to resign because of a homosexual offence.

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FILM REVIEWS

Man Versus Motorway

DUEL, directed by Steven Spielberg. Starring Dennis Weaver, Jacqueline Scott. Distributed by Cinema International for Universal Pictures.

In many ways *Duel* is like a 20th Century version of Alfred Hitchcock. More modern than the master but just as exciting. As the master of suspense/thrillers Hitchcock has always focussed his attention on one thing in particular. The weakest point of his subject's survival pattern. Often it's an object that becomes an obsession which finally destroys the person.

Hitchcock is ageing and his movies are not as gripping as they were. His style has changed little since he ran up the first British talkie a few years back. His old-fashioned approach to settings is most typified by his frequent use of quite obviously painted back-drops instead of a location.

So it is good that Universal's television out-



Dennis Weaver in 'Duel'.

put — which hams British screens with rubbish much of the time — has given Steven Spielberg

a chance to get into making feature movies.

Spielberg is 25 (or he was in September) and *Duel* was never meant to be shown in cinemas. It was made as a television movie. Spielberg starts work on his first scheduled feature (starring Goldie Hawn) from his own story in January.

Like most directors from television (Arthur Penn, Don Siegel et al) Spielberg uses the locations he chooses for all they're worth, and once again like most telly-directors, he makes *Duel* as a sparing and taut piece of movie-making.

Duel is the story of a salesman who finds his freeway lane blocked by a juggernaut petrol tanker, he overtakes it and, from there on out, it's a battle between the man (Dennis Weaver) and the tanker. When he stops off at a petrol station he starts again to find the tanker — which also stopped for fuel — coming up behind him at an amazing speed. As soon as it overtakes him it slows to a crawl.

The battle is between the salesman and the tanker, for we never see its driver clearly. It takes place on a wide fast road, and the service stations and cafeterias along it. In short it's man versus the motorcar with a vengeance.

It is probably the best thriller I've seen since *Psycho*, but then I don't usually go to thrillers. For the first half-hour I was thinking *Duel*'s television techniques couldn't hold my attention. Then gradually I got so involved I couldn't leave the cinema even to go to the lavatory.

As this is touring with *Asylum*, my advice is go'n'see'em. They'll have you on the edge of your seat, it's the best double-bill for years.

Peter Holmes



Carry On Magnificent Seven.

set them free and suddenly find themselves heroes of the revolution, most unwillingly on the part of Juan, who simply realises it is money, not a new dictatorship that will help his people.

From here onwards the film loses its flippancy and becomes a stern, suspenseful saga on the bloody reality and conflict of revolution. Steiger's performance as the man who the revolution is supposedly about, but who can't relate to what the revolutionaries are doing, is

masterful, and the ability of the film as a whole to fuse such disparate elements as amusing action scenes with pieces of dynamite, and the philosophy of revolution, makes for a very satisfying cinematic experience.

The Magnificent Seven Ride

features that ageing spaghetti cowboy, Lee van Cleef in his first starring role in an American Western. Dear old Lee! He just can't act. That's fine in low budget Italian westerns where half the fun lies in the bad acting, and anyway there's a wailing pouf of a screaming director who just can't fail to contort your face into some kind of expression. But I'm afraid our hero back in his homeland where everyone is faced with the choice of either just dead pan or grimace finds himself rather out of depth in this cheaply, hurriedly made *Seven* film, which just doesn't seem to know where it's going, except in a monetary sense. After the brilliance and success of earlier *Seven* films the money grabbing distributors, realised that they could serve up the gullible cinema-going public with just about anything with 'Magnificent Seven' in the title and they'd go and see it.

Everything in the film is kind of watery and insipid. From the rather unoriginal story which deals with a group of seven men who set out to track and kill a Mexican gang, seventy strong, and naturally succeed, after they've kidnapped the marshall's wife. Everything that made Leone's film brilliant is lacking here and the flat fifties style direction, and the drab, cliché ridden script seems to have been ripped off from every bad western ever made. The whole thing's probably making Audie Murphy turn in his grave.

David Seligman

Oh, Oh Susanah

IMAGES, directed by Robert Altman. Starring Susanah York. Released by Hemdale

IMAGES is a wow, a really good movie. Its main theme (in spite of what some bad advertising says) is madness. This subject is normally looked at in the cinema from the viewpoint of the sane, observing the actions of the insane, and rarely therefore, does it ever seem very real. We never get told what it is like to be mad.

Images is the second movie I've seen giving a view of the world from inside the mind of someone slipping into complete insanity. The other film was Polanski's cruder attempt in 'Repulsion'. There are a few superficial similarities, sexual fantasy and sinister telephone calls, violence real or imagined and a wealth of domestic detail.

Images is more subtle (less of a horror flic) infinitely more credible but still visually and emotionally shocking.

The central figure is Kathryn (beautifully underplayed by Susanah York) a dreamy looking creature, whose voice we hear in the background endlessly composing a fantasy story. Most of the action takes place when she and her husband, who provides the comic relief, come down to their country house for a stay. Too little of the countryside is shown, but enough to suggest the primitive aspect and isolation of the area, it's not Cotswold's coach trip country.

Kathryn begins to see things and people that aren't there, ie her husband reaching to embrace her turns into someone else, a randy neighbour turns into her husband, and a camera into an old lover.

The most frightening part of the fantasy is rather like the Doppelganger legend, walking down a road on a hazy day you see someone in the distance approaching, as he or she comes nearer you realise it's yourself. Then, the legend has it, you die.

Kathryn does not die, but certainly comes face to face with herself on a few frightening



Susanah York and Rene Auberjonois in Cannes Award Winner, 'Images'.

occasions in the movie. The film is often confusing, the difference between reality and fantasy becomes less marked. We are forced to change our minds again and again about whether or not some things (the stabbing of her neighbour) did or didn't happen.

In spite of some flaws, it's a beautifully made, very personal film and needs to be seen more than once, I feel. Otherwise one might share to a greater or lesser degree the feeling of a lady in front of me who said, as we got up to leave, "What happened?"

Bob Fletcher

Magnificent Fistful

A FISTFUL OF DYNAMITE, directed by Sergio Leone. Starring Rod Steiger, James Coburn. Music by Ennio Morricone. Released by United Artists.

THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN RIDE, directed by George McCowan. Starring Lee van Cleef. Music Elmer Bernstein. A Mirisch Production distributed by United Artists.

From the late thirties to the early sixties, a small wizened American with a black patch over one eye and a rather odd preference for Big John Wayne, made countless loud, patriotic, (US Cavalry stiff upper lip) Westerns. They were I suppose, always exciting and there was the occasional masterpiece like 'Stagecoach'. Nevertheless, his reputation as a 'living legend' has largely been created by some rather pseudly queens who run the National Film Theatre, and the film programmes on BBC2, who are now running a season of his films on Sunday nights, so you can see for yourselves can't you? Basically the old style Westerns were sweet; they upheld what are now Mr Nixon's values.

The modern Western is essentially (that is if it is any good) sour, cynical, bloody, funny, realistic, escapist; and one of the best exponents, directorially speaking, is Sergio Leone. In fact he's a kind of latterday John Ford. His films are ponderous, rich in ideas, yet entertaining, atmospheric and exciting. His latest, *A Fistful Of Dynamite*, originally and more aptly titled 'Duck, You Suckers', is divided into two segments. It is 1913, and in hot dry Mexico a peasant who has become a bandit, because he is a fundamental revolutionary, not an intellectual revolutionary, relieves his abject poverty by robbing those who have wealth; he doesn't care for, or understand, demonstrations or violently exchanging one ideological political junta for another. After various amusing in-

cidents he comes together with a dynamite expert who is wanted by the British for his IRA activities. I think I and Leone as he shows in the film love the IRA because its members, unusually, are both thinkers and activists. Through a series of amusing incidents they plan a series of bank robberies. While travelling to Mesa Verde where they are planning to rob the National Bank, John Mallory (James Coburn) is saved from being arrested by one of the leaders of the Mexican revolution, who then persuades him and his partner, Juan Miranda (Rod Steiger) to rob the bank, while he tries to divert the attention of the anti-revolutionary troops who are covering the town. The bank vaults turn out to be full of political prisoners rather than gold bars; they



James Coburn and Rod Steiger in 'A Fistful of Dynamite'.

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SYREETA - Mowest MWS 7001

CHAMELEON - Franki Valli & The Four Seasons - Mowest MWSA 5501

New from the Tamla Motown Corporation is Mowest Records. The label was set up to handle artists emerging from the West Coast of America. It has been in existence for a year in the States, and has now been launched in this country. Whilst occasionally finding fault with Motown, I cannot deny that they are responsible for some of the most entertaining and satisfying popular recorded music available today. And with that in mind, I expect to be well rewarded with much fine music from Mowest.

The initial album releases are an interesting pair. One is the first solo venture of Syreeta, who may be better known as Mrs Stevie Wonder. The other is another first, but with another meaning, for it is Franki Valli and The Four Seasons' first release since joining the Motown Corporation's stable of artists.

Knowing that most reviewers have found the Syreeta album the most significant of the two recordings, I would like to reverse that trend by saying that I find the Seasons the most noticeable and certainly the most pleasing.

Syreeta's album, whilst being an adventurous outing, leaves me unsatisfied, and no matter how hard I try to listen to it, my attention has usually strayed to other matters before the end of a side. I cannot deny though, that an enormous amount of work and thought has gone into the making of the album, including the intelligent use of synthesizers, as programmed by Robert Margoullef and Malcolm Cecil (perhaps better known as Tonto's Expanding Head Band). Most of the cuts were written by Syreeta and her husband, and despite the successful pairing of talents, as heard on Stevie's latest album, this time it doesn't seem to work. The inclusion of Lennon and McCartney's *She's Leaving Home*, for instance, leaves me sadly unimpressed. Keep on trying though, Syreeta, next time it may all work.

On the other hand, Franki Valli and The Four Seasons' *Chameleon* offers nothing but delights. The Seasons and Mowest have completely re-



created the group's old sound, and the new maturity in the lyrics, music and production of Bob Gaudio especially takes the whole project up to a high-powered, inventive musical level. The tracks spotlighting the talents of Franki Valli work well and the other standout cuts are *The Night* and the orchestrally magnificent *A New Beginning*.

Whilst Syreeta's album is a good try, that will appeal to some, it takes the Seasons to really impress and to be a good travelling companions down the many avenues of music.

SPACE ODDITY - David Bowie - RCA LSP 4813 (US import at UK price)

THE MAN WHO SOLD THE WORLD - David Bowie - LSP 4816 (US import at UK price)

Space Oddity and *The Man Who Sold The World*, re-issued by RCA, are the two albums that David Bowie recorded for Mercury Records a few years ago.

They are being re-released obviously because of Bowie's recent rapid rise to success and self-imposed 'stardom'. But it's not just a matter of a record company cashing in with past 'product', for both these important albums were sadly ignored by the fickle record-buying public when they were first available. The trouble being that Bowie's work on these albums was well in advance of the tastes or comprehension of the average listener to rock music at that time. Now they have caught up, as they have demonstrated by making 'darling' David a superstar and by buying his *Hunky Dory* and *Ziggy Stardust* records in vast quantities.

Space Oddity, first issued in 1968, contains the amazing single from which the album derives its name. This cut was a chartbuster on both sides of the Atlantic, and time has done little to dim the brilliance of this song. Other tracks of note are *Cygnets Committee*, *The Wild-Edged Boy From Freecloud* and *Memory Of A Free Festival*.

1970 was the year that *The Man Who Sold The World* first appeared. This album contained no hit single with which to promote it, and with the frighteningly strange lyrics and the sheer, screaming 'wall of sound' that accompanied the words, it gave little for the average listener of the time to hang on to or to accept, because of the new levels of intensity the record was exploring. Recent concert appearances have shown that audiences are now ready to take such numbers as *The Width Of The Circle*, *All The Madness and Saviour Machine*. A difficult, brilliant recording this, but well worth the effort of coming to terms with.

These are two very important re-releases, maybe the world is ready for them now.

LIFEBOAT - The Sutherland Brothers - Island ILPS 9212

Lifeboat is the second album from The Sutherland Brothers, who originate from Scotland. Their first release received many good reviews and subsequent 'live' appearances by the Brothers and their back-up musicians confirmed the growing interest they were attracting.

The Sutherlands retain much of their Scottish folk music roots, but have expanded their sound with electric guitars and contemporary, heavy folk/rock keyboard arrangements. Stevie Winwood plays piano and organ on a couple of tracks.

Lifeboat is a hard, funky offering, with UK musicians working a musical area usually left to American artists. The Sutherlands incidentally play the first half of the Peter Straker concert at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on 1st December.

ELEPHANTS MEMORY - Apple Sapor 22

Any release by Apple Records is worth hearing and the album release by Elephants Memory is no exception. The band play heavy, raucous 1972 rock and roll, that steams its way through both sides of this record.

The album is produced by John Lennon and Yoko Ono, with whom Elephants Memory have been working. They were heard to good effect on Lennon's recently released *Some Time In New York* double set.

The energy and uncompromising vitality of this first release of theirs on Apple, shows why they are worthy of Lennon's interest, as well as his support and help in getting their own material on to wax.

An album to play loud and to rock to, anyway ya wanna.

FUMBLE - Sovereign SVNA 7254

Fumble are a new group who try hard to re-create pop hits of the late fifties and early sixties. Their album includes such classics as *Breaking Up Is Hard To Do*, *Oh Carol*, *Teddy Bear*, and Carole King's first and only single of that period, *It Might As Well Rain Until September*. The Everly Brothers' weepie *Ebony Eyes* is faithfully reproduced, and one of my pubescent passions, Bobby Vee, is remembered with *Take Good Care Of My Baby*.

Fumble capture the sound of the originals, but somewhere lose the fun and vitality that makes many of these songs perpetual favourites with rockers of all ages. Fortunately for me, I have copies of these songs by the artists who first recorded them and think I'll stick to listening to those, leaving Fumble to turn on the generations who missed out on these numbers first time around. I hope that new converts to this golden period of rock and roll will treat Fumble only as an introduction and eventually get round to searching for the original versions.

Keep a look out for the album's cover, it's worth a nostalgic laugh.

RHYMES AND REASONS - Carole King - Ode 77016

Not much I can say about Carole King's new album, *Rhymes & Reasons*, except that it's as good, if not better, than her previous three albums. It certainly is up to the standard of *Tapestry*, which for me personally was her most outstanding venture until now.

With advance sales guaranteeing this record a chart-topper in this country as well as in America, it seems a little pointless to describe the songs. They all speak for themselves, far better than any reviewer can do them justice. The lyrics seem more personally introverted than before, all touched slightly with an air of sadness, even the happy, light ones. Carole's keyboard playing is more to the front than before. It fits so perfectly with her



singing, you sometimes wonder which is the instrument and which is the singer.

It would be difficult not to be delighted with this album. Romanticism, in the finest sense, is alive and well and living very near to Carole King.

CARAVANSERAI - Santana - CBS 65299

I quite liked Santana's first two albums and found their third rather weak. *Caravanserai* is their fourth and latest offering, which I find over-long, often quite boring and the layers of rhythms that made their initial releases at times magical and exciting are insipid this time round when compared to previous outings.

Side one is reminiscent of the freaky experimenting of groups way back in 1966-7, and the blind alleys that many of those groups disappeared into then are now apparently leading Santana into the same wastelands of pretention. The second side is nearer to what they are usually noted for, but as I said before, it is barely a reflection of their past music. The vocals throughout make me wonder if they ever listen to themselves.

A very disappointing album. One is certainly entitled to expect more from a band of this stature.

FEEL GOOD - Ike and Tina Turner - United Artists UAS 29377

Despite the fact that for me Ike and Tina Turner's greatest recorded moment was *River Deep Mountain High**, thought by some to be the rock and roll cut of all time, I still get turned on, almost to raving point, by the frantic funk of Ike's music and the roaring, sweating sexuality of Tina's singing.

Any release of theirs means that the rocking dynamics of their sound are turned up full, and this album is no exception. Tina wails and screams out the passion and love in the lyrics, whilst Ike's guitar and his band let loose with all that is wild and joyous in rock and roll.

Of the ten tracks on this release, *Chopper*, *Feel Good*, *Kay Got Laid (Joe Got Paid)*, and *She Came In Through The Bathroom Window* are all outstanding, with *Black Coffee* taking the prize for setting up new highs in recorded excitement and deep, deep soul.

My only complaint is that the total playing time of the album is a mere 28 minutes and 16 seconds. Surely it wouldn't have broken anyone to have included at least two more tracks on this release.

* Recently re-released by A&M Records on a maxi-single, with two other Spector/Turner classics, *A Love Like Yours* and *Save The Last Dance For Me*.

STEALERS WHEEL - A&M AMLS 68121

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I've been playing this first album by Scottish group Stealers Wheel for just about a week now, and am finding that it becomes more rewarding with each new outing the record gets on my turntable.

The basis of the group's music is the excellent bass of Tony Williams and the drumming of Rod Coombes, with guitars and keyboard completing the overall sound. The songs rock along, without becoming excessive, ably assisted by the tasty lead guitar flourishes of Paul Pilnick.

But it is the Stealers' singing, harmonies and arrangements that really make me take notice. To say they sound like the now quartered Beatles is the nearest I can get to describing them. And the group deliberately seem to be inviting such comparisons. These similarities are uncanny but in no way detract from the enjoyment of their music.

Surprises aren't exactly unexpected though when one learns that those masters of rock and roll, the writing and producing team of Leiber and Stoller are responsible for production. And one wonders what else. Leiber and Stoller, for those who don't read the credits on records, have collaborated on such a large number of hits, it would be a difficult task to count them all.

Stealers Wheel may well be set for a big future if enough people pick up on them. It all depends on how listeners react to their Beatles-like melodies. Maybe the group's name has something to do with what one ends up hearing. I don't know, listen and judge for yourselves.

ROCK OF AGES - The Band - Capitol E-STSP1 (2 record set)

The Band's latest album, a double, is titled *Rock Of Ages*, and is made up of tapes made during a concert on New Years Eve, 1971. All the songs have appeared on previous releases, but the capturing of their 'live' sound adds much to their material. The double set is reasonably priced at £3.25.

All their most respected numbers are here, including *The Weight*, *Chest Fever*, *The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down*, *Rag Mama Rag* and *Life Is A Carnival*.

At the concert they were ably assisted by a first rate brass section, led and arranged by Allen Toussaint, who has worked with The Band in the past on studio recordings.

Here are four very fine sides of important American modern music, making it an absolute must for the group's large following, as well as an excellent introduction to those who have missed out on one of the most original bands writing and performing today.

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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

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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.

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* 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.

Will the person who placed box no 156 please send us your address so we can send you your replies.

Will the people who placed ads box nos 159, 160, 198, 248, 331, 334 please collect their mail from the Gay News office, these replies will not be kept much longer.

After the 6th December, Box nos between 150 and 300 will be invalid unless you can send us a further 50p to cover handling and postage.

Shy lonely gay guy 22, seeks companion for friendship, same age group. (Northumberland Durham area) Box 594.

Muscular, well-endowed guy (33) give and take, would like to meet real hairy guys 25-40, Manchester-Cheshire area. Transport would help, qorillas welcome. Box 593.

Slim guy, 40, wants to meet boys interested in leather. Ex-bike owner. No freaks. Box 592.

Semi-retired bachelor, very fit, CHE member would like to join genuine active man for Xmas as P.G. Box 591.

Col - Please contact Brian who also has disability problem. Box 589.

Bike owning leather guy seeks similar companions. Somerset area. Box 590.

Young strong active soccer player 23, urgently needs used football shorts and gear. Also strict trainer. Box 582.

Healthy lanky guy, 29, with own London accommodation seeks uninhibited slim hirsute type interested in leather etc. Immediate answer with phone no. to reply including photo for exchange. Box 581.

Young man, London, hoping to buy country retreat during next year wishes contact other(s) interested country weekends and willing drive reasonable distance. Box 580.

Young man, good appearance, physique, considerate, seeks similar, 21-40, London area. Lasting friendship, sincere. Please send photo (returned with mine). Box 579.

Active lover of leather, denim shorts, 30, seeks non camp friends for imaginative sessions, central London. Photo please. Box 578.

Gentle looking versatile guy (24) likes finer things in life, seeks similar - view to flatshare (central London) and sincere relationship. Photo appreciated. Box 576.

Lonely, 2b, non-effeminate, slim, easy going seeks similar young man anywhere with view to sharing life together, photo not essential, sincerity more important. A.L.A. Box 574.

Gay active nice-looking male, 35, wants sincere partner younger. I can travel and accommodate. Photo please, returned with mine A.L.A. Box 575.

Young guy (23) - London, mildly masochistic, seeks friends under thirty. Photo preferred. Box 574.

In Berlin December 17th-19th? I'd like to meet you there. Any information on East/West gay scene welcome. Box 553.

Free Christmas with a family in London area is offered to a boy who would otherwise be on his own. Details to Box 552.

Masochist young lady seeks beautiful and intelligent master/mistress. Box 555.

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Coloured (34) wishes to make friends, any race. Interests varied. Box 557.

Attractive, intelligent, balanced chap, 29, lives London, would like to meet someone mature under 35 for hopefully lasting relationship. Photo please. A.L.A. Box 558.

Help. Must be someone London area about 39, looking for permanent companionship, not effeminate, preferably someone in travel business as I am. Advertiser slim, quiet, likes countryside, music, cinema, theatres. Box 559.

Tall slim goodlooking student 22 wishes to meet kind man (up to 40) for genuine friendship. Write BM Box 1030 London WC1

Attractive gay male, 23, with London address seeks young person for genuine relationship. Send photo age and interests. Box 561

Paul, 22, good looking, long haired, seeks similar boy, about same age, for sincere friendship. London area. Interests: cinema, theatre, Motown. Please send photo. Box 562

Ex Londoner 23 and slowly dying of lonely boredom in Medway, Kent. Please help revive me. Photo if you wish, but it's your personality and what you are that matters. Box 563.

Attractive 6' guy (27, bisexual) seeks intelligent friends, male and female, for non-exploitative relationship. Box 564.

Any young soul, Northern Disco, Tamla freaks. I'm 21, long-haired, and into most things. Box 565.

Young man (26) interested in body-building seeks friends. Box 566.

Bachelor, 40, turned on by guys with hairy chests, legs, stomachs, faces, etc. would like to meet others 21-45 for friendship and other pleasures. London area, photo appreciated. Box 567

Bachelor, late 30s, interested theatre, cinema, writing, music, vintage railways would like to meet others 25-45 for friendship etc anywhere in London, photo appreciated. Box 568

Asian student (20's) in London would like to meet someone for lasting friendship. A.L.A. Box 569

Bachelor, 60, gay active, good humoured, retired, seeks friendship with similar or younger man, East Kent. A.L.A. Box 570.

Would any intelligent, good-looking, nicely-dressed gay young man like to spend a weekend with me (friendly but serious graduate, 26) in London flat? Own room. Photo appreciated. Box 571.

Chinese? I'm 27, fair, good looking, friendly, non-camp, with London house, car etc, and would like a loving relationship with a Chinese boy. Box 538

Gay boy, 24, wishes to contact other gay boy living in Romsey, Southampton area. Sharing weekends in London and Southampton. Photographs please. Box 539

Platonic friend needed. I am lonely, would like someone who likes going to pubs, clubs etc. Would be a help to have car. I am 26 and honest. Please help. Box 540.

Two attractive young men, preferably an affair, wanted by young doctor involved in sexual research must be broadminded. Box 541.

Artist 21 needs love and companions. All letters answered. Box 542.

Girl companion, holiday America. Interests, Elvis, drinking etc. Miss Pan, 535 Church Road, Yardley, Birmingham 33.

Wanted: second-hand beaten-up faded (not bleached) Levi jacket, 38" chest. Box 543

Leather guy (30) seeks others with black leather gear (21-35) approx. For mutual enjoyment. Photo appreciated. West London-Middlesex area. No S&M. Box 550.

Goodlooking gay, 25, masculine, wonders if there are any GN readers 21-30 less plastic than those who frequent London bars. Photos please. A.L.A. Box 551

West-Indian male, attractive, tired of insincere men, seeks gay butch tall guardsman, pop-singer, stockbroker, actor, C/director/others for permanent discreet friendship. Photos. Genuine replies please. Box 573

Graduate male (25) seeks sincere friend age 22-28, preferably slim and fair, living in Nottingham area or for weekends in London. Interests - art, music, theatre, travel. Genuine request. Photo please. Box 549

Handsome, non-camp guy 29, seeks masculine mate, 25-45. Photo appreciated. All letters answered. Box 548

Gay guy seeks kindred spirit Birmingham or London area for weekend meetings and Ibiza summer holiday. Ideally about 21, usual interests, swimming, not effeminate. All replies answered. Details and photo to Box 547.

Under 27? Slim? Not camp? Like wearing soccer gear? (Mine) Ready for CP? Photo. Box 603

Gay guy 29, tall 5' 11" slim, passive. Seeks active guy, for genuine friendship. I'm not effeminate. Photo appreciated - returnable. Box 605

Gay American guy, 22, dark, 5'11", 165lbs, student in W5. Seeks discreet goodlooking guy to 28 for lasting relationship. All sincere replies answered. Photo please. Box 606.

Lonely over Christmas? Then share mine and festivities, wonderful time assured, near Medway towns. Photo please. A.L.A. Box 607.

Farm worker, 32 Downham South London prefers straight side of life. Looking for male friend under 36. Also understanding girl for parties and dancing. Box 608.

Gibraltar, 29, dark, well built. Just arrived England, living in hostel, would like to meet interesting person with view to sharing flat. Although active, can be passive. Brian. All letters answered. Box 609.

Are you 25-32 and passive? Are you tired of being alone, tired of trolling? I'm a professional man of 33, gay, but masculine in outlook. Have flat in West London and car. If you are looking for a permanent relationship and security, please write with photo to Box 610.

I work evenings, free daytime/Sundays. Would like to meet slim, clean guy (21-30) for regular relationship. London area. I'm 38, slim athletic body, amiable, own flat, sports car, simple lifestyle. Exchange photos. Box 611.

London gay guy (25) tired of trolling looks for meaningful relationship with similar: intelligent, liking cinema, music, literature, also politically conscious and radical. Box 612.

Soul mate wanted by 28-year-old, sincere, lonely London guy. I am masculine (could become versatile for the right guy) good-looking and interested in football, music and having fun. Straight looking/ Butch types aged 21/30 preferred. Please include photo. A.L.A. Mike Box 601.

Shy, lonely discreet man (38) anxious to meet others, same age or younger, with view to permanent friendship. Dislike camp. Photo appreciated. A.L.A. Box 602

Bored at Christmas? A drink and chat with friendly Londoners (Ilford area) may enliven the holiday. Box 588

Birmingham motor-cyclist would like to contact others in Midlands, or wider areas. Not afraid to travel. Box 545.

Shame when a young dolly man of 45 has to live alone in Westcliff-on-sea, for reasons of being fastidious, sincere nad passive. Can anyone remedy? Box 544

Does any athletic type want to meet a quiet, reasonably intelligent gay who also swims and trains with weights? Box 537

Gay, non-camp guy 29, slim, 5'11", dark hair, seeks active male for genuine friendship. Please send photo (returned with mine) all letters answered. John. Box 536.

Taurus, 30, invites photo returned with his, from slim, circumcised Londoner under 25. Box 535.

Ambitious Indian Gay 29, own home and car seeks someone sincere who would help with business ventures and enjoy good life with me. Photo appreciated - Permanent, Sussex. Box 534.

Student, 21, Liverpool-Cheshire area, would like to meet attractive young boy for genuine friendship. Sense of humour essential. Photo please. Box 533

East Sussex guy 29, seeks versatile mates up to 32. No fatties. Can accommodate weekends. Recent photo please and phone number if poss. Box 532

Londoner, 27, wishes to meet young denim/leather types for friendship etc, own flat. Needs turning on. Photo welcomed. Box 531.

Gay girl (25) seeks sincere feminine girl (under 5') in Portsmouth area. Photo appreciated and returned. Box 530.

Young man 25 wishes to meet Turkish, Persian or Arab in London area. You won't regret it. Box 529.

Two Yorkshire young gay guys would like to meet singles or another two guys for mutual pleasure. Photos appreciated. Box 528.

Young attractive guy (24) seeks same or younger for friendship. Please write with photo. Sincere, happy, honest! Box 527

Bachelor late 40s, height 5'4", good appearance, seeks sincere lasting friendship, very shy, inexperienced. E. London area. Seeks younger companion. Photo returnable with mine. Box 526.

Alone this Christmas? Gay guy willing share simple festivities with one or two similar loners at his secluded Welsh cottage. Write box 525.

Bachelor 32, requires companions for car touring holiday 2/3 weeks Tunisia or Morocco next year. Also pen pals - Peter Huntington, 19 Newport Court Leicester Square, London WC2.

38, passive, tall, slim, living Yorkshire, own house, seeks hirsute active view to life together. A.L.A. Tired of being alone. Box 524.

Youth, 23, wants contact with others under 25. (skinheads, smoothies, etc) Photo please. Box 523.

Lonely Persian 23, wishes to meet an executive type gentleman (active, masculine) of age between 40-52 for sincere friendship. I am masculine, adaptable, loyal, possess hairy body and overfilled with oriental passion for love - hence a natural masseur. Photo if possible (returned). Genuine and understanding person please. London or anywhere. A.L.A. Box 583

For sale, seventeen copies of 'Rolling Stone' magazine. Offers to - Raymond Bray - Wrangle House, Wrangle, Boston, Lincolnshire.

Male graduate (23) seeks similar aged multi-racial versatile communal gatherings. Box 584.

Seeking boyish featured slim male needing true love, home and happiness with a gentle, generous, understanding guy of very slim, youthful shapely figure. Box 585.

Free Holiday accommodation in modern sea-front flat (90 minutes London) offered one or two young males wanting to do their own thing. No conditions or restrictions. Photo (returnable) essential. Advertiser, 46. Box 586

Young looking 50 year old bachelor (new to the scene) living 30 miles NW London dreads thought of Xmas alone. Would welcome advice or suggestions from gay friends. Age or race unimportant. I am smart, quiet, country lover. Own car and home, but very shy. Telephone number if possible. Box 587.

25-year-old Edinburgh guy needs a friend to share music and other interests with. Please be kind, good-humoured and genuine. Write very soon to Tony Parry, 21 Robert Millie Avenue, Mayfield nr. Dalkeith, Midlothian, Scotland.

Slim gay TV would like to meet or correspond with similar or anyone who is interested. Likes indoor photography, photo please, if poss. for mine. Box 546

Executive, 44, personable, active but inhibited, nothing to brag about, tastes literary, domestic, needs intelligent, understanding, completely faithful, resident partner in steady work. Detached house, dull suburb ½ hour tube to Oxford Circus.

Reasonable, share expenses, negotiable. No orgies, no oners etc. Good home for right person. Box 500.

Live In The U.S.A. ! Executive, 35, masculine, needs companion-assistant. Under 30, slim, presentable. Race education & social background unimportant if sincere adaptable, reliable, warm. Some world-wide travel involved. Modest pay and all found. Interview London before Xmas. Send full personal info and photo (returnable) in confidence, airmail to: Boxholder, P.O.Box 20621, Los Angeles 90006, USA.

Non British Male, 26, Tall, slim, dark, curly hair, brown eyed, masculine type, speaks French, English, Hebrew, seeks genuine relationship. A.L.A. Box 435

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.

Cornwall. Young 40 wishes to meet other males 21-40. Keen water sports, wide interests. Box 491

Acomodation

Coloured man (34) needs accommodation. will consider sharing. Box 557

Gay executive, 30, seeks someone to part-share flat. Must be normal looking, quiet and cultured. Prefer piano player to play duets. Close to Islington. Box 596

Graduate 23, teaching in NW1 seeks civilised room £5-6 urgently. Box 597

Guy, 21, would like to share flat with one other same age or younger. Box 598

Slim gay male (22) seeks to share flat/room with young gay male. London /Midlands. Offers please to Box 599

Gay News typesetter (non-gay girl) urgently requires clean, furnished s/c flat or large bedsit in Bayswater-Notting Hill area. Not too expensive please. Ring Sandi 727-1475 (office hours).

Catford London, modern furnished flat available (centrally heated) £48 per month. Also masculine guy (34) offers share of clean flat to similar. Box 604.

OFFICES. Gay News needs offices now. They've got to be central, and they've got to be cheap.

Two rooms, with a phone installed, preferably West End. Contact Gay News at 01-402 7805

or write to: 19 London Street, London W2 1HL.

Gay Guy 26 (Israeli) seeks accommodation in London. Like to share with Guy(s), any age. Box 435

Gay News Newsmen urgently seeks room in shared house/flat. About £6 per week. Must be on telephone in inner/West London. Call Peter on 01-402 7805

Employment

Gay guy forty group offers his services for house cleaning, washing, ironing, light cooking and decorating also undertaken. In fact all your wants catered for. Very versatile. Write for service, phone no given. A.L.A. Box 613

Bournemouth business man (50) requires young man as companion/help for Christmas/New Year period. Able to cook and speak English. Suit student or similar. Good pay and fare paid. Box 614

Postage costs are very high, so when you write to us, could you please enclose a stamped addressed envelope for the reply - if you want a reply, that is.

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 ofwords.

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.

If you are GAY, male, female, lonely, happy, depressed, miserable, welcome to CHALLENGE. Weekly social meetings at three London branches. Please join us for a drink and a chat. Ring 567 5085. Brighton Gay Soc meets weekly. Contact Ray at Brighton 686939. CHE's Political Action Group is looking for a group of university/polytechnic students/lecturers interested in conducting a survey among the public into attitudes to homosexuality. The aim of the enquiry is to help shape the future campaigning activities of CHE. Offers of help, suggestions etc should be addressed to: David Hyde, PAG, CHE London Information Centre, 22 Great Windmill Street, London W1. (Tel: 01-437 6117/8) GAYSOC: for homosexual men and women in any school or college of London University - undergraduate, postgraduate or staff. Social, political and campaigning activities aimed at creating better conditions for gays within the university - then the world! Write (enclosing SAE please): GAYSOC, ULU, Malet Street, WC1. Abortion, contraception, entertainment, transport, legal advice, jobs, alternative? Work, food, hitchhiking, cheap furnishings, communications, shelter, late night services, accommodation, free services, ad infinitum... Contact: Nutshell Information Service, Phone: Birmingham 777-2483 24 hours every day. (Ask for Nutshell as we share a line with St Basil's Centre.)

Are you a homosexual parent bringing up children within a relationship or by yourself? If so, would you care to come to an informal parents meeting at the Centre. Broadley Terrace, London NW1 on Tuesday 5th December at 8pm. Homosexual Counselling and Parent's Enquiry. You or your son, daughter, parent or friend could be homosexual and may need help and understanding. Write for appointment to FRIEND, Centre, Broadley Terrace, London NW1 or telephone 01-402 6345 Mondays to Fridays 7.30 to 9.30 pm. Leicester Gay Awareness Group ring Leicester 738832, ask for Clive or John. Jewish Homosexual Liaison Group welcomes new members, also advice and befriending service for all Jewish gays. Please write only to Simon Benson, Albion Court, 75 Larkhall Rise, London SW4 6HS.

Campaign for Homosexual Equality London Information Centre, 22 Great Windmill Street, London W.1. Tel: 01-437 6117/8. Office now open daily, Noon to 10pm. Gay Civil Rights Group now forming. Information from Frank Honore, Room 405, Hughes Parry Hall, Cartwright Gardens, London WC1. Telephone: 01-387 7501. Stepney: CHE group forming around this area, and including the other parts of East London not catered for. All classes welcome. First meeting mid-November. For details ring Mike: 01-476 7980. Manchester University Homophile Society - social events, campaigning - open to all - meets Thursdays, 8pm, meeting room 4, University Union, Oxford Road - contact, John Elbert, 81 Egerton Road, M/C.14. 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. from Sappho Publications Ltd., BCM/Petrel, London WC1. CHE All London Political Action Group, 22 Great Windmill Street, London W1. CHE Cardiff now meets at Chapter Arts Centre, Market Street, Canton, Cardiff every other Monday. (Nov 20th etc.) Gay News will be on sale. Women's Liberation Workshop, 3 Shavers Place, London W1. Tel: 01-839 3918. LEEDS G.L.F./C.H.E. Joint Office, 153 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds. Fellowship in Christ the Liberator, Communion service 8pm, Sundays, West Kensington. Details: FCL c/o 61 Earls Court Square, London SW5

Gay Esperanto Group. For details of next meeting telephone 01-637 1220 Gay Women - Lonely? Need, information, company, help with problems? Write: Jill Russell, c/o The Peace Centre, 18 Moor Street, Ringway, Birmingham 5 7UH. Please enclose S.A.E. Wandsworth/Richmond CHE group forming. Incorporating Fulham-Wimbledon and fringe areas. Men AND women. We meet twice a month. Write: Fred Green, 368 Upper Richmond Road, Putney SW15 2TU Alternative Free Library needs donations of radical/liberated Gay Papers and Magazines, ESPECIALLY Back Issues. Please write: Geoffrey Leigh, 30 Woodside, Wimbledon, London SW19 7AW. Gay Unity, Harrow. For details phone Janie at 863 1184 or Alex at 864 2291. 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 University of Bristol Gay Students Society for all homosexuals, male and female. Contact Trevor or Clare through the Social Action Office at the Union or phone Tony, Bristol 32669, or write to Gay Students Society, University Union, Queens Road, Bristol BS8 1LN. CHE. New local group forming in Crouch End. Contact Derek Brookfield, 7 Briston Grove, Crouch End, London N8.

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

SCOTTISH MINORITIES GROUP Postal enquiries:- SMG, 214 Clyde Street, Glasgow G1 4JZ. For meetings in ABERDEEN and GLASGOW ring John Breslin (041-771 7600). For meetings in DUNDEE ring Len McIntosh (0382-452433). For meetings in EDINBURGH ring Mike Coulson (031-225 4395) between 1pm and 10pm any day

GAY LIBERATION FRONT GROUPS At present there are GLF groups in operation in the following areas: Abertystwith, Bath, Bristol, Bedfordshire, Birmingham, Belfast, Cambridge, Cheltenham, Canterbury, Cardiff, Colchester, Derby, Durham, Edinburgh, Essex University, Folkstone, Greenock, Hull, Keele University, Lancaster, Leicester, Leeds, Manchester, Newcastle, Norwich, Oxford, Portsmouth, Potteries, Heading, Sheffield, Swansea, Sussex, Brighton, LONDON, South London, West London, East London, Camden, Youth Group, Religious Group, Women's Group

London School of Economics GLF London Counter Psychiatry 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.

GLF Action Group meets Fridays at 7.30 pm, at GLF Office 5 Caledonian Road, N1. Religious Gay Lib Group, meets various Sundays at 2.30 pm, Phone 278 1701 for details. 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. South London GLG meets Thursdays at Minet Library, Knatchbull Road, Brixton. Camden GLF meets Thursdays at Forrester's Hall, 5 Highgate Road, Kentish Town. Leeds GLF meets on Fridays at the O.S.A. Lounge in the University Union. Meetings open to all.

TV and TS group meets Tuesdays at All Saints Church Vestry, Clydesdale Road, W11 at 8pm. East London GLF meets Thursdays at 103 Market Street, East Ham E6 at 8pm. 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. Bath Gay Awareness Group has moved again. Meetings Thursdays, contact John, Rath 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 Pidgeon 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.

CAMPAIGN FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY.

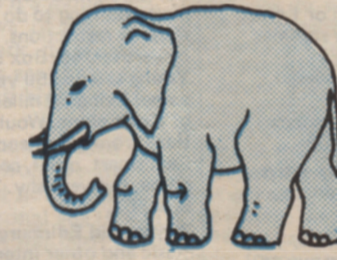
Brighton, Bristol, Bath, Birmingham, Blackburn/Burnley, Bolton, Bradford, Brighton, Cardiff, Cambridge, Chilterns (Berkhampsted/Amersham), Colchester, Cornwall, Crouch End, Croydon, East Kent (Canterbury), Guildford, Halifax/Huddersfield, Ilford, Leeds, Lewisham, Liverpool, LONDON, Acton/Ealing, Central, Highbury/Islington, Kensington, Kilburn/Hampstead, Wandsworth/Richmond, Manchester, Newport/Cardiff, Northampton, Norwich, Nottingham, Oxford, Portsmouth. Reading, Sheffield, Shropshire, South Essex (Basildon), South Herts (Watford/St Albans), Southampton/Bournemouth, Stoke-on-Trent, Swansea/Carmarthen, Teaside, Tunbridge Wells, Tyne-side, Leicester, North Yorkshire/South, Durham, Windsor/Slough, Wirral, Wolverhampton, Wolverhampton & District worker's group, York, PROPOSED GROUPS: Devon, Blackpool, Cornwall, Stepney, Lancaster, Enfield, Barking, Preston, Taunton, STUDENT GROUPS: London, Manchester, Oxford, Kent, Liverpool. 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

Discos

LONDON GLF DANCES Sat Dec 2nd - Hampstead Town Hall, Haverstock Hill. Disco, Groups, Lightshow, and Bar. Tickets 50p. Fri Dec 22nd - Lime Grove Baths, Shepherds Bush. Fri Jan 12th, 1972 - Fulham Town Hall. DISCO First Sat of each month at the Odd Spot Coffee House & Grill, Sir Simons' Arcade (Behind T.S.B.), Lancaster. Tel.2750. 11 pm to 4 am. Bring a bottle. Gay News will be on sale. Father Red Cap, 319 Camberwell Road, SE5. (Camberwell Green) 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 snadwich bar. Love - Kisses - South London G.L.F. 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 1am. DRAG MOBILE DISCOTEQUE Tuesday Nights - ROYAL OAK, 62 Glenthorpe 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. KINGS ARMS, Liverpool Street, London. (corner of Pinder Street) Tube/BR Liverpool Street, Buses 8,8A,22,6, 47,87. 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 every Wed Comp Tricky Dicky. Leeds G.L.F. presents a FANCY DRESS DISCO on Nov 20th. Contact their office for details. Parties, Socials every fortnight. Sussex G.L.F. Disco every Friday 8-11 pm, at Stanford Arms, Preston Circus, Brighton. Only 20p. West London G.L.F. presents a dance at Hampstead Old Town Hall on December 2nd. Tickets 50p; Disco, Groups, Lightshow, and Bar. Reading Gay Alliance weekly social Wednesday, disco Saturday, Admission to each 20p (10p students). Both at The Railway Tavern, Stanshawe Road, Reading. No membership. Birmingham's Gay Scene welcomes you! By popular demand, FREE admission Disco (every Friday) 7.30pm, 10.45pm, Drinks bar prices. At the 'Shakespeare Inn', Summer Row, B'ham, 3. (Back of Town Hall). Wear what you want! Open House, Everyone Welcome!!!

BRIGHTON



ANOTHER PINK ELEPHANT HAS OPENED

At 131 Kings Road opp. West Pier Corner Regency Square

Opening Times: Mon - Sat 2.30 pm - 11 pm Sun Noon - 2.30 pm 7 pm - 1 am

A warm welcome awaits new members and members from Queen of Clubs and the London "Pink".

Drag & Cabaret

ROYAL VAUXHALL TAVERN 372 Kennington Lane,SE11. (Vauxhall) Regular Comper - Pat Kelly - with The Keltones. Thurs (Alt) Mr Tammy or Honey Friday Mr Tammy Monday, Bow Saturday, Lee Paris Wednesday, Lee Paris Sunday. (Lunch) Bow, New Act Starting Soon Sunday. (Night) Mr.Tammy. ROYAL OAK, 62 Glenthorpe Road, W6. (Hammersmith) Drag every night. Regular artistes 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 SKINNERS ARMS, Camberwell New Road. Tuesday Nights Only - "LA DUBARRY" 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 with Tony Page. Mon. - Thurs. - Sat. with Marc Fleming. Tues. with Sandy Graham. Wed. with New Dumbelles. Fri. with Nicky Young. Sunday (lunch) with Marc Fleming & Mrs Shufflewick. Sunday (evening) with Perri St Clare or Sandy Graham Alan McGorrian is Gay News's super salesman at The Black Cap. Be nice to him, he works very hard. Father Red Cap, 319 Camberwell Road,SE5. (Camberwell Green). PALACE QF DRAG - Drag every night. The following artistes are proud to announce they are appearing at the Father Red Cap; Lee Paris, Tammy, Colin Cordell, Alvis & Odell, Lee Tracy and Len Morton. THE CRICKETERS, Battersea Park Road, SW11. (BR Battersea Park). Sun. The Trilletes. Fri. Various Artistes. Tues. Steel Band. Sat. Singalong & Dancing. Wed. Various Artistes. Comper/Organist Thurs. Talent Night. Kenneth Mancell.

Drag, Pub, etc. Info continued on page 14.