

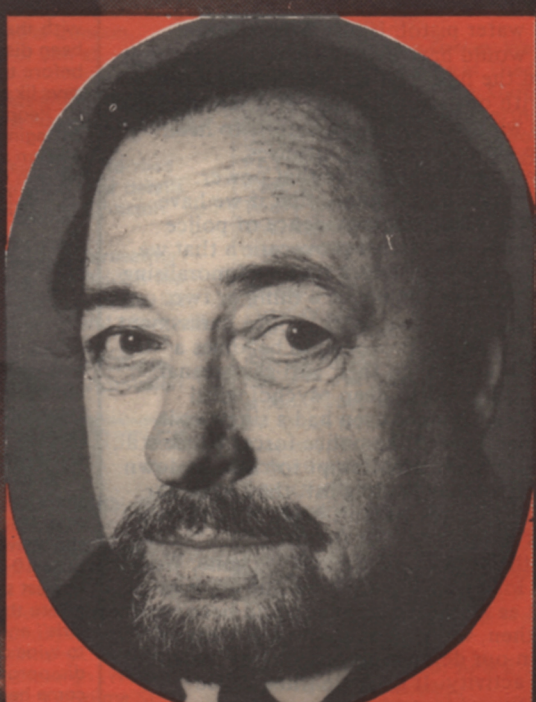
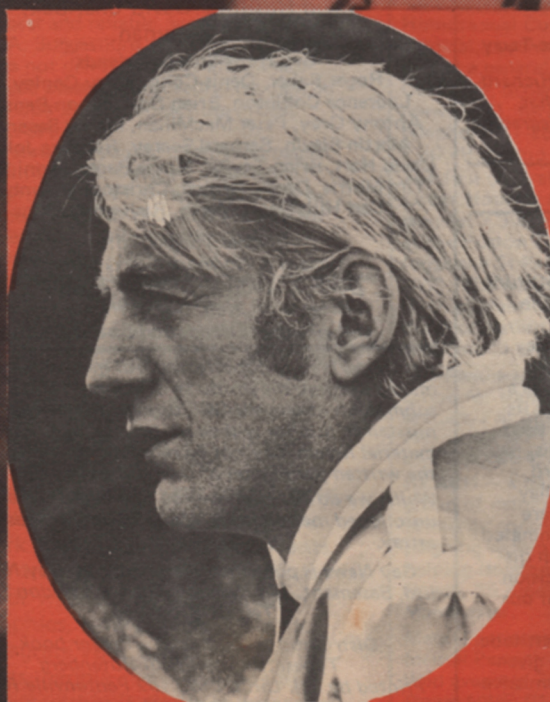
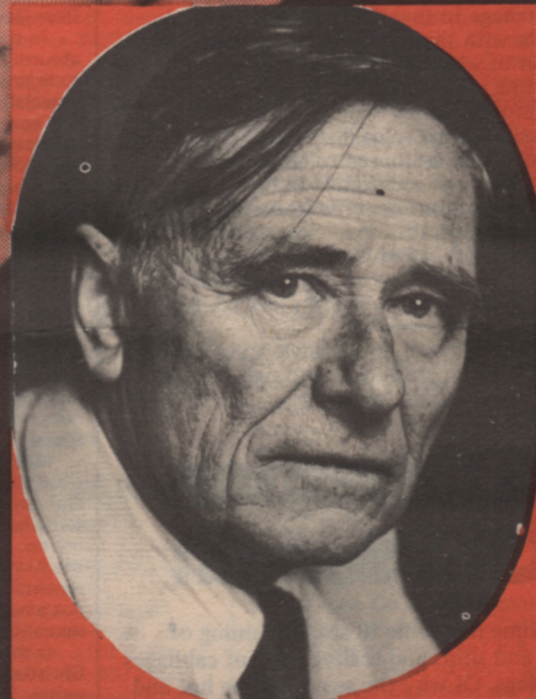
N°24

GAY NEWS

15p

Gay Literature — Showbiz Special

Why Do These Faces Belong Together?



GAY NEWS A Question Of Balance

WITH smooth, cold efficiency, the justice machine has completed another clinical cycle.

It has taken a cumbersome task which looked like murder, collated all the evidence it could, weighed the pros and cons, and returned a neat package of questions.

The case of Michael St John (alias Wolfgang von Jurgen) has, for the most part, been tied off and filed. 'An Open Verdict', said the coroner.

In its relentless drive, England's law machine found that Michael St John 'apparently took his own life after a fall-out with a boyfriend'.

The anti-gay Press again had a smorgasbord. They frolicked in their file of fantasies and came up with a very efficient burst of anti-gay headlines. "A Lovers' Tiff", one called it. And cruelly, the all-powerful gay-haters ploughed on, bringing a sick, defamatory side to an issue which really deserved no more than legitimate, perhaps ordinary treatment.

It is simply a question of balance. Or imbalance. A death with a gay angle is a potential newspaper seller. A death with a straight reason is everyday enough to bury on the crossword page, or even drop completely.

But despite the mileage the newspapers might make out of their 'fairy feast', they still manage to invariably ridicule it, and built in with their own report is their own version of what might have happened.

In one easy breath, the dailies almost unanimously called him 'Homosexual Michael St John'. Not just 'Michael St John'. No paper ever bothered to state clearly whether he was or was not in fact homosexual by rumour or self-admission.

The Sun, on the same page, reported the death of a girl called Lorraine Hoy. But Lorraine Hoy was a very ordinary person. Not 'Straight Lorraine Hoy', just plain and simply non-homosexual.

So was it death by misadventure? Perhaps it was, but the ensuing newspaper inquest made it something far worse.

A Question Of Strength

THE time has come to stop dreaming of shoes and ships and sealing wax; of cabbages and kings. Of why the sea is boiling hot and whether Gay News has any sway.

There was a time when we assembled each week to analyse the day by day discrimination against gay people. Then in accord with our unwritten charter, we would decide how best to bring this nation to justice... how best to deal out our national punishment... how best to crush this wave of gay antagonism.

Assured, we felt, that in our own way, we were protecting our flock. Encircling thousands with confidence and letting the very world know that dare it upset the balance, it would have Gay News to deal with.

A lovely 'happily ever after' bedtime story, but really worthy of only a sullen smile. For the power of Gay News, it seems, is akin to breaking into the Bank of England with a water pistol. It just won't work.

We would have liked to have thought that we had the power of the giants of the press, that with one scathing blast at discriminatory moves we could bring the culprit to heel, but we are only fooling ourselves.

We simply do not have that power. We would like to think that if we have concrete, indisputable evidence of police harassment and virtual provocation that we could launch a blistering round of moralising tactics to show the police a thing or two.

No way does that work. Police harassment grinds on. Police provocation becomes a powerful weapon in their anti-gay arsenal.

To add insult to deep psychological injury, we have not even had a single visit from members of the police force. Worse still, they have made no attempt to close us down. They are on our mailing list, they have our address, but they haven't been. And there's always a cup of tea for them.

So the days of daydreams are gone. We have a long way to go before our ink is as potent as we would hope it could become. Until then, we have only one real weapon to wave in our defense against grossly unfair police activity. It's a little thing called integrity and honesty.

And for us, that's just one up on the police.

And A Slight Smile

IN our last issue, we gave a state of the nation report on one aspect of the accommodation side of being gay. As it turned out, the supposed dilemma was not as grim as we first believed it to be.

Since the publication of our findings, we have been given instances of offers of help to gays, and in some cases, instances of accommodation organisations waging a virtual gay campaign.

Nice to know, but it's not over yet. To know we have friends in the accommodation world is heartening, hence this grin, but in the next few issues, we will continue our investigatory procedures with a look into the question of landlords and permanent housing.

One comforting thought is that it's not as bad as we first believed it to be.

Your Letters

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

'Homosexuality . . . Sin and Depravity'

S.D.U.C.
Lampeter,
Cards,
Wales.

Dear Gay News,

In the liberal atmosphere of a university it is absurdly easy to believe that an enlightened attitude towards homosexuality is the common view, especially among Christians. Anyone who holds this complacent opinion should read a monthly magazine, intimately associated with the Worldwide Church of God, which purports to purvey *The Plain Truth* on every subject from hijacking to the millennium.

In a recent article (April issue) Mr Patrick A Parnell attempts a review of the Christian attitude to homosexuality. He notes the incidence of homosexual behaviour throughout history and across the globe; homosexual churches, societies and magazines are covered and he finds a 'growing attitude among many ministers and lay people alike . . . that practising homosexuals should be welcomed into membership in the churches.' But Mr Parnell does not stop there: 'It's time we looked at the Bible' . . . he says, and he does.

Mr Parnell finds references to homosexuality from Genesis to Romans, from Sodom and Gomorrah to the 'greedy grasps'; 'See for yourself what God thinks about homosexuality!' he invites; but he saves us the bother of consulting the Almighty by telling us what God thinks: 'A repentant homosexual can become a Christian, but not a homosexual Christian.' Obviously in heterosexuality lies the road to Heaven.

Is this a crank view, or are there really thinking Christians who can ally with Mr Parnell when he writes: 'The acceptance of homosexuality is a sign of moral sickness and decay — theologically, nationally and individually. It is time we called a halt to this toboggan slide into sin and depravity.'

I find it illuminating to note that the sub-title of *The Plain Truth* reads, without apparent conscious irony: 'a magazine of understanding'.

M Michael Hogan

Frankness Doesn't Equal Filth

Helix Gardens
London SW2

Dear Gay News,

A reply to Daphne's letter ('Fortnightly Filth' - GN21). It would have been nice to have written to her privately since my reply is fairly heavy, which might be unfair on someone who shows herself to be so unliberalised from repressive sexual attitudes of "conventional morality".

Gays being outcasts of society did not originate with the commencement of Gay News. Gays have been discriminated against down through the years, before there was a paper showing straights "what gays like to read".

People have different points of view on cottaging which makes it a valid point for discussion and though Daphne may find it sickening, we don't all do so.

Far from showing herself to be "very broad minded", Daphne's attitude to four letter words, descriptions of sexual activity and GN personal ads, suggests she is very much the opposite, and if this is so, she seems ill-equipped to be a "friendly shoulder" to gays with problems.

To call a cunt a cunt rather than vagina, womb, uterus or clitoris and a fuck a fuck rather than intercourse, carnal knowledge, copulation etc, does not necessarily show "lack of mentality" or "ignorance" but perhaps a directness more expressive than these clinical, less colloquial expressions.

One can't really believe Daphne when she says there is nothing to interest her in Gay News other than Mary's letter and Sappho's contributions, as she seems to have been a constant reader from issue 10 to issue 21, but if this is true, I can only suggest she subscribes instead to Woman's Own, where there is definitely something to "interest girls" and joins the Festival of Light to campaign to wipe out all the things of which she so strongly disapproves. But it would be nice if she could overcome her associations of frankness in sex equals filth, perversion, etc, and join us in loving each other a bit more.

Mary Evans

Pride in Difference

Dear Gay News,

I have just read your marvellous paper and now feel so much better within myself. For years I have had an awful nagging feeling at the back of my mind that, by merely being gay, I was doing something not quite nice. But by reading your articles and features I realise that I too am a person with nothing whatever to be ashamed of. On the contrary, I have the feeling that what I and other people have is something to be proud of, something different and precious.

The work that you are doing is invaluable, and it has made me think twice about my attitudes towards many things. A good many of my inhibitions have flown out of the window too.

Not having read GN until now, I do not know whether a collective photo has been shown of you all — how about it? I, and no doubt many others, would like to see who gives us this wonderful paper.

Phillip

ED: Be warned, a GN 'family album snapshot' will appear in issue No 25, which is also our first anniversary edition.

Time For Confrontation

Oxford,

Dear Gay News,

I am becoming more than a little pissed off with the silly libels against gay people which seem to be appearing so regularly in the popular press nowadays.

You gave good publicity to the outburst in the John Field column of the News of the World some weeks ago. Last Sunday John Gordon in the Sunday Express clamoured for the dismissal of any priest with homosexual tendencies in the interest of protecting the young.

In an open letter to the members of Weymouth Town Council, some months ago, CHE, answering another libel, said that if any other minority were subjected to a similar torrent of abuse, there would be an outcry of outraged liberal opinion all over the country. True.

It is also true that no other minority would tolerate such vicious abuse about itself, and if the gay community had any self-respect, neither would we.

Cannot CHE, GLF, the Gay Alliances and action groups all over the country, possibly under the auspices of Gay News, make plans and preparations now so that the next time some mindless journalist indulges in a spot of literary queer-bashing to fill a bit of empty column, gays will respond with an enormous and militant demonstration which will make any future gutter journalist think twice?

Judging by the place accorded it by subsequent American gay literature, the Stonewall riot of 1969 did more to develop gay consciousness and unite gay organisations than any other event this century.

To judge by the frustrated anger of myself and many of my friends, we are now long overdue in England for our Stonewall.

Stuart Nelson

ED: The 'Stonewall riot' referred to in the above letter was when the people present in a gay bar called the 'Stonewall' in New York's Greenwich Village, rebelled against frequently violent and unnecessary harassment by police. The bar was regularly raided, solely because its patrons were gay. In the ensuing confrontation, it was established once and for all that if gays fight back, it brings beneficial and long overdue results. The 'Stonewall' incident, which occurred in 1969, is generally recognised as being the birth of the gay liberation movement in the United States.

Reinforcing Degrading Stereotypes

Natal, South Africa.

Dear Gay News,

I have just received a renewal notice from you. I am not renewing my subscription for the following reasons:

(a) I cannot afford it;
(b) Although I support Gay News as a homosexual newspaper and feel that you serve a very useful function in the UK, I cannot support your editorial policy. In GN20 you published a letter from Lancaster GLF — these are exactly my views. I feel that you do not go far enough in attacking the exploitation of homosexuals and you publish stuff which can only reinforce degrading gay stereotypes.

Thank you for the issues which you have sent me here in South Africa and good luck for the future. I shall be interested to see how you are faring when I am in the UK next year.

Richard Wallace-Tarry

ED: No comment, apart from wishing that Richard had been more specific in his letter about what exactly we have published that 'reinforces degrading gay stereotypes'.

Unpermissive Attitude

London W14

Dear Gay News,

I was appalled by the dichotomy in the attitude of Gay News as shown by the publishing of the article 'Bigger is Better' (GN 22).

During the course of this article it becomes quite evident that the Gay News Collective has decided to set itself up as a moral judge, and as a censorship panel, making decisions as to what its readership may or may not read or see advertised.

Furthermore, the Collective, by doing this, place themselves on the same pedestal as Lord Longford and Mary Whitehouse, insofar as they take the attitude that what they themselves are capable of reading without becoming contaminated may well corrupt their readers — 'After much discussion . . . the near unanimous editorial decision was to reject the ads . . . unfairly hit many of our readers below the psychological belt.'

It is saddening to find this unpermissive attitude displayed by a publication that had hitherto given me great pleasure to read due to its total permissiveness and enlightenment.

I also feel that this article reveals a certain hypocrisy in the attitude of the collective, insofar as in previous issues they have condemned Ross



McWhirter, Lord Longford, Mary Whitehouse and others for setting themselves up as censors for public tastes. Even sadder is that in the same issue of Gay News is another article bemoaning the fact that IPC and other magazines and newspapers would not publish an advertisement for Gay News.

I do not wish to indulge in a dissertation of purely destructive criticism, therefore I shall leave you, the editors, with one suggestion on which to chew.

My suggestion is that you accept all advertisements — as long as they do not render you liable to prosecution, however, if any particular advertisement is offensive to the readership, they always have the option of writing in and complaining. Now, if Gay News makes it clear that the Editorial is prepared to take action over any advertisements that cause offence, they can justifiably refuse further insertions of any advertisement that is strongly objected to by the readers.

Dassos Stassoulli

ED: Realising that there is only a thin division at times, between what can be interpreted as censorship and editorial policy, it remains this paper's policy to refuse advertisements that grossly exploit gays. We like to think that we have come to this decision for the same reasons that Women's Lib decry the sexist adverts which exploit and slander women.

Furthermore, it is our belief that there has not yet been discovered a safe and successful method whereby the size of the penis can be enlarged (apart from natural processes). It has been proven though, that it is possible to incur permanent injury by using these 'wonder' contraptions or 'miracle' medications. Would anyone now advertise thalidomide?

GAY NEWS

No 24

Contents

Page 3-6	.....News
Page 7	.....David Bowie at Earls Court
Page 8	.....Gayness
Page 9	.....Rod McKuen Interview
Page 10-11	.....Gays in Literature & Showbiz
Page 12	.....Fun
Page 13	.....Star Trek & Dentistry
Page 14	.....Books
Page 15	.....Films
Page 16	.....Records
Page 17	.....Stage & Nostalgia
Page 18	.....Personal Ads
Page 19-20	.....Classified & Information

Deadlines & Copy Dates for GN 25

Copy, Letters, etc — Saturday 2nd June.
Display, Personal & Classified Advertisements, etc — Noon, Monday 4th June.

Joint Editors and Members of the Gay News Editorial Collective

Denis Lemon, Michael Mason, Peter Mundy,
Stephen MacLean, Mike Nightingale,
Tim Skinner, Jean-Claude Thevenin (Design)
Pascal Danot (Photography)
and Ian Dunn (Scotland), Graham Chapman,
David Rushton David Sherlock,
David Seligman.

Gay News Special Friends

Roger Baker, Denis Cohn, Barry Conley,
Laurence Collinson, Brian Dax, Simon Benson,
Antony Grey, Peter MacMillan, Manus Sasonkin,
Martin Slavin, Bernard Searey, Rebecca John,
David Hart, Brian Taylor, Maxie Bacon, Toni Ranz,
Tim Morris, Derek Jardine, Christopher Ambury,
Carl Hill, Geoff Marsh, Richard Watkins

Special Thanks To:

Richard & Norman, Ken & Allen,
David & Anthony, Peter & Adrian,
Peter, Eric, Ken, David, Richard,
and all other Friends and Loved Ones.

Gay News is fully copyrighted. All manuscripts submitted become the property of the publishers and submission of material will be construed as permission to publish without further notice. The material herein may not be reproduced without the written permission of the publishers.

Whilst we do our best, we can't be responsible for unsolicited material that you send us if it goes astray.

Gay News is published fortnightly by Gay News Ltd, Basement, 34d Redcliffe Square, London SW10
Tel: 01-373 0586

Distribution: Us, You & a Prayer book
Typesetting by Sandi Rutenberg
Printed by F.I. Litho Ltd., 182 Pentonville Road,
London N1.

Gay News is the registered trade mark of
Gay News Ltd.



Gay Pride raiders set out to surprise some nudists.

Not a tidal wave but certainly afloat Oxford Gay Pride Week

OXFORD: The idea of a Gay Pride week at Oxford was a good one, and the GN decision that I should cover it was even better. I had never been there before and the prospect was attractive.

Activities began Tuesday May 15, and when I arrived there on the Friday night, eager for the scheduled disco-cabaret, I had my first taste of a tightly-knit but certainly enjoyable gay scene.

The cabaret was going full throttle upstairs at the Cape of Good Hope Hotel. A bustling crowd was enthusing over the show and each other at this, the place of their regular Friday night disco. The revue was mainly rewritten show stuff: Christine Mathews sang "Maybe This Time" (which certainly seems to have replaced "Over The Rainbow" as the old-guard camp song of hope). Oxford Gay Action Group's Gay Pride organiser, Nigel Pinn, looked hilarious tottering around as Dietrich, singing "Falling In Love Again / Isn't It Obscene / At 70 I'm Still Queen / Can't Help It".

Another organiser, Eric Presland, did a leather-rubber bondage skit, and Oxford's only serious drag, Andrew Kavaney, was amongst the audience. He looked much more spectacular here (dressed in blue velvet, plumes, with a cleverly simulated cleavage) than he did in the local pub the next day, wearing straight clothes. A few more Andrews would have served Gay Pride week well.

The names of Christopher Isherwood and W H Auden were liberally dropped during the show, the latter being especially pertinent as he has returned to his place of formal education, and I'm told can be observed weekdays scuffling over to the St Aldate's coffee shop to take tea and chat. Mr Auden would have been an exciting

addition to Gay Pride week; alas, he was not to be viewed participating in this week of liberation. Oxford has changed very little since he first lived there. Perhaps he is content to sit in his rooms playing those Sophie Tucker discs he had such a passion for, or doing whatever it is he does.

One of the activities during the week was a picketing of W H Smiths in protest of their refusal to stock Gay News. This was not repeated during my stay, but a street theatre planned for 12.15pm took place on the Saturday (a gay version of Sleeping Beauty), but it was hugely upstaged shortly afterwards by a straight university rag demonstration that featured a brass band, whips and flayed manhood.

A conference took place that afternoon. "The main point," explained Nigel, "was to educate those who have influence on others, so that they might have a realistic picture at the outset before they attempted to educate others. There were several who *thought* the right liberal things, but *felt* differently.

"But I think we managed to examine that properly, and come up with some accurate conclusions."

At the Gay Pride party at Friendly Hall that night, Andrew Kavaney swept in (blue velvet again) and all but received a standing ovation. Another major attraction was Alex, keeper of the local winestore and a formidable information centre, who wore a wonderful contraption he called a cossack shirt, self-designed.

Part of Oxford's gay scene is Parson's Pleasure, an aptly-named water hole famed for gay skinnydipping and cruising. On Sunday afternoon a punting party set out to surprise the nudists in what was hoped would be a yippie act of liberation. "There are lecturers and tutors here who are closet queens without exception," I was told. "Parson's Pleasure is part of the rather nice scene they don't want disturbed."

Sure enough when the party arrived there were four male nudists, but proceedings were rather dampened when "officials" stopped the party from landing. Ah well.

Oxford is a fascinating place, and there is much fun to be had. Enjoyable as it was, what I saw of Gay Pride week was lacking in dynamics. It cried out for much more street activity and an attempt at a stronger assault upon straight conceptions and gays in hiding. Ideally, outside gay visitors should have hit the town in such volume that they could not be ignored.

A pity, but nevertheless, Oxford was a joyful event. It's to be hoped that other universities, colleges and gay action groups organise similar activities, but enlist enough outside aid to make such an event felt by every member of the populace.

Stephen MacLean

Three Pronged Approach

FOLLOWING the result of the debate and decision at Morecambe on law reform, the Executive Committee has decided that the Campaign for Homosexual Equality should move forward on three fronts:

* A working party to examine the changes needed in the laws on sexual behaviour.

** The Executive Committee to continue investigating discrimination in employment, with emphasis on making contact with Trade Unions.

*** A working party to examine the ways in which laws relating to marital status can be adjusted to meet the needs of homosexuals.

Members present at Morecambe decided that CHE should explore the whole field of so-called sex offences, and the EC intends that the first working party should do this. It will need to look not only at the specific restrictions on homosexuals, but also at relevant common law offences, laws on public indecency (the Vagrancy Act (1824) onwards), indecent assault, pornography and so forth.

Hopes were expressed by those who moved the successful amendments at Morecambe that it would be possible to find an approach, perhaps along the lines of Bishop John Robinson's suggestions, which would enable a comprehensive law to be formed on sexual behaviour.

The second working party will tackle an exceedingly complex area, which was touched on by the Morecambe Law Reform Commission's reference to discrimination in housing. The status of being married confers a host of rights and obligations in law and the practice of public authorities. For example - taxation, national insurance and pension rights; family law (notably adoption); citizenship, nationality and immigration; mortgages, inheritance (especially if the new legacy duty is introduced); visiting rights in hospitals and prisons.

Discrimination in this type of area is not necessarily against gay pair-bonds: under social regulations, heterosexual cohabitation can reduce benefits where homosexual cohabitation will not. But for many gay people it is the lack of recognition for a settled pair (i.e. the Morecambe Hotel, which cavilled at two women sharing a double bed) which irks for more than any other discrimination. Accordingly, the EC wants to see a thorough examination of the treatment in law of marital status, bringing together relevant experts, such as accountants, with those who can voice the demands of gay people.

For both working parties, CHE hopes to recruit people (whether or not currently members of CHE) who are willing to do a fair amount of work on the problems of forming legislation.

Both organisations need experts in the relevant fields of law (and those knowing about the practice of the public authorities) and people who are willing to apply both their mind and time to the problem - a working party consisting simply of experts is likely to come up with all the technical snags and no solutions.

Anyone willing to volunteer themselves, or to suggest someone who should be approached by the Executive Committee, should write to the General Secretary at the CHE National Headquarters, 28 Kennedy Street, Manchester as soon as possible with appropriate details.

Those who feel they could offer knowledge or ideas but are short of time are invited to volunteer as consultants to the working parties.

It is expected that the marital status working party will have to have a preliminary at its field before it can estimate how soon it can come up with any conclusions. But it is hoped that the sexual law working party will keep to the deadline set by the Morecambe conference of presenting a full report to next year's CHE conference. With this in mind, and since some of its proposals could be controversial, it is hoped to arrange for a preliminary sounding-out of its ideas on what the laws on sexual offences should be at the December CHE National Council.

The Law Reform Committee at Morecambe produced the idea of proposing a bill against discrimination in all fields, which was subsequently set aside by the full conference. In fact, it would require only a one-sentence amendment to the proposed bill on discrimination in employment against women, and some time back CHE approached the MPs sponsoring the bill on these lines. However, at the moment CHE lacks the hard evidence of discrimination, although one EC member Ted Clapham, has been working on it for a year. As Ted is now concentrating on FRIEND, the EC would like to appoint someone else to pursue the matter - and in particular to open up contact with Trade Unions.

The Commission discussion showed that many members are concerned that CHE should put forward proposals on job discrimination; but before there is any point in trying to frame a law, we need facts.

Michael Steed



Mayor Meets CHE

From left: Ivor Hammond, Jonathon Marx, Ms T Lawrence, Mayor Patricia Bradbury and Tony Ryde, pictured at a meeting between Islington Campaign for Homosexual Equality members and their Mayor, held at the Head of Chicken Hotel, Islington. Ms Lawrence is the mother of CHE member Michael. Mayor Bradbury, who has since vacated office, makes an excellent case for women in politics: she accepted an invitation turned down by local MP's. One wonders why a pleasantly restrained gathering, with the odd glass of wine and savoury, was such a fearsome prospect to them. An enjoyable evening.



Above newsagent was picketed for refusing to stock GN.



River Death — Inconclusive Verdict

THE tragic case of Michael St John (see GN 23) — alias Wolfgang von Jurgen — has closed. At least, for the time being.

The result of the coroner's inquest into his death returned a cold 'open verdict'. Southwark coroner Dr A Gordon Davies said in his summing up that he had little doubt in his mind that 28-year-old Michael St John had taken his own life.

The inquest was told how St John plunged into the Thames after a fight with a boyfriend. Little else was confirmed about his private life.

Detective-Chief Inspector Thomas Parry told the court that a major murder inquiry was launched after Michael's body was found. When he was found, he was dressed in a leather tunic, trousers and boots. There was a leather bootlace tied around his neck, and handcuffs were dangling from his wrist. His nose was broken, and he was bruised on the face and mouth. All consistent with a violent battle.

But the coroner said he was sure the death was not caused by murder. That he drowned himself.

Michael St John was, in every sense, a loner.

Friends of Gay News knew him. Some claim they knew him well, but invariably they said he was singularly self-determined. Not a mixer.

When he was called to identify the body, Michael's brother, William St John, said that he kept his way of living a secret from the family. He also said that his brother had tried to kill himself once before when an affair came to an end.

His brother said he only saw Michael about three times a year.

Under the name of Wolfgang von Jurgen, Michael was half of a drag act called 'The Virgin Sisters', who appeared regularly in pubs and clubs around England's south-east.

When police handed over all their evidence to the coroner and the pathologist, they also said they still had no idea how he got into the river. The lack of evidence about that vital part of the death resulted in an 'open verdict'.

Words are never adequate when something as tragic as this happens. There are many people who will mourn the death of Michael St John.

And certainly, still some people who know a lot more about his death. Enough, at least, to reopen the inquest, to bring a satisfactory end to the case.

Gay Essex

FOR ONE brief weekend in May, the University of Essex was transformed by a series of imaginative gay pride events organised by Brian Roberts, Dave Gartside and Nicole Freni of the GLF.

Groups of gay men and women began arriving on Friday night and were given accommodation around the campus. The Bethnal Rouge gay commune arrived adding much glamour with their sparkling drag costumes.

Saturday morning, Durham's gay councillor Sam Green gave a talk, and was later to be seen dancing at the disco — a huge success — the same night. Mid-day Saturday, a talk on sexism took place. Included were fascinating accounts of what was a turn-on; a general agreement on bottoms occurred, otherwise there was very little harmony.

An afternoon showing of 'Boys in the Band' drew a large attendance. Then the most successful event of all took place — the Saturday night disco, with an admission price of 30p to straights and 5p for gays or anyone sympathetic enough to wear a GLF badge. This innovative reverse on discrimination meant that the proportion of gays to straights was almost equal, and everything went with a bang. Friendships were made, and many of the visitors found a warm bed to share that night.

Finally, a tired, happy group met on Sunday morning for a convivial coffee party; the friendly 'coming together' atmosphere summed up the whole successful weekend. It's to be hoped that more universities and colleges around the country will follow the example of Essex in bringing the gay lifestyle out in the open, promoting gay pride and self-awareness at the same time.

Lesbians In Prison Drag Drama

MS DORIS KENDALL, principal officer at a Cheshire women's prison, told an enthralled audience at a Prison Officers' Association Conference that lesbian prisoners are buying male clothing with public money to wear in prison. It seems that prisoners serving sentences of more than six months are entitled to a public grant to buy clothing. But Ms Kendall seems more worried about the red faces of her wardresses than the fact that trousers are worn. "Imagine the embarrassment of a woman officer accompanying a prisoner to a fitting room of a gents' out-fitters" she gasped.

Ms Kendall went on to speak of lesbian relationships between prisoners which resulted in violence and broken marriages to such effect that the conference decided to pass a resolution "that where inmates are permitted to wear clothing which is purchased from public funds this should only be allowed on the understanding that women should not be permitted to purchase and wear male clothing."

Gay News thinks the Prison Service appears to have its priorities wrong. Surely rehabilitation should be their prime concern.

Publicity For Gay Struggle

THE Campaign for Homosexual Equality believes that the field of publicity is one of primary importance to the struggle for gay rights, covering, as it does, one of our main channels of communication and information with the general public.

We are therefore setting up a public relations group which will cover both the whole public relations field on a national level — television, radio, national newspapers, magazines — and the co-ordination of local efforts in the public relations field.

If you are professionally involved in the communications business (eg: publicity, advertising, the media), or if you are interested in the field of gay public relations, please contact:

Public Relations Group, 28 Kennedy Street, Manchester, M2 4BG.

Mike Barnes

A Word From Friend

WE are pleased to report that the national befriending and counselling work of FRIEND continues and it is expected that several new local groups will be recognised within the next few months.

We wish also to report with regret that Rev Peter Royston-Ball has resigned from his post as London Organiser for FRIEND and that London FRIEND is seeking new premises from which to operate. Until such premises are found, enquirers about FRIEND services should be directed to write to:

FRIEND,
44 Earls Court Road,
London W8 6EJ.

Pending the appointment of a new London organiser, enquiries relating to the administration of FRIEND in London can be sent to Vivian Waldron, (one of the assistant national organisers,) at 15 Bolton Gardens, London SW5.

Ted Clapham



Gays And Politics — New Findings

ONE of the most comprehensive and important surveys to feel out top level support for homosexuality has almost been completed, and its results will be published in Gay News.

The survey — almost a campaign — was launched in November 1972 by Col. John Gough, acting after deep consultation with the Campaign for Homosexual Equality.

Initially he contacted all candidates in Brighton and Hove for the 1973 County Council elections, asking that they state their views on homosexuality in the possible light of their election to office.

Col. Gough pointed out that their constituency had an average five percent homosexual voting potential, and that it would obviously be a vital factor in winning their votes, but any such vote would only come — as a rule — on careful consideration of the stand taken on homosexuality by the candidate.

No candidate was asked to identify himself as a homosexual. Far from it. The questionnaire sought only the reaction of the candidates in any case where they might be confronted with a situation which required anti-discriminatory attitudes from them.

In effect, Col Gough asked the candidates to give their support to all homosexual matters they considered worthy, and not to take a stand against homosexuality because of personal discrimination.

The survey is now almost complete, and the results are being collated. At this stage, the reaction looks more than heartening.

Colonel Gough has received handwritten letters from most candidates, each listing their reasons for support or anti-support.

The survey also involved an eye-opening campaign among members of Parliament, who were asked to state their attitudes on the subject.

Again, most of the results have been collated, but here, the reaction appears to be disheartening.

A final survey is being carried out among candidates for the District Council elections being held on June 7.

As soon as these results are in and collated, Gay News will go ahead and publish the entire findings of the survey.

We have obtained an understanding to publish in full the personal views of Members of Parliament, and their subsequent reactions to the survey.

The findings of the eight-month-long survey will become one of the most valuable documents yet published on official attitudes towards homosexuality.

Gay News Editorial Collective

Were You Ever Grossly Indecent?

NORTH WALES: Strange reports are filtering into the GN offices: for instance, Vincent Johanson, 49-year-old North Wales hotel worker, has been remanded in custody for one week after appearing on warrant for five charges alleging "serious sexual offences with a man in 1969 and 1970". And in Wolverhampton, 36-year-old John Smith and Arthur Bayley have each been fined £25 with £16 costs after admitting to acts of "gross indecency".

The respective local newspaper reports give typically uninformed accounts of such

cases. Whatever "serious sexual offences" or "gross indecencies" might be remains hazy in almost every case that does not involve pederasty. A check of the various newspaper reports would make it appear that most of these cases occur outside London, making it virtually impossible to trace the people who have been prosecuted.

We feel that details of how two grown men (lawfully "over 21") committed acts of "gross indecency" would prove fascinating, if only to define just what gross indecency and the like might be in the often cloudy eyes of the law.

If you have been involved in such a case, or know of one, we would appreciate your contacting us at the GN Newsdesk. And should publicity make you wary, we promise discretion towards the names involved if desired.

Gay Laureate For Poetry Festival

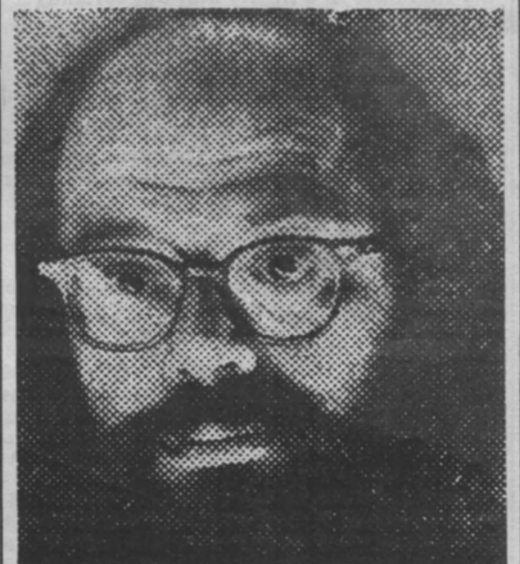
LONDON: Gay poet Allen Ginsberg arrives in London next month to take part in an impressive Poetry International 73 programme which will also feature W H Auden John Gielgud and several other highly respected figures.

The programme begins at the ICA for three nights from June 25th, then switches to the Queen Elizabeth Hall for performances on the 29th and 30th. The first four nights will comprise two performances nightly.

Among the attractions is 'The Lyricist as Poet'. Benny Green comperes, whilst John Gielgud and others will read works of Gilbert, Coward, Cole Porter etc at the 8.30 performance, June 26.

The following night, also at 8.30, W H Auden and Chester Kallman (joint librettists of several operas) are amongst those presenting 'The Poet as Librettist'. On June 28 at 8.30, satirist Barry Humphries will present his 'Innocent Austral Verse', assisted by his drag alter-ego Edna Everage.

Ginsberg's recital is scheduled for the Queen Elizabeth Hall, June 29 at 7.45. He will also be attending 'Poetry and Politics', 6.30 pm at the ICA on June 28.



Ginsberg, who first came to prominence as part of 'The Beat Generation' during the 50s was the first gay poet to write naturally and radically of his sexuality. GN will be talking to him when he arrives, and we hope to run an interview later.

WE ARE IN THE HOLIDAY TRADE

Book,

A room with a view and you in Terrano. A famous cosmopolitan and Gay suburb of Palma at the Hotel Rosamar, which is in the centre of all the action.

But,

If you like sea food, Stay at the Club Nautico, surrounded by yachts and pleasure craft, it will give you the impression that you are on a little island. Hotel guests become members of the Club Nautico (Yacht Club) and are invited to attend all the Social Events.

For these and other Gay spots, apply to
ALL ABOUT TRAVEL,
25a Merton High Street,
London SW19.



The Happy Homosexual Hour

ED. è Scòh - pronounced Erskorf - has performed his entertainment in two different London venues; one night at Howff and eight at the Little Theatre in Garrick Yard, where singer-pianist and former Gay Libber Rupert Harries was also on the bill, performing to a heavily gay audience. At the Howff, the crowd was basically straight. è Scòh says they seemed to enjoy it: "Although at the Howff, someone did mention I was insane." GN did not manage to review any of these performances. Below, the troubador describes his activities.

Sometimes I write songs, sometimes I don't. Whatever I write is about male-male sex (over 21) and/or enjoyably exotic people.

Since the two are happily compatible, I recently fiddled about and came up with the Happy Homosexual Hour, sixty minutes of songs and sketches which describe the gay scene as I see it. A variety of characters and prejudices, a bias towards humour. A one-man review intended solely for straights and otherwise. Not the sort of thing that would get a government grant, but more entertaining than parliament.

Problem: where to perform it.
Oodnadatta, no. London, yes.

Full of myself and misconceptions I accosted Britain in search of gaydom's outpost of refinement, but found them not. Instead of them I found minks and rings and other things, and Sweetheart Darling we sell drag.

I was assured that the only entertainment London gays want involves men trying to be what they're not. However, after secret talks with various locals, I gather it's not really a matter of what London gays want, but what they get.

Yet daunt me not, I struggle onwards, ever onwards, until at long last I am received into the unfiled nights of an experimental theatre. Time now for advertising. Spread the word, hang them posters.

I went to the Coleherne: "Try the Boltons they're more liberal gay lib types." Went to the Boltons. "Have to check with the management." Went to the Salisbury: "Sorry, this is a company pub." Went to various clubs - they had no room because their walls were full of advertising already, and besides, they didn't do advertising anyway. Contacted all gay publications, all reviewers, all fringe theatres. All were interested, no-one came. I wrote to Scotland Yard warning them of an impending orgy - they weren't impressed. I told the Festival of Light that "sadistic people and homosexuals were meeting on the Sabbath," but they slept on.

I approached Moral Re-armament; after being blessed with the full story of how their leader stopped a group of Chinese from committing sodomy, I was further ornamented with the closing pronouncement: "Wouldn't it be something if all the homosexuals of London took it on to clean up this town."

I agreed that it would, and moved into a GLF commune. After interrupting a discussion on whether or not oppressors in high places should be killed, I suddenly decided that I was, by popular acclaim, "the enemy"

They didn't like the way I dressed, they didn't like the way I talked, they didn't like the way I acted, and they all decided, unity is rare these days - that misery should be inflicted on viewpoints other than the ones they had devised. ("We're revolutionaries, honey".) In other words, I went

to the wrong commune.

A few nights later at the Little Theatre, the revolutionaries and their whistles came to the show. No-one blew, but from their hisses, burps and socio-political comments I was led to believe that they were not amused. The highlight of the evening was the leather-denim anthem - an openly chauvinistic piece which glorifies masculinity and puts down all things feminine (such as women).

This prompted a transvestite dance by members of the audience and spiritually moved a gay female to spend her God-given energies on me. After an exercise in shoving and a few insults from which I never recovered ("Sex to you is just fucking") she poured flour over my head, stuffed a rag in my mouth and threatened me with an umbrella.

As I am not accustomed to lesbians who threaten me with their projectiles, I could think of nothing clever to say and continued singing, but in a distant corner of the room. After this and other, quieter expressions of concern, I perceived a hint that I have a grave responsibility towards the gay community. That gays are a deprived group which needs to be protected from seeing themselves as anything but liberated and respectable. Uh-uh, no, I'll not be convinced that gays need protection either from ideas or from me. Besides, it's all in fun matey.

For those personalities worried about their image, hastily shall I add that I do give a mention to liberated and respectable gays.



But I also honour sadists, queens, bikies and anybody else who helps make life a bit more interesting.

I'm only trying to get people to enjoy my observations, and in that my observations are both honest and entertaining, I don't give a shit who it upsets.

Evangelists and potted plants will find the show oppressive. All others might be amused. Even pommies.

Trouble is nobody wants me. All I seek is a stage, a snip of floor that will let me occupy it but nonesuch lies ahead. I've phoned, written, made personal appearances, and generally outpoured myself until there is nothing left but a fake smile and my natural-born charm currently being fed on KP peanuts and Middlesex cabbage. That's not enough. I want steak and fame and I want it now. If something doesn't happen soon, the Happy Homosexual Hour will be forced by finances and cold hearts to abdicate to Amsterdam.

Will no-one save me from the immoral people of socialist Holland?

è Scòh

146 Hammersmith Grove,
London W6

'Omosessuali'

Italian Gay Scene Finally Comes Out

THE GAY SCENE in Italy began to make itself known and heard in a serious, militant and united form some two years ago with the founding of a homophile organisation calling itself Fronte Unitario Omosessuale Rivoluzionario Italiano, and meaning quite obviously, Italian Homosexual Revolutionary Front.

In a country where there is a noticeable lack of socially minded people and where the family unit is so strong, where the emancipation of women has progressed at a pace much slower than in any other European country and where the temperament of the people is such that they are unable to agree on any point of discussion or argument, it is quite remarkable that an organisation such as FUORI could ever have been established. But established it was by twelve or so courageous young Italians in the northern city of Turin. The membership grew quite rapidly as groups were started in Milan, Bologna and Rome, and I believe there is now an overall membership of nearly a thousand.



Mario Mieli (a FUORI member) of Milan distributing leaflets in San Remo.

There are no particular laws against homosexuality in Italy as its existence is hardly acknowledged by the law. There is, however, discrimination on a social level, with police harassment in the gay bars and in the occasional clubs that are patronized by the wealthier gays. To the same extent as in Britain, there is discrimination in jobs and certain professions such as teaching where to be discovered to be gay means instant dismissal. The real difficulty for the Italian homosexual lies in the family where so much pressure is put on sons and daughters to marry and have numerous children - the latter naturally having the full backing of the Church. In some of the more backward parts of the south of Italy and in Sicily the old tradition of the family making the choice of bride or groom still prevails. Homosexuality in Italy is therefore always a threat to procreation and the homosexual the real despair and shame of his family.

FUORI is working towards a social acceptance of the homosexual in Italy rather than legal reform, and this is done by means of peaceful demonstrations, posters and literature explaining homosexuality and the needs and rights of a homosexual to self expression and sexual fulfilment. I have spent many a happy hour in the company of my Roman friends, scurrying around the big piazzas with a bucket, a brush and an armful of posters which have been pasted on to the walls of the bars, schools, cafes, public buildings and even a church or two.

The members of the Rome group are a mixed bunch from all walks of life and in-

clude journalists, teachers, plumbers, bartenders, waiters, photographers, students and one very charming, gentle transvestite from Naples whose mother has disowned him. I was disappointed when I first attended the meetings to find so few women members - there being three others in all. It would seem that although the gay men have tried to interest gay women in joining and taking an active part in the work of FUORI the women are still wary of the once very chauvinistic Italian male and they feel more at home in their own feminist groups which are now springing up all over the country with a surprising rapidity.

At the weekly meetings there were discussions - always heated - on the social and sexual problems of being gay, but there seemed to be little interest in discussing actual human and emotional problems. However the members of FUORI feel proud of their united efforts to organise themselves and are pleased with the progress they are making.

There is a journal produced every month which is on sale to the general public in all major Italian cities, and contains national and international news on gay life, political viewpoints, gossip, ads, poems and book reviews.

There have been one or two national congresses to discuss with other groups progress made and plans for the future with emphasis on the presentation of the journal. Last October FUORI felt strong enough to act as host to homophile groups from other countries at an international congress held in Milan. It was quite successful with discussions in French, Italian and English on the state of homophile movements and also the feminist movements with which FUORI, like other gay groups, has tried to affiliate itself. Unfortunately the only report to be found in the Italian newspapers the following day was on the scuffle between members and the Press. Members tried to keep biased



FUORI member Angelo Pezzana with a placard reading "Nobody Has The Right To Repress Our Sexuality".

reporters out of the congress knowing they would write unfavourable accounts of the congress in their papers.

Should any British gays be planning a visit to Italy this summer there will certainly be a welcome from FUORI groups in the cities mentioned. Italians like foreigners and are particularly anxious to exchange news and ideas with other gays.

Valerie Paddington

FOOTNOTE: The addresses Valerie was able to trace (with the exception of Bologna) are:

Milan group: Mario Mieli, Via Marco de' Marchi 3, Milan (he speaks very good English). Or: Lella de' Pasquali, Via GB Tiepolo 50, Milan 20129 (female, don't think she speaks English).

Turin group: Headquarters - Via San Francesco d'Assisi 21, Turin. (There is always someone here from 4 pm til 8 pm every afternoon, or you could write in advance).

Rome group: c/o Partito Radicale, Via di Torre Argentina 18, Rome (every Tuesday from 8.30 pm).

GAY DAY CRUISING

Along The River Thames

Tricky Dicky Disco
Sunday 24th June

Leaving 12 Noon
Westminster Pier
Returning 6 pm.

Stop at Kew Gardens for Lunch

LICENSED BAR
DANCING

Tickets £1.25 p Cheque/PO + SAE

From R. Scanes
203 Clayhall Ave,
Ilford
Essex.

All gay women
should read
SAPPHO (30p inc post)
regular monthly
magazine
PCM Petrel London WC1

WEMBAR HOTEL

01-373 9950

19 Warwick Rd, London SW5.

Warm Welcome to Old and New Guests.
Easy Reach of Station, Bars and Clubs.
Personal Attention.
Friendly Atmosphere.

Advance Booking Welcome.

Newsletters

Watergate Scandal's Gay Element

WASHINGTON: Time Magazine has reported that Charles Colson, formerly a Presidential aide, hired young men to pose as gays. It was an attempt, Time said, to link Presidential candidate George McGovern to the Gay Liberation Movement during last year's campaign, "to pose as Gay Liberationists and wear large George McGovern buttons at rallies for the Democratic candidate."

Lovers Lib & Other Shrieks

LONDON: Here's a new angle: schoolmaster Robin Thompson, at a meeting of the National Council for Civil Liberties, opposed a move to help gays fighting oppression because "it did nothing to help ordinary men and women who want to make love". His anti-gay rationale centred on the opinion that couples of the same sex could use their own names on hotel registers, whilst unmarried heteros had to employ devices such as "Mr & Ms Smith".

It appears Mr Thompson has never heard of the casting couch, for he also added rather curiously, "I have had several careers and I have seen people held back or sacked because they had a strong sex drive".

The meeting voted its support of gays, leaving Mr Thompson mulling a plan to gain backing for his "lovers lib."

Another interesting and amusing anti-gay spiel came from Ms A. Bevin in a letter to the East London Advertiser. Ms Bevin allowed that she did not "understand the wolf that inhabits the male", but felt homosexuals often merely "do not possess the necessary strength of character to want the responsibility of a wife and children. It is best for them all to lie low otherwise they will only invite more queer bashing".

In conclusion: "Well, it should be made illegal for these gay men to hold hands and kiss in public. How nauseous. If I should see any, oh my, pray excuse my shrieks of mirth and those of many women."

All of which, you must admit, is quite a shriek.

Too Much Sex Emphasis

LIVERPOOL: On Wednesday May 9, Jackie Forster and Mike Barnes of CHE spoke at a public meeting attended by 50 to 60 people. Although advertised as 'All you should know about homosexuality', the speakers declined such a broad topic. Barnes spoke on society's attitude since Roman times, while Forster opined that too much emphasis was placed on sexuality in homosexuality. Barnes of the Legal Standing Committee, urged that all cases involving gays being penalised because of their sexuality should be followed up with protest, this being the only way to achieve a formalised equality.

The Cardinal's Clanger

LONDON: At a European marketing congress, Cardinal Heenan addressed some leading British executives and dropped a gay clanger in the process. "If people no longer believe in God and the law of God, it is clear they have no sense of sin. The simplest examples in this country are killing the child in the womb and indulgences in homosexual practices. Both have been made legal but that does not make them moral."

Gay Bankrobber's 20 Year Stretch

NEW YORK: John Wojtowicz, who robbed a bank to pay for his male wife's sex change (she/he was our GN cover girl, issue 19), has been sentenced to 20 years in federal prison.

The male wife, Ernest Aron, is now known as Liz Ashley. Finance for the operation came not from the robbery, but from Warner Bros, who purchased the story rights from Wojtowicz for a projected movie. It seems that the gay bankrobber will have to wait until the planned movie turns up on TV after his release.

He appeared in court bruised and banded, producing screams from his mother, Theresa, and his female wife, Carmen. After complaining about his attorney's handling of the case, Wojtowicz said he wished to withdraw his plea of guilty. Informed that other charges could be laid against him that could result in the death penalty, he decided to stick to guilty.

GLF Campaign Opens Fire

LEEDS: The local GLF has distributed 7,000 leaflets, which includes the statement: "I am 18, I am old enough to vote, old enough to die for my country, but not old enough to sleep with the person I love. I have to hide my feelings from my family, my friends and those I work with."

The leaflets were followed up with an open meeting at the Free Trades Hall.

Reaction from straights has been mixed. A Ms S Buckingham of Harehills roared that the leaflets were "disgusting filth", whilst Ms Marjorie Halam said: "I was quite surprised at first that these people were brave enough to put something like that through a letterbox. I think all the points raised are very important."

TV Gay Busted In Men's Room

CALIFORNIA: 21 year old Lance Loud, famous in America as the gay member of a real-life family who were filmed documentary-style then shown as a TV series has been fined £30 for "disturbing the peace".

A plain-clothes policeman arrested Loud in a men's room, and claimed that even after being told he was arrested, Lance continued to proposition him. The charge was changed from lewd conduct to disturbing the peace, and Lance pleaded guilty.

Shocked By Coggan

WORCESTER: Anglican churchman Osric Ricardo has slated Archbishop Coggan for his gay sympathy. In his church magazine, Ricardo employed the strange rationale that if it does exist, it should be kept secret and that a lacking of masculinity commanded no respect for the church or themselves.

Ex-Guardsman Kills Gay Man

COLCHESTER: Ex-Scots guardsman Alan Melville, 25, has pleaded not guilty to murdering 55 year old retired schoolteacher Cyril Headley, described in court as a homosexual.

The accused denies that he is homosexual and says he met Headley in a "queer London pub" which he claims guardsmen frequented to hustle free drinks from gays. The two men met again during September last year and Melville, looking for lodgings, moved into Headley's Chelmsford flat. Melville claims to have slept in Headley's bed twice a week at the latter's insistence.

On the night Headley died, Melville claims to have returned home and received a slap in the face from the deceased, who told Melville he was a "conning bastard". Said Melville in court: "I just let him have it and thumped him a couple of times. I retaliated the only way I know, with violence. He went down. I took hold of him by the hair and shook him, then dragged him upstairs."

"He sat there saying 'I could've loved you son, you're the right boy for me' and other sickly stuff. I just lost my temper. If I had any intention at all it was only to injure him, not kill the poor bugger. If he had not been offensive to me I wouldn't have touched him."

Melville's defence are attempting to gain a verdict of manslaughter, stating in court, "He killed that man unlawfully, but it was not murder."

It would seem the defence find the word 'murder' quite pliable when the victim is a homosexual.

Shocking Confessions

LONDON: Chalk up a major liberating advancement for Woman's Own magazine, which boasts a circulation of nearly 2 million. Under the heading CONFESSION ("Our series in which readers talk frankly about the secrets which haunt their lives"), is the feature 'I Fell In Love With Another Woman'. Next Week: A mother confesses how she nearly killed her baby.

First Gay Club

NORTH STAFFS: The first gay club in the history of the Potteries, the One for One club, has opened at 141 Marsh Street, Hanley, following a two-week trial run. The club opens every night at 10, closes at 2 (midnight on Sundays), and serves food and liquor. Prices are reasonable, having been structured similarly to straight clubs in the area.

Another Cottage Disaster

DAGENHAM: A cottage, described by the local paper as a "notorious haunt for homosexuals" under the headline "Schoolboys in sex for sale scandal", has brought a court case that has landed Ford worker William Murray on three year's probation.

Prosecuting solicitor Jeffrey McCann said: "The offences arose after Murray met two boys aged 11 and 14 in a public toilet in Broad Street, Dagenham, which was well known as a haunt for homosexuals."

One of the boys was questioned by his mother when he arrived home late. She then contacted the police. The two boys are alleged to have taken car rides with Murray, occasionally bringing friends along, using it as an easy way to make money.

Murray pleaded guilty to three charges of "indecent assault". He claimed that the boys were not used to homosexual experiences, adding he was "anxious to overcome his problem and would welcome any help."

Computer Politics

LONDON: Professor Isaac Asimov, the biochemist and author, has claimed that computers could be a "bastion against injustice" rather than a threat to freedom.

"I want to see every man receive a long and complicated code of identification with symbols representing age, income, education, housing, occupation, family size, political views, sexual tastes, everything that can be conceivably coded."

A senior Civil Servant commented: "I

can't see any minister authorising universal questionnaires which asked 'Do you hunt stags?', or 'Are you homosexual?'"

Gertrude And Alice As Screen Lovers

NOT SINCE the halcyon days of the 50's, when Susan Hayward's false eyelashes were tortuously atwitter in epics such as 'I'll Cry Tomorrow', has the biopic been as popular as it is now.

That filmic travesty of Billie Holiday's life, 'Lady Sings the Blues', has convinced producers that they too can make a bundle by digging up dead pasts. Bessie Smith and Nat King Cole are the next on the receiving line. It comes as good news that another minority might soon find representation on the silver screen — a biography of the American-born writer Gertrude Stein is under consideration by director George Cukor, and 30-year-old actress Maggie Smith is reportedly most eager to play the part.



Gertrude Stein, gay literary giant.

The duo recently worked together on the over-blown 'Travels With My Aunt'. Cukor, known as a "woman's director", is highly respected for his sensitive direction of actresses such as Garbo ('Camille'), Garland ('A Star Is Born') and Claire Bloom ('Chapman Report').

Gertrude Stein was not a prolific writer but her impact was vast. A pioneer with works such as her novel 'Ida', she also wrote the biography of her lover, Alice B Toklas.

The book was not strictly a straightforward account of their affair, which reached full bloom after Stein settled in Paris in 1904. Their salon received Europe and America's greatest talents and intellectuals. Among Stein's close friends was Ernest Hemingway, who later dissolved the relationship upon the shocking — to him — discovery that Stein and Toklas were lovers.

Hemingway's attitude was perhaps coloured by sex problems of his own. The writer, fascinated by war as he was, held very odd standards of what he believed "manhood" should be. His tests included taking male friends to bullfights and the more direct criteria of Indian wrestling with them. If a man didn't measure up, as was the case with "poor weak Scott Fitzgerald", Hemingway could be quite a bitch.

Hemingway also held the curious belief that a man was allowed only a certain amount of orgasms, and if he used them all up during youth, the price of middle-aged impotence would be paid. The intensity of his work also related to his sexuality. Once he showed a new novel to an admiring Lillian Hellman; when she remarked that a paragraph seemed to be missing, jarring the continuity, he snatched it from her and stalked from the room uttering "I'd like to sleep with you but there's someone else."

Ms Toklas survived her lover, who died in 1946, aged 72. Stein's death brought about a marvellous observation that the admiring Maggie Smith could probably do wonders with should she eventually play Stein on the screen.

As Gertrude finally sunk into the Big Sleep she looked up at her lover saying, "What is the answer?", paused, and added, "But then, what is the question?"

Stephen MacLean

Trés Gay

CALIFORNIA: A typographical error in a UPI dispatch added titillation to the news that the first Netherlands female student has enrolled to train as a pilot for "Royal Butch Airlines".

Gays Take Housing Action

LONDON: At their first public meeting on May 20th, Gay Lodge Housing Association unveiled their project.

"As the result of a discussion about the article 'No Roof Over Gay Heads', (GN21), we have formed this non-profit Association", said Hon Chairman Richard Poore.

GLHA will convert existing houses into self-contained, unfurnished, two-roomed flats (kitchen and bathroom, central heating) for single working men and women of all ages. The rent (inflation permitting) will be £5 to £6.50 per week exclusive.

Single people wanting council flats are at the bottom of the housing lists and stay there. Tony Salvis, Hon Secretary, endorsed this. "I've been on the waiting list for a London council flat for five years..." Whether at the bottom or not wasn't clear.

Gay tenants join the Association by buying a £1 interest free share on tenancy. This entitles them to vote at GLHA meetings and take part in policy and development of properties. The tenants in each house will form a co-operative with a say in the running of their home and the selection of new tenants.

Richard Poore emphasised: "Men and women will have complete freedom to have whoever they like to stay, whether overnight, or for longer periods. GLHA wants gays to have friends and lovers without any fear of interference or eviction."

At this early stage, GLHA isn't touting for members. They are looking at properties. They want gay architects and a gay chartered accountant. They will issue loan stock from £5 upwards to anyone, but this in no way entitles the holder to preferential treatment in application for a flat. The initial capital — up to £500,000 will be raised by council loans, grants and through mortgages.

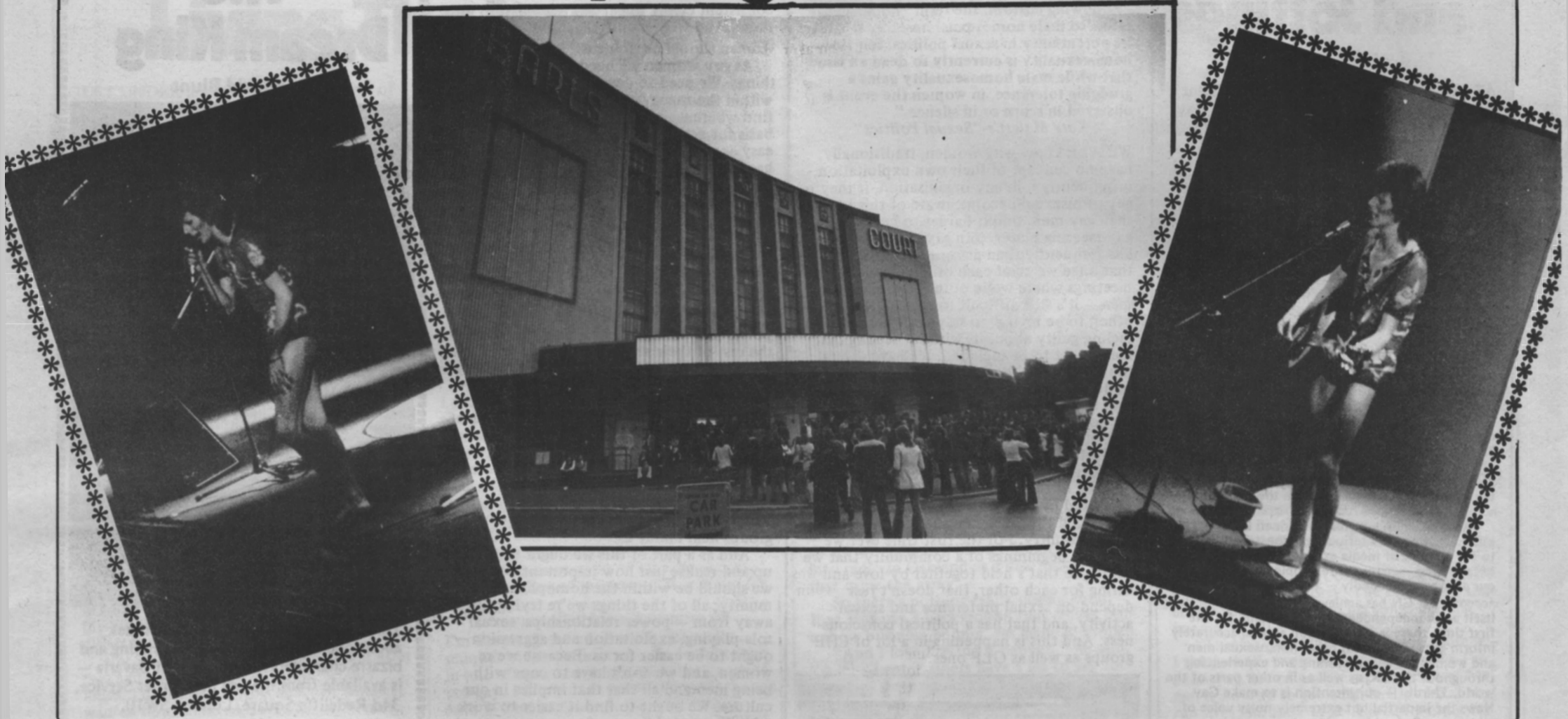
Camden and Lambeth councils have already shown positive interest.

The seven founder members of the management committee are: Martin J Anderson, Gary L McAuliffe, Michel Pered Plaschkes, Richard F Poore, Anthony M Salvis, Adrian J Wainwright, Gregory F Williams.

The rules of the Association are available for 10p plus postage, limited copies. All offers of help and enquiries to: Gay Lodge Housing Association Ltd., 37 Loveridge Road, London NW6 2DU.



Baubles, Bangles And Bowie



SCREAMS and chaos, a few thousand people standing on their seats and thunderous applause greeted the most exceptional phenomenon contemporary music has yet produced, when David Bowie swept onto the stage at London's Earls Court Exhibition Hall on Saturday May 12th.

An estimated 18,000 people gathered for the concert, which was the spectacular climax of Bowie's sky-rocketing rise to fame and superstardom. It is my opinion that David Bowie, although working in a different escapist/dream genre, is the most glamorous and universally appealing 'star' to emerge since the late Marilyn Monroe. The significant difference between them being that Bowie is completely aware and in control of the situation he is in. He created his own image, whereas Marilyn's was created for her by the publicity machine of Hollywood.

The Earls Court auditorium held the largest audience Bowie has appeared before and it was the start of a much publicised mammoth British tour. A cleverly circulated rumour suggests that this will be the last series of live performances he will give.

No Ghettoes For Bowie

Earlier that day, in a special Bowie souvenir edition of London's Evening News, the following had been printed: "This has very definitely been the best week of David Bowie's life. His picture is on the front page of Gay News (*Ed - GN22*). His new album is top of the charts".



Apart from that being rather flattering for GN, the paper went on to say, in an 'exclusive' interview with the star, headed 'Kinky King of Rock': "The fact that he is bisexual, despite being a husband and father, is now common knowledge". They asked: "Did he feel that telling the world about his unorthodox sexual habits had hampered or, in some strange way, helped his thrust to fame?"

Bowie replied: "I think it has done both. Some places in America wouldn't book me because of it. But conversely, others asked me to play because of the outrageousness of it."

"It has worked both ways - that's a very apt thing to say really isn't it?"

"I don't regret it at all. It wasn't supposed to be an admission in the first place. I don't think that there is anything to admit. I mean papers turned it into an admission and really I was just talking about it."

"I think it makes me look a berk sometimes but it has been of very little worry at all."

The Evening News next asked: "How does his wife feel about his bisexuality and the fact that the whole world knows about it?"

Bowie answered: "My wife didn't mind my talking about it. Our environment has always been one in which we could move. We never found we had any trouble or bother. And the people we knew, the clubs we went to, everything around us was very much the way we were."

"It just put us on a much larger area when I was asked about it all. It didn't affect our environment because our environment was already there."

The Evening News continued by telling their readership that both Bowie and his wife lead fairly independent lives. She often flies out to watch his concerts but they are apart for long spells. His wife, Mary Angela, an American, is currently writing a book. Bowie has just spent a couple of months travelling across Russia and Europe by train with two male friends after a concert tour of the USA and Japan.

Interviewer John Blake next asked Bowie if he "was going to clean his act up a bit". Bowie retorted: "My act has never been obscene in any way, shape or form."

"I'm not worried that I might upset young children. I may offend their mothers - or more probably their fathers - but certainly not the kids."

John Blake surmises that "child psychology is a problem I expect is going to occupy him (Bowie) a fair bit when his two-year-old son Zowie grows curious enough to ask: 'Daddy, what's a bisexual?'"

On this Bowie comments: "I love him, he's a great kid. But I wouldn't tell him how to live or what he should become. All I aim to do is to make sure he can speak three or four languages because that will give him a very good start in anything he wants to do."

The effect of Bowie's forthright and intelligent attitudes towards his sexuality

will have far-ranging repercussions on all those involved in the sexual revolution or engaged in gaining equality and an end to discrimination for those who do not wish to, or can't, conform to society's rigid and outdated standards. Bowie is not cashing in on his own nature, as he clearly points out in the Evening Standard interview. But because he has chosen to 'come out' on his own terms, this honest acceptance of his bisexuality will undoubtedly influence the thinking of his enormous following throughout the world and, possibly, even mean that many will themselves become aware of this joyful form of sexuality.

Gay Rock Live At Earls Court

Enough has been written in GN about Bowie's on-stage antics and his music to save repeating in depth what one experiences at his concerts. It is sufficient to say that no-one captures the attention and emotions of an audience quite like him. His songs have a totally original appeal and even in the acoustically bad Earls Court auditorium, it was possible, most of the time, to clearly hear the bitingly controversial and apocalyptic lyrics. As usual, the power-house lead guitar of Mick Ronson, supported by the excellent bass of Trevor Bolder and drumming of Woody Woodmansey, kept the music on the same high level of excitement as the performance of Bowie himself. On his latest album, *Aladdin Sane*, and for the tour, the sound has been augmented by the addition of other musicians, who contribute to generally expanding and increasing the depth of the electrified music.

What I did find surprising was that all of Bowie's material sounds as fresh and alive as it did when first written and recorded. The classic song *Space Oddity* has lost none of its original impact. neither have numbers from *The Man Who Sold The World* or *Hunky Dory* albums.

Throughout the concert, Bowie went through frequent costume changes, confirming that he is currently the most glamorous entertainer on the scene, as he re-appeared in one fantastic creation after another. His recent visit to Japan has had an obvious effect on his taste in clothes, that look better suited for tomorrow's world, rather than the tame denim fashions of today, excepting of course the adventurous members of the sequin and 'glitter' brigade. The latter were much in evidence at the concert.

Whereas there was little to fault with Bowie's incredible performance, the venue for the concert left a lot to be desired. To the majority of the audience the star was little more than a glittering speck on a distant stage and those seated in the blocks of seats in the central part of the hall had no choice but to stand on their seats to see anything at all. The alternative was to crowd into the aisles and join the push forward towards the stage.

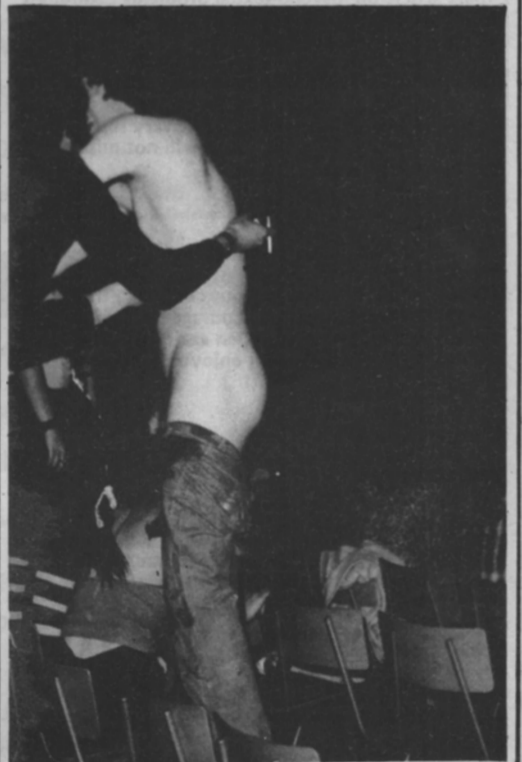
The hostile and belligerent attitudes of

those employed by the organisers to act as 'usherettes' or 'security' guards resulted in confusion. Is it really necessary to engage the services of people who try hard to behave like refugees from the criminal underworld? What they lacked in civility, they certainly made up for with rudeness, threatened violence and unhelpfulness.

The American 'compere' who refused to let the second half of the show commence until everyone was passively seated, caused much ill-feeling by his extremely boring and pompous ravings. He was, as he must have known, fighting a losing battle with an audience who had no choice but to seek the best vantage points to view the stage. Quite honestly, I've seen better organisation at a village fete. It is time that rock promoters, including Bowie's management, learnt how to arrange such proceedings so that they are beneficial to both the paying audience and the organisers.

Despite the confusion and ensuing chaos, few of the 18,000 people who left the Earls Court concert did so without experiencing some of the outrageous magic and charisma of David Bowie. Apart from being the instigator and prime exponent of Glamour and/or Gay Rock, artistically he is light years ahead of any other rock performers. Subsequently, there is little to threaten the pinnacle of success Bowie now perches on. If he is performing a concert near where you live, go see him. You never know, it might actually be Bowie's last tour.

Denis Lemon



A 'liberated' heterosexual strangely affected by David Bowie's performance.

Reminders and Jottings

AT LONG last some of the media in Great Britain have woken up to the fact that Gay News exists and has been publishing for almost a year.

As you will realise by reading the David Bowie article in this issue, GN was given some flattering publicity in London's Evening News a couple of weeks ago. Campaign, the weekly 'bible' of the advertising and public relations world, picked up on the feature where we described the difficulties we encountered trying to place display and classified advertisements with other newspapers and periodicals. They ran an impartial and factual news story on the hostility, prejudice and weak-kneed liberalism we uncovered.

Establishment Recognition

Our biggest 'ego trip' of all though, was when GN got its first mention on Granada Television's 'What The Papers Say'. We really must be part of the establishment now. It even seems possible that one of our writers may end up being quoted in Private Eye's 'Pseud's Corner'. As yet, that bastion of public school conservatism has still to grace its pages with a reference to GN. Readers also tell us that our name has been heard on the radio on a number of occasions recently.

Apart from being pleased with all the free publicity, there is a serious and constructive side to the amount of media exposure we have received of late. First — many more people now know of our existence. Secondly — a section of the media accepts that GN has achieved its aim of establishing itself as an independent newspaper and, for the first time, there is a publication able to accurately inform gays about what other homosexual men and women are accomplishing and experiencing throughout the UK, as well as in other parts of the world. Thirdly — our intention is to make Gay News the impartial but extremely noisy voice of all gay people in this country, looks as if it is being recognised as the reality we intend it to be.

Our First Birthday

It's hard to believe that the last year has passed so quickly but with the publishing of our next issue, No 25, we celebrate the paper's first birthday. Amongst the special items planned for the anniversary edition will be the 'best' and 'worst' of GN, the Gay News Awards of the Year and, due to public demand, a photograph of the people who bring you this country's only gay newspaper.

Red Hot Rumours Department

We would like to confirm that there is every truth in the rumour that GN will soon be circulated by one of Britain's largest distribution organisations. No contract has yet been signed, but following friendly and fruitful negotiations, it looks as if it will only be a matter of time before such formalities are taken care of. An immediate effect will be the increased and widespread availability of GN, especially outside of London.

Comprehensive national distribution also means that the paper will break away from the crippling label 'specialised market' and it will take its chances alongside all the other newspapers and magazines published in the UK. More details of this major breakthrough will appear soon.

Remember though, the existence of GN still very much depends on you, our readers. We must have your continuing support, for without it the paper has no future.

Apology 1

The feature on Amsterdam (Trolling in . . .) in our last issue (GN 23), was written by Brightonian John Gough. Due to an internal error, the only credit he received for his extremely informative article, was 'written by a GN reader'. Sorry about that.

Incidentally, John has just completed a three-part article on 'psycho-sexual problems'. Amongst the 'taboo' areas of sexuality he has investigated Transsexualism, Hermaphroditism and Transvestism. We will be running the first section in GN 26, the other two will appear within the following two months. As there is a great deal of misunderstanding and ignorance about the very relevant subjects covered, we hope you will not miss this important series.

Apology 2

Many readers have remarked about the over-linking of the pages in our last issue. That problem is, unfortunately, beyond our control, although we are endeavouring to encourage our printers to ensure that it doesn't happen again. We trust it didn't interfere with your enjoyment of that edition.

Coming Out

Internal difficulties and an increased amount of work have forced us to postpone, for a short while, our proposed 'National Coming Out Week'. Also delayed is GN's investigation into the social pressures that govern the extent to which a gay man or woman can 'come out'. Because of the obvious importance of this subject, we will be finalising our plans as soon as possible.

Dates & Deadlines

The next edition of Gay News (No 25) will be published and available on 14th June. Details of deadlines and copy dates for that issue can be found under the contents section on Page 2. It is important to make a note of these dates to avoid disappointment. Don't forget our birthday.

Gay News Editorial Collective

Gay Women Together

"Following custom, the term 'homosexual' refers to male homosexual here . . . Whatever its potentiality in sexual politics, female homosexuality is currently so dead an issue that while male homosexuality gains a grudging tolerance, in women the event is observed in scorn or in silence."

Kate Millett's "Sexual Politics"

WE ALL know why women, traditionally, have no concept of their own exploitation, infrequently join any organisation, if they're gay or bisexual become aware of this later than gay men, find it harder to hear about gay meeting places, join gay organisations less frequently than gay men. We also know that once we meet each other — usually in meetings where we're outnumbered by gay men — it's still difficult to relate to each other, to be loving, to stay together, without feeling guilty about it, without feeling that men ought to be included. We have several thousand years' backlog of communicating to do and not even the sense of community that a lot of groups of gay men have because we don't very often meet together as any sort of group (unless it's in a pub or club).

To the extent that a homophile community exists in Britain at the moment it exists because of the cross-fertilisation of ideas produced by Women's Lib and GLF in the States and the existence and activity of GLF in this country. For the first time ever we have the beginnings of a community that we belong to that's held together by love and caring for each other, that doesn't just depend on sexual preference and sexual activity, and that has a political consciousness. And this is happening in a lot of CHE groups as well as GLF ones.



Where are gay women in all this? Mostly, outside of London, as very small groups and individuals inside male-originated and dominated groups in large towns and cities.

Most gay and bisexual women don't hear about either GLF or CHE or if they do are frightened off because they think they're 'men's groups'. And if we're honest about it, up till now neither of them has made a real

consistent effort to get more women to join them. And why should they anyway? Women should be doing it.

As gay women we need to do two main things. We need to develop our position within the theory of sexual politics (let's find where we're at, baby) and use this as a basis for action. It ought to be relatively easy — everything that's been done so far has been done by women and is mainly about women. Women like Kate Millett and Shulamith Firestone are saying that 'patriarchy' is a system of power that exists in all societies and at all times (to date) and that it exists independently of any specific type of economic system (alho' it obviously operates through economic systems); and this is a definite move towards producing a feminist, and not a socialist, analysis of power and politics. And it's on this that the rest of their analysis of the position of women is built. And it's from this that gay lib ideology originates. We also need to 'organise' (no, I don't mean bureaucratic structures, minute-taking and all the rest of it) and to communicate with each other (let's put our feet where our head's at, baby). We need to be able to meet and talk to each other and to use every means we can to get publicity so that all the thousands of gay women who don't hear about any gay groups hear about us.

And as a part of this we ought to wake up and realise just how important a group we should be within the homophile community; all of the things we're trying to get away from — power relationships, sexual role-playing, exploitation and aggression — ought to be easier for us. Because we're women, and we don't have to cope with being men and all that that implies in our culture. We ought to find it easier to work with Women's Lib — and even to an extent with the 'straight left' now those arch-chauvinists are climbing on the feminist bandwagon.

Manchester's a comparatively good place to live in. It has quite a few gay clubs and pubs; and three gay groups, one of which has existed for two and a half years. But until the women's group started last November the total number of women who came to any of these groups' meetings was only about thirty, and only about fifteen or twenty stayed in contact with them (apart from parties and discos). About forty women came to the first women's meeting — and most of us had never seen so many gay women together in one room that wasn't a club; although meetings only average about twenty, about sixty women are in contact with the group and at least two or three get in contact every week. We've had a half-hour spot on local radio, ads in the local paper, posters (with a telephone number) in gay clubs and pubs, colleges and universities, lavatories, libraries and shops. We meet every fortnight and talk (about just about everything), we have parties and discos, we go out together; and we're friends with each other.

Obviously it's not perfect, no one's trying to pretend that it is; but it's a beginning — and we need more beginnings.

Liz Stanley

Up The Rubber Class

ED: With sincere thanks to the publication 'Tower Power' and understanding from the Cambridge Heath Rubber Club, GN reprints their open letter to that publication. And let not the slightest hint of a smile pass from your teeth as you read it.

"To the Editor:

I read with great sympathy the letter from our gay 'brother' and it has prompted me to write of my own plight.

"I have a 'wellington boot' fetish and I am not alone. According to Forum, the magazine for the sexually enlightened, the incidence of this fetish is one person in 353, indicating a possible 3.56 similarly afflicted persons in the branch.

"We have formed our 'Welly Club', a splinter group from 'Flashers Anonymous', and apart from casting long, lingering looks at the muddy rubberwear of Murphy's and McAlpine's labourers, we do no harm to anyone but ourselves.

"In spite of this we are viciously persecuted. Recently, while we were frolicking in our wellies and PVC Balaclavas, on Wanstead Flats, we were attacked by a group of bourgeois reactionaries, and although our masochistic fringe expressed wild stimulation the 'straights' found it particularly humiliating.

"The trip which we organised to the rainwear stores in the West End were also aborted, this time by the police, whose dogs punctured our wellies and tore our little rubber latex socks to shreds. 'Welly bashing' is rife in some areas, and there is also a threat to job security. Our own club secretary, Mr I M Pervey was dismissed from the Dunlop factory in Neasden for amusing himself with

an imperfect pair during his tea break, and a music master from Wapping was suspended for wearing them whilst adjusting his metronome. Mr Pervey is 84.

"On a brighter note however, the Queen has added a degree of respectability to our cause, wearing them often at point to point meetings, but so far she has not replied to our letters.

"I am sure that, with the help of your organ, we can cast off our dirty brown macs and be upright again, striking a blow for freedom in our fight against sexual bigotry and blind prejudice.

"Don your wellies brothers and get united!
Maurice (Whiplash) Townes,
Finance Department,
Bethnal Green Town Hall"



Available from Gay News

The Dream King

By Wiffrid Blunt



This sumptuously illustrated paperback about one of history's most fascinating and bizarre characters — Ludwig II of Bavaria — is available from the GN Mail Order Service, 34d Redcliffe Square, London SW10.

It is priced at £2 a copy (including postage and packing).

Don't miss out on this fabulous book. Order your copy now.

Please send me copies of 'The Dream King'.

I enclose a crossed cheque / postal order for

Name

Address

3 Reasons To Subscribe

1. It Costs Less
2. Copies Posted First Class
3. Europe's Only Gay Newspaper

SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE £1.90 for 13 OR £3.75 FOR 26.

(COPIES ARE POSTED IN A PLAIN SEALED ENVELOPE)

PLEASE MAKE CROSSED CHEQUES/ POSTAL ORDERS PAYABLE TO: GAY NEWS SUBSCRIPTIONS AND SEND TO:— 34d REDCLIFFE SQUARE, LONDON SW10. TEL: 01-373 0586

NAME

ADDRESS

I wish my subscription to commence from

Issue Number

(Single copies available 15p + 3p post postage)

TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME

Rod McKuen: Living The Image

JUST UNDER a week ago, I walked out of the spinning door in the main entrance of the Carlton Towers hotel in London feeling just ever so slightly elated.

I'd spent an unrushed afternoon with Rod McKuen.

Now, that could be the sort of fairy tale way a breathless first year cub reporter might react to a together situation with Rod McKuen, but for me, it meant something else.

It meant that after far-too-brief meetings in Adelaide, Melbourne, San Francisco, Amsterdam and London, I'd finally been able to cast off the rushing around and settle down to look into Rod McKuen.

On the way up to his 15th floor suite, we were comparing our one-upmanships. I felt fairly able to compete after a trans-Pacific and then trans-Atlantic chase to nail him down, but Rod won. He'd just been into Harrod's to look at a 'know your alligator' book.

He led me out of the elevator, along a great green and blue corridor, up another great long corridor, and into the wrong room. He was lost.

His suite, as it turned out, was mildly lavish. White carpets almost up to my navel. And being a fresh air freak, Rod had every window along his all-glass wall open, despite the fact that London was turning on one of her best mid-day gales outside.

But he shut the door, locked it, and after two and a half years over about 60,000 miles, I'd finally got Rod McKuen where I wanted him. Relaxed, sprawled out over a chair that seemed to grab him like quicksand, and in the mood to answer anything.

But as much as you feel like asking this man who's become legendary because of his two-tone writings and his basic plea for love some very leading questions, there's really no need to. Rod told me nearly all I wanted to know before I had a chance.

He's really the perfect trade-mark of Rod McKuen too. It's no secret that he must be one of the world's richest single men, generated primarily by his ability to sell records in large bundles, and to turn his personal writings into best-selling books, but he looks like everything he writes about.

Wary, almost shy, very careful yet so relaxed, and oddly enough, frail looking. And that's the way I see his picture when I read his words.

He ordered me some coffee and chicken sandwiches (he puts French mustard on chicken sandwiches), showed me his new toy, a digital electronic watch, then he sat down again, shoved his hands into his pockets and said he enjoyed reading the last issue of Gay News.

Which is a nice way for Rod McKuen to start a Rod McKuen interview with Tim Skinner.

"No, seriously, I do," he said. "Jay (Rod's manager) showed me a copy yesterday so I could see what you were in to. I like it, but I think you should take yourself more seriously."

"I mean, it looks like you'd probably have to work hard to sell the paper in the right places, which is sad, and I think you should get into more public issues. I loved the one about that Melody Maker thing."

"I really hope Gay News gets somewhere. It's tremendously important for minority things to stop being minority things, and I think that a newspaper like that is one way to do it, as long as anybody else is able to get it."

"Wherever I can, I support minority groups. I support Women's Lib and Gay Lib because I honestly believe they should be supported. Although people seem to wonder what Rod McKuen is doing in there with them."

"I remember in Sydney once, they asked me to lead their Women's Lib march, so I took up a banner and led their march. The newspapers didn't know what was going on, and they clicked away with their cameras. One asked me whether I supported the march, which was pretty funny seeing I was carrying a banner and leading it."

But Rod McKuen is very much the campaigner. It takes only a few moments with one of his books to understand that.

"I don't know whether it's really campaigning," he said. "It could be, but what I've always done is write about me and about my experiences. There's nothing about what I've done that's pre-conceived. My books are results of things that have happened. Things that have left a huge picture in my memory. Things I'll never forget."

"The songs are the same, and that's the way I do the concerts. I tell stories about life. I think they're all so true because fiction is so much harder and truth is so much more believable."

"I know I'm lucky doing this. You call it total editorial freedom. Well, I think that's what every man and woman wants. It's so important to be able to say something, and that's what makes me so lucky. I have so much to say, but now I have a place to say it all. And I get to go around the world telling it all the time. It's not a holiday way to live, despite what you said. The holiday part of it is meeting people. So many people say they love people, and you know how I feel about that. To me, that's so important I don't know a word for it."

"But I love people desperately. You understand that. I love them and I need to love them. You ask me how I can honestly say I really love so many people?"

"It's something that happens wherever I go. You can't condition yourself to love someone, but if you really get down to the basics . . . basics like forgetting rank and images . . . then you'll find that people are easy to love. Maybe they won't love you back too often, but you can go on loving them."

Gayness. There must be something about Rod McKuen that sends out ripples of reaction to gay people. It's common knowledge that a huge army of his fans are gay. To say nothing of requests at Gay News for his pin-up.

"Of course that doesn't surprise me."

I'm deeply flattered. But it's not really unique. 'After Dark' were wonderful to me in one of their last issues, and that's sort of pro-gay. I don't want to be stamped, though, with a 'Rod McKuen Is Gay' mark, just because I like the whole motivation behind Gay Liberation or Gay News. I am pro-gay just as much as I am pro-straight, if you see what I mean.

"A lot of people who've interviewed me have wanted to ask me whether I am gay, or how I feel about it. And then they usually decide that they're about to do an exclusive psychoanalysis of Rod McKuen, and make their own deductions."

"Still, that's what they get paid for, and I've made some marvellous friends from interviews. I've got to be honest and put it this way about gayness."

"I love people. Generally. I find that I am able to love a woman very, very much, but I am also able to love a man too. Colour doesn't matter, neither does religion, age or sexual orientation. If you want to reach out and touch someone because you feel you love them, you'll probably get the same feeling whether it's a man or a woman . . . if you really understand that love is all about people and sincerity. Not just a habit."

"I think this explains a lot why your own paper might find things easier these days. People are more expressive with their love. And to love somebody, you don't have to touch them. Love is a communication, an understanding, and perhaps that's what happens at the concerts."

"The concerts" of which Rod spoke, are those remarkable evenings he holds around the world for his audiences. Not really like true concerts, the Rod McKuen shows are more like a musical chat session. The most informal quality about them is always Rod, who, in true form, swaggers out to mid-stage, hums a bit, and makes mouth noises.

Because of his remarkable repertoire of original material, he doesn't need an excuse for his voice, which has often been called the worst in the entertainment industry.

Invariably, the McKuen audience won't let him leave the stage, and invariably, Rod stays on stage, refusing to leave. In Holland, where I saw him last, the full Dutch house in Utrecht gave him a standing ovation when he sat on a stool and read a poem in English.

And soon, he wants to go to Japan to read poetry and sing songs. Chances are, he'll read them in Dutch and still get a ten-minute curtain call.

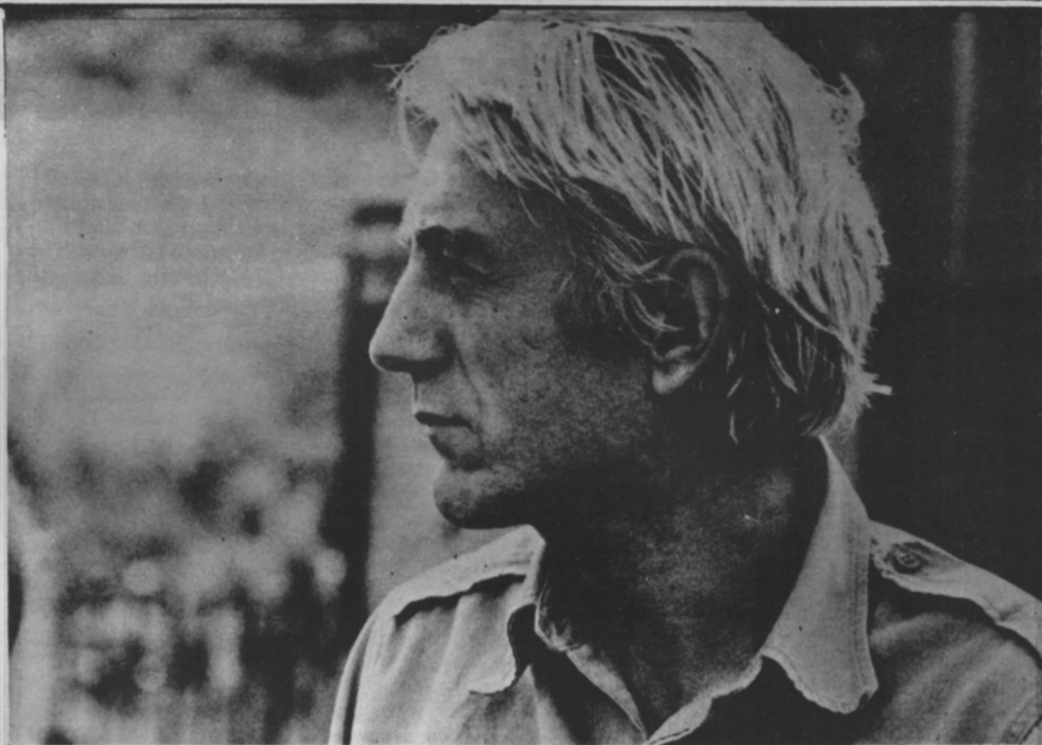
In 'Moment to Moment', a book of McKuen poetry as yet not released in the UK, Rod writes of a great chance love affair in Amsterdam. To me, the person mentioned in the epic could have been either a man or a woman.

"You're right," he said. "It could have been a man or a woman."

It's just so darned frustrating talking to Rod McKuen. You think you've got him braced to pop the question, and somebody rings from Bonn.

He puts a lot of his attitudes towards people and life down to his own 'inadequacies' when he was a kid.

"I don't know whether they're real 'inadequacies'," he said. "It depends a lot on what you say is inadequate. If going to school is essential, then I didn't do it properly. I was only in school for about five years. I found out most everything I know for myself."



His bust-up in school years came mainly because the family was always moving from town to town with his road-building father.

When young Rod turned 11, he supported the family, earning money on a ranch then at a rodeo. Then came a string of jobs including work in a logging camp, selling shoes, working in a biscuit factory, and then into radio in Oakland as a disc jockey. After that came the army.

So there's nothing really classic about Rod McKuen's background that makes him a show business puppet. He made it happen.

"And I love making it happen," he said. "A lot of entertainers have a lot to say for their audiences. I always feel I have something special to say about mine. I get this great feeling when I go out there to talk to them. The concert feeling is there, but it is more personal. The programme never changes a lot - we do make changes from time to time, naturally - but generally, the people have an idea what to expect, and when they get it, they're just as receptive."

"It must be lucky to love going on stage. This whole way of life is lucky. Some people are literally sick - they throw up before they go on stage, but it does something else to me. It does something very nice."

"But in a way, I'm starting to think it might be time to do more major works and stop the pace of touring a bit. We have really seen a lot of the world now, but I'd like to

slow down a little and do more things like big orchestras.

"After England, we're going out to Australia. I love Australia. Not so much the city part of it, but I'd love to have the time to just stop everything and go out to that marvellous desolate outback they all talk about. I could just imagine how great that would be."

And that's all part of Rod McKuen. The being alone to be sorry. The sensations that create what happens in his songs and his poems.

"That's right. What I am not is a joiner. I think that's more honest than saying I'm a loner. A lot of people are loners, and for me, it's a way to get outside the circles that run lives and look at it. A lot of people say I'm a sad, lonely man. That's not at all right. I'm alone, that's true, and I get sad. That's also true. But it's never a permanent state of mind. I am essentially a person, just like you, and I love to understand people."

A philosopher? He's been called that too. Gay? You decide for yourself. Pro-gay? Yes, just as much as he's pro-women's lib and pro-black lib and pro everything else lib.

Rod McKuen winds up his concerts with something that really tells what he's all about.

'It doesn't matter who you love, or how you love, but that you love.'

Tim Skinner

THE PAINT BOX LONDON'S GAY CLUB

29 Foley Street, London W 1

Reservations 01-580 5771

Open Monday to Saturday inclusive
9.00 pm - 1.30 am

CABARET SIX NIGHTS A WEEK

The 'In Place'
The Club With A Difference

"Restaurant" "Dancing" "Music"
"Cabaret"

Fully licensed until 1.00 am

SPECIAL PARTY

Late extension to 2.30 am

Wednesday June 13th

Whitsun Ball and Gemini Party

Competition to choose Miss Whitsun 73

Artiste of the Night: The Funny Affaire
Comper: Mr Tony Page

Tickets £1.00 in advance: inc Buffet Dinner
SPECIAL PRIZE for Miss Whitsun

They Came From The Closets!

The chilling, moonage saga of how Tennessee Williams, Christopher Isherwood, Lou Reed, Ray Davies and others owned up to a secret part. And what will become of those who didn't?

By Stephen MacLean.

"I NEVER got a good review after 1961," playwright Tennessee Williams reflects during the *Playboy* interview, April issue. Not long after he stated this sad fact his great hope, a new Broadway play called 'Out Cry', opened and closed like an eyelid.

Another disaster. But years of critical failure have been survived with a gloriously tacky grandeur; the product has almost become secondary to the man himself. Like Norma Desmond, the faded, slightly mad star caricatured in 'Sunset Boulevard', Tennessee is still Big. It's just the plays that got smaller.



Tennessee Williams: raped, rejected but well and truly 'out'.

That tiny piece of craftsmanship, 'Small Craft Warnings', nevertheless managed to communicate almost psychically, mainly through Elaine Stritch's performance here in London. In New York, SCW survived only modestly despite an intriguing cast. Williams himself played the doctor, whilst Candy Darling struck a blow by playing a woman without any of the freakshow transvestism publicity usually attendant.

Happily, Tennessee is not quite so reticent. Like Germaine Greer — and surely the timing and content of Williams' work must qualify him as a sexual liberator — he obviously delights in attracting publicity concerning his sexuality. His motives? "I have a need to convince the world that I still exist and make this fact a matter of public interest and amusement."

Before letting rip and telling all, Williams coyly tells *Playboy*: "I can't understand why anyone would give a damn about the sickness and sex life of an old man."

"I Had A Very Attractive Ass"

Williams claims he is "not a typical homosexual", whatever that may be.

"If you understand schizophrenics, I'm not really a dual creature, but I can understand the tenderness of women and the lust and libido of the male, which are, unfortunately, too seldom combined in women. That's why I seek out the androgynous, so I can get both.

"I couldn't have raped Blanche as Stanley did (in 'A Streetcar Named Desire'). I've never raped anyone in my life. I've been raped, yes, by a goddam Mexican, and I screamed like a banshee and couldn't sit down for a week. And once a handsome beachboy, very powerful, swam up to me on a raft and he raped me in his beach shack. I had a very attractive ass and people kept wanting to fuck me that way, but I can't stand it. I'm not built for it and I have no anal eroticism."

Williams says he is attracted to "androgynous males like Garbo. Ha! After two drinks I can't distinguish between the two." He finds sexual excitement in women — indeed finds them more interesting — but "can't complete the act with them."

"With a boy who has the androgynous quality in spirit, like a poet, the thing is more spiritual." *Playboy* — which is otherwise peddling the same bunk it has since the 50's — finds this contradictory. "I am contradictory, baby!" he snaps back.

Being gay benefitted his career (and isn't this often the case, in various ways?): "Until I was 28 I was attracted to girls, but after

that I fell in love with a man and felt it was better for me as a writer. If I were saddled with a wife and family to support — and I'd have had several wives by now — it would have been a disaster."

In The Closet For Years And Years

Williams' long-time lover-secretary, Frank Merlo, died in 1963. "Once when I was working on a screenplay in Hollywood, Jack Warner said to Frank 'And what do you do?' Without a moment's hesitation he said 'I sleep with Mr Williams'. The rest of the 60's were disaster for Williams. He was heavily drugged, had a series of mental collapses, invented his own kidnapping, converted to Catholicism, suffered more theatre disasters and received some printed inspections that proved messy to him. At his home in Key West, Florida, some locals took to dumping garbage on his lawn and yelling 'Faggot' at strange hours.

Physical expression of his gayness was delayed. He was 28, and his personal account of it is as turgid as one would expect. "In college I was deeply in love with my roommate, 'Greeneyes', but neither of us knew what to do about it. If he came to my bed I'd say 'What do you want?' I was so puritanical — I wouldn't permit him to kiss me. But he could just touch my arm and I'd come. Nothing planned, just spontaneous orgasms. The only sex we were exposed to was dreadful old whores with cunts like diseased orchids. But my first real encounter was in New Orleans at a New Year's Eve party during World War Two. A very handsome paratrooper climbed up to my grilled verandah and said 'Come down to my place' and I did and he said 'Would you like a sun-lamp treatment?' and I said 'Fine' and I got under one and he proceeded to do me. That was my coming out and I enjoyed it."

The discussion of Williams' sexual tastes has more relevance than its peepshow aspects. Sexual guilt — and its related loneliness — is the basis of almost all his work. No other writer has involved himself to such an extent. Therefore it seems most revealing when Williams comments: "I'm very moral. I think it's most likely I'll go back to a woman in the end."

Isherwood's Asexual Mask

His own public affirmation of his gayness — albeit charmingly evasive — took place during a long David Frost TV interview in 1970, when the writer was aged 60. "Are you homosexual?" Frost demanded. "Well," Tennessee finally blurted, "I've covered the waterfront!" He then stood to accept the ovation accorded by the studio audience, grinning delightedly, and my memory still has a picture of this strangely beautiful man, a self-admitted hysteric given to indulgent



Christopher Isherwood: I Am A Camera, picture me genderless.

accounts of his life, but possessed of a talent sadly under-rated in many quarters.

Tennessee was 60 when he talked about his gayness on network TV. A long time coming, but one need only chart the course of English language, literature or music to realise that coming out generally has taken a long time.

In the film 'Cabaret', the character of Christopher Isherwood is explicitly bisexual. This was not the case in the earlier play and movie 'I Am A Camera', or in the source of these works, Isherwood's Berlin Diaries published in '35 and '39. In the first person, ersatz hetero romances were suggested. 'Lions And Shadows', a much more autobiographical "novel" ('39) is evasive to the point of dishonesty: only the initiated need tap the guilty secret. 'Prater Violet' ('47) features a lover named J., never referred to by gender. 'The World In The Evening' ('54) is a novel not written in diary form. The finale has the estranged husband and wife meeting for drinks, realising what good friends they are, and sophisticatedly admitting they each have occasion to fancy their own sex.

It was not until 1962, in the excellent 'Down There On A Visit' (available as a paperback) that he felt the time had come to write frankly. The book beautifully conveys his life as an Englishman living in California, dramatises his long relationship (never sexually realised) with a hustler, and harks back to many of his gay-oriented experiences during the 30's.

What Manhood?

More recently, 'A Single Man' completely lacked self-consciousness telling the story of lonely gay academic whose lover has died. Isherwood's next work is said to be an account of his family's reaction to his gayness.

It's a curious fact that many of the legendary women created in fiction are perhaps ventriloquist elements of gay male writers. Truman Capote's Holly Golightly



Truman Capote: pulled Holly Golightly's strings.

of 'Breakfast at Tiffany's', Isherwood's Sally Bowles, Vidal's Myra Breckinridge, Edward Albee's Martha of 'Virginia Woolf?' all have the ring of enlarged reality. Tennessee Williams says critical unacceptance of his work is due to their desire for him to be a poetic realist. "All my great characters are larger than life, not realistic." This enlargement and understanding of women seems peculiar to the evolved gay writer.

Gavin Lambert's breakthrough was his heroine of 'Inside Daisy Clover'. A talented English novelist and scriptwriter in the Isherwood mould (he too chooses to live in California), Lambert's melancholy, spacey novel of last year, 'The Goodbye People', was his coming out in the first person.

William Burroughs' extreme gay experiences made him our only parallel to Jean Genet. Precise and enlightening as his recollections were, they were not of a type most English or American gays could read and directly identify with. James Baldwin's 'Giovanni's Room' must have been a great exorciser, but the guilt it hummed with rendered it a failure. His central character, looking at straight sailors and envying them their "manhood", was a continuation of straight society's perverted beliefs. 'Another Country' served a much more constructive purpose.

The Parts Left Out

Of the 50's Beat Generation, Gore Vidal has made an acid observation. This sometimes brilliant writer (witness the classic 'Myra Breckinridge') has moaned that several of his conversations have been immortalised in print by other writers, but rarely with any accuracy. An exception was Jack Kerouac, who set down the conversation with precision, Vidal claims, but failed to mention that at the end of it they went to bed together. "So much for the tell it like it is' generation," Vidal concluded.

Kerouac's former friend and contemporary, Allen Ginsberg, does not fit the generalisation. The poet has written of his 20 year long love affair with Peter Orlovsky since its beginning. But then poets do not have a huge potential buying public to consider, a largely straight mass conditioned to gay figures but reticent when the author talks gay in the first person.

Ginsberg, incidentally, describes the current state of his affair amusingly: "We're like an old married couple that doesn't go to bed any more except on holidays. People take each other for granted. Besides, Peter's 39 now. I like younger boys, 14 to 20."

Ghetto Cabaret

The first and most alarming gay ghetto cabaret star I ever saw was Frances Faye, a



Liberace: The Case Of The Disappearing Lavatory.

fabulous, souped-up old broad who must've been pushing 70 when, as a 1966 sixteen year old, I visited my first night-club.

Miss Faye, who was unable to walk then, had the curtain drawn up to reveal her thumping hell out of a baby grand piano, roaring "My name is Frances Faye, gay-gay-gay, is there any other way?" Many straights in the audience would take it to mean she was merely a happy person — it was Sydney, Australia, and the word camp works for gay there — whilst the rest, out of the closet for the night, would whoop it up with delight.

Then would come an ironic, up-tempo 'The Man I Love', with ad lib mentions of Miss Faye's attractive female secretary amongst others. Miss Faye really knew her audience; outrageous, unfamous gays made her personal acquaintance and closetty gay celebrities made it a point of catching her act, revelling in the name-dropping she gave them, but safe in the knowledge that the game had not been given away. Her act relied heavily on ghetto gags about Rock Hudson and the like, but she both entered and exited straightforwardly roaring "gay-gay-gay!"

There are other foggier tactics, such as Rod McKuen's "It's not who you love or what you love but that you love" euphemism. Liberace works his with much more panache. In performance, part of his act is to move along the footlights showing his diamonds to a front-row matron. "Oh, you have some too? But the thing is, I didn't have to DO anything to get mine." And the ladies roar with delight, totally oblivious. Liberace's bathroom is said to feature a lavatory that disappears when he presses a button. Amazing what can be hidden. But Liberace's humour has a subtle, multi-dimensional honesty sadly lacking in, say, Danny La Rue.

Fag Haggery

Bette Midler's career has been rather a reverse on Judy Garland's. Whereas Bette



Bette Midler: beserk, bitchy camp.

...And Some Even 'Rocked' The Boat

began in a gay ghetto she is currently trying to climb out of it, Judy's campy traumatics gave her an almost exclusively gay cult following in the final few years. In typical humour, she once predicted the hysteria her death would cause on Fire Island. Garland had a sincerity lacking in Miss Midler. The latter's recorded work suggests to me the scene in Warhol's 'My Hustler' where fag and hag sit on Fire Island bitching at each other in cut-throat boredom. The cancerous genre of gay ghetto cabaret might best be forgotten. It smells of an unnecessary desperation.

It also helps promote a childish sense of enjoyment over "the secret". Often the strongest opponents of gay liberation efforts are not straights, but gays who don't want the boat rocked.



Judy Garland, bless her: the 'broad' had class.

Gay Cinema Buffoons

In the 30's, Steppin Fetchit popping his eyes at an imaginary ghost was the stock black American in movies. Steppin has now given way to the Superfly superstud cliché, save for the occasional 'Sounder'. Gays generally are still lipping, hair-teasing fools as interpreted by cinema and television. 'Boys In The Band', supposedly the big breakthrough, contained just as many negative, dated generalisations as it did truths.

A film such as 'The Gay Deceivers', representing gays as pinkified Abbott and Costello buffoons, is straightforwardly libellous. Only 'Sunday Bloody Sunday' treated homosexuality as part of a naturally complex personality. Its director, John Schlesinger, recently publicly acknowledged his gayness. Perhaps he, or someone equally enlightened and lacking in false guilt, may get it together to make the film that is most necessary at this time: a straightforward love story of two males or two women, told in realistic gay terms. Not a hard core fuckshow like 'Bijou' (an excellent full-length porn movie not allowed into Britain), but a commercial movie easily accessible to both gay and straight sensibility.

Gayness In Rock: Closets Galore

Rock music, once the only truly anti-establishment art form, has grown progressively gayer as it paradoxically becomes part of the establishment. But, in terms of gay



Brian Ferry of Roxy Music: a closet straight?

expression, it has long been perhaps the least honest genre, although Leonard Cohen, Neil Young and perhaps Paul Simon tossed a few guilty-sounding metaphors before gayrock became a welcome gimmick.

Three years spent reporting on rock led me to observe that a surprisingly small percentage of group players are heavily gay. Rock musicians have a vast amount of sexual experiences available to them (one immediately recalls Truman Capote's boggled observation of boys attached to the Rolling Stones' American entourage). Most probably dabble at one time or another, but there are very few straightforwardly gay players.

Those who were usually found themselves somewhat outcast. A group is a tight unit whose members are usually prone to speaking in current clichés you won't find in the Queen's Vernacular. Conformity inside that unit is usually strongly defined. One gay player I knew was laughed out of so many groups he eventually took to solo street-busking. It may disappoint many, but it's my guess that the current glitter groups are closet-straights who return to the wives and girl groupies once the tights and eyelashes are peeled off.

However, it was my observation that a comparatively higher proportion of solo rock stars are gay. Perhaps the key to that is the word 'solo'. And it had to be fashionable for the closet doors to swing open even slightly.

The magnificent Little Richard spoke words of truth when he said young people should ignore society, "Because what is society?" But at the same time he was telling the press he was no longer a preacher because he liked girls too much.

By releasing his song 'Daniel' as a single against the will of his management, Elton John took a step genuinely liberating for his



Elton John: he fought squeamish management.

public and had himself a huge hit in the process. On a less commercially successful level, Liza Minnelli's divorced husband, Australian Peter Allen, has released two albums expressing an interesting gay sensibility. We have no word on Cliff Richard's next release, but when last heard from, he was considering re-recording one of his old hits. Oh well.



David Bowie: computer camp, easy honesty.

David Bowie reached a point of gay expression with natural ease, but in style of performance, and occasionally songwriting ('Lola'), the Kinks' brilliant Ray Davies preceded him somewhat. "How's this for a piece of ass?" he demanded at a New York



Ray Davies of the Kinks wrote "Lola", the first gay rock song.

concert I witnessed. My companion was rock writer Lillian Roxon, who to this very day tells the story of being publicly bitten on her left tit by Mrs Bowie. "Oh," she moaned, "I don't know if he's gay, but if he's not he's naughty to tease them." Davies has since confided to Interview magazine that he likes men. So far no word on his cute younger brother Dave.

But back in the mid 60's, the real pioneer of what's happening now, Lou Reed, was exploring leather and the like with his Velvet Underground band which Warhol picked up on. Bowie is continually compared to Judy Garland; Lou-lou, then must be the Billie Holiday of the set. The crushed, lethargic delivery has been pummelled to the point of detachment, but he is always there.

On Reed's second RCA solo album 'Transformer', the song 'Makeup':

"Now we're coming out,
Out of our closets,
Out on the streets,
Yeah we're coming out!"

But the person applying the makeup is a she, a "slick little girl". Somerset Maugham once said that way back when, the great romantic novels were mostly written with the male author substituting the word he for she.

It's about time she became he where



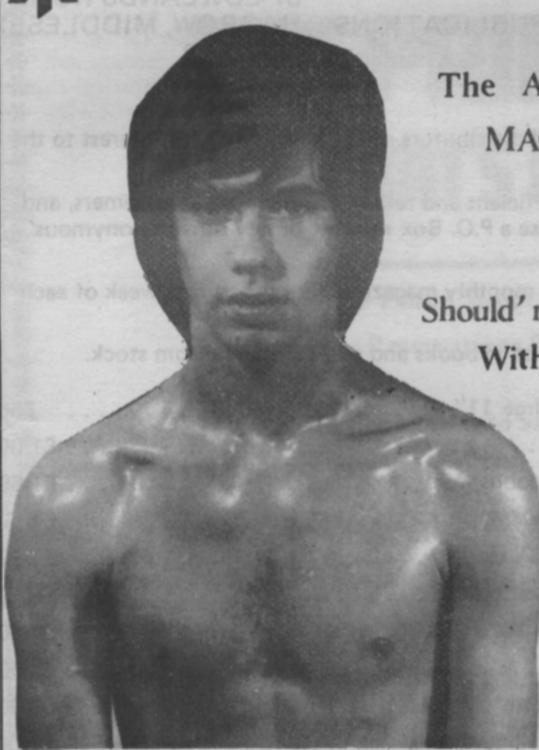
Lou Reed: a great pioneer. Still wears leather.

applicable.

And even with the examples of straightforward honesty, it's not enough for straights to learn of gays simply through songs (Lou Reed's 'Walk On The Wild Side' is such a tourist trip) and books. Gay demonstrations often serve their purpose, but why should love and sex preferences always be a protest?

It's time to be fully visible, to come out naturally.

ED: The photographs of Christopher Isherwood and Tennessee Williams on the front cover, are by Jane Bown (Camera Press London) and Michael Childers (Camera Press London) respectively. The photograph of Truman Capote on the opposite page is by Mike Smith (Camera Press London).



The All Male
MAGAZINE !!

You
Should'nt be
Without

A d d a m

73

:ORDER:

PLEASE SEND:

1 copy. price 55p

3 monthly issues price £1.50p

Name _____

Address _____

I enclose cheque/Postal order for £ _____

Editor, C.H.D; 243 Regent st.
London, W.1. R.8 PN.

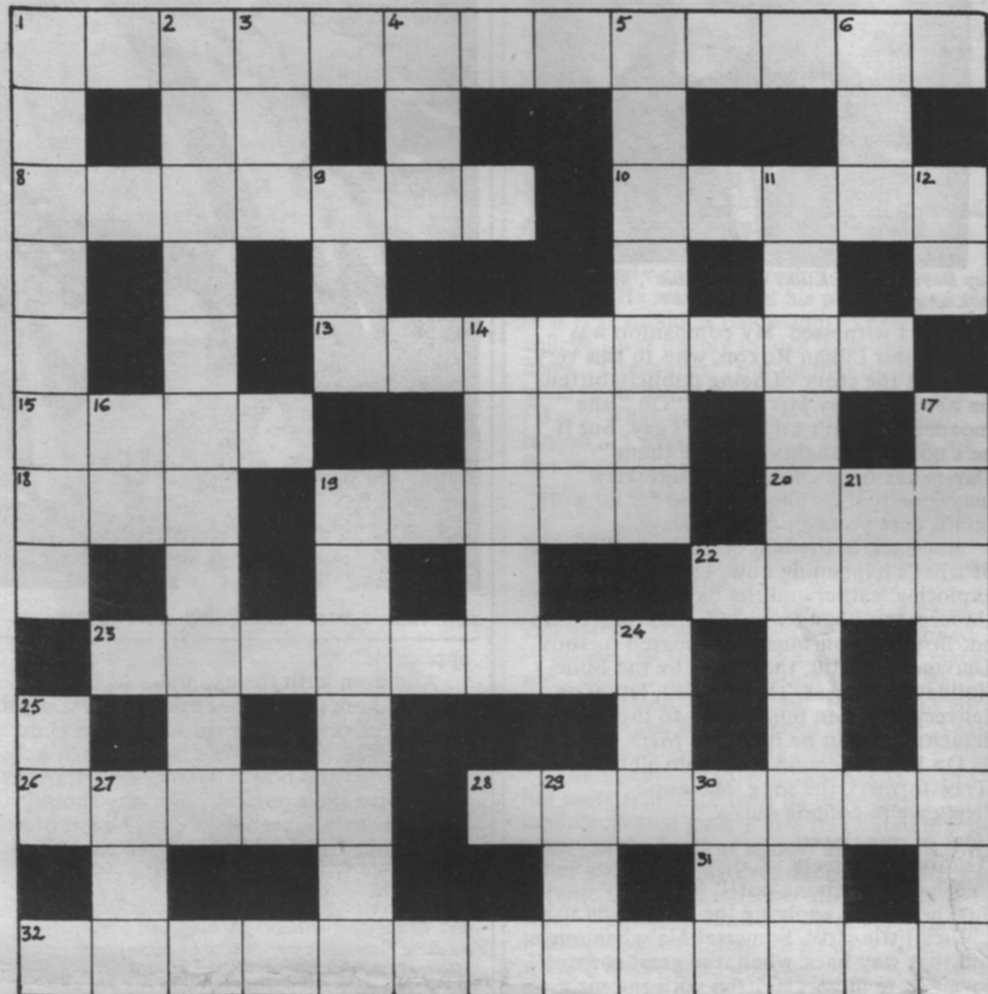
ORDER

NOW!

PRINTED IN ENGLAND

GN Crossword No 7/73

By Ken



Clues – Across

1. Drained to the dregs their novel love affair. (4,2,3,4)
7. Lili says hello to a dolly boy. (2)
8. They say he's always blowing his own – he's practically a whore! (7)
10. They dally there so you can pick a boy out. (5)
13. His final William and he left him behind. (4,4)
15. Lucky queen, got it in one go. (4)
18. Found his metal in the last part of his career in rent. (3)
19. I bend and am very good there! (2,3)
20. They hope you'll find you're equal. (3)
22. The boys in the back room turn the tide in bringing this paper to you! (4)
23. Cliff has two long Dicks after him! (8)
26. Stripped, erect and red hot in the garden. (5)
28. This pale monarch has altogether blinding good fun! (3,4)
31. The princess is an article in the first place. (2)
32. He must be very bad at it (and un-workmanlike to boot) if he uses that excuse. (6,3,4)

Clues – Down

1. Last chance to see all . . . (4,4)
2. This 'lady' can't stop fiddling with her candle. Sounds like she misses something . . . (11)
3. He's short on time, in fact short altogether! (3)
4. Charge made by French fairy? (3)
5. He's been bequeathed a large parcel, we hope . . . (7)
6. E's short of nothing in Egypt. (3)
9. His friend remained active longer initially, the dog! (3)
11. Puts down a game piece in a gay pub? Quite an operetta! (5,6)
12. Not quite yet, you. (2)
14. She's not at all intoxicated as she flings her robes about . . . (5)
16. No other alternative in whoring. (2)
17. Allow the lubrication to get to work. (3,2,3)
19. You'll have to pay when I lunge at you, battering ram in hand, because I do this. (1,6)
21. Perhaps the boy in 7 across says this back in a lo voice! (2)
24. Mae says it ain't no Madame Bette. (3)
25. Frankie Howerd's always going somewhere or other! (2)

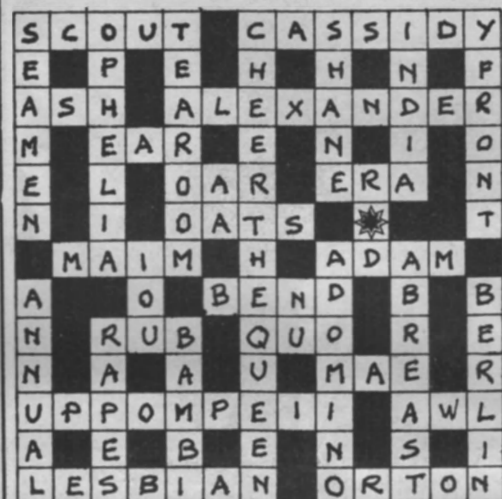
27. Olive in skin mac. (3)
29. How did this baba get away with our Steve? (3)
30. End of the Cabaret. (Peggy might have something to say if it follows 29 down childishly). (3)

The solution to GN Crossword No 7/73 will appear in Gay News 25.

Solution

This is the solution to GN Crossword No 6/73, which appeared in the last edition of the paper.

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Across | Down |
| 1. Scout. | 1. Seamen. |
| 4. Cassidy. | 2. Ophelia. |
| 8. Ash(ley). | 3. Tea Room. |
| 9. Alexander. | 4. Cheer the Queen. |
| 10. Ear. | 5. Shane. |
| 11. Oar (Whore). | 6. India. |
| 13. ER-otic-A. | 7. Y Front. |
| 14. Oats. | 12. A.A. |
| 15. Maim (Mame). | 16. I.O.U. |
| 17. Adam. | 17. A Domino. |
| 20. Bend ('B'-end). | 18. Abreast. |
| 23. Rub. | 19. Annual. |
| 25. Quo. | 21. Nu. |
| 26. Mae. | 22. Berlin. |
| 27. Up Pompeii. | 23. Rapes. |
| 28. Awl (All). | 24. Bambi. |
| 29. Les-B-ian. | |
| 30. Orton. | |



S AND H

PUBLICATIONS

37 LOWLANDS ROAD
HARROW, MIDDLESEX
HA1 3AP

- * S & H are the leading UK publishers and distributors of books and mags of interest to the gay world.
- * Have for 10 years provided a prompt, efficient and reliable service to our customers, and welcome personal callers – we do not use a P.O. Box number or any other 'anonymous' address.
- * Publish QUORUM, the outstanding gay monthly magazine. (Published first week of each month).
- * Invite you to receive our free monthly list of books and mags available from stock.

- O Quorum issues 1-10 (from issue 8 in large 11" x 7" format) 75p ea.
- O Boys International issues 1, 2 and 3 £1.00 ea.
- O Boys International issue No. 4 – just published £1.50
- O Boys Naturally issue No. 2 – just published £1.50
- O Naked Teens £2.00
- O Look Book (160 pages of outrageous cartoons) £2.00
- O The Lusty Male – superb photography by Colin Clarke £2.50
- O The Dolly Male (see illustration) £2.50
- O Superb Youth (fine physique photographs by John Barrington) £3.00
- O Pornography or Art? (340 fascinating illustrations) £7.00
- O Naked Boyhood £8.00
- O NEW – Just Kids £2.50
- O Fine Form £2.50
- O Frolic £2.50
- O The Other Side of the Fence (by the same author as "Street Boy") . . . £4.00

PHOTOSETS – a superb new range from £1.50 ea.

FREE OFFER: With each order valued £2.50 or more we will send you a free copy of a large format edition of Quorum.

Send me the publications I have ticked, for which I enclose payment to the value of £

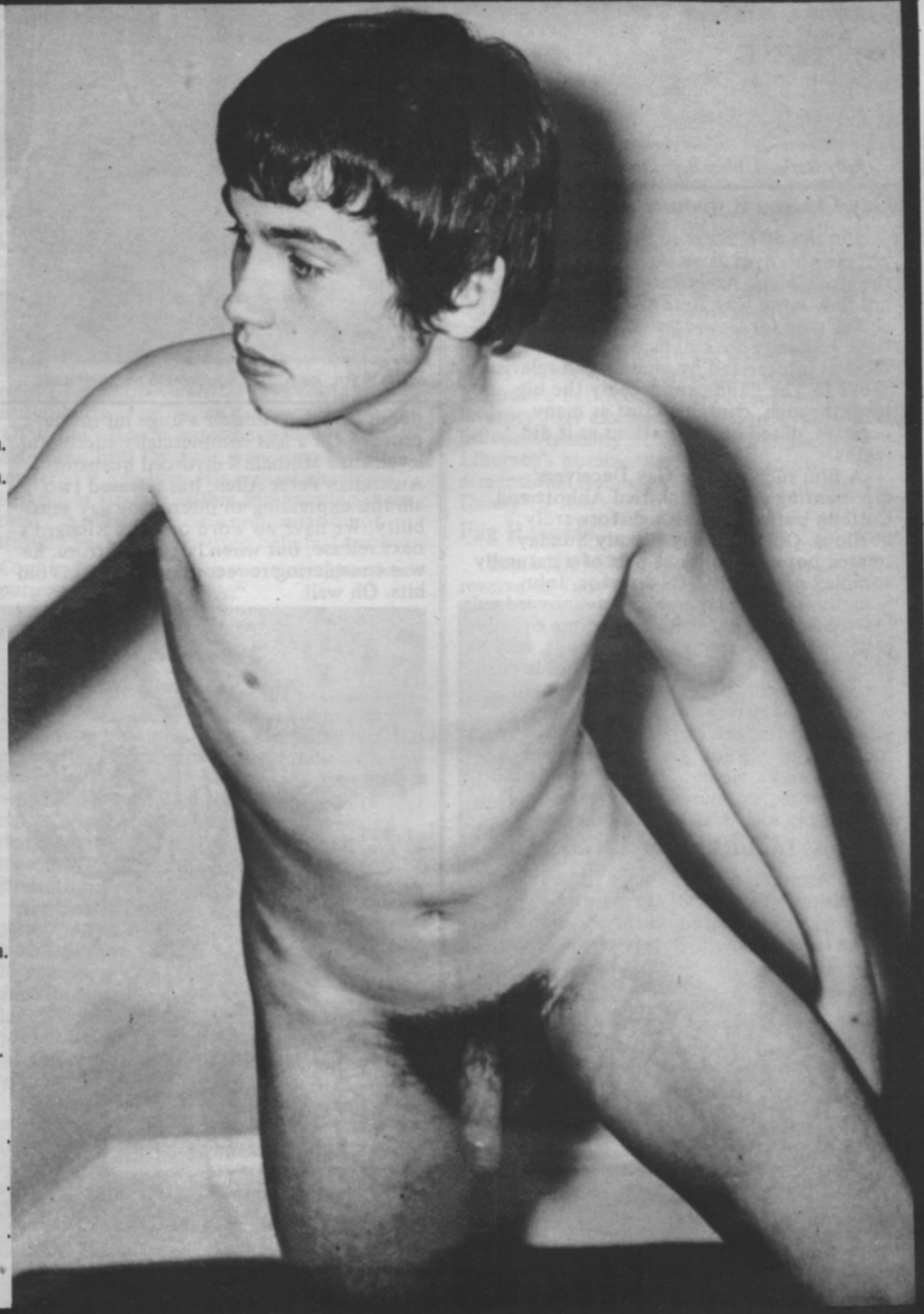
OR Send me your current list now, and details of future offers as and when available.

Name (block capitals please)

Address (block capitals please)

No stamp required (UK only) if you address your envelope to:-

S & H Limited, FREEPOST, HARROW, MIDDLESEX, HA1 3BR.



Star Trek A Monthly Stargaze

As Forecast by Monsieur Pierre



GEMINI May 22 — June 21
You will achieve greatest success by basing decisions you take on solid facts rather than speculations. Avoid pushing yourself too hard and use your authority wisely. A full moon on the 15th will bring new heights to your emotional life.



CANCER June 22 — July 23
Beware. You could be the cause of great jealousy. Try to avoid gossiping and don't eavesdrop — you won't hear anything good about yourself. Try and establish a smooth and regular routine. Take care on the 15th — try and avoid getting out of your depth.



LEO July 24 — August 23
You should avoid the temptation of putting too much trust in your good luck — it may not hold out. A good month ahead for you financially if you take others into your confidence. Exercise great care with your money on the 7th — the quarter moon could make you tend to throw caution to the winds.



VIRGO August 24 — September 23
A change in your approach to business affairs is called for this month. Pay attention to the affairs of those above you. Exercise care with your money and avoid stretching your credit too much. The 24th could bring financial and emotional problems with a loved one. You may do well to spend the day apart.



LIBRA September 24 — October 23
An important month for family matters — agreement could be in sight to end a family dispute. A good month for making plans for the future. Try to avoid speaking out of turn and don't express an opinion too hastily. Think before you speak and act. Exercise moderation on the 24th. Pay attention to the views of others on this day.



SCORPIO October 24 — November 22
Don't be too possessive in your relationship with a dear one. Instead divert your attention to money matters. Try and resolve your budget and pay some attention to health matters. The 15th could be a day that will close on an unfortunate note. Take care of your goods and money as you could suffer from loss or theft.



SAGITTARIUS November 23 — December 21
Don't let your emotions rule your head. Decisions taken on a cold basis and judged on fact not fancy will pay dividends. A romantic partnership could be in trouble if you let your temper get the better of you. Try and avoid forming new relationships on the 15th.



CAPRICORN December 22 — January 20
Be ready and willing to help others in need, be prepared to accept changes in your way of life. Be careful who you trust. If you are in a position of responsibility handle it with care. Decisions that you take could have a far reaching effect on others. A good evening for romance on the 25th.



AQUARIUS January 21 — February 19
Pay special attention to the wishes of a loved one this month. Time spent paying heed to the needs of others will be well rewarded. Attention to domestic matters is essential. Imaginative decisions could pay off. The 11th will be an excellent day for meeting new business contacts.



PISCES February 20 — March 20
A good month for preparing for future activities and laying the foundations of new plans. Do however, try to resolve outstanding problems — leave the way clear for future activities. Don't take criticism too personally. Pay attention to the advice of others. The 29th will not be the best day you have ever had and there could be grave emotional problems for you.



ARIES March 21 — April 20
Pay great attention to family matters and try to resolve family disputes. Show an interest in your work. Try and avoid stirring up trouble for others. The 14th will be a good day for all matters concerning travel and legal affairs. The 23rd is likely to be a good day for contacting clinics and hospitals.



TAURUS April 21 — May 21
This will be a good month for increasing your income and trying to balance your budget. Do try however to avoid falling for propositions that may seem to offer great and easy return for little outlay and effort. Think positive. The 15th will be a day during the course of which you will be under financial strain. Be careful to whom you lend money.

Your Ring Of What?

Beautiful liberated gay people! Shining faces, Grecian figures, marvellous clothes, fanTASTic hair, all enveloped in a cloud of DIVINE cologne. Clean and wholesome outside and inside, thanks to Gay News' recent good medical advice. Almost perfection, except for one little thing . . . those dreadful teeth and that terrible breath!

So please, do go and see a dentist RIGHT NOW!

Make up your mind to have your mouth really clean and healthy, and in good working order. After all, it has, or should have, a lot of work to do in your sex life.

Does your smile really say "Come on over", or have you stopped smiling altogether because of that gap?

Do you unromantically have toothache in the middle of the night?

Do your kisses make your friends want more, or does your poisonous breath send them reeling back?

Do your love-bites come out all lop-sided?

Do you burp at unforgivable moments because you haven't chewed your food properly?

And speaking of chewing . . . well, you don't really want to cause someone permanent injury because of those jagged teeth, do you? Let's get a few facts right:

First, having your teeth done does not hurt. If you tell your dentist that you want to feel *no discomfort at all*, he will make sure you feel nothing. Dentists are nice, friendly, sympathetic people who are very accustomed to nervous patients, and they do NOT like hurting you. Don't listen to granny's tales of what happened to her in 1917.

Almost any dental problem can be solved, and yours is not a hopeless case. There are all manner of devices, both old and new, for restoring teeth to full function and appearance, and for replacing missing teeth. But naturally the earlier treatment is begun, the better the result.

When your mouth has been put right, keep it right: Brush your teeth after EVERY MEAL WITHOUT FAIL. Don't eat too many biscuits, cakes and sweets, and certainly not be-

tween meals. If you're not sleeping alone, use a pleasant mouthwash before you go to bed. And have regular dental check-ups.

Good dentistry need not be expensive. Much is available cheaply on the National Health Service, though some very up-to-date treatments are not (blame the authorities, not the dentists). These can be given if you pay your dentist privately, and this is money well spent. If you are under 21, or a student, or on some forms of insurance, or assistance, you may not have to pay anything. Whatever your circumstances, it will cost you *nothing* to consult a dentist, have your mouth thoroughly examined and have a plan of treatment discussed.

If you don't have a dentist already, how do you find a good one? There are lists of local dentists at Post Offices. Ask your friends who they go to, and if they are satisfied. Have a look at their teeth. Feel them with your tongue. Do this in the street, and tell that policeman what you are doing if he wants to know. And give him a loveiv smile.

A Bachelor Gay of Dental Surgery

Bobby's

PRIVATE GUEST HOUSE
BED & BREAKFAST served until noon

50 Egremont Place — Brighton
Tel: Brighton 683961

Easv Reach of Station
Close to Seafroont, Bars and Clubs
Personal Attention Friendly Atmosphere
Advance Bookings Central Heating

Gay News Mail Order

Funeral Rites — Jean Genet	50p	Twelve Years of Christmas — Rod McKuen . .	80p
Querelle of Brest — Jean Genet	60p	Patience and Sarah — Isabel Miller	£1.75
Our Lady of Flowers — Jean Genet	50p	Escape From The Shadows Robin Maugham	£3.50
Miracle of the Rose — Jean Genet	60p	Body Charge — Hunter Davis	£2.00
Thief's Journal — Jean Genet	35p	The Second Sex — Simone de Beauvoir	75p
The Exile of Capri — Roger Peyrefitte	30p	The Dialectic of Sex — Shulemith Firestone . .	50p
Diplomatic Conclusions — Roger Peyrefitte .	40p	Child of the Sun — Lance Horner/Kyle Onstott	40p
The City and the Pillar Gore Vidal	35p	The Immoralist — Andre Gide	30p
Myra Breckenridge — Gore Vidal	40p	Journals — Andre Gide	75p
Lesbian/Women Del Martin/Phyllis Lyon . . .	60p	Out of the Closets — Laud Humphreys . . .	£1.20
Well of Loneliness — Radclyffe Hall	50p	Tea Room Trade — Laud Humphreys . . .	£2.50
No End To The Way — Neville Jackson	25p	Fade Out — Joseph Hansen	£1.80
Sandel — Angus Stewart	40p	Beardsley (A Biography) — Stanley Weintraub	50p
Another Country — James Baldwin	35p	Homosexuality and Psychological	
Giovanni's Room — James Baldwin	25p	Functioning — Mark Freedman	£1.25
The Au Pair Boy — Andrew McCall	30p	Jackarandy — Leo Madigan	£1.75
Last Exit to Brooklyn — Hubert Selby Jnr . .	50p	Candy — Terry Southern/Mason Hoffenberg	40p
The Ticket that Exploded — William Burroughs	35p	A Queer Kind of Death — George Baxt . . .	£1.05
The Soft Machine — William Burroughs . . .	35p	A Parade of Cock-Eyed Creatures —	
The Naked Lunch — William Burroughs . . .	45p	George Baxt	£1.05
Wild Boys — William Burroughs	£1.00	I Said The Demon — George Baxt	£1.05
I Give You Oscar Wilde — Desmond Hall . . .	40p	A Soldier Erect — Brian Aldiss	35p
Homosexual — Oppression and Liberation		The Hand Reared Boy — Brian Aldiss	35p
— Denis Altman	£2.50	Cocksure — Mordechai Richler	40p
Hyperstud — Cliff David	70p	The Other Love — H Montgomery Hyde . . .	75p
Mind Blower Marco Vassi	70p	The L-Shaped Room — Lynne Reid Banks . .	35p
Frost — Richard Amory	70p	City of Night — John Rechy	50p
All Is Well — Dirk Vanden	70p	This Day's Death — John Rechy	£1.75
Sexual Freedom League (Report)	60p	Cruising — Gerald Walker	30p
The Obscenity Report	50p	Poor Cook — Susan Campbell/Caroline Conran	60p
Fields of Wonder — Rod McKuen	£1.00	Vegetarian Cookery — Janet Walker	40p
The Homosexual Dialectic — Joseph A.		Speaking Out — Poetry by CHE Company of 9	50p
McCaffrey	£1.20		

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS — BEAT THE RUSH AND ORDER YOUR COPY NOW
The Queens Vernacular as featured in Gay News — special pre-publication offer only £1.20 + 5p post & Packing — a saving of 25p (Retail price now will be £1.50). This offer is exclusive to GN readers only. (Please note, The Queens Vernacular is not available until August and only orders received before the date of publication can be supplied with the book at the special price.)

SILVER RINGS — priced £1.00 — State small, medium or large.



Actual Size

POSTERS — ALL PRICED 25p

- Jean Harlow
- Rudolph Valentino
- Bum and Flower

PLEASE SEND ME THE FOLLOWING:

.....

.....

.....

FOR WHICH I ENCLOSE CHEQUE/PO PAYABLE TO GAY NEWS MAIL ORDER, VALUE

All items are post free. To: Gay News Mail Order, 34d Redcliffe Square, London SW10:
Please allow 14 days for delivery.

Give It To Your Newsagent

If you are having difficulty in obtaining Gay News from your local newsagent (or bookshop), please cut this out and give it to your local shop.

Dear Newsagent,
You may have been asked for Gay News on a number of occasions, but have been unable to find out where to order it from. At present it is not available from any of the major distributors and is supplied to you directly by us.

Gay News comes out regularly every fortnight and copies are either delivered or sent by post to you on a sale or return basis. The retail price is 15p and the usual discounts are given.

Gay News consists of twenty pages of news, features, interviews, reviews and information and is less than a year has built up a large circulation. Our publication is quite unlike any other newspaper available and features many items you will not be able to read about elsewhere. You will find that our readership is extremely loyal and will continually support your establishment if they can regularly obtain copies from you.

If you wish to order the paper or require further information, please contact Peter Mundy, at Gay News, 34d Redcliffe Square, London SW10. Telephone: 01-373 0586.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. We look forward to hearing from you.
Joint Editors of Gay News

Troubled Water

May we remind you that GN is now operating a Problem/Advice/Help column appearing under the heading Troubled Water.

If you are at all worried or anxious about any matter, large or small, drop us a line to the address at the end of this piece. Strict confidence is guaranteed and if you prefer your letter not to be published, please state so clearly, and you will receive a personal reply.

An experienced and qualified gay befriending service is helping us answer any serious or difficult problems that we feel unable to adequately advise on.

All sexes are welcome to use this service. Write to us at:
Dept T/W, Gay News,
34d Redcliffe Square,
London SW10.

Slim Volumes

Sub-groups of both major gay movements – CHE and GLF – have produced pamphlets more or less at the same time. It has taken some two and a half years before either organisation has burst into print (apart from policy/campaigning leaflets and magazines, that is). The GLF sub-group is the Counter-Psychiatry group, that of CHE is the Company of Nine, which is a poetry group. The GLF pamphlet is called *Psychiatry and the Homosexual*, is 5½" x 8", holds 32 pages of a closely written essay and costs 15p. The CHE pamphlet, a collection of verse, is called *Speaking Out*, is 4½" x 7", holds 30 pages of lightly scattered poems and costs 50p. There are no doubt fine economical reasons for the disparity of price and size between the two products, and sound ideological reasons for the choice of subjects for publication.

Psychiatry and the Homosexual

GLF's counter-psychiatry group is one of the steadier and more consistently meeting sub-groups, and has been working quietly away while the rest of the organisation has been performing its amoeba-like fluctuations over the last year or so. The pamphlet is sub-titled "A brief analysis of oppression", and psychiatric practise is a starting-off point, rather than the entire target. This may be a good thing since it does seem that the pamphlet attacks a form of psychiatric approach and practice that is not used particularly widely now; but this approach certainly has been used and fragments of the attitudes enshrined remain of course in the half-knowledge of social workers, teachers, ministers and other meddlers. It would be wrong to dismiss this essay because its target may be a touch dated, then; it should be read by those in the jobs mentioned just now, and – naturally – by everyone else.

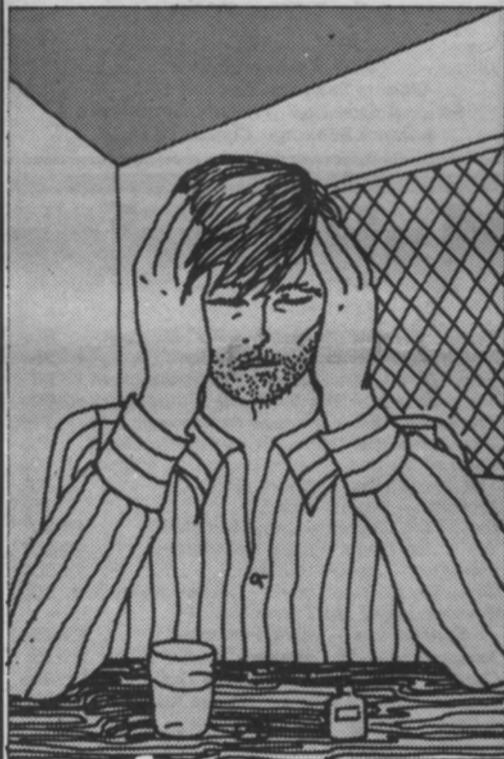


Illustration: Jean-Claude Thevenin

The writers of the essay insist that they are dealing with mainstream psychiatry, and much of the documentary information is certainly drawn from real individual experiences. First we have a pungent statement of the homosexual's isolation in a hostile society: "Homosexuals have no history; their past consists only of reactions to them. The gay adolescent has no models upon which he or she can build a life-style". Society demands that the homosexual conforms, the argument runs, and psychiatrists assume this attitude as well, but having a quite disproportionate authority tend "to lend prestigious support to the general oppression; in effect to indulge in a subtle but highly effective form of queer-bashing." The GP's approach is discussed; there is a neat background to psychiatry and – this is the essay's best section – an astringently critical discussion of Freudian theory and practice with references to Oedipus, mother-dominance and immaturity as explanations of the homosexual's difference (ie non-conformity) which must be altered. The passage on homosexuals and children is radical, sensitive and very moving. There is a great deal more in the essay and the pamphlet ends with three true stories – case histories in fact. It remains important to say also that this essay is extremely well written; it has clarity, pungency, elegance and a reverberative style.

Speaking Out

It is, I think, too easy to praise GLF for tackling real issues in this context, and to put down CHE for tripping lightly around the cultural fringe of amateur verse. Throughout the centuries, all the arts have been male-dominated, chauvinistically so: one might read Wayland Young on what he calls "lesbian culture" for a good exposition of this theme. The homosexual poet has always been particularly harassed by the conflict between what he must write and what he ought to produce. Of course there have been celebrated homosexual artists, but their

genius has usually transcended mere social formality. There have been, and are, thousands of others whose works have, perforce, had to be neutralised. The Australian poet Laurence Collinson has written at length about this situation in both its historical and contemporary context. The growth of the gay press has, among many other things, allowed a great deal of homosexual male and female poetry to be published. *Gay Sunshine*, *Body Politic* and *Come Together* (but not as yet *Gay News*) have published work of considerable force. That CHE has decided to settle on poetry for a publication is not, on the face of it, either foolish or flippant.

On the face of it. But alas, when we get down to it, we find that *Speaking Out* confirms one's worst suspicions about the project. Readers of *Gay News* will remember that Laurence Collinson withdrew his own work from the projected volume when he found that it was likely to be a very covert product. And covert it is, making the title – which sounds so good and so punchy – a nonsense. Even the magic word "homosexual" is nowhere to be found in the statement of the book's provenance – CHE, yes, but to those who don't know, this could mean anything. If nothing else, the volume should have had a short introduction stating its full background and intention. As it is, we are left with a very slim volume of inoffensive poems which might have emanated from any private press between Ongar and Ealing.

The poems themselves (attributed to initials, single names or pseudonyms for the most part, but with some real names shining out – though who is to know?) are pleasant enough. Those signed P.R. (and that's not Patricia Roc) have that structure, rhythm, toughness and almost magical use of words that marks the professional, and perhaps the best really 'gay' poem is one by Tom Flanagan called "They all thought me Straight" which pursues a witty, central image with a sharp grace.

Roger Baker

ED: Psychiatry and the Homosexual is available from: *Gay Information*, c/o 2 Thane Mansions, Thane Villas, London N7. Price 20p including postage.

Speaking Out is available from: *CHE London Information Centre*, 22 Great Windmill Street, London W1. Price 50p plus 5p postage.

Gay Girl Quarterly

(Counselling magazine for gay women)

GAY GIRL is *Arena Three* magazine renamed to give a clearer, more immediate indication of its contents.

Because of its limited audience, the mag is neither slick nor extremely professional. But one need only read the letters page to discover it serves admirably in easing the sense of isolation felt by many gay women: one letter comes from a woman struggling to organise a social group in Guernsey, another speculates on loneliness in old age, one woman describes her 25 years of life as "an agonizing time" and so forth. More happily, one woman writes pledging money in order that the magazine should cheer up.

There is a strong ghetto feel to *Gay Girl*, but this is only natural, as the lesbian minority often suffers an isolation male gays need not endure. A minor criticism can be levelled at the cutesy-pie illustrations, and perhaps the occasional space devoted to insurance, holidays etc, would be better served used for news reportage.

But the news on Women's groups, a quite lucid interview with a bisexual woman and a close examination of women in relation to CHE are very constructive pieces with a necessary feeling of personal contact.

Gay Girl could perhaps be a bit gayer, but it serves its purpose well and deserves support. Those wishing to buy a copy should write to BCM/Seahorse, London WC1. It costs 30p an issue.

Stephen MacLean

Time For More Changes

HOMOSEXUALITY: A CHANGING PICTURE.

Edited by Dr Hendrik Ruitenbeek. Souvenir Press. Price, £2.75.

THIS IS a book which all concerned with the subject, and also those who choose to give it no thought, ought to read. It is a symposium edited by Dr Hendrik Ruitenbeek, a practising psychoanalyst in New York. It is divided into two parts of which the first, "Acceptance and Integration" is the more important. In fact the second part, "Changes in Clinical Thought", could well be given a miss with the exception of an excellent piece by Robert Seidenberg who is a member of the International Psychoanalytical Association.

The book is basically about America and Americans and it demonstrates that, whatever may be the forces which confront homosexuals in Britain, they are by no means as reactionary and vicious as those which prevail there. It also demonstrates that American homosexuals, largely as a result, are very much more confused and introspective than ourselves: in so far as the majority of us are either.

Because of the variety of the contents it would be difficult to review the book with justice in less than a full-scale article. I will therefore confine myself to a few extracts which commend themselves. In his introduction Dr Ruitenbeek writes:

"If anything, contemporary homosexuals now begin to feel that they have to discard their false identities and admit, not only to themselves but also to friends and relatives, that homosexuality is an important force in the make-up of their personality. To deny this force to themselves and others and hide it behind a most complicated and neurotic web of lies and shoddy stories is tantamount to a denial of their very selves."

Oscar Wilde said much the same thing when he declared: "To regret one's own experience is to arrest one's development". Dr Ruitenbeek pays tribute to the activities of the Gay Liberation Front and other organisations in the USA.

"One of the main factors, at least in the United States, which has contributed to a more enlightened understanding of what homosexuality and homosexuals are all about is the emergence of various activist homosexual groups which clearly stated the demands of homosexuals to be acknowledged as full and equal members of the community. Interestingly enough these groups by and large are not interested any more in the causes of homosexuality but have accepted homosexuality as an alternative life-style."

Writing about homosexuality in Holland Dr Ruitenbeek states:

"One of the most interesting aspects of the position of the Dutch homosexual is his acceptance by a predominantly heterosexual society and even more important the desire of that society to accept him and to incorporate him, so to say, in the fabric of contemporary society."

This is a point which our own society should note. In this respect it is lagging far behind the Dutch who we have always tended to regard as decent but dull.

In a number of the articles there is a strong condemnation of the part played by American psychiatrists and psychoanalysts with regard to homosexuality. It is laughable, and also disgraceful, that in the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and

Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (1968) it is thought appropriate to include Homosexuality under the label of "Personality Disorders and Certain Other Non-psychotic Mental Disorders". Referring to this Dr Robert Liebert observes "This labelling enables the social majority to oppress homosexuals without guilt of having violated the ethic of individual freedom or civil liberty".

There is a rambling and somewhat introspective article by Pierre Claude Nappey who has suffered from an over-strict religious education. The conclusions he reaches are none the less valid.

1. Homosexual minorities are not only inevitable but necessary.

2. The sociological threat of homosexuality has been greatly exaggerated by heterosexuals.

3. If homosexuality is dangerous for anyone it is for those who live it without being in a position to assume it because of their own neurosis or because of lack of understanding on the part of others which, when combined, sometimes drives them to suicide.

4. It is not an inferior but only a minor (*I would prefer the word 'alternative'*) form of sexuality and should be respected as such.

5. As an efficient anthropological minority it is charged with original and positive significance.

6. It can allow for more flexible rules than heterosexuality.

7. Homosexuals have duties both to themselves and the heterosexual majority just as the majority has duties towards them.

8. A more complete ethical, religious and political philosophy should take all these factors into account.

9. What is required is an empirical study of the concrete and juridical possibilities for improved social and religious integration of homosexuals.

The most stimulating article is "The Accursed Race" by Robert Seidenberg. The title is taken from a sentence in it which affirms "This accursed race has done well in spite of the consortium of religious, legal and psychiatric forces rallied against it". He discusses amongst other things the current practice of homosexual jokes which are very much a feature in America as they are in this country. He argues that:

"Just as ethnic jokes told us that it was acceptable to be biased against racial minorities now that the latter will no longer tolerate it, homosexuals have become the prevailing butt of comedians".

We might now consider whether it might not be profitable to deal with some of these jokers by laughing them off the stage from time to time.

Seidenberg declares that "the days of passive acceptance of humiliation and discrimination are over". The fact is that in this country this only applies to a courageous minority of the homosexual society. This is a change from the past: it is time for more change. Seidenberg also states "The relevant question is not what makes homosexuals or what to 'do' with them but what makes society what it is and what to 'do' with it.

Although there is a great deal in this book which is "old hat" to those of us who are deeply involved and although there is also a good deal which is not relevant to our own society it contains a great many valuable assertions. And, after all, our task is to assert ourselves.

Ian Harvey

THE LONDON LEATHERMAN

113 QUEENSTOWN ROAD DEPT 100
LONDON SW8 3RH

HAVE REAL APPEAL GO LEATHER

Zip front Bikini in soft black leather SIZES S.M.L. £3:75

Zip front Boxer shorts in soft black leather. Cut with the MAN in mind. SIZES S.M.L. £4:75

Plain front Bikini in Wet-look stretch nylon £1:25 or 3 Pack £3:00

Zip front Bikini in Wet-look stretch nylon £1:50 or 3 Pack £4:00

Plain front Boxer shorts, Wet-look stretch nylon £1:75

Zip front Boxer shorts, Wet-look stretch nylon £2:00

Posing Pouch in Wet-look stretch nylon 45p or 3 Pack £1:00

Colours: Red, Yellow, Dark Blue, White and Black SIZES S.M.L.XL.

Catalogue included free with orders over £1:00

Catalogue only 25p





History And Horror And The Whole Damn Thing



'Bequest To The Nation', historic reunion for 'Sunday Bloody Sunday' duo.

BEQUEST TO THE NATION. Director James Cellan Jones. Screenplay: Terence Rattigan. Stars: Peter Finch, Glenda Jackson, A Universal Picture distributed by Cinema International Corporation.

The release of *Bequest To The Nation* has been over shadowed by an interview given by Glenda Jackson on BBC TV's 'Film 73' in which she dismissed her performance as awful, and advised people not to go and see the film. I do hope Ms Jackson, who is married to a doctor, isn't going to let success affect her and assume the arrogance of J. Fonda and V. Redgrave.

Mr Hal B Wallis certainly seems to be moving with the cinematic times. Gone are the big budgets, wide screen and surfeit of glamorous sets. Instead a fairly frank portrait of Nelson's last days as he's surrounded by his petty family, and ignoble, drunken but passionately in love Lady Hamilton, a loutish, flamboyant and enjoyable performance by Glenda Jackson. The element of entertaining realism asserts itself here. There's no domestic idyll for battle-

LOVE AND PAIN AND THE WHOLE DAMN THING. Director: Alan Pakula. Screenplay: Alvin Sargent. Stars: Maggie Smith, Timothy Bottoms. A Columbia Picture distributed by Columbia-Warner. Cert 'A'.

Pakula's new film, reaches perfection in its abounding compassion for two victims of today, who have a perceptive encounter in Spain. One, Lila - Miss Fisher, is a thirty-eightish spinster from Bournemouth, dying of a fatal disease and a surfeit of the ideals of the town from which she comes. The other is a nineteen year old from an academic New York background, where life is books, Pulitzer prizes, extended intellects, and undeveloped emotions, the symptoms of which are quickly despatched to costly psychiatrists.

Both characters are hopelessly alienated and withdrawn and alone and, wisely, Pakula and Sargent see little salvation for them through the real, accepted means of help, so they transport them into a richly comic, romantic, colourful Spanish setting, where they meet and have a simple, magical affair amidst the multicoloured lights created by the much stressed spectacular scenery, and Geoffrey Unsworth's expert photography.

The skill of the film lies in transporting its topical characters from their sadness into a world of the old humour, but in a contemporary setting. Maggie Smith gets locked into one of those strange foreign lavatories, and wooed by a man who does bird impressions, and by a Duke with a castle and eighteenth century etiquette, and then it's back quick as a flash to her young hero as they tour the country in their leaky caravan.

It's never corny or a remake of *Love Story* as some of the more idiotic critics have suggested, but always funny, compassionate and above all a celebration of the fact that few of us will find happiness in reality, so why not in a beautiful fantasy. My beloved Maggie Smith gives her most successful film performance; quietly spoken and simple, Timothy Bottoms is a perfect ravaged late adolescent, Michael Small's music celebrates the joyous moments, and Pakula's direction is leisurely, affectionate and shows his real skill to be in the area of natural humour.

David Seligman

torn Nelson. Instead booze sodden Hamilton flouting, verbally seducing guests and reddening faces, while Captain Hardy gazes at her with hate in his eyes and dotes on his beloved Nelson, a subtle performance by Michael Jayston.

A pleasing debut by veteran (only in terms of experience) TV director James Cellan Jones, whose creation in the main characters, of a flamboyance, concealing sensitivity (Hamilton) and a quiet assurance and apparent softness concealing hardness (Nelson) is fascinating. As usual in good British movies, the performances all the way up are faultless, with eminently capable actresses like Margaret Leighton (Lady Nelson) giving their all in relatively small parts.

Incidentally Peter Finch fans are having a field day, or week, at the moment. He currently has three other films in addition to *Bequest To The Nation* playing in the West End: *Something to Hide*, *Lost Horizon* and *England Made Me*.

David Seligman

THE THIEF WHO CAME TO DINNER. Directed by Bud Yorkin. Starring Ryan O'Neal, Jacqueline Bissett, Warren Oates. Cert 'A'.

The hero is a computer operator who leaves his job to become a jewel thief. Blackmailing his first victim into introducing him to his friends, the thief mixes with the 'smart set' and begins a series of audacious robberies. Each time he leaves a chess piece with an instruction for a move in the game of chess. Before long, on the instruction of an inept insurance investigator, a chess expert begins to play a game with the thief through the newspapers, until he is cornered into defeat - the thief uses a computer to win the game.

Along the way, this likeable anti-hero meets the beautiful Jacqueline Bissett and is soon living with her. When they meet, the dialogue sparkles in typical Hollywood fashion, as she remarks "You're too beautiful to be any good". He replies "Good at what?" and she retorts "Is there anything else?" There is the inevitable car chase, and several exciting moments of various robberies. The whole film is extremely slick, and the matched performances of Ryan O'Neal and Warren Oates as thief and investigator likewise. Definitely recommended.

Barry Conley

FATHER DEAR FATHER: Director: Bill Stewart. Music: Nachum Heiman. Script: Based on TV series by Johnny Mortimer & Brian Cooke. Stars: Patrick Carghill, Anne Holloway, Natasha Pyne, Noel Dyson, Beryl Reid, Donald Sinden. Distributor: Fox-Rank.

ONLY IN Britain does the TV to Cinema genre thrive, which is all the more amazing when one considers the amount of movies that do not even receive a release in this country. Now on release is 99 minutes of *Father Dear Father* blown up in all its mediocrity for the large screen.

The cast unashamedly mug their way through a script rife with condescending, upper middle class loftiness. Patrick Carghill's vaudeville approach culminates when he explains, "I've had to be both Mummy and Daddy to my girls". Usually more mummy than daddy.

Beryl Reid, a brilliant comedienne who'll apparently do anything for a quid, appears briefly as a charlady Father mistakenly proposes to over the phone. When he contemptuously informs her of the mistake (she is, after all, only a char), she tells him she might be working class, but she is not rubbish. "It's people like me who made Britain what it is today," she snivels, and richbags father sarcastically sneers something like, "Yes, I can believe that."

I left making as little noise as possible. Life was ebbing away, and the thought of frittering away another hour of it on FDF was horrifying. Of the first half hour I can opine that the script was appalling, the acting matched it (even Beryl Reid cannot save her lines) and the class superiority was repulsive, although fascinatingly blunt. It does have the distinction of being the first film I have walked out on in several years.

Stephen Maclean

BROTHER SUN SISTER MOON. Directed by Franco Zeffirelli. Starring Graham Faulkner and Judi Bowker. Cert 'U'.

Based on the story of St Francis of Assisi, the film opens with a shot of a young boy staggering through his Italian village, home from the war. Even in this bedraggled state his physical beauty is apparent.

He is nursed back to health by his wealthy parents but, when his mind eventually recovers from the horrors of war, he rejects their material values, before the entire village in a most astonishing way.

Zeffirelli sets out on a careful and deliberate study of natural and man-made beauty in all its forms, from landscapes to the Vatican (and the choirboys that go with it). The collection of beautiful males is matched by the female star, Judi Bowker, who along with all St Francis' friends, eventually joins him in his new life of simplicity, caring for the poor and all living things.

This film is a truly humbling experience and should not be missed.

David Rushton

HORROR HOSPITAL directed by Antony Balch sees that veteran British horror man Michael Gough, giving a statuesque performance as Dr. Storm, whose health hydro in the country isn't all it should be. It is, in fact, a hive of evil doings, where innocent young people are hypnotised and have their brains experimented on. He is aided by hideous Aunt 'Harris' ("she always wore tweed")

who used to run a brothel in Hamburg; that's how they met.

The downfall of Storm and his 'hells angels' heavies is of course inevitable, but not after Jason Jones, trendy pop star and unwilling inmate has created havoc, and we have witnessed a farrago of blood, colourful gadgetry - like a car with a press button axe that slices heads off, and occasional black comedy. There are beautiful cameos too from Kenneth Benda as the porter on the local station, looking like Karloff's ghost, and Dennis Price as a gay old wag of a travel agent, full of sniffs, winks and potential skulduggery, who sends the young lovelies off to Dr Storm.

A movie that efficiently makes use of every conceivable stunt in the low budget horror bible, from servile dwarfs to taps which run blood instead of water, without inventing one new idea. Not to be missed by fans of such time honoured entertainments.

David Seligman



Aunt Harris pops her peepers in 'Horror Hospital'.

ONE IN SIX men are

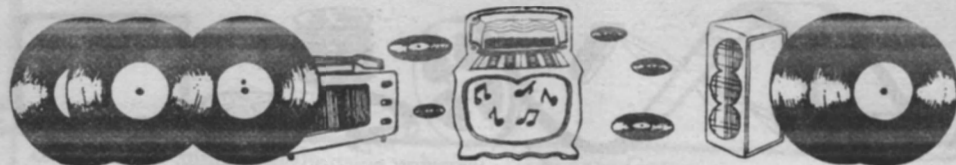
LOOKING FOR
'FOLLOW-UP
MAGAZINE'

GAY, SMART,
COLOURFUL,
GLOSSY.

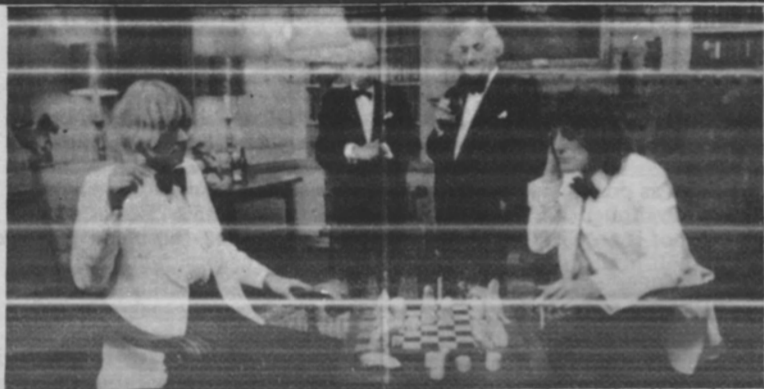
PUBLISHED BY
STUDIO PUBLICATIONS

200d Railton Road, Herne Hill
LONDON SE24





Fresh Revolutions



BANANAMOUR — Kevin Ayers — Harvest SHVL 807

Bananamour is the strangest album I've listened to in quite some time. In fact it's the oddest record I've heard since Kevin Ayers' last release, *Whatevershebringswing*. Kevin's two recordings before that were somewhat different to what anyone else has or is ever likely to unleash on an unsuspecting record-buying public. And that is something of a recommendation for Master Ayers, for it is difficult to be original in our extremely over-crowded music industry.

No doubt many of you haven't yet heard of or experienced Kevin's music, so here's a brief rundown on his past history. Ten or so years ago, he was an infamous wandering poet, but it was only natural that he eventually would turn away from that rather over-populated profession to become a songwriter and musician. He was one of the original members of The Soft Machine and appeared on their first recording, which shamefully has never been released in the UK. After the Softs had completed an exhausting tour of America with Jimi Hendrix, he split from the band and disappeared for a while to his beloved Mallorca. About four years ago, his initial solo album was issued and he started making live appearances throughout the country. Although never selling records in enormous quantities, he has built up a strong following and has recently been performing with Gong, the wierdest pop group ever to emerge from France. Back to *Bananamour*. The songs are

personal but often highly amusing anecdotes or reflections of what has recently been going on around Kevin. They're cleverly but simply constructed, making it easy for the listener to enter into the sometimes bizarre imagery. The arrangements range from being beautiful to intriguing and I specially like the send up of cliched soul music brass sections on *When Your Parents Go To Sleep*. The most endearing track is *Decadence*, and *Beware Of The Dog* finishes off the album perfectly.

The illustration above this review is a reproduction of the inside sleeve of the record's double cover. Kevin is seated on the left and yes, they are playing chess with pieces of unpeeled banana. The title of the album, *Bananamour*, I leave readers to interpret the meaning for themselves. Bananas have been a recurring theme in Kevin's past work, although this album represents his finest achievement to date.

PRELUDE — Deodato — CTI Records CTL 10

The most surprising hit record this year has been Deodato's controversial version of Richard Strauss's *Also Sprach Zarathustra*. Better known as the theme from Stanley Kubrick's '2001 — A Space Odyssey', the opening movement of Strauss's Nietzschean inspired 'tone-poem' has also become widely known as the music used to introduce the BBC's coverage of the Apollo moonshots.

In the States, the single of *Also Sprach Zarathustra* and the extended nine minute version that appears on Deodato's first album, *Prelude*, have both sold in enormous quantities. Their release in the UK was held up following objections from the executors of Strauss's estate, but an 'agreement' must have been reached as the single is now highly placed in our top ten.

South American born Eumir Deodato's formula for success has been to combine infectious Latin rhythms with a solid base of jazz. In addition there is an obvious soul influence. When mixed well together, the result is a thoroughly contemporary sound. Perhaps it is not the way Strauss intended *Also Sprach Zarathustra* to be interpreted, but the mixture of musical genres works extremely well, as is proved by the popularity and acclaim Deodato has achieved. The rest of the tracks on *Prelude* use the same formula, with the effect that listening to the album is a most agreeable and rewarding experience. Or to put it another way, *Prelude* is high class muzak at its best.

GREATEST HITS — Chairmen Of The Board — Invictus SVT 1009

Chairmen of The Board have had a

number of top twenty hits in the UK and the US, but like the majority of artists on Holland-Dozier-Holland's Invictus and Hot Wax labels, have failed to produce a satisfactory album. Their *Greatest Hits* collection is an improvement because it contains all the group's most successful songs, but apart from those tracks that actually were hits, the rest are instantly forgettable. The proven material though, still has all the vitality and punch it had when first released. Subsequently, the album, including such numbers as *Working On A Building Of Love*, *Give Me Just A Little More Time*, *Chairmen Of The Board*, *Pay To The Piper*, *I'm On My Way To A Better Place*, *Everything's Tuesday* and *You've Got Me Dangling On A String*, is a worthwhile addition to anyone with a strong affection for contemporary soul music and is ideal to play loud at parties.

CLOSING TIME — Tom Waits — Asylum SYL 9007

I'm beginning to wonder how many more singers/songwriters are waiting to emerge from the shadows of the music industry. There seems to be a new batch of aspiring solo artists round every corner nowadays. Tom Waits is the latest and his initial album is on the excellent Asylum label. I feel his singing and writing talents will prove to be very much an acquired taste, but if you happen to like them, there is enough interesting material on *Closing Time* to hold your attention. Waits' approach is relaxed and unhurried and his compositions are both sensitive and adult. The opening number *01'55*, *Rosie and Lonely* are good introductions to this extremely personal and neo-romantic album.

MOTOWN DISCO CLASSICS Volume Three — Various Artists — Tamla Motown STML 11227

The latest compilation album to be released by Tamla Motown is the third volume of their successful *Motown Disco Classics* series. There is a total of sixteen tracks, featuring contributions from immensely popular artists who were, at one time or another, part of that company's impressive array of stars.

Included are hits of the past such as *You Keep Me Hanging On* by Diana Ross and The Supremes, *How Sweet It Is* by Marvin Gaye, *Martha Reeves and The Vandellas' Heat Wave*, *The Temptations' Ain't Too Proud To Beg*, *25 Miles* by Edwin Starr and *Friendship Train* by Gladys Knight and The Pips. There are also tracks from The Marvelettes, The Velvelettes, The Contours, Jr Walker, Jimmy Ruffin, Barbara Randolph, Shorty Long and Brenda Holloway.

Like all Motown compilations, it is necessary to carefully check whether or not you will be duplicating material you already possess, but if you only have these songs on battered old singles, this album is a useful way of replacing them. Also, as the title suggests, records in the *Motown Disco Classics* series are perfect for parties and all manner of nocturnal gatherings.

MOTHER'S PRIDE — Fanny — Reprise K44233

Mother's Pride is Fanny's fourth album (their third to be issued in the UK) and although the group improve with each new release, they still offer little one hasn't heard numerous times before. It seems that the four girls who band together under the name Fanny, have restricted any major development to their music by continually resorting to the same old tired cliches that so many rock bands habitually tie themselves up in knots with. And in Fanny's case, it is a particular shame, because they are far from being talentless. Their harmonies are exceptionally good, Nicky Barclay's keyboard playing is consistently impressive and she is



obviously the outstanding musician in the group and visually they are stunning. But if Fanny ever want to be regarded as more than just an entertaining diversion, they must concentrate a lot more on creating a more definite musical image and writing stronger material, as well as tightening up the many loose ends and inconsistencies in their collective playing.

GREAT HITS FROM TWO DECADES — Tompall & The Glaser Brothers — Polydor/Moonshine 2460196

This album is a collection of contemporary standards from the 60's and 70's which have been given a country & western treatment. Unfortunately, Messrs Tompall & The Glaser Brothers are rather dull and numbers like *Homebound*, *Proud Mary*, *Those Were The Days*, *Baby Don't Get Hooked On Me* and *Help Me Make It Through The Night*, suffer accordingly. The Nash-

ville Studio Band, who accompany them, don't help matters much either, they just strengthen the 'myth' that country & western can sometimes be utterly boring. After that series of put-downs, let me finish by saying I've heard better music on a quiet night at my local Irish pub.

STARTING ALL OVER AGAIN — Mel & Tim — Stax 2325090

As the record company's press hand-out states: '*Starting All Over Again* is a prophetic title for Mel and Tim's first release on Stax Records'. It sold a million copies, equalling the success of their previous gold record, *Backfield In Motion*.



Starting All Over Again is also the name of their first Stax album, and apart from the title track, there are nine more fine numbers, such as *I May Not Be What You Want*, *Carry Me and Too Much Wheelin' and Dealin'*. Of the other material, particularly memorable are Mel and Tim's version of songs already made famous by other soul duo's — James and Bobby Purify's *I'm Your Puppet*, Sam and Dave's *Wrap It Up* and Don and Juan's golden oldie, *What's Your Name*. Full use is made of the Memphis based label's dynamic session musicians, whose rhythm sections are unsurpassed for the amount of driving funk they add to any artist's performance.

Mel and Tim's vocals are a combination of discreet earthiness and soulful intensity, and the general impact they create with *Starting All Over Again* is that they are the hottest duo since Sam and Dave. A must for those who like meaty but unpretentiously sophisticated soul food.

CATCH A FIRE — The Wailers — Island ILPS 9241

Last year, reggae finally made a big breakthrough with the release of the soundtrack from the first independent Jamaican film production, *The Harder They Come*. The record featured Jimmy Cliff and various other ethnic reggae artists and groups. Helped enormously by the film's popularity, the music was enthusiastically received by British audiences, many of whom were hearing authentic West Indian music for the first time.

Following the success of *The Harder They Come*, Island Records have high hopes for a new album called *Catch A Fire*. Superbly recorded, it showcases the talents of Jamaica's top group, The Wailers. Bob Marley, who co-produced the album with Island chief Chris Blackwell, is the band's leader and songwriter. The best known song on the record is Marley's *Stir It Up*, which, when covered by Johnny Nash recently, was a top twenty hit for him in both this country and America. The Wailers' interpretation is slightly slower than Nash's, but contains a smouldering sexiness that is missing from the cover version. Other standout tracks are *Midnight Raver*, *Kinky Reggae*, *Stop That Train and Concrete Jungle*. There are often delightful references to sexuality in Marley's lyrics, eg *Kinky Reggae*. This direct honesty, applied equally to all manner of subjects, is a distinctive feature of West Indian music, as is the unique up-front bass sound. The songs are delivered with such good-humour though, that only the bigoted minds of the Whitehouse brigade could take offence.

Whatever else reggae may be, it's

irresistibly danceable and you are really missing out if you haven't opened your ears to it yet. Forget your musical prejudices and listen to The Wailers' *Catch A Fire* and find out exactly why this musical genre is as relevant and important as any other form of popular music.

DOWN THE ROAD — Stephen Stills/Manassas — Atlantic K40440

There is no denying the high standard of musicianship and professionalism displayed by Stephen Stills and the fine band of talent he has gathered around him to form Manassas. Chris Hillman will always be remembered for his work with The Byrds and The Flying Burrito Brothers. Al Perkins plays some of the neatest steel guitar I've heard and the drumming of Dallas Taylor is remarkably tight and inventively constructed. Stephen Stills' past record speaks for itself, firstly as an integral part of the vastly underrated Buffalo Springfield and then as a founder member of the Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young supergroup.

Despite the many commendable parts, Manassas don't produce a totally satisfying whole. Admittedly, there are extremely gratifying highlights, such as the mandolin and steel guitar work on the beautiful song *So Many Times*. The fuzz guitar on another good song, *Down the Road*, is particularly memorable, as is the combination of banjo and pedal steel on *Do You Miss The Americans*. The rest of the material though, apart from the occasional flash of virtuoso brilliance, is very mediocre and isn't enough to sustain the listeners' interest for more than a few tracks. Of course, compared with what quite a few other bands are currently producing, Manassas stand head and shoulders above most of them. But the period of just marking time that Stephen Stills has seemingly been going through of late, urgently needs to be replaced by some solid creativity and more adventurous departures from tried and tested formulae. Or else there is a good chance he will commit the most unforgivable of all sins in rock music, become boring.

THE VOICE OF JAZZ Volume Two — Billie Holiday — Verve 2304109

From the middle 1940's till her tragic death in 1959, the late Billie Holiday was exclusively signed to the Verve record label. Polydor Records, who now own the Verve catalogue, are re-issuing all of the material she recorded for that label on a 10-volume set, collectively called *The Voice Of Jazz*. The records are being released separately at two-monthly intervals and the first was issued in March (reviewed GN20). The second volume is now available and I'm pleased to report that it is as satisfying as the first.

A notable feature of this second volume is that it contains a number of new versions of material Billie originally recorded in the 1930's and early 1940's. In those days she was the featured singer with small groups which included superb jazz musicians such as Lester Young, Teddy Wilson and Buck Clayton. Of course, these later recordings differ from the previous ones, which quite rightly are considered to be unsurpassed masterpieces, but what one hears on this album is a singer who is undoubtedly the main attraction. Billie's style is heavier, her mannerisms are more pronounced and the pathos and sense of tragedy in her voice, which was a dominant feature of all her later work, is clearly in evidence.

The album contains sixteen tracks, including *What A Little Moonlight Can Do*, *Stormy Weather*, *Lover Come Back To Me*, *Love For Sale*, *Moonglow* and *Everything I Have Is Yours*. I look forward to the release of the third volume of this excellent series, for they adequately demonstrate that Billie Holiday was a jazz singer without equal.

Denis Lemon

The Society Club

DON-JON BAR

Silver Street
Doncaster
Tel: 60763

Don Sooley Welcomes You
To The Gayest Night Spot
In The North With Over
1200 Members.

Mon - Sat 9pm - 2am
Cabaret Fridays

North London's Only Gay Night Club

SHANE'S

1 BROADHURST GARDENS LONDON NW6

(Finchley Road, behind John Barnes)

TELEPHONE : 01-624 9838

Featuring Two Bars and Lively Discotheque

Friendly Atmosphere

Fully Licensed

Soundtracks Unlimited

The No 1 Shop In London.

For Shows — Nostalgia
Soundtracks And
All Of Those Unusual Albums
That Are Hard To Find.

Now In Stock:-
God Save The Queens - Sandy Brown
The Singer - Liza Minnelli
Joel Grey At The Empire Room
And Many More From

Soundtracks Unlimited
Harlequin Records
60 Dean Street
London W1.



'Yes' And 'No' Nanette

NO, NO, NANETTE at the Drury Lane Theatre, London WC2.

AFTER a two year wait, the production of NO, NO, NANETTE finally reaches us. During this time, names mentioned as likely candidates for the starring role, included Alice Faye, Cyd Charisse, and even Ruby Keeler herself, from the New York production. Unlike Keeler, who came out of a 30 year retirement to appear in the show, the final choice of ANNA NEAGLE holds little curiosity value. Dame Anna was on the London stage two years ago in 'Charlie Girl', and after completing a very successful six year run here, went on tour with the show in Australia.

As the wife of a successful Bible publisher, she has a rather uninteresting role, as the action takes place around her, rather than actually involving her. She sails through the proceedings with great charm, and is called upon to sing and dance on two occasions. To say her two dancing appearances are simple is a matter of conjecture. Certainly, in 'I Want To Be Happy' she is well supported by the excellent harmony provided by the quintet, and later, when she goes into her tap routine, the stage is filled with a chorus of more than twenty, so that the overall effect is considerable. But it is in her other number, featured near the end of the show, 'Take A Little One Step', that she comes into her own. Though it is received with slightly less enthusiasm than the more well known 'I Want To Be Happy', she sings a solo chorus, and proceeds to defy 'Father Time' with a performance of vigorous enthusiasm in her dancing. It was then that I realised that the choice was wise - there is no substitute for style and class, which she has in abundance.

Class is also applicable to ANNE ROGERS, sadly miscast as Lucille. I feel that this character, in contrast to Miss Neagle's gentility, needs to be less ladylike and more boisterous. It is to Ms Rogers, that the awkward task of performing the first song in the show, is given. In the staging of 'Too Many Rings Around Rosie' she does two choruses, whilst the boys stand around her. When they do join in the number, the impact has already gone - frankly, her voice does not suit the song. However, she too, like Ms Neagle, improves as the show

goes on, for in 'You Can Dance With Any Girl At All' which she performs with the excellent Teddy Green, she shows great aptitude in her dancing, and in her third number 'Where Has My Hubby Gone Blues?' she is quite splendid.

My own particular favourites 'I Confess To The Breeze' and 'Tea For Two' are sung by the two lovers, Nanette and Tom. PETER GALE's excellent voice does them full justice, and his performance, along with the charming BARBARA BROWN as Nanette, has just the right amount of wide eyed innocence. The presence of TEDDY GREEN is a great assistance to the show. He, thankfully, has several dances, his singing and American accent are right on key throughout. TONY BRITTON is fine as the bumbling, rich do-gooder, around whom all the mishaps occur.

Finally, there is THORA HIRD as the comic maid, sliding in and out of the proceedings with her Hoover, carrying a battered old suitcase, conniving with the others in helping along the masquerade. While everyone around her speaks in accents ranging from Mayfair to New York, she retains her native Northern tongue, and alone seems to have the knack of 'sending everything up'. It is an outrageously over-played comedy performance, which is perhaps the best way of dealing with the inane plot.

I must admit that I enjoyed a lot of it, in spite of its faults, and feel that it will attract enough people to ensure its success in London.

Barry Conley



Despite the critics panning, the nostalgia boom should ensure success for 'No, No, Nanette'.

R & G Live Again

ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD by Tom Stoppard at the Young Vic Theatre, The Cut, London SE1.

From the outset I was doubtful. Could this ingenious play by Tom Stoppard affect me this time as much as when I first saw it performed several years ago at the National Theatre. By the mere fact that the audience were seated on three sides of the performance, the whole play took on a new perspective.

As any keen theatregoer knows, Rosencrantz & Guildenstern are two minor character players from HAMLET, who are used as mediators by the King of Denmark. They have a few scenes of no great importance to Shakespeare's play, and leave by ship accompanying Hamlet to England. That is the last we see of them, and later we learn that they died when the vessel sank. Here we find these two superfluous characters 'waiting in the wings' to participate in the proceedings of the play. They while away the time by playing an intriguing game of 'Spin The Coin' as the play commences.

Their mere presence has an air of unreality reminiscent of Pirandello at his best, and remember that his plays have always needed to be translated. I have always suspected that we therefore lose a little in the translation, but here Stoppard is writing in his native tongue, and the mind is dazzled by his brilliant vocabulistic ability.

When we return in part to Shakespeare's dialogue as spoken by the other characters, they appear to be indulging in rhetoric. The King and Queen of Denmark as portrayed by Ian Taylor and Jenny Austen take on a comic quality of their own, and the brief appearances of Polonius (Hugh Hastings) is even funnier than one has recalled the character to be in the past. In this setting

Hamlet (Ian Charleson) appears even further removed from the world of realism, and our two heroes efforts to question him are made humorous by the fact that they obtain no information.

Then there are the word games that they play, each outdoing the other as they proceed to display the English language to its best advantage. The terrible realisation that they will cease to exist as the play draws to its end takes on a new meaning of fear.

Along with Stoppard's brilliant writing, full credit must go to the superb acting by Nicky Henson and Andrew Robertson in the leading roles. Their characters and names are interchangeable. The qualities and virtues each possess are likewise so. Gavin Reed, as the chief strolling player, makes every appearance a highlight with his sinister nuances. Full marks too for Bernard Goss's exciting production. In the current crop of West End plays it remains as before, the theatre's most exciting offering of today.

Barry Conley



Nicky Henson and Andrew Robertson resurrect R & G.



Gene and Judy in 'The Pirate' - possibly the peak of Garland's MGM years.

Instant Nostalgia

Berlin & Porter - Back To Back

EASTER PARADE and THE PIRATE on MGM Silver Screen Soundtrack Series 2353 076. Price £1.85

IRVING BERLIN and the late COLE PORTER, both of whom were born 80 years ago, remain the foremost American composer-lyricists of their day. When speaking of the great show and film composers, many people fail to realise that of them all, only these two men wrote BOTH words and music. Sadly, in the latter years, only Stephen Sondheim has come along to take their place, bringing us lyrics that compliment his music, and vice versa.

MGM have just re-issued two film soundtracks of Judy Garland's most successful musicals on one record. Both of these have been unavailable for several years, and it is fitting, that with their scores by Berlin & Porter, they should re-appear during their 80th anniversary year.

EASTER PARADE, released in 1948, had an Irving Berlin score, featuring both old and new songs. Fred Astaire's two solos are 'It Only Happens When I Dance With You', a lilting love song written for the film, and 'Stepping Out With My Baby' (circa 1927) which though not written especially for him, suits him admirably.

Judy Garland's one solo song 'Better Luck Next Time' has remained neglected over the years, and hearing again that simple middle 8 section, I am surprised that it has not become more well known. She sings it with all the poignancy associated with Garland ballads. Her other new song, 'A Fellow With An Umbrella', is first sung by Peter Lawford, whose husky voice always appealed to me. Unfortunately, the song makes little impact on record, possibly due to MGM's habit of cutting out the original ending and substituting another.

The high spot of the film was undoubtedly Ann Miller's flamboyant dance routine to 'Shaking The Blues Away'. Originally, this was introduced by blues singer Ruth Etting in the late 20's, but here it is given a superb up-to-date arrangement which allows Miller to wham across the song with all the pep and zing she always displayed in her musical appearances.

'We're A Couple Of Swells' was the big duet, sung by Astaire and Garland in tramp outfits and comic make-up. In spite of many people's fond remembrance of it, I feel Berlin's comedy lyrics are only funny on first hearing. The delightful medley of early Berlin songs features: 'I Love A Piano' (Judy on top form), 'Snooky Ookums' (visually funny, but on record somewhat meaningless), and the frantic tempoed 'Midnight Choo Choo Leaves For Alabam'. The record closes with the title song 'Easter Parade' which is sung by the two stars, and ends with one of those heavenly MGM choro songs so popular at that time.

Cole Porter's score for THE PIRATE contained only 5 songs, but each one was interpolated in the story to further the plot. This record also contains 'The Pirate Ballet' which is excitingly scored, and played by the MGM Orchestra. Enough has been written of Porter's lyrical wit, but I would mention here his unique gift for writing love lyrics. The song 'Love Of My Life' is a prime example, with its passionate words, and almost possessive declarations. Many of his songs use only a few notes in range for the main theme, and this is one of them. With this song, and again in 'You Can Do No Wrong', Judy Garland proceeds to break all the

rules of good singing. Her voice quivers, her breath control is faulty, and yet, such is the emotional feeling she extends, that one accepts all this, and can enjoy her interpretations nonetheless. Gene Kelly's solo 'Nina' probably caused a few eyebrows to raise (remember this was 1948) with the lyric 'Till I Make You Mine, Till I Make You, Till I Make You Mine'. Porter's rhyming Nina (pronounced Neenya) with 'neurasthenia' is a good example of his talent with rhymes.

In the film 'Be A Clown' was the finale, duetted by Garland & Kelly, and one can almost see the film moguls telling Porter how they wanted a comic follow-up to Berlin's 'Couple Of Swells' featured in 'Easter Parade'. Of the two I prefer the Porter - not only is it livelier, but again his rhymes have more zest for fun. The final track 'Mack The Black' is a well-constructed song as regards tempo. It quickens gradually, then suddenly goes slow for one whole stanza, leading into the final chorus which is again up-tempo. In the closing bars (on record) and indeed visually throughout the song as performed in the film, Garland has never reached a higher moment on screen for sheer emotional intensity and excitement.

Old Stage Favourites On Screen

ROSE MARIE and THE MERRY WIDOW on MGM Silver Screen Soundtrack Series 2353 077. Price £1.85

I'M SOMEWHAT out of my depth in dealing with Romberg and Friml, not being that familiar with all their music. Both 'Merry Widow' and 'Rose Marie' had been highly popular stage musicals when Metro acquired them for the screen. Mae Murray as 'The Widow' in a silent version, and that popular duet McDonald & Eddy in 'Rose Marie' both had great success. With so many of their musicals doing well in the 40's and 50's, Metro decided to revive both properties once more, but this time out these vehicles had only moderate success. The resulting soundtracks are now revived on one record, and whilst recalling these films only slightly, I was more than surprised at how pleasant these two sides are.

THE MERRY WIDOW this time out, became a star vehicle for Lana Turner - lush sets, lovely costumes and a handsome leading man. Lana's one singing track was dubbed by Trudy Erwin, who supplied the singing voice for several stars in that era. The attractive foreign accent and fine singing of Fernando Lamas here enhances those old favourites 'Vilia', 'Maxim's' and the famous title waltz among others.

This version of ROSE MARIE co-starred Howard Keel, Ann Blyth and Fernando Lamas. Keel's virile baritone deals with the well-known title tune, as well as 'Song Of The Mounties' and one other. Lamas and Blyth are paired on the 'Indian Love Call' duet, and it sounds so nice I didn't miss McDonald & Eddy for an instant. I had seen Ann Blyth in most of her films, but had forgotten how lovely her singing voice was. Here she sings 'The Right Place For A Girl', and later the haunting 'I Have The Love' which Lamas reprises. Bert Lahr's two comedy appearances are here too, and if you enjoy pure corn, and want a brief moment of the marvellous Marjorie Main's talking and singing (?) voice, it's here!

Barry Conley

a superb french restaurant . . . near marble arch . . .



le faune

23 praed street london w.2
(01) 723 5170

last orders 11:30 pm

Love Knoweth No Laws*

The editors reserve the right to refuse or amend any advertisement without giving a reason. No refunds can be made on unacceptable advertisements. No advertisement intended or appearing to intend to solicit for sexual purposes will be accepted. Advertisements are accepted on the understanding that they are submitted by persons over 21 years of age.

* Chaucer

REPLIES TO BOX ADS. When replying to a box ad(s) place it in an envelope and attach, not stick, a 3p stamp to it. Then place inside a larger envelope and send it to GAY NEWS BOX REPLIES, Basement, 34d Redcliffe Square, London SW10. The letters ALA after an ad denote ALL LETTERS ANSWERED. WHEN WRITING your personal ads, it would help those wishing to reply, if you mentioned in which area you live.

Personal Ads

As from June 5th, box numbers in Issue 20 and earlier will be discontinued.

Jewish journalist (30s) seeks London-based guy 21-24. Friendship in the first instance. No hustlers please. ALA Box 24/1
Gay guy needs a friend (gay) over 21, for friendship. David Cassidy type, not camp or dolly. Ipswich area. I am 24 and active. Box 24/2
Chas. Where are you? Alan
Attractive young man (24) slim, tall, inexperienced. Seeks older and active gentleman for sincere and guiding friendship. Box 24/3
Gay Male (22) seeks same (over 21). Must be interested in horses. Not effeminate. East Midlands. Photo please. Genuine. Box 24/4
Lonely Midlander (21) slim and smooth, 5'9", brown hair, green eyes, seeks trendy young Midlander/Londoner (over 21) with own place. Box 24/5
Leather guy (over 21) with bike wanted for w/end exchange or camping trips by 22 yr old. Box 24/6
Attractive established Libran London male 30s interested arts, travel, seeks active genuine Aquarius/Gemini 25-40 for friendship. Photo please. Box 24/7
Guy late twenties tall and lean, denim type, wishes to meet same (over 21). Photo please. Box 24/8
Gay guy aged 51 (Bristol) seeks similar, very affectionate, refined, educated. Love and peace. ALA Box 24/9
31 yr old London guy wants sincere friend or friends. Interests music, theatre, etc etc. ALA Box 24/10
South Wales bisexual skinhead type would like to meet similar over 21. Can travel. Box 24/11
Exeter gay, not effeminate, (23) longs for friendship with same (over 21). Box 24/20
Bisexual (21) seeks sincere relationship with similar London/Manchester. Photo please. Over 21. Box 24/21

COMMERCIAL ADS: 7p a word. No Box Number service available. NON-COMMERCIAL ADS: 3p a word. Box Numbers 50p. PERSONAL ADS: 3p a word. Box Numbers 50p. SEMI-DISPLAY (Boxed Classified) £1.50 extra. All information listings are free. ALL ADS MUST BE PREPAID. DISPLAY AD RATES — prices quoted on request.

Retired and retiring gay, bereft of mate of 31 yrs, fanatically sincere, needs an understanding pal desperately (over 21). London/Northants. Box 24/12.
Young 25 slim short Londoner seeks 25-35 average-stocky built active sincere friend. Photos exchanged. Box 24/13.
Well-built slim manual worker 30s, bit shy of gay scene would like to meet friends over 21 any nationality or colour. Box 24/14.
Attractive slim graduate (23) who loves books, music, movies, theatre, art, and travel is searching for his lost half. (see 'Symposium'). He'll be in his twenties, living in London. Write with photo please. ALA Box 24/15
Young guy (over 21) seeks similar for sincere friendship. All letters with photos answered. Box 24/16.
Gay architect would be very interested to meet another (over 21). Box 24/17
Shy boy seeks young friends (over 21) freaked out on Byrds/Airplane/Spirit. Graeme, 9 Stokesley Grove, Newcastle NE7 7AN.
Scots guy (27) non-effeminate, 5'10" own small flat in London, wishes to meet slim active guy 21-27. Box 24/18.
London gay (27) wants to contact interesting gay couples. Also sensible loners. Please write. Photo appreciated. ALA Box 24/19
Young ex-sailor wishes to meet young men over 21 interested in coloured boys. Please send photo. Box 24/22
Londoner shortly moving to West Country would be most grateful for information on gay scene in Exeter, Torquay and surrounding districts. Please help. Box 24/23.
Slim, tall, fair, active professional man (40) with sense of humour, pleasant appearance residing in rural Sussex, seeks younger man over 21, any race, creed or colour with view to friendship. My interests are German, walking and music. Absolutely honest. Photo if possible. ALA Box 24/24.
Quiet undemanding London guy (22) interests films, theatre, painting, photography, seeks friendship of person 21-24 with similar interests. Photo appreciated. Box 24/25
Guy 26 seeks younger friend (over 21) for companionship. Box 24/26.
Are you uninhibited, hairy, nice physique, like wrestling? Two good-looking ex-Londoners, masculine, aged 24 and 30 living in Norfolk, London flat, willing to travel, seek non-effeminate gay friends, strictest confidence. ALA. Photo appreciated. Box 24/27.
Intelligent young London male, boyish 25, slim, blonde, needs older and wiser active male 25-40 for beautiful friendship. Box 24/28
East End father like figure, late 40s would like son figure for friendship (over 21). No fems or camps. Must be of straight appearance. Possibly share my flat. Genuine replies only please. Photo appreciated, mine in return. ALA Box 24/29
West London Middlesex. Attractive active 35 seeks sincere non-effeminate friend 20s, 30s (over 23) with view to permanent friendship. Genuine guys only please. Photo. ALA Box 24/30.
Manchester 21 yr old intelligent gay boy seeks similar (over 21) to be lonely with. Box 24/31
Middlesex 30s uninhibited, well built. Have place and car. Seeks similar friends for visits (over 21). Photo appreciated, but ALA Box 24/32
Middlesex. Interested in gadgets? Well built wishes to meet interested singles or couples for exchange of ideas. ALA Box 24/33.
Leather guys (over 21) invited to correspond, view to meeting well built guy (33). Box 24/34.
Good looking male own home, looking for partner over 21, very sincere. Send photo. Aged 30. ALA 'Avoca', Portmore Rd, Port Stewart, N Ireland.

Desperately lonely gay guy (22) non effeminate, totally inexperienced, dislike pub/club circuit, sincere, seeks ditto over 21 with view to lasting friendship. Bristol area. I like theatre, films. No photo necessary but I'd like you to be my age group. ALA Box 24/35
Retiring Anglo-Saxon exile (26) living Spain, seeks profound relationship (commence by post) with handsome athletic guy 25-29. Interests opera, drama, food. Genuine replies only with photo. ALA Box 24/36.
Two gay guys 26/28 seeks cheerful friends over 21 for meetings, weekends. London Box 24/37
Leeds or Colne areas, personable male 30s would like to meet others over 21, in 20s or 30s for occasional meetings. Interests, arts, travel, sports etc. ALA Box 24/38

Bryn Come home. I need you, want you, love you. Bill.

Friendly shy guy (over 21) inexperienced, slim 5'10", brown hair and eyes seeks friendship with masculine gay 21-30ish. ALA if sent with photo (recent, realistic and of yourself!) Mine in exchange. Box 24/39
Are you 21-25 with good looks, personality, intellect, understanding, physique and character? Are you looking for a permanent friendship with someone stable and home-loving. This is your chance to contact a young active coloured gent (over 21), enclosing full particulars and your photo. ALA. A beautiful home in Yorkshire awaits the right person. Box 24/40
Hertfordshire gay (21) outdoor interests, horses, motoring, seeks friendship with similar 25-32 non-effeminate. Photo please. Box 24/57.
Young Scot (25) average looks, based in York, wishes to correspond meet discreet genuine guy 21-27 for sincere friendship. Varied interests, own flat to share. Photo not essential. ALA. Box 24/58
Midland male (22) slim, 6', would like to meet same for sincere and lasting friendship. ALA with photo. Box 24/59.
Bachelor, London, pleasant appearance, young 40, 5'6", 13 st. quite reliable seeks friend 25-50 any nationality. Photo essential for reply. Return guaranteed. Phone no. advantageous. Discretion assured/expected. Box 24/61
Guy 26, tall, muscular, seeks others over 21 for ground wrestling. Your own place helpful. Photo essential. London. Box 24/62
Dalsey. I will see you at the Mardi Gras, Porchester Hall. I am playing in the band. Peter.
Active bachelor Southend young 45 seeks friend, not effeminate, view permanent friendship eventually share home. Photo ret'd. ALA. Box 24/65
Anyone for tennis?? Literally. Preferably masculine, to partner me and while away the summer afternoons. I'm an actor aged 28 and work evenings, but free every day. Genuine replies (over 21) only. Box 24/66
Old Shebbearians — how about a gay O.S.A. reunion? Any bright ideas write in confidence to Dave. Box 24/67
Stereo system for sale comprising Marconi tuner/amp, 6W per channel, 2 speakers, 2025TC record deck good condition £60 cash o.n.o. Steve. 228 8780
Wanted second-hand denim jeans 34" waist any condition. Reasonable price paid. Box 24/68
Masculine German, 39, tall, slim, sincere, just moved to London, own flat and car, seeks fairly intelligent, adaptable and genuine companion 25-35. Photo appreciated. ALA. Box 24/69
The 'Dolly Sisters' (Philip 21, Colin 38) Manchester wish to meet genuine, masculine guys 21-38. Photos appreciated. Box 24/73
Transvestite gay, intelligent, sweet, 38-28-39, bisexual, seeks similar, over 21, prepared to swap, set up pad, W London. Photo. ALA. Box 24/74
Do not phone me unless you are wanting genuine friendship and will keep appointments made. If you are, however, and are between 21-45 with a variety of interests, ring me at 01-478 5957

Home Counties leather boy, gentle but uninhibited, mid thirties, also interested in bikes, cars, photography, seeks similar gentle active guy with pad. Perhaps enduring friendship. Your photo returned with mine. ALA. Box 24/70
Anywhere between West London/Reading young man 26 seeks another over 21 for lasting friendship. Must have longish hair. Me, tall, slim, long hair. Like theatre, films, town, country. Photo if possible and phone no. Box 24/71
Happy young man (22) well adjusted but very shy and inexperienced is seriously looking for someone young (over 21) to share life with. Varied interests — mainly cultural, but also walking, cooking, in fact anything except pop or things mechanical! Anyone out there with a sense of humour and who is kind, intelligent and who will give and take please write. ALA. Photo please. David Box 24/72
London-Surrey leather guy would like to meet non-active type about 30 with own pad. Write with details and photo (returned). ALA. Box 24/75
Brighton bachelor interests art, photography, motoring; anti-club-pub; invites body-builders over 21 free, quiet weekends by the sea, Friday night to Monday morning. Write Peter. Box 24/76
Male early twenties, London seeks younger guy, 21-23, boyish appearance preferred. Box 24/77
Poet Laureate to the Queens seeks patron, preferably in publishing. Box 24/78
Heavy built guy (36) would like to meet others similar age interested leather etc. Photo please. ALA. Box 24/79
Active bachelor seeks compatible mates. Affection and sincerity offered. Photo essential and returned. Age 21-26. Box 24/80
Country loving active professional graduate. Own house central south. Interested horses, dogs, music, driving. Shy at making contacts. Seeks loyal affectionate friendship with similar in 30-40 age group. Box 24/81
Roy Howsego, 75 Brassett Point, Abbey Road, Stratford, London E15 3LB would like gay active friends. Write to above.
Fair haired slim, non-camp, 32 yr old seeks friendship with tall, active coloured person 30-50. Box 24/82
Man young 50, wants regular friends over 21 N London. Photo appreciated. ALA. Own house. Box 24/83
Faded blue levis. London collection. Man (32) wants to meet others. Exchanges etc. Box 24/84
Married gay guy (30) seeks similar or unattached gay guy (25-35) London/Herts/Essex areas. Box 24/85
Foreign graduate, noble descent, living West London, seeks attractive friend 21-24 to share experiences and affection. Photo please. ALA. Box 24/92
Good looking gay male (22) Derby/Nottingham area fed up with gay scene would like to meet handsome hirsute active males 21-45 for friendship. Photo and frank letters answered immediately. Box 24/93
Slim good looking active guy, late 20s, 6 months in London, would like similar or younger (over 21) for happy relaxed, hopefully long lasting friendship. Must be sincere. Box 24/94
Gay male early sixties, looks/feels younger, Medway towns seeks pen-friends, similar or younger. Interests books, music, theatre, cinema. ALA. Box 24/95
Male 30 needs one friend over 21 who likes wearing leather gear, no chicken but genuine and honest, no one night stands. Photo please. ALA. Box 24/96
Young sporting East Midlander would like to meet fellow enthusiasts for training sessions (over 21). Box 24/97
Guy 29 seeks friendship with other guys in the leather set (over 21). London area. ALA. Photo please. Box 24/98
SE London active 32 main interests theatre and music. Seeks sincere, genuine person (over 21) for lasting friendship. Photo appreciated but not essential. Box 24/99
Don't just sit there (do unto others). Write me a letter and I'll write to you. You get older just sitting. I should know. 26 already. E.11 Box 24/100
Young London bachelor buying secluded country retreat Norfolkshire/Lincolnshire borders, wishes to contact car owner(s) interested country weekends, willing to drive from London. Box 24/101
Professional man (60s) London and Central Sussex coast weekends, seeks companion for enjoyment of varied interests. Age (over 21) colour unimportant if sincere. Box 24/102
For sale. Copy of Asbestos Diary. Now out of print. £6. Nearly new condition. Box 24/103
Active London male nearly 30, with own flat and car, not bad looking, feeling depressed after break up of long lasting affair, seeks new friends in their twenties (over 21) to early thirties. Varied interests. Personality much more important than looks. Box 24/104
Gay male young 26 with problems, seeks friends (male or female) interests include pubs, country walking, nature, music. Catford. Photo appreciated. Box 24/107

Sincere presentable young man seeks permanent friend, London, over 21. Photo please, returned. Box 24/105
Young gay 26 living West London would like to meet friends, not too camp. Interests music, reading, meeting people. Friends from any age over 21. ALA. Photo appreciated. Mine in return. Box 24/106
Shy young West London gay wishes to meet similar over 21. Interests pop, art, railways. Box 24/108
Alan Clarke, Jon Watts, Mick, pretty Sean (though you're straight) and all at York. I love you very much and I'm sorry you didn't realise you were included in my Sheffield advert. Tony Auton.
Can anybody help me? I am very self conscious of my skinny physique, and would like private tuition in body-building. Is there anyone who would give me serious training? Preferably in the Manchester area but elsewhere considered. Genuine replies only please. Box 24/114
Young male just 23 wishes to meet others over 21. I'm tall, slim, nice looking. Coventry. Photo please. Box 24/115
Would Brian who phoned Thomas 01-727 5920 on 17th May contact again.
Tall, slim young man (24) into contemporary music, seeks similar who enjoys life to the full. London area only. Only replies with photographs enclosed answered. Box 24/117

Women's Personal Ads

Gay girl (25) wishes to meet similar. Lives North West but willing to travel. Box 24/41.
Attractive and intelligent, lonely bisexual girl (21) seeks similar or gay girl, London area. Photograph appreciated. Box 24/42.
Attractive female 30 seeks loving lasting friendship with another girl. Own house and transport. Varied and wide interests. Photo appreciated. Box 24/43.
Lonely young gay girl seeks same. Photo appreciated. Romford Essex. Box 24/44
Depressed and lonely Middle Eastern student (24) wishes to meet sincere understanding gay girl for friendship, social evenings. Please help. Box 24/89
Gay girl (23) seeks friends (female). Box 24/110

Holidays

Australian cyclist (25) wants fellow cyclist/s tour England/Wales July. Also over night accommodation. Write B F Brady, Poste Restante, GPO London.
Travelling California 3 weeks 14th September. Reserved Egnlishman (36) seeks information on gay scene& accommodation and/or younger (over 21) travelling companion. Interests classical/opera, body-building and travel. Box 24/56.
Very slim guy (26) airline employee, seeks attractive well built companion 21-29 share continental vacation. Photo please. ALA Pilch, 3 Chalcot Square, London NW1
Cabin cruiser on Thames. One or two males in twenties willing to help two others (38,45) offered free holiday first half of August. Arranged by correspondence and meeting. Box 24/60
East Devon bachelor (own house) would welcome visits from university/professional gentlemen of any age over 21. Share expenses only for companionship. Box 24/109
Two companions seek one or two more for holiday Morocco flying out on 16 June, touring by car, stopping in cheap hotels and youth hostels. 2 weeks. Also bedsit to let SE London. 01-732 6724
URGENT. Young man, under 25 (over 21), well-educated, and of quiet and pleasant disposition required to join active professional man going to Corfu villa with two other friends, 11 June for two weeks. Comprehensive replies only. Photo appreciated. Cost minimal. Box 24/116

Accommodation Ads

Hull undergraduate mid 20s seeks similar to share accommodation Sept '73 to June '74. Box 24/45.
1/2 discreet gay guys over 25 for super Sth Ken pad, own large room, phone 373-2734 evenings.
Londoner (36) tired of living alone seeks share flat with sincere active type. Interests theatre, music, leather, denim. ALA Box 24/46
Two Canadians staying in London for four months would like to share with other gays age between 25-30. Box 24/47
Furnished flatlet to let (WC1) from end of June. TV, telephone, CHW. Suit gay couple. Phone 01-935 4544 after 6.30pm only.
Is there an attractive gay lady wishing to share country home with gay bachelor? If you are interested in horses, riding and country life in general, please write Box 24/48
Students only — share house in Acton. Own room with facilities £5 per week. Box 24/49
Urgently need guy to share my flat, 3 rms, kitchen, bathroom, WC £4 pw. John, 17 Claremont Grove, Didsbury, Manchester 20.

Personal and Classified Ads Form

Please insert in the next issue
BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

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

£..... for an Ad of words.

Send to Gay News, Basement, 34d Redcliffe Square, London SW10.

NAME

ADDRESS

Accommodation Ads

Alan (27) graduate, travelled and presentable needs accommodation in central London from June 1st. Appreciates honesty and humour. Interesting part time employment may be considered. Box 24/50
 Own room in comfortable NW3 flat offered by guy (40) to youngish gay over 21. £5. Photo helps (returnable). Box 24/90
 Quiet 27 seeking suitable flat mate for one bedroom flat. Shared interests with a view to lasting friendship. ALA. Box 24/91
 Hammersmith W6 — young man to share music student's flat. Own room. £30 per month. 01-748 3589.
 Quiet non-effeminate guy, 20s, for single room in self-contained flat by South Kensington underground. Share kitchen and bathroom with couple. £9.25 per week inclusive. Ring 584 0509 mornings/evenings.
 Young presentable bachelor seeks another over 21 share his house (South London). Photo appreciated. Box 24/111
 Young businessman 30, seeks similar under 35 with view to finding/sharing cost of decent sized, s/c two bedroom flat in Ilford/E6 area. Genuine enquiry. Box 24/113

Employment Ads

Scott, London, good appearance, ex RN, young 40s completely reliable, seeks whole or part time job, days, nights, can travel (sorry, can't drive). Anything, anywhere considered provided it's legal and keeps us both happy. Fullest details please. ALA. Box 24/51
 Boy Friday for bachelor household on South Coast. Good job for someone who would not object to country way of life. Own flat supplied rent free. Good wages in return for hard work. Genuine replies please. Box 24/52.
 Will Box 24/52 please contact the office as soon as possible please.
 Writer offers good home, travel, salary for resident secretary/PA, single male preferably 35-50. Good typing essential, driving desirable. Send details education, tastes etc. Box 24/53.
 Good looking boy (21) wishes to model leather/denim wear. Good physique. Central London. Box 24/54
 Secretarial help needed by journalist NW London. Half day each week. Typing and organised mind essential. Box 24/55
 Carl Supergraphics — see under classified.
 Young man (22) requires interesting full time work. Box 24/63
 Man Friday — must type, own car pref., work concerns overseas correspondence/publicity work here related to theatre. Employer is 23, around same preferred. Hours, pay negotiable. Box 24/64
 Young guy (21) good looking and well built seeks evening work. Everything legitimate considered. London SW. Box 24/86
 Asian guy secretary seeks evening shorthand typing job starting 6.00 pm. Contact 229 8762 after 6.30 pm.
 Cleaner wanted evening or weekend Peckham £2.50 for 5 hours (more if able to paint and do repairs). Possibly live in. Bedsit available July. Helper required one week August to renovate house Brighton. Accommodation provided. Cleaners, barmen, shop staff, typists required. Employers — let's have your vacancies. Huntington, 19 Newport Court, London WC2.
 Bristol — presentable young man interested TV recording/closed circuit TV, sound recording to assist evenings and weekends. No experience required. Could lead to full time career for right person. Returnable photo and letter to Box 24/87 ALA.
 Edinburgh male, 30s, lover of Italy, especially Capri, would like position as companion secretary, to someone who is genuine, music lover, and kind. Honest and reliable, sense of humour. ALA. Suggestions welcome. Advertiser does not drive. Camp or effeminate people please do not reply. Box 24/88
 Will Box 24/88 contact the office A.S.A.P.
 Air steward, young, intelligent, usual qualifications. Catering experience (chef) ex-lades hairstylist, and has a genuine love for people is looking for a well paid position with travel involved. Box 24/112

Classified Ads

Small theatrical costumier business for sale. Fully equipped workroom and stock. Contacts etc. Phone 01-935 4544 after 6.30pm only.
 Meet new friends. Get Apollo Contact magazine 75p, or Gay Circle 50p. Both sent for £1 from D. Gritten, 131 (GN) Richmond Park Road, Bournemouth, Hants.
 My trip is to project your trip on your walls in the form of supergraphics, ie large scale design to integrate your space with the objects, people and vibrations that move within it. Walls to surround instead of enclose. Reasonable fee based on time involved. Carl. 01-733 2800

Leather and fashion wear catalog. Send 30p PO to Richard Stone, 15 Clifton Gardens, London N15

The exclusive ADAMS GUEST HOUSE invites you to spend your short or long holidays in picturesque, tolerant surroundings, whether in Germany, Sicily or Italy; Rome, Trieste, Calabria or the Dolomites. Strict privacy and every comfort for your particular needs are assured. Write now to:— Mark Spitz Club, Europa, Mr Hans Burlein, 8602 Burgwindheim, Jagdhaus, Germany, for full details.

Improve your appearance. Shirts/trousers shaped to fit. Paul, 278 1641

Lunch. Serious homosexual magazine for men and women. 25p (3 back issues 50p). Lunch, 98 Felsham Road SW15 1DQ
Gay News by post discreet wrapping R/O for 15p + 3p p&p to Pleasants (Regd) 24 Cranbourne Street London WC2H 7AA.

LIGHT REMOVALS
 also
Delivery Service
 Anytime Anywhere
 01-460 0977
 Strictly Legitimate Business

Experienced young qualified masseur visits home/hotel. Genuine service for massage only. 01-370 6506

Soothe away those aches and pains. Qualified masseur visits, genuine only. 01-373 6614.

Gay Nude Boys/Men Mags!!!
 "Cain Leather"/"Tsar" £1.50 each. "Just Kids" £2.50. 10" vibrators £2.00. Lists SAE. Johnny: BM/FBGH, London WCTV 6XX

Massage offered by male negro (the Clarke system). Own accommodation offered if needed.
Genuine massage only. Phone 402-5840 between 10 am -7 pm.
Leather wear. "If it's made of leather — we make it." Send 40p for catalogue of unusual leather wear and photo sets of models.
 Boy Studio, 44 Earls Court Rd., London W8

ADAM 73, a magazine with a difference. Join our team of goodlooking guys. Send photographs and details. Editor, (CHD) 243 Regent Street, London W1R 8PN. ARTICLES desperately required.

WANTED. STREET SELLERS to sell, you guessed it, GAY NEWS. Fun way of making extra cash.
FAG FUND. It would help our petty cash situation if you could send us your ciggy coupons... ta, my dears.

Information

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

Homosexual Counselling. If you have a medical, psychological, legal, spiritual or just a general problem contact CENTRE, Broadley Terrace, Marylebone, NW1, for an appointment or telephone 01-262 9595 (Office hours 7.30 - 9.30pm.)

The first general meeting of the **Gay Lodge Housing Association** will take place at 7.30pm on Sunday 20 May, at the Euston Tavern, 73 Euston Road (opposite St Pancras Station), London NW1. The purpose of this meeting will be to explain the aims and objects of the Association. Everyone interested is welcome to attend.

The Beaumont Society is an organisation for transvestites and transsexuals. For information of meetings etc., write to: The Beaumont Society, BM/Box 3084, London WC1.

REACH — a nationwide homophile group of members of Christian churches primarily concerned with campaigning within the churches and helping isolated homosexual Christians. Reach, 25 Blackfriars Road, Manchester.

Mental patients and ex-patients: Mental Patients Union meets weekly Wed evenings 7pm. 97 Prince of Wales Road, NW5. 01-267 2770

Gayprints - Faggots and the Revolution etc. has now moved to 66 Woodland Rise, Muswell Hill, London N10.

ROOTS: Edinburgh's Alternative magazine, 6p monthly from 6 Lonsdale Terr Edinburgh 3, also INDEX, Edinburgh's radical directory. Over 250 organisations listed, many with descriptive paragraphs — your guide to the alternatives in Edinburgh (and the rest of Britain). Out May 21. 20p (+3p postage) from Roots.

Edinburgh University Gay Group. Contact Rod Hall, 18 Guthrie Street, Edinburgh.

Mental Patients Union research group needs written evidence on the effects of electro-convulsive therapy, brain surgery and psychiatric drugs. All information will be treated confidentially. Details to MPY, 97 Prince of Wales Road, NW5.

Bath Gay Awareness Group meets Thursdays 8pm. Info from John — Bath 20105 or Hugh — Bath 4738.

Sheffield Gaysoc embraces CHE, GLF — and those who don't go in for organisations too — for discussions, campaigns and exciting social activities. Not just for the university, but for all gay, bi and sympathetic women and men at educational institutions in the area. Write to us via Societies Pigeonholes, Students Union, The University, Western Bank, Sheffield 10.

READING GAY ALLIANCE regular disco and social counselling, quiet meetings, public meetings and action. Town and University. SAE for News-sheet. Room 7, 30 London Road, READING.

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.

Harrow Gay Unity. For details phone Janie at 863 1184 or Alex at 864 2291. Meets on Mondays.

Southampton Area: Gay men and women welcome to new group. Details from Ken, Romsey 512959

Bristol Gay Students Society — for all young people, male and female. Regular meetings, social events, guest speakers, theatre visits, awareness groups. Write to Trevor Locke, Gay Students Soc, University of Bristol Union, Queens Road, Bristol BS8 1LN for a programme of events. Tel: Bristol 35035.

Social group for homosexual men and women meeting in London — weekends in East End, mid-week in various small groups. Come and make new friends in congenial surroundings. Write for details to SK group, c/o Albany Trust, 32 Shaftesbury Ave, W1.

CHALLENGE is a social group for gay men and women over 21. We have weekly meetings at 3 London branches and would be delighted if you would join us for a drink and a chat. Please telephone any evening between 7 and 11. Dial 567 5085 and the operator will give you the number of the member of the evening. Do call us.

Fellowship in Christ the Liberator, Communion service 8pm, Sundays, West Kensington. Details: FCL c/o 61 Earls Court Square, London SW5.

Help/Information/coffee at Bethnal Rouge, a bookshop run by a collective of gay people, 248 Bethnal Green Road, London E2. Tube: Bethnal Green. Bus: 8.

GAY MARXIST GROUP now forming. Politically committed homosexuals of both sexes welcome. Details: 01-794 3368.

SAPPHO meets every first Monday in the month at Euston Tavern, corner Judd Street/Euston Rd, London NW1, 7.30 pm upstairs room. All women welcome. SAPPHO, 30p inc post for single copies from BCM/PETREL, LONDON WC1V 6XX.

Survey of the social position and attitudes of homosexuals to provide a factual basis for gay activism. Anyone interested particularly sociology students/lecturers contact Peter Tatchell, 29 Sinclair Gardens, London W14. Telephone 01-603 7158.

Jewish Homophile Group welcomes new members of either sex. For further information please write to Timothy Goldard, BM—JHG, WC1 6XX.

Manchester Gay Women meet on alternate Mondays. Details: Liz Stanley, 061-881 3683.

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, hitch-hiking, cheap furnishing, communications, shelter, late night services, accommodation, free services, ad infinitum...

Contact: Nutshell Information Service, Phone: Brimingham 772 2483; 24 hours every day. (Ask for Nutshell as we share a line with St Basil's Centre.)

Leicester Gay Awareness Group, ring Leicester 738832, ask for Clive or John.

Warwick Gay Soc has started. Meets every Tuesday 6pm in the Coffee Bar at the University. Contact Irwin Timms, 60 Russell Terrace, Leamington Spa, or Jill Brown, H44, Rootes Hall.

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

Manchester University Homophile Society — social events, campaigning — open to all — meets Thursdays. 8pm, meeting room 4, University Union, Oxford Road.

Gay girls meet on alternate Fridays 7-10.30pm, Blue Anchor Hotel, St Mary's Street, Cardiff, upstairs room.

"**Gay Cambridge**", a joint CHE/GLF group covering both the town and the university. Meets every fortnight, weekly in university term. Contact Bernard Greaves, 29 John Street, Cambridge. Phone Cambridge 52661.

R I B information and Help, 58 Charles Street, Cardiff 44441. Advice on homosexuality, food, lesbianism, drugs, legal matters, entertainment etc.

OXFORD GAY ACTION GROUP, Oxford 45301 between 7 & 8 pm. Meetings every Sunday at 8pm in The Marlborough, St Thomas Street.

Isolated homosexual men and women can ring Icebreakers on 274 9590 between 7.30 and 10.30 every evening of the year to talk over their problems with other gay people.

CAMPAIGN FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY

There are over 70 local groups. For details and membership information, contact their offices at:— 28 Kennedy Street, Manchester M2 4BG. Telephone 061-228 1985. Or 22 Great Windmill Street, London W1. Telephone 01-437 7363. (London Information Centre, open Mondays to Fridays noon to 10pm, Saturdays noon to 6pm, Closed Sundays.)

You can ring some groups direct at the numbers below:

Bath: Bath 4738 (Hugh)
 Birmingham: 021-706 9818 (Douglas)
 Bradford: Shipley 51742

Brighton: Brighton 778025 (Malcolm)
 Bristol: Bristol 35035 (Trevor)
 Cambridge: Cambridge 52661 (Bernard)
 Chilterns: High Wycombe 39321 (Haydn)

Herts. Sth: Hatfield 69172 (John)
 Kent, East: Thanet 42059 (Roger)
 Kent, Nth: Folkestone 54698 (Brian)

Lancaster: Lancaster 2750
 Leeds: Morley 7686 (David)
 Leicester: Leicester 738832 (Clive)
 London (all groups): 01-437 7363 (Information Centre)

London, East: 01-500 6032 (Tony)
 London, Monday Gp: 01-589 6438 (John)

London, Stepney: 01-476 7980 (Mike)
 London, Youth: 01-567 5590 (John)
 Manchester: 061-224 3394 Ext 15 (Gordon)

Northants/Beds: Northampton 22861 (Alan)

Portsmouth: Horndean 2855
 Preston: Preston 59908
 Shropshire: Cressage 231 (George)

Southampton: Romsey 512959 (Ken)
 Tunbridge Wells: Tunbridge Wells 33175 (Ross)

Tyneside: North Shields 76454 (David)
 Wirral: 051-327 5178 (Jack)

Homosexual women: Find out more about CHE groups from a woman. Every Tues 6pm to 10pm at 22 Great Windmill Street, W1. Tel 01-437 7363.

Wandsworth/Richmond CHE group for men AND women. Incorporating Fulham/Wimbledon and fringe areas. We meet twice a month. Write to Charlie Micklewright, 46b Chartfield Ave, SW15

Carlisle, Cumberland, the Lakes, Will anybody interested in joining a new group in this area please get in touch with Richard Webster, c/o Tyneside CHE, 17 Oxford Terrace, Gateshead, NE8 1RQ.

CHE Cardiff now meets at Chapter Arts Centre, Market Street, Canton, Cardiff every other Monday (Nov 20 etc). Gay News will be on sale.

Streatham area, newly formed CHE group meets regularly. Details: Ian Clayton, 56 Hillbrook Road, SW7.

Young Gays meet regularly in London. The CHE Youth Group meets fortnightly around central London.

Details from Mike or Jim at 01-385 7246.

Newport CHE meets alternate Wednesdays. Contact Chris Newport at 0633-65101.

New CHE groups have been formed in Lancaster and Preston. For details phone Lancaster 2750 and Preston 59908

Sound-Off! An all-London meeting for CHE members will be held in the Holborn Assembly Hall on Friday 1st June. Progress, problems and plans will be aired (when do we get our club? etc). Coffee available from 7.30pm, meeting starts at 8.00pm. Admission 20p.

SCOTTISH MINORITIES GROUP

Postal enquiries: SMG, 214 Clyde Street, Glasgow G1 4JZ.

For meetings in **ABERDEEN** and **GLASGOW** ring John Breslin (041-771 7600)

SMG Edinburgh (Women's Branch) meets alternate Mondays 8pm in a hotel in central Edinburgh. Contact Convenor, SMG Edinburgh (Women's Branch), c/o V.O.C., 11 Colme St, Edinburgh EH3 6AG.

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

London Gay Liberation Front is divided into local groups and there are over 40 provincial groups. Full information from the London GLF office, at 5 Caledonian Road, N1. Telephone 01-8377174.

GLF General London meeting from May 29 at 19.30 on Tuesdays at Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, WC1. Gay Womens Lib (North London) meet at the Crown and Woolpack, 397 St Johns Street, EC1 (Angel Tube) 8pm on Mondays.

West London GLF meets in the Committee Room of Fulham's Town Hall, Fulham Broadway on Thursdays at 8pm
 East London GLF meets Thursdays at 103 Market Street, East Ham E6 at 8pm
South London GLF meets Wednesdays at Oval House from May 16.

TV and TS group meets Tuesdays at All Saints Church Vestry, Clydesdale Road W11 at 20.00.

Religious Gay Lib Group meets on Sundays. Details: 01-278 1701.

Sussex GLF meets Tuesdays 8.15 pm upstairs back bar Stanford Arms, Preston Circus, Brighton. Official contact is Doug Coupe, 40 Ashford Road, Brighton, or phone Dave, Graham or Chris at Brighton 688301 or call in on us any time at 24 Gladstone Place.

Sussex University Gay Soc meets from time to time. Contact through Students Union, University of Sussex, Falmer, Nr. Brighton.

Manchester GLF. Details from John or Steve, 17 Claremont Grove, Didsbury, Manchester 20

Birmingham GLF. 021-643 0996. Peace Centre, 18 Moor Street, Queensway. Weekly free discos every Wednesday at The Old Crown, Digbeth.

York GLF now forming. Details from Bob Olorenshaw, A 113 Derwent College, University of York, Heslington, York.

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.

NEWCASTLE GLF meets Wed 8pm at 258 Westgate Rd, Newcastle 4. Office open 8-10 nightly. Help, legal advice or just coffee and a chat. All gays and straights welcome.

LEEDS GAY LIBSOC office open Monday-Friday 12-2pm at 153 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds 2. Phone 39071 ext 57. Meetings every Friday 8pm at "The Pack Horse" Woodhouse Lane. All welcome.

Discos

DISCO First Sat of each month at the Odd Spot Coffee House & Grill, Sir Simon's Arcade (behind T.S.B.), Lancaster. Tel: 2750, 11pm to 4 am. Bring a bottle. Gay News will be on sale.

West London GLF present discos at Fulham Town Hall, Harwood Rd, Fulham Broadway at 8pm on May 22nd, May 29th.

Nightingale Club, 50 Camp Hill, Birmingham disco with Mike St John every Tuesday 10.30 to 2am.

OXFORD GAY ACTION GROUP disco every Fri 8-11 at The Cape of Good Hope, The Plain, Oxford.

Disco every Thursday in the Public Bar of The Ship and Whale, 2 Gulliver Street, SE 16.

Reading Gay Alliance weekly social Wednesday, disco Saturday. Admission to each 20p (10p students). Both at The Railway Tavern, Stanshawe Road, Reading. No membership.

Sussex GLF. Disco every Friday 8-11 pm at Stanford Arms, Preston Circus, Brighton. Only 20p.

Oxford Gay Action Group: Weekly Discos 8pm on Fridays at The Cape of Good Hope, The Plain, Oxford.

Leeds GLF Discos every fortnight. Contact their office for location.

FATHER RED CAP 319 Camberwell Road, SE5 (Camberwell Green).

Tricky Dicky Boys only Disco on Thursdays and Sundays. Also mixed disco on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Girls only disco on Fridays.

DRAG MOBILE DISCOTHEQUE Tuesday nights — ROYAL OAK, 62 Glenholme Road, London W6.

KINGS ARMS Liverpool Street, (corner of Pindar Street). Tube/B.R. Liverpool Street. Buses 8, 8a, 22, 6, 47, 87. Dicks Inn every Monday 8-11pm Licensed. Tricky Dicky show on Sat urday nights 8.30-11pm. Admission free, saloon bar disco, impersonations, gay atmosphere. Gay News is on sale at all Tricky Dicky discos.

ARABIAN public house, 234 Cambridge Heath Road, E2. Nearest tube Bethnal Green. 5 mins walk. Every Wednesday Dicks Inn 8.30-11pm. Tricky Dicky Disco.

Newcastle GLF disco, June 9, Sallyport Tower, Newcastle.

S London GLF disco. 8pm every Saturday at The Hanover Arms. Tube Oval

Drag & Cabaret

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

THE ROYAL VAUXHALL TAVERN "the London Palladium of Drag", 372 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall X, SE11. Drag 7 nights a week and Fri, Sat, Sun & Mon Lunchtimes, featuring Lee Paris, Bow, Rae-Chell, Lola, Derek Rees and others. All lunchtime parties catered for. Tel: 735-1919.

ROYAL OAK, 62 Glenthorne Road, W6 (Hammersmith). Drag every night. Regular artistes including Mr Jean Fredericks.

ELEPHANT & CASTLE, South Lambeth Place, SW8 (Vauxhall). Drag every night except Tuesdays. Regular compere Jackie.

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 and Mrs Shufflewick.

Sunday (evening) with Perri St Clare or Sandy Graham.

Alan McGorin 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 OF 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.

WINDSOR CASTLE, 309 Harrow Rd, (Westbourne Park) Drag on Wednesday and Sunday (lunch and eve).

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

Sun-Wed-Fri - Artistes include Trolliettes, Honey, Lee Stevens, Derek Rees, Perry St Claire.

Mon-Drag disco, dancing. Tues-Jazz Band. Thurs-Talent Night. Sat-Sing-along, dancing.

Provincial Drag And Cabaret

PAN CLUB, 52-54 Bute Street, Luton;

June 22: Hinge and Bracket;

June 23: Midsummer Ball;

June 24: Tropical night - wear anything!

Gay Pubs

THE QUEENS HEAD, Tryon Street (off Kings Road, London SW3).

WILLIAM IV, Heath Street, Hampstead NW3, Hampstead tube.

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

THE CHAMPION, Bayswater Road.

Nearest tube is Notting Hill Gate.

THE BOLTONS and **THE COLEHERNE** are opposite each other at the junction of Earls Court Road and Old Brompton Earls Court tube.

THE SHIP AND WHALE 2 Gulliver Street, SE16.

THE GREEN ROOM, The Wheatsheaf Goldhawk Road, Shepherds Bush.

Provincial Info

IPSWICH: The Sea Horse Inn. (Young crowd, occasional drag)

SOUTHPORT: Queens, Promenade, ballroom bar. Gays welcomed by 'Louise'. The 'Baron's Bar' of the 'Scarlsbrick', Lord Street.

STRATFORD ON AVON: The Queens Head, Ely Street.

NEWPORT (MON): The Kings Head Hotel (Lounge Bar), High Street, opp. station.

Pub: The Waterloo, Commercial St, (by the dock gates).

ST ALBANS: Pub: The Boot.

BURNLEY: Pub: The Cross Keys.

LANCASTER: Pub: Farmers Arms, King Street, "Landlord pro gay".

CHELTENHAM: New Twenty Club, 20 High Street, Telephone 25821.

PLYMOUTH: Pubs: The Lockyer, Derry's Clock, Lockyer Street (Oak Lounge - Back Bar). The Phoenix, off Union Street. The Valletort.

SUNDERLAND: Club: Ro-Ko-Ko, The Promenade, Roker, Sunderland.

CHESTER: The bar of the Blossom Hotel.

WINDSOR: Pubs: The Ship and the Three Tuns, both near the Guildhall.

MORECOMBE: Mason's Arms, Queen Street, Thursday through Sunday.

PRESTON: Pubs: Grove Hotel, Fylde Road. Bull and Royal Cockpit Bar. Men only.

BLACKBURN: Pub: Merchant's Hotel, Darwen Street, by GPO. Drag shows. Partly gay club: Top Hat Club.

NORWICH: Pub: Studio Four, Anglia Studios.

BOURNEMOUTH: Bar: The Norfolk Hotel.

BRISTOL: Pub: The Ship (by Colston Hall)

COVENTRY: Pub: Rose & Crown, High Street. Friday is best.

MERTHYR TYDFIL: Pub: Red Cow Hotel, Glebeland Street.

SCARBOROUGH: Pubs: The Cliff Inn, Huntress Row; The White Horse (Cath's Bar), Falsgrave.

BATH: Pub: The Regency (opp. Theatre Royal)

Club: Valentines Club, 14 George Street Bath.

MANCHESTER: Pubs: Union Hotel, Princess Street, women, men and drag.

Rembrandt, Sackville Street; Trafford, back bar and mostly men; Cavalcade, junction Wilmslow Rd and Barlow Moor Rd; Didsbury, Sunday lunchtime; New York, Richmond Street, mixed. Mechanics, Sackville Street.

Clubs: Samanthas, back Piccadilly (off Newton Street). Ban on women and admittance restricted to members and their guests only. Picador, Bradshaw Street, Shude Hill; Rockingham, Queen Street. Napoleon's, Sackville Street. Guests with members only.

STOKE ON TRENT: Club: "One for One" 141 Marsh Street North, Hanley.

WORCESTER: Club: "Silver Web", Whitmore Street.

CLEETHORPES: Birds Nest Cafe, Boating Lake, Saturday only.

GRAVESEND: Pub: The Kent, High Street.

LEICESTER: Pub: Dover Castle, Dover Street.

CANTERBURY: Pub: The Queens Head, Watling Street.

NEWCASTLE: Pubs: Royal Court Grill, Bigg Market (recommended); Eldon Grill (Variety Bar) opp Grey's Monument; Royal Turk's Head (Red Rover Bar) Grey Street; Grapes Vaults, Grey Street; Chancellors Head, Bigg Market; County Hotel (Nancy's Bar) foot of Westgate Road.

BEDFORD: Pub: The Barley Mow, Bromham Road.

LUTON: Club: Pan Club, Bute Street. Open every night with late extension and disco. GN on sale, cabaret at weekends, and competitions.

AYLESBURY: Pub: The Britannia.

DUNSMORE (NEAR WENDOVER, BUCKS): Pub: The Fox.

CHATHAM: Pub: The Ship.

CARDIFF: Pubs: Royal Hotel (Roberts Bar), St Mary Street. Royal Oak, St Mary St (Best after 9pm.)

Club: Showbiz Club, Hope Street. (Mixed).

NOTTINGHAM: Pub: Roebuck, Mansfield Road. "Members only" Bar on the left - tell them you're gay - the landlady is too.

WARRINGTON: Pub: The Higher Seven Stars, Bridge Street.

Pub: Dog and Partridge, Parliament Street, New Victoria Development.

Club: Mario's Restaurant, Stenford Street, off Castlegate.

EDINBURGH: Pub: The Kenilworth, Rose Street. Scottish Victoriana.

The Abercromby Hotel (downstairs Bar), Abercromby Place. Very new, very gay, with coal fires and Georgian furnishings.

GLASGOW: Pubs: Studio One, Byres Road (top of). Mixed pleasant crowd, artists, students.

The Duke of Wellington, Argyle Street. Large and busy.

Club: The Close Theatre Club, Gorbals Street. Join at door or a member will sign you in. Restaurant. Good plays. Very popular.

In SCOTLAND all pubs close at 10pm and are closed all day Sunday. Hotels have 7-day licences.

BIRMINGHAM: Pubs: Crown, Station St. Trocadero: Temple Street.

Victoria: by Alexandra Theatre (the most popular).

Pub: The Victoria, John Bright Street.

Clubs: Grosvenor House, 326 Hagley Road, Birmingham 17. (Tel. 021-429 4678) Smart; bars, lounge, discotheque, hotel accommodation, etc.

Nightingale: 50 Camp Hill, Birmingham 12. (Tel: 021-772 2665). Less formal; bar, dancing, discotheques every Tuesday. (Moving later this year).

Baths: 385 Sauna, High Street, West Bromwich.

LEEDS: Pubs: Great Northern and Hope and Anchor.

Club: Charley's Briggate. Members and guests. Free in the week, pricey at weekends. Mostly men.

LIVERPOOL: Pub: The Lisbon, Victoria Street, Liverpool 2.

Private Lounge: The Bonaparte, Temple Lane, Liverpool 2 (entrance "C", Temple Buildings). "Strictly gays only".

Opens 9pm, bar from 10.30 when doors close. Closed Mondays.

Clubs: The New Bear's Paw, Dorrans Lane (off Lord Street) Liverpool 1.

Open 10.30pm to 1am. Also open for lunch; closed Mondays. The Archway, Hockenhall Alley (off Dale Street) L.2.

10pm to 2am. Closed Wednesdays. Men and women. John's Gay Bar Royal (next to 'Ascot'), Wood Street (off Hanover Street) Liverpool 1.

Closed Tuesdays. Men and women.

BLACKPOOL: Lucy's Bar, Talbot Square. Club: Pepe's Club, Talbot Road.

Friendly Outlets

THE CATACOMB CLUB, 279a Old Brompton Road, London SW7.

FLYOVER BOOKS and Records, Hammersmith Broadway, W6.

LE FAUNE RESTAURANT, 23 Praed Street, London W2.

SHANES CLUB, 1 Broadhurst Gardens London NW6

THE PAINT BOX CLUB, 29 Foley Street, London W1

THE UNICORN BOOKSHOP, 50 Gloucester Road, Brighton.

BRISTOWS PAPERBACKS, 4 Bride-well Alley, Norwich.

BETHNAL ROUGE BOOKSHOP, 248 Bethnal Green Road, London E2.

THE ANCHOR INN (The Viking Club) East Street, Southampton. (Girls only on Saturday nights).

259 CLUB, 259 Old Brompton Road, Earls Court, London SW5.

Birmingham Peace Centre, 18 Moor Street, Birmingham, B4.

THE GIGOLO, Kings Road, London SW3.

THE ROBERT BURNS, 9 South Front, Southampton.

THE PUBLIC HOUSE BOOKSHOP, 21 Little Preston Street, Brighton.

THE PINK ELEPHANT CLUB, 8 Newport Place, London WC2.

THE MASQUERADE CLUB, 310 Earls Court Road, London SW5.

THE DOK CLUB, 2a Lowndes Court, London W1 (off Carnaby Street).

THE COLEHERNE and **BOLTONS PUBS** in Earls Court and the **CHAMPION** notting Hill Gate. **THE QUEENS HEAD**, Tryon Street (off Kings Road), London SW3.

THE GREEN ROOM of the **WHEAT-SHEAF**, Goldhawk Road, Shepherds Bush, London.

THE FATHER RED CAP (upstairs bar) Camberwell Green, London SE5.

THE PAVILION CLUB, 123 Shardlow Road, (A6) Shardlow, Derbys.

THE GREEN MAN, The Place, Winchester, Hants.

ROKOKO CLUB, Roker, Sunderland.

PRINCESS ROYAL, 172 Wellingborough Road, Nothampton.

THE NIGHTINGALE CLUB, 50 Camp Hill, Birmingham 12.

MOULIN ROUGE, 72 Worrall Road, Clifton, Bristol

VALENTINES - **GEORGES CLUB** (off Gay Street) Bath.

THE REGENCY, opposite Theatre Royal, Bath.

DON JOHN'S CLUB, Silver Street, Doncaster.

WHOOOPS OF THE MONTH



Masquerade Restaurant & Discotheque

310 Earls Court Road
(Entrance Corner of Earls Court Square)
London SW5
01-373 3480

Intimate, Informal Restaurant,
Offering Fine French Cuisine
And Excellent Wines
- Minimum Charge £1.50
inc. Discotheque admission -
Open 8.00 pm to 1.30 am (Last Orders)
Closed Sundays

Discotheque
Admission 50p
inc. Salad Supper
10.00 pm to 2.30 am
Open Every Night

Fully Licensed Until 2.00 am

**Light-Show. Stereo.
Air Conditioning.**