

EUROPE'S LARGEST CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER FOR GAYS OF ALL SEXES

NEW GAY SURVEY: EXCLUSIVE

Gay News today publishes one of the most accurate and comprehensive reports into homosexuality yet compiled in Europe.

The survey was launched three years ago in Germany by the Hamburg Institute for Sexual Research, and its findings have recently been published in the mass circulation magazine *Der Spiegel*. It deals openly and honestly with the least-mentioned aspects of gayness.

Britain has never sponsored such an all-embracing report on homosexuality. If such a project were undertaken here, it might lift away some of the stigma associated with it.

The long survey was the joint work of two Frankfurt sociologists, Martin Dannecker and Reimut Feiche, and because its findings are completely factual, and without any suggestion of myth, Gay News considered it to be a document of national importance.

It would obviously be highly desirable for Gay News to conduct its own similar survey, but time and a national feeling of gay timidity prevented any attempt at this.

Using the most important questions in the German report, we did, however, go into some of the known gay areas to hold our own minute-poll...the results of which we also publish today.

A Sad Story

The massive survey has some immediate features. It shows that almost without exception, the gay community is lonely, potentially sad and extremely repressed. It also shows that homosexuals are far more successful than other people in their attempts to adapt socially and at work.

The German survey carried 170 widely varied questions. Our own questionnaire was much smaller.

In Germany, 1,658 questionnaires were distributed by 157 contacts among homosexuals of all ages and occupations, and 789 of them could be evaluated...a very high proportion compared with similar enquiries into people's intimate lives.

A Few Shortcomings

However, the enquiry did have shortcomings. Not only did less than half the number of recipients respond, but also the whole system of their selection was by no means ideal, with the contacts handing out the questionnaire in a kind of snowball system among their acquaintances, instead of established demoscopical methods.

One of the effects of this was that the high number of students who returned questionnaires did not really reflect their proportional representation in the whole community.

Some of the results of the survey were predictable, but others were totally unexpected. There was a lot of hesitation about personal points, but of the questionnaires answered, no points were ignored.

The Findings

Some of the data that emerged after computing the answers showed that in Germany, the average age of gays on their first sexual contact with a man turned out to be 16.1 years. The average gay had sex 14 times in the preceding 12 months, and 102 times altogether.

83 per-cent of gays have at one stage told their affair that they loved him. Ten per-cent have been or still are married, and 61 per-cent do not consider themselves to be religious.

The results of Gay News' own survey are, ironically, very close to the German report, but the text of this survey deals with the German survey only. The findings of the Gay News report published in detail at the end of the survey.



The German survey shows clearly that a lot of the common views about gays are quite true.

They spend more money than straights on clothes and on having their hair done. They see more movies, spend more time in live theatre and own more records. They like eating in good restaurants and are generally happier in well-furnished, more comfortable houses.

But the survey shoots down a widely-held theory that most gays have been brought up in fatherless families. The survey shows that at least 70 per-cent have grown up in families dominated by a 'happy' mother and father.

Some of the contradictions that emerged from the survey must leave the straight or the outsider a little more than baffled. One is the question of illness or non-illness. Hardly any gays think of their homosexuality as an illness, and yet at least one third of them have a solid idea that they would seek treatment if it was available.

Socially, Too

The survey finds that gays are also much more successful than their straight colleagues

in climbing the social ladder. Nobody's been able yet, to prove the existence of such an upward trend, but some background statistics prove interesting. Eight years ago, Dr Klaus Dörner, a Hamburg lecturer in psychiatry found no more than 3 per-cent of the people he questioned in his 'homosexuality in the Middle Classes' survey were skilled workers. In the United States three years ago, a similar survey carried out by Dr David Strubb of the Washington Psychiatry Unit put the figure up to 5 per-cent.

But this new survey outdates both those figures. It arrives at the same 3 per-cent figure, but it also shows that no less than 13 per-cent of all gays had actually started off as skilled workers in their professional careers.

It also shows that one in every five gays has been thoroughly trained for two different, both skilled jobs.

There is even more proof of this social trend. Thirty-three per-cent of the fathers of those gays are working class, while the proportion of their sons who had not become middle class by the time of the survey had dropped to just 11 per-cent.

But the survey also found that there was

a price to pay for changing over from the workbench or the factory to the desk or the creative area. More than 22 per-cent of them have undergone training and have been qualified for at least two different jobs.

By way of explanation, it's a question of theory. Perhaps this upward trend by gays—which is not paralleled by any other section of the community—could believably be as a result of the discrimination against gay people. Some gays, it turns out, have as many as four part-time, and all highly-skilled and totally different occupations. And invariably, they are good at all of them, and in the eyes of their assorted employers, almost indispensable.

The Middle Class Boom

In other words, it's not a middle class up-bringing that seems to produce a relatively great number of middle class gays. There must be just as many gays with non middle class backgrounds, but the great society machine forces them to look for and find white collar jobs...the ones where they can feel less exposed to criticism...the sort of contemptuous ridicule and persecution from their colleagues that they might get on the workshop or factory or assembly line floor.

Therefore, it's a lot to do with their ability to create the right relationship with their employers. They become 'ideal employees'. Intelligence has little or nothing to do with it. They seem to try harder to 'fit in', to be liked, in order that they may be successful. The effort to conform therefore is usually mammoth.

A lot of burden-bearing at an early age emerges from the survey too. A gay person, it appears, is made to understand by an unsympathetic and non-understanding society that he must never show his true face if he is not to lose face at all. He has to learn always to be hard-working, adaptable, very, very cautious, and accommodating. It's very fair, then, to conclude that homosexuals conform extremely well to social normality. They function properly.

On the question of employer-employee relationships, it's very likely that many gays reading this survey will relate some of the findings alarmingly close to their own heart.

It appears, from the survey, that they cleverly adapt to changing situations and opinions. They are always forced to put on an act. They master the whole range of behaviour patterns, methods of talking and functioning. In jobs where they deal with people, they do exactly what is expected of them. They are usually so good at communicating with people that employers—some even realising their gayness—are forced, by the sheer efficiency of gay people to promote them to supervise departments made up of non-gays.

When gays have no family ties, it shows that they are always available at work, and because they frequently change their partners or their 'lovers', they enjoy travelling. They are the workers who stay behind after official closedown time and 'get things done' for the sake of getting the work out of the way. If the gay people in question are creative, they are the most patient ones. Invariably, they will show their outward creative frustrations emotionally or with temper, but they will stay to the last to ensure that what they are doing is perfect. In the case of artists, they will feel uneasy until what they've done is acceptable to everybody. A photographer—be he gay—will take more photographs and deliver the best print.

But there's one further clause in this gay compulsion to climb the social ladder. In the gay sub-culture, on which gays rely totally for socialising and picking up trade, working class gays enjoy even less social status than in the rest of society.

Survey continued on page 8.

GAY NEWS

Not Just Counting Heads

Too often, surveys, polls, ballots and public quizzes are thrust before our eyes. Too often, all they manage to do is to give us a lot to read. Too often, what they say is inconsequential.

But it is with no apology that Gay News joins the thrusters of facts today with its publication of the most factual survey into homosexuality yet conducted.

We would proudly like to believe that such a survey could also wear the badge 'All our own work', but sadly, we must hand over credit for the magnificent piece of fact-finding to the Hamburg Institute for Sexual Research, and two of Frankfurt's most eminent sociologists, Martin Dannecker and Reimut Reiche.

And a great deal of credit must go to Der Spiegel, one of the most informed and liberated publications in Europe, for undertaking to publish the findings without a word of questioning.

The unhappy part about this most vital survey is that Gay News was only able to conduct a small quiz in a limited area of England. It wasn't only a question of time, it was a question of co-operation. We would love to think that England could boast a Government-subsidised department dedicated to sexual research which would pay for an impartial survey into homosexuality. But that's just not on. A count of gay heads is left to the gay head-counters. Nobody else.

The survey, though, both in its all-embracing detail in Germany and in its small print here in England, does point up one great factor. Sadness and loneliness.

It shows a crying need for communication, a need for friendship and understanding, and it shows how many gay people are gay too often only unto themselves.

Instead of just being a show of hands, this survey will hopefully show some of the great worries of gay people...and how needless some of those frustrations and worries are.

On The Streets

New York, population 11,528,649. London, population 7,379,014 (1970 census figures). And some more facts and figures.

On Sunday June 24th, over 15,000 gays marched through the streets of New York city 15 abreast in a banner waving, chanting procession, seven blocks long, to a rally in Washington Square. The organizers may have been a little disappointed as they had hoped for 20,000.

On Saturday June 30th, on a beautiful sunny summer's afternoon, nearly 300 gays straggled through London, lay about in Hyde Park for a while, and then quietly dispersed.

If this makes you angry (and we suggest it should) then we hope you took the trouble to turn up yourself. It was embarrassing to take part in, so small was the turnout for this the culmination of Britain's Gay Pride Week. So why must it always happen this way in this country?

First, the closet mentality still has a stranglehold on the English gay movement. A typical excuse heard on Saturday, 'explaining' the lethargy, ran "Perhaps people think that sex is too private a matter," as though the marchers were making love in Oxford Street, rather than demonstrating their refusal to the public to be treated any longer as psychological or social mishaps. This sort of comment will be heard for as long as people are frightened and ashamed of being homosexual.

Second, there seems to be no-one in the gay world at present who understand the word 'organize', let alone do it. Only three weeks before the march took place there still seemed to be disagreement as to where it should start. In the end the tiny stickers that went up simply said 'The Embankment'—which runs for about four miles from Chelsea to Blackfriars. Incidentally, it was from one of these stickers that

Gay News learnt that it was not starting from Trafalgar Square as we had been told a couple of days before. There seems to have been no communication between the 'organizers' and other gay groups beyond a simple notification that the march was to take place. Even then, some gay groups claim not to have been told. And South London GLF thought the demonstration was to start from Speakers' Corner in Hyde Park!

In New York, last year's Christopher Street march was initiated by the Gay Activist Alliance, this year's by the Mattachine Society (a group which is, if anything, more timid than our own CHE). On each occasion an independent committee was set up, consisting of representatives from most gay campaigning groups—as ideologically opposed as GLF and Mattachine. Their job was simply to organize a march. They worked out plans, gave the gay press details three months in advance so that the papers could give the event full publicity, arranged for groups to be brought in from Boston, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, in fact from all over the States, designed and printed eye-catching leaflets, wrote press releases, and so on.

If we cannot do the same thing here next year and produce a better turnout, it would be far better for the reputation and effectiveness of the gay movement to call the whole embarrassing show off.

Your Letters

Please note that any letters received by us at Gay News are liable to be published unless you state otherwise. Owing to lack of space, please make your letters as brief as possible.

Where Are You?

London SW10

Dear GN Readers;

This page is possibly the most important in the paper. Only gay people can say what gay people want, how we should motivate change, and what are the best ways to go about it. Only gay people can complain about the things they most abhor or explain the really positive aspects of our gay life.

Lately, however, the number of letters using this page as a potent forum have decreased. That's why we're putting out this request for you to write to us—there's plenty to say, and the publication of your thoughts can lead to a greater depth of understanding and unification. We're not asking for long letters of personal philosophy, but comments on what's going on around us, worded as briefly as possible so that there's room for everyone. Also, your criticism of GN is a vital form of direct feedback for us.

So let's hear from you.....
GN Editorial Staff

Avoiding A Name Tag?

Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Dear Gay News,

It is precisely because of the sentiments expressed in Nathan Morris' letter ('Gay News Prejudiced?') in GN25 that many people like myself actively avoid GLF, CHE and similar organisations. Quite simply, a lot of us are pissed off with having our homosexuality banded about as someone else's political weapon.

It is possible to be gay and socially aware without this political extremism, and many of us prefer to make our by-no-means small contribution to society's gay awareness on a more personal level: certainly not via "...the political fight within the labour movement..."

Gay people already suffer too many unjust tags and labels without 'Political Extremist' being added to the list.

John McAnally

Spreading the Word

Wolverhampton

Dear Gay News,

As a member of a new gay club which is quite good, especially at weekends, I thought I must write and tell you about it.

It is called THE SILVER WEB, Whitmore Street, near the Club Lafayette which is a straight club. The club is very friendly and caters for both males and females, as the owners, Norman and Betty, are both gay.

We also have a good pub, called the PRINCE ALBERT, top of Station Drive. People meet in the lounge bar, which is small but has a good juke box and attracts usually an under 25 age group.

Wolverhampton is a very gay town, but not many people know about the pub, as the Gaiety Bar in the Victoria Hotel used to be the gay bar, but all the rough straights use it now, so we all use the Prince Albert. Hope this will be useful.

John

ED: Many thanks for your letter John. GN welcomes further information, not necessarily for publication in letter form, giving us details of gay pubs, clubs, etc, throughout Great Britain. Such material should be sent to Mike's Guide, c/o Gay News.

Fighting Back Against Harassment

**The Legal Standing Committee,
CHE National Office,
28 Kennedy Street,
Manchester M2 4BG**

Dear Gay News,

I've just seen a copy of Gay News 24. In the editorial 'A Question of Strength', you bemoan the importance of Gay News in cases of police harassment and provocation. This is, of course, one of the main areas of work of Campaign for Homosexual Equality's Legal Standing Committee. At the moment, we have almost a dozen investigations in progress in connection with harassment, assault, false arrest, use of agents provocateurs etc by the police. However, we are working under two very significant handicaps:

1. Lack of concrete information about such cases.
2. The fact that many people, who have potentially good cases against the police, refuse to take up the matter officially or allow us to do so for them for fear of publicity or further harassment.

If you do have any cases come to your attention where you have any concrete evidence of police misdemeanours, we should be absolutely delighted to hear about it with a view to making official complaints to the Police Force concerned and to the Home Office, and, if possible, taking the case before the Courts. Even if there is insufficient evidence to justify this type of treatment, we still find information about such cases very useful as we are compiling a dossier for presentation to the Home Office, detailing instances where the police have overstepped their powers.

Please do let me know if you are willing to help us in this matter, so that we can get the information we need to take action against police harassment of gays.

Mike Barnes
Chairman of The Legal Standing Committee

ED: GN fully supports the aims of CHE's Legal Standing Committee and will co-operate with them as much as possible.

We remind readers that whilst The Legal Standing Committee is a part of CHE, ALL gays are welcome to seek their advice and to inform them of acts of discrimination, unwarranted harassment, etc, by the police. Where necessary, strict confidence is guaranteed.

Relax, For God's Sake

South London

Dear Gay News,

Having travelled quite a deal in recent years, I find it very stifling to return to London with its especially nervous gay club atmosphere. The clubs as they are, largely centre around competition to look as beautiful and young as possible, with gays dressing to give a certain predetermined impression, and eyeing the available trade with as much unfriendliness as possible.

So what can be done about it? Mainly, I think people should just relax. I know a lot who try to through drink and drugs. There are several friends of mine who cannot go to a club unless they're too bombed out to know what they're doing.

But this isn't the way. It's just a matter of viewing gay brothers and sisters as just that. We've got to be more friendly, and the relaxed atmosphere will follow that. So smile and talk to anybody, for God's sake.

Georgette P.

Police Attitude "Vicious"

Bristol

Dear Gay News,

Very many thanks for your article on transsexualism (GN 26). It was most informative. For many years I have wondered what actually was done in the operations, and now I know. I think GN is excellent. Congratulations on being willing to publish the advert on page 12. Helmut is magnificent.

I was appalled and horrified by 'A Story Of Gross Indecency'. The police attitude and behaviour towards us gays is underhand, sly, embarrassing, vile, repulsive, vicious, selfish and insulting. Two constables crept in upon me when I was having a most superb time with a gorgeous 23 year old bisexual. I was fellating him. One of the policemen hit my pal. The other examined my penis. He said "Next time we shall send the dogs in after you." We were put in cells, but later released. No charge was brought. The Legal Standing Committee of CHE kindly offered to act against the police on my behalf, but for certain reasons I was obliged to refrain. CHE are doing a magnificent job in trying to eliminate police harassment. You are helping with your articles.

R W Price

Communists Will Listen

Newcastle Upon Tyne

Dear Gay News,

I should like to support Nathan Morris in his request that you approach the Morning Star to carry an advert for Gay News (GN 25).

I am convinced that such a request would not be refused. Recently Eric Wears and myself attended a meeting of the Newcastle Communist Party to speak on Gay Liberation Front and homosexuality in general. Neither of us is an accomplished public speaker, but we did manage to dispel at least some of the prejudices and fears of most of the members present.

Our success, although modest, was confirmed when we were invited to arrange a discussion with the various left-wing political groups on Tyneside, which we are at present trying to organise. The CP members have agreed to distribute leaflets advertising this debate in copies of the Morning Star.

I suggest that GLF and CHE groups in other parts of the country should approach CP branches in their areas in an attempt to get similar debates arranged. I am sure they will co-operate.

Mick Murray

DEAR GAY NEWS...



Illustration: Jean-Claude Thevenin

Cottage Arrests—"Time For Action"

London SW3

Dear Gay News,

I must admit that I'm writing in a fury. Heterosexual discrimination of the subtle type against gays I can take (it is, after all, their problem as well as ours), but after reading 'A Story Of Gross Indecency' in Gay News 26 I think it's time we hit the problem of police persecution head-on.

The pressures of society make it so that many gay people (most of them married, remember) feel the need to ply their sexuality in public lavatories. Perhaps I exaggerate—probably liaisons in "cottages" usually lead to private sex later in an individual's home. Whether you consider this immoral or not is your own concern. What I complain about is victimisation, as was the case in the 'Gross Indecency' story, of men who have plainly committed no offence, but have found themselves in situations where police have used either circumstantial evidence or straight-out distortion of facts.

I'm sure a number of heterosexual men, using toilets for their intended use, have fallen prey to policemen intent on making an easy arrest.

It's time to fight. Why don't GLF or—perhaps I'm being overzealous here—CHE organise watchdog patrols in and around many of the more notorious haunts. Presuming that the attention from the more sensible press would bring out many facts, society in general would be better off for being forced to think about just why gay cottaging goes on, and how police attitudes have often severely damaged the innocent. The attention of the sensational, hypocritical sex-mongering press would just have to be borne. I think we would all gain in the long run. It's time for action!

T Peters

GAY NEWS

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Deadlines & Copy Dates for GN 28

Copy, Letters, etc — Saturday July 14.
Display, Personal & Classified Advertisements, etc — Noon, Monday July 16.

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Proud, but more or less ignored, gays march down London's Bond Street.



London Gay Pride March



More A Whimper Than A Bang

The Gay Pride March held on Saturday June 30th will most definitely not go down in history as an event of world-wide significance in the struggle for gay rights. Indeed the turnout was so small (an estimated 300) that one wonders if it was ever noticed within London.

The small turnout most probably can be traced to confusion in its organisation. The West London Gay Liberation Front had initially announced that the march would set off at 3.30pm from Trafalgar Square; not long after this, printed stickers went up around London advertising the gathering spot as being "The Embankment". Then, adding a "carry on" touch on the actual day, news filtered through that members of South London GLF believed that the march would set off from Hyde Park Corner.

At about 3.15pm, a quick glance at The Embankment near Charing Cross tube seemed to indicate there were more policemen than marchers. Happily, there were more arrivals by 3.30, some with hastily-constructed banners ("Gay Is Angry", "Homosexuals Are Revolting") and a few wearing make-up and semi-drag designed to attract as much attention as possible.

Still, if the proper political force was missing, a very pleasant quality was definitely there. It was perhaps the sunniest Saturday afternoon yet seen this year, and gay seemed more happy than angry.

At about 3.45, the march set off down Charing Cross Road, the band of marchers numbering between 150 and 200. In this case, the police ironically became more an asset than oppressor, herding the marchers along without any noticeable interference. They too were probably enjoying an afternoon in the sun.

And so the chants went up: "Gimme a G, gimme an A, gimme a Y.....what's that spell.....Gay!.....and what's that mean!..... Good!" proved to be the most popular. Occasionally, "Angry" was replaced by "Good".

By the time it hit New Bond Street, the march had become quite joyous. The sun seemed even stronger, the walk through London became more enjoyable, and a larger audience had made itself available. Saturday afternoon shoppers and tourists were gawking, true to the march's intention. Even better was the fact that the march itself had grown in number. Perhaps it had picked up some gays doing some shopping, perhaps those who were confused over the meeting place had found the march: whatever the reasons, the modest procession now looked to number around 300.

The reaction of people in the street varied: some smiled fondly, even waving (younger girls usually), others looked puzzled, still others stared straight through

it, as if embarrassed and hell-bent on pretending it didn't exist.

Once the march passed Selfridges department store it was exposed to its biggest audience. Tourists were even taking photos, but alas it seemed that they would be the only people, apart from GN, to immortalise it on film. If any sections of the media were there to cover the event, I certainly did not notice them. This, along with the fact that the march had declined from last year's estimated 800 marchers, could indicate that the public at large are waiting for a new angle before the minority will receive any more attention.



The only visible outrage provoked by the march came from Albert, a Hyde Park Corner fanatic who bicycled along beside the march demanding repentance from its members. Albert had a moustached, dignified air about him that suggested Coward's "Mad Dogs and Englishmen" number, and his interest can probably be traced to the fact that he had a captive if mobile audience.

The march through London completed, it arrived at Hyde Park as planned. The general idea had been that the marchers should bring food for a picnic: a few did, most did not, but everyone was content to merely relax and enjoy the sunlight, which had held up wonderfully.

The only disturbance came from the previously-mentioned Albert, who had managed to dispose of the bicycle and was still demanding that all present should repent.

"For what?" someone demanded. "For the sin of homosexuality," he replied.

"Says who?" "Jesus," he boomed, referring to a scrap of paper.

"Jesus was gay!" several charged at him, not terribly seriously I might add. One of Albert's Hyde Park Corner speaker cohorts was present and came up with a bon mot to the effect that Albert was inclined to believe in fairy tales. Pretty soon, Albert lost his audience.

The pleasant social aspect aside, the Gay Pride march of June 30th cannot be considered a success. The GN editorial ("On The Streets") on page 2 of this issue, examines the shortcomings and attempts to come up with some answers.

Other 'Happenings'

The march through London was part of a week of activities conceived and organised by GLF. The first major event was an attempt to penetrate the walls of Fleet Street journalism to examine and discuss the attitude of the national press towards homosexuality.

The GLF members who went to Fleet Street on Tuesday, June 26th were not large in number. However, they reportedly achieved a reasonable amount of success: they managed to get through to the Sun newsdesk, leafleted workers at several of the 'dailies', and placed stickers wherever they could. An attempt was made to enter the Morning Star offices; the GLF members were politely but firmly rebuffed. Apparently the paper is still reticent of visitors who call in groups, as their offices were barnstormed not long back by a vendetta group which attacked some of the Star's workers.

An open-air disco was planned for the following day at Clapham Common, where the public lavatory has been the scene of heavy police harassment against gays. This was called off, "Because it would have meant breaking regulations and probably attracting more trouble," as Brian Birt of GLF explained.

A "Riverboat Shuffle" was also initially planned for that week, but was postponed shortly after its announcement due to lack of finance.

Stephen MacLean

Redcap Gay Disco Raided By Police



The upstairs disco at the Father Redcap.

LONDON: The gay disco situated in the upstairs section of the Father Redcap Hotel, Camberwell Green, was raided by approximately 10 policemen on Thursday, June 28th, at 10.30pm.

According to Alfred Carmody, manager of the hotel, the police have indicated that they intend to close the gay disco by resorting to a law established in 1839—"Disorderly Conduct On Licensed Premises and Public Places."

The disorderly conduct, it seems, was what one policeman allegedly described as "Men dancing together in close contact, groping each other with hands in trouser pockets."

"I've been running the club for two years and never had any trouble," said manager Alfred Carmody. "Then last Thursday night about 10 policemen went steam-rolling upstairs. They stopped the music dead and began asking for names and addresses. A few of the boys said flatly that they wouldn't give them the information."

"I spoke to one of the policemen in the kitchen, and he said to me 'You're running a club for poofs and lesbians,' and I said 'They're your words not mine.' He said they had kept watch on the disco for four particular nights—they had plants up there—and they believed I was running a 'disorderly house'."

Carmody, a massive, talkative man well known to regulars of the club, said he had never had any trouble or cause to call the police during his two years as manager of the disco.

"The police said that I never had a committee—this, after two years—and it wasn't a club as such, but was open to the general public."

The Redcap disco charges an admission of 15p for members and 30p for guests. Yearly membership costs 50p. Carmody has now taken up the technicality of appointing a committee.

"The police said 'We've come up, paid as guests, and walked straight in. Obviously, if a member comes up with a card and you're right behind him, the chap on the door would think you were a member's guest.'"

The club went ahead as usual the night following the raid. Fridays at the Redcap disco are all-girl. "Different laws govern that," said Carmody.

The following Sunday it reopened for its male clientele, but no dancing was allowed. "We explained it over the microphone to the boys, and they were terrific about it. I know all the regulars that come in, and they weren't angry with the hotel, they were angry with the men in blue."

Dancing has now recommenced. Carmody, who says he feels that the raid was "a victimisation of gays," plans to fight it in court if necessary, "Come what may".

Landlords or anyone else who find themselves in similar circumstances of unwarranted harassment are requested to contact Gay News. If necessary, we can put you in touch with a reliable, sympathetic solicitor or Queen's Counsel.

Through incidents such as the Redcap raid, it becomes increasingly evident that pressure on gays is being strengthened rather than alleviated. GN will do all it can to voice outrage over incidents such as the Redcap raid. It is also necessary for gays everywhere, through whatever channels possible, to make their justified anger heard.

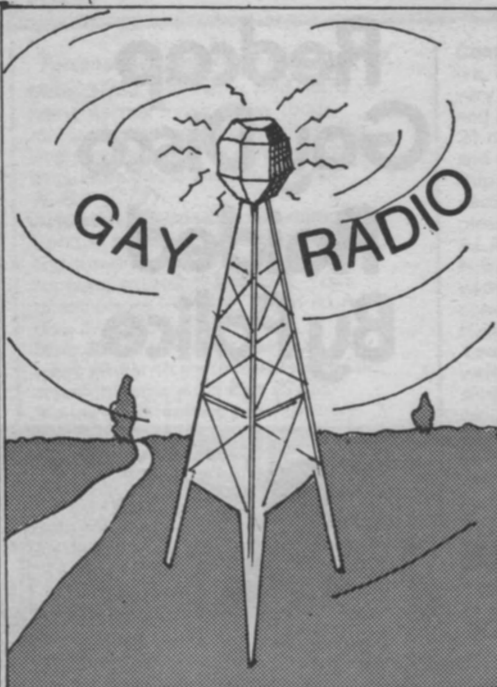


Illustration: Jean-Claude Thevenin

SAN FRANCISCO: Radio station KSAN/FM is to begin broadcasting a weekly programme called 'The Gay Liberation Show', produced and compered by Len Richmond and Gary Noguera, editors of a recently-published book on gay lib. The show will give coverage of international gay news, with a roving reporter in "high schools, gay bars, colleges and steambaths".

The show also plans to do a report on gay liberation in London.

Gay Imposters

SUNDERLAND: Two young men claiming to be Gay News reporters met with a warm, friendly reception when they visited the Rococo club in Sunderland. They were admitted free and given drinks. Unfortunately, they were not the real thing. Despite the fact that their identification cards seemed authentic in appearance, the men claiming to be reporters were imposters.

Genuine GN reporters are issues with identification cards from the National Union of Journalists, which have photographs of the owner.

We would appreciate hearing from anyone who comes in contact with the fake reporters.

'Gross Indecency' Deemed Impossible

SURREY: Kenneth Robinson, 26, of Merton Park, has beaten a 'gross indecency' charge with the aid of his doctor's measurement of the distance between his penis and the floor.

Police claimed that on August 12 last year, Robinson went into a public lavatory at Kingston Road, Malden, placed his penis in a hole in the wall and allowed a man in the next cubicle to masturbate him. PC Andrew Mortain claims to have seen the incident by leaning over the top of the lavatory door. He arrested Robinson, and claimed that Robinson made a statement at the police station admitting the offence.

In Sutton Crown Court, Robinson denied making the statement: "I was on my way home when I wanted to go to the toilet. I stopped at the toilets in Kingston Road and went into the third cubicle.

"I then saw two fingers come through the hole and someone say something about photos and placing it through the hole. I realised what was going on and decided to leave quickly, but as I was going, the cubicle door was forced open and I was arrested.

"The statement I made to the police was correct, but I did not admit the offence. The page which I signed had about six lines left at the bottom, so the police could have filled it in saying I confessed.

"During a conversation, PC Morton said to me 'I can't understand it—you look alright to me, but the other bloke is as bent as a nine bob note.'"

The PC did not deny making this statement.

The hole in the case was the lavatory wall aperture alleged to have been used for masturbation. It was 39 inches from the ground; doctor measured the distance between Robinson's penis and the ground and deemed such an act impossible. Mrs Robinson also testified that the accused had always been a "good husband" and the jury came in with a verdict of Not Guilty.

NFHO Fights 'Middle-Aged Spread'

LONDON: The National Federation of Homophile Organisations has acquired what could be termed "middle-aged spread" of late, and a meeting held Saturday, June 24th, seemed to serve the purpose of examining whether or not its youthful verve could be regained.

The early hours of what was almost a day-long meeting did not bring any firm conclusions. After a lunch break, chairman Antony Grey put the following propositions forward: a) extend efforts to rectify problems; b) wind up the organisation; c) members who wished to should leave.

It was suggested that closure would be "a tragedy" for smaller affiliates of the NFHO. Nobody present at the meeting spoke up in favour of closure, so other questions were embraced.

A joint meeting between the Gay Liberation Front, the Campaign for Homosexual Equality and NFHO was deemed important. "If we can only get GLF members predisposed to accepting the elementary rules of a meeting," said someone present. (Whilst there were several CHE members present, GLF was not represented at the meeting.)

"I've seen letters in Gay News and elsewhere," said Antony Grey, "wanting to know just what the policies of the various large groups are. I think it would be a good thing if we got together and discussed this."

Publicity was mentioned as an important matter—there were CHE groups who had never heard of NFHO.

The major point in the latter part of the meeting was counselling. Antony Grey suggested a system of counselling in the provinces run in co-operation with CHE, with Friend also assisting in this field. But as the CHE members had to give their opinion to their Executive Committee, no firm conclusions could be met.

The possibility of Friend affiliating with NFHO was mentioned. Friend indicated that this was not possible at this stage. Friend, however, seemed willing to co-operate with NFHO in counselling, and Antony Grey said it was possible that any potential funds for counselling from the Albany Trust might be shared with Friend to help with expenses.

Teacher 'Comes Out' In Style

DARLINGTON: David Bell, 26 year old member of the Campaign for Homosexual Equality and a teacher at a London comprehensive, is making a positive effort to have homosexuality explained to school children.

He believes, naturally enough, that the best people to do it would be gays. "They have experienced the problems at first hand, and are therefore the best qualified to talk about it," he told a Yorkshire teacher-in for trainee teachers.

Bell explained that he had only recently let it be known to fellow teachers and pupils at his school that he was gay. He said most of them seemed to accept it and it had not jeopardised his job.

He wants homosexuality to be taught in a wider emotional context, rather than from a specifically biological point of view.

Naughty Words From Naughty Boys

LONDON: John Smith is a journalist whose work is apparently as original as his name. In The Sunday People, June 24th issue, Smith claims that he informed an American party he "went through 30 fags a day," and was thereafter pursued "by a mincing young man in a purple suit who kept calling me lover." Smith also gives vent to similar fantasies involving heterosexual women who announce after dinner that they're "stuffed".

His article purports to explain Anglo-American vernacular differences, but is a slim excuse for trotting out every tired double entendre that has crossed the Atlantic. He also informs us that a new Anglo-American dictionary by London journalist Norman Moss will introduce British words such as "poof" to the American public.

Perhaps more enlightened heterosexuals may one day form a liberation group to help these two journalists. People like Smith and Moss are giving heterosexual males a bad name.



Mina Robinson: seeking new lesbian identity.

Lesbian Culture Centre Planned

LOS ANGELES: Mina Robinson, former vice president of the LA Community Services Centre, plans to organise a centre devoted to the allied arts of the lesbian culture.

"Lesbians have never had the opportunity to really search out new ways to do things," said Ms. Robinson. "We automatically — for many, many years — took on what I call male forms, whether it was male forms of government or male forms of structuring an organisation or male forms of getting things accomplished. We didn't think too much, we didn't really stop and think about inventing a new way of seeing if there was a new way for us, or if being women — instead of being men — made a difference . . . if there was indeed a difference, even to question that."

Of the proposed centre, she said: "The centre that I have in mind would be a centre for the performing arts, a gallery displaying arts and crafts, workshops, and crafters in all of these areas, and a drop-in centre for lesbians."

She hopes for "A total lesbian environment in which can emerge lesbian identity, lesbian politics, and lesbian culture."

Rough Lot Gets Rougher

LONDON: The public lavatory at the junction of North Circular and Finchley High Roads has been closed. In GN 26, we reported that the lavatory, a well-known trolling site, was being closely watched by security guards with Alsatian dogs. A sign on the door now advises that the lavatory is "closed for alteration", despite the fact that it was completely refurbished about seven months back.

Also, a report received from a GN reader states that police "have taken one of their periodical interests in the Rough Lots," a floodlit patch of ground nearby.

Stiffer Sentences For Sex Crimes

LONDON: In the debate on Lady Seear's Sex Discrimination Bill (House of Lords June 29th), the Government told the House that it was preparing its own legislation, and was treating the question as "a matter of urgency". Lady Seear's Bill therefore stands no greater chance of becoming law than did Willie Hamilton's in the House of Commons.

Although no gay group has been actively campaigning on the question, it has been pointed out that it would take very little re-drafting to extend the Bill to cover cases of discrimination against homosexuals.

Intervening in the Lords debate, Lord Gardiner, Harold Wilson's Lord Chancellor, referred to an enquiry he had made into sentencing when in office. He had examined three fields, crimes of violence, house-breaking, and sexual offences. Since World War II, whilst sentencing had become generally more severe, the sharpest rise in sentences was for sexual offences.

Poetry International Festival '73

The Poetry International Festival '73, which ran from June 25th to the 30th, provided several recitals of a very high calibre. GN covered four of these events, which were part of what was probably the most ambitious poetry festival held in Britain:

THE LYRICIST AS A POET was the subject of the recital held at the ICA Theatre, June 26th. Link-man Benny Green occasionally employed anecdotes too familiar to aficionados of popular songwriting, but he spoke with a thorough and affectionate knowledge of the lyricists performed. Vincent Price occasionally fell victim to his subtle hamming, but readings of Ogden Nash's 'Speak Low' and Johnny Mercer's classic 'One For My Baby' were impeccable.

Constance Cummings did justice to Lorenz Hart's genius for a lyric, and Sir John Gielgud's sublime readings of Noel Coward revealed the writer to be the absolute master of rhythmic wording. In comparison, the Cole Porter lyrics performed sometimes became too facile and too clever without his beautiful music, but this is not to say he was toppled as the songwriter supreme. Overall, it was one of the most enjoyable evenings I've spent facing a stage.

BARRY HUMPHRIES INNOCENT AUSTRAL VERSE was the basis of his performance on Thursday June 18th. The tribute to his immense satiric ability is the fact that his intrinsically Australian observations are so easily understood here in Britain. Satire without affection for its subject can be negative, even deadly, but Humphries never falls prey to this.

Many of the poems Humphries read were hilarious ('Turntable Of Life', contrasting life today with 78 R.P.M. simplicity, was a special treat. Then came that spectacularly moderate bigot Edna Everage, Humphries' drag character. Edna was in fine form, making comments such as, "Lesbians . . . they've always left a bad taste in MY mouth" . . . "Allen Ginsberg, well he's nice to talk to, BUT", and a wonderful observation of W.H. Auden: "Now that face tells a story."

MR AUDEN put the actual face on display for the final programme in the Poetry International series at Queen Elizabeth Hall the following night. Amongst other things, Mr Auden paid glorious tribute to the London fog and declared that the motor car was an abomination. They weren't particularly unique subjects, but then Mr Auden is.



Allen Ginsberg: an aura of positivity.

Allen Ginsberg put in a 15 minute appearance aided by the crutches he has used since breaking his leg in Amsterdam. He employed a squeezebox accompaniment for every poem but one, and even at his saddest moments gave off an aura of positivity so charming that one could understand how Mrs Everage almost managed to overcome her distaste. Peter Porter, and Vasko Popa were amongst the other poets who recited their works, winding up a superb poetry festival.

Stephen MacLean

POETRY AND POLITICS, which took place at 6.30pm, June 28th, was perhaps doomed from the start. A panel of poets talking on a rather indefinite subject which quite clearly meant something different to each one is not the stuff of which great occasions are made. Allen Ginsberg and Hugh McDiarmid each contributed strong personal statements, but their points of origin were so fundamentally different (Occidental Buddhism v. Socialism) that real discussion was difficult. Nevertheless, odd insights into the political attitudes of prominent poets gave the audience food for thought.

Michael Mason

With Regret

MANCHESTER: Although Gay News is non-affiliated to any of the gay organisations or political parties, it is with regret we report that Liberal candidate Mr Michael Steed was unable to oust Labour from one of their traditional strongholds, the Manchester Exchange constituency. He did however force the Conservatives into third place and more significantly, greatly reduced Labour's last General Election majority by almost two-thirds. No Liberal candidate fought the seat in 1970.

Apart from his involvement in party politics, Mr Steed is also Honorary Treasurer and an Executive Committee member of Campaign for Homosexual Equality. In GN 24, in the article titled 'Three Pronged Approach', he outlined CHE's current strategy with regards to seeking changes in the law which are much needed to improve the social, civil and legal standing of all homosexuals in Great Britain.

During his election campaign, Mr Steed made no secret of his connections with CHE. He is also a strong supporter of the anti-apartheid campaign.



Campaigning on all fronts: Liberal candidate Michael Steed.

Whilst none of the political parties were optimistic about what the turnout of voters would be for the Manchester Exchange by-election, Mr Steed said the low poll was "a discredit to all parties—including mine. It is a discredit to the party running this city (Labour) and the party running the country that 56 per cent of the electorate stayed at home and did not bother to vote."

The turnout was 9,665, or 43.92 per cent of the people eligible to vote. The total electorate numbers 27,000.

Asked to comment on the result by GN, Mr Louis Eaks, Vice President of the Young Liberals said: "It is an extremely good result for the Liberal Party." He added that "Michael Steed's personality played a good part in getting the size of the vote he received."

Mr Jeremy Thorpe, the Liberal leader, said the result was "a moral defeat for Socialism," and the Liberal vote "yet another striking sign of the Liberal resurgence."

GN sends its condolences to Mr Steed and wishes him a greater degree of success in his next campaign, whether it be for an organisation or a political party.

CHE Conference Mystery

LONDON: Next year's annual Campaign for Homosexual Equality meeting will happen in May. That much we know. What is still unclear, however, is exactly *where* it will take place.

After much debate and soul-searching the Brighton Council finally decided that CHE was respectable enough to hire one of its halls for the meeting (reversing a previous rule that council halls would never be rented to gay organisations). The council sanctioned the meeting, but stressed that there should be "no dancing".

However, an official announcement of the conference site has yet to be made by either Brighton Council or CHE.

A usually reliable source says it will take place at Malvern. Perhaps by next issue we'll have had the official hot word.

Bruised, Cut And Happy ~Tim Limp Home

THE Gay News 'Sportsman of the year' Tim Brand-Crombie, has arrived back in England after a month of world championship powerboat racing in the United States.

In May this year, 22-year-old Tim was featured exclusively in Gay News when he announced his intentions to fight for a place in World Championship powerboat racing, and also that he intended letting everybody know about his gayness.

Until then, Tim's hunt for a sponsor had been almost fruitless. Possibly, he said, because people were scared off by his open-ness.

Soon after the Gay News story, Tim was approached by an American businessman who expressed interest in Tim's keenness, but Tim didn't have time to wait around in London to negotiate. He told me he had his sights set on the Bahamas 500 in California, and with no sponsor, he flew over and entered his application. It was refused without reason, so Tim ran as a non-entrant. Only four boats finished the rugged race, and ironically, the winning craft was the one Tim was going to buy.

Back For Triumphs

With no victory to boast about, Tim flew quietly home to England, only to find that the businessman who'd expressed interest had heard about his Bahamas 500 involvement, and offered to finance his flight, his expenses and provide a boat for a series of six more races—again in the United States.

Within two days, Tim Brand-Crombie was on his way across the Atlantic again, headed for the World Championship series at Fort Lauderdale. The result was a sort of sweet and sour victory. He won the race, but the judges disqualified him without reason, and Tim's team puts it down to the fact that their boat was turbo-charged.

A day later, Tim raced at Palm Beach, California, and won the race by a clear 60 minutes at an average speed of 88mph.

His next race at Palm Beach ended sadly when his fuel pump died, but the next day saw victory for the 22-year-old gay sportsman when he stayed ahead of the field across Palm Beach nearly all the way to take the flag with an average speed of 85mph.

Wipe Out

His final race in the US was a disaster. Tim was less than 400 yards from the finish line and well in front. He was touching 80mph when the big boat slammed into something just beneath the surface. The boat spun, stood on its tail, whiplashed, threw Tim into the water and sank.

But the two victories in the US brought Tim a lot of goodwill. He said that nobody objected to his claims about being gay. He said they simply wanted to get on with the job and race.

He flew home to England and drove straight up to Chasewater in Staffordshire to compete in a title race but he started with a sheared piston, and just out of the start, the engine caught fire.

Never Say Die

Tim continued his championship quest last week at Bristol in the Embassy Bristol Grand Prix. It was his biggest audience in his powerboat racing career, with 70,000 people on Saturday and 100,000 people on Sunday.



The classic brought Tim success and disaster. He was bringing in the second fastest lap times, with a top speed in his Mercury-powered craft of close to 110mph.

In a tight corner heading up to the main straight, Tim holed his boat and limped into a safe area, and tried to keep the boat going fast enough to prevent it from sinking. He locked off the steering and went into a fast circle to keep it afloat. He threw his crash helmet into the water and prepared to jump clear. He manoeuvred the boat to within inches of the crane, and with the engine still firing, the hooks caught the boat and lifted it clear.

Tim came out of the drama with severe bruising, shock, badly cut legs, and even more determination to continue.

Tim Skinner

Another Story Of Gross Indecency

In GN 26 we ran our first 'Story of Gross Indecency'. The fact that we are now printing another account of a police attack could be interpreted as a strong desire within GN to depress our readers as much as possible. However, we run this in the hope that it may edge gays another inch towards positive action.

I am a representative for a London company and travel most of the U.K., including Northern Ireland.

I am also gay. On Wednesday, February 28th, 1973 I decided to do some shopping in Leeds before setting off to Belfast the following Saturday. It was mid-afternoon and difficult to park in the city; I ended up in the Merion Centre multi-storey car park. I had wanted to go to the toilet, and knew that there was a public toilet within the centre, and I also knew that it was a gay cottage. I had been warned by local gays that police in the area were active and ruthless, and I kept this in mind. I was on my guard when I entered, and guessed that two persons inside could be police provocateurs. I kept to myself and made no moves.

I noticed that they took in my long hair. As I went to leave, it came as a great surprise when the two men grabbed me—I thought I was about to be "rolled". I was even more surprised that my initial guess was the correct one. These two thugs were POLICEMEN! I had not done anything wrong and refused to be arrested. I was told if I did not go quietly they would make it worse for me, but they did not say what I was to be charged with. They literally dragged me through the city of Leeds. When I gave voice to my outrage, they warned me again that unless I kept quiet, they would make it worse for me.

On arrival outside the police station, the most aggressive officer, a 6ft tall fair-headed thug, pinned me against the wall and said, "I don't like you" with a hostile voice.

As I was swiftly marched inside, they

shouted "Indecent Conduct Charge," halting abruptly so that I went flying ahead.

The aggressive officer said "Let's find a cell for him!" but instead I was put in an office where a plain clothes officer sat with his back to me. I continued to complain over being arrested, and the officer finally turned around and said, "Look, we had three vicars in here the other day on the same charge!" I was told to shut up, I was going to court.

In view of my departure to Northern Ireland, it was decided I would appear in court on Friday March 2nd, I said I had been in the army, and would never have believed the British police officers would frame anyone. I was charged with indecent conduct under a local bylaw, which I discovered applied to people seen masturbating, something I certainly was not doing. A few more insults later I was let out on bail, due to the fact I lived more than 150 miles from Leeds.

In court I discovered several other gay boys who had all been tricked into the same charge. The quieter of the policemen told us he could get us through quickly if I pleaded guilty, and not having had any sleep, I foolishly agreed with the others to do this despite the fact that I had told the clerk earlier I would be pleading Not Guilty. The quieter policeman tried to be nice, saying I had not committed a bad crime, had been quite quiet in the toilet, did not attempt to cause trouble etc.

I was fined £3, as were the others with me.

I was told by the police that I was disgusting.....I was not even categorised as human (referred to at one stage as a 'Thing'). I own my house, which is in no mean area, I pay taxes and rates, and I work hard to treat my neighbour as I would wish to be treated. I demand a gay persons' discriminations act—and to be given just and right respect in the community.

Proud To Be Gay,

Gordon Hunter



Photograph of Tim Brand-Crombie: Pascal Danot, Gayshot

Bisexuality: A Growing Reality Says Author

ON July 2, Colin MacInnes published a book-length essay called 'Loving Them Both', which is described as "a study of bisexuality and bisexuals". Asked what his main motive had been in writing it, he replied "Vanity". "I get a bit sick of people assuming I'm one thing. There's much too much laying down the law going on by people who don't know anything about anything. At one time, nobody was supposed to be queer. Then it swung too far the other way and people began saying 'Ha-ha' and assuming that nearly everybody was. Now I think we're entering stage three. I'm not awfully nosy but I am rather curious and most of the people I've asked turn out to be bisexual.

"Of course there are exceptions, but I think very few people only have relations with the opposite sex. Or with their own. It's even been discovered that Proust used to make it with chicks. Actually, I think it's a thoroughly uninteresting subject. I never want to know who's having it off with whom—unless I fancy one of them, that is. It's not a major thing, I just want to clear the air and get at some facts. But my real reason is vanity. When somebody calls me a silly poof I always feel like saying 'All right, where's your sister, I'll soon show you!' Do you know what I mean?"

Some of us at GN do Colin. Incidentally, Mr MacInnes sent us a very amusing piece called 'Make It Legal' which we ran in GN6*.

A review of Colin MacInnes' new book will appear in GN shortly and we are hoping to interview him in the near future.

*Copies of GN6 are still available, price 10p 4p postage. Send to GN Oldies Dept, 34d Redcliffe Square, London SW10. That issue also featured an article titled 'S & M and The Gay World'.

Get The Message?

LONDON: The City of Westminster, which issues 250 massage parlour licences a year and has withdrawn only 4, seems to have two curious sets of standards—one gay, one het. In the Sunday Times Magazine (June 17th), Public Control Officer Leslie Griffiths skims over the problem of het wank parlours and remarks that the main concern is on "the homosexual side".

"A massage establishment, you see, can become a nest of homosexuals. The word goes around like wildfire and they start to gather there in the warmth and gloom."

A remark such as this must surely test even the most gullible. Mr. Griffiths, your scapegoat is showing—and so are the straws you're clutching at.

Here's Here We Are Again, Again

PERHAPS it is not the most original of new titles for this regular column, but we thought that 'Reminders & Jottings' was a little stuffy as a heading. So the nameless, faceless individuals who write it, met at an unspecified time, at an undisclosed meeting place and took a leap forward into the past and dug up the old name for what really is the internal, friendly editorial of GN.

Forthcoming Attractions

Just in case any of you thought GN was getting a bit stale, we are intending to start a number of new regular columns and features. One in fact started last issue, the 'Quicksilver' feature on the Stage page. Written by Stephen MacLean, it is a brief, gossipy, gay look at current happenings in the world of showbiz.

By the end of July, one of two proposed fashion columns should have commenced. Appearing in alternate issues, one will be written by a full-time student on an advanced fashion design course, the other will be by a highly experienced member of the fashion world, who will be bringing us all up to date on current trends and what are the best buys. These features will be for both men and women.

A young New Zealander will be starting a movie column with a difference. He will primarily be concentrating on the many films that don't get the vast waves of publicity the large budget ones receive. Also, he will be commenting on the general state of the film industry, with a watchful gay eye on what the censor is up to.

Polly Perkins, who had an album called 'Polly Perkins - Liberated Woman' released at the end of June and has a book, 'Songs for the Liberated Woman' published in July, will be starting a regular monthly column very soon. In the past, Polly has written for 'Stage', 'Listen Easy', 'London's Pubs' and 'Gay Scene', and her regular feature will be an excitingly different addition to GN.

We also intend to publish a sharp, critical look at current issues that affect homosexuals.

Next Issue

At the time of writing, definite items for the next issue include an illuminating interview with Joseph Hansen, who was recently in London for the publication of his second gay-orientated thriller, 'Death Claims' (his first, 'Fadeout', won the GN Anniversary Award for Fiction); a feature on Hermaphroditism by John Clough; plus a few surprises and lots of old favourites, and all the gay news that happens between now and then.

Whoops... Sorry

In GN 25 ('The Way We Learned To Walk') we incorrectly stated that the poem that appeared on the front cover of GN 5 was written by the American poet and singer Rod McKuen. Actually it was written by Ken Smith of Brighton. Sorry about that Ken, but as Tim Skinner said at the beginning of that piece, it was difficult for him to be absolutely sure about everything as he only joined the paper with issue No 20. All the same, sincere apologies. It really was a memorable gay poem.

Dates and Deadlines

The next edition of Gay News (No 28) will be published and available on July 26. Details of advertising 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.

Gay News



Ooh La La

Paris, France: Cheeky! Looks like there's a split in the music scene—French pop singer Michel Polnareff (above) thought posing for a poster to publicise his concert at the Olympia hall wouldn't cause much of a rumpus, but the French billstickers union thought differently, rated it indecent and, well, blacked out his bum!



Bowie Quits

Outside the Hammersmith Odeon young girls and boys gathered in tears. David Bowie, GN's great idol, had torn them apart.

After the most wild and wonderful performance he may ever have given, after the thundering encores, came the few simple words that cut us all to the heart. He and The Spiders had done many concerts together but they would remember this one the longest, "not only because it's the last one of the tour, but because it's the last show we shall ever do." Silence.

And then into 'Rock and Roll Suicide'.

Thus the Spaceman who conquered the world, released it again as simply. It might have been easier to take had his last night been anything but sensational. But it was sensational.

His third USA tour has been cancelled, and he is leaving the country to spend the summer quietly in France and Italy, recording, relaxing and working out his plans for the future. And a future there must be for our idol. We send our love. We want you around again. Soon.

Michael Mason

Hitting The Waves And Hooting The Hets



The Tricky Dicky Disco Cruise, Sunday June 24

THE tricky part for me was actually getting there. I had been out till way past dawn, tossed and turned during that difficult 6-9am siesta, and awoken with a start at 11.40am. The cruise left at noon sharp, Westminster Pier.

Fear of our ogre-editor got me there. I only recount this weary wail because most everyone else on the cruise looked hung-over too. So there's your first tip-off, gang: get enough rest in the kip to look your Sunday freshest and hoot the passing het tourist boats with everything in you.

The vessel we were aboard was quite comfortable. The large lounge below deck featured a bar that was immediately rushed by fun-loving, free-spending dickyites. A frothy pint of lager cost 28p.

The area on deck became a large, glassed-in disco, where gay cruisers danced to the latest fave raves. There were a few female couples, the occasional male with ladyfriend. A hazardous guess would put the average age at around 30, although all brackets were represented. Some took their shirts off, others even took their sunglasses off, and almost all of the folk blasted at passing tourist boats with happy het hoots.

Inexpensive sandwiches, sausage rolls and the like were sold on board. Those of you placing heavy emphasis on the trolling possibilities should be advised that it's pot luck, really. After all, the cruise lasts six hours, and during that period, a Mr. Right might reveal himself as being less than perfect. That might sound somewhat sexist and meat-rackish because it is, but I just thought I'd lay that angle on the line.

Around 2.45 we docked at Greenwich for a two-hour rubberneck at the local colour. It was on Greenwich Pier that I noticed several of the mateys went to great lengths to be seen. "Oh Elsie, come back with me drag," plus the odd, "Hey Butch, ya big poof". An interesting gay lib element you might say.

The trip back was more relaxed, just right for those in the mood for necking.

The £1.20 pays for the cruise; add to that an estimate of what you might drink

whilst trapped for an entire afternoon. Gay tourists in London during summer might find the cruises of special interest. Locals who've never ventured aboard Dickie's vessel can be advised that while it's not a wildly liberating experience, it's worth a whirl on a sunny day.

Stephen MacLean

Solution

T	O	B	E	D	R	N	O	T	T	O	B	E
U	O			A	R			O				
R	O	Y	S		V	I	O	L	A	B		
K	N		A	M	E	L		S	O	U		
I	E		G	A	L	L	Y	T				
S	E	X	M	A	D		S	T	O	I	C	
H	T		E	L	M		U	H				
B	I	D	E	T		A	B	U	L	G	E	
A	O	R		A	Y	E	I	R				
T	O	O	A		D	O	E	K	B			
H	R	A	D	I		R	E	G	O			
J		E		E		I		Y				
H	E	M	A	S	T	U	R	B	A	T	E	S

This is the solution to GN No 8/73 which appeared in the last edition of the paper.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Clues Across | Clues Down |
| 1. To be or not to be | 1. Turkish Bath |
| 6. Roy (ally) | 2. Boy Next Door |
| 8. Viola | 3. Navel (naval) |
| 11. Ame (rica) | 4. Trolls |
| 13. Sou | 5. Bo (B.O.) |
| 14. Gal | 7. Saga |
| 15. Sex mad | 9. As You Like It |
| 16. GoeS-TO-ICarus | 10. Butcher Boys |
| 17. Elm (disease) | 12. Made (!) |
| 19. Bidet (-ime) | 18. Mayo |
| 21. A bulge | 20. Trades |
| 23. Aye | 22. Beer (-udite) |
| 24. Too (-L) | 23. Adieu |
| 25. Doe (Tonic Sol Fa) | 28. Je (an) |
| 26. Radii | |
| 27. H-EGO-es. | |
| 29. He Masturbates (Oed-blind) | |

We are sorry to disappoint crossword fanatics, but owing to the amount of space the two main features have taken up, our next puzzle will not appear until GN 28.

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.

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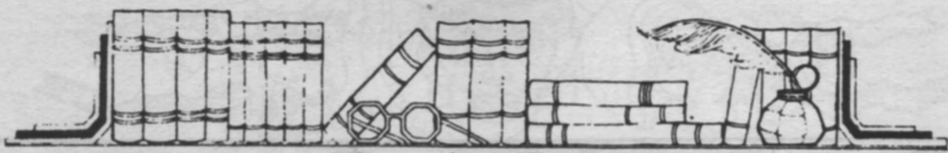
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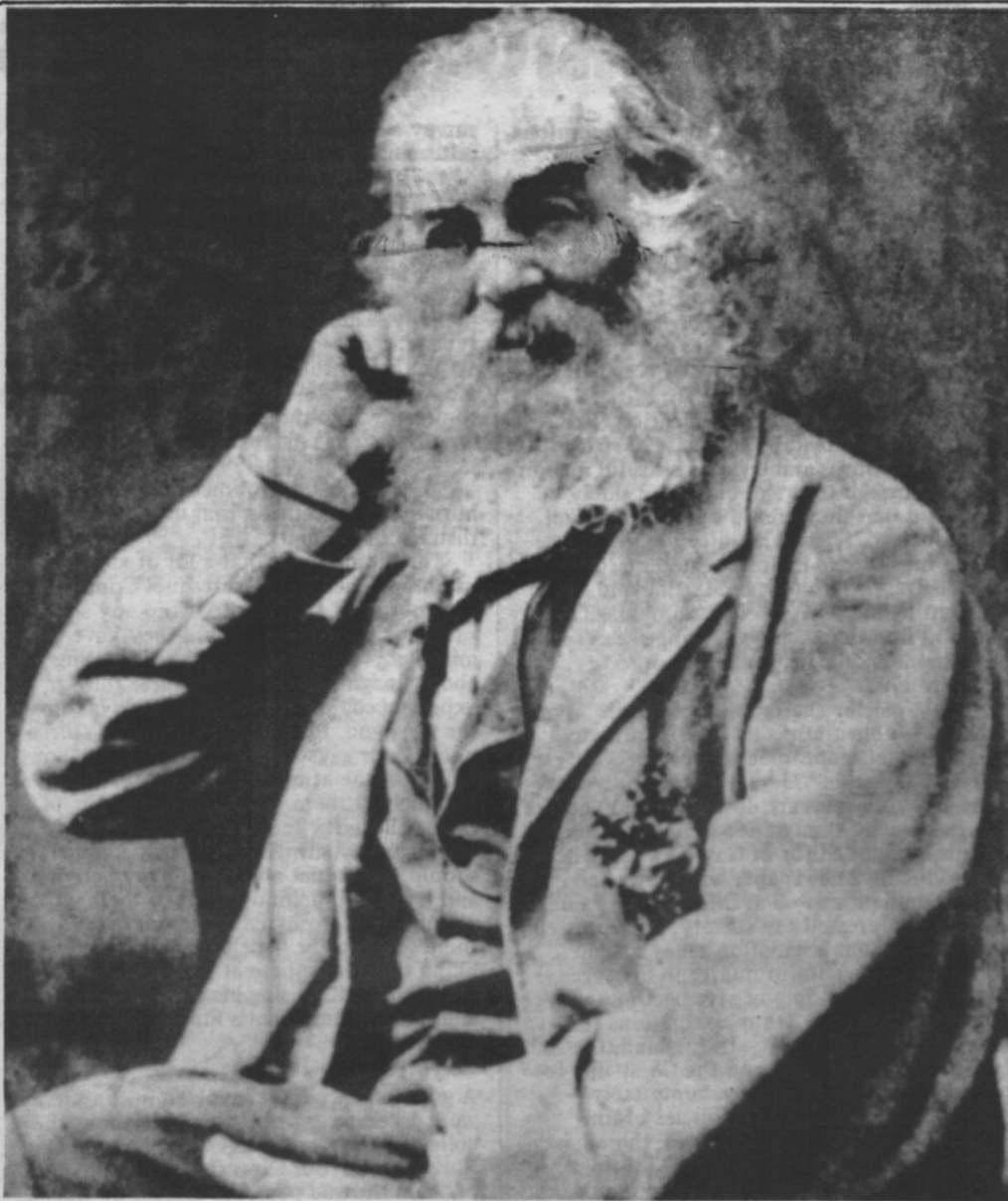
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Photograph: Gay Sunshine (California)



Walt Whitman: "I'll perfume the grave of him I love."

'A Simple Separate Person'

Whitman - selected by Robert Creeley (Penguin 35p).

This latest volume in the Penguin series 'Poet to Poet' is a particularly welcome addition to the lists. What a long, hard road to rehabilitation poor Whitman has been forced to tread.

For several reasons. For many contemporary critics of the nineteenth century, his bisexuality alone was enough reason to ignore or damn the man and all his works. Fortunately there were enough people correspondingly appreciative of his qualities to ensure that his name survived his death in 1892.

Paradoxically, his greatest fall from grace coincided with the increasing abandonment of structural formalism, which his use of prosody foreshadowed. The twentieth century writers turned to varieties of intellectual and subjective formalism, developing rather than revolutionising acceptable 'poetic' structure. Eliot, Pound, James, we learn from Robert Creeley's introduction, were all 'death bed' conversions to Whitman. His technique might have attracted more attention had he not, as Creeley observes, been condemned like Wordsworth as overly prolix and generalising.

To more recent readers, historical perspective has proved a barrier. 'Starting from Paumanok' seems remote from our personal experiences: "Americans! conquerors! marches humanitarian! "Foremost! century marches! Libertad! masses! . . . "Still the present I raise aloft, still the future of the States I harbinge glad and sublime."

America had then a glorious future rather than an inglorious past. So what are the qualities for which he is now acclaimed? Arguably his finest work, "Song of Myself", holds many of the answers and is included in this edition. In style it falls mid-way between lyric verse and prose fiction, perhaps the first American poem so to do. The form allows him freedom to combine vivid, concrete description: "The blab of the pave, tires of carts, sluff of boot-soles, talk of the promenaders, "The heavy omnibus, the driver with his interrogating thumb," with more speculative and universal contemplation: "I do not ask who you are, that is not important to me,

"You can do nothing and be nothing but what I will unfold you."

This last quotation takes us to the heart of Whitman's central theme not only in "Song of Myself" but in several other works, his concern with identity. A more familiar concept today, with our increasing interest in Hindu beliefs, Whitman asks us to accept that the self can become one with all other selves in this and other existences; an extraordinary metaphor this for the nineteenth century reader.

But he is equally convinced of a paradoxical belief that each person is separate and unique. This paradox is stated at the head of "Leaves of Grass" clearly:

"One's self I sing, a simple separate person,

"Yet utter the word Democratic, the word En-Masse."

and is reiterated in "Song of Myself". The poem, strangely, does not seek a final self-identity, but concerns itself more with escaping a series of varied identities which threaten to destroy the self's identity.

So strong indeed was Whitman's belief in "the word Democratic" that he could condemn the heterosexuality on which European literature is founded, on the grounds that it presumes a distinction between the sexes! And yet his writing shows that his great talent was for the singularly perceptive and vivid depiction of "the simple separate person".

This new selection at 35p will, I hope, encourage many to whom Walt Whitman is just a name to get to know some of his poetry. This is a thoughtful selection by a notable American poet. Whether it throws any light on Robert Creeley's own work, as the editor of the 'Poet to Poet' series claims, is open to some dispute. This is to claim that a poet is some kind of disciple of any other poet he admires. But in the event, the choice is sensitive and well-informed. 'I Sing the Body Electric' is here, 'The Sleepers' too, and as an interesting tail piece 'Respondez' and 'Debris' are included though both were excised by Whitman from his final edition of "Leaves of Grass".

I leave you with an aperitif: "Sea-winds blown from east and west, "Blown from the Eastern sea and blown from the Western sea, till there on the prairies meeting, "These and with these and the breath of my chant, "I'll perfume the grave of him I love."

Michael Mason

Gays And Hets

THE POLITICS OF HOMOSEXUALITY, by Don Milligan. Pluto Press Ltd., Unit 10 Spencer Court, 7 Chalcot Road, London NW1 8LH 20p (+ 5p p&p)

"Socialists in Britain are confused and embarrassed by the issues raised by the gay movement . . . Liberal attitudes of tolerance and sympathy for the sexually 'deviant' crush the spirit of gay socialists and isolate us from each other". Don Milligan has been active as a socialist for twelve years, and in the gay liberation movement for two. His concise, 19 page pamphlet seems an attempt to expound the principles of gay liberation to confused and isolated gay socialists and possibly for this reason links his analysis firmly to the general oppressions perpetrated by capitalism. "Because people do more than work in factories and pay rent rises we need to gain a fuller knowledge of the different ways that capitalism disfigures all human relationships."

The exposition is neat and firm but has a tendency to throw up statements that are, if not exactly untrue, at least seriously questionable as points of argument:

"Opposition to homosexuality is founded upon the belief that procreation is the fundamental objective of sexual activity", is true certainly, but would surely come third or fourth in a list of oppositions especially since non-reproductive heterosexual activity has achieved considerable acceptance. And again: "If a person makes no effort to conceal his homosexuality then jobs are difficult to find and often impossible to keep". Another part-truth. And his comment on the gay ghetto (clubs and bars scene) is not balanced by any appreciation of the commercial scene as a whole.

Such generalisations are the result of brevity, I think, for overall the pamphlet is pungent and says a few things that need

pointing out: "The heterogenous nature of the gay minority gives homosexuals little real power in society", is the sort of insight that gay movements have paid little or no attention to. And it is also very refreshing to find a gay activist emphasising, more than once, the truth that gay oppression affects more than just the homosexual minority.

Roger Baker

In Perspective

THE HOMOSEXUAL DIALECTIC, edited by Joseph A McCaffrey

A collection of essays divided into two sections. First, Straight Perspectives offers views and comments on the homosexual from the observer's point of view. Second, Radical Gay Perspectives contains writings from within the gay movement and includes Carl Wittman's seminal *Refugees from Amerika: A Gay Manifesto*. Paul Goodman, Kameny, Huey Newton and Suzannah Lessard are represented too.

Altogether a well-balanced collection giving many different perspectives. And one welcomes the reprinting here of the chapter on the homosexual outlet from the Kinsey Report which is often referred to but, I think, rarely read. Laud Humphreys writes, amusingly and thoughtfully on new styles in homosexual manliness and Thomas Szasz's essay on the conversion of homosexuality from heresy to illness is one piece that, perhaps slightly more than the others, will find a response in this country.

Roger Baker

FOOTNOTE: 'The Homosexual Dialectic' is available from the GN Mail Order Service at £1.20 (post free).

'Female Homosexuality'

THIS imported American paperback, subtitled 'A Modern Study of Lesbianism', by Frank S. Caprio M.D., is now available from GN's Mail Order Service, priced 50p (post free). The blurb on the cover says it 'is the most complete and authoritative book on the subject.'

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Illuminating European Report Into Gayness

'New Gay Survey' continued from Page 1.

The gay sub-culture itself was a question of the survey as the great gay meeting place, whether open to the general public or not. There are gay pubs and clubs in every European city, and these, like railway stations, public lavatories (cottages), sauna baths, and parks are known by nearly all gays.

These are the only places where gay people don't have to pretend to be straight. Only there, the survey finds, can they feel protected against repression, and only there can they be sure that everybody else is a potential sex-partner.

The survey also discovered that there was a growing element of caution in these gay haunts, put down primarily to the fear of police apprehension.

The questionnaire asked about the frequency of visits to gay pubs and clubs in the preceding 12 months. The answers showed how exclusively gays rely on that sub-culture in their leisure time.

Cruising

It showed that 44 per-cent go there ('there' being saunas, pubs, clubs, bars, parks, theatres, cottages, street beats) between once a day and five times a month. It showed that 12 per-cent visited them five times a day. A bit hard to believe.

It showed too that younger gays felt more at ease there than the older ones. Over 50 per-cent of them spend a lot, if not the best part of their time, with their gay friends.

Promiscuous?

One of the eye-openers in the survey showed that gays are particularly promiscuous. The tables at the end of this survey will go into elaborate detail, but the survey did point out that gays—with no real age limits—were surprisingly active. Of the 901 gays who returned their questionnaire, it showed that their sexual activity ranged from 2 to over 1,000 different partners per person. On average, each gay person had had sex with 102 different people. Maybe it's a little flippant, but those who claim to have had sex with over 1,000 people must be compulsively promiscuous.

A Questionable Crime Code

One of the widely-discussed subjects in scientific institutes as well as among homosexuals and in local pubs seems to be the way gays have sex, rather than the number of sex partners they have. Only between 8 and 14 per-cent, so they say, prefer anal intercourse. The gays questioned also said there was therefore no reason to treat the vast majority of gays with any sort of contempt.

And it did cast some doubt about that magic figure of 14 per-cent which has been quoted in many 'highly regarded' textbooks on sexual psychiatry.

In fact, intercourse is quite dominant even among those who like to call themselves homophiles and try to lie away this kind of intercourse. The survey showed that 64 per-cent turn out to fuck occasionally, and 52 per-cent let themselves be fucked.

In the past, this used to be considered a heinous crime, to be, in many cases, punished by death, and to this day, heterosexuals react to it with repulsion, hatred or fear.

The law, as it stands, just doesn't make sense. The British Sexual Offences Act is often indecipherable, but in Germany, the situation is perhaps more permissive, but totally laughable.

It is legal there for two 17-year-old boys to have sex together, but if they do it again a year later, they can both be sent to prison for up to five years. But in another three years' time, the law will allow sex between them again. It does seem though, in the German instance, that this nonsensical definition of right and wrong will disappear...as will the prohibition of homosexual prostitution, but in England—particularly in Scotland, the stigmas of 'doing it in the dark' look like becoming permanent fixtures.

The Misconception Phantom

But misconception and prejudice about homosexuality are by no means a heterosexual prerogative. Many gays themselves are simply not told the truth about themselves. They share their views with a society to whose moral standards they want to adapt. And gay men themselves are just as divided as the scientist on the question why a man becomes gay.

There's been a lot of research into this question—well before the survey was undertaken, and it is still continuing. Some psychiatrists still think it's an illness, but others say it's a special characteristic in otherwise perfectly ordinary people. They don't regard it as an abnormality or a subnormality. It is an alternative.

On the question of therapy, this has invariably been left to psychiatrists and psycho-therapists. And it's still widely believed that psycho-social influences on children from very early ages to adolescence are crucial for a boy to become gay. One very dominant parent is usually a great influence,

and the survey backs this up totally.

It appears that many boys and girls who spent a long time of their pre-adolescent childhood in boarding schools, reformatories, orphanages and one-sex institutions stand a great chance of acquiring gayness out of a desire for companionship. This, says the survey, is the all important time, and any additional traumas which might develop in those years could concrete the gay pattern and render it unchangeable.

A 'promiscuous' mother in the case of a mother-son relationship is invariably a good starter for a gay life for the boy. In the case of a girl, a father-only relationship where the father spends much of his time with different women will lead to a breeding of gayness.

Some scientists believe that many boys turn gay or bi-sexual after a period of over-indulgence in hetero-sex. But there's also been growing evidence that homosexuality is neither influenced exclusively by upbringing or other environmental factors, nor due solely to genetic conditioning.

The question of working out the basic differences between gay men and straight men has always been a big problem, and to that end, doctors and psychologists and a number of universities in the United States have tried to equate that very difference.

In one experiment with male students of both sexes, the researchers found considerably smaller amounts of testosterone, a male sex hormone, in the bloodstream of gay students than in their straight colleagues.

Another difference was found in the semen of the two groups. The more pronounced the homosexuality in those examined, the smaller the number and the less the mobility of the sperms in their semen.

There is still further evidence to show that testosterone might be playing a crucial part in homosexuality, but it's foolish to jump to conclusions, basically because after all the findings, there is still no 'ideal' general sort of gay person. The differences from gay to gay are often enormous.

So it's still not known whether a reduced level of testosterone in the blood of gay people is to be regarded as a cause or effect of their homosexuality. Chances are, it appears, it does.

The Great Conversation Campaign

In recent years, there has been no lack of attempts to convert gays to straights. In the case of men, the efforts invariably come from women who totally reject the gayness as a mental problem, a deficiency, or something 'dirty and irreligious'. Too often, these people will grasp the nearest piece of anti-gay literature, cherish it as almost biblical, and use it as total evidence of the 'horror of homosexuality'. It will often come from women who find themselves attracted to gay men, but on discovery of their gayness, will use it as a veritable ruthless weapon... usually with total ignorance of their wasted efforts, and of the simple fact that their gay targets treat their gayness as a non-problem.

Medically, the conversion attempts have been more macabre. A whole range of therapeutic measures have been tried: psychoanalysis, electro-shocks, group therapy, even castration and brain surgery. Usually with no success at all.

Often the effects of these 'treatment' attempts has been great psychological damage and physical disadvantage of patients.

Just over 12 per-cent of the people surveyed had consulted a specialist for either advice or treatment. 7 per-cent had seen a psychiatrist.

The two men who launched this survey had nothing but scorn for the 'help' usually offered by doctors. They said: "A patient will spend between 12 and 50 minutes in the neurologist's surgery, when the doctor will enlarge his own personal views which may be more or less religious, liberal or reactionary, and based to some extent on scientific fact. He will then proceed to either prescribe Valium or Librium, encourage his patient to 'pull himself together', or on the rare occasion, he might try to free the patient from his fears."

Gargage Treatment

The two men think it is inadmissible to regard gays as 'psychologically more sick' than the rest, as long as assessment of their 'health' continues to be based on so-called normal heterosexual functions of the male body.

The survey approached doctors and psychologists, and surprisingly the result was a little more liberal. Most of them seem to think that gays are more often than others afflicted with emotional suffering and neuroses. On the other hand, over half of them said that many gays had too much self-pity, and were looking for somebody to blame for their condition. Some of them even called it a 'misfortune'. Yet, busy and all as they are to adapt and become

accepted by the straights, they are querulous and aggressive towards each other when among themselves in their ghettos, or if you like, their sub-cultures.

It began to a degree after homosex acts were legalised. Many new clubs opened, and a new market for gay publications mushroomed. In Germany, four are in public circulation. They are Him, Du + Ich, Don, and Pikkube. In England, the gay publication market is made up primarily of Gay News, Sappho, Jeffrey and Lunch.

Some gays hope that publications like these might be read by the mass of straight men and women and become a useful medium to get through to them, but it can safely be assumed that they aren't doing enough yet in reducing straight prejudice.

In most cases, the magazines are too expensive in Germany and in England, to be bought by straights in great numbers. They are too frightened, anyway, to be seen reading them. People just might jump to conclusions.

'HIM' editor Dieter Michael Specht says that his publication is factual, informative, and a liberal mouthpiece for gay people. He also says that "leave a picture of a cock out and your sales are down by 5,000 copies".

In England though, it's a slight switch. Denis Lemon, editor of Gay News says he is producing a newspaper with news and entertainment as well as information value, in a very repressed gay society. So repressed, said Denis, that circulation takes a slight dive if there is a lot of nudity in his pages.

Disagreement among gays becomes very obvious when they form associations to represent their interests. In England, the Gay Liberation Front and the Campaign for Homosexual Equality have completely different, quite clear-cut policies of unilateral operation. In many cases, there have been instances of petty political knifings and internal uprising between the two groups.

In Germany the Hamburg branch of the International Homophile World Organisation is the only one still operating, and it, with its 800 members, is the biggest gay organisation in Germany.

The Terror Of Telling

Again, the charts at the conclusion of this survey will expand the figures, but the survey did find that gays were still faced with a real fear when it came to disclosing the truth about their sexual preferences. To hide it, many of them were married. Either during or after their first homosexual contact. Some married for friendship, some to have children, some to hide their gayness, some because they wanted sex with a girl, and the smallest percentage in an effort to put an end to their gay life.

The survey concludes that in many cases, this was a defence mechanism at work. Some, suggested the survey, became involved with a woman because it was 'socially better for them', and in most cases, there was positively nothing in it for their sexual desires.

Scientists don't like the idea of these 'escapist' marriages, where gay men join a woman in wedlock to protect their image. They seem to think it does a lot to shatter the confidence gay men might have begun to find in themselves. They also think it's impossible that those gays who've entered such a marriage would have been happier in a marriage-like affair with a fellow-gay, and they considered known cases where a gay 'marriage' did work out to be rare exceptions.

According to conventional medical opinion, gays are generally incapable of deep feelings for each other. Obviously, a very straight-society-born medical opinion gave birth to that theory.

But even America's senior sex expert Dr Kinsey goes along with that generalisation. He says there are surprisingly few long lasting relationships between male couples, and even those affairs rarely survive the first big argument.

But the survey stands aside slightly and asserts that in the future, this question needs to be looked at carefully, because medical generalisations and textbooks have until now been the curse of gay relationships.

On one hand, 58 per-cent of the people who'd answered the questionnaire had an affair going, and one third of these were actually living together. On the other hand, 43 per-cent confirmed that their affairs were usually short-lived, and that in their view, homosexuality and long-lasting relationships were almost incompatible. Only 4 per-cent had ever had an affair going for seven years or longer. Still, no less than half the affairs—at the time of questioning—had been going for more than two years.

But as a rule, it seems, gays only stay together as long as they fancy each other. Gay affairs are seldom—if ever—kept going through fear of loneliness.

The Gay Game

Outwardly, gays are compulsively playing the parts society wants them to play. The

survey asked them what type of man they felt sexually particularly attracted to. Some of the nine types given for choice were: very masculine and very effeminate, intelligent looking men, boyish types, those with a big penis, and leather guys.

By far the most of the gays questioned—86 per-cent of them—reacted almost predictably. Their choice was a 'normal looking type who doesn't look gay'.

The result there is questionable, because most gay people—like everybody else—prefers somebody who radiates sex appeal and openly displays his sexuality. In this conflict between actual sexual desires and a self-imposed social control mechanism, it's this normality-compulsion that usually breaks through in the end.

The hiding-game that a lot of gays play often becomes quite grotesque. Come Monday mornings, in order to avoid any sort of suspicion or even detection, they have to join their colleagues at work in boasting about imaginary sexual pleasures they've experienced, and the birds they've laid over the weekend. But despite that ritual, three out of four gays still claim to be quite content with the atmosphere at work. But then half of them also claim that none of their colleagues know that they are gay.

It's hardly surprising that gay employees should keep quiet about their gay activities and try to hide behind boasts of their phantom heterosexual experiences, but there seems to be little sense in anyone liking the atmosphere at work when he is continually disguising his own sexual needs and perceptions. That's the social adaptation that hurts.

Gays: Queen Haters

A great many people involved in the survey were asked to say how they felt about the collective gays branded as effeminate queens. Three out of four expressed rejection, a lot of them showed personal disgust of 'queens' in terms of 'they make you want to throw up', 'shit', 'repulsive', and 'horrifying'.

The extent to which gays have become victims of this masculinity syndrome in society is shown both by the hatred of 'queens' and by the fact that many of them blame these 'queens' for their plight.

Sick People? Not Today's Idea

The survey does bring out a very heartening factor...that society generally is giving gay people a much easier life. Maybe because society itself is realising it too is not so non-gay.

In many cases, gays are having what might loosely be called a good life. There's a lot of sadness beneath much of it, but the superficial slab that shows is generally an extremely happy one. Sexologists in Germany say it has a lot to do with a growing realisation that homosexuality is simply one of the many forms of sexuality. Nothing else.

It's a well-meaning explanation, but it doesn't explain away the problems connected with being homosexual. The survey also shows that gay men—fairly generally—find themselves accepted mainly as sick or victimised people. The waves of condemnation are ebbing slowly, but they are still there.

And as enemies of the straight society, gay people are very subdued. They have always been very harmless enemies. In the long history of their persecution, when have they ever fought back?

The Findings

So to the findings. The first table of statistics are solely from the German report—based on the findings of the survey, and dealing only with Germany.

- 1. Employment:** Of the 789 gays who answered the questionnaire, 634 were actually working, and 18 were out of work, and 118 were students. 139 of those working were engaged in a clerical job.
- 2. Family Background:** Broken homes lost a lot of their phantom responsibility for creating the path to gayness. Of the 789 people who took part in the survey, 70 per-cent (552) claim they did not grow up in a broken home. 18 per-cent (142) grew up with only their mother, a 1 per-cent (8 people) grew up with only their father. The findings imply that the remaining 11 per-cent (87 people) grew up in broken homes.



3. What the Parents Thought: Roughly four in every ten mothers (39 per-cent) know their

sons are gay, but only two in ten fathers (21 per cent) know. It showed that 22 per cent of the fathers who did get to know about their son's gayness rejected it, while only 11 per cent of the mothers rejected it.

4. Knowing about their Gayness: Here's the breakdown of those people who realised 'for certain' that they were gay.

- 2% by the time they were 13
- 33% by the time they were 17
- 68% by the time they were 20
- 92% by the time they were 25
- 97% by the time they were 30
- 98% by the time they were 30 and over.

It didn't say what happened to the remaining 2%. Maybe they're still not sure.



5. Sexual Contact with a Man for the First Time: Of the 789 who answered the survey, here's the breakdown of ages they claimed to have had sexual contact with a man for the first time.

- 2% by the time they were 10
- 19% by the time they were 13
- 63% by the time they were 17
- 81% by the time they were 20
- 95% by the time they were 25
- 99% by the time they were 30
- 100% by the time they were 40

6. Sex with a Woman: 44 per cent had never had sex with a woman. Of the remaining 56 per cent, as many as 37 per cent had exclusively heterosexual experience following their first homosexual experience, while 15 per cent kept having sex with both men and women. Only 4 per cent having sex with women after their first homosexual contact.

7. The Marriage Game: The following data shows clearly how frightened a lot of gays are that they might be discovered, and thus, a lot of them are quite unaware of this and reveal the truth only unwittingly. All the gays who had been or still are married were asked to give one or more reasons for their marrying a girl.

- 68% wanted a companion
- 54% married to have children
- 40% wanted to hide their gayness
- 39% wanted sex with a girl
- 25% tried to put an end to their gay life

Then, of all the 789 gays who answered,

- 81 (only 10%) had ever been married
- 37 still are married
- 9 have separated
- 30 have been divorced
- 5 are widowers

Four of the 37 are married to their second wife. Two are married to their third wife.

8. Does the Boss Know?

- 61% think that none of their bosses know about their gayness
- 47% think none of their workmates know either
- 29% think a few workmates know
- 10% think most of their workmates know, and
- 8% think everybody at work knows

9. Do they Like their Jobs? The survey shows that most gays are either very happy or just plain happy in their present job. Their reasons:

- 82% simply like the work they're doing
- 78% of them are happy with their pay, and
- 73% like the general atmosphere at work.

10. In Trouble with the Law: Despite a lot of common theories, the survey shows that gays are generally trouble-free.

Only 4% of all the gays questioned have been in trouble with the law over their homosexuality.

- 15% of those had been in trouble once
- 4% twice, and

1% three times

11. Attempted Suicides: This is a sad factor about homosexuality, and the survey found it indicated clearly the tremendous loneliness and depression often faced by gays.

1 in 10 has tried to kill himself once and of these, 4 in 10 have tried to take their own lives twice or more

The local chart at the end of this survey is even more alarming.

12. 'Steady' Relationships: Of the 459 gays who are having a steady affair (58%), half of them say it's been going for more than two years.

51% of them spend their vacations together

13. On Fashions: Of the 789 gays questioned, 48% think they dress in accord with the latest fashion

- 17% don't care too much about the way they dress
- 2 out of 3 dress to please themselves
- 13% have at one stage worn drag
- 17% like wearing leather gear



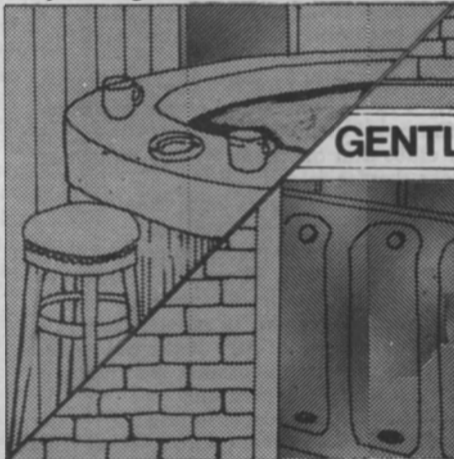
14. The Sex Chart: This chart shows, quite convincingly, that many gays are extremely promiscuous. Of the 789 gays who took part in the survey, the number of them who'd throughout their lives had sex with

- between 1 and 5 partners is 38
- between 6 and 10 partners is 44
- between 11 and 20 partners is 74
- between 21 and 50 partners is 174
- between 51 and 100 partners is 116
- between 101 and 300 partners is 138
- between 301 and 600 partners is 84
- between 601 and 1000 partners is 53
- and over 1,000 partners, it's 65

The Gay News London-Only survey is by no means a true indication of gay trends and tendencies in Britain, but oddly enough, it does come close to the German figures in many instances.

The 25-part questionnaire was circulated in known gay areas, and of 150 forms distributed, 80 were filled in. No identities were requested and no addresses were given.

Here's a rundown of the Gay News survey findings.



1. Places of Contact: The questionnaire asked where gays preferred to meet for sexual contact.

- 50 met in pubs
- 35 met in clubs
- 15 met in gay bars

20 chose meetings in cottages

11 gays said they met in parks, and 14 said that saunas were their preference. Others said they met at GLF, at work, in Amsterdam, at parties, two in a well known cinema, two left it to their beds, and one said he didn't meet anywhere.

2. Gay Origin: The questionnaire asked whether gayness was inherited or acquired after birth.

- 48 said it was acquired
- 19 claimed it was inherited
- 4 put it down to a bit of both
- 2 didn't know
- 1 claimed he was taught by his mum
- and 1 said it was developed by his family.

3. Ever Wanted Help: The London survey asked whether gays had ever sought help from a psychiatrist. 70 had not, 21 had.

11 had sought treatment from a doctor, 85 had not.

4. The Right Partner: 31 of the 80 London gays surveyed preferred a younger partner.

14 were looking for an older partner

15 thought a partner the same age was best

20 didn't care at all about age

5. The London Gay Sex Chart: Based on the breakdown of the German chart, the survey found that of the 80 people questioned:

- 6 had sexual contact with between 1 and 5 people
- 4 had sexual contact with between 6 and 10 people
- 3 had sexual contact with between 11 and 20 people
- 12 had sexual contact with between 21 and 50 people
- 14 had sexual contact with between 51 and 100 people
- 11 had sexual contact with between 101 and 300 people
- 12 had sexual contact with between 301 and 600 people
- 3 had sexual contact with between 601 and 1000 people
- and 7 had sexual contact with more than 1,000 people.

6. Are You Married? The percentage of students who took part in the survey showed up some weaknesses in the findings. 9 were fulltime students and 71 were working.

8-12. The Work Scene: The employment rate among gays must be among the healthiest in London. Of the 80 questioned, only four were out of work, and two by choice. One was starting a job imminently, and one didn't seem to care.

70 said they were happy at work, eight said they weren't too happy, one said he was happy sometimes, and one said nothing could make him happy.

The percentage of gays surveyed seemed reasonably happy about their wages too. 57 said they were paid enough and 23 wanted more money.

The reaction to the work relations question was surprising. All 76 who were working said they got along well at work with their workmates.

13. Gay for what Reason: Of the 80 gays who answered the questionnaire,

- 48 said they were basically gay for love
- 18 said they were gay for the sake of sexual needs
- 2 said it was for companionship
- 12 said it didn't matter why they were gay

14. An Apple a Day: It seems that health among gays gets about the same amount of attention as non-gays.

38 of those questioned had at some stage had VD

42 had never had VD

15. What the Parents Think: The great parent terror seemed to fall away as a result of the survey findings.

Of the 80 gays who answered the questionnaires, 46 of their mothers knew they were gay

28 of their mothers didn't know, and

6 of their mothers didn't know for sure but had a vague idea

1 of these thought it was a joke and would go away

Of those 46 mothers who know about their sons' gayness,

39 accepted it without rejection, and

only 7 rejected it.

The father side of the family showed a different picture.

- 37 fathers knew about their sons' gayness
- 34 fathers did not know, and

9 gays didn't know whether their fathers had any idea

Of the 37 fathers who did know, 7 did not reject it, and 10 took an immediate rejection to it.

16. The Broken Home Syndrome: Of the 80 questioned, 43 claim to have been brought up in a happy 'normal' mother-father home with no real tensions.

30 claim they came from a true 'broken home', and 7 didn't know for sure

17. Knowing about their Gayness: This one came close to the German findings, but it seems that gayness manifests itself much earlier in England.

- 3% knew they were gay by the time they were 11
- 31% knew by the time they were 13
- 72% knew by the time they were 15
- 90% knew by the time they were 17
- 98% knew by the time they were 20
- 100% knew by the time they were 25

18. First Sexual Contact: Like Germany, the first sexual contact with a man happened at a very early age. The percentages are very alike too.

2% had sexual contact before they were 9

- 9% by the time they were 10
- 12% by the time they were 13
- 81% by the time they were 17
- 99% by the time they were 20
- 100% by the time they were 25

19. Sex with a Woman:

33 claimed they had never had sex with a woman, and of the 47 who said they had

26 said they had sex with women occasionally, and 21 said they had sex with a woman often



20. Trouble with the Law:

59 had never been in trouble with the law because of their gayness

11 had been in trouble once

2 had been in trouble twice or more

21. Suicide: These figures are particularly frightening. 62 had never tried it or claimed to have thought about it, but a staggering 14 had tried to take their lives once, and 4 had tried to commit suicide twice or more.

22-24. The Steady Relationship Question: Of the 80 gays questioned, 36 were involved in a 'steady' relationship, but the length of some of them shoots down some theories that gay relationships can't last. It shows, too, that they do seem generally to have their most testing period after one year.

26% have had an affair for 6 months or less

40% have had a steady affair for one year

19% for two years

8% for 3 years

3% for four years

2% for five years

1% for 8 years

1% for 9 years

47 of the gays questioned said they were still looking for a partner

66 said they wanted a permanent relationship, and 14 said they did not. Some said they wanted as many 'affairs' as possible.

27 specified they wanted to have a lot of relationships, sexual or otherwise, and 53 said they did not want many relationships.

25. Fashion: On the question of dressing well

26% claimed in the survey that they dressed in the latest fashions

48% said they dressed to please themselves

6% said they didn't care how they dressed

4% said they had at some stage worn drag, and

16% said they wore and liked leather.

Tim Skinner, News Editor

GAY NEWS wishes to thank Sean and his NCR computer for being so helpful in the compilation of this survey.

Illustrations: Jean-Claude Thevenin

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'TURN ON, TUNE IN, AND DROP UP'

A Conversation With Allen Ginsberg

AT mid-day on Thursday 28 June, Stephen Maclean and I whooshed up the 16 floors to the Martini Terrace of New Zealand House in London's Harnmarket. We were attending the Press Reception for Poetry International 73, although to be honest we had come for the express purpose of meeting the celebrated American poet, Allen Ginsberg. He is the author of many influential books of verse, including *Howl*, *Kaddish*, *Reality Sandwiches*, *Planet News* and more recently *The Fall of America*.

Along with Jack Kerouac, William Burroughs, Gregory Corso and Lawrence Ferlinghetti he was one of the Founding Fathers of the Beat Generation, and has been largely responsible for the revival of interest in poetry by the post World War Two generations. As well as being deeply involved in the wisdom of Indian mysticism, he is an outspoken pacifist and a continuing source of inspiration for the gay liberation movement throughout the world.

Stephen and I had arrived camera-less, and spent an hour searching for a friendly photographer who would supply us with prints. By 1pm, the Martini Terrace (offering possibly the best panoramic view of London there is to be had) was crowded with free-loading journalists and many illustrious literary notables, including the Grand Old Master of English verse, W H Auden, and Australian housewife Edna Everage (impersonating Barry Humphries). But our goal was to speak with Allen Ginsberg, and after guzzling probably more than our share of dry martinis, we finally managed to have a quick word with him, before he was pounced upon by another Fleet Street journalist.

By 2pm the crowd had thinned and Allen agreed to give us some of his time. So along with his old friend Pivano Fernanda (a sister connected with the Italian Gay Lib movement FUORI), Allen, Stephen and I walked to nearby Trafalgar Square. In the summer sunshine, with the noise of traffic and fountains in the background, we cassette-recorded the following informal conversation.

Denis Lemon

Allen Ginsberg: What are you interested in, actually? 'Cause almost everything I got to say about the subject of homosexuality was said at great length in various poems, but mostly in the Gay Sunshine [Ed: *California Gay Lib paper*] interview, so that's a pretty complete account of loves and attitudes.

Denis Lemon: 'Howl' was the first gay lib poem I read....I think it was in 1958 or 59, I was about 13, and it really turned me on. That was when we got our first paperbacks of 'On The Road' and that sort of thing.

AG: I was in London just around that time too. Late '57 or early '58, just passing through. I met an old fellow named William Archer wasn't it....David Archer, who was a publisher, who was an old, I think, a very nice old gay man who was the first to publish the Apocalyptic poets of pre-war, and Dylan Thomas. I was here with Gregory Corso and Peter Orlovsky, and we had no money. I remember standing in Trafalgar in the rain, where we are now, waiting for David to come and pick us up in a cab because we didn't have any money to get where we wanted to go after midnight.

Stephen MacLean: How long did you stay?

AG: Two weeks.

SM: Did you like it then?

AG: Yeah, went up to Oxford then, walked around. W.H. Auden was in town then, we met him, took a walk in the green countryside with Auden.

SM: How did Auden react to your poetry.... had he seen your poetry?

AG: Yeah, I had known him since 1951 in America. In fact in '48 in Columbia I met him and rode downtown on a subway with him. He was always a little bit suspicious of the sloppiness of my poetry and it wasn't his mode, but he's always been friendly. Actually, I brought him an early book of poems and he suggested I read David Jones, he's a British poet you know. English poet, I should say.

Mick Jagger—'Queen Bitch'?

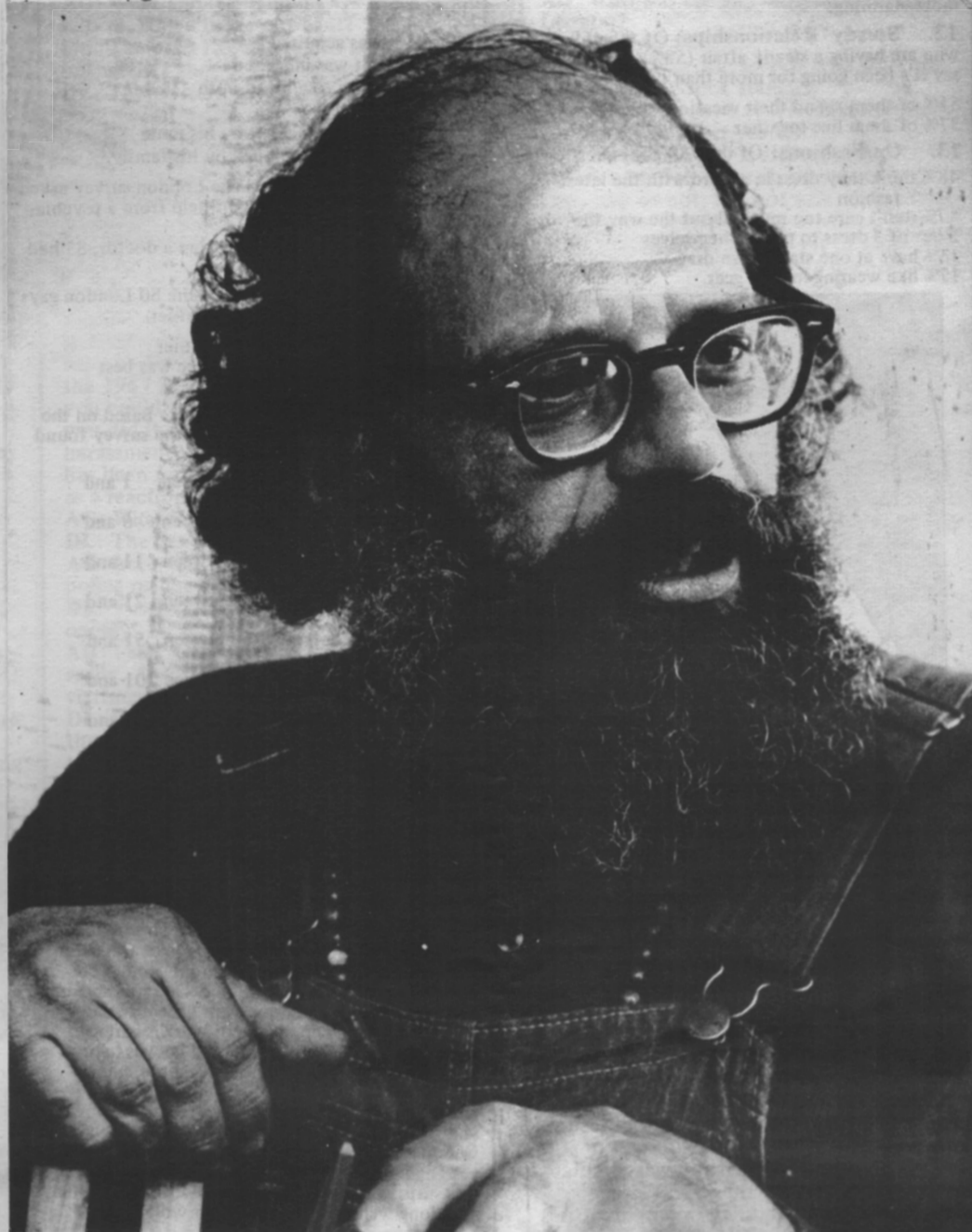
SM: Do you know much about the British gay scene?

AG: Nothing at all, I know nothing at all about it. I keep wondering, is Mick Jagger the head of it or anything?

SM: If only he were....

DL: David Bowie. Not by choice.

SM: What do you think of the effect people like David Bowie have, not only on gay people, but on straight people?



AG: I have never seen David Bowie, except for pictures in the paper. Some pictures make him look attractive and some pictures make him look too gaunt and vivid.

SM: I find him just asexual and not bisexual.

AG: Well, I've seen some pictures where his face is fuller, he looks cute—to my taste. But I don't know what his body movement is like, I've never seen him on television. I don't even know the quality of his voice.

SM: You haven't even listened to his records?

AG: No, never ever.

SM: Oh you must.

AG: Well where I live I'm in a forest without electricity.

SM: Whereabouts are you living now?

AG: Upstate New York, a lot, on a farm. But what is the English gay scene?

DL: It seems at times one step behind the American gay scene. In the States it seems they have replaced the exploitative ghetto with their own ghetto and to me there's just one more step to go, which is total integration.

SM: I'm Australian, and I find the scene here more repressed than anything I've seen in Australia—I mean amongst the actual people themselves in the ghetto, they're more out of time, more repressed, less fluid.

AG: Well, I arrived here yesterday, so I have no idea what the situation is like. I just hope I can find someone who I can fall in love with for the month.

DL: I don't know how you'd describe the scene here, because one compares it with other places. My experience is mostly European and everywhere is repressive, except maybe for Amsterdam, and that isn't really a heaven or anything.

SM: It's much more flexible though.

DL: In Paris, the gays who don't want to get into the very trendy club scene, they go to a bar and everything's almost fine, the owner either kicks them out immediately or else allows them to stay, but after a couple of months the gendarmes arrive....

AG: It's a heavy police state....

DL: They tell the owner he's going to be closed down if he carries on having this type of customer. He kicks them all out, and the gays go and find a new bar.

AG: Are the police there looking for a payoff? Or is it just general government repression?

DL: No, general government repression, as much as social repression.

AG: See, like in America the arrangement that always worked out was that the police and the Mafia worked hand in hand, and if there was a gay bar that wasn't paying off

the police, and wasn't sponsored by the Mafia, it would then be closed down. I don't know if this is changing, I think it's slowly beginning to change now. Is it the same here?

DL: There's rumours. Because it's such an uptight thing you can never get anything definite out of the club owners. But there's gay clubs that open and within about two weeks they're raided.

SM: But the gay places here, they're not very happy, they're not very gay.

DL: Right. They're places where people just make the best of it. There's no really gay places for gay people. As I said, they're either run by straights or mostly they're run by gays who are part of the old system, providing as little as possible and taking in the biggest revenue possible.

AG: What's your ideal situation?

DL: I'm not sure I really know. What I feel now, and it's a slightly reactionary attitude, is that we have to create our own cruising places, our own hanging around places, and the next step after that, is when we have built up a solid community, where people aren't timid, people aren't servile. If someone treats you lousily in the bar, we must be able to say "Is there any need for you to throw the drink at me," and if there is that reaction, we're on the way. And eventually the next step will be integration.

AG: And what is your idea of integration?

I mean, I don't know what....

DL: There should be a situation where Gay News doesn't particularly single Allen Ginsberg out at a reception to do an interview. That will be integration.

AG: Who would you single out? Hugh McDairmid? [chuckle]

DL: Um, I don't know, there were a lot of people there. But I'm not saying one person is more important than the other.

AG: There were a lot of gay people there.

DL: Yes, right, but I have a feeling that very few of them would be prepared to talk to us.

AG: It was a very funny integrated scene.... I talked to one young poet who was dressed up very fancy and I said "Are you gay or something?" and he said, "Well, I'm ready for anything that comes along though I have a wife and children." He was very nice about it.

DL: That's cool, that's good, that's integration.

AG: I'd say that's somewhat accomplished in, say, the long-hair circles of America.

DL: And in Britain in trendy academic circles, but it doesn't seem to reach out

beyond that.

AG: No, I think it does reach out beyond that now, through the non-academic long-hairs, which is quite a few people. I'm idealising it now, but I tell you, if you idealise it and present it as an image, if it's an image that fits, people fall into it.

SM: That's part of the David Bowie image.... he's created an image where people want it to fit I think.

AG: Yeah. But what is it, his is a sort of sick gay scene isn't it, or what?

SM: To me it's sick.

AG: Does he present it as sick or not?

DL: No, he presents an asexual image, where anything is liable to happen. He makes love to his lead guitarist on stage, but at the same time he also sings songs about women lovers. But he doesn't sing real love songs.

SM: He has very little love, is what I find, there's very little love and warmth.

DL: He's cold to a certain extent, but that's very much what the scene is here.

'Cocksucker Blues'

AG: I understand Mick Jagger has a film called 'Cocksucker Blues'.

DL: He should release it.

SM: It was a song, did you ever hear it, called 'The Cocksucker Blues', it's in 'The Trials Of Oz' musical.

AG: Yeah, I heard it. Actually, I've seen the film, and it's very frank, very charming, very light; a heavy account of his trip to America. It's a documentary, done by Robert Frank, who worked with me years ago making a film called 'Pull My Daisy', which was an early underground film. The same method was applied to Bob Dylan's 'Don't Look Back', but the full fruition was the Jagger film. He sings that 'Cocksucker Blues' in it.

SM: Why hasn't it been generally seen?

AG: I think probably because it's so frank and friendly, it might get him into trouble with the American immigration authorities, who are after all, were sort of, like getting their instructions from the Watergate people. I think Jagger thought it was a very good film.

SM: He'd like it to be seen? Was it gay?

AG: No, no, it's just....life, people as they behave. I think if it weren't Jagger and were an Italian film, it'd be ordinary.

Burroughs Revisited

SM: How long are you staying in London?

AG: I don't know, it depends on my father and his health....if he's alright, I'll stay on. My main reason for coming was to go, re-establish contact with William Burroughs, 'cause I haven't seen him in a long time.

SM: He's in London now.

AG: I saw him last night. I haven't had a chance to just sit around and chew the fat with him for a long time, so....

SM: When were you last with him for an extended period?

AG: I saw him in Chicago in '68, we were together with Jean Genet, running around in taxi-cabs. Then I saw him again in New York, I think in '71, briefly, a couple of days.

SM: Can you think of one specific thing you'd like to see happen in America, to do with sexual revolution or anything like that?

AG: There's not one specific thing, it's simply a question of a general spread of consciousness, so that say when people read Walt Whitman in grammar school or high school, there's no longer a mental block against realising what he's saying, that the material studied already, or the art forms, be consciously realised by the public....and by the artist, so that it comes out of the closet of the mind somewhat. A general raising of consciousness does a lot more good than say the establishment of a gay ghetto.

SM: From what you've just said already, I guess that's sort of on the way to happening.

AG: As it is here, I think, you were mentioning that your newspaper was invited, allowed, to a reception.

SM: I meant more specifically in the States.

AG: Well, the States are so big, so complicated. In some places there's this complete breakthrough, in other places all of a sudden there's this ban on pornography, as of June 25th, 1973. There was a Supreme Court decision against pornography, saying that local people could determine what's pornographic, rather than a national standard, which is much more broad-minded. But things go forward and backward. Generally, though, I find myself coming on more open and more bold. And more frankly and more sensibly than I did before.

In a college audience I can unabashedly read any poem about any subject, whether gay, or anti-war, or psychic revolution, or drugs, or new consciousness; they all seem to fit into a pattern of acceptance to individual particularity on the part of the students.

In other words, everybody's ready for adventure. And that's the best part, because that's human nature. Like that young fellow at the reception answering, "Well, I'm ready for anything".

DL: I wonder where this new consciousness has come from. I look back and I think of everything that's happened since the war—Kerouac, and you, Willy Burroughs, and that seemed like the initial stage.

AG: Catalysts.

DL: Yes. But if you talk to any of the speed-freak kids around today and say "Kerouac"—it doesn't mean very much to them, if anything at all. I'm sure there's a lot of kids around now who haven't even heard of Bob Dylan.

AG: Yes?

DL: But the late 1940's, early 1950's to me seemed like the beginning of it. And then, what happened with "flower-power" in 1967—well, in Britain it was a very small thing and it was very much an imitation of what had already happened in America, and it went bad over here very quickly. It wasn't long before every shark was in Oxford Street selling beads and the rest of it. The media picked it up and exploited "flower-power". We still see the effect of that period now; the way advertisements are designed, the way clothes are designed, interiors of houses, lightshows, clubs—it's all a reflection of '67. And a part of it seems to have affected the general mass of people without them—possibly—quite realising what the roots of this change were. It hasn't meant, unfortunately, a significant political change. No real change of mass consciousness.

Capitalism Corrupts

AG: Kerouac originally said he thought the whole beat thing was a change of style, really a change of mode. What he was saying was "We'll have Secretaries of State in turtle-neck sweaters in about 10 years," which has just about come, under Kennedy anyway. What has to be remembered is, it isn't natural human evil that corrupts such matters, it is capitalism, to a great extent. But beyond that there is a very specific social phenomena in America and England, which is that where there is liberty, particularly in the area of consciousness, the police will move in corruptly and try to make some money out of it. So that with the drug situation, both in England—London—and in America, the police were corrupt, and were pursuing a policy which favoured the spread of speed and junk, and discouraging the spread of LSD and marijuana. In fact the Watergate people themselves—Liddy, Hunt, Colson, Ehrlichman—the main Watergate people, were the White House special narcotics investigation committee also, and it was that kind of mentality which allowed the junk population of New York to double, so that there are 300,000 junkies now, as there were 150,000 in 1968 when Nixon was elected.

So what I'm trying to say is that the corruption of the "flower-power" scene was a by-product of corruption in the government, not necessarily corruption in human nature. Corruption by police and corruption among the law and order freaks. The law and order freaks were like 'gay' all along, in a sense. They were out of the normal body of consciousness, and out to get something of their own. They were aliens too. As the gay people were supposed to be, except it was one group of aliens trying to make money out of another, not out of the gay people but out of the junkies. I think the difficulties that "flower-power" has incurred in blossoming, has come from, to a great extent, the spread of the bad drugs, and the speed, and the paranoia that come with it. That burned down the scene, at least in America, the Lower East Side of New York and in Haight-Ashbury. I think now that Watergate is over, and now that the British police have been caught in their corruption, that may even out a little bit. Because "flower-power" is just basically ecological power. A flower is ecology, and that's an immovable place in nature, it's not something that's a matter of style, it's a matter of ancient human tradition, and if there is any future for the race, that's the future. So I don't think you have to take too seriously the failure of the great be-ins, or the failure of the street scene, 'cause those were the first attempts to open up, and it's gonna take great generations to open up completely, IF we ever can open.

DL: I feel a little bit optimistic too, because, oh, by about 1971, I wondered if any of the things that had happened had been worth it, because one just saw in a way a reversal, except a far more negative reversal to the way things had been before. Before that, in this square, there used to be stupendous anti-bomb demonstrations which attracted tens of thousands of people. In 1971 they were lucky to get a few thousand people. But now it seems to have blossomed out again. You notice it more in the way you talk to individuals. It's beautiful that the New Zealand government should send a warship with one of their politicians aboard, out into the area where the French are going to explode their bomb. That's the new consciousness reflected....

AG: And in 1958 I think it was, Ed Sanders,

all by himself, took a little rowboat out to board a Polaris submarine and stop it. So it's gone from one man to an entire nation, or some nations, you know. The anti-bomb thing, wait, this very last few days the entire Congress, Senate, passed an anti-bomb economic measure. See, the reason there's no great gatherings, is because the whole idea has been absorbed into the body politic, and the very things that we were gathering for in Washington in 1970 are now official policy by the Congress.

DL: Nixon still tries to block them....

AG: I think that applies to Gay Lib marches too. I mean, they're starting to drop off because that's been absorbed by the consciousness. The people really have seen it, and there's got to be a new way, another way.

AG: Yeah, so it's time for other techniques. Perhaps it's time for gay people and long-haired people to join the police. And join the army, and take over. In the sense of participate, tune in, turn on and drop up. In other words, many of the propositions that were advanced—basic new consciousness, integration of more data for mixed media, realisation of earth as a fresh planet floating in space, as perhaps a single person. The idea of a common consciousness, in which Hitler and Nixon and ourselves all participate. The idea of a Buddah being in everybody's heart, the idea of gay lib, the use of LSD, the use of mushrooms, general use of grass....all that is so widespread now that there's no need for the shock, avant garde demonstrations that were necessary ten years ago.

DL: It's more a matter of personally relating to people, which we particularly notice working on the paper. We come across gay people who just don't want to know. They don't care if we relate to them and they don't care if they relate to us. They seem to believe so many of the myths that heterosexually dominated society has put out about gayness, that gays are somehow different, that gays are peculiar and should be kept separate from the rest of society, and they're prepared to go along with this, they're prepared to accept the exploitative ghetto completely. They seem very reluctant to pass any comment on anything political, whether it be gay lib, or who's going to be voted into the House of Commons, or Watergate....this is what we find the worst struggle of all, a struggle within the gay community itself. It seems at times easier to get through to liberal heterosexuals and to turn them on to the ideas and the importance of gay liberation, than it is our own gay brothers and sisters. That's depressing. But times are changing, times are always changing....

AG: Bill Burroughs, however, thinks that everything is so infinitely corrupt—that governments are so infinitely corrupt—and under the control of mad geniuses who really want to demolish the planet—that he doesn't see much hope at the moment. I mean, he feels that the whole ecological question—I was talking to him last night and he said something about the petroleum shortages. He said, "Right, they blew all their fuel in the Vietnam war: millions and millions and millions of gallons of fuel." And he feels that there's a deliberate attempt to mess up the planet.

I'm not quite sure just who his conspirators are. Maybe, as he said, maybe many years ago it was a trust of giant insects from another galaxy. But he laments that the public itself is so completely befogged that they can't recognise the dirty business being done to them.

DL: I think that's true. The population in this country doesn't seem to want to get too involved in what's going on. There's always been this feeling that English people are slightly anarchistic in their viewpoint. They'll go along with law and order and the general principles of government, but they're primarily out for themselves. I think the way people will pick up on stolen property is a good example. People don't have scruples about that. It becomes respectable if you make a success out of it.

AG: Well the tax laws and the immigration laws here cause everybody to be criminals—practically—I mean even official groups....

SM: Exactly. It's so hard just to live.

Gay Internationalism

DL: I find one of the things that stops communication so much between the various liberation groups in different countries is that we exist in different situations. But there obviously is some form of communication.

AG: Yes, the French Gay Lib group must be a very tough group.

DL: It is, it's far more political than the English groups, far more together politically.

AG: And at the same time there's much less liberty, on the streets. Is Genet taking part in that at all?

DL: Genet's never in Paris as far as we can find out—we've had our feelers out for him. He's never around though. One thing that seems to be growing much stronger, because the oppression is much stronger in France, is the Women's Lib movement. It's still a criminal offence to have an abortion there. The French gays seem to identify and com-

municate with the Women's Lib movement, whether they're gay women or not.

AG: There's amazing collaboration in America between gay lib and the women's lib. Sympathy. And a surprising sympathy from the black liberation as well. From Huey Newton, who several years ago issued a statement saying that the gays are an oppressed minority like the blacks.

SM: But there were a lot of blacks against, too. I've read quite a few things....

DM: The Huey Newtons' in a way seem to come after this.

AG: Yes, a new development, and an official statement, and it's created a good space now, 'cause just before I left San Francisco.... he's doing some meditation also, some Zen Buddhist meditation....there was an arrangement for all of us to meet. That's myself, Gary Snyder and Newton; maybe see if we could collaborate and maybe help raise some money for their political fights. And that's a new era of friendliness. It's not just gay, that's hippy, long hair and consciousness....but he was willing to receive me, and was charming. So some of that Black imagery which was anti-cocksucker is now seen as chauvinist and is diminishing.

There was one thing: the English always had a sort of pleasant private understanding. Like say E.M. Forster or any number of politicians, authors, journalists who were gay, and it was considered alright not to bother them. So what's happening merely is that, in a sense, the sky has lifted a little bit, the clouds have lifted, so that people are able to come out more. But there always was a humane understanding, within limits, in England, as everywhere, so what's happening is that humane understanding is becoming public—I think. The humane members of the upper class, in this area, are now becoming public.

DL: But the system seems to adopt a policy whereby one can do what one likes in private, but the moment one is found out, publicly, then the law reacts against it. Lambton and Jellicoe have been exposed recently. Politically their lives have been ruined because they slept with a few whores. We have a certain amount of sympathy for them.

AG: I think the gay lib movement should take up their cause somewhat.

DL: But at the same time Jellicoe and Lambton have chosen to accept and adopt the standards that exist in society. I haven't. There's not much point exposing me as a homosexual, or you. With Lambton and Jellicoe they accept a moral system where they can be exposed, where they can be a victim of their own standards.



AG: Well, okay, that's the old Oscar Wilde scene. Except it's heterosexual. So I'm saying that gay lib might well support Lambton and Jellicoe. I'm sure that they would like the support in a way, but the important thing is that the body of opinion is so strong they can't buck it, they would if they could, but they can't. It's not that they're being hypocrites, they're going as far as possible. Where it's no longer possible, they can't go further. I read something in an American paper where one of the people accused said he was just doing what everybody else does but he was just found out. That it was normal behaviour. Didn't somebody get up on television and give that statement? Tried to make a legitimate, humane appeal.

DL: It's a finding-out thing. You're only guilty if it becomes public, which is hypocrisy in a way.

AG: Of course it is. Stop it. Of course it's an hypocrisy, but the problem is, how....you can call it hypocrisy all you want, but the question is, how do you reverse the psychology of hypocrisy. Just calling it hypocrisy will not do it. Getting mad will not do it.

DL: No, but it's very much a matter of personal choice, what one decides to identify with. Well, I didn't decide to come out gay, but for one reason or another, I don't

particularly hide it. And so, there's no chance for someone to try to blackmail me, or use my sexuality....

AG: That's one good thing about our position, that no one can accuse us of what we already have proposed publically. Artfully, artfully.

DL: But what happens....a few years ago you had the English spy called Vassel. *Wicked* foreign powers found out about his gayness, and because of his job it would have meant public disgrace and the rest of it. So they used his gayness. And unfortunately this situation in politics and in society generally still exists. Everyone knows about many politicians who have so many infamous stories told about them. The majority of them are probably true if possibly glamourised. But if it becomes publicly known, if the media can pick up and say So-and-So is going with young men.... It's up to the people themselves not to fall into the trap of hiding it, suppressing their nature.

AG: But they can't do that without a concerted attempt on our part, who are outfront, to make the scene as light and as humorous and as humane and as sensible as possible. Over and over and over again. Creating a space where people can relax. And it won't be done with a sort of stifled anger, and it won't be done by just complaining about hypocrisy, it'll be done by magnanimous gestures in public. You know, taking into account everybody's anxieties, everybody's blackmails, everybody's woes and just going ahead and pursuing your own image in public, and proposing your own image, until it becomes like a common image.

Liberation Understood

DL: One of the things Gay News often gets accused of most at the moment is the at times incestuous nature of the paper, because we try and tell people of our experiences; how we first started, how we got it together, how it went along, and things like that. To begin with, we met a certain amount of hostility, we couldn't find offices, we couldn't find printers, we couldn't find people to do this and that.

After a period of time we found the people who would. When we started wanting to take advantage of the various news media, we met barriers, but after a while we found the barriers weren't there.

AG: People are sort of ashamed of taking a reactionary position on this now, because the whole idea of liberation is now understood, which is a very important matter. Liberation on all fronts is now understood somewhat. And everybody says, now don't fight, don't hit us on the head, and we'll give in a little, a little, a little.

DL: Right. We seem to get treated the same as anyone else now. We ring a record company and we want to hustle some albums or tickets from them....we're just another hustler. Which is good. It's not sort of, "Gay News"; a definite pause on the telephone.... And we try to relate this to the readership in the sense that if one comes out, if one shows a little bit more of one's real nature, there's initially going to be the pauses on the telephone, there's going to be the "no's", but after a while it begins to happen. People realise the ridiculousness of their own prejudices. So we try to get 'coming out', gay liberation, over in that way.

AG: You see, I didn't propose 'Howl' as a gay lib poem at all, I just proposed it as a great big mad poem. It included a lot of things, it included so much that the gay thing was sort of dwarfed by the attack on the mind, the attack on the consciousness of the machine. It was more advantageous that way, rather than labelling it in advance as a gay thing. By labelling it as human matter rather than a gay matter, people read it more clearly without getting blinded by labels.

DL: Right. That was very much my identification with it. James Baldwin's 'Another Country', which I read more or less at the same time had a big effect on me....the guy who had a relationship with other men. It at first seemed as if it should be presented as something slightly different, but the way Baldwin wrote about it, it was another experience, another way of loving. And when you're about 14 or 15 you have so much pushed upon you: one must fit into this category, one begins to believe that one should. It's quite a revelation to discover that it doesn't matter.

AG: Yeah. You know who was very adept in that "doesn't matter" scene, William Carlos Williams, who was like a great poetry teacher. He wrote a play called 'Many Loves'. From its title you can get the ideas, but it was a family play, about the doctor making out with the girl, then the girl making out with other girls. He also has a very beautiful story called 'The Knife of the Times', which you ought to reprint, very short, about two ladies who've had children and have been married for years, haven't seen each other since school, and finally, after the children have all grown up and gone away they finally meet, and the girls rush off into the toilet together and embrace.

Interview continued on Page 12.

Interview continued from Page 11.
SM: There's a lot of good things around that you can relate to positively if you're lucky enough to happen upon them.
AG: Yeah. True. The main thing to remember is that everyone has a golden Buddha in his heart, and are not aware of it, but everyone literally has that eternal consciousness. So it's a question of talking to that platform, that mode or that Buddha, and not accepting anything less in return. And people get shamed into admitting their eternal selves, finally. There's no other way of doing it—otherwise you have to stereotype people and isolate them and turn them into monster freaks of the machine—which they are not really—trapped as they are in it. The problem is to create a space where people can feel free. To create a place, a mental space, so to speak, where people can feel free to admit their inner desires, to admit their kinkiness, and to see their kinkiness as the normal mammalian kinkiness of the planet, rather than their own personal hangup.
SM: I really see this as the role of gay people as a force.
AG: Yeah. Particularly in the western world where there has been so much chauvinism—everywhere: England, and France, and America. To bring out the eternal feminine nature in male mammals is a great work, because it brings out tenderness, and it brings out what Whitman called "adhesiveness" between the citizens. It destroys the competitive rivalry of capitalism, it just puts a balm over all that....all that harsh, negative, fear-feeling that people have for each other. I don't know how much it will enlighten the entire society, but just as the fear of blackness slowly dissipates and the fear of gayness slowly dissipates, finally the fear of women will slowly dissipate. Because that too is part of it.
SM: Yes. You can see little things happening which really make it exciting.

Public Announcement

AG: I'd be interested in running around the gay scene in London, if I could find it, so you'll have to give me a big outline of it and I'll go out and see if I can find me a love. I'm open. This is like a public announcement.
SM: Where can we send you?
AG: Just point it out in the paper. You got any Turkish baths? The tubs, do you know that phrase, the tubs?
SM: The only one I ever went to was in New York.
AG: I remember back in about 1948 going to the Everard Turkish baths in New

York with Burroughs and Kerouac, we met a whole bunch of French sailors. Kerouac got a blow job.

Freedom Since 1967?

SM: Look at that fabulous girl....oh, it's a guy in drag. [A freak with a tiny British flag was doing a quick whirl around Trafalgar Square.]
AG: What about hustling? Are there many kids making a living out of it?
SM: The ones I've spoken to have been very untalented about it, business-wise.
DL: There's very little really well-organised hustling, although I'm sure it exists. In a gay ghetto area like Earls Court there's a good deal of it. They're fairly honest, but if they see something valuable lying around, they'll take that too. In the West End it's more of a mixture of amateurs, professionals and crooks. It often seems to be for the men who like to pick up what they think are heterosexual boys. It's an old game, it doesn't change. One thing that has happened in England was that we got what was supposed to be, oh, an emancipating law—the 1967 Sexual Offences Act, which meant you could do it if you were over 21 and you did it in private. Since then, police harassment, unwarranted discrimination, has been far heavier, far more noticeable, as a reaction against the '67 Act.
AG: What was the law called?
DL: The Sexual Offences Act.
AG: I see. So since the Sexual Offences Act, police on the street are a little more heavy?
DL: Yes, they display their prejudices more openly.
AG: I see. They have more room to act really. Anyone under 21 they can really victimise.
DL: It's very difficult. We've tried to get through to Scotland Yard to get statistics to see whether in fact there have been more arrests. They won't give them to us, but we're under the impression from people who have tried to build up dossiers on this subject that there have been more convictions, more people arrested. People don't often go to prison, but there's more convictions, fines, public embarrassment, all the rest of it. People are still told by the police that if you plead guilty you'll have it all over with no publicity.
AG: They have to catch you with your cock out our something?
DL: No, unfortunately. The English judiciary still acts by nearly always believing the police, because they can't let the police lose face. A bad situation. English police are different to American police in

the sense that they have to go through 2 or 3 years training.
AG: Except that the entire narcotics squad was corrupt here.
DL: Yes. People don't quite believe it though. A few newspapers have exposed the narcotics corruption. One of the squad, Kellaher, was alleged to have imported a pound of heroin into this country.
AG: Who was the guy who busted [John] Lennon?
DL: Oh that was.....
AG: There was one special man who was busting all the rock stars.....
DL: Right—he got Keith Richard recently. They were in court yesterday.
AG: That same guy is still working?
DL: It's the same squad, whether it's the same guy or not, I'm not sure. They didn't disclose the names of the arresting officers. They got them for a little bit of grass and Richard had a gun without a licence. No hard drugs, surprisingly.
AG: That's good.

Continuing Exploitation

DL: The attitude of police is: they know so many gays will not react against them. What we really need is a Stonewall in London. There's a couple of places where it might happen. We've tried to spread the idea around that if you fight back, if you write letters of complaint, if you don't do what they say, and are just a little careful you can get some justice. That's had a small effect. But gays won't often react against harassment. Also in bars they'll still allow themselves to queue up for 20 minutes to get a drink, which in some places will be as good as thrown at them, and be charged 5 pence more than you'd pay in a het pub down the road. They still come out from a pub in Earls Court and allow the police to push them around. The one bar in England where police are waiting outside to tell you to go home is a gay pub. It doesn't happen at any other pub. They use the argument that people are blocking the pavement. It's just a lie—people aren't just going to rush off, they're going to say goodbye to people. Your state of consciousness is definitely relaxed, even if you've been drinking Coke, you're in a supposedly relaxed environment. And along come the police saying "Move on there", "Get out of the way queer", and the rest of it. But they still won't get it together and react. A few do—people get arrested, but by the time they've spent a few hours in a cell, they plead guilty. We have one or two organisations who are trying to get to-

gether dossiers on discrimination, but they can't get the evidence.
AG: Release?
DL: Release is basically drugs and housing problems, although Release is helpful, but it's not really their area, unless they have something positive to work with. It's up to gay people to do it for themselves. They must realise that they have the power to react against oppressive attitudes and discrimination, and they can do it themselves, if only they'll make their voices heard. They must take the initiative.
AG: The main thing is, no matter what liberation front it is, it's got to be based on an extension of personal consciousness. I think personally that any of these drug groups, or the Blacks, or Women's Lib or gay lib, anti-bomb movements—anti-Cambodian bombings particularly—for the people involved to do some sort of quiet meditation also, as an adjunct to any activity. Particularly if it's political, particularly if it's public, in order to really make the thrust a celestial fuck, instead of a narrow partisan issue built on their own kinkiness. 'Cause kinkiness is seen as part of the grand scheme of nature if you think deeply enough. What I'm proposing is that all this activity be linked with some kind of contemplative older ritual.
DL: Someone who lives in my place has gotten into transcendental meditation, and he's working on me.
AG: Almost any kind is good I think.
DL: I'm a very uptight shit who tries not to relax for some reason or another, I don't know why, but he's working on me.
AG: The point is relaxation, being able to relax the body completely. Then you're in a better position to make social gestures. Karma yoga.
 Do we have a lot more we can do, because I'm beginning to get dizzy. I've been hearing myself talk all day, to the Times, the Guardian.....



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ALLEN will be giving a poetry reading in aid of the National Youth Theatre at 8.00 pm on Sunday, July 22.

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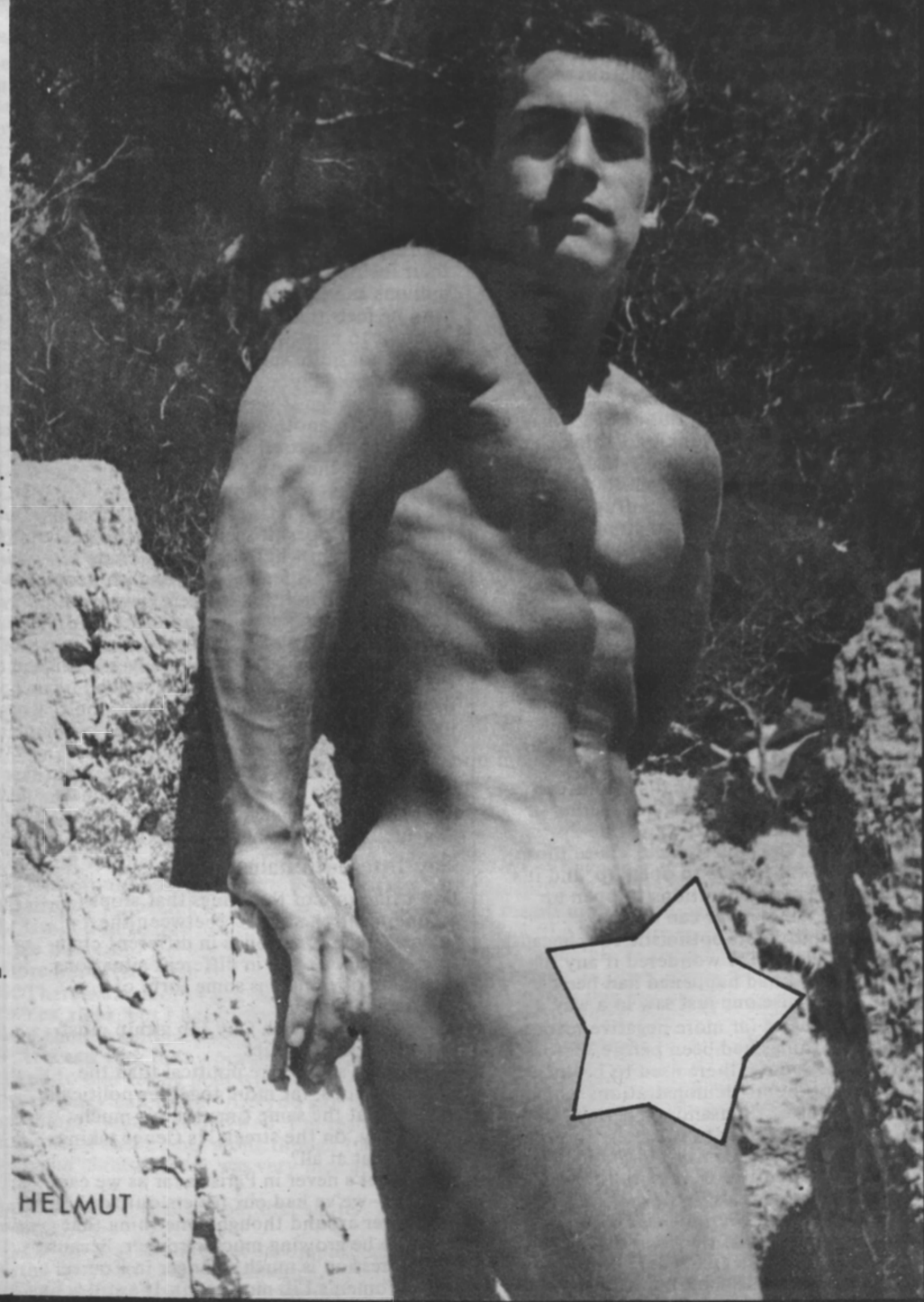
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Sleaze And Grease

THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW at the Royal Court Theatre Upstairs (80p admission), Sloane Square, London SW3/**GREASE** at the New London Theatre, Drury Lane, Parker Street, London WC2.

THE 70's nostalgia boom has been ruthless. Here it is, only 1973, and already the 30's and 40's have been wrung dry. Now, folks, your avenue of escape is the ugly 50's, the decade of Elvis's greased hips and hair, the decade of Mamie Van Doren's gargantuan breasts. Another trip down mammary lane which must surely earmark the early 70's as being a wasteland of public apathy coupled with a lack of creativity.

It was no accident that 'Cabaret' was the first big hit musical in many years. The decadent, tawdry atmospherics interfused with the current mood. If only Dickie Nixon were as vibrant a showman as Hitler, the Watergate whodunnit might be more than a TV soap opera softened by the fact that all the characters are so unbelievable.

Little wonder then, that the gay instinct for satire and escape has infiltrated almost all popular entertainment. The Rocky Horror Show is a sophisticated example. In fact, it manages to go 'Cabaret' one better—instead of being merely tawdry, it's as satirically sleazy as only a sci-fi musical starring a transvestite in a 60-seat theatre could be. It also scores another point for being completely trivial (what decade has been more trivia-obsessed than the 70's?)

The central characters, newly engaged love-birds, are named Brad and Janet after those truly forgettable sci-fi movie actors, Bradford Dillman and Janet Scott.

The show moves along uneventfully until the star appears—Tim Curry, gaudily dragged up as Frank-Furter, a "Sweet transvestite from Transylvania". Curry's Frank-Furter is a real treat: he rolls his lips à la Barbara Stanwick, delicately suspends physical gestures like Loretta Young and socks across a "clahss" accent that is unto itself. This show could well become David Bowie's first movie musical, although I feel sure Curry would be hard to improve upon.

In the proceedings, Curry seduces both Brad and Janet, and, in his ghastly laboratory, concocts the muscle-man of his dreams (Rayner Bourton, who sure packs a mean jock-strap, but is not as musclebound as Richard O'Brien's script insists). O'Brien's lyrics have trivial value—mentions of Claude Raines, RKO, etc—but, like the muscleman, the melodies are not as strong as all those words deem necessary.

Otherwise, O'Brien, director Jim Sharman and designer Brian Thomson have concocted a wonderfully rowdy, superbly tacky piece of low-camp froth which I strongly urge you to see before it finishes on July 21st. So hurry on up there. Opening night held a special treat: lending spiritual presence from the audience was my favourite cinema ghoul, kitsch-lover Vincent Price.

The show may well transfer to the West End, but at this stage it's not definite.

* * *

GREASE opened a week later at that excellent theatre, the New London. The show has the virtue of being unpretentious and colourful, but then so does my Aunt Marge. Otherwise it's a bland and blind homage to a decade that cries out for a more cynical working-over. The characters are a set of convention-bound, cartoon-like high school kids, some of whom appear to be about 40



Tim Curry as Frankfurter, the sado-masochistic, bisexual transvestite in *The Rocky Horror Show*. Beautifully sleazy.

(admittedly, 50's fashion did age one).

The book, by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey, comes across as TV style burlesque rather than satire, and their songs have similar shortcomings. Only one number gets its musical and choreographic rocks off: 'Born To Hand Jive', the excitement of which is slightly blunted by the fact that it seems to be a direct rip-off of an old rock song called 'Willie and the Hand Jive'.

Many of the other numbers have a certain inane charm, but it's disturbing that Grease stresses the mediocre aspects of 50's pop à la Connie Francis, Bobby Vee et al, without getting at the real stuff: Elvis (how COULD they ignore Elvis?), Little Richard and other more creative, sexual stars. And that's unforgivable. In the midst of Eisenhower's America—the conformity, the boredom, the whole dowdy thing—the discovery of rock by whites was possibly the most important social phenomenon of this century, paving the way for attempts at liberation and almost everything we're now experiencing.

The authors pay for their ignorance. The doo-dee-woop score becomes increasingly tedious, although I must admit that one American product of the 50's behind me almost tapped her foot through the floor.

Performances are generally superior to the material, and if you find the nostalgia too magnetic, you may enjoy whiling away a matinee at 'Grease'.

Personally, I'm waiting for re-runs of movies like the extraordinary 'Girl Can't Help It' musical, and American TV series such as 'Dobie Gillis' and 'Our Miss Brooks'. The most illuminating looks at the 50's were done within that decade.

In the final analysis, Grease has too much doo-dee-woop and not enough wopbopalopwopaloo-wangbang.

Stephen MacLean

QUICK SILVER

Stanley Kubrick (director of 2001, *Clockwork Orange*) is set to film the William Makepeace Thackeray novel *Barry Lyndon* on location in England, Ireland and the continent. Ryan O'Neal will star as Barry Lyndon, "a man possessed by all meanness except cowardice." Marisa Berenson, the *Cabaret* beauty, co-stars.

Liza Minelli (27), who gave up tawny Desi Arnaz (21), for slightly withered Peter Sellers (47), could do wonders with that old Bette Davis 'Stage Door Canteen' movie song 'They're Either Too Young Or Too Old'.

Liza, by the way, may do a TV special with Frank Sinatra, who's bored with retirement and is currently doing a new album. GN gives Cranky Frankie the Mae West award for hanging together: the last two star ladies he duetted with on TV were Judy Garland ('62) and Ella Fitzgerald ('66).

More survivors (well, almost): Tony Curtis due for a Broadway comeback in a comedy called *Turtleneck*. That little item is interesting mainly because turtleneck pullovers and Tony Curtis went out of fashion at vaguely the same time. Oh, and Rock

Hudson debuting onstage in Hollywood opposite Carol Burnett in the musical *I Do, I Do*. GN says: He Does, He Does. Come September, Carol nips off to Australia, where culture will be installed via the opening of the Sydney Opera House. Queen Elizabeth, Harry Secombe and one or two other English acts are also booked to appear.

Julie Andrews' TV series has been cancelled but she hasn't: a new movie called *The Tamarind Seed* will resuscitate her alongside Omar Sharif. Maybe it's a musical remake of 'The Bad Seed', with Julie gussied up à la Baby Jane. Now that'd be more the thing.

Annie gets her rocks off: Ann Southern the cuddlesome star of the 40's, goes ratty and batty in *The Killing Kind*, a comeback after 10 years. The new thriller, unspooled at the Cannes Film fest to excellent reaction, with director Curtis Harrington building a cult following in France. 40's B star Ruth Roman, recently battered to death in *The Baby* (screened as a support feature on the Rank circuit), also appears.

West Side Story is back in London—it's playing at the Collegiate Theatre, Gordon Street, WC1. Producer-director is Bill Kenwright, and the performers are billed merely as "a young cast of 30".

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I Enjoyed This Banana

THE BANANA BOX at the Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1.

THE BANANA BOX is a well written comedy by Eric Chappell which has arrived in town after a successful run out in Hampstead. When I saw it there, I was impressed by the amusing dialogue and the author's insight into human frailties. It has travelled well, and the cast now seem even more at home in their roles than before.

Two undergraduates sharing an attic room near their university, are the principle players. The fact that one is white and the other black has thankfully not been used for any soap-box debate. The contrast between the two is interesting, in that the black man is a self-assured, suave lady killer, and his white room-mate a timid virgin who bends over backwards with apologies on the slightest provocation. Their landlord is one of life's losers, separated from his wife, lusting after one of the female tenants in the house, and full of absurd questions and notions. So naive, that he believes in the power of African love charms, and gladly sets fire to some 'magic wood' outside the room where the object of his affection lives. She in turn is enamoured of the African, who disdainfully attempts to keep her at bay, having grown tired of their affair. His latest girl friend, a beautiful black girl interested in people's illnesses, arrives unexpectedly at their rooms, and the shy student makes a feeble attempt to lose his virginity with her, whilst she diagnoses his faults.

LEONARD ROSSITER is perfect as the landlord, presiding over all the proceedings with a marvellous sense of the absurd. PAUL JONES looks every bit as young as he did in the days when he was lead singer with



Paul Jones & Don Warrington - NO comment.

Manfred Mann, and gives a delightful portrayal of the introvert.

DON WARRINGTON is likewise perfectly cast as the stylish black student. ELIZABETH ADARE makes her brief appearance in the second act count, and once again FRANCES DE LA TOUR is superb as the randy lady in the flat below. Mr Chappell on this first showing is definitely an author to watch.

Barry Conley

Sadlers Wells Opera

AS a curtain raiser to their English performance of the complete cycle, the London Coliseum are holding a Symposium on Wagner's Ring, on July 29th at 7.00pm, which will be attended by John Culshaw and Lord Harewood. Admission 40p. 'Lunchtime at the Coliseum' starts again in August with Friedlind Wagner on Monday 6th.



Fresh Revolutions

A LITTLE TOUCH OF SCHMILSSON IN THE NIGHT — Harry Nilsson — RCA SF 8371

A goodly bunch of recordings have been released over the last couple of weeks, as you will clearly see by reading the reviews that follow this piece. But only Harry Nilsson's *A Little Touch Of Schmilsson In The Night* possesses a very exclusive brand of magic and charm, that transcends and negates people's usual diverse musical tastes and prejudices, making its appeal universal.

First showcased on a recent BBC 2 television special, Nilsson has gathered together a collection of songs, mostly emanating from the 1930's, and without losing any of their original beauty, displays exactly why these masterpieces of lyrics and music are so timeless. For this is not just a high class exercise in nostalgia; songs as good as the ones heard on this album deserve to be continually revived, especially when they are performed with such loving care and devoted inspiration. Nilsson doesn't update them either, although he takes advantage of the freedom of modern phrasing to give his voice greater flexibility and feeling.

Amongst the voluptuous classics heard are *It Had To Be You*, *For Me And My Gal*, *I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now*, *You Made Me Love You*, *As Time Goes By*, Irving Berlin's *Always and What'll I Do?* and a gorgeously witty version of *Makin' Whoopee!*

Credit must also be given to that



veteran of showbiz, Gordon Jenkins; his luscious arrangements, particularly for the multitude of cascading strings, are completely in sympathy with the statements expressed in the songs. Derek Taylor's admirable production is perfectly in keeping with the project too.

The great age of the romantics has supposedly passed, but Nilsson and his buddies don't appear to have noticed. They, like me, must agree with one of the statements from *As Time Goes By*: "Moonlight and love songs, Never out of date." If you go along with that, buy this album and perhaps then you will be inspired to use as many superlatives when describing it as I have done in this review.

Denis Lemon

FANTASY — Carole King — Ode SP 77018

Carole King's newly released *Fantasy* has been criticised, unfairly I believe, for being too similar to her *Music and Rhymes & Reasons* albums. Admittedly her lyric style hasn't significantly changed, but instead of producing replicas of earlier songs, Ms King has developed and improved upon her previous work.

Fantasy is her most adventurous outing musically. Replacing the usual small group of backing musicians is a much larger, more soulful band, which incorporates a compelling brass section and a multitude of soaring strings. The total effect is far funkier than the subdued arrangements of the *Rhymes & Reasons* sessions. Carole's piano playing continues to be a perfect up front accompaniment to her singing.

The album opens with the title track *Fantasy*, which is also used as a closing reprise. The overall theme that connects the material is an attempt to relate her personal, socially relevant fantasising to reality. Although becoming a little vague at times, it is still possible to view the concept as a meaningful experiment in positive soul searching. And as such, is another worthwhile release, both musically and lyrically, from an ever progressing Carole King.

LIVING IN THE MATERIAL WORLD — George Harrison — Apple PAS 10006

Lord knows, I'm a down to earth sort of fella, who believes in everybody 'doing their thing' as long as it doesn't interfere with anyone else. I try to recognise the sincerity of other people's religious convictions, even if I don't hold their views. But I'm afraid even the best intentions of some people turn a little sour when they are so far removed from the real world we live in.

I respect George Harrison as a musician and songwriter, and as an individual who has done far more than I could ever hope to do for other people, eg. the *Bangla Desh* concert etc. that raised much needed money for

the starving and homeless victims of a senseless and destructive war. I have to be honest though and admit that a song like the title track of *Living In The Material World* really turns me off. I just don't see how someone who lives on the extremely 'elevated' level that George Harrison exists on can any longer have any real conception of what it's like to live in 'the material world'. And the overwhelming passiveness of a religion that just encourages pie-in-the-sky daydreams and promises of a better deal in the 'spiritual world' is only going to mean something to people who only talk about their ideologies and don't get down to the nitty gritty of putting their convictions into physical practice. Enough said on that aspect of this long awaited album.

As all of his recordings have been, *Living In The Material World* is a beautifully constructed piece of contemporary music; the compositions, playing, arranging, production and packaging all jelling to form an excellent example of creativeness and professionalism. The vocals *do* tend to be a little too similar and strained throughout, but not to such a degree to spoil the listener's overall enjoyment. Like the single taken from it, *Give Me Love*, I expect the album to also sell in enormous quantities. Because of the music it contains, it deserves to.

THE PERSUADERS — Atlantic ALT 40476

The second album by *The Persuaders* is an almost totally disappointing collection of mediocrity. Unlike their first, which featured the earthily funky *The Thin Line Between Love And Hate*, nothing on this recording matches the highlights of that release. Furthermore, it is over-produced, which hardly compensates for the weak to indifferent material included. The only number that halfway comes to repeating their earlier success, is *Bad Bold And Beautiful Girl*, which for one reason or another I find particularly appealing. Hell, what have I said!

Soundtrack Recordings From The Film "JIMI HENDRIX" — Reprise K 64017

This double album contains all the music and some of the interviews from the soundtrack of the recently released film *"Jimi Hendrix"* (reviewed GN 26). There is no new material, most being alternative versions of numbers already available on Jimi's various studio and live albums, although not all of them have been issued in Britain, ie. the recording of his 1967 Monterey Pop Festival performance.

Despite the duplication, it is an indispensable two-record set for Jimi's still enormous following. For example, the extended version of *Red House* and *Machine Gun* 11 capture him at his very best, the dazzling improvisation constantly reminding the listener of his remarkably inventive musicianship. Subsequently, the soundtrack of *"Jimi Hendrix"* is another fitting memorial to a genius of a guitarist whose unique contribution to contemporary music is unlikely to be surpassed.



LAST OF THE BROOKLYN COWBOYS — Arlo Guthrie — Reprise K44236

Arlo Guthrie hasn't managed to attract much attention in Britain since his first album, which featured the epic *Alice's Restaurant*. His last release received some rave reviews, but failed to have any commercial impact, although it reportedly sold well in the States. *Last Of The Brooklyn Cowboys* should alter his rather neglected situation if his recording company promote the record, the BBC play it and people take a chance and listen to someone who isn't already an orbiting superstar.

Primarily, Arlo deserves a large helping of success for producing one of the most enjoyable and amusing albums that have been released in a long while. Honest, it really will make you feel good, bring a broad smile to your face, get you swinging along and if you'll loosen up, it'll have you bopping around the place like a wild thing.

The opening track is *Farrell O'Gara*, on which Arlo seems to do very little. It is a piece of real foot stompin' virtuoso, unaccompanied fiddling by Kevin Burke, who hails from County Sligo, Ireland. Arlo gets to work on the second track, which is a highly humorous toe-tapping song called *Gypsy Dave*, written by his late father, Woody. If the next cut, *The Troubled Mind Of Mine*, doesn't have you dancing, well...nothing in the world will. It features some right on country steel-pedal guitar and, if you'll excuse the expression, some 'shit kicking' fiddle from Don Rich. There isn't enough space to tell you about the other delights. Briefly though, the album has the same sort of pre-war American country and urban blues feel that made the last two *Ry Cooder* albums such a treat. Incidentally Cooder makes some noticeable appearances on this record, particularly on *Bob Dylan's Gates Of Eden*, which is one of the few songs that *should* be taken seriously. If you want to hear a recording

devoid of all the high-minded pretensions too often prevalent in modern music, you owe it to yourself to make the effort to hear *Last Of The Brooklyn Cowboys*.

NOW AND THEN — The Carpenters — A&M AMLH 63519

Ace middle of the road exponents, *The Carpenters* are one of the few vocal groups working in this genre who continually get better with each new release. Having established themselves with smash singles such as *Close To You*, *Superstar* and *Rainy Days And Mondays* and three excellent albums, their latest collection, *Now & Then*, is without a doubt their most impressive recording to date.

Side two of the album is an ambitious nostalgia suite. It opens with *Yesterday Once More*, a reflective ballad that is a perfect lead into the medley of eight early 1960's pop hits that follow. They tastefully resurrect the *Beach Boys' Fun, Fun, Fun*, *Skeeter Davis' The End Of The World*, *The Crystal's Da Doo Ron Ron*, and the classic hot rod morality piece, *Jan and Dean's Deadman's Curve*. Next came four unbeatable teen-tearfuls, *Shelley Fabares' Johnny Angel*, every mother's son *Bobby Vee's The Night Has A Thousand Eyes*, *Ruby & The Romantics' dreamy Our Day Will Come* and *The Chiffons' glorious One Fine Day*. The side finishes with a short reprise of *Yesterday Once More*.

Despite the ravings of a fifties style American radio DJ between the songs, which probably will mean little to British ears, Richard and Karen Carpenter faithfully recapture the fun and innocence of those golden oldies, at the same time adding their own unmistakable brand of mellowness and professionalism.

Side one is more conventional; it contains their latest single, the sugar sweet *Sing* and a great interpretation of *The Masquerade*, one of the best songs from *Leon Russell's* recent album *'Carney'*. There is a moody,



romantic instrumental called *Heather*, that allows Richard Carpenter to showcase his arranging and producing finesse. The remaining tracks are a version of the late Hank William's standard *Jambalaya* and a song called *I Can't Make Music*. As *The Carpenters* most certainly can, it seems a somewhat strangely titled number for them to perform.

Now & Then allows Richard and Karen Carpenter to demonstrate to the full the abundance of talent they equally possess. And only the cold-hearted will fail to be moved by Karen's beautiful, evocative voice.

DESPERADO — The Eagles — Asylum SYL 9011

The Eagles' first album has remained a personal favourite of mine since its release last summer. But their second album, *Desperado*, displays a significant development on all levels, firmly establishing them as one of the most impressive West Coast bands.

A unique quality of *The Eagles'* musicianship is their distinguished proficiency in a considerable amount of styles. For instance, the album opens with a pleasing example of soft rock. This is followed by a country based number with some 'red hot banjo' from *Bernie Leadon*. As that cut fades, a clear ringing electric guitar riff announces the next track, *Out Of Control*, which is a fast and furious, but always tasteful piece of heavy hard rock. Next comes *Tequila Sunrise*, featuring some fine acoustic playing and good 'n' country pedal steel guitar. Subsequent tracks display the same amount of exciting eclecticism.

Desperado is a concept album in the sense that it is a musical re-enactment of the brief but colourful career of the *Doolin-Dalton Gang*. Its social message is bound up with the folklore that still surrounds many of America's infamous outlaws. Each song though can be enjoyed as a single entity.

Recorded at *Island Studios*, London, and once again impeccably produced by *Glyn Johns*, *Desperado* is an album that represents the very best of what is currently happening in the world of modern music and like their first album, will be frequently returning to my turntable for some time to come.

THE VOICE OF JAZZ Volume Three — Billie Holiday — Verve Z304113

The third release in *Polydor's* 12-volume set of recordings the late *Billie Holiday* made for the *Verve* label is up to the same standard as the previous two albums.

The material on this third volume was recorded in 1954 and 1955, and the accompanying musicians again seek inspiration from the *Teddy Wilson/Lester Young* sessions of the 1930's, which were so important in shaping *Billie's* future career. This collection is particularly outstanding because of the inclusion of her remarkable versions of *Duke Ellington's Do Nothin' Till You Hear From Me*, *Irving Berlin's Say It Isn't So* and the technically brilliant *Willow Weep For Me*. Other memorable items are *Love Me Or Leave Me*, *Everything Happens To Me*, *I've Got My Love To Keep Me Warm*, *Ain't Misbehavin'* and *Johnny Mercer's I Thought About You*.

It is extremely gratifying that this series continues to demonstrate why *Billie Holiday*, above all other singers, is entitled to be described as 'The Voice Of Jazz'.

Denis Lemon

I AM A SONG — Cleo Laine — RCA SF 8352

Cleo Laine sings like an angel, looks like a million dollars and possesses a multitude of diverse talents. Therefore it may seem supercritical of me to complain about what she doesn't have, which seems to me to be a singularity of purpose. Her desire to perform material from diverse sources (*Broadway*, *Shakespeare*, folk, you name it) is quite admirable, but it also gives *I Am A Song* an uneven final impression as an album. And while I'm whining, songs like *Thieving Boy* and the plegmatic *Friendly Persuasion* carry the 'high-class sophisticated singer' approach to levels of pretension. Ms *Laine* is a singer relying on superb vocalistics rather than personal dynamics, and I feel she would have a stronger overall impact placed in a more defined, unified musical framework.

But before I begin to sound brutal, let it be said I like both *Cleo Laine* and the bulk of this album. Ballads like *But Not For Me* and *It Might As Well Be Spring* are beautifully handled, and *Charles Aznavour's There Is A Time*, leading to *Day When The World Comes Alive* are livened by Ms *Laine's* special type of freshness. She has a sublime vocal talent, and admirers will find many things to their liking on *I Am A Song*.

Stephen MacLean

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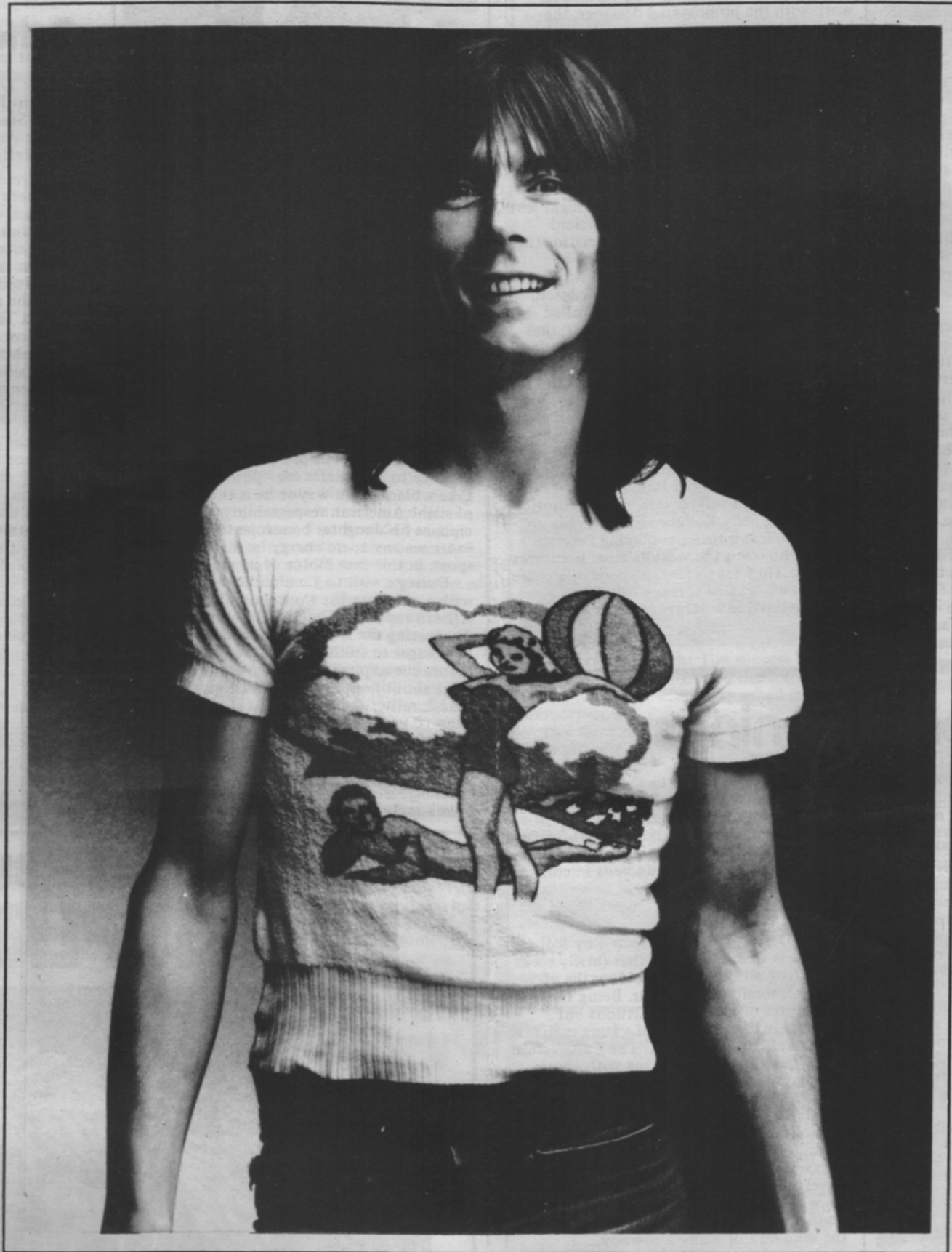
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Unreal Pessimism

THREE movies about our, or more specifically, American's misbegotten ways. **SOYLENT GREEN** (MGM-EMI) directed by Richard Fleisher is a forward looking glance at what New York could be like in the year 2022, with a population of forty million, a corrupt police force, alarming poverty and an almost total absence of fresh natural food; the staple diet of the populace, the so-called 'Soylent Green' is manufactured from the remains of the city's deceased senior citizens.

Although there are several very striking visual scenes in the film, it has little overall impetus, because of its construction relying on a story line which is as cliché-ridden as six pennyworth of chips wrapped in newspaper, with its murder/love story theme. The presence of Charlton Heston in the title role doesn't really help either, and let us not praise the dead. Edward G. Robinson in his last role is responsible for the creation of much of the sentimentality that causes the film to lose its tenuous grasps at reality.

SAVE THE TIGER (CIC) directed by John Avildson has created a minor spate of hysteria amongst the London critics. George Melly was apparently reduced to tears and Dilys Powell walked away from the cinema confident that she had at last seen a perceptive film on the generation gap. But you see it's really all a bit of a sham. There are so many of these films which cause people to express verbal or written disgust for our lifestyle, but that's where it ends. They are solely intellectual pieces, that appeal to our romantic dreams for a better world, rather than charge us into action. In that respect **Lost Horizon** is a far more honest film, since it has no pretensions to anything else, but sentiment.

Not that **Save The Tiger** is a bad film, but nor is it a realistic one. The direction, the script and the general construction of the film are jerky as it chronicles the life of a scrappy middle-aged clothing manufacturer (Jack Lemmon), faced with dilemmas financial, sexual, and the general ethics of life.

It begins by being pacey, slick and sarcastically amusing as he prepared to face the day, Wilder like in fact. Then as the film reaches its best as we follow his working day, his claustrophobic trapped life in the factory with his permanently worried partner, beautifully played by Jack Gilford, and the ancient and skilful cutter who refuses to work with the homosexual designer; the buyers who he has to impress, with their heart conditions and yearnings for a prostitute during their brief escape from their much operated on wives. And finally the arsonist who's going to burn down a factory to yield insurance money and provide temporary release from one trap.

But then suddenly, as if a greedy distributor is afraid the movie won't sell if formula sentimentality isn't included, it collapses. Jack Lemmon has a one night love affair with a hippie girl and the ancient cutter delivers a mammoth appreciation (in exaggerated Jewish/Russian accent) of his dying craft!!

The third film is a strange proposition. Unexpectedly faced with a movie called **SLITHER**, directed by Howard Zieff, that derides most of the formulas like suspense and romanticism, good and bad etc, that MGM love to sell us, they've decided to keep it as quiet as possible.

Completely zany, it apes traditional film styles and not so traditional ones like the 'road' picture, by now ripe for send up. One of nature's innocents, played by James Caan, who's just an old fashioned kind of car thief, gets involved with super neurotic drug-taking Sally Kellerman who holds up restaurants, and trumpet-playing Peter Boyle who owns the world's most luxurious caravan. They take off on a spoof of a chase after an embezzled fortune which has been invested in a defunct children's home.

David Seligman



Sidney Poitier and a cast of thousands.

Black Veneer

A WARM DECEMBER (Cinerama) is a sickly piece of patronising fascism in which Sidney Poitier directs himself as a 'holier than thou' black doctor from Washington, who has given up his prosperous middle class practice to run clinics for "poor people". Like a black John Wayne he is the epitome of silent American respectability as he disciplines his daughter benevolently, and exercises any spare energy he may have on sport; in this case motor cycle racing.

During a visit to London he falls in love with a girl from the Consulate of an emergent African republic. The unselfish doctor, on discovering she is dying of cancer, is more than eager to fulfill her wish to be married before she expires. But 'hold yer horses' - what about honour and duty? Refrains of muzak rather than music and she breaks the news to Poitier that she can't marry him because she's decided that the proper thing to do is to devote her last few months to the service of her country.

The genre of black films is becoming increasingly insidious as on one hand they

demonstrate the supposed aspirations of the black man to reach and act out white middle class values (**A Warm December**) or a kind of glorification of a character like a black dope dealer (**Super Fly**), who with the aid of a gigantic motor car and mammoth wealth smashes his way to superiority over the white man. The latter particularly appeals to rather ineffectual adolescents who wish for unattainable violent change. Their youthful energy could well be directed along more constructive paths.

David Seligman

Delfont's Dilemma

HITLER: THE LAST TEN DAYS - A Paramount Film. Director - Ennio De Concine. Stars: Alec Guinness, Simon Ward, with Eric Porter, Adolfo Celli, Diane Cilento, Barbara Jefford, and Doris Kunstmann.

Whatever Bernard Delfont's personal reasons were for not booking this film into his cinemas, one thing is sure - the resulting publicity has not harmed it. The night I saw it, the cinema was full, with a rapt audience. The action takes place in the underground bunkers during the final 10 days of Hitler's life, and the atmosphere is naturally claustrophobic. The soft-lensed colour photography of life below ground is sharply contrasted by the sepia shots interspersed of action in the world outside.

The scenes of the Belsen prison camps and the famous Nuremberg rally at the start of the film, help to establish earlier history. Through the first half an hour, we watch Hitler, divorced from reality, refusing to believe the obvious signs that Germany has lost the war. When he finally accepts the truth, and marries Eva Braun, there is a macabre atmosphere at his wedding celebration. The Strauss waltzes playing in the bunkers, seem incongruous as opposed to the sounds of warfare heard from above ground. Though we are already aware of the final outcome, it is still compelling viewing.

Alec Guinness said on TV that he saw Hitler as a man of great charm, but quite insane. His subtle portrayal allows us to see both these sides of the man. The supporting cast provides the excellent performances one has come to expect from such players as Eric Porter, Diane Cilento, Barbara Jefford and Adolfo Celli. An excellent film about a subject which I feel the younger generation needs to be reminded of.

Barry Conley

Other Screenings

VOICES (Hemdale) directed by Kevin Billington with David Hemmings and Gayle Hunnicut, is a psychological horror movie with all the scary bits in the last five minutes. It is appallingly mis-directed with its first 86 minutes of extraordinarily banal footage, devoid of tension or humour. A couple return (in fog) to a long-empty house where they intend to re-consumate their marriage, after a rather shaky period, in which their infant son perished in a river while mum and dad were making love in a boat, and mum has tried suicide with a razor and pills. They're trapped in this potentially spooky house in the fog and intermittently she hears children's voices, when she's not fighting hubby's advances. And that's all that happens in the first 86 minutes minus car journey in the fog and brief flashbacks.

As for the last five minutes - well, I'm



Father and son in a scene from 'Voices.'

not giving anything away. If I do, there'll be nothing left for you to enjoy, if you're still awake.

Shades of Cabaret in **ENGLAND MADE ME** (Hemdale), directed by Peter Duffell, which starts out as a strongly atmospheric piece about Germany in the thirties and its victims. Krogh (Peter Finch) and his assistant and fancy lady played by Hildegard Neil who are about to abscond to England with the bank's contents, when her brother, yet another naive but likable product of the English upper crust, played by Michael York, appears on the scene.

After some interesting observations on the relationship between young Anthony and his sister, and the pervading nastiness and panic of 1935 Europe, the film deteriorates into turgid melodrama of a type employed by Mr Duffell in his earlier effort, a horror movie. The main contributor to this sudden

change from the subtle to the blatant, is Michael Hordern, as the English hack journalist after a bit of scandal on Krogh. The lately much over exposed Mr Hordern, by grossly overplaying the part, and draining the character of reality, succeeds in completely destroying the film.

BAD COMPANY (CIC) directed by Robert Benton is an anti Western that finally seeks to destroy all those hoary old myths of courage, wealth and honour. Being the adventures of a slightly scurrilous but immensely likeable band of young ruffians led by Jeff Bridges late of 'The Last Picture Show' and 'Fat City', oozing with charm and an innocent determination to reach the West.

On their perilous journey westwards illusions sort of fall off along the way. Starvation takes its toll, and when they encounter a travelling farmer and his wife who are so poverty stricken that the farmer rents out his wife's body, widespread virginity and doubtful virility seem to cast aspersions on the sexuality of many a cowboy.

An adolescent 'Wild Bunch' they went their way through several very entertaining scenes and some which drag a little, but in a fortnight which has seen the release of more bad films than John Wayne has had hair transplants, **Bad Company** stands out as certainly not a brilliantly directed film, but a charming and original one.

There aren't very many original ideas in **THE OTHER** (Fox Rank) about a young (schizophrenic) boy who disposes of his family and neighbours with various despicable acts, but Robert Mulligan's taut, extraordinarily skilful direction creates a fine feeling of macabre terror.

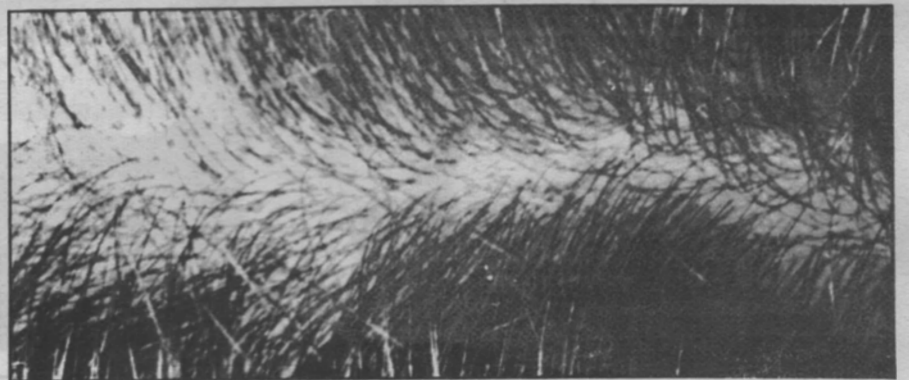
Briefly....

PENNY GOLD (Scotia Barber) director Jack Cardiff is a pretty awful thriller with James Booth and Nicky Henson detecting a kind of updated country house murder in Windsor. Mistaken identities galore and shades of countless telly episodes of 'The Saint' etc...

THE DAY OF THE JACKAL (CIC) is a disappointing adaptation of Frederick Forsyth's novel about an attempt on General De Gaulle's life, characterised by wooden performances and Frenchmen who speak English with a mid-Channel accent and Englishmen from the Foreign Office who might have come out of a P.G. Wodehouse novel. Directed by Fred Zinnerman (High Noon).

David Seligman

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Mike's Column

This guide relies on your information, so if you find any inaccuracies please don't just tell all your friends—tell me, c/o Gay News.

* indicated Gay News on sale.
(D) applies to pubs with regular drag shows.
In SCOTLAND all pubs close at 10pm and do not open Sundays. Hotels have 7-day licences.

- ABERDEEN**
Pubs: Caledonian Hotel, Buffet Bar (Sundays)
Star & Garter, Crown Street (Wednesdays)
- AYLESBURY**
Pub: The Britannia
- BATH**
Pub: The Regency (opp Theatre Royal)
Club: * Valentines, 14 George Street
- BEDFORD**
Pub: The Barley Mow, Bromham Road
- BIRMINGHAM**
Pubs: The Crown, Station Street
The Trocadero, Temple Street
The Victoria, John Bright Street
Clubs: Grosvenor House, 326 Hagley Road, B17
*Nightingale, 50 Camp Hill, B12
Baths: 385 Sauna, High Street, West Bromwich
- BLACKBURN**
Pub: Merchants Hotel, Darwen Street (D)
- BLACKPOOL**
Pub: Lucys Bar, Talbot Square
Club: Peps Club, Talbot Road
- BOLTON**
Pub: The Vulcan, Great Moor Street
- BOURNEMOUTH**
Pub: The Norfolk Hotel
Club: Gigis, The Triangle
- BRADFORD**
Pub: Junction Inn, Leeds Road
Club: Shangri La, Piecehall Yard
- BRENTWOOD**
Pub: The Greyhound, Chilterdith Common
- BRIGHTON**
Pubs: Spotted Dog, Middle Street
Heart & Hand, Sip Street
Greyhound, East Street (upstairs bar only)
Clubs: New Curtain Club, East Street 42 Club, Kings Road
Pink Elephant, Corner of Regency Square
St Albans Club, Regency Square
Queen of Clubs, Bedford Square, Hove
Disco: Sussex GLF, 8-11 Fridays at Stanford Arms, Preston Circus
- BRISTOL**
Pub: The Ship (by Colston Hall)
Club: *Moulin Rouge, 72 Worrall Road, Clifton
- BURNLEY**
Pub: The Cross Keys
- CAMBRIDGE**
Pub: The Turks Head
- CANTERBURY**
Pub: The Queens Head, Watling Street
- CARDIFF**
Pubs: Royal Hotel (Roberts Bar), St Mary Street
Royal Oak, St Mary Street
Club: Showbiz Club, Hope Street
- CHATHAM**
Pub: The Ship
- CHELtenham**
Club: New Twenty Club, 20 High Street
- CHESTER**
Bar: The Blossom Hotel
- CLEETHORPES**
Cafe: Birds Nest, Boating Lake (Saturday)

- COVENTRY**
Pub: Rose & Crown, High Street
- DONCASTER**
Club: Don Johns, Silver Street
- DUNSMORE, Bucks**
Pub: The Fox
- EDINBURGH**
Pubs: The Kenilworth, Rose Street
The Abercromby Hotel, Abercromby Place
- GLASGOW**
Pubs: Studio One, Byres Road
Duke of Wellington, Argyle Street
- GRAVESEND**
Pub: The Kent, High Street
- HUDDERSFIELD**
Pub: The Grey Horse, Chapel Hill (Sundays)
- IPSWICH**
Pub: Sea Horse Inn (young crowd, Friday disco)
- LANCASTER**
Pub: Farmers Arms, King Street
- LEEDS**
Pubs: Great Northern Hotel, Wellington Street
Hope & Anchor, Call Lane
Club: Charleys Briggate
Disco: Leeds GLF disco fortnightly, contact their office for location
- LEICESTER**
Pub: Dover Castle, Dover Street
- LIVERPOOL**
Pubs: Lisbon, Victoria Street, L2
Bonaparte (private lounge), Temple Lane, L2
Clubs: New Bears Paw, Dorrans Lane, L1
Archway, Hockenhall Alley, L2
Johns Gay Bar Royal, Wood Street, L1
- LUTON**
Club: Pan Club, Bute Street. Open nightly, weekend cabaret
- LONDON**
Pubs: *The Boltons & The Colherne are near each other in Old Brompton Road (nearest tube Earls Court)
*The Champion, Bayswater Road (tube Notting Hill Gate)
*The Green Room at The Wheat-sheaf, Goldhawk Road (Goldhawk Road tube)
*The Queens Head, Tryon Street (off Kings Rd)(Sloane Sq tube)
*New Black Cap, Camden High Street (Camden Town tube)(D)
*Father Red Cap, Camberwell Green (Upstairs Disco)
*Pig & Whistle, Little Chester Mews, SW1 (Sundays only)
*Horse & Groom, near Pig & Whistle (Sundays only)
Cricketers, Battersea Park Road (D)
*Elephant & Castle, South Lambeth Place, (Vauxhall tube)(D)
The Salisbury, St Martins Lane WC2 (Leicester Sq tube)
Ship & Whale, Gulliver Street, SE16
Royal Oak, Glenthorne Road, W6 (D)
*William IV, Hampstead High Street
*Royal Vauxhall Tavern, Vauxhall Cross (Vauxhall tube)(D)
Clubs: *The Catacombs, Old Brompton Road (Earls Court tube)
*DOK, Lowndes Court W1 (Oxford Circus tube)
*Le Gigolo, Kings Road (Sloane Sq tube)
*Masquerade Restaurant & disco, Earls Court Sq. SW5 (Earls Court tube)
*Paint Box, 29 Fowley Street, W1 (Oxford Circus tube)
*The Pink Elephant, 8 Newport Place WC2 (Leicester Sq tube)
*Shanes, Broadhurst Gardens NW6
The Escort, 89a Pimlico Road (Sloane Sq tube)
Yours & Mine, Kensington High Street W8 (Ken High St tube)
Rehearsal, 4 Archer Street W1 (Piccadilly Circus tube)

- Rockingham, 9 Archer St W1
Festival Club, 2 Brydges Place WC2 (Leicester Sq tube)
Louise, 17 Poland St W1 (Oxford Circus tube)
Chaguaramas, Neal St WC2
Collage, 46 Churton St SW1 (Victoria tube)
Apollo, 31 Wardour St W1 (Dilly or Leicester Sq tube)
Discos: South London GLF disco, 8pm Sat at Hanover Arms (Oval tube)
*Arabian pub, Tricky Dicky disco every Wed. Cambridge Heath Road E2 (Bethnal Green tube)
*Kings Arms, Liverpool Street. Tricky Dicky disco Mon & Tricky Dicky Show on Sat (Liverpool St tube)
- MACCLESFIELD**
Pub: Waters Green (Tuesdays)
- MANCHESTER**
Pubs: Union Hotel, Princess Street (D)
Rembrandt, Sackville Street
Trafford (back bar), Gt Bridge-water Street
Cavalcade, Wilmslow Road Didsbury (Sunday lunchtime)
New York, Richmond Street
Mechanics, Sackville Street
Clubs: Samanthas, Piccadilly (men only)
Picador, Bradshaw Street, Shude Hill
Pyms Club, 60 Spring Gardens M2
Napoleons, Sackville Street
- MERTHYR TYDFIL**
Pub: Red Cow Hotel, Glebeland Street
- MORECAMBE**
Pub: Masons Arms ('Gays only' lounge)
- NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE**
Pubs: Royal Court Grill, Bigg Market
Eldon Grill (Variety Bar), opp Greys Monument
Royal Turks Head (Red Rover Bar), Grey Street
Grapes Vault, Grey Street
*Lord Chancellor, Great Market County Hotel (Nancys Bar), Westgate Road
- NEWPORT Mon.**
Pubs: Kings Head (Lounge Bar), High Street
Waterloo, Commercial Street
- NORWICH**
Pub: Studio Four, behind Anglia Television
- NORTHAMPTON**
Pub: Princess Royal, 172 Wellingborough Road
- OXFORD**
Pubs: Red Lion, Gloucester Street
Gloucester Arms, Friars Lane
Disco: Oxford Gay Action Group disco every Fri at the Cape of Good Hope, The Plain
- NOTTINGHAM**
Pub: The Roebuck, Mansfield Road
Club: Mario's Restaurant, Stenford Street (off Castlegate)
- PENRITH**
Cafe: Rendez-vous, Sandgate
- PLYMOUTH**
Pubs: The Lockyer, Lockyer Street
The Phoenix (off Union Street)
The Valletort
- PRESTON**
Pubs: Bull & Royal Cockpit Bar (men only)
- READING**
Pub: Railway Tavern, Stanshawe Road
Disco: Reading Gay Alliance disco, Saturday at Railway Tavern
- SANDBACH Cheshire**
Pub: Market Place Tavern (Thursdays)
- SCARBOROUGH**
Pubs: The Cliff Inn, Huntress Row
The White Horse (Caths Bar), Falsgrove
Club: The Bottleneck, Ramshill Road
- SHARDLOW**
Club: Pavilion Club, 123 Shardlow Road
- SHEFFIELD**
Pub: The Cossack

- SOUTHAMPTON**
Club: Anchor Inn, East Street (girls only Friday)
Robert Burns, 9 South Front
- SOUTHPORT**
Pub: Scarisbrick, Lord Street
- STOCKPORT**
Pub: Duke of Clarence, Avenue Street, Portwood
- STOKE-ON-TRENT**
Pubs: Grand Hotel, Hanley
The Antelope, Hanley
Club: One for One, 141 Marsh Street North, Hanley
- STRATFORD-ON-AVON**
Pub: Queens Head, Ely Street
- SUNDERLAND**
Club: Ro-ko-ko, The Promenade, Roker
- THAME**
Pub: The Jolly Sailor
- WARRINGTON**
Pubs: The Higher Seven Stars, Bridge Street
Dog & Partridge, Parliament Street
- WINCHESTER**
Pub: The Green Man, The Place
- WINDSOR**
Pubs: The Ship, near Guildhall
Three Tuns, near Guildhall
- WOLVERHAMPTON**
Club: Silver Web, Whitmore Street

Personal

Old Wolverstonians—for a reunion with a difference write to Peter. Box 27/1.

Amateur photographer (28) seeks suitable models, flat preferable. No fees but six best prints. Photo appreciated. Box 27/2.

West Indian (30), good build, not effeminate. Interests include music reading. Own flat. Seeks genuine active masculine friend between 21-40, any nationality for lasting friendship. Prefer Midland, London area or near. Photo a must and exchange. Box 27/3.

Guy (26) wants mate or mates. New to leather demin scene, but willing to learn. Box 27/4.

Well built 30 seeks active guys 30-40. Own flat Central London ALA Box 27/5.

Any 35-45 non-effeminate shy & lonely male looking for similar (40) who cares? Only isolated genuine type who values sincere understanding friendship reply. Interests music, social activities, countryside, electronics. South Lincs. Box 27/6.

I'm 26, fair, slim, quite good looking, but hopeless at chatting up people in crowded gay spots. I want a real man, late twenties, hirsute and quiet good company for easy friendship with no clinging vine stuff. A photo goes a long way. London. Box 27/7.

Dorset guy (39) country loving, interests horses, driving, C & W music, swimming. Box 27/8.

Very lonely shy young man (young looking 27) seeks permanent friend 21-30 preferably in the Sheffield area. The one I yearn for must be tall, slim, smooth chested, long haired, talkative, gentle and sincere. Preferably inexperienced, wanting a real friend and not just a 'sex object'. Sorry, but have had many disappointments. I don't like pubs, clubs and crowded places. Hope someone can make me happy. Must be interested in, or able to tolerate old records (78s) and wind-up gramophones. My interests are mostly indoor, but like walking (plenty of woods and parks where I live) and trips into town. Photo much appreciated. ALA Box 27/9.

Straightforward straightish quiet 28 year old tired of trendy phonies, seeks friends in London and South East Kent. Please no headboard notchers. Box 27/10.

Male, young 50, seeks sincere active male in Southampton area. Your place or mine. Good friendship assured. Any age over 21. Box 27/11.

Attractive 21 yr old hairdresser, very domesticated, wishes to meet masculine man. Genuine. Box 27/12.

Dark prince, blonde, brunette or redhead friend 23-36, much needed by tall, mid-thirties, London, lonely man. Box 27/13.

Genuine Scottish tawse for sale. Alan 01-800 8559 after 8.00pm.

Southern Ireland, 26 years old requires another gay guy to correspond with and meet (over 21). Photo please. ALA Box 27/15.

Northants—young 35, some inhibitions, seeks genuine friendship with non-effeminate non-camp guy 21-30. Photo please. ALA with S.A.E. Box 27/16.

Enthusiast wanted to help build and enjoy sauna at private home in Essex. Box 27/17.

Gentle slim oriental (28) own flat in Central London, seeks masculine well built friend, over 21. Photo essential. Box 27/18.

Partner wanted to back young man in sound business venture. Box 27/19.

East End E.8. Fatherlike figure late 40s would like son figure for sincere 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. "Sincere Advertisement" Box 27/20.

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.

As from July 17th box numbers in issue 23 and earlier will be discontinued and replies to them will not be forwarded.

Women's Personal

Gay girl (21) seeks sincere feminine young lady (20-30) for friendship. London and South East. Photo please if possible. Box 27/59.

Lonely lady mid-forties desperately seeks femme lady to share my home. Lasting loving companionship. Box 27/122.

Bisexual boy 25 masculine, often told I look five years younger, I would love to settle down with understanding girl, for lasting relationship. Longing for nice home and kids. ALA write with photo to Dave. Box 27/123.

Personal Ads continued on Page 18.

The Spartacus

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All gay women should read SAPHO (30p inc post) regular monthly magazine BCM Patrol London WC1

Personal Ads continued from Page 17.

Males 37/39 reasonably well built, hairy, normal looks, enjoy food, music, theatre would contact similar single/couples 30s for genuine friendship. Have house and car. London W. Box 27/21.

Attractive affectionate non-camp London boy tired of meat markets and situations seeks similar over 21 for companionship and love. Your photo please for mine. Tony. ALA Box 27/22.

Male 38 Lancashire, would like to meet similar to share interests, music, travel, theatre. ALA Box 27/23.

Young good looking guy (25) non-camp interested in meeting same in Gravesend area. Box 27/24.

Steve (21) Hertfordshire equestrian is looking for stallions.

Libra and Gemini equals supreme compatibility. I'm 24, slim and Gemini. You are Libra, over 21 and sick of insincerity, so let's get compatibly unskenned. Box 27/25.

Young man in the entertainment world seeks sincere friend London area. Also would like to hear from gays in or near Newquay, as I am in summer season there. Photo please. ALA Box 27/26.

27 yr old company executive blonde, slim, average good looks living in Nottingham needs someone to heap love and affection on. If you're 21-24 good looking, intelligent, fed up with the rat race of the gay scene and looking for a lasting friendship, then contact me. Photograph appreciated (returned). ALA Box 27/27.

Slim oriental guy (21) seeks well built friends over 21. London. Box 27/28.

Houseowner 32 seeks younger man over 21 with easy going personality. Serious relationship (for ever) any nationality. S.E. London. ALA Box 27/29.

Transvestite seeks normal looking guy for lasting friendship. I have my own S.W. London. Over 21 otherwise age unimportant, but must have car. Photo and phone number please. Box 27/30.

Young slim Northerner, attractive build and handsome, seeks young male 21-26 for warm friendship. Yorkshire/Lancs/London areas. Box 27/31.

Manchester 28 yr old gay seeks friends over 21 for visiting pubs and clubs leading to a permanent friendship. ALA Box 27/32.

Young lonely guy 21 seeks genuine friendship with guy 21 to 30 non-effeminate. Photo appreciated. ALA Box 27/33.

Male stripper/nude waiter available for your parties. Will also pose. London and S.E. 0634-43298.

Sincere natured guy 21 seeks permanent active friend same age, any nationality. I am not colour prejudiced. Photo please. I live in the Kensington area. Box 27/34.

Bisexual male 28 5'10" attractive, own modern home, wide intelligent pursuits, travelling, general reading, gardening, entertaining and music (opera, classical underground, Tamla Motown, some pops) seeks meetings (not unnecessary correspondence) with sensible well adjusted, clean, non-effeminate males interested in friendship. Discretion both ways. N.W. London/Harrow. Box 27/35.

Sunderland man 60 living Surrey occasionally visits Sunderland, would welcome friendship, any age over 21, anywhere. ALA Box 27/36.

Old Alleynians. Frustra no longer. Box 27/37.

Continental gentleman 40s attractive, kind, genuine, straight looking, very active, living in Central London and abroad, seeks young boy over 21 non-effeminate, sincere, intelligent and who will appreciate loyal friendship. Must be cultured, good looking, absolutely honest. No camp or similar, please give details. Phone number ALA Box 27/38.

N.E. London (25) seeks friendship with others 22-30. Interests: music, concert-going, general. Photo appreciated. ALA Box 27/40.

Young man, London, presentable, well built, reliable, considerate, seeks similar, lasting friendship. Photo requested (returned). Box 27/39.

Gay male (34) seeks friendship with active, sincere guys around own age or younger. Interests theatre, current affairs, travel, music, etc. Please write to Mike with a photo if possible. Box 27/41.

Active leather guy 40, and mate 30s, would like to meet active leather guy 35-40 for exchange of ideas. Coloured welcome. Photo on exchange of yours. London area. Box 27/42.

Attractive intelligent blond, 29, blue eyed, seeks one-man permanent friendship. Active, muscled denim type preferred. Photo ensures prompt reply. London. Box 27/54.

Sailing enthusiast wishes to hear from boat owners on South and East coasts. Box 27/55.

Brighton 31 wants active pal(s) 21-36. Leather, hairies O.K. London preferred. Swap visits. ALA Box 27/56.

Trustworthy and considerate young man (26) seeks large room or similar which he could use occasionally for wrestling with pals. Could pay if necessary. London. ALA Box 27/57.

Youthful mid-aged Derby/Nottingham area urgently wishes to meet/respond with active domineering guys any area for possible holiday/weekends. ALA Box 27/58.

Easy going 25, attractive, slim and fair, seeks contacts with affectionate aware people, hung up on good looks so willingly exchange photos. ALA Box 27/76.

Dalescroft railway enthusiast & loco spotter (21) wishes to meet similar. Midlands/London. Box 27/77.

Tall dark (25) (English) wants a smooth slim sensitive boy, 21-24, for more than casual relationship, within 50 mile radius of London. 'Have Jag will travel.' Returnable photo imperative with first letter. Box 27/78.

Wanted: 21 year old English D.J./company c rector, non camp, Hounslow area, own car, requires Indian or Japanese guy, same age, for friendship. Interests, hi-fi, ham radio, Indian film music. Photo essential, phone no. preferred. Box 27/79.

London W.2 male 40 years, wishes to meet guy of the same age with a view to friendship. Photo please. Box 27/43.

London leather guy with own pad and plenty of gear seeks active guy with lots of ideas. ALA with photo. Box 27/44.

Young guy required by young executive with own flat in North London for meaningful friendship. Colour no bar. Photo appreciated. Box 27/45.

Young Surrey guy, non smoker, varied interests, especially environment, seeks close friendship with similar young guy. Box 27/46.

Wrestling instruction wanted. Box 27/47.

I am 24 and lonely. I wonder if someone active will take an interest in me as a person and have fantastic friendship. 21-40. Photo (returnable) and phone number if possible. Please write soon. Box 27/48.

West Indian male seeks active well built guy for permanent friendship. Photo please. Only genuine replies. Box 27/49.

Young guy 22 seeking inner light through meditation needs love and support. Box 27/50.

Manchester male 30 likes pop music, clothes, would like meet sincere male. Photo please. Box 27/52.

Experienced racing driver (33) invites sponsorship from a company or wealthy enthusiast. Genuine offers please. Box 27/53.

Robert (22) from Wembley Park seeks Nick (27) from Victoria after the Salisbury proved negative on Wednesday 30th March. Hampstead's rural pleasures no substitute. Must meet again. Write quickly. Box 27/51.

CHE Marylebone Group welcomes new members. Meets first and third Tuesday evenings. Ring Ken 01-402 8053 or John 01-977 4864 (evenings) for further information.

Anyone interested partnership painting-decorating. 50/50 basis. Phone 01-902 3190 evenings.

Epping Forest area. Active, slim, sincere young looking (40) seeks genuine leather/denim friends over 21 to phone Charles, North Weald 2674 evenings.

Tony. Happy anniversary darling, and lots more, Fondlest love. Ian.

Recent information urgently wanted for A.1 lorry drivers night meeting places, hostels, cafes. Box 27/80.

Gay passenger wanted early August share costs London/Perth or Inverness, no driving. Box 27/81.

West Indian 23 seeks considerate friend 30-60. Photo please. ALA Box 27/82.

Young Cockney (26) seeks friends good physique. Interests body building, wrestling and photos. Photo please returned with mine. ALA Box 27/83.

Slim boy 22 years old, new to Central London, but not keen on gay scene, seeks friendship with similar 21-25. Box 27/84.

22 slim blond graduate seeks good looking tall fella 22-35 in Manchester or London areas. Box 27/85.

Gadgets enthusiast (35) seeks details magazines and other info on subjects also to hear from others similar age group. ALA Box 27/86.

Help. I need someone understanding, loving, affectionate and loyal. Should be hairy, medium height, reasonably slim. My interests are varied, most types of music, animals, walking. Sincere replies only answered. Also photo if possible. I live N.W. Lancs/ Yorks border. Box 27/87.

Disillusioned (25) slim, fair, discreet, reasonable appearance. Seeks active, genuine, sincere and reliable friend for possible permanent friendship (25-40). No kinks, no effeminates, no one night stands. Genuine replies only please. London/Kent areas. Would consider married guy. Box 27/88.

Herts/Essex border area, guy 35 seeks friends, theatre, photography etc. Box 27/89.

Young 45 desperately lonely wishes to make contact with quiet friend (not camp) 35-40 with view to permanent friendship. Interests music, theatre, reading, walking. Box 27/90.

Gay guy (23) living in Cheshire would like to meet other gay guys, 21 years old, for friendship. Any nationality. Photo please. Box 27/91.

Professional man (31) seeks sincere young friends (21-24) in Watford/Harrow areas. Photo appreciated. Box 27/92.

Catholics in London area interested in forming group to discuss attitude of church towards homosexuality please write Box 27/93.

Two chaps 22 and 37 living in Wiltshire interested in meeting active well built coloured man 25-50 for weekends in the country. Box 27/94.

East Anglian guy (40s) own house, car, seeks non camp friends 21-35. Interests the arts, photography, people. Photo helpful. ALA Box 27/95.

Wolverhampton male 35 seeks sincere friendship with younger genuine guy. Photo please but ALA Box 27/96.

Male 45 kindly and sincere seeks friendship. No colour bar or creed bar. Genuine replies only please. Manchester. Box 27/97.

Gentleman early 40s living Birmingham would like to meet young Arab, view language exchange and close friendship. ALA Box 27/98.

Professional man 28 quite attractive, interests arts, music, travel, affectionate, sincere, seeks similar 21-35 for lasting friendship London/Kent area. ALA with photo. Box 27/121.

Scandinavian leather guy seeks guy with similar interests. London area 21-35. Own pad. ALA Box 27/137.

Youthful 40, London, seeks considerate friend 25-40 with wide interests, especially arts. Level-headed but outgoing, happy type ideal. Trim figure important, affection reciprocated. Flat hunt with right person. Please write fully! Box 27/99.

Balding, hairy faced, denim gays, I love you all. Don't be shy. Write with a recent photo returned with mine. Must match someone for good. No chickens/old hens. ALA Fu-Manchu. West London. Box 27/100.

Attractive blond American student 21, seeks other American youth for summer in London and for friendship later in the States if possible. Sincere affectionate, fun loving, seeks similar. Box 27/101.

Photos you can't take to Boots? I'll do them for you! All B&W processing to your requirements. Send for details. Box 27/102.

Youth 26 seeks masculine active guy under 36, interested leather, jeans, photography. Genuine. Box 27/103.

Boy, slim, long hair, attractive not effeminate seeks active muscular boy for friendship. Photo please. Box 27/104.

Male 25 seeks friend for sincere friendship. ALA Box 27/105.

Birmingham guy 24 wishes to meet a slim personable young man of similar age to form a friendship with. Box 27/106.

Reasonably attractive 28 graduate, Manchester, interests books, music, theatre, etc, tired of gay scene, would like to meet younger friend with similar interests. Photo please. Box 27/107.

Be my guest: Margaret Price sings Mozart, Prom 28th August. Relaxed exploratory meeting (London) prior to contact date. No obligation but hope friendship ensues. Shy but discreet, slim, unshiny, good looking (not necessarily photogenic), strictly 21-26, definitely not predominantly camp or effeminate. I look 27 (actually 37), dark, active, shortish haired, slim, straight—reasonably good looking with no kinks. Box 27/110.

If I could live inside my dreams... Graduate 24 attractive, slim, seeks good looking sensible English friend 21-26 for beautiful friendship. Boyish appearance preferred. Photo and phone number please. Box 27/111.

Sympathetic and understanding gay male 27, tall, slim, creative, strong warm personality, romantic Leo nature, seeks sincere, sensitive younger gay guy for close lasting friendship. Glasgow, Edinburgh, or elsewhere in Central Scotland. My interests include the Fine Arts, history, philosophy, travel, wit and humour. Please reply with full details (photo if possible). ALA Kenneth Box 27/112.

Lost by 38 year old journalist in central London: one sweet and gentle 27 year old Oxford graduate. His interests included theatre, cinema, books, criticising my writing, dancing, drinking, parties, travel, Scrabble, non-possessive relationships. Information leading to location of similar replacement model most gratefully received. Box 27/108.

Wanted. Handsome guy to drive to Wales/Scotland. August 12th-18th. Excellent fee and expenses. Photograph please. (London) Box 27/113.

Guy 24 in search of someone around my age but over 21 to reminisce over school life. Box 27/114.

London 28 slim, attractive, own flat, wide interests, seeks masculine looking type 24-35 recent photo appreciated. ALA Box 27/115.

Young guy 22 living in London would like to meet friends up to 30. Please send photo and telephone (if convenient), returned with mine. Box 27/116.

6' male 38 interested in muscles wants to hear from body builders or muscle men any age, colour. ALA photo please. Box 27/117.

Good looking young fella 22 lives with an affair in S.W. London but wishes to meet/correspond with attractive active young men 21-30. Only masculine hommes please. All letters with recent photo answered. Box 27/118.

Before the bloom of youth fades and paranoia sets in completely, I'm off to live in Amsterdam and would like to hear from anyone with similar plans, for mutual encouragement in seeking jobs, flats etc. Secondly, can anyone offer any helpful advice. Box 27/119.

Professional man late forties but looking and feeling much younger seeks sincere discreet active friend 23-35 for lasting friendship. Photo essential and returned. Box 27/120.

London journalist youthful 45 will be pleased to correspond with and/or meet slim young man 21-25 who would like to know the world's most interesting city better. Tourist (British, USA, or foreign) welcome. Temporary accommodation in my modern flat possible if wished. Please send details and photo, returned. ALA Box 27/109.

Furniture, fittings from rooming house for sale. Twin divan beds, elec. stove and heater, small wardrobe, C of D, modern sink unit, table and chairs, floor covering and curtains, kitchen utensils etc. £20 per room. Tel: 834 5238.

Holidays

Two bachelors wish to join other(s) short motoring holiday. August. Photo appreciated (returned). Box 27/73.

Guernsey, Channel Islands. Contemplating holiday? Hospitality offered to young Gay News reader close to bays, bars etc. Only expense, share in catering. Box 27/74.

Ring Betty for cheap reliable flights world wide. 437 0817. Central holidays, 103 Charing Cross Road, London WC2.

Bachelor 38, requires male companion to go on a motoring holiday in Scotland and the Lake District from July 29th to August 11th. Would prefer someone who is able to drive a car. Please contact Ian Scott on 01-892 5990.

Theatre director, young 40s, slim quiet gentle non camp, seeks quiet gentle interesting young companion 21-35 for relaxing motoring/camping holiday in Europe, 3 weeks from 31st July. Travel and accommodation paid, share only catering and own personal expenses. Easy relationship, no hang ups. Replies to Gay News Box Replies no later than July 23rd. Box 27/129.

Active 50 seeks genuine younger companion caravan holiday August/September Switzerland etc. Must enjoy outdoor life. ALA Box 27/134.

Spend your holidays/weekends in the country. Family with beautiful house, peaceful and secluded, offers full board. Reasonable charges. Easy reach M4. Bath. Trains met. 022 16 3299.

Accommodation

Young bachelor, Londoner, buying secluded country house, shortly seeks other(s), car owners, interested country weekends, prepare drive there (100 miles) from London. Photo requested (returned). Box 27/60.

Cornish holiday? Spacious self contained flat Central Falmouth sleeps four. Available July 21st onwards. Weekly only. Box 27/61.

Gay masculine 25-30 year old to share large luxury flat in Streatham with two show biz guys with large circle of friends. Sense of humour and animal lover essential. Must be willing to be one of the family as this is a happy home. Own room, 13 mins Victoria Station. Very good bus service inc. all night, £35 per month. Box 27/62.

Two bachelors wish to share their house (S.E. London) pleasant, large garden, with other(s), considerate, reliable. Reasonable terms by arrangement. Photo appreciated (returned). Box 27/63.

Two respectable young gays (lads) seek a flat in the Earls Court area, £13-15 per week. No strings attached. Box 27/64.

Urgent Liverpool. Is there a quiet non camp young man (21-25) willing to share his home with similar (21) who is shortly to move to city. Must be inexpensive and within easy reach of city centre. Box 27/65.

Uninhibited young (23) gay guy wishes to share flat/house with similar. Central London area preferred. Box 27/66.

Man seeks likely companion (25-50) share pleasant home near Birmingham. Help obtain job if required.

Rent free accommodation in comfortable flat (Clapham) with two young guys, in exchange for light domestic duties (own room). Suit student. Box 27/68.

Attractive blond 35 seeks accommodation Central London first and second weeks August. Willing to share, including expenses. Welcome colour. Good appearance. Box 27/69.

Uxbridge area. Gay graduate discreet, straight appearance, seeks share flat with similar or student. Box 27/70.

Help! Arriving London from Jersey mid July. Need to share house/flat/bedsitter with other/s. Own room please. I'm 19. Need people of same or about. Must be Richmond/Twickenham areas. Box 27/71.

West London—share flatlet. (Colour TV, stereo), young man 18-22 to share with 21 year old. £6 per week. Box 27/72.

Own room and freedom in pleasant shared for discreet young man (20s), convenient for South/Central London, Croydon. Low rent. 01-653 0151 after 7.00 most evenings.

Gay couple require s/c flat Central London. 373 7732 after 6.00.

Jeff (23) seeks sensitive music student same age, to share S.W. 18 flat from next September. Own room. £28 per month, 01-874 9315.

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION. £1.50 B/B per night. Gay atmosphere. 106, Olive Road, London E.13. Tel: 01-472 3122.

Bristol. Gay (22) post-grad, requires accommodation until September, will share. Richard Cropley, Rutherford Hall, Loughborough, Leicestershire.

Personal & 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

Accom. Ads continued from last page.
Pleasant young flat mate wanted, beautifully situated, new and all self-contained. Share meals, interests and gay atmosphere. 373 4604.
3 responsible girls to share house, Chiswick, single & double room. £21 per month. 994 8255 evenings.

Young man urgently looking for single semi furnished flat, low rent preferred. Anywhere in London. Box 27/75.

Young guy wanted to share comfortable s/c flat, Clapham, with one/two others (£5). Box 27/130

Young man to share flat with two others. Maida Vale, T.V. etc. Box 27/131.

S/c flat London N4. Above average accommodation, 2 bedrooms, large lounge, kitchen, bathroom, toilet, suitable 2/3 males sharing, looking for quiet comfortable home. £21 p.w. Box 27/132.

Why bother with Brentford? Three gentle, good humoured boys (all under 23) seek similar for Chiswick flat £6 per week. Would help if you're also intelligent, omnivorous and house-trained. Won't help if you're boring, bearded, antisocial or camp. Interested? Then Box 27/133.

West Ealing: one/two share own room in ground floor s/c flat with gay girl 28. Large garden, telephone, five minutes bus ride from Ealing Broadway. Box 27/135.

Three fellas enjoying happy lifestyle in elegant Hampstead house require fourth to contribute a mere £9.50 weekly for comfortable room, service, linen, breakfast, C.H., C.H.W., individual television. Box 27/136.

Excellent room for no cooking 30s man in super male house £6. Near tube Sudbury. 902 3190 evenings.
Manchester. Man or woman (under 30, straight or gay) required as fourth person to share house from July 6th. £3.50 per week. Write Gary Quick, 55 Davenport Avenue, Withington, Manchester 20.

Guy 24 urgently seeks accommodation/share flat in Western Road area of Brighton. Brian Hart, c/o flat 3, 70 Bouverie Road West, Folkestone, Kent.

Faggots and the Revolution. French Gays 'sock it' to the Left. 16 pence incl p&p from Gayprints, 66 Woodland Rise, London N, 10.

Part-time Cook-Housekeeper required by 2 men sharing pent-house, mornings only, 9am-2pm Monday-Thursday, Central London. Best possible conditions. Phone 828 1533.

Personal finance service for all needs. Business and individual loans, investments, mortgages and insurance. Bath and Wessex Finance, Ingledene, Cleveland Row, Bathwick, Bath. Phone Bristol 292966.
GAY CAN BE GOLDEN with the right person. Let GAYITIES help find the partner for you Rosalind King, P.O. Box No. 40, Harrow, Middx. HA1 3SL.

Why not have a relaxing massage in your own home? At reasonable cost! Ring Ron at 01-472 1939. 6pm-7.15pm pm Wed, Thurs, Fri, or all day Sunday. Genuine massage ONLY.

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

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 Details: FCL, c/o 61 Earls Court Square, London SW5.

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General Information

GLF Manifesto - 15p (inc p&p). 30% discount for orders of 10 or more, from GLF Dept M, 5 Caledonian Road, London N1.

University of Surrey Gay Soc: contact David Reeks, Student Pigeon Holes, University of Surrey, Guildford.
Transvestite, Trans-sexual? Would any tv/ts men or women like to help isolated Transvestites and Trans-sexuals. If so write to ICEBREAKERS, BM/Gay Lib, London WC1V 6XX.

East London CHE will hold a September Fair in the Ross Wyld Hall, Walthamstow on Saturday September 1.
Friend the national counselling and befriending agency is available free to everyone. Write in confidence to FRIEND, 44 Earls Court Road, London W8.

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 women and men 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 alternative 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: Birmingham 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.

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 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.

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

CAMBRIDGE gay women's group meets fortnightly. For information contact Jane at 29 St John Street, Cambridge.

BRISTOL: Help and information for gay men and women. Regular social group meetings in relaxed atmosphere. Send s.a.e. to Confidential Friend, CHE Bristol, PO Box 171, BS99 7ND.

LESBIANS come together in London every Monday and Friday. For details ring Pauline and Sally, 01-346 4684.

KENT UNIVERSITY GAY LIBSOC meets every Thursday evening in Canterbury. Everyone welcome. For details contact: Gill Irvin, Keynes Cottage, The University, Canterbury, Kent, or Brian Hart at Folkestone 54698.

Mental Patients Union, Leeds and district branch now forming, patients, ex-patients, or anybody, contact: Ian Everton, Flat A, 6 Buckingham Mount, Leeds LS6 1DN.

Transvestites: New society forming, all help welcome, write to Tony Wade, 43 Station Road, Marple, Cheshire. (061-427 2913)

Transvestites/Transsexuals? If you live in South Wales/west of England/Bristol, interested in joining new group, write to: Martin Rees, 5 Upper Church Street, Bargoed, Glamorgan.

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.

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.

CAMPAIGN FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY

There are over 70 local groups, for details and membership information contact their offices at:-

28 Kennedy Street, Manchester M2 4 4BG. Telephone 061-228 1985. Or contact London Information Centre, 22 Great Windmill Street, W1. Telephone 01-437 7363 (Mon-Fri noon to 10, Sat noon to 6, 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), Brighton 732550 (Roland)
 Bristol: Bristol 35035 (Trevor)
 Cambridge: Cambridge 52661 (Bernard)

Chilterns: High Wycombe 39321 (Haydn)
 Herts Sth: Hatfield 69172 (John)
 Kent East: Thanet 42059 (Roger)

Lancaster: Lancaster 2750

Leeds: Morley 7686 (David)

Leicester: Leicester 738832 (Clive)
 London Information Centre: 01-437 7363

London, East: 01-500 6032 (Tony)

London, Monday Group: 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: T.Wells 33175 (Ross)
 Tyneside: North Shields 76454 (David)
 Wirral: 051-327 5178 (Jack)
 Youth: 01-385 7246 (Mike or Jim)

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

Wandsworth/Richmond CHE group for men AND women. Incorporating surrounding areas. Meetings twice monthly: Charlie Micklewright, 46b Chartfield Ave, SW15.

Carlisle, Cumberland, The Lakes. Will anyone interested in joining anew group in this area please get in touch with Richard Webster, Tyneside CHE, 17 Oxford Terrace, Gateshead NE8 1RQ.

CHE Cardiff now meets at Chapter Arts Centre, Market Street, Canton, Cardiff, every other Monday. Gay News on sale.

TEESSIDE has a CHE group with regular meetings in Middlesborough. Social and campaigning activities. Send address for recent newsletters and further information to CHE, 132 Borough Rd., Middlesborough.

CHE LEWISHAM. If you live in SE London, this is your local group. Meets weekly. Phone 01-692 6397 after 8pm for details.

Haringey CHE meets 2nd Monday of each month. For info send sae to Fred Oliphant, 25 Kinver House, London N4.

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.

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 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.

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 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 Mail, 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.

Employment

A new magazine is looking for young handsome guys who are interested in modelling. If you think you may fit the bill, write giving details, enclosing a photograph of yourself, to: BCM/UPA, LONDON WC1V 6XX.

Part time help required with cleaning large house, professional family household, suit young man or ex merchant service. Used to work and local. Ring Leeds 57279.

Presentable young man, aged 22 to 35, required as a trainee sales representative with an expanding company primarily engaged in print. Salary: minimum £1,500 plus car, legitimate expenses and contributory pension scheme. Location: London and environs, but some travel will also be involved. NO TIME WASTERS PLEASE. Write with brief career details to Box 27/124.

Photographer would like to hear from handsome young guys over 21. Good fee. Photograph please. (London). Box 27/125.

Tenor sax, clarinet, vocalist seeks work UK or overseas. Possible meeting with other gay musicians. Box 27/126.

Young male graduate seeks worthwhile work in London. Reasonable salary. Box 27/127.

Professional chauffeur 30 experienced with Rolls Royce, Bentley, Daimler, Jags seeks position UK or overseas. All replies answered and treated with the utmost discretion. Box 27/128.

Opportunity for two gays, male or female, who want to breed cats or small dogs etc. Caravan accommodation offered in return for help when required to feed animals and livestock on ranch. Own transport essential. One mile from mail line railway station - 10 miles from Southampton. One could follow own occupation. Anyone interested telephone Pat-Hythe 2267.

Salesman wanted for developing young company. Salary according to age. Apply to manager (David) 01-387 0091.

Classified

New "Boys Express" £1. Male International £1. Cheeky Boys £1. Follow Up 75p. Jeffrey 40p. Postage included. Roger Hawkins 'Eden House', 1 Austin St, Mountain Ash, Glamorgan CF45 4AF (Mail Order only).

For gay penpals and introductions: The Gay Friendship Society (AA3) BCM/GFS, Mono House, Red Lion Square, London WC1. Send S.A.E. for genuine details. State age. Over 2,000 members nationwide.

Patrick the hairstylist, for geometric cutting, blow setting, tinting, highlighting and bleach toning. Phone Leeds 57279.

Newsettes

● Indians and Gays Can't Honour Glory

NEW JERSEY: The Gay Activists Alliance of New Jersey has been refused permission by the army to lay a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.

However, a 365-strong group of gay war veterans plan to press the matter. "By 1974 we should have a viable gay veterans group working towards that end," said president Jerry Purpura.

Purpura added that one of the army colonels involved in the refusal had said, "If it's any consolation, we haven't given permission to the Indians yet either."

Compared to Britain, US gays have achieved greater degrees of success in the integration/liberation struggle. However, it is worth remembering that in 1971, members of London GLF — as well as CHE last year — were in similar circumstances, but were granted the permission denied the New Jersey group.

● More Gay Action

BRIGHTON: The Sussex Gay Liberation Front are planning a Gay Pride weekend for September 12th-14th in association with Sussex Uni Gaysoc. Graham Phillips of GLF is interested in hearing from anyone with ideas, especially people interested in performing. Address: 24 Gladstone Place, Brighton. Phone: (0273) 688301.

● Israel Information Hunt

AMSTERDAM: COC, the Dutch society for the integration of homosexuals, is attempting to track down information on what is believed to be strong discrimination against Jewish gays living in Israel.

Homosexuality remains a criminal offence in Israel, and COC claims to have received letters from gays bemoaning blackmail, profiteering, social ostracism, loss of job and fear of prison.

Anyone with any pertinent information is requested to write to the Foreign Committee of the Dutch Society for the Integration of Homosexuality (COC), Working Group Israel, Frederiksplein 14, Amsterdam.

● Getting It Together

MANCHESTER: The four local gay action groups (Women, Gay Lib, CHE and Homophile) recently held a joint meeting at Withington Town Hall and decided that although they should remain independent of one another, improved co-operation would be beneficial to all concerned.

One proposal that met with response was a suggested newsletter, to be compiled by all four groups for wide distribution. Co-ordination in campaigning for new members and the establishment of a gay community were other joint projects discussed with enthusiasm.

● Gay Glasgow Gambol

GLASGOW: The lambs do it in the spring, but the Scottish Minorities Group waits until the autumn. The Group's second annual conference will be held in Glasgow on 15th September 1973 on the theme "The Homosexual in an Industrial Community". Topics to be discussed are "Confrontation or Integration" on which moderate and radical opinions will be expressed, and "Living Outside The Law?" — local and national personalities exchanging views on "the man in the street's attitudes towards homosexuality." One of the aims of the conference is to gain support from everyone, and to attract publicity, pending the Group's second deputation to the House of Lords to promote their Sexual Offences Bill, later in the autumn.

SMG Press Release

● Teacher Who Talked Loses Battle

BALTIMORE: Joe Ancafora, the school teacher suspended for openly talking about his homosexuality, has lost his fight for an injunction allowing him to return to the school system of Montgomery County.

Ancafora plans an appeal. District court Judge Joseph Young said, in effect, that the teacher had rocked the boat too much by not staying in the closet. Going on television and attracting press was not essential, the judge ruled, and "inevitably sparked additional controversy regarding the subject of homosexuality and the classroom."

● Texas Brightens Somewhat

TEXAS: The Texas Legislature has approved a new penal code improving the legal climate for gays in the state, whilst falling short of gay needs.

The present sodomy law providing up to 15 years imprisonment — has been eliminated, whilst "homosexual conduct" now fetches a \$200 fine and "public lewdness" can go as high as one year in gaol and/or a \$2000 fine.

● Gay Mag Bites The Dust

NEW YORK: America's second-largest gay newspaper, *Gay*, is to publish its very last issue under gay leadership. Majority owners Al Goldstein and Jim Buckley, both heterosexual, plan to change it to a monthly magazine, eliminating the news reportage and running it along the lines of their other publication, *Screw*.

They said they were not happy with the way their gay co-editors were developing the paper, mainly because circulation had remained at 18,000 per bi-weekly issue. Co-editors Lige Clark and Jack Nichols counterblasted that the owners had ignored many necessary business measures, but added they were glad of the free time to finish a book they had been contracted for.

● 29 Die In Bar Fire

NEW ORLEANS: Two men thrown out of a party held at a gay bar in a shabby section of New Orleans French Quarter later returned, spread kerosene on a staircase leading to the bar, and began a fire that killed at least 29 gays.

The bar was part of a run-down hotel which rented rooms to down-and-outs on its third floor, where a further 20 people were injured. Two other bars nearby also caught fire.

● Vicar Worried Over Het Emphasis

CAMBRIDGE: In his parish magazine, Father David Ford has expressed surprise that people are stressing their heterosexual aspects when the world is facing overpopulation and rising divorce figures.

Father Ford, married with two children and vicar of St. James Church at Wulfstan Way, wrote that in emphasising the heterosexual we deny the bisexual, non-sexual and homosexual, "All of which I would suggest are within each one of us and arise from time to time in one form or another."

● N Y Gays Are Angry

NEW YORK: The rejection of Intro 475 (a bill to make sexual discrimination illegal) has provoked anger: a dozen gays have been arrested following protest action. City councilwoman Aileen Ryan — who pledged to support the bill but failed to return from lunch, leaving it one vote short — has received threatening phone calls and has had a puppet painted on her door with the message 'Gay is Angry'.

● Now It's Male Lesbians

NEW YORK: Vicki, Rita and Joe are each genital males who consider themselves to be female but are attracted to members of the opposite sex. Vicki and Joe live fulltime as women, Joe works as a male electronics engineer and is married.

The trio recently spoke as 'male lesbians' at a West Side discussion group meeting, and were received with considerable consternation and anger from many of the male and female gays present.

"I know about heterosexual transvestites," said Vicki, "and considered myself one for some time. I finally got up the nerve to put on female clothing and developed a female identity. But I don't like the term 'heterosexual transvestite'. I like to think of myself as a lesbian."

One angered female lesbian said: "Lesbians are not interested in going after a 'lesbian' with a cock. I think you have some nerve calling yourselves 'lesbians'. Vicki replied that some lesbians felt that way but others did not object.

Another lesbian said the trio "frightened her" — she knew how to handle gay men, straights and gay women, "But you? You're totally alien to me. I don't know how to react to you. I know now what straight men mean when they say that homosexuals 'frighten' them."

Vicki said that getting official identification was a problem for some male lesbians, "But passports can be gotten without saying whether you're male or female. A passport is the best ID you can have."

At the end of the discussion, the moderator apologised to the three male lesbians for the snickering and hostility expressed by some members of the audience.

● Lecherous Policeman?

DETROIT: Robert Holmes, 22, has been acquitted on a charge of "accosting and soliciting". The undercover policeman lured Holmes into conversation — then made the arrest. A jury took half an hour to reach the decision that Holmes was not to blame.

Unfortunately, no British example of such justice is currently at hand.

● Keep Your Thumb In, Sam

BRIGHTON: Sam Sussex, gardening columnist of a local newspaper, became an accidental gay libber when he headlined his latest green-thumb article 'Gay Ladies Look Nice In Any Bed.'

● Gay Hideout

WASHINGTON: Priests, religious brothers and seminarians with heavy gay tendencies are soon to have a permanent counselling retreat house made available to them. This is believed to be the first organisational attempt with ecclesiastical approval. A Fr John Harvey said it would help the men avoid subcultures such as gay bars.

● Gay Academics Form Union

NEW YORK: Faculty graduates of several N.Y. state universities have banded together and formed The National Union of Gay Scholars. A similar Californian group is expected to form in San Francisco by next year.

● Transvestites' Own Boutique

NEW YORK: A new shop catering exclusively to lingerie for transvestites has opened in mid-Manhattan. Michael Salem's TV Boutique is its name, and the TV does not stand for television.

"Contrary to public belief, the majority of male transvestites are heterosexual", says Mr Salem, who explains that he is not a transvestite himself, but is sympathetic. "They lead mostly normal lives in addition to their 'secret' lives, and their wives and children rarely see their feminine selves."

He sees no need to cater for female transvestites. "Women in our society have for the most part complete freedom to dress as masculine or as feminine as they please, so there is no point in isolating women who choose male clothing."

The shop has so far been casually accepted, receiving a goodly amount of free publicity from television and radio talk shows.

● "Deviations and Disfunctions"

HONOLULU: The fate of 'homosexuality' as a diagnostic category in the American Psychiatric Association's *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* is in the balance.

The 'homosexuality' classification as it now stands can be used in a discriminatory manner by the US government as a rationale for denying security clearance and terminating employment.

The gay groups who have been lobbying for this term to be altered are expecting statements from the authorities concerned soon. They are hopeful that homosexuality will be classified as a 'dysfunction' — disfunction? — along with conditions such as frigidity or impotency, rather than the current 'deviation' classification.

● So What's The Worry

BIRMINGHAM: Said headmaster Roger Probert, arguing against too many sex lessons: "All teaching aims to stimulate interest. It would be odd if this were not true of sex lessons."

● Doctor Confirms VD Risk

STOCKHOLM: Dr Claes Henning has found that gonorrhoea germs can survive from 4 to 24 hours on various surfaces such as towels and toilet seats. It has been a long-held belief in many quarters that this was not possible. In making his announcement, Dr Henning asked fellow-doctors not to ridicule patients who say their VD didn't result from sexual contact.

● Another Bill

SCOTLAND: GN 12 carried the news of Scottish Minorities Group's draft Sexual Reform Bill, then newly issued, and several hundred copies have been sold or distributed. As a result of criticisms made to some of its provisions (from individuals, groups and Members of Parliament), the Bill has been modified. The most important change has been to the section which defines certain sexual conduct "an offence". The law reform Committee has decided to publish this Final Draft and 1,000 copies are being printed. Copies (free to SMG members) are 30p post free from the SMG National Office at 214 Clyde Street, Glasgow G1 4JZ. SMG strongly recommends that the best way to put the Bill into perspective is to buy a copy of the current Act (Sexual Offences Act 1967) from your nearest HMSO Bookshop, price 10p, and compare them closely. SMG's proposals are quite unlike anything that the Campaign for Homosexual Equality are likely to come up with, and the two campaigns should not be confused.

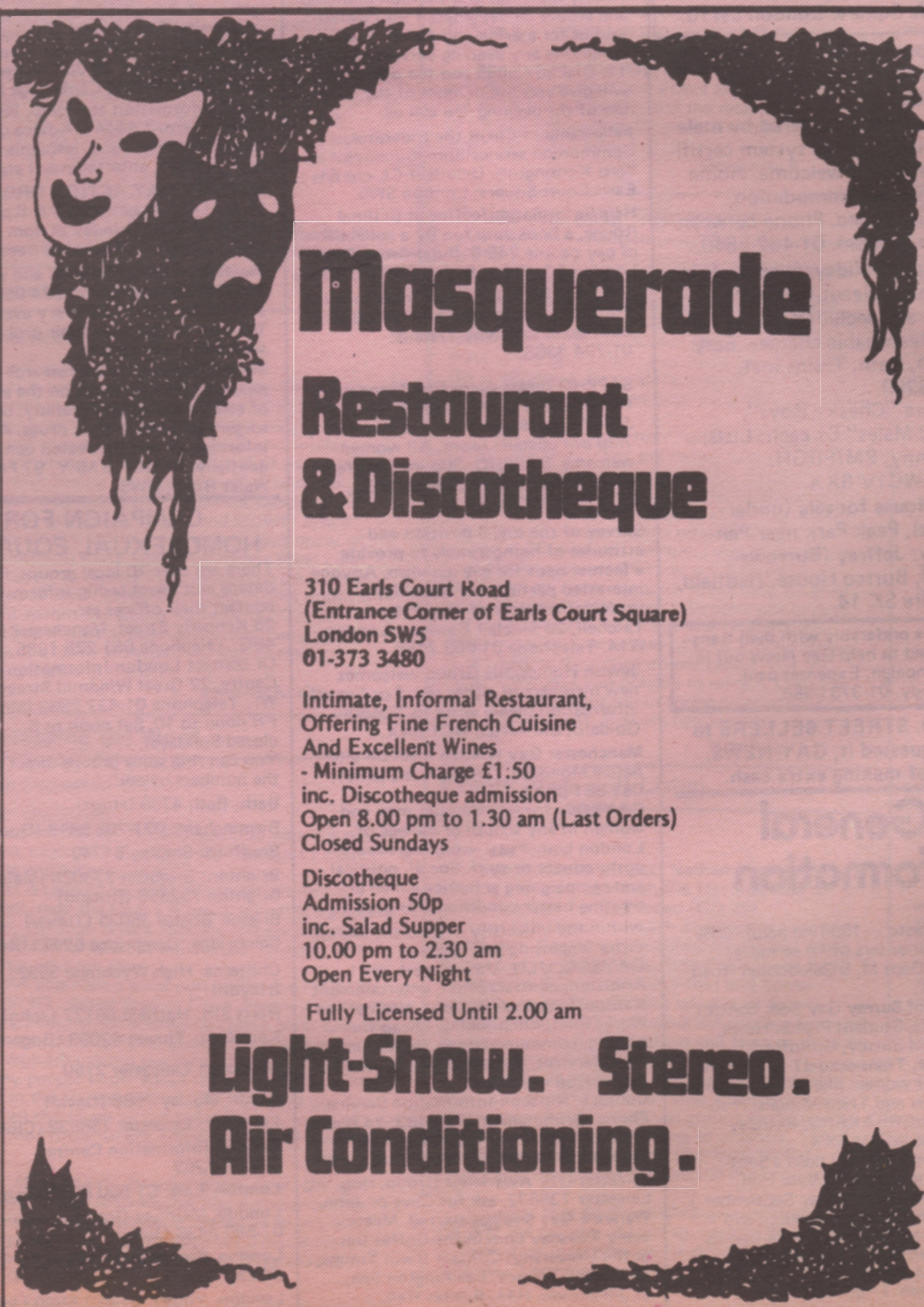
Ian Dunn (Edinburgh SMG)

● The Policeman's Ball

DAYTON, OHIO: New physical standards for Dayton police now specifically require that male applicants have one testicle.

An anonymous spokesman for the police said, "Oh balls....no, don't print that. I'm sure they meant to say 'at least', don't you?"

Perhaps the Dayton police specification may precipitate the formation of Eunuch's Lib.



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