

EUROPE'S LARGEST CIRCULATION FORTNIGHTLY NEWSPAPER FOR HOMOSEXUAL MEN AND WOMEN

U.S. AIR FORCE WITCH-HUNT

Three gays sacked, but sergeant fights back

SUSSEX: Sgt Michael Ploski, a member of the US Armed Forces stationed at Mildenhall, has received a memo from his commanding officer. The typed letter informs him that he is to be discharged, and the reasons are made very plain . . .

"While a member of the United States Air Force in your current enlistment, you engaged in homosexual acts at your on and off base quarters with airman first class . . . then a member of the . . . on four or five occasions during the period August 1972 to May 1973. The homosexual activities included your participation in mutual kissing; mutual acts of fondling genitals; active and passive fellatio; and active acts of anal sodomy."

"I didn't expect it to be so straightforward," Sgt Ploski told GN during his interview. He expects to receive a General Discharge Certificate ("One less than an Honourable").

Sgt Ploski's sexual preferences have caused him to lose his job and his lifestyle. At 25, he has been in the Air Force for four and a half years, during which time his past record has been excellent. He intends to fight the discharge.

Two other Air Force men, who also became involved in the McCarthy-like "witch-hunt" investigation, have already been discharged in connection with their homosexual activities.

Ploski's story is a hard-luck tale born of two moralities — official and private. Many heterosexuals on his base (including Ploski's supervisor) had long known he was gay, but did not seem to find it particularly objectionable.

However, Ploski, who worked as a cook, had the misfortune to be involved in a driving offence, after which Air Force security men investigated a tip that he was gay.

Gay Cooking a "Security Risk"

GN first heard of Sgt Ploski's situation when he wrote the paper a letter merely explaining he had been discharged (GN31). Having decided to fight the discharge, Ploski saw no reason for withholding the whole story, and gave GN a frank interview explaining what had happened.

"I went to the Masquerade (a gay Earls Court club) on April 30," he explained in a soft-spoken Boston accent. "One of the waiters there is a friend, and we had dinner then went to a club where I met a young boy, Jim. We hit it off pretty well, and I asked him to live with me — I had a house off base. We hitch-hiked back to Mildenhall together because there'd been a train strike. When we got back there, I borrowed a buddy's car, and we went out to have a few

drinks. I got a little drunk, so I asked Jim to drive.

"The police stopped us. He didn't have a license or any insurance, so they took us to the station where we were kept for half an hour. No questions to do with homosexuality were asked."

The police, as he later discovered, contacted Sgt Ploski's supervisor on base. "He'd known I was gay for a long time — he's never heard it from me, but from a few buddies, so I figured what-the-heck, I'll be honest with him, so he said "Okay," and we went about our own business."

Four hours later — "for security reasons" he was told — Ploski was informed he could no longer carry out his cooking work in the main dining room.

"Later I was called to the offices of OSI, the security officers. The started to ask me some very personal questions.

They Wanted Names

"The British police had not asked me any questions concerning homosexuality. The two things met up when my supervisor went to the OSI. They in turn got in touch with the police to check it out, and they told the police I was homosexual. I really don't know what prompted the supervisor to turn me in when he had known about me all along. He had even previously told a friend of mine, 'Well, that's his life to live'.

"In the meantime, the boy disappeared . . . went back to Liverpool. He stole a few things of mine, which I was upset about. And I was upset about the whole thing coming out, so in that state, I told OSI everything. The only thing I wouldn't give them was names — they wanted names so they could investigate them.

"I was in there for about five hours. They were constantly harassing me. They were really heavy, really nasty. They pressured me, searched my house, all this kind of thing. They found a gay guide, a couple of pornographic magazines which they confiscated. They also confiscated a couple of personal letters of mine. I was given a receipt for them and was told they would be returned the next day, which was lies. I still haven't got them back."

Of the two other US Air Force men who have been dismissed since the investigation, Ploski explains:

"When they investigated me I didn't give them any names. But one security patrolman on base, he was being investigated for drugs and homosexuality. So when they called him in, they told him I had given his name . . . so he in turn gave a whole long list of names. Two men I knew were definitely gay have

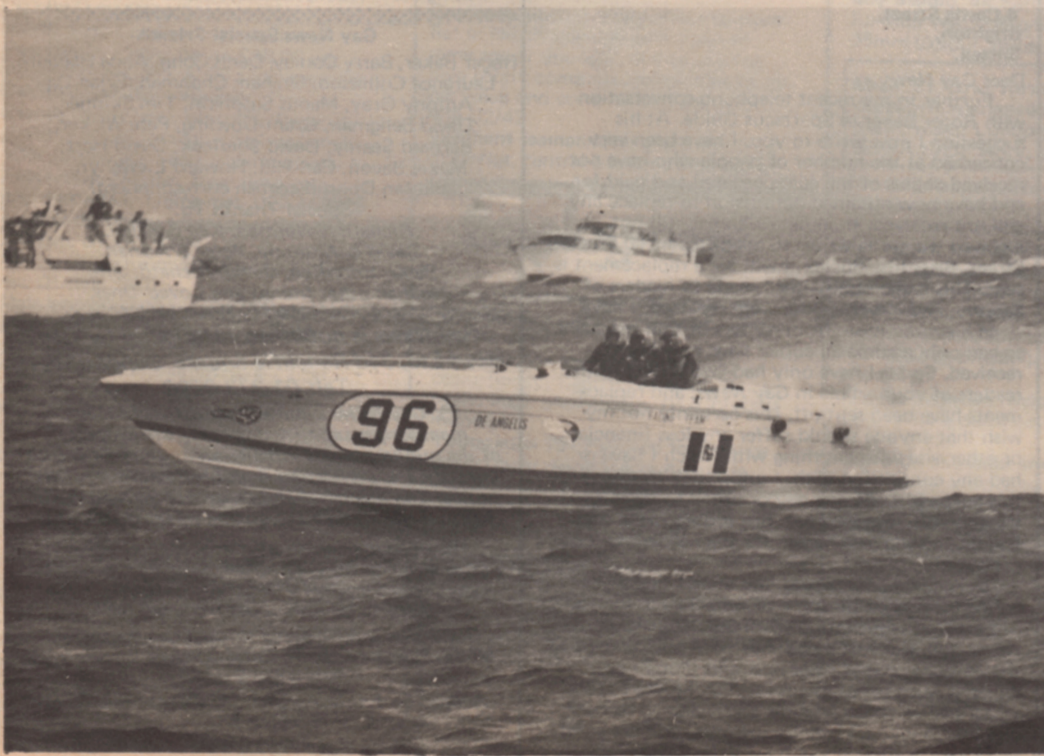
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See leading article, Page 2.



Sgt Michael Ploski - interrogated then discharged.

Photograph : Peter Mundy (Gayshot)



Tim's 36 foot Nicapao powerboat - another win for gay pride.

Tim Becomes 'First Lady'

LONDON: 22-year-old Tim Brand-Crombie, who made the cover of GN23 back in early May tipped as our first gay sports hero, has been enjoying some powerboat race successes lately which justify the optimism.

The success has not been without its trials though. In a powerboat race between Putney and Calais, on July 15, Tim's craft hit a sandbank while skimming along the Thames. He was thrown from the boat and an instant later it crashed down on top of him. Tim sustained three broken ribs, but managed to continue in the race and came an overall third.

On July 22, he had a much more pleasurable win. A race in Yugoslavia ended with Tim taking first place at the helm of his boat called CHE, named after the Campaign for Homosexual Equality. He took 28 trophies, including the 'First Lady Driver' award. "There was no lady driver in the race," Tim explains, "so they gave the trophy to me thinking it would be a bit of a giggle. It was a lot of fun."

On August 18 he was at it again, at the helm of a 36 foot Nicapao powerboat shaped like a cigarette and powered by two Kaekhaefel aero-marine engines. "There was a thick, dreadful fog throughout the whole race, but I managed to stay in the top three during the duration and was the first across the finishing line." Tim's average speed was 53.92 knots, and he won the coveted BP Southern Speed Trophy.

August 25th he raced in the Cowes-Torquay-Cowes express powerboat event, "Reckoned to be the toughest, it runs for over 250 miles. I was out there for four hours and eight minutes, averaging about 62 miles to each hour." He came second overall in the race.

Tim's high energy level has allowed him to sustain continual action on the powerboat circuit, and it looks as if the pace will remain as hectic for a while yet. Races in Key West, Miami, and Nassau are in the offing, and he would also like to take up an invitation to race in Australia in a few months' time.

GAY NEWS

But It's Legal

TAKEN together, three news stories in this issue really set one thinking.

A 17-year-old boy gets involved in a court case, is publicly proclaimed a homosexual, has his full name and address printed in the local paper of a small West Country town, and as a result has to leave the area. A police officer kisses a man and loses his job. An American serviceman with a distinguished record is discharged as soon as it is learnt that he is gay.

Whatever your feelings about the American armed forces, the police, or the West Country, there is nothing to suggest that any of these three men behaved with anything but integrity by the standards of their chosen life styles. Their one and only crime was their homosexuality.

No American serviceman would be discharged if he was found with a woman. No policeman would lose his job for kissing a woman. No local newspaper would be in the slightest bit interested in a 17-year-old boy who marched into the paper's offices and told reporters that he fancied girls.

If the fundamental security of a man's life can be threatened, loss of his home, or his livelihood, for no other reason than his being gay, what price modern day, enlightened liberal attitudes?

Your Letters

Please note that any letter received by us at Gay News is liable to be published unless you state otherwise. Owing to lack of space, please make your letters as brief as possible. We regret that it may be sometimes necessary to shorten your letters.

Wilde's Lack of Perception

London W2

Dear Gay News, I was most interested in Michael Mason's review of 'De Profundis and Other Writings' (GN31). I agree with his analysis of 'De Profundis' itself although I am bound to say that I consider it to be one of Wilde's worst literary works. There is too much self-pity and a great deal of illusory thinking. But it was, after all, written under not very auspicious circumstances in Reading Gaol.

I do not think that Mason is right when he states that "what destroyed Wilde was an unsuccessful relationship and his battle with 'Bosie' and his father". The battle was between 'Bosie' and his maniac father in which Wilde allowed himself to become embroiled. This led to the disclosures of his relationships with male prostitutes. Throughout his trial, and again in 'De Profundis', Wilde showed himself to be confused with regard to the attitude of society towards him. He was not prosecuted for his love for 'Bosie' but for buggery and sodomite orgies.

His defence of 'the other love' which he made at the Queensberry Trial, not at either of his own, was legitimate and courageous and entirely praiseworthy in view of the times in which he lived. His defence of his activities with male prostitutes was quite a different matter. For him to class the two activities together as one and the same thing was nonsense. It was this lack of perception and human judgement which destroyed him more than anything else.

His association with Lord Alfred Douglas ('Bosie') was not unsuccessful as a human relationship although it damaged his work and his bank account.

As a consequence of his trial and his subsequent declaration, Oscar Wilde succeeded in grouping together in the public mind the homosexual relationship of a normal character and the homosexual act of a promiscuous and animal nature. That is one of the delusions that we are having so much difficulty in dispelling. But we are making progress and your efforts in 'Gay News' are an important contribution.

Ian Harvey

Public Relations

Landesdown Road, London W11

Dear Gay News, With reference to your article "Doing the 'Holland Walk'", Gay News No 30. While I agree with what was said in the article, I feel that I cannot stress too strongly the fact that Holland Walk is a public thoroughfare. As such it can be used by anyone at any time of day or night, and does not exist for the sole use of 'gay' men. Any pedestrian, or resident in the adjoining properties, has the right to complain to the police, or local council, of any nuisance that may occur, and any acts they consider indecent. There are plenty of 'gays' who would make complaints, which Gay News would justifiably back up, should the Walk be frequented by drug-addicts, drunks or queer-bashers. I have been accosted on two separate occasions by drunks begging for money. I

ignored them and nothing further was said or happened. But my experience does not mean that in the future a drunk who does not get some money will not make trouble, and complaints might have to be made to the police.

I feel very strongly and a lot of my friends are in full agreement with me, that bad and outrageous behaviour from a few 'gays' gives the rest of us a bad name, spoils the chances for others, and bring the police down on innocent people. We have all seen on the walk, two or more men indulging in the most blatant sexual activities in full view of everyone, without a care who sees them. No wonder complaints are made. As Jeremy Locke points out in his article 'Sexual Offences' (GN30) what one person will tolerate and accept, another will find most offensive and repulsive. I am sorry for the sexually frustrated 'gays', who have no place to go, but they can only expect trouble if they insist on indulging in sexual acts in so public a place as Holland Walk. If open-air sex is their thing, let them do their thing by all means, but they should visit one of the quieter and more secluded haunts.

I think everyone, including the police, will agree that 'gays' who behave quietly, discreetly, make contact and then leave for the privacy of their own homes are causing no nuisance or offence.

Tony Jones

Love and Let Live

Camberwell, London SE5

Dear Gay News,

It's not often that I go out to a gay night club, but I did go with a friend to the Masquerade one night just to see what it was really like. I found the atmosphere very relaxing and felt at home with the people there. Then suddenly word was passed round that the police had come in. My first reaction was to be my normal self and ignore them, but my friend couldn't relax — I could sense this. They were obviously watching us because we had been kissing. I wasn't going to let anything spoil our evening, and was quite prepared to carry on having a good time.

Surely two people if they love each other can kiss regardless of sex. Especially in a dark corner where we were. I don't give a damn about the police. They may be able to arrest me, put me on trial and send me to prison or fine me, but if they did, I swear I'd fight my case to the end. I make no secret of the fact that I am only 18 too.

There is too much fear instilled into gay people, I could see it on the people's faces in the club, who kept on looking at us as if to say how stupid we were. Fear has got to be stopped if we are going to lead a free life. Only love can save us!

Steve Waters

Vulnerability Over Appearance

Wimbledon, London SW19

Dear Gay News,

Cosmetics are a con and quite often dangerous. Iain Finlayson's concern over his physical appearance (Rags Column in GN 30 and 31) highlights the vulnerability of gay people over their appearance and the millions of pounds made by manufacturers only too eager to exploit insecurity and promote a superboy image.

It really doesn't matter a damn, whether or not our faces show ageing, because quite simply we are all ageing and this glory of the youthful image is so much crap! Ageing is a biological process, let's accept that, and stop lining the pockets of cosmetic manufacturers by buying preparations that are positively harmful.

Most cosmetics contain lead far and above the considered safe levels, some contain poisons, Phisoderm for instance contains a substance that when included in talcum powder was responsible for the deaths of 24 French babies last year!

Some use substances obtained from rare animals such as oil from whales.

Nobody is perfect. Accept that and live with it without cosmetics.

Geoffrey

... And Proud Of It

Brixton Hill, London SW2

Dear Gay News,

Letters like that from your anonymous correspondent GA, (GN31) leave me in something like stupefied despair at the depths of self-oppression in which gays of his ilk are sunk.

All of us in this country have our political awareness nicely stunted at birth. We are taught that the nation, if not quite the whole world, is run by good men, administering fair laws for the common good of all. If this national illusion is becoming threadbare even for white middle-class heterosexual people, when applied to the objective realities lived daily by gay people, it collapses into tragic farce.

Dear Mr GA — dare I presume you are acutely homosexual, ie physically, erotically stimulated by and attracted by other men? Did you know that, at the physical level (and I'm certainly not asserting that's the only level but will insist it's a vitally important one), the sexuality of the human male is concentrated in and around his cock? Has it occurred to you that cocks are principal vessels for the exchange of sexual excitement and of love between men, which is the distinctive, defining feature of gayness.

And have you noticed society at large celebrating this joyful exchange, and the organs mediating it? Like hell you have! Western heterosexual society lives by the most crudely diminished cock-idolatry. In neurotic flight from the organ itself, it devotes itself hypocritically to degraded, destructive, symbolic counterfeits — ballistic missiles, E-types in certain hands, policemen's truncheons. (Yes — just watch them fondling these sometimes!)

So, in the only public place society permits its men to take their cocks out — the cottage — it tries to ensure by law and taboo, that only the cock's excretory function is recognised, and that only if with suitable distaste. Woe betide the subversive who dares upset this apple-cart with any reminder of the cock's other role as visible and accessible vehicle of joyous and irresponsible

pleasure in which all men may share.

How else can one begin to explain the £100 fines dished out by red-gorged magistrates upon two gays caressing each other's cocks in a cottage empty except for two pigs snooping through spyholes (GN9)? Compare that with £50 for queer-bashing Cllr Sam Green (GN29) If I drive my counterfeit cock in a way likely to endanger the lives or limbs of others, I may get a small fine and much sympathy in the saloon bar. If I, affectionately, offer my real cock to the caresses of a fellow man, I am declared a shameless pervert (right on!) punished as a criminal, and ostracised by men, all of whom themselves have cocks, and who are all capable of the same experience.

Try as you will GA, if you're gay you can't escape, only betray your role as subversive in this deformed and deforming sexual culture. I know it's cosier to identify with its authorities, sharing their power and sheltering from their censure. But in the end you only help perpetuate your own and all other gay peoples' oppression. Wear your pansy with pride, man, and quit pretending it's a lily.

Jim Scott

A Call To Gay Radio Hams

CQ de G8BKT

Dear Gay News,

This letter is prompted by a small ad in GN31. Unfortunately the advertiser requested replies from radio amateurs 'around 21', so I was precluded from applying.

Of the 18,000 radio amateurs licensed in the UK, it is to be expected that around 1,000 are gay. The establishment of a "Gaynet" would perhaps lead to ostracism by straight members of the amateur fraternity, but it would be pleasant if one could know that the chap at the other end was gay. Perhaps this could be done by some agreed variation of operating procedure; alternatively a 'Gay ball-book' might be compiled.

Any interested GN reader is welcome to write to me with his/her ideas.

88 de G8BKT QTHR

A Time and a Place

Dear Gay News,

If you at GN start printing nude male pictures and porn stories just to satisfy a handful of randy readers, then your job will be to no avail. I am no snob, but I do hope that we can all come to terms and put things in their right perspective — there's a time and a place for everything.

Brian Daniels

Even Satisfying The Fastidious

Dear Gay News,

Having been a reader since your first issue, I have watched with interest the growth and maturing of Gay News from an amateurish 'college-like' rag to the responsible, well-produced and professional publication that it is today. As with any such ventures there were bound to be growing pains and mistakes, but certainly since GN20 and, incidentally, the arrival of Tim Skinner, Gay News has become an interesting and informative paper whose contents deserve more than a cursory glance. The earlier issues could usually be disposed of after 15 or 20 minutes, there being little of any merit therein apart from liberal helpings of campy and letters from neurotic, hung-up queens. Now, I'm glad to say, there is plenty to satisfy even the most fastidious reader. Long, serious and involved articles and campaigns written by intelligent people for intelligent people give the paper a far more responsible tone and help to do away with that old misconception that, because gay life tends to be more transient than other ways of living, so all other aspects of a gay person's life must necessarily concede to this misguided attitude. Of course, there is a very great need for limited amounts of gay abandon, but to let these prevail in a publication such as GN would surely be the quickest way of ensuring that it too goes under as most of the other 'Camp Rags' have done in the past.

In short then, this reader — and all his friends — think that GN is vastly improved and, dare I say it, getting even better.

G. Richardson

Missing Guides to be Replaced

ED: The following letter is from Stanley Fyne, who is responsible for mailing out copies of the Spartacus Gay Guide from Brighton. It is a response to a story we published in GN29 which appeared under the heading 'Where Have All The Gay Guides Gone?'

4 Castle Street, Brighton, Sussex.

Dear Gay News,

Further to my recent telephone conversation with Roger Baker re Spartacus Guide. At his suggestion I now write to you. I have been very concerned at the number of people who have not received copies of the guide ordered and paid for, and have now obtained permission to replace any still not received. If anyone who has still not received the guide writes to me direct at 46 Preston Street, Brighton, Sussex, I will see a replacement is sent. This is the same offer I made to readers of Sappho, and eleven guides were replaced. I have since heard no more from readers of that magazine, so can only assume all copies have now been received. So far I have only had two letters from readers of your article in Gay News, and replacements have been sent off. It is certainly not my wish that anyone should suffer any loss financial or otherwise with anything with which I have or had any connection with. I undertook to distribute this guide without any pay or profit to myself to try and help someone out, but it does make one feel like saying never again for the headaches it has produced.

In conclusion, I would like to add that I am trying to arrange for some recompense in the form of part-free subscription to all Spartacus subscribers whose full quota of magazines were not received at the collapse of that magazine, and though that collapse was not of my doing, would like to feel I had helped others in some small way to recover any loss, mine incidentally were and still are great, and looks as though will have to be written off.

Any further help or assistance I can give, please do not hesitate to contact me.

S. D. Fyne

DEAR GAY NEWS...



Illustration: Jean-Claude Thevenin

Without Western Inhibitions

19 Newport Court, Leicester Square, London WC2

Dear Gay News,

I read Barry Hill's article on a holiday in Tunisia (GN29) with great interest as I know Sousse and indeed most of North Africa. I would not agree that the boys are bisexual at all, let alone gay — they just enjoy sex without all the Western inhibitions, and as sex with women before marriage is very rare in Muslim countries, they go with boys and men. I am sure they enjoy it — because just to test some of them, I have sometimes told one or two of them that I have no money on me, but they are still prepared to have sex just the same.

Regarding hotels, I found the small, non-tourist hotels just as difficult as the tourist package holiday hotels, except that in the cheap hotels, there is usually some randy member of the staff or guest. Some do seek real friendship and I have been corresponding with one boy for 10 years now.

I have tried package tours, going alone, with friends, camping and motoring. I am quite sure the best way is to get 2 or 3 people together and to go on a motoring/camping holiday. In the very out of the way places one finds really charming boys who have never had the opportunity to... before!

I am going out to Morocco and Tunisia later in the year and if anybody wishes to join me, perhaps they would like to drop me a line. No callers please as this is an accommodation address.

Peter Huntington

GAY NEWS

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Deadlines and Copy Dates for GN33

Copy letters, etc — Saturday, September 22
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'Educators Ready For Gay Sex Film'

... And Dr Martin Cole Plans To Make It

BIRMINGHAM: To the News of the World, he's 'Sex King Cole', but at Aston University in Birmingham, he's plain Dr Martin Cole, a lecturer in genetics with sound and advanced ideas on sex education.

Having made the controversial sex education film 'Growing Up', Dr Cole has now announced his intention to make a gay sex education film. GN contacted him in Birmingham to question him on his plans and conceptions for project. First we asked him:

How far has the project gone?

We haven't started any work on the proposed film yet. The impression given by some of the press is that it's well under way. First, it's a question of finance and then a question of finding appropriately motivated people who have got the right skills. The films we've made up till now have been about heterosexuality, and we feel if we are to be associated with a film on homosexuality it must be made by homosexuals.

What form will the film take? An explicit gay sex instruction film?

No, that's very important. You're probably aware of the publicity recently when some Gay Lib members visited sixth formers to talk to them — everybody got very upset. I think the most important need at the moment is to have a film explaining the role the homosexual plays in society.

More the politics of sex rather than straight-forward instruction?

Well, it shouldn't be interpreted as such or it wouldn't be so effective, would it? But in effect, a significant statement about an important minority and their way of life.

Will you depict sex acts?

I'd much rather make a film that will get shown than make one more explicit that won't get shown. 'Growing Up' is now being shown, but as you know, you can do things with heterosexuality that you can't currently do with homosexuality. I think explicit homosexual acts should be shown, but I don't think it should be done in the same film.

You think now is not the time for it, perhaps later?

Precisely. I think homosexual education is a decade or so behind heterosexual. In other words, I think we'll have to wait another ten years before we can have a totally explicit film of homosexual behaviour. I was in the States this summer and they have a number of very good homosexual films there. Not shown in schools of course, sex education is very reactionary there. They were screened at a conference of sexologists.

Would you include women in your gay sex education film?

It would be a statement about male and female homosexuality. I don't think there's a real distinction between the two.

Using a soft approach, you plan to pass comment on the gay rights issue?

Precisely, although I don't think one should do it directly. I think one would do it indirectly. Since the publicity on my plans to make a film, we've had quite a few letters from gay people wishing to participate. Gay Lib members, aspiring gay cinematographers.

What about the comment in news reports that anyone taking part in the film is liable to prosecution?

You know how newspapers corrupt things, I simply made a statement to the effect that, because of the sexual offences act, it could be open to prosecution.

Because of the 'private' clause of the '67 act? Precisely. Even if sex acts weren't shown on screen, the vulnerability of prosecution rests on the interpretation of the viewer. The more I think about it, the less advisable I think it is to have explicit sex acts in the film. I think it would do more harm than good at this stage. Even though such a film is necessary.

I think you're even more aware of this than me — that the recognition of homosexual behaviour should just be slotted into health education without any fuss because it's part of the normal variation of sexual behaviour.

When will finance be available, do you think?

Well, the Institute has money, but it's going to cost four or five thousand quid — that's the kind of cost for a half hour colour film and that's doing it on the cheap. That kind of money has got to be forthcoming. We could match pound for pound anything raised by Gay Lib or another interested organisation.

What age group do you think would see the film?

Between 14 and 18, immediately after puberty, fairly adolescent. I think there are two kinds of homosexual. I don't know how you feel about it, and psychologists haven't sorted it out. There are those who are homo-

sexual not because they prefer men but because they are frightened of women. A lot of adolescents are really petrified of girls and go through a very short, or perhaps even long, period of homosexual experiences, which can be very important and very rewarding to them, but then it tends to evolve into a heterosexual pattern. And then there's the other type of homosexual who is homosexual because of biological, or inherited or constitutional reasons. Now he will always be homosexual — he's never been frightened of women, he's always liked men. And I think this point should be made for the benefit of both male and female adolescents, to develop a greater insight into their own sexuality. At the moment of course the 'wobbler' is simply made to feel guilty. He's never given a chance to get out of his wobbly stage, whichever way he's going to wobble. And the man who is constitutionally homosexual should be given every encouragement and reinforcement to be homosexual and proud of the fact.



Dr Cole: "I think we'll have to wait another ten years for an explicit film."

When do you think education authorities will be ready to face these facts and include a film such as yours in their syllabus?

I think they're ready now, although I don't think the nod will come from the authorities, they're very orthodox. I think individual headmasters will open the way — that is what is happening with 'Growing Up'. What the authorities have done is given carte blanche to the headmasters, saying 'We leave it to your discretion'. It's a rotten film, I'm not proud of it, it was made a long time ago, but the thing is, it is being used and it does show intercourse, it does show male and female masturbation, and that's good. I don't think the headmasters would be prepared to screen a homosexual film that showed such things, but if you showed everything but . . . you could show kissing I think, and you could show overall body manipulation.

Ideally, what age would the people appearing in the film be?

Difficult question. I think you've got to compromise there. I think you've got to use fairly attractive people and I think you should use fairly young people. It's a pity not to use middle aged people as well, otherwise it's a false, incomplete picture, but you've got to do a sell, you've got to make it as attractive and presentable as possible. In that way you've got to compromise a little. I wouldn't narrate the film, I wouldn't do anything but perhaps co-direct. We would simply sponsor it. I think we've almost got enough people now to go ahead once finance is organised.

Your book 'Fundamentals of Sex' has just been published in paperback, and it has reference to homosexuality.

That's the one by Philip Cauthery and myself. That was a joint effort and Philip Cauthery was senior author and had a rather bigger say on what went in than I did. It isn't really representative of my views. He is quite ambivalent about homosexuality. He has great reservations about — well, he's Freudian for a start which prevents him having an open mind on it. He thinks there's something fundamental about the man-woman relationship. I don't stand by the comments in that book, it's essentially what he believes rather than what I believe.

Stephen MacLean

FOOTNOTE: GN is interested to hear readers' views on the proposed film — anything particularly pertinent will be passed on to Dr Cole should the correspondent warrant it. Address your letters to Gay News, 34d Redcliffe Square, London SW10, marking the envelope 'Ref: Cole.'

Church Service For English Gays

LONDON: The Rev Peter Royston-Ball is to hold church services "catering to the homosexual person who is somewhat overlooked by a Christian society which has rules along heterosexual lines."

The first service will take place at St Pauls Rossmore Road, London NW1 on Sunday, October 7th at 11.15am, occurring monthly thereafter.

The Rev Royston-Ball will operate his Communion services in connection with Centre, the organisation which deals with counselling and social liaison matters. Centre's offices are connected to the church, and will be utilised to provide worshippers with coffee after each service.

The Rev Royston-Ball is quite emphatic that it is not a homosexual church as such. "It will be providing for the needs of the homosexual, their parents, friends or whoever is interested."

The Rev says the aim of the services is to provide interested gay people with somewhere they can feel "more accepted".

He points out that several gay people — divorced "because of their homosexuality" — have shown interest and may bring children along with them.

"The services will start in a small way. We'll feel our way, as we have with other aspects of Centre. I think many homosexuals on meeting someone, begin to realise what the Christian church means in relation to God and their spirituality. There have been lots of people suffering religious guilt because the church has been unable to feel their needs and has created this guilt."

The Rev Royston-Ball said he had no experience of the gay Christian centres in the US, but felt the "two situations are entirely different." (In the States, several Christian groups, most notably MCC — have become involved in equal rights issues).

"The services just happened. The need is there, so we decided to do something about it."

Already planned, is a special Christmas service at 8pm on Wednesday, December 19th, complete with carols, music and readings.

For the regular services, organ music and a choir singing will take place. The Rev Royston-Ball describes the choir as a nod to Women's Lib — it will not be all male, as is traditionally usual, but will be integrated with female voices.

Left To Dream

A NEW drug called benperidol has just appeared on the market in this country. Intended for use in the treatment of sexual offenders, the drug will inhibit sexual activity.

A great deal of medical interest has been aroused by advance publicity. But reports of clinical trials in England, Belgium and Holland have come up with differing findings about the drug's effects.

In over 50% of cases, sexual interest was completely suppressed, in one set of trials. But the Belgian report claims that the drug is selective, inhibiting "only the impulsive and violent quality of sexuality which is embarrassing to society". (R Deberdt: Acta Psychiatrica Belgica 71, 398, 1971).

The Sterkmans and Geert report (1966) observed a striking decline in the frequency of marital coitus. And S van der Kwast (in Nederl T Psychiat 13, 142-9, 1971) comments that "everything appears to point to their being a global diminution of the sexual impulse, proportional to the dosage," and

that this has consequences for normal as well as pathological behaviour.

Whilst benperidol does not cause the 'feminisation' observed during oestrogenic and anti-androgenic treatment, or irreversible sterility, there are side effects such as drowsiness and Parkinsons syndrome, which might prove so troublesome that a patient withdraws from treatment. So it is essential, says van der Kwast, that administration of the drug is accompanied "by intensive psychiatric care".

It remains to be seen whether British psychiatrists consider homosexuality as pathological behaviour suitable for treatment in this way.

The drug will be marketed under the trade name 'Anquil' by Janssen Pharmaceuticals, a division of Ortho Pharmaceuticals. Ortho is an associate of Johnson & Johnson, at least one of whose products will be well known to many of our readers.

Were Teachers Sacked For Being Gay?

CARDIFF: A three month campaign to shed some light on gay people in regard to education began on September 8 under the auspices of the Campaign for Homosexual Equality.

CHE is campaigning for an end to discrimination against gay teachers and inclusion of homosexual teachings in children's sex education.

The group claims that gay teachers have been forced to resign from their jobs. Some local authorities have denied this.

Glamorgan's Director of Education, Brynmor Jones, states: "We do not interfere with what any teacher does in his private life. Provided it does not affect his abilities as a teacher, homosexuality would not bar anyone from a teaching job."

"We have had the experiences of homosexuals having to be dismissed as teachers,

but this was only because they allowed their schoolwork to be affected."

A spokesman for Monmouthshire County Council echoed these sentiments, although he also found reason to mention that teachers found guilty of "interfering with young boys" are committing an offence.

The secretary of the Swansea Parent-Teacher Association saw no reason for gay people to be barred as teachers, re-iterating that it depended upon whether the teacher's sexuality was limited to his private life.

CHE claims teachers have been sacked upon official discovery of their private homosexuality. Whilst the authorities deny this, such claims are difficult to prove on either side.

Education Conference Report: see Page 4.

They Blew Their Chance

GOOD AFTERNOON — A half hour interview with homosexuals Vivian Waldron and David Bell, Thames Television 2.30pm August 30.

Given a rare media opportunity to talk about homosexuality, speakers Bell and Waldron both made the astounding statement that they "and probably most other homosexuals" would opt for heterosexuality if given the choice. I don't doubt that many intimidated gays share the view, but to make such a sweeping statement is the height of political stupidity. Its very essence denies any sense of equality.

Bell's regrets for his sexuality were traced to difficulties in attending work parties, weddings and other "social opportunities" as he put it.

Viewers were also informed by Vivian Waldron, an active member of Campaign for Homosexual Equality, that the Women's Lib movement had made it difficult for many

male gays to relate to the opposite sex! It should be mentioned that the conversation did not include the participation of a lesbian despite the fact that 'Good Afternoon' is obviously aimed at female viewers. From all angles it certainly was not a great case for sexual equality.

On the plus side, the conversation did have its moments, covering ground probably familiar to GN readers but new to the viewers.

Bell is a school teacher and is a member of CHE. He recently 'came out' in a constructive way, making strong moves for a more rational approach to sex education. However, the opportunity provided by this show was not constructively utilised. I doubt very much if the discussion eased any of the apprehensive views which the mums at home are pre-disposed to; more likely, many of the remarks made by the two men reinforced feelings of pity rather than creating an empathy for the situation.

Stephen MacLean

Gay Airman Discharged

Continued from front cover.

been dismissed — the security patrolman and a dental technician, one of whom I've been to bed with."

Although the pressure is now "easing off slightly", Ploski believes investigations are still being made, and more men may yet be preyed upon by McCarthyesque tactics. He estimates there are a total of six to seven hundred men on the Mildenhall base; however he feels it is difficult to speculate how many might be gay. "There are a lot of closet queens in the services."

In Vietnam Gay Was Okay

Despite the closeting, Sgt Ploski says he faced no problem due to his gayness until the investigation took place. Straight men on base were fairly well-informed as to who was gay and they did not make a habit of voicing objection. "A couple of straights on base have been really sympathetic. The only opposition seems to come from the older personnel, and I think that's to do with the generation difference."

Making the situation worse for Ploski, however, was the fact that gays on base became hostile towards him. "I guess they thought I was turning people in." Ploski says the men were feeling somewhat threatened.

Apart from his current situation, he says he bears no grudge against the Air Force, and in fact, hopes to re-enlist if the discriminatory homosexual rules are changed.

Ploski began his Air Force career on a Texas base. "Until I joined the forces I had not Come Out, I wouldn't face my homosexuality."

He later informed his parents he was gay: his mother took the news sympathetically, whilst his father "didn't want to know about it and told me never to bring anyone like that into his house. I told him I would respect his wishes."

He was moved from Texas to Vietnam for a year of duty. Gay activity was very lively there, but "mostly latrine type pick-ups, the really dirty end of it," he says.

"As with most everything in Vietnam, it was mostly overlooked. I can remember the case of an orgy on Thanksgiving day in one of the living quarters — 31 of 'em. They were discovered, but it was written off as saying they had all merely been drunk. You could do just about anything you pleased. I had a Vietnamese boy downtown for a time. But I remember someone in the same situation was found out and discharged within a week."

"Anti-Heterosexual Structure"

During this period, he had not given any thought to any of the gay rights groups, but after being stationed at Mildenhall decided to visit the Gay Liberation Front in London. He obtained a GLF badge and one which read 'Come Out' both of them worn around base to little or no reaction. "I read the GLF manifesto too, but I just don't see how their aims are realistically possible. They

want the family unit replaced by communes and so forth, and that's just not gonna happen."

His own situation has made him more aware of the need for change though. He says there is no past case where a gay male has challenged the services on their gay discriminatory powers, but he intends to try. "When my discharge comes through, I plan to take the case to the Council of Civil Liberties in the States. I want to see the regulations changed, and I want to talk to people from gay action groups. Everyone seems to think the regulations are stupid. If they are changed, I'd like to go back to the Air Force. It gave me an opportunity to travel and meet different kinds of people. I liked it."

"And ironically, the structure of the forces is anti-heterosexual. Men are not allowed to bring women into their quarters, although they occasionally do, and the whole setup is geared to the male."



GN contacted the Ministry of Defence to get details of British policies on homosexuality. A spokesman said: "As far as the forces are concerned, a practising homosexual would be court-martialed if there was evidence of an offence, bearing in mind that the 1967 act does not apply to members of Her Majesty's forces. A confessing homosexual, in a case where there is no evidence of an offence, would be given an Administrative Discharge."

The view has occasionally been raised that gays who enter the services deserve to suffer from the oppressive system they support, if they're "caught". But why shouldn't gays serve as policemen, soldiers or any other type of government agency? Such notoriously oppressive services could well benefit from the participation of theoretically liberated, confident gays.

Good luck Sgt Ploski.

Stephen MacLean

Gay Help For Liberals

BRIGHTON: 32-year-old Des Wilson, the man who expects to win the forthcoming Hove, Sussex by-election on behalf of the Liberal Party, is being supported locally by Brighton author and local columnist John Montgomery, a contributor to Gay News, which has an increasingly large sale in Brighton, Hove, Portslade and district. Des Wilson has opened his Liberal by-election advice bureau and headquarters at 37 Blatchington Road, Hove, and has promised support for members of local minority groups. John asks local gays with votes in Hove, Portslade and district to vote for Des Wilson, even if they do not usually vote, because, he says, "Des Wilson has in the past shown active sympathy for gay and other suppressed minorities, has campaigned for

them, and has given their problems publicity in his column in The Observer, and other journals. He deserves the votes of all the many gay people, and their families and friends, living in the district."

Meanwhile, on October 22, a new book entitled Des Wilson's Minority Report will be published by Blonde & Briggs. In this, Mr Wilson, former first director of Shelter, shows concern not only for the poor and old, but for gay people, the disabled, fatherless, prisoners and many others whom he claims are "more or less isolated, ignored or persecuted". The only minority groups not discussed are the very rich, whose problems, he says "are their own, and which they can afford."

Hets Outraged By Gay Librarians

LONDON: The formation of a gay librarians group (in association with the Campaign for Homosexual Equality and 'Librarians For Social Change') has met with vocal opposition from several heterosexuals within the profession.

Librarian Bob Elbert first enlisted members for the group in a letter to the June issue of the Librarian Associated Record. The August issue of the journal drew several letters of protest. One correspondent referred to the "heinousness" of gay sex acts. Others expressed concern over possible censorship brought about by the gay group, a speculation which had also been previously made by a critical daily newspaper columnist.

Elbert's reply to the criticisms also appeared in the Record. He stated that while some saw no desirability for the group, the response from those wishing to join indicated

that it was a valid proposition. "Our aim is not to censor, but the promotion of objective works about homosexuality, a subject neglected by libraries in relation to the millions of people it concerns."

In response to the announcement of the gay group, one heterosexual librarian wrote a joke letter to the journal Assistant Librarian. The correspondent, D J 'Butch' Greaves, suggested that the heterosexual librarian "minority" should form a group aimed at producing group gropes, with fortnightly orgies at a public bath-house.

Other correspondents likewise seemed to view the fledgling gay group as a dubious means of sexual contact, with library censorship being a by-product.

Elbert does not seem to think the objections will die quietly. "Be assured the battle is only beginning," he told GN.

CHE Takes Campaign To The Kids

AT its quarterly National Council meeting on September 8th, Campaign for Homosexual Equality launched its Educational Campaign, the first in a series of specialised three monthly campaigns. The venue of the meeting was the University College Cardiff, the first time that the city of Cardiff has played host to a conference on homosexuality.

The rooms allocated were, in the opinion of many of the hundred or so delegates, the most comfortable in which they'd ever held a conference, a little ironic perhaps in that the college security officer, a retired policeman, had been responsible for the room letting. The catering ladies of the university wished the conference success but the porter looked a little dour at the notice in the foyer which read "Homosexuality — 9.30 am" — as if some demonic orgy were to take place at the appointed hour, followed on by physics.

Why a Campaign?

The Education Campaign arose out of the Education Project initiated by the Young CHE Conference at York in January 1972. Further stimulus had been provided by the adoption of the Gay Right Motion by the National Union of Students. It was also seen that the launching of the Campaign by CHE would be a means for individual members to become involved with the National Movement.

The case for an educational campaign was perhaps most articulately put by David Bell. As a teacher and a homosexual who had 'come out' on a television programme, and as one of the members of CHE who had visited schools to speak on homosexuality, Mr Bell gave valuable insights into the difficulties of giving such talks and how these difficulties might be overcome. Speaking of education as "the casting of imitation pearls before real swine", Mr Bell said that the job of education is to prepare us to face, and cope with, Society's diversity and problems and not to ignore their existence "... our campaign is not simply for more information about homosexuality, but for better and more open courses in sex and personal relations". Bearing in mind that a large comprehensive will potentially have 100 gay pupils and many gay staff, and that the years from 15 to 19 are momentous in the sex histories of boys and girls, it is not surprising that the Education Campaign is to be directed at the 14-19 year olds and not just the 6th form level.

Deaf Headmasters

In their overtures to schools, the Education Group found that 75% of the headmasters did not even reply to the letters the Group sent. One of the headmasters who did reply wrote: "I regret that since I am as ignorant and prejudiced as most of the parents of my boys I am unable to accede to your request to come to the school."

Quoted in Mr Bell's speech was the letter received by the Education Group from the Inner London Education Authority in January 1973 which might be of comfort to those teachers who have fears of 'coming out':

"The Authority has no policy that excludes homosexuals from employment as teachers. Any such teacher in our service has therefore no need to fear for his position provided of course there is no question of misconduct or risk to children."

Gay students in colleges of education will also be glad to hear that there has been formed a National Committee for College of Education Gaysocs.

When speakers visited schools, it was found that pupils often had preconceived ideas about homosexuals, that they knew the facts of life, that the speakers were often greeted with "Where's your handbag?" "Hullo, Ducky" etc. Some CHE speakers had gone into schools in a team of two women and two men, and it was found that the pupils' stereotype of a homosexual was challenged, particularly when one of the women was introduced by the title of Mrs. In the end, pupils often asked the team to come back again.

There were two groups of pupils to consider — those who did not know about homosexuality and were not gay and those who knew all about it, were gay, and suffered from anxiety and loneliness. One of the tasks of the Educational Campaign was to make life livable for the young homosexual, and above all, said David Bell, it was important that we were seen to be living our life style.

Think-Tank

The afternoon session of the conference was a think-tank session and delegates split up into three groups, each of which discussed one of the three sectors of the Educational Campaign: general public education, secondary schools and higher education.

Members in each group talked about their relevant experience and a collection of varied ideas resulted.

The school group discussed the ways of getting into schools to give talks — there were more avenues of approach than through the headmaster for there were too, the influences of the

school inspectors, medical officers of health, LEA councillors, education officers and Parent Teacher Associations to be considered. It was agreed that the question "What do you do in bed?" nearly always arose but that speakers could only talk from a personal point of view because there was no one standard sexual technique or life style. In view of the varied life styles and backgrounds, Conference was told of the need to set up a training programme for speakers going into schools. It was thought that if parents of gay pupils wrote to headmasters, to request talks on sexual minority groups to be given to pupils, then this would counteract some of the ignorance that the headmaster might display. It was felt that the work of Rose Robertson with parents of homosexual children might help in influencing headmasters.

The public education group, apart from mentioning the usual things, such as contacting the editor of the local newspaper for his views on homosexual discrimination by society, contacting local radio, social services and city councillors, it also suggested that members get into ward meetings, talk to party agents, get a resolution adopted at a local constituency level, and hence get it passed on to the national party conference.

The higher education group consisted mainly of people involved in Gaysocs in colleges and universities. From the experience of Trevor Locke and Jamie Gardiner in setting up Gaysocs and getting the Gay Rights Motion adopted, the difficulties of setting up Gaysocs were related. Not only was a gaysoc only visible for student population of 1300 upwards, but many small colleges did not even have student unions, and students in these sometimes encountered hostility from the Principal if any radical matter was brought up. Glenys Parry spoke of the Gay Studies programmes adopted in some universities in America, and mentioned that the subject of homosexuality was now becoming a popular field of research over here. Indeed, Glenys said, the only place where people could dance in Manchester gay clubs was in the toilets, because the rest of the space was taken over by sociologists and their microphones in search of PhD's.

The higher education group gave as its aims: the giving of accurate information on homosexuality, the inculcation of a greater awareness of gay civil rights, reaching gay students and talking to student teachers.

Group Goals

With regard to the limited resources of CHE groups, Peter Nolton said that each group should choose achievable objectives and that the two to be given priority were giving support to local students in setting up gaysocs and talking to student teachers.

Amongst other things national CHE will be doing are:

- (1) liaising with NUS on the Gay Rights Motion, eg the Gay Rights Conference at Bristol on October the 20th;
- (2) asking the Department of Education and Science about its policy on homosexual teachers and sex education in schools and entering into negotiations with them if their policy is unsatisfactory;
- (3) writing to LEAs and the Headmasters Conference and other national educational bodies to press them to accept gay teachers and to promote better standards of sex education. Similarly CHE will write to the Committee of Vice Chancellors and Principals.
- (4) contacting the national headquarters of the various trade unions.

The bulk of the work in the Educational Campaign will be done by local groups and to guide them in ways of approach there is the CHE Education Campaign manual which contains a host of information and ideas. The manual is available from the national CHE office and is useful for any homosexual organisation trying to put out an education campaign.

Summing Up

The Education campaign aims at improving the quality of teaching about homosexuality within our existing educational system. With fears about homosexuality acquired at an early age, the campaign will be directed to a broad range of people, the aim will be to enlighten, not to proselitise.

Perhaps meaning of the campaign was best put by the Head of the Biology Department at a very large mixed London Comprehensive, who wrote to the CHE Education Group:

"We are very conscious of the unremitting prejudice towards homosexuals especially among young people today ... The intolerant attitude towards homosexuals is an aspect of a very much wider problem ... that of an inability to see another human being in his own right, with all his different feelings, his hopes and his fears. Our educational policy is to try to influence young people to be more considerate to their fellow humans."

Howard Llewellyn

Midnight Chiseller Gets Off Lightly

LONDON: John Patrick Concannon (44), a disabled night-watchman, who armed himself with a chisel and went after midnight to Holland Walk, Kensington, in search of "queers", got off lightly when he was fined only £15 at West London Court.

He pleaded guilty to carrying an offensive weapon in Holland Walk.

Giving evidence, a police constable said he saw Concannon on two occasions after midnight in Holland Walk and decided to stop him. Concannon produced a chisel from his inside pocket and when questioned about it replied: "I am out to get these queers."

It appeared that Concannon gave the excuse that he had been accosted on an

earlier occasion by someone he supposed to be a gay.

When Concannon declined to say anything in court, the magistrate, Mr Alan Stevenson, told him: "You knew Holland Walk was frequented by homosexuals and you went out with the deliberate object of offering them violence. You armed yourself for the purpose. If you go out of your way to seek trouble then you must take the consequences."

Fine words, but such a meagre fine. A gay convicted on a 'gross indecency' or 'importuning' charge is rarely fined less than £25, usually it is a good deal more.

Publicity Drives 17 Year Old From Home

GAY NEWS has a bulging file of newspaper clippings dealing with gay sex 'offences', most of them completely harmless, but fancied by society as being crimes. The depressing details of the court cases seldom vary, and we at GN seldom have personal contact with the people charged. Most merely wish to forget that it happened and therefore don't come forward to fight what is often an injustice.

However, a 17-year-old boy who was angered more by newspaper reports than the actual charges, has come forward to explain just what it's like to be involved in such a demeaning, tedious situation.

He is Simon, formerly of Exmouth, who has been living in London since being charged with 'gross indecency', 'indecent assault', and harbouring two boys absent from a training college.

The charges came about after Simon met two boys in an Exmouth cafe. "The place was full, so I had to sit at the same table as them, and it turned out they needed somewhere to be put up. The boys looked to be about 15 or 16."

At the time Simon lived with his mother, a school teacher who has been separated from her husband for several years. She was asleep when the three of them arrived home. "The boys told me they were learning a trade at training school," Simon remembers.

The boys were aged 14 and 15, absentees from an institution in Bristol. "I put one of the boys in a room near my mother's, but he was coughing pretty loudly and I was worried he would wake her. In the end, we all slept in my room, where there was a double bed and a single bed."

"I'm Gay, It's Alright By Me"

Simon said the boys indicated they would like to have sex, and he responded. "In the morning I got to thinking and realised what a training school was, so I gave them the address of this chap in Bristol who runs a hostel they could've stopped at. I was arrested the following night at a quarter to twelve at the bottom of my street."

Following the arrest, Simon did not see the boys, and does not know how the police came to pursue the matter of 'gross indecency'.

After he was charged, reports appeared in editions of the Exmouth Express and Echo and a Bournemouth paper. In these, Simon's home address was printed. This brought about more needless stress than anything else during what was a very rough period.

"The publicity caused me more worry than the court case. To start with, they printed my full name and address when the charges were just alleged. The case had gone to court but was adjourned. I could've been innocent as far as anyone knew at that stage. I was really worried about the effect it would have on my mother too. Till the newspaper reports, I hadn't told anyone. She's a teacher, and I thought it being in the paper might bring her problems, people thinking, 'well, she can't look after her own children, let alone anyone else's', and that sort of thing."

His mother in fact, took it very well. Since Simon moved to London, the two have corresponded regularly, and she accepts his sexuality. Simon's own attitude is: "I knew I was gay at boarding school. I'm happy. I'm gay, it's alright by me." He thinks his parents split marriage, resulting in a stay at boarding school, may have contributed to his gayness — he has no brothers or sisters — but he is not interested in the why's and wherefore's of it all.

After seeing the Express and Echo, Simon got hold of a copy of Gay News and from the information section, contacted Trevor Locke, a member of the Campaign for Homosexual Equality who has also been involved in the Students Union Gay Rights drive.

"Trevor did everything he possibly could for me. He went to work on it immediately, and one of the first things he did was lodge a complaint with the newspapers for printing my address. He was terrific, the only person I had to turn to really."

The remark emphasised how important it is to call upon intelligent, sympathetic

advice and support during such a situation.

Exmouth has a population of 28,000. News and gossip spread rapidly, and it would be foolish to expect a permissive attitude to flourish in such an environment. Simon had told only his mother and Trevor Locke of the situation. "Just the name printed in the local paper would've meant that only my friends would have found out, but the address going in meant I was open to any harassment that anyone might decide to dish out. Someone could've decided to throw a brick at my house, and I could've come in for some 'queer bashing' or anything like that."

Following the publicity, Simon said he did not go out at all. "I would've seen a lot of animosity towards me I think, maybe even worse. Until the trouble, nobody knew I was gay."

What Should Newspapers Do?

He speculates that the fairest measure the Express and Echo could have taken would have been a reference to 'an Exmouth youth', rather than giving his name and address, when reporting the initial adjourned case. He feels the newspaper had full moral right to print his name when he was convicted of the charge — as they indeed did — but once again felt the printed address being used again was totally unnecessary.

When he was arrested, Simon was about to take examinations. "I took them with the court case hanging over my head. I took Engineering Science and English. I passed English, but there were three other exams I just couldn't face. There wouldn't have been any point. I had too much on my mind to be capable of studying, and I'd been travelling to Bristol to arrange the defence."

"My mother was probably most upset by that aspect of the whole thing. I was set back a year."

Had he sat for all the exams and passed them, Simon would have gone on to eventually obtain an Ordinary Diploma in Engineering.

Following the sex and harbouring charges,

as well as the depressing examination experience, Simon moved to London where he found a job in a restaurant and somewhere to live. "My aim now is to get a job with earnings as high as possible so I can continue studies at night school." He says it would be too difficult to obtain a government grant.

When the court case took place, Simon's solicitor put in a plea for compassion, mainly on the grounds of his client's age; the fines totalled £30. Announcing the results, the magistrate Joan Crabtree did not comment on a medical examination carried out on Simon, the pointlessness of which was underlined when Simon told the doctor he was gay and quite happy about it. The court results were reported in GN31.

Embarrassment and Vulnerability

His crisis has brought with it an awareness that organised gay rights groups serve an important function, and he says he may join a CHE youth group. "I think the laws are crazy of course, but society is slowly coming around."

But getting back to the point of his complaints: newspaper reports which sometimes bring people to make judgements before the situation is resolved in court. News is news, and that's what the papers are there for, but are the full addresses of those charged vital to public information? To emphasise his point, Simon showed us a clipping about several Exmouth men convicted in a cottage case. Full addresses were given in every instance, and one man even had the dubious thrill of seeing his flat number in newsprint.

GN suggests that this is absolutely unnecessary, and that newspapers should carefully consider the embarrassment and vulnerability to harassment borne by people involved in such cases.

Simon faced his dilemma in an intelligent manner. The anxiety caused by it has died down somewhat, but we wonder whether it worried him that sex for him, at 17, is illegal.

"They've got to find me first," he answered, "behind locked doors."

Weak Links In Police-Gay Relations

LONDON: Peter Mundy, distribution and advertising manager here at Gay News, was having a quiet drink at Earls Court's Boltons Hotel, shortly after 10pm on Sunday 3rd September, when six police officers and a police inspector entered the downstairs lounge.

"They studied the scene downstairs, then walked upstairs," Peter explains. "Thinking there might be a story, I followed them up there and heard one of the uniformed policemen say quite loudly, 'Watch it lads, backs to the wall and fingers up your arse with this crowd.'"

"I protested, saying that while they had a job to do, they could do it a little less offensively. He asked who I was and I replied that I was an innocent bystander. He said 'Good, make sure you stay that way, because I'm looking for someone just like you.' I took that to be either a proposition or a threat, and said I would be making a complaint against him and noted his number."

The following morning Peter went to the B Division Headquarters at the Kensington Police Station in Earls Court Road. He lodged an official complaint alleging 'Behaviour likely to cause a breach of the peace and use of offensive language.'

"I was interviewed by a uniformed inspector whose attitude was very friendly. He was disturbed and surprised to learn that his force did not enjoy good relations with the gay community and said if the conduct of his force could not stand up to public scrutiny something was amiss."

"He asked if I wanted to press the complaint or if I would prefer to leave it to him to pursue the matter with the officer named."

"I'd Prosecute the Licensee for Conspiring to Corrupt Public Morals"

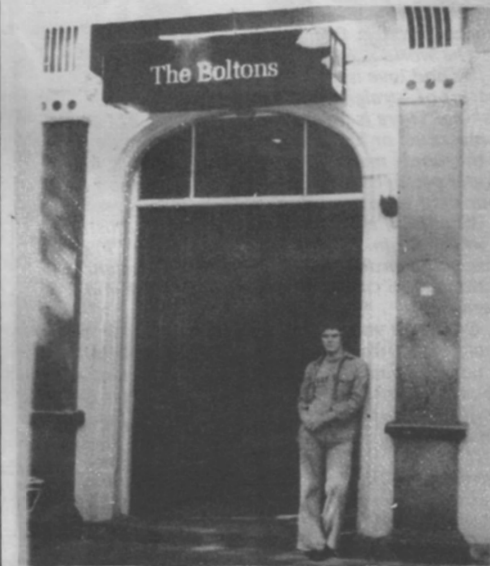
"I said I would press the complaint because behaviour such as this should be discouraged at all costs. I was duly contacted by an investigating officer, and on Monday 10th September was asked to go to Chelsea Station to make a statement."

Here he was interviewed by Superintendent Leighton, who had been appointed investigating officer. "Again I said there was enough reason for making a complaint, and said that I was making an effort to bring home the fact that this was impossible behaviour, although we're often not always the goody-goodies we would sometimes pretend to be."

"The superintendent said he would not be drawn into making comment on the matter, or the morals of Coleherne customers. He said he had never been into the Boltons, and then actually said: 'If I had my way, we

would close down the Coleherne (Ed: Earls Court's other gay pub) and prosecute the licensee for conspiring to corrupt public morals'. And he said 'You can quote me on that but if you do I'll deny it'."

"I left Chelsea police station feeling very apprehensive. I was told I would be contacted later and informed of the outcome of the matter."



Peter Mundy: He protested at the language and attitude of a member of the Kensington Constabulary.

How To Lodge Complaints

When Peter initially visited the Kensington Station and announced his intention to make an official complaint, he was given a leaflet explaining the procedure in such matters. To obtain this leaflet, 'Police and the Public', one must first explain the nature of the complaint to an on-duty officer.

Prepared by the Home Office, the leaflet states: "Any complaint made against the conduct of a policeman should be made by a letter addressed to the Chief Constable (or in the case of the Metropolitan City Of London police, to the Commissioner of Police) or by calling at a police station. The law requires that every complaint must be recorded and properly investigated."

It states that by law, police authorities are required to keep themselves informed about the manner in which complaints are dealt with.

"The investigation is carried out by a senior police officer who, in a complaint of serious misconduct, may come from a police force

other than that to which the complaint refers."

The leaflet states that the Chief Constable conducts a formal hearing after investigating the matter, and the complainant is normally expected to give evidence at this. The complainant is also given the opportunity to ask questions of the accused officer if that officer has chosen to give evidence on his own behalf.

"Unless it is clear to him, when he receives the report of an investigation into a complaint, that no criminal offence has been committed, the Chief Constable is required by law to send it to the Director of Public Prosecutions for his independent decision whether or not there should be a prosecution. If there is a prosecution, the complainant would normally be called upon to give evidence before the court."

The leaflets say civil law proceedings against police officers are permissible "in some circumstances". This, it says, "is a matter for a solicitor."

"If a complaint is made to the police, and the complainant also contemplates taking legal action there will not normally be an investigation by the police until the court proceedings are finished."

What Are the Official Policies?

In the past, The Campaign for Homosexual Equality has met with the Home Office to discuss police force attitudes to homosexuals, but so far nothing has come of this. In the US gay rights leaders often confer with police chiefs and results are varied. Often a head office directive will go out telling police that, for example, they should not use derogatory terms such as 'fags'. Often these directives are ineffectual or quickly forgotten.

Therefore many gay activists prefer more direct communication, such as talking with senior officers at individual stations whenever possible.

Such an approach is especially important in "gay ghetto" areas where many gays live or visit clubs and pubs catering for them. GN has made moves to hold discussions with senior police in London but so far the paper has not had any positive response.

Certainly, such a matter is very important. If the attitudes of the policeman at the Boltons and Superintendent Leighton are representative of official attitudes, gay people have every reason to be disturbed by an agency working to protect lawful individuals.

If readers have police dealings in which they feel they have been treated offensively or unfairly, please write to GN giving all details.

Kiss Ends Detective's Career

GLASGOW: A 41 year old Lanarkshire detective inspector was found guilty at Glasgow Sheriff Court of committing 'an act of gross indecency' with a 27-year-old schoolteacher, after two men had been discovered kissing and petting in a parked car.

Police Constable Currie said in evidence, "At first I took them for a courting couple and was simply going to tell them to move on. But when I realised these were two men kissing, my attitude changed." He and Police Constable Mowat each took a door handle and swung the doors open simultaneously. As they did so, said PC Currie on oath, Detective Inspector Low withdrew his hand, and McLeod zipped up his trousers. PC Mowat, in sworn testimony, said that he had seen McLeod do up his trousers on the way to the police station.

Relying on the two constables' stories, the Sheriff found the case proven, but the accused were each given an absolute discharge "because the two men's actions had not caused harm to anyone." The court was told that Detective Inspector Low would lose his job. No statement was made as to how the men's harmless actions would affect McLeod's chances as a teacher.

The Scottish Daily Record reported the case under the headline "Downfall of a Detective — Court Hears of Kisses in Car". It went on to print the teacher's full address and withheld only the number of the detective's home. The detective is a widower with two children.

Sydney Gay Pride Week

SYDNEY: The local Gay Liberation Front has organised a gay pride week, to be held between September 9th and 16th. It is the largest gay event of its type to be held in Australia; activities include a teach-in at Sydney University, a city march, and various other social activities.

Bobby's

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BED & BREAKFAST served until noon

50 Egremont Place — Brighton
Tel: Brighton 683961

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

Here We Are Again

OWING to the number of inquiries we've received concerning the identity of the beaming cover star of GN31, it's only fair to reveal that the photograph was of David Rushton, our art assistant. For the benefit of model agencies who may be interested in signing him up, David is an untypically modest Leo and rides a motorcycle. He lives at Blackheath, in South London.

Local Correspondents

GN would like to establish a number of local correspondents throughout Britain. At present we have Ian Dunn covering events for us in Scotland, and Howard Llewellyn is taking on the same responsibilities in Cardiff. But if the paper is going to comprehensively gather in the news and adequately report events taking place in the rest of the country, we need the help of a few people who can attend the occasional function on our behalf and send in details of local gay happenings.

GN's editorial staff can cope with the major events, but too many other stories etc still don't receive the coverage they deserve.

There's not much chance of anyone getting paid for helping us, but we can pay expenses. If you think you're the person we need, please contact either Denis Lemon or Michael Mason at our office.

Electronic Sweeping

Our much abused broom has gone prematurely bald, and none of the hair weaving firms can do anything for it. Ideally we could do with a vacuum cleaner, but our finances don't permit us such luxuries. Perhaps one of you has a spare electronic sweeping device gathering dust in a cupboard or attic - it would be put to good use by us and we promise to oil its private parts every week.

'Incognito' - Please Get In Touch

We've received a lot of feedback about 'Gay In The Twenties' which was published in GN30. Apparently it was a great success with many readers. Unfortunately we have no way of contacting 'Incognito', the pseudonym of the person who wrote the piece. If you're reading this, please get in touch with us - we would love to run some more articles by you.

We're Still Waiting

Sadly, we have to report that *Gay News* has still not managed to have anything re-published in *Private Eye's* 'Pseudos Corner'. GN expects every reader to do their duty... when we deserve it.

VD Advice Revisited

Resulting from an appeal in this column in GN30, quite a few medical people have offered to write for the paper an informative and gay orientated article about VD. We think it is time to run another piece on the subject as there has been a growing number of requests from readers to do so. Subsequently, a special feature about gays and venereal diseases will appear in a forthcoming issue.

In London, information about VD symptoms and where to go for treatment can be obtained by telephoning 246-8072.

Aches and Pains

It is also planned to start publishing a regular medical advice column in GN, along the same lines as 'Troubled Water'. More details will appear about this soon. The column is tentatively called 'Aches and Pains' and will be specifically geared to the medical aspects of gay life.

Sometimes Bigger Is Better

The next issue of GN (No 33) will contain an extra 4 pages. We intend to make it one of the most exciting editions we have so far produced and to show off what we can do with 24 pages. All the usual items will be appearing, plus a few special features which will be included to celebrate the

increased amount of space.

Finances permitting, GN should regularly be 24 pages from the end of this year or from the beginning of 1974. There will be no price increase.

Gay Switchboard

The meeting to discuss GN's suggestion that there is an urgent need to set up a Gay Information Switchboard (see GN31) will be held on September 29th in a room above a London pub. A report of the reactions to the idea by the various gay groups and organisations invited to attend and any constructive plans to result from the meeting will appear in GN33.

What's New in Gay Publishing

Lunch re-emerges this month after its summer vacation. We've no details of its contents but rumour has it that it'll be a goodie of an issue.

Informed sources tell us that some London Gay Lib people are preparing a new edition of *Gay Liberation Front's* mouthpiece, *Come Together*. It will be the first coming together of an issue for some time.

The end of last month saw the publication of a new monthly(?) gay men's magazine called *Gay World*. It costs 75p, contains 32 pages and it's main ingredients are nude pin-ups. Issue two promises to be 40 pages. It is apparently not the done thing to criticise other publications, but this Bournemouth based mag takes the prize for being the shoddiest piece of gay publishing we've seen this year. They can but improve. Good luck to them if they do.

Hello Mum,

A member of the GN team accepted an invitation to see a collection of not quite legal films the other weekend. Tristan, the star of some of the movies was present at the screening. He somewhat surprised the GN person present when, in the middle of one of the sweatiest sequences, he suddenly shouted out "I've got to phone my mother." A slightly mystifying reaction.

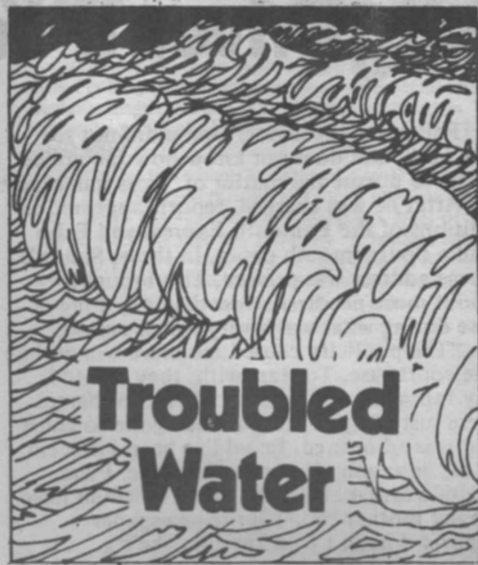
Tristan is a representative of the FF of America and has been travelling round Europe this summer. He offers a warm welcome to British members of the club if they visit the Eagle Bar in New York City.

Dates and Deadlines

The next edition of *Gay News* (No 33) will be published and available on 4th October. Details of advertising deadlines and copy dates for that issue can be found under the contents section on Page 2 and at the beginning of the Personal Ads column on Page 17. It is important to refer to these dates to avoid disappointment.

Gay News

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



Printed below is one of the many letters sent to GN's Problem/Advice/Help column called *Troubled Water*. All other correspondents have received personal replies.

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. CENTRE, an experienced and qualified gay befriending service, who describe themselves as a 'Community Care and Counselling Project' are helping us answer any serious or difficult problems that we feel unable to advise on.

All sexes are welcome to use this service. Write to us at:

Dept T/W Gay News,
34d Redcliffe Square, London SW10.

Dear Troubled Water,

I am 27 and gay but I am certainly not proud of it. In my limited experience, homosexuality has caused me untold misery, including two nervous breakdowns and a near suicide. However, I hope I have emerged as a more humane and feeling person despite remaining an extremely unhappy one.

I have been a homosexual for the past ten years and live with a disabled parent, having lost one devoted parent a year ago. I am employed in a responsible public position and both my family and colleagues at work do not know I am gay. I dislike the word 'gay' as it is the very antithesis of reality. To me homosexuality will prevent me from ever achieving security, love, marriage and the joy of raising children.

How can I adjust and accept myself when I know and I have to learn to be a second rate human-being, existing in a close and guarded 'straight' world.

My real problem is that I have become asexual. I am afraid and unable to relate to anyone at a deeply personal and sexual level. I am totally incapable of loving anyone emotionally or sexually. It is a terrible dilemma and results in total inner alienation. I just cannot accept being alone. I hope that someone somewhere can understand and help ease my awful void of loneliness and despair.

If this plea reads like the warning of a soul in torment, then I have succeeded in making my point. If you can offer me hope then there will be some purpose to this selfish and self-centred outpouring.

Clive

Troubled Water: Dear Clive,

The world is made up of people, and the right to live and love is given to all humanity. The ghettos of 'straight' and 'gay' are of your own making. There is no reason to be proud of being homosexual or heterosexual, far better to be proud of the whole man and to get your sexuality into proper perspective as an outgoing expression of your right to love, and your need to be loved.

What is all this talk of adjustment? Adjustment to what? I think that it is you who exists "in a close and guarded world" because the straight world, as you call it, certainly is not close and guarded.

Of course you cannot accept being alone, this would be contrary to your human nature. Man is by nature gregarious and is totally dependent upon the rest of humanity, homosexual and heterosexual, for all the basic necessities of life, which include companionship, friends and lovers.

If you live in London why not drop in one evening at 'Centre', Broadley Terrace, London NW1. Their coffee bar is open at 7pm Monday to Friday for people to drop in and meet their friends, and the consultants and befrienders of Centre are available to talk things over. On Friday evenings they have a Discotheque at 8pm.

If you live in the provinces, a letter to 'Friend' at 44 Earls Court Road, London W8, will put you in touch with their nearest counsellor or befrienders.



Actual size

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GN Bangle to match the Rings - £3.50

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

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

NAME

ADDRESS

Gay News Mail Order

Funeral Rites - Jean Genet	50p
Querelle of Brest - Jean Genet	60p
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Miracle of the Rose - Jean Genet	60p
Thief's Journal - Jean Genet	35p
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Diplomatic Conclusions - Roger Peyrefitte	40p
The City and the Pillar - Gore Vidal	35p
Myra Beckenridge - Gore Vidal	40p
Lesbian/Woman Del Martin/Phyllis Lyon	60p
Well of Loneliness - Radclyffe Hall	50p
No End to the Way - Neville Jackson	25p
Sandel - Angus Stewart	40p
Another Country - James Baldwin	35p
Giovanni's Room - James Baldwin	25p
The Au Pair Boy - Andrew McCall	30p
Last Exit to Brooklyn - Hubert Selby Jr	50p
The Ticket that Exploded - William Burroughs	35p
The Soft Machine - William Burroughs	35p
The Naked Lunch - William Burroughs	45p
I Give You Oscar Wilde - Desmond Hall	40p
Homosexual - Oppression and Liberation - Denis Altman	£2.50
Hyperstud - Cliff David	70p
Mind Blower - Marco Vassi	70p
Frost - Richard Amory	70p
All is Well - Dirk Vanden	70p
Cocksure - Mordecai Richler	40p
The L-Shaped Room - Lynne Reid-Banks	35p
City of Night - John Rechy	50p
The Queen's Vernacular (A Gay Lexicon) - Bruce Rodgers	£1.50
Candy - Terry Southern/Mason Hoffenberg	40p
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Homosexuality - A Changing Picture - Dr Hendrik Ruitenbeek	£2.75
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Picture of Dorian Gray - Oscar Wilde	30p
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Vegetarian Cookery - Janet Walker	40p
Sexual Freedom League (Report)	60p
The Obscenity Report	50p
Fields of Wonder - Rod McKuen	£1.00
The Homosexual Dialectic - Joseph A McCaffrey	£1.20
Twelve Years of Christmas - Rod McKuen	80p
Patience and Sarah - Isabel Miller	£1.75
Escape from the Shadows - Robin Maugham	£3.50
Body Charge - Hunter Davis	£2.00
The Second Sex - Simone de Beauvoir	75p
The Dialectic of Sex - Shulamith Firestone	50p
Child of the Sun - Lance Horner/Kyle Onstott	40p
The Immoralist - Andre Gide	30p
Journals - Andre Gide	75p
Out of the Closets - Laud Humphreys	£1.20
Tea Room Trade - Laud Humphreys	£2.50
Fourth Angel - John Rechy	£1.75
Beardsley (biography) - Stanley Weintraub	50p
Homosexuality and Psychological Functioning - Mark Freedman	£1.25
Sexual Politics - Kate Millet	60p
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The Wrong People - Robin Maugham	40p
Speaking Out - Poetry by CHE Company of Nine	50p
Female Homosexuality - Frank Caprio, MD	50p
Mr Madam - Kenneth Marlowe	40p
I Said The Demon - George Baxt	£1.05
Cruising - Gerald Walker	30p
Fielding Gray - Simon Raven	30p
Cupid's Crescent - Laurence Collinson	£1.00
The Gay Liberation Book - ed Len Richmond/Gary Noguera	£2.00



A popular entrant in the Mr Groovy Contest bumps and grinds his way around the pool to the wolf whistles of the fans... a very good mover... On the extreme left his boyfriend rushes forward to give him a kiss.



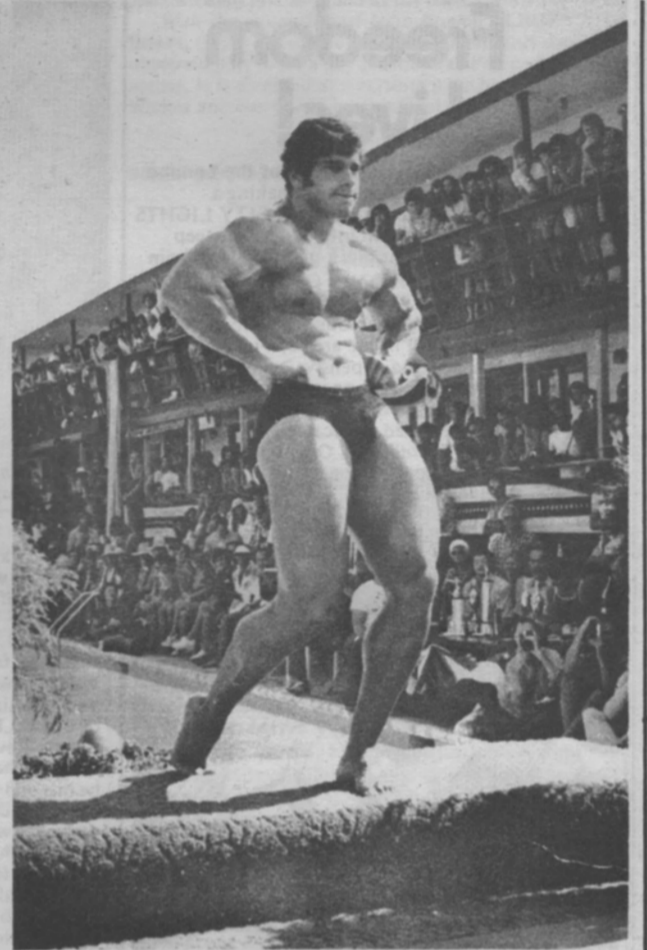
The Queen of the Island? No, just Miss Fire Island of many moons ago, still doing her duty on the prize winners' stand, and thrusting large phallic trophies into muscular, sweaty hands.

Muscle And Lace

Scenes from The 1973 Mr Fire Island Contest

A photo-feature by Colin Clarke

AS usual, the 1973 Mr Fire Island Contest was held at the Cherry Grove Beach Hotel on Fire Island, New York State. The event is now into its fourth year and was again a triumphant success. This year's winner was Harold Poole, 28. He was booed by spectators because he wouldn't accept a kiss from the trophy-presenting drag-queen — an unforgivable lapse of protocol.



Guest appearance of the boy tipped to be the next Mr America... which drew gasps from the eager crowd, when he flexed it all...



The line-up for the Mr Groovy Contest. The winning contestant is chosen through audience applause. On the extreme left the winner, Craig Dudley — an English boy who now lives in New York. He was very popular with the spectators.



Third place in the Muscle section of the Mr Fire Island Contest went to Don Samuda, a winner with the crowd when he accepted a kiss from the drag queens without putting up a struggle, as had first and second place winners. They were bigger than him anyway...

Gay-Het Fights Never Happened

BLACKBURN: In GN31, under the heading 'Pub Straights vs GLF' this paper printed a brief news story given to us over the phone by Blackburn Gay Liberation Front member and founder George Giles, which we accepted as true and in good faith.

Mr Giles stated that Blackburn GLF meetings would no longer be held at the Merchants Hotel, following fights there — "Straights picking on gays sort of thing".

It now appears that the information telephoned to us by Mr Giles was incorrect. He now says that some other members of the Blackburn GLF had told him they heard there were fights involving gays.

George Giles says there are about 20 members of Blackburn GLF. Kenneth Pilling, licensee of the Merchants hotel, says there were only 8 people at the first meeting, 3 at the next, and at the remaining 2 meetings, only George Giles and his secretary turned up.

George Giles is not gay. Ex-members of Blackburn GLF remain

friendly with the licensee and still use the pub, which regularly features drag acts. The facilities of the pub include a disco bar and a separate bar for the use of gay customers only.

Licensee Kenneth Pilling tells GN there have never been any fights between straights and gays in his pub. "In five years, the police have been called only twice, to deal with fights between straights. Gays have their own bar but still mix freely with straights in other bars, such as the disco-bar."

The landlord has good police relations with both the uniform branch and CID. Mr Pilling has won the Licensee of the Year award from his brewery (Lions Breweries) and is well known as being a single homosexual tenant. He has spoken about his gayness publicly on television and radio on several occasions.

Licensee Pilling also does a good deal of social work, particularly for disabled people; one campaign he participated in raised £4,000. Barbara Castle, Labour MP for Blackburn, regularly visits the pub and chats freely with the customers, gays included.

The licensee says any gay groups or committees are welcome to use his premises for meetings.

After contacting London GLF, Gay News

discovered that anyone may start a GLF group without prior notice or any official authority from GLF's central office.

GN has to rely upon and take in good faith reports given to us by individuals. It is now apparent that Giles' information was incorrect, and we hope this will remedy the false impression given in our last issue.

Brighton Weekend — All Invited

BRIGHTON: Sussex Gay Liberation Front, a group that has applied itself very well in the past, is planning a gay Think-in for the weekend of October 12-14. The event, held in conjunction with Sussex University Gaysoc, will kick off Friday evening with a disco at the Stanford Arms Hotel.

Sussex GLF are most eager to hear ideas from various people, so Saturday will initially be devoted to several group discussions. Following that, a gay arts festival: bring your poetry, paintings, music or any other creation you would like others to be exposed to. Saturday night will finish off with a dance.

On Sunday morning, organiser Graham Phillips expects a "meditative meeting to

take place somewhere in Brighton, followed by brunch and all manner of festivities — in the Stanford Arms, or Preston Park or on the Beach."

The weekend is anticipated to be free, except for the dance and disco; crashpads can be arranged for those who need them. If you want more information, contact Graham Phillips at 24 Gladstone Place, Brighton, or ring him on (0273) 688301. GN will be covering the weekend's activities.

If John Montgomery's feature in GN31 is any example, Brighton seems to be worth the trip for those who have yet to investigate it.

Cottage Capers

The Salford City Reporter reports that the Victoria Street men's lavatories have now been closed, and gay patronage seems to have moved to the cottage on Victoria Bridge. The reporter who wrote the item goes to great pains to frown on such activities (despite an intimate knowledge of who goes where), but suggests that such carry-on is merely a "trifling nuisance".

In London, a reader reports that the cottage at Leicester Square has been under close surveillance. He says two policemen ("One of them quite nice looking") are using entrapment methods to share men who might appear to be "likely customers".



RAGS

Freedom Lives!

TOMMY ROBERTS, enfant terrible of the London fashion scene, is alive and well and making a living in a Covent Garden warehouse. CITY LIGHTS STUDIO, his new excursion into style, is a steep climb up several flights of black-painted steps from the back-streets look of Short's Gardens in WC2. Once arrived at the studio, however, the visitor will discover an oasis of glamour from which the potential chic inherent in the area can be assessed. Already, craft shops and expensive and/or fashionable restaurants are appearing in and around Neal Street while across the way in Drury Lane, omen-like, the '50s-based musical 'GREASE' is playing to capacity audiences. Omen-like, because



All garments available from City Lights Studio. Prices on application.

Taylor's.

Prices at CITY LIGHTS are fairly high — or is it just me who cannot quite adjust to the fact that the days of 6d Cadbury's chocolate bars are gone forever? — for this collection of wonderfully overstated, curvy clothes. They hang on rails like costumes for a happy-day '50s teenage Tuesday Weld movie. The range of glitter shoes was never seen this side of the Ziegfeld Follies. The ambience of CITY LIGHTS STUDIO is (shriek!) Freedom Gothic Revival hung about, as it is, with silver sprayed chains descending from black-painted beams and furnished in high style with tall wood cathedral chairs and occasional hieratic wax dummies wearing odd bits of clothing. The reception desk has become infected with Spawn from Planet X. It drips grotesque wood-carved fruits and convoluted foliage from both ends threatening horribly to engulf the first customer brave enough to come close.

This gloriously camp machismo, happily, is reflected in the clothes — a rail of sharp Mafia suits in pale colours that Tommy modestly labels his 'conservative range'. I queried the label and he told me "well, conservative for me." Take a look at the last word in short-jacketed, wide trousered Zoot suits featuring padded shoulders and a swagger; come-back-Flash-Gordon-all-is-forgiven satin striped wide-lapelled blouson jackets, crepe-sole brown and white co-respondent brothel creeper shoes; and Fred McMurray trousers with double front pleats and turn-ups — but in

grosgrain?

Ms are catered for every bit as inventively and rather more widely. A range of severe tweed suits cut in at the waist and featuring flared lapels are every androgyne's dream. If Dietrich ever got out of her tuxedo, this is surely what she would have worn for the boys in the back-room. Projected designs for autumn include straight skirts and a selection of tops to encourage you to go bust (fiscally and physically). Pants are either straight-cigarette shaped or tight to show every curve like a second skin.

Meanwhile, back at the jewellery counter, it is like nobody had invented Kitsch until now. Here is every ecologist's nightmare — plastic earrings, mounted on little white cards bearing the hopeful label 'Latest Fashion', which can be seen in profusion on every stall in Blackpool's Golden Mile, bracelets, necklaces, rings, belts, all in the same determinedly neon-coloured, defiantly non-biodegradable material.

As 'Mr Freedom', in the late '60s, Tommy Roberts in another incarnation did his thing with verve and a certain instantly identifiable style. He is resurrected in Covent Garden and, for those of us who still conscientiously adopt the aesthetic-liberal-Hampstead-New-Statesman postures on the surface, but deep down hanker after a dose of cheerful vulgarity, CITY LIGHTS STUDIO is a fantasy palace of pazz and lurex dreams. Thanks for the memories, Mr Freedom.

Iain T. Finlayson



FOOTNOTE: Iain hopes to be of some help to any readers who have particular dress or appearance problems. Contact him by writing to Iain Finlayson, 'Rags', Gay News, 34d Redcliffe Square, London SW10. Please enclose a 3½p stamp for forwarding your letter, and a stamped addressed envelope for Iain's reply.

The Ethil

INTEGRATION!
WHAT'S SO GOOD ABOUT HETEROSEXUALS?

PETE WICKER

If you want a naff night out

DON'T GO TO Della's Bar

AT THE LORD CHANCELLOR
Groat Market
(Next to Thomson House)
Newcastle on Tyne

Trade Enquiries Welcome.



Clothes, as described in column, available from City Lights Studio, Short's Gardens, London WC2.

Tommy Roberts has up-dated his image (or rather, back-dated it to the '40s and '50s) and is busy dispensing padded suits a la Bogart, baggy trousers and tops for ladies with cleavages like Elizabeth

Photographs: Colin Clarke

A BIRTHDAY INVITATION

QUORUM

The most exciting magazine of the gay world... celebrates its FIRST ANNIVERSARY... this month!

QUORUM's great BIRTHDAY ISSUE (75p or 50p to subscribers), is packed with features (Manouche, Genet, West Side Story), fashion and book reviews, poetry, fiction and cartoons. PLUS of course, a splendid selection of new photographs. From the twelve issues of the past year, regular readers have learned to rely on QUORUM for its consistently superb photography — the best studies of the young male nude.

And in future issues...?

QUORUM will maintain its high standard of sophisticated entertainment and glossy photos as well as its exploration and discussion of the more serious aspects of the gay world — drag, pederasty, the bisexual, promiscuity and Laurence Collinson's regular radical column.

SO... as QUORUM enters its second year — bigger and better than ever before — we invite you to celebrate with us...

Our Special Birthday Present to all GAY NEWS readers!

For only £1 (ie at normal subscription rates) we will send you our QUORUM Anniversary Issue PLUS one more large-format copy of QUORUM as illustrated on this page.

Or... Better Still...

Make sure of receiving all your next twelve issues of QUORUM and SUBSCRIBE! Why...?

1. SAVE MONEY — the cost per issue to Annual Subscribers is only 50p, post free.
2. QUORUM is dispatched to Subscribers by 1st class letter-post on the day of publication.
3. We GUARANTEE to honour your subscription.
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AND... A Special Offer to all new Annual Subscribers...

To you we will send a COMPLIMENTARY COPY of a new 32-page book entitled 'THE BEST OF QUORUM '73' containing a selection of the BEST PHOTOGRAPHS which have appeared in Volume 1 of QUORUM. (This book is available to non-subscribers at price £2.50 post free).

ORDER FORM

Tick () I wish to receive the QUORUM Anniversary Issue (Vol 2 No 1) PLUS one other large-format QUORUM at £1 for the package.

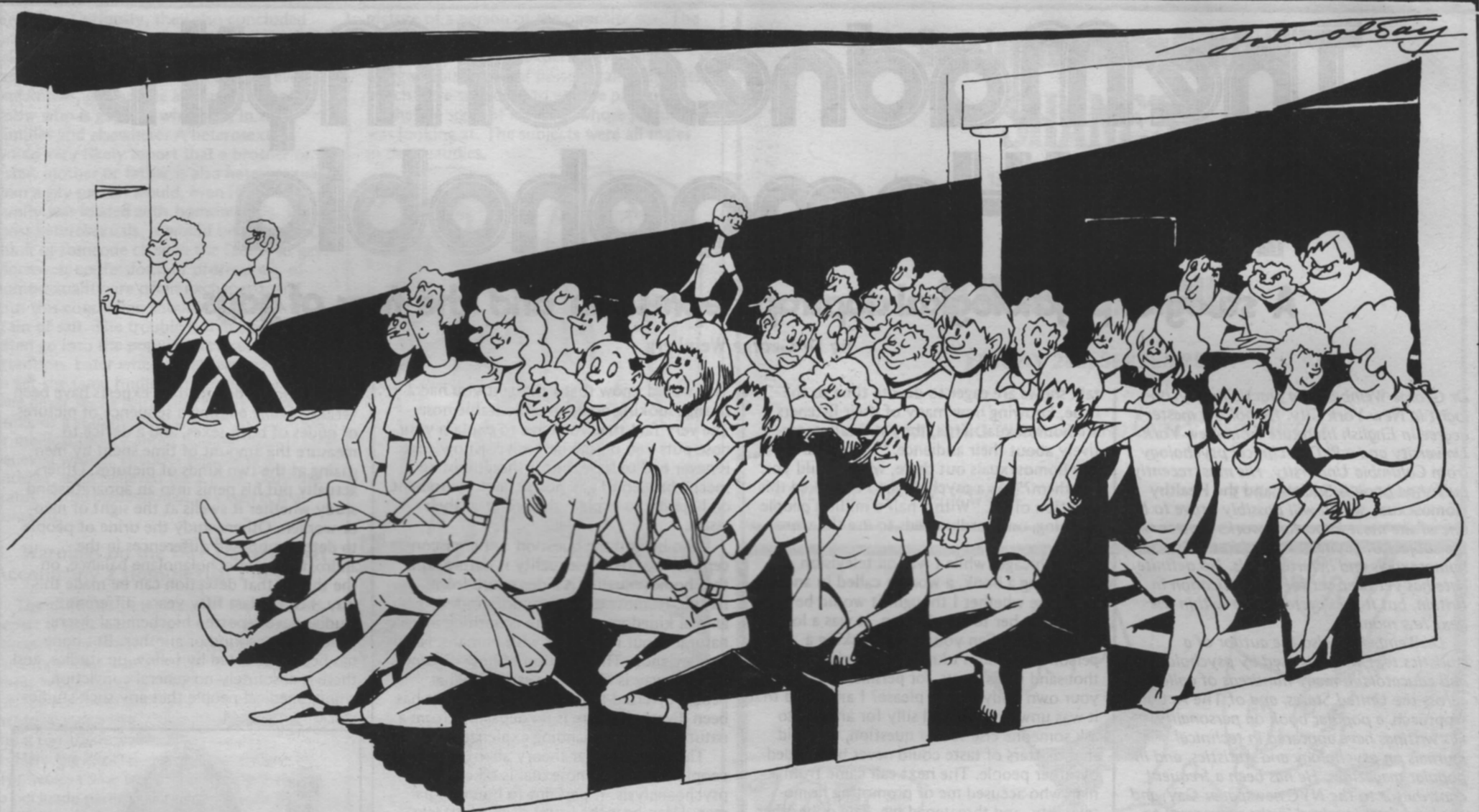
as () I wish to become a subscriber to QUORUM and enclose £6 for 12 issues + my free copy of 'The Best of QUORUM '73' or appropriate £3.50 for 6 issues.

I enclose cheque/POs/cash for a total of £.....

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No stamp required (UK only) if you address your envelope to:
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Eros: Chained Or Unchained?

by Johnny Olday

THE Biograph is as dimly lit as an out-of-date public toilet for gents. Makes an old chap like me feel at home.

Good old flicks. Other things get flicked there besides pictures. That's why the joint's so popular.

I didn't know that when I went to see my first picture show there. But I soon caught on.

As you enter you see head after head silhouetted against the screen. They look like bulbous lumps grown out of shoulders, the necks being stalks. Due to the fact that the torsos of the seated are blocked out of view by the seats, one gets the impression of nocturnal exuberantly grown mushrooms at the bottom of a cave with fleeting reflections of ghostly beams moving across them. The assembly might even strike one as a gathering of space creatures clustered together, if it were not for people coming and leaving, also those sitting occasionally turning their heads, giving one a glimpse of the profile, and if there were no muffled sound of voices or the ripple of laughter.

The atmosphere is charged with a peculiar masculine air. Brings to mind barracks or male prisons. There are women in the audience, but their presence does not create the tiresome oppressiveness of a heterosexual majority domination. Possibly because the hairstyles of the different sexes are nowadays so alike.

As you move along in search of a seat, you come under the cross-fire of furtive glances. In pushing along a row of knees, they seem to grab at you like creepers intent on pulling you into greedy laps. You feel as if struggling through scrubs infested with flesh-hungry plants.

It's like a vision by Dante come to life, made nightmarish by the screenwatchers fixedly staring at the makebelieve show and being seemingly unaware of the undercurrent drama going on all around. The

crawling, tempting, the pressing of thigh against thigh, the shy exploration of gliding hands, the undercover manipulations, the silent wincing, quivering and convulsions of flesh, the suppression of shudders, sighs and moans.

All this flourishes in the semi-darkness. Festering greed coming out, agitation and fear flaring up and succumbing, being swamped by instant pressures and concealed force.

Well — I too was drawn into this narcotic excitement and — in the end — became a joyous addict.

That was years and years ago.

Since then I have been around the world. Everywhere I found cinemas like the Biograph. There exists an international fellowship all over the globe. Once you get mixed up in it, you are able to smell your way into the right dens. The secret code of understanding and the rites are universal. No matter how strange the town, you don't have to feel lost. You belong to a worldwide fraternity. Believe me, brother, it's a damned good feeling for a bum who's got no traveller's checks.

When I returned to London, the very first place I revisited was the good old Biograph, expecting to find it changed entirely as it usually happens with old places and friends. But the Biograph hadn't changed. It is uncanny. It made me feel as if my roaming had been nothing but a dream of the previous night. I felt like a split person, a twin. Two selves in one, partly as young as I was at my first visit, partly as old as I am now.

I seem to know everybody who turns up, although I've never spoken to anyone and do not partake in intimate games. I go there like other people go to their church, where they watch in rapt attention or plain curiosity the priest, the sacristan-boys and worshippers. I am in communication with the lot here and with a spirit by far more ancient and venerable than the sexless God of pious churchgoers.

I have developed a telepathic gift that enables me to sense in a person his latent potential and the direction of his libido. I'm positive I could pick out of the rest of the people present, the suitable match for him.

I watch the inexperienced falling into the fangs of the routined. I follow the starved seeker who keeps changing seats. I witness the actions of the sharp, cunning and resolute. I see the choiceless, insatiability of one and the reaction of the other, com-

plaisant, yielding to anybody and anything. I pick out the frigid and inhibited.

These impressions form themselves into a mosaic visionary image of humanity combining every emotion and all variations into one universal unity. I myself am a fragmental unit, a part of the entire. As a voyeur I experience all sensations felt by my fellow beings. There is no difference between us any longer, even though we may seem worlds apart.

It is thus I have come to understand the meaning of the words: "He who is without fault may throw the first stone". There are a number of chaps who by their ways bring out the savage in me if I didn't check the first impulse. I have learned about the boomerang effect of throwing unkind thoughts, words or missiles at others.

As I sit there among my fraternity, I think — this is what has become of life's most glorious force! Men huddling together under cover of semi-darkness for a short mutual break, welded in silent agreement by their need of one moment of joy.

In this one moment of utility togetherness everything else is wiped out, reduced to unimportance: social status, occupation, looks, age. Religion, philosophy, science, art. Such is the power of sexual need.

And I marvel at this miracle taking place every day, every hour, and the world ignoring it.

Therefore I feel the urge to salute the indefeatable fraternity. They asserted themselves in defiance throughout ages of persecution. If their sex life took on unsavoury appearance, who is to blame but the powers that forced them underground.

I pay them homage. They have demonstrated that Eros, even under the burden of heavy chains, could show up the ultimate impossibility of enforcing man-made unnatural laws.

Granted, you may say — but there is no longer any reason for anybody to sneak into the ill-reputed cinema in order to gratify his sexual needs. They should come out, join the gay liberation struggle and by conduct above reproach dispel the tiresome prejudices held against them. If even under the most unfavourable conditions Eros was still able to inspire a worldwide fraternity and accomplish a small-scale miracle of removing all classification, surely liberated Eros ought to be able to bring about the final realisation of the idealistic blueprints of saints and revolutionaries of all times, the dream of mankind as one big brotherhood.

Oh brother, is it as easy as that?

Give up something that has become a gratifying habit? And what have you to offer that you dare recommend as better? A Hampstead Heath happening under a starry sky? A commune group sexfest?

Present to me the radiant Eros, the noble and beautiful, and a befitting setting. The majority of the frustrated will come streaming to you. Or will they?

I rather doubt it. I think most of them feel the way I do.

I do not believe in the divine, glorious Eros. Haven't met him yet. But I do know common, vulgar Eros.

To me the idea of lasting love is a fanciful invention of frustration. Identification of beauty, purity and the spiritual are fictions. They do not exist for me. Eternal values? You may have heard all of them.

My teacher is nature and She knows of only one eternal thing: change, transition.

I know what my body craves for and aims at: climax of lust. And I found out that a fleeting moment of gratification is the great mercy destiny offers to mortals. And that very single experience is unique and none ever repeatable.

I therefore am humbly satisfied with the nature-conditioned limitations. I enjoy the moment of pleasure granted by unpredictable fortune, knowing only too well I couldn't hold on to it if I tried.

I accept and respect the anonymity. What else is there, since one finds out anyway one will never be able to get to know a human being even if one were tied to him for good, as little as one will ever get to know oneself fully.

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The Madness Of Myths And Homophobia

A study of psychological claptrap, repression and the fear of gays

by Dr George Weinberg

Dr George Weinberg is a practicing psychologist in New York City. He holds a master's degree in English literature from New York University and a PhD in clinical psychology from Columbia University. His most recently published book is *Society and the Healthy Homosexual*, which will possibly prove to be one of the most important works written on the subject of gayness. It is addressed to both homosexuals and heterosexuals. No definite date has yet been set for its publication in Britain, but it is expected to be within the next few months.

Dr. Weinberg is also the author of a statistics text which is used by psychologists and educators in many hundreds of colleges across the United States, and of *The Action Approach*, a popular book on personality. His writings have appeared in technical journals on psychology and statistics, and in popular magazines. He has been a frequent contributor to the NYC newspaper *Gay*, and has long been involved in the movement to educate the public on the issue of homosexuality.

MOST gay people in the United States imagine that they would receive better treatment in England than in their own country. After all, forty-five of the fifty states still have laws according to which adult men or women who engage in consenting sexual acts in private may be imprisoned. Thirty states can impose as long as a ten year penalty on homosexuals for a first offence, even if a minor is not involved and force is not used. In New York, a person may be denied an apartment or a job for no reason except that he or she is homosexual. The American Civil Liberties Union resisted defending homosexuals for years, and has just begun to take an interest in the cause. By contrast, it is known that the 1967 Sexual Offences Act permits adults to engage in homosexual acts in private in England. And people assume that this implies greater freedom of spirit toward homosexuals and more permissiveness generally.

The assumption is dead wrong. In New York City, which still has penalties, there are innumerable women's bars and men's bars for gay people; there are a half dozen bars for S&M's, and there are public meeting places where hundreds of gay men participate in sex orgies with little harassment. In a downtown section of New York City, the owner of several hundred trucks knew for years that gay men assembled there for sex in multitudes, and as a curious result of his permissiveness, he could boast that his trucks were not broken into and robbed at night, while those of his competitors were regularly looted. When the police started the practice of coming by and flashing lights on the gay crowd to scatter them temporarily, the New York Mattachine Society, a group fighting for gay rights, complained to the police. Now the Mattachine and the police hold regular meetings to be sure there is no harassment. Men are seen often holding hands in public in New York City, but seldom here. As was mentioned in *Gay News*, many thousands of homosexuals marched vociferously and proudly during gay pride week celebrations throughout America. Recently, local politicians have openly courted the gay vote. Mayor Lindsey of New York City made a public statement that there would be no entrapment of homosexuals at the Continental Baths, visited by thousands of homosexuals weekly.

US Media Is Willing

In the States, gay people get the chance to present their case for decent treatment on television, even national television, and on radio regularly. Several of the late-night

talk shows are eager to devote time to the issue, knowing how many of their listeners are homosexual. True, they still talk tentatively about their audience. "If there are any homosexuals out there, what would you tell them?" As a psychologist I am asked this question often. "With a half a million people listening, one hardly needs to use the word 'if'."

In Chicago, while I was on television promoting a book, a woman called in and asked me whether I thought it would be alright for her to be a lesbian. It was a long-distance call. Can you imagine asking a person who doesn't know you and is a thousand miles away, for permission to use your own body as you please? I answered that it was unwarranted and silly for anyone to ask someone else such a question, and said that matters of taste could never be decided by other people. The next call came from a man who accused me of promoting homosexuality, and threatened me. The only other time I was threatened was when a man called up a radio show. He seemed to be crying with rage. He stammered out the story that someone had tried to suck him off when he was fourteen. In a movie theatre. I asked him what happened, and he said he refused. But then he added that the next year he was "forced into it", also in a theatre. I responded that if he did it, he must have thought at the time he would enjoy it. And at that he said he would come down to the station and kill me. A couple of tough women from the Chicago Gay Alliance provided me an escort back to my hotel.

Fancy, Negative Psychology

As for the psychology profession, it is interesting to compare the branches in the two countries. Psychologists on both sides of the Atlantic spend too many waking hours (1) wondering how people get to be homosexual; (2) trying to figure out how to detect homosexuals; (3) warning homosexuals of the dire dangers that supposedly will dog them till their dying days unless they give up homosexuality and either become heterosexuals or give up sex entirely; (4) inventing techniques for converting homosexuals, none of which work, but many of which brutalise the poor victims. As a result, sometimes the persecuted homosexual (nearly always a man) says he sees the folly of his ways and is no longer homosexual. The torture therapist then reports his "cure" in some psychological or medical journal, and gains status in the field.

I want to look at the four issues briefly. First, the eternal wonderment on the part of psychologists and medical people as to how people become homosexual.

1. Speculations about Origin

The most salient thing to consider with regard to this question is that the very asking of it presupposes in nearly every case that it is bad to be homosexual. The question of how people get to be heterosexual is not similarly asked, though there is nothing more known about the origins of heterosexuality than of homosexuality. The real question, if anyone were truly interested, would be "How do sexual preferences develop?"

Also, behind the relentless curiosity of many experts to account for homosexuality is the desire to stamp out the causes, to be sure that future generations do not produce homosexuals as the past ones have. Thus the homosexual man or woman who becomes preoccupied with wondering how he or she got that way is playing right into the hands of those who condemn homosexuality. Asking how I got this way is a fancy, intellectual way of bemoaning the fact that one is homosexual.

Think about it. Suppose I asked you persistently "how did you get a nose like that?"

You would know that I thought you had a strange looking nose, an undesirable nose. The very fact that you have to explain your nose puts you on the defensive. Knowledge is never bad to have, but it should not be a special burden of gay people, not incumbent on heteros, to explain the origin of their tastes.

Also behind the question is the misconception that heterosexuality is natural and that homosexuality is a departure from nature. Homosexuality abounds in the animal kingdom, and there is nothing unnatural about it there or with humans. Nor is it a deviancy. The question of how did one get that way is like the question "What pebble diverted the stream?" No stream has been diverted. There is no departure from a natural course demanding explanation.

The most popular theory about how people become homosexual is taken from psychoanalysis. It pertains to homosexual men. (Men bear the brunt of most attacks because their desire not to seek the usual "masculine" satisfactions is feared as undermining to society. In contrast, a woman who is thought of as trying to be like a man is misread as merely seeking a man's social advantages. Her imagined desire to be independent and strong is not considered as threatening as a man's readiness to give up his power. There is little more threatening than the repudiation of power. For this to become contagious would undermine our whole competitive social structure, and make it impossible to motivate multitudes.) In any event, the psychoanalytic theory is that a "weak father" and a "strong mother" cause homosexuality.

A vicious article is soon to appear in a magazine called *Climax: The Journal of Sexual Perfection*. It sums up every documented assault on homosexuals ever made, and pretends to be factual. Such a magazine, if it appeared in the States, would be greeted by a mob scene of gays parading in front of its offices. The name of the article is "Homosexuals — They Mock Sex". As to origins, the article says:

"The homosexual grows up with his fear of castration, should he sleep with a woman. A man is safe because he can say to his father, 'Look I am no threat to you, I don't want mama...'"

The article goes on to say that he admires his mother and loathes his father for not being more of a man. This idea has been used to instill guilt in mothers who tried to be forceful people, to break down the stereotype for women. In effect, the "weak mother" theory says to women, "be subservient or you will produce homosexual sons".

Thus it is aimed at killing two birds with one stone: at keeping women in their place and calling homosexuals a form of monster, of whom their own parents should be ashamed. Time and again we see the coupling of sexism and anti-gay attitudes. A woman who courageously fought for feminist rights in the last century, Sarah Grimke, once said, "Whatever it is morally right for a man to do, it is morally right for a woman to do." Perhaps she did not have in mind making love to women. But this too, in whatever measure it is right for a man to do, it is right for a woman to do. The desperate study of how homosexuals "got that way" will doubtless go on until gay groups have forced the acceptance of homosexuality on western culture. Already in the United States, there is a diminution in the concern with origins, and perhaps this is beginning to be true in England too.

2. The Detection of Homosexuals

Again, one naturally asks, "why should anyone care?" The exception being the case of a gay man or woman who wants to know about the potentiality for a love affair and isn't sure of the other person.

Techniques designed by experts have been various. Some employ a sequence of pictures of nudes of both sexes, and a device to measure the amount of time spent by men gazing at the two kinds of pictures. Others actually put his penis into an apparatus and study whether it swells at the sight of men or women. Others study the urine of people to detect supposed differences in the androsterone/etiocholanolane balance, on the theory that detection can be made this way. For the last fifty years, different studies have reported biochemical discrepancies of one kind or another. But none has been supported by follow-up studies, and there is absolutely no general conviction among medical people that any such studies work.

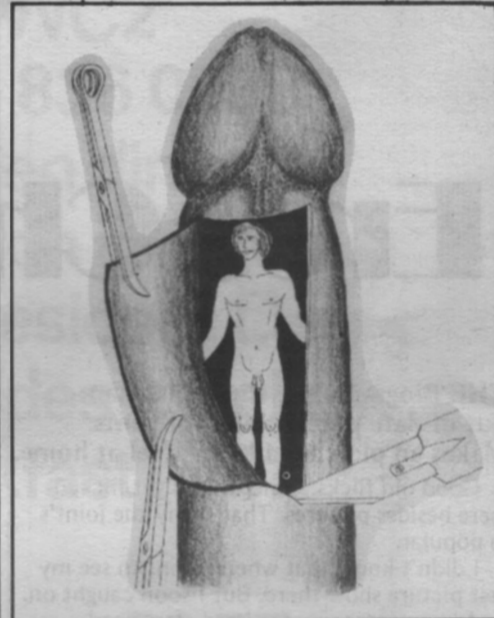


Illustration: Grant Dowling

The usual reasons for the half-cocked and mistaken conclusions of success drawn by the medical doctors here and in the US are statistical errors. Take any group of people and study them on numerous possible attributes. For instance, if they are measured on half a dozen different characteristics that might conceivably distinguish, it is likely that in a small group, one of them will separate the two groups, though imperfectly, by sheer chance. The true test is what statisticians call cross-validation. Does the method truly distinguish among large groups of people? If hundreds of researchers look for some difference between groups, some are bound to find what they are looking for in their particular groups. These are the experts who write up their findings, and the others do not. So instead of publishing that fifty different hospital teams looked for some distinguishing trait, and forty eight failed to find such a trait, the medical journals write merely that the trait was found twice.

My own field at one time was statistics, and I wrote a text book on statistics that has been used by over a million students in the US, and is still going strong. And I can tell you that the most slipshod research done statistically appears in medical journals in connection with sex research of all kinds.

A study in the *British Medical Journal* that appeared in July of this year, reports a finding to the effect that discrimination can be made between homosexual and heterosexuals using the androsterone/etiocholanolane ratios. The experimenters made numerous statistical errors, using devices that loaded the dice in their favour. They had a small sample, looked for various differentiators, and found one that seemed to distinguish on their particular group. Instead of using statistical devices that took into account their employment of many possible distinguishing characteristics, they used tests that assumed they had looked for only one distinction. The details of their ignorance get technical; and their statistics were fancy. But they have far from proved

anything. Curiously, they also concluded that homosexuals had more homosexual relatives in their "immediate and extended families" than heterosexuals did. As everyone knows, gay people are far more apt to know who is gay and who isn't, in their families and elsewhere. A heterosexual would very likely report that a brother or sister, mother or father is also heterosexual than a gay person would, even if the whole family was loaded with homosexuals. To most heterosexuals, it would be abhorrent to think of someone close in the family as gay. Moreover, confessions, or professions, of homosexuality are often exchanged, and thus this conclusion should be taken with a grain of salt. The trouble is that such studies often go into the popular press and gain attention. Later when other researchers fail to get the same findings, nothing is said. One never sees a retraction in the popular press, or a statement that some psychological or medical theory about homosexuals is now believed wrong. Theories replace one another, each believed for a time. Only the status of the professionals as experts is a constant.

3. Warnings on the Dire Dangers that Accompany a Homosexual Lifestyle

The third preoccupation of the so-called expert is with warning people that if they become homosexual, they will suffer till their dying days. In place of the burning lakes, which preachers have used for millenia, the experts warn gays that they will suffer an incomplete sex life, a loss of satisfaction, and a terrible response from society.

Here the experts try to make their own prophecies come true. After doing their best to persuade parents that if their sons or daughters are homosexual, they are sick, diseased, miserable. They then make the case that homosexuals find themselves without an ally in society. In the article, "Homosexuals - They Mock Sex", already mentioned, the author maintains that homosexuals engage in "excessive watchfulness, excessive worry that the other gets fed properly, clothed properly, sent on his daily tasks properly." Instead of viewing this as evidence of genuine caring, of love in many cases, it is seen as a dire consequence, something that homosexuals ought to worry about.

In England it is well recognised that gay people have many friends in the heterosexual world, many people who feel genuine outrage at the abuses of civil liberties against homosexuals. Gay people have allies among heteros in the States too. But the gay groups are much slower to acknowledge this fact.

Their attitude generally is very unfortunate. On television shows, and on radio, gay people talk too often as if they have no friends except for other gays. One result is that whenever a heterosexual speaks up for gay rights, he is called homosexual, not just by the general public, but by the gays themselves. This is a bias, and in many cases is probably a deterrent to getting allies. England, and especially Gay News is to be praised for its greater fairness to heterosexuals than is found among gay groups, or in gay newspapers in the US.

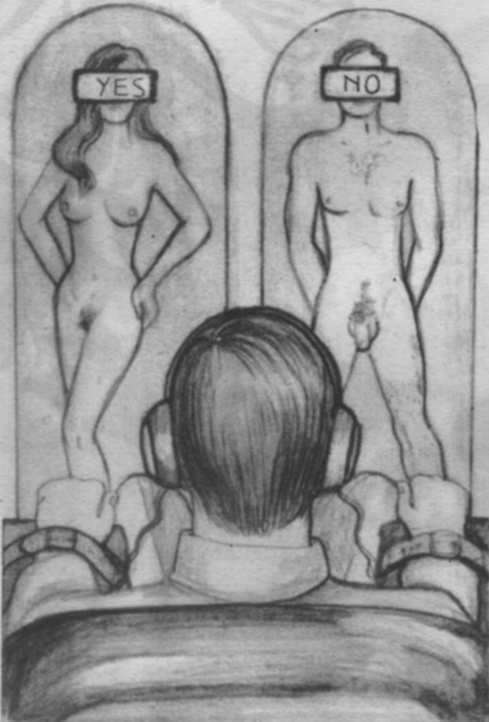
The real danger that homosexuals have to fear is what will result if gay men or women make a serious effort to change, as in psychotherapy or by any of the other 'recommended' techniques. Here I would like to quote from my own book, *Society and the Healthy Homosexual*:

"The harm done to a homosexual man or woman by the persons trying to convert is multifold. Homosexuals should be warned. First of all, the venture is almost certain to fail, and you will lose time and money. But this is the least of it. In trying to convert, you will deepen your belief that you are one of nature's misfortunates. You will intensify your clinging to conventionality, enlarge your fear and guilt and regret. You will be voting in your own mind for the premise that people should all act and feel the same ways. You will stultify your fantasy . . . and undermine your sense of the right to give and receive love . . . in the manner you wish to."

4. Attempts At Conversion

As for techniques designed with the aim of converting homosexuals, all of them are failures, and do harm in the process of tampering with the patient. A great range of them have been attempted. Several teams of doctors tried the method of getting gay patients to look at pictures and masturbate at the same time. Just before reaching orgasm the patient was to give notice, and the experts switched on a light behind a

picture of a person of the opposite sex. The attempt to condition people in this way failed utterly. Other experts have tried using various kinds of poison, called emetics, which were supposed to get the patient to loathe the sight of his lover whose picture he was looking at. The subjects were all males in these studies.



A doctor named Fritz Roeder tried brain surgery, and psychologists have tried using electric shock as a punishment technique. The long-term methods of psychotherapy have included strictly psychoanalytic methods and also therapy which was little more than persuasion. The therapist would compliment his male patient every time he said something hostile about his gay friends, and would lecture him on the evils of going back to homosexual bars. Drugs, truth serums, all sorts of the newest devices have been tried, to no avail.

By the way, as a therapist, I am sometimes called up by the parent of a gay who wants the young person to be given more of some desired hormone. If it is a gay man, the parent asks me if giving him more male hormone will help. If a woman, female hormone is asked about by the parent. Were the study cited earlier, from the *British Medical Journal* correct, then this method might be of advantage. But as it is, giving a male hormone to a man will simply heighten his sexual urge for whomever he new feels urges for. It will make him *more* homosexual, not less.

The Real Problem

The real problems are none of those which the so-called experts invent, or spend their time at trying to solve. The real problem is an illness, which we call 'homophobia'. The word 'homophobia' has become very popular in the US. It refers to the morbid and irrational fear of homosexuals, and the hatred of them.

If a heterosexual person can't get to sleep downstairs because he keeps thinking of the two gay people upstairs making love, and if he wants them evicted for the sake of his own calm, he is a 'homophobe'. He is the one who needs the help, not they. 'Homophobia' is a term everyone should know. The failure of most people in the profession to take it seriously, to see where the danger truly lies, bespeaks their own homophobia.

The chief origins of 'homophobia' are: (a) the teachings of religion, and the Bible in particular; (b) the secret fear in many heterosexuals that they themselves are homosexual; (c) repressed envy. Remember H. L. Mencken's line that puritanism is "the lurking fear that someone, somewhere is happy"; (d) the threat to people's sense that all of humankind must struggle toward conventionality, and (e) the recognition that there are people brave enough to live their lives on earth without feeling the necessity of having children. Of course, many gay people do have children. But the homophobe does not think of this. Many people are constantly afraid to die, and are unable to take their lives as present experiences. They have children so that they can enjoy a sense of "vicarious immortality" after they die. They would like all others to do the same. The idea that gay people are living now, and not later, troubles them.

In sum, 'homophobia' is a form of acute conventionality. Gay News ought to be proud that it is doing its best to help humankind over this illness, since heterosexuals who are free of it tend to have much better lives than heterosexuals who are not.

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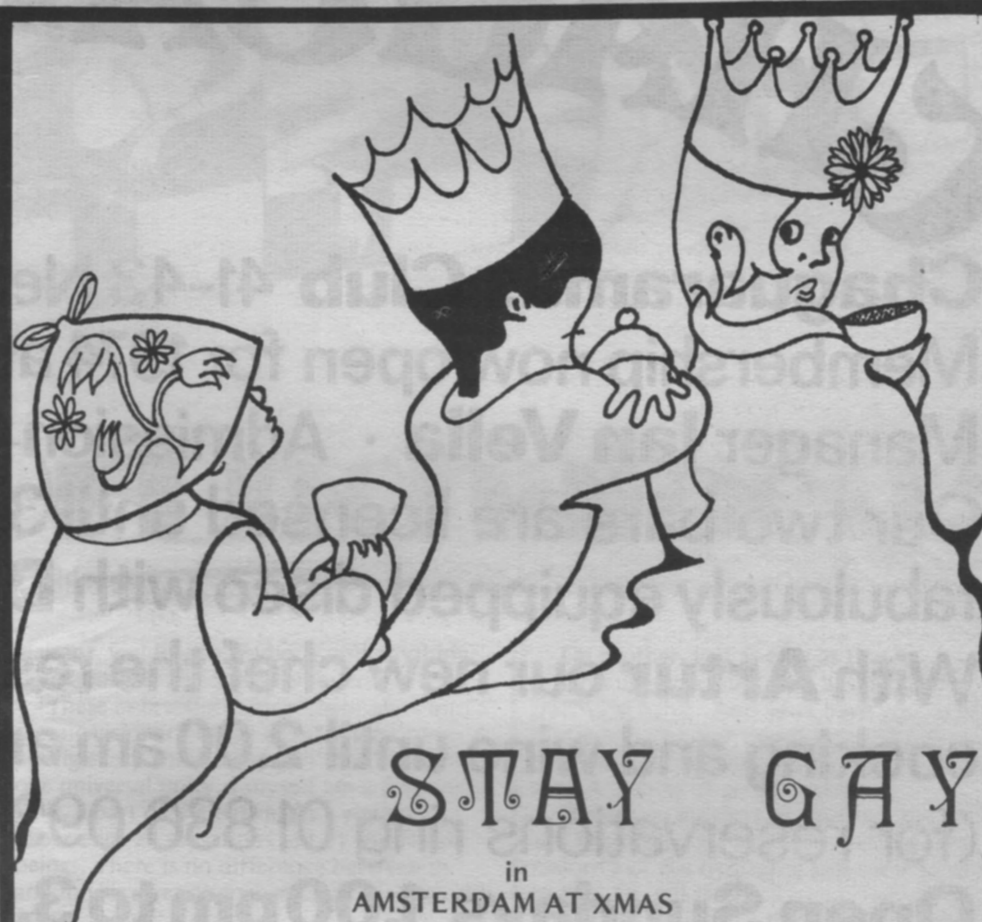
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DEATH IN VENICE: The first of two performances of Britten's latest opera, *Death In Venice*, took place on the day that cholera broke out in Milan and Florence. The black topicality of the evening was underlined when the characters were warned against eating shellfish. Perhaps this argues for an immediate European tour of the new work. (It is planned to take it to Venice in the near future).

Any major new piece by Benjamin Britten has critics clutching for their ear-trumpets, but this time the interest lies as much (if not more) in the drama as in the music. The whole opera revolves around Gustav von Aschenbach, the ageing writer-hero of Thomas Mann's novella. Aschenbach is the only independent character in the entire opera, all other characters being of importance only insofar as they relate to him. The role involves two parts, Aschenbach the writer involved in the drama, and Aschenbach the narrator. As the writer, his part is sung to full orchestral accompaniment, whilst as narrator, in recitative passages, he is accompanied by a piano. The distinction between the two is not always immediately obvious, and it may pass unnoticed when the role is entrusted to a lesser actor than Peter Pears.

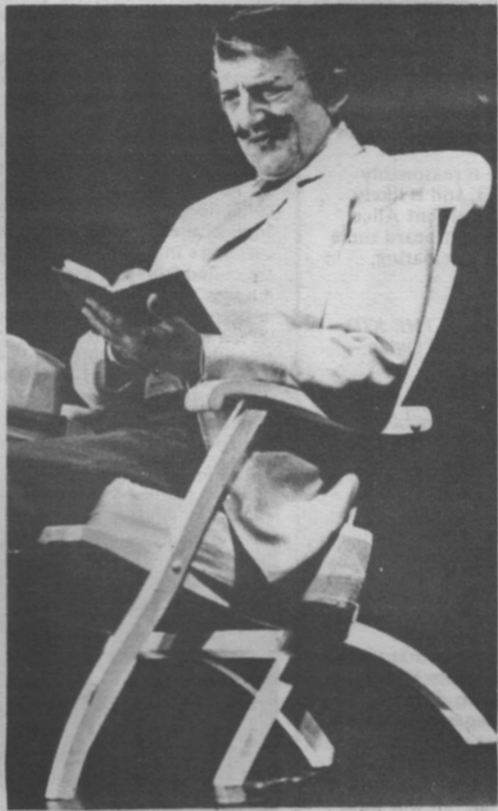
Even the music seems to take second place to the dramatic conflicts faced by the hero. The orchestra takes a supportive role, waiting meekly upon the writer's words, seldom developing new ideas of its own, but rather, adding to the thoughts expressed in the libretto.

The composer's orchestration is as economical as ever; thin woodwind passages, and skeletal percussion abound. It was gratifying to find James Blades back in the pit at Britten's request for this performance. He gave a superb account of the imaginative percussion sections for which Britten is renowned.

Besides the leading role, there are two other important parts. In the first, Britten has ingeniously taken all the seven characters who intervene like evil geni in Aschenbach's fate (the traveller, the hotel manager, the wilful gondolier and so on) and given them all to a single bass singer, even though each is played in costume as a distinct stage person.

The second part is that of Tadzio. Tadzio (Robert Huguenin) is the embodiment of ideal beauty for which Aschenbach has been seeking throughout his life. Yet faced with the boy, he finds himself unable to remain the detached, objective observer. He becomes emotionally and personally involved, and falls in love. And yet, so used is he to the role of observer, that he is unable to accept the love that he feels. Thus Tadzio never speaks with him, and Britten sets the boy as it were outside, by arranging the part for a dancer rather than a singer. There are lengthy dance passages throughout, yet, in few places did these pure orchestral parts assume any more character than did the vocal accompaniments. This impression, on a first hearing, may have been due to the choreography as much as to the actual musical content.

For if there was a weakness in the production, it surely lay in Sir Frederick Ashton's choreography. At one time it was just plain bad. Tadzio and the rest of his young friends, playing on the beach, engage in the most explicit athletic competition. One after another the boys run up and



Peter Pears as Gustav von Aschenbach in Britten's new opera 'Death In Venice'.

mime the throwing of a javelin, then the whole thing is repeated, this time the event concerned being the long jump. There is even a knock-out wrestling competition in which we see Tadzio's successful semi-final and final bouts. Less tableau and a little more dancing might have worked wonders.

On the plus side may be set John Shirley-Quirk's performance as the Bass Compendium of personalities. It is no mean feat to play seven different characters, and to distinguish them one from another. And yet this is precisely what he did. Few basses have quite such a range of vocal expression, a talent which stood him in good stead. He has shown himself to be at home with modern opera, in works by Henze and Britten, amongst others, and he sang with confidence and certainty.

And what shall I say of Peter Pears? On his broad shoulders fell the most arduous task of the evening. Aschenbach is on stage for almost the whole of the two hours and twenty minutes of the opera, and yet Pears was in as fine voice in the last scene as in the first. As for his acting, he seems to have found some kind of personal identity with the character, so moving and plausible was his performance. The long association between Pears and Britten has been a fruitful one, and it may be that *Death In Venice* will prove to be one of the most significant fruits of all.

THE LINDAY KEMP CIRCUS: Lindsay Kemp is an outrageously grotesque mime. If ideas of Marcel Marceau pass through your mind, forget them, for Kemp starts from reality, but follows his ideas to their illogical conclusions. Celestino Coronado's film of the man is a half-hour gem. From the opening studies of him, winsome and yet knowing, assuming his guise as simpering pierrot, the film works hard to recreate the confusion that exists between Kemp's art and the strange life he



Orlando (standing left), Lindsay Kemp (seated centre) with two decorative friends.

leads. The film is silent, but for the telling score by Michael Garret, and the outlandish singing of Orlando (a performing member of 'The Circus', bald-pated, Odd-Job-looking) and Celestino has tried to adopt the approach of the early silent comedies to his subject. It is an approach that works, not because Lindsay Kemp really has much in common with Charles Chaplin, indeed it works because he is so completely unlike the early screen stars, so that the film becomes a glorious parody of the style the director has chosen to start from.

For thirty minutes, Kemp skips through one scene after another like a knowing, world-weary child of five. Puckering up at dazzling sailor boys, tottering precariously on an unseen ball, which he runs round the circus ring, or opening and closing like an exotic bloom in 'The Flower', he runs through this fast and memorable film, from

one paradox to another. Nothing is what it seems to be at first, there is always an original twist to each sketch. The result is hilarious and sad.

The film imitates these changes sympathetically. Set against the silent comedy style, are parodies of 20s French Art Film, which contribute to the over-all unsettling effect of the piece. To today's audience, almost all that is left of these early styles is a sense of forced sophistication, precisely the ingredient that distorts the apparent simplicity of Kemp's mime.

Let us hope that London audiences get a chance in the near future to taste this delightful piece.

THE MAIDS: Out on the Fringe, in the small hours of the morning, the Scratch Company mounted a production of Genet's *The Maids*. Whilst this sort of theatre will always be popular with small and poor companies (small cast, minimal props required) this particular production was distinguished by two creditable performances by Robert Snell (Clair) and Ray Harding (Solange). The relationship between the two, Clair's uncertain submission to Solange's dominant character, was more clearly drawn than was the Madam/Maid conflict. And yet the sense of abiding anti-morality common to all Genet pieces was caught, heightened by both actors' skilful use of movement, grotesque and violent as it was.

PERICLES: Shakespeare's (partly) play *Pericles* is seldom given an airing. When it is, it is usually as a vehicle for some company or producer, rather than as a piece worth doing in its own right. This production by the Prospect Theatre Company, which has now moved to London's Round House, seems to have been inspired by 'Cabaret', 'Decameron' and 'West Side Story'. It is fast, bawdy, and yet in the end is dissatisfying. The play tells of the Prince of Tyre's struggle through life, through one misfortune after another, *Candide*-style, with a triumphantly moral ending as he finally rises above the decadence and amorality of the various life-styles he has been forced to adopt.

Derek Jacobi plays the Golden Prince, bearing his noble head through all adversity. If his sense of honour borders at times, on the priggish, the blame can be firmly laid on the production. The good characters are played by honest and clean-looking creatures, whilst the baddies are shown for what they are by putting them in drag. Ho ha hum. One has only to see a man or woman dress in the clothes of the other to know that they are up to no good!

In fairness, the evening is quite enjoyable, but this is not a show for the Rad-Fems.

SPARTACUS: No, not the film, but Katchaturian's ballet brought to Edinburgh by the Hungarian State Opera and Ballet. And yet it did seem as though Hollywood melodrama had crept in from time to time. A strange score for a ballet, the music seems to have defeated a number of renowned choreographers ever since it was first poorly received when Leonid Jacobsen put it on stage in 1956.

This Hungarian attempt (choreographer/director: Laszlo Seregi) did not manage to sort out all the problems. There were frequent passages where the choreographer had apparently abandoned hope, and the dancers simply took up positions for the next 'danceable' bit. But it was a very energetic production, and a lot of the gaps were bridged unobtrusively by careful stage business.

Viktor Rona in the title role was admirable, particularly in the 'Onedin Line' pas de deux, though he scraped through a gladiatorial scene earlier without much conviction. His dancing is strong, yet he brought a certain quiet elegance to the part.

It is doubtful whether we shall see many attempts this side of the Iron Curtain to mount productions of a ballet with such a relatively unrewarding score. So we should be grateful to the Hungarians for the chance to see their version.

HERE'S MUD IN YOUR EYE: Take the words and sparkle of Dorothy Parker, set them in 1920s costume and decor, add music of the period, and stretch the whole over the framework of her tragicomic biography, and what do you get? Not a stunning show as you might have expected, but a rather bitty and tortured one. No fault of either Janet Amsden as Dorothy Parker, nor of Russell Denton as the narrator. Both were putting all they had into it. The set too, was a joy. But they never stood a chance with a script that was incoherent in places, and which, in an attempt to work up a pace, went too far and ended as a sluggish episodic patchwork. Terry Jacobs warned us in the opening lines that all that glitters is not gold. One can in fairness state that this show glittered.

Michael Mason

Stephen Wyatt's **EXIT PURSUED BY A BEAR** (Cambridge University Theatre Company at the Edinburgh Festival) is a hilarious satire on the hang-ups of three neurotic young men (one gay, two straight), whose sexual conquests — or, rather, non-conquests — are mercilessly exposed in the course of a traumatic weekend of abortive one-night-standmanship.

After vainly attempting suicide, David pops out to the local for a drink with Patrick (the tall angular fairy in the photograph). Into the empty flat comes Roger with his latest female pick-up who, to his disgust, demands an emotional relationship ("sex can always come later"). Instead of making it emotionally with Roger, she indulges in a little quiet necking with the suicide-prone David — drunk by now on a lethal mixture of sleeping tablets and alcohol, and a proper subject for her ministrations.

This sturdy brew is given a further stir by Brian, a young evangelist intent on elevating their

minds to realms beyond the body. Both he and an ex-girlfriend of Roger are sucked into the vortex, and Brian — still mouthing the scriptures — very quickly finds himself the object of Patrick's urbane attentions in one of the funniest seduction scenes I've enjoyed for a long time. The fun is further compounded by David's failure to realise that he'd just spent the night with Roger's prim pick-up.

The Gay Lib angle, paradoxically, gains added force from not being spelt out. Patrick's presence in an otherwise straight flat is never for a moment questioned, and the sexual quirks of his flatmates are ridiculed just as much as his own.

With the exception of John Bowen's *Little Boxes*, this is about the most intelligent and well-observed play with a gay theme that I've come across. It is directed at a rattling pace by Andrew Wickes and has music by the Footlights team.

Bob Sturgess

Brainwashed To Sex

DECAMERON '73 — recently at the Round House Theatre.

The danger of being brainwashed occurred to me while watching *DECAMERON '73*. Though I found most of the sketches in 'Oh Calcutta' lewd and unfunny, by the time I saw the highly amusing 'Dirtiest Show In Town', I had unconsciously become immune to humour that at one time might have offended me. The sketches played here are all based on classic erotic stories, and apart from occasionally being naive, in the main they are quite amusing.

The attractive young cast of 10 hail from all over the world, and are equally at home either as story teller of one sketch, singer and dancer in another, or partaking in the sexual frivolities. Their approach to the nude scenes has an air of natural innocence which cannot offend, and several of the simulated copulation scenes have a definite artistic feel to them.

A great asset to the show are the tuneful melodies by Joe Griffiths, which are played by the exciting rock group MAHATMA. A young lady from the Caribbean, June Bolton, sings the majority of them, and her warm, vibrant voice covers a nice range of songs, from the humorous 'The Devil In Me' to several tender love songs.

Barry Conley

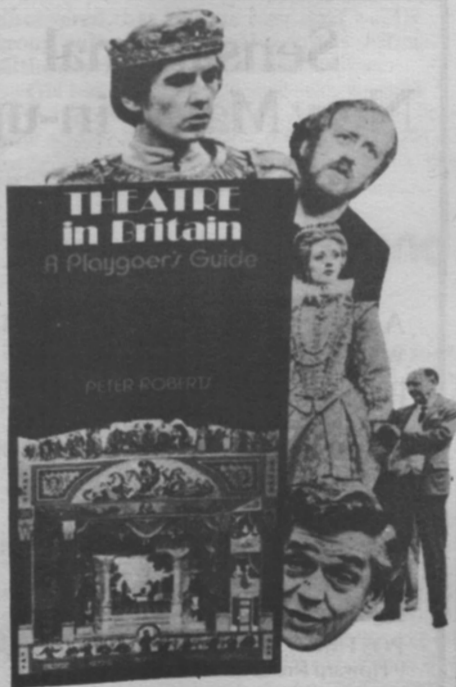
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Funky But Sweet



THE POWER OF JOE SIMON — Polydor 2391090

Earlier this year, Monument Records released 'Joe Simon's Greatest Hits.' Now Polydor have issued *The Power of Joe Simon*, which really ought to be called this artist's 'greatest hits' volume two, as it contains all the successes he's had since leaving his former record company.

The title of the Monument album is truthful in the sense that the majority of the tracks were single hits in the

States, but it is only comparatively recently that Simon has broken through to the charts in Britain, with cuts such as *Step By Step* and *Drowning In The Sea Of Love*. Both these songs are included on this new collection, which also contains 12 other tracks, many of which reached high positions in the US charts. Amongst these are *Your Time To Cry*, *Trouble In My Home*, *Talk Don't Bother Me* and *Power Of Love*. Incidentally, the latter and *Drowning In The Sea Of Love* were both million sellers in America.

Simon has a voice that is unique in the soul genre; it's powerfully distinctive and emotionally satisfying. His sincere interpretation of love songs, along with his overall vocal virtuosity are complemented by full, but never tackily lush arrangements. For instance, just listen to the strings on *Pool Of Bad Luck*. Funky but sweet. Along with his ability to choose first rate material, the combination of his talents has an appeal that isn't limited to just soul music devotees.

Maybe you haven't picked up on Joe Simon yet, apart from hearing the odd record of his at a discotheque, or on one of the better pop music shows on the radio. Don't miss out on this superb performer any longer, a love ballad sung by Joe Simon is a powerful experience.

UNLIMITED — Jimmy Cliff — EMI EMA 757

Released on the rather anonymous EMI label, Jimmy Cliff's first album since parting company with Island Records is *Unlimited*. Few of the tracks equal his contributions to the incredible 'The Harder They Come' soundtrack, but nevertheless it is a thoroughly enjoyable middle-of-the-road reggae set.

Jimmy Cliff's singing and song-writing talents surpass those of any other reggae performer and, despite the fully orchestrated arrangements, he never loses touch with the basic earthiness of the genre. His fine sense of melody makes his compositions instantly attractive and the joyful exuberance throughout the album stops it being as heavy as some of his previous recordings. The unpretentious social observations he makes in some of his songs lose none of their relevance though.

There is a total of 13 tracks on the record. Particularly impressive are *Under the Sun*, *Moon and Stars*, *Born to Win*, *Commercialisation*, *Be True and World Of Peace*. Without being condescending, the album's title, *Unlimited*, is an apt description for a balanced and well produced recording that is at all times completely entertaining.

THE MARSHALL TUCKER BAND — Capricorn K47509

The Marshall Tucker Band are a new 6-man group with a fast growing reputation in the States. Their first album though does little to justify the amount of interest they are currently receiving. One way of describing them is by comparing their initial efforts to the Allman Brothers Band (both groups come from the southern States of America, they share the same production team and record label), but display none of the potential the Allmans did on their first couple of albums. Their sound is composed of various styles and influences, most notably blues (country and city), country & western and rock, but whereas the Allmans quickly established their own unmistakable identity, the Marshall Tucker outfit just self-consciously switch from one contemporary music form to another.

The band should not be dismissed entirely, as they do have some significant attributes. All the tracks on the record were written by Toy Caldwell, and although his lyrics are banal and weak, and his vocals uninspiring, he does at times play some particularly fluid lead guitar. This can be heard to full effect on the opening cut, *Take The Highway*. The rest of the time, despite his faultless musicianship, his compositions are little more than mediocre. They are enhanced occasionally by the uniquely inventive flute playing of Jerry Eubanks.

If Caldwell can produce some stronger material, or alternatively use the works of established writers, and can merge the band's numerous influences into an original and distinctive musical identity, their second record should prove to be considerably more exciting than their ordinary and forgettable first album.

COUNTRY CASANOVA — Commander Cody and His Lost Planet Airmen — Paramount SPFL 287

Commander Cody and his LPA continue to be one of the finest and certainly the most versatile of the neo-country groups, as their latest album, *Country Casanova* amply demonstrates. On this new release they display their proficiency in a variety of musical forms: rockabilly, boogie woogie, rock and roll, country & western, country swing and last but not least, truck-driving music. They are one of the tightest and most highly polished groups around today and by encompassing so many styles their appeal creates for them a following which ranges from the ultra-hip to redneck truck drivers.

Highlights of the album are an irresistible boogie, aptly titled *Rock That Boogie* and a fast moving version of the old Buddy Holly stomper *Rave On*. My only, but major complaint about *Country Casanova* is its meagre playing time, a mere 28 minutes 22 seconds. Apparently the powers that be at EMI decided to make one of the cuts do a disappearing act because it was too joyous in its praise of certain sexual activities. Musical voyeurs will have to buy an import copy to savour this forbidden delight. Censorship or hypocrisy?

SCHOOLDAYS — Alice Cooper — Warner Bros. K 66021

Schooldays is a repackaging into a two-record set of Alice Cooper's first two albums, *Pretties For You* and *Easy Action*. Both were originally released on Frank Zappa's brilliant but uncommercial Straight label. At the time they were recorded, Zappa was the only person in the record industry to see any potential in the group.

The main difference between these recordings and Alice's later albums, is that they are more free-form and exploratively inventive, with greater emphasis being placed on the music than on the shock/outrage techniques which were to follow.

The double album is reasonably priced at just under £3, and is likely to be of interest to any ardent Alice Cooper fanatic who hasn't heard these early, but all the same fascinating, performances.

PAT GARRETT & BILLY THE KID — Original Soundtrack by Bob Dylan — CBS 69042

'Original Soundtracks' are always difficult to write about, their value depending almost entirely on an individual's estimation of a film. My task is a little harder in this instance, as I haven't yet seen 'Pat Garrett & Billy The Kid'. GN's David Seligman is very enthusiastic about it, although Alexander Walker of the Evening Standard couldn't find a single kind word to say about the film.

The album is a must for Bob Dylan fans, despite the fact that there is only one actual song from him. It's called *Billy* and is sung in different vocal styles on three separate occasions on the record. The rest of the soundtrack is made up of Dylan-composed scene-setting material. Like I said, a recording that no Dylan fan will want to be without. It'll also please those people who are turned on by 'authentic wild west' sounding background music, but is hardly likely to appeal to anyone else.

THE MACK — Original Soundtrack by Willie Hutch — Tamla Motown STMA 8009

The influential American music paper *Cashbox* thinks that Willie Hutch's soundtrack score for *The Mack* is "quite possibly the best black-orientated film music to date." It certainly is one of the best, rating as highly in my opinion as the very successful 'Shaft' soundtrack by Isaac Hayes.



It only suffers on a couple of occasions from some of the usual faults that afflict soundtrack recordings — overlong musical meanderings that may be fine when seeing the film but get a little tedious when transferred to disc. But these minor failings are hardly worth mentioning when one considers the overall excitement the record creates.

The couple of discotheques I regularly go to have discovered the album's worth, and tracks such as *Mack Man*, *Theme of The Mack*, *The*

Getaway and *Brother's Gonna Work It Out* are guaranteed to get people onto the dance floor. The latter track has been a sizable hit in the States and could possibly repeat its success in Britain.

The Mack soundtrack is multi-instrumentalist Willie Hutch's debut as an artist. Previously he's been a Motown writer and producer, with hits like *I'll Be There* for the Jackson 5 and *Mr Fix-it Man* for Sisters Love to his credit. On the strength of this album he looks set for a bright future, giving him the opportunity to produce a lot more exhilarating funky music.

JANIS JOPLIN'S GREATEST HITS — CBS 65470

As expected, CBS have issued a collection of tracks by the late Janis Joplin called *Greatest Hits*. Few of the cuts were in fact chart 'hits' as they are culled from her previous album releases. But the songs are amongst some of her finest performances preserved on record. Of course, the compilation will not completely satisfy everyone, but sufficient thought has gone into the selection of the material and most people will accept it as a fitting tribute to Janis's memory.



The tracks come from all periods of her recording career. The earliest are taken from the 'Cheap Thrills' album, recorded with Big Brother and The Holding Company, and the latest are tapes of her concert appearances with the Full Tilt Boogie Band. There are examples of her studio work: *Me And Bobby McGee*, *Get It While You Can*, *Cry Baby*, *Move Over and Try (Just A Little Bit Harder)*. Live performances are represented by cuts such as *Piece of My Heart*, *Summertime* and *Down On Me*. The album finishes with the extremely moving version of *Ball and Chain*, taken from her 'In Concert' two-record set.

Janis's powerful, emotion packed voice made her a unique musical experience, and her untimely death in 1970 robbed the world of one of the greatest white blues singers ever known. Subsequently, Janis Joplin's *Greatest Hits* is an essential addition to any serious collection of contemporary music.

AFRICAN HERBSMAN — Bob Marley and The Wailers — Trojan TRLS 62

Cashing in on the critical acclaim and commercial success of the *Catch A Fire* album by The Wailers, Trojan Records have released a collection of sixteen tracks the group recorded earlier in their career. Most of the cuts were originally issued on the Upsetter label and although none of them achieved national chart success, they sold well to white reggae enthusiasts and the black community in the UK and a few were big hits in Jamaica.

Whereas *Catch A Fire* was one of the best produced reggae records ever released, *African Herbsman* is far more basic and is much closer to the ethnic roots of reggae. But the lack of sophisticated recording techniques in no way detracts from the music's highly danceable appeal.

Amongst the best tracks, most of

which will already be well known to reggae lovers, are *Lively Up Yourself*, *Trench Town Rock*, *Small Axe*, *Puppy Conqueror* and *All In One*. The Wailers' original version of *400 Years* is also included and the title track, *African Herbsman* is particularly attractive.



If you discovered Bob Marley and The Wailers with *Catch A Fire*, this compilation is a memorable and entertaining way of finding out why and how they became one of the leading exponents of reggae.

HISTORY OF THE GRATEFUL DEAD Vol 1 (Bear's Choice) — Warner Bros K 46246

This new album from the Grateful Dead is another live set, recorded at the Fillmore East in 1970. Although the seven tracks haven't appeared on any of their previous recordings, Dead fans are still kept waiting for an album of new material.

Not that I've got any complaints about *History of the Grateful Dead Vol 1*, as it contains excellent examples of the variety of styles the group can play in. It was recorded shortly before they made 'Workingman's Dead'. Side One is devoted to acoustic material, the other to electric numbers. Of the two, the electric side comes off best, as the lengthy treatment of Howlin' Wolf's *Smokestack Lightnin'* showcases the Dead at their inimitable best. The closing track, *Hard To Handle*, is a worthy interpretation of the song written and made famous by the late Otis Redding. Standout cuts on the first side are *Dark Hollow* and a memorable version of the Everly Brothers' old hit *Wake Up Little Susie*.

The album was put together by Bear, who also recorded the set; production was by the legendary 'Acid King' Owsley Stanley. Bear's choice seems to be a memorial to Ron 'Pigpen' McKernan, the Dead's keyboard player and vocalist, who tragically died early this year. 'Pigpen's' vocals are heard to good effect on four cuts and his playing is amongst some of the finest there is preserved on disc.

I look forward to other volumes in this series, but sincerely hope a new album will be released soon.

Denis Lemon

TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA — Original London Cast Recording — RSO Records 2394 110

The London cast recording of *Two Gentlemen of Verona* arrives several months after the show has opened here. Listening to it at home, one can give full concentration to the music and singing, whereas in the theatre one's attention is split between the visual and the audible. Obviously pains have been taken to get onto record as good a souvenir of the show as possible. Unfortunately, although each artist comes across well on disc, the end result depends on the score itself, and in this case I have to admit that Galt MacDermot's music remains unexciting.

Samuel E Wright repeats his virile performance here on the funky *Love's Revenge* and in duet with B J Arnau on *Night Letter*. Ray C Davis is best on the calypso styled *Calla Lily Lady*, and the fine singing voice of Minoo Golvalla once again enhances his one song, *Eglamour*. Very well recorded and recommended to those who enjoyed the show.

Barry Conley

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Condemned With Venom

Roger Casement: A Gay Hero?



Roger Casement as a young man.

ROGER CASEMENT by Brian Inglis. Hodder and Stoughton. Price £4.50

DR INGLIS, in this new study of Roger Casement, states that his hope is that it will create a better understanding both of Roger Casement and the wider issues of Anglo-Irish problems his life reflects. He has succeeded admirably in this, rightly arguing that the issue of Casement's homosexuality has for too long dominated effective study of him. Besides examining the familiar controversy raised by the Diaries he presents a clear and full account of the career and achievement of his subject. Casement's outstanding work in the Congo, his efforts to help the Putumayo Indians, the origins and growth of his Irish nationalism, his disastrous commitment to Germany, and his courageous end are all carefully assessed and make fascinating reading.

However, the controversy remains and Dr Inglis's hopes that this book would revive no bitterness has not been realised. It is easy for an English reader to say what does it matter whether Casement was homosexual or not? What difference does it make to his achievement? To many Irish people it is a point of national honour. Casement, to them, was an Irish patriot discredited by false allegations of a homosexual life, on the basis of diaries found by the authorities in his London lodgings in 1916, which allegedly substantiated the charge. Copies were circulated by the authority of the Home Office to influential individuals and sympathetic governments to prevent the success of a powerful reprieve movement. Casement denounced them as forgeries whilst in the condemned cell but was refused access to them in order to refute them. This succeeded, but the further objective of thus preventing Casement from becoming a martyr after his death failed. Controversy has raged ever since as to the authenticity of the Diaries. Not until 1959 were the Diaries made available for restricted inspection in the Public Record Office, and a vital Home Office file of papers relating to the case will not be released for inspection until the next century. Thus it must be admitted that their authenticity has not yet been definitely proved and the behaviour of successive British Governments in this matter and their continuous refusal to permit an independent and impartial jury to determine this, a proposal Dr Inglis supports, effectively ensures that the issue will not rest. Dr Inglis accepts their authenticity and clearly sets out his reasons for doing so. However, the Home Office refused him permission to reproduce a page of one of the Diaries to support his argument. Hostile Irish reaction to the book in the correspondence columns of the "Irish Times" demonstrate how strongly felt the issue continues to be and what serious difficulties face historians, despite supporting voices, in attempting a balanced judgement of a controversial theme. Individual readers must decide this issue for themselves.

The great merit of Dr Inglis's book is that he faces the homosexual issue fully and squarely. There is no equivocation; rather a sympathetic attempt to understand the problem in a period which had little understanding of it. Where appropriate short extracts are given from the Diaries. Dr Inglis argues that these record Casement's enjoyment and pleasure in his homosexual relations with youths and were kept to record and recall such enjoyments later on. However, Casement could not come to terms with his homosexuality which he regarded as a condition

which should be cured if one could be found. He suffered considerable personal distress and the strain imposed upon him by the conflict between his personal desires and the dictates of law and social conformity helped break his personality down. His most costly liaison was with Adler Christensen, his trusted valet on the journey to Germany in 1914, who squalidly endeavoured to betray him and revealed their homosexual relationship to the British authorities in Norway, but without success. The strains of such an emotional life as Casement had to lead eventually broke him. Dr Inglis discusses the whole issue with care and insight, adding some moving extracts from Casement's poetry to reinforce the analysis. He also introduces a pointed extract from a psychiatric publication of 1886 which, had its insight been followed, would have saved the "monstrous martyrdoms" suffered by so many, including Casement, since that date, and produced much earlier a liberal and enlightened social understanding of the homosexual in society. A full portrayal of Casement's complex personality is thus realised as well as an understanding of the real personal difficulties he had to face in his private life whilst pursuing an active public career.

Many of Casement's friends refused to accept his homosexuality since to them, his life had been one beyond reproach, selflessly spent in the services of humanity. Hence the need of the British Government to discredit him in 1916. Dr Inglis shows beyond doubt that Casement was a man of rare quality and character, passionately concerned for the under-privileged and exploited, whether in



Casement leaving the Law Courts after his appeal has been dismissed.

the Congo, Putumayo or Ireland. Repeatedly contemporary views of Casement are introduced to show the deep impression Casement made on those who met him at successive stages in his career. Some, in the last years, sensed an imbalance but such was his standing in 1916 that, despite the Diaries, powerful efforts were made from many influential quarters to prevent execution.

He left behind an enduring record as an humanitarian of the first order, who spent himself in the causes of others.

To Ireland he gave all — a fruit of his work in the Congo. The biography shows the constructive and important role he played from 1904 in the development and realisation of Irish nationalist aspirations. From 1914 life, fame, reputation were willingly sacrificed in its cause. Paradoxically, he had the consolation of knowing before execution that the Irish rebellion he had returned to stop was a beginning and not an end for Irish history. But his greatest contribution as an Ulsterman was to attempt to bridge the differences between Ulster and Southern Ireland by a vigorous support of a united Ireland created from the goodwill and trust of Catholic and Protestant alike. Events prevented this being realised and drove Casement to the since realised vision of an independent neutral Ireland (minus his Ulster).

The obvious point should not have to be made. If Casement were homosexual this in no way detracts from the real nobility of his character or the worth of his achievement, as it appears it must with many in the country he died for.

This sympathetic study is well worth reading but at its price the public libraries should come into their own.

Francis Henry

Gay Lib Pot-Pourri

THE GAY LIBERATION BOOK, edited by Len Richmond and Gary Noguera. Published by Ramparts Press, San Francisco.

ESSAYS, plays, poems, photographs and drawings on gay men's liberation frankly avoiding any attempt to speak on behalf of women, gay or straight. Famous names: John Lennon, Allen Ginsberg, Gore Vidal, William Burroughs, introduction from Dennis Altman ("I regret that the division between men and women in the gay movement has meant that this anthology gives only a male perspective of gay liberation...").

Like Gaul, divided into three parts. Personal accounts, life stories, varied views and experiences of gay men from different backgrounds and cultures. The late Paul Goodman on his life as an ancient activist; an all-American boy masturbating in the storm cellar; being black and gay; David from a farm in Iowa on hustling; gay in Brazil; gays and psychiatry; gays and religion.

Part two, a record of the liberation movement, world wide. London Gay Liberation Front manifesto. Vidal on bi-sexual politics; cries from Italy and France; Arthur Evans on zapping straights. The text of a Gay Lib theatre piece (very funny) and Lennon's

poem which makes a non-point.

Part three moves us away from the movement ghetto into the world at large. **Beyond Gay Liberation** logically applies the tenets of gaylib to society at large, to all human beings. Burroughs on sexual conditioning is frightening enough to be rejected out of hand. An anonymous writer thinks homosexuality is destructive and damaging for him. A very downbeat piece from Ralph Schaffer (shot and killed a year ago in the shop he managed) on youthism; "In Gay Liberation I've known more gay people than in all my life. I have never been so lonely. What a tragic comment on Gay Liberation. Gay Liberation is masturbation."

So. Not all bland optimism; not all hysterical militancy. A mix — and the right one. Good, lively, controversial, informative reading. And — not unimportant — a very elegantly produced bendyback with some good pictures.

Roger Baker

FOOTNOTE: The *Gay Liberation Book* is not yet published in the UK, although GN's Mail Order Service has a few copies in stock, price £2 including P&P.

Exploring The Theatre

THEATRE IN BRITAIN — A Playgoer's Guide by Peter Roberts. Publishers — Pitman Publishing. Price 95p.

Peter Roberts explores all areas of the theatre in this new paperback, which is a must for drama enthusiasts. He has obviously done much research on the subject, and in some chapters, particularly that on Economics, there are some fascinating disclosures. For anyone who has pondered the cost of a West End stage production, Mr Roberts gives examples of costs in 1938 up to the present time. With today's ever-rising prices, it is not surprising to find his quotes on theatre prices already a little out of date.

Elsewhere there is an interesting rundown on the new authors of the past decade, with

useful references to their plays and progression. Design and Directing are given coverage, as well as a brief history of Opera and Ballet in this country. His comments on acting are likewise of interest, though in several cases one would wish for longer discussion on the subjects. Regional and Fringe theatre history is also explored.

The latter part of this book is devoted to a very useful list of theatre collections, special libraries, ticket agencies, statues and houses of historic interest, and information about London's theatres and many important theatres throughout the country. All in all, I consider the range covered here invaluable, and its selling price extremely cheap.

Barry Conley

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"I say Daise your riah looks real bona this past few days."

"Yes Flo, I know it does and I'll tell you why — I've just bought a water softener."

"Really Daise. What does it do?"

"Well it takes out all that naff dissolved rock that makes all the difference — it's lovely to bathe in too — my skin feels real smooth and clean and I don't need to clean the bath afterwards. I tell you it's really fab and puts me in a good mood knowing that I'm saving money on soaps and creams, and cleaning materials, and Fred is real gone over the difference he feels when we're together — you know... Anyway, ask RAINSOFT, they'll tell you, they do electrical goods too, with big discounts. Ring 01-455 9857 and talk to them."

QUICK SILVER

Maria Callas hysterics: the announcement that the prima-donna would do one concert at Festival Hall, London, drew a demand for 60,000 tickets. A second concert is now set for November 26th.

Money makes the world go round: Liza Minelli is currently shooting 'A Film Of Memory' in Germany, with Papa Vincente directing. After that, Franco Zeffereilli has her for a remake of 'Camille'. Liza also knows what she will be doing on New Year's Eve: singing in a Long Island club for \$40,000 which is a record café fee.

The more stand-offish Barbra Streisand has turned down a \$250,000 Hawaiian concert offer. She says she's only interested in doing films.

Bette Midler is also saying No. A forthcoming Broadway musical, with a plot concerning an ambitious Jewish starlet who lives across the road from Streisand, has been nixed by her. Bette will, however, do a season of vaudeville shows at the Palace on Broadway.

Cliff in heaven: After seven years, Cliff Richard will make another film musical. 'Take Me Higher' is the title, and we're sure it's not a drug reference.

Betty Hutton Lives! In Boston actually, where she is currently rehearsing 'Anything Goes' for night-club presentation. 'Annie Get Your Gun' will follow.

Gentlemen prefer Gentlemen: A Carol Channing performance in San Francisco went on with 40 drag impersonators in the audience. Overwhelmed by the tribute, Carol judged an impromptu contest, and chose the best Channing lookalike.

Judy Garland's booze and fame epic of 1954, 'A Star Is Born' is to be remade by Warner Bros, complete with an updated rock plot. No stars have yet been named for it.

The musical 'Zorba' will have a London opening in November . . . Johnny Mathis booked for the Palladium . . . Liz Taylor in London to film her newie 'Drivers Seat' . . . Orson Welles is here doing a TV series . . . Duke Ellington will give a concert at Westminster Abbey, October 24 . . . Stan Kenton currently touring Europe . . . Those Were The Days: Mary Hopkins has retired . . . Ava Gardner spotted at Louise's, the West End club . . . The fantastic Mae West season at the Notting Hill Gate Classic is currently winding up with 'She Done Him Wrong' and 'Every Day's A Holiday' . . . Marcel Marceau is starring in 'Shanks', a forthcoming film which has him playing two roles.



The Screen Scene

Veiled rumours in Wardour Street indicate that Sam Peckinpah had incessant wars with MGM about budget, length and over-running the production schedule during the shooting of **PAT GARRETT AND BILLY THE KID**, and the strain shows. Thankfully, the advanced state of decay of the old West and its characters is even more pronounced than usual. I always think Peckinpah's West of the 1880s is a little like the Republic of Ireland today, a little pocket of charming decay, technically and esthetically a decade or two behind the times, populated only by mainly alcoholic elderly eccentrics dwelling on a glorious bloody past.



Peckinpah violence in 'Pat Garrett and Bill The Kid'.

Amidst this labyrinth, Pat Garrett (James Coburn) has forsaken anarchy and his loving friendship with Billy (Kris Kristofferson), to placate the new king, the railway/mining company, and so sets out to capture the Kid. His journey takes him past men, settlements and exotically beautiful desert landscapes and sunsets, that all go to prove the Western film — is that what Peckinpah is lamenting the passing of, since the 'real' West was never like this — is dying.

The performances are rampantly emotional. Coburn as the dandified, tough but predominantly humane sheriff is outstanding, and there are the usual array of touching characterisations, from such delights as Chill Wills, Slim Pickens, Katy Durado and Rudolph Wurlitzer, who also wrote the screenplay. Even Bob Dylan, who music aside, has so obviously been forcibly inserted by MGM as 'box office', does well to confine his presence to comparative anonymity, appearing as innocuous as Shirley Temple, or Judy Garland in the Wizard of Oz.

I find Peckinpah's movies everlastingly compulsive. His various perversities — multiple schizophrenia, with his simultaneous affections for fascism, nostalgia, decay, love, hate, this slightly mocking, unflinching masculinity his cowboys have; the glory of gore. Recommended.

★ ★ ★

Innovation seems to be a quality singularly lacking in today's cinema. Three of this month's five major West End releases are revivals: *My Fair Lady*, *Dr Zhivago* and *This Is Cinerama* (circa 1952) and the current James Bond saga *Live and Let Die* is playing at five cinemas within a three mile radius of Leicester Square.

Even the new films seem to be weighed down with the same hoary old plots. **NIGHTWATCH** (Avco Embassy) director Brian Hutton is yet another updated forties thriller with a fatal triangle. Husband Laurence Harvey and girlfriend Billie Whitelaw trade on the neurosis of wife, Elizabeth Taylor, in order to hasten her nervous breakdown and subsequent imprisonment in a Swiss institution, so that they can nip off to the Bahamas together. Wife catches on and at end of film gets bloody revenge. Thunderstorms and violin concertos in the background abound.

This is an updated film, so naturally the gore is more pronounced, and the maid Spanish. The surroundings are distinctly upper middle class, so there is luxury, but it appears to be mainly in the kitchen — a giant fridge. Ms Taylor, despite large puffy dresses, and giant rings, is not a convincing movie queen. Her natural beauty tends to show through the make up. Her histrionics seem very half-hearted. Mr Harvey who, to quote a famous critic, "has been away from our screens for quite some time," fares a little better. His slightly camp, gently self-mocking style of delivering his lines, with occasional gestures towards parody, is reasonably funny at times, and he does have the film's one classic line. (The character he plays is a stockbroker): "Every time the Vietcong start an offensive there's panic on Wall Street, and I'm late home for dinner."

I fancy it would need a director far superior in skill to Mr Hutton, who made *Where Eagles Dare*, to dissect this script into orgies of mockery, so if it's an old-fashioned thriller you're after, take my advice, wait for the next Bette Davis or Barbara Stanwyck movie on telly.

★ ★ ★

Sports fiends will lap up every moment of **VISIONS OF EIGHT** (Anglo-EMI), eight prominent directors' depictions of last year's Olympic Games. But a work with contributions by Milos Forman, Claude Lelouch, Michael Pflieger, Arthur Penn, Juri Ozerov, Kon Ichikawa, Mai Zetterling and John Schlesinger, should have been a rather more scintillating exercise than what appears in the most part to be a 100 minute slow motion appreciation of the lithe bodies and movements of assorted high jumpers, pole vaulters and runners. We had all that ad infinitum from David Coleman and co last year.

Not being a sports fan, but having a sneaking suspicion that the entire nonsensical event is another insane episode in the East versus West

Continued at top of next column.

power struggle, a throng of mock togetherness, an occasion which is supposed to be forward thinking in terms of man relating to his fellow man, but characterised by the most basic form of capitalist against communist, religion against religion, conflict — the assault on the Israeli camp.

Appallingly, our dear collection of directors scarcely noticed any of this. Schlesinger's section amongst the only three worth mentioning at all, cynically chronicled the training and progress of Ron Hill in the Marathon event. It is fascinating for its portrait of this diminutive scientist from a Courtauld's factory somewhere in the North being spurred on by Granny there are too, some passing references to the media's treatment of the Arab/Israeli shoot-out. Juri Ozerov, a Russian, stolidly, in a short opening session, expresses the zaniness of the whole escapade, merely by showing the numerous competitors arriving at the Olympic Village, tracing their facial expressions, and showing the kitchens at the Village where gargantuan amounts of steaks, eggs etc, are being prepared in assembly line fashion. It could be an airport kitchen or a Granada motorway service station, or a package deal hotel in Spain. Perhaps the Olympic Games exemplify the ethos of all these places. Marginally my favourite segment though, was Mai Zetterling's, who starts with the premise, "I'm not interested in sport, but obsession." Her piece of film is about weightlifters, who she shows as grotesque jellies whose entire lives are centred on those mighty clangers.

★ ★ ★

Robert Aldrich, the director of **EMPEROR OF THE NORTH** (Fox Rank) has made some of the most cruelly pessimistic films in recent years, usually outlining the inability of some of society's enforced miscreants ultimate inability to survive: *The Dirty Dozen*; the ageing movie queens of *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?* the lesbians in *The Killing of Sister George*. They are all admirably sour films, and all too long, slightly spoilt by an excess of irrelevant scenes.

While other directors are content to have their work edited down to 95 minutes or so, Aldrich stubbornly sticks it out for two hours, and *Emperor of the North* (119 minutes) is no exception. In the thirties American hoboes, made so by the Depression, rode the railroads in search of . . . and Lee Marvin and Keith Carradine play just such a couple of stowaway drifters, pathetically coarse and violent, a little like a bloody Laurel and Hardy. It is one of Aldrich's foibles to vaguely base some of his characters on old time movie characters. Ernest Borgnine giving perhaps his strongest performance since the *Wild Bunch* is the Hitler type engineer of engine number nineteen who will go to any violent lengths to prevent the tramps from riding his train.

The film contains much that is despicably boring, but there are just enough short, brilliant scenes and characters, carefully placed at intervals to make it worthwhile. Borgnine's engineer is the product of his time, unremittingly tough at the top of one of the few skilful professions available to the uneducated working man at the time. For railway buffs there are beautiful scenes with steam engines, and the inevitable well made race against time to avoid the collision in fog at the junction. The historical detail is always painstakingly accurate, as is effective Aldrich's way of scraping away the illusion — Hollywood — of his stars' manufactured beauty. Remember Bette Davis in *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?* Both Marvin and Borgnine (without hairpiece) look horribly old and weary.

David Seligman

Films With Goy Themes

LONDON: The Camden Festival is currently running an extensive season of British films, three of which form a triple bill and may be of special interest to readers. *Duffer* is a 1971 feature directed by Joseph Despins and William Damesque, described by one reviewer as "a kind of hip Sunday Bloody Sunday;" *Come Together*, a documentary on gay liberation; and *Sheila*, apparently a film about women's liberation.

The triple bill will be screened at The Place in Duke's Road WC1 (close to Euston tube) on Saturday, September 22, 8pm. Admission is 40p.



Kit Cleave as Duffer, object of his flatmate's passion

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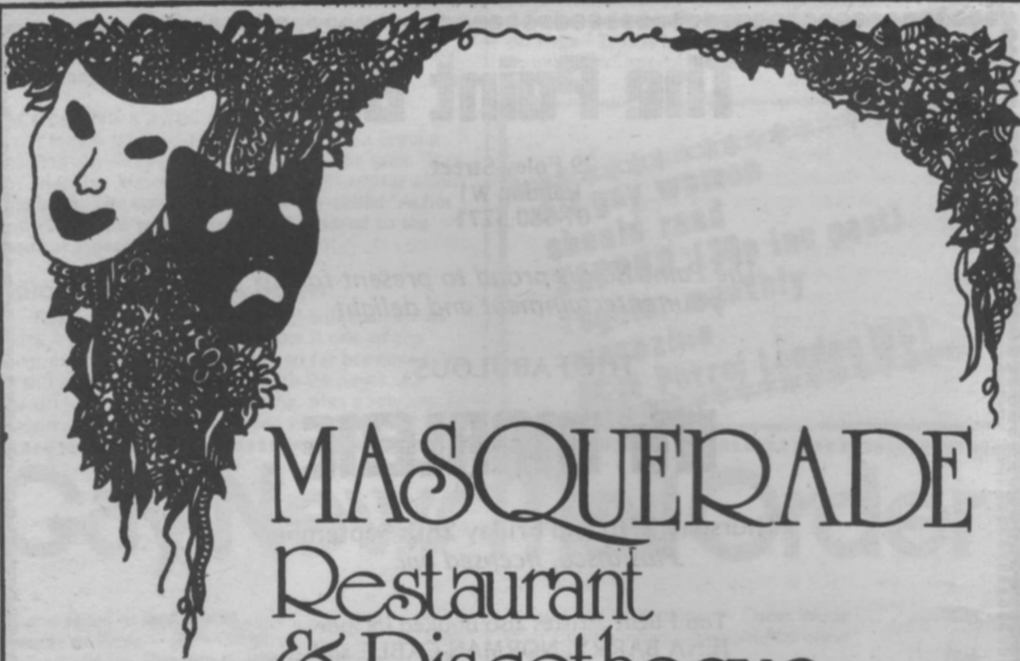
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Derek's Guide

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.

** indicates 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**
Pub: Caledonian Hotel (buffet bar)
- BARNSELY**
Pub: Queens Hotel (Venturer Bar)
- 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
- BLACKBURN**
Pub: Merchants Hotel, Darwen Street (D)
- BLACKPOOL**
Pub: Lucy's Bar, Talbot Square.
Club: Pepe's Club, Talbot Road.
- BOLTON**
Pub: *The Vulcan, Great Moor St
- BOURNEMOUTH**
Pub: The Norfolk Hotel
Clubs: Gigis, The Triangle
Hotel East Cliff Towers, East Cliff
- BRADFORD**
Pub: Junction Inn, Leeds Road
Club: Shangri La, Piecehall Yard
- BRENTWOOD**
Pub: The Greyhound, Childerditch Common
- BRIGHTON**
Pubs: Spotted Dog, Middle Street
Heart & Hand, Ship 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
Longbranch Club, Grand Parade
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**
Pub: Grosvenor Hotel
- CIRENCESTER**
Pub: Nelson.
- CLEETHORPES**
Club: *Birds Nest, Club, Kings Road, Bathing Pool.
- COVENTRY**
Pub: Rose & Crown, High Street
- DERBY**
Club: Pavilion Club, 123 London Rd, Shardlow (7 miles)

- DONCASTER**
Pubs: Don Jon's, Silver Street
Underground
- DUNDEE**
Pub: Gauger, Seagate
- DUNSMORE, Bucks**
Pub: The Fox
- DURHAM**
Pubs: Country Hotel, Old Elvet
The Three Tuns, Old Elvet
- EDINBURGH**
Pubs: The Kenilworth, Rose Street
The Abercromby Hotel,
Abercromby Place
The Baillie, St Stephen Street
- GLASGOW**
Pubs: Duke of Wellington, Argyle St
McCalls, Hope St
- GRAVESEND**
Pub: The Kent, High Street
- GUILDFORD**
Pub: Royal Oak, nr multistorey car park.
- Huddersfield**
Pubs: The Grey Horse, Chapel Hill (Sundays)
Amster Dam (Sundays)
- HULL**
Pub: White Horse Hotel (Polly's Bar)
- IPSWICH**
Pub: Sea Horse Inn (young crowd, Friday disco)
- LANCASTER**
Pub: Farmers Arms, King Street
Cafe: *Odd Spot Coffee House, Sir Simon's Arcade (CHE disco held there first Sat each month)
- LEEDS**
Pubs: Hope & Anchor, Call Lane
West Riding (Back Bar)
Honky Tonks
Club: Charleys Brigade
Coffee Bar: Flamenco, off Upper Briggate.
Disco: Leeds GLF disco fortnightly.
Contact their office for location.
- LEICESTER**
Pub: Dover Castle, Dover Street
- LIVERPOOL**
Pubs: Lisbon, Victoria St, L2.
Bonaparte (private lounge)
Temple Lane, L2
Clubs: New Bears Paw, Dorrans Lane L1
Johns Gay Bar Royal, Wood St L1.
Pagoda, 31 Colquitt St L1
- LONDON**
Pubs: *The Boltons & The Coleherne are near each other in Old Brompton Road (nearest tube Earls Court)
*The Champion, Bayswater Rd (tube Notting Hill Gate)
*The Green Room at the Wheat-sheaf, Goldhawk Rd (Goldhawk Road tube)
*The Queens Head, Tryon Street (off Kings Road) (Sloane Sq tube)
*New Black Cap, Camden High street. (Camden Town tube)(D)
*Pig & Whistle, Little Chester Street, SW1 (Sundays only)
*Horse & Groom, near Pig & Whistle (Sundays only)
Cricketers, Battersea Park Rd (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)
Royal Mail, Upper St, Islington N1 (Angel tube) (D)
Watermans Arms, Water Lane, Richmond
Imperial, High Street, Richmond
Clubs: *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)

- *Molin Disco Club (see general info)
- *Shanes, Broadhurst Gardens NW6
The Escort, 89a Pimlico Road (Sloane Sq tube)
Yours & Mine, Kensington High Street W8 (Ken High St 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 Church St SW1 (Victoria tube)
Apollo, 31 Wardour St W1 (Dilly or Leicester Sq tube)
- Discos: The Catacombs*, Old Brompton Road (Earls Court tube)
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)
Alan & Daves Disco, Surrey Docks Stn (Thursdays)
- LUTON**
Club: *Pan Club, Bute Street. Open nightly, weekend cabaret.
- LUTTERWORTH**
Pub: The Man at Arms, Bitteswell, nr Lutterworth.
- MACCLESFIELD**
Pub: Waters Green Tavern
- 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
New York, Bloom St
Clubs: Samantha, 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
- MIDDLESBOROUGH**
Pub: The Grand Hotel
- 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 (Nancy's 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
- NOTTINGHAM**
Pubs: Dog & Partridge, Parliament St
The Roebuck, Manfield Rd
Bentink Hotel, Midland Station
The Foresters (Girls) nr Victoria Centre
Clubs: Mario's Restaurant, Stanford St (off Castlegate)
Pavilion Club, 123 London Road
Shardlow. (13 miles)
- 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.
- PENRITH**
Cafe: Rendezvous, Sandgate
- PLYMOUTH**
Pubs: The Lockyer, Lockyer Street
The Phoenix (off Union Street)
The Valletort
- POOLE:**
Pubs: The Jolly Sailor
The Lord Nelson
- PORTSMOUTH**
Pubs: Albany Bar, Commercial Road,
Balmoral Bar, Landport
Terrace, off Commercial Road
Standard Bar, Portsmouth Station.
- PRESTON**
Pubs: Bull & Royal Cockpit Bar
- READING**
Disco: Reading Gay Alliance Disco, Wednesday and Saturday at Railway Tavern
- SANDBACH Cheshire**
Pub: Market Place Tavern (Thursdays)
- SCARBOROUGH**
Pub: The Cliff Inn, Huntress Row
Club: The Bottleneck, Ramshill Road
- SHEFFIELD**
Pub: The Cossack
- SOUTHAMPTON**
Pub: Lord Robert's, Canal Walk
Club: Harvey's, St Mary's Street
Anchor Inn, East St (Girls only Saturday)
Robert Burns, 9 South Front
- SOUTHPORT**
Pub: Scarisbrick, Lord Street.
Club: Condar Club, 18 Nevill Street.

- SOUTHSEA**
Pubs: Captain's Table, Granada Road
Jolly Sailor, South Parade
- 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**
Pub: Roker Hotel, Upper Promenade,
Roker
Club: *Rokoko, The Promenade,
Roker
- SWANSEA**
Pubs: C. Dolphin Hotel (C T Lounge)
V. nitewalls
Cricketers Hotel, King Edward Road
- THAME**
Pub: The Jolly Sailor
- TORQUAY**
Club: Double Two Club, Rock Road
- VENTNOR, ISLE OF WIGHT**
Pub: The Hole in the Wall, Market St
- WARRINGTON**
Pubs: The Higher Seven Stars,
Bridge Street
Dog & Partridge, Parliament Street
- WINCHESTER**
Pub: The Green Man, The Place
- WINDSOR**
Pub: Three Tuns, near Guildhall
Noahs Arch, near disused Gas Works (Fri & Sat)
- WOLVERHAMPTON**
Pub: Prince Albert, Station Drive
Club: Silver Web, Whitmore Street
- YORK**
Pub: York Arms

Personal

Well built mature gent seeks friendship responsible males 30ish. Photo if possible please. Box 32/1

To say I look like Adonis would be a joke, to say I am ugly I'd be a fool. I am in my twenties, 5'7" of middle European origin with very varied interests, living in London and looking for a friend, penpal etc, preferably tall, slim and well built around my age, good sense of humour a must. Please write and send photo. Box 32/2

Help! Attractive masculine well built London guy, 29, not meeting compatible types during day to day living. Intelligent, many interests inc music and cinema. Would like to meet similar up to 35 for genuine and who knows? lasting relationship. Photo please. Returned. ALA Box 32/3

London based young man 30 wishes to meet country living person for pleasant weekends together, age unimportant. Photo appreciated. Box 32/4

24 year old, tired of gay scene would like to meet active person 24-30 with same view, in London or any part of England. Varied interests. Photo helpful but not essential. Please only genuine replies. Box 32/5

I'm 30, seeking someone a bit younger, straight looking, living fairly near Blackburn, for regular weekend get-togethers. I'm civilised and intelligent and potentially very affectionate. Photo appreciated. Box 32/6

London, young leather guy with lots of gear and heans would like to meet similar type. My height 5'9", slim, active, blonde, blue eyes. Photos exchanged. ALA Box 32/7

I need an affectionate masculine friend any age, anywhere, with view of sharing our lives together. Someone who like me is a keep fit enthusiast, who also likes the countryside, animals (and can tolerate my love for classical music) My height 6ft, 11 stone, hair and eyes dark brown, 30. Please send a photo and I'll send mine in return. ALA Box 32/8

A friend needed. Do you like walking in the rain? Rambling in sweat. The hustle and bustle of the streets, the serenity of the quiet countryside, the romantic songs of Schubert, the raucous noise of the Stones, the sonnets of Shakespeare to the images of Bradbury and Asimov. I get high on all this and more. You do as well? Wonderful! I'm 5'8" 10st 6lbs, brown hair, green eyes, slightly neurotic. Photo exchanged and your letter will be answered. Box 32/9

Stable loving comradeship of a congenial friend is sought by professional Londoner, 40s, 6'1" 12 stone, very active, warm-hearted, unprejudiced, nature lover and rambler. Box 32/10

Stuart, I'm the guy (bespectacled) who said 'goodnight' to you outside Wheat-sheaf, 28th August. Thought you were dishonest. Interested? Write Box 32/11

22 slim, looks nothing to be ashamed of, wants to meet nice hairy, bearded guy, older who won't shrink at the mention of Yoga, Mozart, Wholefood and Harry Nilsson. Central London. Box 32/12

Tyne Tees area. Presentable professional guy 32 seeks non-camp well built friends 21-40 to enliven dull routine. Own home and car. Interests theatre, countryside and sport. All replies welcome, photo appreciated and returned. ALA Box 32/13

Young genuine 37 London seeks friends 21-29 for lasting friendship. Clean shaven. ALA. Varied interests. Box 32/14

Attractive male (24) seeks slim effeminate looking male 21-24. Photo if possible. Box 32/29

Bisexual male, 31, good looking, (5'9"), blue eyes, dark beard) non-effeminate, living on south coast with bi-wife, would like to meet TV & female impersonator for honest, sincere, beautiful friendship. London or South East. Photo if possible. Box 32/30

Rock freak seeks friends. Interests: rock, jazz, reading, guitar, art, forming a group S London. Photo(?) Box 32/31

Good looking Chinese (25) not camp, wishes to establish a genuine relationship. Age and appearance unimportant if friend is sincere, well-educated and with a sense of humour. Willing to come from Singapore but need assistance. Show me the beauty of your heart and I will give you mine. Box 32/32

Two lonely gay guys early twenties seek other non-camp guys (21-25) for lasting friendship. SE London area. Photo appreciated. Sincere ad. ALA. Box 32/33

Swimmer on Shoreham Beach 30 Aug 4pm; who wolf whistled at skin-head, please phone me mate. Brighton 686345

Cliff: see you at the Grosvenor Hotel Ballroom Sept 29 - am going to try and win the holiday in Greece prize - or at Porchester Hall Halloween dance, Sept 27 - be there if you can. Philip.

High Wycombe, Bucks, sincere 34, tall slim guy, varied interests, seeks friends 21-40 local/adjoining counties/ London areas. ALA Photo preferred. Box 32/28

Personal Ads continued on Page 18.

Gay News Subscriptions

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I wish my subscription to commence from Issue Number

(Single copies available 15p + 3p postage)
TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME

Personal Ads continued from Page 17.

Attractive 36 year old male seeks someone who needs someone for ever and ever amen. Box 32/15

Slim intelligent Londoner 26 and not bad looking, seeks lasting meaningful friendship with active man (about 24-29). Personality more important than interests. Photo appreciated but definitely not essential. Box 32/16

Nottingham gay guy 29 lonely, would like to meet someone 21-30 for outings and sincere friendship. Photo appreciated. Box 32/17

Lonely gay male, 27, inhibited, alone for five years after break-up of affair, seeks to start new life with someone 21-30 based on friendship, understanding and affection. I don't expect I live near you but please write wherever you are. ALA Photo appreciated. Box 32/18

Have car will travel. Also have own place. Aged 35 seeks friends anywhere over 21. Photo helps, but not essential. ALA Box 32/19

Young man 28 London, house and car, would like to hear from young attractive well-built friends in London and rest of country. I am completely free with no hang-ups, I would also like to meet any Germans, Scandinavians or Continentals living in or visiting London or UK — can offer overnight or weekend accommodation. Waiting to hear from all young friends. Photo please. ALA. Box 32/20

Would the good looking young man who got off the tube at Lancaster Gate 9.15pm, 1st September, accompanied by a friend in white rain coat, please contact me, the third person who got off at Lancaster gate and parted company at Craven Terrace. I would like to hear more about Rhodes. Box 32/21

Cleethorpes TV requires friends. Own flat, complete discretion, plenty but plenty drag. Box 32/22

I am not blonde, bronzed and beautiful and don't much care whether you are. I continue resolutely to believe that there must be somebody (21-30) somewhere (London or Brighton) who appreciates the value of sympathy, warmth, humour, and friendship, wants to share interests in theatre, music, books, politics, cinema, photography and the better things life has to offer, and who will not be disconcerted by the fact that I am 43, 6ft, and grey-haired. Box 32/23

Pyrenees Oct 20th-28th car tour. Bachelor 38 seeks companion 30-40 also for two weeks Greek Island Easter. Box 32/24

If you are 25 to 35, birthsign Scorpio and interested in meeting a male aged 30 who is old fashioned enough to want fidelity and permanency in a relationship, why not get in touch? The search so far has been very discouraging. Southampton area. Box 32/25

Bedfordshire bachelor 33, slim, 135lbs, 5'10", sensitive nature, loves the country, cinema, music, seeks active friendship of older, mature male, preferably north of the Thames. Box 32/26

Blonde guy 24, good looking, 6', slim, long hair, non-camp. Likes leather, denim. Wants young friend over 21 for friendship. Box 32/27

Professional young man 28 seeks active friends over 25. Birmingham based but distance no problem for sincere friendship. Interests antiques, cinema, music. Photo appreciated. ALA Box 32/52

Hants East area. Cheerful and friendly guy wants to meet interesting, non-camp chap for sincere friendship. Photo. ALA Box 32/50

Skiers wanted to make a group. Date etc, undecided, let's meet. Telephone number, if possible. Box 32/51

Male 35, non-effeminate, seeks discreet and sincere masculine English boy 21-26 in London for lasting and true friendship. I am moving to London shortly. Having been let down badly in the past, only genuine and really sincere replies wanted. Boyish appearance preferred. Photo appreciated (returned) and all letters answered. Please write soon and fully. Box 32/53

Sheffield gay 28, just moved here, seeks active friends. Box 32/54

Edinburgh gay male 40s would like to meet local guy about 30-35 for lasting friendship. Have own weekend country bungalow. Box 32/55

Faded levi lover, 26, very lonely, seeks similar for lasting friendship. Photo please. Surrey area. Box 32/56

Is there anyone living in South East England who would care to correspond and meet a chap of 27 who although not trendy or dolly looking, is then again not ugly, would love to meet someone in this age group or thereabouts who is not just hung up on looks but requires a steady friendship. ALA. Photo appreciated but not essential. Box 32/57

Londoner 40s very keen to meet Indian or Pakistani over 21 for sincere friendship. Box 32/58

I'm 29, live in Manchester, my interests cover almost anything and enjoy life to the full. Is there someone of similar age or younger who would like to enjoy some of it with me, not necessarily from the Manchester area. Photograph appreciated but not necessary as sincerity and personality are more important than looks. ALA Box 32/59

Sincere affectionate guy in 20s seeks guy under 30 who is similar and seeks partner for lasting friendship. Genuine replies to Mike, Box 32/60

Guy, 27 wants to meet couples under 30. Photograph please. Box 32/61

Working class guy (24) non-camp, fair, slim, lively (from north of England now living in London). Interests films, theatre, music, seeks similar for lasting friendship. ALA Box 32/62

West Midlands guy, intelligent, handsome 26, wide interests, would like to meet someone 21-30 for genuine friendship. Photo please. ALA Box 32/63

Two good looking guys 22 and 25 north London, seek similar friends anywhere. Photo appreciated. Box 32/64

London East End, 36, tall, slim with sense of humour, seeks masculine active friend 30-45 for sincere friendship. Photo appreciated but not essential. ALA Box 32/65

Active sincere Swansea male, 32 would like to hear from guys around same age. Box 32/66

Midlander TV tall, attractive affectionate, seeks active male friend 45-55. Correspondence and occasional visits. Interests Wining, dining etc. ALA/SAE please. Box 32/67

Shy lonely bachelor 50 recently moved to Hull longs for new friends all ages and interests. Box 32/68

Lonely bachelor 47, south-west London seeks male company, same age or younger. ALA Box 32/69

Young guy 27 (SW1 London) seeks friend under 35 interests include music, theatre, cinema and dress. Photo appreciated. ALA Box 32/70

Two Londoners 28, 39, active outdoor types, wide range of interests keen to make friends with other gay guys, non-camp, 21-45. Photo appreciated. ALA Box 32/71

Age 30, 5'9", dark hair, well built, genuine, sincere, wish to meet gentleman 30-45 (London) Box 32/74

Sincere 30 slim slightly lonely, sense of humour, seeks tall mature 25-35 varied interests for permanent friendship. Photo please. Box 32/75

Reading man 36 seeks friends. Box 32/80

Bristol 21, dark, good looking. I am looking for the ultimate in a man for genuine friendship. I like beards, moustaches, and denim, eg normal looking student types. Only really good looking kind-hearted guys between 21 and 26 need write. Photo secures reply. Box 32/72

If an attractive, quiet lonely boy, twenties would like some warmth and companionship this winter, with an idealistic, sincere, very good looking 28-year-old (tall, dark athletic) now's his chance to grasp the nettle and write to me with his photo (a must). London, but anywhere considered. Box 32/73

Gay railway modeller 26, keen on 'N-gauge' American outline, would like to meet others. Central London area. ALA Box 32/76

Gay chap 35 seeks friend same age or younger as permanent partner. Sincerity rather than looks. Own flat Windsor/Slough area. Photo please. ALA Box 32/77

Young attractive guy seeks rugged partner 30-40, London. Must be warm, sincere. Photo appreciated. ALA. Box 32/78

South London. Active 43-year-old male seeks genuine, considerate, permanent guy 21-35 for lasting friendship. Likes theatre, cinema, amateur acting, quiet life. Photo if possible. ALA Box 32/79

Gay coloured male seeks tall active sincere male for permanent friendship. ALA with photo. Box 32/81.

22 year old attractive, lonely, merchant seaman visiting Southampton regularly — every 3-4 days seeks sincere friend non-effeminate similar age with view to lasting friendship. ALA Box 32/82

The Impossible Dream or is it, to meet someone for sincere friendship, South London, own flat. I'm 40 — definitely ALA. Box 32/83

Anyone under 30 who is honest and sincere who would like to make friends with 36 active male, my own house. Photo please, returned with mine. ALA Box 32/84

Young Indian, good looking, trendy and sincere, south London, seeks well built attractive non-effeminate guy 21-25 view sincere lasting relationship. Photo and above qualities essential. Box 32/85

Young active 33-year-old London film producer seeks sincere affectionate non-effeminate sensible younger friend 21-30 for lasting friendship. Photo please, (returned). ALA Box 32/86

Welcome home. Norfolk born gay, 26, returning to live and work in Norwich in October seeks introductions to the social scene. I would also appreciate any job and accommodation possibilities. Box 32/87

Male 40 own house Berkshire would like to meet sincere younger person 21-30 for genuine friendship with possible view to sharing his home. Recent photo essential ALA Box 32/88

28 year old male London SW fairly attractive needs young friend 24-28 for lasting friendship, non-effeminate, Photo appreciated. Box 32/89

Loughborough fresher student (October) looking for gay friends information, Loughborough Leicester area. Don't miss me! Box 32/90

Coventry district attractive male 30s wishes for complete sincere friendship same age or younger, varied interests. Photo exchanged please. ALA Box 32/91

Well educated, good looking, butch number, 24 seeks agreeable counterpart. ALA with photo. Box 32/92

Bachelor 54, country, 45 miles north of London seeks permanent friendship of kindly male younger with home interests. Previous ads have failed to raise Mr Right. Must be sincere. Box 32/93

Leather/denim guy 23, tall slim, seeks mates with leather or skinhead gear, 21-25. Would also like to meet guy with bike. Will answer all replies with photo. Box 32/94

London guy early 30s, not bad looking, but rather reserved, seeks sincere friendship with active, tall, heavy built guy of strong personality and similar age. Photo appreciated and returned. Box 32/95

Active ex-Londoner 39 now buried in country, but with own transport. Lean six foot leather fancier seeks similar, age immaterial, with own London pad to provide base for meetings. Photo appreciated. ALA Box 32/97

Lorry driver 26 ex motor cyclist interested in leather, denim, seeks similar types. Photo appreciated. Box 32/97

North of England, guy 21 seeks gay friends for friendship, pen-friendship, 21-25. Likes art, music, Egyptology all letters with photo answered. Box 32/98

London lad 22, good looking seems to have lost most friends, due to long standing affair (who works most nights every week) is bored to tears with London scene, and going out alone, needs friend/s of approx same age who like enjoying themselves. Write with photo. Box 32/99

Gay skier male 40 seeks same, male or female, to plan ski trip this winter. Write Box 32/100

Guy 28 offers weekend accommodation in London to leather/denim guys of similar age. Photo if possible. Box 32/101

Wide interests, age 25, lonely wishing active friends, south Wales, Bristol/Bath/anywhere, ALA Martin Rees, 5 upper Church Street, Bargoed, Glamorgan, Wales.

Genuine Scottish tawses for sale. Also tuition in French German and Hebrew given. Alan, 23 Grayling Rd, London N16

Isolated gays are invited for a friendly coffee and chat any evening or during weekends. Call or write Rex, 32 Wentworth Road, W Croydon, Surrey. 28 guy would like to meet non-effeminate guys. Write Roy Howselo, 75 Brassett Point, Abbey Road, London E15.

A (Sadie) Love and kisses darling on our anniversary. Forever yours, T (Maso)

Dawn, clouds, mist, trees, rain and music. Dancing, large eyes and laughing. Always laughing. Warm soft and slow. Santana, I'm free, James Coburn, Jan-Michel Vincent, John Moulder-Brown and Jane Fonda. Sunflowers and kissing. I'm 25 and need someone in their 20s, beautiful, creative, intelligent but not drippy. Someone who's a person rather than a category — someone who's adventurous, broad-minded and got guts. (Mental not physical guts). Someone like me. Photograph please. James Warren, 1 Hampstead Hill Gardens, London NW3.

"Hello Mother! Hello Father!"

Young 39, fitness addict, particularly swimming. Tall fair, good physique, pleasant personality. Very musical, classical, jazz, pop. Loves sea/country-side. Looking for real companionship, not passing acquaintance with those similarly interested only please. Area unimportant. I live SW London. Box 32/102

Part-time gay — married, early 30s, seeks similar for occasional theatre, opera, weekends etc. North Surrey. Box 32/103

Dolly boy long hair to be taken out and given good time. I am 28, fast car, own flat. Photo please, returnable, we may click. ALA Box 32/104

Gay bachelor 30s, non-camp, good figure and reasonable looks (so I'm told) seeks active opposite number for steady but easy-going uncomplicated friendship (not live together). Absolutely sincere. Own home London area. Usual interests — nothing fancy. Masculine straight looking types essential. ALA with photo, exchanged with mine. Box 32/106

North east male 24 seeks others for genuine friendship anywhere. Also into leather. Photo appreciated. ALA Box 32/106

23-year-old London advertising agency guy would like to meet other gay people in the business. Box 32/107

Birmingham 24-year-old, seeks active friend 21-30 for permanent friendship. Photo appreciated. ALA Box 32/108

West midlands 45 seeks friendship with active motor cyclist for pillion riding. Own leathers and gear. Share all expenses. I have my own place and can offer hospitality and overnight accommodation. Genuine ALA box 32/109

Young Birmingham gay 24 seeks young man of similar age for sincere friendship. Box 32/110

Leatherman, (South Hants) Honda 500 owner, would like to meet other riders of superbikes with kit. Box 32/111

Attractive active 40 cultural appreciation of life seeks friend to 45. Photos exchanged. ALA Box 32/112

Leather guy 30s would like to meet up with another guy with big bike for evenings/weekend outings. London or South area. Photo appreciated but not essential. ALA Box 32/113

Skiing? Anyone interested in forming a party of beginners to go skiing in Austria? Box 32/114

A welcome awaits young guy/student from any area interested in writing to sincere affectionate, non-slim London guy (young 40) for long, happy friendship. Looks are unimportant, but no camp please. Would adopt and accommodate happy, lonely guy seeking a fresh start in life. ALA Box 32/115

Manicurist? Advertiser requires your evening services periodically at his SE1 home. Strictly legitimate replies only from ladies or gentlemen. Write Box 32/172.

Younger than me (thirties) handsome, 'clean-cut', non-camp, operatic/classical music and theatre interests? Wow! Slim (likewise preferred) tallish, 10 stone, mobile, London sales rep would like to correspond with and/or meet you. Recent photo helpful but 100% sincerity vital. Box 32/173

Footballers, athletes and rugby players wanted for training partners by 23-year-old. Replies with photos answered first. Box 32/174

Enthusiast wanted to help build and enjoy sauna at private home in Essex. Box 32/175

Active 6'4" house-owner alone again after 4½ years seeks affectionate slim young man for lasting one-man friendship. John, St Albans 61505

Straight-looking 32 seeks sincere friends 21-35 from London and home counties who like casual dress or denim, together with lasting friendship. ALA with photo. Box 32/117

I'm 23 and disillusioned with the 'sincere' types who've let me down. Student, intelligent, good-natured, easy going (or I was), I'm looking for out of the ordinary friend (21-25) to help share experiences. Only those who really are interested in trying some form of lasting 'thing' should reply please. Area immaterial although I'm west country at present. Photo please. Box 32/118

M N steward 24 would like to meet masculine male (25-35) for sincere friendship, not keen on Gay pubs/clubs, looks unimportant, correspond now, meet when on leave. Box 32/119

I am male, early 30s, 6'2", non-effeminate, normal working person who requires similar for friendship. Reasonable radius Harlow, Essex. Box 32/120

Young man 25 tall slim attractive. Wide interests, art, theatre, rock, literature, fun. I am honest and very happy, but would like to meet similar boys in London for a wider friendship, 21-25. Photo please. Box 32/121

Midlands theatre technician (20s) adaptable, seeks post after summer season. Also friendship/padshare with sincere guys — Chesterfield/Debsys area. Music, classics lovers please write. ALA. Photo appreciated. Box 32/116

Unattractive, out of condition, 24-year-old male, just getting into Bach, Elgar and modern poetry, seeks permanent companionship, age race immaterial. Box 32/150

Interested in politics? A new local Liberal party organisation is being formed in Southward/Peckham. Details from Box 32/151.

Old Hamptonians and not so old Hamptonians — for that reunion with a difference drop a line now to Richard, giving years at school etc. All genuine replies (and I'll know!) answered. Box 32/152

Bored, lonely and frustrated young Londoner seeks new young friends everywhere to broaden social horizons. Photo helps. Box 32/153.

Greasers — leather/denim ex motor cyclist wants mates with or without bikes who think the way I do. Long haired or skinhead. Photo. ALA Box 32/154

Who can provide 3 salaried guys with mortgage on excellent freehold house London? Full security £16,000. 01-732 6724 evenings.

Londoner 32 wants dark-skinned European/middle east friends. Box 32/156

Do Slendertone slimming machines work? I'd like to know before buying one. Thanks. Box 32/157

Brighton. Londoner 32 would like friends in Brighton, possibly exchange visits. Box 32/158

I'm looking for a smashingly good looking friend (21-29) non-camp, maybe blonde. I do think attraction and affection can be a start for friendship. It may not last; however, should it last it will be marvellous. I'm in my early 20s, active, 5'9", slim, attractive (so I'm told). You will know more if you write. Photo essential and returned. Box 32/159

Philatelists. Middle aged dealer seeks young man to join him in business. No capital required; accommodation provided. Suit quiet type, any nationality. Box 32/160

Oriental pen-pals wanted. Can offer part-time job with prospects and free accommodation Oxford. Box 32/161

Oxford area (or London) Professional tho' I'm told I got through the system with something genuine and human left. Early 30s, short-medium height, interests: arts (inc dancing), nature. Seeks guy same age group etc not too materialistic, possibly creative, professional (though intelligent artisan welcomed). Box 32/162.

23 tall, well built, dark hair, active guy, has fiat in W9. Would like to meet sincere guy 23-35 to share home and lasting friendship. Please send photo. Returnable. ALA Box 32/163

Well-built industrial worker type male required to pose for artist. Genuine. Standard rate. Box 32/165

48-year-old quiet type seeks active older friend. Central and South London area. Box 32/170

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

Private turn-on collection going cheap. 55 American and European photo magazines in good condition £25. Owner leaving to find real thing abroad. Box 32/164.
30-year-old novice body builder EC1 seeks experienced body builder with good physique to train with. Photo appreciated. ALA. Box 32/169

"Hello Mother! Hello Father!"

Harpichords, tonsils, greasepaint, my world is the deeply satisfying sound of Baroque music, the immense joys in the art of singing Bel Canto, lieder and the sheer excitement of theatre. Yours too? Perhaps you're the slim, clean-shaven (musts) soul-mate for whom I'm looking, especially if, like me, you genuinely look 30 maximum. I'm an active Londoner, slim, dark haired, tall, clean shaven(!) of straight appearance. Have car, pen; will travel or just write. Please write fully complete and utter discretion assured, exchanging if possible, returnable head/shoulders photograph. David, Box 32/171.

Accommodation

Two professional guys quiet reliable 27 and 37 seek flat from October, convenient to Central London. Box 32/44
Young guy (mid twenties) seeks another to share his NW10 flat. 3 mins tube/buses. Telephone TV and own room. £8pw inc. Box 32/45
Holiday in Cornwall. Ring St Ives 6906 for bed and breakfast. £1.50 per night.
Single chap of 38 requires male companion to share house in Twickenham on companionship basis. Please phone Ian Scott, 01-892 5990.
Avail 1st Oct. Double bedroom for 1/2 guys. Luxury Hampstead flat. Share with two artistic people. £8 per week inc colour TV. Ring Peter or Camille, Flat 9 722 1738 after 6pm.
Warm welcome at Wembar Hotel, 19 Warwick Road, SW5 in the heart of Earls Court Gay Scene. Tel 373 9950. Reasonable prices. Weekly terms.

Michael (from Gay News) and Carl have a spare room in their 2 bdrm, lvg rm, kitchen and bathroom flat for someone in their twenties who likes cats. Three minutes walk from Brixton tube (Victoria Line), constant hot water, phone. £10pw excluding gas and phone. Write to Michael Mason at Gay News (or telephone).

Active householder wants full-time sharer. Colour etc immaterial. Interest in literature, current affairs an asset. Write Box 32/178
Young man 30 seeks unfurnished/furnished accommodation in Central/SE London. Telephone 01-464 2217.
Alwyn International Hotel, West Promenade Morecambe. Ring Malcolm, daytime Lancaster 2750, early evening Morecambe 411650 and mention Gay News.
Goodlooking London guy 23 is looking for a cockney mate to share a flat (preferably east or north east London). There must be one good looking gay cockney 21-23 looking for a mate somewhere? Genuine replies only with photo please. ALA Box 32/127
German/Austrian active non-camp guy 22-30 wanted to share large luxury flat in Marble Arch. Own room. £6 per week. Low rent to include German conversation lessons. Write with phone no. Ref essential. I am 35. Box 32/128
Civilised dog and master (33) exiled from London seeking home in Leeds Region. To fifteen pounds weekly. Box 32/177
Accommodation and use of facilities, own bedroom, in brand new luxury flat N7. Colour TV, phone etc. Business basis. For info, I am 29. 387 8471 business hours.
North west London single bedsitter available in all-gay house £18.00 per month. Phone 328 4183 early evenings.
Country/holiday weekends. Two friends (male) with beautiful Regency country house, peaceful and secluded, offer full board. Family atmosphere. Reasonable charges. Near Bath and easy reach M4. Trains met. 022-163299.
Landlords, phone your vacancies after 6.00pm. 01-732 6724
To let, single room SW10 area. £6.50 pw. 01-674 3980
Male wanted to share flat in Camden Square NW1. Own room £7.50 per week. Phone 485 5375
Holiday accommodation B/B £1.50. Gay atmosphere, 106 Olive Road, Plaistow, London E13. Tel 01-472 3122
Guy 30 good humoured good looking, no hang ups and tidy, seeks from end of September flat share, room or own flat in West End or in walking distance. Box 32/129
Young male student seeks accommodation in Birmingham near University. Would like to share flat with 3 or 4 similar. Box 32/130
Gay guy 25 seeks own room or self-contained furnished/unfurnished flat. Central London preferred, ie Holborn, Islington, Finsbury or East End. Box 32/131
Flat mate wanted. Every comfort, own food. No strings. £5pw excluding food. N London. Box 32/134

SW12 close tube. Large 2 roomed flat in s/c maisonette comprising huge bedsit and kitchen diner, share bathroom £9pw. Box 32/132
Religious minded man to share large unfurnished 4-roomed flat with another. £5pw north London. Box 32/133
Third person (preferably male) to share N17 flat with two girls own room £5pw. Box 32/135
Professional man, mid twenties, seeks similar or quiet student to share large flat in Exeter, own rooms. Box 32/136
Guy to share huge flat off Wimbledon Common with adaptable guy 29. Own room. Garden. £9.00 pw. Box 32/137
Quiet young guy seeks flat share - Birmingham university district. No effeminates. Box 32/138
Help! Middle aged gay lady quiet, model tenant, desperately needs reasonable sized room. SW10 Fulham or near. Can only afford moderate rent. Box 32/139
S/D house for sale £8,500 Acton - W3 in town centre. 4 rooms and two kitchens. Bathroom. Vacant on completion. Box 32/140
Young American studying at Cordon Bleu seeks accommodation for some cooking and domestic duties; would pay modest rent. References. Box 32/141.
One of Gay News' contributing graphic designers urgently requires studio/office/unfurnished accommodation in Central London. Can pay up to £25 per week. References available. Write to Box 32/142.
Accommodation available for responsible young discreet boy in large flat with one other. TV, stereo, telephone etc. 30 mins by train to London. Photo appreciated. Box 32/143.
Social worker (37) offers share of peaceful flat suitable for student or young professional. Convenient for South London, Croydon etc. Own room £5, no strings. Ring 01-653 0151 evenings.
Urgent. Two male postgraduate students need flat from September in London. Phone Ian 01-226 2212
Flat for sale. Holland Park/Notting Hill £19,000 ono. Ground/Basement. 74 year lease. £160pa groundrent/service charge. Central heating, two bedrooms, lounge, kitchen bathroom. Conversion possible. Ring 727 8617.
Attached male (22) seeks accommodation Esher or area. No strings please. Present rent of £7.50 beyond my means. John Stagg, 292 Molesey Road, Hershaw, Surrey.
Les and Geoff are moving soon from Leicester to a house near Richmond. They want to share the house with one or two young men (no strings). It will cost £7 each per week for two friends sharing a bedroom, or £10 for a single person, inclusive of gas, electricity, colour TV. Please phone 0533-703583 or write to 444 London Road, Leicester.
Much travelled student 25 looking for space in a flat not too far from Malet street, maybe Bloomsbury, Camden or Islington. Prefer own room in flat with easygoing people, any nationalities. Box 32/36
Birmingham quiet guy mid 30s, own house, offers accommodation and friendship to similar, non-effeminate, discreet guy 25-40. Share house running costs. Own room. Interests walking, theatre etc. Please give full details. Box 32/37
Manchester. Non-camp guy (23) would like to share flat, preferably with own room. Box 32/38
Edinburgh - discreet non-camp (25) studying for professional exams seeks share flat with similar or student. Box 32/40
Lonely bachelor, slim, artistic, own small business, offers to share his secluded house between Worcester/Malvern with similar lonely male, young to forties.
Graduate, early thirties offers to share flat in North London with chap of same age or younger, or two sharing own room, complete independence. £5 per week and contribution to bills. Box 32/42
Merchant seaman leaving sea wants to share flat, central London. Box 32/43

Employment

Part time cleaner wanted regularly two evenings weekly. Peckham 01-732 6724
Employment agency partnership opportunity. Capital required. Quick reply. High commission. 01-732 6724 evenings.
Young man 18+ required for Service Department, Mechanical Aptitude, excellent salary, company car, expenses. Write giving resume with age and phone number. Box 32/166
Forward Position Wanted
 Suitable progressive position in entertainment business/advertising etc sought by young ex-public school athlete/active training bodybuilder. Tall attractive blonde, cultured, intelligent, hard-working executive with extensive promotion/marketing/advertising experience. Creative/administrative/negotiation/liaison flair. Please write in confidence. Box 32/149.

FORTUNES TO BE MADE
 Could you sell Gay News in your local pub on a regular basis? High commission. Write or phone Peter Mundy, Gay News, 34d Redcliffe Square, London SW10, 01-373 0586.

Forties but not over the hill would undertake cleaning, cooking and laundry, gardening, home decorating part time or permanent basis. If part time, travelling expenses. Present address North London. A golden opportunity for somebody not to be missed. Box 32/144
Help good looking youth in urgent need of £200. Anything interesting/legal considered, Birmingham/anywhere. I also have some mags to sell. Full details. Box 32/145

Bachelor 32 with new West Country Pottery seeks assistant (possibly partner). Good quality domestic earthenware. Pay, dependant on experience and ability, could be generous. Accommodation available. Ideally I seek someone interested in sharing home and work. Box 32/46.

Au pair/houseboy or even flat sharer urgently wanted by young man Herts/Essex area. Would suit student or similar responsible youth requiring an affectionate home. Photo essential. ALA Box 32/146
Artistic minded male, 35, not effeminate, art studio experience, requires situation. Reasonable radius Harlow Essex. Also friends. Box 32/147
Cotswold Inn "Good Food Guide" requires responsible person to man busy bar. Also someone to help on restaurant side. Some catering experience necessary and first-class references required. Comfortable private accommodation in friendly atmosphere. Apply Box 32/148

ASPIRING MILLIONAIRES
 Gay News needs people to act as regional sales agents to sell Gay News to shops and clubs in the provinces. Responsibility and enthusiasm are vital. Excellent commission. Write now to Peter Mundy, Gay News, 34d Redcliffe Square, London SW10.

Classified

THE JOKE'S OVER - a report on 'The Social Needs of Homosexuals'. Gayprints No 2; price 20p (inc p & p) from Box GP Rising Free, 197 Kings Cross Road, London WC1

All male gay guest house Southsea. Full or part board. Ring Portsmouth 811246 for brochure.

Gay Sounds Disco. Lights, effects, etc. Pubs, parties etc. Ring 9 to 5, 01-247 0437 extension 5.
New young male masseur with certificates seeks genuine legal work. Phone Greg 01-727 8322

Spend your holidays/weekends in the country. Two friends (male) with beautiful house, peaceful and secluded, offer full board. Friendly atmosphere. Reasonable charges. Easy reach M4, Bath. Trains met. 022 16 3299

Burro House for sale (by contract), Peak Park/Pennine Way, Derbyshire: Jeffrey (Burrows-Builders), Burro House, Hadfield, SK14 7HA

Male only friend club, membership £1. Also magazines. Contact, 4 Hazel Grove, Hereford.

Light Removals also delivery service. Anytime. Anywhere. 01-460 0977 or 01-254 4265. Strictly legitimate business.

Boy Studio, 44 Earls Court Road, London W8. Photo-Sets. Leatherwear. 35mm Colour Slides. Catalogue 30p

Mike, 21, cute, fresh face, qualified masseur/experienced model. Worked music world London/DJ Greece. Seeks BONA-FIDE work. 01-578 0320

For Gay Penpals. The Gaytime Friendship Society (AAC), BCM/GFS Mono House, Red Lion Square, London WC1. For details send SAE stating age. **Private accommodation** address from 25p weekly. Letters held for collection or forwarded. Telephone messages taken. Reliable confidential service. Also typing, printing. 01-568 8626 any time.

The Go-Between removals and deliveries, local or long distance. Phone any time 01-349 1838

Qualified masseuse and beauty therapist. Own flat or visits West London area. 01-944 2654

Cock-sure! Nudes!!! "Boys Express" £1. "King-Size" (Butch leather) £1.50 (Lists SAE) Johnny: BM/FBGH, London WC1V 6XX.

Jeanage Apollos! Mad about tiny briefs and swimwear? 12p stamp brings you photo list. Larry Knight, 4 Hamilton Close, London NW8 8QY

Why not come over to our place for a cut and blow dry for only £1.50. Telephone 01-352 5856 after 7pm.
GAYITIES the GAY MATCHMAKING BUREAU, Rosalind King, Bx 40, Harrow Middx, HA1 3SL

Experienced masseur gives soothing massage: home/hotel - male/female phone Ron 472 1939 Tues-Fri 6.15pm -8pm or all day Sunday.
Visiting qualified masseur. Replies with telephone number to Mr C Clarke, Poste Restante, Trafalgar Square P O London WC1
New young qualified masseur seeks genuine legal work, your place or mine. Phone Greg 727 8322
Ring Betty for cheap reliable flights world wide 01-437 0817. Central Holidays, 103 Charing Cross Road, London WC2
Relaxed South London masseur will cross water. 01-675 1083
Give-away air fares to Spain, Greece, Italy, Tunis, Morocco, Frankfurt, Vienna, India, Middle East, Far East, Australia, New Zealand, Africa. Jet-Away, 5th floor, 62 Oxford Street, London W1. Phone 01-637 1971 or 580 3298

General Information

Librarians. Send SAE for info about the Gay Librarians' Group now forming, to Bob Elbert, 33 Pembroke Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8 3BE.
Cambridge Gay Women's Group meets fortnightly. For info contact Jane, 29 John Street, Cambridge.
Gay Marxist Study Group. Details: 01-794 3368. Second issue of Gay Marxist now available 10p incl postage from 329a West End Lane, London NW6 1RS.
CHE Winter Fair will be held in Holborn Assembly Hall, WC1 on Sat November 3.
Transex Lib Group: Please write to Della Aleksander, Isis Commune, 10 Hosack Road, London SW17
Social Action projects and drug dependents care group caters for all problems at Walnut Cottage, Moorland, Bridgewater, Somerset.
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.
Women's Liberation Workshop, 3 Shavers Place, London W1. Tel: 01-839 3918.
Transvestite Group now forming. Details from Martin Rees, Transvestite Group, 58 Charles Street, Cardiff, South Wales.
Mental Patients Union. Leeds and District Branch meet every two weeks. Contact Ian Everton, 16 Quarry Mount Street, Leeds 6
Manchester Gay Alliance newsletter gives details of meetings of the four gay groups in the area. Write for a copy to Side Door, 7 Birch Hall Lane, Longsight, Manchester M13 0XJ
Manchester University Homophile Society - social events, campaigning - open to all - meets Thursdays, 8pm, meeting room 4, University Union, Oxford Road.
'Gay Cambridge', a young GLF/CHE 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.
Oxford Gay Action Group, Oxford 45301 between 7 & 8pm. Meetings every Sunday at 8pm in The Marlborough, St Thomas Street.
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
Friend is a nationwide befriending and counselling service for gays in distress or with a problem. Write to Friend, 44 Earls Court Road, London W8, or ring 603 6293 Monday to Friday 7.30pm-9.30pm when a visit can be arranged.
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
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

Gayprints-Faggots and the Revolution etc has now moved to 66 Woodland Rise, Muswell Hill, London N10
Sappho meets every first Monday in the month at Euston Tavern, corner Judd Street/Euston Rd, London NW1. 7.30pm upstairs room. All women welcome. Sappho 30p inc post for single copies from BCM/PETREL, London WC1V 6XX
Lesbians come together in London every Monday and Friday. For details ring Pauline and Sally, 01-346 4684
Edinburgh University Gay Group. Contact Rod Hall, 18 Guthrie Street, Edinburgh.
Transvestite, Trans-sexual? Would any tv/ts men or women like to help isolated transvestites and transsexuals. If so write to Icebreakers, BM/Gay Lib, London WC1V 6XX
Bath Gay Awareness Group meets Thursdays 8pm. Info from John - Bath 20105 or Hugh - Bath 4738.
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.
Southampton Area: Gay men and women welcome to new group. Details from Ken, Romsey 512959
University of Surrey Gay Soc: contact David Reeks, Student Pigeon Holes, University of Surrey, Guildford
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
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 Libery needs donations of radical/liberated Gay Papers and Magazines. ESPECIALLY back issues. Please write Geoffrey Leigh, 30 Woodside, Wimbledon, London SW19 7AW
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
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
Harrow Gay Unity meet every Tuesday 8.30pm. For info ring John or Dennis at 863 5717
Kent University Gay Libsoc meets every Thursday evening in Canterbury. Everyone welcome. For details contact Gill Irvin, Keynes Cottage, The University, Canterbury.
Gay Librarians Group 1st meeting in the Conference Room of the Central Collegiate Building, 15 Gordon Street, London WC1 at 11am-5pm on Sunday 7th October. All interested welcome. For details send sae to Bob Elbert, 33 Pembroke Road, Bristol BS8 3BE.
Molin Disco Club on Saturdays - girls only, Sundays and Wednesdays - mixed at the Sun & Doves, 61 Coldharbour Lane, Camberwell Green (entrance to club in Coldicott Road, Blue Door) Buses 35 and 45. Details 01-674 4004.
Centre, London's Gay Counselling Organisation, offers a warm welcome to homosexuals at Centre, Broadley Terrace, NW1. Ring 01-262 9595. Open Monday to Friday 7pm-10pm. Free medical, legal and general advice for men, women and youngsters. Disco every Friday at 8pm-12. Coffee bar from 7pm.
Youth and Student Group 1st meeting on Sat 29th Sept 8pm at 'Centre', Broadley Terrace, NW1

Owing to an extreme shortage of space, for this issue only, we can only include the HQ tel nos of the 3 main gay organisations. CHE - 061 228 1985, or 01-437 7363. GLF 01-837 7174
 SMG 041-771 7600. Most details remain unchanged from the last issue.

Newsettes

Hets Are Banned!

NOTTINGHAM: Magistrates have approved a uniquely worded clause by granting a license to La Chic, a new £40,000 club which will be legally capable of refusing admission to a person on the grounds that he or she is not gay. The 'gay only' clause is unprecedented in Britain.

Magistrate chairman Colonel Harry Lucas said: "We found the proprietors suitable and experienced people. They claim, and we believe them, they will be able to recognise one of their own kind."

"It was a difficult decision which we think is in keeping with the more humane and compassionate attitude by the government and increasingly by society towards people with special problems."

Some whines of outrage were to be heard, however. The city's Moral Rearmament brigade pipes up saying the decision was "disgusting and degrading" although they did not say to whom. And in another attack of the magistrate's decision, Nottingham lay preacher Harold Rissnaes said that gayness might become a too attractive proposition: "It might encourage people with just a tendency to be that-way-inclined, to think that it is a perfectly acceptable way of life."

Perhaps the new club has brought about a situation where straights might have to "pass for gay" should they wish to enjoy its pleasures without being discriminated against.

Bomb Scares in Earls Court

LONDON: On Friday August 31st, at approximately 9.30pm, the clientele of the Boltens Hotel in Earls Court Road were anxiously asked to leave by the management. The manager had received an anonymous telephone call telling him that a bomb had been planted on the premises. After a hasty but panicless evacuation, the customers stood outside the gay pub for twenty minutes whilst the manager and barmen searched for the bomb. Just before 10.00pm the pub doors were reopened. It had been a hoax.

On the previous evening, the Masquerade Club, (round the corner from the Boltens) also received a call telling them that a bomb had been planted. At about 12.30am on the Friday morning, six uniformed police officers and the gay disco club's management and staff looked for the explosive device. The search proved futile as the bomb was only a figment of a sick imagination.

'Perverts' Are Now Amusing

HENDON: The Hendon Times newspaper, recently the target of a Gay Liberation Front demonstration against anti-gay editorials (GN31) has described the march in print as "good natured" and "good humoured". The paper also reported that "passers-by were amused by their chants of 'Gay spells gay and gay is good'."

The Hendon Times is certainly to be congratulated for its sporting attitude. In a matter of weeks the 'perverts' and 'undesirables' have been transformed into 'good-natured', 'good humoured' and - the ultimate accolade - 'amusing' people. Don't doubt that there are some big hearts at the Hendon Times!

Gay News and Lunch 'Controversial'

CROYDON: In an effort to publicise its existence, the Campaign for Homosexual Equality here has begun a campaign for public libraries to make available copies of *Gay News and Lunch*. Response so far has not been good; Surrey County Libraries, for instance, turned down the proposal on the grounds that it does not take periodicals of a 'controversial nature'.

Police Vice Ring Exposed

CHICAGO: Robert Shartier, manager of a gay bar, paid the vice squad \$50, then \$100 per month in order to stop police harassment of his customers. Shartier is testifying in a case which charges that a police captain and 22 policemen committed extortion and perjury. Shartier said until he began making the payments in 1964, his business was declining badly because of police harassing his customers.

Federal prosecutors plan to produce 55 bar owners to testify over 'protection money' paid to the vice squad. As well as Shartier, several others have already given testimony.

Oscar Popular With CHE

CROYDON: 60 people attended the August meeting of the local Campaign for Homosexual Equality group, and saw a panel of four vote for Oscar Wilde as the most admired gay in history. An audience member put the question to the panel. More weighty topics such as education, police and probation service were also discussed.

Alderman: "Ignorant and Prejudiced"

CARDIFF: The Campaign for Homosexual Equality were quite nice about it. When Ald Sidney Doxsey labelled them "wierdo's" in the *Sth Wales Echo*, CHE responded by telling the paper he was invited to attend one of their meetings anyone he liked. Doxsey did not take the invitation gracefully: he told the paper he had no intention of getting mixed up with "that bunch", and said they should make invitations discreetly, not through a newspaper.

Ald Doxsey's remarks now seem to have landed him in an embarrassing situation. David Mathias, secretary of a non-gay Resident's Association, has written to the *Sth Wales Echo*, saying: "If the CHE group sent an invitation to him direct, I feel they would not stand a snowball's chance in hell of getting a reply."

"Since last May, I, as secretary of the Riverside Residents Association, have sent Sidney Doxsey three letters on behalf of the hundreds of people he was elected to represent, and also an invitation to attend one of our meetings. Ald Doxsey has not had the courtesy to reply to any of these."

Mathias went on to say Doxsey's attitude had vastly changed since the last election, and he had now lost the respect of the people he was elected to represent. Doxsey's reference to CHE, Mathias said, betrayed his "ignorance and prejudices."

Hazardous Rendezvous

LONDON: Late-night strolling along Hammersmith Towpath is currently becoming a hazardous pastime for gays taking advantage of warm September evenings.

Informed sources report that an increasing number of gays have been arrested recently along the towpath which stretches from Putney Bridge to Hammersmith Bridge. They are usually charged with 'committing an act of gross indecency'. The arrests are made by both uniformed and plainclothes police officers.

Hammersmith Towpath has been a busy cruising ground for many years and despite a number of violent robberies in the past, has remained a popular rendezvous. The police show a vigorous amount of interest in the area every few months, but their activities are particularly notorious in the summer months or during spells of clement weather.

GN advises those who favour this stretch of the Thames to be extremely cautious.

Women's Disco Back In Action

LONDON: The three women formerly responsible for the girls' nights at the Father Redcap gay disco now have their activities underway at the Sun & Doves Hotel, 61 Coldharbour Lane, Camberwell Green.

They are Mo, Linda and Mag. Their gay girls' disco nights now take place Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Men also may visit on Saturday and Wednesday evenings.

The Redcap disco finally closed its doors over a month ago preceded by a police raid during one of the boys' nights early in July (GN27) and the curtailing of liquor supplies about a month after that. The brewery supplying the Redcap Hotel allegedly cut off supplies due to non-payment by the licensee.

"After the liquor supplies were cut off we tried to keep going for quite a while using canned beer and anything we could get," explained Mo. "Apart from the Gateways, our place is the only one girls can use." They spent a time looking for new premises with little or no help given by pub managers or breweries, then came to rest at the Sun & Doves.

The managers, however, would like to hear from anyone capable of providing new premises "to a gay women's club with an increasing membership." Anyone with information should ring Mo or Linda on 674 4004.

Visits To Lonely Gays

WANDSWORTH: The local Campaign for Homosexual Equality group has called for the Council to extend the same aid toward lonely gays as it would to any other section of the community suffering a sense of isolation. CHE has submitted a detailed statement to the council, recommending an expansion of social services staff.

It also calls for a regular review of housing policies, emphasising the problems of single, homeless people.

Ladies Mags Go Gay

LONDON: Chalk up another mince forward for the gay rights struggle - the mass circulation magazine *Woman's Own* has published 'I Was Different From Other Boys', another instalment in the 'What I Dared Not Tell My Parents' series (September 8 issue).

Magazine readers seeking a more sophisticated approach can read about 'Bisexuality', a three page feature from recent and debatable books by Colin McInnes and Jenny Fabian, appearing in the current issue of *Harpers and Queen*.

Rod's Generous Kisses

LONDON: Rock star Rod Stewart, who has long possessed a beautifully integrated on-stage sexual presence, made an appearance on a recent Russell Harty Show, highlighted by the big hug and kiss he gave the compere. "I know what you're going to ask me," Stewart said after his warm gesture. "You're going to ask me if I'm a..."

"No I'm not," Harty surprisingly chipped in. In the past, Harty has not exercised such discretion. Not that we care. We just think it's nice.

Tough Times

SAN FRANCISCO: A financial crisis has hit the Society of Individual Rights, a gay rights group who publish a glossy monthly called *Vector*. The group has abandoned its large offices for more modest dwellings and is cutting back in other areas.

Now This Paper is Really Sweet . . .

PLYMOUTH: The *Western Morning News* has made an interesting comment on a BBC report that 4 million people in Britain have smoked marijuana: it prudently advises its readers that there should be a healthy distrust of such a 'high' estimate.

The article concludes, "We are told for example, that there are hundreds of thousands of alcoholics, millions of homosexuals and now millions of pot smokers. Isn't anyone normal?"

The paper did not ask if there was a Santa Claus.

Record Male Prostitution Charges

SEATTLE: A record 42 men were arrested for prostitution during July by vice squad also managing to net 160 women. Arrests in the well-known hustling areas have now slowed down, leading to speculation that certain anti-gay policemen have been taken off the beat. The arrests were mainly made through entrapment methods.

Daily Express Pressures Gay Pubs

GLASGOW: A seemingly pointless investigation of gay pubs, undertaken by the *Scottish Daily Express* has led to discrimination against gay Scots drinkers, and with it, the banning of *Gay News* by one hotel.

Bob Orr of the Scottish Minorities Group reports that *Gay News* has been banned in the gay bar of the Duke of Wellington Hotel, apparently following orders issued by the West Scotland manager of the Scottish and Newcastle Breweries.

The Express initiated the pressure when it began ringing local pubs listed in GN's *Derek's Guide* asking why they catered to gays. This created a good deal of reactionary tension.

In Aberdeen, gays who have been quietly drinking at the Caley Hotel for three or four years are now being told "We don't serve your kind in here."

GN's Scottish correspondent Ian Dunn, contacted Peter Dundas, the senior public relations officer of Scottish and Newcastle Breweries to make inquiries on the situation, but received a "no comment Mr Dunn, sorry" to all his questions.

Several local gays are angered by the situation, and are working on plans to bring an end to the discrimination.

Gay Organisation Leaves West End

LONDON: The Albany Trust has closed its doors for the last time at their Shaftesbury Avenue offices. As from September 17th, the Trust's address will be 8a Christchurch Avenue, London NW6. The new telephone number will be 01-451 0590.

Gay Americans in Europe

LOS ANGELES: Gay film-maker Pat Rocco has released what is believed to be the first gay movie of Americans in Europe. Titled *One Adventure*, it includes footage of gay leaders and attractive boys in Greece, Holland, Italy and other countries.

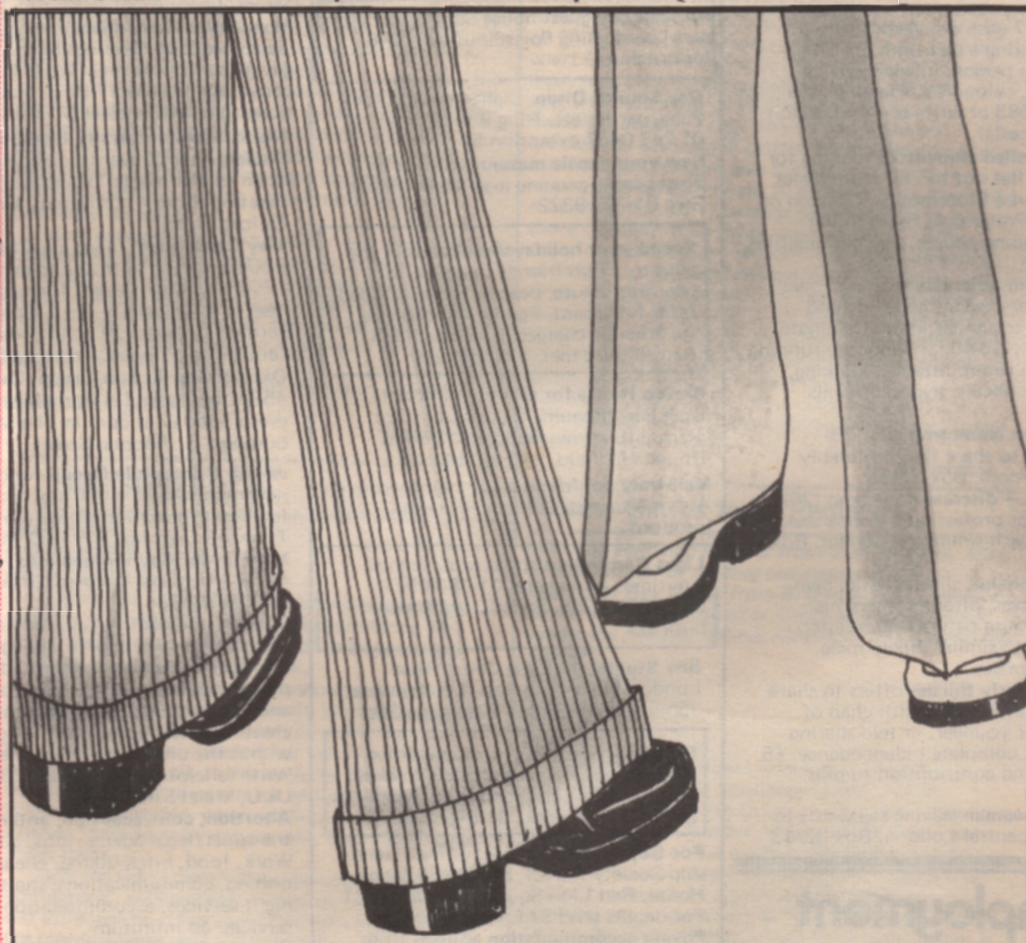
GLF's Lavatory Joke Fell Flat

LONDON: GN's report of the Gay Liberation Front demonstration against the Hendon Times (issue 31) included comment by its editor Dennis Signy about a GLF leaflet distributed.

The leaflets, he said, stated "The Hendon Times makes good toilet paper, but it's a shit". GN did not see any of these distributed during the march, and GLF London representatives claimed no knowledge of them.

Signy has now sent GN a photostat of GLF's newsheet 'Gaylib News'. Printed in this was a rough sketch of a figure holding a banner containing the toilet paper message. Signy had objected to. Apparently several of these newsheets were handed out during the demonstration. "It would seem GLF knew about them," Signy writes. Brighton reader David Smith also wrote to GN pointing out that the leaflet did in fact exist.

It's unfortunate that such a witless message was circulated to anyone - certainly a higher level of humour should exist within gay circles and the targets of the demonstrations have every right to be contemptuous of such tactics.



"Went down to the Yellow Bird again last night."

"Oh yeah, any good?"

"Good? It's fabulous! Bona music, lovely atmosphere, 2 marvellous bars, nice big dance floor . . ."

"How much to get in?"

"Nothing -"

"- what no entry or membership fees?"

"No, you do have to order a meal for 40p, but that's cheap at the price."

"Sounds good."

"- tastes good."

"I mean the Yellow Bird, silly."

"Oh yeah . . . had a super time . . . much bigger than anything we've ever had before . . ."

" . . . speak for yourself darling!"

THE YELLOW BIRD, 11 HARRINGTON GDNS, LONDON SW7

London's newest and nicest gay nightspot

(1 minute's walk from Gloucester Road tube station)