

# GAY NEWS

4 extra pages

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

**Non camp** Londoner midtwenties wants to stop drifting and hopes to find and give something better in a lasting friendship with active man of similar age. My interests include theatre, cinema, literature, politics, travel Box

**Retired and retiring gay**, bereft of mate of 31 years, fanatically sincere, needs an understanding pal desperately (over 21). Box

**Well built slim** manual worker 30s, bit shy of gay scene would like to meet friends over 21 any nationality or colour. Box

**Young guy** seeks similar for sincere friendship. All letters with photos answered. Box

**Gay architect** would be very interested to meet another. Box

**Shy boy** seeks young friends freaked out on Byrds/Airplane/Spirit Box

**Londoner shortly moving** to West Country would be most grateful for information about gay scene in Exeter, Torquay and surrounding districts. Please help. Box

**Quiet undemanding London** guy (2) interests films, theatre, painting, photography, seeks friendship of person 21-24 with similar interests. Photo appreciated. Box

**Guy 26** seeks younger friend for companionship. Box

**Manchester 21 yr old** intelligent gay boy seeks similar to be lonely with. Box

**Leather guys** invited to correspond, view to meeting well built guy (33). Box

**Good looking male**, own home, looking for partner very sincere. Send photo. Aged 30. ALA Box

**Desperately lonely gay** guy (22) non-effeminate, totally inexperienced, dislike pub/club circuit, sincere, seeks ditto with view to lasting friendship. Bristol area. I like theatre, films. No photo necessary, but I'd like you to be in my age group. ALA Box

**Retiring Anglo-Saxon** exile (26) living Spain, seeks profound relationship (commence by post) with handsome, athletic guy 25-29. Interests opera, drama, food. Genuine replies only with photo. Box

**Tony come home**. I need you, want you, love you - Harry.

**Guy 26**, tall muscular, seeks others for ground wrestling. Your own place helpful. Photo essential. London. Box

**Anyone for tennis?** Literally. Preferably masculine, to partner me and while away the summer afternoons. I'm an actor aged 28 and work evenings but free every day. Genuine replies only. Box

**Transvestite gay**, intelligent, sweet, 38-28-39, bisexual, seeks similar, prepared to swap, set up pad, W Lond Photo. ALA Box

**Anywhere between West London / Reading**, young man 26 seeks another for lasting friendship. Must have longish hair. Me tall, slim, long hair. Like theatre, films, town, country. Photo if possible and phone no. Box

**Happy young man 22** well adjusted, but very shy and inexperienced is seriously looking for someone young to share life with. Varied interests - mainly cultural, but also walking, cooking, in fact anything except pop or things mechanical! Anyone out there with a sense of humour and who is kind, intelligent and who will give and take please write. ALA Photo please. Box

**Brighton bachelor** interests are, photography, motoring; anti-club/pub; invites body-builders for free, quiet weekends by the sea, Friday night to Monday morning. Write Box

**Poet Laureate** to the Queens seeks patron, preferably in publishing. Box

**Heavy built guy 36** would like to meet others similar age interested leather etc. Photo please ALA Box

**Country loving active** professional graduate. Own house central south. Interested horses, dogs, music, driving. Shy at making contacts. Seeks loyal affectionate friendship with similar in 30-40 age group. Box

**Fair haired slim**, non-camp 32-yr-old seeks friendship with tall active coloured person 30-50. Box

**Man young 50**, wants regular friends North London. Photo appreciated. ALA. Own house. Box

**Faded blue levis**. London collection. Man (32) wants to meet others. Exchanges etc. Box

**Married gay guy** (30) seeks similar or unattached gay guy 25-35 London/Hert/Essex areas. Box

**Featherweight will spar** any weight. Photo welcome. Box

**Tall rugged 65 year old** butterfly hunter would like to meet short, tough lift driver, Isle of Wight area. Short, sincere relationship. Box

**East Midlander** but can travel, 24, seeks one friend for life, my age or younger, I am 5'11" tall, I like wearing leather, looking for friend of similar age. Box

**Oldham coloured gay** man non-effeminate, sincere, willing to devote time with lonely gay men 21-60. Perhaps permanent friendship. Oldham, neighbouring districts. Various interests discretion assured and expected. All nationalities welcome. Reply photo appreciable. ALA Box

**London guy**, 24, with London friends, B...

**25-30**, good looking, tired, non-camp, drama, travel, etc?

**Londoner 25** tall, slim, long blond hair, reasonable looking would like to hear from others 21-30, particularly long-haired types. Please send photo. Box

**Lively good looking** (so they say) denim/leather giu will travel anywhere at weekends to meet well built masculine man over 21. Only letters with photo answered. Box

**Dark haired non camp**, 35 year old seeks a compatible mate in his early twenties over 21, dark haired, slim, and fairly small who wants a long lasting friendship offering affection sincerity and security. ALA and a recent photo appreciated. Box

**Bisexual London/Herts**, 35, don't like gay establishments, Own car, wishes to meet young man over 21 personality more important than looks. Photo please, my photo by return. ALA. Confidence assured. Box

**Journalist 35** would be pleased to correspond and/or meet someone aged 21-25 who would like to know London. Tourist \*British or foreign) welcome. Please send details and photo (returned) ALA Box

**Good looking 24** (really!) artist seeks friends (No trampolinists or penguins) Photo please. Box

**Young husband** seeks active friends 25-30 of any race for occasional weekends and genuine friendship. Orientals particularly welcomed. London and Home Counties. Photograph please. Box

**Man, kinky** for zip fasteners seeks anti-rust agent (over 21) Box

**Good looking London** male 23 slim blond well built and active would like to meet other young attractive males from all areas as my work takes me all over the country. Photo please (recent). Box

**None but the lonely heart** can know my yearning - am filled with ennui as regards the 'organised' gay life. Professional graduate, aged 35 at present resident in East Midlands, moving shortly to North West. Would like a friend, prefer student (21), graduate up to 32, any discipline. Correspond, eventually meet. Looks unimportant but a penchant for things cultural, the great outdoors and a civilised outlook on life are. Will this cri de coeur go unanswered? ALA Box

**Trans Europe heavy truck driver** (28) East End working class background, having survived a harsh deprived upbringing, I would just like someone to come home to whom I would show a little affection like I never had. I'm 6', very powerful, masculine build pleasant looking, utterly sincere. Any nationality welcome. Someone a bit domesticated preferred. Box

**Leather man with bike** wants to get tattooed. Anyone know a good tattooist? Also wants pal with bike for holiday abroad. Box

**Interested Opera? Records? Nudism?** Combine all three at social gathering south London. Box

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## SOME OF THE MOST INTERESTING ADVERTISEMENTS

Pages 12-13 Tell You Who

# GAY NEWS

## News From The Front

LATEST skirmish in the battle of the sexes appears to have been won by women. The Government is to introduce a Bill to outlaw sex discrimination.

Or so it would have us believe. What in fact they are doing is merely making *gender* discrimination illegal. A worthy aim, doubtless, but a narrow one. Why miss the opportunity to promote a genuine sex discrimination Bill which takes account of the problems of gay people in employment, in their social lives, in their position before the law? Here is a golden opportunity to extend the proposals of their gender Bill to offer the most elementary of freedoms to the gay community. Is that asking too much? Apparently it is.

And once the gender Bill is through, the door will slam on any attempts to change our legal status for many, many years. For this reason alone it is important that the Bill as it stands be blocked. There is no indication that Parliament will block it, certainly not on the grounds that it does nothing for homosexuals. So what help can we expect from women themselves? Are there any signs that the women's liberation groups have shown as much interest and concern as Gay Lib has for their problems? Again, very little evidence to show any interest at all. But we have the right to ask that someone at least *mention* the point.

One question that occurs to us: will the Bill, if passed, be worded in such a way that women are brought within the ambit of the Sexual Offences Act 1967? Will lesbians have to wait until they are 21, as men must do? If they do, then lesbians have an urgent fight on their hands. If, however, as seems more likely, their position will not be affected in this respect, then it will be amusing to hear Ministers pontificating about gender equality, whilst doing nothing about a clearly irrational gender discrimination quietly sitting on the statute books.

## 'Personal' Comment

"HERTFORDSHIRE male, 28, tall, slim, attractive, seeks..." There must be a better way. People alone. Sick of casual pick-ups at pubs and clubs. People hurt by the quick anonymity of sexual encounters. But above all, people. Behind every 'tall, slim, attractive 28' lies a real person with a lifetime's experience, with moods, with hopes and fears, but above all with a need for other people.

And the need can remain unfulfilled just as easily in the large cities as it can in the provinces. Hence the pages of personal ads that seem to grow larger every fortnight, a constant reminder of the shadowy corners in which most gay people are required to live.

Women have a struggle on their hands, black people too. What makes their fight that little bit easier is that there is no disguising their membership of their particular group. Gays, on the other hand, spend a large part of their lives hiding theirs. We do it out of anxiety, with a sense of self-preservation. But does it really work? The end result is that we hide from one another. Hence the isolation which afflicts so many of us. We are probably our own worst enemies in this respect.

But until the gay community develops, or is allowed to develop, a measure of self-confidence, we will go on carrying personal ads in the hope that one day they simply won't be needed any more.

## 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.

### No Touching, No Kissing

Notting Hill, London.

Dear Gay News,

Yesterday we went to 'Yours & Mine' (EI Sombbrero) in High Street Kensington, and having paid £1.50 for both of us to enter and having eaten a dreary salad, we decided to dance. It happened that we were holding each other as we were dancing and we also kissed and then the disc jockey warned us that we would be thrown out. In fact we got three warnings, the third from the management who were rather uncivil, and would, we're sure, have physically thrown us out had we stayed.

We feel outraged that we cannot go to a so-called gay club and be gay, especially since afterwards we went to another club in the Earls Court district and did anything we liked and no-one lifted an eye-lid.

We hope this letter will make people realise that a high admission charge does not guarantee a high quality club.

Lionel and Paul

PS: We are both just 21.

### Unworthy of Gay News

London W4

Dear Gay News,

Your feature on the Biograph (GN32) struck me as being unworthy of Gay News.

First because it shows an obsession with the type of joyless subhuman groping stereotypically associated with gays combined with a total disregard for real human relationships which is surely what Gay News is trying to foster.

Secondly because it disregards the fact that the Biograph is regularly and systematically patrolled by the police and equally regularly and systematically, gays are arrested and faced with the humiliation (and expense) of appearing in court and being branded as criminals.

If your article had been a true picture of the situation, it would have warned that to grope in the Biograph is a criminal act and that the police take advantage of this fact to make some very easy arrests.

Richard Creed

### Insult To Injury

London SW6

Dear Gay News,

I noticed with interest you carried an apology from Lux Publications about non-delivery of orders (GN25). I ordered a film from Lux Publications in November, 1972, enclosing a cheque. In spite of two letters informing them that the film had not arrived, sent about two months and four months subsequently, I have had no acknowledgement of these letters. Needless to say my original cheque was cleared soon after it had been posted.

I wonder how many other of your readers have had this sort of experience. At first I was inclined to think that the film had been mislaid in the post, but now I am wondering if I am not the victim of fraud. To add insult to injury they continue to send me advertising material.

R C

ED: GN is refusing to carry advertisements for Lux Publications until every person who has complained about them has received satisfaction or compensation. If any other readers have any complaints against this mail order firm, please get in touch with us and we'll give you the name and address of their British agent, who is responsible for placing advertisements for Lux Publications in UK magazines and newspapers.

### Disgusted, Kensington

Kensington Gore, London SW7

Dear Gay News,

Perhaps you can advise me how to proceed in a shocking situation which I can hardly write of without a feeling of revulsion. I have a budgerigar and a cockateel, about a year old, which have been living together since little more than fledglings. They spend a great deal of time caressing each other, dressing each other's feathers and singing duets. The door of their cage is rarely closed and they come and go as they please, but if one of them stays at home having a snack or looking in the mirror, the other soon becomes anxious and comes back to sit on the cage, chirping plaintively. This was all very well when it was believed they were cock and hen, but now it has been established that they are *both male birds*. Is it possible to make them aware of their perversity? Do you think it would help if electric currents were to be passed through the metal of their cage, whilst flashing endless pictures of the less resplendent females of their species on a conveniently placed screen?

Help in what way, you might ask. I hardly feel inclined to go to the trouble of buying two more birds of like species and differing sex, and in any case I am afraid my birds may not like them and then where would I be?

Sir Alastair Hardy would no doubt say that this is the result of conditioning, but the point is, should it be necessary to de-condition two creatures who appear to be perfectly happy? Perhaps it is my duty to the animal world, which knows no better, to teach these creatures a lesson and PUNISH them by isolating them in separate rooms and perhaps smaller cages? Or would you advise resorting to guile and giving them some such name as Astrid or Fortunata? Of course I could just keep my mouth shut about the whole sorry affair, but that, for some reason or other, I seem unable to do.

Ivor Powell

### Reaching Everyone

Clapham, London

Dear Gay News,

Just thought you would like to know how Gay News is reaching everyone. Although I read GN regularly you can imagine my surprise when last week I sat reading GN31 in my doctor's surgery. There it lay with Woman's Own and Country Life. Things are certainly looking up in Clapham.

Paul

### Tired of Being Reviled

Kensington Place, Brighton.

Dear Gay News,

I was surprised to hear the BBC disc jockey Tony Blackburn quote a disparaging, offensive remark about gay people in his BBC 1 radio programme. He read out part of a letter from a woman listener and quoted the woman as having written to say she was engaged to "a real man, not just a big poof". This was followed by hysterical giggles from Mr Blackburn.

If Mr Blackburn has a son or daughter who turns out to be gay as is quite possible under the laws of average, will he refer in public to his child as being "a big poof"?

Does Mr Blackburn use the abusive terms Wop, Kraut, Frog, Yid, Nigger, Sambo, Push-Baptist or Pig in his radio programmes, and would he expect if he did, to receive complaints from listeners, and possibly from some of the embassies in London?

Perhaps Mr Blackburn does not know that we homosexuals have an intelligent, responsible and watchful newspaper that is read by at least 60,000 people, and is available from most paper shops in Britain. Mr Blackburn, of course, reaches into millions of homes when he quotes, and seemingly applauds, an ignorant reference to a not unimportant section of the community.

True, we only occasionally contribute to the wealth of human experience by including in our ranks such names as Michelangelo, Bacon, Shakespeare, Goethe, Wagner, Byron, Shelley, Tennyson, Marlowe, Proust, Oscar Wilde, Tchaikovsky, Edward Lear, Lytton Strachey, A E Housman, Duncan Grant, Henry Lamb, Hugh Walpole, T E Lawrence, Somerset Maugham, Noel Coward, and John Maynard Keynes, together with two or three prime ministers and other leaders of opinion and the arts, and soldiers like Kitchener and Gordon.

Never mind about the great names of the past, although the BBC would be poorer without them; I wonder if Mr Blackburn would refer to any of these people in his programme as "poofs"?

Perhaps Mr Blackburn will kindly tell us, to quote the words of Mr Charles Aznavour, "What makes a man a man"? And perhaps he would like to play this sympathetic disc in his programme, so that he can tip back the scales of intolerance and lack of understanding.

I am sending a copy of this letter to him.\* But I don't really expect an explanation, much less an apology, and we shall no doubt continue to be laughed at by a minority of insensitive, ignorant people. It is unfortunate that they should have the power to influence the thoughts of millions of others and cause distress. For, I can assure you, I was distressed to hear this abusive low-slang term used in a family programme, and I do not believe I am alone. Unless Mr Blackburn's listeners are all morons.

Some of us are tired of being reviled, simply because we were created in a different image. But if newspapers like The Times, The Guardian and most leaders of public opinion manage to avoid insulting us publicly by calling us "poofs", and "queers" why should BBC disc jockeys display such prejudice? Doesn't the BBC produce a list of controversial expressions and terms to be avoided by announcers and employees who play gramophone records? If a broadcaster insults Roman Catholics by calling them "Pope Lovers", or offends a few million Japanese by calling them "Little Yellow Bellies" or "Nips", does the BBC take no action?

It may not have occurred to Mr Blackburn that the half-million homosexuals in this country contribute, in some measure, to providing him with his salary, his home, his food, car and the suits he wears on his back.

I suggest that the 60,000 or more readers of Gay News who usually listen to the Tony Blackburn show at 9-12 in the morning should switch off, or see if Pete Murray, Tony Brandon, Jimmy Young, Joe Henderson, David Jacobs, Bruce Wyndham or Alan Freeman are broadcasting on another wave length.

I appreciate that Mr Blackburn didn't write the stupid letter. But he chose to quote from it.

John Montgomery

\*Copy sent to Mr Tony Blackburn, Broadcasting House, London W1

ED: Brighton author John Montgomery has had several radio plays broadcast by the BBC, has appeared in several BBC programmes, broadcasts for BBC Radio Brighton, and his first novel, MR SPARROW was read as 'A Book At Bedtime'.

### Controversial Malvern?

Dear Gay News,

I must comment on John Montgomery's article on 'The Turn of the Tide in Brighton', in GN31. As the CHE Executive Committee Member responsible for the overall organisation of the 1974 Conference, I cannot let the matter rest without some redress:

- (1) I share many of Mr Montgomery's views on Brighton. I love it very much myself and rejoice in the growing freedom for gays there.
- (2) The Executive Committee have noted with gratitude the support of many of the Brighton councillors for a CHE conference there.
- (3) Our relations with the Corporation remain very cordial and a future conference may be held there.
- (4) Mr Montgomery mentions that "the local CHE Branch has worked hard to arrange the conference there." Although I met committee members before negotiations took place, never has the local group been informed that the 1974 conference would definitely be in Brighton.
- (5) Malvern is not, as your contributor would seem to suggest, a dreary watering place — let him

### DEAR GAY NEWS...



Illustration: Jean-Claude Thevenin

come to Malvern next May and he will have a pleasant surprise.

(6) Malvern was chosen after *much* deliberation. Many factors were considered. The use of *three* days rather than *two* days was the over-riding one.

(7) Finally, in this very idyllic picture of the present Brighton gay scene, has Mr Montgomery forgotten that Brighton Corporation refuses point blank to offer *any* facilities to the local strong GLF group? What about gay solidarity in Brighton?

Wallace Grevatt

### Less Harmful Than Common Soap

Dear Gay News,

Will you please correct a statement made by Geoffrey (Your letters, GN32) in his letter on cosmetics.

The product Phisoderm which he mentions does *not* contain hexachlorophene, the substance which he refers as having caused the death of 24 babies in France.

Your readers should be informed that Phisoderm is less harmful to the skin than common soap (which is basically alkaline and alters the acid balance of the skin.)

I ask you to do this as Phisoderm may be used by some of your readers, and the misleading statement by Geoffrey could cause unnecessary concern.

Rodger W Giles

ED: GN's fashion correspondent also comments on Geoffrey's letter on Page 14 of this issue.

## GAY NEWS

No 33

October 4 - 17

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### Deadlines and Copy Dates for GN34

Copy, letters, etc - Saturday, October 6.  
Display, Personal and Classified Advertising, etc - 1st Post, Monday October 8.

### Gay News Special Friends

Roger Baker, Barry Conley, Denis Cohn, Anna Raeburn, Laurence Collinson, Graham Chapman, Brian Dax, Antony Grey, Manus Sasonkin, Tim Skinner, David Seligman, Grant Dowling, Pete Wicker, Bernard Searey, David Sherlock, David Hart, Maxie Bacon, Carl Hill, Howard Llewellyn, and Ian Dunn (Scottish correspondent)

Special Thanks To:

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

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Happily married Californian carpet-layers Terry Luton (left) and Bob Quinn show their wedding rings to Alan Whicker.

## 50 million Will See Gay TV Special

LONDON: Alan Whicker's first TV documentary of this season — *The Lord Is My Shepherd And He Knows I'm Gay* went on the air this week, and everyone connected with it is poised in anticipation of public reaction. Before the special went to air, Whicker said: "I was up against opposition trying to film the gay situation in America. Middle America hates queers, and yet one in ten of the population is homosexual — and I'm talking about both sexes."

Whicker's producer-director, Michael Deacon, speculated on possible outrage the show could provoke.

"I think the gay wedding at the beginning will cause tremendous offence," he told GN. "The title could well be labelled blasphemous and the kissing and cuddling at the gay picnic we filmed might disturb a lot of viewers. Then there's the closing segment, which was tremendously moving to everyone involved in the show. We've intercut shots of radiantly happy gay people with clips of the disastrous gay fire in New Orleans. This might cause many viewers to accuse us of making an advertisement for homosexuals."

Deacon said California was chosen as the site for the television special because each of the six documentaries which follow it focus on life on the West Coast of America. "Hollywood," he says "is a gay ghetto."

"It's a tremendously enormous piece of publicity for the gay situation. Like it or not, Whicker is a star of magnitude, and the show will be screened virtually wherever there are television sets. Probably 50 million

people will see this show.

"For Alan to actually make the decision to film a gay documentary was a deliberated move. Alan is a bachelor — he's not gay — and the whole concept of it took a lot of thinking about."

Deacon — who also mentions that he is not gay — says there are aspects of the show which could raise objections from gay liberationists. "The film isn't pro-gay liberation, but simply a sane, adult reflection of the gay situation, based on the feeling that all men are brothers, and homosexuality is no different from having red hair rather than black hair."

Whicker says he anticipates viewer reaction with "fascination". GN is equally interested. As the show went to air well after our deadline for this issue, a review will appear in GN34. We are interested in readers' reactions to the show, and would like to print a brief cross-section of your views. If you saw the show, send your comments to "Whicker", GN, 34d Redcliffe Square, London SW10

## Blitzkrieg

LONDON: Things had already come to a pretty pass when the Radical Gay Communards from Bethnal Green invaded GLF London Information Office in Caledonian Road with a view to closing it down. In their view, GLF isn't doing its job of disseminating information and giving advice properly, in addition to censoring GLF publications and discriminating against women.

The Radical Communards consider that they can do the job much better. For a start, they can provide a full-time service, and they can offer the space free of charge. According to Margaret Bannon, a Radical Gay Communist, "Eight of us went into the office and took equipment, files, letters, newsheets and newsletters and loaded them on to our van." However, the Radical Communards hadn't reckoned on Martin Corbett, a member of the GLF Office Collective, who arrived at that moment and began unloading the van into Housman's Bookshop.

Pandemonium broke out. Richard Chapell, another Radical Gay Communist, kicked Martin Corbett in the shin — or was it the other way round? — nobody seems to be quite sure, but everyone has bruises and witnesses to prove their claims. Anyway, there was a lot of pushing and shoving, shouting and swearing, and eventually the Radical Communards were ejected with no more than a selection of ancient GLF literature for all their trouble.

However, the Radical Communards are adamant that the GLF London Information Office has now moved to Bethnal Green, and they claim that they've taken steps to have GLF telephone calls intercepted until they

can have a permanent GLF line installed. The Information Office, not surprisingly, has asserted that nothing has changed and they're still at the same address.

It is our intention to examine the issues involved in this conflict in the next issues of Gay News. At a time when unity is of such crucial importance, it would appear that some of our gay brothers and sisters have not as yet learned that a house divided against itself cannot stand.

## CHE Women's Teach-In

LONDON: A Teach-in devoted entirely to the subject of female homosexuality is being sponsored by the Highbury and Islington Group affiliated to the Campaign for Homosexual Equality to be held at the Hen and Chicken (Highbury Corner) the 8th October at 7.30pm under the Chairmanship of Pat Bradbury, a former Mayor and a present Councillor of the London Borough of Highbury and Islington.

The speakers are Doreen Cordell, formerly a Social worker with the Albany Trust, and at present with Access; Rose Robertson of Parents' Enquiry; Marjorie Bryanton, a probation officer; and Jackie Forster, the present editor of Sappho.

All the speakers have had immense experience dealing with the problems confronting the female homosexual and will make an invaluable contribution to the meeting.

CHE is holding this Teach-in because they consider that the problem of female homosexuality is far more complex than that of male homosexuality and that the female homosexual is under greater social and psychological pressures than her gay brother.

# Homophobia: 'Massive Social Neurosis'

RADIO 3's fortnightly Access series presents arguments that challenge current orthodoxies, and John Chesterman's recent contribution was called *Offensive To Some*. Although it failed to say anything that was new to informed homosexuals (how could it possibly have?), it was very moving in addition to being intelligent and well written. One can only hope that it made an impact on some heterosexual listeners.

Chesterman commenced by saying, "A recent programme on homosexuality for television's Open University began with the warning that the contents were likely to be offensive to home viewers. I can think of few statements more offensive to homosexuals. The programme contained nothing obscene or libellous. Had it been expressing another minority viewpoint on, say, the colour problem, such a reinforcement of prejudice could have been referred to the Race Relations Board. What it said and meant, and what is true, is that a discussion on rational terms, even the mere suggestion that homosexuals are an entity entitled to views at all, was offensive."

Chesterman explained away the usual assumptions and misconceptions surrounding the subject of homosexuality, eg the 'sickness theory' and the idea that all homosexuals are pederasts. (As a matter of fact 98% of pederasts are heterosexual.) Then he devoted a large part of his talk to the question of gender — how it has nothing to do with sex and sexuality and has no biological basis — and bisexuality.

Chesterman said "At either end of the sexual spectrum are minorities who choose to limit their relationships to one sex or the other. Bisexuality, not the accepted polarised extremes, is the human norm if there is one at all. This is obviously not a new idea. It has been instinctively accepted by many other cultures as every homosexual apologist could point out, but it's not enough to eulogise the ancient Greeks. The implications must be followed through in our terms... Why should the sexual spectrum be weighted at the extremes instead of balanced in the centre? Why should anyone be denied even the possibility of communicating in such a natural way with half the human race?" he asked. "What sort of brain washing is responsible for our sexual apartheid?" he wanted to know.

From the moment of birth, the child's initiation into adult culture — at home, at school, at university — is unremitting propaganda for heterosexuality. "We know from personal experience that the so-called 'permissive society' is only an infinitesimal shift, and that the barrage of advertising, mass-circulation journalism, job and work structure and education still condition our traditional gender roles... Man still gets the woman. The parents still own the

children. Single-sex relationships are still not recognised by law, custom or society. Homosexual couples cannot adopt children, are not recognised as marriages in terms of welfare, housing, finance or taxation. Homosexuals are still automatically dismissed from certain jobs, teaching for instance, are still blackmailed, and are still murdered. *Gender polarity is deeply and totally engrained in our culture, and it is completely unnatural.*

Although Chesterman's talk was an unimpassioned one, he said that the intensity of the reaction of many heterosexuals to homosexuality is frightening, and the result of a massive social neurosis. "We have been taught to hate ourselves, and the guilt and cynicism run so deep that it has taken till now for even a handful of us to question the process, to honestly assess our nature and identity and to realise with a growing anger that we're not the criminals, but the victims, that we're not the sickness, but may be a part of the cure."

Homosexuals will no longer be content with mere toleration or acceptance by heterosexual society. Chesterman sees unifying forces among all the liberations — women's liberation, gay liberation, black liberation. "Homosexuals," he said, "have always accepted the cultural image forced on them by society, like the blacks. Unlike them, we have no Africa, no origins — in a sense we must invent ourselves," he added.

Mere freedom, or the right to be ignored, is no longer enough. The whole basis and fabric of society must change, and Chesterman returns more than once to his bisexual thesis. Bisexuality undercuts the whole concept of monogamous marriage, he explained, but "like single-sexed relationships, promiscuity is still a dirty word. Bisexuality assumes that sex is not simply a function... but a language. If bisexuality is valid, it follows that the old biological function, sex, is a meaningful basis of human expression through the language of gender. Is it conceivable that any human language or expression can be limited to a single person for a lifetime? The nature of free expression is equality, not ownership, and this opens the way to multiple relationships with many depths of meanings in sexual terms — promiscuity, in other words, not for status, or as a neurotic reflex, but as an open extension of friendship." Of course, heterosexuals have as much to gain from this kind of freedom as homosexuals:

John Chesterman concluded his talk by saying, "Last year, a prominent city councillor in Edinburgh described us in resounding clichés as 'a threat to the very fabric of our society'. He may well have been right. The liberation we speak of is not a matter of legal status, but an incalculable new landscape of self-expression... and that's dangerous."

## England And France At US Church Conference

ATLANTA: The fifth annual conference of the gay Metropolitan Community Church, which has branches across the US, drew an attendance of 600 ministers, delegates and observers from various points in America.

England was also represented. The MCC's first fully-fledged church outside the States is locally called *The Fellowship in Christ the Liberator*. The London church affiliated with MCC following a trans-Atlantic visit from gay minister Troy Perry last year, and this year the visit was returned. The London MCC branch has 35 members (7 of them women) and its biggest problem to date has been finding a place to meet. Services are now being held in a private home, which is currently limiting the number of people who may attend the gatherings.

This group is considering setting up a mission in Sheffield.

France was also represented at the MCC meeting. A French protestant minister explained in his talk that his country was not the gay mecca many Americans thought it to be. Underlining the point, he requested that neither his name nor his denomination be reported. He said he would be recognised, singled out, and asked to leave his position as the pastor of a church in France "before I am ready to be asked to leave."

He said he knew of two or three gay activist groups in France, but they were mainly underground. A more open group of street people existed, he said, but the public considered them crazy because of their militancy. These open gays were opposed to

Christianity because it was responsible for their oppression.

The pastor wishes to set up an MCC affiliate in Paris should any spiritual and financial backing become available to him. "The Christian faith has something to say to the outcasts... to be truly Christian, one must be open-minded," he stated.



The Rev Freda Smith is ordained by Troy Perry at the Atlanta MCC conference.

# Glasgow Breakthrough Conference

Report By Ian Dunn, Scottish Correspondent

THE Scottish Minorities Group held their second Annual Conference in Glasgow on Saturday 15 September 1973. Its title was "The Homosexual in an Industrial Community", and the conference was open to the public.

The conference itself went smoothly, and was a pleasant occasion. What was unusual was the amount of publicity which arose when it became generally known that the Lord Provost, William Gray, had deputised Bailie Mrs Jeany Buchan, wife of a former Labour Under Secretary of State for Scotland, to open the Conference and to extend a civic welcome to SMG.

## Anti-Gay Pressure

This news, first "broken" to the public by the ever-vigilant Scottish Daily Express, caused the Editor of the Glasgow Herald to declare in a leader that, although the newspaper condemned the legal differences between Scotland and England regarding homosexuality, the SMG would be "inaccurate" to suppose that the Herald gave forthright support to their cause. "In a particularly immature way they seek, not just to give, but also to demand, social acceptability for a style of life that provokes the strongest reactions". Three days before the Conference, Bailie James Gunn, Social Work Committee, tried to get a full meeting of the Corporation to rescind the civic welcome. Bailie (equivalent of Alderman) Gunn equated homosexuality with crime, prostitution and corruption of minors, but the meeting refused to change its mind and the civic welcome was given.



Pickets outside the SMG Conference Hall. Extreme right-wing reactionary Pastor Jack Glass carries 'sodom' placard.

Sad to report, discrimination appeared from a most unexpected quarter. With only 11 days to go, the Executive of Strathclyde Students Association voted to cancel the Gay Disco in the Union which had been arranged with SMG as far back as June. President Stewart Mackintosh told Gay News that the "real reason" was a worry over Scotland's antiquated liquor licencing laws, but it is reported that it was the anti-homosexual fears of Bob Scott, a lecturer in Law at Strathclyde University which succeeded in making a nonsense of the NUS Gay Rights policy. The cancellation of the Disco was publicly condemned by SMG Secretary John Breslin from the platform during the conference proceedings.

While black-bearded, handsome Pastor Jack Glass and his acolytes demonstrated outside the Halls (see picture), 70 members and friends gathered inside. The conference organisers put the low attendance down to the recent publicity — last year's event (report GN6) had attracted nearly double the number. It is a reflection of attitudes in Glasgow that people should be scared into staying away.

## Smash The Myths

Bailie Buchan's Opening Address was forthright and angry. She attacked the Press for their adverse publicity — it was "pretty disgusting" — and equated the publicity with the recent persecution of Russian dissenters by the press in Moscow. This was a "difficult conference; some people believe that there are no homosexuals in the industrial community, that homosexuals are hairdressers or ballet dancers". Ms Buchan remarked that it took courage and, more important, it took a lot of patience to educate the public. Referring to her position in the Corporation, Bailie Buchan said that "It is our job, in public, and as Councillors, to smash myths — including the myths surrounding homosexuals." She hoped that the conference would help the parents of homosexual children, so that these parents would be less afraid to come forward for advice in the future. To her colleagues who had condemned the Conference, she retorted that she "was ashamed to be a Glaswegian" when people showed such bigotry. "Bigotry is the worst perversion of all," she said.

Finally, speaking for the Lord Provost, she welcomed everyone most heartily and wished the conference success.

The first session of the morning was on "Confrontation or Integration?", Martin Stafford, late of CHE, speaking for Integration, attacked the philosophy of Gay Liberation. In London, where "such fooleries may enjoy a fleeting vogue where a prevailing love of novelty guarantees them an initially sympathetic reception," Martin said that converts had been small in number. Gay Lib would be rejected with disdain if it was extolled before

the public in Glasgow or Edinburgh. Quoting Thomas Reid, he said that the notion was absurd. "In short, if you want to make enemies, then let your policy be one of confrontation; but if you wish to make progress, think again!" Martin described some of the sexual oppression of homosexuals and said that promiscuous relationships were the result of social hostility. He was out of favour with the idea of helping people who "got into trouble" over their sexual activity. Referring to "these libertines" he said that "those who indulge in the freedom of nature should feel the discipline of nature." As far as changing the law on homosexuality was concerned, Martin stressed that homosexuals themselves will have to secure the initiative, and that we should campaign for what we are likely to achieve, and in a wise and reasonable way.

## Confrontation

David Evans, a lecturer in Sociology at Glasgow University since 1969, spoke for confrontation. He dismissed the idea that confrontation is the opposite of integration. He was not concerned with a total merging, or with "annihilation by blandness". Confrontation was a method of acting politically — shock treatment if you like — of which the opposite was evasion and apathy. Although it was misleading to link the two, they both stemmed from oppression. Confrontation makes us aware of oppression — confrontation need not be a public activity, it can take place within one's own mind. David regretted that we all too often accept stigma, that when we are labelled "queens" we "camp it up".

Tolerance, indeed, was damaging to the gay community "because it doesn't accept complete sex and love." He quoted from some of the hostile letters in the Herald. The question was not "Why am I gay?" but "why am I behaving in this particular way?" We ought to grasp the chance to kiss, dance, hold hands . . . to believe that it is as natural to be gay as to be straight. He knew that opposition would come from gays themselves. The Glasgow ghetto was set in its ways and would resist any change. David all but dismissed the SMG Law Reform Bill — to change the law was only to change a piece of paper. Change must come about from a heightened gay consciousness and a caring gay community.

The conference then broke into five discussion groups to talk around the prepared speeches. After 45 minutes, each group put one question to each of the speakers. The answers were interesting, though not startling, and the morning session closed when lunch was announced.

The afternoon was devoted to speeches on "Living outside the law?" followed by a Panel Discussion.

## Gay Marriage

Ian Christie, one-time Edinburgh Councillor, gave a similar speech to the one summarised in GN28. Progress with the Bill was mentioned. The Rev David Levison, Convenor of the Moral Welfare Committee of the Church of Scotland, criticised Bailie James Gunn: "I think the Bailie's remarks were slanderous in quoting homosexuals — 5% of the population — in the same breath as prostitutes and brothels."

At question time, Levison stated that "marriage" was "a permanent loving relationship between two people", and agreed with Councillor Bob Stewart that the sex of the partners was irrelevant. "The Church must meet the needs of the minority", he said "and we must help SMG, CHE and the Gay Liberation Movement where possible. Integration must be achieved without making homosexuals either heterosexual or celibate."

Bob Stewart, a Glasgow Councillor, speaking as a "35-year-old bachelor", gave a "now-we-like-you, now-we-don't" sort of speech. One of his remarks brought a rebuke from John Breslin. Bob thought SMG should publicly condemn people who, while in charge of young teenagers, actively indulge in sex with boys. John Breslin replied that SMG always wrote offering help and support to such people when their activities were reported in the Press. Councillor Stewart also called upon SMG to extend its activities and begin to take account of other minorities in Scotland. There is bound to be increasing debate on this, as Bob touched a sensitive nerve.

The conference closed with a lively Panel discussion. Well-known personalities like Cliff Hanley and Brian Barr were on the Panel. There was a Trades Union official from the Amalgamated Union of Engineering workers as well (Robert Thomson) and, at last, some relevant discussion of the working-class homosexual. Perhaps the press publicity was the most effective way the conference got through to the community at large. It was a great occasion and the SMG deserve to be pleased with its impact.



Bailie Janey Buchan gives the Civic Welcome on behalf of Glasgow's Lord Provost William Gray.

# Jury Ignores Peeping Bobbies' Evidence

AYLESBURY: An RAF commander and a Risborough man whom police claimed to have found in the cubicle of a public toilet committing an act of gross indecency were acquitted by an all-male jury here on 11 September.

They were Wing Commander George Harold Beaton, a father of three children, and Edward Joseph Starkey, aged 49, also a married man. Both denied committing an act of gross indecency together at a public lavatory in Green Street, Hazlemere. The jury retired for just over half an hour at the end of a two-day trial before reaching verdicts of not guilty.

During the trial, it was said two police officers actually witnessed the defendants committing an indecent act together. One of the officers had been keeping watch on the lavatories through two spy-holes in a loft, and the other claimed he saw the alleged offence occurring when he looked over the cubicle wall.

In the witness box, Starkey said he went into the cubicle to use the lavatory, which he did. While in there, he used an inhaler because he suffers from asthma. However, he dropped the inhaler to the floor. "I bent over to pick it up, and as I did so, the wall started to move forward, and at the same time my business cards fell out of my top pocket all over the floor and between the two cubicles," he told the jury. He added that when he saw Beaton sitting on the lavatory, "he was most embarrassed", Beaton said, "I began clutching my trousers and it was a most awkward situation", when Starkey suddenly appeared in the same compartment as himself. He added he could not remember Starkey speaking to him and that almost simultaneously, the police shouted outside.

Beaton, giving evidence, said he had served with the RAF since 1949 and did not have homosexual tendencies. His wife, Ms Mary Beaton, said she and her husband had

been married for 21 years and still had sexual relations together. Before being arrested, Beaton alleged one of the officers called him a "dirty bastard".

Dc David Beeching, of High Wycombe CID, said he was keeping watch on the two cubicles from a loft and through two holes in the roof, had "a good clear view" of both lavatories. He said Starkey entered one of the cubicles where he remained for about ten minutes smoking a cigarette. Then Beaton appeared and entered the other compartment. According to Beeching, the men communicated with one another through a hole in the partition before Starkey removed it altogether and entered the other man's cubicle. The offence then took place, during which time Beaton stroked Starkey's head.

Beeching said two other officers, who were waiting outside, then went into the cubicles. He said he was able to signal them with a torch. D Sgt Kenneth McGregor of High Wycombe CID told how he claimed to have looked over the cubicle wall and seen the partition removed. Pc Peter Sanders, of High Wycombe Police, said he questioned Starkey and asked him if he knew the man with whom he was alleged to have committed an indecent act, and the defendant replied, "No, I don't. I just knew he was an elderly man, smartly dressed and in a grey suit."

The fact that these three police officers obviously enjoy their work and have it cut out for them is understandable. What is less understandable is that in these times of violence against persons and property, they have the time to loiter around public lavatories, harassing innocent heterosexuals.

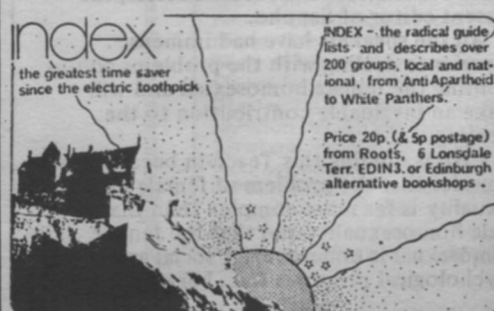
However, the police aren't having it any too good these days, for a 44-year-old club secretary, in Bolton, accused of indecently exposing himself to four small boys, was cleared after a lengthy hearing. The magistrate found the case not proved.

# Colleges Of Education Say Yes To Gay Rights

NEWCASTLE: This year the National Specialist Conference of Colleges of Education was held at Northumberland College of Education, near Newcastle, from Sept 10th to 12th. One of the motions put forward was designed to augment the already substantial NUS motion passed at Exeter earlier this year, and to make students in colleges of Education aware of the important part that they will have to play if intolerance and shame are to be replaced by understanding and self-acceptance. Although the conference gave overwhelming support to the motion, the mover, Alistair Stewart (NUS Executive Member) said that it was regrettable that the handful of people who were obviously violently opposed to the motion hadn't got the courage to speak up against it. It would have been a good thing for the assembled delegates to have witnessed the degree of blind intolerance that some people have of homosexuality. The thought that their prejudice, against individuals who differ in sexual orientation, is so violent, is of great concern if we believe that the children who they will be teaching have got their own rights to develop as individuals. To promote intolerance and fear is not one of the aims of the Education system in this country.

The present Executive co-ordinators will continue to act as 'Caretakers' of the National College of Education Gay Rights Committee until elections can be held to a properly constituted Executive. It is hoped to hold these elections at Bristol on 20th October at the National Gay Rights Conference for Students, to be run jointly by the National Union of Students and Bristol Gaysoc. In the meantime, any offers of help will be gladly received, and requests for advice, help or further information will be dealt with promptly. NCEGRC forwarding address is:

NCEGRC, c/o National Secretary,  
National Union of Students,  
3 Endsleigh Street,  
London WC1H 0DU



# Samantha The Two-Faced Lady

MANCHESTER: Samantha's Club here has been described in news stories in previous issues of Gay News as an "all-male club". However, we have received complaints from readers that the club is staffed by women and is frequented mostly by heterosexual couples.

The manager of the club, Harry Bannister, was unable to comment, and the owner of the club, Glen Stevens, was never available for comment, but a spokesman for the club said, "Samantha's is basically a straight club, but gays are welcome. They're good spenders." Asked point-blank if Samantha's was an all-male club, he replied immediately, "No, definitely not."

According to our Manchester correspondent, Samantha's has been a gay club for a long time, but gays are no longer frequenting it because it has been taken over by heterosexual couples and lots of straight ladies — which is okay if you like mixed company, but not too cool if you don't.

It is worth noting that although unescorted women are also welcome, gay women aren't. Because of the number of complaints against the club by gays, GN is no longer able to advertise Samantha's in Derek's Guide. Clearly the management is misrepresenting the club in addition to discriminating against our gay sisters.

# Tricky Dicky's Autumn Cruise

SUNDAY 28th OCTOBER

DISCO . . . DANCING . . . LICENSED

Leaving Westminster Pier 7.30pm  
returning 11pm

TICKETS £1.25 SAE Cheque/PO

R Scanes,  
203 Clayhall Avenue  
Ilford  
Essex.

BOAT IS HEATED AND COVERED

## Customs Seize BBC Gay Films

LONDON: Two strips of film imported by the BBC, comprising 16 pictures of gay couples making love, have been seized by customs at Heathrow Airport.

The strips of film were part of a consignment of film for the BBC from the Unitarian Church in the US. The film has been described as the most scientifically advanced sex education kit in the world, and has been screened to school children over 13, as well as to adults in institutions and prisons.

Only the gay sequences were seized by customs. "We had no idea that material used by a well-known church would be confiscated," a BBC spokesman said after the seizure. GN contacted the BBC to see if they had taken any steps to recover the film. No action has been taken — the matter was still under consideration.

The sex education film had not been programmed. The BBC had imported it simply to decide whether or not it was suitable for screening by them.

### Ms Whitehouse Steps In

Moral watch-dog Mary Whitehouse quickly got wind of the confiscation. Secretary of the so-called National Viewers' Association, she told press men that any decision by the BBC to appeal should be made at governor level. She did not approve of the BBC trying to bring "pornographic" or "near pornographic" material into the country, even if it was only to see what is available in other countries.

Further more, she was highly suspicious of the plans to just look at the film. "This is spending public money on material which is evidently pretty pornographic, so it is not acceptable at all. In any case, we have heard all this story before. They bought 'Ulysses' a year ago, saying 'No, we do not have any immediate plans for showing it.'

"They buy this material just saying 'We can take a look at these things' and before we know where we are, come twelve months and we have it on television."

### Church Screenings Possible

Ms Whitehouse's premonitions may be correct, although it could turn out that the unseen film which horrifies her will be screened in church rather than on television.

By April next year, the Unitarian Church of Britain is expected to decide whether or not the sex education kit imported by the BBC would be suitable for use, in whole or in part, in this country.



Mary Whitehouse is angry: "Come 12 months and we have it on television."

In anticipation of this, the church has set up a committee ostensibly to explore ways to improve public understanding of gay people.

The panel will comprise two doctors, a housewife, a researcher and a student of sociology. Oddly enough the Church has not made a point of including at least one openly gay individual in the panel.

Following the panel's research, the church will consider using the film in the manner of its American affiliate.

There are two editions of the film currently being used in the US. One edition contains the gay strips of film, and the other does not. Both editions are general sex instruction kits not exclusively concerned with homosexuality.

In the US 450 of the 1,100 Unitarian Churches make use of the kits, usually showing it to small groups of 12 to 15 teenagers or adults.

## Plain-Clothes Menace Lurks In Back Stalls

LONDON: Gay News has received a number of reports over the past fortnight that the police have been active once again at the Biograph Cinema, Victoria and at the Eros News Theatre, Piccadilly Circus.

First of all, we made inquiries at the Press Bureau, New Scotland Yard, who said they knew nothing at all about the matter and referred us to Vine Street Police Station, who also said they knew nothing about the matter and referred us back to New Scotland Yard, but finally admitted that if New Scotland Yard knew nothing about the matter, it was because they, Vine Street, "had not deemed it fitting news to release to the Press." The police at Rochester Row were also unable to assist with information, so we approached the Managers of the cinemas in question.

According to the manager of the Biograph, no more homosexuals frequent his cinema than the Curzon or the ABC Shaftesbury Avenue or any other cinema! He thinks that homosexuals are just like everybody else "except for an unfortunate weakness." He believes that it is a minority of homosexuals who misbehave themselves in public and blames the whole thing on the "permissive society". No, he doesn't discourage homosexuals from his cinema nor does he discourage the police who bust his clientele "discreetly, of course," and he's full of admiration for homosexuals when they're busted because "they're very good about it, and never make a scene." The Manager of the Biograph has "the same problem as everyone else who deals with the public, including bus drivers!"

In fact, the only person who could make any sense at all was the manageress of the Eros. She knows lots of gay people, is sympathetic and has no objection to gays using her cinema, providing, having made contact with someone, they go off and make love in private.

The Eros News Theatre is a cartoon cinema, and therefore attracts a lot of children, especially during the school holidays, whose parents dump them there for a couple of hours during a shopping spree. Because of the children, the manageress feels she has a double responsibility. "I don't think it does a youngster any good to see a couple of men snogging in the back row or

indulging in mutual masturbation. And things are much worse in the lavatory: they strip and ride each other and suck each other off. Furthermore, the children themselves are sometimes approached sexually."

Because this overall situation exists, the police are constantly in attendance. "They merely sit in the back row, and without making any effort to incite, sooner or later, they're touched. We had six arrests last week, but it's hard to speak in terms of averages, because arrests go in waves. On an average, I'd say we have about one arrest every fortnight, but I can assure you, it isn't safe for any gay person to attend this cinema if the purpose of the visit is to have explicit sex in the cinema. By all means, come . . . I think lots of you are lovely boys . . . but having met a new friend, go back to your own pads and be beautiful!"

GN neither encourages nor moralises when it comes to sex in public. However, you heard the lady. These two cinemas are dangerous, and the possibility of arrest is not the only danger. We received another report last week of an elderly man being savagely beaten up when he inadvertently approached the wrong person in the Biograph.



Gays don't frequent the Biograph any more than any other cinema, says manager.

## Cottager Thrown Through Shop Window

TOOTING BEC: A GN reader in this area reports that two very violent arrests took place outside the public lavatory adjoining the Wheatshaf Hotel. The reader claims that "two or three" plainclothes detectives approached two men in the cottage. Following this, the men refused to be placed under arrest, and escaped from the cottage by fighting off the detectives.

"The two men who fought off the police weren't very young — apparently in their early fifties or thereabouts. One of them ran across the road with the police chasing him: they caught up with him as he approached a sweet shop, and he was thrown through the window. He was apparently badly cut, and several days later the shop window was still smashed.

After the men who tried to escape had been caught, several police cars arrived on the scene. Earlier in the evening, there was a car across the road that looked like a minicab, with the driver outside it cleaning the windows for quite a while. He was a plain-clothes cop, it turned out.

"The cottage has been closed a lot lately, and even when it's open it's not safe to go into."

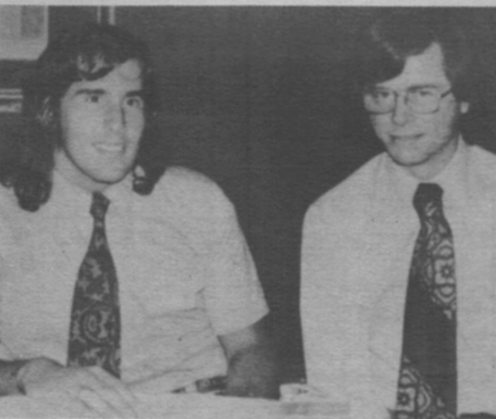
When GN rang Trinity Road police station to verify the reader's report, the station officer was unhelpful and obstructive. The officer would not even disclose whether or not the Trinity Road division had handled the case.

## Gay Voices Heard In Catholic Church

LOS ANGELES: Dignity, an organisation of gay Catholics, formed in 1969, has staged its first national meeting. "The first such meeting in the history of Christianity," said a spokesman. The 150 people who attended represent an active membership ranging from 1000 to 1500.

The group claims to be requesting the church to "meet the needs we have as gay Catholics for increased acceptance by the whole church."

The group agreed to contact all bishops by mail in an attempt to seek better relations. Director Diederich cited a 1971 International Synod of Bishop's call for justice to minority groups and asked for bishop's held in ending Christianity's long record of injustice to gays.



Gay Catholics — "Dignity" secretary Father Tom Oddo and director Paul Diederich.

Rictor as being "eternally innocent".

An article written by Rictor in America, about gay genius Francis Bacon, appeared in GN 31. He has published articles throughout the American gay press (The Advocate, Gay Sunshine etc.) and his future work includes articles on Shakespeare, Plato, Herman Melville and others.

He explains, "I'm primarily interested in regaining our gay heritage, much of which has been lost because so many gay works have been censored out of existence. I think gay literature should be taught in universities and schools."

Rictor holds a doctor's degree — the highest degree in philosophy in the US — and has taught English at the Florida State University. He also gave a course on homosexual literature there, and at the student-organised Free University of Florida he lectured on Gay Lifestyle.

Rictor also lobbied against the law which defined sodomy as illegal. Florida is now one of the few American States which has dropped the law.

A freelance writer, Rictor has published literary criticism on Henry James and contemporary playwright Edward Albee, amongst others.

"The London gay scene is not as radical as I would've thought" says Rictor. He adds that he can't sincerely subscribe to some gay equality viewpoints because "I believe that gay is superior."

## The Woes Of The Male Secretary

SAN FRANCISCO: Gay writer Don Jackson, who claims he has been unable to get a job as a secretary in this city, has filed a complaint with the Human Rights Commission and the US Equal Rights Employment Opportunity Commission, charging discrimination against himself as a single gay person.

Although Jackson does not tell potential employers he is gay, he says "a high percentage of single men are gay" and thus discriminated against.

Jackson and 15 members of the Gay Alliance protested in front of the Human Rights Commission offices demanding that 15 per cent of any work force doing business in the city be gay.

GN is currently in the process of examining the position of the male secretary in England and the report will be published next issue.

## GN's New Address

WOULD all readers, advertisers and contributors please note that as from **Saturday 13th October 1973**, Gay News' new address will be 1 Paxton Road, Chiswick, London W4 2QT. Our new telephone number will be announced in the next issue, GN34.

Please do NOT send any mail to our present address after **Wednesday 10th October**, and it would help us enormously if all personal ads, letters, copy etc, arrived no later than the first post on **Monday 8th October**.

BLOT, GN's typesetters, will also be moving to our new premises. The same dates also apply to them.

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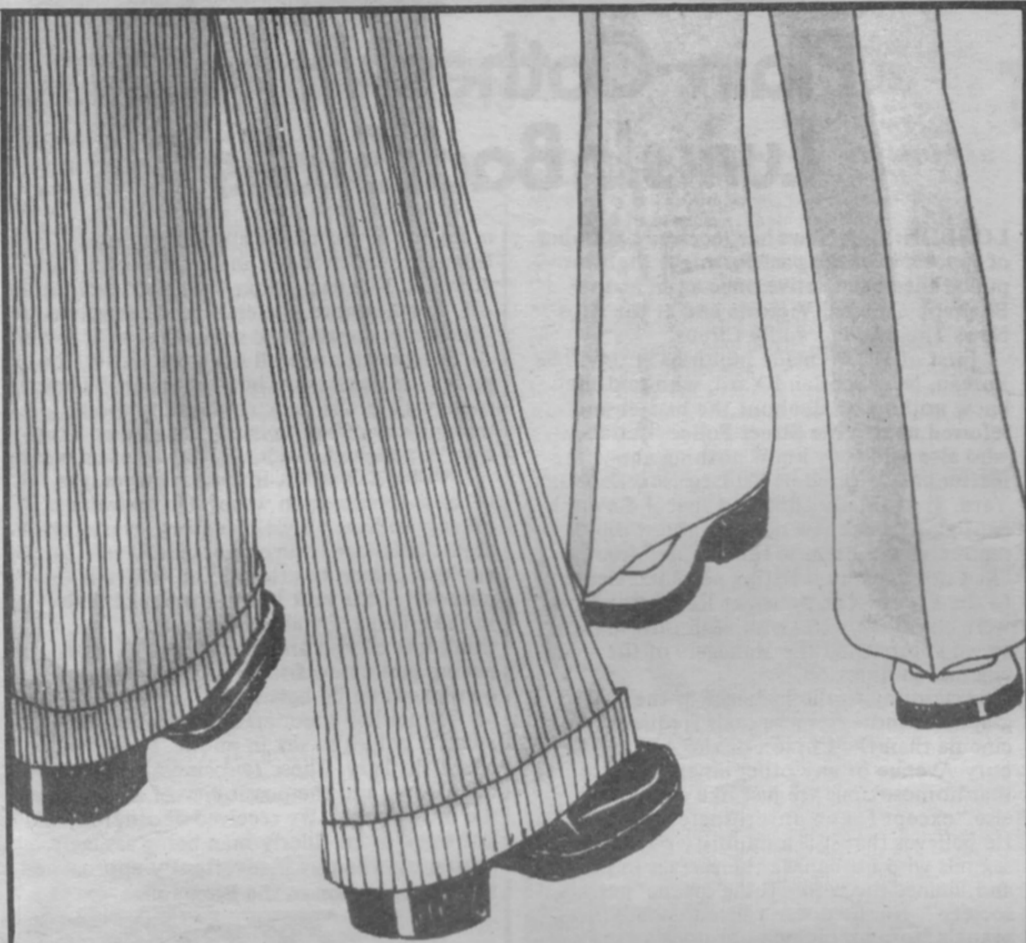
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## 'Gay Is Superior' Says Historian Rictor

LONDON: Rictor Norton, a 28-year-old gay literature historian and expert, has arrived in London to spend several weeks pursuing his studies here. While he is in London, Rictor plans to prepare some specialised features for Gay News, and the first of these ('Blessed Are the Puer of Heart') appears on page 15 of this issue. The feature focuses on the Rev Emmanuel Bradford, described by



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 "- tastes good."  
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## What Are The Police Up To?

WE don't like quoting ourselves, but in Gay News 32, we said, "If readers have police dealings in which they feel they have been treated offensively or unfairly, please write to GN giving all the details."

The response we had during the ensuing fortnight was frightening - two letters just this morning (25 September) from young teachers, one of whom was incited by the police to commit a homosexual act while the other was victimised by the police and found guilty of a homosexual offence he didn't commit. Both young men have lost their teaching jobs, and the latter, an alien, is now fighting to be allowed to remain in the country.

We believe here at GN that there has been a recent increase in unfair and sometimes legally dubious police activity against gays. It is our intention to keep and investigate your letters with a view to building up substantial individual case histories. Our findings will then be presented in depth in GN in due course, and a report will then be sent to the Home Office.

Relations between the police and the gay community *must* improve, and GN is taking it upon itself to do something about it. However, we can get nowhere without YOUR help. Please write in giving us the facts of your own experiences: *complete confidence assured.*

## Club Owner Daren't Employ Gay Barman

NOTTINGHAM: La Chic, the new club which obtained a unique license enabling gay-only membership (GN32) does not plan to discriminate against hets when employing staff. In fact it rather sounds that this is the area where gays will dip out. One of the owners, John Greenway, has announced: "The staff will have to be straight. We daren't have a gay boy as a barman because the customers would probably chat him up instead of letting him get on with his work."

This will no doubt amuse London club patrons, who barely get the chance to gasp their drink order, let alone ask for a phone number.

A member of Nottingham's Moral Rearmament Group said "When God created man, he did not expect this sort of thing", in reference to the club's existence, rather than its employment policy.

Many Nottingham residents predictably regard the unique new club as a dubious

bleeding. Some are plainly outraged. In a letter to the Evening Post, a woman signing herself Mrs Creasey suggested that all gay people should be banished to their own island, finishing with the somewhat irrational declaration "To some I may sound intolerant, but thank God I am!"

Mrs Creasey's comments brought 11 letters in reaction, printed in a later edition of the Post. Four letters suggested the club was a disgrace ("It will make the Queen of the Midlands a laughing stock" wrote one of them.)

The secretary of the Nottingham Campaign for Homosexual Equality wrote that he felt God would not want to be thanked for intolerance, and two letters from individual gays humbly pleaded for tolerance.

The four remaining letters were from persons presumably heterosexual, who said they were in sympathy with the gay issue under fire.

## Gay Librarians Off The Shelf

THE FIRST meeting of the Gay Librarians Group will take place in the Conference Room of the Central Collegiate Building, 15 Gordon Street, London WC1 on Sunday 7th October, beginning at 11am and lasting, if need be, until 5pm. Gordon Street is near Euston Station and it is not difficult to get a meal in that area on a Sunday. I hope that you will be able to take part in the meeting.

More than 30 people have expressed an interest in the proposed group. Of these, about one third live in London. "There have been a few hostile reactions notably in the Daily Telegraph's notorious "Way of the World" column, and in the letters section of the LAR and AL... Perhaps you would like to send a reply to some of the absurd letters which have been sent.

From the letters I have received there is a mixture of motives for wanting to join the group. Some, understandably, just want to meet other gay people, and are wary of further commitment. There is a body of opinion in favour of promoting reasonable works on homosexuality, but a few doubts about actually opposing bad works.

The following is a provisional list of topics for discussion on October 7th. Please send in any amendments, objections, additions etc.

- (1) There will be a talk from Trevor Locke, President of the Bristol Union Students Union, and a member of CHE's National Executive Committee with special responsibility for Bibliography production.
- (2) Gay Bibliographies: discussion of existing work and GLG's possible contribution.
- (3) Should GLG discourage the provision of anti-homosexual works? (4) The Organisation of GLG: can we set up regular meetings in London with more people taking responsibility than at present? (5) External Relations: how do we approach the Library Association and the Association of Assistant Librarians? How do we liaise with Librarians for Social Change, CHE etc? (John Noyce of LFSC may be able to get to the meeting). It is well worth subscribing to the LFSC Journal (50p for 3 copies, 67 Vere Road, Brighton BN1 4NQ).

It would be useful to circulate a list of everyone who has contacted me about the groups so that you can contact each other. If anyone objects to being included, please let me know. Silence denotes consent. Please let me know too if you can get to the October 7th meeting. I hope to see you then.

Robert Elbert

## Going Gay In Rock

RAY Connolly, an authority on the pop scene, and writing in the Evening Standard, believes that sex and rock are irrevocably bound together and applauds the recent trend towards more explicit lyrics. However, he adds that the current sexual ambiguity as personified by David Bowie "perplexes" him, and he doesn't see it lasting - not surprising, because the phenomenon is theatrical rather than sexual or musical, and the up-and-coming generation of teeny-boppers will expect a new gimmick - perhaps the successors of Pan's People, dressed as Carmelite Nuns.

However, Connolly refreshingly says, "None of the previous generations of rock singers were feminine in their appearance (and indeed several homosexual performers

went to extreme lengths to appear overtly masculine before their fans) but Bowie seems to have started a trend towards sexual ambivalence." Later on, he adds, "since the new attitudes towards sex have meant a more understanding attitude towards homosexuals, it is likely, however, that there will now always be a proportionate place for the bisexual in pop, and it is likely that in the future, it will become more obvious from song lyrics which particular sex is being appealed to."

It is especially gratifying (1) that this point of view should appear in the Establishment Press, and (2) that it should be presented as nonchalantly as if the topic under discussion were landscape gardening.

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Back copies of Gay News Nos 1 - 11 and 13 - 19 price 10p and 20 - 24 and 26 - 30 price 15p are available from Gay News Oldies, 34d Redcliffe Square, London SW10.

Orders for 10 or more copies are post free otherwise please add 3½p per copy for post and packing.

# What Price A Gay Candidate?

by Bob Sturgess

If I were invited to vote for 'my' Gay Candidate in the local polls, let me say straight away that I would not necessarily do so and, indeed, the chances are that I would end up voting for one of the other candidates who, on high statistical probability, would be likely to be heterosexual.

Before the hissing begins, and before I get accused of 'lack of solidarity', it might be pertinent to ask why this view is shared by so many gay people besides myself. And this pre-empts the wider question: to whom or what, are we meant to be showing 'solidarity' anyway?

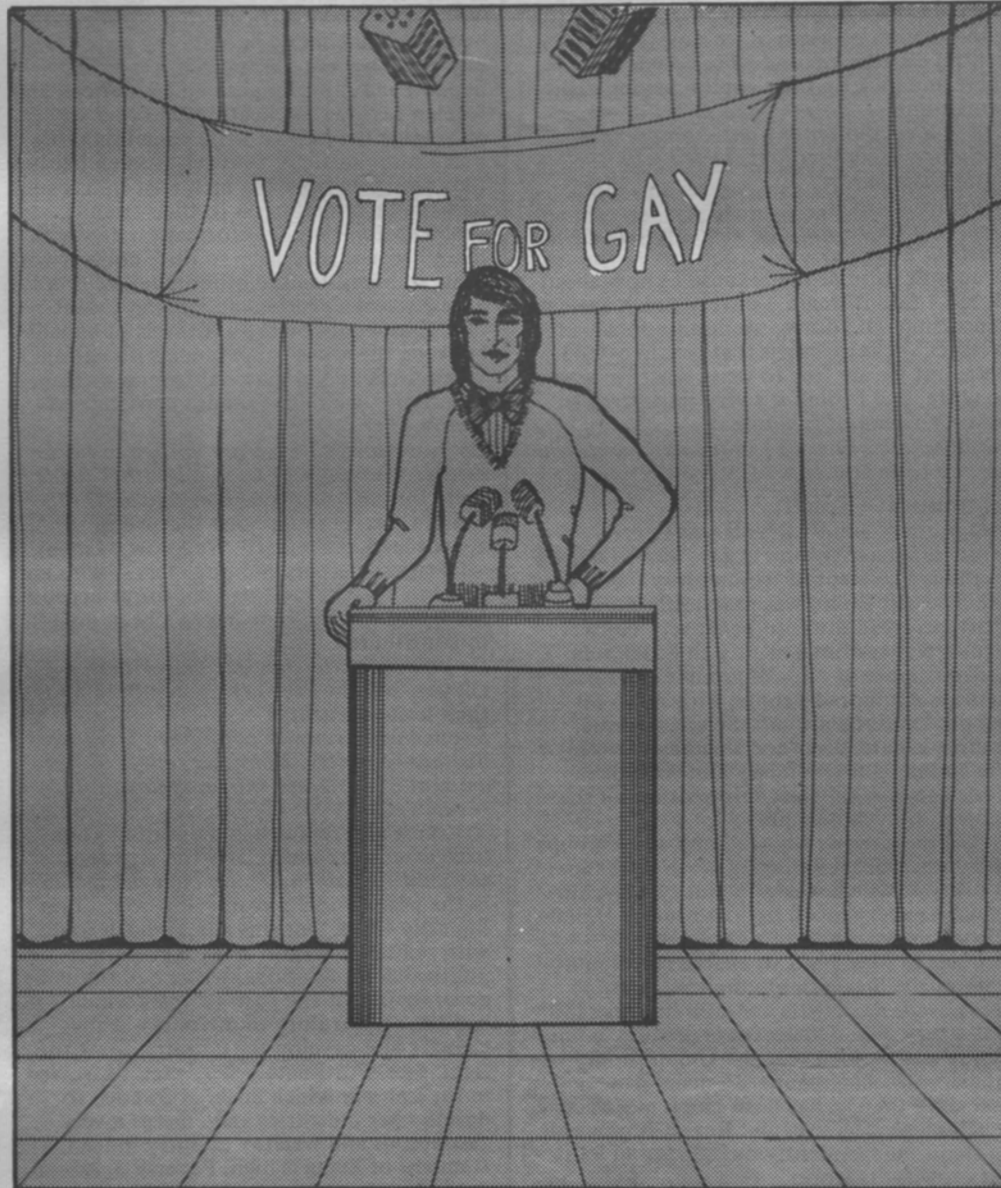
Would we feel it our duty, for instance, to fight for the release of a convicted murderer on the ground, merely, that he was gay and was associated with GLF or CHE? (In view of the recent 'gay murders', this question may not prove to be as academic as it sounds). Would we feel under any collective obligation to help a young Arab member of GLF (or CHE) whom we knew to be a Black September activist? To both questions, the majority answer would almost certainly be 'no' — if only on the old-fashioned ground that human life still comes before sex, and that similar sexual proclivities do not of themselves command unconditional solidarity among homosexuals, any more than they do among heterosexuals. Extreme examples, admittedly; but they do show that solidarity, like open credit, has its limits.

What *does* unite gay campaigners — to a limited and ill-defined extent — is a common educational objective. With public understanding of homosexuality still at the pre-literate level, it is only through public education — as distinct from 'confrontation' — that you dissipate the ignorance which stands in the way of homosexual equality. What is needed at this juncture is intelligent persuasion and non-directive enlightenment of a very high order, and you would be as hard put to find it in the hustings as a quadruped gypsy peeress in the House of Lords.

The putting up of a gay candidate smacks to me of the politics of confrontation which, as we have seen in the legal and other spheres, is liable to prove counter-productive. What price enlightenment there? At the hustings, objectivity cedes to partiality; fairness to platform slant; valid points to debating points; speech to rhetoric. The candidate rarely gives more than cursory attention to what voters have to say; it is he who talks to them — or, in many cases, *at* them. As to the candidate's attitude to his political rivals, it would be more natural for him to levitate *downwards*, in the double lotus position with his big toes stuck behind his ears, than to be seen to make common cause with them. He seeks, on the contrary, to denigrate their policies and, increasingly, their personal probity; as often as not, he will rattle in their faces as many skeletons from the cupboard of their past as constituency funds and his own *Schadenfreude* can exhume. As a public education forum, in short, the hustings would be ludicrously unsuitable.

And farcical too. While it's true that, when compared to the States, the political skeleton business in this country is still at the cottage industry stage, it can still pack a good image-dimming punch for all that. What if the Gay Candidate were found to have exhibited heterosexual leanings in early youth and a yellowing photo produced, showing him dancing with a girl, or worse, giving her a light kiss on the lips? What if he had gaily admitted, in an unguarded moment, that he liked the company of girls and did not object, in principle, to the idea of (heterosexual) marriage?

His political rivals could be relied upon to make hay out of such slender straws and shatter his credibility by questioning his right, with such a past, to represent the gay community. He would be held to be vulnerable to blackmail and accused of masquerading under gay plumage for his own nefarious purposes. Nor could he plead, in mitigation, that those youthful heterosexual philanderings were a passing phase that he



bitterly regretted, since his rivals would immediately point to the danger of such a latent spark recrudescing, after his election, into an uncontrollable flame that could lead to his contracting a girl friend, marrying, having kids and indulging in the sort of unmentionable sexual acts that the founding of a young family has traditionally required.

And what if the process were to occur in reverse? For whom would we vote, pray, if one of 'our' candidate's supposedly heterosexual rivals (on the 'evidence' of a wife and kids) were suddenly to see the light, renounce the ties of parenthood and announce himself to be gay as well? Quite apart from knocking the ground from under our candidate's feet, it could provoke the hideous conflicts of loyalty within the collective breast of the gay community, effectively dividing us into two warring camps. It could lead to scenes of the ugliest in-fighting that would hardly present the Movement in the best light. At least, up to now, we've had the sense to keep our inter-cine rivalries safely between the four walls of pub, hall and closet, honing our verbal blades in secret to a high pitch of sophistication. The thought, however, of several hundred gays pouring out onto a wider stage, with flashing eyes and gleaming hatchets directed at *each other* (or, at best, the rival candidate) would stir genocidal memories of the Final Solution and make the Labour Party's wrangles over Europe seem like a nursery squabble.

No, if we are to die an untimely death, let us die, rather, for the principle that no otherwise acceptable British candidate, whether at local or national level, should be debarred from office purely (or impurely) on the ground of his or her sexual preferences (subject only to Michael Harth's commendably argued reservations in another paper). That is a principle for which I would stand up and be counted, but it is a very different thing from voting for a gay candidate just because he — or she — happens to be gay.

There is a further logical difficulty about flying the 'Gay Candidate' kite. Our whole campaign, if I've read it aright, is predicated on our equality with, *not* our superiority to,

heterosexuals. Why, then, should I be expected to give my vote to someone who is implicitly deemed preferable (superior?) to his political rivals by virtue of his sexual orientation alone? A manifest absurdity. If I had to choose between a ruggedly hetero candidate, with a proven capacity to keep my rates down, and a fanciable, but inexperienced gay candidate, my vote would go to the hetero. It's not so much that one would be traitorously putting one's pocket before another part of one's jeans on much the same level, as that one would be questioning the appropriateness of voting with one's ding-a-ling for a candidate solely on the ground that he was gay.

And, if such sentiments are shared by a sizable proportion of the one-in-twenty gay community, how much more would they not be felt by the *nineteen*-in-twenty with no gay axe to grind and, on the contrary, every reason to vote for that "nice red-blooded Mr. Dickinson" photographed round the fireside with his pretty young

wife (*such* a support in the constituency!) and his two delightful offspring: Mark (4) and Francesca (2½)? Not that there's any reason why such glimpses of marital togetherness need be confined to heterosexuals. (There would be nothing to stop a gay candidate being portrayed reading *Gay News*, with his affair on his knee sniffing poppers; it's just that the older voters might respond somewhat erratically to that particular brand of conjugal felicity).

But even without the help — or otherwise — of such revealing little cameos, the putting up of a gay candidate would deservedly invite ridicule — and at a time when we can least afford to look foolish. One leg of the case of sexual equality rests, it's true, firmly on the premise that what a citizen does on his mattress or his waterbed should have no bearing on his public activities in County Hall or Parliament; that the general public has no place poking its finger at, or into, the private lives of public figures, however voyeuristically inclined it may be. But that is a far cry from saying that they should vote for a particular (gay) candidate *because* he leads 'that sort' of private life.

Yet, the gay platform would involve our executing precisely that sort of semantic somersault. It would necessitate our tacitly saying to the electorate: "Although we don't believe that what our candidate does in bed should have any bearing on his public life, or on whether you support him, we want you, nonetheless, to vote for him primarily on the basis that the sleeps with members of his own sex."

It would hardly require the analytic powers of an Einstein for others to see, and exploit, the indefensibility of such a 'position', and we should be guilty of the most heinous crime in Ian Harvey's book: that of being made to look publicly ridiculous. (I'm sure the pain of Lucifer's forced landing was as nothing to the agonising indignity of having his Fall witnessed by all those galaxies of tight-arsed archangels).

If we *are* to defend a position in public, let us at least ensure that we are standing on firm ground. To put up a Gay Candidate at this juncture would require us to defend a non-position from a platform without planks. To sloganise about the need for 'solidarity' in such a vacuous context would not only be laughable; it would be meaningless. If that sounds too partial a view, write in, giving your reasons. And if, like me, you're against the Gay Candidate idea for the moment, do write and say so. Let's have your opinions. It's time the subject was debated.

*ED: Bob Sturgess is a member of London CHE, and has written and spoken on homosexual and allied subjects. On graduating in Law at Cambridge, he became a journalist, contributing articles on the British theatre scene to various publications. In his spare time, he writes for the theatre, and has had three of his own stage plays professionally produced ("in a modest way") in the West End.*

Illustration: Jean-Claude Thevenin

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## Michael Holm, Editor Of Sweden's Gay Magazine, Talks To Denis Lemon



*REVOLT is a Swedish magazine with a circulation of 5500. It is run by a collective of six people - three men and three women - headed by Michael Holm, the Editor. Revolt is located ten miles outside the small village of Aseda in a forest on the shores of a lake. It is published monthly and costs £1.00*

**Gay News:** When did you start Revolt?  
**Michael Holm:** I was working in Sweden at a news agency similar to Reuters. I was also living with my Dutch friend; we've been together for seven years now and live quite openly as gays - in fact, he got his immigration visa because we were living together and considered a couple! However, he had some difficulty in finding work.

I had friends in Denmark who were very eager to produce a serious gay magazine for prestigious reasons because they were the original founders of the Danish Union, the first gay organisation in Scandinavia. They were also the founders of the first gay magazine in Scandinavia, but owing to difficulties long before my time, they lost the magazine and were expelled from the Union. However, they wanted to get back into the swing of things again, so they offered both my friend and me jobs in Denmark, publishing an international gay magazine. Because we could work together and had found a nice summer house in the mountains, we accepted their offer and started this magazine which was published in English, German, Italian and French and eventually in Danish and Swedish. The purpose of the magazine was to encourage gays to create local groups for homosexuals which were non-existent at that time in their respective countries.

However, we found the absence of a Swedish magazine a bit sad. There were three Danish ones which were read to a certain extent in Sweden, but the languages are slightly different, and many Swedes found difficulty in reading Danish. So we approached the Swedish Union with an offer, but they weren't interested. Finally, our Danish employers authorised the publication of a Swedish magazine called Viking. However, there were many problems: it was edited in Denmark for a start; the proprietors had old-fashioned views on how it should be produced; they also expected large profits, and when these weren't forthcoming, they wanted out of both publications.

Fortunately, we were granted the right to continue publishing Viking although we couldn't call it that; so we renamed it Revolt, and by the time we left Denmark, had sold 800 copies of it. However, after only two issues in Sweden, sales rose to 3000, and distribution was much simpler now that we were resident.

**GN:** How do you in fact distribute Revolt?  
**MH:** For three or four months we sold it through the State Distributor. That was a mistake because although we had to print many more copies of the magazine and it was everywhere, returns were heavy. Some booksellers are anti-homosexual and refused to sell it, but many others were labouring under the misapprehension that since there were no homosexuals in their tiny villages, nobody would buy it! You see, people know so very little about homosexuality... Now we distribute the magazine ourselves through booksellers and sex shops which we know will display it properly

**How do the shops receive their copies?**

We send them packages of Revolt through the post, unless we're coincidentally paying a visit to that town or village. They have an excellent system in Stockholm: a cash-and-carry distributor handles lots of magazines - the radical magazines, the sex magazines, the underground magazines; we supply this central distributor, and all the dealers go there and pick up their copies, paying cash-on-the-line.

**Did you encounter any anti-homosexual prejudice when you first started with the State Distributor?**

None whatsoever.

**Does it surprise you that such prejudice still exists in England?**

It doesn't surprise me because I know about it, but I find it tragic. I'm very much against censorship. Of course, we don't publish a lot of erect cocks or things that would offend here, but we are free to write what we want to write, and I think it's very important to have that kind of freedom.

**All of which brings us to the next point, what are the basic contents of Revolt?**

### Community Spirit

The primary aim of Revolt was to create a sense of solidarity among gays and to impart to them a concept of 'community'. You see, the Swedish Union was practically non-existent. In addition to being very conservative, it was confined mostly to Stockholm and was more of a social group catering to perhaps a hundred people, with 30 to 50 people scattered around the countryside, leading isolated lives and dependent upon the Union. Our secondary aim was educational, to pass on basic information on the subject of homosexuality.

Within three or four months, local groups and clubs started springing up all over the country - which was very gratifying - but they were very much opposed to the Union. Therefore we arranged a conference in Uppsala in May 1971 to enable representatives of the local groups and the Union to meet head-on. As you can well imagine, it was a very wild debate, but a profitable one, and it was decided that the Union should be transformed in a manner to make it workable, and since then, it has been much more active, much more effective, and Revolt is now able to stand independently outside it and let it get on with its work.

In addition to publishing news and information concerning clubs, various groups and organisations and meetings and 'happenings', we discuss all aspects of sexuality in depth. We publish sexy stories, provided they have some meaning and lead somewhere.



*A scene from a gay play recently staged in Sweden.*

We have to cover the whole scene because the country is so small, and there is no room for another gay magazine. On the other hand, we must be careful not to create a feeling of ghetto - a feeling of community, yes, but not one of ghetto which is quite different and something we've never had and don't want in Sweden. Therefore we've encouraged heterosexual journalists to contribute to Revolt, and our heterosexual readership is increasing in numbers. Hopefully Revolt will evolve into a radical sex magazine albeit one with a gay orientation, which is no worse than a magazine covering general sexuality with a heterosexual bias. After all, our full title is Revolt Against Sexual Prejudice - lots of heterosexuals have experienced that, too!

### Contact Ads

**Do you publish personal ads?**

Yes, but the personal ads in Britain enjoy quite a different reputation to those in Sweden. You see, Sweden is twice as big as Great Britain, and has a population of only eight million. Most people live in small places,

and personal ads are necessary for them to make contacts. All our dailies run them; they're probite whereas in England, they're suspect - and indeed many of them are placed by prostitutes of both sexes.

**Is Revolt also intended for gay women?**

Yes, but it's very difficult to get information and material coming in from gay girls. Consequently we've used translations from Sappho and other English and American and foreign Lesbian publications in order to encourage the girls to write something. It's much more difficult to reach women because they are more isolated: men read things and pass the information on to their friends; Lesbians don't - the information dies with them because they have so little contact with other lesbians. On the other hand we don't have a women's page, and we don't want one: that would be the antithesis of equality between the sexes and women's liberation. When we get good material from a woman, we use it - we're not gender conscious at Revolt.

**Do you manage to get gay writers or personalities who are well known in other fields to write for you openly as homosexuals?**

Writers, yes, because none that we've approached has refused. We know of many celebrities - actors and pop stars - who are gay, but they haven't written for us because, not being writers, they haven't been invited to contribute.

**Do you ever interview gay celebrities?**

Oh yes, and they're very open indeed about their homosexuality.

**Sweden is universally considered a sexually liberated country. Does this reflect on the amount of prejudice shown against homosexuality?**

Yes, indeed. Prejudice and discrimination have eased very much, and the attitudes towards homosexuals have changed radically in the past 10 to 15 years. However, I don't honestly think that this has so much to do with sexual liberation as with economics and political considerations. We've had the same government for the past 32 years which has had the opportunity to introduce many changes and develop the country along the right lines. Fortunately we weren't involved in the last war which enabled Sweden to develop her industries and emerge a very prosperous and wealthy country indeed. The standard of living is high. Poverty does not exist. People who have plenty of money and enough food in their bellies are much less likely to carp, and since the war, the general trend within the country has been to develop a welfare state in which all people, men and women, are not only equal, but free. There is more importance attached to respect and consideration for the individual and social welfare in Sweden than elsewhere. I think that homosexuals have benefited incidentally from this national bonhomie.

**How would you compare the political situation in Sweden to that of England?**

I don't know much about politics in England, but I do know that England is a much older country with a continuous history and therefore very much more complex and complicated than Sweden and subsequently has many more problems. Until very recently, Sweden was a poor peasant country. We've had an economic boom since 1932 under the guidance of a democratic, moderately socialist government. The wealth was shared before class divisions had time to set in. Your sexual mores are not your only problems: you're still battling it out between the rich and the poor, between management and labour.

**Why has Sweden never gone through the sexually hung-up periods that both Britain and America have gone through and are still going through?**

Once again, economics, not morality. People were poor, and when six or eight or ten people shared a small room, they couldn't afford to have inhibitions! The parents had to fuck in the same room as the children, and the children looked upon it as a natural thing to do. This, of course, did not apply to the urban bourgeoisie, but they were too small in numbers to have any influence on morality. When we finally arrived at that moment in history when people could afford larger flats and were living more spaciouly and comfortably, the whole concept of freedom had already arrived. When it comes to homosexual persecution in England, the middle class has a great deal to answer for...

### Come Together

**Apart from the isolation caused by the fragmentation of the population, what would you say are the main difficulties facing many gay people in Sweden?**

Ignorance is an immense problem. Sweden is a small country, and there are very few books in Swedish, very few gay novels, very few gay books. Therefore it's our intention

to use whatever profits we make to publish gay books as well as books on general sexual themes.

Ignorance is great, but a big problem for the gay is his position in Sweden today. Sweden hasn't had any big problems. Sweden has been progressing slowly, but surely and well, without any great disturbances. There is a feeling of great solidarity and co-operation. Everybody wants to fit into the group. So, when a young man discovers that he's a homosexual, he's very likely to think to himself, 'I'm different from the others. I don't want to be different from the others.' His attitude has nothing to do with right or wrong; he just doesn't want to be different. Children don't want to be different, and in a sense, young homosexuals, on the threshold of a new way of life, are like children. The gay person in Sweden tends not to mention the fact and tries to hide it. There's a great deal of prestige these days to be had from not only tolerating, but accepting homosexuals, but there's not much prestige in being a homosexual.



*Sweden - the land of the rising sauna.*

Every psychologist, every politician, everybody says the same thing: homosexuals are just like everybody else... it doesn't matter... you can be whatever you like... But this is a very superficial judgement. The only person who can do anything positive about his 'condition' is the homosexual himself; this is why we're trying to get homosexuals to 'come out' and be open about their homosexuality. Of course we want understanding from the heterosexual community, but that understanding is quite, quite empty if we don't secure the advantage by declaring ourselves. It's very easy for someone to say that he accepts homosexuality but if he's not met a homosexual, how does he know he does accept them? A moot point perhaps. Of course... and this is the infuriating fact... he knows many homosexuals, but they haven't deigned to inform him of the fact.

One of the greatest achievements the Swedish homosexual has ever had occurred earlier this year when all political parties in Swedish Parliament declared that it is only fitting and proper that society should view homosexual love as an equal alternative to heterosexual love. Now, that is an important gesture on the part of heterosexuals, and homosexuals must accept the responsibility and work at it. If they just sit back and say, well, thanks very much, nothing will change. Do you have general sex education in schools? Yes, we've had sex education for about twenty-five years now.

**Does it cover homosexuality too?**

Yes, but we're not satisfied with sex education as it's presently being taught. First of all, it comes within biology and it's all rather mechanical. The children are told how babies are made, and how to avoid making them, showing them pictures of the prick and the cunt and explaining their functions. Then they speak of sexuality - feeling - in general terms, concluding briefly with a description of certain sexual variations, such as fetishism or sado-masochism or homosexuality which might be considered good although few people indulge in them. This isn't good enough!

**Are there any non-gay people aware of the situation of gay people who are socially committed enough to involve themselves in the struggle?**

There are very many who are sympathetic, of course, but there are very few important



fighters — some Members of Parliament, for instance, some well-known press and television journalists and a few well-known doctors. But I don't think the general average man or woman would.

*Do gay people view heterosexuals who are helping with their cause with abject suspicion as they do in Britain and America?*

Well, we don't want a gay struggle as such. We want it to be a struggle for sexual equality and by that we mean several things, such as equality between men and women, equality between human beings, equality among all forms of sexual behaviour which implies tolerance and acceptance therein. Therefore the word 'homosexual' is never used.

Of course, homosexuals are discriminated against in certain professions and occupations. Until quite recently a boy could be refused entry into the navy if the examining doctor found out he was homosexual. The Sailors' Union, believe it or not, in conjunction with other Unions, protested against this, and now homosexuality has been removed from the list of deferring diseases. National Service is not compulsory, and homosexuals are admitted to the ranks, but not to a career in the army.

*Is there an age of consent in Sweden?*

Yes — 18 years for homosexual relations and 15 for heterosexual ones, but this is being debated in Parliament and likely to change. A one-man committee is investigating the whole new concept of sexual laws, and many want to abolish these laws completely because they feel that violence against persons is violence and should be treated as such and that sexual violence should not command special consideration. No-one is now convicted for having a relationship with a person over 15.

Many people also feel that the age limit should coincide with the age of puberty, but owing to the fact that individuals mature at different ages, it is probable that an arbitrary age of consent will be established. This could be 15, but it might be 14 to bring it into line with Denmark, a current trend. In any case, whatever the age of consent is to be, it will be the same for heterosexuals and homosexuals.

*Do Swedish doctors practise aversion therapy?*

In some cases, where homosexuals want to be heterosexual. In fact, there were three cases quite recently, and some of the press, notably the right-wing dailies, wrote rather stupidly about it, speaking of cures. We protested, of course, and were invited to debate the matter on television with the



Swedish gays demonstrating in Stockholm.

doctor in question. As it happens, the doctor was very much in agreement with us. He's more concerned with expanding his patients' sexuality than in changing them from one pattern of sexuality to another.

### Gay In Sweden

*Can you tell us something about the gay scene in Sweden?*

There are very few gay clubs and discotheques in Sweden as compared to England — one discotheque in Stockholm, another gay disco in Gothenberg which is open three nights a week, and in Malmo there is a gay bar without dancing.

*How do gays make contact?*

Well, in the streets and the parks, by advertising and there are a few gay saunas. It's quite open.

*Do gays resort to the public lavatories?*

Not so much because the authorities have changed the system of public conveniences. They're now rather luxurious one-man affairs. More hygienic and more difficult to meet people. The discotheques in Stockholm and Gothenburg are only three or four years old. I lived my entire youth without any kind of gay ghetto, and I have lots of sexual contacts, but it's very hard to explain how I got them — it just happened. Once you meet a few people, it widens your circle of acquaintances, and you meet more people through the ones you've already met; this is preferable, really, to a ghetto situation. In short, we found our relationships in the same way as heterosexuals do, although we

didn't have the advantages of the dance halls. *Speaking of dancing, can members of the same sex dance together in public?* Women, obviously yes, and there's no legal prohibition against men dancing together, but the dance hall proprietor could object, so one almost never sees it in practice, except at one discotheque in Gothenburg which has stressed that they are an integrated disco and specially invite gays.

Mind you, so far we've been speaking of commercial entertainments: the local groups affiliated to the Swedish Union hold social evenings, and of course, members of the same sex dance together as openly as they do here; in fact, some of the groups are concerned mainly with dancing.

Also 'Gays In Protest' sometimes dance in public as part of their demonstration, but this only serves to make them conspicuous and alienate the public. I wouldn't do it with my friend because I would have to spend the rest of the evening explaining about homosexuality to a large group of people.

*Can gays hold hands in the street?*

Yes. When we first returned to Sweden from Denmark, gays were very nervous and uptight because they couldn't hold hands in the streets, they couldn't kiss in the streets and they had to be very careful and all that. After we had been working for three weeks, they were out on the streets, going on demonstrations, and they were holding hands all over the place! One year later, any gay could do it — that's the point, it just took a few courageous souls to get the show on the road! On the other hand, if gays are doing it just to show off, they might solicit an unfavourable public reaction, but if it's clear that they're fond of each other, it's completely OK.

*Role playing, contrary to popular belief, is not confined to homosexuals. Heterosexuals play the game too — the big masculine man the feminine little woman. Are the Swedish getting away from all this?*

Yes, emphatically! And, once again, this is a political and economic issue rather than a moral one. The Government is fighting very strongly against discrimination against women, and soon the marriage laws will be abolished. People will be registered as co-habiting, and it might be a husband and wife, or two men or two women living together, or a mother and daughter, and they will benefit from the usual tax concessions and so forth. However, this revolution is being accomplished in stages, and we have just

passed through Phase One, which makes it easy to marry and easy to divorce: in other words, it puts the unmarried het couple on an equal footing with the married couple, and the gay couple will be provided for in the next phase.

*Do gay relationships last in Sweden more than elsewhere?*

Yes, I think so, because people live so far apart. If I have a row with my friend I can't run out and find another one. I have to work it out.

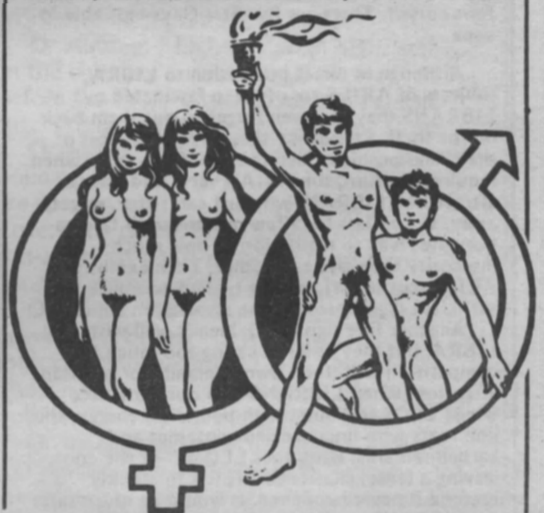
*Is there a gay leather/SM scene?*

Yes, but the sado-masochism scene doesn't exist in Sweden as it does here, although there is an SM club in Stockholm. As a matter of fact, I was very much into the SM scene and made very many valuable contacts I might not otherwise have made. You see, when I was younger, the average Swedish gay was even more timid than he is now; the leather people were more open because they represented the quintessence of masculinity, and for that reason were accepted more readily by society.

*Many people consider sado-masochism among other sexual variations as a perversion. What are your views on this subject?*

Yes, many people consider sado-masochism and the various fetichisms, eg a liking for leather, as a sexual hang-up rather than as just another expression of sexuality. But, we're also told, there's also something wrong with people who smoke, and people who drink, and people who eat sweetbreads and caviar! We live in a very unimaginative world!

*Thank you, Michael Holm, very much indeed.*



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BE ALIVE  
John Baldry

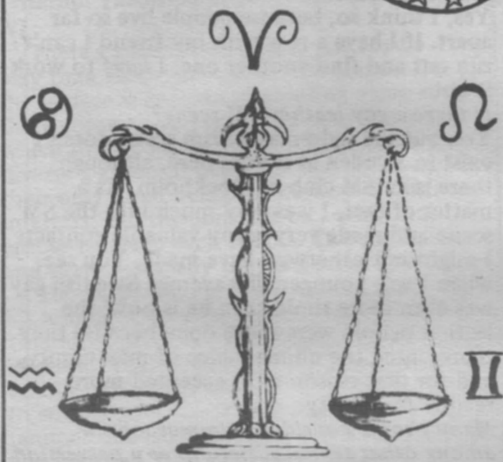
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## STAR-GAYS

with Merlin



### Libra And Friends

Gay Star for September 23 to October 22:

IF you still go for LIBRANS after last issue's revelations, you must be wondering how to capture one of these colourful Zodiac personalities for yourself. There are five Star-Gays best able to cope...

Although in direct opposition to LIBRA, subjects of ARIES are often so fascinated by LIBRANS they can even forget to put them back on the shelf, a tendency they have with most of their relationships, dusting them down again when required. In turn, the ARIAN verve and attack attracts the LIBRAN, who just can't stay, or get away. It may last for a few months until fascination gives way to realisation of how much insecurity they give each other. Then explosive ARIES scuttles off, leaving LIBRA to muster sufficient dignity to end the association amicably.

Another Fire sign, LEO, blends well with LIBRA, but they end not caring too much for competition with their own demands for incessant attention. When LIBRANS flop out exhausted whilst LEOS still burst with boundless energy, the lion roars with unconcealed contempt and barbed remarks. Bang goes LEO out of the door, leaving a tense, chastened LIBRA to quickly pretend it never happened. It would be much safer for LIBRANS to stick to Air signs, notably GEMINI and AQUARIUS.

A word in LIBRAN ears here, if GEMINI is your

choice. They can be just as elusive, flirtatious, fickle and changeable as yourself. But just at present do take special care of them. They have been through hell these past few years, with restricting Saturn transmitting their sign, making them more serious than usual, and somewhat anxious to settle for a while. When approached they are rather likely to smile bitterly and say, "No thanks, I prefer AQUARIANS". Either do the running yourself, and persuade them into risking life and limb with you, or follow their choice and grab an AQUARIAN too. AQUARIANS will seldom notice you have slipped out for a drink with that attractive number down the road, or will bother to ask who you were with last night. In fact, ideal for both LIBRANS and GEMINIANS, so battle it out with each other, leaving lucky AQUARIUS in the middle.

Advice now for anyone fortunate enough to have caught their LIBRAN. Ruled by Venus, LIBRANS adore beauty in any form, so the lovelier you remain the better chance you have of keeping him/her. Never appear at the table unshaven or in that tatty dressing gown odorous from the night before. Keep cooking smells in the kitchen and personal smells in the bathroom. Decant the milk into a jug and lose the bread wrappings. Always use the best porcelain, and that silver teapot Granny left you in her will. Present the food with *cordon bleu* taste and you can't go wrong.

If you think such little things unimportant, forget you wanted a LIBRAN in the first place, and settle for a home-loving CANCER. A LIBRAN will always consider the little niceties just as important as wealth and position. He likes his friends to have prestige in life, naturally, but they must also understand the need for him to buy lovely clothes, pretty *objets d'art*, and those endless lotions and sprays, carefully lined up in the bathroom.

No-one takes as much care of himself as a LIBRAN, who is terribly prone to overweight at the drop of an éclair, and you must sympathise with all whims and fads of the moment.

I mentioned a fifth Zodiac sign compatible with LIBRANS. This is LIBRA himself, no less! They will both know the answers to all of their problems, will weigh up each other endlessly, and to the dismay of us all, probably go off arm in arm to live happily ever after.

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THE NEW RADICAL AND ANALYTICAL MAGAZINE FOR HOMOSEXUALS, NOW COMPLETELY REDESIGNED.  
LATEST ISSUE 25P FROM LUNCH MAGAZINE  
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## Here We Are Again

THIS issue of GN, as you have undoubtedly noticed, is a little different. It contains four extra pages. We have endeavoured to use the additional space to the full extent, and apart from a few more display advertisements, there are a number of items we've been meaning to run for some time. The overall result, we trust, compensates for all the fuss made about publishing a twenty-four page edition.

Unfortunately, production costs prevent us from regularly making GN this size. Maybe we'll be able to early next year, if our new distribution arrangements work out well and the postal rates don't go up again.

### Sorry, We Ran Out

Apologies to readers who had difficulty in obtaining a copy of GN31. Owing to an unexpected demand from wholesalers who deal with our distributors, there weren't enough copies to go round. We've now considerably increased our print order, so the inconvenience some of you may have experienced when trying to buy the issue before last shouldn't happen again. Apologies also to the shop and street vendors who didn't receive their usual amount of copies. It's nice to know though that a lot of newsagents and bookshops round the country now want to sell the paper.

### Another New Face

Replacing our much loved and respected Tim Skinner, who has gone on an extended tour of Australia and Far Eastern Countries, is a super guy called James Tyson. We call James an ex-American, as he left New York eighteen years ago to come to Britain.

Before joining GN, he was a busy freelance journalist whose work has appeared in a great number of magazines and newspapers, including *Vogue*, *Penthouse*, *Men Only*, and the *Daily Telegraph Magazine*. Apart from being a highly professional writer, James has also trained as a psychologist. He currently lives in Brixton, South London, which is otherwise known as 'Mike Mason Land'.

Good to have you with us, James.

### Thanks For the Wonderful Device...

In the 'Here We Are Again' column of GN31, we put in a plea for an electronic sweeping device. And hot damn, we got one... a recent model Hoover in excellent nick and a joy to push around our dusty basement office. As promised, we will oil its private parts every week.

To the anonymous donor, we say thank you very much.

### GN On The Move

To remind you of what we said on a previous page, in the item headed GN's New Address, would all readers, advertisers and contributors please note that as from Saturday, 13th October, 1973, Gay News' new address will be 1 Paxton Road, Chiswick, London W4 2QT. Our new telephone number will be announced in the next issue GN34.

Please do NOT send any mail to our present address after Wednesday, 10th October, and it would help us enormously if all small ads, letters, copy etc arrived no later than first post on Monday, 8th October.

BLOT, GN's typesetters, will also be moving to our new premises. The same dates also apply to them.

### Gay Publishing News

The October edition of the 'new', revitalised *Lunch* has just been published. It has changed in a number of ways: immediately noticeable is the

colour cover, the new large format, and a much improved layout. The monthly mag also has new editors and contributors, and its overall impact is one of vitality and a medium with a positive sense of purpose. We heard one person exclaim that *Lunch* is "the 'New Statesman' of gay publishing." Well, perhaps not everyone will agree with that label, but the writers and production staff have certainly produced a serious but still entertaining gay magazine that all gay people can be proud of.

The current issue contains an interview with novelist Paul Bailey, an article on CHE by Margaret Drabble, an excellent and accessible essay on GLF by David Fernbach, features on 'coming out' and discrimination, poems by Maureen Duffy and many other interesting and informative items. A humorous piece called 'Is It Agreed I Say...' is one of the funniest send-ups of small time bureaucracy we've read. The one failing is the retention of a rather weak and terribly dated news section which is nothing more than the reproduction of various gay orientated news clippings. The five pages devoted to this could be used to greater effect: why not an in-depth analysis of recent gay news and its possible significance to the gay community.

Criticisms aside, the new *Lunch* makes a welcome come-back. It costs 25p an issue and is available by post from 59 Bridge Lane, London NW11.

The Manchester GLF produced edition of the *Gay Lib* paper *Come Together* (the first in quite a while) is disappointing. The layout and design are lazily clumsy, and the printers must have produced it on an off day. The contents range from constructive radicalism through to the tired old clichéd dogmatism that has all too often brought *Gay Lib* to a negative standstill and unnecessarily alienated the majority of gay people. Copies of this new issue (no 16) cost 15p plus 5p p&p, and are available from the GLF Office, 5 Caledonian Road, London N1.

GIN (Gay International News) has announced that it has gone bankrupt, but the paper's collective intend to carry on if they receive enough donations and subscriptions. Details of how you can help can be obtained by writing to Gay International News, Box BCM 6969, London WC1. Right on box number.

After a years' publishing, Jeffrey, the monthly, widely distributed gay men's mag has changed its name to *Line-Up* and now describes itself as a 'Magazine of Human Rights'. Apart from the editors deciding that 'Jeffrey' was "not an ideal name", they have also stopped running personal ads, although one can still place them in their companion mag, the pictorial *Rugged Male*, which is currently published bi-monthly.

### Dates and Deadlines

The next edition of *Gay News*, (No 34) will be published and available on 18th 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 columns on Page 17. It is important to refer to these dates to avoid disappointment.

Gay News

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Minimum Charge £1.50  
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PIE WICKER

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Melody Makers Steel Band  
Disco and Light Show  
Licensed Bar and Refreshments  
Admission 50p at the door.

Sponsored by South London GLF

**The Best of Gay News Mail Order**

Cruising - Gerald Walker	30p
Fade-Out - Joseph Hansen	£1.80
Death Claims - Joseph Hansen	£1.80
Frost - Richard Amory	70p
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The Wrong People - Robin Maugham	40p
Fielding Gray - Simon Raven	30p
Cupid's Crescent - Laurence Collinson	£1.00
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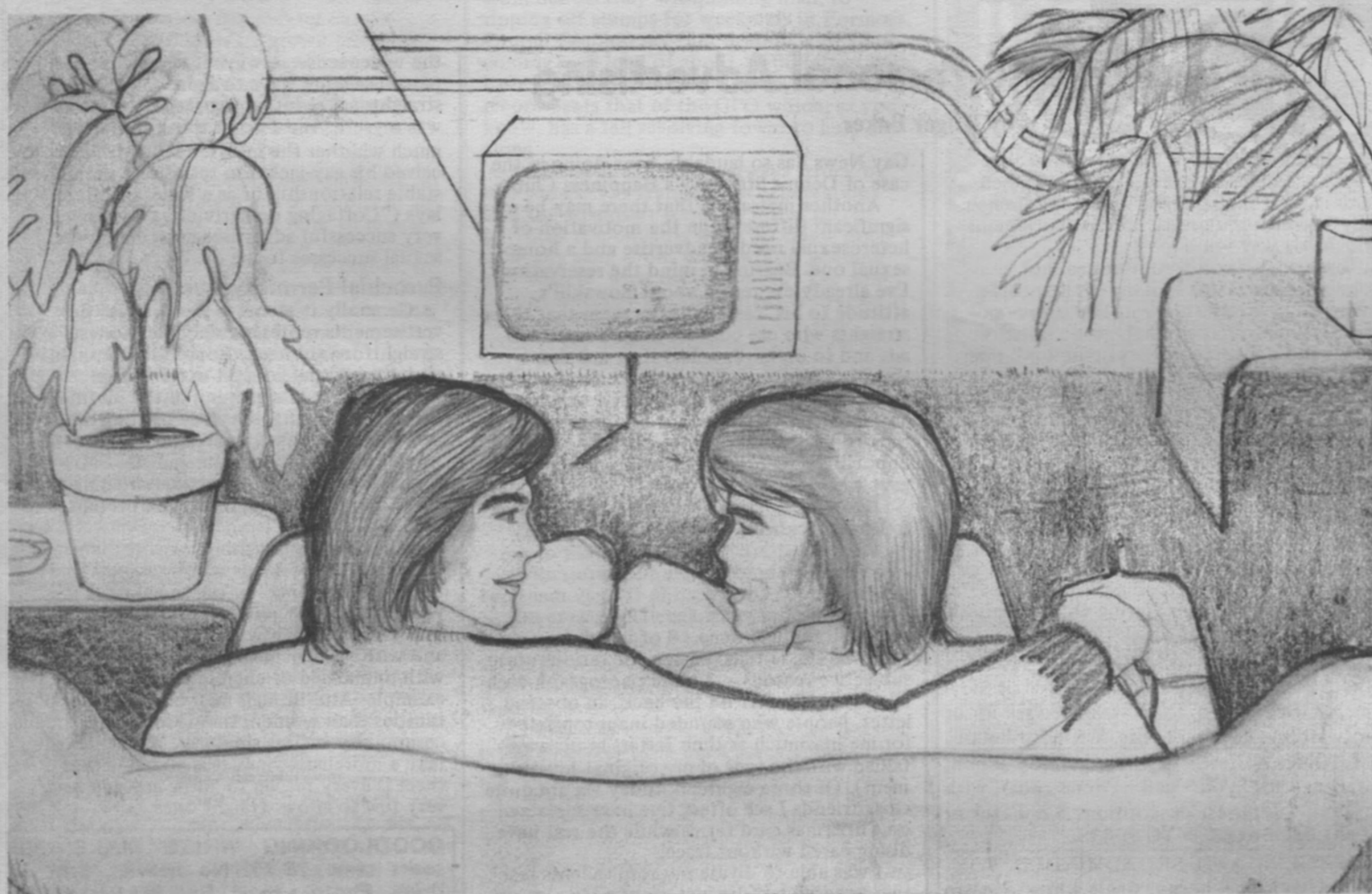
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All items are post free. Crossed cheques/POs payable to Gay News Mail Order. Please allow up to 21 days for delivery.

Send your orders to:  
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## Trade Secrets



## Paul's Story

by Keith Harrison

*'Paul' is the first of a series of short stories which will be appearing in GN under the collective heading of 'Trade Secrets'. Their author, who lives in Manchester, tells us that his aim in writing them is "to try to get over something of the experiences of a few of the widely differing friends I've had, written down as far as possible in the way they were told to me. I've relied on memory, not a tape-recorder and the pieces doubtless tell you more about the author than the subject. Names and details have been altered or omitted to avoid identification."*

"I'M MARRIED of course, but you guessed, didn't you? I took my wedding ring off before I came in. Richard's been no use to me at all lately. You won't believe it but I've been waiting six months for a chance to let off steam like this. Six months. I've been so frustrated! He's overworking and it's got him all hung up. I suppose he's just neurotic really. He's designing freelance now and the commissions are coming in thick and fast, so he's working very hard. He's so very temperamental, always flying into rages and breaking things. He's on tranqs half the time of course. It's funny that. It's me who should be on tranqs, I'm a bundle of nerves thanks to him. You should see him line them all up and count them before he takes them.

"God, he'd murder me though if he knew I was in here. He thinks I'm still in London for the firm. I've only just got back as a matter of fact. I really needed a break so I decided I'd go up and see what I could find. When I got there I lost my nerve. I

mean London's full of such weird people, isn't it? You can't be sure what you're getting yourself into. I didn't fancy being hung inside somebody's wardrobe, thanks very much. I find the scene's much friendlier in the North, don't you? I haven't been in here for years. I wasn't even sure if it was still open, but it doesn't seem to have changed a bit. Even the faces look familiar. A bit more haggard perhaps.

"I don't remember seeing you before though, you must be new. You mustn't let things bother you, you know. It's always much worse if you try to fight against it. I knew what I was when I was fourteen and I've never let it worry me. My father hated me. Hated me. I used to play up to him like mad. You know, really camp it up. I called him 'Daddy darleeng'. 'Get that creature out of here' he'd yell. I was always 'that creature' or 'that idiot' to him, he wasn't a bit interested in me. I remember when I was sixteen I got this crazy idea and went and

had my hair bleached out blonde. It looked hideous. Do you know, it was nearly a week before Daddy-darleeng noticed any difference. He came home one night and said 'What's happened to your hair?' That's all he said. He couldn't understand me at all. My mother accepted everything, the way I did. I got on very well with my mother and my sister.

"Sis started to date this gorgeous Scandinavian boy, you know the type — big, blonde and broad-shouldered. He was always hanging around our house. Oskarsen, he was called. I called him Oskar. They talked about getting engaged. Sis went off him for a while, and the engagement plans were shelved, but he still kept coming round to the house. One afternoon I was in the living-room, reading. I had the house to myself and then Oskar turned up at the front door asking to use the bathroom. The next thing I knew he was standing over me without a stitch on and that was that. Seduced by my sister's husband!

Well, not quite; they were married soon after though. They went off to South Africa to run a farm. Sis keeps saying she wants to come home for a couple of months to see us, but she can't get Oskar to come with her. He says he can't leave the farm. I've told her to tell him I say he's yellow.

"Richard's family are farmers and all staunch chapelgoers. He's the youngest of seven and the cleverest. His elder sister came to visit when we first moved into the flat. We watched telly because Richard wanted to see a programme about some stage designer or other. The costumes they showed got camper and camper, and I completely forgot she was there. 'Ooh! Get her, ducky!' I said. Do you know, she rounded on me with a face like frosted-glass and delivered a lecture on the misfortunes of homosexuality. 'These men should be pitied, not mocked,' she said. I was absolutely livid. I was about to give her a mouthful, but Richard got in first and told her it was a private joke. We knew some actors who spoke like that and we often imitated them in fun. It shut her up, but honestly, how stupid can you get? She'd been given a guided tour of the flat, she must have noticed our solitary double-bed in the one and only bedroom. What did she think me and her little brother got up to then? She's never been since and I can't say I'm sorry.

"His mother can't stand me either. Whenever she phones I listen in on the extension. She always tried to see Richard at the flat when I'm out. I butt in to say that she's only to ask me and I'll be glad to arrange to be out when she calls. She takes it out on Richard then. This phone call is private. It's just between the two of them. How can he allow me to eavesdrop? That sort of thing. It gets him angry. He tells her he won't have secrets from me. We love each other and we share everything and when is she going to get it into her head that this is how things are? He's wasting his breath of course. He'll slam down the phone and start swearing and throwing things around. I go and get out another row of pills and watch him take them, one at a time.

"His family are destroying him, crushing him. They mean to get me away from him if they can. They hate me because all my life I've never had to work for a thing. Everything's come easily to me. My parents were well-off and I was ruined as a child. Richard's parents scrimped and saved to get him through college and now they see their efforts as wasted because he's chosen to settle down and live with me. They're blind. They can't see that I'm what's keeping him going. He's so very dependant you see. If he knows I'm there, he's happy and he can work. Without me around, he just goes to pieces. He's terribly hung up. And so jealous. I had one hell of a job to get away on this London trip, I can tell you. I only managed it because of that white lie about it being for my job. He's a lovely boy really and I wouldn't want to leave him but there are times when I think it's going to have to be either him or me. It's a good job we've got a big flat. At least I can get a bit of peace sometimes. I dread to think what I'll find when I get back. He's probably taken too many of his damn sleeping tablets. God knows if there's anything breakable left in the place."

## The Witch's Knickers Ball Halloween Dance

DRAG OR CASUAL

SATURDAY OCT 27 — 7.30—11.45pm

Theme: The New Vamp

PORCHESTER HALL, QUEENSWAY, LONDON W2

Licensed Bar — Group — Cabaret — Beauty Parade — Prizes

1st Prize — £25

TOKEN PRIZES FOR (1) the craziest knickers (in good taste)  
(2) a traditional witch

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\*NEXT EVENT — NEW YEARS EVE MASKED BALL  
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We stock a large selection of magazines including Gay News as well as:-

Death Claims — Joseph Hansen	£1.80
Homosexual Oppression & Liberation	
— Dennis Altman	85p
Sexual Heretics — Reed	£2.50
(A study of Homosexuality in Literature)	
George Sand — Gerson	£3.00
Love Between Women — Dr Charlotte	
Wolf	£1.50

# Cottaging On Certainties

"ARE you sitting opposite the new man in your life?" asks the tube card. Covertly, I check for possibilities. Mmm — if only I were. There's another ad. It shows a young couple dressed in evening clothes (Glyndebourne, circa 1955) moving, gracefully entwined, towards a misty sunset. They, too, apparently met via computer. "Why be alone in a crowd?" it says as I change to the Victoria Line. But then I find a guy wearing a GLF badge, so I'm not. Oh, lucky me and three cheers for badges.

Toying with The Times crossword puzzle, the corner of my eye silts up with a suggestion that I try computer dating "for your perfect partner"; with an interesting opportunity to join "London's liveliest social group" (blast! I'm too old); with the information that some young ladies want some young men to join a Bacchus committee. I don't know what that is, but no Pentheus I.

In any list of the precise ways in which gays are discriminated against, the freedom to advertise for a partner usually comes high. After all, wasn't IT busted exactly on this question? If heterosexuals have such a wide range of outlets for seeking a partner in a society that seems dedicated primarily to bringing heterosexual men and women together the argument runs, then surely gays, being outcasts in this alien atmosphere, have a much greater need.

And certainly, hets do have a great many ways of making contact initially through the media. From straightforward small ads in a local newspaper, through correspondence clubs, friendship clubs, activity groups, marriage bureaux, computer dating, the flourish of contact magazines and the more recent, but rapidly expanding phenomenon of encounter groups. Altogether an impressively wide-spread light industry with heavy profits.

Looking on from the outside — as a gay person must — one is free to imagine that the investment of a small wordage fee, an aac and perhaps a photograph will produce successful marriages, delightful friends, excitements on ski slopes and down pot holes, vivacious sexual encounters, parties, orgies and eventually an end to that most dreadful of all afflictions, heterosexual loneliness.

A book published this month, however, gives a rather different picture. *Person To Person*, by Derek Bowskill (George Allen & Unwin, £2.95) is described as "a survey of the intimate personal confrontation business" and the writer has explored all the contact organisations he could find. Despite some extremely funny incidents, the book makes depressing reading.

Perhaps I should say at once that I feel there is something slightly suspect about the book, its author and his methods. Clearly, research into personal motivation of this kind is by its nature impossible outside a controlled, clinical context. In *Tearoom Trade*, Laud Humphreys pretended to be other than he was in order to assemble his facts. Bowskill does more or less the same thing. He assumed a number of different names and characters to pursue his pen-pals, dates and groups. And in the initial encounters at least, presented himself as "genuine" — ie another lonely person. To the reader he presents himself as a happily-married journalist with some experience of observing and directing groups and makes the token gesture of admitting to having learned a lot from the present research. He emphasises that his discoveries were made "not merely by interview or observation, but by direct personal involvement". He is discreet about

**RELIABLE** male 40, tall, flat Marble Arch, enjoys skiing, dining out, travelling would like to meet girl with similar tastes for genuine friendship. Box [redacted] JPSU  
**IS THERE** a genuine gentleman, seeking friendship/marriage with home for unhappy mum with five children. Box [redacted] JPSS  
**GENTLEMAN**, young 50, divorced, seeks charming lady 40-45, slim, medium build, good well developed figure. Photo appreciated. London for friendship initially. Box [redacted] JPST  
**HORNCHURCH**. Widow 49, shy, 5ft 5in, medium build, son 12, seeks gentleman, similar situation. (Not essential.) Friendship. Photos exchanged. Returned. Genuine only please. Box [redacted] JPSS  
**LONELY LADY**, 65, young looking, pleasant disposition, seeks gentleman, kind, generous, refined, financially secure, preferably car owner, friendship. Box [redacted] JPSS  
**ENGLISHMAN**, 35, lonely, separated, seeks friendship, lady, 30-45. Box [redacted]

Ads reproduced from a September issue of the LONDON WEEKLY ADVERTISER.

## An Insight Into Personal Advertising

by Roger Baker

the climax of many of his adventures, but does once describe being stripped, dressed in drag, tied and whipped by a large French lady — which is a pretty direct involvement whichever way you look at it.

Even so, his confrontations cannot be totally honest. He is looking at the people he meets as 'cases' (his word), and the book's blurb suggests that contacts made initially through the media are "less orthodox" than other means such as picking people up in dance halls or in pubs. So you see, it's rather Us (married, experienced in human relationships, adjusted) examining Them (sad, lonely, divorced, inadequate). When Bowskill comments that the people who place and answer ads seem to think that they can create instant relationships without working at them, one wonders just how far he was prepared to work at involving himself with someone before dashing back to the south coast, his long-suffering wife and his boat.

**HORNY MEN & WOMEN** prefer receiving their private male at Downstairs Mail Service, [redacted] 21 St., NYC 10011. Pick-up or forwarding, evening hours. Write for details.

**"PHONE A GAL."** Girls eager for action, waiting for your call. Phone nos. with names, addresses, descriptions \$2. Fazekas, Dept. [redacted], Box [redacted], NYC 10038.

**SWINGERS AND BROADMINDED WOMEN:** Handsome, horny, single white man age 33, 5'10", 180 lbs. wishes to meet single, divorced woman ages 25 to 35 years for trips to nudist camp in Pa. and for dates to swinger's club in Manhattan. Please send picture & phone no. Write: William [redacted], 14 [redacted], apt. [redacted], Irvington, NJ 07111.

**BAREASS BOY** with cheeks of white thinks straight guys are outa sight. Bareass boy lets trousers drop so you can get on top and pop. Write Box [redacted], Village Sta., NYC, NY 10014. Bare with me!

**WITH 8 MILLION PEOPLE** in NYC, surely there's a Masculine, solvent, sincere, attractive guy, any race, 25-35, who is interested in a meaningful relationship with a non-aggressive, 38-yr.-old white Manhattan fun bright guy. Photo, phone. N. [redacted], Rm [redacted] W. 42nd St., NYC 10036.

Ads reproduced from a recent issue of SCREW (New York)

His direct, personal involvement is, of course, useful when it comes to exposing the mechanics of the business. And if you think gays are exploited, then you should just read about the casual, cruel, crass and conning merchants that inhabit the straight world.

There are contact magazines packed with phoney ads or with call girls; the same contact magazine may be marketed with different covers, suggesting that the contents are specifically for wife-swappers, or homosexuals or rubber fetishists. But in each, the contents are identical. There are lists of 'reliable' telephone numbers which prove to be drawn merely at random from the directory. (A friend of mine suffered from this once; his number got onto such a list and he enjoyed many interesting conversations). Those careful computer outfits send an average-sized man to a woman herself six feet tall and who specifically wanted a man taller than herself. Organisations that claim to be busy fixing up interesting social activities every night turn out to be lists of inactive and often untraceable members. And even more sinister, Bowskill found himself receiving unsolicited offers and letters addressed to him by the name he had chosen for himself when writing to an organisation which assured complete discretion. The cost is often high and in a majority of cases, results are absolutely nil. And oddly enough, Bowskill discovers that those who engage in this method of contact-making (setting aside professional prostitutes) do not feel it is expensive, are not unduly disturbed by the lack of results and also feel that they need the services.

### Different Motivations

On a first reading I felt that *Person To Person* contained a few messages for the gay community and its approach to this type of advertising, especially in *Gay News*. If there is a message, it is for gods sake let's try to prevent such a shoddy, exploitative, ruthless network rising in the gay world. It is as well to remember that there are two protagonists involved: the organisation and the punter. One can do little about the latter, but one can at least try and expose the former — as

*Gay News* has so laudably been doing in the case of Dennis Stanbury's Happiness Club.

Another message is that there may be a significant difference in the motivation of a heterosexual need to advertise and a homosexual one. Bearing in mind the reservations I've already expressed about Bowskill's attitude to his 'cases', it does seem that those straights who use contact magazines, small ads and so on have, unless they are simply seeking a new sexual experience (and nothing wrong with that of course) failed to make any satisfactory contact or relationship in the ordinary course of life, with its boundless opportunities. This is not necessarily true of gays who advertise.

My own experience in this field is limited to three occasions — most recently in *Gay News*, and I think it would be unfair of me to generalise about people I am presently meeting. But I advertised in the gay magazine *Tim* some five years ago. There were just under 30 replies, some 18 of which I followed up. (I rejected ten for various quite subjective reasons — a nude photograph with telephone number on the back, an obscene letter, people who sounded inappropriate for me inasmuch as their letters in no way tallied with the tone of my original advertisement). Of those eighteen, today six are quite close friends I see often, five have remained on Christmas card terms while the rest have disappeared without trace.

I was able to divide my respondents into two unequal but distinct groups. The largest consisted of people who seemed to be leading a pretty active social life, had a number of friends and were getting on well professionally. And, like me at that time, they felt a need to widen their gay acquaintance, finding it difficult to do this among the gay outlets such as existed in 1968.

The other, smaller group, consisted of men who were really isolated — or rather, alienated — from their surroundings (social, family, work) and who had decided that the answer to their problem was to seek an exclusive one-to-one relationship involving flat-sharing and so on. My third experience was answering an ad in *IT* which was quite a cool, uncommitted sexual contact — and very good too (still around Pete?). Some readers are going to think that I've been bloody lucky, for I know that many people have really had bad scenes with partners met through small ads, from blackmail to knifings. But I do think this is a minor occupational hazard. I never involved myself with the *Spartacus* small ads, but I do know lots of people who have had nothing but happy experiences through them.

**KINKY** butch guys wanted for fun, am Londoner but travel and would like contacts 28, well built interested in photos also. Photo appreciated. Box [redacted].

**YOUNG** male 21 wishes to meet males 21-24 for friendship and pleasure. Photo appreciated. Box [redacted].

**GENTLE** affectionate sincere respectable youth disillusioned by the gay scene wants to settle down permanently with dominant working class man. Photograph essential. Box [redacted].

**JEANS** type 6ft, 35, seeks others anywhere interests include photography, occult, naturism, uniforms, travel. Photo appreciated all answered. Box [redacted].

**TWO** young gay bachelors wish to meet sincere versatile gay friend to share friendship age 24-30 Photo please. Box [redacted].

**BOYISH** 26 good income seeks dominating older person for enjoyment and friendship. [redacted] Peter.

Ads reproduced from a 1969 issue of IT.

All this is in retrospect. At the time I was not doing research or writing a book. I got in touch with these friends on an equal footing, admitting my own needs and quite prepared (without, of course, deciding consciously) to invest quite seriously in whatever relationships might emerge. My point is that I would not describe any of the men I met as inadequate or social failures in

the wider sense. Always it was a case of a person seeking ways to fight out of the straight-jacket into a gay-jacket — just as I was myself. And I don't think it matters much whether the individual involved perceived his gay-jacket in terms of a permanent stable relationship or as a series of interesting lays ("Cottaging on certainties", is how a very successful advertiser described his sexual successes to me once).

### Parochial Permissiveness

Generally it seems to me that gay advertisements represent a simple, honest, straightforward need. Bowskill's comment on heterosexual contact magazines is significant: "... a groping of the middle-aged towards the sexual mobility of the young. But a groping heavily overlaid with the trappings of bourgeois puritanism. Satisfying sexual instincts yet guaranteeing total cover up and keeping intact the pretences of rigid morality..."

This covers everything, except the needs of those heterosexuals who suddenly find themselves trapped by the social rules to which they have adhered and thus perpetrated. The youngish widow suddenly utterly alone and without any means of making contact with unmarried or eligible partners, for example. And though men have more opportunities than women, the widower in a small community suffers similarly. Were one to take a moralistic view, it is arguable that there is every reason to allow gay ads, and very few to allow straight ones.

**GOODLOOKING** WHITE MALE, 30, seeks same 18-25. No heavies, S/M or drugs. Photo a must. Bill, PO Box [redacted], Phila., Pa. 19127.

**FOR ONE OF MY** worn jocks, a picture of me and my beautiful rod, and a personal reply, send \$10 to: GK, Box [redacted], G.P.O., NY, NY 10001.

**BLACK** MALE, 28, 5'11", 155, masc., sensuous, good looking, well hung, seeks sincere, good looking masc. males, any race, for quick weekend get togethers, leading to permanent relationship. No fannies, nannies, S/M or letter freaks. Write to: G.J., [redacted] Elizabeth Ave., no. [redacted], Newark, NJ 07112.

Ads reproduced from a recent issue of GAY (New York)

As a sort of Consumer Guide Best Buy, Derek Bowskill recommends an advertisement in the personal column of a local newspaper. "It was through the personal columns I met the most appealing and attractive personalities... I did so quickly and inexpensively". And this, of course, is the parallel function *Gay News* performs. In doing this, after the *IT* case, *Gay News* may be considered to be running a risk. But this risk is surely minimised if its advertisements are run in similar terms to the straight ones of newspapers, and not according to the more bizarre, almost coded terms of the contact magazines.

Even so, it seems that the advertisement managers of newspapers do place quite strict embargoes on the copy they allow straights to place. The embargoes vary according to the community and location. Amusingly the more parochial and conservative the area, the further you can go, simply because the implications of an ambiguously worded ad just don't occur to readers. The more sophisticated, more urban a community, the more difficult it is to place an ad with a sexual overtone. Thus one has the irony that in a rural community a bachelor could easily advertise for a 'similar' (remember that strange creature, the Similar, that so many bachelors were after in the early 60's?) without anyone thinking of a gay relationship whereas a tactful ad for the local CHE group would send them all into paroxysms of horror.

### Chaucer Qualified

Theoretically there seems absolutely no reason why any individual at all should not be allowed to advertise stating quite precisely their need, or what they are offering — even, or perhaps especially when the contact is to be a commercial one. "Lady seeks generous gentleman for occasional outings..." says it all to the experienced het ad-sniffer. Others are not so candid (though veiled in code), and a serious widower is going to be pretty miserable when he finds himself face to face with a call girl. Frank statements in ads help everyone concerned.

But in stating individual requirements one immediately steps into the briar patch of laws that govern individual behaviour. *Gay News* at one time strode happily through the thorns. The 10th issue, for example, contained some very explicit messages. "A pretty poor boy? Generous, very shy chap..." and "Young man (22) in jock strap,

under tight soccer shorts would like to meet schoolmaster with Necessary Equipment for CP . . ."

Warnings were given, however, and the ads had to be modified. The note following the Chaucer quote 'Love Knoweth No Laws' was framed by a QC and that itself suggests the greatest risk still taken: the possibility that minors (ie grown men who happen not to be 21 yet) may reply or advertise. Regular readers will remember that wild period when everyone was ruthlessly over 21 - and some were well over 21...

**Sex In Code**

Today the ads must be commensurate in tone with those straight ads published in any local newspaper. We cannot refer to sexual activity (nor can hets in similar circumstances) or to leather, or rubber, or SM of course, or riding macs or jig-saw puzzles, and particularly not to the glass bead game. We cannot allow anyone to say: "Bachelor, 30, passiye, seeks friend . . ." We can, however, allow: "Bachelor, 30, seeks active friend . . ." How about that? The law apparently allows double meanings if one of them can be fully justified. Between two and five ads are rejected from each issue on these or related grounds; about 20 are altered in the office to conform.

I personally regret these necessities: ads in back issues are entertaining and interesting and one can only hope they produced the necessary goods for the jock-strapped lads, the bike boys, the seekers of second hand jeans. I would rather, however, see Gay News continue to flourish and allow gays to advertise for friends, mates, partners in newspaper style rather than get busted out of existence on red-herrings like faded denims.

**KISS MY BOOTS!!!**

Hndsme yng hairy blind German task master, will teach U respect, dis, & obed und his boot if price is right for weeknds etc . . . U will beg to serve on yr knees at my boots. Occu., Walkley, Mnlrl, Que., Canada. Send \$5 cash to prove servitude!

**YNG BLUE-EYED BLOND**

6', 155, w/m, sense of humor, understanding, desires friendship and whatever else may develop with w/m, 18-25. No fats, fems, or s/m. Foto is a must. Ken, S. Orange Ave., Apt. Media, PA 19063.

**YNG SLAVES N.Y.C, ONLY!!**

W/M, 32, wants guys for spanking, humiliation, domination. Snd details, foto a must. Mark, Box, Jamaica, NY 11424. I am muscular! No one-night stands!

**CENT NY STATE GR-PASS**

Fr/act, prof, attr, hairy, w/m, trim, 40, 6'2 1/2", 175, affectionate, sm/end, str/lkng, well edctd. Sks w/end, gr/act, fr/pass, up to 50. Perm rel pos, and full details and foto to: Box, Fayetteville, NY 13066. No fats, fems, bi ok, race unemp, no s/m or hustlers.

*Ads reproduced from a recent issue of THE ADVOCATE (Los Angeles)*

It is in the world of contact magazines that straights 'get away' with everything. But even all this marvellous freedom is expensive, exploitive, often a con and rarely an answer to loneliness or emotional bankruptcy. From this point of view, the question of explicit advertising is a matter of sexual revolution rather than just gay liberation. The straight seeking bondage runs identical risks in his society as does the gay person who merely seeks a straightforward relationship with another gay. As Bowskill remarks, an outward semblance of conventional mores must be maintained. And so hets must hide their needs in a sort of code that flummoxes all but the most experienced. TV enthusiast - Latin Lover - B&B - BO treated - DIY fan - Greek speaking . . . etc. Some of these are obvious to the aware; but the innocent abroad is in for a surprise - pleasant one hopes.

**Petulant Punters**

So much for the organisation, in this case Gay News: it steers as careful a course as possible through dangerous waters. But as I said, there are two protagonists involved and when one turns to consider the punters, then the issue of small ads gets even more complicated. Gay News suffers the slings from the sexual liberationists who claim the paper is oppressive for disallowing its rubber and calico freaks, and the arrows of the conservatives who feel that any suggestion beyond that of a matey get together over a beer is obscene.

There can be no question about the fact that the small ads are welcomed, needed and used. The last issue, I gather, had more than ever before. The average response to an ad lies between 6 and 10 letters - sometimes, as in the case of that lucky lorry driver - a great many more. Most people seem happy with the service: a small proportion claim they get a rough deal. I suggested earlier that bad scenes are an occupational hazard; some

don't see it that way and tend to blame GN itself for their disappointments; replies unanswered, photographs not returned and so on; an irrational response. A very tiny percentage of people have had no replies at all to their ads, and accuse GN of anything from deliberately withholding mail, to ripping off stamps for weekends in Formosa. Overall I should say that dealing with an incoming mail load of about 1,500 letters per issue relating to small ads alone, GN's record beats that of the GPO which, as you know, has a tall revolving tower to help it along.

Looking at ads, one is always struck by two things. The tremendous expectations that the advertiser seems to invest his potential respondents with. As Gavin once cynically sang - oh, those words 'genuine' and 'sincere' what do they mean. The concept of sincerity in this context is strange. If a man describes himself as sincere and receives say a dozen replies, is he going to beam out the same degree of sincerity to all comers? Or is he, which is more likely, going to exercise his judgement and reject several replies and thus instantly giving those he rejects the impression that this advertiser is not sincere at all?

Sincerity is probably an admirable quality, but cannot be automatically offered, or indeed demanded, as part of the initial conditions of a reply. People just don't go around swearing sincerity to total strangers. What they do, of course, is to approach total strangers with friendliness, candour and a willingness to pursue a relationship that seems right for both of them. This, to me, is another argument in favour of more explicit wording in ads.

The second striking quality about the ads is the emphasis advertisers seem impelled to place on their youthfulness and sprightliness. "Young 40 . . ." it says here, and "50 but looks younger", and "Slim, young-looking 48, very lively . . ." Maybe all these people have a perfectly accurate estimate of themselves, but sometimes one wonders. And if our younger-looking 50 turns out to be a rather frantic 60, then everybody's sincerity not to say genuineness is going to be pretty severely tested.

In Person To Person, Derek Bowskill makes a heavy point from his experience that in replying to advertisements, men are much more direct and honest about themselves than women. His wife (who advertised as part of the research) found that her male respondents were, in a word, very nice. Bowskill, however, found several ladies admitting to a young looking 48 who turned out to be nearer 70 - and in one case nearly 80. Can it be that many gay men do indeed share with women the oppressive symptoms of a society that says youth is all, that once you are aged you are finished?

**Tender and Tubby**

America, it appears, has always been a little ahead of the UK when it comes to manipulating the media, and for a view of what a page of unrestricted gay ads look like you could do worse than study the Los Angeles Advocate. Here, anything goes, and the spectrum is complete from tender messages of love and simple requests for friends through to call boys ("Treat yourself to a California Golden Boy"), fist-fucking and precise grades of sado-masochism.

Precision is all, and everything is spelled out: "No fatties, fems, dope freaks . . ." Black, white, cut or uncut and so on. Some complain about the Advocate's willingness to place ads that reject certain personal attributes, like 'no fatties' - but again it saves a deal of trouble if a confrontation happens. Also there are a number of ads asking for "Fat Gentleman" and 'A Tubby Lover', so should the lean ones worry? The code is sometimes hard to break. I haven't yet translated this:-

**CENT NY STATE GR-PASS**

Fr/act, prof, attr, hairy w/m, trim 40, 6'2 1/2", 175, affectionate, sm/end, str/lkng, well edctd. Sks w/end gr/act, fr/pass, up to 50. Per rel pos . . . No fats, fems, bi ok, race unemp, no s/m or hustlers . . .

Meanwhile we have to get on with it in our own delicate style. And I still think that the ads placed by the GN collective in the first issue of Gay News are models of the sort of ads that can be light, amusing, inoffensive, and full of real potential.

© Roger Baker, 1973


**Suck Baby, blow is only an expression.** Sporrn fondler seeks similar. Box Gay, Male and 26. Slim, slightly hairy and I dig people who also think sexuality is beautiful and one of the clearest highs there is. Lets make contact and get higher. Box

**Young Cuckoo seeks nest, bring own feathers.** Box

**Somewhere in the great gay unknown is another brother or sister who likes holding hands in horror movies.** I'm 26, London based, and would like to meet anyone with similar tastes in the cinema. Box

*Ads reproduced from GAY NEWS No 1, published in June, 1972.*


# JOEL GREY LIVE!



Money money money  
money money money  
makes the world  
go round

'Cabaret' was only  
the beginning.

Presenting  
**Joel Grey's**  
CBS debut album and  
latest achievement:  
**'Joel Grey Live!'**  
CBS 65785



the music people



## Les Beiges D'Antan

GN's Fashion Writer Takes A Long Look At The New BIBA



The opening of a new department store in London was bound to be something of an event in itself, but the wildest fantasies of kitsch-lovers everywhere were fully realised when, on the site of the erstwhile chintz and cream tea emporium of Derry and Toms in High Street, Kensington, there was unmasked a glittering palace constructed apparently, entirely out of bronzed glass, ivory marble and black satin set in a dream of beige and ostrich feather decor that I thought had passed forever with Syrie Maugham and pickled furniture. The new BIBA (by Cunard out of Elinor Glyn —

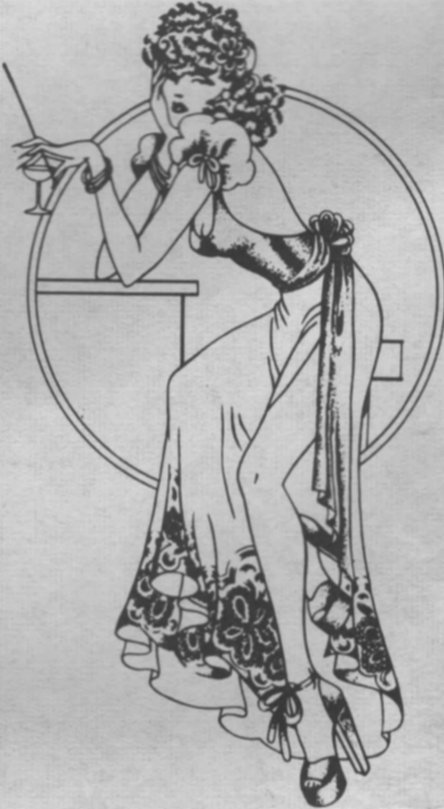
"Would you like to sin with Elinor Glyn  
On a tiger skin  
Or err with her  
On some other fur?")

is everyone's fantasy of blissfully indulgent, wickedly luxurious, Hollywood Pizzazz. From every corner one expects to see Auntie Mame slithering in lamé and rhinestone or Bakst-like golden slaves offering fondants, incense, cocaine and nights of mad passion on satin sheets. I'm sorry that the golden slaves are only a figment of my imagination, but I swear that everything else is, incredibly, for real. BIBA is the sort of place where even gingham looks decadent. Forget the conventional ideas you have of what makes a department store. Compared to BIBA, they are simply warehouses designed for efficient, serious shopping in an atmosphere of quiet good taste. BIBA is very determinedly in the most exquisite Bad Taste and the atmosphere is defiantly calculated to arouse one's very worst passions for excess and lusts to possess the most ravishingly eclectic array of treasures this side of your favourite casbah. The presiding genius, if the store needs a patron deity, is clearly Theda Bara, triumphant over a lesser, but influential, pantheon comprising Harlow, Mae West, Ginger Rogers and Valentino. They all, like BIBA, have It —



and look what It has done for the movies. What won't it do for BIBA? The whole conception of the BIBA ethos is perfectly calculated down to the last detail. Nothing, but nothing, has been overlooked and the image it arouses in the stricken visitor comes thick and fast — my first impressions were that it could be the Great Dream of Jay Gatsby before he got Class and a passion for Daisy

Buchanan; or it could be the Gothic fantasy of Citizen Kane; or the wild schemes of Marion Davies and her pet architect on a bad day. But the most accurate adjective is just plain Ritzy. The beiges and dark sable colours of cinema luxe during the 30s and '40s are lovingly reconstructed in exquisite Odeon style, a Coward design for living where elegant Astaires twirl and tap in white tie and tails amid sloe-eyed women looking disdainful over yard-long cigarette holders or from beneath their Marcel waves and spit-curls.



The designers, Whitmore-Thomas Associates, have spent the better part of a year, and what is rumoured to be around £4m in producing this glittering showcase for Barbara Hulanicki who, with her husband, began BIBA some years ago as a shoestring mail order operation, selling her original clothes to a market which proved ever hungry for her designs. BIBA is a concept and not simply an assortment of various ideas. There is an astonishing cohesion to the BIBA idea which permeates each and every department of the store. From clothes to baked beans, from cosmetics to kitchen (I longed to say kitschen, but decided not to) furniture, there is an ethos of sheer unadulterated chic. The slightly suspect air of meretricious nonsense simply heightens the utter delights of shopping, which at last, becomes fun instead of a boring necessity.

The initial impact is felt on entering the ground floor. Dark like a womb, this is the first of six floors and much of the stock here is a showcase for other departments and a selection of things you may need in a hurry, such as newspapers, tights, cosmetics, records and a red carnation for your button-hole.

Upstairs are the really serious serried ranks of inimitable BIBA clothes, hung, as usual,

on hatracks and colour-matched to different accessories. The main point about BIBA shopping is to achieve a completely put-together look which cannot be found anywhere else. And that includes the definite BIBA face achieved by the use of BIBA cosmetics, which also come in a new Health Range. The changing rooms are rather fun. They're open plan.



The third floor is for men. There are fake fur coats, shirts, jackets, waistcoats, trousers, ties. And canes and top hats. I daresay there's even a counter for monocles, and there are certainly other accessories such as Art Deco cigarette cases, lighters, watches and divine tortoise-shell-coloured bakelite ashtrays. There is also a Mistress Room (besides the Games Room) where you can buy trinkets for... well, mistresses, if that's your thing. How embarrassing. I didn't bother. There is a complete range of cosmetics for men and something called Muscle Oil 'for born sand kickers'. On the clothes side, it is helpful that jackets, trousers and waistcoats making up a complete suit can be bought separately to eliminate much of the sizing problem that can arise when buying off the peg.



The fourth floor is devoted to (goodness) gracious living. Furniture, linen, tableware, kitchenware; and BIBA gracefully admits that two of their room settings are honest kitsch. They shouldn't be so modest.

The fifth floor is nothing like shades of the Paradise Lounge. It is a Paradise Lounge, and it is called The Rainbow Restaurant. I used to have visions of sailing to New York on a Cunard Liner smoking Melachrino cigarettes against a faint breeze and listening to tzigane violins under a moon shaded by ragged ribbons of scudding grey clouds.

Yeahn no more — BIBA can give you all that and more. It can also give you a full dinner, bar service, a peach dance floor and a

tinkling cocktail hour pianist. A cabaret is promised in the near future and the joint swings until 2.30am. The roof garden will open in Spring and you can swoon to the gipsy violins while taking the night air among flamingoes and pretty ducks.

Consuming passions are met in full in the basement. They sell food. Dairy products, meat, veg, bread, cakes, biscuits, wines, fish, tea and coffee, ice cream; and pet food comes stacked inside a huge Great Dane.

Oh, and *don't* miss the stairs. All BIBA needed was a heavenly choir, and they've got one. More than anything, I loved the stairs.

So how did I love the store? Don't ask — just go!

Iain T Finlayson



### The Paint War

I AM not an apologist for the cosmetics or fashion industries, and Geoffrey, of Wimbledon, London, SW19 (letters GN32) states a perfectly respectable point of view about cosmetics. *Of course* no-one who buys cosmetics can seriously fool him/herself that what is being bought is hope in a bottle. *Of course* nothing can finally inhibit the ageing process, but most of today's lab-researched and tested cosmetics are improving to the point where they can, to a limited extent, retard the more obvious signs.

I do not think the constituent ingredients of cosmetics today are inherently dangerous as products are subject to rigorous standards and experiment. In very rare cases an individual may be allergic to one or more ingredients, but there are always alternatives. In the case of Phisoderm, the substance to which Geoffrey refers is hexachlorophene which, so far as I know, was used to manufacture the related product *Phisohex*, but is not used in Phisoderm. I have personally used most of the products mentioned.

The rather more abstract points raised concerning youthful image, the morality of cosmetics and profits, etc, are a matter of individual opinion. My insecurities are my own problem, but it takes a good deal of conceit for anyone to consider that his/her appearance does not matter.

### Hello Tailor

I should be grateful for any information from readers giving details of dressmakers/tailors who are prepared to work from customers' original ideas or sketches and make up bespoke clothes for a reasonable price. Please send details as soon as possible to me c/o Gay News so that I can check out reliability and standard for future 'Rags' features. Thanks.

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 PAINT BOX PRESENTS Miss Paintbox Drag Competition 1973

and  
HALLOWEEN PARTY  
on Wednesday 31st October

Tickets including buffet supper  
£1.10 in advance; £1.65 at the door

COMPERE: Mr Lee Treci

SPECIAL GUEST STARS  
THE DUMBELLES

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# BLESSED ARE THE PUEER IN HEART

by Rictor Norton



A Ganymede with grace is a delight both to gaze upon and to love, but most of the boys in the gay poetry around the turn of the century were ethereal wisps of pale straw. Poets such as Roden Noel (1834–1894) dreamed at a distance of bright butterfly-boys whose limpid features mirrored their wet-dream existence: "He was clad in a ruby dress / That clung to his breathing loveliness / While hose of opalescent silk / Revealed his delicate limbs of milk." Now that's just too-cinnamon-sweet. My languid eyes are only slightly dim-dewy with desire.

For those who have a penchant for good old-fashioned apple pandowdy like auntie used to make (hot from the oven), it's refreshing as well as surprising, to come upon the vigorous verse of the Reverend Edwin Emmanuel Bradford (1860–1944). This merry Scots Protestant minister pursued Willie, Eric, Dick, Guy, Frank and Jock, as well as an occasional Aubrey, Silvester, or "a shy little fellow called Merrivale White". He prefers a swarthy rustic rather than a statuesque Adonis: "Talk about the Greeks' impeccability of form: / Give to me a Belton boy whose flesh and blood are warm." Of course these are still boys, not men, but pederasts are the only authentic philosophers.

Bradford often cruised down London way to carouse with the "Uranian" coterie of gay poets, though his verse resembles theirs only in its theme of boy-love. He became the good friend (only friend – I'm sure he wouldn't touch a full-grown man) of Samuel Elswroth Cottam at Exeter College in the 1880's, whose magazine *Chameleon* was produced in evidence against Oscar Wilde at his trial, since Wilde had contributed to this openly gay journal. Later both Bradford and Cottam became chaplains at the Anglican church of St George in Paris, where together they chased the choirboys, and no doubt taught a few how to sing. Bradford's biography is sketchy except for what he gives us in his own poetry, according to which his boy-lovers included Eddie Worth, Merrivale White, Leslie de Lampton, Clinton Fane, Merivale Trelawney Bates, Steve Ailwyn, Hugh, Alan, Dave, Boris, Bob, Roy, Geoffrey, etc.

Bradford's brisk and unencumbered verse sometimes resembles the classic Horatian style of A E Housman's *Shropshire Lad*, as in "The Belton Boy":

*No bird or brute's more shy than the boy  
bather  
In Belton Cove. If a sheltered nook  
He's run to earth, he eyes the bold invader  
With startled look.*

*Although perhaps his coat lies neatly folded*

*Upon a rock, he'll promptly put it on,  
Then like a timid puppy struck or scolded,  
He's up and gone.*

*You'd best begin by talking of the weather,  
Or asking if the water's hot or cold:  
Then, when you've had a little chat together,  
He'll grow more bold.*

*From time to time he'll give you furtive  
glances,  
And if you make him laugh or even smile  
The game is won. Your friendship soon  
advances,  
And in a while*

*His coat comes off again, his trousers follow,  
And by the time his sunburnt body's bare  
He'll laugh and chatter, whistle, shout and  
holler  
As free as air.*

Bradford writes poetry of action. He doesn't merely reflect or gaze upon something, but describes something as it happens and participates in a dramatic situation. His style is that of the narrative ballad, ballad dialogues, and Browningsque dramatic monologues – always with an undertone of irony that marks him out as a distinctively modern poet. There's hardly a trace of the mythological allusions that make his contemporaries' gay poetry so tacky. Even his Eros bears more resemblance to the bugler during an English fox-hunt than to the cupid of a Raphael painting: "Eros is up and away, away: / Eros is up and away! / The son of Urania born of the sea, / The lover of lads and liberty. / Strong, self-controlled, erect

and free, / He is marching along today! / He is calling aloud to the men, the men: / He is calling aloud to the men – / 'Turn away from the wench, with her powder and paint, / And follow the Boy, who is fair as a saint: / And the heart of the lover, long fevered and faint, / Beats bravely and boldly again."

A leaping, rollicking freedom is the mainspring of his poetry, but he sometimes enters the arena of angry polemic for truly serious issues, as in his attack on culturally enforced heterosexuality: "So some men counsel: 'Breed and multiply!' / The most prolific race at last will win. / Send forth your sons in myriads to die / Or kill their fellows. Till next war begin, / Breed on with fury; pour your children in / Till every shop and factory be full, / and labour cheap. What if they're starved and thin? / – I have no heart to procreate / Earth children for the sword: / The Love that links me to my mate, / Himself is his reward." Bradford lived through both World Wars, and, like Housman, saw many of his lads die in battle – the slaughter of the unacknowledged aristocracy of shoe-shine boys, paperboys, grocers' boys.

Loitering in Piccadilly, we might come across one of his favourites, some of whom include Hilary: "Hilary is seventeen / Hopeful, though his home's an attic, / Optimistic and serene, / Though his future's problematic: / Full of love is he I ween – / So all say, and so I see, too: / What remains still to be seen / Is – has he love to spare for me, too?"

Or Silvester: "Silvester seems somnolescent. / Slow in speech, in manner mild: / Amiably acquiescent, / Simple as a Sunday child. / Don't believe it: He is far / Sharper than your town boys are."

Or Freddie: "Week after week, every Saturday night, / Frederick goes to confession. / All Sunday his soul is appalled in white, / And the Angels are still in possession. / But week after week, on the following morn, / Regenerate Frederick's ready / To become once again the bad boy he was born – / Irresponsible frivolous Freddie!"

Or Aubrey: "Lightly clad in night attire, / In the chimney corner snug, / Aubrey lies before the fire, / Couched upon a Persian rug." No doubt ready for a bedtime story.

Or Willie: "O Willie, Willie, Willie, summer holidays are coming, / And I know that you are coming with the holidays, too: / And Love, little chum, beats a heart like a drum, / Rat-a-tat! rat-a-tat! rat-a-tat! tum! tum! / In a sort of merry devilish tattoo."

Or Eddie: "So as soon as I get Eddie is it heaven that begins – / With the frolicking and rollicking and laughter? / No – Paradise: Though very nice I rather think one wins / Full heaven only on the evening after."

Or we can mosey on out to the lowlands, and perhaps make friends with "a lusty ploughboy in naked pride, / A boy in beauty, but a man in might, / Majestic flower of the flesh." And if any dour Puritan scolds Bradford for this indelicacy, he would reply: "The mere word 'carnal' shall not me affright; / Nor will I cease, in Puritans' despite, / To love the boyish body with the sprite, / And hymn it too."

This is just a sampling of the twelve books of poetry Bradford wrote, all on ladslove, with titles such as *Passing the Love of Women*, *The Romance of Youth*, *Boyhood*, *The New Chivalry* and *Matthew Rawdon* – a complete novel in verse! There isn't enough space to quote his ironic narrative poems, such as the deepening love between Clinton Fane and Alan Dave, which ends in their swearing blood-brotherhood in a marriage ritual similar to that between Gerald and Birkin in D H Lawrence's *Women In Love*; or a tender conversation between Bradford and a boy blinded by smallpox; or Bradford and a boy named Chris walking past old men on benches who snicker at their obvious love-relationship. I must be content to leave you with a gem of Bradford's wisdom: *From Lust to Love the roads are twain – Through Woman and through Youth. These swerve in time, but meet again In Love's eternal Truth. Most follow Woman, since the Fall, But as for me, I'll follow Paul.*

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## Come To The Party

**ABSURD PERSON SINGULAR** at the Criterion Theatre, Piccadilly Circus, London W1

There's a lot more to Alan Ackroyd's play than meets the eye at first glance. On the surface it appears an amusing piece about three consecutive yearly Christmas parties to which three couples attend. They are as diverse a group of people as one could meet, their only bond being the husbands' business interests, and the constant bickering that ensues between each couple. The similarities end there – socially they are poles apart.

The wife-bullying building contractor and his house-proud wife, in whose kitchen Act One takes place, are a grotesque couple – Richard Briars and Bridget Turner project middle-class suburbia perfectly, their efforts to enveigle the others into party games reminds one of an unsophisticated George and Martha ('Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf'). The womanising architect and his despairing wife intent on committing suicide in the second act, are portrayed by David Burke and Anna Calder-Marshall, married in real life. Ms Calder-Marshall's determined attempts to do away with herself by gas,

rope, sleeping pills, are made hilarious through the guests equally determined efforts to help her in household chores, never realising the true situation. Michael Aldridge and Sheila Hancock's bank manager and bored wife are further up the social scale, and their turn at party giving comes in the last act in a setting that is not unlike a Chekhov play.

It is in the final act that Ackroyd's play reaches a level which places it above the average comedy. Perhaps not as frantic in pace but nevertheless amusing, he reveals in which direction his characters have gone in the time between Act One and now. The building contractor's business has grown, and he has become a power to reckon with. The suicidal wife, still with her husband, is now in control of the situation, pushing him in his career. The bank manager's wife has stepped further into alcoholism in an attempt to forget her loveless marriage. Mr Ackroyd has already explored the foibles of marriage in previous plays, and here lives up to that early promise by taking us that much further, with six fully rounded characters, all splendidly portrayed.

Barry Conley

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## Aunt Edna Returns

**FINISHING TOUCHES** at the Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1

Aunt Edna was a mythical character created by critics, who for many years, when speaking of plays that were cloying or 'safe for the family' would be recommended to see that particular show. The old girl had been retired in recent years, no doubt due to all the nudity and explicit sex that has been seen on stage. Judging by one recent arrival in town, its high time one of the family treated Auntie to another theatre outing.

Jean Kerr's new comedy **FINISHING TOUCHES** is set in America, in the home of a University professor and his wife, and by casually anglicising Wendy Craig's role, she is once again in the familiar niche that has brought her fame on television. This slight tale of a husband's temporary infatuation with a young girl student moves briskly, due to Nigel Patrick's fast-paced direction. The fact that halfway through the husband turns his attention to his eldest son's mistress and runs away with her should not deter Aunt Edna, for this is basically a 'nice' play, and unlike many of today's comedies, adultery does not take place on stage or off. Actually, were it not for a brief mention of 'pot smoking' and the possibility of one of the children growing up a homosexual, I would have mistaken the play for one written in the 1950s.

Ms Kerr relies a good deal on what I'd call 'filler' material. One of the biggest laughs of the evening went to a mock take-off of those terrible airline commercials "I'm Edna – fly me". I was suddenly reminded of ITMA, and how popular catch phrases always get a laugh. Nearly everyone concerned gets an opportunity to quote from Shakespeare or Browning, and famous people are mentioned



'Finishing Touches' - a 'nice' play for all the family.

frequently without any relevance to the plot.

Ms Craig has a very appealing personality, and is given full scope to display her comic abilities; holding advisory conversations with herself in the mirror, frantically resisting her neighbour's advances, trying not to be shocked at the discovery that her son's girl friend is really his mistress, and doing her best to cope with her husband's dalliances. David Knight as the husband, Lionel Murton as her amorous neighbour, and an attractive group of youngsters give sterling support.

Barry Conley

## Storm In A Teacup

**RELATIVE VALUES** at the Westminster Theatre, Palace Street, London SW1

Life at Marshwood House may never be the same. The son of the house is expected back with his new fiancée, a world-famous film star. The servants are all agog at the forthcoming visit, and already autograph hounds are gathered in the grounds of the house. Lady Marshwood's personal maid hands in her notice after nineteen years' faithful service, on the grounds that the film star is

in fact her sister, and socially the situation would be impossible for her to continue working there. She is persuaded to stay on, after being promoted and a suitable masquerade is organised for her. This then, is the basic outline for the first major Noel Coward revival since his death.

Margaret Lockwood as Lady M is completely at home in drawing room comedy, endowing everything she does with great warmth and style. I was less happy with Gwen Cherrell's companion-maid, finding her a little too shrill in her outbursts. On the other hand John Stone made an ideal family butler. Joyce Blair plays the visiting film star for all she's worth, as a complete caricature, and it works well this way, as a perfect contrast to sedate family life in the stately home.

Who else but the 'Master' would dare employ the line "when you analyse it – nothing much has happened" in the closing moments of a comedy. I make no apology for my heading, as indeed the plot is slight. But carefully sandwiched into the story are superb comedy lines, the like of which you won't hear from any of today's writers. Anyone who has seen a Coward comedy and fallen under his spell will know what I mean, and I recommend the play as a reminder of Coward's masterful wit.

Barry Conley



'Relative Values' - a reminder of Coward's masterful wit.

## A Feast For The Ears

**KATYA KABANOVA**, Sadlers Wells Opera at the Coliseum

AT the time when Edwardian England slept with the motto 'Bless This House' framed over its pillow, Janacek apparently chose the text 'Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery' to guard his slumbers; or so one might imagine after seeing Sadlers Wells new production of his *Katya Kabanova*.

Originally a stage play called 'Storm' by the Russian Dramatist Ostrovsky, *Katya Kabanova* reminds me of much of Ibsen's work, with its sustained atmosphere of impending doom and irresistible tragedy set amongst a group of otherwise unremarkable petit bourgeois characters.

*Katya*, the heroine, lives with her husband, Tichon and her mother-in-law Kabanicha, this latter embodying the forces of evil which destroy *Katya*. In Tichon's absence, *Katya* conceives a love for another man, but so strongly are the rules of married fidelity a part of her moral code, that the consummation of this illicit affection is enough to derange her completely. And finally as the programme informs us somewhat euphemistically, she 'seeks peace in the waters of the Volga'.

Now you see what I mean about Ibsen! Gloom, gloom and more gloom. I suspect therefore, that I did not enjoy *Katya Kabanova* as a drama for the same reason that I'd run a mile to avoid 'Ghosts'.

That said, however, it would still be fair to say that the dramatic presentation, as opposed to the musical one, was unsatisfactory. Stefanos Lazaridis seems to have borrowed the floor boards from the Ring Cycle (driving them out into the orchestra pit so that the curtain could not be used), and draped them about with cloth and a clutter of peripheral walkways, whose only purpose, it seemed, was to facilitate the scene in which *Katya* flings herself into the river. And the lighting was even less helpful – two lighting changes in the overture alone!

So let us turn hastily to the music. Charles

Mackerras conducted from his new edition of the score with great love and sympathy. No conductor outside Czechoslovakia has done as much for Janacek's operatic oeuvre as Mackerras, and he, in turn, would rate the Sadlers Wells orchestra as second only to the Brno players in their sympathy with the composer's work. Their playing in *Katya* was forceful evidence that he is right. There was an ease of expression and delicacy of touch that carried right through from first to last.

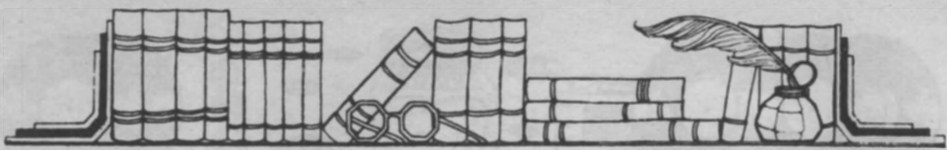
The clear melodies, of exceptional imagination and beauty, were pointed up with a simplicity of style not only in the orchestration but in the singing. Particularly strong were Lorna Haywood as *Katya* and Sylvia Fisher as the evil Kabanicha. Barbara Walker's *Varvara* too was pleasantly sung, but the part might have been given, with advantage, to a slightly stronger voice. And this is the place to mention a highlight at the conclusion of Act II as the young lovers leave their trysting place singing a folk song which the programme note refers to as haunting. And haunting it was, and has been since the night of the performance. I noticed a number of people around me sitting back in their seats, eyes closed, with a smile of contentment on their faces. You know the feeling.

A point of interest for those of you who know the opera only from the Talich recording (which I have not heard), Talich apparently was of the school who felt that Janacek's orchestration was, as Mackerras put it, "not only original but also slightly incompetent. The same as Rimsky-Korsakov basically thought that he was doing a favour to Mussourgsky, improving the music. Conductors such as Talich felt they had to change it in order to save the work from not being done at all." So Mackerras' faithful adherence to the original will be of particular interest.

Musically then, *Katya Kabanova* provided a delightful evening. I do earnestly hope, though, that parts of the stage production can be tightened up a little for future performances.

Michael Mason





# The Original 'Dahling'

**TALLULAH** by Brendan Gill. Published by Michael Joseph, £7.50.

'Legend in her time' has often been said about some of the great ladies of show business. It was seldom truer than when referring to Tallulah Bankhead, who lived life to the full and became the darling of Broadway and London when still in her early 20's. Strange that on reading a list of her credits covering a 50-year career, there are so few notable hits amongst her play and film appearances. But one must remember that Tallulah was first and foremost a 'personality'. The few good notices she received were indeed excellent ones, but too often she seemed content to parody her public image on stage and screen.

Brendan Gill's new book *Tallulah* has just been published here in a deluxe edition, very much in the style of his previous book 'Cole' a biography of composer Cole Porter. This new tome is a far kinder look at Ms B than the searing biography by Lee Israel, published a few years ago. Nonetheless, there are stories in this new book which reveal to the reader that Tallu was in her own way pioneering Women's Lib all those years ago.

Born in the deep south, the daughter of an American congressman, she was playing small roles on stage and screen by the time she was sixteen. She left New York for London in 1923, making an immediate impact in her first stage appearance here. I have spoken to people lucky enough to have seen her in that era, and they spoke glowingly of her stage personality. However, none of them made much comment on her acting talent, possibly because only a few of the sixteen plays she appeared in here were of much import.

On returning to America, she made six films, before returning full time to the theatre. Her two greatest stage successes were in Lillian Hellman's *The Little Foxes* and Thornton Wilder's *The Skin Of Our Teeth*. It is interesting to note that her stage roles in *Dark Victory*, *Jezebel* and *Little Foxes* eventually became three of Bette Davis' greatest screen successes.

Tallu herself was at one time a hot contender for the role of Scarlett in *Gone With The Wind*, and later for the mother role in the film version of Tennessee William's *Glass*



*Menagerie*. In later years, she appeared as Blanche in a revival of his *Streetcar Named Desire* on stage, and received good notices, but by then she had such a strong following among homosexuals that they virtually spoilt the play's chances of success by laughing in all the wrong places, when for once Bankhead was giving a performance sans her usual mannerisms.

The book refers to her lesbian relationships only briefly, and tells an amusing story of her confrontation with Louis B Mayer, head of MGM, in his efforts to question her sexual preferences. There is, of course, mention of her many heterosexual love affairs, as well as the long line of male homosexual companions through the years. Most of her famous bon mots are repeated:

on attending a bad play with a famous critic of the day, she commented "there is less here than meets the eye". On a rare occasion when attempting to cook, she dropped an egg, and watching it break on the floor, cried out "My God, I've killed it!" When being thanked for putting money in the tambourine of a Salvation Army girl, she exclaimed "Don't thank me darling, I know what a bad season it's been for you Gypsy dancers". She had a genuine fear of growing old, and in a serious moment, shortly before her death, she revealed in an interview "What the public wants is glamour. That's why I don't go out much. I think they're disappointed in me".

She is one performer I wish I had seen in the theatre. I was fortunate enough to see her once in the 50's as she was leaving the Ritz Hotel. Strolling down the steps, mink coat slung carelessly round her shoulders, the embodiment of glamour. A lorry drove by and the driver and his mate called out "Hi Tallulah", and she waved back, yelling "Hi Dahlings".

As her car was about to leave, an elderly woman flower seller approached and was rewarded with the sale of one magnolia, as Tallu graciously handed her a £1 note. Her unique personality fascinated me in the few films of hers I have seen, *The Devil And The Deep* opposite Charles Laughton, her amorous Catherine of Russia in *Czarina*, the very hammy maid in the all star *Main Street To Broadway*, and her last appearance in a horror film made in England, *Fanatic*. Her most memorable screen role was as the mink-coated reporter, drifting at sea in Hitchcock's *Lifeboat*, for which she received the New York Film Critic's Award.

The last two thirds of this book are in the form of a personal scrapbook devoted to her life, and make fascinating reading. Photos and reviews for the majority of her acting appearances, personal correspondence, drawings and portraits of her, and even a photostat of her will are included here. Also, there are many interesting 'potted' biographies and photos of the many famous people she knew. The entire book has been beautifully designed, with superior prints and handsome illustrations throughout.

Barry Conley

## The Sparrow And The Rainbow

*PIAF* by Simone Bertheaut - Penguin 60p  
*WEEP NO MORE MY LADY* by Mickey Deans and Ann Pinchot - Mayflower 40p

Piaf and Garland, two superstars of indefinable appeal who captivated and enthralled successive generations of fans during their long and varied careers, are the subjects of two biographies finally published in paperback.

Their lives, full of tremendous successes and enormous defeats, bear at times great similarities. Both had their share of problems over the years, drugs, drinking bouts, money difficulties and broken marriages, but they always danced back on top to draw more superlatives, awards and admirers. If Garland was the greatest 'comebacker', then Piaf wasn't more than a hair's breadth behind.

Piaf's half-sister, Simone Bertheaut writes with candour, if not style, of their hectic times together from their early street singing years to the day of Piaf's death in early 1963. She relates the main achievements and events in Piaf's life, interspersed with personal snippets and anecdotes, but sadly gives little of the insight into the star's character or faults one would have expected from someone so close.

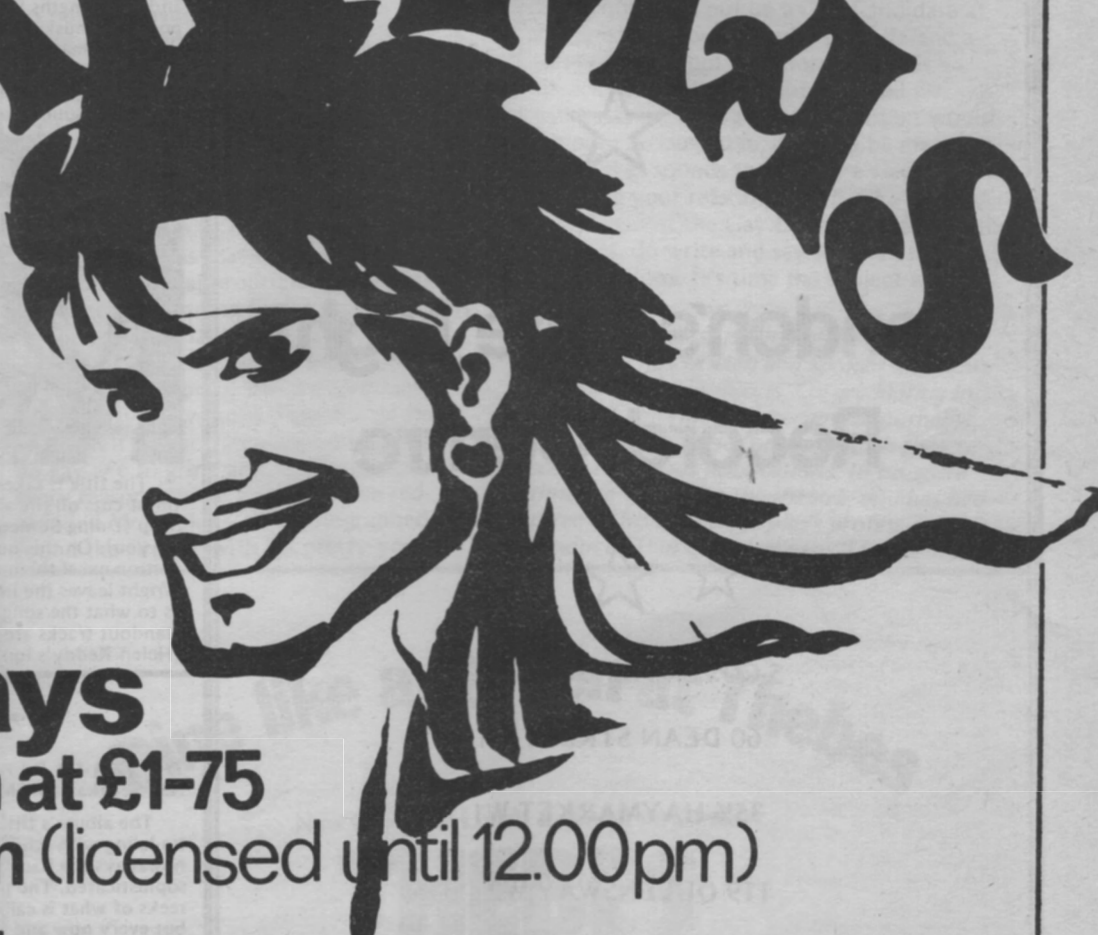
Poor Judy fares even less well. The three books written on her so far have all been somewhat lacking in perception. First was *Judy*, an incomplete scrapbook by Joe Morella and Edward Epstein. Second was *The Other Side Of The Rainbow*, ostensibly about her television series, containing the ill-conceived ramblings of Mel Torme. The third, *Weep No More My Lady* is a piece of well-intentioned *high schmaltz*, written by her last husband, Mickey Deans. With the aid of Ann Pinchot, and some extremely flowery prose, akin to that of the Sunday Press, Mr Deans evokes a horrific picture of an insecure, drug-addicted, forty-six year old child, in a book strictly aimed at her army of devoted fans.

One hopes that the shelved Garland autobiography *Pin Spot* will come to light, or failing that, perhaps someone will write a fourth book, more authoritative and objective than the last three.

Norman Pratt

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Ben Bagley's series of 'lesser known songs by famous composers' has met with considerable success in America over the last decade. Following the recent issue here of his Noel Coward set, RCA now offer three more in the series. These are very much a mixed bag, and my own personal favourite is Vernon Duke Revisited. Duke, better known for his songs I Can't Get Started, and April In Paris uses a lot of key changes into the minor, which are responsible for the haunting quality of his love songs. The artists assembled for the recording all have what I would describe as 'personality voices'. Gloria De Haven's intense vibrato enhances her one appearance on the torch song Words Without Music. Joan Rivers delivers the amusing Just Like A Man and husky-voiced Tammy Grimes makes four appearances, all equally interesting. That dishy film actor Anthony Perkins has a pleasing voice, and it's a pity he never made any screen musicals. If I had to recommend any of Bagley's group to first listeners I would suggest either this record or the forthcoming Rodgers and Hart Revisited.

Arthur Schwartz is famous for many standards, such as Dancing In The Dark, and You And The Night And The Music, but the selection in Arthur Schwartz Revisited, of his unknown songs are rather dull. Nice to have a second appearance from Gloria De Haven on another torch song Goodbye To All That as well as her raucous delivery of the snappy Love Isn't Born. The quaint little girl quality of Blossom Dearie is featured on several songs, but her



Material is unexciting. Ditto for the non-singing voices of Phyllis Diller and her husband Ward Donovan.

I can think of at least two dozen Porter tunes qualifying for the title 'lesser known works' that are better than the ones included on Cole Porter Revisited. However, Bagley has wisely assembled an interesting cast of singers, and they manage to make most of their material appear better than it actually is. Two popular night club entertainers Bobby Short and Kaye Ballard sing I'm Throwing A Ball Tonight and I've Still Got My Health respectively, with tremendous verve, and they join forces with the dynamic Bibi Osterwald on Red Hot and Blue. Dave Allen, an excellent singer who sounds a lot like Dick Haymes, is especially good on his three ballads.

Each of the Bagley records feature a different cover girl, beautiful drawings by Harvey Schmidt, and all the arrangements are by Norman De Paris. The sleeve notes in each case are written by Ben Bagley, and whether speaking of the song, or artist concerned his verbal wit ranges from high-camp to libellous.

Barry Conley

THE following reviews are an attempt to give the reader an insight into current developments in soul music. All the albums referred to have been released during the last few weeks and I believe, represent a good cross-section of recent trends. Also, the various styles and differing approaches heard on the records demonstrate the ever-widening scope of this immensely popular musical genre.

LIVE AT THE SAHARA TAHOE - Isaac Hayes - Stax 2659026 (2-record set)

The three biggest influences on the present soul scene in my estimation are Curtis Mayfield, the writing/production team Gamble-Huff and Isaac Hayes. Nicknamed the 'Black Moses' by his enormous following, Hayes has been phenomenally successful and his importance is reflected in the various directions the genre has taken since he hit the big-time.

His soundtrack score for the film 'Shaft' was his biggest single breakthrough, but his other albums, with his fondness for drawn-out spoken introductions and lengthy interpretations of well-known songs, have also contributed greatly to his popularity.

Hayes's latest release is a two-record set, recorded live at the Sahara Tahoe Hotel in Las Vegas. Perhaps a strange venue for one of the leaders of contemporary black culture, but his performance is as vigorous and exciting as anything heard on his previous albums. Included are versions of numbers available on his other recordings, but there is also some new material. The opening track is of course Theme From Shaft, which despite being a live performance, loses none of the brilliance of the studio cut. His occasionally over-long introductions work better in the context of this album, as the audiences' reactions make them appear more spontaneous and less pretentious.

Apart from Shaft, other highlights are Rock Me Baby, The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face, Windows Of The World, Use Me, Never Say Goodbye, The Look Of Love, Feelin' Alright and a mammoth take of Ain't No Sunshine. The excellent production, arrangements and recording quality all contribute to making Live At The Sahara Tahoe a memorable set by one of soul music's most original talents.

HARD TO STOP - Betty Wright - Atlantic K40514

Betty Wright became a big name in soul music with her monster US hit Clean Up Women, and although there is no material to equal that recording on Hard To Stop, it nevertheless is a thoroughly satisfying set.

Apart from technical proficiency, the album has ignored recent trends and its strengths lie in Betty Wright's powerful, husky and sexual voice and the performance by the back-up musicians who provide the type of rhythmic sound that only ever appears on American soul recordings.



The title is taken from one of the finest cuts on the album, It's Hard To Stop (Doing Something When It's Good To you). On this number the rhythm section excel themselves and Ms Wright leaves the listener in no doubt as to what the song is all about. Other standout tracks are I Am Woman (Helen Reddy's long-awaited chart

The Autumn Soul Scene

topper) Let Me Go Down, Gimme Back My Man, The Babysitter, Who'll Be The Fool and Sweet Wonder. The horn arrangements are particularly impressive throughout the record.

Hard To Stop will definitely please soul purists and has the potential to appeal to many other discerning ears.

BACK TO THE WORLD - Curtis Mayfield - Buddah 2318085

After a long and eventful career with the Impressions, Curtis Mayfield finally left the group to become a solo artist. His first efforts met with much critical acclaim and a degree of commercial success, but it was with his score for a film (like Isaac Hayes and more recently Motown's Willie Hutch) that he reached a large and responsive audience. The soundtrack was Superfly and now there is no looking back for one of contemporary music's veterans.

Mayfield's new release is Back To The World and the central theme of the album, stemming from the title track, is the dilemma of servicemen who have returned home to the USA after seeing action in Vietnam and other Far East countries. Instead of them being greeted with the respect and honour they had expected, they are subjected to indifference and hostility. An embarrassed reaction to the war crimes of America's leaders?

The accessible and socially aware lyrics graphically describe the war veterans' situation, but Mayfield implores them to keep on struggling for self-dignity and their rightful place in society.

Musically, the album is a logical extension of his previous work, retaining all the basic funk that makes his sound so enjoyable. Mayfield's high pitched voice still soothes and stimulates and the neo-classical orchestration on Right on For The Blindness is superb. Whatever your reasons for reacting to Curtis Mayfield - ie his extremely danceable compositions, the compassionate social commentaries - Back To The World is artistically and soulfully rewarding.

I'M DOING FINE NOW - New York City - RCA SF 8385

New York City are a black vocal group composed of four very experienced performers. During their years together they have created a highly polished sound and place a lot of emphasis on inventive harmony work.

On their first album the extremely talented Thom Bell has produced a number of tracks, as well as being responsible for all the arrangements. Bell is fast becoming one of the most exciting behind-the-scenes figures in contemporary music, having been involved with first rate groups and solo artists such as Joe Simon, The Stylistics, The Detroit Spinners and the O'Jays.

The title track of the album is New York City's first big hit I'm Doing Fine Now (co-written and produced by Bell) which reached high positions in the charts on both sides of the Atlantic. Although the group display their potential all through the record, only a few of the tracks are of the same stature as their hit single. Basically the problem seems to be their choice of mediocre material, but future recordings should rectify this weakness. Musically though, the album is faultless and the harmonies are often quite stunning. If you can take the occasional instantly forgettable track, you'll be treated to some very classy soul by a group who may be destined to become a major force in popular music.

Denis Lemon

USE WHAT YOU GOT - The Staple Singers - Fantasy FT 513

The philosophy here is obviously use what you got even when it's over ten years old. This album, as the cover points out, was recorded on February 20, 1962, long before soul was called soul.

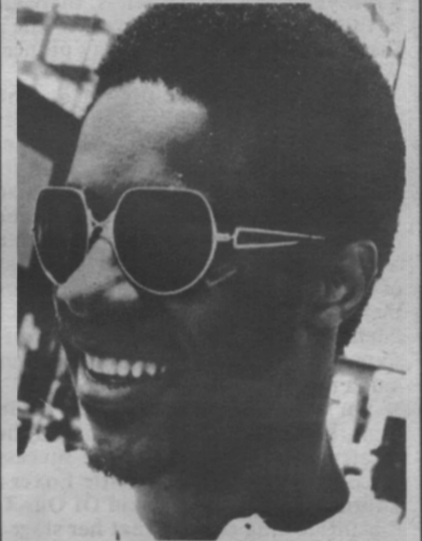
It showcases the Staples in a some-

what laid-back, country-gospel mood. Traditional songs such as Nobody's Fault But Mine, Cotton Fields, and This Land Is Your Land are included, as well as the two early Dylan songs, A Hard Rain's Gonna Fall and Blowin' In The Wind.

Mavis Staples' marvellous voice dominates the album. It's an interesting insight into the early down-home Baptist style they worked with during the early 60's. The Staples are still synonymous with gospel, but lately they've developed one of the most exciting, innovative soul sounds around. The success they've achieved here through their last two albums has obviously brought about this re-issue, but only those enamoured of folksy gospel will really appreciate it.

INNER VISIONS - Stevie Wonder - Tamla Motown STMA 8011

When the new-phase Stevie Wonder became trendy (about two albums back) I had my reservations. Superstitious was an absolute gem, the best soul single in years, but for some reason most of his romantic ballads reminded me of Johnny Raye without the kitsch.



Innervisions does not possess this dubious quality. Here he achieves the kind of emotional clarity usually attained by great female singers only. He performs his songs with a sensuous, unguarded consciousness, and never once leans on a hollow soul-stud sexual approach.

His performance of a ballad like All In Love Is Fair manages to transcend the self-acknowledged cliché which was not always the case on his last two albums.

Stevie's actual performance has always been up to scratch, but sometimes his song-writing lets him down. The ideas of his songs are always interesting, but often the final impression is that he was pressed for time whilst writing and recording them. A prolific artist, he might be capable of creating an even better product if he slowed down a bit. Perhaps then we might be spared a lyric like "... once or twice / But no dice / She wasn't nice," from the opening track Too High.

Small flaws though. Most of the tracks on Innervision exude an autonomous high quality, with Stevie commanding all aspects of the music. The vocal backing on Too High is especially interesting.

His latest disco hit Higher Ground is one of the album's stellar tracks (almost as exciting as Superstitious) and the smooth but raunchy Misstra-Know-It-All also rates a soul citation.

Stevie Wonder's music has sensuous grace. Innervisions reveals that he has the potential to let rip with everything inside him. I can think of only one male singer who stripped off all the outer layers and sang from way down inside himself, and that was Otis Redding. Stevie Wonder is in this class.

Innervisions is Stevie Wonder's best album yet, an exciting development from an artist who has even further to go.

Stephen MacLean

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Other New Releases

THE TRA-LA DAYS ARE OVER - Neil Sedaka - MGM 2315248

The album's title is a lie. Neil is still tra-la'ing with schmaltzy fervour, only nowadays the backings are more sophisticated. The performer often reeks of what is called "professionalism" but every now and then he backs it up with a very real spontaneity.

Alone In New York In The Rain on this album is a good example of this. It has the sincere supper-clubbish consciousness he employs well. A quiet, lovely song.

But Sedaka is mainly in a musically jolly mood here, even when he's being stickily nostalgic on songs like Standing On The Inside and Our Last Song Together, both of which had a good deal of radio play.

For my taste, his songs occasionally become so sticky they cloy. Try Little Brother and For Peace And Love for size.

But the arrangements are very good

(Paul Buckmaster and Del Newman assisted Sedaka on these) and the album is an overall success. Listeners who enjoyed the two initial albums of Sedaka's renaissance should find this new one to their liking.

THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW - UK Records - UKAL1006

Many show scores fall apart when scrutinised on record, but this original cast album reveals Richard O'Brien's songs to be possessed of more wit and clever satire than was first apparent in performance. In fact this album, like the show itself, is a real "sleeper": it comes across with more than one would expect.

The only weak links are the cover (a dated example of Oz magazine-type artwork) and one seemingly pointless, grating number (The Sword of Damocles).

Otherwise everything's more than ducky, beginning with a sound quality projecting a very 'live' immediacy,

Richard Hartley's musical direction especially creditable.

Time Warp, Touch Me and I'm Going Home are standout numbers. The latter is a very funny send-up of the stifling 'Green Green Grass of Home' genre of ballads. But the showstopper is still Tim Curry's menacing but jubilant solo I'm Just A Sweet Transvestite. From the instant he slams into the opening lines, the singing is so evocative he'd have you believe you could reach out and finger the hole in his stockings. With a sax sleazily pumping away in the background, Curry tosses off current clichés such as "Get your rocks off" with sublime condescension.

When he invites you "up to the lab to see what's on the slab", it's the call of the irresistible. I'd buy the album for the Transvestite number alone. It's the biggest kick I've had since Mae West's last rock album.

My advice is, don't resist.

Stephen MacLean

phonogram

Album Coming Soon

# New York Dolls



New York Dolls  
6338 270





QUICK SILVER

Angela's Exit: The West End's Gypsy will be bowing in a new 'Rose' in mid-December — Angela Lansbury will leave, replaced by Delores Gray. The triumphant Lansbury plans to tour the 15-year-old musical through North America, later coming to rest on Broadway for what should be a smash revival. Gypsy, which is solidly booked until Ms Lansbury's departure, recently had its hundredth performance. The star celebrated by hosting a boat party down the Thames.

Women in Love. That excellent, slightly fey actress Tuesday Weld is due to star in A Long Time Lonely, a film concerning itself with two lesbian lovers. Claire Bloom is also planning to play gay in a forthcoming film called Fedelia.

Hundreds of people who gathered to watch Liz Taylor arrive at the Edinburgh Festival were hoaxed. The jewelled, furred figure whisked into a hotel was an impersonator taking part in a publicity stunt. Meanwhile, the real Liz has been offered what may become her first musical part — the film version of the show Follies.

Cinema deaths: Betty Field, who acted in 'Kings Row', 'Of Mice and Men', and many other films, has died in California. The gifted performer was recently seen on London television in Butterfield 8. Legendary film director John Ford has also died in California, aged 78.

London Theatre: Although playwright Jean Kerr cut 30 minutes from the Broadway version of her play Finishing Touches, reviews here were not ecstatic. . . . At 86 Dame Edith Evans will tour England this November in a review recalling her career highlights. . . . When the musical Zorba opens in November 22, Alfred Marks will play the title role.

Janis Joplin's Lover: 'Going Down With Janis', a new book by Peggy Caserta "as told to Don Knapp", has established that the rock star was bisexual. At the time of her death it was suggested Janis had woman lovers, but the reports were howled down by supposedly hip publications such as Rolling Stone. Peggy Caserta was Janis's manager. The book (not yet published here) tells how she and Janis "fixed and fucked" towards the end. Caserta is not happy with the sensationalistic tone employed by her ghost-writer.

Every Doll A Downer: That beautifully tasteless pill-popping "expose" Valley of the Dolls is due to hit Broadway next year as a musical called Helen and the Two Dolls. Authoress Jacqueline Susann recently lit into London with none other than dear old Doris Day as her companion. "Jacqueline made me overcome my fear of flying," said Doris at Heathrow.

Just as English filmmakers seem to believe that if you string together a few episodes from nauseating television series, you've created a successful feature film, their American counterparts seem to believe that if you take a picture on the road, and expose the audience to a few of the ramshackle, seedier sights of America, together with a sweeping rural sunset or two, everything else will fall into place. SCARECROW (Columbia-Warner), director Jerry Schatzberg, in which the genre shows distinct signs of strain, does have the bonus of Gene Hackman's extraordinary brilliant and likeable performance as the stronger side of a couple of drifters, Al Pacino is the other, who travel across the American wasteland in search of



Dorothy Tristan and Gene Hackman in 'Scarecrow', which was awarded the top prize at the 1973 Cannes Film Festival.

their dream, the acquisition of a carwash in Pittsburgh.

The episodic events, some humorous, lack the edge and originality of earlier road pictures. One is constantly tempted to say, for example, the glaringly stupid but very sexual girl they encounter isn't as good as Karen Black in Five Easy Pieces, or the visions of urban decay as stirring as Sam Peckinpah's engulfing rubbish dump in The Getaway. There is nothing to add to the regular film-goer's assimilated image of America.

What is vaguely fascinating about the film is the idea that two men living and fighting for survival in close proximity for a long period, lapse into a form of role playing. The dominant character, in this case played by Hackman, behaves protectively like a husband, to the other more passive character

The Screen Scene

who needs to be led. Their minds are too full of fear to express this in sexual terms, as is clearly demonstrated in a scene where the two wanderers are serving a month's prison sentence after a bar brawl, a scene of extreme sensationalist nature, that occurs near the end of the film, and is I'm confident, exaggerated as consolation to a bored audience, in which the character played by Pacino reacts physically violently towards a fellow prisoner who makes sexual advances. The character's only dominant act, supposedly induced by an extreme fear of being unable to suppress his feelings.

An interesting idea, but not sufficient to sustain a two-hour film when one is sitting uncomfortably in one of Warner Brothers' creaky seats (I sometimes think it is the seats that are celebrating their 50th anniversary). Scarecrow is too long, too full of dialogue, and travels nowhere new in America, either in a literal or metaphorical sense.

Amongst the realms of the action picture, I suppose director Don Siegel rates just about number one in the States at present. The antics of his latest hero CHARLEY VARRICK (CIC) put one in mind of Raffles the gentleman crook, as Walter Matthau presents Charley as an amiable middle-aged villain with a benign nonchalance, who defrauds the Mafia out of three quarters of a million dollars.

Thankfully Siegel's New Mexico/Reno/Nevada mafia are strictly red brick provincials. Twice as stupid and twice as tough as their capital city counterparts, and definitely lacking that Italian/Jewish flavour of Coppola's The Godfather. The film is continually entertainingly gripping. There are the carefully formed comical minor characters who provide the humour, the suspense of the Mafia chasing Varrick, the stunts when they meet. The film's penultimate happening for example, a prelude to Varrick escaping with the loot, is a car versus aeroplane chase, wildly possible I assure you when Don Siegel is in charge.

Those of you who are interested in Don Siegel's work might like to know that between now and the end of November, the National Film Theatre is holding a retrospective season of his films which cover a period of almost thirty years. Although he is probably best known for his latter day entertaining action pics (often starring Clint Eastwood) of the genre of Dirty Harry, Siegel has been responsible for some weighty ideological works, including such films as Riot In Cell Block Eleven (1954) which was the first film to take a hard, dispassionate look at the glaring horrors of real prison life.

THE MAN CALLED NOON (Scotia Barber), director Peter Collinson has the unlikely propensity of being an Anglo-Spanish Western about a gun fighter who, in between the uninspiring blood baths, indulges in a little verbal appreciation of

English poetry. It's not played for laughs. I felt sorry for the horses.

Speaking recently at the Camden Film Festival, Michael Winner explaining his penchant for making action movies with an international flavour, said that they are quite simply the only type of film that can be relied upon to attract audiences in all countries. And make no mistake, he intoned, as he lit another fat cigar, money is what movies are all about. Unfortunately his statement is often true. That rare bird a serious British film, which at present takes the form of Oh Lucky Man, Lindsay Anderson's mind-blower on the English ethos, which is now on general release, and shows little signs of even recovering its meagre costs.



Alain Delon in 'Scorpio' - as cool and highly sexual as ever.

In terms of sheer entertainment value, Mr Winner's latest film, SCORPIO (United Artists) is tops, injecting a multitude of new life into the story about the bent CIA agent (Burt Lancaster) who's working for the Russians too. He's been knobbed and Alain Delon, as cool and highly sexual as ever, is the passionately cat-loving assassin who's been hired to do the damage.

Winner's ingenuity insures that the chase, via several countries, is full of suspense, exciting violence and also frequently humorous. Gerald Wilson's script is full of sarcastic lines that suggest a contempt for the real spy game, an idea reinforced by Winner's direction, and the performances are delicately poised between sincerity and a tendency to mock the whole caboodle.

David Seligman



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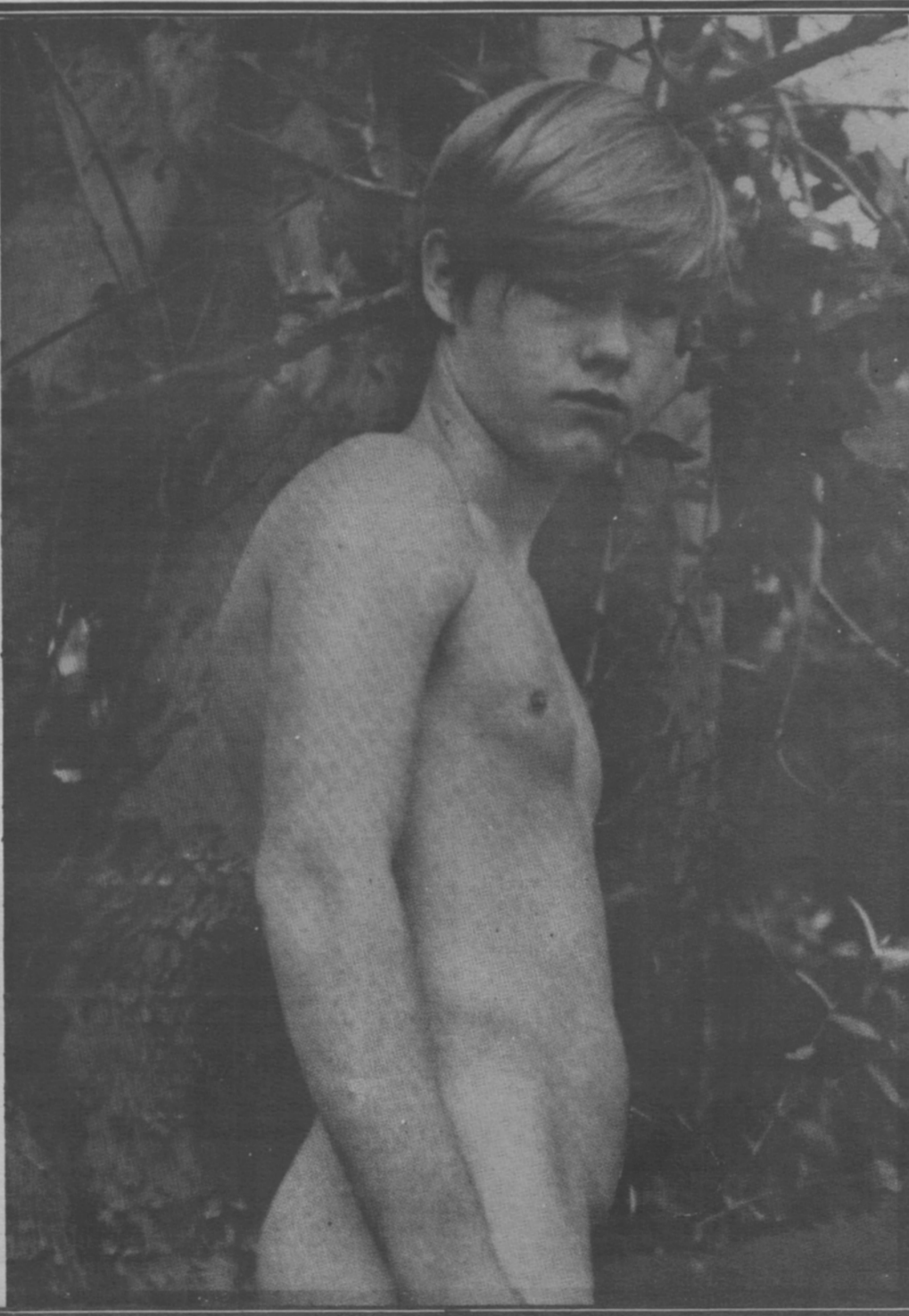
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# Derek's Guide

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)
- BARNESLEY**  
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: Pepes Club, Talbot Road
- BOLTON**  
Pub: \*Peel Arms Hotel, 423 Halliwell Rd
- BOURNEMOUTH**  
Pub: The Norfolk Hotel  
Clubs: Gigs, 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  
Greyhound East St (upstairs bar only)  
Cricketers, Black Lion Street  
The Basket Makers  
Hove Lawns Hotel  
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, Park Row, nr Red Lodge.  
Club: \*Moulin Rouge, 72 Worrall Rd, Clifton
- BURNLEY**  
Pub: The Cross Keys
- CAMBRIDGE**  
Pub: The Stable Bar, Green St (off Trinity Street)
- CANTERBURY**  
Pub: The Queen's 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**  
Club: \*Birds Nest Club, Kings Road Bathing Pool
- COVENTRY**  
Pub: Rose & Crown, High Street
- DERBY**  
Pub: Pavilion Club, 123 London Road, Shardlow (7 miles)
- DONCASTER**  
Clubs: 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  
McCall's, Hope Street

- GRAVESEND**  
Pub: The Kent, High Street
- GUILDFORD**  
Pub: The Royal Oak, nr multistorey car park
- HOLMFIRTH**  
Pub: Royal Oak, Upper Thong, nr Holmfirth, Yorks
- HUDDERSFIELD**  
Pubs: The Grey Horse, Chapel Hill (Sundays)  
Amster Dam
- IPSWICH**  
Pub: Sea Horse Inn (young crowd, Friday disco)
- HULL**  
Pub: White House Hotel (Tudor Bar) Jameson Street
- 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: Charley's 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 (tube Earls Court)  
\*The Champion, Bayswater Rd (tube Notting Hill Gate)  
\*The Green Room at the Wheat-sheaf, Goldhawk Rd (Goldhawk Rd tube)  
\*The Queens Head, Tryon Street (off Kings Rd) (Sloane Sq tube)  
\*New Black Cap, Camden High St (Camden Town tube) (D)  
\*Pig & Whistle, Little Chester St SW1 (Sundays only)  
\*Horse & Groom, near Pig & Whistle, Sundays only  
Cricketers, Battersea Park Rd (D)  
\*Elephant & Castle, South Lam beth Place, (Vauxhall tube) (D)  
The Salisbury, St Martins Lane WC2 (Leicester Sq tube)  
Ship & Whale, Gulliver St 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  
Golden Lion, Dean St, off Shaftesbury Ave, W1  
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 St W8 (Ken High St tube)  
Rockingham, 9 Archer St W1  
Vortex, 62 Tachbrook St SW1  
Toucan Club, 13 Gerrard 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)  
Disco: \*The Catacombs, Old Brompton Rd (Earls Court tube)  
South London GKF disco, 8pm Sat at Hanover Arms (Oval tube)  
\*Arabian pub, Tricky Dicky disco every Wed, Cambridge Heath Rd E2 (Bethnal Green tube)  
\*Kings Arms, Liverpool Street  
Tricky Dicky disco Mon & Tricky Dicky Show on Sat (Liverpool St tube)  
Alan & Dave's 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 Street  
Clubs: 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 Wellington 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: Balmoral Bar, Landport Terrace (off Commercial Rd)  
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 (Thurs)
- SCARBOROUGH**  
Pub: The Clif Inn, Huntress Row  
Club: The Bottleneck, Ramhill Rd
- SHEFFIELD**  
Pub: The Cossack
- SOUTHAMPTON**  
Pub: Lord Robert's, Canal Walk  
Harvey's, St Mary's Street  
Anchor Inn, East St (Girls only Saturday)  
Robert Burns, 9 South Front
- SOUTHPORT**  
Pub: Scarisbrick, Lord Street  
Club: Condor Club, 18 Neville 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: Dolphins Hotel (C T Lounge) Whitewalls  
Cricketers Hotel, King Edward Road
- THAME**  
Pub: The Jolly Sailor
- TORQUAY**  
Pub: Meadfoot Inn, Meadfoot Lane  
Club: \*Double Two Club, Rock Rd
- VENTNOR, Isle of Wight**  
Pub: The Hole In The Wall, Market St
- WARRINGTON**  
Pub: The Higher Seven Stars, Bridge 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

# Love Knoweth No Laws\*

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

\*Chaucer  
**REPLIES TO BOX ADS.** When replying to a box ad(s) place it in an envelope and attach, not stick, a 3/4p stamp to it. Then place inside a larger envelope and send it to GAY NEWS BOX REPLIES, Basement, 34d Redcliffe Square, London SW10. The letters ALA after an ad denote ALL LETTERS ANSWERED.

WHEN WRITING your personal ads, it would help those wishing to reply, if you mentioned in which area you live.

Advertisements for inclusion in issue 34 must be received no later than noon on Monday October 8th, though it would help enormously if we could have them earlier. As from October 9th, box numbers in issue 29 and earlier will be discontinued and replies to them will not be forwarded.

## Women's Personal

- Guy nearly 30** - quite good looking and not too gay in appearance, is seeking dolly bird who is very clean - understanding or bisexual for going out with and friendship. Visitors from everywhere are welcome if you are dolly. A current photograph a must with ever letter together with brief history, address and phone number for speedy get together. Box 33/136
- Bisexual girl** wanted by guy 30. Share flat. No restrictions. Box 33/137
- Essex female 38** wishes to meet/contact others any age any area to share interests. Box 33/138
- Gay guy 24** inexperienced with girls but not shy, seeks similar intelligent girl for a close friendship. Interests music, reading travelling, own car. Box 33/139
- Gay guy** seeks gay girl. Object - friendship marriage, family. I am 31, professional. You are slim, good looking, under 35, desire family, love and understanding. Photo exchanged. Box 33/140
- Slightly butch loner 25** requires femm for company. London and surrounding area. Box 33/141
- Girl 25** seeks sincere young lady 22-30 for friendship S London. Photo appreciated. ALA Box 33/142
- Attractive femm** thirtyish, N Sussex, seeks woman 40-55 mother figure? for meetings. Possible view to permanent friendship. Interests basically academic and musical but flexible. Box 33/143
- Is there a gay girl**, any area who is looking for a kind, sympathetic, generous husband? Gay male 39 young outlook, wants to get married. Own house in pleasant area near Glasgow. Interests include cinema, theatre, all types of music, football, motoring, scenery etc. Have own car. Photo please, returned with mine. Box 33/144
- Girl 28**, gay, fair, slim, attractive, affectionate, loving, likes dancing and music, car, seeks understanding, broadminded female, any age for friendship, or perhaps correspondence. All letters answered with my photo. Box 33/145.

## Personal

**Michael, Marilyn**, Richmond, Countess of Teesside (late Manchester) is back. Friends wishing to pay respect to Her Royal Highness please call 64 Dalwood Court, Hemlington, Middlesborough. Love Lady Carolyne.  
**If you are shy**, lonely or insecure and seek a permanent friendship, then please write. I'm a young-looking 37, and have my own home in London. Only loyal and affectionate types should reply. Photo please. ALA Box 33/1

**Easy-going personable** 44 seeks young companion interested in foreign travel. Recent photo appreciated and will be returned. ALA Box 33/2

**Private collection books**, magazines, Scandinavian photographs broken into £1 lots. Full details from Box 33/3

**Lonely, recently deserted** guy 24, arts lecturer, end of long affair, attractive, seeks someone to put back some of the pieces. Photo please. Will exchange. Box 33/4

**Rio de Janeiro** - wanted, info about gay spots, contacts, legal climate etc. Box 33/5

**Young 40s bachelor** wants smart young friend 21-30 for lasting and genuine friendship, non-camp. Must have humourous, tolerant and affectionate personality. Weymouth, Bristol, Minehead, Exeter area, preferably. Personality comes before looks. Music, cars, nature, walking, touring. Photo please. Box 33/6

**Sincere guy 21** seeks attractive friends, preferably in East Anglia. Photo please. Box 33/7

**Quiet active young man** (29) not bad looking seeks slim guy any nationality, view friendship. Birmingham area, but willing to travel. Interests cinema and theatre. Photo if possible. Box 33/8

**Young active** straight looking guy seeks same for friendship. London area if possible. No effeminates please. Photo appreciated. Box 33/9

**Hertfordshire 26** seeks genuine friendship with active, sincere, non-effeminate guy 25-35. Have house. Photo appreciated. ALA Box 33/10

**Glasgow 48** welcomes contact with other loner any area. Usual interests, good listener, enjoys letter writing, so ALA Box 33/11

**Londoner (Enfield)** late 40s seeks friends over 21. General interests, own flat, any nationality. ALA, photo if possible. Box 33/12

**Quiet graduate** over 30 wants a cosy friendship with someone nice looking and in good trim. Photos exchanged. Box 33/13

**Good looking, well built**, clean shaven 22-year-old guy seeks similar well built young friends not over 30. London area. Box 33/14

**Yes, you're all slim**, attractive, well-built, sincere, not camp, amicable, young and divine. Well, so am I. I'm 21 and want to meet all you Adoni. London area. Box 33/15

**22 new to Manchester** wants active motorcycle pal, preferably with bike and leathers. Also exchange pals welcomed. Box 33/16

**Young man 28** seeks active friends up to 45. London and Home Counties. Box 33/17

**Yorkshire (Wakefield area)**. Gay friend 21-29 tall, slim, clean shaven wanted for lonely gay living alone. Photo ensures reply. Box 33/18

## "Hello Mother! Hello Father!"

**1947 sports model** to go to good home anywhere. 6' tall, blonde, easy to handle, one previous owner, for 3 1/2 years. New owner must be loving and affectionate as engine is not yet run in. Box 33/19

**London guy** seeks friends, well built, interested in body-building and denim. Photo please. ALA Box 33/20

**Professional man, active**, own house, needs company and stimulus, intelligent male, interested literature, current affairs, no age or colour bar. Advertiser 45 but in excellent nick. Twelve miles tube, Central London. Box 33/21

**George** - Thanks for a lovely 20 years. Here's to the next 20 - love Barry.

**Blonde guy 24** good looking 6' slim, long hair, non camp, likes leather, denim, countryside, wants young friends. Photo please. Box 33/22

**Guy 23** considered attractive, new-comer wants to get to know gay scene in London. Photo guarantees reply with mine. Box 33/23

**Straight-looking 43** would like to meet young man of any race. Chinese or Asian welcome. Quiet type preferred. Have car will travel. ALA Box 33/24

**Young man 25** moving to London seeks gay chap with own flat with whom I could share my life. ALA Box 33/25

**Is there a gay doctor** or dentist in the Birmingham area? Attractive young man seeks your services. Box 33/26

**Gordon of Cumberland**. Youthful bloom fast fading, but desirous of remaining in swim though now preferring the calmer backwaters to the hell-for-leather mainstream. I have no inhibitions regarding color or creed. Is there anyone who will correspond with me? Box 33/27

**Londoner SW**, 33 tall slim, interested in meeting masculine friend. Enjoy most things. Own house. Photo please. Box 33/28

**Hairy blonde, and 30**. Am 6' and 12 stone, living near Harrow. That's me, how about you. Photo appreciated, ALA (promise). Box 33/29

**Does any reader** know of farmer or country person living west country, interested in conscientious, adaptable, domesticated male 39 taking charge of house, calf unit, records, light farm jobs. Advertiser, Flat 7a Central Avenue, Paignton, Devon.

**Slough to Southport**. Guy from Slough travelling upstairs on overnight coach Victoria to Blackpool Tuesday 4th September. Remember me? I enjoyed our journey together and would like to hear from you. I gave you my address. Richard.

**Young 33 photographer** needs nude males for 1974 calendar. All replies with photo please. London area. Box 33/31

**Stockport. Attractive** intelligent young 30, not effeminate, seeks professional, handsome, masculine, well spoken friends similar age. Photo please. Box 33/35

*Personal Ads continued on Page 22.*

# Gay News Subscriptions

SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE £2.10 FOR 13 OR £4.00 FOR 26 (COPIES ARE POSTED IN A PLAIN SEALED ENVELOPE)

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

NAME .....  
ADDRESS .....

I wish my subscription to commence from Issue Number .....

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

## Ad Limits

Lots of people want to advertise in the personal section. That's sort of nice, but it is getting very difficult sometimes to fit them all in. With only 20 pages in the paper, we can't allow the ads any more space. And we don't want to put the cost of advertising up. So we are asking people to keep their ads short.

Therefore from issue 35, please limit your ads to 35 words. Ads of 35 to 40 words will be printed if there is space, but ads of over 40 words will be returned, it seems the fairest way all round.

Personal Ads continued from Page 21.

**Straight looking 31** intelligent, active, friendly and quite muscular, seeks active masculine friend over 50. Race/class immaterial. London/Home Counties. Absolute discretion guaranteed. Photo appreciated but not essential. ALA Box 33/30

**Gay companion(s)** urgently required, by active, reasonably good looking and capable 50-year-old yachtsman/farmer for cruise to Caribbean in own catamaran, leaving early October. Some sea-going experience preferred, but cheerful, intelligent and compatible personality more important. Genuine friendship and affection offered to well groomed athletic types. Recent photo returned with mine. Box 33/32

**Chinese gay** sought by active London gay. Non camp discreet company. Box 33/33

**Midlands guy** own pad seeks active masculine sincere guy. Box 33/34

**Unattached Sagittarian 24** seeks active friend. Usual interests. No kinks. Box 33/36

**Salisbury area**, attractive young 34 seeks active younger man over 21 for lasting friendship, weekends in nice country cottage. Box 33/37

**Leather guy age 30** seeks same with motor bike as pillion rider, needs change from London scene. Not good looking, own flat, possible share with same. Photo please. ALA Box 33/38

**Young good looking** guy with beautiful home seeks domestic friend, active and well built. Phone no and photo essential. Box 33/39

**Attractive young socialist** seeks active well built friends. Phone no and photo essential. Box 33/40

**Luxembourg active airliner 35**, 5'9" fair haired, average looks, welcomes any info on BOM-BKK-CNX-MNL-HKG visiting above October 27 through November 14. OSI seeks similar own age or younger worldwide for friendship and reciprocal visits. No queens camp beads but hairy OK. ALA w/pics. Ring 20602 LUX. Box 33/41

**Young man 21**, affectionate and sincere seeks genuine friendship from similar aged 21-24. Keen on pop music. Photo appreciated. ALA Box 33/42

**Active well built** guy 25 living in Germany interested in contacting men same age or younger in London, Lancashire or Yorkshire for meetings/nights out during my visits to England. Interests music, theatre, etc. Photo preferred. Box 33/43

**Motorcyclist 30** living Greater London area would like to meet reliable friend to share life. Tired of gay scene. Interests are many and varied. Is there a disillusioned non-camp leather guy (not SM) who thinks likewise? Please write. Photo appreciated. Guarantee ALA Box 33/44

**Edinburgh. Are there** no genuine males who have a car, their own place and who are discreet? I am male, 30s, sincere. No camp or effeminate people please. Box 33/45

**Pleasant looking well built** masculine 28 Londoner 6' seeks sincere Oriental friend 21-29 for solid long-term friendship. Own house, car etc. Would willingly assist with accommodation and/or employment. Box 33/46

**Winter holiday?** Companion (literate, attractive young man in late 20s preferred) sought by similar for sun-kissed holiday abroad. Write with phone number to Box 33/70

**COMMERCIAL ADS: 7p a word. No Box Number service available. NON-COMMERCIAL ADS: 3p a word. Box Numbers 50p. PERSONAL ADS: 3p a word. Box Numbers 50p. SEMI-DISPLAY (Boxed Classified) £1.50 extra. All information listings free. ALL ADS MUST BE PRE-PAID. DISPLAY AD RATES - prices quoted on request - contact Ad Manager Peter Mundy.**

**Active, sociable** straight looking non-camp wanted 22-30 as sincere and considerate friend. I am 35, foreign and not bad looking. Own flat central London tired of gay scene, slim, kind, varied interests. Please write with photo, returned with mine and phone no if possible. Box 33/47

**Attractive male 36** desires meet slim effeminate male any colour or transvestite for genuine friendship. Photo if possible. Advert genuine and sincere. ALA Southampton/London Box 33/66

**English public school** gay, masculine looking, 6'2" late 40s. Good figure, silver hair, own home South Kensington. Many friends but no love. Open generous loving nature, good cook housekeeper, seeks tall, active, mature well built man 30-40 non camp, fair, hirsute type. Sense of humour, loving nature essential. Appreciative good comfortable home, broad minded to make life worth living by sharing joys and beauties. Replies with photos appreciated. Box 33/67

**Earls Court area**, active young looking, 29 denim lover, slim with dark hair and has varied interests, seeks similar between ages 21 and 26 for sincere friendship. Box 33/68

**Good looking slim** guy 23 needs young attractive friends anywhere around London or South West England. Any type welcome, including underground/hippies. ALA with photo. Box 33/69

**Mountains and Mahler**; Midler and Miranda; Tyre, Tric-Trac and the tropics. Architect 30, 5'9" blond and wiry, studying here, wants friends SW London. Photo and phone number appreciated. Will reciprocate immediately. Box 33/71

**Does any antique dealer** require additional capital? Advertiser is also able to buy for the trade in Scotland and Northern England. Box 33/72

**A gay couple** aged 32 and 33 would like to meet other gay couples of similar age group, view friendship and outings. Please write. Box 33/73

**Shy, affectionate** Manchester boy, 23, looks 18, genuine and sincere, seeks a boy similar age who is genuine, for lasting friendship. Photo appreciated. Box 33/74

**Surely there must be** near me someone sensitive, intelligent, slim, attractive, 21-38 to welcome affection from me (58) understanding, good appearance. My home is between Liverpool Street and Shenfield. Box 33/75

**Young man mid 30s** requires an active, genuine friend in London. Full details and photo please. ALA Box 33/76

**John 26**, good looking, Shrewsbury, have car will travel, wants genuine friendly cheerful working class friends. Exchange photos. ALA Box 33/77

**Midlands/Shrewsbury** attractive 27 seeks leather/denim guy (not S/M). No effeminates, genuine friendship. Photo please. Box 33/78

**Young man London** attractive, slim, but well built. Easy-going. Absolutely reliable, seeks similar 21-35, London, preferably slightly muscular. View permanent friendship. Photo please. (Return promised) Box 33/79

**Attractive but shy** young man wishes to join gay social group(s) London, view to meeting others. Box 33/80

**Londoner 23**, tall, nothing outstanding seeks friendship with same. Interests records, soccer, travel. Photo please. ALA Box 33/81

**Attractive guy London**, slim but well built. Non-effeminate, Easy going. Absolutely reliable, considerate. Seeks similar 21-35 for permanent friendship. Photo please (return promised) Box 33/82

**Introduction sought** to gay scene in Tangier. Information live shows, exhibitions etc welcomed. Box 33/83

**Len 26** seeks friends under 30, wide interests include bodybuilding. Photo please. ALA Box 33/84

**Suffolk guy 23** seeks friends of a similar age with wide interests. Photo appreciated. ALA Genuine Box 33/85

**Hampshire, own country** home, with-it young 40, sense of humour, enjoys outdoor life, fun, civilised living. Offers non-camp 21-30 understanding, affection, experience. Photo please. ALA Box 33/99

**Composer/author 35** London flat and place near Gloucester, seeks younger friends in either area. Interests: music, literature, cinema etc. Box 33/86

**30 slim and happy**, moving to NW Lancs/Manchester area early October. Glad to meet anyone 21-40 to share sensible good-humoured and unhurried friendship. Box 33/87

**Graduate 38** own house in Teddington area, would like to meet active non-camp friends from London and Edinburgh areas. Photo appreciated and returned. ALA Box 33/88

**Guy 23** good looking and masculine needs another anywhere for friendship. All letters with a photo answered. Mine returned. Box 33/89

**Sincere active guy 40** living SE Essex, anxious to meet sincere guy 30s within reasonable travelling distance with view to permanent friendship. Photo appreciated. ALA Box 33/90

**Tattooed ex-sailor** wishes to contact tattoo enthusiasts interested in club. ALA Box 33/91

**Mike very slim** and affectionate, but non-camp, disillusioned with 'sincere' guys, wonders if anyone really means what they say. Needs to meet reasonably attractive young guy for close friendship. London or Chichester areas. Write soon. Photo secures reply. Box 33/92

**London W6**, tall, slim, longish hair, moustache, late 30s, considered maturely attractive, would like to meet sincere guy of similar appearance 25-40 for lasting friendship. Recent photo returnable with mine. Genuine only please. Box 33/93

**60 year old**, bored with living alone, would like to meet another any age for genuine friendship and share flat anywhere. 554 5763 after 7pm

**Edinburgh young** guy 20s good looking slim, seeks friends similar, British/foreign, own pad. ALA with photo. Box 33/94

**Anyone wanna dad?** Youthful fossil in 50s with shack down south, neither bald nor obese, seeks sunseeking Seraphim or would chance an older chaste cherub (over 21 anyway). Driving and walking, country and coast, music and humour, weekends, holidays. Don't all rush. Box 33/95

**Oriental assistant** required by businessman. Good opportunity to learn interesting trade. Accommodation provided. Box 33/100

**Cheshire guy 22** attractive and intelligent would like to meet lively and reliable friend aged 21-25. Photo please. Box 33/101

**Sophisticated 45** would like to meet young man who prefers older men friends. Car and own house. Possibility of sharing if suitable. Photo appreciated. Box 33/102

**Slim guy 22** seeks guys 21-24 London. ALA Box 33/103

**Cheerful guy 24** seeks other attractive guys for uncomplicated friendship. Photo essential. Box 33/104

**I am 30** but not bad looking and would like to meet lots of good looking guys up to 25 years of age and very clean from any part of England or other countries who are visiting London for friendship. Londoners also welcome. A current photo please, and your address and phone number at work and home. ALA Box 33/106

**Very attractive 21-year-old**, SW London. Would like genuine friends, preferably with long hair, a casual outlook and between 21-30 to share whatever comes along. Photo please. Box 33/107

**Be in at the beginning** of a great gay love story. Young romantic social worker (early 30s) seeks non effeminate boy 21-26 (student, ex service, merchant navy preferred) for genuine friendship which hopefully will become permanent. Varied interests including music but sincere adaptable personality more important. Stable home offered with affection for the right guy. A dream? Not if we both believe. ALA Box 33/108

**Classical music lover**, slim 32 seeks similar sincere non-effeminate guy 21-35, Manchester/anywhere. Photo appreciated. Box 33/96

**Early thirties** London male earnest seeker after inner truth, desires companion, twenties and sincere for true friendship. Box 33/97

**Coloured boy 22** slim, small, good looking, seeks handsome good natured guys under 30 for friendship in London area. photo please. Box 33/98

**I am 35**, tall, non camp, travelling frequently to Spain and require genuine young man as personal assistant, view permanent friendship. Interests travel, sun, records, denim, leather, cars, Photo please. ALA Box 33/109

**Hertfordshire guy 26**, (Ware area) own transport. 5'10", 10st 7lbs would like to meet 21-38 muscular white or negro guy whose interests include pop/classical music, dancing, cinema, theatre, for lasting friendship. Photo appreciated. ALA Box 33/110.

**I don't ordinarily** do this sort of thing but... Bi, Boy-Man intellectual 21, genuinely and urgently needs to raise substantial capital for finance of private studies (academic!) I'll do anything legal, as the saying goes. With a high-nonnny-no. Box 33/105

**An Asian/Malaysian** or coloured non-effeminate, sincere friend is sought by cultured, affectionate, active man early 50s, but younger in appearance, outlook and personality, widely travelled, practical, humanitarian and varied interests now settled own house in quiet, beautiful surroundings. Only a genuine, warm, gay, loving companion is envisaged, possibly one needing a father figure to share permanently in my life, home and pursuits. If interested, tell me about yourself and a photo (returned to you) would help. ALA Box 33/111

**I am over 40** years of age, and yet I still feel and see things precisely the same as long ago, when I was a young boy. I find it good to be a kind of elder brother or friend to a person, to whom I can show that I appreciate him, that I like and am fond of him. You may be young and yet like to know somebody to whom you can speak freely and who understands you in all earnest. You like to be with somebody with whom you can have enjoyment, and happiness and even more. Have no fear to write to me, perhaps we are meant for each other. One thing is certain, you will receive a prompt and sincere reply. Box 33/112

**Young 30** just moved to flat London W11 seeks friend. Loves classical music, good food, theatre beer. Advertiser is a very happy person, good cook and loves to live life. Photo appreciated and returned, but write anyway. ALA Box 33/113

**Central London**. Smart young man mid 20s of good education, in responsible position, seeks similar. View long-term reciprocal friendship. Likes theatre, good food, wine, beer and the odd gin. ALA Pho appreciated. Box 33/114

"Hello Mother! Hello Father!"

**English bachelor** with own secluded house near sea on Mediterranean's loveliest island accepts paying guests. This ad is placed on his behalf by one who has been and can recommend it most highly. Box 33/135

## Accommodation

**Two respectable** young men seek flat central London. All genuine replies considered. References available. Box 33/48

**Urgently wanted** young good looking guy to share flat in Brentford area, only £5 week. Photos appreciated. Box 33/49

**Young gay guy** to share room in large comfortable flat by Wandsworth Common station. Happy atmosphere. Rent £6.50 per week. Box 33/50

**Reasonable s/c flat** in good area preferably N London required by 2 clean, young gay guys. Tel 435 0524

**Holiday accommodation**. Gay atmosphere. B/B £1.50. Come to East London and meet the genuine friendly Londoners. 106 Olive Road, London E13. 01-472 3122

**I am 34**, 6'1", well built and bearded, and I wish to find a mate to share my flat. Age and looks unimportant, Someone who is home-loving, likes animals and gardening would be ideal. Own bedroom if wished. Most of the comforts of home, colour TV etc. London area. Box 33/51

**Oxford. Fellow 25** or under, to share accommodation in 16th century house with 29-year-old undomesticated author. Own room, £5 per week. Box 33/52

**Wanted** - modern guy (22-30) to share house in Ealing with one other (22). Own room, phone. £8pw. Must be non-camp and happy type. Photo please. Box 33/53

**Share of house** N London. Own room £5 pw. No strings. Box 33/54

**31-year-old** guy seeks similar to share Islington flat. £5 per week. Box 33/55

**Liverpool**. Professional man offers accommodation in his home to a quiet and discreet student or other young person. Box 33/56

**West London**. Room wanted by an individual. Islamic interests, 25. Box 33/57

**Three guys wanted** with a view to sharing a large flat in Hampstead area with two others. Rent envisaged £8 each. Box 33/65

**Holiday accommodation** - gay atmosphere, B/B £1.50. 106 Olive Rd, Plaistow, E13. Phone 01-472 3122.

**Room available** in modern house near Cardiff for discreet male. Telephone Penarth 707610 (STD 0222) evenings or weekends.

**Two music students** seek accommodation together in Manchester. Practice facilities essential. Box 33/59

**Graham 28** urgently seeks accommodation in London. Willing to share with one about same age. Box 33/60

**Birmingham guys**. Want a flat mate? I am 24, professional, pleasant manner and looks. Mike. Box 33/61

**2 young gay guys** (friends) working in West End need flat not too expensive. Box 33/62

**Furnished flatlet** or share in furnished flat/house on West/South-West side of London within 20 miles West End required from November by two bike owning leathermen. Double bedroom and off-street parking essential. Would be used occasional weekday nights and more frequent weekends. Box 33/63

**Body builder 33**, North England, interested in leather/denim and motor bikes, would like to share house or flat in London with guy similar age and interests. Box 33/64

**Good looking** young bodybuilder, 6'1" blond, blue eyes (ex model) cultured ex-public school boy, wide interests, seeks share of house/flat (own room essential) preferably Central London. Ideally with similar guy but open to suggestion. Box 33/58

**Warm welcome** at Wembar Hotel. 19 Warwick Road, London SW5 in the heart of Earls Court gay scene. Tel 01-373 9950. Reasonable prices. Weekly terms.

**Country holidays/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. Phone 022-16 3299

**Alwyn International Hotel**, West Promenade, Morecambe. Ring Malcolm daytime, Lancaster 2750 early evening Morecambe 411650 and mention Gay News.

**Emergency 1 or 2** night pad available for over 21s. Other assistance given where necessary. Ring 01-691 0733

**Bachelor seeks** reliable domesticated young man 21 to 30 to share his delightful country cottage. Enjoyable and secure life offered to suitable person. Slim, clean shaven preferred. Box 33/115

**Victoria mansion** requires another civilised graduate in October. Own room, balcony. CHW/CH phone etc. £40pm inc. Box 33/116

**Pleasant large room** in flat SE London offered to congenial male. Preferably someone active, travelled and with literary/theatre interests. Leathermen welcome. 20 minutes from Charing Cross. Box 33/117

**Young leather guy** offers share of flat, own bedroom, to young masculine responsible guy. Adjacent Rye Park, SE15. £30 per calendar month inclusive heat and light. Box 33/118

**Small room Bayswater** £4.50pw, clean quiet congenial male 30/40s interested arts preferred. Share amenities one other. Box 33/119

**Two guys early 20s** need share with others of similar age in house/large flat, Shepherds Bush area. Write or call Rich and Tim, 9 Stanlake Road, Shepherds Bush

**Living Abroad?** Young man, university graduate, seeks occasional hospitality in sun to write. Would pay keep. Box 33/120

**Cheap digs** for gay Medway college student. One who goes home at weekends preferred. Box 33/121

**Guy 20s wanted** for SE12 flat with graduate 30. Own large room. Live independently. Share some meals? Use of phone, stereo. Good transport day/night. £8pw. Box 33/122

**Battersea Park**. Own small room, mansion flat. Available soon to responsible guy 25ish. £7pw inclusive phone etc deposit £15. Sharing 3 others. John Box 33/123

**Loquacious young** man 21 would like to share with older man, groovy, gay, twenties, or girl or anyone possessing an effably salubrious apartment in SW Essex. Box 33/124

**Good looking** guy 25, black, city office worker, needs comfortable double or spacious single bedsitter under £11 per week. Wouldn't mind sharing with someone who likes living in comfort, same age group. Earls Court, Sloane Square, Kensington, or Chiswick area. Box 33/125

**Bachelor 40**, small, athletic looking, wishes share modest house Sussex country town close sea country. Train one hour Victoria. Suit responsible active type. Share running costs maintenance. My interests - the arts, nature. Box 33/127

**Manchester area**. Room in quiet flat/house Oct/Nov for young sensible exec guy who just wants somewhere to sleep on occasional visits. Box 33/128

## Personal & Classified Ads Form

Please insert in the next issue  
BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

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

£ ..... for an Ad of ..... words.

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

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

**Accom. Ads continued from last page.**

**Urgently wanted**, bedsit South Ealing area about £7 per week. Box 33/126  
**Holiday accommodation**, B/B £1.50 nightly. Discreetly gay atmosphere, 106 Olive Road, London E13 or phone 01-472 3122

**Leather/denim guy** wanted to share SE London flat with guy 30. Own big room, no strings. 15 mins city. Night bus. £8pw. Write Mitch, BM Box 6484, WC1V 6XX

**Young man 24** seeks large room or flat share with one other. Not too far from central area. Definitely not expensive. Please phone 01-340 4276

**Battersea SW11**, Wanted a young gay guy to share quiet flat £6.30 per week plus electric and phone. Box 33/129  
**Gay couple** (both 21) need furnished or unfurnished accommodation in Central or West London. Box 33/130.  
**Student teacher 22** wants to share flat with other guy in Nottingham. Box 33/131

**3rd gay guy** to share mews house West Kensington near tube. Own room, tel. £10 per week. Phone 385-6074 evenings.

**Harrow**, Gay purpose built 1st floor maisonette for sale. 3 mins Picc-line station/shops. Two bedrooms, bathroom with shower, kitchen, garden with greenhouse, carpets, central heating, complete double glazing, garage tarent. Local 'gay group' - goodwill included! £11,250 unfurnished or £11,750 fully furnished (to include automatic washing machine and cooker) ring 01-422 7358 after 5pm or weekends.

**Large single** well-furnished bedsit Holland Park area. share fully equipped kitchen, bathroom with one other. £12pw heating, lighting, linen, cutlery, china inclusive. No strings. Phone 602-2489 evenings.

**Denmark (Arhus)** teacher 35 sporty, good looking, owning big villa with interior pool/sauna, beach house, offers hospitality (eventually house work and salary) for long or short period to young nice Englishman. Photo appreciated, returnable. Box 33/132

**Someone to share flat** (1 Or 2 people) gay guy 25. Ring 385 3048 Tim any time.

**Landlords** - phone your vacancies after 6.00pm. 01-732 6724

**Young man 30** seeks unfurnished/furnished accommodation in Central/SE London. Telephone 01-464 2217  
**Holiday in Cornwall**. Ring St Ives 6906 for bed and breakfast £1.50 per night.

**Professional man**, mid twenties, seeks similar or quiet student to share large flat in Exeter. Own rooms. Box 33/133  
**Gay guy 25** seeks own room or self-contained furnished/unfurnished flat. Central London preferred, ie Holborn, Islington, Finsbury or East End. Box 33/134

**Employment**

**Young man** required to assist with motor cruiser based Majorca. Experience unnecessary, only driving license, intelligence and good appearance. Permanent with great possibilities. Interview by arrangement. Please write. Box 33/146

**Young gay guy** needs extra money. Free Sunday, Monday, Tuesday. Anything LEGAL considered. Box 33/147

**Due to top management** changes a prejudiced approach has been displayed towards a young man in a senior retail position. The previous civilised acceptance of his gayness enabled him to conduct an efficient and business-like department. This is no longer the case. He therefore seeks alternative employment. Experience and education public school. Commencing work with multiple Scottish Booksellers and Stationers, he proceeded to further his experience in allied fields, encompassing the printing trade. Present employment has buyers status with top London store. Offers of suitable employment in similar or other retail trades would be gratefully accepted. Box 33/148

**French mid-twenties** with good sense of business and capital if necessary seeks interesting and rewarding position. Genuine offers only. Box 33/149

**Gay males 20-30** for film work. Top fees paid. Photo if possible with particulars. All letters answered. Box 33/150  
**Sales representative**, well educated, attractive young man aged 29 with 4 years selling experience seeks similar position based in Sussex. Would also consider other serious suggestions. Box 33/151

**Young gay guy 22** seeks evening work. Bar and shop experience but anything legal considered. Phone Richard 455 2393 daytime.

**Thrusting go-ahead** young manager needed for composer/writer/director and Japanese Mime Theatre. Soundrama 28 Gunterstone Road, London W14. 01-603 3646

**Elegant country home** offered to fit capable male by home loving gentleman in return for general help about the house. No cooking, driving essential, garden lover preferred. Non-effeminate types only, any race or creed, London interview, salary to be arranged. Photo and phone number appreciated. Box 33/152

**Top class-bodybuilder** model needed by young physique photographer £5 hour studio central London. No experience needed. Just stand around. Photo details please. Box 33/153

**Hard work and good pay** in hotel on tropical island, December to April offered to straight looking young men. Box 33/154

**Brown French 30** years old wishes to work in London and to learn more English (shop/office) Like classical music, theatre, good looking. Box 33/155

**Own room** in exchange for about 15/20 hours cleaning per week in young Highgate household, overseas English speaking preferred. Box 33/156

**Gent 40s** seeks employment with accommodation, previous experience in geriatric nursing, and hotel work. Anywhere in the South considered. Mr K Pollard, 54 Greenbank Road, Darlington, co Durham.

**Classified**

**'Burro House'** for sale - under contract - wanted client or investor. Jeffrey (Burrows Builders), Burro House, Hadfield SK14 7HA. Derbys.

**Esalen massage** for relaxation. Home visits by young masseurs. 733 4519

**Sensual Massage** - The Art Of Sensual Massage is a warm, exquisitely illustrated book of pleasure. It offers you detailed instructions on the techniques of sensual awakening. Written by Gordon Inkeles and Murray Todris for £1.95 paperback or £4.95 de-luxe. A free fully illustrated leaflet is available from the publishers Allen & Unwin, Park Lane, Hemel Hempstead, Herts

**Benidorm: International** gay bar. Centre of old town. Leasehold. All fixtures and fittings included. Cash price in Sterling £12,000. Also (will sell separate) 3 bedroom penthouse apartment 6th floor freehold. Including fixtures and fittings, gas cooker, electric fridge and furniture. Price £7,000. Please write first instance, Motor Barge 'Serenity', Rear of 140 Town Street, Rodley, Leeds.

**Rolls-Royce/Bentley** limousines for hire, with young chauffeur, hourly rates. Sovereign Cars, 6 St James Parade, Bath, Somerset. Tel Bath 29705

**Are you a transvestite?** Or interested? If so you'll like "2 in 1". Send 20p for a copy to Sam Cash, 10 hosack Rd, London SW17

**8 track car stereos** £14.55 including speakers easy-fit instructions and written 12 month guarantee, Importers list price £39.97. Order now. Sondine Ltd, Dept GS 1, 6 St James Parade, Bath BA1 1UL

**Sensational see-thru** nylon briefs only 60p, 3 pairs £1.50. SML. Nude, red, white, blue, black. SAE illustrated list. Sondine Ltd, Dept GU 1, 6 St James Parade, Bath BA1 1UL

**Genuine massage** offered by male negro with a Clarke system certificate. Hotel visit welcome. Home visits. Own accommodation offered if needed. Phone between 10.00am and 8.00pm. 01-727 8540

**Siamese kittens for sale** - one male one female lilac point at £20 each - also a litter of 5 seal-point siamese kittens for sale - champion sire/dam - excellent pedigree - only serious animal lovers need apply. London 01-373 6649. Weekdays only.

**Phallic reproductions in rubber.** Unusually realistic texture, sensuous to touch, firm but resilient to use. £6 inc postage. Write Michael Newman c/o 94 Campden House, Peel Street, London W8

**Kinky crutch clingers.** Super sexy real suede briefs, blue or yellow £2.50. Coney, black, white, red, blue, spotted £3.50. Leopard, beaver-lamb. Cash with order. Swiss Fur International, 57 Lordship Lane, London SE22 8EP

**Qualified masseur** visits home/hotel own accommodation available. Genuine calls only please. Phone 289 2753

**Nude males?** We've got the finest sets of original photos to offer you. Send for our new list now! Studio 16 International, 22 Great Windmill Street, London W1V 7PH

**Christian feel rejected?** Come and worship with the Fellowship in Christ The Liberator. Details FCL c/o 61 Earls Court Square, London SW5

**Learn a profession.** Swedish massage and Faradic Slimming treatment. Group lessons by qualified therapist. £30. David Reade, 01-370 6506

**Make friends world wide.** Good looking guys from all continents seek pen pals / friendship. Details and sample photos free. Hermes, Berlin 11, Box 17/91, Germany

**New young male masseur** with certificates seeks genuine legal work. Phone Greg 01-727 8322

**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 01-568 1838

**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

**GAYITIES the GAY MATCHMAKING BUREAU**, Rosalind King, Box 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

**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 WOMENS 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 inc 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 ICEBRAKERS at 274 9590 between 7.30 and 10.30 every evening of the year to talk over their problems with other gay people.

**MENTAL PATIENTS UNION.** 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 HOMO-PHILE 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 - undergraduates, post-graduates 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 service, 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 7.30-9.30pm 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 SAE 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 BCN/PETREL, London WC1V 6XX

**LESBIANS** come together in London every Monday and Friday. For details ring Pauline or Sally. 01-346 4684  
**EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY GAY GROUP.** Contact Rod Hall, 18 Guthrie Street Edinburgh.

**HARROW GAY UNITY** meet every Tuesday 8.30pm. For info ring John or Dennis at 863 5717

**TRANSVESTITE, TRANSEXUAL?** 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 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 Pigeon holes, Students Union, The University, Western Bank, Sheffield 10

**ALTERNATIVE FREE LIBRARY** needs donations of radical/liberated Gay Papers and Magazines. ESPE-CIALLY 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 OF 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

**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 at Coldcott 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.

**FRIENDS' HOMOSEXUAL FELLOWSHIP.** A Gay group for Quakers. Details from Michael Hutchinson, 15 Dalketh Rd, Harpenden, Herts, AL5 5PP

**TRANSVESTITE SOCIAL GROUP.** For information send SAE to Sam Cash, 10 Hasack Rd, London SW7  
**FATHER RED CAP.** New season of drag featuring star acts. Discos on Thurs and Sun (boys only), Wed and Fri (girls only) Sat (mixed). Membership ring Gary 01-735 1001

**ALL STAR DRAG NIGHT,** in aid of Guide Dog League at Surrey Rooms, Oval on Tues 30th Oct. Sausages & mash, buffet, drag, cabaret, dancing till 12. Tickets £1.25 from Father Red Cap.

**NATIONWIDE TRANSVESTITE GROUP,** now forming. Monthly newsletter 'The Transvestite' planned. All enquiries to Martin Rees, Transvestite Group, 58 Charles St, Cardiff.

**LOUGHBOROUGH STUDENTS GAY SOCIETY** invites students and staff of all Loughborough colleges to their meetings, campaigns and social events. For info ring Peter at Sibley 2048

**LEICESTER GAY AWARENESS GROUP.** Ring Leicester 706050 (Steve) or Leicester 738832 (John or Clive)

**CAMBRIDGE STUDENTS** come to Gay Stall in Societies Fair 8-9th Oct or write to GLF/Gaysoc, c/o C S U, 3 Round Church Street, Cambridge.

**READING GAY ALLIANCE.** Disco evenings every Wed and Sat in the Function Room, Railway Tavern, Stanshawe Road, Reading. Members 10p. Non members 20p.

**CARDIFF FRIEND** helps anyone in South Wales with homosexual problems. Write to Friend, 58 Charles St, Cardiff or ring Cardiff 44441 any Tuesday evening between 7.30pm and 9pm.

**EAST OF ALDGADE.** A social group for homosexual men and women meets each weekend. Come and meet new people in relaxed and friendly surroundings. Write for details to S K Group, c/o Albany Trust, 8A Christchurch Ave, NW6 8. Open to all students. New members welcome.

**GAY WOMENS DISCO** at the Sun & Doves, 61 Coldharbour Lane, Camberwell Green, welcomes males Sunday and Wednesday nights - not Saturday, as printed in GN32  
**GAY INTERNATIONAL NEWS** going to press in October, desperately in need of donations and new subscriptions. Please send news views and goodies to GIN, Box BCM/6969, London WC1  
**EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY GAY GROUP.** Contact Rod Hall, 18 Guthrie Street, Edinburgh 1. Meetings regularly in our own Room in Societies Centre, 21 Hill Place, Edinburgh 8. Open to all students. New members welcome.

**CAMPAIGN FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY**

There are over 70 local groups, for details and membership information

contact their offices at: 28 Kennedy Street, Manchester M2 4 4BG. Telephone 061-228 1985  
 Or contact London Information Centre, 22 Great Windmill Street, W1 Telephone 01-437 7363 (Mon-Fri, noon to 10, Sat noon to 6. Closed Sundays)

You can ring some groups direct at the numbers below:  
 Bath: Bath 4738 (Hugh)  
 Birmingham: 021-706 9818 (Douglas)  
 Bradford: Shipley 51742  
 Brighton: Brighton 778025 (Malcolm), Brighton 732550 (Roland)  
 Bristol: Bristol 35035 (Trevor)  
 Cambridge: Cambridge 52661 (bernard)  
 Chilterns: High Wycombe 39321 (Haydn)

Hertford: Hatfield 69172 (John)  
 Kent East: Thanet 42059 (Roger)  
 Lancaster: Lancaster 2750  
 Leeds: Morley 7686 (David)  
 Leicester 706050 (Steve)  
 Leicester 738832 (John or Clive)

London Monday group 01 385 1191 (Brian)  
 London Information Centre: 01-437 7363  
 London, East: 01-500 6032 (Tony)  
 London, Stepney: 01-476 7980 (Mike)  
 London Youth: 01-567 5590 (John)  
 Manchester: 061-445 2889 (Derek)  
 Northants/Beds: Northampton 22861 (Alan)

Portsmouth: Horndean 2855  
 Preston: Preston 59908  
 Shropshire: Cressage 231 (George)  
 Southampton: Romsey 512959 (Ken)  
 Tunbridge Wells: T.Wells 33175 (Ross)  
 Tyne-side North: Shields 76454 (David)  
 Wirral: 051-327 5178 (Jack)  
 Youth: 01-385 7246 (Mike or Jim)

**HOMOSEXUAL WOMEN:** find out more about CHE groups from a woman. Every Tuesday 6-10pm at 22 Great Windmill Street, W1. Telephone: 01-437 7363

**CHE LIVERPOOL GROUP:** Information from CHE, P.O.Box 7, Liverpool L8 2XN. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 8pm in the Pagoda Club.

**NEWPORT CHE** meets fortnightly in Newport Civic Centre on Tuesdays at 8pm from August 7th. Gay girls most welcome. Gay News on sale.

**CHE SURREY GROUP:** For further information contact either Charles: Byfleet 48716 or Myrtle: Haslemere 51882, or Frank, 01-399 7495

**WEST MIDLANDS CHE** (Birmingham) meets Carrs Lane Centre, Carrs Lane, B'ham 4 on last Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm. For info ring Denis, Wolverhampton 752673 or June, Colleshill 62339.

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

**WANDSWORTH/RICHMOND CHE** for men AND women. Incorporating surrounding areas. Meetings twice monthly. Charlie Micklewright, 46b Chartfield Ave, SW15.

**CARLISLE CUMBERLAND, THE LAKES.** Will anyone interested in joining a new group in this area please get in touch with Richard Webster, Tyneside CHE, 17 Oxford Terrace, Gateshead NE8 1RQ

**TESSIDE HAS A CHE GROUP** with regular meetings in Middlesbrough. Social and campaigning activities. Send address for recent newsletters and further information to CHE, 132 Borough Road, Middlesbrough

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

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

**CUMBRIA/BORDERS CHE/SMG** joint group now meets regularly in Carlisle on 2nd Friday of each month. For info contact Richard Webster, 2 Cowpasture Cottages, Newton Rigg, Penrith

**CARDIFF CHE** meets every Monday at 7.30pm in Chapter Arts Centre, Market Road, Canton. Cardiff 566419 (Mike)  
**SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICE** every Wednesday of Sept, Oct, Nov and Dec, a qualified Educationalist will be on duty at ChE Information Centre 22 Great Windmill Street, W1, to deal with enquiries on education, campaign and personal problems (careers etc). Ring 437 7363. Chairman: David Bell, 26 Fitzrov Square, W1. Tel. 387 8336

**CHE LONDON POETRY GROUP.** The Company of Nine meet on the last Friday of the month at the Lamb & Flag pub, Rose St, Covent Garden WC2. All are welcome. Programme complete for next 6 months. October theme - Oscar.

**CHE EDUCATION GROUP** meets every first Wed of each month 8pm at 22 Gt Windmill St, W1. Open to students, teachers, lecturers and all interested. Dates - Sept 5th, Oct 3rd, Nov 7th, Dec 5th, 1973.

**CHE EDUCATION SERVICE.** Every Wed of Sept, Oct, Nov and Dec, a qualified educationalist will be on duty at 22 Gt Windmill St, W1 to deal with any enquiries concerning the Education Campaign and any personal problems (careers etc). Chairman: David, c/o CHELIC. STREATHAM CHE GROUP meets regularly. Details from Ian Clayton, 14 Mansion Place, SW7 5LT

**SCOTTISH MINORITIES GROUP**

**NATIONAL OFFICE:** 214 Clyde Street, Glasgow G1 4JZ 041-771 7600. Please address all communications to 'The Secretary' An sae is a great help.

**BRANCHES OF SMG MEET IN:** ABERDEEN: contact Rosemary Kemp, 16 Belmont Road, AB2 35R or phone Denis, 0224 20576

## Newsettes

### Leeds Pub Battle Dies Quietly

LEEDS: The Great Northern Hotel, which aroused the wrath of the Gay Liberation Front, when it suddenly banned gays after years of custom, has been left to rest in heterosexual peace.

Following many demonstrations, a good deal of publicity, and one court case — from which the GLF members emerged as victors — the pub began to allow "less obvious types" to enter its hallowed het doors. GLF then completely vetoed the pub, and the gay trade has now moved to the back lounge of the nearby West Ryding Hotel in Wellington Street.

The management of the West Ryding are reportedly fairly friendly, and although drink service is said to be slow, the atmosphere has been acceptable to gay patrons.

### Cops and Gays Play Ball

NEW YORK: An extraordinary ball game took place in Greenwich Village on August 27... 20 gay people played a hastily organised softball game with a team of 6th Precinct policemen. The match raised over £300 for a hospital housing retarded children, and provided an interesting spectacle for the crowd which gathered in this, the edge of New York's "gay ghetto" area.

As the police team was 5 years old, and the gay players barely knew each other, the victory went, as expected, to the police team. But this time everyone left happy. It was also pointed out that the area where straight spectators had stood was strewn with litter, whilst the gay spectator patch was left very clean.

### Closet Parents

CLEVELAND, OHIO: Gay Liberationist Morty Manford and his mother Jeanne Manford appeared on a TV talk show here and response from viewers was most favourable. During the hour-long discussion, Ms Manford said she helped form "Parents Of Gays" (a New York Group) because "most parents of gays were in the closet and not as close to their sons and daughters as they should be."

### Leather Bar Moves

LONDON: The Villiers Pub in Villiers Street, Charing Cross, which is used by some of London's leather crowd, is closing for three months for structural repairs.

However, the landlord is moving to Henri's Bedford Head Pub, 41 Maiden Lane, Covent Garden (off Bedford Street) and has reserved the Cellar Bar at Henri's for the exclusive use of the leather set every Tuesday and Saturday evenings.

Their last evening at the Villiers was Saturday, 29 September, but once the repairs are completed there, they have plans to return.

### Gay Murder — Defense Group Forms

BOSTON: The recent murder of Jeremiah Lynch, 21, has resulted in the formation of a gay defense group. The first project of the group is free classes in self-defense — an apt move, as crimes against gays here are on the increase.

Police view the new gay group with some reticence, saying it may provoke more violence and make prosecutions difficult. However, many gays share the view of local activist Charles Shively: "The unwritten law amongst gays is not to report violence, because first of all the police aren't going to do anything except maybe beat you up or hassle you. Secondly, if the attacker could be found, it's your word against his and he can always say you solicited or molested him and he was only protecting his manhood."

The new gay group plans to patrol gay trolling spots which have proved dangerous in the past.

### Charmless Imposters

LEEDS: In GN27 we reported that two young men claiming to be Gay News reporters had hoaxed the managers of a Sunderland gay club. The impersonation has now spread to Leeds, where a reportedly charmless person passed himself off as a member of this paper's staff at the club Charlie's. GN reminds club managers and readers everywhere that our editorial staff carries identification in the form of a journalist's union press pass.

### Cottagers Anonymous

LOS ANGELES: A new group, "Sex Compulsives Anonymous" has formed to help re-channel the sex drives of those who are addicted to seeking sex in public lavatories, despite dangers of being arrested therein.

In its press release, the group said it hopes to place "emphasis on long-term relationships... Utilising the tenets of Alcoholics Anonymous-type groups"

### Clapham Common Attacks

SOUTH LONDON: A new wave of vicious "queer-bashing" seems to have hit Clapham Common. The woods near The Avenue, long a favoured spot for trolling, have recently been the scene of two beatings and robberies.

One victim was attacked by a gang of six youths who beat him badly. A few days after this attack, four teenage thugs set upon another man, robbing him of £10 and a wristwatch.

Police in the area say they wish to stop these gangs, who apparently feel they can attack gays and the matter will not be taken further.

### Bowie 'Unnatural'

LONDON: Pop singer Cliff Richard recently described David Bowie's live performances as being "quite unnatural". The 32-year-old entertainer went on to say, on BBC Radio 4's 'Start The Week' show, that one of the reasons he found the rock star's stage act "unnatural" was because "we must keep the difference between men and women." He added, however, that he thought Bowie's music was "fantastic".

### Minister Enlightens Cops

OKLAHOMA: The Rev Robert Falls, pastor of the gay oriented Metropolitan Community Church, recently lectured policemen on "Homosexuals and Law Enforcement". He says several policemen left the session saying that it had altered their viewpoints.

### 'Gay Phobia' Runs Rampant

TRIPOLI, LIBYA: According to a radio report, monitored in Beirut, the so-called Peoples' Committee of Libya has declared all bachelors a "menace to family life". The committee has ordered evacuation of bachelors from apartments and shops throughout the Libyan capital.

### Sacked Teacher Sues for £40,000

CONNECTICUT: The Connecticut Civil Liberties Union has filed a suit for more than £40,000 on behalf of Kenneth Bland, a teacher dismissed by the American School for the Deaf after he appeared on a television programme as a homosexual.

This was the state's first challenge to employment discrimination against gays. In October 1971, Connecticut became the second state in the union to protect gays with a legislation which theoretically removes them from automatic categorisation as probable criminals.

### Sex Liberator Dies Aged 87

STOCKHOLM: Elsie Otteson-Jensen, a pioneer of the world family planning movement and supporter of gay rights, has died at the age of 87. Ms Otteson-Jensen achieved one of her many admirable goals before World War II when Sweden changed its anti-gay laws.

### 'Homosexuality' Banned in South Africa

SOUTH AFRICA: Homosexuality — A Changing Picture, edited by Dr Kendrick M Ruitenbeek, reviewed in Gay News 24 and reappraised in Gay News 26, has been banned in South Africa. This is yet another example of South African intolerance, ignorance, inhumanity and non-think.

### Pat Boone 'Saves' A Lesbian

NEW YORK: Pat Boone, the cow-toned pop singer of the 50's has not faded into the anonymity one would have presumed. Mr Boone, who refused to kiss his leading lady in the series of lethargic films he made many years back (immoral, he said) has now tackled the "rise of homosexuality in our society".

Boone has published A New Song... "for everyone trapped by homosexuality, this book is a must. JOY!, in cloth for \$4.95. The advertising for the book also includes a testimonial from "Barbara Evan", whom Boone saved from a life of lesbianism. Thanks for the interest, Mr Boone, but we suggest you establish a permanent correspondence with Cliff Richard and thereby work off your morality fantasies... in private.

### Fired Minister is Now Bankrupt

BOSTON: The Rev Dr William Alberts, 46, who lost his ministry after performing a gay marriage, has declared himself bankrupt.

Dr Alberts, a Methodist minister, said that since performing the gay wedding he had "encountered some of the most devious, cruel and cowardly people I've ever met in my whole life — and within the very institution I loved and served for 24 years."

### Gay Blood For Fire Victims

CONNECTICUT: 62 pints of blood have been collected here on behalf of the New Orleans gay bar fire casualties (GN 29) who are still fighting to regain their health in hospital. Officials say response from the gay community was "tremendous".

### Gentle Sexism

LONDON: Marisa Berenson, Newsweek's "queen of the jet-set" says she would "rather go out with homosexuals than with heterosexuals who are going to bore me to death." However, Ms Berenson, who admits she is not in swing with modern times, opines that aggressive women have brought about an upswing in homosexuality.

### Transvestism In 'The Guardian'

LONDON: The September 13 edition of The Guardian devoted a quarter page of space to an article about male transvestism. The article — written by a man describing himself as "a transvestite of 35 years' standing" — pointedly pressed the fact that most transvestites are heterosexual men usually married, referring to gay transvestites as "a minority (who) also cross-dress, but this is only a minority and their presenting symptom remains their abnormal sexual behaviour."

The writer was a representative of the Beaumont Society for transvestites. It seems somewhat odd that a minority group wishing to break a sex barrier should refer to gay sex as 'abnormal'. Almost equally odd was the fact that the paper placed this article which directly concerned and publicised itself for men, on the women's page.

### Lesbians Protest Sexism in History

NEW YORK: About 100 women from the Lesbian Feminist Liberation group recently gathered in front of the American Museum of Natural History, then began waltzing to an all-female brass band. The women were protesting alleged sexual discrimination and male supremacist interpretation of history by the museum.

Part of the demonstration centred around an 18 foot lavender dinosaur — pointedly female — which the women whimsically offered to donate to the museum.

Amongst other things, the feminists demanded that the museum recognise the role of women in social and cultural achievements, and also hire feminist consultants.

The proceedings were halted when museum officials agreed to hold a discussion with the group. The offer of the dinosaur was, however, turned down.

### A Good Drag Judgement

CHICAGO: Judge P Sterling has repealed a law forbidding transvestism, telling police: "We're concerned with serious crime here — murder, rape, aggravated battery. I don't believe cases like this should be in the courts at all."

### South African Report Smells Fishy

CAPE TOWN: According to a report in the Dublin Evening Press, British capitalism has brought about an increase in homosexuality amongst tribal Africans who migrate to industrial sites.

The paper reports that "homosexuality, almost unknown to tribal Africans, is now gaining ground in urban labour barracks where the migrant most often live in degrading conditions."

Although the exploitation is all too tragically obvious, the paper's statement that "homosexuality is almost unknown to tribal Africans" is highly unlikely speculation, in direct contrast to facts gained in studies of races which still live in a primitive manner.

### The Lowdown on High Heels

NEW YORK: According to Jet magazine, one of the effects of platform sole shoes is an increase in sprained ankles and pressure placed on the spine. Said Dr Robert Roberts: "A daily dose of these shoes will increase lower back pain. They also give a tilt to the spine and could possibly cause it to slip out of alignment. The shoes are also not good for the pelvic region."

Another doctor believed that danger existed whenever the heel is raised more than two inches.

Stacked heels have also been labelled as a road safety hazard.

### Boys In The Band Zap

DETROIT: Over a dozen gay men interrupted a screening of Boys In The Band here by taking the stage and expressing anger at the stereotypes portrayed in the film. The screenings went ahead, but the theatre manager agreed with the complaints, and said he would not book the film again.

### Crimes Bring Gay Crackdown

NEW YORK: A new wave of police law enforcement in Greenwich Village has subjected many gays to harassment and arrest. Straight residents have complained that gay bars in the area are attracting "undesirables", leading to crime.

Most of the crimes have been straight-related, but there has been an upswing in pickpocketing in the "trucks" area on Washington Street, where gays gather to have sex in empty vans.

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