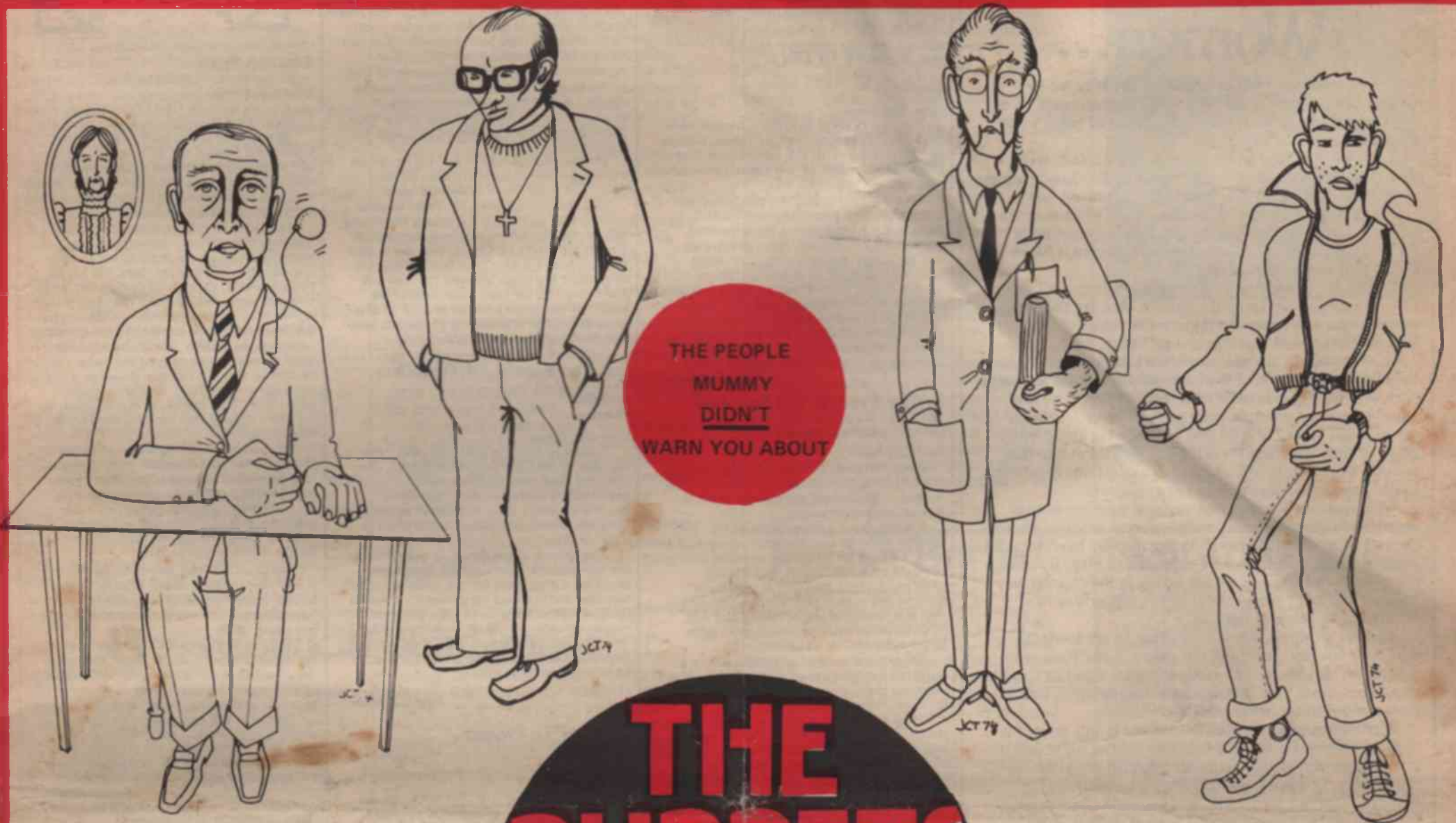


"A DIFFERENT JOURNEY TO THE SAME END"

N°43

GAY NEWS

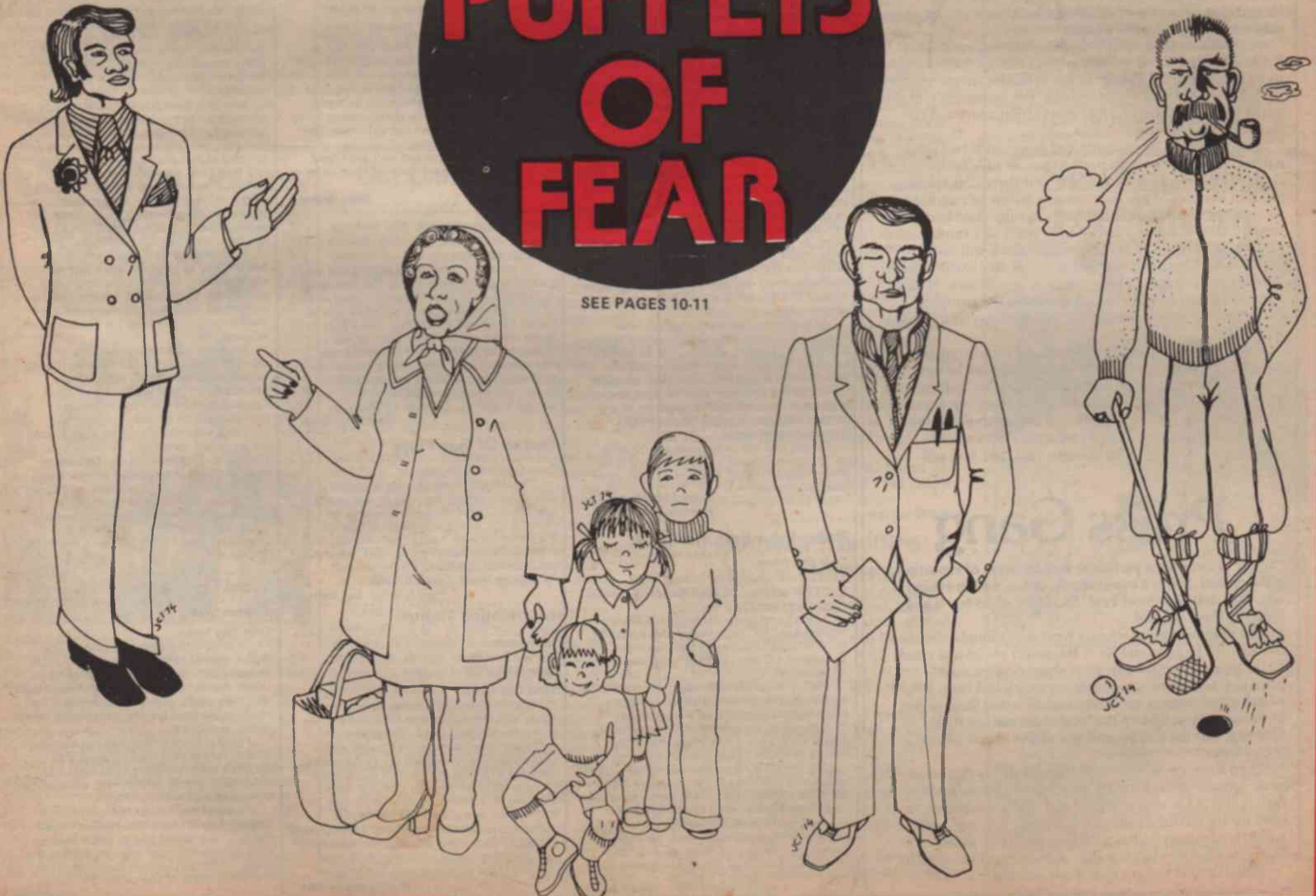
15p



THE PEOPLE
MUMMY
DIDN'T
WARN YOU ABOUT

THE PUPPETS OF FEAR

SEE PAGES 10-11



Illustrations : Jean-Claude Thevenin

GAY NEWS

Number 43

March 28-April 10

Why Won't Women...

Why won't women join our organisation? Why won't women campaign with us? Why won't women come to our meetings? Come to that, why is this editorial being written by a man and not a woman?

The question 'why won't women...' is a familiar one that must have been asked at one time or another by almost every male-dominated gay group in this country.

And yet just how honest are men being when they ask that question? Are we truly expecting, even wanting, a reply? Or aren't we just fooling ourselves (even if we're not fooling our gay sisters)?

If we were to be honest, we would admit that all too often we assume we know the answer. Men are the organisers. Women don't take the initiative in things of this sort. Men are the ones who go out and get things done.

In other words, gay men are often just as caught up in the sexist conventions of the heterosexual culture as straight ones. We still think 'breadwinner' and 'weaker sex'. And when we ask the question 'why don't women...', what we are really saying is 'why don't women tag along with what we men are doing for other gay men?' Put like that, nobody would dream of asking such a question: it amounts to little more than an insult to our gay sisters.

What makes it worse is that we have even less excuse than straight men for swallowing 'received wisdom' about the role of women in society. As gay men we have, after all, rejected the role which we are supposed to play. By loving someone of our own sex we are saying in the clearest way possible 'we don't accept the role you suggest for us as breadwinning heads of families'.

And yet we don't have the courtesy to acknowledge that both our gay sisters and our sisters in the Women's Liberation Movement have made the same stand—a stronger stand even, since they have been fighting to break free from a subordinate, weak position.

What makes gay men look even sillier in this respect is that the women are fighting our main battles for us by attacking sexism as an illegitimate basis for social organisation. Men, of course, do have their own particular battles to fight on their own—mainly in the law reform field. But when it comes down to fundamentals, our oppressor is sexism and in this struggle even GLF, which has been more clear-sighted than many groups in this respect, has been able to do little more than stand on the sidelines cheering on the women.

For there to be any really meaningful communication between gay men and women in this country there has got to be a fundamental change in our attitudes to one another. And this change is not only overdue but increasingly urgent, as the two camps drift further and further apart and suspicion builds up between them.

This presents a male-dominated group with two alternatives. Either it commits itself to 'social adjustment', cleaning up bits of legislation here and there that restrict the civil liberties of gay men, writing letters of complaint to organisations which discriminate against male homosexuals. Or else a group can commit itself to a fundamental rethinking of its attitudes to women, which will take it outside and beyond the limited political area within which gay groups have by and large operated up till now. If such a transition can be achieved, then maybe the group can start thinking about working directly with gay and straight women.

At present it is men who cling to the social trappings of power and authority. And it is women who are left out in the cold. For them to get anywhere they have to fight men. They should not have to fight gay men. If we can save them having to fight that particular battle, so much the better. Let us, at least, not whine about 'why won't women...'. A little bit of thought first, and you will understand why.

Press Gang

"So far as covering a particular area in terms of reporting is concerned, this is a commercial matter, not an ethical one," according to Noel Paul, Secretary of no less a body than the Press Council.

The comment arose when a Kent man complained that the Kentish Express and Kent Messenger group had steadfastly refused to print any news about homosexuals' activities. Gay stories had come up which had been judged of sufficient interest to be reported by other local papers in the area, as well as by the local radio station Radio Medway. But the KM group kept a tight-lipped silence about them.

Then along comes the Press Council to say that what news actually got reported is all a matter of how much cash it makes for the publisher, and that a newspaper (and we are talking about public newspapers, not coin-collecting magazines) has no responsibility to give a balanced view of what is going on in the world around it.

Well, it's nice to have it in black and white...

Your Letters

Gay News welcomes letters from its readers on any subject of special interest to homosexuals, including comment on items published in GN. Owing to space limitations, please keep your letters as short as possible. Letters must be signed, but the writer's name and address will be withheld if the writer requests it. Send to: Your Letters, Gay News, 62a Chiswick High Road, London W4 1SY.

An Eyesore in GN

London SW4

Dear Gay News,

The ads bearing semi-porn photos have long been an eyesore in Gay News, though one suffers them on the assumption that they make the rest of the paper financially possible.

The great thing about your newspaper is the dignity it maintains and lends to the whole gay movement by remaining just that—a newspaper, not a wank-mag.

One's only embarrassment in being seen reading it, or in showing it to straight friends, stems from these glaringly tasteless ad illustrations plastered over half a page at a time; so yes please, drop them if you can afford to. I'm sure the advertisers could do almost as well—and the rest of us could do a lot better—without them.

Tom Robinson

In The Eyes Of The Beholder

University College London

Dear Gay News,

I was surprised to read the letter by Chris Field in GN42 complaining about the "vulgar and tasteless" pictures in the 'Colt Album' advertisements.

I confess that I am entirely of his opinion when he says that they are in bad taste: I would certainly not consider buying a copy for myself. But I think Chris must admit that that is a personal opinion and cannot hold for the GN readership as a whole, whose artistic tastes will be as varied as there are copies sold each fortnight.

There are a number of people who are attracted by this kind of material and who welcome the opportunity of obtaining it for themselves. The advertiser placed the drawings on that page because he wanted people to see what it was he had for sale, and no one is going to buy a book if they don't know what is inside the front cover.

The adverts in GN clearly cannot be calculated to appeal to everyone, but like Mary Whitehouse who has the option of switching off her set if she finds a play about lesbians offensive, so do you and I have the option of turning the page if we personally do not like what the advertiser has to offer.

Robin Farnham

More News, Less Nudes

Middlesex

Dear Gay News,

May we make a few comments about the paper from our point of view, as long-standing female subscribers?

We have taken GN since its beginnings, and watched it pass through several 'phases': some good, some bad. But we are now noticing a definite trend—not, unfortunately, for the better. There seems to be a growing tendency towards filling the paper with male titillation and gossip, rather than any hard news. In fact, one wonders what GN would write about if the police ignored the Colchester at chucking-out time! You complain that women do not participate—take another look at GN 41, and you will understand why.

As Sappho subscribers also, we have watched this women's magazine grow from strength to strength, and it is sad to see GN take over so much where Sapphy left off. As a positive suggestion, could you perhaps follow up the excellent articles from recent editions of Sappho on the problems of gay women's liberation within the women's liberation movement?

Having had our moan—congratulations on "Election Special". More of this and in greater depth, please. In other words—more news, less nudes.

Terry Matthews
Bernice Humphreys

Please Your Editorial Selves

Dear Gay News,

You ask what other readers think of the 'Colt' advert and similar adverts (GN42). Here goes then...

Chris Field is obviously a male Mary Whitehouse! HE finds the photos revolting so YOU should not print them in order to prevent US adult readers from deciding for ourselves.

As far as I personally am concerned YOU can please your editorial selves which photos you print, but, as Voltaire said, "I may not agree with what my opponent says [prints?] but I would lay down my life for his right to say [print?] it."

No, Mr Field, homosexuals have suffered enough in this quilt-ridden country of ours without you self-righteously demanding that Gay News remove what is possibly someone's only pleasure in life from its healthy uncensored pages! Remember, for the old, the infirm, etc, such photos may be the closest they can ever get to the wonderful warmth that is MAN.

Trevor Jones

Aesthetically Void Specimens

Durham

Dear Gay News,

For a while now, members of our Gay-Soc at Durham University have enjoyed reading Gay News, and also selling it (very fast!) in our Union at peak periods, and also in the Students' Bookshop, to a vast cross-section of students.

However, the one comment we have recently made to each other, and which has repeatedly been made to us, is why is it necessary to include amongst very interesting and easily readable news and articles, the quasi-pornographic, commercial-gay and aesthetically void specimens of male nudity with which we have been confronted of late?

Although revenue from this sort of exploitive sales blurb and photography may in the short term boost Gay News' income, the fact is that this commercialised and voyeurist trash will in time lose you a large proportion of your readership. At least this is what we feel...

Perhaps you would like to comment on this apparently prudish attitude of ours?

John Young

PP Yeast Gaysoc

Durham University

ED: In the short term we need the revenue the ads referred to bring in if we are to continue publishing. Our long-term policy will be to limit the space allowed for such ads and tighten up on their illustrations. We would of course be grateful to hear of any alternative way of financing the paper, without doubling the cover price.

For The Benefit Of Travellers

Hillhead

Glasgow

Dear Gay News,

Suddenly over the past few weeks the Manager of McCall's Bar, Hope Street, Glasgow, has been very hostile towards a lot of gays and has barred a lot of them. Four gay friends and I are still allowed to use it but shall not be any longer as the place is now 'dead'.

The Strand, Hope Street, is now the gay bar (downstairs), and upstairs they have provided a drag show on one occasion. The Manager and staff are very friendly towards us. The Strand has always been gay, but mainly an older crowd. Now everyone is using it and the atmosphere is great. We have snubbed McCall's, so please for the benefit of travellers take it out of 'Anne's Guide'.

Paul Gallagher

So Easy To Protest

Finchley

London N2

Dear Gay News readers,

Last week I saw a 'comic' sketch on ITV that held up 'pooves' as figures of fun. I lifted up my phone and at once my complaint was passed on to the producer.

Just like that! It's so easy to protest anti-gay stuff. There's no need to let them get away with it on TV or radio. When you feel insulted, complain, and keep on at it. They'll get the message eventually.

Hate-filled muck, even when disguised as jokes, builds up heterosexual anti-gay contempt and prejudice, also it makes many gays, especially the two age extremes, feel inadequate and bad about it.

So keep your eyes and ears alert, and their switchboards jammed, or their letter boxes full.

Mike Brown

Out Of Context

Dear Gay News,

In your last issues (Nos 41 and 42) you carried an advertisement for the Campaign for Homosexual Equality which used as part of the copy two quotes from an article of mine. Taken out of context, these may have given the impression that I am or was a supporter of CHE, which is not the case. My views on CHE and the gay movement in general are as expressed in the article in question, 'The Rise and Fall of GLF', in Lunch magazine, October 1973.

David Farnbach

Season Of Gay Plays

Dear Gay News (Readers),

The Almost Free Theatre is planning a Gay Season (along the lines of last year's highly successful Women's Season), for Autumn 74, and is interested in hearing from anyone with a play (not professionally produced previously, if possible), suggestions etc. Write to Sue Carroll, Interaction, 14 Talacre Road, London NW5.

Sue Carroll

Information Wanted

Icbreakers

c/o PO Box 86

Bath BA1 2YQ

Dear Gay News,

Bristol Icbreakers needs information from ALL the gay groups, especially those in the South West and South Wales. When and where you meet, what you do and if you've any events coming up, ie dances etc, we need to know. We haven't the money to write to everyone and find out what they are up to, so can you all please let us know what you are doing? We can be contacted at the above address. We also need sympathetic doctors etc. If anyone knows any, can they put them in touch with us as well? Hope to hear from a lot of you.

Bristol Icbreakers



Illustration: Jean-Claude Thavenin

Lesbian Pride

Dear Gay News,

Kevin's letter in GN41 (Wanted, Women) prompted me to write this and I thank him.

Women, we are so used to not being considered human beings (a left-over piece of conditioning from the straight world) that we allow the gay world to ignore us also. We must remember that there is such a thing as gay women, that we DO exist.

Don't try to fool ourselves by saying that we refrain from involvement in a 'gay scene' because we are more sincere and discreet than our gay brothers. We are all people, and all capable of being both sensitive and harsh. We do share the same problems. Men and women have chosen to be gay from out of the same sick, sex-gamed, heterosexual society. We are gay for the same reasons, and confront the same problems. Kevin is right, and we must not continue antagonising, hating or ignoring each other. That merely brings us down to the same society that we gays have obviously rebelled against.

We have allowed the situation to get to the point for 'gay' to mean 'men'. When I read articles or hear of a 'gay place' (yes, even in GN!) I naturally assume that they are not speaking to me, but an all-male clientele. It is as if they feel gay women are 'tagging along just for the ride', and cannot get rid of the few of us left.

Perhaps I feel this way because I'm rather new in the area and have not found all the 'secret' circles of lesbians, but yet I have been repetitively exposed to the male gay scene here.

Tell me, are we really two separate opposing groups? I would think that gays, out of anyone, would be sensitive to each other's needs. I should think that we would be aware and caring human beings.

Gay men and gay women do have something to share. Lesbians, we should learn about pride from our brothers, and not allow ourselves to be ostracised from the gay world also.

R Schermann

Abstentionist Support

London W5

Dear Gay News,

Tony's letter (GN42) seeking to justify his abstention in the recent general election on the grounds that no party appeared prepared to specially favour homosexuals, left me a little surprised.

My own friends and acquaintances are such generous and compassionate people that I believe there can be very few gays who are so completely self-centred as to have no broader outlook on life than their own homosexuality.

Whether in life we are homosexuals or the proverbial 'man in the street', we should, at election time, consider which political party may be better for ALL the people and vote accordingly.

It is because I believe that Labour has the will to inspire a more just and equal society, that I am a member of that Party. Conservative friends disagree, but I must have more consideration for their point of view than for the abstainer who opts out.

However, as I have previously indicated in this column, I believe our hopes remain with individual, sympathetic politicians, both at Parliamentary and Council level, rather than with the political parties as such.

Tony may not always be able to vote for a pro-gay candidate, but it may be that his and other votes can be used to deny comfort and indirect abstentionist support for extremist anti-gay candidates of the flog, castrate and incarcerate brigade who remain so firmly opposed to modification of the old penal and oppressive laws which existed a mere decade ago.

Pat

Social Conscience

London SW4

Dear Gay News,

In your articles dealing with police action against gays, one frequently finds remarks such as "surely the police have better things to do?"—the implication being that they ought to be out arresting those really unpleasant people, the mugger, shop-lifters, rapists etc.

I am far from condoning the mugging of anyone's granny, but it seems that society's understanding of its so-called 'criminal element' is relatively undeveloped, non-compassionate, intolerant.

As gays have had to fight hard for a degree of social enlightenment in sexual matters, one would like to think that we were among the most eager to further the cause of human understanding in other benighted areas of the social conscience.

John Stagg

Police Chief Promises Investigations

NEWPORT: Following our report in issue 40 on statements made by Hampshire's Chief Constable, Sir Douglas Osmond, we received an account from a Newport reader, Richard Dymond, about high-level police attitudes in his part of the country.

Early this year, Newport police carried out a purge of the town's cottages. Fourteen arrests were made, and the local press supplied names and addresses of those arrested for the edification and enlightenment of its respectable readership. One result of this was the dismissal of a devoted hospital worker who lost his job after colleagues got up a petition demanding his removal.

While police action was being stepped up, two members of the Newport Vice Squad visited the lounge bar of the Kings Head Hotel, Newport's local gay bar. They invited Mike Bevan, convenor of Newport Campaign for Homosexual Equality to have a drink with them. Out of curiosity he accepted.

'Off the record' admissions were made that they had been up on the roof of one well-known cottage trying to catch people. Later in the conversation, one of the officers agreed that the age of consent should be lowered to 16. Some of the members of the CHE group felt, however, angry at Mike's talking to the police.

Following the court cases, CHE wrote to the police and asked for an assurance that there is no campaign undertaken by the police to harass homosexuals. They also asked if police activity was increased by "public pressure" such as followed the press storm over Newport CHE's approaches to the local education committee. Reports had been received, said the letter, of police 1) acting as 'agents provocateurs', 2) observing in public places, 3) failing to afford the homosexual the same protection and support as is afforded the heterosexual who suffers

malicious harassment from the public, 4) showing rudeness and contempt towards arrested homosexuals. These reports, they pointed out, came not only from individual gay people but from the local press as well.

They also invited Chief Superintendent Robert Castree to attend a CHE meeting to clear up some of these questions.

The result of the letter was that Mike Bevan, and another member of Newport CHE met with Castree and an Inspector Holder. All of the points in the letter were discussed, some receiving more satisfactory replies than others. But the upshot of it all was a written statement from Chief Superintendent Castree which said:

"We discussed the issues raised in your letter, but each remained a generalisation and there was little that affected the Newport police division specifically.

"I assured you that our officers are carefully briefed and instructed about their duties. There is certainly no question of them acting as agents provocateurs. In fact, prosecutions to date have been confined to those involving misbehaviour by two or more males; personal warnings have been given where isolated attempts have been made to importune plain clothes police officers.

"Clearly, no person need be concerned about the activities of the police, so long as the law is not breached.

"My ready acceptance to see you and your colleague is evidence of the fact that I am concerned to maintain our standards at all times. I have told you that any complaint made against the police will be fully investigated.

"I think that we had a very worthwhile meeting and I hope that you now have a better appreciation of the role of the police in this matter."

Press Council Found Impotent

ASHFORD: Our Mr Groves is back to square one with newspapers in the Kentish Express and Kent Messenger group. Gay Mr Groves had been unable to communicate, as most people do, with others via his local paper. Editors censor references to gayness in his letters to the editor. Originally, Mr Groves just wanted to have some news items published.

Well, Mr Groves wrote dutifully to the Press Council. The Press Council secretary Noel S Paul's response read, in part: "So far as the acceptance or rejection of material offered to them is concerned, newspaper editors have complete discretion and the press council cannot interfere." However, the consistent deletion of particular parts of letters, in rather obviously a discriminatory way, would lead one to complain to the National Council for Civil Liberties.

Our Mr Groves, having seen his news

items in the Ashford Advertiser and heard them on Radio Medway, wrote to the NCCL. General Secretary Martin Loney replied: "We have ourselves engaged in a number of fruitless correspondences with the Press Council and in this particular case they appear to be acting within their terms of reference—not that that makes the position any more satisfactory."

Among Mr Groves' news items that were published and aired elsewhere were a gay law reform election survey of local candidates and a letter about the Cinematograph and Indecent Displays Bill. And although the latter was published by the Kent Messenger group, references to Gay News and Forum were omitted.

The logic of this censorship would appear to be self-defeating if one persists in exposing it. Good luck, Mr Groves.

A New Day Dawns



LONDON: The only day set aside to celebrate women in this land of ours is Mother's Day. That, of course, is the only respectable role we allow them!

Until this year. Taking things into their own hands, our sisters declared March 9 to be International Women's Day. And they turned out in strength, gay and het alike, to march to Downing Street where they handed in a petition, addressed to the new Labour Government, about equal rights for women. Interesting to note that the number of Labour MPs in the Commons is in roughly the same proportion as males in the United Kingdom population. The analogy should give the present Labour Government food for thought.

Gay University Opens

SAN FRANCISCO: Lavender University opened last month with 200 students enrolled. And the founders believe that response to the spring catalogue will be much greater.

John P De Cecco, one of nine members of the collective that promoted Lavender U, said that 13,000 copies of the winter catalogue were printed.

The catalogue (see report GN38) is the most visible part of the school. There is no campus, no bureaucracy, no lecture halls. Classes meet at the homes of teachers and organisers. People register for courses by using the telephone. Fees are very little or non-existent. And it costs less than £1 to list a course in the catalogue if one wants to teach. Examples of titles: "Classical Music For Rock Freaks" which covers five major styles of classical music; "A Rose Is A Rose Is A Rose" which centers around Gertrude Stein; "Jogging For Fun And Exercise"; "Handwriting Analysis"; "Opera Appreciation"; "Gay Greek Literature"; "Modern Dance"; "Mysticism"; and the "Joy Of Eating".

Lavender University started as a tiny collective of seven gay men and two gay women, organised to form the first gay university in the world. Founding the university rested on a concern for teaching, learning, sharing, and developing interests. There is no hiring, retention, or tenure; no promotion committees and procedures. The purpose of the school is "to provide gay people with an opportunity to share their knowledge, skill, and experience with other gay people. In occupation, education, and age they are as diverse as the courses in the catalogs."

The heaviest enrollment was in classes and groups dealing with religion, mysticism and hiking. Requests for new courses include medical care, plant care and self-defense.

Political Survey Surprises

MANCHESTER: The need to lift penalties for gay members of the armed forces and to lower the age of consent was acknowledged by most respondents in the election survey conducted by the Campaign for Homosexual Equality.

Although only half of the questionnaires have been returned, a cherub in CHE named HP has made a special interim analysis for Gay News. Of 1,500 questionnaires sent to candidates, around 700 will probably be returned to CHE headquarters within the next month. More than 300 answers are in.

On the question of lowering the age of consent to 18, all except 18 respondents were in favour or uncertain. And to lower the age of consent to 16, all Liberals were in favour or uncertain, all but 30 Labour candidates were in favour or uncertain, and all Conservatives were against.

The question of quashing penalties against gay merchant seamen and members of the armed forces drew a more dramatic response. All Labour and Liberal respondents were in favour or uncertain while all Conservatives were uncertain or against.

All respondents were in favour of, or uncertain about, the extension of the 1967 Sexual Offences Act to Scotland and Northern Ireland. A couple of people felt that it would not be possible for Westminster to legislate in Northern Ireland.

Whether the respondents were elected or not will be one of the unknown factors for a month or so. Of the respondents to date, a near-equal number are Labour and Liberal, and about a third less are Conservatives. All of them were against reintroduction of the Cinematograph and Indecent Displays Bill in its present form.

Robert Carr, former Home Secretary,



Robert Carr — backed down

told Gay News before the election that he would definitely return a filled-out CHE questionnaire. But he told CHE that he couldn't respond because he was still a Minister.

Answers to questions about other legislation were not very meaningful. They showed an unfamiliarity with the law or suggested a need for more debate on questions such as an anti-discrimination bill and an equal-opportunity bill for women.

Teacher 'Barred'

OKINAWA: Dr Daniel R Brown has been 'banned' from teaching at the Kadena Education Center in Okinawa, part of the University of Maryland-Far East Division. Brown, under the pen-name 'Daniel Curzon', is the author of *Something You Do In The Dark*, a gay novel popular in the States (Putnam, 1971, Lancer, 1972; French and Dutch editions 1972).

In July 1973 Brown had submitted for photo-copying a chapter from another gay novel in progress, but USAF Msgr. James Fleming denied reproduction, a "decision made on my own volition and based on content of material," who instead sent copies to the authorities. Brown returned to his post this January to discover that he had been 'dis-invited' to return to Kadena, and was sent elsewhere.

Chancellor Ehrensberger urged that Brown be fired, but the Director of the programme, Joseph Mabbett, reports that Brown's contract has been renewed through the 1974-75 academic year—although he's "distressed" that Brown is "seeking notoriety." Brown, who's been on the Maryland faculty for more than 10 years, is actively seeking another position.

The chapter in question, says Brown, "is decidedly homosexual, trying to render the consciousness of three separate men, an old man, an NCO in the Air Force, and a gay militant, as they confront themselves and society." He adds, "I should not be banned anywhere for such a thing, nor should my writing. I should not live in fear of being fired instantaneously because of the outdated, medieval whim of a Chancellor, or anybody else who retains cruel, barbaric, completely unenlightened attitudes toward sexual behavior." He is working with the American Civil Liberties Union and the Gay Academic Union to bring an 'academic freedom' suit, though the American Association of University Professors hasn't joined the battle.

Curzon/Brown also hopes to found *The Journal of Gay Literature* and 'The Auden Press' for high-quality gay fiction.

Rictor Norton

Summer Madness Yields Donations

BRIGHTON: The 42 Club has donated another £100 to the local branch of the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals and £200 to the Foredown Mental Hospital, Portslade.

The donations result from the gay club's "Summer Madness" show last year and their Christmas pantomime.

The Club say they have now raised £1,500 for local causes since the first stage production, "Brighton Gay", in 1967.

Court Circular

BATH: Charges of selling obscene publications, including Gay News, will be defended in magistrates court here on 17th April.

Police took possession of 77 publications from Johnson's Central News Agency on 31st October, 1973, according to Manager Malcolm Pearce.

New Anti-Gay Law

SACRAMENTO: California is said to be more permissive than most American states. Yet state government plan to introduce new discriminatory law while gay activists work to reform old law.

One provision of the revised California State Penal Code would permit oral copulation between consenting adults of opposite sexes but would make the same action a felony when practiced by people of the same sex.

Dave Glascock, chairman of the Gay Political Action Council here, said the code "is the kind of thing that has to be studied word for word in fine detail, or we could all be screwed without knowing how it came about."

Gay lobbyists from Los Angeles and San Francisco plan to attend public hearings this month. And Democratic clubs from Frisco and Hollywood also intend to work inside and outside the hearing room.

The present code, adopted in 1872, was first approved in revised form a decade ago. So the new code is liable to be around for a long time.

Sex Educator For Malvern



MANCHESTER: Martin Cole has accepted an invitation to speak at the second annual conference of the Campaign for Homosexual Equality. Dr Cole is director of the Institute for Sex Education and Research.

The CHE conference is scheduled at the Winter Gardens, Malvern, from 24-27 May. Cole is to address the conclave on the 26th. His talk is entitled "An up-to-date account of the research into the causes of homosexual behavior."

Wallace Grevatt of CHE urges members to register very soon if they want to attend the four-day gathering.

Aspects Of Gayness

BRADFORD: The Bradford Branch of the Campaign for Homosexual Equality recently held a symposium called "Aspects of Homosexuality" in the University of Leeds Adult Education Centre, Bradford. One of the main speakers, Ian Dunn, sent us the following report on the day's proceedings:

About 75 people were present for all or part of the programmes. The organisers, particularly Desmond Hodgson, had gone to no end of trouble to ensure that the audience would be composed of representatives from the many professions which have to take account of the situation of homosexuals, especially those who are worse off in terms of housing, employment, probable prison sentences, or who have to cope with emotional upsets.

In this, the symposium proved to be a noble achievement. Those attending represented a wide range of professions and included Probation Service officers, teachers, clergy, Mothers' Union, Family Planning Association, Samaritans and psychiatric nurses. About three-quarters of the audience were not identified as gay, and one-third were women, which was excellent.

Intransigent Advocate

Ian Dunn opened the proceedings and spoke on 'Being Homosexual'. First of all he described his early times in Glasgow and growing awareness. His relationship with his parents, never fully resolved, had suffered as a result of his decision to come out and make some public attempt to advance the cause of homosexual rights. Although he had used his time at University to study Town and Country Planning, he also grasped the freedom to expand his group, Scottish Minorities.

The middle of his talk touched very briefly on SMG's main activities since its inception early in 1969. The much-publicized law reform successes were described, but the less well-known work, such as that of two Roman Catholic priests helping the group, was also mentioned. Finally Ian reminded his audience that they would be hearing three very different viewpoints from other speakers. It was important, he said, to recognise the variety within the gay community. For himself, he didn't want to deceive his audience in any way. In a different situation his speech would have been couched differently. His advocacy for homosexuals—for all oppressed people—was intransigent.

Like Everyone Else

Ted Clapham, the national organiser of FRIEND, spoke about counselling gay people. His was a carefully prepared talk with no concessions to a 'better blatant than latent' philosophy. "Homosexuals are just like everyone else" he began. He accepted D J West's definition of a homosexual as one who is "erotically attracted to the same sex." He was not prepared to guestimate the number of homosexuals, though his approval of 1 in 25 (Kinsey's 'absolutely homosexual' 4%) was indicated when he added that some people put the figure at 1 in 20.

His description of counselling was interesting. Certainly his audience were left in no doubt that counselling is for a small minority of the gay community who need advice and information—mainly information. The inadequacies of much received wisdom in social work training were highlighted with a quote from a standard text by Munro & McCulloch: "Normal standards of sexual behaviour should be the goal to be attained." Ted was firm: this was an impossible goal—and what did 'normal' mean anyway?

Rounding off his talk, Ted described the main situations which can be compounded by one's being homosexual: the facade of



Gay teacher — David Bell

heterosexuality presented to a young person when that person does not share the feelings of his peers; the 'middle life' period as it affects many basically homosexual people who married when they were young; and old age where near relations have cut themselves off from the single person. He reminded his audience of the crucial part CHE, GLF and FRIEND can play in providing alternatives to isolation.

It's Others Who Label Us

After lunch, a clinical psychologist from Bristol, Ray Lightbown, spoke on the 'mind' aspects of homosexuality—or 'homosexuality' as he quaintly preferred to pronounce it, thus reducing that monstrous seven-syllable word to five, at a stroke! The most interesting part of his talk concerned the results of Dr Philip Morris' carefully conducted survey of 150 GPs and 150 consultant psychiatrists in 1973. The response rate had been good, about 75%. The main findings were that 4% of doctors and 8% of psychiatrists thought homosexuality a disease. On average, about 70% held it to be abnormal, and about 25% believed it to be a normal variant. But as far as sexual problems in homosexual people went, most of the doctors and psychiatrists reckoned that they arose from "a failure to make the necessary transition to heterosexuality." Significantly, not one of the doctors or psychiatrists would try to persuade a person *not* to go for treatment, and only 4% would advocate contact with a gay organisation.

A very vocal Unitarian minister, active in the campaign to legalise euthanasia, declared that he was disappointed with the expertise of the psychologist. Certainly Ray's talk was quietly couched, but none the worse for that. However, the minister wanted a non-gay to speak and "to speak with compassion and impartiality!" Another person, a probation officer, objected to all the labelling which was taking place—but GLF scotched that one by pointing out that it was *others* who labelled us homosexuals. Ray added that he spent four to five hours a

month talking to medics and staff-in-training, in an attempt to overcome the totally inadequate training, which amounts to half an hour's lecture on sexual problems in a six-year course. Much the same sort of situation exists in the internationally famous Medical School at Edinburgh University.

Infection Must Be Resisted

David Bell talked about sex education in schools and held his audience spell-bound for 45 minutes. He began by reading extracts from two letters he had recently received following a Guardian article about CHE. One letter, from the headmaster of a boys' school, said: "I reject your statistics... I can see no need for your campaign here. Any 'infection' must be resisted among my young boys. My senior staff endorse my views, needless to say."

In interesting counterpoint to Ted Clapham's 'homosexuals are just like everyone else', David said that homosexuals have "very little in common with one another," and he stressed the importance of acknowledging these differences between gays, and between homo- and heterosexuality in general. To the professionals he said: "I believe that you have the responsibility to say to a homosexual 'be proud, be glad—recognise the great value and purpose in your life'. Nature would not have put us in the world for no reason at all."

He followed on with a description of the East London Boys Comprehensive at which he teaches. There were certainly fifty boys who needed to be defended against the crushing weight of heterosexual modelling. Sexual knowledge (including facts on VD) was hard to come by. As information was mostly obtained from friends or from lavatory walls, it was invariably obscene and inaccurate. The London School of Economics GaySoc had zapped D J West when he came along to defend his objectionable book 'Homosexuality'. Dr West accepted the non-scientific nature of the book and has publicly agreed to send a copy of a revised version to GaySoc for their comments.

Let Them Jeer

David concluded by advising people how to cope with a young and hostile audience. "First let them jeer and throw cat-calls. Interject, and start off by telling them something about yourself and (not mentioning gayness) about some of your famous friends (David Bowie, Cliff Richard, Kenneth Williams etc). And then, hitting them right between the eyes, on to homosexuality." An important point is to exclude elders (staff and parents) from the discussion because kids just clam up when 'authority' is around.

As often happens, the discussion groups that followed were extremely fruitful. The verbal reports which the Symposium received at the final session suggested that discussion had ranged widely and deeply over the whole of the subject. Several delegates confirmed that it had been of real benefit to them, but it was agreed that future meetings of this type must be planned with women speaking. The cost of the project was about £70, which was financed out of the pockets of the local CHE group and the active corps of volunteers who saw to it that the day went smoothly. The Albany Trust sent £10.

A full report of the day's proceedings is being prepared. If you would like a copy, simply send a 10p postal order to CHE Symposium, PO Box 47, Bradford BD1 5YZ.

Launching A Gay Soc

EDINBURGH: Rod Hall, retiring president of Edinburgh University Gay Group, reported recently to the student group's Annual General Meeting. His thoughts on the beginnings of the Edinburgh group may help those in other colleges and universities who are planning to set up a similar group, so we are publishing the report:

"I helped found the University's Gay Group here in November 1972 with valuable support from the Edinburgh Scottish Minorities Group. But the struggle for official recognition was a long one, and was not won until July 1973. With the granting of recognition came the right to a room in the Societies Centre—a relief to members who had previously met in my flat where I have only two comfortable chairs!

At the National Union of Students Conference in April 1973, the crucial gay rights motion was passed, the Edinburgh delegation having been specifically asked to prioritise the motion by EUGG. This motion, and the gay rights campaign that NUS mounted afterwards, meant that our Students Representative Council had a moral obligation to give the group practical support, or, putting it another way, slackness on their part justified 'moral blackmail' on ours.

We were represented by Ian Raitt at the NUS Gay Rights Conference at Bristol last October. He was accompanied by two delegates from the Students' Association Welfare Committee. At Edinburgh University, the spin-off has been very fruitful. Ian Raitt has been co-opted on to the Welfare Committee, the official Students Advisory Service has made contact with us, and very recently three of us were speaking at a 'Nightline' conference and discussed the sorts of situations and problems that Nightline volunteers may have to deal with over the phone.

Membership has declined from 55 last year to 33 this year, but several steps have been taken to increase publicity for the group. Our stall at Freshers' Fair in October was filmed by a television team from the BBC and several members were interviewed. David Beeton replaced the original rather boring poster with a magnificent chef d'oeuvre. The Gay Group bookstall is now a regular feature in the busy basement of David Hume Tower in the George Square campus. Gay Rights leaflets have been widely distributed in the Student Centre and Pollocks Halls of Residence. Slowly but surely we are making an impact in and around the university.

Within the group we have had various activities including parties and large-scale discos. We have had two valuable awareness evenings, which taught us that consciousness-raising is a good way of promoting group identity and understanding. Apart from group discussions, our programme has boasted such delights as a play-reading, a poetry and music evening, and speakers from two meditation organisations. We have also twice played hosts to SMG.

The group's plurality of functions continues to be a problem. Educative, social and welfare activities have to be carefully balanced. If we over-emphasise the political side, members become rapidly and rigidly bored. If we over-emphasise the social side, we are in danger of becoming a clique without a purpose or without effect. Perhaps the most important thing to remember is that we exist primarily to help the newcomer.

I am very pleased to report that my successor, Mike Foreman, has already made due impact on his first day as president of the group when, with SMG's Ian Dunn, he gave an interview on Heriot-Watt University Students' Television about various gay topics.

On February 28 the gay group elected the following people: President, Michael Foreman, 5 Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh 16; Vice-President, Hugh Brown; Secretary, Ian Hood; Treasurer, Lionel Harrison."

ED: We would like to hear from other groups (not necessarily just gaysocs) which operate in a different way from the Edinburgh Gay Group, so that we can report on their different aims, different political views, and different organisation.

'Express' Attack

LONDON: From the Sunday Express comes the following piece of foul-mouthed journalism that gays have come to expect from the louts of the far right. Under the heading 'Unfit' it says:

"The BBC televised a play last week centred entirely on the lesbian relationship between two women soldiers.

"The partners were shown kissing and in bed.

"Old-fashioned as he might have been, Lord Reith never allowed anything to be broadcast which might remotely embarrass parents watching TV or listening to the radio with their children.

"Today we have perversion beamed into the nation's homes.

"Is that supposed to be progress?" And gay people continue to buy, and thus support, the 'Express'. Now that's really perversion.

Scots Women Meet Again

EDINBURGH: For a number of reasons the women's meetings had become restricted in numbers and activities over a period of time.

Members of the previous women's committee had departed leaving the Secretary to keep things going on all fronts. The meeting place in the lounge bar of an Edinburgh hotel imposed limitations and inconveniences detrimental to the active functioning of the group. Communications with Scottish Minorities Group Edinburgh were slow, infrequent and vague, leaving the women's position in the Edinburgh Branch ill-defined. It was not clear whether the women thought of themselves as being part of the SMG Edinburgh or of SMG as such, whether they thought they were affiliated to either or merely considered this a nominal connection. With the election of a new Convenor and Treasurer who can support the valiant efforts of the Secretary, a start was made in mid-February to activate the group and to provide once again a meeting place for women. To clarify the whole situation and to allay any fears by those women who do not wish to be involved in a very formal organisation, the following policies have been adopted:

The women's group will operate and advertise as SCOTTISH MINORITIES GROUP EDINBURGH BRANCH (WOMEN), but meetings will be open to all women whether they are SMG members or not. The women

will be kept informed of the policies and programme of the SMG and particularly of the Edinburgh Branch, but no one will be exhorted or compelled to join SMG, if that is not their intention. The Convenor, the Secretary and the Treasurer of the Women's group will be SMG members as will be those women who serve on the National Committee or on the SMG Edinburgh Branch Committee.

The newly-activated women's group was given an excellent start by Sharon Murray of the North Eastern Women's Group who gave a very stimulating and highly enjoyable talk to SMG Edinburgh on "The Position of the Homosexual Woman" on 18th February. Since then the women have organised a theatre visit and set out a programme for the next three months for their fortnightly meetings, which includes listening to and talking about two 'Sappho Tapes', darts and music, a discussion about gay books, invitations to the Women's Liberation Workshop and the Glasgow Women's Group as well as bowling and other social events. It has also been noticeable that more women now participate in the social events arranged by SMG Edinburgh and some have become regular attenders at the Monday meetings.

The women's group can now be contacted in a variety of ways which should also help to keep everyone informed about what happens, when, where and why. The quickest

contact can be made by phoning the Convenor at 031-556 9473 at any reasonable time, or the SMG Edinburgh Telephone Befriending Service at 031-332 9149 on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays between 6 and 9pm when women will answer the telephone as often as not, there being as many women as men involved in keeping this telephone service going. Written enquiries can be addressed to the Secretary, 11 St Colme Street, Edinburgh EH3 6AG, or to any other contact address published by the Scottish Minorities Group or SMG Edinburgh Branch.

Scotswoman

Miss Gay Crowning in Georgia

ATLANTA: About £3,000 cash prize money will be distributed to the top four winners of the 1974 Miss Gay America Pageant, according to promoter Jerry Peek.

The third annual contest for female impersonators is scheduled for May 3-5 at the Atlanta American Hotel. The prize money has already been put on deposit at the Bank of Atlanta, Peek said. In terms of cash prizes, the Miss Gay America Pageant is the largest of its kind, surpassing the Miss America and Miss Universe contests, Peek said.

Both Sides Of The Fence

LONDON: Ian Harvey had his share of dissenters when he spoke to Intergroup Golders Green recently, entitling his talk "Both Sides of the Fence". Author of the much-acclaimed "To Fall Like Lucifer", Mr Harvey led a lively discussion on many different aspects of homosexuality, dealing particularly with the attitudes of straight society to gays, and vice versa.

He referred to the incident which led to his resignation as Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Member of Parliament for Harrow East. He said: "I resigned not because I was a homosexual, but because I had conducted myself in a way which, in my opinion, a junior minister of the Crown and representative of the people, should not behave. And I would still choose to go today, despite the so-called progressive views of society." He added, wryly, "I think most people at that time thought it best forgotten."

Heterosexual attitudes, he said, were based on three things: ignorance, prejudice and fear. "The troubles of the homosexual in society stem from the tremendous ignorance of the nature of homosexuals: what they are and what they do." He went on to outline the various groups of people who needed to be educated on the subject. First, parents... "Father tends to be contemptuous of a homosexual son, who has betrayed his 'cause'. Mother tends to be ashamed of the lesbian girl. The fact remains, they are both responsible originally for the production of both children."

Next, teachers... "The education on sex is highly deplorable and needs a great deal of overhaul. Teachers, if they start talking about sex, are immediately suspected of being sex maniacs. And if they mention homosexuality—well, they're beyond redemption! It's an absurd situation..."

It was vital to eradicate these barriers, he said. "Sexuality is a human condition and varies right along the spectrum."

Then, on to the Church... Mr Harvey said that he was a Catholic, that the Church had been very tolerant with him, and that the Jews believed it was a sin "not to use your sex to produce more children." He stressed the need for greater understanding on the part of the medical profession. "Many homosexuals are neurotics because of the position society takes with them. It is essential that the medical profession should understand the reason and know how to deal with it."

Finally, employers... "There is an element of victimisation. Some people are not offered jobs, or not promoted." Three quite clearly-defined elements were, he explained, present in the homosexual society. First, "those inspired by aggression. They think: 'to hell with heterosexuals—we will fight for our rights and we won't tolerate it. Second—and I like to include myself in this category—those who realise the nature of the problem and who try to appreciate the attitudes of the heterosexual majority and the reason for these attitudes.'"

(This was one area where certain members of the audience veered fairly strongly from Mr Harvey's way of thinking, as the discussion later showed. On the whole, he seems to favour the rather safe, 'middle' course, believing that this is the most effective way ultimately, of winning over the heterosexual majority.)

The third and final group of gays comprised those who opted for a total withdrawal from the outside world, those who would not admit their gayness to anyone,

who thought: 'There is nothing we can do about it, so let things be.'

Mr Harvey referred to the "terrible loneliness and sense of isolation" among some people. This was something that groups like CHE had got to try to alleviate, he said.

Going on to talk of possible solutions to existing barriers, he mentioned the Wolfendon Report and the Sexual Offences Act



Former MP Ian Harvey

of 1967, calling them "milestones" on the road to acceptance... Previously, the image of homosexuals was of "small reproductions of Oscar Wilde." But education was the key to the whole issue, he concluded:

"We have to see to it that the education system accepts the proper teaching of sexuality which covers homosexuality: and then, eventually, parents will grow up properly informed." He admitted he had witnessed little or no progress with the over-55s, but the younger generation had shown a great deal of tolerance and understanding. The National Union of Students had taken up the whole question of gay rights.

There are just two things which Mr Harvey regards as "undesirable": the homosexual marriage, which he rejects purely on religious grounds; and the question of gays adopting children. "I don't think conditions are appropriate to bring up children," was all he would say. Here, again, it was clear that not everyone present shared the same views as Mr Harvey.

Equal gay freedom for all, including Scotland and the Merchant Navy ("Surely everyone knows it was invented in the Merchant Navy!" he joked), the age of consent lowered to 16, and tougher punishment for queer-bashers—these are some of the changes that Mr Harvey is anxious to see come about. He rejects totally the "rather weak" answers given by party leaders (GN4), i.e. that the question of gayness is a matter for the individual conscience.

In conclusion, he said, "We [i.e. gays] don't wish to destroy or dominate society... We must break down the fences between the two [gays and straights]. We must work for the establishment of Wolfendon's 'a heterosexual/homosexual continuum', a society where both sexes will be free to love their own as much as, if not more than, the opposite."

Veronica Harvey

Elderly Tail Wags Oxfam Dog

OXFORD: In a letter to Gay News, Roland Jeffrey complained that Oxfam shops in Oxford don't like homosexuals.

Oxford's gay phone service has tried to advertise in the shop windows, which display a whole range of cards advertising goods and services. But, says Roland, the shops either "refuse rudely," or else they "take our money and fail to put up the card. Your readers may care to notice the limitations to Oxfam's 'Christian' and 'charitable' attitudes."

Now Bruce Ronaldson, Oxfam's Secretary, has written to assure the gay phone service of Oxfam's good intentions. But he says there is not much he can do about the treatment that the phone service has received.

He points out that the shops are staffed by unpaid volunteers, and "the discipline one can exercise over these good people, who

work without payment, is considerably less than it would be over paid staff." His words, our italics. He continues, "I think you would know that a considerable majority of our helpers are elderly women and a large proportion of the purchasers in our shops also. I think they do not have the emancipated attitude towards what you rightly describe as a group of socially disabled persons, and we would find it extremely embarrassing to attempt to force their hands in this matter of advertising the gay telephone service."

At the same time, he assured Oxford gays that Oxfam as an organisation is sympathetic to the position of all minority groups, both at home and overseas. Even then he qualifies that sympathy. The Oxfam Charter states that the organisation must dispense aid "without regard to race or politics or sectarian religion." Thus they are able as an organisation to be sympathetic to a minority group but not behave sympathetically.

Will the position at the Oxford shops change in the future? "For my part," says Ronaldson, "I shall make enquiries, while avoiding a confrontation, to see what the position is in Oxford."

However, the power of the 'elderly women' policy-makers is not unlimited. We are glad to be able to reassure readers that Oxfam would be very happy to accept their money—in the form of a donation. And as far as we know, the elderly purchasers have not been able to prevent aid reaching the occasional starving homosexual. Yet.

South London GLF Integrate

LONDON: The South London Gay Liberation Front have started the new year with something of an organisation bang. The GLF, on the strength of a half-dozen or so seasoned and very active members, have formed seven groups and discussed plans for a community centre. But GLF is, nevertheless, "unstructured—not an organisation, but a political movement."

The education and political action groups are the best example of the new posture of South London GLF: "We are taking more of our politics into the street," according to Gary DaVere. One idea they have talked over is the establishment of a gay centre like the Women's Centre in Brixton. Such a centre would be run by the GLF but used by the community, as well as by the GLF. Such a centre would be, in fact, used more for other community activity than for GLF activity. South London GLF would like to find easily accessible premises where people can meet in a relaxed atmosphere.

"We want to be where the public can see us and get to know us," DaVere said. "It would be a general centre, where there could be an interaction with the public at large."

The main development being worked on by the Education Group is development of a Gay Studies Syllabus, already in draft form. Malcolm Greatbanks said the Education Group has been guided initially by the Gay Studies Course at Yale University in America. The GLF group held talks with the Inner London Education Authority about a gay studies course at Cowley Recreational Institute, Brixton. Greatbanks, a teacher, said that although the ILEA

rejected the idea, negotiations continue with politicians, educators and the public.

Bill Thornycroft said the Political Action Group will resume its activity of last autumn very soon, now that the weather is better. The South London GLF conducted poster parades at main shopping centres in Brixton, Croydon and Streatham, for instance. The political group also surveyed local candidates in the recent General Election. They plan to meet candidates who were elected.

"What came out of the survey," Thornycroft said, "was a display of ignorance on the part of candidates. It was clear that some of them had never really thought about law reform."

Most of the other groups are still in the process of being formed. The Magazine Group has plans that may lead to production of a South London edition of the GLF Movement publication Come Together. Or the group may do a separate GLF magazine. The poetry, interaction, rambling and darts groups are in various stages of development.

Anyone interested in meeting with the 25 or so people who attend South London GLF meetings, are invited to go along to the Oval House any Wednesday night at 8pm. Early-comers can meet with others from 7.30 at the coffee bar next door. Oval House is near Kennington tube station. Their discos are held on Saturday nights in the Hanover Arms at 9pm. Dances are held every six weeks.

Gay News stands corrected for a mistake in the last issue: South London GLF's dance was a benefit for the Gay Centre, not for the miners, as reported.

Guys And Dolls

SOUTHAMPTON: The Southampton branch of the Campaign for Homosexual Equality has just completed negotiations which will bring all organised gay activities under one roof.

For some years the licencees of the Anchor Inn, situated at the very-end of East Street in the centre of the city, have been hosts to the "Viking" Club—a venue for gay girls. Now the boys will join them each Monday when the regular meetings of Southampton's CHE branch are convened.



Southampton CHE Convenor

The power behind the move came from David Porter, the live wire convenor of Southampton CHE. Since the group was formed, several venues have been tried for regular meetings, but because of the ever-increasing membership, combined with downright exploitation, a new meeting place has become a top priority.

With many stories of homosexual groups fighting each other, it's a real tonic to see a community coming together. A personal triumph for David Porter has resulted in the ideal gay Guys and Dolls situation.

R J Thompson

Cure-All

MIAMI BEACH: The Transsexual Action Organization has chastised the University of Mississippi for claiming to 'cure' a young transsexual.

TAO President Angela K Douglas expressed "sympathy to the young transsexual who fell victim to these monstrous scientists who view male-female nontranssexual relationships as the idea. Indeed, many transsexuals, after surgery, become homosexual or bisexuals in relation to their anatomy, not heterosexual. This points to the fact that transsexualism is a condition, not a sexual direction such as hetero, homo, or bisexuality."

The problem is, Ms Douglas said, that Mississippi cannot deal with anything that shakes up the neat, polarised sexist structures that are the foundation of their sexist and racist systems.

Anyway, acrimonious mud-slinging aside, Ms Douglas said the University 'cure' goes against the policy of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Meanwhile, in the land of cotton, harvesting continues.

Cops Sacked For Sadistic Raid

ALBUQUERQUE: A trio of armed, drunk, off-duty policemen were sacked last month, after two gay people were assaulted during a pre-dawn raid at a motel in this New Mexico town.

Police admitted that Bill Woods and Mike Simmons were kicked, pistol-whipped, shot at, threatened with castration, and a murder made to look like a double suicide. This under the pretext that Woods and Simmons, who live at the motel, were responsible for a burglary.

The trio later admitted that the two weren't suspects in the December burglary. The spokesman for the trio said their action "was not improper. We have been doing the same thing for a long time."

The spokesman also said he originated the sheet caper. This unique little adventure involved wrapping a bedsheet around Simmons' neck. Then he and a buddy stood on opposite sides of Simmons and pulled on their ends of the sheet until Simmons' face turned red and his eyes bulged out.

Although the police chief said department regulations and "three or four criminal offenses" were committed, there was no indication that criminal charges would be brought against the dismissed officers. The chief denied the spokesman's claim that these tactics were common procedure.

The attorney for the trio said he was disappointed in the outcome of the policemen's appeals: "Firing the officers was far too severe a punishment."

Bethnal Rouge Closes

LONDON: The Bethnal Rouge Bookshop has closed and will not reopen, according to the collective who ran it.

The commune which occupied premises above the shop said they are in urgent need of a new residence.

A spokesperson said that the collective may start a "mail order thing."

Focal Point

LONDON: The Fellowship of Christ the Liberator's journal *Focal* carries the following thought for the day:

"It is rumoured that Billy Graham's White House Bible readings nowadays begin with Revelations and end with Exodus."

BOBBY'S

PRIVATE GUEST HOUSE
Bed & Breakfast served till noon
Colour TV in lounge.

50 Egremont Place
Brighton
Sussex

Tel: Brighton 683961

Easy Reach of Station
Close to Seafront, Bars and Clubs
Personal Attention Friendly Atmosphere

The Girls Guide 1974

The latest edition of this extensive guide to gay girls' haunts is available from Gay News Mail Order, price £2.00, plus 10% p&p.

The Gallery is your sort of place

Life without doors. Could be fun. We've made a start at the Gallery. A shop full of shops—and without doors. **See through boutiques** on three floors, coiled around a **giant non-drip waterfall** which descends in fascinating iridescence. Its like the **whole of the Kings Road under one roof.** (But who else in the Kings Road has a real non-drip waterfall?) The Kings Road has Art Galleries, restaurants, record shops, fashions, jewellers—So has the Gallery—and a Barbershop—his and hers and a Trichologist (for sorting out triple personality problems?) **Come.**

Come along cool-carpeted corridors in space where the plangent beat of top groups ripples to your ears on **air conditioned sound waves.** Bona toes shoe shop—a scintillating selection of Italian Shoes. Knitted fantasies from the four corners of the earth are cast together at Purl One. Magazines including *GAY NEWS* records, paperbacks, cards, novelties. Iceware (find out) People who print **messages on pants** or shirts or anything else. Joda for jeans. French trousers from Peche. Cuddly toys and children's clothes.

And on the ground floor the ubiquitous spotlights kick **galactic sparkle** off way out baubles, bracelets and necklets and things.

Clothes rageous and outrageous. Gifts worthy of a Getty. Sheepskin to shame a yeti some items are pretty exclusive. The **ambience is unique**—but that's free to everyone.

So **meet and eat at the Gallery.** The Pizza Express is open to midnight. See sumptuous gear from Africa, India and the Northern highlights as you escalate from floor to floor.

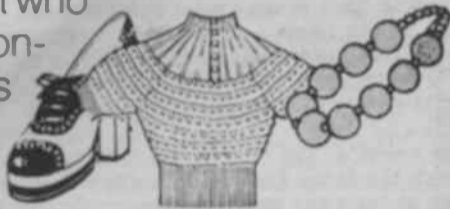
Come to

**GAY NEWS
EVENING AT THE
GALLERY APRIL 26
DETAILS FOLLOW!**



Shop
of
shops

234 Kings Road (opposite Chelsea Town Hall)



Here We Are Again

Here We Go Again

To repeat what has been stated in this column in the previous two issues, could we remind all readers, gay organisations and groups, as well as proprietors/landlords of gay-oriented social facilities (ie clubs, pubs, discos etc), that Friday, April 5 is the copy deadline for the first edition of GN's Mini Gay Guide to Britain. So if you have any information you think is relevant and should be included, please let us know about it as quickly as possible. Any errors or omissions that appear in the guide will remain unchanged until the second printing, although we'll do our best to ensure that the contents are accurate.

Goodbye Sandi . . .

Sadly we report that Sandi Rutenberg, our much-loved typesetter since issue no 6, has finally parted company with GN. She has gone to Tortola in the British Virgin Islands, for a much-needed rest and for "a change of scene, sun, sea etc." Sandi (25) is an Australian citizen, although she was born in South Africa ("hate it"), and like many Aussies, is travelling and working her way around the world. Before leaving, she told us that she may come back some day: "I love London but will probably eventually settle in Sydney." After spending some time on Tortola, Sandi plans to "go to Venezuela and work overland to Chile and Argentina if possible."



Good luck Sandi, we'll all miss you very much. Apart from being a typesetter extraordinaire and a tireless, uncomplaining worker, she also tolerated our unpredictable moods and egos, interested herself in every aspect of GN, and would help out in all areas of the paper production if necessary. Typical of Sandi was her parting gesture. On the day she left for Tortola, a bottle of champagne, complete with glasses, arrived at our offices, with strict instructions we should drink a toast to her at 4.20 that afternoon, the time her plane was due to take off. A few more Sandi's in the world and it would be a much happier, more together place to live in.

. . . Hello Rictor

Replacing Sandi as our typesetter is Rictor Norton. Born 28 years ago in New York State, Rictor attended university in Florida, where he gained, amongst other qualifications, a BA, MA and PhD. He's a Fellow of Florida State University, has taught classes in homosexual literature, and has been active in Gay Liberation in America. He's co-editor of *The Homosexual Imagination* and author of *The Homosexual Literary Tradition: An Interpretation* (both to be published later this year in the States), and has published articles in *The Advocate*, *Gay Sunshine* and *Gay News*. As well as handling our typesetting, he will take in a certain amount of composing work, continue to write for GN, and act as the London correspondent for *The Advocate*.

Asked why he came to this country, soft-spoken Rictor replied: "In search of decadence, and because love is legal in Britain." He also is pursuing research on homosexual literature at the British Museum. Good to have you with us Rictor, may your stay be long, happy and eventful.

Gay Rights Fund

At the time of writing, GN's Gay Rights Fund has now reached £105. This amount, plus any further donations, will be made available to anyone in the United Kingdom who needs financial help with legal costs, in an attempt to protect the legal rights of all gays. At the discretion of the two trustees (Mr Richard Creed and myself), payments will be considered when the applicant's legal advisers agree that there has been an infringement of his or her rights and legal aid is not fully obtainable.

If you are one of the people who in the past have wanted to help protect the legal rights of gays, but have never found a positive way of doing so, you can now give your support by sending a donation (crossed cheques/postal orders made out to Gay Rights Fund please) to Gay Rights, c/o Gay News, 62a Chiswick High Road, London W4 1SY. A receipt will be sent if requested, and full details of the trust fund's progress will appear in forthcoming issues of GN.

Dates And Deadlines

The next issue of *Gay News* (No 44) will be published and available on 11th April. Details of advertising deadlines and copy dates for that edition can be found under the credits section at the bottom of this page, and at the beginning of the Personal Ads columns on Page 17. It is important to refer to these dates to avoid disappointment, as they will be strictly adhered to because of printing schedules.

Denis Lemon

True Story

Whilst attempting to purchase a tube of KY in a branch of Boots outside London, a friend of a GN reader was told by the shop assistant that permission to sell it was needed from the dispensing chemist. The latter was summoned, and when she appeared wanted to know what it was going to be used for. The reply she received was short and to the point: "Buggery, madam, buggery."

Odds&Sods

THIS column is devised as a means of offering help, advice or information on problems relating to homosexuality. The letters are handled by Icebreakers, a team set up to man a telephone service, whereby isolated or unhappy gays can ring up any evening and discuss their difficulties, directly, with other gay people. The main characteristics of Icebreakers are that all its members are openly gay, have come to terms with their gayness, take no sort of authoritarian approach and the outfit is not related to any gay organisation — the entire range of gay groups, services and outlets is used. Strict confidence for letters and telephone calls is assured. The number is 01-274 9590, every evening between 7.30 and 10.30. All sexes are welcome to use this service.

The letters published in this column are selected from the many received each week. Every correspondent receives a personal reply as soon as possible; both letters and replies published may have been edited slightly. Unless specifically mentioned in the column, we cannot forward letters from readers to the writers who present their problems.

Send your letters to Dept TW, Gay News, 62a Chiswick High Road, London W4 1SY.

Aches&Pains

Although gay people are less reticent today about admitting their gayness to their own doctors, and although it is to be hoped that doctors are a bit more enlightened on the subject than they used to be, it is still true that a lot of gays are reluctant to discuss their particular problems with their local GP. For this reason, and because gay problems may be of general interest to our readers, we have installed our own resident doctor. If you have any medical problems which you think are related to a gay life-style, please send them to Aches & Pains, c/o Gay News, 62a Chiswick High Road, London W4 1SY, and we will print them and the doctor's reply. Please keep your letters brief and to the point. The doctor has also promised to answer some who do not want their letters printed, if a stamped, addressed envelope is enclosed. State CLEARLY if you do not want your letter printed. Naturally, all correspondence will be treated in the strictest confidence.

GAY NEWS

Gay News is published fortnightly by
Gay News Ltd, 62a Chiswick High Road,
London W4 1SY.
Telephone: 01-995 1958

Editor: Denis Lemon
News Editor: Michael Mason
Reporter-at-large: Bill Lemmer
Contributing Editor (Features): Roger Baker
Art Director: Jean-Claude Thevenin
Advertising/Circulation Manager: Peter Mundy
Business Manager: Stuart Patterson
Admin Assistant, Subscriptions, Box Replies,
Listings: Anne Elizabeth
Typesetting: Rictor Norton
Art Assistant: Glen Platts

Regular Contributors

Sean Aubrey (Brighton & District Correspondent), Peter Burton, Denis Cohn, Barry Conley, Elizabeth Cornu, Brian Dax, Ian Dunn (Scottish Correspondent), Iain Finlayson, Jackie Forster, Veronica Harvey, Mike Heberden, Sebastian Helmore, Carl Hill, Howard Llewellyn (Cardiff & District Correspondent), 'Merlin', John Montgomery, Barry Nonweiler, Rictor Norton, John Riley, David Seligman, Richard Thomson (Portsmouth & District Correspondent) and Pete Wicker.

Publication/Ad Deadlines and Copy Dates for GN44

Copy, Information etc—Saturday, March 30
Letters and Display (camera-ready artwork),
Personal and Classified Advertising, etc—Noon
Monday, April 1
Gay News No 44 is published on April 11

© Gay News Limited, London, 1974. All manuscripts submitted become the property of the publishers and submissions of material will be construed as permission to publish without further notice. The material herein may not be reproduced without the written permission of the publishers. We welcome contributions but can accept no responsibility for unsolicited material — so please don't send original artwork/manuscripts if you want to be sure of getting them back

Gay News is distributed throughout the UK by
Moore Harness Ltd, 31 Corsica Street, London N5
Tel: 01-359 4127
Printed by F.I. Litho Ltd, 182 Pentonville Road,
London N1.

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

Display Advertising
The acceptance of any advertising material for publication is not an endorsement of the product or service offered and GAY NEWS cannot be held liable for any claim which may arise out of any advertisement. We would however, appreciate being told of any complaints where the matter cannot be resolved with the advertiser.



A Gay Man's Paris

The first of a series of Travelogues by John D Stamford, Editor of the SPARTACUS INTERNATIONAL GAY GUIDE, and widely regarded as the world's greatest expert on gay places.

Paris is possibly the second most expensive city in Europe, next to Stockholm, where prices are terrifying. However, one can visit Paris for a week-end reasonably cheaply, and in this feature I want to tell you something of what I have found there during several visits. My original piece describing my recent visit, was equal to almost three pages of Gay News, and I hope that this can be read in another Gay Magazine very soon. Meanwhile, Paris on the cheap.



Most of the bars are expensive. One bar asked me 16 francs for a coke, explaining, when I asked, that this was because they had good music and a dance floor. The only bar with dancing I have found where drinks become even moderately priced, is the Club of Arcadie, the French national gay organisation. This is an enormous club, with space for about 200 people to dance at one time. There my coke cost me 3 francs, which, even



so, is something about 30p. At these prices can one afford to drink anything but Coke?

Most bars charge at least 9 francs for drinks, and many have a fixed price irrespective of what you are drinking. In the lower-priced range I particularly liked Le PICK UP CLUB, La LICORNE, and Le BRONX. The latter is a leather boys' bar, predominantly, and has two beds in the bar where it all happens. I arrived about 2am and the place was packed. I took my drink over to where the action was, and soon found myself in the midst of an orgy the likes of which I have never seen in a bar. Surprisingly, perhaps, this place is reputed to be owned by the famous French gay writer, Roger Peyrefitte.

La Licorne and Le Pick-Up both have underground 'caves' for dancing, and with bars on the ground floor and underground. La Licorne also has a restaurant.

Talking of restaurants—you must try La ROSE BLEUE. This restaurant has a theatrical clientele, mainly, and is run by Charles and Dominic. The food is superb, and prices reasonable. I find, eating there, that I get by quite nicely on one meal a day. Recently I paid 22 francs, including service and tax, for a four-course meal, including a quarter litre of wine per person. I had Turkey Paté, followed by pork cutlets Provençale, cheese selection, and dessert. Coffee and liqueurs are extra. The nearest Metro is Notre-Dame de Lorette.

Another excellent restaurant is AU PIERROT DE LA BUTTE where one can eat for as little as 12 francs plus 15% service, plus tax. Try their Spanish Aperitif, which they make themselves. If you want to be a little more extravagant they have also a menu at 20 francs, and à la carte. However, I have had the cheaper menu several times and find it very good value, and good quality.

There are about 100 Bars and Clubs listed in the Spartacus Guide, and to describe them all would be impossible here. However, I feel that I must mention MICHOU'S FOLIES. Michou is the most famous drag artist in France, and has a night-club in Montmartre. You can watch the show, on a tiny stage, from the bar for 25 francs, and from the restaurant for 30 francs. Michou is the talk of Paris, and makes a good evening out. A good knowledge of French is essential to fully enjoy the various shows and 'Spectacles' offered in the bars and clubs. One can see Comedie Francaise, male nude dancers, drag mimes to pop records, and an endless variety of shows, but all depend upon the client knowing French. That is, except for Bobby at Le NUAGE. Bobby is a coloured American who does an excellent show four or five nights a week, at 1am. He mimes, in drag, to Shirley Bassey, Eartha Kitt, and a host of others. Le Nuage is well worth seeing, and you can dance there. It also opens earlier than most, for the cocktail hour.

The saunas of Paris are a must. One of the cheapest is LES TERNES, but not, perhaps, the best. They have two classes of admission, and if you are not short of money be sure to take the more expensive. The

geography of the place has to be experienced. If you like Arab boys, Les Ternes is the place for you. If you prefer palatial elegance, chandeliers, and lots of mirrors, try the SAUNA MILAN, just uphill from Gare St Lazare. They have a black masseur from Africa who gives a very good, but non-erotic massage lasting about 20 minutes. My favourite baths are L'ELYSEE SAUNA CLUB, which is very comfortable, luxurious, and has a fine bar with snacks available. They tend to get the most amazing selection of really fantastically good-looking customers. It holds about 150 clients and last time I was there about 99% of them would have won the 'Mr Adonis' competition. Their masseurs are superb, and give the type of massage you want. You can ask for it strong, light, even erotic, but I am sworn to secrecy by the masseur, so will leave you to find out the rest.

At the SAUNA GUILLAUME TELL they have several masseurs. I have met two of them—Sydney, who reminds me of a more beautiful version of Michaelangelo's David, is Algerian, aged 23, and whose massage sends me floating into ecstasy. He speaks only French, but understands sign language. The slightest suggestion is enough to get him to reveal all and work nude. In his massage room you lie under a full-length mirror so you can see everything that is going on, which makes it all more exciting. Gaetano is the other masseur at Guillaume Tell, and comes from Sicily. He is 26, and has a rugged, hirsute body, and tends to give a very strong massage.

There are a number of other saunas, but I have not visited all of them although rumour has it that they are also very good.

There is no exclusively gay hotel in Paris, although many gays stay at Hotel La Kanal. I have stayed there once, but was not too happy with it. On my last visit I tried HOTEL DE CABOURG, near Metro Rome, which I found convenient, clean and comfortable. For Fr 38.50 I had a double bed, with shower and bidet, including service and tax, but almost 6 francs extra for breakfast. It has the advantage that you can take people in to your room quite easily, and they are not seen or stopped by the management.

I have not yet tried the outside cruising or cottaging scene in Paris, but personal friends who live there have carefully checked the Spartacus Guide for this section and advise readers to read the comments carefully, to know what is safe or dangerous.

Travelling in Paris is best done by Metro, which is cheap and quick. The Metro runs up till about midnight, with frequent services, similar to the London underground. You can buy individual tickets at Fr 1.30 a time, or a book of 10 tickets for 8 francs (ask for a 'carnet'). After the Metro is finished, you will find it easier to use taxis, which are plentiful, but never take a taxi in the daytime—they get caught in a traffic jam and the meter moves faster than the wheels. It is a very good investment to

buy a map, and the map I find best is the FALK-PLAN (these vary in price according to size, but are available for most European cities, and are excellent, clear, and easy to use). The Metro is marked on the main map and also there is included a small map of the Metro alone.

I expect to spend at least Fr 150.00 a day in Paris, covering hotel, one meal, a sauna, and drinks and travel in the city. You could perhaps get by on 100 francs



a day (£8 approximately) but this would be cutting it very fine, and you could not expect to live it up on that.

Frenchmen don't like to speak English, although most of them can—but won't. So unless you happen to be pouring money into their coffers, you need a good knowledge of French. I failed French exams at school, but school French gets me by quite



continued on the next page

HOTEL - BAR - PUB

THE QUEEN'S HEAD

Beulingstraat 19 (around the corner from the DOK)

AMSTERDAM

Director: Ted Nebbeling Tel: (020) 24 16 03

Bar open 14.00 - 01.00
Weekends 14.00 - 02.00
Enjoy good music
Drinks at reasonable prices
Friendly atmosphere

Single and Double bedrooms
English breakfast
Own door-key
Reasonable prices
Central situation
Bookings advisable

'A Gay Man's Paris' continued

Paris Drag: Michou pays his tribute to Mae West on the Folies' stage

Photograph: Serge Lido

well, although I do frequently have to ask them to speak more slowly. It is a good idea to brush up some vocabulary before you leave—words and phrases found in menus, numbers (so you know how much you are being asked to pay, etc). Even if your French is very poor, they always respect you for making the effort, and most Frenchmen will show enough patience to try to understand, and be helpful.

Well, that's Paris—expensive, exciting, sexy, but marvellous. Have fun, and good trolling until my next piece—probably from Germany.

THE SPARTACUS INTERNATIONAL GAY GUIDE lists about 100 bars and clubs, 8 baths, 10 hotels (all mixed), 13 outside cruising places, and 11 cottages. Here are the details of the ones mentioned above:

LE BRONX (Leather) (2000-0600)
11 rue St Anne (Tel: 742 60 69)
Paris 1er. Metro: Palais Royal
LA LICORNE (2000-0600)
44 rue Vivienne (033 08 30)
Paris 5. (Bar, restaurant, dancing, show).
Metro: Maubert-Mutualite.
LE 'PICK-UP' CLUB (2200-0600)
8 rue des Anglais (033 98 86)
Paris 5. (Bar, dancing). Recently opened.
Metro: Maubert-Mutualite.
LE NUAGE (1800-0600)
5 rue Bernard Palissy (222 56 25)
Paris 6. (Bar, dancing, show). Metro: St Germain.
LA ROSE BLEUE RESTAURANT (2015-0200)
15 Rue Choron (878 37 99) Metro: Notre Dame De Lorette.
ARCADIE (2030-0400)
61 rue Chateau d'Eau (770 18 06)
Paris 10. (Club, bar, dancing, similar to C.O.C. in Holland). Metro: Chateau d'Eau.
AU PIERROT DE LA BUTTE RESTAURANT (1900-0200)
41 rue Caulaincourt (606 06 97)
Paris 18. Metro: Lamarck Caulaincourt.
MICHOU'S FOLIES (from 1900)
80 rue des Martyrs (606 16 04)

Paris 18. (Drag show par excellence)
Metro: Pigalle.
ELYSEE SAUNA CLUB (1200-2400)
12 rue Miromesnil (265 57 50)
Paris 8. Metro: Miromesnil.
SAUNA DE MILAN (1030-2100)
22 rue de Milan (874 38 22)
Paris 9. Metro: Gare St Lazare.
SAUNA GUILLAUME TELL (1000-2300)
23 bis, rue Guillaume Tell, (754 45 68)
Paris 17. Metro: Pereire.
SAUNA DES TERNES (PONCELET)
(0900-2400)
7 rue Poncelet (227 88 61)
Paris 17. Metro: Ternes
HOTEL LA KANAL
9 bis, rue La Kanal (828 09 13)
Paris 15. Metro: Commerce.
HOTEL DE CABOURG
5 rue du Mont-Dore (522 41 23)
Paris 17e. Metro: Rome.

EXCHANGE RATES: £1.00 = Fr 11.20 (approx)

HOW TO GET THERE

By Air:
Instant fare, Heathrow-Paris return: £20.10
Normal fare: £40.20
Youth (Student) fare: £30.15
By Train:
London Victoria to Paris (via Calais) return: £19.80
By Silver Arrow (train/air):
London Victoria to Paris (via Gatwick-Le Touquet) return: £24.00 approx.
By Hovercraft (train/hovercraft):
London Victoria to Paris (via Dover-Boulogne) return: £18.60
By Coach (coach/hovercraft):
London Victoria Coach Station to Paris (via Ramsgate-Calais return): £12.65
By car via Ferry:
Dover via Calais-Boulogne-Dunkerque, Folkstone via Boulogne-Calais, Newhaven via Dieppe: fares vary, consult your local travel agent.

Many thanks to Cecil Roy Travel Agents, 74 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 for travel information.



Photograph: Ken Lambert (Camera Press London)

MASQUERADE

Restaurant & Discotheque

310 Earls Court Road
(Entrance corner of Earls Court Square)
London SW5
01-373 3480

Intimate, Informal Restaurant,
Offering Fine French Cuisine
And Excellent Wines.
Minimum Charge £1.50
inc Disco Admission
Open 8.00pm to 1.30am (Last Orders)
Closed Sundays.

Discotheque
Admission 50p
inc Salad Supper
10.00pm to 2.30am
Open Every Night
Fully Licensed Until 2.00am.

Light Show. Stereo.
Air Conditioning.

*Where Can You Get***Escalope BARBARA WINDSOR**

OR

Kidneys DANNY LA RUE?

TRY

NELL GWYNNE'S KITCHEN

OPEN 8pm - 12.30am

43 CRAWFORD STREET
LONDON W101-370 3992 (DAY)
01-402 4497 (EVE)

“We Do It To Protect People”

I am an Anglican Priest aged 28, until recently assisting in a large London parish. I am married and my wife expects our first baby in two weeks. I am bisexual—a fact which my wife has known about since before our marriage and which she has been able to accept with none of the signs of insecurity or jealousy for which we were both prepared.

In the early hours of Saturday morning 1st September, I was arrested with “another young man” on the Towpath at Putney. We were both charged with Gross Indecency and fined £25, classic examples of the warning printed in GN32 with regard to plain-clothes police entrapment in that area.

The inevitable little paragraph appeared in the local press with full names and addresses. Arrogantly, I assumed that my name would be recognised—therefore to avoid a witch-hunt piling the Rector of Stiffkey into insignificance, I resigned. In fairness to my vicar, he attempted to persuade me to remain, arguing that “a Christian community would prove its Christianity in carrying this.” But I was strangely relieved to find that the Church in her wisdom decrees an automatic suspension from duty for two years—“to avoid scandal.”

However, the local paper can hardly be blamed for recognising a front-page story when it sees one. I am simply grateful—very grateful—to the lady photographer who refused to “jump out at me on my doorstep with a flash” and who has written to me telling me exactly what she thinks of ‘moral crucifixions’.

At one level, I have no complaint or reason for writing to you—a newspaper I respect as a sane Gay voice in a rather hysterical crowd. I knew I was breaking the law. I knew the police displayed an interest in the Towpath worthy of a Gay Towing Group fresh in from the provinces; I have always been prepared for the legal consequences of being myself; I have always known that whatever value I was to the community I have loved and served would become irrelevant upon the revelation of my social sin of non-conformity—so why the fuss?

It is that my case, commonplace as it is,

clearly illustrates the moral and legal confusion surrounding the present state of the law—enlightened as it may seem to be.

I would suggest that the questions worth asking are, “Who is the present law designed to protect and from whom?” And “What is the spirit of the present law?” For the police would appear to be rather confused, hardly surprising since they officially act out the confusion which society as a whole experiences on the subject.



Confusion No 1

After being arrested, we asked the presiding PC the point of the whole exercise. His reply was that “there have been a lot of muggings and gang attacks recently—we do it to protect people—including you.” Now the only other people I can think of who are detained or arrested to protect them from the consequences of their own actions are those whom society has decided are dangerously insane. So the law is apparently implemented as though gayness were a dangerous mental instability, an opinion I suspect to be fairly commonly held, although this is nowhere explicitly stated in the law itself.

Confusion No 2

On arrival at the police station, we were asked our names, addresses and occupations. After the revelation of my ‘job’, there was a suitably dramatic pause, after which the same PC now in the presence and hearing of three others said, “If I put THAT down, we have to make a report to the Home Office—you are in one of the proscribed professions, like a teacher or a policeman. You have five seconds to decide whether you want to be a Clerk instead.” So between us,

we all then played the party game of inventing a firm, a position and a salary to be entered on the file containing my fingerprints—which apparently could not be invented but had to be real!

They then asked me my ‘married state’, and on hearing the answer, we had a friendly chat about whether my wife knew, what she thought about it all, and when the baby was due.

On the following Monday morning, our case was heard first. The press box was empty and several members of the ‘public’, ie awaiting their own summonses, were asked to wait outside for a moment, which they did, grumbling audibly about a ‘Free Country’ and ‘Secret Trials’. I was presented to the Magistrate as ‘a clerk of — firm, earning £28 per week. He is a single man Your Honour’. With these amended details our case attracted no undue excitement and we both received what must by now be the minimum fine.

At this point I became as confused as the police—for it would appear that they were not only protecting me from the consequences of my own actions, but from the full legal procedure, from magisterial, not to mention Home Office interest, a much larger fine and above all from publicity—all of which strikes me as confusing, seeing that bad publicity must be the most powerful weapon around when it comes to clearing ‘places of ill-repute’. (Look what happened to the Hammersmith end of the Towpath!) “You’re okay” said our PC. “There was nobody there. It’s all over.”

My police protection failed with the publication of the Court Lists plus the vigilance of the local press, but with the unsolicited fabrication of information, it had been a valiant, if confusing, attempt.

Confusion No 3

The charge was Gross Indecency, and I assume that for something to be indecent, it must be capable of shocking members of the general public or the famous man who used to sit on the top of the Clapham Omnibus. This raises the problem touched on by

recent articles and letters in GN on the subject of public sexual performances. By ‘public’, I, and I assume your correspondents, mean, actions likely to be seen by the public. By ‘public’, the law evidently means—anything which takes place upon property dedicated to public use. I do not in any way feel superior to those who feel constrained to act out sexual fantasies under street lamps or in full view of moonlit paths and walks, but I feel it would be unrealistic to expect the law, as expressive of public opinion, to sit lightly to that one. Indeed, it is a law I would often like to appeal to myself as I see heterosexual couples holding bus queues to voyeuristic ransom.

The confusion arises when it comes to the interpreting of ‘public’, insofar as it affects actions taking place away from public footpaths and away from public lighting. I would have many moral reservations about offending the man, now descended from the top of the Clapham Omnibus and walking late at night along the unlit Towpath on his rather strange way home. I would have none if he started rooting around in bushes yards away from the path. I would assume that he was only after one thing—or of course that he was a policeman looking for his torch.

I am aware that there is no legal confusion. I am aware that it may be impossible to translate the spirit of the law into words which will hold water (of the lunacy of the Obscenity Laws and the impossibility of defining that which is liable to deprave and corrupt). But in my present state of enforced and unpaid inactivity, I find I have time to estimate the amount of human misery and police confusion which could be avoided were magistrates and police to stop turning over large and perfectly safe stones only to be surprised and concerned to find a different kind of life in full swing. A housewife who sweeps the paving stones outside her house is applauded for being clean and tidy. If she were to turn them over to clean underneath, she would receive treatment for a compulsive obsession.

David Spenser

SPARTACUS-AMSTERDAM

SPARTACUS

SPARTACUS OFFERS:—

- FILMS
- MAGAZINES
- BOOKS
- POSTERS
- PHOTOS
- FOR GAY MEN

SPARTACUS GOOD NEWS LETTER No 1 READY NOW

Fine things from USA, Denmark, Sweden, Germany — all top quality

Totally uncensored

Our Good News Letter is sent out about 6 times a year (6 issues £1). It gives an honest uncensored description (illustrated) of all our latest quality offers. For a sample of Good News Letter No 1, send 2 International Postal Reply Coupons (available from any Post Office).



THE GAY SYMBOL OF QUALITY RELIABILITY AND HONESTY

- We offer only top quality goods. If it is not the best, you can't get it from us.
- Most of our selection is not available from British suppliers.
- We guarantee a fair deal for gays: Quality Reliability and Honesty.
- Our prices are fair — we don't believe in robbery.
- We are internationally known for our high standards.
- We don't believe in censorship.

Spartacus — Brighton Announcement

The Brighton office of Spartacus is now permanently closed. If you have any grievance against the Brighton office, please send full details to:

John D Stamford,
Euro-Spartacus,
Postbus 3496
Amsterdam, Holland.

Your claim will be fully investigated. This also applies to le Chateau Gaye.

EURO-SPARTACUS, P. O. BOX 3496, AMSTERDAM, HOLLAND

ROGER BAKER: SOME OF MY BE

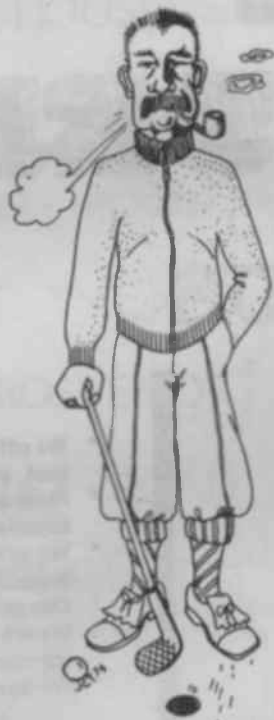
"Things that would make your hair curl"

Sir William Pooter-Lyon JP has been a magistrate for thirty years and knows, therefore, much more about the realities of life than most other people. His finger (now just a touch shaky) has always been firmly pointed at forces contributing to the decline of a once great nation. The local newspaper has come to rely on him to provide an inside page headline week after week. His enemies of social order have included displaced persons from Latvia and Estonia, Dior's 'new look', lack of the new Elizabethan spirit, Lady Docker, Diana Dors and Marilyn Monroe, angry young men, James Bond, pop-groups, mini-skirts, youths with long hair, Irishmen, Arabs, Communists and squatters. He never tries to exceed his authority, but reminds us that penalties, which can be flexible, must be looked at in proportion. He knows, for example, that women who get themselves raped are usually asking for it and are a bad lot anyway; he knows that it is normal and healthy for a chap to want a few gins and tonics before driving home; he knows that the jobless, the homeless and the feckless have only themselves to blame, and if they aren't prepared to pull themselves up by their bootstraps then he is going to help them along with a severe kick up the backside. "I hear about things that would make your hair curl," he booms at Lady Pooter-Lyon, a thin faded woman who always seems to be on the verge of tears. Until recently he had given little thought, if indeed any, to homosexuality. When such cases came before him he would deal with them swiftly, with a heavy fine, but with, too, a silent shudder. But one day he was leafing through *The Daily Telegraph* when he came across a headline that said: "Gay Men on the March". He began to read with pleasurable anticipation, expecting to hear about one of those jolly carnivals he so enjoyed in Malaya. What he did read shocked him to the core. Teddy boys, mods and rockers, the Angry Brigade and the IRA suddenly assumed their rightful place as healthy, enquiring elements in an evolving society. Now he knew the source of the true evil, the real reason for moral decline. "No woman is safe to walk the streets at night," he thundered from the bench at the next opportunity as a young salesman stood trembling before him. "This moral degeneracy with its pornography and X-films must be uprooted from our midst." He became an expert on the decline and fall of the Roman Empire and the local paper moved his headline—often involving whipping, branding and castrating—onto the front page, which pleased him. Sometimes, late at night after the fourth or fifth port, visions of Eton before the First World War drifted across his pinkish retina. Angrily he brushed them aside: have they anything to do with the travelling salesman and his despair in a provincial park?



"No longer any National Service"

Major John Blunt (ret'd) is never happier than when he's with the boys. A night out at the Dog and Duck (only he calls it the Wog and Fuck) down the lane, then back to the bungalow with a crate of lights for a chin-wag and a bit of a song: "King Farouk, King Farouk, Hang your bollocks on a hook." If Mimi's gone to bed, then get her out and into the kitchen to knock up plates of her special ham sandwiches with lashings of mustard. Great gal, Mimi. Used to be a pretty bit of a thing with her blonde curls and pink, cupid's bow lips. He'd always been a bit nervous of her, though, and the way she measured herself out at carefully spaced intervals. But while the others chased bints in Cairo, he stayed at the bar. Major Blunt has a great line in jokes. Mostly they're about women, the way they go rotten once a month, become nagging wives and interfering mothers-in-law. But he has a second set of jokes all about pansies, fairies and poofs. He tells them vividly, putting one hand on his hefty hip, mincing across the sitting-room and assuming a lisp. It's a grotesque performance and his cronies cackle sycophantically. He has jokes too about sex-mad women using cucumbers, milk bottles or vegetable marrows for lack of his beery breath and clumsy thighs. "A woman's place is on her back and a man's is on top of her," he bawls as Mimi searches for the outline of that cupid's bow with Revlon pink, and adjusts her baby-blue peignoir. Later—after another chorus or two of *Sayida Bint*—Major Blunt will deliver himself of a few sound opinions. Queers, he claims, are on the increase. The main reason is that there is no longer any National Service. He can spot a queer half a mile away, you know. Now take that young chap who's moved into the cottage at the end of the lane with his long hair curling over his collar and his tight jeans. Queer as a coot. Seen him toggled up to drive back to town on Monday mornings? Pink shirt and suede shoes! That bint he's



always with's just a smokescreen. You can tell it from here, the man's round-shouldered and wears a ring. Now look—Major Blunt leans forward, very serious—I've lived my life among men, real men. Years I spent alongside all sorts of chappies, all over North Africa, Cairo, Italy, and later in Germany. I was with them all the time and never spotted a bit of it, never. Don't you tell me that when a chap's having cold showers every day, getting lots of exercise, has to keep his eye out for wog snipers, that he's going to go queer! Soft living's what does it and this couldn't care less attitude. Get 'em all in running shorts for a quick trot across the Lake District and you'd wipe it out overnight. Major Blunt is proud of the deep relationship he had with some of the younger fellows in the army, after all you can't beat the company of other chaps. Women—well, it's not quite the same. But we were normal all right, no doubt about that.

"How could anyone resist little Sharon"

Avril Hawkins (Mrs) is in her early 30s and is quite secure in the role life has given her. She is, in fact, "the mother of three." To her, this ability to give birth fully justifies her existence; she produces the fact—and sometimes the children—as the final word on any subject. Phrases such as "I'm a mother . . . only a mother knows . . . as a mother . . ." etc lard her conversation and support her arguments about the undesirability of immigration, demonstrations, Women's Lib and contraception. Oddly, her pride in parturition is some distance from her attitude to its products. Her children are alternately spoiled and bullied, so have learned how to keep their unpredictable parents content. Little Sharon, for example, knows that to cuddle up to daddy with goo-goo eyes and sticky kisses will certainly divert any threatened punishment. And Avril, seeing this technique working, receives a glow of warmth, for here surely is proof that despite those frightful, frustrated creatures in



Women's Lib, little girls are all the same and naturally flirtatious with men. "She can twist her daddy round her little finger and get exactly what she wants," Avril observes in a welter of self-congratulation. When Avril read that a group of gay people wanted to meet each week in the local church hall, her fury knew no bounds and she was the first to write an indignant letter to the newspapers. Such people exist, she supposes, but as a mother of three fears for the safety of Michael (4), Sharon (5) and Trevor (7). Homosexuals she says should be 'treated', and if that fails then they should be locked up, or sent off to some island where they can do all their dirty things without threatening the kiddies. Did the editor realise there was a children's play-ground next to the church hall offering a strong temptation to these so-called gay people when they left their meetings? When her letter appeared, Avril enjoyed a brief spell of fame and was considered quite the heroine of Princess Margaret Avenue. Bill—her husband—was a little surprised that Avril should have such strong feelings about something so unconnected with her life as mother and home-maker. He was, too, a bit embarrassed because his mate Jim at work was—well . . . er . . . 'a queer'—and Bill had brought him home once or twice for a meal. Avril seemed to like him very much and was always teasing him about getting married and finding Miss Right. She never minded Jim taking Michael and Trevor to play football in the park, either. Bill decided not to enlighten her. The following week two vicars, a probation officer and the local antique dealer published letters supporting the gay group, but Avril was not impressed. She wanted to throw up at the thought of men 'doing things' together. How could anyone resist her little Sharon, she wanted to know.

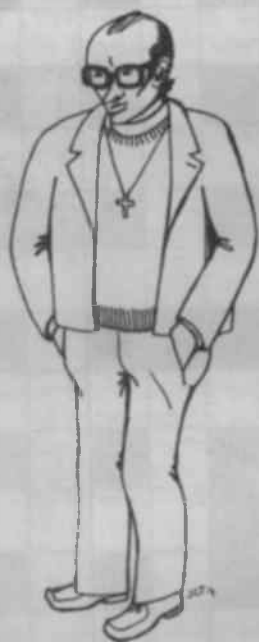
"People like that shouldn't be allowed out"



Ron Thing was born in 1954—a bit of an afterthought it seems. His sister can remember the Festival of Britain and he's got a nephew only a few years younger than himself. He's always felt the youngest and the weakest. Once, when he was 10, he tried to attach himself to a crowd of mods with their short hair and scooters, in the next street, but they threw him out and jeered at him for being too young. He managed to get to Clacton by himself and saw the big mod-rocker fights from a shop doorway. School was just one long boring wait for the end of the afternoon. Evenings in the hot living room were blasted by the television, so he'd gobble the fish finger and baked beans his mother dumped resentfully in front of him and got out. No one ever asked where he was going or where he'd been. In both cases the answer would have been nowhere. One night he and a few younger kids got round to comparing cocks. Ron's was the smallest. He went home and stuck some pin-ups torn out of *Penthouse* on the bedroom wall and kept a packet of contraceptives in his jeans pocket. He tried to put his thoughts into practice, but the girls he knew were hard, strident things always going off up West for the night. Once he did get Marian James in the communal laundry at the flats, but she struggled a bit then just laughed at him. He followed the amorous adventures of Peter Sellers and Michael Caine avidly, kept his hair cut short, hated flower children and hippies with their gentle manners and graceful clothes which were so unmasculine. He left school and never kept a job for more than six weeks—the boss always had a down on him, or the people he had to work with made him feel like a kid again. He'd lie in bed wanking over the nudest Miss Sweden on the wall and sometimes cry himself to sleep. Which made him feel worse than ever. Ron found out about homosexuals by accident. A mate tipped him off he could earn an extra quid or two getting himself sucked off on Wimbledon Common. "You don't have to do anything, just stand there and collect." Ron was horrified and amazed at this information, though he just nodded wisely, casually, at the time. After some evenings of thought he decided to go and see for himself. He stood against a tree smoking. Eventually a man came by and asked for a light. Ron started to tremble realising he had an erection in anticipation. As the man reached down to put his hand on the bulge, Ron panicked, bringing his knee up sharply into the man's groin, then lashing out with two back-handers across his ears. The man groaned and slumped down while Ron kicked out with his heavy boots. Then he ran, got home and had his first good night's sleep for a year. A queer made a pass at me on the common, he told his mate. The word got round. They formed a gang and by the end of the summer had beaten up eight homosexuals, one seriously. In justification Ron says that people like that shouldn't be allowed to make passes at defenceless kids like him. After the bashings, he feels like a real man and his masturbation fantasies are ever more inventive.

ST FRIENDS ARE... HOMOPHOBICS

"A sin and should be avoided"



The Rev Aloysius Beagle finds it very difficult to get round St Paul. It would be interesting, he sometimes says with that dry humour for which he is so loved, to know exactly what the Romans wrote back. The Old Testament he can rationalise almost out of existence: the story of Sodom is merely a parable of the violation of Arab hospitality laws. But in Rome and Corinth he sees unavoidable analogies with the Earls Court Road and the left-wing *eminentes grises* of the BBC. He himself would dearly like to be thought of as modern and forward-looking. But there are problems. Ambition for one. To associate himself too closely with the radical young, with the problems of drug addiction or with drop-outs would almost certainly be regarded with dubiety from above. The most he feels able to do is to promote the church Youth Club and to emphasise that the days of table-tennis and net-ball are over, and that young people want a discotheque and coke. These he provides, and he feels distinctly trendy on a Friday evening as he mingles with the gyrating young. He admires the rather rudimentary light-show, and takes passing cracks about his cassock on the chin. The Rev Beagle lets it be known that should any of these young people have troubles, then they are welcome to discuss them with him in confidence. In this way he has become quite an expert on contraception, pot, David Bowie, acne, cassette recorders and the relative merits of stacked heels. These confidences give Aloysius the conviction that the media really does exaggerate about today's youngsters. It was just the same when he was a boy, only the vocabulary is different. One girl gave him something to think about though. After ten minutes it dawned on him that the object of her affections was not David Cassidy but another girl in the youth club. He could scarcely credit that such a pretty, normal looking girl would harbour carnal thoughts for another girl. And he treated her as such; a few jocular remarks about a teenage crush and the suggestion that she find herself a nice boy dealt with that. He patted her on the shoulder as she left and smiled indulgently explaining that a gentle man and a few babies would soon put her right. With male homosexuals, however, he was somewhat brisker. Of course the Rev Beagle rejected entirely the hell-fire and devil's angels of fundamentalist thought, but he could not forbear to point out that homosexual activity (male) was indeed a sin and should be avoided. The bible says nothing about being homosexual, he observes comfortingly, only about practising it. Prayer, lots of exercise and the avoidance of temptation (by not looking at book-jackets, posters, the colour pictures in women's magazines etc) are the answers. It was pointed out to him that many practising Christians had come to terms with homosexuality, but the Rev Beagle dismisses this as self-deception. He himself would not bar a known homosexual from his church, but, on the other hand, he was forced to consider the sensibilities of the rest of his congregation wasn't he?

"A solid family man"

The Rt Hon Makepeace Smallpiece MP was re-elected on a much reduced majority. Which was a relief and supported his conviction that in the final analysis the British people would always respect the worth of a solid family man. Consequently he would not be seen to support any group or cause that did not somehow relate to this carefully constructed image. He refers to old people as "our grandparents" and to young people as "the fathers and mothers of future generations." On women's rights he steers a dainty line, appearing on one hand to support demands for equal opportunity and equal pay, but on the other asserting that women are only really fulfilled as wives and mothers like his own dear wife, thus leaving his audience reassured of his sensible position. During the recent election he was faintly disturbed to receive three letters all asking what his views were on gay rights, whether he would support legislation to reduce the age of consent and to make homosexuality legal in Scotland and



Northern Ireland. Since each letter was suspiciously similarly phrased and all suggested that a quite ridiculous number of potential voters might be gay, he felt that the letters were the work of one crank. He was going to ignore them until his wife (Lady Fiona, daughter of a Labour peer) reminded him that last year she had agreed to be listed as an honorary vice-president of something called the Campaign for Homosexual Equality. This was something of a shock for Makepeace. At the time he had never imagined he would have to fight an election so soon, and he was rather brisk with Fiona for the rest of the day. He replied to the letters, however, saying that there was no party line on gay rights, that in such debates it was left to the individual feelings of the members. He himself felt that the public was not ready for a reduction in the age of consent, that there were many other minority groups whose demands were perhaps more urgent and that quite frankly he himself could not support something that posed such a clear threat to family life. However, he welcomed homosexuals making their voices heard, provided they kept within the laws of this land. He did not add that he thought the more noise gays made would mean the greater the opposition they acquired. Later he made Fiona sit down and write a letter to this Campaign for Homosexual Equality thing and resign her honorary vice-presidency, pleading greater pressures upon her time. And he then proceeded to give careful thought to the photograph that was to appear on his election leaflet. Something unpretentious but reassuring was needed. He settled for a family snap: him in shirt and slacks, Fiona in simple skirt and jumper, the children (Toby and Susan) playing with the corgis. Youthful, but solid. Lively but mature. In his manifesto he emphasised individual freedoms and the need for a united Britain.

"Absolutely no sense of oppression"

Eddy Pinkerton devotes most of his life, and much of his income, to his mother (Laura) whose nerves, and their unspecified but alarming activities have kept him beside her ever since they prevented his going on holiday with the scout troop at the age of 14. Those same nerves did not, however, prevent Eddy's father from taking off one night, never to return. Mother and son were henceforth joined in a hatred of her husband which gradually extended itself to most other men. Eddy works in the dispatch department of a small collar factory and has done so for twenty years and now, at 42, is getting a little tubby round the middle. Laura knits him rather bulky pullovers which he wears under his office suit. Every Friday, Eddy trots home with a bunch of flowers or box of chocolates under his arm and puts his unopened wage packet on the kitchen table. Laura allows him £10.00 a week, which is adequate since Eddy does not smoke, run a car, bet or go to the cinema. His main expenditure is on homosexual magazines and packets of prints of naked boys that come through the post in plain brown envelopes. He also sends off for innumerable travel brochures to allay Laura's curiosity. Every Saturday evening, having made sure Laura is settled before the colour television, Eddy takes a stroll to the local pub where he drinks perhaps two light ales and gossips with his friend Sam. He and Sam once enjoyed a minor mutual grope some fifteen years ago and have ever since regarded themselves as an affair. Now and then, at closing time, if the evening is fine, Eddy will feel the need for a little stroll and take a devious way home, spending half an hour en route in a small public lavatory in a remote part of town. This is rarely successful but manages to satisfy some dimly recognised need. More frequently he will go home and, when Laura has gone to bed, will take down the large,



locked suitcase from the top of his wardrobe and allow himself perhaps four homosexual magazines with which to stroke himself to sleep. Eddy's hatred of homosexuals is strong. What he does in bed, he asserts, is his own business; *Gay News*, which he once bought by mail order, expecting something somewhat different, he describes as coarse and obscene; gays who get themselves into trouble have only themselves to blame; he himself feels absolutely no sense of oppression or any restrictions, so he can't see why anyone else should; men dancing together, or holding hands in the street make him sick. He and Laura have a right giggle at the antics of Larry Grayson on television, and on her birthday he takes Laura to see Danny La Rue in the West End. Yes, he's very happy, and if there is any trouble then all these homosexual organisations actually cause it. If everybody was like him and led a perfectly normal life then all would be well. Sometimes he wonders what will happen to him when Laura dies, but then, that must be a long way ahead.

"More tolerant of the perverts"

Dr Andrew Certainty, MD, DipPsy, PhD, is a distinguished psychiatrist, in private practice, possibly the most expensive in Harley Street. His three books on popular psychiatry have all been paperbacked, he is regularly called to give a professional viewpoint on television chat shows, and his collected academic papers and essays are about to be published under the title "Consciousness Is As Consciousness Does" (Ripoff & Hack, £10.50 hardback; £9.75 paperback). His views on homosexuality are very clearly defined and he always opens up discussion by stating, quite categorically, that being homosexual is nothing to be ashamed of and is, in itself, absolutely no reason to seek psychiatric treatment. This is, of course, rather radical and gives the doctor an interestingly controversial image. However, he goes on, in his experience—which is, of course, extensive—all homosexuals do suffer from severe disorders, as an unavoidable result of their unfortunate condition, disorders ranging from headaches to acute anxiety states and kleptomania which can only be rectified by the most profound and lengthy treatment, preferably in a series of consultations with Dr Certainty lasting no less than five years at £45 a week. Of course, the doctor will say, society must be more tolerant of the perverts in its midst because they cannot help it. We must of course, says the doctor, look at the situation rationally. The world the homosexual moves in is a distorted and unhealthy reflection of the natural world. The homosexual's world is orgiastic, furtive, promiscuous, riddled with disease and ultimately sterile. Living in such a world is bound to make its inhabitants sick, of course, and Dr Certainty knows, from the nine or ten homosexual patients he has treated during the last thirty-two years, that all homosexuals are tormented with guilt and inner despair because they cannot have children and are incapable of forming long-standing meaningful relationships with people of the opposite sex. Homosexual women, says the doctor, are of course extremely rare. A good deal of ill-informed nonsense has been talked about the techniques of aversion therapy, he goes on. Indeed, he would be the first to agree that some methods used in the 1950s were perhaps a little unsound. All that has changed today, of course; we know far more about the use of drugs—and indeed have many more different types of drugs to play with, er, that is, to use with judicial caution. He has not, he admits, ever actually succeeded in restoring a homosexual patient to happy normality, but this is, of course, because the patients themselves lacked the willpower to help themselves. He is proud of the fact that he did once manage to separate a homosexual pair-bond that had been living together for twelve years. They had at least begun to see that perpetrating the homosexual myth by living together was unhelpful to them and had done something positive about it. The doctor feels sure he would have scored 100% success with one of these patients, but unfortunately the man committed suicide soon afterwards.



Featurettes

Britain's First

GAY SWITCHBOARD

01-837 7174

Your hot-line to the gay community.

What, when, how, where.

Every evening 6.00 to 10.30

DON'T MISS

Polly Perkins

IN CABARET

FRIDAY MARCH 29th

AT

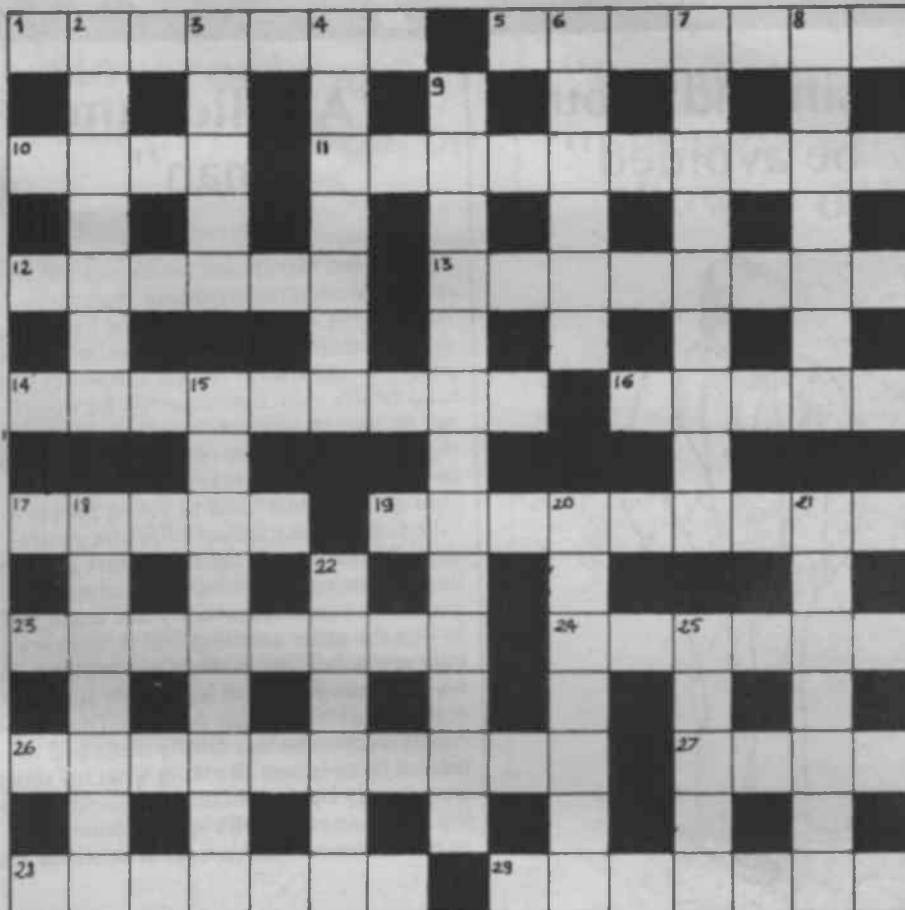
The Pan Club

52/54 BUTE STREET
LUTON

Telephone 414344

Fireside Crossword No 3

by Barry Nonweiler



Clues - Across

1. Measure ten in, somehow sticking out—quite famous! (7)
5. Frequenter of Highland cottages... (7)
10. ... queen on the street formerly. (4)
11. Breezes following a successful cruise? (5, 5)
12. Fucks all hands in the ship—in the tool-room, probably. (6)
13. M.A. in Perverted Venery for all of us. (5, 3)
14. Be quick! Lay! There's enough room for it here. (6, 3)
16. Blooming queer! (5)
17. Handling gets an up fast, then a droop at the end. (5)
19. Polluting liquids spilling forth? (9)
23. Eve slain could have eased the way to sodomy. (8)
24. Anal movement, perhaps, is a proposal. (6)
26. Rent-boys stuffed with rhubarb? (5, 5)
27. Get lubricant in before dark. (4)
28. Took overlong putting on women's clothes? (7)
29. Lucky charms procure love-less soul-mate (7)

Clues - Down

2. A place full of Arab boys, but Army Doctor takes fabulous bird on business. (7)
- 3, 9. Genet's "The Virgin among the Pansies" (5, 4, 3, 6)
4. Loss of savour leads to lack of discrimination. (2, 5)
6. Red long slippery thing inside was staggering. (6)
7. Something with a happy end, a gay posterior, as one might say... (5, 4)
8. ... encourages a fondness for end above other organs. (7)
9. See 3.
15. Place secret microphones up, for example, the anus (etymologically speaking) (9)
18. Pert esse, not t'be boxer's partner. (7)
20. Money paid all at once for bulges and latter parts of bum. (4, 3)
21. Do-it-yourself enthusiast's genital equipment? (4, 3)
22. Member often stuck up the hot-water tap. (3, 3)
25. Experiment undergone by Oscar Wilde. (5)

The solution to the above crossword will appear in GN44.

STAR-GAYS

with Merlin



Aries

March 21st to April 20th

First of the Zodiac signs, ARIES starts off the Astrological year with a literal breath of Spring air—mixed though, with the element of Fire. ARIES Star Gays seem never to quite recover from the consequent fever, as they jump about hardly ever getting things together for any length of time. Exuberant, active, and somewhat reckless, ARIENS possess an endless enthusiasm for living, which can be tiring, irritating, and often a distinct pain in the neck to more placid Star Gays. Heads are shaken in despair, eyes are lifted prayerfully to heaven, fists even are shaken; but out from behind the barrage of criticism slides the grinning ARIEN, loving every minute and bursting to rush off in search of something new to challenge his active mind.

ARIENS like to show tremendous enthusiasm for new ideas of a constructive and creative nature. They start things off, organising to the nth degree, and then stand back letting subordinates take over, whilst other, more exciting interests come to the fore. As this trait extends to their romantic affairs too, other Star Gays are here duly warned. ARIENS have a habit of charming away all opposition and defence, mopping up the unresistant victim, then marching off leaving the object of their so-called affection wide-eyed, wide-mouthed, and well and truly stood-up! Sister Star Gays are rather similar, plus an obstinacy which makes her stick to attitudes with a relentless fury (when roused, which is rather too easy), mangling anyone with enough courage to oppose her views.

As most ARIENS seem to possess quite loud voices, perhaps it would be wise to invest in a pair of ear-plugs, wear a diplomatic smile, agree as much as possible without committing oneself, and wait for the hurricane to pass, whenever ARIENS are in the vicinity.

ARIENS should work alone, or start their own businesses at least. They somehow manage to keep control of intricacies in business matters far better than most other zodiac signs. Having appreciated that, don't be entirely fooled. Behind every ARIES is that subordinate again, who really keeps things ticking over whilst the Boss accepts the glory, revels in it, and brags of his or her personal organisation and success. Many ARIENS sublimate their emotional and romantic disappointments into work. Not a bad thing at all, for ARIENS at least, as they have a hopeless judgment where heart interests intrude into their lives, coming croppers over love matters and turning to work as a healing balm. Perhaps it's Mars, the ARIEN ruler, making sure that campaigns and not cuddles are foremost in their minds. All of the Fire signs (ARIES, LEO, SAGITTARIUS) have this in common to some extent, generally preferring to immerse themselves in work and taking or leaving love as it comes.

If sudden bursts of energy lighten up offices, homes, pubs or discotheques, just when that SOS ad is flashing on the TV screens these days, take a closer look. It may not be someone bucking Britain after all, but an ARIEN, surrounded by a personal force-field of bubbling personality, radiating enough warmth to unfreeze the coldest of mortals in the furthest corner. Unfortunately, ARIENS rarely stay long enough in one place to do very much lasting good. After they've gone, shadows close in again, and peace descends, but life is brighter for their brief passing.

One even has a fleeting temptation to jump on the ARIES band-wagon and stay awhile, but unless one's own zodiac sign is also Fire in element, it's better not to. If LEOS or SAGITTARIANS are in evidence, the next edition of Star-GAYS will give all possible hints on how to tame the whirlwind and domesticate the zodiac Ram!

Illustration: David Eastman



GET IN THE SWIM
THIS EASTER!
ON GOOD FRIDAY
APRIL 12TH 1974
GROSVENOR HOUSE
RE OPENS THE HEATED
SWIMMING POOL.
SPLASH OUT AT
THE GROSVENOR
326 HAGLEY ROAD
BIRMINGHAM

LACHIC

5/13 Canal Street, Nottingham
Telephone 56777

Crazy Night Every Wednesday

STAR PRIZES
TOP LINE CABARET PLUS DOUBLE SPIRITS NIGHT
(TWO FOR THE PRICE OF ONE)
FREE ADMISSION

FRIDAY NIGHT IS CABARET NIGHT - 5th April * Terry Durham
12th April * Lee Stevens - 19th April * Lee Sutton - 26th April * Al Nichols
ALL DRINKS 10p EVERY FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

LA CHIC * THE MIDLAND'S PREMIER NIGHTSPOT

ALL GAY WOMEN SHOULD READ

SAPPHO

REGULAR MONTHLY MAGAZINE
(40p inc post)
BCM PETREL, LONDON WC1V 6XX

Cop Art Bonanza

by Roger Baker

PORNOGRAPHY OR ART? by Poul Gerhard. Words and Pictures, £3.00 (softback). A handsome volume distinguished by the remarkable collection of erotic drawings, paintings and sketches it contains, many of which are not easily accessible anywhere else. The accompanying text (translated, presumably from the Danish) is uneven; useful as a commentary on individual artists, but making no real contribution to a possible discussion on pornography.



Greek vase decoration: two men carrying a woman (Louvre, Paris).

Gerhard opens with a reasonable proposition: "In principle . . . pornographic art completely ignores all religious and moral issues that might be brought up in connection with sex life." Quite neatly we have already side-stepped the title of the book: throughout, the 'or' is ignored; there is no discussion of individual works in this sense, and the narrative is simply a well-informed tour of erotic visuals.

Gerhard's proposition breaks down quite quickly, for practically every illustration he shows is very much bound up with 'religious and moral issues' whether it be a medieval woodcut of a monk and nun making love in a field or Sine's rampaging female with a phallic-shaped butterfly net. Secondly, there is no illustration of anything that we would recognise as 'pornography' as the term is generally used today.

He is right to point out that religious-moral dogmas are oppressive and project negative attitudes to life, and that erotic art (whatever you call it) is a liberating blow to church and state, and that its acceptance must be part of any sexual revolution which he says "has become a necessity."



Marcel Vertes: drawing.

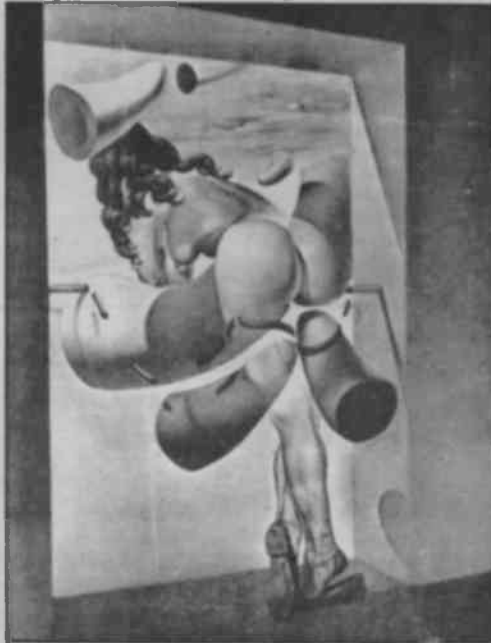
The artists represented include Courbet, Beardsley, Zille, Rembrandt, Leonardo, Michaelangelo, illustrations from Japanese pillow books, Pompeian wall-paintings and many others. One point that emerges from the illustrations, but is not commented upon in the text, is the way in which 20th century artistic developments (surrealism, the Absurd and Pop Art, etc) have brought both a sense of violence and a tremendous widening of imagery to the portrayal of sex. Cop Art prevails until the turn of the century, and after that the knives, the animals, terror, horror and feelings of deliberate debauchery appear.

But pride of the collection, and worth the price of the book alone, are 25 etchings from the sequence *Love* by Mihaly Zichy. Exquisitely drawn, they illustrate the whole range of eroticism in life (apart from homosexuality, of course) from the nurse fondling a child's genitals to soothe, through youthful experiments to maturity. Favourites include a fully-dressed Victorian maiden on her knees sucking off a fully-dressed Victorian man leaning against a round table, and a couple enjoying sex while a baby sucks at the woman's breast. These are realities of life that both art and pornography ignore.



Etching from *Love* by Mihaly Zichy (1827-1906).

This is a strikingly heterosexual collection of pictures. Had Gerhard wanted to show erotic art that really affronts religious, social, and moral dogma he would have done well to include examples of male homosexual eroticism, and lesbian work done by women. But he doesn't, and his textual point about ancient Greek marriage not barring a husband "from sexual liaisons with other women" would have bolstered his own point with the information "or younger men" added.



Salvador Dalí, Spain: oil painting, 1954.

I have always felt that one of the main functions of pornography (if not the main one) is to give you a hard-on. That this collection doesn't have such an effect on me is further proof (subjective, of course) that here we are not in the realm of pornography at all. Browsing through is an enchantment at the beauty, variety, ingenuity, wit, charm and sweetness artists have brought to the depiction of sexual activity through the centuries. Couples copulate on every page, and very rarely is there anything but delight and joy on their faces, from Greek drinking vessels to Picasso.



One of *Rock Dreams*' highlights - the late Jim Morrison (fishnet T-shirt) in seemingly gay company

Rock Culture In Perspective

ROCK DREAMS by Guy Pellaert and Nick Cohn, Pan Books, £1.95.

One of the finest events of this month is the publication of this breathtaking anthology/fantasy on rock 'n' roll, covering the last two decades. But unlike so many essays on pop culture and 'histories' of rock, this one places the emphasis on the relation between musical and visual stimulation, sound and images. Contained in this large-format paperback are about 120 full-colour reproductions of paintings by the Belgian artist Guy Pellaert (who is, I hope, going to receive the public recognition he surely deserves). The commentary and captions for the illustrations, rather acid but much to the point, have been written by one of the most famous pop scene experts, Nick Cohn.

Pellaert achieves a very strong visual impact by the technique of photo-montage, then hand-colouring and airbrushing the pictures. The dreamlike dimension of each painting is augmented by a poetic use of colour, creating a nostalgic snapshot effect with a touch of fantastic psychedelia. The result is amazing, to say the least.

All of the legendary figures and cult-heros of the rock scene are present in the book, from Bill Haley and Fats Domino to today's superstars, including Bob Dylan, to whom three paintings are devoted, the Stones, still more amazing, and many more enchanting pictorial surprises.

This book is going to be famous, and in any case you won't regret having it around, for it will offer you a new perspective if you ever fantasized about your favourite rock stars.

Jean-Claude Thevenin

Kitchen Bookshelf

THIS SLIMMING BUSINESS by John Yudkin. Penguin, 30p

There are certain books that are so authoritative, definitive and accessible that - theoretically - everything else in the field should become automatically redundant. This is one such. That we have not seen a dramatic slump in the commercial slimming industry since Prof Yudkin's book first appeared in 1958 casts no doubt on his work. In fact part of the message of the book is that stupid, phoney, sometimes dangerous diets and commercial "aids" have their temporary successes because those who wish to slim lack patience to do it properly and are beguiled by promises of it being easy on the one hand, and feel that some new, radical trick is going to work on the other. In his demolition of crazy diets, of the nonsense talked about vitamin pills, honey, grapefruit and other schemes, Prof Yudkin is witty and entertaining.

Quite simply, the way to lose weight is to

eat less. That is all. Not just less of what you normally eat, but within a gently reconstructed pattern of eating. Prof Udkin's low-carbohydrate diet (which allows for the inclusion of fat and protein) has, of course, become the disguised basis of other instant commercial diets. I lost almost a stone on the grapefruit diet, but that was simply because the food itself was low in carbohydrates. Girls who spend pounds on injections find that the accompanying diet sheet is the low-carbohydrate diet, the injections acting as a kind of placebo.

Prof Yudkin is this country's leading authority on nutrition; his words and ideas are backed up by hard research and sound knowledge. His writing style is engaging and delightfully readable. You probably have about three months before you need to expose yourself in a bikini or less; get this book now, follow its principles, and you will be worth looking at.

Roger Baker

GAY NEWS MAIL ORDER

Offers For The First Time

The Black Tent And Other Stories—Robin Maugham	£2.25
Dark Antagonist—John R Baker	£0.50
The Service—Peter Menegas	£1.50
Song Of Aaron—Richard Amory	£1.00
Opium—Jean Cocteau	£1.75
Le Livre Blanc—Jean Cocteau (trans and illus)	£1.75
120 Days Of Sodom—De Sade	£1.25
Juliette—De Sade	£2.00
The Olympia Reader—Selections from the Olympia Press	£1.15
"A"—Andy Warhol	£1.50
Notebooks Of Andre Walter—Andre Gide	£1.75
The White Notebook—Andre Gide	£1.25
The Collected Drawings Of Aubrey Beardsley	£2.50

The Spartacus Gay Guide 1974	£2.25
Street Boy Swinging London—Richard Green	£3.00
The Gay Militants—Donn Teal	£1.00
This Days Death—John Rechy	£0.65
Vegetarian Cookery—Janet Walker	£0.40

The above titles are just a small selection from our lists. A full catalogue will be sent on request. Just send a large SAE. We can obtain any book in print (subject to the Obscene Publications Act). Just give us the author, publisher, year of publication and we will order for you.

Please send me

Name:

Address:

I enclose crossed cheque/postal order payable to Gay News Ltd for £

plus 10% p & p, total £

Gay News Mail Order, 62a Chiswick High Road, London W4 1SY

A New Singing Barber

THE STORY OF VASCO — Sadlers Wells Opera at the London Coliseum

Sadlers Wells did Gordon Crosse proud in their staging of his new opera 'The Story of Vasco'. The cast was uniformly strong and well-rehearsed, and the orchestral direction by Sir Charles Groves was all that one might have wished.

And yet the performance was not an unqualified success. There are weaknesses in the structure of the work, and some very flat passages within the score.

The hero Vasco is a poor barber (not to be confused with the wandering da Gama of the same name) whose timidity and innocence qualify him as an agent, in the eyes of the Mirador General, for a special mission. The Mirador's theory is that so long as Vasco retains his fear and innocence, he will be of more use in the war being fought than a conventional hero.

Pursued by the scholar Caesar and his hero-worshipping daughter Marguerite, who know of Vasco only by reputation, our hero goes through his adventures, until he hears about Marguerite and her idolised vision of him; at which point he determines to live up to the image, and in so doing loses his fear and subsequently his life.

In brief, then, the opera is an examination of heroism and its true nature. The libretto by the poet Ted Hughes, based on the stage play by Georges Schehade, is very much a 'writers' libretto. Greater attention to the words is required of the audience than is customary in most operatic works. This somewhat compounded the difficulties inherent in appreciating any new work.

As for the score, Gordon Crosse is inclined to over-write for individual characters in places. The length of some of their declamations is underlined by what may be described as 'neo-recitative' style of singing. Which is a shame. Because at other times he shows a great deal of imagination, especially in some of the lighter moments—as for example the second act scene with the three soldiers in drag as Carmen, Giselle and Mimi. Or the wicked bragging song from Harold Blackburn as Monsieur Corfan, the village mayor who specialises in packing young men off to the war.

Nevertheless, the problem of length remains. The whole opera lasts over three hours, a respectable length, and a length from which it would be easy to cut down. The main offender was the first act, all eighty minutes of it. Largely lacking in dramatic (musical as well as verbal) peaks, the audience was made all too aware of the depressing and black mood of the opening. The dark humour that peppers the whole piece is less apparent in the first act as well. That said, I would be only too glad to hear this work again in the near future if certain cuts were made.

I would especially welcome the opportunity to hear Josephine Barstow once more as Marguerite, John Fryatt as the scholar Caesar, and John Bracknock as Vasco. These three were in fine voice. Particularly agreeable was Josephine Barstow, whose distinctive 'woodwind' timbred voice I always enjoy. The youthful vivacity of Mar-



Josephine Barstow as 'Marguerite' in Gordon Crosse's *The Story of Vasco*

guerite came out well in her clear singing, dealing admirably with some of the high notes demanded of her, and complemented John Fryatt's elderly scholar. John Bracknock's singing was a good deal bolder than the character of the hero might have demanded. He played more on Vasco's innocence than his timidity, but he proved himself justified in doing so. Elsewhere, Tom McDonnell, Neil Howlett, Eric Shilling and Denis Dowling gave pleasing performances.

Produced by Michael Elliott and Richard Negri (with Negri also responsible for the design), the staging was sympathetic. Imaginative lighting high-lighted parts of a set which, uniformly lit, might have appeared something of a mess. And worthy of mention was the handling of the chorus of crows (symbols in the opera of 'anti-life'). They were huddled close to the ground under black umbrellas, figures shapeless except for the spines of their gamps.

Charles Groves seemed utterly conversant with everything he was doing. The orchestral performance spoke of a great deal of careful rehearsal and he deserved more applause than he seemed inclined to take at the final curtain! Gordon Crosse must have been well pleased with Sadlers Wells efforts.

This, incidentally, will probably be the last review we print of the Sadlers Wells Opera Company. As from the beginning of next season, they transform, as if by magic, into the English National Opera. So this would seem as appropriate a place as any to record the debt of gratitude we owe Sadlers Wells Opera for presenting and promoting new operas, and express the hope that the English National Opera keeps up that particular tradition.

Michael Mason

Masquerade

HENRY IV at Her Majesty's Theatre, Haymarket, London W1.

Have you a vivid imagination? If the answer is in the affirmative, haste you to Her Majesty's Theatre where Pirandello's magnificent *Henry IV* is now running for a limited season. I admit to being addicted to the wild imaginative writings of Luigi Pirandello, and have read, listened to on radio, and seen as many stage productions of his plays that I've been able to discover. His characters are often different from what they appear to be, and reality can become illusion at the drop of a hat, and of course vice versa.

A twentieth-century European nobleman, dressed as the German Emperor Henry IV, is



Rex Harrison (right) in Pirandello's *Henry IV*

thrown from his horse during a carnival procession. When he awakes he believes himself to be the Emperor. The play commences twenty years later, during which time he has maintained this belief, surrounding himself with servants who humour him by wearing costumes of that period and by addressing him as the Emperor. He is visited by a group of people, which includes the woman he was wooing at the time of the accident. They believe that he may yet be restored to sanity, and agree to don costumes in order to gain admittance to his presence. The intriguing lines between sanity and illusion in this play are so complex that it would be unfair to discuss the plot further.

Rex Harrison gives a brilliant performance in the leading role, his rouged cheeks and greying locks completing the appearance of one who has lived in the shadows for so many years. Often in the past, I found Yvonne Mitchell's acting too much in one key. However, in recent years she has changed beyond my wildest dreams, and her portrayal as Donna Matilda is a revelation. There's more to her performance than merely donning a costume to assume the part. As she stalks the imposing, spacious sets by Farrah, one can but admire her intelligent performance as a vain woman intent on restoring the sanity of a former love. James Villiers completes the starring trio with another of his splendid unctuous portrayals as the rival for Miss Mitchell's affections.

Barry Conley

Gershwin Pot-Pourri

OH KAY at Westminster Theatre, Palace Street, Buckingham Palace Rd, London SW1.

One of the greatest losses suffered by the American musical theatre was the death of composer George Gershwin at the early age of 39. Considering the many songs written by such as Irving Berlin and Richard Rodgers through their long careers, it is sad to contemplate how many beautiful melodies we have missed from Gershwin. However, his eighteen years of songwriting were prolific, and the world is indeed richer for his music.

Consider the songs for *Oh Kay* now revived in London, which was written back in 1926. 'Someone To Watch Over Me', 'Do Do Do', and 'Clap Yo' Hands' have survived the years to become all-time standards. This score also includes some lilting but lesser-known tunes, and to it, several Gershwin melodies from his other shows, 'Looking For A Boy', 'Things Are Looking Up', and 'Little Jazz Bird' have been added, making a veritable listening feast for his admirers. All of the lyrics were written by his brother Ira, whose talent was such an integral part of their success.

The plot tells of a mob of bootleggers, who are using the Long Island home of wealthy Jimmy Winters in which to hide the 'booze'. Complications for them arise when he returns unexpectedly with his new bride Constance. He too has his problems, on discovering that his first marriage hasn't been annulled. One of the gang is forced to pose as a butler, and the arrival of a titled Englishman, and later his sister Kay, both involved in the mob, confuse the issue further. Kay is forced to impersonate a maid, and in league with the butler does her best to prevent the hero from remarrying Constance, so that she can win him for herself. Need I add that it all ends happily, and Kay and Jimmy are united.

Amanda Barrie's portrayal of Kay has great charm, and her remarkable facial resemblance to Gertrude Lawrence, who was the original Kay, is quite uncanny. Her singing of the show's hit songs 'Looking For A Boy' and 'Someone To Watch Over Me' are performed with wide-eyed innocence, and her comic interludes as the maid are extremely funny. Royce Mills is an engaging leading man as Jimmy, and Thick Wilson is a tower of strength as the chubby, amiable boot-

legging butler. Jeremy Child as the 'silly ass' Englishman, and Ann Hamilton as the jilted fiancée manage to infuse life into their stereotype roles. My only regret is that the eight girls chosen for the chorus did not come anywhere near the standards set by the other artists.

William Chappell has wisely kept the proceedings going at a fast pace. His decision to have the cast play it as straight musical comedy, rather than camping it, works well, and makes it an enjoyable evening of nostalgia.

Barry Conley



Jeremy Child and Amanda Barrie in the Gershwin musical of the twenties *Oh Kay!*

The Screen Scene

My admiration for **THE EXORCIST** (Columbia-Warner, director William Friedkin) is confined to the success of the Warner Brothers publicity machine, and the delicious prospect of several million middle-aged American women vomiting all over Famous Players Theatres. The controversial scenes last for a total of about fifteen minutes. We're treated to flying furniture, green bile, a gyrating bed, some quite sickening blood-letting and verbosity normally associated with drunken adolescents.

The remaining one hundred and five minutes, directed in a style resembling Hammer Films at their very worst, are mere padding. Two typical scenes involve the assistant exorcist, an ex-boxer Irish priest, visiting his apparently Greek or Italian mother in a New York slum, and trilby-hatted detective played by Lee J Cobb inviting the priest to share his free passes to the movies. These and other in jokes are likely to be completely incomprehensible to the majority of the audience who will consequently wait with ever more baited eagerness for the gore. William Friedkin's apparent belief that his films need only help fulfill his ambition of becoming a millionaire film director, and be a little more visually shocking than last year's major release, bodes badly for the cinema's future.

The high-brow critics, perhaps conned by the title, mistakenly appear to believe that **WEST-WORLD** (CIC, director Michael Crichton) is some sort of parody of our civilisation. However, the idea of a futuristic holiday camp where ravaged urban Americans can indulge their gunslinging fantasies in a life-like but robot-ridden recreation of the Wild West, is innovative and enjoyable. Unfortunately the direction of those actors playing live humans is lazily insipid, and the film rapidly deteriorates into predictable melodrama as the computers lose control of the robots. That slim chance of expanding on the initial delight of man acting out his oft-suppressed fantasies is so irritatingly lost.

Nevertheless, *Westworld* is still worth seeing, especially as it's on release with **THE OUTFIT** (CIC, director John Flynn). Flynn has assembled an impeccable cast: Robert Ryan, Karen Black, Robert Duvall, and Joe Don Baker, to perpetrate a modern gangster extravaganza. He succeeds admirably in taking caricatures from nineteenth-thirties gangster movies and successfully transporting them into a modern environment. The robberies are intelligently calculated, and the wry ironic style of the movie, coupled with the frequent transportation of urban villains into rural slums,

leads me to assume that Mr Flynn is a disciple of that doyen of thriller directors, Don Siegel.

The press and public have commented that the story line of **THE SEVEN UPS** (Fox-Rank, director Philip D'Antoni) is unfathomable. The plot, about a brutal task force of New York cops who set out to destroy the large crime syndicates by using the syndicates' own methods, does indeed suffer from the practise of editing films to one hundred minutes or so, in order to increase their rapid TV sales potential. But the literal story isn't the point of the film. The cop played by Roy Scheider is obsessively relentless in his chase, not because he's a conscientious public servant, but perhaps because the immoral, violent persecution of one's fellow man is the last freedom in our sophisticated, chilled urbanity. If you take your police dramas a little less seriously, and dig car chases, *The Seven Ups* contains one of the longest-recorded pieces of motorised anarchy, that should have you spilling your Butterkist all over the place.

COPS AND ROBBERS (United Artists, director Aram Avakian) has a similar feeling of over-editing, plus a soundtrack that one assumes was recorded through a muffler. It's a docile, rather non-violent piece set in New York, about a couple of yer average rookies, one of whom is played by Cliff Gorman of *Boys in the Band* fame. They're pissed off with traffic jams, routine, and arresting hysterical black murderesses in Harlem, so they decide to use their uniforms to pull off a gigantic robbery in Wall Street, and rook the Mafia too. It's a whimsical film and some of the critics, seeing it as an antidote to the increasing number of cop dramas, have given it ecstatic reviews. Personally, I favour pseudo-realistic tracts like *The Seven Ups*.

PAYDAY (Cinerama/Fox-Rank, director Daryl Duke) takes us down one of my most revered movie roads, on location with rural America's low-life and its small-time big-timers. Maury Dann the roving, ageing country and western singer played by Rip Torn, seems to epitomise the distorted aspirations of middle America and its visions of 'success'. Permanently drunk, always swallowing uppers or downers, chauffeured by his bodyguard, accompanied by two blousy sluttish groupies, paying off the disc jockies who plug his records.

Maury Dann's aimless, loveless excursion into life is punctuated with blazes of factual downbeat local colour, and performances that more than hit home something akin to 'the plight of man'.

Recommended. David Seligman

New World Sales

NEW GAY MOVIES, SLIDES, FOTOS, SEX AIDS, BRIEF-WEAR. FOR FREE ILLUSTRATED LISTS SEND SAE.

NEW WORLD SALES
PENDULUM HOUSE
1581 LONDON ROAD,
NORBURY
LONDON SW16

The Society Club
Don-Jon Bar

Silver Street
Doncaster
Tel: 60763

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

Mon-Sat 9pm-2am
Cabaret Fridays

DICK'S INN PRESENTS A
**camp mime
contest**

TUESDAY APRIL 9th
AT
HORNSEY WOOD TAVERN
376 Seven Sisters Road
London N4

CASH PRIZES
Dressing Room Provided
Mime Show Also By DJ
TRICKY DICKY

DISCO OPEN EVERY TUESDAY 8-11pm

EASTER ARRANGEMENTS
GOOD FRIDAY-FATHER RED CAP DISCO
EASTER SUNDAY-CLOSED
EASTER MONDAY-FATHER RED CAP DISCO

JC's Choice

SLAUGHTER ON 10th AVENUE—Mick Ronson (RCA)

Bowie's guitarist and companion hasn't received, for his first solo album, the acclaim that his association with David somehow promised. Probably the time wasn't right yet for lovely Mick Ronson, who is definitely one of the best performing musicians around.



And even if I'm the only one to write it, I like his version of "Love Me Tender", which I find particularly exciting, and more than a simple homage to Elvis' version. Mike Garson on piano (also one of Bowie's musicians) does as usual a fantastic job, and Mick's guitar cries beautifully all the way through.

The weakness of the album is in the choice of material on the rest of the record, which doesn't seem to do justice to Mick's musical and vocal abilities. Nevertheless "I'm the One", on side two, got better and better as I played it.

Well, you can't possibly keep a pretty boy down, specially when he has Mick Ronson's obvious potential to be a great artist. It won't be too much of a surprise if his next album is magnificent.

FOREVER AND EVER—Demis Roussos (Philips)

Demis Roussos is currently enjoying a fair success in the French charts, and appears regularly on the "strange little window" abroad. After dissolving his band Aphrodite's Child (who had a hit in France and Britain during the summer of '68 with the slow-tempo "Rains and Tears"), Roussos is pursuing a solo career as the "romantic-expatriate-Greek-young-singer type".

It's a shame that the English lyrics, conceived for the French pop market, are somehow lacking in depth, for Demis' music (flute, electric guitar and bouzouki) is full of sunny promises. Apart from the title track "Forever And Ever", my favourite is the very Mediterranean ballad "Lost In A Dream". Altogether, a nice recording to get into the mood of holidays in Mykonos, via Paris.

Jean-Claude Thevenin

Short Plays

Certain to be popular with pop nostalgia freaks, as well as serious collectors of contemporary music, are an excellently compiled series of four track 'oldies' EPs called *Remember...* on the United Artists label. Reasonably priced at 66p, each record is devoted to a different artist or group, and featured on the first four volumes are a selection of some of the finest recordings by Johnny & The Hurricanes, Jan & Dean, P J Proby and Garnet Mimms.

Space limitations prevent me from mentioning each track, but all the obvious material is included: "Red River Rock" and "Beatnik Fly" by Johnny & The Hurricanes, P J Proby's versions of the West Side Story ballads "Somewhere" and "Maria", "Surf City" and "Dead Man's Curve" by Jan & Dean, and Garnet Mimms' extremely under-rated soul ballad "I'll Take Good Care Of You". Another interesting and indispensable cut by the latter artist is "Cry Baby" (later recorded by Janis Joplin). Made with his group The Enchanters, their original version sold a million copies in the States.

Two other vintage delights re-issued recently are the campy "Born Too Late" by the Ponitails and Danny & The Juniors' rock and roll anthem "At The Hop". Both are in Probe Records 'Goldies' series.

Most unusual single released in the last couple of weeks is Peter Straker's "Love Motion" (RCA). It's written and produced by Ken Howard and Alan Blaikley, who are the same composing/production team responsible for the material on Straker's memorable *Private Parts* album. The arrangement is an adaptation of the theme from Mozart's Rondo alla Turca, but with a few additional refinements, such as fascinating lyrics, valkyrie-like strings, electronic effects, a sizeable chorus singing the back-up vocals and screaming guitars.

Consequently, the overall result, when combined with Straker's distinctive voice, is absolutely staggering and thoroughly deserves to go soaring up the hit parade. On the flip side is another big production number entitled "From The Underground", again written by Howard and Blaikley.

Soul music enthusiasts have been well catered for during the past fortnight, with a wide variety of material, including singles from three of Tamia Motown's top ranking artists. They are "Don't Let It End ('Til You Let It Begin)" by The Miracles, "I Need You" by The Temptations, and "You Are Everything" by Diana Ross and Marvin Gaye. All the tracks are taken from the respective

performers' latest albums, and each has every chance of making the charts, especially the Ross/Gaye collaboration.

The specialist Contempo label have again come up with two very funky releases, both of which will have a strong appeal amongst disco-goers. One is "Now That I've Found A Good Thing", coupled with "Home Wrecker" by Fontella 'Rescue Me' Bass, whilst the other is a tight, 'swinging strings' instrumental interpretation of the Detroit Emerald's hit "Do Me Right" by The Armada Orchestra. The latter have a sound similar to Motown's San Remo Strings, which makes their disco the most commercial of the two.

Second release by the UK-based soul outfit The Majestics is an up-tempo number called "Little Black Pearl" (Cube), which features some good vocal work by lead singer Tyrone Scott. Given enough radio plays, the record could considerably advance this talented group's career. Some readers may remember that they were the supporting act on the recent Shirley Bassey concert tour.

Instead of taking a track from his latest album *Simon Country*, which is entirely comprised of country and western oriented material (reviewed GN42), Joe Simon's new single is a gritty soul song called "River" (Polydor). As usual, his performance is nothing less than superb, and the fast-moving arrangement, especially the splendid guitar work, makes it an ideal cut for discos.

Leaving the best till last, the outstanding soul single of late is "I Miss You" by The Dells. Together for 20 years now, the group have consistently brought out inventive, exciting recordings, but with their latest release have reached a new high. Earthy lyrics, beautiful harmonies, a stunning arrangement and impeccable production all fuse together to create a disc that is as near to perfection as one could hope for. And it's great for dancing.

Denis Lemon

DL's Top Five

Thinking it was about time the format of the record reviews pages changed a little, my ego rose to the fore and consequently I've decided to write a new column each issue. Basically it'll be no more than a glorified list of the albums I'm playing the most during the two weeks between editions. Admittedly, the idea isn't original, but knowing of the success similar columns have enjoyed and firmly believing that many people like reading lists, I've convinced myself it's worth trying out for a while. The majority of the records featured will be new recordings, although personal

favourites, as well as 'undiscovered classics', will also be included. Except when stated, all albums mentioned are released in the UK and can be obtained from all helpful record shops.

1. When it comes to soft soul vocal groups, there isn't an outfit that gets anywhere near the sophisticated, harmonic beauty of The Stylistics. But with their new album *Rockin' Roll Baby* (Avco), they even surpass the brilliance of their two previous collections. A large proportion of the credit should of course go to Thom Bell, whose involvement with The Stylistics has been of major importance to their development and subsequent success. He has shaped the group's sound with his arranging, producing and songwriting skills, as well as playing keyboards and conducting the sizeable ensembles of musicians on their records. And with *Rockin' Roll Baby*, Bell has created a masterpiece of contemporary music, which at the same time is totally commercial and thoroughly enjoyable. (Unlike Motown's songwriter/producer Norman Whitfield, who has turned The Temptations into little more than a backing group on their recent albums, Bell never allows The Stylistics to be less than the centrepiece of their records.) Although every track has something to recommend it, there are a number that cry out to be played over and over again. The hit single title cut, "Only For The Children", "Pay Back Is A Dog" and "I Won't Give You Up" are amongst these. The most impressive performance of all, however, is "You Make Me Feel Brand New", a sensitive, inspired love song which only someone with a heart of stone could ignore.

2. One of the pleasures of putting on the odd year or two in the 1970s is being able to buy compilation albums which contain all the hits you couldn't afford when you were younger. Alan 'pop pickers' Freeman's 2-record set *History Of Pop* (Arcade) illustrates exactly what I mean. Priced at £3.25, there is a total of 40 tracks which include aging delights such as Gene Vincent's "Be-Bop-A-Lula", The King Brothers' "A White Sports Coat", Cliff Richard's best-ever recording "Move It" and The Shadows' "Apache". Other memorable slices of pop history are "Speedy Gonzales" by Pat Boone, "Hippy Hippy Shake" by The Swinging Blue Jeans, the Beach Boys' "Good Vibrations" and The Yardbirds' prophetic "Shape Of Things". A feast of nostalgia no less.

3. Whilst on the subject of 'golden oldies', do you remember "The Single Girl" by Sandy Posey? Classic teenage slush and immensely entertaining to

hear again. Recently released is *The Very Best Of Sandy Posey* (MGM), and apart from the former track, it contains 15 other cuts of similar quality. If you were turned on by Ms Posey's big hit, you may find the rest of the collection very much to your liking. Incidentally, "Hey Mister" on side one, if issued as a single, could well climb into the charts, even though it was recorded in 1966.

4. Returning to the 1970s, Lou Reed's *Rock N Roll Animal* (RCA) is startlingly different to the previous two albums. Aggressive, 'decadent' or disturbing are



just a few of the words one could seize upon to describe Reed's first live solo album. Backed by the best bunch of musicians he's yet gathered around him, the ex-leader of the incredibly misunderstood and under-rated Velvet Underground has produced a musical experience that few other rock artists could equal. All the material featured has previously appeared on disc. One track, "Lady Day" is from his last release Berlin, whilst cuts such as "Sweet Jane", "Heroin" and "Rock 'n' Roll" date from his days with the Velvets. People tend to either hate or love Lou Reed. If you are one of the converted, buy the record, play it as loud as possible and listen to a space-age performer singing 20th-century poetry about crumbling but intoxicating concrete jungle life.

5. In comparison with the previous record, Charlie Rich's *Behind Closed Doors* (Epic) is a decidedly subdued affair, but nevertheless it is one of the finest albums that the country and western genre has produced. Rich finally made it to the top in the States with the million-selling title cut, but "The Most Beautiful Girl" is the track that turned on the public in Britain, although the former is currently attracting a lot of attention. Both the songs are on the album, along with nine other excellent examples of why Charlie Rich justly deserves widespread success and critical acclaim.

Denis Lemon

St Georges Taverns
Proudly Presents At

THE WHEATSHEAF

Goldhawk Road
London W12

A GRAND OPENING NIGHT 1st APRIL
CABARET STARRING

Lee Paris

ON THE OPENING NIGHT AND EVERY MONDAY
IN THE NEW LOUNGE

THE GREEN ROOM HAS BEEN EXTENDED AND GEORGE AND JEANETTE WELCOME ALL OLD FRIENDS AND LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING NEW ONES IN A FRIENDLY AND GAY ATMOSPHERE.

Love Motion

LPBO 5011

A new
Single
from
Peter
Straker



RCA Records and Tapes

The Roman Spring Of Haute Couture

by Iain T Finlayson

In deference to repeated requests (from those of you who could find the pencil), this week's column is devoted to *mille age tendre*, *les dames d'un certain age*, and whatever other categories may exist—are there any?

In these days of austerity, any discussion of the Haute Couture is bound to be rather more guilt than gilt edged, but the paradox of fashion is that clothes tend to blossom into luxuriant extravagance during crisis. A rule of thumb may be that luxury proliferates in direct proportion to the degree of privation suffered outside the perfumed shrine of Couture. The Spring/Summer Collections for '74 in no way depart from this formula. The newest confections from Rome and Paris were the prettiest and most feminine I have seen in years.

In Rome, energy restrictions closed down the city at midnight and in a practical mood Valentino announced that he would be showing no clothes for yacht life because nobody will be able to afford a boat this summer owing to the petrol situation. Having accepted this with stoic fortitude, he was further inconvenienced by a 'Liberazione della Donna' demonstration on his very doorstep the night of his show. Leaflets declared "woman is a thing worth what her prospective buyer, man, is willing to pay. She is forced to be as he wishes her—well-dressed, clean, deodorised, soft, smiling and peaceable—a mindless doll." In the event, Valentino's woman is a liberated lady. She most certainly wears no bra under the sheerest of blouses tied at the neck in a bow. She marched along the catwalk hiding her knees under skirts at mid-calf and her straight, narrow skirts under billowing topcoats. Fabrics were white or pale pastels and classic neutrals to fit the graceful, loose and easy comfort of the clothes. Valentino is one of the most successful designers in the entire field of Couture. Season by season he modifies, innovates cautiously yet manages to stun the eye by his imaginative and perfect cut. He is a Couturier in the great tradition—perhaps not a fashion leader par excellence, but undoubtedly a magnificent craftsman with an infallible eye for good taste and the desires of a woman.

Andre Laug comes as near to perfection as any mortal hand can hope with a graceful, neat and ladylike collection of silk jacquard pleated shirt-waisters and fluted columns of crepe or knife-pleated silk crepe pale coloured evening dresses sinuously draped with ostrich trimmed long scarves. Daytime skirt lengths were well below the knee and the emphasis again was on the white and neutral shades of summer ice-cream.

Fabiani, in a rather laboured *recherche du temps perdu* revived four styles from his past career and did his bit for the energy crisis and conservation by recycling fashion from the '30s and '40s. The 'Liberazione della Donna' might have done better to indict this revivalist meeting rather than Valentino who at least appears to have some understanding of women in the modern world.

The main trends in Rome appeared to be the flatteringly soft and fluid Vionnet bias cut for easy,

supple materials; self-tie bow-necked shirtwaist day dresses to below knee length; and buttonless jackets. For day wear, there are very few prints—fabrics are self-colour and no-colour. Texture rather than pattern gives interest to the materials—and this is a widespread trend throughout the current fashion world collections. Laug showed more trousers than any other House, and a definite skirt revival is in the air. The look is a soft femininity, albeit achieved by a neat, structure, loose cut. But the simplicity and pared-down elegance is relieved by the supple fabrics.

Last week I muttered darkly about the British difficulty in 'getting it together' with line, fabric, and innovative design talent. I bewailed our native inability to coordinate these elements into the harmony of a total and distinctive look. I may have been talking in the context of menswear, but my remarks apply equally to the distaff. I grind my teeth, therefore, when it comes to assessing the latest offerings from ultra-chic Walter Albini. The Albini team consists of the cream from London art schools—dazzling, award-winning graduates from St Martin's, Kingston and the RCA, who, together with textile designer Bernard Nevill (also British), have been directed and moulded into producing a sublime collection of instant nostalgia perfectly updated for these troublesome times. I know not what magic Albini conjures to produce such results, but such flair and imagination as was presented in Rome at the end of January deserves the utmost credit, however grudgingly it may be given.

At the risk of riding a favourite hobby horse to death, I despair of the British approach to fashion. After World War II, Europe began to regild its industries. Paris more or less resumed where it had left off, drawing from its vast resources of tradition and expertise to entice American buyers and dollars back to the Couture. Britain, too, made an attempt to build up markets for what was then a fairly well-established indigenous Couture industry. Production was reserved to export markets, but rationing was still in force and conditions were, admittedly, difficult for our Couturiers. The crunch came when Dior launched the 'New Look', extravagant in line and in use of materials. The then Chancellor, Sir Stafford Cripps, summoned the redoubtable Alison Settle, at that time fashion editor of the Observer, to tell her that British women should be pressed to reject such conspicuous consumption. Ms Settle sweetly asked him whether he had ever heard of King Canute. The opportunity to spend money, to build up the Couture in this country was lost. Italy, however, realising that the Couture is a luxury, glamour industry valuable not only for its image but also for its capacity to earn valuable dollar currency, poured money into promoting native design talent—and the success of the Italian Couture today rivals that of Paris. In retrospect, this seems trite; but the opportunity for British fashion was there for the taking in the post-war period if there had been anyone in government with enough flair and savoir to coordinate the elements to hand. Albini did it this season in Rome.



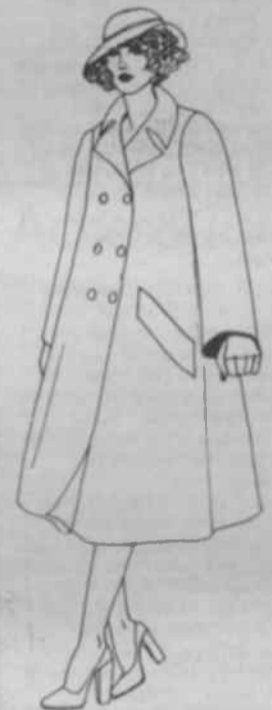
FABIANI's Blouson Georgette Coat



VALENTINO's White Georgette Dress with Silver Paillette Camisole



ANDRE LAUG's Lilac Silk Jacquard Pleated and Swathed with Ostrich Feathers



VALENTINO's Great Coat

Illustrations: Jean-Claude Thevenin

QUORUM

the glossy magazine for the gay world.

QUORUM is gay and proud of it. No hypocrisy. QUORUM is a gay magazine for gay people.

And QUORUM treats its readers with respect—for both their gayness and their intelligence.

Recent issues have included serious articles on—

- homosexual marriage;
- gayness and the male dancer;
- icebreakers;
- gay poetry;
- the 'normal' homosexual;

♦ interviews with Lindsay Kemp, Manouche, gay painter David Eastman and former Disney childstar Tommy Kirk;

♦ super photo-features ('Summer on Fire Island', 'The Body is a Dancer')—lots of pin-up photographs—letters, news and comment.

NOW! ***** A QUORUM 'FIRST' ***** in issue no. 2/6 (out now) a centre-spread pin-up photo IN FULL COLOUR.

♦ articles on: Homosexual morality and the law, and Male nudity in the cinema (first in a series and very amply illustrated).

And from this issue, QUORUM costs only 50p per monthly issue.

Other titles available:

The Best of Quorum '73—32 pages of indeed the best photographs features in last year's magazines £2.50.

Homo-erotic Art—just-published companion to 'The Colt Album', featuring especially the exciting drawings of Rip Colt and Tom of Finland £3.00.

The Lusty Male—just reprinted—the hugely-popular collection of top-class male nude photographs £2.50

♦ lots more. Write now for our lists.

(And remember!—QUORUM Subscribers gain substantial discounts on books and magazines offered by S & H.)

ORDER FORM: Please send me: (Tick as appropriate)

a copy of QUORUM 2/6 Homo-erotic Art The best of QUORUM '73 The Lusty Male

I enclose £6.00 for subscription to the next 12 monthly issues of QUORUM, to be sent to me by 1st-class mail and plain cover at the following address:

Name (block capitals please)

Address (block capitals please)

Total cash enclosed = £. (cash/cheque/P.O.)

I am over 18 (Signed)

No stamp required if you send this order to:

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



Personal Ads and Information

Anne'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.

ASHTON UNDER LYNE

Club: The Gaslight Club

BARNSELEY

Pub: Queens Hotel (Venturer Bar)

BARRY Glamorgan

Pub: The Barry Hotel (Lounge Bar) Broad Street

BATH

Pub: Garricks Head, Sawcluse The Regency (opp Theatre Royal)

Club: *Valentines, 14 George Street

BEDFORD

Pub: The Barley Mow, Bromham Rd

BELFAST

Pub: Avenue Bar, Rosemary Street

BIRMINGHAM

Pubs: Imperial Hotel, Temple Street The Victoria, John Bright St

The Viking (Downstairs Bar), Smallbrook, Queensway. Open nightly, 8-10.30, gays and friends only.

Clubs: Grosvenor House, 326 Hagley Road, B17

*Nightingale, 50 Camp Hill B12

BLACKBURN

Pubs: The Merchants Hotel, Darwen St (D)

BLACKPOOL

Pub: Lucy's Bar, Talbot Square

BOLTON

Pubs: Prince William, Deansgate (upst) Peel Arms Hotel, 423 Halliwell Road

BOURNEMOUTH

Pub: The Norfolk Hotel

Clubs: Gigs, The Triangle

BRADFORD

Pub: The Prince Albert, Warley Hill Junction Inn, Leeds Road

BRENTWOOD

Pub: The Prince Albert, Warley Hill

BRIGHTON

Pubs: Spotted Dog, Middle Street Greyhound East St (upstairs bar only)

Cricketers, Black Lion Street (weekends)

Hove Lawns Hotel

*Heart & Hand, Ship Street

Clubs: New Curtain Club, East Street (men)

*Regency Club, Regency Square 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

Gay Cavalier, 62 Middle St

Olde Twitten, 8-11 Middle St

Lorelei Coffee Lounge, 5 Union Street

Disco: Sussex GLF 8-11pm every Fri

Stanford Arms (upstairs back bar), Preston Circus

BRISTOL

Pub: Radnor, 30 St Nicholas Street The Ship, Park Row, Nr Red Lodge

Club: *Moulin Rouge, 72 Worral Rd, Clifton

BURNLEY

Pub: *The Cross Keys

CAMBRIDGE

Pub: The Stable Bar, Green Street (off Trinity Street) Rest: Scaramouche, Catherine Street, Tel: Cambridge 43570

CANTERBURY

Pub: The Queen's Head, Watling Street

CARDIFF

Pub: Royal Hotel (Roberts Bar) St Mary Street

Royal Oak, St Mary Street

Clubs: Showbiz Club, Hope Street

CHELTENHAM

Pubs: Irving Hotel, High Street

Club: New Twenty Club, 20 High Street

CHESTER

Pubs: Foregate Bar, Blossoms Hotel, St Johns Street

Grosvenor, nr Blossoms Hotel

CHICHESTER

Pub: Cattle Market Inn

CIRENCESTER

Pub: Black Horse

CLEETHORPES

Club: Birds Nest, Kings Road, Boating Lake (Wed Sat Sun)

DERBY

Club: Pavilion Club, 123 London Rd, Shardlow (7 miles)

DONCASTER

Club: Don Jon's, Silver Street

Pub: Underground, off Silver Street

DUNDEE

Pub: Gauger, Seagate

DUNSMORE BUCKS

Pub: The Fox

DURHAM

Pub: The Three Tuns, Old Elvet

EDINBURGH

Pubs: The Kenilworth, Rose Street The Abercromby Hotel

Abercromby Place

The Ballie, St Stephen Street

EXETER

Pubs: Horse & Groom, Longbrook St

FERNDALE, South Wales

Pub: *Salsbury Hotel

GLASGOW

Pubs: Duke of Wellington, Arville St The Strand (Downstairs Bar), 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 Gray Horse, Chapel Hill (Sundays)

Amster Dam (men)

IPSWICH

Pub: The Blue Coat Boy, Cattle Market Street

MULL

Pub: White House Hotel (Tudor Bar) Jameson Street

LANCASTER

Pub: Farmers Arms, Kine Street

LEEDS

Pubs: Hope & Anchor, Call Lane West Riding Bar (back bar) Wellington Street

Cafe: Flamenco, New Briggate

Club: Room At The Top, 207 North St

Charley's Briggate

Disco: Leeds GLF Disco fortnightly, contact their office for location

LEICESTER

Pub: Dover Castle, Dover Street

LIVERPOOL

Pubs: Lisbon, Victoria Street L2 The Denby Castle, Mackins Hey (off Dale Street)

Clubs: New Bears Paw, Dorrans Lana Johns Gay Bar Royal, Wood St Pagoda, 31 Colquhoun Street L1

LONDON

Pubs: *Watermans Arms (Upstairs Bar), Water Lane, Richmond

*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 Road (Goldhawk Road 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

*Horse & Groom, near Pig & Whistle (Sundays only)

Cricketers, Battersea Park Rd (D)

*Elephant & Castle, South Lambeth Place (Vauxhall tube) (D)

The Salisbury, St Martins Lane WC2 (Leicester Sq tube)

Ship & Whale, Gulliver St SE16 William IV, Hampstead High St

*Royal Vauxhall Tavern, Vauxhall Cross (Vauxhall tube) (D)

*Union Tavern, 146 Camberwell New Road, SE5 Disco Mon and Tues

Father Redcap, Camberwell Green, SE5

Imperial, High St, Richmond Golden Lion, Dean Street, off Shaftesbury Ave, W1

Duke of Fifa, 350 Katherine Rd E7 (East Ham tube)

Eimhurst, 131 Lordship Lane, Tottenham N17 (D)

Royal Oak, 62 Glenhorne Road W6 (D)

Clubs: The Peacock, 259 Old Brompton Road, SW10

Sweet Lorraine, Lowndes Court W1 (Oxford Circus tube)

Vortex Tachbrook Street

*Le Gigolo, Kings Road (Sloane Square tube)

The New Oasis, 3 Excel Court, Whitcomb Street, WC2 Tel 01-203 4961

*Paint Box, 29 Fowley Street W1 (Oxford Circus tube)

*Masquerade Restaurant & disco Earls Court Sq, SW5 (Earls Court tube)

*The Pink Elephant, 8 Newport Place, WC2 (Leicester Sq tube)

*Molins Disco Club (girls only) Half Moon Hotel, Half Moon Lane, Herne Hill, SE24 (Wed Fri Sat)

*Shanes, Broadhurst Gardens, NW6

The Escort, 89a Picnic Road (Sloane Square tube)

Yours & Mine, Kensington High St, W8 (Ken High St tube)

Rockingham, 9 Archer St, W1

Toucan Club, 13 Gerrard St, W1

Festival Club, 2 Brydges Place WC2 (Leicester Sq tube)

Louise, 61 Poland Street, W1 (Oxford Circus tube)

Chaguaramas, Neal St, WC2

Apollo, 3 Wardour St, W1

Mandy's, 30 Henrietta St, WC2

Jonny's, 106, The Shopping Precinct, Shepherds Bush, W12 (tube Shepherds Bush)

Disco: *The Catacombs, Old Brompton Road (Earls Court tube)

South London GLF disco, 8pm Sat at Hanover Arms (Oval tube)

*Arabian Pub, Tricky Dicky disco every Wed, Cambridge Heath Road, E2 (Bethnal Green tube)

Molins Disco Club, Half Moon Lane, SE24 (Wed Fri Sat)

*Ship & Whale, Gulliver St, SE16 Thurs (Surrey Docks tube)

Alan and Daves Disco, Ship & Whale, Gulliver St, SE16

Tricky Dicky Disco (Thurs) Hornsey Wood Tavern, 376 Seven Sisters Road, N4

*Tricky Dicky Disco (Mon & Thurs) Kings Arms, 213 Bishopsgate, EC1 (Liverpool Street tube)

Dicks Inn, Father Redcap, Camberwell Green SE5, every Fri.

GLF, Prince Albert, corner of Wharfedale Rd and York Way N1. Adm 10p, every Fri.

Rest: Nell Gwynnes Kitchen, 43 Crawford St.

La Popote, Walton St, SW3

Chaguaramas, 41-43 Neal St, WC2

Simple Simon, 234 Old Brompton Road, SW5

Masquerade, 310 Earls Court Rd, SW5

Le Faune, 23 Praed Street, W2

La Casserole, 338 Kings Road, Chelsea, SW3

The Last Resort, 294 Fulham Road, SW10, Tel: 352 1625

Le Richelieu, 277 New Kings Rd, SW6, Tel: 736 4432

LINCOLN

Pub: Ye Olde Crown, Clasketgate (lounge bar)

LUTON

Club: *Pan Club, Bute Street, Open Nightly, weekend cabaret

MACCLESFIELD

Pub: Waters Green Tavern

MANCHESTER

Pubs: The Mechanics, Chorlton St Union Hotel, Princess Street (D) Rembrandt, Sackville Street

Trafford (back bar), Great Bridgewater Street

Cavalcade, Wilmslow Road Didsbury (Sunday lunchtime)

New York, Bloom Street

Clubs: Picador, Bradshaw Street, Shude Hill

Napoleon's, Sackville Street

MERTHYR TYDFIL

Pub: Red Cow Hotel, Glebeland Street

MIDDLESBOROUGH

Pub: The Grand Hotel

Club: The Rendezvous, above the Grand Hotel, Thurs Fri Sat

MORECAMB

Pub: *Masons Arms (IGays only) lounge

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

Pubs: Royal Court Grill, Bigg Market

Royal Turks Head, Punchinello Bar

Eldon Grill (variety bar), opp Greys Monument

Grapes Vault, Grey Street

County Hotel (Nancy's Bar) Westgate Road

NEWQUAY, Cornwall

Pub: King Mark (Sat lunchtimes)

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, Mansfield Road

Bentink Hotel, Midland Station

The Foresters (girls), near Victoria Centre

Clubs: Mario's Restaurant, Stanford St (off Castlegate)

*La Chic, 5-13 Canal Street

*Pavilion Club, 123 London Rd, Shardlow (13 miles)

OLDHAM

Pub: Lighthouse, Lees Road

OXFORD

Pubs: Red Lion, Gloucester Street Kings Arms, Holywell St (Sat lunchtime)

Disco: Oxford Gay Action Group, Discos every Wed and Sun at Stage Club, George St.

PENRITH

Cafe: Rendezvous, Sandgate

PLYMOUTH

Pubs: Lockyer Hotel, Oak Lounge (back bar), Derry's Cross

The Phoenix (off Union Street)

Club: West Hoe Club, Cliff Road

POOLE

Pubs: The Jolly Sailor The Lord Nelson

PORTSMOUTH

Pubs: *Balmoral Bar, Landport Terrace

Admiralty Tavern (Lounge Bar), Spring Street

PRESTON

Pubs: Bull & Royal, Cockpit Bar The Wellington, Glovers Court

READING

Disco: Gay Alliance every Wed in Sir Hermann Gollancz Hall, Clifton Street

ROCHESTER

Pubs: Ye Olde Ship Inn, 347 High St

ST ALBANS

Pub: Crown Hotel (Clarence Bar), Hatfield Road, Fri night only with Disco

ST HELIER, Jersey

Club: New Side Door, Cricketers Arms, Seale Street

SANDBACH, Cheshire

Pub: Market Place Tavern (Thurs)

SHEFFIELD

Club: The Cossack

Amberley Club, 225 Attercliffe

Personal Ads cont from Page 17

Businessman roaming, WR, Preston and Manchester area seeks friends 21-30ish with interests in the arts, travel, sport preferably slim, fair, average height and weight. Box 43/22.

Northern-Soul (90mph) freak living in the South, age 25, very lonely, looks more like 21. Wishing to meet similar young man over 21 living any area. Box 43/23.

Young university graduate seeks non-effeminate people 21-30. Interests: History, the arts, music, architecture and country pubs. Box 43/24.

East London. Two friends (35) would like help on bodybuilding. Have weights. Box 43/25.

Two gay friends (35) have caravan Isle of Sheppey. Stay most weekends there. Would like to meet local gay people. Box 43/26.

Gay male, 26, wishes to make new friends in the London area, 21-25, clean shaven, preferably slim, reasonably good-looking and friendly. Please write. Photo appreciated. ALA. Box 43/26.

40's guy seeks younger denim mates over 21, under 5'4". Midlands. ALA. Box 43/28.

Lively, affectionate, male postgrad (22) London, desires friendship with educated professional type young (Hindi-speaking?) Indian. Interests: music, theatre, food, Indian literature etc. Photo appreciated. Box 43/29.

April 26th-May 6th. Personable active professional gent (35) seeks male companion for touring holiday in sports car. Visiting Amsterdam, Berlin, Hamburg. Share expenses. Photo essential. ALA. Box 43/30.

Wanted-young man to join a week's cruiser holiday in Norfolk, late August. Share costs. Send details and photo. Box 43/32.

Scotland. A R Paisley. If you are still lonely and desperate, here's a similar guy in Lanarkshire. Waiting to hear from you. Box 43/33.

Young gay 21, would like to hear from same with view to close friendship. London. All photos returned with mine. ALA. Box 43/36.

Bearded Essex guy, seeks handsome guy, 21-22 for correspondence, friendship, holidays. Box 43/35.

Active resident schoolmaster (40s) with cottage in S Norfolk seeks company during school holidays. Also term-time friends Portsmouth/Southampton area. ALA. Box 43/36.

Anyone for Beauieu, April 13? Like-minded anywhere please write, shy, slim, Cumbrlan, early 30s, many interests. Photo appreciated. Box 43/37.

Have kit will travel! North East guy (young 48) seeks new non-effeminate leather/denim friends. Own pad. Photo appreciated. ALA. Box 43/38.

Manchester/Chester-genuine attractive, uncomplicated guy-believe it or not-28 tired of scene wishes to meet similar. Wide interests include music, theatre, films, Gastronomy and good living. Box 43/39.

Professional class, 51 years, very slim (not effeminate) but affectionate, seeks strong-minded active friend. London/South. Box 43/40.

Good looking young guy, new to London seeks young skinheads over 21 or leather/denim men with big bikes to show me the ropes. Photo please. Box 43/41.

Reading Bachelor 38 seeks young friend 21+ share outings and holidays. Likes football, cinema. ALA. Box 43/42.

Scruffy coalman, black curly hair, bearded and booted seeks another/miners/HGV drivers also very old, very soft leather jeans needed for work 32" waist. Box 43/43.

Male, 35, Manchester area, own flat, well-built, likes active men and the work of Rip Colt. Can travel. ALA. Box 43/44.

Masculine, interesting-looking, bearded intellectual guy (30) would like to meet same, not for head sparring, but enjoying various things together. Send photo, will reply. Box 43/45.

Bromley. Active, somewhat shy guy, 34, seeks lasting friendship with gay 25-35. Interests varied. Photo appreciated. ALA. Box 43/46.

25-year-old shy introvert. Is there a happy active extrovert who will change me? Box 43/47.

Young man 22, wishes to hear from all handsome non-effeminate young men over 21 for friendship. Photo appreciated. London/SE. Box 43/49.

Brian, 25, slim, 5'7" dark and not bad looking, would like to meet blond/fair guys 21-30 London/Essex/Kent area. Photo appreciated. ALA. Box 43/50.

Gay marriage ends after 12 years. Leaving me too camp, aff, homi-polone, seeking husband no 2, any age or nationality. I am a gone over 29yr. Box 43/51.

Is there a butch, hairy, guy over 26 who needs attractive, dark, slim, 25yr old guy? Love and affection waiting. Photo please. ALA. Box 43/52.

London, 28, lean, brown hair, blue eyes, sociable, quiet, bi, educated, travelled, unemployed, student, looks for friend for sporting, social or literary friendship. Please send photo. Box 43/53.

Butch leather man required for young skinhead enthusiast. Hairy man preferred but interests in leather/denim essential. ALA with photo (returned). Box 43/54.

Lonely, active, 38, seeks short-haired, well-built non-camp working-class mate, 21-45, permanent friendship, own house, car, homelover, photo ensures reply. Box 43/55.

Youngish male 49, seeks sincere friendship, preferably hairy. Any age to 55. North West or East London or neighbouring areas. Box 43/56.

Dutch motor racing fan, gay, 34, slim, 5'8" is looking for similar but younger leather friend in England for corresponding and/or meeting (JPS Grand Prix?). ALA. Write to Wim van der Berg, PO Box 40, Vlaardingen, Holland.

YOUNG MANCHESTER GUY would like to hear from handsome, dolly-looking and straight-looking guys into love and friendship. Not necessarily from Manchester. Will correspond with out-of-bound guys. (Age 21). Photo ensures a reply. Box 43/57.

Young part Scandinavian nightworking guy seeks young goodlooking mates over 21. Bodybuilder or coloured guys welcome. Photo essential. Box 43/58.

City gents, ex-public school, straight-looking guys 21-35, sought by tall, slim, London display artist 31. ALA. Photo appreciated. Box 43/59.

Manchester/Lancashire/West Riding graduate late 30's, gentle and shy seeks friends to make life mutually happy and purposeful. Box 43/60.

Transatlantic (25) non-camp, considered attractive, seeks sincere friendship with male in homely atmosphere. Cambridge-shire area, but have car. Box 43/61.

Bristol. Sincere lonely 23 yr old disenchanted with pub/club scene (because I'm always on my own) would like to meet someone similar over 21 for genuine friendship. Box 43/62.

Leather guy (35) Bristol/West country wants active guy 21-30, leather-minded for sincere friendship. Photo ALA. Box 43/63.

Manchester 25yr old would like to hear from males of similar age or younger, but over 21, any race, with a view to something permanent. Photo appreciated. Box 43/64.

HENLEY/READING AREA. Young at heart middle-aged guy would like to meet 21-30's for local activities and holiday with car. Box 43/65.

Scorpio 32 dark, active masculine, full of affection, seeks genuine honest mate for lasting friendship. Fair student type 21-30 preferred. Photo appreciated. ALA. Box 43/66.

Dry driver, 37, leather/denim interests, wishes to correspond etc with others same interests. Also wants to buy pal of 'Angel Originals'. Box 43/67.

Slim, attractive, dark-haired 28, wishes to meet a special friend for a really long-lasting friendship, lives Dover district. Photo if possible. Box 43/68.

Exeter 26, well into Mahler and Messiaen. Hoping to meet others of similar age. David. Box 43/69.

Straight-looking guy, 28, interested leather/denim seeks active mates 21-35, London. Photo please. Box 43/70.

23, BLOND BLUE-EYED 5'10" seeking a friend age 21-35, sincere friendship. London SW11. Photo please. Box 43/71.

Young man, 30, own place Kent, wants sincere young man, if there are any left, who wants real friendship. Box 43/72.

780 Super Bike owner into leather and denim. Is there a pal with bike who enjoys biking activities? Box 43/75.

23yr old attractive guy would like to meet other big uncomplicated masculine fellas 21-40. Photo please. Box 43/74.

Young attractive guy (24) London seeks goodlooking guy, similar age. ALA with photo. Box 43/75.

Are you student/graduate/professional man 21-35 interested in opera, ballet; theatre, languages? So am I. Please write. ALA. Box 43/76.

Greek lessons (modern) required preferably by qualified teacher, 2-3 lessons weekly North or Central London. Genuine replies. Box 43/77.

Young man (21) shy, reasonable looks, would like to meet similar for lasting friendship. Photo please. (Merseyside). Box 43/78.

25, Asian, looking for genuine friendship. Please write frankly. Box 43/79.

Two attractive guys, 25 and 26, Yorkshire, seek similar, any area. Main interests opera and bodybuilding. Frequently in London. Photo ensures reply. Box 43/80.

Excuse me, but is there a civilised, liberal, non-neurotic gentle young man, late 20's, early 30's somewhere out there? I am 29, London based, poor, in the education game. real. Box 43/81.

Songwriter, actor, 34, into Zen and spiritual matters, lover of the arts and young men, welcomes company. Box 43/90.

Leather guy visiting Scotland from London on bike would like to meet guys en route. ALA with photo. Box 43/82.

Blond, active 29 wishes to meet under 40 muscle guy, interests leather, bikes, music, theatre etc. Accommodation shared W London possible. Photo. Box 43/83.

Young guy, 28, living in Torbay seeks other young guys in Torbay, Plymouth, Exeter area, would also like to meet guys visiting here. Photo appreciated. Box 43/84.

Mirsate friend sought by active professional man, 40, share home, South Essex. ALA. Box 43/85.

Bowie or Ziggy-type model sought by young photographer. Fee or free prints given. Heavy weight bodybuilder also required. Studio Central London. Photo (returned). Box 43/86.

Are you trim, stout, 35-45 and still hopeful for quiet regular friendship? I'm 6', fair, muscular, active, hairy, not pretty, clubs/pubs not my scene. Have flat, job in Brighton area. (Commuters-I mean regular). Box 43/87.

Inexperienced gay student, 21, seeks 21-35 guys. I am tall, slim, want active friend. Transport appreciated. Newcastle Tyne area. Also model (fee). Box 43/88.

London based (29) seeks active friend. Must be appealing and interested in theatre. Box 43/89.

Non-camp bisexual, Central London, good-looking, 38, but looks younger, wide cultural interests, self-employed professional with lots of spare time during week daytime wants active, straight-looking, male friends for uninvolved friendship. Will send honest photo to all sensible replies. Box 43/91.

Sea trip to Australia end of year by Londoner gay, slim, young 65. Seeks company, or part journey. Box 43/92.

Butch, well-built, professional 30, seeks similar friend. Photo appreciated. Box 43/93.

Into modelling for fun, young and good-looking? Then you're just the one. No experience required as tuition will be given. Box 43/94.

Two active straight-looking gay guys, 25yrs, wish to meet two non-effeminate guys of similar age. We like pubs, clubs etc and enjoy life. Have car and own pad. Wish to settle down. Lancs area. ALA. Photo appreciated. Box 43/95.

Ceylonese, professional mid-thirties, active, seeks friends. Box 43/96.

WILL SOMEONE CARE? 26yr old, blonde, small, very genuine. Only asks for one fella to call. You must be somewhere, please write. ALA. Box 43/97.

Light nights are here—quit hibernating. Where are all the gay boys in Sutton/Lichfield/Walsall/North Brum/Tamworth? Tend to think I'm the only one round here! Please get in touch if under 30 and legit and a level type. Box 43/98.

Author requires friendly mature personal assistant, unusual short research project, London. Box 43/99.

Gays interested in learning to sail large yacht in Clyde estuary for free, please write stating age and occupation. Box 43/100.

Sports cyclist, 33, wants to meet active chaps, any age. ALA. Anywhere, London. Box 43/101.

Jamaican, actor/model, straight-looking, young, handsome and tall, wants to live again, enjoys the good things in life. Can someone help? Box 43/102.

Are there no 'active' gays in South Wales, no adverts ever appear in GN? I am 26 (hair receding and wearing specs, tends to give older impression). Wide interests, seek sincere friend. Lonely. ALA. Write now—not tomorrow—but today. To: Martin Rees, 5 Upper Church Street, Barrood, Glamorgan, Wales.

Bachelor, 40ish, professional, non-camp, tall, slim, fair, wide interests, own home North London seeks cultured 35/50 for permanent friendship. Photo if possible. Phone number for prompt reply. ALA. Box 43/104.

Exuberant dark, bearded, American Taurus 25, into soul, iolanthe, architecture, Gestalt, Bohemians, Northern accents, informality, Hill Now write to me. Box 43/106.

PROFESSIONAL MAN; living London, straight appearance 5'10", 180lbs, short hair, very fit and with it in 38 wishes to meet fellow with University background now in professional practice. Gourmet and non-smoker preferred. Looks and character important, but discretion and integrity prerequisites. Photo appreciated and returned. Box 43/108.

Living abroad? London home. Responsible people will 'housesit' for you. Box 43/107.

Mike, 29, is looking for young-looking friends (over 21) whose interests may number boats, cars and music. Write with photo and phone number. ALA. Box 43/109.

Are you active and well-built? In the age group of 30-40? 22yr old attractive boy would love to meet you. Photo appreciated. ALA. West London. Box 43/110.

Wanderlust. Young American needs travelling companion for Mediterranean May to October. All expenses paid, adventures shared, but no sugar daddy stuff, please. Write with life story, photo, phone number or address to contact for London meetings. Youth, beauty, and truckers with brains preferred. I will answer all letters in May. Box 43/111.

Even-tempered experienced dog owner required for 12-month English Setter dog pup orange, white. Full vacs, KC, regd, fair price, ready show pet, real beauty. Genuine enquires. Box 43/112.

Guy 26, seeks others for friendship and June holiday. Motorcycle types please. Midlands/London. Box 43/113.

Active male (28) house and car owner. Free during daytime seeks friends over 21. Varied interests. Preston/Chorley/Wigan/Bolton area. Box 43/114.

Gay T.A. soldier invites letters from gays in T.A. and regular army. Utmost discretion assured. Box 43/115.

Gay bricklayer will be pleased to hear from those engaged in the building industry. Also from coalmen and miners. Alan, 23 Grayling Road, London N16. National Colleges of Education Gay Rights Committee. Keen supporters needed now for countrywide developing campaign. Write NCEGRC, c/o NUS HQ, 3 Endsleigh Street, London WC1.

JOHN PRITCHARD—Wish me luck as you kiss me goodbye. Peter.

Californian, 34, masculine executive, yet cultured type transferred to UK soon, seeks slim, sincere young friend, any race, for steady friendship. Travel possible. Photo appreciated, returned. ALA. Write Airmail, PO Box 26017, Los Angeles 90024.

Two well-built men, 23 and 29 seek similar for friendship. Nice camps please. Interested. Box 43/144.

Bored at weekends? 31yr old 5'9" good-looking non-effeminate would provide good company to over 21yr old. Willing to travel. ALA. Box 43/145.

Two London mates, early twenties, seek friends same age for socialising at home. Varied interests. Photo ensures reply. Box 43/146.

Young man, 30, shy but affectionate, living in the North East, interests are Music, theatre, cinema, travel, looking for that certain someone. Box 43/147.

Wanted: worn faded denim bags, 28" waist. Box 43/148.

Young man, 28, would like to meet 21-28 for lasting friendship. Own flat, car etc. Photo and phone number for fast reply. Genuine first ad. Box 43/153.

Young painter, goodlooking, wants active non-camp young friends. Own fabulous studio. Photo essential. Box 43/149.

Liverpool. Slim, unassuming, non-effeminate male, late 20s, quiet, pleasant disposition. An unrepentant romantic interested in all arts especially music, and seeking companion 21-30 for sincere lasting friendship. ALA. Box 43/150.

Essexian would like to meet same. Dr Martins, denims; unfortunately no pad. ALA. Box 43/151.

Birmingham. Young Christian seeks sympathetic friend, hope, 25-30. Box 43/152.

Reserved, non-effeminate 6'2" 25yr old hopes for English or coloured friend in the Midlands. Someone kind and sincere. Photo and phone number appreciated. ALA. Box 43/154.

Crispin/mas met at Chesham Place, Wednesday afternoon 6th March. Drop me a line in Manchester. Possibly we might meet again. I look forward to that—Tom. Box 43/155.

London male 47 non-camp young-looking, slim, wishes to meet non-camp sincere friend 40-55 for permanent friendship. Have own place and garden, West London. Box 43/156.

Young goodlooking male (21) seeks young handsome males, age 21-27, non-effeminate in South West area for active friendship. Have car will travel. Photos exchanged. Box 43/157.

Sincere friend wanted to share my silly material things. Own house etc, near London. Non-effeminate types only. I am 35 and require person 21-35, any nationality, though dark or coloured person preferred. Box 43/158.

29yr old Indian origin, active, living in London seeks genuine friend, 21-35. Any nationality welcome. Photo appreciated. ALA. Box 43/159.

Photographic model, 28, London, available evenings/weekends. Box 43/160.

Amusing, creative water-skier, good-looking body and mind-improver, seeks chum Greek island holiday May/June/July. London ballet/theatre/cinema jaunts not frowned upon. Photo please. Box 43/161.

Goodlooking slim, would like to meet tall powerfully built guy living London area. Nonaggressive bodybuilder or similar preferred. Please send details. Photo appreciated. Box 43/162.

Winchester Quirester 1948; Bedford Modern 1946-51, 1958-9; Ruskin (art) 1953-6, RAF (JARIC) West Kirby, Nuneham; Medmanham, Brampton, 1956-8. Who was gay? C B N C? Londoner (39) has hunches. Photo perhaps? ALA. Box 43/163.

Are there any active leathermen in North Wales? If so, send photo to goodlooking 24yr old. Box 43/164.

Hertfordshire—Hemel Hempstead area, active male 48 would like to meet professional type, noncamp, similar age, hoping for a permanent friendship. Box 43/165.

Sincere 50yr old seeks genuine, sincere and honest friend 21-30. Have own flat. Photo please. ALA. Box 43/166.

21YR OLD DREAMBOY WISHES TO meet his idol or someone who resembles him. Long flowing hair, fresh complexion, and incredibly handsome. Interests: enjoyment of life mostly; lively, honest and quite witty. Write with photo, if possible, to Box 43/167.

Midlands, 23, slim, bearded, likes faded denim, seeks similar for friendship. Sincere. Photo returned. Box 43/168.

LNWR, GWR, MR, LBSCR, LVR, CLC (etc) enthusiast, 28, slim, pleasant personality (other interests musical, humanitarian) seeks fellow escapist 21-30 South Lancs/North Ches. ALA. Box 43/169.

Manchester male, 29, slim, amiable, unpretentious, non-effeminate, non-materialistic (varied interests including arts in general and music particularly) seeks similar 21-30 perhaps currently disillusioned, perhaps simply shy, but, hopefully, looking for profound friendship. ALA. Box 43/170.

Worcestershire: young 33yr old seeks friends 21-30 for lasting friendship. Like denim and leather. Own flat and car. Reply with photo please. ALA. Box 43/171.

Reasonable looking 33yr old, seeks friend, preferably 21-30, with a view to corresponding and visits. Wide interests. Reply with photo please. ALA. Box 43/172.

South of France. Discreet presentable well-spoken young man with driving licence required for garden and general domestic duties April-November 1974. Self-contained apartment provided. Write with photo and full details to Box 43/173

Barbados holiday. July 25th one month. Now two guys needed complete party, sharing large super-luxury apartment. Self-catering. Flight, maid service, approx £230. Enquiries 01-946 1832. Gay cruise around the Greek Islands (Mykonos), Turkey and Yugoslavia. Contact Stan Jacobson, fortune Sustain, Zeamarina, Piraeus, Greece.

Bristol area, busy lonely professional chap; mid-forties, hates usual gay scene would like to contact others similarly placed possibly to form social group. Cultural interests and enjoys civilised life. Secretarial help also required. Box 43/177.

Wanted: non-effeminate type to escort young drag artiste to Mardigras Fancy Dress Ball at Porchester Hall 11th May 1974. Box 43/178.

Londoner, 32, frequent visitor to Brighton seeks friends both places. Also offers free overnight accommodation to visitors to London. All nationalities welcome. Box 43/179.

NEED SOMEONE TO WRITE TO? Need a sincere (really), kind and thoughtful friend? I'm 21, like lively young people of similar age and offer a deep lasting friendship. Don't delay, write now, enclosing a photo, and I promise I will reply immediately. Lancs area. Box 43/182.

South Wales professional type, 60, would welcome friendship of quiet home-loving type 40-60. Interested classical music, gardening, cooking. Near superb coastline, car essential. Professional pianist welcome. Comfortable home. Photo welcome. Letters answered. Box 43/188.

Canadian Italian origin, 26, quiet, varied interests, home lover, would like to meet others for friendship and quiet evenings at home. Photo appreciated. Box 43/189.

I'm Barry, tall, slim, dark, 36, masculine. Barry needs younger slim fella over 21, who may need and care for Barry. Those who need an older fella, put pen to paper quick. ALA. Photo if possible. Box 43/190.

Guy 21-30s sought for steady friendship by Londoner, 38 own flat (possible flatmate?). Interests: theatre, music, films, holidays, leather/denim and Malay/Thai friends also welcomed. Box 43/191.

Tall, active, straight-looking Londoner, 32, wide interests, affection to spare, seeks warm, masculine partner 21-32, possibly dark and sturdy, freedom, no hang-ups, let's just enjoy each other, hopefully with long-term in view. Your photo returned with mine. Box 43/192.

English designer, young, 34, with excellent flat, eagerly welcomes slim good-looking Asian friend 21-25 who is warm-hearted, willing, reliable and unpretentious with more than merely gay interests. Photo guarantees reply. Box 43/193.

Chelmsford. Male couple—an affair of long-standing—ages 33/48 seeks other couples or singles 21-30. Lonely local students welcome. Photo appreciated. ALA. Brian and Bill. Box 43/194.

Oxford student, 21, likes denim, literature, seeks similar friends over 21. Box 43/195.

Lonely male, 32, needs someone (21-30) "Second appeal" (Crawley). Box 43/196.

Bournemouth active man, presentable with house, car, would like to meet young man over 21, visit weekends etc. Box 43/198.

Affair, 36/38 seeks friends, single or couples. Brentwood, ALA. Box 43/199.

Slim Manchester guy, 21, would like to meet another around same age but over 21. Photo welcome but not essential. Box 43/200.

MARDIGRAS & CLOWNS BALL. Porchester Hall, May 11th.

Young guy, 28, tired of isolation seeks friends in Maidenhead/Marlow area. Box 43/201.

Male, 36, wants for lasting friendship, a sticky hairy built guy up to 16st. My waist 28" (non-effeminate). Will answer all letters. Photo appreciated. Box 43/202.

Middle-aged guy own pad, Uxbridge area, varied interests, seeks active friend 21-30 affectionate, sincere. Photo appreciated. ALA. Box 43/203.

Holiday with me? Literate attractive young man seeks similar (around late 20s) to share early summer holiday and after. Write with phone number to Box 43/204.

Gay friends wanted. My age is 29. Write from any place. Live in East London. Box 43/205.

Gay couple seek genuine friends. Interests music, driving, cinema, boating, photography etc. ALA. Box 43/206.

Real truly sincere permanent friend wanted, 21-early 30s, non-effeminate or hirsute, loving and affectionate, wished by slim, 5'7", living abroad, needing such a friend, and willing assistant to live, love, work permanently together. Box 43/207.

Deaf and dumb contact sought by writer, forties with house central London, view information novel and possible future friendship. Box 43/208.

North East, late 30s, stocky 5'9", 175 lbs. Most interests. Like to meet non-slim, active, any race. Own flat, car. Photo ALA. Box 43/209.

Continental 43, own business in England, seeks loyal affectionate friendship with black active young man over 21. Intelligent, quiet. Only genuine replies. Photo please. ALA. Slough-London. Box 43/210.

Norwich, Lonely guy, mid-thirties, own house, seeks friends, possible share house ALA Box 43/211.

Middle-aged friend needed by sailing-theatre enthusiast, 28. London/Hertfordshire. Box 43/212.

22yr old, tall, attractive, lively, nice to know, wishes to meet some other nice guys, not camp. Box 43/213.

Sensitive Scorpio 37, active and individualistic, seeks younger, romantic soul sign over 21. Box 43/214.

Essaying 34yr old seeks affectionate mate for genuine friendship in the English, Cheshunt area. Photo appreciated. ALA. Box 43/215.

For an interesting holiday in Ibiza this year, write to us for the latest info. Box 43/216.

Music lover, 23, told attractive, has great need for affection from loving attractive guy, 21-35, London. Photo please. Box 43/217.

"CHE needs you NOW"

Young Londoner Cockney, 26, seeks goodlooking masculine guy for sincere friendship. Keen on photos and bodybuilding. All photo letters answered first. Box 43/218.

Guy, 28, car, phone and flat in W London is looking for black or coloured friends for friendship. ALA Box 43/219.

Lower, well-preserved 32, London pad, seeks denim/leather type, preferably hirsute. Photo and telephone number ensures immediate reply. Box 43/220.

Brighton gay seeks working, non-smoking, cultured youth over 21 to share double 5/c flat near sea. Colour TV, phone. Photo essential, returned. Box 43/221.

Affectionate easygoing 44, London/Kent, seeks young friends over 21. May be summer holiday trip Mediterranean. Box 43/222.

North France 58 Polygot home seeks 50-65 lonely honest moustached male type lasting friendship. Photo appreciated. Box 43/223.

YOUNG 21YR OLD INTO SOUL. Music, dancing, having fun, wishes to meet similar aged youth over 21 for a really good time. Box 43/258.

Professional graduate, 40, tall, slim, active. London. Straight and sympathetic type. Offers friendly and comfortable evenings for tidy, unaffeminate and uncomplicated guys, 21-28. Photo appreciated and returned. Box 43/239.

Personal & Classified Ads Form

Please insert in the next issue

Number of words per word + Box Number fee

Please find enclosed crossed cheque/postal order made payable to Gay News

Send to Gay News Ltd, Classified Ads, 62a Chiswick High Road, London W4 1SY

Name

Address

To ensure that your advertisement(s) appear under the correct heading(s) please tick the appropriate circle(s).

Mixed Personal

Women's Personal

Personal

Employment

Accommodation

Services

Market Place

Entertainment

Personal Ads continued from Page 18

Ordinary Taurean guy 5'8", 28yrs, London based. Moody, willful, hairy (could be changed), looking for easy-going non-camp opposites. Photo appreciated. Box 43/224.

Young gay guy to share room in large comfortable s/c flat adjacent Wandsworth Common station. 9 mins Victoria. Happy atmosphere. £6.66. Box 43/122.

Duggie who is 19, is looking for a position where he can always be around beautiful people. Any legal suggestions considered. Write to Duggie Evans, 84 Dovecot Court, Lansdowne Way, London SW8.

Cabaret act featuring Al Jolson and others, by Francois. Enquiries 01-542 5048, 01-870 5878.

EDINBURGH GAY WOMENS GROUP details contact Ms M Laurie 4/15 Halesland Park, Edinburgh

Retired teacher in Cardiff, wishes to meet similar retired or not for friendship. ALA. Box 43/226.

Young Anglo-African guy, 22, pleasant, reliable, college-leaver, seeks flat share London, Centralish, own room. Write David Box 43/142.

DISK-JOCKEY WANTED for a new gay disco. Must be young and keen - no equipment needed - training considered - accommodation available.

Free colour pics taken of good-looking young guys 21-30. Phone Anthony 01-628 4367 evenings. Ring 422 5200 after 6.30pm.

INFORMATION SWITCHBOARDS Britain's First GAY SWITCHBOARD: 01-837 7174. Every evening 6.00 to 10.30.

Graduate, 28, intelligent, quite attractive, interests arts, travel, seeks guy for love friendship. London/Home Counties. Box 43/232.

Peckham - Large bed-sit to let, share KBWC single or double. 01 732 6724. Someone to share comfortable centrally heated flat, own room, off Redcliffe Gardens.

Earn £3 per hour modeling. Good-looking guys 21-25 send photo. Box 43/245. Young man 18-24 required for help in bank's ad in city, evenings or weekends.

STEVE 23, LONG HAIR, QUALIFIED masseur/model, seeks work. 01-876 7785.

NEW YORK GAY SWITCHBOARD: PO Box 929 Madison Square Station, New York NY 10010, USA. Tel: New York 924 4036 - open 6pm to midnight.

Non-camp 28, seeks straight looking bloke for friendship. Dislikes gay scene and hangups. Usual interests. London area. Box 43/233.

Wanted 2nd male 20ish, share cottage Sutton, all mod cons, £10pw, one month in advance. Photo appreciated. Box 43/176.

Good-looking! If you are then send us a recent photograph. We require a selection of models now! Write with SAE to Adam 1974 (telephone number appreciated) 243, Regent Street, London W1R 8PN.

Light removals, also delivery services. Anytime, anywhere. 01-460 0917. Strictly legitimate business.

COUNSELLING/BEFRIENDING PARENTS ENQUIRY write to Ms Rose Robertson, 16 Hanley Road, Catford, London SE6 2HZ. Tel: 698 1815 any time.

Young man to share house with three others in Harrow. Own double room. Phone 01-422 5200 after 6.30pm.

Young actor, experienced in all types of jobs, can drive, seeks rewarding part-time work. Box 43/137.

Services 20p per word. No Box Number service available.

Gay Women MANCHESTER GAY WOMENS GROUP meets regularly in central Manchester.

Gay News Oldies GN Oldies Back copies of Gay News Nos 1-7, 9-11 and 13-19 price 10p each.

Accommodation

Employment

Market Place

Meetings

General Information

Newsettes

● Flashes Of Light

EVERYWHERE: Everywhere in Britain (it would seem), people flit here and there in the nude. Actually, it's called streaking. By the Ides of March, at least 17 people had been prosecuted for it.

Peter Hill, honorary secretary of the Festival of Light, said: "Streaking is only the tip of the iceberg. It's going to develop into homosexual and lesbian practices in public."

And in defence of his heterosexual identity, Lord Longford said: "It is either just childish or ludicrous, or it is really dangerous. It is an attempt to exploit the human body for sexual purposes."

Streaking doesn't appear to be similar to the dares of local decadence in the gay 1920s. Streaking seems internationally chic because it's a personal celebration and yet an expression of disgust at the myths of sexism.

● MCC In Radio Row

MIAMI: Rev Keith Davis of the Metropolitan Community Church in Miami took part in a conference between local gay organisations and Radio WIOD in Miami. The meeting followed complaints to the American Civil Liberties Union about a radio programme put out by the station that was particularly abusive and derogatory about gay people.

As a result of the meeting, the gays won themselves equivalent air time to counter the offensive programme, future broadcasting of public service announcements from the local gay organisations... and an apology!

FOCAL

● Gay Rights Delegates To Marry

EDINBURGH: Whether or not it was what the organisers intended, the NUS Gay Rights Conference held in Bristol last October really seems to have encouraged heterosexuality. Edinburgh University delegates Derek Ogg and Pat Hannaford, from the university's Students Association Welfare Committee, became acquainted at the conference and now have announced their engagement! And people tell us that gayness is a threat to 'the traditional way of life'!

We are unable to report a parallel engagement between gays as a result of the Bristol gathering. But no need to be downcast. The devastating Don Gill from Coleraine is reliably reported to be unattached - but let him get through his finals first.

Ian Dunn

● Disco-Tech

LOUGHBOROUGH: Loughborough Gay Students Society held their first dance on Friday night, 15th March, at the Edward Herbert Building, University of Technology, Loughborough. The dance, a disco, attracted a large number of heterosexual students as well as a somewhat smaller number of gays. The evening was a success, proving that Gay is good at least for a night out.

The dance was at first opposed by the University administration, who stated that no booking would be accepted from the group. Last-minute plans were implemented after the personal intervention of Student Union president Jon Simpson. However, assurances about security, as well as an agreement to restrict publicity, had to be given to the administration.

Various members of the Gay Society were pleased at its success, and committee member Martin Briggs said: "It is nice to see couples of all sorts enjoying themselves."

The group hope to hold more discos.

Goff Sargent

● Collier Records Eighth Album

LONDON: The Graham Collier jazz group recorded its eighth album, DARIUS, earlier this month at The Cranfield Institute of Technology.

The new album will be released in the autumn. But parts of the new suite will be aired on April 8th over Radio Three's Jazz Workshop.

Collier, up-front gay bass player and group leader, was highly acclaimed in jazz circles for his last album, 'Portraits'.

● Demand For Gaysoc

BOLTON: A gay society for colleges in Bolton, Lancashire, moved another step closer to reality early this month when a meeting was addressed by Gordon Fryer, secretary of the Manchester Gay Alliance at Bolton Institute of Technology.

The Rev. Ian Corbett, chaplain to the colleges, organised the meeting in response to requests from students. Corbett said the gay movement was important because it was for wholeness and togetherness: "What is more important - that people are human beings or that they are homosexual?" he asked.

● Gays Okay As 'Big Brothers'

NEW YORK: The Youth Services Administration has approved an experimental project to allow gay men to serve as 'big brothers' for 13 to 18-year-old gay boys housed in a YSA centre.

The YSA operates housing facilities for boys and girls who have no parents or whose parents won't support them. A 'big brother' takes a boy out for a day now and then to give him a change of scene and entertainment, as well as an adult 'model'.

The experiment will take place in a centre which has only gay boys. An unidentified source within YSA bureaucracy confided that sex orientation doesn't seem to be a problem at centres for girls because virtually all of them are lesbians.

Tom Smith, community services director for the National Gay Task Force, said the only remaining hurdle is to get qualified, competent gay men to volunteer time to be big brothers.

● PC Off Duty

TELFORD: A 21-year-old Telford man resigned from his job. Then he told his employers he was gay. The only thing exceptional about this is that Malcolm Came was a policeman.

And as a result of an affair with a 16-year-old boy, Came was taken to court. He received a suspended two-year sentence.

● New Education Group

BRISTOL: The Campaign for Homosexual Equality Bristol Committee has set up an Education Campaign Group to bring education about homosexuality into the schools and colleges of Bristol. The group is open to all gay organisations, however, and both the local GaySoc and Icebreakers have expressed interest in working with the CHE members. The group has the distinct advantage of having Glennys Parry and Trevor Locke, two of the CHE Education Campaign Organisers, amongst its members. The group hopes to send a delegation to meet the Chief Education Officer, write to all headmasters and send speakers into as many schools as possible. A gay studies course is planned for adult education centres, and the group is planning to hold a one-day conference on sex education for local school teachers. The group meets once a week to discuss its work, but is urgently in need of those who are willing to help. For further information contact Trevor Locke, 33 Pembroke Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8 3BE.

● Gay Rights Man For President

LONDON: Mr David Dancer has been elected Sabbatical President at the Trent Park College of Education. David, who is a member of the National College of Education Gay Rights Committee, and an outspoken supporter of the National Union of Students Gay Rights mandate, had a 66% majority over all others standing. David believes that there is more that can be done through the mandate to help local unions make the best use of facilities available, for instance books in libraries and better contact with counselling workers.

Goff Sargent

● New Leather Club

COPENHAGEN: A new leather club recently opened here. It is named "SLM" and meets every Thursday and every second Saturday from 9pm to 1am. Membership is required and can only be obtained on recommendation. Anyone interested can obtain further information from Mr Jens O Knudsen, Slotsgade 35, 2200 COPENHAGEN-N, Denmark.

● Education Chief's Brush-Off

LONDON: Campaign for Homosexual Equality members from Merton, Wandsworth and Richmond have demanded to know the homosexual employment policy of the Merton Education Department.

The response after three letters was a mere three-line note of acknowledgment.

A CHE South London spokesman said: "The majority of homosexuals are law-abiding citizens. They want to lead an honest life and do a decent job."

"I can only think that the department have not seriously considered the problem or want to sweep the whole matter under the carpet."

Chief Education Officer Ronald Greenwood refused to discuss the matter, saying only "the council has no policy on employing homosexuals."

● Gay Social At 'La Chic'

NOTTINGHAM: Nottingham and Derby Campaign for Homosexual Equality are sponsoring an inter-group social at the La Chic Club here on Saturday, 30th March. Groups invited include Leicester, Birmingham, Liverpool, Stoke, Bedford, Northampton and Sheffield. Any groups or individuals within travelling distance are welcome. Admission is 50p and all drinks 10p.

● Straight As A Roman Candle

WASHINGTON: A reformed guide for priests says that a Catholic gay should "be encouraged to change his sexual orientation. . . . He should sublimate repeatedly his sexual desires. . . ."

The new guide from the American Council of Catholic Bishops says that "By their nature, homosexual acts exclude all possibility of procreation of life . . . and are consequently contrary to the will of God."

The 16-page guide is called "Principles to Guide Confessors in Questions of Homosexuality."

The guide contradicts policies of lay, clerical and counseling groups such as Dignity, Unity and Divine Savior.

After a five page discussion of the causes of homosexuality, the guide concludes that gayness isn't willed. But according to a spokesman in the church hierarchy, the document doesn't have the endorsement of the National Conference of Bishops.

● Windsor CHE Picks Its Brains

WINDSOR: Campaign for Homosexual Equality members have been asked exactly what kind of campaigning they want to do. Questionnaires sent out last month are to be analysed at a meeting on Sunday, 31st March.

The Windsor CHE survey asked members if they would write about gay rights, give talks, or if they would like to see a "specially designated group within" Windsor CHE to take charge of campaigning. The questionnaire also asked members to diagnose the campaigning zeal of the group and to indicate what its main activities should be.

● Gay Briefing For Samaritans

ENFIELD-HARINGAY: Volunteers responsible for opening a new branch of Samaritans in Enfield-Haringay later this year should be fully briefed to handle gay problems. That is the aim of social worker Ms Doreen Cordell who spoke to them recently.

In her talk to the volunteers, Ms Cordell said that despite the 1967 Sexual Offences Act, many homosexuals still felt isolated and not accepted or understood by the community.

What people generally failed to understand was that there could be just as much deep love between two men or two women as could exist between a husband and wife. Yet simply because their physical make-up was different, homosexuals often had to resign themselves to a life of secrecy or sometimes ridicule.

The talk was arranged by the Samaritan's local preparatory group. The group has trained 80 volunteers so far, but it is hoped that by the time the branch opens, 120 people will have been recruited and trained.

● NUS Campaign on Malvern Agenda

MALVERN: Trevor Locke, the Campaign for Homosexual Equality Liaison Officer, will be calling a meeting at the start of the Malvern conference to talk over with young CHE members their role in the campaign.

It is expected that the National Union of Students Gay Rights campaign will be discussed at some length at this meeting, giving young people a chance to discuss the problems that may have been shown up by the campaign NUS has conducted, and to offer ideas about improvements that can be made in the future.

At a more general level, there will be talks about the whole future of the gay rights movement, and the results of the education campaign.

"I hope that this will give young people a chance to get together at the conference," said Trevor, "to discuss many fundamental problems and put forward their ideas. This is not to say that young people are a special case. I think there should also be a senior members' meeting where our older brothers and sisters can discuss their problems, but I do not feel I am the best person to organise this."

The meeting will take place in the Beacon Room of the Abbey Hotel at 10.00pm on Friday 24 May, the first evening of the Malvern conference.

Al Stewart, the executive committee member of the NUS with special responsibility for gay rights, has been invited to address the conference.

● Student Teachers

LONDON: A general planning meeting for the Gay Rights campaign in the London Colleges was called on March 2nd at Trent Park College of Education, by Rob Murphy, Deputy President of the University of London Institute of Education Students Association. The meeting, which was intended to attract additional union officials and outline a plan to bring the Gay Rights issue in front of London's 25,000 student teachers, attracted only a dozen people. As a result, tentative plans to divide London into campaign zones left some areas unrepresented, and an appeal was made for more people to come forward to help at every level of organisation.

Goff Sargent

'IF IT'S GOOD & GAY WE'VE GOT IT'

We always have 150 different titles
in stock. Fiction. Photo albums.
Photo magazines. Documentary
Books. In addition to British books,
We have publications from all over the world.

ALL AMERICAN GAY NEWSPAPERS IN STOCK
EVERYTHING AT PUBLISHERS PRICE OR LESS.

JUST PUBLISHED!
NEW FROM GERMANY
"BOYS EXKLUSIV"
BEAUTIFULLY PRODUCED. LARGE SIZE
MAGAZINE. SPARKLING CRISP PHOTOGRAPHS
OF YOUNGER MODELS. OFFERED AT THE
ORIGINAL PRICE IN GERMANY
£2.00 INCL POST

IF YOU CANNOT CALL SEND LARGE SAE FOR OUR
LISTS. ALL ORDERS DESPATCHED THE SAME DAY.

MODERN BOOKS

BRITAIN'S GAY BOOK CENTRE
283 CAMDEN HIGH STREET NW1
Camden Town Underground Station
Open 11.00-6.00 Closed Thursday