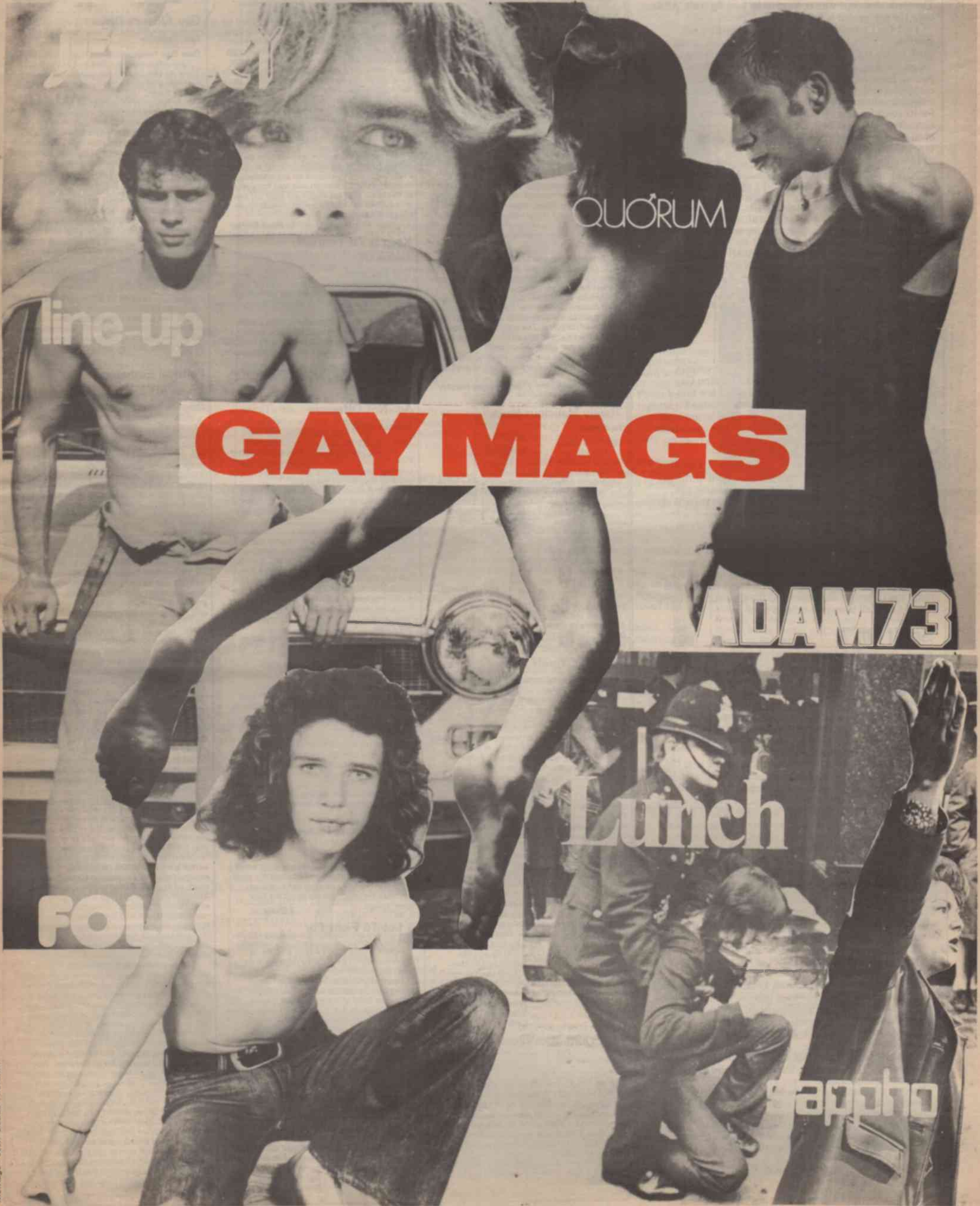


"A DIFFERENT JOURNEY TO THE SAME END"

N°44

# GAY NEWS

15p



line-up

QUORUM

## GAY MAGS

ADAM73

Lunch

FOL

stappho

Montage : Jean-Claude Thevenin

EUROPE'S LARGEST CIRCULATION FORTNIGHTLY NEWSPAPER FOR HOMOSEXUALS

## GAY NEWS

Number 44  
April 11 - 24

# Spring Fever

The seeds sown last winter seem to be bearing fruit. All at once the gay garden is full of March flowers.

First the Campaign for Homosexual Equality has announced plans for setting up a CHE Activists group to work within the existing organisation. Through the long winter months, papers were circulated from person to person. Ideas proposed in outline took shape as discussions continued until those involved had something like a workable scheme which could be put to the membership for its consideration. The idea has been received enthusiastically and its sponsors are hoping for a strong display of support at Malvern conference, which it seems they are very likely to get.

In a commendable joint effort, gay organisations representing many shades of opinion and political outlook came together to work on the setting up of a gay switchboard. That project too bloomed in March. And despite some of the murmurings of faint-hearts, the volunteers who run the phones are kept busy with a steady flow of calls which shows no sign of decreasing as the service moves into its second month.

Things didn't seem quite so cheerful on the GLF front. The northern groups have continued to work steadily, but in London and the south it seemed as though GLF had gone into a kind of hibernation. Not enough people could be found to run the Caledonian Road office, and news followed that Bethnal Rouge had been forced to close.

## New Gay Centre

But just when we had started counting our corpses before they were killed, up comes South London Gay Liberation Front cool as you please to announce that it has just taken over a building in Brixton and turned it into a gay community centre (see news report this issue). And we have just heard that they have put up three candidates for the Lambeth Council elections on May 2. A fine piece of lily-gilding!

The seasonal ebb and flow of gay fortunes is a familiar phenomenon for those who have been involved in the gay movement over the past few years. Out comes the sun, out come the people. With long, light evenings there is no struggle to get to meetings through sleet and black wet and snow. A humour seems to return to everybody working for gays, and energy flows.

So it is about time to take careful account of this when campaigns and other work projects are organised. After the recent flood of conferences which have taken place on every conceivable subject, arranged by every conceivable group, the time for talk is over and the time for practising what we have all been preaching is upon us.

## Spirit Of '71

In London there is talk of a 'Renaissance of the Spirit of '71'. The most important part of that 'Spirit' was the feeling of growth, of renewal, of a committed movement with a sense of direction. Now it doesn't really matter whether we create the old feeling or not (after all, a lot of water has flowed . . .), a battle is not won by just feeling good about what you are fighting for. But it is important that there should be a sense of growth and a sense of direction.

This seems to be the main significance of the new Gay Community Centre. The old feelings about 1971 are clearly *not* there. In 1971 militant gays were preoccupied with looking inwards. Whatever official policies were expressed, heterosexuals were basically not welcome. And if they were accepted into the movement, they were regarded with a great deal of mistrust or, at best, curiosity. If the intervening years have seen any changes at all, they have seen a change in the self-confidence of gays, or at least that part of the gay community which takes part in public activities. Where gays previously proclaimed themselves defiantly 'Gay and Proud', lapel buttons now proclaim them happily 'Glad to be Gay'. The movement has established its identity sufficiently to be able to work with other groups without compromising what it believes in.

## Looking Outwards

It is in this spirit that the South London Gay Community Centre has approached other local groups, women's groups, squatters' groups, to offer assistance and facilities to others who may want to use the centre from time to time. And these offers, they report, are accepted in the same spirit in which they are offered.

Similarly the CHE plans for the future must be seen as more extrovert than anything that organisation has offered to its members up to now.

There is a lesson here for those gays who are still ashamed of their homosexuality, who remain immured in their closets while those outside enjoy themselves. Self-confidence is not something that you win overnight, but something to be worked for. It needs effort on the part of the individual, but there is support all around you if you only have the nerve to ask for it.

Meanwhile, we're off to play with our brothers and sisters in the sun. Join us?

## 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.

### Savage Increase

Birmingham

Dear Gay News,

I would like to protest at the savage increase in advertising fees as announced in GN42. This represents over 300% increase since Christmas. It is far dearer now to advertise in Gay News than many contact magazines or even in the Times!

I am not your financial advisor, but several of us here feel that you could have increased other rates if necessary, or at least increased proportionally, not a double increase all at one go. You will obviously double income in adverts alone on this account. Even the Arabs didn't double oil production costs all at the same time. One questions the financial implications of these moves! Is Gay News in such desperate financial straits? Your editorial might have latched on to this, rather than ignore it! Please don't make capital out of gayness. Yours in friendship,

### Friends from the Midlands

ED: *Over the past few months the costs of producing all publications (not just Gay News) have escalated at a terrifying rate. The major culprit has been the cost of paper. Gay News is almost the only publication which up to the present at any rate has not increased its price. The only way we have been able to avoid this so far has been by increasing our advertising rates.*

If Gay News can't pay its way, then you won't be able to advertise at all, at any price!

*Incidentally, the Times charges roughly 28p a word.*

### 'Rarely Malicious Muck'

Hampstead

Dear Gay News,

Mike Brown (Letters, GN43) might do well to keep his phone bill down.

The stereotype 'poof' jokes which apparently offend him, act as a safety valve for the man-in-the-street who has hang-ups about his own normality.

More fool him. I agree; but remember there was a time (before Mrs W started unconsciously enticing the outrageous onto our screens) when homosexuality wasn't even allowed to be alluded to.

It may all be muck, but it's rarely malicious muck—a lot of the script writers are gay themselves.

Martin Pearce

### Impotent Council

33 Pembroke Road  
Clifton  
Bristol BS8 3BE

Dear Gay News,

I congratulate you on exposing the Press Council as being an impotent body (GN43) and the following will amply exemplify this. In August last year I sent copies of some articles printed in the Express and Echo, a Devon newspaper. These were reports of homosexuals prosecuted for sexual offences; the newspaper had given their full name and full postal address, rendering them liable to public abuse and exposure. I asked the Press Council to decide whether this was correct practice or not. Having referred the matter to the NCCL, they also wrote to Mr Paul (Press Council Secretary) to complain. The Press Council's reply merely said that they were not aware that the newspaper's action was wrong and told me to take it up with the Editor. I wrote again, in stronger terms, asking what could be done. After saying that he would "put this correspondence before the appropriate committee of the Press Council," Mr Paul then went on to debate the issue, as though he were trying to decide the outcome of the case for himself before the Council had discussed it.

Lengthy correspondence passed between myself, the General Secretary of NCCL and Mr Paul, and, by late November we were finally told that "After full discussion I have been instructed to say that your views on the matter have been noted." Meanwhile, I angrily note the continued harassment of gay people by bigoted local newspapers.

Trevor Locke  
Executive Council  
CHE

### '16 Is Quite Ridiculous'

Nottingham

Dear Gay News,

I would like to express my views about a letter in GN42 ('Suppressed By The Law'). I quite appreciate the feeling of the young gays, being one myself, but asking for the age limit to be reduced to 16 is quite ridiculous. Could you imagine Parliament sitting down to discuss it, because quite frankly, I couldn't.

I don't see the point in asking for too much. '18' yes, I can see the sense in that. By the way, I'm 17.

Tony Church

### 'Out To Make Another Rolls'

London SW5

Dear Gay News,

As I'm sure you've been told, John D Stamford (of Spartacus fame) seems to be out to make another Rolls.

I have received a note acknowledging a debt of over two years ago of £2.65. I am told now that I can get 10% (not a misprint—a whole ten percent!) off the price of any new materials I choose to order. As this ten percent probably represents, to be generous, a third of his possible profit from new orders, he will, if I were foolish enough to order a further £26.50 worth of new material, receive £5.30 from me. (If he tries to assert that his profit margin is less than 30%, I'm amazed, sceptical and not at all surprised he went out of business once—though it might be interesting to know how he got his Rolls!).

I suspect however that his profit margin is more, which I guess is his business if the gay community are suckers enough (perhaps I should have found a different word?) to fall for it. This being so, it would seem that he might consider paying off the debts with no strings in magazines at cost price. But, as I have asserted in a letter in similar vein to Mr Stamford, this would mean revealing what 'cost price' is, and that might prove fatal for his business.

I trust that GN will campaign for all the people to whom he owes money (I will say I was surprised to receive an acknowledgment of a debt I thought was lost for ever), in the hope that we might get paid off before we are too old to spend it—and while it's worth something.

Graham Collier

### Keep It To Yourself

London SW1

Dear Gay News,

While most of your letters and articles are intelligent and well-written and could lead us to the greater understanding of Gays—you let us down.

As a fairly intelligent and I hope well-adjusted person, I would like you to know that I am not interested in doing dirty cross-words or reading round ads for pornographic books and films.

Please have a little pride and keep your pricks to yourselves.

P Lloyd

### Ads Not Offensive

London SW11

Dear Gay News,

Having just read Tom Robinson's letter ('An Eyesore in GN'—GN43) opposing ads bearing "semi-porn photos", I feel I should write in support of those ads.

If Mr Robinson regards the photos in your adverts as semi-porn, then I can only say that he hasn't seen the same mags as I have!

Also, I disagree with his point about not daring to show GN to friends who are straight—these adverts are not offensive and are certainly not as strong or "glaringly tasteless" as some of the 'girlie'-type mags I've had thrust in front of my eyes at work—quite often by otherwise intelligent guys.

So my message is keep 'em in. Without them GN would be just another newspaper (well, almost!). Let's not forget the name—Gay News.

Tony Slater

### Out Of Place

Brentwood, Essex

Dear Gay News,

The 'Colt Album' advert in GN41 was certainly not in keeping with the standards I expect from your paper.

I appreciate that such publications cater for tastes which I would think are not shared by the majority of your readers; however, the general public does not, and when I am reading GN on a train or bus, or whilst waiting for one, I don't want to have to worry about what the public sees on the back of the bit I'm reading. GN42 is beautiful all over, please keep it like that.

David McLean

### Creates Wrong Image

London SE3

Dear Gay News,

The main asset to Gay News is its work to achieve recognition and fairness for gays and therefore sexy photographs, though they may be good, are *no good* for Gay News' image.

J Shaw

### A Lot To Fight For

Dear Gay News,

About a year ago, I wrote a letter to Gay News about how lucky gays were to live in this country.

I now realise how very wrong I was. Having been a regular subscriber to your newspaper (and still am), I'd just like to say how disgusted and appalled I am at some of the incidents reported in GN. The attitude, particularly of most police forces, is absolutely medieval. Gays still have a terrific lot to fight for in this country, as well as in Ireland and Scotland.

Some people might still think that things are all right since the repeal of the law against homosexuality in 1967. How wrong can you be? One of your correspondents pointed out that it's ridiculous that at 18 years you should be old enough to fight and die for your country, but not old enough to decide whether or not you're gay.

If you publish this letter you can publish my full address and name, because as a young woman wrote a month or so ago, "I'm proud to be gay" and I'll also add "and to hell with anyone who doesn't like it."

David White



Illustration: Jean-Claude Therassin

### Gay Alliance Disco

Sale, Cheshire

Dear Gay News,

John Fountain's letter in GN42 ('Fun Time At Het Disco') has prompted me to perform that rare action of actually putting pen to paper.

My reason is to inform all Manchester readers, and anyone else interested, of the Gay Alliance Discos which are held at regular intervals at the Old Music College, Devas Street, near the University Theatre. Our next one is on April 19, from 8pm to midnight. The admission charge of 15p covers hire of the hall and disco equipment, with anything over going towards the Alliance newsletter. I play a wide variety of music (not just soul) and squeeze in as many requests (for records) as possible.

We are currently getting an attendance of between 100 to 120 gay guys and girls—and even the occasional straight. We would like to make the discos a more regular happening if we get the support—say fortnightly or even weekly. It makes a pleasant change from the dreary Manchester club scene.

Anyway, I hope to see more along on April 19—incidentally bring your own drinks (we supply cups) as we have no bar at present. For any further information about the Alliance, it should be all there in GN's info section. See you all shortly.

Julian (DJ)

### Political Euthanasia

London N19

Dear Gay News,

In the interests of ideological purity, Laurence Collinson (GN42) diagnoses the revisionist thinking of a FRIEND worker (GN42) as symptomatic of "guilt and self-hatred." Darkly hinting that the disease may, in fact, be indigenous to counselling and befriending organisations generally, Collinson presses ahead with his prescription—a drg of political euthanasia. Although he skillfully avoids spelling it out in so many words, Collinson's rationale appears to be that any person who follows the conventions of straight society is unfit to be in a position where he might infect other gays with his "intolerable moral assumptions."

Such a draconian solution to the problem of non-conformity to the party line is a familiar one to anyone following the gay liberation movement during these past few years. In effect, it confuses our gay brothers and sisters with our real enemies (of whom we have quite enough, I should have thought) simply because they disagree with the Correct Line on specific issues.

Though I am in total agreement with Collinson on the business of coddling and police harassment, I take strenuous issue with him over the real target of his attack. As far as FRIEND is concerned, it does not "inflict" moral assumptions of any kind on anyone, nor does it take a doctrinaire line of whatever political shade on individual issues. The role of each worker in relation to those who come to him or her is primarily a supportive and, therefore, a non-didactic one. Our concern is to help troubled or isolated gays through their difficulties or out of their loneliness, not to dispense homilies on Correct Thinking.

Laurence Collinson's rhetoric is chic gay radical, but one wonders whether in his perfectionist haste he has not overlooked his own commitment to the reality that lies behind his words. He fails to consider that FRIEND and similar organisations function, in effect, as counter-institutions within a system which has neither the will nor the capacity to respond to the basic needs of the gay minority. This is why it is absolutely crucial that, in the absence of established structures concerned with seeking real social, economic, and sexual equality for gays, we must pour our own resources into the struggle for liberation by supporting our own self-help groups and seeking to improve them with constructive criticism.

The gay movement, we should not forget, is still very young. It is, as yet, without those historical prototypes that have helped other oppressed minority groups to resolve some of their problems. Laurence Collinson should not be surprised that in the counselling and befriending sphere of activities there are differences of political opinion, ideology, and methods. This work is new to *all* of us. Gays are, for the first time in history, defining gayness for themselves. But the exploration of those processes of self-identity that will allow us to take control of our own lives is a cooperative exercise. If those gay self-help services which already exist are not as we should like them to be, then may I suggest that what is needed is not uniformity of outlook within their ranks, but a bit more of the patience and compassion, time and energy, of those more "together" gays like Laurence Collinson. Otherwise one is bound to say that "the fault," dear Laurence, "lies not in the stars but in ourselves."

Jack Babuscio

# Gay Squatters Open Community Centre

LONDON: Suddenly London finds itself with the first gay community centre to be opened in Great Britain by gays—thanks to the resourcefulness of the South London Gay Liberation Front. And even in the few short days it has been open, it has become a popular rendezvous for gays south of the river.

Work on clearing up, redecorating and fitting out the building at 78 Railton Road, Brixton, London SE24 is already well under way. Parts of the building are now in full use.

There is a great deal of space for people to use. In the basement is one large room which GLF hopes will eventually be used for discos and large meetings.

On the ground floor you walk into a comfortably furnished and airy reception area which doubles as a coffee bar and bookshop. On sale are gay books, papers, magazines, pamphlets and badges. Armchairs gathered around a central table make it a good place for people to drop in for a coffee and a chat—and the number of people dropping in is growing all the time.

Still on the ground floor, behind the shop and reception area, is an office (at present being used as a kitchen), and behind that a room which will be used for small group meetings. South London GLF are inviting not only gay groups but local community groups in the area to use the Railton Road facilities. They stressed the importance they attach to joining in local community activities. They do not want to create another building in which gays can simply cut themselves off from the rest of the world. Neighbours have already started to drop in, and the people at the centre hope that this will continue.

On the first floor there is a two-roomed flat which is at present occupied by a couple of GLF members who will be keeping an eye on the place.

## Planning

The idea of opening a centre was originally discussed by the group last year. The first problem, naturally, was how to obtain a suitable building. The decision to squat was finally taken about six months ago.

From that time on, they told Gay News, they had been "investigating the state of the property market." Looking around the area they had chosen Railton Road because of the number of other strong squats already existing there. These include Help 71 church group for destitute people run by a local priest from St Matthews, the Women's Centre, the Women's Place (next door to the gay community centre) and People's News Service. In fact, as far as the Railton Road area is concerned, squatting seems to be the accepted form of tenancy!

Having picked the road, they began looking for a shop. Number 78 attracted them because it was right next to the Women's Place, and it was in quite a good state of decorative order.

The group began collecting furniture. Armchairs and tables were rustled up and stored in a furniture store fifty yards up the road on the opposite side of the street. There was still no sign of the empty shop being occupied.

Then on Friday March 22 they moved in. Twelve people turned out at 8.00 that evening and let themselves into the premises. The furniture store was opened up and a steady stream of people bearing cumbersome furniture marched across the pedestrian crossing with their burdens and deposited them in the new gay centre. Trevor told Gay News



Paul, Tim and David take it easy at the new Gay Community Centre

"It's the first time I had ever been involved in anything like this. I was terrified to begin with, of course, but it was really exciting."

## No Hostility

Local residents, no doubt used to such goings-on, watched with amused interest. Windows went up across the road and people leaned out to see what was happening. Passers-by in the street stopped to offer a few words of encouragement and went on their way. "There was no hostility," said Gary, another of the squatters.

The only hassle came later with a man on the top floor of number 78 who runs a nursing agency from there. He accused GLF of burglarising his office—and called the police.

A policeman arrived. It did not take him long to discover that there was no truth at all in the burglary charge. But he decided that the squatters had been stealing electricity and ordered the five of them present not to leave the premises. He sent for reinforcements.

Three more policemen arrived. They took a look around and talked to the GLF contingent. The officer in charge took them up on the electricity. They explained that they had only just moved in and had not had a chance to get the electricity transferred to their name. This seemed to satisfy him. He pointed out that the electricity show-rooms were still open, and if they hurried they could get down there in time to sort the matter out. And with that the police left.

So off to the show-rooms marched the squatters. They were attended to by an elegantly suited gentleman in his late thirties.

"We would like to open an electricity account in the name of South London Gay Liberation Front," said one of the squatters.

"Yes, sir. Domestic rates or commercial?" replied the imperturbable assistant. The group settled for domestic rates on the first floor and commercial for the other two.

There is no phone at the time of writing, but the Post Office are putting one in as a matter of urgency, with a directory entry which will read something like 'Gay Community Centre of South London.'

## Hordes Of People

Word about the opening of the centre spread like wildfire. The night following the occupa-

tion, the building was "filled with hordes of people" who had come for a look round the new place. Icebreakers told a number of callers about it, and there were more visitors on the Sunday.

The group has been most encouraged, though, by the approaches that have already been made to them. Some girls from Crystal Palace want to try to start up a women's group based at Railton Road, and some youngsters are working out plans for a youth group.

"This is just what we hoped for," Gay News was told. "Gays have needed something like this for ages. Once you have got a fixed base it makes new activities so much easier." It will obviously make a great difference for South London Gay Liberation Front too if they have somewhere they can regularly hold meetings and discos without worrying about the reactions of pub landlords and others whose favours they have had to rely on in the past.

On a return visit to the centre a week after opening, Gay News found a gathering of fifteen people who had dropped in individually for a coffee (at 3p a cup, more if you can afford it, less if you honestly can't). The atmosphere was relaxed and extremely friendly, old friends and complete strangers alike getting a warm welcome. Passers-by waved through the windows and grinned. Two policemen stopped to read the posters in the window. "Don't know why the police can't leave 'em alone," said a lady to her friend. But the police did leave them alone. Having satisfied their curiosity about the posters, they strolled off.

Inside, the chatter had continued. And it was not until past one in the morning that the group broke up.

## Opening Hours

Anyone, straight or gay, has been invited to call in. The centre is open on weekday evenings, and at weekends. There is still work to be done, but South London GLF reckons it has enough volunteers to take care of it.

However they do badly want a plumber. The office needs a typewriter, and an old Hoover would come in handy. But most of all, we were told firmly, they need people to use the place.

# Gay Help Sought In Murder Hunt

GLAMORGAN: On the night of February 25-26 Graham George Branston of 21 Vale Street, Barry, Glamorgan was brutally murdered. Local police are very anxious to hear from anyone who can help them in their investigations.

Graham was a 44-year-old personnel officer at the Barry Docks Board and he was gay. His mother is an invalid in hospital and he used regularly to visit her. But apart from these visits, police have been unable to find out much about his out-of-work activities.

Detective Chief Inspector Trigg told us that many gay people were reticent about coming forward—so two direct confidential lines have been set up, and gays can phone through direct to the investigating officers. Calls can be anonymous if necessary.

The numbers to ring are Barry 3972 or Barry 4512. The STD code for Barry is 04462.

Anybody who knows anything about the events of that night, who perhaps has heard talk about the murder from someone, or thinks he can help in any other way, is urged to phone local police at the above numbers.

# Willie Whitelaw MP

CUMBERLAND: At a meeting with the convenor of the Cumbria Campaign for Homosexual Equality Group, Mr William Whitelaw, MP for Penrith and tipped by some as the next leader of the Tory Party, declared that it is "absolute nonsense" that the age of consent for male gays should still be 21 when the age of majority is now 18.



Photograph: Jon Blau (Camera Press London)

We were discussing his answers to CHE's election questionnaire in which he had also opted for a redefinition of "privacy" to bring us in line with the law as it applies to heterosexuals. On the question of Northern Ireland and Scotland he felt that as an English politician he ought not to have a view, but personally he declared he found it "ridiculous that what is lawful in Cumberland should be illegal in Dumfries."

What about all the other things gays want changed to make us equal? We talked about the services, merchant seamen and the oppression of young gays. We talked about the fears of parents and about discrimination ("anti-racial legislation had been essential"). We talked about the concept of protection. And although he could see no hope of early legislation, he invited me and other members of the Group to go on talking to him. And that in itself is more than one might have expected from an ex-cabinet minister who has a lot more life left in him yet.

Richard Webster

# Reading Storms

READING: The committee of nine who run Reading Gay Alliance have been told to leave three premises in the last few months. And some people you talk to here give the impression that the 'fault' lies with Jill Wootton, who was elected chairperson several months ago. According to her critics, she is "bull-headed, undemocratic, stropky" and together with other girls on the committee "is on a lesbian power trip."

Closer examination reveals that the committee members have on the one hand refused to be taken advantage of, and on the other hand have been the subject of the usual discriminations.

RGA held discos at the Railway Tavern for about two years when, last December, the committee were told to get out. Tavern owner and critic Betty Goodwin opened a gay club the following week, announced in a newspaper advertisement. She said the committee were "abusive and insulting to staff and fighting me. They were very unco-operative. I can't have people telling me how to run a pub." The rest of RGA were welcome at the tavern, where Gay News is now available for the first time.

Taxi-driver Wootton said tavern-owner Goodwin was greedy. "She wanted to start taking money at the door, for instance,"

Mr Wootton said. "She wanted to take over the finances of our club. This is ridiculous and we wouldn't stand for it. The following week when she opened her gay club, she charged 20p at the door."

Ms Goodwin and another critic, former RGA Secretary Jack Dixon, claim upwards of 40 people attend discos at the tavern, most of them being RGA people.

Not so, say the committee, who have sent "spies" along to check. One spy said a maximum of 10 people attended discos and another said a maximum of seven were there.

## Battle Lines

One nattie lines seemed to be laid for a struggle in the weeks ahead—a struggle to get a regular gay disco going. The committee were scheduled to look at three new pub premises during the second week of April Ms Wootton said the prospects were "very good." But in the meantime, there was no place but the tavern for a disco.

The committee arranged to pay £25 a night to rent the Jewish-owned Herman Gollancz Hall, according to the committee.

This was in February. But the day after a favorable local newspaper story appeared about RGA, the committee were asked to leave. It was said that under religious law, Jews can't profit by homosexuality.

Ms Wootton said the Jewish Committee knew

they had rented the hall to a gay club.

The Railway Tavern doors remained open while the committee searched again for premises. They found the Fox & Hound Pub in Cabarsham. However, somebody wrote an anonymous letter to the brewery, and brewery chiefs promptly told the Fox & Hound to oust RGS as too many regular bookings were contrary to Courage policy, and the Fox & Hound had exceeded its quota. Gay News talked to the brewery director responsible for putting RGA out. He insisted there was no discrimination. But the Fox & Hound management had no knowledge of the 'quota' policy to which Courage referred.

The day after a local news story about RGA's expulsion from Fox & Hound, the Tavern ran an ad about 'Gay Libbers' returning to the Tavern, a term used in the newspaper headline. Jack Dixon resigned as committee secretary when the agreement for Gollancz Hall collapsed. He said the RGA consisted of about 20 card-carrying members. Ms Wootton said 90 members were on the books.

Bitterness between Dixon and Wootton and vicious competition for gay money could still manifest more problems for gay people here. Aside from the letter to Courage, a complaint to police resulted in a two-man 'raid' at Gollancz Hall. As it turned out,

there was no more to it than that, except for the fear and resentment police leave behind.

At the time of going to press, the RGA did not really exist. There have been no RGA meetings and few discos in more than four months of disorganisation and turmoil.

Charges by Dixon that the club has been ruined by the present committee appear unfounded only because they are personally directed at Jill Wootton. Although the committee believe they have worked very hard, events suggest that they should work more carefully and perhaps liaise more closely with competent professional people.

# Gay Lib Bid For Lambeth Council

BRIXTON: South London Gay Liberation Front plans to capture all three seats in the Tulse Hill Ward of Lambeth Council at local elections to be held on Thursday May 2.

The announcement was made by Frank Adams, official election agent for the three candidates. The three standing are Malcolm Greatbanks, an English teacher, Alastair Kerr, a lecturer at the London College of Printing, and Michael Mason, news editor of Gay News.

Further details will appear next issue.

# Third Gay Marxist Conference

One result of the National Gay Liberation Conference Think-In at Leeds in February 1973 was that those who were both Gay Liberationist and Marxist decided to hold their own conference at Warwick in March of that year.

This decision was symptomatic of the frustration many felt with the lack of cohesion within GLF at the time. Its lack of organisation and ideology caused people to question the ability of GLF to become a revolutionary force. Some felt that GLF would never become a mass movement because gayness transcended too many barriers in terms of class, occupation and politics. The fight for freedom by gays was only part of the larger struggle for sexual liberation, and this could only be achieved in a Socialist Society. For even if toleration was granted in a capitalistic society, man would still be exploited.

As a result, some gays joined political groups such as the International Marxist Group (IMG) and the International Socialists (IS), groups on the Left concerned with the wider struggle of forming a Socialist Society. The political stance of IMG and IS has been described as Critical Leninism in that, whilst Leninist theory of organisation is still in general considered appropriate for contemporary conditions, there is an awareness of the deficiency of Leninist organisation in the past in struggling against non-economic oppression. However, it is felt by some that once revolutionary politics is no longer concentrated on the point of production, but extended to the home, school, bed and how we relate to one another, then the conception of revolutionary change is exceeded and it may necessitate a new analysis of Marxism leading to a collision with the leadership of particular groups. Such groups may give only token support to their gay members involved in gay work as opposed to real political commitment. The gay members may fight to get their organisations to give equal priority to gay work as to other areas of work such as IMG's Commission on Women, but the result depends on the foibles of the particular group. For instance, IMG has an autonomous gay group but IS is unwilling at present to give autonomy to its gay members to form a gay caucus.

The Marxist-Leninists take the line that there is no role for an autonomous Gay Lib movement, for the working class is the sole agent which can create Socialism, with revolution made at the point of production. Members of this group felt that gay oppression is not necessary for the maintenance of Capitalism, that "Capitalism does not care what people do in bed" and hence "people should put their efforts into the revolution."

Others who were dissatisfied with the way in which the Left organised their priorities (in that industrial work was always number one priority and the gay movement and the women's movement tended to be viewed with condescension) felt that there was a role to play for an autonomous Gay Marxist Group.

Lastly there are two other groups to consider, those who combine Marxism with their lifestyle, often living in communes, and those gays from the Left coming into GLF for the first time. There are large differences of experience between these last two groups, and this was borne out in the conference. There was much contention between those who were into lifestyle politics and those who could be considered as Marxist Leninists.

## The Conference

This third Gay Marxist Conference was held at Leeds and was attended by about 90 people. The Saturday morning was given over to forming an agenda. The afternoon was spent discussion: how one could best use the opportunities presented by the General Election and what methods one could use to overcome the rise of the National Front; the function and policies of the Gay Marxist Journal; and finally two workshops, one composed of men and the other of women. A well-attended disco was held in the evening, and on Sunday, workshops were held on the relationship of the Gay Marxist Group to GLF and another workshop was held on transsexualism.

The Conference agreed to hold a GLF Think-In at Lancaster University in the first weekend of May; that the fifth edition of the Gay Marxist Journal would be produced by

the Gaysoc of Manchester University Students Union; that the next Gay Marxist Conference would be held at the end of June at Birmingham University. Those interested in joining the History Group, which is researching into the social and ideological function of sexual oppression, should write to Jeffrey Weeks, Gay Marxist History Group, c/o The Gay Culture Society, The Students Union, London School of Economics, Houghton Street, London WC2.

## The National Front

Because of its call for even more law and order, censorship, intolerance, puritanism, and other highly distasteful policies, the National Front in its rise presented gays and others with a problem. Some felt that the National Front should be prevented (with force if necessary, a few added) from spreading its propaganda and smashed before it had a chance to effect its policies. At the Students Union in Birmingham University the National Front had been busy intimidating members of the gaysoc with veiled threats, scrawling ugly messages on walls, and leaving vicious notes behind for people in the Community Action Office.

Conference was undecided on how to deal with the threat presented by the National Front, and the issue was left for the regional groups to solve. Similarly, the idea of entering into discussion with the miners' pickets was left to the autonomy of the regional groups.

## The Gay Marxist Journal

The Journal arose out of the first Gay Marxist Conference, and it was to be a bulletin for discussion among people who were combining Gay Liberation and Marxism in their political work. The second issue of the Journal stated that it was deliberate that the Journal should not have a defined political line, and that it was open to all bona fide contributions. At Conference, this editorial policy came under attack by some for being too open in its selection of articles, for not having a defined political line in that the general theme of the articles lacked a dialectical approach, and for its use of cartoons. But it was finally agreed that the Journal should be solely concerned with the discussion of political viewpoints, and that there should be no racism, sexism or imperialism in it.

## The Men's Group

Since Conference ran late, there was no opportunity for people to report back, so I'm unable to write of the deliberations of the Women's Group. Conference had split into a men's and a women's group, but not before someone quipped, "Where are the transsexuals going to go?"

The men's group discussion soon polarized into two distinct camps, adherents of life style politics with Marxism and perhaps a little anarchism in one corner, and Marxist-Leninists in the other. Caught in between was a woeful "I thought we came here to discuss our attitudes as men?" Any discussion on gender roles was lost in an atmosphere of aggression with a brief reference to "... the masculinity of the working class."

A main argument was that sexism could only be combated through revolution by the Proletariat rather than by lifestyle politics—that any movement involves struggle—that due to the social situation we find ourselves in we should be prepared to defend ourselves, with aggression if necessary, in order that we should not meet the fate of the working class and homosexuals of the 30s in Germany, where many lost their lives in the concentration camps. This line was opposed by those into lifestyle politics who maintained that gayness was about getting rid of aggression—that those on the Left coming into Gay Liberation as Marxist followers were masculine and dominant—that sexuality was an integral part of life, and that sexism could be fought against from a base of lifestyle politics.

## GLF And Gay Marxists

How do GLF and Gay Marxists as groups relate to each other? In the face of oppression from the extreme right and the hierarchy of the Institutionalised Left (eg IS)—"Workers can't be gay."—gays were in an untenable position.

What was sought was the emancipation of the working class, and this could be achieved

only by breaking up the nuclear family. However, the conveying of ideas on sexual liberation and showing that the family was the basic unit of Capitalism, that it was a consumer unit and had an ideological role, was likely to prove a communication problem. It was thought that the experience of GLF was valuable in taking action to help gays in specific instances, for this showed the relevance of the gay struggle. The Women's Movement was facing the same difficulties, while the working class with whom they were trying to communicate was unable to comprehend the intellectualism of the Movement. Something could be learned from the rise and fall of GLF, and indeed we should try to revive GLF. Gays making gay work their priority ensured their survival, though it was admitted that gays not involved in the struggle also had ways of surviving, and both could learn from each other.

## Transsexualism

The transsexual/transvestite group, comprising one heterosexual transvestite, one transsexual man and one transsexual woman, accused the Women's Movement and GLF of being unwilling to discuss transsexualism on transsexual terms. For instance, a transsexual man 'came out' in the Women's Movement but felt guilty in expressing femininity because the group saw it as reinforced female role playing. Hence the transsexual felt oppressed as a result of 'coming out'. Transsexuals were in a dilemma because society did not accept them and only offered two roles for people to fulfil, man or woman, and transsexuals fitted neither category. Feeling more oppressed than gays, transsexuals had the problem of sorting out their identity first, and then had to decide whether to fit into society as a conventional woman (in the case of a transsexual man) or become a liberated woman.

However, some of the women in the Women's Movement felt that even should the transsexual become a woman, the person would still be subject to the oppression experienced by all women from a sexist, male chauvinistic society. The transsexual man said there was no choice, for he did not enjoy his masculinity, wanted to replace this with femininity and thought he would be more comfortable with a woman's body. Objections were still voiced by the women because they felt that even if the transsexual man should succeed in becoming a woman, the person would still retain the conditioning of male chauvinism. Since the Women's Movement was fighting male chauvinism, it feared a resurgence of this through accepting male transsexuals.

At this point a woman got up and suggested, tongue in cheek, that the Women's Movement was in danger of defeat by men becoming women, infiltrating the Movement and overpowering it! It was also pointed out that there were female transsexuals, a point Conference seemed to have forgotten.

Conference expressed a genuine desire to understand transsexualism, but it proved something of an ordeal for the three-member TS/TV group to answer all the questions in the crowd of 60 enquiring minds. Even though one and a half hours were spent in this discussion, the topic wasn't resolved, and for many it remained an enigma. "You can only understand us by going through with it (transsexualism) yourselves"—which appeared to be a closed option for those who wished to understand and were not transsexual.

Asked whom they emotionally related to in their present transsexual state, the answer was "only other transsexuals."

Colin, a heterosexual transvestite, said he related to women and considered that transsexualism and its consequent awareness through experience is impracticable for the vast majority of transvestites, so the male side was retained as the reality and the female side as the fantasy. Colin felt that the more radical elements of the Gay Movement had accepted political drag at the expense of transvestism. What was needed was for the gay movement to allow transvestites and transsexuals the opportunity to define their own positions on their own terms in the already existing political lines rather than make them redefine their positions and make them feel out of place. The biggest failure of the Movement, Colin thought, was the number of people it had left out, including transvestites; politics which repressed potential allies were those he thought which needed to be reconsidered. **Howard Llewellyn**

# Canadian Gays Wed



WINNIPEG: Chris Vogel and Richard North are the second gay couple to seek legal sanction for a relationship in Canada. They were married here on February 11 by Rev Norman Naylor, a minister of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

The couple say their marriage took place, not because they believe in the institution of marriage, but because of the publicity which the gay movement would receive from such an action.

Vogel added in an interview with *The Body Politic* newspaper, that as long as marriage remains a convention that carries certain legal and financial advantages, homosexuals should be allowed to marry and enjoy these advantages the same as heterosexuals.

The couple have applied for the marriage certificate. But it's not known whether the provincial government of Manitoba will approve. Observers say the government will probably ask for the issue to be settled in court.

# Priest Saves 16-Year-Old

TORONTO: The March issue of *Focal* (the journal of the Fellowship of Christ the Liberator Metropolitan Community Church London) carried the following story from Canada:

"Minister and firemen rescue boy from suicide," said the Toronto Star. The Globe reported: "He was on the cement parapet, which couldn't have been more than two feet wide and, boy, was it icy!" Fire Chief Robinson commented: "The kid was shaking so badly I thought he'd lose his balance." None of the newspapers made any reference to homosexuality, yet it was his gayness that brought 16-year-old Steve to decide that the only way out was from the roof of Toronto City Hall—and yet it was his gayness that saved him!

There was an impasse—Police and Fire Department had no way to rush him and rescue him and their appeals that his family would be shamed or hurt by his actions produced no response. Steve just stood alone, cold frightened, waiting to jump.

In desperation, the police asked Steve if there was anyone he wanted to talk to, and, thank God, he recalled the kindness he had once received from Pastor Bob Wolfe of MCC-Toronto.

Overcoming his horror of heights, Father Wolfe came to the rescue. Almost frozen in the bitter cold of Toronto's winter, he talked to Steve for 90 minutes until the Fire Chief appealed to Steve's concern for the well-being of the minister.

At last the boy retreated from the ledge and is now receiving the care and help he needs.

When the City Council next met, first item on the agenda was an official tribute to the "meritorious and gallant action of Rev Robert Wolfe . . . which brought another member of the community from a most hazardous and dangerous position." The Scroll of Citation presented by the City Clerk continued ". . . the community at large looks with justified respect toward a citizen who has shown that spirit of humanity so essential to the continuance of the reputation that the people of Toronto are warm, friendly and concerned for their fellow men."

In response to the applause of the Council members and the personal congratulations of the Mayor, Father Wolfe said that the tribute was especially meaningful to him, coming from a council that was determined to make Toronto a 'people city' and that had established job opportunity for gay people.

He compared the progressiveness of the council with the obstacles that MCC-Toronto had experienced elsewhere.

Following the incident, the Toronto Star has now decided to accept the church's advertisement for publication in its pages.

# Gay Women's April Conference

CANTERBURY: A national gay women's conference will be held at the University of Kent, Canterbury on the weekend of April 27-28.

For people who arrive early on the Friday evening (April 26), the organisers will be laying on food and drink.

Conference proper starts on the Saturday. The whole day will be given over to workshop sessions on a number of different topics including:

- The relation of gay women to GLF
- The relation of gay women to the women's

movement

- Gay women and the law
- Concepts of sexuality, role-playing and monogamy

- Gay women in literature and history
- Gay women in the NUS
- Bisexuality.

There is going to be a disco on Saturday night.

On Sunday there will be a full meeting of the whole conference, and in the afternoon a picnic is being arranged.

The organisers have asked for "any sugges-

tions for workshops, any papers for discussion, any thoughts on expanding the conference." CHE women's organiser Liz Stanley points out that there are more gay women in CHE than in GLF or the women's movement, and she is asking for a workshop to be included on the relation of gay women to CHE.

The conference will be strictly closed to all but gay women.

For details, or suggestions, write to Sherry Mayrent, Keynes College, University of Kent, Canterbury. Or you can phone Cathy McFerran at 0227 (Canterbury) 60614.

# Cops And Gays, Or, Who's Afraid Of John Stuart Mill?

by Jack Babuscio

"In our times, from the highest class of society down to the lowest, everyone lives as under the eye of a hostile and dreaded censorship."

(John Stuart Mill, On Liberty)



Poor old John Stuart Mill. His ghost turned up at a recent Campaign for Homosexual Equality Bloomsbury Group Meeting. It was a rare appearance for him, but this was, after all, a London 'First Night,' a theatrical event of

sorts, which gave the police top billing in a programme that included some 70 or 80 gays cast in the role of Inquisitor. In an age of wire-tapping, trick mirrors, agents provocateurs and the like, one wonders what our nineteenth-century Cassandra of censorship must have made of it all.

It is well over a century since he warned us about the decline of personal liberty, and now, as he wearily searched for a clean patch of space in the fume air of the upstairs bar at the Museum Tavern, a wry smile turned the corners of his mouth while the opening scene of the comedy unfolded beneath him. It was, he must have thought, "just as I predicted."

## The Cast

The principal actors and their roles:

Chief Inspector Sallabank, Community Liaison Officer of the Metropolitan Police at 56 Tottenham Court Road. He has been playing this part for several decades, but is perhaps best known for his Vice Squad performances, which have earned him his well deserved fame and some degree of notoriety. A real pro.

Inspector Joan Strapp, his deputy, A Soft-spoken, serious, no-nonsense lady. Well-rehearsed, with a beautiful sense of timing, though slightly nervous during her big scene with Jackie Forster.

Inspector Michael Hames of the Community Relations Branch at Scotland Yard. Young and less experienced, his delivery of what appeared to be largely scripted dialogue exhibited too much of his own personality. This was especially apparent during a rather tense scene with Jamie Gardiner only minutes before the curtain dropped on the last act at about 10.50pm.

There was also a large cast of supporting Movement players, including most of London's Gay Superstars.

The theme for the largely improvised proceedings was defined by Inspector Sallabank: "the role of the law and the police." The most popular items for discussion concerned some of the terms employed in the Sexual Offences Act of 1967—"gross indecency" and "immoral purposes" in particular—but we also touched on the age of consent, entrapment/enticement/agent provocateur tactics, gays in the police force, and so on. The thrust of the Inspector's argument was that the law relating to sexual activities is fairly and equitably enforced, and that the police "abhor" the so-called homophobic attitude often attributed to them.

The Chief Inspector was very anxious to have us believe that police attitudes towards gays have changed over the years. In the old days, he tried assuring a highly sceptical Vivian Waldron, officers may indeed have used agent provocateur tactics. Yes, he admitted, with a graceful flourish of his hand, it "has been done in the past, but not now." It was a stock answer, and rang false—like all over-rehearsed lines. The police, he further emphasised, "do not go into toilets looking for homosexuals except

when a complaint is lodged." Inspectors Strapp and Hames, responding to the sudden pull of strings, nodded in quick agreement. Officers simply did not go around enticing, entrapping, or whatever you might like to call it.

## Costly Ponces



Jamie Gardiner, who had early established himself as the principal antagonist of Inspector Hames (who, in turn, all too obviously regarded the ebullient Gaysoc'er as a fucking wiseguytype) would have none of this. "Some real administrative advice" could, he help-

fully pointed out, "be given to the Metropolitan Police by the gay community." The triumvirate of Inspectors was all ears. "Since the police are unable to exercise to the full the powers they've got" (which had been earlier admitted) "then you've got much to gain by not using your manpower" harassing gays. It was really quite simple, and he wondered whether the police had even considered this alternative. Hames, ever-alert to even the slightest tinge of sarcasm, bristled. He evidently thought he knew what was coming. And he was right. Could it be, Jamie wondered, that there are "directives from above as to what will or won't be done?" Forced, hoarse chuckles from Hames and Sallabank. Inspector Strapp looked benevolently away at a half-pint of bitter which had just spilled into someone's lap. It was Sallabank's turn to answer. In his by now familiar and indirect way, he replied that it was very expensive to bring people—"ponces, that type"—to trial, but it has to be done, for, he said, "where you find vice you will find crime."

So there you have it. Those of you out there with persecution complexes who continue to insist that you are harassed by the police, take note. Since entrapment tactics are not practised by the constabulary, it is just no good arming yourself with arguments like, say, that of Laud Humphreys, who has pointed out that cottage "action" is so structured that no individual need fear being an unwilling witness or participant—that, in fact, if such action were truly "public" it would hardly be necessary for the police to use such techniques of discovery as peepholes, hiding away in closets, wearing tight clothing, deliberate enticement, etc. (*Tearoom Trade* by Laud Humphreys, published by Duckworth).

But if the Inspectors will insist on denying such a commitment of resources, there is, of course, no use in telling them that law-enforcement manpower would be best used where there's greatest need: protecting people against genuine, not victimless crimes.

## Lesbians

But how about lesbians? Nothing about them so far, one girl observed. Strapp decided it was going to be her turn, and her eyes tracked zig-zag over heads till she had them focussed on her questioner. "How about the position of gay women on the force? Surely there must be some. What happens to them? Any discrimination there?" the girl asked. Well, if anyone was expecting Inspector Joan Strapp to admit to lesbophobia on the force, they were about to be disappointed. "No one" of either sex was ever edged out of the force on the sole basis of his or her homosexuality was the answer. Jackie Forster wondered whether "some other form of words" might perhaps be used that would amount to much the same thing but would have the merit of saving police face. Strapp stood firm. The lines of her mouth creased in an expression of consummate patience. "No," she answered. This would not be done.

A revealing anecdote from Wanda Goldwag was next on the agenda. She told of her two or three-week liaison with a gay police woman in Nottingham. Wanda, wearing a "Glad to be Gay" button, had been walking down the High Street with this friend, who suddenly, and quite inexplicably, disappeared into the night. It seems that a colleague in the force was walking toward them and the gay police-woman realised what the consequences would be if "caught" with her up-front pal. Whatever you say about tolerance, Wanda told Strapp, it seemed that there still existed "a helluva lot of prejudice against gays." There was a brief pause during which time the accumulated waste of several hundred cigarettes, having now joined forces with the sickly bouquet of unfinished pints, had time to palpably assert its dread presence. So it was with some relief that our attention was very soon diverted by Strapp. There were gay women in the force, and so what? she said, but in such a nonchalant you-live-your-life-I'll-live-mine way that some of us must

have wondered whatever in the world we thought we had to fear from our friend, the local constabulary.

And so it went on. The unspoken lament of the Inspectors was that the general public seemed more distrustful of them than ever. That did not, they made it clear, include us. In fact, Strapp and Sallabank laughed with grim relief as they recalled starting out the evening "with open minds," but still convinced they'd receive a hostile reception. (At which point I began to fantasise about a sudden, electrifyingly dramatic zap by a dozen or so radfems in full drag. Alas, in vain.)

## Uncritical Audience



Well, we let the Inspectors off easy. At times, we even apologised for them, though they could well look after themselves. We might have taken—but didn't—a far more critical look at the institution of the police itself. Instead we turned our attention to specific

"abuses" (which were, in any case, denied), or to the repeal/amendment of laws that discriminate against us. Never once during the evening did we challenge the assumption that law enforcement is good in itself. We were thus perfectly prepared to accept as an ideal Inspector Hames' cliché that "it doesn't matter to us who you are or what you are," black or white, gay or straight, working class, middle class—"or Polish!"—he added, in a sudden flash of wit. Of course, absolutely no one in the room could have believed him for a moment. A black gay girl in fact said as much. For our experiences tell a very different story. Yet none of us laughed, or even challenged him. Why was this? Was our silence an expression of some deep-rooted respect for the law or for "legitimate" authority? Was it a sort of implicit acquiescence to that cherished cultural belief which equates law with order? Or have we just been successfully conditioned into thinking that the very process of law enforcement is in itself a democratic one?

Inspector Hames took up the last point. "The police," he told one critic, "are just a cross-section of the general public, really." Well, precisely. And so they act out the values and attitudes, the anxieties and prejudices, of that very "general public" of which they find themselves a part. This explains Inspector Strapp's revealing definition of public indecency during an exchange with Bob Sturgess. "Even with the existing laws there's discrimination," Bob alleged, and gave public kissing of gays as an example. Sallabank and Hames quickly interjected that "personally" they'd do nothing about such activity, and they had doubts whether their colleagues would do so either. "CAMBERWELL! CAMBERWELL!" a chorus of highly charged voices sang out from all corners of the room. (Everyone seemed to know, without explanation, of the arrest there of two gays on a kissing charge.) Ah well, Strapp philosophised, the role of the police in such situations is largely determined by "whether there'd be any upset people, and how many people would be upset by this." ("Stamp out Christmas pudding and you'd soon be in trouble!" shouted David Allen with a Pickwickian mischievousness.)

## Police Standards

But both Strapp and Allen were right, of course. Police values, as Ray Jenkins has pointed out in *The Lawbreakers*, "originate from lower middle-class standards... which are built into the Police Disciplinary Code." Policemen instinctively understand what sort of behaviour does or does not indicate a genuine rejection of social norms, and it is their job to make certain that the heterosexual public's sense of decency is not, in such cases, "outraged." This is what it all amounts to, however you choose to look at the answers of the three Inspectors. Law-enforcers choose their relatively low-paying and dangerous job not because they wish to become guardians of liberty, but, rather, because they find in the Force a sort of bureaucratized security, as well as an opportunity to control the lives of others—a point that the American educator, E Z Friedenburg has made in another context. The policeman acts out the attitudes and values of the general public. And as far as the subject of homosexuality is concerned, we all pretty well know what that attitude is. To put it bluntly, the very processes of self-selection that lead him to his job virtually ensures that the average policeman will have a built-in bias against what the populace as a whole would regard as "undersocialised" non-conforming individuals and groups: student and hippy types, blacks, gays. It is their behaviour which is so frequently regarded as

causing or likely to cause a "breach of the peace"; hence the kissing of gays in a straight pub, or on a moonlit street in some provincial town might each be regarded as an "arrestable offence." Those that doubt this might do well to consult the Criminal Law Act of 1967.

## Foolish Norms



In short, virtually any form of behaviour that lies outside that tight and narrow statistical norm defined for us by heterosexual society can be regarded as "indecent" and likely to cause a "breach of the peace." So where does this leave us? For one thing,

it leaves us with a greater awareness of the ever-increasing difficulty of achieving self-respect under the eyes of a hostile and dreaded censorship that refuses to even acknowledge that it harasses, entices, entraps, discriminates, etc, etc. For another thing, it should leave us with a stronger resolve to launch a full-scale assault on the hegemony of a sexist society that freely uses the coercive power of the police to enforce its foolish and pernicious legal norms. If this means direct and even unlawful action, so be it. After all, what other means do we have to challenge the moral basis of those norms by which straight society gives itself the right to impose its double sexual standard?

We must face this fact: the "organised" gay movement in this country has been obsessed with law reform. It might usefully turn its attention to a critique of law enforcement as a social function. For surely we have learned by now that our oppressors are counting on our willingness to play by the working rules of our Parliamentary Democracy as a means of ensuring that we never get what is ours by right. The System is in fact so programmed that our adherence to "legitimate" authority has made us into Simple Simons. The pathetic handouts given us by the law can only silence us by craftily creating the illusion of progress. If we really think that the privileged classes in this country are in the least bit concerned about gay oppression, then heed please this brief exchange between Sallabank and one of the gays in the audience during the closing moments of Wednesday's encounter.

## No Time For Gays

"What possibility is there of a dialogue between police and gays?" he was asked.

"Well," Sallabank hedged, "it is far harder to educate the police in the ways of the community in a multiracial—if you'd like to call it that—society than it is the ordinary citizen."

"Perhaps," the questioner continued, "you might consider inviting some qualified gay person among us to come and speak to the cadets during the in-training programme."

There is really "no time," was the reply. After all, there are "only 542 hours during the 16 weeks of training school."

So there it is. 542 hours, but not enough time for 60 minutes of chat that might be the start of a most instructive dialogue which could greatly improve relations between the police and several million gays.

Come down from your corner, John Stuart Mill. The comedy is over.

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## Malvern -The French Touch



MALVERN: M Marc Daniel, the French historian and author of over forty studies of homosexuality and the recently-published book "Les Homosexuels", will attend the Campaign for Homosexual Equality conference at Malvern. He is coming specially from Paris, where he is presently engaged as a member of the board of Arcadie, the literary and scientific review, and a sex counsellor at the Ecole des Parents.

M Daniel, 45, has had works published in the English journals Homophile Studies, One and Man And Society.

### Gay Switchboard Disco

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All profits to Gay Switchboard

## Gays & Humanists

BRISTOL: Speaking at a conference of southern Humanist Societies at Bristol recently, Gay News correspondent Richard Thomson told the meeting that the gay rights movement would achieve sensational results in overcoming public ignorance and prejudice during the next decade.

Already there were signs that activists in the Campaign for Homosexual Equality assisted by the gay press were welding themselves into an effective force within the homosexual movement, and society as a whole was finding it increasingly difficult to abuse and lampoon gay people in the face of constructive argument and rational sophisticated debate, he said.

Expanding on the theme "The Right to be Gay", Richard turned to the humanist philosophy and its effects on public attitudes. "Humanists, more than any other group in society, have helped to create a climate of opinion where the notion of sin and innate wickedness, as distinct from a constructive rational system of ethics based on respect for human dignity, has been recognised as a divisive destructive force in human society. Any attitude which allowed groups of people to adopt moral postures and inflict punishment and ostracism on other groups with a clear conscience was totally unacceptable and repugnant to intelligent people.

"The effect of Humanist philosophy has been the wide acceptance of toleration in society, which is now not quite so ready to condemn, but appreciates that individuals have a right to be themselves provided they did not seek to harm other people. The right to be gay will soon become accepted in the same way as the right to be a member of a political party—or even a humanist.

### Common Ground

"Humanists and homosexuals have much in common. Both are still thought of as being on the fringe of social respectability which still clings to the old attitudes that provided you display a proper respect to authority, church, and country, you deserve the stamp of approval even if you had never done one single kind or constructive act for another fellow human being. And both seek a world where people are valued more than ideas of sin and self-righteous condemnation."

Richard told the well-attended conference that gays were not above criticism. It was not necessary for homosexuals to be offensive to draw attention to themselves, but

they must not expect to be accepted by society as of right. Fear of being known or recognised was the coward's way out, and they cannot expect to sit on the sidelines while others took up the challenge. Action with courage should be the watchword. Gays must accept the truth about themselves—they were a minority and as such the onus was on them to get out and challenge ignorance and prejudice wherever it existed. But action must be tempered with knowledge. It was impossible to fight ignorance with ignorance.

The speech, which was well-received, was followed by a questions and answers session, and anecdotes connected with the speaker's experiences at London University, especially several conversations with the late Bertrand Russell.

## 'Everyone Is More Or Less Bisexual'

STOCKHOLM: A 36-year-old metal worker recently appealed to the Swedish nation to understand and accept his bisexuality.

Ivan Tonkovic, married and the father of two, wrote a letter in one of Sweden's largest dailies *Aftonbladet*. The letter calls for unity among bisexuals in the struggle against hypocrisy, and he challenged his sexual comrades to express their feelings publicly.

"Everyone is more or less bisexual," he wrote. He questioned the general knowledge of sex and made a special plea for the married man who is attracted to men as well.

"The husband may be forced to encourage his wife to find a lover, so that he can watch them together in bed. Although the husband may want to touch his wife's lover, he can't . . . without revealing his homosexual desires. The restrictions force many to become 'peeping toms' when it comes to satisfying desires for the married man," he said.

Tonkovic asked why Swedish films and magazines have ignored bisexuality when "50 percent of the population is interested in members of their own sex."

The half-page open letter hit the nation of eight million people on a day when the state-run television re-ran an interview with two young lesbians defying family and authorities by living openly together along with their children. On the same day, Swedish TV ran a Dirk Bogarde film where he played a homosexual lawyer fighting blackmailers in 'The Jaffe Affair' (released in Britain as 'Victim') from Britain.

Unlike Britain or America, no hip-tying, rouged pop singers or celebrities have dared to speak out in Sweden, even to confess innocent teenage homosexual flings. The lack of general open acceptance is often surprising to visitors, who think of Scandinavia as a haven for sexual freedom.

## Pornseller Fails To Deliver

LONDON: JDM Enterprises, 15 Clifton Gardens, N15, has apparently taken money for advertised publications and then failed to come up with the goods.

We have received several complaints from readers. A Cardiff reader produced a cheque that was cashed by J Morton, reputed to be the person who run JDM.

Morton, in his initial response to the Cardiff reader, said JDM had "over 300 different titles in stock . . ." and asked what turned our reader on, "e.g. young boys sucking and f— each other . . ."

Morton has not responded to initial letters. An inquiry continues.

## Your Paper Needs YOU

Anne Elizabeth our administration assistant is leaving us to go to Germany and we urgently require a man or woman to take her place. The job entails shorthand and typing, keeping the information listings and subscriptions up to date, and dealing with box replies.

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- 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.

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# The Practical Realities Of Activism

by Ian Harvey, Vice-President of CHE

The Campaign for Homosexual Equality, as you have reported (GN42), has rightly decided to consider embarking upon a programme of activism for the future. Equally rightly, those directly concerned have agreed that they should operate through the existing machinery of CHE and they acknowledge the unquestionable value of the social and befriending aspects of that organisation which must run in parallel. One of the dangers within the homosexual society at present is the tendency to fragmentation. It is, after all, one cause with a common objective: the acceptance by society of homosexuals on equal terms. Rejection is intolerable and toleration is inadequate. Equality is our human right. It is neither a privilege nor a concession.

Activism is a perfectly legitimate part of political and social life. Such a life without activism of some sort or other is tantamount to a lethargy bordering on a state of amnesia. Like any other activity it takes varying forms. On the one hand are demonstrations which can lead to violence and clashes with authority. On the other are carefully planned confrontations with the existing social order at every level, with the intelligent use of all the instruments of publicity, enlightenment and debate. This second course is the right one for the CHE Activists to take.

The most important prerequisites for the mounting of an activist campaign are the accurate assessment of the nature of the field of operation, the correct calculation of the forces of the opposition and the clear definition of the objective. Since its inception CHE has made a number of studies of this field which involves the whole spectrum of society and the attitudes of mind of the various elements which go to make up that spectrum. The Groups of CHE throughout the country, and the Scottish Minorities Group in Scotland, have also gathered through their experience a great deal of valuable evidence on the subject.

## Target Areas

The major areas in which activity must take place are plain for all to see. They are the political, educational, medical, religious, industrial and commercial spheres, the world of communications, the law and the police. A great deal has been written and said with regard to the requirements in each of these departments and *Gay News* is not the place in which to go into the matter in detail. But it is desirable before the campaign gets under way to underline some salient points which require particular attention in order that the fullest progress may be made and some stumbling blocks may be avoided.

The political leaders have recently expressed their views on the position of homosexuals in our society. None of them can escape the evidence of the past from the publication of Wolfenden in 1957 onwards through the debates in Parliament on the various Sexual Offences Bills until the passing of the present Act in 1967 and subsequently when efforts have been made to initiate further reforms. It is both dishonest and cowardly for those who have been MPs, and particularly the three Party leaders, to declare that this is a matter for individual conscience. The real truth is that they fear unpopularity with the electorate. If all the Party leaders were to agree on the validity of the homosexual case they would give a lead to the electorate instead of being led by it; and that is their proper function. This would eliminate the possibility of any one Party losing votes by espousing the homosexual cause. MPs would do well to remember that there are at least a million and a half homosexuals in the country and they are our representatives too.

It is encouraging to note that Bryan Magee, the author of *One in Twenty* is now an MP, and that Leo Abse is still there. Humphrey Berkeley and Montgomery Hyde in the past paid for supporting homosexual reform by losing their seats. The CHE Activists should consolidate their somewhat tenuous links with Parliament in order to promote future legislation which should include, in particular, the reduction of the age of consent for males to 16, the inclusion of Scotland and Northern Ireland in the terms of the Act together with the Armed Forces and the Merchant Navy.

One warning needs to be given. Homosexuality is not a party-political issue, and any attempt to make it into one would be disastrous and would merely ensure an organised opposition from the other side. Nor is there any sense in a candidate standing as a homosexual 'per se' at this juncture.



Jackie Forster expressing CHE's aims at Speaker's Corner, 1972

What is required is that the accredited candidates of all parties should declare themselves in favour of equality for homosexuals in society and should promise to act accordingly if elected: no one should be prevented from becoming such a candidate because of his homosexuality although that will be a difficult hurdle to surmount. The questionnaire sent out by CHE to the candidates at the last election should provide a sound base from which the Activists can operate.

## Teaching Children

Important as the political exercise may be—and political action governs our society—the key to the success of this campaign is education. This is a highly sensitive field. It is from the general lack of education on the subject that ignorance, prejudice and fear about homosexuality and homosexuals stem. Remove the ignorance and most of the prejudice and the fear will disappear. But that is far easier said than done.

Parents and teachers have to be won over to the necessity for teaching children about the nature of homosexuality in the same context as heterosexuality. Both are variations of sexuality about which all too little is taught by either party. Under no circumstances must homosexuality be classed as a perversion or a disease about which children should be frightened or ashamed. It is no more a joke than heterosexuality which, after all, can produce illegitimate children which is certainly no joke.

The younger generation of parents is much more aware of the true nature of homosexuality than its predecessors and is prepared to deal with the problem in their children. This is fertile ground for the Activists, whereas in the older groups they will meet with hostility and stupidity. There is plenty of evidence that students who are future parents, if not parents already, are openly cooperating to help homosexuals, and this provides a ray of hope for the future. Close association with student bodies is of

the greatest importance and much is already being done in this direction.

It is essential to penetrate the citadel of education if there is to be any real progress at the lower levels. Without a clear directive from the Minister of Education, neither Local Education Authorities nor Head Teachers are likely to take the initiative. Individual teachers will, in the main, be cautious about introducing the subject of homosexuality to their classes. They would put their careers at risk and be liable to be accused in the present atmosphere of themselves being homosexuals and therefore proselytising. The fact is that there is no more danger to a child from a homosexual teacher than there is from a heterosexual one. This ought to be clearly acknowledged by the Education authorities and the CHE Activists should seek to have this done. There is no sound reason for complaining about shortage of teachers whilst excluding people for unjust and invalid grounds.

The Churches are still in a quandary about homosexuality, and it is rated as a sin by many Churchmen. The present Archbishops of Canterbury and of York have both shown sympathy and have been rapped over the knuckles for their pains. Neither has shown any willingness to go to the stake: the blood of the martyrs is no longer the seed of the Church of England. It is time for the Churches to make a serious reappraisal of their attitude, which is largely based on conditions which no longer apply. A direct approach to the Church leaders should be made by the Activists.

## Hyper-Sensitive Gays

Some homosexuals are hyper-sensitive about making any contacts with the Medical Profession. This is foolish. Of course there are sick homosexuals just as there are sick heterosexuals. Many homosexuals are more sick than they might be because of the ill-informed attitude of both General Practitioners and of Psychiatrists. The Wolfenden

Committee recommended that the Medical Profession should study the aetiology of homosexuality, about which they still hold divided opinions. Nothing has been done about this, and no visible progress has been made in the training of medical students, some of whom are ignorant about all forms of sex.

As a consequence of this inertia, many GPs give the wrong advice to homosexuals and to bisexuals, particularly those who run into marital difficulties. The CHE Activists should make contact with every teaching hospital with a view to initiating lectures and debates. Medical students would be likely to welcome this. Local GPs should be invited to attend gatherings of local CHE Groups.

It must be made clear to all employers that victimisation of homosexuals is offensive and will not be tolerated. Furthermore it must, in due course, be made an offence under the law to discriminate. To this end approaches must be made to the politicians, the lawyers, the CBI and the Trade Unions.

Contacts with the Communications Industry, the Press, Radio and TV, must be strengthened and improved in every direction. In many ways this is the easiest path to tread because those concerned are largely open-minded on the subject with the exception of certain newspaper proprietors and editors. Communications being their business they will listen, and if the story is sound, intelligently presented and newsworthy they will cooperate.

Finally it is desirable to change the attitude of the police to homosexuals who no longer belong to the criminal classes. This will not be achieved by calling them 'fascist pigs' and the like. A recent meeting with the police held by CHE Bloomsbury was enlightening to both sides. [Jack Babuscio's report on this meeting appears elsewhere in this issue.] Again a directive is required from the highest level: the Home Secretary. As things stand, the police approach to the subject varies according to the views of the local Commissioners. These must be unified and liberalised. A strong line must in future be taken by the police against 'queer-bashing', to use an objectionable phrase, which is in every way as anti-social as 'mugging', about which the police and the public are far more concerned.

This is a mammoth programme. It will demand expertise, organisational skill and a proper understanding of public relations. It will also require a great deal of money. CHE must recruit more and more members, and those who are not prepared to 'come out' can at least contribute financially. The Activist Campaign must be accompanied not only by a membership drive, but also by the building up of a campaign fund. The full cooperation of *Gay News*, which can claim to be the mouth-piece of the homosexual society, is needed, and, it is to be hoped, will be forthcoming.

## Reformism

Before action commences, it is important to underline the fact that this should be a reformist and not a revolutionary campaign. Revolutions to be of lasting value have to be successful. A social revolution involving the total sexual readjustment of society which is favoured in some quarters would be a fiasco at this time, and, what would be worse, it would be followed by a back-lash and a counter-revolution of damaging proportions. The age of crucifixion and bloody martyrdoms is over, and there is no point in reviving it for the benefit of those who wish to indulge in personal heroics. Such antics would lead to the segregation of homosexuals as we would all tend to be identified with the performance of an extremist minority in the public mind. This campaign must be aimed at integration. It is the public mind which governs public opinion, which in turn governs those who control society.

Reform is a complex process and sometimes appears to go too slowly. Reformers can take heart from the experience of history which shows that what was once considered revolutionary, heretically extreme and totally unacceptable has often become the agreed doctrine of normality. What is fallacious is to accept any such doctrine as final and absolute. It is against the present divisive doctrine, which is illiberal and reactionary, that the efforts of the CHE Activists must be directed. Those efforts demand and deserve the fullest support of the whole homosexual society and will require the cooperation of intelligent heterosexuals of every political, social and religious creed. The success of this campaign is a consummation not only to be desired but also to be achieved.



Members of CHE at Gay Pride Week rally in Trafalgar Square, 1972. Event organised by London GLF





Photograph: Lucio A Bergmans



Amsterdam's celebrated Spring tourist attraction Keukenhof Gardens

## Easter '74 In Amsterdam

By John D Stamford, Editor of Spartacus International Gay Guide

### Hotels:

Many hotels are already fully booked. A few vacancies exist at the Queen's Head. If you want to go to Amsterdam and haven't already got a reservation, first phone the hotel of your choice then send a deposit express. Alternative accommodation can be found at the Thermos I sauna which will open from 11pm, and for young people under 30 the Jongeren Prinsen Sauna, Prinsengracht 381, is opening specially every evening from midnight to 8am. If you are still stuck, call at the VVV (Tourist Information Office) at the Central Station or at Rokin 5 (near Dam Square).

### Parties:

The ITC (Canal Room Bar) will be showing films every night, and may also have cabaret or male strippers. Phone 23 02 30 for final details. The Spartacus Club will have a party on Easter Saturday, and this may be a costume party—final arrangements by phone (23 73 13).

The best party will be at the LL Club. The bar is open from 8pm on Easter Saturday and you must go there first to buy a ticket (price for guests 10 guilders, members 5 guilders) and they will tell you how to find the nearby warehouse where the party will be held. It offers bar, films, music, snackbar, and a experience. The LL Club is for the leather boy and his friends. Don't let that put you off—there is no s/m at the party, but it is lots of fun for everyone, leather or otherwise. They have another party on Sunday afternoon from 4 to 9pm, with live music and tickets are 5 guilders for guests, and 2.50 for members.

### Bar Opening Times:

All bars stay open one hour later than usual on Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Saturday, Sunday, and Monday.

### What To See:

Your hotel can arrange sightseeing tours and the best thing to see at this time of the year is the famous Keukenhof Gardens—the showplace of the bulb industry. It is in a vast park and whichever direction you look you will see a carpet of colour stretching beyond the horizon. It is open daily from 8am to 8pm and admission is 4 guilders. For anyone who appreciates flowers, Keukenhof is a must.

### Theatres:

Programmes are not available at present except that the Dutch National Opera Company is doing *La Boheme* at the Stadschouwburg. Entertainments programmes can be obtained from the VVV or from hotel managements.

### If You Need Help Or Information:

I will be glad to help any GN reader with information on what to do, where to go, etc. I can be contacted at the Queen's Head most evenings (Beulingstraat 19)—if I'm not there, leave a note with your name and hotel phone number and I'll contact you. For additional info, eg addresses of clubs, bars etc and their opening hours, refer to The Spartacus International Gay Guide, available from GN Mail Order Service, price £2.25 plus 10% p&p.



Photograph courtesy VVV-Amsterdam

### Gay News Oldies

Back copies of Gay News Nos 1-7, 9-11 and 13-19 price 10p each, and 20-24, 28-32 and 35-43 price 15p each, are available from Gay News Oldies, 62a Chiswick High Road, London W4 1SY.

Orders for 10 or more are post free, otherwise please add 5p per copy for post and packing.

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# What The Gay Papers Say.... And

by Bill Lemmer

I lay in bed the other night and read some letters written by the French writer Rimbaud. And something he wrote really boomed in the hollow round of my mind as I thought about the teething gay magazine press. Rimbaud was telling this fellow that for any new invention to be made known, it has got to be expressed in a new form. And the notes I'd made of half a dozen gay magazines suddenly, spontaneously processed on my inner film-scanner.

These magazines have made feeble-bold attempts to hit the right format. Even the lesbian rag SAPPHO would like to enlarge its narrow editorial horizon, although there's been, by necessity, no indication of this in the mag.

There is a formula for success. I know it. Although I can't tell what the formula is because I can only feel it. And you only have to read Rimbaud to see what happens when somebody writes what they feel, as opposed to what they think.

SAPPHO, for instance: I felt the mag stronger in mid-1973 issues than I've felt it at any time in any other magazine. The enthusiasm of the mag's commitment gives the pages a vibration.

But let me first say something about this gay press. Six magazines: SAPPHO, QUORUM, LUNCH, LINE-UP, FOLLOW-UP, and ADAM 73. The mags claim sales totalling 18,000 copies per issue, or an average of 3,000 each. At first reckoning, this kind of circulation figure comes as a shock. But as for quality, well as far as the form goes, there is really enough that is original to secure an identity or command attention.

SAPPHO, QUORUM, and LUNCH have made their commitment part of the formula, in that they've struck some balance between gayness and integration. FOLLOW-UP and ADAM 73 are committed first to the commercial success of their product and secondly to their market: this means that they isolate homosexuality more than I think they should. A homosexual magazine must be the epitome of a homosexual. And then there's LINE-UP, distinguished by its peculiarity.

QUORUM and FOLLOW-UP, the two costliest rags at 75p, are the only magazines of the six that aren't boosting prices. SAPPHO is up 10p to 35p; LUNCH up from 25p as soon as possible; LINE-UP up 10p to 45p; and ADAM 73 up 5p to 80p. Both ADAM 73 and LUNCH are going quarterly.

LINE-UP is peculiar among the others because it's integrated to the point where lots of people say-it isn't a gay rag anymore. The magazine has just been accepted by WH Smith's and John Menzies. These new distribution outlets will put LINE-UP out in front of gay magazines in terms of commercial success. But the concessions the magazine made to gain WH Smith acceptance prostituted the principles of a gay magazine. The March issue is completely showbiz, save the travel, fashion and eating

pieces, Gay identity is squeezed out like puss from a pimple; the magazine is living a lie.

Founder and co-editor Alex McKenna agreed that "a lot of people will tell you that the cost of getting accepted by the most effective newsagent in the country was to sell out the magazine. I don't know. It's definitely not gay in the old terms of a gay magazine. There are no corny stories."

The inside cover subtitle of the magazine is: "The Magazine of Human Events." This is the sauciest thing you'll read in LINE-UP! A first anniversary editorial last September said that the mag would like to do what no other magazine has achieved: "to give gay men and women a source of strength, unity and confidence and an ear that will always listen." This is the rag that started as JEFFREY, turned into LINE-UP after eight issues, and then relegated its pen-pal ads and naughty stuff to a separate magazine: "How can we expect a book-seller to display a magazine which is in so-called bad taste and might offend some people who pick it up by chance?" So now, LINE-UP, a hefty, glossy good-looker and JEFFREY. LINE-UP has always promised



to be exclusively showbizzy, with theatre and fashion and gossipy news and records and books and cinema and some features about entertainment industry people—pretty much the echo of the greater entertainment machine. The magazine patronizes, pacifies, placates and mollifies, something a gay rag won't do. JEFFREY will give you 38 pictures, 88 personal ads, and a list of 215 places where you might find some ass—at least it did in February.

FOLLOW-UP magazine has decided the rag must not integrate to the extent that it will lose its gay identity. Editor Don Busby has made a firm commitment. However,



when one studies his pricey boy magazines, one wonders where his motives spring from. Anyway, FOLLOW-UP developed into an "information and advice magazine," according to Busby—known in the trade as "the boy specialist." FOLLOW-UP is a very 'editorial and first-persony' kind of confessional rag in a bent-romantic way. A recent editorial: "Inclined towards the Arts, the homosexual is creative by nature . . . the homosexual is . . . fastidious about personal hygiene . . . the homosexual is . . . beset by emotional and social pressures . . . the homosexual is . . . among the most genuine and dedicated of Social and Welfare workers." Each of the last few issues has eased in more problem letters and devoted less space to the showbiz of early issues. An editorial from mid-'73: "FOLLOW-UP, of course is mainly directed at the theatre-going reader, and we hope to expand further in this direction." Busby says today: "Well, the pleasant approach didn't work."

So now the rag has the help of a psychiatrist, a medical practitioner, and two, yes two, solicitors. You'll still find a bit of fiction, theatre, horoscope and the occasional fling at feature stories. A couple of memorable features: Sex In Public Places (interviews), and What Do We Tell Our Children? (Rotterdam psychologist tells all). The confessional aspect is made interesting in Sex In Public Places, although one feels that it's depersonalizing. Pictures are too dark. And although the mag has made a commitment, it lacks balance and is too heavy.

LINE-UP integrated out of a gay existence. FOLLOW-UP submerged itself in something resembling an attitude of separatism. Then there's SAPPHO, which to all intents and purposes is unchanged. SAPPHO, blessed be, has a form that is unique. There is a kind of growth behind SAPPHO that has flowered, and this is the most important aspect of

development in the rag. SAPPHO is for lesbians. And like other mags reviewed here, it started in 1972. The whole thing about SAPPHO has an air, flavour, and taste that the other magazines, especially LUNCH and QUORUM, should sample. LUNCH and QUORUM because they have the potential to invent new form. If the potential isn't realised, they may as well coalesce with LINE-UP, or fold. Competition isn't all that it's cracked up to be—it hasn't, through gay mags, done much for gay people.

SAPPHO is the gayest of gay rags. This magazine is the one that doesn't hunt for a role—one reason is that it's not staff written at all. Editor Jacqueline Forster: "We print only what is sent in."

But she adds: "I would like to see counselling, medical and financial articles and good poetry." There are no editorials, which is a relief after the horn-blowing of last year's QUORUM and the preachments of FOLLOW-UP and LINE-UP.

When the monthly SAPPHO meetings started, 50 people attended. Now, Ms Forster says 200 turn up. The group want to form a non-political women's centre, probably some sort of licensed dining club. From the meetings come help, ideas and feedback about the magazine. Jackie regrets that the rag has a middle-age and middle-class image. But SAPPHO is what lesbians make of it: "We just don't hear from young girls or women. And it's not our job to try to make them participate," she said.

The June 1973 SAPPHO reads like a groovy song. There's a sense of enjoyment to life, without the pretension of theatres or cinema or fashions or shit like that. It's a very unpretentious, meaningful scene. SAPPHO

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# What They Don't, In One Man's View

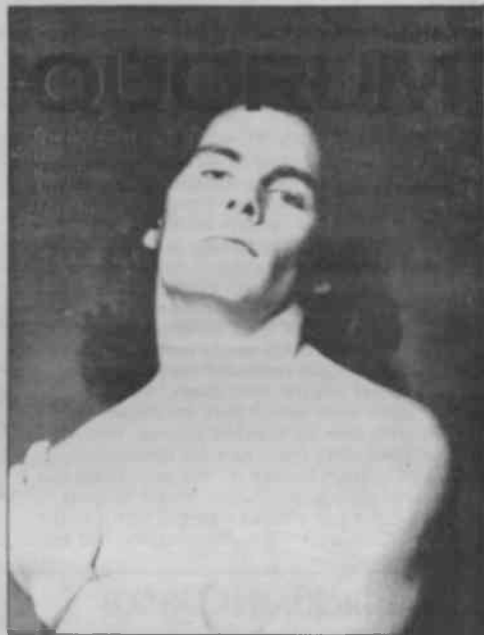
"Vaginal Politics" and fairy tales. Unfortunately, the style is gone today, and along with it the zest. This is probably just laziness. In contrast to SAPPHO is LUNCH, which has lacked financial realism, editorial experience and journalistic maturity. In retrospect, the idea of having three editors and giving one complete responsibility for a separate issue appears to be an incredible case of mistaken flagellation.



October LUNCH announced the "new look magazine", with colour cover, a larger size, "fresh contributors, different editors." The new regular features (discrimination, coming out, people, and places) never did

seem to jell in later issues. November LUNCH announced the "passing-round" of "editorial responsibility" among "a small number of individuals" who have different points of view. The magazine has been too introspective and defensive. The next LUNCH moaned about the "very hard to reach" readership, the market. LUNCH even bitched about its name. But to finger the positive a little, LUNCH has shown that it can get quality goods to market at a fair price. The press cuttings feature has always been rather interesting. The interviews are frequently poignant, although these seem a little blase in the name of literary content. The Jill Johnson interview, which appeared in David Seligman's issue, was terrific. The entire No 22 was more flairy. In the editorial Seligman dared to write: "Participation in gay politics, for many people seems to signal the demise or distraction of the emphasis on sexual and emotional activity, which become buried amidst a plethora of meetings, letter-writing and intellectual masturbation."

Well, on to QUORUM, a cocky magazine that has had a tantrum about itself. Design changes have been as radical as editorial renewal. Use of white space can also be extreme. QUORUM models are better-looking, more creatively posed and lighted more effectively than in other mags. But this rag can be Romanesque in its bourgeois pictorial opulence. I dislike intensely the constant head-cropping, where the top of every picture is a flattened head. The reason for this technique is well-founded. But it's overkill in the case of QUORUM. The magazine doesn't distinguish between fiction and non-fiction. And, given the presentation, this is off-putting. There is a good book section and

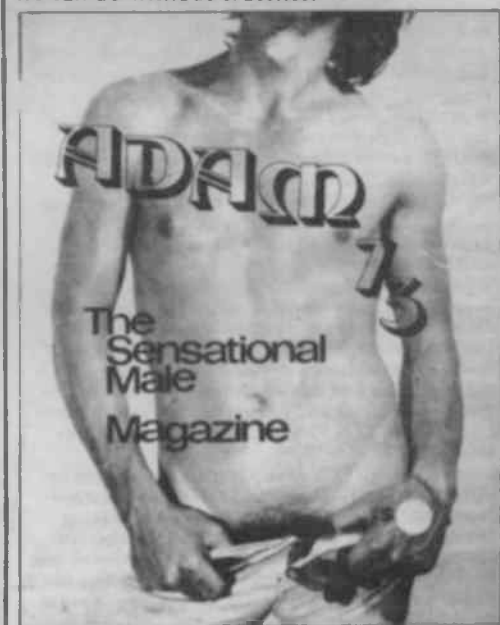


some pieces about theatre, a horoscope, and steady writing from Los Angeles. A second columnist, Laurence Collinson, is the only part of the magazine today that tends to be harpy and pedantic. The long length of sentences indicates that the magazine is intended for a fairly enlightened audience. Unless you're tolerably well-read, you'll be bored with it. I expect, however, that QUORUM will be more lucid and concise when contributions and budget enlarge with subscriptions.

QUORUM dropped the traditional opening editorial this year. This is especially welcome in the case of QUORUM. The magazine now begins with a PLAYBOY-like gossip essay on what's happening here and there.

QUORUM, LUNCH, SAPPHO, and FOLLOW-UP concentrate on self-expression, and, in that sense, encourage gay people to be free. (Here I give FOLLOW-UP the benefit of the doubt. The mag could easily take a turn in this period of change to isolate instead of liberate.) Some magazines, notably ADAM 73, the Busby boy books, JEFFREY, are porn in the sense that they emulate the ghetto: that they encourage completely self-indulgent activity.

Doing your own thing is difficult enough, without gay porn. Spontaneity, part of pride, is difficult outside of one's closet. The gay mag press is poised to provide a needed impetus for pride and participation. Poise. We can do without crutches.



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## 'Star-Gays' with Merlin

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## Aries & Friends

ARIENS are truly a Fire sign. They need friends of their own element who appreciate generosity, warmth, open-heartedness, bustle, energy and enthusiasm. But they hardly ever learn to look for these qualities in people they meet or love. ARIENS are just as likely to be carried away by Air-sign LIBRA, to whom they are specially attracted, although opposites. Or they experiment in breaking down the icy reserves of VIRGO—usually being coldly repuffed in the process. More alarmingly still, ARIENS have been known to fall for CANCERIANs, and have been smartly nipped in return. CANCER Star Gays hardly ever stand the traumatic rows which are, in fact, only the ARIEN way of relieving tensions and airing a few views.

ARIEN Star Gays quite often feel attracted to GEMINIANS, and indeed The Twins are very sympathetic to ARIENS. They do, for example, quite understand the ARIEN habit of letting relationships lapse until the person concerned is required for some social or other useful purpose. GEMINIANS are too sympathetic to this trait, using it against ARIENS, who resent having their own tactics blatantly revealed. In any case, GEMINIANS flirt too much for the ARIEN taste; mercurial chatter and intellectual pursuits tend to blow out ARIEN Fire rather than fan its flames into warmth.

If only ARIENS would learn a few lessons in astrological tact, they would suffer fewer calamitous misalliances. But they blunder on, making the most ghastly errors, then spending procrastinating hours, whilst gazing round for someone else foolish enough to show interest in them. The words, "LEO" and "SAGITTARIUS" should be branded on ARIENS' wrists, tattooed on their often manly

chests, or somehow subliminally introduced into their minds. Then they would achieve contentment in love without anguish and pain.

LEONIANS, like those proverbial angels, sometimes hesitate to tread in places where ARIENS barge in regardless. This endears the fearless Ram to the Lion, who is not always eager to spring, despite the impression they often give. LEONIANS love to bask in glory, and ARIENS, however successful or popular, defer to the LEO personality, sharing achievements quite unselfishly. Perhaps the Zodiac 'animals' have learnt to bow before this king of beasts, for LEO, as later articles will show, is certainly the dominating sign of the heavens, from which all others radiate, even if many are incompatible. ARIES and SAGITTARIUS form with LEO a triad which is unique. The ARIES-LEO combination is based on mutual respect and instinctive appreciation of leadership qualities inherent in them both. Provided ARIENS can allow LEO to keep the centre of any stage, and this usually happens anyway, LEO in turn devotes attention to ARIEN friends in a way which is captivating in its loyalty and admiration.

The amusing, trendy, versatile and wholly irresponsible subjects of SAGITTARIUS are an ideal foil for ARIENS. They would both feel free to roam, delighting in adventures, new experiences, and becoming involved in flirtations on the way—most likely with each other. They could even settle down together, always on the understanding that the relationship, and home itself, was subject to a permanent impermanence! Parties, escapades, rip-roaring progress through every style of living would be the pattern. It just makes one gasp to realise what a zest for life a combination of ARIES-SAGITTARIUS would really have. The timid are once again reminded they can pop in their ear-plugs and bar their doors. And advised to swiftly stand aside before they are mown down by this amazing duo. Be thankful though, that generally ARIENS don't care for threesomes, for with a LEONIAN thrown in, and sometimes this does happen, the combination would be quite unnerving and could strike a sort of terror in the bravest of Star Gay hearts. Fortunately, not quite a case for exorcism!

## Blackburn Dance

BLACKBURN: There will be a Spring Supper Dance at the Queens Hotel in Southport on Sunday April 28 from 7.30 to midnight.

This is the fourth big get-together at Southport arranged by the Blackburn (East Lancs) CHE Group. The dances have grown in popularity since the first one was held in June 1972. The last one was attended by over 200 CHE members and friends.

The Queens Hotel is on the Promenade at Southport, opposite the Southport Theatre and Floral Hall. Music will be provided by the hotel's resident band and there will be a private bar.

Tickets cost £1 each and include the price of a buffet supper. They can be obtained by writing to Nick Draper, 40 Northcliffe, Great Harwood, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB6 7PJ.

## Here We Are Again

As there isn't a wordy entreaty in sight, perhaps this is an ideal time to re-name this column 'short, sharp and almost unapologetic'... but enough of the 'in' jokes.

### Goodbye Peter . . .

Staff changes seem to have become a habit of late, and it is with much regret that we have to report that Peter Mundy left the GN team at the end of March. Peter has been advertising and circulation manager for the past 16 months, as well as successfully establishing the GN Mail Order Service as another branch of the paper's activities. He'll be



teaching English in Amsterdam for the next four or five months, then will be heading for Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia. Asked why he had decided to leave not only GN but England, Peter replied: "Wanderlust and a search for the exotic and the erotic." Best of luck and much happiness, Peter. We are indebted to you for your invaluable contribution to Gay News.

### . . . Hello Bernard

Taking over Peter's job is Bernard Mears. Formerly an assistant sales office manager for ITT Distributors, Bernard has also been our 'ace' pub seller for some time now. Telling us why he wanted to become even more involved with GN, Bernard explained: "I firmly believe in what Gay News is doing and want to be a part of it. I'm determined to increase sales, promote a wider range of display advertising and make the selection of gay books available from the Mail Order Service second to none." Good to have you with us, Bernie.

### Gay Rights Fund

GN's Gay Rights Fund has now reached £135. If you want to help protect the legal rights of gays in a positive way, you can give your support by sending a donation (crossed cheque/postal order made out to Gay Rights Fund) to Gay Rights, c/o Gay News, 62a Chiswick High Road, London W4 1SY. A receipt will be sent if requested. Details of the trust fund's objectives have appeared in recent issues, but anyone requiring further information should phone me on 01-995 1958.

### Proof Reader Wanted

As a result of changing the publication dates at the beginning of the year, it has become increasingly difficult for our present proof reader to fit in with our production schedules. Consequently, we urgently require the services of an experienced and reliable proof reader for three or four evenings a fortnight. If anyone is interested in reading GN well in advance of everyone else, as well as earning some beer or gin and tonic money, please contact me at the office.

We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Denis Cohn, who has been our proof reader since our early issues.

### True Story

London's leather-orientated Motor Sports Club recently held a fancy dress/uniform party at their headquarters in a Covent Garden public house. As with all their social functions, it was a resounding success. However, one of the club's members experienced something rather disturbing as he walked from his car to the party. He had to leave it a little way from the pub because he couldn't find any nearby parking space, so was expecting a comment or two from passers-by, especially as his choice of fancy dress was Adolf Hitler in full military uniform, but was more than a little surprised when a uniformed policeman, in all seriousness, saluted him.

### Dates and Deadlines

The next issue of Gay News (No 45) will be published and available on 25th April. Because there are no postal deliveries over Easter, printing and schedules have forced us to bring forward all advertising and copy deadlines for that edition only. Subsequently, any ads received after the holidays will have to be held over until the next issue. We hope that readers will not be unduly inconvenienced by these revised arrangements.

Denis Lemon

### Sign Of The Times

SPAIN: A Barcelona hotel (not listed in the Spartacus Guide) has the following sign in its courtyard—NO AUTOMOBILES. PEDERASTS ONLY.

## CHE

### On Radio Merseyside

LIVERPOOL: Convenor and new acting chairman of Liverpool CHE Cathy Cowley says the group is on Radio Merseyside again. The programme is a 'phone-in' scheduled April 26 at 6.15pm.

### Happy Families

CEREDIGION: The Commune Movement would like to hear from any groups who are working and living together and who would be willing to write about themselves in the movement's journal 'Communes'.

Please write to coordinator Dave Puddy at Trokes Family, Llanarth, Ceredigion, Cymru, Wales.

## Troubled Water

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

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# A Woman Without A Woman

**STAYING ON ALONE: Letters of Alice B Toklas, Edited by Edward Burns; with an Introduction by Gilbert A Harrison, Angus and Robertson, £4.50.**

Depending on the way you think, Gertrude Stein was either one of the great innovators of modern writing, or a well-meaning, but semi-influential fraud. For me, most of Stein's writing is very heavy going. The sole exception to this canon is her *The Autobiography of Alice B Toklas*.

Who was Toklas? And what was Gertrude Stein doing writing her autobiography? Well, the full story is too lengthy to go into here (a volume devoted to their lives, *A Charmed Circle*, is shortly to be published), but let it suffice to say that these two expatriate American ladies lived together in Paris for nearly forty years. Rather like the two ladies of Llangollen, Stein and Toklas became institutions.

Stein wrote her books, prose pieces, and plays, Toklas kept house, shopped, walked the dogs, and cooked. But they were at the centre of a circle which included, at various times, Hemingway, Virgil Thomson, Thornton Wilder, Picasso, Cocteau and F Scott Fitzgerald.

Gertrude Stein died in 1946. Alice B Toklas was left to carry on alone. This present



Alice B Toklas, Paris, 1922

present volume is a record, in the form of her letters, of the last twenty years of her life. In Stein's lifetime Toklas had, to a degree, been the figure in the background. In the twenty years after Stein's death she also managed to gather a little glory unto her own bosom—for it was within this period that her blissful *Alice B Toklas Cookbook*, a cookbook to read as well as to use, was put together and published.

The letters were written to a wide circle of friends, some of them distinguished, some of them ordinary folk she and Stein had come to know. They are fascinating reading. Opening up the volume are the letters about Stein's death, then follow the letters of pain, of slow acclimatization to her changed situation, and then the bursts of joy and excitement as Stein's unpublished works are prepared for publication, as her plays go into performance.

The final years, and the final letters, retain a joy in life, in companionship, in good food (and the letters are dotted with recipes and advice on food) and in art, fashion, and literature. But there is also sadness. Failing sight, and squabbles with Stein's family, affected Alice B's latter years. Ultimately, however, she comes shining through as an idiosyncratic, passionately loyal and warm human being. These letters make rewarding and warming reading. The immense pleasure of this book is only marred by rather muddled and incomplete footnotes. But that is really only a small complaint.

Peter Burton



Alice and Gertrude Stein, Venice, 1908

# Maughamian Simplicity

**THE PATTERN OF MAUGHAM: A Critical Portrait by Anthony Curtis, Hamish Hamilton, £3.50.**

A quick look through a copy of the current *Books in Print* will show how little there is available about Somerset Maugham. There are several volumes of criticism, mostly rather specialised, there are the volumes of memoirs, and there are Robin Maugham's autobiography and his family biography. But because of Somerset Maugham's expressed wish that there be no official biography of him, no one has yet written and published one. From all accounts it would seem most unlikely that the Maugham executors would be especially willing to assist any would-be biographer, and Curtis, in the volume here under review, is certainly of the opinion that the present executors would not allow publication in their lifetimes of the final Maugham book *Looking Back*.

*Looking Back* has only been serialised in England—it has never appeared in book form. (See the *Sunday Express* 9 September-28 October 1962.) It is generally a rather reviled work due to what one of the *Sunday Express* lead-ins described as 'such candour'. It does seem to me, however, that part of the shock of *Looking Back* was relative to the time it was written. Since 1962, candour has become more than a trifle *passé*. It seems rather silly that it should remain unobtainable to all but those with access to either the *Sunday Express* files or The British Newspaper Library. Surely Maugham's 'autobiography' deserves to get some lasting publication?

But that's all rather a digression. The subject under review is Mr Curtis' *The Pattern of Maugham*. Let me pick up the thread again, and not get side-tracked by personal interests related but hardly relevant.

Such books available on Maugham tend to be either specialist or frivolous. Anthony Curtis is to be congratulated on a work that is neither of these, and which manages to cunningly blend biography and literary criticism.

Curtis does stress, however, that he is

writing criticism and not trying to "out-fox" Maugham by writing a biography. He is at pains to point out that biography will only intrude upon his thesis where it is relevant and essential to understanding.

*The Pattern of Maugham* is basically a chronological examination of Maugham's literary career. As such, it benefits enormously from a straightforward narrative thrust. Such incidents from life as are related fit smoothly in with the ideas Mr Curtis is expounding. In certain instances a certain piece will be examined—as it were—out of turn; but this is only where it is to be grouped with some major work of which it was a direct ancestor. Generally the pattern Curtis follows is Maughamian in simplicity and is written in prose which is equally Maughamian in lucidity.

Mr Curtis has no great surprises to spring. He makes no startling judgments. Yet he has produced a piece which has much to commend it. Certainly any student or any admirer of Maugham's writing will want to add this to the shelf along with Maugham's own writings. For, more than anything else, it is a useful book.

Peter Burton



Maugham sitting beside his portrait by Graham Sutherland

## Kitchen Bookshelf

*The Wines of Burgundy*, by H W Yoxall. Penguin, 45p.

*The Wines of Bordeaux*, by E Penning-Roswell. Penguin, 75p.

It's a pity that wine experts come across as such a pretentious lot. I'm sure the elaborate vocabulary they employ, the rituals and refined one-upmanship that goes on prevents too many people from even trying to come to grips with the subject and learn to exercise a little discrimination. It does me; I resolutely stick to carafe wine in restaurants and have leaned what to buy from my wine merchant through trial and error confining taste within price. And then when one is given a really super wine, one recognises its superiority instantly and wishes one had the time and money to learn a little.

If anyone could persuade me to tackle wine with the enthusiasm I tackle that other elitist subject, opera, it would be H W Yoxall. His book *The Enjoyment of Wine* is one of the most delightful introductions to the subject. He writes with great wit and elegance and a complete freedom from pretension. These qualities make his volume on the wines of Burgandy equally outstanding. He analyses the geography and the great wines of the region in a way which is actually interesting. His chapter on Burgundian food may be dispensable, but the notes on care and service, while inevitably hitting that note of suspect affectation when temperatures and decanting are discussed, still remain useful because Yoxall always prefers logic and sense to impressive but empty flourishes.

The Bordeaux book is more hefty and is, apparently, the first book in English on these wines. It is accessible, and encyclopedic in its scope with lots of interesting historical facts. Many chapters strike me as being of more interest to the professional, or advanced wine expert than to the layman who might wish to extend his knowledge

on a more modest level. Both books were originally published by the Wine and Food Publishing Company and are well illustrated with maps.

Roger Baker

## Old Reporters Never Die

**WAIKIKI: Fearless globetrekker, intrepid Aussi, Treuth Sleuth, ex-GN reporter Stephen Maclean has been hot on the tail of the Rocky Horror Show.**

We received a card from him to tell us that he's writing a BOOK (plug, plug) on the show. Having travelled with them from London to Sydney to Los Angeles, he has spent the last seven weeks in Hollywood. The film of the show is coming out later this year.

Jagger, Mae West and Fabian are to attend the opening of the stage show in Hollywood.



Gay globetrekker Stephen MacLean

# Boss Lady

**LUCY—THE BITTERSWEET LIFE OF LUCILLE BALL** by Edward C Epstein and Joe Morella. Published by WH Allen, £2.75.

There is always an obverse side to the coin, and Epstein and Morella are to be congratulated for the way in which they have tackled Lucille Ball's biography. Without resorting to the style of some of the cheaper 'film star' stories of the past, they have managed to portray both her faults and good points in equal balance.

Her film career began as a Goldwyn girl in 1933, and within eight years she had graduated from chorus girl to star of B pictures at RKO. Her biggest break there, as the hard-bitten night club singer in Damon Runyon's 'The Big Street', brought her an MGM contract. At the time, Metro already had a roster of female stars, so her choice of roles there was limited to secondary leads, or star of more B pictures. All the more surprising that by now her name was familiar with the film-going public, considering the few major parts she had played. If I have any criticism to make, it is that her early Hollywood years are telescoped into the first quarter of the book. It would have been interesting to know what some of her contemporaries had to say about her during this period.



The middle section deals primarily with her marriage to the volatile Cuban singer and actor Desi Arnaz, and the commencement of their TV series 'I Love Lucy'. It was during this period that the 1950 McCarthy witch hunt affected many Hollywood careers. The columnist Walter Winchell stated in his TV show that "the most popular of all television stars was confronted with evidence of her Communist party membership." This led to her being questioned by the committee over her signing affiliations with the communists in 1936, but fortunately Lucy was able to prove her innocence. Her testimony is repeated here in full, and makes fascinating reading.

In the latter part of the book, we follow her divorce from Arnaz, remarriage to comedian Gary Morton, and the early romantic involvements of her son Desi Jr. The saga of her television career, as she became a TV executive and bought out her old studio RKO, reads like a Joan Crawford movie. Perhaps the most pertinent comment comes from an unnamed prominent actress, who says "Lucy's greatest characteristic is inner strength. She's a showman. It's her whole life. I think everything revolves around it. Imagine pursuing a career for 45 years? And keeping herself on top? She's done it." Lucille Ball was once asked would she ever retire, and replied "Yes, when I drop in my tracks"—that's dedication for you!

Barry Conley



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## New Theatre — New Style

**FLOWERS: A PANTOMIME FOR JEAN GENET** at the Regent Theatre, Regent Street, London W1.

When Percy Thrower remarked the other day about the dangers of continually uprooting flowers and planting them somewhere else, he wasn't talking about Lindsay Kemp's Flowers. But the same warning might still apply.

Opening at the Bush Theatre (see review in GN38), Lindsay transferred to the ICA (thus missing a performance at Buckingham Palace by a paltry few hundred yards), and he has now been moved into the new Regent Theatre as the theatre's opening attraction. Readers may know the theatre better as the old Cameo-Poly Cinema. It has now stopped showing films and has been handed over to live stage productions.

And yet it hasn't entirely. Celestino Coronado, himself a film director, has worked closely with Lindsay in producing the play. On his own admission he has gone for a lot of cinema effects, and this is perhaps one of the most striking differences between the Regent Theatre version of Flowers and the original play at the Bush. The new lighting boldly underlined this point. Vivid hues on dramatic make-up, spots from opposite sides of the stage so that the shadows of a re-act spot were filled in by a green spot, leaving the shadows cast by the green one as red.

The story has been subjected to a similar treatment, a tightening up which has me in two mind. Flowers in the Genet version or the Kemp one is no simple yarn, but a convoluted fantasy with as many layers as a mille-faulle. So what is the merit in trying to draw a clear story line? At the same time, so contrasting are the episodes that some form of unity is needed to hold the whole together. I need to be convinced that the connecting thread should be the story line though.

Inevitably I found myself constantly referring back to the Bush Theatre production. Most of all I missed the smaller space in which the actors worked in Divine's funeral; the black pyramid of nuns, thrusting up towards the central spotlight of changing colour to the ringing of Mozart's 'Miserere'. But some scenes were, if anything, stronger; in the night club, for example, where two gay boys gaze longingly into one another's eyes whilst a bevy of 'girls', who couldn't turn on a tap let alone a man, cavort grotesquely before launching into 'Somewhere Over The Rainbow'. Thunderous applause.



Lindsay, descendent of Shakespeare's clown Will Kemp

The same extravagance is there, all things in excess seems to be the motto. It is still disturbing, it is still funny, and frightening. And Lindsay Kemp is still Lindsay Kemp whatever theatre you put him in.

The straight press was puzzled, "an intellectual queer's Paul Raymond Show" quipped Sheridan Morley; and many were outraged—something that rarely happens in these (there must be another word besides permissive) times.

See what you make of it.

Michael Mason

## Anything Goes

**SNAP** at Vaudeville Theatre, London WC2.

On the theme that 'anything goes' in the theatre today, Charles Laurence's new comedy Snap, which is built around the theme of a married couple both contracting (of all things) venereal disease, and their efforts to conceal it from each other, is in fact a very amusing comedy. Had he written this ten years earlier, it might well have been just a marital comedy about the dual infidelities of a couple. The remarkable thing about this particular play is that the majority of laugh lines stem from situations other than VD.

There is one scene set in a special clinic which is extraneous as it is hardly funny. Fortunately it is followed by the wife's visit to a Harley Street specialist, which is hilarious enough to overcome the previous scene. The flat where most of the action occurs, is designed in the style of a 1930s ocean liner, and serves as a basis for several comic comments from members of the cast.

Elsbeth March appears as a hearty lesbian. At one point she mistakes a male visitor for Miss Smith's husband, and on being corrected, remarks "Oh well, they all look the same to me." With her great warmth, Miss March makes this extrovert type a very loveable human being. Pertly attractive Belinda Low is charming as Pansy, who appears to be available to all the men. Ray Brooks and Barrie Ingham are less well served by their roles, but do well under the circumstances.

The author proved in his first play 'My Fat Friend', that he has a fine sense of the absurd, and of course he was aided then by Kenneth Williams' superb style of comedy. This time his star is Maggie Smith, who began her career in intimate revue. There was no better comedy schooling for players than that particular type of entertainment (alas no longer with us). In repose (but of course, she is seldom that), Ms Smith reminds me of a classical painting, with her finely chiselled features, crowned by that gorgeous red hair cut in a severe fringe. As she spring to life, with her flexible shoulders, sagging knees, and catchy nasal voice, one envies her energy. She turns a simple remark like "Woolworth's was packed" into a comic highlight, but then I'm convinced she could read the telephone directory and manage to make it sound absurdly humorous.

I'll have to admit that though the basic theme is in questionable taste, judging by the laughter from the smartly dressed audience, they were as amused and entertained as myself. In the final analysis that's what a good comedy's all about.

Barry Conley

## A Woman Named Blanche

**STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE** at Piccadilly Theatre, Deman St, London W1.

Blanche Dubois, the heroine of Streetcar Named Desire, is Tennessee Williams' most famous creation. In contemporary theatre, she rivals any of Ibsen's ladies as a challenge to an actress, due to the many facets of the role. Her inherent gentility belies her sordid past. The character is diverse—one moment she is a coquette, the next a prude reacting to her sister's marriage. Though she reveals a sense of humour, her fluttering movements serve to remind us that she is still far from well.



Blanche and Stella re-united

Edwin Sharin has directed this revival so that it retains the same impact one originally felt when it was staged here twenty-five years ago. Though the violent aspects of the play no longer shock us,

minor points are highlighted, which keep our emotions on a tight rein. The sounds of a siren in the background, a passing train, and the brief arrival at the door of an elderly Mexican woman selling 'flowers for the dead' are heavy with symbolism. Patrick Robertson's superb set, and the occasional jazz background music all complement the production.

The physical relationship between Stella and Stanley is given an up-to-date slant when Martin Shaw strips completely nude. His virile performance of this sub-human insensitive ape is indeed powerful. As Stella, Morag Hood gives an extremely sensitive reading to the role. One cannot but feel pity for her as we watch her loyalties being torn between husband and sister throughout the play. Blanche's hesitant, almost painfully shy suitor Mitch, becomes another of Tennessee Williams' memorable characters in the capable hands of Joss Ackland.

Claire Bloom's performance as Blanche is amongst the finest of her career. Her scenes with Mitch are especially good. When telling him of her early tragic marriage to a young homosexual, she appears as a sleepwalker reliving a nightmare. Later, in the confrontation with him, as she confirms the stories about her past, she is a veritable virago. Though she has missed something of the pathetic side of Blanche's character, she has replaced it with an inner strength, so that her final exit, escorted by staff from a mental institution, is one of triumph. She has left reality behind her, and escaped into the illusory twilight world she had sought for so long.

Barry Conley

## Mc Kuen Visit

LONDON: Rod McKuen, who wrote the English lyric to the Terry Jacks hit 'Seasons In The Sun', will give a concert at the Royal Albert Hall on Friday, 31 May. Rod McKuen was interviewed by Tim Skinner in GN24.

## Dance Dates



Christopher Bruce - Ballet Rambert

The Ballet Rambert is to make its first appearance at London's Round House for a short season from April 17 to April 27.

In addition to ballets from the current repertoire, there will be two new works specially created for this season by Norman Morrice, the company's Director, and Christopher Bruce, the Rambert dancer who won the first Evening Standard Dance Award in January.

Meanwhile Bejart and the Ballet of the 20th Century have just opened at the London Coliseum. Two full length works are being presented. The first is Golestan which receives its last performance on April 11, to be followed by two performances of Stimmung on April 13.

## The Screen Scene

Despite the fact that it's far too long, I was very moved by ZARDOZ (Fox-Rank, writer/produced/director John Boorman). Boorman has succeeded in creating a highly original, visually exquisite and inventive fantasy about the year 2293. The earth has become immensely over-populated. A small select group, having achieved immortality and startling technological expertise, are ensconced in the 'Vortex', a kind of Edenic garden, but with no sexual liberty in order to prevent over-population, from which they rule the outside world. This reverts to a kind of mythological Wild West with the aid of Zardoz, a mock god, that has inveigled man into becoming a savage, unrelenting hunter and destroyer of his fellow man. Upon this basis, Boorman has constructed compelling visual imagery that is, to quote the film's surprisingly accurate advertising slogan, "beyond 2001."

This year's Royal Film Performance was THE THREE MUSKETEERS (Fox-Rank, director Richard Lester), an incredibly star-studded and amusing depiction of the well-loved book. For financial reasons the finished film has been divided into two separate works, the second of which will be seen in 1975.

To celebrate Richard Lester's return to the cinema, the National Film Theatre will be a screening a season of his films during April. Arguably his best work is Petulia, made in America in 1968, and one of my personal all-time favourite films, which shows on the 19th. Lavishly photographed by Nicholas Roeg, and touchingly and realistically acted by George C Scott, Julie Christie and Richard Chamberlain, it depicts two fundamentally cold, lifeless love affairs in San Francisco. The characters have all the money, skills, possessions and style that American West Coast urban sophisticates are supposed to have and man's knowledge can create. But they are totally unable to communicate their personal needs, their sorrows or their love or hate for each other. It's something of a parable.

The theme of BLUME IN LOVE (Columbia-Warner, writer/producer/director Paul Mazursky) is similar to Petulia, but it deals with it in a totally different fashion. It's that rare entity, a film that sets out to be funny for its entire length—and succeeds. The humour, in highly satirical vein, concentrates on the morals and relationship of a typical bourgeois Los Angeles threesome. Bloom (George Segal), an establishment divorce lawyer who's reached the fortyish-'tried-everything' phase, now turning on to grass, is still in love with his ex-wife (Susan Anspach from Fat City). She's living with an ageing matter-of-fact hippy (Kris Kristofferson), who expresses himself in a sort of monosyllabic nineteen-fifties teddy-boy style. The result is hilarious, and Mazursky somewhere along the line even manages to include an effective and welcome send-up of Death In Venice.

SERPICO (CIC, director Sidney Lumet) is a hard purposeful account of police corruption in New York. It's based on the actual experiences of unusually liberal and democratic cop Frank Serpico, who virtually without assistance tried to weed out the bad 'uns. Lumet back in Twelve Angry Men form after several very run-of-the-mill efforts, uses downbeat, sordid New York locations to convey something of the rotten, bitter hopelessness felt by this loner of impeccable morals.

He draws compelling performances from his cast, and Al Pacino (Serpico), has been nominated for a best actor oscar, which he richly deserves.

David Seligman

## Wesker's Wonder Play

Arnold Wesker's play Roots was revived at the Young Vic for a limited season, but printing dates being what they are, this production has already ended its run. I shall therefore be brief about something you're no longer able to see.

Time has certainly not dimmed my previous impressions of this brilliant play, about a Norfolk girl, Beatie, returning to her family after working for three years in London. As we watch her eager, almost desperate efforts to share with her family her views on life (or rather her fiancée Ronnie's views), and to form some type of communication with people who are both unable and unwilling to make the effort, I am sure many of us can identify with this situation in our own lives.

There has seldom been a more moving scene than the final one, when Beatie at last begins to express her own ideas. As the realisation of this crosses her face, young Tamara Ustinov is radiantly beautiful, and her performance will long remain in my memory. There is a possibility that Roots may be re-instated into the Young Vic repertoire this summer, and if so, you may be sure our newspaper will remind you.

Barry Conley

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# Radical Chic

by Iain T Finlayson

I am immensely heartened by the letter from David of London SW2 in GN42, not least because any attention is encouraging, but also because it provides me with an opportunity to descend from fashion's pedestal to reveal my feet of clay. The relief is enormous.

How ineffably dreary have been the past few months spent investigating the esoteric purlieus of Knightsbridge, the Faubourg St Germain, the sad, proud world of Haute Couture, and the benighted denizens of a crumbling, outdated social order. Turning, glassy-eyed, from the doomed incandescence of these myrmidons of decadence, of these idolators at the shrines of Fashion, I seek out and embrace with Wordsworthian fervour the new chic of the barricades. Out of the clothes-closet and into the streets, as it were.

Pausing only to cock a snook (or vice versa?) at the sub-urban guerillas of NW1, dressed in their militaristic St Laurent safari suits and sniping at flying wall ducks or preparing Molotov cocktails from unreturned milk bottles, I prepare to encounter that warm heart of contemporary fashion—the wholesale trade which supplies chain store, boutique, and department store alike. There is the true democracy of fashion. I am open to seduction by clever, inventive, original fashion designed for modern mass production techniques and susceptible to the influences of popular taste.

The affair has, to date, proved to be not without diversions, but sadly the romance remains uncommenced and I am a little disillusioned. I am bothered and bewildered, but scarcely bewitched by faint heart and lack of technique. I wait to be ravished, but there is no heart in the wooing.

To discontinue this rather laboured metaphor, let me state in plain terms the difficulties encountered by both manufacturer and consumer alike. The two are rarely in harmony and appear to have conflicting aims. As a consumer, I desire cheap, well-made, fashionable clothes in good materials. The manufacturer takes a look at my list of four criteria and, in principle, agrees that it is his aim to provide me with clothes which will meet these specifications. It is in his interests to ensure that I am a satisfied customer and that I should be able to rely on the quality of his product. In an ideal world, we are at one. The real nitty gritty comes when we begin to discuss and define our terms. What is cheap? What is fashionable? What is a desirable quality of manufacture? What is good material? The debate becomes acrimonious, involving much scathing repartee about cost controls, labour, international tariffs on raw materials, and finally descends to personal abuse.

The days of cheap clothing have gone. Let us get that firmly into our heads. I regret it personally, but my despair would be greater if I did not believe that this fact should reinforce consumer interest in quality, fashion and value for money. Natural, raw materials such as wool, silk, cotton have increased almost 50% in price. Man-made fibres depend largely on oil and other fuels for their production, and consequently they, too, are bound to rise steeply in price. Cost controls by manufacturers therefore devolve on labour and on attention to detail in construction of clothes. Greater efficiency in manpower and economy in the use of materials must be effected if retail prices are to be controlled in any significant way. It is here that design must take responsibility in the process of cost control, and the interaction between designer and management must become much closer.

It is my belief that design is the basis of the fashion industry. That sounds trite, but, incredibly, design is too often treated as a luxury by too many manufacturers. There is a basic lack of understanding between designers and management, which, if the clothing industry is to do more than simply survive, must achieve a close and lasting rapport. The one is ineffective without the other, and as technology and marketing techniques grow increasingly complex, it is necessary that both should strive to complement each other. A new, radical approach to the business of chic is required which must mean the designer working with chemists, with engineers, with middle-management and with top-brass accounting executives in order to harmonise the basic fashion demands of the consumer with the practicalities of manufacturing.

Equally, a responsibility rests with us, the public for whom such sophistication becomes necessary. Shopping around for value should become as much a part of our routine as comparing the cost of groceries. Economies have to be made in the choice of, say, cuts of meat. We buy breast of lamb rather than best end of neck. Cooked intelligently and with imagination, the subsequent dish is palatable. So with clothes. Intelligent accessorising and matching up one brand name with another to produce an acceptable overall effect should be our primary aim. An effect of the present situation is that fashion now tends to return to classic, understated clothes and to veer away from conspicuous effect. The trend is towards buying clothes which will last and give good wear and value for money. To buy clothes, on impulse, which look spectacularly bright and are too excessive in fashion detail means only that they will be worn at most once or twice before boredom sets in. The reason why classic styling never goes out of fashion and always looks good is that it depends on basic good taste and that determined understatement which is the basis of all good fashion design. A basic shape in a basic earth or neutral colour looks better longer than any gimmick novelty, however immediate and spectacular the impact on your own or anybody else's sensibilities. It is up to us to reject the tawdry and the exploitative techniques of instant trend—of change for the sake of change rather than the natural evolution of fashion taste.

We have been spoiled by the brief flare of disposable, cheap, throwaway fashion during the late 1960s. The vogue for casual fashion is dying. We can no longer afford to have too many clothes hanging unworn in our wardrobes. The fashionable uniform of sweatshirt and jeans is no longer so widespread. It was practically a uniform, and, in the true tradition, once a fashion reaches saturation point it begins to dwindle in popularity. The casual ethos which it accompanied—the swanning around in the palmy days of Flower Power—has disappeared and a new seriousness has evolved. With it will evolve a new seriousness in dress—a more sober, a more responsible attitude reflecting the tenor and tempo of contemporary life. There will always be fashion, but it is idle to complain about its manifestations as they are the product of society itself, and are regulated by each and every one of us in every department of life.

This grim, Orwellian slice of life has depressed me unutterably. May I get back up on my pedestal and—please, dear David of SW2—champagne will do nothing for your boots. Let us rather drink it together and weep salt tears into the non-vintage.



BRUTUS looks just as good on a girl. Little jacket is tucked and gathered on yoke and waistline—gathering is also echoed on the waistline of the trousers. Made in blue, black, navy, bottle or brown. The jacket retails at about £8.00, the trousers at about £7.00. All by BRUTUS.



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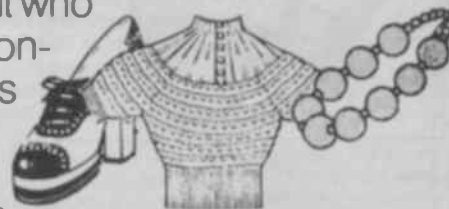


Zip-fronted baseball jacket in brushed denim with self-colour elastic at waist, neck and cuffs; embroidered palm tree on left breast; piping at raglan edge to correspond with palm tree colours. Available in Light Blue, Dark Brown, Mushroom and Navy. By South Sea Bubble.

# The Gallery is your sort of place



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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

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## Country Ways

Perhaps now that Charlie Rich has made an international breakthrough, country & western music will achieve greater popularity. Recent releases in the genre have been of a particularly high standard, and the following are a few of the LPs that strike me as possessing the most commercial potential.

As is said in this issue's 'Short Plays' column, Charlie Rich currently has two hit singles in the American charts. One is "A Very Special Love Song", the other "There Won't Be Anymore". The latter is also the title track of a re-released RCA album, recorded in 1965 when Rich was signed with that label. Despite the age of the material, the ten cuts included are all gems, with "There Won't Be Anymore", "I Don't See Me In Your Eyes Anymore", "If I Knew Then What I Know Now", "No Room To Dance", "Turn Around And Face Me" and "It's All Over Now" standing



out as the obvious highlights. The last track mentioned is almost certain to give the singer another smash hit, in the States at least, if released as a single.

RCA are to be commended for continually issuing a wealth of country albums, even if the demand is still limited in Britain. Amongst the recent batch of LPs they've put out is *Amazing Love* by black C&W star Charlie Pride. Although enormously popular across the Atlantic, he is largely neglected by record-buyers in the UK. As is usual with his records, it is an evenly-balanced set of straightforward country material. Nothing too adventurous, just good, solid cuts of pure Nashville.

One of the finest artists in the emerging new breed of young country musicians is ex-Monkee Michael Nesmith. Just released in Britain is *Pretty Much You Standard Ranch Stash*, his sixth C&W album for RCA, although some are only available as imports here. Whilst Nesmith doesn't have a very strong or distinctive voice, he instills enough feeling into the lyrics to give a creditable performance on each song, but it is his musicianship, and that of the back-up artists he gathers around him, that distinguishes his recordings. Without losing any of the basics of the genre, the stunningly fresh expertise of the playing, especially the pedal steel of OJ 'Red' Rhodes, is a joy to hear throughout the disc.

Mercury Records are another company who issue a substantial amount of country records in this country. Recently they have issued *My Kind Of Country* by ex-rock & roller Carl 'Blue Suede Shoes' Perkins, which is not only his initial album for the label, but his first serious

attempt to establish himself as a C&W artist. Perkins manages this admirably, and thoroughly deserves to re-embark on a long and prosperous career. Special mention should be made of Jerry Kennedy's superb production and Pete Drake's steel guitar work, as both greatly enhance the singer's performances. Outstanding tracks are an obligatory Johnny Cash number, this time it's "Goin' To Memphis", and a version of "Ruby Don't Take Your Love To Town". Of the songs penned by Perkins himself, "Lord, I Sinned Again Last Night", "You Tore My Heaven All To Hell" and "Just As Long" are particularly memorable. And it comes as no surprise to hear more than a dash of rockabilly in some of the cuts.

It's not a new release, but *Superb Country Sounds*, containing 11 tracks by Tammy Wynette, excellently showcases the talents of one of the first ladies of country & western. Economical too, as it is on CBS's budget label Embassy and costs just under a pound. And songs such as "It's Just A Matter Of Time", "A Lighter Shade Of Blue", "I'll See Him Through" and "You Make My Skies Turn Blue", make the record worth buying for those tracks alone.

While listening to each of the albums reviewed, forget your prejudices and the 'redneck' associations, then turn on to lyrics and music that have more to do with reality and people than the majority of pretentious, indulgent recordings attempting to attract your attention.

Denis Lemon

## JC's Choice

**IAN MORRISON REEL/POP-PLINN - Alan Stivell - Fontana**  
Alan Stivell comes from Brittany, France, and used to play his harp at folk festivals till two years ago, when people began to notice his originality and talent during a most successful concert at the Olympia in Paris.

This rise towards popularity had him labelled "the most promising folk figure of the Seventies", and that might well be true.

Alan added electric guitar, organ and piano to his Celtic harp, used bagpipes as in "Ian Morrison Reel", and gave birth to a new musical style which is perfectly illustrated on this single. Now Celtic rock is a reality, and I wish the greatest success to the courageous Briton.

Jean-Claude Thevenin

## Top Sounds

Dick's Inn - London's Gay Discos

1. Tom The Peeper - Act 1 (Spring-Import)
2. Barry's Theme - Barry White/Love Unlimited Orchestra (Pye)
3. Seasons In The Sun - Terry Jacks (Bell)
4. Last Time I Saw Him - Diana Ross (Tamla Motown)
5. Pepper Box - Peppers (Spark)
6. Honeybee - Gloria Gaynor (CBS)
7. Jungle Boogie - Kool & The Gang (Polydor)
8. I'm Gonna Knock On Your Door - The Pioneers (Trojan)
9. I'll Always Love My Mama - The Pioneers (Trojan)
10. Do Me Right - Armada Orchestra (Contempo)

- Camp Vamp -  
It's Only A Paper Room - Nemo (UK)  
List compiled by Tricky Dicky, week ending 6/4/74.

## Short Plays

Regrettably, we don't hear much from Dusty Springfield nowadays, but following the fanatical popularity of "What's It Gonna Be" amongst North of England disco-goers, it is being re-released by Philips Records. First issued in 1967, the cut is a glorious example of uptown soul and is one of Dusty's finest performances on disc. Features some mind-blowing bass playing too.

Another record currently driving Northerners wild is "Landslide" by Tony Clarke. Now re-issued on the Chess label, with the late singer's biggest-ever hit "The Entertainer" on the flip, disco ravers will be hearing a lot more of both the cuts in clubs throughout Britain. It is also a particularly welcome release for collectors of quality sixties rhythm & blues.

Despite producing a number of memorable recordings, including the all-time rock classic *Christo Redento*, Harvey Mandel's ingenious and stunning guitar work has remained largely unnoticed and unclaimed by the majority of record buyers. There is every chance, though, that this past neglect will be rectified with the release of "Uno Ino" (Janus), one of the best tracks from his last album *The Snake*. The boogie-cum-rock tempo is certain to make it an instant disco hit, and given enough radio exposure, it could quickly climb up the charts. On the flip is "Shangrenade", the title cut from his new album. That too is well worth making the effort to hear.

Likely to have a big impact in discos, as well as good chart potential, is the new foot-tapping head-bopping release by Limmie & Family Cookin' entitled "A Walkin' Miracle". The group in all probability will repeat the success they received last year, with their first British hit "You Can Do Magic".

New from Contempo Records are "Make Up For Lost Time" by The Montclairs, The Spunky Onion's "Cookie Man" (Parts 1 & 2), and an instrumental called "Across The Tracks" (Parts 1 & 2) by The Masai. The latter two are average disco material and have little to recommend them apart from their funky rhythms. However, The Montclairs are in a very different class, and are fast establishing themselves in the States as a major soft soul group, similar in many ways to The Stylistics, The Intruders and Blue Magic, and "Make Up For Lost Time" could easily give them a hit in Britain. Definitely a group to watch out for in the future.

Many record buyers will already be familiar with Stevie Wonder's latest single "He's Misstra Know It All" (Tamla Motown), as it is lifted from his outstanding *Innervisions* album. Also new on Motown is "Last Time I Saw Him", the title song and possibly the best track on Diana Ross's latest LP. I expect to see both the discs in the charts before too long.

Now that Jim Stafford's monster American hit "Spiders & Snakes" (MGM) - an amusing tale of teenage romance - is released in Britain, it'll be interesting to see if it enjoys the same success over here. A fun record, but maybe a little too swampy-cum-country to be commercial.

Great to see Charlie Rich's "The Most Beautiful Girl" highly placed in the charts. Hopefully, "Behind Closed Doors" will catch up with it soon. In the States at present, Rich has two hit singles: "A Very Special Love Song" (as yet unscheduled for release in Britain) and "There Won't Be Anymore", which has just been issued here by RCA. Although the latter dates back to 1965 when the singer signed with that label, it is nevertheless another superb performance by one of today's finest country & western artists.

Denis Lemon

## Tales Of Hoffnung

**HOFFNUNG - BBC Records (distributed by Polydor).**  
God Bless Auntie Beeb - she's done it again.

Fans of Gerard Hoffnung will be delighted to hear that a double album has recently been released containing all of the BBC Archive material in existence made by the extraordinary tuba-playing humourist.

Principal gem, in this tiara of brilliant pieces, is the famous Bricklayer's Story, recounted by Hoffnung as part of his historic speech to the Oxford Union in 1958.

New to me were the Charles Richardson interviews. These short, sharp chats between Richardson and Hoffnung were originally commissioned for the BBC's North America Service. Heard later in Australia and New Zealand, they eventually wound up in this country on the programme 'Saturday Night on the Light'. Poor Richardson suffers mercilessly at the hands of the cantankerous creature Hoffnung portrays - even if he did, at times, give almost as good as he got.

For collectors there is a previously unissued 14-minute track with Hoffnung talking about his musical background and interest in the tuba (which he goes on to demonstrate with gusto).

Altogether a most bizarre and idiosyncratic album this - and a must for faithful fans who cherish this funny man's memory.

Michael Mason

## "Wrap Your Troubles In Dreams"

**THE WAY WE WERE - Original Sound-track Recording - CBS**  
Love stories are back in fashion again (were they ever out?) and hit the screen in a big way. Thousands of people are currently rediscovering the forgotten pleasure of shedding tears in a cinema, and, for our delight, Barbara Streisand and Robert Redford are responsible for an intensive use of tissues in *The Way We Were*.

Streisand, more beautiful than ever in the movie, is of course very impressive to hear too, and with her single "The Way We Were", has been in the charts for 19 weeks. I'm told that it is her biggest seller ever.

The version of the song one can find on the soundtrack recording differs slightly from the single in the arrangement, but is still as enchanting and moving. Marvin Hamlisch successfully integrates his own music with such period compositions as "Red Sails In The Sunset", the jazzy "River Stay Way From My Door", the swinging instrumental of Garland's "In The Mood" and "Wrap Your Troubles In Dreams". The nostalgia is there, yet not overpowering Hamlisch's personal creation.

Listening to this album makes it all the more obvious that the music itself, in the movie, plays as important a role as Streisand's stunning performance and



Sydney Pollack's images. Recommended if you "loved" the movie as much as I did. Jean-Claude Thevenin

**FOOTNOTE:** At the time of going to press, Marvin Hamlisch has just received the Academy Award for the Best Film Score with "The Way We Were". Thought you'd like to know.

## DL's Top 2

In this column, I indulge myself by writing about the albums which are giving me the most pleasure in the fortnight between issues. The records mentioned are both new releases, and each, depending on individual tastes, is highly recommended.

1. Whilst I was selling GN in a pub the other evening, someone complained that I should devote less space to enthusiastically praising soul and country & western artists, and review more records by rock bands. Accepting the criticism that there does appear to be a definite bias in the discs I choose to write about, my explanation is simple enough. More often than not, I'm disappointed/bored/outraged by the current lack of originality and musicianship displayed by both emerging and well-established rock groups, whether they be heavy, progressive or whatever. The state of British rock is especially appalling at present, the few creative innovators consisting of Brian Ferry, David Bowie and a handful of others.

In the States the situation is a little better, but not much. Apart from The Eagles, the most impressive rock group to emerge in the last couple of years is Steely Dan, who not only restores my faith in the genre but also inspires me to metaphorically shout rapturous exultations about their achievements from rooftops - literally if people don't start listening to them.

Steely Dan have previously released two exceptionally good albums, *Can't Buy A Thrill* and *Countdown To Ecstasy*. The group's third set *Pretzel Logic* (Probe) is their most profound musical statement so far. Strange, verging on surrealistic lyrics, virtuoso performances by all the members of the band, hard-hitting material, well thought-out orchestrations and competent production, in fact everything about the recording, highlight its brilliance.

Also adding to the over-all effect is the group's sensitive awareness of both past and present popular music forms, which allows them to intelligently incorporate a number of different influences into their often complex sound. An obvious example of this is the instrumental that ends side one, a version of Duke Ellington's "East St Louis Toodie-Oh". Not only is it humorous, it also somehow manages to be faithful in a tongue-in-cheek fashion to the original. "Parker's Band", a tribute to the late jazz saxophonist Charlie Parker, displays the same thoughtfulness, comedy, and respectful understanding. However, the two tracks that demand closest attention are "Rikki Don't You Lose That Number" and the title cut "Pretzel Logic", as between them they exemplify the band's dynamic and distinctive talents.

2. An extremely welcome release from one of the world's leading electronic musicians is Walter Carlos' *Switched-On Bach 11* (CBS). In the late sixties he shook the music world and the recording industry, both traditional and contemporary, when his first volume of electronically interpreted Bach achieved universal success and critical acclaim. And the new collection deserves to meet with a similar response. In the intervening years, apart from creating the electronic score for *A Clockwork Orange*, the delicious *A Well-Tempered Synthesizer* and a complex and fascinating two-record set entitled *Sonic Seasoning*, Carlos has not only mastered new pieces of equipment but has expanded and refined the boundaries of the unique musical experience he offers the listener. The full effect of these developments can be heard on his new album, especially in the version of the Brandenburg Concerto No 5, which takes up the whole of the second side.

By the way, Carlos' record company have now confirmed a rumour about him that has been buzzing around for

over a year. He has undergone a sex-change and is now known as Wilhelmina.

Denis Lemon

## Motown Gold

It doesn't take a pop music historian to realise that Tamla Motown and their stable of artists have significantly influenced the development of creative and commercial contemporary music. The hundreds of hits to their credit is all the proof that is really needed. And anyone who has followed the company's progress won't need to be told that the contribution made by Smokey Robinson & The Miracles has been of major importance. If further evidence were necessary, it can be found on a recently released three-album anthology of the group's recordings, which contains a total of 41 examples of why they more than anybody are responsible for creating the instantly recognisable 'Motown Sound'. Amongst the material on *Smokey Robinson & The Miracles Anthology* are unforgettable tracks such as "Shop Around", "You Really Got A Hold On Me", "Mickey's Monkey", "The Tracks Of My Tears", "Going To A Go-Go", "I Second That Emotion", "Ooo Babu Baby" and "Tears Of A Clown".

Issued at the same time as the previous collection is *Gladys Knight & The Pips Anthology*, a two-record set featuring 28 cuts by a vocal outfit, who, until comparatively recently, have been consistently under-rated and unclaimed by both record buyers and music critics. Fortunately this past situation has now been rectified, but it has been the loss of all but the most discerning soul/rhythm & blues enthusiasts that so many classic recordings the group have made since the early sixties have been ignored for so long. However, this anthology adequately allows the newly-converted to catch up with what they've been missing out on, and cuts such as "Every Beat Of My Heart", "Letter Full Of Tears", "I Heard It Through The Grapevine", "It Should Have Been Me", "The Nitty Gritty", and "Friendship Train", as well as newer material such as "If I Were Your Woman", "Neither One Of Us", "Daddy Could Swear, I Declare" and "All I Need Is Time", put them completely in the picture.

*The Supremes Greatest Hits* includes all the successes the group have scored since Diana Ross split and embarked on a solo career. Apart from chart-toppers of their own such as "Stoned Love", "Nathan Jones", "Touch", "Automatically Sunshine" and "Floy Joy", also featured are the hits they made in collaboration with The Four Tops. The most memorable of these are "Together We Can Make Such Sweet Music", "You Gotta Have Love In Your Heart", "Reach Out And Touch (Somebody's Hand)" and their vocally inspired version of "River Deep Mountain High".

*Motown Disco Classics Volume 4* is the latest in an on-going series of collections of up-tempo, hip-shaking oldies, carefully selected from the company's extensive archives. As with the previous volumes, the compilation serves a dual purpose; it is an ideal record for parties and, perhaps more importantly, is also a useful way of enabling collectors of soul and rhythm & blues to obtain much sought after and difficult to find material. Amongst the rarer items are Eddie Holland's "Just Ain't Enough Love", "Keep On Loving Me" by Frances Nero, Al Kent's "Ooo Pretty Lady" and "TLC (Tender Loving Care)" by the PJs, whilst some of the better-known tracks are "Too Many Fish In The Sea" by The Marvelettes, "Come See About Me" by Diana Ross & The Supremes, The Isley Brothers' "I Guess I'll Always Love You" and Marvin Gaye's "Baby Don't You Do It". There is a total of 16 cuts, most of them established disco favourites, and like the other albums mentioned in this piece, presents an abundance of Motown Gold.

Denis Lemon

## GAY NEWS MAIL ORDER

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## 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

BARNESLEY

Pub: Queens Hotel (Venturer Bar)

BARRY Glamorgan

Pub: The Barry Hotel (Lounge Bar) Broadway Street

BATH

Pub: Garricks Head, Sawclose

The Regency (opp Theatre Royal)

Club: \*Valentines, 14 George Street

BEDFORD

Pub: The Barley Mow, Bromham Rd

BELFAST

Pub: Avenue Bar, Rosemary Street

Pub: Europa Hotel (Whip and Saddle Bar), Gt Victoria St.

BIRMINGHAM

Pub: 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

Pub: The Merchants Hotel, Darwen St (D)

BLACKPOOL

Pub: Lucy's Bar, Talbot Square

Clubs: The Red Dragon, North Prom, opposite Metropole

BOLTON

Pub: Prince William, Deansgate (upstgs)

\*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

Pub: 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

Longbranch Club, Grand Parade

Gay Cavalier, 62 Middle St

Rest: Old Twitten, 62 Middle Street

Loirel 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 Worrall Rd, Clifton

BURNLEY

Pub: \*The Cross Keys

CAMBRIDGE

Pub: The Stable Bar, Green Street

(off Trinity Street)

Rest: Scarisbrick, Catherine Street, Tel: Cambridge 43570

CANTERBURY

Pub: The Queen's Head, Walling Street

CARDIFF

Pub: Royal Hotel (Roberts Bar)

St Mary Street

Royal Oak, St Mary Street

Clubs: Showbiz Club, Hope Street

CHEL TENHAM

Pub: Irving Hotel, High Street

Club: New Twenty Club, 20 High Street

CHESTER

Pub: 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

Pub: The Kenilworth, Rose Street

The Abercromby Hotel

Abercromby Place

The Baillie, St Stephen Street

EXETER

Pub: Horse & Groom, Longbrook St

FERNDALE, South Wales

Pub: \*Salisbury Hotel

GLASGOW

Pub: Duke of Wellington, Argyll St

The Strand (Downstairs Bar), Hope Street.

GRAVESEND

Pub: The Kent, High Street

GUILDFORD

Pub: The Royal Oak, nr multistory car park

HOLMFIRTH

Pub: Royal Oak, Upper Thong, nr Holmfirth, Yorks

HUDDERSFIELD

Pub: The Grey Horse, Chapel Hill (Sundays)

Amster Dam (men)

HULL

Pub: White House Hotel (Tudor Bar) Jameson Street

Centre Hotel (London Bar), Paragon St, Hull.

IPSWICH

Pub: The Blue Coat Boy, Cattle Market Street

The Sea Horse Inn, College St

LANCASTER

Pub: Farmers Arms, Kine Street

LEEDS

Pub: 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 Brasserie

Disco: Leeds GLF Disco fortnightly.

Contact their office for location

LEICESTER

Pub: Dover Castle, Dover Street

LIVERPOOL

Pub: Lisbon, Victoria Street L2

The Derby Castle, Mackinlay Hey (off Dale Street)

Clubs: New Bears Paw, Dorrans Lane

Johns Gay Bar Royal, Wood St

Pagoda, 31 Colquhoun Street L1

LONDON

Pub: \*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)(Sloan 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 Fife, 350 Katherine Rd E7 (East Ham tube)

Elmhurst, 131 Lordship Lane, Tottenham N17 (D)

Royal Oak, 62 Glenthorne 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, 5 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)

\*Molin Disco Club (girls only)

Half Moon Hotel, Half Moon Lane, Herne Hill, SE24 (Wed Fri Sat)

\*Shanes, Broadhurst Gardens, NW6

The Escort, 89a Pimlico 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)

Chagaramas, 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 Catabombs, 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)

Molin 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 (Tues) 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.

Centre, Broadway Terrace, NW1, every Fri, 8pm-12 midnight

Disco in aid of the Gay Switchboard, every Sat, at Prince Albert, corner of Wharfedale Rd and York Way N1. Adm 15p

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

Rest: Neil Gwynnes Kitchen, 43 Crawford St.

La Popote, Walton St, SW3

Chagaramas, 41-43 Neal St, WC2

Simple Simon, 234 Old Brompton Road, SW5

Masquerade, 310 Earls Court Rd, SW5

La Faune, 23 Praed Street, W2

La Caserole, 338 Kings Road, Chelsea, SW3

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

La 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

Pub: 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

MORECAMBE

Pub: \*Masons Arms (Gays only) lounge

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

Pub: Royal Court Grill, Bigg Market

Royal Tunks Head, Puchinello 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

Pub: Kings Head (lounge bar)

High Street

Waterloo, Commercial Street

NORWICH

Pub: Studio Four, behind Anglia Television

NORTHAMPTON

Pub: Princess Royal, 172 Wellingborough Road

NOTTINGHAM

Pub: Dog & Partridge, Parliament St

The Roebuck, Manfield 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

Pub: Red Lion, Gloucester Street

Kings Arms, Holywell St (Sat lunchtime)

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

**Personal Ad continued from Page 17**

**Wanted:** Moustached Mexican, Spaniard or Italian in late 20s for lasting, understanding, friendship with a sensitive good-looking artist in late 20s. London. Box 44/51.

**FIRST SUBJECT 'TROUBLED WATERS' issue 42.** I'm living myself again in your story. Please get in touch. Also anyone else similar. Don't be put off by my age. 50. A.L.A. Box 44/52.

**London guy, 21+, well-built and hairy,** interested in the leather scene, wishes to meet similar, over 21, interested in doing body building. Photo appreciated. A.L.A. Box 44/53.

**Edinburgh:** reserved professional type, 38, interests food, clothes, the arts, travel, seeks similar. Beauty appreciated but sense of humour more important. Age 25-40. Photo please. A.L.A. Box 44/54.

**Gay coach driver and coach required** for occasional weekend trips. Write GCD, Chelic, 22 Gt Windmill Street, W1.

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

**WILL STUOENT FROM DERBY;** now at University Colchester, given lift in green van from Colchester to Chelmsford Friday 15th March, contact Bill Shaw, Box 44/56.

**Arabs and West Africans** sought for friendship by young man, 31, London. A.L.A. with photo. Box 44/57.

**Two boys, 22,** wish to work passage to Barbados. Help greatly appreciated. Box 44/58.

**Will the Box holder of 44/58 (above)** please contact Stuart at Gay News.

**Two non-camp but with-it guys,** mid-30s, own house, Yorkshire but prepared to travel, seek similar couple for genuine friendship. Mutual visits weekends, holidays etc. Box 44/59.

**Deaf gay, single seaman, 45,** seek partnership any age between 21-45 slim or well-built. Expect share flat, anywhere. Box 44/60.

**West Cornwall male, 33,** slim, average looks, shy, lonely, needs a friend, 21-30, non-camp. Sincerity vital. Prefer this area. Photo please. Box 44/61.

**Slender, dark, neat, good-looking 38** would like to meet someone for holidays and friendship. South Wales. Box 44/62.

**Bristol area. Professional chap, 35,** active, seeks sincere friend 21-36, wide interests. Box 44/63.

**You! Not like living alone? Neither do I.** Please write now. Possibly we can share everything and have a happy friendship. My place ideal retreat. Southern Counties. Write with photo, returnable. A.L.A. Box 44/64.

**Ordinary but pleasant young man, East London,** wants young guy over 21 to share holiday and after with. Box 44/65.

**Guy 26, slim, active, likes ground** wrestling, seeks others similar, any nationality. Please exchange photos. A.L.A. London. Box 44/66.

**Musician, mid-40s, would like to** contact over 21s for sincere friendship. Lyric writers welcomed. Croydon, London area. Photo please. Box 44/67.

**Everyone I meet either gorgeous and** brainless or interesting and unattractive! I'm intelligent without being heavy, attractive without looking dolly-expensive, nice without being calculating, mid-20s. Anyone similar? Please write fully (pics, maybe?). Box 44/68.

**Young guy over 21** wants friends also over 21 to go out with. London. A.L.A. Photo returned. Box 44/69.

**Birmingham, active guy 22yrs old,** attractive but lonely as I don't know Birmingham, seeks guys of same age group for friendship. Photo appreciated. Box 44/70.

**Happy affair, own home,** wish to meet similar intelligent couples for social friendship only. Aged 25-30. Interests: cinema, theatre, music, food, etc. Midlands area. Box 44/71.

**I am 22, English, short, very presentable,** living in London and would like to meet coloured guy over 21 for friend. Box 44/72.

**Hampshire: Very lonely young 32** would like to get to know genuine guy 21-29 who wants a lasting friendship. A.L.A. Photo if possible. Box 44/73.

**MAN-TO-MAN.**

**Wealthy young playboy seeks friend** over 21, partly with view to travel adventures in North Africa. Box 44/74.

**Thurrock young guy, 21,** seeks a young friend over 21, locally. Let's explore Thurrocks Mooncape together. Box 44/75.

**Shy, 22, seeks active handsome hairy** muscular type, late 20s, friendship. North Derbyshire. Photo appreciated. Box 44/76.

**Young looking 31yr old,** seeks younger friends over 21, any nationality. South Coast/London area. A.L.A. Box 44/77.

**Retired P.E. teacher isolated/lonely,** seeks young friend over 21. Photo appreciated. A.L.A. Box 44/78.

**Goodlooking guy, 23,** wants to settle down with nice guy, 21-30, London area. Play football, like drama, music. Photo. Box 44/79.

**Attractive long-haired slim graduate,** seeks active friends in London, 21-32, someone with whom to learn French. All nationalities. A.L.A. with photo. Box 44/80.

**Friend required by West Londoner, 29,** for month's holiday (or part) in Cornish flat, April 20th to May 18th. All expenses paid. 24-30. Photo essential. Box 44/81.

**Australian surfer in London for winter,** going Cornwall Spring. Would like to meet others, similar interest. Photo please. Box 44/83.

**Naresh man, 27,** seeks friends of similar age. Must be car driver, and have own place. Box 44/82.

**"CHE NEEDS YOU NOW"**

**Is there a youngish guy over 21** who would appreciate friendship with aware male, forties? Own pad, Surrey. Full letter, phone number appreciated. Photos exchanged. Confidence respected and A.L.A. Box 44/84.

**Anyone 25-48 interested in a walking** (not too strenuous) touring holiday either UK or abroad with graduate 35? Write Box 44/85.

**Genuine guy, 26,** needs friends to, maybe, share a fairly straight life with. Especially those who are not too keen on the gay scene. A.L.A. Box 44/86.

**30yr old, living W4,** world travelled, seeks mature sensible gentleman. Photo appreciated. Box 44/87.

**Bournemouth. Young 24yr old, boyish** face, needs younger sensitive youth over 21 for friendship in South West. Photo please. Box 44/89.

**EVERYWHERE: YOUNG 21yr old man,** active, seeks similar aged youth over 21 for deep lively friendship. Into enjoyment of life and fulfillment of all its pleasures. Photo exchanged with full detailed letter. Box 44/90.

**To my dearest friends Keith Madge and** Peter Walsh, so dearly loved and so sorely missed, who died together on March 3rd, Paris, France 1974, from their closest friend Michael.

**Brighton area. Professional guy, forties,** seeks occasional overnight stay. Share expenses. Photos exchanged. Meeting before commitment. Box 44/91.

**Male, 51, Londoner,** would like to meet active working class chap 35-50, preferably own flat London or near. Box 44/92.

**T-V, tall, attractive, mid-30s, own home,** car, would like to meet others, especially T-S and S-C. South East London. Box 44/93.

**Greece, late August. Any lonely congenial** guys like to join group? Full letter, photo and phone number if possible ensure prompt reply. Box 44/94.

**Shy, sincere, young man, 25, Italian** origin, own flat Essex Coast, seeks active man 21-30. Any area for genuine friendship. Photo please, will return mine. A.L.A. Box 44/95.

**Guy, 26, wants 21-26 Swedish guy** with own business for friendship. Photo. A.L.A. Box 44/96.

**Fed-up with gay scene? Help/friendship** offered to lonely, disabled guy (any cause) in mid-30s. I'm early 40s, Herts/Bucks area. Also visit Euston. Genuine replies only please. Box 44/97.

**David Dumbleby talk-in on loneliness.** John Murphy or boy with defective eye, or Albany Trust members would be welcomed by lonely professional with own house, car etc. Lonely handicapped also welcome. Box 44/98.

**MARK WHO ANSWERED MY AD** in previous issue. Please write to Box 44/44/139 enclosing a photo. Andy (teach). Not Nivea, Johnsons Baby Cream!

**Canadian, late 30s, 5'11", 12 stone,** well-built, own comfortable home NW London, car owner, seeks sincere compatible friend for sharing house and permanent friendship, preferably well-built 21-30 age group. A.L.A. Box 44/99.

**Cute West-Indian seeks male 6'2" or** taller, active, well-built, over 21, with own pad, London for friendship. Send photo. Box 44/100.

**GUY JOE NON-CAMP. SENSE OF** humour, no particular hang-ups and liking rowdy East End pubs, music, antiques, travel. Non-intellectual, own pad in London seeks similar guys 21-30 for drinks, laughs, conversation. Photo and general info helpful. God bless love. Box 44/101.

**Sussex Coast, 50, professional,** neither fat nor bald, own house, would like to meet non-camp young man 21+ for friendship. Weekends and offers free holiday friendship. Box 44/102.

**40yr old Lakeland hotelier, still** with a zest for living seeks similar aged active person to occasionally sooth troubled brow. View to travelling companion next winter. Reply Box 44/103. A.L.A.

**41yr old professional type** would like to hear from similar in age group 25-35. Straight appearance and manner essential, no time for gay masquerades. Interest in golf would be an advantage. Box 44/104.

**Straight, masculine-looking 6 footer, 45,** wants to meet active counterpart to self, 45-55, Countryman, ex-serviceman, square, clean-shaven preferred. Interests riding, animals, travel. Friendship hopefully leading to permanent partnership. Have own cottage, car etc. Photo appreciated. Box 44/105.

**Daniel, 22, shy, sensitive,** seeks someone similar age to smile at, occasionally. London/Surrey. Photo? Box 44/106.

**Is there a plump Guinness-sodden bearded** man between 30-50 looking for a non-camp unintroverted 21 student now living in Farnham, Surrey? Photo please. A.L.A. Box 44/107.

**Young man, 25, interests travel,** classical music etc, seeks other for lasting friendship between 21-28 in South Essex, London, North Kent. Must be hirsute, not too camp. Photograph. A.L.A. Box 44/108.

**ARE YOU MAN ENOUGH FOR** MAN-TO-MAN?

**25yr old seeks another similar age** as enthusiastic training partner etc. West London. Box 44/109.

**Absolutely sincere. Can anyone help** active goodlooking Londoner, 28, with hang-ups about biceps and pectorals? Right photo would get reply quicker than you can say. Arnie Schwarzenegger. Box 44/110.

**Young gay couple, nice house South** London with private heated swimming pool would like to meet new friends 21-40 to make up swimming parties this year. Please send photograph. Box 44/111.

**Inexperienced gay, 25, Hull University** student wishes to meet fairly attractive non-camp guy 21-25. A.L.A. Box 44/113.

**Covent Garden driver tired of being eyed** but never chatted, anxious meet other East Enders/drivers. Photos please. Box 44/114.

**Male Homosexuals Homophile homo-**sexual living Manchester, seeks responsible fellow 21-25 to share with. Should be literate with interest in Real people. Photo if possible. Collaboration in writing contemplated. Cost £7.50pw, reduced if domestic assistance given. Box 44/115.

**If you are bored with bars etc, gay** couple, mid-30s would like to entertain you over 21. Please send photo and details. Box 44/140.

**"CHE NEEDS YOU NOW"**

**Midland professional musician, 39,** active, wants younger person, non-effeminate for friendship. Photo ensures reply. Box 44/142.

**Male, shy, introvert, 26, living in War-** wickshire seeks lasting sincere friendship with guy 21-35, interests varied. Photo welcome but not essential. Box 44/143.

**Attractive, slim, 23yr old, intelligent,** no hang-ups, seeks goodlooking young companions. Photos exchanged. Box 44/144.

**Young man, London, good physique** and appearance, reliable, friendly, seeks similar, 21-35, London. Photo requested (returned). Box 44/145.

**Norwegian, Y camp guy, 22, visiting** Southern Norway in August would like to hear from gays in Oslo, etc. I shall be working there, so please write as I don't want to be lonely and isolated. Box 44/146.

**I am 28, active, hairy, intelligent.** Would like to meet someone younger to have good times with and care for. London based, photo appreciated. Box 44/147.

**22yr old, tall, slim and goodlooking.** Quiet but warm and loving, seeks similar person of same age for friendship. Photo please. London. Box 44/148.

**23yr old, gentle, loving and attractive** boy longs to meet lots of big guys between 30-40. A.L.A. Photo please, London. Box 44/149.

**Midlands, South Wales. 31yr old guy** would like to meet others with mutual interests. Box 44/150.

**Student mid-20s seeks companion/s** for hosting holiday in Greece in July. Box 44/151.

**Information wanted. V Senses International** in UK. Box 44/152.

**Leather guy seeks friends. Midlands.** Box 44/154.

**Duplicate Bridge partner for Richmond** Club wanted by male aged 47. Box 44/155.

**Guy, 22, seeks handsome muscular** look-alike male companion 21-25. Photo essential. London/SE. Box 44/156.

**Near Angel/WC1 hard at it young** athlete wants someone comfortable to jog home to. Box 44/157.

**Herts/Essex/Cambds borders. Male, 35,** 6'2" non-effeminate requires similar to set up home. Box 44/158.

**Mahler. Ballet. Opera. Theatre. Art.** Good food. Conversation. Love. Friendship. Quiet evenings. American, 35, seeks young, straight-looking students wanting a friendly and night out. Own large flat in NW8. Photo please. Box 44/159.

**Intriguing gay seeks friends Midlands.** Box 44/154.

**Active, graduate, 38, seeks young** congenial handsome friend for visits to London theatres, interests also cinema, music, photography. Share of modern SW19 flat possible. Colour tv, own room. Photo appreciated. Box 44/160.

**21yr old straight-looking wants to** meet people similar age and type. Photo appreciated. Box 44/161.

**Very tall, goodlooking, muscular, 29,** all round athlete, seeks 21-29 to share weights or track sessions, London. Other interests photography, all sports, music. Photo essential. Mine with details in return. Box 44/162.

**Cheerful amiable guy late 23s** seeks soul mate for lasting friendship with possible share of pleasant flat in North London. Photo appreciated. Box 44/163.

**Ebuse? Lively and sociable, 46,** varied interests, especially Church Music architecture, seeks sincere friend 25-40, well built, straight appearance, London area. Weak spot Indians. Genuine replies preferably with photo. Box 44/164.

**Young artist, goodlooking** wants well-built active noncamp friends. Own fabulous studio. Photo essential. Box 44/165.

**Tall, slim, long hair, gentle young** man wishes to meet similar interested leather/denim. Photo appreciated. Box 44/166.

**AROUND 21-27, LONELY BUT CAN'T** afford to get a way from it all? How about a luxurious weekend in London or Amsterdam with a very sympathetic Londoner (39)? Please send photo to start a friendship. Box 44/167.

**There must be middle-aged Foden,** Atki Scania or similar HGV driver interested in occasional nights out with good food and dips-free. Convenient M6. A.L.A. Box 44/168.

**Active, goodlooking male age 35,** own pad, seeks young gay friend 21-23 for lasting friendship any colour. Weekends, Cheshire. Box 44/169.

**Gay guy living North Birmingham** requires occasional use of flat, evenings, in return for help with rent. Box 44/170.

**Well built Londoner, 40yr old,** looking for younger active guy. Overnight or weekend accommodation. Possibly permanent for right guy. Photo please. A.L.A. Box 44/171.

**Nottingham. Young man, 23,** fairly attractive, seeks similar for friendship. Photo appreciated. Box 44/172.

**London active guy 40. Cool and confident.** Normal appearance. Seeks quiet sincere young man for complete and lasting friendship. Your photo brings immediate response with mine. Box 44/173.

**Young guy, mid 20s, ex-Londoner—** antique shop and small guest house West Country coast, seeks non-effeminate man 21-30, share life and help run business. Photo if possible please. Box 44/174.

**28yr old seeks similar aged as enthusiast** weight training partner. W London. Box 44/175.

**New GN Subscriber, bored with warring** off just-the-wife-for-you prospects, hopes someone reading this who is less hung up over replying to advertisements, might write to explore possibility of establishing relaxed friendship whilst still young enough to appreciate it. Box 44/176.

**Irishman active, 29, seeks older** (up to 60) with own home, preferably sensible business inclined type, needing someone to care for. No effeminate please. Photo essential. A.L.A. Box 44/177.

**LONG OOLLY HAIR' FULL CAMP** gear, slap, you name it. It's what I'm looking for in my mate. Comfortable London home offered by devoted handsome active guy. Photo aia. Box 44/178.

**Graduate, 37, house and car, South** London/Surrey, very slim, tall, dark, affectionate, reliable, tired of gay scene, seeks real deep friendship with younger cleanshaven person 21-27 preferring someone older. Photo appreciated. Box 44/180.

**Birmingham. Spare seat for Valkyrie** and Siegfried; 21-35 please. 021-356 5128.

**TIM G' MOST ANXIOUS TO TRACE** YOU. Please try get in touch despite present difficulties which we appreciate. Your happiness and future our only concern. Please check advertisement next issue. Gay News. Bruce and N.

**"IF YOU ARE GAY—JOIN CHE"** Call or write 22 Gt Windmill St, W1. 01-437 7363.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO PETER AND** ROLAND on their 28th Anniversary.

**Advisory Service. Can we help you?** For people lonely, want somebody to talk to, we try to help. 749 0016 Ronald, and 995 1900 Peter.

**Bachelor 39 would like to meet** other fellows for friendship and go to concerts and theatres in London. Please phone Ian Scott 01-892 5990.

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

**Will Mick Jordan of Barons Court** who met Bill in Watermans contact Box 44/191.

**Christian youth over 21** wanted. Perhaps shy. Permanent friendship. Box 44/192.

**English designer, young 34,** with excellent flat, eagerly welcomes slim, goodlooking Asian friend, 21-25 who is warm hearted, reliable and unpretentious with more than merely gay interests. Photo guarantees reply. Box 44/193.

**Real, truly sincere permanent friend** wanted 21-30s, non-effeminate or hirsute, loving and affectionate. Wished by slim 5'7", 40s, living abroad, needing such a friend, and willing assistant to live, love, work permanently together. Box 44/194.

**CHALLENGE. All members of** Challenge are invited to attend an AGM on Thursday 25th April. For further details ring 367 5085.

**Birmingham, age 32, married,** sincere and genuine, non-camp, looking for young man 21-35 for long-lasting friendship. A.L.A. Box 44/198.

**California 34 masculine executive** yet cultured type transferred to UK soon, seeks slim, sincere young friend, any race, for steady friendship. Travel possibility. Photo appreciated, returned. A.L.A. Write airmail PO Box 26017, Los Angeles, CA 90026, USA.

**Group of fellows interested in denim/** leather etc taking farm house in Devon for 2 weeks from April 25th. Few vacancies left. Also like to hear from fellows who live in area. Box 44/200.

**JWS DONCASTER, APRIL 14th.** Happy Birthday! If your pen runs dry you could use the phone! Jon.

**I'm looking for someone to** twinkle my star! Interests theatre and home comforts. I should be taking Phylosan but I feel too young. Box 44/203.

**COME AND WORSHIP with the** Fellowship in Christ the Liberator, Metropolitan Community Church, London. For further details please write PCL, 61 Earls Court Square, London SW6.

**Comfortable Putney flat share** offered £8pw. No strings or restrictions. Own bedroom. Box 44/124.

**East London. Own newly decorated** room in clean comfortable house. Share kitchen, bathroom etc. No strings. 01-472 6879 after 6.30pm.

**Male 24, needs own room in flat,** preferably mixed, around Chiswick area. Box 44/141.

**Bournemouth London office-type** guy wants flat/room, mainly weekends, willing share, no meals, no strings. Box 44/125.

**South Coast area male** looking for real companion with nice place to share for mutual companionship. Use of my place W/Ends. Write quickly with photo please. Will return. A.L.A. Box 44/126.

**Plymouth. Friendly Guest House Bed/** Breakfast £2. Phone Deryck, Plymouth 51944.

**Bristol. Flat or large bedsit** required by 27yr old guy, professional. Bath or shower essential. Would consider sharing but must have own room. Phone Bristol 685805.

**Young guy requires another 19-25** to share my modern house N London, and form sincere friendship. Not camp, good-looking. Right guy more important than excessive rent. Details and photo if possible. A.L.A. Box 44/127.

**Ilfracombe. Talbot Guest House, 2** Montpelier Road. B&B £10pw. Singles, doubles. Central. Recommended.

**Young Scottish student** wishes London home for holidays and weekends. Box 44/128.

**Musical graduate seeks similar** over 21 student to share South Manchester house. Sincere non-effeminate non-scene types only. BM Box 410, London WC1V 6XX. Box 44/128.

**A cottage in Cornwall. Bed & Breakfast** for £2. No restrictions. Ring Mike, St Ives 5652 (day) or 5480 (evenings). Flatshare offered. 01-732 6724.

**Bachelor 39, requires another** chap to share house with him in Twickenham. Please phone Ian Scott 01-892 5990.

**YOUNG MAN, 21, PROFESSIONAL,** seeks own room within Oxford—Any offers? Box 44/179.

**Male, 31, similar flat mate,** comfortable flat, SE4. Own room. £6pw share expenses 692 7445 evenings. No strings or timewasters please!

**Multiple let excellent room** luxury house to 25-35 straight-looking type. Wembley area, Piccadilly line. 902 4190 evenings. Male classical musician, 29, needs suitable accommodation London. Box 44/181.

**Young guy to share pleasant flat,** modern block, West London suburb (Central line), no special requirements, just someone nice and fairly easy to live with. £8pw. Box 44/182.

**Gay Greek architect and poet, 34,** and friend, 21, model, seek comfortable flat in quiet London house. A.L.A. April. Box 44/183.

**Arts journalist offers share** SW1 flat, own room, colour tv. £13pw. Box 44/184.

**Can I share your flat? Gay male, 26,** pleasant, reliable, seeks reasonably priced accommodation anywhere in London. Preferably gay household. Box 44/185.

**Non-camp guy, to share** bedsit with easygoing broadminded guy SW5 area. Box 44/186.

**1st floor flat East London** £48pm, also wanted is sensible young man 21-24 who is looking for close friendship and a place called home, with similar aged. Photo please. Box 44/187.

**Battersea bedsitter. Suitable** for quiet, discreet, male or female. Share kitchen, bathroom. £9pw inclusive of central heating, electricity. 223 0758.

**Wanted, 3rd guy to share s/c flat** W14. Phone 387 5030 (Warren) Ext 29, daytime only.

**Cornwall Old World cottage. B&B** £1.75, seconds from beaches. St Ives. 7672.

**Flat share. Conventional-type** male 21-25, non-smoker, offered share in SW1 at near Victoria, £35 pm. Write fully. A.L.A. Box 44/197.

**West End. Prof man? Over 27? Non-** smoker? Why not share my comfy house? Own room. Sun-terrace etc. £16pw. 01-262 6308.

**All-male guest house** Southsea, full or part board. Ring Portsmouth 811246 for brochure.

**Birmingham. Affair 38/38** want to share their spacious modern 3-bed house with gay young professional male. Own room, ch/telephone. £8.50pw. Photo essential. Box 44/201.

**Hammersmith area. It's** now been 4 weeks I've asked for a bedsit, and no rotten cow has made even the smallest of offers. Sooner or later I'll be pressed to flog the tent! I'm quiet, reserved and very dependable. Please, please let me know of any empty space in that area. Box 44/202.

**Classified and Display Ads**  
The box number service is not available to commercial advertisers. Where discovered, literature advertising commercial enterprises will not be forwarded to box numbers. SEMI-DISPLAY (Boxed Classifieds in bold type) £1.50 extra. ALL ADS MUST BE PREPAID. DISPLAY AD RATES—prices quoted on request—contact Ad Manager Bernard Mears.

**ARE YOU MAN ENOUGH FOR** MAN-TO-MAN?

**AROUND 21-27, LONELY BUT CAN'T** afford to get a way from it all? How about a luxurious weekend in London or Amsterdam with a very sympathetic Londoner (39)? Please send photo to start a friendship. Box 44/167.

**Accommodation**  
10p per word, Box Number 50p, outside G B £1.50.

**Employment**  
10p per word, Box Number 50p, outside G B £1.50.

## 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 Ltd. for the sum of £ .....

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

**FAMILIAR WITH THE LOCAL GAY** SCENE? Earn £6 doing occasional evening work. Interested m/f writes stating age, sex, occupation, interests, address and telephone, to Eurovac, 1 The Close, Kenilworth, CV8 2HN.

**Part-time musician** required. Own instrument. Remuneration negotiable. Apply Queens Head, Tryon Street, Chelsea or phone 384 6374.

**GOOD MODELS REQUIRED** for a varied set of magazines due to be published end of '74. Interests from the young to late 20s. Good fees offered. Initial photo essential and returnable if postage is enclosed. Write to JB, Box 44/199.

**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. Box 44/195.

**YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER.** Wide and skilled experience in photography. I have my own equipment and darkroom, dynamic personality seeks permanent employment of any description, please phone Adrian Goodman 01-878 7323 after 6pm or write Box 44/196.

## Employment Ads cont. from Page 18

**Urgent**, 25, shartish, blonde, ex-gay model. Part/full-time. Preferably outdoors or driving, hopefully Bourne-mouth/Pool area, but anything considered. No ties. Appreciate help/advice with accommodation. Box 44/121.

**Artist** wanted, skilled in draughtsmanship and pictorial line drawing, to help development of new products; simple job but urgent; reasonable rates; London. Box 44/129.

**Young man** seeks part-time work. Legal only. Have car. Box 44/130.

**Young man** 26 returned to London after 1 year in Madrid now seeks rewarding and interesting work. Well-educated with management experience and clean D/1. Everything considered (legal). Box 44/20.

**Help** wanted in garage. Mitcham area. Good wages. Jacqui Howarth 648 0871.

**Young waiter** experienced for small Chelsea restaurant. Evenings only, good wages, preferably French-speaking. Ring 674 2844 day, 351 1011 evenings.

**David** seeks interesting legitimate vacation job July/August with accommodation if possible. Box 44/131.

**Jersey** employment wanted by university graduate, 22, from July. Box 44/132.

**Presentable** 21yr old seeks part-time weekend/occasional evening work. Brighton area preferably, but prepared to travel. Box 44/133.

**Young man** qualified member Ballroom and Latin Dance Teacher, seeks genuine work. ALA. Box 44/134.

**Goodlooking?** If you are, then send us a recent photo. We require a selection of male models. Write SAE to Vincent, 9 Great Callings, Rushgreen, Romford, Essex.

**Goodlooking intelligent** young man, 22, modelling experience, seeks part-time modelling work. London. Box 44/135.

**Australian** 24, requires interesting well-paid work until June. All considered. Box 44/136.

**Gentleman's** Georgian Residence, Douglas Isle of Man requires qualified cook and young Steward under 30, salary £1440 to £1760. All found depending qualifications and age. Photo essential with letter. Live in, understanding congenial household. Box 44/137.

**Active** type, mid-forties, goodlooking, own house in London, wants suitably qualified male for regular attendance. Household is strictly run to high standards. Photo, full details to Box 44/122.

## Market Place

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

**"Naked Cain"** ... again £1.50. London's rugged youth in the raw—New large format—also many American titles available. Mail order only. Cain of London, 113a Levenson Street, London SW16 6DF.

**Boy Studio**, 44 Earls Court Road, London W8. Photo-sets, leatherwear, 35mm colour slides, catalogue 30p.

**ONLY THE VERY BEST!** The best nudes—in every way! Glossy 6XB, 39 pages each: MANIFIQUEL and FORMOSUSI £1 each or 4 for £3! Also FRIENDS! (28 dual-studies) £1, and SUPER-STUDS! £1. Also Free Catalogues of books, USA magazines, exceptional photo and colour slide sets, movies, etc. Only above-average models! Plus information on Strictly Limited Editions!!! From JOHN S BARRINGTON, 86 Castelnau, London SW13. (No callers please!)

At last! An international directory/bar and club guide especially for gay women. 700 listings/20 countries, including USA and Canada. Send £2 only or order COD from: The Girls' Guide, 70 Pembroke Road, London W8 (no callers please). The Girls' Guide is now on sale in London at: Compendium, 240 Camden High Street, NW1; Sterlings Bookstore, 37 St Martins Lane, WC2; and The Public House Bookstore, 21 Little Preston Street, Brighton.

**Small ads** 3p per word. SAE Richard Stone, 15 Clifton Gardens, N15.

**Mouthwatering Magazines!** SAE, Johnny, BM/FBCH, WC1V 6XX.

**MAKE YOUR LOO COMPLETE.** Hang an original redrawn "Thelma" cartoon 8"x7". Only 50p each from Gay News Cartoons, 62a Chiswick High Road, London, W4 1SY. (Please specify which issue the particular cartoon is in).

**Spitfire** for sale: 1971, Saffron, new engine, two soft tops, £700. Must Sell. Ring Bill, 995 1956/2017.

**A collector's** monthly list of 500 O/P books for all lovers of literature, the arts and social sciences. Send sae to The Bulletin, 14 Gray's Inn Road, WC1.

**Fantastic Male Nude Studies** Privately printed, 50 colour pages, £5. Rogers, 47 Thornton Court, Eagle Way, Brentwood, Essex. No callers please.

**SPITFIRE FOR SALE: 1971.** Saffron, new engine, two soft tops, 33mpg. £730. Must sell. Ring Bill 995 1956/2017.

**Houston Mass Murders.** The inside story of 27 youths slain in bizarre rituals. New 160-page illustrated book discusses this horror-tale that shocked the world. £2 (or US\$ 5.00) brings your copy air-mailed direct from publisher. CGF, 256 S. Robertson, Beverly Hills, CA 90211, USA.

**Where shall we go tonight?—Who? Toi et Moi?—That's it, Best Bistro in Town. Where?—Toi et Moi, 244 Gt Portland Street. Phone 387 4049.**

**Confidential processing B/W.** Kodacolor X. Ektachrome. SAE list. Box 44/138.

## Services

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

**MIKE 21, QUALIFIED MASSEUR** (will visit) professional model—cute, fresh face. Worked music world London/DJ in Greece. Call mornings—878 0320.

**Experienced masseur** gives soothing massage, home/hotel, male/female. Phone Ron 472 1939 Mon-Fri, 6.15pm to 8pm or all day Sunday. For gay penpals. The Gaytime Friendship Society (AAC) BCM/GFS Mono House, Red Lion Square, London WC1. For details, send sae stating age. Massage by young male therapist. Call 229 6365.

**LIGHT REMOVALS, also DELIVERY Service.** Anytime, anywhere. 01-460 0977. Strictly legitimate business.

**Young psychologist.** Free initial consultation. Reasonable fees. Sympathetic listener. 01-574 1740.

**Greg, young qualified masseur,** seeks genuine interesting work. 727 8322. Genuine massage offered by young qualified male. For appointment ring 289 2753.

**Make friends worldwide.** Goodlooking guys from all continents seek penpals/friendship. Details and sample photographs free. Hermes, Berlin 11, Box 17/91, Germany.

**FREE COLOUR PICS TAKEN** of good-looking young guys 21-30. Phone Anthony 01-628 4367 evenings.

**Relaxing massage** by experienced young masseur. For appointment call Mike, 603 8748.

**Yoga tuition/massage.** Ross Nilsen, 01-602 0721.

**ARE YOU READY FOR MAN-TO-MAN?—READY OR NOT, IT'S COMING.** If you're goodlooking and enjoy being photographed, please write with recent photo. Good fee. Chris. BM7919, London WC1V 6XX.

**Young masseur.** 'The Clark System'. Hotel visits welcome. 373 2752.

**Penfriends!** Discreet introductions. SAE for details to Great Expectations, PO Box 148, 31/33 Court Yard, London SE9 5DD.

**Big men and beautiful boys!** We have the largest selection of mags in UK. Send 5p for lists. Jason Books, BCM/Greco, London WC1V 6XX.

**Datamate** finds your gay mates. Send SAE to 23 Queens Avenue, London N10. Go-Between removals and deliveries. Phone 01-249 0280/01-549 3275.

**Sailing holiday—cruising** Cornish Riviera. 19 Ton Cutter. Tuition available from £30pw. 1 Gyllingvase Terrace, Falmouth, Cornwall.

**Experienced strong qualified masseur** visits home/hotel. Genuine only. 01-370 6506.

## Entertainment

**10p per word. No Box Number service available.**

**De-Laney, Mr Versatile,** entertainer. 'Music-Hall', impersonation, vocal, comedy, glamour. 76 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts

**MEMBERS & GUESTS WELCOME.** CLUB GIGI, 30 The Triangle, Bourne-mouth 291286—Dance, dine, drink, chat. Elegant setting informal atmosphere. Mon-Sat 8 till 2am. Sun 8 till 11.30pm. Tuesday is Party Night. Accommodation, b&b, discreet comfort for one £2.50 or two £4.90. Weekends and holidays to remember. Enquiries Julian Britton.

**Mike's Mobile Gay Disco** for all occasions. 986-5937.

**"Room at the Top"**, Leeds New Super Disco Gay Bar. Open 8.00pm till 10.30pm (strictly gay) Mon-Sat. After 10.30pm mixed crowd. FREE admission. 207 North Street, Leeds. Phone 39149.

**Britain's First GAY SWITCHBOARD:** 01-837 7174. Every evening 6.00 to 10.30. Your hot-line to the gay community. What, when, how, where.

**NEW YORK GAY SWITCHBOARD:** PO Box 929 Madison Square Station, New York, NY 10010, USA. Tel: New York 924 4036—open 6pm to midnight, 365 days a year. Info available on all gay subjects.

**NEW JERSEY GAY SWITCHBOARD** and Info Centre. Contact Box 323, Princeton Junction, New Jersey 08550, USA. Service free of charge although an international reply coupon would be appreciated.

## General Information

**Gay Groups Social Activities**

**SPRING SUPPER DANCE** at the Queens Hotel, Southampton. Lanch on Sun 28th April 7.30-midnight. Tickets £1 from Blackburn CHE, 40 Northcliffe, Great Harwood, Blackburn.

**GAY SWITCHBOARD** disco to help finance the switchboard. 15p every Sat upstairs in Prince Albert, Wharfedale Rd, off York Way, Kings Cross. All profits to gay switchboard.

**DISCO MAY 10th PNL** Gaysoc and Pauline and Sally's group invite everyone to a gay disco at Polytechnic of North London, Prince of Wales Road, London N5. 8pm to midnight, 25p. All profits to London Friend.

**GLF DISCO** run by GLF Caledonian Rd Office Collective. Prince Albert, corner of Wharfedale Rd and York Way N1 (Kings Cross Tube) every Fri 8-11pm Adm 10p.

**CHE POETRY GROUP** meets the last Friday of every month at 8pm above the Lamb & Flag on Rose St, W2. Theme for April is modern verse on England.

**GAY WOMEN**

**MANCHESTER GAY WOMENS GROUP** meets regularly in central Manchester. All homosexual and bisexual women are welcomed. Please phone Sue at 061 881 3683 for details of meetings.

**SAPPHO** meets every first Monday in the month at Euston Tavern, corner of Judd Street/Euston Road, London NW1 7.30pm upstairs room. Sappho 30p inc postage for single copies from BCM/PETREL London WC1V 6XX

**CAMBRIDGE GAY WOMENS GROUP** Details write Alison, c/o Last Exit Bookshop, Mill Road, Cambridge or Tel: 64757.

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

**WOMENS LIBERATION WORKSHOP** Kingsgate Place Womens Centre, 1 Kingsgate Place, London W6. Open Mon-Fri 10.30am-10pm.

**LESBIANS** come together in London every Monday and Friday. Details Pauline or Sally 01-348 4684

**MOLIN DISCO CLUB** (girls only) Half Moon Lane, Heme Hill, SE24. Open from 8pm on Wed, Fri and Sat. Sat. 2, 3, 19, 37, 40, 68, 172, 186 & 196. Plus Heme Hill (BR) station. Ring 674 4004 or 274 2733

**GAY WOMEN'S CONFERENCE.** Canterbury 27th-28th April held in Students Union, University of Kent. Suggestions etc to be sent to Sherry Mayrent, Keynes College, University of Kent, Canterbury or phone Cathy McFerran, Canterbury 60614.

**HOMOSEXUAL WOMEN** are welcome in CHE. Find out more about CHE groups at 22 Gt Windmill St, London W1. Tel: 01-437 7363.

**COUNSELLING/BEFRIENDING**

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

**BRISTOL ICEBREAKERS** Info and counselling for south west. Tel: Bristol 556925 Mon and Fri 7.00-9.30pm or write to Icebreakers, PO Box 86, Bath, BA1 2YQ

**BRISTOL GAYSOC BEFRIENDING GROUP** for all Bristol students with problems or worries. Contact Jo, Gaysoc, Students Union, Queens Road, Bristol BS8 1LN

**NUTSHELL INFORMATION SERVICE** phone Birmingham 772 2483, 24 hours every day (ask for Nutshell as we share a line with St Basil's Centre)

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

**BRISTOL** Help and Info. Send SAE to Confidential Friend, CHE, Bristol, PO Box 171, BS99 7ND

**CENTRE COFFEE BAR/ SOCIAL Club.** Befriending and Counselling Help. Open Sun-Fri from 10.30am-10.30pm. Tel: 01-723 5889 or write to Centre, Broadway Terrace, London NW1.

## Friend

is a nation-wide befriending and counselling service for gays in distress or with a problem. Write to FRIEND at: BRADFORD P O Box 47, Bradford Ykrs BD1 5VZ

**CAMBRIDGE FRIEND** c/o 54 Mill Road, Cambridge.

**CARDIFF.** Tele Cardiff 44441, Tues evenings 7.30-9.

**LUYDON** Second Floor, 53 High Street Thornton Heath, Surrey CR4 8RW

**LEEDS** Leeds Friend, c/o 44 Earls Court Road, London W8

**LONDON** 47 Church Street, London NW8 Tel: 01-402 6750 weekdays evenings 7.30-9.30pm

**MANCHESTER:** PO Box 427, Spring Gardens, Manchester M60 2EL Tel: 061 445 2889.

**MERSEYSIDE** PO Box 7, Liverpool L8 2XN. Tel: 051-727 2589 or 709 6104

**NORTH EAST** Box A 16, 133 Great North Road, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Tel: Newcastle 33544 or 841401 or 877701

**NORWICH** P O Box 3 North Walsham Norfolk

**SHEFFIELD** P O Box 107 Sheffield S1 1EJ

**SUSSEX** 9 Brunswick Sq, Brighton, Sussex. Tel: Brighton 739729 weekdays 9am-6pm or Brighton 61664 Friday evening 8pm-10pm

**WEST MIDLANDS** 161 Corporation Street, Birmingham 4 (call at Carrs Lane, Counselling Centre Thurs 7pm-9pm)

If you do not live within reach of any of the groups, please write to National Friend, 43 Earls Court Road, London W8 Tel: 01-402 6750 weekday evenings 7.30-9.30pm.

**SOCIAL ACTION** caters for all problems at Walnut Cottage, Moorland, Bridgewater, Somerset.

## INFORMATION SWITCHBOARDS

**Britain's First GAY SWITCHBOARD:** 01-837 7174. Every evening 6.00 to 10.30. Your hot-line to the gay community. What, when, how, where.

**NEW YORK GAY SWITCHBOARD:** PO Box 929 Madison Square Station, New York, NY 10010, USA. Tel: New York 924 4036—open 6pm to midnight, 365 days a year. Info available on all gay subjects.

**NEW JERSEY GAY SWITCHBOARD** and Info Centre. Contact Box 323, Princeton Junction, New Jersey 08550, USA. Service free of charge although an international reply coupon would be appreciated.

## GAY GROUPS

**NORTH EASTERN GAY ALLIANCE** has info and a newsletter available from NEGA, 24 Dipton Ave, Newcastle-on-Tyne, NE4 8DT.

**OXFORD GAY ACTION GROUP** Oxford 45301 between 7-8pm. Meetings every Sun at 7.30 in the Stage Club, George St.

**WIMBLEDON** gays come together at WAGS. Details from Tony (547 4940) or John/Gabriel (542 0302).

**MANCHESTER TAO** contact Mr B and Mill L Stothard, 167 Withington Road, Whely Range, Manchester 16. Meet every Sun 7pm.

**STAFFORDSHIRE TAO** contact Ms Julia Toner, Director TAO Europe, 51 Scrimshaw House, Pleck-Walsall, Staff. Kent

**KENT GAY INFORMATION,** 160 Faversham Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

**NORWICH CENTRE** GROUP details Peter Bishop, Flat D, Oak House Trowse, Norwich, Norfolk, NOR 01W, or tele Norwich 53903 (Carrol) or North Walsham 2628 (Bill).

**FELLOWSHIP IN CHRIST** THE LIBERATOR Details: FCL, c/o 61 Earls Court Square, London SW5

**JEWISH HOMOPHILE GROUP** further info write to Timothy Goldard, BM/JHG, WC1 6XX

**BATH GAY AWARENESS GROUP** info from PO Box 86, Bath BA1 2YQ

**GAY LIBRARIAN GROUP.** SAE to GLG, 6 Worthington House, Middleton Passage, London EC1R 1XQ

**YOUNG GAYS** meet once a week around central London at the CHE Youth Group. Tel: Chris 01-673 2703

**MANCHESTER GAY ALLIANCE** newsletter from Side Door, 7 Birch Hall Lane, M13 0XJ. Tel: Gord 061-225 9779

**HARROW GAY UNITY** for info ring John or Dennis at 863 5717

**CHALLENGE** is a social group for homosexuals over 21. Meets weekly. Ring 01 367 5085 for the number of the member on duty.

**GAY CAMBRIDGE** a young GLF/CHE group covering both the town and the university. Contact Bernard Greaves, 29 Job Street, Cambridge. Tel: Cambridge 32661.

**LSE GAY CULTURE SOCIETY TALKS:** All held in Room 5101A, St Clements Building, 6.30-8.00. March 8th—Naz Gorman: 'Sexuality in Weimar and Nazi Germany'

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** we have a regular social meeting every Tues 1.00pm in Room 5066 St Clements Building. All are welcome. Further information can be obtained from the Gay Culture Society, c/o LSE Students Union, Houghton St London W2 The Gay Marxist History Group can also be contacted at the above address.

**FRIENDS HOMOSEXUAL FELLOWSHIP** a gay group for Quakers. Details Michael Hutchinson, 15 Dalkeith Road, Harpenden, Herts AL5 5PP

**COVENTRY GAY GROUP** every Tues fortnightly from Nov 13th every Tues 8.30pm in Rose & Crown, High Street, Coventry.

**GREATER LIBERATED CHICANOS** is a gay Latin/Spanish Liberation Movement offering help to all gay, bi and straight latin-speaking people. Write to GLC, PO Box 38216 Los Angeles, California 90038 USA.

**LEICESTER GAY AWARENESS.** Ring Leicester 706050 (Steve) or Leicester 738832 (John or Clive)

**EAST OF ALDGATE** a social group for gay men and women. Details: SK Group, c/o Albany Trust, 8A Christchurch Ave, London NW6

**GAY MARXIST STUDY GROUP** Details 01-794 3368

**REACH** a nationwide homophile group of members of Christian churches, Reach, 27 Blackfriars Road, Manchester 3.

**GAY COMMUNITY CENTRE OF SOUTH LONDON** Coffee Bar, books, papers and people. Open evenings and weekends. 78 Ralston Road, London SE24 (Brixton tube).

## SCOTTISH MINORITIES GROUP

**NATIONAL OFFICE** 214 Clyde St, Glasgow G1 4JZ. 041 771 7600. Please address all communications to The Secretary. An SAE is a great help.

**BRANCHES OF SMG MEET IN—** INVERNESS: Contact John Matheson, 5 Castle St. ABERDEEN: Contact Denis Wilson, 0224 20576. DUNDEE: Contact Lem McIntosh, 0382 452433. ST ANDREWS: Contact Richard Batchelor, 45A South St, KY16 9QR, 033491 3914. EDINBURGH: Contact Ian Dunn, 031 667 7473. Women contact Ruth Shrock, c/o VOC, 11 St Colme St, EH3 6AG. Befriending contact 031 332 9149 Weds, Sats & Suns only, 6-9pm. GLASGOW: Contact John Wallace, 041 882 3536. Women contact SMG Women, 214 Clyde St, G1 4JZ. CARLISLE: Contact Richard Webster, 2 Cowpasture Cottages, Newton Rigg 0768 4118.

**IRISH GAY LIB MOVEMENT**

**BELFAST:** Maeve Molloy and Margaret Ward (Queens University Belfast Gay Lib Society) phone Belfast 42124

**COLERAINE:** Don Gill and Pat Knight (New University of Ulster Sexual Reform Movement) NUU, Coleraine, Co Derry, phone Coleraine 4141 ext 319

**DUBLIN:** E Lynch (CHE); Margaret McWilliams (Sappho) Peter Bradley, Hugo McManus and Dierdra O'Mara (Trinity College Dublin Sexual Reform Movement). All these Dublin representatives may be contacted through the Students Representative Council, Trinity College, Dublin. Phone Dublin 772941

**BELFAST GLF** meet 8pm Thurs in Student Union, Queens University.

## CAMPAIGN FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY

There are over 70 local groups, for details and membership information contact their offices at: 28 Kennedy Street Manchester M2 4BG. Telephone 061-228 1985

Or contact London Information Centre, 22 Great Windmill Street, W1 Telephone 01-437 7363

Mon-Wed 3pm-10pm, Thurs and Fri 6pm-10pm, Sat 12-7pm.

You can ring most groups direct at the numbers below:

**BATH—Norman** (5013).

**BOURNEMOUTH:** Bournemouth 24842 (Laurie)

**BRADFORD:** Shipley 51742

**BRIGHTON:** Brighton 778025 (Malcolm)

**Brighton** 732550 (Roland)

**BRISTOL:** Bristol 35035 (Trevor)

**CAMBRIDGE:** Camb 52661 (Bernard)

**CHILTERN:** High Wycombe 39321 (Haydn)

**CROYDON:** 01-642 3692 (Richard)

**HERTS STM:** Hatfield 69172 (John)

**KENT EAST:** Thanet 42059 (Roger)

**LANCASTER:** Lancaster 2750

**LEEDS:** Morley 7686 (David)

**LEICESTER:** Leicester 706050 (Steve)

**Leicester** 738832 (John or Clive)

**LONDON** Monday Group 01-385 1191 (Brian)

**EAST LONDON:** 556 5910 (Tony)

**LONDON, STEPNEY:** 01-476 7980 (Mike)

**LONDON, HIGHBURY & ISLINGTON:** 272 8523

**LONDON MARYLEBONE:** 352 9013 (Andrew)

**LONDON YOUTH GROUP** 01 673 2703 (Chris)

**MEDWAY:** Medway 361576 Ken or George

**MANCHESTER:** 061-445 2889 (Derek)

**NORTHANTS/BEDFORD** Northampton 22861 (Alan); Bedford 53150 (Andrew)

**NORWICH:** Norwich 53903 (Carol)

**PRESTON:** Preston 39030

**SHROPSHIRE:** Cressage 231 (George)

**SOUTHAMPTON:** 551335 (David)

6-7pm only.

**TREATHAM:** 01-675 2886 (Doug)

**TUNBRIDGE WELLS:** Tun. Wells 33175 (Ross)

**TYNESIDE:** Newcastle 877701 (Jerry)

**WIRRAL:** 051-327 5178 (Jack)

**WINDSOR:** 51062 (Mike)

**BLACKPOOL CHE.** This new group can be contacted through the CHE Manchester head office.

**STOCKPORT/MACCLESFIELD CHE.** This new group can be contacted through the CHE Manchester head office.

**WEST MIDLANDS CHE (BIRMINGHAM)** meets Carrs Lane Centre, Carrs Lane, Birmingham 4 on the last Wed of each month at 7.30pm. Ring Denis 5 752673 (STD 0902 752673) or June at Coleshill 62339

**NORWICH CHE**—Write to Peter Bishop, Flat D, Oak House, Trowse, Norwich, Norfolk NOR 01W

**CUMBRIA/BORDERS CHE/SMG** joint group now meets regularly in Carlisle on 2nd Friday of each month. For info contact Richard Webster, 2 Cowpastures Cottages, Newton Rigg, Penrith, Tel: Penrith 4118

**IPSWICH CHE.** Anyone interested please write to Charles Almond, 119 Caudwell Hall Road, Ipswich IP4 5BN

**NEWPORT CHE** meets fortnightly in Newport Civic Centre on Tuesdays at 8pm from August 7th. Gay girls most welcome. Gay News on sale.

**CHE SURREY GROUP.** For further information contact either Charles: Byfleet 48716 or Myrtle: Haslemere 51882 or Frank 01-399 7495

**LEWISHAM.** If you live in South East London this is your local CHE group. Weekly meetings, details from CHE London Information Centre. Tel: 01-437 7363

**WANDSWORTH/RICHMOND CHE** for men AND women. Incorporating surrounding areas. Meetings twice monthly. Charlie Micklewright, 46b Chartfield Ave, SW15

**CARLISLE, CUMBERLAND, THE LAKES.** Will anyone interested in joining a new group in this area please get in touch with Richard Webster, Tyneside CHE, 17 Oxford Terrace, Gateshead NE8 1RQ

**CHE LIVERPOOL GROUP** information from CHE, P O Box 7, Liverpool L8 2XN. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 8pm in the Papoda Club.

**SOUTH DEVON CHE** meets fortnightly on Wednesday at 8pm in Newton Abbot. Further information from Manchester HQ.

**CARDIFF CHE** meets every Monday at 7.30pm in Chapter Arts Centre, Market Road, Canton, Cardiff 566419 (Mike)

**COVENTRY CHE** new group starting, first meeting March 13th. Info phone Walsgrave on Sowe 4336

**CHE LIVERPOOL** under new management. Tel: 051-708 0969 or 051-709 5334.

**CHE SHEFFIELD.** Information from CHE, PO Box 107, Sheffield S1 1EJ. Meet on 2nd and 4th Tues every month at the Friends Meeting House.

**LONDON YOUTH GROUP** meets once a week. Phone Chris at 01 673 2703 for further information.

**NEWPORT (MON)** info via Mike Bevan, or Richard Dymond, 36 Llanthwy Road, Newport, Mon. The group meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays each month at 8pm at the above address.

**TESSIDE HAS A CHE GROUP** with regular meetings in Middlesbrough. Social and campaigning activities. Send address for recent newsletters and further information to CHE, 132 Borough Road, Middlesbrough

**HARINGEY CHE** meets 2nd Monday of each month. For info send sae to Fred O'Flaherty, 25 Kinver House, London N4

## GAY LIBERATION FRONT

**GLF INFORMATION:** Although the office is closed, all postal enquiries concerning GLF should still be sent to 5 Caledonian Road, London N1. 'Glad to be gay' badges are again available by post from GLF, 5 Caledonian Road, 13p each post free.

**NEWCASTLE GLF** meet every Wed at 8.00pm in the Golden Fleece pub, Marlborough Crescent.

**DURHAM GLF.** Contact Sam Green, 41 The Avenue, Durham City.

**SUNDERLAND GLF** Contact Tom Mellish, Student Union, Wearmouth Hall, Sunderland Polytechnic, Sunderland, Co Durham.

**SOUTH LONDON GLF** meets every Wed 8pm at Oval House, Kennington (Oval tube)

**GLF ADULT EDUCATION GROUP** meets every Thurs 8pm at Talma Road, Brixton SW2

**GAY WOMENS LIB** (North London) meet at the Crown and Woolpack, 397 St Johns Street, EC1 (Angel tube) 8pm on Mondays

**SATURDAY IS FUN NIGHT.** Put on your glad rags and journey down to the South London GLF disco in the Hanover Arms, opposite Oval tube. Starts 8pm.

**GLF AWARENESS GROUP** meets every Fri 8pm. Phone Central Office for details.

**RELIGIOUS GAY LIB GROUP:** meets on Sundays. Details: 01-278 1701

**LEEDS GLF** office open Mon-Fri 7:30-9:30pm at 153 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds 2. Ring 39071 ext 57. Meetings every Fri 8pm at Trades Council Hall, Upper Fountain St, Leeds.

**SUSSEX UNIVERSITY GAYSOC** meets from time to time. Contact through students Union, University of Sussex, Falmer, nr Brighton.

**BANGOR GLF**—group now forming. If you live in North Wales, please contact Simon del Nevo, c/o UNW Students Union, Delniol Road, Bangor, Caerns, North Wales

**CARDIFF GLF** is at RIB, 58 Charles St, Cardiff 44441. Advice on drugs and legal matters, entertainment and cheap food.

**WARWICK UNIVERSITY GLF** meets fortnightly on Tues 8pm in Rookies Hall, Univ of Warwick, Coventry. Contact 9 Stanley Road, Coventry or ring Cov 7600R

**CHESTER LE STREET GLF** Contact via Mike Barnes, 1 Fenwick Terrace, Jesmond, Newcastle Upon Tyne 2.

**BIRMINGHAM GLF** 021-643 0996 Peace Centre, 18 Moore Street, Queensway. Weekly free discos every Wednesday at the Old Crown, Digbeth.

**YORK GAYSOC** contact Javid Hal, Darwent College, University of York.

**BRISTOL GAY AWARENESS GROUP** c/o Tony, 20D West Mall, Clifton, Bristol, Tel: 0272-32669

**BRADFORD GLF.** New group forming. Details from Don Milligan, 10 Victor Road, Bradford 9.

**MANCHESTER GLF** meets every Wed in upstairs room, Lower Turks Head, Shude Hill, Manchester at 8pm. Contact John Ash, 1 Hunts Road, Irlam, o' the Heights, Salford. Ring 061-736 2045 or ring Gary 061-434 2091

**SUSSEX GLF** meets every Tuesday 8.30pm at Maskwells Bar, Junction of Kings Road/Grand Junction Road. Disco every Fri and Sat at same place. Admission 20p. Contact Graham Wilkinson, 2A Montpelier Villas, Brighton, Tel: 23814

**SUSSEX GLF DISCO** Markwells Bar, Kings Road, 8.30-11.00pm Fri and Sat nights. Admission 20p.

**LANCASTER GLF** meets on Weds at 7.30 upstairs at the Farmers Arms. Contact address 14 Hope Street, Lancaster

**TRANSVESTITE/TRANSSEXUAL**

**TRANSVESTITE SOCIAL GROUP.** For info send SAE to Sam Cash, 10 Hosack Road, London SW17.

**LONDON TV/TS** ring Angela Nicol 965 2520 or write 76 Gladsmuir Road, Archway, London

**NATIONWIDE TRANSVESTITES** GROUP now forming. All enquiries to Martin Rees, Transvestite Group, 58 Charles Street, Cardiff.

*Sorry, no room for GaySoc or Miscellaneous info this time. See GN42 or next edition for full details.*

## Grand Charity Show

In Aid Of  
**VARIETY ARTIST BENEVOLENT FUND**  
At The  
**The Black Cap**  
CAMDEN TOWN  
**Easter Monday**  
12.00 till 3.00pm  
Artists Include  
MARC FLEMMING  
MRS SHUFFLEWICK  
TONI PAIGE  
ALVIS and ODELL  
GEORGIE WEST  
FRANCOIS NEWTON  
PAUL LADARE  
*Come Along Early*

# Newsettes

## ● Winking Illegal

WALSALL: The Walsall Committee for Human Rights is campaigning to get part of the 1956 Sexual Offences Act amended, giving homosexuals more freedom.

The committee wants the part of the Act that makes it illegal for one man to solicit another repealed.

The secretary, Mr Pat Hall, said that this part of the Act was out of date now that homosexuality between consenting adults was legal.

"The ridiculous thing is that the law means that a man can be arrested for winking at another," he commented.

## ● Official Payoff For Police Assault

ALBUQUERQUE: Officials in this New Mexico town have agreed to pay a gay couple about £800 damages after the two men were pummeled in a sadistic pre-dawn raid. But one of the victims has disappeared.

Around half of the proposed out-of-court settlement has been paid to Bill Woods, which releases authorities from further liability to him. Woods and Mike Simmons were attacked by three armed off-duty policemen in their motel room.

The policemen were sacked after an investigation substantiated charges of brutality during a phoney burglary interrogation. Officials said the couple were not suspects. The police were said to be drunk.

Although the police chief conceded that the trio were guilty of "three or four criminal offences," no charges have been lodged against them.

The policemen denied pistol-whipping the couple, and threatening them with castration and murder. They admitted firing a shot inside the residence and choking Simmons with a bedsheet that was tied around his neck.

## ● All-Ireland Group Forms

DUBLIN: The Union for the Sexual Freedoms in Ireland was formed on Sunday, 17th February, for the purpose of "liberating sexually oppressed people—women, homosexuals, 'straight men'."

The organisation is composed of six working parties to deal with the following areas: a befriending service with 24-hour telephone-help service; an educational research and information group; a public relations group; a legal reform arm; a group to organise social activity; and one responsible for founding groups throughout the country.

All of these committees will be represented on a nine-member executive chaired by National Coordinator Alan Gibson. Ruth Riddick is secretary and Joe Lecky treasurer.

Enquiries should be addressed to PO Box 687, Dublin 4.

## ● What's The State Of Your Liberties?

LONDON: The National Council for Civil Liberties said last week that there was no change last year in the degree of advice or representation for gay people. But this doesn't mean that gay civil liberties improved. They didn't.

The NCCL annual report said, in part: "In the late 60s, laws governing abortion, homosexuality, capital punishment and obscenity were all reformed. It was a climate in which it became possible to envisage further progress to improve the quality of democracy and the treatment of individual citizens. Today civil liberties are in retreat."

Martin Loney, NCCL general secretary, said the increasing influence of Campaign for Homosexual Equality and Gay Liberation Front meant that less gay complaints were directed to NCCL. "However, we've noted cases where we would have liked to see a plea of not guilty instead of guilty," he said.

The annual report said that "misuse and abuse by police of their powers of search continue unabated, hindered by no one, ignored by our legislators, encouraged by an over-zealous executive and by an equivocal judiciary."

## ● Anti-Gay Shrinks Challenge APA Reform

WASHINGTON: Anti-gay members of the American Psychiatric Association have effectively challenged the decision to drop homosexuality from the APA's list of mental disorders.

Drs Charles Socarides and Irving Bieber have collected the necessary number of signatures to force a referendum of the association's membership.

The APA action last December was the culmination of years of campaigning by the gay rights movement. The decision was hailed as "an historic act" by APA leaders and as "the greatest gay victory" by gay activist leaders.

The APA decision reverses a medical opinion going back nearly 100 years. A spokesman for America's main psychiatric association said that new knowledge and changing attitudes dictated the move (GN38).

## ● Gay Street Theatre

SWANSEA: The Swansea Gay Awareness Society has recently formed a Street Theatre Group. And according to Kathryn Sedman, "in spite of masses of inhibitions, I think it'll work out just fine."

Swansea GAS meet every alternate Wednesday in various flats or the reading room of Swansea University, Glamorgan. You can write to them c/o Union House.

Sedman said social events are well supported as is the workgroup.

## ● Westside Folds But Dances Flourish

LONDON: West London Gay Liberation Front "has gone the way of all GLF in London," according to Terry Tissington, but the dances continue at Fulham Town Hall.

Tissington said the meetings stopped because of diminishing membership, boredom and apathy. A small group still meet in a pub, though. Ring Terry if you're interested: 995-4135. The next dance is May 24th.

## ● P C Versatile

KINGSTON: When 21-year-old display artist Sally Cooper 'streaked' across Kingston Bridge, she didn't know what a risk she was really taking. Until Faldo bit her.

Faldo is a police dog. In fact two years ago he was judged "best young dog of the year" in the Metropolitan Police Force, much to the satisfaction of his handler Peter Feltham.

PC Feltham and Faldo had a nice little act going for them when they were stationed in New Malden. This extraordinary constable used to get up in drag, walk out pushing a pram, and pretend to be a woman having her handbag snatched. Faldo would then come bounding in to the rescue. Apparently it was all something to do with crime prevention . . .

## ● The Rouge Need Bread

LEEDS: The Gay Liberation Front publication Broadsheet reports that the commune at 248 Bethnal Green Road, London E2, need money.

The commune formed a collective that ran the Bethnal Rouge Bookshop, which recently closed (GN42).

Broadsheet said the commune were "going to have a rest from the weekly hassle of getting together the £60 rent and are off to seek new horizons. Meanwhile, they are stuck with a lot of bread to pay."

Contact the Rouge at 01-739 1827.

## ● French Drag Touts Its Muscle

PARIS: The Transvestite Trade Union claims 30,000 members, even though drag is illegal in France, as are sex-change operations.

TTU director Marie Andre said there were more than 2,000 drag arrests last year.

The Union runs a 24-hour telephone-help service and meet once a year on Mardi Gras. Andre said that post-operatives can legally marry in France.

## ● Call Me A Queen Will You? POW!

SOUTHAMPTON: A 41-year-old stevedore knocked out his postman when the mail-carrier implied he was gay.

Liberty Bowers of Home Rule Road was convicted and had to pay a £25 fine and £8 court costs.

Bowers told magistrates that he had to quit his job as a docker because of a remark "two or three years ago" in a pub. He said he was taunted about "being queer." Since the pub remark, rumours have apparently spread. The climax came when 55-year-old Alfred Oliver handed Bowers a fancy letter addressed to Bowers' daughter. Oliver said the flowered letter "should have been for you." Bowers responded to the dig by swinging a punch at the postman's head.

The Post Office have not delivered mail to Bowers' address since the affair.

The court was told that Oliver had delivered to the house for several years and was on good terms with the family.

Bowers has also been bound over in the sum of £100 to keep the peace.

## ● Stoking The Fires Of Hell

BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA: The American Civil Liberties Union says it will sue a school board in this upper midwest state for exercising "arbitrary and unreasonable censorship."

The Drake, North Dakota, school board burned copies of two novels in the school incinerator, after the books were listed as required reading by a teacher. The burned books were James Dickey's *Deliverance* and Kurt Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse Five*.

*Deliverance* was found objectionable because of a gay rape scene.

After the book-burning, the teacher tried to include Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451* on the student reading list. 'Fahrenheit 451' is the temperature at which ordinary text paper is ignited by fire. The school principal said this book would not be tolerated either, because it would be "a slap in the face of the local school board."

## ● Lightning Streak

PORTSMOUTH: The city has just experienced its first streak—although some people have been tempted to call it a flash.

The exercise in buffmanship didn't happen in the busy Commercial Road shopping centre or on the South Parade seafront, but at the city's gay Balmoral Bar.

Ray, a twenty-one-year-old regular patron, wearing nothing but a pair of socks and a smile, managed a sixty-second spring through the Public bar followed by a short dash up Landport Terrace to the comparative safety of the Balmoral's lounge for a quick change to more conventional attire.

There were no shocks or arrests, just uninhibited laughter followed by speculation as to who would be the next daring birthday-suit trendsetter.

Richard Thomson

## ● Boltions Scuffle

EARLS COURT: The normal gay Saturday night revelry at the Boltions Hotel in Earls Court was shattered recently when a Hollywood style bar fight turned the smaller of the two upper bars into a bear garden.

Two clients decided to settle their differences and fists began to fly. Other patrons joined in the five-minute melee, which gradually extended from one end of the bar to the other, as bodies rolled on the floor, glasses smashed, and chairs and tables overturned. One person was seen to retire with a badly cut right eye.

Activity fizzled out when bar staff telephoned the police after it was found impossible to contain the scuffle, although damage was restricted to the one bar.

Uniformed police officers later questioned eye witnesses and mingled with patrons in an attempt to apprehend the participants who had already dispersed and effectively escaped in the resulting confusion.

Richard Thomson

## ● One Step Forward

CUMBERLAND: Another little victory was reported this week by the Campaign for Homosexual Equality. And when you consider a lot of the minor advances at the same time, you've got to credit CHE: things do happen.

John S Nixon of Cumbria said CHE has been breaking up the clods and tilling the soil at the Cumberland Newspaper Group for a long, long time.

But last month, the West Cumberland Evening News finally accepted a gay advertisement. The personal column said that Cumbria CHE exists for gay men and women.

Really, no minor achievement.

## ● Cottage Warning

SOUTHAMPTON: In the first case to be referred to Southampton Crown Court since the police purge on city gays, Judge Michael Lee, QC, threatened custodial sentences for what he described as "disgusting behaviour in public places."

Appearing before the Court was Mr Duncan Neilson, who was convicted on a charge of attempting to procure an act of "gross indecency." A lesser charge of importuning for immoral purposes was dropped by the prosecution.

Imposing a fine of £125 on the defendant the Judge warned: "People who behave in this disgusting way will be put away for a long time for the protection of the public. You will be a fool if you ever go into a public toilet again."

The Judge implied agreement with defence counsel that imprisonment for homosexuality per se was not appropriate, but public displays of indecency would not be tolerated in Southampton.

Richard Thomson

## ● Pavlovian Gay Asks For Shock

CARDIFF: An electric story this month from the Western Mail about John, who is now in his third year of aversion therapy.

John, an American who lives in Los Angeles, is hooked up to a piece of electronic equipment that measures his sexual response. And when John automatically reacts in a positive way to a male slide, he gets a shock, courtesy of an operator hidden behind a two-way mirror. John sits in front of a screen and watches slides of naked women, which the Western Mail emphasises "he would normally find dull, if not downright distasteful." Because John, "for as long as he can remember, has been a homosexual."

The Cardiff newspaper points out that John may be "cured" or he may not be "cured". But the paper said in its story headline that "SHOCK TREATMENT IS GAINING GROUND" and in the text that "more and more Americans" are "hoping that aversion therapy will alter" their behavior faster and cheaper than psychotherapy. The Western Mail adds: Aversion therapy is used on drug addicts and compulsive gamblers, destructive children and the mentally ill, on people with over-eating and sexual problems.

The story also told of a Los Angeles homosexual who now finds himself unable to shake the hand of a male because it makes him feel ill. This the story reports is "aversive conditioning carried too far."

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# MODERN BOOKS

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