

# GAY NEWS

"A DIFFERENT JOURNEY TO THE SAME END"

№ 446

1151D

## Icebreakers

## Celebrate Their

## First Anniversary

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

LONDON: This weekend Icebreakers are celebrating their first anniversary. This outfit represents the first—and still the only—radical attempt to reach the more isolated members of the gay community in a direct and straightforward manner. It consists of a group of gay men and women who operate a telephone service every evening of the year. Gay women and men who feel isolated or have problems are invited to call in and talk these things over. This time last year Icebreakers consisted of half a dozen enthusiasts; today there are over 30 men and women involved.

The concept is a direct result of the thinking and activities of the Gay Liberation Front which, two or three years ago, established a Counter-Psychiatry Group. One founder member explained: "This group had been meeting for a long time, we had talked and talked and felt that the time had come to do something practical. So the group split up. One section began work on a pamphlet and the rest concentrated on the possibility of starting some kind of help agency." The pamphlet was published: *Psychiatry and the Homosexual* was, justifiably, a great success.

The idea of Icebreakers was conceived and announced at a meeting of Camden GLF and a number of individuals joined the group. Then came the really great problem of finding a suitable room with a telephone. One was found, and it was in South London and South London GLF were brought into the picture. "It was, after all, in their territory and we felt—quite rightly as it turned out—that much of our support would come from them." And it did. The telephone service went into operation on May 10, 1973.

### No Politics

Icebreakers do not preach politics to the people who phone in; nor do they make any attempt to involve them in political activity. The characteristics all individual Icebreakers share are: that they are all homosexual men and women who are glad to be gay; that they are conscious of society's general oppression of gay people and wish to try to remove this through practical and political action; that they reflect positive attitudes to gayness. It is not expected that individuals who call in will share this outlook—or even come to share it—but Icebreakers cannot see how truly positive help can be given from a position which willingly supports gay oppression in any of its forms.

This means that Icebreakers do not accept that every gay with a problem relating to gayness should see a psychiatrist or any other disinterested expert: the counsellor/client or suppliant/authority structure is entirely avoided. The fact that the person phoning in knows (and sometimes demands further reassurance) that the person he or she is talking to is gay themselves instantly subverts this false position and is proving an extremely valuable asset to the overall function of the outfit.

Another point about Icebreaker attitudes is worth emphasising. The underlying philosophy suggests that the individuals involved can provide a consistent understanding of the different positions of the people who telephone. So no one will ever be made to feel put-down, peculiar or unorthodox if they feel their problem could be seen in this way by society at large. The transvestite and the transsexual, the sado-masochist, the pedophile, the bisexual, the married gay-man or woman—finds a direct, understanding response.

### Projecting Confidence

Different people will estimate the success of an outfit like Icebreakers in different ways. To some the number of calls received will be adequate. Others would demand some tangible evidence relating to individuals—rather like a 'before and after' advertisement. The latter is impossible to provide. Icebreakers make no pretensions to long-term counselling or befriending. A caller's problems are talked out fully (and the caller has, of course, the option of concluding the dialogue whenever he wants to) and in this way probably put into perspective for the caller. Confidence, optimism are projected and as many alternative solutions, or ways of looking at the situation, as possible are suggested. Instructions, injunctions, directions are avoided. With enough ideas and information at his disposal, the caller can mostly settle his own difficulties.

The main aim of Icebreakers is for callers to use the outfit as a stepping-stone into the gay community. The whole range of gay organisations and helpful people and places is employed and if someone has a specific problem (medical for example) they are directed to whoever can best help. One Icebreaker explained: "People will present us with a particular problem, or will tell us the aspect of their problem they feel we can best help with. We do not use this as a way in, as an excuse to try and sort their whole life out. They may have other difficulties, but they are not our prime concern. We are interested in introducing people into the gay community. Consequently we may spend a lot of time with certain people."

Over a 43-week period, from 10 May 1973 to 6 March 1974 Icebreakers handled 1,607 calls. Of these, 1,293 were new callers (the rest were people who called back a second or third time). Of this number 15% were from women. From another period that has been studied (10 May 1973 to 16 August 1973) 10% of the callers stated they were married (some other callers may have withheld this information) and of these, 11.6% were men and 4.3% were women. In this period also, 39.9% of the callers were in the 21-29 age group, and 20.2% in the 30-39 age group. The smallest percentage were 60 plus (2.3%) and the under-18s represented 6.9%. (Calls, incidentally, are logged simply with nothing that would identify the caller. This process is essential so that Icebreakers know what each other are doing, and if someone calls a second time the original advice can be referred back to).

### Calls Increasing

The number of calls has increased during the last few months, and continues to increase, and this is dependant on people hearing about the existence of Icebreakers. When Alan Leighton mentioned Icebreakers in the

## Rudolf and friends

LOS ANGELES: Rudolf Nureyev is making the best of his sprained left leg. Off stage himself, he can take things easy a bit more.

And that, it seems, is precisely what he is doing. At least according to the Daily Mail who report his attendance as guest of honour at another ballet in Los Angeles. The evening ended (as all such evenings are inclined to do) at a supper party at Malibu down by the Pacific foam.

Whilst Nureyev was a central attraction, his attractive lady-friend caused almost as much comment. Who is she? they whispered. Where does she come from? Nureyev maintained a firm silence.

But all was revealed on the stroke of midnight when the mystery lady disrobed enough to reveal the person of Charlie Pierce, famous American

female impersonator.



Photograph: Giancarlo Batti (Camera Press/Ventura/London)

## GAY NEWS

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### A moment's thought

Allen Lane is to be applauded for his decision to publish the first British paperback edition of Dennis Altman's thought-provoking book *Homosexual: Oppression and Liberation*.

At the same time it must surely be a matter for some regret that Britains themselves appear to have added little to the literature on homosexual politics or the wider sphere of sexism. We still await a Gay Liberation 'Bible' written from the British angle.

Leaving aside, for the moment, national traits extending beyond the confines of sexuality (the French left wing intellectualism, the American libertarianist output), what is there in the British gay movement that precludes a worthwhile contribution to gay literature?

Group identification is essentially along two different paths. First there is Campaign for Homosexual Equality. For members of this organisation essential information is provided in figures—the number of homosexuals, the number of arrests made by police, membership totals and the cost of running a reform campaign. Written output generally takes the form of administrative documents, or discussion papers for group decision. The bureaucratic approach must always win over the intellectual in such a set up. This is not a criticism but a recognition that in such an organisation intellectualism has little or no meaningful role to play.

The second movement which provides a group identification is the Gay Liberation Movement (taking this to embrace GLF, Gay Marxists, and many college Gaysoes). It was the American equivalent of this movement which engendered the Altman book. And it is from the British Gay Lib that we might reasonably expect corresponding British contributions. Such expectations are likely to be fruitless.

The reasons lie in the origins of GLF. The movement was not a British creature, it was not a direct response to the situation of the British homosexual, so much as a receiving of American cultural wisdom. A similar process was responsible for the establishment here of Women's Liberation and the Black Panthers, neither group having the impact here of their American counterpart. No liberation movement can achieve any measure of success unless it is a response to the immediate oppression of those people it hopes to recruit and liberate.

There was indeed an early enthusiasm, an excitement with the newness of the American model. But the politics of the American model clearly did not serve this country. Those who saw this tried in various ways to rethink the ideas of the movement. Each achieved a certain measure of enlightenment, but always individually, never within the embrace of the movement. When they attempted to introduce new ideas, new directions, they were received with suspicion and accusations that they were selling out to the Establishment, to the straight left, to bourgeois ideology. Rationalism became a dirty word, and the ecstatic values of an American style counter-culture took over. It was in this atmosphere of ecstasy that most people managed to blind themselves to the inappropriateness of the American example, with the result that GLF became intellectually arid.

As yet there is no clear sign of a new and distinctively British radicalism emerging as a new and unifying force. Many small groups are groping their way towards it, but separately.

Until rationalism and intellectualism become respectable pursuits within Gay Lib, and are seen as having something valuable to contribute, the fog of ecstasy will continue unchecked and nothing constructive can be expected to emerge.

## Liberal backing. So what?

The Young Liberals' forthright gay rights motion passed by an overwhelming majority at their annual conference has caused a stir.

In terms of press coverage it has attracted more attention than almost any single story since the passing of the 1967 Act, even more than the National Union of Students' motion along the same lines.

Such publicity is welcome in itself, given that one of the most firmly entrenched beliefs in this country is that not only are homosexuals a minority, but they are an insignificant one.

But there are dangers in the resolution. In their demands for homosexual education in schools they are taking on one of the most reactionary organisations in the country. Local education committees are terrified of making changes. Politicians steer clear of issues which affect children simply because they don't want to burn their fingers in the fires of parental indignation. Even the schoolteachers trade union can hardly be regarded as an agent of the Revolution.

The task must of course be tackled. Sex education must indeed include education for everyone, not just heterosexuals. But the price of failure would be to confirm headmasters and their assistants in the belief that homosexuality is a taboo subject for children. The Young Liberals must make very sure of their groundwork before embarking on this campaign lest they make the fight even more difficult for the gay organisations already working on it.

## 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.*

### Official Liberal Policy

Todmorden  
Calderdale

Dear Gay News,

Allan Horsfall is absolutely right in taking Jeremy Thorpe to task over the Liberal Party's support for Gay Rights (GN42). Having been one of the eight members of the Liberal party council who sponsored the motion committing the Liberal Party to a pro-Wolfenden position in 1965, I was fascinated to find someone quoting our cautious motion nine years later. How things have changed since we worded that motion demanding simply that "homosexual behaviour between consenting adults in private be no longer a criminal offence." On looking it up in my files, I note that Jeremy Thorpe was one of the other seven signatories, and also that our motion called for government sponsored legislation, not a private member's bill which would enable political parties to avoid the issue.

However, I do not think Allan is right to call for an immediate further move from the Liberal party council (of which I am still, for my sins, a member). When CHE has considered and approved its working party's proposals for comprehensive law reform on sexual offences and these proposals have been given a few months national airing, then I will certainly be trying to persuade the Liberal party to discuss and, I hope, adopt them.

Michael Steed

### Forum Regrets

Forum Press Ltd  
London W1

Dear Gay News,

Thank you for reviewing the *Forum Sex-Life Letters* (GN45).

Can I just add that *Forum* magazine dissociates itself entirely from any derogatory comments about homosexuals made by the editors of that book for the Mayflower publication.

The magazine, at least, undoubtedly deserves "its fantastic reputation (even an article in 'The Times') for being liberated, down to earth and sensible about sex."

Phillip Hodson  
Editor

### Enforcement

CHE  
22 Great Windmill Street  
London W1

Dear Gay News,

Jack Babuscio's excellent piece on the police (GN44) raises an important point of tactics. He notes that "the gay movement in this country has been obsessed with law reform," while rather it should "turn its attention to a critique of law enforcement."

At one level, we must alter the attitudes of policemen or of magistrates.

More easily perhaps, we might interfere administratively. If, for instance, every cottaging charge had to be personally approved by the Director of Public Prosecutions, they would cease to be laid! There must be many such points in the system where we could apply pressure. At what levels can such directives be issued? How, indeed, does the system actually work?

We urgently need more people who work within the system to give advice—perhaps anonymously—on administrative tricks for diminishing the enforcement of anti-gay law. With a sympathetic Home Secretary we may well have a good chance. Better just now than our chances of achieving the law reform which remains a longer-term goal.

If you can help with ideas or inside information, write and tell CHE now.

Jamie Gardiner

### Biased and Unconstructive Sarcasm

Southend, Essex

Dear Gay News,

I really must write in reply to the article "Cops and Gays" by Jack Babuscio in GN44. Whilst I would agree with much of what is said, I must protest at the comment about "Law enforcers choose their job to control the lives of others" etc. How can the writer justify making a statement like that: the answer is that he cannot, anymore than straights can justify their "Burn all queers" shouts. Please realise there are good "straight and narrow" coppers who really are not hell-bent on nicking every gay they meet. I was a policeman in London for over a year and know what I am talking about. My gayness was known by several of the lads, and was nothing to do with my leaving the force.

How you expect to achieve good gay/cop relationships while you publish such biased and unconstructive sarcasm, I don't know.

Anyhow, I hope you print this for the sake of any gay cop reader who feels his cause is lost.

Otherwise I think you print a very good journal. Good luck.

John Boyd

### Unable To Come Out

Trinity College  
Cambridge

Dear Gay News,

After reading your editorial 'Who will rid me of this turbulent priest?' (GN45), I feel that I must write to express the views of Cambridge Integroup.

Firstly, while working towards the integration of people of all sexualities within a single society, we do not consider ourselves as "discreetists" as you seem to suppose. Insofar as 'coming out' means not concealing one's sexuality, I should hope that all gay Integroup members are 'coming out' to as great an extent as they feel able.

Secondly, we feel that the unique structure of Integroup provides campaigning opportunities not possessed by exclusively gay groups. We are therefore intending to address 'straight' organisations in Cambridge with a view to breaking down people's prejudices against homosexuality, and providing a form of contact with society which is infinitely preferable to that provided by the crime page of the local newspaper.

Finally, while fully recognising the value of 'coming out', we consider that it is unfair to deprive a person of all social contact with other homosexuals if he or she feels unable to take this step. We therefore feel that Integroup has an important social function, an essential part of which involves the freedom of members to declare their sexuality only if they choose to do so.

Ciris Townsend  
Convenor  
Cambridge Integroup

### Same Rights For All Gays

Old Broadwell  
Milton Keynes

Dear Gay News,

On the subject of asking our MPs about the laws on homosexuality. This week I had a late reply from our area's Liberal candidate Sam Crooks which read as follows:

"I am very sorry to be so late replying to your letter of 26th Feb but I am afraid that in the aftermath of the election it got mislaid, and has only just come to light. In answer to your question I would be prepared to extend the homosexuality laws, as I feel that people in Scotland and Northern Ireland should have the same rights as elsewhere in the country. Similarly I feel that the homosexual age of consent should be the same as that for heterosexual relations. I would be interested to know what you think."

Letter ends. I sent a reply.

Catherine Kightly

And Michael Steed writes ...

Dear Gay News,

CHE is now facing the daunting task of collating all our returns and hope to build up a good file of MPs and possible future MPs who responded to our letters so that at any election later this year we can pinpoint and probe those who avoided answering letters, and so that we can really identify both supporters and opponents if and when legislation comes to Parliament.

I wonder how many of you readers wrote to their candidates and, as with Catherine Kightly (Letters GN42), have useful information about views or refusals to reply? It would be most helpful to our common efforts if those who did could write to me (at CHE's national office in Manchester) detailing:

To which candidates they wrote,  
Which didn't reply.

The full details of those who did (preferably with photocopies of their actual letters).

Michael Steed  
Chairman, CHE

### "Letting Us All Down"

London

Dear Gay News,

This is not a personal attack on Mr Ian Harvey—his recent statement just happens to provide a convenient illustration of the point I wish to make.

I am sorry to see Mr Harvey's declaration, quoted in GN43, that he resigned from Parliament "not because I was a homosexual but because I had conducted myself in a way... a representative of the people should not behave." He has said this before (referring to the Lambton affair) in a letter to the *Daily Telegraph* in 1973.

But he didn't resign until he was caught, when he knew that if he didn't resign he'd be asked to go. He probably wouldn't have even thought of resigning if he had not been caught. Once found out, he could have held his ground, and stayed in Parliament at least until the next election, the result of which might have surprised him and everyone else at Westminster.

Mr Harvey knows full well that there are many men and women in public positions more important than his, whose private lives are not much different from his own, who do not resign because they haven't been caught out yet. Does he believe that these men are more or less hypocritical in staying on than he is in not speaking out against them before they are caught?

Mr Harvey and others among us who consider seeking public office should have the battle with conscience before the choice is made. Afterwards, having chosen, and having been successful in attaining the office, they should not stand down just because their private lives suddenly become public knowledge.

The Harveys, Lambtons and Profumos of this world are letting us all down by not fighting. And the others in office who share those private habits and do not come out and declare support are no better.

John McFadden



Illustration: Garry Cobb

### Spitefully Negative

S & H Ltd  
Harrow

Dear Gay News,

Wearing my hat as editor of *Quorum*, I wonder if I may be allowed to make a couple of points about Bill Lemmer's article on the gaypress in GN44?

Mr Lemmer informs us that *Quorum*, at 75p, is "one of the two costliest rags", and four lines later announces that *Adam 73* costs 80p. Over the counter *Quorum* is 75p, by subscription however it costs 50p.

Since Mr Lemmer spits equally in everyone's eye, no magazine comes off better or worse than any other in his grand slam. Criticism, from within and without, is essential and valuable, but one must wonder why *Gay News* has chosen to support such a spitefully negative view of a group of struggling magazines that are in no sense its rivals. Relating this to the recent stream of moral hypocrisy in the letters column regarding the advertisements of some of these magazines in *Gay News* one can draw one's own conclusions. *Gay News* remains, I firmly believe, one of the most important results of the gay movement, but I also believe that the more gay magazines (and bars, clubs, hotels, saunas, bookshops, dances, restaurants etc) that emerge and are known about openly, then the healthier the climate becomes for all homosexual women and men. One would not expect *Gay News* to indulge in meaningless stroking, but I for one would also like something a touch more positive than the night thoughts of Rimbaud to hang on to.

Roger Baker

### Clear Case Of Discrimination

Darlington

Dear Gay News,

I fully support the letter in GN42 with regards to the lowering of the age of consent to 16 and personally find Tony Church's letter in issue 44 'quite ridiculous'.

Tony is really saying that homosexuals are different from heterosexuals. Parliament obviously sat down and discussed lowering the age of consent to 16 for heterosexuals, so why shouldn't they for homosexuals? I regard it as a clear case of discrimination that gay people have to wait until 21, or as Tony suggests, 18, before they can have a relationship above the Platonic level, when their straight friends are allowed such a relationship at 16. I believe, but am not sure about this, that some countries, such as Holland, already have the age of homosexual consent fixed at 16.

It is well-known that whatever a pressure group asks for, its full demands are generally partially met, an excellent example being the Reform Act and the Homosexual Law Reform Society's demands. I cannot see what harm it will do asking for the age of consent to be 16. With any luck it will be fixed at 18 anyway. Parliament will not consider the age of consent to be 16 if we do not ask for it.

Gay movements are wanting gay people to be treated the same as heterosexuals, not as a special case. All we want is acceptance and equality.

Robert Hopps

PS: I'm 16 myself.

ED: The age of consent for gay in Holland is 16. It of course should be 16 in the UK too.

### A Letter From Prison

HM Prison

(Name & address supplied)

Dear Gay News,

My copies of GN, together with other gay literature come via the beautiful Jim H— at H— Bookshop. It's all interesting reading, but GN is by far the best of the various papers that I receive. It is possible through your paper to keep up-to-date with all the latest developments in respect of the various gay organisations. I'm happy that at long last we are able to be ourselves, and not have to keep up a false front. Having been away for nine years now, some of the progress has amazed me. Can it be, I wonder, that at long last people are accepting others without built-in prejudice? Publications such as yours do much to tear down the wall that for so long has been around us. I'm sure that many people, non-gays, who read GN and digest what they read realise that we are not "two-headed monsters", but are as beautiful as every other human being.

I end with warm wishes to you all at GN and may you go from strength to strength.

Peter

# CHE report angers reformers

**MANCHESTER:** There has been an angry reaction from some quarters to the report of the Campaign for Homosexual Equality's Working Party on Law Reform.

The report is far too wide in its scope, say critics, covering as it does all heterosexual law matters as well as gay ones. If such a complete reform of the law is to take place then it has to be done hand-in-hand with heterosexual organisations. Hasn't one of the complaints of the gay movement been that heterosexual legislators set themselves up in judgment? That's what we seem to be doing ourselves.

Given the wide scope it tried to cover, the resulting report hardly goes below the surface on any subject, continue the critics. They point out that the working party met only once in the whole year since it was set up at CHE's 1973 annual conference. The report is nowhere near the "Draft Bill" form which they say CHE has repeatedly promised would be ready for the Morecambe conference. And even if it were ready, then CHE is not equipped tactically to put through such a huge and comprehensive sort of law. Much of the blame must rest with the 1973 resolution setting out the working party's terms of reference. Some southern members of CHE have described that resolution as a "wrecking attempt".

The end result, all the opponents agree, is from a tactical point of view totally misconceived. Some of this criticism is understood to come from within the working party itself.

At the same time, few people disagree with the actual conclusions that the report has drawn. Many of them seem a lot more "radical" than had generally been expected.

To be enshrined in any future legislation, it says, is a principle that any sexual activity genuinely entered into freely should be legally permitted except where there are clear reasons for not permitting it on other grounds.

## Consent At 16

On the thorny question of the age of consent, the majority recommendation was that the age of consent be set at 16. In addition, there should be a rebuttable presumption that consent was not present in cases of sexual activity involving persons between the age of 12 and 16. In other words, if sex took place with a 14-year-old, the law would assume that the 14-year-old had not given his or her consent, but it would be possible for a defendant to prove to the court that consent had in fact been given, and if he did prove it he would be innocent of any offence.

Bernard Greaves, a member of the working party, in a minority recommendation, wants the whole concept of an age of consent abandoned. Since the age of criminal responsibility has been set at 12 years, then from the age of 12, he says, all persons should legally be entitled to engage freely in sexual activity of any kind subject to the principle of consent. And he continues, below the age of 12 the law should presume that consent was not present unless it is demonstrated that it was freely given.

The working party also want 'privacy' insofar as it relates to sexual acts defined to mean that an act is done in private where all persons present condone or consent to it and where there is no reasonable cause to believe that it might be observed by others who might object to it.

The law against homosexuality in the armed forces and the merchant navy should

be changed, making it subject to the principle of consent.

The present nonsensical situation under which homosexuality is illegal in Scotland and Northern Ireland should also be changed.

But the report of the Law Reform Working Party is only one of a number of reports and documents contained in the Malvern conference papers.

The main mailing has now gone out to the 600 or so delegates attending Malvern. A second mailing of last-minute documents will be sent out at the beginning of May.

## Malvern Programme

The main impression that delegates have is of an extremely varied and well-organised programme. There has been a great deal of praise for the efforts of Wallace Grevatt and his working party, on whose shoulders the organisation has fallen. They have recruited speakers from France, Norway and the United States as well as familiar faces from this country. Guests, as reported in recent issues of Gay News, will include Kim Friele from Norway's Forbundet, Marc Daniel from France's Arcadie, and Rictor Norton, a regular contributor to Gay News and The Advocate from the States. English faces include Graham Chapman of Monty Python fame, Dr Martin Cole, Rose Robertson, and most recently announced guest, Ruth Addison, chairperson of the Young Liberals—invited after the Young Liberals' recent vote in favour of a strong gay rights motion. Ruth will be the opening speaker.



Ruth Addison, Young Liberals chairperson

Many of her Young Liberal colleagues may well be there to hear her as the organisers have made a special effort this year to encourage younger CHE members to attend. Last year it was felt that there was not a strong enough youth contingent, so this year there is subsidised accommodation and a reduced registration fee to bring the cost of the conference within the reach of students. Wallace Grevatt says he is delighted with the response he has had. So far about 150 students have taken up the special offer. He also told Gay News that he had been very encouraged to find that about a third of those who have registered are women.

## Local Reaction

Down in Malvern, the organisation ran into a little trouble with the local Post Office. They had applied for a special local postal franking on all Malvern letters during the conference period. But the Post Master of Worcestershire refused. All frankings, he told the organisers, had to be completely uncontroversial.

On the positive side, CHE have found a helpful friend in Mr Cave Brown-Cave, manager of the luxurious Abbey Hotel where many conference delegates will be staying. He has had one or two local residents complaining to him about his decision to allow homosexuals to use his hotel, but he made it quite plain that he was happy to accept anyone as a guest: "so long as they are respectable, it doesn't matter whether they are homosexual or heterosexual."

Mr Brown-Cave is also making three public rooms in the hotel available to CHE for conference business sessions, fringe meetings and a late night revue which is being put on. Main business of the conference will be conducted at the Winter Gardens.

If you have not registered yet, you better have a quiet word with Wallace Grevatt. It's later than you think. May 24th is opening day.

## Happiness is...

**LONDON:** The London Evening Standard reports a man writing a letter of application to a Southwark social club saying "I am 54 and happily unmarried."

# Fleet Street siren wails

**LONDON:** Fleet Street's most highly paid (for 'high' read 'over', perhaps) woman journalist, Jean Rook of the Daily Express, shrills in anguish at the thought of her offspring being taught anything that doesn't appear in Noddy books.

What triggered her fit of the melodramatic vapours was the Young Liberals' suggestion that children should receive sex education. At present most are only told about heterosexuality. "Lay one finger on my little son's innocent mind—not to mention his hopefully heterosexual body—and I'll tear the lovely lot of you limb from lily-white limb." In other words, gay children should be discriminated against right from the cradle. No need to wait until they are adolescents or even young men and women before you start queer-bashing—just make sure that you only provide education for her het kids and leave gays in total ignorance.

The Rook Education Philosophy could be extended into other fields perhaps. Churchill's History of the Second World War could be edited so as to obliterate any reference to the Nazis, whom we hope Jean Rook also disapproves of. Political studies would omit all references to Trade Unions, and the Labour Party might have very little chance of squeezing in. And kids could be issued with atlases published by the Rook Publication Corporation which had blue sea marked in place of countries she disapproved of.

She also plays the old trick of portraying all the Young Liberals who voted in favour of sex education as homosexuals themselves—a ploy which was used by anti-gays at the beginning of the dark sixties. Fortunately it doesn't work any more. The general public isn't quite as hung up about gays as the Express.

But what can you expect of a woman who describes some of her closest and best friends as "queer as a 40p piece."

The other side of that 40p coin is given by Marje Proops in the Daily Mirror.

Marje applauds the "Young Libs' stand for a more open-minded attitude to those



The Mirror's Marje Proops

members of society who are still made to feel ostracised by those who call themselves 'normal'."

She mentions, too, the countless letters she gets from boys and girls (please note, Rook) with secret fears of ever being able to love anyone other than a member of their own sex. And why do they fear loving someone? Because of the endless torrent of abuse that pours from the pens of bigoted gay-haters.

People who think of homosexuals as a handful of odd queers, says Marje, are "stupid and ignorant ostriches." Which may induce a fine case of ornithological schizophrenia in Jean Rook.

# Young Liberals stand firm

**LONDON:** Ruth Addison, recently re-elected Chairman of the Young Liberals, claimed after the conference that the YLs had been flooded with letters of support from all over the country backing the YL's demand for sex education to include teaching about homosexuality.

"Adverse reaction to our demands has come from some Liberals. Indeed, there have been cases of Liberal Party members resigning because of it. But the YLs believe that they are well rid of these people."

Ruth Addison announced that the YLs are drawing up a black-list of schools where the sex education discriminates against homosexuals and conditions children into believing them to be deviants. The YLs intend to rectify the situation in such

schools by handing out leaflets to the children stating the true facts of life and by encouraging the children to demand a more impartial education from their teachers.

"We realise that many schools will refuse such demands. In such cases our campaign will become more militant—with picketing of the schools and LEAs and with children boycotting the sex education lessons."

Ruth Addison is also demanding from the Home Office an explanation for the automatic reporting of teachers, policemen and clergymen convicted of homosexual behaviour.

"The assumption behind this is that such people are not fit to come into contact with people whom they might influence, and this shows blatant bias and discrimination towards homosexuals."

# New centre flourishing

**LONDON:** South London Gay Liberation Front tells us that in the first four weeks of operation literally hundreds of people have passed through the door of Brixton's Gay Community Centre. Not a day has passed without people arriving for information, advice, offers of help etc, but most have just popped in for a cup of coffee and a chat. Some nights the coffee bar has been packed to bursting and they hope to bring the back room into use soon to relieve the pressure.

It all proves the need for non-commercial places that don't rip people off and emphasises the necessity for keeping the Centre open as many hours as possible.

Several other organisations have used the place for their activities, and the first social event to be held in their cellar is a joint party with the "Women's Place" which is next door. This will be just a party for the fun of it, and even heterosexual men will be invited!

The telephone is now installed, and the number is 01-274 7921.

The neighbours are mostly very friendly and the worst hostility has come in the shape of a stone thrown at the window from a passing car. One shopkeeper started a petition against the Centre, but it appears that he was so disappointed with the response that the petition seems to have fizzled out.

The regular Wednesday meetings of the South London GLF have been transferred to the Centre from the Oval House and have been taken up with drafting the Election address for the three Gay Lib candidates who are standing in Tulse Hill Ward in the council elections. The Centre is the Central Committee Rooms for the campaign and lots of help is wanted particularly for canvassing.

Future Wednesday meetings will discuss the draft syllabus for a projected gay studies course at a London Adult Education Institute next year.

The Gay Community Centre is at 78 Railton Road, London SE24, and is open daily from 7-11pm, Saturdays 11-11, and Sundays 2-11.

# Latest blackmail attempt

**LONDON:** A peer of the realm was the victim of a blackmail attempt, prosecuting counsel told an Old Bailey court.

On trial was a 21-year-old man named Norman Price, accused of demanding money with menaces from Lord X. Price, an Australian, came to England and joined the staff of a Knightsbridge sauna as a masseur. It was there he met Lord X, and following their meeting they made love, both at the sauna bath and at Lord X's flat. Lord X was apparently deeply involved with the young man.

But the relationship went sour when Price wrote demanding money: "Please don't make me go to the newspapers for the money

because I would have to tell them the whole story."

"I am desperate enough to destroy the both of us in flames of scandal."

The peer took the letter to the police the next day and Price was arrested. At the trial the judge ordered that the peer, middle-aged and married, should be referred to as X to protect his identity. But he managed to get in a few personal opinions about the man's "weakness", and added a snide comment about "the whole case is redolent of unpleasantness."

Price was found guilty and sentenced to three years imprisonment.



Guest speaker at Malvern: sexologist Martin Cole

## Icebreakers continued

London *Evening News*, when dealing with a problem letter from a married homosexual, the number of calls rose sharply—and most of them were from married homosexuals. In the three-month period under analysis, the number of calls from women was unusually low. Many Icebreakers feel that the service could be more successful as far as women are concerned, but with more girls joining hopefully this situation will improve. Of the total number of calls logged, transsexuals represent .7% and transvestites 5%.

Apart from answering telephone calls, Icebreakers have initiated a few subsidiary activities. Perhaps the most important is a small, weekly get-together intended for people who phoned and the Icebreakers who spoke to them. These are small, informal gatherings and in no sense an on-going gay group. Sometimes, if a caller is too shy or nervous to go to a CHE or GLF meeting, or any other, an Icebreaker will arrange to meet him or her alone for the first time. Transvestites and transsexuals can be referred to a supportive group. Icebreakers also deal with *Gay News's* Troubled Waters column.

Icebreakers tries to avoid as much bureaucracy as possible—not just because it tends to divert energy from things that matter, but also because it isn't much fun. The whole group meets every now and then to discuss policy and attitudes, to organise speakers to other groups and publicity. There is also a simple and fair method of choosing people who come along wanting to be Icebreakers. As with all grass-root, voluntary gay outfits, money is a regular problem, though all expenses are paid to the absolute minimum and tend to concentrate on premises, the telephone and printing.

To celebrate their first anniversary, Icebreakers are hosting a benefit disco in the near future, details to be announced later. All door takings will go directly to Icebreakers. If everyone who has telephoned in during the past year, and everyone who has written to Troubled Water turns up, it should be an evening to remember.

And a reminder: Icebreakers: call 01-274 9590 every evening from 7.30-10.30pm.

### Gay darts

PORTSMOUTH: On Tuesday, May 28, there will be a challenge dart match between local gay pub the Balmoral and Winchester's Green Man. Drag or fancy dress optional. All Portsmouth dragsters welcome. Coach departs for Winchester from the Balmoral, Lanport Terrace, at 7.30pm sharp.

Richard Thomson

## The trouble with Cara

BELFAST: When the Belfast Gay Liberation Society set up Cara, a gay phone service, at the Students Union in Queens University, few members realised just what a need there was for such a service.

The telephone went into action at the beginning of April, and very soon Gay Lib was receiving up to a hundred calls a day. Calls came from as far apart as Cork and Cullybacky, some people even ringing at 8.30 in the morning.

Most of the people who rang, said Gay Lib, wanted to meet and talk with other gays. They were told about the Gay Lib meetings held every Thursday at 8pm in the Students Union building at Queens. Others wanted to meet a few gays in a more private setting, some wanted gay penfriends, or to be put in touch with other gay people they could phone. After operating for just a fortnight, the service was coping with a hundred calls a day, phone calls jammed the switchboard in the Students Union for hours; the necessary manpower was just not available.

So Union president Alistair MacDowell put his foot down. The Students Union could not be used by Cara any more—it was disrupting the other activities of the union.

The decision angered a number of gays, and telegrams were sent from England protesting against the ban. David Dancer of the National College of Education Gay Rights Campaign phoned Gay News. It was crazy, in his view, to shut the service down. What MacDowell was saying, he claimed, was that if the service had been unsuccessful the union would have continued running it; but since it was very successful and Gay Lib had proved the tremendous need for it it was to be wound up.

But Belfast Gay Lib says that the Students Union has seen the need for the service, and it is trying to find premises for Cara in the Union Building, so that a twenty-four service can be operated as soon as possible. National bodies such as the Campaign for Homosexual Equality, the Colleges of Education Gay Rights Campaign, the Union of Sexual Freedoms for Ireland, the Sexual Reform Movement, and Parents Enquiry all expressed support for the service—the only one of its kind in Ireland.

Until an office is found for Cara, the service can be contacted by writing to Cara, Gay Liberation Society, Students Union, Queens University, Belfast. All letters will be answered, say Gay Lib, and all letters will be treated with absolute confidentiality.

## Police chief reports on sex crime

WINCHESTER: The Chief Constable of Hampshire, Sir Douglas Osmond, CBE, has just issued his annual report and criminal statistics for 1973. The report shows a considerable increase in crimes of violence throughout the country, although there was no significant rise in sexual crime.

Singling out assaults against females and 'indecent' between males as being the most serious sexual problems, the report confirms that Southampton is now the major theatre of police operations.

This is reflected in the number of prosecutions for gay offences being brought before Southampton magistrates, as well as cases referred to the Crown Court for sentence.

The figures, however, are unreliable, since it is not clear whether it is the intensity of police activity is in itself the reason for the increase in prosecutions.

Sir Douglas comes to a curious conclusion regarding sexual crime in the report when he states that there is evidence that certain types of literature have a stimulating effect. He bases this conclusion on two cases where books and magazines were found in the possession of defendants. Both cases were assaults on females where drink was a major factor, and thus could hardly support the sweeping assumption made on such an unscientific approach and small sample.

But Sir Douglas turned his big guns on the problems of rising crime—up 17% on the same period last year—and the shortage of manpower.

The report contains ample evidence that Hampshire's policemen are at full stretch



Sir Douglas Osmond, Chief Constable of Hampshire

trying to protect private property and curb the uprising in violent crime.

Some reorganisation of existing manpower might help in the short term. This would undoubtedly result in fewer gays appearing before Southampton courts.

Richard Thomson

## You're diseased, Lemon charges gay

MISSOURI: In what has been called "a cheap political manoeuvre," James Lemon, a member of the Missouri House of Representatives has introduced a bill declaring homosexuality a disease, and requiring gays to register with the state's Health Department.

But his attempt brought a swift response from Representative Curly of Kansas City. In a letter to the Public Health and Safety Committee, Curly wrote "Representative Lemon who sponsored this bill represents the area including the University of Missouri at Columbia. I have been advised that recently they terminated a professor because of

alleged homosexual activity.

"To me the introduction of legislation of this type was simply a cheap political manoeuvre.

"I hope that whatever benefit the sponsor hoped to derive from the introduction of legislation of this type he has received, so that the time of this General Assembly will not be wasted on such trivia."

Lemon himself does not expect his bill to become law this session. But he intends to introduce a new version in the next session. Meanwhile calls are being made for a decision on whether the bill is even constitutional.

## Swedish gays clash with army

STOCKHOLM: The Swedish gay organisation, the Swedish Federation for Sexual Equality (RFSL), is bracing itself for a test-case showdown with the anti-gay attitudes of the Army.

"Homosexuals can complete their military service just as well as heterosexuals," says the RFSL in a letter of protest to the military, after a would-be gay recruit was turned down by the Army. "We demand that the question be taken up again, since there is nothing in the regulations that says a homosexual does not have the right to complete his service if he wants to."

RFSL is referring to a case of a youth

from southern Sweden who was "excused" from the obligatory military service by Army medical authorities last February after the youth declared openly that he was gay. The youth insisted that he wanted to do his stint with the Army anyway.

The Swedish Army has previously answered RFSL salvos by declaring that it was not against having gays in the ranks, although it did not want any gays advancing to the officer-level.

The RFSL says that different Army induction centres obviously have different attitudes regarding gays.

Kurt Schiller

## Les goes gay

WINCHESTER: England's ancient capital of Winchester has never experienced anything quite like it! King Alfred, gazing down from his lofty city centre pedestal, nearly dropped his sword; Arthur's round table almost took a spin, and St Swithin must surely have been induced to thoughts of premature rainmaking from his lonely Cathedral grave. And all because Les H, sometime barman at Portsmouth's gay 'Balmoral' bar, decided to enjoy a quiet retirement in Hampshire's first city.

Eyebrows rose when a couple of dozen of the Balmoral's regular patrons, some in full drag, disgorged from a coach, crossed the Guildhall square, and made for the pub where Les was unsuspectingly enjoying his habitual evening glass of whisky.

Bursting in on their victim, with wigs and handbags at the ready, the Balmoral visitors certainly gave Les a parting to remember, especially when the kitty was opened and

the booze began to flow.

Les was overwhelmed and clearly moved at the sight of so many of his old Portsmouth friends turning up to give him a truly gay send-off, and spent the latter part of the evening expressing his sincere thanks to everyone concerned in arranging the evening frolic.

But the event did not entirely pass without incident. An excursion by the Balmoral entourage to another nearby pub for a quick break in the proceedings resulted in a challenge—to a ladies dart match!

Winchester will thus again experience the sight and sound of Portsmouth's dragsters, and who knows, old stone-faced Alfred, symbol of the once proud and now rustic capital of Wessex, may even manage to smile and burn his cakes for a second time.

R J Thomson



Balmoral regulars

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## Concerned with age

LONDON: With considerable panache and some commendable plain speaking, the Campaign for Homosexual Equality's London West End Group has produced its promised broadsheet on the emotional and sexual problems of the elderly homosexual.

The idea of setting up a study group to set down some thoughts on this neglected subject arose when it was discovered, in the words of the introduction, that "Book Seven in the Manifesto Series of Age Concern, *Emotional Needs of the Elderly and Retired* handled the subject of homosexuality in the elderly in the simplest way possible—by leaving it out when discussing emotional needs." Age Concern, incidentally, has shown itself completely responsive to the idea of a dialogue with a CHE group, and welcomed the idea of such a specialist study.

Two points of significance are isolated from Age Concern's original manifesto: that sex in old age was not regarded as worthy of more than a brief mention, and that in working samples of old people living alone no provision was made for the existence of a bachelor (gay or straight), though there was one for spinsters.

So the first point the report makes is, ironically, a liberation point applicable to society at large: "There is nothing inherently evil, perverse or unpleasant in sex after sixty, for either sex."

The study group quickly discovered that the subject of homosexual activity in old age has been neglected by investigators into sexual behaviour—and this section is accompanied by a good reading list.

### Crime And Suicide

Some disturbing implications emerge from the section on the elderly and the criminal law. Using figures drawn from *Criminal Statistics, 1972, Indictable Offences*, it seems that "the over-60s represent a markedly higher proportion (about 6%) of those convicted of sexual indictable offences than those of indictable offences generally

(1.75%)." Further, the over-60s represent a marginally higher proportion of those convicted for homosexual offences (about 7%) than those for heterosexual ones (5%).

Treating these statistics with caution, the study suggests that it may be that a harsh line is taken against the elderly 'because they should know better'. But the statistics do confirm that continued existence of sexual needs in the elderly, coupled with difficulties in meeting these needs in our society

confirm the continued existence of sexual needs in the elderly, coupled with difficulties in meeting these needs in our society.

A carefully documented attempt to assess the likelihood of suicide among the elderly doesn't get very far owing to the unsatisfactory nature of the available data. There is a tentative section on the attitudes of local authorities to gayness in homes for old people, and the report urges matrons and others involved to step ahead of social attitudes and put no obstructions in the way of a homosexual pair-bonding by men or women.

Verbatim comments from eight elderly homosexuals will give the Age Concern workers a direct insight into the way older gays see themselves and the world in which they live. Loneliness is a major problem, but also the oppression of spending a whole lifetime hiding one's natural feelings. Finally the report lists a collection of small ads drawn from the columns of *Gay News* and comments on each with realism and honesty.

The CHE West End Group must be warmly congratulated on the overall tone and underlying attitude of their report. As an approach to a conventional/straight organisation from a gay one, it is something of a model. There are no concessions, no special pleading, no baits for a liberal/tolerant response. Gay is just as good as straight, it says. Copies are available from CHELIC at 30p (+5p p&p).

Roger Baker

## Gay tours



CANADA: Jearld Moldenhauer is a gay go-getter with an active, together mind. Founder of the Canadian newspaper *Body Politic* and long-time gay spokesman, Moldenhauer recently addressed a symposium at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver. The talk was one of many stops in a cross-country tour to promote the National Gay Election Coalition. Moldenhauer told the symposium that "there is so much to be done, every group must look at its circumstances and decide its priorities and the most effective way to focus its energies."

## The Queen's Navy

LONDON: We quote, without comment, from an advertisement for the Royal Navy which appeared in *The Sunday Times*:

"And then there's the morning watch, when perhaps there's just you and a junior seaman on the bridge and the sleeping ship is entirely in your hands. Apart from the dim glow from the repeater compass and the situation board, the only light is the hint of the Caribbean dawn—and it's then that you remember why it is that you wanted to be a Naval Officer.

"It's because you don't want to do what everyone else does."



## Medics think~in

LIVERPOOL: Liverpool University's Department of Psychiatry held a symposium on Aspects of Psychosexual Problems in the Centre Hotel Liverpool from April 19-21. The symposium seemed to have been sponsored by a group of pharmaceutical firms. One firm with a stand at the symposium was offering a new wonder drug for the treatment of 'anti-social sexual behaviour' such as exhibitionism, compulsive masturbation, incest, erotomania and paedophilia.

The high-power team of speakers covered a number of topics including genetic aspects of sex abnormalities, disorders of sexual response, research in impotence, treatment of sexual offenders and psychiatric aspects of sterilization and contraception.

The Saturday morning session was gashed by Alan Swerdlow, organiser of Merseyside Friend, who found himself amongst some two hundred doctors and psychiatrists. The first speaker, Dr M J MacCulloch, talked about male homosexuality. As author of 'Homosexual Behaviour: Therapy and Assessment' he produced a great deal of clinical statistical information on primary and secondary homosexuality and the response to avoidance learning techniques (medical camp name for aversion therapy). Dr MacCulloch admitted that his original thinking that gays could be re-orientated had been wrong, and his team's main efforts now were directed towards helping people come to terms with the fact that they were gay, in the case of what he calls primary homosexuality. But he did confirm his belief that there is a case for aversion therapy in anti-social deviant behaviour.

Dr F E Kenyon of Oxford talked next on female homosexuality. Though he treated the subject sympathetically, he did not seem to realise that, first, gays are not simply

clinical statistics and, second, gays do not consider themselves to have a mental disorder. Dr Kenyon admitted that the sampling for most surveys included very few non-patient subjects and he also mentioned the growth of self-help organisations which could be useful to doctors as referral agencies.

Transsexualism was excellently covered by Mr H Francis, a leading gynaecologist whose thinking was right up to date and compassionate. Gender identity (the awareness at the age of perhaps 3 or 4 that 'I am a girl' or 'I am a boy'), gender role (discovered in adolescence) and sexual identity (what the midwife decides from what she sees) were all fully discussed, and he warned of the real dangers and social difficulties involved from a medical and surgical point of view in helping transsexuals. The female psyche trapped in a male body, was how he described the condition.

Following on from the delivery of the three papers, a discussion developed during which the point was raised as to how many referrals for aversion therapy were from statutory bodies. Dr MacCulloch said that there were very few, and of those that there were, some were "let out the back door" as he put it.

Alan Swerdlow of Friend pointed out as a member of the gay community that little had been said about the emotional needs of the homosexual person—loneliness, isolation, discrimination and the need for love were perhaps the main causes of people contacting gay organisations. He suggested that if any doctors or psychiatrists present wanted to contact "happy, proud homosexuals" they could get in touch with them via CHE or Friend.

A display of Friend posters and literature and CHE leaflets was available and a stack of handouts were quickly taken by the delegates.

## Mystery sin mecca

LONDON: 'Homosexual haunt' to be demolished—shouted the headline in the *Wood Green Weekly Herald* at the news that Haringey Council have decided to pull down a Noel Park public convenience.

The decision followed a strange story of complaints by local residents to the police, to the local newspapers and to the council itself.

The story opened with a letter to the *Wood Green Weekly Herald* describing mysterious men hanging around in the alley-way outside the convenience. These shadowy creatures were, according to the writer, lingering look-outs posted to warn the occupants of the cottage of anybody approaching. There were stories of young children being chased home by these men. Residents demanded action.

Alerted to the Menace of Noel Park, the local council had fitted a heavy mortice lock to the cottage door, and the conveniences were locked up each night at 6.15pm.

But this did not deter the loiterers. Twice the lock was broken, and on a third occasion when they wanted to get in they took an axe to the door. Wondering what kind of Gay Nirvana we had stumbled across, what wild happenings went on there that frustrated gays took an axe to break down the door locked against them, we eagerly pursued the story.

But we found that nobody really knew what was going on. A local resident had claimed that the men of darkness were homosexuals. But then someone else had claimed that a porn merchant was operating from there. Mr John Heron, retiring chairman of the Noel Park Community and Tenants Association, said that in fact no one knew exactly what was happening there. He told

us about two other rumours that we hadn't heard—that the cottage was being used as a 'pay off' place, or alternatively that it was a drug centre.

So what had the police discovered? "Police... have kept the toilet, off Pelham Road, under observation for many months," the *Weekly Herald* had told us. Wondering how many drug pushers, porn mongers, 'payers-off' or homosexuals they had arrested in that time, we phoned Wood Green police station to be told that "no arrests have been made in that area."

All that we managed to discover, it seems, is that when it comes to a choice of headlines between drug-pushers, porn-merchants, crooked paymasters and homosexuals, then homosexuals sell more newspapers every time.

For information, Haringey's planning committee which ordered the demolition says that there are alternative lavatories 400 yards away. But a word of warning—there is a rumour that they are the headquarters of the local press corps, and retired editors with green eye-shades keep watch in dark corners outside.



## Too many homosexuals

SLOUGH: Bill Harrison, mine host of The Grapes public house in Slough since February, thinks the behaviour of homosexuals is disgusting. In fact he fled from his last pub in Reading because of a busy cottage outside the pub.

So when Windsor and Slough CHE approached him to ask if they could hire a room for their meetings they got a chilly brush-off.

Gay News asked Harrison if he could identify any of the members of the CHE group as those 'disgusting' people he had seen in Reading. No, he said. So why had he turned them down? He read to us from the Windsor, Slough and Eton Express in which one of his deathless quotes is printed. "If I had given them the room I wouldn't have any customers left. In no time at all these people would be coming down from the room and mixing in the bars." God, how shocking. Mixing—and in public too! "And soon the place would get a reputation for miles around." (Not for hospitality it won't).

Departing from the text of the Express report, Harrison said it was the numbers that worried him. "Sixty or seventy of them," he continued in tones of muted horror.

He admitted that he has one or two homosexuals in his public house, he thinks he has anyway. "You can't tell who are homosexuals nowadays."

Robin Warren, convenor elect of the CHE group, told local reporters that they had had very good relations with pubs in Beaconsfield. There had never been any trouble. But he didn't have much time for people like Harrison:

"Those who think there will be a Roman orgy when two or three homosexuals get together are being silly. We haven't got time to be bothered with people who have these fears and prejudices."

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## 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.

### After Some Muscles

I am turning to you in the hope that you can help me over my problem. I am 16, nearly 17, and at a school in the country. I am captain of the 1st XV rugby team and love the game very much. To help me with rugby in particular and sport in general I want to take up weight training and body building, but our games master is dead against this and says you just end up musclebound. What I want to do is get in as much training during the holidays as I can, but all the gyms are too expensive for me. Could you put me in touch with anyone who is a body builder who has his own weights and would be willing to train me or coach me during the school holidays?

J.R. London N10

We consulted some of our sporting friends about this, notably a weight-training rigger-player. Your games master may misunderstand what you are after. Certainly going in for a sort of Mr Universe routine isn't going to help your rigger much, but weight-training and body-building are both excellent for all-round fitness. You would be starting at the right age, but careful tuition is necessary. We suggest you contact the National Amateur Body Building Association in London, also find out if the ILEA run any suitable courses. You aren't specific about where you would be (country or London) and when, so if neither of these sources is helpful, we can put you in touch with an individual who would give you private coaching.

### A Travel Hazard

I was in Morocco in November of last year and I indulged in homosexual activity with a young Moroccan male aged 17. I was the active partner. However, two weeks afterwards I got the symptoms of Non Specific Urethritis. I am quite certain that I was infected by this particular boy as he had been the only person I had had sex with for several months. This was the first occasion I had contracted NSU and I was successfully treated with antibiotics at St Thomas's Hospital. I am contemplating writing to the boy asking him to get treatment. However, I would like to know, if the boy did attend a specialist, whether he would have to pay, as he is poor. Also I am rather ignorant of the legal situation in Morocco about 17-year-old boys indulging in homosexual activity.

G.R. London SW

It may not be necessary to write to your young friend at all. NSU is so-called because a specific cause is unknown. It is not a venereal disease in the same sense as gonorrhoea and is not caused by picking up an infection. It seems to happen spontaneously, even to monogamous men. All that anyone seems able to say for certain is that NSU is caused by sexual activity and since this was your first experience for some time, then the activity itself probably caused it. If your friend did go to a hospital for a rectal examination it is virtually certain that nothing would be discovered that could be cured. There are clinics in Morocco's larger towns and they are free, but they just give one shot of penicillin and there is no follow-up. As a result, there are a lot of half-treated syphilis in Arab countries. Arabs are pretty emphatic that the Moslem religion, and hence the law, is very strongly anti-gay, regardless of age. A lot of blind eyes are turned, but there has been a considerable purge in Tangiers in the last two years, with some nasty scandals involving Europeans, so we would not advise you to commit anything to writing. You also say in part of your letter that you intend to bring the boy over to England for a holiday this year. It would be a good idea to have him checked for possible infections when he arrives, and before you make love.

### Above Board?

In the Services column of GN, I have seen an advert: "Young psychologist . . ." and wondered if you know anything about this person. I feel that a consultation with such a person is just what I need, but am rather apprehensive about consulting my own GP for obvious reasons. Of course, a gay psychologist would be ideal, but I would like to feel sure they were 'above board'.

P.J. Gloucestershire

Icebreakers do not, generally, recommend individuals to psychologists or psychiatrists since the problems experienced by gay people are due to social oppression rather than to some internal, mental malfunction. Nor can Icebreakers undertake the task of 'vetting' people who advertise in Gay News. We also feel that the amount of assistance a psychologist can give to gays depends entirely on the psychologist's own attitude to gayness.

### Isolation

Things have become increasingly bad for me recently, and so I thought that I would try to tell you my problems. All my life I have felt inferior, not many girl-friends etc, but about six years ago a boy moved up this road and very soon we had developed a relationship, including sex. About this



time I also started smoking cannabis which I still find helps me to relax and forget my problems. During this relationship with Bob I met a few girls and started dating them. But could never quite get around to the sex scene with them. Maybe the removal of a testicle at the age of 15 was the problem? But how could it be, my sex life with Bob and other friends at school was all right. A local psychiatrist told me to go away and not waste his time. Another, in north London, asked me to go to group therapy. But I didn't because of embarrassment. However, in time Bob and I split up (after five years). While it lasted I was in ecstasy. It was beautiful. But now it's over, and life feels like a great weight. Unable to meet other people in this area, I started answering ads in magazines. Unfortunately everyone I met was really 'gay', only interested in sex. To me, sex isn't everything; it's something, but not everything. Anyway, working on shifts it isn't easy to meet people living on the other side of London. Surely there must be more than two other gays living in Welling. But I don't seem to be meeting many. I've also tried advertising myself in magazines but again London seems to have claim on the gay scene. Pubs and clubs abound in our capital, but nothing of any interest occurs in Welling and it's really getting me down. I don't want to move into London and get stuck in a lonely bedsit. So what can I do? Anyway, I don't really dig the pub and club scene.

Dave. Welling, Kent

It is always incredibly difficult to readjust after splitting from a lover, and only those who have actually been through it themselves seem to be able to realise what hell it is. In a way though you have been lucky—by finding, meeting and forming an emotional and sexual relationship, with another guy quite spontaneously. This happens all too rarely in the gay world and we feel you should recognise this, be thankful and look back on those five years with gratitude. But also you must recognise that the likelihood of a similar situation recurring is remote. It might happen, but more likely it won't. Now, this doesn't mean you will never again meet anyone with whom you can relate well, with sex in its place and lots of other things going for you. What it means is that you will just have to try to make it happen yourself. I guess you realise this, otherwise you wouldn't have started exploring the possibilities of advertising. Some people have success with ads, but you are probably one of those people who gets on better in a face-to-face, or generally social situation. Your situation raises a host of social problems related to being gay—how to meet people in a non-predatory, non-sexual way; how advertisements tend to work on a purely sexual contact (which is OK if that's what you are in to); and that there must be more than two gays in Welling—you bet there are, but no doubt they come hot-footing up to London for their fun, thus preventing any local scene happening. GLF and CHE, and lots of other, smaller groups, have been trying to provide alternatives, and CHE's activities in Kent might be worth exploring. Certainly the best thing for you is to meet, mix and to talk with other gays who share your attitudes. There are some other suggestive things in your letter—the reference to psychiatrists might indicate that you are basically not happy about being gay, and there may be some conflict relating to girls as well. The paragraph about other gays who have lost a testicle, printed below, will interest you. And as far as cannabis goes, so long as you are aware of the legal position that should cause no problems. Try to telephone Icebreakers one evening; talking to the person who answers will be helpful and you can make arrangements to meet some of us quite soon.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Feedback

The letter in our last column from the boy who had only one ball promoted much interest, and three Gay News readers took the trouble to write at length of their own experiences with one ball. One got badly kicked in football some 20 years ago, and his mental agony was exacerbated by the rise to popularity at the time of the pop song "One Meat Ball"! Another had an accident at the age of 17 which meant the removal of one testicle entirely and the other had to be medically inserted into his groin. All three came up with the same message, which was (a) they know damn well they can perform as good as anyone else, (b) that no one they've been to bed with has made any derogatory remarks (except a Spanish rent-boy once), and that (c) the thing to do is to get out and enjoy oneself. We would like to thank these readers for their supportive letters, and we hope that the anonymous writer of our letter is feeling better about the whole thing now.

### Thanks

Icebreakers would like to thank Mr Alan Leighton of London's Evening News for mentioning our service in his regular Monday agony column. Mr Leighton's style is one of brisk, no-nonsense replies. However, we felt that one of his replies—to a young man who felt he might be gay—was just a bit too brisk, and we wrote and told him so. He was extremely cooperative and mentioned us at the first opportunity. The straight press is always a touch wary of mentioning gay outfits that are organised by gays and which don't have the spurious 'authority' of professional backing as it were. So this can be seen as a most helpful break-through for the gay world generally.

## Here we are again

In an attempt to dazzle you into not noticing that we currently have no option but to use ordinary newsprint, from this issue we'll be using an extra colour on the front cover. At the time of writing, it is also planned to brighten up the inside of the paper by making use of colour on the centre spread. And as the basic cover design has remained unchanged for almost a year, this edition of GN features for the first time our new logo.

### £5 Paid For Cottaging

GN is pleased to announce its first amateur photography competition. All you have to do is take a picture of a magnificent cottage. Two factors will be taken into consideration when judging the entries: architectural beauty and the quality of the print. First prize is £5, and runners-up will receive £1.

Entries should be no smaller than 6½" x 8½", in black and white only, and they must reach us no later than Monday, 1st July, 1974. The entrants' names and addresses should be printed in block capitals on the back of the photographs sent in and the winning entries will be published in GN.

Please send your photographs to Ann Hathaway Competition, c/o Gay News, 62a Chiswick High Road, London W4 1SY. They cannot be returned.

### GN In Dublin

Members of the editorial team will be visiting Dublin in the middle of July to carry out GN's first news feature outside of Britain. Apart from investigating the local gay scene, we hope to interview leading public figures, ie politicians, members of the church, high-ranking police officers, etc.

### Classic Gay Movie On TV

Until 1962, homosexuality was taboo as far as the British film industry was concerned. But in that year *Victim* appeared and for the first time in this country, a feature film sympathetically approached the subject of gayness. Public opinion is a degree more tolerant nowadays, but back in the sixties it took considerable courage to make such a movie, and when released, *Victim* was justifiably acclaimed as being ahead of its time. Even today it remains a serious, only slightly condescending plea for toleration and acceptance, and is regarded by many people as a classic gay movie. Younger homosexuals may also learn to understand a little more the attitudes of some older gays by sparing the time to watch it.

The film's main theme was an appeal for the reform of the dreadful state of the law prior to the 1967 Sexual Offences Act, and although you need only read the news section of this paper to realise the necessity for improvement in the law, the haunting fear of discovery is now decidedly less of a burden for gays as it was in the fifties and the early sixties.

Starring Dirk Bogarde (in one of the finest and most exacting performances of his career), Sylvia Syms, Dennis Price and Peter McEnery, and directed by Basil Dearden, the film was recently screened by Thames Television. It was regrettable that on the same day it was shown, all homosexual men in London were insulted by a thoroughly tasteless anti-gay cartoon published in the *Evening Standard*. As I mentioned earlier, times haven't changed that much.

*Victim* has previously been shown by a number of regional companies and if you haven't seen it or would like to do so again, it's well worth looking out for, or pestering your local commercial channel until they show it.

### Your Contributions Invited

May we remind readers that we invite them to contribute news items, articles, comment, short stories, cartoons, poems, illustrations, puzzles, photographs, etc, in fact anything they think would fit into the overall format of GN. Gay organisations and groups are especially welcome to send in material for publication, so why not let us know about how your local group started, its objectives, etc. Personal reflections from older readers particularly interest us too.

It is important to note, though, that you should always keep a copy of anything you submit, and if you want your manuscript etc returned, a stamped self-addressed envelope should be enclosed. Also, short stories should be no longer than 2000-3000 words.

### Guide Delayed

The publication of GN's Mini-Guide has been delayed for a while because our former printers have gone out of business. Although our new printers cannot take the job on, it should not take too long to find someone else to carry out the work. Any further information readers may care to send in during the next few weeks will not be included in the guide.

### The Invisible Photo

Some readers probably wondered what happened to the photograph that was credited on the un-illustrated cover of GN 45. For the first time in GN's existence, we had to 'hold the presses', and replace our original cover story with the news about the paper's triumph at the Bath obscenity trial. Incidentally, all the photos that appeared on the centre pages in the last issue were by Baron Wilhelm von Gloeden.

### Dates And Deadlines

The next issue of Gay News (No 47) will be published and available on 23rd May. Details of advertising deadlines and copy dates for that edition can be found under the credits section at the bottom of this page and at the beginning of the Personal Ads columns on Page 17. It is important to refer to these dates to avoid disappointment, as they will be strictly adhered to because of printing schedules.

Denis Lemon

## 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.

## 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.

Good salary, unpredictable hours and a friendly atmosphere. Please contact either Denis Lemon or Stuart Patterson on 01-995 1958 or write to Gay News, 62a Chiswick High Road, London W4 1SY.

## Join The Gay Press Corp

Guess what! GN needs an experienced, reliable and good-humoured writer/reporter to join our editorial team. Typing skill is essential, and it would be helpful if applicants had a working knowledge of shorthand and previous experience in journalism.

Hours and wages by arrangement. Please contact either Denis Lemon or Michael Mason on 01-995 1958 or write to Gay News, 62a Chiswick High Road, London W4 1SY.

## 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 35-45 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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### Advertising/Copy Deadlines and Publication Date for GN47

All copy, letters, information and classified advertising — Noon, Monday, May 13.  
Display Advertising — contact Ad Manager Gay News No 47 is published on May 23

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# Meet the myth makers

by John Riley

It was quite a surprise to find a subscription renewal notice delivered with my last GN. Can it really be a year since those dull brown envelopes started to add lustre to my zany psychedelic routine? If, like me, you live in the provinces, then Gay News may be your only contact with the fearless deeds of homosexual activists in the small, unreal world outside.

Bi-week after bi-week, we read about the same small group of Gay suffragets and -ettes, holding forth or waving banners at yet another conference, but we never find out anything about them as *people*. Howarth Penny, for instance, is always described as small and hairy... but what do you call small? -and how hairy? Countless news items are run concerning the fact that David Dancer is 'busy' ('Busy David Dancer spared us a few breathless moments to tell us how busy he was, before rushing off...'). Yet all I know about this David Dancer person is that he has a full schedule and is constantly making statements. Nothing at all about whether he's a lovely mover, or if he's neat-buttocked.

Once, I actually saw David Bell, walking down Regent Street. Immediately I waved frantically and hollered, "I agreed with every word you said about the need to combat sexual repression." But he couldn't have heard me (could he?), and sadly, I turned to face the astonished stares of my fellow passengers.

I mean all we ever learn about these people is what they said, and, well, I know all that. So, please, Mr Editor, can we have some pen-portraits of these Gay superstars, learn what they are 'into' and how they cope with the glamour of it all? Let's have less NEWS and more GAY! In the meantime, I'll have to rely on my mental picture of these heroes of our time...

Perhaps I should start right at the top. As I stand outside 62a Chiswick High Road I hesitate before knocking. Damned if I can remember whether Iain T Finlayson has decreed that ties are worn this Spring or not. The door is opened by a Rip Colt model, lifesize only more so, who draws that he's "been expecting me." Convinced this is a patent lie, but only have a moment to imprint his image on my subconscious for later recall, before being ushered into the Presence. The room is in total darkness apart from a pool of light splashed onto a desk, over which is huddled a figure in a green eye-shade - or is it eye-shadow?

"Denis Lemon?", I enquire.  
"One n and one m." Have I boobed right away? Perhaps he's French and it should be pronounced 'De Nis LeMon.'  
"An N. and an M - Who gave you this name?"  
"My Fairy-Godfathers and Fairy-Godmothers," he intones, "at my Coming-out, wherein I was made a believer in self-determination, a follower of anything in trousers and a child of nature."

"I'm here to find out what makes you tick."  
"It's just a slight nervous spasm, nothing at all really - Christ! - who do you think has to deal with all these queens?"  
"When did you split your first infinitive?"  
"Bout thirteen, I suppose, oh I knew it was naughty," but I was hooked on Star Trek and those beefy numbers all about to boldly go places."

We are interrupted by Rip Colt bringing in a tray of tea.  
"Milk? Lemon? Honey?"  
"Honey in tea? - how exotic! is that how you keep your, ah, spirits up?"  
He gives me what he supposes is a blank stare, but since this entails no change what ever in his basic expression, the effect is minimised.

A second interruption brings in Anne Elizabeth with a huge pile of mail: "Here are today's replies to your personal Ads; we netted £3.15 in 3½p stamps."  
"Thanks darling," beams Mr Lemon, "which one brought in the best response today?" Anne Elizabeth glances nervously at me: "You know... the one... it begins, h, u, n, g,..."

Denis Lemon begins to frantically open (come again?) the letters.  
"Thank you, gentlemen, that will be all; coffee in forty minutes."

I can report that Denis Lemon is alive and well and living in the definitive masturbatory fantasy.  
My next trip is to the CHE headquarters in Manchester. Convinced that no one could be christened Howarth Penny, but after the confusion with the N and M guy, decide if he has any information about a deed-poll change, he must offer it himself.

Howarth Penny is small and hairy - Gawd, you can say that again. He reminds me of someone, but who could be quite so small or quite so hairy? As I ponder the question the door opens and in creaks an old retainer with a tray of tea. The hairs



part into a smile:  
"Meet Charles; Charles is CHE's oldest living member."

"But there are several dead ones in my local group!"  
A gaffe, but Howarth kindly overlooks it and turns to his tea.

"None tastes so tasty as Ty-Phoo Tips," he chunners.  
Suddenly, I know where I've seen him before.

To complete this round-up of gay faces in top places, I visited the Gay Switchboard at 01-837 7174.

The door is open, so I saunter in. A gasp comes from the corner of the room and a little grey-haired man hobbles over.

"Oh, Mr Riley, how good of you to relieve me, I just can't stannnnnd any more: Bless you for coming."

"That's okay, dad, but how did you know my name?"

"We met the other day at Gay News, don't you remember me - Rip Colt?"

"Hell, baby, what have those bastards done to you," I ask.  
(My bed-time reading is playing havoc with my prose-style.)

"John, you just would not believe it; all those questions. I've got to get out of here, can you take over - just till 10.30?"

The phone rings and, with a terrified backward glance, he is gone. Gingerly, I lift the receiver:

"Hello is that the gayswitchboard oh my god you gotta help me."

"Well, perhaps if you slow down a bit... what can I do?"

"What can I do is more to the point." His voice is tense and my pulse quickens as I sense high-keyed drama - This is going to be good.

He continues: "It's my new boyfriend, he keeps wanting me to perform... a certain act."

"Go on," I murmur, pulse-rate streaking, "what act, exactly?"

"Well, you know."  
(Of course I know - but I want to hear him say it!) "Quite honestly," I venture, "I think you are being a spoil-sport. It's not as if it hurts all that much... er... I'm led to believe."

"Maybe not, but it seems such a silly thing to do."

"Silly???"  
"Yes, and it comes so expensive on hair-brushes; he always insists on the finest natural bristle, and they cost a fortune."

Can a pulse-rate boggle? Well, mine just did.

"But in what way can I help you?" I ask.  
"Well, if you'd just ring him and explain that it's so dirty and perverted and unlovely. He'd take it coming from you."

"I bet he would, ducky," passes through my mind. Aloud, I say: "Rightyho, give me his number and I'll straighten him out. Now, you just take one of those nice Second, only one mind, and when you next see him, it will be all plain sailing."

He does so and feverishly I dial:  
"Hello." I beam down the phone, "this is the Harrish Brush Company, I wonder if..."

## Late news

### Icebreakers benefit disco confirmed

LONDON: Icebreakers First Anniversary Benefit Disco will be held at the Molin Disco Club, Half Moon Lane, Herne Hill SE24 on Sunday, May 19. (Buses 2, 3, 19, 37, 40, 68, 172, 184 and 196, or Herne Hill BR station.) The event begins at 8.00pm, entrance is 50p and proceeds will go direct to Icebreakers.

# Law changes in Northern Ireland

BELFAST: In January the Belfast Gay Liberation Society sent a letter to all members of the Northern Ireland Assembly to assess their views on homosexual law reform, and to ask if any of them were willing to sponsor or support such legislation. Although the criminal law is a matter reserved for Westminster, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland can consent to legislation by the Stormont Assembly.

Our letter pointed out that in England and Wales sexual relations between consenting males, with some specific exceptions, is legal, whereas in Northern Ireland the same act could carry the penalty of life imprisonment. Such a legal dichotomy within the United Kingdom is not only inequitable and discriminatory but brings the law into disrepute. As a result at least 35,000 males in Northern Ireland are liable to conviction as homosexuals.

The replies from our elected representatives were few and disappointing. Sixty-three didn't bother to answer our letter. Of the fourteen who did, seven were Ministers who only acknowledged our letter with no further comment. Indeed, half of the Executive Ministers felt unable even to acknowledge our letter.

The one member of the Loyalist Coalition who did reply was courteous and straightforward in his opposition. He stated that there were "very few subjects upon which I agree with the Eire system but the law on homosexuality is one." His views, he said, were based on his Protestant and Christian interpretation of the Bible. Two Alliance members appeared mildly sympathetic but felt "unqualified" to do anything, one saying that he was "aware of some discrepancy in the law."

Of seventy-seven Assembly members only three - two pro-Assembly Unionists and one Alliance member - were sympathetic and helpful. However, they felt dubious about the chances of reforming the present law, reckoning on the need for a "fairly exten-

sive educational programme." Assembly members themselves do not appear to be very aware of the position of homosexuals in Northern Ireland. Sadly the three sympathetic members all argued that the present political situation will delay reform until a "more normal political climate is arrived." We do not think, however, that valid social issues should be shelved in this way.

We note in particular that not a single SDLP back-bencher replied to our letter, and that only two SDLP Ministers acknowledged it. This is extremely interesting in view of the SDLP's avowed commitment to civil rights and to reform. Of all the minorities in Northern Ireland none suffers such social oppression and discrimination as do homosexuals.

Oliver Napier, the Minister for Law Reform, was personally sympathetic to reform of the law. Despite his title, however, Mr Napier felt unable to introduce legislation himself. Not only did he shirk the issue, making his function appear redundant, but he made plain by his refusal to meet a delegation from the Gay Liberation Society that his concept of legal reform was that of a lawyer rather than a legislator.

Further indifference met our circular to the Northern Ireland candidates in the recent Westminster election. This indifference exposed again the arrogance of many public representatives or potential representatives who will not state their views for fear of offending voters.

Public opinion is moving in advance of our legislators. In Belfast now homosexual gatherings and dances are increasingly accepted. Homosexuality, as one expression of human sexuality, is at last being recognised as legitimate and of value. Despite the general hostility and indifference of our legislators we will continue to press for reform of the law as it relates to homosexuality.

Peter Hughes  
Belfast Gay Liberation Society

# Question & answer

University of Lancaster

to: HRH Prince Philip,  
Duke of Edinburgh,  
Buckingham Palace,  
London SW1

Sir,

I would like to draw your attention to the following extracts from page 45 of the 1974 Manchester and Salford Students' Rag Magazine:

A queer met another queer walking down the road, pushing a pram.  
Queer 1: "Whose is that baby?"  
Queer 2: "It's mine."  
Queer 1: "Who is the father then?"  
Queer 2: "How am I supposed to know? Do you think I've got eyes in the back of my head?"

I do realise that, as Patron, you are not responsible for the content of the magazine, and that, in any case, Rag Mags are not particularly known for the tastefulness of their jokes. But I am sure that you will appreciate how much offense such crude and pointless jokes cause all members of the homosexual community.

I would therefore ask you to use your influence, both as Patron in this case, and in other cases with which your name is associated, to discourage the use of such offensive material.

Yours faithfully,

Luke Fitzgerald

Buckingham Palace

Dear Mr Fitzgerald,

Thank you for your letter of 2nd February addressed to the Duke of Edinburgh.

As you may imagine, this is not, by any means, the first time Prince Philip's attention has been drawn to jokes in various rag magazines.

There is, as you rightly point out, nothing that His Royal Highness can do. The selection of material for the magazines is made by the student editors and a Patron cannot interfere.

I think that if you were to raise the point with the students themselves, they would reply that the magazines have a very large circulation and raise a lot of money for charity. I think the total sum from all sources raised last year by the Manchester and Salford Students was something like £30,000.

I suppose that if there were a demand for a different kind of humour among the students, they would choose editors with different ideas. I am sorry to be so unhelpful.

Yours sincerely,

Commander W B Willett OBE, MVO, DSC, RN

# Arthur is not a queen

BRIGHTON: Author and GN contributor John Montgomery has been involved in the mysterious catnapping of Arthur, the TV cat stolen from a cattery at Abridge, Essex. Commissioned to write a book about Arthur for the London publisher Millingtons, John had just started work when it was announced that Arthur had disappeared.

Spillers, owners of the famous white moggy who scoops food out of a tin with his paw, called in the police, and Detective Chief Inspector Robert Storey at Harlow headed enquiries. In 1968 a similar disappearance led to a High Court action in which both Spillers and an actor named Toney Manning claimed they owned Arthur. Spillers won the case, and Mr Manning went to prison for contempt of court. But during the court case Arthur vanished, and Mr Manning claimed he had taken the cat to the Soviet embassy in London for asylum. The Russians indignantly denied this. Mr Manning was still in Brixton jail when Arthur turned up in a box on the lawn of Mr Manning's agent.

Since then, Spillers have spent many thousands of pounds on television commercials starring Arthur, who is said to have made Kattomeat richer by £4 million. But this latest disappearance raises the whole question of Arthur's future. He is now 14, and needs regular injections for glandular trouble. When the new theft was announced, Mr Manning's name again cropped up. He offered £10,000 for the cat's return. At the same time, John Montgomery offered £500, saying that without Arthur there might be no book to write. But since then, after



Catnapped: television personality Arthur

consultation with his publishers and Spillers, John has decided to go ahead with the biography, even if Arthur has to be replaced by another white cat.

As in 1968, there has again been confusion over Arthur's sex. Newspapers reported that Arthur's name was really Samantha and that 'she' was a spayed queen. "Not true at all," says John. "Arthur was and is a tomcat, who was neutered about thirteen years ago. He has never been a queen. He is a tough, robust fellow, who occasionally takes a swipe at other cats with his hefty right paw. He certainly won't answer to a name like Samantha."

At the time of going to press, there were still no clues as to Arthur's whereabouts.

## 'Star-Gays' with Merlin



### Taurus & friends

April 21 to May 20

TAURUS Star Gays need a comfortable, quiet life. Their friendships are usually directed towards those who will provide it without overmuch upheaval. Earth signs, VIRGO and CAPRICORN, are more often chosen, but other groupings have been experimented with by TAUREANS occasionally...

Consider TAURUS + AQUARIUS. Really opposites, basically incompatible, there are a few AQUARIANS who prefer solidarity to the ever-mercurial Air signs they usually go for. TAURUS would provide an appreciation of fine arts, a sympathy for human problems, and a gourmet's view of food. In the end TAUREAN casualness about life would upset the AQUARIAN who would have to break loose and do his own thing. Freedom is all. SCORPIO is another TAUREAN experiment. But as SCORPIANS have a habit of stinging even their best friends, the easy-going TAUREAN would rather resent that, escaping to outside pleasures which would arouse jealousy in the SCORPIAN. The result is Trouble. One other common link is TAURUS with LIBRA. As Venus controls both signs it would seem ideal. Doubts creep in when a double dose of indulgence plus the flirtatious nature of LIBRA make it clear that, unless the two have definite intentions of growing old and fat together, the LIBRAN will always choose more exciting offers than any TAUREAN would care to make.

Needless to say, exceptions abound, but really a Gay TAUREAN would be far happier with someone he or she can understand without pain, and who is understanding in return. VIRGO is ideal. TAUREANS would love the home-oriented

VIRGOAN, and would be quite indulgent about the pills, lotions, and half-consumed prescriptions VIRGOANS leave lying about. TAUREANS need just a little nagging occasionally, and VIRGOANS would gently prod in such a way that would be accepted with a certain wry amusement. "My little virago of a mate," TAUREANS would say, quite proud too, of VIRGOAN industriousness as well as that busy tongue.

CAPRICORN Star Gays would provide all home comforts, plenty of plain cooking (good for TAUREAN waistlines), and stimulating conversation about just how much can be banked this week, which they would both enjoy. Moreover, CAPRICORN would let TAURUS smoke his pipe indoors (where GEMINI, AQUARIUS, SCORPIO and even VIRGO might strongly object!).

The real problem with any other Earth sign liaisons would come when the highly charged TAUREAN sex-drive affronts VIRGOANS, or meets with resistance from CAPRICORN. For all the TAUREAN gentleness, there is a ruthless streak which will brook no nonsense of that sort. Mind you, it does take time for TAURUS to get going in the first place. Quite prepared to hold your hand for months on end, occasionally planting a quick kiss before leaving you on the doorstep, the sudden realisation of TAUREANS that the relationship is ready for a sexual advance will not allow resistance from anyone. Rape? No indeed, nothing quite like that. Just a forceful, dominating, overwhelming experience. Rather exciting if you happen to be on the receiving end. Incidentally, gender (in either sex) has little to do with it! The feminine as well as masculine are just as likely to make the advances, once they are sure of an initial response and the urge to start. As with rape though, it's always best to lay back and enjoy it with a TAUREAN. Anyone who has had farm experience with eager Ferdinand and complacent Daisy will tell you that. A bit earthy? But of course! Just what one would expect from an Earth sign like TAURUS.

### Come dancing

GLASGOW/EDINBURGH: There is good news for disco-lovers. The SMG Discos in Edinburgh have found a new Hall in Edinburgh which is conveniently situated down Leith Walk. 196 people enjoyed the first Disco there on 19 April, and SMG have booked the Hall on a monthly basis until August. Bookings have been arranged so that there is no clash with SMG Glasgow's Discos in the Woodside Halls. The organisers hope that in future tickets will be on sale at the door. Information can always be got by ringing Ian Dunn at 031-667 7473, or by asking for Neil Hercus, or any SMG Social Committee member, at the Kenilworth or Abercromby bars. Gay women are turning out in strength at Edinburgh.

Ian Dunn

## A short gay guide to the law

by R J Thomson

Have you ever heard a heart-rending story from a fellow gay who has had an encounter with the police? What would you do if arrested? Under what statutes can you be brought before the courts? Are you aware of your civil rights?

Believe it or not, being gay is not synonymous with illegal activity. It would be hard to deny however, that existing legislation, particularly as it applies to Scotland and Northern Ireland, does tend to make homosexuals more likely to offend against the statutory limitations on their sexual relationships than heterosexuals.

This aside, unless you live in London or Lancashire the chances are that you won't come into contact with the law, but if as a provincial gay you do offend, it's likely you'll be more severely dealt with by the courts—and the publicity will be shattering.

The best advice anybody can give gays is to keep clear of the law. The police realise more than anyone that to bring a prosecution can be akin to treading on eggshells. A public, jealous of its freedom and civil rights, aware of the restraints on police activity, is the best antidote to the abuse of legal power and authority.

Most policemen are helpful citizens employed by the public (that's you and me by the way) to enforce both the common law and the will of Parliament. They have a difficult time chasing after all manner of villains and often the public (that's you and me again) aren't very helpful. Their very considerable powers of arrest are generally used with restraint, understanding, and wisdom.

But just how easy is it to break the law? If like Oscar Wilde, the only thing you can never resist is temptation, stay tuned to this channel...

Let us set up an imaginary situation in which you decide to take a stroll to your local gay bar and on the way you visit a cottage. Becoming bored you write a message on the wall, intending to return later for a reply. Already you've committed your first offence. It is contrary to the Indecent Advertisements Act 1889 (S 3) to "affix or inscribe" an obscene message or drawing on any public urinal.

On leaving the cottage a man walks up and informs you he is effecting an arrest for soliciting. Being switched on, you ask if he's a policeman and request to see his warrant card. On discovering he is a private citizen, you tell him, in words of four letters, to get lost—but beware—The Sexual Offences Act 1956 (S41) states that "any person may arrest without warrant a man soliciting in a public place." Furthermore, a County Borough policeman has the right under the Municipal Corporations Act 1882 (S193) to arrest "any idle and disorderly person found disturbing the peace." Likewise, it is an offence to use lewd, abusive, or obscene language in a public place, or to behave in such a way as to provoke a breach of the Queen's peace, or indeed to "wilfully and indecently expose" your "person": Town Police Clauses Act 1847 (S28).

You next decide to telephone your affair, and after an intimate conversation an argument develops in which you inform him that you are proceeding to his flat to terminate the relationship and recover your possessions. This time YOU are told to get lost, and have just accumulated two more offences. The Post Office Act 1969 (S78) makes it illegal to "send by means of public telecommunications a message that is grossly offensive, indecent, obscene or of a menacing character." Also, the Criminal Damage Act 1971 (S1 and S2) makes a threat to enter premises or offer harassment to obtain or damage personal or public property an arrestable offence.

Stepping from the 'phone box you proceed to the nearest Post Office, purchase a letter card, and settle down to write your

affair a letter containing sentiments of endearment and conciliation—offence again! It is contrary to the Post Office Act 1953 (S11) to send any "indecent article, picture, or book" through the post.

Arriving outside your affair's flat you meet two friends and stand chatting on the pavement. A policeman turns the corner and informs you that an obstruction is being caused and threatens to arrest the gathering under various statutes, including the Highways Act 1853 (S78) and our old friend the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 (S28).

Moving on you arrive at the gay bar. Attempting to drown your sorrows you end up having one too many and manage this time to break section one of the Licencing Act 1902, by being drunk on licenced premises.

Finally after sobering up at a sympathetic friend's flat, you foolishly return to the cottage to check if your message has been answered, and notice a rather dishy man in the stalls. You smile briefly and find yourself arrested, this time by a policeman, for attempting to procure an act of gross indecency, an offence under section 13 of the Sexual Offences Act 1956.



Photograph: Alan Hutchinson (Camera Press London)

On arrest, you manage to display your knowledge of the law to the best advantage by accompanying the police officer to the station and saying as little as possible. You request permission to telephone a solicitor, which is refused, so you elect not to answer any questions or make and sign any statement. The police officer tells you that he will make things easier and restrict publicity if you plead guilty and make a statement. You refuse, recognising that such inducements are contrary to the Judges' Rules, but agree to be searched and your personal possessions examined. When your solicitor finally arrives you relate the facts without embellishment at a private interview, and accept his advice on all matters relating to points of law.

Fortunately most of us would recognise it as being foolish to lead such tangled and eventful lives in order to break so many laws in one day. But to return to our original theme: it IS easy to break the law, and a policeman has a formidable array of statutes under which he can effect an immediate arrest and press a subsequent prosecution. Many penalties for contravention can be applied savagely to a known homosexual, and you'll get no sympathy from a public which largely still enjoys the spectacle of the unconventional being held up to vilification.

If as a gay you do lead an involved life and fall into temptation, be prepared to accept that many laws, even if little used in our more enlightened era, can be enacted against you for the most trivial offences. And don't expect any mercy from the courts.

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# Gays In The Eyes Of God

*"My brothers, greet each other warmly with a holy kiss." (1 Cor 16)*

IN GN40, under the alarming title of "Religious Homophobia", a religious 'comic' called *Gay Blade* published by some way-out Christian group in the USA was reviewed. This kind of publication is not only pathetic in its crudity and ignorance but is also an ugly and offensive piece of work. Statements such as "Homosexuality is like a demonic power that controls them—only Christ can overcome it: if they'll receive him as a personal saviour" sound as though they had come straight from either the Middle Ages or the Middle West. GN was right to show up this 'comic' for what it is. Nevertheless it may well have reinforced the belief of some readers that Christianity is essentially anti-gay. I maintain strongly that essentially it is not, even though there may be many so-called Christians and official Church spokesmen who frequently take an anti-gay stand. I also maintain that Christianity did not start up the repressive attitudes that we find today, though an amazing number of people seem to think so.

If we go back to the first century, we find that Christ followed on in all that was best in the Hebrew tradition, especially its 'naturalism' which accepted the goodness of creation and of the body and sex. Christ, like the Jews, stood out over and against the surrounding philosophies that were largely dualistic and highly suspicious of feelings, passion, the body and especially sex, which they generally thought combined to debase man and kept him tied to earth and ungodly and unfulfilled. For the Jews and the Christians, God made the world and saw that it was good and to be accepted and enjoyed. The Bible also asserts that man is a psychosomatic unity and not to be thought of as being made up of separate and warring parts—spirit and body. Altogether, the Jews were comparatively free from hang-ups about sex. They were, admittedly, opposed to adultery. This was because of the importance for them of continuing the family line. They were not anti-sexual. Jesus was brought up in this world and in fact reinforced this



sex, physical sexual activity that is, apart from the whole setting of a person's life and relationships is unrealistic and pointless. But Jesus does say a good deal about relationships and situations that people find themselves in. And we find that he is much more concerned about what a man *is* than about examining his actions as such. He is more concerned that man becomes truly himself, becomes free—free to love and respond to life. His frequent clashes with the Pharisees and much of his teaching is devoted to showing the primacy of motive, of inner attitudes, the importance of taking into consideration the whole framework of a person's life and personality. Personal integrity was what mattered—'No man can serve two masters'—he must be true to himself. The 'Jesus ethic', if you can call it



that, is nearly all based on *reason*, as is science, and the more we learn from science today about man, especially from psychology and sociology, the more we can now see how the two harmonise over basic principles. The Christian 'extra', in behaviour and ethics, lies in the area of self-sacrifice in loving. (It is worth remembering that Christianity is essentially a religion and not an ethic. But it *has* an ethic; any religion or philosophy of life will have one attached to it. So most of the Christian 'extra' you will find in the realm of doctrine and faith.)

Jesus proclaimed the primacy of the law of love in all matters and also that the spirit of the law has priority over the letter of the law. Any law we have is to help man and not dominate him, 'The Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath'. There

can be no absolutes except that of love, a love that is responsible and demands sacrifice.

How did it go wrong for so many? Why did so many Christians in the Middle Ages and after become so uptight about sex, and how did they come to worry about individual acts apart from circumstances and one's whole life situation, and lose out on so much of the 'Jesus ethic'? We can see the 'primacy of spirit' and the freshness of naturalism being preserved in a clear way in other areas in life, but not in sex. Augustine of Hippo was largely responsible for this unfortunate opening of the flood gates. His influence in the Church from the late 4th century onwards was enormous. He had been a Manichee for nine years before becoming a Christian and was never able to escape fully from their dualist concepts which in fact got strengthened by his own acute personal anxiety and guilt over sex. He held that, because of the Fall, man was an insatiable creature, always wanting more—more power, money, pleasure etc. Sex appeared to be the supreme example of this terrible self-centredness that prevented man from being truly himself and Godly. It was man's most powerful urge (it must have been his) and therefore *the* great danger. He concluded that pleasure in sex was evil in itself. Sex was inevitable and the pleasure going with it was of course too. It was part of our wretched lot that some people had to involve themselves in it to continue the species. It epitomised our state of original sin. But if we had to indulge in it, it must be for *procreation only*.

This last idea was never in general accepted literally by Christians. The belief that sex promoted love between partners and that this was one of its main functions was taken for granted throughout the ages and has been explicitly re-stated by Church authorities in the 20th century. Nevertheless Augustine's attitude towards sex definitely affected Christian society in many ways. A certain fear and suspicion of sex took the place of a natural acceptance of its innate goodness, and this was easily reinforced by the Christian



Continued on next page

Photograph: Gerry Cobb

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'Gays In The Eyes Of God' continued from last page



ethic of self-denial and the necessity of taking up one's cross in order to become one with Christ. This idea of self-denial and self-discipline any Christian would still adhere to. But the aim is that of balance, moderation and harmony. We must rejoice in our creation, in our gifts and be affirmed and validated in our personalities and be free in our loving. At the same time we have to be responsible in our loving, be prepared to let go, suffer, die to oneself when the occasion arises, which it does quite often for all of us. A gay who is a Christian should more easily be able to 'let go', should understand that love is not to be self-centred and possessive. He should be able to see the positive side of his frustration and agony and above all realise that there is much more to life than sex or looking for an affair or spending *all* his energy concentrating on how it is going to work out once he has one.

So we must go back beyond Augustine to Christ to get a proper understanding of what is Christian. And once we have understood the beauty and richness of Christ's own life and teaching, cling to it and live by it and fight for it against all comers whether they be the crazy gang who promote the so-called Festival of Light or the irresponsible lot at the other extreme. Not only is it a fallacy to say that Christianity was more responsible for the repressive and ignorant attitudes on sex in the time of Christ than other groups or movement, but it is also wrong to say that it must bear chief blame for the existence of these attitudes today. It seems that every society in the world has been concerned about procreation and each one has built up rules to keep control of the situation (laws about marriage, education, welfare etc) in order to protect children (and very often women too). And nine out of ten of the rule-makers have regarded the homosexual as a threat. Various forms of discrimination against the homosexual, due to fear and ignorance, is widespread throughout the world but rarely now has this anything to do with so-called Christian attitudes. Holland is probably the country with the least amount of discrimination and yet it has a far, far higher percentage of Church-goers than Britain and in general a much greater Christian consciousness permeates society there, which is even more important and significant.

It would be wrong to whitewash the Christian Church in this matter, but it is just as absurd to go to the other extreme as many do now and lay all our troubles at her door. The fact is that we are all in this together for both Christians and non-Christians need to be educated about homosexuality, and it is the job of those of us who have some insight into it to do the educating.

Speaking of education, there is one final question that must be dealt with. Certain types of Christians (of the *Gay Blade* variety) who are biblical fundamentalists will still quote passages of Holy Writ to show that God frowns with anger upon the gay and his world. The most popular one quoted in the Old Testament is the one in Genesis about Sodom and Gomorrah. But most people realise now that the event condemned there is in fact an attempted homosexual group rape which does not invalidate homosexuality as such—just as the rightful condemnation of heterosexual group rape, 'gang bangs', does

not lead to the condemnation of all heterosexual activity. They get more worked up, however, about St Paul in the New Testament, especially Romans Chapter 1. But using their own fundamentalist approach, I ask them to look again at that chapter. St Paul is talking here about men and women who *turn away* from sexual intercourse with the opposite sex to having it with their own. In my work with the Albany Trust and other organisations over the last seven years I have talked to literally some hundreds of gays and it is quite evident to me that it is not a question of willingly turning away from heterosexual behaviour to homosexual. Either St Paul was not talking about gays or he just knew very little about the state of homosexuality. Probably it was the latter. This should not surprise us, for even today, when there is far less excuse for it, there is a great deal of ignorance and fear amongst ordinary people about it.

Paul was a man of his times and was affected by the prejudices of his contemporaries. This comes out most clearly on a number of other issues such as the position of women in society, slavery and authority. The reasons for Paul being anti-gay are not known—he doesn't give any. It may be that homosexuality was immediately associated in people's minds with paganism as certain well-known pagan rites involved male prostitution. On the other hand it may have been simply a natural reaction against a phenomenon that was not understood and was personally threatening and disturbing.

Whatever his reasons, the fact is that his brief remarks on the subject can hardly be taken to be authoritative for all time (if indeed for any time). That would be patently absurd. Anyway the New Testament is not meant to be used in this way. It does not provide us with a set of rules on how to behave. I find it curious to see Christians these days who still want to use scripture to get quick and easy answers to highly complex human problems. In fact very many of the grave moral problems facing individuals and our society today are not even mentioned. We can only use the New Testament to show us Christ and the nature of that kind of loving which is truly Christian. From that flows a morality which must be sensitive to the concerns of man today. We have to work out our Christian attitudes on a host of questions from first principles and we just can't run to St Paul for a quick answer. Homosexuality is one obvious topic that has not yet been studied in depth and worked upon adequately by the majority of Christians. Still, there are perhaps far more informed Christians around than people realise. It may be that Christians themselves do not realise this and if they did they might be a little more ready to proclaim the 'Jesus ethic' to the world in its simplicity and purity with greater confidence.

*"We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brothers. He who does not love remains dead." (1 John 3:14)*

*"Brothers, you were called to be free. But do not use your freedom as an opportunity to follow your own desires, but serve one another with love. The whole law is summed up in this way: Love your neighbour as yourself." (Gal 5:13)*

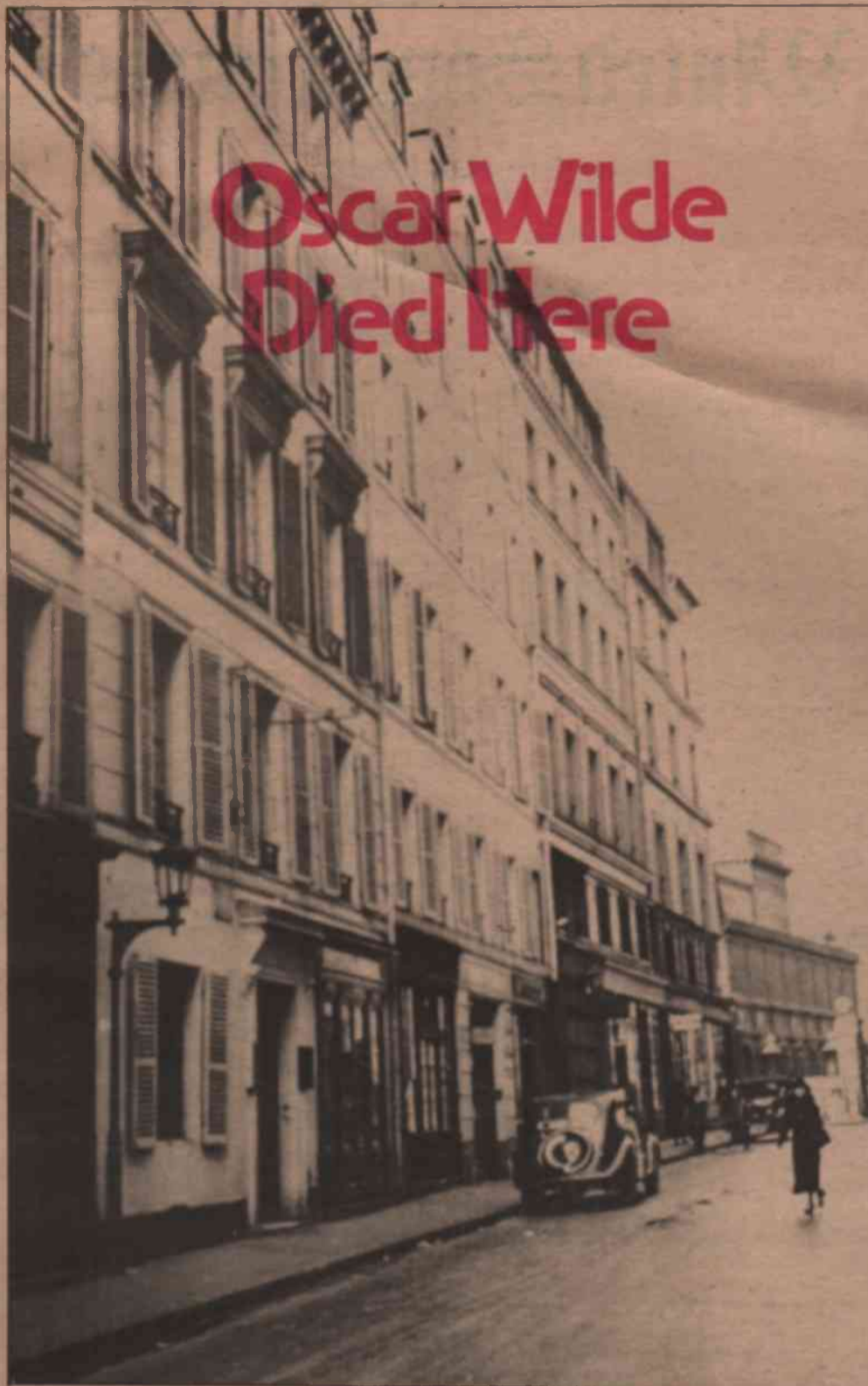
Fr Fabian Cowper

OSCAR, poor chap, would not recognise the place today. But he would love it. The hotel in which he died on 30th November, 1900, aged 44, was then owned by the kindly M Dupoirier, who, to his great credit, took the poet in when he had nowhere to go. Today, the hotel is one of the most elegant in Paris, equipped with every requirement for gracious living in the French style. And that is style, by St Denis! Moreover, the actual room where Oscar breathed his last is, it is reported, furnished with genuine Wildean memorabilia, so that one can easily imagine his commenting, with insouciant grace, "I am eternally grateful to *la belle France* not only for affording me sanctuary denied me elsewhere, and the honour of burial among the immortals in the *Père-Lachaise*, but also for realising the importance of being earnest in respect of my memory."

When I stayed in the hotel in 1933, it was still in the non-sybaritic category, but mercifully cheap, and then known as the *hotel d'Alsace*, 13 rue des Beaux-Arts, on the left bank in the heart of the artists' quarter of Paris. I arrived on the 29th November, disappointed to find that The Room was already occupied by a middle-aged German couple; but was assured by the receptionist that they were moving out next day which I knew, if she did not, was the Anniversary of The Death. So I could move in then if I were so interested. She shot me an old-fashioned look which I icily ignored. Meanwhile, I was banished to a room on the top floor opposite a loo.

But nothing could dim the fascination of being in the same place where the poet had lived and died. By the look of it hardly anything could have changed since his time. I was walking up and down the same stairs, even if they did creak arthritically; breathing the same atmosphere, even if it were a trifle musty; living under same roof, even if it did bear down on me somewhat on that top floor.

But I could not curb my impatience. At about 6 o'clock that evening, while the city was enveloped in the gathering dusk, I went down to the first floor and knocked on the door of a back room. The door was opened by the middle-aged German husband. In my arrogant British way I took it for granted that he could understand and speak English perfectly. So I said in English, "Do excuse me, But Oscar Wilde died here in this room



The Rue des Beaux Arts: the second building on the left is the Hotel d'Alsace. Oscar Wilde died there on 30th November, 1900

On the 18th of February, 1895, four days after the first night of *The Importance of Being Earnest*, at 5pm, the Marquess, accompanied by a witness, left a visiting card with the hall porter of Oscar's club, the Albermarle, on which he had written, "To Oscar Wilde posing as a sodomite," incorrectly spelling the last word with an 'm'. The hall porter was the only man who behaved sensibly in this situation. He put it in an envelope, said nothing, and gave it to Oscar when he next showed up at the club 12 days later. Meanwhile, the Marquess waited hopefully for Oscar to take action, which Oscar did, egged on by Lord Alfred, who now thought he had a wonderful chance to injure his father, regardless of the risk to his friend. Oscar sued the Marquess for criminal libel, was awarded a farthing damages, and on the same evening that he lost the case he

was arrested at the Cadogan Hotel, Knightsbridge, under the provisions of the Criminal Law Amendment Act 1885. He was tried twice at the Old Bailey on homosexual charges. At the first trial the jury disagreed; at the second he was found guilty and sentenced to the maximum two years' imprisonment allowed under the act by Mr Justice Wills who added, gratuitously, that the sentence was "totally inadequate."

Released in May, 1887, Oscar exiled himself to France, adopting the name Sebastian (martyred saint) Melmoth (wanderer). His wife, Constance, allowed him £3 weekly; but he never saw his two sons again.

The German wife smiled as though to alleviate any embarrassment I might feel at being so enthusiastic about a 'homo' in the presence of a lady. It was like that in the

thirties. But it was his *writing*, not his sexual proclivities, thank you, that fascinated me: not only is it so full of sparkling wit without malice, but it also has an intellectual content which to this day has not fully received the recognition that it deserves.

"We always had his work liked in Germany," the husband said. "His plays we showed a year or two after he to heaven go. And for the other . . ." He smiled indulgently and poured out three glasses of wine. "To Herr Oscar Wilde."

"A lord of language," I added piously. I moved in the next day and retired about 3am after a hectic night out on the Parisien tiles. The room was strangely cold. Then I saw him, framed in radiance, standing at the foot of the bed, wearing a black frock coat, with a high stiff white collar, and a silk cravat held in place by a diamond tie-pin. His dark hair was groomed in waves round his oval face like modern styling; and the Irish eyes were smiling.

"Hullo, Oscar," I welcomed, as though it were the most natural thing in the world that he should be there, "how nice of you to return from the lonely nether regions."

"Oh, not at all, my dear boy. I have, as a matter of fact, always been lonely intellectually, thinking on rather a different plane from most people. That is why I have always been so misunderstood." The tone of his voice was just this side of melancholy.

"Besides, you know, other people are quite dreadful. The only possible society is oneself." He raised an elegant eyebrow. "But tell me, dear boy, what are you doing here in the room where I was obliged to depart, albeit third class, for the Elysian fields?"

"I am paying homage to your literary genius," I replied, overcome by sadness at the thought of all those delightful plays he might have written had he lived on. "How tragic it was that you were reduced to such poverty."

"Well at least it prompted my version of what are called famous last words"—he began to fade, smiling gently—"I am dying beyond my means."

Then, of course, I woke up; but with an aching sense of loss.

Francis G Hearne



Oscar Wilde at the age of twenty

and I've always wanted to see it."

For a moment he stared at me open-mouthed, then replied in slightly fractured English, "You do not say so, sir?" He smiled Germanically. "Please to come in. My wife", he added, indicating a handsome blonde who had just finished putting on her evening face. I looked around ecstatically. The room was surprisingly large and lofty: a single electric light cast a fitful glow over the double bed and heavily ornate Third Republic furniture. Tall windows overlooked a courtyard where was still standing the very same tree, now silvered by moonlight, under which the poet had sat on summer evenings, sipping coffee and cognac, usually unpaid for, no doubt sometimes thinking about the beautiful Lord Alfred Douglas, the progenitor of his downfall.

Ah, if only Lord Alfred's mind and character had been as beautiful as his face, Oscar might then still have been alive, rich and famous. But it was not to be. The fates had marked him down. For while Oscar was obsessed by his love of Lord Alfred, the young aristocrat was obsessed by his hatred of his father, the 8th Marquess of Queensberry, who returned it with interest. And father and son both used Oscar as a whetstone on which to sharpen their pathological loathing of each other.



Oscar and Lord Alfred Douglas, 1894

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# Whited Sepulchures

by Sebastian Helmore

A recent correspondent to *Gay News* complained about the "fortnightly cottaging stories" which he said he just found boring. Perhaps a lot of people would agree that the whole subject of cottaging is a terrible bore. But I have a strong suspicion that many more people are relieved that at last this topic is being faced rather more honestly by gays, and if nothing else, they are grateful for the valuable information these news reports give them about danger and harassment.

More easy to understand is the attitude of strong disapproval adopted by many gays to those of us who find our way into the occasional cottage. I can remember being in conversation with a youngish man in Birmingham, outside one of the busier cottages there. I happened to mention having seen a clergyman of my acquaintance there recently, and he replied that he disapproved most strongly of such hypocrisy. Clergy and policemen shouldn't cottage. That was his opinion. If they did, then it was clearly a betrayal of what they stood for in public.

Hypocrisy is a nasty charge. And I agree that people who preach one thing and do another are beneath contempt. There are undoubtedly some men in positions of public influence who do this. It is hard to see them other than as dangerous traitors, both to their chosen professions and to the gay sub-culture which they deeply long to belong to. But surely there is a lot of hypocrisy amongst the gay community anyway on this subject?

One of my closest friends, gay of course—I haven't got round to discussing cottaging with many of my non-gay friends, although I *have* done it—a chap of about 23, has always maintained a strictly disapproving attitude to cottaging. The points he would make are strong. First it reduces human relationships to a purely physical level, and secondly cottages are sordid and filthy places.

One has to agree that picking someone up solely for the purposes of getting or sharing an orgasm or two does seem rather cheap. I value the physical. Indeed, I have often said how we ought to be a little less hung-up on physical contact, but it is undeniable, it seems to me, that treating people purely as sexual object diminishes their dignity as human beings.

There is no denying, either, that cottages are rarely pleasant places to stay in for more than the briefest of visits. But it is far from complimentary to suggest that anyone actually enjoys the sordidness of it all. Surely most people who do the cottages would be only too glad if there were some cleaner, less smelly, more secluded and comfortable spot where similar business could be done! The fact is that the

very nature of a cottage is to be unattractive.

Anyway, the point of the story is that not so long ago my disapproving friend was seen doing the cottages himself! Now I have every sympathy with him, because I happen to know that he was at a low ebb at the time, having lost the close friendship of someone he valued a lot. When we're feeling down, we often do things we would rather not do. But I just wish that he would drop his disapproving attitude when next the subject comes up in conversation, or that he would at least not try to pretend that this is something he never does. If he were honest in this way, then perhaps he could be some help in getting me and others to look at why we want to go cottaging occasionally. Open and hypocritical disapproval does nothing to solve any problems.

that they don't enjoy *all* of their lover's orgasms themselves. Possessiveness of that sort is itself destructive.

And so it is that I have had some interesting experiences as a result of such encounters, and have even made several good friends. I think of Mark, whom I met one evening in a South London cottage. He and I spent some of that evening together and have met since more than once. Sometimes we have enjoyed no more than a dinner and each other's company. At other times, it will not surprise you, we have been more adventurous! He is someone whose friendship I value. We have made a real effort to get to know each other at more than a superficial level, and we write to each other when circumstances prevent a meeting. My own hope is that what started off, admittedly, as a purely sexual relationship can become more, and if necessary



I know there are plenty of gays who have no hang-ups about cottaging. They don't see it as any kind of 'problem'. And, if one can believe what some of them say, it does not have damaging consequences on their other relationships.

But isn't it true that if our lovers were doing the cottages, most of us would feel uneasy about it if nothing more? It depends on the nature of one's relationship with one's lover. Some are mature enough to see the occasional sexual adventure on the side as involving no real infidelity. Such people would be more hurt if their chap went off and disappeared for a few hours *without* saying where he was going than if he nipped into the local cottage for a few moments *with* the full knowledge and consent of his partner. And this seems logical to me. Lies, deception, fake responses and evasion are much more damaging to most people than the knowledge

even lose its physical aspect without ceasing to exist altogether. Certainly, if I have my way, Mark will remain a friend of mine, come what may.

I met Chris late one evening in another big city. He was only sixteen and I learnt later that he was virtually an orphan. As soon as it became clear to me that he was looking more for companionship and friends than sexual adventures, I assured him that he would always be welcome to call on me without fear of strings being attached. That was not easy on my part. But it saved the friendship from those very unpromising beginnings. Now Chris feels confident enough to call round and spend time with me and my friends. He keeps in touch with me when I am away, discusses his problems about job and emotional involvements with me, and in fact offers me a friendship himself that I value very much. If he sometimes seems naive, his complete trust in my integrity and his genuine enjoy-

ment of the friendships his meeting me have brought his way is a constant reminder to me that it *is* worth trying to keep one's standards high.

Is this one answer to cottaging? Is there a code of conduct one should adopt which would prevent cottaging being a degrading influence on human relationships? I am not sure what the answer is. One part of me disapproves of promiscuity. But I realise that such an attitude may well be part of the inheritance that comes to me from Christianity and is rejected by plenty of people who have freed themselves from what they consider an outdated repressive morality. All the same, I still value sex enough to wish it were kept for the more important relationships in my life.

Perhaps I shall get over that. Perhaps one day I shall be able to enjoy a dangerous and furtive moment with a complete stranger, without ever saying a word to him, and not feel somehow unsatisfied afterwards. But in the meantime, until I reach that liberated state, I shall continue to try to treat people as human beings rather than just as sexual objects. One of the difficulties is that for many men the sexual urge is so strong that it can at times dominate the mind. Then the only solution seems to be the quick release an orgasm can offer. But is it not more satisfying, somehow more *human*, if I make the effort to involve more than just part of me? I can smile perhaps, or show some consideration for his feelings. (Have you ever glared at some bold but pathetic older man in a cottage?)

Anyone with any sense and finer feelings recognises that cottaging is an unsatisfactory industry! It encourages the trivialising of human relationships which deserve more dignified treatment. It forces one to linger in places that are distinctly unattractive and even dangerous to one's health. And, of course, it puts one very much at risk as far as the law is concerned. I don't approve of the rival cottage industry of increased police activity in some places. The evidence is that it leads the police to waste their time and public money, and can lead to corruption, perjury and blackmail. No one approves of that. But I have to concede that the law of the land is clear on what constitutes unsuitable behaviour in public and that the police have a duty to prevent actions that some find offensive. Of course I insist that this is making too much fuss over one aspect of sexual behaviour, that society doesn't give me the same opportunities for making casual contacts that my heterosexual friends enjoy, but at least when I go cottaging I can be certain that my eyes are more open than many of the people I shall find lined up there inside!

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## Disenchantment in the art room

**LIFE CLASS** at Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square, London SW1.

'Life is art, and art is life' is the belief held by art master Alan Bates in David Storey's *Life Class*. At least, that's my interpretation, but where Storey is concerned, one is never certain. His characters are always well-drawn, but his plots lack motivation. His association with director Lindsay Anderson has helped his plays considerably in achieving popular acclaim. I have seen the majority of them, and always feel he is on the verge of writing a masterpiece. The fact that they remain a talking point after seeing them, proves they have substance.

The force that motivates people into the teaching profession has long fascinated me. Obviously a teacher will derive pleasure from watching the prowess of his pupils, but what of the cases where they lack any interest in their studies, as depicted here. Alan Bates' splendid performance has more than a few echoes of his teacher role in *Butley*. Both men appear to be losers, though *Butley* seemed more able to cope with his troubles. Storey's character Allott is a quietly sarcastic man, who has long since learnt to ignore the ribald lavatory jokes and unruly behaviour of his class. The fact that he almost knowingly instigates the rape scene that occurs, is perhaps a secret 'death wish' he holds, as he is sacked as a result of this incident. Where the author holds our attention is in the reaction of the pupils to the rape. Until that moment, a predictable bunch of loud-mouthed youngsters. Their reaction, or rather lack of it, suddenly reduces them into a horrified group of voyeurs, unable to move or assist the helpless model from her attacker.

Paul Kelly's portrait of Mathews, complete with crude Liverpool accent, Rosemary Martin's bored model, and Gerald James' dedicated teacher, are



Frank Grimes (centre) and Alan Bates (right) in David Storey's *'Life Class'*

all gems. Once again Lindsay Anderson's authoritative hand is in evidence throughout.

Barry Conley

## Now showing

This year's major release **THE GREAT GATSBY** (Paramount/CIC, director Jack Clayton) continues the unusual policy Paramount began with *The Godfather*, of concentrating their efforts on large-scale productions of medium budget. Costing £2.5 millions, it was shot in England last summer, despite being set in America. Despite the size of the budget, the film has no feeling of great opulence, and is for the most part pleasantly simplistic. In common with current trends, its release was preceded by a gigantic and sophisticated advertising campaign of prohibitive expense. Thus, some obvious and regrettable savings were made in the production of the film, such as the use of non-'wide screen' panavision equipment, and the bypassing of 'De Luxe' or 'Technicolor' in favour of the murky hues of 'Rank' colour processing. The latter greatly detracts from Douglas Slocombe's skillful cinematography. *Gatsby* has opened to mainly unfavourable reviews in London and New York, and although it is already a healthy hit, shows no signs of breaking box office records.

In maligning the film's lack of depth, the critics have wrongly judged it as an attempted literate version of a book, not an original work. I found the film immensely enjoyable, moving, but certainly not schmaltzy or sentimental. The love affair between Daisy (Mia Farrow) and Gatsby (Robert Redford) is pained and passionate, but certainly not romantic in the *Love Story* sense. There is little compromise in its depiction of the waste of the wealthy elite of the twenties. The houses, champagne, non-stop dancing and adultery, all have the air of futile self-indulgence.

The performances are universally impeccable, and producer David Merrick, who works mainly on the Broadway stage, has introduced some talent



Mia Farrow and Robert Redford in *'The Great Gatsby'*

relatively unknown to film-goers; for example, Sam Waterston who plays Nick Carraway, possible the film's pinnacle. His performance as the non-too-successful socialite who forges a deep friendship with lonely, immoral, obscure Gatsby, is sensitive and pungently emotional.

Other than the existence of some minor technical flaws, *The Great Gatsby* is an efficient marriage between the complexities of Fitzgerald's writing and the demands of the commercial cinema.

David Seligman

## There's one in every season

**BORDELLO** at Queens Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC1.

Some people have a morbid curiosity in watching the aftermath of an accident. My own personal hangup is the unsuccessful musical. Whereas a poor play soon fades from memory, I find my mind retains odd fragments of evenings spent watching a bad musical. There is something perversely fascinating in watching the cast smiling bravely at the sparse applause at the finale, whilst they are probably wondering where their next employment is coming from. There's one in every season, and the current one is called *Bordello*.

In most cases a poor musical score is to blame, though in this case one cannot fault composer Al Firsch, who has written several pleasing melodies with a 'French' feeling, in keeping with the setting. Julian More's book, though somewhat cluttered with the reminiscences of Toulouse-Lautrec's checkered career, is likewise not the major problem. I do feel, in setting his story inside

a brothel, that he might have allowed us one or two male visitors to enliven the proceedings.

Personally, I lay the blame on whoever's responsible for casting the players in what, after all, is a West End production. There were faced at audition time, with the task of choosing players who could both act, sing and bear some resemblance to the many characters portrayed therein. With the exception of Stella Moray and Lynda Bellingham, who both do extremely well, the remaining ladies have been chosen chiefly for their physical and facial likenesses to the models used by the painter. Some of them are inadequate as actresses, whilst others have difficulty in remaining on key when singing. The choice of actors to portray the diminutive Toulouse-Lautrec was probably limited. Although Henry Wood handled his acting scenes creditably, his personality is not strong enough to carry the show, and his singing, which lacks any feeling for tempo, was in the main inaudible.

Barry Conley

## Something for everyone

**CLEO LAINE'S SPRING COLLECTION** at the Festival Hall, London SE1.

At this stage in her career, any new superlatives that I might add about Cleo Laine would be superfluous. Suffice for me to quote one American critic during her recent US tour, who called her "quite simply the best singer in the world." I'll go along with that statement, extravagant though it may seem.

In her fifth annual concert at Festival Hall she sang 30 songs during the evening. Of these, I had seen her perform three on previous occasions, and of the remaining 27, at least half were completely unknown to me. It takes guts to present an audience with such a wide variety of new material, and perhaps no little part of Cleo's success is her unique artistry.

With her striking beauty, it would be enough that her voice is capable of hitting a G above high C (2 years ago the note quoted was an F). Her lower register, with those warm honey tones, are something else again. But as if these two talents were not enough, she is also a superb actress. Proof of this can be found in her rendering of Sondheim's

poignant "Send In The Clowns" and Legrand's bittersweet "You Must Believe In Spring". However, her acting range also includes Noel Coward's comic song "There Are Bad Times Just Around The Corner", as well as a short scene from his *Private Lives* in which she plays both male and female roles. Elsewhere, she displays further acting ability in five new poems set to music, from writers such as John Betjeman, Percy French and Will Shakespeare. With Rossini and Gilbert & Sullivan for the highbrows, Coward, Sondheim and Aznavour for the sophisticates, she ensures that all tastes are catered for, by cleverly including a selection by contemporary composers. Paul Williams "We Could Be Flying" and Carol King's "Music" serve her well, as does a new samba written by husband John Dankworth, which she duets with his saxophone. The nearest she veers to soul is Stevie Wonder's "Looking For Another Pure Love", and to commercialism in Bacharach's "The World Is A Circle". Even with their great arrangements, for my money she can drop these two items immediately. But with 28 other superb offerings, who can afford to grumble?

Barry Conley

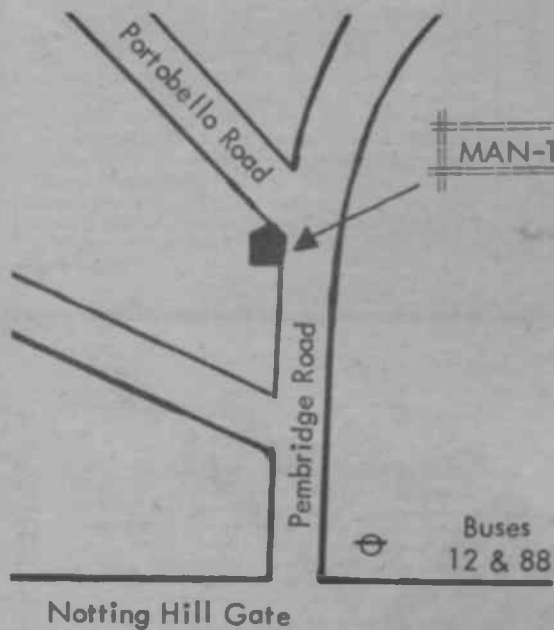
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# Face To Facade

by Iain T Finlayson

There are two schools of thought about the use of cosmetics. One is that most faces demand to be hidden behind layers of paint and the other is that the natural look of the face should be paramount and that cosmetics must enhance rather than conceal.

The first notion is probably the more realistic and the second a product of wishful thinking. Whatever your own attitude, fashion is firmly into the 'natural look', aided not a little by ecology-minded executives and those keepers of the social conscience—the marketing men. But the natural look cannot be taken literally—it is far from being an 'Oh, the hell with it' attitude; rather it is a deliberate attempt to recreate a knowing lack of sophistication by the most modern sophisticated techniques. Take hair, for instance:

'It is a curious fact of social history that there is always a tendency for those who wish to change the social structure to let their hair grow long and not to shave their faces. It is presumably something to do with the idea of a return to Nature, a repudiation of artificiality of all kinds.'

Sound familiar? What was that about the Woodstock Generation? But read on . . .

'It is safe to say that in the 1830s any bearded man was a revolutionary of some sort, and that any clean-shaven man was a reactionary.'

Thus writes James Laver in 'The Age of Illusion', and it pinpoints the essential social base in which even something so frivolous as fashion in hair is rooted. (There's a metaphor in there trying to get out!). But not only hair—cosmetics, too:

The divine Colette, in one of her admirable essays (Heigh Ho—back to Eng. Lit. I get all this stuff from the London Library, you know. £20 down and all the books you can read for a year. Wonderful!) gives a spirited account of the time when she ran a beauty salon in Paris during the early years of this century. The vogue was for girls to try to look like their mothers and not, as now, vice-versa. Approached by one *jeune fille en fleur*, Colette set to and enamelled the fresh young flower face in the fashion that transformed her from a girl of 22 to a woman of 32. Standing back to admire the effect, Colette suddenly seized a sponge and erased all trace of cosmetics from the girl's face, saying 'You must fight your battles with your own face and not that of a Messaline.' Shortly after, she closed up the shop forever. *La vie en rose* withers in the cruel *alfresco*.

Then, as now, women were in the slow process of gestation from their pedestals to the realities of life, red in tooth and claw. In the process, their own red claws and pink gums were being discarded as a more natural look took over and they were freed from constricting clothes and the confines of their roles as chattels of men. However, vanity is bound to reassert itself and now we have recovered from the mindless Flower Power era, we begin to look more closely at ourselves and to take more interest in ourselves as individuals rather than as part of a glutinous universal brotherhood of love.

All this, believe it or not, is simply to introduce to you a new range of shampoos and hair-care products. Vidal Sassoon (as important in his own contribution to hair-dressing as Chanel was to clothes) last week introduced the fruits of his joint labours with the firm of Yardley who's last hairdressing range was beargrease. According to Sassoon, hairdressing is a British Art Form (Sir Herbert Read, thou should'st be living at this hour) and haircutting has come a long way. Elimination is the key—women are the workers of today and, as this is a unisex range of hair products, so presumably are men. The most important aspects of hair care are a superb cut and perm or a straight club cut for hair without curl. Colouring seems to be important, too, as most of the models appeared to have had their hair coloured to the rich shade of old, faded, red velvet. In most of today's fashionable heads, then, the three criteria to be observed are colour, cut, and perm, and hair must be as thick at the end as it is at the roots. Monthly shaping is essential—preferably by Sassoon at any one of his four London salons, I suppose.

To be fair, though, he is a most engaging fellow, and the Sassoon/Yardley products do seem to have been thought out very carefully and with a thoroughgoing comprehension of the fact that hair does require to be kept in good health if it is to look attractive. The shampoo comes in three formulae—for greasy, dry and normal hair—and the difference between them is in the concentration of surface active material (I think that was what he said, at any rate). In each, the pH balance is the same as the naturally acid balance of the skin and scalp, so that the condition of the skin will not be dried out by excessively high alkaline content. (Is there a chemist in the house?). Additionally, hair is basically a protein—you are what you eat, to coin a phrase—and Sassoon believes that hair has to work for the individual. Every man his own salvation, I guess. (Is there a philosopher in the house, please?)

After shampooing, apply the Sassoon/Yardley conditioner. This, too, contains protein and treats the hair to neutralise static electricity (is there a molecular biologist in the house?) in order to give gloss and shine to the hair and make it more manageable.

Finally, spray the hair with hair hold which, according to my press release, 'with its micro-fine spray, controls hair without deadening. It protects the style from atmospheric dampness and wind and a soft brushing will remove Hair Hold cleanly.'

Ladies and gentlemen, this miracle of modern science will retail at 49p to 54p and will be available from leading chemists and department stores from July 1974. Forgive my rushing off, now, but I'm just in a hurry to enroll in a crash interdisciplinary course in modern science and Western philosophy. You never know when it might come in useful these days—if only to keep up with Mr Sassoon.



VAMP—created by Christopher Brooker, Artistic Director for Vidal Sassoon for the launch of the new Vidal Sassoon hair care range by Yardley. VAMP is a stunning new look for naturally curly hair, achieved with finger waves. The hair is cut square for the waves and to give fullness at the back. Hair by: Christopher Brooker; Make-up by: Yardley; Model: Ora; Photographer: Karl Stoeker.



The Vidal Sassoon Hair Care Range by Yardley. There are three shampoos—for dry, normal and greasy hair—an after shampoo conditioner and a hair spray. The shampoos will retail at 54p, the conditioner at 49p and Hair Hold at 53p. All are protein-based to strengthen the hair against damage and to give extra body and shine, and the shampoos have been specially formulated to attain the same acid mantle of the skin.

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# Record Reviews

## Captivating Cleo



CLEO LAINE LIVE AT CARNEGIE HALL—RCA.

One of the best exports we have sent the States is singer Cleo Laine. She fully deserves the superlatives showered on her by the American press, as her latest album proves. Unlike her previous RCA set *I Am A Song*, which was greeted with mixed praise, this one is possibly her best album yet. From the unaccompanied introduction of "I Know Where I'm Going", down to her famous 'beg off' tune "Please Don't Talk About Me When I'm Gone", it's a winner all the way.

Her comments that she has to believe in the words before attempting a song, are in evidence in her handling of those two beautiful ballads, Sondheim's "Send In The Clowns" and Legrand's "You Must Believe In Spring". They were two of the highlights of her recent London concert, and it's good to have them on record as a souvenir. Previn's "Control Yourself" is another tune she's been using for several years but not recorded, and it serves to remind one of her comic abilities.

All facets of her talents are displayed here, as she soars to unbelievable high notes on Carol King's "Music" and the oldie "Perdido". Elsewhere, she proves her versatility in singing Bessie Smith's "Gimme A Pigfoot" in such a way that you believe she really is a jazz singer in a twenties honkey-tonk nightclub. Obviously RCA had a hard job

deciding whether to include some of her material previously recorded, and their choice of a few repeats was fully justified. In Porter's "Riding High" she reaches a peak of vocal excitement not heard since the days of Judy Garland and Lena Horne. Her rendering of Jerome Kern's "Bill" remains so fresh and touching that it's hard to believe she sang it more than 400 times in *Showboat*. Sandy Wilson's bouncy "Big Best Shoes" comes from an earlier stage appearance she made in *Valmouth*. Finally, her famous closer "Please Don't Talk About Me" with its clever arrangement for the second chorus, retains all of its magic.

In a word—FLAWLESS.

Barry Conley

## Short plays

Released for the second time is "I Fought The Law" by the Bobby Fuller Four (MGM). Previously a hit in the mid-sixties, it has long been considered a 'punk rock' classic by many pop fans. The late Bobby Fuller (he was murdered a year or so after the record originally made the charts) and his group created a sound that owed much to Buddy Holly & The Crickets, but nevertheless recorded a great song that could easily make the charts again. It is also featured on one of the four new volumes in the *Carats* series, all of which are first-rate 'golden oldies' compilations.

"The Trase" by Paul Trevillion (Pye) is apparently very popular in North of England gay discos. Whilst a soul rhythm section plays in the background, Trevillion chats away to a friend he is trying desperately to seduce in his car. Corny and sexist, but lots of fun if it's the sort of thing that turns you on.

Ann Peebles' "I Can't Stand The Rain" (London) is one of the seventies' finest soul singles, and is currently being re-promoted in Britain, following the



cut's success in the States. The song is the title track of her latest album, and that too is well worth hearing.

"Lover's Question" by The Exciters (Contempo) is a punchy, up-tempo soul cut from a group who had a number of hits in the sixties with records such as "Tell Him" and "Doo Wah Diddy Diddy".

I suspect though that the track's appeal will largely be limited to discos.

An excellent first release by newcomer Lyn Roman is "Stop, I Don't Need No Sympathy" (Brunswick). It's bound to please disco-goers, but whether or not it makes an impact with a wider audience depends on how much promotion and radio exposure it receives.

Released on the Dragon label last year, Hopeton Lewis's reggae version of "City Of New Orleans" has recently been re-issued by Polydor. Inventively produced by Byron Lee, the record could well be 1974's first reggae hit.

An amusing oddity on the Virgin label is "Casablanca Moon" by a new group who call themselves Slapp Happy. God knows what record buyers will make of its weird but fun tango arrangement.

Andy & David Williams' "What's Your Name" (Philips) is an over-sweet version of Don & Juan's big Stateside hit of a few years back. They sound as precious as Herman's Hermits used to. BBC producers are sure to adore their syrupy vocals.

"You're Getting A Little Too Smart" by the Detroit Emeralds (Westbound) is a piece of slow burning funk taken from the group's *Abe, James & Ivory* album. It's nothing very exceptional but will go down well at discos. "Lee" is on the flip and is also good enough to get people dancing.

Tamla Motown have released "Gotta Hold On To This Feeling" by Jr Walker & The All Stars to coincide with their tour of Britain with label companion Edwin Starr. The cut was recorded in 1969 and isn't as good as some of his recordings of that time, but his sax playing is as bitingly energetic and funky as ever it was.

Now calling himself 'The Hitman—The Godfather Of Soul', James Brown's new single is another slice of uptown, hip-shaking funk entitled "Stone To The Bone" (Polydor). Disco-ravers will love it.

Paul Kendrick doesn't leave anybody wondering about the meaning of his lyrics as he grows his way through "Let's Do It Now" (A&M). The arrangement features some tastily-phased guitar and sensual drumming. As the BBC almost certainly won't play it, get your friendly local record shop to give it a spin.

Although Three Dog Night's "The Show Must Go On" (Probe) is climbing the American charts, I don't see it doing much in the UK. Proficient but undistinguished.

The first new Bill Withers record for some time is "The Same Love That Made Me Laugh" (A&M) and is taken from his soon-to-be-released *Justments* album. Great song with mature, meaningful lyrics. The B side is a beautiful slow ballad called "Make A Smile For Me".

"Upon The My-O-My" (Virgin) is a cut from Captain Beefheart & His Magic Band's *Unconditionally guaranteed*

album, their most accessible set to date. Love to see the Captain and his group perform the track live on 'Top of the Pops'.

Lamont Dozier's "Trying To Hold On To My Woman" is rather disappointing. Hopefully the duo's forthcoming album, from which this cut is taken, will prove to be more interesting.

Snafu make an impressive debut with their first single "Dixie Queen" (WWA), and there's a nice piece of freaked out country rock on the flip entitled "Monday Morning". They create a very American sound and the group display a lot of potential, although they will undoubtedly cause more of an impact when their first album is released.

I can't take the Strawbs' "Hero And Heroine" (A&M) seriously enough to say more than I'm sure this confused, untidy recording will delight the group's numerous fans.

One of the most compelling tracks on The Stylistics' *Rockin' Roll Baby* LP on Avco is "Only For The Children", and it acts as this outstanding soft soul group's new single. On the flip side, making the disc a particularly good value, is "You Make Me Feel Brand New". For me, the latter is the tour de force of the album. In the States, it is the A side, and is fast moving up the charts. As I remarked in my review of *Rockin' Roll Baby* in GN43, "You Make Me Feel Brand New" is "a sensitive, inspired love song which only someone with a heart of stone could ignore." As I'm positive one of the sides will make the charts in Britain, it'll be interesting to see which one it will be.

Denis Lemon

## JC's choice

THAT'S A PLENTY—The Pointer Sisters (Blue Thumb).

The four preacher's daughters are back with still more charm and stamina on their second LP. All those who ever had a chance to see them performing live will need this collection of songs, to remember just how brilliantly they are interpreted, played, and acted by the soulful sisters and their musicians. Others are advised to listen carefully (on the turntables of the lucky ones who've bought it), and then rush out and get "That's A Plenty".

Soul, warmth, wit, humour. The Pointer Sisters are really offering a lot! "Bangin' On The Pipes" is the track that's most likely to make it commercially, but all the numbers included are of such a high standard that it's very much up to the listener to name his or her favourites. Special mention, from me, to "Shaky Fat Blues", and to "Fairytale", an incredible send-up of a C/W type song. I'm certain that Charlie

(Rich) and Denis (Lemon) still don't believe their ears. "Love In Them Hills" is possibly the highlight of a refreshing, entertaining and superb album. Thank you, sisters.

UNCONDITIONALLY GUARANTEED—Captain Beefheart (Virgin Records). Having been a devotee of the dear Captain since my Paris days (long ago, and so far away...), I always welcome a new Beefheart recording. I know that I will find the kind of uplifting tempo that makes one jump up and dance. This album is no exception, for Beefheart has gone really funky, and might well appeal to a larger number of listeners than before. "Sugar Bowl" and "Magic Be" certainly make the first side to my view (ear?), and "This Is The Day" and "Peaches" are good runners on side two. Give it a try, it's unconditionally guaranteed (to make you feel good).

BUDDHA AND THE CHOCOLATE BOX—Cat Stevens (Island Records). It took about five playings before I began to enjoy Cat's latest creation, but now I can ask people "What do you think of 'Buddha And The Chocolate Box'?" with a slight affectation of superiority.



"Oh Very Young" (also chosen for the single) went into my ears and doesn't seem to want to make room for any of the other melodies on the album, most of which are strongly reminiscent of Cat's early recordings. As for the lyrics, he is trying his best to get his message across. Full marks for the paintings Cat did to illustrate the back cover, a cross between comic-strips and Japanese sketches, they are very pretty indeed.

QUEEN II—Queen (EMI Records). Queen's second album, in spite of its rather predictable title, comes as a good surprise and as the promise of a future big success for the group. Queen's music is becoming pleasantly sophisticated, and doesn't rely too heavily on an excess of decibels as in the previous album. On the 'white' side, listen to "White Queen", and on the 'black' side to "Seven Seas Of Rye", a track that has been played a lot on the radio, made the charts, and thus is certainly already familiar to you.

Jean-Claude Thevenin

## Top sounds

### Dick's Inn—London's Gay Discos

1. TSOP (The Sound of Philadelphia)—MSFB (Phil Int)
  2. Year of Decision—Three Degrees (Phil Int)
  3. Walking Miracle—Limmie & Family Cookin' (Avco)
  4. Tom the Peepee—Act 1 (Mercury)
  5. I Can't Stand The Rain—Ann Peebles (London)
  6. I'll Always Love My Mama—The Intruders (Phil Int)
  7. Satisfaction Guaranteed—Harold Melvin & The Bluenotes (Phil Int)
  8. Rescue Will Come—Sharon Britt (Avco—import)
  9. Living For The City—Ultrafunk (Contempo)
  10. When The Fuel Runs Out—Executive Suite (Cloudburst)
- Camp Re-Vamp—  
Yes My Darling Daughter—Eddie Gorme (CBS)  
Compiled by Tricky Dicky, week ending 4/5/74.

## DL's top ten

Occasionally I indulge myself by listing the albums which are spending the most time on my turntable during the fortnight between issues. The records included are all new releases, and each, depending on your individual tastes, is highly recommended.

1. *Court & Spark*—Joni Mitchell (Asylum). It is no exaggeration to say that with *Court & Spark*, Ms Mitchell has created a masterpiece that will undoubtedly prove to be one of the most significant singer/songwriter sets released in recent years. More than ever before, the probing, uncompromising lyrics and Joni's forceful but acutely sensitive interpretation of the material, make her new album essential listening.
2. *Phaedra*—Tangerine Dream (Virgin). Tangerine Dream are a particularly talented German group, and *Phaedra* is their first album to be issued in Britain. Their previous sets have sold well as imports and have gained them a considerable 'underground' reputation. Comparisons with the Pink Floyd are inevitable, as the outfit at first sound as if they are exploring similar territory. But after a few plays, it becomes obvious that they are making advances into uncharted areas of music. The result is layers of electronically textured vibrations which have the potential to take the listener on a journey into the unknown.
3. *I Can't Stand The Rain*—Ann Peebles (London). Exceptionally good soul set from an extremely talented artist. At long last Ms Peebles is receiving the critical acclaim and commercial success which until recently has evaded her.
4. *Laughter In The Rain*—Neil Sedaka (Polydor). High class pop music from one of the genre's truly creative professionals. Best tracks include "Sad Eyes", "Betty Grable", "Going Nowhere" and "The Immigrant".

5. *On The Border*—The Eagles (Asylum). Once again the Eagles amply justify their position as one of America's leading rock bands. If you still need convincing, just listen to "The Best Of My Love", "Midnight Flyer", the title song or the recording's most stunning track "On 55". The latter is a dreamy song about driving home at the first light of day after spending a night with a lover. The album is worth buying for this cut alone.

6. *Windfall*—Rick Nelson & The Stone Canyon Band (MCA). Former teenage idol Rick Nelson has been responsible for some very satisfying country orientated albums over the last few years. But *Windfall* is unquestionably the finest recording he has made during his long career. Accompanied as usual by the highly proficient Stone Canyon Band, Nelson has included a wider variety of material on this set, ranging from heavy but melodic rock numbers through to delicious country ballads. Whatever your tastes in contemporary music, *Windfall* is well worth investigating.

7. *Live At The Theatre Royal*—Caravan & The New Symphonia (Deram). This set was recorded live at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, in October last year. Making full use of the New Symphonia, the exciting orchestrations add much to the group's already very distinctive sound. Caravan have for too long been a wickedly underrated British band, but this album could well change that situation.

8. *It's Too Late To Stop Now*—Van Morrison (Warner Bros). Another live set, this time a double album of recordings made at Van Morrison concerts in Los Angeles and London during the summer of 1973. I've been critical of his last few LPs, for none seemed to have the power or originality of his earlier discs, but I'm delighted with *It's Too Late To Stop Now*, as it captures all the excitement and spontaneity of this gifted artist's live performances, without losing any of the subtlety or inventiveness of his best studio records.

Incidentally, Morrison devotees may be interested in *TB Sheets* on the London label. It is a collection of tracks he recorded in the States shortly after splitting from the group he used to be a part of, the infamous Them. Most of the songs previously appeared on *Blowin' Your Mind* (London) and the premature *Best Of Van Morrison* (President), but if you haven't come across either of the latter two albums, the LP is well worth buying. Best cuts are "TB Sheets", the original version of "Madame George", and Morrison's American chart-topping single "Brown-Eyed Girl".

9. *Loving Arms*—Dobie Gray (MCA). Dobie's new set is an inspired follow-up to his *Drift Away* album. The latter, despite being largely ignored by the majority of record buyers in Britain, was for me one of the outstanding LPs of 1973. Hopefully, people will not underestimate the worth of *Loving Arms*.

10. *Oooh So Good 'n Blues*—Taj Mahal (CBS). Back-to-the-roots set from ace contemporary bluesman Taj Mahal, and the album really lives up to its title. Although not credited, the Pointer Sisters supply back-up vocals on some tracks.

Denis Lemon

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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 Pub: Laughing Cavalier, Market St, Stalybridge (Thurs)

AYR Pub: Caledonian Hotel (upstairs public lounge)

BARNLEY Pub: Queens Hotel (Venturer Bar)

BARRY, Glamorgan Pub: The Barry Hotel (Lounge Bar) Broad 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 Europa Hotel (Whip and Saddle Bar), Great Victoria Street

BIRMINGHAM Pub: The Victoria, John Bright St The Viking (Downstairs Bar), Smallbrook, Queensway, open nightly, 8-10.30, gays and friends only.

Club: Grosvenor House, 326 Hagley Road, B17 \*Nightingale, 50 Camp Hill, B12

BLACKBURN Pub: The Merchants Hotel, Darwin St (D)

BLACKPOOL Pub: Lucy's Bar, Talbot Square Club: The Red Dragon, North Prom, opposite Metropole

BOLTON Pub: Peel Arms, 423 Halliwell Road Prince Williams (upstairs), Bradshawgate

Club: Labour Club, 16 Wood St (upstairs bar)

BOURNEMOUTH Pub: The Norfolk Hotel Club: Glig's, 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) Move Lanes Hotel \*Heart & Hand, Ship Street

Club: 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 Move

Longbranch Club, Grand Parade Gay Cavalier, 62 Middle Street Olde Twitten, 62 Middle Street

Rest: Lorelei Coffee Lounge, 5 Union Street Disco: Sussex GLF, 8-11pm every Fri, Stanford Arms (upstairs back bar), Preston Circus

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

Club: \*Moulin Rouge, 72 Worrall Rd, Clifton

BURNLEY Pub: \*The Cross Keys

CAMBRIDGE Pub: The Stable Bar, Green Street (off Trinity Street)

Rest: Scaramouche, Catherine Street, Tel: Cambridge 43570

CANTERBURY Pub: The Queen's Head, Watling St

CARDIFF Pub: Royal Hotel (Roberts Bar) St Mary Street

Club: Showbiz Club, Hope Street

CHELtenham Pub: Savoy Hotel, Bayshill Rd (Sundays)

Club: New Twenty Club, 20 High St

CHESTER Pub: Foregate Bar, Blossoms Hotel, St Johns Street

CHICHESTER Pub: Cattle Market Inn

CIRENCESTER Pub: Black Horse

CLEETHORPES Pub: 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

DUNSMOIRE, Bucks Pub: The Fox

DURHAM Pub: The Three Tuns, Old Elvet Nevilles Cross Hotel

EDINBURGH Pubs: 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, Argyle St The Strand (Downstairs Bar), Hope Street

GRAVESEND Pub: The Kent, High Street

GREENOCK Pub: The Jolly Sailor (Wed only)

GUILDFORD Pub: The Royal Oak, near multi-story car park

HASTINGS Pub: The Palace Bars, 8 Palace Chambers, White Rock

HOLMFIRTH Pub: Royal Oak, Upper Thong, near Holmfirth, Yorks

Huddersfield Pub: The Commercial Hotel, High St The Grey Horse, Chapel Hill (Sundays) Amster Dam (men)

HULL Pub: White House (Chicken and Cocktail Bar), Jameson St Royal Station Hotel, Paragon Square Centre Hotel (London Bar), Paragon St, Hull.

ILFORD Pub: The Cavalier Club, Ilford Lane

IPSWICH Pub: The Sea Horse Inn, Collee St

ISLE OF WIGHT Pub: The Hole in the Wall, Market St, Ventnor

The Plough, High St, Shanklin (Public Bar)

Club: Regency Club, Sun Hill, Cowes 5188 Medway Queen Night Club, Newport 5460 (D)

Rest: Ryde Queen Boatel at Wight Marina, Newport 4751

LANCASTER Pub: Farmers Arms, King 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 Briggate

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

LEICESTER Pub: Dover Castle, Dover Street

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

Club: New Bears Paw, Dorrans Lane Johns Gay Bar Royal, Wood St Pagoda, 31 Colquitt Street L1

LONDON Pub: \*Watermans Arms (upstairs bar), Water Lane, Richmond \*The Boltons & \*The Coleherne are near each other on 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)

\*Elephant & Castle, South Lambeth Place (Vauxhall tube)(D) Cricketers, Battersea Park Rd (D) The Salisbury, St Martins Lane WC1 (Leicester Sq tube)

Ship & Whale, Gulliver St SE 16 William IV, Hampstead High St \*Royal Vauxhall Tavern, Vauxhall Cross (Vauxhall tube)(D)

\*Union Tavern, 146 Camberwell New Road, SE5. Disco Mon and Tues (D) Father Redcap, Camberwell Green, SE5

Imperial, High St, Richmond Royal Mall, Upper St, Islington, N1 (Angel tube)(D) 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)

Club: \*Peacock Club, 259 Old Brompton Road, SW10 \*Chaparramas, Neal St, WC2 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, WC1 (Leicester Sq tube) \*Molin Disco Club (girls only) Half Moon Hotel, Half Moon Lane, Herve Hill, SE24 (Wed Fri Sat)

\*Shans, Broadhurst Gardens, NW9, The Escort, 89a Millicote 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) Apollo, 3 Wardour St, W1

Mandy's, 30 Henrietta St, WC2 Jonny's, 106, The Shopping Precinct, Shepherds Bush, W12 (Shepherds Bush tube)

Disco: \*The Catacombs, Old Brompton Road (Earls Court tube) South London GLF disco, 8pm Sat at Hanover Arms (Oval tube)

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

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, 8-12 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: Nell Gwynnes Kitchen, 43 Crawford St

La Popote, Walton St, SW3 Chagarramas, 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 Casseroie, 338 Kings Road, Chelsea, SW3

The Last Resort, 294 Fulham Road, SW10. Tel: 352 1625 Le Richelieu, 277 New Kings Rd, SW6. Tel: 736 4432

LINCOLN Pub: Ye Olde Crown, Clasketgate (lounge bar)

LUTON Club: \*Pan Club, Bute Street. Open nightly, weekend cabaret

MACCLESFIELD Pub: Waters Green Tavern

MANCHESTER Pub: The Mechanics, Chorlton St Union Hotel, Princess Street (D) Rembrandt, Sackville Street Cavalcade, Wilmslow Road Didsbury (Sunday lunchtime) New York, Bloom Street

Club: Picador, Bradshaw Street, Shude Hill Napoleon's, Sackville Street

MERTHYR TYDFIL Pub: Red Cow Hotel, Giebeland 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 Turks Head, Puchinelio Bar Eldon Grill (Variety Bar), opp Greys Monument

Grapes Vault, Grey St (men only) \*The Lord Chancellor, Groat Market 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 Wellington Road

NOTTINGHAM Pubs: Dog & Partridge, Parliament St The Roebuck, Manfield Road Bentink Hotel, Midland Station The Foresters (girls), near Victoria Centre

Club: 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 The Grey Horse, Union St

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

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

PENRITH Cafe: Rendezvous, Sandgate

PENZANCE Pub: The Dock Hotel

PLYMOUTH Pub: Lockyer Hotel, Oak Lounge (back bar), Derry's Cross The Phoenix (off Union Street) Club: West Hook Club, Cliff Road

POOLE Pub: The Jolly Sailor The Lord Nelson

PORTSMOUTH Pub: \*Balmoral Bar, Landport Terrace Admiralty Tavern (Lounge Bar), Spring Street Club: The Country Club, Winchester Road, Bishops Waltham (D)

PRESTON Pub: Bus & Royal, Cockpit Bar The Painted Wagon (under ABC Cinema)

ROCHESTER Pub: Ye Olde Ship Inn, 347 High St

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

ST HELIER, Jersey Club: New Side Door, Cricketers Arms, Seate Street

SANDBACH, Cheshire Pub: Market Place Tavern (Thurs)

SCARBOROUGH Pub: The Albert, North Marine Rd (back room)

Club: Bottleneck, Ramshill Rd (Sats) Disco: Outrigger, between Scarborough and Flaily, Open Sats to May 18th and then every night

SHEFFIELD Pub: The Cossack The Pump (Smoke Room), Cumberland Way

Club: Amberley Club, 225 Attercliffe Common (Gaysoc Disco)

SOUTHAMPTON Pub: \*Anchor Inn, East St (girls only on Sat)

\*Robert Burns, 9 South Front Juniper Berry, Upper Bugle St (D) Lord Roberts, Canal Walk

Club: Upstairs Club, St Mary's St Viking Club, Anchor Inn East St (girls only Sats)

Rest: The Fig Leaf, 94 St Marys Road, 9.30pm-3.00am

SOUTHPORT Club: Concor Club, 18 Neville Street

SOUTHSEA Pub: Captain's Table, Granada Road Jolly Sailor, South Parade Duke of Devonshire, Albert Road

STOCKPORT Pub: \*Duke of Clarence, Avenue St

STOKE-ON-TRENT Pub: The Antelope, Hanley Vine Inn, (Mames bar), Vine St, Hanley

Club: One For One, 141 Marsh Street North, Hanley

STRATFORD-ON-AVON Pub: Queens Head, Ely Street

SUNDERLAND Club: \*Rokoko, The Promenade, Roker

ROTHERHAM Pub: Brecks Hotel (Snug Bar), Wickersley

SWANSEA Pub: Dolphins Hotel (C T Lounge) Whitewalls Three Lamps Hotel (top floor bar), Castle Gardens

TAUNTON Club: Pavilion Two, Linden Grove, Taunton

TORQUAY Pub: Mead Foot Bay Hotel, Mead Foot Sea Road

Mereswood Hotel, Meadfoot Rd Meadfoot Inn, Meadfoot Lane Club: \*Double Two Club, Rock Rd

UPHOLLAND, near St Helens Pub: White Lion

WESTCLIFF Pub: \*Queen's Hotel (Street Bar), Hamlet Court Road

WIGAN Pub: Market Hotel, Mesnes St White Lion Derby Arms, Chapel Lane

WINDSOR Pub: The Three Tuns, near Guildhall Noah's Ark, near disused gas works (Fri & Sat) The Ship, near Guildhall

WOLVERHAMPTON Pub: Prince Albert, Lichfield St Club: Silver Web, Whitmore Street

YORK Pub: York Arms

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Love Knoweth No Laws\*

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

\*Chaucer

Answering a Box Reply

- 1. Place your reply in a small envelope and seal it. 2. Mark clearly on the outside the Box Number to which you are replying. 3. Place this small envelope together with a 3½p stamp (unattached) in a large envelope which should be addressed to: Gay News Box Replies, 62a Chiswick High Road, London W4 1SY. 4. More than one reply can be enclosed in the final large envelope provided each reply is accompanied by a loose 3½p stamp.

Advertisements for inclusion in issue 47 must be received no later than noon on Monday 13th May. They should be no longer than 35 words. Those exceeding this limit will be returned.

As from May 14th, Box numbers in issue 43 and earlier will be discontinued and replies to them will not be forwarded.

Mixed Personal

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

Happy couple, no axe to grind would like to meet other gays male or female for friendship only. Any age. Box 46/2.

Male, 24, seeks female friend. Also like to meet TV, TS. Sincere. ALA. Lancs/anywhere. Box 46/3.

Bisexual bachelor, 30, seeks girl, for friendship, marriage. Box 46/4.

Young male, 27, seeks young bi female for friendship. Midlands preferred. Box 46/5.

Either sex—gay 29yr old male novice rider, Epping Forest area, seeks sympathetic horse enthusiast to share riding interests. Box 46/6.

Gay 32, part gay, would like gay girl as companion. No restrictions. A Taylor, 7 Cranberry Place, Southampton.

Gay professional man, young middle-aged, London, would love to meet gay girl for experimental friendship with elements of mutual affectionate nursing, middlebrow books, theatre, films, etc. Box 46/8.

Edinburgh bisexual guy, 32, goodlooking, attractive, sincere but mostly modest, seeks young gay guy, gay girl, bi-guy, bi-girl or straight girl for lasting friendship. Send photo and details. Box 46/89.

Prosinger needs accompanist: has grand piano, classic, ballads, Donegal 735 3321. Proud fatherhood without tears, soggy nappies, sleeplessness! Gay girl, 26, in stable relationship, wants baby(ies). Needs help! Subsequent emotional/financial support unnecessary though contact through visits might be nice. Box 46/90.

Gay male, young 40, likes TV. Maybe bisexual, seeks gay girl to help. Box 46/91.

Bisexual male, 38, wishes to meet young bi-females during occasional London visits. Sincerity essential. Box 46/100.

Women's Personal

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

Gay girl, 31, would like to meet same for sincere friendship. London area. Photo appreciated. Box 46/1.

Affectionate, lonely gay girl, 28, seeks sincere fem. girlfriend, for genuine friendship. Midlands area. Photo appreciated. Box 46/86.

Disillusioned romantic seeks North London gay lady for mutual enchantment. Box 46/87.

Ladies Only — The smallest ladies-only bar ever! Open 7.00pm until late late 7 nights a week. The Oasis Room, 5 Excel Court, Whitcomb Street, London WC2, opp Royal Trafalgar Hotel.

Croydon area—50/80 gay girl early 30s, own car and house seeks genuine friendship, others for outings, theatre, clubs, etc. ALA. Box 46/108.

Bisexual girl 23yrs, slim & nice-looking, seeks girl under 30 to sh. social life with myself and my boyfriend. Have nice flat and car. Photo please. Box 46/109.

Men's Personal

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

Well built, tall, hair, 30, own pad London, seeks muscular coloured friend. Send photo. Box 46/7.

29, hirsute, bearded—interests leather/denim etc wants friendship with active guys. Preferably hirsute. Same interests essential. Have phone. ALA. Box 46/8.

Enthusiastic hillwalker and climber: seeks young companions early 20s to enjoy weekends at Welsh Cottage and mid-weeks. London area. ALA. Box 46/9.

Virgo, 5'5", 20s, slimish, seeks tall rugged type under 35. Photo appreciated. Box 46/10.

Southerner, short hair, wears denim, 32, own pad and car invites mates for enjoyable weekends. Photo appreciated. Box 46/11.

Edinburgh Festival 1974. Music lover, 23, slim, smart, seeks very similar companion for festival. Box 46/12.

London SE23 guy, 37, wants active friends. Many interests including leather/denim etc. Box 46/13.

Gantshill area. Guy 28, goodlooks, non-camp, sincere, seeks respectable guys 21-28. Sharing flat possible for right person. Box 46/14.

Age 25, denim/leather. Box 46/15. Bachelor, early 80s, slim, own place, Portsmouth area, seeks active, hirsute friends. ALA. Box 46/16.

Suffering from emotional cowardice! Let's combat it together. Graduate 26, slim, fair, seeking responsible, sensitive relationship with intelligent young man. Interests arts, theatre, music, travel. Midlands. Photo please. Box 46/17.

Active & handsome, 21-27, but can't afford to get out and about? Let me date you. I am 35, London based. Please send photo and full details. Box 46/18.

Shy, non-camp 22/28 and want to settle with someone older? I'm 34, quiet, straight, own pad NWKant. Photo appreciated. Box 46/19.

Young looking 40yr old living in South London seeks genuine male friends between 40-55. Box 46/20.

Manchester. Guy 27, slim, 5'11", seeks non-effeminate friends. Photo appreciated. ALA. Box 46/21.

North Oxon male, not camp, wants to meet other gays over 21 same area, any nationality. Box 46/22.

Dagenham guy, about 80, who I met on Epsom Court station after Xmas, supposed to meet you at Coleherne the next Saturday but couldn't. Remember Robert? Studded jacket and jeans. Write me. Box 46/24.

Two gay boys going to South Africa June require information. Box 46/25.

Attractive graduate 28, tall, dark and active would like to meet blond young thin guy over 21 to share civilized life and flat, Central London. Photo please. Box 46/26.

Australian, 26, needs a friend to help with ACE Maths, Physics, Chem and Biology. Aged 21-26. Box 46/27.

Personal Ads continued from Page 17

London. Long-haired tall guy, 22, into denim and leather scene wishes to meet guy of similar age. Photo if possible. ALA. Box 46/36. Male graduate late 20s varied interests seeks younger guy over 21 Manchester/South Lancs for friendship. Box 46/37. Male, youngish 60, seeks sincere friends 25/40 South Yorkshire preferred. Genuine replies only. ALA. Box 46/38. London peaceful guy, 24, long hair, into Hawkwind, Yes, Pink Floyd, ELP etc wishes to contact similar, photo if possible. ALA. Box 46/39. Couples together 10 years and over required for interview by sociologist. Please write giving some details: Chris Martin, c/o 23 Penwortham Road, London SW16. Are you tender, sensitive and loving? I have own house Southern England and would like you to share it with me. If you are 21-35. Please write with photo. Box 46/40. Londoner too shy to explore pub, club and disco scene alone seeks similar to undertake exploration or someone who will hold my hand. Box 46/41. Young London Chinese, age 25, would like to meet active young guy 21-30 for friendship. Box 46/42. Professional Londoner, 39, medium build, straight appearance, lively, intelligent needs similar active, hirsute, well-built friend to help capture elusive bird of happiness. Own house and car. Photo please. Box 46/43.

TIM G VITAL. WE CONTACT YOU CONFIDENTIALLY. Your happiness and future are our only concern. Remember downstairs place you sometimes visited recently Thursday evenings before speedway? Please be there 3pm Saturday 18th May. Bruce and N.

Guy, 23, with general interests and becoming interested in football spectating wishes to meet others in London area. Box 46/44. Young, long-haired guy, 21, would like letters from similar type and age. 30 mile radius Peterborough. Photo appreciated. Box 46/46. Middle aged lonely would like to correspond with those of similar age or younger. Interests theatre, cinema, literature good conversation. Own flat. Possible weekend meetings. Bournemouth area. Box 46/47. Cheerful goodlooking young man wants to say hello to same in Ilford area. Box 46/48. Lonely Leo, late 30s, 5'10", short, dark hair, gray eyes, not effeminate, good sense of humour, own house and car seeks active attractive friends 21-40. Photo please, returnable. ALA. Box 46/49. Attractive 21yr old, tall, well built, active, shortly moving to Sheffield seeks friends 21-40. Photo please. ALA. Box 46/50. Tall, dark, 28, Greater London, happy disposition, interests music, food, clothes. Like to hear from anyone 21-30s. Box 46/51. Affair 22 and 29 want to meet similar with view to holiday together in Mykonos, Sept. Box 46/52. Happy affair would like to get to know other guys in the Bromley/South London area for friendship. Age, religion etc immaterial. Box 46/53.

ARE YOU LIKE ME, CULTURED, non-effeminate, straight-looking, attractive, sincere, affectionate, loving, smart, clean, tidy, interested in the arts, especially opera, ballet, then how about getting in touch with me? I promise to reply. Box 46/54.

Man, 52, London, would like to meet active working class chaps 35-50 well-built with preferably own flat. Photo. Box 46/55. Three delectable Oxford undergraduates, all at times, one blond, one brunette, one dark and curly seek or wouldn't mind suitable young men over 21, one each, for monopoly and scrabble. Box 46/56.

Driver companion wanted for touring/camping fortnight September. France, Spain, Portugal, return Lisbon by sea. Box 46/57. Slim, attractive boy, 21, own flat, TV, Hi-Fi. Seeks similar 21 or over. Photos please. Box 46/58. Peter needs a quiet friend, permanently here in the West Country, about 26 like me. Box 46/59. I am 21, shy, lonely and want a young guy in Croydon, send photo. Box 46/60. Bournemouth in June. Londoner 25 seeks similar to share flat. Box 46/61. Active male, 48, SE Coast offers home to slim affectionate youth 21-24 willing to help with chores. Box 46/62. Shy gay 24, lonely, seeks friends 21-35. Interests include cinema, theatre, photography, music (all kinds) and anything unusual. Photo if possible. ALA. Write Box 46/63.

Youthful 46, personable, intelligent, considerate, keen leather/denim, said to have strong personality, seeks younger man, stable, pleasant, non-effeminate, for fairly regular evenings at home in Surrey flat near London. Photo appreciated. Box 46/64.

Reading area: Gay boy (21), philosophy student, interests: Art, music, writing, fun-seeks gay/bisexual guys (21-23) for friendship. Write this term. ALA. Photo appreciated. Chris Shaw, F51 Rootes Hall, Warwick University, Coventry. Young Chinese gay male not obviously camp seeks masculine active companion for outings. Box 46/66. Gay 34 seeks young manly negro for friendship. Photo please. Box 46/67. Close friendship sought by bachelor, 37, North Surrey, tall, slim, affectionate, car, house, with clean-shaven younger person 21-27. Am genuine and I mean just that. All serious and sensible letters answered. Box 46/69.

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

Wanting more gay friends, professional writer, 50, wishes to contact Chinese or other orientals. Age or looks unimportant. Box 46/92. Three times a week training body-builder wishes to meet similar, ideas/friendship, training partner over 21. Box 46/93. Young guys working in City of London (insurance, banking etc) for friendly lunch times. Usual details. Strict confidence. Box 46/94. Young, slim active artist would like to meet willing musician model. Box 46/95. Birmingham. Guy 31, looking for weekends in boots. Visit your place or you come to mine. Other interests many and varied. 021-554 1286. Young artist, goodlooking, wants well-built active non-camp friends. Own fabulous studio. Photo essential. Box 46/96. Young Dutchman with own flat wanted by young Englishman for friendship and accommodation during frequent visits to Amsterdam. Box 46/98. Art teacher, 43, interested in Socratic affair, London area. Box 46/101. Gay Malta? Information wanted. Box 46/102. Uninhibited gentle types! I'm 40s, interested arts, own age or younger but over 21. Photo. Box 46/103. Zurich, any info, on cheap Pensions, Hotels or leather scene. Box 46/104. Ilford 45yr old wants friends 21-45. Telephone 478 5957. Wrestling. Box 46/105. Londoner, early 40s, wants to meet active older man for friendship and occasional weekends. Wishes to arrange holiday South East. Photo appreciated. Box 46/106. Active guy, mid-thirties, discreet, lives Chelsea, would like to meet younger appreciative companions for visits to opera and concerts. Box 46/107. Cambridge guy, 28, own place seeks similar local for friendship. Box 46/108. Channel Islands uninhibited gay 28 seeks holiday accommodation. Box 46/109. London, flat, slim, 37, interested arts, fun, food, offers genuine friendship. Box 46/110. Active leatherman in South East please write with photo. ALA. Box 46/111. Cumbria. Slim man, 28, wishes to meet another of similar age in area. ALA. Box 46/112. Handsome, personable man, active, 58, intelligent, educated, sympathetic, sincerely offers friendship, affection to attractive, slim young man over 21. Own home. Brentwood, Essex. Box 46/113. Peter, 31, slim, reasonable looks, seeks someone same age or younger but over 21, also slim, to share his flat and whole life. I need someone to love and care for! Do you? Yes? Then please write soon to Box 46/143. Photo appreciated and returned with mine, or phone 228 5665 and ask for Peter. Sincere replies only please. SW11. ALA. Box 46/143. Any redundant gay mags, books, pics etc, ageing limless ex-serviceman would appreciate them to while away lonely hours. Box 46/114. Male, 47, seeks affectionate friend to share modern luxury residential caravan, Teignmouth, Devon. Box 46/115. Manchester. Young man seeks similar over 21 but under 30 for holidays and lasting friendship. Photo appreciated and returned. ALA. Box 46/116. London, 27, East ender, good physique and appearance seeks sincere friends. Photo please. ALA. Box 46/117. Bridge. Two players wanted. Tel: 01-892 5637. Leather guy, 30, needs friends any age, own flat. Photo please. ALA. Perhaps share flat. Box 46/118. Aquarian, 45, offers free holiday accommodation in Jersey to lonely guys who can drive a car, especially those who wear full sets of dentures. Interests theatre, light music, novel writing. Photo please. Box 46/120. Manchester/Oldham/Huddersfield area. Early forties professional guy, many interests, seeks younger friend. Any nationality. Own bungalow, car. ALA with photo exchanged. Box 46/121. Sussex couple, 33 and 37, wish to make friends. Photo. Box 46/122. Slim, very attractive, darkhaired 21, composer, dreamy and rather scatty by nature, tired of remaining a Virgin loner, needs friend of same age to stimulate creativity and love of life. Box 46/123. Clean-limbed youngish graduate seeks introduction by active denim/leather guy into friendship. Write with phone number to Box 46/124. Holiday with me? Literate, attractive young man seeks similar, late 20s to early 30s, to share holiday and after. Write with phone number to Box 46/125. 38, attractive and active gourmet, touring Britain this summer, wishes to contact other gourmets to have pleasant meal together, if nothing else. Box 46/126. Nice looking young man would like being introduced to gay scene by considerate guy. Box 46/127. Bearded Londoner wants to hear from masculine man 21-30. Box 46/128. Are you 21-35, slim and muscular? Do you fancy wrestling practice with others similar? Let's exchange photos and details. London. Box 46/129.

Young soloist with small organ seeks similar for duets. Photo. ALA. Box 46/130. Active man, late 20s, professional Ent/Pop, own car, boat etc, on IOW, seeks young man, non-camp, age 21-25 to visit him weekends and holidays. Photo if possible and phone number. ALA. Box 46/131. Company requires capital for cabaret clubs. High interests, security given. Box 46/132. Young English designer, 34, with super Chelsea flat and wide interests, welcomes slim, handsome friends 21-23, including Asians, who are warm and reliable, uncamp, and sympathetic temperamentally. ALA. Photo please. Box 46/133. Regular man/friend over 21 sought by tall, fair goodlooking guy aged 23. Should have extensive sideburns/shoulders/personality, could be disabled. Photo if convenient. ALA. Box 46/134. Young man, London, beginner, wishes to learn Bassoon. Any help welcome. Box 46/144. Personable young writer/journalist with wide interests seeks younger guys over 21 of small/medium height for friendship. Opportunity for travel/film work for the right boy. Photo essential. ALA-I guarantee. Box 46/145. Humberside business man, attractive 40s, seeks non-camp partner to share comfortable home. Photo appreciated. Box 46/146. Guys welcome at regular parties, London. Box 46/147. Liverpool area. 35, young shy/reticent seeks friendship with older guy (35-50) for companionship, social outings, weekends, holidays. Box 46/148. Active, genuine, affectionate Londoner (who's old at 44?), recently moved to Ealing flat, seeks nice guy 21+ interested in cinema, theatre and all that. Box 46/149. Young man wishes to meet young jockeys, horse soldiers 21-24 for friendship. Photo essential on horseback wearing jodpurs and jodpur boots. London/Brighton. Box 46/150. N London, 26, fair, Swimming, Sun. Seeks guys for friendship 21-25. Own flat. Box 46/151. London trendy, handsome, young Jamaican, own house, seeks genuine 21-25, sincere lasting friendship assured right person. Photo essential for reply. Box 46/152. Manchester guy 29 seeks active friends. Box 46/153. Affair ended, 38, alone, need decent friends, dislike plastic characters and gay scenes, why not correspond anywhere, anywhere. Box 46/154. Gay guy 21, goodlooking, seeks young friends 21-25 for friendship. Lymington, Bournemouth, Hants area. Photo please. Box 46/155. Masculine, intelligent Londoner, 28, would like to meet mature male interested in leather. Box 46/156. Black boy seeks English boy or student, 21-25, non-camp, for friendship. Box 46/157. Where are the active young men who need the welcome an older man can provide? Box 46/158. Active, 34, artistic, spiritual, funloving, intelligent, passionate, needs warm cuddly boy, 21-25, for friendship. Box 46/159. Educated, goodlooking guy, 29, moving to Tenerife, Canary Island, seeks advice on friends and possible employment. Box 46/160. Businessman 31, requires straight friends. Box 46/161. Teacher, active, 30s, not camp, athletic, varied interests, not overkeen on gay scene, wants to contact younger, manly, intelligent chap, London, Surrey preferably. Box 46/162. Slim boy, 23, seeks boyish-looking friend over 21. Likes travel, arts, humour. Dislikes crowds, clubs, effeminate, peds. London. ALA with recent photograph. Box 46/163. Bournemouth guy, mid-20s, seeks interesting company. Box 46/164. South East guy, 26, slim, good looks, seeks similar guy with denim and or moustache. Photo exchanged. Box 46/165. Are you an active 30-40yr old? If so I'm 28yr old actor, resident Bournemouth, your type? Box 46/166. Bright, active, tall and well-built 25-35 man sought by businessman 30yrs as assistant. Then accompany to Continent for 5 months in October shooting and riding in fabulous country. Must be tough, independent and adventurous. Box 46/173. Manchester male, 38, own flat, well-built, hobbies skating, cycling, swimming, naturism, seeks friend any age over 21, with view to permanent friendship. ALA. Box 46/174.

COME AND WORSHIP with the Fellowship in Christ the Liberator, Metropolitan Community Church, London. For further details please write FCL, 61 Earls Court Square, London SW5.

Mature guy seeks younger friends over 21. Share common interests. Reading area. Box 46/180. London guy, 27, fed up with cottage scene and petrol prices. From one to another, seeks well-built active guys 25+ to see what gives. Photo appreciated. ALA. Box 46/181. David. Ring me 607 3446. Yours devoted. Bill. 32yr old seeks friends all areas, preferably Bristol, Bath. Photo and phone number if possible. ALA. Box 46/182. Stockport/Manchester attractive 37yr old seeks active well-built type age 30-50. Photos and full details. ALA. Box 46/183. Attractive 29yr old with varied interests seeks young guy 21-25 London/Essex area for lasting friendship. Photo ensures reply. Write Box 46/184. Chris Goldamoling lost your address Bob Allihallows. Please ring urgent. Young painter would like to meet other artists who are 'into' their work, and not into themselves. Box 46/185.

South Wales non-effeminate male 40, sincere, own pad, seeks other genuine friends any area, 25-45. Looks are unimportant, I am not too keen on the gay scene. Box 46/186. Unhappy 39 needs affection, seeks masculine active sincere guy early 40s. Interests music, theatre, walking, photo appreciated. Yorks area but can travel. Box 46/187. I'm 24, in Oxford end of May, seek American, Scandinavian, or continental 21-24. Must be clean, tight trousers, share room. Photo please. Box 46/188. South Yorkshire affair 26/32 require similar for friendship. Box 46/189. Chester male, 29, own pad, car, willing to travel Liverpool/Manchester area. Preferably during day but can arrange evening. Wishes to meet similar 21-30, must be slim. Enclose photo to ensure reply. Box 46/191. Male, 40, seeks younger non-effeminate active friends 21-30 for sincere friendship. London area. Photo appreciated. Box 46/192. Married man, bisexual, 59, intellectual interests, seeks friendship with another married man, Central London. Box 46/193. Writer, 27, good appearance wishes fortnight work and relaxation in secluded area N England/Scotland. Seeks companion same age, same ideas. Artist/writer? Photo please. Box 46/194. Graduate, 32, slim, gentle and affectionate, seeks lonely shy, sensitive educated boy 21-23 to love and care for. All letters with photo answered immediately. Box 46/195. Are you 21-30, professional guy or graduate, quiet, slim and lonely? Similar 32 would like to share your flat. Box 46/196. Peter 200 miles up M1. Please contact Tony leaving for Venice 15th March. Box 46/197.

Homely accommodation in gracious country house near Bath. Weekends or longer. Good food. Trains met. 022 16 3299. A cottage in Cornwall. Bed & Breakfast £2.00. No restrictions. Ring Mike, St Ives 5652 (day), 5480 (evenings). All male guest house Southsea, full or part board. Ring Portsmouth 811246 for brochure. Two guys holidaying in London need 1/2 apartment during July/August for 8 weeks. Quiet guys. Early reply appreciated. Around £20pw. Box 46/203.

Help tall, blond, 26, seeks summer work. Gear fan. Box 46/74. Young experienced waiter seeks employment in small hotel preferably private. Must be London area. Box 46/75. Young man 18-24 required for help in bachelor's pad in city, evenings or weekends. Phone Brian 01-638 4367. Even hard work considered by Scottish student 22 who needs a job for the summer. Box 46/76. Artist requires goodlooking and well-built East Ender or similar 22+ to model (no photography) £1.50 per hour. ALA with photo. Box 46/77. Young attractive intelligent male seeks work in club or anything. Box 46/78. Graduate in English, 27, approaching top of teaching profession, disillusioned, experience with libraries, publishing, seeks employment, preferably with travel, as private secretary or similar. Anything legal considered if lucrative and interesting. Box 46/79. Intelligent, artistic man, late 30s, seeks employment worthy of his talents. Gladly accept responsibility if remuneration proportionate. Tried fashion, decor, general design, but any interesting challenge considered. Now in Cornwall, but love Wiltshire, Dorset area. Box 46/80. Two friends to assist generally in Country Hotel. Self-contained flat available. Ring Oswestry 2450. Working partner with small capital wanted to help run select Country Hotel in Shropshire. Phone Miss Bishop, Oswestry 2450. Gay? Then be your own boss, earn money at home, all areas, SAE, APJ Enquiries, 20 Seymour Road, Manchester 8. Painter seeks models. Young to mid-20s. London 01-952 0691. Goodlooking young male seeks interesting part-time work. Mick 841 6613. Gay student, 21, seeks employment. Available July, August, Sept, anything considered. Box 46/81. Young man with athletic physique and experienced model seeks part-time modelling employment. Box 46/82. Amsterdam employment required soon. Male 23 into travel trade, anything considered. Suggestions? Box 46/83. Two young 40 need pleasant reliable assistant or manager (full or part-time) for sub Post Office on Surrey/Berks border. Write Box 46/84. Fancy the bright lights? Part-time pianist required for new drag act NW London. Phone 422 9266 after 6pm. Gay male, 37, desirous of change seeks genuine employment, with no strings, preferably London, Birmingham or Bristol area. Experience retail management and dealing with public. Bonded over 10 years. Anything reasonable considered. Box 46/85. Resident pianist required for summer season (would consider duo). Busy sea front bars. Good class trade. Also required, Barman. Smart appearance. References essential. Palace Bars, White Rock, Hastings. 0424 421674. The General Secretary to the Campaign for Homosexual Equality is looking for a new assistant. He or she must be a fast, accurate typist able to use initiative in taking care of the multitude of tasks involved in the administration of CHE. Basic salary offered is £20 per week but this is negotiable for the right person. All we require is energy, enthusiasm, efficiency, commitment and a sense of humour. Applications to the General Secretary, CHE, 28 Kennedy Street, Manchester M2 4BG. Summer Wandarist. Goodlooking drama student university wants work anywhere abroad July-Sept inclusive. Intelligent, professionally trained dancer, modelling experience, absolutely anything considered. Box 46/23. Two Danish guys, large house, pool, sauna, want another jeans boy to live in, keep house, garden. Photo please. ALA. Erik Kjaer, 57 Horhavvej, Højbjerg 8270, Denmark. Author, living mainly abroad, with own villa on the sea, requires affectionate, attractive placid secretary/companion. Must type, drive, shorthand a help. Able to minister to all needs. Reply with details and photo. Box 46/65. Gay professional disc jockey requires partners with finance to open gay clubs. Replies in confidence. Box 46/68. Gay young men, normal speaking, required for office administration in motor cycle business in SE. Under 25 and hardworking. Photo. Box 46/97. Handsome guy, 24, at sea on the gay scene wishes to know new faces anywhere. Box 46/139. Part-time work offered as companion. Guy under 25 required. Manchester area. ALA. Box 46/140. Male model wanted for mutual photography London. Fee given. Send photo, phone number, personal details. BM/FEC 9, London WC1. For south of France, young lady, 26, interested in job from May for the summer season, willing to help out any job. Especially drawing, knowledge French. Box 46/141. Small country pub Welsh border country town requires normal-looking part/full time staff, live in or out, single or 'married'. Phone 0597 2508.

STUNNING PERFORMER NEEDED to play piano for a real bitch of a singer. 01-737 1067. Young trainee manager, 18-21, for whole food shop and bakery. Accommodation provided in owner's country cottage. Interests in yacht, garden and active outdoor life an asset. Box 46/142. Amsterdam. Young Bar Pianist needed at the Queens Head. Live in or out, meals provided, salary about £40 per week, plus perks. Auditions in England. Talent, personality, and good appearance are important. Write with photo and details of experience, qualifications, age, and phone number (if possible) to: Mr Ted Neubling, Director, Queens Head, Beulingstraat 19, Amsterdam, Holland. Experimental photographer wanted by young man for creative pictures. Send samples of previous work and SAE to Box 46/169. Young BODS seeks colleague to join modern expanding practice in Herts. Easy reach London. Accommodation available. Box 46/170. Male numerate economist, hardworking, graduating June, seeks employment. Box 46/171.

Accommodation 10p per word, Box Number 50p, outside G B £1.50. NW London man, 35, willing to accommodate active long-distance lorry or bus drivers staying overnight. ALA. Box 46/45. Exeter 38 masculine, good physique seeks guy to share private home all comfort person 65/70. Man or woman to share garden flat. Ealing with 1 guy, own room. £6.25pw + £25 deposit. Near tube. 723 1221 extension 604. Large bedsit Peckham £7. 01-732 6724. Croydon area. Comfortable bedsitter, s/c, centrally heated, suitable for one or two quiet reliable gentlemen. Box 46/77. Leather guy, 29, seeks room in London. Box 46/72. St Albans-Professional man over 30 share pleasant flat. No ties expected. Box 46/73. Two flats for sale in (hopefully) congenial gay household. Central, 5 London @ £8000. Ring weekends 01-735 5439. Young guy seeks similar to share his modern flat in West London suburb. Own bedroom 845 0238. Second guy to share modern flat own room, Balham SW12. 675 2967 after 6pm. Gay boy, early 20s, seeks accommodation London. Reasonable rent. Roger, 3-6pm on 01-743 5243. Putney. Superb apartment. Architect, 30, wishes to share with other professional person(s). References. 788 4987. Double bedsit near tube N11. £9pw. Brian 368 8456. Young man seeks two others similar age to share F/F house SW11, own large lounge and double bedroom and wc. Please phone 228 5665 and ask for Peter. Any offers? Commuter, 54, thinning but otherwise presentable, seeks occasional inexpensive overnight accommodation preferably with guy under 35. Interests include theatre, choral music. ALA. Box 46/135. Male wanted to share Putney flat. Box 46/136. Teddington, young guy still seeks slim quiet flat-male 25-35 to share all facilities. 977 3004. Ilford. Guy to share bedsit. 478 5957.

Accommodation 10p per word, Box Number 50p, outside G B £1.50. B & B from £1.25. Phone 876 7785. Bournemouth. Few vacancies for holidays, bed/breakfast from £1.75. Discreet guys. 0202 25284. Cornwall-Old World Cottage seconds from beaches. B&B. St. Ives 7672. Warm welcome at Wembar Hotel, 19 Warwick Road, London SW5. Phone 01-373-9950. Reasonable prices. Summer Holidays. Day/weekly accommodation available on the Isle of Wight. Semi-gay Boatel, Disco and Club. Tel: Newport 5460. London bed and breakfast (single or double) English-speaking opera and theatre enthusiasts offered reasonable priced accommodation near Highgate tube. Three month terms available late summer. Box 46/138. Young active, 38, requires Kent coast flat for occasional weekend relaxation. Box 46/99. Brighton licensed small hotel B&B from £2. 0273 67710, 2 Allingworth Street.

Employment 10p per word, Box Number 50p, outside G B £1.50. Artist requires goodlooking and well-built East Ender or similar 22+ to model (no photography) £1.50 per hour. ALA with photo. Box 46/77. Young attractive intelligent male seeks work in club or anything. Box 46/78. Graduate in English, 27, approaching top of teaching profession, disillusioned, experience with libraries, publishing, seeks employment, preferably with travel, as private secretary or similar. Anything legal considered if lucrative and interesting. Box 46/79. Intelligent, artistic man, late 30s, seeks employment worthy of his talents. Gladly accept responsibility if remuneration proportionate. Tried fashion, decor, general design, but any interesting challenge considered. Now in Cornwall, but love Wiltshire, Dorset area. Box 46/80. Two friends to assist generally in Country Hotel. Self-contained flat available. Ring Oswestry 2450. Working partner with small capital wanted to help run select Country Hotel in Shropshire. Phone Miss Bishop, Oswestry 2450. Gay? Then be your own boss, earn money at home, all areas, SAE, APJ Enquiries, 20 Seymour Road, Manchester 8. Painter seeks models. Young to mid-20s. London 01-952 0691. Goodlooking young male seeks interesting part-time work. Mick 841 6613. Gay student, 21, seeks employment. Available July, August, Sept, anything considered. Box 46/81. Young man with athletic physique and experienced model seeks part-time modelling employment. Box 46/82. Amsterdam employment required soon. Male 23 into travel trade, anything considered. Suggestions? Box 46/83. Two young 40 need pleasant reliable assistant or manager (full or part-time) for sub Post Office on Surrey/Berks border. Write Box 46/84. Fancy the bright lights? Part-time pianist required for new drag act NW London. Phone 422 9266 after 6pm. Gay male, 37, desirous of change seeks genuine employment, with no strings, preferably London, Birmingham or Bristol area. Experience retail management and dealing with public. Bonded over 10 years. Anything reasonable considered. Box 46/85. Resident pianist required for summer season (would consider duo). Busy sea front bars. Good class trade. Also required, Barman. Smart appearance. References essential. Palace Bars, White Rock, Hastings. 0424 421674. The General Secretary to the Campaign for Homosexual Equality is looking for a new assistant. He or she must be a fast, accurate typist able to use initiative in taking care of the multitude of tasks involved in the administration of CHE. Basic salary offered is £20 per week but this is negotiable for the right person. All we require is energy, enthusiasm, efficiency, commitment and a sense of humour. Applications to the General Secretary, CHE, 28 Kennedy Street, Manchester M2 4BG. Summer Wandarist. Goodlooking drama student university wants work anywhere abroad July-Sept inclusive. Intelligent, professionally trained dancer, modelling experience, absolutely anything considered. Box 46/23. Two Danish guys, large house, pool, sauna, want another jeans boy to live in, keep house, garden. Photo please. ALA. Erik Kjaer, 57 Horhavvej, Højbjerg 8270, Denmark. Author, living mainly abroad, with own villa on the sea, requires affectionate, attractive placid secretary/companion. Must type, drive, shorthand a help. Able to minister to all needs. Reply with details and photo. Box 46/65. Gay professional disc jockey requires partners with finance to open gay clubs. Replies in confidence. Box 46/68. Gay young men, normal speaking, required for office administration in motor cycle business in SE. Under 25 and hardworking. Photo. Box 46/97. Handsome guy, 24, at sea on the gay scene wishes to know new faces anywhere. Box 46/139. Part-time work offered as companion. Guy under 25 required. Manchester area. ALA. Box 46/140. Male model wanted for mutual photography London. Fee given. Send photo, phone number, personal details. BM/FEC 9, London WC1. For south of France, young lady, 26, interested in job from May for the summer season, willing to help out any job. Especially drawing, knowledge French. Box 46/141. Small country pub Welsh border country town requires normal-looking part/full time staff, live in or out, single or 'married'. Phone 0597 2508.

Reading area: Gay boy (21), philosophy student, interests: Art, music, writing, fun-seeks gay/bisexual guys (21-23) for friendship. Write this term. ALA. Photo appreciated. Chris Shaw, F51 Rootes Hall, Warwick University, Coventry. Young Chinese gay male not obviously camp seeks masculine active companion for outings. Box 46/66. Gay 34 seeks young manly negro for friendship. Photo please. Box 46/67. Close friendship sought by bachelor, 37, North Surrey, tall, slim, affectionate, car, house, with clean-shaven younger person 21-27. Am genuine and I mean just that. All serious and sensible letters answered. Box 46/69.

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

Wanting more gay friends, professional writer, 50, wishes to contact Chinese or other orientals. Age or looks unimportant. Box 46/92. Three times a week training body-builder wishes to meet similar, ideas/friendship, training partner over 21. Box 46/93. Young guys working in City of London (insurance, banking etc) for friendly lunch times. Usual details. Strict confidence. Box 46/94. Young, slim active artist would like to meet willing musician model. Box 46/95. Birmingham. Guy 31, looking for weekends in boots. Visit your place or you come to mine. Other interests many and varied. 021-554 1286. Young artist, goodlooking, wants well-built active non-camp friends. Own fabulous studio. Photo essential. Box 46/96. Young Dutchman with own flat wanted by young Englishman for friendship and accommodation during frequent visits to Amsterdam. Box 46/98. Art teacher, 43, interested in Socratic affair, London area. Box 46/101. Gay Malta? Information wanted. Box 46/102. Uninhibited gentle types! I'm 40s, interested arts, own age or younger but over 21. Photo. Box 46/103. Zurich, any info, on cheap Pensions, Hotels or leather scene. Box 46/104. Ilford 45yr old wants friends 21-45. Telephone 478 5957. Wrestling. Box 46/105. Londoner, early 40s, wants to meet active older man for friendship and occasional weekends. Wishes to arrange holiday South East. Photo appreciated. Box 46/106. Active guy, mid-thirties, discreet, lives Chelsea, would like to meet younger appreciative companions for visits to opera and concerts. Box 46/107. Cambridge guy, 28, own place seeks similar local for friendship. Box 46/108. Channel Islands uninhibited gay 28 seeks holiday accommodation. Box 46/109. London, flat, slim, 37, interested arts, fun, food, offers genuine friendship. Box 46/110. Active leatherman in South East please write with photo. ALA. Box 46/111. Cumbria. Slim man, 28, wishes to meet another of similar age in area. ALA. Box 46/112. Handsome, personable man, active, 58, intelligent, educated, sympathetic, sincerely offers friendship, affection to attractive, slim young man over 21. Own home. Brentwood, Essex. Box 46/113. Peter, 31, slim, reasonable looks, seeks someone same age or younger but over 21, also slim, to share his flat and whole life. I need someone to love and care for! Do you? Yes? Then please write soon to Box 46/143. Photo appreciated and returned with mine, or phone 228 5665 and ask for Peter. Sincere replies only please. SW11. ALA. Box 46/143. Any redundant gay mags, books, pics etc, ageing limless ex-serviceman would appreciate them to while away lonely hours. Box 46/114. Male, 47, seeks affectionate friend to share modern luxury residential caravan, Teignmouth, Devon. Box 46/115. Manchester. Young man seeks similar over 21 but under 30 for holidays and lasting friendship. Photo appreciated and returned. ALA. Box 46/116. London, 27, East ender, good physique and appearance seeks sincere friends. Photo please. ALA. Box 46/117. Bridge. Two players wanted. Tel: 01-892 5637. Leather guy, 30, needs friends any age, own flat. Photo please. ALA. Perhaps share flat. Box 46/118. Aquarian, 45, offers free holiday accommodation in Jersey to lonely guys who can drive a car, especially those who wear full sets of dentures. Interests theatre, light music, novel writing. Photo please. Box 46/120. Manchester/Oldham/Huddersfield area. Early forties professional guy, many interests, seeks younger friend. Any nationality. Own bungalow, car. ALA with photo exchanged. Box 46/121. Sussex couple, 33 and 37, wish to make friends. Photo. Box 46/122. Slim, very attractive, darkhaired 21, composer, dreamy and rather scatty by nature, tired of remaining a Virgin loner, needs friend of same age to stimulate creativity and love of life. Box 46/123. Clean-limbed youngish graduate seeks introduction by active denim/leather guy into friendship. Write with phone number to Box 46/124. Holiday with me? Literate, attractive young man seeks similar, late 20s to early 30s, to share holiday and after. Write with phone number to Box 46/125. 38, attractive and active gourmet, touring Britain this summer, wishes to contact other gourmets to have pleasant meal together, if nothing else. Box 46/126. Nice looking young man would like being introduced to gay scene by considerate guy. Box 46/127. Bearded Londoner wants to hear from masculine man 21-30. Box 46/128. Are you 21-35, slim and muscular? Do you fancy wrestling practice with others similar? Let's exchange photos and details. London. Box 46/129.

Young soloist with small organ seeks similar for duets. Photo. ALA. Box 46/130. Active man, late 20s, professional Ent/Pop, own car, boat etc, on IOW, seeks young man, non-camp, age 21-25 to visit him weekends and holidays. Photo if possible and phone number. ALA. Box 46/131. Company requires capital for cabaret clubs. High interests, security given. Box 46/132. Young English designer, 34, with super Chelsea flat and wide interests, welcomes slim, handsome friends 21-23, including Asians, who are warm and reliable, uncamp, and sympathetic temperamentally. ALA. Photo please. Box 46/133. Regular man/friend over 21 sought by tall, fair goodlooking guy aged 23. Should have extensive sideburns/shoulders/personality, could be disabled. Photo if convenient. ALA. Box 46/134. Young man, London, beginner, wishes to learn Bassoon. Any help welcome. Box 46/144. Personable young writer/journalist with wide interests seeks younger guys over 21 of small/medium height for friendship. Opportunity for travel/film work for the right boy. Photo essential. ALA-I guarantee. Box 46/145. Humberside business man, attractive 40s, seeks non-camp partner to share comfortable home. Photo appreciated. Box 46/146. Guys welcome at regular parties, London. Box 46/147. Liverpool area. 35, young shy/reticent seeks friendship with older guy (35-50) for companionship, social outings, weekends, holidays. Box 46/148. Active, genuine, affectionate Londoner (who's old at 44?), recently moved to Ealing flat, seeks nice guy 21+ interested in cinema, theatre and all that. Box 46/149. Young man wishes to meet young jockeys, horse soldiers 21-24 for friendship. Photo essential on horseback wearing jodpurs and jodpur boots. London/Brighton. Box 46/150. N London, 26, fair, Swimming, Sun. Seeks guys for friendship 21-25. Own flat. Box 46/151. London trendy, handsome, young Jamaican, own house, seeks genuine 21-25, sincere lasting friendship assured right person. Photo essential for reply. Box 46/152. Manchester guy 29 seeks active friends. Box 46/153. Affair ended, 38, alone, need decent friends, dislike plastic characters and gay scenes, why not correspond anywhere, anywhere. Box 46/154. Gay guy 21, goodlooking, seeks young friends 21-25 for friendship. Lymington, Bournemouth, Hants area. Photo please. Box 46/155. Masculine, intelligent Londoner, 28, would like to meet mature male interested in leather. Box 46/156. Black boy seeks English boy or student, 21-25, non-camp, for friendship. Box 46/157. Where are the active young men who need the welcome an older man can provide? Box 46/158. Active, 34, artistic, spiritual, funloving, intelligent, passionate, needs warm cuddly boy, 21-25, for friendship. Box 46/159. Educated, goodlooking guy, 29, moving to Tenerife, Canary Island, seeks advice on friends and possible employment. Box 46/160. Businessman 31, requires straight friends. Box 46/161. Teacher, active, 30s, not camp, athletic, varied interests, not overkeen on gay scene, wants to contact younger, manly, intelligent chap, London, Surrey preferably. Box 46/162. Slim boy, 23, seeks boyish-looking friend over 21. Likes travel, arts, humour. Dislikes crowds, clubs, effeminate, peds. London. ALA with recent photograph. Box 46/163. Bournemouth guy, mid-20s, seeks interesting company. Box 46/164. South East guy, 26, slim, good looks, seeks similar guy with denim and or moustache. Photo exchanged. Box 46/165. Are you an active 30-40yr old? If so I'm 28yr old actor, resident Bournemouth, your type? Box 46/166. Bright, active, tall and well-built 25-35 man sought by businessman 30yrs as assistant. Then accompany to Continent for 5 months in October shooting and riding in fabulous country. Must be tough, independent and adventurous. Box 46/173. Manchester male, 38, own flat, well-built, hobbies skating, cycling, swimming, naturism, seeks friend any age over 21, with view to permanent friendship. ALA. Box 46/174.

COME AND WORSHIP with the Fellowship in Christ the Liberator, Metropolitan Community Church, London. For further details please write FCL, 61 Earls Court Square, London SW5.

Mature guy seeks younger friends over 21. Share common interests. Reading area. Box 46/180. London guy, 27, fed up with cottage scene and petrol prices. From one to another, seeks well-built active guys 25+ to see what gives. Photo appreciated. ALA. Box 46/181. David. Ring me 607 3446. Yours devoted. Bill. 32yr old seeks friends all areas, preferably Bristol, Bath. Photo and phone number if possible. ALA. Box 46/182. Stockport/Manchester attractive 37yr old seeks active well-built type age 30-50. Photos and full details. ALA. Box 46/183. Attractive 29yr old with varied interests seeks young guy 21-25 London/Essex area for lasting friendship. Photo ensures reply. Write Box 46/184. Chris Goldamoling lost your address Bob Allihallows. Please ring urgent. Young painter would like to meet other artists who are 'into' their work, and not into themselves. Box 46/185.

South Wales non-effeminate male 40, sincere, own pad, seeks other genuine friends any area, 25-45. Looks are unimportant, I am not too keen on the gay scene. Box 46/186. Unhappy 39 needs affection, seeks masculine active sincere guy early 40s. Interests music, theatre, walking, photo appreciated. Yorks area but can travel. Box 46/187. I'm 24, in Oxford end of May, seek American, Scandinavian, or continental 21-24. Must be clean, tight trousers, share room. Photo please. Box 46/188. South Yorkshire affair 26/32 require similar for friendship. Box 46/189. Chester male, 29, own pad, car, willing to travel Liverpool/Manchester area. Preferably during day but can arrange evening. Wishes to meet similar 21-30, must be slim. Enclose photo to ensure reply. Box 46/191. Male, 40, seeks younger non-effeminate active friends 21-30 for sincere friendship. London area. Photo

Employment Ads continued from page 18

London photographer requires well-built amateur models. Box 46/172. New gay bookshop west London requires assistant/secretary. Good salary and flexible hours. Phone 01-864 1900. Help of qualified accountant needed West Country. Box 46/175. Home and job offered as houseboy, personal assistant. Part house, part business. Typing essential. State talents and interests. Box 46/200. Liverpool student, young, attractive, requires interesting part-time job from May, to continue full-time during summer vacation. Box 46/204. Active man, 38-50, wanted for messages (London) 2 hours daily by appointment. Prepared to do all jobs and assist owner in small manufacturing business. Straight appearance. Box 46/206. Gay, 35, attached, 10 years running retail food business, some capital. Seeks challenging position, not necessarily in food, where hard work and long hours are adequately rewarded. Min £2,500pa commencing plus expenses. Cambridge-shire based. Box 46/207. Part-time. Domestic assistant required 6 mornings a week for small hotel Central London. No high camp please. Box 46/210. Etudiant ecossais, 24, cherche travail en France, juillet jusqu'a septembre. Box 46/208. Interior decor. Small jobs undertaken. Ring 422 5200 after 6.30pm. Asian student, trained in hotel reception work, speaks French, touch type 40wpm, seeks summer work. Might consider anything in desperation. Box 46/209. Photographer requires youngish guys over 21 for models. Beginners given tuition. Box 46/190.

Market Place

20p per word. No Box Number service available. Especially for Gay women: The Girls Guide—1974. 700 listings/20 countries. Now available at Compendium, 240 Camden High Street, Sterlings Bookstore, 57 St Martins Lane, WC2, and The Public House Bookshop, 21 Little Preston Street, Brighton.

ARE YOU RIGHT FOR WRITING? Some people are. And some, unfortunately, are not—however much they try. Our FREE 8-page self-evaluator may help you to find out about yourself. Get your copy of 'Are You Right For Writing?' from The Writing School, Dept 7, 29 Catherine Street, London WC2B 5JS.

Big Men and Beautiful Boys! Widest range of photobooks in UK. Special offers! List 6p stamp. Jason, BCM/Greco, London WC1V 6XX. Trousers altered to fit the real you. 749 3104.

Mouthwatering magazines!!! (SAE) to Johnny: BM/FBGH, London WC1V 6XX.

ONLY THE VERY BEST! The best nudies—in every way! Glossy 6x8, 39 pages each: MANIQUETTE and FORMOSUS! £1 each or 4 for £3! Also FRIENDS! (28 dual studies) £1, and SUPER-STUDS! £1. Also free catalogues of books, USA magazines, editorial 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).

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

Services

20p per word. No Box Number service available. Relaxing massage by experienced young masseur. For appointment call Mike at 603 8748. Retired headmaster coaches English, maths. Every assistance. 769 7653. Massage service. 01-527 8073, 6.30pm to 8.00pm.

VISITING SERVICE! Genuine qualified masseur. Call 01-828 6977.

Massage/Yoga Tuition. Ross Nilsen, 01-602 0721. Lonely Gay Postal Introductions arranged, all ages/areas. Confidential, discreet. Individual attention. Dorothy Sanger, Dept 14, Postmaster, 138a Pogmoor Road, Pogmoor, Barnsley, Yorkshire. Roger 22, Masseur. 579 3714. Penfriends! Discreet Introductions. SAE for details to Great Expectations, PO Box 148, 31/33 Court Yard, London SE9 5DD. Trousers, Jeans, shirts, d/gowns, night shirts made to measure. Paul 278 1641.

MIKE, 21, QUALIFIED MASSEUR, will visit, professional model. Call mornings 01-878 0320. Bring all your clothing problems to an end. Dressmaking, alterations, restyling, male/female. 749 3104. Free colour pics taken of goodlooking young guys 21-30. Phone Anthony 01-638 4367. Massage by young experienced masseur, your place or mine. Phone 01-267 2991.

STEVE, 24, LONG HAIR, qualified masseur/model, seeks work. 01-876 7785.

Young masseur. 'The Clark System' Hotel visits welcome. 373 2752. Experienced masseur give soothing massage: home/hotel, male/female, phone Ron 472 1939 Mon-Fri 6.15pm-8pm or all day Sunday. Genuine massage offered by young qualified male. For appointment ring 289 2753. Make friends worldwide. Goodlooking guys from all continents seek pen pals, friendship. Details and sample photos free. Harms, Berlin 11, Box 17/91, Germany. Massage by young male therapist. 229 6565.

LIGHT REMOVALS, also DELIVERY SERVICE. Anytime. Anywhere. 01-460 0977. Strictly legitimate business.

Young guy, Clark System masseur, needs rewarding part-time work. Phone Greg 727 8322. Qualified psychologist. Free initial consultation. 01-574 1740. Hounslow. Apollo the Greek God personifies masculinity. Apollo hair stylists provide great, beautiful and fabulous hair shapes for guys who appreciate beautiful masculinity. 7 Kingsly Street, London W1. Tel: 734 2429.

Greg now messages at new central location—or your place? Phone 727 8322. Young male masseur available. Phone Mick 841 6613. Young qualified masseur seeks work. Paul. Tel: 602 5111. Young qualified masseur seeks interesting work. Must be a genuine cause. Ring David. 576 8287.

Travel

20p per word. No Box Number service available. Do you travel? We cannot guarantee your travel in the next world, but we can send you to any part of this world at a price you can afford. Contact MGD Travel, 01-834 2442/3, 207 Victoria Street, London SW1.

Entertainment

10p per word. No Box Number service available. Ladies Only—The smallest ladies-only bar ever!! Open 7.00pm until late late 7 nights a week. The Oasis Room, 5 Excel Court, Whitcomb Street, London WC2. opp Royal Trafalgar Hotel.

GRAND GAYSOC DISCO WITH TRICKY DICKY, May 31st, 8.00pm. Bar extension till 12.00. University of London Union, Malet Street, London WC1. Everyone welcome. Even students!

General Information

GAY GROUPS SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

GAY SWITCHBOARD disco to help finance the switchboard. 15p every Sat upstairs in Prince Albert, Warfedale Rd, off York Way, Kings Cross. All profits to gay switchboard. DISCO MAY 10th PNL Gaysox 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 Warfedale 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.

MANCHESTER GAY ALLIANCE Disco Sat 18 May 8-12pm at Devas St, near University Theatre. Adm 15p. Bring a bottle. WOMEN'S ARTS FAIR at Sussex University, Brighton, on Sat 1st June. Open to the general public, all events are produced and organised by women; they include plays, poetry readings, singing, women's health and self-help collective, bookstalls, films, an exhibition of feminist paintings, a display of work made by women and a disco on Sat night. We hope you will all come.

GAY WOMEN

MANCHESTER GAY WOMENS GROUP meets regularly in central Manchester. All homosexual and bisexual women are welcome. 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 Allison, c/o Last Exit Bookshop, Mill Road, Cambridge or Tel: 64757.

EDINBURGH GAY WOMENS GROUP details contact Ms M Laurie 4/15 Hallstead Park, Edinburgh. WOMEN'S LIBERATION WORKSHOP Kingsgate Place Women's 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, 01-346 4684. MOLIN DISCO CLUB (girls only). Half Moon Lane, Heme Hill, SE24. Open from 8pm on Wed Fri and Sat. Buses 2, 3, 19, 37, 40, 68, 172, 184 & 196. Plus Heme Hill (BR) station. Ring 674 4004 or 278 2733.

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

LEEDS GAY WOMEN'S GROUP meet every Wed at the Viaduct Pub, Lower Briggate, Leeds. Contact Jane and Jenny, c/o 9 Roundhay Grove, Leeds 8.

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 7-9.30pm or write to Icebreakers, PO Box 86, Bath, BA1 2YQ.

FRIEND is a nation-wide befriending and counselling service for gays in distress or with a problem. Write to FRIEND at: BRADFORD PO Box 47, Bradford Yorks BD1 5YZ. CAMBRIDGE FRIEND c/o 54 Mill Road, Cambridge. CARDIFF, Tel: Cardiff 44441, Tues evenings 7.30-9.

CROYDON 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 7.30-10pm.

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 841401 or 877701. NORWICH PO Box 3, North Walsham Norfolk. SHEFFIELD PO Box 107, Sheffield S1 1EJ.

SUSSEX 9 Brunswick Sq, Brighton, Sussex. Tel: Brighton 739729 weekdays oam-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 these groups, please write to National Friend, 44 Earls Court Road, London W8. Tel: 01-402 6750 weekday evenings 7.30-9.30pm.

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 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, Broadley Terrace, London NW1.

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 information 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 (947 4940) or John/Gabriel (542 0302). MANCHESTER TAO contact Mr B and Mill L Stothard, 167 Withington Road, Wholly Range, Manchester 16. Meet every Sun at 7pm.

STAFFORDSHIRE TAO contact Ms Julia Tonner, Director TAO Europe, 51 Scrimshaw House, Pieck-Walsall, Staff. 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 tel: Norwich 53903 (Carroll) or North Walsham 2628 (Bill).

FELLOWSHIP IN CHRIST THE LIBERATOR Details: FCL, c/o 61 Earls Court, London SW5. JEWISH HOMOPHILE GROUP further info write to Timothy Goldard, BM/JHQ, 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 UNITS for info ring John or Dennis at 863 5717. CHALLENGE is a social group for homosexuals over 21. Meets weekly. Ring 01-567 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 John Street, Cambridge. Tel: Cambridge 52661.

LSE GAY CULTURE SOC—May 10, Bob Cant on Annie Besant; May 31, Laisla Fullick on Victorian Sexuality. Meetings in Room 5101A, St Clements Bldg, London School of Economics. May 18, Preliminary Workshop on Gay History, 10am-5pm at LSE. Contact Jeffrey Weeks, 24 Ivor St, London NW1. Tel: 01-627 0064.

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 this address.

FRIENDS HOMOSEXUAL FELLOWSHIP a gay group for Quakers. Details Michael Hutchinson, 15 Dalkeith Road, Harpenden, Herts AL5 5PP. COVENTRY GAY GROUP meets fortnightly 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, c/o B. B. 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 11pm Mon-Fri, 11-11pm Sat, 2-11pm Sun. 78 Raiton Road, London SE24 (Brixton tube). Tel: 01-274 7921.

CAMBRIDGE INTEGROUP, Gay/Straight Integration. Tel: Cambridge 64599, John.

GAYSOCS

GLASGOW STUDENTS GAYSOC—Contact SMG (Students), 214 Clyde St, G1 4JZ. DIDSBUYRY GAYSOC—Discreet meetings arranged. Contact Gay Rep, Students Union, Didsbury College of Education, Manchester M20 BRR.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY GAY GROUP meets twice weekly during term in Societies Centre, Hill Place, contact Mike Foreman, 5 Dalkeith Rd (031 667 7049). Open to all students. New members welcome. NEWCASTLE GAYSOC Contact Gillian Moon, 61 Brighton Grove, Ferham, Newcastle upon Tyne 4.

KENT UNIVERSITY GAY LIB SOC meets every Thursday evening in Canterbury. Everyone welcome. For details contact Gill Irvin, Keynes Cottage, The University, Canterbury. MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY HOMOPHILE GROUP meets every Thursday 8pm in meeting room 4, Union Building, Oxford Road, details Gord 061-225 9779.

NORWICH GAYSOC contact Peter Thomas, Gaysoc, University of East Anglia, Norwich, Norfolk NR8C. Regular meetings every Thurs 7.30, University House, Room 1.32. BRISTOL GAYSOC for all young people. Regular meetings on Thurs evenings 7.30, Gramophone room, Students Union. Info from Secretary, Bristol Gaysoc, Students Union, Queens Road, Bristol BS8 1LN.

SHEFFIELD GAYSOC. Write to Societies Pigeon Holes, Students Union, University, Western Bank, Sheffield, or ring Sheffield 306930.

UNIVERSITY OF SURREY GAYSOC. Contact David Reeki, Student Pigeon Holes, University of Surrey, Guildford. NEWCASTLE NCC GAYSOC. Contact John Virtue, Pigeon Holes, Northern Counties College of Education, Newcastle upon Tyne NE7 7XA.

LOUGHBOROUGH STUDENTS GAYSOC open to all students and staff of Loughborough colleges. For info ring Peter at Sibley 2048. ESSEX UNIVERSITY GAY LIB SOC. Write to University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex.

READING UNIVERSITY GROUP FOR HOMOSEXUALS. Details Ruth, Students Union, Whiteknights Park, Reading, Berks. EXETER GAYSOC. Info Gay Liberation Society, University of Exeter, Devonshire House, Stocker Road, Exeter, Devon. GAYSOC for men and women in any school or college of London University, undergraduate or staff. Write (enc SAE please) Gaysoc, ULU, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU.

DURHAM UNIVERSITY GAYSOC. Contact via Students Union, Dunelm House, University of Durham, Durham City. GAYSOC for staff and students of the Open University. Write to David Mclean 4 Western Gosh, Brentwood, Essex.

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, 933481 3914. EDINBURGH: Contact Ian Dunn, 031 667 7473. Women contact Ruth Shrook, 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. CAKLISLE—Contact National Office.

IRISH GAY LIB MOVEMENT

BELFAST: Maeve Molloy and Margaret Ward, Queens University Belfast Gay Lib Soc, 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 Lynche (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 Union Council, Trinity College, Dublin. Phone Dublin 772941.

BELFAST GLF meet 8pm Thurs in Student Union, Queens University. HOMOSEXUAL INFORMATION and befriending society can be contacted by writing to Care, Gay Liberation Society, Students Union, Queens University, Belfast.

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. Tel: 061-228 1985. Or contact London Information Centre, 22 Great Windmill Street, W1, Tel: 01-437 7363, Mon-Wed 3pm-6pm, Thurs and Fri 6pm-10pm, Sat 12-7pm.

You can ring some groups direct at the numbers below: BATH—Norman, 5013. BOURNEMOUTH—Bournemouth 24842, Laurie. BRADFORD—Shipley 51742.

BRIGHTON—Brighton 778025, Malcolm, or Brighton 732550, Roland. BRISTOL—Bristol 35033, Trevor. CAMBRIDGE—Cambridge 52661, Bernard. CHILTERN—High Wycombe 39321, Haydn.

CROYDON—01-642 3692. Richard. HERTS 5TH—Hatfield 69172, John. KENT EAST—Thanet 42059, Roger. LANCASTER—Lancaster 2750. LEEDS—Morley 7686, David.

LEICESTER—Leicester 706050, Steve, or Leicester 738832, John or Clive. 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. SOUTHAMPTON—552335, David, 6-7pm only.

STREATHAM—01-675 2886, Doug. TUNBRIDGE WELLS—Tun. Wells 33175, Ross. TYNESIDE—Newcastle 877701, Jerry. WIRRAL—051-327 5178, Jack. WINDSOR—51062, Mike.

WOLVERHAMPTON—Contact Denis, Wolverhampton 752673. COVENTRY: Meets 1st Thurs 10pm in Charterhouse, London Rd, 7.30. Contact 45 Runcorn Walk, Walsgrave, Coventry. Tel: Walsgrave-on-Sowe 4336.

GROUCESTERSHIRE—Meets regularly in Gloucester and Cheltenham. Contact Glensy Parry, Gloucester (0452) 34862. WEST MIDLANDS (BIRMINGHAM)—Meets Carrs Lane Centre, Carrs Lane, Birmingham, last Wed each month. Info Chris 021-355 5131.

BLACKPOOL—this new group can be contacted through the Manchester office. STOCKPORT/MACCLESFIELD—can be contacted through Manchester office. SOUTH DURHAM/NORTH YORKSHIRE—Bishop Auckland 3320 after 6pm, Albert.

NORWICH—Write to Peter Bishop, Flat D, Oak House, Trowse, Norwich, Norfolk NOR 01W. IPSWICH—Write to Charles Almond, 119 Caudwell Hill Road, Ipswich IP4 5BN.

NEWPORT—Meets fortnightly in Newport Civic Centre on Tues at 8pm. Gay girls most welcome. GN on sale. SURVEY—Contact Charles, Byfleet 48716, or Myrtle, Haslemere 51882, or Frank 01-399 7495.

LEWISHAM, SOUTH EAST LONDON call CHEIC, 01-437 7363. Weekly meetings. WANDSWORTH/RICHMOND incorporating surrounding areas. Meetings twice monthly. Charlie Micklewright, 46b Chartfield Ave, SW15.

LIVERPOOL—CHE, PO Box 7, Liverpool L8 2XN. Meet on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 8pm in the Pagoda Club.

SOUTH DEVON—meets fortnightly on Wed at 8pm in Newton Abbot. Contact Manchester Headquarters. CARDIFF—Meets every Mon at 7.30pm in Chapter Arts Centre, Market Road, Canton, Cardiff 566419, Mike.

LIVERPOOL—under new management, 051-708 0969 or 051-709 5334. SHEFFIELD—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. NEWPORT (MON)—via Mike Bevan or Richard Dymond, 36 Lanthway Road, Newport, Mon. The group meets 1st and 3rd Tues each month at 8pm at the above address.

HARINGEY—meets 2nd Monday of each month. For info send SAE to Fred Oilphant, 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. GLF GROUPS: NEWCASTLE—Meet every Wed at 8pm in the Golden Fleece pub, Marlborough Crescent.

DURHAM—Contact Sam Green, 41 The Avenue, Durham City. SUNDERLAND—Contact Tom Mellish, Student Union, Wearmouth Hall, Sunderland Polytechnic, Sunderland, Co Durham.

SOUTH LONDON GLF—At Brixton Gay Community Centre, 78 Raiton Rd, (No 2 bus, 5 mins Brixton tube and BRT), Mon-Fri 7011pm, Sats 11-11pm, Sun 2-11pm. General meetings every Wed 8.30pm. Tel: 01-274 7921.

ADULT EDUCATION GROUP—Meets every Thurs 8pm at Talma Road, Brixton SW2. GAY WOMEN'S LIB (North London)—Meets at the Crown and Woolpack, 357 St Johns St, EC1 (Angel tube), 8pm Mon.

SATURDAY IS FUN NIGHT! Put on your glad rags and journey down to the South London GLF disco in the Manor Arms, opposite Oval tube. Starts 8pm. GLF AWARENESS GROUP—Meets every Fri 8pm. Phone Central Office for details.

REGLIOUS GAY LIB GROUP—Meets on Sundays. Details 01-278 1701. LEEDS—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, near Brighton. BANGOR—Group now forming. If you live in North Wales, please contact Simon Del Nevo, c/o UCNW Students Union, Deiniol Road, Bangor, Caerns, Nr Wales.

CARDIFF—At R1B, 58 Charles St, Cardiff 44441. Advice on drugs and legal matters, entertainment and cheap food. WARWICK UNIVERSITY GLF meets fortnightly on Tues 8pm in Rootes Hall, Univ of Warwick, Coventry. Contact 9 Stanley Road, Coventry or ring Coventry 76008.

CHESTER LE STREET GLF—Contact via Mike Barnes, 1 Fenwick Terrace, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne 2. BIRMINGHAM—021-643 0996. Peace Centre, 18 Moore Street, Queensway. Weekly free discos every Wed at the Old Crown, Digbeth.

YORK GAYSOC—Contact David Hal, Derwent College, University of York. BRISTOL GAY AWARENESS GROUP—c/o Tony, 20D West Mall, Clifton, Bristol. Tel: 0272-326659.

BRADFORD—New group forming. Details from Don Milligan, 10 Victor Road, Bradford 9. MANCHESTER—Meets every Wed in upstairs room, Lower Turks Head, Shude Hill, Manchester at 8pm. Contact John Ash, 1 Hunts Road, Irlam o't the Heights, Salford. Ring 061-736 2045 or ring Gary 061-434 2019.

SUSSEX—Meets every Tues at 8.30pm at Maskwells Bar Junction of Kings Road and Grand Junction Road. Disco every Fri and Sat at same place. Adm 20p. Contact Graham Wilkinson, 2A Montpelier Villas, Brighton. Tel: 23814.

LANCASTER—Meets on Weds at 7.30 upstairs at the Farmers Arms. Contact 14 Hope Street, Lancaster.

TRANSVESTITE / TRANSEXUAL

TRANSVESTITE SOCIAL GROUP. Send SAE to Sam Cash, 10 Hosack Road, London SW17. NATIONWIDE TRANSEXUITES GROUP now forming. All enquiries to Martin Rees, Transvestite Group, 58 Charles Street, Cardiff.

MISCELLANEOUS

RELEASE offer free advice (legal, medical, drugs, abortion, etc) between 10.00 and 6.00 Mon to Fri. There is also a 24-hour emergency service on 01-289 1123. Donations to and help from Release, 1 Elgin Avenue, London W9.

BIT: free information and help service, 146 Great Western Road, London W11. Open 10.00-1.00. 24-hour phone service: 01-229 8219.

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES: 186 Kings Cross Road, London WC1. Monday to Friday, 10.00-5.30. Tel: 01-278 4575. CITIZENS RIGHTS OFFICE: 1 Macklin Street, London WC2. Advice on welfare benefits and tenants' rights.

HELP: 78 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1. Advice on abortion, VD, pregnancy testing, contraception and legal problems. Ring Mandy or Jane on 01-828 7495.

## Gays 'not sick' say psychiatrists

WASHINGTON: Drs Charles Socarides and Irving Bieber have failed in their attempt to get gays reclassified as 'sick'.

The grass-root membership of the American Psychiatric Association voted 58% to 38% to uphold the decision taken last December by the association's executive board that homosexuality is not a sickness.

Socarides and Bieber were incensed by the decision. Everyone knows that gays are sick, they said. To say that they are not is to bow to ignorant political pressure and to allow liberals to dictate to the medical profession rather than the other way round!

So the two men went to work to get up enough signatures to force the association to hold a referendum. With the 200 names needed, they went to the APA and demanded a vote.

And they got their vote, and the answer they did not want—5845 yes (votes for us), 3810 no (votes for Socarides and crew), with 367 abstaining.

Commented Bruce Voeller of the New York National Gay Task Force, "... tell the world to cut the sickness crap and start helping us to get our rights."

## Cohabitation but...

EDINBURGH: The Summer Term Newsheet of the Edinburgh University Gay Group carries the news that the Student Accommodation Service, 31 Buccleuch Place, Edinburgh, guarantees complete confidentiality, and that any gay student who doesn't want to live with non-gays will be helped as much as possible. Subject to availability, the Service can also provide flats for groups of students (usually 4-6) who want to live together.

The Gay Group have also approached DATAMATE, the Charities Appeal computer dating service, and criticized their "heterosexual-only" service. In reply, the Datamate convenor assured the Group that they would have preferred to have included gay pairing, but refrained because of possible legal difficulties and adverse publicity! Perhaps next year...

Ian Dunn

## Even the French draw the line

PARIS: Mme Menie Gregoire, at 53, with ten years' experience behind her in psychoanalysis, has made quite a name for herself as a sex guidance figure.

In the five months during which she has run a sex education show on the Paris-based Radio Luxembourg (RTL) she has built up an audience of over two and a half million.

Men are mainly worried about premature ejaculation, women about frigidity. With more than 100 calls a day to Radio Luxembourg, and more than ten times that number of letters, Mme Gregoire keeps herself and her staff busy. Her assistants select the two most likely problems for her show, and she gets talking to the people concerned.

But, and it's a big but, there are limits, says Mme Gregoire: "I am advancing slowly so as not to shock. There are subjects like homosexuality that I refuse to discuss at the moment."

## Coventry gay disco starts

COVENTRY: Plans to get regular gay discos in Coventry were delayed by the power restrictions closing the place where we were to hold them. But now with the restrictions lifted, the Warwick University Gay Liberation Front will be holding discos at the East Site, University of Warwick, Coventry. These will be held on a regular basis starting on Thursday 2nd May. This should prove most successful in Coventry, a large city with no gay clubs. Telephone for Warwick GLF is Coventry 76008.

Tim Clark  
Warwick GLF

## Psychologists more

## prejudiced than general public

BANGOR: Many homosexuals have perfectly happy relations like heterosexual couples and the expression 'sexual disorder' applied to them should be abolished, said Mr Francis Lillie of Queen Elizabeth Hospital, London.

Mr Lillie was addressing a conference in Wales organised by the British Psychological Society. He was amazed at some of the prejudice shown by his colleagues. "Although there is now more freedom for homosexuals in society, there is a need for a critical examination of what psychologists think about homosexuality," and he continued with his punch-line, "Most of them have developed a biased view of homosexuals."

Mr Lillie accepted the estimate of about one in twenty being gay. "The condition is much less abnormal than many people think." He referred through his speech to "so-called sexual disorders."

The American Psychiatric Association has recently decided that homosexuality should no longer be classified as a mental disorder, but a group of conservative medics is fighting a fierce rearguard action to get gay put back on the sick list.

## Roof over whose heads?

TELFORD: The new District Council (District of the Wrekin) has thrown out a suggestion by its Estates Director, Mr Godfrey Oldaker, that council mortgages should be granted to single women only "if suitable guarantee arrangements" can be made.

Moving that mortgages be available to all comers (married/single, male/female), Councillor Brian Norman said "I am not a Women's Libber but I object to making women produce guarantors."

The Wrekin District Council includes several Labour Councillors who three years ago went along with a number of really progressive measures (adopted by the local Labour Party), the best of which were:

Demanding of the then Home Secretary, Jim Callaghan, that he end police harassment of homosexuals.

Calling for an anti-VD vaccine to be available on the National Health plan.

Sending official delegates to see Martin Cole's controversial film "Growing Up". The delegates reported that "the film was sensible and correct and the masturbation sequences by both boy and girl obviously led to very satisfactory conclusions."

During the period of Tory rule since 1970, the local Labour Party has concentrated on more mundane matters, but one has great hopes for the future.

Trevor Jones

## Doncaster CHE

DONCASTER: The local Campaign for Homosexual Equality group is making renewed efforts to gain members. The group tried to place advertisements in the Doncaster Evening Post and the Doncaster Free (sic) Press, but were turned down by both. The editors are being contacted. It's that word again. The group met with more success in its approach to the local library which has accepted a Friend poster for display.

Ideas for the future include a disco, coach outings, and a symposium. CHE leaflets are being sent to anyone in the area who should know about the group. Those who will receive them include churches, the social services and newspaper editors. The group is planning to work with Sheffield CHE jointly on the Education Campaign.

Doncaster would like to contact other existing or planned local groups in Lincoln, Rotherham, Hull, Grimsby etc, so that they can work together. Groups and individuals contact CHE, 199 Beckett Road, Doncaster, Yorkshire DN2 4BA.

John Bennett

## Sound advice

LONDON: The message is getting around. A married couple recently wrote to Woman's Own. Their eldest son, a 17-year-old, has "homosexual tendencies" and he's worried. His parents didn't know what to do to help.

Simple, answered Woman's Own. Get in touch with Parents Enquiry, and they gave Rose Robertson's address. Which makes a great change from the "get a shrink, quick" days of advice columns.

Warm pat on the back for Woman's Own—and let's hope that some of the other advice columns pick up on their level-headed lead.

## Impressive speakers

SOUTHAMPTON: The Southampton Campaign for Homosexual Equality has engaged an impressive list of speakers from the gay rights movement for its May programme.

Howarth Penny, General Secretary of CHE, Vivian Waldron of FRIEND, and Trevor Locke of the CHE student wing, have all agreed to talk to the Southampton group at their new headquarters, the Anchor Inn in East Street, Southampton.

The powerful line-up of speakers will do much to encourage one of the most successful CHE groups in the country. Since moving to the Anchor (see story GN43), a large influx of women members has been reported: a vivid illustration of what can be achieved when gay girls and boys decide to get together.

R J Thomson

## Jealousy fit ends in theft

IPSWICH: Douglas Osborne was so jealous when he saw his lover with another man that he planned to steal money and implicate him in the crime.

Mr G Davies, prosecuting, told Ipswich magistrates how 25-year-old Osborne, unemployed and of no fixed address, had broken into the offices of the Ipswich Port Authority one night and stolen not only money but some darts that he found there. The money and darts were valued at £5.45.

Later on Osborne had gone to the local police station and admitted to the crime. He said he had broken in with a friend, naming his lover as his accomplice. It wasn't until later that finally he admitted that he had carried out the theft on his own.

After Osborne had pleaded guilty, his defence solicitor told the court about his fit of jealousy, and said that he had planned to get his own back by involving his lover in the affair.

Osborne was fined £25.

## Carshalton double menace

CHARSHALTON: A warning comes from a Gay News reader about a public lavatory in Carshalton.

At the convenience recently, a man who was apparently also gay drew a knife on our informant. With the help of a third person outside the convenience, the armed man was scared off. But the whole incident was reported to local police.

If anybody has any reason to use the cottage other than to relieve themselves, they have a choice between being knifed or arrested—since the police will certainly be keeping an eye open after the episode.

The cottage in question is situated at Brookfield Gardens next to the Carshalton Road Recreation Ground. You have been warned.

## Scottish NUS meeting on gay rights

EDINBURGH: National Union of Students Scottish Region are holding a one-day Seminar on Gay Rights on Saturday 11th May 1974 at Heriot-Watt University Students Union, Grindlay Street, Edinburgh. This is a follow-up to the Regional Conference resolution at Dundee in March. Al Stewart from London will contribute to the Seminar, and the Edinburgh University Gay Group will be represented—at the moment this group is the only student gaysoc in Scotland.

Ian Dunn

## West Country groups

BRISTOL: Cornwall is soon to have a social outlet for gay people in the form of a new and hopefully regular group meeting. A meeting was planned for May 4th in Truro to bring together many isolated gay people. In Devon, during the weekend after the Truro meeting, it is hoped that a similar gathering will take place to establish a group in Exeter to serve the whole of North Devon. A group already exists in the Torbay area. Anyone wishing to join any of these groups should contact Trevor Locke, 33 Pembroke Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8 3BE.

## Community calling

LIVERPOOL: Four members of the local group of Campaign for Homosexual Equality took part in Radio Merseyside's 'Community Calling' programme on 25 April when they answered questions phoned in on the subject of 'Homosexuals in Society'.

The panel of four—Alan, Cathy, Nick and Robin—felt the programme was very worthwhile from a publicity/educational point of view, but would have liked more 'anti' questions from listeners to stimulate the discussion to topics which were not covered—it's quite surprising how much that you want to get across on this sort of programme in an hour either doesn't come up or has to be omitted because of lack of time.

The flow of the programme, which was at quite a good pace, was somewhat interrupted by one Wirral Group member phoning in to promote his well-aided views against Friend, and to indulge in totally inappropriate inter-group rivalry by demanding to know why the Wirral Group was not represented on the panel. The reason for this was that the people on the panel were invited to appear because of contacts which have been built up, and they were asked to talk generally about homosexuality and the problems of gay people rather than specifically about CHE. It was nothing to do with representation of different groups as this person could have found out by other means than by phoning in and creating an atmosphere which indicated petty in-fighting within CHE—where this exists, it ought to be kept out of good opportunities for promoting the cause of gay rights.

This was the second time in a year that the Liverpool Group of CHE had provided speakers for a Radio Merseyside programme—late last year four members were interviewed for half an hour—and the fourth time in 3½ years that the group has been featured on the station.

Robin Bloxidge

## Stoke-on-Trent CHE

STOKE-ON-TRENT: The local group of Campaign for Homosexual Equality reckon they have struck it lucky here in Stoke.

They now have a headquarters at the Vine Inn, Vine Street, Hanley, where they have been offered every facility by the landlord and landlady. They have been given the use of Mame's Bar (named after the landlady) where there is a disco on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Besides the disco equipment, Mame's Bar boasts a stage, a piano and an organ. Gay News is on sale there and the group tells us that the general atmosphere is very friendly. The bar has been re-decorated thanks to the generosity of 'Rose' (who Rose is they're not letting on!) who bought the materials and has done most of the work.

There is also a telephone contact number now for Stoke CHE, and you can get up-to-date information by ringing John or Mike at 0782 (Stoke-on-Trent) 25596.

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