



Government black - list: Minister speaks see page six

You <u>can</u> teach and be gay <u>Official</u> - page three

The dancing boys of Afghanistan

Derek James travels on see page seven

The man the US government banned:



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### All steamed up

lain Finlayson sweats it out in British saunas see page fifteen

## Madigan's log

- page nine

The quiet battle

Belfast gays pictured at Stormont shortly after handing in a protest letter demanding changes in Northern Ireland's barbaric sex laws. Pushed into the background is the statue of Sir Edward Carson, the man who led the prosecution against Oscar Wilde. The delegation consisted of (from left to right) Edwin Henshaw, Jeff Dudgeon, Brian Gilmore, Gerry McGrillen, Kevin Merrett and Pierre.

In this issue, Gay News is publishing the first of a two-part special report on Ireland. Michael Mason and Denis Lemon have recently returned from a four-day trip to Belfast where they accompanied the delegation to Stormont and spoke to gays involved in the movement. Michael's report appears on pages 4 and 5. Jeff Grace will be visiting Dublin with Denis, and reporting on the situation in the Republic in a later issue.

EUROPE'S LARGEST CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER FOR HOMOSEXUALS

# **Editorial & Letters**

## GANYNEVAS Number 51

### July 18 - 31

# And the Lord said Yah Boo Sucks

Mr MacGuffog says that Mr Peter Katin can't play the nice piano in Tunbridge Wells (see news story, page 3). A document recently brought to our attention sheds light on the matter:

And the Lord God MacGuffog created the Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells. And he saw that it was good.

And he made hard wooden folding chairs to stand upon the floors. And he thought that they were pretty good too.

And he did his creating bit with a piano, and a stage, and a ticket office, and so on. And by this time he reckoned that the whole thing was fantastic.

Then, as a final fling, created he Peter Katin to play upon the piano, and Peter Katin came to Tunbridge Wells in Kent, 'The Garden of England', and played upon the piano. And the sound he made was not only good, but thoroughly enjoyed by the residents of Tunbridge Wells.

But there was in the Garden of England a serpent that called itself the Campaign for Homosexual Equality. And CHE tempted Peter Katin, and said to him, "Please will you play the piano for us?" And Peter Katin said he would. And a benefit concert was arranged.

But the Lord God MacGuffog heard about the plans. And he spoke angrily to the CHE serpent, and muttered something about the members rolling over on their stomachs and crawling on their bellies.

And he accused Peter Katin of having yielded to the temptations of the serpent, and he cast him out of the Garden of England.

And he set at the entrance to the Garden a fiery monument to bigotry and blindness. And all who saw it were amazed

(The rest of this revealing document is lost, we hear. Which in the circumstances is just as well. MacGuffog's action in refusing to allow Peter Katin to play in the Assembly Hall, simply because CHE was to benefit from the recital, is both arrogant and insulting. It is arrogant for a local Town Hall clerk to take it upon himself to take action against a group of people whose activities are sanctioned by law. And it is an insult to Peter Katin, who has not only shown magnificent generosity in the time and energy he has devoted to CHE, but is a first class pianist whose playing has been enjoyed by audiences throughout the world

The council must, of course, reverse this decision. But they must also ensure that MacGuffog apologises to Mr Katin, if he wishes to keep his job. Mr Katin has already written to the council expressing his "disgust" at the ruling. But he is a generous man, and he may therefore be prepared to accept an apology).

# **Green** light for teachers

Whenever the conversation turns to the question of 'coming out', school-teachers have always claimed with some degree of justification that their jobs would be in danger if their employers discovered they were gay But the report in this issue of the meeting between David Bell and Ian Harvey, both of CHE, and Mr Ashley-Bramall, Leader of the Inner London Education Authority, makes it quite clear that such fears are groundless as far as London teachers are concerned.

# Your etters

Gev News as letters from its readers on any subject of special interest to homosexuals, including comment on items pub-lished in GN. Owing to space limitations, please keep your letter as short as possible (200 words maximum). Letters must be signed, but the writer's name and address will be withheld if the writer requests it. Send to: Your Letters, Gey News, 62a Chiswick High Road, London W4 15Y

**Rueful reading** Seppho Publications BCM/PETREL London WC1

Deer Gay News

The parrying of pens between Phillip Hodson, Executive Editor of Forum and Roger Baker about those best qualified to write about gaydom is rueful reading (Your Letters GN49). The subject matter is not gaydom. It is solely about *him*osexuals. I read Dr Pittenger's article in *Forum* because it was sent to *Sappho* also to be reviewed. The article was antitled 'The Art of Homosexual Love', Sappho ignored it with the scorn it deserved. It completely excluded the female homosexual. The article should have been entitled 'The Art of Male Homosexual Love'. To add aggro to arseholes—a lesbian article is to follow in a July or August edition of Forum by Chad Varah—as if there aren't any highly professional articulate NUJ card-carrying leablan writers about. The Executive Editor of Forum is catering to ignorant hets about homosexuality he says. How much more ignorant they are going to be about female homosexuality with its exclusion from one article and its inter pretation by a male heterosexual in another Phillip Hodson, desrie, you're doing a fine job

I am sure we can look forward to a spate of heterosex articles by homosexuals in Forum so that the " 'right' line can be got when interpreting the essence of straightdom for geys"-yet. Reging.

**Jackie Forster** 

#### Ancient fallacies

............. Abingdon, Oxon Deer Gay News,

Hes anyone suggested that the coming campaign for homosexual equality would be best fought with the object of simply re-moving all mention of homosexuality from the statute book? Arguments about the age of consent will be endless and wherever the line is drawn it will be arbitrary but surely the only offences which the law is justified in proceeding against-violence, coercion, public indecency, etc-are alreedy in existence with regard to heterolexuality. If homosexuality were regarded as not a matter of which the law needed to take cognisance it would not only make every-thing much simpler for all concerned but would be much better justice, so much so that I am surprised not to have seen it suggested before. If there are snaps involved Id be much better justice, so much so in this approach perhaps some of your readers can point them out. The usual obstacle in such debates is the old-fashioned notion that children can be 'perverted' and be turned homosexual when they would not otherwise have been so and there is still a widespresd desire on the part of many parents to 'protect' their children from the facts of life in the widest sense. The main ammunition needed by those debating will be arguments, and where possible statistics, from this and other countries, which dis-disprove these ancient fallacies.

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Label Babel				
Integroup Golders Green, Unitarian Hall,				
Hoop Lans, London NW11				
Dear Gay News, Membership of Integro				IS
equally divided between th	hose	who a	10	1000

predominantly homosexual and those pre dominantly heterosexual, with a pleasant minority of real ambisexuals.

but notice that members of some organis tions are very touchy. 'Gay' is a better label than 'Queer' and appears acceptable to most. Ambisexuels with their slogen "Bi is Best have no label problems. The word 'normal suggests that the others are subnormal or abnormal in some way. 'Straight' sounds like a two-dimension square and implies that the others are bent or crooked. 'Het' seems the obvious choice: it's a short, neutral word and in regular use in GN.

### Chuckling from start to finish Dudley, Worcs

Dear Gay News, I do want to take this opportunity of thanking you all for your magnificent GN which arrives by post regularly each Friday. It is the highlight of the week, and I have nothing but praise for the varied articles which you publish, and also the fact that your subscription department is really firstrate, as the mag always arrives without fail on a Friday. Perhaps we should also thank the Post Office.

I always read the News from page to always read the news from page to page-the letters are most interesting, in fact everything is both newsy and informative, but in the current issue No 50, I-reelly was knocked-out (if that's the word) with 'Madigan's Log'. This was so beautifully amusing and funny and well-written that it had me chuckling from start to finish, and to me was the birblight of the correct issues to me, was the highlight of the present issue Would you please thank Leo for me, and at the same time accept my sincere thanks for continued excellence. Carry on the good work

#### Victor Watson

Throw caution to the wind London W12

#### Dear Gay News

After living for a year in California, I returned to dear old London to find your paper. You deserve much praise for putting so many good articles together in one paper I must single out "Madigan's Log", it is

rere such intelligent and articulate writing appears in a gay paper.

Regarding your recent article about Turkey, if any of your readers has any doubts about going, I say throw caution to the wind and go. I've been many times and am going again-need I say more? **Nicky Athendrin** 

Prissy and deep pink

London W5

Deer Gay News, Recently I find you have had a tendency to skirt round the direct word and use a prissy synonym. This prissiness extends to many items in GN and I find it is detracting from the stanishing more services. from the straightforward approach you started with. The ordinary (not grand) gay guy just does NOT talk about penises and burns . . . it's just ordinary cocks and guy just does NOT talk about penises and burns... it's just ordinary cocks and arses, so as both are dictionery words why not use them? This is all pert of a bit of preciousness in GN which is making it more and more like a school mag... St Trinian's? While I'm having a beef. I really must refute some of the 'cloud nine' ideas expressed in the article in GN49 on Turkey. The writer thought Turkey had a touch of Alice in Wonderland about it, but I think the problem was that he viewed the country

the problem was that he viewed the country not through rose tinted glasses, but deep pink. It certainly is not as gay as Morocco or Amsterdam and I challenge him to justify this. The Sultan Ahmet area hotels, if you can call many of them that, are filled for a great part of the year with hippies or more unsavoury types... I've encountered them. The ford is good, and cheep, but the Turkish Bath he mentions is the Cagaloglu Harnamil, are interesting with its officiar and under very impressive with its pillars and vaulted roof, but many London saunas see more far more gay life than is available at this one. The Turkish guy on the desk is gay and spent an evening with him and he told me how many gay guys visit the bath, hopeful of Turkish delights that are not allowed to develop. For this one must visit the smell beths in the country villages.

AH (Full name and address withheld on request)

The Albany Trust Albany Trust 18 Consica Street London N5 1JN Tel: 01-359 7019 Dear Gay News

I am sorry that Richard Creed wrote to us but got no answer *[see Letters GN50]*. The Post Office has been paid to send on mail, but we don't appear to have had Richard's letter. As you have published a critical comment from him, may I have space to reply?

Firstly, my letter to The Guardian was



involving a lot of discussion and behind-the-scenes preparation before visible results begin to show, or headline-hitting stories can be written

While I agree with Richard Creed that charities should do more with their money than just pay staff, I am sure he will recognise that charities, like other people have mounting bills to meet these days, and I hope he will agree that social workers

should be paid a living wage. Becuase of its inadequate incometand it has no capital), the Albeny Trust is not able to make large or frequent money grants to gay community activities. We did, however, give Leeds GLF a donation recently to help hem go on producing their admirable Broadsheet.

The Albany Society Ltd, which is a separate charity from the Albeny Trust and has people who are or once were active in has people who are or once were active in several homophile groups on its Council of Management, gives nearly all its income to gay community work and is about to announce 1974 grants totalling several hundred pounds. One of these is to Gay Switchboard

If Richard Creed or anyone else who reads this gets in touch with me, I shall be glad to tell him more about the present stage of our planning for what I hope will be a vigorously active and useful 1975.

### Antony Grey Managing Trustee

### Surrounded by heterosexuals London N11

Dear Gay News, Page 10 of the CHE West End Group's report on elderly homosexuals begins. "An Any elderly person starting to live in a local authority home must find difficulties in adjusting to the new conditions. How much more difficult then for the elderly homosexual whose life style is still basically gay to adjust in his old age to an exclusively heterosexual environment? It should be remembered that when living on his own a homosexual, no matter how he may con-form when in public can at least be himself at home, this is not possible in the more communal atmosphere of a public establishment. The homosexual must now put on an act of being heterosexual for, twenty four hours a day. We are not necessarily referring here to the physical aspects of homosexuality. but also to the desire of the homosexual to be able to relax in the company of his own

kind." The prospect of spending possibly the last 15 or so years of one's life surrounded by heterosexuals is both depressing and terrifying-and one which faces the majority of us. We are a small group of gays looking into the possibility of setting up some sort of trust fund to establish an old people's home for homosexuals. This is only in the preliminary stages and we would like to hear from anyone interested in joining us. Please write to me at the box number given in the Mixed Personal Ads this issue [page 17].

Judith (Full name and address withheld on request)

Grounds for criticism Hedon Hull

Dear Gay News,

I have only been aware of the paper's existence for a short time, and have been sufficiently impressed and pleased with it to went to send you my congratulations on a very good job, and to wish you luck for the future.

I was just about to do so when the latest issue (GN50) gave me some unexpected grounds for unfavourable criticism. You ask for comments in this issue, so here they are. The news item about Mrs Whitehouse being prevented from speaking was unpleasant to me, as I am strongly in favour of freedom of speech for all, not just those agree with. The use of the expressions "Ms' and 'cottage' seems unfortunate-each has a little in its favour, but I think you would be better to avoid them. That said, again congratulations, and good luck! H H Atkin

If Mr Ashley-Bramall was prepared to risk public criticism by making the remarks that he did, it only strengthens the evidence of his complete sincerity

The news will no doubt be greeted by the teachers concerned with mixed feelings. They will, of course, be relieved that their jobs are not in danger. But they will also have to face as a completely personal decision whether or not they are bold enough to 'come out'. There is no longer the comforting justification for silence, "Ah, but I'm a teacher, and my job, you know."

Bearing in mind the courage of a number of teachers who have been prepared to say "I am gay, and I am a good teacher," and who have obtained these assurances from Mr Ashley-Bramall, let us hope that their courage was not entirely in vain. They have prepared the ground for their gay colleagues. So let us hope those colleagues will come out themselves, and help to change the lot of gay teachers in other parts of this country.

And, if we are to use 'het', why not 'hom', or is that perhaps just a little too chic and French sounding?

**Dudley Cave** Secretary

#### Be a friend to Friend 9 Leicester Road, Shepshed, Loughboro Loics LE12 9DF

Lear Gay News, A Friend group in the East Midlands is in the process of formation. It is hoped, initially, to cover the Derby-Nottingham-Leicester triangle plus adjacent rural areas If any GN readers would like to help in this venture either as befrienders or helpers I would be very glad to hear from them Bernard Ratigan

the shared plight of many charities, including ourselves, in the present inflationary situation when costs rise and income doesn't. One outcome of that correspondence is that the National Council of Social Service is convening an emergency conference later this month at which these common problems will be discussed and [] hope) acted upon

Secondly, Richard Creed asks what we are doing and complains that we "are not supporting anything worthwhile in the gay community." (I assume he means that we are not giving out money.) This reveals a misconception about the nature of the Albany Trust, We do not exist to support the gay community financially, but to promote psychological health; and this is interpreted by the Trustees as a concern with the whole range of psychosexual education and social action-not just with homosexuality. Because we originated in close association with the Homosexual Law Reform Society, we have always spent a lot of time and effort in helping gay men and women: although personal counselling is not our major task Michael Butler (who is a Trustee) is counselling people for us every week. The main thrust of our endeavour now is directed to improving the amount and quality of informed professional and social work help available—a slow and necessarily patient task

#### Helpful and courteous

#### Dertford. Kent Dear Gay News

For a week now I have wanted information about a special clinic near to Charing Cross, and I plucked up courage and rang the Gay Switchboard. Not only were there no sniggers, but a helpful and courteous renly Indeed, the voice that answered was friendly and sincere, and I wish I could have thought of something to talk about!

Anyway, please thank Gay Switchboard in general, and the person in particular for the reessurance and the tonic the converse tion provided. Dartford doesn't seem such an isolated place after all!

Ken Williams

# News

# Shock ban Katin won't lav

**TUNBRIDGE WELLS: When Peter Katin,** the internationally renowned concert pianist, offered to perform a Chopin recital for the Campaign for Homosexual Equality groups in Kent, everyone in the area was delighted.



So, CHE Medway contacted halls in Kent to assess their suitability and availability at the suggested date for the concert. Jeff Day, the chairperson of the group, found that the one suitable venue available on September 13 was the Assembly Hall at Tunbridge Wells. Mr Gibbs of the amenities department of the District Council there department of the District Council there, agreed to hold that night free until Jeff

agreed to hold that night free until Jeff confirmed the booking. This he did, giving details of the CHE organisation. The letter arrived at Mr Gibb's office on June 24, and as Jeff had not received a reply on June 28, he telephoned the department and was told that the applica-tion was being dealt with by the amenities officer, Mr MacGuffog. Mr MacGuffog informed Jeff that a letter in reply had been sent on June 25, the last

in reply had been sent on June 25, the last paragraph of which stated that in the cir-cumstances, the council would not hire out the Assembly Hall to him. Jeff asked for a reason and was told: "We do not want to allow the Assembly Hall to

be used for a concert of this nature

Jeff informed the amenities officer that this was to be a recital of the music of Chopin by Peter Katin, a vice-chairman of CHE, who

had previously played in Tunbridge Wells. Mr MacGuffog's reply: "As this is to be promoted by CHE and in view of the nature of your organisation, this is not the type of concert we want to hold in the Assembly Hall

Jeff informs us that at no time did any person from the amenity department ask to discuss the recital with him or any other CHE member.

The CHE group considers this act by the amenities department of Tunbridge Wells District Council as an insult to such an artist Katin

# Sex drug\_a positive contribution to humanity?

LONDON: There seems to be some confusion within the ranks of the pharmaceutical division of Schering Chemicals Limited, as to what the purpose of their new drug, Androcur, actually is.

The company, whose British factory is at Burgess Hill in Sussex, recently called a press

conference to announce the new drug. Conference literature stated that Androcur had been introduced to meet the problems of male patients suffering from hypersexuality and sexual deviations.

After a little trouble getting in to the conference (I saw three different people before being allowed to stay), I was approached by E J Cruickshank-Robb, the company's marketing director, who assured me that the drug was not for the treatment or cure of homosexuals. It was to be used, he added, for the treatment of sexual deviations, and it was not for his company to decide where sexual deviation started and ended.

He asked me therefore to confine my

questions to those that were strictly relevant. However, Dr T S Davies MRCS, LRCP, FRCPsych, DPM, mentioned in his address that one area where the drug had been particularly disappointing had been in rela-tion to homosexuals, and further stated that sexual drive in gays had been successfully reduced but the direction of this libido had

remained unchanged. Dr Davies, who is physician superintendent and consultant psychiatnst to the Lianfrecha Grange Hospital, Owmbran, and consultant psychiatrist to St Woolas General, Newport and Pontypool hospitals, said that only two out of a great number of gays had "reverted to heterosexuality" (our italics)and this had been the reason for his disappointment.

I waited until question time, and giving my name and newspaper super-audibly, I directed a question at Dr Davies.

I asked if he had been trying to effect a cure on homosexuals when he started his

initial research on the drug. Mr Cruickshank-Robb, who chaired the panel, did not allow Dr Davies to answer the question. The marketing director stated: "We are not prepared to get into this emotive which We are not commenting on the subject. We are not commenting on the homosexual as accepted in society-but homosexuality in relation to minors."

However, after question time, I was able to put my question to Dr Davies, thanks to Paul Tilsley, of Radio London. Paul was taping an interview with Dr

Devies and asked me to put a couple of questions.

To my enquiry as to when the drug would be used on homosexuals, Dr Davies replied:

"Only if the patient comes requesting it-we've made this rule that it is useless to try and force any therapy on a patient.

I next asked the doctor if he had been trying to change the sexual orientation of homosexuals when he first started his

homosexuals when he first started his research (my original question). To this he replied: "I suppose we were, yes." Many questions about the side effects of the drug were put to the panel, which was made up of Dr Davies; Dr LH Field, con-sultant psychiatrist to the St Leonard's and Bethnal Green hospitals, London and visiting psychotherapist to Wormwood Scrubbs; and Dr A W Harcus, head of clinical research at Scharing Schering.

One journalist was disturbed about the introduction of the drug, especially as the panel and the reports had omitted long-term effects. He asked about stories of the drug causing cancer and blood clotting in early trials.

This was denied by panel members, who pointed out that the drug had been passed by the Committee on Safety of Medicines. The company says its policy is "to operate a successful business that, through

research into new products, makes a positive contribution to humanity" (our italics).

Jeff Grace

Page 3

# **ILEA boss guarantees** no prejudice

LONDON: Gay teachers in London have nothing to fear from coming out. That was the important message which emerged from a recent meeting between representatives of Campaign for Homosexual Equality and the Leader of the Inner London Education Authority, Mr Ashley-Bramall.

David Bell, a gay teacher working in London, and Ian Harvey arranged the meeting in order to discuss two main issues. The first was the victimisation of gay teachers, the second was the teaching of children about homosexuality in the course of sex education lessons

Mr Ashley-Bramall, former MP for Bexley, told his two visitors that the ILEA did not discriminate against gay teachers. It was not ILEA policy to take any action against a gay teacher, even if he came out and made it

# Peers backYL gay campaign

LONDON: As reported in our last issue, the Young Liberals have been putting pressure on Liberal MPs and peers to enlist their help in amending the present legislation relating to homosexuality.

At a recent press conference Steve Atack, the newly-appointed organiser of the YL's gay rights campaign, explained what reaction had thus far been received from members of the Liberal party.

Strong support has come from Lord Beaumont, who regards this as a straigh civil rights issue. He replied to Steve: "I do not believe that the law has any right to interfere with people's sexual activity above the age of 16. I believe that because this is a civil rights issue, it should apply throughout the whole of the UK. I therefore heavily support the Young Liberals' campaign in this matter. Lord Amersham associated himself with this statement, supporting the campaign... Support has also been promised by two MPs-Cyril Smith and Michael Winstanley, while rather non-committal replies have been received from Jeremy Thorpe and Jo Grimond.

quite clear that he was gay. And backing his words with deeds, Mr Ashley-Bramall said that anyone who was victimised should apply to him, and he would take up the matter. These remarks were made in all serious-ness, and they represent backing for the rights of gay teachers from a very influential source. They will set the minds of a lot of London teachers et art London teachers at rest.

On the question of homosex education, Mr Ashley-Bramall expressed his approval of the idea, and recommended a number of officials within ILEA whom David and Ian could approach. Inspectors and teachers were the best bet. Headmasters were probably not worth contacting as they were largely con-cerned with the 'public relations' side of running schools, and might not care to risk letters from angry parents' associations.

# Gay reception splits counci

**EDINBURGH:** The proposed International Congress on Gay Rights, to be held in Edinburgh this Christmas if details can be settled, has run into trouble with the local council.

At a private meeting of the Lord Provost's Committee, the Labour group of councillors supported a plan to hold a civic reception for the congress in December.

This brought strong opposition from right wing councillors, in particular the Lord Provost Designate, Councillor John Millar (of Millar Homes, the instant housing build-ing kit company), and former City Treasurer Malcolm Knox.

The matter was put to a vote, which resulted in the plan being turned down-by a single vote. A new attempt, however, was to to be made on July 10, the date of the next meeting of the Lord Provoat's Committee. Ian Dunn of SMG and Derek Ogg of Edin-burgh University, who is organising the conference, will be attending the meeting and they home to speet

and they hope to speak. But their attempts to speak will be bitterly opposed by people like Cllr Millar. "I don't think this organisation is a suitable one for the city to extend civic hospitality towards. There are a good many more deserving organisations than this one. I just hope that any move to push for a civic reception will be defeated and common sense will prevail.

Tory group leader Bailie Brian Meek (ED:

On a brighter note, Peter is giving a recital at his studio on August 31, the proceeds of which will be given to Croydon Friend.

### **Bisexual** encounter

LONDON: Community, which describes itself as a "growth centre for everyone' started a series of encounter group meetings for bisexuals on June 17.

The meetings, which take place on Monday nights at Community's new house in Highbury Grange, N5, are being led by John Horder, who says he is "a poet more

than anything." John told GN that the first enounter went extremely well, with 8 or 9 people participating. Basically, it's for people who have just come out or for those who are in the coming-out process. He is using bioenergetics, massage and deep-breathing techniques.

Community can be contacted on 485 -2136.

Steve considers the response to have been promising, especially as the campaign has only been in operation for a few weeks.

In fact, after only a few days. Steve had received replies from 45 of the 240 Young Liberals branches, extending support to the fight for law reform in their constituencies.

The campaign hopes to float an emergency motion at the Liberal conference at Brighton later this year, enlisting support from the party. Steve said that he believed this would be the first time a party had discussed this issue at a national level



Public libraries are also to be approached by the campaign to make sure that they

openly display gay books. Ruth Addison, chairperson of the YLs, who was also present at the press conference, felt there was a very great need for a non-gay organisation to come out and support gay rights. "Because the economy is in such a state, it is vitally important that we maintain as much civil liberty as we can.

"Lots of other civil liberty items must be pushed for at this time, otherwise we run a serious danger of the whole democratic system dissolving for the sake of economic survival.

Bailie is a Scots term for a magistrate waxed indignant at the idea: "I would just like to say that if the reception does go ahead there will be great difficulty finding a magistrate to host it. It certainly won't be me." You're right there, son. You may not even get invited.

lan Dunn

### CHE group for Rotherham

**ROTHERHAM:** Campaign for Homosexual Equality are to set up a local group in Rotherham.

Robin Grazeley (CHE Sheffield) said that his group had been approached by many people in the Rotherham area who wanted to take advantage of their social facilities, but were unable to do so because of the transport difficulties.

"As the number of people in this area who are interested in CHE continues to increase, we have decided to set up a local group in Rotherham," he added. He pointed out that the town had no

tacilities tor gays whatsoever. The group can be contacted through PO Box 107, Sheffield, S1 1FJ.

# **Belfast Special**

# Irish gays spell out their demands

IRELAND: On Saturday June 29, the last day of Gay Pride Week, a six-man delegation delivered a letter of protest to Stormont Castle-the official residence of Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Merlyn Rees. The letter demanded an end to the vicious antihomosexual laws which exist in the province.

of the Belfast Gay Liberation Society. As the cars were admitted through the heavy gates, guarded by armed police, into the grounds surrounding the Assembly Building, all the passengers and vehicles were carefully searched. The Gay News camera excited some suspicion, but it was eventually returned (after the sergeant had nearly dropped it).

#### **Two fingers**

The cars were allowed in, and the delegation drove past the statue of Sir Edward Carson, the man who appeared for the prosecution in Oscar Wilde's trial. Appropriately enough, he stood watching the motorcade drive past with two bronze fingers raised at the delegation. The seats surrounding the monument are supported by pairs of bronze male nudes, kneeling with bended backs. The sculptor appears to have had a wry sense of humour.

At the castle the visitors were met and taken to the front door. Merlyn Rees was not in Belfast at the time, and the letter (addressed to Harold Wilson, with a copy for Merlyn Rees) was handed to a member of the Secretary's staff, nattily attired in a leather jacket and pink slacks ("I'd rather not have my name used. I am a civil servant you know."). It took a minute or two to get someone to come out and accept it because no one could find a key to the locked front door. When Rees' staff man did finally turn up, he had to leave the building by its back door and walk round to the steps at the front.

#### The letter

The text of the letter reads as follows:

"As a result of getting no satisfaction in our just attempts to obtain even the most meagre betterment of the situation for gays in Northern Ireland, homosexual organisations throughout the world have designated Northern Ireland for special protest in this annual Gay Rights Week. Today, 27 June, British Embassies throughout Europe are being picketed.

The Belfast Gay Liberation Society asks you as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to have the Northern Ireland law relating to homosexuality brought into parity with that of England and Wales. In the meantime we ask that you instruct the Director of Public Prosecutions in Northern Ireland to issue a ruling similar to the Scottish Lord Advocate's of 5 February 1974 to the effect that 'it is not today the policy of the Crown Office to take proceedings when cases are brought to its notice of homosexual acts between consenting adults in private.

"For the past year Belfast Gay Liberation Society has peacefully requested every relevant agency of the Northern Ireland and British governments to right this social injustice. Our experience has been that apart from two Assembly persons every other body or individual approached has shirked the issue, notably Mr Napier the former Minister of Law Reform, The Northern Ireland Secretaries of State Mr Pym and Mr Rees and the Director of Public Prosecutions (N Ireland) Mr Barry Cowan. We also note that Mr Whitelaw, though he favoured an age of consent of 16 for gays in England, was

unwilling to pursue reform here. "Mr Rees, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, informed us (before the suspension of the Assembly) that law reform would be a matter for Stormont. Considering the present lack of a legislative body here it is imperative that the British government finally discharges its responsibilities to so many of its citizens. "Mr Cowan told us that 'it was not his

practice to issue statements with regard to prosecution policy.' Despite the Scottish precedent the DPP has avoided the issue,

thus making it difficult for homosexuals to inform the police of crimes against them as their sexuality makes them liable to prosecution. In blackmail and assault cases we have found it necessary to advise several individuals of this possibility in the absence of guarantees similar to those made public in Scotland.

"The law in Britain has been reformed by legislative or administrative decisions; here in Northern Ireland homosexuals are given no protection in law. We demand that since responsibility in this matter has totally devolved upon the United Kingdom government that you quickly terminate this absurd and vicious legal anomaly

Sincerely, Peter Hughes Secretary

#### **Church hostility**

In addition to this letter, telegrams were sent to church and state leaders. The Queen received a telegram asking her "Please inter-cede for homosexuals in Northern Ireland. 1967 legislation does not apply here." It was signed "Belfast Gay Liberation Society, Queens University.

Leaders of the three main churches also received telegrams which said "Please support law reform to allow Ireland's 200,000 homosexuals to express their love for one another. Belfast GLS, QUB." These were sent to the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Catholic leader Cardinal Conway in Armagh, and Dr Simms, Primate of the Church of Ireland.

It is worth remembering that the real struggle for gay rights and dignity was not fought by homosexuals in England and Wales until after the passing of the 1967 act, which legalised gay relationships in some circum-stances. Irish gays are coming out knowing that any sexual relationships they enjoy are totally illegal, in a province where the churches are both powerful, and medieval in their attitudes towards homosexuality

Norway takes up Irish cause

OSLO: Kim Friele, General Secretary of the Norwegian gay organisation Det Norske Forbundet, reports that she has been overwhelmed by requests for interviews from the Norwegian press and broadcasting, following DNF's much-publicised demonstration against the oppression of gays in Ireland

Kim announced at Malvern conference that her organisation would be dedicating June 27, Gay Liberation Day, to the people of Ireland in their struggle against Church and State.

DNF was as good as its word. With placards carrying slogans such as "Stop the oppression of Irish homosexuals", "Stop the confusion of crime and sin in Ireland", and "No to discrimination on the grounds of being different", Norwegian gays held a demonstration outside the British Embassy in Oslo.

On behalf of DNF, Kim Friele handed in a letter of protest to the embassy which read as follows:

Your Excellency

In Northern Ireland the criminal law concerning what have traditionally been termed "unnatural what have traditionally been termed "unnatural offences" is mainly contained in the provisions of two nineteenth century statutes. These are The Offences Against the Person Act 1861 and the Criminal Law Amendment Act 1885. The Sexual Offences Act 1967 provides that it shall not be an offence for a man to have sexual intercourse with another man provided that: 1. the act is done in private 2. the parties consent, and

- the parties consent, and
- 3. the parties have attained the age of 21 This relaxation of the criminal law applies only

North London GLF presents



Norwegian gays from DNF picket British Embassy in Oslo

to England and Wales. The criminal law in Northern

Ireland remains severe in its scope and penalties. The offence of so-called "buggery" is punishable by virtue of section 62 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861, with life imprisonment, or any term of years not less than 10, at the discretion of

the court.

Consent is no defence. The consenting party is also guilty of the offence as a principal offender. The Norwegian Organization of Homosexuals-DET NORSKE FORBUNDET AV 1948-finds it necessary to underline some obvious facts in this matter

a) As the purpose of any criminal law is to

Britain's First

protect the individual and the society against obvious detrimental and harmful acts, and as con-senting homosexual acts have no such damaging effect, either on those involved or on others, the criminal law of Northern Ireland concerning homosexual offences discriminates the homosexuals EXCLUSIVELY ON THE GROUNDS OF BEING DIFFERENT

b) Making homosexuality a crime, the law thus place on equal footing private sexual acts and those vicious and harmful acts which are made the subject of punishment according to the criminal law

c) By making homosexuality a crime, the law

thus force upon the public of Northern Irelandthrough threat of punishment - one particular moral philosophy. To make homosexuality the subject of severe punishment is in fact to mix together the concept of SIN and CRIME d) The criminal hav concerning homosexual offenere does not include account acts between

d) The entremain has concerning nomosexual offences does not include sexual acts between women. Thus the law not only contribute to mintaining sex-prejudices, but also expresses an outlook on women which is totally out of step with reality. The law not only suggest that women do not have sexual feelings but worse, it maintains the superstition that homosexuality only applies

to men. The Norwegian Organization of Homosexuals strongly oppose the inhuman treatment of Irish homosexuals. Due to the present day criminal law they are totally prevented from leading a normal life, which by most people is looked upon as an obvious human right, but they are also without legal rights and thus victims of great oppression. We urge the British Government to abolish the

criminal law concerning homosexuality, and bring Irish criminal law in tune with the times. Freedom s also the right to be master over one's own body. Respectfully yours DET NORSKE FORBUNDET AV 1948

(Signed) Karen-Christine Friele General Secretary

Later in the day parts of the letter were read out in a programme broadcast by Norwegian radio and this, together with good press coverage, has in Kim's words "ensured that all intelligent Norwegians now know about the situation for homosexuals in Ireland.

People we spoke to in Belfast were deeply touched by the support they had received from DNF

Howard Llewellyn and Michael Mason

Page 4

Two days earlier, gays from both Northern

Ireland and Eire had picketed the British Embassy and the Republic's Department of

Justice in Dublin. Similar protests were held in other parts of the world on the same day

which had been designated as an international

day of protest against the treatment of Irish

homosexuals, at the suggestion of Kim Friele

At the same time as the gays from Belfast were presenting their letter at Stormont Castle, a similar letter was handed in at

situated just outside Belfast) were members

The six who drove to Stormont (which is

of Det Norske Forbundet, Norway's gay

Number 10, Downing Street.

organisation.

at the Prince Albert Pub, Wharfdale Street, off York Way, Kings Cross

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# **Belfast Special**

# Early days for gay movement

NORTHERN IRELAND; The Irish gay movement is young. The original Gay Liberation Front splintered and no longer exists in its original form. This was partly due to internal division, and partly to some of the external pressures under which it operated during periods of fierce sectarian fighting.



A mother flees from a Bellast store with her child as a bomb is found

At present there are three 'groups' operating more or less loosely in Belfast, and one in Coleraine.

The Belfast women's group includes amongst its members some of the most radical activists. Many of them are still committed to the revolutionary position taken by GLF in its Manifesto, and have developed their ideas on sexism in step with their brothers and sisters in English GLF groups

Belfast Gay Liberation Society is a gay activist organisation more along the civil rights line. The group is run by a collective, and they were responsible for the Stormont protest. They are based at Queens University Belfast

Finally, in Belfast, there is the All Friends Social Committee – a new, purely social group as the name implies which started up this year and has so far put on three gay dances.

In Coleraine, the Sexual Reform Move-ment based at the New University of Ulster is working for wider changes in sexual behaviour. Homosexuality is an important part of their fight, but they also work with southern branches on abortion, contraception, and other areas of particular interest to the Irish women's cause.

The straight commercial gay scene in Belfast is very quiet. There are no clubs, but there are three pubs/bars which are used by gay men and women. The Club Bar, close to the university, attracts mainly students (both straight and gay). It is at its gayest on Thurs-day nights after the GLS meetings. None of the frantic cruisiness of London gay pubs here

The Whip and Saddle Bar in the Europa Hotel is very mixed (het/gay), very discreet, very waitress service, with lounge suits and 'high fashion' - and a sinking feeling in the pit of your stomach that nothing has changed, is changing, or will change this side of Judgment Day.

Finally there is The Royal Avenue, a pub in the enclosed 'pedestrian only' zone of Belfast. This is the nearest to the typical London gay pub, almost entirely male, almost entirely gay.

One thing you get used to quite quickly is being searched every time you go in. At the Club Bar, bags and cameras are carefully checked. At the Europa there is a security hut at the entrance where you get a body search as well. To reach the Royal Avenue, you have to pass through check points set up by the British Army (body and bags), so the bar itself doesn't both to check you again. One slightly worrying part of our visit,

in retrospect, was how easy it was to get used to the manifestations of war. It all

became a game. Soldiers will flag you down at random to search your car. Fire engines and armed vehicles flash past you on their way to a bomb alert. When we arrived in Belfast, we drove almost straight to the Club Bar to meet the GLS members after their meeting. Twenty minutes before we arrived, the doorman had been shot in the shoulder by two men who wanted his gun. The same evening a bomb went off in the street next to the one in which we were staying. Both incidents became topics of conversation, but nobody seemed unduly worried, and very soon you find yourself picking up the same attitude.

From most press reports you get the impression that Belfast lives under a constant shadow of fear. But it just didn't seem to be true. A couple of little incidents might happen near you or your friends over a weekend. But they were forgotten five minutes after they had happened.

As for the nest Fleet Street Divisions into Catholic/Protestant, or Loyalist/Republican, they fall down everywhere you look. There are no sides, only groups. There is a feeling of rebellion. For some it is a rebellion against Britain, for some, against the rule of Stormont, and for some, against the social order and morality of Northern Ireland in general.

It seems that whatever group has obtained whatever kind of power in the province, it has abused it, or has wielded it in the implicit belief that everything it says is The Truth. Nowhere is this clearer than in the particular fight that Irish homosexuals are taking on. The churches have taken a hard line on homosexuality and they still have a remarkably strong influence on social attitudes, even amongst non-believers.

It would be fair to say that the gay movement is at present very 'closety', but it is also fair to point out at once that they have everything and everyone against them, the students (see separate story this page), the church, the Assembly (the law has never made any concessions to homosexuals so that any gay relationship is illegal), the Republican movement ("there has never been a homosexual Republican" said a Sinn Fein splkesman), the Protestants (who are disgusted by the British government giving

way to pressure to legalise homosexual acts between consenting adults), and even the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association (equivalent to the NCCL) which let through a gay rights motion at one of its conferences, but has since done nothing beyond expressing "sincere interest" in the problem, and threatens to kiss the whole thing to death through apathy. Given the strength of the opposition they are taking on, it is remark-able that gays have dared to do as much as they have done so far.

But dare they have. They are demanding as a first step parity with the English law, legalising consenting homosexual acts (or as one newspaper over there had it, "legalising homosexual cats"). They have won support from gay movements in other countries, and it is important for them that that support continues. No one fights alone for long, and if even the Irish student movement refuses to ally itself with their cause, it is vital that gays-particularly other gays in the United Kingdom-should give them the full-hearted backing they are denied at home

**Michael Mason** 



# Gays `an embarassment' say Irish students

**BELFAST: Student leaders at Queens** University Belfast think that the campusbased Gay Liberation Society is just an 'embarrassment', according to Student Union President Alistair McDowell.

Gay movements in most countries have started with the positive support of the student population, but Belfast GLS are having to fight students as well as the state. Students don't show open hostility, explained Alistair McDowell, but only because "it's not trendy to be anti-gay." When we mentioned the National Union of Students Gay Rights Campaign, he waved his hand. "If the NUS wants a national campaign, then the NUS should finance it and pass down instructions to us."

Trouble between Belfast GLS and the Students Union started when GLS were allowed to use Union phones for CARA, a counselling and befriending service, thanks largely to Alistair's support in the face of opposition from other members of the student council. The desperate need for such a service was proved quickly, and the phones were jammed with calls from lonely gays

with problems. Then came the bombshell. There were too many calls, said the Union. Their switchboard could not cope. GLS would have to stop its phone service. The move brought protests from homosexual organisations both in Ireland and in England and Scotland. So the Union said it would look for alternative accommodation for GLS.

Alistair said he had tried to find a house, but he had had no success. "When I get a house, you'll get a room," he told GLS again recently, one week before his term of office President was due to expire.

He also confirmed GLS fears about the executive committee which takes over the student body next term. They are likely to be even more hostile, he said. "You haven't a hope in hell of getting either an office or a telephone."

There is even a risk of GLS being denied the basic facilities enjoyed by other student groups. Paddy Murphy, the sports secretary, claims that GLS is a political organisation and therefore shouldn't receive even the basic Union grant, let alone a grant for their phone service. "What equipment do you lot need?"

he objected in an argument over the amount of money given to the rugger club compared with the amount given to GLS. "The rugger club needs balls," he said.

Jonathan Stevenson will be next year's Vice-President. He also runs the student Nightline service (a number which students can ring if they have problems). Approached by GLS to include a gay person in the service to deal with homosexual callers, he told them they weren't qualified. "I know how to counsel homosexuals," he said. Official Student Counsellor Ms Desney

Cromie, who is paid a salary, half of it from university funds, half of it from students union funds, finds the situation even easier than Jonathan Stevenson. "There aren't any homosexuals in Queens University Belfast, she says

Another incident which rankles with GLS members is the occasion when union doorkeeper Williams insulted a GLS member, making cheap cracks about him as he left a union disco. After several strong complaints to the Students Representative Council, the council eventually asked Williams to apologies. He didn't. But he was sacked by the council shortly afterwards-for being rude to a friend of the Executive Committee.

Bar bans gays

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From left to right: Don Gill from Coleraine, Joseph Leckey, Gerry McGrillen, Brian Gilmore and Edwin Henshaw, all from Belfast

**BELFAST:** The famous Europa Hotel in Belfast (oft-bombed, and headquarters of the foreign press corps) was the scene of yet another unpleasant incident the other night.

On the ground floor of the hotel is a gay bar, called The Whip and Saddle bar. It was late, and there were very few customers left when Don Gill of Coleraine and Gerry McGrillen of Belfast GLS kissed. But the reaction was instantaneous. The head waitress rushed over and yelled at them, "I know this sort of thing went on in private but ... get out, get out. Don't let me see your faces in here again," and hustled them out. "That's what I call double standards," retorted Don.

Outside, they spoke to one or two GLS people who had been around. Don asked them if they were going to protest to the management at what had happened. The reply was simply "we want to get back in there. Sorry.

Meanwhile Gerry is trying to get the affair taken further, hopefully with the anistance of the rest of GLS.

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# List99\_Minister replies

LONDON: There are 1300 names on the Department of Education and Science's List 99. This was revealed by Reg Prentice, Secretary of State, in reply to a letter from the president of the National Union of Students, John Randall. Mr Randall's enquiry about the list came out of the NUS gay rights campaign.

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The Secretary says that List 99 is a con-fidential document with a limited circulation among local authorities, other employers of teachers and certain teachers' and employers' associations

"It does not contain anything other than the relevant statutory regulations, the minimum information required by an employer to identify people who have been determined by me and my predecessors to be unsuitable for employment as teachers, and the extent of exclusion.

Speaking of the term "misconduct," Mr Prentice says that this is not defined in the regulations governing exclusion from teaching. In general terms, "misconduct" is any behaviour which suggests that the person concerned is an unworthy member, or

potential member, of the profession. He concludes: "It is, I am afraid, not possible to ascertain, without a detailed examination of the confidential files of the 1300 people named in List 99 /a little under 0.2% of all teachers /, how many of them are known to be homosexual - a fact, of course, which may or may not have any relevance to the conviction for a criminal offence or other form of misconduct which led to their exclusion.

## 'No change'at Hampstead pub

LONDON: The King William IV pub in Hampstead High Street, a well-known gay venue, has a new landlord.

Brian Andrews, who takes over from Leslie Cull as manager, has told regulars they need have no fear of any sudden changes. "The pub will stay the way it is."



one. I believe many of our customers are homosexual, but we would not consider a vendetta against them. Being homosexual isn't a crime, and someone would only be ejected if they were interfering with other people's pleasure."

The retirement of Leslie Cull marks the end of 89 years of family service in refreshing parched throats. His father was landlord of the Prince of Wales in Kentish Town for a record 46 years, and Leslie has been at the "William" for 20 years. Speaking of the time he came to the pub in 1954 he says that it used to be a quiet

in 1954, he says that it used to be a quiet house with a few regulars. He further recalls: "But business has grown and grown. We get far more passing trade now, and our cus-tomers are younger, more bohemian. "We've had a host of famous actors and

actresses in our time. Ian Carmichael, Peter O'Toole, Richard Burton, Vera Lynn, Frankie Vaughan, Tessie O'Shea-they've all come here

Leslie is now heading for a peaceful retirement in Bournemouth. "I haven't had a holiday for 12 or 13 years, so I'll enjoy the rest

Incidentally, Gay News is sold regularly at the 'William'

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Herne Hill

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Brian further told a reporter from the

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INSIDE as well as on the cover. In spite of these improvements, this magazine will remain at it's usual low price. (£1)

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# CHE picks new

News

MANCHESTER: Barrie Kenyon has been chosen as the new Chairman of the Campaign for Homosexual Equality, a post which became vacant after Michael Steed announced his resignation shortly before Malvern.

The choice of the new Chairman was taken at the first meeting of the newly-elected **Executive Committee of CHE.** 

34-year-old Barrie works in further education, a career he chose after "dreadful jobs" with the Inland Revenue and the social services. He joined CHE in 1970 and was the founder chairman of the local Manchester Group. More recently, he became an organiser of Friend.

At the same meeting of the EC, commit-tee members were allocated their new 'port-folios'. Responsibilities are as follows:

John Bennett-armed forces and merchant navy (a new brief), and homophile group liaison

Ted Clapham-Friend Ike Cowan-law reform group, CHE legal

adviser Bernard Greaves-press and publicity Wallace Grevatt-local CHE groups Barry Jackson-conference organizer Trevor Locke-young gays, and appointed to new research panel

Dennis Nadin-church affairs and social services

Peter Naughton-treasurer Angela Needham-education. outside speakers, research panel

Glenys Parry-medical affairs, research panel Liz Stanley-women, elderly gays

Paul Temperton -/did not attend meeting. but believed to be taking on international

ligison) Richard Webster-employment, trade unions. employers' associations, professional groups David Dancer-(not yet an EC member) becomes student liaison officer



Chairman Barrie Kenyon

The recent critical understaffing of Manchester office has been of great concern to CHE members, and the organisation has just announced the appointment of an assistant to General Secretary Howarth Penny. The new man is Christopher Bowden-Smith, chairman of the Birmingham Group, and he started work on July 16. GN sends its best wishes to him in his new job.

## **GLU** forms liaison committee

LONDON: Because of the apparent lack of coordination between gay groups in London,

# NCCL unveils plans

LONDON: The recently-convened gay rights committee of the National Council for Civil Liberties held its first meeting on June 23.

Guy Thornton, committee chairperson, told Gay News what problems he would be concentrating on.



NCCL committee chairperson Guy Tho

Committee members are to make a study of police activity in regard to homosexuals. A comparison is to be made around the country of the different punishments dealt out to gay offenders. This will also be tied in with a comparison of punishments given to hets for the same types of offence.

Members also hope to get some concrete evidence on the question of police agents provocateurs. They are appealing to all gay groups and organisations for information on these subjects and Nettie Pollard, at the NCCL office, will be pleased to receive anything that is relevant.

On law reform, the committee intends to support the work of Campaign for Homo-sexual Equality, and by using the NCCL's parliamentary group hopes to obtain support in the House

The group also plans to draw up a paper on medical and psychological affairs, particularly in regard to compulsory treatment of gays.

Another area which it intends to cover is the question of discrimination, both in housing and employment. Here the gay rights committee will be collaborating with the women's rights committee and other relevant groups.

Although nothing definite has been formulated as yet, the group also hopes to take up the rights of gay prisoners. In conclusion, Guy stated that the committee hoped it would cover areas which

had not been taken up by other groups already.

## Gay teachers get together

LONDON: Gay teachers in and around London are to hold regular meetings in the future. A group is being formed to fight for gay rights in the education field.

The decision to start the group was taken at a meeting at the University of London Union, called by David Bell. This meeting was designed to be the 'wind-up' of the CHE Education Campaign-though many local groups will be carrying on the campaign with the assistance of Angela Needham of the Executive Committee. The new teachers' group recognises that the CHE campaign hardly scratched the

surface of the problems in schools and colleges, and it will be trying to carry on much of the work already started. One of

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CALENDAR for 1975, which will sell for £3 each. This will be an exciting and spectacular production.

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Finchley, North London) called a meeting at CHELIC, on July 3, to which representatives of all major gay groups had been invited.

Although the response was rather poor, members of CHE, Gay Switchboard, PNL Gaysoc, Sappho, University of London Gay-soc and LSE Gay Culture attended.

Out of the meeting came the decision that a liaison committee be formed, which will operate under the name of 'Gay London United'. The initials -GLU-were considered particularly appropriate, and slogans such as "stick together with GLU" were bandied about

GLU hopes to arrange a disco on August 24, if the Porchester Hall is available as the venue, in order to launch the operation of the committee. This will be confirmed later.

At the moment, the committee is enlisting members – there will be a total of five. They hope that all gay groups will want to take part in any social activities organised.

Pauline assured our reporter that she and her committee will be willing to work with anyone in gay organisations. "Let's forget our differences and come together," she said. the early projects is to whip up trade union backing. The main teaching unions will be asked to give support to gay teachers in their demands for an end to victimisation, and for comprehensive sex education in schools.

CHE's Jackdaw study kit containing teaching materials on homosexuality is still in preparation. David Bell promised that it would be published in time for the beginning of the next academic year-and he hoped to see it ready by September 1. The article in The Guardian had created a great deal of interest, and CHE had received many requests for copies when published.

The kit will contain several items of interest. Starting with an introductory leaflet, containing useful contact addresses and information about the gay movement, it will include fact-sheets on various topics including gender roles, love relationships, women, social attitudes, the law, transvestism, transsexuality, bisexuality . . . and heterosexuality. There will also be a collection of press cuttings, cartoons to start off classroom discussion, prose and poetry, and a number of publications and pamphlets dealing with the gay situation.

# Travel

#### KABUL, Saturday

#### Hallo!

We sped through Iran in three days. I dislike Iran—in the surge towards mechanisation, industrialisation and Americanisation, it seems to have forfeited so much of its own traditions and heritages. Besides, there was another reason for the haste: Chris' birthday was coming up, and Afghanistan, we felt, would create the ideal atmosphere for a birthday celebration.

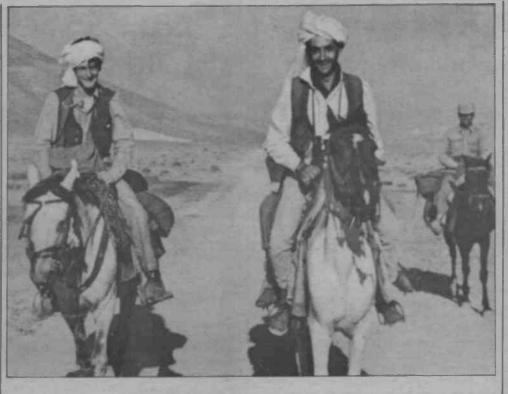
At school, one is taught a little about Afghanistan: the invasions by Darius, Alexander, Genghis Khan and the British, and as a Muslim country one knows, of course, that it will be more tolerant of homosexuality. But, apart from this, very little is known about the country. I can say almost certainly you have never entertained the idea of spending a holiday here.

Yet it is one of the most exciting and stimulating countries I have visited. It is difficult to find words that will do justice to the raw, unspoilt countryside-the magnificent Hindu Kush, the vast expanse of the Turkestan plains, the seclusion of the southern deserts. And, above all, the inhabitants: people who, I believe, are (physically and otherwise) the most beautiful in the world. The men dress in multi-coloured robes, sometimes richly embroideted, and their heads are turbaned. They are proud and virile, their complexions seem to mirror the ochre hues of the desert and their eyes are as deep and blue as the norther lakes of Bande Amir. The people from the rural areas, especially, are so open, so carefree and casual about time. (Alas, the watches that the men in the cities display so proudly are changing that.) Whiling away the hours in a Chai Khana (Tea Shop) is a favourite pastime. Often exotically decorated, these Chai Khanas are the central gathering places for every town. A pot of green or black tea, enough for 3-4 cups, costs 3 Afs-less than ½ pence!

We crossed the Irani-Afghan border on the eve of Chris' birthday. The bus journey from the border to Herat, the first town, should take 2½ hours. (The two of us were, incidentally, the only Westerners on the bus. The other passengers were mostly Hajjis. A Muslim becomes a Hajji-a greatly venerated title-after he has completed the pilgrimmage to Mecca.) But it was one of those bus journeys, and after six hours of stopping, starting and pushing-and the ground was still covered with thick snow-the bus finally ceased completely. One accepts this. When you pass through the gate that separate separates West from East, you leave behind the logic and efficiency of Western mechanisation. You can no longer rely on your plans or schedules: these become subject to the forces of chance and change. Allah's will, it is said, is stronger than that of man. (Allah o-Akbar) And, as it happens, with the breakdown, Allah, with all His blessings, bestowed on Chris a birthday gift, the memory of which he will cherish for many years: a living, exciting, bewitching experience of an Arabian tale.

The bus driver explained that there was an inn nearby, where we would have to spend the night, until another bus could be brought from Herat the next day.

Two boys, aged about 12 and 14, greeted us at the inn door: "Salaam Aleikum" (Peace be with you), and then ushered us inside. Later, in the early hours of the morning, when they ordered us to bed, the boys armed themselves with rifles and bandoliers, to guard the inn from attack by hostile bandit tribes! I don't know how real this threat was, but the sight of these two armed boys was very romantic and impressive. I also found out that they alone man and run the inn. No ageism here-older men, many of whom are rough and sturdy Bedoin types stopping over for the night, accept and respect the rules that the boys lay down. We entered a large room. Men were seated on the floor, against the walls-Bedoins, Hajjis and those on their way to Mecca. "Salaam Aleikum," they murmured as they made room for us to sit down. The boys brought in food-omelettes and unleavened Afghan bread, dates and pots and pots of tea. The men were passing hookahs around the room and in one corner a small group was making music. No, it would be wrong to paint a picture of musicians, divorced from an audience. Everyone here was involved with the music. They were the music. Like one man, they would start clapping and chanting to the music, adding to it, changing the rhythm and tempo even. And then, at the appropriate time, like one man, they would fall into silent obeissance



# ALETTER FROM AFGHANISTAN



and the sounds of the tabla and flute would behest their presence.

Then a boy stood up and danced. My preconceived image of a dancing boy was (God forbid! I thought) some Eastern equivalent of Danny La Rue. But this image was totally misconceived. The boy was about 15, and contrary to my expectation, not slim or girlish-looking, but muscular and well-proportioned. This art doesn't attempt to create an illusion of the boy being a woman, with the conventional connotations of being "a substitute." Rather, he embodied both the qualities of masculinity and feminity. And again, I must impress on you not to confuse this with the crude tricks of dilletantish English drag artistes, who shatter the illusion they have attempted to create by suddenly speaking in an obviously 'male voice'-fear, I wonder, that the illusion will be too real and they may be mistaken for 'real women'? No, here was a delicate and intricate synthesis a symbolic reminder that each one of us contains within our make-up a combination of male and female qualities. His body was immensely expressive and he exercised complete mastery over each muscle. His feet flitted across the floor like a butterfly's wings aginst the air. Suddenly his body would freeze, except for a single quivering, beckoning hand: at this moment the only movement in an enthralled room. The hand slowly unfolded, like a flower at dawn. His eyes glittered brightly, mischievously and seductively, aware of his own sexuality. The pace of the music accelerated and the butterfly danced once more, faster and faster, his body twisting sensually until, after a frenzied crescendo, the music stopped and the boy fell breathless to the floor.



our bodies!) we protested bashfully, but they were insistent. So Chris got up and self-consciously did a few pirouettes across the floor. And they loved it. The music continued and more pots of tea were brought in.

Sitting across from me was a ruggedlooking Bedoin and throughout the evening he silently observed me with keen and piercing eyes. I was puffing at a hookah when again caught his eye. I realised that I was hardly adept at handling this smoking instrument and I smiled apologetically. A broad grin broke over his face and as this was his cue, he produced from the many folds of his robe little bottles for us to sample. Some of these contained perfumes, another a green liquid which is placed inside the nostrils, like snuff, and which, he explained in sign language, invigorates the body! Yet another contained a herb which is chewed and spat out. Again our lack of expertise caused much good-natured laughter. In my previous letter I mentioned that homosexuality is much more naturally accepted in Muslim countries. Afghanistan is another example of this penchant. I find it refreshing and they, in their turn, are delighted when we respond to embraces and kisses. The majority of Western males that pass through are only too chauvinistically heterosexual and shy away from such intimate contact. This physical contact between men doesn't necessarily contain homosexual overtones. It is just that the society tolerates it in the same way that Western societies tolerate such contact between opposite sexes and, to a lesser extent, between women, without always attaching sexual overtones to it.

view any black Americans!) Sitting in a Chai Khana or bar (there is no need for gay clubs, per se), it is very likely that someone will make a sexual advance, often with the stubborn insistance common to Western homosexual men when making advanced to women. I must also add that this attitude and homosexual promiscuity probably evolved from the oppression of women and the taboo of pre-marital intercourse. I smiled indulgently and understandingly at the complaints of a couple of straight friends. They couldn't even hold hands in the streets of Pakistan, without attracting shocked stares, yet men were walking around hand in hand!

Women are oppressed. Most of them remain hidden behind a chowdri (veil). In fact, they are enveloped in a huge smock which covers every inch of the body, from head to feet. Their eyes view the world from behind thick dark blue or black gauze. I have had very little contact with Muslim women and cannot really comment. In the inn I described, I accidentally opened the wrong door. The room was full of women, the wives and daughters of the men next door. As if their veils were not strong enough protection, they immediately fell silent and huddled closer together, their heads bowed low so as not to meet my gaze. I shut the door quickly. Who knows, possibly in these segregated situations gay female encounters do occur. I don't know.

My views on the westernisation of these countries ("the taming of the East" I call it) are schizophrenic. After experiencing the unspoilt beauty and innocence of rural Afghanistan, I am appalled to observe Kabul, the capitol, littered with discotheques, Western-style restaurants and supermarkets, and not one 'Afghani to be found in any of these. Not a true one, anyway. Everywhere capitalism and Western materialism manifest themselves, crudely and insidiously. Everything is geared towards the spoilt Western demands-row upon row of curio stalls, etc. A new generation of waiters is being educated in the English language and Western habits. One shudders at the thought of another Costa dul Sol. Yet is has to be in Kabul (thanks also to the presence of Hippie women in their "provocative" barb), that Afghani women are now discarding the chowdri. How courageous these women are: true, fighting pioneers of the women's revolution.

As a final point on the matter I can only echo the words of the prophet: "Let him that is without sin . . . "Whilst we live in a society where the oppression of women (and indeed of gay and other minority groups) continues, we have no right to point any finger. Any perusal of lonely hearts columns in both gay and straight periodicals shows an overwhelming discrepancy between female and male advertisers. This cannot be because women are less lonely or in lesser need of companionship. It is an inveterate oppression and, first of all, we must extricate ourselves from our own social taboos.

Winter and Summer temperatures in Afghanistan are extreme, but the other two seasons are lovely. The return air fare (Ariana Afghan Airlines, Aeroflot and Iran Air fly London-Kabul direct) is £398. But, of course, the cheapest and most interesting way—if you have the necessary sense of adventure and the time—is by various local transports. This costs as little as £35 from London to Kabul. Get a 30-day visa (easily extended) from the Afghan Embassy in London.

There are some super deluxe hotels in Kabul (about £1 a night), though the cheaper ones, complete with clean sheets and pleasant, homely room service, charge a mere 10 pence a night. Hotels have proved to be big business in Afghanistan and there is much competition. It is the only country where on a return visit I have found the prices have dropped. When you have had your fill of the Kabul night-life (I notice that some 'nightclubs' offer dancing boys as cabaret, but I haven't been to any of these and cannot make a comparison: my precious memory forbids me from going to something more 'professional'), you may want to explore the archeological and other treasures of the country. The Afghan Tourist Board arranges coach tours for the more comfort-orientated tourists to places like Bamyan, renowned for gigantic Buddhas, carved into the mountains. But those blue lakes of Bande Amir can only be reached by jeep; charming tucked-away places are remoter still-some only accessible by camel! It all depends how far-out you wish to venture.

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The men shouted that one of us should dance, but, alas, our educational system is one that inhibits and represses such spontaneous movement. (How we cripple But it also does mean that homosexuality is much more prevalent. (This surely must invalidate Kinsey's statistics? His figures were come by, without investigating any of these more overt 'homosexual countries'. In fact, I understand he didn't bother to inter-

Salaam Aleikum,

Derek James

## **Comment & Horoscope**

# The John Riley column

### **Circumstances** beyond our control

Now, as you know, I cannot abide all this nonsense of sexist roles in gay Apres-Foreplay. And the numerous ads I place in *Gay News* ALL begin, 'versatile'. Suddenly, everyone wants to be fucked. I'm sorry if that made you spill your coffee, but there is no other way of putting it.

At first I just sat there, with my slide rule, noting the trend. After all, I reasoned; Arthur-Martha, what does it matter, as long as he loves no other? But keeping up with this increased demand began to play havoc with my foreskin, which was palpably too tight for the vessel therein contained (rather nice nautical image, what?). Yes, yes, I know. I should have had it seen to yonks ago, but what with Bridge twice a week and the Sunday papers to get through . . .

Once appraised of the situation, my doctor organised things quickly, which is why I found myself this morning, in Ward E2, discussing with Sister Pearson exactly who was my next-of-kin. We plumbed for Cousin Frank, whose phone number was miraculously there in my little black book. Sister closed my file and leaned forward solicitously: "You'll have to find yourself a wife, dear."

"I'm homosexual."

"Well, then, a *friend*." One had to admire the way she said this, without the least hesitation, so steadfast is her championing of connubiality. "It's all right for you," I thundered silently, "you haven't been saddled with a redundant foreskin all of your adult life." Then I brightened as I contemplated the whole new life-style which lies ahead. Once I've perfected the 100%-Butch stance and figured out what to do with my hands ...

My reverie was interrupted by a little man at the foot of my bed. "Surgical shave, Sir?" There could be no doubt what he had in mind, the basin and razor lending substance to his intent. I lowered my trousers and he set to work, not without his own version of barber-shop banter. When he had finished, he paused, staring hard at what had been my thatch. "A crab," he announced. "Impossible," I countered. He called for Sister who confirmed his diagnosis. I could

Sister, who confirmed his diagnosis. I could tell from Sister Pearson's expression that she thought I had let her down—why I had to choose that particular lavatory seat! One thing was certain: I couldn't go down to theatre in that condition. Ours is a nice ward, ours is; and she'd never be able to look the Theatre Sister in the face-mask again. All my protests were to no avail; she was adamant and said I must report to the 'Special' clinic, where "that sort of thing" was dealt with.

"It's down the corridor and turn . . ." "I know where it is!" I screamed and stormed off the ward.

Down at the 'Special' clinic, the doctor was in Pixie mood, but could not be diverted from the set questions.

- "When did you last have sex?"
- "Last night."
- "Anyone you know?"

I rumbled distractedly for my little black book: "I have a phone number here, somewhere."

"Phone number?! I don't know that I'm interested in your phone numbers, young man. Gracious me, no. I'll put down, 'casualunknown'-that's what I usually put."

He then went through the Active/Passive routine, giving me the chance to tell somebody why the op was so necessary. He listened carefully, obviously pleased that one was showing such initiative. "Splendid, splendid. Now then," his tone

darkened, "there's an awful lot of syphilis about," his hands encircled an epidemic of Bubonic proportions, "Why not have a blood-test now that you're here?"

"And what about seeing to what I come here for?" I fumed, grammar and patience both being exhausted.

He gazed intently at my bald pubes: "Can't see anything; understandable

really, they like something to cling onto, you know. Ahem. I have some stuff . . . ah . somewhere."

So there you have it. Right now I should be in a post-operative haze, smug in the knowledge that all was accomplished. Instead, I must wait a fortnight and endure the discomfort of a stubbly crutch. Worse; I must disappoint your editor, who had expected an authoritative article on the pros and cons of circumcision. One thought cheers me: at this moment a collage of queens is descending upon ward E2, replete with chocs and ribaldry; eager to appraise the new me. I wonder how Sister Pearson will explain me away?



With something approaching trepidation, awe, and with a distinct sense of selfpreservation, "STAR-GAYS" looks at the king of the Zodiac, LEO himself. Quite often in the past, this column has made far from flattering remarks about intrepid LEO. Occasionally, they have been a little bitter, sometimes downright rude. LEONIANS don't take kindly to such treatment, but so far no furious Lion has threatened to bite off Merlin's head; although there is a distinct anticipatory feeling that all around the country LEOS are disdainfully waiting for this column to reach their sign, and waiting to spring if what they read isn't placatory and kind. (As the Editor of Gay News is also a LEO, the feeling is even stronger!)

LEOS can relax, purr and stretch their limbs in sensual pleasure: NO harsh words, unkind remarks, or insulting character destruction this time. All is repentance certainly, but it is time for LEO subjects to recognise a little truth about themselves, objectively of course, and to allow just a little discussion about both their arrogance and need to be loved, without waving tails and roaring wildly that they are not being understood. They are, fortunately, able to bask graciously in most kinds of attention; and to forestall any objections, just look at the whole column as an amusement which needn't be taken too seriously-by LEOS anyway. Like nature's Lion, LEOS should never be under-rated-but then, who would dare? Flatter, defer low agree with peeder contexient.

Like nature's Lion, LEOS should never be under-rated-but then, who would dare? Flatter, defer, love, agree with, never contradict, never ignore, are the best maxims, where LEOS are concerned. LEO is proud, often boastful, occasionally neurotic, always loveable, usually kind, can be quite magnaminous, and is the absolute centre of the Zodiac with all other signs bowing gracefully before him. The Sun, LEO's ruling planet, shines out of every pore. Even at their arrogant worst, LEOS never quite lose their gift of leadership that has the rest of the Zodiac panting along doing the craziest things to pacify the latest whim. And the LEONIAN rages? Of course, they aren't *really* serious, we all know that. But somehow, it's wise to treat them seriously just in case the Lion hasn't been fed lately and fancies someone's head, just for starters. Those rages are more often than not a need to bring attention smartly round to LEO again, when anyone strays from their side. Not jealousy, more like insecurity. How could *anyone*, LEO argues to himself, even think of ignoring the one presence in the room with absolute personality. Of course, LEO is right, the effrontery alone is enough to give this king of the Zodiac beasts a neurosis. LEO does tend to forget, though, that his very personality can sometimes be off-putting and that one is excanicably quite appreciation the tone some the 'bello'

the room with absolute personality. Of course, LEO is right, the effrontery alone is enough to give this king of the Zodiac beasts a neurosis. LEO does tend to forget, though, that his very personality can sometimes be off-putting and that one is occasionally quite apprehensive to even say 'hello'. Life to LEO is a gamble; business is a lottery. Love being the reason for living is also a gamble too, which may account for LEOS making unsubtle decisions in matters of the heart. Well, it would be nice, just occasionally, to think that loving a LEO wasn't a divine right expected and demanded. Such fine feelings are swept aside with a hefty swipe from the LEONIAN paw, along with other ridiculous notions—like disloyalty, arguments, and any kind of contradiction. Effrontery indeed! So it might be, but under that regal exterior, LEOS do tend to worry about their prestige. Deflance is out, rulership is in—but from a LEO only—and they need to be accepted as they are without question. Otherwise tensions appear, and that old

question. Otherwise tensions appear, and that old neurotic feeling comes flooding back. On their own ground, LEOS are stunning hosts The works -sherry before the meal, three courses, Brandy, After Eights, the best silver, candles (probably purloined from CANCER minions!), just for the most simple, informal occasions. Nothing is too much trouble to give the sincere impression that the LEONIAN heart is open wide with love and humanity. (Just be careful, guests, that you are not the main dish about to be so magniminously served!) Never complain, just accept. Never argue, just agree. Never belittle, just praise. And olw without fail, somehow pass off the most brilliant remark of suggestion made by anyone, as coming from LEO and not you, and LEO will purr happily, basking in the warmth of their own personality, sure of being loved and surrounded by loving One hour with a LEO is like a month in a high-speed lift. No wonder Royalty can only be taken in small doses and are prepared-for-hours before their arrival, and deferred-to every second of the visit. LEO is the Royal sign of the Zodiac, ruled by the life-giving Sun, itself another sign of Royalty, and filled with the majesty of LEONIAN personality. No wonder all the other Zodiac signs bow the knee. Not fealty-just old-fashioned respect, which somehow even the worst of us can't help feeling and giving. Or is it that none of us can quite resist a touch of regality, even at second-hand? Whichever it is, don't tell LEO-just let him graciously accept any sort of flattery, and, like sought, but on the flattery with a transli royalty, lay on the flattery with a trowell

## **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 lcebreakers, a team set up to handle 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 lcebreakers 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 of 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

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.

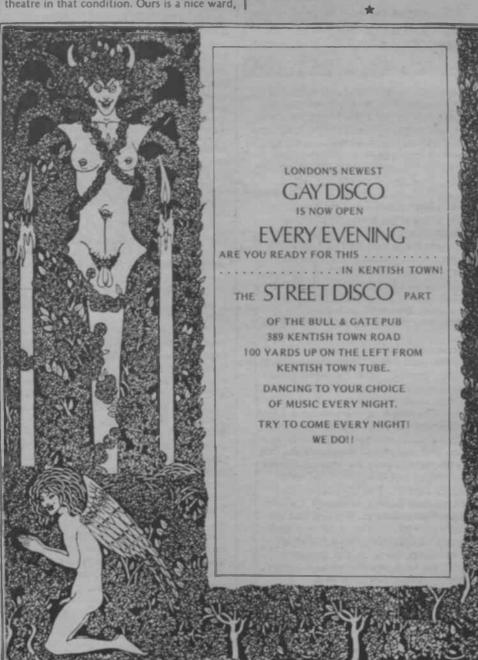
David

Eas

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



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# **News & Featurettes**

### A sunny day's cruising



CHEI

IL iverpool

Phil Johnson

Courtery

Photograph

BRIDGEWATER CANAL: Pictured here are members of Liverpool and Wirral Campaign for Homosexual Equality groups, who enjoyed a sunny, six-hour cruise on the Bridgewater Canal, Cheshire, on June 30.

This trip, which took the cruisers from Runcorn to Lymm, is the third which has been organised by the groups on this famous converted barge, called the *Lap wing*. The barge was full of happy sun-seekers who enjoyed the well-stocked bar and picnic teas

of chicken and champagne.

Only one gallant member stripped and swam after the barge-apparently the water wasn't that inviting!

## Love to Spare Rib



Spare Rib Editorial Collective (from left to right): Rosie Parker, Rose Ades, Marsha Rowe, Marion Fudger, Ann Scott. .....

LONDON: To celebrate its second birthday, Spare Rib, this country's women's liberation magazine, held a benefit evening at the Marquee, Wardour Street, on Sunday June 30, which proved to be a resounding success.

Their birthday coincided, almost to the day, with GN's second anniversary and that of the Stonewall uprising in the States.

Taking part at the benefit were Jaki Whitren, Doris Henderson, Jo Ann Kelly's Tramp, Goldie Zelkowitz and Joan Armatrading, all of whom obviously enjoyed themselves as much as the audience. The evening culminated in a jam session with all the artists who appeared taking part.

A total of 580 people attended (540 of them having paid for admittance) and a clear profit of £344.45 was made. This included £50 for the sale of Spare Rib badges and magazines, and a generous donation by the bar staff of their tips. One woman actually handed over her wages!

Compere for the evening, which was organised by Marion Fudger (of the magazine), was Sarah Ward, of Capital Radio. Maggie Donovan

Madigan's log

Forgot to give myself a plug last month with regards to the Arts Council's annual Poetry International of the ICA. The programme I was concerned with was called 'Poetry of the Sea'. I got the poems together and presented them; Spike Milligan and Sir Bernard Miles did the readings. It all went off pretty well though I was bloody nervous, I can tell you, standing up there in front of all those people trying to look salty.

trying to look salty. I was sufficiently vain to include half a dozen verses of my own which didn't go down too badly (in fact someone's translating them into Rumanian for that country's radio) and was toying with the idea of including one called *The Kie-Ties Are Coming* though eventually left it out because it's a song anyway, with a tune of its own, and was designed to be sung by drunken voices in a ship's mess or a NAAFI bar. Anyone who knows Singa-pore can tell you about Bugis (pronounced Boogee, as in French, and is in fact the name of one of the Malay tribes) and the Kie-Ties (drag queens) who parade up and down it at night. parade up and down it at night.

#### THE KIE-TIES ARE COMING

She lay in a monsoon ditch in the town of

Singapore, She hadn't on a stitch and I thought she was a whore

So I kissed her knees and nipples and I kissed

her inbetweens And I kissed her on her fore and aft and on her

flanks and beams And after all these frolics I began to feel around But a great big pair of boliocks and a prick was all I found.

#### Chorus:

The Kie-Ties are coming, hurrah, hurrah, The Kie-Ties are coming, hurrah, hurrah, The Kie-Ties are coming and scrumming

A Yank along in Bugis Street sitting round the stalls, A Yank along in Bugis Street sitting round the stalls, Stopping everyone he meets boosting 'bout his balls; Pulls a bird onto his lap, whips it out and hollars: "If you've ever seen a length like that I'll give you fifty dollars!"

"That's an easy fifty bucks," she cries, and before the Yank can stop her She's whipped her lacey skiddles off and flashed

a two-foot chopper.

Chorus.

A matelot he did a flip for a girl called May Who wouldn't let him have a bit until their wedding day;

And when at last that day befell and all the guests had gone

- He took her to a small hotel where they could be alone.
- He kissed her winsome little cheek and praised its girlish hue; He kissed her alabaster neck and promised he'd

be true:

He gently lay her on the bed and his hand beneath her slip

.

**Clutched the sweaty cobblers of the bosun off** his ship.

Chorus. No, I don't think I could have got away with

that at the Institute of Contemporary Arts. .

Someone said to me the other day "You didn't actually tell people at sea you were queer, did you?" Well of course I didn't tell people I was queer because I wasn't. You know, after an initial struggie with my own nature I accepted it and I thought: What the fucki-if there's any problem It's not with me, it's with ignorance and prejudice. If I think of myself as *queer* then queer I'll be; if I reckon I'm a misfit I'll have no faith in myself. Thereafter I spoke of my proclivities as freely as the more heterosexually inclined felias spoke of theirs in messrooms or shoreside bars. I don't believe I advertised it unduly but I was never ashamed of it either. And this was long before I knew such bodies as CHE and GLF existed. I must admit though that there were some pretty odd and benighted reactions. Sometimes

felias would back away, even run away, as if I'd suddenly sprouted horns and cloven hooves. Then there were fellas who'd refuse point blank to believe it or, worse, the tiresome variety who'd persist in treating me like I was some dizzy faggot-as if I'd bared the inmost secret of my soul in an unwary moment and given them a sense of



Was quite bowied over by Lindsay Kemp's Flowers. Expected it to be good-such an affirma-tive consensus as I heard could hardly mean any-thing else-but I wasn't prepared for a presentation of genius. Don't let the off-putting photographs in the theatre foyer mislead you into thinking it's a load of decadent camp. It's a work of consummate artistry which will live, in my mind at any rate, for a very long time. for a very long time.

A while back I received a letter from a Scottish Catholic priest who said he'd found my book abandoned in a railway compartment and thought it was yet another piece of pornography, which, he added, dida't deter him from reading it anyway. He had flattering things to say about the book. The most flattering, to me, was that it gave him added insight on his side of the confessional. It was the only place he encountered homosexuals, he said, and there very often. But he was naive on the subject. He would like to discuss it.

The subject. He would like to discuss it. Yesterday he was passing through London and we met. He expressed surprise that I wasn't a limp-wristed fairy. Don't know what I'd expected—an ecclesiastical voyeur perhaps, or an inquisitive celibate stirred by passions he was ill-equipped to handle. But not a bit of it! Here was a sound, hand-some twenty-nine year old who knew where he wit soling and why. We took me to dinees and we was going and why. He took me to dinner and we talked for a long, long time, I of the incredibly ostrich-headed church, he of love and selfishness, of the need to shed the old concepts of taboos and sin. He said that when adolescents came to him tormented between the compulsion to masturbate and an inculcated notion of mortal sin he would tell them masturbation was no mortal sin, that it was simply loving in a selfish way and that only continual exposure to selfiess love through prayer and the eucharist would resolve the matter. He maintained that there was no question of

there not being enough love in the world but that so much of it was self-interested love. Sexual love particularly, while still love, was often no more than self-love. He could see no sin in a permanent homosexual relationship, he said, any more than a heterosexual relationship as long as it was founded on mutual selflessness, not merely sexual and material sharing.

But don't imagine that he was preaching. Had got that impression I'd have told him to shut up. If it sounds like that here it's because I'm trans-lating something that sounded so sensible to me

badly onto paper. Later I, Virgil, led him to several gay bars and studied his reaction, almost cynically. At first he confessed he was frightened, then that he was pleasantly surprised. Eventually-he said "I'd expected a lot of painted people; they're really just like any bar only without women 'Don't you think some look a little sad?" I

asked. "Aye, but there again don't they in any bar?"

Leo Madigan

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scendency which they felt required to remind me of with endless fatuous allusions.

These disturbed reactions to something I con-sidered within the bounds of normality were sometimes hurtful but mostly amusing. I guess I developed something akin to a professional approach, and, you know, after a while felt I could sum a fella's character up pretty accurately by his response. From the most stable, adjusted men there is no response at all; they don't even bother to wonder why you mention it. That was at sea and it's pretty much the same ashore except that the round of parties and dinners

makes me acutely aware that I'm lacking in social grace. I'm uncouth and blunt and drink far too much. The explicitness would be OK if I moved in exclusively homosexual circles but no one ever the me to such adhesion. Also hence used one asks me to such gatherings. No, I expound to pretty female students who wear no bras or house-wives from Surbiton or elderly literary ladies. Last week one of the housewife variety rather took the wind out of my sails. She'd been rabbiting on about how I should get married now that I was ashore, and how lonely a big city could be, and what bliss the connubial state was, etc. So I told what birds the conhubial state was, etc. So I told her I didn't want to get married, that I didn't feel in the least lonely, that I preferred my own sex and, in fact, lived with my psychiatrist (cheers John!). Then this gorgeous, liberated mother beamed. "Oh, I'm so glad." she gushed. "You really must meet my three-year-old. He's so sweet and so gentle and so affectionate that I'm sure he's a poof!" welcome you to London's newest mixed restaurant the

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## The future of gay counselling

The mushrooming of homosexual befriending and counselling facilities is the most recent aspect of gay liberation. This growth in interest should not be divorced from the spread of counselling into many walks of life, notably marriage guidance, careers advice and student welfare. Although the Albany Trust pioneered gay counselling in Britain more than twenty years ago, the advent of organisations such as ICEBREAKERS, CENTRE and FRIEND has marked the real birth of enthusiasm.

What next? The immediate task is to get a lot clearer in practice what we mean by the terms 'befriending' and 'counselling'. They are best seen as continuous and overlapping spectra, not firmly opposed concepts. The essence of befriending, I would suggest, involves being on hand when no one else is; that means, quite simply, friendship. The Americans, jargon-conscious as ever, usually term it 'peer support', a relationship which is informal, unstructured, spontaneous, accepts both partners as equals and aims to reduce the depression or anxiety in the troubled man or woman.

Grass-roots befriending can take three forms. Telephone contact is very much in vogue at present and can certainly be most valuable. But we should not totally ignore a growing body of research which has indicated (vis a vis the Samaritans, for instance) that a sizeable number of first-time enquirers feel a strong anti-climax after the conversation has taken place. Certainly, there are some golden rules for telephone befriending: a friendly voice, an assurance that the person on the line is respected and valued, an ability to keep the conversation going and a firm invitation to phone again or arrange a visit. These are not nearly so easy as they appear, particularly in these days of ever-shortening periods between 'pips'. It may be useful to offer to phone the enquirer back at his or her number.

The second type of befriending involves a once-only face-to-face chat. The aim here is often to convey information, for example about a local gay group, coupled with a reassurance that a person's loneliness need not be permanent. However well-meaning, one can tread dangerous paths here. It is woefully easy to raise unrealistic hopes about the future. And it is notoriously easy to oblige the lonely. "Here is the address of a gay pub and here is a map to help you find it" will doubtless draw a polite thank you. But it is usually without any value.

The third type is long-term and can take many forms: meeting for a drink once a week, introducing someone (over a period of time) to a local gay group—above all keeping in touch. This is, of course, a delicate operation. It assumes that befriender and befriendee have enough in common, and that the need for termination of the relationship can be recognised. And the best befrienders, there can be little doubt, are those who accept their own sexuality openly and frankly.

their own sexuality openly and frankly. Counselling is rather a different matter. It has been defined, rather inadequately, as a skilled and dynamic exchange between individuals, each with his or her own personality. The counsellor, no amateur at that, uses his own experience to help a person to enlarge his own understanding of his problems and so make better decisions. The old notion that counselling is a diplomatic and directive technique, which involves analysing and interpreting a client's behaviour for him, is very dangerous and had best be buried once and for all. The real role of a counsellor, I would suggest, is to concern himself with what a person in distress is able or unable to do to adjust to a given set of problems. The posh name for this is 'relationship therapy'. In practice, gay counselling often involves

In practice, gay counselling often involves problems whose handling requires a degree of specialised knowledge. The most common well. Sexual self-consciousness, incompatibility -even gross ignorance of sex techniquesare responsible for a lot more distress in the gay world than most of us imagine.

At present, gay befriending and counselling organisations are trying to fill a gap in the social services provided by other voluntary or statutory bodies. The contact which has already been established, eg with local Samaritan groups and local councils for social service, must be strengthened and widened. Much campaigning remains to be done with the social welfare services, probation and prison agencies-not only to bring help to homosexuals in need but to convince these various bodies that the ultimate aim must be government grants to finance work best undertaken by specialist agencies. In this way, too, gay befriending and counselling organisations may draw to a greater extent on the skills and expertise of heterosexuals who have a sincere and objective interest. It would be a pity of gay befriending and counselling became just another manifestation of the gay ghetto.

In particular, there are many unanswered questions about gays in conflict with the law. A review of police statistics suggests that in



Illustration: Garry Cobb

the region of two thousand cases are prosecuted each year involving homosexual activity, almost all cottaging offences and breaches of the age of consent. This figure may be an underestimate, and there is certainly great regional variation in the numbers prosecuted and in the punishments inflicted. Some provisional research, for instance, suggests that teachers and social workers are more likely to be sent to prison than members of any other occupation. What specialised sources of help are available at present (before, during and after sentence) for gays in conflict with the law? What indeed are their special needs? All too often, we simply do not know. And we must, of course, be very wary of promising a degree of support which we cannot meet. Nevertheless, the question of assistance for those in trouble with the law will be of increasing concern, I trust, to those involved in gay counselling over the next few years.

It remains to consider some of the dangers inherent in befriending and counselling gays in trouble or in distress. There is, for instance, the ever-present threat of categorisation posed by the question "how do we deal with this sort of case?" which is bound to lose sight of the individuality and special needs of the person needing help. Alternatively, some may expect immediate solutions in the goodwill and the inspiration of the moment, only to find that sincerity is not enough and that 'solutions' do not work. Any person who turns to another for help will attribute to the latter a symbolic importance far beyond his actual significance. This danger needs careful handling. It needs continual reappraisal, for it is very easy to raise false hopes in those in need. Goodwill is not enough. We must be honest enough to admit our limitations of resources and ability. Who can deny, for instance, that there is a chronic shortage of women involved in gay befriending and counselling? And yet, in my experience, women make as many calls on befriending and counselling resources as do men. A new campaign for women's liberation?

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areas are religious difficulties (it is hardly sufficient to advise troubled Christians to stop worrying about Leviticus), family problems and breakdown (PARENTS' ENQUIRY has made an excellent start here), and a crop of ill-fortune relating to employment and accommodation. Gay counselling may also concern itself with the victims of aversion (or more correctly 'behaviour') therapy. I recall on unfortunate young man who had been given by the clinic a batteryoperated electric shock instrument for self-inflicted pain whenever he felt 'the urge'.

Most of the above are the traditional areas of gay counselling. But I have the feeling that we must start to explore seriously hitherto-unchartered areas, at any rate if befriending and counselling are not to be swallowed up by the general campaigning of the homophile world. Firstly, there is the matter of sexual counselling. One has only to compare the abundant sources of help now available to people with heterosexual sex problems with the obvious dearth in a homosexual context to realise that all is not

#### Barrie Kenyon

Contacts for the organisations mentioned in this article are listed on page 19 under the heading "Counselling/Befriending".

# Interview

# OWARDS A GAY RENAISSANCE

**Daniel Curzon talks to Gay News** 

Gay News: Has your novel, Something You Do In The Dark, been published in the United Kingdom or only in the United States? Daniel Curzon: In the States, France and Holland. Three years ago the novel seemed too intimidating to British publishers. I was living here in London at that time, and had a British agent, but he was not gay and found the subject distasteful. He told me that British publishers felt that my novel was for a 'minority' audience. The truth is quite the contrary. I wrote for all readers, especially those who cover their eyes to the persecution of homosexuals as heretics.

GN: Would you say that the attitude toward homosexuals is better in the United States

than it is in England? DC: "Better" is probably not the right word. I find the contradictions in both cultures very strange. On the one hand, homosexual acts are legal in the United Kingdom, but I do think there is more shame about the subject, more fear about coming out. On the other hand, in the United States, although homosexual acts are illegal generally, gay bars and gay steambaths exist in abundance and even a gay television programme. And more and more people are refusing to hide their full personalities in the name of some mindless taboo. Unfortunately in both countries, the police, established religion, and 'decent' citizens remain the enemies of

gays. GN: How would you describe your novel? DC: Oh, it's about nine inches long and seven inches wide.

GN: We meant the contents.

DC: Excuse me, I forget sometimes that readers may really care about contents. Publishers care very little about contents. They are interested in *selling* a product. They would sell books with heroin on the pages if they thought they could hook readers that

GN: Do you object to the commercialism

IN: Do you object to the commercialism involved in book-selling? DC: Not per se. I just object to the fanatical attention given by both publishers and general readers to BESTSELLERS. Best-sellers are almost always junk. Still I was willing to play the game for Putnam and try to make my book pay. But it did not sell enough to please Putnam, or Lancer, the manerback people either. God knows I paperback people, either. God knows I offered to promote my novel beyond the call of duty. I would have given an autograph and a blow-job with every copy sold. But the publisher did not promote the book-that

way or any way. GN: Do we spy in you a bitterness about publishing?

DC: A tinge. I've discovered that publishers do not honour their contracts. But because most authors are so happy to have a book published, they put up with anything. GN: What reaction has Something You Do In The Dark received? DC: About 137 different ones. Some

reviewers called it a masterpiece; I even have gotten fan letters. At the same time some cretinous gay activist in New York denounced the book because he said it was written "at the expense of homosexuals." Literature should be kept out of the hands of fools! I can only conclude that this gay activist can't read. I am a gay activist myself, for god's sake! If someone cannot tell that my novel is a protest about police entrapment and the psychic oppression of gays, then he needs a remedial reading course! GN: Do you yourself think your novel is a masterpiece?

DC: That's a loaded question, isn't it? If I say yes, then I seem arrogant. If I say no, say that I hope my novel is literature. I tried to make it honest and artistic, but I believe. too, that the mainstream of Western literature has had a large helping of social criticism in it, from Richardson's Pamela to Hardy's Jude the Obscure up through modern-day works. I wanted to put the homosexual into the mainstream whether society wanted him there or not! But I didn't want to write a book overly influenced by the New Criticism-that is, all ponderous symbolism and vapory indirection-and without significance whatsoever. Nor did I want to write a polemic, and so I complicated my protagonist, who is a man arrested by a cruel Vice Squad policeman, to show him as a fully dimension human being, both strong and weak, good and bad, not a mere puppet in a plea for gay rights. GN: Why did you say your novel has had 137 different reactions? DC: I've discovered that some readers like certain parts of the book for the very reason that other readers don't like them. I've learned that people read into my book-because of the taboo subject matter, which I present head-on in an uncompromising

liberation movement-because it unflinchingly indicts the homophobia of society. He is presently visiting London, where he used to live, and will be teaching in California later this year.

there. Perhaps the same thing happens with all novels, but I have the feeling that such extreme differences are more likely to occur with a book about homosexuality. For instance, a women's liberationist told me that the female character in my novel seems to be a male's portrait of the way women ought to be-that is, goody-goodies. One reviewer said that the female character was obnoxious. Joyce Carol Oates, on whom the character is based most emphatically, denied that she was the model of the character. All I can conclude is that readers are so wrapped up in their own concerns and visions of reality, they emphasize or distort according to their own needs. So I don't really know any longer what "I like your book" or "I didn't like your book" means. For all I know, the reader liked the texture of the paper. Somebody from Berkeley, who proposed to use my book in a Lavender University class, actually told me that he thought I was saying that everybody is homosexual—and would continue to think so even though I denied GN: What has been the reaction of your friends and colleagues to your coming out

granted their own superiority, the essential inferiority of homosexual relations. Be prepared for denigrating remarks, along the lines of , "Of course if you could help it, you wouldn't be gay, would you?" The next stage of gay liberation, now that we are making ourselves public, is convincing straights that their fucking isn't any better than ours.

GN: Do you perhaps believe that homosexuality is a state superior to heterosexuality?

DC: It is when it comes to controlling the population explosion! But I don't really believe homosexuals are any better than anybody else. I'd put it this way-homosexuals are no worse than anybody else. There do seem to be a great many artists and other talented people who are gay. I don't know if this is because of their gayness or because they have had to express them-selves through the arts because they were not permitted the usual channels that training have "I'd bate to think that straights have. I'd hate to think that gay liberation will mean that homosexuals can feel as comfortable and justified in the universe as any old boresome, complacent heterosexual, and do nothing but exist. GN: Do you think there is such a thing as a homosexual imagination? DC: I don't know what that term means really. I don't think there is one such creature as the homosexual imagination. I have met homosexuals with wondrous imaginations-and some with no imagination at all

GN: So you think there are no essential differences in homosexuals? DC: Well, maybe homosexuality helps provide the necessary 'outside' perspective that writers and artists need in order to examine what most people take for granted. But I think it's just propaganda if we claim that homosexuals are more imaginative or creative than others. Perhaps such overstatements are necessary in the prevailing atmosphere that "Homos are shit," but we mustn't lie to ourselves too much. I do firmly believe that the subject of homosexualityin all its ramifications-has only barely been depicted in literature and art. I anticipate a great Gay Renaissance, where the subject matter becomes thoroughly explored.

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#### GN: What forms will this Gay Renaissance lake?

DC: We are in it now. Of course usually we don't notice what's happening till long afteruntil some historian or sociologist tells us we were part of a movement. I think an enormous amount of material, of high quality and low, is emerging and will continue to emerge. I have little patience with those who dismiss everything contemporary because it isn't 'a classic.' In two hundred years what is being done now will become the classics. Despite the strictures of commercial publishers against gay books (because they do not sell well generally, since straights wouldn't dream of touching them), a body of work is surfacing. Already in some American universities Gay Studies classes are being taught. In fact, I attended one in San Emerican each lowe area what a surpack San Francisco not long ago. What a remark-able change from even three years ago, when my novel was published! I myself may teach a Gay Studies class at Fresno State University next year. I am suffering from severe cultural shock because I just came from the US military environment, which is still retarded on the subject of homesexuality. on the subject of homosexuality GN: What is your connection with the US military

DC: I have been teaching for an extension university in Asia. Recently I tried to have xeroxed a chapter of The Y, my most recent novel—as yet unpublished—and was refused by the military-linked education center in Okinawa. Indeed, I was threatened with being fired, was harassed, and eventually banned from teaching at that education center again.

Center again. GN: What caused this strong reaction? DC: The subject matter of The Y is-god forbid!-homosexuals in a YMCA. The people in charge of the education center all dropped their chastity belts and screamed for my head. I might add that these people have better as much to do with 'identical' as about as much to do with 'education' as cleaning women who erase blackboards. Because I chose to be realistic in my por-trayal of this taboo subject—and use it in a college classroom!!—I got into a great deal of hot water—scalding in fact. But I decided that I would not accept the intimidation that was thrown my way. Instead I wrote to various civil rights organisations in the States, and now the American Civil Liberties Union has agreed to take on my case. What happened to me is a clear violation of academic freedom, but the benighted boobs in that military-linked education center and the university I work for have no conception of what the role of a university is or what academic freedom means. A university indeed-they run a fourth-rate junior college! All you need to have is 84 dollars and a pencil. And if you don't have the pencil, that's okay!

GN: Do you think the US military will ever reverse its stand on homosexuality? DC: Yes-but only if gay people and other sane people scream and complain and yell and never give up until they win. Nobody should have to put up with this savagery one second longer! How can I be planning a Gay Studies class at Fresno State and be censored and banned by the US military in Okinawa? It's crazy. But then the whole military is positively INSANE on the subject of homosexuality. And the only way it will change is if it is pushed-and pushed hard, legally and endlessly. By its very nature the military is reactionary. But it has no right whatsoever to go on ruining lives and making people live in fear and frustration because of their sex lives, and if I can, through this ACLU case, alter things, by god I will! But the

The American novelist Daniel Curzon first appeared in Gay News by way of a news item reporting his being banned from teaching in Okinawa (GN43), an incident discussed later in the interview. His novel Something You Do In The Dark has been described as "the first gay liberation novel"-although it was written while Curzon was in Asia and unaware of the gay

publicly DC: Well, so far nobody has spat in my face. Generally people are too courteous-or too cowardly - to be downright rude face to face. Yet some 'friends' have not written back to me after I 'confessed the horrible truth'. Some people have even said, "So what?" I'd say it is this latter reaction that's hardest for gays to take. After a lifetime of deception and concealment, we hear, "So what? other gay men and women are thinking of

coming out in the open, I'd advise them to assume that they are fine, decent human

beings (until proven otherwise), and the chances are good that the people who know you, providing they are somewhat educated, will accept you on your own terms. Never apologise for being gay! Never 'explain' how you got that way-unless heterosexuals are prepared to explain how they got that way! GN: Do you believe that the fears about harassment for being homosexual are largely illusionary then? DC: Not completely illusionary. No doubt

GN: Is there a distinctly homosexual view

of reality? DC: Probably the great and horrible secret of our 'perversion' is that deep down inside we are as banal as everybody else! No-I take that back a little. I have met a vast array of gay types, from rightwing to radical, from monogamous to poly-perverse. We are as divergent as heterosexuals. In fact, all that unites us at the moment is a legitimate sense that we must fight together to get the Inquisition off our necks. But many homosexuals have nothing in common with each other except anger about oppression. Oppression makes stranger bedfellows than

#### military fights dirty.

GN: How does the military fight dirty? DC: Bizarrely, the military supposedly fights to protect freedom of speech and other such liberties, but it allows almost none within its own ranks. It is an undemocratic organisation ostensibly protecting democracy; it is a socialistic organisation ostensibly protecting capitalism. The military fights

Continued on page 12

# Interview&Short Story

#### Continued from page 11

dirty because I'm sure my mail has been tampered with since this case surfaced. I have been warned by lawyers to watch who I sleep with!

GN: How can they get away with this sort of harassment?

DC: Because they are way over in the Far East—and civil rights are way over elsewhere! My bosses' main raison d'etre is to keep that money-making fake-college programme running along—without of course letting any 'education' interfere with the military's worthy business of killing people. GN: Are you afraid what you say in this interview will be used against you? DC: Yes, but I'm saying it anyhow. The military will change—it will have to. It will take at least ten years. It will fight with all its massive ignorance to maintain the status quo, just as it once fought against women doctors and integrated troops. But basically I am an optimist-because I think homosexuals will win, but somebody has to do the sweaty, legal work *now*. A major problem is that no member of the military itself can speak out about the hideous discrimination against gays-because he stands condemned by the very act of speaking out. So somebody else has to stop the military, just as the Nazis had to be stopped from putting people in gas ovens. GN: Do you have any plans for further

publications

Page

DC: I definitely do. I have written a wild, extravagant, gay Candide-like comic novel I wrote it while living in London actually. I feel there is a need for a homosexual comedy. The topic has its amusing aspects-just as it has grim ones, the ones I dramatise in Something You Do In The Dark. I want to write about the gay experience in all its versatility.

GN: What's the title of this comedy? DC: The Misadventures of Tim McPick-as in picaro. I'm not sure how 'commercial' a in picaro. I'm hot sure now commercial a satirical novel about a 17-year-old vegetarian homosexual is, but maybe I'll find out. I wanted to call the book 'The Story of Tim and His Zipper,' but that may be too racy. Zipper is the dog in the story. GN: Concerning your more 'grim' published novel, do you think the book is depressing or may unsel env render?

or may upset gay readers?

DC: Only bad art is depressing. Art is a cauterising agent-it burns but it purifies. GN: Have you written any other fiction? DC: About a dozen short stories in recent months. I have no trouble writing, even under the inhospitable conditions of Asia, but there are precious few markets for short

stories and fewer still for gay short stories. GN: Why is this so?

DC: The few places that use fiction want very short pieces. I myself can't do justice to human truth in a hurried short piece. So I propose to start The Journal of Gay Liberature for quality fiction and notable essays, to provide a market.

GN: What are the drawbacks to starting a periodical like that?

DC: One is that I have no money. I need a literary 'sugar daddy' to fund the magazine.

I'd also have to learn the intricacies of publishing and distributing a journal. But I'm willing to learn.

GN: Who or what would you publish

more specifically? DC: Well, my own stories of course. I won't



pretend otherwise. But I want to publish other things too. I don't want to use poetry, but I do want to provide a showplace for first-rate gay prose. If I have a predisposition, it is toward stories with plots, with welldrawn characters, with themes. I am a traditionalist, I guess, and most experimental fiction leaves me cold.

GN: Would you welcome British contributions?

DC: Certainly. But, as I say, I need to find that literary sugar daddy or some organisation to fund this journal. I'll look into grants. We live in a schizoid age. Some people are setting government grants to study homosexuality and other people are going to jail as 'queers'. Bizarre!

GN: Well, we wish you much luck with your literary projects. DC: I'll need it. Thanks.

# Reflections

The sheep were scattered over the hillside and in the fields all around the cottage. They chewed the coarse grass and bleated. Their strangely individual voices measured the open spaces of the glen and reminded Moon that London was far away.

The day was bright and warm and the river, which meandered through the glen, invited him to swim and dive in its cold, clear water. He walked, across the fields down to the river,

closely watched by suspicious cows and nervous sheep. He crossed the swing bridge and walked along the high bank until he came to his favourite pool: the place where he had first learned to swim eleven long years ago. The pool was deep with craggy rocks sloping down into its stillness and it was sheltered by the delicate parasols of Rowan

Below the opposite bank the mainstream of the river gushed by, in the sunlight, over smooth grey and pink boulders. The sound of the river seemed to cascade through his head, but his eyes were fixed on the clear reflection of his nakedness in the pool below.

Moon was eighteen, beautiful and strong. He

was alone and lonely; intense and confused. He dived into the pool to meet his reflection and as the water exploded around him he thought he heard a voice calling him by the special name only he knew: Moon. And the sun dazzled him as he came un for air he came up for air.

The day grew warmer, the sheep and cows quieter, and Moon left the river to climb up to the cairn at the top of the Culain Hills behind the cottage. He strode confidently over the heather, grouse and a couple of hares. As he climbed the breeze refreshed him, though flies buzzed busily around him. For a moment, however, when he had almost reached the top, he lost himself completely. He had turned to look down upon the glen but he felt like a bird of prey hovering over his own

he felt like a bird of prey hovering over his own flesh. The wide open spaces grew even wider. At the top Moon rested by the cairn. It was windy; chilly even. He took the shirt which was wrapped around his waist and was about to put it on when he seemed to hear the volce calling him again. The shirt blew away down into a rocky gulley and Moon shivered. "Deline Moon shivered.

gulley and Moon shivered. "Hello, Moon," a man said: a young man with long, dark, wavy hair and a short beard. He was slim, but muscular, and was about twenty-two years old. Moon was sure he recognised him at first, but when the man smiled at him he was no longer so certain. However, the man clearly knew Moon: knew him and loved him. Moon: thed his leans and nimeolis but he could

Moon shed his jeans and plimsolls but he could not feel the cold wind around him. The man, now also naked, was a little taller, a little stronger and a little less confused than the boy he held in his arms. He kissed Moon and Moon learned slowly and gently how love was made. The holiday at the cottage passed quickly and,



although Moon did not see him again, he dreamed about the man often. Moon never returned to the cottage, for his parents sold it some months later when he was at university. He missed it terribly, but three years later, after he had graduated, he had an opportunity of staying at a farmhouse on the other side of the Culain Hills: an opportunity be relied readily. he seized readily.

he seized readily. It was only when he reached the cairn on that inevitable climb to the highest point of the Hills that he realised what would happen there. He stroked his beard and shook his long, dark hair. On the other side of the cairn sat a boy of about eighteen with the strangest look in his eyes. The boy seemed awkward, as if his fine athletic body belonged to someone else. He knew the boy well and he lowd him. And he knew the boy's name too and he loved him. And he knew the boy's name too.

"Hello, Moon," he said, smiling. And he dived into those eyes and met his reflection there and time grew even stranger Howard Wakeling

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# **Book Reviews**

# Thom Gung: poet

#### "In gleaming jackets trophied with the dust"

When Peter Finch played Oscar Wilde in a film (the one, remember, in which he departs for continental exile from Marylebone Station), he set the establishment's eyebrows a-rise but pointed out that one did not have to be a homosexual in order to play one, anymore than one needed to be a murderer to play Richard III. Peculiar company, that, Oscar and Richard, gay man of fashion and megalomaniac, but, consider: an accomplishment of the establishment was to have heard of Richard the third.

Similarly one does not need to be a gay poet in order to write gay poetry. Thom Gunn may not be a gay poet but he has written first class gay poetry—if, on the other hand, he is a gay poet solendid! He has been anthologised in *The Male Muse* by lan Young (reviewed in GN40), but the gay poetry does not form the bulk of his work and is wurset. Indiane form the bulk of his work and I suspect, judging from selections he has made for a collected edition, a record and a recital, that he does not consider it all that important.



When I first read his earliest volume Fighting Terms years ago I admired at once the discipline of form and statement (and understatement) and his healthy Byronic loathing of cant-for, in those far off days of the Labouchere Amendment (some of you children do not even know what that means do you?) cant was the special province of much gay verse and a great deal more gay free-verse. They were the days of imprecise wallowing in self-doubt and painful rejections and the love-everlasting of the sort of doe-eyed beauties who never had and never will have anything interesting to talk about in bed afterwards. How different things are now. Aren't they? Thom Gunn's work ran counter to all this. With cool and sardonic detachment he saw through himself and his own mask as ruthlessly as he saw through other men and recognised his and their "love of chance."

His own personal image was as the wearer of leather and his milieu was the leather bar-"drinkers bent together / Concocting selves for their impervious kit." Leather as the "doubtful uniform" was a theme that recurs in those early poems and for all its glamour its essential nature as a disguise is never for a moment lost on him—"In gleaming jackets trophied with the dust, / They strap in doubt—by hiding it, robust." Unsentimentally he sees in one bar the progress of the promiscuous male in a pair of poems titled 'Modes of Pleasure'-"The Fallen Rake, being fallen from / The heights of twenty to middle age ... having used each hour of leisure / To learn by rote the modes of pleasure, / The sensual skills as skills alone." At the same time the young man of twenty, the fallen rake to be, in the act of sizing up (and being sized up by) tonight's potential, is secure in the knowledge that tonight's potential, is secure in the knowledge that "When I've had you once or twice / I may not want you any more; / A single night is plenty for / Every magnanimous device. / Why should that matter? Why pretend / Love must accompany erection? / This is a momentary affection, / A curiosity bound to end." In the very early 'Carnal Knowledge' he sees "that lack of love contaminates. Theo Gune's more recent post left such

Thom Gunn's more recent poetry has left such specific gay themes behind-obviously there is a limit to what a clear mind, having abjured repetition or romanticism (not to speak of wallow or cant) has to say on the subject. In June 1974 he gave a reading at the Mermaid which included a good deal of new and unpublished material-a new volume must be on the way. There is a sequence called 'Geysers'-the Geysers, he told us, being ruined hot-baths some hundred miles north of San Francisco, somewhat orgiastic. There are new poems on the iron landscape theme that has fascinated him for some time. Another, "The idea of trust," he introduced by telling us that it arose from an incident in the flat above his in Frisco, where there seemed to be "a perpetual party, a house of strangers." A boy, nicknamed 'Pretty Jim', notably inarticulate, unexpectedly made the articulate observation that "Trust is an intimate conspiracy" and then quietly robbed the friends who trusted him.

Meanwhile I must report to his fans that Thom Gunn has grown a beard. It is a good beard as beards go but it will take some getting used to. I've been using a newspaper photo of him as a bookmark for so long that it has become an image of his poetry-a shy man with a shrewd smile above an intricate torso of leather. A beard. And long hair. Well, well, I'll forgive him. After all, somewhere on my own road to Damascus I read and learned the heroic valediction of 'My Sad Captains' and owe to it some measure of my liberation. He always concludes his readings with it, persuading me that he thinks as highly of it as I do myself, but I won't quote it, masterpiece that It is, because I suspect that even poets domiciled in Watergate Land make only a pittance from the sale of their poems and I do not want to frustrate the sale of a single copy of My Sad Captains, published by Faber and Faber. Thom Gunn's other volumes to date are Fighting Terms, A Sense of Movement, Touch, Moly and (with betoenship by the betoen Ander August) photographs by his brother Ander Gunn) Positives. Moly is in hardback only. It contains a very fine poem indeed: 'Sunlight'

Peter Forster

## Uncompromising document

**RELIGIOUS ROOTS OF THE TABOO ON** 

HOMOSEXUALITY – John Lauritsen It has become something of a cliche to talk glibly about the Judeo-Christian oppression of sexuality in general and homosexuality in particular without perhaps going into it very deeply. In this pamphlet John Lauritsen performs a useful service in itemizing and documenting the source and growth of what he calls homoerotophobia. "The history of the taboo is essentially a history of religion. The taboo, as we shall see, is a theological con-ception of Judeo-Christianity." He takes what he calls a materialistic view believing, briefly, that God did not create man but rather the other way around and that there are no "deteral morel taul around, and that there are no "eternal moral truths' and no principles of "unchanging human nature." A materialist views, he writes, "any particular moral code as representing a society's state of development.

Lauritsen has assembled potent facts and put them together in a potent way as he shows how the growth of post-Judaic Christianity spread grim repressions following the pontifications of Saul of Tarsus, Aquinas and Justinian. While homosexuals were being persecuted for heresy and burned as

witches, outside the sphere of Judeo-Christian influence homosexuality continued to flourish naturally and without taboos In, for example, China, Japan, India, the Arab countries, Africa and pre-Colombian America. "The fact is," he concludes, "that historically the Christian church has been an egregious practitioner of hatred, intolerance and violence."

It is an uncompromising document, and this is a good thing. Wishy-washy concessions, and admissions that there may be some good things somewhere, have no place in argument of this kind. The essay is well backed-up with sources, notes for further reading and some stimulating asides. I have always felt that the sight of homosexuals trying to come to terms with our dominating religions is about the most dismal spectacle of the new gay scene. Have they, I wonder, the integrity to pro-vide a convincing reply to this attack? The essay is an expanded version of a presenta-

tion Lauritsen made in New York City in February this year, to the Scholarship Committee of the Gay Academic Union. It is available from the author at 26 St Mark's Place, New York City, New York, 10003, USA. He charges 75 cents.

Roger Baker



stave Courbet's oil painting Le Sommeil, 1866. The upper model is 'Jo' (Joanna Hillernan), one of Whistler's first mistresses

### Whistler's mother?

WHISTLER: A BIOGRAPHY - Stanley Weintraub, Collins, £4.95

While in Paris, James Abbott McNeill Whistler mentioned his mother to T R Lamont, who exclaimed, "Your mother? Who would have thought of you having a mother, Jimmy?" "Yes, indeed, I have a mother. And a very pretty bit of colour she is, I can tell you." And some years later Whistler's

is, I can tell you." And some years later Whistler's mother became the famous painting more correctly titled Arrangement in Grey and Black, No 1. Whistler's habit of painting works with such titles as Symphony in Flesh Colour and Pink, Harmony in Yellow and Gold, and Nocturne in Blue and Gold, brought upon his head much scom and parodies of his 'Nocturnes in Silver and Bile' from the staid Academy who weren't yet ready for from the staid Academy who weren't yet ready for Impressionism, or even for Art, for that matter.

Stanley Weintraub's 'authoritative' study is a biography of the man (rather than a critical analysis of the artist) who was an expert in the gentle art of making enemies. We find herein the numerous battles in the press between Whistler and all the leading artists and 'figures' of late nineteenth-century London and Europe, particularly the Pre-Raphaelite school. The wit of Oscar Wilde's seminal essay "The Decay of Lying", as well as the aesthete's belief that Nature Imitates Art, were Descently observed from Whietlet's deponentable flagrantly plagiarised from Whistler's dinner-table bon-mots, a borrowing which offended Whistler and prompted him to destroy their friendship by means of indecent invective. Weintraub's abundant

AMERICAN

IMPORTS

citation of anecdotal information sometimes obscures Whistler's real personality, though we are left with the impression that it was decidedly unpleasant.

One would conclude from reading Weintraub's study that homosexuals did not exist in the 1890's. Like most traditional scholars, Weintraub tells the truth and nothing but the truth, but politely refrains from telling the whole truth in matters homosexual. Whistler himself certainly had mistresses and one wife and child, and no doubt we would 'read too much into' the fact that he often lived with men for extended periods of time. But his circle of friends, many of them intimate, included a goodly number of homosexuals, such as Wilde, WE Henley, Solomon, Montesquiou (model of Proust's Baron Charlus), and on the principle of equility (sole only her set) principle of equality (not only because I have an interest in such things) it would have been well to mention people's boyfriends as well as their mistresses. It is by such omissions of casually relevant information-typical of the academic press-that homosexuals are excommunicated from the general social consciousness. This is not to malign the scholarly integrity of the book, but when Weintraub refers to Simeon Solomon as merely an "amiable and gentle young artist" one suspects him of being deliberately oblique. The book will not be a useful addition to your Victorian Gay Studies shelf.

**Rictor Norton** 

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### ble-damne

#### SHADOW GAME - Laurence Eben, Panther, 400

The front cover blurb on the recently published paperback edition of Laurence Eben's Shodow Game proclaims that it is "a story of human passion double-damned by the society it defied." And for a change, the blurb does more or less describe the novel, which tells of the doomed love affair between Ray and Victor. The relationship takes place in South Africa, and as Ray is a young, prosperous, white PR executive and Victor a handsome, black radio announcer, the meaning of "double-damned" is all too painfully obvious.

Whilst Shadow Game is no masterpiece of likely to be acclaimed as a gay classic in the tradi-

tion of James Baldwin's Glovanni's Room or Gore Vidal's The City and the Pillar, it nevertheless is a simple but effective tale of oppression and a further condemnation of the racist attitudes that prevail in South Africa. Eben's style is sometimes too similar to those found in 'women's magazine' romantic tear-jerkers and his predominently fatalistic approach leaves the reader in no doubt to what the final outcome will be, as the final chapters confirm the pessimism and despair that runs throughout the book. But the reality of the situation and setting hold their own against the author's curiously old-fashioned brand of cliched emotionalism and makes the novel a little more than all-the-sad-young-men revisited.

Denis Lemo

### Celluloid in print

#### STARDOM - Alexander Walker (Penguin, 55p) UNDERGROUND FILM - Parker Tyler (Pelican, 75p)

Alexander Walker sets out to "show the star as both a live person and a prepared image and to suggest how the two interact on the screen and off it fascinating thesis, and one interestingly brought off. No gossip, and no bland pacans of praise for pecial favourites, but rational assessments and a

great deal of insight. Lillian Gish, Gloria Swanson, Valentino, Bette Davis, Joan Crawford and John Wayne are some of the greats whose careers are examined. Tyler's book was heavily criticised in some areas when it first appeared five years ago largely because in an underwritten field it failed to be encyclopaedic. It is a personal approach and usefully points up the cross-breeding that goes on between categories of fringe movies: Tyler has an eye for the past too.

Roger Baker

An anthology of contemporary gay poetry carried out because of the growing impetus of the homophile/gay liberation movement felt by the rest of societyboth gay and straight-and 'Gay Pride' became not just a slogan but a reality. A classic within its own right.

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# **Stage & Films**

## Moody tantrums

BIRD ON A WIRE - World Premiere, Rainbow Theatre, London, July 5

This documentary of Leonard Cohen's European tour is an embarrassing movie about an embarrassed man. A documentary film is seldom more interesting than what it documents, and unfortunately Leonard Cohen is revealed as a pouting boy who has little to say, and says that in an inarticulate fashion. The film as such is technically adequate: the camera focusses on Cohen's head as he sings, and when Cohen ensure head head to be the sings and when Cohen sways back and forth, the camera sways back and forth. Hypnotic perhaps, but hardly a tour de force.



The most enlightening part of the film is when Cohen gets pissed and tells us that he's now 37

## Now showing

An onslaught of negative criticism by my colleagues in Fleet Street has resulted in belated cutting of most of Lucille Ball's songs in MAME (Columbia Warner, director Gene Saks). Mame is now 113 minutes long, compared to the 131 minute version shown to magazine critics some time ago. It's true that Miss Ball's vocal chords haven't the elasticity of Judy Garland's, but she's wizened yet, over-made up enough, grandiose enough in appearance and a capable enough comedienne, to do justice to Patrick Dennis' original concept of a freewheeling, eccentric and immoral (in the nicest sense) society dame. Paul Zindel's screenplay, moreover, is more satiric than those usually written for traditional style musicals, and there are some beautifully mocking lines.

Mr Saks has gone to enormous trouble to recreate the stylish high camp of the better MGM musicals, George Cukor's Philadelphia Story and A Star Is Born, and succeeds admirably. One is far too busy laughing at bitchy witticisms or admiring yet another of Theadora Van Runkle's exquisite costumes to quibble over Miss Ball's singing voice. The sets are gaudy, glittery and expensive. The film cost eight million dollars to make, and emanates the appropriate appearance an orgy of soft satin, purples, yellows and chande

years old, that his books and songs were written twenty years ago, and that he's simply repeating them like a parrot. I'm not sure that is the particular bird on the wire, though the particular freedom he is seeking may have something to do with an escape from parasitical audiences who demand him to be a public performer rather than a private poet. Especially embarrassing is Cohen's a private poet, especially embarrassing is contents lack of professional skills as a performer: he knows little about sound systems, he occasionally forgets the words to his songs, and he doesn't finish a concert if he's not in the right mood. The professionals around him cater to his moody tantrum by uttering sentimental cliches about "the wild magic" of an audience who happens to recognise his songs and can sing the lyrics themselves when he breaks down and leaves the microphone. There is no doubt but that Cohen has a certain charisma, which suggests that he is both honest and

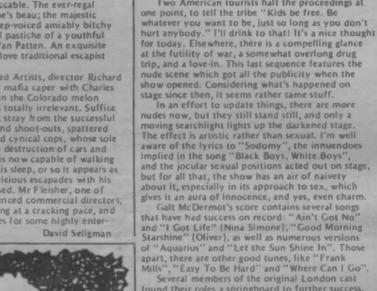
profound, but I think the movie will undermine that charisma for even his most devoted admirers. As for profundity, he has very little to offer to the realm of either imaginative or intelligible the realm of either imaginative or intelligible discourse, and tends to give boring interviews. As for honesity and openness, he's an extremely self-conscious person, and the movie seldom breaks through the facade of his genial smile or his lonely tears, and we were always aware that he was always aware that a camera was focussed on him. He is honest (perhaps) only when he closes his eyes and distribute the tame the way there is the tame sings, but even then we suspect him of being merely sentimental. Apparently Cohen's success is due to his ability to portray the archetype of The Loser, and in this respect the movie achieves a certain pathos. Here he has bared his soul, and it isn't as fascinating as our neighbour's dirty underwear.

Rictor Norton

llers. Much of the film is photographed in diamond like soft focus, particularly the close ups of Miss Ball's magnificently over-powdered, wrinkleobscured face; pure camp of course. The plot moves at a pleasing pace, yet the

The plot moves at a pleasing pace, yet the musical/dance numbers are choreographed by Onna White with a deliberate leisurely precision. The supporting cast is impeccable. The ever-regal Robert Preston as Mame's beau; the majestic Beatrice Arthur as a deep-voiced amiably bitchy actress, and a delightful pastiche of a youthful Bette Davis by Joyce Van Patten. An exquisite experience for all who love traditional escapist cinematic styles.

MR MAJESTYK (United Artists, director Richard Fleisher) is yet another mafia caper with Charles Bronson, this time set in the Colorado melon plantations. The plot is totally irrelevant. Suffice to say, the film doesn't stray from the successful formula of car chases and shoot-outs, spattered with Italian hit men and cynical cops, whose sole delight is the wholesale destruction of cars and buildings. Mr Bronson is now capable of walking through such films in his sleep, or so it appears as he conducts the most vielous escapades with his eyes three-quarters closed. Mr Fleisher, one of America's most experienced commercial directors ensures it all moves along at a cracking pace, and the whole farrago makes for some highly enter-taining escapism. David Seligman



found their roles a springboard to further success. Oliver Tobias has made films and a television series. Peter Straker, Marsha Hunt and Linda Kendrick have made their mark in the musical world. Annabel Levenson and Sheila Wilkinson have both done well in the acting field. More than likely some members of this current cast will be as lucky.

Instant nostalgia



Members of the cust in 'The Electric Blues' from Hair.

HAIR - Queens Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1 A wave of nostalgia crept over me while watching Hair. Strange to feel nostalgic for the sixties. For one thing it would seem too recent to get sentimental about, and for another, that particular decade lacked charm. Flower power, pot smoking, casual dress and nudity were all considered daring at the time Hair began. Nowadays they are all taken for granted. Even the Viet Nam war, mentioned in the show, has ended. But for all that the show manages to get across its various messages. Two American tourists halt the proceedings at

Certainly one artist, Miquel Brown, is worthy of attention from the recording companies. Were It not for the fact that the music is continuous, so that the audience is not given time to applaud, her rendering of "Easy To Be Hard" would auto-matically stop the show. Gary Hamilton gives an aggressive performance as Berger, in excellent aggressive performance as Berger, in excellent contrast to Demetrius Christopholus' dreamy hero Claude, and both have good singing voices. Patricia Hodge is particularly powerful singing "Air", as is Gary Aflalo duing "Coloured Spade". I enjoyed too Derek James' appealing performance as Woof, with his sexual hang-ups on both Claude and Mick Jagge

The London production opened in September 1968, just after stage censorship ended, and would probably have still been running at the Shaftes-bury, If the roof of that theatre had not mysteriously fell in about a year ago. It's now back for a three-month run at the Queens Theatre and, providing another home can be found for it, I daresay it will continue indefinitely. There have been numerous imitators since this original musical, ranging from good to mediocre, but none have rivalled its world-wide success. Even with a revamped lyric to the song "Initials", to include reference to Nixon, the show somehow remains firmly in the mid-60's. But no matter, as there's still a lot going for it. This new production seem even sharper than I recall the original to have been, and what may look like improvised behaviour on stage is in fact well-rehearsed playing by a disciplined young company of able performers.

**Barry Conley** 

## The delightful Mr Kemp

LINDSAY KEMP'S TURQUOISE PANTOMIME - Tram Shed, Woolwich Here in the office they've been continually ribbing me because I haven't seen Flowers and urging me to go along to the show immediately. So, with a very high expectancy, I travelled

So, with a very high expectancy, it inventor along to Woolwich Arsenal station, on June 30, to see, not the aforementioned, but Lindsay Kemp's Turquoise Pantomime at the Tram Shed. And, was I ever so delighted! All I have been told about the said Mr Kemp was certainly no exaggeration he is truly amazing!

I took along my better half, who is studying to be an actor at the Royal Academy. So, from a pro-fessional viewpoint, perhaps his reflections of the evening are relevant.

He enjoyed it immensely (judging by the way he kept squeezing my arm with delight) and said afterwards: "A nice theatrical show. Lights, colour, music and undoubted skill. Very simple, often





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subtle very good!

Lindsay was so well complemented by the rest of his troupe and I just flipped over the Incredible (truly incredible) Orlando's version of the song "Ten Cents a Dance". With a voice such as his, I doubt he'll be asked to sing at Sadlers Wells, but who cares? He's a true master of his art.

I can't communicate fully on paper the atmosphere of the evening part of the Greenwich Festival '74 the bitchy, camp humour and incredible pathos of Lindsay's caricatures just defy description.

And the Tram Shed such an apt venue for the pantomime informatility itself, allowing all

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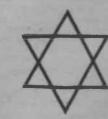
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present to see every beautiful, well-defined facial expression.

I know one thing-I'll be in the audience of Flowers as soon as I can. This Kempanology is certainly for mel

Jeff Grace

Jewish



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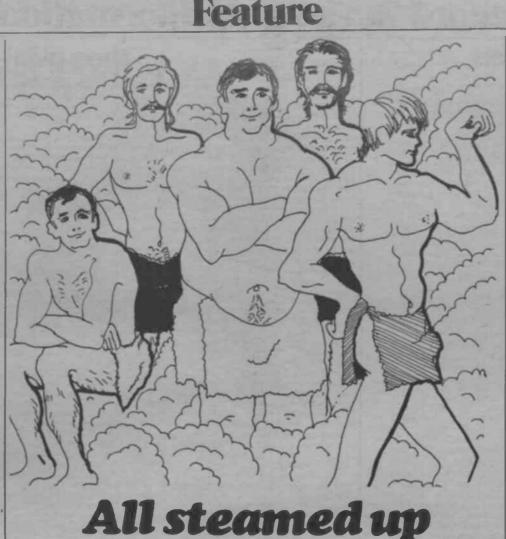
The current popularity of the sauna bath probably owes more to Gay Lib than to any good it has ever done for open pores and other weaknesses to which the flesh is heir. The only weakness to which the flesh is heir. The only weakness to which my flesh has ever fallen heir is the gentleman on the next couch in the rest room, but then I don't go to the sauna for the good of my health. Although lots of people do, or at least that's their excuse and they're sticking to it: the last thing one expects to find at a sauna bath is a convention of health nuts and dermatology freaks.

Apparently, the sauna is indigenous to and endemic among the Finns. The Chinese invented the water torture and bamboo sticks beneath the nails, the Russians and Americans vie for the credit of having established subtle psychological agonies, and the French can boast the imaginative pursuits of the Marquis de Sade. But for sheer genius in this field the Finns must win hands down. To while away the long, dark winter evenings, they congregate in happy masses, take off all their clothes, and pack themselves into dimly lit wooden cells which have been heated to the boiling point of water and sit there for periods of up to one hour. Sometimes they scald the brazier in the corner of these hell holes with buckets of water and scarcely flinch as the boiling steam creates the sensation that red hot needles have been pushed through their skin. At intervals they may dash suddenly from the cell and roll about in the snow outside or jump through ice into a freezing pond. Considering what they have already gone through, this is understandable. They require to be cooled down and drastic effects require drastic action. Or a sudden access of religious mania may strike, and, presumably for the good of his immortal soul, the bather will lash himself with pine twigs to further mortify the flesh. Then he will get back into the hell hole and begin all over again.

Why do they do it? They are after all a lugubrious, solid, largely unimaginative lot and no doubt they think they are enjoying themselves. They surely cannot have the wit to conclude that they are a race of raving sadomasochists. They maintain it does them good. Well, I dare say it does, if they happen to be direct descendants of John Calvin or those saints who felt uncomfortable without their hair shirts and daily flagellation with a bunch of nettles. And nice things, as is well known, are either illegal, immoral or make you fat. The sauna is none of these things. It is, in theory, a healthful pursuit, and so, clearly, if it is to do one good it must also be fairly nasty and certainly uncomfortable. That's how you know anything is good for you. Like lettuce leaves and ten-mile hikes and cold baths.

Mercifully, the Americans and the English have imported the sauna to their shores without much of the accompanying ritual. The American success of the sauna is understandable in a continent that has passed directly in 150 years from barbarism to

decadence without any intervening period of civilisation; but the English attitude is that such things as saunas are simply a refinement on the purgatory already suffered



by public schoolboys and that cold baths and boiling baths are much the same thingdamned uncomfortable, and therefore unlikely to lead to an excess of libido or a relaxation of moral standards. By the time the heat has drained one of energy in a sauna, there's precious little left for such pernicious mischief as led to the Fall of the Roman Empire. But they are a simple-minded lot, those chaps who think that chaps don't think about other chaps in That Way when the temperature is torrid, and the owners of sauna baths who like to keep their customers happy have reached a satisfactory solution-They Turn Down The Heat!

The English sauna bath is a (literally) lukewarm imitation of the real and Finnish thing. It's like sitting in a rain forest in the aftermath of a monsoon-steamy, dripping, warm, and so thoroughly miserable that the only thing to do is to start eyeing up the other sweaty bodies in oppressive silence. There they sit--the long and short and the tall, and the fat and the stringy, and the occasional (very) Greek God who is in fact an American tourist quite bewildered at the church-like solemnity of the proceedings. They order these things different in Boise, Idaho, you bet.

Or, at least, they order these things differently at the Continental Baths, New York City. Boiling and refrigeration of the flesh is a family thing in Finland. Like incest, it's a game the whole family can play. The family that bathes together stays together. The English, to be fair, have never boiled their children but they do refrigerate them during public school days. In America, the sauna is a social occasion; it is a shrine to decadence. In America, they import camp lady chanteuses to sing to an audience of naked men none of whom have the faintest sexual interest in anything except each other and certainly not in the Divine Miss M (Bette Midler) belting out her songs like a sub-Ethel Merman. They have stimulating whirling baths of high speed water jets, private rooms to be hired out by the hour and usually a liquor licence. They may also have teams of male go-go dancers, a discotheque, gymnasium, masseurs and a discreet file of, or private line to, available partners. In short, a good time is had by all-and, if you feel like a good time, you may be the lucky one to be had by all. (I think I've used that joke before-never mind, it bears repetition.)

When thinking about this article, I telephoned one or two of the more discreet private sauna clubs in London. I merely required details of prices, facilities, and a quick inspection of the premises. After a good deal of anxious consultation, they reported back that they did not require publicity, they were doing quite nicely thank you, and really they did not think they could help me. This attitude must be reassuring to their clientele—and certainly discretion is desirable, all things being what they are-but this furtive, closet attitude is a little sad. To make matters more ironic, I have recently joined a gymnasium which sports a private sauna where the clientele is relatively straight. I have had more easy, cheerful conversations with members in one week than I have had in a year with habitues of predominantly gay saunas. The camaraderie, the unselfconscious good nature of the gentlemen sweating and puffing beside me on the parallel bars, the rowing machine and that devilish bolted-down bicycle is in such marked contrast to the paranoia to be met with any evening in almost any gay milieu that I begin to despair of any simply, casual contact with gays in a gay situation. What about a bit of sauna lib? A bit of relaxation and less of that tense eye-shifting and silent inspection? Or are we all going to just sit there, in a Sartrean Huis Clos, getting all steamed up?

To be fair, there is often enough to be paranoid about. Recently, there have been more plain clothes (well, plain skin) police at a famous Turkish Bath in London than there have been innocent bathers. Why can't they wear chequered bands round their cocks? And where do they keep their identification? But in its heyday there was more fun to be had there than anywhere after lights out. For a cheap, cheerful, and knockabout night there was nowhere better. Indulgent attendants turned blind eyes, and the atmosphere was so reminiscent of a sixth form dormitory that St James' clubmen flocked there in droves. Fortunately, any heterosexual who found his unsteady way down to the steam was more likely than not pissed out of his mind and in no mood to argue or take umbrage at the activity going on around him, even if he was in a fit state to notice it. In short, it used to be a very jolly group therapy session for closet gays.

The dry heat of a sauna bath, and the claustrophobic dimensions of the box-like cells, is a poor replacement for the vaporous steam and long, wide, marbled halls of the Turkish Bath. The only advantage is that at least you know what the other fellow looks like in the hot, clear atmosphere, but even that can be less exciting than catching brief glances at flesh through swirling, opalescent mists of vapour. And the masseur's leatherette couch at modern saunas is no substitute for being battered about on a cool, marble slab.

The point about Turkish baths is their Byzantine grandeur and faint air of decadence which is the antithesis of that cool, dry approach of the Northern Finns. The sauna is, in essence, a serious and po-faced affair where as the Turkish Bath lends itself to a luxurious, slow abandonment of the body to sensuality. There is a relaxed slothfulness to a Turkish Bath which contrasts with the Spartan, brisk approach of a sauna. It would be possible, in a Turkish Bath, to conduct a long and langorous affair. In the sauna, a quick and impersonal wham, bang, Thank you Man seems more appropriate. It is the triumph of Puritan ethics over relaxed Latin morality. The opiate of the Turkish Bath has given way to the clear-headed functionalism of the sauna. You can't be Socratic in a sauna, more's the pity.

lain Finlayson



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# **Record Reviews & Information**

## Assorted platters

ANOTHER TIME, ANOTHER PLACE -Brian Ferry (Island)

After his more than honourable success with "These Foolish Things", everyone expected Brian Ferry's second solo album to be a miss, or at least to be an attempt to repeat what he did on the previous one. But apparently, Ferry was also waiting for everyone to demonstrate that he is still miles ahead of the current British pop scene, and that he intends to stay that way



Style is his answer, whether in his own physical appearance or on record. Ferry interprets other writers' songs, but to promote his own conception of how the song should be put forward. So far, his recipe works beautifully, for all the arrangements throughout the album are new ones, and what emerges at the end is Ferry's astonishing personality. "The 'In' Crowd'' is the opening track, musically brilliant, a beautiful oppor tunity for Brian to show his sense of humour, and the way he sees his work. The album sounds rather like an anthology of pop poetry, with songs such as "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes", "Walk a Mile in My Shoes", "What a (Wonderful World)", and a masterful execution of Kris Kristofferson's "Help the Miste It Through the Night". The Me Make It Through the Night". The album closes on the title track, the only one written by Ferry himself.

Altogether it is a much stronger and more interesting album than the preceding, where Brian Ferry developes further his qualities as an interpreter Thanks to him, professionalism and style are more 'in' than ever.

Jean-Claude Thevenin SON OF DRACULA (Soundtrack) Harry Nilsson (RCA)

Just as two years ago we were beginning to avoid like the plague all those Slick/ Crosby/Garcia West Coast Superstar

must quail at the sight of any soundtrack album. Here Harry Nilsson outshines all comers, as this record features long tracts of embarrassing dialogue with 'weird' background effect music rarely TV movie, and one of the longest lists ever of those (yawn) famous names: Price, Keys, Voorman, Hopkins, Harrison, Parry, Starr, Spedding, Topes, etc.

Strangely enough, it nearly works. Each time you're on the verge of taking off the silly bits in comes a song-there's seven of them, ranging from quite nice to very nice. There's some midstream, mid-Atlantic late-Sixtles and Seventies/ Fifties pop-rock, and of course a couple of slowies: "Remember" and the easy listening classic "Without You" featuring the orchestrations of Del Newman and Paul Buckmaster respectively. And not a horror song in sight-unless you count "Jump into the Fire", which vocally marries Edgar Winter and Lord Sutch, but whose crisp autofunk backing makes it a very white wedding. Strictly for Nilsson fans who don't

mind moving the playing arm forward every five minutes.

Phil McNeill

SHEET MUSIC - 10cc (UK Records) Until recently, too many people tended to dismiss 10cc as just another flash-inthe-pan hit parade group. There's no doubting that their initial chart successes "Donna" and "Rubber Bullets" were two of the most imaginative singles released in a long while, but the band's generally ignored first album showed that they were capable of even better things. However, this past neglect is now over, as not only is 10cc's current single, "The Wall Street Shuffle", high in the charts but their second LP, Sheet Music, is a best-selling album. With the latter, the group have created nothing less than a masterpiece of contemporary music and vivid Western culture imagery, that firmly establishes them as one of Britain's finest rock bands.

Few other groups can equal the amount of ingenuity, aesthetic eclecticism and humour that goes into each of the ten tracks included. No less impressive is their impeccable musicianship and production, as well as their knack for consistently coming up with wittily ironic lyrics and brilliantly funny parodies. If you need any further intro-duction to the delights of 10cc, just duction to the delights of roce, just listen to "Somewhere in Hollywood", "The Sacro-Iliac", "The Wall Street Shuffle" or the infamous "The Worst Band in the World" (banned by the BBC). Denis Lemon

YOU SMILE - THE SONG BEGINS -Herb Alpert (A&M)

Apparently Alpert hasn't made an album for five years. But now he's back, blowing his nose through twelve harmless tunes like in the good old prehistoric days to show us the marimbas still rumba and

the trumpet's still trumps. I could have sworn half those jolly numbers that used to liven up the pop charts worldwide were on this record, although Herb's blurb says "I made it because I feel I have something to say now." Maybe it's because I still can't understand that pseudo-Mexican that I hadn't noticed.

This band could make "The Gene Genie" sound cuddly. Phil McNeill

IN SEARCH OF EDDIE RIFF -Andy McKay (Island)

Ideal listening for relaxed summer parties is the first solo album by another member of Roxy Music (decidedly a group of people who are going on strong), Andy McKay



Apart from being incredibly dishy, McKay also happens to be one of the best saxophone players of his generation, and an accomplished musician generally. If I got it right, Eddle Riff is a purely mythical figure who appears only when McKay is playing the sax or oboe, a multifaced persona who gets into swift melodies as well as heavy, electronic rock 'n' roll. By borrowing in a straight-forward manner from other musicians (Wagner and Schubert not being the less famous names of his choice), McKay succeeds in his brilliant variations to create one thousand and one moods for us to enjoy. A very promising first try. Jean-Claude Thevenin

> North London's Only Gay Club IS AT

When summer arrives record companies set a little lazy and during this time re-release records which may have missed

the first time out. This month Tamla Motown have picked such items as "Do You Love Me" by the Contours and "Just Like Romeo & Juliet" by The Reflections. I mention these together as not only have they been collectors' items over the last few years but as they have a fast dance beat their appeal is directed to the Northern Discos who appreciate this type of record most. The sound is dated, in fact they were originally released more than a decade ago. If you have that R Dean Taylor hit "Gotta See Jane" you already possess the follow up to the recent chart buster "There's a Ghost in My House" as Tamla Motown have put out "Don't Fool Around", like its predecessor it's a fast stomper and has good chart chances. Question. Do you like the Philadelphia

Sound? If so, another question. Do you like soul music? Think seriously if the answer is yes-then you will love the new Harold Melvin and the Bluenotes sound. A slow emotional ballad "I'm Coming Home Tomorrow" that may not be a hit as its appeal will go only to the soul music lovers of the Philly Sound and not to the buyers of the pop music that the company release. Watching the progress of the Philly Sound in this country over the last year the bouncy offerings seem to bring off the hits and so more power to CBS. Keep those

numbers bouncing up the charts. The new label BASF deserves a hit if they are pushing the talents of duo Scott & Dyer with a self-written song "That's What It's All About". Good chart chances if the Radio DJs pick it up for airplay

Light classics go heavy could be an apt album title for the recent offerings from Beggars Opera (Vertigo) known for their unique renderings of classics like "The Poet and Peasant" and the "William Tell Overture". They do an interesting job on Mason Williams' "Classical Gas".

Every week a new contender for the Teenybopper Idol Trophy. This time

#### WALKING MAN - James Taylor (Warner Brothers)

James Taylor's aptly titled Wolking Mon album finishes with an archetypal Taylorism called "Fading Away". Funny, I thought it had been doing that all through

through. Most songs are semi-horizontal, non-committal pictures expressing shallow emotions we all know and need to share: understated, lonely, almost twee. His music, travel, his guitar, travel, his baby, travel, his dog. Or rather our music, our guitar, our dog and baby. For somehow in the course of 35 vacuous minutes Taylor draws the listence is to fill that Taylor draws the listener in to fill that

vacuum, and that's what makes the relationship worthwhile. The whole album conspires towards it: lots of clever but empty rhymes, beautiful unassuming chord changes, a few smart but cometimes monthes time few smart but sometimes pointless time changes, the unobtrusive backings always so tasteful. And oh so many quotable quotes—"Moving in silent desperation . . Walking man doesn't know nothing at all", "I'm a man of few words trying to ind a rhyme, And finally it's occurred to me that I'm wasting my time" (that's not even a James Taylor song!), "Me and my guitar, Always in the same mood." How true.

The intentions of each cut are really very similar, and for me the most success-ful are "Hellow Old Friend" (the dog song) and 'Fading Away". "Well it's really not so bad to be

fading away

Come on along with me and we'll go fading away You can hardly even hear me because

I'm fading away" .... You've got a friend, James. Millions of us

AYR Pub:

## short plays

Liverpool, who try with "Wasn't It Nice" (Fresh Air). The song is nondescript but their claim to fame may be their bright orange hair.

No need for a crystal ball to predict a second hit for Marvin Gaye and Diana Ross, what with another Stylistics song Stop, Look and Listen (To Your Heart) (Tamla Motown). This super duo tells it like it is. All systems go for a summer



ul number one. Hope you have now listened to the album *Diung & Morvin*, many original numbers which have chart

chances give excellent value which will help to while away a rainy summer's day. Island records get their fair share of hits at the moment, but with new name Bryn Haworth who appears has great potential, the song picked for initial release "Grappenhall Rag" I find very irritating. Still, there's always next time. Back on the recording scene comes

Herb Alpert and the TJB with a light-weight ballad assisted with the vocal of a young lady Lani.Hall. A soothing duet which is for late night listening but the song "Save the Sunlight" has no specia

merit and will soon go into obscurity. Multi-talented Susan Cope who you may have seen recently on the tele in 'New Faces' tries with her own selfwritten opus "Love Song" (Philips), pretty words, pretty tune. She stands good chances as a writer but as girls have a hard struggle to reach the charts we may never see her name in neon lights.

Now on to discotheque sound which I will playing, only two this time that I'll feature extensively. First, one from

J Cale with a laid back slow funky beat "Cajun Moon" (A&M). In the style of the Staple Singers. Mr Cale's guitar is really keen and then I'm a sucker for bayou music. Definite dance record comes from The Joneses who ask "Hey Babe (Is the Getting Still Good)" (Mer-cury). It's nothing incredible, but it will

have you tapping your feet. Jazzy soulman Quincy Jones with Jazzy sourman Quincy Jones with the assistance of A&M records takes a cut from the album Body Heat, his big band and voices play "Soul Saga". Not really single material but an introduction to the LP which I've heard is excellent. Lastly a message to RCA. Get "Rock the Boat" by the Hues Corporation out bere on a single right now. Otherwise

here on a single right now. Otherwise you will miss the initial impact sales that are needed to make a chart winner. The import copy is selling thousands and it's number one in America. Don't forget to Rock your baby.

Tricky Dicky

## Top sounds

Dicks Inn-London's Gay Discos

- Rock Your Baby George McCrae (Jay Boy) Rock the Boat - Hues Corporation (RCA) 2
- 3 Machine Gun - The Commodores
- Machine Gun The Commod (Tamla Motown) When Will I See You Again? Three Degrees (Phil Int) I Found Sunshine Chi-Lites 4
- 5 (Brunswick) Stop, Look and Listen – Marvin 6

Gave/Diana Ross (Tamla Motown) Hollywood Swinging - Kool & The Gang (Polydor) If You Go Away - Terry Jacks

- 8 (Bell)
- 9 Be Thankful for What You've Got -
- William De Vaughn (Chelsea) 10 Guilty The Pearls (Bell)

- Camp Re-Vamp The Happy Wanderer - Tiny Tim

Compiled by Tricky Dicky, week ending 13/7/74 (Polydor)

#### BOLTON Pub: Peel Arms, 423 Halliwell Road Prince Williams (Upstairs), Bradshawgate Club: Labour Club, 16 Wood St (Upstairs Bar) BOURNEMOUTH Pub: Norfolk Hotel (Basement Bar) Club: Gigl's, The Triangle **GN's Mini Guide** This guide relies on your information, to if you find any inaccuracies, please don't just tell all your friends - tell us. BRADFORD indicates Gey News on sale. tion Inn, Leeds Road (D) indicates regular drag shows. BRENTWOOD The Prince Albert, Warley Hill, Tues, Fri and Sun only In SCOTLAND all pubs close at 10pm Pub: The Prince Albert, Warley Hill, Tues, Fri and Sun only BRIGHTON Pub: Spotted Dog, Middle Street Grayhoung, East St Upstairs Bar only) Cricketers, Black Lion Street (weekends) Hove Lawns Hotel "Heart & Hand, Ship Street Club: New Curtain Club, East Street (men) "Regency Club, Regency Square 42 Club, Kings Road Pigk Elephant, corner of "Regency Square St Albans Club, Regency Square Guesen of Club, Bedford Square Hove Longbranch Club, Grand Parade Rest: Lorelei Coffee Lounge, 5 Union Street Disco: GLF disco. Mariborough Hotel, Prince's St, 1st and 3rd Fri, Bpm-10pm, 20p BRISTOL and do not open Sundays. Hotels have 7-day licences. ASHTON UNDER LYNE Pubi Laughing Cavailer, Market St, Stalybridge (Thurs) Club: Gaslight Club, 211a Stamford St Pub: Caledonian Hotel (upstairs public lounge) BARNSLEY Pub: Queens Hotel (Venturer Bar) Pub: Queens mote BARRY, Glamorgan Pub: The Barry Hotel (Lounge Bar) Broad Street BATH Pub: Garricks Head, Sawciose The Regency (opp Theatre Royal) \*Valentines, 14 George Street Clubi BEDFORD Pub: The Barley Mow, Bromham Rd Pub: His BELFAST BELFAST Pub: Avenue Bar, Rosemary Street Europe Motel (Whip and Saddle Bar), Great Victoria Street

BIRMINGHAM Pub: The Trocedero, Temple Street The Victoria, John Bright St The Viking (Downstairs Bar), Smallbrook, Gueensway, 8-10.30 nightly, gays and friends only. Club: "Grosvenor House, 326 Hagley Rd "Nightingale, 50 Camp Hill, 812

- BLACKBURN Pub: The Merchants Hotel, Darwen St

Phil McNeill Club: Repe's, Talbot Road

BRISTOL Pub: Radnor, 30 St Nicholas Street The Ship, Park Row, nr Red Lodge Club: "Moulin Rouge, 72 Worral Rd, Clifton BURNLEY Pubi \*The Cross Keys Pub: \*The Cross Ruys CAMBRIDGE Pub: The Stable Bar, Green Street (off Trinity Street) Rest: Scaramouche, Catherine Street, Tel: Cambridge 43570 CARDIFF Pub: Roy CARDIFF Pub: Royal Hotel (Roberts Bar) St Mary Street Royal Oak, St Mary Street Club: Showbiz Club, Hope Street

Mini Guide continued on page 17



BROADHURST GARDEN, LONDON NW6 Molly & Jennette **TELEPHONE: 01-624 9838** THURSDAY **DATES NOT TO BE MISSED** FRIDAY SATURDAY **WELCOME FRIENDS** 9.30pm to **OLD AND NEW** 1.30am Friday, August 2nd: **TO THEIR DISCO** 'The Pigsty Hill Light Orchestra!' AT THE Stars of the HTV series tmosphere 'The Great Western Musical Thunderbox' Father Red Cap 21 orth London's Friday, August 9th: **CAMBERWELL GREEN** The sensational 'Hinge & Bracket' xciting **EVERY THURS AND SATURDAY** 8.30pm till 11.00pm cene DRAG SIX NIGHTS A WEEK MEMBERSHIP £1.00 per year Friendliest out-of-town gay scene!

# **Personal Ads & Information** LUTON Club: "Pan Club, Bute Street, open nightly, weekend cabaret MACCLESFIELD

reen Tavern

\*The Champion, Bayswater Rd (Notting Hill Gate tube) \*The Green Room at the Wheat-sheaf, Goldhawk Road (Gold-hawk Road tube) The Chepstow, Chepstow Place, Notting Hill W2 (Upper Bar only), Friday Disco. \*The Gueens Head, Tryon Street (off Kings Rd)(Sioan 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) \*Blephant & Castle, South Lam-beth Place (Vauxhall tube) (D) \*Royal Vauxhall Tayern, Vaux-hall Cross (Vauxhall tube) (D) \*Orld Yauxhall Tayern, Vaux-hall Cross (Ster Scherweil New Road SES. Disco Mon and Tubs (D) Crickters, Battersea Park Rd (D) The Sallsbury, St Martins Lane Ward's Irish House, Piccadilly Circus \*The Royal Mail, Upper St, Mini Guide continued from page 16 CANTERBURY Publ The Queen's Head, Watling St CHELTENHAM Pub: The Beaufort Arms, London Rd frving Hotel, High Street Club: New Twenty Club, 20 High St Rest: El Toro, Fairview Road CHESTER Publi Bear and Billiet, Lower Bridge St Foregate Bar, Blossoms Hotel, St Johns Street CHICHESTER Pub: Cattle Market Inn Publ Cattle Market Inte CIRENCESTER Publ Black Horse DERBY Club: Pavilion Club, 123 London Rd, Sherdlow (7 miles) Sherarow (7 miles) DONCASTER Club: Don Jon's, Silver Street Pub: Underground, off Silver Street DUNDEE Pub: Gauger, Seagate Ward's Irish House, Piccadilly Circus \*The Royal Mail, Upper St, Islington (Angel tube) (D) Golden Lion, Dean Street, off Shattesbury Ave W1 Duke of File, 350 Katherine Rd E7 (East Ham tube) Elimhurst, 131 Lordship Lane, Tottenham N17 (D) Royal Oak, 62 Glenthorne Road W6 (D) \*Jonny's, 106 The Shopping Precinct, Shepherds Bush W12 (Shepherds Bush tube) \*Peacock Club, 259 Old Brompton Road SW10. Tues-Drag \*Chagauramas, Neal St, WC2 Sweet Lorraine, Lowndes Court W1 (Oxford Circus tube) \*Le Gigolo, Kings Road (Sloane Court tube) Pub: Gauer, Seears DURHAM Pub: The Three Tuns, Old Elvet Nevilles Cross Hotel EDINBURGH Pub: The Kanliworth, Rose Street The Abercromby Hotel Abercromby Pisce The Baillie, St Stephen Street EXETER Pub: Horse & Groam, Longbrook St Club FERNDALE, South Wales Pub: \*Salisbury Hotel GLASGOW Duke of Wellington, Argyle St The Strand (Downstairs Bar), Hope Street \*Le Gigolo, Kings Road (Sloane Square tube) GRAVESEND Pub: "The Kent, High St \*Le Gigolo, Kings Road (Sloane Square tube)
 \*Paint Box, 29 Foley St W1 (Oxford Circus tube)
 \*Masquerade Restaurant & disco, Earls Court Sq, SW5 (Earls Court tube)
 \*The Pink Elephant, 8 Newport Place, WC1 (Leicester Sq tube) A&B Club, 29 Wardour St, W1 Vortex, 62 Tachbrook Street, 828 9581
 \*Shanes, Broadhurst Gardens, NW6
 The Escort, 89a Pimilco Road (Sloan Square tube)
 Yours A 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 Cricus tube)
 Apolio, 3 Wardour St, W2
 \*The Catacombs, Old Brompton Rocking Fourt Bergen Pub: The Kent, High St GREENOCK Pub: The Jolly Sallor, Clyde Square (Saloon Bar, Weds only, 8pm onwards) GUILDFORD Pub: The Royal Oak, near multi-GUILDFORD Pub: The Royal Oak, near multi-story car park HELSTON, Cornwell Pub: The Bell, High Street Pub: The Bell, High Street HOLMFIRTH Pub: Royal Oak, Upper Thong, near Holmfirth, Yorks HUDDERSFIELD Pub: The Commercial Hotel, High St (men only bar) The Amsterdam (mixed) The Grey Horse, Chapel Hill (Sundays) HULL Pub: White House (Chicken and Cocktail Bar), Jameson St Royal Station Hotel, Paragon Square Centre Hotel (London Bar), Paragon St Mandy's, 30 Henrietta St, WC2 \* The Catacombs, Old Brompton Road (Earls Court tube) \* Arabian Pub, Tricky Dicky disco every Wed, Cambridge Heath Road, E2 (Bethnal Green tube) \* Tricky Dicky Disco (Mon & Thurs) Kings Arms, 213 Bishopspate, EC1 (Liverpool Street tube) \* The Buil and Gate, Kentish DISCO ILFORD Club, The Cavaller Club, Ilford Lane Clubi The Cock & Pye (Saloon Bar), Pubi The Cock & Pye (Saloon Bar), Upper Brook Street Upper Brook Street ISLE OF WIGHT Pub: The Hole In the Wall, Market St, Venthor The Plough, High St, Shanklin (Public Bar) Club: Regency Club, Sun Hill, Cows SIBB Medway Queen Night Club, Newport S460 (D) Resi: Ryde Queen Boatel at Wight Marina, Newport 4751 Stable, 105 High St, Old Villege, Shanklin LANCASTER \*The Bull and Gate, Kentish Town Rd (Kentish Town tube) \*Ship & Whale, Allan & Daves Disco, Thurs, Gulliver St SE16 Dicks Inn, Father Redcap, Camberwell Green, SE5 every Centre, Broadley Terrace NW1, every Fri Spm-12midnight South London QLF Disco alternate Sats starting June 1R at Briston Gay Commun Centre, 78 Raitton Rd SE24, 01-274 7921. LANCASTER Pub: Farmers Arms, King Street LEEDS Pub: Mope & Anchor, Call Lane West Riding Bar (Back Bar) Weilington Street Club: \* Room at the Top, 207 North St \* Charleys Club, Lower Briggate Cafe: Flamenco, New Briggate Disco: Leeds GLF Disco forfnightly, con-tact their office for location 01-274 7921. GLF, Prince Albert, corner of Wharfedale Rd and York Way, N1. Adm 15p every Tues, Fri and Sat The Molin Disco Club, c/o The Angel, 14 Crosswall, EC3. 2 mins from Tower Hill Station, 5 mins from Aldgate Station, 488 3338/674 4004 The Sahab 34/8 Eversholl St LEICESTER Dubi Dover Castle, Dover Street LIVERPOOL Pub: Ye Cracke, Rice Street Rest: The Sabah, 34/8 Eversholt St, NW1. 388 0131 (Just by Euston Station) Lisbon, Victoria Street L2 The Denby Castle, Hackins Hey (off Dale Street) Club: New Bears Paw, Dorrans Lane Sadles, Wood St (off Hanover St) Euston Station) Neil Gwynnes Kitchen, 43 Crawford St La Popole, Walton St, SW3 Cheguaramas, 41-43 Neal St, WC2 Le Faune, 23 Praed Street, W2 Simple Simon, 234 Old Brompton Road, SW5 Masquerade, 310 Earls Court Rd, SW5 La Casserole, 338 Kings Road, Chelsea, SW3 The Last Resort, 294 Fulham Road, SW10, rel: 352 1625 Le Richelleu, 277 New Kings Rd, SW6. Te.: 736 4432 LONDON Pub: \*Imperial, The Square, Richmond Dog and Trumpet, Great Mari-borough St, W1 •Father Redcap, Camberwell Green SE5 •William IV, Hampstead High St •Ship & Whale, Gulliver St SE16 •The Lord Ragian, St Martins Le Grande, EC1 (Disco) Tues (D) Coffee Bari The Macabre, 23 Meard St, W2 (opens 11.45am) The Coffin, Mernbers only, Disco Grande, EC1 (Disco) Tues (D) \*The Laurel Tree, Camden Town (Camden Town tube) \*Martins Bar, The Castle, Richmond \*Watermans Arms (Upstairs Bar), Water Lane, Richmond \*The Bollons & \*The Coleherne are near each other on Old Brompton Road (Earls Court tube) LLANDUDNO Pub: Rembrandt Bar, Washinton Hotel (on the sea front)

LEEDS

Pub: Waters Green Tavern MANCHESTER Pub: The Mechanics, Choriton St Union Hotel, Princess Street (D) Rembrandt, Sackville Street Cavalcade, Wilmslow Road Didsbury (Sunday lunchtime) New York, Bloom Street Club: Napoleon's, Sackville Street MARYPORT Guest House: 45 Crosby St, Maryport, Cumbria (men only) MERTHYR TYDFIL Pub: Red Cow Hotel, Glebeland St MERTHYR TYDFiL Pub: Red Cow Hotei, Glebeland St MIDDLESBOROUGH Pub: The Grand Hotel Club: The Rendezvous, above the Grand Motel, Thurs Fri Sat NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE Pub: Royal Court Grill, Bigs Market Royal Turks Head, Punchinello Bar Eldon Grill (Varlety Bar), opp Greys Monument Grapes Vauit, Grey St (men only) County Hotel (Nancy's Bar) Westgate Road NEWOUAY, Cornwall Pub: King Mark (Sat lunchtimes) NEWPORT, Mon Pub: Kings Head (Lounge Bar) High Street Waterloo, Commercial Street Club: The Chariston, Cardiff Rd (Tues & Sun) NORWICH Pub: Studio Four, behind Anglia Television NORTHAMPTON Pub: Pinces Royal, 172 Weiling-Television NORTHAMPTON Pub: Princess Royal, 172 Welling-borough Rd (men only) NOTTINGHAM Pub: 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 mHes) OLDHAM Pub: Lighthouse, Lees Road The Grey Horse, Union St Lighthouse, Lees Road The Grey Horse, Union St The Grey Fish 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 Pub: The Cock Hotel PLYMOUTH Pub: Lockyer Hotel. ( PLYMOUTH Pubi Lockyer Hotel, Oak Lounge (Back Bar), Derry's Cross The Phoenix (off Union Street) Club: Harry's Club, Cliff Road PODLE Pub: The Jolly Sallor The Lord Nelson PORTSMOUTH Pub: "Balmoral Bar, Landport Terrace Club: The Country Club, Winchester Road, Bishops Waltham (D) READING READING Pub: "The Railway, Greyfriars Road Disco: RGA The Crown, Crown Street, every Wed and Sun 8pm Functions Room, Railway Tavern, Stanshawe Rd, every Wed and Sat 8pm ROCHESTER Pub: Ye Olde Ship Inn, 347 High St Pub: Ye Old ST ALBANS Pub: Crown Crown Hotel (Clarence Bar) Hatfield Road, Fri night only with Disco ST HELLIER, Jersey Club: New Side Door, Cricketers Arms, Seale Street SANDBACH, Cheshire Pub: Market Place Tavern (Thurs) Publ Market Place Tavern (Thurs) SCARBOROUGH Publ The Albert, North Marine Rd (Back Room) The Cliff, Huntriss Row Clubi The Golden Guinee, Ramshill Rd Club: The Cosseck Pub: The Pump (Smoke Room), Cumberland Way Club: \*Amberley, 225 Attercliffe Common (Gaysoc Disco) 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 Lear, 94 St Marys Road, 9.30pm-3.00am SOUTHEEA SOUTHSEA Publi Duke of Devonshire, Albert Road STOCKPORT Pub: "Duke of Clarence, Avenue St LINCOLN Pubi Ve Olde Crown, Clasketgate (Lounge Bar)

Pub: \*Duke of Clarence, Avenue St STOKE ON TRENT Pub: The Antelope, Trinity St, 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 SWANSEA

# Love Knoweth NoLaws\*

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°Chaucer Answering a Box Reply

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

Advertisements for inclusion in issue 52 must be received no later than noon on Monday 22 July. They should be no longer than 35 words. Those exceeding limit will be returned. As from 23 July, Box Numbers in issue 48 and earlier will be discontinued and replies to them will not be forwarded.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

### **Mixed Personal**

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

outside GB £1.50. Australian student, male 25, with time to travel, be involved, learn, etc. Any offers to accompany, accommodate, employ, teach or whatever? Box 51/1. Interested in helping start a fund for elderly gays' home? Contact Judith, Box 51/2. Gay men's wives interested in forming social group Gwent/Bristol? Box 51/3. Manchester Boy, active 23, looking for friendship with woman. No money involved. Photo. 51/12. Semi-gay revolutionary, male, sympa-thetic to 15 and 1MG, twenties, slim, medium helght, average looks, pretty sextess, but very understanding, wishes to meet similar nice-looking male/ female for friendship, correspond with, etc. Norfolk. Box 51/11.

Seeking gay friends, journalist, 60, wishes to meet Chinese or other orientals, any age over 21, having qualities of the heart. Box 51/99, Middleaged bisexual seeks friendly B/S married couple or ladies with strong personality. Box 51/100.

### Women's Personal

10p per word, Box Number 50p, outside GB £1.50

Gay girl 28 would like to meet active girl 30-45 for friendship and social life, Essex area. Photo appreciated. Box 51/4. London lady seeks non-smoking friend over 30. Box 51/5. Kent, gay girl, 22. with one year old son seeks countryloving friend/s. Box 51/6. Lady, 40, disiliusioned seeks active Mm. (Cheshire area). Box 51/7. Londer, North London issbian in need of friends for concert, film & theatre outlings and leisurally holidays. Box 51/8. Two London gays wanting to contact other females for get-togethers etc. Box 51/9.

Discreet graduate, attractive, lonely, 30s, seeks friendship of similar female NW London. Box 51/173.

### Men's Personal

10p per word, Box Number 50p, outside GB £1.50

Outside GB 21.50 Withdrawn SE London euy, 24, needs to meet more mature people, 25 and older, for sincere friendships, interests include music, gardening, cookery, languages. Ganuine non-camp replies only please. Box 51/10. Gay 23 seeks friends of similar age in the Bournemouth area, with possibility of flat sharing. Photo appreciated. ALA, Box 51/13. Faitham, 24, seeks permanent friendship. Box 51/14.

Box 51/14. South Lines, 22, professional guy seeks genuine friends. Box 51/15. Young Londoner, fair, 5½ft, good body meks young trendy long-haired cats 21 to 23 years who are into life for enjoy-ment. Tony 998 2098 (8am-7pm). Leather guy, 40, seeks active well-educated friend 21-40. Box 51/16. Sincere euv 27

Guy 24 seeks non-camp friend/s 21-26 for sincere and lasting friendship. London/Herts area. Possible house share. Photo appreciated but ALA. Box 51/25. Negro over 21, warm, sincere, sought by Continental 43, own business near Heathrow Airport. Lasting friendship, share everything for right person, photo please. ALA. box 51/26. Skinny shy ambitious arts-mad naive non-smoking emotional energetic practical perfectionist trendy tanned graduate, 29, seeks paragon to put up with me Box 51/27. We would like to attend any parties that may be organised. When replying, if possible please give telephone number as well as the address. Box 51/28. Help: young Londoners now living in Margets/Ramspate area seek local gay friends for outings etc. ALA. Box 51/29.

Tell Gay Switchboard about the gay places you went to on holiday. 01-837 7324, 6-10.30pm.

Birmingham, Tail, skim, young guy seeks bolders for friendship. Interests jeans, kether. Box 51/30.
Londoner, 37, with house in West Highands needs help with garden. Free week and transport. Aug/Sept. Box 51/31.
So you have severything? But it takes two, peace love and happiness. Manchester area. Box 51/32.
Guy Zé, Feinstowe, seeks friends for minoyable weekends any where. Write fully, ALA. Box 51/32.
Juncomplicated, early 405, professional man seeks genuine young, over 21, friend who might appreciate companionship/accommodation for occasional quiet London weekend. Interests include male mags and talewision. Photo please if possible. Box 51/34.
Gary of music publishing, brown corduroy suit, Baker Street 6pm. I was there, where were you?
Arshire/Glasgow. Young professional, not camp, seeks sim goodlooking friends 21-24. Photos returned. Box 51/35.
Northermer, 43, attractive, seeks Mediterranean guy for lasting friendship. Photos exchanged. Box 51/37.
Attractive French boy 21 black curly hair seeks beautiful active guys 27-35, London, for friendship. Box 51/38.
Glovann jolease contact French Marc. Box 51/38.
Glovann jolease contact French Marc. Box 51/38.
Mortoers, Sincert, sincere, seeks agy Struce friends over 21. Own pad. ALA.
Ray, Sympathetic guy, 28, London, attractive, level-haeded but with problems, seeks others 21-35, any stratestive about yourself.
Photo preferred. ALA. Box 51/42.
Commonst Newexstie erea. Innarested withe section for weekend interested by active section for companionship and maybe new social circle. Photo preferred. ALA. Box 51/42.
Good looking 51/44.
Guod Johas, Kota and Johas companion for weekend interest sincere, and photo which 1 promise to social circle. Weekend Starts.
Herry Musis area. Intelligent, sincere, straight looking 22-35 mate meeded by active. Box 51/45.
Good looking 51/16" Canceria, presentable. Weile

PARIS GRIM PARIS GRIM To Britain if found. Young, green 35 wants to love, likes music, literature, languages, walking, travelling. Seeks friendship with unneurotic, uncamp, intelligent, emancipated, well-built, lireless 21-35, sense of humour, driver. Photo. ALA. Box 51/52.

Photo. ALA. Box \$1/\$2. 34, 6'4", good-looking, good figure, sager to meet active 28- with whom he could share all the delights and troubles of real lowing friendship. Photo please, returned. Box 51/53. Yorkshire and Northeast. Young, slim, intelligent, welcomes friends 21-40, also anyone interested Gaytoc for area? Box 51/54. North East, 38, wishes to meet men, own age or younger, 21+, for friendship, North Yorkshire/England. Box 51/55. Uncomplicated Londoner, 25, straight, attractive looking, seeks non-camp type, 24-29 for friendship, Box 51/56. Tall, blonde, Chelesa puy, 24, into really

24-29 for friendship. Box 51/56. T3il, blonde, Chelesa guy, 24, into reality fun people wants to meet some more for friendship. Box 51/64. Cultivated bloke 405 marconed 5 Nor-folk with Colonel Blimp and Farmer Gilles, like Mafaking needs relief, preferably light. ALA. Box 51/65. Well-known contemporary poet and TV personality, 30, active, seeks a warm, loving friendship with an Intellectually aware boy, 21-25. No freaks! ALA. Box 51/66.

Page 17

# REGULARLY **Subscribe To Gay News**

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WAG

# Parsonal Ads continued from page 17 Goodlooking West London guy, 25, slim, 5'10", Piscean, gentle but non-effeminate-profers rock concerts or countryside to clubs-seeks smooth, slim, young, boyish friend over 21, any nationality, for steady friendship, perhaps flat-share. Photo please. Box 51/57.

perhaps flat-share. Photo please. Box 51/57. Gay Negro 21-30 sought for friendship, Bristol area only. Box 51/58. London guy, 27, seeks young training partner/instructor over 21 for regular keep fit sessions. Solo efforts too boring. Easy going, varied interests. Details, photo, phone no. ALA. Box 51/59. Theatre, muke, sun-bathing enthusiast, 29, living in Camberley/Aldershot area, wishes to meet similar non-effeminate young men 21+ for friendship. Box 51/60. Solicitors. Can we refer callers to you for

withes to meet similar non-effeminate young men 21\* for friendship. Box 51/60. Solicitors. Can we refer callers to you for sympathetic advice? Please write (in con-fidence) to Gay Switchboard, 5 Caledonian Rd, London N1. East Mediterransan holiday, early September, Guy early thirties travelling alone would weicome companion/s between 25.35. Photo appreciated. All photos returned, unless sender exceptionally glamorous. Box 51/137. Young Christian tseks another aged about about 23 anywhere in Britain or Europe for permanent snaring. Box 51/132. Merceyside leatherman seeks like minded puy desiring friendship. Box 51/132. Merceyside leatherman seeks like minded puy desiring friendship. Box 51/132. Merceyside leatherman seeks like minded puy desiring friendship. Box 51/23. Beardee utrgin fno kiddingi), 24, actor/ writer, not terribly handsome, likes Shakespeare and books, nater diccos and fish, interested na almost anybody. Photo please. Phil. Box 51/134. Broken aftair 6 years. Now drowned with Foneliness. I am 25 with good looks, good build and presentation. More to offer but needs a younger, sincere boy 21+ for true friendship and shared happiness. Box 51/133. Tony, 33, straight-type guy, smart appearance and genulne, own car, seeks straight-type/bi-guy 21 to 30. Regular meetings envisaged. Photo please. ALA. London/Home Counties. Box 51/139. Tall, Nim, 30yr old with varied interests including rubber seeks experienced similar for friendship. Box 51/140. Doctors. Can we refer callers to you for sympathetic advice? Please write (in con-fidence1 to Gay Suite/baya.

Including rubber seeks experienced similar for friendship, Box 51/140. Doctors. Can we refer callers to you for sympathetic advice? Please write (in con-fidence) to Gay Switchboard, 5 Caledonian Rd, London N1. Sheffield guy. 40, silm, active, not camp, seeks guy for sincere friendship, house. Car. Photo appreciated. ALA. Box 51/88. Mear Harrow? St Paul's Church, Corbins Lane, South Harrow (near station) welcomes you to Holy Communion especially Tuesdays 7.45pm. Young, good looking, fashionable, own business, fast car, tall, well built, into most things but like opera and cinema best, wants to meet active guys 21-40 for friendship, Bristol/S Wales. ALA. Photo. Box 51/99. White boy seeks young black friend over 21. Box 51/90. Young in looks and interests 45 year old seeks son figure 21-25. Possible flat share. 01-478 3587.

ACTIVE AMERICAN Middle aged business man seeks youthful guide 21ish for London and Amsterdam, expenses paid. Photo appreciated. Box \$1/\$1.

expensis paid. Photo appreciated.
Box \$1/31.
Bionde 21, average looks, lonely, own flat North London seeks friend 21-28.
Photo appreciated. Possible flat share.
Box \$1/92.
Two young slim 22 year olds seek friends similar age for companionship and out-ings South coast/Hempshire. Photos.
Box \$1/93.
West indian 24 and English 32 seek younger friends 21+ any nationality.
London. Box \$1/94.
South Lincoinshire. New arrival, 40s, slim, pleasant appearance, own home, would like to contact others in area for friendship. Sincere, uncamp. ALA.
Box \$1/96.
North London guy, 23, attractive, seeks friends into leather, especially motor-cyclists. Box \$1/97.
Guy, 27, hair thinning, seeks guy 21-28 for lasting friendship. London. Interest include modern clothes, progressive pop and classical music, art and antiques.
You must be slim, longhaired, non-hirsute with similar interests. Photo, neturnable. ALA. Write Box \$1/96.
Young tallan 24. Shy, lonely, seeks active friend 24-34, hopefully for life. Sincerity essential. Ganuine replies with photo please. Box \$1/101.
Derby guy, youthful 28, sincere, lonely, seeks West Indian friend 21-30, any-where, for visits, correspondence, friend-ship. Fond Soul music, travel etc. Photo please. Box \$1/102.
Straker Guildford 6 May please write Box \$1/103.
'Alec' you replied to Box 44/95 but did not include your address. Please write again. Rox \$1/104.
Clessified and Dienlay. Ade: The box

Thames cruiser needs crew August 24-Sept 7, One/two young men to help at locks etc. Experience unnecessary, Goc holiday. Comfortable boat. Phone 061 928 0289 evenings 8-9.30 or Sunday afternoon.

MATURE TEACHER 25 years old, seeks nothing more or less than to love and be loved by 25-35 year old, single friend is my ideal. Photo appreciated, ALA. Box \$1/106.

Professional man, 35, London, seeks friendship with a small thin young man 21-30, any nationality. Photo appreciated. Box 51/107. Young man 24, goodlooking, wishes to meet sincere person for friendship and possible flatshare. Box 51/109.

Company Director, 35, tail, active, seeks attractive young man over 21 (long hair?) for 'peacefui' friendship. Smail flat London, Me in entertainment industry. Relaxingly romantic. Honest replies please. ALA. Box 51/111.

NEED HELP? Young suys 21+ with problems or in difficulty may like to write to a friendly Londoner, 39, for help. Photo appre-cisted and returned. Box \$1/112.

Londonér, 35, for help. Photo appre-ciated and returned. Box 51/112. Lonely introvert mid-thirties with car, Birmingham area, seeks friends. Box 51/113. To JM-Jan, are you serious about us? If so, write AJ. Box 51/114. Young guy 23 withes to meet all hand-some boy models 21+ with good physique in London for friendship. Photo essential, returned. Box 51/115. Literate, sensitive, passably pretty 26, into theatre and opera, seeks intellectual stimulus from new friends with humour and the courage of their own person-alities. Photo if you like! Box 51/116. London boy, 23, quiet, gentie, like to meet active boot boys, skinheads, for interesting company. Box 51/117. The pleasure of your company. Active Cancerian 39 hopes for 1974 birthday gift of sincere affectionate longlasting friendship to brighten up lonely 5 London flat. Tel no, photo/letter weicome. ALA. Box 51/118. Bwestens. Attractive student, 23 years, seeks similar to teach him art of wrestling. Photo required, will return mine. ALA. Box 51/120. Motorcycle freak, pillion variety, aged 37, with own leathers etc, seeks easy rider Central London with bike for evening, weekend outlings. Please send photo. Box 51/121. Jamaican guy living alone seeks genuine and lasting friendship with someone sincere. Genuine replies with photo only. Box 51/122. Young 29, NORTH LONDON

YOUNG 23, NORTH LONDON Own flat, assygoing and sincere, seeks similar to share life together. Genuine replies only please. ALA. Box \$1/123.

Own fist, assygoing and sincere, seeks similar to share file together. Genuine replies only please. ALA. Box 51/123. Good looking boy, 22, Director, interests include acting, modelling, would like to meet sincere 24-30 year old for a permanent triendship. Box 51/124. John, attractive, 21, wishes to meet sincere people for friendship and love. ALA. Box 51/125. Bearded, husky, ebuilient, affectionate, over 40, Surrey/Sussex, seeks younger non-camp mate 21+, hopefully for life. Photo appreciated and reciprocated. Box 51/126. Londoner, 24, good looking, slim, seeks similar friends 21-25. Photo appreciated. ALA i promise you. Box 51/127. Straight looking 25 year old, interests music, photography, seeks similar 21-25 for sincere friendship. Photo appreciated. Box 51/128. The friends 51 year old. Box 51/130. Holdaying atome? Literate, attractive young man seeks similar (around late 2Ds perhaps) to share holday and after. Write with phone number to Box 51/131. Houseowner 34 Southwark seeks younger friend 21+ to share life, love; shy, inexperienced welcome. Own bedsitive. Box 51/153. Attractive, gentle affair 23/28 seek one other goodlooking 21+ for friendship. Mindsor/Slough area. Photo appreciated. Box 51/154. Attractive young man, 26, wishes to meet goodlooking well built motor-cyclist for friendship. Box 51/155. Attractive goung man, 26, wishes to meet goodlooking well built motor-cyclist for friendship. Box 51/157. Non-camp, attractive young attractive young the 21-30. South Lance area, varied intersts. Box 51/158. Lonely gap porter, 35, seeks male gay 21-35 for friendship. Box 51/159. Spanish guy, 24, seeks non-cfreminate friend 21-30. South Lance area, varied intersts. Box 51/158. Handsome, lonely 24 seeks lasting friend-ship with someone 21-30 London/Aylez-bury area. ALA. Box 51/159. Spanish guy, 24, seeks non-camp guy for steady friendship. ALA, Box 51/150. Box with armee avex 52 considered mary

Ads & Info

Active male, 28, North London, not bad looking, hairy, interested in nice things and sincere people, seeks friends, Photo if available, Box 51/110. Lonely, attractive London Chinese student, 22, seeks someone similar age to share weekends. Also seeks American, European friends. Photo please. ALA. Box 51/174. Barbour suit, Beistaff or heavy DR pel wanted by 28 year old, Box 51/119. Tail, slim, 30 with slightly juenlie interests seeks friend who understands. Box 51/129. Birmingham/West Midlands multitudinou interests aged 42 seeks friends 25-35. Box 51/149. Oldham/Middeton. Lonely 36, 5'9", sincere and friendly seeks similar 21-40 in same area for genuine friendship and occasional outings. ALA. Box 51/175.

GERRY Awarded the Order of the Bent Leprechain for hospitality above and beyond the call of decency. —Luv M.

Young suy, 22, seeks young active guy, 25-30 for sincere friendship. Photo appreciated. Box 51/136.

appreciated. Box 51/136. Mais 28, short, fair hair, seeks good looking dolly boy friends 21+ of any nationality for friendship. Box 51/108. 23, shy, slim, seeks nice muscle/body builder for a warm hassle-free friendship. Box 51/36. Stephen Cohen has lost his address book. If you were in it and want to be in the new one, ring him at The Times' new number 837 1234. Boy, 21+, any nationality, sought for

number 837 1234. Boy, 21+, any nationality, sought for friendship. Box 51/176. Tall 28 year old living in London seeks gay friend hopefully for lasting friend-ship, photo appreciated and returned. Box 51/177. Bearded 42 year old seeks friendship with active motorcyclist any age over 21, to be taught how to ride. Southern England. All letters answered. Photo appreciated. Box 51/178. Accountant, 28, working Victoria, okay-looking, seeks similar young friends 21+ for lunchtime drink. Rox 51/179. Jyly 21st. Remembered on your birthday.

Ar unchine a mink. Rox 51/179. Jyly 21st. Remembered on your birthday. To Keith, loved always and still very much missed. Michael. 21 year old seeks mates with boots or denim. Box 51/180. Ative. experienced, tall fair Taurean meks slim non-camp but with-li friend to share pleasures and chores of London and Herts country. Phone no, photo If possible. Box 51/181. If you are young and active why not stay with us occasional weakend. Sincers and the norty gay Bowle fan in Bangor Notes, Photo a must. Box 51/182. Am I the only gay Bowle fan in Bangor Netes; Please prove me wrong. Genuine, ALAI Box 51/187.

### Accommodation

10p per word, Box Number 50p, outside GB £1.50

Bedsitter, desk, telephone, welcome to view colour TV. £6.25 incl heet & light. Close to Bakers Arms, Leyton, Up to age 45, Christian preferred. Box 51/186.

view colour TV. 56.25 incl heat & light. Close to Bakers Arms, Leyton, Up to age 45, Christian preferred. Box 51/186. Young gay 28 requires weekend accommodation in London with guy/s similar age, Reply to Paul Francis, 129 Chanctonbury Way, Woodside Park, North Finchley, N12. Houseproud young man needs accom-modation with own bedroom, close Cheissa, from mid-August, Box 51/171. High Wycombe area: make, 29, seeks shared or separate accommodation. Box 51/172. Own room in späcious mansion flat Central London, Teli 603 6392. MERLIN (of Star-Gays) needs two rooms in someone's pleasant flat to live and work, Preferably Brighton or London. From August, Write Box 51/78. South Merseyside—professional type 30s seeks similar 20s attractive home-loving possibily shy to share his home, 20 mins Lime 51. No strings but hopeful of frienship, Right type more important than excessive rent. Photo essential. Box 51/79. Male to share house in Brighton with three others. Own room, all facilities. E8pw. Available August Box 51/80. Marble Arch, quiet discreet male offered own room, comfortable house, plano, colour TV. No strings. Domesticated non-smoker in regular day job preferred. E9pw. Box 51/81. Mate, 35, reliable, sobar, non-smoker, seeks self-contained accommodation, preferably unfurnished in London area. Box 51/82. Two bedroom unfurnished flat required North of Thames. Box 51/83. East Acton profesional couple share house £7.50pw each inclusive. 749 6245 evenings. Budh. £3 nclusive elec. 437 8182 (office

Guy, pleasant, 30, reliable, no hang ups, wishes to share accommodation or bedsit in London, Have car. Box 51/144. Hornchurch/Gidea Park. Young guy wented to share luxury flat. Own room, no strings. Phone evenings: Hornchurch 48910. Herte Free Commonstriation of the strings.

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"FINDING A DIRECTION" First CHE Activists Conference, ULU, Maint St, WC1. 10am Saturday 20 July 1974. Datails 01-689 6723 or 061 226

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Calling all lonely gays. Postal introduc-tions arranged, all areas. Confidential, discreet. SAE Dorothy Sanger, Dept 14, 1388 Pogmoor Road, Pogmoor, Barnsely, Yorkshire.

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Ex-matelol, serly thirtles, narcissistic without cause, enjoys posing for amateur photographers. Studio flat WJ. Modest remuneration required. Phone Jeff, 01-486 1734.

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Assion Assistant and a second and a second and a second a

Box 51/147. Professional guy 30s offered room in flat SW6. Share K&B. E9pw. 736 7915

flat SW6. Share K&B. £9pw, 736 7913 evenings. Nice double bedsit to let to two girls in Hampton Court, 20 mins from London. 57.50 each. Phone 01-203 4961. Young householders need young gay male share house, expenses. Phone 361 1948 evenings. Nottingham, 26 year old offers room for overnight stop to lorry driver/motor-cyclist in modern house, masculine guys only. Box 51/148.

### Holiday Accommodation

10p per word. No Box Number

service available

service available. Bournemouth say & homely B&B £1.90. 0202-25284. Near Hastings, quiet farmhouse, B&B, phone evenings 042 484 281. All male gay guest house Southsea, full or part board. Ring Portsmouth 811246 for brochure. Warm welcome at Wember Hotel, 19 Warwick Road, London SW5, phone 01-373 9950. Reasonable prices. St lves. Old Cornish cottage near beach. B&B. Tele: St lves 7626. Brighton licensed small hotel. B&B from £2. Tel: 0273 67710. Court Craven Hotel, 2 Atlingworth Street, Brighton. Craven Hotel, 2 Anneworth Stream Brighton. Cornwall. Olde Worlde cottage seconds from baaches. B&B E2. St lives 7672. Georgian manor house in deep country near Bath offers weekend accommoda-tion. Also longer periods. 022 16 3299.

Torbay, Devon. Accommodation avail-able (bachelor household), bed and breakfast from £2, dinner optional. Paignton 55118.

#### Employment

10p per word. No Box Numour

10p per word. No Box Number service available Goodlooking young males with wood physiques urgently required for nude modelling, studio/publication work. Good rates. 01-328 5757. Young guy 25 seeks part time evening work. Phone 575 5973. Male nurse needs cash, any lob con-sidered, on off duty. Box 51/69. Young say cook required for gentleman's household, isle of Man. Live in, all found, as one of family. 21500 per annum. Photo please. Box 51/70. Male 30 works in City, seeks domestic duties one hour each weekday evenings. Barbican or City preferred. Box 51/71. I can offer business acumen, tenacity, sales record, friendly but professional service, zost for living, non-camp, mobility, Alfa Romeo etc. Anyone interested in a fashion salesman (26) (currently £4000 but happy job now more important). Please contact Box 51/72. Attractive young man, axperienced in commerce/modelling, seks unusual/ rewarding position in London area. Anything legal considered. Box 51/73. Young man, 21, needs rewarding part-time work. Richard 402 6496. Attractive young man, 30, experienced welter, seeks an Interesting job with some responsibility, in catering preferably. Anything considered. Box 51/74. West End/West London. 27, fair, silm, seeks evening bar/club work. But anything considered. Box 51/75. Discreet, non-effeminate actor/planist under 40. Small Lancs Cor no fortunes made photo & details with see. Box 51/76. With-fit young guy required to learn mins fashion hair styling. Teit 435 re available

<ul> <li>Morth London guy, 23, attractive, seeks friends into leasthar, especially motor-cyclists, Box 51/97.</li> <li>Guy, 27, hair thinning, seeks guy 21-28 for listing friendship, London. Interest pop and classical music, art and antiques. You must be slim, ionghaired, non-turnable, ALA, write Box 51/98.</li> <li>Young Italian 28, shy, ionely, seeks active friend 24-34, hopefully for life. Sincerity essential, Genuine replies with photopieses. Box 51/101.</li> <li>Derby Buy. youthful 28, sincere, ionely, seeks with indian friend 21-30, any-where, for visits, correspondence, triend ship. Fond soul music, travel etc. Photo S1/103.</li> <li>Alter' you replied to Box 44/95 but did not include your address. Piease write Box 51/104.</li> <li>Classified and Display Ads: The box number service is not available to commercial advertisers. Where discovered, literature advertising commercial enterprises will not be forwarded to box numbers. SEMI-DISPLAY (Boxed Classifieds in bold type) £1.50 extra. ALL ADS MUST BE PREPAID. DISPLAY AD RATES-prices quoted on request; contact Ad Manager Stuart Patterson.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>direr goodlooking 21* for friendship, Box 51/154.</li> <li>Attractive young man, 26, wishes to meet goodlooking well built motor- cyclist for friendship. Photo essential. ALA. Box 51/155.</li> <li>Guy, late 201, seeks non-effeminate friend 21-30, South Lances area, varied interests. Box 51/156.</li> <li>Lonely gay porter, 35, seeks male gay 21-35 for friendship. Box 51/157.</li> <li>Non-camp, attractive 38 seeks active friends 21-40, London. Box 51/158.</li> <li>Mandsome, Ionely 24 seeks lasting friendship with someone 21-30 London/Ayles bury area. ALA. Box 51/156.</li> <li>Bop with green ayes, 23, considered vary good looking, intelligent but quiet, seeks werm and loving friendship with attrac- tive young Londoner 21*. Photo helps. Box 51/181.</li> <li>Box 51/182.</li> <li>Lonely, 42, Essx, seeks intelligent youngs man 21*, non-effeminate, for friendship, leisure activities. Photo please, ALA, Box 51/163.</li> <li>SES/SET7 guy mid twenties interested functors elsewhere for friendship.</li> <li>Photo please, ALA. Box 51/163.</li> <li>SES/SET7 guy mid twenties interested functors elsewhere for friendship.</li> <li>Photo please, ALA. Box 51/163.</li> <li>SES/SET7 guy fid twenties interested functors elsewhere for friendship.</li> <li>Photo please, ALA. Box 51/163.</li> <li>SES/SET7 guy fid twenties interested functors elsewhere for friendship.</li> <li>Photo please, ALA. Box 51/163.</li> <li>SES/SET7 guy fid twenties interested functors station and the set and the set and functors friends. London, Oxford, Midlands area. ALA. Photo appreciated. Bor fighter moy 23. shorts enthusisst. Berninghem boy 23. shorts enthusisst. Berninghem boy 23. shorts enthusisst. Berninghem boy 23. shorts enthusisst.</li> <li>Birnier, ALA. Box 51/167.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Marbie of herse foulds in Brighton with three otherse four room, if facilities. Edgw. Available August, Box 51/80.</li> <li>Marbie Arch, quiet discreet maie offered or norm, comfortable house, plano, comfortable house, plano, comosticated in norsmoker. In regular day job preferred. (Spw. Box 51/81.</li> <li>Male, 38, reliable, sober, non-smoker, seeks self-contained accommodation, preferably uniturnished in London area. Box 51/82.</li> <li>Two bedroom unfurnished flat required Action professional course for a sector of the sector of</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Discreet, non-effeminate actorypianist under 40. Small Lancs Cor no fortunes mader photo &amp; details with see.</li> <li>Box 51/76.</li> <li>With-it young suy required to learn men's tashion hair styling. Tei: 435 5020.</li> <li>Peckham house requires cleaner 6 hours weekly evenings 01-732 6724.</li> <li>Attractive trendy young guys required as models by London amateur photo- grapher. Photos strictly for private study.</li> <li>Generous expenses paid. Students welcome. Photo A details, phone no please. ALA. Box 51/77.</li> <li>Pannist urgently required. Must be good reader to accompany cabaret, odd dates.</li> <li>The Pan Club, Luton. Luton 414344.</li> <li>I have E1000 to invest in a small public house partnership in Birmingham. Any offers. Box 51/95.</li> <li>Attractive young accountant seeks evening/weekend work as accountant/ bookkeeper/club manager. Francois 286 3127 between 6pm and 10pm.</li> <li>Roadle, 22, 4 years pro, ace PA, double acc lights, now finishing major tour, seeks work. 1 gig or world tour.</li> <li>Box 51/141.</li> <li>Attractive well-built young man available for nude modelling, parties etc. Pieses reply. 1 need the bread.</li> <li>Phone number appreciated. Box 51/142.</li> <li>London photographer requires good looking young males. Traveiling in North during August. Good fee. Write with photo. BM-Box 51/143.</li> <li>Photographer seeks young models.</li> <li>Send recent photo etc. Box 51/150.</li> <li>Do you want to model? Are you young and boyish looking? Then write to Bob with recent photo etc. Box 51/150.</li> <li>Do you want to model? Are you young and boyish looking? Then write to Bob with cecnt photo etc. Box 51/150.</li> <li>Do you want to model? Are you young and boyish looking? Then write to Bob with cecnt photo etc. Box 51/150.</li> <li>Part-time houseby offered country home. Strict household. Own lob day: time. Cheshier. Ring 027-074-368 evenings.</li> <li>Young male student requires a</li></ul>	Ab per word No Bax Number since evaluation ONLY The X-ceptionalfill Super-Buckst All Black issuel 10xA, 62. Super-Studs No. 1 A2, 61.50 eech. Formosusi Nos 1 A2, Manifiquel Nos 1 A2, 61 eech. Friendsi (All duaisi) 61. Coit Album, 53. Tom Album, 53. Homo-Erait 5 catalogues of magazines, X-ceptional Foto A Colour Silde Sets, movies etc: Only Above Average Models. John S Barrington, 86 Castelinau, London, Sw13. No caliers plass. By Studio, 44 Earls Court Road, London, Vie. Photo-sets, leatherwer, 35m colour sildes. Catalogue 30. Mouthwatering magazines; Scopt Sets or Stock. Come and browse around. Muthwatering magazines; Scopt Nondey. Wednesday and Tridays. 10-20m Saturdays. "Set Provide Addition of the Sets, movies etc: Mouthwatering magazines; Stond sets to Johnn, BM/FBdH, WCLV 6XX. Books, magazines, photos and sildes available from our comprehensive rance of stock. Come and browse around. Muthwatering and accessories range from Productions, 84 Nunhead Growe, Paccham, SE15. Open 9-6pm Monday. Wednesday and Tridays. 10-2pm Saturdays. "Set Bease to Box 30, 30 Stoney Knotl, Bury New Road, Salford 7, Lancs. Lasther clothing and accessories rade intersting catalogue. Black cotton they New Road. Salford 7, Lancs. Lasthere clothing and accessories rades interesting catalogue. Black cotton the street. London, Ecta 7,3. Middle Street, London, Ecta 7,3. Middle Street, London, Fei available De OP desasntries (Regd), GNA7. Starkers", "streakers", "jockkoks" and sector wisits weicome. 370 6925. Model visits weicome. 370 6925. Mice, 21, qualified masseur, 289 2753. Mice, 21, qualified masseur, 280 6925. Mice, 21, qualified masseur, 580 571. Mice, 21, qualified masse
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### General Information **GAY GROUPS** SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

--CHE POETRY GROUP meets the last Friday of every month at 8pm above the Lamb & Flag on Rose St, W2.

BENEFIT DISCO FOR CHE ACTIVISTS—Saturday 20 July, 8pm till late at University of London Union, Malet Street, WC1. All welcome.

-GAY WOMEN'S DISCO-Gay Com-munity Centre, 78 Raliton Road, Brix-ton, starting on Fri 12 July and every Fri after that at 8.30.

-OUTDOOR INTERESTS (cycling, hill walking, camping etc)? London area group forming. Phone or write CHELIC. 22 Great Windmill Street, 01-437 7363.

- GLF-Prince Albert, corner of Wharfe-dale Road and York Way, N1. Disco Tues, Fri and Sat. Adm 15p.

#### GAY WOMEN

GAY WOMEN -CAMBRIDGE GAY WOMEN'S GROUP Datails write Alison, c/o Last Exit Bookshop, Mill Road, Cambridge or Tel: 64757. -EDINBURGH GAY WOMEN'S GROUP Details contact Ms M Laurie 4/15 Hallesiand Park, Edinburgh. -MOMOSE XUAL WOMEN are welcome in CHE. Find out more about CHE groups at 22 Great Windmill St, London W1. Tel: 01-437 7363. -LEEDS GAY WOMEN'S GROUP meet every Wed at the Vladuct Pub, Lower Briggate, Leeds. Contact Jane and Jenny, c/o 9 Roundhay Grows, Leeds 8. -LESBIANS come together in London every Monday and Friday. Details Pauline or Sally, 01-336 4654. -MANCHESTER GAY WOMEN'S 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 Mon each month Lefo about themus please write to -SAPPHO Meets every first Mon each month. Info about venue please write to BCM/PETREL, London WCIV 6XX enclosing sae. Your letter must reach BCM/PETREL by first post Tuesday before first Monday to be informed in time. Sappho 40p inc postage for single copies.

WOMEN'S LIBERATION WORKSHOP Wingsgate Place Women's Centre, 1 Kingsgate Place, London W6. Open Mon-Fri 10,30am-10,00pm.

Girls. Are you pleasant to talk with? Worl with us at Gay Switchboard, 01-837 7324, 6-10.30pm.

#### **GAY GROUPS**

-BATH GAY AWARENESS GROUP Info from PO Box 86, Bath BA1 2YQ. -COMMUNITY-Wa are now running a group for bisexuals on Monday nights. Rind Community at 01-485 2136 or 01-586 3545.

01-586 3545. —SOCIAL WORKERS—Join recently formed Gay Social Workers Group. For information contact Robert Longley, 154 Haworth Road, Heeton, Bradford. —WIMBLEDON AREA GAY SOCIETY (WAGS)—Provides a friendly group for focal gays. Details through Gay Switch-board, 01 637 7324.

-CARDIFF COMMUNITY CONCERN-Information and Rights Service, Ring Cardiff 397202 weekdays 10.30-6pm.

Information and Rights Service. Ring Cardiff 397202 weekdays 10.30-6pm. -KENT GAY INFORMATION-160 Faversham Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kant. -OPEN UNIVERSITY GAYSOC-Sunday July 21 midday. Meeting at Clock Tower, Notlingham. The event is a ramble around unspecified Notting-hamshire countryside and will be followed at 7pm by a meel at La Chic. For directions or more details contact Chris, Notlingham 260913. -CAMBRIDGE INTEGROUP-Gay/ Straight integration. Tel: Cambridge 64599, John. -CMALLENGE is a social group for homosexuals over 21. Meets weekly. Ring 01-567 5085 for the number of the member on dity. -COVENTRY GAY GROUP meets fortnightly every Tues 8.30pm in Rose & Crown, Migh Street, Coventry. -FELLOWSHIP IN CHRIST THE LIBERATOR Details: FCL, c/o 61 Earls Court Square, London SW5. -GAY COMMUNITY CENTRE OF SOUTH LONDON. Coffee Bar, books, papers and people. Open 7.11pm Mon-Fri, 11-11pm Sat, 2-11pm Sun. 78 Railton Road, London SE24 (Brixton tuba). Tel: 01.274 7291. -GAY CAMBRIDGE a young GLF/CME group covering both the town and the university. Contact Bernard Greaves, 29 John Street, Cambridge. Tel: Cambridge 52661. -GAY LIBBARIAN GROUP SAF to

HARROW GAY UNITY for info ring John or Dennis at 863 5717. MANCHESTER TAO contact Mr B and Mill L Stotherd, 167 Withington Road, Wheily Range, Manchester 16. Meet every Sun at 7pm. -NORMH EASTERN GAY ALLIANCE has information and a newsletter available from NEGA, 24 Dipton Ave, Newcastle-on-Tyne, NE4 8DT. -NORWICH CENTRE GROUP details Pater Bishop, Fiat D, Oak House Trowse, Norwich, Norfolk, NOR 01W, or tel: North Waisham 2628 (Bill). -OXFORD GAY ACTION GROUP Oxford 45301 between 7.3pm. Meetings every Sun at 7.30 in the Stage Club, George SI. -REACH a nationwide homophile group of members of Christian churches. Reach, 27 Blackfirlars Road, Man-chester 3.

Reach, 27 Blackfriars Road, Man-chester 3. STAFFORDSHIRE TAO contact Ms Julia Tonner, Director TAO Europe, 51 Scrimshaw House, Pieck-Walsall, Staff. --TRANSPORT ENTHUSIASTS GROUP Monthiy events London area, Details tel: 01-402 8053. --YOUNG GAYS meet once a week around central London at the CHE Youth Group. Tel: Chris 01-673 2703.

**COUNSELLING /** 

### BEFRIENDING

-CENTRE-For men and women, Tel: 01-262 9959 or 01-723 589 for counselling and advice on medical, venareal, legal, psychological, religious, alcohol, family or general problems; Monday to Friday between 10.30am and 10.30am or call in at our offica and coffee bar at Centre, Broadley Terrace, London NWI. Nearest tube Marylebone. Our social club is open every evening, the Disco is every Fri at 8pm-midnight. For full programme send sae.

For full programme send sae. ALBANY TRUST-18 Corsica St, London N5 1JN. Tel: 01-359 7019. BRISTOL GAYSOC BEFRIENDING GROUP for all Bristol students with problems or worries. Contact Jo, Gaysoc, Students Union, Queens Road, Bristol BS8 1LN. 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, BAI 2YQ.

-FRIEND helps homosexual men and women who are lonally, frightened, have a problem or are in trouble. For help contact your local group at: NORTH-WEST ENGLAND MANCHESTER-PO Box 427, Spring Gardens, Manchester M60 2EL. Tel: 061-225 0058 or 061-445 9629 (both evenings).

Oct-225 OD38 OF OCT-445 9629 (Doin evenings). -MERSEYSIDE-Tel: 051-708 9552 7pm to 10pm. Postal Address/callers by appointment only, 14 Colquitt Street, Liverpool L1 4DE. NORTH-EAST ENGLAND -BRADFORD-PO Box 47, Bradford, west Yorkshire BD1 5YZ. -LEEDS-c/o 44 Earls Court Road, London W8. -SHEFFIELD-PO Box 107, Sheffield, South Yorkshire S1 1EJ. -TYNE/TEES are-Box A16, 133 Great North Road, Gosforth, Newcastle 841401 or Newcastle 33544 (evenings). MIDLANDS -WEST MIDLANDS-161 Corporation Street, Birmingham 4, west Midjands. Gail at Carrs Lane Counselling Centre, Birmingham, Thursdays 7-9pm. WALES -CARDIFF-58 Charles Street, Cardiff. Call on Tuesdays 7, 30-9pm.

Birmingham, Thursdays 7-9pm. WALES -CARDIFF-58 Charles Street, Cardiff. Call on Tuesdays, 7.30-9pm). Tel: Cardiff 44441 (Tues 7.30-9pm). EAST ANGLIA -CAMBRIDGE-c/o 54 Mill Road, Cambridge. -NORWICH-PO Box 3, North Waisham, Norfolk. GREATER LONDON & HOME COUNTIES -LONDON-47 Church Street, London NW8. Call on weekday evenings, 7.30-9.30pm. Tel: 01-402 6750 weekdays, 7.30-9.30pm. SOUTH-EAST ENGLAND -CROYDON-Second floor, 53 High

-CROYDON-Second floor, 53 High Street, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR4 8RW, Callers Sundays 2,30-4,30, Tell 01-688 520 Fri evenings 7,30-9,30 or in emergency 01-688 1079 other times.

In emergency 01-688 1079 other times. —SALISBURY AND SOUTHAMPTON-Solent Friend, Write in confidence to Solent Friend, Write in confidence to Solent Friend, PO Box 10, Salisbury. —BRISTOL Help and Info. Sand SAE to Confidential Friend, CHE, Bristol, PO Box 171, BS99 7ND. —SUSSEX—9 Brunswick Square, Brighton, Sussex. Tel: Brienton 61664 Friday evenings 8.00-10.00pm. 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 weekdays 7.30-9.30pm.

-NUTSHELL INFORMATION SERVICE phone Birmingham 772 2483, 24 hours every day (ask for Nutshell as we share a line with St Basils Centre). -FEMALE ICEBREAKERS welcome all gay women for a chat and coffee every other Fri. Tei: 01-692 5070. --ICEBREAKERS at 274 9590 between 7.30 and 10.30 every evening of the year to talk over their problems with other gay people. -PARENTS ENQUIRY, Write to Ms -PARENTS ENQUIRY, Write to Ms

befriending society can be contacto writing to CARA, Gay Liberation Society, Students Union, Queens University, Belfast.

Ads & Info

**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. -ABERDEEN. Contact Denis Wilson, 0224 20576.

-GLASGOW, Contact John Wallace, 041 882 3536. Women contact SMG Women, 214 Clyde St, G1 4JZ. -CARLISLE. Contact National Office. -INVERNESS. Contact John Matheson, 5 Castle St.

-EDINBURGH-Contact Ian Dunn, 031 667 7473. Women contact the Secretary, c/o VOC, 11 St Colme St, Edinburgh EM3 6AG. Berlinending to tact 031 229 3527 Weds Sats & Suns only 6-9pm.

-ST ANDREWS-Tel: 933481 3914. DUNDEE Contact Len McIntosh, 0382 452433.

#### **GAY LIBERATION FRONT**

-GLF INFORMATION-Although the office is closed, all postal enquiries concerning GLF should still be sent to 5 Catedonian Road, London N1. GLF GROUPSI -ADULT EDUCATION GROUP-Meets every Thurs 8pm at Talma Road, Brixton SW2.

S Caledonlan Road, London NI. GLF GROUPS: -ADULT EDUCATION GROUP-Meets every Thurs 8pm at Taima Road, Brixton SW2. -BANGOR-Group now forming. If you live in North Wales, please contact Simon Deintol Road, Bangor, Caerns, Nr Wales. -BI RMINGHAM-021-643 0996. Peace Cantra, 18 Moore Street, Queensway. Weekly free discos every Wed at Internet Wales, please contact BRISTOL GAY AWARENESS GROUP-New group forming. Dataits from Don Milligan, 10 Victor Road, Bradford 9. -BRISTOL GAY AWARENESS GROUP-New group forming. Contact Eddie Cherrie, 10 Fairfield Rd, Mont-palier, Bristol 6. -CHESTER LE STREET-Contact win Mike Barnes, 1 Fenwick Terrace, Jasmon, Newcastik-upon-Tyne 2. -DURHAM-Contact Sam Green, 41 The Avenue, Durham City. -GAY WOMEN'S LIB (North London)-Meets at the Crown and Woolpack, 397 Si Johns St, ECI (Angel tube), 8pm Mon. -LANCASTER-Meets on Weds at 7.30 upstains at the Farmers Arms. Contact 14 Hope Street, Lancaster. -LEEDS-Office open Mon-Fri, 7.30-9.300m at 153 Woodhoute Lane, Leeds 2. Ring 39071 ext 57. Meetings every Fri Bpm at Trades Council Hall, Upper Fountain St, Leeds. -MANCHESTER-Meets every Wed at 178 Oxford Road 8pm. Contact John Asn, 1 Hunts Road, Irian o' the Heights, Sufford, Ring 061-736 2045 or ring Gary 061-434 2019. -NEWCASTLE-Meets every Wed at 178 Oxford Road 8pm. Contact John Asn, 1 Hunts Road, Jrian o' the Heights, Sufford, Ring 061-736 2045 or ring Gary 061-434 2019. -NEWCASTLE-Meets every Wed at Bpm in the Golden Fleece pub, Mariborough Crescent. -SOUTH LONDON GLF-Bixton Gay Community Centre, 78 Railton Rd (No 2 Dus, 5 Inis Bristion tube and BR], Mon-Fri 7-11pm, Sats 11-11pm, Sun 2-11pm. General meetings every Tuesday 8.300m. Teil 01-274 7921. Discos held atternate Street, Brighton. Contact Secretary Doug Coupe, 40 Ashford Rd, Brighton. -WARWICK UNIVERSITY GLF-Meets forminghtly on Tues 8pm in Rootes Hell. Univ of Warwick, Coventry, Contact 9 Stanley Road, Coventry or ring Coventry 76008. -GLF Glad To Be Gay badges and G

GLF Gled To Be Gay badges and GLF bacges, 13p post free, to 5 Caledonian Road, N1.

#### CAMPAIGN FOR

HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY

There are over 70 local groups. For details and membership information contact their offices at: 28 Kannedy Street, Manchester M2 4BG. Tel: 051-228 1985. Or contact London Information Centre, 22 Great Windmill Street, W1. Tel: 01-437 7363 Mon-Fri 6-10pm and Sat mid-day to 7pm. You can rings tome groups direct at the

6-10pm and Sat mid-day to 7pm. You can ring some groups direct at the numbers below: BATH-Bath 5013 (Norman), or Midsomar Norton 413465 (Angela). -BLACK COUNTRY-Meets 10th and 25th of each month. For info call Murray, Wolverhampton 28379 or Wynn, Wal-sall 34290. -BLACKPOOL-This new group can be contacted through the Manchester office. -BOURNEMOUTH-Bournemouth 24842, Laurie. -BRIGHTON-Brighton 778025, Mai-colm, or Brighton 732550, Roland. -BRISTOL-C/0 Trevor Locke, 33

-BRISTOL-c/o Trevor Locke, 33 Pembroke Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8 3BE.

CAMBRIDGE-Cambridge 52661,

-CARDIFF-Meets every Mon at 7.30pm In Chapter Arts Centre, Market Road, Canton, Cardiff 498195, Mike. -CHILTERNS-High Wycombe 39321, Haydn.

-CORNWALL-C/o National Office. -COVENTRY-Meets first Thursday of every month in the Toy Museum, Much

ME DWAY (Rochester) - Medway 361576, Ken or George. - NEWPORT (MON) - via Mike Bevan or Richard Dymond, 36 Lianthewy Road, Newport, Mon. Meets 1st and 3rd Tues each month at Bpm at this address. - NEWPORT - Meets fortnightly in Newport Civic Centre on Tues at 8pm. Gay girls most welcome. GN on sale. - NORTH LONDON GROUP-272 8523, Ivor.

Page 19

Thursday 8pm In meeting Room 4, Union Building, Oxford Road, details Gord 061-225 9779. – NORWICH GAYSDC contact Peter Thomas, Gaysoc, University of East Anglia, Norwich, Nor 88C. Regular meetings every Thurs 7.30, University House, Room 1.32. – READING UNIVERSITY GROUP FOR HOMOSEXUALS. Details RUGH, Students Union, Whiteknights Park, Reading, Berts

Students Union, Whiteknights Park, Readino. Berks -SALISBURY-Richard Kirker, Salis-bury and Weils Theological College, 19, The Close, Salisbury, Wilts. -SMEFFIELD GAYSOC. Write to Societies Pigeon Holes, Students Union, University, Western Bank, Sheffield, or ing Sheffield 306930. -SUBDERLAND. Contact Tom Mellish, Students Union, Wearmouth Hall, The Polytechnic, Sunderland, Co Durham. -SUSDERLAND. Contact Tom Mellish, Students Union, Wearmouth Hall, The Polytechnic, Sunderland, Co Durham. -SUSSEX UNIVERSITV. Meets from line to time. Contact through Students University of Sussex, Falmer, near Brighton. -UNIVERSITV OF SURREY. Contact Andy Wilson, Student Pigeon Holes, University of Surrey, Guildford, -WAKEFIELD/BARNSLEY. Bretton Gaysoc now forming, all welcome. Henry Tickner, Bretton Hall, West Bretton, Nr Wakefield, Yorks. -YORK, Contact Javid Hall, Derwent College, University of York, York.

**TRANSVESTITE /** 

TRANSSEXUAL

-TRANSSEXUAL ACTION ORGANISA-TION for transsexuals under therapy only. Contact Angelo Nicol, 01-965 2520. -TRANSVESTITE SOCIAL GROUP. Send SAE to Sem Cash, 10 Hosack Road, London SW17.

-TRANSVESTITE/TRANSSEXUAL GROUP meets every Thursday Born at 76 Gladimuir Road, Archway, London N1 (3 rings), Or write Patricia Sage.

-NATIONWIDE TRANSVESTITE GROUP Now being reformed, Monthly newsletter planned—ideas, suggestions most welcome. Write to c/o 55 Charles Street, Cardiff.

**MISCELLANEOUS** 

<text><section-header>

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 alighted on the while they doe

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

enlightened on the subject than they used to be, it is still true that a lot of

-NORTH LONDON GROUP 272 6325, IV07, -NORTHANTS/BEDFORD-Northamp-ton 22861, Alan; Bedford 53150, Andrew. -NORWICH-Peter Bishop, Flat D, Oak House, Trowse, Norwich, Norfolk NOR 01W. -NOTTINGHAM & DERBY-Write to PO Box 87, Derby DE1 1EN enc SAE. -PRESTON-Preston 59908, Wilf. -SHEFFIELD-PO Box 107, Sheffield S1 1EJ, Meets on 2nd and 4th Tues each month at the Friends Meeting House. -SOUTHAMPTON Meets every Mon-

SOUTHAMPTON Meets every Mon-day. SAE for membership form and newsletter to David Porter, Flat 8, 56 Westwood Road, Southampton SO2 IDP. Further info Southampton 551335. STOKE-Stoke on Trent 25596, John or Mike.

Further info Southampton 551335. —STOKE—Stoke on Trent 25596, John or Mike. —STOKE—Stoke on Trent 25596, John or Mike. —STOKE—Stoke on Trent 25596, John STREATHAM—01-675 2886, Doug. —STREATHAM—01-675 2886, Doug. —STREATHAM—01-675 2886, Doug. —STREATHAM—01-675 2886, Doug. —STREATHAM—01-675 2886, Doug. —SUTH DEVMACCLESFIELD—Can be contacted through Manchester office. —SUTH DEVON—Mects Filest 48716, or Myrtle, Hastemere 51882, or Frank 01-399 7495. —SOUTH DEVON—Meets fortnightly on We at 8pm in Newton Abbot. Contact Manchester Headquarters. —TUNBRIDGE WELLS—Contact Ross Burgess, 42 Napier Road, Tunbridge Weils, Tel: 35690 evenings. —TYNESIDE—Newcastle 677701, Jerry. —WANDSWORTH/RICHMOND—Incor-porating surrounding areas. Meetings twice monthly. Charlie Micklewright, 466 Chartfield Ave, SW15. —WENDSR—51062, Mike. —WINDSR—51062, Mike. —WINDSR—510606, Mike. —WINDSR—

#### GAYSOCS

GATJOUS -BANGOR-Bangor GLF, University College of North Wales, Students Union, Deiniol Road, Bangor, Caerns, LLS7 2TH, Teit 3709 or 2075 Simon del Nero. -BIRMINGHAM-Birmingham University GLF, c/o Students Union, Birmingham University, Edgbaston, Birmingham University, Edgbaston, Birmingham University, Edgbaston, Birmingham University, Edgbaston, Birmingham 15. -BRISTOL GAYSOC is for all young people. Regular meetings on Thurs evenings 7.30, Gramaphone room, Students Union, Info from Secretary, Bristol Gaysoc, Students Union, Queens Road, Bristol BS8 ILN. -CAMBRIDGE-RJ Nash, Gay Cam-

-CAMBRIDGE-RJ Nash, Gay Cam-bridge, c/o 3 Round Church Street, Cambridge.

Simmons. — DIDSBURY GAYSOC Discreet meet-ings arranged. Contact Gay Rep. Students Union, Didsbury College of Education, Manchester M20 BRR. — DURHAM UNIVERSITY GAYSOC. Contact via Students Union, Durneim House, University of Durham, Durham City. — EDINBURGH

-EDINBURGH-University Gay Group, Societies Centre, 21 Hill Place, Edinburgh 8.

Edinburgh 8. -ESSEX UNIVERSITY GAY LIB SOC. Write to University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Cokhester, Essex, -EXETER GAYSOC Info Gay Liberation Society, University of Exeter, Devon-shire House, Stocker Road, Exeter, Devon.

Devon. — GAY LIB SOC—Students Union, Queens University. Meetings Thursday 8pm. Phone Beifast 24803. — 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 WC1.

GAYSOC-For staff and students of the Open University. Write to David McIsan, 26 Mediay Street, Rochdale,

-GLASGOW STUDENTS GAYSOC Contact SMG (Students), 214 Clyde St, G1 4JZ.

-GLASGOW STUDENTS GAYSOC Contact SMG (Students), 214 Ciyde St, G1 4JZ. -KENT UNIVERSITY GAY LIB SOC meets every Thurs evening in Canterbury. Everyone welcome. For details contact Gill Irvin, Keynes Cottage, The Univer-sity, Canterbury. -LAMPETER-Brian Williams, The President, The Students Union, St Davids University College, Lampeter, Cards SA48 7ED. - LEEC-Code Deat. Decident Elect

-LEEDS-Chris Pratt, President Elect, Students Union Office, CLCC Beckett Park, Leeds 6.

-LEEDS-The Gay Liberation Society, Leeds University Union, University Road Leeds 2.

Lancs

-CAROIFF-Linda Barber, Deputy President, UWIST Students Union, North Road, Cardiff. -COVENTRY-Lanchester Gay Soc, The Students Union, Lanchester Poly, Priory Street, Coventry CV1 SFB. Keith Simmons.

university. Contact Bernard Greaves, 29 John Street, Cambridge. Teli Cambridge 52661. -GAY LIBRARIAN GROUP, SAE to GLF, 6 Worthington House, Middleton Passage, London ECI R 1XQ. -FRIENDS HOMOSEXUAL FELLOW- SHIP a gay group for Quakers. Details Michael Hutchinson, 15 Dalkeith Road, Harpenden, Herits ALS 5PP. -EAST OF ALDGATE a social group for gay men and women. Details: SK Group, (/o Albany Trust, 8A Christ- church Ave. London NW6. -GREATER LIBERATED CHICANOS is a gay Latin/Spanish Liberation Move- ment offering help to all gay, bl and straight Latin-speaking people. Write to GLC, PO Box 38216, Los Angeles, California 90038 USA. -GAY CAMBRIDGE (/o 3 Round Church St, Cambridge. -IPSWICH CENTRE GROUP, Details from Charles Almond, 119 Cauldwell	PARENTS ENCOURY, write to mis Rose Robertson, 16 Honky Road, Catford, London SE6 2H2. SWITCHBOARDS INFORMATION Britain's First GAY SWITCHBOARD: 01-837 7324. Every evening 6.00 to 10-30. Your hot-line to the say com- munity. What, when, how, where. PNEW YORK GAY SWITCHBOARD: PO Box 929 Madison Square Station, New York QAY 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 06550, USA. Service free of charge atthough an international reply coupon would be apprecisted.	-COVENTRY-Meets first Thursday of every month in the Toy Museum, Much Park Street, at 8pm. Further information from 45 Runcorn Walk, Walsgrave. Tel: Wal 4336. -CROYDON-01-642 3692. Richard. -ENFIELD-01-688 9A00, Michael. -EXETER-This new group can be contacted through the Manchester Office. -GLOUCESTERSHIRE-Meets regularly in Gloucester and Cheltenham. Contact Glenys Parry, Gloucester (0452) 34862. -HASTINGS-Hastings (0424) 426997, Rick. -HERTS STH-Hatfield 69172, John. -HARINGEY-Meets 2nd Monday of each month. For info send SAE to Fred Oliphant, 25 Kinver House, London N4. -KENT EAST-Thanet 42059, Roger. -EAST LONDON-556 5910, Tony. -LANCASTER-Lancaster 2750.	-LEEDS-The Gay Soc, Leeds Poly- technic Union, Calverley Street, Leeds LS1 3HE. -LIVERPOOL-Mark A Preston, 94 Anfield Road, Anfield L4 OTE. -LONDON-PNL Gay Soc., Polytechnic of North London Students Union, Prince of Wales Road, London NW1. Tim Perrott. -LONDON-The Secretary, Goldsmiths' Gay Soc, Goldsmiths' College Students Union, Lewisham Way, London SE14. -LONDON-The Gay Rights Society, Trent Park College of Education, Cock- fosters, Nr Barnet, Herts. David Dancer. -LONDON-The Gay Soc. University College Students Union, 25 Gorden St, London WCIH 00U. -LOUGHBOROUGH STUDENTS GAY- SOC open to all students and staff of Loughborough colleges. For info ring Peter af Steep 2048.	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 pro- mised 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 corres- pondence will be treated in the strictest - confidence.
Hom Charles Almond, 119 Caldwell Mail Road, Ipswich 1P4 5BN, Tel: Ipswich 70928 (evenings). – JEWISH HOMOPHILE GROUP Info write to Timothy Goldard, BM/JHG, WCI 6XX. – LSE GAY CULTURE SOCIETY.	IRISH GAY LIB MOVEMENT -GAY LIB SOC-Students Union, Queens University, Meetings Thurs 8pm. Phone Bellast 24803.	-LEICESTER-Leicester 706050, Steve, or Leicester 738832, John or Clive. -LEWISHAM, SOUTH EAST LONDON- Call Cheirc, 01-437 7363, Weekly meetings. -LIVERPOOL-PO Box 7, Liverpool L8	NEWCASTLE NCC Open to anyone, including those at Henderson Hall and Ethel's. Contact Judi Hawkshaw, Pigeon Holes, Northern Counties College of Education, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE7 7XA.	ALL GAY WOMEN SHOULD READ
Contact Jeffrey Weeks, 24 Ivor St, Lon- don NW1. Tel: 01-267 0064. Gay Culture Society, c/o LSE Students Union, Houghton St, London W2. The Gay Marxist History Group can also be contacted at this address. —LEICESTER GAY AWARENESS.	-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 Dierdre O'Mara	2XN for info. Group meets 1st Thurs and 3rd Wed each month at Gazebo Coffee Lounge, 21 Duke St, Liverpool L1 at 8pm. LONDON MONDAY GROUP-01-589 6438, David. LONDON, STEPNEY-01-476 7980,	-NEWCASTLE POLY. Contact Gay Rep. Students Union, The Polytechnic, 81 St Marys Pface, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. -NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY. Contact Gillian Moon, 61 Brighton Grove, Fenham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 4.	JAPPHO
Ring Leicester 706050 (Steve) or Leicester 736832 (John or Clive), —MANCHESTER GAY ALLIANCE rewsletter from Side Door, 7 Birch Hall Lane, M13 OXJ. Tel: Gord 061-225 9779.	(Trinity College Dublin Sexual Reform Movement). All these Dublin represen- tatives may be contacted through the Students Representative Council, Trinity College, Dublin, Phone Dublin 772941. —HOMOSEXUAL INFORMATION and	Mike. -LONDON MARYLEBONE-352 9013, Andrew. -LONDON YOUTH GROUP-01-673 2703, Chris. -MANCHESTER-061-445 2889, Derek.	MANCHESTER-The Homophile Society, c/o John Lenton, Side Door, 7 Birch Heil Lane, Longsight, Manchester 13 OXJ. Also Gordon Fryer. MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY HOMOPHILE GROUP meets every	REGULAR MONTHLY MAGAZINE (40p including post) BCM PETREL, LONDON WC1V 6XX

### Police threat closes discos

EDINBURGH: Forty-eight hours before their regular fortnightly disco scheduled for 14 June, the Scottish Minorities Group were informed by the Zetland Halls Committee (the gay discos were held in premises belong-ing to the Shetland Association) that the Leith Police had contacted them and threatened to withdraw the Functions Licence if there were any further distur-bances reported at an SMG Disco.

Earlier this year, teething troubles plus lack of proper at-the-door surveillance, resulted in one or two scuffles. At that time the Gayfield Square Police Station was asked two or three times to keep a friendly eye open in order that trouble could be nipped in the bud. It turned out that the responsible Police Division was the Leith Division, and they didn't see fit to "protect the likes of you" (ie homosexuals).

Interviewed by Gay News, Graham Hamilton, a member of the disco committee, said: "They probably felt that one Queen in town was enough at this time of year." He was referring to Her Majesty's Official Visit this most when the made a said of the said this month when she made a point of praising the Edinburgh Police. Chairman of SMG Danny Mullen has written to Sir John Inch, Chief Constable, asking if he will consent to receiving a three-man delegation from SMG. There has been no response so far, but it is worth pointing out that proper and cordial relations were maintained between SMG and the Central Division when the gay discos were temporarily held in the High Street. Meanwhile all gay discos in Edinburgh have been suspended. Ian Dunn

**Dateline replies to** misrepresentation charges

LONDON: David Butler, General Manger of the computer dating service Dateline, has replied to allegations that his company's advertisements are misleading.

Peter Hughes from Belfast answered such an advertisement, and in response to an invitation to select faces he found most attractive he circled three males. Unperturbed by his choice, the computer picked Paula for him, a twenty year old woman. David Butler told GN that circling same-

sex pics was not an indication that an applicant was gay. He claimed that hetero-sexual males sometimes would include one or two male photos in their choice. Dateline had operated for eight years, he said, and it had established itself as an opposite-sex service. They did not exclude homosexuals specifically in their advertisements because they might one day want to set up a gay operation in addition to their het business. There was no charge for the first sample read-out. If a person wanted to join Dateline,

he or she would have to fill out a six-page questionnaire and pay £11. If it was apparent from the answers to this full questionnaire that the applicar t was gay, both the form and the money would be returned.

### **OU gaysoc rambles**

NOTTINGHAM: The Open University Gay Soc are holding a ramble around the Notting-ham countryside on July 21, this being the first national event organised by them. Ramblers are asked to congregate at the Cock Towner Nottice the state of th

Clock Tower, Nottingham, at midday, and the event will be followed by a meal at La

Chic club in the evening. If you'd like more details, ring Chris on 0602 (Nottingham) 260913.

### Of mice and men

NEW YORK: The rejection of the gay anti-discrimination bill, Intro 2, by the city council recently, brought a rather bizarre protest from one man.

He let loose 24 live mice at a meeting of the council. Not exactly a shriek of protest-more a squeak, squeak!

US gay libber tours Britain

### Norway Metropol opens

OSLO: 'Metropol', the Restaurant and Headquarters of Det Norske Forbundet, opene officially on Friday 5 July 1974. Kim Friele's own words (in a letter to lan Dunn) capture the excitement and spirit of the past few

weeks in Oslo: "This is in rather a hurry I have just moved into my new office. We have just finished the washing, the painting, the buy-ing of new furniture, the rebuilding of our restaurant. We are all very tired but very happy. Now we are an very intervent very work again, as all the preparing for the opening is over . . . after 10 years of work we finally made it and I think we will have more money to do more information-work. Our love and good wishes to Kim and to DNF.

### Do's & Don'ts

### for paranoid hets

LONDON: Rather a nasty piece of journalism appeared in a recent edition of *Weekend*, under the general title of 'How to survive in the city'. It had been adapted from the book

the city'. It had been adapted from the book 'Survival in the City' by Anthony Greenbank The piece about homosexuals is the one that interests us, and this author advises: "Avoid the eyes of anyone of the same sex who keeps looking at you. Don't brush loose hair from your forchead. In some towns it's a sign of willingness. "I arm to second the homosexual's

"Learn to recognise the homosexual's body language so that you do not unwit-

body language so that you do not unwit-tingly give him the signal to make advances. "His smile, he hopes, will make you respond with a gay yawn. "He might suddenly leave his seat and strap-hang in front of you, allowing his knee to bump against yours. If you then say 'it's okay' to his apology, he may think it is a signal to begin rubbing knees in earnest." Yeuch!

### **Drama at Centre**

LONDON: Centre Charitable Trust, which operates as a community centre for gay men and women from its premises at Broadley Terrace, in North London, has a new drama group

This band of thespians, known as the Centre Theatre Workshop, are currently working on a production of 'Charley's Auat' under the direction of Rex Bunnett, and are also preparing for a 'Gay Nineties' evening. The group meets on Thursdays at 7.30.

and new members are always welcome.

### Arson attempt on MCC

LOS ANGELES: The new home of the Metropolitan Community Church in Los Angeles, which cost £130,000, has been put under tight security, following a recent attempt to burn it down.

MCC's former church was razed by an arsonist a year and a half ago, but luckily the three small fires started this time were quickly put out without significant damage. The fire-raiser, described as over six feet

tall and well-groomed, made his escape through a side door. One member of the church gave up chasing the arsonist when he saw that the altar was on fire. Other fires were started under a piano and beneath

#### Fresh as a pansy

LONDON: You can bet your life there were some red faces at the Beeb on July 4. For, during the Wimbledon match between Jimmy Connors and Jan Kodes, the BBC

commentator complimented Kodes on looking fresh as a pansy.

There was a pause, and then he added hastily: "I beg your pardon, I meant daisy." Freudian slip?

### **Big brother is watching...**

PERTH: Men using a cottage in Perth recently got quite a shock - they found themselves on television!

Focussed on them from strategic points were two closed circuit cameras, with a notice explaining: "These premises are protected by anti-vandalism devices in the public interest."

This screening got a mixed reception from cottagers-some smiled, some made rude signs and others were so shocked that they left to look for a loo which wasn't quite so public.

One user felt that it was unfair sex discrimination he had been told that there were no peeping-tom cameras in the women's toilet next door.

A council spokesman explained that the cameras were an experiment. "Any embar-rassment they cause is naturally regretted but this has to be balanced against their value as a deterrent to vandals." He would not may if the cameras were always switched on and who monitored them.

Any of you extroverts who fancy a quick flash on a television screen you now know where to go! But, it's all a bit much ... and we wonder whether vandalism is the real reason for this particular media presentation.

### Welsh murder\_man held

GLAMORGAN: As a sequel to the story which appeared in GN44, in which we reported the brutal murder of Graham Branston, of 21, Vale Street, Barry, Glamorgan, we now learn from Barry police that a man has been charged with the crime.

Detective Chief Inspector Trigg informs us that David Southwell, aged 29, of no fixed address, appeared before Barry Magistrates, on Friday June 5, and was remanded in custody to appear at the Crown Court at a

Southwell, apparently, hails from the Barry area but has spent some considerable time living in London.

Chief Inspector Trigg thanked Gay News for its help in the case—we made an appeal to anyone knowing anything about the murder to contact the police—and assured us that all interviews with people who had information had been made in the strictest confidence.

We will keep you informed as to developments.

### **Russians** oust 'gay' journalists

MOSCOW: Soviet authorities have forced out two British journalists, working in Moscow, "accusing" them of homosexuality with a Russian citizen, as well as misseporting the Soviet scene.

the Soviet scene. The action against Julian Nundy, 27, and Richard Wallis, 25, of the four-man Rester news agency bureau in Moscow, was taken on June 17. Reuters and both reporters deny the Soviet allegations. It is a familiar pattern of Soviet harass-ment of western correspondents working in Russia to link complaints of misreporting with damaging personal innuendo. In official Soviet terms, "misreporting" means revealing aspects of Russian society which the govern-ment would prefer to remain uncovered. Persistent offenders are often warned or

Persistent offenders are often warned or reprimanded about their behaviour and subjected to an officially-inspired whispering campaign suggesting that they are guilty of "sexual misconduct," black marketeering or both.

Reuters said the news agency rejected the criticism of its reporting by its Moscow office, and also fully accepted the denial of gay activities by the two journalists. They scemed to be as worried about what the men did in bed as what they did out on their jobs. Surprise, surprise.

### **Records stolen**

### from GLF centre

LONDON: About 100 single records were stolen from the South London GLF Centre recently, none of which have been recovered. Derek Brands of the Centre told GN that

the theft was not discovered until he went to the premises at 78 Railton Road, SE24, on June 26 in the evening to sort through the records in preparation for a disco. He also discovered that the record playing deck had been put out of action. The police weren't called in over the

incident, but members have a good idea who was responsible.

The records all belonged to GLF-some had been donated, but most had been bought over a period of time.

The theft has not stopped the Centre's popular discos- and the deck has been repaired and members' own discs are being used

### Watching and waiting... in the broom cupboard

NEWCASTLE: As the result of the vigil two vice-squad detectives kept in the broom cupboard of a Newcastle cottage, the Rev B Dodds, of Wallsend, appeared before New-castle Magistrates recently.

He was fined £50 for committing an act of "gross indecency.



tan Dunn

LONDON: Len Richmond, compiler of The Gay Liberation Book, is over here for a short tour of Britain.

Len has made quite a name for himself in the States writing for newspapers and maga-zines, but he is perhaps best known for his weekly half-hour Gay Liberation Show on San Francisco's rock radio station KSAN (see review of The Gay Liberation Follies in GN49). Tapes of the show were played to Malvem delegates at the media workshop meetings.

The tour is being arranged by Jason Pollock, and groups who would like a visit from Len should write to Jason at London Broadcasting, Communications House, Gough Square, Fleet Street, London EC4, or phone him on 01-353 1010 to fix up a date. Len will be illustrating his talks about the US gay scene and gay sexuality with recorded extracts from The Gay Liberation Show

### **CHE in Labour**

LONDON: Three members of CHE spoke to members of Town Hall ward, Brent Labour party, at their June meeting. Their address concerned the pressures on gays from society nd the law.

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### Gay film for students

**MANCHESTER:** Two students at Manchester University are making a film about the problems which face gay students. The 25-minute film will be shown to new students at the start of next term.

Co-directors Andy Boyd and Tony Zalewski, members of the University union film unit, also hope that the film will eventually be shown to sixth-formers with their headmasters' permission. Andy, a drama student, stated: "We

want gay students to feel they ought to be accepted.

The film will include discussions with gay students, random interviews in the street and around the university and short acted-out scenes

"People don't like to stop and look at posters," Andy continued. "We thought a more personal form of advertising was needed for such a delicate subject.

The film has the financial backing of the student unions at the University, UMIST and Manchester Polytechnic. It is hoped that the film, so far untitled, will be circulated to other universities and teacher-training colleges.