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THE MADONNA
INTERVIEW

"I GAVE BIRTH
Like a virgin"

FASHION: FATHER CONRAN'S
LATEST HABIT COLLECTION

REAL LIFE: BRITAIN'S OLDEST
NUN: In 80 years of marriage
she's never looked
at another God

IN DEPTH FEATURES: SEX IS DIRTY
(Except if it makes a baby)

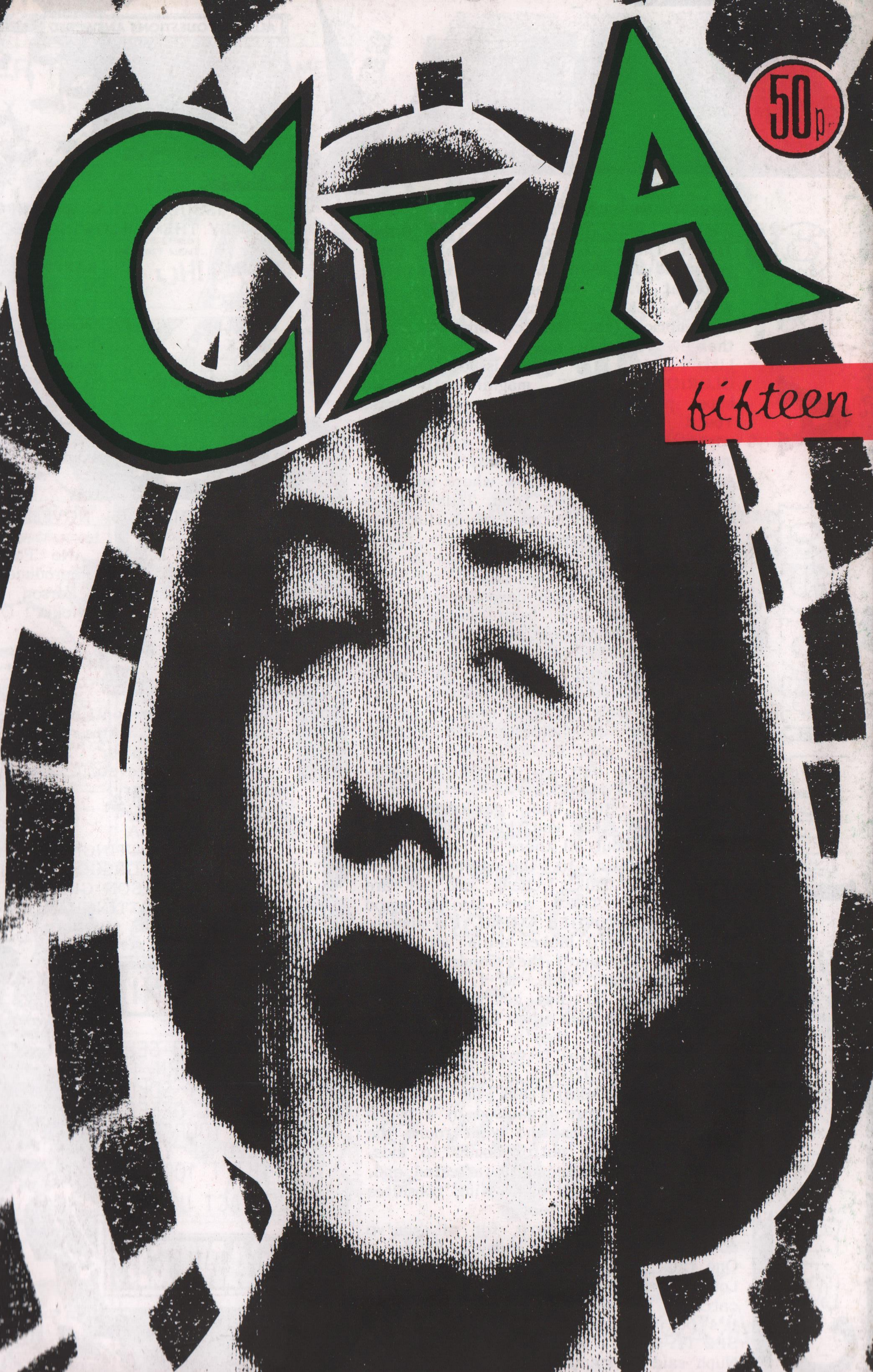
SHARING YOUR HUSBAND WITH
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NEW YORK • MOSCOW • TOKYO • NOTTINGHAM

ALL YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED



50p

fifteen

NEW YORK • MOSCOW • TOKYO • NOTTINGHAM

WELCOME

ARRGH AYE SCALLIES

C.I.A. is three! Three! Three at last! Yes we're three years old and here in our luxurious office suite at N.C.A. we are celebrating with WILD TALK and conspicuous chocolate consumption (call that celebratin'. I call that everyday life, me.).

Like C.I.A. 14 this issue has 32 GLORIOUS PAGES magnificently (we hope) printed by Corby Community Arts. You'll notice too some spiffy new contributors who we would like to see more of in future instalments.

As always, we don't know where our next meal ticket is coming from. This issue is brought to you courtesy of E.M.A. but we've got no reason to believe this'll continue. Since we got our funding for this issue E.M.A. have had a bit of a SHAKE DOWN- people have been fired, a new chairMAN has been installed and anything might happen. WE might have to start touting for adverts. Issue 16: MAC C.I.A! Sponsered by Mac Donalds, perveyors of dung to the masses. I can see it now. Only joking- I think.

Well, Dave of Leicester, (see letters) thinks we've gone FLUFFY, does he? So? If you don't like us, DO YOUR OWN. That's what I always say.

I happen to like gardening and relationships. When you think deeply- as I do- that's about all there is really when you get down to the BEDROCK of EXISTENCE. Talk's cheap and so are potatoes but THEY are also a good dinner AND ANOTHER THING. I'm sick to my pils of eedyit blokes tellin' me I look miserable. Why don't they mind their own fuckin' business. What, am I supposed to CARE? Where do they get off with shit like that? Thinking their comments are appropriate. Well they're not. Eat shit and die TossERS.

AND ANOTHER THING. A reliable source in the North East tells us that the Tyneside riots were organised by a bunch of right wing types who went round the estates dispensing petrol bombs to kids. The kids were subsequently arrested and, needless to say, the right wing gobshites were nowhere to be seen.

Lastly, thanks to Ferrit for all you've done. How can we ever repay you?

One final thing, if you missed Thelma and Louise first time around you can still catch it at an independent or wait til it's out on video but whatever you do, SEE IT. Laff? I almost burst my gladbag. Nuph said to mention Laurie Pikes hairdo so I have.

ALL YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

THIS ISSUE'S C.I.A. WAS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

TAMMY
ILEA
JOYCE
ESTELLE
BRICK
EWA
JOHN CROMBY
BOLSHY BETH
NICK
D.G.R.

KAREN ELIOT
MR MULCH
F.F.A.R.A.G.
DONNA
FERRIT
AARON
DAVE B
NORMAN
SNOPE

C.I.A. NUMBER 15 NOVEMBER 1991

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C.I.A. welcomes contributions, so send us your cartoons, strips, scripts, articles, clippings, samples, stories, reviews, quotes, ideas...etc etc.

Our address is: C.I.A.

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£20 IF YOU
SHIFT 100!!!

CONTACT US NOW!

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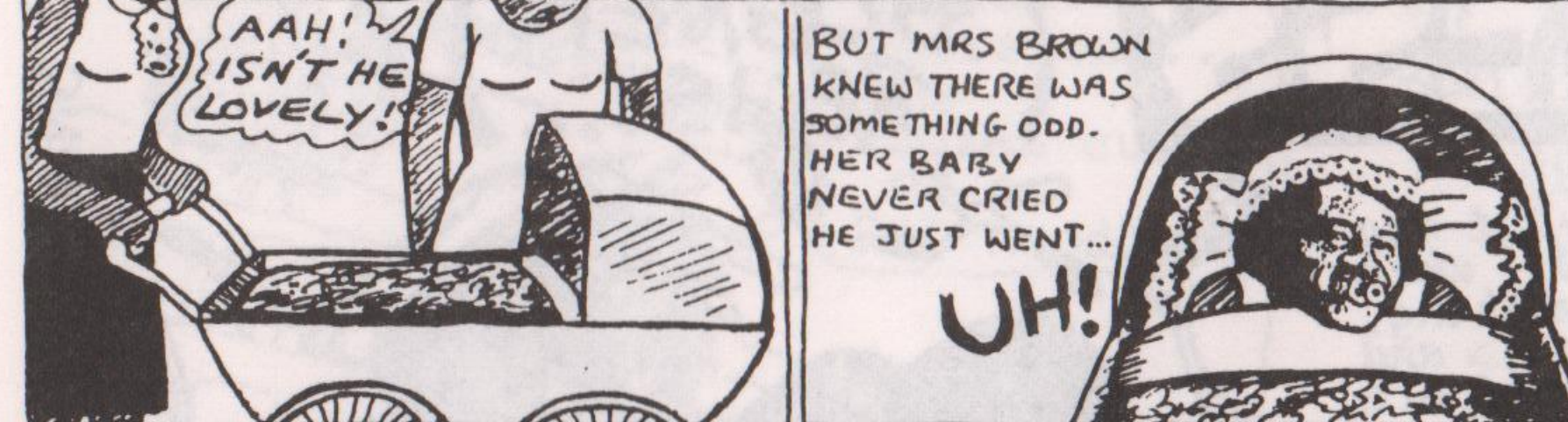
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EAST MIDLANDS

Arts

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO BABY JAMES?
(THE EARLY YEARS OF A SOUL LEGEND)

WHEN MRS BROWN BROUGHT BABY JAMES HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL SHE HAD NO IDEA HE WOULD GROW UP TO BE THE HARDEST WORKING MAN IN SHOWBUSINESS, M.R. DYNAMITE, THE GODFATHER OF SOUL, THE MINISTER OF NEW NEW SUPER HEAVY FUNK AND THE SOUL BROTHER NUMBER ONE ETC ETC....



MENÜ

4 I was a Teenage Butlins Waitress

5 TRASHED

6 ALL YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED?

7 SKATE BUNNIES from Radford

8 Zine Cuisine/Bonnie + Clyde

9. best dayz

10 fresh windows

11 AARRRGKH!! (or why i dont read comics)

12 I.R.E and JUDGE DEAD

13 BRICK NUTS

14 LOVE and Rave

15 SUDS The Return of

16 IN DEFENCE of Thelma & Louise

17 Self Defence Is No Offence

18. Hetero stupid....

19 POLL TAX PAGE

20 COUCH POTATOES

21 home Craft

22+23 Compost Crazy with Mr Mulch

24. SCUM

25. dinnertime/competition

26 STORYTIME

27 BLAH!

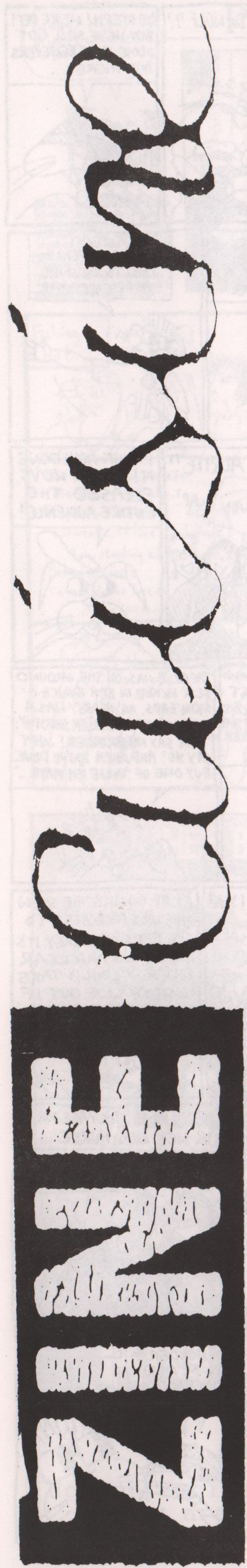
→ 28 91 MOHICAN MAGOO MARQUEE 91

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30 *Letters*

31 BUY STUFF/C.I.A.16

32 BRIDE of christ magazine



OPEN EYE

—A new magazine challenging media censorship—

IES

Aut. Civil War & the Media: 'Secrets', 'Operation Condor', 'Paranoid' by CIA & the drug trade, 'Racism' by 'Nazi', 'Underground' magazine

OPEN EYE £1.20 A4 from Bookmarks, 265 Seven Sisters Road, Finsbury Park, London, N4 2DE.

Open Eye is a very serious, very heavy going new magazine that adopts the role of acting as a forum of communication between people who are "radically questioning our Present society." Edited by John Murray and Matthew Kalman the magazine is based on contributions from mainly young people who in this issue tackle such topics as 'the politics of drugs', 'The cancer business' and 'allegations of NATO involvement in European terrorism. Exposé and in depth analysis are the order of the day here, heartwarming stories and humour are definitely out and although the magazine addresses a range of what are undoubtedly meaty and controversial issues with mind-expanding investigative journalism, it's a pity that there isn't at least one slightly more light-hearted look at our present society if only to let your eyebrows down for a bit. Nevertheless very informative, professional and well produced any contributions in the same vein to be sent to the postal address.

DREGS

100% SPECIAL
BUMPERS 48 PAGES

INSIDE:
- THE FANTASIES OF BABES IN TOYLAND, CHIMARRAS, BOO RADLEYS, CITIZENFISH & OVER 50 OTHERS!!
- FUGAZI: SUBHUMANUS-CARCASS-INTERVIEWS
- 'Paranoid' by CIA & the drug trade
- 'Racism' by 'Nazi', 'Underground' magazine

DREGS 4 65p post paid A5 from Duncan Dregs, P.O. Box 110, Liverpool, L69 8DP.

Well zine reviews would not be zine reviews without at least one punk zine, Dregs has plenty of pages and is full of things such as letters, clippings, a puzzle page with a genuine competition, gossip page, reviews, all the usual stuff, really, but this issue's specialities include interviews with Subhumans, Fugazi and a rather lengthy insight into the sexual fantasies of Babes In Toyland, Boo Radleys, Citizen Fish, Bill Wyman and lots of other people as well, including readers

GIRLFRENZY

ISSUE 1 • ARTICLES AND STRIPS AND NO MAKE-UP TIPS • 90p

...an encounter with an aficionado of pedalling pussy

Cor, Look At Those Calves!

Keep Your Eyes On The Road, SPERM-BRAIN

ALIEN SEX FIEND...
TRASHY AND PORN FROM ALIEN HOLDINGS
COCKROACH NIGHTMARE!
A SCUM AND SEXISM IN COMICS
SEX AND SEXISM IN COMICS
OF OUR COMING AND GOING

The Revenge of BIKE GIRL! — see page 5

GIRLFRENZY 90p A4 from Erica, c/o Girl Frenzy, BM Senior, London, WC1N 3XX

Girl Frenzy is a brand new all women produced magazine and in this first issue the mag addresses a range of subjects which include sexism in comics, an article on 'femcore' and an interesting piece on Valerie Solanas, writer of Scum Manifesto and failed assassin of Andy Warhol. The possibility of an all women magazine appearing as separatist is a problem that is also wrestled with at the beginning of the magazine and the mag on the whole is well put together with a professional layout and a seasoned mixture of cartoons and serious articles.

Always send a stamped address envelope, unless otherwise stated

TV QUICK

Britain's BEST guide to TV, satellite and radio

Plus: The Family Life of the Stars

Plus: The Family Life of the Stars

Plus: The Family Life of the Stars

*** GUEST ZINE SPOT ***
TV QUICK 40p from All good newsagents. And bad ones

TV Quick has gone down a bit. It was a lot better when it first came out, cost only 10p and those really crap adverts were on the telly every five minutes. In those golden days the reviews were much funnier with the writers moaning about the "spurious insanity" of That's Life! and describing My Two Dads simply as "awful American sitcom". Drudgery has set in I suppose, there's only so many laughs to be had from Sons and Daughters after all. Still, TV Quick is the only one that steadfastly rubbishes any programme that doesn't meet it's meticulously high standards and it's got the user-friendliest layout of the lot.

ZINE

... LOOK, BLACK PEOPLE DON'T DO SHIT LIKE THAT! WUTZ THAT SPOSED TMEAN?

WELL, IT'S A WHITE MAN'S RIDE THAT IS... Y'WOT?!

ONLY A WHITE PERSON WOULD BE DUMB ENOUGH TO SUMMIT LIKE THAT... WHADYA MEAN ONLY A WHITE PERSON WOULD BE DUMB ENOUGH...?!

LOOK, ALL I KNOW IS US BLACKS HUNT DO IT. DON'T BE FOOKIN' RACIST!!

I'M NOT BEIN' RACIST... YES Y'FOOKIN' ARE! HOW THE HELL CAN Y'FOOKIN' SAY SUMMIT LIKE THAT?!

I CAN'T BE RACIST, RACISM'S A WHITE MAN'S RIDE INNIT... FOOK OFF!!

LOOK, I'M ONLY JOKIN' ANYWAY... WELL Y'AIN'T FOOKIN' FUNNAY!!

THAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH YOU WHITE PEOPLE... YOU HANT GOT A SENSE O' UMOUR...

WUTZ THAT S'POSED T' FOOKIN' MEAN?!

BEST DAYS OF OUR LIVES?
CREATED BY BUSHY IS
WRITTEN BY: BUSHY & NATHAN
DRAWN BY: SHOPS

I'VE ONE MORE THING TO SAY THEN YOU CAN GO...
BELL'S GONE

THEY'RE SCHOOL HOLIDAY MAD, THEM KIDS!
FANCY COMIN' OUT?
DUNNO, WHERE D'YA WANNA GO?
DUNNO, THEZ NOWHERE TO GO YEAH, O.K.

YEAH BUT WHERE TO?
DUNNO, SUGGEST SUMMAT
THE PARK?

HALF AN HOUR LATER
I'M SURE KATE'S DONE IT YA KNOW
WHAT?
DONE WH... SHIT!
THE WHOLE CLASS IS HERE!

COUPLA DAYS LATER...
NOW LIZ DON'T FORGET YOUR COUSIN'S COMING TODAY
BUT MUM I'M SEEN' LOUISE, WHY CAN'T HE GO WITH OUR CRAIG?
BECAUSE HE'S YOUR AGE, BESIDES, YOU'VE SEEN HER EVERY DAY, YOU COULD TAKE HIM TO THE CASTLE
LATER THAT DAY...
BLAH BLAH NEW MOUNTAIN BIKE BLAH BLAH 3 GEAR BLAH... CLIMB EVEREST ON IT BLAH BLAH... CHROME MOLEY... BLAH BLAH
FOR FUCKS SAKE!!

NEXT DAY...
WHAT'S E LIKE? IS HE GOOD LOOKIN'? NO ES BORIN'
OH WELL, FANCY GOIN' PICTURES? SUPPOSE SO
YOU ON THAT PHONE AGAIN? NO I'M ON THE TOILET
WHAT IF THEZ AN EMERGENCY? WHAT IF Y'GRAN HAS A FALL OR SHE'S BEEN BURGLER?
GIVE US A RING TOMORROW LOU.
AFTER THE MOVIE...
THAT WAS ALRIGHT
BLOODY BORIN' DAY TRIP TO SKEGGAY WITH THE FAMILY
MIGHT BE OK, AT LEAST Y'GETTIN' AWAY
YEAH MIGHT EVEN GET A BITA SUN
NEXT DAY...
CAN'T WE AT LEAST FIND A CAFE AN' AVE A CUPPA, DAD?

THERE'S A PERFECTLY GOOD CUP OF TEA IN THE FLASK ELIZABETH
SO MUCH FOR THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT!
WHAT'S THAT? I SAID I HOPE THERE'S NO SUGAR IN IT
IT WAS BORIN'... ER, SEE YOU AT TEN ROUND MINE
HELLO DAD
FOLLOWING DAY, IN TOWN...
LET'S GO IN THERE WHY NOT?
NO THEY'LL THINK WE'RE SHOP LIFTERS

LET'S GO IN THAT ONE THEN
I WISH I HAD SOME MONEY
NO, WE'VE BIN IN 20 LIKE IT ALREADY
YEAH IT'S BORIN' BEIN' SKINT
DAYS LATER...
PHONIN' Y'BOYFRIEND THEN
SHURRUP! GO AN' PLAY IN THE TRAFFIC
LEND US SOME MONEY AN' I WILL GO ON!
NO! I SAID NO!
RIGHT, I'M TELLIN' DAD Y'R ON THE PHONE
ON THAT PHONE AGAIN?... BIN ON IT EVERY DAY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO PAY THE BILLS... IT'S ALL ITEMIZED NOW Y'KNOW, Y'GRAN IS THE BIG NUMBERS WITH LIZ WRITTEN NEXT TO 'EM YOU'LL PAY IT OUT Y'POCKET MONEY
I'LL END UP ON CENTRAL WEREHEND W'ONE O' THEM KIDS WHO RUN UP A BILL OF A THOUSAND QUID ON TALKABOUT I'LL PUT A LOCK ON IT, THAT'S WHAT!
WHO'S THAT?
JUST DAD, HE'LL BE PUTTING A COMBINATION LOCK ON THE BISCUIT TIN NEXT

THAT'S IT! YOU'RE BANNED!
DAYS LATER...
I'M BORED MUM, WHAT CAN I DO?
WHY DON'T YOU GO SWIMMING? YOU SHOULD GET MORE EXERCISE...
AND YOU CAN TAKE YOUR BROTHER WITH YOU
UR... I CAN'T HE'S... UR... GOT A VERRUCA... THAT'S IT, A VERRUCA
LATER...
JUST WHAT I NEED, A NICE CALM SWIM, SO RELAXING...
AT THE BATHS...
SPLASH!
BACK AT SCHOOL
... AND X EQUALS 2 SINE R BLAH BLAH
ROLL ON END O' TERM



ALWAYS THE REBEL, FLORENCE DECIDED TO TEST MOTHERS THEORY CONCERNING WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN TO GIRLS WHO HANG UPSIDE DOWN FROM BEDROOM WINDOWS.



Inter Racial Relationships Explained



JUDGE DEAD

HE'S IGNORANT AS SHIT.

"THE FATHER HAD BEEN DRIVEN TO ABUSE HIS 12 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER BECAUSE HIS PREGNANT WIFE WAS NOT RESPONDING TO HIS HEALTHY DESIRES...."

HE'S TOTALLY OUT OF IT.

"IN REACHING A VERDICT IN THIS RAPE CASE I WOULD ADVISE THE JURY TO BEAR IN MIND THE EXPRESSION, 'STOP IT, I LIKE IT'"

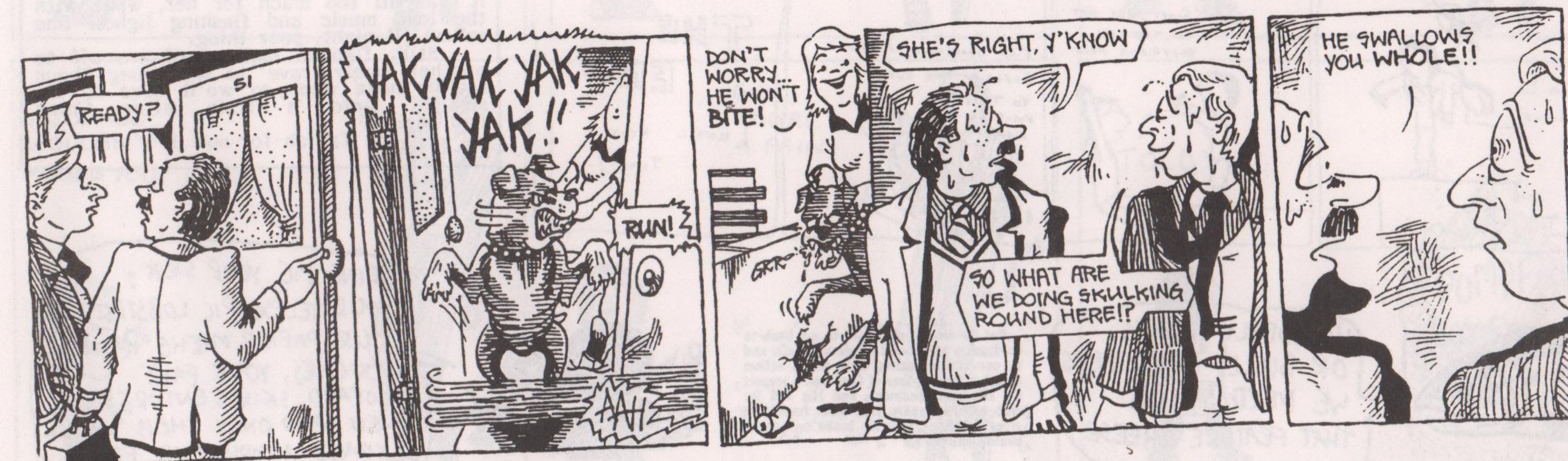
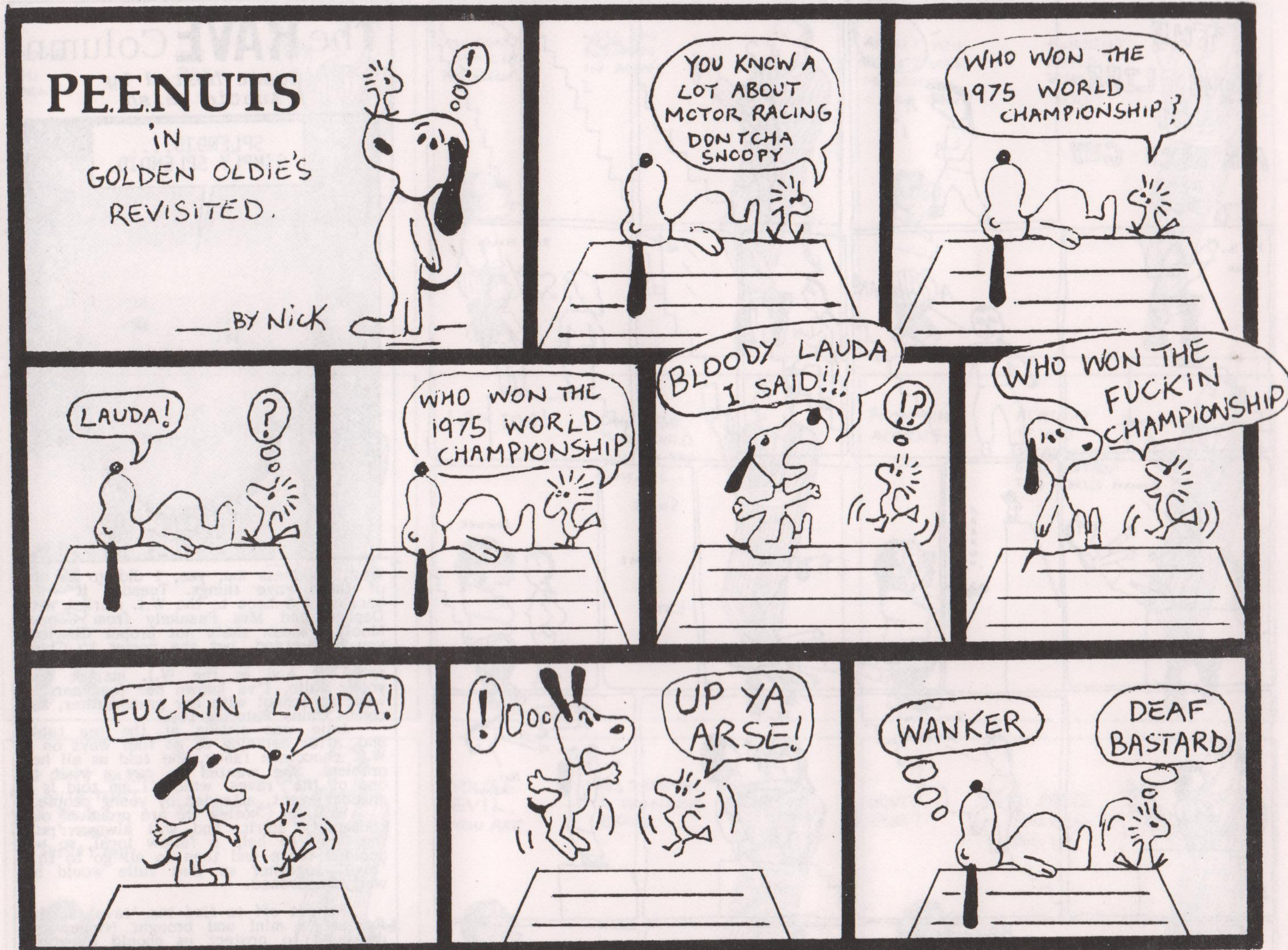
HE'S A STUPID OLD GIT.

"IF YOUR HUSBAND WAS REALLY AS VIOLENT AS YOU'D HAVE US BELIEVE, WHY DID YOU NOT LEAVE HIM AND GO LIVE IN A HOTEL??"

HE'S THE LAW AND HE OUGHTA BE DEAD.

PEENUTS IN GOLDEN OLDIE'S REVISITED.

— BY NICK



THELMA & LOUISE

Thelma and Louise - feminist fascists? Nah. They're just two women who've had a gutful of men and decided to spew up over a few of them.

If you haven't seen Thelma and Louise (the movie) you may not know what I'm on about, so for those of you who missed out, a brief summary; two american women attempt to get away from it all for a weekend. Thelma's husband is a pig. Louise gives more than she gets to a rock musician who sees the relationship side of things as women's work.

Their weekend of freedom goes well until they run into a bloke who won't take no for an answer and decides to rape Thelma in a roadhouse carpark. Louise comes to the rescue with a gun and ends up shooting the man dead. Thelma and Louise know they don't stand even a slim one of convincing the law of the facts so they go on the run. Along the way they hold up a grocery store, intern a state trooper in the boot of his patrol car and terrorise a leering trucker, raising a cheer from the women in the audience when they explode his ego along with his truck. Unfortunately the law eventually catches up with them.

Thelma and Louise hasn't made much of an impact at the box office. There is no merchandise accompanying the film; Thelma and Louise T shirts are nowhere to be seen and, sadly, there are no male trucker dolls for little girls, angered and frustrated by an unbearably oppressive patriarchal system, to pull the arms and legs off.

Thelma and Louise did, however, make an impact on the minds(?) of woolly liberal, middle class males who found the film degrading to their sex. Well, Ha Ha Ha.

For your amusement I will roughly summarise their whinings: one male critic deemed the film guilty of portraying men as 'stereotypes of testosterone-crazed behaviour.' Another critic divined 'an explicit fascist theme wedded to the bleakest form of feminism.'

Not all those who have criticised the film have been men but opinion has been split roughly along the gender divide

Of course we had to expect tedious protestations of 'we aren't all like that' from men who usually are like that, but accusations of fascism? Thelma and Louise aren't ruthless extremists. Every time they shot, incarcerated or came close to incinerating a man they acted in self defence. Now, I'm sure alot of people would dispute my definition of self defence. So what if a trucker gives them a bit of hassle, it doesn't mean they have to blow up his truck, does it? Well when you've had a lifetime of hassle from men, sometimes you do the only sensible thing. You stop waiting until you get home before you get angry. You stop worrying that it might somehow be your fault that you get hassled by blokes in the street and you fight back.

'But meeting violence with violence doesn't solve anything' I can hear them whimpering. Well, in order to defend yourself effectively you have to hit back where it hurts, i.e. if it's a trucker, blow up his truck.

Unfortunately, women defending themselves (and WINNING) doesn't go down too well. Thelma and Louise are persued to the edge of the Grand Canyon by more police than would be needed to arrest the population of

Texas. The women weigh up the odds and decide to go out in style, driving their Thunderbird at full speed over the edge. I guess they didn't fancy a life sentence - the maximum term given to many women who have had the audacity to defend themselves.



SELF-DEFENCE IS NO OFFENCE

For ten long years Kiranjit Ahluwalia was subjected to humiliation and treated like a slave. She was not allowed to go out and see her friends or family. There were strict curbs on her behaviour and ordinary everyday activities. She could not even eat chillies or drink black coffee.

Violence was an everyday occurrence. Her small sons faced it too and were terrified of their father. Kiranjit herself was slapped, kicked and punched. She was beaten with belts, shoes and pieces of furniture. She was raped and sexually abused. She was threatened with knives and hot irons and nearly strangled. So confident was her husband of his control over his wife that he regularly threatened to kill her.

On the 21st of December 1989, Kiranjit Ahluwalia, a 33 year old Asian woman, was convicted of the murder of her husband. When she was tried at Lewes Crown Court, Kiranjit had pleaded not guilty to the charge of murder. Her husband had died of burns after she had thrown petrol at him and set fire to the room.

In law, murder is a premeditated act. If you act in self defence against violence or are severely provoked, or are not responsible for your actions on grounds of insanity, you can plead that you are not responsible for murder. Men who have killed their partners have often used these defences successfully but the courts have been very unsympathetic to women who defend themselves against violence by retaliating.

That a woman may have suffered years of abuse from a violent partner does not count as far as the law is concerned. Such women are not given to sudden, temporary losses of control. If they decide to defend themselves they can't AFFORD to make a mistake.

The law ignores the reality of abused womens lives and worse, punishes them severely if they defend themselves.

By jailing women like Kiranjit Ahluwalia and Sarah Thornton the so called justice system reveals its misogynistic heart. One of the great bastions of patriarchy, it conspires to help insure that women remain, as far as possible, victims.

Those women who refuse to be victims any longer of violent partners will almost certainly become victims of the 'law.' The unspoken law that, if you are female, you must not be allowed to win.



Letters of support for Kiranjit Ahluwalia should be sent to:

Kiranjit Ahluwalia,
c/o Southall Black Sisters,
52, Norwood Road,
Southall,
Middlesex.

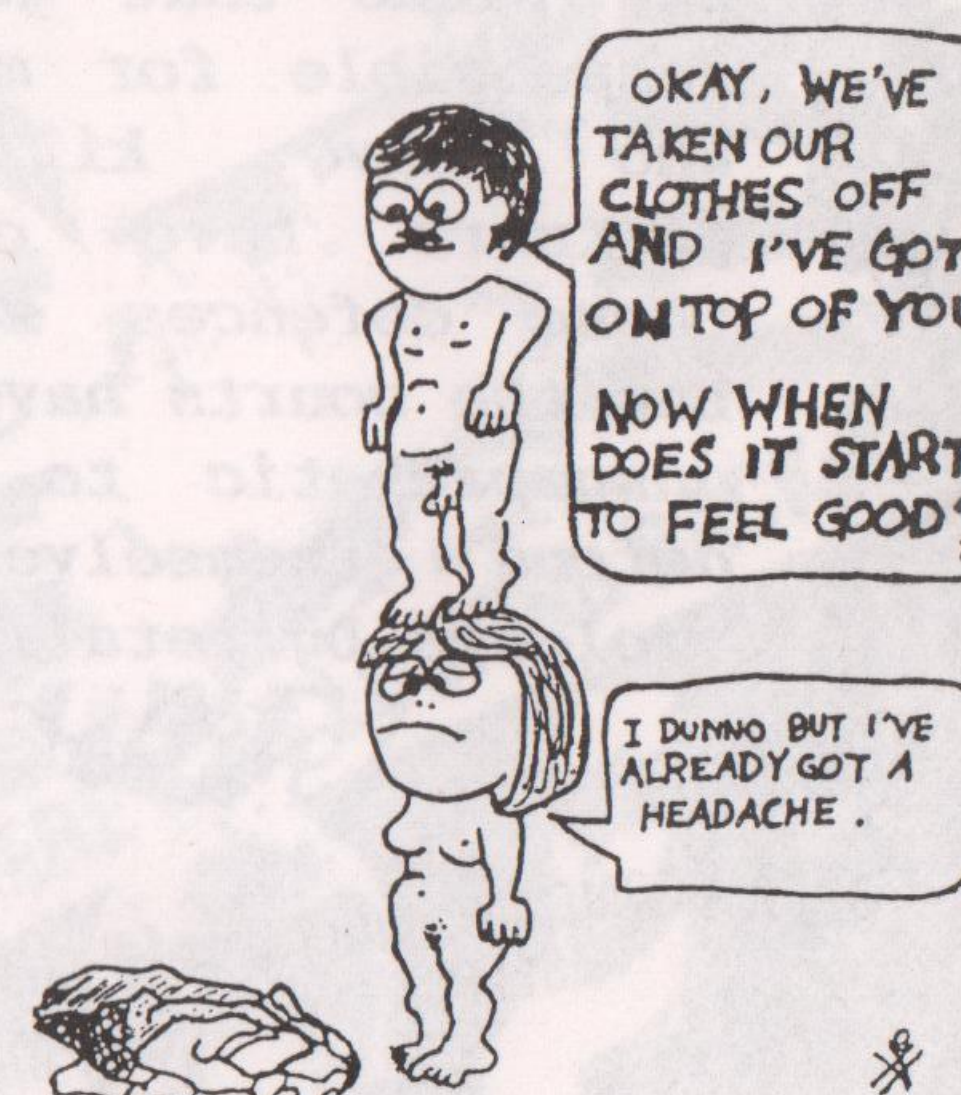
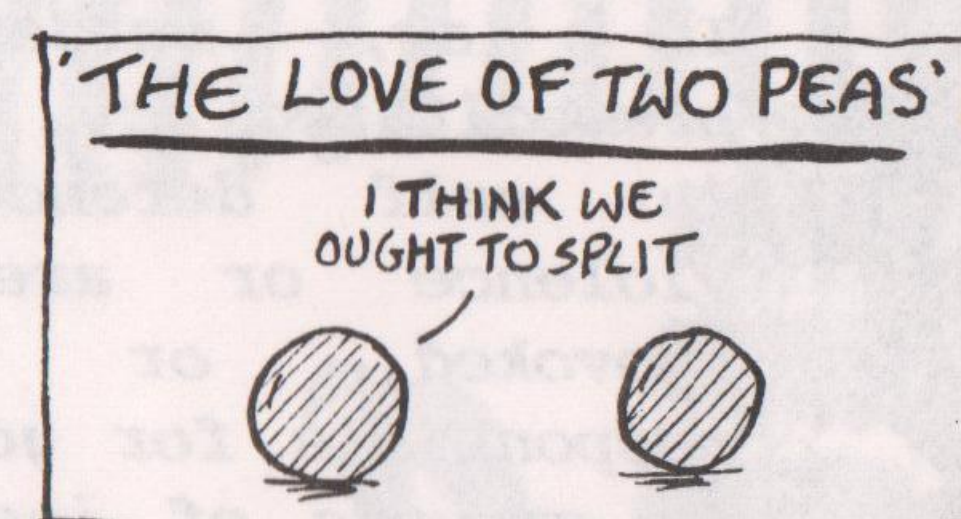
Donations to:
The Kiranjit Ahluwalia
Campaign
c/o Crawley Womens Centre,
Barnfield Road,
Crawley,
West Sussex

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS THE REAL CRIME
SELF-DEFENCE IS NO OFFENCE

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS THE REAL CRIME

Heterosexual Relationships Explained by Dr Snopes

16 The sound of Silence (How many times has this happened to you?)



FREE

THE POLL TAX HOSTAGES!

THEY ARE IN THERE FOR US..

As this goes to press, four local people are locked up at Her Majesty's Pleasure in Lincoln Prison for poll-tax related offences.

One - Alan Robinson - is serving three months for an "assault" committed during his liability order hearing: he got so angry with the way the magistrates humiliated and insulted him that he threw a jug of water at them. In the chaos that followed, the police claim that Alan bit one of them on the finger... even though he doesn't even like bacon.

The other three - Soroosh Ayandeh, Bob Lee and Les Hensworth - are all in for non-payment.

Of course, these four aren't the only people who've been locked up because of this evil tax. There are a few dozen more non-payers in jail across the country, and there are at least 20 other prisoners serving longer sentences, following the police attacks on poll tax demonstrations at Trafalgar Square and Brixton last year.



circumstances, forcing them to either jail him or wipe out the debt in full. Since Bob hadn't been dead helpful to them - he handed back the income enquiry form they gave him with "BOLLOCKS" written all over it! - they sent him down.

WHY YOU NEED NOT GO TO PRISON..

Fact is, you have to try bloody hard to get sent to prison for not paying your poll tax. Here's why:

First, they have to prove that you deliberately didn't pay - this is more difficult than it sounds.

Second, you can make an offer to pay at the last moment, actually during your committal hearing. You'll get better terms here than you will by trying to settle "out of court" with the council and they're almost certain to accept it, because..

Third, and most important, they don't want to jail anyone for not paying the poll tax. It doesn't get them their money - in fact, it costs them over £300 a week - and it makes them unpopular in the run-up to an election.

And fourth, even if they wanted to jail all the non-payers they simply couldn't do it. The prisons are overcrowded already - can you imagine them trying to fit in 14 million non-payers as well?

WHY YOU SHOULD SUPPORT THE PEOPLE WHO DO GO TO PRISON

Because jailing all the non-payers is impossible, they rely on picking out a handful of people and jailing them, to frighten the rest of us into paying. This is the kind of terror tactic that all governments (yes, even good old, peace loving "democratic" Britain) resort to when everything else fails: that's why we say that they aren't just prisoners but HOSTAGES.

When this happens we need people like Alan, Bob, Les and Soroosh, people who refuse to be terrorised, who say a big FUCK OFF! to the rich bastards who run this country, by taking the worst they can dish out and then bouncing back with two fingers still stuck firmly in the air. Like we said earlier - they're in there for us, we're out here for them.

Perhaps you'll think about this next time you turn on the TV or pick up a paper, and see all the talk of democracy and freedom for Eastern Europe, Russia and China. The Tiananmen Square protestors were praised (quite rightly) for making a stand against injustice and oppression. But the Trafalgar Square anti-poll tax protestors, who were doing exactly the same thing when our police attacked them (just as the Chinese military attacked their people) were described by politicians of all parties (including both Labour and Militant Tendency) as thugs, hooligans and vandals.

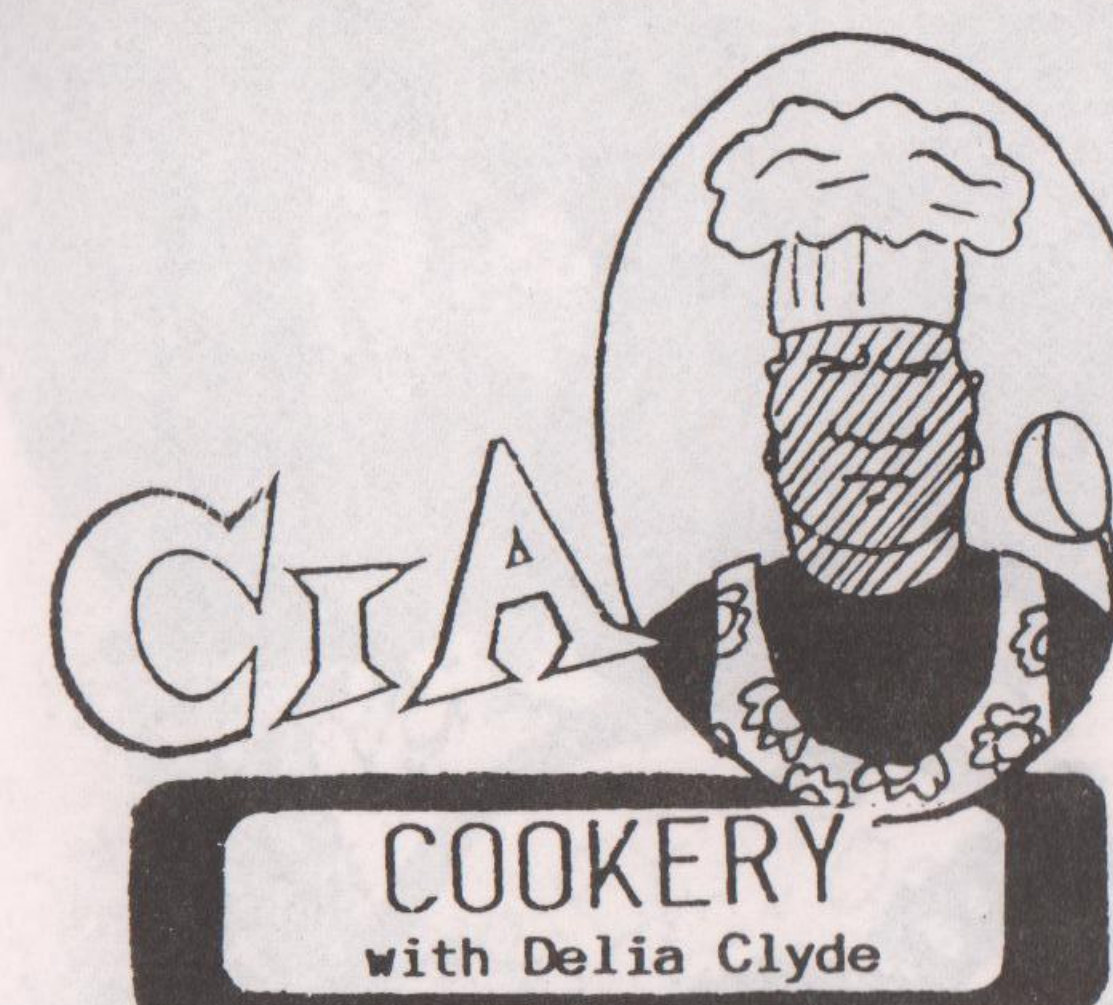
Yet Trafalgar Square and Tiananmen Square were both about the same thing: the fight of ordinary, decent people against the rich and the privileged, who took their wealth by force and will use any means to keep it.

When people go to prison for defending an unarmed crowd against a vicious attack by mounted police using batons; when people go to prison for not paying the poll tax (and breaking a law which the government themselves have since admitted was wrong) - is that democracy? Support the poll tax prisoners, and join the fight for REAL democracy!

SUPPORT THE POLL TAX PRISONERS

Alan Robinson	JJ0854
Bob Lee	JJ0960
Les Hensworth	JJ0243
Soroosh Ayandeh	JJ0573

Write to them TODAY:
Political Prisoner JJ...(no. & name)
HMP Lincoln
Greetwell Road, Lincoln



TOAST SPECIAL

I'M BACK. C.I.A.'S VERY OWN GANGALIN' GOURMET. NOW THEZ TOAST. AN' THEZ TOAST. THING IS THOUGH, Y'CAN DO A HELLUVA MORE LOT WI' TOAST THAN JUST BUTTER IT ('SPECIALLY IF Y'FANCY Y'SEN AS A BIT O' A VEGAN LIKE). AS THIS C.I.A. COOKERY 'TOAST SPECIAL' WILL DEMONSTRATE.

BUT FIRST. I TEND T'GET A FAIR BIT O' MAIL OFFA YOU PUNTERS ASKIN' QUESTIONS LIKE: "WILL MY SOUFLE EVER RISE?", "WHY ARE MY FAIRY CAKES SO HEAVY?", "HOW COME MY QUICHE IS SO STRINGY?" WELL SOZ, BUT I DON'T KNOW NOWT 'BOUT THAT MIDDLE CLASS COOKERY LARK. ANYROAD, LET'S 'DO TOAST'!

TOAST PIZZA

A pretty, palatable piece

Serves: 2 (but if y'greedy, only 1)

1 Peoples Bakery stoneground loaf
1 bowl o' grated tofu cheese
A bottle o' Whole Earth ketchup

Slice four 1 inch thick slices o' bread, toast 'em. Squirt some ketchup onto the toasts an' spread liberally. Sprinkle the grated cheese on the toasts. Toast again.

NB. You can top with peppers, sweet corn, onions, mushrooms etc. But if y'gonna do that y'might as well buy one from Hyson Green 'Olefoods innit.

0 Cost: nowt really
0 Time: 'bout 10 minutes

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

The US Food and Drug Administration has updated its list of "natural or unavoidable substances" that are permitted in human foodstuffs. The list now includes 20 maggots per 100g of canned mushrooms, as well as one per cent of mammal excrement per pound of whole pepper.

STUFFED TOAST

A tantalizingly tasty tit-bit

Serves: 2 (but if y'greedy, only 1)

1 Peoples Bakery stoneground loaf
1 can o' 'Appy Shopper Baked Beans
1 bowl o' grated tofu cheese
A bottle o' Whole Earth ketchup

Heat y'beans. Slice four 1 inch thick slices o' bread, toast 'em. When toasted 'ollow them out a bit, break up the 'ollowed out bits o' toast into little pieces an' add to the beans. Mash up. Add the cheese. Mash up again. Stuff the mash into the 'ollowed out toasts. Garnish with ketchup.

0 Cost: nowt really
0 Time: 'bout 15 minutes

TOAST CUILEIS

A fine funky flash.... er, meal

Serves: I dunno

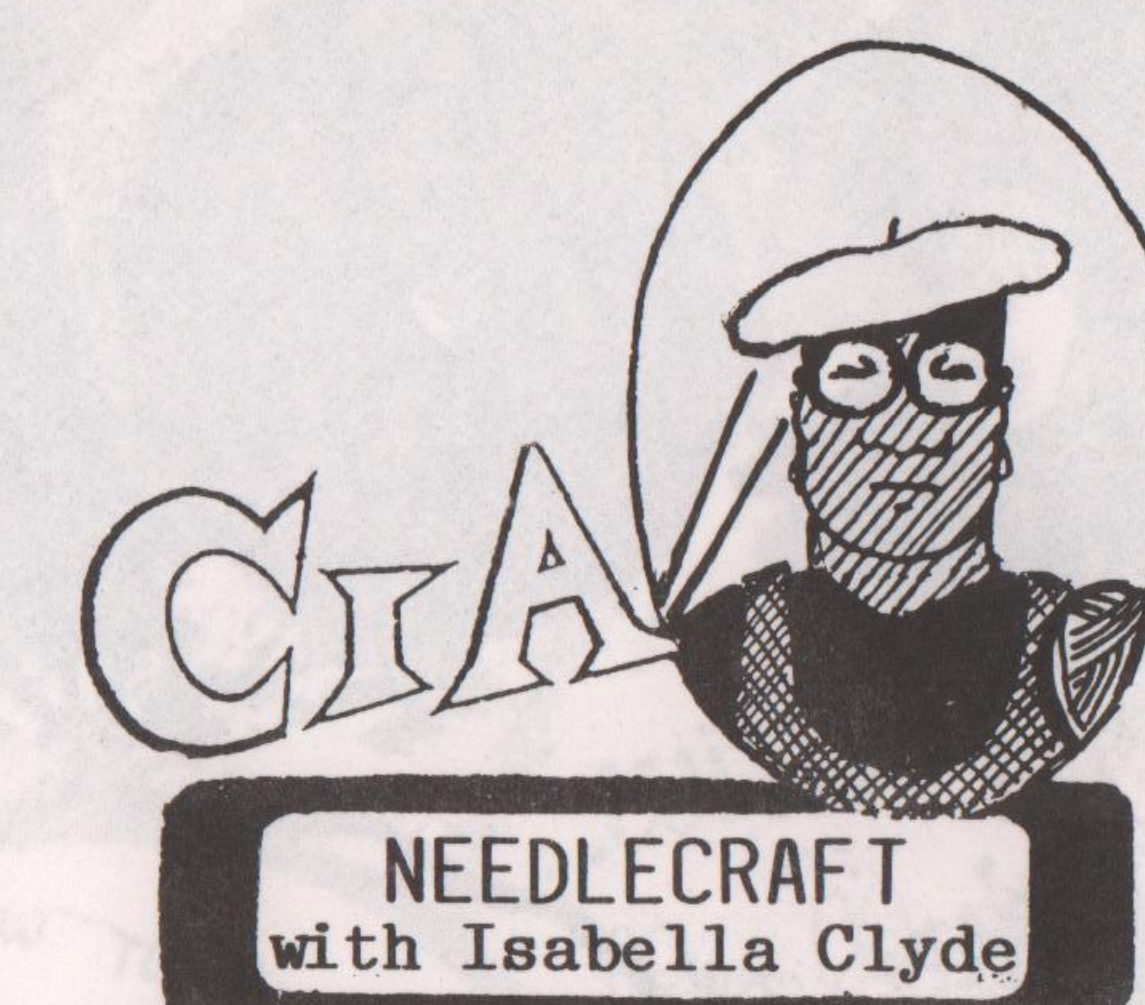
1 Peoples Bakery stoneground loaf
1 large veggie burger
1 bowl o' grated tofu cheese
A bottle o' Whole Earth ketchup
A bit o' water

Put y'burger onto cook. Slice four 1 inch thick slices o' bread, toast 'em. Tek the cooked burger an' mash it up. Break up the toast into little bits an' in a bowl add the mashed up burger. Add the grated cheese an' the bit o' water. Mix up thoughroughly until dough-ish. Make into shapes of cut up animals (or whatever turns you on). Bake until golden brown. Decorate with ketchup.

0 Cost: nowt really
0 Time: 'bout 'alf an hour

MICROWAVE MAGIC

Microwaves are wonderful machines. Not only do they cut cookin' times in 'alf (if not more), they're also ideal for vegetarians an' vegans t'use on account o' the little known fact that they keep in all the goodness in vegetables (unlike conventional methods). So proteins an' vitamins are kept intact. Y'can mek tons o' wonderfully tasty meals with a 'micro' (as I like t'call 'em). Shame I hant got one really.



"ANYONE CAN BUY FASHION. BUT NOBODY CAN BUY STYLE." WELL IN THIS NEW SECTION Y'CAN KINDA 'AVE BOTH. I'LL SHOW YOU, YES YOU, 'OW T'MEK WONDERFULLY FASHIONABLE BUT STYLISH ITEMS O' CLOTHIN' FORRA FEW PENCE.

THIS ISSUE: TRENDY LEFTIE 'ATS

Now y'trendy leftie 'ats usually cost quite a bit, so I'm gonna show y'ow t'mek one on the cheap like.

All you need is a bit o' 'ethnic' lookin' cloth (y'can probably find a bit down the market on a Saturday), a bit o' black cloth an' a biscuit tin the size o' y'ead. Oh, an' some glue an' cotton an' a needle.

Spread glue all 'round the sides o' the tin, wi' a bit on the inside o' the rim an' on the bottom. Wrap y'ethnic' lookin' cloth 'round the sides o' the tin. Cut off the excess, leaving enough to wrap inside the tin an' slightly over the bottom. Sew where the cloth over laps on the sides together. Cut out y'bit o' black cloth to the size o' the tin bottom. Sew it to the bottom o' the tin.

Y'can decorate y'at wi' sequins an' them little round mirraz to mek it look more authentic if y'like.

There you have it. Y'very own trndy left 'at for 'ardly oat. Extremely stylish an' individual, as the models below demonstrate:



What's more, this trendy leftie 'at is, unlike the real ones, completely waterproof!

NEXT WEEK: 'Ow t'knit y'own Nicaragua t-shirt.

COMPOST

CRAZY

with
Mr. Mulch



FOREST IS THE NATURAL
VEGETATION FOR NEARLY
ALL OF BRITAIN.

INSTEAD OF COMPLAINING ABOUT WHAT
THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES ARE DOING TO THE
RAINFORESTS (USUALLY TO FEED US) WHY
NOT START IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD?

WE ONLY NEED 4% OF THE COUNTRY TO
PRODUCE ALL THE FOOD WE NEED.
LEAVE THE REST TO TREES!

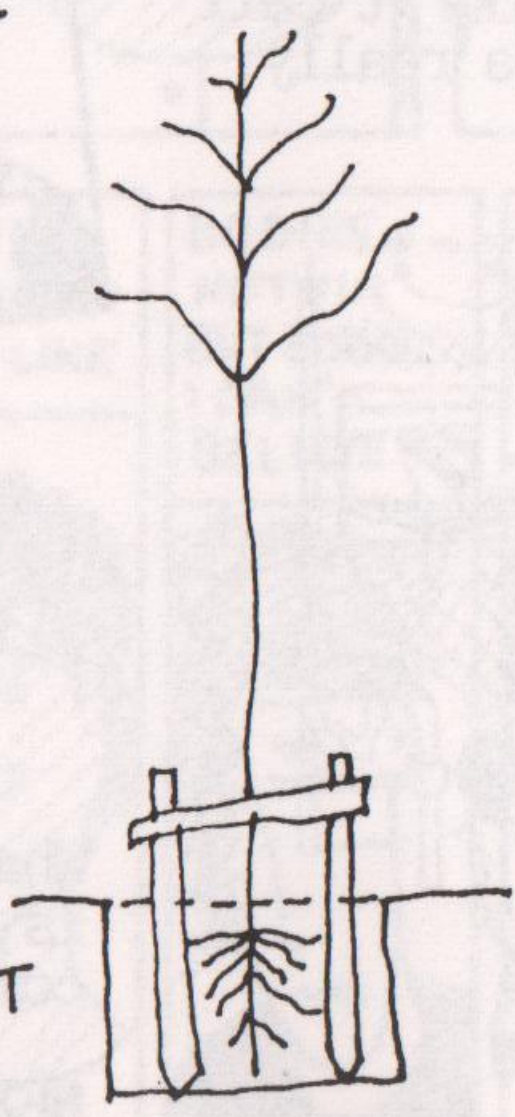
WITHOUT TREES THE WHOLE WORLD
WILL DIE: AND PEOPLE WILL
BE FIRST TO GO!!

A FOREST GARDEN

PLANT YOUR OWN GARDEN
LIKE NATURAL WOODS.
FRUIT TREES AT THE
TOP, BERRY BUSHES
BELOW, HERBS AT
THE BOTTOM AND
CLIMBERS EVERYWHERE.
FULL OF FOOD + FUN !!

AUTUMN IS THE BEST TIME
TO PLANT YOUR TREES.

- * DIG A HOLE BIG ENOUGH TO TAKE THE ROOTS
- * PUT IN STAKES LOW DOWN TO KEEP IT FIRM BUT ALLOW IT TO BEND IN THE WIND.
- * FILL IN HOLE
- * MULCH WITH COMPOST, BARK, LEAVES, PAPER, CARPET AROUND BASE OF TREES.



GOOD TREES TO PLANT IN SMALL GARDENS

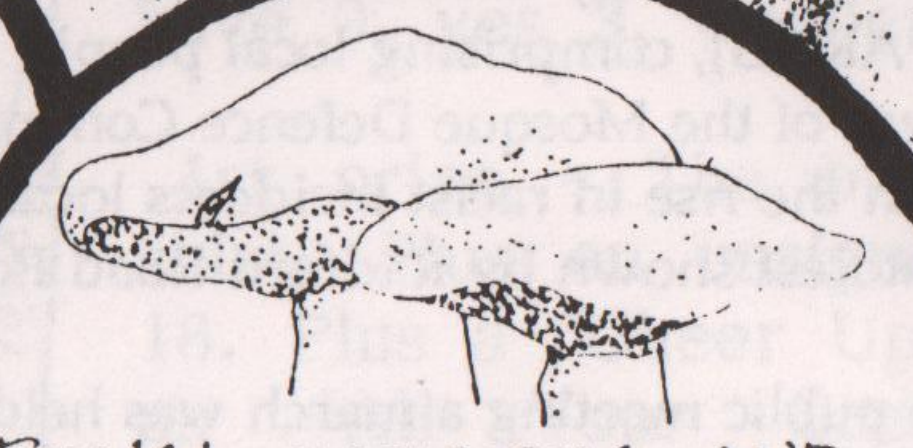
- * FRUIT (APPLES, PEARS, PLUMS, ETC) MASSES OF THEM: CHECK OUT A GOOD GARDENING BOOK TO CHOOSE CAREFULLY.
 - * HAWTHORN (CRATAEGUS MONOGYNA)
 - ROWAN (SORBUS AUCUPARIA)
 - CRAB APPLE (MALUS)
 - HAZEL (CORYLUS AVELLANA)
 - SILVER BIRCH (BETULA PENDULA)
 - ELDER (SAMBUCUS NIGRA)
- WILDLIFE... FLOWERS... BERRIES + NUTS.

FREE FOOD

THERES PLENTY OF
NATURAL FOOD TO
FIND + EAT IN
AUTUMN.



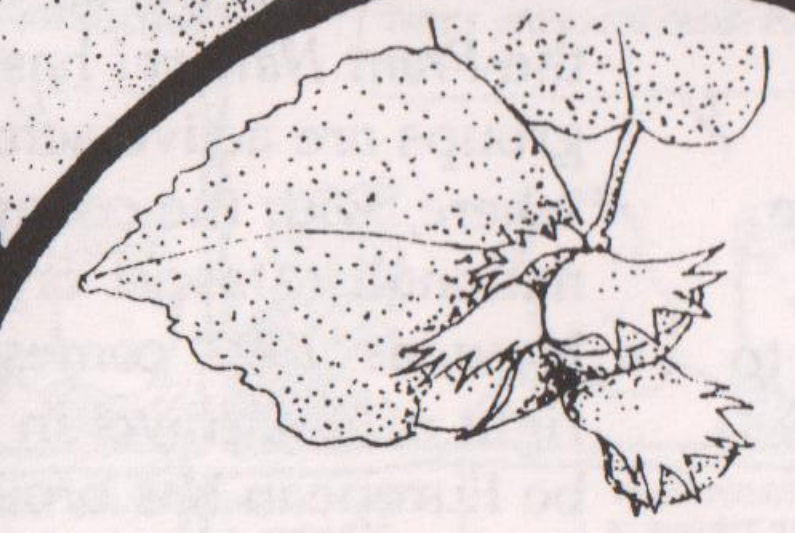
ROSEHIPS - BOIL UP TO
MAKE A SYRUP WITH
20x VITAMIN C
CONTENT OF
ORANGES.



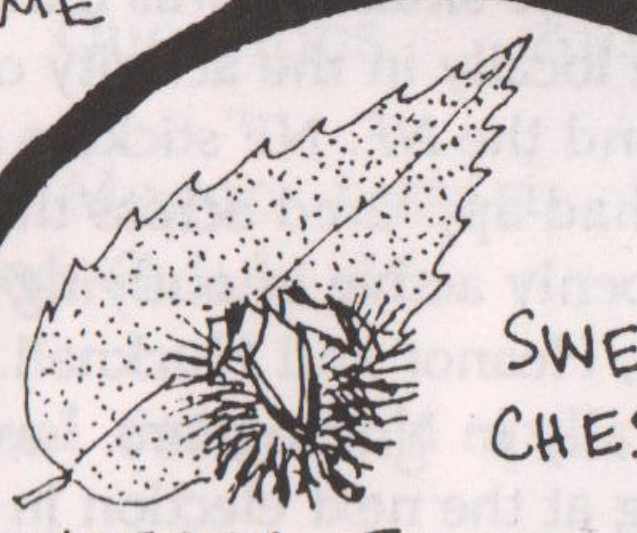
FUNGI - MUSHROOMS AND
TOADSTOLLS. FAR TOO MANY
FOR ME TO DRAW! GET A
GOOD BOOK. (SOME
ARE ALSO
POISONOUS!)



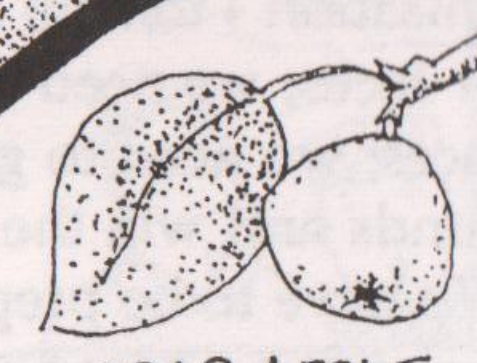
BLACKBERRIES - PLANT IN
YOUR GARDEN, MAKE WINE
JAMS + PIES. EATEN COLD
WITH WARM HONEY IS
NEARLY AS GOOD
AS SEX..



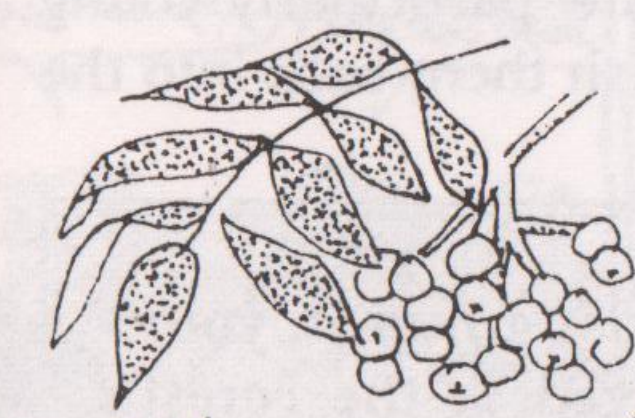
HAZELNUTS - COMMON
PLANT IN BRITAIN AND GOOD
NUT PROTEIN SOURCE IF YOU
CAN BEAT THE SQUIRRELS
(OR PLANT SOME IN
THE GARDEN).



SWEET CHESTNUT
WONDERFUL TASTE. DON'T
CONFUSE WITH HORSE
CHESTNUTS (CONKERS).
LOOK FOR THEM IN
PARKS IN
TOWNS.



CRAB APPLE



ROWAN

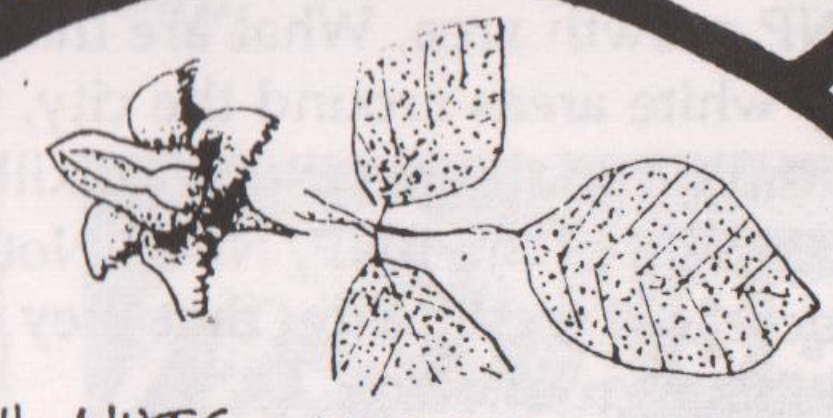


HAWTHORN

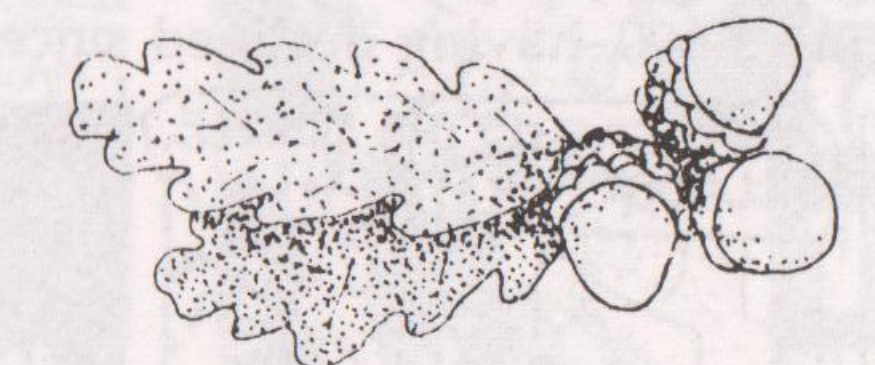
ALL THREE
ARE COMMON
AND CAN BE
USED IN JELLIES
WINES AND
COSMETICS,
AS WELL AS
RAW.



ELDERBERRIES - ANOTHER
COMMON PLANT. BERRIES FOR
JAMS/JELLIES/WINES. FLOWERS
(IN MIDSUMMER) FOR
ELDERFLOWER CHAMPAGNE.



BEECH NUTS - MASSIVE TREES
BUT SMALL NUTS - HARD WORK!



ACORNS (OAK) ARE
EDIBLE IF ROASTED,
OR USE AS A
COFFEE.



DON'T FORGET
THAT MANY WILD
PLANTS ARE ALSO
MEDICINAL HERBS -
LIKE DANDELION
(ROAST THE ROOTS,
LEAVES IN SALAD).

'FOOD FOR FREE' BY
RICHARD MABEY IS
A GOOD BOOK ON
ALL THIS.

IN THE
DEEP MID-WINTER
BACKYARD PLANS
.....
GROWING FOR
THE SPRING

NEXT
ISSUE

KICK OUT THE FASCISTS!

In July a public meeting was called in Forest Fields in response to concern over the number of racist incidents that had been taking place. These incidents have involved both people and property. In particular the Mosque on Gladstone Street has been broken into, graffitied, and had religious paintings stolen. On one occasion scum even left shit on prayer mats. Individuals in Forest Fields have been attacked and insulted. Cars have been vandalised.

The meeting was called by the *Forest Fields Anti-Racist Action Group* (FFRAG), comprising local people including representatives of the Mosque Defence Committee, concerned not only with the rise in racist incidents locally but also with the lack of interest shown by Radford Road Police Station.

Following the public meeting a march was held on August 19th attended by over 450 people. They demanded a public inquiry into the attitude of the police, and carried a clear message of opposition to racists: Forest Fields is a multi-cultural area and racists are not welcome.

The situation was made more worrying by the increase locally in the activity of the *British National Party* (BNP) and the *NF*. *NF* stickers and leaflets and racehate graffiti had appeared across the city. Fascists have become more openly active in outlying areas including Eastwood, Ilkeston, Heanor and Hucknall. Last year BNP attempted to hold a rally in Nottingham. Lawrence Johnson of the BNP is standing at the next election in Erewash.

On August 10th the NF attempted a paper sale in Nottingham and it was this which finally alerted anti-fascists in the town that something had to be done. Responding to the NF sale we faced two problems: mobilising a large group at short notice; and having clear ideas of what we might do once there. Both these require prior discussion and planning.

So FFARAG together with Nottingham Trades Council organised a meeting on September 5th looking at the issue of fascist organisations. It was decided to initiate anti-fascist co-ordination across the city, and future organising meetings are planned.

It was generally agreed that a broad non-sectarian campaign was needed that would allow different groups to make a contribution. So many campaigns have been destroyed by various left-wing groups throwing party lines at each other and seeking to dominate the campaign!

And we can't afford to be complacent. The BNP in particular is openly Nazi and committed to violence. The East Midlands is a target BNP growth area. What are their tactics? To recruit in the largely white areas around the city, and then to move into the more multi-racial inner cities as 'killing grounds'. Is the higher profile of the BNP/NF in Nottingham itself indicative of an increased confidence; that they are ready to move into a 'killing ground'?

Let's admit the problem but let's not exaggerate the racism in Forest Fields; this is not on the whole a racist area. Black and white live, work and play together. The NF has a national membership of only 5-600, having declined since its

1970's peak when it threatened to overtake the Liberals in many inner city constituencies. The BNP's membership is some 1600.

The BNP/NF are only the hard extreme of the problem. It is not the case that all or even most racist attacks involve these organisations. The danger lies in them tapping into the undercurrent of racism and prejudice that exists. And unfortunately the current climate is quite sympathetic to them.

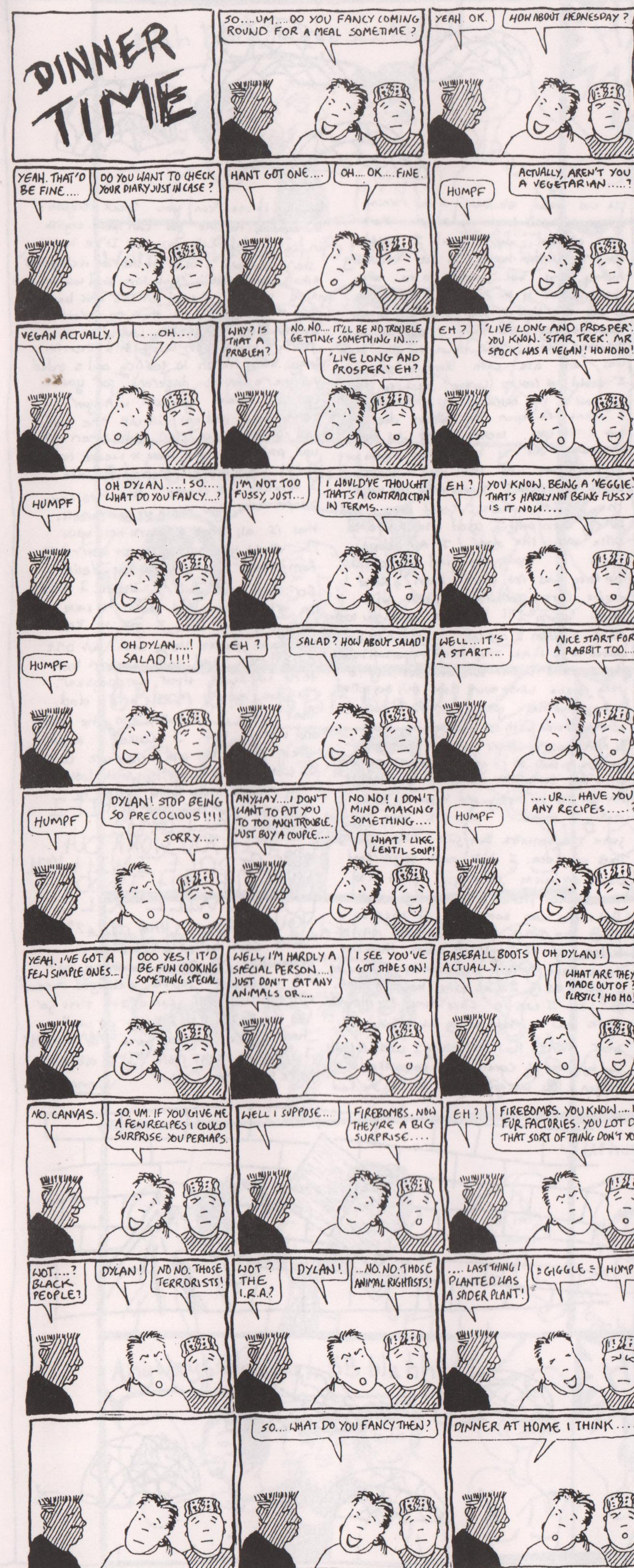
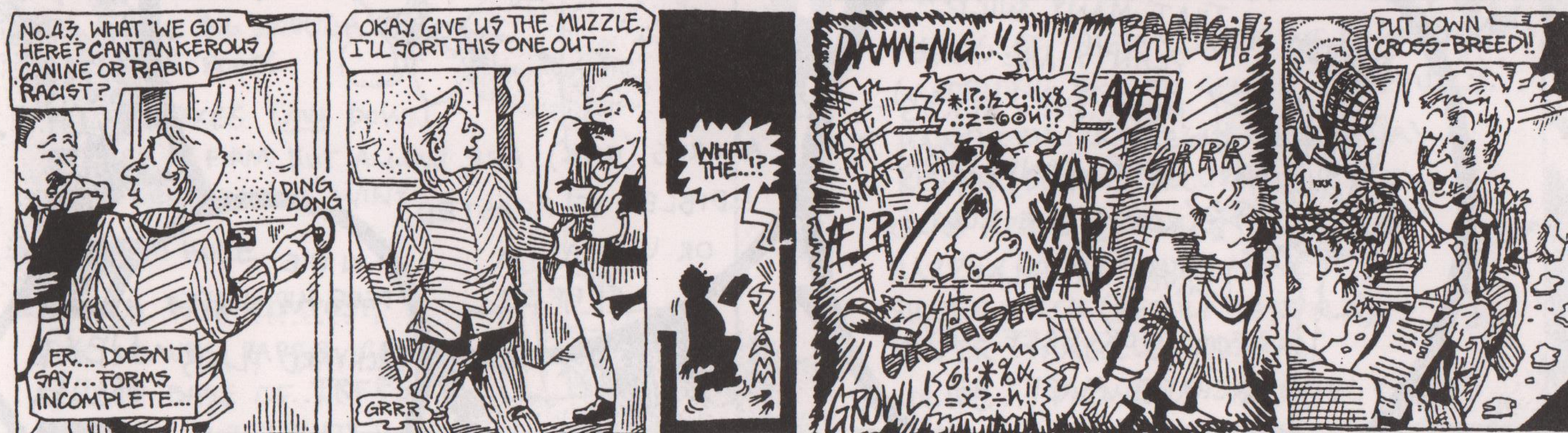
For what has been happening here is part of an ugly national trend. Currently there are an estimated 70,000 cases of racial harrassment each year. With the harsher economic situation ordinary people face, scapegoating black people becomes easier. Unemployed white youth are particularly targetted by the BNP/NF. Racist ideas are becoming a more acceptable part of the political mainstream, lending fascist groups respectability. Since the 1970's the immigration issue has become more significant as deportation orders are increasingly common.

There is an international dimension too. In France the *Front National* has enjoyed remarkable success. Fascist groups are active across Europe including Eastern Europe where, with the collapse of 'communist' regimes, right-wing nationalist/fascist organisations have come out into the open. Now, as '1992' comes closer the questions of just who has the right of free travel in Europe and just what does it mean to be European has brought ideas of colour and race to the fore. The free market will be a free white market!

There are two lines of work. We need to combat the general undercurrent of racism and argue against those local, national and international developments which support its growth. Also we need to stop fascists before they start. This isn't the first time the fascists have come to Nottingham. In the 1970's the NF tried to set up their national HQ here. They were pushed out by anti-fascists. Now we need to revive this work. We need co-ordination and organisation - to stop them whenever and however they show their faces; we need to do our detective work - to put names to faces; we need to go out onto the estates and to the football grounds and win the white youth away from their poison. We have to be prepared for physical confrontation, but mostly we need a broad mass campaign that will unite black and white, particularly young people, to isolate these garbage and push them back into the holes where they came from.

If you want to set up an anti-racist group in your area, or would like to get involved in the Forest Fields group, or the anti-fascist action, contact:

FFARAG
61 Wiverton Road
Forest Fields
Nottingham.



COMPETITION TIME!

C.I.A., in conjunction with it's sister leading local media enterprise, 'All Your Questions Answered', is offering you dead lucky readers the chance to win some dead good C.I.A. prizes. We have 3, yes **3**, wonderful give aways:

1st prize - The brand new C.I.A. t-shirt. Plus an **unsigned** copy of C.I.A. 16. Plus a 'Cheer Up Luv' badge. Plus an 'All Your Questions Answered' postcard. Plus a copy of Girlfrenzy Number 2 !

2nd prize - A Zippy t-shirt. Plus an **unsigned** copy of C.I.A. 16. Plus an 'All Your Questions Answered' postcard.

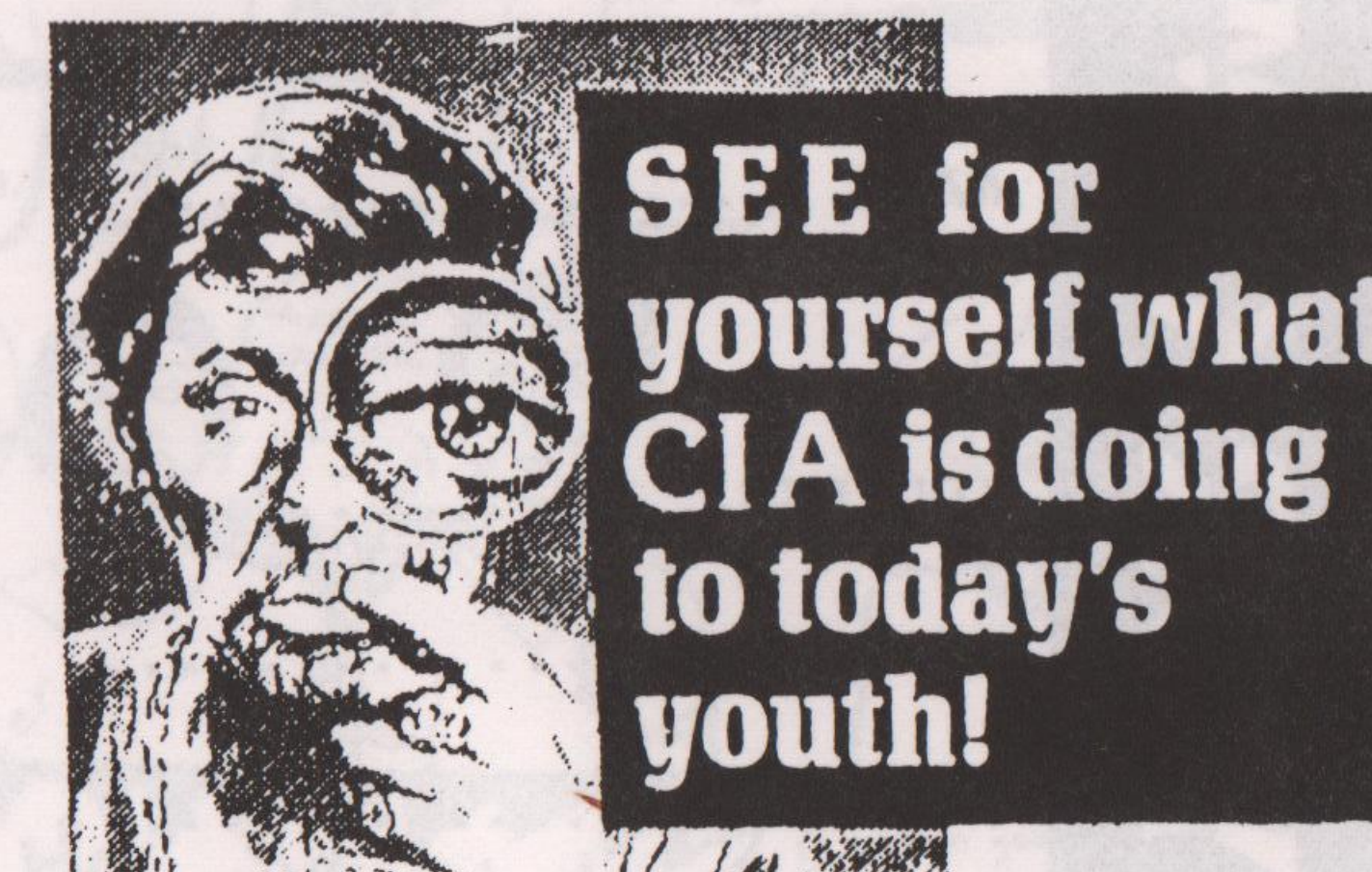
3rd prize - A Magoo t-shirt. Plus an **unsigned** copy of C.I.A. 16.

Just answer the following question to
WIN WIN WIN !

C.I.A. is shit. Why ?

The wittiest (that means funniest) answers will be personally picked by C.I.A.'s Snopes and Nuphin. Wow !

Please fill in your answer on the reply slip overleaf, and send to 'C.I.A. Competition', C.I.A., Nottingham Community Arts, 39 Gregory Boulevard, Hyson Green, Nottingham, NG7 6BE. Send in by January 7th 1992.



C.I.A. 14 'Lawnmower Deth competition' winners:

Alan of Nottingham, Julie of Nottingham,
Martyn of Leicester, Penny of Nottingham
and Tam of Edinburgh.

COMPETITION

QUESTION

C.I.A. is shit. Why ?

ANSWER

[illegible]

**SEE for
yourself what
CIA is doing
to today's
youth!**



**SEE for
yourself what
CIA is doing
to today's
youth!**

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

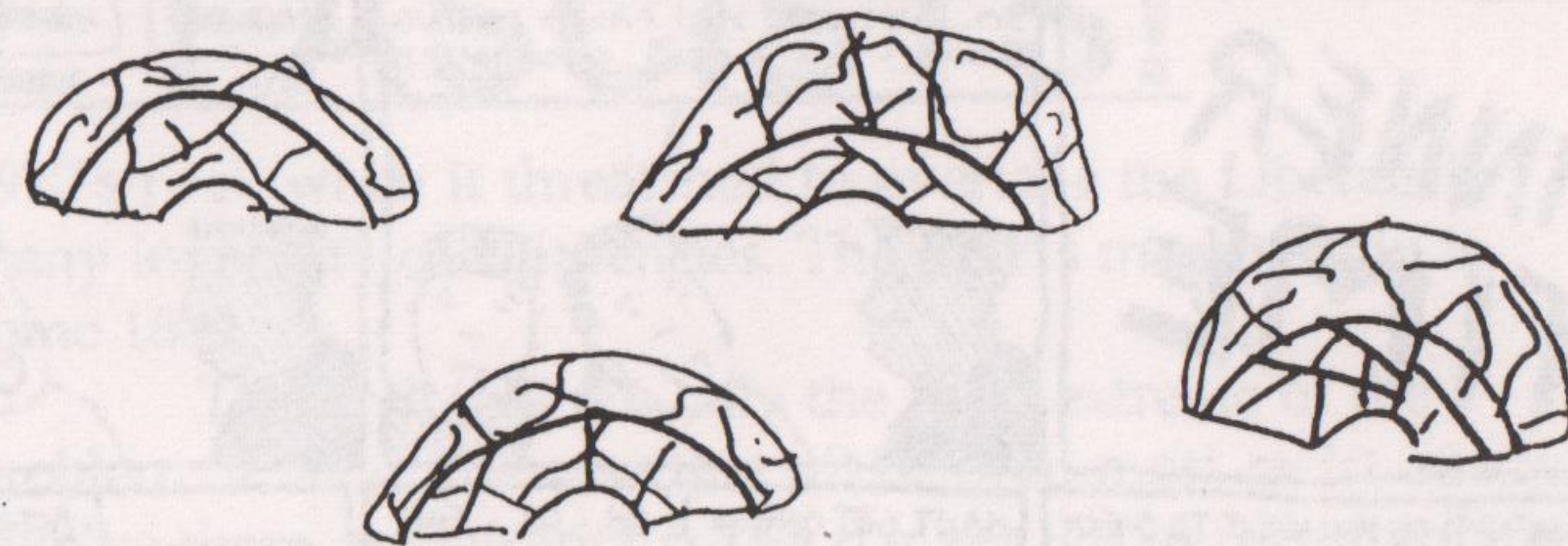
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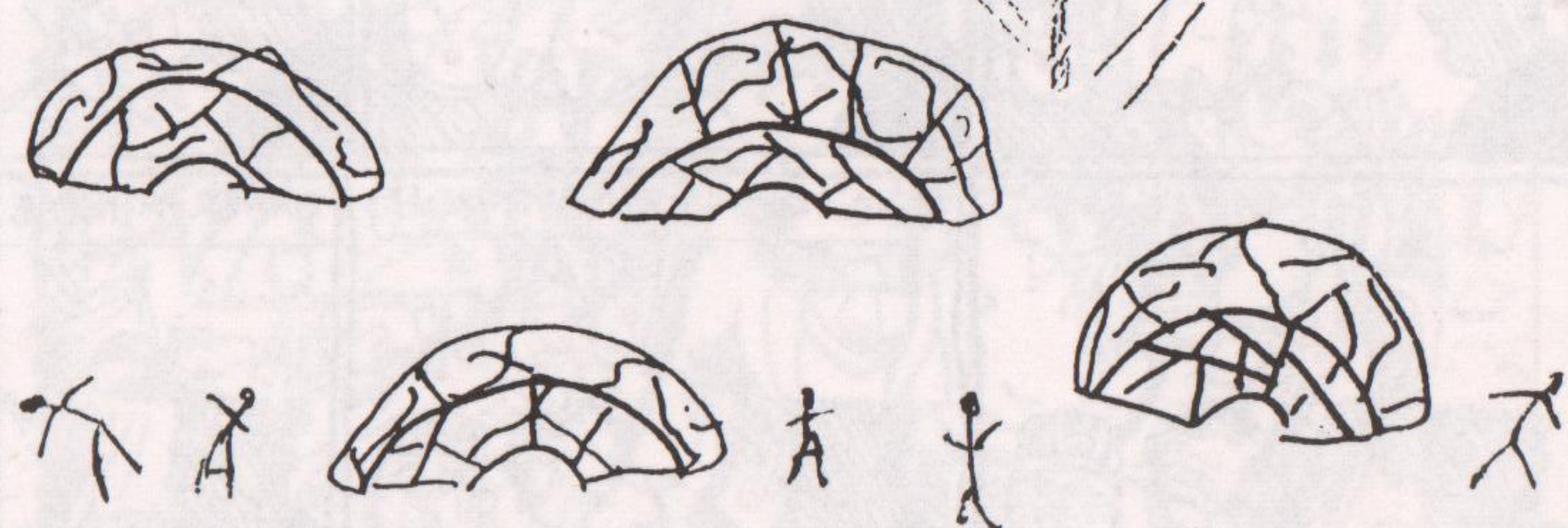
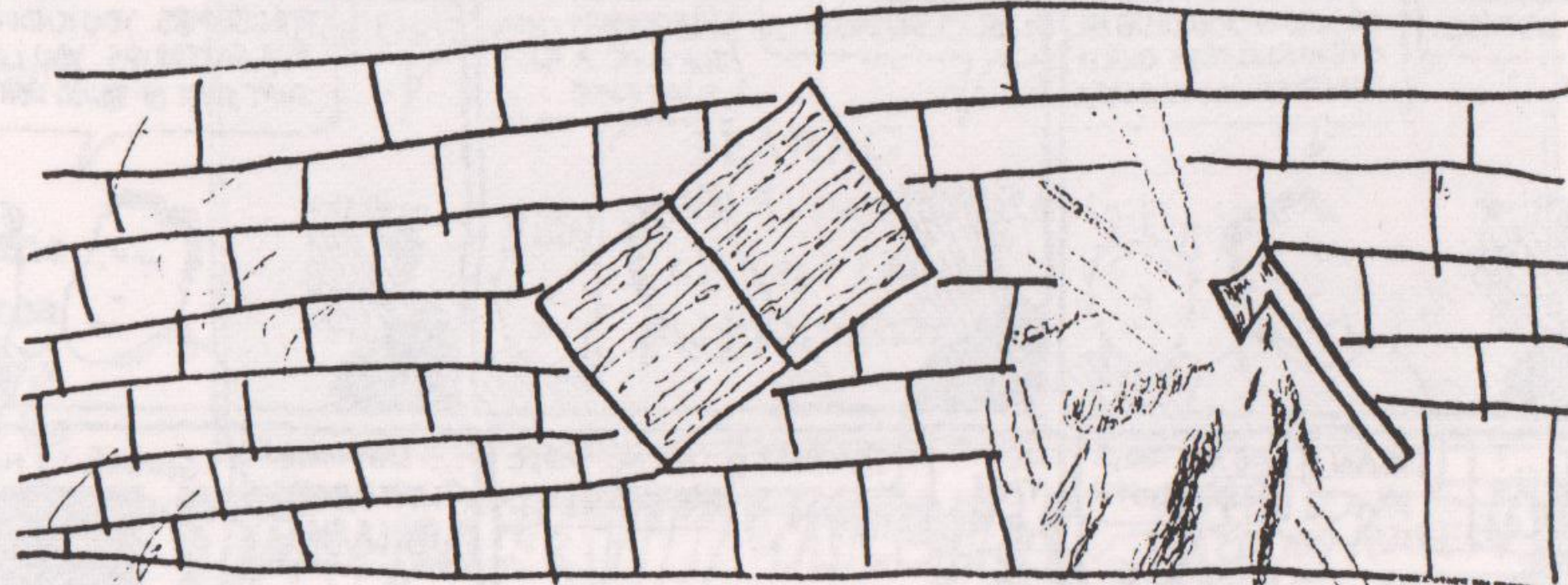
COMPETITION



It was about 5:30 clock in the morning when my bird's begin to cheep there like a natural alarm clock. I looked out my window hoping to see the usually normal things but.... outside in the alley there seemed to be Red all over the alley. It was either blood or paint I looked further down the alley and then I saw my back. I looked Even further down the alley there was an axe with blood all over it. I could not look no further because the big wall of the entrance was in the way. I went to open my bedroom door but it was locked there was only one way out my bedroom the window but my bedroom was the attic bedroom. All of a sudden I remembered the knife the pebbles what I found which I used for my caterpillar. I used the knife to prise open the door. I ran downstairs hoping to find my parents but they was not there then I saw a note in the front room written with blood. saying "I'll be back to kill you too". All of a sudden I realised whoever did this wanted to go to me. They killed my parents hoping that I would commit suicide. Well they're wrong, maybe who-evers done this has killed a cat and has got my family. I can't commit suicide with out knowing the truth. I Ran back up-stairs put my jeans on put my t-shirt on got the knife and the caterpillar some Glint what my grandad got me on my birthday and 4 pound pocket money I saved. Now its time for

some adventures. But first some breakfast
This is an idea. I best pack some good
increase its along journey. I went in to
the kitchen picked up a tin of beans.
But there was something strange a-
bout the tin of beans. I looked on the
bottom of the tin of beans there was
some cave writing on it. All of a sudden
I felt as if I was going back in time
I was. I was in cave-time, my clothes
were now made out of rabbit skins and
bear skins. How disgusting. I was suffoc-
ated by a load of cave-men and women. All of a
sudden a little cave girl came up to me. She said

slowly to me "can you speak english?"
"Thankyou Mrs. How come you can speak english
in cave time?" Well you see it's a long
story" she said "I used to live at 19 clayton road
in that's where I live!" Please let me finish said the cave
girl "I used to see I slept in the attic bedroom.
one day I found out that my parents
worshipped the devil they wanted me to
marry the beast but I told them no.
They sent me on a journey and I ended
up here but its different for you
you are special you will win your
family back and you will win the devil.
one of the cave men and women are
your parents. you have 4 weeks to
choose which are your parents. you have
3 chances to choose the two cave
people who you think are your parents.
that is all that I can tell you.
The rest you must find out your self
Remember you can win the devil
for days and days I thought. I asked
the girl if she would learn me cave
language so she did. I got to know
the cave people very well but one
cave man and cave woman took
to me like I was their son daughter.
Maybe its my mom and dad.
That night I sneaked into the man
and woman's hut I looked under
their cloth pillow and there there was
a scratching of a girl which looked
like me "I now know who to
choose for my parents. "NO IF I
KILL YOU FIRST"
"who?" "IF YOU WORK OUT
THE RIDDLE I WILL KILL
MY SELF BUT IF YOU
DON'T I WILL KILL
YOU" "OK what's the riddle?"
"What can go up a chimney
Down But Not Down a chimney up?"
"An umbrella!" "You've destroyed meee"
Then the girl came "It's time for
you to go" she said "family as well"
have a nice journey home "MAM! MAM!
I had a night mare" "It's alright
you're safe now."
Donna



ROCK vs REGGAE

Magoo '91 got off to a bit of a bad start. We (like the rest o' the festival) didn't have any power til about 1.30 (we should've started at 12 !). A real shit cos it meant we hardly got any of DJ INDUSTRIAL FUNK AND SOUL'. And on, late of

towards 'thrash' or 'hardcore melody and speed to create high energy block busting sound...." We brought this for a dollar.

Those festival juggernauts seemed to be edging their way towards our tent. Why our



By now crowds were gathering quite nicely on the gloriously sunny day with

things. Variety is the spice
o' life.

A fine days entertainment, which bode well for what was publically acknowledged as the 'Big Day': Tomorrow. Shame everyone pissed off straight after. They missed DJ Martin's 'TWITCH'. Mind you, it was only three hours before the pubs closed innit....

AAAR
The festival has a big do
problem every year. This year
it seemed Maggo had all the
festivals dogs, and more
besides. I made an announcement
that "The RSPCA is snoopin'
'round today so any dogs not
on leads will be taken away."
Scraggay pieces o' rope an'
string suddenly appeared
everywhere. Funny ode world
innit.

Heavy metal. Locala Speedball, who have played gigs in Europe, were particularly good, and as Nottingham is on its way to becoming the hardcore/thrash metal capital of England (or so I'm told) we can expect to see more of them.

DOWNFALL



The children of Magoo up and left. Happy but dazed. We all managed to survive the weekend. But how deaf would we be in the morning?

This year we had 12 bands, next year 16 ? We'll definately have a bigger tent. More diverse bands ? An' how about a 'do' at a local niteclub after Saturday ?

There will be a Magoo '92. And guaranteed, courtesy of CLUB JOE and C.I.A., it will be THE BIGGEST, THE BADDEST, THE BOLDEST apple of the Rock and Reggae Festival's eye. Dare you take a bite?

MURPHY 'APPENDS'

NOTTINGHAM
VIRGIN MEGASTORE, Wheeler Gate
SELECTADISC, Market Street
WAY AHEAD, St James Street
WILD OATS, Mansfield Road
MUSHROOM, Heathcote Street
ETC RECORDS, Mansfield Road
D.W. SMITH, Subway Kiosk, Upper
Parliament Street
UNION SHOP, Nottingham University
HYSON GREEN WHOLEFOODS, Radford
Road
BASICS, Foxhall Road
NOTTINGHAM COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE,
Gregory Boulevard

DERBY
WAY AHEAD, Main Centre
DERWENT NEWS, Main Centre
WILD OATS, Green Lane
BOOKSTALL SERVICES LTD, Abbey
Street

STOKE ON TRENT
FANTASY WORLD, Market Square
Arcade

SHEFFIELD
INDEPENDENT BOOKSHOP, Surrey
Street

BRADFORD
1 IN 12 CLUB, Albion Street
JUMBO RECORDS.

EDINBURGH
DEAD HEAD COMICS,

LONDON
ICA,

BACK ISSUES

To get back issues simply write down your order, buy the stamps, and send them to us with a **large** stamped self-addressed envelope, and you'll get what you ordered, **Within 7 days ! Guaranteed !** Worra bargain !

C.I.A. 4 = 1 first class stamp
C.I.A. 5 = 1 first class stamp
C.I.A. 6 = 1 first class stamp
C.I.A. 7 = 1 first class stamp
C.I.A. 8 (bumper ish with free 'No Poll Tax'
poster) = 2 first class stamp
C.I.A. 9 = 2 first class stamps
C.I.A. 10 (landmrk 10th ish) = 2 first class stamps
C.I.A. 11 (Zippy gets funky) = 2 first class stamps
C.I.A. 12 (Doris goes batty) = 2 first class stamps
C.I.A. 13 (Betty gets down) = 2 first class stamps
C.I.A. 14 (some kid chin chins) = 2 first class stamps

A.K. (books, papers, magazines),
3 BALMORAL PLACE, STERLING,
SCOTLAND. FK8 2BD.

ACID STINGS (records, books, jewellery, cassettes, fanzines), P.O. BOX 22, HITCHIN, HERTS, SG4 0HA

BALD CACTUS (zines, records, tapes), P.O. BOX 135, HARROGATE, N. YORKS. HG1 5AX.

DISSEMINATION (zines), 2 EYNON
MEWS, CHRISTCHURCH ROAD,
RINGWOOD HAMPSHIRE BH24 1DR

DS/4 (records, tapes, fanzine,
earrings, t-shirts, badges,
books), c/o BOX 8, GREENLEAF
BOOKSHOP, 82 COLSTON STREET,
BRISTOL, AVON.

NEW TOWN DISTRIBUTION (zines
records, tapes), AARON KITCHEN
62 CHAUCER STREET, ILKESTON
DERBYSHIRE. DE7 5JJ.

PUMF (cassettes, publications)
c/o STANZINE PROMOTIONS, 130
COMMON EDGE ROAD, BLACKPOOL, FY4
5AZ

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AK PRESS MAIL ORDER

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Pamphlets, Periodicals and Papers.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

AK DISTRIBUTION
3 Balmoral Place
Stirling, Scotland
FK8 2RD

Dear C.I.A., Howdy-doodly-doo! Noticed you were at this year's Rock and Reggae Festival, having fun and letting it all fall out. No problem with that (hey, you know, even alternative publishers have to like 'chill out', man), but I also noticed that you let the R 'n' R Festival use some of your material in their programme.

Now, even though that program was selling for £1 a copy, I'm not going to accuse you of compromising your principles to make a fast buck. What I am accusing you of is SHEER BAD TASTE. I mean, did you actually read the thing before you said they could use your stuff? I quote:

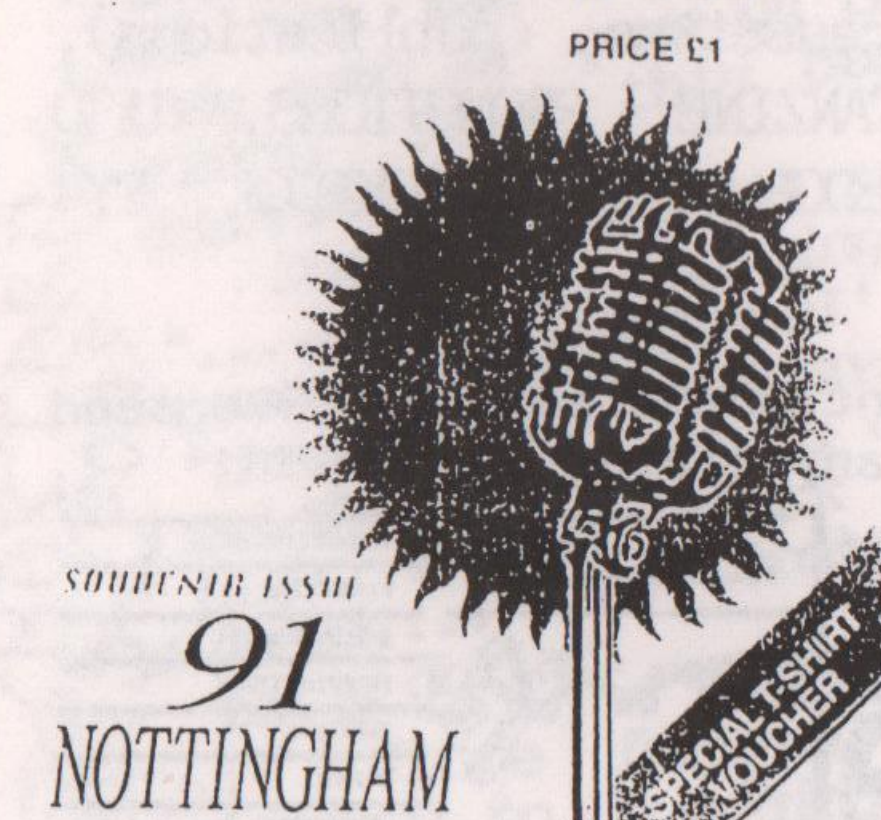
"There are rumours that the 1990's are going to be Nottingham's decade... it's beginning to develop its own fashions, music, lifestyles... to benefit from its central location... for nine months of the year the University and Polytechnic add a lively student population to the already vibrant scene."

What is this - the bloody tourist board? Or how about this gem from the "stalls guide":

"The Arts & Crafts Marquee features Bonsai trees, Chinese enamel jewellery, hand painted t-shirts and African handcrafts, musical instruments and jewellery. It will be well worth a visit for Dr. Who fans to see the hand knitted K9's and felt material cybermen"

What the fuck...

Rock
REGGAE
FESTIVAL
PRICE £1



The R 'n' R has always stood out amongst the list of Summer events in Nottingham. Until the Asian Music Festival began it was the only event that was independent, had some politics, and didn't sell anything except people getting together and having a good time.

The subtle anti-racism of the R 'n' R, and perhaps its location too, have made it largely unattractive to both commercial sponsors and city council alike - not that those people involved in the early years of the R 'n' R would have been dead keen to work with the rich and the powerful in any case. And this was all to the good, because it meant that a genuine community festival could take place without their interference. But things are changing...

Rumours now circulate every year in the run up to the Festival: the whole site is going to be fenced off... there's massive charges for having a stall... they're charging for admission... Boots are sponsoring it and they've banned all political stalls.

None of these rumours have actually become concrete - yet. But it feels like its only a matter of time before things change. You might think I'm exaggerating, but it bothers me, this creeping commercialisation of what began as an independently organised anti-racist community festival. I mean, producing

Letters

something like that bloody programme and then expecting people to pay a quid for it would have been literally unthinkable only a few years ago.

Am I the only person to wonder about the role of Greyhound Promotions in this year's R 'n' R Festival? With nothing concrete to go on, I confess that I have a strong impression of (one person's in particular) dirty fingers in a whole load of pies, and can't help but wonder where it will all end. Perhaps the clearest hint is contained in a statement, also in the programme, from the festival co-ordinator Mike "Hooray" Henry:

"...there are all these talented musicians and artists working away - all they need is some well put-together and well directed publicity and the sky's the limit"

And I always thought it was an event for the local people rather than a market place for EMI's talent scouts...

In sharp contrast to all of that, here's hoping for a return to the independent, community-minded principles which began the R 'n' R festival many years ago... and a greater awareness by C.I.A. of the kind of tackiness you could so easily find yourselves associated with!

KAREN ELLIOT
Nottingham

Rock 'n' Reggae
Requiem

In the dim distant Seventies, post punk, pre riots, Hyson Green held a festival. Most areas of Nottingham had a stab at running a fun day - it was what people did then. With tension mounting it was a chance to flex more creative muscles.

They were small, personal affairs, closer to fetes than festivals. Local groups used them to raise funds. Tombola and mushy peas were rampant. Individuals sold records out of suitcases to pay their electric; a stage was dragged in from some students union on a plumber's pick-up and performers provided their own PA. But quality was there. The Green and its environs was rich in bands, poets and performers. Nobody got paid and mercenaries didn't get a look in.

It was bloody hard work with little to show for it. When you've got no grant, you rely on lots of people doing not too many things, and buckets of good will. The word spread. Soon most people knew somebody who had something to do with this anarchic organisation, and they'd turn up on the day to check it out. They became great events because of who was there as much as what went on. They were people parties.

But Hyson Green Takes Off! (as it was called then) couldn't be sustained. After two frenetic years it burnt out. A further two years passed during which ROCK 'N' REGGAE was conceived.

Despite the good press of similar events in Chapel Town, Handsworth and St Pauls, trying to enthuse potential sponsors was a long and frustrating labour. C'mon, this is 2-tone time! For most of them community relations meant vicars talking to bobbies.

We needed money. There were only three of us trying to organise everything. Crazy, but one Radio Trent DJ made it work. He trusted us with their auxiliary generator.

HYSON GREEN TAKES OFF

It happened, on borrowed gear and little sleep. The bands and performers were good and cooperated with us and each other and stalls crept out of the concrete to pad us out. Next year it'd be better.

It was. More local people got involved organising the kids stuff, self portrait photos, potters kiln, stalls, booze. We even had floats! Churches, women's groups, arty-crafties, Scouts - the straight, MOR folk who are the infrastructure of this area - did all that, while the 'real groovers' played promoter.

The animal was growing. Within five years we had built sufficient credibility for funders to slot us into their diaries as an annual event. We crept into the cops, cleared rubbish within 48 hours, observed the Enviro' Health sound limits, pulled the plugs no later than an hour after time, and did everything necessary to make the party swing legit. We had festive cred.

But times they were a-changing. There weren't the performers locally. We were trawling as far as Mansfield. Live music was dying. The riots were history. We employed security. NME did a piece, the ice-cream sharks and waffle wankers descended. It was getting too big. Thatcherism was dividing and ruling The Green, but the funding kept coming.

We had been too successful and should have driven a stake through its heart while we still could. Instead, we made way for young bloods to steer it in a different direction, in line with The Green of the Nineties. They didn't and haven't.

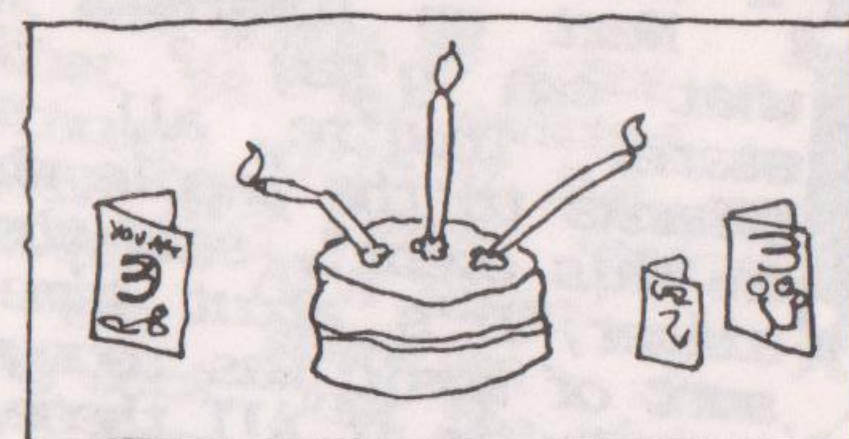
This years debacle was predictable. The Monster has been beyond control and heading in the wrong direction for five years. It's no longer relevant or fun. When R & R's mentioned on 'Desert Island Discs' as a feather in the cap of the new East Midlands Arts super-boss, you can be pretty certain it's time to bury the festival. It would be different if it was a feather in the cap of the Green.

Kill the beast. Take two years out. Get new minds tuned to this community and create something alive. Let Hyson Green take off again or if it can't let it lie for now.

Maybe you don't think it's anything to do with this community? Okay. Let's have ROCK AND REGGAE plc, be straight about it. Come out of the closet and change your name. Float shares, call in Saatchi and Saatchi, screw the business stalls. Run it like Donnington with barbed wire, gates and entrance fee. At least then the thousands of 'Irates of Forest Fields, Radford, even as far as Arnold' can sue you without a twinge of conscience.

And let's get one thing clear. If I hear another white liberal tell me R & R is some great race relations exercise I'll murder the punk. It never was and never will be, but there was a time when R & R offered something to everyone in this community. We played the 2-Tone card to get funding. All we ever wanted was a platform for local performers to party. Black, white and very green.

JOHN CLARK
Nottingham



Dear C.I.A., Call me a dull, uninteresting arse-licker if y'want, but I'm just writing to wish C.I.A. a Happy 3rd birthday, and say that I, like, reckon it's still as dead good as ever wot it has been. It may not be the most remarkable statement ever, but considering that Neil Kinnock, the leader of the 'opposition' gets by these days by re-wording the laws of Maggie, and that gets paid for it, it don't work out too bad.

NORMAN
Derby



Dear C.I.A., The new logo is dead good. Can we have more of the geezer with the flat top who did the cookery class puleez. He is ace & maketh me verily gufaw. I'd post you my fillings but I don't think they're worth anyfink. Love & magnetic syrup,

JOYCE
Cambridge



NOV/DEC 1988 25p

Dear Guys, I've been reading C.I.A. since it began. And I've watched it change over what is now three years, for the worse....

I preferred C.I.A. when it was a comic, when it was original, when it had bite. Now it's just veering towards being just another piss-poor leftie rag. Yeah, the cartoons are still there, but for how long? (Yeah, I noticed 'Cartoons Included Always' last issue, somehow I doubt it.)

What's with all these issues? Race? Sex? Y'not gonna change the world by getting serious. You'll change it through making the world laugh. C.I.A.'s lost its cutting humour. Look at early C.I.A.s. They make you piss. It was MEATIE humour then. Now it's just soft 'veggie' humour, pouncing about with gardening and relationships. Even Skate Bunnies is crap now.

Don't worry, I won't stop buying C.I.A. (unless it changes totally beyond recognition). But you know what? I used to read C.I.A. because it was THE BEST. Now I read it because it's the best I can do....

DAVE B
Leicester

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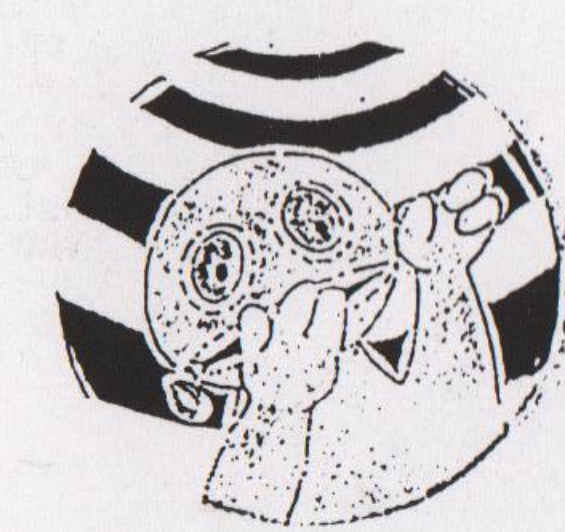
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If you wanna be in on it get your stuff to us by: 30th December 1991

