

SALSA LESSONS Beginners, Improvers and Advanced. Every Monday night 6.15pm. Top Floor 4 Castle Boulevard, Nottingham NG7 1FB Absolute beginners welcome. Contact Felix/Olga on 07985780081

CUBA SOLIDARITY is a voluntary self supporting organisation devoted to gaining respect for Cuba's sovereignty and independence and an end both to the economic blockade and to interference in Cuba's affairs by foreign governments. The Nottingham branch consists of two elements. First a small group of enthusiasts who organise and promote events to encourage an interest in Cuba and Cuba Solidarity and to raise funds mainly to provide educational and medical materials denied to Cuba by the US blockade. (Anyone wishing to join this group should contact Barrie Ward). Secondly, a much larger group who receive this newsletter with details of forthcoming events which we hope you will continue to support and enjoy. To receive a copy regularly, please contact Barrie Ward.

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Nottingham Clarion Choir sings songs of peace and socialism. New members always welcome. Every Sunday 7.30 to 9.30 at The Place, 2A Melrose Street, Sherwood, NG5 2JP
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CUBA DEBATE **THE JOURNAL AND NEWSLETTER OF** **NOTTINGHAM CUBA SOLIDARITY** **Summer 2013**



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ALEIDA AND A FISH N' CHIP SUPPER

It happened last September but we make no excuse for recording the meeting addressed by Aleida Guevara, surely the most memorable and successful single event the group has ever organised. We print a version of an account of that evening written by Hannah Stirland and Dave Hewitt for 'Beyond Borders' the East Midlands Refugee Week publication.

On 11th September, 2012, Nottingham's Refugee Forum welcomed Dr Aleida Guevara, daughter of Ernesto 'Che' Guevara. A charismatic speaker and esteemed political thinker, she spoke to a packed house about her father's legacy, the success of the Cuban system and the challenges faced. This was also part of a promotional tour to endorse her mother's intimate biography, 'Remembering Che'.

It's 54 years since Che Guevara and his band of supporters took Santa Clara, the seismic prelude to the capture of Havana, the overthrow of corrupt Batista and the incorporation of a Communist Cuban leadership. Che went from idealistic young medic to principled aggressor, an interventionist in foreign affairs where he felt that citizens could be emancipated from a damaging government. She said, "It's a part of my father, being a warrior. It's more than that. He was a big thinker: he especially was a man who was capable of reading".

An educated and successful woman, Aleida is a Doctor of Medicine and published author on Hugo Chavez and Latin America. She says "When a people are really free, really cultured, no one can manipulate, exploit or cheat them." The meeting was an enlightening discourse on the Cuban blockade, revolution and the adaptability of Cuba education, healthcare and political structure. She spoke of the suffering endured through the blockade, the lack of medicine for children, her zealous support for the Miami Five and the frustration when the US thwarted a nickel deal with Japan.

There is plenty of sentiment and inspiration from Aleida. "If you're coming to a meeting such as this, then he's near you and you are making his journey" she says of Che. She also quotes an Argentinian song, "If I die ...don't cry...do what I did and I will live on" and Jose Marti, "If we give a white rose to our friends...then we must give a white rose to our enemies." There's also the endearing philosophy, "Things are much better when man learns to give without remembering and to receive without forgetting." An imposing picture of Che hangs over her listeners. Yet Aleida's femininity and candour are disarming. She even finished with a song, making it a surprising and uplifting evening.

After the meeting we are given an invitation, share a fish n' chip supper and fruit salad and interview Che Guevara's daughter. Many would say that she dropped lucky having Che as her father but she shares his views, so it's a great platform for conveying her message and it draws people together and draws them toward her, making them want to be a part of the magic of his legacy. We asked her about immigration in general.

"I understand that immigration to Europe is a serious problem in the last few years but it will never be stopped with restrictions. If European governments want to do something serious in this respect then some concrete actions should be carried out in the countries the immigrants come from. People who emigrate do not emigrate simply because they want to leave their country. They emigrate because they need to survive. If they did socially and economically useful projects in the countries they come from, immigration would probably stop. They have to be given the opportunity to live with dignity. That's why it's necessary to work in this respect. The so-called First World has a debt to pay to the Third World. You as a person are not responsible for what your grandparents, great grandparents did, but if Britain is such a wealthy country today, unfortunately it's sustained from everything Britain looted from other parts of the world. So there should be a social commitment to sort of like, give a little back, that's why it's so

important to work on social consciousness. Refugees take jobs Europeans don't want to do. The problem is now in these present days with the economic crisis there is a reaction. Europeans are losing their jobs and they probably wouldn't mind doing the jobs they wouldn't do before. So xenophobia is increasing, increasing on the right. That's the way the Second World War started of course, it's very dangerous."

However, when asked about Cuba's position in handling migration, she acknowledges that they too face concerns in handling an influx of newcomers. "Haiti is very close to Cuba, they try to emigrate and seek asylum in the U.S. and they usually go there in boats. Many end up in Cuba, so we have to help them. We have large numbers of Haitians in Cuba...we've saved them from wrecks in the sea, we take them in, we feed them, give them medical care, but eventually they have to return to their country. We will facilitate a way for them to go back to Haiti. We have loads of problems of our own, lack of jobs and everything. So we have to help from a humanitarian point of view up to a certain extent, after that it is very difficult for Cuba." Historically she says, the country has supported African orphans and given medical aid to children of the Ukraine. It seems that Cuba hasn't found a solution, though in fairness, the imposing of the U.S. blockade infringes on trade, brings its own hurdles and stifles the economy.

Two things she did that evening gave particular insight into her character. As the crowd packed in and seats filled up she stood and offered her own. When it came to sign books, it was no mere scribbled autograph but several lines of a personal message. She has her father's eyes and much of his spirit shapes her, relentless in her quest to cure, with medicine and ideals.

A great chip supper (with ketchup and banter). She gives us kisses and hugs. Tomorrow she will be on the road again, listeners paying rapt attention to another instalment of her father's legacy. Her father is a poster boy who stirs the masses with a stomping social message that

transcends the eras, a message she continues to promote with her own work across national boundaries.



Photos: Lewisphotography86@yahoo.com

SOME THOUGHTS ON THE BLOCKADE

While in general terms the Cuba Solidarity Campaign was set up to support Cuba in establishing normal international sovereign status, its main driving force was, and is, to draw attention to the economic blockade and to help as much as possible to mitigate some of its effects. Consequently, it seemed a good idea to attend the meeting at Derby to listen to Salim Lamrani and to get hold of a copy of his book 'The Economic War Against Cuba'.

Lamrani is Professor of Spanish and Latin American Studies at the University of Paris-Sorbonne. My first impression was his alarming resemblance to a young, but shorter, Fidel, minus beard. He speaks perfect English with a soft French accent and occasionally charmingly stops to enquire whether a specific word is acceptable English.

The book covered all the material in the talk, before questions. It is clearly written and concise: the main text takes up 59 pages while the appendices of 39 pages give details of the votes on UN Resolutions Against the Sanctions from 1992 to 2011 with a full report of the 2011 vote including text of speeches delivered. It is thoroughly researched with careful references for sources.

Lamrani points out that what he calls 'diplomatic rhetoric' used to justify the embargo has shifted over the years. At the start it was the terms of compensation for sequestered properties (the US rejected settlements which were accepted by every other country involved). It then became a response to Cuba's friendly relations with Soviet Russia followed by retaliation for the support of revolutionary groups in Africa and Latin America. Finally, the current stage relates to the perceived treatment and denial of rights to dissidents.

Each US Administration is examined in detail from Eisenhower to Obama showing how pressure was intensified not just by Republican presidents and particularly the Bush family, but also by Clinton when Cuba was seen to be at its weakest. He describes how the embargo has been enforced with a disregard for international and even domestic law on a breath-taking scale. Not only are breaches prosecuted in American courts retroactively but also wherever they occur in any part of the world. Any business trading in the US can be taken to court if they or any of their subsidiaries, no matter how small and obscure, no matter how trivial the transaction (he gives examples) trade with Cuba. He shows, incidentally, from government documents that it would be perfectly legal for a US citizen to be prosecuted for buying a bottle of Havana Club in Nottingham. While there may have been a softening of

attitude by the Obama administration in other areas, he gives examples of recent cases and the imposition of heavy fines.

Lamrani's contention is that the detail, the sustained pressure uniquely applied on Cuba over the years indicates a different agenda beyond the justifications given. A successful outcome for the US, were the blockade withdrawn, would be a virtual control of the island, in effect integration. However, he goes on to suggest that the implementation of the embargo is sustained by a kind of historical momentum and has lost two important elements of active support. He assesses that the general public are either indifferent or even critical since the publicity given to the Elian Gonzales case when the boy in the care of Miami relatives was returned to Cuba on the direction of a US court. He regards the once influential Miami lobby as a spent force. All this is supported in a recent article by Gary Indiana in the London Review of Books and neatly summed up.

"First generation kingpins of Miami's Little Havana are now dropping dead from old age: their offspring have little interest in blowing up civilian airliners or reclaiming houses and sugar plantations expropriated fifty years ago. Obama's second term win in Florida proved that Cuban lobbies are no longer needed to carry the state in a national election. Despite all this, American policy on Cuba remains mired in 'ressentiment' over the Bay of Pigs failure, paranoia left over from the Missile Crisis and proprietary assumptions about Cuba that predate the American Revolution."

I must say that, if I were an American citizen, whatever interpretation offered for the Missile Crisis, I would find it very difficult to accept Lamrani's statement that '(Cuba) has never been a threat to (US) national security'. As with resolutions regarding Israel, UN resolutions against the embargo never seem to carry much weight in the US, but for what it's worth, since 2005 they have maintained a plateau with 180 or so in favour, abstentions down to 2 or 3 and now only Israel and the US against.

At the Derby meeting and at our earlier meeting addressed by Steve Wilkinson, the same question was put to the speakers. For all the damage caused by the blockade, the injustice, the illegality, the hardship, the sheer vindictiveness, hadn't it been a factor - indeed the major factor in conjunction with the uniquely sustained leadership qualities of Fidel - in determining the nature and even the existence of the Cuban state in anything like its present form? So much of the distinctive essence of Cuba which we admire, the priorities given to universally available education and medical provision and the consequent export of services and expertise, large scale efforts to farm organically, the absence of grossly wealthy politically powerful individuals, are they not all at least partly promoted by living in a state of siege? Even, dare we suggest, has it maintained the uniquely long lasting career of Fidel? As a corollary question, what could happen when (and if!) the blockade is removed?

The answers from both speakers were, not surprisingly, similar. For historical reasons, from the eradication of the native population by the Spanish, through eras of piracy, slavery and exploitation, Cuba entered the twentieth century as an under developed political entity immediately beholden to a powerful neighbour. Such was the alienation of the massive majority, apart from the beneficiaries from ownership of natural resources and Mafia activities, that the Revolution created a degree of communal spirit distinctly Cuban. Experiencing the consequences of capitalist exploitation made them not surprisingly willing to adopt the socialist values proposed by Fidel, Che and their new leaders. I took this to mean that the spirit of the Revolution would have carried the country through something like the actual developments. As far as the future is concerned, great care is taken over foreign investment and a crucial element of ownership in contracts is retained by the state. The recent economic reforms and the relations with other sympathetic Latin American states have helped to mitigate the blockade's effectiveness and ease acceptance of relaxation rather than for the unlikely event of total withdrawal.

Lamrani used the emigration figures compared with similar sized islands and states to demonstrate the extent of commitment. I found this rather questionable in the light of the permit system at least. However, a genuine test will exist when the effects of last January's freedom of movement initiatives become apparent. We wait with interest.

George Drury

CUBA AND LATIN AMERICA

We have tended in Newsletters to focus almost entirely on Cuban domestic concerns and descriptions of life there without recognising the importance of the Latin American context. To remedy this for once, we print two items. Roger Tanner attended a Latin America Conference in London on our behalf and made these notes on a contribution by an influential figure from Ecuador. The letter from Dan Morgan, who was our group's Treasurer before he went to live in Santiago de Chile, was written shortly after the death of Hugo Chavez.

Ecuador – Another path in Latin America?

The Latin America 2013 Conference highlighted the variety of paths being taken across Latin America, as alternatives to domination by the U.S. "free-market model", in Venezuela, Bolivia, Nicaragua, Brazil and Argentina, as well as in Cuba. Guillaume Long, president of the board which is responsible for restructuring higher education in Ecuador, and close adviser to the president, Rafael Corea, spoke at the Conference on the Ecuadorian experience.

He talked of the background up to the election of the government of Rafael Corea in 2006. In the 1990's Ecuador was a "failed state"; 6 presidents in 10 years under neo-liberalism, with the largest US military base in Latin America. Under these neo-liberal policies, banks collapsed in 1999, with all bank accounts frozen, 2 million left the country, out of a total of 14 million, and the US dollar had to be

adopted as the national currency. Meanwhile massive profits were still made by international firms and bosses in the country.

Following Corea's election, in 2009, the US base was expelled. Corea, who had the experience of having been an economist for many years in U.S.A., took Ecuador in a new direction. Ecuador became one of the few countries that successfully went through the global economic crisis with a growing economy (8% last year), despite being still tied to the dollar. This was achieved by:

- Holding an Audit of the national debt and repudiating much, finding out that the majority was "immoral, a robbery", so reducing it to one third.
- Increasing tax revenue by three and half times, without increasing tax levels, by reducing tax evasion by the rich. These new funds were used to increase health spending by six times, major roads were built to integrate the population and domestic inflation reduced through transport costs. Free education in the state universities has also been introduced.
- Setting a minimum wage and making it illegal to pay out to shareholders unless a "salary of dignity" has been paid to employees.
- Nationalising the oil industry and paying oil companies only a fixed price for continuing work.

Maybe there are lessons here for how other states can break from the orthodox neo-liberal solutions to economic crisis.

Ecuador has many challenges to face but it has taken some important steps towards a new model of creating a just society. The alternative models developing in Latin American have much to teach us.

Roger Tanner

Victory for Nicolas Maduro: 15 April 2013

What a tight result in Venezuela, and what a relief! Nicolas Maduro did win the presidential election, but only just – why?

On election day, I expressed my nervousness, because of what I saw as an extremely ill-advised campaign. From afar, in Chile, I saw many of Maduro's rallies via TeleSur. It was essential for him to emphasise Chavez' legacy, and himself as his successor. But that was all I heard – Chavez, Chavez, Chavez, almost ad nauseam. His own ideas, proposals and priorities were practically absent. He did himself no favours. Maduro is a serious politician. He has a strong history as a trade union and student leader, a parliamentarian and political campaigner. As Foreign Minister for 7 years, he showed himself to be a strong, serious speaker and negotiator, playing a crucial role in the formation of the ALBA (the Bolivarian Latin American Alliance for Our Peoples of America), UNASUR (the Union of South American Nations) and CELAC (the Community of Latin America and the Caribbean).

After the death of Hugo Chavez, I heard a speech he made to the Communist Party Congress, full of emotion it's true, but also with real content, recognising the need for a more successful fight against the insecurity, the culture of violence in society, and also against the twin evils of bureaucracy and corruption. These ideas were repeated in an open letter published just 3 days ago in 'The Guardian' (and posted on 'Portside'). In his victory Speech, Maduro stressed the need to correct errors, fight corruption, and promote efficiency in the building of a socialist society. In what I saw on television, these and other serious proposals did not emerge.

Hugo Chavez had his own style. It was very 'tropical', 'Central American', flamboyant and bombastic. It obviously resonated deeply with millions, especially the previously ignored, forgotten and despised poorer masses of the country. Although to the possibly jaundiced eyes of this Britisher, and to very many Chileans ('The English of South

America') it was not attractive. The Cult of Personality created around him was a great strength politically. But of course a personality cult has the weakness of dying with the person. Partially, at least, because Chavez' speeches and ideas will continue to be broadcast for a long time.



Nicolas Maduro has his own style, more serious and reflective, reflecting his working class origins as compared with the peasant background of Chavez. Maduro should probably have projected more his own style during the campaign, and not tried to emulate Chavez, as he seemed to do. But above all, he should have spoken about the real problems obviously affecting the people, as Capriles did. Some of these problems are due to sabotage and the campaign to destabilise the country. As in Chile 1971 to 1973, shortages of basic goods exist, often artificially produced. All kinds of other sabotage, such as power cuts mentioned by Maduro last night, and a massive mass media campaign, were used. There is inflation, a very high rate of violent crime and, as Maduro recognises, bureaucracy and corruption. It is perhaps worth

saying that Chileans who lived in Venezuela in the '80s tell me that corruption was all-pervading in the country. That culture is not easily eradicated.

Maduro, I firmly believe, has the potential to be a better leader than Chavez. He is the man of the hour for this stage, of consolidation and development of the Venezuelan socialist model, with organisation, efficiency and seriousness. He needs to tackle many problems, in the economy, in social and cultural areas. He needs to strengthen the PSUV, the mass socialist party, reducing the effect of factional struggles. All previous serious efforts at building socialism have been led by a strong, united political party, and this will also be necessary in Venezuela if the revolution is to be really consolidated.

So, Nicolas Maduro won, just. As he said in his victory speech, the key task now is to build a strong political majority, including many of those who, succumbing to the massive and deceitful campaign, voted for Capriles

Dan Morgan, Santiago de Chile.

VISTING CUBA: A TEENAGE DREAM

I have wanted to visit Cuba since the Revolution, when I was 17 years of age. For a whole range of reasons it has taken me 55 years to realise that ambition and to make the experience even better we could be in the Plaza de la Revolución for May Day.

What sort of trip should it be? An "all in" package was rejected out of hand, and the final decision was to make our own way around following advice about locations from friends. So Havana, Viñales, Trinidad and back to Havana with a hotel booked for the first four days in Havana and Casas Particular in Viñales (3 nights) and Trinidad (5 nights). All bookings easily done on the internet.

HAVANA

At the same time astonishing, beautiful, exciting, dreadful and worrying. Years of neglect caused by the Cuba's economic hardship during the *Special Period* has left some areas like bomb sites. Old Havana is full of beautiful buildings, some stunningly renovated and many others in the process of renovation which is part of *Master Plan for 21st Century Havana* drawn up by urban planners from around the world and led by Julio Cesar Pérez Hernandez a leading Cuban town planner. The Plan is far reaching, involves waterfront revitalization (taking into account the threat of rising sea levels), environmental sustainability and housing maintenance and renovation. It seemed to us that virtually all of the work seemed to be taking place on the waterfront and in Old Havana possibly with more than a nod towards the necessity to encourage tourism. Certainly there is a massive need for renovation in the more residential area of Havana Centro.

Throughout our time in Havana we felt absolutely safe whatever the time of day or location. Many people recognised us as tourists and wished us a "happy holiday", (one even congratulated us on the London Olympics), with only a few using it as an opening to sell us cigars. Of course some try to take advantage of us rich (!) tourists but certainly no more so than in other major cities we have visited.

VIÑALES.

About a three hour bus ride took us from Havana to the small town of Viñales. Travellers without accommodation should have no worries. Our bus was met by about thirty vocal locals with accommodation to let. One woman thought she was enhancing the quality of her Casa by telling me that she was a nurse- I told her that I was not ill.

Viñales is an attractive small, clean town situated in a beautiful valley which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The town has several decent bars and restaurants. We really enjoyed our days and evenings. A small

bar had live music every night and there was a large Casa de la Musica which was packed.

Our accommodation was in a Casa Particular, an immaculately clean beautifully furnished house run by a family, Danay, her husband Mario and her mother. Our room was perfect with (very necessary) air conditioning and a balcony with rocking chairs and great views. Mario owned a taxi and took us on a tour of the valley which was stunning. We visited two cave systems, a tobacco farm, an organic smallholding and two posh hotels situated in the hills with spectacular views over the valley.

Our last excursion in Viñales was a really enjoyable horse ride during which we were taken to an organic tobacco farm. The farmer told us that the cigars he rolled for, and sold to, us were free from nicotine since all of the nicotine in a leaf was in the stalk which he ripped out. This appears to be a load of rubbish!

Our three night stay with 3 breakfasts, two dinners, beers taken from the fridge, and the tour which took 4/5 hours cost 110 CUC (About £73)

TRINIDAD.

From Viñales we took an 8 hour bus ride back through Havana to Trinidad. Arrival meant the same scrum of people offering accommodation or a taxi. Since we had booked accommodation ahead we only needed a taxi. Unfortunately (for him) the driver we grabbed had a cycle taxi onto which he packed two overweight passengers with baggage to match. He certainly earned the 5 CUCs.

As in Viñales the Casa was clean well equipped and comfortable offering breakfast and dinner. We had one dinner which consisted of huge portions of lobster, prawns and what we decided was salmon.

Trinidad is larger and a lot busier than Viñales and it seems as though half the population drive or pedal taxis and are anxious to take you to Havana. The central areas contain some beautiful buildings, courtyards and plazas but the outskirts are really run down. I read somewhere that many houses have been in the families for many generations and this seems to be the case. In lots of cases one could see the front room beautifully furnished with antique furniture and paintings even though it was clear that the residents were not/could not be as wealthy as the furniture indicated. These were like live-in museums.



Like everywhere in Cuba, most restaurants had live music and every group will want to sell you their CD for 10 CUC. Whether you buy every one and exceed your luggage weight allowance coming home is up to you but most bands seemed happy enough with a tip.

There are several excursions and we went on one that consisted of a half hour drive, a walk and the chance to swim in a river and under a waterfall- great.

SANTA CLARA

The last stop and a last minute decision before our return to Havana and flight home. Unlike the others this felt very much like a present day town in Spain or Portugal. It is much larger than Trinidad or Viñales with well stocked shops. We went into one supermarket and could have bought pasta sauces, tinned fish, frozen fish and meat, wine, Chivas Regal whisky and even a new bike.

We obviously went to the two Che monuments. The first contained the mausoleum containing his remains and those of his 16 comrades killed in Bolivia and a graveyard containing the remains of other heroes of the Revolution. The second marks one of the last acts of the revolution when Che's group derailed a train carrying Batista reinforcement to Santa Clara.

SOME LESSONS

Casas Particulares are relatively cheap and (in our experience) provide good accommodation and food. Paladares (restaurant equivalent of Casas Particulares) will often be far better and have a wider menu than "public" restaurants. Don't eat without seeing the menu. We paid 60 CUCs for poor chicken and chips, for two, in a dodgy downtown greasy spoon with no written menu but were able to choose lobster, deserts, lots of mojitos and all the trimmings, for three, for 32 CUCs in a Paladar. Some, but by no means all, who greet you and welcome you to Havana will want to sell you expensive dodgy cigars. Before changing your CUCs back to pounds at the airport, remember you will each need to pay 25 CUCs airport tax before being allowed through the emigration channels...

THOUGHTS.

We really don't know and don't really want to imagine what road Cuba will go down in the next few years. Tourism is obviously bringing in

much needed revenue but seems to us to be creating a large number of nouveaux riche associated with it. Average wages are said to be the equivalent of about £12 per month and this seems to be confirmed by what we were told by waiters. But waiters dealing with tourists are in a fantastically privileged position. Our average meal probably cost us about 40CUC so we had no problem in tipping 4/5 CUC. Five tables a night could mean the equivalent of a month's extra pay every evening in tips. A doctor, street cleaner or bricklayer would have no such advantages.

We just can't work out how the two currencies in use interact. For instance we took a taxi in which there were two locals going to work and two more were picked up. We paid 5 CUCs but have no idea what the locals paid. 5 CUCs or the national currency equivalent would be an enormous amount for them so we guess that in addition to tourist currency there will be tourist taxi rates. Taxis in Havana are another example. Our average ride probably cost us 5 CUCs and might be in a classic American car (usually held together by rust), a 1970s Lada, a three wheeled scooter, bicycle or, if picked up outside the 5* Hotel Nacional, a top of the range Mercedes or BMW. We can only guess that the Merc/BMWs are state owned for the benefit of the rich tourists. The family, owning the Casa Particular in Viñales, had a newish car and their living accommodation was, by any standard excellent-modern fully fitted kitchen with a large range of electrical equipment and in the very comfortable living room a wide screen TV for their son to play his computer games on. No reason why not but by no means what seemed to be the norm. Walking around the Che monuments made me contrast the ultimate sacrifices of those buried there and the on-going sacrifices of millions of Cubans and the inordinate amount of time that some of the Left in the UK spend criticising Cuba (or Venezuela) when we can't even sustain a decent Trade Union Movement.

There has been, in the past, much, valid, criticism of the treatment of the LGBT community in Cuba but seeing obviously gay men walking,

confidently, around Trinidad and two large colourful stalls run by a national LGBT organisation giving out sexual health leaflet seems to indicate that things are changing. If you plan to go to the May Day rally in Havana remember that it will probably start before you get up and will certainly finish well before you have had your breakfast and a leisurely stroll to the Plaza de la Revolución. Several hundred thousand Cubans knew this but Keely didn't!

Julie Whitehead and Leo Keely

Forthcoming Events

July 14th 12 to 4 pm Annual Cuba Garden Party, 10 Denmark Grove, Alexandra Park, Mapperley, Nottingham 0115 9602324

Coming to the Cuba Garden Party? Why not come by bus? Park and Ride Tram to City Centre. Bus no. 45 from Queen Street to Woodborough Road, Dagmar Grove stop. Cross the road and the next road on the left, a few steps down the hill, is Denmark Grove.

TALL TREES GARDEN CENTRE

Situated on Nottingham-Southwell road (A612) beyond Burton Joyce. Includes a large Nursery and Aquatic Centre as well as the Mulberries Coffee Shop where you can taste and buy Cuban coffee and many other teas and coffees. 0115 9312830.

NOTTINGHAM ORGANIC GARDENERS meet on the second Tuesday of the month at the Hotel Deux, Clumber Avenue, Sherwood Rise. Full details at <http://www.nogs.btk.co.uk>