

Nov.  
Dec '80

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newsletter

# CHIMAERA

## NOTTINGHAM CHE NEWSLETTER

PROGRAMME NOVEMBER 1980

- MON 3RD An evening at Scott's Restaurant: meet at CVS beforehand to go down there at about 9.30 pm.
- TUES 4TH MIDLAND GROUP FILM: "Word is Out" - 7.30pm
- THUR 6TH Business Meeting at the CVS at 8pm.
- WED 12TH An Open Meeting of the newly formed Nottingham NCCL Group at the Salutation Inn, Maid Marian Way at 8pm.
- WED 12TH Nottingham Gay Music Group - visit to the Concert at the Albert Hall. Sir Charles Groves conducts the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra in a programme by Reznicek (Overture: Donna Diana), Mozart (Violin Concert in G major, K216, with Lydia Mordkovitch) and Elgar (symphony 2).
- FRI 14TH Visit to the group of Mike Jarrett, CHE's now not-so-new Chairperson. Mike is a lively character as those who have heard/seen him can attest, and he recently had what was reported to be an interesting meeting with members of Lincoln CHE. Please be at the CVS promptly for 8.00 pm.
- MON 17TH Nottingham Legal Action Group is holding a meeting in the downstairs Wine Bar at Nottingham Playhouse at 7.30pm. Free .... but there may well be a collection for their funds. Subject: the Law Affecting Prostitutes. Nothing to do with CHE? Since many of the laws against soliciting and importuning are similar to anti-gay ones, we think there is a connection.
- TUES 18TH MIDLAND GROUP FILM: "Home movie" and "In the Best Interests of the Children" - 7.30pm.

PROGRAMME: CONTINUED
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THUR 20TH Business Meeting at the CVS at 8pm.

THUR 27TH Discussion at CVS at 8pm for those interested in setting up a Gay Youth Group of some kind in Nottingham.

FRI 28TH Joint Meeting with QUEST and the local Gay Christian Movement to talk to the Rev. Arthur Pennington, who besides being a priest, is a local councillor. At the CVS promptly at 8.00 pm.

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OTHER EVENTS
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An advance notice for a December event: this is the CHE Christmas Disco which we plan to hold in Shades Club on Monday December 15th. Admission will be 75p; there should be a cabaret, a free raffle and other attractions that we can think of, plus the actual disco and drinks. All proceeds in aid of the John Clarkson Defence Fund.

In past years we have held a dinner just before Christmas at the Vernon Arms, which those who have attended have found a pleasant occasion. This year we are a bit late to book for Christmas, so it has been suggested that we have a Twelfth Night Dinner instead (January 6th). The cost will probably be in the region of £5-50 excluding drink. If interested, let Mike or Alan Furness know. Any suggestions for an alternative venue will be welcome as well.

On Saturday November 22nd there will be the first DISCO organised by the Boston CHE Group. This will take place at Blackfriars (on Spain lane, Boston) and will be from 8pm to at least 12 pm - there will be bar facilities.

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For those of you who are new to the Group, the letters CVS stand for the Council for Voluntary Service which is at 31a, Mansfield Road, Nottingham. This is also the address from which Nottingham Gay Switchboard operates on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 7-10pm. The phone number of the Switchboard is

Nottingham 46881

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You will receive details of the Programme for December along with the CHE Broadsheet for that period. Please remember that you are welcome to make contributions to CHIMAERA - articles, letters, poems, puzzles, newspaper cuttings, cartoons etc can all be useful. If you have anything which you think we might all like to read, then send it to CHE (at the CVS address above) or give it to any group officer. The DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT EDITION OF CHIMAERA WILL BE SATURDAY DECEMBER 20TH.

## BRAIN-TEASER QUIZ

WHO OWNS THE ZEBRA?

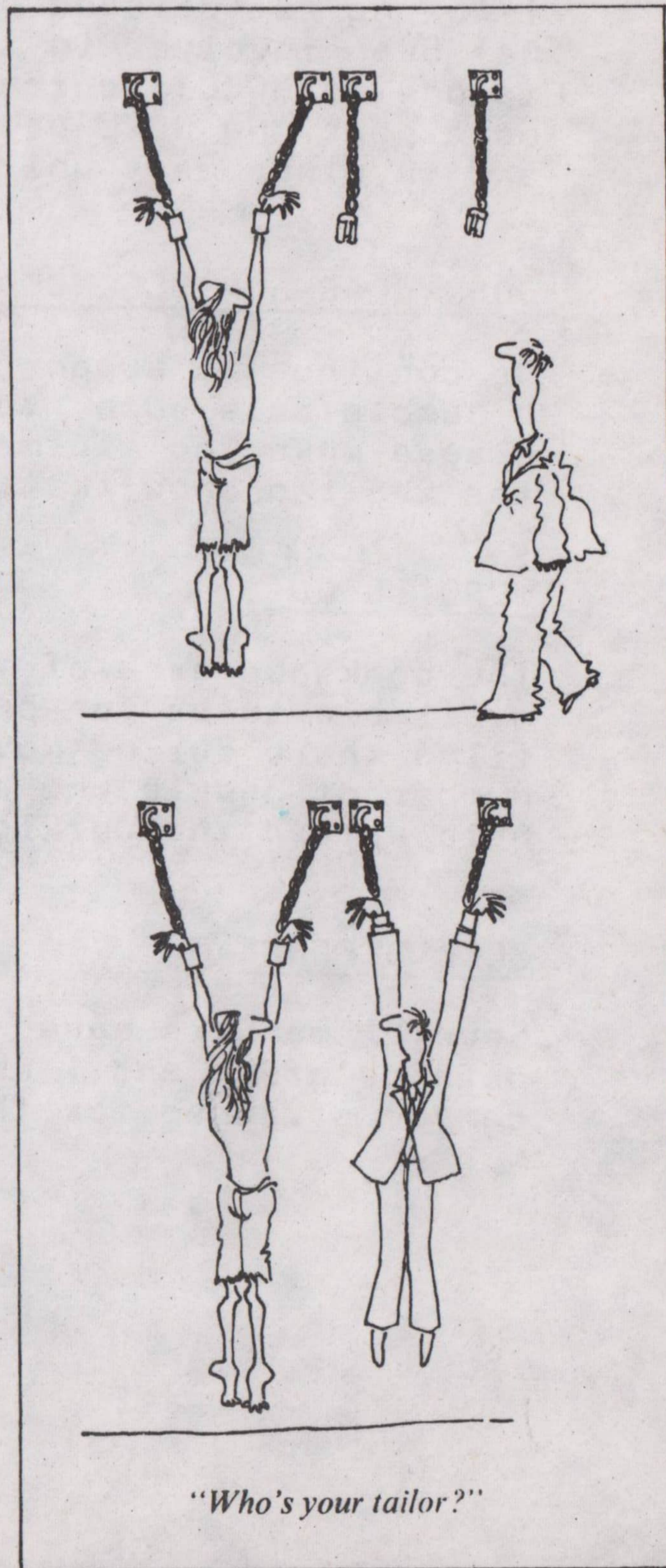
This brain-teaser can be solved by combining deduction, analysis and sheer persistence. The essential facts are as follows:-

1. There are five houses, each with a front door of a different colour and inhabited by men of different nationalities with different pets and drinks.
2. The Englishman lives in the house with the red door.
3. The Spaniard owns the dog.
4. Coffee is drunk in the house with the green door.
5. The Ukrainian drinks tea.
6. The house with the green door is immediately to the right (your right) of the house with the ivory door.
7. The Medium Cut smoker owns snails.
8. Spun Cut is smoked in the house with the yellow door.
9. Milk is drunk in the middle house.
10. The Norwegian lives in the first house on the left.
11. The man who smokes Mixture lives in the house next to the man with the fox.
12. Spun cut is smoked in the house next to the house where the horse is kept.
13. The Flake smoker drinks orange juice.
14. The Japanese smokes Rough Cut.
15. The Norwegian lives next to the House with the blue door.
16. Now, WHO DRINKS WATER?  
WHO OWNS THE ZEBRA?

There is only ONE CORRECT SOLUTION.

The first fully completed solution received (send, or hand things in, to CHE, 31a, Mansfield Road, Nottingham) and opened on NOVEMBER 20TH, will receive a record or book token to the value of £3-00.

Chris Cook.



CAMPAIGN REPORT
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CHE BULLETIN

The second of our new thrice-yearly "CHE Bulletin" will be distributed to local organisations which have shown interest in, or support for our aims, during the first week of November.

The main subject of this bulletin is the impending loss of the right of an individual to petition the European Commission on Human Rights. If you have not already done so, please write to your MP urging him to press the British Government to ratify article 25 of the European Convention on Human Rights which would maintain the right of individual petition.

N.C.C.L.

A Nottingham branch of the National Council for Civil Liberties is being established and Nottingham CHE (as an affiliate of NCCL) has been involved in this from the start. The Article 25 issue is one of NCCL's current campaigns which we are supporting and we expect the NCCL group to support us on the John Clarkson case and in other ways which are under discussion.

JOHN CLARKSON DEFENCE CAMPAIGN

We continue to support John in his Defence and we will be organising a Jumble Sale soon to help raise money. If you do nothing else, please make the minimal effort to collect jumble and bring it to the CVS and show that the group is not totally apathetic.

WORD IS OUT

The bookshop area of the Midland Group Gallery has been made available to us for publicity purposes during the season of gay films there during November and December. Please join the small number of people who will be there to staff the bookshop and help spread the workload.

SELF DEFENCE

Several members have expressed an interest in joining a self defence group and I shall be making contacts to see if something can be arranged for the new year.

Chris Richardson  
Campaign Officer.

WORD IS OUT - GAYS AND FILM
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Ever since the cinema began, its images have been used to define masculinity and femininity. By and large this has meant also the production of oppressive stereotypes of gays and gayness. Alternative and more positive traditions do exist, however, and have been consolidated in recent years in particular. This programme of films, which we have collaborated with the Midland Group Gallery to devise, is designed to highlight these positive traditions and more generally to raise questions about the depiction of gayness in the cinema. The films will all be shown at the Midland Group Gallery on Warser Gate in the Lace Market. Unless otherwise indicated, the starting time is 7.30 pm.

Tuesday 4th November "Word is out". A riveting documentary, made in America, consisting simply of interviews with gays from all walks of life. Much praised and much shown, its strength lies in its very simplicity and in its non-voyeuristic stance. (135 minutes)

Tuesday 18th November "Home Movie" and "In the Best Interests of the Children". The latter is a sympathetic documentary on the problems faced by lesbian mothers, the former a short celebratory autobiography made by Jan Oxenburg, an American lesbian filmmaker. There will be an introduction and a discussion led by a member of the Lesbian Mothers Movement.

Tuesday 2nd December "Witches, Dykes, Faggots and Poofers", "The Queen" and "Fireworks". "Witches" focusses on the militant struggle fought by gays in Sydney for the right to demonstrate, following the violent disruption by police of the 1978 Gay Pride March. "Fireworks", Kenneth Anger's first film, depicts the fantasies of a young sailor. "The Queen" is a documentary account of the grand finale to the 1967 Drag Queen contest in New York. An extraordinary and sympathetic study of a fantasy world that is often burlesqued, but that here is deadly serious. (50 + 15 + 68 minutes).

Tuesday 9th December "The Bitter Tears of Petra von Kant". Fassbinder's stunningly stylised film about the oppressions lying at the heart of the lesbian milieu he portrays. Insisting on the fact that general social attitudes pervade all relationships the film is ultimately equivocal in its own attitudes to lesbianism. (114 minutes)

Tuesday 16th December "Army of Lovers". Rosa von Praunheim's stunning kaleidoscope of images, attitudes, contradictions and experiences. The success of the film lies in its willingness to confront eroticism and ambiguity, and in its refusal to normalise homosexuality. The film will be introduced by Jack Babuscio, writer and Gay News film critic. (107 minutes).

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NOTTINGHAM CHE HALF-YEAR ACCOUNTS 1.4.80 - 20.9.80
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EXPENDITURE

Donations	133-70
Affiliations	10-00
Rooms	32-00
Post, phone,	
Stationery	53-82
Advertising	21-88
Coffee	5-00
Speakers' expenses	21-75
Bank charges	1-06
Supporters' cards	22-88
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total	302-09
Excess of I over E	31-50
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	£333-59
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INCOME

Collections	107-31
Gay News (net)	42-85
Subscriptions (net)	40-25
25 club (net)	57-50
Donations	25-43
Discos	17-50
(21-20 less losses 3-70)	
Unpresented cheques	
written off	7-50
Gay Pride Disco & badges	12-37
Supporters' cards	22-88
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	333-59
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BALANCE SHEET AT 30.9.80

C.I.H b/f from 79/80	186-46
Excess of income	
on period	33-50
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	217-96
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Cash at Bank: Deposit	109-84
Current	195-12
Cash in hand	12-00
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	316-96
Plus debtors	15-00
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	331-96
Less creditors	114-00
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	217-96
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BUDGET 1980/81 prepared 5/10/80 - based on first  $\frac{1}{2}$  year a/c including agreed comittment of £100 to Nottingham Gay Switchboard; continuance of 25p charge at meetings and continued Gay News sales of 40 copies per issue.

EXPENDITURE

Donations	200-00
Coffee	10-00
Advertising	30-00
Post, phone,	
stationery	120-00
Affiliations	20-00
Rooms	70-00
Miscellaneous	100-00
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	550-00
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INCOME

Collections	230-00
Gay News	105-00
Subscriptions	70-00
Donations	45-00
Miscellaneous	100-00
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	550-00
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NOTES ON I AND E ACCOUNT first quarter loss of £15-34 turned to a  $\frac{1}{2}$  year profit of £31-50 after allowing for 25 club proceeds being donated to Gay Switchboard. Balance of guarantee to Gay S/B now only £21-30. Collections in Aug. and Sept. (ie since 25p charge introduced) equal to 50% of total amount in the 6 month period. Average income to group from subs. = £1-65/member. Cost of group per member = £12-60.

ODDS AND ENDS

Looking for a job in London? Interested in Interior Design?

Grosvenor Interiors are looking for a gay person over 22 with initiative, to liaise with Top End of the Market clients throughout the UK and abroad. A good standard of education is essential, but experience, whilst desirable, is not essential. Accommodation in London is available if required.

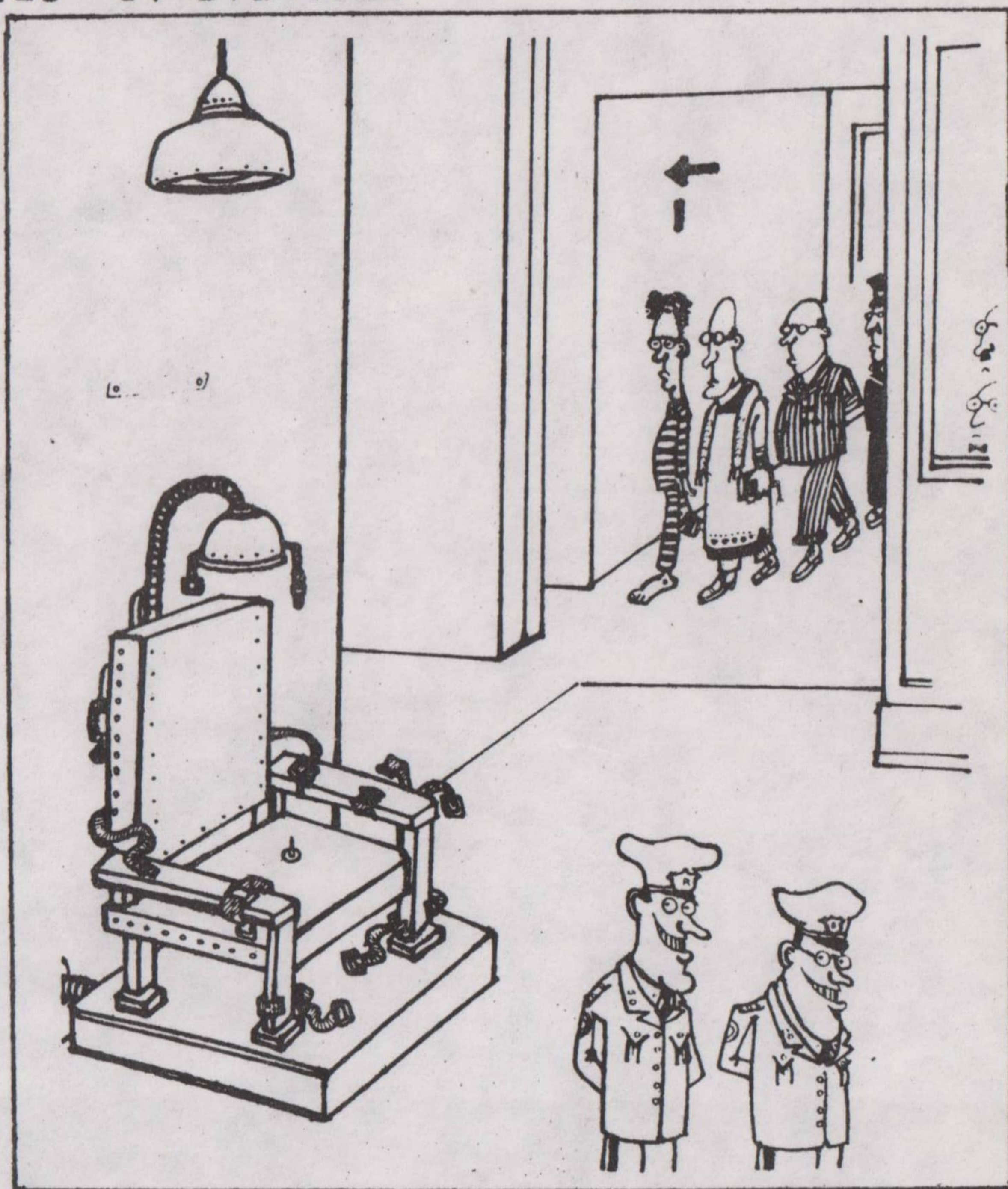
Further info from Robert Douglas 01-272-5565

DAVIDS

Can you recognise and put names to the following Davids? These suggestions were by Vincent and others.

Handcuff Swinger  
 The Bearded Juvenile  
 Choir Boy  
 Corden-bleu  
 Yorkie Bar Kid  
 Teaching Queen  
 Garbage

There are definitely no prizes for anyone sorting out who is who.



I believe that the Pavilion Club recently held a Halloween Party (where all the members joined hands and tried to contact the living). Is it true that a certain CHE member went dressed as Count Dracula? And is it also true that he was heard giving renderings of "Fangs for the mammary" and "Roamin' in the Haemoglobin" ??