

CHIMAERA

NOTTINGHAM CHE NEWSLETTER

PROGRAMME: JANUARY 1982

- THUR 7TH Discussion on the future of National CHE. At CVS at 8pm
(See details overleaf)
- FRI 15TH Pub Evening. Meet in the Princess on Parliament St. (opposite
the Theatre Royal) at 8pm or thereabouts.
- MON 18TH Swimming evening at Carlton Forum. Meet in the Dog and
Partridge at 7pm, or go there direct if you know the way,
but bear in mind that the baths close at 9pm.
- THUR 21ST Discussion on the Future of Nottingham CHE, at CVS at 8pm.]
- FRI 22ND New Heart Theatre Group (ex-Gay Sweatshop) will be perform-
-ing "The Gorgeous and the Damned" at the Midland Group
Gallery on Carlton St. No more details at the moment, but
some of us will be going, so if you are interested, let
it be known.
- WED 27TH Coffee and Cupboard Evening at Tony's (Flat 4, 19a, Pelham
Crescent, The Park) at 8pm onwards. If he still proves
adamant over his cupboard, some other form of entertainment
will be provided.
- THUR 4TH FEBRUARY Discussion on the placing of plaques of gay
significance around the city. At CVS at 8pm.
(See article on page 6 of this Newsletter).

One advance bit of information for your diaries: Nottingham Playhouse
are now definitely putting on Martin Sherman's much-acclaimed play
"Bent", dealing with the plight of gays in Nazi Germany and the
concentration camps. We shall be trying to arrange a group visit for
this on March 24th (a Wednesday) as there is a discussion of the play
after the performance on that night. More details will follow.

For those new to CHE or to Nottingham, the letters CVS stand for the
Council for Voluntary Service, whose premises are used by CHE and
Nottingham Gay Switchboard. The address is 31a, Mansfield Road. The
phone number of Gay Switchboard is 46881 from 7-10pm Mon./Wed./Thurs.

Pages 3 and 4 of this newsletter consist of a (hopefully) up-to-date
set of information about gay groups, venues, organisations etc. which
you may wish to keep. Further copies of the information sheet are
available from the CVS.

The Deadline for the next edition of Chimaera will be THURSDAY FEB. 25th.

THE FUTURE OF CHE AT NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS

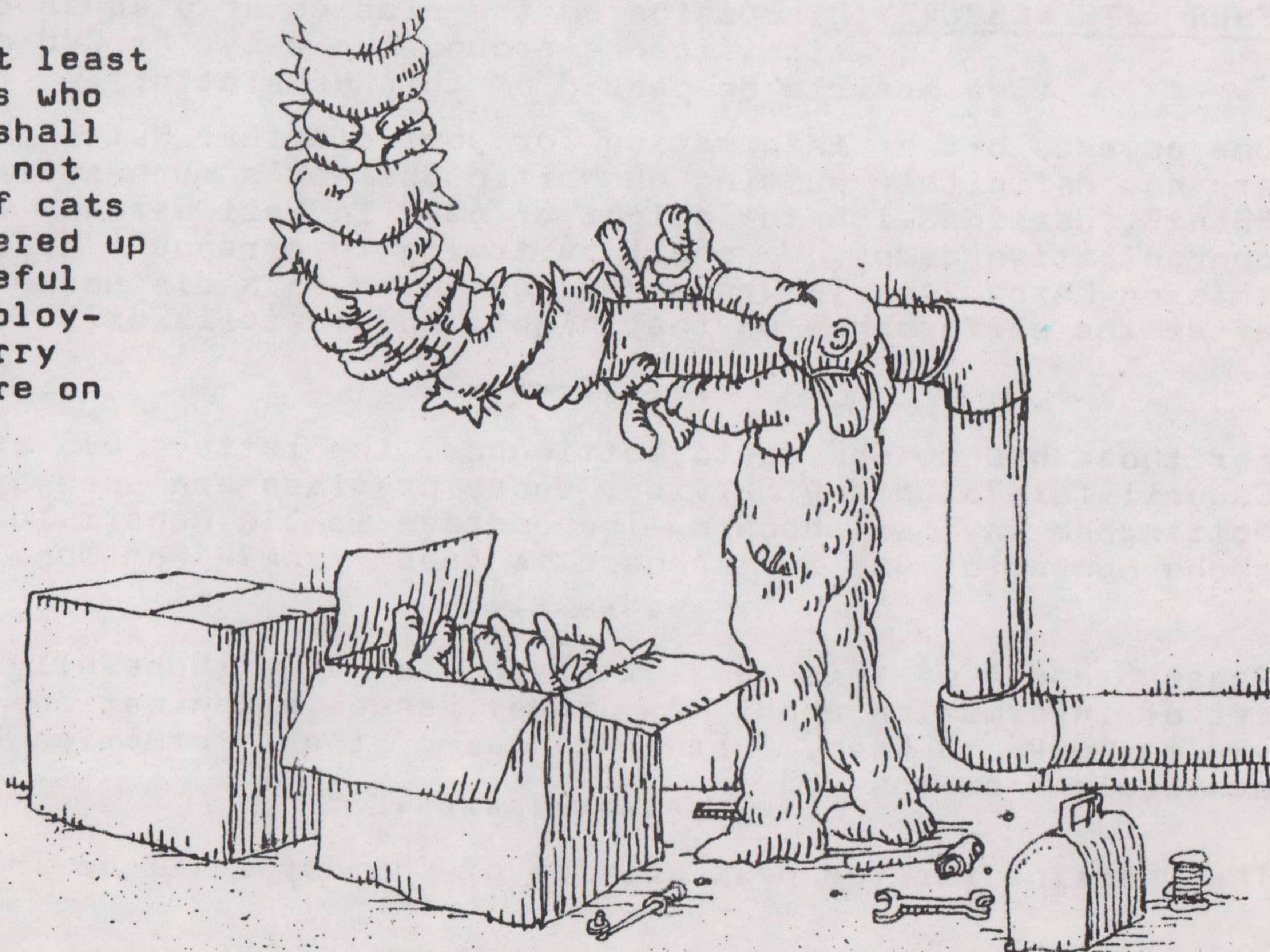
It would be idle and foolish to try and believe that National CHE is without its problems: for the third year now it has an executive that has not been elected as so few people were willing to serve on it that an election was unnecessary; the national office spends a disproportionate amount of time simply keeping the membership details up-to-date; money is in short supply and the campaigning budgets are constantly being trimmed until there's hardly anything left; important campaigning work is not being done for lack of finance or because the people committed to doing it just have not got the time/energy for it.

We have been asked to submit our views on the situation to national office in time for the National Council in March, and so Thursday 7th January is being given over to a discussion of the situation so that we can make those ideas and views known.

There is another evening (Thursday 21st January) being given over to the situation obtaining in our own local group. Here again the burdens are falling on shoulders that are too few in number and becoming exhausted as well. Most of the group's officers (those who are still fulfilling a commitment to the group) have been keeping the group going for two or three years: they need a rest, and a change can be beneficial to the group as well. Social events are organised which no-one supports. Why not? Aren't they what people want to do? If not, what do people want to do? Why don't they let us know? The poor return for effort put in is demoralising for those who try to keep the group alive for the benefit of existing and future members.

It is hoped that as many members as possible will want to come to these discussion evenings and to contribute their thoughts and opinions on the subjects concerned. It is no fantasy to say that a poor attendance could be the prelude to the collapse of the group after the AGM in April - there may no longer be anyone to take on the task of keeping going the facilities which some members take for granted.

Ah! Well! At least those of us who are - how shall I put it - not too fond of cats may be cheered up by some useful ways of employing our furry friends. More on page 5.



INFORMATION SHEET

GAY SWITCHBOARDS Provide help, information and advice for gay women and men. All calls are treated in strictest confidence.

NOTTINGHAM: Nottingham Gay Switchboard: Tel. Nottm 46881 (Mon/Wed/Thur 7-10 pm excluding Bank Holidays) or write c/o 31a, Mansfield Rd. Nottm.

BASSETLAW: Information via Lincoln Gay Switchboard (see below)

BOSTON: Tel. Boston 60167 (John) or 67527 (Bernard) Wed. 6-10 pm.

DERBY: Gay Information Service: Tel. Derby 752260 Fri. 8-11 pm.

LEICESTER: Gayline/Friend: Tel. Leicester 826299 Mon.-Fri. 7.30-10.30 pm.

LINCOLN: Lincoln Gay Switchboard: Tel. Lincoln 40533 Wed. 6-10 pm.

SHEFFIELD: CHE Information Service: Tel. Sheffield 307142 Mon-Fri from 6pm

LONDON: London Gay Switchboard: Tel. 01-837-7324 or write
BM Switchboard, London, WC1N 3XX.

CAMPAIGN FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY Aims to end legal and social discrimination against gay women and men. Arranges a programme of meetings and social events.

NOTTINGHAM CHE: Address: c/o Nottingham CVS, 31a Mansfield Rd., Nottingham
Convenor: Mike Raymond (Tel. Nottm. 55196)
Membership Secretary: Tony Barker (Tel. Nottm. 49137)
Meets weekly. Contact Convenor or Membership Secretary or Nottingham Gay Switchboard for details.

DERBY CHE: Convenor/Mem. Sec: Jeff Blood (Tel. Derby 664234
Thursdays 7-11pm only)
Meets weekly. Details from convenor or Derby Gay Information Service.

LINCOLN CHE: Address: Lincoln CHE, PO Box 12, Lincoln LN5 7PE.
Convenor: John Ockenden (Tel. Metheringham 20851)
Meets each Tuesday. Details from Convenor or Lincoln Gay Switchboard.
Women's Group meets at the Horse and Groom 8 pm, first Friday of each month. Details from Lincoln Gay Switchboard.

BOSTON CHE: Address: Boston CHE, PO Box 4, Boston, Lincs.
Convenor: Bernard Thorley (Tel. Boston 67527 Wed. 6-11pm)
Meets weekly; details from Convenor or Boston Gay Switchboard.

LEICESTER CHE: Convenor: John Martin (Tel. Nottingham 396807)
Meets weekly; details from convenor or Leicester Gayline.

GAY NEWS OUTLETS IN NOTTINGHAM

Nottingham CHE - Group sells copies in Hearty Good Fellow and at
Nottm. Gay Switchboard. Profits go to group funds.
Whispers, Stanford Street.
La Chic, Part Two, Robert House, 5-13 Canal Street.
Brid docks, Parliament Street.
Newspaper Kiosk, Theatre Royal Underpass.
Frank's Kiosk, Broadmarsh Bus Station.

NOTTINGHAM ORGANISATIONS

Lesbian Link (Nottingham area) Tel.Nottm.410652 Mon,Wed. 7-9.30pm
 Nottingham Friend Tel.Nottm.46881 Tues. 7-10 pm or
 write c/o 31a Mansfield Rd.Nottm.
 Gaysoc (University) c/o Students Union, Portland Building
 Gayline (University) Tel.Nottm. 50421 (external) or 3474
 (Internal) Mon.during term 8-12pm
 Quest (Catholic Group) Tel.Nottm.49137 (Tony,6-7pm weekdays)
 or 812741 (Wally)
 Gay Christian Movement Tel.Nottm.206775 (Mike)
 Samaritans 18,Clarendon St. Tel. 40506
 Marriage Guidance Council 84,Mansfield Rd. Tel. 57836

GAY VENUES

NOTTINGHAM: Hearty Good Fellow,Maid Marian Way,Basement Bar.8pm mainly
 men. Open Sunday Lunchtime.
Foresters,Glasshouse St.,(Behind Victoria Centre) Mainly
 women.
Dog & Partridge,Parliament St.(opposite Boots in Vic.Centre)
 back bar,mixed on weekdays,best on Sat/Sun lunchtimes.
Whispers Club,8 Stanford St.(Tel.55736)Membership £8 p.a.
 Closed Tues. Admission variable-check with club. 9pm-2am
La Chic Part Two,5-13 Canal St.(Tel.558866 or 583425)
 membership £10 p.a. or £3/quarter. Closed Mon. Admission
 free to members on Wed/Thur/Sun. Cabaret Tues/Fri.
 9.30pm-3am.

DERBY: Pavilion Club, 123,London Rd.,Shardlow (Tel.792581)
 Friday to Sunday 8-11pm.

LINCOLN: Falstaff Inn,270 High Street. Mixed.

LEICESTER: Dover Castle, 34,Dover St. Disco Wed/Fri/Sat/Sun
Spots, St.James St.(Tel.50785) Mon. to Sat. 9-2,Sun 9-12.

MANSFIELD: Red Lion, Bancroft Lane,Sutton Rd., Drag shows Tues-Thurs.
White Hart, Church St., Upstairs disco/lounge Thurs-Sun.

SHEFFIELD: Cossack Hotel, Howard Street.
Salutation Inn (club), Attercliffe Common (Tel.449550)
 Mon. to Sat. 10pm-2am.

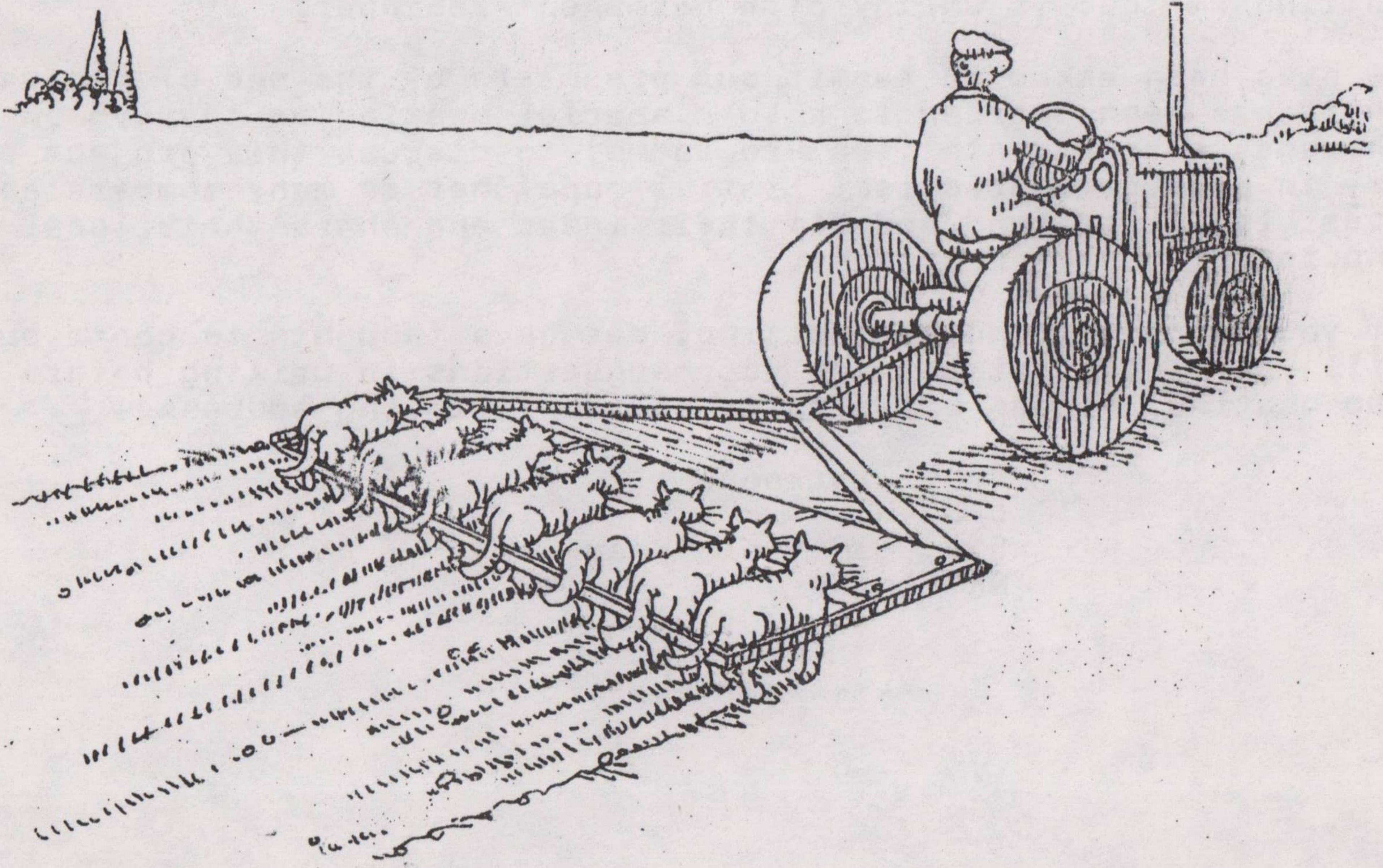
NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Lesbian Line 01-837-8602 (Mon & Fri 2-10pm;Tues-Thur 7-10pm)
 London Friend 01-359-7371 (nightly,7.30-10pm)274 Upper St.N1.
 Icebreakers(counselling) 01-274-9590 (nightly,7.30-10.30 pm)
 CHE National Office 01-359-3973 274 Upper St. London N1.
 Parents' Enquiry Rose Robertson,16 Honley Rd,Catford,London.
 Gay News 01-381-2161 1a Normand Gardens,Greyhound Rd,
 London W14 9SB.

Labour Campaign for Gay Rights Secretary:1,Westbourne Ave.London,W3 6JL
 Conservative Group for Homosexual Equality 01-994-4399
 BM/CGHE, London WC1N 3XX.

Liberal Party Gay Action Group c/o Upper Maisonette, 14 Prior Park
 Buildings, Widcombe, Bath, BA2 4NP
 Gay Social Democrats Paul Cheesman, 50 Edencourt Rd,London SW16 6QT
 Gay Legal Advice (GLAD) 01-821-7672(nightly 7-11pm)BM Glad, WC1N 3XX
 National Council for 01-278-4575(9-5pm) 186 Kings Cross Rd. WC1.
 Civil Liberties

THREE MORE USES OF A DEAD CAT



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT - GAYS IN NOTTINGHAM - THE FACTS

It is often surprising how the least expected things occur.

Who would have thought that economic/unemployment crises, government cutbacks in public spending, Summer riots, supplementary rate demands, Lord Scarman, Michael Hessletine, Inner City deprivation, Nottingham City Council, Nottingham Council for Voluntary Services, Nottingham Historical Society and the Nottingham Civic Trust would have very much to do with the continued lobbying of our elected representatives by CHE in Nottingham.

Well it has! We can record yet another campaign success in conscience raising and a little more awareness of all the above in matters gay.

In short, all the Summer crises have resulted in the government making cash available for inner city improvements and also to give grants to voluntary organisations so that they can undertake many of the jobs that the Authorities can no longer afford to do.

As a result, a fairly substantial amount of money has been made available for making Nottingham a better place in which to live by erecting memorial plaques to commemorate places, people and happenings of social interest. It has been stipulated that this scheme must be representative of the Nottingham Society as a whole and that includes minority groups, ethnic groups and so on.

Which is where our lobbying of the council and our involvement with CVS has paid off as we have been invited to submit proposals to the project committee for plaques with a specifically gay interest. I doubt whether we can persuade those who matter to ensure that any "gay plaques" are in the shape of pink triangles but I do feel that there is plenty of gay social history in Nottingham that is worthy of a permanent reminder.

We have been asked to submit our proposals by the end of February so it has been decided to hold a special meeting at the CVS on Thursday February 4th (see Programme) to discuss this project and try to produce a practical list. I hope that as many members as possible will attend and air their ideas and share their local knowledge, past and present.

If you cannot attend the meeting, but have thoughts to contribute, will you please let me have your suggestions in writing before the meeting. Please write to me at the following address:-

John Clarkson,
c/o CHE,
31a, Mansfield Road,
Nottingham.

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD

Here are the answers to the Crossword which appeared in the last edition of Chimaera.

ACROSS

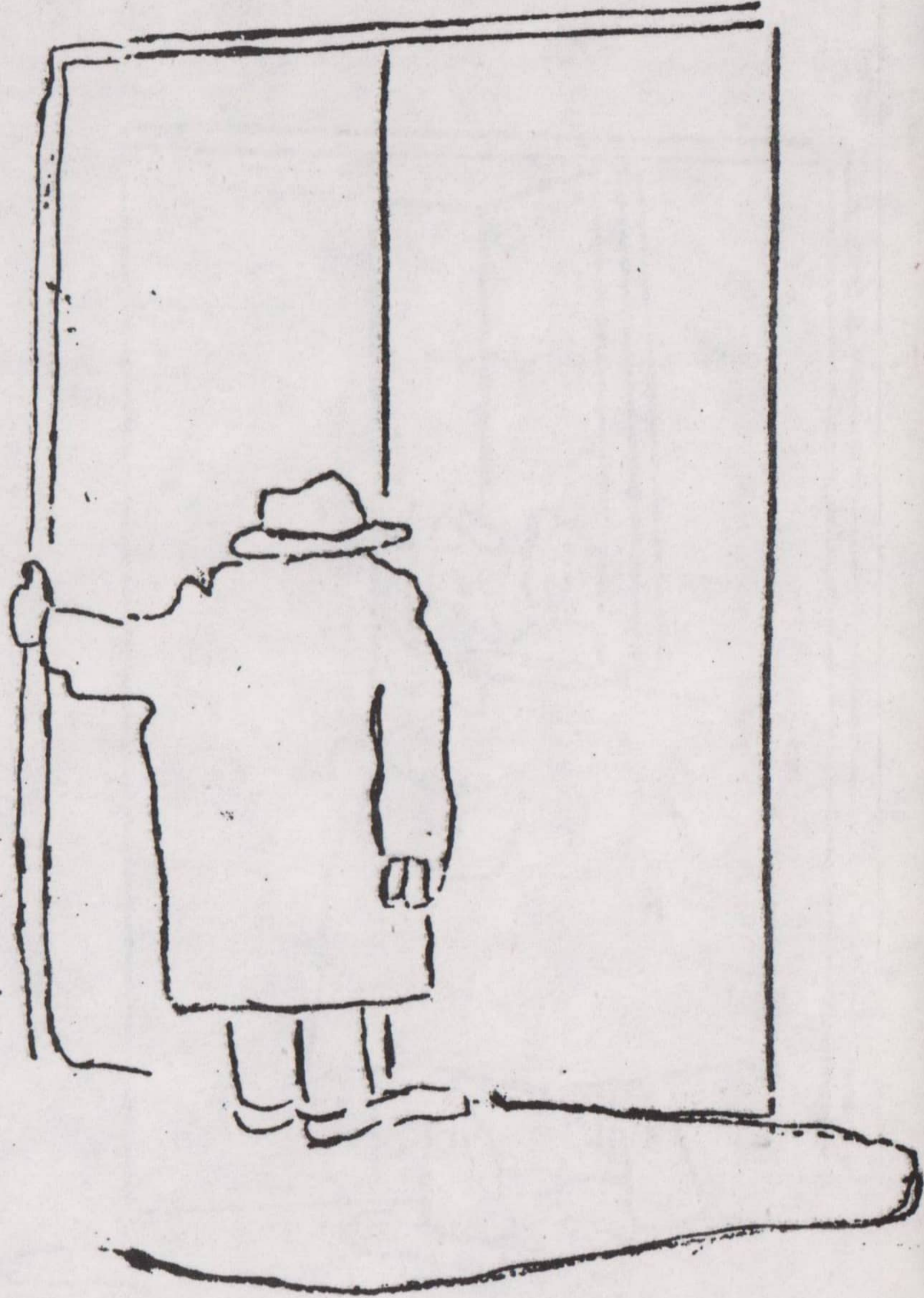
1. Happy birthday
8. Convenor
9. Nookie
10. Mind
11. In droves
12. Awning
14. Sector
16. Tricks
18. Tablet
19. Free love
21. Spot
22. Stye
23. Mufflers
24. Nottingham CHE

DOWN

2. Atomic war
3. Paved
4. Bunting
5. Reredos
6. Hansom cab
7. Abode
13. Inclement
15. One fourth
17. Showman
18. Twelfth
20. Ratio
21. Salem

Only two replies were received and as both were correct it seemed only right that they should both receive a prize. The winners were Tony Barker and David Edgley.

1



2



3



25 CLUB

The 25 Club, which was launched in May, eventually attracted enough support from members to get off the ground in August with 17 participants each staking £6. After deduction of prize money there was a surplus of £47-50 which was used towards the group's grant of £150 towards Nottingham Gay Switchboard.

The winners to date are:-

August	£7-50	Ms A. Surgenor
September	£7-50	Joe Wilde
October	£7-50	John Clarkson
November	£7-50	Alan Furness
December	£17-00	(Xmas Jackpot) John Moore

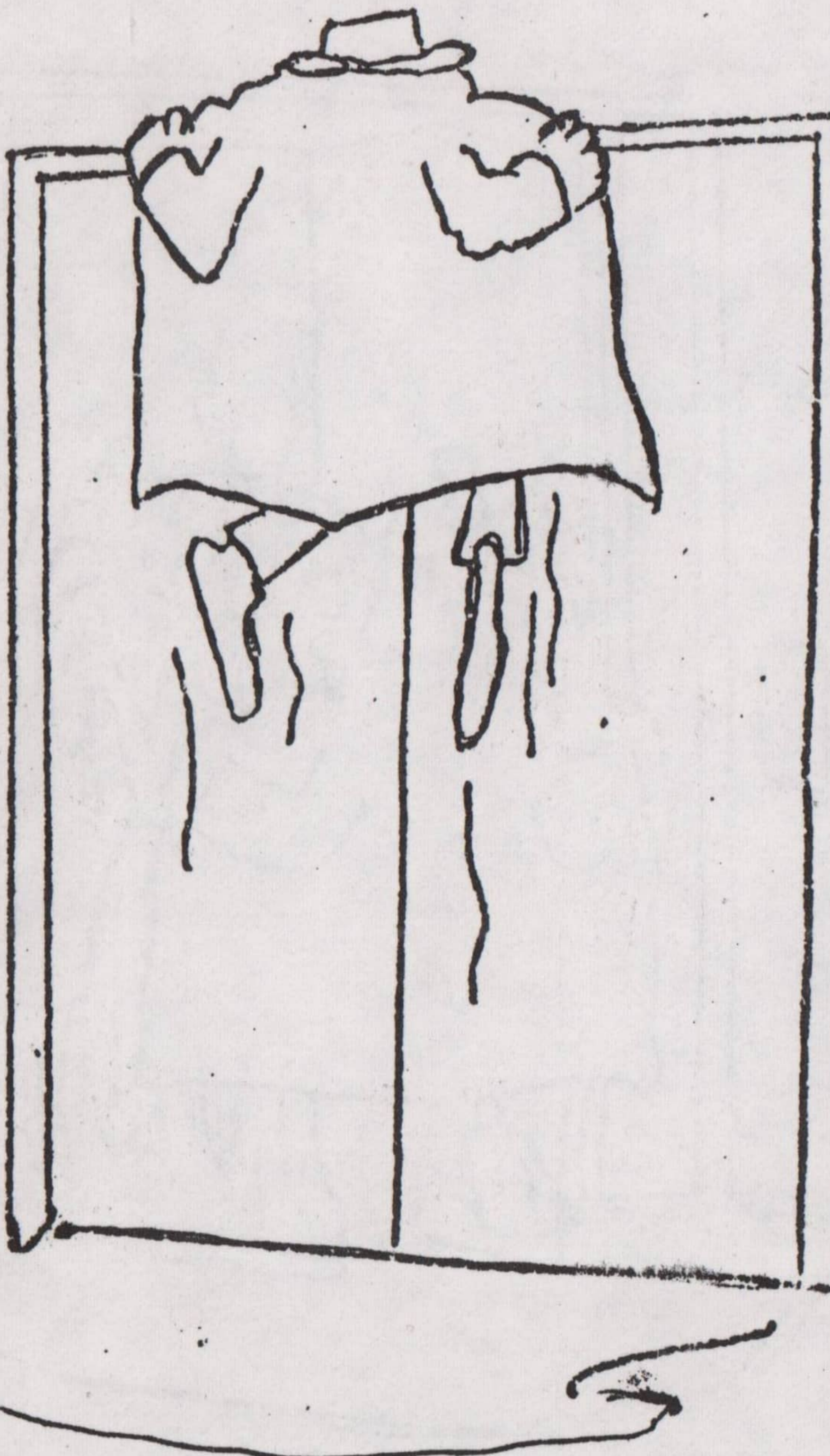
The final draw for £7-50 will take place at CVS in January

O RUPTURE! RUPTURE!

Hearing the last act of Bizet's opera "Carmen" will never again be quite the same to me now that my attention has been drawn to a short piece which appeared in "The Observer" a few weeks ago. They re-printed the 'English' synopsis for this act provided for the benefit of our fellow-countrypersons hardy enough to patronise the opera house in Genoa. Let us hope that the production made up for the deficiencies of the translation, which I shall now let speak for itself:-

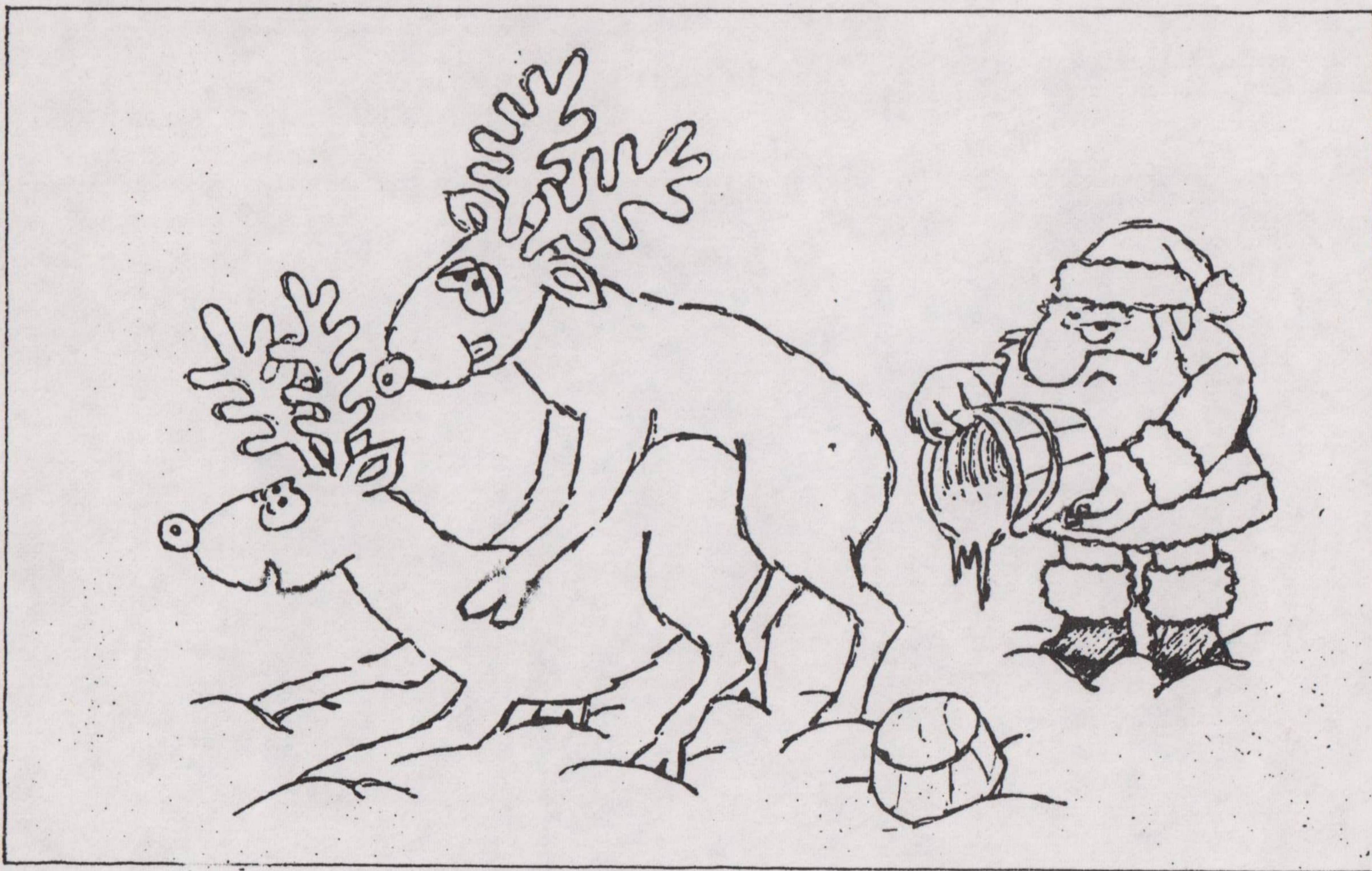
"Act IV: A Place in Seville. Procession of balls-fighters, the roaring of the balls is heard in the arena. Escamillo enters (Aria and Chorus: Toreador, toreador, All hail the balls of the toreador). Enter Don Jose (Aria: I do not threaten, I besooch you) but Carmen repels him wants to join with Escamillo now chaired by the crowd. Don Jose stabs her (Aria: O Rupture, rupture, you may arrest me. I did kill her). He sings "Oh my beautiful Carmen, my subductive Carmen."

4



GLOSSARY OF ENGLISH/GERMAN MOTORING TERMS

Backfire	- Der Lowdenbängenmekkenjumpen
Bonnet	- Fingerpinscher und Knücklechoppen
Cyclist	- Der Pedallpuschink Pilloken
Double White Lines	- Overtaken und Krunchen
Exhaust fumes	- Der Koffundschnittpoluter
Garage	- Der Heiwayrobberung
Headlights	- Des Deppendontdazzelubastedt
Indicators	- Die Blinkenleiten Tickenfurturnen
Power brakes	- Der Edbangeronvindschreen Stoppenquick
Seat Belt	- Der KlunkenKlikken Frauleintrapper
Skid	- Der Banänen Waltzen
Windscreen wiper	- Der Flippenflappenmuckenschpredder



Hope YOU had a Happy Christmas too.