

WEDNESDAY 2ND: Sheffield University Gaysoc meeting 'Running a Gay Centre' (speaker: Paul Fairweather). Crookesmoor Building, Crookesmoor Rd, Sheffield, 7.30 p.m. All welcome.

FRIDAY 4TH: 'Checkers' monthly Disco, Top Rank Suite, Sheffield. Tel (0742) 307142 for details.

SATURDAY 5TH: GAY EAST MIDLANDS NEWSPAPER - open meeting for all gay people wishing to help with the Paper, 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, 2pm.

SATURDAY 5TH to Sunday 6th: National Gay Youth Movement Conference, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne. Open to all lesbians, gays & bisexuals up to age 25. Details from Newcastle Friend, 0632 737951 (Mon-Fri 7-10pm).

MONDAY 7TH: Potteries Gay Community Association meeting (speaker: Chris Smith, MP, Islington South). Details from PGCA (for address see 'Gay Info' pages).

WEDNESDAY 9TH: Nottingham CHE meeting. Contact Mike, tel 55196.

WEDNESDAY 9TH: Sheffield Univ. Gaysoc Meeting (speaker: Richard McCance, Nottingham). Details as for Wed 2nd.

FRIDAY 11TH: Women's Disco, Nags Head & Star, Oxford Street, Leicester (side entrance), 9pm-1am, 50p.

SATURDAY 12TH: Women's Disco, Golden Eagle, Lincoln, 8pm-midnight, £1.

SATURDAY 12TH: G.E.M. COPY DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER ISSUE

MONDAY 14TH: Gay Sweatshop presents 'Poppies', a play by Noel Greig, George Hotel, Burslem, Stoke on Trent.

MONDAY 14TH: Coventry Area Gay Community Organisation Disco at Tamango's Club, Coventry, £1.

TUESDAY 15TH: Lincoln Gay Group presents 'Another Way', Hungarian film about two women journalists, Golden Eagle, 8pm.

TUESDAY 15TH: NOGSOG Video Evening, Cocktail Bar, Part Two Club, Nottingham, 8-11pm. NOGSOG members & non-members welcome.

TUESDAY 15TH: Warwick Univ. Gaysoc debate including speakers from Gay Humanists Group & Gay Christian Group. Details from Jem Bowen (see 'Gay Info' pages).

WEDNESDAY 16TH: Labour Campaign for Gay Rights meeting, Salutation Inn, Maid Marian Way, Nottingham, 7.30pm. Tel Chris Richardson, Nottm 780124, for details.

WEDNESDAY 16TH: Sheffield Univ. Gaysoc: Video & discussion of Central TV programme on Black Gays, Details as for Wed. 2nd.

SATURDAY 19TH: Boston CHE/Gay Group Disco, Blackfriars Arts Centre, Boston, 8pm.

SATURDAY 19TH: Midlands Gay Welfare Workers meet, Nottingham, 2pm. Tel Richard McCance, Nottm 780124 or 414939.

SATURDAY 19TH: Sheffield Univ. Gaysoc Disco, Maze Bar, University Union, 9.30-2am, £1, non-students welcome.

SUNDAY 20TH: Gay Outdoor Club (East Midlands Group) 9 mile ramble in north-west Leicestershire. Details from John, Leicester 26617.

WEDNESDAY 23RD: Sheffield Univ. Gaysoc: Speaker from GEM magazine. Details as for Wed. 2nd

THURSDAY 24TH: Nottingham: Gillian Hanscombe and Andrew Lumsden - authors of 'Title Fight - The Battle for Gay News' - are guest speakers at a meeting promoted by GEM and Brilliance Books. International Community Centre, Mansfield Road, 7.30 pm.

FRIDAY 25TH to Sunday 27th: Fassbinder's 'Querelle' showing at Nottingham Film Theatre, Broad St, 7.30pm (Fri), 5 & 8pm (Sat & Sun)

FRIDAY 25TH: Women's Disco, Nags Head & Star, Oxford St, Leicester (side entrance), 9pm-1am, 50p.

SATURDAY 26TH: Coventry Area Gay Community Organisation trip to London. SAE for details (see 'Gay Info' pages for address).

SATURDAY 26TH: Lincoln Gay Group Disco, Golden Eagle, 8pm-midnight.

SATURDAY 26TH: Women's Equal Opportunities Conference, Queens Walk Community Centre, Nottingham, from 9.30am. Details from Nottm City Council Equal Opportunities Unit. (NB this is *not* a specifically gay event).

MONDAY 28TH: Gay Sweatshop presents 'Poppies', a play by Noel Greig, at The Leadmill, Sheffield.

TUESDAY 29TH: Gay Sweatshop presents 'Poppies', a play by Noel Greig, at The Narrow Boat Inn, Canal St, Nottingham, 7.30pm, £1.50. Further information tel Nottm 223090.

WEDNESDAY 30TH: Sheffield Univ. Gaysoc: discussion on 'Gay people have a duty to come out'. Details as for Wed. 2nd.

#### REGULAR EVENTS:

DERBY GAY GROUP meet every Fri, Green Lane Gallery, 8.30pm.

NOTTINGHAM GAY SOCIAL GROUP (NOGSOG) meet every Mon & Thurs at CVS, 31A Mansfield Road, except Mon 7th & Mon 21st at Foresters Pub, Huntingdon St.

NOTTINGHAM WOMEN'S DISCO every Tues at Hearty Good Fellow, Maid Marian Way, 8-11pm, 40p. ALSO Sat 5th & Sat 19th, 50p.

#### ADVANCE NOTICE:

SATURDAY 3RD DECEMBER: ONE-DAY EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES CONFERENCE FOR LESBIANS AND GAY MEN, sponsored by Nottingham City Council, at the International Community Centre, Mansfield Road, Nottingham.

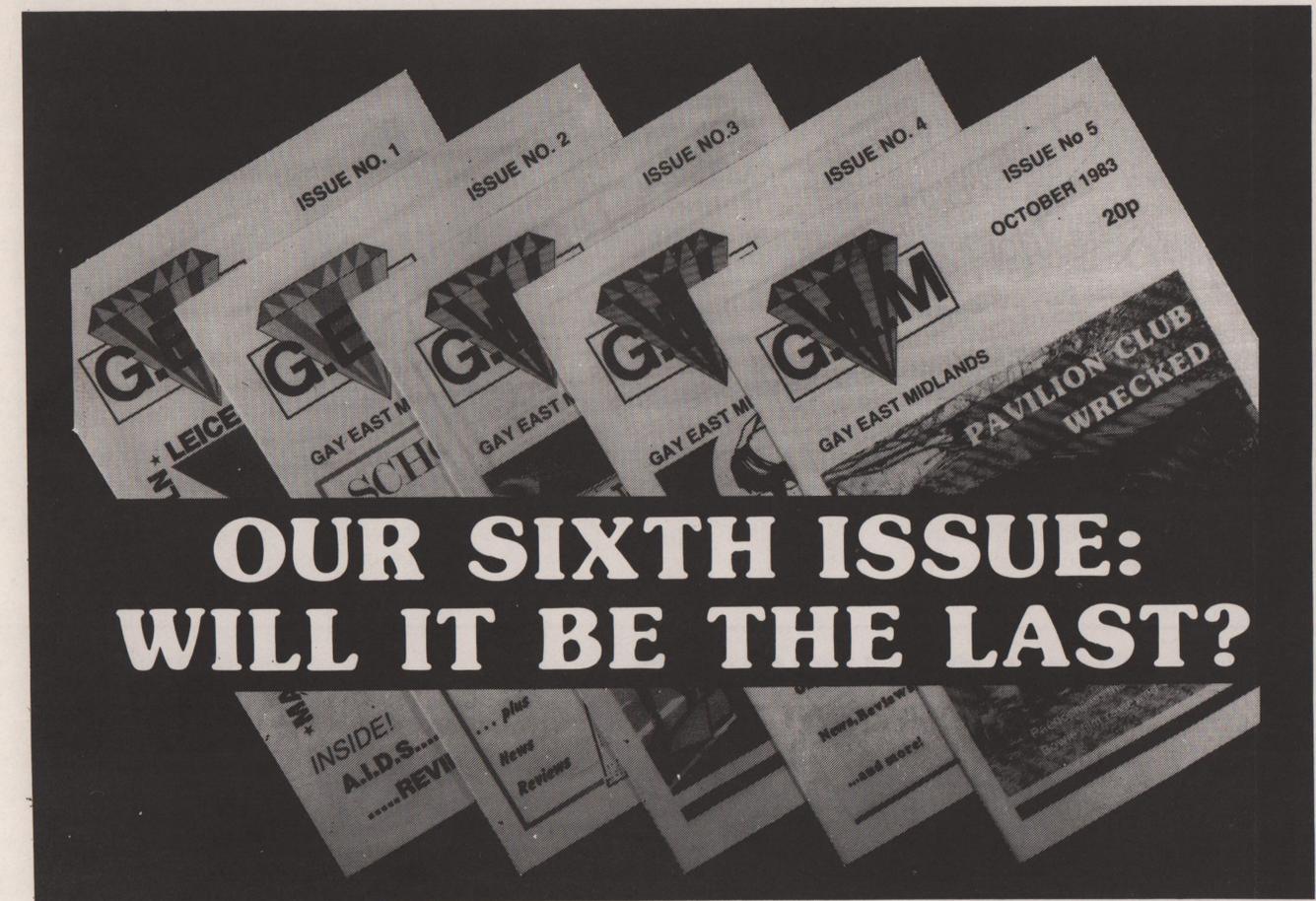


## GAY EAST MIDLANDS

ISSUE No 6

NOVEMBER 1983

20p



# OUR SIXTH ISSUE: WILL IT BE THE LAST?

### Where you can buy 'Gay East Midlands'

**COVENTRY**  
Coventry Area gay Community Organisation.  
Wedge Bookshop, High St.

**DERBY**  
Forum Bookshop, Abbey St.  
Green Lane Gallery, Green Lane.  
News Kiosk, Albert St.  
News Stand, Market Square (open 1-7pm only).

**EDINBURGH**  
Lavender Menace Bookshop, 11a Forth St., EH1.

**LEAMINGTON SPA**  
The Other Branch Bookshop, 12 Gloucester St.

**LEICESTER**  
Blackthorn Books, 70 High St.  
Karia Newsagents, London Rd (opposite Station).  
Spots Club, St James' St.  
Three Cranes Hotel, Humberstone Gate.

**LINCOLN**  
Baldwin & Brown, Newsagents, High St.  
Jems Newsagents, St. Mary's St.  
Lincoln CHE/Gay Group (at meetings and Discos - see Diary).

**LONDON**  
Compendium Books, 234 Camden High St, NW1.  
Gay's The Word Bookshop, 66 Marchmont St. WC1.

**LOUGHBOROUGH**  
Odeon Alternative Decor, Ashby Square.  
Students' Union Shop, Union Building, Ashby Rd.

**MANSFIELD**  
White Hart Disco (see 'Gay Info' pages).

**NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME**  
Kermase Wholefoods and Books, Market Arcade.

**NOTTINGHAM**  
Bridocks Newsagents, Upper Parliament St.

Flanegans Newsagents, 32 Shakespeare St.  
Foresters' Arms Pub, Glasshouse St.  
Gay Switchboard, 31A Mansfield Rd.  
Hearty Good Fellow (Basement Bar), Maid Marian Way  
Hudsons Bookshop, Milton St.  
Keith Price Newsagents, Goldsmith St.  
Kiosk, Mount St. Subway  
Kiosk, Theatre Royal Subway.  
Lesbian Link (see 'Gay Info' pages).  
Midland Group, Carlton St.  
Mushroom Bookshop, Heathcoat St.  
Ouroboros Wholefood Collective, 37A Mansfield Rd.  
Part Two Club, Robert House, 5-13 Canal St.  
Spurgeons Newsagents, Manvers St.  
Ye Hole in Ye Wall pub, Sherwood St.  
118 Workshop, 118 Mansfield Rd.

**SHEFFIELD**  
Independent Bookshop, 341 Glossop Rd., S10.

**STOKE ON TRENT**  
Potteries Gay Community Association (see 'Gay Info' pages).

If you know of other outlets which will, or may, stock G.E.M., please let us know.

How you can help GEM continue - p2

We take a look at Derby - p6 & 7

The rent scene - p11

FREE A.I.D.S.  
LEAFLET



## SWAMPED BY SUCCESS

As we mentioned in last month's G.E.M. the growth of the paper has been little short of phenomenal. Within six months of starting up, our distribution area has now expanded to such an extent that we are now on sale in such far flung places as Edinburgh and London. One consequence of this wide distribution has been an enormous response from all parts of the country and this, in turn, is pushing up the amount of work falling on the shoulders of the collective. We now find ourselves in a position where we have had to sit down and think about just how much we can take. No one is paid to work on the paper and no one works full time so we are under tremendous pressure. We seem to have two options open to us. Firstly, we can increase the

collective and spread the work load or secondly, and sadly, we can fold up.

Obviously, that's not a thing we want to do, nor is it a decision we take lightly. We have had a lot of positive feedback from people all around the country but we do need help urgently. There is no mystery to producing G.E.M. None of the people who contribute to the paper have ever worked on any publication before, we simply learn by our mistakes. If we can do it, then so can you. So, if you're interested in working on G.E.M. then please get in touch immediately. Otherwise, this could be the last copy of G.E.M. we produce.

## CLASSIFIEDS

### Placing Ads

Classified Ads in GEM cost £1 for up to 15 words, and 5p per word thereafter. GEM numbers 50p extra. Please make cheques/postal orders payable to G.E.M. Collective. All classified ads must be prepaid.

We reserve the right to refuse advertisements without explanation.

### Answering Ads

When replying to GEM numbers, please put your reply in a sealed envelope. Write GEM number on outside of envelope then place in a

second envelope and send to GEM, Box 11, c/o 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham.

### PERSONAL

Male, 29, unemployed, would like to play games (eg table tennis, tennis, badminton) during the day. Strictly no strings! Phone Chris, Nottingham 598471.

I'm 30, male, gay, contented, have lots of interests, but need a wider circle of lovers and friends. Let's meet and share some humour and hopefully invigorating chats and new experiences. GEM 104.

## LETTER

I came across GEM by chance in Nottingham and what value for 20p!

Chesterfield is supposed to be in the East Midlands but there's no mention of it in your magazine. Not that there is much except for the Theatre Bar and one mixed pub, and as a newcomer to the scene I've only recently found out about them.

Perhaps an item for those gays who would like to come out but are too nervous to do it might be useful. (Unless you have already printed an article on that subject).

I wish GEM lasting success in an area where some fail.

Yours,  
Francis Salmon,  
Chesterfield.

*Yes - we know that our 'Gay Info' pages are not as complete as we would like them to be - but it's only through people writing in (as you have done) that we can fill in the gaps. Thanks very much for your letter and good wishes. - GEM*

● We've contacted the two venues Francis mentions but neither of them wishes to appear in our listings - in fact they deny any knowledge of being gay meeting places at all. But they did put us on to one pub - the Manhattan - which we've now included.



12 issues £4.50 (incl. p&p)

Please send one copy of Gay East Midlands monthly to:

Name .....

Address .....

Cheques/PO's payable to G.E.M. Collective.

## CONFERENCE DATE FIXED

As reported last month, a one-day conference is being held in Nottingham to decide how to put into practice the City Council's new commitment to Equal Opportunities for lesbians and gay men. The Conference will take place at the International Community Centre, Mansfield Road, on **Saturday 3rd December** between 10am and 4.30 pm. This is a vital opportunity for local gay people to influence and inform local government policy, and to make sure that the Council's stated policies

are turned into real action to improve community facilities and root out anti-gay discrimination.

This Conference is for *all* lesbians and gay individuals and groups in the Nottingham area - not just the 'politically minded' ones - and the organising group are hoping that as many people as possible will support it. It's up to us - let's make it a gay day to remember!

## SWITCHBOARD ON VIEW

*Nottingham Gay Switchboard recently notched up another breakthrough by 'going public' in Nottingham's Victoria Centre. After many years of requests for exhibition space in the privately run centre, all of which have been turned down on the grounds that it's 'too political', Switchboard's publicity material was at last accepted in the building as part of a 3-day exhibition mounted by the Nottingham Self-Help Groups' Project.*

## GAY SWEATSHOP IS BACK!

The newly resurrected Gay Sweatshop is back on the road this month with 'Poppies' - a new play by Noel Greig. Accompanied by members of Gay CND, Sweatshop will be playing at a number of venues around the region, taking in Sheffield, Nottingham and Stoke on Trent (see Diary for further details). A series of workshops in conjunction with the play will be offered at certain venues but, unfortunately, there are no plans to run any of these in the East Midlands.

The current Gay Sweatshop tour is funded by an Arts Council grant and members are hoping that further funding can be obtained to ensure the future of the company. If successful, it is hoped to develop a programme of creative projects for gay actresses and actors including a tour by Sweatshop women's company.

## GAY YOUTH CONFERENCE

If you're under 26 and free on the weekend of 5th/6th November, then you may like to know about a national conference being organised by the Gay Youth Movement in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne. GYM say that the conference will be a mixture of social and political events including a Disco and Workshops on a wide variety of topics. It's intended to keep all costs to a minimum so that as many people as possible will be able to afford to go; crashpad accommodation will be available and there will be shared transport arrangements for the journey home.

Further information from Newcastle Friend, 267 Stanhope St, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne 4, or telephone (0632) 737951 between 7 & 10pm Mon-Fri.

If you're interested in joining the Gay Youth Movement, full details can be obtained from BM GYM, London WC1N 3XX (please send SAE). Membership is £2 (£1 unwaged) and members receive regular copies of the GYM newsletter, 'Gay Youth'. GYM also runs a very popular penfriend service. Interested groups or individuals who are over 26 or heterosexual may affiliate to GYM for £5 (individuals) or £10 (groups).



## G.M.A. PRODUCE A.I.D.S. LEAFLET

The Gay Medical Association has just printed several thousand copies of a leaflet on A.I.D.S. (a copy of which should be enclosed in your copy of G.E.M.). Amongst other things, the leaflet gives advice on recognising symptoms and how to take precautionary measures. One point which we have some considerable reservations about is its advice to avoid sex with men who have been in North America within the last two years. This is, we feel, a little misleading as current research indicates that it is *the exchange of bodily fluids* during sex that may be hazardous and not simply having sex with someone from a 'high risk' area. Avoiding men from North America is neither a fair nor positive recommendation.

Nonetheless, we would recommend this leaflet as useful reading during the present A.I.D.S. crisis.

## 'GAY NEWS' AUTHORS IN NOTTINGHAM

Gillian Hanscombe and Andrew Lumsden - authors of 'Title Fight - The Battle for Gay News' - will be in Nottingham on Thursday, November 24th to talk about their new book. Gillian and Andrew will be available to answer any questions from local gays and lesbians concerning the demise of the original Gay News. The meeting is jointly promoted by G.E.M. and Brilliance Books, and will be held at the International Community Centre, Mansfield Road, at 7.30 p.m.

## GAYS ROCK THE LIBERAL BOAT

Gay Rights blew up into a major row at the Liberal Assembly at Harrogate this year. It assumed a significance in the Assembly far in excess of that achieved in previous years. The irony was that this happened as a result of an attempt by the Party's Home Affairs Spokesman in Parliament, Alex Carlile, to dismiss it from the political agenda.

Carlile stated that Gay Rights was a matter for the individual conscience of M.P.s, for a free vote, and that there never had been, was not now and never would be a party line on the issue.

Bernard Greaves, former chair of the Leicester Liberal Party and one of the Party's leading Gay Rights campaigners, sought to introduce an emergency resolution re-affirming the commitment made in the 1979 General Election manifesto and in a special Gay Rights mini-manifesto published at the same time. He failed to get the two-

thirds majority necessary to put the motion on the agenda but a majority of 320 to 262 supported the attempt. The mood of the Assembly was positive, warm and committed. The Party seemed to want results.

The Gay Rights fringe meeting shortly afterwards attracted about 100 people, the largest number in recent years, and the membership of Libgay doubled. Support was especially strong among party activists in general. Alex Carlile won a procedural tussle but Gay Rights has won the hearts of the Party. Will M.P.s take any notice?

● Bernard Greaves is co-author (with Bruce Galloway) of a new booklet entitled 'Out from the Closet - a Liberal Focus on Gay Rights'. The booklet, which costs £1, is published by the Association of Liberal Councillors, The Birchcliffe Centre, Hebden Bridge, West Yorks, HX7 8DG.

## MUSHROOM

10 Heathcoat St, Nottingham, tel 582506  
Open 10am-6pm six days a week.

We stock a good selection of gay fiction/non-fiction books from Sheba, Brilliance, Onlywomans Press, Gay Men's Press, Stramullyan, Women's Press, Virago, and other publishers - including all the titles reviewed in this issue.

★ New In ★  
Mae West Is Dead (recent lesbian & gay fiction): .....£3.50  
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to Gay Health: .....£3.75

★ Diaries available for 1984 ★  
Gay Men's Diary: .....£3.00  
Past Participants  
(Lesbian History Diary): .....£2.95  
Spare Rib Diary: .....£2.75

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## NALGAY MEETING

Seventy lesbian and gay NALGO members met in London recently to plan the way forward for the Union's gay activists. The conference - the first of its kind to be officially endorsed by any union - brought together gays from all parts of the country, including Leicester and Nottingham, and followed NALGAY's highly successful fringe meeting and rally at the NALGO conference in May. (That was the occasion when 300 delegates caused a sensation in the Isle of Man - where homosexuality is still illegal - by marching in protest through the streets of Douglas).

As well as a lot of detailed work on future policy, with next year's NALGO Conference very much in mind, the London meeting also passed overwhelmingly the following resolution in response to the recent paedophilia controversy:

'This conference feels that the way heterosexuals have assumed a direct link between homosexuality and child abuse is wrong, and extremely harmful to the integrity of gay people.'

One slight hitch nearly stopped the weekend's meeting from happening at all - Camden Council's insurers, the Sun Alliance, had refused to insure the premises for the weekend, claiming that they were not in the habit of insuring brothels! But NALGO's own insurance brokers came to the rescue and all was well.

● NALGAY can be contacted c/o Theresa Conway, 68, Tollington Way, London N7.

## NEW GROUP FOR PROBATION OFFICERS

Following a successful 'fringe' meeting at the recent Annual General Meeting of the National Association of Probation Officers (NAPO), a new group has been set up for lesbian and gay Probation Officers. The group's first move has been to organise a national meeting in Birmingham on 21st January 1984, where it is hoped to work out more details of the group's aims and structure. As yet, a contact address is not available, but Probation Officers are advised to watch forthcoming union bulletins for further details.

## GEM: 'TO BE OR NOT TO BE'

After dancing the night and morning away in the company of 1000 other gays at Checkers on Friday night (No, not Maggie Thatcher's weekend retreat, the Sheffield gay disco), I rose not too early to greet the day when I would attend the meeting of GEM. There had been a cry for help in last month's issue and I thought I would go along and offer my limited services.

After the fabulous turnout at Checkers I felt confident there would be a number of people at the meeting, so the fact that I knew nothing about publishing or newspapers would not matter - I was at least keen!

So a little before 2 o'clock I jumped in the car and drove off to Mansfield Road, cutting through Glasshouse Street on the way to see who was in the Foresters car park (I always was nosey). Oh, the shame of it, when my recently acquired, somewhat ostentatious machine ground to a halt

at the very toes of an ample traffic warden. However, my annoyance soon turned to mirth when she and her colleague-in-arms pushed me, my car and my lover across to the side of the road to await assistance. I soon discovered the people who frequent Glasshouse Street on a Saturday afternoon are a friendly lot - almost everyone who passed made some comment, mostly friendly.

So it was that, a little after 3pm, Karen and I climbed the stairs of 118 Mansfield Road expecting to hear the throng of the meeting drifting downwards (the meeting was on the top floor). How wrong can you be? We were greeted by the long, sad faces of two of the original Collective; no-one else had turned up, and due to our lateness they had sat discussing the demise of GEM.

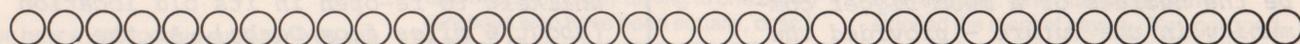
Now I cannot believe that the gay community of Nottingham, Lincoln,

Derby and surrounding conurbations wants GEM to fold. It has been and is a very useful source of information to me, and to others. OK, you might not like all that's written in it, but the way to change things is not to ignore them in the hope they'll go away, is it? If so, 1000 people would not have had such a fab night at Checkers.

So this little ditty is by way of me saying 'Come on, let's help this paper to continue to be.' I can almost hear some of you saying, 'But I can't help, I don't know how'. Well believe me, if a dyslexic, colourblind, vegetarian Lesbian like me can do it, so can you! Please join us.

Denise Rooney

● The next GEM meeting will be on Saturday 5th November at 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, at 2pm.



City of  
Nottingham

## ONE-DAY CONFERENCE

on Equal Opportunities for the  
Lesbian and Gay Community  
in Nottingham.

To be held on

**SATURDAY 3rd DECEMBER 1983 10am - 4.30pm**  
at the International Community Centre, Mansfield Road, Nottingham.

Creche provided.  
Access for the Disabled.

**SPONSORED BY NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

## a look at DERBY

### Is there a gay Derby?

Derby's one of those places that you never hear a good word said about. It doesn't seem to matter who you ask, it's always the same: "It's a dump. There's nothing for gays round here. We always go to Nottingham".

True, Derby hasn't much in the way of established gay venues. But in a city of its size there must be thousands of gay people somewhere, just waiting for the signal that says it's OK to be gay in Derby. At the moment, publicly, there are few such signals around. But the gay groups that do exist could well be the nucleus of a much bigger community in the future - provided the door is kept open.

### In the picture...

Derby's only gay bar is at the Green Lane Gallery. As its name implies, it's really a small art gallery which also

happens to have a bar....from the outside you'd never guess it was a gay venue. (In fact it caused quite a sensation in the local press when the true nature of the place was 'exposed'!) The Gallery is open every night except Monday, from about 8pm.

### Gay Club planned

Jeff Tillott and Robin Wood, who run the Green Lane Gallery, are planning to open Derby's first gay club, and negotiations for the lease of a city centre property are in progress. 200 signatures have already been obtained in support of the project, which will be for a private members' club for women and men aged 21 and over. There are no plans to close the Green Lane Gallery after the club has opened.

Meanwhile it looks as if the Pavilion Club, recently destroyed by fire, is unlikely to re-open in its old location (about 6 miles from Derby). At the recent extraordinary general meeting, members voted to look for new premises and gave the committee 6 months in which to find somewhere suitable. After the problems experienced in Shardlow, it's likely that the club will look for a more urban location, possibly in Nottingham.

## a look at DERBY

### friend

Friend is a free, confidential befriending and counselling service for homosexual and bisexual men and women. The Derby group started early in 1983 and is based at Derby CVS, Kings Chambers, Queen Street. Friend are available every Wednesday evening from 7 to 10 pm on Derby 371725 or can be contacted by post at the above address.

Friend is operated by a trained and experienced team of men and women. All befrienders are gay themselves. Derby Friend has been largely self-financing to date, but has recently been successful in obtaining a substantial grant from Derby City Council. More money is always needed, however, and one fund-raising event we've been asked to mention is a sponsored walk on 12th November. Sponsor forms are available at Green Lane Gallery or direct from Friend.

### Derby Gay Group

Derby Gay Social Group started - as a CHE group - about 12 years ago, and continues to meet regularly. Although all present members are men, the group is in fact open to women and men alike. Group organiser is Jeff Blood, who can be contacted on Derby 664234 (best time for new members to ring is Thursdays between 7 and 11 pm).

DGG remains affiliated to CHE, though its function is primarily a social one. The group provides a programme of social meetings as an alternative to the gay scene but also arranges visits to clubs for those who want to go. Activities include parties, outings, discussions, coffee evenings etc, and there is a bi-monthly newsletter informing members of what's on.

The Social Group can be very effective in reducing the isolation felt by many gay people. It tries to provide a relaxed atmosphere where people can be themselves. It also acts as an environment where people with specific problems can find support - and perhaps find themselves able to help others in similar need.

**"The Hot Lips" DISCO**  
**Hot Lips Club Bar**  
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# gay info gay

## BOSTON

**GROUP:** CHE, write PO Box 4, Boston, Lincs, PE21 6AA or tel. Syd (0205) 66425.

## CHESTERFIELD

**PUB:** Manhattan Bar, Saltergate. Mixed bar, open 8-10.30 pm, main gay nights Mon & Tues.

## COVENTRY

**DISCO:** Women's disco 2nd & 4th Weds, Rose and Crown pub.

**GROUPS:** Beards Meeting Beards: exclusively bearded gays. M'ship info Bryan (BMB), 4 Radcliffe Rd, Earlsdon, Coventry (SAE).

CHE, write Mike Foxwell, c/o 14 Spon St, Coventry, or tel 714144.

**Coventry Area Gay Community Organisation** - write c/o 14 Spon St, Coventry, CV1 3BA.

**Gay Christian Movement** meets 10th of each month. Info, m'ship, advice, tel Phil, Coventry 552300 (evgs 6-7 only).

**Gay Humanist Group**, contact Roy/George tel Kenilworth 58450.

**Mercia Gay Youth Group** (gay/bisexual under 25) meets 1st & 3rd Mons 8pm Rose and Crown, plus occasional meetings Lanchester Poly and Warwick Univ. Gaysocs. Contact Shane or Mick via Friend. **Swimming group** meets weekly. Contact Richard or Julian via Friend.

**Warwick University Gaysoc.** Contact Jem Bowen, c/o Students' Union, tel Coventry 417220.

**Women's Group** meets weekly; contact Pat via Friend.

**INFO/COUNSELLING:** Coventry Friend, tel 25991 Tues, Wed & Fri evgs 7-10pm (Tues staffed by women).

**PUBS:** Rose & Crown, High St, Disco bar at rear of pub.

**Waters Wine Bar**, Broadgate (Glass & Candle Room). Closed Suns. Mixed.

**VD Treatment:** Coventry & Warwickshire Hospital, Stoney Stanton Road, Coventry, tel 24055 ext 242/3.

## DERBY

**CLUB:** Pavilion, 123 London Road, Shardlow (7 miles). CLOSED INDEFINITELY DUE TO FIRE DAMAGE.

**GROUPS:** Derby Gay Group, social meetings weekly. Tel Jeff, Derby 664234 Thurs evgs.

**Gay Christian Movement** meets 3rd Fri in month, alternately in Derby and Nottingham. Tel Charles, Derby 833294.

**Gay Fellowship** meets Sun afternoons. Tel Ken, 364771.

**Spotlight 4.3.3.** National gay soccer group for players and supporters. Info/m'ship forms from Anthony, 68 Cavendish Court, Cavendish St, Derby, tel 361639.



**INFO/COUNSELLING:** Derby Friend tel 371725 Wed 7-10 pm or write Derby Friend c/o CVS, Kings Chambers, Queen St, Derby.

**PUBS:** Green Lane Gallery Wine Bar, 130 Green Lane, closed Mon; Weds women's night. Tel 368652.

**Wagon & Horses**, Ashbourne Rd. Lounge Bar Sat-Wed evgs only. Mixed.

**VD Treatment:** Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, Dept of Genito-Urinary Medicine, London Rd, Derby, tel 47141 ext 504, 2579, 2577.

## GAINSBOROUGH

**PUB:** Tiger Inn, Lord St. Mixed.

## LEAMINGTON SPA

**CLUB:** Hintons (Augusta Night Club), Augusta Place, tel 37231. Gay nights Mon, Fri & Sun. Women's Disco last Sat in month. No wheelchair access, good parking. Near Regal Cinema.

**GROUPS:** Lesbian Feminist Group meets fortnightly as discussion/support group. Contact LFG, Box 22, The Other Branch, 12 Gloucester St.

**SWAGG** (South Warwicks Area Gay Group): contact via The Other Branch, 12 Gloucester St.

## LEICESTER

**CLUB:** Spots, St James St (off Humberstone Gate). Mon-Sat 9-2am, Suns 9-12. Tel 50785 for details of membership and admission prices.

**DISCOS:** Liz Bailey's Disco, Nags Head & Star, Oxford St, Fri or Sat, alternating with Women's Disco (see below). Gay women and men welcome. Details tel. 772241.

**Lorna's Disco**, Dover Castle, Wed, Fri, Sat. (Get there early if you want to dance!)

**Womens Disco** Nags Head & Star, Oxford St, alternate Fris 9pm-1am (back room - use side entrance). Tel Hinckley 617583 for details.

**GROUPS:** East Mercia MSC, Leather/denim Club. Phone Mike or Tony on Leicester 734331. Men only.

**Gay Outdoor Club** (East Midland Group): contact John, Leicester 26617.

**Gay Youth Group** (14-21) - social support group, meets every Tues. For contact ring Gayline (esp. Weds - ask for Gareth).

**Leicester Gay Group** meets last Fri of month, Friends' Meeting House, Queens Road, 8pm & different weekly venues. Varied social programme. Tel David, 735049.

**Leicester Poly Gaysoc** - tel Gayline for info. **Leicester University Gaysoc** - meets Tues (term time) Meeting Room 1, Percy Gee Building, 1.30pm.

**INFO & FRIENDSHIP:** Leicester Gayline-Friend, tel 826299 Mon-Fri evgs, 7.30-10.30pm (24 hr answering machine).



**PUBS:** Dover Castle, 34 Dover St. Disco Bar. Men and women, almost exclusively gay.

**Three Cranes Hotel**, 84 Humberstone Gate. Tel: 24666. Gay hotel with beer garden. Disco Bar. Gay women and men welcome, though bar is by no means exclusively gay.

**VD Treatment:** Leicester Royal Infirmary, Dept of Genito-Urinary Medicine, Infirmary Close, Leicester. Tel 541414 ext 5208.

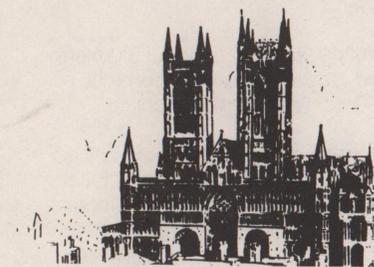
## LINCOLN

**DISCO:** Gay Group Disco alternate Sats, upstairs at Golden Eagle, High St, 8-12pm.

**GROUPS:** Lincoln Gay Group/CHE meets 1st & 3rd Tues each month, 8pm, Golden Eagle. Tel Jenny Esberger, Metheringham 20850, or John Ockenden, Metheringham 20851, or write CHE, PO Box 12, Lincoln, LN5 7PE.

**Lincoln Women's Group** meets 3rd Fri each month. Tel Val, 41591, or Karen/Caroline, 40901.

**INFO:** Lincoln Gay Switchboard tel 22458 Wed 6-10pm & Sun 4.30-6.30pm or write PO Box 12, Lincoln LN5 7PE.



**VD Treatment:** Lincoln County Hospital, Dept of Genito-Urinary Medicine, Sewell Road, Lincoln LN2 5QY. Tel 29921 ext 378/317, or direct line 37723.

## LOUGHBOROUGH

**GROUP:** Loughborough Gay Group meets Fridays at Old Pack Horse Inn, Woodgate.

**INFO:** Loughborough University Gayline, tel 231688, tues 7-9pm, term time only.

**PUB:** Old Pack Horse Inn, Woodgate. Gays welcome, but not a gay bar as such.

## LOUTH

**PUB:** Woodman Inn, Eastgate, Mixed.

## MANSFIELD

**DISCO:** The White Hart, Church St, upstairs lounge/disco room. Thurs-Sun evgs. No membership, entrance free. Tel 23607.

**VD Treatment:** Mansfield & District General Hospital (Special Treatment Centre), West Hill Drive. Tel 22515 ext 442.

## NOTTINGHAM

**CLUB:** Part Two, Robert House, 5-13 Canal St, Disco/Bars/Restaurant, open Tues-Sat, 9.30-3am. Tues-Thurs members free, guests £2, Fri-Sat members £1.50, guests £2.50. Tel Nottingham 558866.

**COUNSELLING:** Nottingham Friend tel 476714 Tues evgs 7-10pm or write c/o CVS, 31a Mansfield Rd, Nottingham.

**DISCO:** Women's Disco, Hearty Good Fellow, Maid Marian Way (upstairs), Tues 8-11pm, 40p, also alternate Sats (late bar) 50p.

**GROUPS:** CHE (campaigning only) - write c/o CVS, 31a Mansfield Rd, Nottingham NG1 3FF, or tel Mike, 55196.

**Gay Christian Movement** meets 3rd Fri of month alternately in Nottingham and Derby. Tel Charles, Derby 833294.

**Gay Welfare Workers Midlands Group.** Tel Richard McCance, Nottm 780124, or send SAE c/o 21 Devonshire Promenade, Lenton, Nottm.

**Labour Campaign for Gay Rights.** Contact Chris Richardson, 21 Devonshire Promenade, Lenton, Nottm, tel 780124.

**Nottingham Gay Social Group (NOGSOG)** meets 2/3 times weekly. Write c/o CVS, 31A Mansfield Rd, Nottm, or tel Peter 861521, Tim 602894, David 216447 or via Gay Switchboard.

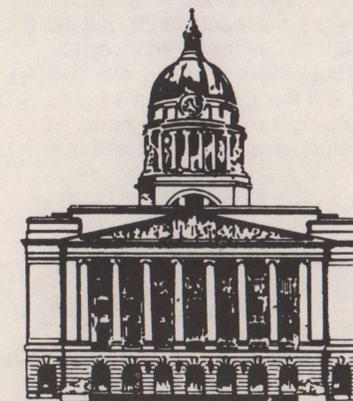
**Nottingham University Gaysoc:** c/o Students' Union, Portland Building, Univ of Nottm, NG7 2RD. Meets fortnightly Weds in NSQR term time. Tel 50421 Mons 8pm-12 for info.

**Trent Poly Gaysoc** meets Thurs Evg at the Dragon. Tel Gay Switchboard for info.

**INFO:** Lesbian Line tel 410652 Mon 7.30-9pm.

**Nottingham Gay Switchboard:** tel 411454, Mon, Wed & Thurs, 7-10pm for confidential help and advice for gay and bisexual people.

**PUBS:** The Dragon, Long Row (opp. Central Library), Alley Bar, mixed.



**The Foresters**, behind Victoria centre, mainly Women.

**Gatsby's (formerly Central Tavern)** Huntingdon St (near Palais de Dance), two Lounge bars, one exclusively gay.

**Hearty Good Fellow**, Maid Marian Way, basement bar exclusively gay, opens 8pm, mainly men.

**Ye Hole in Ye Wall**, Sherwood St, mixed, gay women and men welcome.

**VD Treatment:** General Hospital, Perth House(♂) or Amberley House(♀), Postern St, Nottm, tel 45989.

## RETFORD

**INFO:** via Lincoln Gay Switchboard (see under Lincoln)

## SHEFFIELD

**DISCOS:** Checkers monthly Disco, Top Rank Suite, normally 1st Fri in month. Tel Sheffield 307142 for info.

**Stars Disco**, Queens Rd, most Fris (except Checkers nights). Tel Sheffield 754785 for info.

**GROUP:** Sheffield University Gaysoc meets Weds, Senior Common Room, Crookesmoor Building, Crookesmoor Road, 7.30pm. Open to All. Details tel. Phil, Sheffield 665282, or write c/o Students' Union.

**PUB:** Cossack Hotel, Howard St.

## STOKE ON TRENT

**CLUB:** 141 Club, Marsh St. North, Hanley, tel 24207

**GROUP:** Potteries Gay Community Association. Meets 1st Mon in month at CVS, Cannon St, Hanley. Tel Peter, Kidsgrove 5270.

**INFO/COUNSELLING:** North Staffs Gay Switchboard tel 266998 Mons, 8-10pm. **Women's Link:** tel 266998 Fris, 8-10pm.

**PUBS:** The Albion, High St, Tunstall. Mixed.

**Antelope Hotel**, Trinity St, Hanley. Disco Thurs.

**Stage Door**, Gitana St, Hanley. Mixed. Mainly men.

## WORKSOP

**INFO:** via Lincoln Gay Switchboard (see under Lincoln).

## MIDLANDS ORGANISATIONS

**FLAGS** (Federation of Lesbian and Gay Students): Write Jem Bowen, c/o Students' Union, University of Warwick, Coventry.

**Gay Welfare Workers' Group:** Richard McCance, 21 Devonshire Promenade, Lenton, Nottingham (SAE), tel Nottm 780124. Meets 3rd Sat every month.

**QUEST** (Catholic Gay Group): Info from Tony, Nottm 419137, w/days 6-7pm, or Wally 812741.

## NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

**A.I.D.S. Special Clinic**, Praed St, London W1, tel 01-998 1742 ext 666 (serious personal enquiries only).

**CHE** (Campaign for Homosexual Equality), 274 Upper St, London N1 2UA. Tel 01-359 3973.

**Gay Humanist Group**, 34 Spring Lane, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 2HB, Tel (0926) 58450.

**Gay Youth Movement:** Write BM GYM, London WC1N 3XX.

**GEMMA**, lesbians with/without disabilities, all ages. Newsletter, penfriends. Write GEMMA, BM Box 5700, London WC1N 3XX (SAE).

**London Gay Switchboard**, London WC1N 3XX, tel 01-837 7324. Open 24 hours a day for national and international gay information, help and advice.

**NCCL** (National Council for Civil Liberties), 21 Tabard St, Borough, London SE1, tel 01-403 3888 (office hours).

**Terence Higgins Memorial Trust**, BM AIDS, London WC1N 3XX, tel 01-987 7876 (office hours).

# NATIONAL GAY SWITCHBOARD 01-837 7324 24 HOURS

## POLICE BOOKS RAID - THE OUTCOME

**Mushroom Bookshop** in Nottingham - a GEM stockist - have won back virtually all the books seized by the police under the Obscene Publications Act. The books, which were nearly all drug-related, were taken last November, and the case finally came to court on 28th & 29th September in the form of a civil action raised by Mushroom against the police.

The police opened their submission by accepting they'd had no case against several of the books including two non-drug books (one on hiding things and a feminist sexuality book) and a William Burroughs novel. They defended their action against the rest by saying that the books encouraged the taking of drugs - mainly cannabis - and anything which encouraged any illegal act must be obscene. The police prosecutor presenting this case is known in the gay community for pursuing convictions

under section 5 of the Public Order Act against gay men 'cottageing'. (The Public Order Act was brought into being to keep para-military fascists off the streets .....)

The prosecutor, Barry Hill, attempted to carry on in similar illogical style by using emotive words - 'illegal', 'dangerous' and 'children'. He even tried to bring paedophilia into the case, though none of the contested books was of a sexual nature and none of them had anything to do with children.

Mushroom's barrister successfully argued that the literary and factual books before the court could not be considered to 'deprave and corrupt' anyone but *even if they did*, the scientific and literary merit of the books would outweigh any possible harm. In the end Mushroom won back all but a

handful of the titles out of about 3 dozen contested and - equally importantly - won £250 costs against the police.

Although not a gay case as such, this is a welcome decision by the local magistrates as it lessens the chances of any police action against gay writing or other areas of private life which the police may interfere in. The Obscene Publications Act has - in various parts of the country - been used against imported copies of 'The Joy of Gay Sex' (whereas 'The Joy of Sex' - a heterosexual book - is freely available from a reputable British publisher). The implication that the use of the Act may spread to further gay writing (instead of its more usual use against pornography and video nasties) is now a lesser possibility.

Ross Bradshaw (*Mushroom Bookshop*)

## PERSONAL VIEW

**One of the dangers of a return to Victorian values is that it will involve an equal return to Victorian hypocrisy. Victorian morality was very much for public consumption and did not reflect the reality of actual behaviour. Wherever abject poverty lives alongside conspicuous wealth and influence, exploitation and a seamy underworld flourish. It happened then. Is it happening again now? Bernard Greaves looks at one sign that it might be: the increase in gay prostitution in Leicester.**

I look like a 'Sugar Daddy'. People make me offers. That is how I began to become aware of an increase in prostitution on the gay scene in Leicester. I simply got more offers. This aroused my curiosity and I began to look into things a little more deeply.

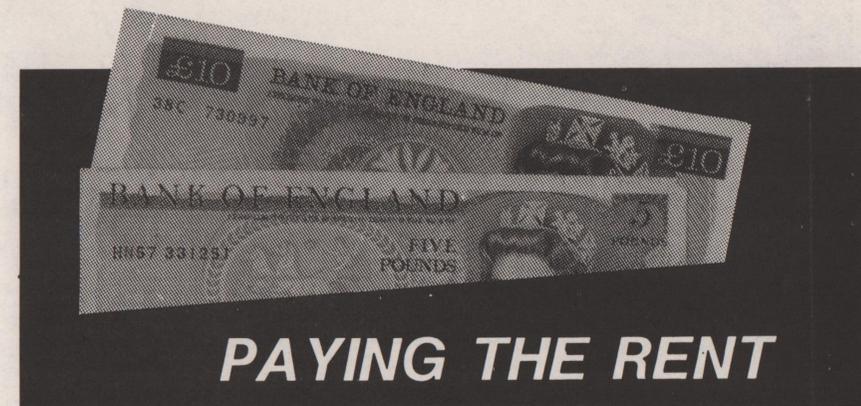
It is extremely difficult to tell exactly what is going on. You cannot necessarily trust what you are told because people are anxious to present themselves in the best possible light, to conceal what they are ashamed of, to conceal how much they have paid and to exaggerate how much they have received. The more people you talk to and the more you win their trust, the more the differing accounts create a unified picture. What I have discovered comes from many different sources, from prostitutes, clients, friends of both and detached observers. I think it is largely correct. I may be wrong.

You hear a lot of gossip such as: 'You can make £50 just for letting a wealthy businessman give you a blow-job.' Or: 'You can give yourself away for a whole week, all meals and drinks provided, plus free admission to the club, trips out to other places and pocket money too.' But you never meet the people who have done it. Such easy money is hard to come by.

Make no mistake, it can happen. But there are very few people in a place like Leicester who are prepared to dispense that kind of money. When they do they have very specific targets. It is not even that only a few people will do. Usually it is only one person who will do.

At the other extreme: 'Look at me. I am middle-aged, fat and balding, but I have never paid for sex yet. Only last week a lad offered himself for £20. When I said no the price kept coming down until in the end he came round for the night for nothing. They're so randy they will do it anyway!' Stories like that, inevitably unsubstantiated, make me suspicious. What I am being told is what he wants me to believe. It takes a lot of guts to say: 'I cannot get sex with the boys I fancy unless I pay'. Yet for older men it is very often the case.

The truth in the majority of cases inevitably lies somewhere in between. I have been helped in finding it by talking to one or two men who have been honest enough to admit to me that they do regularly pay for



sex and to discuss what they get for what price. It corresponds reasonably well to the offers made to me, which have in fact been slightly higher. Clearly I am very unattractive! - or, more likely, bargaining brings the price down somewhat. I have also been helped by talking to one or two rent boys who have been equally, or so I believe, frank. Their stories seem to confirm the same picture.

There are probably about 12 to 15 regular rent boys in Leicester with a smaller number who offer themselves occasionally. Their age range is about 16 to 22 with the majority in the middle of the range. One or two older rent boys exist. Commercially things are more difficult for them. It is youth above all that is saleable.

The rent scene appears to be unorganised. I have come across no evidence, other than hearsay, of pimps or co-ordinated teams. It is all individual freelance enterprise, no VAT, no tax! There are too many prostitutes for the available clients for much of the time. So prices are not very high. In the cottages you can get most things for £5 or £10 and sometimes a quick wank for as little as £2.

In the club and the pub the boys present a better class more sophisticated image and a fuller service. You can still expect to take someone home for £15, maybe having bargained your way down from £20. But discretion is the name of the game. Give away what is going on and you will end up with nobody.

The rent boys claim that they have a real pride in giving good value for money. They particularly try to please those whose personalities they like and respect and who they know get turned on by them.

Sexual attraction doesn't play any significant role, 'so long as they are not too old and ugly and turn me off'.

Their clients confirm they do get what they want. They will often return to the same boy regularly. One man particularly extolled the merit of paying. 'You get good sex, you know where you stand and there are no emotional hang-ups. It is much better than an ordinary one night stand because there is so much less chance of misunderstanding. You simply get what you pay for and then it's over - till you want it again.'

The rent scene, from my own subjective judgement, seems to have increased substantially over the past 12 months. Maybe I just didn't notice it before, but I think not. It may be related to unemployment and to shortage of money, but some of the regulars on the game have regular jobs which pay well. So the full explanation is rather more complex than that. I don't claim to be able to answer all the questions, but it may be worthwhile asking just a few.

Does the competitiveness of the commercial gay scene generate prostitution? Can you find boys for nothing if you keep away from the gay scene and use the techniques, now dying out, used in the 1950s and 60s before it came into existence? Has poverty generated prostitution and made it morally acceptable to others not in such acute financial need? Is prostitution acceptable or even desirable on the grounds my informers advocated that there is no emotional involvement and you know where you stand? Will Leicester rent boys 'graduate' to London? Does it matter if they do?



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## REVIEW

**Film:****'Querelle'**

Fassbinder's last film before his tragic death last year is an extraordinary experience. He has boldly adapted Genet's gay classic 'Querelle de Brest' and created a startling homoerotic masterpiece.

Querelle, young sailor on shore leave, becomes an object of desire to all who come into contact with him. Besides his physical beauty, it is perhaps the contradiction between his capacity for brutality and his yearning for tenderness that makes him appealing. Brad Davis (of Midnight Express fame) delivers a dynamic and sensual performance as Querelle, and his physical 'presence' on the screen is remarkable.

Above all, the most powerful aspect of the film is the gay-related imagery, which lingers in the brain long after the details of the story have been forgotten. Fassbinder has chosen to shoot the film entirely in the studio and has produced a strange fantasy landscape, a dockland with huge phallic towers under the glow of a permanent red sun.

Querelle is a bold and imaginative film; an experience not to be missed.

Nigel Leach

● Querelle is showing at the Nottingham Film Theatre from 25th to 27th November (see Diary for times).

**Book:****'A Boy's Own Story'**  
Edmund White

EDMUND WHITE'S novel is an important new work about American gay adolescence. Set in the Mid-West of the 1950's, the book is written from the perspective of the narrator looking back on his early teens and traces the development of his gay identity. It may come as something of a shock to find the hero fucking with a twelve year old or hussling on street corner, but then White tends to savage American myths rather than create them.

White has acknowledged that the novel is broadly autobiographical; in particular the relationship between the boy and his divorced parents mirrors his own experience. The boy's adolescence is largely unhappy and insecure. White also outlines the homophobic and anti-communist attitudes of the time. The boy has to deal with sexual experience and feelings that confuse and disturb him. White does not sentimentalise his youth, but shows us how a growing self-awareness develops within the boy.

Nigel Leach



Lavender Menace Bookshop has just published an impressive booklist of Lesbian novels, containing some 56 titles, all of which are available on mail order. For a copy of the list send SAE to Lavender Menace Bookshop, 11a Forth Street, Edinburgh, EH1 3LE.

**Music:****Nottingham Women's  
Disco Playlist**

This month's column is by one of the regular DJs at the Nottingham Women's Disco.

Hello Girls - it's our turn this month. Here's a compilation of the top ten most requested records played at the women-only discos at the Hearty Good Fellow.

- 1) YAZOO - Don't Go
- 2) EURYTHMICS - Who's That Girl?
- 3) LYDIA MURDOCH - Superstar
- 4) CLINT EASTWOOD & GENERAL SAINT - Stop That Train
- 5) STAR SISTERS - Stars On 45
- 6) DONNA SUMMER - State of Independence
- 7) CULTURE CLUB - Karma Chameleon
- 8) CULTURE CLUB - I'll Tumble 4 Ya (12 inch)
- 9) CREATURES - Right Now
- 10) RANDY EDELMAN - Nobody Made Me

Reggae and early Motown are very popular at the Women's Discos, with Yazoo being far and away the most popular and Eurythmics a close second.

HELP! We do need more DJs - so if anyone fancies having a go, come on down and have a chat with one of the DJs.

J.F.S.

PS: Do listen to the new Judie Tzuke album, *Ritmo*. One word describes it - Excellent!



● If you're wondering where Queenie's column is this month - well, as we go to press he's taking a break in Spain. Does this mean we're in for some new latin sounds down at Part Two, we ask ourselves.....



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## HOW CAN YOU REDUCE THE RISK OF GETTING A.I.D.S. ?

It is likely that A.I.D.S. is due to an infectious agent, possibly a virus, with an incubation period of up to two years. A.I.D.S. can be passed on through sexual partners, or through some kinds of blood transfusion. Therefore, you should consider:-

- Reducing the number of different people you have sex with, to those you **KNOW** to be in good health.
- Avoiding sexual contact with people who have been in North America in the last two years.

We do not suggest that you cut down on sex, but that you should have sex with fewer and healthy people.

## HOW CAN YOU AVOID SPREADING A.I.D.S. AND V.D. ?

If you know or think that you have any disease you could give to somebody else, don't the health of others by having sex. Regular check-ups (such as every three months) at your nearest V.D. Clinic are important.

## WHAT ABOUT GIVING BLOOD ?

There is doubt as to whether routine blood transfusion is a risk factor in the development of A.I.D.S. Until more is known, and an easy test for A.I.D.S. is possible, you should voluntarily refrain from donating blood, if you have:-

- Had sex with people you did not **KNOW** to be in good health, in the last two years.
- Had sex with people who have been in North America during the last two years.
- Used intravenous (i.e. injection) recreational drugs in the last two years.
- Had any period of ill-health in the last two years, without obvious cause.
- Any doubt about the issues involved.

If non of these categories applies to you, you should consider giving blood, always needed by the Health Service.

Published by the Gay Medical Association, (UK), BM/  
GMA,  
London WC1N 3XX.

# A.I.D.S.

ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME



This information is supplied for gay people by the  
Gay Medical Association (UK).

## TITLE

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (A.I.D.S.)

## WORDS

Immune System = The bodily system which fights infections and cancers.

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome = Unusual infections and cancers in people whose immune system is faulty for no obvious reason.

Opportunistic Infections = Infections which take advantage of immune deficiency.

PNEUMOCYSTIS CARINII pneumonia (P.C.P.) = A kind of pneumonia which may develop in people with A.I.D.S.

Kaposi's Sarcoma (K.S.) = The commonest kind of cancer in A.I.D.S.

## WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS ?

One or more of the following may be cause for concern:-  
**Profound Fatigue** - persistent for several weeks, with no obvious cause.

**Weight Loss** - Unexpected, more than 10 pounds (4.5 kg) in 2 months.

**Fever & Night Sweats** - Persisting for several weeks.

**Diarrhoea** - Persistent, with no obvious cause.

**Shortness of Breath & Dry Cough** - Persistent, not from smoking and lasting too long to be from flu.

**Skin Disease** - New painless flat or raised pink to purple blotches, hard texture, getting bigger, like a bruise or a blood-blisters. Anywhere on the skin, including the mouth or eyelids.

**Swollen Glands** - Especially in the neck or armpits. Swollen glands in the groin are often due to other conditions.

**Thrush** - Thick whitish coating of the tongue or throat.

## HOW COMMON IS A.I.D.S. ?

By late June, 1983, there were about 1,800 cases worldwide, while there were less than 1,000 cases, one year before that date. At present, we know of 14 cases in the United Kingdom, and the numbers are increasing.

## WHO GETS A.I.D.S.

To date, about 70% of cases are homosexual and bisexual men. Others include drug addicts who share needles and syringes, people from Haiti, a Caribbean Island, haemophiliacs, some who are in no identified risk group of the population.

## HOW SERIOUS IS A.I.D.S. ?

As many as 80% of cases have died within three years of diagnosis.

## WHAT SHOULD YOU DO ?

If you have some of these symptoms, go to either:-

1. Your own General Practitioner, or
2. Your nearest V.D. Clinic.

Do **NOT** go to a hospital casualty department.

Tell the doctor that you are gay. You may ask the doctor specifically not to tell anyone else. The doctor must not discuss your records with non-medical people anyway, without your specific agreement.

If you do not trust your doctor, or if you think that he/she cannot cope, go to your nearest V.D. Clinic.

To start, you can ring Gay Switchboard (01-837 7324) for further information/help, or contact Terrance Higgins Trust. P.O. Box BM, WC1 3XX.