

April 74

Chimaera

Nottingham & Derby C.H.E. Newsletter

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CHIMAERA

APRIL 1974

(NOTTINGHAM & DERBY C.H.E. NEWSLETTER)

EDITORIAL

It's A.G.M. time again. I find it has been a fast moving year for us, certainly those of us on the committee. We have, I think, found our own way as individuals, closely integrated with the various activities of the group. Personally, I accidentally became involved in Campaigning and while never claiming it as my forte fortissimo, find that the more I do it, the more I like it - or something like that. Hilary is pursuing her own line of befriending, Roger kept a benevolent watch on our activities, whilst Bruce has his own views on everything and became our radio personality of Nottingham '74.

It is a very sincere hope of mine that whoever is elected to the committee for the forthcoming year will have as good a team to work with. I think it fair comment to say that we have had no blazing arguments and have maintained a reasonably democratic way of settling any points of contention for what we hoped to be the good of the group.

We have met a great many people this year. A lot, gay like ourselves, have not always joined C.H.E., but have managed to keep closely informed about interesting activities. They come to quite a number of these - one day we may actually persuade them to join.

The many other interesting people we have met range from Social workers, Probation Officers, Samaritans, Womens Lib., University and College students, School teachers and pupils. Good social liason continues with the gay clubs in our area, whilst the landlord and landlady of the Garrick in Derby seem quite happy to see us.

Lincolnshire has been of concern to us for many months as we have had several members referred from National H.Q. The radius has been 40-50 miles, so with great relief we saw Ian, David and Derek accompanying Howarth Penny to Lincoln where a start has been made in getting a new group off the ground. May we wish them the best of luck and good newspaper coverage.

I seem to be getting carried away. This is only the editorial, not the newsletter. As my final comment, may I say how glad I am that our Chimaera has neither been a foolish fancy nor a mythological monster with the forepart of a lion, the middle of a goat and the hind-parts of a serpent.

- Heather.

To contact either the Editor or the Secretary:

3, Wheathills House, Brun Lane, Kirk Langley. Phone Kirk Langley 502

PROGRAMMEDOG & PARTRIDGE DATES

Still alternate Mondays. The dates are:

APRIL 29th

MAY 13th and 27th

JUNE 10th and 24th

JULY 8th and 22nd.

APRIL

WEDNESDAY 24th at 8 pm. at the ALBERT HALL INSTITUTE room 4.
A discussion meeting with the Nottingham Women's Lib Group.

MAY

WEDNESDAY 1st from 8 pm onwards GARRICK pub evening.

Of course you know it's on the A52 on the corner of Ashbourne Road and Uttoxeter Old Road. So no-one will miss it.

SATURDAY 4th at 8 pm COFFEE EVENING at John's house (12D, Montrose Court, Melbourn Road, Stapleford)
Some members of the Leicester Group may be there. Later we will move on to either Mario's or La Chic.

MONDAY 6th at 8 pm CHE MUSIC GROUP presents an evening of Brahms, Bruch and Beethoven at Gordon's (Gordon's address is 52, Haverhill Crescent, Rise park, Nottingham. Entering Rise Park from Hucknall Road, take the first turn left into Brownlow Drive. The 3rd turn on the right is Haverhill Crescent)

FRIDAY 10th at 8 pm DAVID BELL, Founder member of CHE Activists, a schoolteacher employed by the I.L.E.A. who has come out publicly on television and in the press without losing his job.

David will discuss CHE Activists at the FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, 25 CLARENDON ST., NOTTINGHAM in the Social Room. Invitations will be extended to such groups as the Samaritans and NCCL.

WEDNESDAY 15th 8 pm onwards the GARRICK again.

MONDAY 20th at 8 pm Gordon will be your host again at a film show 'Italian Holiday'.

You already have directions to get to Gordon's from the Music Evening.

PROGRAMME (Continued)MAY

FRIDAY 31st 9 pm onwards Social Evening at LA CHIC.

By now I think most of us know the way, but if in doubt phone us for directions. (the address is 5-13, Canal St. Nottingham)

JUNE

FRIDAY 7th at 8 pm IAN HARVEY (Vice-Chairman of CHE, author and former Member of Parliament) will be giving a talk entitled 'Both sides of the Fence'.

This will again be held at the Friends Meeting House, 25, Clarendon St., NOTTINGHAM in room 1. Invitations to Samaritans etc will again be extended.

WEDNESDAY 12th 8 pm onwards encore the GARRICK.

WEDNESDAY 19th, 9 pm onwards a Summer Social. This time at MARIO'S.

SATURDAY 29th at 9 pm Another INTERGROUP SOCIAL at LA CHIC, but with a big difference.

CHE will shortly be running a national lottery to raise funds. The Grand Draw (Top Prize of £100) will be made here at the Intergroup evening.

All offers of accomodation will be eagerly snapped up by the Committee, for this time we can expect visitors from all over the country. Malvern should be the start of the nation-wide publicity.

JULY

FRIDAY 5th at 8 pm ROSE ROBERTSON will be speaking at the Friends Meeting House, St. Helen's St. DERBY, about 'PARENTS ENQUIRY'.

Rose founded this association to provide support and advice for the parents of gay children. An offshoot of this is the intention to provide counsel, support and advice to the heterosexual children of homosexual marriages. Need I say that any interested bodies will once again be invited to attend. You can always bring your own parents too.

WEDNESDAY 10th from 8 pm onwards GARRICK evening.

GENERAL NEWS

Our first Social evening at La Chic was highly successful. At last members had a good excuse for looking the club over, with no obligations. We counted 30 members over the course of the evening, including several members of the newly formed Nottingham University GaySoc. Several people left before midnight and found to their dismay that they had missed the cabaret. Strippers they had - one male, one female in the best C.H.E. style - but it was quite amusing to watch the men hogging the front for both performers!

Hec's coffee evening was unfortunate in being held at the nadir of the petrol problem, but as he was suffering from a very heavy cold it may have been lucky for him. Perhaps he may ask us again later in the year?

Gordon's second music evening was very pleasant and successful. We hope that this will become a regular feature of next year's programme.

We didn't get Dennis Nadin, due to poor communications about the National Council Meeting and said speakers availability. It was certainly not our secretary's fault as her raised blood pressure testifies. Sorry, Albert that you made the journey in vain - we thought we'd headed everyone off.

Mario's evening showed us just what healthy competition can do to improve a club's appearance. You still have a long way to go to beat the atmosphere there. Several of us around quite late for mid-week festivities too.

A fair house turned up to listen to Ike's taped lecture to the Sheffield police. I hope they found it as interesting as we did, though the stodgy lot didn't even laugh at appropriate points. Thanks to the General Election the Cinematograph & Indecent Displays Bill has of course been dropped for the present. No further comment seems necessary.

We are now warming up for the Saturday night Intergroup Social. (Late newsflash there - what a howling success it was! Perhaps such continued custom will enable them to install some air conditioning on the dance floor)

Following their successful leafletting of Nottingham University, Martin and Char arranged an informal discussion between putative GaySoc members and CHE to help work out the future basis of the GaySoc's structure. Inevitably it became split into personal group discussion and argument, but they appear to have their course planned for next term. An informal debate was then held 2 weeks later at La Chic between the GaySoc and members of this group, the subject in question being 'Organisation is of the essence'. Some heated argument took place across and around the floor but the acoustics were so bad that it was very difficult to hear the participants clearly.

We hope that the GaySoc works out well and at the same time offer our help and support if needed, to individuals turned off by the closed campus scene.

THE CAMPAIGNING FRONT

Char and I volunteered to talk to students at Derby Tech. at the invitation of their Union Secretary. He was surprised at the turn out of 28, including a sprinkling of lecturers, and a very interesting discussion got underway. Several showed interest and some knowledge of CHE's attempts at Law Reform, which was good news for us. Time ran out long before we'd covered all the groundwork, so we are hoping to arrange another visit to perhaps expand their views and tie up a few loose ends.

Ian, David, Hilary and myself spent what I felt to be a worthwhile evening talking to a member of the Probation Service. He certainly realised our problems in running a very mixed group whilst discussing ways in which we could possibly help gays inadvertently crossing the law. He should be our liason with Social Services in Nottingham when Felicity Harding leaves for the West Country in July. At some point in the near future we hope to arrange some inter group discussions between CHE and his colleagues.

Three of us met the nucleus of N.C.C.L. in Nottingham to find out how we could help each other. Another very useful contact was made here with an unexpected side benefit. Little did we know that a reporter from the Nottingham Evening Post was present, but a useful small article followed. The legal gentleman from N.C.C.L. had heard of gays using Canning Circus cottage being assaulted and blackmailed, yet refraining from enlisting the aid of the police. Nottingham police not being infamous for heavy harrassment confirmed their tolerant attitude by stating publicly "These people have nothing to fear. If they would come forward, everything would be treated in the strictest confidence."

On Women's Day Hilary and I attended the local Women's Lib rally to give spectator support. To our horror we found that a talk was wanted on the problems of Gay Women. If only the Women's Campaign Manual had arrived 24 hours earlier we would have had no problem. Between us, we managed to give them a talk a bit confused in lay-out, but solid on facts. Hilary now refers to herself as 'The Pen' and me as 'The Mouth'. I hope it's a compliment. This meeting prompted Hilary's article further on in the newsletter and once again got C.H.E. into the local press.

- Heather

FINANCIAL TIMES

A word to our Sponsors.

I had been thinking it over for sometime; writing yet another article appealing for money. And then I thought of you all sitting out there groaning as you read my sob-story. What finally clinched it was attending the N.C. in London early in March.

FINANCIAL TIMES (continued)

If you don't like my tale of woe, I can tell you that listening at that N.C. to reports of the national financial situation would really bring tears to your eyes. I suppose that it is my job to turn those crocodile tears into real ones.

Empty vessels make the most noise they say. Well, in Nottingham and Derby CHE we believe in making a lot of noise, and when the call came for a £10 donation to national funds from each local group - mainly for the CHE 'Jackdaw' educational kit - we could hardly ignore it. Especially since we had proposed it. Oh yes, I can hear you now - 'should have kept your trap shut' - the Nottingham and Derby group is not above doing a bit of the Edward Heath Foxtrot, two steps forward, seven steps back, open your mouth and put your foot in it.....

So off went £10 from us, but not without me letting everyone know, I mused as the ink dried on the cheque. However, money is of prime importance in the local group as well as nationally and although I said earlier 'empty vessels ...' etc., I can assure you that sometimes full vessels, or more accurately, bank accounts, can be very noisy indeed. Money talks. (I admit that the only thing ours ever says is 'goodbye') We need a Post Office box and although I daresay the GPO would be stunned by my dazzling smile and smoothie approach, they would point blank refuse anything less than £10 to pay for it.

So that's it. I want £20 in donations; £10 for national funds - already sent off, and another £10 for our P.O. box which would allow us to advertise freely for new members using a non-committal address. So reach for your piggy-bank NOW and send to me as much as the knife will prise out of the slot. A few less ice-creams in Mablethorpe or one or two less postcards from the Seychelles is gonna hurt no-one and we'll all benefit from the results.

Donations to:-

IAN CORFIELD
64, Fabis Drive,
Clifton Grove,
NOTTINGHAM NG11 8NZ.

Cheques made out to me personally or by postal order, or if you want to send the money to the Secretary, then please do. Any committee member you see will also pass donations on to me.

- Ian. (Group Treasurer.)

GROUP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Group membership subscriptions (75p - 50p for students and O.A.P's) are due from all those who joined before October 1973 and who have not yet renewed their membership.

1928's INDECENT SUBJECT

Liz Stanley recently made a statement that if the number of women in CHE was equal to that of the men, CHE would be out of its financial difficulties. Figures speak for themselves. Only about 10% of CHE's national membership are women. What CHE is trying to do is find out why - but facts about the problems facing gay women cannot be gathered from women who have yet to come forward and state them. CHE has come a long way since the early days when law reform was the primary concern, but it is still male orientated - as is most of the gay scene.

As homosexuals, male and female, we are people under pressure to forswear what we are and pretend to be something we are not and as we respond to that pressure, we emphasize not our similarities but our differences.

Take a look at the general attitude to the female's role in society and then the general public's idea of the male homosexual. Prejudice toward the male homosexual is clearly linked. The mistaken heterosexual view of mincing "effeminate" males. Not really a "man", but a male endowed with supposedly female featherbrained qualities. A step down rather than the view of his counterpart the "career" girl. For a woman to aspire to independence and a career in her life she takes a step up. Enters the "man's world". To forsake her "natural" role as a domestic baby producer and do something different with her life - well you may be called a spinster, but you get some grudging respect for your independence.

However we are still left with this ridiculous idea that each sex is endowed with a particular set of unalterable qualities. One active, one passive; protector, protected; tough and ambitious - soft and maternal. A role into which each sex is forced from the day he is put in the blue and she is put in pink. There is still something secondary about the pink.

The heterosexual view of homosexuality is simply the whole role playing picture in reverse, so it's not hard to see why homosexual couples often adopt this heterosexual pattern. The concept of the butch Eton crop, suit and cigars with her "wife". The woman who thinks of herself as a man in as much as she fits the role - at the other end is the woman to whom men are anathema. Both have their male counterparts as much as do those of us in the middle (probably the majority) who neither hate or be as much like the opposite sex as possible, but merely reverse the levels of conventional heterosexual ordinary friendship. It is fairly typical of most homosexuals to establish casual friendships with the opposite sex.

From the outset, helped by that grand old dear - Queen Victoria, homosexuality has been the supposed preserve of the male. The unfortunate confusion that homo refers to the Latin man rather than the Greek meaning the same.

Secondly is the adverse legal situation that has never affected women. There are no doubt many homosexual men who think we have a much easier time, but then again at least male homosexuality was recognised to exist!

1928's INDECENT SUBJECT (Continued)

The gay woman has to face prejudice on two accounts. Firstly as a woman and then as a homosexual. It is not hard to see why, faced with a choice, many gay women prefer to put their efforts into women's liberation. Sometimes I think we could do with some in CHE. I am not advocating that Ladies groups should become separate sections of CHE groups or that we form Sapphic sects, because I believe that CHE will only deliver a measure of equality when the numbers of men and women involved are equal. At least the gay male has something specific to fight for; the problems facing gay women are more difficult to pin down because of the dual prejudice they face.

It is much harder for a woman to realise an active sexuality, let alone bi- or homosexuality. Many more girls now enter careers, but pressure to marry from home and engagement ring flashing associates is tremendous. You are never considered the bachelor girl with a string of boyfriends and by 23 at least your chances of catching a man are diminishing fast. Questions at home, questions at work. Either evaded, made up excuses or downright lies. Anxious parents worry about their daughters future security in marriage, mortgage and family - but it is just not going to happen - but sometimes it does. You either go it alone or give in.

Going it alone means financial independence and not many other than professional positions offer equal pay to women. Despite the political promises, they probably never will.

The best way to evade questions at home is simply to leave. Get a career that gets you away; - College, University, Nursing, the Forces and such like. If you are lucky, you will have parents who know and accept you. Many have told parents after leaving and found after the mutual shock has worn off they still have a daughter!

One of the biggest problems is finding other gay women in a still very much male orientated commercial gay scene. Pubs and clubs are not the easiest place to make friends for either sex. The gay woman going out on her own to a pub or club has to find some guts or face the chances of sweating life out on her own. Not a happy prospect for anyone.

The prospects are not rosy for those who marry - either under pressure, knowing they are gay, or realising afterwards, especially if children are involved. The options are few and none really satisfactory.

i) Stay and lead a double life in the misguided belief that keeping the family intact will benefit the children.

ii) Stay because she knows she cannot earn enough to keep herself and her children.

iii) Stay because somewhere in the back of her mind is the idea that not wanting a man is wrong. That her husband has his rights to her.

iv) Leave but without the children. The cruelly sensible and heartbreaking decision.

v) Leave or divorce her husband without homosexuality even being mentioned.

1928's INDECENT SUBJECT (Continued)

However, should her husband find out, he can use it to try to gain custody of the children. It may not always succeed, but how many women will take the risk? If that isn't blackmail, nothing is.

Then, of course, she may be fortunate to have a husband who can accept her homosexuality completely and successfully keep the family together. These are probably very few indeed.

In 1928 a book was published by Radcliffe. By today's standards a rather sentimental story of a girl coming to terms with her homosexuality. Its reception was sensational and many and successful were the cries for its suppression. It was called a "seductive and insidious piece of special pleading designed to display perverted decadence as a martyrdom inflicted on these outcasts by a cruel society - I would rather put a phial of prussic acid in the hands of a healthy girl or boy than the book in question". The then Chief Inspector of Scotland Yard said "The book is indecent because it deals with an indecent subject".

In this article I have generalised on some points, been more specific on others and omitted bisexuality almost completely. It is in fact an altered version of an article intended for a Women's Lib publication, so my apologies for anything omitted! Important too. The meeting with the Women's Liberation group is not just for the women in the group. They are a bunch of very aware, friendly people, not men haters.

P.S. I've seen it at last. Gouged on the inside of a toilet door in the ladies public lav. in Derby Bus Station. Quote:-

FIONA AND PATSY ARE QUEERS

So with all the spit I could summon, I put up the first Women's Campaign sticker.

- Hilary

LINCOLN GREEN

It was all systems go as Nottingham and Derby's new sister group at Lincoln was officially formed on March 23rd. A wonderful reception and a buffet supper was provided by Reg and Terry to give the group a send-off: there were 11 people all together; 7 from Lincolnshire, 3 from Nottingham and CHE's General Secretary Howarth Penny presiding over all.

The Lincoln group, although in its infancy, looks like being very successful. There is no gay club in Lincoln, nor much of a pub. No organised gay community, so unlike Nottingham and Derby CHE, the new group should be faced with little competition as a social outlet for gay people in the area. Lincolnshire being such a large and sparsely populated area, with no really large towns or cities, means that the new group will be based in Lincoln, but will have meetings in other centres too.

LINCOLN GREEN (Continued)

It is quite difficult for many CHE members in Lincolnshire to travel because of problems caused by poor public transport services, so we all hope that the idea of the group 'travelling around' will help to solve this problem.

Many constructive ideas were thrown around. Some members who had never been to a CHE meeting before said that they were nearly put off attending because of the word 'Campaign' in our title and suggested alternatives, such as 'Council' or 'Committee'. It was decided that a few social meetings should be held before a group committee was formed. Meetings would be held every two weeks to start with, and, if the demand is there, more frequently. The new group is not content to sit on the sidelines either; already they have a meeting place in Lincoln. And when Marion, the group's only girl (and we hope she will soon be joined by other gay women!) wrote off to the local paper to see if the group could place an ad, back came the reply that not only could they insert the ad - the paper wanted an article too. Marion is now sharpening her pencil and thinking what to write. Lincoln may be young and green, but they are not going to let any opportunity slip by!

- Ian

NATIONAL COUNCIL - 2nd MARCH 1974

On Friday evening, 1st March, Ian and I motored to London for another National Council.

Two items were discussed at the sessions on Saturday, Campaigning and Finance. David Bell in a forcefully presented and persuasively argued report from a working party, recommended the setting up of a campaigning arm of CHE to be called CHE ACTIVISTS, who would undertake the active forms of campaigning, leaving the rest of us to pursue a more socially orientated programme. Any member who felt able to stand up anywhere and declare their beliefs would be welcomed to the lists of CHE Activists. The principle was approved overwhelmingly by the NC and the EC were asked to produce a detailed recommendation.

The National Treasurer reported that financially we were living from hand-to-mouth nationally. The NC unanimously agreed that each of the 77 local groups should send £10 to the National office immediately to 'bail them out'. We sent ours within the week. As for the proposed new system for collecting both national and local group subscriptions, it 'floated like a lead balloon'. The National Treasurer is virtually back to square one and has been asked to come up with alternative ideas. Consequently, a Finance Committee was established at the NC to look at all ways of making CHE financially strong and yours truly agreed to serve on it. We have had two lengthy meetings already and are about to launch a National Lottery. I'll leave you to guess what the first prize is to be.

- Derek.

THE ADVENTURES OF SUPER-PUFF

"Gee whiz", mused Chuck Bold as he strode with the lithesome tread of a jungle beast along the promenade at Bognor, "It's kind of hard to think about the problems of organised international vice rackets on a swell day like this". A slight smile played across his unusually handsome sunburnt features - a smile tinged with a certain grim determination. Who knew better than he what unimaginable evil and vice lay waiting; what vile, unspeakable outrages were being designed, unbeknown to the ladies of the Townswomen's Guild and the resposing figures in the Palm Court of the Balmoral Private Hotel? Ever watchful, he knew only too well of the lengthening shadow which threatened to engulf this tranquil resort; the shadow of his arch enemy: Black Het and his sinister international organisation: the Blue Rinsers. His jaw tightened and he quickened his pace.

Before he had covered another hundred yards, however, his thoughts were abruptly interrupted by a plaintive cry for help.

"Help!"

"Great jumping Jupiter! That sounds like a cry for help." Leaping to the side of the promenade, he looked over the side towards the deserted beach. His rapier mind took in the scene in an instant. Locked in unequal combat was a lad of surpassing beauty, dressed with casual chic in hip-hugging faded denim (by Brutal), a cheese-cloth shirt in candy stripes - just the thing for those hot, sultry days - and a pair of rope-soled sneakers - redolent of Morning Cloud and the Royal Marines. Standing over him and poised to strike stood a great brute of a thing. Chuck instantly recognised him as the bouncer from an Algiers brothel whom he had once been obliged to discipline. He wore a sweat-stained tee shirt torn across the front to reveal a heaving bosom and enough hair to stuff a cushion. His trousers were not of the smartest - which is really quite inexcusable these days because you can buy ever such nice stuff in the shops and it doesn't hurt anyone to make the effort does it. But it was the eyes which caught Chuck Bold's attention - or rather 'eye', because one of them was covered with a black patch. It was ablaze with unbridled lust and venom.

With a sickening crack, the raised hand fell across the lad's upturned face. Thwack! He fell back on to the sand, his long, golden hair partly covering his exquisitely drawn features.

"Take that, you beastly little perv!" hissed his assailant through rotting, tobacco-stained teeth.

Chuck Bold's eyes narrowed into slits and his hands closed tightly into fists.

"Hm, this looks like a job for Super-Puff". Instantly his mind changed into top gear - the same mind which had left them gasping at the Sorbonne, astounded at Berkeley and had won three Nobel prizes (though of course, he had declined to accept them).

THE ADVENTURES OF SUPER-PUFF (Continued)

He dashed into a "cottage" situated conveniently nearby and ignoring the one-legged geriatric who was being arrested for indecently assaulting two uniformed police officers, he quickly stripped off the white silk three-piece suit with the ever-so-square shoulders and the narrow sculptured waist which served to conceal his real identity. Pausing only long enough to glance in the mirror and brush back the black curl of hair which always rather annoyingly fell across his forehead, he stepped over the bleeding body of the geriatric and emerged as SUPER-PUFF!

For a moment, he stood poised, the sun glinting on his gold-lame Y-fronts (by Hum). Gone, the inconspicuous poet laureat from W.1. with the unassuming manner and the Lambourghini Espada; gone, the inconsequential figure who would occasionally take over the baton from Klemperer or Karajan. His jaw set firm like a rock, his muscles throbbing with untapped vitality, Super-Puff - scourge of international crime and sworn enemy of Black Het - slowly turned his deep brown eyes towards the sound of distant tumult. Then drawing on his white gauntlets, he threw back his sequined cloak to reveal the symbol of the Golden Dildo and with one mighty bound, landed beside the two antagonists.

The great hairy fist was once again raised to strike, but as it came down, Super-Puff took hold of it and slowly, with effortless ease, bent it backwards until a piercing cry was torn from those cruel, twisted lips.

"Eek!"

A dozen jaw-breaking, teeth-rattling blows rained down upon the luckless rotter: Zap! Blam! Zunk! until his knees buckled and he sank to the ground in a groaning heap.

Super-Puff fixed him with a steely gaze as he lay grovelling in the sand, rubbing his twisted wrist.

"In addition to being a dirty rat, doubtless in the pay of my arch-enemy, Black Het, you are also Lobby Ludd and I demand my prize. Here's my copy of the Bognor Argus.

"Curses, Super-Puff. You win this time, but don't think I'll forget this".

Without troubling to reply to this patently empty threat, Super-Puff merely kicked a little sand in his face pocketed the 25 pence and turned to the lad who was now struggling to his feet.

"Here, let me help you up kid". He put one strong arm under his unyielding body and lifted him up on to his feet.

"Gee, Super-Puff, you were wonderful". The boy looked up into those soft brown eyes which only moments ago had been so hard and cruel. He felt the vital power of Super-Puff through his cheese-cloth shirt and caught the faint whiff of Chanel.

"Think nothing of it kid. Just part of the job". He paused for a moment and his eyes moved to the distant horizon. "Keeping the country safe for kids like you; keeping it clean and free for decent folk to live in; keeping it secure for democracy and the free-enterprise way of life. That's my job".

THE ADVENTURES OF SUPER-PUFF (CONTINUED)

The boy laid his cheek on the symbol of the Golden Dildo and rested his hands on Super-Puff's biceps.

"Got a name kid?"

"Sbigniew Polanski, but my friends call me Nick Smooth".

"O.K. Nick, but I guess you ought to be getting along home now. Your folks will be starting to worry."

"I can't, Super-Puff, I have no home. We were cleaned out by Black Het and his sinister international crime organisation: "The Blue Rinsers".

"Gee kid, that's tough; but don't worry, just you come along with me and I'll take care of you". He allowed his hands to remain around the boy's waist for a little longer than was entirely necessary.

"O.K.?"

"O.K."

A further nauseating adventure will be coming to you in the next edition of Chimaera. So don't delay folks, cancel your order now whilst there's still time.

- B.W.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Streaking - the craze of running naked in public - also came in for criticism from the Festival of Light. The Secretary, Mr Peter Hill said: "It is symptomatic of a decline in moral standards that will lead to open homosexuality and lesbianism." (Daily Mail. March 12th '74).

If any member would like to read the Women's Campaign Manual, Hilary has several copies available. A large S.A.E. would be appreciated.

It seems likely that CHE will soon have a television programme. About one third of it would consist of stock film, on third of film taken at Malvern and the rest of studio interviews. It would be the aim of the programme to show that gays are indistinguishable in society, but are discriminated against by society.

Did you hear about the man who couldn't pay his exorcists bill? He got repossessed.

Too good to miss this one:- "Olivia Newton-John, as we all know, is the girl next door, the good sport who was probably hockey captain, the epitome of the sort of wife Cliff Richard yearns for". (Daily Mail April 10th '74)

Equality Street:- Compliance with anti-discrimination laws in the USA led to the placing of the following ads;

1) Wanted: pregnant man or woman to model in advertisements for maternity wear.

2) Wanted: man or woman needed to test new razors. Must have heavy beard.