

# NOTTINGHAM VOICE

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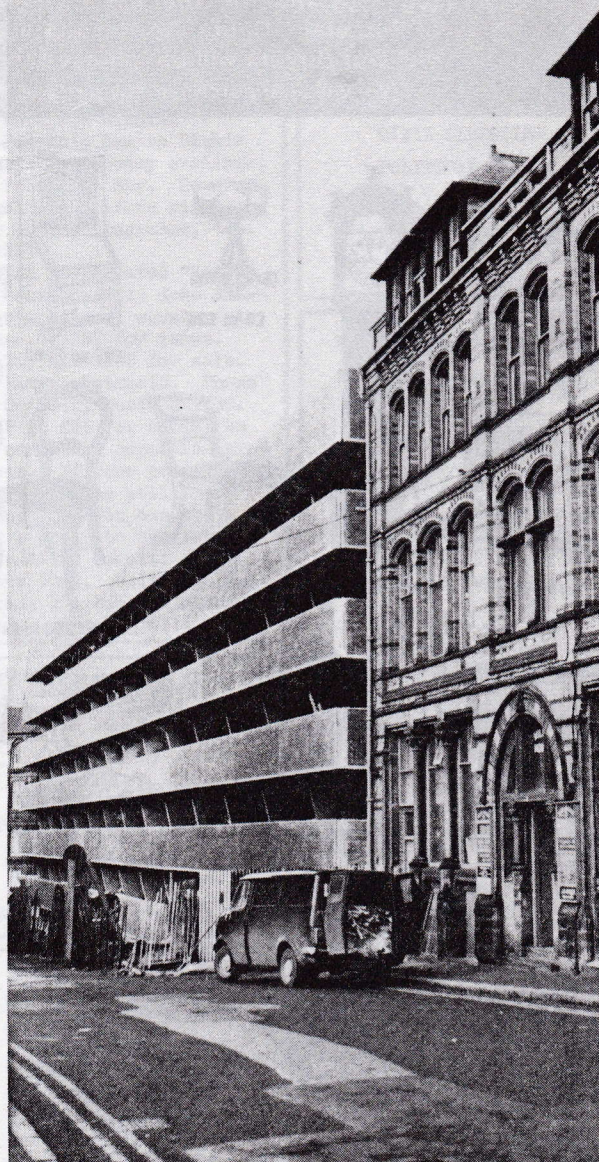
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**PAGES 12 & 13**

**FEBRUARY 1975 · 8p**



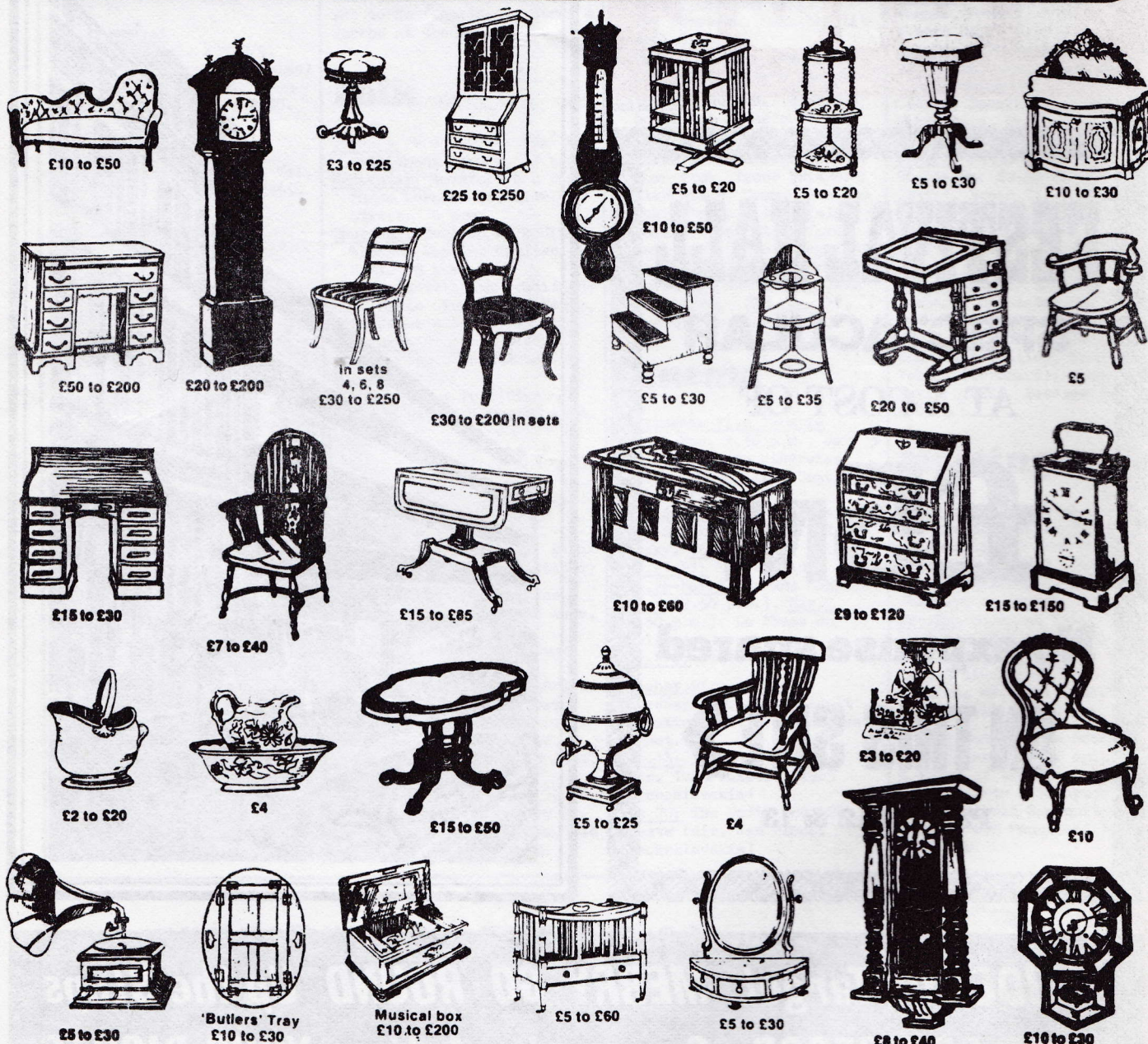
**INSIDE: On Target MERRY-GO-ROUND Up the Steps  
WEST BRIDGFORD Community Action YOUR RIGHTS  
Friends of the Earth SHOP FLOOR Parish Pump  
MIDLAND GROUP GALLERY Eating Out THEATRE  
Cinema ROCK Jazz PUBS Soccer RACING**



# WANTED

We urgently require to purchase items as illustrated below in any condition. We also require any old Barometers, Mechanical Money Boxes, pieces of Porcelain, China, Pewter Plates, Furniture, etc., in fact, anything which is old. Our Buyers will be pleased to call any time to value or buy.

(We will also purchase any parts of Clocks, Music Boxes, Mechanical Toys, etc.)



## The Jug & Bowl

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# Nottingham's independent monthly paper

## NOTTINGHAM VOICE

Number 15 · February 1975

People's Centre, 33 Mansfield Road, Nottingham

Tel. Nottm 411227

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### Committee

"NOTTINGHAM VOICE" is published by the Nottingham Voice Committee.

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## Social or secret service?

INVASION OF PRIVACY HAS BEEN IN THE news recently. Pained-looking bankers have appeared on television murmuring with distress about breaches of confidence, dangers of undermining clients' trust, etc. The cause of all this polite horror is that the taxman may in future want to know a little more about private bank accounts. Since the taxman already knows all there is to know about the finances of most of us (whether we are paid by pre-taxed weekly wage packet or pre-taxed monthly credit transfer) this will only confirm our suspicions that, as usual, the rich have been getting away with more than everybody else.

The chances are, in fact, that the further down the social ladder you are, the less privacy you are getting - and often some of the most dubious invasions of your privacy will be made with only your best interests at heart. Or the interests of your children, as shown by a document which has recently come into our hands.

This is a memorandum which was circulated on January 23rd to Area and Divisional Directors of the Social Services Department, with the heading "Exchange of Information with the Police regarding neglected children". The memorandum, from the Director of Social Services, says that, as from 1st February, "Headquarters will inform the Chief Constable of all children placed on Supervision Orders ... This will enable the Police to be better informed about families and children at risk in the community".

You might think this is merely a sensible passing on of useful information - but it's not quite as simple as that. There's a trade-off, stated in the next paragraph of the memorandum, which says: "The Police have indicated that where children committed to care under the above heading are likely to return home they would be prepared to give us any information, e.g. convictions about the parents, which may assist the decision as to whether the child should be returned." The memorandum then goes on to say that before any child is returned home, even on a trial basis,

the Social Services will make enquiries of the Police.

It is clearly of interest to the Social Services Department if, for example, the father is in prison, since the mother, as a temporary single parent, may need support - but surely a good social worker will know this anyway, simply from visiting and chatting to the family. It is also relevant to know of convictions for baby-battering - but the social services would know about such convictions already. It is, however, difficult to see what purpose would be served by finding out about other convictions, such as a driving offence or petty theft, when deciding, for example, whether a girl taken into care as being in "moral danger" should be returned home. And a lad in care for truancy - would his mother's conviction for shoplifting really be relevant?

### Underhand

This is a dubious use by the Social Services Department of its access to information and its position of authority. Intelligent and conscientious case-work should enable social workers to discover the really relevant information from their clients without resorting to this backdoor, underhand method which can only undermine the trust between social worker and family.

The Younger Committee, which reported on privacy in 1972, was precluded by its terms of reference from commenting on the use of information about individuals by local authorities, police, etc., and concentrated instead on private credit agencies, banks and similar organisations. In view of these questionable developments in Nottingham, the long-awaited Government White Paper on privacy, expected this summer, will be sadly inadequate if it does not contain proposals for a general right of privacy that applies to both public and private sectors alike.



# On target



## AGONY COLUMN

THE EVENING POST HAS TAKEN RECENTLY to publishing harrowing accounts of various social problems (without, incidentally, ever offering any very penetrating analysis of the reasons or the cure). A typical effort, on the sad lot of the overburdened social worker, brought this tongue-in-cheek response from the objects of the sympathy.

### PROBLEMS ALL THE DAY

#### Heavy debts a burden on city social workers

by Sam Smiles

THE SCRAWNY HAND MOVES across the counter, knotted fingers grasp the proffered £5 note. Her tobacco-bleary eyes dimly accept yet another contribution. Enid works in the local branch of Ladbroke's and owing to the run-down nature of the area depends almost entirely upon the financial support of the social worker from the sub-area office next door. She is not the only one. The same young man supports 121 other creditors. The sad, the lonely, the man from the loan shop next door.

### IN THE RED

Bert is just one of 195 social workers in Nottingham's 5½ divisions. He should be solvent. But like his colleagues he has to cope with debts beyond his means, mainly because his travelling expenses for the last six months have not arrived.

In theory he is supported by a senior social worker; in fact that senior has his own problems, and Bert is left to face his problems alone, and somewhere along the line he has to help other people solve theirs.

### BROKEN KETTLE

Enid is the first call of the day, just in time for the 2.30 at Haydock Park. Bert's morning, which began at 10.30, has already been taken up with coping with a hang-over and he has to make his own coffee. The team

of 20 with whom Bert works depends on one kettle and only three clerks. In between cups, he has to deal with his own clients, who have the "infuriating" habit of coming into the office to see him. One distraught woman complained that her son, who is supervised by Bert, had just set fire to the cat. "What can I do," says Bert. "I applied for a place in a community home three months ago, and since then he's done three budgies and Mrs Jones' poodle from next door. There's just nowhere available."

### STEAK & CHIPS

Lunch is a snatched four-course meal in a run-down Berni. Bert is trying to foster community spirit in the lounge bar so that he's never without a pint. No one will listen to him. It's discouraging. "I'll get some leaflets printed outlining my scheme," says Bert. "It's worth another try."

### ALONE

Next case is an old man who lives all alone. "There's nothing wrong with him," explains Bert, "But he's good for a cup of tea, and I can watch the race on his TV."

Bert has to step gingerly past 33 full milk bottles, the contents of which are going sour, and when he does knock on the door, there is no reply.

Bert marks him down for a visit some time next week, and races home to watch "Crown Court" in colour ... his day is over.

## WHAT A GAS

or EMELEC ... 1 EMGAS ... 0

THE SAGA OF THE PEOPLE'S CENTRE'S attempt to find out the legal price at which landlords could re-sell gas to their tenants began last October. A letter was sent to the EMGAS Lower Parliament Street showrooms asking for information and leaflets. There was no reply. In December a PC volunteer decided to try again - this time by phone. She phoned the only number offered in the phone directory - 45555 (service and enquiries)

WE APOLOGISE TO OUR READERS FOR an increase of 2p in the price of Nottingham Voice, following a further increase in size to 24 pages. It has been our long-term policy to expand the paper gradually as the means became available - which means that price rises are inevitable from time to time to keep pace with increased costs. We have always tried to keep price increases within reasonable limits, however: when the price first went up to 4p, the paper contained only 6 pages, while we are now offering 24 pages for 8p. Subscriptions will be honoured at their original rate without further charge.

- and was told that there was no law covering this and that landlords could charge what they liked. Even the mention of Schedule 4, Gas Act 1972 (which specifically provides for a maximum re-sale price) failed to reverse this opinion.

The persistent volunteer then phoned British Gas Headquarters in London. The official there muttered vaguely that he thought there was something like that and finally passed the enquirer on to the Legal Department. They said that a leaflet had been printed and was available at all showrooms. Could the People's Centre contact their local showroom? Attempts to find the telephone number of the Lower Parliament Street showroom failed - it's ex-directory!

Once more the patient volunteer rang 45555. They said they couldn't really help but they would bear it in mind for the future. The volunteer then took a trip in the rain to ask in person for the leaflets. After considerable discussion, three leaflets were produced and reluctantly handed over.

By way of contrast, the Electricity Board sent all the relevant information on the re-sale of electricity - including a batch of well-produced leaflets - as a result of one telephone call.

## BUREAU-CUT

LAST MONTH WE REPORTED THAT THE NEW Citizens Advice Bureau was intending to spend £200 on its official opening. We are pleased to hear that this figure has now been dropped to £20, on the insistence of the People's Centre and NCCL representatives on the CAB steering committee.



"But m'sieur, for £20 what do you expect - a Guildhall Banquet?"

## CONTRACTED

RUMOUR HAS IT THAT CONSULTANTS AT the General Hospital are "working to contract" only as far as it suits them - fewer patients, regular coffee breaks and so on. The more



SHOES,  
PERS  
DEC. 28th,  
e  
-BULWELL

# EVENING POST

PRICE 4p

unpleasant parts of their contract, such as turning up at 9.00 a.m. and finishing at 5.30 p.m., are not, it appears, being so rigidly observed. Consultants have been seen parking their expensive cars half an hour or so late in the mornings and slipping off earlier than 5.30 p.m. All this is no doubt explained by the long drive they have to the exclusive villages in which they live.



"Right-oh Carruthers, send any emergencies out to the links!"

## MARCHING ORDERS

THE SALVATION ARMY DOES NOT ALWAYS live up to its name or the teachings of its Master. This especially applies to the operation of its hostels described as "refuges for homeless men", where certain conditions are in force. One of these led recently to a sixty-eight-year-old homeless man, refused by the Salvation Army because of his incontinence, in desperation begging a police constable to arrest him in the early hours of a cold January morning. When told that this would not be possible, he smashed the nearest convenient window with his walking stick, thus obtaining reasonably comfortable accommodation for the night by courtesy of the Nottinghamshire Constabulary. After a brief appearance at the Guildhall the following morning, he secured a further week's bed and board at one of HM Prisons. Cases like this suggest that, in some cases of real need, the Social Services don't live up to their name either. Maybe crime can pay dividends at times!

## POST-DATED

A READER POPPED IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS ago with the above clipping from the front page of the Post, Edition 6, dated ... well no, there isn't a date, actually (it should be to the left of the price). It was Christmas Eve, in fact, so we might hazard a guess why the lads weren't working as efficiently as usual!

## OVER DUNNETT

JACK DUNNETT, MILLIONAIRE LABOUR MP for Nottingham East, is finding it increasingly hard to hold down those of his party members who consider him "the unacceptable face of socialism". So knotty are his problems, in fact, that they may even have attracted the interest of "Private Eye". Following wild (and clearly unfounded) rumours about the motivation of the massive pro-Dunnett Asian vote recently assembled at party meetings in troublesome Market Ward, it now seems that Labour Party membership in Lenton, the other "problem" Ward, is blossoming in similar gratifying fashion.

Among all the new faces at Lenton Ward meetings is a relatively familiar one, however - that of Brother Jack himself, newly resident in the Ward at 37 Tennis Drive, the Park (a well-known hot-bed of socialist fervour). Previously, he used to stay with his agent John Carroll, leader of the Labour Council and Dunnett hatchet-man. Speculation about the flit is probably idle, but the Ward's AGM on January 12th was obviously unimpressed by its new member's presence, delivering a resounding raspberry to all "official" nominees for party posts, notably a Mr M. Aslam, who was put up for practically everything.

Finally, and more or less on the same topic, we are pleased to announce a major political scoop. More than a fortnight ahead of any other journal, we present the results of the election of officers to East Nottingham Constituency Labour Party, which will take place on Tuesday, February 28th:

Chairman: Bill Dinwoodie  
Secretary: Betty Higgins  
Vice Chairmen: John Carroll  
Peter Burgess  
Treasurer: Frank Higgins  
Political Education Officer:  
Len Maynard

Of course, it would be nice to be proved wrong ...

## HOT SUN

TEACHERS AT BLUEBELL HILL JUNIOR School have been told by the Headmaster that they are not to bring copies of the Sun and Daily Mirror to school - presumably he thinks that they lower the tone of the place. We haven't heard whether staff are still allowed to read the Sun and Mirror at home. Probably the most disturbing thing is that the teachers appear to have agreed to all this. Wake up the NUT!



"Write 100 times 'I must not read the Sun or Mirror!'"

## PRESS CUTTING

THE EVENING POST GETS MORE AND MORE ridiculous. The most recent example of its pettiness is a refusal to take an advertisement from the Campaign for Homosexual Equality, a group that offers advice in the People's Centre. The offending ad. read: "Help, advice and information available for gay people. Thursday evenings, 6-8 p.m., People's Centre, 33 Mansfield Road." The Post originally accepted the ad., but when it failed to appear a member of CHE phoned to find out why. He was told that, because the advertisement referred to homosexuality, it was "unethical", and that the decision had been taken by the managing director himself. If it weren't for the fact that the Evening Post is the only daily paper in Nottingham, the whole thing would be laughable. Since it is, it can get away with petty censorship of this kind.



## PIMPERNEL

CLIFTON, SO PEOPLE WILL TELL YOU, IS the largest council estate in the world.

It's a community of approaching 40,000 souls, shoved in embarrassed fashion on the other side of the Trent. Shops, social and community facilities are scant. A night out means a night elsewhere - and the bus services do their best to discourage you.

So who is looking after the interests of this suburban nightmare - for it has twice the population of Melton Mowbray and almost as many inhabitants as Mansfield?

Why, the City Council. Who precisely? Well, the ward councillors, of course.

Clifton falls into two wards. The bulk is in Clifton ward, logically enough. The rest, the eastern section and Silverdale, form a southern counterweight to the main part of University ward across the water which includes the University and Old Lenton.

## STRONGHOLD

So who are the three Clifton ward representatives? For on their shoulders rests the responsibility of representing almost as many people as come under the aegis of some complete district councils.

Well, it's a Labour stronghold, one may even be tempted to say stranglehold ... if one were of a cynical frame of mind.

The most well-known is Coun. Stan Shelton. He's the new City Council's first Lord Mayor and chairman. So much of his time has inevitably been devoted to civic duties. But at least it is guaranteed that he attends council meetings.

Then there is another old-stager Percy Holland, an alderman on the old City Council which was put to sleep last April.

A good steady man, he held several positions of responsibility on the old authority but does not figure as a heavyweight in the new line-up.

The third is David Brailsford. Who? You don't remember him? You haven't heard him speak in Council? You can't put a face to the name? He's not made the headlines in the Evening Post like the old publicity-grubbing party hacks?

Well, at least we can fit the face. Look out the copy of Nottingham Arrow which had a complete identikit run-down on this 54-man carnival. They're all there.

But no. There are 53, and a pic of that nice young Michael Hammond, the chief exec. What's this extra caption? Oh. There's no picture of Coun. Brailsford.

The mystery deepens. Who is this "damned elusive pimperl" - for he is a responsible elected representative of the people?

Of which committees is he a member? Look in the municipal diary, it gives details of all councillors' committee places. Ah! David Brailsford. But the committee space is blank. Unlike any



## MERRY-GO-ROUND

other member of the council he is a member of no committees nor sub-committees.

He must at least attend full Council meetings to keep up with city affairs and to put the Clifton viewpoint.

Well he didn't get off to a good start in 1975. He was absent for the January meeting. But he did turn up for the December meeting.

But that was his first attendance since June. And if he had not made it to the December meeting he would have automatically ceased to become a member of the council. And that would have led to an inconvenient by-election. Chief Whip John Arnold and his boover boys must have put in overtime to get him there.

Before June he had not attended a meeting of the new council since it assumed the reins of power on April Fool's Day.

His next attendance, going back, was in February.

So he has attended only the bare legal requirement of meetings since the Council ceased to be a shadow authority.

If any of you good citizens of Clifton have grievances you want taken up with the authorities, or if you would just like to prove to yourself that Mr Brailsford exists, the municipal diary will at least tell you one thing.

Coun. Brailsford can be contacted at his home at 10 Widecombe Lane, Clifton Estate.

## INQUIRY

DETAILS OF A HIGHLY SCURRILOUS NEW game have been circling among the politicians at the Council House, and at the green-topped asylum on the south bank.

It all started with the arrival of Mr Clough at the City Ground. And it concerns an impending contest between him and City Council leader John Carroll to decide which of them is really Jesus Christ.

Frivolous I'm sure. But the same cannot be said for the continuing machinations inside Coun. Carroll's constituency party. The gaze returns inevitably to East Nottingham with morbid curiosity.

Several questions about the relationship between Coun. Carroll and MP Jack Dunnett have been posed by events since the Labour Party

national executive inquiry into the disputes between members of the constituency party.

Coun. Carroll has resigned as chairman of the county Police Committee, thus breaking the tradition set by the last Tory leader of the old City Council Ald. Bill Derbyshire, who was also chairman of the combined police authority.

Coun. Carroll, a fortnight later, was reported to have decided not to stand for re-election as constituency secretary. Still, another of the constituency officers, Coun. Betty Higgins, will I'm sure carry out the secretarial duties with her usual acumen.

The inquiry itself raised a number of disquieting allegations.

But doubtless the constituency officers were able to balance things up.

## POWERFUL

Those who sat in on the inquiry included Dunnett; secretary Carroll, leader of the City Council and chairman of its most important committee, Policy and Resources, as well as chairman of the Finance Sub-committee; treasurer Coun. Frank Higgins, chairman of Notts Environment Committee, which is responsible for overall planning, transportation and environmental policy throughout Notts; vice-chairman Len Maynard, deputy leader of the City Council and chairman of the Leisure Services Committee, which is responsible for the city's museums and art galleries as well as for the Festival; the other vice-chairman Coun. Peter Burgess, chairman of the city Land Sub-committee, which is responsible for buying and selling land for council purposes; political education officer, who will soon be constituency secretary, Mrs Betty Higgins, chairman of the city Performance Review Sub-committee; and chairman Bill Dinwoodie, husband of a city councillor, but who is not himself a member - he works in the City Treasury.

It's a powerful line-up of talent in anyone's book.

But apparently it did not stop some of the twenty-five or so witnesses from speaking their mind about the affairs of the constituency's six wards, particularly Market and Lenton.

The witnesses included a number of Asian workers who claimed, among other things, that they had been hoodwinked into joining Market ward party and misled into voting at the annual elections of ward officers at which they were not entitled to vote.

The inquiry will have to judge the merits of their statements.

But it is a curious coincidence that the criticism of Dunnett, his parliamentary performance, his image as a millionaire property magnate and socialist, has come from left-wing members of Market and Lenton wards.

The same two wards have received an influx of Asian recruits in the last year.

It is in the same two wards that the officials include prominent members of the Pakistan Friends League: Mahommed Aslam in Lenton, and Rana Asshraf in Market.

What is at issue is not the possibility of growing political awareness among Asian workers - this is long



overdue. But rather the manner in which it is done and the motives behind it.

The inquiry team, which included national agent Reg Underhill, has plenty else to go at - votes of "no confidence" in Market ward officials which were never acted upon, expulsion from the party of long-serving Dieter Peetz and some of his supporters, expulsion from the City Labour group of Coun. Stephen Evans - the list goes on.

Coun. Carroll, according to the Evening Post, gave up his county committee chairmanship and his constituency secretaryship on "doctor's orders".

Yet it was in Autumn 1973, at the Labour Party conference in Blackpool, that he was taken seriously ill.

Why did he wait so long before off-loading some of his manifold duties and responsibilities?

**BARKER**

## PACHWORK

YOU DON'T NEED GREEN FINGERS TO HELP Pachwork, just an interest in gardening and helping other people.

Pachwork is a committee which has existed since 1967 and acts as an organisation linking groups who want to do practical voluntary work. So far the work has been mainly decorating, but many inquiries about help with gardening from the elderly and disabled have shown the need for Pachwork to extend its services.

A meeting will be held at 31A Mansfield Road on February 25th at 7.45 p.m. to discuss the setting up of this expanded service. Representatives from any groups who may be interested in doing this work and any interested individuals are welcome. Pachwork feel that this work will particularly appeal to youth groups or schools who may not have the experience or inclination to decorate!

If you are interested and cannot attend the meeting, contact: Judy Wood, 33 Mansfield Road, Tel. 411227.

## MEETINGS

A PUBLIC MEETING OF THE NEW BASFORD Residents Association will be held on Feb. 10th at 8 p.m. at New Basford Community Point, Pearson Street.

**HOUSING INQUIRY:** The Nottingham Housing Inquiry will take place on Sat. 15th Feb. from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the International Centre, 61B Mansfield Road. Free playgroup for the kids. All are welcome to come and state their views and to work out what can be done about the problem of housing in Nottingham.

REFUGE FOR BATTERED WIVES CAMPAIGN meeting: Albert Hall Institute, Room 1, Derby Road. Presentation of petition to City and County Councils. Saturday, 22nd February, 2.30 p.m.

## UP THE STEPS



## FAIR PLAY IN COURT?

WE HAVE ALL HEARD OF THE LAW'S DELAYS, but Nottingham, after its recent orgy of Saturday evening instant justice for "football hooligans", is fast acquiring national notoriety for precisely the opposite. Why stop at Saturday evenings, though? Why in the name of law 'n' order does "instant justice" not live up to its name?

### Mass trials

What better way to secure that justice is not only seen to be done than to have mass trials in the centre circle at half-time? And why not replace community singing with community sentencing? What a way to bring back the missing millions. No doubt, once the idea catches on nationally, the pools firms will run a treble chance on it (Nottingham Forest 18 months, Queen's Park Rangers 12 months). In the interests of a prompt pay-out, it would of course be necessary to abolish one or two procedural irregularities, such as the appeal against sentence.

Fantasy, of course, but Saturday evening courts are here to stay. And are they really any better than half-time kangaroo courts? Look at the facts.

### Volunteers

1. These magistrates are volunteers for this particular job. That means that they are even more likely to be ill-disposed towards the defendants than the average JP. They will be peeved at losing their Saturday evening fun. They are still acting in the heat of the moment. All in all, they are scarcely likely to be ready to offer the defendant the benefit of any doubt there may be.

2. No defence lawyers are available. There is no duty solicitor scheme at the Shire Hall. The one at the Guildhall doesn't cover Saturday evening. Even a local defendant will have grave difficulties in contacting a solicitor to act for him, and a visiting supporter has no chance. The Clerk to the Court may mention the point to the defendants, but it is not his job to help the defendants, but the Court.

3. Three hours in police custody is scarcely the best way to prepare for trial. If you are worried, confused, perhaps injured, you cannot think what to say in your own defence. Added to which, the Fuzz don't often arrest practised public speakers in the first place.

4. Normally, before sending someone down, the Bench get reports. They cannot send someone down for the first time without offering him the chance of legal representation. They cannot send anyone under 21 down without stating special reasons. How many defendants know that? How many JPs know it by heart?

## DRESSING UP

IF, AS RUMOUR HAS IT, THE RECENT circular reprimanding City Magistrates for their improper dress was aimed at one of our charming lady magistrates who chooses to wear her most becoming national dress, the authors of the said circular should be informed by their learned Clerk of the relevant provisions of the Race Relations Act. In any case - if our magistrates need to dress up in their Sunday best to attract the respect of the customers, it's about time they resigned and made way for some magistrates whose personalities demand respect.

## MURDER CHARGE

OUR READERS WHO HAVE SOUGHT IN VAIN for a solicitor to act for them when they were (a) harassed by their landlord, (b) battered by their husband, (c) trying to fight Social Security, might be better advised to kill someone. It is by no means unusual, when an alleged murderer is arrested, to find two or more lawyers almost fighting for the privilege of advising him to plead guilty. Reason? A murder case is worth a minimum of £400 on legal aid, however little work is done.



# ACROSS THE RIVER

## READING NOTTINGHAM TOPIC'S WEST

Bridgford supplement some months ago, bland and flattering as it was (so might you be if the traders of the place were paying you £1,000 in ads), I found myself reflecting on the slightly different view from just across the river in the Meadows where I grew up.

A sharp eye for the psychology of the Trent's position must have played a key part in the development of West Bridgford as Nottingham's first commuter belt in the 1880s, for though it was never the top of Nottingham's social ladder - the secluded vales of the Park were indisputably that - homeward-bound Bridgfordites could at least scuttle across their drawbridge between the Town Arms and the TBI feeling they had left the vulgarities of the industrial north for the greener suburbia of the pastoral south - the feeling no doubt assisted by the murky passage down Arkwright Street through the depths of the Meadows.

## BICKERING

There were a few complications to this nice simple picture. By a strange accident of geography (a result of the Trent changing course several centuries ago), part of the City was on the south side of the river. So, though it seemed to be in West Bridgford, Forest's City Ground was pounded by City bobbies, while for several years there was unseemly bickering between City and County over who should clean up the litter on the Trent's south promenade, Recreation Walk (a favourite spot for dog-lovers).

Nor was West Bridgford simply "Bread and Lard Island". For Meadows kids there were a few allurements which didn't quite fit that reputation. Chief of these was the Tudor Cinema (now sensibly knocked down and replaced by a supermarket), which was invaded every Saturday morning by hordes of definitely non-suburban kids, gawping in fidgety rows at Superman and the Three Stooges, wildly cheering the goodies and booing the baddies in the ritual horseback chase which ended every Western, and howling for a penny to be put in the slot whenever the picture flickered out.

There was also West Park on Loughborough Road, which had more opulent swings, slides and roundabouts than those on the Victoria Embankment, and was always worth a long expedition over the Suspension Bridge. And, later on, it became apparent that this prim maiden aunt had a syncopated toe somewhere - at least, the jazz at the Nottingham Rhythm Club and the Dancing Slipper was worth lying about my age to get into.

## SUPERIORITY

But everybody in the Meadows knew what was the essential West Bridgford. It had a characteristic flavour familiar to most Nottingham people, though perhaps less detectable by outsiders. The most distinctive ingredient was a slightly edgy superiority - edgy because, after all, they weren't very different from us and really did eat bread and lard behind their lace curtains so they could afford to keep up appearances (my father, who had been errand boy to a high-class gentlemen's outfitters on Clumber Street, would swear to that). And even West Bridgford had its terraced houses - as well as a few more that were almost terraced, but which the builders (knowing their market) had managed to separate just enough to be not quite.

And, like all uneasy superiorities, because it wasn't self-evident it seemed to assert itself in small and irksome ways, such as leaving out the "e" in Bridgford (a trap for the unwary), and owning posh cream and brown motor buses, which they made sure Meadows people would never use by charging a penny more than the Corporation trolleys between Trent Bridge and Slab Square. We really thought West Bridgford was crumbling when the Urban District Council flogged its buses to the City in the early sixties: the beautiful chocolate paintwork was submerged under Corporation green, and all the way up Arkwright Street the Meadows flocked into the tasteful maroon interiors, paying the new standardised twopenny fares.

But the melancholy truth is that West Bridgford has been showing a number of cracks in recent years. True, in most parts the streets are as wholesome, the gardens as lovingly mani-

cured as ever, but the commuter belt is slipping a few notches further out, to Edwalton, Tollerton and Keyworth, and visible in the older Victorian area nearest to Trent Bridge are the twin signs of suburban decay: untrimmed lawns and untrimmed students. Rather as giant thermometers outside churches show the progress of the restoration fund, the march of students house by house up Musters Road registers social change. Already they're past the Melton Road traffic lights and creeping up the hill towards symbolically-named Eton Road, Harrow Road, Rugby Road . . .

West Bridgford has always had its detractors, of course - the price paid for its superiority. As far back as 1926 there was a Shippo's advert which showed one of the brewery's great horse-drawn drays trundling over newly-widened Trent Bridge with the caption "Why Trent Bridge was widened". But, in any case, observers in the Meadows had noticed for a long time that the number of crates shipped over the bridge for private consumption seemed to compensate very well for the fact that West Bridgford had only one pub. There are more now, but West Bridgford may still be the only place in Nottinghamshire with twice as many churches as pubs.

## SALVATION

Is this the most telling statistic of all? There are no churches in the Park (and no pubs either) - the hush of money lying thick on the air needs no further sanctification. The hush in West Bridgford is the paralysis of lower middle class gentility, the deathly religion of propriety that distinguishes us from our neighbours.

Perhaps the gathering rot will be the salvation of the place after all. With its maturing trees and mellowing brickwork, and one pub seedy enough to be interesting, the Trent Bridge end at least might become the sort of pleasant, off-beat suburb which sometimes follows an era of gentility. Or will the ancient spirit of the place reassert itself, and a new discreet image, of polite bed-sit land, replace the old one? The advertisements in the Post Office (accommodation for "respectable single ladies, business or professional") are not particularly encouraging . . .

JOHN SHEFFIELD





Recreation Walk and (below) Musters Road





# COMMUNITY ACTION

# NOTTINGHAM

BY FRED BROAD

## WORKERS

TAKE HEART ALL YE DEPRIVED PEOPLE - the Social Services Community Workers are here. There are only four workers for the City, so they are going to be spread pretty thin (no fault of theirs, of course). But if you want to corner your community worker, they are:

Clare Ronald - North/North East area;  
Tom Wilson - North West/West area:  
both at 108A Mansfield Rd, Tel. 56211.  
Jane Simpson - East area:

3-4 Hockley, Tel. 56744.

Jill Firth - South area: Social Services Dept, Southchurch Drive, Clifton, Tel. 216021.

And for Broxtowe, Jenny Green: Oban House, Chilwell Road, Beeston, Tel. 256267.

## CAMPAIGN

A CAMPAIGN HAS BEEN LAUNCHED BY THE Meadows tenants association, MATAR, to get the Council to pay rather more than they have been for the disturbance caused to tenants moving from clearance areas. Items such as losses incurred through having to sell goods have not so far been accepted by the Council. Similarly, the campaign aims to get payment for loss of earnings incurred through moving. MATAR is urging people to apply for these disturbance payments, and will help to make claims. If such claims are refused, then MATAR will back free appeals to the Lands Tribunal. Not that appeal to the Lands Tribunal is particularly easy - the phone number listed in the book is wrong, and it took an inquiry to the Lord Chancellor's Office to establish its whereabouts. Tenants should contact MATAR, 63 Wilford Road, Meadows, Tel. 864183.

## LAND USE

IF YOU START LOOKING AROUND NOTTINGHAM, you will see a tragic waste of both buildings and land. The Raleigh Street Playhouse, which was squatted by parents and kids, was an unused shop before it was taken over by the community. The massive British Rail Offices on Queen's Drive, which MATAR wants for a community centre, haven't been used for years, although they're in splendid condition. But it isn't just buildings. There are bits of land which the planners left for one reason or another. Now a group of people at Clifton have reached agreement with the Council to rent a piece of land off Gardendale Road to be used to grow veg and spuds. The food will be

for the elderly and the needy in the area, and they only want to make enough money to cover the £2.10 rent and cost of seeds. The land, originally planned as garages, has been used for nothing else than unofficial dumping, and the only condition is that the tenants fence it off.

And you only have to look at the City's allotments to see acres of land which could be growing anything from spuds to marigolds. So if they've just put you on short time or made you redundant, how about getting together with a few friends and start growing your own? Enquiries about allotments should be made at the Technical Services Department, D.H. Lawrence House, Clarendon St.

## FIGHTING BACK

A PETITION SIGNED BY OVER 100 RESIDENTS of New Basford was presented to the Housing Committee on January 9th. The petition called attention to the desire of the residents to stay in the houses they now occupy and their willingness to see improvements carried out rather than have them demolished. Three days before, the full Council had approved a Compulsory Purchase Order on nearly 300 houses in New Basford. The CPO included a strange collection of odd-shaped and small, scattered clearance areas, some of which were within the New Basford General Improvement Area.

They also included a fair number of fit properties which were within the "lands required for satisfactory redevelopment". Among these were two post-war council houses, a Post Office, and a dispensing chemist (the only chemist within easy reach of the many old people who live in the area). Councillors rarely pay much attention to the bulky reports on clearance areas, for, as Councillor Brady put it, "The Chief Environmental Officer knows what he's doing" (a sentiment not everyone agrees with). The result is that yet again the elected representatives disclaim all influence over the decisions which are being made, and rely on the "expert" opinion.

It really is about time that Councillors woke up to the policy content of clearance, and the sometimes arbitrary definition of "unfit" properties, and started considering alternatives to the crude demolition process.

The Government circular on the Improvement of Older Housing (160/74) states that "the aim is to transform run-down residential areas by a careful mixture and phasing of redevelopment and rehabilitation which would result in gradual and continuous urban renewal over the years rather than massive bulldozing and rebuilding. Disturbance and dislocation of

resident communities, which is both socially and economically damaging, would thus be minimised."

Fine words, and at first sight the New Basford CPO is indeed more selective than others that have been made in Nottingham, even though it does include many houses that, although technically unfit, could be improved at reasonable cost. However, what is going to happen to the parts of New Basford that are not included in the CPO?

You might expect that, as New Basford falls mainly within a General Improvement Area, the Council would have a policy of improving the houses by providing basic amenities where necessary and by lengthening the life of the others. The disturbing fact is that no such policy seems to exist and that the Council is in fact condemning New Basford to the usual phased redevelopment with the usual disintegration of the community and decay of houses through neglect. For example, several houses (although not included in the CPO) have had requests for intermediate and improvement grants turned down on the grounds of "short life".

The Council has not yet grasped the idea that once you say an area only has a short life you make matters worse because everyone then neglects the houses, which turns them into short life properties. Unfortunately, the current thinking in Nottingham is that no terraced houses built before the war can be made fit for human habitation - a view not shared by many residents.

New Basford is not expected to take kindly to the idea that it will be subjected to an enforced decline into a slum. The Residents Association has every intention of finding out what the policies for New Basford really are and may contest parts of the CPO which will go to a Public Enquiry in July. New Basford represents a great opportunity for Nottingham to show a sensitive approach to housing renewal. But will it happen?

## PLAYGROUND

THE CLIFTON ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND Association has been campaigning for eighteen months for an adventure playground on the estate. The Association put in for Urban Aid in July 1974, and has just learnt that the application has been turned down. It has now approached the City Council with a proposal to use a piece of land for development as an adventure playground. The Association says that all it is asking for now is permission to use the land. I hope that they succeed and that they won't let the failure of the Urban Aid application dishearten them.



## Know your rights

### Fair rents



#### Who can apply for a "Fair Rent"?

All tenants who are "protected tenants" under the 1968 Rent Act can apply. Roughly speaking, all residential tenancies are "protected" except the following:

- \* Tenancies of accommodation with a rateable value of over £750;
- \* Tenancies at a very low rent or no rent;
- \* Council, Housing Association, or Crown tenancies;
- \* Tenancies with a resident landlord;
- \* Tenancies with board or attendance (BUT this must be a substantial proportion of the rent);
- \* Student accommodation let by educational institutions;



If an objection is made, the Rent Officer will hold a consultation with both parties. Both sides can state their view and may be represented if they wish by a solicitor or friend of their choice. There is no legal aid available for this (but legal aid is available for advice on the case). The Rent Officer will inspect the dwelling and he will register a "fair rent".

#### Appeal

If either party objects to the proposed "fair rent", then they can appeal within 28 days by writing to the Rent Officer saying that they do not

### RENT OFFICER



ational institutions;

- \* Genuine holiday lettings.

If in doubt, get advice before applying.

#### What is a "Fair Rent"?

It is a rent fixed by the Rent Officer, which takes into account everything about the tenancy except the personal circumstances of the landlord or tenant. He will pay attention to the age, character and location of the dwelling and its state of repair. He will not count any improvements carried out by the tenant. He will not take into account scarcity of accommodation.

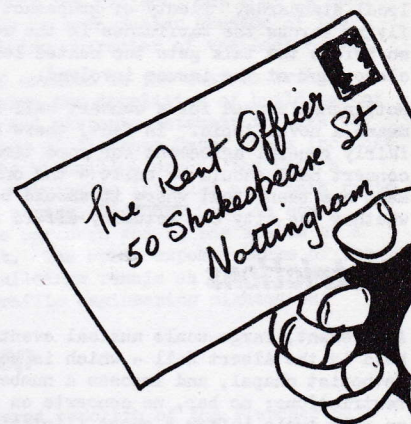
### RENT ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE



accept the "fair rent". The Appeal will go to the Rent Assessment Committee, who will hear the case again. They can increase, decrease or confirm the "fair rent". Representation is the same as at the first hearing. The decision of the Committee can only be appealed against on a point of law and is done by means of a High Court writ. Get legal advice for this.

#### What happens?

In some cases where a rent is increased, the full increase will not be payable at once, and the rent will be increased over a period of time. This is complicated, so if in doubt, get legal advice.

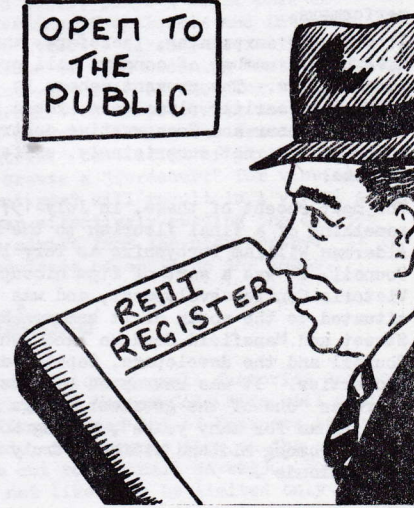


OR TEL. 45665

#### How to apply

The landlord, the tenant, or both, may apply. The form for application asks for details of the accommodation, any services provided, any charges made for rates, etc., details of furniture (if provided) and what rent is being applied for. If both landlord and tenant apply, the Rent Officer will register the rent if he thinks it is a fair one. If only one party applies, the other party has the right to state his case and object to the rent being asked for. If no objection is made, the Rent Officer will register the rent, if he thinks it fair. There is no right of appeal in either of these cases.

### OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



The registered rent remains the same until the Rent Officer re-registers it, which he will not do for at least three years unless the conditions of the tenancy change.

The landlord cannot charge more than the registered rent - and if he does he should be reported to the City Solicitors Department.

The Rent Registers are open to public inspection.

#### Address to contact:

Rent Officer (Nottingham),  
50 Shakespeare Street,  
Nottingham.  
Tel. 45665.



NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL HAS A SEEMINGLY ENDLESS capacity for generating rows - and it looks as if the new Festival Hall will be a classic even by local standards. Plenty of grapeshot will be flying across the barricades in the months ahead, so before the talk gets too heated let's take a close look at the issues involved.

Nottingham's need for a concert hall is by no means a novel topic. In fact, there has been fairly general agreement for some time that a new concert hall should be built - the only disagreement has been about where it should be built, and whether the city can actually afford it.

## Restrictions

At present, large-scale musical events have to be held in the Albert Hall - which is really a Methodist chapel, and imposes a number of restrictions: no bar, no concerts on Sundays, and no rock music (after a short flirtation with rock concerts a year or two ago, the trustees decided things were rocking just a little too energetically and placed a ban on further bookings). Hence the younger generation of music followers is perhaps the most deprived of all - major rock tours usually bypass Nottingham, and the rock enthusiast has to make his way to Leicester or Sheffield to catch up with them.

Jazz fans are slightly better served - both Ellington and Basie have visited Nottingham in recent years, for example - but Leicester's De Montfort Hall is still a more frequent stop. Classical music may seem better catered for: musicians of international reputation visit the city regularly, and there's a steady supply of concerts; but the small size of the hall (maximum capacity about 1,600) restricts box office receipts and means that even a full house will not pay for visits by major orchestras.

In addition, there's the depressing clerical mien of the Albert Hall, its eddying draughts, its lack of refreshment or other social facilities, and its inadequate back-stage provision for performers.

It's hardly surprising, therefore, that there have been a number of concert hall projects in recent years. The present scheme is the most definite - earlier plans were kicked about between Labour and Conservative controlled councils and, not surprisingly, suffered in the process.

The most recent of these, in July 1971, came as something of a final flourish to the reign of Alderman William Derbyshire as Tory leader of the Council. It was a sort of £1½m hiccup to the £15m Victoria Centre development, and was to be situated to the north of it between Huntingdon Street and Mansfield Road on land owned by the Council and the developers, Capital and County Properties. It was unwrapped by Alderman Derbyshire as "one of the greatest things to happen to Nottingham for many years", making Nottingham "unique among Midland cities - truly the Queen of the Midlands".

## Pretentious

In most respects (except site and cost), the proposals seem to have been not unlike the present Labour project. Labour councillors were not impressed, however. In a Council debate in January 1972, Alderman Mrs Joan Case said the scheme seemed ambitious and pretentious, and Councillor Michael Cowan denounced it as "a monument to Alderman Derbyshire regardless of expense". Alternative sites suggested by Labour members included the General Cemetery, the former Gaumont Cinema, Trent Bridge, and the University.

Since control of the Council at this time was finely balanced between the two parties, the Labour group were able to delay the project until they could squash it completely two months later after a ten minute debate in which Councillor

# Festival Hall - th



John Carroll questioned the wisdom of building on the Victoria site.

So Alderman Derbyshire's monument was duly laid to rest. Someone else's monument was evidently already in the pipeline, however, for in June 1973 Nottingham learned that its Labour-controlled Finance Committee was engaged in a "feasibility study" of sites for a "Festival Hall" (Alderman Derbyshire's original title, interestingly enough). According to reports, it was the view of Labour members that the Lace Market needed "livening-up" (the claims of the General Cemetery having by now been forgotten).

A year later, the June 1974 edition of the "Nottingham Arrow" was able to announce a definite project at a cost of £2½m. It was to be situated in the Lace Market between Fletcher Gate and St Mary's Gate, and was to be financed "from the City Council's investments" - and the hall would be an investment too, because it would be "a trading operation providing income".

## Multi-purpose

Since a concerts-only policy would not be an economic proposition, the hall was to be multi-purpose, housing not only major musical events, but also conferences, exhibitions, and shows by local amateur companies. It was also planned to have a smaller hall for exhibitions and other events. Beyond this attractive outline, few definite proposals have been published, and controversy has already developed over the projected size. According to the City Planning Department booklet *A Conservation Policy for the Lace Market*, "the area is large enough to accommodate a concert hall for 1,750 persons plus a choir and a smaller hall for 600 persons" - a very minor improvement on the 1,600 capacity Albert Hall.

Total costs of the Festival Hall project remain a mystery also. By the beginning of this year, the official estimate was £3,600,000 (£850,000 to acquire the site and £2,750,000 for construction), but in opposing the scheme at the Council meeting on January 6th, Councillor Woodward, leader

of the Tory opposition, accurate figure might be the official figure, but Council's own estimate since November 1973, when £2,822,000 (£572,000 site). At present rates bound to be further encroached on when work starts on schedule.

Even without inflation, optimistic figure for cost of 2.25 acre site (though it could cost £380,000 per acre). Resources Committee suggested offset by an estimated £1m sale by the City Council of land surplus to requirements.

## Grandiose

A closer look at these sites that they were originally grandiose road-building Engineers. They consist of St Mary's Gate of more than one running through east to the other westwards to Huntingdon Street. The third smaller site of new development is situated between Huntingdon Street and St Mary's Gate.

The history of these sites is interesting to the inflated vision of the future. Before compulsory purchase of the sites, thriving businesses. At the time, businesses were displaced and demolished. Then the road was through. The sites remained as ugly gaps in the heart of the city, utilised in traditional parks. If the Council were to build a hall in the Lace Market, still more firms out of the city would be more logical to consider "plots" for the project instead of off to pay for the expense elsewhere in the same area.



# e £5m blow-out



Site from Carlton St (cover: Pilcher Gate)

suggested that a more £m - £1,400,000 above not so unlikely when the already risen by 27% the figure quoted was £2,250,000 construct-inflation there are increases even if 1976.

50,000 may be an ulsory purchase of the still works out at a The Policy and ts that this "could be 0,000 following the f three other plots of ts in the Lace Market".

surplus plots" reveals acquired for the fantasies of former City f two large sites off n half an acre each, rds to Stoney Street, ifax Place, while the ly a quarter of an acre x Place and Pilcher

might stand as a warn- s of civic leaders. , they contained r purchase, these and the property -building scheme fell , however, as great the Lace Market, shion as temporary car hes to build a Festival rather than putting usiness, it might be using these "surplus ead of selling them ve purchase of a site !

In passing, it should be noted also that the Government is intending to push through legislation to ensure public ownership of development land, and it must be questioned whether the Lace Market sites are, in fact, "surplus to requirements" if there is to be an effective conservation policy (the Lace Market is, after all, a Conservation Area) aimed at resisting pressures for office redevelopment from property companies.

If the Labour Group has been cagey about the total costs of the scheme, even less public discussion has been permitted on methods of finance, apart from the bold statement that the total cost of compulsorily purchasing the land is to be met from capital receipts, i.e. the sale of Council investments, chiefly land.

Given the present economic situation and the near certain refusal of the Government to grant loan sanction to borrow £24-£5 million, there are few alternative ways of raising the money. The block allocation to the City Council for capital spending on locally determined schemes is nowhere near enough, and would involve sacrificing virtually all spending on other community and leisure facilities for years ahead. Also, with current rates of interest on local authority borrowing touching 13% a year, the burden of interest charges to be met by ratepayers annually would be between £300,000 (on £24m) and £650,000 (on £5m). No sophistication is needed to see the political repercussions of that.

## Implications

So it is only by selling off bits of land and property that the money can be raised. How many more sites will be found "surplus to requirements" remains to be seen. Tenants and residents groups may well find long-promised community facilities disappearing through lack of available land.

Finally, what are the implications of the proposals for the site itself and the Lace Market Conservation Area of which it is part?

Looking into his crystal ball, John Haslam, the City's Director of Technical Services, hopes the building itself will be "an architectural gem -

something uniquely Nottingham which expresses the concept of doing the visionary thing".

An architectural gem may emerge from the manoeuvrings surrounding the project, but what is much more certain is an even faster erosion of the already dissolving character of the Lace Market.

The process of erosion on the western fringe really began with the demolition of buildings of architectural and historic interest to make way for the widening of Fletcher Gate. This included the loss of the Windmill - one of the City's oldest pubs. Originally intended as a main route into the city centre, Fletcher Gate is now demoted at its northern end to the status of a one-way street. The open, exposed backs of the Lace Market buildings remain as a brutal legacy to previous traffic engineering nightmares.

## Concession

The solid layered monolith of the Fletcher Gate multi-storey car park (note the brick facings - a petty concession to the conservation lobby) has eaten further into the fabric of the Lace Market. Justified by the need to replace 500 parking places, lost when parking restrictions were imposed in the city centre, it now appears more like a magnet drawing the eyes of councillors to the Warser Gate site.

Taken individually, the buildings now to be compulsorily acquired and demolished are not of outstanding historic or architectural value. Warehouses on Warser Gate itself, number 33 Pilcher Gate (designed by local Victorian architect Watson Fothergill), and smaller properties on St Mary's Gate (possibly original houses built for lace merchants) are worthy of mention. But typically for the Lace Market, the buildings collectively contribute to the distinctive scale and character of the district.

The shopping frontage made up of numbers 6-22 Carlton Street, for instance, does not contain buildings which would excite the conservationist. However, this row of shops, including the Lord Nelson public house, plays a major part in creating a feeling of enclosure and intimacy along Carlton Street. Already decimated and decaying because of road widening at the Hockley end, this east-west axis of shopping is facing a desperate struggle to compete with shops along the favoured streets linking the Broad Marsh and Victoria Centres. Demolition of part of the frontage to create a "forecourt" for viewing an "architectural gem" will result in a visual and commercial gap effectively cutting the Carlton Street shops adrift from the city centre. It is a deferred sentence of death on the shops.

## Inconvenience

Naturally, demolition of small factories and work-shops occupying the Warser Gate site will mean more small firms forced out of business (although A.C. Gill Ltd., the largest firm on the site, wish to move out to Hucknall anyway). But the effects are not likely to be limited only to the site boundaries.

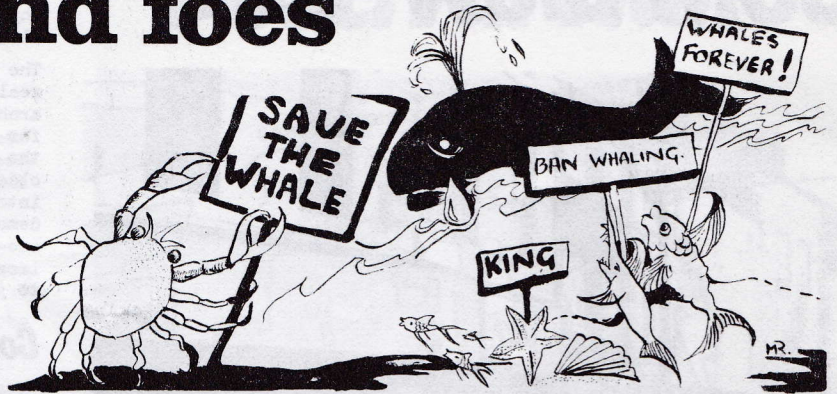
At present, Warser Gate serves as a main entry for traffic delivering and collecting goods at factories and warehouses in the Lace Market. Closure means this traffic will use the only alternative - Pilcher Gate. Imagine the battles with shoppers' cars waiting to enter the brand new multi-storey car park. Delays and inconvenience mean extra costs for small firms already existing on slim profit margins and low overheads. Pressure builds up to widen Maiden Lane (only eight feet wide in places) and other entrances to the Lace Market. More demolitions, more firms leaving the district - a further cycle of erosion.

Far from "rejuvenating" the Lace Market as claimed by some councillors, the Festival Hall could mark another stage in the final eclipse of this unique nineteenth century manufacturing district.



# Friends and foes

## Befriending the Earth in Nottingham



YES, FRIENDS OF THE EARTH does exist in Nottingham and we are thriving. Friends of the Earth, or FOE to the initiated, is an environmental pressure group: a pressure group in the political sense, but with absolutely no political leanings - after all, the Earth belongs to everybody.

The FOE group in Nottingham has about fifty members, half of whom are active. Our activities are many and varied, starting with a nucleus of campaigns suggested and backed up by our "head office" in London, FOE Ltd. In support of these central campaigns we have in the last year had several demonstrations.

The most recent of these was in support of standardisation of bottles, and involved making an 8ft high tomato ketchup bottle and picketing two local supermarkets, handing out leaflets. This was covered by both Radio Nottingham and the Evening Post who, under the heading of "Ketchup man told to hop it", proceeded to get completely the wrong end of the stick, even though their reporter had been briefed at length by our co-ordinator, John Carey.

Briefly, what we were trying to say was that, with metrication just over the horizon, we think that bottles should be manufactured to standard designs to facilitate re-use. At present, we have a plethora of different shapes and sizes - 5,000 to be more accurate.

One of our first demonstrations was in the style which has become something of a trademark of FOE in Britain, that of the Schweppes bottle dump. As you will no doubt remember, the first version of this was in London, when thousands of non-returnable bottles were collected by FOE supporters and dumped on the doorstep of Schweppes' head office. Their own advertising campaign provided us with a useful slogan - "Don't let them Sch... all over Britain".

### LITTLE MONSTERS

Our own local version of this was against the Co-op and their ghastly little plastic milk cartons. These little monsters have undoubtedly collected many housewives as enemies by their ability to squirt milk yards in every direction whilst resisting attempts to open them. In addition to this, they are far more ecologically damaging and wasteful energy-wise than the good old returnable glass milk bottle.

So we set out and dumped 2,000 of these on the doorstep of Co-operative

House in Parliament Street. To get our point across, we distributed leaflets and chatted to housewives who agreed with us.

Don't think that FOE is all about bottles. Another of the centrally run campaigns is our "Save the Whale" campaign. FOE Ltd's contribution to this was the launching of a plastic inflatable whale on the Thames to coincide with the annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission in London. Unfortunately, at the sight of the Russian and Japanese delegates Peter the Whale sprang a leak and promptly sank. Russia and Japan are the only two nations in the world still to have whaling fleets.

Our own efforts were somewhat more successful, in that our whale stayed afloat for the time required of it - August Bank Holiday on the Trent. The campaign involves bringing political and economic pressure to bear on the Japanese and Russian firms who have interests in whaling. The economic pressure is achieved by a boycott of Russian and Japanese goods, which is going well in America, according to FOE Inc. in the States, but has yet to catch on fully here.

The reason for all this commotion is that whales, in particular the Blue Whale, are nearing extinction. As if this were not enough, our zoologist consultants tell us that, if the whale were allowed to become extinct, then this would trigger an ecological chain reaction, and the plankton on which they feed would undergo an uninhibited bloom, and the seas would become stagnant ponds, as has happened with Lake Erie. A sobering thought.

Besides joining in with the hundred or so FOE groups around the country on these central campaigns, we are also engaged on several local campaigns specific to Nottingham.

For instance, we are at present preparing a report on Nottingham's much lauded incinerator scheme, which continues to run at a colossal deficit, despite three years of experience. More than half the time it is in operation the incinerator needs stoking up with coal, as the rubbish which it was built to burn is not of high enough quality. How far sighted of the Coal Board to have a 50% share in it. When the heat does come out at the other end, in the Victoria Centre much of it goes to waste owing to inadequate insulation. As any Victoria Centre resident will tell you, the corridors are some of the hottest places in the Centre.

### PAPER COLLECTION

Then there is our paper collection, also in the Victoria Centre, which provides us with most of our finance. Every Monday a small army of volunteers descends on the Centre and collects the paper which the residents have been putting out for us for six months now. Also on the fund raising side, and worthy of a plug, is our Environmental Book Stall. We have in stock a goodly selection of all the well-known, and some of the less well-known, environmental books.

Our newest campaign especially for the New Year is an allotments campaign. We have acquired one of the hundreds of derelict allotments in the City and have cleared it ready to grow our own food organically, i.e. without the use of chemical fertilisers. In conjunction with this, we are planning in the near future a demonstration in the City Centre to highlight the need for allotments and home grown food in Britain. Watch out for it!

Now you know what we do. If you want to know who we are, why not come along to one of our Tuesday meetings - 8 p.m. in the Lion Hotel on Clumber Street - or contact Martin Tallett, 10 Lamcote Grove, The Meadows, Nottm.



## SHREWSBURY TWO

ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 14th, OVER FIFTY Nottingham trade unionists joined many thousands of workers from all over Britain in a TUC-sponsored demonstration and lobby of Parliament demanding the release of Warren and Tomlinson, two building workers gaol- ed in the infamous Shrewsbury trial.

First, the background. In June 1972, the building trades unions declared an official strike in support of a claim for improved wages and working conditions. Many employers replied with their traditional tactic, the use of self-employed, non-union labour on their priority sites. The dispute dragged on until August when, in order to combat "the lump", the unions started to deploy flying pickets to various sites to persuade non-members to stop work.

### EFFECTIVE

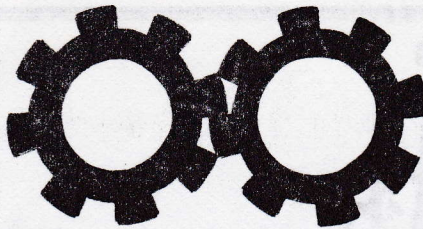
On September 6th, two hundred pickets visited Shrewsbury and Telford, calling at eight sites, at seven of which police were in attendance. Some minor jostlings took place, but in no case were police called upon to take any immediate action. To the fury of building employers and the consternation of the then Tory Government, such picketing was effective in closing many sites, and by mid-September the unions had won their biggest pay increase in the history of the building industry.

Then came the backlash! During the latter part of 1972, twenty-four of the pickets who went to Shrewsbury were arrested and charged with various offences, including unlawful assembly, affray, and the serious charge of conspiracy. The trials dragged on right through 1973, six of the men receiving gaol sentences. Des Warren received a three-year sentence, and Eric Tomlinson two years.

### GRIM WARNING

Throughout their trial no specific charges of physical violence were made, simply vague allegations about "threatening and intimidating behaviour". One "blackleg" prosecution witness boasted about having wielded a shotgun to bust a picket line. No charge was laid against him. By the use of the conspiracy laws, the prosecution transformed trivial incidents into major crimes. The winter of '74 was approaching, another miners' strike was threatened. The Heath régime wanted the miners defeated, and to do that the mass picketing of the '72 miners' strike could not be allowed to recur. A grim warning had to be given. This was the logic of the Shrewsbury trials.

When the sentences were announced, an immediate response from the trade union movement was required. But the national leaderships of both UCATT and the T & GWU were equivocal and indecisive. Militant groups of building workers and other rank and file trade



## THE SHOP FLOOR

unionists did what they could, but a national focus was lacking.

What happened in Nottingham was fairly typical of the national pattern. For many months the Trades Council did little, and it was left to the small and not very representative "Shrewsbury Action Committee" to make all the running. In May, this latter body led a spontaneous demonstration of two hundred people to Nottingham gaol, where one of the Shrewsbury workers was temporarily incarcerated, but it was incapable of organising the necessary industrial action, as was the local UCATT leadership, in the face of low union membership in the area and the lack of a national lead.

### OUT IN FORCE

At the January meeting of the Trades Council, delegates reported back on the events of the January 14th national lobby. The police had been out in force, and the few demonstrators who were allowed in to see MPs reported a poor response from our local "representatives" apart from Michael English, who was reasonably sympathetic. Most Trades Council delegates were aware that much more was called for than traditional lobbying.

A resolution was carried calling upon the TUC to call a one day national strike, aimed at forcing the Home Secretary to release the men. Local trade union branches should give support to this resolution within their own organisations. Also, financial assistance is still required and donations should be sent to the Trades Council Treasurer, Mr R. Mason, 398 Foxhill Road West, Carlton, Nottingham.

These men are still in gaol because the Labour Government is concerned with building up "business confidence" rather than the defence of workers' rights, and because the Trade Unions have so far not done enough to make them change their minds. Therefore, the present fight is as urgent as ever.

JOHN HEWITT (BUILDING WORKER)

## REFUGEES

A NOTTINGHAM CHILEAN REFUGEE PROJECT has been set up, under the sponsorship of the Nottingham Trades Council. At present, it is planned that twelve refugees should be taken. The organ-

isation is working from the TASS Office, AUEW, 218 Mansfield Road, Nottingham. The Secretary is Pete Sketchley, ASTMS, and the Treasurer Harry Ball, T & GWU. Below we print the organisation's appeal:

Dear Brother,

I am writing to you on behalf of my fellow countrymen and brother trade unionists who have been forced to flee Chile since the army coup. Our only crime was to fight for the living standards of the working class and to end, forever, the system of exploitation of the people of Chile.

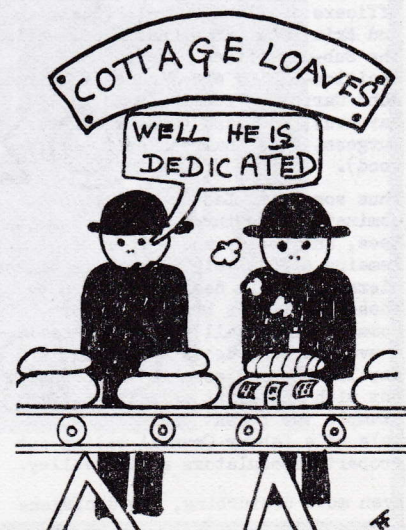
Many of my comrades have been forced to leave Chile (often after being brutally tortured by the Junta and living in the open in Argentina or Peru). In Nottingham we are organising a broad committee to settle refugees who have made their way to Britain. We shall initially aim to settle about 10 refugees and perhaps some families. We are appealing for your help in the following areas:

1. Accommodation: Both short term lodgings in sympathetic homes and longer term permanent housing. (Editorial note. This is urgent. Anyone who can offer private accommodation should write immediately.)
2. Spanish/English classes: Few refugees speak English.
3. Money: As much as possible for food, clothing, furniture, etc.
4. Employment: Suitable work when they speak some English.

We would welcome any help or advice you can offer us, and we also invite you to send a delegate to the Committee.

We also feel that there is much for the British Labour Movement to learn from what happened in Chile, and I would be pleased to speak at meetings to talk about Chile and the Refugee Project.

Yours fraternally,  
OSCAR MUNOZ  
(Chilean Refugee).





## THE PARISH PUMP

WATCHMAN



THROUGH THE MIND OF THE AVERAGE Labour voter after the last local elections there may well have run a scenario something like this:

Voters in Nottingham, guided by faithful party workers, elect Labour candidates to create an overwhelming majority in the Nottingham City Council. This group of elected councillors then becomes the guardian of the socialist principles and ideas of Labour's "man in the street". It has, therefore, a collective responsibility to make Nottingham a fair and just society.

The group as a whole discusses and decides policies, and gives directives to the various committees which carry them out. Policies are formulated only by this collective body of socialist councillors.

### No influence

Sadly, this little play is pure illusion. The Labour group as a whole does not influence committee policies or spending, and has no influence on main strategy - which should be directed towards conserving and utilising resources effectively within a proper order of priorities. In fact the group has abrogated its responsibility, handing it over to a small coterie of men and committees who wield power from a firmly held power-base - and have become intolerant of all adverse criticism.

Even more dangerously, this power bloc of Labour councillors has vested in its committee decisions the immense backing of delegated authority.

The power bloc is headed by the Policy and Resources Committee, whose officers are John Carroll (Chairman) and Eric Pate (Vice Chairman), while the Sub-committees steering the decision-making are Finance (Chairman John Carroll, Vice Chairman Len Maynard), and Land (Chairman Peter Burgess, Vice Chairman Bert Littlewood).

Thus some five Labour councillors dominate these three crucial committees, and Policy and Resources remains effectively in control of the hierarchy. All decisions taken by these committees bind all other committees and all Labour councillors - even if some decisions appear unpalatable and seem to be inconsistent with socialist principles, for example the recent unsavoury spectacle of a Labour Council baling out property speculators at Top Valley.

Even more disturbing, the decisions

taken by this small group have had a disastrous effect on what should be the major socialist priority - building houses for working people. The waiting list is expected to rise from 9,315 at 30th September, 1974 to 11,700 by March, 1977 - an increase of 240 every three months - mainly because houses are being demolished faster than they are being replaced. It is planned to make up the deficit by increasing purchases of private houses - a policy which could go very badly wrong if the private housing market stages a recovery.

Thus the number of homes provided is declining and will further decline, together with the quality of the homes, basically because limited resources from retained capital funds and other sources are being wasted on prestigious schemes and leisure amenities (£5 million on a Festival Hall, for example) which should be at the bottom of the order of priorities on a Labour-controlled Council's spending programme.

Our limited resources need to be concentrated on building Council-owned housing for working people. To complete a programme of 9,000 new housing units, commencing in 1974/5 (i.e. 1,500 per annum), will mean a borrowing from key sector of some £15 million plus per annum on the 60 year loan basis, not allowing for inflation. The annual redemption and interest charge each year will be in the order of £2,250,000, chargeable to the Housing Revenue Account. This will be recouped partly from increasing council house rents on all council tenants, and partly from general rates - either way council house tenants will pay.

### Increase

These calculations are based on the National Housing Building standard - Parker Morris standards would increase the charge to the housing revenue account to a greater degree.

On top of new housing units, the programme of rehabilitating and modernising some 500 homes each year will require a further £1,500,000.

This proves beyond any shadow of doubt that we must conserve resources and capital for housing as the first priority and leave prestige and amenity spending for a long time to come. If our Labour councillors don't get their priorities right, the road will inevitably lead to political ruin, either from the reaction of grassroots party members - or from the economics of necessity.

# A not very public gallery

IF A NATION GETS THE POLITICIANS IT deserves, the same cannot be said for art galleries, if one accepts what the Director of the Midland Group Gallery in Nottingham believes when she says, "I do not think that democracy can work in the arts".

The Midland Group Gallery, which is at present situated near the Nottingham Playhouse slotted between doctors' surgeries, solicitors' offices and dentists' waiting rooms, has for many years mystified and bemused many of the people who have ventured into the various exhibitions which have been presented there. However, the Victorian front room atmosphere is soon to be discarded when the Gallery moves into the Lace Market in June of this year to become an Arts Centre.

### PR lady

The present Gallery Director, Ms Sylvia Cooper, who seems likely to take over the Directorship of the new Arts Centre, appears to be very busy with the project, to the point of not being available to discuss the new Centre even with eight days' notice. The Gallery has a Publicity Officer, appointed last Summer, who does the talking. She is a good PR lady and only once became flustered, when asked about the financial aspects of the Gallery; she then hurriedly made enquiries as to the whereabouts of the elusive Ms Cooper.

She did reveal, after consultation, that the Midland Group received £2,750 from the East Midlands Arts Association and a massive £17,000 from the Arts Council of Great Britain. From this money, plus full members' and associate members' fees, the Gallery presents on average two exhibitions per month and pays the salaries of six full-time members of staff. The exhibiting artists receive nothing for their exhibitions, although transportation fees are given, plus, of course, whatever he or she may sell.

### Establishment

The general policy of the Gallery, it is stated, is not to make money, which is a refreshing statement, but hardly believable when one considers the annual bazaar that conveniently is held just before Christmas. The items exhibited may well be "art", but many look dangerously as if they



where indeed it should be encouraged, one could question the policy of thrusting experimental art on a public that has not been "visually educated".

## Visual games

It is here that one must ask the old question, "What is Art?" If one accepts that art is about the communication and the expression of feelings, then it is hard to accept that flashing neon bars, inflatables, electronic sculptures, labyrinths and happenings are much more than interesting experiments, or merely visual toys or games, especially as they tend to be very bad copies of the work of Warhol, Kaprow, Beuys, Kienholz and Oldenburg. To accept what is termed "environmental art", to appreciate it, and to be stimulated by it, one may well agree with Ms Cooper that the nation needs a visual education.

Of course one must choose for oneself, to either accept or reject, and perhaps do something about it. This, however, doesn't apply to the Midland Group Gallery, for if you do not agree with its policy or you feel that you could try to move in and change it from the inside, it is not possible.

For £2 one can become an associate member. This entitles you to be put on the mailing list, and to receive information about forthcoming exhibitions and lectures. It also entitles you to have a 10% reduction on all purchases that you may care to make from the Gallery, and a reduction on all ticket prices.

## Vetted

To be a full member costs £4 per annum. The catch here is that you have to be a practising artist - whatever that may mean. The procedure is that one has to submit a folio of work which is vetted by a committee (non-elected) who are themselves full members. Their standards, according to the Publicity Officer, are determined by three things: whether the work is of a technically high enough standard, whether it is very creative, or whether it is interesting. This may not appear to be a very democratic way of doing things, but then, as the Director says, democracy cannot work in the arts.

As regards the future of the Midland Group, we can only wait and wonder, and see if it will change its spots from the elitist organisation to the all-embracing arts centre. The plans promise to be good. There will be the space and, it seems, the money, and there is the enthusiasm. There will be a coffee bar and a licensed bar in the new building, there will also be a book shop and film shows, as well as poetry readings, and, of course, the exhibitions. Nothing that will exactly send the hordes rushing in from Radford and Bulwell, but there is a glimmer of hope. The ideals may be allowed to break through and some art may go to some people - but whatever happened to Centre Forty-Two?

STEPHEN MORRIS



Midland Group: future and present

have been made to sell, rather than to express a high moment of creativity.

The Midland Group has been with us long enough to be a part of the establishment, and therefore it has its critics. However, one fairly well-known local artist refused to criticise the Gallery because he felt if he were to be quoted it could jeopardise his chances of having an exhibition there in the future. He further warned that criticism of the Gallery could result in giving ammunition to the enemies of art in general, and those who may be in a position to cut off financial aid. The artist in question may not, of course, be correct in his conclusions about either issue, but it is perhaps a reflection on the Midland Group that they have stimulated such a reaction.

When the Gallery moves to its new premises, and this move in itself will cost an enormous amount of money, it will take under its wing other art forms, embracing a kind of multimedia extravaganza which will include film, poetry, folk and jazz. This will, it is hoped, bring art to the people and, as Ms Cooper stated in an article in "Laurels" magazine last year, "if the populace won't come in, we shall go out to them, with performances in the streets and with exhibitions".

The basic premise, that people want what the Midland Group is going to present, is questionable. One may

recall that one of the original aims of the Nottingham Playhouse was to bring the working classes into the Theatre. This has not happened. Art is, in our society, in spite of many grand statements, an elitist activity, and the Midland Group in the past have been seen to pander to this minority. Not by any stretch of the imagination could one suggest that the average working man would feel any more at home in the Midland Group Gallery than he would in the stalls of the Playhouse.

## Imitations

Ms Cooper goes on to say in the "Laurels" article that "as a nation we are not visually educated". This is undoubtedly true, and it would again be wrong to expect the average working man or woman to cope with some of the "experimental art" that has been presented by the Midland Group. In some cases in the past few years, the art presented has been little more than poor imitations of what the Dada movement presented as experiments, which were intentionally idiotic in order to shock people to take notice.

It could be suggested that some of the people who have exhibited there have jumped on this particular bandwagon because they were merely covering up their own lack of talent. However, although our Art Colleges are full of such experimental art,



## THEATRE

# Gala Play

THE NOTTINGHAM THEATRE CLUB IS presenting a Gala Production of "Twelfth Night" at the Lace Market Theatre on the evenings of 24th February - 1st March. The production serves to mark the completion of the first phase in the development of the Lace Market Theatre in Halifax Place. In addition, the company is celebrating the arrival of a full theatre licence, which puts them alongside the Playhouse, the Theatre Royal and the Co-op Arts Theatre.

The production of "Twelfth Night" is being directed by Mike Williams, who has established a reputation for penetrating and individual interpretations of dramas ancient and modern - his production of "Twelfth Night" promises to be no exception.

## Hierarchy

The action takes place in an English Country House around 1610. The characters within the hierarchy of the House gather together to present Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night". Thus each member of the household takes one of the parts from the play. This clearly leads to several fresh interpretations of individual characters as the audience is drawn to focus on Shakespeare's characters through different frames of reference. Olivia, ostensibly a repressed young lady mourning for the death of her brother, is played by the frustrated lady of the House - a character considerably older than the conventional view of the Countess Olivia. Feste the Clown is played by a young courtier attending to her ladyship's waning desires - a perspective which gives added point to the Feste/Olivia dialogues. The relationship between the countess and her "dry fool" is focused by the underlying relationship between the ageing duchess and her midnight cowboy.

## Licence

The stage characters playing the parts of Orsino and Olivia are at the head of the social hierarchy, and so have a licence which their inferiors do not enjoy. Thus Malvolio the Steward, played by the steward of the House, is subservient to the whims of those superior to him in the hierarchies of the House and the drama. Our appreciation of Malvolio's plight is deepened through this focus - he suffers on both levels of the stage world. In addition, we are presented with a telling historical view of the play. Whereas the Steward is victim and at the butt-end of the play's comedy, his final comment "I'll be revenged on the whole pack of you" reminds us that the aspiring Puritan of 1610 will be in a more dominant position "come the revolution" thirty years on.

For an amateur company such an enterprise is ambitious. Refreshingly so



when one recalls the standard and sterile "interpretations" of Shakespeare at amateur or even professional level. With the company's strongest cast to hand and the set design in the hands of Bill Grayson, one can only expect the very best from the Theatre Club. One trusts that they will exercise as much licence in the future as they move into the subsequent phases of their development.

GP

## CINEMA

# Orient Express

"MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS" STRUCK me as the dullest thriller in a long time. Why is it that a distinguished international cast, among them Finney, Bacall, Redgrave, Bergman, Perkins and Connery, under the direction of Sidney Lumet, who has turned out some reasonable if unexciting work in the past, ended up with such a poor movie?

To begin with, for me it lacked any real suspense. True there were times when one did begin to piece the jigsaw together, but no sense of immediacy was located within the film itself. Perhaps it was not intended to arouse suspense, fear or emotion in the way that Hitchcock, for example, can, but merely to arouse our mild curiosity, hardly sufficient as the basis of a thriller.

## Central

We might look, to compensate, to the characters and the interest or otherwise of their psychology, motives and behaviour. Obviously Finney's portrayal of Poirot is central to the film - he is on screen virtually throughout and the movie is essentially concerned with his unravelling of the crime. The audience viewpoint is identified with his, we learn of new facts and motives as he reveals them. I find it difficult to assess acting perform-

ances, but the somewhat idiosyncratic figure he portrays lacks the dimensions, weight or sheer magnetism of most successful screen detectives. One thinks of Bogart in "The Big Sleep" or "The Maltese Falcon", or even Steve McQueen in "Bullitt", both of whom, to be fair to Finney, had better scripts to work with.

The other characters, mainly because there are so many of them of equal importance, tend to come over as little more than cardboard figures. The actors do their best to suggest the depth which would lend them substance, but there is simply not time to invest them with the history or psychological insight which would make them more than vaguely interesting figures in Poirot's puzzle.

## Details

Perhaps these obvious cracks in the conception and structure of the film could have been papered over by a more convincing presentation of the mixture of period and mystery. The details of costume and interior decor of the train were among the best aspects of the film, but might have been used to far better effect in conjunction with a more mobile and expressive camera and lighting technique. To be totally unaware of the director's hand in the creation of the style of a film does not matter if his work can be perceived to have style, i.e. the director having chosen to use the means at his disposal for particular creative reasons. In a film which lacks imaginative or particularly expressive use of the camera one can look for compensation in the script, characterization, inventive plot, etc., but "Murder on the Orient Express" seems to lack excellence in any of these departments.

For many years movie producers and directors have imagined that a bevy of stars can by themselves constitute a successful film; this film proves once more that such a commercial philosophy is fallacious.

ALAN FOUNTAIN



## SOCCER

## Problem Game

DECIDING WHERE TO STAND ON THE terraces at Forest is not as simple as it used to be. At one time, the Trent End used to occupy the Trent End, and we middle-aged supporters could take the opposite end or the popular side. Then came the pens and the move of the Trent tides down the popular side. Increasing hostility to young fans stems in part from the fear generated by a cascading wall of them storming down the steps as a goal is scored. The buffeting received is doubly frustrating because there is no one person to blame, and it is difficult to believe that there is any malice behind this expression of high spirits.

## Carnage

The violence that occurs is directed at opposing fans - a scene familiar to those of us who were young in the fifties and witnessed the gang fights amongst rival Teds or the later Mods and Rockers. The kind of fear generated by Manchester United's Stretford Enders, said to create carnage in whatever town they visit, seems to be confined to them alone.

However, the authorities in Nottingham are getting tougher about football hooliganism. The recent Forest-Tottenham game saw the establishment of a Saturday evening Magistrates Court. Justice was to be dealt out on the day - or was it justice? The practice, doubtless to be repeated, raised many questions (further pursued in "Up the Steps" on page 7). Most football fans will agree that the deterrent effect is likely to be minimal. This is one issue that this column will explore in the future. Perhaps it is time to talk to those affected most - the policemen called in for special duty and the young fans who run the risk of violence to themselves and possible trouble with the law.

## Few facts

There are plenty of theories but few facts about football - a game that is watched by half a million people every Saturday. It is time we looked at the process by which the game some of us love is ruled by a few men who hire and fire managers, build up elaborate youth teams and scouting systems, but find themselves unable to offer money to a new manager to spend on players. To fans, it is obvious to ask what happened to all the money gained from selling Moore, Hennessey, Newton, Cormack and McKenzie.

Just as worrying is reading statements from managers like Bill Nicholson, saying that he doesn't encourage his players to have outside interests. Perhaps this is why football is often made to appear such drudgery by those playing it - and why those of us

who've watched Forest for the past 22 years find this side the least enterprising and the least skilful ever to represent them.

Nottingham Voice gives us the chance to look at the game, and perhaps analyse those features that are too delicate to be explored by sports writers dependent for their copy on good relations with the football authorities. We may even try and explain why the ritual of Saturday afternoon is followed by some of us from seven to seventy.

JOE BOOT

## RACING

## Future Losses

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2035. I AM sitting up in bed taking my time over breakfast and the racing papers. No work today - I've already done my two days for the week. Sandown and Doncaster. I think about taking the mono-rail to Doncaster, only a few minutes these days, but opt for the comfort of the betting pavilion instead. Mind you, they tell me Doncaster isn't what it used to be. Now it is a giant covered sports complex, anything from practice ski slopes to billiards, with a nursery for the kids and films of old races if you get bored with the real thing.

## Tenner

I have a couple of fancies at Sandown so I decide to check the form. There is so much dope it's difficult to know when to stop. I just stick to the form tapes and my video films, useful today when I want to see the last few races of Fred Winter, a good three mile chaser named after that great old trainer. He looks pretty good, and I figure must be worth a tenner.

I walk to the betting pavilion, my

first exercise in a long time. Meet Charlie, nostalgic Charlie we call him - he's always reminiscing about the old days, says the old betting shops were friendly places, not like today's antiseptic dumps. Everyone's entitled to their own opinion, but I make it a rule to stay ahead of the pace, no good looking behind you when the punches are coming up front. The electric doors swing open and the voice of Ladbrokes pipes up, "Welcome to Ladbrokes, we hope you enjoy your afternoon with us. Please pay all bills at the chute in front of you". I have a couple of tabs, so I write a cheque and drop it down the chute.

We decide to have some lunch, the food machines are pretty good here. We down a few beers and hope for the champagne later. Charlie backs a couple of losers, then we move to the lounge, contour chairs which wrap round your body and a colour screen as big as a house. It's time for Fred's race. He looks like a real mover in the parade; Sue Wood is riding and she's top of the jocks table this year. I pick up the telephone beside me and put £10 on the nose. Fred goes well for a mile then starts dropping out. Finally I get a thirty foot square colour close-up of Sue going over his neck. She falls pretty hard. A groan goes round the room.

## Champagne

To hell with the money. I press the button marked "champagne". That damn silly little robot brings it over. The drink does me no good and I back a couple more losers. The red phone rings and it's the computer telling me I have exceeded my credit limit. One more bottle and we stagger out. They are pulling the old Victoria Centre down and Charlie falls over a pile of rubble. Another rotten day nearly over. I make a mental note to kick the betting habit. The trouble is they have made it too easy to lose.

ALAN FOUNTAIN

Most families in Nottingham\* find CO-OP membership pays!

\* And in Long Eaton, Grantham, Hucknall, Pinxton, Retford, Stapleford, Sandiacre, Boston & Skegness.

Application forms in all shops, or from Greater Nottingham Co-operative Society, Public Relations Department, 243 Derby Road, Lenton, Nottingham. Telephone 44021.





# JAZZ

## NOTTS JAZZWISE

### Right: Jazz at the Imperial

NOTTINGHAM DOESN'T REALLY DESERVE the jazz scene it possesses. There can't be many places where audiences are so lacking in enthusiasm and initiative. I personally put it down to the general air of self-satisfaction resulting from the fact that the area didn't feel the effects of depression and poverty to the extent that other parts of the country did during the past century, something which I find ironic after the hot-bed of unrest which constituted the city's reputation during the Luddite riots at the beginning of the nineteenth century.

So the net result seems to be a general air of lassitude and indifference to the Arts, and an attitude to entertainment characterised by a willingness to pay inflated prices for the privilege of visiting a disco - when audiences in the North of England would demand a star-studded show and pub prices for the beer for a similar entrance fee.

### Second city

But in spite of having to battle against the odds, local jazz promoters and musicians have made Nottingham into the second city jazzwise, with only London offering more variety on a regular basis, and they've done so in a city which has a chronic shortage of rooms suitable for jazz promotions. Then, of course, there's the awful Albert Hall to deter people from supporting jazz concerts, and the prospect of a new Festival Hall only valid so long as the Labour group is in power.

So here's a breakdown of music currently available either within the city boundary, or a short drive away. Most of the sessions are well patronised and seem likely to last for some time to come.

Pride of place must be given to the Mercia Jazz Band's Wednesday residency at the Tally-Ho, Oakdale Road, if only for the fact that they have been in continuous operation for twenty-two years. Of the current line-up, only Eddie Blackwell on trumpet survives from the original band, although current leader Fred Pay has been with them for as long as I can remember, and my memory goes back almost twenty years.

Another veteran is multi-instrumentalist Johnny Hobbs, who functions at the Blue Boar, Hucknall on Mondays and Wednesdays, varying his activities from playing with his trio and Stompers to operating the only low-fi disco I have ever heard about.



Friday is the most active night for jazz, with two sessions in Carlton and one in the city centre. The New Crescent Dixielanders have been playing at the Earl of Chesterfield for some time, and they recently gained some competition when Les Devotees opened up at the Carlton Liberal Club just up the road. The programme varies at the Imperial Hotel, St James's Street, just off the Market Square, but Mike Cole's Band from Lincoln and the New New (sic) Orleans Jazz Band seem to be regularly booked. Rock/jazz group Cisco are already a very popular attraction at the Imperial on Sundays, and in February another group of similar persuasion opens up a Saturday residency. Nimbus is led by the fine Nottingham tenor sax and flute star Mel Thorpe, and they deserve to build up a popular following at their new venue.

Chris Burke's New Orleans Band always do well in the city during the spells they play here between trips abroad, and they're currently filling a Sunday lunchtime commitment at the Town Arms, Trent Bridge - not to be confused with the Town Arms, Plumtree Square, where I hear jazz is sometimes featured. Chris's band also play on Mondays at the Warren Arms, Stapleford, now established as the county's unofficial jazz centre, with Sunday lunchtime music featuring Tommy Owen and Harry Brown alternately, Harry Brown's Quintet on Tuesdays, and the Swing Quintet on Wednesdays. Landlord Peter Kirk has really got things moving at this popular jazz pub.

A revitalised Nottingham Jazz Orchestra has moved into top gear at the Old General Hotel on Sundays, with new leader Wally Brown whipping the musicians into shape and pulling in appreciative crowds. Top guest stars appear regularly at this pub, and a second jazz night was recently introduced with a Thursday spot for the Ken Eatch Band. Could it be that landlord Tom Parkinson is also thinking in terms of introducing Saturday jazz? A Saturday booking for the Mardi Gras Society Band last month would seem to point to that possibility.

### Guest stars

Operating since the beginning of the year, the New Place, at the Federation Club, Ebury Road has a policy of bringing guest stars to the city, and a special note should be made of the appearance of American tenor sax star Bud Freeman on February 26th. I would also like to recommend jazz fans not to miss the playing of saxist Colin Ball, usually to be heard with Harry Brown at the Fed on Wednesdays - I was very impressed by his technique and attack last time I heard him there.

So there it is, and I'm pretty sure I've missed something out. If I have, it will be corrected in some future issue. I've said nothing about Derby and Leicester, both within easy reach of Nottingham, where there are very good jazz scenes. But there should be enough to be going on with . . .

CLIFF LEE



## ROCK

# Clangers, cults, Caravan



Left: Caravan

Stray have been around for a few years now, since 1968 in fact, and still have their original line-up: Del Bromham (guitar), Steve Gadd (vocals, rhythm guitar), Gary Giles (bass), Ritchie Cole (drums). The band are still relatively little known, even with four albums on release, although they seem to have something of a "small cult" following. Their latest album, which is also my favourite, "Mudanzas", breaks away from their usual style, in that it features prominent orchestral backing, giving the band a lighter rock sound. You can see Stray at the Boat Club in either late February or early March (date still to be finalised).

The Caravan/Renaissance concert at the University next month should be a good one. Caravan have several exceptional albums: "If I could do it all over again, I'd do it all over you", and "In the Land of Grey and Pink", and "For Girls Who Grow Plump in the Night". Many people forecast that the band would be a huge success, but they still haven't quite made it. Some tracks they've laid down are excellent: on the "Girls Who Grow Plump" album, "C'Thlu Thlu" features superb viola from Peter Geoffrey Richardson, and "The dog, the dog, he's at it again" exhibits Dave Sinclair's mastery on keyboards and demonstrates masterly double-tracked vocals.

## Competition

Caravan are the subject of this month's competition, and you have the chance to win one of three of their albums: "In the Land of Grey and Pink", "For Girls Who Grow Plump in the Night", and "Caravan and the New Symphonica". All you have to do is answer the following questions.

1. In 1971 Dave Sinclair temporarily left the band to play with whom?
2. What was the title of the first Caravan album?
3. On which label do the band now record?

Send your answers on a postcard, along with the title of the album you'd like to win to: Nottingham Voice Competition, People's Centre, 33 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, to arrive no later than 24th February.

Last month's winners of the "PFM Cook" album were: Richard Pearce of Foxhall Road, Forest Fields, Nottm; Rick Sharpe of Edwood Road, Kimberley, Nottm.

DAVE BRETT

WOW! DID I DROP A CLANGER IN LAST month's article (several, in fact) - and the management of Selectadisc were on to them almost before the mag had left the press. My main error, it seems, concerned the Canal Street branch of Selectadisc, which is not in fact a retail outlet but the distribution centre, mail order warehouse and head office of the company. The retail outlet for the extensive soul selection which used to be in Arkwright Street can now be found at 19 Bridlesmith Gate, which brings me neatly round to the next error: these premises are, in fact, called Selectadisc, the name Advance having ceased some six months ago.

## Lighter

Downstairs at this branch you'll find a selection similar to that at the Goldsmith Street shop, but the atmosphere is somewhat lighter, with less emphasis on the rock side of the music scene. Apparently another Selectadisc exists in Loughborough; opened last October, it is on similar lines to the Nottingham ones.

I think that concludes the amendments to my previous article. I am indebted to Andrew Ferguson of the Bridlesmith Gate branch for pointing out my mistakes!

The next couple of months show a great improvement in the quantity of

live rock music in the area. Both the University and the Boat Club have some excellent bands booked, notably Lindisfarne, Caravan, and Hatfield and the North at the University, and Stray at the Boat Club.

The Lindisfarne gig will be your last chance to see the band in this area, since they are to split up at the end of this U.K. tour. Alan Hull intends to pursue a solo career which will include acting roles, following the success of a recent TV play in which he appeared, titled "The Squire". He is also to release a solo album in April, also titled "Squire".

Ray Jackson, along with guitarist Charlie Harcourt and bassist Tommy Duffy, is forming a new band which will tour the U.K. in the Spring and also record an album.

The band have decided to split since they feel that they have progressed as far as possible, musically, using the name Lindisfarne, bearing in mind what the public and the press have come to expect from a band with that name.

Lindisfarne, for me, have been going rapidly downhill since the departure of Simon Cowe, Rod Clements and Ray Laidlaw, who left to form Jack the Lad, the present line-up being hardly a patch on the band which recorded "Fog on the Tyne" and "Nicely out of Tune".



## EATING OUT



IF YOU LIKE FRENCH FOOD YOU COULD DO worse than visit Le Bistro on St James's Street. But a word of warning - although you will need to have booked, you will probably be sent to the cocktail bar upstairs and plied with rather expensive drinks (and knocked for sex by Chuck Berry coming loud and clear through the Muzak system) while your table is prepared. The second hurdle is finding your way through the menu, which is in French (with no translations in the vegetable section) - this might require the aid of one of the friendly waitresses.

### Unhurried

The number of dishes is sensibly limited. We tried Poulet Basquaise (a chicken hotpot with garlic, peppers and tomatoes), Escalope de Veau à la crème (veal in wine and cream sauce) and Truite Doria (grilled trout with sautéed cucumber), all of which were delicious and served in generous portions. The potatoes were a disappointment though: the choice of two is between bright orange mash (pommes de terre Antiboise) that tasted when we were there like cheese flavoured Smash, and roast potatoes that arrived looking a bit limp and grey. However, the petits pois and mushrooms were good, and the carafe of white wine we ordered (£1.50) was served well chilled. Although we dispensed with starters and finished up with only a crème caramel (which was a bit heavy but tasted good), we all felt extremely full by the end of the meal and were pleased to find that we could relax, unhurried until closing time over a seemingly endless supply (for no extra charge) of delicious coffee with cream.

### Intimate

The décor is beginning to curl at the edges - this restaurant has been open for quite some time now and the dark green velvet curtains which divide the tables in an intimate fashion have the occasional soup stain on them. They proved not to be sound proof either when the party next to us struck up a chorus of "For he's a jolly good fellow".

Still, at less than £10 for the three of us (and that included wine and liqueurs) we felt we had had our money's worth.

#### Lunchtime note

Office workers in the centre of the city would be well advised to try the Lunch Box sandwich bar on Bridlesmith Gate for their midday sandwiches. As well as a wide variety of well-filled cobs, they also serve jacket-baked potatoes with butter to take away for 5p.

G.NOME



THE EAST MIDLANDS IS ONE OF THE biggest beer-drinking regions in the country. 77% of all drink expenditure in the region is on beer. This is second only to the North of England (81%), and compares with figures of 54% for Greater London, and 55% for the South East. This is primarily due to the fact that working class people drink mainly beer and the middle/upper classes drink mainly wines and spirits, and there are certainly proportionately more working class people in the East Midlands than in the South East.

### Status

The higher consumption of wines and spirits and the striving for middle-class status in the South East has dramatically affected the nature of the pub. The very idea of the "London Pub" implies a one-room saloon - tastefully furnished perhaps, but **NO PUBLIC BAR**.

This idea of one-bar pubs has spread throughout the country and there is a danger of very few public bars remaining. In other words, there will be nowhere for the working man in his overalls (or any other person for that matter) to go for an inexpensive



pint after work, where he can play darts, cards or cribbage, and generally relax in a friendly atmosphere with his mates.

### Trendy

It was thoughts like these that occupied my mind when I visited the **NEWCASTLE ARMS** on the corner of Sherwood Street and Bluecoat Street.

I should think that many people reading this column have been in the Newcastle Arms, but for those who have not, it is an hotel, run by two business men who have gone for two particular markets - the young and fairly trendy, and the students. It has worked. The Newcastle is one of the busiest pubs in town.

Some of its success must be attributed to the good-looking birds behind the bar and its reputation as "a place to meet people" (how's that for a euphemism?).

### Waste

One thing that the Newcastle's success is not based upon is the drink available. Keg Guinness at 25p a pint; keg lager and keg bitter at 23p a pint, and top pressure (not draught) bitter at 19p a pint. There is no mild on sale. Now this is hardly competitive pricing, and the quality of the products does not justify the prices.

This would appear to vindicate the policy of the landlords - no public bar, three medium-sized lounges, jukebox, table-tennis machine. However, I find it difficult to see why so-called impoverished students waste their money on Courage bitter at 19p when they can get Home Brewery bitter at the Peacock for 15p (public bar) or 16p (lounge).

### Tanks

I asked one of the landlords why, if he was tied to sell Courage products, did he not sell Barnsley Bitter on draught. In all fairness, he did say that he would if he could but that there was no room in their small cellar, since it was full of tanks (yes, that's how the bitter is served - just like petrol).

I may be a voice crying in the wilderness (along with another 30,000 CAMRA members), but I would hate to see all pubs become like the Newcastle. The landlord does serve men in working clothes, but they probably feel uncomfortable, don't like the beer and think it's too expensive anyway, and don't bother. The trouble is, what happens if the owners of the ordinary bloke's local look at the Newcastle and say, "We can do that as well"? Where does he go for a drink then?

### Draught

REMEMBER BIG BREWERS: NOTTINGHAM IS A DRAUGHT BEER TOWN. IT'S NOT GONE "GIN AND TONIC", "PERNOD AND GRAPEFRUIT JUICE" JUST YET, AND WITH YOUR HELP NEVER WILL.

N.B. For people who are interested in drinking good draught beer in decent pubs, the Nottingham branch of CAMRA (the Campaign for Real Ale) is publishing a Nottingham Good Beer Guide. It has maps, directions (with bus routes), histories of local breweries and descriptions of about 150 pubs in the area. It will be on sale for 25p in the near future.

CHRIS HOLMES



## PEOPLE'S CENTRE DIRECTORY

**THE PEOPLE'S CENTRE**, 33 Mansfield Road, Nottingham (Tel. 411227), gives advice on legal, welfare, housing and other rights, and also acts as a centre for a number of organisations. It is open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday to Friday.

The following organisations can be contacted through the People's Centre (call in, write, or 'phone 411227). Times of weekly meetings (held at the People's Centre unless otherwise stated) are shown where applicable.

Specialist legal advice is given by the Response group (see below).

Alcoholics Anonymous  
Thurs. 7.30 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Black People's Freedom Movement

Campaign for Homosexual Equality  
Thurs. 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Child Poverty Action Group  
Weds. afternoons,  
Fri. evenings.

Claimants' Union

Fair Housing Group  
Gingerbread  
(one-parent families)  
Mon. 7.30 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Homelessness Action Committee

National Council for Civil Liberties  
Tues. 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Nottingham Community Planning Group  
Weds. afternoons.

Pachwork  
(organises volunteers to decorate homes of old and disabled people)

Refuge for Battered Wives Campaign  
Most Tuesdays at 8 p.m.

Response  
(qualified legal advice)  
Mon., Tues., Weds.  
6.30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Shelter  
Weds. afternoons,  
Fri. evenings.

Student Community Action Unit  
(social group for one-parent families)  
Every Mon. to Fri.,  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Women's Liberation Group  
Advice on women's rights:  
Fri. 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
Group meetings: Thurs. 8 p.m., Newcastle Chambers, nr Bell Inn Market Square.

## SMALL ADS

**Rates:** 2p per word. Box numbers 10p. Other rates available on request, for column inches or sections of a page. Bargains struck with impecunious good causes. Tel. Nottm 411227.

**GROUP** for homosexual men and women. Contact Nottingham and Derby: CHE, P.O. Box 87, Derby DE1 1EN.

**K** NOW YOUR RIGHTS. People's Centre Rights Course. Wednesday evenings. 12 Feb. - 21 May. Housing, legal and welfare rights. For course programme, tel. 411227.

**M** AX (celebrated "Voice" cartoonist!) does drawings, posters, murals, etc. Phone 607287 for terms.

**O** IL PAINTINGS for sale. Large abstracts. Phone Mr Corbett, Nottm 411730.

**U** P TO £25 for social or community education projects. If your project means someone will learn something, you can apply for a grant to the Young Volunteers Special Projects Fund. Write to Fred Broad, 31A Mansfield Road, Nottm, or tel. 46714.

### PATHFINDER BOOK CENTRE!

FOR BOOKS & PAMPHLETS ON:

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IRELAND

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PHONE: 45689

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7.30 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Sat., 10 a.m. - 12 a.m.

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HAVE YOU A SPARE ROOM?

COULD YOU TAKE AN

ELDERLY PERSON?

AGE CONCERN

TEL. NOTTINGHAM 46714

### WANTED...

People who care

Throughout Nottingham, voluntary groups have sprung up to meet a variety of different needs. The range of groups is vast. It includes helping at clubs for the elderly, playgroups, the physically and mentally handicapped, entertaining in hospitals, decorating, gardening, helping families, and befriending the housebound or lonely. Most of all, groups depend on the help of people like you. So if you've got some time to spare and you would like to help out in some way, then why don't you contact us and find out about the various opportunities that exist.

The Voluntary Work Agency,  
Nottm. Council of Social Service,  
31A Mansfield Road,  
Nottingham.  
Tel. 46714.

## NOTTINGHAM HEARING AID SERVICE

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Please entrust your repairs to Nottingham Hearing Aid Service, where they will be given expert attention, and returned to you with the minimum of delay. If you have any service queries please write or phone Mr. Binks — Nottingham 213065.

Nottingham Hearing Aid Service will now be able to offer you a complete service for 'Viennatone Bonochord' and 'Alto' products from the Nottingham centre. This new arrangement will enable us to provide you with a more complete and efficient Hearing Aid service than ever before.

## THE PEOPLE'S CENTRE HELPS PEOPLE

LEGAL, HOUSING & WELFARE RIGHTS

**PLEASE HELP  
THE PEOPLE'S CENTRE**

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS, WE NEED FUNDS

33 MANSFIELD RD, NOTTM. TEL. 411227



## Theatre

### Nottingham Playhouse

Wellington Circus. Box Office  
Tel. 45671.

Mon.-Fri. 7.30 p.m. Sat. 5 &  
8 p.m.

### Oh What a Lovely War:

Feb. 14, 15.

### She Stoops to Conquer:

Feb. 24, 25, 26, 27. Mar. 6, 7.  
Comedians

Feb. 19 (preview), 20 (first  
night), 21, 22, 28. Mar. 1,  
3, 4, 5.

### Theatre Royal

Box Office: Tel. 42328/9.

Aladdin (Christmas pantomime)  
until further notice. Even-  
ings: 7 p.m. Matinee: 2.30.

### Nottingham Theatre Club

The Lace Market Theatre,  
Halifax Place. Bookings: Tel.  
57201, 7-11 p.m., or 233695,  
daytime.

### Twelfth Night

Feb. 23 - Mar. 1: 7.30 p.m.

### Co-operative Arts Theatre

George Street. Bookings: Tel.  
46096.

The Roses of Eyam (Youth  
Group Production)  
Feb. 24 - Mar. 1.

## Rock

### February

- 14: Celebrated Artists Band:  
Loughborough University.
- 14: Sutherland Bros & Quiver  
+ Raymond Froggatt:  
Nottingham University.
- 15: Grimms: Loughboro' Univ.
- 16: Magna Carta: Lough. Univ.
- 20: Grimms: Nottm Univ.
- 22: Chick Corea & Zzebra:  
Nottingham University.
- 26: Ralph McTell: Nottm Univ.

### March

- 1: Caravan & Renaissance:  
Nottingham University.
- 1: Gryphon: Sheffield Univ.
- 8: Mud: Loughborough Univ.
- 11: Amazing Blondel & the  
University Orchestra:  
Nottingham University.
- 15: Hatfield & the North:



Nottingham University.

Late Feb. or early Mar. (date  
yet to be finalised): Stray &  
Stripe at the Boat Club.

## Folk

Tuesday: The Scheme: Fox Inn,  
Parliament Street. 8 p.m.

Wednesday: Beeston Folk Club,  
Three Horseshoes, Middle  
Street. 8 p.m.

Thursday: Carlton Folk Club,  
Windsor Castle, Carlton  
Hill. 8 p.m.

Friday: Nottingham Tradition-  
al Music Club. News House,  
St James's St. 7.45 p.m.

Saturday: Cropwell Bishop  
Folk Club. Wheatsheaf.  
8 p.m.

Sunday: Co-op Folk Club.  
Crown Hotel, Ilkeston Road.  
8 p.m.

## Jazz

(All regular sessions. Even-  
ings unless otherwise stated)

Monday: Chris Burke's New  
Orleans Band. Warren Arms,  
Stapleford.  
Johnny Hobbs. Blue Boar,  
Hucknall.

Tuesday: Harry Brown Quintet.  
Warren Arms, Stapleford.

Wednesday: Mercia Jazz Band.  
Tally-Ho, Oakdale Road.  
Swing Quintet. Warren Arms,  
Stapleford.

Harry Brown. The New Place,  
Federation Club, Ebury Rd.

Thursday: Ken Eatch Band. Old  
General, Radford Road.

Friday: New Crescent Dixie-  
landers. Earl of Chester-  
field, Carlton Hill.  
Les Devotees. Carlton Lib-  
eral Club.

Various bands: Imperial  
Hotel, St James's Street.

Saturday: Nimbus. Imperial  
Hotel, St James's Street.

Sunday: (lunchtime) Chris  
Burke's New Orleans Band.  
Town Arms, Trent Bridge.  
(lunchtime) Tommy Owen and  
Harry Brown alternately.  
Warren Arms, Stapleford.  
(evening) Cisco. Imperial  
Hotel, St James's Street.  
(evening) Nottingham Jazz  
Orchestra. Old General,  
Radford Road.

## Cinema

### Nottingham Film Theatre

Fri. & Sun. 7.30 p.m., Sat. 5  
& 8 p.m. unless otherwise  
stated. Co-op Arts Centre,  
Broad Street.

Feb. 14-16: Eisenstein Season.

(14: Strike. 15: Alexander

Nevsky. 16: October)

Feb. 21-23: The Wedding

Feb. 28-Mar. 2: Savage Messiah

Mar. 1 (2.30 p.m.), Mar. 2

(4.30 p.m.): La Femme du

Boulangier

Mar. 7-9: State of Siege

### Peachey Street Flick

Thursdays, 7.15 p.m. Adult  
Education Centre, Shakespeare  
Street.

Feb. 13: Intimate Lighting

(dir. Ivan Passer. 1965

Czechoslovakia)

Feb. 20: The Party and the

Guests (dir. Jan Nemec. 1966

Czechoslovakia)

Feb. 27: Rysopis (dir. Jerzy

Skolimowski. 1964 Poland)

Mar. 6: Barrier (dir. Jerzy

Skolimowski. 1966 Poland)

## Classical

Feb. 15: Nottingham Harmonic  
Orchestra: Dvorak, Schumann:  
Albert Hall, 7.30 p.m.

Feb. 19: English Sinfonia

Ensemble: Chamber music:

Co-op Education Centre, Broad  
Street, 7.30 p.m.

Feb. 22: Halle Orchestra:

Wagner, Mozart, Brahms:

Albert Hall, 7.30 p.m.

Feb. 24: 20th Century Ensemble

of London, Jenny Hill (sop-

rano): Monteverdi, Petrassi,

Crosse, Scarlatti, Lutyens:

Nottm Univ. Great Hall, 7.30

p.m. Admission free.

Feb. 27: Nottm Music Club

Orchestra: Co-op Education

Centre, Broad St, 7.30 p.m.

Feb. 28: English Sinfonia:

Soloist, John Ogdon: De Falla

Liszt, Mendelssohn, Beethoven

Albert Hall, 7.30 p.m.

Mar. 1: City of Birmingham

Symphony Orchestra: "A Night

in Vienna": Albert Hall, 7.30

Mar. 3: Recital: Bruno

Schrecker (cello), Mary

Verney (keyboard): Nottm Univ

Music Studio, Beeston Lane,

8.00 p.m.

## Meetings

Feb. 14: Nottm Fabian Society.

"Is the private landlord an

anachronism?" John Ferris

(Univ. of Nottm). University

Adult Education Centre,

Shakespeare Street. 8 p.m.

Feb. 20: Univ. of Nottm Public

Lecture (Hugh Gaitskell Mem-

orial Lecture). "Hugh Gaits-

kell & his life." Rt Hon. Roy

Jenkins, MP. Great Hall,

Trent Building. 8 p.m.

Mar. 4: Nottm Civic Society.

"The importance of cycling as

a means of transport in

towns." Eric C. Clapton, OBE.

International Community

Centre, 61B Mansfield Road.

7.30 p.m.

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