



VICTORIA LEISURE CENTRE Sneinton Manager: Paul McEwan

SWIMMING FOR FUN OR FITNESS?

Repairs at the Small Pool have now been completed

Lesbian & Gay Men's Swimming Sessions Every Sunday

5pm to 6pm from

February 8th in the Small Pool

relaxed, friendly atmosphere Ideal for beginners.

> City of Nottingham Nottingham 505694

Quote of the Week

"The Chief Constable feels that he was speaking on divine inspiration. Peter Sutcliffe (the 'Yorkshire Ripper') thought he heard voices from heaven telling him to go around killing women" - Richard Kirker, from the Gay Christian Movement, talking about James Anderton, Manchester's police chief.

gay info gay info -PUBS and CLUBS -OTTINGHAM GAY SWITCHBOARD for the latest info. on pubs, clubs & discos in the City. - SUCIAL GROUPS -LESBIAN/GAY WELFARE WKRS GP. (social & support), inc. Health & Education wrkrs, meets monthly, Central Notingham, Info. Chris Williams, 27 Moore Rd, Mapperley, Nottm, or 602164 (after 7pm). NOITINGHAM LESBIAN/GAY YOUTH ORGANIZATION, (up to age 26), info. NLGYO, Box 11, c/o 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, (s.a.e.). QUEST for gay Catholics, meets fortnightly, 419137, write c/o Flat 4, 19a Pelham Crescent, The Park, Nottingham. GAY CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT, Meets 2nd Friday in month, MEN: Mark 394624. WOMEN: Sheila/Chris, Loughborough 236871. NOTTINGHAM GAY SOCIAL GROUP, Meets every Thursday, Tel: David 216447. or write c/o 31a Mansfield Road, Nottingham. NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY GAYSOC, c/o Students Union, Portland Building, Nottingham University, Nottingham. GAY OUTDOORS GROUP (EAST MIDLANDS), Rambling Group, 3rd Saturday of month. Tel John (Leicester 26617). TV/TS CAMELION GROUP, c/o Nottingham Friend, 31a Mansfield Rd. Tel Clive, Long Eaton 727710. - HELPLINES -NOITINGHAM GAY SWITCHBOARD, your helpline to the gay/lesbian ian communities, Mon-Thur, 7-10pm, tel 411454. LESBIAN LINE, Confidential help/advice for lesbians, Mon & Wed, 7.30-9pm. 410652, c/o Womens Centre, Shakespeare Street, Nottm. NOTTINGHAM FRIEND, Tuesdays, 7-10pm, counselling & befriending for lesbians & gay men, bisexuals, TV/TS's 474717/c/o 3la Mansfield Road, Nottingham. QUEST PHONELINE, for gay Catholics, Weds: 7.30-10.30pm, 419137. AIDS HELPLINE, Worried about AIDS? call up Mons & Tues. 7-10pm, Nottingham 585526. Accurate info. can help reduce anxiety. VD TREATMENT, General Hospital, Postern St. (Nr. Mount St. Car

Park), Perth House, (Men) Amborley House (Women) daytime 476161.



Peaceful protestors spent Xmas in jail after demonstrating against a Tory Councillor who wants to gas gays. 12 lesbians and gay men were arrested on 21st December outside the home of C11r. Bill Brownhill, Leader of South Staffs. District Council in Wombourne, Staffs. All were remanded in custody for 7 days. In court, the Crown Prosecutor said that the incident had > of those who were killed and has "ruined the Councillor's Xmas". When the 12 arrived in Court on Dec. 29th they were handcuffed to police. Defending Solicitor, Ivan Geffen, said that never in 40 years as a Solicitor had he seen defendents on minor char-TO HAPPEN AGAIN! ges brought to court handcuffed. They were charged with threatening behav-

HERE'S WHAT Councillor Brownhill said after watching an educational film about Aids:

"Those bunch of queers that legalise filth in homosexuality have a lot to answer for and I hope they are proud of what they have done. The film said how to avoid Aids, but it did not specifically say stop being queer. It is disgusting and diabolical.

"As a cure I would put 90 per cent of queers in the ruddy gas chamber. I could shoot them all."

His council, in South meeting on the 4th urge the Home Office to recriminalise homosexuality completely.



iour. The 2-day trial is set for the 23/24th February at Wombourne Magistrates Court, Wolverhampton and already there are calls for 1987 Gay Pride to be held in Wolverhampton, the nearest big town. West Midlands Euro-MP, Christine Crawley has attacked the 7-days remand as "an outrageous infringement of civil liberties" (see p.3).

The Wombourne 12 have called a public Staffordshire, then voted to February, 7.30pm at the International Community Centre, (small hall), 61B Mansfield Road, Nottingham $\nabla \nabla \nabla$

711 WHOLEFOOD

A worker's co-operative selling a wide range of Vegetarian Wholefoods at very competative prices. Plus extensive food information.

ON THE 23rd AND 24th FEBRUARY!



HARINGEY Council Leader, Bernie Grant said recently that lesbians and gay men have as much right to be parents as heterosexuals.





Nottingham Lesbian & Gay Community Co-op Society held its first Xmas Disco at the Casablanca Club in mid-December. Gay Nottingham's roving cameraperson caught a few co-operators co-operating. Why not think about joining - it wont cost you an arm and a leg, just a total minimum of £2 which co-





vers fl application fee and fl for at least one loan unit. Send for details to NLCCCS, Box 11, 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, Ngl 3HL. (Prints of these photos available at 60p. each postcard size - profits from sale donated to Co-op).







Weekdays 7.30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays 5 and 8 p.m. UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

Wednesday February 4th THE DECLINE OF WESTERN CIVILISATION (18) USA 1980

Director: Penelope Spheeris Black Flag, X, Fear, Germs and others. 100 mins. Before Suburbia and The Boys Next Door, Spheeris made this 'Woodstock' of the late '70s Los Angeles punk scene. A loud, anarchic, funny, horrific and strangely innocent documentary.

Friday February 6th - Sunday 8th

MEN(15) W. Germany 1986 Director: Doris Dorrie Uwe Ochsenknecht, Ulrike Kriener. 96 mins. When a philandering husband discovers that his wife is being unfaithful, he drops out, moves in with his unsuspecting rival and sets about sabotaging the affair. "Wonderfully fashioned with quirky detail, and though it may not have the subject all sewn up, it will have you in stitches." City Limits.

Wednesday February 11th - Thursday 12th LAMB (15) GB 1985

LAIVID (15) GB 1985 Director: Colin Gregg Liam Neeson, Hugh O'Connor. 110 mins. A disillusioned priest flees from a boy's remand home in Ireland with one of the pupil's – an ailing, persecuted child. Their brief idyll in London is doomed by innocence and loss of faith. Adapted by Bernard Mac Laverty from his own novel, the film is sharp, poignant and resolutely unsentimental.

Friday February 13th - Sunday 15th SMOOTH TALK (15) USA 1985 Director: Joyce Chopra

Laura Dern, Treat Williams. 92 mins.

Summer holidays, adolescent sexuality, misunder-standing parents... Don't be fooled by the first half of the movie, it is definitely not another portrait of toothy blonde Californian teenagers. The initial sweetness is a build up to a dark and brooding essay in seduction with the mood of a disturbing dream. Dern and Williams are brilliant.



unday at 5

CAL (15) GB 1984 Helen Mirren, John Lynch. 103 mins This adaptation of Bernard Mac Laverty's first novel is described by its producers as 'a love story which happens to take place in Northern Ireland', and succeeds in ortraving the bleakness of everyday existence in the oubled province.

Thursday February 19th

THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH (18) GB/ USA 1976 Director: Nicolas Roeg David Bowie, Candy Clark, Rip Torn. 140 mins. As one might expect, Roeg's version of Walter Tevis's sci-fi novel (scripted by Paul Mayersberberg) stretches the 'stranger in a strange land' parable into the realms of moral and political allegory. Though ultimately less than he sum of its often brilliant parts, it remains a provocative, dazzling probe into the mysteries of love and the universe.

Friday February 27th - Sunday 1st March THE DECLINE OF THE AMERICAN EMPIRE (18) Canada 1986 Director: Denys Arcand ominique Michel, Dorotheé Berryman. 95 mins. A witty and polished satire on sexual mores, reminiscent of Woody Allen. "Bawdy, witty and wise, marvellously astute and sardonic - a fieldmap of the strategies and deceptions of the sexual war." The Times. Sunday at 5

THE FRINGE DWELLERS (PG) Australia 1986 Director: Bruce Beresford Justine Saunders. 98 mins." The title refers to Australian Aborigines who live on the edge of a redneck town – outcasts in their own country. Shot in moody colours, it is essentially a story about a family, their struggles and aspirations. A film to be met with debate and not silence.

Broad Street, Nottingham

Programme and information: Nottm. 583184

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CONTROL OF WORKERS
uroboros





Nottingham Gay Switchboard has asked us to say that they cannot collectively take a decision whether or not to support the Wom-bourne 12, as their next collective meeting misses our printers' deadline. However, a number of mem-bers of the helpline wish to express their support. in advance



SUPPORT TO THE WOMBOURNE 12

Lesbians & Gays In Probation, c/o

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PROBATION OFFICERS 3/4 Chivalry Road, London, S.W.12.

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The NCCL campaigns for Lesbian and Gay Rights AND campaigns against excessive detention in police custody National Council for Civil Liberties Tabard Street, London SE1.







The Government's sudden decision to launch a massive public education campaign to prevent the spread of Aids is long overdue. Inevitably, it has caused an enormous rise in the number of calls for further information. Organisations like the Terrence Higgins Trust and Scottish Aids Monitor have been swamped with inquiries. And STD clinics are now facing a sharp rise in requests for the Aidsrelated antibody test.

It seems quite clear that the Aids campaign, whilst welcome, has not received sufficient backup resources from the Government to cope with the inevitable new demand for advice, counselling and testing. And it seems equally clear that many people are becoming anxious about Aids without sufficient reason.

In Nottingham, the number of people having their blood tested for Aids antibodies was five times higher last month than in any previous month. But there was no increase in the number of people found to be antibody positive. These figures are thought to be fairly typical for STD clinics in most provincial cities.

In London, where the incidence of Aids is higher than elsewhere, STD clinics are reporting a huge flood of requests for antibody testing and there is often a lengthy waiting list for appointments.

But gay men should not be panicked into taking the test, says Nick Partridge of the Terrence Higgins Trust. Nor should they rush to be tested without some grasp of the complex medical and social issues involved.

In what follows, we provide some basic information which we hope will be useful to anyone thinking about taking the test. The information has been compiled in conjunction with the Terrence Higgins Trust.



How is the test done? The test is done on a small sample of blood taken from a vein in the arm in the usual way. The results usually take about two to four weeks.

What does the test show?

The test shows the presence or absence of antibodies to HIV virus (also known as HTLV-3, LAV or ARV), now widely accepted to be the cause of Aids. If antibodies are found it means that the virus has been present in the body at some time and has caused the body to react to

It is important to emphasise that this is not a test for Aids as such. No one knows if a person with a positive result in the antibody test will develop signs of Aids. How reliable is the test?

The test method used in laboratories is now very reliable and positive tests wi usually be double checked. What does a negative test mean?

This probably means that you have not

been exposed to infection with the virus. There is however a big problem. It can take up to three months - and very occasionally longer-to produce antibodies after the virus has entered the body. During this time the antibody test will be negative but you are likely to be infectious and the test will later become positive. You can place more faith in a negative test if you haven't had 'unsafe sex' (or shared injection needles and syr-

inges) for more than three months. It is for this reason that individuals who have had 'unsafe sex' during the last three months should not rush to be tested after a sudden burst of anxiety about Aids. It is better to make a commitment to 'safer sex' and wait for at least three months before making a final decision about taking the test. This period will allow you to think more clearly about the implications of testing.

What if the test is positive?

. Am I still infectious?

Most probably-but no one knows for certain. Some people undoubtedly are, as they can be shown to have passed the disease on to others. The virus has been found in up to 90 percent of people with a positive antibody test. At present it must be assumed that anyone who is antibody positive is infectious.

2. Will I develop Aids?

Probably not. Over a two year period,. between 10 percent and 30 percent of

GAY NOTTINGHAM would like to thank GAY TIMES for permission to reproduce this feature.

healthy gay men found to be antibody positive will develop Aids. Some will develop Persistent Generalised Lymphadenopathy (PGL), Aids Related Complex (ARC) or other "Aids related" illnesses. About 55 percent stay healthy. No one knows whether more of these will become ill in years to come. Figures from different reports vary considerably and we will have to wait for reliable long term tests on large numbers of people before we can be more precise.

3. Who will know the test results?

If you attend an STD clinic of your own accord, the result should stay within the clinic. Some clinics may wish to notify your GP. Ask beforehand whether they intend doing so. If you are sent to other departments within the hospital, the specialists there will probably be told your result. This is then likely to go into your general hospital notes which tend to be less confidential than those kept in the STD clinic. The result may then be available to any doctor, nurse or anyone else who sees your case notes. Even if you know that a positive test does not equal Aids, they may not. It will probably be essential that a few people know of your result in order to take the necessary precautions but it may be wise to make sure that a senior staff member-doctor or sister-is fully aware of the implications. In units used to dealing with such cases no problems should arise.

4. Should my GP know my result?

If you are ill, there is no doubt that your GP should-indeed must-know. If you become ill they should be told immediately to prevent any dangerous delay in diagnosis. Again try to make sure that they are aware of the need for con fidentiality and are sufficiently well informed to know that a positive test does not mean that you have Aids.

If your GP does know, what will he or she do with the information? Some may be prepared to keep the information secret and separate from your routine records. Otherwise ensure that they are confident about the security of these records. Even if they give you assurances, what happens if you have to see their partners or locum? Or if you change doctors, when your notes are transferred to your new doctor? Will the result be mentioned in medical reports for employers and insurance companies? At present no major insurance company will accept anyone who is antibody positive for any type of life insurance.

5. Should I tell anyone else?

While it is very important to have someone to talk to, think carefully about which of your friends you can really trust. Try to decide before you get the result who you want to confide in. A positive result is always a shock and there is often a temptation to tell people who you would later prefer not to know.



There is no need for your employer or work colleagues to know that you are having the test - far less that the result is positive. Even knowing that you are at risk can make people react badly because of ignorance and prejudice.

Ideally, your dentist should know of a positive result to make sure that he or she takes a few basic precautions. It must be said though that many may then refuse to treat you. If you have problems ask the clinic who tested you to help arrange alternative treatment

Once the test is done you may lose control of what happens to the result. Consider before you have it done whether the benefits are worth the risks. Discuss confidentiality with the doctor doing the test.

How do I decide?

The final decision depends greatly on your personality and situation but the following points may help.

If a doctor experienced in dealing with HIV infection considers the test to be a useful part of his investigations then the potential value of the result in terms of treatment almost outweighs the risks.

4

Finally, the issues are in some respects different-and more difficult-for bisexual men or heterosexual men and women who may be at risk. They must consider the danger to any children they or their partners may have in the future. Antibody positive women seem more likely to develop Aids if they become pregnant. You should feel free to discuss these or any other points with your local Aids Helpline or with a doctor in a clinic dealing with the problem before you decide

Some practical advice

 We think that an STD/special clinic/ department of genito-urinary medicine is the best place to have the test done, as they are usually more knowledgeable and are usually more accustomed to the concept of absolute confidentiality.

 It can be very important to have some. one to talk to about your fears and worries. Some people you tell may react badly because of their own worries. Try to, decide beforehand who you can trust



fection, knowing your antibody status may be important in deciding how to r continue your sex life together. If both partners are positive many doctors feel that there is little to be lost by having sex positive, most would recommend that you have safer sex. It is quite possible for the regular partner of an antibody positive person to remain antibody negative.

If you are particularly anxious about the possibility of HIV infection, it may improve your quality of life to have the test done, especially if your risk seems very accept the possibility, however remote, that it might be positive, with all that this entails. People inclined to worry can find a positive test difficult to cope with.

Some people feel that they have to know their result to enable them to behave with greater social responsibility. Whether you are positive or negative you should consider safer sex but some people can only change their lifestyle if _____ they know their test result.

 Don't be pressurised into having a test done until you have had time to decide whether it is the best thing for you.

 Some STD clinics are more experienced than others in dealing with requests ----for antibody testing. It is best to phone L your nearest Aids Helpline for advice about the best clinic in your area.

 Unless you are prepared to tell people your result when they ask, don't tell them you are having the test done.

If your partner has evidence of HIV in- and think twice before telling anyone

 Your clinic should be prepared to help you deal with a positive result. You can also phone the Terrence Higgins Trust - Helpline or your local Aids Helpline for together as before. If only one partner is _____support and advice. (A full list of Aids _____ -Helplines can be found in the Gay Times -Round Britain Guide).

Do NOT tell your employer.

Whether you are positive, negative or don't know, you must consider safer sex; if you are negative to protect yourself, if you are positive to prolow. You must however be prepared to itect others and to avoid catching other diseases.



Sherwood's debut feature is a simple love story, told with wit, intelligence and real emotion. Yuppies Michael and Robert are lovers. Robert is being posted abroad for two years, and in a Soho loft a going away party has been arranged. Making an unexpected appearance at the party is Michael's former lover Nick - Nick is dying of AIDS. Over the next 24 hours Michael has to come to terms with both departures. In refusing to sensationalise either the gay aspect or the AIDS theme, PARTING GLANCES succeeds in being both a touching, satisfying film, but more important perhaps, a timely political gesture. "Absorbing entertainment and looks sensational . impressive achievement'' (VARIETY)







Magnificent and polemical 'Salvador' arrives at the Metro having variously stunned critics and audiences in America.

GREEN LANE, DERBY 40170



EURO-MP SLAMS POLICE



Euro-MP for Birmingham East, Christine Crawley, has slammed the Police for remanding twelve young people in custody for seven days on minor breach of the peace charges. She said that she and her Labour colleagues were pursuing the circumstances of the draconian nature of the action taken by the police at the time. Said Chris Crawley, "We all condemn this outrageous response which clearly infringes the civil liberties of the individuals involved who were carrying out their right to protest. I understand their anger and frustration at the comments made by people who should know better", she added. Mrs. Crawley has been asked to ke kept informed of further developments.

• Chris Crawley willbe well-remembered by many for her stirring, humourous speech at the Rugby rally two years' ago, called when Tory councillor tried to ban lesbians and gays from working for the council. The Council's backwaterist policy was reversed as a result of the rally and subsequent pressure on them.









LOVE & SOLIDABITY TO THE WOMBOURDE 12 FROM L.C.L.G.B. EAST MIDLADDS 3 Marlborough Road, Beeeston, Nottingham. Labour Campaign for Lesbian & Gay Rights



SUPPORTS THE WOMBLES KEEP THE FASCISTS ON THE RUN! Campaign for Homosexual Equality, P.O. BOX No. 342, London, WC1 ODU.





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EVERYONE AT CAPITAL GAY WISHES THE WOMBOURNE 12 THE VERY BEST OF LUCK ON THE 23 AND 24 FEBRUARY 38 Mount Pleasant, London WC1X OAP Tel: 01-278 3764 Telex: 261177





