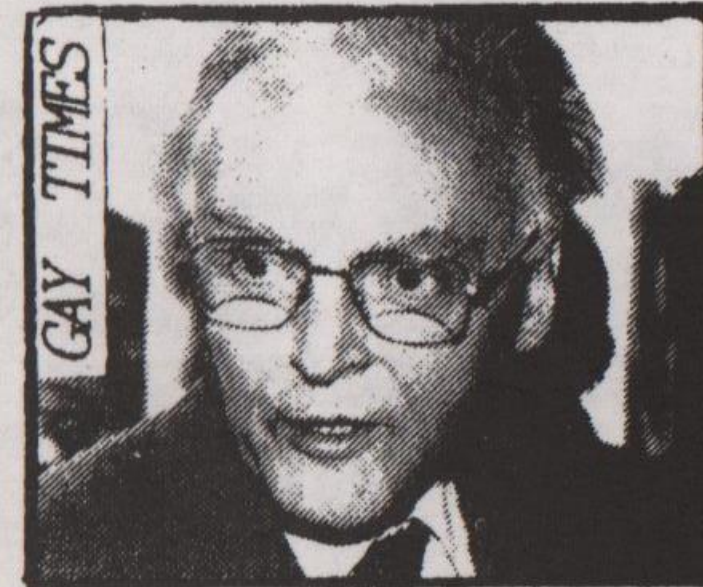


## FESTIVAL WRITERS~REVIEW

Amidst all the razamatazz of the Nottingham Festival one odd event (or rather, series) stood out. Three out-gay male writers gave readings from their work and answered questions. Now there's little odd about being gay, a writer, or even an out-gay-male-writer-reading-from-your-work. But when did such a thing happen in Nottingham before? And put on by the City Arts Department too. They deserve our congratulations, but they also deserved more of an audience..... (Ed. This was written before the local elections).

Of the three writers, Tom Wakefield, Francis King and Desmond Hogan two were superb. Tom Wakefield read a selection of at times moving, and at times hilarious extracts from his work. Tom's stories were simple, everyday tales. Tom read out the story of the 1940's pair of women dartplayers, good people, but they were only able to play inhome matches (guess why?), of the two elderly women who'd never known in the biblical sense - a man, but one had known another woman and the memory of it had lasted a lifetime and of the



GAY TIMES

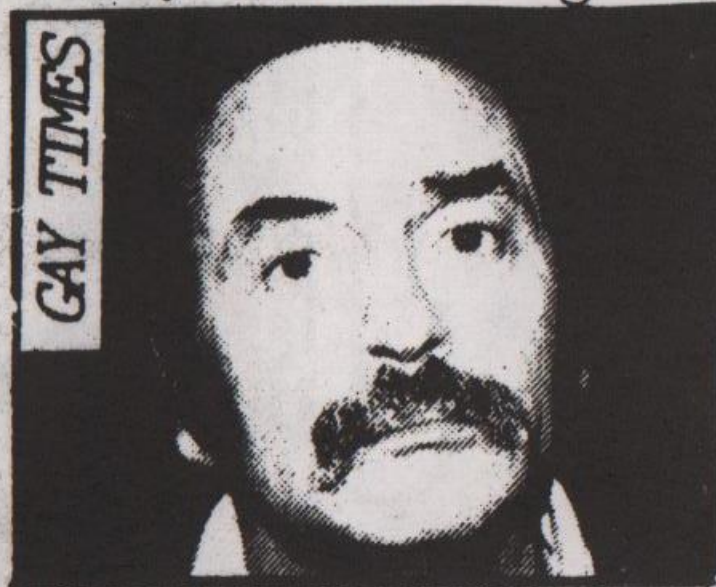
young man who's parents discovered a love letter to him from another man and who was at once chucked out of home. Real stories. Francis King was equally impressive, not so much for his reading but his subsequent talk of his strivings through writers organisations to oppose censorship, to keep writers out of prison and to work on his

own writing to develop his own style. Francis has been everywhere, knows everyone, and especially the work of gay writers living and dead. What was particularly interesting was his discussion about the self-censorship of gay writers in the past whose work could not have been published had they written of physical love as well as spiritual bondings. Francis to my surprise is a CBE, though I suspect his being a gay writer was not the reason for the award.

Lastly there was Desmond Hogan, and it would be best to draw a veil over his reading. It was not good.

It looks likely that Mushroom Bookshop (who have been involved in a number of Lesbian writers coming to Nottingham) will follow up the City Arts Department initiative by organising a further series of gay male writers evenings this winter - watch this space.

ROSS BRADSHAW



GAY TIMES

Open every night of the year

**Green Lane Gallery**  
130 GREEN LANE, DERBY, DE1 1RY Tel (0332) 368652  
GALLERY OF CONTEMPORARY ART AND LICENSED BAR

NOTTINGHAM GAY SWITCHBOARD, your helpline to the gay/lesbian communities, Mon-Fri, 7-10pm, tel: 411454.  
LESBIAN LINE, Confidential help/advice for lesbians, Mon. & Weds. 7.30-9pm, 410652, c/o Womens Centre, Shakespeare Street, Nottingham.  
NOTTINGHAM FRIEND, Tuesdays, 7-10pm, counselling & befriending for lesbians & gay men, bisexuals, TV/TS's, tel: 474717 c/o 31a Mansfield Road, Nottingham.  
NOTTINGHAM LESBIAN/GAY YOUTH ORGANISATION up to age 26, info. NLGYO, Box 11, c/o 118 Mansfield Rd, Nottingham.  
AIDS HELPLINE, Worried about AIDS? Call us Mon. & Tues. 7-10pm, Nottingham 585526. Accurate information can help to reduce your anxiety.  
NOTTINGHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL V.D. Clinic, 475989, Daily: Mon-Fri. 9.30am to 11.30am. AFTERNOONS: Tues. & Wed: 2-3.30pm. EVENINGS: Mon. & Thurs. 4.30pm to 6.30pm.  
SATURDAY: Emergencies only for one hour, starting 9.30am (Try to arrive at least half-hour before end of session). If you are anxious ask for the Health Advisor. Phone 475989, (CLINIC HOURS ONLY), otherwise main hospital number - 481100.

DERBY LESBIAN LINE, Wednesdays 7-9pm Tel: Derby 414111 write c/o P.O. Box 140, Derby DE1 1XS.  
DERBY FRIEND, Wednesdays, 7-10pm, Derby 371725  
DERBY GAY GROUP Mixed, Thurs. 7-11pm, info. Derby 664234.

GAY NOTTINGHAM'S address is: P.O. Box 34, West PDO, Nottingham NG7 1DS. Copy deadline for August issue is 25th July 1987. If you would like to write some-

CITY LIGHTS			
C I N E M A S			
Cinema 1, Broad Street, Hockley, Nottingham. Telephone 583184. Cinema 2, 24, Carlton Street, Hockley, Nottingham. Telephone 582636. Box Office: Nottingham 586100.			
CINEMA 2	Time	JULY	CINEMA 2
Tue 7	Scarface (18) 7.00	Tue 21	Absolute Beginners (15) 8.00
Wed 8	Golden '80s (15) 8.00	Wed 22	Absolute Beginners (15) 8.00
Thur 9	Golden '80s (15) 8.00	Thur 23	Boy Soldier (15) 8.00
Fri 10	Golden '80s (15) 2.00/8.00	Fri 24	Boy Soldier (15) 2.00/8.00
Sat 11	Golden '80s (15) 6.00/8.00	Sat 25	Boy Soldier (15) 6.00/8.00
Tue 14	Fatherland (15) 8.00	Tue 28	New York, New York (15) 7.30
Wed 15	Fatherland (15) 8.00	Wed 29	New York, New York (15) 7.30
Thur 16	Fatherland (15) 8.00	Thur 30	Eat The Peach (PG) 8.00
Fri 17	Fatherland (15) 2.00/8.00	Fri 31	Eat The Peach (PG) 2.00/8.00
Sat 18	Fatherland (15) 5.00/8.00	Sat 1	Eat The Peach (PG) 6.00/8.00



No. 29 July, 87.

## "GERR EM ON!" SAYS GILL

"Don't forget your condoms when you go on holiday." That's the advice of Gill Taylor, Chairperson of the Aids Information Project, speaking on Radio Nottingham, marking the opening of another night for the busy helpline. "By taking reasonable precautions before you go, you can have that fling and enjoy it, rather than months of worry on your return. Although the elections may have kept AIDS off the front pages of most papers in the last few months, it hasn't unfortunately gone away she added. This advice comes at a time when AIDS cases in the Trent Region reached twelve by the end of March (six of whom have already died). Since then three more cases have been diagnosed, making a 25% rise in just three months. Nottingham's Tory-led City Council has refused to adopt the Aids Policy & Health Promotion Strategy, promoted by the previous Labour-led City Council, so any future funding from the Council (continued on page 3)



Gill Taylor



PAT SHAWMAN

RICHARD MCANCE

## GAY IS GOOD, GAY IS STRONG, 20,000 CANT BE WRONG!



## HOPE AUGUSTUS PLAYS LES-GAY CENTRE

Nottingham-born Hope Augustus, headlined a cabaret at London's Lesbian & Gay Centre, as part of Pride Week celebrations, followed by an appearance at Pride Entertainment, with Sandie Shaw, Tom Robinson, the Communards, and Bronski Beat, and watched by over ten thousand Priders. Described by many as a brilliant blues and gospel singer, Hope's repertoire includes work by Billie Holliday, Bessie Smith and Nina Simone. She forged her early experience as part of a duo, called HERA, playing to women's audiences around Nottingham. She made her debut, professionally, at the Loughborough Pink Room, closely followed by a gig at SPOTZ, Nottingham's Alternative Cabaret. The word was soon out and Hope was asked to join Red Wedge Women's National tour. There followed several TV spots.

The other half of HERA, lesbian songwriter, musician and performer, Liz Churton, worked with Hope around Nottingham, composing and playing their own songs. In the July edition of GAY TIMES, Hope speaks of her fear of turning out mediocre lyrics, which is why she says she prefers not to use her own material. One of her songs which she wrote is called "White Lies" and speaks of slavery. "You came to me from across the sea, you took away my freedom and my liberty with a bible in one hand and a chain in the other, you lied and spoke of love, and you called me your brother." A singer of acapella jazz and blues, no band, no back up singers, just herself and a microphone; and with lyrics like "White Lies" let's Hope she continues to perform her own material as well as that of others.



HOPE AUGUSTUS & LIZ CHURTON

(Under New Tenancy!)

**RISING SUN**

COME JOIN US ON...  
**Wednesday (at 9.30)**  
**'MIDWEEK CABARET'**  
**Fri, Sat. & Sunday**  
**'WEEKENDER DISCO' DJ-CHRIS'C'**

**Rising Sun, Friargate, Derby, DE1**  
**OUR TEL: 43960**



# WE ARE THE PEOPLE OUR PARENTS WARNED US AGAINST



OPENING TIMES  
Mon. closed/Tues. & Wed.  
6pm-12am  
Thur. & Sun. 12pm-12am/Fri. &  
Sat. 12pm-2am  
IF YOU'RE OUT...COME IN!

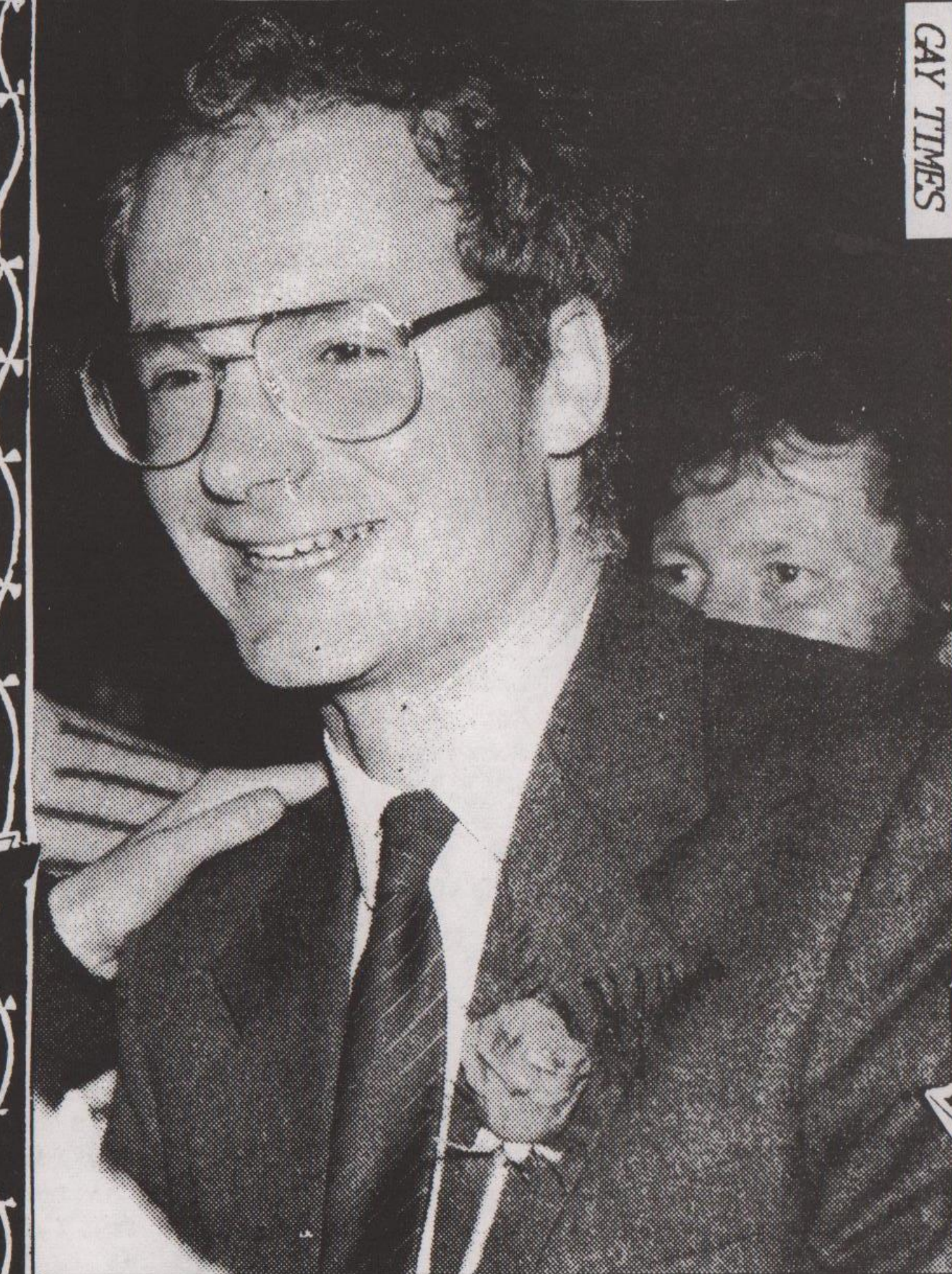
## London Lesbian & Gay Centre

67-69 Cowcross Street  
London EC1M 6BP  
Telephone: 01-608 1471

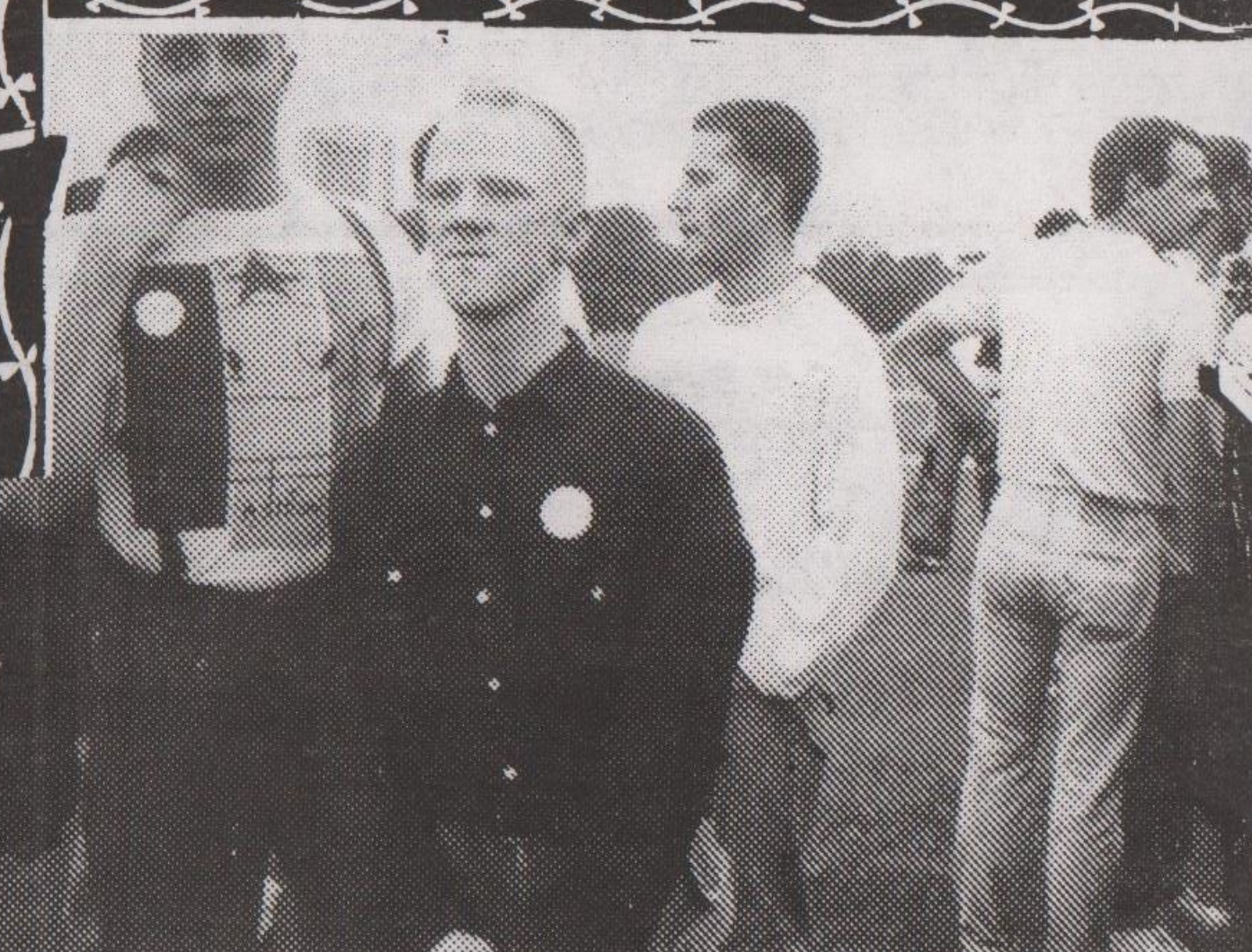
EUROPE'S LARGEST  
LESBIAN & GAY CENTRE  
Offers Bar, Cafe, Live  
Entertainment  
Meeting & Conference  
facilities



PAT SHAMMAN



GAY TIMES



Organising this year's Pride began immediately after Pride 86 with backroom organisers like Paul Halsall beginning fifty-hour weeks. On 13th June, the Pride van dropped off 400 programmes, which were distributed by people like Lenny from the Youth Group and on Saturday 27th June over forty Priders left by coach for London to join the 20,000 plus revellers in Hyde Park. The sun shone, bands played, balloons and condoms drifted thru the air. As the march snaked its way through Central London horns blared, and thousands of well-wishers waved their approval. The police presence was less than usual. (The previous weekend Lesbian Strength parade attracted over 4,000 lesbians and many were on the joint march. In the evening bands and singers entertained the capacity crowd in Jubilee Gardens, including Sandie Shaw and Hope Augustus. (Photos by JAYNE WEAVER of the Nottingham Lesbian & Gay Youth Gp).

Scared, worried, or just confused about Aids?

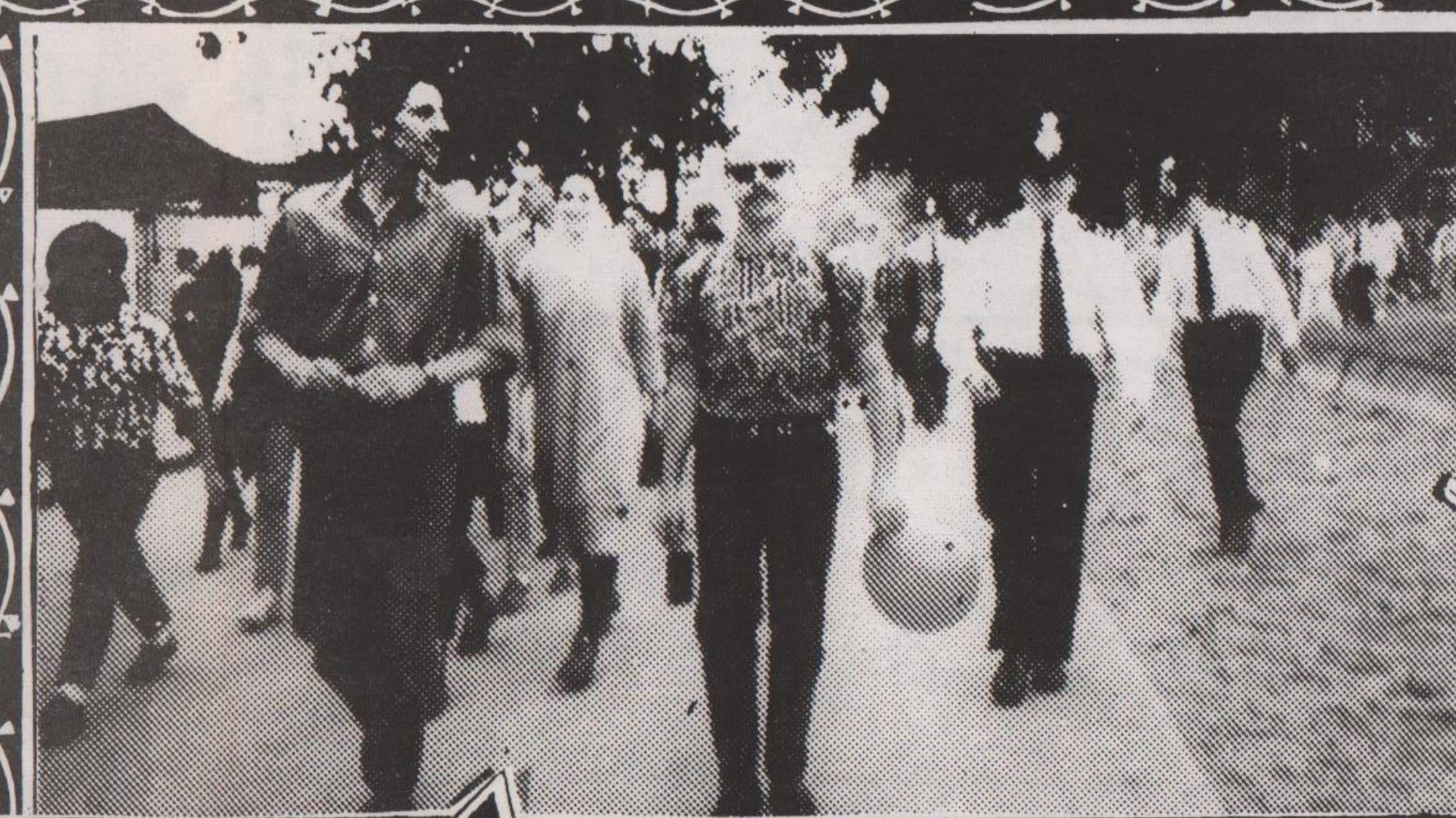
Then Ring  
Nottingham  
**Aids  
HELPLINE**  
**0602  
585 526**

Now open three nights a week  
Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings 7-10pm  
For Confidential and Accurate  
Advice and Information

Nottingham Aids Information Project  
G6 G.V.S. 33 Mansfield Road Nottingham NG1 3FF

Chris Smith: celebrating victory at Islington

Chris Smith made history on June 11th when he became the first ever openly gay man to be elected to sit in the House of Commons. Following a recount of votes in his London constituency of Islington South & Finsbury it was announced that Chris had more than doubled his majority from 363 to 805.





# EXCALBUR

## The Lamb Inn

141 Marsh Street North  
Hanley

Stoke-on-Trent

Tel (0782) 24207

Mon-Sat 2215-0230

Sunday 2015-2300

Saturday, 25th July  
FIRST BIRTHDAY PARTY  
Pleasant Surprises!



NOTTINGHAM LESBIAN AND GAY YOUTH ORGANISATION

mon 20 JULY

10 till 2

No Hi-Energy

Just Non-Stop

Cosmic Chant & Dance Music

Come Along For a Mega Night Out

at the

GARAGE

St Mary's Gate



## The Vegetarian Restaurant

10 COMMERCE SQUARE, HIGH  
PARKWAY (OFF ST MARY'S CHURCH),  
LACE MARKET NOTTINGHAM.

TELEPHONE 585211

OPEN Tues to Sat, 11am to  
Midnight  
Closed Monday after  
5pm and Sun.

## Lunch Menu

AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENT MAIN  
COURSES DAILY INC. VEGAN DIETES.

## Evening Menu

THROUGHOUT ANY DAY, A VARIETY TENS  
COFFEE AND SWEETS  
PARTY BOOKINGS.



WE  
ARE  
HERE!

## GROC



## SPOT

After Band Aid, Live Aid and Sport Aid a number of well-known cartoonists and artists, straight and gay, have got together and produced STRIP AIDS, a 60-page compilation of cartoons and comic strips by some of the country's leading artists, including an original hand-made print by David Hockney. Joining the ranks of the famous is local gay cartoonist and regular GAY LIFE contributor, GROC, who says the idea for the book came from the creator of the Matt Black gay super-hero comics, Don Melia. He had seen a particularly nasty Sun cartoon at the time Princess Diana was visiting an Aids patient in hospital recently.

The book was originally intended to run to 36 pages but soon grew to over 60 as there was an overwhelming response to support Aids charities.

Proceeds from the sale of the book go to the London Lighthouse Project, which when completed will be the first residential and day care centre to be established in Britain to care for people affected by AIDS.

The book was launched at Gay Pride and was completed in less than two months and already 600 copies of the book, signed by David Shenton of "Stanley" fame and GROC, sold like hot cakes. There is an initial print run of 40,000.

Other contributors include David Shenton, Kate Charlesworth, Cath Jackson, Mel Calman, and JAK, who will be remembered for his own often anti-gay and lesbian cartoons, but he is apparently so incensed by the daily utterances of the Chief Constable of Greater Manchester James Anderton, that he wanted to add his name to the list of contributors.

The book is published by Willie/Prods, Smalltime Ink, 29 Belsize Park, London, NW3, and costs £2.50 plus postage of 50p and is obtainable from MUSHROOM BOOKSHOP, Heathcote Street, Nottingham.

## VC VIDEOS

FREE MEMBERSHIP  
(£1.50 insurance)

LATEST FILMS AVAILABLE  
- plus -

Low priced Telephone  
accessories

## JOIN NOW

V. C. VIDEOS,  
160 Mansfield Road,  
Nottingham, Tel: 480885.

## THE CLUB PART THREE

GAY NIGHT  
MON 13th JULY  
EVERY 2ND MONDAY  
OF THE MONTH

★ DJ's Peter Martine

& Jon Wilde ★

10pm-2am

★ Free membership ★

★ Entry—

Mems: Free; Guests: 50p ★

Capacity 800 ★ 2 bars

★ Restaurant ★

★ Fabulous Sound &

Lights ★

★ Lasers ★

6 STANFORD STREET  
NOTTINGHAM

(0602) 585054

looks remote. (At present Nottingham Health Authority provide short-term funding). However, despite an uncertain future, the 50-strong organisation is flourishing, with a new batch of volunteers in training. But as more people in the Trent Region are diagnosed antibody positive some will inevitably develop AIDS and will need all kinds of support. That's where Body Positive comes in. This is a self-help group, set up recently by the Aids Information Project, run by the users themselves. A "Buddying" service already exists in London and other cities, and provides crucial one-to-one lifelines for persons with aids. Buddies offer friendship and a helping hand, if needed, taking on day-to-day tasks that perhaps the person with Aids can no longer do for herself. The Project hopes to set up this facility as soon as possible. But there is an even more pressing need for a fulltime worker. "With a large number of volunteers and an ever increasing workload we desperately need someone around in the day to provide the continuity and administrative back up that frees volunteers to make contact with, often, isolated and very worried people", said Corinne Moore, Secretary of the Project. Details of selfhelp group (Body Positive) from Barbara Broughton at the Special Clinic, Nottingham 475989 (office hours).

## "TRY EM OUT!" SAYS NIC

Liverpool's gay men have just had a 'transatlantic experience' - an eroticising safer sex workshop for gay men, direct from New York.

Dominic (Nic) Davies, Mersey Regional Health Authority's Regional Aids Co-ordinator has recently returned from a trip to the United States where he talked with a large number of AIDS workers and closely studied AIDS training materials. The workshop was one that came out of the Gay Men's Health Crisis, New York's equivalent to the Terrence Higgins Trust.

Nic, a former student counsellor from Leicester, began work with Mersey Aids in January this year, and said at the time that "...one of the most important things I am going to try to do is to eroticise the condom. We want to do for the condom what Levi Strauss has done for boxer shorts and the button-fly jeans".

The workshop ran for three evenings over a period of two weeks and was held in one of Liverpool's gay bars, loaned free of charge on nights when it is usually closed. Nic organised the workshops, assisted by volunteers from local helplines. On the first evening ten cautious people turned up, but by the second session the numbers had doubled, and doubled again by the third, ending up with a lively bunch of thirty-four people.

Each workshop involved taking participants through four distinct phases, beginning with mourning, where participants explored their feelings of loss of previous sexual activities and faced their concerns around safer sex. The second part of the workshop looked at the need for a safer sexuality in order to stay well psychologically, while the third phase looked at discovering ways of having safer sex which were both creative and erotic. The final part of the evening sought to find ways of discussing safer sex with a new partner.

"We were absolutely delighted - the workshop is taken directly from a New York model and has worked very well in Liverpool. We are very grateful to all the gay men that were brave enough to risk coming along and joining in - everyone really enjoyed themselves". There are plans to run the Workshop again, probably in the Autumn. Further information about the workshop is available from Dominic Davies, Regional Aids Co-ordinator, Mersey AIDS Prevention Unit, 10 Maryland Street, Liverpool, L1 9BX Tel: 051 - 709 3511.

GAY LIFE



NIC DAVIES

## NEW WORKER NEEDED AT MUSHROOM BOOKSHOP

This is a full-time job,  
involving all aspects of  
the booktrade. The job is  
open to women only.\*

Apply by Aug 10: full  
details from

MUSHROOM BOOKSHOP,  
10 HEATHCOTE ST.,  
NOTTINGHAM NG1 3AA.  
Tel: (0602) 582506

\*Applicants must be vegetarian

CELEBRATION FOR  
NICARAGUA  
Sat. 18th July 8-12  
HYSON GREEN BOYS CLUB

JULY

## THE METRO CINEMA

Tues 7	Boy Soldier (15) plus Anne Devlin (PG)	7.30
Wed 8	Betty Blue (18)	8.00
Thur 9	Betty Blue (18)	8.00
Fri 10	Betty Blue (18)	8.00
Fri 10	Betty Blue (18)	11.00
Sat 11	Explorers (U)	2.30
Sat 11	Betty Blue (18)	6.00 9.00
Sun 12	Ciao! Manhattan (18) plus Kitchen (18)	5.00
Sun 12	Betty Blue (18)	9.00
Tues 14	Living on the Edge (PG) plus Guest Speaker: Michael Grigsby	8.00
Wed 15	Home of the Brave (U)	8.00
Thur 16	Home of the Brave (U)	8.00
Fri 17	The Assault (PG)	8.00
Fri 17	Home of the Brave (U)	11.00
Sat 18	Tom Thumb (U)	2.30
Sat 18	The Assault (PG)	8.00
Sun 19	Flesh (18) plus Andy Warhol and his Clan (18)	5.00
Sun 19	The Assault (PG)	9.00
Tues 21	Coming Up Roses (PG) plus Local Hero (15)	7.30
Wed 22	Desert Bloom (PG)	8.00
Thur 23	Desert Bloom (PG)	8.00
Fri 24	Mad Max Trilogy (18)	8.00
Sat 25	Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom (PG)	2.30
Sat 25	Desert Bloom (PG)	6.30/9.00
Sun 26	Lonesome Cowboys (18) plus Couch (18)	5.00
Sun 26	Desert Bloom (PG)	9.00
Tues 28	Eat the Peach (PG) plus Angel (15)	7.30
Wed 29	Something Wild (18)	8.00
Thur 30	Something Wild (18)	8.00
Fri 31	Something Wild (18)	8.00
Fri 31	Something Wild (18)	11.00
Sat 1	Tales of Beatrix Potter (U)	2.30
Sat 1	Something Wild (18)	6.30/9.00
Sun 2	Flesh for Frankenstein (18) plus Blood for Dracula (18)	5.00
Sun 2	Something Wild (18)	9.00
Mon 3	Something Wild (18)	8.00

GREEN LANE, DERBY 40170

## PERSPECTIVES THEATRE COMPANY



## NEW ANATOMIES

Based on the remarkable story of a truly unorthodox woman, Isabelle Eberhardt. She always dressed as a man, a European turned Arab. A lifelong non-conformist & indifferent to public opinion, whilst highly respected as a mystic by the nomadic tribes she lived with, her bizarre lifestyle and outrageous behaviour completely alienated her from the occupying forces of the day.

"NEW ANATOMIES", 8th July,  
7.30pm. £2. or £1.00

International Community Centre  
61b Mansfield Road Nottingham  
(wheelchair accessible)

## Basil will go with anything...

...and so will most other herbs

organically grown herb plants at  
wholesale prices

15 plants - any mixture - £7.50

15 plants of one variety - £6.90

Under 15 plants 60p. each

DELIVERY AVAILABLE

Phone Phil, Nottm. 474977, (evenings)

## Hawley & Rodgers SOLICITORS

We undertake all work  
both civil and criminal.

Legal Aid available.

Free estimates given on request  
in respect of conveyancing matter  
and we can also arrange mortgages  
for you.

Available for consultations at  
weekends by prior appointment.

Ring Barrie Ward on Nottingham 419772  
or write to 2 Clarendon St. Nottingham



## PHOENIX FILM

THESE Wed 8 & Thurs 9 July  
Dir. Alain Cavalier/France 1986/90 mins/subtitled/PG

The story of the short devoted life of Thérèse Martin (later St Thérèse) who entered a strict Carmelite convent to die there of tuberculosis at the age of 24, unfolds in a succession of brief tableaux. The film concentrates on the daily rituals, giving them an almost religious resonance. But though the austerity is rather studied, it's a rare pleasure to see a new film which can make so much of contemplation and draw its strength from one simple uneventful life. (JOHN WRATHALL - CITY LIMITS).

FRANCES Wed 8 July  
Dir. Graeme Clifford/USA 1982/140 mins/15

Devastating and somewhat sensationalist biopic of 30s film star Frances Farmer, battling with studios who wanted to break her spirit and turn her into the archetypal, acquirescent studio fodder. But her intelligence, outspokenness, radicalism and talent is construed as mental instability - resulting in long periods in sanatoriums and an eventual, catastrophic brain surgery.

MISHIMA: A LIFE IN FOUR CHAPTERS Thurs 9 July  
Dir. Paul Schrader/USA 1985/120 mins/subtitled/15

Although Mishima's heirs objected to any too factual study of the controversial writer's homosexuality, political activism, and S & M inclined asceticism, Schrader here succeeds triumphantly in creating a challenging exploration of the contradictions in male sexuality at the limit. Yukio Mishima was a famous novelist and Japanese traditionalist, whose private army staged an abortive coup and who ritually killed himself when it failed.

PINK FLOYD - THE WALL Fri 10 July  
Dir. Alan Parker/GB 1982/95 mins/15

Scarfe, Parker, Geldof, and the Floyd indulge in gloriously over the top apocalyptic fantasies about how awful it is to be rich and famous.

ANIMAL FARM Sat 11 July  
Dir. John Hallas & Joy Batchelor/GB 1954/73 mins/PG

Ambitious and by and large successful animated version of Orwell's cautionary tale.

AFTER HOURS Fri 10-Sat 11 July  
Dir. Martin Scorsese/USA 1986/97 mins/15

Paul Hackett, yuppie computer operator, travels across night-time New York to meet Marcie (Rosanna Arquette), only to find that he doesn't really like her, he can't get home, and urban paranoia is swishing down SoHo's mean streets with a cruel, surreal vengeance.

PEGGY SUE GOT MARRIED Fri 10 - Sun 12 July  
Dir. Francis Coppola/USA 1986/103 mins/15

Described as Back to the Future for adults, the film is blessed with a witty script, and a warmly energetic performance from the wonderful Kathleen Turner. She plays Peggy Sue, a mother of two teenagers, on the brink of divorce from her fickle husband. At their high school reunion she collapses and comes round to find herself back in class, all of 18 and thus able to attempt to change her future. A far more rounded study than Coppola's come up with in a long time. (SASKIA BARON - CITY LIMITS).

STALKER Sun 12 July  
Dir. Andrei Tarkovsky/USSR 1979/161 mins/PG

Deeply symbolic, but also intensely moving, STALKER concerns the forbidden Zone, hidden deep in an un-named country, where people venture to discover their dreams, or worst nightmares. Through the Zone, the Stalker (guide) leads the Writer and the Scientist, a journey that unfolds in minute physical and psychological detail.

6 NEWARKE STREET  
LEICESTER 554854

## 77- OUROBOROS<sup>ST</sup> WHOLEFOOD COLLECTIVE

FIVE MORE YEARS OF THATCHERISM!  
FIVE MORE YEARS OF OUROBOROS?

OUROBOROS HAS BEEN TRADING FOR TEN YEARS AND WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO MAKE IT TO 1997!

WE SELL A GOOD RANGE OF WHOLEFOODS AND ECOLOGICALLY SOUND NON-FOOD ITEMS - BEANS, GRAINS, FLOURS, FRUIT, NUTS, SPREADS, MUESLI'S, HONEY, CONCENTRATED JUICES, COLD-PRESSED OILS, ORGANIC VEGETABLES AND BAKED GOODS TO TAKE AWAY.

OUROBOROS IS A COLLECTIVE OF FIVE PEOPLE WHO TRY TO WORK TOGETHER IN A NON-SEXIST, NON-HIERARCHICAL, ALTERNATIVE WAY. WE TRY TO SUPPORT PEOPLE OR GROUPS WITH SIMILAR PRINCIPLES TO OURS, AND HOPE THAT THEY SUPPORT US.

REMEMBER TO BRING US YOUR USED BOTTLES, JARS, AND PLASTIC AND PAPER BAGS FOR RECYCLING.

37a Mansfield Road Nottingham Tel: 419016

Tuesday 7	FITZCARRALDO (PG)
6.15pm	WHEN THE WIND BLOWS (PG)
9.00pm	
Wednesday 8	THESE (PG)
6.15pm	FRANCES (15)
8.15pm	
Thursday 9	MISHIMA (15)
6.15pm	THESE (PG)
8.30pm	
Friday 10	AFTER HOURS (15)
6.15pm	PEGGY SUE GOT MARRIED (15)
8.15pm	PINK FLOYD - THE WALL (15)
11.15pm	
Saturday 11	ANIMAL FARM (PG)
3.00pm	AFTER HOURS (15)
6.15pm	PEGGY SUE GOT MARRIED (15)
8.15pm	
Sunday 12	STALKER (PG)
4.00	PEGGY SUE GOT MARRIED (15)
7.30	

Nottingham Lesbian & Gay Youth Organisation is making an emergency appeal for funds to help pay for the gay pride coach which left half full. They say that if they cannot pay off this debt the group could fold. Make a donation or organise a fund raising event, they ask, and support their benefit disco on the 20th July at the Garage. BOX 11, 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham.

## HIZIKI WHOLEFOOD COLLECTIVE

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

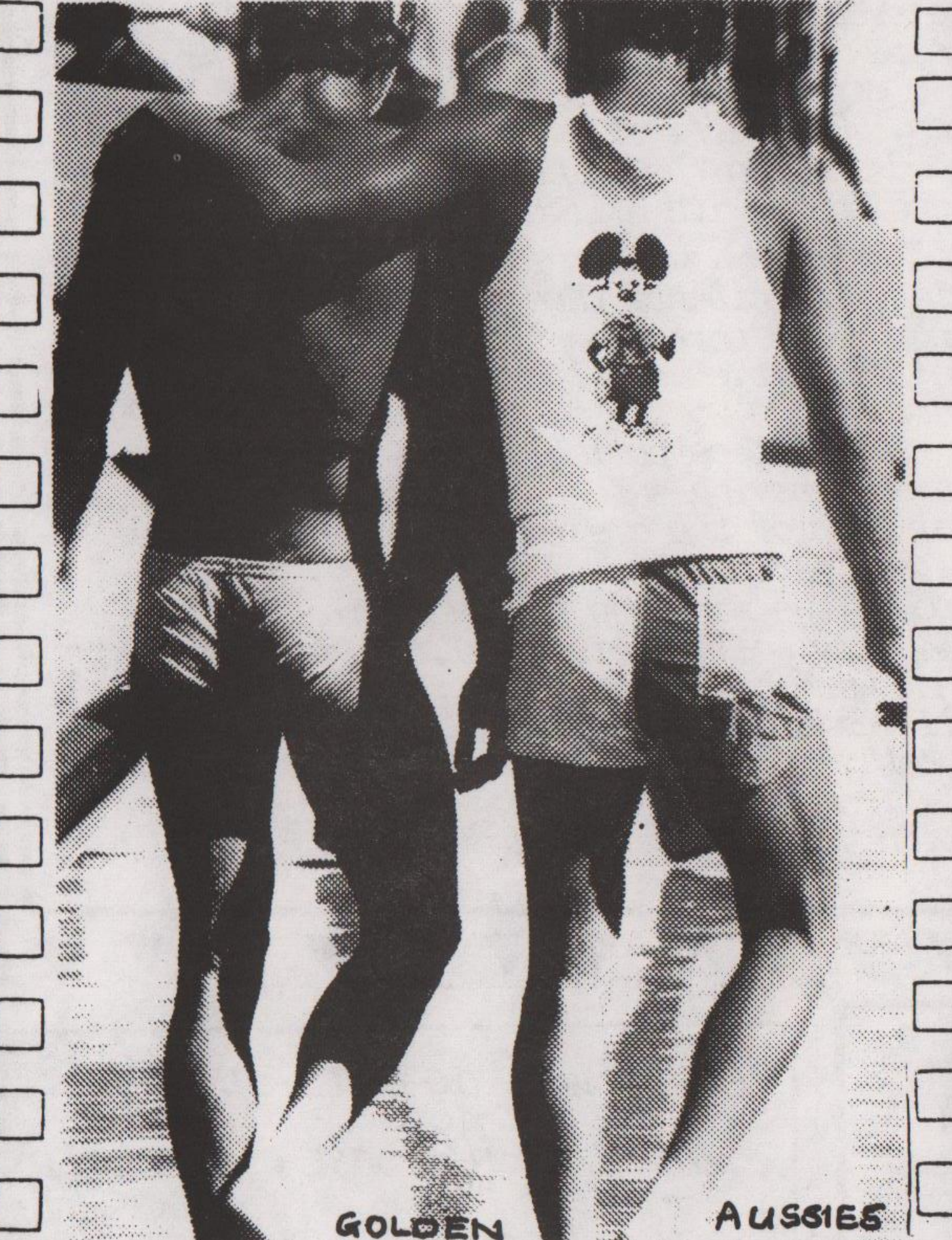
15, Goosegate, Hockley, Nottingham.  
Telephone: (0602) 505523

## STILL FRIENDS

## AFTER TEN YEARS

## friend

Mickey's Pool Hall, Broadway, Lacemarket is a new venue, popular with lesbians, it attracts many of the patrons of the now closed Manor Club. Women bar staff, pool, seating & dancing areas with entrance at £1.25 (which includes membership). Men said to be welcome.



GOLDEN AUSSIES

Nottingham Friend Group is now ten years old (offering a counselling and befriending service) and has handled an estimated 4,000 phonecalls over the years, many resulting in long term one-to-one befriending. Serving the lesbian and gay community in Nottingham and the surrounding areas, Friend differs from the other help-lines in that it is not primarily an information service. Instead, the emphasis of the group is on face-to-face contact and long term support if needed. Many who contact Friend have feelings of anxiety; typical of these are loneliness, isolation, rejection and fear. Friend is often the first contact for people coming to terms with their lesbianism or gayness.

The aim of the organisation is always to help the person befriended to find their own solutions rather than to give out advice. Working as a volunteer with Friend can at times be quite intense but members can always be sure of the support of the others in the group. The training programme is not designed to teach newcomers a lot of 'how to do things' but to allow trainees and existing volunteers to learn about their own attitudes to sexuality and to develop

listening skills. The intention is always that the group works together, holding regular support meetings for its volunteers and sharing of ideas and an exchange of information.

In 1986 Friend received a total of 320 telephone calls and visits, a large proportion of these involving long-term befriending and counselling. This is a key part of Nottingham Friend's work and often requires many hours of the volunteers' time.

Like many groups, money is always a problem. The service currently costs about £600 per year to run. Friend receives some grant aid, but also relies heavily on donations and other fund-raising activities.

Nottingham Friend Group look forward to the next ten years and is keen to maintain and expand its services. Joint Co-ordinator Phil King says 'We would be pleased to hear from anyone who feels they may be able to give something to the group, either helping with support or as a befriender. If you would like to help Friend (or would like help from us), the group can be reached on Nottingham 474717, Tuesdays 7-10pm or you can write to: Nottingham Friend, c/o 31a Mansfield Road, Nottingham NG1 3FF.'

What are these people pointing at? Well, tucked away down a quiet city centre side street is a door numbered '45'. Up the stairs and you have arrived at Leicester's first drop-in lesbian gay centre, which opened its doors in mid-June. It is also a first for the East Midlands. Small and welcoming, it occupies two pleasant rooms where you can have a cheap meal or just a chat. The centre is open on Saturdays from 10-5pm and on Tuesday evenings from 8-10pm (women only). Address from Leicester Gayline (0533) 550667 (7-10pm nightly).



RICHARD MCANES

# THE TRUTH ABOUT THE AIDS PANIC

BOOK REVIEW

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE AIDS PANIC by Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick and Don Milligan, Junius Publications, (price £1.95).

Just published, THE TRUTH ABOUT THE AIDS PANIC, is the only book I know that focuses equally on the ideological reality of the panic as well as the material reality of the disease.

Fitzpatrick is a G.P. working in east London, Milligan (Author of The Politics of Homosexuality, Pluto Press, 1973.) a long-time fighter for gay liberation and socialism. Their analysis, informed by a revolutionary perspective, is clear, cogent and condemnatory of the Government, the Labour party, radical gay groups, AIDS advisory and support-care groups.

'The defect of the radical response to AIDS is that it unquestioningly accepts the official view that AIDS is a major threat to public health and that the call for safe sex is a rational response'. They argue that radical gays, in forlornly and mistakenly attempting to deflect and diffuse the anti-gay backlash 'encourage heterosexual anxieties and turn a blind eye to the mounting attack on homosexuals.'

They go on to say 'scaring straights is no way to protect gays from the anti-homosexual backlash generated around the fear of HIV contagion.'

AIDS, in this country, is overwhelmingly a gay disease. Pretending otherwise is no protection, ideologically or materially. They say, 'in noting that AIDS predominantly affects gay men, we attribute no blame to them. On the contrary, this is our scientific point of departure for the defence of the rights of all homosexuals. When we acknowledge that anal intercourse is probably the major route by which the AIDS virus has spread in the West, we recognise at the same time that millions of people the world over find this a pleasurable form of sexual activity.'

Their blistering attack on the government publicity campaign is sharply focussed: 'Posting the official AIDS leaflet to every household in Britain in the coldest January for decades summed up the absurdity of the safe sex campaign. About a third of the homes receiving the leaflet contained either a single person over 60, or an elderly couple. For the millions of pensioners who learnt the importance of shunning promiscuity and using condoms, hypothermia was a much more serious threat to life.'

Furthermore, 'while the (government's) safe sex campaign may cause widespread alarm among people who have a higher chance of being run-over by a bus than they have of contracting AIDS, it will not stop the spread of AIDS in the high risk categories.' The out gay minority have already varied their sexual activities, having watched developments in the States during the past two or three years, so the campaign is irrelevant for them. It is useless for the majority of gays, closeted, and pursuing their sexual activities furtively and fearfully lest they be socially exposed.

In short, Fitzpatrick and Milligan maintain that 'the way to stop the spread of AIDS is neither to pretend that it is a threat to heterosexuals, nor to make futile exhortations to gays, but rather to challenge every act of discrimination or harassment against homosexuals'. They are in no doubt that 'for as long as homosexuality remains an underground activity in Britain, it will be impossible to prevent AIDS spreading among gay men.'

Consequently, they argue that 'a national response to the AIDS epidemic would set about getting rid of all forms of discrimination against homosexuals and ensure adequate resources for research into a cure and vaccine for HIV infection and for all aspects of care of AIDS sufferers'. And they argue, government policy is quite the contrary. While the government leaves direct condemnation of homosexuals to the churches, the police, the media and so on it promotes monogamy within the family in its pursuit of personally pathologising those who stray from that norm, thus atomising, fragmenting, individualising people, preventing the development of solidarity which just might threaten its exploitative control over the majority.

Their attacks on gay radicals is equally strong and will undoubtedly elicit defensive hostility from them. In a broad-side against those progressive Labour councils supporting gay and lesbian centres and employing lesbian and gay workers they say, 'the quantification of the gay movement had the effect of softening it up before the AIDS panic struck,' and 'like naughty boys who have been made into school prefects, the gay radicals of the past now promote sexual restraint with greater zeal than they ever did the cause of sexual liberation'.

Fitzpatrick and Milligan's analysis will, I am sure, be seen by many inside and outside of the gay movement, to be contentious and controversial. What cannot be denied is its uncompromising and accomplished attack against institutions and people perpetuating oppression of gays. For that alone it shines like a nugget of gold amongst the avalanche of books on AIDS that have appeared with increasing frequency during the past two years.

PETER KENT-BAGGLEY

ROCK & REGGAE Bands, Poets, Sounds  
25th & 26th JULY  
Break crews 1-9.30pm  
Kids area  
FREE ON THE FOREST

## Nottingham's 7th Peace Festival 87

ADMISSION FREE



12 to 6pm  
VICTORIA EMBANKMENT  
12 TH JULY

ENQUIRIES: RAINBOW CENTRE  
180 MANSFIELD ROAD S85666

CHILDREN'S PEACE FESTIVAL INFLATABLES EXHIBITIONS OVER 200 STALLS  
MUSIC JAZZ FOLK ROCK REGGAE SPEAKERS COOPERATIVE GAMES  
VIDEOS FOOD COURT CLOWNS DANCE THEATRE

AND DON'T FORGET  
ALTERNATIVE CABARET

8pm  
SATURDAY 11th JULY

## WHITE HART HOTEL

CHURCH STREET, MANSFIELD

## UPSTAIRS BAR

mixed nights, Fri. & Sat.  
Mainly Women, Sunday

## FREE ADMISSION WHITE HART HOTEL CHARTS & HI N-R-G

CHURCH STREET, MANSFIELD