

December 1988

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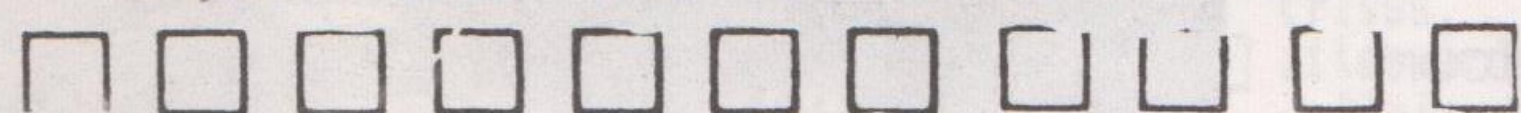
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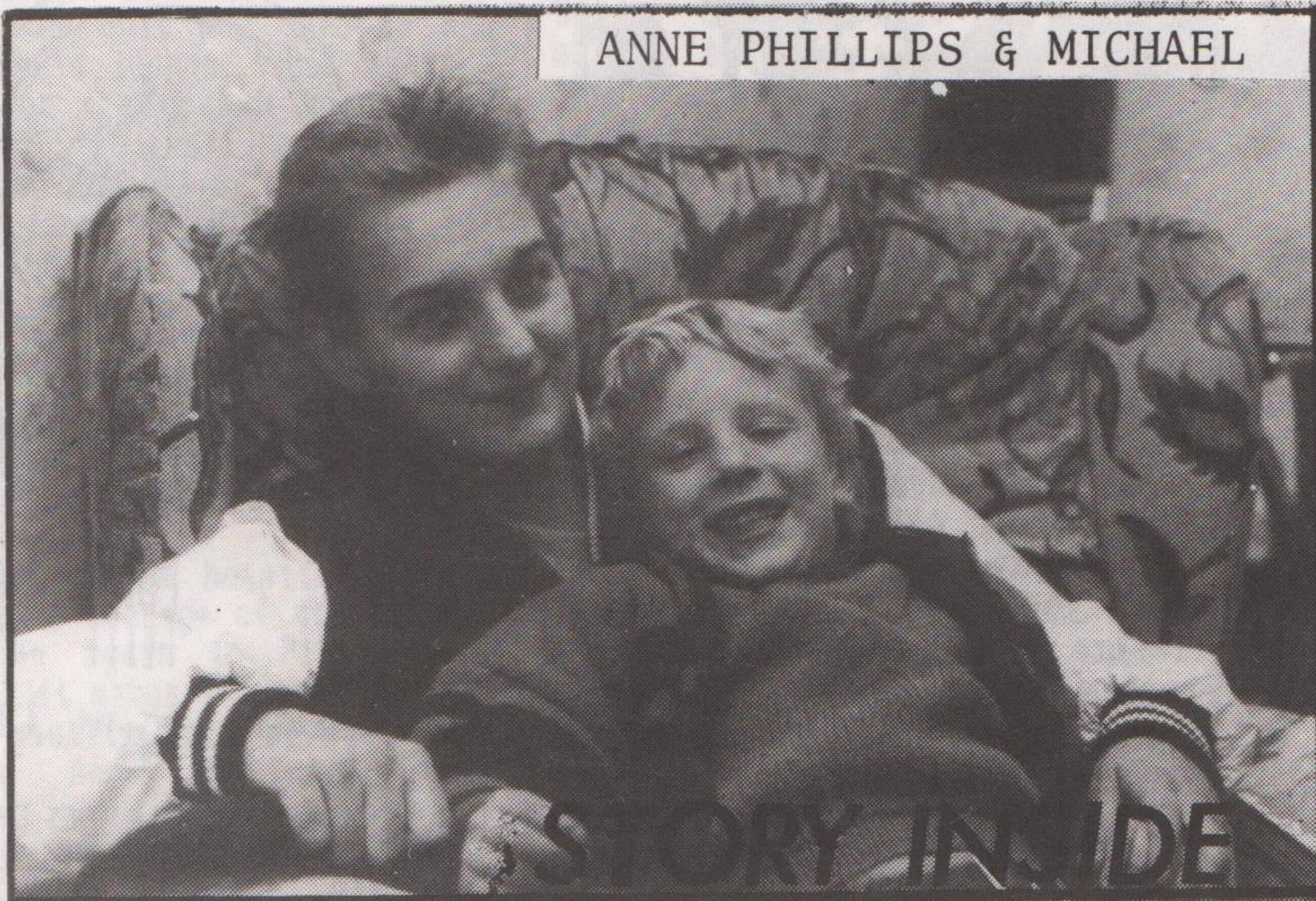
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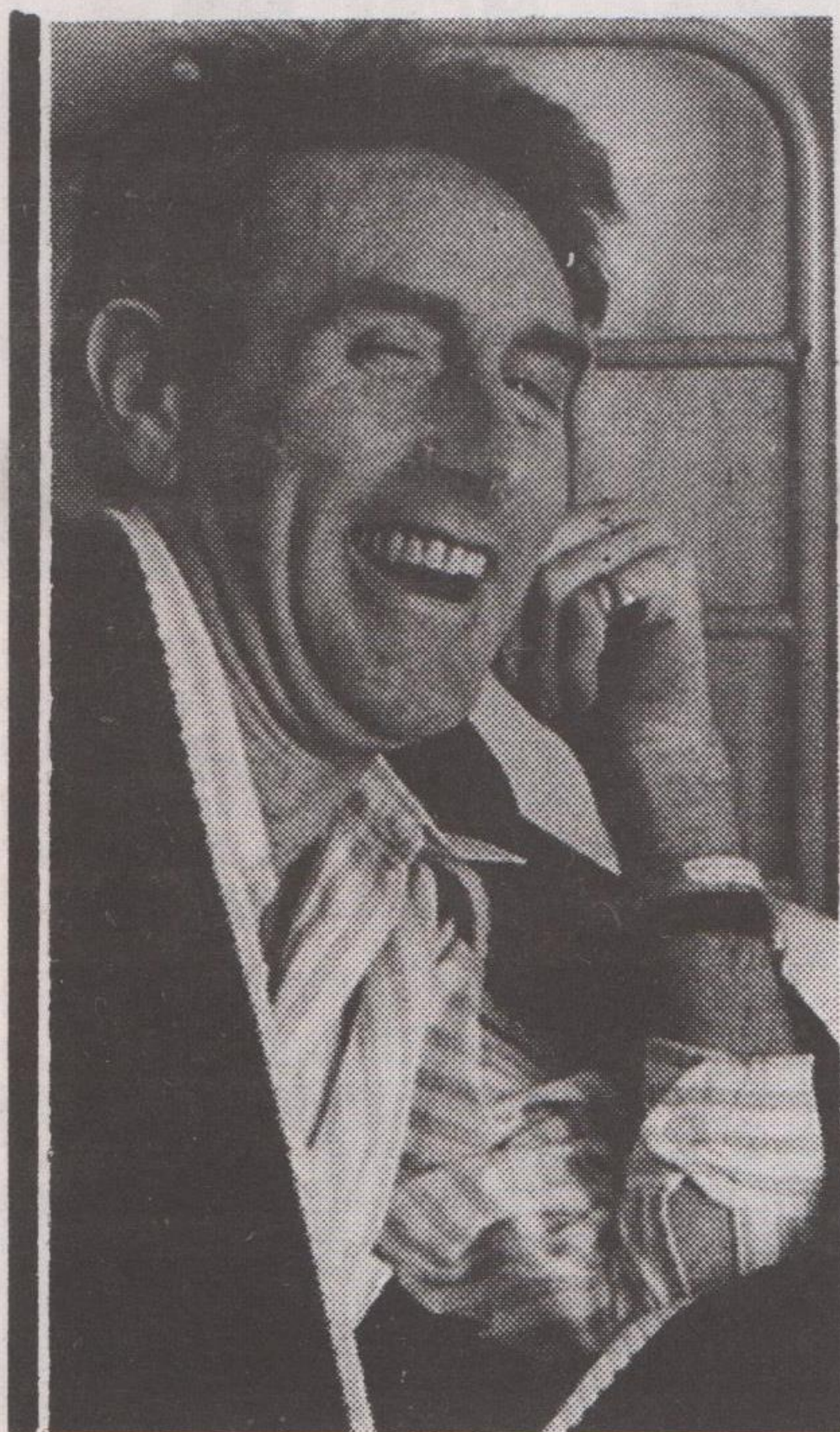


LESBIAN MUM WINS CUSTODY

ANNE PHILLIPS & MICHAEL



LOADSA RUBBERS, LOADSA CARE!



Terry Madeley (pictured left) was the first person with AIDS to talk openly about his disease on television. Those who saw him during AIDS Week last year were moved by his honesty, courage and irrepressible humour, in the face of his impending death. Terry's fight for the right to die with dignity is the story of a man who can teach us as much about living as dying. He died on the 27th October last year while filming was still in progress.

'Saturday Night Live' comedian, Harry Enfield released loads of balloons at a programme of events inaugurating World Aids Day on 1st December at St. Peter's Gate, Nottingham.

As more and more heterosexual people get AIDS it can no longer be seen as a disease affecting drug users, blacks and gaymen but a disease affecting humankind.

Karen Hughes new job as Community Worker - AIDS with Nottingham Health Authority is helping to combat the spread of AIDS locally. The major part of her work is to pinpoint and identify the needs of specific risk behaviour groups in Nottingham, including gay men, bisexual people, and heterosexual people. Whatever your sexual preference if you are having unsafe sex then you are putting yourself and your partner at risk. But getting this message across is often very difficult as people always think AIDS will always attack someone

(continued Back Page)



KAREN HUGHES

VIRAJ MENDIS DEFENCE CAMPAIGN

Viraj Mendis has lived in Britain for over fifteen years and for nearly two years has been in sanctuary in the Church of the Ascension, Manchester. Currently, the House of Lords is considering hearing Viraj's case. But, like the Appeal Courts before, they will not be able to hear the evidence which proves that Viraj's life is in danger if he is deported to Sri Lanka. The Viraj Mendis Defence Campaign is fighting to re-open Viraj's case. The Home Office must be forced to hear the evidence. Support Viraj's determined struggle against the immigration laws. The Home Office must not be allowed to deport Viraj to his death in Sri Lanka.

Sanctuaries in Britain have been
(continued on Page)





SINGLE OF THE MONTH: ~ Buffalo Stance - Neneh Cherry.

Eight years ago, I saw Neneh Cherry cavorting around on stage with female punk band, The Slits. Now she's popped up again, sleekly groomed for the late 80's, singing and rapping over an ace Bomb The Bass production. Imagine Shannon crossed with The Real Roxanne, add a guitar line that's pure Joy Division and an insanely catchy chorus and you've got a perfect piece of dancefloor pop which deserves to sell millions.

Having failed to convert the world to the decidedly dodgy concept of "Balearic Beats2, the same clique of London "style setters" are now trying to flog us Belgian synthesizer pop (now re-christened New Beat) as the Next Big Thing. I mean, they really have got to be kidding!

A lot of it sounds like the sort of stuff that Cabaret Voltaire were doing about five years ago, minus the inventiveness and wit, but retaining the relentless monotony. It also means that crappy third-rate bands like Nitzer Ebb, whom we have all happily ignored for years, are now being hailed as messiahs. I'm all for moving on from Acid, but there's got to be something better than this to fling at our pop kids!

A movement which does get a big thumbs-up is the increasingly popular Deep House/Garage sound coming out of New York at the moment. Great songs, soulfully sung by real singers, extremely danceable AND very listenable to outside of clubs as well - what more can you want? I therefore unhesitatingly recommend the compilation album "The Garage Sound of Deepest New York", due out on December 5th and featuring acts like Blaze, Kym Mazelle, Turntable Orchestra and Phase II. You're going to be hearing a lot more about this stuff!

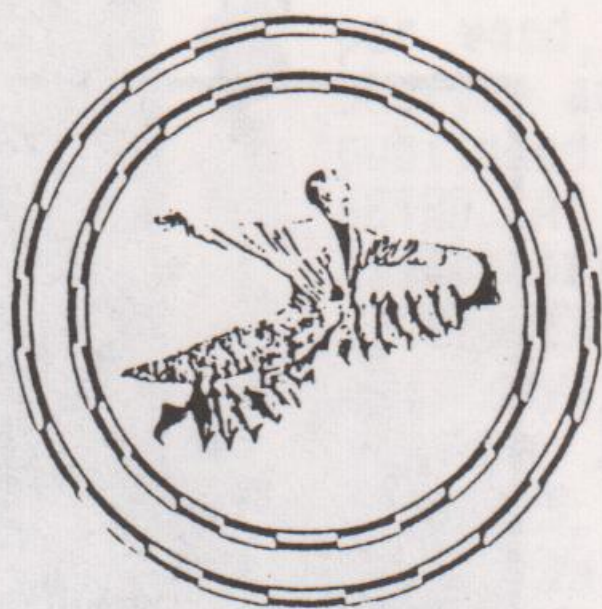
RECOMMENDED RELEASES:

Fine Time - New Order. Since they recorded this in Ibiza, this is one record that really IS a Balearic Beat! Typically wonderful electro-bop, **Sympathy For The Devil II** (Who Killed The

Kennedys Mix) - Laibach. Not the usual pretentious dirge you might expect from Laibach, this sounds like Bananarama on a bad trip, and yes, it IS the old Rolling Stones number! I could see this one in the Hi-Energy charts... **Get On The Dancefloor** - Rob Base & DJ E-Z Rock. The follow-up to "It Takes Two"; a fantastic rap track based on The Jacksons' "Shake Your Body Down (To The Ground)".

Born This Way - Cookie Crew. Not quite as good as "Females", but still immensely loveable - produced by extremely 'credible' US rappers Statsasonic. **Jenifa (Taught Me)** - De La Soul; Absolutely demented psychedelic rap. Nothing about this record makes sense, which is just the way I like it.

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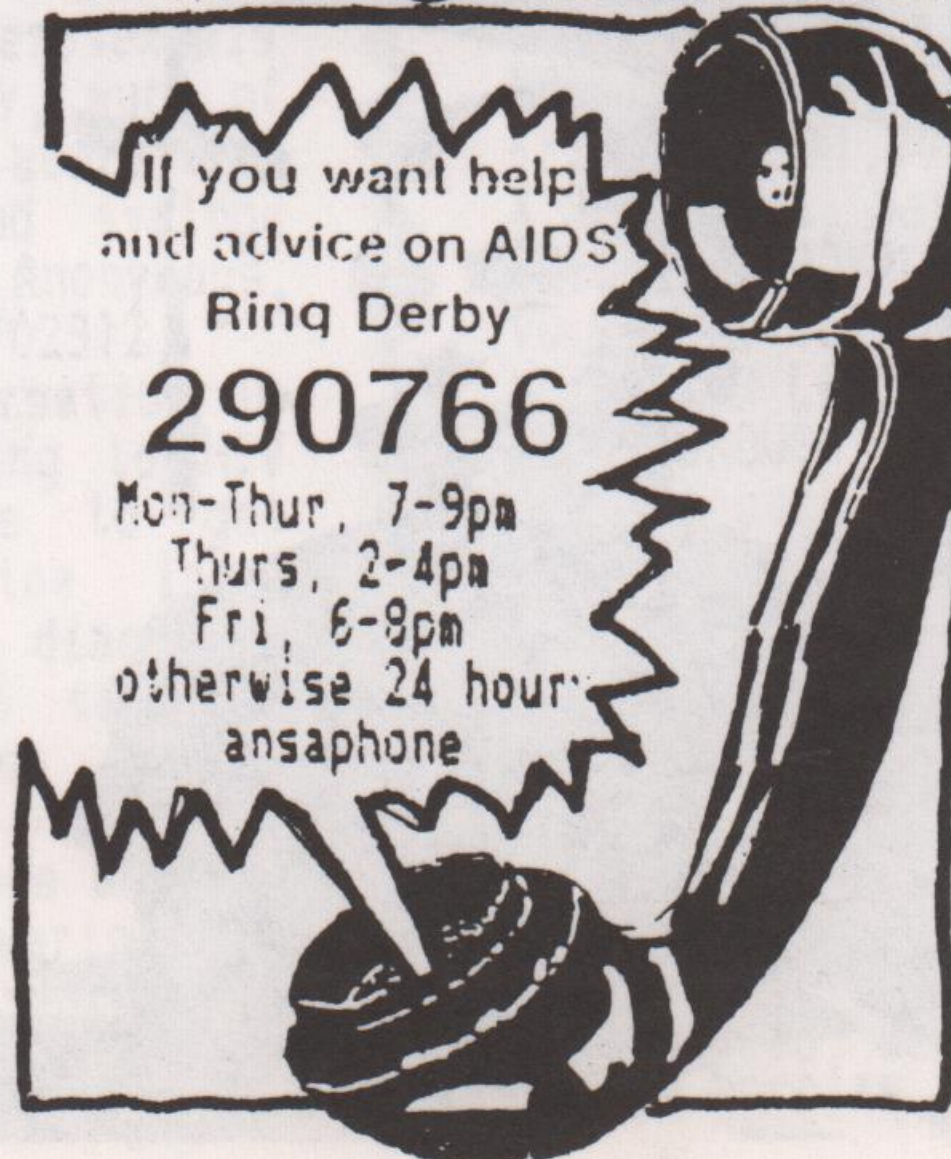
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Norris: a gain in the dignity and rights of everyone

Sex between gay men in the Republic of Ireland may be made legal within a year as a result of a new ruling on Irish law by the European Court of Human Rights. The nineteenth century laws, criminalising sex between men in the Republic were finally brought crashing down when the European Court for Human Rights in Strasbourg ruled that they were a violation of basic human rights. The judgement delivered at the end of October brought to an end a 14-year legal battle which had already been through Ireland's High Court and Supreme Court.

The case was brought by David Norris, (44), a university lecturer and outspoken gay rights campaigner since the early 70's. Senator Norris, was elected to the upper chamber of the Irish parliament, the Senate, early last year, as an openly gay independent candidate on a broad liberal platform.

The Irish government has no option but to remove anti-gay legislation, which is in fact the same law which applied in Britain and Northern Ireland until it was repealed there. David Norris's case was strengthened by the fact that the European Court of Human Rights had already ruled against the same laws, in the case of Northern Ireland. This appeal was won by Jeff Dudgeon in 1981, and the laws applying to the North were changed the following year.

The Irish Government had argued in court that Senator Norris was not a victim of the laws in the same way as Mr. Dudgeon, who had been arrested, had his house searched, and his private mail opened. But the Court ruled by an eight to six majority, that the very fact that such laws existed, was an infringement of the right to privacy under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

Senator Norris said that the phones at the national radio station "were melting with abuse from callers" following his many radio and TV interviews last month. But he was congratulated by nearly all his parliamentary colleagues across party lines. At his office, gay rights activists took phone calls ranging from congratulations to death threats, as well as deliveries of flowers from well wishers.

PANTOMANIA

Tories on Leicester City Council are up in arms over a local group who planned to stage a radical version of a traditional Xmas pantomime, "Dyke Whittington" was to have been performed by Leicester Claws Out at Leicester Guildhall during December. This drew criticism from Tory Leader Michael Johnson who objected to the group's spoiling a traditional family pantomime by excluding scantily-clad dancers and the pantomime dame. (The group had also scrapped two scenes as they contained "negative racist images").

Cllr. Johnson said of the changes "It is rather silly. No one looks at a pantomime in political or racist terms. I think the Guildhall should only be used for formal occasions".

In a letter to the City Attorney's Department, Leicester Claws Out say: "While the majority of our members are lesbian or gay, others are heterosexual and support us on this important issue of civil rights.

They add: "In contrast to a commercial pantomime, we shall not be having a dame, that is a male dressed as a female to show the 'presumed foibles of women', scantily clad females (or males), racist, sexist or heterosexist jokes"

Chairperson of the Estates Committee, Cllr. David Middleton, said: "It has been used in the past for performances, and the committee gave this group the same sort of consideration."

The panto, originally planned for early December, had to be rescheduled while the two offending scenes were rewritten. "Tales From Dyke Whittington" can now be seen at Leicester Guildhall, (one performance only), 21st January, 7.30pm, £2.50/£1.50 at the door.

Women's Centre Closes

Council-funded Leicester Womens Centre in Charles St closes at the end of December because the council say it is 'underused'. But a spokesperson for the Centre denied this. The centre provides facilities for counselling, pregnancy testing, and women-only social space, vital in a city with few other such facilities. Many lesbian women use the centre and women newly arrived in the City.

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Mayor George Moscone signs the Gay Civil Rights bill as Harvey Milk looks on.

Ten years ago this month Harvey Milk, out gay San Francisco City Supervisor (Councillor) was assassinated. We reproduce below the review of **THE TIMES OF HARVEY MILK** by Jack Babuscio that appeared in *Gay Times*.

For one brief year, from November 1977 to November 1978, Harvey Milk, owner of a San Francisco camera shop, was the toast of California's lesbian and gay communities. Elected to his city's Board of Supervisors, Milk had gained the distinction of being the first openly gay person elected to public office in the state. Within less than a year he was well on his way to becoming a major political force in his Castro district - a liberal area with a large proportion of lesbian and gays.

Also appointed Supervisor in the same '77 election was Dan White, a fireman and former policeman from a deeply conservative, working-class district on the outer edge of the city. The two men seemed fated to be antagonists in the bitter struggle that quickly ensued over a Gay Rights Bill and a state referendum (Proposition 6) denying teaching jobs to gays and lesbians. The fight over both these issues was bitter, but Milk, a tireless campaigner, successfully sponsored the former and turned certain victory for the latter into a stunning upset defeat.

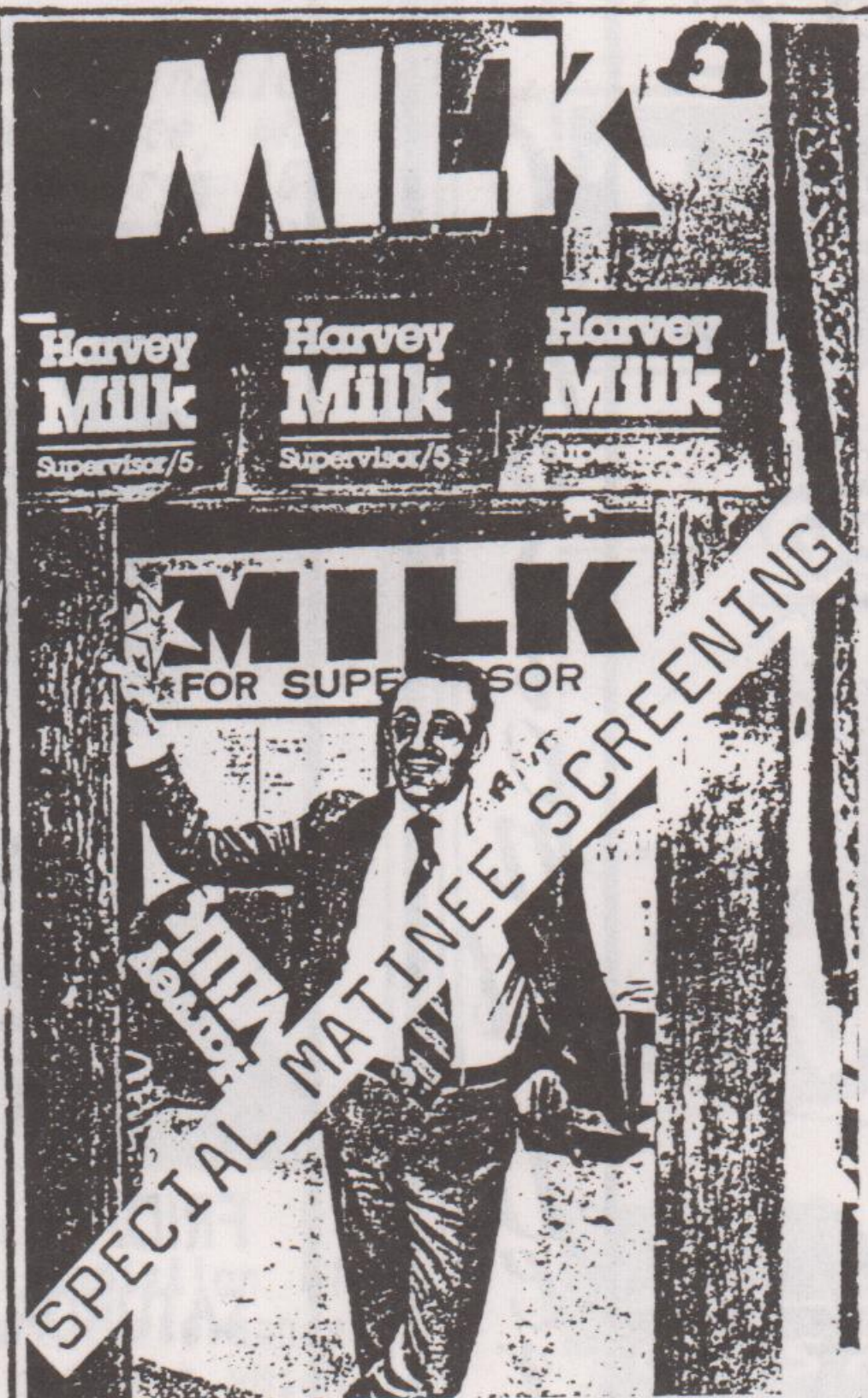
Shortly after these events, Dan White, who had just resigned his seat in anger, illegally entered City Hall through an open window and, carrying a loaded revolver and ten extra rounds of ammunition in his jacket pockets, assassinated Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk. White was later sentenced to eight years in prison, but served five - being released in 1984 a free man.

Set in San Francisco during the late 1970's, **THE TIMES OF HARVEY MILK** is a documentary portrait of the extraordinary rise to power of the charismatic Milk - sailor, Wall

THE TIMES OF HARVEY MILK

Street stock analyst, avant garde theatre producer (in the 60's), camera shop owner and city Supervisor (in the 70's). It is both a remarkably balanced, intelligent work, as well as a deeply moving experience. Brilliantly intercutting TV news footage with interviews with Milk's friends, constituents and political associates, the film skilfully manipulates its audience's emotional responses, moving viewers from exhilaration and shock through sadness and catharsis with the candlelight procession mourning Milk's death.

It might be said with some justice, that the film's construction, while aesthetically satisfying, lacks the radical edge it might have gained had it ended on a note of anger - with the miscarriage of justice in the sentencing of White on a manslaughter charge (reduced from murder on the grounds of diminished responsibility due to "depression brought on by a diet of junk food"). Be that as it may, **THE TIMES OF HARVEY MILK**, winner of an Oscar for Best Documentary of 1984, is a major work - a compelling, passionate, emotionally potent movie which, as Director Richard Schmiechen has rightly said 'really involves viewers - it makes them feel they're participants in this drama, thereby changing them as people, and, hopefully, altering their outlook'.



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'THE GLASS MENAGERIE', Dir. Paul Newman/USA 1987/134 mins/PG.

Paul Newman again reveals his skill as a director with this very reverent, gripping record of Tennessee William's play, on which this film is based, first produced in 1945 now seems slightly dated in its now-unfashionable sexual attitudes and uncontrite sentimentality.

With an excellent cast and uncompromising direction, Newman has captured the emotional heart of one of Tennessee Williams' greatest plays; family guilt frustration and disintegration in the St. Louis of the depression. The film uses gloomy lighting and claustrophobic settings to create a hauntingly dreamlike aura. A special pre-Christmas showing of this popular film.

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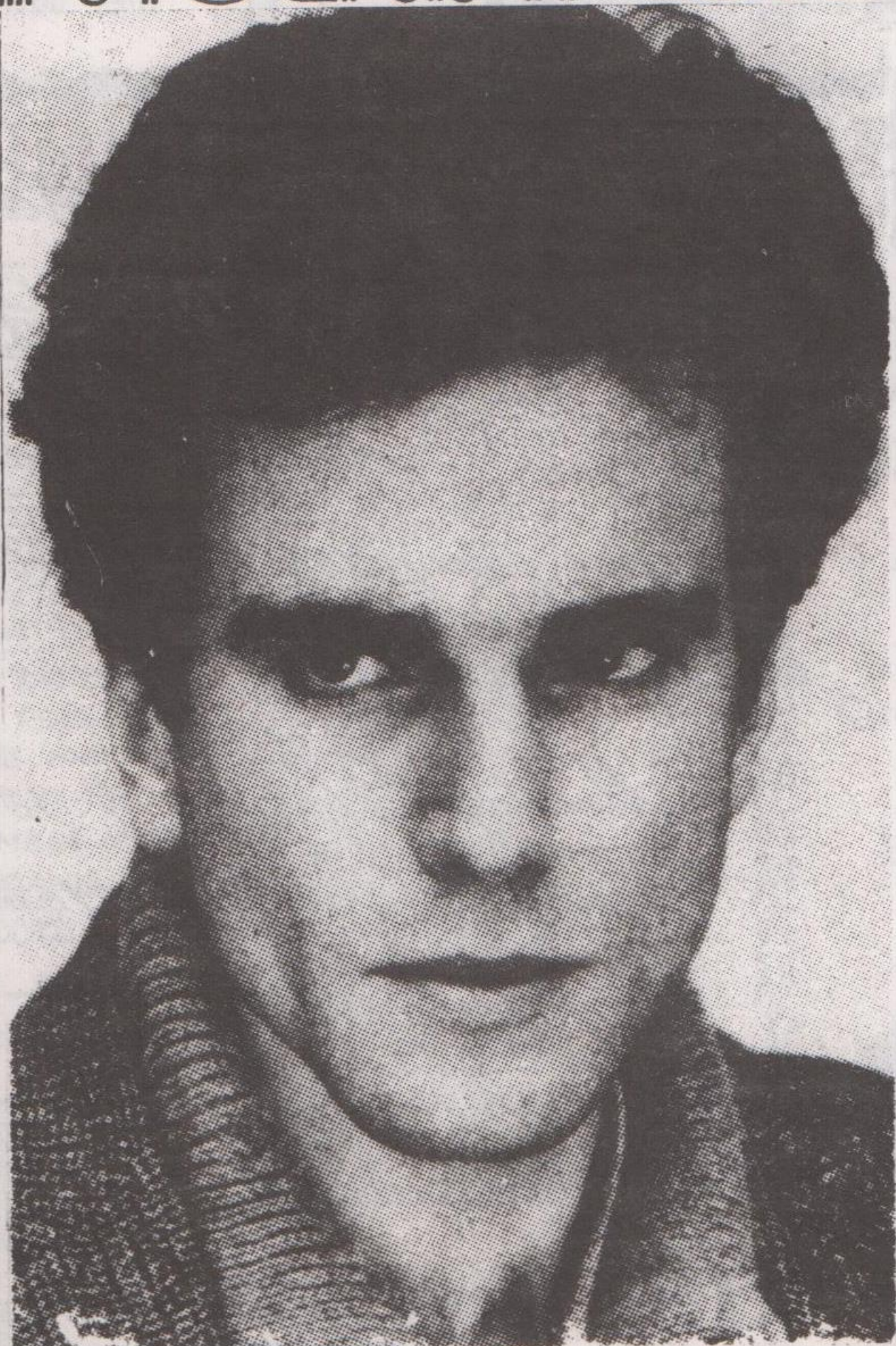
"He (Adlon) makes a star out of Sagebrecht. She glows with feeling, and grows beautiful before your eyes. So does the film... The off beat hit of the year... Full of laughter, charm and magic" TIME OUT

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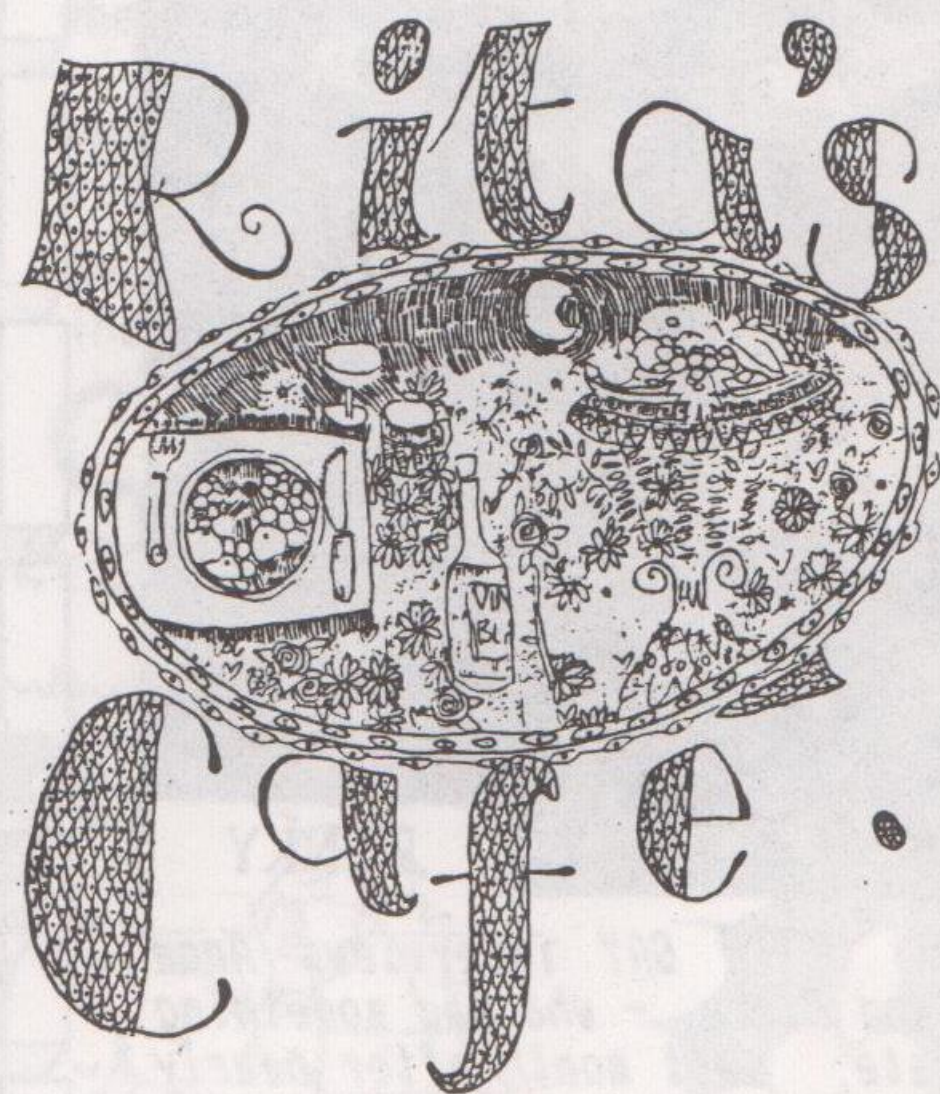
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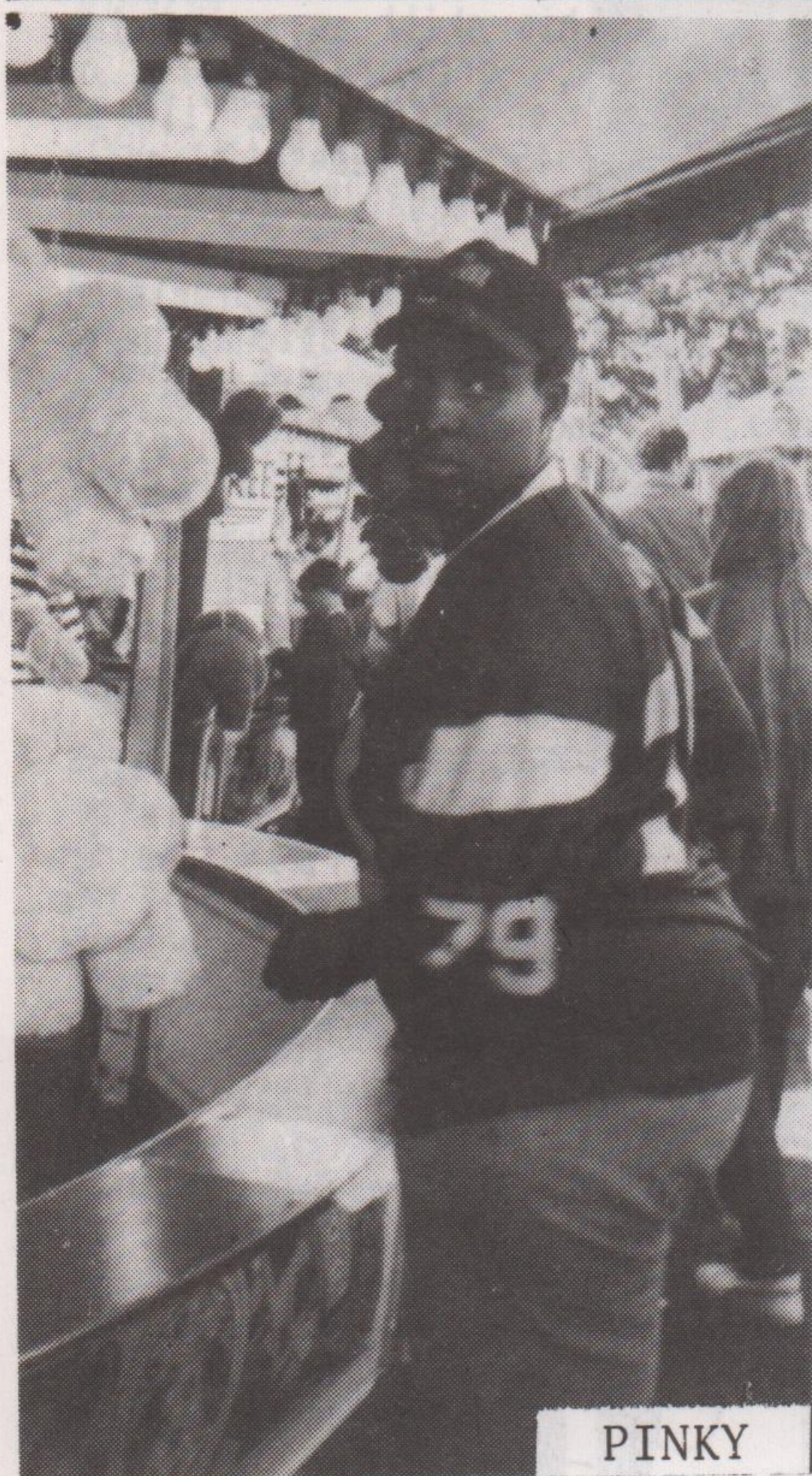
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PINKY

This month METRO GAY interviews Anne Phillips and Pinky - who had something to celebrate. Last month after nearly two years of court wrangling and a bitter dog fight Anne won the custody of her two children, Tom and Michael, despite custody being contested by the father. They had invited me to a meal at their home on a large council estate in central Leicester to work out an interview but even the best laid plans can be thrown.

I knocked. No answer. The house was in darkness. Could they have forgotten? no not them; it was too important. Something must have happened. Half an hour later headlights flashing and a screech of brakes announced the arrival of the occupants of 23 Hazel Grove.

Both are in their twenties. Anne works as the only woman street mason - laying paving stones for the City Council - but she's so slight I thought, oh well away with my prejudices. Pinky is a qualified Youth and Community Worker from London, studying at a Northern college after being made redundant from her London job.

As I waited for them to settle Tom in bed - Michael had been staying with relatives so we would be free to talk - I was reminded how tough single parenting can be, no one on hand to share the daily ups and downs with.

But in a sense that's all in the past because the reason we were meeting was to celebrate in words Anne's victory at winning custody of 18-month old Tom and 3½ year old Michael. The court victory was still sweet in their minds but it could have so easily turned sour. We were also celebrating the blossoming of Anne and Pinky's nine-month old relationship - it's past the honeymoon stage now and on a steady course with the usual ups and downs that most relationships face, gay or straight.

As we settled down to our carry out and mugs of tea Anne set the scene the night before the court hearing.

"I was soaking in the bath and thinking what the hell should I wear

for Court next day. The dress, stockings and court shoes, look feminine with a hint of makeup, but I hadn't any in the house!" She laughs.

"I'd never seen Anne in a dress and as for make up..." They both dissolved into helpless laughter.

"Anyway we rooted out some court shoes - I decided against the Doc Martens and braces, a bit like overkill but I still couldn't decide whether to shave my legs or not"

"I couldn't see what difference that made", says Pinky.

"Then I knew I wouldn't feel comfortable in all that stuff so I settled for a white shirt and trousers and sports jacket, but definitely no pearls!", added Anne.

"We were both tense the night before the hearing. Ann tried to explain to me what might happen. We discussed our relationship; I asked Ann if it was between me and the kids whom would she chose and to my relief, she replied immediately "the kids".

Pinky continues the story. "While all this was happening it was dawning on me that I might not even see the children again. Since I had been living with Ann I have got very close to both of them, especially Tom, who has grown up with me being around. I thought that if she loses the kids I'll lose them too. I thought I could lose my son. He really feels like my own son. When the kids shout Mum we both turn round. Losing the kids frightened me".

Anne: "The previous day my Uncle had seen my ex-husband and he had told him I was gay so I didn't know what to expect, although the rest of my family are fine about my sexual preference. I even thought that the kids could be taken straight from the nursery if I lost the case."

She's now sitting curled up in the armchair drawing on a cigarette as she relives the unnerving experience.

"We decided that it would be best for Pinky to wait for me at the Womens Centre while I was at court with my support worker from Homestart.

In court they never used the word 'lesbian'. I remember sitting frozen to the spot at the rapid delivery of the questions fired around my head.

What kind of accommodation had I got? How many bedrooms? and then 'We believe you have a woman living with you'. Too right I thought. 'And what is your relationship with this woman; 'Flatmate' I replied. 'Yes, but what kind of relationship do you have with her?' 'What is the source of your income'. When I told them I was a street mason with the City Council they gave me a gone-out look.

"So who cares for the children, your FLATmate", emphasising 'flatmate' sarcastically. I told them the workplace nursery cared for them. That went down well.

On they went. Then came the big one. 'There are two bedrooms, where do the boys sleep? Is your FLATmate sleeping in this room? No. Why not?

"Because she is sleeping in my room", I said. And what accommodation have you in your room. I told them I had a single bed. (They could have gone to Michael at any time and he would have said Mummy and Pinky sleep in the same bed. But they didnt. Pinky cuts in; "I would say to Michael 'take this nappy to Mummy's room or to 'my room' and he knows its the same room. How long do you intend to pursue this relationship with your flatmate? I said I didn't know. How long was she, Pinky going to be living with me. I didn't know that either. I realised that I still had the tell-tale wedding ring on my finger, would the court pursue this?

The Registrar's assistant looked at me as if I had come from Mars, she had obviously been looking at ~~my~~ petition.

They both admit they wouldn't like

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to relive that experience again. The food has settled and there's no stopping now. I wanted to know how they had met.

"I left Leicester to join the Wrens as an air engineer, had my first relationship with a woman which lasted six months. Then had a breakdown and left the Forces. It was back to Leicester but at the back of my mind I felt I had to be Ms. Average and find a man which is how I became involved with Mark.

When that ended I had very young children but still thought I must be bisexual, which didn't feel right to me. I'd had other platonic relationships with men, more like brotherly love I suppose. So then I went headfirst into another disastrous relationship which was sexually tense. I was still desperate to prove I was normal. It lasted six weeks followed by months of hassle. I realised I had used him from the start to find out whether I was a lesbian.

He regularly beat me up, for he couldn't handle my becoming lesbian

identified by now, for months he begged me to come back to him, couldn't believe he wasn't Mr. Right.

Then I got involved with the Clause 28 Campaign.

Pinky takes up the story. "I had missed my bus back to my bedsit outside the city and went for a drink at the 'Dover Castle' where I bumped into Ann again. (As part of my youthwork course I was working at the Women's Centre on a project and got to know her through the Campaign. I remember thinking at the time 'she's nice but I expect she's with someone'). It's never been my policy to poach. I had had relationships in London where I grew up, but I generally felt used and exploited by people which left me feeling lonely, and often sexually frustrated. Who was I supposed to be? How could people be friendly one day and cut you dead the next? That hurt a lot and I felt used.

"Long time no see" I said. Ann wanted to go somewhere to confide in me. She was quite stressed having spent an anxious night at the hospital

with Tom. One drink led to another and, by this time, I was definitely not into hoofing it home so Ann said I could stay the night at her house.

She showed me where the bedroom was so naturally I chose the single. When Anne came up she jumped into the double bed. 'I said to myself, she's sleeping in a double bed; she seems OK now'. All my community work training had taught me not to crowd people and give them space. After a few minutes I said "Ann, can I come sleep in your bed" I didn't know she wasn't wearing anything underneath her robe.

Ann takes up the story: "Pinky was convinced it was a one night stand. She had to return to college the following week and then to London to finish off her contract, but she was doing the Disco that night at the Women's Centre. Pinky wasn't sure whether I'd turn up".

"I didn't expect to see you again" laughed Pinky.

Had they encountered any problems of being a mixed-race relationship? They had many observations to make

Continued P. 11

MONTH IN THE COUNTRY



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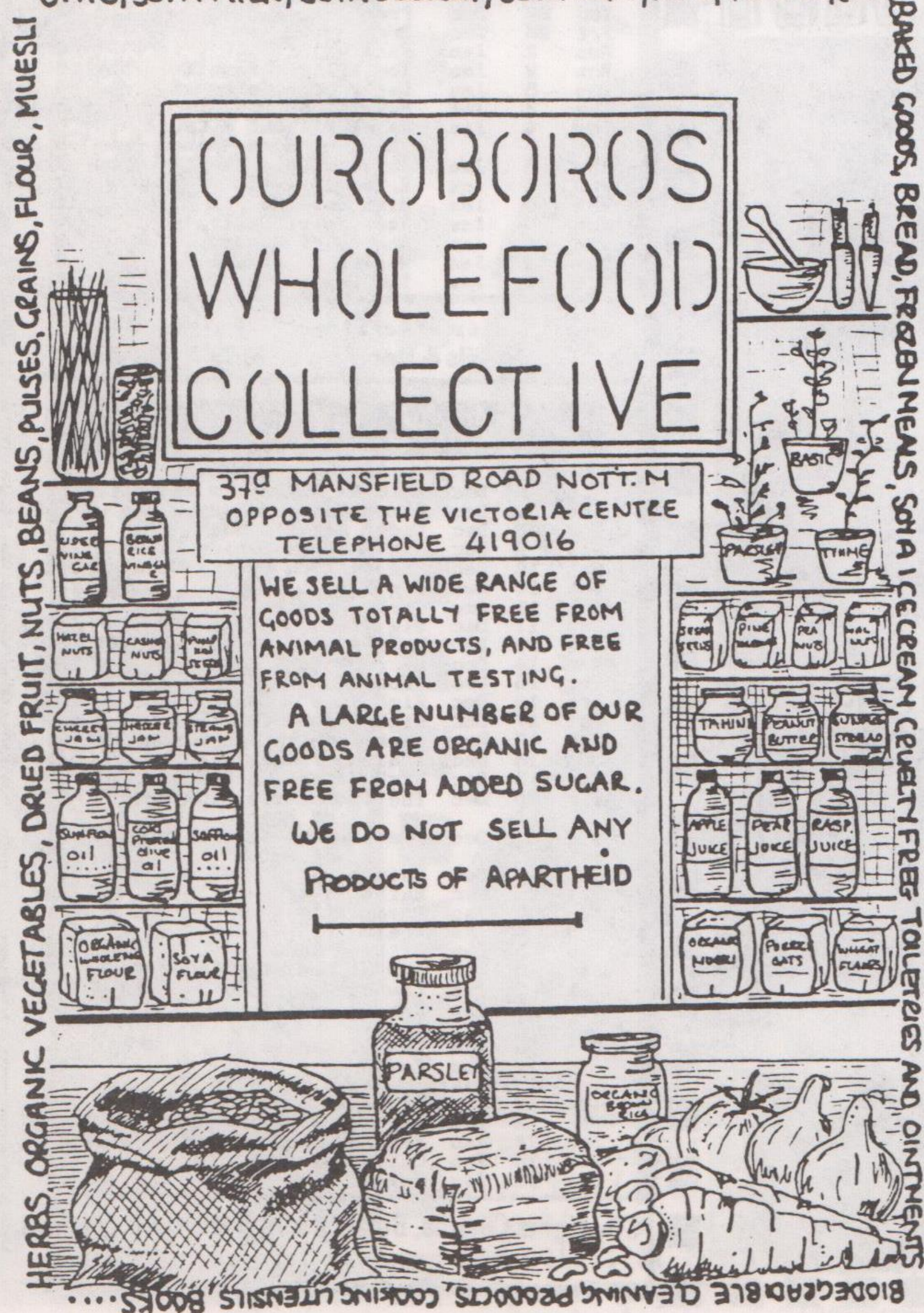
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'THE LAW OF DESIRE' / Spain 1987/101 mins/18.

Gay film maker Pablo lives the highlife in Madrid with his beautiful transsexual sister who used to be his brother. Complications arise when Antonia, a government minister's son, falls madly in love and determined to possess him, triggers a web of sexual intrigue, passion and pain. Pedro Almodovar is fast becoming one of the hottest and most controversial directors in a Spain emerging from the repressive censorship of the Franco regime. His flamboyant, graphic depictions of homosexual desire, anarchistic nuns and frustrated housewives mark a coming of age in a Spanish cinema long-denied this freedom.



Spain emerging from the repressive censorship of the Franco regime. His flamboyant, graphic depictions of homosexual desire, anarchistic nuns and frustrated housewives mark a coming of age in a Spanish cinema long-denied this freedom.

'BAGDAD CAFE' / Adlon/West Germany/'88/91mins/PG

A large Bavarian tourist, the splendid Marianne Sagenbrecht, abandons her husband in the Mojave Desert. Struggling with luggage, high heels and green felt hat, she discovers the dilapidated diner of the title. CCH Pounder is its spiky Black owner. An absurd culture clash develops into friendship as suspicion gives way to solidarity between the two women. Jack



Palance, a refugee from Hollywood, resplendent in snakeskin boots and bandana, provides the romance. It's shrewdly observant and great to look at. A quirky and magical film from the maker of SUGARBABY.

'SARRAOUNIA' / Burkino Faso 1986/121 mins/15

Hondo's joyful and expansive film gives African culture the pride of place it has been denied in countless white-liberal movies. The heroine is a renowned warrior/sorceress who leads her forces against the French colonial army at the turn of the century. Based on historical fact, the film eschews period detail in favour of spirit and celebration.



'HAIRSPRAY' / USA 1987/88 mins/PG.

Following such notoriously unhygienic films as *Pink Flamingoes* and *Female Trouble*, John Waters has cleaned up his act and hit the mainstream with *Hairspray*. Baltimore 1962; rebellious teenagers triumphing over social injustice draws on a host of teen-pics and marks the final performance of the late, lamented drag-queen superstar, Divine.



METRO CINEMA

Fri 9	Dec	Jean de Florette	8.00
Fri 9	Dec	Prince of Darkness (L)	11.00
Sat 10	Dec	Jean de Florette	6.00/9.00
Sat 10	Dec	Vizard of Oz	MATINEE 2.00
Sun 11	Dec	Vish You Were Here	6.00
Sun 11	Dec	Jean de Florette	8.30
Tue 13	Dec	Babette's Feast	6.30
Tue 13	Dec	A Flame In My Hair	9.00
Wed 14	Dec	Babette's Feast	6.30
Wed 14	Dec	A Flame In My Hair	9.00
Thu 15	Dec	Babette's Feast	6.30
Thu 15	Dec	A Flame In My Hair	9.00
Fri 16	Dec	Manon de Sources	8.00
Fri 16	Dec	Vitches of Eastwick (L)	11.00
Sat 17	Dec	Manon de Sources	6.00/9.00
Sat 17	Dec	Treasure Island	1.30/6.00
Sun 18	Dec	Manon de Sources	9.00
Sun 18	Dec	It's a Wonderful Life	6.00
Tue 20	Dec	The Dead	6.30
Tue 20	Dec	Beetlejuice	9.00
Wed 21	Dec	Beetlejuice	9.00
Wed 21	Dec	Beetlejuice	9.00
Wed 27	Dec	The Aristocats	2.00/4.00
Wed 27	Dec	The Last Emperor	7.00
Thu 28	Dec	The Aristocats	2.00/4.00
Thu 28	Dec	The Last Emperor	7.00
Fri 28	Dec	The Aristocats	2.00/4.00
Fri 28	Dec	The Last Emperor	7.00
Tue 3	Jan	The Aristocats	2.00/6.00
Tue 3	Jan	A Month in The Country	8.00
Wed 4	Jan	The Aristocats	2.00/6.00
Wed 4	Jan	A Month in The Country	8.00
Thu 5	Jan	The Aristocats	2.00/6.00
Thu 5	Jan	A Month in The Country	8.00
Fri 6	Jan	The Dawning (PG)	8.00
Fri 6	Jan	Coming to America (L)	11.00
Sat 7	Jan	The Dawning (PG)	6.30/9.00
Sat 7	Jan	The Princess Bride (M)	2.00
Sun 8	Jan	The Dawning (PG)	9.00
Sun 8	Jan	Raging Bull (18)	6.00
Tue 10	Jan	The Dawning (PG)	6.30
Tue 10	Jan	Family Viewing	9.00
Wed 11	Jan	The Dawning (PG)	6.30
Wed 11	Jan	Family Viewing	9.00
Thu 12	Jan	The Dawning (PG)	6.30
Thu 12	Jan	Family Viewing	9.00

GREEN LANE, DERBY.
RESERVATIONS 40170

PHOENIX ARTS

Wed 7	Dec	Films of George Kuchar 1	6.15
Wed 7	Dec	Someone to Watch Over Me	8.15
Fri 9	Dec	Faster Pussycat, Kill, Kill	11.15
Sat 10	Dec	Dirty Dancing (M)	2.30
Mon 12	Dec	Life & Times of Harvey Milk	3.00
Mon 12	Dec	The Runner	6.15
Mon 12	Dec	Dark Eyes	8.15
Tue 13	Dec	Dark Eyes	6.15
Tue 13	Dec	Films of George Kuchar 2	8.30
Wed 14	Dec	Made In Leicester Part II	7.30
Thu 15	Dec	Made In Leicester Part II	7.30
Fri 16	Dec	Made In Leicester Part II	7.30
Fri 16	Dec	Salome's Last Dance (L)	11.15
Sat 17	Dec	Made In Leicester Part II	7.30
Mon 19	Dec	Princess Bride	6.15
Mon 19	Dec	Tampopo	8.15
Tue 20	Dec	Moonstruck	6.15
Tue 20	Dec	Yellen	8.15
Wed 21	Dec	Yellen	6.15
Wed 21	Dec	Moonstruck	8.15
Thu 22	Dec	The Glass Menagerie	7.30
Tue 27	Dec	Beetlejuice	6.15
Tue 27	Dec	Bagdad Cafe	8.15
Wed 28	Dec	Bagdad Cafe	6.15
Wed 28	Dec	Beetlejuice	8.15
Thu 29	Dec	Prem	7.30
Fri 30	Dec	Prem	7.30
Mon 2	Jan	Handful of Dust	6.15
Mon 2	Jan	The Milagro Beanfield War	8.30
Tue 3	Jan	Death of A Salesman	6.15
Tue 3	Jan	Handful of Dust	8.45
Wed 4	Jan	Rebel Without A Cause + East of Eden (James Dean)	6.15
Thu 5	Jan	Attacco Decente	7.30
Fri 6	Jan	E. Rogle	7.30
Fri 6	Jan	Nightmare On Elm Street	11.15
Mon 9	Jan	The Law of Desire	6.15
Mon 9	Jan	Whales of August	8.15
Tue 10	Jan	Whales of August	6.15
Tue 10	Jan	The Law of Desire	8.15

Newarke Street - Leicester
Details & Booking on (0533) 554854

CITY LIGHTS C.I.N.E.M.A

Tue 6	Dec	Hold Me While I'm Naked (1)	7.30
Wed 7	Dec	Under Satan's Sun	7.30
Thu 8	Dec	Under Satan's Sun	7.30
Fri 9	Dec	She Must Be Seeing Things	7.30
Sat 10	Dec	She Must Be Seeing Things	5.00
Sat 10	Dec	Big Time	8.00
Sun 11	Dec	Gorky Park	5.00
Sun 11	Dec	Big Time	8.00
Tue 13	Dec	Hold Me While I'm Naked (2)	7.30
Wed 14	Dec	Sarraounia	7.30
Thu 15	Dec	Ironweed	7.30
Fri 16	Dec	High Tide + Cane Toads	7.30
Sat 17	Dec	High Tide + Cane Toads	4.30
Sat 17	Dec	High Tide + Cane Toads	7.30
Sun 18	Dec	Trains, Planes & Autos.	5.00
Sun 18	Dec	High Tide + Cane Toads	7.30
Tue 20	Dec	The Unbearable Lightness of Being	7.30
Wed 21	Dec	The Unbearable Lightness of Being	7.30
Thu 22	Dec	Hairspray	7.30
Fri 23	Dec	Hairspray	7.30
Tue 3	Jan	Dreamchild	7.30
Wed 4	Jan	Dreamchild	7.30
Thu 5	Jan	Citizen Kane	7.30
Fri 6	Jan	Law of Desire	7.30
Sat 7	Jan	Law of Desire	5.00
Sat 7	Jan	Law of Desire	5.00
Sun 8	Jan	Eureka	5.00
Sun 8	Jan	Law of Desire	8.00
Tue 10	Jan	Ceddo	7.30
Wed 11	Jan	Track 29	7.30
Wed 11	Jan	Track 29	7.30
Fri 13	Jan	Bagdad Cafe	7.30
Sat 14	Jan	Bagdad Cafe	5.00
Sun 15	Jan	Out of Africa	4.30
Sun 15	Jan	Bagdad Cafe	8.00

City Lights Cinema, Broad Street, Hoekley, Nottingham.
Tel (0602) 583184

CELL BLOCK IN NOTTM. CELL BLOCK IN NOTTM.



Last month METRO GAY visited Tracey Elliott and Roz Vecsey of the Prisoner Cell Block 'H' fan club who were entertaining Cell Block fans at the Forest Tavern, Nottingham. We caught the tail end of the meeting...

"...The women in Prisoner are camp." (It's fast-talking Tracey dishing the dirt); then there's the lesbian character, Judy comes across as such a nice person, you couldn't possibly dislike her. Judy's girlfriend gets herself convicted to be sent to prison so she can be with her. Lesbianism is there and I think it's treated naturally like any other aspect of prison life. "Now and again the humour is quite sophisticated...my favourite was when all the women were performing 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' and there was a disagreement between Vera (Vinigar Tits) and Bea. Bea said: "we've got the perfect part for you here - Vinigar Titania". There's a fine borderline between bad and hammy acting and taking the piss out of themselves.

Karen gets pregnant, husband tells her to get rid of it. She has an abortion, comes home and finds husband in bed with another woman so she stabs him. But the other woman wasn't a raving beauty - just an ordinary woman, someone quite accessible.

A man beats his wife up, it gets too much for her, so she kills him, is she wrong, no she isn't. The first twenty episodes were absolutely dramatic with at least five murders. But it also highlights a lot of everyday problems women face as well and is quite easy to identify with. Now if it was made by an American company it would have been filmed with dollybirds.

The actors spent time in Australian prisons, if there's an absolute bastard in the prison then there's one in the series. In the Central region 'Prisoner' is now peaking and we're coming to the end of an era. Already several of the popular characters have left and more will follow. I think it will affect the ratings.

I had to confess my favourite character was arch-winner, Lizzie Birdsworth and found out that the actress who plays her, Sheila Florence, will never again work for the Grundy Organisation who make the programme; she was disgusted by their negative attitude towards the fan club. "She's the one person from the cast who's been in touch with us and very helpful. She phoned us up and wrote several letters.

It's Roz's turn. "Prisoner's a bit like processing shit - conveyor belt television - something that goes in one end and comes out the other. The actors are mostly paid the same, even the stars like Sheila Florence and Elspeth Ballantyne. They don't get extra money for repeats or foreign runs.

'Prisoner' still runs on cable TV in Australia but as there are 24 channels in cities like Melbourne and Sydney it's easy to see why actors are not treated like stars as they are here. 'Prisoner' was big in the States some years back, with people wearing Prisoner T-shirts, an attempt was made to set up a publicity tour but it came to nothing.

Calling all chess players in Nottingham and East Midlands. If you would enjoy a game with other lesbians and gays, you should move immediately. Championship standard NOT necessary! Replies to Box No. 1, METRO GAY, Box 34, West PDD, Nottingham, NG7 2DL.

Australians seem to have a different attitude to sex on the screen. For example 'Sons & Daughters' has not one raving beauty in it. There isn't one sex symbol in 'Prisoner'; they're all normal women.

There was this yuppie-orientated soap called '69' and it showed lesbian sex at peak time - over here they wouldn't dream of showing something like this until after the 9pm watershed. Though sometimes if you're very, very lucky you get a glimpse of the showers! Vera was the JR of the series, the one you love to hate but her replacement is even more hateful. Roz and I can see it going on to 2001. We can't see it being scrapped on Central and anyway it's Anna Soubry's favourite programme!

Someone has written to Terry Wogan to ask him to do a satellite linkup with the 'Prisoner' cast. We'd like to go to Australia and make a video of 'Prisoner' - we might even approach Central TV. Then with the money we could sponsor Gay Pride next year! "What about it Roz", but Roz was already leaping out the door to catch the post, weighed down by fanmail. Who knows they might break out yet!



TOWN HALL GAY GROUP STARTS

A new group for lesbians/gay town hall workers meets on the 13th December in Nottingham. Chris Roberts one of the organizers said: "Lesbian/gay rights needs a higher profile in our unions, especially in view of Clause 28. We hope to reduce our personal isolation as well as strengthen our representation and influence in our workplaces".

Contacts have already been made in NUPE, NALGO, and ACTSS and there is already a national lesbian/gay group in NALGO with a regional group in Leicester.

The first meeting of the Lesbians/Gays in Public Services takes place at 8pm on the 13th December, Admiral Duncan, Lower Parliament Street, Nottingham. Further information from Chris or Richard on 818118 x 235 (work) or 780124 (home).





LIZ BAILEY

Hello again! Well, it will soon be Xmas and the record companies will be flooding the market with a load of records that are of no

musical value whatever. A few survivors will be by established artists. Cliff Richard's is called 'Mistletoe and Wine'. This could be the No. 1 for Xmas but there's a lot of competition from The Pet Shop Boys; and Neighbours stars Kylie and Jason who are bringing out a duet soon. Come to the disco on Xmas Eve at the Dover and I will play the Xmas No. 1; come up and say hello!

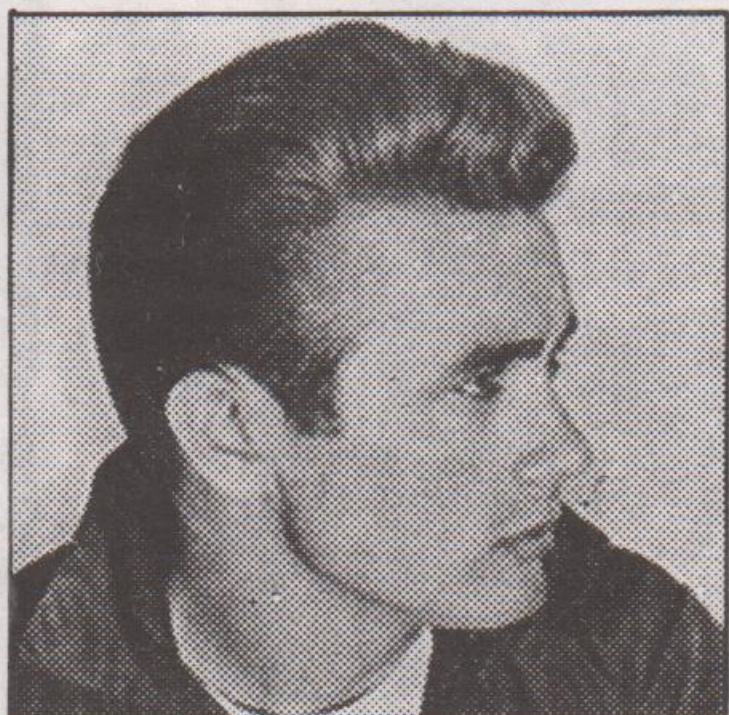
My friends at Phonogram records have just sent me a new 12", 'Nathan Jones' from those hit ladies, Bananarama. This is an old record brought up to date and should be in the top ten by the time you read this. I find their voices very nasal, but they have good song writers to ensure their success.

Have you noticed all the good old records that are appearing in the charts, due I am sure, to their inclusion in recent films like 'Top Gun', 'La Bamba', 'Dirty Dancing' and 'Good Morning Vietnam' which is abouta D.J. My friend Steve tells me that this is a very good film and features old hits like 'Wonderful World'. This has just been re-released and could very well get very high in the charts.

For those of you who like Tracey Chapman her new record is 'Can I Hold You', from her current album.

Well I wonder if you get fed up with all this High Energy music played in the clubs these days or maybe the clubs you use have a DJ with imagination who plays to the cross-section of the audience, who let's face it, in Gay Clubs range in age from 18-80. If you're very lucky he or she may say goodnight to you. Keep your ears in tune until next time!

PHOENIX ARTS JAMES DEAN



'EAST OF EDEN', Dir. Elia Kazan/USA 1955/117 mins/U Kazan chanced casting James Dean in this adaptation of Steinbeck's novel. Dean's intense and poignant performance set up an electric current between actor and audience which launched his movie career. A powerful, sombre melodrama with evocative music and cinematography about the jealousy between brothers, Caleb and Aaron. **DOUBLE BILL** 'REBEL WITHOUT A CAUSE' Dir. Nicholas Ray/USA 1955/106 mins/U One of the most controversial movies of its decade. A sharp, angry comment on family life which shook comfortable middle class America. Dean is simultaneously vulnerable and defiant as the tormented adolescent in this analysis of family tension. One of the first depictions of the emotional gulf and conflict of aspiration between post-war American youth and their parents.

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VMD Campaign

(continued from Page 1)

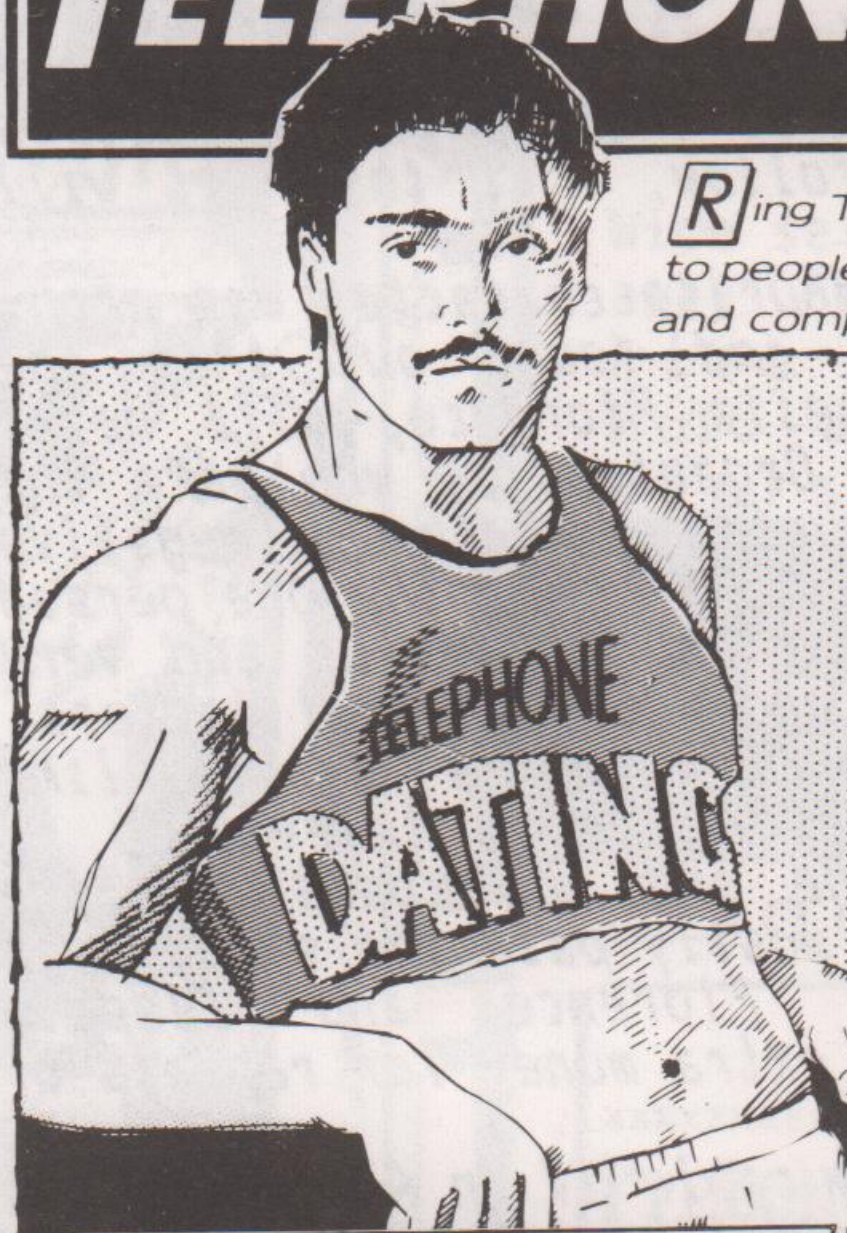
established as a result of racist immigration laws. The new Immigration Law, introduced in 1988, destroys the right of appeal for black people facing deportation and thus more people will be forced to take sanctuary. For many people this will be the only way of winning their right to stay in this country. It is because Viraj's struggle has popularised sanctuary that the Home Office is so determined to defeat VMDC, so that they can strike a mortal blow to the sanctuary movement. Through determined campaigning many black people have resisted deportation and united their families. Not only must anti-deportation campaigns join forces but all those fighting injustice, exploitation and discrimination must join together against reactionary laws.

Lesbians/Gays have been in the forefront of the campaign from the start. This Christmas why not find out what you can do. Contact VMDC, c/o North Hulme Centre, Jackson Crescent, Hulme, Manchester M15 5AL or tel: (061) 234 3168.

TELEPHONE DATING

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ASLAM'S OUT

Nottingham's anti-gay county councillor, Mod. Aslam was not reselected to stand for the Labour Party in his inner city ward of Lenton. He came under fire from



lesbian/gay members and our supporters, for his virulent anti-gay stance over the last four years. (Cllr. Aslam was also unsuccessful as Nottingham East's imposed Candidate in the last General Election).

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WE ARE FAMILY

some, angry some sad, some hilarious but never dull.

There was this occasion when we both stayed overnight with Tom at hospital but the nurses were only expecting Ann to stay and were a bit thrown. They put Ann up in the unit and gave me a bed in the parents lounge. But after much consultation they put a camp bed alongside Ann's. It was a foot higher so we couldn't do much if we'd wanted!

"In town we have this game where I push the kids in the walker ahead of Ann and she follows and catches the reactions. Its like this, Black woman, pushing white child. Generally they look down at white baby and up at black woman, then eyes straight ahead as if to say 'what the fuck's going on?'

Whenever we go to hospital it's always the same a barrage of questions to me and then again to Pinky, we humour them but it makes you very angry at times. I usually keep my cool in crises, says Ann and let go afterwards".

"This white nurse seemed to resent me contributing to Ann's medical history when I was prompting her to remember something. She probably thought I was a driver or a neighbour, not a partner. Basically we are accepted where we live, we could have had a load of shit", says Pinky.

I've had one homophobic verbal attack at work but the City Council's Womens Unit dealt with it effectively and it stopped. I've been accepted at work and the team got used to seeing Pinky drop me off every day and we've been totally open with the Officer-in-Charge of the Day Nursery, so the staff know that either one of us will bring or collect the two boys.

"I am very close to the kids and consistently in their lives. Our relationship is just as strong as a heterosexual relationship. We are family.

In the longterm there will be questions. We will always try and be honest with the children. They will be more aware and comfortable about blackness than most other white children. Schoolage problems will occur. Like when their friends come round to play, they go home and their parents find out the status of our relationship and that one partner is black.

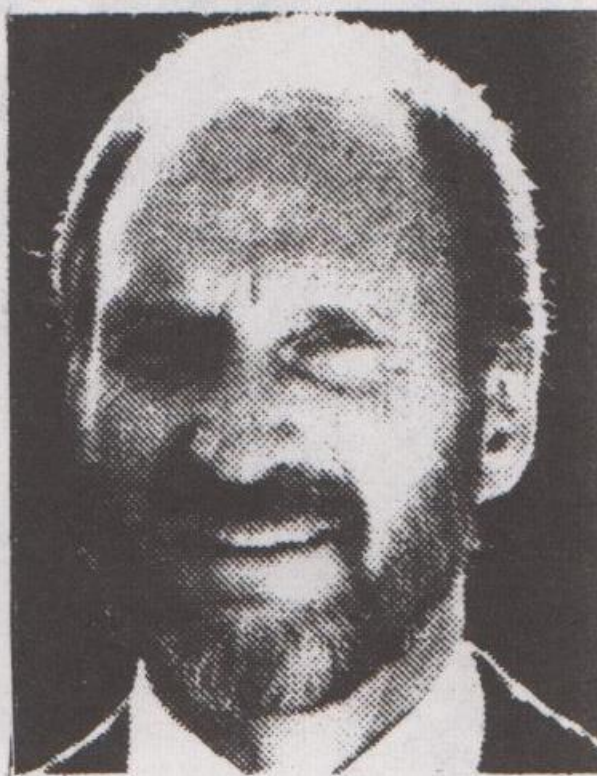
At present I am looking for Youth and Community Work locally. When we get up each day we handle things as they come, a day at a time".

Consultations between Nottingham City Council and the Lesbian and Gay communities resumed in November after a break of eighteen months. Hassan Ahmed, Chair of the proposed Equal Opportunities Committee which will be set up after next May's annual meeting, welcomed representatives of the local Lesbian and gay organisations to a meeting in the Council House.

Ten councillors and a similar number of Lesbian and Gay representatives were present. Cllr. Ahmed explained that the Equal Opportunities policy, scrapped after the change of political control last year, would be re-established, but in a more streamlined form. None of the previous sub-committee structure would be brought back; instead the City Council will have formal meetings with groups' representatives at least three times a year, and in between times, gay and lesbian issues would be expected to be pursued within the council departments as an integral part of the policy. The groups raised a number of questions and the next round of consultations takes place in Spring 1989.

GAY OLYMPIAN DIES

Dr. Tom Waddell, the founder of the Gay Games, died of Aids early recently at the age of 49. He is survived by his widow Sarah and their three-year-old daughter, Jessica. Diagnosed with Aids in June 1986, his struggle against the disease garnered worldwide attention,



including a moving profile on networked TV across the States and interviews with Japanese TV and German radio.

Waddell's own life exemplified gay achievement. He was an Olympic decathlon competitor only six months after he started training; a Vietnam protester while still serving in the Army; a medical director in the Middle East; and most recently the father of a three-year-old girl, whom he once described as "my greatest pleasure".

Having competed in the Mexico 1968 Olympics, Waddell began to conceive of an event for gay people that would be "highly visible and reflect the activities of the community as they really existed". The first Gay Games were held in San Francisco in September 1982 with 1,200 people from 12 countries participating. Gay Games II was held in San Francisco last year.

Speaking recently Tom Waddell said: "I want to be thought of as someone who was caring, devoted to progress and believed that we're here to make the world better for others".

The Los Angeles based ADVOCATE magazine had picked Dr. Waddell as one of the ten lesbian and gay men who "make us proud" - people who are making important contributions to all of our lives, in their issue of June, which appeared shortly before his death.

(The ADVOCATE MAGAZINE is obtainable at Briddocks Newsagents, Upper Parliament St, Nottingham, price £2.50)

mushroom

B.O.O.K.S.H.O.P

MERRY CHRISTMAS

- to -

ALL LESBIANS & GAY MEN

- from -

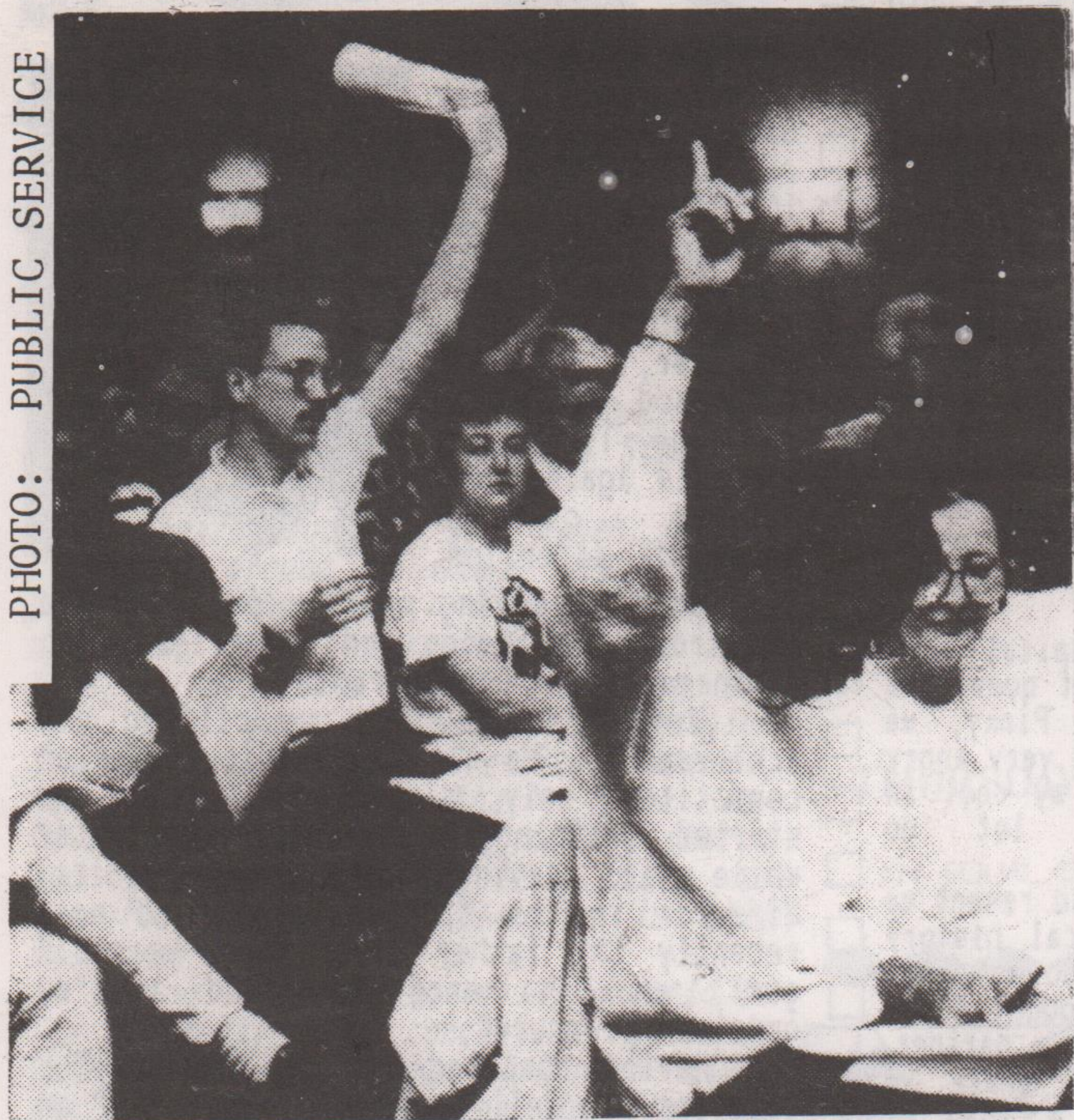
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Delegates were urged to buy house and contents insurance from the Nalگو Insurance Association so that they could vote at its next AGM to overturn the anti-gay clause in its life policies.

Delegates heard how senior officers of Ealing council had censored a cartoon due to have been published in a women's unit newsletter on the grounds that it could contravene section 28 of the Local Government Act by encouraging open homosexual relations in public. Ealing's NALGO branch has condemned the decision as 'discriminatory and unnecessary'.

'It's blatant self-censorship,' says Lawrence Buckley, the local group convenor. 'It is clear to the branch that the purpose of publishing it would have been to illustrate the discrimination faced by lesbians. That is not intentionally promoting homosexuality. The legislation has quite simply been interpreted incorrectly', he added.

Workshops and discussions included tackling racism, education, and challenging stereotypes. There were separate workshops for black members and those not working in local government.

[illegible]

(continued from Page 1) else. Numbers of heterosexuals with AIDS, though small, is rising. Recently, much of Karen's work has been with injecting drug users and prostitute women and already a needle and syringe exchange has been set up at Drug Dependents Anonymous, 29 Denman Gardens, Radford, Nottingham, tel: 702912.

At the moment Karen is collecting information on both council and voluntary services, relating to HIV infection and AIDS. Do you know where to get advice/information on HIV/AIDS? Are the local leaflets/posters adequate? -If you have been diagnosed as HIV positive are the care and support services adequate? If not how do you think they can be improved?

Said Karen "I am anxious to hear from anyone who has ideas, criticisms or questions needing answering and confidentiality is assured". She can be reached at Forest House, Berkeley Avenue, Nottingham, NG3 5AF. Tel: (0602) 691691 x 316.

Free listings service for groups, individuals, meetings, benefit discos. For sale/wanted ads, Personal ads, etc. 5p. per word. METRO GAY reserves the right to refuse, amend or shorten any listings submitted. Lengthy listings will only be published in full, space permitting. All ads, addressed to METRO GAY PO Box 34, West POO, Nottingham.

LEICESTER LESBIAN/GAY COFFEE BAR, 45 King St, Leicester,
Saturdays, 10.30-5.00pm, Fridays, 12-2pm (lunchbreak),
Sundays, 2-5 (women only)

TUESDAYS, TERMTIME, LOUGHBOROUGH LESBIAN/GAY GROUP, meets in Advice/Welfare Office of SU Building,

TUESDAYS, Leicester Claws Out Meetings, Cttee. Room 1,
Leicester Town Hall, 7.30 onwards.

DAILY, NOTTINGHAM LESBIAN COMMUNITY CENTRE, Upstairs at the Womens Centre, 30 Chaucer St, Nottm, Tel: (0602) 483697 (phone for opening times)

NOTTINGHAM YOUTH GROUP meets regularly Tel; Gay Switchboard
8th December LEICESTER, WOMENS BAR UPSTAIRS, The Magazine.

9/10th Dec, CITYLITES, NOTTM, "The Unbearable Lightness of Being". Daniel Day Lewis.

12th December, TIMES OF HARVEY MILK, 3pm, Leicester Phoenix
only 80p, admission.

13th December, GAY, ALCOHOL, PROBLEMS? Weekly Support Group meets every Tuesday at International Community Centre, 61b Mansfield Rd. Nottingham. (Room 7a).

13th December, PUBLIC SERVICES LES/GAY GROUP, (NUPE NALGO ACTSS, CYSA etc), 1st meeting, 8pm, ADMIRAL DUNCAN, Lower Parliament St. Nottingham Further Info Richard Nott 780124

Parliament St, Nottingham. Further info, Richard Nott/780124
15th Dec. FEVER disco at EDEN, 19 Greyhound St, Off King St,
Nottingham. House Soul Disco. Rap. For Les/Gays & Friends

16th December, LEICESTER PHOENIX, "SALOME'S LAST DANCE,"
18th December, SPOTS CABARET, with TROUPE DE DORIS, Old Vic.

20th December, GAY? ALCOHOL PROBLEMS? GP, Meets tonight,
20/21st Dec, CITYLITES, NOTTM, "UNBEARABLE LIGHTNESS OF BEING"

22nd December LEICESTER PHOENIX, "THE GLASS MENAGERIE"
22nd December, LEICESTER, WOMEN'S BAR UPSTAIRS, The Magazine,

22/23 Dec, CITYLITES, NOTTM, "HAIRSPRAY" with Divine,
Newarke St, 8pm onwards, 50p, entrance, access 1st floor

24th December NORMA LEWIS at 'Excalibur' Club, Stoke-on-Trent
31st December SANDRA EDWARDS, 'Excalibur' Club, Stoke-on-Trent

3rd-5th January, DERBY METRO, "A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY".
4th January, LEICESTER PHOENIX, JAMES DEAN DOUBLE BILL

6/8th January, CITYLITES, NOTTM, "LAW OF DESIRE"

9th January, LEICESTER PHOENIX, "THE LAW OF DESIRE"
13/15 Jan, CITYLITES, NOTTM, "BAGDAD CAFE",

21st January, "TALES FROM DYKE WHITTINGTON" Guildhall,
Leicester, 7.30pm, £2.50/£1.50

NOTTINGHAM GAY SWITCHBOARD, your helpline to the gay/lesbian communities, Mon-Fri, 7-10pm (0502) 411454

LESBIAN LINE, Confidential help/advice for lesbians, Mon & Weds, 7.30-0pm (0602) 410652

NOTTINGHAM FRIEND, Tues, 7-10pm, counselling & befriending,
tel 474717 or write c/o 31a Mansfield Rd, Nottingham.

AIDS HELPLINE. Worried about AIDS? Call us Mon-Wed 7-10pm, Nottingham 585526. Accurate information reduces anxiety.

NOTTINGHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL VD CLINIC, 475989, daily, Mon-Fri 9.30-11.30am. Tues & Weds 2-3.30pm, Eves, Mon & T

LEICESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY Infirmary Close (Nr. BR Station)

LEICESTER LESBIAN/GAY LINE Mon-Fri 7.30-10.30pm (0533)550665

LOUGHBOROUGH LESBIAN/GAY GROUP, Confidential help/advice, 7-9
Loughborough 610581 (7-9pm. Tuesdays. term-time only).

DERBY FRIEND, 7-10pm, Weds, Derby 49333, Answering service at other times or write c/o Derby CVS, Kings Chambers, Queens

DERBY AIDS LINE for help & confidential advice. Derby 290766

DERBY AIDS LINE for help & confidential advice, Derby 250788
(ansaphone gives opening times),
DERBY LESBIAN LINE Wednesdays 7-9pm Derby 41411 or write c/o

DERBY LESBIAN LINE, Wednesdays 7-9pm, Derby 41411 or White L
PD Box 140, Derby.
DERBY ROYAL INFIRMARY William Donald VD Clinic London Road

DERBY ROYAL INFIRMARY, William Donald VD Clinic, London Road,
London Road, Derby 47141 x 504,
JEWISH LESBIAN & GAY HELPLINE 01 706 3123 Mon & Thur 7-10pm

JEWISH LESBIAN & GAY HELPLINE 01 706 3123, Mon & Thur, 7-10pm