

DIARY February 1984

FRIDAY 3RD Sheffield: Checkers Disco, Top Rank Suite, 9 pm. £1.90
SATURDAY 4TH Lincoln: Gay Group disco, Golden Eagle, High St, 8-12 pm.

SATURDAY 4TH Nottingham: National Local Government Conference - gay fringe meeting (phone 780124 for details)

SATURDAY 4TH Sheffield: Hallamshire MSC, Mail Coach Hotel, West St.

SUNDAY 5TH Sheffield: Weekenders walk (phone 680039 Thurs 7.30-9.30 pm for details).

TUESDAY 7TH Lincoln: Gay group committee/social evening, Golden Eagle, High St.

SATURDAY 11TH Lincoln: Women only disco, Golden Eagle, High St, 8 pm.

SUNDAY 12TH Sheffield: Gay Community Assoc, Rutland Arms Hotel, Brown St, 2.15.

MONDAY 13TH Coventry: Gay disco at Tamango (details from GCO, see listings).

WEDNESDAY 15TH Nottingham: Labour Campaign for Gay Rights (Phone 780124)

FRIDAY 17TH Derby: Gay disco at The Old Avesbury, Osmaston Rd, 8 pm. 50p.

TUESDAY 21ST Lincoln: 'Privates on Parade', Golden Eagle, High St, 8 pm.

SATURDAY 25TH Boston: CHE/Gay group disco, Blackfriars Arts Centre, 8 pm.

SATURDAY 25TH Coventry: GCO coach trip (venue to be announced).
SATURDAY 25TH Sheffield: Hallamshire MSC, Mail Coach Hotel, West St.

FRIDAY 2ND MARCH Sheffield: Checkers Disco, Top Rank Suite, 9 pm. £1.90

REGULAR EVENTS

DERBY GAY GROUP meet every Fri, Green Lane Gallery, 8.30 pm.

NOTTINGHAM GAY SOCIAL GROUP (NOGSOC) meet every Mon at Foresters pub, Huntingdon St. and every Thurs at CVS, 31a Mansfield Rd.

NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY GAY SOC (SNUGGLE) meet alternate Wednes in the darts room, Narrow Boat pub, Canal St. (phone 580421 for details)

NOTTINGHAM WOMEN'S DISCO every Tues and alternate Sat at Hearty Good Fellow, Maid Marian Way, 8-11 pm. 40p.

SHEFFIELD STARS DISCO alternate Fri at Queens Rd, 10 pm. £1.20 (phone 754785 or 588904 for details).

SHEFFIELD WOMEN'S DISCO every Thurs at The Mail Coach Hotel, West St, 8.15-11.15 pm. 70p.

GAY CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT meets 10th of each month (info, advice, etc, phone Phil, Coventry 552300, evenings 6-7 only).

GAY SELF DEFENCE

continued from page 11

the stomach, the groin, the feet. If someone grabs you, remember his hands are full whilst yours are free. If he is wearing shoes you can stamp hard on his foot with your heel or the outside edge of your foot. That will probably break a few small bones and stop him following you. Try to knee or slap him in the groin with the flat of your hand, even grab and twist. Jab him in the eyes, or flick with the back of your fingers. None of this should do permanent damage, but it will stop him, giving you time to get away.

Don't punch anyone with your fist, unless you know what you are doing. You are more likely to damage your fingers. A better weapon is the hammer blow; make a fist, then strike with the padded area at the end, between the little finger and the wrist, as if you were thumping a table top. You can use this down, onto the nose or the side of the neck; or up against the chin or the nose. You can also swing it across the body, back of the hand uppermost, against the ear, the neck or the jaw. Aim 'through' your target, to give more force to the blow.

Some of you may be glad of this advice and feel it would help you if it came to a fight. Others may just feel helpless and sick at the thought of violence - even your own violent reaction. Whichever you feel, I strongly advise you to go to a self-defence group. We deal with feelings as much as with techniques, and always try to give you a choice. We are not trying to make you aggressive.

Sean Mayes

★ The author is a member of the London Gay Self-Defence Group, who can be contacted through London Gay Switchboard. We are unaware of any local self-defence groups but would be glad to hear from existing groups or individuals interested in establishing new groups.

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Tel: Brighton (0273) 600006

ISSUE NO. 8

FEBRUARY 1984

20p



GAY EAST MIDLANDS

international year
1984
of lesbian and gay action

INSIDE!

GAY SELF DEFENCE

GLAD TO BE GAY?

SOME THOUGHTS ON S&M

Plus NEWS, LISTINGS,

and MORE!

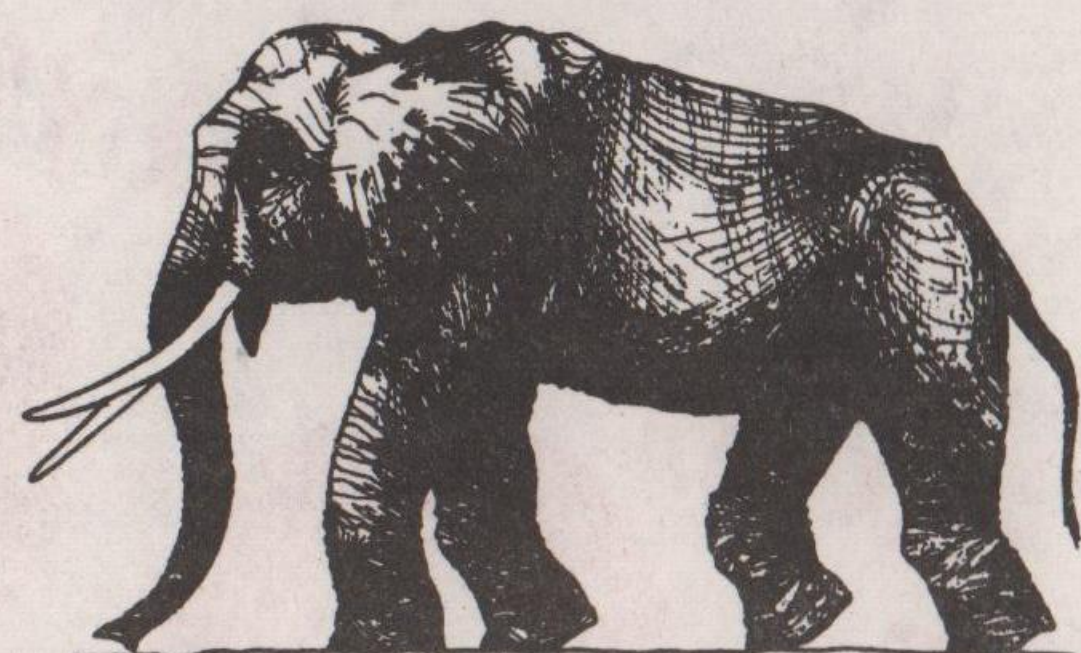
GEM

GEM is produced by a collective of lesbians and gay men for the lesbian and gay population of the East Midlands. We are always open to offers of help from any part of the area, no matter how small. Once again, we would emphasise that no special skills are required. We can be contacted at Box 11, c/o 118 Mansfield Road, NOTTINGHAM, or by telephoning either Nottingham (0602) 602783 or Nottingham 223090.



FLATTERY GETS YOU EVERYWHERE!

"... GEM particularly seems a good model for a local paper which acts as a pendant to national gay publications". Praise indeed from the new national gay men's paper 'OUT' in its review of the local and national gay Press. The GEM collective are, of course, being suitably modest about all the nice things 'OUT' has to say about us. One point that has us all puzzled, however, and that's the photograph of a man's bum stuck in the middle of the article on the gay Press. No comments please!



BURGLARY

118 Workshop - the resource centre in Nottingham which serves as the GEM mailing address - was broken into at the beginning of January. We are unsure as to whether any mail was stolen but we would ask any correspondents who have not received a reply or acknowledgement of any mail they have sent us to contact us again.

CLASSIFIEDS

Placing Ads

MALE, 30, recently moved to Leicester, wishes to make new contacts. GEM 111.

LINCOLN. Happily married Bi-couple would like to expand our relationship with a Bi-woman up to 35 Y/O. Please reply only if you are honest, gentle, generous, loving in nature with a sense of humour and really enjoy being in an honest, open atmosphere. Can accommodate but enjoy travel. A.L.A. (SAE). GEM 112.

SHEFFIELD. Occasional crash space wanted for theatre/Checkers visits. Can reciprocate with bed-space in Manchester. I'm a male bikerette, 32, and get on with most people except Tories. GEM 113.

Classified Ads in GEM cost £1 for up to 15 words, and 5p per word thereafter. GEM numbers 50p extra. Please make cheques/postal orders payable to G.E.M. Collective. All classified ads must be prepaid.

We reserve the right to refuse advertisements without explanation.

Answering Ads

When replying to GEM numbers, please put your reply in a sealed envelope. Write GEM number on outside of envelope then place in a second envelope and send to GEM, Box 11, c/o 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham.



12 issues £4.50 (incl. p&p)

Please send one copy of Gay East Midlands monthly to:

Name

Address

Cheques/PO's payable to G.E.M. Collective.

NEWS

POLICE BILL RETURNS

Despite widespread opposition, the Government has re-introduced the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill and it is likely to become law within the next month or so. As reported in Issue One, the new Bill will seriously affect the rights of gay people. For example, the police will have the power to arrest people in order to prevent 'an affront to public decency'.

As we go to Press a major demonstration is taking place in London supported by many organisations including Gay Icebreakers and the Labour Campaign for Gay Rights. Individuals are also being urged to write to their MPs to register their opposition to these proposals as soon as possible.

For further information contact **Gays Against the Police Bill**, c/o GALOP, 38, Mount Pleasant, LONDON WC1 or **National Campaign Against the Police Bill**, 50 Rectory Road, LONDON N16.

DIRTY PICTURES?



The Nottingham-based Midland Group is showing a touring exhibition of photos by New York photographer Robert Mapplethorpe, who is celebrated (and notorious) for the quality as well as the sexually explicit nature of some of his work. Not all the photos are on show, however. Two photos mentioned in the first couple of pages in the catalogue and one reproduced later on are not visible; these all would appear to be 'explicit'. When the gallery attendant was asked about the omission, she said the shortage of space meant that not all photos could be shown. That means that someone somewhere (presumably on the staff of the Midland Group) selected what there was 'space' for and what there wasn't 'space' for. There are lots of society portraits, but three of the pictures that authors of the catalogue think worthy of attention are concealed - all these pictures show cock.



'COUNTRY CONNECTIONS' FOLDS

Readers should be aware that the travel firm 'Country Connections', who have advertised regularly in GEM, have now gone into liquidation.



AIDS UPDATE

A national AIDS Action group has been formed to push for better resources for dealing with the current AIDS crisis. The group has three main aims. Firstly, to promote action to limit the spread of AIDS. Secondly, to secure funding for research and, finally, to gather and disseminate accurate information to the public. The group will be working very closely with the Terence Higgins Trust, whose main focus of work will be around supporting people with AIDS.

The Action Group are keen to hear from individuals or groups who would like to set up local AIDS Action Groups. Other interested parties can affiliate to the national organisation for £5 per annum (individuals) or £25 per annum (institutions). The address is BM Box 6355, LONDON WC1N 3XX.

Meanwhile, a national survey of gay men's sexual behaviour is to be undertaken in the hope that it will provide vital information in the search for the origins of AIDS. A questionnaire has already been published in the January issue of HIM magazine and GEM readers should find a copy enclosed with this issue of the paper.



TORIES

LAUGH

AT GAYS

(and just about
everybody else)

The December issue of the magazine of the Nottingham University Conservative Students Association published a list of 20 lecturers described as 'Homosexual' 'Subversive' or 'Commie' - with phrases like 'bender', 'wanker', 'sexual kink about minorities'. Elsewhere the magazine refers to a sacked print-shop worker as a 'black lesbian' and a 'black cow'; there are also jokey references to wogs, working class people and AIDS. It may be a school-boy prank, but remember that young Tories grow up into old Tories, if you let them.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL GROUP

Derby Gay Group's Organiser Jeff Blood is keen to increase the number of people taking part in the Group's activities. In the latest newsletter he appeals to members to support as many events as possible - otherwise the Group may face financial difficulties.

New members are also sought - details are on the "Gay Info" pages.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN MANCHESTER

As of January 4th, lesbian and gay men employed by Manchester City Council will have greater job protection following the extension of the Council's Equal Opportunities policy to include 'sexual orientation'.

The proposal was discussed in detail at December's Personnel Committee and was opposed by Tory councillors and the Liberal councillor Audrey Greaves - despite national Liberal policy on gay rights.

Paul Fairweather, for the Labour Campaign for Gay Rights commented "We see this public commitment to gay rights by Manchester Council as an encouraging first step. We hope it will soon be followed by detailed, concrete proposals to encourage all lesbian and gay employees to be more open about their sexuality."



DERBY FRIEND

Derby Friend has been in operation for one year. It started work on 5 January 1983. In a year it has made over 500 contacts and has established good links with Derby Social Services, Probation Service, Marriage guidance and Samaritans. Friend has been well helped by local media, with an interview on Radio Derby and supportive articles in the Derby Evening Telegraph (Nottingham Evening Post take note). To continue its useful work Friend needs more operators. New operators are given a full training course (one night a week for eight weeks). If you are interested in helping please ring Friend on Derby 371725 (see listings).

Martin Fox

NOTTINGHAM LESBIAN GROUP

Nottingham's Lesbian Group are determined to show the Council that they are going to follow up the Equal Opportunities day for Lesbians and Gay men in Nottingham, held on Saturday 3rd December 1983. In January they handed their report on the Lesbian sessions at the conference to the Equal Opportunities Committee. The report called for Council action for Lesbians in housing, leisure, transport, the media, and Council employment, and stressed above all the need for a Lesbian Centre for Lesbians to meet socially and work towards their common aims. The Lesbian Group will be holding fortnightly open meetings on Mondays from 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm at The Women's Centre, Shakespeare Street, Nottingham (phone Lesbian Line on 410652 for details). They want to talk about putting pressure on the Council to get what they want, but they also intend to be a social group and to enjoy themselves. They welcome all Lesbians who would like to join the Group or who just want to come along to see what they are doing.

PUB NEWS

Stories of various changes in local gay pubs have reached GEM recently. In **COVENTRY** a new (and much needed) gay pub has appeared - it's the Spittlemoor, on Hood Street. We've also been asked to point out that Water's Wine Bar is "about as gay as the Nuremberg Rally".

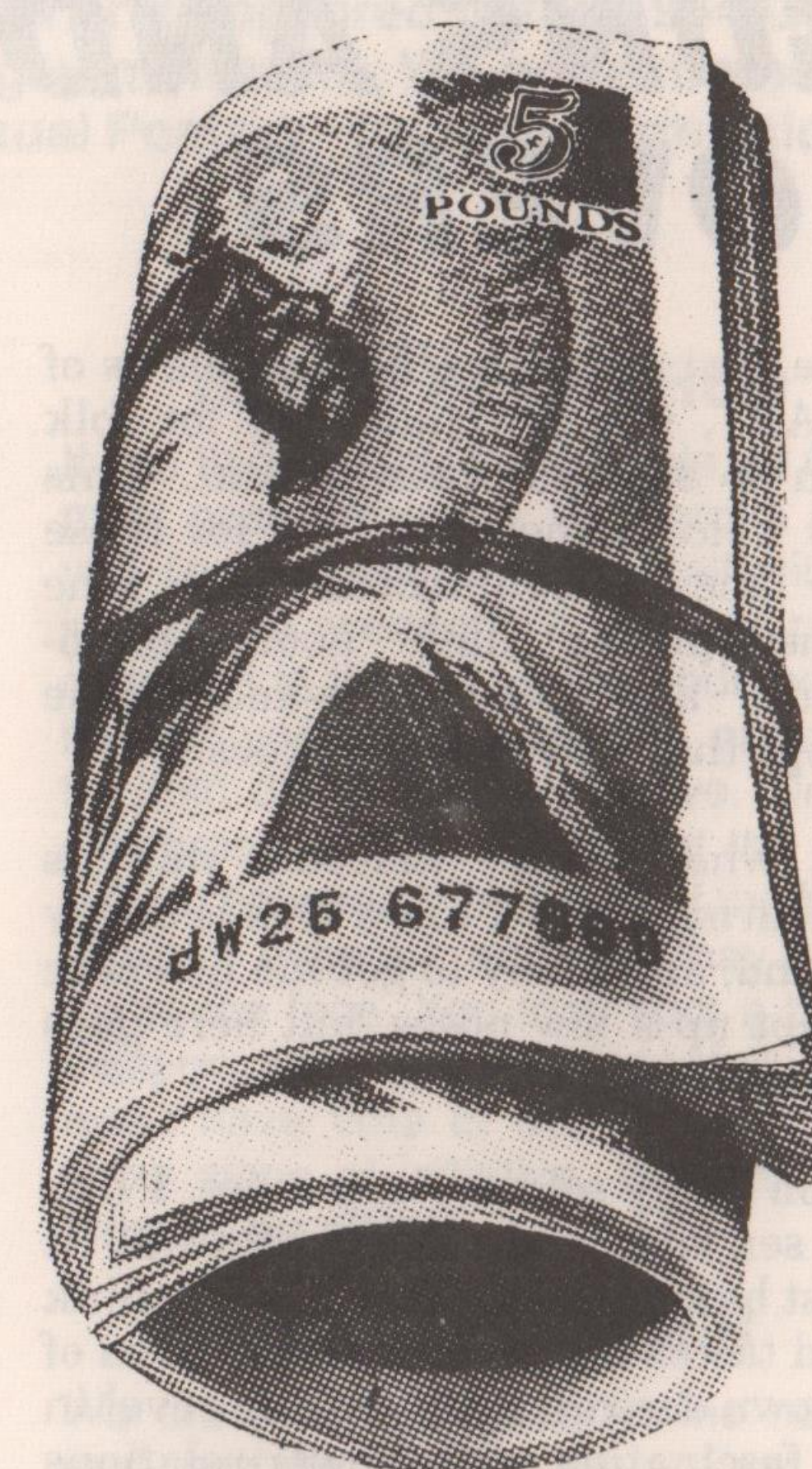
In **LEICESTER** we hear that the Nag's Head and Star has lost its special functions licence so the regular women's and gay discos are no more. However, we would stress that, at the time of going to press we have been unable to confirm this so it may be wise to check with Leicester Gayline.

In **NOTTINGHAM**, Ye Hole in Ye Wall on North Sherwood Street has a new landlady and landlord - neither of whom is gay. However, we gather that gays are still welcome - we'll let you know if the position changes.

IDEAS PLEASE

The GEM collective will soon be looking at alternative means of funding for this precious little publication. At present we are wholly dependent on advertising and that, to say the least, can be very unpredictable (especially when we offend advertisers, which we seem to do fairly regularly!).

Whilst we are still very keen to take advertisements, we would welcome help and ideas on alternative means of fundraising as this would take a great pressure off us and ensure the regular development and publication of GEM. All offers to **GEM Collective, Box 11, c/o 118 Mansfield Road, NOTTINGHAM.**



LESBIAN & GAY CYCLE GROUP

We have received the following Press Release from L&GCG:

Bearing in mind that probably one in every fifteen cyclists is Lesbian or Gay, a number of us have set up a Lesbian and Gay Cycle Group.

Interest groups not only allow people to make more friends but in the case of oppressed minorities, also provide a supportive atmosphere.

We aim to set up nationally and affiliate to relevant organisations, organising rides, summer camps and providing a newsletter to our members.

As an integrationalist movement, the Group is only too pleased to welcome supportive heterosexuals as Associate Members. This costs £1 as does Full membership.

We would appreciate it if all interested people would write for more information or send £1, specifying membership, to

Debbie Pennington or Ben Stout,
c/o MPSU,
99 Oxford Road,
Manchester M1 7EL.

Go on. "Come Out" . . . as a cyclist!

OUROBOROS

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WHOLEFOOD

TELEPHONE:
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COLLECTIVE

WHOLEWHEAT PASTA

VEGETABLE OILS

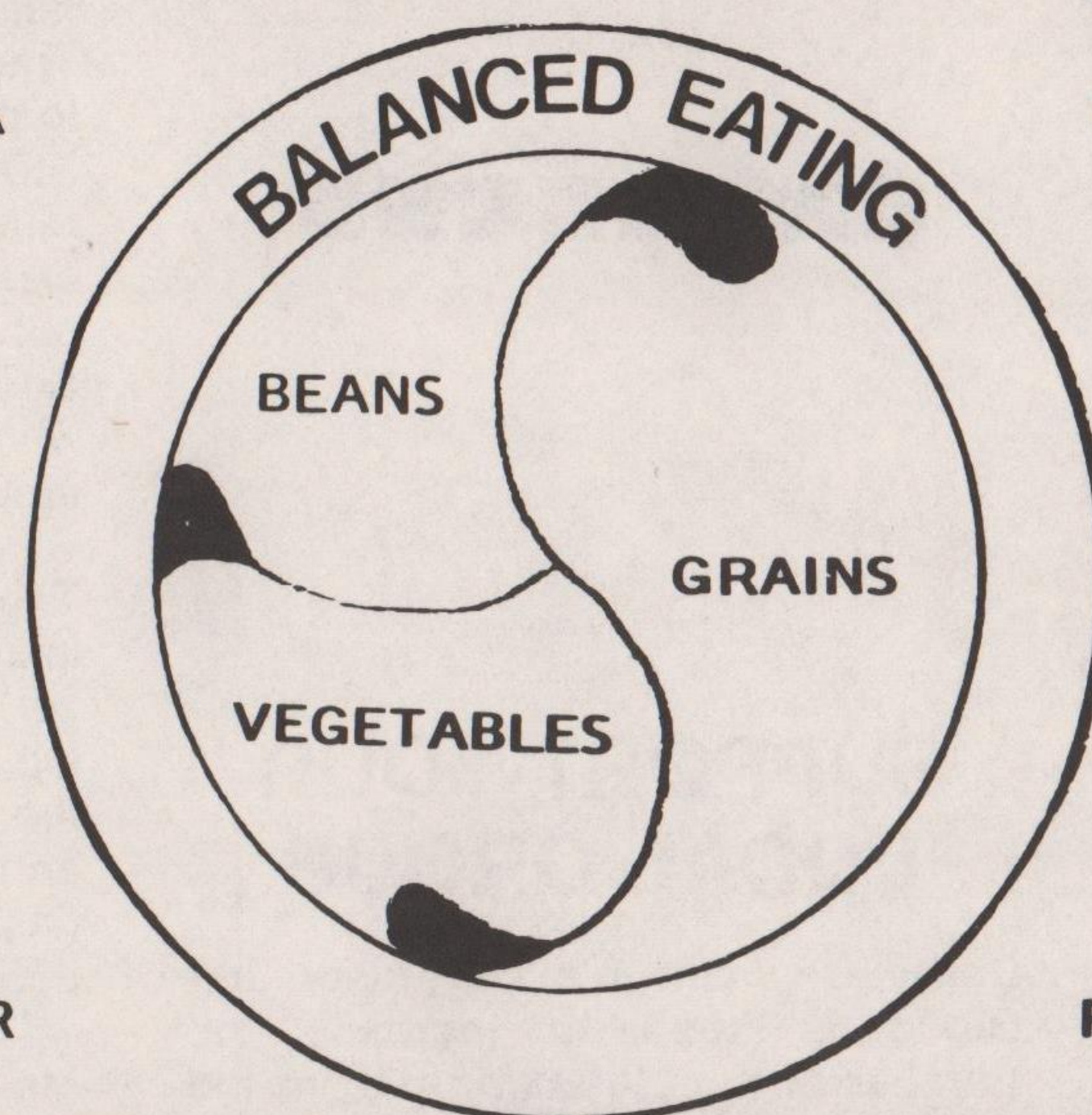
PORRIDGE

HONEY

BROWN RICE

NUTS AND SEEDS

WHOLEWHEAT FLOUR



WHOLEWHEAT BREAD

PEANUT BUTTER

DRIED FRUIT

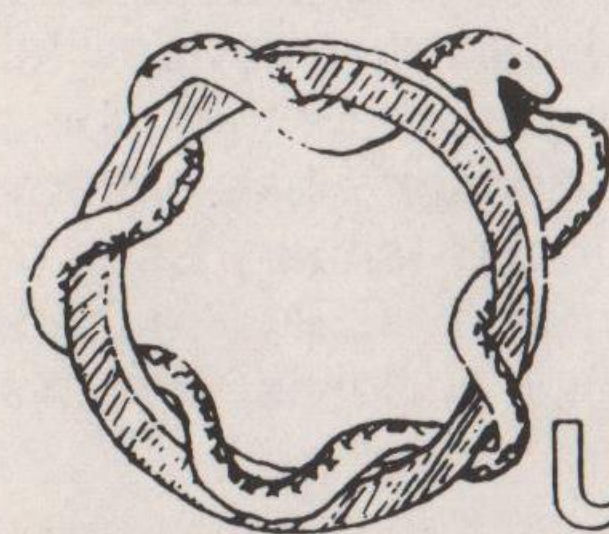
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ouroboros

Carol and Geoff
welcome you to

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Glasshouse St, Nottingham

Enjoy a friendly drink
in our comfortable,
newly-decorated
Lounge Bar.

Gay Women and Men
welcome

GEM magazine on sale

PERSONAL VIEW

GUNS AND LOVERS

I see that a recent *GEM* had news of SMART, the new info mag for folk with a sadomasochistic bent. This was welcome news at first for those like me who're bored with the claustrophobic junk about disco-charts and moustache-and-muscle comps that litters the glossies.

But what *wasn't* welcome was its militarism. Now I know this is dodgy ground, and likely to get me nowhere except up a few noses, but here goes in hope at least of a response...

I won't play soldiers any more. I like my sex rude and messy, wild but (it must be said) mild. Now, I don't think mild tastes has to mean I'm scared of my own desires. I can see and revel in my fascination with power-relations that links with the oblivion that comes with helplessness (a poncy way of saying I'm masochistic). I enjoy the region that links pleasure with pain. There's real escape and pleasure in a fantasy relationship that's *simple* (up/down, top/bottom), and where neither's responsible for anything in the world except mutual sexual pleasure. Yes, and it's fun being *perverse*.



I know there's a feminist argument that says all I'm doing is splitting hairs. Men are interested in power, and that power oppresses women: whether I play soldiers or not is irrelevant if I'm an S & Mer. But does the fact that there *are* gay women into SM (see SMART) and many more at least into role-playing for fun *only* mean they are suffering from male attitudes? I know a straight-gay male attitude too that says playing soldiers is 'just fantasy', 'part of the fun' ...an attitude by the way not rarely linked with a spitting hatred of feminists in particular and a distaste for women in general...

Yes, I want to be anti-patriarchal (pro-feminist) *and* have my fun. Bigger it, I *will* split that hair. There's an area within me, and probably most men (the women will speak for themselves) that revels in 'mastery' and 'enslavement'. It's unlikely to go away, and what's more, it's *fun*. What *aren't* fun are slavery (it's still rife), warfare, rape (of either sex), the police state... It is possible to

be exhilarated by SM *and* feel physically disgusted by its twisted manifestations in the social world, both personal and public. I want to be able to pick up men for sex openly without tripping over the feet of pretend GI-imperialists and 'tough' New York pigs.

Let's not keep SM in the closet, but let's keep it *ours*. To pervert a popular phrase why should oppressors have all the best sex? Let's play with power in sex and at the same time refuse the masculine world its orgy of domination. A domination, by the way, that threatens *all* gay people directly.

Walk all over me, please. And since you *like* it hard and heavy, yes, make me take a bit more. (By the way, if there's a policeman reading, this is *not* a solicitation for sex.) But if you think your willie's a gun, please go *and cock it elsewhere*.

Mick Wallis

"DERBY'S BEST VENUE FOR GAYS"

- DERBY TRADER

"FRIENDLY CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERY WITH GAY BAR"

-HIM

"TOP OF OUR LIST" - CHE

"PLEASANT WELCOMING ATMOSPHERE" - GAY NEWS

Green Lane Gallery

130 GREEN LANE, DERBY, DE1 1RY

open every night but Monday

PERSONAL VIEW

We publish below one woman's account of her involvement in the growing 'direct action' movement against nuclear weapons. Gay or not, it is an issue which concerns us all - we hope this article stimulates some debate.

1983 was not only a year during which the threat and danger of nuclear war loomed terrifyingly close, it was also a year during which many people turned their silent fear into vocal protest and active opposition. I was one of those people.

There are many ways to participate in the peace movement, and it's important that everyone should feel comfortable with what they're doing. Here I would like to write a personal account of my involvement with direct action (which, of course, is valuable in many other campaigns apart from disarmament) and my resulting imprisonment.

One of the first actions I took part in was the non-violent blockade at USAF Upper Heyford last summer. I don't want the base to be operational, and I felt that the clearest way I could make that point was by obstructing the way in with my body. Direct action is obviously still mainly symbolic at the moment because there are not enough of us to actually stop the war machine, but I feel that it serves a number of useful purposes. It keeps the issue of disarmament alive - publicity can highlight both our determination to oppose war and focus on particular points which we want to bring to public notice. When it goes well it helps us to feel our collective and individual strength because we're doing something directly rather than humbly asking someone else to do it for us. And although we haven't yet closed down a base or stopped cruise, there is no doubt that we are a thorn-in-the-flesh of the warmongers - they have to take us into account when they make their plans (and sometimes their plans go the tiniest bit astray...). Nonviolent direct action now helps us to gain practical experience for the day when there are more of us, and shows the way to the many possibilities that will be open to us on that day.

I was arrested at Upper Heyford, along with over thirty other people from Nottingham. (There were more than seven hundred arrests altogether.) Although I had previously decided to avoid arrest, I changed my mind when the police told us that anyone who sat down again before five o'clock would be



arrested; I had travelled down to blockade and intended to do so or I'd have felt that I'd wasted my time. This experience helped me to overcome my fear of arrest because there were so many of us together, and we actually had a good time in custody. I had to go to court two weeks later - pleading guilty (I did indeed "obstruct the highway"). I was given a year's conditional discharge and charged £25 court costs with 28 days to pay.

I wasn't sure whether or not to pay these costs, so I delayed and gradually decided that I probably wouldn't. Then I discovered that seven other Nottingham people who had been arrested at the same event were not going to pay, which made me feel a lot more positive about my decision. I had several reasons for not paying; I felt that, although technically "guilty", I had done the right thing in trying to obstruct war preparations and my refusal to pay was partly a matter of principle. Also, I thought that a group of peace activists being jailed (the almost inevitable consequence of not paying) could gain valuable publicity for the disarmament movement and be a convenient peg for people to hang discussions on. This did indeed happen as we put a lot of effort into publicising what was going on,

including organising a demonstration outside the Guildhall on the day of the first jailing. Because we were prepared to face jail, we hoped that it might persuade other people who were already committed to peace but hadn't yet taken part in direct action consider the possibilities of doing so, and some of our handouts publicised other actions. Then I felt personally that if I was going to become more effective politically I would have to face up to my fear of prison.

Those of us who were refusing to pay formed a group and worked together to support each other and organise around our trials and prison sentences. I found myself doing quite a lot of things I had either little or no experience of, such as giving radio interviews, and I learned a lot from all this.

★ Part Two of this article describing the stark realities of life in prison, will be published next month.

Contact: Chris, Box C, Mushroom, 10 Heathcote St, Nottingham. Also Nottingham Women for Peace for women who are interested in becoming involved in the peace movement - tel. 582506.

BOSTON

GROUP: CHE, write PO Box 4, Boston, Lincs, PE21 6AA or tel. Syd (0205) 66425.

CHESTERFIELD

PUB: **Manhattan Bar**, Saltergate. Mixed bar, open 8-10.30 pm, main gay nights Mon & Tues.

COVENTRY

GROUPS: **Beards Meeting Beards:** exclusively bearded gays. M'ship info Bryan (BMB), 4 Radcliffe Rd, Earlsdon, Coventry (SAE).
CHE, write Mike Foxwell, c/o 14 Spon St, Coventry, or tel 714144.
Coventry Area Gay Community Organisation - write c/o 14 Spon St, Coventry, CV1 3BA.
Gay Christian Movement meets 10th of each month. Info, m'ship, advice, tel Phil, Coventry 552300 (evgs 6-7 only).
Gay Humanist Group, contact Roy/George tel Kenilworth 58450.
Mercia Gay Youth Group (gay/bisexual under 25) meets 1st & 3rd Mons 8pm Rose and Crown, plus occasional meetings Lanchester Poly and Warwick Univ. Gaysocs. Contact Shane or Mick via Friend.
Swimming group meets weekly. Contact Richard or Julian via Friend.
Warwick University Gaysoc. Contact Jem Bowen, c/o Students' Union, tel Coventry 417220.
Women's Group meets weekly; contact Pat via Friend.

INFO/COUNSELLING: **Coventry Friend**, tel 25991 Tues, Wed & Fri evgs 7-10pm (Tues staffed by women).

PUBS: **Rose & Crown**, High St. Mixed. Gays only Disco Bar at rear of pub, Thurs - Sat only.
The Spittlemoor, Lower Ford St./Hood St. Mixed. Gays especially welcome Fri/Sat evenings, Sunday lunch.

VD Treatment: Coventry & Warwickshire Hospital, Stoney Stanton Road, Coventry, tel 24055 ext 242/3.

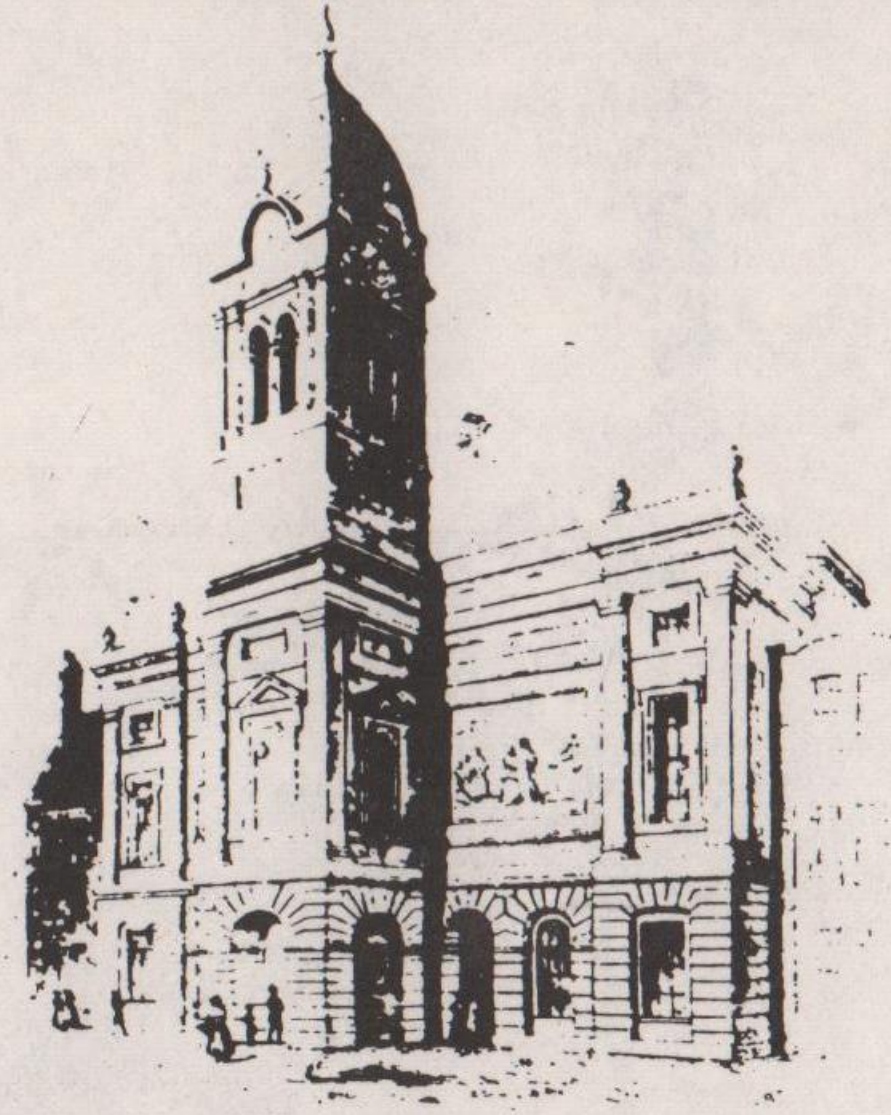
DERBY

GROUPS: **Derby Gay Group**, social meetings weekly. Tel Jeff, Derby 664234 Thurs evgs.

Gay Christian Movement meets 3rd Fri in month, alternately in Derby and Nottingham. Tel Charles, Derby 833294.
Gay Fellowship meets Sun afternoons. Tel Ken, 364771.
Spotlight 4.3.3. National gay soccer group for players and supporters. Info/m'ship forms from Anthony, 68 Cavendish Court, Cavendish St, Derby, tel 361639.

INFO/COUNSELLING: **Derby Friend** tel 371725 Wed 7-10 pm or write Derby Friend c/o CVS, Kings Chambers, Queen St, Derby.

PUBS: **Green Lane Gallery Wine Bar**, 130 Green Lane, closed Mon; Weds women's night. Tel 368652.
Wagon & Horses, Ashbourne Rd. Lounge Bar Sat-Wed evgs only. Mixed.



INFO/COUNSELLING: **Derby Friend** tel 371725 Wed 7-10 pm or write Derby Friend c/o CVS, Kings Chambers, Queen St, Derby.

PUBS: **Green Lane Gallery Wine Bar**, 130 Green Lane, closed Mon; Weds women's night. Tel 368652.
Wagon & Horses, Ashbourne Rd. Lounge Bar Sat-Wed evgs only. Mixed.

VD Treatment: Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, Dept of Genito-Urinary Medicine, London Rd, Derby, tel 47141 ext 504, 2579, 2577.

GAINSBOROUGH

PUB: **Tiger Inn**, Lord St. Mixed.

LEAMINGTON SPA

CLUB: **Hintons** (Augusta Night Club), Augusta Place, tel 37231. Gay nights Mon, Fri & Sun. Women's Disco last Sat in month. No wheelchair access, good parking. Near Regal Cinema.

GROUPS: **Lesbian Feminist Group** meets fortnightly as discussion/support group. Contact LFG, Box 22, The Other Branch, 12 Gloucester St.
SWAGG (South Warwicks Area Gay Group): contact via The Other Branch, 12 Gloucester St.

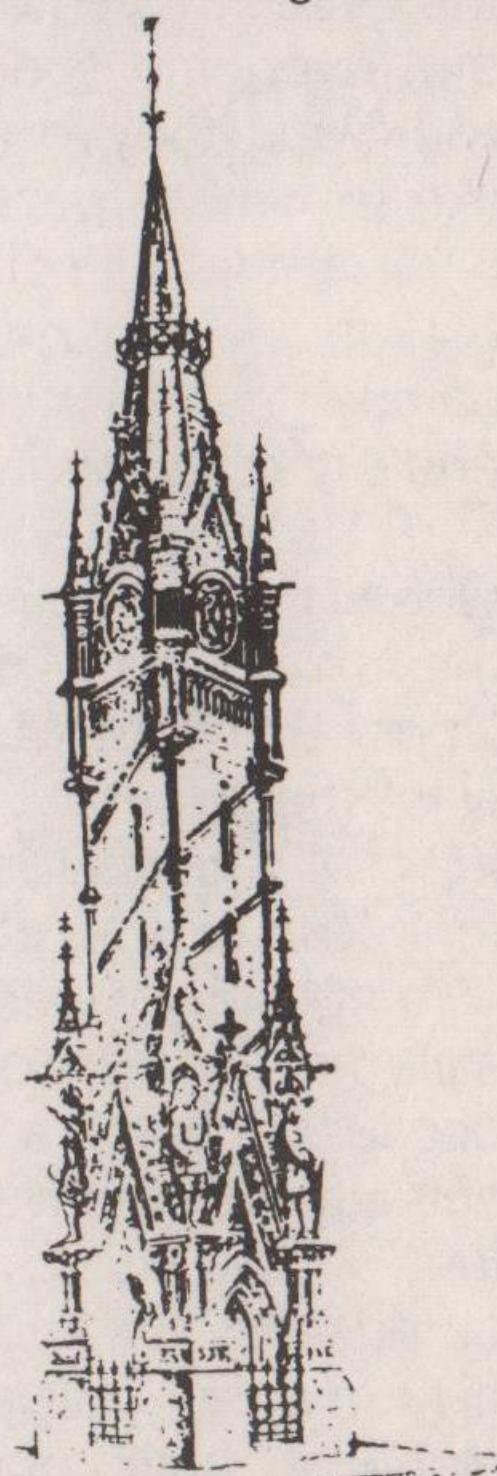
LEICESTER

CLUB: **Spots**, St James St (off Humberstone Gate). Mon-Sat 9-2am, Suns 9-12. Tel 50785 for details of membership and admission prices.

DISCOS: **Liz Bailey's Disco**, Nags Head & Star, Oxford St, Fri or Sat, alternating with Women's Disco (see below). Gay women and men welcome. Details tel. 772241.
Lorna's Disco, Dover Castle, Wed, Fri, Sat. (Get there early if you want to dance!)

GROUPS: **East Mercia MSC**, Leather/denim Club. Phone Mike or Tony on Leicester 734331. Men only.
Gay Outdoor Club (East Midland Group): contact John, Leicester 26617.
Gay Youth Group (14-21) - social support group, meets every Tues. For contact ring Gayline (esp. Weds - ask for Gareth).
Leicester Gay Group meets last Fri of month, Friends' Meeting House, Queens Road, 8pm & different weekly venues. Varied social programme. Tel David, 735049.
Leicester Poly Gaysoc - tel Gayline for info.
Leicester University Gaysoc - meets Tues (term time) Meeting Room 1, Percy Gee Building, 1.30pm.

INFO & FRIENDSHIP: **Leicester Gayline-Friend**, tel 826299 Mon-Fri evgs, 7.30-10.30pm (24 hr answering machine).



PUBS: **Dover Castle**, 34 Dover St. Disco Bar. Men and women, almost exclusively gay.
Three Cranes Hotel, 84 Humberstone Gate. Tel: 24666. Gay hotel with beer garden. Disco Bar. Gay women and men welcome, though bar is by no means exclusively gay.
VD Treatment: Leicester Royal Infirmary, Dept of Genito-Urinary Medicine, Infirmary Close, Leicester. Tel 541414 ext 5208.

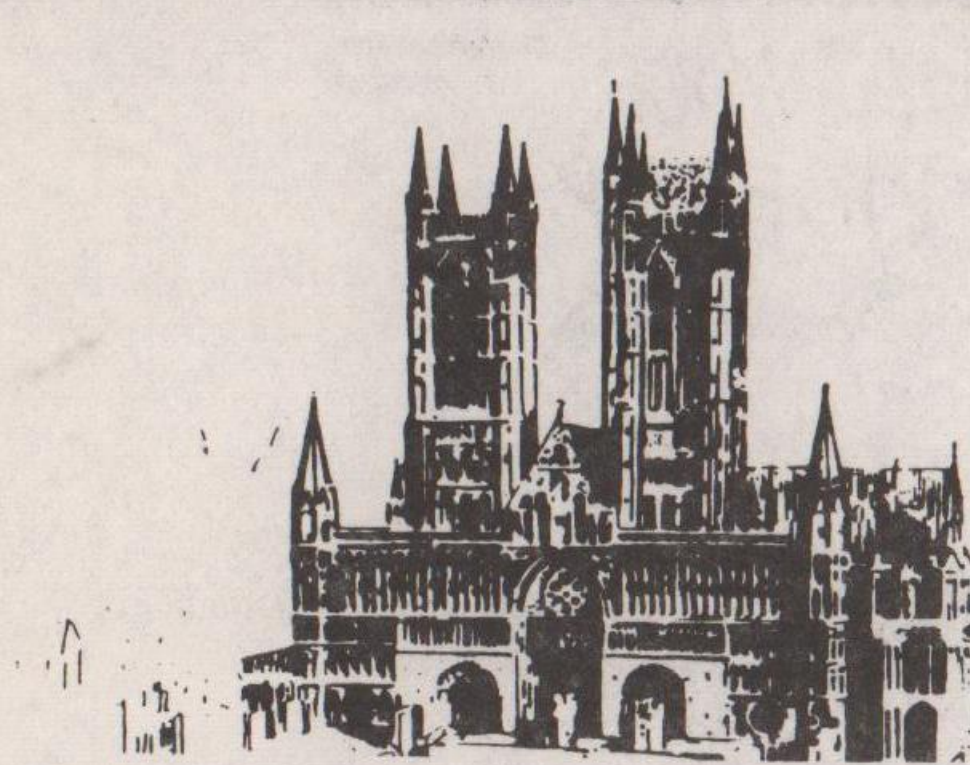
LINCOLN

DISCO: **Gay Group Disco** alternate Sats, upstairs at Golden Eagle, High St, 8-12pm.

GROUPS: **Lincoln Gay Group/CHE** meets 1st & 3rd Tues each month, 8pm, Golden Eagle. Tel Jenny Esberger, Metheringham 20850, or John Ockenden, Metheringham 20851, or write CHE, PO Box 12, Lincoln, LN5 7PE.
Lincoln Women's Group meets 3rd Fri each month. Tel Val, 41591, or Karen/Caroline, 40901.

INFO: **Lincoln Gay Switchboard** tel 22458 Wed 6-10pm & Sat 3-5pm or write PO Box 12, Lincoln LN5 7PE.

VD Treatment: Lincoln County Hospital, Dept of Genito-Urinary Medicine, Sewell Road, Lincoln LN2 5QY. Tel 29921 ext 378/317, or direct line 37723.



LOUGHBOROUGH

GROUP: **Loughborough Gay Group** meets Fridays at Old Pack Horse Inn, Woodgate. Phone Les 217763.

INFO: **Loughborough University Gayline**, tel 231688, Tues 7-9pm, term time only.

PUB: **Old Pack Horse Inn**, Woodgate. Gays welcome, but not a gay bar as such.

LOUTH

PUB: **Woodman Inn**, Eastgate, Mixed.

MANSFIELD

DISCO: **The White Hart**, Church St, upstairs lounge/disco room. Thurs-Sun evgs. No membership, entrance free. Tel 23607.

VD Treatment: Mansfield & District General Hospital (Special Treatment Centre), West Hill Drive. Tel 22515 ext 442.

NOTTINGHAM

CLUB: **Part Two**, Robert House, 5-13 Canal St, Disco/Bars/Restaurant, open Tues-Sat, 9.30-3am. Tues-Thurs members free, guests £2, Fri-Sat members £1.50, guests £2.50. Tel Nottingham 558866.

COUNSELLING: **Nottingham Friend** tel 476714 Tues evgs 7-10pm or write c/o CVS, 31a Mansfield Rd, Nottingham.

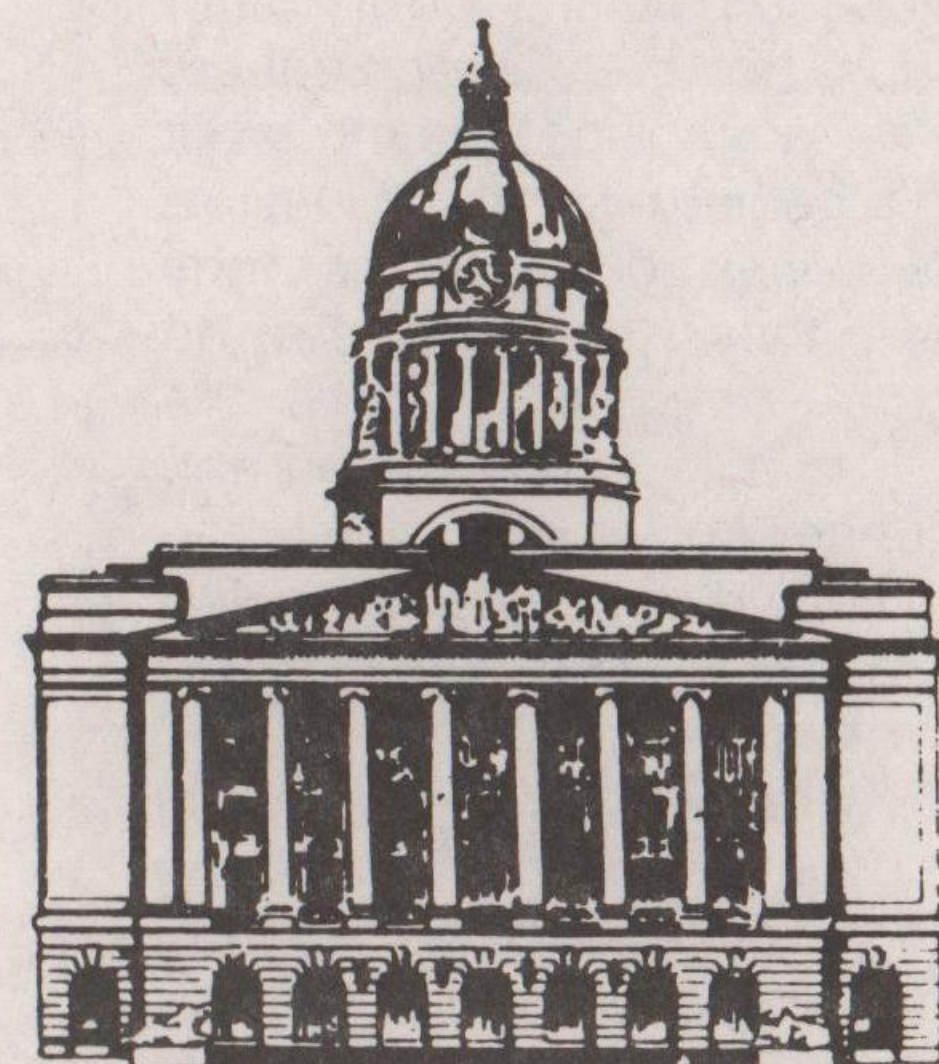
DISCO: **Women's Disco**, Hearty Good Fellow, Maid Marian Way (upstairs), Tues 8-11pm, 40p, also alternate Sats (late bar) 50p.

GROUPS: **CHE (campaigning only)** - write c/o CVS, 31a Mansfield Rd, Nottingham NG1 3FF, or tel Mike, 55196.

Gay Christian Movement meets 3rd Fri of month alternately in Nottingham and Derby. Tel Charles, Derby 833294.
Gay Welfare Workers Midlands Group. Tel Richard McCance, Nottm 780124, or send SAE c/o 21 Devonshire Promenade, Lenton, Nottm.
Labour Campaign for Gay Rights. Contact Chris Richardson, 21 Devonshire Promenade, Lenton, Nottm, tel 780124.
Nottingham Gay Social Group (NOGSOG) meets 2/3 times weekly. Write c/o CVS, 31A Mansfield Rd, Nottm, or tel Peter 861521, David 216447 or via Gay Switchboard.
Nottingham University Gaysoc: c/o Students' Union, Portland Building, Univ of Nottm, NG7 2RD. Meets fortnightly Weds in NSQR term time. Tel 50421 Mons 8pm-12 for info.
Trent Poly Gaysoc meets Thurs Evg at the Dragon. Tel Gay Switchboard for info.

INFO: **Lesbian Line** tel 410652 Mon 7.30-9pm.
Nottingham Gay Switchboard: tel 411454 or 476714, Mon, Wed & Thurs, 7-10pm for confidential help and advice for gay and bisexual people.

PUBS: **The Dragon**, Long Row (opp. Central Library), Alley Bar, mixed.
The Foresters, behind Victoria centre, mainly Women.
Gatsby's (formerly **Central Tavern**) Huntingdon St (near Palais de Dance), two Lounge bars, one exclusively gay.
Hearty Good Fellow, Maid Marian Way, basement bar exclusively gay, opens 8pm, mainly men.
Ye Hole in Ye Wall, Sherwood St, mixed, gay women and men welcome.



VD Treatment: General Hospital, Perth House(♂) or Amberley House(♀), Postern St, Nottm, tel 45989.

RETFORD

INFO: via Lincoln Gay Switchboard (see under Lincoln)

SHEFFIELD

DISCOS: **Checkers monthly Disco**, Top Rank Suite, normally 1st Fri in month. Tel Sheffield 307142 for info.
Stars Disco, Queens Rd, most Fris (except Checkers nights). Tel Sheffield 754785 for info.
Women's Gay Disco, Mail Coach, West St. Thurs, Tel 581238.
Lydia's Night Spot, 120/126 Attaccliffe Common, Tel 682920.
Leadmill, Venue 6/7 Leadmill Rd. Tues, Tel 754500. Mixed.

GROUP: **Sheffield University Gaysoc** meets Weds, Senior Common Room, Crookesmoor Building, Crookesmoor Road, 7.30pm. Open to All. Details tel. Phil, Sheffield 665282, or write c/o Students' Union.
Weekenders, (Outdoor walking) Tel Friend for details.
CHE, Tel 307142 or meet Tues 7.30pm Cossack Hotel, Howard St.

INFO/COUNSELLING: **Sheffield Friend** Tel 680039 (Thurs-Fri 7.30-9.30pm).

Lesbian Line, Tel 58128 or write P.O. Box 162, Sheffield S1 1UD.
Sheffield Gayphone, Tel 752254 (Mon & Weds 8-10pm).

PUB: **Cossack Hotel**, Howard St.
Rutland Arms Hotel, Brown St., off Paternoster Rd. Mixed.

STOKE ON TRENT

CLUB: **141 Club**, Marsh St. North, Hanley, tel 24207

GROUP: **Potteries Gay Community Association**. Meets 1st Mon in month at CVS, Cannon St, Hanley. Tel Peter, Kidsgrove 5270.

INFO/COUNSELLING: **North Staffs Gay Switchboard** tel 266998 Mons, 8-10pm.
Women's Link: tel 266998 Fris, 8-10pm.

PUBS: **The Albion**, High St, Tunstall. Mixed.
Antelope Hotel, Trinity St, Hanley. Disco Thurs.
Stage Door, Gitana St, Hanley. Mixed. Mainly men.

WORKSOP

INFO: via Lincoln Gay Switchboard (see under Lincoln).

MIDLANDS ORGANISATIONS

FLAGS (Federation of Lesbian and Gay Students): Write Jem Bowen, c/o Students' Union, University of Warwick, Coventry.

Gay Welfare Workers' Group: Richard McCance, 21 Devonshire Promenade, Lenton, Nottingham (SAE), tel Nottm 780124. Meets 3rd Sat every month.

QUEST (Catholic Gay Group): Info from Tony, Nottm 419137, w/days 6-7pm, or Wally 812741.

NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

A.I.D.S. Special Clinic, Praed St, London W1, tel 01-927 1697 ext 666 (serious personal enquiries only).

CHE (Campaign for Homosexual Equality), 274 Upper St, London N1 2UA. Tel 01-359 3973.

Gay Humanist Group, 34 Spring Lane, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 2HB, Tel (0926) 58450.

Gay Youth Movement: Write BM GYM, London WC1N 3XX.

GEMMA, lesbians with/without disabilities, all ages. Newsletter, penfriends. Write GEMMA, BM Box 5700, London WC1N 3XX (SAE).

London Gay Switchboard, London WC1N 3XX, tel 01-837 7324. Open 24 hours a day for national and international gay information, help and advice.

NCCL (National Council for Civil Liberties), 21 Tabard St, Borough, London SE1, tel 01-403 3888 (office hours).

Terence Higgins Memorial Trust, BM AIDS, London WC1N 3XX, tel 01-486 8806 (office hours).

TRIUMPH OF THE WILLY

Lots of people said the Checkers disco in Sheffield was amazing so on 21 December I went to see. Great! Loads of gays, women and men, a friendly atmosphere, room to dance, disco tunes you could recognise. There was a good feeling of togetherness and people were actually enjoying themselves. It was so amazing I thought I'd say so in GEM.

As part of the evening's entertainment there was a drag act. All I could see was a tiny figure in the distance with blond hair, like Sooty. But I could hear OK because the jokes were amplified. And then my amazement grew, as one sexist or racist joke followed another. Naively I thought that after 30 seconds of this the room would rise up as one person, pick up the little puppet, stamp on him and carry on dancing. They - we - didn't, but there was a sort of stunned silence where I was, broken by some tittering from a couple of men who appeared to be running a sort of market stall, called something like Crone Zone, which seemed to deal in fancy goods - things like studded cigarette holders, leatherette tea-strainers, moustache tongs, I'd imagine.

A group of women began to chant 'Off! off!'; some men joined them; there was a slow hand-clap. The performer made some quip about clap - which sounded well-rehearsed. This witticism increased the merriment of the star's devotees no end. Hitherto silent men began to chortle because they were getting their own back on the noisy women. The battle was on. A few anti-women jokes later and the pair of market traders were galvanised with glee. With eyes blazing and moustaches twitching they told any women within earshot that if women didn't like it women needn't come. When a man near me shouted, quite succinctly I thought, that the show was racist, sexist filth, lots of ferrety faces glared, moustachios aquiver. Here was a traitor man! letting down the men's team! The pair of crones, by now bristling, like frenzied toothbrushes, said that men who didn't like it needn't come either. Suddenly I heard an echo of a voice from the bad old days: 'if queers don't want to marry and have families like normal people they don't have to live here'.

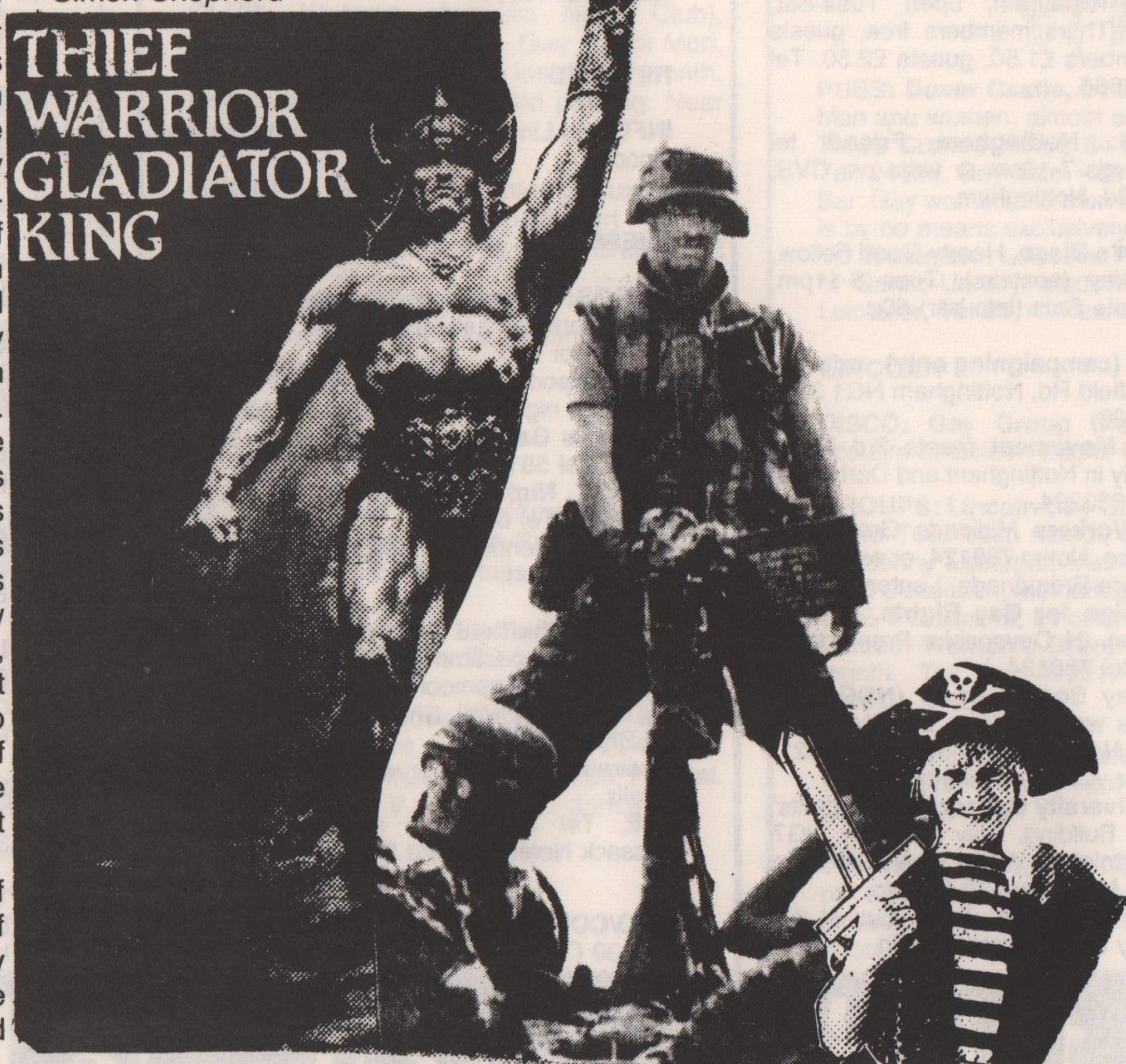
The show ended with a singing of 'White Christmas' which, after some of the jokes, seemed hideously appropriate. When I complained to one of the organisers about the act he told

me to put my complaint in writing - it was like dealing with the tax office. When one of the men who was yelling at the act was asked if he'd complain too, he resignedly said there was no point, nothing could be done. I began to wonder where it had all gone wrong. Once upon a time gays fought against sexism, they fought for social changes and they won battles. Here was I enjoying the benefits of one of the things that had been fought for, an openly gay disco, and what did I find? A male steward who talked like a tax official, a male protester hopeless about change, a male performer whose act depended on putting down other social groups, two male shop-keepers for whom a gay disco meant profit rather than togetherness. It was just like the outside world! So this is what they mean when they say gays are no different from straights! If that's the case count me out - I want to be bent, deviant, queer. Above all I don't see why the gay world has to be controlled by a minority group of sexist men, *who behave like straights*.

I was by now rabbiting on to myself in the car home, drunkenly wondering what could be done. Mick stirred from his sleep just long enough to say 'Chop their willies off'. Which I suppose would be another use for wire-cutters.

Simon Shepherd

THIEF WARRIOR GLADIATOR KING



118 WORKSHOP

Resource and Research Centre for Trade Unions and Community Groups.
tel. 562369

AT YOUR FINGERTIPS



MONDAY-----12 NOON TILL 5 P.M.
TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
FRIDAY
SATURDAY
&
EVENINGS }-----10 A.M. TILL 5 P.M.
-----By Prior Arrangement.

GAY SELF DEFENCE

Like it or not, lesbians and gay men are often the target of attacks from those who seem to have nothing better to do than go 'queer-bashing'. Below, we reproduce an article which first appeared in the 1984 Gay Men's Diary and which, we feel will be of great benefit to lesbians and gay men alike. We are extremely grateful to the publishers and the printers - Gay Men's Press and Homosexual Posters - for their permission to reprint the article.

You may be attacked because you are obviously gay or because you are seen leaving a gay pub or club. You may be attacked while you are cruising or by someone you take home as a lover. You may be attacked by one of your family for coming out. Some of these attacks may be physically damaging (or even fatal), some may be simply emotionally damaging.

They are all the result of the way people see us, and our response is helped or hindered by the way we see ourselves. We are seen as natural victims, we 'deserve' to get beaten up for our anti-social behaviour, we are easy to beat up because we are timid and don't fight back.

The threat of violence usually begins as an attempt to put us down in speech and attitude, at work for example. This basic verbal expression occurs at all levels right up to organised assaults by armed gangs of queerbashers.

"What on earth can I do then?". Obviously, the best thing to do is to go along to a self-defence group. Ours in London is a group run by and for gay women and men. Our aim is to help people to feel safe and confident in all sorts of awkward, threatening, or dangerous situations. This includes advice on how to avoid trouble, practice in dealing with verbal hassle and intimidating behaviour, plus defence methods in case of actual physical assault.

AVOIDANCE

Fighting techniques are difficult to explain in print. You need to see them and try them, get the feel of them and understand how they work. I can give a few hints but first I'll deal with avoidance. This is something you can exchange ideas on with friends.

Unfortunately, many queerbashers now go so far as to find out which bars and clubs are used by gays. Whenever you leave a bar, take a look around before you walk too far from the door. Go back inside fast if you're worried. I don't want to induce total paranoia but this sort of care can and should be as natural as looking both ways before crossing the road.

When you enter a bar, particularly an unfamiliar one, be alert and trust your instincts. If you feel uneasy try to spot who or what is making you feel that way. Put distance and people between yourself and the unpleasant customers, and keep a wary eye on them.

VERBALS

If you are accosted, or find yourself in conversation with a drunk who makes you uneasy, try to say as little as possible and move away. Try to speak definitely, with apparent confidence, you needn't be aggressive, just firm. It can be funny, humour will often turn people onto your side. It can sometimes pay to make a fuss, people who want to put down queers are not usually looking for a lively argument. Screaming queens are often left in peace when a timid type would get insulted and brow-beaten.

Obviously, it is easier to be confident when you believe you could handle physical trouble, but plenty of people stick up for themselves successfully simply because they know they have a right to.

STREET SENSE

Out on the street, especially at night, walk steadily as though you know just where you are going. Be alert but don't look furtive, try and avoid darkened streets. Avoid dark doorways and parked cars where people may be hidden, walk in the middle of the road if necessary. When you enter a street look immediately for people who might be trouble. The sooner you spot them the better, then you can immediately cross the road as if that was your intention rather than attracting attention by dodging out of their way at the last minute. Try to notice if you are being followed, listen to footsteps and use reflections in shop and car windows to see who is behind you. Don't be afraid to turn and run if you think you may become trapped. If you are seriously worried, or even being chased, go to a house with lighted windows and ring the bell. It may be embarrassing but people are usually sympathetic and most attackers are afraid of that sort of attention.

BEING PREPARED

If you think attack is inevitable, or if you must pass through a dangerous area, you can actually arm yourself with an inoffensive weapon. A biro or pencil clenched in the fist so the ends project beyond your fingers at both ends can be both discreet and effective. Or you can grasp a key ring so that the keys project between the fingers of the fist. A comb or even a credit card may give a cut to the face. You may spot a handy weapon lying around. Hopefully, you won't have time to use it, but, if you show signs of initiative, this will often forestall an attack.

MAKING NOISES

We are now talking about the nastier stuff, and the greatest fears. Fear itself may be your biggest problem but that rush of adrenalin can actually help you. It is supposed to alert your body to fight or run but some of our instincts have become muddled and you can find yourself paralysed, not even breathing. Well, take deep breaths, right down into the pit of your stomach, and don't be afraid to shout, make a noise. Shout FUCK OFF or give a loud animal scream. Noise disconcerts your attacker and arouses your body to action. It can give you just enough time and energy to run away.

Noise can be used in different ways. One of our group who was worried about a group of kids in the lift in his high rise just started making loud growling noises as if he was crazy. They all got out as fast as they could when the lift doors opened. And if you want to attract attention, don't shout HELP shout FIRE. That will turn heads and open windows, and disconcert your attacker.

FIGHTING BACK

When attack is unavoidable, breathe deeply and try to keep your energy going. Think *angry* not frightened. THEY HAVE NO RIGHT TO BE DOING THIS. There is not much you can do without practice, but any response at all is probably more than they are expecting. Look for their vulnerable targets; the eyes, the nose, the throat,

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE

GLAD TO BE GAY?

I think I must be even more naive than I look. I actually thought that, given the large number of gay pubs, clubs, hotels, etc., and the even larger number of gay books and magazines, gay people had finally accepted that 'Gay is O.K.'. Not so.

Whilst talking to a guy in a gay pub recently. I was rather taken aback when he started to talk about gays and 'normal people' (he meant heterosexuals). I must confess to being more than a little bit stunned that anyone should hold such a low opinion of themselves but further enquiries have revealed that this attitude is typical amongst many lesbians and gay men who see themselves as 'abnormal', 'unnatural', 'queers', 'perverts', or otherwise sick and undeserving of any respect from society at large.

Would it be too much, I ask myself, to request my self-hating gay sisters and brothers to take another look at the situation and then think again as to whether we really are the scum of the earth?

There is little doubt that, for many years, we have been bombarded with propaganda that tells us that to be gay is to be abnormal and unnatural. But isn't it about time we actually began to question those kinds of judgements and the people who have been making them?

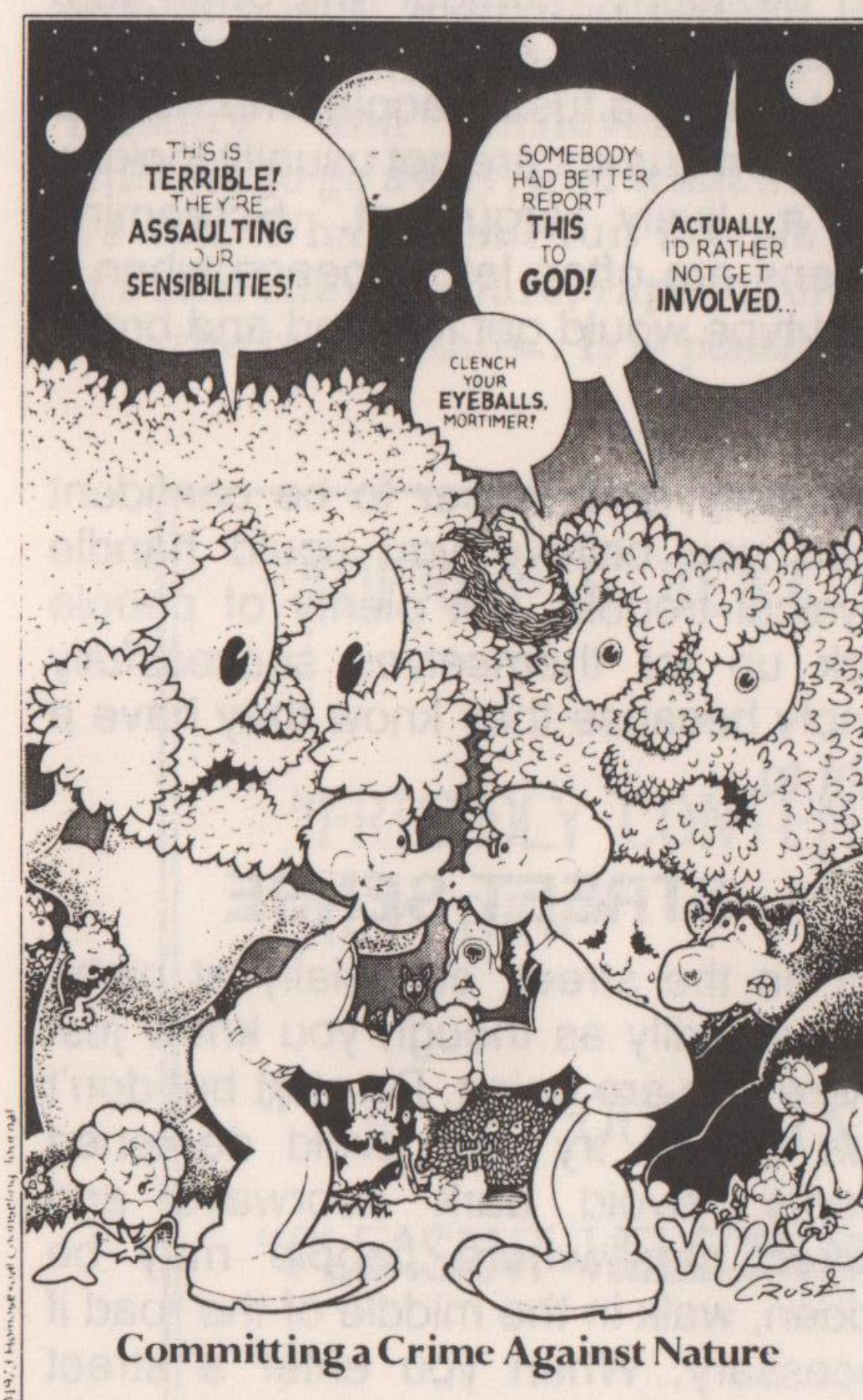
'NATURAL'?

For example, it seems to be a widely held view that we are 'unnatural' because our relationships don't produce children. But that argument doesn't really hold water because we're certainly not the only people who 'choose' to remain childless, yet we seem to be the only group which gets attacked for it (although most gay couples aren't allowed to bring kids up anyway).

Childless heterosexual couples escape such criticisms, whilst those who take the vow of chastity on entering religious orders appear to command more respect not less.

And don't we need to question any emphasis on reproduction at a time when the world is already overpopulated and appears unable to feed and clothe the existing population?

But let's not allow ourselves to get sidetracked into seeking the 'purpose' of gay relationships. Gay love and gay sex are fun as ends in themselves - they don't need a purpose. If everything is to be valued by its purpose then that raises questions about lots of things other than gay relationships. No one will ever convince me, for example, that there is any useful purpose in developing the ability to blow ourselves up 100 times over, yet it is an achievement which is promoted and defended with increasing zeal with each passing day.



'THE EXPERTS'?

I can't help thinking that gay people feel that they're abnormal simply because they've been told that they are. The 'experts' have spent much time and energy investigating the 'causes' of homosexuality (like it's some disease you catch from careless parents) and it follows that, if there's a cause, there must be a cure (irrespective of the overall effect on the 'patient').

In fact, maybe it's because it is treated just like a disease (and, indeed, used to be classified as such by the World Health Organisation) that we tend to think of it in the same sort of unhealthy terms - dirty, unnatural, undesirable, etc.

But gayness is not a disease - it is the desire and the ability to love people of the same sex and that is a very positive thing. Certainly, our ability to love those of the same sex make us *different* from straight people, but it does not make us inferior in any way. (And if Mary Whitehouse and Ronald Reagan are typical straight people, then I, for one, am glad I'm different!).

Perhaps the real issue here, then, is why some people cannot cope with other people being different. But, most importantly, let's remember that that's *their* problem not ours and it only becomes ours when we *let them* make it so. Once gay women and men accept and become the ugly names some straight people have for us then we do their dirty work for them.

Ultimately, we have to decide for ourselves what is right and wrong, good and bad, and 'normal' and 'abnormal'. We require permission from no one other than ourselves to be ourselves because we are *at least* as expert as any of the 'experts' who seek to judge us, and as equal as any other part of society.

But, in spite of the arguments, statistics, and the other 'evidence', it all boils down to how *you* feel about what you do. If you really think you're not normal and "it ain't natural" then ask yourself 'How come your feelings happen so easily?'. Given that we have heterosexual ideas and ideals rammed down our throats from the moment we're born, this thing called gay love seems to surface and stick with us remarkably easily. Almost naturally in fact!

Colin Clews

DYKES ABOUT TOWN *by Cathy Wilkie*



Take Your Partners....

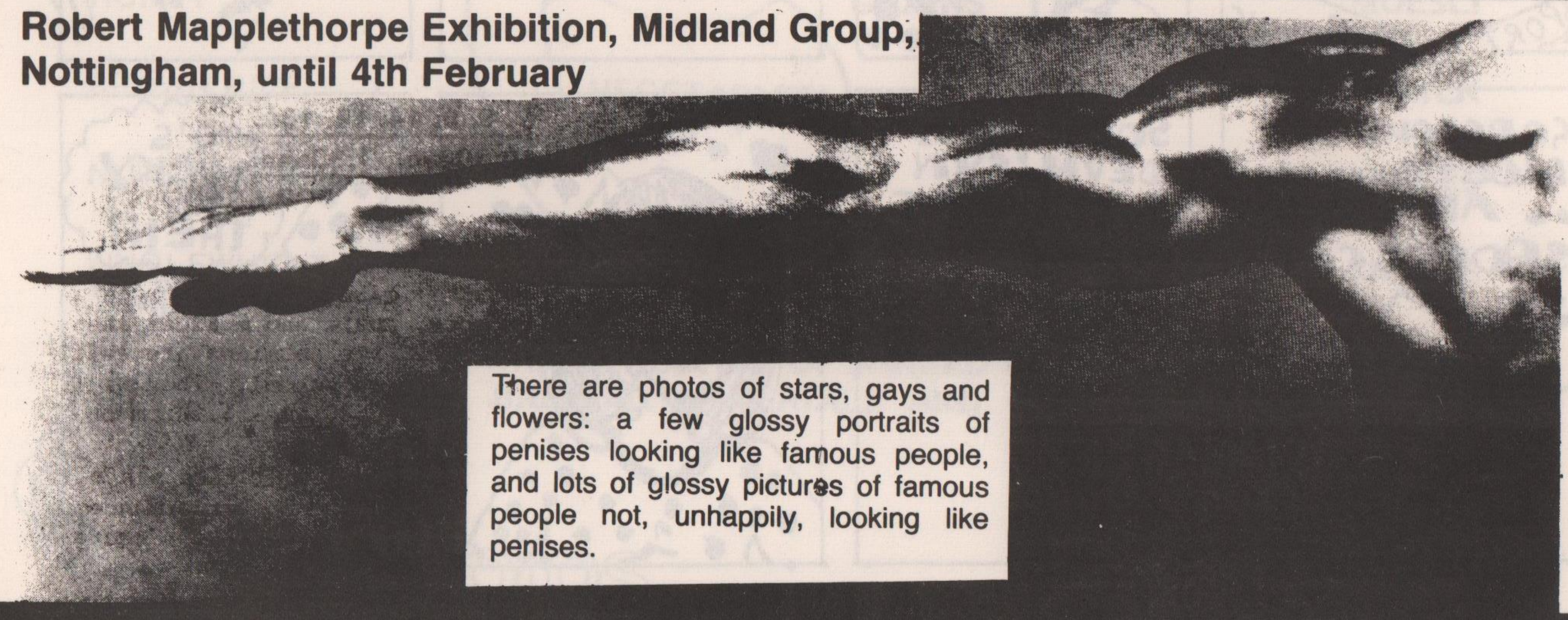
We went dancing at the Beeston Labour Party's Christmas Ceilidh. The great thing about ceilidhs, it seems, is that all dances are based on heterosexual pairs called 'ladies and gentlemen'. As a male couple we thought we'd solve this by taking it in turns to be the 'gentleman' (whatever that was). The first dance started and we seemed to be doing pretty nicely skipping about in Doc Martins until all the women had to form a circle and one woman politely but firmly told me I was in the wrong group. I firmly but politely said oh no I wasn't. Then came a chain where women went one way and men went another, and you had to swap partners. Curiously men's hands began to get a bit clammy and nervous during this: one worthy started backing away with stricken cries of 'No, no'. An honourable exception to this, it should be said, was County Councillor Mick Warner who remained completely unruffled by the unlikeliest of partners.

It was with drunken consternation that we discovered that an innocent evening's skipping required a bit of militant sexual politics. The worst people were the ceilidh experts, for whom single sex couples were clearly blasphemy. A few heterosexual party activists on the other hand - whose skipping was none too hot - experimented with role swapping. A nice sort of anarchy followed. My last drunken memory is of a dance where there had to be one more woman than there were men, and all the women had

to go in the centre and compete for the men at the right moment, leaving one odd woman out. By the time we understood the rules we disapproved of them. So us ladies stood together in the middle and had a chat while the men galloped endlessly round the outside, on and on, round and round and round.

Simon Shepherd

Robert Mapplethorpe Exhibition, Midland Group, Nottingham, until 4th February



There are photos of stars, gays and flowers: a few glossy portraits of penises looking like famous people, and lots of glossy pictures of famous people not, unhappily, looking like penises.

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WOMEN'S DISCO TOP TEN PLAYLIST

from the Women-only Disco at the
Hearty Good Fellow, Nottingham.

- 1) GLORIA GAYNOR - I Am What I Am
- 2) FRANKIE GOES TO HOLLYWOOD - Relax
- 3) LIONEL RITCHIE - All Night Long
- 4) TINA TURNER - Let's Stay Together
- 5) EURYTHMICS - Here Comes That Rain Again
- 6) STAR SISTERS - Stars On 45
- 7) PAUL YOUNG - Love Of The Common People
- 8) EURYTHMICS - Right By Your Side
- 9) THE CURE - Love Cats
- 10) SUPREMES - Baby Love

A big thanks to everyone who came to the New Year's Eve Party at the Hearty Good Fellow, and especially the girls who did come in fancy dress. A great night was had by everyone and we hope that the Saturday Discos continue to go as well as the last ones. So do please give us your support. *Remember* it is *your* Disco, girls. Hopefully we can continue with the extensions with your help and support.

J.F.S.

pppppppp PART TWO PLAYLIST 2222222

- 1) LAMA - Love's On The Rocks
- 2) GLORIA GAYNOR - I Am What I Am
- 3) FANTASIA - Evergreen
- 4) VICKY SUE ROBINSON - Everlasting Love
- 5) EARLENE BENTLEY - I'm Living My Own Life
- 6) IRENE CARA - Breakdance
- 7) HAZEL DEAN - Jealous Love/ Evergreen
- 8) LISA - Rocket To Your Heart
- 9) MIQUEL BROWN - He's A Saint He's A Sinner
- 10) MARSHA RAVEN - Catch Me
- 11) FLIRTATIONS - Earthquake
- 12) STEVE HARVEY - Tonight
- 13) FRANKIE GOES TO HOLLYWOOD - Relax
- 14) MIQUEL BROWN - Manpower
- 15) SIMONE - It's Too Late
- 16) CHARADE - Got To Get To You (Re-Mix)
- 17) STEPHANIE MILLS - Pilot Error
- 18) RUSTY EGAN - The Other Side
- 19) TAPPS - My Forbidden Lover
- 20) MICHAEL JACKSON - Thriller/ Shake Your Body (Re-Mix)

DERBY GAY DISCOS

28 December saw the first long-awaited mixed gay disco in Derby for at least four years. The initiative was taken by Thirza and Peter, who had the idea of offering all Derby and area gays a social event. Tickets were sold beforehand, but many paid on the door: about 90 people attended - a good number for Derby. Everyone appeared to enjoy themselves very much and were anxious to know when the next one would be. The idea is to break even, the income paying for the hire of room, equipment, etc. In fact, a reasonable profit was made and a donation given to Derby Friend towards their work.

It is hoped to hold regular discos at least once a month. The next ones will be on *FRIDAY 27 JANUARY* and *FRIDAY 17 FEBRUARY* at 8.00 pm till midnight. Admission 50p. At the Old Avesbury, Osmaston Road, Derby: side entrance only (next to Crown Derby China, across from Derby Royal Infirmary car-park). Come and help put Derby on the map! Contact Derby Friend for further information.

Martin Fox

CHECKERS THE DISCO

3rd February & 2nd March

TOP RANK SUITE
SHEFFIELD