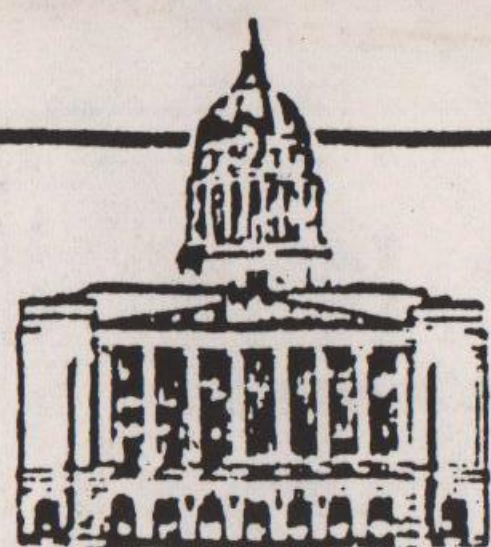




City of  
Nottingham

LESBIAN & GAY SUB-COMMITTEE



meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the Council House, Slab Square. The meeting usually lasts two hours, with the last half hour when visitors and observers can ask questions of the committee members. The next three meetings take place on

Thursday, 7th November 7.30pm.

Thursday, 5th December 7.30pm.

Thursday, 9th January, 7.30pm.

Decisions made at these meetings then go to the full Committee of Equal Opportunities for consideration. The committee meets on the third Wednesday of the month in the Committee Room of the Council House. Meetings are on the third Wednesday of the month at 2.30pm, and are open to observers. Open forums do not take place at the end of these meetings. The next three meetings are on Wednesday, 20th November, Wednesday 18th December and Wednesday 22nd January, 1986.

The Guildhall, Nottingham

418571 Exn. 4520 or 4515

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES UNIT

## Play Banned

(from page 1)

arranged for the 15th November at 7pm, at the International Community Centre, 61b Mansfield Road, Nottm. Nottingham City Council's Lesbian and Gay Sub Committee will discuss this issue at its November meeting.

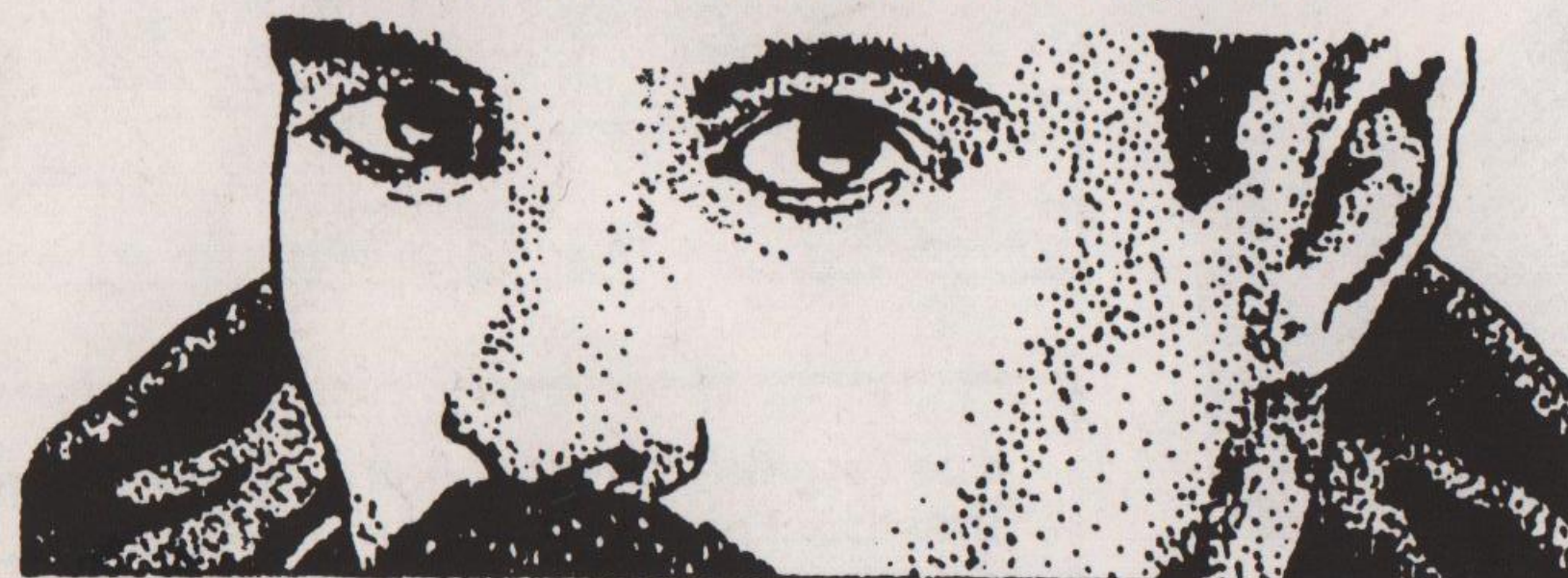
In 1981 the Tory-controlled County Council banned C.H.E. from holding a forum on gay sexuality at the Nottingham Teachers' Centre. One of the first moves of the the incoming Labour administration in 1982 was the reinstatement of the CHE booking. This had the personal support of Dennis Pettitt, the Council Leader.

It is therefore indeed ironic that the current Labour administration headed by Cllr. Pettitt has chosen to ban this play.

★ STOP PRESS ★

## Watch Out!... The Catacombs has arrived in NOTTINGHAM

Nottingham's newest bar is now open downstairs at Byard's Brasserie, Byard's Lane, off Bridlesmith Gate, Nottingham



OPEN 7 NIGHTS A WEEK

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- PRESENTS -

## BEST OF FRIENDS

By NOEL GREIG author of "POPPIES"

The play looks at friendship across the boundaries of age and sexuality. It is set in Skegness between 1945 and 1983, spanning the end of World War II and the Falklands War. Love between men, the struggle between father and son and the denial of emotions and feelings, form the cornerstone of the story. The play questions ideas of manhood, masculinity and friendship and criticizes the fear of sexuality and the irony that it needs a war to allow men to come together.

7pm FRIDAY, 15th November

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

£1.00 (50p. with concession cards)

COMMUNITY THEATRE FOR THE EAST MIDLANDS

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Books for and about gay men and lesbians stocked. Sexuality, sexual politics, feminism and much more. New 'Gay Writing' section

## gay info gay info

— PUBS and CLUBS —

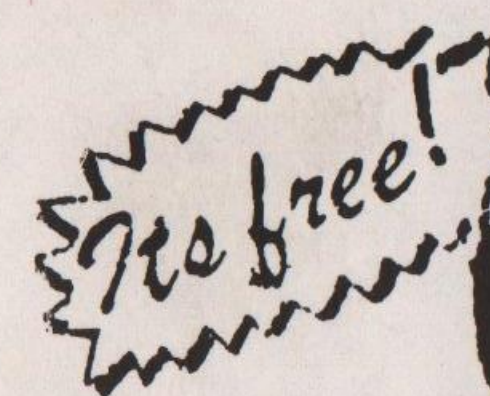
ADMIRAL DUNCAN, 74 Lower Parliament St. 502727, Thur-Sat. disco, until 10.30pm. (Bar marked "private party")  
FORESTERS, St. Ann St. (off Glasshouse St. (Behind Victoria Centre), 580432. Mixed lesbian/gay, friendly staff.  
GATSBYS, Huntington St., 55323, busy weekends, main gay pub.  
ASTORIA, Greyfriars Gate, (Broadmarsh - nr. bus station), monthly disco, 1st Monday in month, 580555, great atmosphere.  
CASABLANCA, Greyhound St. (off King St.), Mon-Sat, 9.30-2am, Sunday, 9.30-11.30pm. small cosy club, lots of comfy seats.  
THE MANOR, Albert Rd, West Bridgford, (off Central Ave.), Every Saturday Country-club disco, 8-12, doors close 10pm. The main lesbian disco in Nottingham, some gay men.  
THE CATACOMBS, (Byard's Brasserie, cellar bar, Byard Lane, (off Bridlesmith Gate) pub hours, new gay bar.

— SOCIAL GROUPS —

GAY WELFARE WORKERS GROUP, social workers, probation officers, teachers, health workers etc. all welcome, meet 3rd Saturday in month in flat, central Nottingham. details Glenise 602164.  
NOTTINGHAM LESBIAN & GAY YOUTH ORGANIZATION, info. on groups, meetings/activities (up to age of 26), NLGO, Box 11, c/o 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, (please send a S.A.E.).  
NOTTINGHAM GAY SOCIAL GROUP, c/o 31a Mansfield Road, coffee and a chat, drop-in evenings, details David 500135.

— HELPLINES —

NOTTINGHAM GAY SWITCHBOARD, your helpline to the gay and lesbian communities, Mon-Thur, 7-10pm, tel 411454.  
FRIEND, Tuesdays, 7-10pm, counselling and befriending, for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, TV/IS's, 476714, 31a Mansfield Road, Nottingham.  
VD TREATMENT General Hospital, Perth House, Postern St., Nottingham tel: 476161.



## GAY

GAY POSTIE

## VICTIMISED

A gay postal worker has been thrown off a committee because he is gay. Kevin Powell, a postman/driver from Clifton was holding hands with a boyfriend in the Post Office Social Club, when another member objected. Kevin was later called before the club management when the ban was made. Though Kevin asked for union representation at the time, this request was refused.

GAY NOTTINGHAM spoke to Kevin who said he never tried to hide his sexuality at work. "I know I've been victimised and I want the union to fight this ban for me", he said.

— support —

Nottingham's Headpostmaster, Dave Wilkins, is president of the post office social club that banned Kevin but was not contactable when we went to press.

Kevin already has support amongst some other workers including the Vice Chair of his branch, Paul Simpson. "Heterosexuals promote their sexuality all the time, why shouldn't lesbians and gay men? By banning Mr. Powell and refusing him his rightful union representation the management of the club are clearly wrong and have also tried to make anti-gay prejudice respectable", he added.

— watchdog —

Meanwhile London-based GAY RIGHTS AT WORK are watching developments and the matter will be raised at the City Council's Lesbian & Gay Sub-Committee. The issue is also likely to be raised at Nottingham's next Trades Council meeting.

The Postal Workers Union voted in support of rights for lesbians and gay men at the September TUC Congress, which clearly said that anti-gay discrimination must be fought.

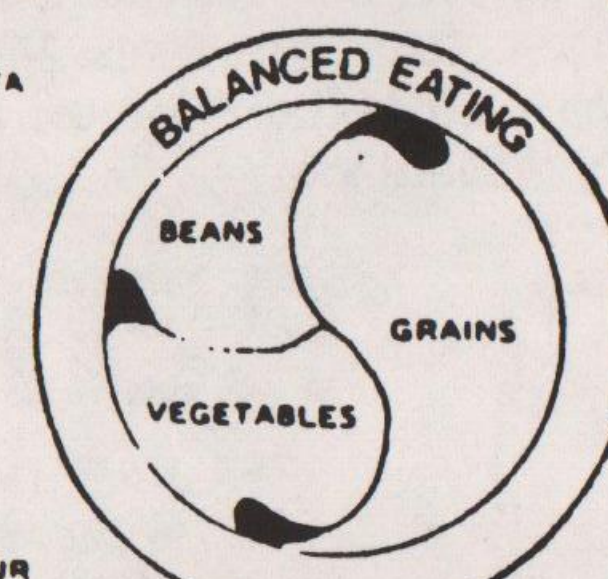
So far this message has been lost on the members of the Post Office Social Club Management Committee.

## OUROBOROS

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# Nottingham!

PUT TOGETHER BY GAY MEN

No. 8

1985

## NOTTS. EDUCATION AUTHORITY BANS PLAY



Alan Simpson

Mansfield-based Perspectives Theatre Company's new play, "The Best of Friends" has been banned from all Nottinghamshire schools by the Director of Education, John Fox, despite enthusiastic support from the County Drama Advisor. The company, which specialises in community theatre, was informed of the ban only a week before the show was to have opened. Members of the Education Committee were not consulted in this decision.

In a letter to the company Mr. Fox said that the County Council could not fund the production going into schools and he couldn't encourage variations in the normal curriculum during the teacher's industrial dispute.

But the play's Director, Libby Mason, said that neither of Mr. Fox's reasons held water; the Company was quite willing to perform in schools without extra funding from the County Council. No other local groups had been banned from schools. Nottingham Playhouse's Roundabout Theatre is currently touring schools with a play about Nicaragua. "The Company therefore has to assume that the ban is related to the content of the play, which Mr. Fox hasn't even seen", she said.

— censorship —

Noel Grieg, a founder member of GAY SWEATSHOP, has written a play that deals with such issues as economic policies of the post-war governments, unemployment, arms spending, cancer research, life in the forces, friendship and gay sexuality.

Company Administrator, Moira Sutton said she was unable to deduce which of these subjects Mr. Fox considered unsuitable educational material. "We feel that many parents teachers, pupils and free-thinking people will be appalled by this censorship", she added.

Support for the show has already been widespread, notably from Councillor Alan Simpson, (Labour) who arranged and paid for a performance at County Hall. Cllr. Simpson said: "I think it is extremely bad practice to exclude any play before Council members have seen it. Beyond that, having seen the play I can say that it is one of the best productions I have seen in a long time and something the County Council ought to be fully backing. I am hopeful that the Council will reverse this ban".

Meanwhile Nottingham Campaign for Homosexual Equality sponsored a performance for members of two teaching unions and a showing for the Lesbian and Gay communities has been

(Continued back page)



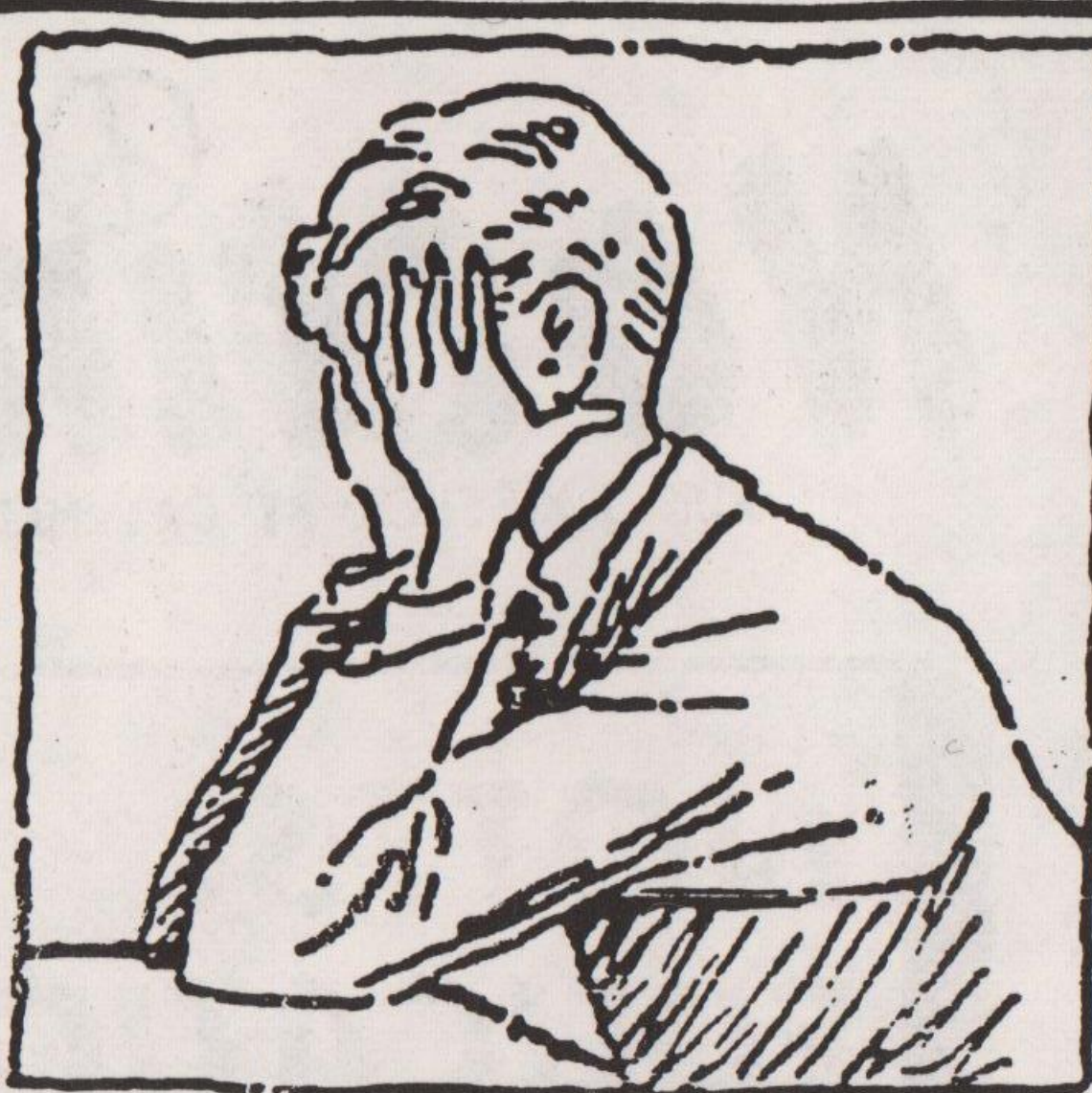
"If they let them in any younger they'll have to let their nannies in with them!"  
 "A lifetime of experience tells me..."

"Mmmm... what a lovely little chicken"

Nothing very offensive in the above statements you might think, but think again.

How old are you? Or, more to the point, how old do other people take you to be?

If you are young then you probably get sick of people talking down to you, patronising you or, worst of all, groping you simply because they think you are young, randy and available.



They then exclude half of their target group by strict 16/18/21 age limits. The other half who they decide are old enough to buy the goods are ripped off left, right and centre.

## AN IDEAL AGE?

There are the obvious problems and pitfalls that readily spring to mind: heavy and unwanted sexual advances, difficulty getting into places, high prices that you can't afford and the never ending comments like those at the top.

There are also some much more subtle and deeper ingrained problems that attach to being a young gay on the scene.

The first and the worst is older (not necessarily old) people thinking they know what's best for you.

The people that think that you can't decide to be gay until you are 21 are only the more extreme versions of those people who think that paedophiles are child-molesters and that children shouldn't have any right to take decisions for themselves about their own sexuality.

Just because you haven't passed some imaginary threshold of adulthood doesn't mean that you are unable to decide who and what you are. Yet there are gay as well as straight people who agree with the force of ages of consent and age limits for night clubs and drinking and so on.

Young people are not treated or served well by the commercial gay scene. The marketing men push their expensive clothes, music, clubs and drinks at us with all effort put in making them attractive to young people.

This isn't a trade against old people. They suffer at the hands of ageism as much as young people, but in a different way.

You don't have to be a certain age to put people down, or to be put down and abused.

And don't get me wrong, everything is far from all doom and gloom, it's just that things should, and so easily could, be better.

Young people should stop taking the scraps that the scene throws them and demand to be taken seriously.

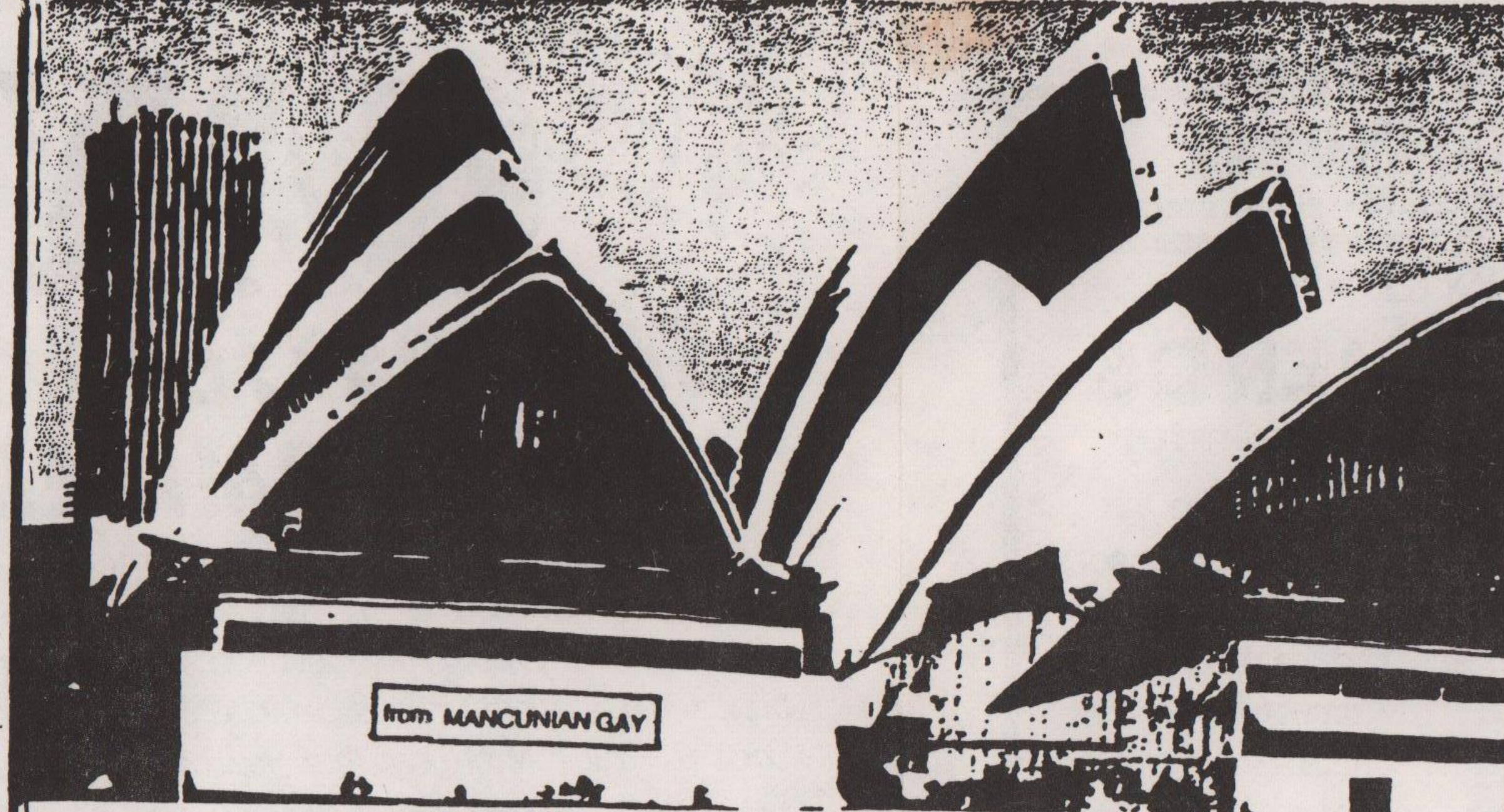
Older people should have less of the "You've never had it so good" attitude towards young people and have more of a "let's make things for young people better than we had to put up with when we were young!"

Then, perhaps, we will have fewer young people getting disillusioned and cynical about the scene and about being gay.

Oh yes, one last thing, DON'T call us chickens!!

Andrew Lowrey.

from MANCUNIAN GAY



## ASK SYDNEY

Peter Trebilco is the Chair of Sydney Gay Counselling Service in New South Wales, Australia and recently paid a visit to Nottingham as a part of a study-tour of Europe and the U.S.A. looking at the provision of services for AIDS patients.

Gay Nottingham managed to pin him down to talk to us before he whizzed off to another part of the country.

G. N. How does Nottingham compare, in terms of Gay facilities, with Australian cities?

P. T. Well, obviously Sydney has got much more of course, because it's one of the major centres for gay people in the world. But I would say that Nottingham compares favourably with a smaller city like Melbourne. I suspect the gay scene in Nottingham is rather more social and friendly than in much bigger centres and for the limited space you've got you make good use of it.

G. N. Tell us a bit about the legal situation for gays in Australia.

P. T. Homosexuality has only been decriminalised in certain states in the last two years. In some states the age of consent is 18 but in Queensland sex between men is illegal and is a felony.

Policing of the gay community reflects this, the level of police harassment is high. Tasmania has a rather similar attitude.

Even in the more enlightened states there are a few cases of entrapment of gay men in public places by the Police.

G. N. We've heard a lot about the famous Sydney 'Mardi Gras'. What's it all about?

P. T. Mardi Gras is usually on the last Saturday in February and this year there were 20,000 people on the streets. Although this is our equivalent of Gay Pride, there were a lot of straights there too.

It's a great spectacle, much better than the official Sydney Festival.

We do have a Gay Pride march as well but that's much more formal. Mardi Gras is pure fun.

In the beginning the reasons for the march were more political. Back in 1979 we had a permit to march but there was a lot of opposition to it. By the end of the march it had become a battle between the Police and Gay Men. The fighting quickly got out of hand.

The 'Moral majority' had a big hand in the disturbances too. They represent such a closed view of humanity and they act as a focus for the disaffected and the disaffected.

G. N. What has the gay community's response to the AIDS threat been?

P. T. We founded the AIDS Action Committee of N.S.W. in May '83 and this has since become the AIDS Council of N.S.W.

It's main task, at first, was to raise the political awareness and make sure there was adequate support for people who are worried about AIDS or who have it.

The AIDS Council has become the classic umbrella organisation and has now brought all other gay self-help organisations under that umbrella. It has given us the chance to break down a lot of the barriers that often divide us as gay men and lesbians.

G. N. So where do you go next?

P. T. Well, as I said, I'm here on a study-tour so I'll be looking at health provision with regard to AIDS. So, next I'm off to Leeds, Manchester and then London. Then I'm going to spend some time in Europe and then on to New York.

G. N. Well, bon voyage!

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	SMALL	MEDIUM	LARGE	
BEBOP/JAZZ				(QTY)
WILD WEST				
AST. TALES				

SOCKS

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BOXER SHORTS: £22.50 (inc P&P)

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MATCHING SETS OF BOXER SHORTS AND SOCKS: £25.00 a set (inc P&P)

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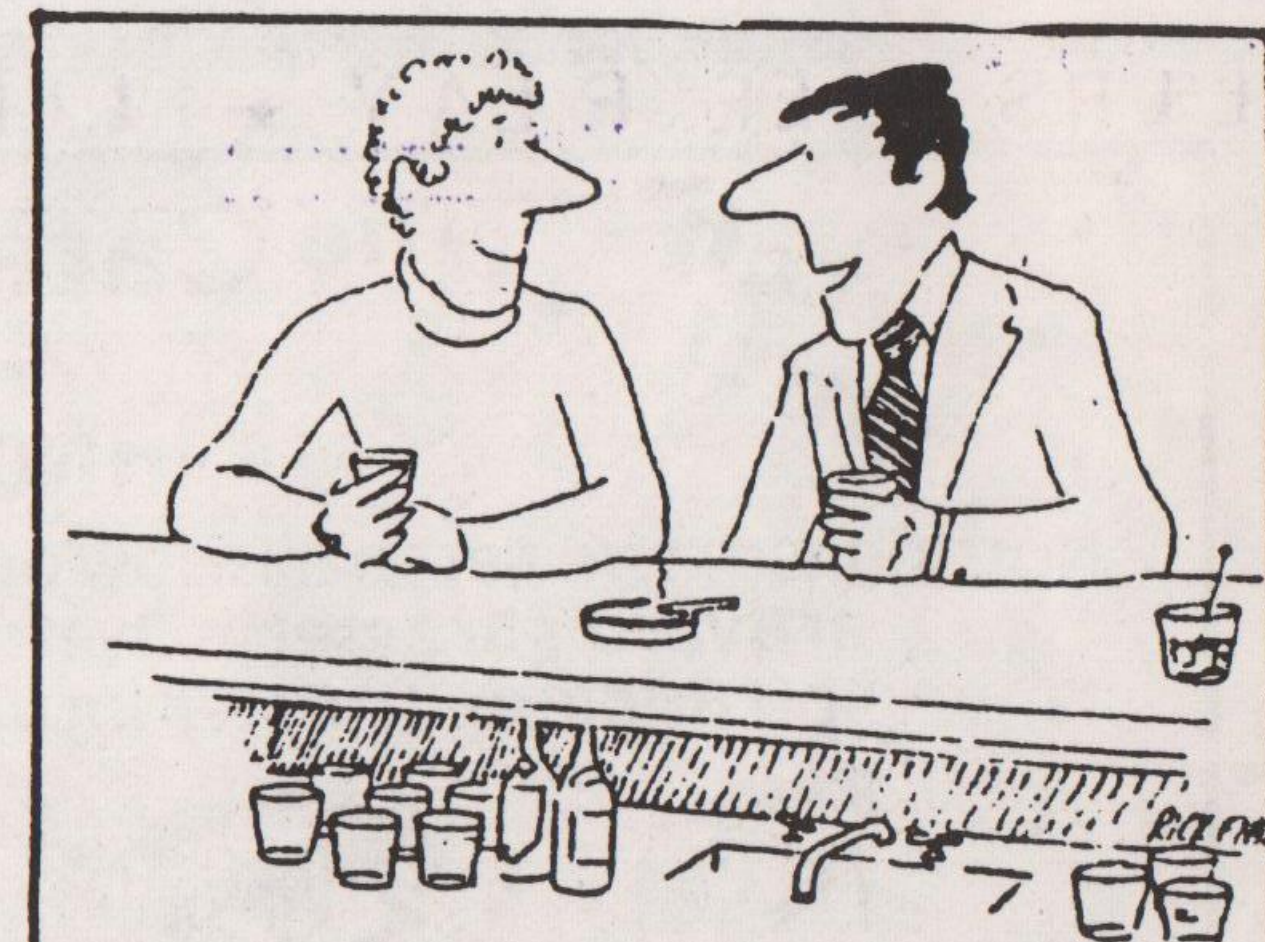
MONEY RETURNED IF NOT COMPLETELY SATISFIED! CALLERS WELCOME! PLEASE ALLOW UP TO 28 DAYS FOR DELIVERY...

XMAS HOTLINE TEL: (0602) 586243

Coming OUT!



Meet Ord Browne, Dave Pitt, Alan Farr, Paul Simpson and Chris Richardson, (members of the LESBIAN AND GAY MENS SUB-COMMITTEE), taking time off with Robin Hood, out in the City.



"I love the poet in you. I hope you can love the accountant in me."

Los Angeles City Council has become the first local authority to pass a law banning discrimination against people with AIDS. This will apply in the City's employment and housing sectors and to restaurants and bars. West Hollywood and San Francisco are expected to pass similar laws soon.

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 NOW IN HOCKLEY... ABOVE HIZIKI... NEXT TO BROWNS...  
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Another chance to see the play by Noel Greig .

## BEST OF FRIENDS

The play looks at friendship across the boundaries of age and sexuality. It is set in Skegness between 1945 and 1983, spanning the end of World War II and the Falklands War. Love between men, the struggle between father and son and the denial of emotions and feelings, form the cornerstone of the story. The play questions ideas of manhood, masculinity and friendship and criticises the fear of sexuality and the irony that it needs a war to allow men to come together.

WEDNESDAY 18th DECEMBER at 7.00pm

International Community Centre,  
Mansfield Road.

Tickets £1 (unwaged 50p) in advance,  
phone Chris 780124 (evenings); or  
£1.50 (unwaged 75p) on the door.

### Membership Application

I wish to apply for membership of the Nottingham Gay Peoples Centre Co-operative Society. I enclose my application fee of £1, which I understand is only returnable should my application not be accepted, together with £..... (minimum £1) being my application for loan units of £1 each.

As a member I shall agree to abide by the Rules of the Co-operative.

Signature.....

Name (capitals).....

Address (capitals).....

Post code..... Date.....

Please return to:

Nottingham Gay Peoples Centre  
Co-operative Society,  
Box 11 118, Mansfield Road,  
Nottingham NG1 3HL.

Donations may be made anonymously.  
A receipt will be sent if requested.

## LAKE DISTRICT HOLIDAYS



### Weekend:

Friday 14th to  
Sunday 16th Feb

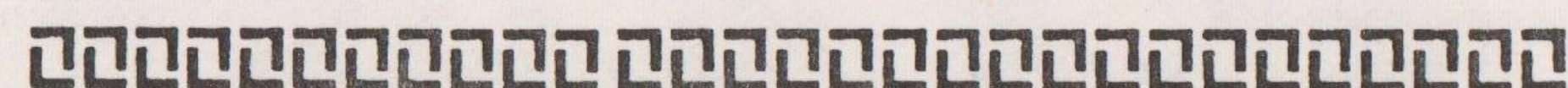
Minibus and  
accommodation  
(excl. food)

Co-op members:  
£12 (unwaged £10)

Places for 8 men  
and 8 women

Full details phone Richard 708063 (evenings).

Also a short week holiday Sunday 30th March  
to Friday 4th April. £32 (unwaged £25)



## My Beautiful Laundrette

Directed by Stephen Frears. GB 1985.  
91 minutes.

Leicester Phoenix.

Wednesday 11th December at 7.30pm.

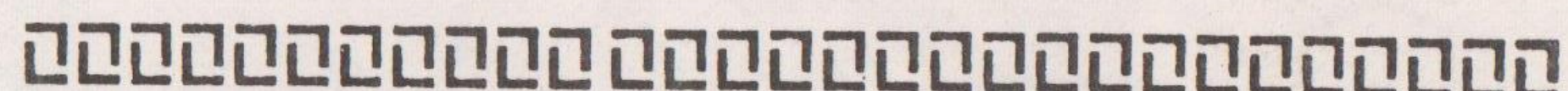
Depart Nottingham at 6.30pm.

Limited number of tickets available.

Co-op members:

£2 including pooled car fare

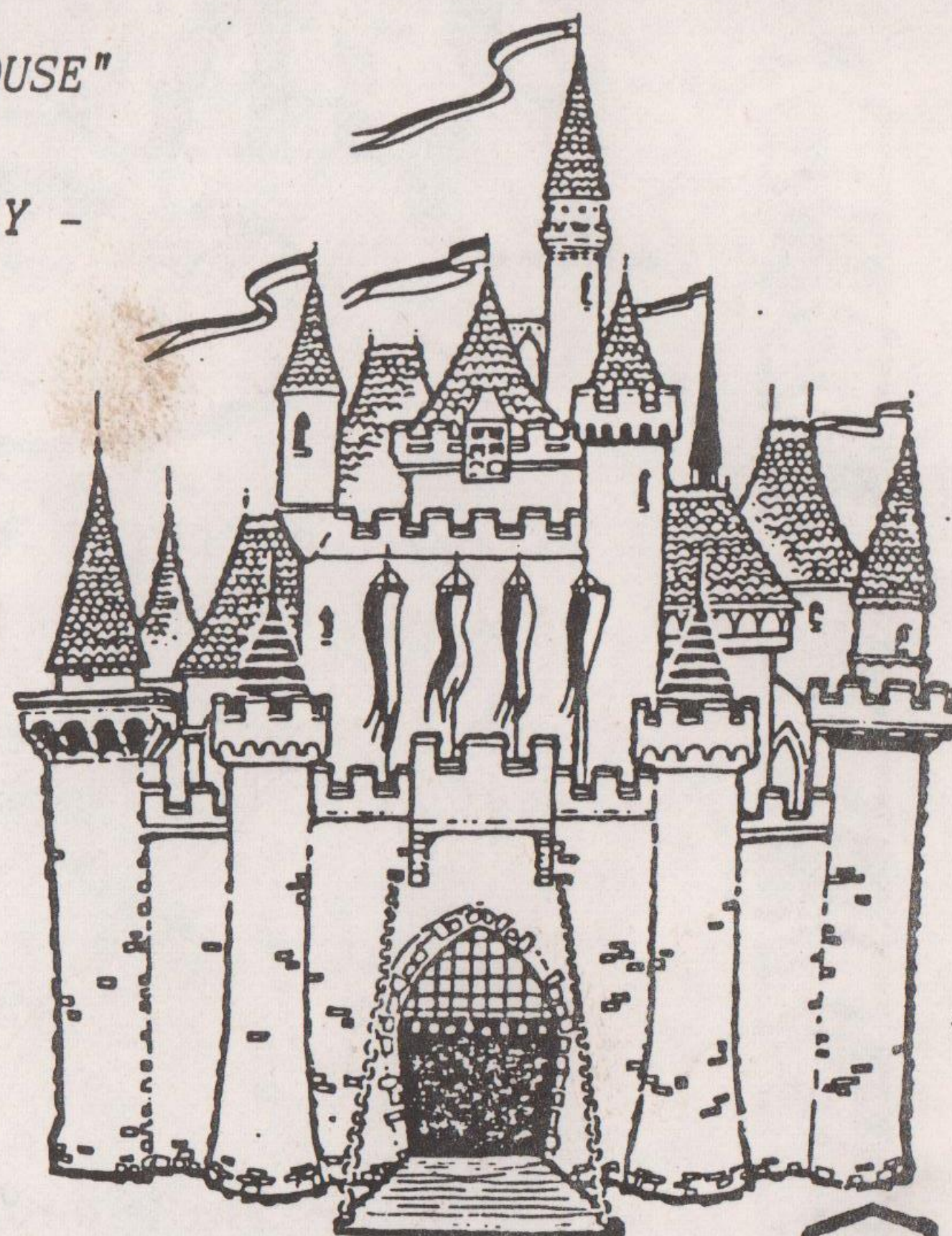
Phone bookings to Chris 780124 (evenings)



### " OPEN HOUSE "

BOXING DAY -

mid-day  
onwards



Bring your own food and drink.  
Tea, coffee and snacks provided.  
Videos: 'The Ritz' and  
'La Cage Aux Folles'.

For Co-op members - £1.

Details: phone Chris 780124 (evenings)

## FATAL SNIFF

The music papers recently carried a report that New York State authorities have made the buying and use for recreational purposes, of amyl nitrate an offence ("amyl nitrate" is the chemical name for poppers). The reason? It seems to have followed the results of continuing medical research into the link - if any - between the use of poppers and AIDS. Latest medical findings suggest that while the use of poppers does not cause AIDS, it does weaken the body's resistance to a strain of skin cancer called Karposi's Sarcoma which is one of the commonest terminal conditions to affect sufferers of AIDS. (from BRADFORD GAY).

## MUSHROOM BOOKSHOP

10 HEATHCOAT ST. NOTTINGHAM, tel 582506  
Open 10am - 6pm six days a week

Books for and about gay men and lesbians  
stocked. Sexuality, sexual politics, feminism  
and much more. New 'Gay Writing' section.

Roman Catholic lesbians and gay men who are trying to integrate their sexuality and religion often find the attitude of the Roman Catholic Church can be both hurtful and puzzling. A group was set up twelve years ago in London called Quest, to help gay and lesbian Roman Catholics combat some of these negative attitudes. Nottingham Quest meets regularly. "We aim for a mix of the social and spiritual as we believe both are important", said Tony Barker the group's Convenor. A phone line operates on Wednesdays from 7.30 to 10.30pm. For further information either phone 419137 or write c/o Flat 43, 19a Pelham Crescent, The Park, Nottingham.

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movement  
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ON DOOR  
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12 DECEMBER

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LESBIAN SPORTS SOCIAL AFTERNOON every  
Sunday, 1pm-3pm. (Badminton, volley-  
ball, netball, weight-training, pool,  
card and board games) 50p. including  
tea or coffee. FOR INFO. contact 781906  
\*\*\*\*\*

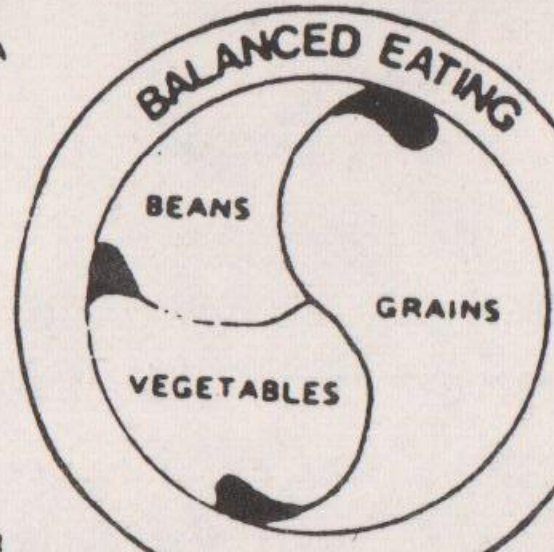
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NOTTINGHAM 419016

COLLECTIVE

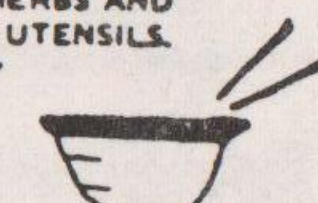
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BROWN RICE  
NUTS AND SEEDS  
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\*\*\*\*\*GAY SWITCHBOARD\*\*\*\*\*BENEFIT DISCO\*\*\*\*\*  
WEDNESDAY, 18th DECEMBER  
CATACOMBS  
8-12, includes  
free drink & raffle  
40p.  
\*\*\*\*\*GAY SWITCHBOARD\*\*\*\*\*BENEFIT DISCO\*\*\*\*\*

### "ANGELIC CONVERSATION"



Monday, Dec.16th 7pm.  
PHOENIX FILM, LEICESTER.

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# LAKE DISTRICT

Nottingham Gay People's Centre are planning two short holidays in the Lake District next year. The first is a week-end away in February, followed by a five-day April break. There is room for 16 people, men and women, travel by minibus. Accommodation is in two comfortable dormitories in a converted schoolhouse near Ambleside. The cost is all inclusive, apart from food at £12 (waged) £10 (unwaged). Departure is Friday 14th February, back Sunday 16th Feb. More details from RICHARD 708063. Hurry, up and book!

## HOLIDAYS

Nottingham Gay Peoples Centre  
Fund Raising Benefit

TUESDAY, 17th December.

## BINGO

at 8.30pm

## ADMIRAL DUNCAN

Book of tickets £1.00, for all games in evening. Book in advance to avoid disappointment. Tel: 780124 (25p. admission includes free raffle ticket if booked in advance).

## A ROYAL FLUSH

H. M. Queen has become embroiled in a right royal row involving the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene and local gay activist, Chris Richardson. The Society had written to the Greater London Council Gay Working Party asking for its name to be removed from their mailing list, as "...we are not interested nor is there a place for this type of material in our organization. We are purely involved in Tropical Medicine." (They obviously haven't heard of Aids).

In her reply to Mr. Richardson, the Deputy Keeper of the Privy Purse, Jane Blewitt, stated that the "Queen does not intervene in the administration of organizations of which Her Majesty is Patron and they have asked R.S.T.M.H. to reply directly to Mr. Richardson. Anyone care to update this organization as they seem to have a touch of the vapours!"

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* SPOTS DISCO Leicester \* reopening with SU POLLARD (star of "Hi-di-Hi") \* Saturday 14th December \* tickets £4.00 (includes travel both ways \* £1.50 drink vouchers \* entrance to Spots). tickets from CATACOMBS, or phone Chris 780124 (evenings). Hurry you might be left behind!  
\*\*\*\*\*

## Hotline for AIDS victims

TEL NOTTM 585526.

● A HELPLINE was launched this week by Nottingham AIDS support group to give advice on the killer disease.

● The phone-in service — manned by trained volunteers on Mondays from 7-10 p.m. — has been funded with £1,000 from the Area Health Authority and £400 from the Terrence Higgins Trust.

## LONDON LESBIAN & GAY CENTRE

## WELCOMES NOTTINGHAM VISITORS

The L.L. & G.C. with its bars, cafe, lounges, women's space and print workshop among its five floors of facilities FOR lesbians and gays BY lesbians and gays comprises a centre unique in Britain and the biggest in Europe.

Drop in for a drink today and see what we have to offer — we think you'll like what you find!

69 COWCROSS STREET, EC1. 01-608 1471

*We're Out. Come On In!*

Open 12 noon-12 midnight Tues Sun, 6pm-12 Mon.  
Day Visitors Membership 30p/15p (Full Membership £15/£7.50).  
The Centre is thirty yards from Farringdon Tube Station.

## A SIGN OF THE TIMES?

PETER BRIDDOCK, Newsagent  
52 Parliament Street,

- sells -

## GAY TIMES

BRITAIN'S TOP SELLING GAY NEWS MAGAZINE  
£1 at newsagents.

## Gay CINEMA Gay

3rd December DERBY METRO 7 & 9pm

"KISS OF THE SPIDERWOMAN" William Hurt won the Best Actor award at Cannes for his part as Molina, the gay prisoner.

5th December MIDLAND GROUP CINEMA

at 8pm + 2pm. Fri. Mat. & 5pm Sat. Mat.  
"PANDORA & THE FLYING DUTCHMAN".

11th December DERBY METRO 8pm.

"PANDORA & THE FLYING DUTCHMAN".

21st-22nd December NOTTM. FILM THEATRE

5 & 8pm. "DIVA".

21st-22nd December DERBY METRO 7pm.

"EDUCATING RITA" + "TOOTSIE"

29th December FHOENIX FILM, LEICESTER

7.30.m. "THE TIMES OF HARVEY MILK".

2nd January MIDLAND GROUP CINEMA

at 8pm. "JUBILEE".

Published by GAY NOTTINGHAM, Box 11.

c/o 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham.

## Nottingham Gay Peoples Centre

## — Future Events

A coach trip to the Midland's latest club  
in great new premises

Re-opening by  
SU POLLARD

on

SATURDAY 14th DECEMBER

Tickets £4 include return fare, admission to Spots and drinks vouchers  
valued at £1.50

Tickets on sale at **The Catacombs** Byard Lane

or phone Chris 780124 (evenings).

Coach leaves Nottingham at 8.30pm and returns from Leicester at 2.15am.

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## Bingo

At the ADMIRAL DUNCAN  
Lower Parliament Street

Tuesday, 17th December

at 8.30pm.

Admission 25p — tickets  
in advance include a free  
raffle entry.

Bingo card £1 on the night

## What is the Nottingham Gay Peoples Centre Co-op Society?

A co-operative, open to all who support its aims of establishing a lesbian and gay community centre in Nottingham.

The Co-operative has arranged all the events shown here and overleaf to build a community spirit and raise funds to make the lesbian and gay community centre a reality.

If you want to find out more about the Co-operative come to the meeting on

WEDNESDAY 18th DECEMBER at 7.30pm

at the International Community Centre,  
Mansfield Road

or write (enclosing sae) to:

Nottingham Gay Peoples Centre  
Co-operative Society,  
Box 11, 118, Mansfield Road,  
Nottingham NG1 3HL.