

(Continued from page 1).

## GAY POSTIE VICTIMISED

However in a letter to Paul Simpson, Vice-Chair of the union branch Alan Tuffin, General Secretary of the Union of Communications Workers said "I can give you an assurance that if any of our members have discriminatory action taken against them for their sexuality then the union headquarters would very strongly contest such a situation. The Post Office union will defend any of its members who are discriminated against on the grounds of sexuality". Paul Simpson later told GAY NOTTINGHAM that so far things had been kept low key. "Now the gloves are off," he added.

Other organizations are also expected to take up the issue. The workplace branch of the Labour Party have pledged their support for Kevin and a number of City Labour Party branches have expressed support.

The Nottingham Trades Council is now likely to become more centrally involved. Roger Vaughan, Assistant General Secretary said that the Trades Council were very concerned about the case of Kevin Powell and would be discussing what support they could give with his union representative, in fighting this case of blatant prejudice. The union representative is Bernard Crogan.

Meanwhile as a direct result of the fight around Kevin Powell's case for his rights at work, two black workers have come forward and asked for union help in fighting racial harassment which in many cases seems to have gone unchecked. An injury to one worker is an injury to all workers.

## U-turn on jobs ban

A Birmingham education authority which infuriated trade unionists by saying it would not employ gay people in selected posts, has backed down and approved a major policy change removing sexual orientation as a form of discrimination.

The row blew up when Sandwell, an authority that employs 3,500 teachers, said that gay men could not be trusted to care for young boys and refused to include them in the council's equal opportunities policy.

The National Union of Teachers joined forces with Nalco in an attempt to get the authority to back down.

### Odd mentality

"I suspect it was probably only the views of one or two individual councillors", said John Bills, a member of the NUT West Midlands Executive. "A couple of them have this odd type of mentality and sadly they also have a bit of influence. They didn't quite

manage to make it official policy as we just got wind of it in time."

The local Labour authority in Sandwell now includes in its employment policy statement that: "no job applicant or employee receives less favourable treatment than another on the grounds of his or her sexual orientation except where a related criminal record would deem it justifiable in terms of the job to be done."

John Bills welcomed the inclusion in the policy statement and called it a "victory for common sense."

### HELPLINES

NOTTINGHAM GAY SWITCHBOARD, your helpline to the gay and lesbian communities, Mon-Thur, 7-10pm, tel: 411454.

LESBIAN LINE, Confidential help & advice for lesbians, Mon. & Wed. 7.30-9pm. 410652, c/o Womens Centre, Shakespeare Street.

NOTTINGHAM FRIEND, Tuesdays, 7-10pm, counselling & befriending for lesbians & gay men, bisexuals TV/TS's, 476714, c/o 31a Mansfield Road, Nottingham.

VT TREATMENT General Hospital, Postern St., (Nr. Mount St. Car Park). Party House Men, Amberley Hse, Women, 476161. QUEST PHONELINE for gay Catholics, Wednesdays, from 7.30pm to 10.30pm.

AIDS HELPLINE, worried about AIDS? call us Mons. 7-10pm, Nottingham 585526. Accurate info. can reduce anxiety.

The hit play goes back to the 1940s  
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## 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, WEDNESDAY, 18th December

International Community Centre  
61b Mansfield Road Nottingham

(wheelchair accessible)

£1.50 (75p. with concession cards)

£1.00 (50p. with concession cards)

if booked in advance

ADVANCE RESERVATIONS: 780124

## gay info gay info

### PUBS and CLUBS

ADMIRAL DUNCAN, 74 Lower Parliament St. 502727, Thurs-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 Huntingdon St. 505323, busy weekends, main gay pub.

ASTORIA Monthly Disco, Greyfriars Gate, (Nr. Broadmarsh Bus Station), First Monday in month, 580555 good atmosphere.

CASABLANCA, Greyhound St. (off King St), Mon-Sat. 9.30-2am, Sunday 9.30-11.30pm, small cosy club, MEMBERS ONLY.

THE MANOR, Albert Rd, West Bridgford, (off Central Avenue.) Every Saturday, 8pm-12 midnite, (DOORS CLOSE 10pm). Main Lesbian disco in Nottingham, Mix of records, golden oldies.

CATACOMBS in Byards Brasserie, cellar bar, Byard Lane, (off Bridlesmith Gate), pub hours, new gay bar. 506684. pool.

### SOCIAL GROUPS

LESBIAN & GAY WELFARE WORKERS GROUP, social, residential & education social workers, teachers, health workers, etc, social & support group, meet 3rd Saturday in month, central Nottingham. Details Chris Williams 27 Moore Road, Mapperley, (S.A.E.) or tel: after 7pm, 602164.

NOTTINGHAM LESBIAN & GAY YOUTH ORGANIZATION info. on groups meetings, activities (up to age 26). NLGYO, Box 11, c/o 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham (S.A.E.).

QUEST for gay Catholics, meets fortnightly, 419137 or write c/o Flat 4, 19a Pelham Crescent, The Park, Nottingham.

GAY CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT, Meets 2nd Friday in month, Men: Mark, 394624. Women: Sheila/Chris, Loughborough 236871.

NOTTINGHAM GAY SOCIAL GROUP, Meets every Thursday, Tel: David 216447. or write c/o 31a Mansfield Road, Nottingham.

NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY GAYSOC c/o Students Union, Portland Building, Nottingham University, Nottingham.

GAY OUTDOORS GROUP (EAST MIDLANDS) Rambling Group, 3rd Saturday of month. Tel: John (Leicester - 0533 - 26617.

TV/TS CAMELION GROUP, c/o Nottingham Friend, 31a Mansfield Road, Tel Clive Long Eaton 727710.

# GAY Nottingham!

PUT TOGETHER BY GAY MEN No. 9 1985

## 'BANNED' PLAY PACKS 'EM IN!

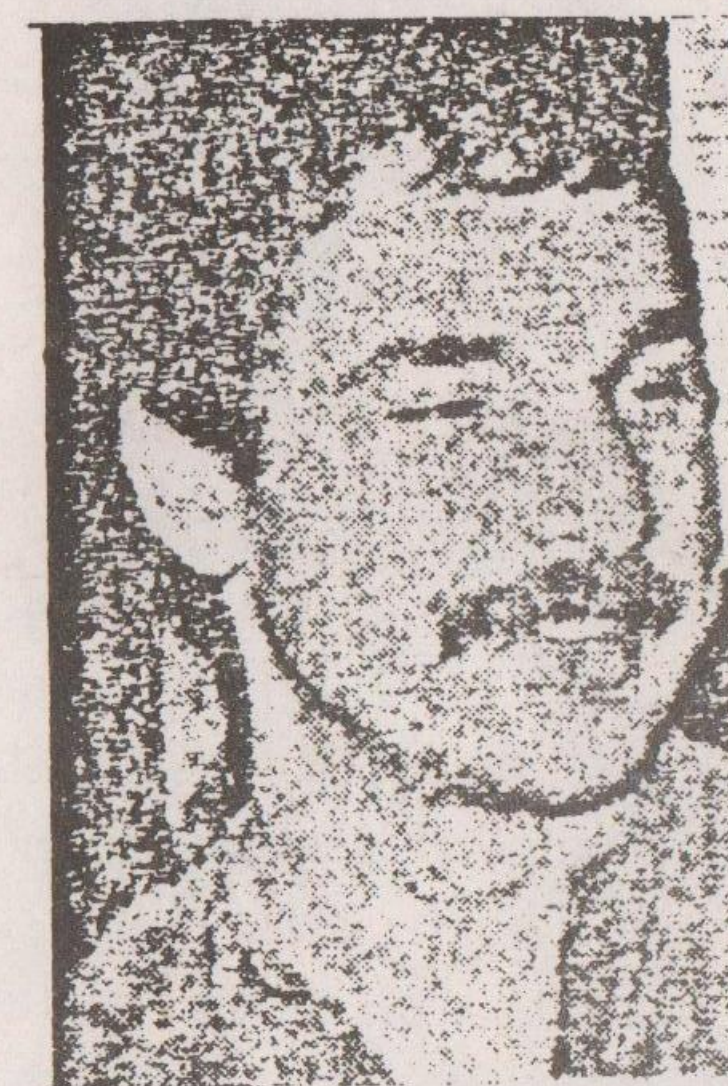
Gay playwright, NOEL GRIEG, has a hit on his hands following the overturning of the ban on his play, "THE BEST OF FRIENDS". The ban had been made by the Director of Education who hadn't even seen the play, despite the play having strong support from the County Drama Advisor.

But following a special showing of the play at County Hall the Labour members of the Education Committee unanimously overturned the ban. The campaign to reverse this decision was led by Cllr. Alan Simpson and supported by a number of outside organization and individuals, including the Campaign for Homosexual Equality who sponsored a recent performance in Nottingham, which played to a packed house. A number of people had to be turned away, unfortunately.

There will be an extra performance of "THE BEST OF FRIENDS" on Wednesday, 18th December, 7pm, at the International Community Centre.

Said Cllr. Simpson, "I was confident the Labour group would make the right decision once they had seen the play and they have done just that". Tickets for the show are £1.00, (50p. with concession cards), if booked in advance - tel: 780124, or £1.50 and 75p. on the door. Advance booked tickets should be collected 30 minutes before show.

## Friends mourn death of Bolts manager



Philip Bakal, Manager of London Bolts, and better known to all as Pickle has died from AIDS, at the age of 26. Pickle was a regular visitor to Bolts at Easy Street, Nottingham, before it closed. Tragically, Pickle's American boyfriend died from AIDS himself a year and a half ago and it was after this that Pickle became ill. After a long period of uncertainty doctors confirmed he had AIDS - just nine months ago. A memorial service for Pickle's family and many friends was held at London Bolts on 24th November.

## Kevin fights on!

Gay postal worker, Kevin Powell, sacked from his Post Office Club Management Committee for holding hands with his boyfriend, has had his appeal for reinstatement turned down. A spokesperson for the Management Committee said that he could see no reason for any right of appeal. Bernard Crogan, Secretary of the Post Office union branch at Huntingdon Street Post Office denied that a decision had been taken, saying that the Committee were processing the situation and it had to go back to management. "Everything is in a mist at present and the Club resents outside interference", he said.

Meanwhile it is understood that Kevin has been the victim of further verbal abuse from other workers. Fellow worker and union delegate Bill Perch said "The committee would just like the whole issue swept under the carpet - some people are still living in the Stone Age", he said. (Continued back page)

THE METRO CINEMA

### EDUCATING RITA

Fri 20 (6.45), Sat 21 and Sun 22 Dec

Starring Michael Caine, Julie Waters (7.00)

Director: Lewis Gilbert

USA 1983 110 mins

Caine and Waters as the teacher and the taught in Willy Russell's astute comedy of the chirpy working-class sparrow who wants to sing a different song. PLUS

### TOOTSIE

Starring: Dustin Hoffman, Jessica Lange,

Teri Garr

Director: Sydney Pollock

USA 1982 116 mins

The Perfect Starring Vehicle (PSV) for Dustin and one of the most polished sit-coms in years.

GREEN LANE, DERBY 40170

## Civics' welcome but no grant

The Leader of the City Council, Cllr. Betty Higgins will head a civics' welcome for the Lesbian & Gay Youth Winter Festival to be held in Nottingham from the 18th/20th December.

Several hundred visitors are expected for the three-day festival.

The Youth Group approached the City Council for financial help towards its costs, but the application was turned down. A similar request was put to the County Council and a decision is awaited.

In August the Council endorsed the Youth Manifesto as part of its commitment to International Youth Year. This includes support for lesbians and gays

Festival co-ordinator, Ben Clarke, said: "We are pleased about the welcome but disappointed that in International Youth Year the City Council can't find any money to give us. However, we won't be discouraged and are busy fundraising to cover costs. So far we have raised just over £500".





# ROBOTNIK

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AND  
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HIGH FASHION:  
T-SHIRTS  
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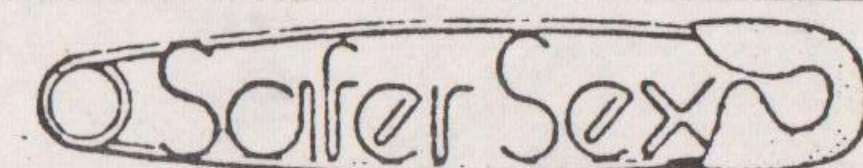
...NEXT TO BROWNS...

## SAFER SEX

The impact of AIDS is profound, partly because the disease can take up to four years to develop and the final result is likely to be fatal. You worry about having sex with someone you don't know or someone you know who may have had sex with other people.

AIDS infects the way we make love. It's not just that we might get AIDS from someone. We might have it already. It might be me who's infecting him. AIDS infects our lives even before it infects our bodies.

A new campaign with a "safety pin" as a logo is one of the features in an easy-to-read leaflet produced by the **TERRENCE HIGGINS TRUST** for their "AIDS '85" conference over the weekend of 23/24th November.



The idea behind the safety pins is simple but clever. Once the link has been made, the pin on a jacket, shirt or trouser pocket, this will say several things: that the wearer is aware of the AIDS though he may not want to give a lecture on the subject, he will not want to give AIDS to you or get it from you either. It's a bit like wearing a gay badge that tells someone else who's in the know that you are gay too.

The safety pin will be a kind of shorthand which says "I'm into safe sex, how about you?"

The best bet is to buy the locking safety pins, used for fastening nappies sold by most chemists. They can be seen a mile off, and you won't prick your fingers when you go for your keys!

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

• Videos • Pool Table • Great Music

Happy Hour Nightly 7.30-8.30pm

Open 7.30-10.30pm. Tel 506684 for details

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## INDIA BOUND

Two Meadows men have given up their jobs and are heading for India in December and the adventure of a lifetime.

CHRIS PEREIRA, 31, a community worker at Queens Walk Community Centre and ANDREW HIBBERT, 29, until recently a clerk at the Gas Board have been planning their six-month jaunt since they visited relatives of Chris in Bombay three years' ago.

Chris has been prominent in Nottingham Friend for several years and Andrew has been active in the local Labour Party. They first met six years ago on an Anti-Nazi League rally in London and have been entwined ever since!



Was it a wrench to leave their jobs? "We kept putting the trip off so we decided it was now or never," said Chris. "...and we hope to visit Nepal and Tibet if we can get in", added Andrew. They aim to travel as widely as possible including Agra and Jaipur.

Spending Xmas away from home presents no difficulties for either of them. What would they miss most? "Advocaat and Disneytime, but little else", said Andrew. Chris would miss the Queens' speech and Midnite Mass.

Packing is likely to be a last minute job although the Cat will be despatched to Andrew's Mum to look after while they are away. She plans to join them during the trip.

When they return to Nottingham in May, 1986 they hope to open a general store or newsagents somewhere local. "We like Nottingham", they added.



## MICHAEL

There's a busy time ahead for a Nottingham man who has just landed a recording test with a major record company in London. Michael Yeomans of Forest Fields has built up a collection of songs over the last year. It all began at the height of the famine disaster in Central Africa. "I was inspired by what Band Aid were doing so I decided to try my hand and set up a charity locally,". Michael said.

This prompted Michael to dedicate a song to Ethiopia called "Tranquility". He taped it and sold some copies and several benefits, charity walks and concerts later there was £2,500 in the bank for Lifeline Ethiopia, the charity he set up.

In August he was placed fourth out of sixty-four in a Radio Trent song contest at Britannia Park, Derby. The winning selection was called "Devotion" with a Human Rights theme.

Songs included "Peace By Night" an instrumental inspired by the struggle for peace in Ireland, and a song, specially written for Michael called "Missing Hero", about Swedish Diplomat, Raoul Wallenberg, who disappeared in Russia after saving the lives of 100,000 Jews from the Nazi gas chambers.

And finally a Christmas song which I wouldn't be surprised to see in the pop charts called "Were Nobel Chimes", dedicated to the cold and lonely at Xmas.

Michael is presently seeking sponsors to help launch his professional career as a solo artist. When he's not composing, playing or singing, he works as a volunteer at the Nottingham Citizens Advice Bureau. Michael can be reached via Gay Nottingham c/o Box 11, 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham.

## YEOMANS

## PHOENIX

MY BEAUTIFUL  
LAUNDRETTE

'18) Mon, Tues, Wed.  
Dec, 9, 10, 11, 7.30pm.

Behind the two-way mirror that separates the manager's office from the launderette, Omar and Johnny revive, or consummate, their love affair with passion and tenderness. This, funny, daring and accurately observed picture constantly takes you by surprise.  
(OVER)

THE ANGELIC  
CONVERSATION

(PG)

JARMAN'S  
HOME MOVIES

Mon, Dec, 16, 7.00pm.

Beautifully hazy, grainy images of young men; seen at windows, holding lights, in rocky coastlines and in caverns, looking, swimming, being washed, making love. It induces a trace of delight, a stately pleasure dome.  
(TIME OUT)

THE TIMES OF  
HARVEY MILK

Sun. Dec. 29, 7.30pm

(15)



The rise, and eventual assassination of San Francisco gay councillor, Harvey Milk. A powerful film.

## FILM

Newarke Street  
Leicester (0533)

554854

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