

## AIDS TESTING?

There isn't a day that goes by when AIDS doesn't cross my mind, in one form or another, but I am determined not to let it rule my life. Many people are still wondering whether or not to take the test. The non-medical dangers from taking the test must be clearly spelt out.

If you test positive it is quite likely that your employer may find out or be told and decide to get rid of you (it's very important for this reason, alone, to join a trade union). An employer will then think twice about trying to sack you.

Life or mortgage insurance cover could well be denied you or at the least you would have to pay a higher premium. Insurance companies are at present looking at new guidelines. There are more questions than answers by taking the test.

The presence of the virus means that you could develop either an AIDS-related condition, rarely fatal, or if you are unlucky and get AIDS itself, the chances of long-term survival, at present, are slim. Even if you test negative it may give a false sense of security for all it means is that when tested there was no AIDS virus in your body. You could still develop it at a later date, but it does mean that your chances of getting the virus would be considerably less, especially if you practice safe sex.

Instead of opting for the test I decided to behave as if I was antibody positive; it meant endless chats with friends about fears and anxieties for starters, but at least I am better equipped to deal with AIDS if I got it.

However, there will be some people who will need to know their antibody status, which may override other considerations. So in the end it's your choice whether to test or not, but make it an informed choice!

### RAMOTH PRINTS

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AND  
SCREEN PRINTERS



RAMOTH IS THE ONLY COLLECTIVELY RUN PRINTERS IN NOTTINGHAM, AND IS RUN SOLELY BY WOMEN.

It is with great sorrow that we have to report the unexpected death of Liz Hollis, active in the Womens Movement and Anti-Apartheid in Nottingham and a staunch supporter of the lesbian and gay rights. Her infectious enthusiasm and total commitment will leave a void and many of us still remain stunned at the news of her untimely death.

### Conference for gay sector workers

NOTTINGHAM CITY Council is to hold the first-ever conference for people working on behalf of lesbians and gay men. The council hopes to attract workers from trade unions and local authorities as well as the commercial sector and voluntary organisations.

The conference is held in Nottingham over the two days of March 25th and 26th. The fee of £35 will include meals and accommodation and more details are available from Ben Benson or Jo Fraser on 0602 418571 ext 4515.

### NOTTINGHAM FILM THEATRE

**MISHIMA:**  
A Life in Four Chapters  
Friday March 21st - Sunday 23rd

Fri. 21st 7.30 p.m.  
Sat. 22nd 5.00 p.m. and 8.00 p.m.  
Sun. 23rd 5.00 p.m. and 8.00 p.m.

Yukio Mishima, actor, writer, film-maker and right-wing political extremist was an obsessive militarist narcissist whose work expressed a torrent of repressed homosexual emotions but whose philosophy glorified the manic homophobia of the Japanese military tradition of the samurai.



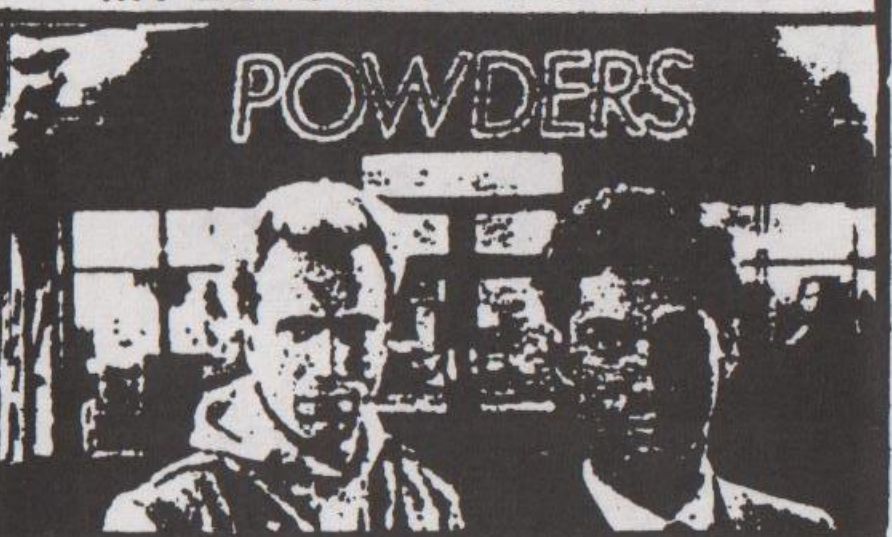
Ken Ogata posing as Mishima, the Samurai.

The film's director, Paul Schrader, fought a long and hard battle with Mishima's family and estate to get permission to produce the movie. One of the conditions of the agreement was that the strong homosexual overtones in the guy's life-story were avoided. Schrader adhered to this proviso throughout the scenes depicting the life-events of Mishima but manages to convey the obsessive homoeroticism of the man through "exploring the foetid over-heated atmosphere of sexuality" in the novels.

The political extremism of Mishima, coupled with the military fixation he nursed for so many years melded with a further obsession — death — brought about his eventual melodramatic and, some would say inevitable, suicide through the ritual method of 'Seppuku', impaling himself with his Samurai long-sword.

The American magazine, Newsweek, called the film 'mesmerizing'. London's 'Time Out' reported from the Edinburgh Festival, where the film had its British premiere, that 'the cynical press (were) glued to their seats until the very end of the credits seemingly shell-shocked'. Not to be missed!

Wednesday April 9th - Sunday 13th  
**MY BEAUTIFUL LAUNDRETTE**



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### WORKING FOR YOU

IT'S OKAY  
TO BE GAY

GAY MEN  
AND  
NOTTINGHAM  
CITY  
COUNCIL



### STANDING UP FOR OUR RIGHTS

In a bid to reach a wider audience outside the Lesbian & Gay sub-Committee, the gay men have produced an attractive, concertina-type leaflet setting out their objectives with key information. The leaflet will be widely distributed throughout Nottingham and gay men will not only find a good deal of useful information in it, but will hopefully begin to understand what the City Council is seeking to achieve. Ben Benson, Equal Opportunities Officer (Gay Men) said: "Our next move is to let the public see why lesbians and gay issues are so important".

### STOCKPORT DEMO

A rally is planned for 15th March outside Stockport Council offices, to protest at their refusal to include lesbians and gay men in their Equal Opportunities Policy. Three times the issue has been debated and defeated. But the last defeat lost by only one vote. This lobby, therefore, is crucial. Assemble at 1.30pm, Vernon Park, Stockport, Manchester. Overnight accommodation and a social are planned. For further details of local transport to Manchester, contact. NOTTINGHAM 780124.

### Accommodation Offered

Gay houseshare - Basford, with teacher & cat. Non-smoker preferred, male/female. £25 per week, fully inclusive of rates & bills. Tel: Richard 708063.

### gay info gay info

— PUBS and CLUBS —

NOTTINGHAM GAY SWITCHBOARD for the latest info. on pubs, clubs & discos in the City.

— SOCIAL GROUPS —

LESBIAN/GAY WELFARE WORKS GP. (social & support), inc. Health & Education works, meets monthly, Central Nottingham, Info. Chris Williams, 27 Moore Rd, Mapperley, Nottm, or 602164 (after 7pm).  
NOTTINGHAM LESBIAN/GAY YOUTH ORGANIZATION, (up to age 26), info. NIGYO, Box 11, c/o 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, (s.a.e.).  
QUEST for gay Catholics, meets fortnightly, 419137, 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 26617).  
TV/TS CAMELION GROUP, c/o Nottingham Friend, 31a Mansfield Rd. Tel Clive, Long Eaton 727710.

— HELPLINES —

NOTTINGHAM GAY SWITCHBOARD, your helpline to the gay/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, Nottm.  
NOTTINGHAM FRIEND, Tuesdays, 7-10pm, counselling & befriending for lesbians & gay men, bisexuals, TV/TS's c/o 31a Mansfield Road, Nottingham.  
QUEST PHONELINE, for gay Catholics, Weds. 7.30-10.30pm, 419137.  
AIDS HELPLINE, Worried about AIDS? call up Mons & Tues. 7-10pm, Nottingham 585526. Accurate info. can help reduce anxiety.  
VD TREATMENT, General Hospital, Postern St. (Nr. Mount St. Car Park), Perth House, (Men) Amberley House (Women) daytime 476161.

It's free!  
No. 12 1986

# GAY Nottingham!

PUT TOGETHER BY GAY MEN

## COUNCIL GETS THE JITTERS

Labour councillors on the Equal Opportunities Committee of the City Council tried to gag the Lesbian & Gay sub Committee, by failing to approve its Minutes which ended with Cllr. Richard McCance voting against the Labour Group. The row occurred because community representatives, angry at the Council for removing a report from the sub-committee's agenda. The report concerned the setting up of a lesbian/gay community centre. The representatives were unanimous in their condemnation of the City Council for trying to suppress discussion on the community centre project. Chris Richardson, one of the reps, said that this was a flagrant breach of trust which undermined the integrity of the sub-committee.

Cllr. McCance, Chairperson of the sub-committee was critical of his party's stand and said that Labour councillors should not hide behind the Conservatives. "It is hypocritical always blaming the Tories for their prejudice when we haven't yet managed to get our own house in order. Some Labour members have got to deal with their own prejudice and fear, first," he added.



CHRIS SMITH, MP.  
In this year's elections to the Executive Committee of the National Council for Civil Liberties, there are three out-gay candidates, out of ten standing for election. They are Chris Smith, MP, Revd. Richard Kirker, of the Gay Christian Movement and Nick Billingham of the Campaign for Homosexual Equality.

Published by GAY NOTTINGHAM, Box 11  
c/o 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham.

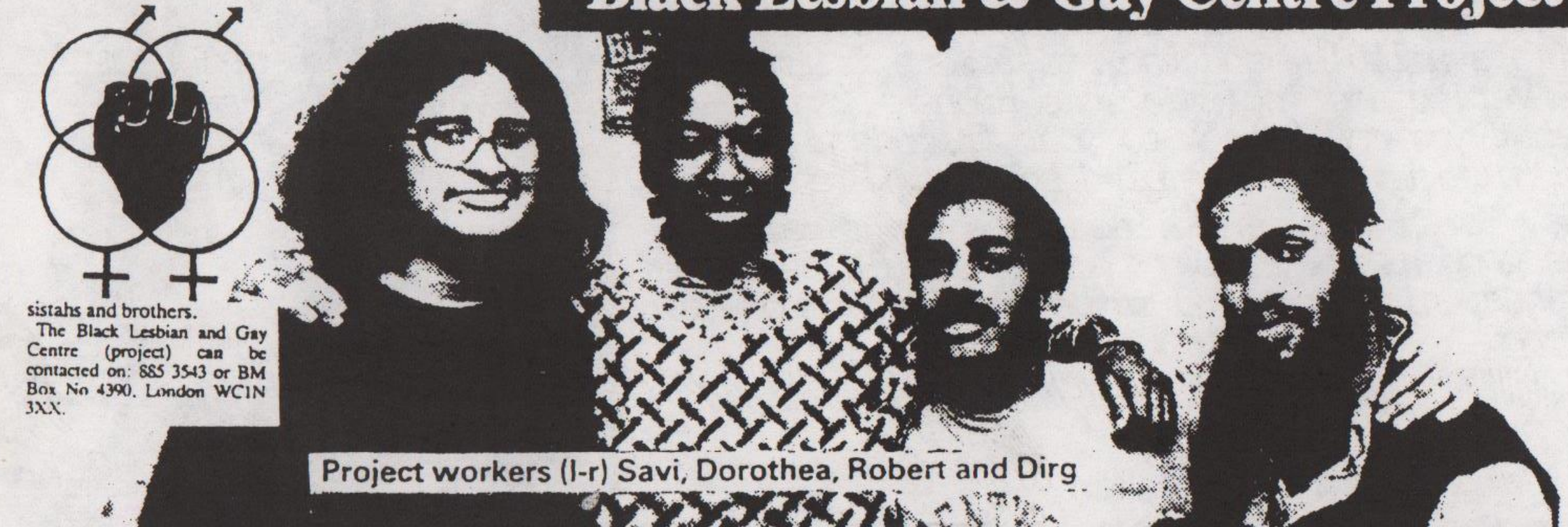
ALTHOUGH 90% OF PEOPLE WITH AIDS ARE GAY

### GAY PRESS IGNORED IN GOVT. AIDS CAMPAIGN

GAY COMMUNITY SNUBBED AS ENTIRE £2 MILLION BUDGET HOGGED BY STRAIGHT MEDIA

The Advertising Agency which is handling the Government's public education campaign on AIDS said last week that ads would not be placed in the gay press when the campaign is launched, and there were no plans to develop specific advertising for the gay community. Instead, gay men who want to read the Government's official advice on AIDS will have to buy papers like 'The Sun' or the 'News of the World', and the millions who don't buy either national dailies or Sunday papers will simply have to do without. This follows on earlier decisions by the Government to ignore gay organisations in the £6.3 million handout to combat AIDS, and the snub delivered to the Terrence Higgins Trust, presently Britain's only AIDS charity, when they were not invited to the recent Newcastle Conference on AIDS.

### Black Lesbian & Gay Centre Project



BLGC aims to provide advice, counselling and support that serves the needs and promotes the interests of Blacklesbians and Blackgay men. We also propose to provide an alternative to straight Black clubs and to the commercial gay scene, and much-needed space for Blacklesbians and Blackgay men by providing a social centre and activities for our selves, by ourselves.

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WORKERS' CONTROL NOT CONTROL OF WORKERS

A group of gay teachers, concerned at the mounting media hysteria over AIDS and the inevitable backlash, are forming a support and social group for all those involved in education. Chris, one of the organizers of the new group said: "We want to try and reach isolated lesbians and gay men from infant to higher education, to help them counter the increasing isolation that many must feel at present". Although the group at present only involves gay men, it is hoped to reach lesbians in education as well. For further information, contact CHRIS 605771.

## PHOENIX

Mon 31 March 7.30pm  
Tues 1 April 87 mins/USA1983/ 6.15pm



### Before STONEWALL

The Genesis of Lesbian and Gay America

Newarke  
Street  
Leicester  
554854

FILM

GAY NOTTINGHAM is quietly celebrating its first birthday. Telegrammes have been received from far and wide including one from someone called Ronnie Regan, who hoped this would be our last issue. Another was received from an M. Thatcher who said the sooner we got on our bikes the better for the decent folk of Nottingham. However, we are glad to thank past and present advertisers and as a gift to all our millions of readers we will be taking personal ads for free! See next issue for more details.

### MUSHROOM

LESBIAN/GAY BESTSELLERS

- 1) GIRLS NEXT DOOR  
Hemming/Bradshaw
- 2) CONVERSATIONS OF COW  
Namjoshi
- 3) BOYS ON THE ROCK  
Fox
- 4) ORANGES ARE NOT THE ONLY FRUIT  
Winterson
- 5) TALES OF THE CITY Maupin

WE NOW STOCK ONE OF THE WIDEST SELECTIONS OF LESBIAN/GAY LITERATURE OUTSIDE LONDON. EXTENSIVE RANGE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE. NOW IN STOCK - LOTS OF NEW GAY BADGES AND ENAMEL PINK TRIANGLES

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JOIN THE GAY NIGHT LIFE

**INTRO  
REDUCED**

Admission with  
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THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

DJ's - Peter Martine - Jon Wilde

Restaurant Open 9pm-2am Licensed to 2 am

Members free before 10.30pm - £2 after

Guests £1.50 before 10.30pm - £3 after

### PENELOPE'S (NIGHT CLUB)

#### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I wish to apply for membership of the Penelope's Night Club and agree to be bound by the rules and bye-laws of the club.

Name .....Occupation.....

Address .....Phone.....

I enclose a cheque/P.O. (made payable to the Penelope's Night Club) for £5.00

Date..... Signature.....

You can join the PENELOPE'S (NIGHT CLUB) by simply filling this form Visitors to the club are welcome

6 Broadway, Lace Market, Nottm Tel 582114

—Management reserve the right of admission—

Well folks, its Nottingham's newest gay venue, so I decided to check it out. It's good to have another night club promoting a "gay night", even though they remain closeted about advertising it. Whatever is a Eurobeat Disco Nite? Who knows, Madisons may get in on the act next.

Zhivago's hasn't got the Astoria's size and the decor, could be more tasteful. However, I felt this place had a lot to offer - booze was cheap at 50p. for beer or spirits and burger snacks were also available, and the staff were friendly. The music, mainly hi-energy was more varied and included some Bronski Beat. And as a bonus, wasn't too loud which meant you could talk to your friends as well. The little round tables sited in the sitting area resembled London's Planetarium. Zhivago's next gay night is Wednesday March 12th, headlined by a group called Seventh Avenue, and if they sound as good as they look, then it should be a good night out! So if you want a good, cheap night out and maybe meeting someone nice then come on down, might see you there. **IVOR WILSON**

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WEDNESDAY 12th MARCH  
(THEN EVERY 2nd WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH)

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"ENDING UPON A HIGH" "I HEAR THUNDER"  
Their latest record  
"LOVES GONE MAD"

9 pm - 2 am  
**OPEN**

Admission with  
this Advert

**50p**

Strict door policy  
Management reserve the  
right to refuse admission

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## It's all at the Co-op



OUR "HOTEL" NEAR AMBLESIDE

river. Everyone had different reasons for making the trip - maybe to meet others away from the pressures of the scene. Richard's frozen spaghetti, was unfreezable so we made do with wine and toast and jam, and thank god for those hairdriers which were pressed into service with the

electric toaster. We had lots of laughs, including an emergency fire drill when Ivor burned the toast. This took us thru until Saturday morning, when half the party refused to leave their beds and the rest of us decided to walk to Grasmere and take the minibus to Lancaster for the day, returning around eight for that spaghetti, and then to the local pub, where Richard introduced us to the delights of the Cumberland sausage, complete with raucous laughter. Later round the coal fire several gave their verdict on the weekend. Ivor felt you could begin to be yourself away from the scene. "Just being friendly in a club is usually misread as a sexual come-on", he said. Alan saw weekends away as enriching and helping to create a sense of belonging together. "I'm not yet out as gay at work, so this helps me prepare to come out and get ready for takeoff", he added. As they reluctantly

You might think co-ops are only about declaring the annual divi, but this is a co-op with a difference, set up by a group of Nottingham lesbians and gays last August, to hasten the arrival of a lesbian/gay community centre for Nottingham. Though the bricks and mortar may take a year or two to arrive, there's no shortage of community spirit, as GAY NOTTINGHAM found out when it joined a party for a winter weekend, (the coldest since 1947), in the Lake District recently.

"We left Nottingham in a snowstorm resembling an Everest expedition, complete with blankets, brandy, hot water bottles, and half a dozen hairdriers. We called in at Manchester to pick up several members and arrived at Ambleside around 11pm, at our converted schoolhouse by the



CO-OPERATORS HAVING A GOOD TIME!

began packing up on Sunday afternoon for the journey home to Nottingham, all agreed the weekend had been great fun, and they were busily and enthusiastically preparing for the next jaunt in the Spring - a weekend in Wales. "...We could hire this castle I know of ..its got a balcony and divided between fifteen, say..." and so it went on. It was clear to me that the community spirit if not the centre had already arrived and was here to stay, and what's more I wouldn't be surprised if they end up with that castle! You can join the NOTTINGHAM GAY PEOPLES CENTRE CO-OP for as little as £2 and each person, whatever the size of their stake in the venture, has an equal say in its running. For further information write to: N.G.P.C.C., c/o Box 11, 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham NG1 3HL.



GETTING THE CHORES DONE

## DOUBLE FIRST

The National Association of Probation Officers (NAPO), was one of the first trade unions with positive action on lesbian and gay rights over ten years' ago. At last year's Trades Union Congress at Blackpool the union put up a strong resolution on equal rights for lesbians and gays, which was passed overwhelmingly. The lesbian and gay group in NAPO were a crucial factor in this success, and although they have only been together a little over two years, they are already a force to be reckoned with. Three key members of the group are Karen Buckley, Denise Rooney and Nick Robinson, all "out" Probation Officers from Nottingham. "Some people join us for support to come out or just for a good time", said Nick. They have already received excellent support from the local branch of the Probation Officers' union. But this resolution is just the start, and shows just what a small, committed group of people can do, with the help of their straight supporters.



NICK, DENISE and KAREN after their success

e · people · people · people · people · people · people · people · people · people · pe

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about

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**GAY OUTDOOR CLUB**

FANCY A CHANGE ??????

The Gay Outdoor Club is holding two Spring Rambles in this area.  
SUN. MAR 16th, Distance 10 Miles,  
meet 11am, Calke Abbey Car Park,  
access from A514 at Ticknall OS 128/  
347-238.

Enquiries: Dave on MFASHAM/ 72642

SUN. MAY 18th, Distance 9 Miles,  
meet 11am Dale Village (Nr. Derby)  
access from A6096 OS 129/436-388.

Enquiries: John on LEICESTER 26617.

G.O.C. Membership details from GOC  
30 Plum Lane, London SE18, 3AF.

## THE METRO CINEMA



### MISHIMA

Wed 12 - Sun 16 March (8.00)

Starring: Ken Ogata, Kenji Sawada,

Director: Paul Schrader

Music by: Philip Glass

USA/Japan 1985 120 mins Subtitles

"Spectacular...it was the best film at  
Cannes and has the uncomfortable  
habit of dwarfing other works."

"Iain Johnston, Sunday Times."

### THE WIZARD OF OZ

Sat 29 March 2.30



Starring: Judy Garland,  
Ray Bolger, Jack Haley,  
and Bert Lahr

Director: Victor Fleming

USA 1940 98 mins

If you're tempted to stay  
home because you've seen  
it on the box - DON'T!  
You haven't seen this film  
until you've seen it on the  
big screen.

### LETTER TO BREZHNEV

Tues 18 - Fri 21 March (8.00)

Sat 22 (6.00 and 9.00),

Sun 23 March (5.00 and 8.00)

Starring: Margi Clarke, Peter Firth,

Alexandra Pigg, Alfred Molina

Director: Chris Bernard

Writer: Frank Clarke.

GB 1985 95 mins.

Brookside writer Frank Clarke and director  
Chris Bernard's escapist fantasy, rooted in  
the gritty mythology of Liverpool life,  
features Russia as the site of romance and  
freedom from the dull routine and narrow  
ambitions of Britain on the dole.  
"It's about youth unemployment, inner city  
decline, and almost every other evil of our  
times... and how to make a film that is fast  
moving, funny and poignant. In short how to  
make a British film." **Jill Forbes.**

GREEN LANE, DERBY 40170