NOTTS. COUNTY COUNCIL:



Mick Wallis & Di Monk (C.L.P. Womens Officer).

Two years ago, Tory-run Rugby Council had an antigay employment policy that was eventually over-turned, now campaigners are hoping to do the same with Labour-controlled Nottinghamshire.

The controlling Labour group refuses to abide by party policy and only after extreme pressure did councillors, led by Dennis Pettitt, make an equal opportunities committment. But this one excludes lesbians and gay men.

gay activists are furious that the council has back-tracked on its pre-election pledges. When the Labour Campaign for Lesbian and Gay Rights wrote to all 47 councillors about the issue

only 4 bothered to reply.

East Midlands LOLGR has called a rally and mass demonstration for October 25th in Market Square, followed by a march on County Hall. The initiative for the rally was taken by lesbians and gays but has the support of many straights, angry at this injustice. Nottingham and Worksop Trades Council have passed resolutions in support of the stand taken.

we expect these councillors to act like representatives of the Labour Party, standing up for people's rights. Instead, they act like right wing bigots. It's disgusting. It brings the Party into disrepute.", said Mick Wallis one of the co-ordinators of the campaign.

Two years ago Rugby Council was forced to change its equal opportunities policy to include lesbians and gay men after a well-organized campeign. (The Tory councillor who spearheaded the anti-gay campaign in Rugby, Keith Judge, lost his seat at last May's elections). This should be a timely reminder to those Labour councillors who think they can do what they like. Their time may be running out! Information of the Nottinghamshire campaign, which includes dates of pickets, and demonstrations, is available from LOLGR, 3 Marlborough Road, Beeston, Nottinghamshire NG92HG.

WELCOME CHE

C.H.E. (The Campaign for Homosexual Equality) returns to Nottingham after nine years for its annual conference, to be held at the George Hotel, Hockley Older readers may remember this as one of Notting-ham's gay bars of thirty years ago. If you have memories of the George in its gay days, Gay Nottingham would love to hear from you.

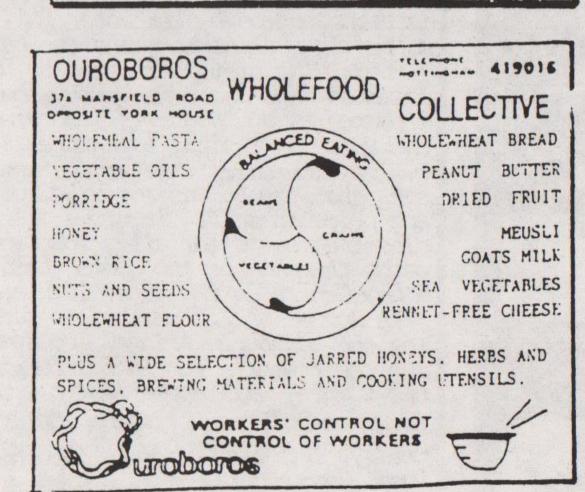
WHOLEFOOD COLLECTIVE

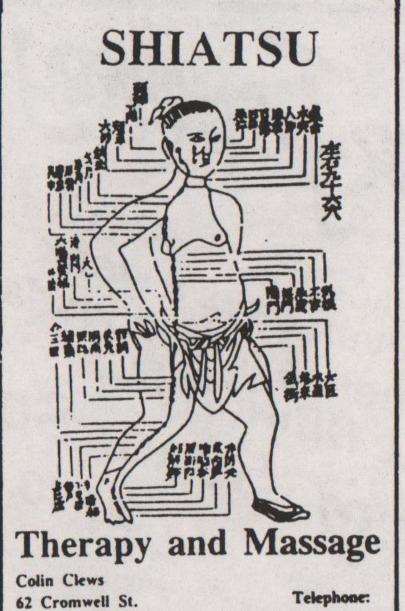
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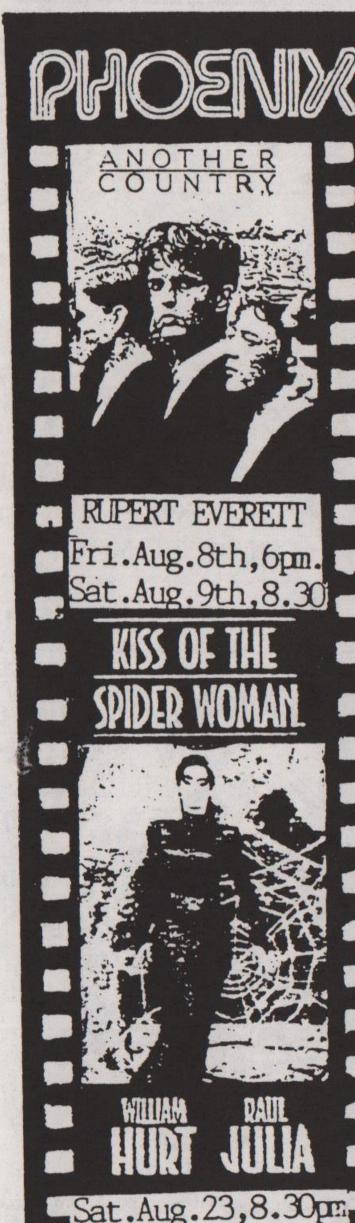
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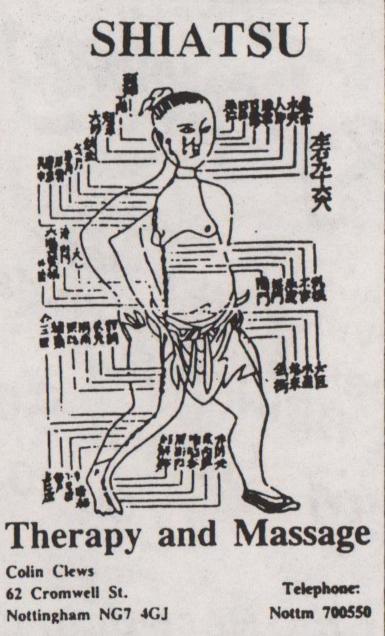
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To answer an ad. in GAY NOTTINGHAM seal your reply in an envelope and write the box No. of the ad. you are replying to in the top right hand corner of the envelope. Place that envelope PLLS A 17p. STAMP in a bigger envelope and send it to us at: GAY NOTTINGHAM, P.O. BOX 34, West P.D.O, Nottingham NG7 2 DL.

NOTTINGHAM - 40-year old guy seeks work and accommodation in Nottingham area. Also would like to meet young guy, over 21, for friendship, possible relationship. All letters answered. BOX 7, GAY NOTTINGHAM, P.O. Box 34, West P.D.O. NOTTINGHAM.

● NOTTINGHAM - Genuine & inexperienced 22-year old, seeks sincere young friend (21-25) for monogamous relationship. Photo appreciated. BOX 7, GAY NOTTINGHAM, P.O. Box 34, West P.D.O. NOTTINGHAM.

NOTTINGHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL - V.D. CLINIC, Daily: Mon-Fri.9.30 to 11.30am. AFTERNOONS: Tues & Wed. 2.00 to 3.30pm.EVENINGS: Mon & Thurs. 4.30 to 6.30pm. SATURDAY: Emergencies only for one hour starting 9.30a.m. (Try to arrive at least half-hour before end of session and please do not pass urine for 4 hours before attending. PHONE: 475989, (clinic hours only) otherwise main hospital number 476161.

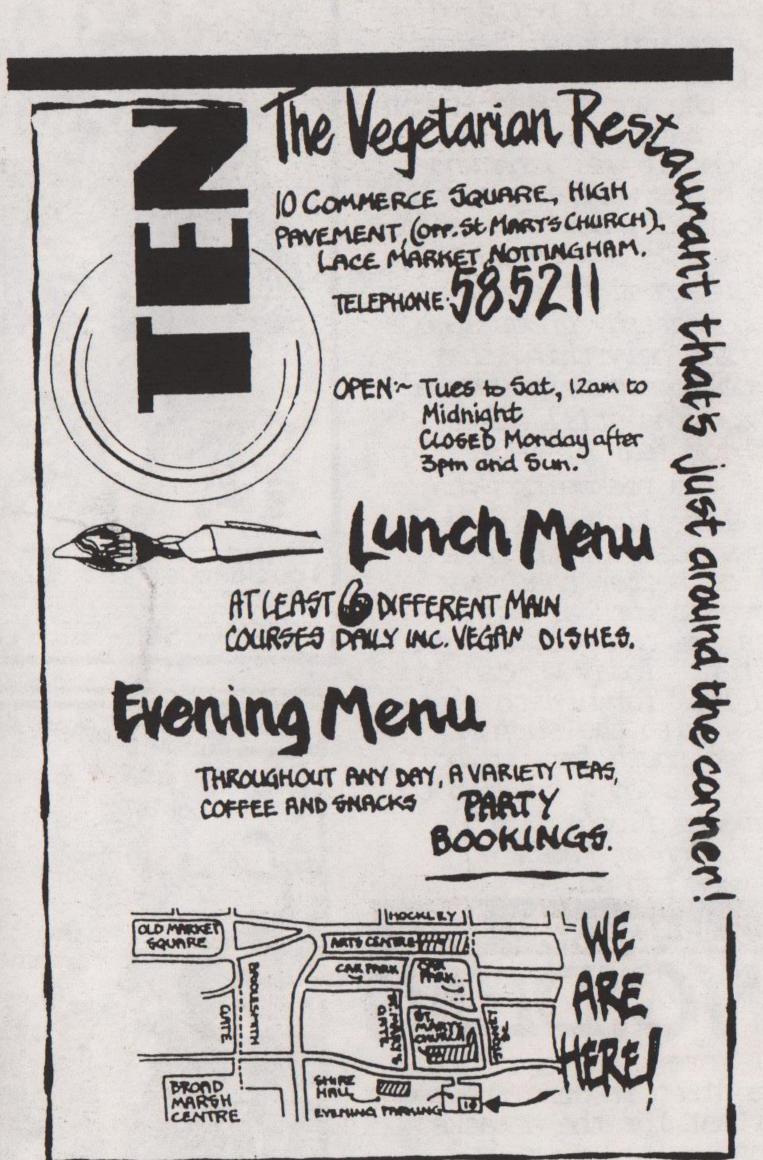
HELPLINES

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. NOTTINCHAM FRIEND, Tuesdays, 7-10pm, counselling & befriending for lesbians & gay men, bisexuals, TV/IS's 474717, c/o 3la Mansfield Road, Nottingham.

AIDS HELPLINE, Worried about AIDS? call up Mons & Tues. 7-10pm, Nottingham 585526. Accurate info. can help reduce anxiety.

STOP PRESS

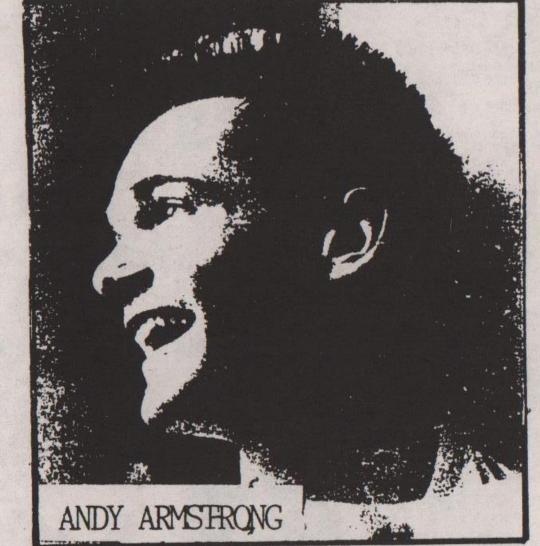




Published by GAY NOTTINGHAM, Box 34, West P.D.O, Nottingham, NG7 2DL.

CO-OP BREAKS £1,000 BARRIER

Nottingham Lesbian & Gay Co-op Society, the first of its kind in the country, has raised over £1,200 towards the setting up of a lesbian/gay community centre in Nottingham. With nearly 100 members the Co-op has now been approved by the registrar of Friendly Societies.



A membership drive, donations and jumble sales helped swell funds and the social side hasn't been forgotten either with trips to South Wales, The Lake District and Gay Pride 86. Exchange visits have also been underway between the Nottingham Co-op who visited Cardiff in May and the South Wales Co-op, whose members are due to visit Nottingham over August Bank Holiday, when a series of events are planned.

Andy Armstrong, a member of the Co-op Committee said: 'The centre is our target - we are now several steps nearer, though lots of hard work remains It may take several years until the Centre is a reality; that's why we're building up community spirit in the meantime",

Already members of the Nottingham Co-op are looking for suitable premises, with City Council help.

Future plans include a competition to findthe best logo design for the centre, and the exploration of twinning links with Nottingham's twin cities, and more socials and outings in the Autumn.

It costs only £2 to join the Co-op. Details from Nottingham Lesbian & Gay Community Centre Co-op Society, Box 11, 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, (S.A.E. please).

?-year wait for triumph



A MAJOR and resounding victory for the les-Friday when Customs dropped all criminal charges against Gay's The Word bookshop European Court ruling about imported inflatable sex dolls was the deciding factor.

The dramatic and surprising climb-down follows bian and gay community was celebrated last months of lobbying from the gay community MPs, the National Council for Civil Liberties and authors and publishers. It brings to an end twoand its nine directors. And it seems that a bookshop, and Customs have finally admitted that the laws regarding the impor tation of books are a complete shambles.

ALFRED STONE (Con)

WOULD YOU TRUST THEM?

TED HICKEY (Con)

These faces look friendly enough of Tory Councillors, Ted Hickey (Beechdale Ward) and Alf Stone (Robin Hood Ward). But read on. This is what they have said about us. "These people are unfortunate. We know they exist and no one should set out to injure them" EVENING POST, 8.3.85. And again: It saddens me. spending money on a lesbian centre" EVENING POST, 18.7.86. At the City Council

meeting on 28th July, 1986, Ted Hickey said (about the Gay Pride Newspaper): "I don't want this pornographic filth sent to me through the post". He is not a member of the Equal Opportunities Committee. Could you afford to trust either of these men to look after your interests on the City Council? The next elections take place in May 1987. If you don't like what they are saying about you, then use your vote and make sure they are not re-elected to the Nottingham City Council!



Nottingham, Sept. 12th, (see story P.3)

-MUSHROOM

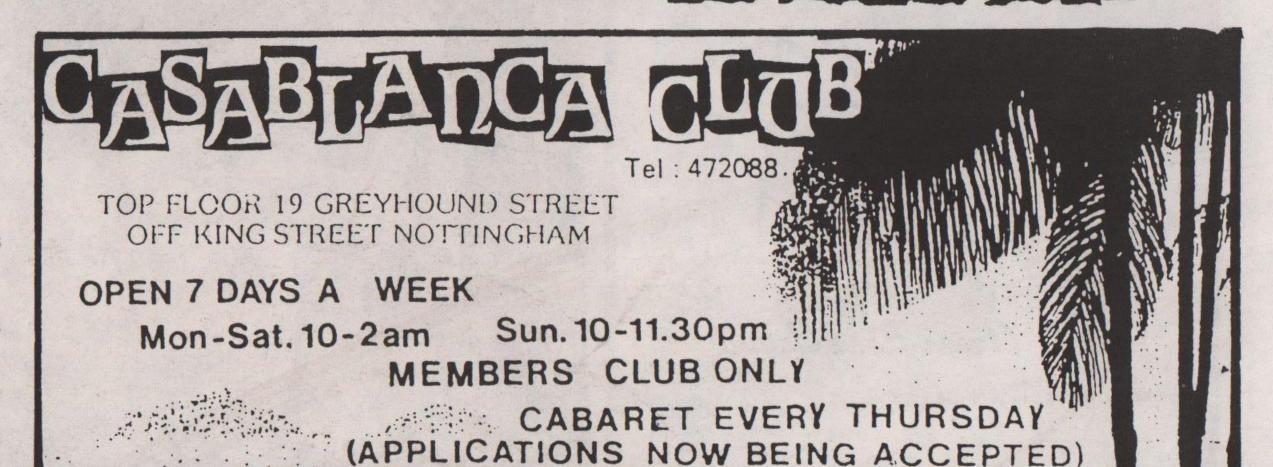
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· people · people

We are sitting in John and Paul's flat in Nott- o Pssssst.... ingham, turning the pages of the photograph album, and land upon a photo, discoloured by time, of two younger men, recognisably Paul and John staring proudly into the future. It was 1973. was living in Ravenshead at the time", says Paul, the only son of a miner. I was in the local pub and across the bar was John. It was a Q knowing, lingering look that told me he was interested". John was 37 and married to a Dutchwoman at 19, stationed in Holland in the R.A.F. during his national service, now with two teenage boys of his own. "We talked a bit and arranged to meet the next week. I never thought

he would turn up", laughed John. "but he did".
Within six months of meeting they had set up home in a flat in Mapperley Park. John arrived with his world in two carrier bags, intent on making a completely new life for himself. "We started with nothing and worked hard over the years. We have always pooled our money - we have a joint bank account. What we own today is not John's or Paul's but "ours". We always do things together - sometimes one of us gets offended if the other is not asked out by friends, who unthinkingly, exclude one of us".

"What's the point on living with someone if you both live separate lives", says John. For the first ten years of their relationship they never had any use for clubs or pubs, but spent time homebuilding and getting to know one ano-Shiftwork has been a feature of much of their daily routine over the years. Paul as a post office worker and trade union official, and John a former miner down Calverton Pit, now recently retired from the hosiery trade. "in the early years we spent a lot of us time passing on the stairs - our day was that broken up".

Consequently both are adept at managing the home More recently Paul was a member of the City Council's Lesbian & Gay Sub Committee and during his time there he fought a case of victimisation of another gay postal worker.

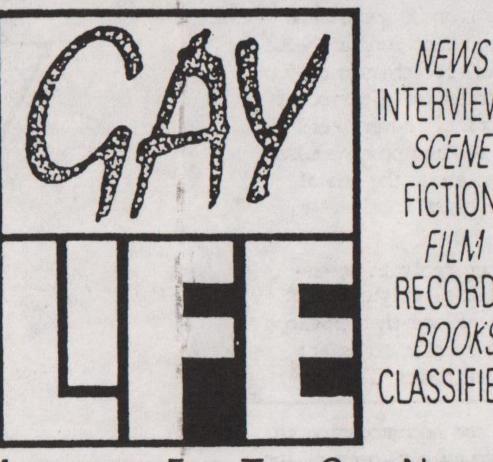
John sees his two sons and is on friendly

John sees his two sons and is on friendly terms with them. One lives round the corner and the other joined his mother in Rotterdam, Holland. They are about the same age as Paul and often visit us. They must know we are gay, alwe havent spelt it out to them", remarked John.

I asked John when he first realized he was gay. "When I was 13, but you are told it's just a passing phase, so I got married, though my wife knew I had gay feelings. When the children were old enough that was it, we decided to separate.

Paul's mother knows he is gay and was very supportive, wanting what was right for him. He believes his sisters know, but says his Dad doesent want to know, but must have some idea. "We sometimes sleep in the double bed at home so it couldn't be much clearer, could it?"





INTERVIEWS SCENE FICTION RECORDS BOOKS ASSIFIEDS

THE NEW MAGAZINE FOR THE GAY NORTH To advertise or subscribe ring Andrew or Chris on (061) 236 6026

We never hide our sexuality from people and move freely in gay and non-gay company. "I often in-troduce Paul as 'my lad', Through the years we met gays or lesbians when they came out to us. Often they would say, 'well you know I am like you and Paul, so our circle of friends gradually widened.

We have always liked meeting new people (who kept popping out of the photo al-album as we talked. They usually take two holidays a year, one in winter the other in summer - and they say they will probably retire to Malta where they have friends.

For sometime Paul has been active in the Spiritualist Church and was a Vice President of one of the local churches. Did they get any hassle for being gay? "this has never been a problem. You dont have to attend church to practice your religion it's what you do with your life that counts".

Over the years separate in-terests have fused. When they first met it was John who spent hours watching cricket and football, now they both do. Paul is a keen photographer and might start up a gay photography group someday.

About the only thing they dont do together is snorkelling as John still has a childhood fear of water. To date I was reckoning John

must have spent nearly half his life living with John I asked what was the key to the success of theirlife together? "You'll generally not do better than what you've got", said Paul. You have to work at any relationship - over the years ours has changed, as we all change, in our case for the better. Today we can look back on thirteen happy yearsand look forward to whatever times we have left together, with the support and love of each other. He usually go south for our holidays, but we ventured north to Amsterdam when John took me to see his old haunts - he speaks fluent Dutch) Age is clearly not a problem for John or Paul, nor should it be. That's what teamwork can do.

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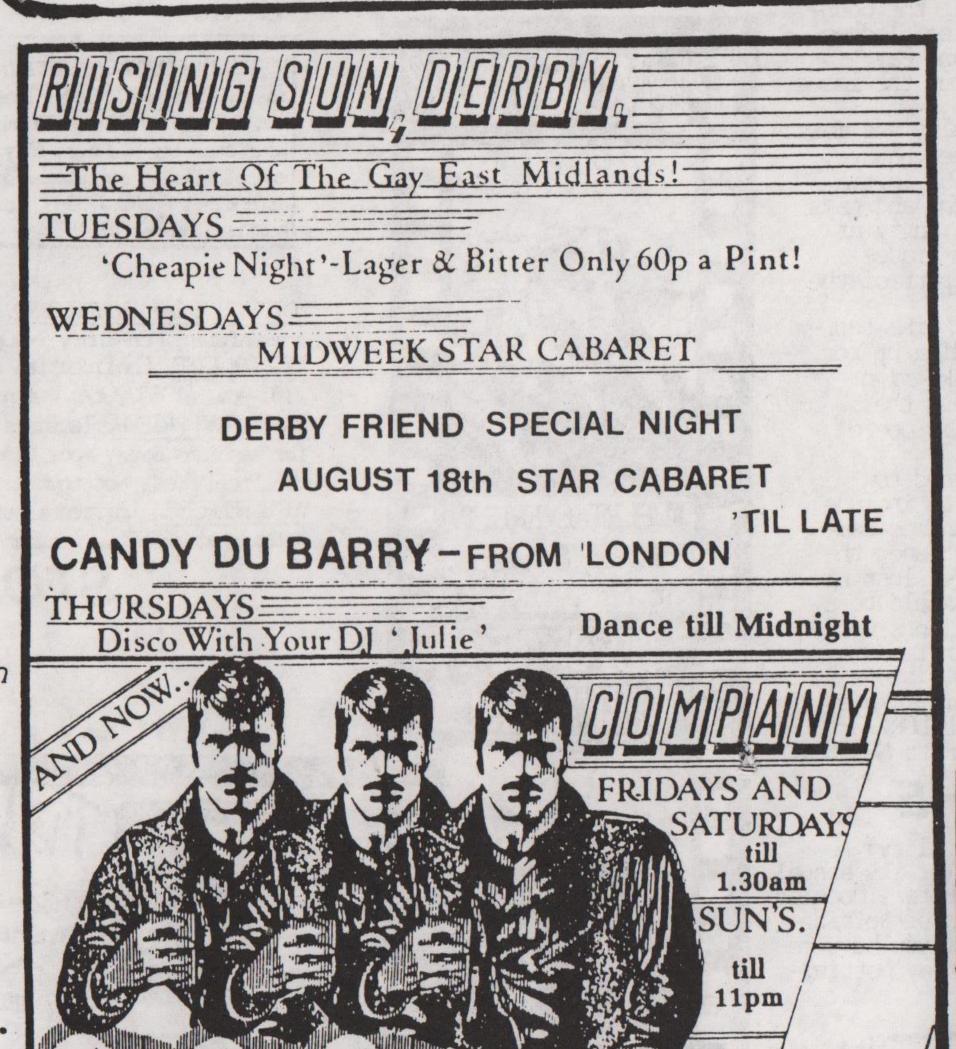
Cay Nottingham is appealing for more witnesses to the alleged incident at the Astoria disco in June, to come nan to come forward. If you can assist in any way please write to GAY NOTTINGHAM, P.O. Box 34, West PDO,

Nottingham.

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Doubles

MON/TUES 7-10pm



DEATH IN A FRENCH GARDEN Sat 23, Sun 24 August 6.30/9.00

Starring: Michael Piccoli, Nicole Garcia Anemone (15) France 1985, 101 mins. Director: Michel Deville

When David, a young down-at-heel musician is invited to the Tombsthay house he expects to give guitar lessons to the daughter. Instead he is seduced by the mother and drawn into a web of intrigue involving the suavely sinister husband, a melancholy hit man, explosive devices, hidden cameras, a limping, nosey woman neighbour and culminating in murder.

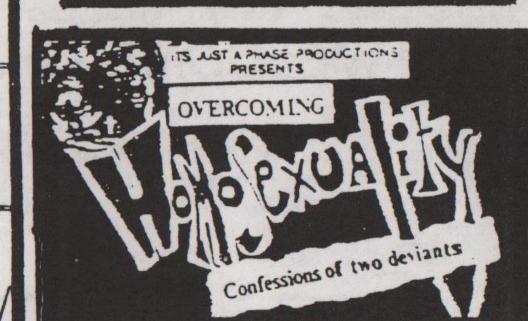
Deville's elegant, erotic thriller gradually appears to be a hybrid of different nfluences, with the acidic black humour of the narrative interplay inextricably and wonderfully.

STREETWISE

Wed 27, Thur 28 August 8.00

Director: Martin Bell USA 1984 91 mins protector Jack: 'Tiny', a fourteen year-old prostitute is the daughter of an alcoholic waitress; DeWayne is a sickly sixteer year-old whose father is in jail for attempted arson; 'Shadow' is an eighteen year-old pimp who thinks of himself as a playboy Originating from an article in 'Life' magazine, 'Streetwise' documents the lives of a large group of teenagers in the northwestern city of Seattle, who for different reasons, have drifted into the sleazy world of drug-dealing, petty theft months on the streets, shooting over fift hours of footage and painstakingly recording hours of commentary from the subjects themselves. The edited finished article is inevitably controversial, chieft because it constantly functions ambivalently, treading, as it does, the precarious path between socially aware essential reasons for them being where they

GREEN LANE DERBY 40170



"Overcoming Homosexuality" (Confessions of Two Deviants), devised by two eicester Poly students as part of their exams. in Performing Arts, has made it to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, despite a threat by Fringe or-ganizers to "dump" the gay theatre company. The ban arose when the or-ganizers realised the subject of the play. They told the company not to come as Scouts would be using the same hall! But a threatened boycott of the Fringe Festival by other productions put on by Leicester Poly. re-sulted in a climbdown, and the ban lifted. The play, performed by Dar-ren Brady and Jamie Mc. Carthy and directed by Jo. Docherty, concerns the autobiographical adventures of two gay men amidst the voices and images that try to destroy a helief and pride in self. It blows open the closet once and for all! You can catch the show at the London Lesbian & Gay Centre on the 15th, 16th and 17th Aughst at 7.30pm, before playing the Edinburgh Fringe. Following their week's run in Edinburgh the company will appear for one performance only in Nottingham on Friday, 12th September at Internat-

ional Community Centre, 61b Mansfield Road, (more details for tickets and reviews, in next G.N.).