

THE GAY FREEBY

NOTTINGHAM TWIN CITY: GAY FESTIVAL.

Karlsruhe is Nottingham's Twin City in Germany and a short while ago they had a Gay Festival which comprised of a series of events over a weekend. I went on behalf of Nottingham Gay Switchboard. The whole Festival and the organisation behind it was most impressive.

It started Friday evening with a public debate on various Gay issues. On the platform were local politicians (left and right), representatives of the churches and a judge to name but a few. It was attended by about 300 people and was very lively. Saturday morning saw a Gay Pride March through the streets, followed by a rally in the main square. The organisers called it a demonstration, which it certainly was but it also managed to achieve a carnival atmosphere. There were about 500 marchers, not many you might say but could you imagine 500 Gay Men and Lesbians marching through Nottingham? It was interesting to note that there were very few police present and what there were seemed only to be there to control the traffic chaos the march caused. In the afternoon there was a press conference with myself, representatives from France and Switzerland in attendance. Saturday evening saw a huge party from 7pm until 3am.

Part of a conference centre was hired and there was a bar (ofcourse) food available, a disco, a cabaret and two Gay Theatre Groups, some party!.

After the party I staggered onto a train and headed back to Nottingham, wondering why Nottingham or for that matter any other major city outside London does not have such a Gay Festival.

Michael.

GREEN LANE GOES GAYER...

Derby's GREEN LANE GALLERY are sponsoring a series of gay films at the nearby Metro Cinema this winter. The first two will be in October, and will be followed by a further two in March 1985. No more information is available at the moment, so watch out for the Metro's winter season publicity!

The Metro Cinema is in Green Lane, about fifty yards down from the Gallery. No prizes for guessing where I'll be going for my pre/post-film drink!

The Green Lane Gallery's support for the Derby Gay community was further illustrated recently by a 'mag' sale which raised £16 for Gay Switchboard.

IN BRIEF:

We regret the non-appearance of issue 1 of the GAY FREEBY at The Manor, Nottingham; we hope we will be able to persuade the management to distribute future issues...

FIRST FOR NOTTINGHAM!

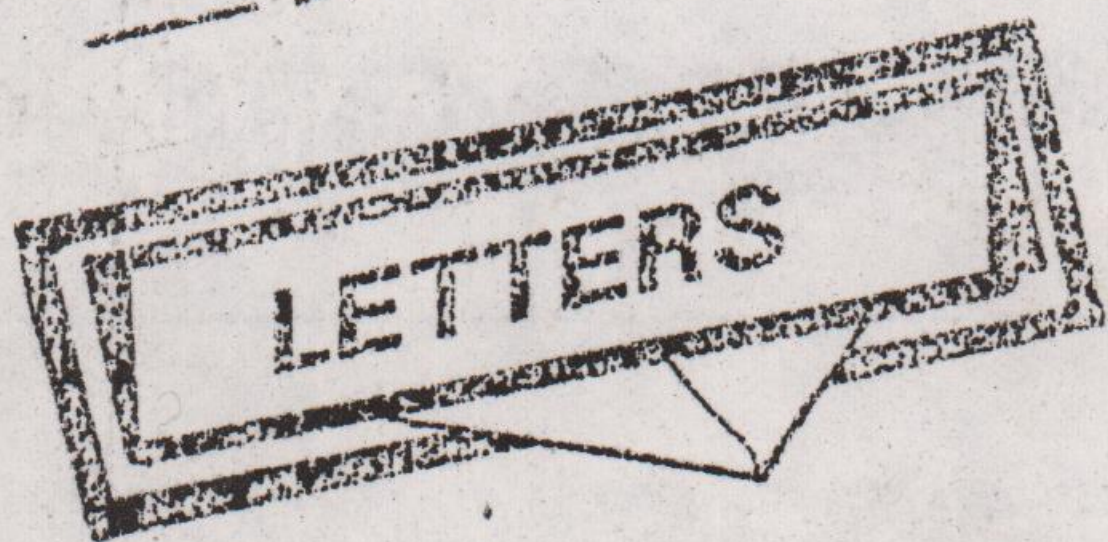
A number of Lesbians and Gay Men from Nottingham represented Britain (yes, all of it) at an international Gay Conference entitled 'Friendship and Desires' in Amsterdam in early August. This was a congress and Festival to discuss and attempt to resolve oppression of Lesbian and Gay Human Rights. More in the next issue...

Dear G.E.M.

The Womens Disco at the HEARTY GOODFELLOW is now being run every SATURDAY instead of every alternate Saturday. It is being supported by Nottingham Lesbian Group and Lesbian Line in conjunction with the Womens Disco Collective. Hopefully the additional Saturday evening will provide a different type of atmosphere to the regular fortnightly disco, to enable Women to come by themselves to meet and talk to other women. The music will be different and we hope to put on events occasionally, such as NASTY HABITS, a new Lesbian band in Nottingham.

ALL WOMEN are welcome to come: 8.30pm start. Admission is 30p before 9.30pm and 50p after that, we are not out to make a profit, all proceeds go to LESBIAN LINE, the LESBIAN GROUP and other Womens Groups. For further information contact, Lesbian Line: 410652.

From Nottingham Womens Disco Collective,
and Lesbian Group.



NOTTINGHAM'S NEW LESBIAN CENTRE

On December 3rd last year a lesbian and gay conference was held in Nottingham with the participation of the City Council to discuss the possibility of a lesbian and gay Centre being set up in Nottingham. From various other meetings with the council it became clear to many of us that whilst the council were prepared to give us their verbal support they were unable to guarantee any money. Few people became really involved in this campaign so that the few women and men actually trying to negotiate with the council soon lost heart and did not have the energy to continue.

But for many lesbians in Nottingham the conference provided a positive starting point for an increase in lesbian unity here. This and a lesbian workshop at the women's festival provided the basis for a new lesbian group which has been meeting regularly ever since.

On Monday evenings at 7.30pm there is an open lesbian social meeting at the Women's Centre. This usually incorporates discussing any matter that someone feels is our concern, e.g. a coming social event. We also have a meeting every other Wednesday to discuss the Lesbian Centre.

As some of you may know, the Women's Centre are hoping to move to much larger premises on St. James's Street. Within this large building the rooms will be allocated to the various groups who wish to use the centre. At an open viewing of the building many lesbians came to see the building because it had been suggested that we might ask for a large space within this building to be our own Lesbian Centre.

Without trying to draw a plan I shall attempt to explain what the Lesbian Centre would consist of. There would be a beautifully light open space, probably half as big again as the top room at the 'Hearty', which could be used as a coffee bar and general daytime social meeting place. In the evenings the regular discos could happen with a pool table and general drinking facilities. We could also have a room that could serve as an office for the general administration and a library of lesbian literature. We would also have separate offices for Lesbian Line.

At the moment, of course, this is still all at the planning stage. Also, when we first move in we will not be able to use all the space that I have described above. Some of the other groups may have to borrow space from us to start with because of all the building work and alterations that will have to take place in other parts of the building. But eventually it will be the Lesbian Centre as described above. We are also hoping to get some financial support from the council as the Labour Party manifesto expressed a commitment to helping lesbians and gays.

If any of you want to help get this venture off the ground, please phone Lesbian Line and they will give you details of the relevant meetings.

I look forward to seeing all of you there.

Jo Fraser

NOTTINGHAM: LESBIAN LINK.

Lesbian Link was first started at the end of 1979. It is run by a group of enthusiastic Lesbians whose aim is to provide a confidential advice, support and information service for Lesbians.

We run on a voluntary basis and are always looking for new Lesbians to join us, as we hope to expand by operating more than just Monday nights, 7.30-9.00pm.

Our only income comes from personal donations or proceeds from raffles etc. Just recently we had a meeting with Gay Switchboard, which has given a much more positive impetus.

If anybody would like to contact us with any problems or to work on the Line then please ring us on

MONDAY NIGHTS: 7.30-9.00pm

Tel, 410652.

BOOKSHOP AND CRAFTS, OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY 10AM TO 6PM

MUSHROOM

10 HEATHCOTE STREET, NOTTINGHAM

TELEPHONE 105021 582506

NO, WE'RE NOT ANOTHER TRENDY CLOTHES
SHOP IN HOCKLEY, BUT WE'RE
NOTTINGHAM'S BEST BOOKSHOP...
SEE YOU SOON !

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

MUSHROOM

"NASTY HABITS"

The group NASTY HABITS came about rather more by accident than by planning. It all started in the winter of 1983 when the Morrigan Lesbian Housing Co-operative were planning certain events to make Christmas an extremely festive occasion. We thought we'd have a pantomime with certain songs being performed to illustrate the story. Anyway, to cut a long story short. . . . it never happened. Instead the three of us decided to go out carol singing to raise some money for the Christmas booze.

After Christmas we - that's Jo, Trina and Sarah - that we wanted to carry on. So we started to learn new songs - anything that we could sing in three-part harmony that was either apolitical or which had a slant that suited our own politics and sexuality.

We soon decided that some accompaniment would not go amiss and so we decided to ask Liz if she would be willing to join us. That's when we made really our first move into original material - Liz had already written some songs which we found suited our talents admirably. Last but not least I (Jo) met Ruth at the Poly Women's Group. Not only did she have the required credential of being a Lesbian, but she could also play the 'cello which we thought would compliment the band nicely.

Since those early days, six months ago, we have discovered that amongst the five of us we have a multitude of talents and potential to develop some more. Three of us have written songs which we perform, three can play bass guitar, three can play the piano, the 'cellist plays the bongos (not simultaneously), one of the members is making a valiant attempt to learn the saxophone (she provides ear plugs on request) and we all sing.

All this basically means that we are a sound engineer's nightmare. Having got the sound balance right for one song the poor engineer then has to do an almost total remix for the next song which has different vocalists and a different instrumental set-up.

We're very new as bands go and therefore we still have a lot to learn. We hope that our various musical backgrounds of classical, folk, jazz and popular music will enable us to perform a diverse variety of music, all of which has our own personal stamp. We also hope to become more politically poignant, especially on the issue of sexual politics.

Jo Fraser

Sex at the Co-op?

Mr Munby is a new play by Leonard Hill and will be staged at the Co-operative Arts Theatre, George St., Nottingham on Friday 24th August at 7pm. Its a study set in the nineteenth century of how Mr Munby's fascination for muscular working women illuminates working conditions and attitudes towards philanthropy at the time.

The very lively production includes song, dance and music and illuminates a wide area of Victorian sexuality and social conditions that is of interest to anyone concerned with sexism in life today.

Mr Munby is presented by Action Theatre and directed by Stuart Wood in a sneak preview of the play prior to its preview at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

"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

MANTRAVEL Presents:
AMSTERDAM.

26th-28th October 84
£42.

Contact, Mantravel,
Tony Caulton, Abbots-
Hill, Gower St, Derby
DE1 1SD.

130 GREEN LANE, DERBY, DE1 1RY

8-10.30 (11.00 FRI & SAT)

also lunch times

Thurs Fri Sat Sun

NOTTINGHAM GAY YOUTH MOVEMENT !!!!! :

CONTACT BEN AND MICHAEL : NOTTINGHAM GAY SWITCHBOARD
31A MANSFIELD RD. NOTTINGHAM

LISTINGS

GEM GAY FREEBY - HELP!

If you would like to help produce the GEM Gay Freeby then please get in touch; our address is on page 4. All offers very welcome!

We particularly need help with distribution, especially in Leicester: if you are not averse to dropping Freeby on a few doorsteps then please contact us!

NOTTINGHAM:

CLUB: Part Two, Robert House, 5-13 Canal St, Disco/2 Bars/Lounge, open Tues-Sat, 9.30-2am. 1st Friday every month, "THE BLUES" Leather, Denim, Uniform. Tues-Thurs' Members FREE, guests £2. Fri-Sat, Mem's £1.50, guests £2.50. Tel 558866.

DISCO: Astoria, 1st Mon' every month. 9-2am, Holds 1400, Three Bars cheap drinks before 12. Grey Friar Gate, Tel 580555.

COUNSELLING: NOTTINGHAM FRIEND tel 476714 tues evngs 7-10pm or write c/o CVS, 31a Mansfield Rd.

DISCO: WOMENS 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, Nottm NG1 3FF, or Mike, 55196. GAY CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT meets every 3rd Fri of month alternately in Nottm 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 (NGSOG): meets 2/3 times weekly. Write c/o CVS, 31a Mansfield Rd, Nottm. or tel Peter 851521, David 216447 or via Gay Switchboard. meets every Mon at Foresters pub, Huntingdon St, and every Thurs at CVS.

NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY GAYSOC: c/o Students' Union, Portland Building, Univ of Nottm, NG7 2RD. Meets alternate weds in the darts room, "Narrow boat pub Canal St (phone 580421) Mons 8-12pm for details.)

INFO: LESBIAN LINE tel 410652 mon 7.30-9pm. NOTTINGHAM GAY SWITCHBOARD: tel 411454 or 476714 Mon, Wed & Thurs 7-10 pm for confidential help and advice for gay and bisexual people.

PUBS: 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.

NOTTINGHAM LESBIAN GROUP: meets alternate Mons at the Women's Centre, a social pressure Group (info from Lesbian Line).

DERBY:

GROUPS: DERBY GAY GROUP meets every Friday at the Green Lane Gallery, 8.30pm. Social meetings weekly; tel. Jeff, Derby 664234, Thursday evenings.

GAY CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT meets every 3rd Fri in Month alternately in Derby and Nottingham. Tel. Charles, Derby 833294.

GAY FELLOWSHIP meets Sun afternoons; tel. Ken, Derby 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. 351639.

PUBS: GREEN LANE GALLERY WINE BAR: 130, Green Lane, Derby. 8-10.30pm (11pm Fri & Sat); also lunchtimes Thurs, Fri, Sat & Sun. Wed Women Welcome Tel. 368352.

WAGON AND HORSES, Ashbourne Rd. Lounge Bar Sat-Wed evenings only. Mixed.

OLD AVESEBURY, Gasmaston Road, Fridays.

INFO/COUNSELLING: Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, Dept. of Genito-Urinary Medicine, London Rd. Derby. Tel 47141 ext 504, 2579 & 2577.

MANSFIELD:

DISCO: THE WHITE HART, Church St, upstairs lounge/disco room. Thurs-Sun evngs. No membership, entrance free. tel 23607.

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

LEICESTER:

CLUB: SPOTS, St. James' St. (off Humberstone Gate) Mon - Sat 9.30 - 2am. Suns 9-12. tels 50785 for details of membership and admission details.

DISCOS: OLD BLACK SWAN. Occasional disco. New gay management. tel leics 21017

GROUPS. EAST MERCIA MSC, leather/denim Club. Phone Mike or Tony on Leicester 734331. Men Only.

GAY OUTDOOR CLUB (East Midland Group): contact John Leics 26617.

GAY YOUTH GROUP: (14-21). social support group, meets every Tues. For Contact ring Gayline 826299.

LEICESTER GAY GROUP: Meets Last Fri of month. Friends Meeting House, Queens Rd, 8pm & different weekley venues. Varied Social Programme. tel David 735049.

LEICESTER POLY GAYSOC: tel Gayline for info.

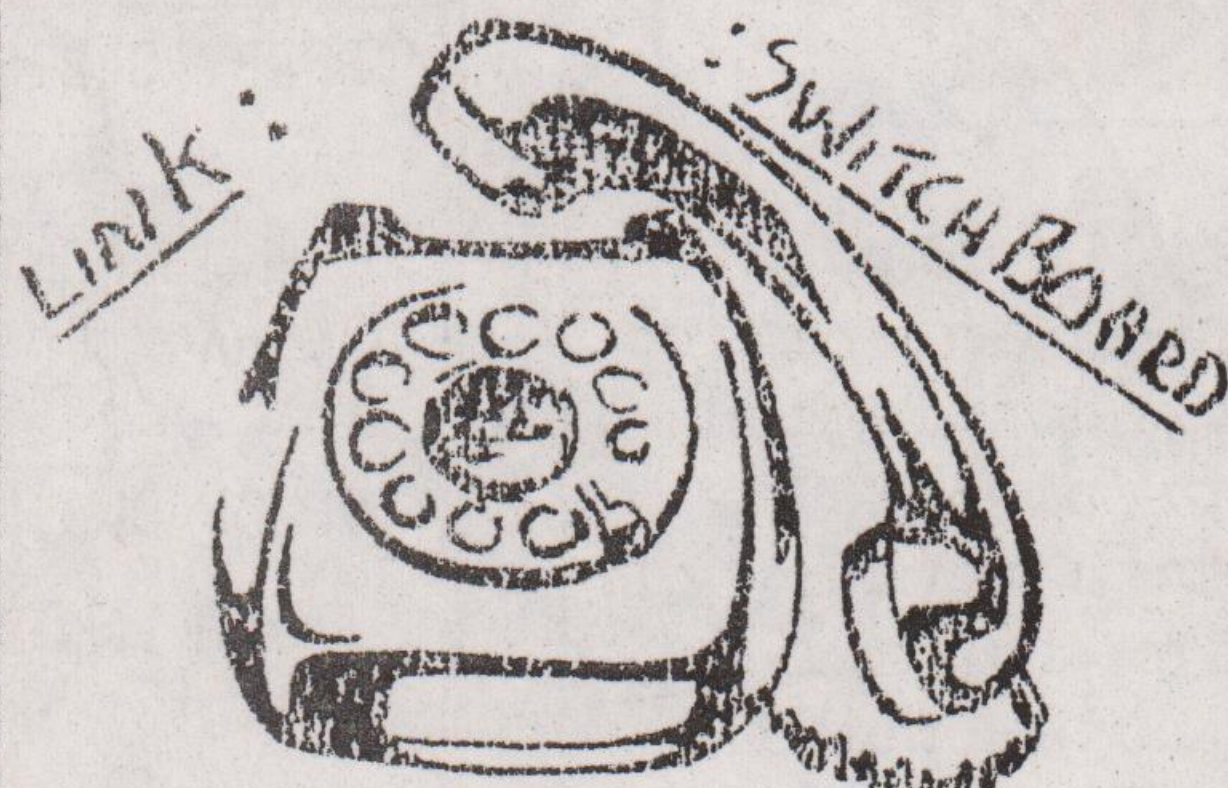
LEICESTER UNIVERSITY GAYSOC: meets Tues (term time) meeting room 1, Percy Gee Building, 1.30 pm.

PUBS: DOVER CASTLE, 34 Dover St, Disco Bar, men & women, almost exclusively gay. OLD BLACK SWAN: Belgrave Gate. Meals snacks etc., Meals license until 11.30 pm. nightley. all welcome

VD TREATMENT: leicester Royal Infirmary, Dept. of Genito-Urinary Medicine, Infirmary Close, Leics Tel 541414 ext 5208.

INFO AND FRIENDSHIP: LEICESTER GAYLINE-FRIEND, tel 826299 Mon-Fri evngs 7.30-10.30pm (24 hour answering machine).

LEICESTER GAY ACTION: Gay rights campaigning group. Contact Kris Griffin Leics 826299.



OUROBOROS

37a MANSFIELD ROAD
OPPOSITE YORK HOUSE

WHOLEFOOD

TELEPHONE
NOTTINGHAM 419016

COLLECTIVE

WHEATWHEAT PASTA

VEGETABLE OILS

PORRIDGE

HONEY

BROWN RICE

NUTS AND SEEDS

WHEATWHEAT FLOUR

BALANCED EATING

BEANS

GRAINS

VEGETABLES

WHEATWHEAT BREAD

PEANUT BUTTER

DRIED FRUIT

MUESLI

GOATS MILK

SEA VEGETABLES

RENNET-FREE CHEESE

PLUS A WIDE SELECTION OF JARRED HONEYS, HERBS AND SPICES, BREWING MATERIALS AND COOKING UTENSILS.



ouroboros



OUROBOROS WHOLEFOOD
COLLECTIVE

Needs NEW WORKERS with energy
and commitment!. INTERESTED?
Pop in and see us or ring 419016.

LESBIAN LINK
NOTTM: 410652.
GAY SWITCHBOARD
NOTTM: 411454-476714

The GEM GAY FREEBY is published for the Lesbians and Gay Men of Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Leicestershire by the GAY EAST MIDLANDS COLLECTIVE, c/o 118 Mansfield Rd, Nottingham. Printed by the GEM Collective at the 118 Workshop, Nottingham.