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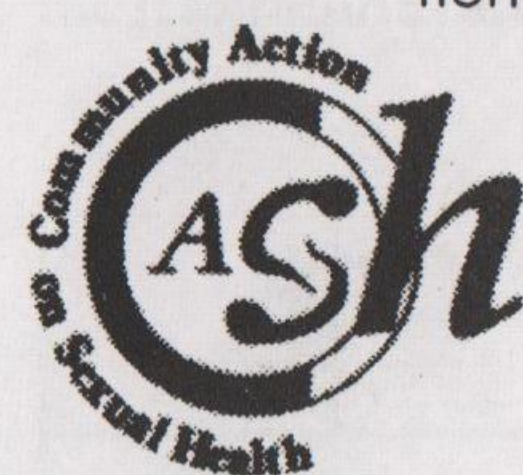
### Services for Gay & Bisexual Men & Women in North Derbyshire

#### INFORMATION

around safer sex HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases

#### ADVICE & SUPPORT

on all sexual health issues - physical & emotional



#### TRAINING

around sexual health & sexuality, anti-homophobia etc

#### LEAFLETS & POSTERS

and other resources

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also water based lubricants and dental dams

#### CONTACT

Richard Marriott

4 Rose Hill Chesterfield S40 1LW

Tel 01246 559 431

CASH is part of  
North Derbyshire  
Health's  
Health Promotion  
Programme

## 11th Lesbian+Gay film festival

on tour to Phoenix Arts throughout July and August



**It's in the Water** (15) • Tue 15 July 8.30pm

**Junky Punky Girlz Shorts** (18) • Thu 17 July 8.30pm

**Sebastian** (12) • Fri 18 July 9.00pm

**Female Perversions** (18) • Tue 22 July 8.45pm, Wed 23 July 6.05pm

**Alive & Kicking** (15) • Tue 5 Aug 6.15pm, Wed 6 Aug 8.30pm

**The Escort** (18) • Fri 15 Aug 9.15pm

**Johns** (18) • Tue 19 Aug 6.15pm, Wed 20 Aug 8.30pm

**Mum's the Word** (18) • Tue 19 Aug 8.30pm

**Boys Shorts** (18) • Wed 20 Aug 6.15pm

Advance Sales & Box Office  
**0116 255 4854**  
Phoenix Arts, Newarke St, Leicester

**PHENIX**

A R T S  
Phoenix Arts is a registered charity • Photo: ITS IN THE WATER

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# out right!

for gays lesbians & bisexuals  
issue 86 june/july 1997  
free

## Council Snubs Gay Event

*Not one of Coventry's 54 councillors found time to attend a major LGBT community event ... only a handful could be bothered to send apologies ... and the outgoing Lord Mayor doesn't like our 'proclivities'!*

After months of hard work it came as a great disappointment to Coventry's LGBT Coalition that although they invited the entire City Council to the launch of their latest report to discuss plans for a new gay resource centre, no councillors turned up to find out what their gay constituents need.

One councillor who did let them know he wouldn't be attending was outgoing Lord Mayor, Cllr Stan Hodson, sending a brusque letter saying that he 'would have nothing to do with such in either Council or other premises', and adding that he wasn't interested in their proclivities and that sexuality was a private matter not to be seen as a 'promotion' by the Lord Mayor.

Later when talking to the local press Cllr Hodson went further - saying he would oppose any request for public funding of a homosexual resource centre. 'I don't think the sexuality they want to profess should be promoted', he declared.

The feasibility study into the need for a local gay resource centre was funded by the Coventry Health Authority and Paul Schofield from CHA was a guest speaker.

The study itself was carried out by local community consultant Susie Daniels and showed that while there was overwhelming support for the idea of a centre in the community, around 80% of respondents cited local bigotry and prejudice as the major obstacle to establishing a centre.

And as an informed source tells us that although Cllr Hodson's outburst has caused some irritation to the local council, his opinions are shared by far more councillors than would dare to voice them. But officers from the Social Justice team are working closely with the coalition to help implement some of the report's recommendations.

#### Hate Campaign

In fact there has been an orchestrated hate campaign heavily backed by some local churchgoers and earlier this year a new gay venue was torched just prior to its opening. Talking to *outright!* Susie Daniels said 'it's going to be an uphill struggle to overcome the prejudice in the local community and establish the Centre, there have even been objections to safer sex advice sessions'.

But despite all the problems the community gave an enthusiastic response to the report and a group is now meeting regularly to progress the idea of a Coventry LGBT Centre. The group meets fortnightly at 7pm in the settee area at Rainbows, Short Street and some members meet in the intervening weeks to put together a newsletter. The next meeting is on June 12th and anyone is welcome to just turn up. Or if you'd like more information you can contact the Coalition at CVSC 58-64 Corporation Street Coventry.

Rainbows, by the way, is the burnt-out venue that has risen phoenix like from the flames and will be running with a late licence in time for a post-Pride Party.

Coventry people have something of a reputation for dogged determination and the city itself is a symbol of renewal and reconciliation. It's a shame that some of that civic pride and spirit hasn't rubbed off on our elected representatives.

It might seem like a long time to the next election - but not long enough for us to forget who our friends are ...not.

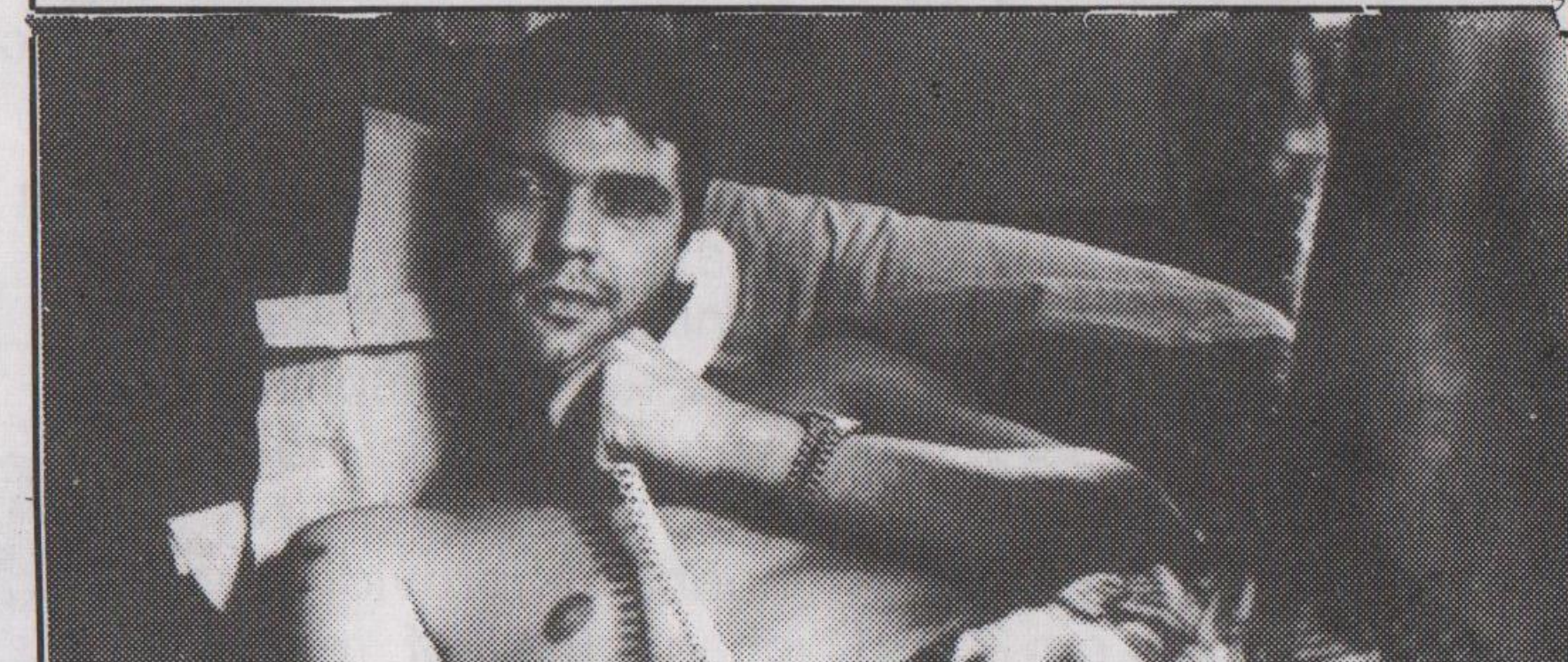
**Rosemary Lee & The Balanescu Quartet • Charged • Thu 12 Jun 8.00pm**

Dynamic and hypnotic with more blood and muscle than your average ensemble

**Ensemble Bash Concert • Sat 21 Jun 8.00pm**

Utterly compelling, an electrifying percussion quartet with Ghanaian drummers

**MUSICdanceMUSICdanceMUSICdance**



**FILMfilmFILMfilmFILMfilmFILMfilm**

**Twin Town** (18) • Wed 11 Jun 8.45pm • Sun 15 Jun 3.00pm

Riotously funny Welsh equivalent to *Trainspotting*

**Like Grains of Sand** (18) Japanese with English subtitles • Tue 17 Jun 8.30pm

Set in a Japanese school, a moving account of developing sexuality and flirtation

**Romeo & Juliet** (12) • Wed 25 Jun 6.05pm • Sat 28 Jun 8.15pm • Sun 29 Jun 8.00pm

A contemporary spin on Shakespeare's love story explodes with passion and visual poetry

COMING SOON • COMING SOON

**Eleventh Lesbian & Gay  
Film Festival**

Tue 15 July - Wed 23 July

**PHENIX**

A R T S  
Phoenix Arts is a registered charity • Photo: TWIN TOWN

Advance Sales & Box Office **0116 255 4854**  
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Nottingham NG6 7BY

**b u m p e r  
summer issue**

#### ...inside!

- policing the community
  - transgender debate II
  - gay paree
  - competitions
  - mind & body
  - jobs
  - classifieds
- & more!**



## outright!

issue 86  
june/july 1997  
Eighth Year  
4,500 copies distributed  
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are not necessarily those of  
the editors. All information is as  
up to date and accurate as we  
can make it - let us know if  
anything has changed.

### For Sale Bestwood Village Nottingham

3 Bed end town  
house 2 reception  
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## ...welcome!

to the bumper summer special  
**outright!** Lots to read to keep  
you going until the next issue in  
August.

### Brickbat of the Month...

...goes to Coventry City Council  
for their total lack of support for  
our community.

### Bouquet of the Month...

...goes to Leicester Constabulary  
for working to build bridges  
with our community - and set-  
ting an example it's about time  
other forces in the region fol-  
lowed.

**Nominations for next month's  
brickbat & bouquet are now  
open...**

## ..how are you going to get to...

Lots of buses going from around the region kicking off with the  
Out House Projects annual convoy from Nottingham. Tickets  
available from Mushroom Bookshop at £12/£10. All proceeds  
to Out House. Contact Andrew 0115 9244908 for more details  
or if you'd like to volunteer to be a steward.

Leicester LGB Centre is organising a coach contact 45 King  
St for details or ring them on 0116 254 7412

Also from Nottingham is the Forester's bus leaving from  
outside the pub on Huntingdon St at 8am Tickets £10/£7 from  
the bar. Leaving London in time to get back around midnight.

Coventry **mesmen** are organising coaches leaving from Coventr,  
Nuneaton, Stratford on Avon & Warwick leaving around 8am  
£12/£10 contact 01203 224090/229292 for details.

For travel from other areas contact your local switchboard (see  
**helplines** inside back page).

Coaches are not allowed to pick up from the end of the march  
but there will be transport provided  
at around £2.00.

**Next year...** well it pays to plan  
ahead **outright!** will be or-  
ganising a **Pride '98 Party**

**Bus ...** leaving Notting-  
ham on the Friday be-  
fore Pride (late after-  
noon) ... providing  
cheap (hall of resi-  
dence probably) ac-  
commodation on Fri-  
day & Saturday night  
and returning to Nottingham late Sunday afternoon - giving  
everyone a chance to recover over a little light breakfast in the  
village. We'll start costing this soon and let you know how much  
the whole weekend package will be. Get in touch if you have any  
bright ideas to add.

**mushroom**

B.O.O.K.S.H.O.P

wishes  
**outright!**  
readers

a very happy

## Free and Confidential HIV TESTING

Free condoms lube and  
Hep B vaccination



**The Health Shop  
Broad Street  
Nottingham  
0115 947 5414**

### Wannabees Wanted

**outright!** would like to hear from  
any budding journos, reviewers, il-  
lustrators, cartoonists, photographers  
etc. who'd like to see their names (as  
their work) in print. Regular local  
contributors from different areas who  
can keep us up to date on what's  
happening are particularly welcome.  
Volunteers who don't mind helping  
out with dreary chores (collating for  
example) are even more welcome!  
**outright!** also desperately needs a  
laser printer - part of the recent delay  
problems have been around lack of  
access to a decent printer - so we are  
looking at ways of raising money.  
If there are any events or activities  
you'd like us to try and organise - get  
in touch with details. Some ideas so  
far are a LGB 70's night disco, a  
barbeque and a cheap weekend trip  
to Amsterdam - interested? Let us  
know.

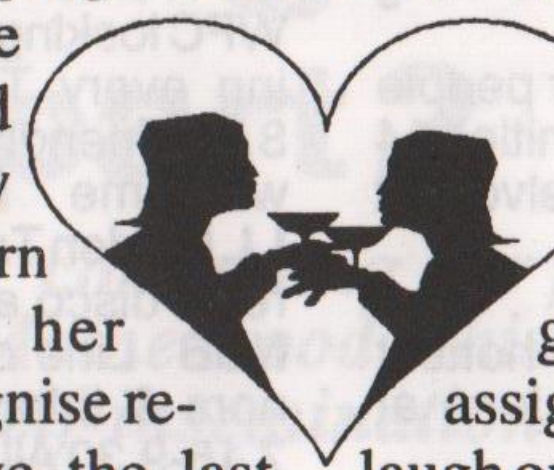
(Or, of course, if any kind soul would  
like to donate a printer or indeed the  
cash to buy one they can be our best  
friend forever and share our sweet-  
ies at playtime). **thanks!**



**WOMEN'S  
Coffee Bar  
12-2pm  
every wednesday  
45 King St  
(dental dams, lubricant &  
safer sex info available)  
0116 254 7412**

## ...and the brides wore white!

No it's not a typing error, BOTH brides wore  
traditional white wedding dresses  
when Julie Henton and Glenys Parkin tied the  
knot at Hinkley Registry Office on the  
3rd of May. Julie, born Peter Henton, was able  
to legally marry her girlfriend Glenys because  
the law doesn't recognise re- assigned genders. Glenys said  
it was good to have the last laugh on the law by having a legal  
lesbian wedding ceremony. Happy Honeymoon girls!



## ...Who cares?

Nationally, it's estimated that  
there are around 150,000 LGB  
carers looking after someone  
dependent on them.

Social isolation, lack of money  
and inadequate community services  
are problems for most carers. LGB  
carers are additionally disadvantaged  
because they often unable to  
approach service providers - fearing  
a homophobic response or lack of  
confidentiality.

We are lesbian voluntary sector  
advocacy workers committed to  
providing equal services for the gay  
community. If you need help,  
information & support in complete  
confidence contact us now.

|       |               |
|-------|---------------|
| Jools | 0116 255 6286 |
| Dawn  | 0116 254 4060 |

## ... pub person of the month

Is the divine **Miss Joy** popular  
landlady of the very gay-friendly  
mixed Foresters on  
Huntingdon Street  
Nottingham. Still recovering  
from her *walk for life* Joy is  
now getting ready for her  
**MidSummer Night's Meal**  
extravaganza (25 June), which  
involves converting the lounge  
bar into an intimate candlelit  
dining room for the evening.  
Joy is a FABULOUS cook and  
her food nights are reknown  
so book early. Now Joy tells  
**outright!** a few of her secrets.

**What's your favourite Abba  
record?**  
**Knowing me knowing you**  
**Who's your hero?**  
**John Wayne**  
**What colour knickers are you  
wearing today?**  
**Black**  
**If you could choose any 3**



**people (alive/dead/fact/fiction)  
to join you for lunch who would  
you invite?**

**Whoopi Goldberg, John  
Wayne & Tina Turner**

**What's your ideal partner like?**  
**Someone nice like my  
sister**

**If you could sack anyone in  
the world - who would it be?**

**Helen (she knows who she  
is)**

**What's your favourite movie?**

**The Colour Purple**

**What's your favourite soap?**

**It's got to be Coronation St**

**Finally Joy - what's your  
ambition?**

**I'd like to run a nice little  
bar - in the Caribbean**

## ...page three people The Volunteers Tale....

Rosni Prajapati is a volunteer  
with the Leicester Lesbian, Gay  
and Bisexual Young Person's Peer  
Education Project. The Asian,  
Afrikan and Caribbean Peer  
Education Drugs Project was  
organised by the Leicester Drug  
Advice Centre.

'I had to attend a residential  
weekend course followed by 10  
weeks of intensive drug related  
training', says Rosni. As a result she  
completed a portfolio of  
information that demonstrated her  
knowledge and achieved LOCN  
accreditation.

Because of her commitment to  
the LGB community, Rosni has  
chosen to investigate the drug related  
service needs of the community.  
'My aim is to explore and document  
the drug service needs of young  
LGB people. I also want to look at  
the place and meaning drug use has  
in their experience and hopefully  
recommend useful changes or  
additions to local services. So that  
they meet the needs expressed by  
the community.'

'I'll be going into pubs and clubs  
providing information and asking  
people to answer a short  
questionnaire'. The questionnaires



**Rosni & colleague Chaz Ram  
at Pineapple Inn Health Stall**  
are short and simple. They don't  
take long to complete and, naturally,  
they are completely confidential.  
Rosni would also like to do some  
more in-depth interviewing with  
willing volunteers to build up her  
knowledge of drug experiences in the  
community.

'I've already run stalls at the  
Pineapple Inn, The Dover Castle,  
Street Life, Rapture and Open Door  
- I want to help ensure that the young  
LGB community in Leicester has  
access to relevant information on  
drug issues.'

To find out more about the project  
contact Rosni

Pager number 01426 235 286.

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AIDS is also available for individuals, groups and  
organisations in Leicestershire.

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LASS is a Registered Charity No 1023914



## ...stars!

### Scried by Madame Polari

#### Aquarius

21 Jan - 19 Feb

Like young wine your immaturity makes you cheap but potent!

#### Lucky Food - Scampi

#### Pisces

20 Feb - 20 Mar

Everyone has a novel in them, remove yours at once - it looks painful.

#### Lucky Writer - Chaucer

#### Aries

21 Mar - 20 Apr

Motherhood isn't all it's cracked up to be - and I should know.

#### Lucky Concept - New Labour

#### Taurus

21 Apr - 21 May

Duty free shops are being abolished take full advantage now ...& get me some fags.

#### Lucky Philosopher - Wittgenstein

#### Gemini

22 May - 21 Jun

Pectoral enhancement is definitely the way forward for you and don't rule out further surgery.

#### Lucky Word- Innuendo

#### Cancer

22 Jun - 23 Jul

Try lemon curd to add a little zest to your love life this month.

#### Lucky Singer - Dolly Parton

#### Leo

24 Jul - 23 Aug

The thing you are searching for has fallen down behind the radiator - and it's starting to whiff a bit!

#### Lucky Shoe - Fluffy Mules

#### Virgo

24 Aug - 23 Sep

Nylon encourages fungal growth - enough said? Get it sorted!

#### Lucky Game - Ker-Plunk!

#### Libra

24 Sep - 23 Oct

Tossing a coin is as good a way as any to make that very important decision this month.

#### Lucky Horse - Red Rum

#### Scorpio

24 Oct - 22 Nov

Try to cut down on your drinking - one pint at a time is enough.

#### Lucky Magazine - Popular Gardening

#### Sagittarius

23 Nov - 21 Dec

Torn between two lovers? It's hard being god's gift, isn't it.

#### Lucky Element - Silicon

#### Capricorn

22 Dec - 20 Jan

Keep your Forestry Commission ID with you at all times - it's a good excuse for being in the woods at this time of night.

#### Lucky Dish - Lobster Cardinale

## ...outings!

A new system - look up short code at start of listing in **contacts!** for contact details (yet another ploy in our desperate attempts to fit a quart into a pint pot!)

#### CAMBRIDGE

DC Dot Cotton Club at The Junction Clifton Rd Last Saturday every month 28 Jun **Angie Brown** (Bizarre Inc) live 10.00-3.00

#### COVENTRY

GN Think Pink every Thursday at the Gallery Nightclub Careys Hertford Place 9.30 - 2.00

PL New club Fresh at Planet **RB** Rainbows Late licence from July **CMM** GL youth group Monday night/ Sat afternoon open to LGB people under 23

#### DERBY

UNI Friend social/support drop-in group meets weds 7 - 10

UNI Uni LGB Soc meet every Thurs 7.30-9.30 - discussions, games, videos, coffee, chat, lots of outings

UNI Choices Every Thurs 5.30 - 7.30 social group for 13-19 year olds

#### HUNTINGTON

HGGL & G Social group - lots of local events coming up inc Town & Gown pub night

#### LEICESTER

EMMSC 28 Jun Jocks & shorts night **EMMSC** 11 July Rubber night

EMMSC 26-28 Blackpool Blitz Club's 15th Birthday celebration

EMMSC 8 Aug Club Night at Mercia HQ Pineapple Inn

Rapture - club night at The Asylum at Uni 9.30-2 last entry 11.30

45KS Line dancing every monday

## ...walkies!

*The Dyke - a quarterly publication for all lesbians who enjoy walking. Articles, news and contact info for walking groups. Subs £4 for 4 issues from Rose Reeve 121b Huddleston Rd London N7 0EH 0171 263 9335*

(LNX) New LGB Lincoln walking group walks Sunday & mid week phone for details

**WOMEN OUT WALKING** (formerly Leics Hiking Dykes) 28/ 29 Jun Seven Sisters Country Park 3 Aug Lady Bower Res 4 Aug Planning meeting Sian 01455 844307

**PINK PATHFINDERS** 29 June Macclesfield Forest & Cheshire Matterhorn 8.5 miles Meet 10.45 for 11.00 start Clough House CP GR 988699(Nottm) All gay guys & gals welcome Details Bob/Brian 0115 967 7081

**NOTTM GAY OUTDOOR CLUB** 20 July walk in Leics Meet 11am CP by BR line in Barrow on Soar OS129 574-173 All welcome for more details 0115 923 5421.

**Nottm Hiking Dykes** 15 June 8 mile walk to Plungar & Strathern Meet off Terrace Hills Bakerstone GR798320 11am start 20 July Mystery walk in Derbyshire 11am start phone

7.30-9 Holy Cross Centre Wellington St

45KS Women's Coffee Bar every weds afternoon 12-2 at 45 King Street

45KS Gemz - LGB group for people from minority ethnic communities 14 June at Access Arts 27a Belvoir St Dylan 0116 254 1747

#### LINCOLN

IN Launch night of Inferno - hottest gay night in East Mids 16 June at Sugarcubes West Parade

LNX Lesbian social group 8pm 2nd Fridays

LNX Gainsboro L & G Group Freindly group meets 4th Thurs

#### LOUGHBOROUGH

Women's bar social group meets 8.30 at Labour Club Fennel St 4th Monday of the month

#### MANSFIELD

PG Gay men's social group at Portland Arms Mansfield Woodhouse

LU Lust - weekly LGB club in the Cavern in the Village Midworth St Mansfield 10-2

#### NOTTINGHAM

SL 13 June Sleaze at The House Huntingdon St

GS new venue Fri/Sat Ex-service-men's Club Gregory Boulevard cheap drinks last entry 10.45pm

PC 15 Jun picnic on the Arboretum organised by Pink Chalk (LGB teachers)

23 June 8pm Transgender Network Social evening Foresters Arms Glasshouse St

LL 8 July/12 Aug The Women's Room women only cafe night at The Alley Café

LL Lesbian Breakfast 29 June 27 July food drink papers music children welcome

LL Lesbian Breakfast 29 June 27 July food drink papers music children welcome

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LL Young lesbian group meets Base 51 weds 6.30-8.30 open to bi and lesbian women under 25

LL Women's Football Sparta Nottm WFC looking for new members Training every Thursday on tForest 7-8.30 Friendly team all ages/abilities welcome

LL Hidden Talents women only cabaret & disco at the Sky Club 24 Jun

NSB Line dancing for LGB beginners & intermediates (!) Tuesdays 7.15-9.30 All Saints Community Centre Raleigh St £2.50

#### SHEFFIELD

WCC 17 June Lesbian Link 8.30

WCC 20 June Disco with DJ's Karen & Paula

WCC 27 June The Truth Game compered by Irene

WCC B's Pop Intro & Lyric Quiz £1 per team of 4

WCC Coming soon - talent night at the Women's Cultural Club

#### contacts!

WCC 0114 272 1866

DC 01223 511511

IN 01522 689745

GN 01203 224 707

PL 01203 221167

RB 01203 551738

PC 0115 9266133

EMMSC 01332 361 056

LNX 01522 533 553 Sun/Tue 7-10

45KS 0116 254 7412

NSB 0115 9411454

LL 0115 941 0652

BI 0115 916 1532

LGG 01509 415 272

CMM 01203 224 090

LU 01623 23004

HGG 01223 502 915

UNI 01332 349333 (call same time as group you're interested in is listed e.g. Friend Wed 7-10)

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## ...therapy! Counselling & Therapy for Women

As a lesbian, once-married with children, I have become increasingly aware of the lack of counsellors with training or experience in lesbian issues. I feel that through being a lesbian feminist counsellor, I am able to provide insight and awareness that provides a positive alternative to mainstream therapy. The counselling framework I use is called the transtheoretical feminist approach. That sound a bit incomprehensible - but basically it means that looking at women's lives holistically and acknowledging that women are in constant struggle in our sexist, racist and heterosexist society.

Stress often leads to depression & anxiety. Many women feel very isolated with their problems and often they lose their confidence & self-esteem. I don't work as some distant expert who has all the answers, I'm more a supportive listener with a wide experience of life and mental health issues. I don't try to change a woman's story but stress that the woman is herself the expert on her own life story. I find working in thisway helps a woman to make sense of her world, to understand what it's like to live as a woman in an oppressive society. And this gives her the chance to look at the choices available to her and to make changes in her life if that's what she wants.

## Counselling & Therapy for Women

### Helen Williamson

Post Grad Dip Couns  
RMN BAC Member

for appointment/information contact

c/o Derby Women's Centre  
4 Leopold Street Derby

01332 341633

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Cottaging & cruising issues

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Available free to all men who have sex with men regardless of age - sexuality - race - religion - disability - antibody status

Open 12 noon - 4pm

Monday Tuesday

Thursday & Friday

(Wednesday the Centre is Women Only)



## 6 policing the community 1

The Chief Constable of Lincolnshire and the senior officers at both Mablethorpe and Skegness Police stations are resuming their harassment tactics in relation to users of a very quiet stretch of beach and dunes to the north of Mablethorpe that I gather has been a naturist sunning area for going on twenty years,

It cannot be said for certain that the campaign focuses down on gay users or not, I just know my sense of ease well-being and peace have been severely knocked by an ambiguous warning letter stuck on my car this afternoon, whilst I was walking my dog.

The letter Cautions that covert police surveillance is taking place and that the intention of the police is to pursue Prosecutions this year; mention being made specifically of offensive behaviour.

It was to be expected that the warning notices at the beach entrances were likely to be renewed after the ravages of the winter. In some senses they were the product of an inspired diplomat. Their form and wording both alerting the unwary ('Ooh mummy there's a woman with no Clothes on'), and reminding all sections of the naturist community of some of the basic niceties of using such a joyous location (litter removal and discretion when helping ones companion with the application of factor 15 to parts unreachable alone). This, all without heavy condemnation, and acknowledging a right for all to enjoy the area peacefully.

It is a shock to realise that someone in supposed authority is actually using our moneys to finance a campaign of harassment that certainly failed last year. Once the season became really busy, and actually in my own humble estimation had



almost the exact opposite effect to that apparently striven for.

I have used this area regularly for the last three years. Last year (when the campaign began) came up trumps for the number and variety of sexual offers made or encountered both gay and hetero. Last year saw a huge increase in the number of strangers and textiles visiting the area. Yet strangely, last year, I also witnessed the best examples of happy co-existence in contrast to the intolerance and crudity that had presumably triggered the campaign against the activities of the naturist, in the first place.

Rather than adopt a foolishly righteous 'THOU SHALT NOT' attitude - would not greater success, and encouragement towards inoffensive behaviour come from making A Clear declaration of the area as a NATURIST NATURE RESERVE??

I cannot help but wonder; that the expressed offence felt by those stirring police action, is actually very offensive to myself and many other users of the area, whether NATURIST or dog walker, straight or gay.

In this area amongst the less selfish users, is to be found an easy sense of community and care and tolerance that I have never encountered in any other situation.

There can be no crime amongst those with nothing but the sun. Quite natural behavioural taboos assert themselves easily, so leave this retreat alone - Mr Chief Constable - and stop wasting paper - PLEASE.

R Moller

## postcard from...



Paris in the spring is always a popular attraction. But the visitor has to make an effort. It helps to be beautiful, chic, French speaking and to be able to match the patronising attitude of Parisians. Forget the packaged tour and take Eurostar for a day trip. It's a great improvement Rail Track and smoothly take you into the city centre. Your under the channel experience lasts for about 25 minutes.

Prior preparation is essential if you are to make best use of the eight hours you have to fill. Try the mix of a good meal, a cultural sight or two, shopping and people watching. If you have been before, then avoid the major attractions and go for a trip backstage to the art deco cinema - Le Grand Rex. Visit the graves of gay icons in the Pere Lachaise cemetery.

You may want to cruise in the Tuileries gardens. Exhausted, then sip a Kir in a cafe in the gay Marais area behind the Pompidou Centre. Be prepared for waiters on rollerskates and in kilts looking like Jean Paul Gaultier. Restaurants are less pretentious and good meals can be had all along the equivalent of Old Compton Street - rue de Sainte Croix de la Bretonnerie - wonderful chocolate desserts in the Petit Picard.

So what can you bring back as a souvenir? Unfortunately Eurostar doesn't sell Duty Free items but try some exquisite packaged chocolates; a highly philosophical examination of gay culture from the Les Mots a la Bouche bookshop; designer gear from Boy's Bazaar if you want to appear tres cool. If you are into postmodernist kitsch then models of the Eiffel Tower and a portrait from a street artist might appeal.

Have a copy of Benoit Duteurtre's 'Gaietie Parisienne' besides you on the return journey if you want to cultivate the image of a 30 something trendy with attitude and depression. Oscar Wilde would approve.

Nick Tyldesley

## last year more gay men tested HIV+ than ever before ....

### .... we want to do something about this

TRADE & The Men's Sexual Health Project are looking for gay and bisexual men. Volunteers are needed to promote safer sex and HIV awareness on the gay scene and in local cruising areas. If you can spare a few hours a month we'd like to hear from you.

Our next training begins Sat 21 June and continues on Sat 28 June

For more information phone 0116 254 1747

## 7 policing the community 2

The article in the last edition of **outright!** on police activity in alleged cruising sites in Nottingham paints a very different picture to the approach adopted by the police in Leicester.

Police actions on cruising sites only take place when there have been substantiated complaints and are designed to deter rather than provide an easy boost to arrest figures.

Before the police conduct such operations the local Police, Lesbian & Gay Forum are informed of where these operations will be taking place and warning notices issued on the gay scene and through the Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Centre.

As a result there have been very few arrests locally in the last five years.

The local lesbian and gay community work in partnership with the police, where possible. As a result we have

- been monitoring homophobia violence for over three years and providing descriptions etc of gay bashers to the police, which has led to several arrests

- provided support for victims of assault, including support in reporting crimes and contact with gay-friendly solicitors

- trained a large number of police officers in lesbian and gay awareness

- had input into the operational guidelines for the policing of cruising and cottaging sites and ensured that guidelines on domestic violence take into account same sex relationships

- produced a "Queerbashing" leaflet printed by the police with safety tips when leaving pubs, clubs etc

- regular visits to the LGB Centre by police probationers to find out more about our communities

- presentations on our work at police training colleges and conferences

- named contacts with a range of police officers from vulnerable victims officers, racial incidents officers and the youth involvement officer

As a result of these contacts we have been able to work with the police on cases ranging from blackmail to serious assaults.

The comment by a police spokesperson in Nottingham on not being at fault since they are only enforcing the law as it stands is a clear cop out. There is discretion on the part of Chief Constables in determining policing priorities. There are simply not the resources for purges on every kind of offence that is committed locally and "victimless crimes" are increasingly being seen by many police forces as a low priority.

In 1990 the costs of 2,597 prosecutions was estimated, in terms of police and court time, at £8,000,000. There is a strong argument that this has to be an absurd misuse of police resources, which should be re-directed at crimes where there are real victims.

If the events in Nottingham are true, then the local police seem to be far behind most police forces in the country.

The National Steering Group of Lesbian & Gay Policing Initiatives (of which we are part) is a body which represents lesbian and gay local policing initiatives throughout the country. It includes representatives from the Home Office, the Association of Chief Police Officers and lesbian and gay police officers.

This group is working to establish national standards of service delivery for our communities in the same way that the work has been developed in the policing of minority ethnic communities.

This will include a commitment to training, non-discrimination in recruitment and selection of police officers, an agreed definition on what constitutes a homophobia incident and a commitment to consultation with our communities. This is likely to be agreed in the next few months.

Many police forces have already put this into practice.

Many police forces have entered into agreements with local communities for example not policing cruising sites which are away from the general public, but clamping down hard on cottages in residential areas.

In Europe this has led to purposely designated cruising sites designed and built specifically for cruising to take place safely, with the co-operation of both the police and cruisers.

Forums such as ours would agree that there does need to be urgent changes in the law. But even within existing legislation there are changes in implementation which can bring tangible benefits in terms of community relations.

The adage of no policing without consent applies to us every bit as much as to other communities who are estranged from the police and many progressive police forces have recognised this.

We are not asking for special treatment or privileges, although that's how our opponents like to present us. The real issue is not the fact that we as a community are policed, but that we are policed in an equal and fair way in comparison with other groups and that this policing is consistent, not arbitrary in practice.

We haven't got everything right in Leicester, but we have made progress. Police officers visiting cruising sites are as likely to be investigating homophobia attacks as looking to make arrests nowadays.

We do still get phone calls from people complaining that the police are active in local cruising sites, but often this alleged "harassment" is simply because there are police Officers there at all.

When people are attacked, and there have been some very vicious attacks on local cruising sites, the police do step up their presence to try to provide reassurance and obtain information. But not surprisingly, most cruisers don't hang around to find out why the police are there - it's not as if we have a long history of

trust between ourselves and the police.

There isn't an easy answer to the question of why don't the police spend their time arresting gay bashers rather than harassing men engaged in consensual acts, when the problem arises of how do the police arrest gay bashers if every time they come onto a cruising site it is naturally assumed they are looking to make arrests?

If you have been a victim of homophobia harassment or assault and would like to report it anonymously, if you would like to know more about the work of the Forum, or if you are a cruiser with information about gay bashers:

Telephone: 011 6 2541747

Andy Griffiths

## MACEDON TRUST

### Are you homeless?

Need somewhere to sort out your life and make positive changes for a better future?

Noelle House is run by Women for Women and gives priority to Black women, Lesbians, Lesbian couples & women with HIV+ status.

We Provide safe, secure & non-threatening accommodation.  
So give us a ring  
**01159244812**

## Hate Crimes

Attacks on lesbians and gay men are no joke. Whether it's verbal insults or physical violence we shouldn't have to put up with it.

The Men's Sexual Health Project has attack alarms available to anyone who feels they may be at risk. The alarms cost £3.25 and are available at 45 King St Leicester.

The Project monitors attacks on lesbians and gay men and can help victims report incidents to the police whether anonymously or in person.

**Being Gay isn't a crime  
Queerbashing is  
Don't let them get away with it**

**0116 254 1747**

## TRADE

A GROUP FOR GAY & BISEXUAL VOLUNTEERS WHO WANT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE AIDS EPIDEMIC

Interested?  
Ring

**0116 254 1747**

We are particularly keen to recruit volunteers from Black communities as they are currently under represented in our organisation



## ...sounds!

from DJ Siraker

After the release of his long awaited **Oxygene 7-13** album last month, with some outstanding mixes of **Oxygene-8**, Jean Michel Jarre releases his second single from the album **Oxygene-10**. It's currently being promoted with some incredibly accessible club remixes in the ever popular Dream House style from Sash! and Resistance D plus some manic Jungle Dub mixes courtesy of Apollo 440 out on 26 June.

Apollo 440 themselves release their follow up single **Raw Power** on 16 June. A dubbed out Electro Trip Hop affair colliding with Hardhouse beats & rock guitars not to mention some very tasty Jungalistic Techno remixes. If you like it hard & heavy - this one's for you.

Abbacadabra re-issue their hnrng cover of Abba classic **Lay All Your Love on Me** - watch out for the definitive mix with pumping hard beats and Abba style vocals blending perfectly released this month on Almighty and co-inciding with the new Almighty album **Now & Then** featuring the Disconet remix of said track.

After remixing & reissuing her classic **When I'm Good & Ready** to promoted her current greatest hits album, Sybil gets another remix of her **Still a Thrill** courtesy of KKlass released 30 June. Very classy strings and smooth vocals with upfront funky house riffs and horn stabs. Very upfront but instantly accessible for the commercial floor.

Finally Amen UK release their follow up to the massive club hit **Passion** shortly. **People in Love** is a more vocal but very commercial slice of European Techno big on the floors and a massive sing-along radio tune to boot.

...sounds! is sponsored by  
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## ...are you experienced?

Watch Out for Carolyn Rowe in **The Shirley Bassey Experience** hitting the East Midlands this summer .. catch her at The Maze Nottingham in August.

With her mother being a fan of Shirley Bassey it was inevitable that by the age of four, Carolyn was singing and dancing to 'Big Spender' at the family musical evenings, complete with her own personal spotlight - Grandad shining a torch on her!. That's when she caught the entertainment bug I guess and as time progressed, she would dress up in her mothers ball gowns and imitate Shirley to her hearts content. Even at this early stage of her life she was impressed and magnetised by the gowns and glamour as she stayed up to watch her on television. This image has stuck with Carolyn right through to the present day.

Always holding Bassey's presence in her heart, she diversified and developed her own style of singing and song writing from which she has had success working and performing with other named artists.

In 1991, Carolyn's career took on a different dimension with the achievement of her first single. Encouraged by radio and European television coverage she then went on to co write with other established songwriters. In the years that followed she gained respect and credibility, as a consequence of this she went on to record her own material and support artist's such as: ROZALLA, THE PRODIGY, TECHNOTRONIC and EDWIN STARR. Despite all this there was still never that same 'rush' that she had acquired from performing as Bassey all those years ago.

However the 'Lady' was always there in the background and subconsciously Carolyn had incorporated Shirley's overtones and inflections in her own voice. It was apparent that through the years Shirley's voice had merged with her own and it was on performing the show stopper 'This is my Life' one time that really brought this to her audiences attention as people remarked on the similarities of their voices as Carolyn sang with the same power and passion that people loved in Bassey.

In 1995 Carolyn decided to pay her personal tribute to this much loved lady-The Shirley Bassey Experience' was born. Captivating audiences from the opening 'GOLDFINGER' to the closing number 'I AM WHAT I AM', she lives each number producing the emotion, energy and passion in true Bassey style. By paying attention to the finer details her performance portrays Shirley's glamorous new 90s image and leaves you believing you have just heard Bassey herself!.

As Shirley would say 'Nobody does it like me'!



The Pride Festival in London is the world's largest one day free music festival. For the past four years, the Festival has attracted audiences of over 100,000 people, last year seeing an attendance of 220,000.

This year the Festival takes place on Saturday 5th July on Clapham Common, London, SW4 and an attendance of 250,000 is expected.

The Festival officially starts at 2.30pm and ends at 10pm, sunset being around 9.20pm on the day.

The Festival site will be ringed by a perimeter fence along which special gates will be constructed. On entering through the gates you will be greeted by the team of Official Pride Collectors. It is vital to the financial success of this years event and for maintaining a free event in the future that you make your donation to the collectors. We ask that everyone who attends make a minimum donation of £3 - a small price to pay for the most important day in our calendar. The first 50,000 people to make donations will receive a free Pride '97 Goody Bag.

### outright! cottage watch...

A well informed source has passed on this information to us for publication **From mid-June Notts Police will be operating a sweep of all known cottaging and cruising sites - be careful out there!**

Anyone wanting to talk to **outright!** about their police/cottaging experienced can talk to a gay man in confidence on

**0115 952 0770**

# Transgenderapubcurry 2

## EDITORIAL

Hello everyone. Following on from **Jennifer Moore's** article on Transgender last month, I'd like to jump on the bandwagon to give a personal view. I think I can contribute in a small way by giving **outright!** readers an insight into what it means to be transexual - perhaps it might help with all the current debates going on.

How can I make you understand what it means to be born a transexual - woman or man - and then have to grow up in a society that tries to get you to conform to its own stereotypes. As an individual, you're already aware that you don't belong in the group they try to place you in. Your peer group usually let's you know you don't belong. They're also aware that you're different. That's when all the bullying and name-calling starts. From then on, you are isolated and alone.

If you are lucky and have the strength to carry on and look for help you *may* find a sympathetic GP. They *might* refer you to a specialist and only then will you at long last find someone who understands. Someone who will believe you when you refer to yourself as trapped inside the wrong body. Then the long road to treatment begins.

But acceptance doesn't come with the help of the medical profession. This is all down to you as an individual. The doctors can say 'yes, you are now a woman', or 'yes, you are now a man', and in your head you start to feel whole for the first time. But now comes the twist of fate - how will everyone else see you? Will they accept you as yourself? Or will you be treated with contempt and mistrust? (Think about it - how would YOU treat ME?). Would you even be able to tell if someone is transexual unless they tell you?

So even when you are at last truly yourself in your own eyes, you may still be an outcast to many. You've broken the Golden Rule and changed the boundaries from one gender to another. To live your life to the full this was the only way unless you give up and become just another gender dysphoric suicides (80%). You have to choose to fight on.

Maybe now you understand a little more of what a transexual has to go through. I hope so. I hope this will make you feel more accepting when asked about your feelings towards us. We just want to be accepted as our true selves.

Cherrie B

We did receive a contribution from a group of women who are opposing the admission of transgendered women to Nottingham Women's Centre. However, this was in the form of a leaflet rather than an article and was accompanied by an instruction not to edit the text without consulting the group. We contacted the group and left a message on their answering machine saying we didn't want to publish the material as it stood because a leaflet is not an article and that we wanted to discuss changing the format etc. but sadly no-one got back to us.

However, in the interests of balance, we have attempted to marshal some of the arguments for the above stance. Taking the obvious starting point, i.e. that woman-born women have exactly the same right to have their opinions and beliefs respected as transgendered women do.

If transgendered women are admitted to currently women-only spaces, women who are opposed to this will lose a hard won and much valued resource and refuge

Once the decision is taken it will be impossible to reverse

There will be no way of checking if someone is pre or post operative (i.e. they could still physically be men)

No-one who isn't born and brought up as a woman understands a woman's experience of oppression

The oppression experience by transgendered people is not the same as women's oppression

Women who want woman-born women only space have a right to that

This piece obviously isn't as informative as an article written by someone who espouses these arguments fully - but we've done our best to show you the other side of the coin.

We do kind of resent the inference that we cannot edit material with professional neutrality, whatever our own opinion, but if any group or individual wants to write something from this (or any other) perspective and can trust us to edit their material where necessary without distorting their message they are welcome to send it in.

Cathy White

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## Looking for new friends?

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## ...vox pop!

We asked 100 people at random in Chesterfield City Centre - Should gay people be allowed to join the armed forces?

**No 79% Yes 21%**



## ...it's shocking!

My Mum has "one of those faces". Y'know, completely unshockable. You could tell her my Dad was a practising SM transsexual and she wouldn't move a face muscle. "Those type of faces" are so challenging. It becomes your one aim in life to get a reaction. It's why I'm a dyke, I only went to tell her I was going up town on a school night. Still, she knows. Which is more to the point.

I didn't inherit the gene unfortunately. If I've cleaned the bathroom and my girlfriend doesn't notice as soon as she walks in, my jaw hangs and I stand in a state of disbelief for well on five minutes. I mean come on, anyone can say "Oooh, shiny taps". Needless to say, this shock thing has plagued me since birth. When Beth kissed Margaret I went into a catatonic stupor for weeks. When Melissa Etheridge came out I all but fainted and when Neneh Cherry declared herself bisexual I nearly fell off my exercise bike (don't ask) - clearly my body has a shut down system on all things that deviate from my already held perceptions. I

f I could put as much energy into being shocked at things that really matter, such as homophobia, I'd undoubtedly be rendered unconscious. But homophobia doesn't appear to shock me or even surprise me. It's as if it were part of the status quo (I actually met a dyke that looked like Rick Parfitt once, - swear to God, it was uncanny, however, I digress).

Homophobia was instilled in me at an early age. Part of the problem most of us have among ourselves as lesbian, gay or bisexual is our own internalized homophobia resulting from our heterosexist upbringings. Once you're over that you're flinging opening the MFI wardrobe screaming "I am what I am" and buying every sloganed T-Shirt under the sun (you can tell how long someone's been out by that alone - "I can't even think straight". . .hmm..., clearly

you couldn't this morning when ya returned to the closet briefly for that item of clothing sweetie). Not everyone's Mum has "one of those faces", that's why we need groups, centres, magazines, social and support networks etc. Not all of us come out and not everyone (thank Gawd) is as reluctant as me to accept injustice. Yet, I suspect my shock at Beth, Mag's (soft spot there, hence the familiarity), Melissa and Nen's (see Mag's) revelations was the way they entered into "the twilight world of the heterosexual" (sorry, can't get over priced T-Shin slogans out of me head now) - and the 'shock' was in fact smug, rapturous elation ("she's one of us, hal-lelujah!". . .now just let me lie down and tales it in).

Whereas my seemingly indifferent approach in dealing with homophobia is actually deep shock coupled with an ungrasping repressed disbelief.

Possibly then, that's why my Mum called me the other day to let me know she's seen my 'would've been her son-in-law' ex-boyfriend stating nonchalantly, "It's not too late you know darling".

Julie Taylor

## Bi Any Means Necessary...

...is the name of Nottingham Bi Group's newsletter. There is a mixed group, occasional men only meetings and a separate women's group.

The mixed group meets at CC Mansfield Rd and the Women's Group meets at Nottingham Women's Centre.

Some of their up-coming events are:

**26 June Pre-Pride Discussion**

**10 July Video Fancies**

**24 July Body Art**

Sounds interesting to me ... if it does to you call their info line and get on the mailing list.

**0115 916 1532**

...news from Leicester's LGB Centre

## 45 KING STREET

We are moving premises this summer - the hoped for date is the end of August if everything goes to plan. The lease is about to be signed and then the building works will take about 10 weeks, mostly to improve access and to create a new kitchen and cafe area. The new Centre will be accessible and have a new cafe with new opening hours into the evenings and more women only space. More details will be available nearer the date.

The Centre is looking for a name for its new cafe/bar. Please send suggestions to The coordinator, 45 King St, Leicester LE1 6RN. If you leave your name and address and your idea is chosen by the Management committee you will win A MEAL FOR TWO in the new cafe/bar. closing date 27th June.

Also, the new Centre will have limited managed workspace for individuals or small companies to rent on licence - phone Fee on 0116 254 7412 for details.

A new Lesbian insemination Group is starting

up at the Centre - for women who are thinking about insemination, women who are doing it and women who already have. First meeting is on Sunday 8th June at 45 King St, Leicester 1.00pm-4.00pm

London Pride coach is going from the Centre in Leicester. Leave 9.00am Saturday 5th July and return at 11.15pm. Tickets £8.00 unwaged/£10.00 waged. Phone 0116 254 7412 to book.

GEMZ - new group for lesbian, gay and bisexual people from the minority ethnic communities. Meeting 3.00pm Sat 14th June At Access Arts, 27a Belvoir St, Leicester. phone Dylan on 0116 254 1747 for details.

The Management committee of the Centre is currently not representative of the lesbian, gay and bisexual community in Leicester. We are looking for Black or Asian people with skills or experience who would like to get involved in the management and running of the Centre and services. Please contact Fee at the office on 0116 254 7412.

## mushroom

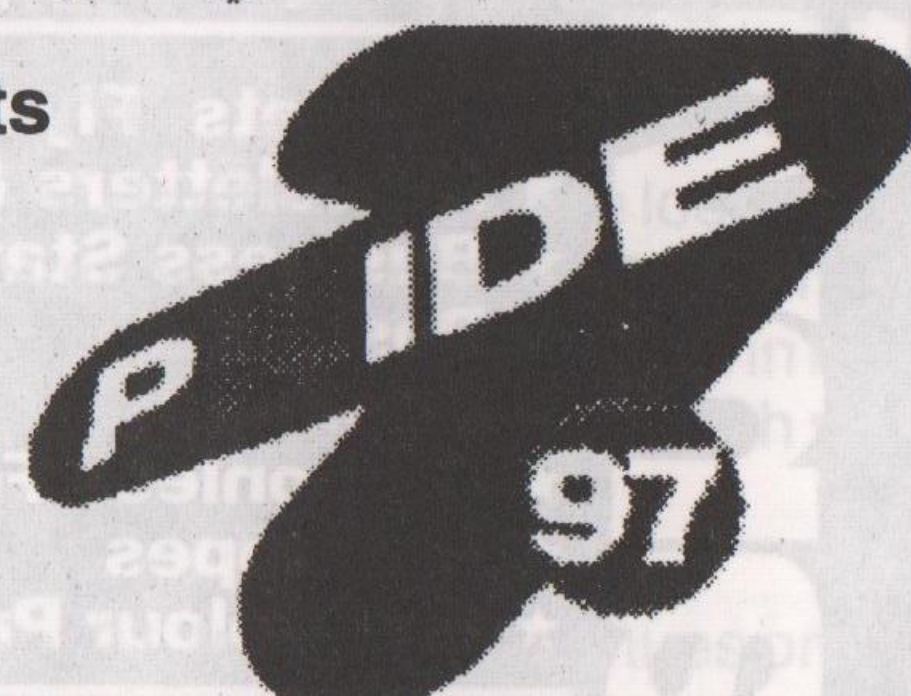
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Now selling tickets for Pride '97

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10 Heathcote Street Nottingham 0115 9 58 2506



## Virgin Births part 2

continuing our piece on Lesbian Motherhood - this month we look at self-insemination

Self insemination is the preferred route to parenthood for many lesbian women. But it has to be acknowledged that there are certain risks involved. In a licenced clinic treatment the sperm used is from a donor who has undergone HIV screening - and although any sensible woman would insist on proof of sexual health from a volunteer donor the real issue is that in licenced centres the sperm is guaranteed for six months and the donor is retested for HIV. This sort of safeguard is difficult for women who self inseminate.

Something that may be of concern is that while under a regulated scheme the donor is perpetually exempt from being treated as the biological father, unlicensed treatment does not have this protection - and under the terms of the Child Support Act the donor could be liable for maintenance payments. Failure to disclose the identity

of the father for women receiving benefit could result in her payments being cut by up to 40%. Although the CSA are at pains to point out that if demonstrable damage may be done to the child as a result of disclosure of the genetic father's identity, it may not be necessary. it seems a safer bet to disclose that the father was an unknown soldier - preferably several soldiers - in fact preferably several American soldiers as they aren't covered by the Act.

Many aspects of health in particular seem to be governed by geography and a willingness by those who make decisions for us to recognise various lifestyles as legitimate. Perhaps it's worth considering that women outside enlightened areas like Leicestershire who have limited financial resources and who long for a child are being put at risk both emotionally and physically.

HFEA - Tel: 0171 3775077

**Copies of the Human Fertilization and Embryology Authority Handbook are available from HFEA contact**

There are self insemination groups in both Nottingham & Leicester contact Nottingham Women's Centre or 45 King St for details

Gay men interested in becoming a donor should check the **outright!** classifieds - or put an ad in themselves - it's free - and we will start a **donors** section if there is enough demand

## Campions Solicitors

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## ...competitions

Win the entire **outright!**

TOP 10 HYPE CHART

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Abbacadabra

**2 Power of Love**

QTex-Power

**3 Too Late Too Soon**

Jon Secada

**4 Coco Jamboo**

Mr President

**5 Stay**

Isha D

**6 Can We Talk**

Code Red

**7 Tinseltown in the Rain**

DJ Scott

**8 Summertime**

Circero

**9 We Blame Love**

Heaven 17

**10 hey DJ**

N-Type

Just send your name & address to our resident DJ Siraker at PO Box 161 Peterborough Cambs PE3 8HN. First name out of the hat after 25 June wins the entire top 10 on 12" Promo.

Prize donated by

The Spinning Disk - Music by Mail Order  
[spindiscbase2promotions.demon.co.uk](http://spindiscbase2promotions.demon.co.uk)

## caption competition



Ellen DeGeneres and her partner Anne Heche meet Bill Clinton

To celebrate the first out lesbian to be an official guest at the White House **outright!** is offering a **£10 prize** for the wittiest caption for the above picture to reach us by 31 July. We'll be announcing the winner in our August issue.

## MACEDON TRUST

**Are you homeless or threatened with homelessness?**

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If you need to know more please call us  
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**men's personal**

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