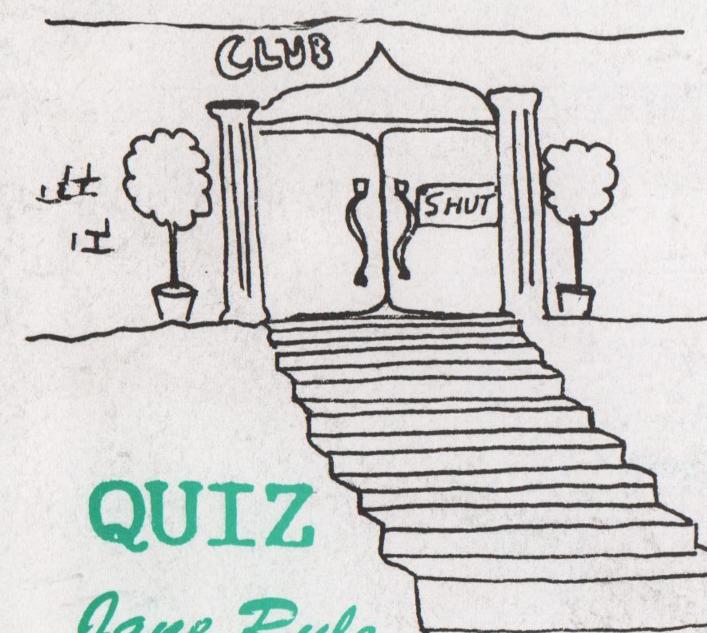


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ISSUE





NOTTINGHAM & EAST MIDLANDS LESBIAN MAGAZINE



TO MY PUA THEN

30,

NEWS AND VIEWS

AND MORE...



O.K. So it's late again - I won't bore you with excuses - like I'm too slow to catch cold so wadda ya expect coz it's here now O.K.? And what a fun packed issue we have this time! and we've included a calendar to add that extra sparkle to your social engagements and talking of which, the quiz this issue is Are you "Romantic". Arh well Spring is in the air - but if you're * thinking of using the chat up line - ' "Did I see you on the March" forget it - it's been worn through to the knees, and I should know - by the way did I see you on the March? - Golly it took me days to recover it did - amazing.

Anyway, hope you enjoy this one if you don't tell us why, and we promise not to ignore the letter for too long -

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

EDITORIAL

CLASSIFIED ADS

Wordage: - five pence a word; minimum 50p.

Boxed classifieds: - are L3 an inch (3/4 inch min). If you want a classified ad to be more prominent - or to be set out in any way, such as centering or in separate paragraphs- you should ask for a boxed classified.

Box numbers: - are available for an extra 50p per insertion (plus any wordage like "reply to").

Deadlines: - All classified ads should be received in Nottingham by the fortnight before publication date.

Artwork: - Classified ads are text only.

Payment: - All ads must be paid for in advance or a 50p invoicing charge will be added.

THIS IS AN EXAMPLE of a normal classified advertisement at 5 pence per word. It would cost you only E1.00.

ACCEPTANCE

2

All advertisements and inserts are subject to acceptance by the DIVERSION collective. Anything deemed to be anti-lesbian or gay, racist or sexist will automatically be rejected.

THANKS to Cas and Yvonne for typing. Cartoons on pages 30 & 31 from Dykes to Watch out for. by Alison Bechdel

NEXT ISSUE OF DIVERSION due out in June.Copy/ads should be to us by the end of May (this is a flexable deadline) Write to us c/o Box 11,118 Mansfield Road Nottingham



CLASSIFIED DISPLAYS

Ro

This is a one-inch classified display advert. As well as having it boxed, you can draw extra attention to your message by specifying centred type -at no extra cost. Price b3 per column inch.

ACCOMMODETTON FOR SHILL STOCK

The Fabulous Dirt Sisters are looking for a feminist woman to do our sound mixing and travel to gigs with us.

Previous p.a. experience is not essential, but some musical background would be an advantage. Please phone 412098 for further details.

ACCOMMODATION.

Rooms available in WIMMINS Housing Co-Op. £22.50 per week plus bills. Phone Lesbian Line. Mon. & Wed. 7.30 - 9 p.m. on 410652.

Nottingham Lesbian Teachers Are there any out there who would like to meet? c/o Box 11, 118 Mansfield Write Road. Confidentiality assured.

···· personal ·····

Lincs/Humbers ide/Notts/Anywhere. Single lesbian, non-smoker, sincere, caring, sense of humour, very lonely. Seeks single lesbians for friendship/ relationship. Interests: reading, walking, wine-making, music, antiques, theatre, dogs and writing poetry. Age preferred 20s to mid 40s. All letters answered, no bisexuals please. Box No. 09.

LESBIAN TO LET. Warm, solid foundations, fairly modern, paintwork needs attention - has character and potential - suit sincere, caring mature lesbian with sense of humour high offers. A.L.A. Box 10.

Would like to meet sincere, honest lesbian for friendship/relationship. Water/Earth signs. 30-45yrs. Box No.D12.

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PERSONAL SERVICES WANTED

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

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LESBIAN LINE is DERBY looking for Lesbians to for their help line. are interested you write to:

DERBY LESBIAN LINE P.O. Box 140 Derby DEY 1XS

members of One our contact you.

Lesbian Day of Meditation. Sunday June 19th. 10.30 - 4.30.Cost: £1 registration plus donation. Wear loose comfortable clothing. Bring a firm cushion or meditation stool and a blanket. Also bring vegetarian lunch to share. At The Women's Centre 30 Chaucer Street Nottingham.

For further info/queries phone: Jean Freer, Matlock 732440.

WOMEN'S SAILING HOLIDAYS. Cruises by and for women only on comfortable 35' yacht. Sailing on south coast, to Brittany and Channel Islands. Long and short breaks available. Beginners welcome. Vegetarians/vegans catered for. Please send for brochure: Women's Sailing Holidays, 59 Denzil Ave., Southampton SO2 OLP. Tel: 0703 36749.

If you would like to put in an ad, send the money, with a large stamped addressed (to yourself) envelope to:-

Diversion Box 11 118 Mansfield Road Nottingham.

For Box No. replies write c/o Diversion quoting the relevant number.

presently volunteer please B will then (0629) B B B BB BB WW 3

Delia Dyke

DELIA DYKE COOKERY CORNER

Well girls, I'm sorry Delia Dyke your favourate cullinery queen, can't be with us this time, Yes, the worst has happened, Yes the worsest - she's lost the will to cook, it came about just after christmas, whilst preparing her world famous millet burgers - her lover came into the kitchen and screamed "not boiled soil cakes again" she's now a broken woman - I and many of her friends have rallied round - trying to comfort her - I thought I'd made a break through last week when I put a tinopener into her hand - and she held it for a brief moment - she may have hung her pinny up for good. I've spent many a happy hour in Delia's kitchen clutching a bottle of cooking sherry -Delia a blur in a floral pinny, a hint of garlic and a whiff of Old Holburn as she whirls past - wadda woman, wadda cook. I'll always miss the warming soups she'd always had on the go - and which would keep me on the go -"that'll keep ya mind off women duck " she'd say.

Yep - even if I never see another blond hair in me burgers again, I'll not forget Smith a fine cook. Here's to her return !! So this issue I'm doing the receipe. Here goes - you will need:

One egg - pan of boiling water - toast - spoon.

place egg (whole) in the pan Method: of boiling water, cut toast into strips (optional). After what seems ages but is only a couple of minutes scoope egg out and put it into egg cup. Then either a) cut top off b) smash top in. Scoop snotty bit out, egg is then ready to serve. There who said you couldn't do it?



As most of you know, finding a local establishment where one feels relaxed and comfortable, and no-one is trying to capitalise on a particular market, is rather difficult.

However here in Leicester, after years of hard work we have found the solution. Based on the premises of our regional phone line and with the help of numerous volunteers, we have established a coffee bar.

The atmosphere though decidely pink, is friendly, the service reasonable and the prices rock bottom. Open at present on Saturdays only, we provide both hot and cold food and drink to a increasing regularly crowd of customers.

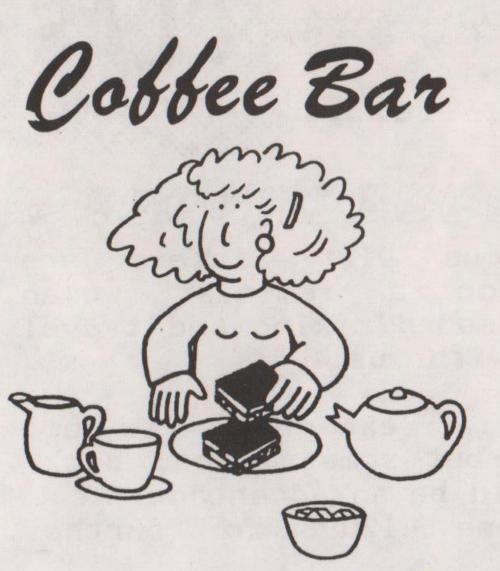
which include: non-smokers. lovers,

Our only method of proof is if you "come on down" and see for yourself.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

WE ARE OFEN ON SATURDAYS ONLY FROM 11 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. and Tuesdays. 8-10 pm

LEICESTER LESBIAN & GAY LINE COFFEE BAR 45 King Street.



In the evenings the facilities are used by various Lesbian and Gay groups. Any Saturday will find our facilities,

The coffee bar itself with seating for

The main room with an abundance of local and national information.

During the summer a patio for the sun

Full of happy contented Lesbians, Gay men and their friends.

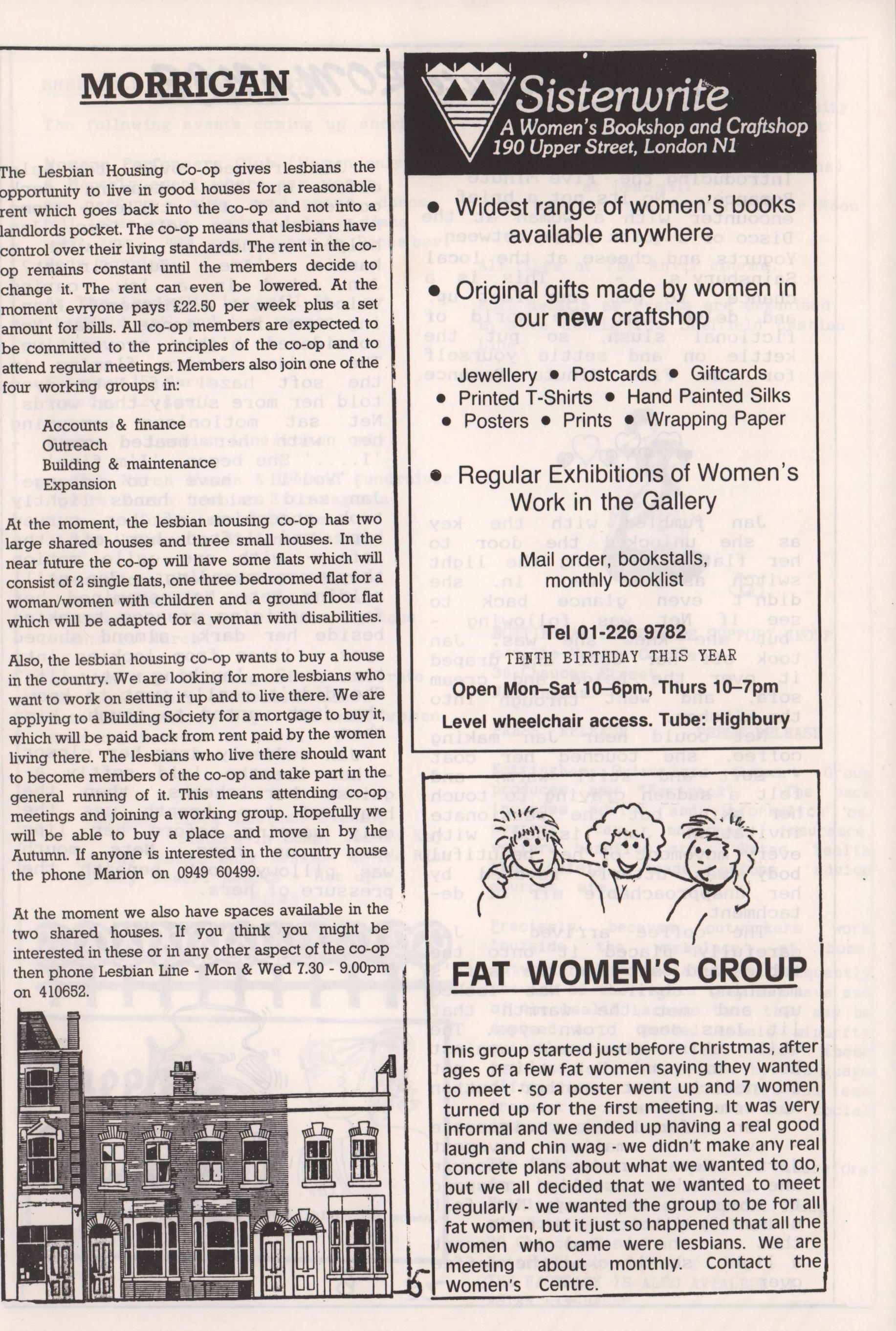
On Tuesday evenings the coffee bar and ** all facilities are available to Lesbians only, 8 p.m. - 10 p.m.

The Lesbian Housing Co-op gives lesbians the opportunity to live in good houses for a reasonable rent which goes back into the co-op and not into a landlords pocket. The co-op means that lesbians have control over their living standards. The rent in the coop remains constant until the members decide to change it. The rent can even be lowered. At the moment evryone pays £22.50 per week plus a set amount for bills. All co-op members are expected to be committed to the principles of the co-op and to attend regular meetings. Members also join one of the four working groups in:

> Outreach Expansion

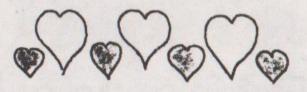
large shared houses and three small houses. In the near future the co-op will have some flats which will consist of 2 single flats, one three bedroomed flat for a woman/women with children and a ground floor flat which will be adapted for a woman with disabilities.

in the country. We are looking for more lesbians who want to work on setting it up and to live there. We are applying to a Building Society for a mortgage to buy it, which will be paid back from rent paid by the women living there. The lesbians who live there should want the phone Marion on 0949 60499.



The five minute ROMANCE

Introducing the 'Five Minute' Romance. No its not a brief encounter with a woman at the Disco or a quick grope between Yogurts and cheese at the local This is a Sainsbury's to put your feet up, chance into the world of and delve fictional slush, so put the kettle on and settle yourself Five Minute Romance. the for



fumbled with the key unlocked the door to she flat - flicking the light her in, she as she went switch back to didn't even glance see if Net was following she knew she was. Jan but took off her coat and draped it over the beige and cream sofa, and went through into the kitchen.

Net could hear Jan making coffee, she touched her coat still warm, and - soft and felt a sudden craving to touch her skin, but the passionate Jan issued with invitation every movement of her beautiful body was utterly revoked by her unapproachable air of detachment.

The coffee arrived - Jan carefully placed it onto the table and sat in the sofa's matching chair - Net looked up and met the warmth that lit Jans deep brown eyes. The white shirt stood out against tan, and Net tried not her to notice that another button had come undone.

Jan offered Net a cigarette - even her smallest movement jarred Nets senses and because she didn't usually respond to women in this way, Net felt unusually jittery - so much

that as she leaned to accept a light, she knocked the coffee over.

her them. only were

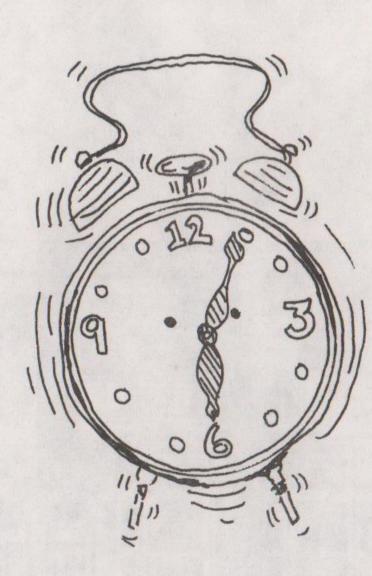


over to help rushed Jan the steaming dark clean up coffee off the table some had gone onto Nets legs, Jan helped sponge it off with a hankie. 'Are you alright?' Jan asked in a low, caring voice, almost a whisper - leaning over in a manner that Net considered highly provocative. The sudden desire flaming in the soft hazel of Nets eyes told her more surely than words. Net sat motionless comsuming with her heated gaze -'I....' She began, 'I'm fine' 'You'll have to change'

Jan said as her hands lightly took pocession of her curved hips and lifted her off the sofa - with one agile motion they were standing - Jan still holding Net. Net examined her face, noticing creases tracking beside her dark, almond shaped eyes - lines from looking into the sun? laughing at life? She didn't really want to know, she just wanted to touch, kiss

Jan suddenly drew her closer - her breathe laid softly athen the gainst her cheeks, heat of her breath was the warning before her lips upon hers. Nets mouth was pillowy soft beneath the pressure of hers.

FIVE MINUTES UP !



6

Are you romantic? Are you romantic but afraid to admit it? The toughie who stamps around in dockers by day but wears pink furry slippers come sundown, or is there no such thing as romance? Find out in this quiz.

1. On the first night you sleep with your new lover, you discover that you have to share the bed with a 2 foot cuddly elephant! Do you:

A. Demand that "that thing" is removed NOW! Saying it's either 'IT' or you that goes!

B. Breath a sigh of relief you wasn't sure how you were going to tell her about 'Paddington'.

C. Ask whether its male or female before slipping between the sheets, smiling sweetly at 'elephant' then kick it 4 times round the room as soon as your lover goes out.

D. In your passion, elephant falls from the bed, and her favour.

you read?

- D. Chat.

3. Whilst your getting ready for a night down the GROPE and GRAPPLE, what record might be playing on your deck?

A. These boots are made for walking B. High energy D. Ross love songs Clannad

ARE YOU ROMANTIC 2 QUIZ

2. On a train journey what do

A. True life romances Motorcycle weekly Spare Rib



4. So picture this scene: Your at a party - the woman of your dreams is standing a hairs breadth away, suddenly the lights go out. How do you make use of this gift of chance? Do you:

A. Freeze - pray she makes a move

B. Kiss her hard on the lips and say "I'm what you've always been waiting for"

C. Go for her hand - you could always pass it off by saying you were frightened by the dark D. Nothing - but think of the beautiful poem you'd write about her as soon as the lights go back on.

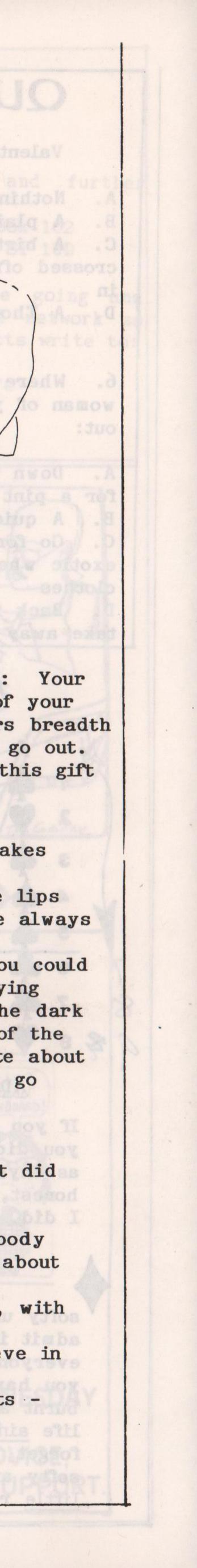
5. Valentines Day - what did you send?

A. Nothing - there's nobody you like enough, thought about it though

B. A Thornton's Special, with a rosey card

C. Nothing - Don't believe in it

D. Just beautiful thoughts on a plain card.



Continued

Valentine what do you get?

Nothing Α.

A plain card Β.

C. A birthday card with birthday crossed off and "Valentine" put in D.

A Thornton Special etc.

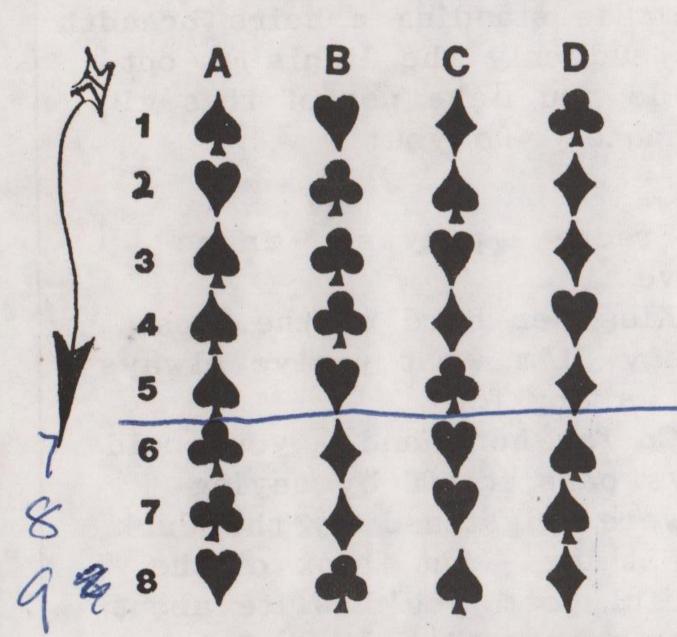
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6. Where would you take the woman of your dreams on a night out:

A. Down the 'Butch 'n' Bitch' for a pint with your mates B. A quiet drink, not local C. Go for a meal, something exotic where they have table clothes D. Back to her place with a

take away

ANSWERS



ADD UP YOUR SCORE

If you got a mixture, and you didn't really come out as anything your probably honest, so why not cheat! I did.

Ahhh, your a little softy underneath, so why not admit it? Its obvious to everyone but you! Maybe you have ad your fingers burnt a couple of times, but life ain't always cruel. Don't forget, your ain't the only softy around, you know a little romance does you good.

7. Your asked to choose a video to watch with your lover or your hearts desire, which one of these would you plump for?

8. The woman you've fancied for ages is leaving the pub/club/tea party/coffee morning. What do you do?

the rose then?" Sulk

Cor blimey, bet the florist knows you by your first name - you little romantic you! Life ain't always a romantic B movie - and you may often find yourself disappointed in love. Maybe if you didn't wear those rose coloured spectacles all the time, things'll be easier.

Well, your pretty sensible - unlike Ms Romantic you don't let your emotions get the better of you. Pretty down to earth ain't you? And maybe a little dull sometimes. Have you ever fell wildly in love on the Monday, only to have talked yourself out of it by Tuesday etc. C'mon, wait till Friday at least!



A. Night of the Living Dead Desert Hearts Queen Cristina Terms of Endearment.

A. Nothing, she'll find the note in her pocket later, with B. Help her with her coat

and say "Back to your place

D. Ask her if you can walk with her partway home.

> Golly - who's pinched your sweets? - not into a soft approach are we? What's your motto hurt them before they hurt you? Your joking! I I doubt whether anyone could break your heart So why do this quiz? There's hope for you yet.

Marianne has said she ain't lesbians because they keen on just see her as a sex object poor thing! (I suppose the men in her life are only interesin her mind). With this ted I blew the comment on me mind dust off me needle - sat back in my chair and said 'o.k. impress me'. Not bad s'pose, I thought after the first track - by the end of the first side I was in love or lust - wadda voice. Its not a jaunty record so don't put it on at a party unless you wanna smooch - theres some Classics on this compilation - Pretty powerful and emotive stuff some of it. This woman lead one hell of a life has and it comes through and I'll give it the usual 'Well worth a listen'.



Stormy Weather. Island Records.



word Search

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HAG LOINS SNOW LAST-ROLO HAPPY NEW YEAR BITCH DORIS-DAY PASSION WOMB CUDDLE SEAL PISS MUFF LUST BIT-ON-THE-SIDE GRIEF GOSSIP ROMANCE GROPE FANCY FLESHY WOMAN JUICY BED SLAG SNOG LAST-DIP SORE DOOM DUPE RED LYRIC.

CLAUSE 28 CLAUSE 28

What is Clause 28? (now 29) What does it mean? There has been alot of Demonstrations against this Government Bill, but outside the Gay community it has hardly raised its head, and there are still alot of people, both Gay & straight, who arn't aware of what is happening What is the Clause?What are the implecations?. The Clause will ban Local authorities from "promoting homosexuality", funding groups who do or "promote in schools the acceptability of Homosexuality as a pretended family relationship" Which basiclly means anything positivly Gay will be outlawed. The Clause wont just effect the Lesbian and Gay community, anyone (counsellers, teachers, social workers etc)giving positive images of Homosexuality will be acting against the law. 1



Dear Diversion

Thanks for your letter and your mag. which we receive and read regularly.

Our group G.Y.P. (Gay Young Peoples group) is open to Lesbians and gay men aged 25 and under, we meet once a week on Fridays 7-9 p.m. at the Chesterfield Youth Action building, 43 Hipperstreet South, Chesterfield and have a phone line available for contact at the same time - Chesterfield (0246) 34236. The group is relatively new and small so new members of both sexes would be was the group most welcome, specifically set up to be mixed. Chesterfield has a fairly large gay community but there is nowhere really to go or meet especially for younger gay people, hence G.Y.P. was set up with the help and support of Chesterfield Youth Action, a local youth agency.

G.Y.P Yours.

Books, plays, films etc, may no longer ex ist in public-and of cause pubs and clubs may not have their licences renewed by the local authorities, if they are seen to be promoting lesbians and gays. The government is forcing us to turn around and go back down the road we've struggled so long and hard to come up--The bigots and Homophobics are coming out of the closets to fuel the fire of contempt for us. Although the Clause is about to be passed, this doesn't mean any actions we've been taking must stop.Some local authorities won't be implementing the act-one includes Leicester, who are also taking it to the European Court of Human Rights.

Join the local campains(contact lesbian lines for details) If you feel you can't come out at work or at home, challenge any anti-gay or lesbian remarks-go on demonstrations, write to your M.P. Use your vote.if you work as a teacher, social worker or counseller etc, seek support from other sympathetic colleagues to find ways of not implementing the act, join any relevent groups. We must not allow this Government to legalise prejudice, descrimination and bigotry.

G.Y.P Box 73 c/o Chesterfield Youth Action 43 Hipperstreet South Chesterfield

Phone (0246) 34236

10

CLAUSE 28

WHAT CAN YOU DO?





Q. When did you start writing? A. When I was 16 and I didn't publish anything till I was 30. I was trying to get published. Once I started being published then it carried on being published. Its as if I haven't changed but the world has. I didn't want fame or fortune - I wanted some one to say that it was OK to carry on doing what I wanted to do. That was what publishing meant to me.

Q. Do you earn a living from your writing? A. Yes, now I do but I didn't until ten years ago. Its very difficult to earn a living as a writer if you do what I do, which is to pay no attention to markets. Unless you are a person who is interested in writing from a commercial point of view then it is very difficult. If you're writing because you need to write then you should be sensible about other things, you have to get a good job. I'm very lucky.

JANE RULE talks to

Jane Rule is lesbian writer living in Canada. You may have seen the film "Desert Hearts"; Jane wrote the novel, about two lesbians meeting in America in the 50's, on which the film is based.

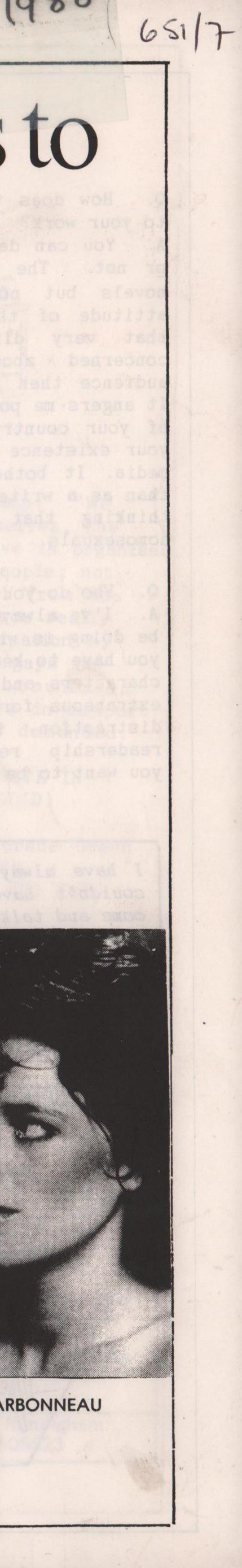
She came to Nottingham last September as part of a speaking tour of Britain. This was organised by her British publishers " Pandora Press " to promote her new book " Memory Board " (see review page

Mushroom bookshop had organised the event as part of a series of talks by women (quite a few lesbian) writers.

She is an entertaining and enjoyable speaker, whether talking about " Desert Hearts-The Movie ", about old age and ageing (she is 56) or writing novels. She is a very warm, pleasant self-assured woman who combines a great depth of tolerance with strong, clear opinions.



HELEN SHAVER and PATRICIA CHARBONNEAU in 'Desert Hearts',

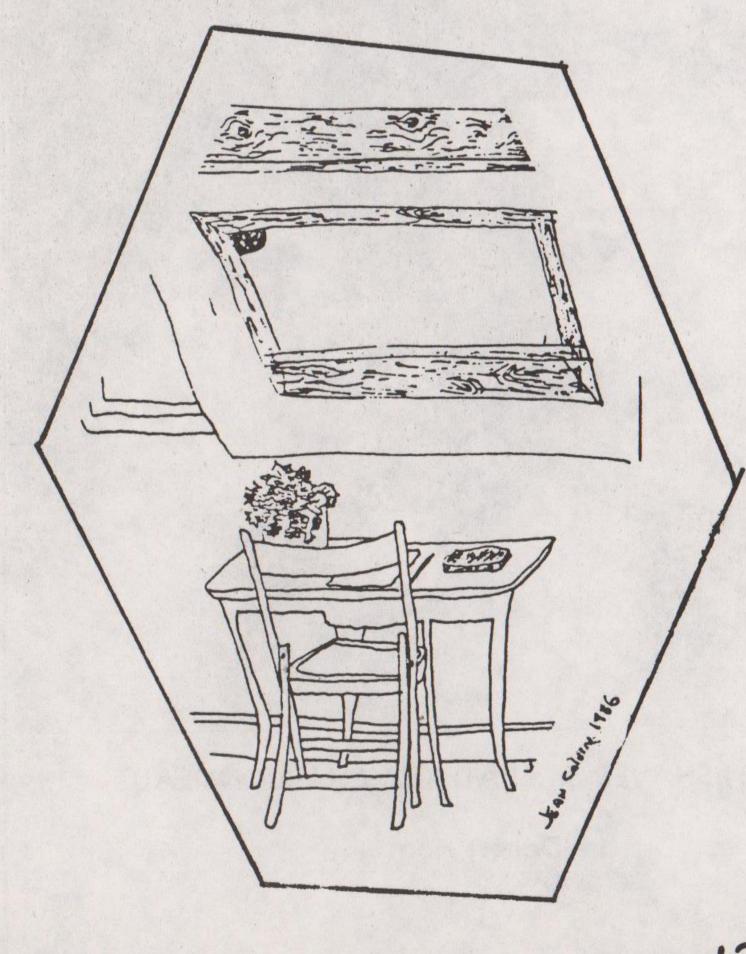


Q. How does the straight press react to your work?

A. You can deal with it as a problem or not. The Guardian will review my novels but not interview me. The attitude of the straight press makes that very difficult. If I were concerned about reaching a wider audience then it would anger me more. It angers me politically when the media of your country refuse to acknowledge your existence - well we have our own media. It bothers me more politically than as a writer. People can carry on thinking that they don't know any homosexuals.

Who do you write your novels for? I've always felt that what I should be doing is writing for myself. I think you have to keep your attention on your characters and nothing else. Anything extraneous for me would be a terrible distraction to have a sense of readership reaction. But nevertheless you want to be clear.

I have always been an optimist but I couldn't have imagined that I would come and talk like this and have anyone come and listen.



Q. When did you come out? A. To me it was a very gradual thing. I have lived with Helen since I was 24. When I wrote Desert of the Heart I realised it might be good enough to publish. I realised what have I done. I had a really good talk with my parents. Fortunately they always liked Helen which has made it easier. They said "Your problem is to do what is good for you - what we have to deal with is if it makes us feel it is our problem". The process of coming out is endless.

When Desert of the Hearts (the book) first came out it wasn't bought, it was stolen from bookshops an libraries because no-one wanted to be seen buying it. Now it's bought.



Q. In your lifetime you must have seen a lot of changes - what do you see about the future? A. You don't have to do what Helen and I did - to rent a house with a basement flat we could have moved into, so we could have rented out the top if we had lost our jobs. Our voices have to be strong and our political commitment has to be very strong. When the world sees the community respond strongly to the crisis of Aids rather than with guilt and fear then that says something new about us. Politics is like housework - everything needs to be done over again. Whether you do it as a political or a

One of the lovely things about being unacceptable is that you begin to make a world of your own. Make a world of your own and make publications of your OWD.



be done.

DESERT HEARTS Tuesday 29 March Dir: DONNA DIETCH With: Patrice Charbonneau, Helen Shaver, Andra Akers, Gwen Welles USA 1986 93 mins 18

Interview

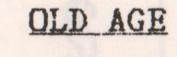
private person then there are jobs to

Q. How has Canada changed? In Vancouver there's a range of organisations - a professional women's club that cover alot of things and also fundraising for groups that haven't got that resources. Some lesbians have got a lot more involved with Aids because there's a lot of lesbian nurses and doctors. It's brought together the wimmin and men who hadn't really been particularly separate. Vancouver is a very laid back city for our minority. One of the difficulties for Canadians is all the kinds of ways it reflects itself. Being next to the USA we get their journals, Canadian journals tend to disappear.

Q. how do you see things changing for lesbians?

A. I think it can change for the better and for the worse. This is why we have to keep the political pressure on. We can't let the media get away with it.

The reason I am a novelist is that I don't want anyone to tell me what to do ever.



13

Look around and ask yourself what community has done for any old people. I have old people in all my novels. To be locked into our own age group all the way along has created a kind of shyness.

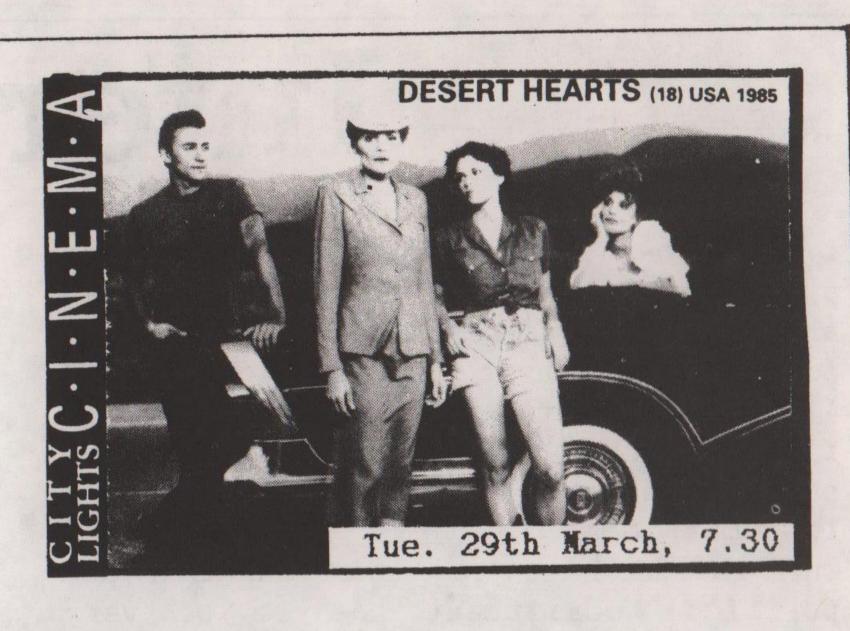
We need, I think, to live more together!

There is a sense in all people as we get older that we need to make provision for ourselves that the world doesn't do.

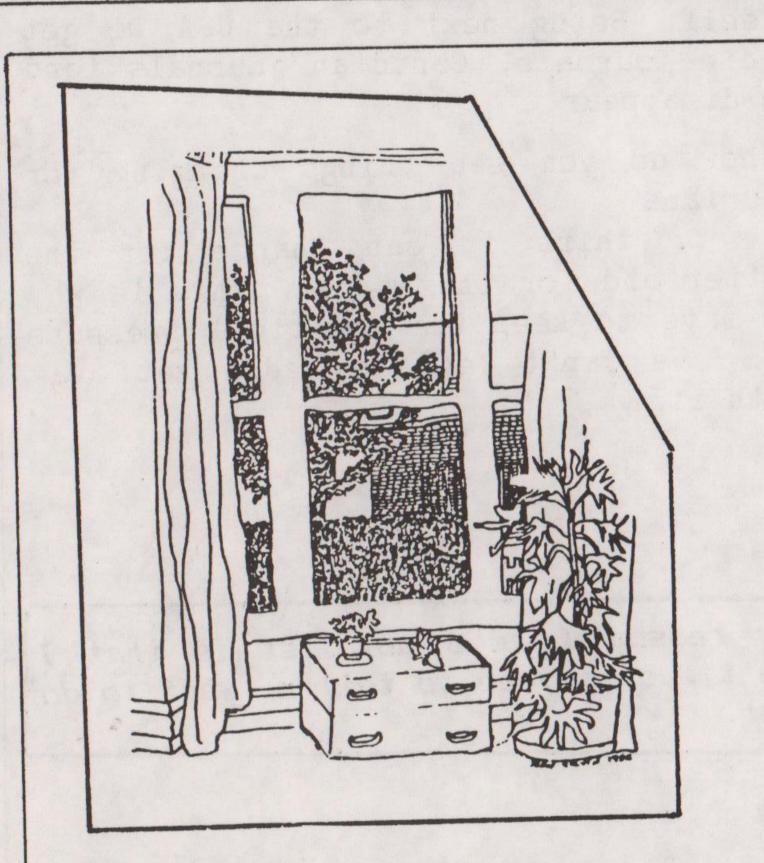
I don't want to write about old people to make out that they are human. I write about old people because they are.

DESERT HEARTS THE FILM

Not long after the book came out I was approached by people for rights to make a film. I didn't want a Hollywood happy ending - in which one of the characters committs suicide and the other gets married ! So I refused till a few years ago when Donna Deitch - an independent filmaker - asked for the rights. A book is far too complex to capture in 90 mins on the screen. If a book is going to be helpful it has to be raw material. You've got to be able to carve it down. I'm not interested in writing scripts so Donna Deitch wrote the first scripts. She raised money by selling shares at \$15,000 a share.



evil.



She asked women with influence and money to give dinner parties and they gave Donna a pitch to speak at them. By doing this she raised over 1 million dollars in four years. Each time she went over the time - limit she had said she would make it in, she went back and asked the share - holders if she could carry on with their money. They all said OK. She raised \$1 million 250 thousand. She realised she had only enough for 30 days shooting and not enough to pay actresses and Jane Rule. So they agreed to wait for money from distibuting it.

A number of distributors bidded for it, Samuel Goldwyn got it and immediately they had enough money to pay everyone who had been involved. The film has been round the world and has been remarkably successfull, actresses and actors involved with it have got good other jobs subsequently. It gave the book a new lease of life - its never sold as well and has been re-issued in the States, Canada and Britain. The film looks beautiful and the acting is good considering the restrictions. have had lots of letters about the film saying that "I walked out of the theatre feeling really good and happy"

Once you have fallen in love then noone can tell you that what we feel is

3055ID	CAFÉ
	ADDRESS

OFENING TIMES

AULKESS GOSSIP WOMEN'S CAFE WOMEN'S CENTRE 30, CHAUCER ST. NOTTINGHAM.

SERVE CHEAP VEGETARIAN AND VEGAN MEALS AND SNACKS IN A FRIENDLY, RELAXED ATMOSPHERE, 4 DAYS A WEEK.

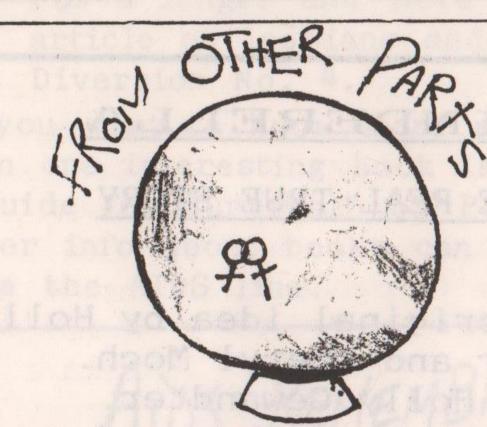
EVENING MEALS - A SELECTION OF STARTERS, MAIN COURSES, AND SWEETS AT VERY REASONABLE PRICES. A VARIETY OF VEGAN AND VEGETARIAN DISIES.

PARTY BOOKINGS - ARE AVAILABLE IN THE EVENINGS FOR BIRTHDAYS OR ANY OTHER CELEBRATIONS.

CATERING - WE ARE AVAILABLE FOR PARTIES, CONFERENCES ETC. EITHER IN OR OUTSIDE THE CAFE.

CRECHE/PLAYGROUP - THERE IS A CRECHE. IT IS OPEN 10 - 2 MONDAY - FRIDAY. THESE TIMES MAY CHANGE. TEL NO: NOTTINGHAM (0602) 470573 ALL WOMEN AND CHILDREN MELCOTT.

A Love Poem JIHEK Hello my lover! Give me a kiss. Soft now, soft. First my neck Ahhh that's fine. 00 Slow, onto my face soft and so so slow. Slide your lips to my mouth lover, **SSSSSS** and your tongue. O Glory your tongue, Slow now, slow. Now my lover move down me. Your lips must stay on my body -0,0,0 never ever leave it, never. Ahhh your tongue on my breasts, O lover such tinglings. "Please, please" my lover your tongue and your fingers. Pure, pure pleasure, I am flying. Hold me close, fly with me lover <u>ତ୍</u>ତ୍ର ତ୍ର Cas 7001586. DO YOU? WANT TO YOU BE DO FAMOUS/POPULAR/CENTRE OF ATTENTION? - IF YES, YOU CAN BE ALL THESE THINGS AND MORE BY BECOMING A MY DYKE MODEL! WE WANT TO PRODUCE A MORE STUNNING AND ORIGINAL PHOTO STORY - AND MAYBE YOU ARE JUST THE GIRL WE ARE LOOKING FOR!! AGE, LOOKS, SIZE ARE TOTALLY IMMATERIAL - NOR DO YOU NEED TO HAVE ANY EXPERIENCE - OUR EXPERT PHOTOGRAPHERS WILL DO ALL THE WORK - WE WILL TRY AND ARRANGE A DAYS SHOOT, SO PEOPLE OUT OF NOTT'M CAN TAKE PART - HOWEVER WE CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY ANYTHING - SO INSTEAD OF BECOMING RICH AND FAMOUS YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO SETTLE FOR FAMOUS. CONTACT US AT DIVY.



Over 200 lesbians met in October '87 in Mexico for the first South American lesbian gathering. A network was set up which will publish a bulletin every 6 months. For more information contact: Violetar (Latin Lesbian Group) c/o Camden Lesbian Centre, 54-56 Phoenix Road, London NW1.

> The organisers of the RADCLYFFE HALL **MEMORIAL FUND** are hoping to raise £3000 this year enabling them to start renovations on Radclyffe's vault in Highgate Cemetery, as a monument to lesbian history. Donations (cheques payable to The Radclyffe Hall Memorial Fund) to Account No. 7001586, Lloyds Bank, High St, Rye, East Sussex. Account No.

LTO.STO



CINDERELLA

THE REAL TRUE STORY

From an original idea by Holly Gewandter and Cheryl Moch. Music by Holly Gewandter. Directed by Nona Sheppard.

One thing that strikes me about being a lesbian, is that there are no traditions or celebrations that are public, (or many). Leaving behind not for the moment, all the awful things about Christmas, it public time of still a things celebration. It means like children, presents, meals, Lots pantomimes. shows and of lesbians are excluded for reasons. One reason of lots ourselves, exclude would we excluded nevertheless be but because pantomimes is from are derogatory, sexist they and sickenly heterosexist.

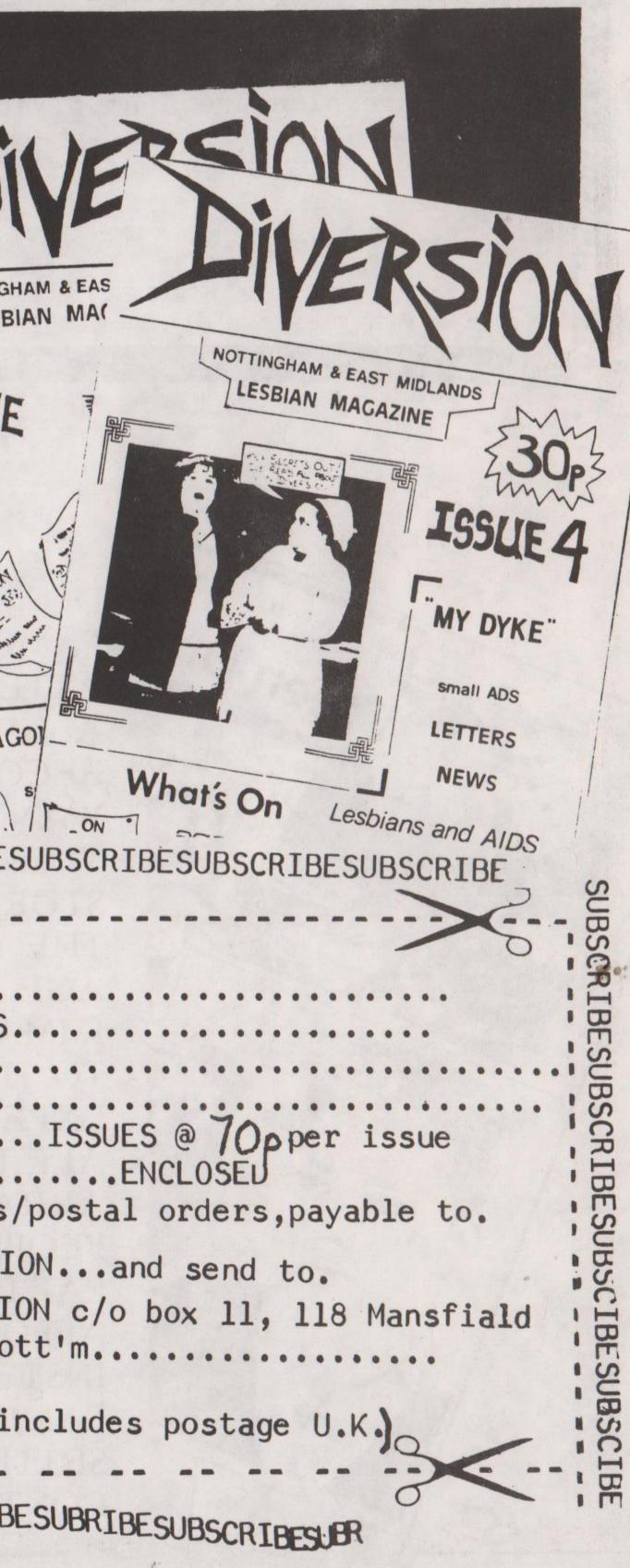
Well, we found a pantomime that was none of those things. went with my daughter, her friend and my lover, and we all had a really good night The play was brilliantly out. had performed, funny, very things to hiss and cheer at and had a 'happy ever after' ending.

Cinderella dressed as a young man, to avoid detection step-father wicked her by wicked step-brothers, two and the ball. She danced to went Princess and they the with Cinderella, love. in fell already knew she obviously, and not a him, but was a her so the Princess. However, not found out Princess the when that he was a her, her feelings did not change. As she said, she supposed she should feel disappointed tn learn that he was a she, but she did not. She told her father, the King.

He had spent his whole life spoiling the Princess and so was in a dreadful dilema

when she told him to change the law that said she could not marry Cinderella. He set believing Cinderella tasks that she would die, but with the promise that should she could have the return she hand. Of course Princess's lesbian love conquered all (you have to believe in something and why not that) and lived happily ever they all after. As well as the traditional theme, this pantomime had a lot more and it was so good to see my daughter laughing and enjoying something lesbian, which the show made seem normal and positive. It was wonderful.

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You must think me a sorry sight Ageing womon. Decreasing height, wrinkling skin. Ask me why.

Ask me why the lines on my face are many and I'll tell you of all the times I've laughed 'til I've nearly peed me knickers.

Could you write for and/or sell Diversion? We want Diversion to be representative of all lesbia ns/gay women in the East Midlands

-and we need news, views, stories, What's on in your area etc, SO WRITE TO US NOW.

We also need . sellers - we try to get around the pubs and clubs but we only get to places once and its a large area to cover.

A FREE SUBSCRIPTION IF YOU SELL 8 OR MORE.

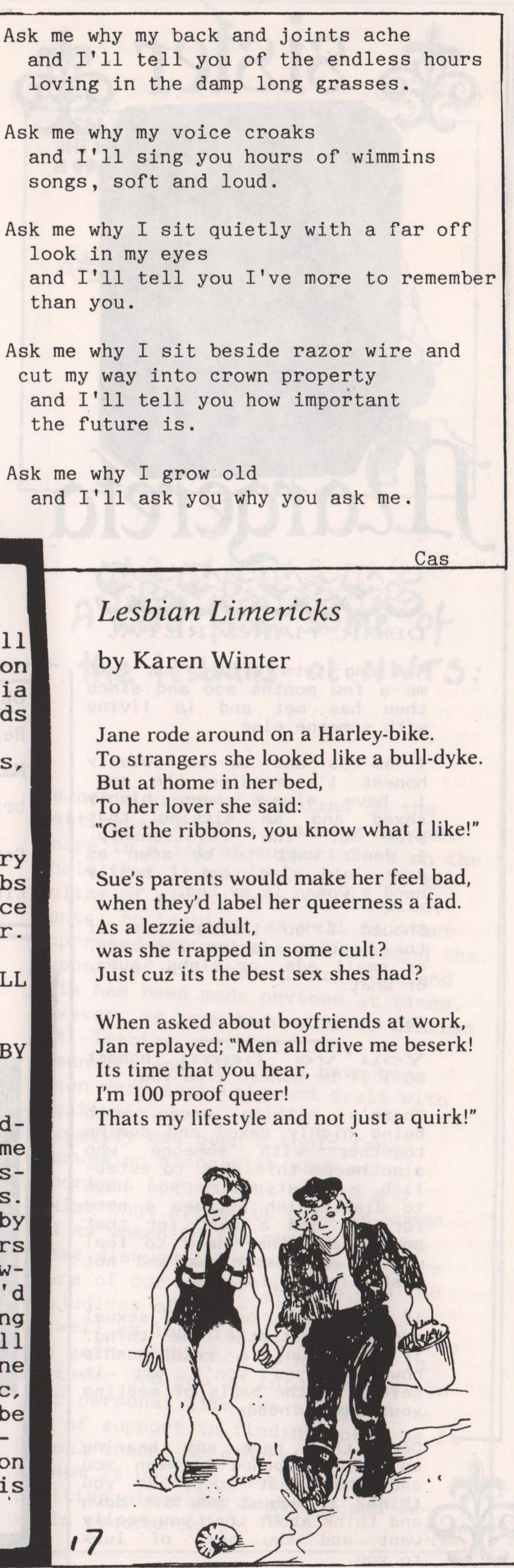
COULD YOU SUPPORT DIVERSION BY A SUPPORTING SUBSCRIPTION?

Diversion is run on a tight budby volunteers. The income get from sales and advertising doesn't really cover printing costs. Diversion is made possible by of our prinyters thegenerosity in giving us cheap rates. How-Diversion grows we'd ever, as like support them by paying to them the full rate, (as well paying ourselves for phone as calls, stationery costs etc, etc.) So if you'd like to be a supporting subscriber --send extra with your subscription 50p, £1, £5, £500, nothing is too little or too much!



- Ask me why my back and joints ache loving in the damp long grasses.
- Ask me why my voice croaks and I'll sing you hours of wimmins songs, soft and loud.
- look in my eyes than you.
- cut my way into crown property and I'll tell you how important the future is.
- Ask me why I grow old and I'll ask you why you ask me.

DEAR READERS?





s sister

DEAR MARGARETA,

My long term affair has left me a few months ago and since then has met and is living with someone else .

and to be totally missing the sex. have always been highly missing that relationship. the don't want to be seen as some 'old slag' but I really need a woman in my bed.

Should I go through one of the lesbian dating agencies, or small ads, or clubs, pubs, or what.

Can you help please?

You've been honest so I'll be honest with you.

There's nothing wrong with being highly sexed and coming together with someone who. also needs this. But to establish a relationship you have to distinguish between a need for sex and a want for that person and they have to feel wanted as themselves and not just needed for sex.

If you want a series of sexual encounters that's one thing, if you want a relationship however, you won't get it solely on the basis of meeting your sexual needs.



Does this have any bearing on what happened between you and your last lover do you think? I suggest you sit down and think about what you really want and the best of luck to you.

Well, for

OLDER LESBIAN SOCIAL

Regular social starting for over 30's March 18th, Party at the Lesbian Centre, bring food and drink.ALL over 30's WELCOME for details of future meetings phone Lesbian

Line



Also "Wonder Wimbin" Price £2.95. Available from another cartoon book. Mushroom Bookshop, 10 Heathcote Street, Nottingham.

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THE JEWISH LESBIAN GROUP

early meeting since May, in each others homes. Apart eating, laughing and crying have started to talk about feel about being Jewish it affects us as well discussing Jewish culture, history, politics.

The group is very positive because we have many experiences in comoften for the first time looking at what being jewish means to us as lesbians, women, daughters and mothers.

When we mention to our friends about the group, the usual reac-'oh, how many of you is which makes us laugh. there?' those of you who are to know, there are nine of us....so far!! We are sure there are more jewish lesbians in Nottingham so get in touch

Shalom. Phone Anthea 622604

From the woman whose cartoons appear regularly in "Diversion". If you liked them here - you'll like-

They went by train, they went by bus, they went

by car. I went by a very indirect route accross some windswept moors; the scenic route they said - we were lost basically. We asked the yokels for directions; in a typically city dweller way, "Which way to Manchester ?! " Someone suggested dyke spotting and following one - I just wanted to go to the Demo At last we found it - Manchester - Yeh I knew it was round here somewhere!

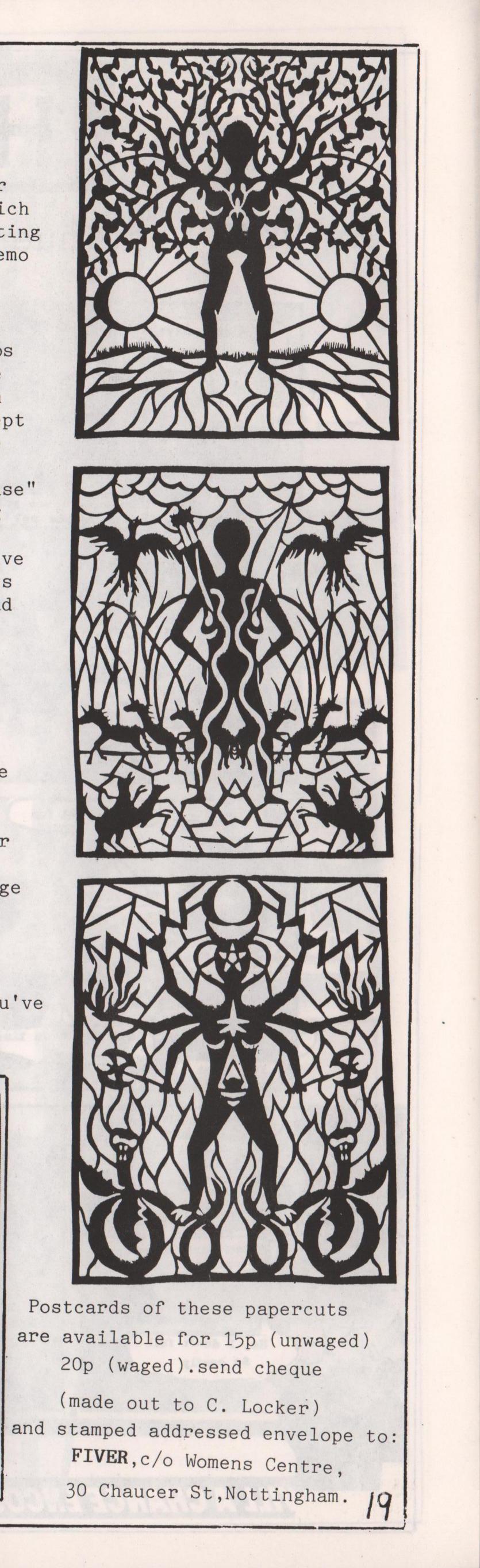
The streets seemed to be teaming with lesbians and gay men - so did most of the cafes shops, pubs - my eyes were out on stalks - me having a little Kid in a Sweet Shop" mentality - We gathered then marched - I got all emotional, especially as I kept bumping into people I hadn't seen for ages - like since the night before in the pub - we sang and chanted - some "Stop the Clause" some "Santa Clause" but who cares, I didn't - and it went on, snaking around the streets of Manchester - I don't know how they counted us but there was about 20,000 give or take the odd hundred - there seemed to be dykes there from all corners of the Country - and abroad - which brought another tear of solidarity to my little eye - the speakers included Linda Bellos, Micheal Cashman, (Colin, Eastenders), and Sheila

from Brookside - as I was right at the back - not even 5 foot and the wind was against me - I had trouble seeing and hearing what was happening at the front and as I'm not exactly sylph like no-one offered to lift me up - but I clapped and cheered when everyone else did - and I'm reading reports of what was said that day. I didn't clap and cheer at the wrong things. The police kept a low profile which made a change - and there wasn't any aggro - apart from the odd homophobic shopper - which I only heard about eventually I was dragged back to Nottingham - ,I was still buzzing four hours later in the pub -What a day for me ? Put me back in the closet? You've You've gotta be bloody joking!!

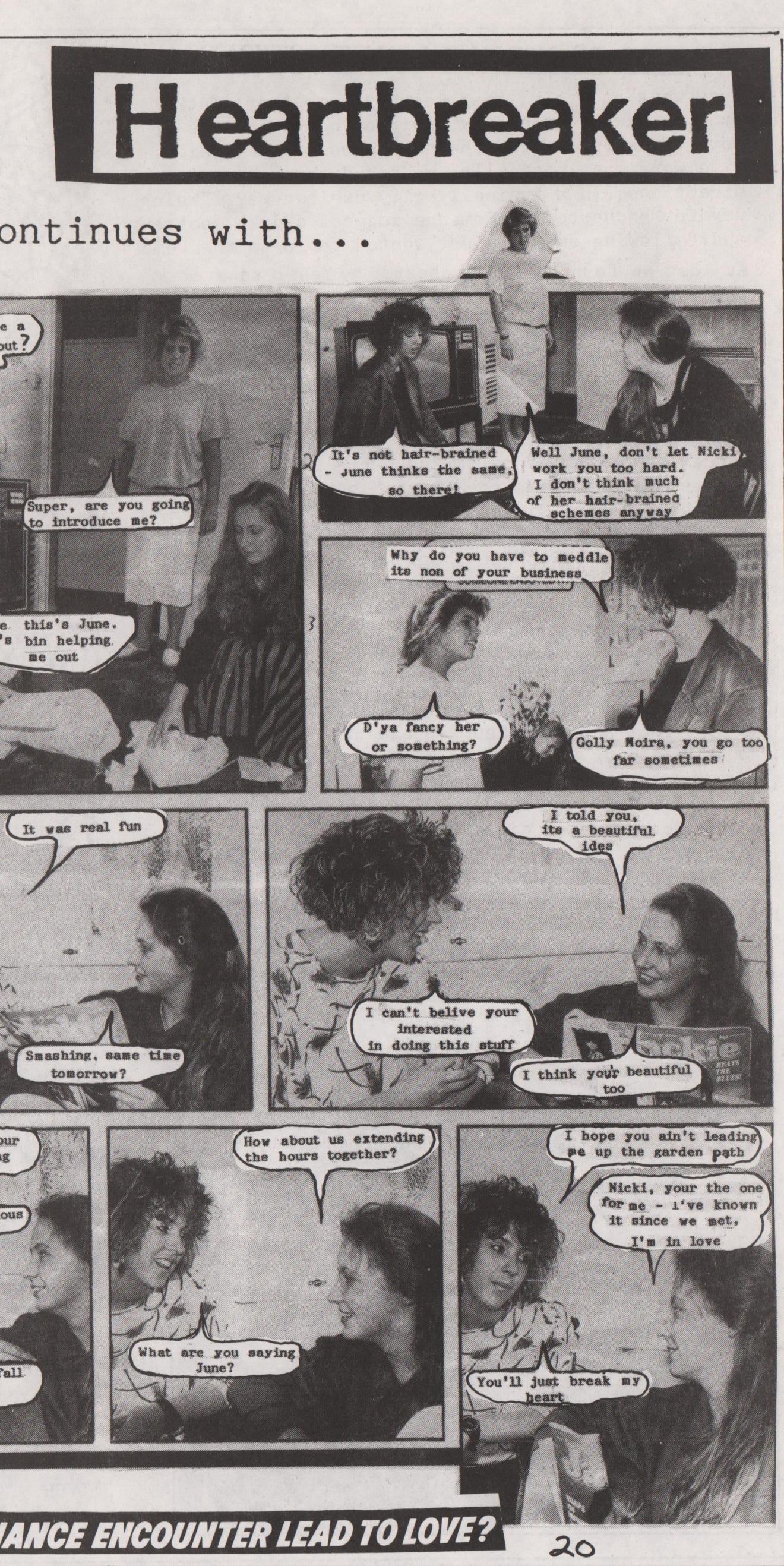


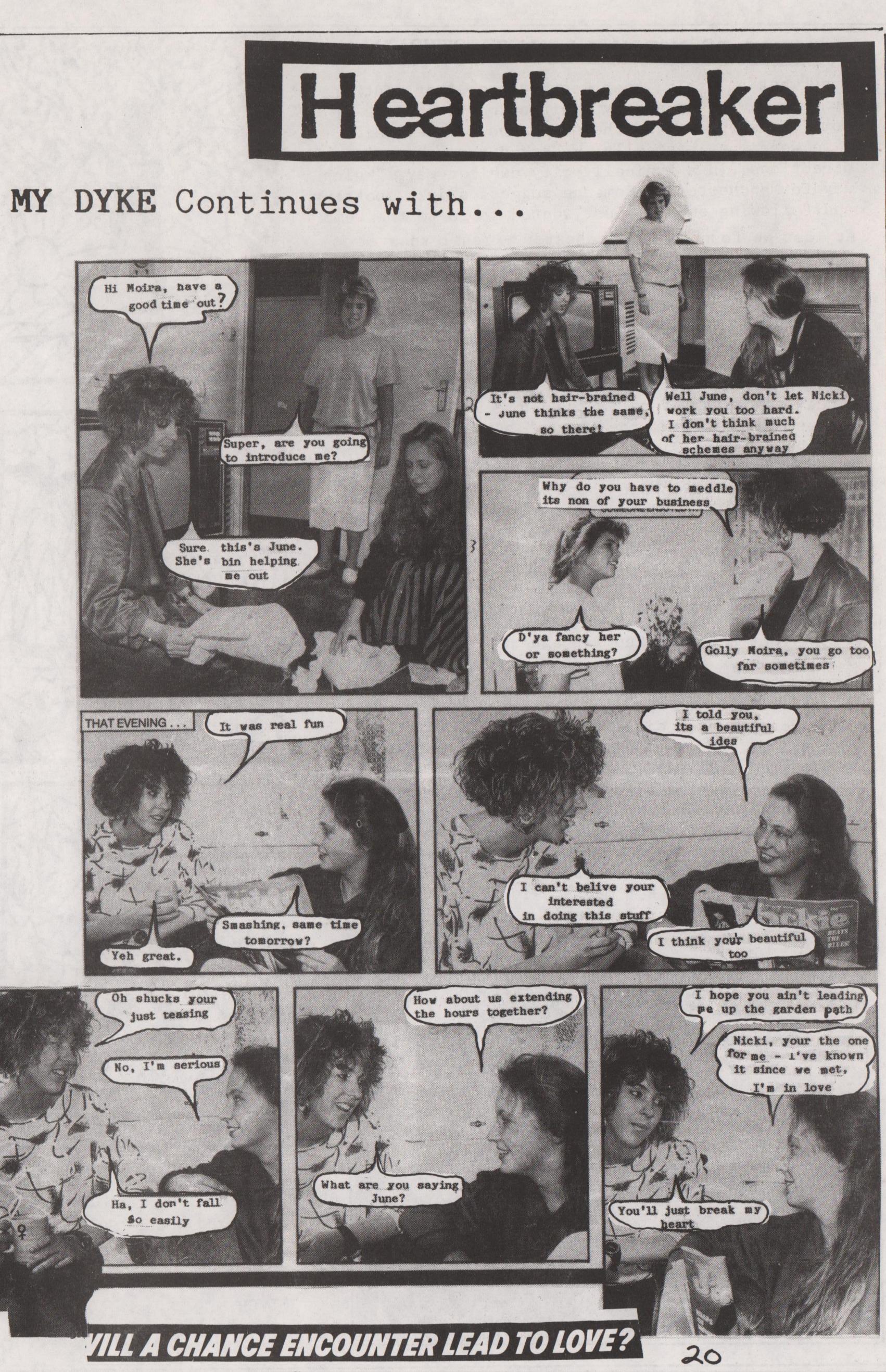
CLAUSE 28 MARCH IN MANCHESTER

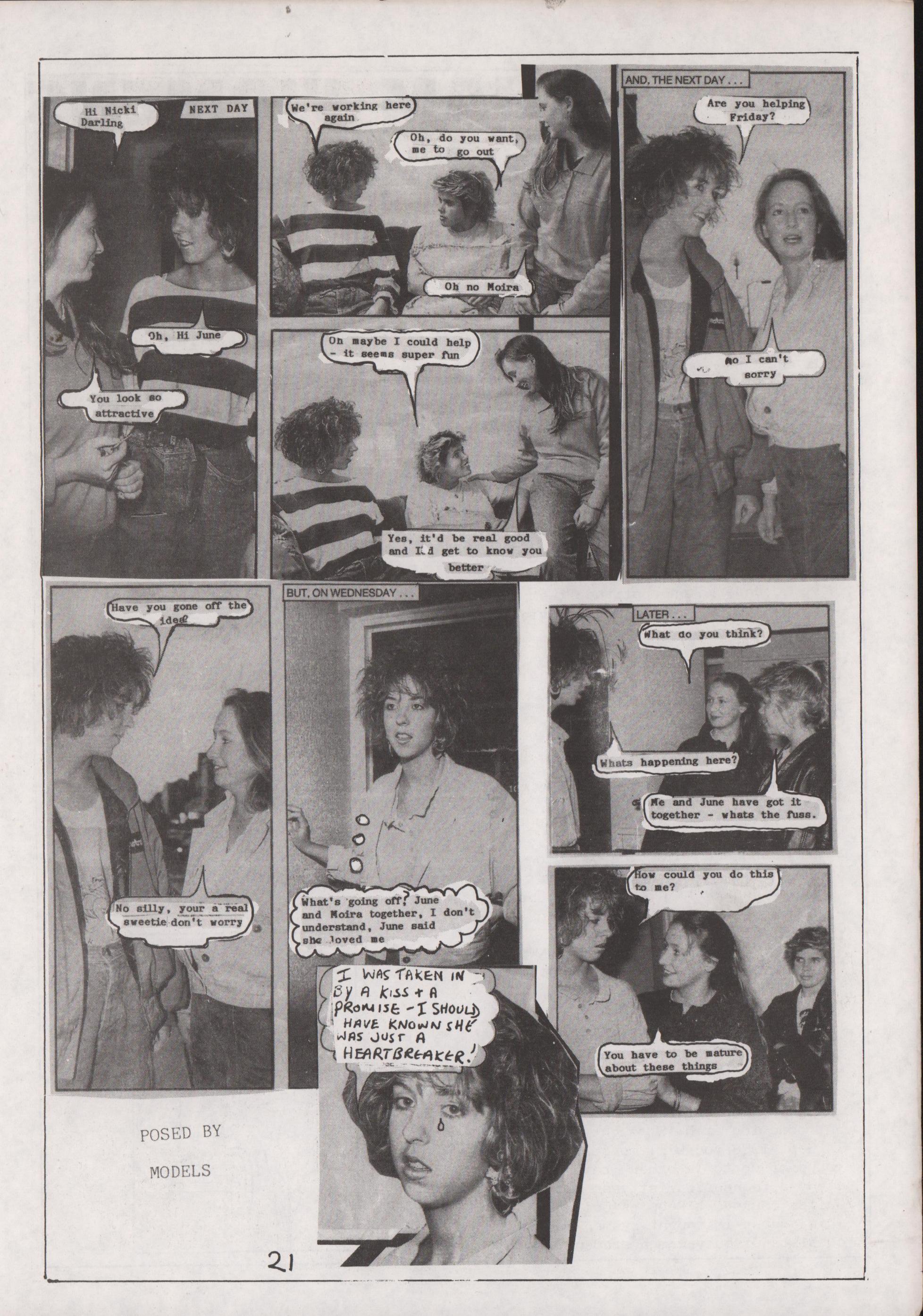












NOTTINGHAM WOMENS TRAINING SCHEME

Starting in May 1988 the following courses will be running at Nottingham Women's Training Scheme.

Bus and Lorry Driving.

This training leads to an opportunity to take either an HGV or PSV driving test. You will recieve theory support from women workers at the centre but as yet driving tuition is done by men at Nottingham City Transport and Marshalls Driving School. Women without driving licences can sometimes be trained by NWTS. All women choosing driving have to undergo an apptitude test before they are allocated a driving place.

Plumbing, Painting and Decorating Carpentry and Joinery.

In the past NWTS has run these courses together as a combined building trades course. This time they will be run separately. Initially you will train 3/4 days a week. Emphasis will be on basic skills, and and adjusting back to learning after a long gap. By Sept 1988 trainees will begin a 1st year City and Guilds course at Basford College and at the same time continue with basic training at NWTS to supplement the college course. All of the first term and a substantial part of the first year will be taught by women.

Electronics and Car Mechanics.

These courses begin with a basic introduction at NWTS taught by women. In Sept 1988 you will move with your group of up to 12 other trainees to study a foundation/1st year City and Guilds course at Peoples College. This course is taught by men but consists of only women students.

Support will still be available from women workers at NWTS and you will come in regularly for both engineering classes and discussion days.

TRAINEES ON ALL COURSES:

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1. Recieve the full cost of travel and childcare incurred during training. 2-5 year olds go into a playgroup within the building 0-2 year olds go to a registered childminder.

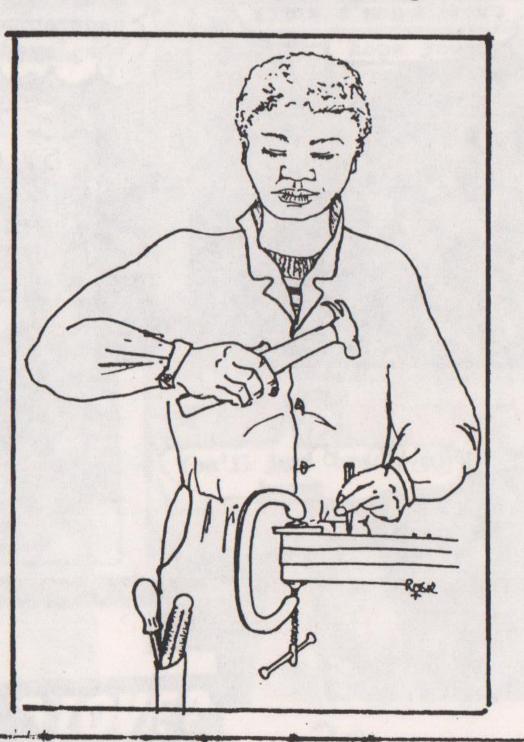
2. Are encouraged to do a 4 week work experience placement towards the end of the first year.

3. Can take extra English and Maths if you wish.

4. Attend a course of discussions on racism, sexism and anti-lesbionism.

5. Learn skills required to deal with returning to work and study and working in male-dominated industries.

6. Are encouraged to continue training after the initial 10 month NWTS course where appropriate.



HOW YOU ENTER THE TRAINING SCHEME.

- interview.

AFTER THE COURSE.

There are now a few openings for women in building and engineering. Altogether 8 women from NWTS are in recognised adult traineeships, and five are doing driving jobs. Other women use their skills to work for themselves. NWTS is trying to make more jobs available but we don't pretend to have found enough for everyone.

There is a WAMT (Women and Manual Trades) group meeting at the Women's Centre (Chaucer St) on the second Wednesday of each month. Please get in touch with us if you need work doing. If our training is going to be useful we rely on women using us in preference to men where possible.

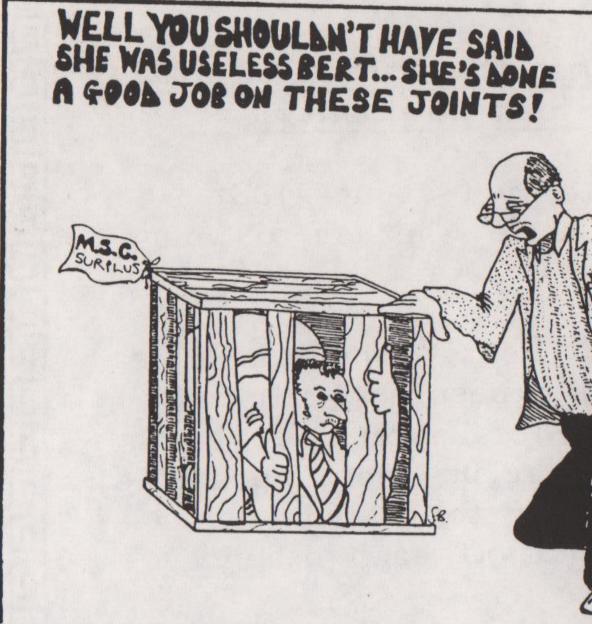
LESBIANS have a support network within NWTS with no obligation to come out unless you want to. We are getting stronger and we would welcome more of you. We are not allowed to publicise our positive action policy -Notts County Council adopted Clause 28 long ago !

1. Complete an application form. Ring 586236 and we will send one to you.

2. All suitable applicants recieve an

3. Trainees are chosen on the basis of aptitude and motivation with a clear priority of including black, Asian and lesbian women and single parents. Where possible disabled women. If you have already recieved Training in some other skill you may not get a place it depends on numbers.

4. For those women who gain a place you spend the first three weeks trying out all the skill areas and then choose which you prefer. You must be prepared to take a second or occasionally third choice because each group can only take a fixed number of women.



A word the lesbians at NWTS:

(1

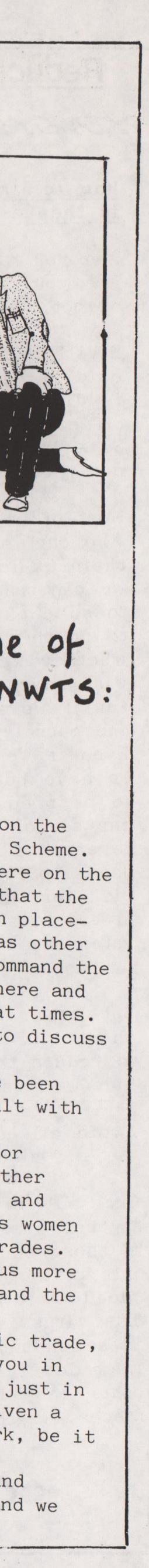
We are a group of lesbians on the Nottingham Women's Training Scheme. There is a lot of support here on the whole, but it must be said that the policy of giving priority in placements to lesbians as well as other oppressed groups does not command the support of all the workers here and this has been made obvious at times. However, we have been able to discuss anti-lesbian attitudes and misunderstandings, they have been taken very seriously and dealt with positively. Sexuality has been a topic for discussion along with many other

important issues like racism and sexism that affect us both as women and as women in the manual trades. These discussions have made us more aware of our own prejudices and the prejudices of others.

As well as learning a specific trade, you gain confidence to help you in whatever job you go into, or just in your personal life. We are given a lot of support in finding work, be it manual trades or otherwise.

to sum it up, it's a relaxed and positive place for lesbians and we would reccommend it.

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Reducing the spread of AIDS in the Lesbian community

How to limit the spread of AIDS in the Lesbian Community.

Are you worried about AIDS? Are you unsure whether to worry or not?

HIVIII is a weak virus that dies quickly on exposure to air and is difficult for lesbians to catch off each other. Bu not impossible! So - let's try to be sure we don't catch it off each other!

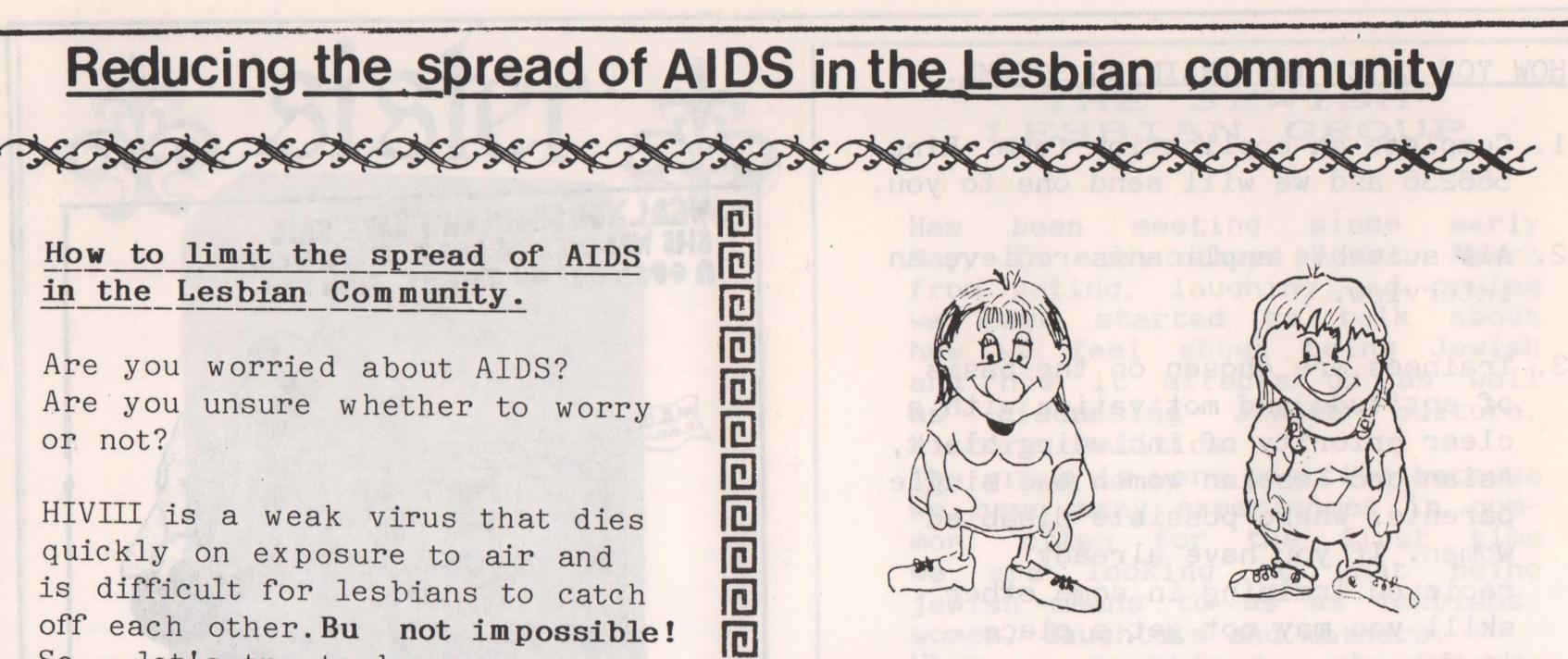
Most of us don't know exactly who our lovers/ex-lovers (and their ex-lovers) slept with. We can trace our sexual histories to some extent - and we need to do this in order to find out whether we've been in contact with anyone in a high risk group. (or if we are or have been in one ourselves).

Even if we don't think we are or have been at risk we need to be prepared to offer to share our sexual histories with new lovers and to ask theirs. Everyone needs to feel able to assess the risk for themselves and not be afraid to say "I'd like to have safer sex".

But its probably best if we all change our behaviour slightly to reduce the risk of infection. Briefly this means:

Avoid all contact with someone elses blood.

Once HIV is in the bloodstream it then passes into all body fluids. If these body fluids then come into contact with someone elses blood stream then it can be transmitted . The virus is particularly concentrated D in semen and blood and is in much lower concentrations in all other body fluids - saliva, urine, faeces, vaginal fluid etc.



Ways we come into contact with other peoples blood is:

Bleeding gums

Periods

Cuts

Piles

plasters.

period.

or faeces.

n St.

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Sharing razors

If injecting drugs through sharing needles. Cold sores Anal sex.

Ways we can avoid contact:

Cover up any cuts or sores with waterproof

Get health problems sorted out bleeding gums, piles, cold sores. Keep fingernails short and smooth to avoid accidental tears to skin. No oral sex on someone having their

Washing our genitals before sex to avoid all contact with traces of urine

Protecting cuts on your hands - especially D before vaginal sex.

Using protection for anal sex.(finger l cots and disposable plastic gloves r can be obtained from Boots, Victoria Centre or Wilkinsons on North Sherwood

THEN ... In 1979 there ENID LIAS King Lenn

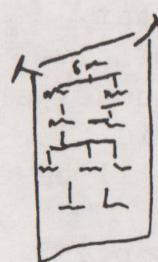
HIGH RISK GROUPS Since the AIDS virus is transmitted primarily through blood and semen, lesbians who may be at risk are those who:

* share needles or any other equipment is using IV drugs. This is the single most important risk category for lesbians. * have had sexual contact with: - people who use IV drugs - men who have had gay sex since 1979 (gay or bisexual men) - people of either sex whose sexual history is unknown - people who are haemophilliac, or who have received blood transfusions or blood products between 1979-1985 * have used semen for donor insemination from a donor in a high risk group who is known to be antibody positive, or whose risk status is unknown * have received blood transfusions or blood products between 1979-1985.

N.B. IV drugs, means injecting drugs.

If you think you might be or might have been at risk, then talk to someone from the AIDS information project. They will give you information, advice and support.

NOTTINGHAM AIDS HELPLINE 585526



IF I THINK I MAY HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO THE VIRUS, WHAT SHOULD I DO ?

Monday/Tuesday 7pm-10pm.



Diversion No. 4.

Then one interesting book is "Aids I from the AIDS line.

For a longer and more general article on lesbians and AIDS see If you want to know more about AIDS a guide for Survival" by Peter Tatchell. Other info about books can be obtained HIDS REMEMBRANCE were running high mustered in Hyde Park, Speakers venue Corner there were approximately people present the organisers moved the start across Park. guest speakers attended the of cast from Colin who led the march Jan. 9th, on (Maggie) Apanowitch Chris Smith the only Gay M.P., The of Woolwich, Britains Aids victims mother, 60's Julie Felix, two workers The Terence Higgins Trust health visitor a who works police initially presence low profile but increased volume of demonstrators The march eventually off and proceeded through where couldn't we candles due to an dating back from about scorching the Once outside the gates we lit our candles - all varieties,

Emotions we all original but as 10,000 had the

Many including three Eastenders Clause 27/28 Katharine and Pat. self-confessed Bishop first singer from and with Aids victims.



The was the as swelled. moved the Park light the old bye-law 1600's the sheep! shapes and sizes.

Banners were held at chest height instructed the beginning at as candles The high. route and round central London wound and approached Downing St. we police huge presence was the with metal barriers down the of Whitehall, centre police and Downing St. barriers and at back across the They up road. obviously anticipated repeat a Jan. 9th but kept our of we befitted a dignity Remembrance as March plodded mainly and on

point I'm but the militant Candlelight bring I and and "lumps totally

Dec 1987.

And now I can breathe again after 2½ weeks of deep hollow pit of stomach fear, a daze of unreality. Sounds dramatic, but it's a bit like that when you think you and lover, or both may have the Aids Virus. Lesbians generally seem complacent about the dangers, "oh we're safe, isn't it awful, thank goddess it won't happen to me!". but for two and a half weeks we knew it could. My lover was inwardly deadened by it, convinced she'd got it. I doggedly hung on to optimism (or was it my inability to believe) but towards the end was panicking that I wasn't letting myself face the true horror of the possible reality. We could think about nothing else, every plan we'd had was either in the air or shot to the ground. But we couldn't talk about it to any other wimmin. We couldn't put other wimmin through the fear of it, not if it turned out that we didn't have the virus. We went to a VD clinic to get the bloodtests. The doctor we spoke to was very young, friendly but nervous. I had to point out to him that even without cuts etc lesbians can have "body fluid" contact through menstrual blood and oral sex. If he'd been older, and more arrogant as so many

Fee Coremno other.

SHOKOKOKOKOKOKOKOKOKO in silence to the peaceful termination Elizabeth the Queen at II Conference Centre in St. James. not a seasoned Demo protestor get the older more I The I've become. to March seemed closeness feeling of a wet cheeks noticed a few with all of people ages throats", their in a diferent atmosphere to the anger of Jan. 9th.!

Sue.

Now | Can Breathe Again



doctors are, it could have been very difficult to explain that without feeling humiliated and angry. We were counselled before we had the test, by a health social worker, who was wonderful. So warm and concerned. She made me feel a lot calmer and saner than I'd felt since we'd heard that *******'s ex-lover had a positive HIV test. After she told us we were clear, she just said "give her a kiss, and I'll be back in a few minutes", leaving us to sob and sob and laugh, and cling to each

And now we've survived, still hard to believe. But it feels so important to tell other lesbians about it. I don't _

believe we're taking it seriously enough, believing it can happen to us. Some lesbians inject dope, and they are a very high risk group for catching and passing on the ' virus, other lesbians have had recent heterosexual contact, other lesbians occasionally have sex with gay men. Though these are high risk groups the virus can also be passed on in vaginal secretions, menstrual blood or through small cuts in the mouth through "sex toys", even the prosaic bleeding gums. All relatively low risk chances of passing on the virus, but when the risk is Aids every "risk" however tiny seems suicide.



When we first knew, it was hard and painful even to kiss each other, - the kiss of death, everything seemed like it had to be clinically analysed, read the leaflet, "the virus has been detected in saliva but there's no recorded instance of it being passed through saliva - no recorded instance, in such a little known or understood disease, how safe is that? There were hysterically funny times that helped us survive the horrors. The stories about the boy trying to buy a condom from the chemist have nothing on me ending up coming out of a surgical supplies shop with a hundred surgical gloves, a box full costing £7, they wouldn't split the box. As they were W, small size, far too small for ***. I belatedly realised a hundred, long lasting surgical gloves that only I could use seemed a little excessive, so somehow I managed to return the next day and get my money back and it was ***'s turn to go to Boots and buy some disposable ones for a hundreth the price.

When lesbians actually do talk about Aids it is often in joke terms about rubber gloves ugh!! but when you're faced with the reality of that or not being able to make love with your hands at all you have to do it. We were very brave, it was hard and scary at first, trying to put memories of large handed male doctors putting on such gloves before minor examinations. And it of course enhanced the feeling of being unclean, leper. How could it affect employment or insurance for instance? What about all those homophobic people? They would consider their notion of a gay disease, and God's retribution totally proven. We felt terribly vulnerable. Every comment, every news item on TV about Aids felt as if it was deliberately aimed at us. If we were positive there would be people we didn't want to know. If we were positive how far back in our sexual history would we need to trace, to tell, to discover? We are writing this because we feel we must be more aware, more responsible, to ourselves and to our sisters. We must learn to be able to talk about HUGS NOT BUGS it seriously. For it to be only natural and reasonable to find out about our potential lover's history, however hard it seems. And we hope we can create a community where we can give strength and support to sisters with HIV and we also need to be thinking about how to support sisters dying \$ 27 from Aids.



Lesbian Guide To Lesbos

CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE

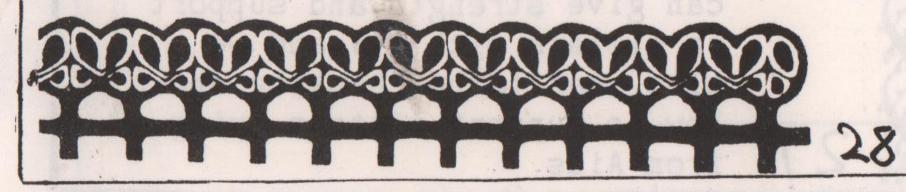
How to get around Taxi - to get from airport to Mytilini should be about 300/350 drachmas (213d to pound when I went). Buses - there is a bus station in Mytilini - from where you can get buses to all over the island. The bus to Skala Eressos leaves around 1.15-1.30 pm everyday, you can buy tickets at the bus station office or when you get on - cost 600 drachmas to get there. The bus back leaves at 6.00 am! Hiring mopeds/bikes/cars - from any of the places. Mopeds are great fun es pecially round some of the amazing hairpin bends! Good way to see some of the fantastic scenery. Remember to drive on the right. Only need driving licence for hiring cars - no experience necessary for mopeds. Do wear something on arms and legs, protection if fall off and also you can get very burnt. Cost of moped - about 1,700 drachmas per day/£8ish. Any damage must be paid for!

Food

Generally very good and cheap. Most places have pretty similar menus. Some places do specifically vegetarian dishes. At Skala Eressos the Cafe Sympathy is highly recommended - will do vegan dishes if you ask.

Drink

Very cheap and therefore very difficult to resist. The local Retsina is a must - the wonderful rot-gut! about 95 drachmas for a half litre in a bar (45p). Quzo -300 drachmas a bottle (£1.50). They do some fruit juices but they are mainly sweetened. Recommend the Yello Bar at Skala Eressos - along from the camp site away from the village. Try the ouzo cocktails - ouzo, vodka, blue curacao and orange juice - amazing! Water - can buy bottled but we had no adverse effects from the tap water.



Insects . Lots of, mainly ants but also flying beetles, biting ladybirds greenflies(bee size), always sting you, so watch out, and bees Mosquitos too but seasonal. On the bright side - beautiful butterflies and dragonflies. Also watch out for snakes - adders in the countryside.

How to get there - flights also go to

By plane - flights go direct to Lesbos's Mytilini airport. Cost varies according to reason. When I went in early June it was about £155 for 2 weeks. Athens and then you have to get the ferry to Lesbos. The ferry is very cheap but takes ages - one dayish? You can get standby flights which will obviously be much cheaper. One womon on our flight had booked four days previously and had got it for £29! (were we sick!) By train/ferry - you can get the InterRail pass if under 26 to travel anywhere in Europe, all the way down to Greece for a month (I think it's about £120 now). Then getting the ferry from Athens. Package deal - quite a few companies are now offering Lesbos by package.



The first ever national conference for lesbians and gays with disabilities is being organised for Spring 1988 in Manchester. Lesbians and gays with disabilities feel tired of being excluded from lesbian and gay activities because of lack of access to buildings, transport and information about events. They are also angryat the way able-bodied lesbians. and gays humiliate and exclude them and discriminate against them in all activities within the lesbian and gay communities. Because of these experiences lesbians and gays with disabilities will use the conference to express their anger, to talk about their rejection, share their ideas, get feedback from others struggling in the same way and to think of positive ways to redress the balance. It is hoped that the conference aims at fighting ableism in the lesbian and gay communities and homophobia in the disability community. "No sex please, we're cripples is the order of the day" said Denis Killin, a member of the planning group. Kirsten Hearn, another member of the planning group commented, "As someone with a disability, my sexuality has never been taken seriously. People question my lesbianism; they say it's because I'm a blind woman and can't get a man".

The conference planning group call on able-bodied lesbians and gays to actively support this initiative. They desperately need three things:

Firstly, money. "Organising a conference of this nature is expensive", said Cabs Gooding, another member of the planning group. "We need money for sign interpreters, money for transport, money for accommodation and the hire of the venue."

Secondly, they need maximum publicity in lesbian and gay publications.

1st NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LESBIANS AND GAYS WITH DISABILTTIES.



Thirdly, they need help. "We can't do this by ourselves, the world in which we live is organised to suit able-bodied people, not us". said Fiona Clark from the planning group. "If you really believe in full participation by disabled lesbians and gays in the lesbian and gay communities, we urge you to act now in support of us," Kath Gillespie demanded.

LESBIANS AND GAYS UNITE IN DISABILITY (LANGUID)

c/o LAGU, 48 Grand Parade Green Lanes, N4. Tel: 01 802 8981

CHEQUES MADE PAYABLE TO:

Lesislation for Lesbian and Gay Rights (Staff)

Please send to above address.

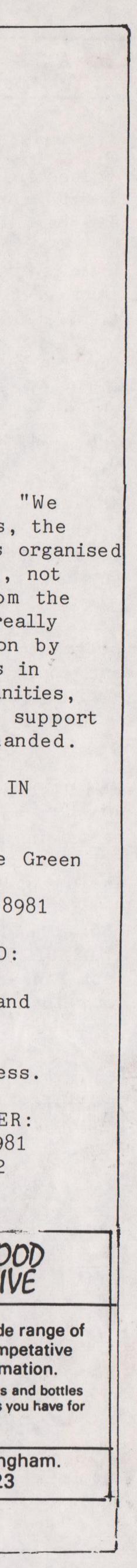
CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER: Kirsten Hearn 01 802 8981 Fiona Clark 01 732 0432

WHOLEFOOD

A worker's co-operative selling a wide range of Vegetarian Wholefoods at very competative prices. Plus extensive food information. We also have facilities for recycling glass jars and bottles (with lids). Please bring in any unwanted jars you have for us to sterilize and refill.

15, Goosegate, Hockley, Nottingham. Telephone: (0602) 505523

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Leicester Women's Gentre

94 Belgrave Gate.

Leicester Women's centre is situated on the corner of Abbey Street and Belgrave Gate.

The centre is very friendly and the team of five workers all create a good atmosphere.

On the groud floor is a cafe providing Hot drinks and light snacks during the week. Friday is the day when the centre offers a special menu at a price affordable to most of our pockets. This cafe is open between 10-4pm and other facilities of the centre is the creche and baby feeding room which is also open daily for the users of the centre.

Leicester Women's Centre also provides pregnancy testing/counselling (immediate and confidential results) which is available Tuesday between 5-7pm and wednesday, Thursday 10-5pm.

The library which houses books not often found in conventional centres, pertaining to all women. There is a photographic room with all essential equipment.

Rooms (under certain conditions) are available for hire, there is also a vast range of office equipment including computors and musical equipment available for use onthe premises.



Basically the centre is a social dropin centre support/counselling sevice, a rights advice and referral centre and a focus resource for women's groups.

Wednesday night is Lesbian Women only, there are plenty of board games, pool, darts, table tennis, anything you might want to do. There is also music for those who feel like dancing The cafe is open on this night too. Bring a friend and enjoy yourself and if your're new on the scene, come along and meet new people.

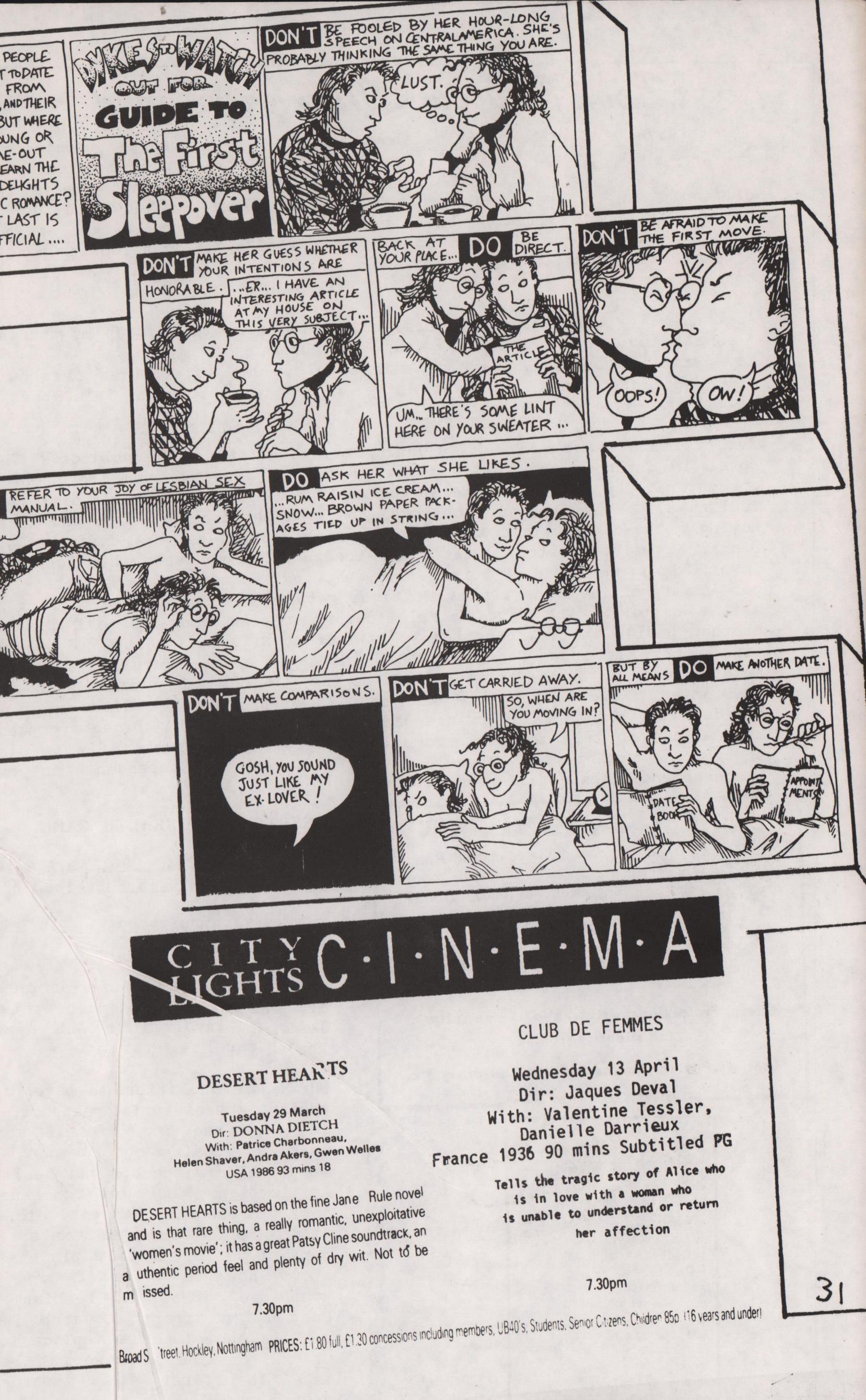
The Women's Centre has a number of interesting courses starting in October self defence, car maintenance, music, creative writing and lots more - just contact a worker on 532111 for more details.



Lastly the workers feel strongly that the women who are using and going to use the facilities at the centre should have the leading role when it comes to future development. The workers are all trying very hard to achieve the aims and objectives of the centre making the centre accessable to all women, regardless of background, origin , or status. In order to achieve these aims the workers are prepared to work flat out, but nothing will be achieved without the full cooperation and suport of women.

Deborah Moore.

TRAIGHT PEOPLE ARE TAUGHT TODATE AND MATE FROM MOVIES, TV, AND THEIR PARENTS. BUT WHERE DOES THE YOUNG OR NEWLY COME-OUT LESBIAN LEARN THE RITES AND DELIGHTS OF SAPPHIC ROMANCE ! HERE AT LAST IS THE OFFICIAL. :038 DON'T MANUAL





Book Review Memory Board

I've always felt quite positive about getting older, pushing uncomfortable thoughts about incapacity and illness into the background and entertaining a fond vision of myself as an 'eccentric aunt'! It had always been difficult for my generation, white, middle class and now mid-30s, to believe the world wouldn't blow itself to pieces before we got anywhere near old age, but now I'm not so sure and find myself considering pension schemes and the setting up of old dykes' homes. After all, who is going to take care of us?

As usual I've been reading novels and biographies to back up my thoughts - usually much more stimulating than text books. May Sarton's books are full of comment about her experiences of growing older and I recommend her novel As We Are Now for a poignant tale about an older woman living in a 'some'.

Memory Board is Jane Rule's stunning contribution to the subject. This novel is humorous and gentle while in no way playing down the problems encountered by her characters: advancing senility, painful arthritis, feeling alienated from your children and grandchildren and from the world, having retired. Old age treats the 3 main characters very differently -Diana, a retired doctor, looks after Constance, a gardener, her long time lover, who grows steadily more senile, needing the memory board to tick off her whole routine of daily events from getting dressed in the morning to eating supper. The crucial relationship of the book is with Diana's brother David, who is adjusting to retirement with difficulty. Slowly he finds that there are advantages to old age, as he rebuilds his lost relationship with his sister and begins to come to terms with her lesbianism. The best bit of the book is when the three of them go on holiday together to Palm Springs, funny, tender and sad. Diana's concern as she has to take more and more control over Constance's life is also thought provoking for those of us who are so dependent on our 'independence'. Essential reading! Jane.

RAMOTH	PRINTS	LESBIANS
133a Mar Telephone: (0	nsfield Road Nottingham 602) 473081	NATIONAL CARE TO B
& SILK SCREEN AND TYPES	PRINTERS	SATURDAY I SOCIAL IN
Cheap, Professional Printing for Co and Minority Groups	mmunity	This meet: and exte lesbiars health car
Leaflets, Posters, Business Cards, Sta Collectively run by Women		Our needs beginning to laugh fears of work. Als as lesbia lack of re It's a pl many of us
in the Yorkshire Dales send sae for information to: Old Vicarage, Horton-in- Ribblesdale, Nr Settle, N. Yorks. Phone (072 96) 207 some disabled access	32	about how grandiose Centres a own health up our co take the dreams.

IN HEALTH CARE

MEETING OF LESBIANS IN HEALTH BE HELD IN SHEFFIELD

FEBRUARY 27th 10 30 - 4.30 EVENING.

ing jo one of a series to form end a national network of involved in ALL aspects of re.

and interests have, from the been varied; support, a space and cry, to talk about our coming out, or not, in our so discussing our health needs ans, our ow ignorance, the esearch, etc. etc. etc.

lace to break the silence so is live with, a place to dream w to breal it more often, ideas of Lesbian Health and proper research into our h. But als a place to build onfidence s we can begin to first stps towards such

At the last meeting it was agreed that organised some

we needed to talk more about the aims of the network and we plan to do this this time. But we'd also like to have some fun and plenty of time to talk, so we've painting/massage, yoga workshops and time to talk in small groups.

Any suggestions about discussion topics or activities would be very welcome.

- so come and make use of it!!

to find out when that is.

opening times.

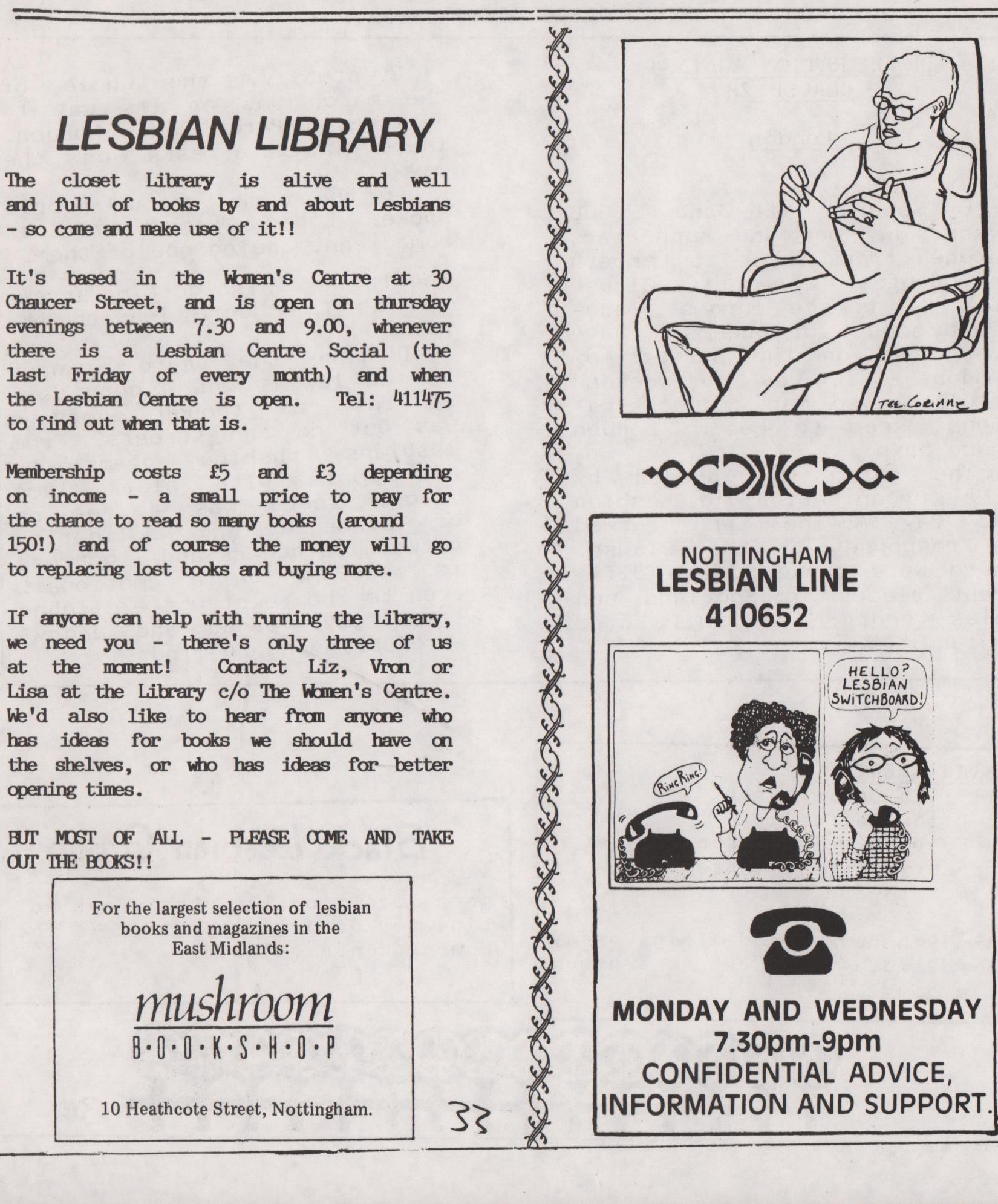
OUT THE BOOKS!!



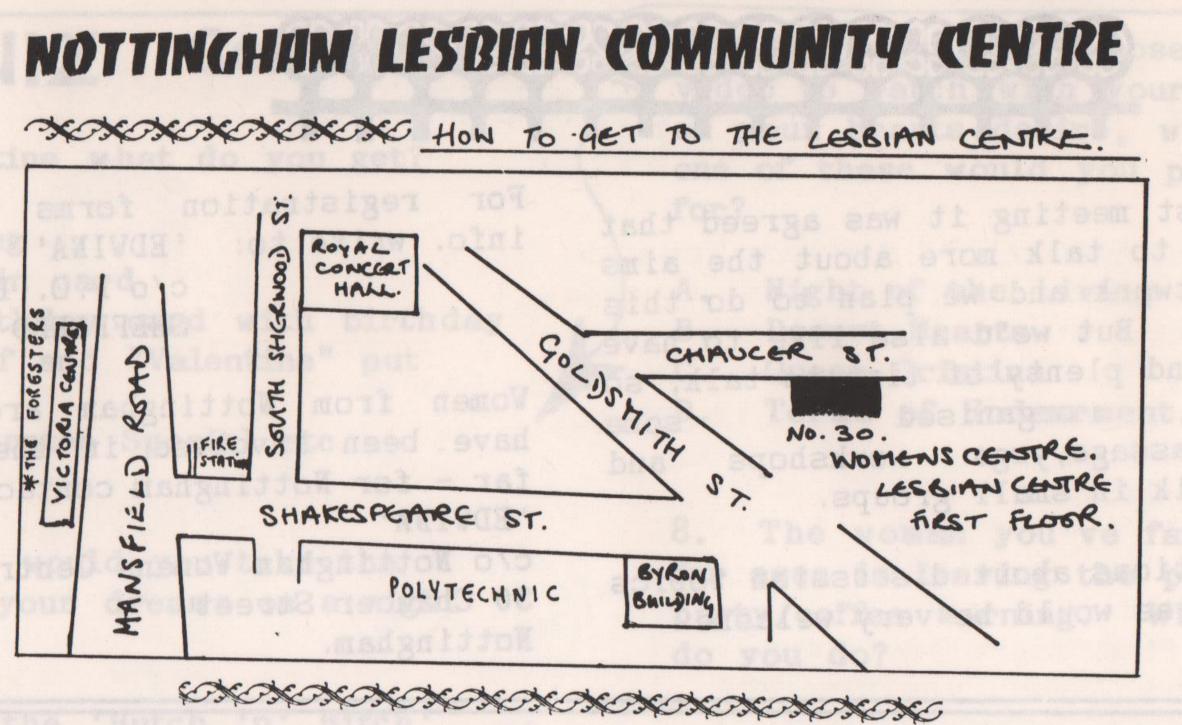
For registration forms and further info. write to: 'EDWINA' c/o P.O. Box 162

Women from Nottingham are going and have been involved in the network so far - for Nottingham contacts write to: 'EDWINA'

c/o Nottingham Womens Centre 30 Chaucer Street Nottingham.







DEMOSTRATION AGAINST CLAUSE 28

London

On Saturday 9th Jan, 12,000 Dykes, gay men and supporters marched from Temple to Lambeth in protest against Clause 28. It was the largest, angriest amount of queers I have ever seen on the streets of London - it was no weekend stroll as so many 'demonstrations' seem to be in London these days.

The march was headed by OLGA (Organisation for Lesbian and Gay Action) who formed in response to the Clause. There were banners from different places in Scotland and Wales apart from all over England,

Eventually, the whole of the march was on its way to Harmsworth Park, South London. There were arrests on the way. At the park various people spoke, Robin Tyler (American comedieane) being one of them.

People were also getting arrested as they were leaving the park. Despite the aggro. caused by the law it was a good day. It felt as though everyone was out on the streets. From lesbians pushing prams to old poofs with black lace flags. There was a feeling of strength and solidarity between us queers and I confess it made me quite emotional, even to the point where cliches like 'gay, proud and angry' were springing to mind.....

LESBIAN EVENTS April 11th Gaeia March. 27th Ellen Galford. Both Lesbian Writers speaking at the county Lib rary, Angel Row, Nott'm 7.30 pm

April 29th Parker and Klein, Comedy act + disco, at the Lesbian Centre Nott'm.8pm

Black Lesbian Group

meets occasionally, phone Lesbian Line for details, or write c/o The Womens centre, Nott'm.

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The following events coming up shortly

Womens Performers Club (Women only). A Monthly event where any women can perform - sing, read poems, dance, tell jokes etc. Followed by a disco until 2am. 400 women went in December. Very popular.

At The Leadmill, Leadmill St. nr Sheffield rail and bus station.

Tuesday 15 March Tuesday 12 April

Discos.

19th March Women & Ireland Fundraiser 26th March Lesbian Extravaganza fundraiser 8.30-1am. All at University Students Union.

International Womens Day. March through Sheffield 5th March. Sat. followed by rally and stalls, various events in March.

Lesbian May Extravaganza to celebrate 5th anniversary of Lesbian Line. Lots of events in May. We want women from other towns to come.

7th May Black Lesbian Evening Sisters in Song, Jackie Kay 12 May Women only session at Ice Rink 13 May Desert Hearts + Het up Films





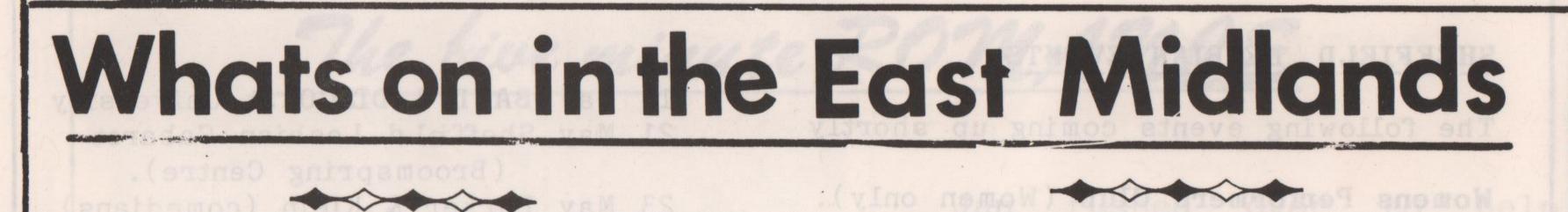
SHEFFIELD LESBIAN EVENTS

Lesbian Line/women only.

14	May	BAND	&	DISCO	a
21	May	Sheffie	10	d Lesb	ia
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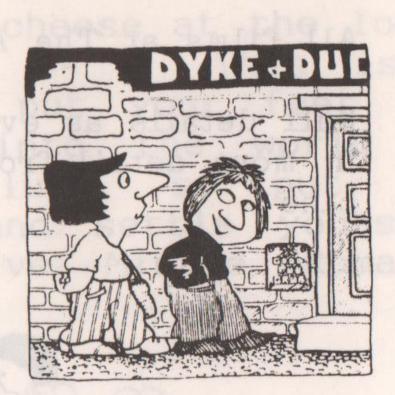
University an Cabaret (Broomspring Centre). 23 May Parker & Klein (comedians) at Leadmill 30 May-1st June Film November Moon All films at The Anvil cinema. Full details as events are organised in more detail from Sheffield Lesbian Line. 6 NOTTINGHAM OUTWORKERS SUPPORT GROUP c/o The Womens Centre 30 Chaucer Street Nottingham. PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE Nottingham Outworkers Support Group produces new "Factpack". The pack includes advice and information on: current tax, national insurance. welfare benefits etc. Rates, health and safety, trade unions, advice sources, etc. Precisely because outworkers work 'outside the workplace at home, outworkers are isolated and frequently unaware of the rights they may have and of the health hazards that they may be exposed to. Indeed ethnic minority outworkers often find that these problems are worsened by language difficulties, cultural factors and less frequent access to work and social contacts outsie the home. The Outworkers Factpack is therefore free to all outworkers from: Nottingham Outworkers Support Group c/o Nottingham Womens Centre 30 Chaucer Street Nottingham/ THE FACTPACK IS ALSO AVIALBLE IN ASIAN LANGUAGES.





LESBIAN (and mixed gay) INFORMATION

PLACES TO GO IN Nottingham Derby Lincoln Northampton Sheffield Mansfield Retford Worksop Loughborough

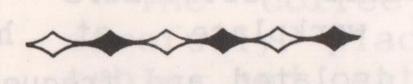


NOTTINGHAM

THE FORESTERS pub, Glasshouse St. just round corner from The Olde Boot pub behind the Victoria Centre. Sometimes mostly women, sometimes mixed. Disco Thurs. (60's music) and Sun.

Mickz Hall of Pool. Night Club, Broadway, (Lace Market. Sat. evening 8-12 pm. Women only. Last entrance 10pm. Free membership. Entrance £1.50. Need to be "introduced" by a member to join. Also Wed. evenings 5-10 pm.

Lesbian Centre Disco. Last Friday of every month 8 till late. £1. waged, 75p unwaged. Disco, pool, darts, jukebox. Dinner available in Gossip Cafe, 6.30+ book in advance.



POT-LUCK PUBS AND DISCOS (some women use them sometimes).

The Admiral Duncan. 74 Lower Parliament St. Discos Fri. Sat. & Sun. mixed. Late bar. Bar with "Private Party" on door.

The Nags Head Mansfield Rd. (right hand side going out of town). Back bar.

The Napier North Sherwood St. (by Arboretum gates). THE FOREST TAVERN North Sherwood St, also entrance on Mansfield Rd. Lounge bar, pool, juke-box etc.

Lesbian Community Centre 2nd floor, the Women's Centre, 30 Chaucer St. Nottm. Near the Poly. See map Page 34 Lesbian Line office, black lesbian room, lesbian centre office and coffee bar and pool room. Open occasionally at present. See below.

Lesbian Centre Group meets every

Thurs. 7.60 at the Lesbian Community Centre. Organising group for the Lesbian Community Centre (LCC). All lesbians/gay women welcome.

Lesbian Clause 28 Out Group meets every Thursday 7.30-9 pm at the Lesbian Centre, The Women's Centre, 30 Chaucer St. Nottm. Everyone Welcome.

Lesbian Line 410652. Telephone advice and info. service. Mon and Wed 7.30-9pm. Run by small group of lesbians. Any lesbians who'd like to join phone us for more info., new members welcome. Training given.

OLDER LESBIAN SOCIAL Regular social starting for over 30's.March 18th party at the Lesbian Centre, bring food and drink.ALL over 30's WELCOME for details of future meetings, phone Lesbian Line.

The Elm Tree 53 Beech Ave., Forest Fields Up Sherwood Rise, then left down Beech Ave. Lounge Bar.

The Vernon Arms. Corner of Waverly St.

The Lord Nelson. Lord Nelson St., Sneinton. Mainly gay men.

The Fox. Sneinton Dale, Sneinton. Very local pub. Rear garden in summer.

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GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

NEWCOMERS GROUP

Meets once a month.for Women new to being Lesbian, or Lesbians new to Nottingham.MEETS 7.30-7.45 by the Victoria Centre Clock Tower, then in the FORESTERS PUB.Next meeting tues 5th April.phone Lesbian Line for details. YOUNGER LESBIAN GROUP Meets 1st Tuesday of the Month 6pm at the Womens Centre.may be meeting fortnightly.phone Lesbian Line for latest info'April 5th meeting 6-6.30 Womens centre, then going bowling. Disco Collective run by lesbians. If you interested in joining please phone Sal on 504087 or send a note to Disco Collective c/o Women's Centre, 30 Chaucer St.

Black Lesbian Group newly formed group for Black Lesbians. For more info phone Lesbian Line or write to Black Lesbian Group, c/o Women's Centre, 30 Chaucer St.

JEWISH LESBIAN GROUP meets regulary (phone Anthea 622604 for details.

section. Sell Diversion.

This guide is as full as we can make it. If you know of anywhere that we have missed off - PLEASE LET US KNOW. THANKS.

OTHER LOCAL MIXED GROUPS

Gay Christian Movement (East Midlands). Meets second Fri. in month. Women phone Sheila/Chris, Loughborough 236871.

Lesbian/Gay Welfare Workers Group. (Social and support) including health and education workers. Meets monthly. Central Nottm. For info: Chris Williams (27 Moore Rd., Mapperley or 602164 (after 7pm). Third Sat. in month in afternoon.

Whats on

BOOKSHOPS

NOTTINGHAM. MUSHROOM, 10 Heathcote St., Hockley. Has a lesbian book

LEICESTER. BLACKTHORN 70 High St.

Midland Deaf Gay Group. Mixed. Phone 021-707-8327. Meets every Jester Pub, Birmingham

Labour Campaign for Lesbians and Rd. Beeston, Nottm. Tel: 223090.

NATIONAL LESBIAN ORGANISATIONS WITH LOCAL GROUPS.

BM, Box 5700, London WC1N 3XX.

Kenric National social organisation for lesbians plus monthly newsletter (M53), London WC1N 3XX.

DERBY

Derby Lesbian Line 41411 Wed. 7-9pm. Write:

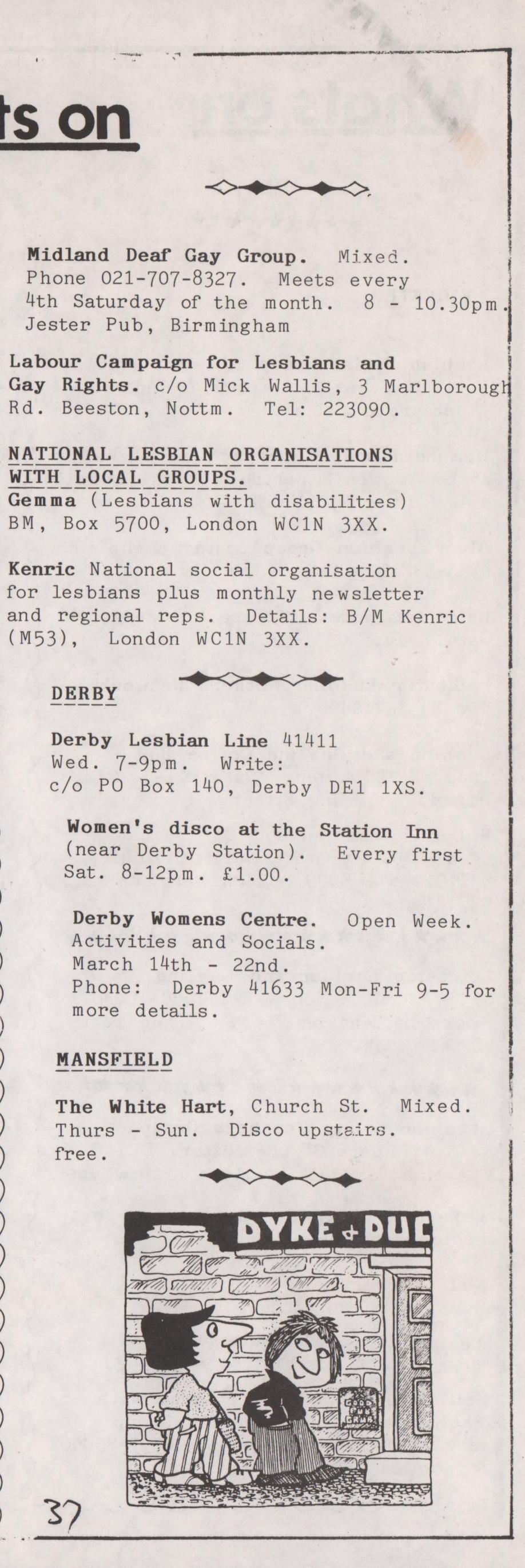
Sat. 8-12pm. £1.00.

Activities and Socials. March 14th - 22nd. more details.

MANSFIELD

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Thurs - Sun. Disco upstairs. free.



Whats on

LEICESTER

Lesbian Social Group. Weds. 7.30 - 11.00pm. at the Women's Centre, 94 Belgrave Gate.

Womens Disco. Every three weeks at the Women's Centre. Phone Lesbian, & Gay Line for details.

Black Lesbian Group contact Debbie 0533-532111.

Leicester Womens Centre, 94 Belgrave Gate. Tel: 0533-532111.

Leicester Lesbian Mothers Network. Viv 0533-700498.

Lesbian and Gayline Coffee Bar Tues. 8-10 Women. Sats. 11-5.30 Mixed. 45 King Street.

Nalgay. Lesbian and Gay section of NALGO. Contact Marie Critchley 531191 ext. 5099 or Jen Harrison 539181 ext. 258.

Leicester Lesbian and Gayline 0533-550667. Mon - Fri 7.30-10.30. Women on line on Tues. Mixed rest of the week.

Lesbian & Gay Teachers Group. c/o 4 Rupert St. Leicester. LE1 5XM or phone Gayline for details. (see article last issue).

Leicester Claws Out Group. c/o Bev, Lesbian and Gay Line.

NUT City or Leicester Lesbian & Gay Rights Working Party.

Lesbian & Gay Housing Group. Contact via. Lesbian & Gay Line

Self Help Group for Lesbians with Phobias.and Young Lesbian Group ring Lesbian and Gay Line 0533-550667 for details of all these.

The Magazine. Newark St., Womens Bar. Every other Thursday - 18th Feb., 3rd March etc. Upstairs. 8pm onwards. 50p.

The Dover Castle. 34 Dover St. (off Granby St.). Very mixed.

Poly Lesbian Group. Every Thurs. Phone Jeanine. Leics. 700894.

Poly Lesbian & Gay Society. c/o Pigeon Holes, Student Union, Leicester Mill Lane. or phone Lesbian & Gayline.

Poly Lesbian & Gay Society. c/o Pigeon Holes, Student Union, Leicester Poly, Mill Lane or phone Lesbian & Gayline.

Leicester Claws Out. 13th Feb. Festival in Town Hall Square. Stalls and speakers, bands - Fabulous Dirt Sisters. If weather bad then alternative venue.

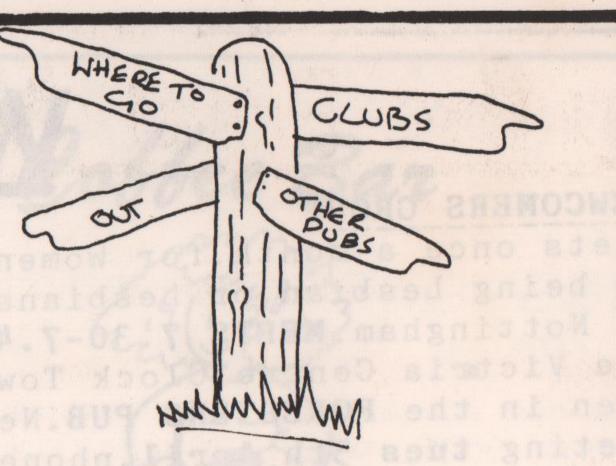
25th March Benefit (mixed). Spectrum Club, Midland St.

LINCOLN

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Lincoln Gay Switchboard Tel: Lincoln 0522 22458. Weds. 6-10pm. Sat. 3-5pm.

The Golden Eagle, High St. Lincoln. Mixed disco, 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month. 8pm - midnight. Upstairs room. Last admission 10.30pm.



Candlelit Procession. 8th. March.

in the East Midlands

NORTHAMPTON

Lesbian Line. Northampton 39723. Tuesdays 6.30-9.30 also drop-in between/ 7.30-9.30.

Princess Royal. Womens disco first Sat. of the month. 172 Wellingborough Rd. This is open as a mixed gay club the rest of the time (open 10.30pm () onwards). Closed Wednesdays and Sundays. £1 entry. £2 membership.

Regents Club. 76 Regent Sq. Mixed gay. Mon - Disco 9 - 2am, Wed and Thurs - lounge bar. Fri., Sat. and Sun. disco. Mostly men.

Womens Disco. 2nd Saturday of the month. 75p. The Labour club, Northampton.

Anti-Clause 27/28 metings/actions, for details phone Lesbian Line.

MILTON KEYNES

For details of gay womens group and regular womens' discos - phone Milton Keynes Gay Switchboard 0908-312196 Mondays + Thursdays 7-9pm.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The Windmill Pub, sparrow Hill. (near Parish Church). Thursday, women only.

The Pack Horse Inn, Woodgate. Mixed. Fridays in lounge bar particularly good.

NOTT'M CONT ASTORIA 1st & 3rd mon in the Month Black Lesbians £2 by broad marsh centre 9.30-2. Clause 28 group. BARACUDA 3rd mon in the month £1.50, Hurts Yard, off Upper Parliament Lesbian Extravaganza Group. 10-2 "for lesbians & gay men & their May Festival. friends"V.good D.j See details in this issue.

Bassetlaw Gaylink. North Notts., Retford and Worksop. Mixed group and occasional discos. Tel: Lincoln Gay Switchboard for details.

MABLETHORPE

The Cross InA. Alford Rd. Mixed. Gays mainly Mondays. Music good, pool, restaurant.

Wednesdays 200 Club. Otley Terrace. Mixed gay discos. Fridays 7-11pm.

DONCASTER

The Old Crown. Grey Friars Rd. (near St. Georges Church). Lounge bar. Mixed.

SCUNTHORPE

Jensen Pub. Mixed

NEWARK

Ye Olde White Hart. Thurs., Fri. and Sat. only. Mixed. 1940's Blitzbar. ***********

SHEFFIELD

Lesbian Line. 0742 581238. Thursday 7-10pm.

Gay Christain Movement. Womens group. Contact Hazel 0249 415656.

The Cossak, Howard St., nr Railway Station. Mixed.

Lesbian Line Socials. Fortnightly on Tuesdays 8pm onwards at the Cossak.

Amazon Disco. The Stars, Queens Rd., every fortnight. 2 March, 16 March & so on. Wednesdays 10-2. Phone Lesbian Line for more details.,

Groups that can be contacted via Lesbian Line

Young Lesbians Lesbian Writers Older Lesbians Lesbian Mothers

