

LISTINGS

Aberdeen Trades' Union Gay Rights Group, c/o Boomtown Books, 167 Kings St., Aberdeen AB2 3AE.
 Anti-Apartheid, 89 Charlotte St., London W1.
 Anti-Nazi League, PO Box 353, London NW5.
 A Woman's Place, William IV St., London WC1.
 Brothers and Sisters, Deaf Gay Group, 11 Hawthorn Ave., Rainham, Essex.
 Campaign Against Public Morals, Box BM 1151, London WC1V 6XX.
 Campaign for Homosexual Equality, 42a Formosa St., London W10.
 Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, 29 G. James' St., London WC1.
 Charter No. 1, PO Box 353, London NW5 4NH.
 Communist Party, 16 St John St., London EC1.
 Employment Protection Appeal, 60 Broughton St., Edinburgh.
 Gay Activists Alliance, 5 Caledonian Rd., London N1.
 Gay Humanist Group, 45 Telford Ave., London SW2 4XL.
 Gay Left, 38 Chalder Rd., London NW1.
 Gay Men's Press, 27 Priory Ave., London N8.
 Gay News Ltd., 1a Normand Gardens, Greyhound Rd., London W14.
 Gay Post Office Workers Group, BM GAYPO, London WC1V 6XX.
 Gay Pride Defence Committee, 42a Formosa St., London W9.
 Gay Rights At Work, 7 Pickwick Court, London SE9.
 Gas's Against the Film "Cruising" (GAP/C), 7 Pickwick Court, London SE9.
 Gay Sweatshop, 5 Leonard St., London EC2.
 Gay's the Word, 66 Marchmont St., London WC1.
 Gay Youth Movement, c/o R. Moor St., Birmingham 4.
 Gemma, Disabled Lesbians, BM Box 5700, London WC1V 6XX.
 Gay Workers In Print (GayWIP), 37 Perkins House, Wallwood Rd., London E14.
 GLAD: Gay Legal Advice, 101-262 2892, 7-12 nightly, Icebreakers, BM/GAYLIB, London WC1V 6XX.
 International Gay Association, Hirschfeld Centre, 10 Fownes St., Dublin 2.

Gay Switchboards

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 Wed 7pm - 10pm
 BELFAST CARA FRIEND 2232-22023
 Mon & Wed 7.30pm - 10pm, Thurs 7pm - 10pm (lesbian line)
 BERKSHIRE Windsor 36521
 Wed 8pm - 10pm
 BRISTOL C.H.E. 02145-67527 or 40167
 BRIGHTON 0273-604825
 8pm - 10pm, 3pm - 10pm Sats
 BRISTOL 0272-297500
 Sun - Fri 8pm - 10pm, Sat 3pm - 10pm
 CHESTER 0244-312975
 7.30pm - 9.30pm every night, Sat 12 noon - 4pm
 CARDIFF FRIEND 0222-395123
 Tues & Thurs 8pm - 10pm
 CHELSEA 0206-864233
 Wed 7pm - 9pm
 COLERAINE Coleraine 51904
 Tues 7pm - 10pm
 DERBY 0332-752260
 Mon - Thurs 1pm - 2pm, 6pm - 11pm
 DUBLIN TELL FRIEND (prefix from UK: 001) 01-710408
 Mon - Fri 8pm - 10pm (Thurs women only), Sat 3pm - 6pm
 DUBLIN (Irish Gay Rights Movement) 01-786593
 Mon - Fri 7.30pm - 9.30pm, Sat 3pm - 6pm
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 Mon - Fri 7.30pm - 10pm, Sat 2.30pm - 6pm
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 HULL 0482-226511
 Mon & Wed & Fri 8pm - 10pm
 KENT 0233-25395 ext 2
 LANCASTER & MORECAMBE Lancaster 63021
 Thurs & Fri 6pm - 8pm
 LEEDS 0532-453588
 7pm - 10pm every night
 LESBIA/N LINE (London) 01-837 8602
 Mon & Fri 2pm - 10pm, Tues - Thurs 7pm - 10pm
 LINCOLN Metheringham 20851
 Wed 8pm - 10pm

International Marxist Group, 328/9 Upper St., London N1.
 LesbianLine, BM 1514, London WC1V 6XX.
 01-837 8602, Mon & Fri 2 - 10pm, Tues - Thurs 7 - 10pm
 London Friend, 274 Upper Street, London N1.
 01-359 7371, 7.30 - 10 nightly.
 London Gay Teachers Group, c/o Peter Braulley, 112
 Broxholm Rd., London SE7.
 01-670 4798
 Lothian Trades' Union Gay Rights Group, 60 Broughton St.,
 Edinburgh EH1 3SA.
 Manchester Direct Action Movement, 164/166 Corn
 Exchange Buildings, Hanging Ditch, Manchester.
 NALGAY, 7 Pickwick Court, London SE9.
 01-857 3793
 National Abortion Campaign, 374 Grays Inn Rd., London
 WC1.
 01-278 0153
 National Council for Civil Liberties, 186 Kings Cross Rd.,
 London WC1.
 01-278 4575
 National Gay Federation, 10 Fowes St., Upper, Dublin 2
 Northern Ireland Gay Rights Association, PO Box 44,
 Belfast BT1 1SH.
 Parents Enquiry, Rose Robertson, 16 Honley St., London
 SE8.
 01-698 1815
 Peace News, 8 Elm Ave., Nottingham. (0602 53587)
 Release, legal & medical emergency service
 24hrs, 01-289 1123
 Revolution Youth, 328 Upper St., London N1.
 Right to Work Campaign, 265a Seven Sisters Rd., London
 N4.
 Sappho, The Basement, 20 Dorset Sq., London NW1.
 Scottish Gay Activists Alliance, First of May Bookshop,
 Candlemaker Row, Edinburgh.
 Scottish Homosexual Rights Group, 60 Broughton St.,
 Edinburgh.
 01-278 4575
 Sequel, 49 Pratt St., London NW1.
 Smash the Prevention of Terrorism Act, BM RCT, London
 WC1V 6XX.
 Sisters in Crime, 190 Upper St., London N1.
 Socialist Workers Party, PO Box 82, London E2.
 Spare Rib, 27 Clerkenwell Close, London EC1.
 01-253 9792
 South London Women Against Imperialism, 71 Saltown
 Rd., SW2.
 Troops Out Movement, 2a St. Pauls Rd., London N1.
 Women's Information Referral & Exchange Service
 (WIRES), 12a Shakespeare St., Nottingham.
 0602-411475

LONDON 01-837 7324
 Open line for national and international gay information,
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 MANCHESTER FRIEND 061-236 6283
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 Mon - Fri 7pm - 10pm
 NOTTINGHAM 46881
 Mon & Wed & Thurs 7pm - 10pm
 CHESTER 0269-266998
 NORTH STAFFS Stoke on Trent 266998
 Weds 7pm - 10pm, Sat 2pm - 5pm
 OXFORD 0865-45647
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 PLYMOUTH 0752-69558
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 PRESTON 0772-51122
 Mon - Fri 7.30pm - 9.30pm, Sat 2pm - 4pm
 PRESTON LESBIAN LINE 0772-51122
 Mon & Wed 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 READING 0734-597269
 Fri 7pm - 10pm
 SHREWSBURY 0743-62748
 Tues & Fri from 6pm
 SHEFFIELD 0742-307142
 Mon - Fri from 6pm
 SURREY Guildford 503128
 Mon & Wed & Sat 7.30pm - 10pm
 SOLENT 0703-37363
 Tues & Thurs & Sat 7.30pm - 10pm
 SWANSEA LESBIAN LINE 0792-467365
 7.30pm - 10pm
 WEST MIDLANDS 021-632 6528
 Mon - Fri 7pm - 10pm, Sat & Sun 4pm - 10pm
 (women answering on Wed)
 YORK 0904-411399
 Thurs 7pm - 9pm

BOOKSHOPS

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ABERDEEN Boomtown Books, 167 King St
 ABERTAWNE Negus, 31 Alexandra Rd, SA1 5DO, Cymru
 BATH 1985 Longacre Hall, London Rd
 BELFAST Just Books, 7 Wintertown St
 GARDNER, Queen St
 BIRMINGHAM Peace Centre, 18 Moor St, Queensway, 3
 PROMETHEUS, Alcester Rd, Moseley, 1, 178
 BRIGHTON Public House, 21 Little Preston St
 BRADFORD Fourth Idea Bookshop, 14 Southgate
 Full marks Bookshop, 110 Cheltenham Rd
 BRISTOL Grapevine, 41 Fitzroy St
 CAMBRIDGE Community Bookshop, 108 Salisbury Rd
 COVENTRY Wedge Bookshop, High St
 DERRY CITY Bookworm, 12 Orchard St
 Books Upstairs, South King St
 DUBLIN Logos Bookshop, 251 Hawkhill
 DUNDEE Community Co-op Bookshop, 14 Railway St
 DURHAM New Elvet
 EDINBURGH Open Gate, 60 Broughton St
 First of May Bookshop, Candlemaker Row
 I.C.E., 3 Palace Gate
 EXETER HUDDERSFIELD Peacework, 54 Wakefield Rd
 JOHN SHREEDANS, 19 Anlaby Rd
 HULL LANCASTER Single Step, 78a Penny St
 LEAMINGTON SPA The Other Branch, 42 Bath St
 LEEDS Corner Bookshop, Woodhouse Lane
 LEICESTER Blackthorn, 74 Highcross St
 LIVERPOOL News from Nowhere, 100 Whitechapel Rd
 Adelaide Bookshop, 14 Cecil Court, WC2
 Balham Book & Food Coop, 2-16 Culmore
 Cres, SW12
 Bookmarks, 265a Seven Sisters Rd, N4
 Booksplus, Lewisisham Way, SE14
 Bread and Roses, Upper St, N1
 Central Books, Grays Inn Rd, WC1
 Centreprise, 136 Kingsland High St, E8
 Collectors, Charing Cross Rd, WC1
 Compendium, Camden High St, NW1
 Crouch End Bookshop, Crouch End Hill, N8
 Gay's the Word, 66 Marchmont St, WC1
 Houseman's, 5 Caledonian Rd, N1
 Kilburn Bookshop, Kilburn High Road, NW6
 Man to Man, Pembroke Rd, W11
 The Other Bookshop, Upper St, N1
 Rising Free, Upper St, N1
 Stud Gay Bookshop, Frith St, W1
 Zipper Bookstore, Camden High St, NW1
 MACHYNLETH (Powys) Quarry Bookshop, Llyngwern Quarry
 MANCHESTER Grass Roots, Newton St
 MILTON KEYNES Oakleaf, 109 Church St, Wolverton
 NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE Days of Hope, Westgate Hill
 Frewheel, 56 Benedictus Rd
 NOTTINGHAM Mushroom, Heathcote St
 OXFORD E.O.A. Books, 34a Cowley Rd, Cowley
 PRESTON Fly-In-Amber, Fishergate Hill
 READING Acorn Books, The Emporium, Merchants
 Place (off Friar St)
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 SUNDERLAND Bakery Bookshop, 27 Stockton Rd
 Focus, 10 Benham Place, St Thomas
 NEGUS, 31 Alexandra Rd, SA1 5DO
 TODMORDEN Great Bear Trading Company, 23 Water St
 Community Bookshop, Walmgate
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Their Morals
 and Ours



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Some of our readers will be dearly attached to buggery and will be taken aback when they learn from one of the organs of the revolutionary left, *Socialist Worker*, that such activity is to be equated with the vileness of the French politicians who continually shit on the people of France. Like the embittered gentry of *Friends of the Earth* who have tried to link sodomy with the evils of nuclear power (see *Gay Noise* issue 6), *Socialist Worker* apparently sees arse-fucking as a bourgeois indulgence, and a particularly French one at that!

If arse-fucking is not to be regarded as a right-on political activity then maybe there is some hope for those of us who prefer wanking, but no, at least not according to *Socialist Review*. In no way can masturbation be seen as revolutionary activity, it is a peculiarly Stalinist and bureaucratic form of sexual gratification. The *Gay Noise* editorial collective would like to know whether the men on the Socialist Workers Party Central Committee have ever experienced the agony and the ecstasy of anal intercourse and whether the people responsible for *Socialist Review* have ever wanked? If not, why not?

This is a subject of penetrating importance for all men actively (or passively) engaged in the struggle for sexual liberation. We look forward to a New Year when we feel sure that those responsible will greet the impending social change with open anuses.

Gordon Wiseman - Public Meeting

THE SACKING of Gordon Wiseman from his lecturing job in Salford after a conviction for 'gross indecency', has led the National Council for Civil Liberties to call a public meeting around the case.

Gordon's claim of unfair dismissal was rejected by the majority decision of an Industrial Tribunal. He is now appealing to the Employment Appeals Tribunal, and it is the debate and discussion around how the case should be fought that has prompted the public meeting.

It seems that the main legal point that the court will consider is whether it is always unfair for employers to dismiss on the basis of their own prejudice, or whether dismissal could be fair if it can be shown that other people's prejudice towards an employer is damaging the employer's interest.

Gordon Wiseman's appeal is thought

Watch Out! There's Coppers About

OF SIX men arrested during a 'purge' of the Nottingham Station cottage in London at the end of last year, only one has pleaded guilty to a charge of gross indecency.

The police operated by stationing two officers in the attendants room, waiting for their victims who they seized either as they left the urinals, or by banging on cubicle doors shouting "Police" and insisting that they deliver themselves up.

Four of the men arrested are fighting the charges in the Crown Court in front

likely to succeed on the second argument, since no evidence has been presented of 'damage' to his employer's interests.

However, it is crucial that the gay community considers the implications of this argument. The subtleties of legal finery might be complicated, but they cannot be viewed solely in the narrow context of one particular case. To accept a premise that sacking a gay worker on the grounds of sexuality could be justified under certain circumstances, will have enormous repercussions on the tenuous rights and job security of all gay workers. We must ensure that our interests and concerns as lesbians and gay people figure centrally in this debate.

The public meeting will be at Conway Hall, Red Lion Sq., London WC1 on January 27th at 7.30 pm.

Over drinks in the bar...

ROY BURNS, Vice-chairperson for CHE, has been telling lies to the police. He has been telling them that they don't really conduct witchhunts in the gay community, harass us on the streets, raid our pubs, arrest us for kissing, beat us up on marches, insult and intimidate us - but that we in our paranoia *perceive* that this is what they do and *perceive* that this is because they've got it in for us.

Roy, as reported in an interview in *Gay News* no.205, has been reassuring police inspectors on a police training course in Derbyshire. He has been getting to know them "both as officers in the classroom and as companions over drinks in the bar". He has "a high regard for the people he is talking to and enjoys the discussions". And he reports that they are very worried about their image.

To be fair to Roy, he ends his interview with *Gay News* saying that the police are not to be trusted. Some free advice: if they are not to be trusted, they are also not to be co-operated with. It is not just the individual prejudices or misunderstandings of certain police officers that cause police harassment of gays, it is something inherent in the system itself. There is no such thing as a neutral police force. The police force of the British state is the police force of a state which rightly sees gay people as a threat to its moral and social order - it is the police's role to protect that order, which they do at our expense.

Now it may well be, as Roy argues in *Gay News*, that there are some police who are not themselves anti-gay, that there are even some gay police. But as long as they remain police they remain the supporters and the agents of the system that oppresses us, and as long as they remain police we should not allow ourselves even to get close enough to spit in their faces.

Their Morals and Ours

THERE ARE few words savage enough to describe the baseness of the morality of our rulers and their political allies.

In the first week of 1981, four men will stand trial in London on charges of conspiracy to corrupt public morals. They are all members of the Executive Committee of the Paedophile Information Exchange (PIE). Originally there were five defendants, but in December charges against one of them, David Groves, were dropped. The reason for that is that David has terminal cancer and is not expected to survive the duration of the trial. An act of relative generosity, you might think... but that is not the whole story.

When the charges were first proffered, it was known full well that one of the defendants had a fatal illness. In a gesture illustrative of the ruling classes' respect for human life, the Public Prosecutor's office offered David Groves a deal: "Get medical evidence confirming that you will be dead in six months, and we won't prosecute." David's doctors said that he actually had eighteen months to live - the prosecution went ahead. Now the trial has been given the final go-ahead by the Attorney General, Sir Michael Havers. The gang of reprobates pictured on the front cover, and their many less public

allies: mean business.

This is nothing new. They meant business when they sent their soldiers, settlers and convicts to annihilate the Tasmanian population in the nineteenth century; they meant business as they massacred Kenyans in the Hola camps; and they've been meaning business in Ireland for 700 years now. As we go to press it appears that the British government is going to allow the hunger strikers in H-Block and Armagh to die. Not a victory for anyone, just another illustration of the amount of force, torture, deprivation and persecution that our rulers will use to defend their interests, power and privilege.

The New Year holds little that is new and even less that is happy. Certainly, there are now a growing number of militant and uncompromising actions being taken against the state and its institutions. All over these islands, women are organising against male violence. In one week in December, there were numerous attacks on cinemas showing films that portrayed male violence against women. Porn shops, newsagents, and advertisement hoardings have been attacked, the offices of the "Sun" have been occupied. Meanwhile, demonstrations against the British occupation of Northern Ireland

are growing rapidly, and Mrs Thatcher has now been given a bitter taste of what the people of South Wales feel about being unemployed.

What is alarming is that the militancy of our opposition is matched by an increasing ferocity from our opponents. They are displaying, time and again the massive resources they will use to suppress or debilitate opposition and organisation.

They are prepared to launch a huge show trial to prevent paedophiles from engaging in any self-organisation; they are prepared to let millions be unemployed, many in conditions of extreme hardship and deprivation; they will spend unthinkable sums of money on nuclear weapons while closing schools and hospitals for "lack of finance"; they will attack and arrest women who attempt to declare a public space as closed to men; they are prepared to see people die in shit-covered cells for demanding what is rightfully and obviously theirs; and doubtless, they are prepared to do much, much worse.

Quite simply our rulers are disgusting. They are bitter and twisted, jealous of their privileges and ignorant of the realities of the lives of the people they govern. One day in the not too distant future they will be removed.

Demonstrations in support of hunger strikers

IN LONDON on the 7th of December, about 3,000 - 4,000 people marched in London in support of the hunger strikers in Armagh and the H-Blocks. The demonstration assembled in central London and finished at Kilburn, which has a large Irish population, where the crowd was addressed by Miriam Nugent, whose daughter is currently on hunger strike in Armagh prison. As we go to press, the hunger strikes are continuing, and there now appears to be a grim realisation that the British government is

prepared to let the prisoners die. The government's position of intransigence is completely unsustainable. They cannot explain why they will not give political status to prisoners that they try in special political courts with special laws. If the hunger strikers are "ordinary criminals" why are they denied trial by jury, and why are they convicted under emergency legislation?

We hope that this spiteful nothing government will be forced to restore political status to the prisoners in

its concentration camps. We suspect though that it will not relent, for its intransigence is not some ludicrous whim thought up by a senior civil servant. The government's position is deeply rooted in hundreds of years of British racism towards the Irish people, hundreds of years of exploitation, contempt, humiliation and degradation.

The sun might at last be setting on the British Empire, but the blood has far from dried.



Photo: J. O'Brien



Cartoon: Cath Jackson

Man Acquitted - Case Lost

AT THE resumed hearing in Nottingham Magistrates Court on November 3rd, John Clarkson, Co-ordinator of Nottingham Gay Switchboard and CHE member was found not guilty of Conduct likely to cause a breach of the peace. In reaching their decision, magistrates rejected the use of Section 5 of the Public Order Act under which John had been charged, even though at the first hearing several months earlier the bench had refused to accept defence barrister Adrian Fulford's submission on this point. However, the verdict was returned with a sting in the tail: John Clarkson was bound over to keep the peace for a year in his own recognisance of £100. Nevertheless the verdict represents a qualified victory for the John Clarkson Defence Campaign which was formed to defend John.

At the time prior to his arrest John, worried about the continuing harassment toward gay people in the area, was monitoring police activity outside a public lavatory in the city, when he was arrested. During the last three years several other public lavatories have been closed with the co-operation of the city council because of police activity.

The prosecuting counsel had stated to the court that merely to suggest that someone was a homosexual was an insult in itself and in his summing up later he asked the magistrates to apply their own feelings to the case, which seemed to be an appeal to the supposed prejudices of the bench. Earlier one of the police officers giving evidence had supported the use of police agent provocateur tactics.

Adrian Fulford, barrister defending, described the police evidence as "fanciful nonsense", saying that they had made an abortive attempt to catch someone masturbating and had drawn incorrect conclusions as to why John had been in the toilet that afternoon. He went on to say that even if the bench had found all the police evidence to be true and that John had been masturbating, though the police might have been annoyed or disturbed it was an inappropriate use of legislation and therefore a not guilty verdict would be correct. He finished by saying that the

Public Order Act had been originally passed to deal with the rise of fascism and private armies and that there was a tendency to use this act for purposes not within the intentions of Parliament.

After the chairperson of the bench announced the verdict and their intention to bind John over, Adrian Fulford said that if on the facts of the case the bench believed John had not been masturbating then he should not be bound over.

John had stated earlier in court that there were many people who had been found guilty of masturbation and that it was important to fight such cases. "If you know of anyone in trouble with the law in this way, try and persuade them to ring Gay Legal Advice Service or Gay Switchboard. We must fight against the use of Section 5 of the Public Order Act against gay people." John thanked the Defence Campaign and all those who had contributed to it. Chris Richardson, a member of the Campaign, commented: "The final costs of the campaign are now being determined and a decision will shortly be reached on the need to call in the sums pledged by guarantors. The campaign wish to thank all those who have contributed including those who have sent donations direct to the bank and to whom it had not been possible to acknowledge personally. The accounts will be published and any surplus would be donated to Gay Legal Advice Service."

Contact Brenda Haywood (chairperson) on Wakefield 72762 or Leeds 780841 for further information about the campaign or to give support.

John Clarkson (cont.)

AND... WE NOW hear that the Crown is appealing against John's acquittal. The prosecution is arguing that a point of law is involved in the verdict in the case, and are thereby using their automatic right to lodge an appeal. The point of law supposedly at question is whether it is insulting behaviour likely to cause a breach of the peace for a man to stand alone in a public convenience masturbating, without looking at anyone in particular.

The appeal is expected to be heard early in 1981. Meanwhile it is important that there are wide-ranging discussions about how best to fight the appeal. A public meeting, along the lines of the one called around the Gordon Wiseman case, would be a useful focus for such a discussion.

ERICCA Conference

SUPPORTERS OF ERICCA - the Equal Rights In Clubs Campaign for Action - met at the Belle Vue Liberal Club, Wakefield, for their first national conference and annual meeting on Dec 6th '80.

Founder, Sheila Capstick, who was elected president by the conference, said "These clubs grew up in the industrial revolution and many of their rules have remained unchallenged since then. It is time we tackled this outdated nonsense and showed club committees we are fighting back. Women have been put down and ignored by working men's clubs for far too long." In fact it was women and children who worked in the mills and the mines of the industrial revolution, whose labour made that revolution. The ideology that "a woman's place is in the home" was as blatantly nonsensical then as it is now.

The conference attracted supporters from as far afield as North Yorkshire and Berkshire, who unanimously backed Sheila's call to make a national lobby of the clubs delegates conference in Blackpool the most important target for 1981.

They approved a motion encompassing ERICCA's aims of full club membership for women, equal rights to affiliate to the Club and Institute Union and a change from "working men's clubs" to a non-sexist name. They also agreed to ask clubs sympathetic to the campaign to put the same notion forward for the 1981 clubs conference agenda.

A call was made for an amendment to the 1975 Sex Discrimination Act, making it illegal for working men's clubs with members of both sexes to discriminate in benefits and services offered to "lady members".

Contact Brenda Haywood (chairperson) on Wakefield 72762 or Leeds 780841 for further information about the campaign or to give support.

Rolling the stone uphill

THE FIRST Gay Noise Development Meeting held at Manchester Gay Centre on Saturday 6th December was like rolling a stone uphill. Stilted and hesitant, the discussion never really got going. Neither the Collective members or those who came to the meeting had done sufficient preparation so our conversation was desultory and spiritless. It illustrated the need for much more work on the part of Collective members to go out and learn much more about the particular problems in different localities. However the meeting was successful in that Noise Collective members did get to know people in Manchester in a direct and friendly way. The next Development Meeting will take place in Leicester over the weekend of 14th & 15th February.

Labour Party document on Gay Rights

A PAPER on the Rights of Gay Men and Women, prepared by the Research Department of the Human Rights and Race Relations Sub-Committee of the Labour Party has been passed by the Home Policy Committee and should have gone to the National Executive Committee on the 17th December.

This 12 page document covers a wide range of discriminations against gay people and suggests various legal changes. The areas covered are: the Definition of Privacy, the Age of Consent, the Armed Forces and the Merchant Navy, Soliciting, Employment, the Provision of Services, Housing, Immigration and a short mention of Lesbian Custody.

The general approach to these points is one of comparing the double standards applied to heterosexual and homosexual people. It advocates an equality position in the law with heterosexuals. This approach unfortunately implies that the document doesn't question the legal position of heterosexual children (and consequently gay children) on the question of the Age of Consent. The suggestion is to maintain an Age of Consent but to bring it level with the heterosexual one, which is 16, arguing that:

"If there is to be an age of consent - and on balance we think there should be, as it affords some degree of legal protection from exploitation by adults - we believe that to choose 18 just because 18 is the age of majority would be misguided."

There is no evidence whatsoever that the age of consent protects in any way children from exploitation by adults, for a start it certainly doesn't deal with sexual violence against children in the family, it draws no distinction between a wanted relationship for children and rape. The Age of Consent laws make it

virtually impossible for children to discuss their sexual experiences and to positively seek sexual relationships. In a lot of court cases where a young girl had sex with an adult man and enjoyed it the girl, who is seen as a "child temptress" and who knows too much about "these things", gets put in care. The Age of Consent laws are directed against children's sexuality, they negate their rights to make up their minds, they make it impossible for children to say yes or to say no to sex. Consequently, any real demands for sexual liberation must include the abolition of the Age of Consent as a prime necessity. The paper's conclusions are:

"Securing equal rights for gay people should be believed to be seen as part of our broader campaign for the civil rights of all individuals and the protection of minority groups. We suggest that the present law on sexual offences needs to be changed and the lack of protection against discrimination should be remedied."

"The opportunity should now be taken to review our policy towards gay people. We hope to involve every member of the Party in our discussions regardless of their sexual orientation and reach decisions in time for the next Labour Government."

Despite some of the problems, this document is a significant one. In particular its emphasis on the crucial area of gays and housing is very good, since it highlights very clearly the special difficulties that gay people (and "single" people generally) face in finding somewhere to live.

We hope that the document and its suggestions will be adopted by the NEC. It will allow us to confront the rank and file and leadership of the party and pressure them to support our struggles.

TIRED OF your '81 diary already? You could do worse than live it up with this pack of goodies produced by an enterprising new group. Seventyfive adhesive stickers are included as well as information about v.d. and civil and legal



rights - in the form of handy pocket-sized cards by Release and the NCCL.

Some of the stickers are hilarious - an "instant clone" moustache, and another bears the motto "If you're feelin' down and grotty, stick a nanna up your botty". Also included are mini-pix of Tom Robinson, James Dean and Magnus Hirschfeld; slogans from *Body Politic*, *Gay Left* and our own *Gay Noise* logo - plus lots more.

Only real quibble is that some of the stickers aren't perhaps as clear as they could be, and also that it must be pointed out that this pack is specifically aimed at gay men so that no lesbian logos are included.

But it'll certainly brighten up your "W.Het. Smith" diary that your kindly relatives gave you - and as the pack blurb adds, you can always donate a couple to your local phone box, bus stop or public fallout shelter. What do you mean, "Haven't got one yet!?"

LAW CENTRE TO BE

CLOSED

MANCHESTER LAW CENTRE who produced the book *The Law and Sexuality* is being threatened with closure by the local authorities. The Tories and the right-wing of the Labour councilors in the Labour-controlled council want to put a stop to this essential and radical line of defence in the area.

The Law Centre is the only line of defence for black people under threat of deportation, people incarcerated for life in mental hospitals, black people arrested for defending themselves and gay people who are being hounded by Chief Constable Anderson's police.

The *Law and Sexuality* has made a lasting contribution to the gay community in Britain and the Law Centre would very much appreciate gay people writing to the council to tell them so.

Write to: Councillor Morriss, Town Hall, Albert Square, Manchester 1. Send copies to: Manchester Law Centre, 595 Stockport Road, Manchester 12.

CHE coffers looking empty

IN ITS most recent *Broadsheet*, National CHE reveals that it is facing serious financial and membership problems. Under a headline of "Will 1981 see CHE bankrupt?", we are told that national membership of CHE has fallen to 3,582, a drop of 300 since April, 1980. Two groups are possibly going to fold, while many groups have less than ten members.

There are no particular details on the organisation's financial problems, though obviously a falling membership is not going to help.

Unfortunately, *Gay Noise* will be unable to lend Lotte Cash's services to help revive CHE's flagging fortunes, though we hope that the fears of bankruptcy (financial, that is) prove to be unfounded.

Manchester

Following Manchester MP, George Morton's conviction for gross indecency, gay Labour Party members in the area are setting up a Manchester branch of the Labour Campaign for Gay Rights.

Their main focus of activity will be around police harassment, but they also intend to concentrate on getting the Labour Party in Manchester and nationally to adopt pro-gay, anti-discrimination policies. The group is also committed to building support for the Demonstration Against State Repression of Lesbian and Gay People, in Manchester, on February 28th 1981.

Further details can be obtained from Manchester Gay Switchboard, 061-236 5986.

WHEN CONSENT IS SO
SUBLIMELY
MUTUAL.....

..... BUT MUTILATED BY THE AGE
OF CONTEMPT

PUT BRITAIN FIRST!
HUMAN
BEINGS
AGAINST THE
BOO-VILES

WHEN?!

WHEN
BOY,
WHEN

You stare at me with wide-open eyes!
half-naked, hands behind your head
"what's a name?"
lets play a game
come out and play with me
play with me, play with me - come out and play..."

But I'm a man and you're a boy
They'd lock me up for years in prison
Like they lock you up for years in "Innocence."
-Like they lock up life
Frightened creatures behind bars
WHEN? - when boy, WHEN???
In your lifetime? - In mine?
FUCKERS!! Will they ever let us be?

You stare at me with wide-open eyes
half-naked, you have beautiful nipples
"what's a name?"
lets play a game
come out & play with me,
play with me, play with me
Come out and play!"

"CHILD-MOLESTERS!"
Yeah? well who really molests the kids?
not you boy, nor me.
Dont want to fuck you up or over
No just want them to leave us alone
ALONE!! Let us BE!!
But they only let us be
Alone in our cages. You there, ME here....
THEY boy are the child-molesters
THEY corrupt with insidious evil, child molesters! FUCKERS!!! FUCKERS!!!!!!

You're only an image on a bit of paper
I plucked you out to live with on my wall
Together we will laugh
together we will cry
frightened creatures behind bars
WHEN? - when boy, WHEN???
In your lifetime? In mine?
WILL THEY EVER LET US BE???
FUCKERS!!!!

RU
21?

My man was caught collecting and the
day four policemen came to school to collect
me to the police station. There I was given
rigorous medical and interrogated intensely. My
life was wrecked.... I didn't go to school for three
months. I was recovering from a nervous breakdown
The case spanned nearly a year, and eventually
sentenced to eight-months in prison.

© banning punk



Equity Left Alliance

EQUITY LEFT ALLIANCE is a two-year old grouping of people in the performers union. It is not attached to a particular political party, although as it's name suggests it is a forum for those with socialist and revolutionary politics.

At the end of last year it held a one-day conference, and for the women and Gays who attended it was certainly a heartening experience. Over the last year there has been constant debate and struggle within the ELA around the questions of sexuality and sexism. Many of the women and Gays in ELA were disturbed that it's structure was shaped and dominated by heterosexual men who did not recognise that the economic struggles within the union could not be separated out from the questions of sexuality; indeed they could not be understood or properly fought unless this connection was made.

The weekend conference showed that this struggle is beginning to pay off. There is a firm recognition that we cannot discuss wage-levels without recognising that women are generally paid less for the same work; that physical attributes ("tall and leggy") play a central part in whether a female performer is cast, no matter what her skills; that Lesbians come out at their peril (men have the top decision-making jobs, and we should not make the mistake of thinking that the Gay men with Top Jobs are any less threatened than the heterosexual men when it comes to protecting the "all boys together" citadels of culture). For the same reasons, job-protection and ownership of the means of production have to be seen from this perspective. We cannot see ourselves as "just workers" in any industry where sex and sexuality play such a major part in who gets a wage and who decides what. This was neatly summed up by one woman who was Equity Dep. at the National Theatre, London. She found that when she formed the National Theatre Women's Group, this was seen as even more threatening than her involvement in the NATKE strike at the theatre. She's been told that she'll never work there again.

That incident at the National is by no means an isolated one. Time and again people spoke of the strict controls that make it impossible for performers to question authority in the organisation or content in the material. Which leads on to the other main commitment of ELA: to constantly raise in the union the question of "what we are saying". The product. No socialist or revolutionary

New workers for Workshops

FIRE WITH the success of the workshops so far, London Gay Workshops are contemplating a further series in the Spring. With this end in view, they are keen to expand the organising group.

work within the union can ignore the ideological aspect of it's product. An idea is more like a gun than a table, for ideas can support the regime that cripples and kills with prisons and bullets. Therefore the ELA actively questions the ideology of the work that many of the union's members are engaged in. For many socialists within Equity this can often lead to poverty: women who refuse to take work that demeans them. Gays too are caught in this trap. ELA hopes to provide a support-group within the union for those members who are fighting managements on these issues, and to raise the issue of content to the level that ends the harassment of individuals who ask "why?".

ELA is under no illusion that taking on the "ideas factories" of the State is an easy task. Faced with a Right-wing Executive Council, surrounded by Left-wing groupings that refuse to see that a play contains more dangerous items than soap-powder ("we are all Workers, we'll see about the content after the revolution"), and at a time when "socialist" fringe theatres are putting on sexist musicals for transfer to the West End, it is a small voice in a sea of opposition. However, the fact that the one-day conference was not just attended by those people who have been in the "left-fringe" areas over the last ten years is reason to hope. There were people who's main experience has been in commercial musicals (the man in "Oklahoma" who said that even the most modest leaflet - an Equity Branch Jumble Sale Ad. - is ripped down by "non-political" chorus-members); skilled women technicians (one was refused a job because she "wouldn't be able to go up a ladder in a skirt"); chorus-members ("the men and the women do the same work but the men are defined as singers, the women defined as dancers, and singers get higher pay").

ELA is committed to challenging the structures within which sexism and racism can happen; within which sexism and racism are at the root of economic injustice; in which the ideas of a repressive State are reproduced. It challenges a Council of people who wish to think of us as a "happy band of vagabonds", but is made up of rich people some of whom have made money out of stereotyping us. With the "Women in Entertainment" group, it could be a revolutionary focus for all the women and men in film, theatre, radio, TV etc. who no longer wish to be puppets who dance to the Devil's tune.

People who are interested in being involved should write to: Gay Workshops, c/o 5 Caledonian Rd. London N1; or phone Philip Payne on 01-520 8782 after 5pm most evenings.



Cartoon: Cath Jackson

Date of Demonstration Against State Repression changed

THE JOINT Committee Against State Repression of Lesbian and Gay People (CASR) has decided to change the date of the massive march they are organising in February this year. The march, which was planned to take place on the 21st, is now to take place on 28th February. The reason for this change is so that the march does not clash with the planned Scottish Labour Party demonstration against unemployment in Glasgow on the 21st. CASR have taken this decision because it wants to support the Scottish Labour Party's march and also to give them an opportunity to support the campaign against state repression.

Please send donations and requests for more information to:

Joint Committee Against State Repression of Lesbian and Gay People, 1) Organisation and Finance, c/o 61a Bloom St., Manchester 1. 2) Propaganda, Publicity and London liaison:

BM Gay Noise, London WC1N3XX.
GAY NOISE BENEFIT DISCO
 - JANUARY 15th
 D.J. Colin Peters
 Licensed Bar - Fun & Games
 8 till late - Admission 50p
 Organised by South Bank Poly Gaysoc
 at Students' Union,
 Rotary St., London SE1
 (Elephant & Castle tube)

OBITUARIES 1980

1980 SEEMED to have more than it's fair share of famous corpses. They dropped like flies, and the press had a field day fawning over the former glories of the stars.

Tributes assailed us on all sides for the gunned down ex-Beatle John Lennon: fans collected in his ex-local, and groups stood vigil outside Abbey Road studios. Quite what these people hoped to achieve is unsure. Hero worshipping to these lengths is negative, destructive and unhealthy. Especially when the person in question had declined into reclusive luxury and become what they once opposed. No one doubts that Lennon and the Beatles were incredibly influential and wrote some good "socially aware" songs in latter years, and that Lennon's death was unnecessary and sad; but a much sadder fact is that in 3 years time some people will still be mourning (as some still mourn long gone has-been Presley). These are sad, lonely individuals who need heroes to live out their dreams for them. And the PR departments rip off these people mercilessly, creating the myths, then cashing in on them. EMI's comment on Lennon's death was that it would boost record sales, and we all know that the only thing that keeps RCA a profitable organisation is Elvis Presley's myth. His death was timely, as record sales were on the wane and his myth needed reinforcing.

In the Who's Who of the political graveyard, we rejoiced over the long overdue death of the Shah - and listened to the usual hypocritical tributes from world leaders. But no tribute was as hypocritical and sick as that meted out to the fascist, Oswald Moseley, who unfortunately died peacefully in his bed. The fact that he was given a tribute at all is offensive, the media coming on like he was some great statesperson of our time. Although, of course, the ol' chap was a member of both Labour and Tory parties at one time or another, and a knighted member of our glorious British Empire, so he can't have been all that bad, can he? Well, he was - the mass support his

views had was frightening and we must never forget, never let it happen again, cos as everyone knows germs breed in unclean areas, and the present British political climate is as unclean as any...

The death of Mae West was pretty much glossed over, although it came as a surprise to everyone who thought she'd died years ago anyway. Not exactly famous for upholding public morals - in fact spending time inside for obscenity - she exposed rotten sexual attitudes through parody. Behaviour of this type is never popular with the media, except when there is a sufficiently sensationalist angle for the gutter press to drool over; and they are far less likely to be sympathetic in this case than over the death of well-bred English fascists.

The rock world (as always) had more corpses to add to its hall of fame. Perhaps the saddest of all was Ian Curtis of Joy Division who ended his own life at the end of a rope. He was unstable, he couldn't cope and society has no place for those who can't cope. It was a waste of a genuinely creative talent and Joy Division's brand of music which explored the neglected dark alleys of the mind inspired (and depressed) many. Their uncompromising attitude in rejecting the rock establishment is to be admired, although the self same Establishment that they avoided will now try to turn Ian Curtis into a "safe" legend.

In contrast, there was John Bonham of Led Zeppelin, who died an alcohol induced death (perhaps after listening to his own brand of sexist, racist "real man" music). Bonham and the rest of the band in millionaire semi-retirement, shat on the hordes of loyal sheep who spend their time waiting around for their Gods' next LP. It is hard to care about Bonham, and even harder to care about the band's long overdue break up when it came.

And of course, we have that shining example of the nobility, Lady Isobel Barnet, who demonstrated how to undermine the economics of consumerism. The media made much of

her death by shoplifting. One hopes that the next time a pensioner, unemployed person, or whoever else needs to steal to live, is dragged through the courts, equally sympathetic and concerned noises will be made.

Johnny Owen revealed to the rest of the world what sensible people know already - that boxing is one of the most vicious sports there is. "What else can a poor boy do except to sing in a rock and roll band?" croaked Rod Stewart, and "If you haven't got an education, and if you want to make something of yourself, What else can you do? There's only boxing other than crime and you can't do that for long" philosophised one of the Kray twins. A poor boy can learn to beat the shit out of another poor boy for the voyeuristic masses. And when they die in the ring, who cares?? Certainly not that audience or sports entrepreneurs. No one cares, which is why Owen and the others have to climb into the ring in the first place. And those of the audience who cry "Tragedy!" are obscene in their hypocrisy.

So, 1980, a vintage year for famous stiff. There have, of course been others: Peter Sellars, Malcolm Owen, Ronald Raygun; the list seems endless. And looking back over the fawning hypocrisy of the media, it leaves a sour taste in the mouth, for the media ignores the 1,000s of others who die broken in prisons, police stations, and mental hospitals. It ignores racist killings and smegma attacks on gays, and battered women and rape cases are treated as a joke.

It ignores all those (dead or live) who have not been able to break away from the dreary lives allotted to them. Some have a choice: they can break out, become famous or successful and walk all over people on their way to the top; or simply follow the herd and be walked upon. Many more never even have this choice; and for those who do, it is really no choice at all.

And as we enter 1981, the new list starts here...

Mancunian morals upheld - just!

On Wednesday 10th December Manchester University Student's Union conspired to corrupt public morals. The Union General Meeting discussed a motion which, had it been passed, would have extended the Union's present support for CAPM and provided greater scope for action against the show-trial of the PIE 4. The motion was narrowly defeated by 106 votes to 95.

The opposition, an unholy alliance of christians, Iraqi Ba'athists and Tories was manipulated by two leading fascists who were allowed to get away with disruption and blatant anti-gay slander, despite the fact that the Union has a policy of "no

platform for racists and fascists". Certain "irresponsible" elements at the university are now considering totally undemocratic and possibly violent action against this pair. Obviously we could not support or condone such conduct.

The proposers of the motion intend to re-write and re-submit it for the first General Meeting of the new term. One disturbing aspect of the debate was the fact that the "left" were prepared to go along with the manoeuvres of the far right and vote against some parts of the motion. Obviously they haven't been paying attention.

Hong Kong harassment

Harassment of gay people in Hong Kong is increasing. The authorities there are now attempting to withdraw the licence from Disco-Disco, a meeting place for gay men.

Ian Christie, of the SHRG, has written to the Crown Colony's Governor, Sir Murray Maclehorse, to protest against this action. He points out that even in "pre-law reform" Scotland, licensed gay clubs and discos were tolerated.

Doubtless, Sir Murray would like to hear other people's opinions about his draconian rule. His address is: Governor's House, Hong Kong.

LETTERS



Dear Gay Noise,

We in Leicester were pleased that in "Gay Noise 8" you gave our questions on how to combat the police drive in the cottages here serious and positive consideration.

However we feel that your recommendations lack a certain degree of relevance to our situation and that of most other groups who may attempt to oppose the police exceeding their powers in anti-cottaging purges.

We would agree that we should organise publicly and politically against police harassment, and indeed this we have done. We now have the support of all the gay interest groups in the area but must confess that although the feminists have been supportive neither they nor the socialist groups have much interest in campaigning on cottaging. We have however attracted support from the Liberals, the NCCL and one of the Labour MPs.

Picketing of the police station and the courts are not a real possibility. We do not have the people who are prepared to do it. Even if we did we have no means of knowing when the court cases are going to come up. Those charged tend to be divorced from active participation in the gay community, eager to avoid publicity and neither they nor the police nor anybody else let us know that they have been charged, let alone when their court cases are. There may have been 50 cases. We don't really know. We have only known in advance of two. In both these we have arranged for a proper defence. Even that is not easy. Our legal

The news Gay Left wouldn't print!

Dear Gay Noise,
Thank you for your review of *We are all androgynous, yellow*. You may have noticed that *Gay Left* have ignored all the pamphlets we have produced, including Don Smith's important and substantial *Why are there gays at all? Why hasn't evolution eliminated gayness millions of years ago?* It is better to be attacked than ignored.

There'll be some new things in the new year I hope you'll give your attention to. For myself I have started work on a book provisionally titled *The Seven Steps of Love*. You see, I find that love tends to fall between the categories of reactionary and revolutionary. I don't know if you have this problem. This is what interests me.

Love,

Bob Mellors, London

advice is that the chance of being convicted in Leicester on a not guilty plea is about five times as great as in London. We do not know yet of a single acquittal.

It is of course almost impossible to reach regular cottagers to inform them in advance of their rights when picked up by the police. We can inform the gay community but we have no means of reaching the majority of regular cottagers.

We do resent the charge that we have co-operated with the police, and, in your words, joined them for "tea and a chat". It is certainly not at all easy to confront senior police officers face to face and tell them that they are breaking the law. That is what we have done. We have further put them under pressure by having our accusations published in the local media and by prompting a local M.P. to write to the Chief Constable for an explanation.

The indications are that the level of police activity has dropped considerably but has not stopped entirely. We are now confident that harassment will not move into other areas as it has done elsewhere. The pubs, the clubs, Gayline and CHE are, we hope and believe, unlikely because of our actions to be harassed.

We feel that your advice, though well-intentioned, derives from the experience of fighting more overt harassment of militant gay activists in London. You have a different problem and more people to call on. Even so we are not aware that you grappled with the widespread cottaging purges in London or, if you have, that you have had any success against them.

Please give us the credit for trying. We may even be succeeding.

Good wishes,

Bernard Greaves, Leicester

We think that the points raised in this letter are important, and need to be discussed further. For this reason, we have decided to hold the next Gay Noise Development Meeting in Leicester.

Dear Gay Noise,

On reading Tom O'Carroll's letter in *Gay Noise 7*, I found myself re-reading one little bit time and time again. He says (with the bits in brackets missing to make it understandable!):

"We are all... oppressed by a view of sexuality which while it may be generated entirely by relations of power that themselves depend ultimately on economics... cannot be fathomed solely by reference to the economics of ruling-class interests."

I don't want to appear to be nit-picking, but ultimately all forms of sexual oppression do depend on economics and "referring" to the existence of capitalism is not a "convenience".

Unfortunately, it's a bloody reality!

Faithfully,

Paul Furness, London

Even Who's Who can't help!

Re-printed from *Gay News letters*:

For the record: in September the *Sunday Times* rejected this classified advertisement:

"The Conservative Group for Homosexual Equality is being revived. Details from CCH, [redacted], [redacted] 5RX."

I provided information about the group, gave the *Who's Who* references of two members of its committee, emphasized that it was not a dating bureau, enclosed a copy of the circular that would be sent to enquirers, and mentioned that the paper had published advertisements from other pressure groups.

The *Sunday Telegraph* also rejected the advertisement. Very creditably, the *Observer* accepted it.

Peter Campbell, Reading

Gay Noise would like to add itself to the list of newspapers which refuses to print details of GayCon. What a unholy alliance!

BANDS FOR '81

The Sound. Album *Jeopardy*: EP: *Physical World* Korova Records.

THE SOUND, virtually unheard of outside the usual small circles have an orthodox line-up and make a decidedly traditional noise. They are also from London - at present that's "very unhip." You might think they have nothing of interest to say; you would be wrong. The Sound have produced a selection of songs/statements/pleas that surpass a lot of the best music from Manchester, Scotland, Sheffield - or anywhere else you care to mention.

"Missiles" for instance is the clearest, concise statement yet on the subject of nuclear arms and imminent global destruction. Its disgust should be the foundation for our feelings. "Jeopardy" is indicative of the band's directness. Their concern is convincing. It's emotive and communicates. They understand that resistance and protest are very necessary.

The Sound don't attempt any diversions into the tetchy areas of experimentalism. The last thing they need is reclusive abstraction in their music. Their straight-forwardness is vital because the message is one that must be understood. The material released so far shows a band with good intentions - these intentions are being fulfilled. It's reality - you could call it the only reality, the Sound have defined it - let's hope it grows.

Continued on Page 14



Lotte Cash's Fighting Fund

It is ironic that I should be concerned with internecine strife in the season of goodwill. Nevertheless, that seems to be my lot. Last issue, I attempted to relate my own approach to such difficulties, that of a gentle but regular bloodletting. This generally relieves pressure and keeps the patient quiet. With the advent of modern medicine and the National Health Service, however, people do have the obstinate habit of recovering.

Bloodletting is therefore distinctly and perhaps rightly out of fashion. It has been discredited as unnecessarily painful and as causing more problems than it cures.

Such niceties cannot obscure the argument if we transfer the subject from one of blood to one of cash. In this respect and with regard to the Gay Noise Fighting Pool or Fund, I would hope that you could all bleed freely and happily. Clearly so far, this has not happened. To judge by the response of some of you, parting with so much as a penny would be tantamount to slashing your own wrists.

Far be it from me to suggest that I would approach potential donors - and all our readers are potential donors - razor in hand, ready to use force, but I think such a prospect is worth considering. There are elements in this society and this movement who have gone to such lengths before.

My appointment to this paper is perhaps the last attempt to nurse the body politic back to health, cut waste and encourage free-flowing supplies of cash. I am sure a sober reflection on all these points will encourage your circulation and ours. I can think of no better motto for the New Year than
Bleed out the Old, bleed in the New

hook

Blackburn bother

IN BLACKBURN, Romeo and Juliet's club recently started a weekly gay night, called "Stud". Horrified by the public appearance of gay people enjoying themselves in the town, the *Evening Telegraph* rushed around contacting the local reactionary hit squad, who all, true to form issued the usual statements of outrage and disgust. The *Telegraph* then ran a series of articles and letters attacking the club's gay night, and suggesting that things grisly and appalling might befall the town and its inhabitants if such behaviour was allowed to continue.

Gay Noise is pleased to report that such behaviour is continuing.

A Small Victory —

In response to *Gay Noise* and letters from many others objecting to the badge 'Nuclear Power — Up Uranium', Friends of the Earth have agreed to withdraw it from sale. When the paper phoned in the first instance to complain about the sexism of the badge and point out that there was 'nothing unpleasant, silly, funny or nuclear about stuffing things up your arse' and that it was offensive and anti-gay to suggest that there was, FoE disclaimed all responsibility. Well, they said that they had stopped

producing it, even though they said at the same time that they hadn't produced it at all. As it seems clear that they had done, and that they distribute it, it would be a good idea if they offered to take it back from shops where they still have it. Readers are asked to let *Gay Noise* know if they find anywhere still selling the badge. What readers should do about people they find still wearing it, we leave to their own initiative and imagination...

EVENTS

January

Mon 5th
PLANNING MEETING for Actions around the Paedophile Information Exchange Trial. 8pm. Marchmont Community Centre, Marchmont St. London WC1
 -London
FILM "LES VALSEUSES" (Making It) (1974) at the Hirschfeld Biograph, 10 Fownes St. at 6pm & 8.45. Adm. free to NGF members with card - arrangements made for visitors from abroad. Tel 710939
 -Dublin
Tue 6th
GAY VOICE/WOMEN'S VOICE GROUP MEETING.
 "Gay Noise and the Gay Press Details, Richard St. Albans 6941.
 -St. Albans
OCTOPUS COFFEE evening from 8pm. Tel Roger, Colchester 62375 for Venue. Collection 30p plus
 -Colchester
GAY FILM NIGHT at the Tyneside Cinema Club showing "Inadmissible Evidence" - the film version of John Osborne's play about cottaging. Tickets £1.10 on sale at CHE meetings or at the door 7.30pm
 -Newcastle Upon Tyne
Wed 7th
CHE GROUP Bring-and Buy Sale in aid of group funds. Bring anything. Tel Philip 55210 for details
 -Exeter
OCTOPUS COFFEE EVENING from 8pm. tel our hosts, Anne and Frances. Thaxted 83901 for venue. Collection 30p plus.
 -Thaxted
Fri 9th
GAY OUTDOOR CLUB Highlands hillwalking weekend dependent on weather. Based Inverness. Tel Michael 1463365
 -Inverness
CHE DISCO at Century House Pierrepont St from 9pm-1am. Adm by advance tickets only (£1, members 50p) from Garricks Head Sawclose, Bristol Gay Centre, Bath/Bristol/Cardiff/Gloucestershire Groups. Everybody welcome
 -Bath
Sat 10th
OCTOPUS DISCO at the Railway Hotel (Red Room), Station Rd. from 8pm to midnight. Bar food & raffle. Adm £1.70p
 -Bishops Cleeve
DISCO ORGANISED by Gay Switchboard at the Citadel, English St from 9pm-midnight. Tickets in advance 60p from Peter or Jim any Wednesday at the Citadel or by cheque payable to Sloway Gay Switchboard PO Box 42, Carlisle, Cumbria with SAE, or at the door. £1.
 -Carlisle
Sun 11th
GAY OUTDOOR CLUB 11 mile Wealdway walk. Bidborough to Erdre. Meet at Tonbridge Station, 10.10 a.m. (9.30 train from London Charing Cross). Return to Victoria from Erdre Station. All walkers welcome: bring stout shoes and lunch.
 -Kent
Mon 12th
PICKET of the Old Bailey in support of the PIE defendants. Midday to 2p.m. Bring banners.
 -London
Thur 15th
GAY NOISE BENEFIT DISCO South Bank Polytechnic. Students' Union, Rotary St., London SE3. 8 till late, 50 pence entry.
 -London
Sat 17th
PLANNING MEETING of the Joint Committee Against State Repression of Lesbian and Gay People (CASR). Manchester Gay Centre, 61a Bloom St. 2p.m.
 -Manchester

Lesbian and Gay People's Festival

A festival for Lesbian and gay people is being planned to take place in March this year. The venue will be the Students Union of London's South Bank Polytechnic.

The provisional programme so far is as follows

Fri. 13th March:
 "A Grand Lesbian and Gay Celebration Band Night" 8pm till late.

Sat 14th March
 Gay and Feminist theatre
 Lesbian/Gay and feminist films
 Spring Fayre - stalls will be available

We will print further details in coming issues of *Gay Noise*.

Bands for '81 cont'd.

A Certain Ratio/Grace Jones Released from A.C.R.: Flight. And then again/Blown Away Factory Records Released from Grace Jones Warm Leatherette LP and Love is the drug 45. Island Records

These two have recently met in the studio and produced a cover version of Talking Heads "Houses in Motion" - the result should be out soon. It will get "a certain attention", rightly so 'cos it's one of the most inventive combinations around; a blend of Grace's harsh, bare voice that abruptly challenges and tears away at all compromise and self-assurance and the atmospheric development associated with A Certain Ratio. Such fun/funk-rhythmic noise! Hope this makes it into the mainstream discos - it's deserving of a wide audience.

B52s Wild Planet L.P.

Enjoying yourself and "havin' a fun time" is a luxury that few people are taking for granted - it's now important to be discerning about "How" you do it. The B52s know "how" better than most better than most. Their attitude is to have a ball - while you still can. They play a beaty pop that bobs and weaves and shows itself off! It's not too hurried and jerky (like XTC) or too cool and suburban (like Martha and the Muffins). It achieves the correct balance between the priorities of atmosphere and hook lines. And it's fun!

The B52s parody fun; they parody the cliches, the going through the motions - the rigid code, the dos and don'ts of having fun. Their lyrics are straightforward - at worst they are hammy "I want you to walk in the door, I want you to lay on the floor". At bies of atmosphere and hook lines. And it's fun!

The B52s parody fun; they parody the cliches, the going through the motions - the rigid code, the dos and don'ts of having fun. Their lyrics are straightforward - at worst they are hammy "I want you to walk in the door, I want you to lay on the floor". At bies of atmosphere and hook lines. And it's fun!

Straighten your antennae, tune in your walkie talkie. The B52s are communicating.

Au Pairs Diet/It's Obvious. 021 records

The Au Pairs occupy a rather special area in rock because they achieve such direct contact with political issues in songs - sometimes so direct that critics have harped at what's been phrased "mindless sloganeering" as in "Armagh". Well that's possible but surely a slogan is a "motto" that sticks - and gets noticed. The Au Pairs could well find the same thing happening to them this year.

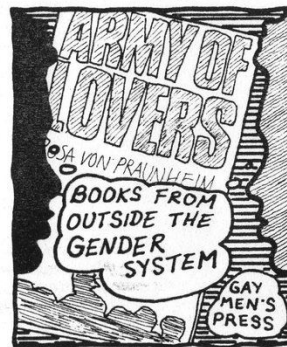


Heterosexuals are what they are, + exclusively so, because they deny the homosexuality that is latent within them, sublimating it for converting it into aggression.

Mario Mieli

Homosexual Liberation: elements of a gay critique

GAY MEN'S PRESS



GAYCLAW

A NEW group has been formed in Central London for gay workers in advice services. The Gay Central London Advice Workers group (GAYCLAW) is primarily a support and social group. They plan to meet once a month - at the time of going to press they have already had three successful meetings.

For further information on this group contact Lisa Powell or Martin Jones: (01) 434 3773/3647.

Classified

Volunteers Wanted

LONDON GAY SWITCHBOARD is appealing for gay women and men who have some time to spare and also some experience of gay life in London to become new volunteers.

They are in need of people who are free to do the daytime and late night shifts, particularly women since calls from women are increasing rapidly. But they would like to hear from anyone who feels able to help anytime.

Give them a ring on 01-837 7324 and they'll invite you along to meet the training group.

AWARE GUY, 2 2

wishes to meet others interested in new wave music and fringes. I'm smallish, attractive with short hair. Reply to: GN81, BM Gay Noise, London WC1N 3XX.

TWO WOMEN wanted for large communal mixed house in Brixton. Phone: 01-274 4978.

SOCIALIST MAN, 30, needs o/r in communal house/flat (London). Max £18 pw. Phone Barry 01-874 2483 after January 8.

BANKERS' ORDER FORM

Standing Order

To Bank Ltd. (please fill in the name of your bank)

Branch address

Please make payments and debit my/our account no in accordance with the following details:

Pay Lloyds Bank Ltd., Brixton Branch, 409 Brixton Rd., London SW9 7DQ, for account of *Gay Noise* Collective, Account No. 03040962, the sum of £ p (figures) pounds pence (words)

Payment to be made monthly/quarterly until countermanded by me in writing.

Payments to commence on the day of 1981.

Signed Name (Caps.)

Address

Date

Return this form to *Gay Noise*, BM Gay Noise, London WC1N 3XX.
 Thanks.

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BOOKS ARE WEAPONS!

KICK OFF 1981 with a **FIRST OF MAY** Bookvoucher, the perfect seasonal gift from Edinburgh's comprehensive left/radical bookshop, 43 Candlemaker Row. Open 10-6 Mon-Sat. 031-225-2612. Browsers welcome.

Worker wanted

WORKER WANTED for ICP funded Community Resource Centre in Lambeth, London. A mixed collective teaching printing to groups involved in local community. Trade Union, anti-racist, anti-sexist and non-commercial work. For application and job description contact Union Place, 01-735 6123. Appointment in January.

Bearded Male, 30, seeks interesting men to share long winter nights in Tulse Hill. Own place. Reply to GN91 BM GAY NOISE. LONDON WC1N 3XX

Next Issue Musts

Mon Jan 5th
 Business meeting and discussion of previous issue. 7.30 p.m.
 Wed Jan 7th
 First final copy meeting. 7.30 p.m.
 Sat Jan 10th
 Final, final copy meeting. 10.00 a.m.
 Tues Jan 13th
 Paste-up meeting. 9.00 a.m.
 Wed Jan 14th
 Fold-up meeting. 6.30 p.m.

All is back to usual now that the winter festivities are over. Advertisements, alterations to listings must reach us by Wednesday, January 7th. Other copy must be in by Saturday, January 10th. ALL copy must be typed, double spaced (please). Ring 01-272 5628 for meeting details.

Issue Eleven out on Thursday January 15th 1981

Late News

WOMEN AGAINST VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN have recently been taking actions to protest against male violence against women. Although they received a lot of support, the police have been very hostile, and women have been arrested - thirty so far in London alone. They need money, which should be sent to 83 London Women Against Rape, c/o Box 10 190 Upper St, London N1.

PIE TRIAL starting date has been changed to 12th January, a week later than before.

Gay Noise Book Appeal

Gay Noise urgently needs books, films/theatre posters, programmes, prints, in fact anything saleable for a fundraising sale on Jan 8th. So take a large cardboard box and go along the shelves weeding out all the old paperbacks, hardbacks and rare incunabula that you don't read any more and give them to *Gay Noise*. Famous literary gays amongst our readership are welcome to send signed first editions.

Ring Willie on 01-272 5628 or write to BM *Gay Noise*, London WC1N 3XX.