

GAZETTE

15p

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149 RAILTON ROAD
LONDON S.E. 24

Insulting behaviour: they ain't seen nothing yet!

LONDON PAVILION, Sunday 28 September. Paud Hegarty and Gareth Thomas were arrested bringing the total of arrests on the picket of "Cruising" to six, involving five gay men and numerous charges. These events could be viewed as routine, even boring, but for the fact that Paud and Gareth were arrested for kissing each other good-bye at the end of the demonstration. Charged with Insulting Behaviour, they are due to appear at Bow Street on the 13 November.

When we dance in Manchester it is licentious. When we sleep together, it is an act of gross indecency. When our lovers are under twenty-one, we are corrupting. When we chat each other up, it is importuning. When we cruise the parks looking for men to share our bodies with, we are soliciting. We are told lesbian's children are in need of care and protection by the state, and all gay women suffer the spiteful paradox of being both ignored in law and attacked by the lawmakers... We are all outlaws.

The legal framework for our persecution by the state is complicated, involving the use of a mass of common law charges and several acts of Parliament. The crux of the situation is the way that the non-criminality of lesbian sex and the limited de-criminalisation of gay male sex has been used to mask the fact that homosexuality of any kind is, and always has been, unlawful. This is clear when we look at the Sexual Offences Act 1967.

Gay people fought for more than ten years to get this piece of legislation onto the statute book. Although it legalised what nobody ever got caught for — two men over twenty-one locked in a private room of a private house or self-contained flat — it represented an important advance. The reformers that brought this law about helped to create a legal and social climate that made possible the growth of the modern gay scene and of the modern gay movement. For the first time in



Photo: Union Place

England and Wales it was possible for gay men to say openly that they were "practicing" homosexuals without automatically being in breach of the law.

However, the passage of this Act in no way marked a shift of opinion in favour of homosexual freedom on the part of the police, the armed forces, the law lords or governing circles generally. What it did do was to remove penalties from sexual activities in circumstances

Editorial

DOCTORS OPERATING in the Fleet St area of London must have had a busy week. To judge from their rantings, the editors and commentators in the Street of Shit must have needed a good daily dose of Valium to stop them from going completely apoplectic. Their hysteria was unleashed this time on the Labour Party Conference, always an opportunity to drag out the favourite clichés: 'drift into chaos', 'left-wing takeover', 'democracy under threat'; nay, the end of civilisation as we know it.

Loyal as ever to their class positions, these self-appointed defenders of "democracy" see fit to rail against any slight muttering of people's power, while in the same breath applauding those "moderate" union leaders who prevent real discussion and debate with one bureaucratic manoeuvre after another.

The power of this unelected, unreasonable and unaccountable gang of scribblers is immense, and it is used with equal force against the gay movement as it is against the Labour Party left.

But hold on! Hasn't the press been getting better? Doesn't the *Guardian* print pro-gay articles, and wasn't there a piece on lesbians in the *Mirror* a few weeks back? Certainly this is true, and even *The Times* has managed to stop putting inverted commas around the word gay. But that does not significantly alter their position of power and their interests as against those of the gay movement. We still remain dependent on the opportunism of the wealthy cynics of Shit Street, as we earnestly try to persuade news editors that the arrest of two men for kissing is significant and dangerous.

To feel confident in this position of insecurity is folly. Come the PIE trial in January the press will be "giving the public what it wants": child molesters, perverted conspirators in grubby toilets, and hordes of corrupted children.

It is part of the gay movement's self defence that we must control our own resources and have our own papers, presses and publishers. We cannot depend on the vagaries of straight liberals as they happily change tack from benign acceptance to malicious incitement.

And that's not a plea for isolation, it's a strategy for survival.

Crown Colony: Scrap the lot

LEFT-WING HONG KONG Urban Councillor (very difficult to say when your teeth aren't your own!), Mrs Elsie Elliott, has said that she wants *all* laws on homosexuality in the Crown Colony scrapped. She is against "Age of Consent" reforms. Her argument is based on the Chinese view of sexuality. Homosexual expression is socially disapproved of, but the Chinese would not legislate against gay sex. "The only legislation we need", Mrs Elliott stated in an interview on 12th September in Hong Kong, "is the law on assault, otherwise scrap the lot; there is no place for reforms to an unjust system which encourages blackmailers."

Mrs Elliott was reviewing the progress of the re-opened enquiry into the death of Scottish Police Inspector John McLennan. She believes the enquiry, under Chief Justice Yang, will smother the true facts. She confirms that Commissioner of the Royal Hong Kong Police, Roy Henry, is homosexual. The Yang Enquiry was in recess as *Gay Noise* went to press, but Mrs Elliott confirmed that members of the commission were in England to interview the former Hong Kong Crown Counsel, John Lindsay (who has come out as gay) and a nameless Judge who is homosexual. A

law reform commission is gathering evidence worldwide on the state of Hong Kong's sex laws which date (as did the whole of the former British Empire's) from the Criminal Law Amendment Act 1885.

Councillor Mrs Elliott will be visiting London in the next four weeks to talk to the gay community and civil liberties groups here about the scandals and cover-ups in Hong Kong.



National Gay Teachers conference

OVER THE weekend of 14-16 November gay teachers will be meeting at Sheffield Polytechnic. Under discussion will be paedophilia and the Campaign against Public Morals, coming out as a gay teacher, and work within the trades' union movement. The creche and accommodation for you and your children should be booked at least one week in advance. If you are a teacher and you want to go to this conference then get in touch with Peter Bardsley, Sheffield 680464, or by writing to PO Box 107 Sheffield S1 1EJ.

Teaching Sexism

THIS YEAR'S National Union of Student's National Training School (NTS) organised for student union officers, was marked by blatant sexism and racism that led to major protests and upheavals.

The "entertainments" organised by NUS for the School included a folk night with Fred Wedlock which contained many references to "queers", "pooftahs", "cripples", "getting into skirt", "picking up skirt" *ad nauseam*. One night women and men singing gay songs at the end of the evening had been thrown over them by others attending the training school. Throughout the NTS, sexist language was rife.

Protests against the blatant sexism were widespread, and a petition was organised to complain against Fred Wedlock and NUS's entertainments policy. This was signed by nearly a third of the NTS and included student union officers from 51 colleges. A meeting was called and the sixty people attending made several demands to NUS's Executive, which included an acknowledgement and apology from NUS President Dave Aaronovitch for violating policy, the inclusion of anti-sexist and anti-racist clauses in ents contracts, and the inclusion of a course on the use of non-sexist language in next years NTS.

As a result of these pressures Dave Aaronovitch was forced to make an apology for breaking NUS anti-sexist policy in his closing speech at the end of the week, though he refused to comment on the other demands. The NUS Executive were clearly and visibly shaken by the strength and unity of the protest and will doubtless have to reconsider ignoring policy on gays and women.

Several Unions, including NALGO, CPSU, NUPE, and EIS, now have paper policies on gay and women's rights. These are often ignored by the Trade Union bureaucracies and it is often only continuous pressure from the membership and organised gay groups that can have any success in getting them implemented. Certainly NUS will have to think again about ignoring policy, though it is still questionable to what extent they have learnt from the experience. What isn't in doubt though is that there are people who will continue to "make trouble" until something is done.

Gay News readers meeting

A MEETING of *Gay News* readers has been called to criticise (and attempt to change) the paper's lack of campaigning coverage, its sexism, the damage it does to the gay movement.

Gay News staff have agreed to attend. Denis Lemon has been invited.

Saturday, 1st November, 2.00 to 6.00pm, Marchmont Community Centre, Marchmont Street, WC1 (3 doors down from Gay's The Word Bookshop).

They ain't seen nothing yet! (continued from front page)

where the law could not be enforced anyway. As far as the authorities were concerned it merely tidied things up. Consequently, the recent extension of the provisions of this Act to Scotland is cynical and dishonest, linked as it is to legislation increasing police powers in that country.

The changing of the laws against male homosexuals in '67 has along with other statutes created a formal context for the continued operation of the common law — denying gay women and men the freedom to express our sexuality or to make public social provisions for our community without fear of police raids and prosecution.

The problem for many of the institutions of the state has now changed somewhat — they tidied their statute book — but we have spent the last ten years becoming increasingly unruly. Homosexuals have not only refused to be tidied up, on the contrary, we have become increasingly untidy. Appearing everywhere and anywhere, sinister, disruptive and unlawful.

Faced with a growing cultural, social and now, economic rebellion the authorities are desperately trying to establish some semblance of order in defence of their increasingly fragile hold over the reins of power. One sign of this struggle to maintain a firm grip on our society is the intensifying repression of homosexuals. For the past two or three years the police throughout these islands have sharpened their drive against the gay community, redoubling their efforts in their

attempt to suppress any public manifestation of homosexuality. They secured the dismissal of gay people from their jobs. They have increased raids on parks and cruising areas, they have brought increasing numbers of people before the courts for sleeping with under-age men, they have increased the gay prison population, driven people abroad, and with some subtlety, used licensing committees and watch committees against the gay community.

The response of the gay community and the gay movement has been sporadic and confused — we have been confronted by one "isolated" incident after another. We have found it very difficult to build a picture of what exactly has been happening throughout the four countries. However, it is becoming increasingly obvious that the freelance violence of queerbashers is taking place in the context of a concerted drive against gay people by the police and other institutions.

In response to this the *Gay Noise* collective has sent letters to dozens of gay organisations calling for the setting up of a Joint Committee so that a huge demonstration of our anger against the repression can be called within the next three months. Such a Joint Committee could bring the gay movement together and demand maximum support from the socialist and trades' union movement. By coming out we have burnt our bridges. Now we must come together with a frank understanding of our differences and a determination to act in each others' defence.

Buzby Watch Out!

THE LATEST gay switchboard is opening soon in Carlisle. Solway Switchboard will be plugged in in November, initially for one evening a week, but with plans for expansion in the future.

Solway Switchboard are also brightening up the social scene in Carlisle. Their first disco was held at the "Citadel" last week and it is hoped that this will be the first of many, regular events at this venue.

The new switchboard has been set up with help from Lancaster and Newcastle. Anyone interested in helping out should contact: Jim Straker, 11 Sybil Street, Carlisle.

Cruised

ST ALBANS, Friday 26 September. The *Gay Voice Group*, after getting an article in the Hertfordshire newspaper *Review & Express* announcing their plans, went ahead and picketed the film *Cruising* at the local Odious.

The police did not turn up... a few kids did though. They'd come to see the poofs, but they couldn't tell from the twelve people present who was and who wasn't. They learnt something.

The leafletting went well, evoking quite a bit of support from straight people on the street.

Copies of the leaflet used on the picket of the London Pavillion are available (to suggest ideas for your own leaflet, or to use as artwork) from Gays Against the Film "Cruising", 7 Pickwick Court, London SE9.

Gays & Literature

OPEN GAZE BOOKSHOP will be holding a series of monthly meetings in the Edinburgh Gay Centre, 60 Broughton Street, Edinburgh. The purpose of these meetings is to relate the bookshop to the Centre, and the book trade in general, but also to encourage local authors by offering a platform for their work. Most importantly we want to encourage by discussion the connection between gay, lesbian and feminist literature and the gay movement. So such questions as "does Jean Genet give us a good image?", "what relevance does Jeffrey Weeks' *Coming Out* have for the gay movement today?", "is feminism providing the way forward for the gay movement?", will arise.

All meetings will be held on Sundays at 3pm, in the Gay Centre, 60 Broughton St, Edinburgh.

• October 12 Walter Perrie, author of *By Sun and Moon, on Literature and Sexuality*.

• November 2 Speakers from Stramullion, the feminist publishing collective, based in Edinburgh.

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Quick off the mark

THE GAYSOC at Sussex University, Brighton, will soon be back in business. The group, open to all students in the Brighton area, meets at 4pm on every Thursday of the term at Strugglers Rest, Falmers House. There is a GaySoc disco every Monday at 9pm in the crypt of Falmers House, but NUS cards are required.

Why, we are not too sure.

Despite these restrictions, everyone is welcome on Thursday 16th October when the group will be acting as hosts to a performance of "Gay Sweatshop's" new production *Blood Green*. Starting at 8pm, the play will be staged in the Mandela Hall, Falmer House. Tickets costing £1 may be bought from the Union shop or by post from GaySoc, Falmer House, University of Sussex, Brighton (£1.20 on the door). If you want to get in touch with the group write to GaySoc, Students Union, Falmer House, Brighton, East Sussex or leave a message at Student Union reception desk 0273 698111.

Belfast Death

Just one hour after leaving the Chariot Rooms, a gay disco in North Street, Belfast, Anthony McCleave was found severely battered and drowning in his own blood. He was so badly injured that his brothers were only able to identify him by a Maltese Cross which he wore around his neck.

Anthony was found on the morning of the 3rd June 1979 near the junction of North Street and Oxford Street, an area that is notorious for attacks on gays. In the past five years two other gay men have been murdered there, and in the previous week gay men had been beaten up by a gang of queer-bashers.

In spite of all this, the Royal Ulster Constabulary terminated their murder inquiries after just 24 hours, saying that Anthony had sustained his injuries through an accidental fall — despite the fact that the Forensic Science Laboratory found only a very low level of alcohol in his blood.

However, the inquest jury rejected this explanation by giving an open verdict on Anthony's death, rather than one of accidental death.

Both Anthony's family and NIGRA are dissatisfied with the RUC's findings and are pressing for the re-opening of the case as one of murder. They have appealed to anyone who knows anything — no matter how trivial — to contact Jeff on Belfast 664111 or Cara-Friend, Belfast 22023.

It is important for gays in Belfast to avoid Oxford Street and, if possible, not to leave the Chariot Rooms on their own.

Paedophilia Workshops

IN THE run up to the PIE conspiracy trial and to internal debates within Scottish Homosexual Rights Group, the Edinburgh Branch of SHRG is holding a one day session on paedophilia on Sunday 19 October at 11am.

Two speakers will give an opportunity to those attending to refresh their minds about the issues involved before the session breaks into a series of workshops. Roger Moody, author of *Indecent Assault*, and Willie Waugh, convenor of the Edinburgh Gay Youth Group have been invited to speak. The suggested topics for workshops are: the age of consent, organising with CAPM before the PIE trial, the women's movement and paedophilia, and young people and adult power.

The organisers hope that discussions will go beyond merely the speaker-questions model, and that the issue will be fully aired so that we might all have a better understanding of the political and social connections paedophilia has with the gay movement.

The Paedophilia Workshops will be held on Sunday 19 October, starting at 11am, in the Edinburgh Gay Centre, 60 Broughton Street, Edinburgh. Tea, coffee and light snacks will be available. *Open Gaze Bookshop* will also be open in the Centre, but if you want childcare facilities, please let the organisers know in advance, at the above address.

A Spectre is Haunting . . .

A DREARY shadow of repression is hanging over North West England. In Stockport, seventy men have been hauled up before the magistrates for cottaging "offences" in the last six months, compared to twelve in the previous period last year.

The Stockport Express has joined in this local sport with pleas to "Save Our Town": "... we are ... concerned with the image this town is gaining through the increase in these sordid offences. Stockport has a good reputation but one which, if lost, would take years to recover." The police are using their spyhole and stepladder techniques — after public complaints of course — while the town's magistrates are muttering darkly about prison sentences.

Thirty-five miles away in the Wirral, Merseyside Police — famous for the killing of Jimmy Kelly last year — have made 300 cottaging arrests since January. Meanwhile in Chester, a member of the local gay befriending group had his house ransacked by two policemen, and the group's log book of callers has disappeared.

And then there's Manchester, labouring under the yoke of Chief Constable Anderton and his merry band of moral guardians.

Gay Noise looks forward to publishing details of a co-ordinated fightback against these revolting people's activities.

Women's Oppression & Imperialism Socialist/Feminist National Conference 1980 25 and 26 October



A full conference outline plus a resource list of useful films, books etc. and registration forms are available from *Socialist/Feminist Conference 1980*, c/o A Woman's Place, 48 William IV Street, London WC2.

Fuck the Sandbags

A central theme of gay people's lives has always been the struggle for survival. To add to the daily harassments of discrimination and street violence, we now have to face the explosive growth of nuclear weapons. We are being lulled into the belief that survival depends upon us being able to kill and obliterate others more efficiently than we could last year.

Opposition to this obscene situation has long been organised but the final straw, and the consequent boost to this opposition movement seems finally to have come with the decision to impose batches of nuclear Cruise Missiles on various parts of these islands.

In the past few months the Campaign for Nuclear disarmament has been growing rapidly, and it has now called a national demonstration against the Cruise Missiles, to be held in London on October 26th. The demonstration is being supported by the Labour Party, many Trade Unions, and an impressive array of left organisations.

Many gay people will be supporting the demonstration too. It is important that we form a recognisable part of the demonstration and the campaign. We must challenge the predominantly heterosexual basis of CND's perspectives — "It is not just for us that we protest but for our children and their children". Gays must also relate the developments of the war machines to the daily violence that we experience. Violence is not one step removed from people's daily lives — nuclear weapons are merely an expression, albeit an ultimate one, of this violent society.

The way we can show our presence as gay people on the march is by having our own gay contingent with our own gay banners. We must bring gay literature and leaflets with us. *Gay Noise* will be there with a banner and we hope that other gay groups will do the same.

Misadventure in Missenden

ONE SUNDAY earlier this month two men met in a cottage in the picturesque village of Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire. The sun was shining, the birds were singing so off they trolled to some nearby woods. After a long non-political encounter they returned to the cottage car park to find the local Bobby noting down the numbers of their cars. With brick-red face and reassuring smile, the constable murmured that he always took down the car numbers because the area was "rough". Thereupon, one of our heroes offered the Bobby his name and address in order, so he explained, to save the Force the time and expense of phoning the vehicle registration computer at Swansea. At this the cheerful Constable turned nasty and threatened to run them in . . . what a very long list of cars that park in "rough" areas they must have.



CND "Die-In" outside Islington Town Hall

Cinema by Vito Rosso

"CAROUSING", Great Britain 1980. Produced and directed by William Friggling. Venues:- Odeus West End from September 13th, then local Odeci cinemae.

"SOME OF the best poetry rhymes, so why can't the titles of some of the best disaster movies?" That's how "Carousing" is rhetorically justified by gay producer-director William Friggling, famous for "Musing" (1977), about a mass-murderer running amok amongst the liberal intelligensia and "Fusing" (1979), about a mass-murderer wreaking havoc amongst an Electric Power Stations management committee.

Divided into four episodes with an epilogue, "Carousing" concerns the tale of a mass-murderer in action among a group of straight-male pub-crawlers during one of their nights out, but as in his earlier movies, we never learn the identity of the killer. In the first part, "Boozing", we follow a group of stags from bar to bar, and pint to pint. Al Macino is a plain-clothes agent provocateur who has infiltrated the gang very easily by looking exactly like Dustin Hoffperson, and Michael Caine and Oliver Reed are so drunk anyway that they put it all down to seeing double. As "last orders please" is yelled out, we see nothing but glasses emptying and throbbing adams-apples in fast motion, with speeded up juke-box junk in the background.

The film now moves into "Choosing" where the men look for "birds to screw" as they say. The young women are by no means soft-pedalled; the men leer, poke, grope and molest at will. The vomiting has already begun en masse and the somewhat less than fragrant odour of breath a la beer and sick (released into the auditorium for special effect number one) does little to attract the ladies, a fact that eludes the numerically superior men and jealousy comes to the fore, at which stage Part Three, or "Bruising" begins.

"Bruising" is Friggling getting at the nitty-gritty formula of then there are x (drunk) straight men, there's only room for x minus y straight male egos and the fists let rip. The shots of flesh in the process of turning black and blue are alternated with apples being crushed in a cider press. Al Macino, who has been participating in everything with something akin to distaste, now joins in wholeheartedly. We flash over a passionate love-making scene with his gay lover (Gene Wilder) who implores him not to take on this mission. "It's okay, baby, it's not in my nature," soothes Al, but as the restrained incarnation of Law and Order excels more and more at being a thug, the other pub-crawlers-brawlers begin to resemble cops as we observe how each one "polices" his own and everyone else's masculine behaviour. Virility can never be allowed to flag. It's just fists, flesh, grunts and groans now, the free-for-all moves outside into the street. The first knife is drawn and we arrive at the final episode or "Oozing".

"Carousing" opens amid a storm of protest. Straight men everywhere are up in arms and organising pickets — even the subtlest soupçon of surrealism can find its way up any macho nose, blindfolded. In a recent letter to the Guardian a self-righteously indignant straight man said "it makes us all look like a bunch of bloodthirsty, disgusting monsters", adding "and what's more, stupid". Another outraged hetero complained that the "nice" minority are given only tokenistic treatment. One critic alleges that if the film goes on general release it will unleash such a mighty wave of violence that it could mean the end of the straight male as we know him. Friggling comments: "If that's the case, it'll be the subject of my next movie, "Amusing"."

Letters

Dear *Gay Noise*,

The London Film Co-op advertised a fund raising party for a Gay Film Festival, in the gay press, on Saturday 20th of September, with a live band, disco and a chance to discuss and talk about the festival. A group of us decided to go to this event as we were interested in being involved in the festival, but we left the evening having been called queer, beaten up and held back by the gay organisers of the evening while the straight men laid into us and smashed our teeth up, gave us black eyes, broken ribs and kicked and shouted abuse at us when we were trying to defend ourselves.

It all started when we were in the pub opposite the co-op where members of the band were talking very loudly about how they had just found out that they were playing for these "gay libbers" and weren't keen to do it for these bent people: "they are alright on their own, but I don't like them in groups".

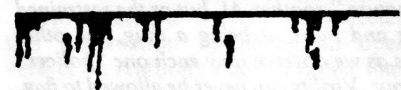
Once inside, the atmosphere was very tense, and it was obvious that it wasn't the party for gay people as advertised, with straight couples draped over each other and straight men heckling a performance.

Nantois comment

Dear *Gay Noise*,

To judge from the headline you give it, you seem to doubt Peter Radcliffe-Ludlam's remark about the revival of the Conservative Group for Homosexual Equality helping to strengthen the gay movement. If you really want all gays to be mobilised for fighting the discrimination from which we all suffer you will need to get used to the fact that not all gays will respond to the call of the Left just as not all the left responds to the call of gays — think of the several socialist states which criminalise homosexuality as a bourgeois perversion and remember that in most bourgeois states dissidents (like gays and socialists) have more scope than they have in any full-blooded socialist state. Perhaps, however, socialist gays think of non-socialist gays as second-class citizens. Surely not!

Peter Cambell



Gay Socialist Conference 1980

Organised by the *Gay Left Collective*

Saturday 22 November 10am – 6pm, Sunday 23 November 11am – 5pm
at Caxton House, St John's Way, Archway, London N19. Nearest Tube: Archway.

Registration: £2.00 waged, £1 unwaged. Lunch available both days.

Crèche available. Please let us know in advance if you intend to bring children with you. Possible workshop headings include: Patriarchy and Men; Gays and Violence; Coming Out in the Eighties; Socialism, Democracy and Sexual Politics; Personal Relations; Gays and the State; Gays and Work/Trades Unions; Gay Socialists and S&M; Race and Class; Gays and the Law; *Beyond the Fragments*; Childhood Sexuality; Gays and Publishing; Ageing and Ageism. We welcome further suggestions for workshop topics. *Women only workshops will be available.* For any further details write to: Gay Socialist Conference, c/o 38 Chalcot Road, London NW1.

Towards the end of the evening the anger and tension erupted into verbal retaliation from some of the gay people there. This led to the straight men taking the opportunity to lay into us. Their verbal abuse turned into physical assault and violence.

The gay organisers took on the role of the police by trying to cool out their gay brothers and sisters by holding them back so they couldn't defend themselves. Worse still, they wanted to call the police because they didn't want the place smashed up.

We are absolutely disgusted by the role the organisers took on and their absolute disregard for one of their gay brothers who had his teeth knocked out and was cut badly. They couldn't even be bothered to ask him if he needed a doctor or if he was alright. The organisers, by their actions that evening connived with the straights while their brothers and sisters were being beaten up. In future they should think about the consequences of having an anti-gay band playing at a gay event. The responsibility for that evening's violence is theirs.

R. Hick, L. Stein, P. Parmar,
S. Mackie.

Dear *Gay Noise*,

You really shouldn't sneer at the Gay Conservative Group. The Tories, who I do not support, are in power at the moment so we should encourage and support gay members of that party in their efforts to put a gay point of view.

You may well feel that gay liberation involves a socialist solution. You may even be right. However, while we all have the right to criticise each other, even if it is counter productive, surely we should be constructive. How about asking them for an article to put their viewpoint?


John Bennet

GayWIP meeting

GAY WORKERS IN PRINT first meeting will be on Tuesday 28th Oct, 6.00pm, Marchmont Community Centre, Marchmont Street, WC1.

GayWIP is a gay group covering the print unions: NGA, NUJ, SOGAT, SLADE, NATSOPA.

GayWIP can be contacted at 7 Pickwick Court, SE9 4SA.



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60 Broughton Street, Edinburgh EH1 3SA

lesbian, gay
& feminist reading

SEND SAE FOR CURRENT LISTS

Gays South of the River Conference

18th October 1980

St Matthews Centre (opp. Town Hall),
Brixton, London.

Workshops, discussions, photographic
exhibition, food bar, etc.

All day 9am to 5pm

Disco (evening only) at the Brixton
Centre (just across the road)

GAY SOCIAL facilities are at a low ebb in South London. You have got to go to Croydon or north London for a non-commercial disco. All we have are the commercial gay pubs where the drink is often expensive and the entertainment often insulting.

We used to have a Gay Centre, we had weekly non-profit making discos, for years there were regular lesbian discos and other social events run for gay people *by gay people*.

We could have all this again and more if enough of us make the effort. For instance, in Lambeth we have a good chance of getting premises for another Gay Centre — the best chance that is likely to occur for many years.

In housing and in work we are either ignored or discriminated against.

Harassment by the police is increasing and attacks on us in the street are becoming an everyday occurrence. By getting together we can change all this.

We believe that gays in south London can, by working together, radically improve the situation and as a first step, the Gays South of the River Conference has been called. So, whether you are a member of a gay group or not, to make the event a success, *we need your body and your ideas*.

The halls, the food and other basic necessities have been booked by Gay Liberation South London. Offers of involvement by gay people in any capacity are warmly invited — we have tried to provide a framework. To fill the gaps is up to you.

Gays South of the River Conference,
155 Railton Road, London SE24.
01-274 0843, 01-670 4798, 01-733 9733.

late Noise...

Subversion of the Family
 Mary Whitehouse Speaks
 1.15pm October 15
 St Lawrence Jewry
 Guildhall, London EC2

Gay Pride Week 1981
 meeting to form next
 years committee
 Saturday 25 October
 2pm
 4-2a Formosa Street
 London W.10

Fired and Hired

HARRY COEN, dismissed as news editor of *Gay News* on July 18th, has reached an acceptable settlement with the newspaper's proprietor, Denis Lemon.

The amount of "severance pay" — we're not allowed to call it compensation — has been substantially increased from two weeks pay to £1,000, and Harry has been offered freelance work at *Gay News*. The claim of unfair dismissal will not now be pursued.

Meanwhile, the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) chapel at *Gay News* is discussing with management the establishment of a House Agreement along the standard lines suggested by the Book & Magazine branch of the NUJ. The full chapel has yet to discuss the arrangement, but there is thought to be strong support for this idea, as well as for the proposal that all employees on the paper are given individual contracts of employment.

In issue 6 we will be carrying reviews of the new Campaign for Public Morals (CAPM) pamphlet, and Tom O'Carroll's book. We intend to continue the debate on paedophilia for a number of issues, so we'll have space for quite a lot of your articles and letters. Get writing!

OVAL HOUSE

Softies City Shock Men

City-Shock-Men: Gays observing men who are touching, who make you smile, who make you lasciviously melt away, who make you vomit because they have surrounded themselves with symbols and have nothing to say to each other. Presented through a combination of acting, rock and tango music, poetry, slide projection and lighting.

October 22 - 26 at 7.30pm. Tickets £1.50 + 50p Theatre Membership.

Oval House, 54 Kennington Oval, London E11 5SW.

Lotte Cash's Fighting Fund

WELL, WE have now reached issue 5 and not a debt in sight, thanks to the financial rigour which I have insisted on. Although we as yet have no crippling borrowing requirements, there is one thing I'm bound to counsel:

Don't get complacent!

Issue 4, despite all the valuable therapy I offered, brought in next to nothing in the way of donations. This is pathetic. And for me it is personally embarrassing; I have a busy social life and not a few of the people I know are well off. Some of them even used to be noisy. Now, they have little more than approving sympathy to offer. Well let me tell them this: sympathy doesn't pay bills, it won't furnish an office and it won't pay for a phone.

We want commitment and commitment means cash; a lot of it! Remember, no matter how comfortable you may be, with your steady job, steady affair, healthy bank account and colour TV, there is a deepening depression, hyper-inflation and growing political uncertainty. One dark night in the near future there will be a knock at the door. Sickened with fear you will open it and there standing on your doorstep you will find none other than the figure of Lotte Cash — yes, myself! — grimly demanding recompense.

Only you can prevent such a reckoning, by sending your donations now, marked "for the attention of L. Cash". And if you send money regularly you will help Gay Noise avoid a financial crisis and stop yourself falling into a false sense of security.

Yours, or else...

Gay Noise Development Meeting postponed

OUR DEVELOPMENT Meeting originally planned for October 25th, has been postponed until the weekend of the 6th and 7th December. The reason for this is our decision to give full support to the CND demonstration on October 26th in London.

Details of the new development meeting will be published nearer the time.

12 pages!

- 15 Oct Business meeting 7.30pm
- 18 Oct Final Copy meeting 10am
- 21 Oct Paste-up 9am
- 22 Oct London distribution and fold-up meeting 6.30pm

NEXT ISSUE OUT ON
 THURSDAY OCTOBER 23rd
 Ring 01-272 5628 for details.

Learning to defend ourselves

GAYS AND violence is the theme of a new Sunday workshop at the Oval House, 54 Kennington Oval, London SE11 at 2.00pm. Using improvisation, it will examine our feelings about all forms of violence and attempt to uncover what powers we have (and don't have) to combat it. As well as providing a basis for self defence, the workshop will develop a production to be performed next Spring. It will be organised by the Sexual Outlaws, a production group which grew out of last year's workshops at Oval House.

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 Gt. James' St., London WC1. 01-242 0363
 Communist Party, 16 King St., London WC2.
 Employment Protection Appeal, 60 Broughton St., Edinburgh.
 Gay Activists Alliance, 5 Caledonian Rd., London N1.
 Gay Left, 38 Chalcot Rd., London NW1.
 Gay Men's Press, 27 Priory Ave., London N8.
 Gay News Ltd., 1a Normand Gardens, Greyhound Rd., London W14. 01-381 2161
 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. 01-857 3793
 Gay's Against the Film "Cruising" (GAF"C"), 7 Pickwick Court, London SE9. 01-857 3793
 Gay Sweatshop, 5 Leonard St., London EC2. 01-250 1762
 Gay's the Word, 66 Marchmont St., London WC1. 01-278 7654
 Gay Youth Movement, c/o 6-9 Manor Gdns., London N7.
 Gemma, Disabled Lesbians, BM Box 5700, London WC1V 6XX.
 GLAD, Gay Legal Advice 01-262 2892, 7-12 nightly.
 Icebreakers, BM/GAYLIB, London WC1V 6XX. 01-274 9590 7.30-10.30 nightly.
 International Gay Association, PO Box 931, Dublin 4.

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.
 Lothian Trades' Union Gay Rights Group, 60 Broughton St., Edinburgh EH1 3SA.
 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
 Northern Ireland Gay Rights Association, PO Box 44, Belfast BT1 1SH.
 Parents Enquiry, Rose Robertson, 16 Honley St., London SE6. 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.
 Sequel, 49 Pratt St., London NW1.
 Smash the Prevention of Terrorism Act, BM RCT, London WC1V 6XX.
 Sisterwrite, 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), 32a Shakespeare St., Nottingham. 0602-411475

BOOKSHOPS

Gay Noise is on sale at the following shops:

ABERDEEN
 Boomtown Books, 167 King St

ABERYSTWYTH
 Whole Food Shop, Princess St

AYLESBURY
 Tantadlin, 53 High St

BATH
 1985 Longacre Hall, London Rd

BELFAST
 Just Books, 7 Winetavern St
 Gardners, Queen St

BIRMINGHAM
 Peace Centre, 18 Moor St, Queensway, 3
 Prometheus, Alcester Rd, Moseley, 13

BLACKBURN
 Amamus, 2 Barton St

BRIGHTON
 Public House, 21 Little Preston St

BRADFORD
 Fourth Idea Bookshop, 14 Southgate

BRISTOL
 Full marks Bookshop, 110 Cheltenham Rd

CAMBRIDGE
 Grapevine, 41 Fitzroy St

CARDIFF
 Community Bookshop, 108 Salisbury Rd

COVENTRY
 Wedge Bookshop, High St

DERRY CITY
 Bookworm, Bishop St

DUBLIN
 Books Upstairs, South King St

DUNDEE
 Logos Bookshop, 251 Hawkhill

DURHAM
 Community Co-op Bookshop, 14 Railway St, New Elvet

EDINBURGH
 Open Gaze, 60 Broughton St
 First of May Bookshop, Candlemaker Row

EXETER
 I.C.E., 3 Palace Gate

HASTINGS
 Grapevine, 24 High St

HUDDERSFIELD
 Peacework, 54 Wakefield Rd

HULL
 John Sheredans, 19 Anlaby Rd
 Bofs Bookshop, Princess Ave

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

LONDON
 Adelaide Bookshop, 14 Cecil Court, WC2
 Bookmarks, 265a Seven Sisters Rd, N4
 Booksplus, Lewisham Way, SE14
 Bread and Roses, Upper St, N1
 Central Books, Grays Inn Rd, WC1
 Centreprise, 136 Kingsland High St, E8
 Colletts, Charing Cross Rd, WC1
 Compendium, Camden High St, NW1
 Crouch End Bookshop, Crouch End Hill, N8
 Gay's the Word, 66 Marchmont St, WC1
 Housman's, 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

NORWICH
 Freewheel, 56 Benedicts 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)

ST AUSTELL
 Goodness Gracious, Globe Yard

SUNDERLAND
 Bakery Bookshop, 27 Stockton Rd

SWANSEA
 Focus, 10 Benthams Place, St Thomas

TODMORDEN
 Great Bear Trading Company, 23 Water St

YORK
 Community Bookshop, Walmgate

Gay Switchboards

ABERDEEN Wed 7-10pm	0224-572726	LONDON	01-837-7324
BERKSHIRE Wed 8-10pm	Windsor 56521	Open line for national and international gay information, advice and help. Always open.	
BOSTON CHE	0205-67527 or 0205-60167	MANCHESTER	061-236-5986
BRIGHTON 8-10pm enenings, 3-10pm Sat.	0273-690825	7-10pm nightly Manchester Friend	061-236-6283
BRISTOL Sun-Fri 8-10pm, Sat 3-10pm	0272-297500	7-10pm nightly Manchester Lesbian Link	061-236-6205
CHESTER 7.30-9.30 7 nights Sat 12-4pm.	0244-312975	Mon-Fri 7-10pm	
CARDIFF FRIEND Tues & Thurs 8-10pm	0222-395123	NOTTINGHAM	46881
COLCHESTER Wed 7-9pm	0206-864233	Mon, Wed & Thurs 7-10pm	
COLERAINE	Coleraire 51904	NORTH STAFFS	Stoke on Trent 266998
DERBY Mon-Thurs 1-2pm & 6-7pm	Derby 752260	Weds 7-10 Sat 2-5pm	
DUBLIN (prefix 00 from UK) Mon-Fri 8-10pm (Wed women only) Sat 3-6pm.	01-710608	OXFORD	0865-45647
EDINBURGH Mon-Fri 7.30-10pm Sat 2.30-10pm Sun 2-30-6pm	031-556-4049	7-9 nightly	
GLASGOW evenings from 7-10pm	041-332-1725	PLYMOUTH	0752-69558
HULL Fri 8-10pm	0482-226511	Tues & Thurs 8-10.30pm	
KENT	0233-25395 ext 2	PRESTON	0772-51122
LANCASTER & MORECAMBE Thurs & Fri 6-8pm	Lancaster 63021	Mon-Fri 7.30-9.30pm, Sat 2-4pm	
LEEDS	0532-453588	Preston Lesbian Line	0772-51122
Every night 7-10pm		Mon & Wed 7.30-9.30pm	
LESBIAN LINE (London) Mon & Fri 2-10pm Tues-Thurs 7-10pm	01-837-8602	READING	0734-597269
LINCOLN	Metheringham 20851	Fri 7-10pm	
Wed 6-10pm		SHREWSBURY	0743-67248
		Tues & Fri 8-10pm	
		SHEFFIELD	0742-307142
		Mon-Fri from 6pm	
		SURREY	Guildford 503128
		Mon, Wed & Sat 8-10pm	
		SOLENT	0703-37363
		Tues, Thurs & Sat 7.30-10pm	
		SWANSEA Lesbian Line	0792-467365
		7.30-10pm	
		WEST MIDLANDS	021-632-6528
		Mon-Fri 7-10pm, Sat & Sun 4-10pm (women answering on Weds)	
		YORK	0904-411399
		Thurs 7-9pm	

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