

99p

# shocking pink

Issue 10!

Inside

Amazing star interview with Storms Webber

Lots about periods

Are you an alien? Try our fun-packed quiz

Make-up tips

Plus: how to keep your houseplant interested,  
what the Queen keeps in her handbag,  
veganism for beginners.

free



handy mascara, doubles as CS gas spray

a girl's best friends

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**S.P. special offer**

**TAPES** of SP now available for women with sight disabilities, as read out by the SP collective—exciting or wot? Just send same money as for printed version & state which issue you'd like to start with (available from issue 9).

Here's the new edition of **wonderful Shocking Pink T-shirts**—bargain price of £6!!! Very beautiful & the ideal xmas pressie for any grandma. Sorry you can't really see them—they're a bit hard to draw small. They are: 1. SP patterns, pics, writing, with a squiggly border, 2. collection of fab SP covers & drawings, 3. 'Coming Out' cartoon of *something* escaping from a box.



PS8Colours: black print on: bright pink, white, turquoise, mid-blue, dark green, burgundy, grey. Sizes: M, L, XL. We've run out of some, so please give about 3 options. Coming Out in white & grey only. **So give us the money!!** If you get one & decide it's horrible or just doesn't do a *thing* for your complexion, send it back & we'll refund you.

**Dear Friend,**

As you may have heard, York Lesbian Line is currently having problems over a display which we mounted in a public exhibition, parts of which are alleged to have contravened "Section 28". We write to ask for your support in our continuing dispute over this allegation.

The Line was invited by the organisers of the International Women's week celebrations in York to mount a display in York Public Library. This display was part of a larger exhibition publicising the activities of women's groups & organisations in the area. Our display consisted of pictures, photos and written material—the Lesbian Custody Charter, a Pink Paper article on coming out, and part of a New Internationalist feature on homosexuality. It was removed on the grounds that, in the opinion of the County Solicitor, display of these items in the library was a contradiction of the Local Government Act 1988.

Line members have held meetings with the Chief Librarian to discuss the matter, but, despite our solicitor's written opinion that the material in question did not contravene the section, the Librarian stands by the original decision.

We are not willing to let the matter rest and are continuing our campaign to have this decision reversed. As there has been no case brought before the Courts under the Section, and therefore no legal precedent has been set, our next step will be to gather information about similar displays which have been shown in other parts of the country and which have not fallen foul of the Section; we hope in this way to gather enough evidence to convince our local authority that material of this nature may legally be displayed.

Please send us details of any such display or event that you know of in your (or any other) area. Even the smallest piece of information you can supply will help us build a convincing case against what we feel was a gross over-reaction by the County Solicitor and an effective act of discrimination against our organisation and ourselves as Lesbians.

Donations, payable to *York Womens Phoneline*, gratefully received. Thankyou for your support, we hope to be hearing from you soon.

with best wishes,  
from *York Lesbian Line Collective*.

JUST



OMY

Hello dear readers!

Welcome to fun-packed issue 10 of SP! Isn't it amazing?? Issue 10! Well we're amazed. It's our birthday—3 years since the 1st Shocking Pink 2. Where's the prezziess then? especially for poor suffering Shockers now doing their A levels & too dedicated to SP to stop & get proper grades Bye!!!

PS In case you don't know yet, Shocking Pink is a magazine for & by young women dedicated to the overthrow of society as we know it, since we've decided it's not good enough. Please send us cartoons, photostories, articles, newspaper cuttings, money, postcards, household tips, sandwiches, loveletters, your best tapes, sweeties, money, dental dams, new underwear not used please, money, carpet, holiday snaps, holidays, & anything else you think we might need.

SHOCKING

SSHOCKKING S.O.

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after page 36 you have to wait another three months - enjoy.

# READ MY LIPS



NICE  
ONE

from ACT-UP in the USA - people of colour organising on AIDS issues



I went for my first check-up smear a few months ago, just to be sure. It didn't hurt at all and the only really uncomfortable thing was lying on my back with my legs wide apart with a doctor having a good look! but no, this is what everyone thinks of and is scared of, but honestly it really isn't that bad. The doctor and the assisting nurse tried to make the situation as least embarrassing or upsetting as possible, being trained specially to be considerate. The speculum\* (what they put into the vagina so that they can see inside and take the actual smear) was a bit uncomfortable but not too much cos it was plastic and not a cold metal one, which aren't used that much nowadays. (I think your best chance of not getting a metal one is to go to a special S.T.D. clinic or a Well-women's clinic instead of your local G.P. That's also probably better if you don't like your doctor or you want some kind of anonymity). Anyway, I went home and felt quite pleased with myself for going eventually!

I forgot about it until six weeks later, when I got the results. It was such a shock—I had had an abnormal smear result. I had not expected it at all because I'm a young lesbian and have never slept with boys. I think there is probably very inaccurate information about lesbians and their risk-category (concerning sex-related conditions) because so many don't come out at the clinics mainly because the staff just take it for granted that you're straight, and then of course fear of being treated differently-badly. I hadn't told them until I had to go back after the irregular smear and then the doctor—a man, really apologised and said that they had been getting complaints from lesbians! That was nice also cos it showed that I wasn't the only lesbian which had been diagnosed. Anyway, so I went for a colposcopy which is basically a more in-depth look at your cervix, with another smear.

The doctor explained to me that to have an "abnormal" smear is actually quite common (one quarter of all smears) and not worth worrying about because it just means that the smear didn't give a satisfactory answer. Only 3% or less show obvious dysplasia—that is, development of abnormal cells. Some women who have had irregular smears and dysplasia diagnosed choose not to have any treatment like radiotherapy (lasers) or chemotherapy (drug treatment) and go for homeopathy instead, because this unnatural treatment can sometimes be seen as over the top, especially because irregular cells can go back to normal. It takes years to develop into definite cancer, if it does.

Cervical cancer is totally preventable, yet 2000 women die from it every year. Nine out of every ten have never had the smear which could have saved their lives.

**It's free and easy so go for it!**

Anyway the NHS wouldn't be able to afford it if every woman went for the regular smears that she is entitled to. So, actually they don't want women to go—that's why women aren't given enough information on it. So you should go and take advantage of your rights!

## FEMME. TRÈS FEMME



I've just found a bit about a wonderful American band called the Yeastie Girlz in an old issue of Maximum Rocknroll (an American punk / hardcore magazine) — they're all dykes and they describe their music as "vaginacore acapella rap". I don't know if they're still going or not but if they are maybe we'll be able to have an interview with them in the next issue.

The Yeastie Girlz were formed as a result of a conversation about yeast infections at a gig. They started writing songs like 'Yeast Power' and 'Get your hands off my body' with the intention of trying to break down the taboos that surround a lot of things that women are embarrassed about like periods and vaginas and stuff. So when they do gigs they're really into throwing wet tampons at the audience and talking about yeast infections, and at one of their gigs they had a massive fabric vagina as the door — great stuff!! We hope to be able to bring you more information on them next issue.

# ★ ARE YOU AN ALIEN FROM OUTER SPACE? ★

Do you ever feel a bit weird? Do you ever lie in bed at night wondering why you've never quite fitted in, and whether you in fact dropped from an asteroid with a secret mission to fulfill that you've somehow forgotten? Do you ever wish that deely-boppers hadn't gone out of fashion? Answer the following questions as honestly as you can, note down your answers and the truth will be revealed...



## 1. Do you feel you are different from other people?

- a. Yes, but I think it's just an adolescent phase.
- b. Yes, but the feeling passes.
- c. Yes, I think I might be an alien from Outer Space.
- d. Yes, but I'm a pop star so it's natural.



## 2. Do shop assistants...

- a. Stare
- b. Try to ignore you/look really pissed off
- c. Look insanely happy. Given the nature of the work you know Something's Going On.
- d. Stare 2 inches above your head as if at antennae?



## 3. When you step out in your latest outfit do:

- a. Small children follow you, throwing discarded objects from other people's garages, gardens & bins at you?
- b. Your friends ignore you if anyone is looking?
- c. People flock to ask you where you bought things from, strange men offer you flowers.
- d. Men shout at you and harass you.

**page six**

## 4. Do your family...

- a. Irritate you.
- b. Disown you & suddenly move away when you're at school one day leaving your possessions in a shoe box with the neighbours.
- c. Have many signed photos of you around the house, let you go out when you want, give you more pocket money than all your friends & appear pleased when you come out to them.
- d. Try to ingratiate themselves with your friends, tell crap jokes and generally behave so strangely that you secretly believe they're aliens?



## 5. Do dogs:

- a. Attack you.
- b. Ignore you.
- c. Shake and cower, putting their tails between their legs.
- d. Try to have it off with you when you're menstruating.



## 7. Do you find social interaction:

- a. Stimulating. You really enjoy meeting new people and encountering different situations.
- b. Bit difficult. No one ever laughs at your jokes. You feel as if you don't know anyone at parties. You're right—you don't.
- c. Traumatic. You've bought a home computer to avoid it.
- d. Don't know. Even your friends only talk to you when they want to buy drugs.



## 8. Do local govt officials:

- a. Persecute you.
- b. Recognise in full your rights as a human being and valid citizen.
- c. Sometimes send you giros you never applied for. You return them and are sent double the amount.
- d. Try to psychologically destroy you and eradicate all evidence that you ever existed.



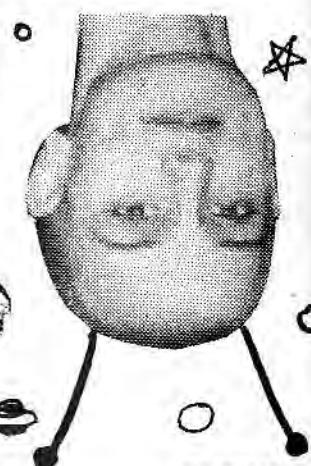
## SCORE (Don't cheat now!)

- 1. a1 b4 c3 d5
- 2. a0 b0 c3 d4
- 3. a2 b3 c5 d1
- 4. a1 b4 c5 d2
- 5. a2 b2 c5 d1
- 6. a1 b5 c2 d3
- 7. a4 b1 c3 d7
- 8. a0 b4 c6 d2
- 9. a3 b4 c0 d5
- 10. a0 b4 c3 d5

If you recently produced a song called "Itsy Bitsy Bleurb Bikini", host a children's TV show and your name is Timmy Malet, double your score.

## 9. When you walk down the street...

- a. Buildings sway around unnervingly.
- b. Your legs feel as if they're getting longer or shorter than before, so that you get scared you're going to forget how to walk.
- c. You get to the shops.
- d. You meet 3 or 4 people you know who invite you to parties.



## 10. Do men:

- a. Persecute you.
- b. Recognise in full your rights as a human being and valid citizen?
- c. Patronise you with flowers and French meals.
- d. Get to know you in pleasant low-key ways and form lasting friendships with no sexual pressure?

over 50 You're a drug dealer, but at least you're not Timmy Malet.  
48-52 You're a druggie to planet Cletch.  
33-47 You're an alien who's still got your member cast out. Are you a lesbian or something?  
26-32 You're a social outcast. Why don't you remember some things? Are you a lesbian or something?  
14-25 You're a bit paranoid, aren't you?  
0-13 Basically you're a normal, decent person.

**RESULT** \* \* \* \* \*



Well here I am pissed off from yet another anti-bisexual comment, this time about 'mixed-up bisexuals'. It was just the same as usual—I was in the middle of a pleasant chat, when before I knew it this woman (a dyke) had just neatly and thoughtlessly trashed my sexuality—simple for her, a total wind-up for me.

I've heard lots of different views on bisexuality from lesbians and gays. The majority are fine, but there's also the other ones. E.g. the idea that bisexuals are 'different from us' and shouldn't usurp the space lesbians and gays created for themselves. Or else there's the staggering intolerance where lesbians/gay men righteously declare that they 'don't understand' bisexuality, therefore there's something wrong with it—all the cliches and accusations of being mixed-up, or lacking commitment, or having the best of both worlds, etc. Even my lesbian & gay friends make jokes about the possibility of me fancying men—it's not at all nasty, but overall it is a bit weird, and has the effect of emphasising that I don't quite fit in.

On the other hand I've never come across anyone straight criticising bisexuals as such. But I am subject to homophobia just the same as any dyke.

In some ways I think being bi is pretty good (though even the word seems stupid), and is potentially quite radical. But sometimes I feel like I'm never going to fit in anywhere. At first it was just personally difficult not having a definite sexual identity—it's amazing how much you need one. But now I'm beginning to think it's worse than that, and that other people's prejudices will make the situation worse.

Homophobia is a nasty enough attack, but it's even more depressing to get cheap, cosy jibes from a supposedly radical community which should know better than to indulge in prejudice on grounds of sexuality. Lesbians/gay men who've been through the process of coming out may have an investment in the idea of a fixed sexual identity (in terms of sleeping with men/women), and obviously bisexuality threatens that. But with about 10 seconds thought people could do better.

I'm not saying everyone's bisexual—that's clearly bollocks, though I do think more lesbians/gays are bi than care to admit it, even to themselves—it's more convenient not to.

There are very important reasons for asserting lesbian identity. But that's not the end of the story: we should also be fighting for the freedom to sleep with men OR women.

So stop the prejudice and mindless bigotry. Just because you're lesbian/gay doesn't mean everyone should be. And bisexuals DO need space in the gay/dyke community: for a start, they helped build it. The straight world is NOT an OK alternative, and it should be obvious that we can't go away to some other "bisexual community", because with society divided up the way it is between straight & gay there's no way that can exist now.

**As a lesbian, I think we shouldn't oppress bisexuals because they're in the same position as not fitting exactly into society. They want to be accepted just as we do, so need support not another group oppressing them.**

**I feel the same way. Everyone should have the right (in a lovely egalitarian society) to determine their own sexuality. Oppression by certain members of the gay community is no different than oppression by certain members of the straight community.**

Yeah, I agree. Blah blah I'm bisexual too & get pissed off with the sort of people who take "bisexual" to mean "gay-really-but-just-afraid-of-committing-yourself". What infuriates me most is comments along the lines of "She's bisexual even though she's got a boyfriend". Why the fuck can't everybody just leave each other alone?

## Women attack man near nightclub

THREE women left a man with a suspected fractured skull after they beat him up in the street.

The 19-year-old victim had been drinking at the Catacombs Club in Manor House on Saturday and was walking along Green Lanes with his pals when they spotted a group of mini-skirted girls on the other side of the road.

According to police the women took exception to remarks made by the victim and savagely set about him, punching him in the eye and then kicking him.

During the scuffle he fell over and cracked his head against a wall. His mates chased the

first was 5ft 7ins tall, well-built, with shoulder-length blonde hair in dreadlocks. She was wearing a blue T-shirt and Dr Marten boots.

The second was 5ft 6ins tall, with blonde shoulder-length dreadlocks and the third had brown hair, a mini-skirt and an alsatian dog.

**CUTTING**

**SOLES**  
**BOUNCING**

**★ STAR  
INTERVIEW ★**

JUST 'CAZ THERE'S LOTS OF WORDS ON THESE PAGES, IT DON'T MEAN THAT IT'S BORING

# Storme!!



It was four o'clock on a Friday and we were late for an interview with Storme Webber! A black American lesbian poet, singer and visual artist (but you knew that of course!)

**SP:** So when did you start writing poetry?

**S:** (in a deep, husky voice!) Well I think I started writing poetry and stories as soon as I could write, so from a long time ago. And my first sort of serious poem was sort of a feminist poem, that I wrote when I was eleven. You know—the simile was the dishes in the draining board and the woman's soul—it was quite horrible and glorified!!! It was a start. Yeah, and when I was I guess about 17 or 18 I wrote something that I really liked, which is a piece that I perform now and I sort of felt like "yeah!"—so I guess since that time I've taken it really seriously.

**SP:** Did you always kind of know that you were a lesbian then? Did that come through the same...

**S:** Well it's interesting because my mother's a lesbian and so I was fortunate in that I grew up in a lesbian and gay environment and I accepted that as the norm, but at a certain point when I was approaching puberty, when you become aware how other people feel, and your peers, I realised that it wasn't accepted as the norm—in fact it was quite the reverse. And so I had troubles living with my mother, because of her personal problems and I left my mother when I was 11 years old—I went into foster care. And at that time I really had a rebellious feeling, about her and a determination that I would not be like her, so I got kind of reactionary, in the sense that "I'll never be a lesbian," but even still I have to confess that I had lesbian feelings at that time. I was just denying that, but then when I was 16 I came out.

**SP:** And was that quite difficult?

**S:** No, not really. umm...

**SP:** - You were still in the foster home then?

**S:** Yeah, but my foster mother was a lesbian. (laughs!) It was an alternative sort of social services agency, and so my foster sisters were coming out at the same time and so there was a lot of support in that sense. But I still didn't want to be the same sort of lesbian that I saw my mother as, just because there was a lot of oppression, there was not really the feminist connection with lesbianism. It was really based in the bars and based in, you know, people really having to struggle through a lot of things, having to survive. And it was to do with physical violence a lot—and so I didn't want to have that sort of a life, and so I read a lot— theoretical statements about lesbianism and so created that sort of framework for myself—you know, I then came out.

**SP:** Was it your decision to leave your mum?

**S:** Yes.

**SP:** So she didn't force you out or anything?

**S:** No—not consciously!! (laughs) She didn't mean to.

**SP:** Do you get on with her now?

**S:** Yeah we do—we still have our struggles, but there's been a lot of progress. And my first publication was last year, was in *Serious Pleasure* (Sheba Press) and I sent her a copy when I'd first gotten it and she's very shy about telling me her real feelings—but I met a lesbian friend of hers, and she said, "well your mother came out to me by showing me this book!" (more laughs) And she said, "Storme got this for me!" You know ...!!

**SP:** That's really nice!

**S:** So she never said that to me, but I was really tickled by that! (pink?!)

**SP:** Yeah!

**S:** Cos she was a little bit scandalised, you know—by 'the train' (see *Serious Pleasure*) but still in the end she had to say that she got this from me. So I don't think in her heart that she was that scandalised. (big smile on Storme's face!)

**SP:** All the poetry of yours that I know, is in *Serious Pleasure* and from your show the other day—*Desire's Night Out*, so is most of your poetry then about lesbian sexuality and sex?

**S:** No I wouldn't say so. I would say that I have a large body of work—no pun intended!! In that, in that—um, (she breaks out into laughter!) and I can't remember!!! (more laughs—she says that she's being silly because a friend of hers is sitting with us—hmm!)

**S:** (calming down) No, I've worked a lot in other areas, like I've done another area of writing that has to do with my family and growing up in a lesbian, working class environment in the sixties, and a lot of political stuff dealing with living in New York and the racism in the states, and writings to do with spirituality. So it's just an area which I find the most accessible. So I began with that and right now presenting it and also sequences develop, you know like in other areas of writing.

**SP:** Do you think there's much difference between being a lesbian in America and being a lesbian here?

**S:** I'm sure there are differences... I guess in a sense people over here think that—it's kind of interesting, because over here people tend to think that there are more developed groups there and the movement's been going on longer there. Which in one sense may be true, but I myself have been quite impressed by the organisations and the groups that are here. Like there's nothing equivalent to *Shocking Pink* in the states. You know, even in terms of resources for young girls. I did a reading at the Lewisham Young Women's Centre and I was so impressed and it really made me feel for those of us who grew up in the states, because young girls are basically thrown to the wolves!! You know there is no sort of support system whatsoever for young girls, and ever so much more for young boys. And so I think if there's a little bit more of something over there, then there's also a little bit more resources and development over here too.

**SP:** I know a woman who got put into a mental hospital because she was a lesbian...

**S:** Yeah, I've heard those stories, and I'm sure they still go on because there's always a great big difference between being in a city, for instance, and being somewhere in a back-water town, where you have to be more hidden and if your parents have complete control over you and you really have nowhere else to go, they can have you committed, whichever they like.

**SP:** So, is your poetry just what you want to express and it comes out that way, or do you think that there is a definite need for lesbians to be more open about sex?

**S:** Well, I just think that in general there is a need in the way that this world has been built up for everyone to try to be more in contact with the real parts of themselves, and erotica—well it's just like the show the other night. There was nothing in that show that I feel could make anyone feel any sort of disgust.

**SP:** I know—it was brilliant! And there was a really warm feeling in the room. Everyone was just laughing at the funny bits and just being really friendly. It was nice.

**S:** So in general I guess that that's what I hope for, with my work in that field. And also it's just that there's been a lot of furor over S/M and me personally, I'm not into S/M—there's been a lot of extremism on both sides, and so when something is presented as lesbian sexuality, at certain times it gets taken over by the S/M viewpoint. I mean Quim is a great example, because if you just looked at Quim as an explanation of lesbian sexuality you would feel that it is definitely very S/M. And I don't think that that is necessarily a real reflection. So by doing this work which does not separate sensation from emotion, basically, it's a statement, to attempt to express more of a fullness of our sexuality.

**SP:** It really annoys me when people talk about lesbian erotica as just being pornography, so how do you separate it yourself?

**S:** Well to me the separation comes down to the feeling when you experience it, just like you were saying the feeling in that room from the women—it was not any sort of disgusting feeling from anything we were presenting, I mean, well I guess watching at any point I suppose you could say that there was a voyeuristic element, but there was not any dirty feeling to it, it was really a joyful feeling, and a feeling of celebration—and not a feeling of exploitation. All the women on the stage were presenting their own visions of sexuality, defined and controlled by themselves.

**SP:** And it was organised by women.

**S:** Exactly, specifically black women. So I see no connection whatsoever with pornography with what I'm doing. Also the fact that it's a women only audience.

**SP:** Yeah, I saw a little thing in the **Guardian** about how lesbian erotica is pornography and my dad was going on about it—saying “this is terrible, this lesbian pornography.” You know, “women can be violent to other women as well...”

**S:** Unfortunately that is true though.

**SP:** What did it say though?

**SP:** It was just basically saying that erotica is pornography and you can't separate the two.

**SP:** So how would you describe pornography then?

I think I would see it as—I get really annoyed, well, just page 3—soft porn, maybe not even that, but because it's men controlling the women and women in society thinking that it's a quick easy way to get lots of money—then that really disgusts me. But if lesbian erotica was to come out onto the shelves, easily available, there would probably be lots of men who would buy it for a nasty voyeuristic look at how lesbians are. And I wouldn't like that.

**S:** Well, I suppose it's already happened, you know. I'm sure there are some men who got **Serious Pleasure** who read my poetry, and it was definitely not written for them. But then you have the question of but are we going to hide ourselves? Are we not going to express ourselves for fear of this, or is it more important that we are able to share amongst each other? And to feel stronger in our feelings and to see the beauty of our feelings, because that's basically what artists are trying to do. It's nothing separate from everybody—it's just translating a common feeling, when it works, people say “yeah that's how I feel”. And I guess pornography, to me, would be something that has elements of exploitation, domination, of the woman not being in control, like the story in Quim, the Nun—where a woman is raped, tied onto a table, by other women and then violated, and the child, there is sexual child abuse in that story, and to me that would be pornography and I guess I would say this is because I found it disgusting. I don't know if that is a definition of pornography, I'm not interested in re-enacting the same power relations that this white, male, patriarchal society has constructed as the ways we must obey. I don't think that we as human beings are so developed that we can re-enact things like that in private and then come out into the world and seriously work for change, and seriously not keep continuing to behave in that manner towards other people. And I have heard of women raping other women, in SIM clubs, a woman with a knife to someone's throat raping her, and I don't see that as any part of my liberation, or anything that I wish to struggle for...



**SP:** How long have you been performing—doing stuff like “Desire’s Night Out” then?

**S:** Well, I've been reading poetry, and I also work as a visual artist—you know, so I've done quite a lot of things like that. Since '79 I've been reading poetry in that way, but getting into actual performance—I collaborated with a choreographer by the name of **Hassan Al-Fakak** in San Francisco in February of '87. And he developed choreography for a piece I do entitled '**We Gets Goetz**' which is springing out of the the Bernard **Goetz** subway shooting in New York and murder of Michael Stewart by the transit police, the murder of a 67 year old black woman by the housing police when they were evicting her, they killed her with a shot gun. And so he did the choreography for that, and I was in a show and I performed it and just from that feeling, it really showed me the possibilities of explaining a poem not only with words, because a poem is just like anything else—

**SP:** It comes alive more...

**S:** —Yes, with the movement that people can feel, because everyone moves you know—I'm very shy about movement but I have to just admit that I can move too!!! And song and everything, so all of that—it just became really exciting to me, because I saw a lot more potential. So quite seriously, I'd say for the last 3 years. I worked with a black women's theatre ensemble in New York called “**The Station's Collective**” for 2 years, before I came here.

**SP:** So when you were at school did you know that you were going to go into something like that?

**S:** No, I really didn't. I went to college for 3 years, but basically I was studying black history, some women's studies—I was fortunate to study with Angela Davis in San Francisco city, and work with her a bit. But no, I've never studied writing, I've taken some courses in performance and drama, but never studied voice—I just found my way around.

*Then the interview disintegrates into a rowdy loud chat. Storme and her friend find out how young we are and have a good laugh, and Storme tells us how she used to get called “baby dyke” as well! When Storme hears that the oldest SP member is 24 she exclaims “grandma”! Then, we get talking about the problems of being a young lesbian and not being believed. Storme says that even her mum, a lesbian, thought it was a phase!*

**S:** Because she was really nervous and upset when I told her, because her experiences of lesbianism—she came out in 1957, so can you imagine how horrible it was, and so she just has been to hell and back. And she said, “well I just didn't want you to have such a horrible life.” Well, as it's turned out my life has been for all my sisters—I've travelled, I've gone to school, I've published work, I've performed some, so I think she's alright with it now. She just wants me to come back and visit her sometime!

**SP:** Do you think it was easier then for you, did it make a difference for you, because she was a lesbian?

**S:** Yeah—I'm sure it did, you know, because as a came up the images that were around me were lesbian and gay images, the people that I saw kissing, and I remember as a child when I'd see the movies on the t.v. and I saw the men and women kiss, I'd go eurggh!! I thought it was really disgusting! I was socialised the other way. So I was really lucky in that regard in that I was socialised correctly.

**SP:** “correctly”—that's so weird! (we're all in hysterics now).

**S:** Yeah, yeah, it was definitely easier, because even though she was upset, she sorta wanted something else, it wasn't such a foreign, weird thing to her. And she can always meet my girlfriends, you know, there's just a sort of understanding—a lot of it is unspoken.

**SP:** When I told my mum, like I thought I was a lesbian she actually admitted that she had a crush on, like she really fancied my history teacher!

**All of us:** Loud squeal of delight! Really?

**SP:** She said that she was too old now, but maybe, if she had been my age now...! (We start going on about how brilliant her show was...)

**SP:** Previously, I've not had such a good time, but for days after I felt brilliant!

**SP:** Yeah, lots of women's things can be quite ‘cold’. Did you go to **Venus Rising** on Wednesday?

Coming next week:  
**Jordan, Jon and Danny**

P.S. We've been an inspiration to her and she said she'd write a poem for us! (Storme—you'd better, we've got you on tape!)

SP: Do you want to say anything?  
S: Send money. Ha ha ha! hee hee!!

like “we're lesbians, there's the lights—you know!” (She does a little boogie in her chair, initiating a deluded disco-dyke.) It's great—something's missing... That's definite-ly the impetus behind this type of work, especially from black lesbians—to express the warmth. (We go on charting...)

SP: Yes, speaking of “cold”! (Another shriek of laughter from all of us.) Quietly, Yes I did and yes it was.  
SP: It's really terrible!  
SP: That's another thing that Audrey Lourde points out in terms of pornography—it's the separation between your spirituality from whatever you're doing, you know. It's

When a woman thinks alone she thinks evil, for the woman was made from the crooked rib which is bent in the contrary direction from the man. Woman conspired constantly against spiritual good. Her very name, 'fe-mina' means 'absence of faith'. She is insatiable lust by nature. Because of this she consorts even with devils. It is for this reason that women are especially prone to the crime of witchcraft from which men have been preserved by the maleness of Christ.

From 'Malleus Maleficarum', a 15th C. Dominican Inquisitors Manual.

## BRIXTON CYCLES

433 COLDHABOUR LANE  
BRIXTON SW9  
Tel: (071) 733 6055  
SAME DAY REPAIRS  
NEW BIKES (We love dykes)

Queer Anarchist Network  
of Canada, P.O. Box 6705,  
Stn. A, Toronto, Ontario,  
MSW 1X5.

Obnoxious Wimmins  
Network, P.O. Box 69601,  
Stn. K, Vancouver, BC.  
V5K Canada.

Men Against Sexist Shit  
Box 25, 52 Call Lane,  
Leeds LS1 6QF.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE PRIDE 28

Pride 28 is a lesbian and gay housing project in Nottinghamshire. It aims to house lesbians and gays in need, including those on low incomes, those who are homeless and those who are in run down housing or living with racist, anti-gay or anti-lesbian landlords or tenants.

This month they're launching their Community Housing Fund, which they hope will come from a large number of people giving a small amount regularly, either through a standing order or at the Housing Fund monthly socials due to start in the autumn. The Housing Fund will be used to:

- ★ Pay for registration of housing co-operatives.
- ★ Pay the legal costs involved in obtaining mortgages on buildings.
- ★ Pay the deposit required towards the cost of buying a building, when obtaining a mortgage.

People contributing towards the fund can receive the quarterly newsletter and are encouraged to take an active part in Pride 28. They are committed to equality in all their actions, including who runs the group, who makes the decisions and who benefits.

**STANDING ORDERS ARE PAYABLE TO PRIDE 28 AT THE TSB, 96-100 RADFORD BOULEVARD, RADFORD, NOTTS., NG7 3BN. Sort code number: 772211. Account number: 905 540 68. Or you can go to the housing fund socials; write or phone for details to: PRIDE 28, C/O 56 RADFORD BOULEVARD, RADFORD, NOTTINGHAM, Tel: (0602) 423729.**

Insurance broker Bill Brown has returned to the top of Britain's biggest earners after giving himself a pay rise of nearly £4 million, taking his salary to £8,136,274.

A WOMAN who stabbed her husband 17 times after enduring years of drunken violence was put on probation for three years yesterday by an Old Bailey judge.

Colleen Simmonds, 36, who had been married for 17 years, admitted wounding with intent.

The court was told that she and her three children had suffered "appalling abuse". She finally cracked under the pressures last March and stabbed her husband with a kitchen knife after he threatened to stab her during a drunken row. Police found her dazed and standing over him in the kitchen.

Mrs Simmonds later discovered she had had her first period for seven months, and doctors said that she was in urgent need of hormone treatment.

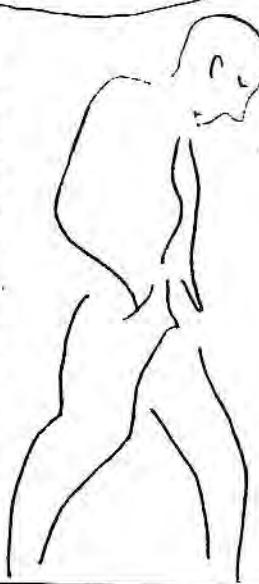
Heather Hallett QC, for the defence, said: "She had been provoked beyond endurance. Her physical condition affected her mentally to make her become aggressive, which was totally out of character."

Doctors were unable to operate on her husband John, 39, a parks gardener, until the next day because he was so drunk. They removed his spleen, and he has since made a full recovery.

So maybe there is some good in PMT.



O God, I'm  
Such a dyke



## WOMEN'S MOTOR MECHANICS WORKSHOP LTD

WMMW Ltd is a women only training centre which provides training in motor mechanics to City & Guilds. We have the following vacancy:

### EMPLOYMENT & FURTHER TRAINING WORKER

to be responsible for the securing of work placements and/or further training for trainees who complete the course. The successful candidate will:

- have a knowledge of the motor trade or non-traditional areas of work for women
- have administrative and organisational skills
- have the ability to teach literacy and numeracy
- have communication skills to carry out wide liaison at all levels
- have the ability to monitor and identify the employment needs of women. Salary Sc6 £14,469 p.a.

Application forms and job descriptions from: WMMW Ltd, Bay 4R, 1-3 Brixton Road, London SW9 6DE, 071 582 2574. Closing date for applications: Mon 22 October. Women's Motor Mechanics Workshop Ltd is an Equal Opportunities employer and we encourage applications from all sections of the community.



## ASHA

Advice, support and temporary accommodation for Asian women with children and Young Women suffering from violence or threat of violence.

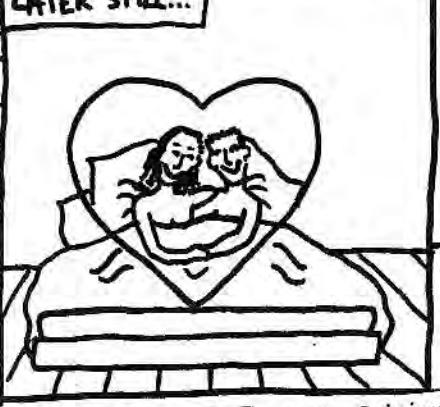
27 Santley St, London SW4 7QF.

071 737 5901 or 274 8854 (ansaphone).

JCPB  
SP would like to take out a contract. We have a can of draught Guinness going for whoever wins out Timmy 'sickbag' Waller.

# HERE'S ONE FOR ALL THOSE SOPPY LESBIANS OUT THERE...

IT WAS A WARM SUNDAY EVENING...



We think most girls have a natural interest in birds. It is important that this instinct should be encouraged and developed.

Females (in particular) may experience conflicts between the need to be liked and the need to succeed. A girl who hopes to marry her husband if she does not take into account his male ego needs,



**McDonald's fined**  
McDonald's, the hamburger chain, was fined £300 yesterday after a used sticking plaster was found under a pickle in a Big Mac triple decker burger bought in Leeds. The company, which denied selling unfit food, was ordered to pay £640 costs.

**ASSAULTING A POLICEMAN  
IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE.  
POISONING ONE ISN'T.**

GEMMA Disabled & Able-bodied Lesbians - Contact: BN Box 5700, WC1V 6XX.

NEXT ISSUE:  
PRISONER  
LETTER  
CAMPAIGN.



# ROMANIA

a shocking pinker went to Romania - this is her account, including a genuine amazing SP EXCLUSIVE on what the drug co. Wellcome is doing there (the story Duncan Campbell refused to touch!).

Coming to terms with London, again is much harder than I ever thought possible, although I only spent two months there I found myself becoming envolved with the country in a heavenly spiritually way.

I knew that there was nothing in terms of stuff for women, organisations, books, support, that there is in this country, but I wasn't prepared for the situation that I found. Under CEACESCU women were part of a baby producing machine plan to increase the population x amount of millions. Womens menstrual cycles were monitored by the state, from their work places making sure that they never missed having children. Abortion of course was illegal. Romainiana has a high population of orphans, a result of imposed baby drive on poverty stricken women already crippled, not just by the basic inequalities women experience but by the ruling of a maniac dictator bent on stamping out all freedom life and hope.

Carrying on the vicious chain ,the large amount of ophaned babies and children have the AIDS virus, from unsterilised needles and infected blood products. The state didn't care, they still don't. At one ophanage I visited in Moldavia,where the children were all mentally and physically handicapped—the director showed us a cardboard box filled with Communist papers. This she said was the only thing that Ceacescu had sent them in terms of aid, I didn't know how to feel, it was more than numb.

There is a little hope,from two Bucurest doctors who are in the late stages of developing a drug for AIDS, called Rodilemid with an improvement rate of 400 points better than existing drugs, It's all, very exiting .By xmas the results of a set of trials with the drug should be out.

What WELCOME the drug company manufacturing AZT, are doing in third world countries, and other poor countries is disgusting. They are using children as guinea pigs for trials of their drugs that are still in the early stages of development, and are highly toxic, with many side effects. Western standards won't allow such a drug in it's infancy to be tested on children, ophan babies and children from poor countries though are easy prey from corupt governments and drug companies.

Well,while i was there I met a wonderful women ,Monica Mirescu a civil engineer who lives in Oradea, spoke to me of the oppressive regime women have had to live under, making time to think and analysize their situation a priviledge ,in a world where the finding of basic foods and goods is a daily struggle.

If you would like to donate womens books, money, or have any interest in the situation for women in Eastern Europe atall, please write to Shocking Pink C.O,Berenice.

54% of Sun readers intend to vote Labour in the next election

Here's advice for the reader (May FC) whose denim hem continued to 'roll up' in spite of ironing: when you wash your denim skirt, hang it out to dry with the back hem pegged to the front, using five or six pegs at regular intervals. It works for me every time.

Mrs H. Fareham

Why not get down to the ...

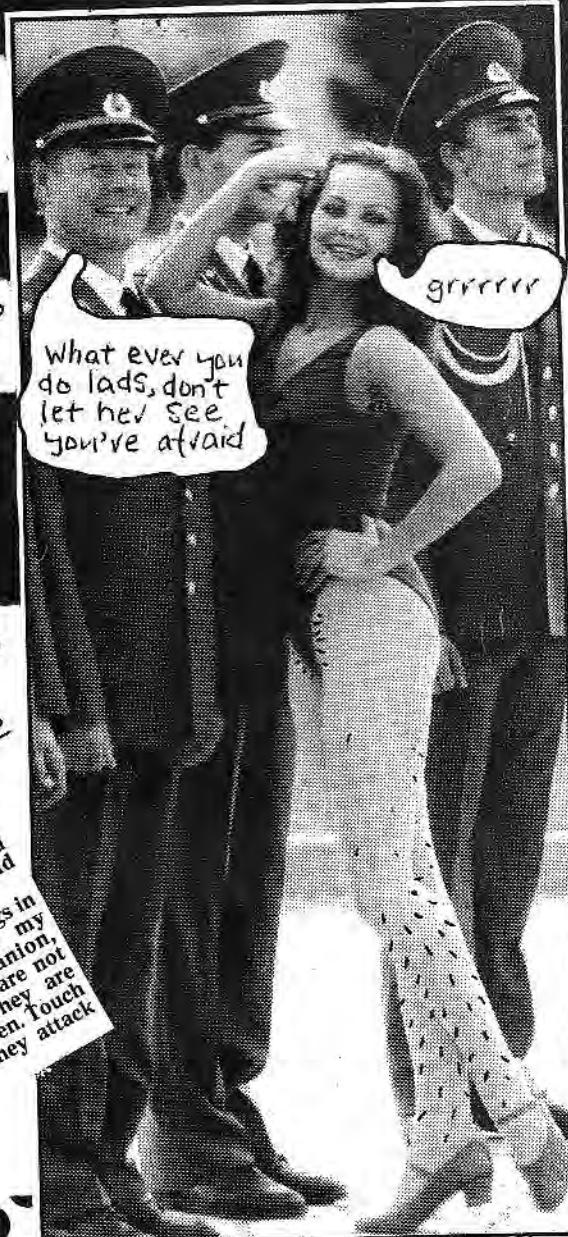
Wild Women's Cafè?  
It's every Sunday

afternoon from 3 →  
9pm - cheap vegan  
food - kids welcome  
44 Vauxhall

Grover  
Vauxhall tube.  
It's really good - I've been there.

MY first moment of real danger here came without warning one evening. I stopped to pat a giant St Bernard dog. It snarled and tried to bite me. "You can pat dogs in England," said my Russian companion, "but our dogs are not like yours. They are like our women. They attack them and they attack you."

SPOTTY THEME ON THIS PAGE



FEMININE TOUCH... a leggy young Russian

# What gave her

## ABORTION IN THE NEW GERMANY

Almost the last issue surrounding unification (NOT RE-unification) was about abortion and threatened to split the government. East German abortion laws are more liberal, in West Germany abortion is legal only if a panel of "medical experts" decide there are medical or pathological "indications" in favour of it. The Social Democrats are in favour of West German women taking advantage of East German abortion on demand, but the conservative FDP (Chancellor Kohl's party) were in favour of "punishing" such women. In the end the FDP gave in and will accept a compromise where the 5 East German states are allowed to retain their laws for a transitional period of one year. **NEWS FLASH** apparently it hasn't been decided yet & E. German women are protesting in the streets against being subjected to repressive W. German abortion laws. Up to now E. German law has allowed abortion on demand up to 12 weeks.

Now to poise. Your first aim is self-confidence. Confidence in your looks, in your mind, in your ability to deal with things as they come along. And the secret of self-confidence is poise—moral and physical. And the two are closely associated.

the nerve  
to ditch him  
at the  
gas station?

Was it

her

underwear?

No ↗

I got the idea while I was on  
the Europrise Allowance  
scheme, says Melaine, now a  
millionaire at 22.

## INCREDIBLE DISCOVERY LIE

Women scientists working in Geneva have recently isolated a gland at the base of the brain which is responsible for the widely noted tendency to fall asleep in the middle of books without pictures.

The women claim that the gland dates back to our earliest evolutionary stages. They believe that it was formed as a necessary part of our strategy for cognitive reasoning. Its continuation into the present day is a bit of a mystery but one working theory is that it works as a primitive survival mechanism, preventing the vulnerable from being bored to death at an early stage of development.

Our reporter adds; In a quick office survey, conducted in response to this article, it was discovered that 8/10 staff found Marx better than Ovaltine, Valerian and even getting very pissed.

It was also discovered that 9/10 staff members found sleeping more fun than working, drinking, eating and even cycling. Fancy!



## MAD MAXINE IN TESTICOS

I was feeling itchy.

Then Maxine came up.



feminine problems?  
I've got just  
what you want.

CHECK OUT

I think I'll be  
taking this lot for free



Not a  
bargain



You've gotta have a dream.

## WORLD TRADE

**B**RASILIAN federal police have been ordered by the Justice Minister to investigate allegations that children ostensibly adopted by Italian couples are being used for illicit organ transplants in Europe.

Italian authorities have been asked by Interpol to look into the allegations, which include claims that Brazilian children are being killed in Europe and their kidneys, testicles, livers, and hearts sold for between £20,000 and £50,000.

Such a trade is known to exist in Mexico and Thailand. Inquiries by the Brazilian authorities and the newspaper O Globo suggest that Italy may also be involved.

Up to 4,000 Brazilian children are said to have been sent to Italy in the last six years for adoption. Many of the "adoptions" are organised by networks of lawyers, juvenile court employees, judges, social workers, and priests who have discovered that linking Brazilian poverty with Italian infirmity can provide a lucrative income. Children are said to fetch £6,000-12,000 depending on colour and state of health.

Handicapped children are said to be preferred for transplant operations.

**More high-pressure sales techniques being practised in the developing world:** The deaths in Nigeria of 109 children from a paracetamol syrup mixed with a poisonous base have been blamed on pharmaceutical manufacturers dumping inferior products Third World markets.

OutRage! Lesbian/gay direct action group. Office at the London L/G centre, meets there Thursdays 7.30pm, 69, Cowcross St., London EC1 071, 071 490 7153

enhance your life with  
Shoplifting  
page 14.

## McMurder

McMurder

### McYuk : Evil world

Criminals McDonalds are in the process of suing 5 members of London Greenpeace (not the other one).

They're claiming criminal damage for libel for the leaflet: "What's wrong with McDonalds?" & suing have to back down through lack of money.

For information (including events coming up eg world day of action against McDonalds) contact...

McLibel Support Campaign  
c/o London Greenpeace  
5 Caledonian Road  
London N1  
071 834 7557

29-30 alliance has worked  
eg. in Britain  
area action against section  
27 who have iso invent  
ed initial  
to know you put someone  
in the cage  
£3 billion  
desire Everett

why not  
boycott  
everyone  
alive & living  
in The Sun  
(or one at a  
time) - until  
the Sun stop  
being shitty  
bastards +/  
or the money  
runs out & they  
close down?

Answers on a postcard.  
which will come first?  
COMPETITION

they want ££ (£) & are  
boycotting Texaco. Lots  
of outrage were at the Poll  
Tax demo on Sat 20 - but no  
banner - Shame! v.a.g.v.a.v

OutRage in  
Manchester -  
phone Bob  
on 061 2743814

OutRage!  
you couldn't care  
less on criminology  
so you can't  
care about us

# CUT OUT NESCAFÉ AND JOIN THE BOYCOTT



Every three minutes a Third World child dies from unsafe bottle feeding. Breast milk is free and safe.

But unless companies like Nestle get babies hooked on the bottle, they don't do business.

Don't let them get away with it.

WAKE UP TO THE FACTS. NOT NESCAFÉ.

## don't buy Marlboro or Nescafé!

Philip Morris, the American company which produces Marlboro, sponsors Senator Jesse Helms, the raving homophobe who amongst other things has proposed quarantine camps for people with AIDS. Yuck!

And Nestle (makers of Nescafé & many other products) are still using their evil techniques to sell powdered milk in "Third World" countries. They flood maternity wards with free supplies of powdered milk. This means that women's milk dries up and they can't breastfeed—and a bottle-fed baby is 28 times more likely to die than a breast-fed one. So now there's an international boycott of Nestle products, which is going very well.

And DID YOU KNOW... that Nestle's sales techniques were invented by Ernest Saunders, who went on to become the high profile scapegoat in the Guinness "scandal" (were YOU surprised??).

So now you can send all that money you'll be saving by boycotting things to Shocking Pink!

How's about this for a way of getting the VAT taken off tampons and sanitary towels... send all your used tampons/towels to your MP.



24 Oct - Kings X Centre for more details  
House of Commons Grand Committee Rm. 630-7-00  
T.O.F.G.O are organising a G's speakout:  
(as recommended by the UN in 1985),  
to have G's work counted in the GNP



Nestlé spends £30 per minute advertising Nescafé. Nestlé is the largest food company in the world. Other UK Nestlé products that you may want to boycott are:

NESTCAFE  
Blend 37  
Gold Blend  
Fine Blend  
Alta Rica  
Cap Colombie

NESTLE PRODUCTS  
Milky Bar  
Dairy Crunch  
Tip Top  
Caro Coffee Substitute  
Nesquik  
Ideal  
Milkmaid  
Condensed Milk  
Milo

Mix-O-Choc  
Superquik  
Nesconé  
Decaff  
Flo-Mix  
Flo-Lite  
Maggi  
Animal Bar  
Ashbourne Water  
Eleveners  
Fulcream Custard  
Karisma  
Cello  
Henri Nestlé Collection

CHAMBOURCY  
Nouvelle

Flanby  
Creme Vienna

Robot  
Bonjour

Krémny  
Fromage Frais

Jacky  
Chamby

Hippopot.

Darlig

Le Grande

GRAY DUNN & CO

Biscuits

FINDUS

Findus

Eskimo

Lean Cuisine

LISBY

Libby's C. Drinks

Um Bongo

Moonshine

CROSSE & BLACK-

WELL

Branston Pickle

Bonne Cuisine

Cook-in-the-Pot

Rice & Things

Four Seasons

Healthy Balance

Walatina

Alphabetti

Pasta Choice

Dish of the Day

Sarsons

Dutrah

CARNATION

Coffee-Mate

Slender

Build-up

Fritoles

Go-Cat

Go-Dog

BRITISH VINEGARS

Matchmakers

Black Magic

Good News

Dairy Box

Weekend

Quality Street

Festival

Smarties

Monstego

Caramel Water

Drifter

Pan Yan

ROWNTREE

Ki-Kat

Aero

Yorkie

Polo

Fruit Pastilles

Lion

Toffie Crisp

Cabena

Walnut Whip

Rojo

Breakaway

Blue Riband

Tootsie Frooties

Jellytots

Toffe

Fox's Glacier Mints

After Eight

Matchmakers

Black Magic

Good News

Dairy Box

Weekend

Quality Street

Festival

Smarties

Monstego

Caramel Water

Drifter

Pan Yan

## GAY SWEATSHOP

# KITCHEN MATTERS

an epic comedy by Bryony Lavery

- author of *Her Aching Heart* -

with music by Laka Daisical

## KITCHEN MATTERS

*possibly Gay Sweatshop's Last Supper*

- 15-20 Oct LEICESTER Haymarket Studio 0533 539797  
 26/27 Oct BRADFORD Theatre in the Mill 0274 733466 ext 8416  
 2/3 Nov OXFORD Pegasus 0865 722851  
 5-10 Nov LONDON Royal Court Upstairs 071 730 2554  
 12-17 Nov LONDON Cockpit 071 405 5081  
 20 Nov CAMBRIDGE Junction 0223 412600  
 23 Nov NORTHAMPTON Arts Centre 0804 407544  
 28 Nov-1 Dec LONDON Shaw 071 388 1394  
 3-5 Dec BIRMINGHAM Midlands Arts Centre 021 440 3838  
 6-8 Dec MANCHESTER Green Room 061 236 1676/7

"Right here in this kitchen heads is gonna roll!"

Interchange Studios, 15 Wilkin St, London NW5 071 485 5799

Time Off For Women 90 - On Oct 24 1975 the Q of Ireland went on strike for the day - drawing attention to the inequity between the necessity of G's work + how much it gets paid. - As part of the international movement (the Trash Can Sinatras), with attendant Boycott campaign - one band pulled out, (the Trash Can Sinatras), with attendant publicity - and Baby Milk Action handed out information in the audience.

At first, B.M.A. were stopped by the Marquee organisers. But they continued after the multinationalist's lackeys were cautioned.

Nestlé/Nescafé's latest marketing attempt - promotional sponsoring of pop-music (get 'em young), hasn't been going well. The "Band Explosion" event at the Marquee turned into a platform for the Nestlé's Boycott campaign - one band pulled out, (the Trash Can Sinatras), with attendant publicity - and Baby Milk Action handed out information in the audience.

At first, B.M.A. were stopped by the Marquee organisers. But they continued after the multinationalist's lackeys were cautioned.

# Keeping Secrets





Sexual abuse is any sort of sexual activity (incl. flashing, touching, penetration, masturbation, etc etc) by a member of your family or an adult/older person using their position of power to get away with it, ie. your young age, trust, fear, their lies or whatever. It's NEVER the fault of the child in any way—that's no exaggeration. It's incredibly common—it happens to 1 in 5 girls, maybe more, also to boys. It happens in all social classes, rich or poor.

If it has happened to you, you're not alone. There is help. Here are some numbers you could contact for advice/support or just to talk to someone. Sorry we could only cover London - there are lots of groups outside London: contact them through a rape crisis centre (these are usually in the phone book) or women's centre (try finding this through local town hall), or try asking some of the numbers below for a group near you.

**\*Adolescent Counselling Service, Hackney, 081 986 4016,** female & male survivors, may start women's self-help group, poss. of support groups for partners.

**\*The Albany, Deptford, 081 692 6268** ask for Helen.

**\*Asian Incest Survivors Self Help Group 071 263 6270/ 272 4231** survivors group Thurs 7-9pm, women aged 16-22 years, any woman welcome to ring for advice.

**\*Brixton Sexual Abuse Survivors Group 071 326 1363,** Tues 7.30-9.30pm, informal group.

**\*Camden Lesbian Incest Survivors Group,** Camden Lesbian Centre, 071 5405.

**\*Childline 0800 1111,** free phone advice & help for children & young people who are/have been experiencing any form of abuse.

**\*Information on Incest and Child Sexual Abuse 081 852 7432,** contact for local groups & other info.

**\*ISIS (Incest Survivors in Strength) 071 326 1363/ 071 326 0333/ 081 670 0938,** know about groups, counselling, etc.

**\*Kennington Sexual Abuse Survivors Group 071 326 1363,** Mon 7.30-9.30pm, 12 step programme.

**\*Lambeth Women & Children's Health Project 071 737 7151,** speak to Pat, support group for mothers of sexually abused children, can refer survivors to support groups etc, books to borrow.

**\*London Youth Advice Centre 071 267 4792,** counselling & therapy, 12-25 years old.

**\*Maya Project, London SW6, 071 731 4907, 13-17 year olds.**

**\*North London Line** lesbian & gay youth project 071 607 8346, 1-6pm weekdays, 1-1 counselling for young lesbians 16-25.

**\*Rape Crisis Centre 071 837 1600,** 24 hour phone line.



**NOT THE END**

**\*Southall Black Sisters 081 843 0578,** Black women's centre.

**\*Southwark Rape Crisis Group 071 639 1106,** Weds 7-10pm, planning survivors groups.

**\*Teenage Information Network 071 403 2444,** Women & Girls Network phoneline 071 978 8887

quite a bit, isn't there! & this ain't all!  
good luck!

**A STAGGERING 10,000** desperate youngsters ring Esther Rantzen's Childline charity **EVERY DAY**—but only 1,500 get through. It was revealed yesterday.

Executive director Valerie Howarth said the helpline had advised 91,000 children and 16,000 adults since it was launched by TV star Esther four years ago.

She told a London conference on incest that sex abuse was the biggest problem among youngsters who jam the switchboards.



## POCKET PIN-UP!!

A DEDICATED  
S.P. READER  
(SORRY, CAN'T  
REMEMBER YOUR  
NAME) ASKED  
FOR K.D. LANG  
WELL  
HERE  
SHE  
IS!



**make-up colours around  
and loads of ideas  
on how to use them**

→ with → good feminist + black-conscious lyrics.  
SO THERE!!

Alright - so Pauline hates all rap - but there are some amazing women rappers e.g. Monie Love and Salt-n-Pepa

The FBI have warned record companies and shops that they could be busted for producing and selling obscene lyrics - and all fingers point to the black rap market.

Subtlety is not the stuff of black rap. Song titles and lyrics from 2 Live Crew raps include: 'Dick Almighty' and 'I will f-k the bitches all shapes and sizes,' (I need not go on).

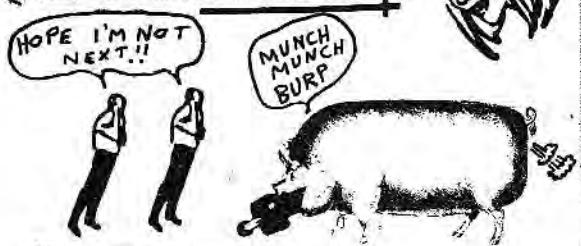
There remains a close relationship between exaggerated black sexuality and the desire to be 'conscious'.

Writer Henry Louis-Gallo argues: "In the face of racist stereotypes about black sexuality, you can do one of two things: You can disavow (deny) them or explode them with exaggeration."

As a rapper Ice T says: "The way to hold the attention of a bunch of guys is not to say rap is about politics but to talk about a girl with big titties."

Richard Pryor and Eddie Murphy always assert the black experience but a lot of their material is about exaggerated black sexuality. Yet only the prudes amongst us are offended.

Just as we can't afford to argue with a romantic view of Africa in the face of an unfair diet of African tragedy and failure, so it is with sex.



ALICE THE MAN-EATING PIG....



## PREGNANT WOMAN GETS 2 YEARS IN JAIL

Another example of fab British justice. A 16 year-old woman who was 7½ months pregnant at the time has been sentenced by Judge Hopkin to 2 years in Styal prison—a punishment out of all proportion to the crime.

The woman was convicted as an accomplice to a robbery in which 2 male friends asked her to proposition a man in a nightclub. The man went outside and her 2 friends attacked him and stole \$30, but there is no evidence to show that she knew they were going to do this. She initially told police that while this was going on she kicked him, but she later retracted this confession in court. Although she received none of the money, the court still found her guilty of robbery.

Styal prison has a mother & baby unit, but babies are not allowed to stay beyond 9 months, so this means that the young woman's baby will probably end up in care. It is totally disgusting that she should be given a sentence like this for a relatively minor crime which was a first offence. Now she will have to go through the birth away from friends and family and after all that will probably not be able to keep the baby. The judge obviously picked her out for especially harsh treatment because she was a woman supposedly associated with a violent crime. It's sick.



PAGE EIGHTEEN

**A**N ARSON attack on a Birmingham mosque named after Iraq's President Saddam Hussein caused damage estimated at £2,000, police said yesterday.

Four men were seen by police running from the building after its rear entrance was doused with petrol and set ablaze on Saturday night. One was described as a skinhead, wearing a "British Bulldog" T-shirt.

#### TREMENDOUS VALUE BBB ACCOMMODATION

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VEGETARIAN  

---

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#### The Only Alternative Left



#### • OIL WARS •

Well it is, isn't it? Imperialist nations like the US, Britain, the 'West' as they call it, have had a good thing going with world trade: they get whatever raw materials they like from "Third World" countries and pay roughly whatever they like for them. But it isn't quite the same with oil. Energy is so desperately needed that countries producing oil are in a much stronger position, so that imperialist countries can't call the tune as they'd like to, especially since in the 70s OPEC (organisation of oil producing countries) stopped oil producers competing against each other so much.

Upshot is that now the US & co are wading in there trying to control oil producing areas, and if possible they'll leave their troops behind as a future police force. It's also cue for a whole load of anti-arab racism in the media—"irrational", "barbaric", etc.

Of course the 'West' started it. They're the ones who tried to control the area with their divide and rule plans, creating countries and setting up regimes. What Thatcher, Bush & co are doing has got nothing to do with the rights and wrongs of invading countries—after all, they should know about that, and what about Israel's Occupied Territories? they weren't exactly up in arms about that. They should all get out now before they do something really silly.

Relax, Unwind, Be Yourself at

# RUBY'S

*The fun and friendly Lesbian & Gay Centre for Herts & Essex*

2 Wych Elm, Harlow, Essex. Tel: 0279 451677

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# Pleeeeeeze sayonair

## CONCLUSION:

Q: What is the worlds fastest cake called?

- 1) No Points: You are a crap drinker & no friend of mine!
- 2) Less than no points: Slightly better , at least you're consistently crap.
- 3) Absolutely no points within a 12 mile radius:  
Ah, a teetotaller, Nevermind, call me when you've graduated to smiling at yourself in the mirror each day.

Strongbow(easy)  
Old English  
Autumn Gold  
Copperhead (winocider)  
Me rryDow n (pissheadcider)  
1080 (one up from pissheadcider r)  
Diamond White (an almost cider but who knows the difference after 10 pints anyway)  
Thunderbird(not a cider at all but who knows the difference after 10 pints of Diamond White!?)

- SCORE: 1 point for each one recognised  
2) Which of these spirits are very enjoyable when consumed & can lead to a general feeling pleased with oneself ?

from Jessica  
fromaged

Vodka  
Vodka & Tia Maria  
Tia Maria & Coke  
Pernodddd  
Whiskey  
Gin & Tonic  
Shnapps  
Blueballs

Joke file Jokes  
4 Deunkens Times

We mak'na a quick  
exit with  
the Cider bottle 2

Q: What do u call A one-eyed dinosaur?  
A: JATHINKSAURUS

- SCORE: 300 points for Vodka, Vod ka & Tia Mari & Coke & Bluebols,  
Lose 200 points for any of the others ticked.

20

## Q: What is the worlds fastest cake called?

A: Scone

- SCORE: 300 points for c, Lose 400 points for Li3ane wrong answers.  
e) 9:00--evernning  
d) 7:00 evenning  
c) 2:00 in the morninge  
b) 12:00 in the morninge  
a) 9:00 in the best time to start drinking ?



- SCORE: 300 points for c, Lose 400 points for Li3ane wrong answers.  
e) 9:00--evernning  
d) 7:00 evenning  
c) 2:00 in the morninge  
b) 12:00 in the morninge  
a) 9:00 in the best time to start drinking ?



# "I'M SORRY SIR BUT I REALLY CAN'T ACCEPT YOU FOR THE JOB"



For too long a myth has been going round that wimmin as the bearers of children ie the givers of life are "naturally" more concerned about the protection of life. The harm of this myth is not obvious at first, but it has insidiously contributed to the oppressive treatment of wimmin:

1. Wimmin have been held responsible for the welfare of children and worse for the planet in general. Unfortunately this has been encouraged by some wimmin in the peace movement for whom the ideas of nature and nurture provided the only way to protest against the cruelty of patriarchy.

2. Wimmin who have been driven to violence by the system have been misunderstood and outcast; the way witches were treated in the middle ages. Instead of receiving sympathy, these wimmin have been given the cold shoulder by the society which oppressed them into violent reaction in the first place. Wimmin who have abused children are particularly ostracized just when they need most help.

3. Wimmin have been "encouraged", or rather pushed into the nurturing role by virtue of having wombs. This doesn't just mean being expected to stay at home with the kids etc, it has been extended to include the belief that possessing fallopian tubes makes over half the population mysteriously more capable of washing up, pushing a Hoover etc.

4. Anything traditionally considered to be wimmin's work or a woman's activity has been devalued in status, ie since nurses are usually wimmin, nursing is seen less important than doctoring as doctors are usually men (and all believe they're god). Also mending tap washers is somehow supposed to be more important than knitting nice warm blankets—because wimmin are supposed to do the knitting. Actually I had a friend at school who used to knit in social awareness class to stress the value and necessity of undervalued wimmin's activities.



5. This undervaluing of wimmin has given men power in most spheres eg politics, finance, medicine. When the control the men in these areas have is added up, it's potential and actual effect on women is quite **scary**. Wimmin have been pushed into a corner where our "natural" sense of nurture is the only thing about us valued by men. Accepting this state of affairs only oppresses us further as we are accepting that mothering and protection is only OUR role and our only role.

FOR THIS REASON WE HAVE TO BE PREPARED TO GIVE UP SOLE RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILDBEARING.

Technologically the human race has progressed far enough to research taking childbearing away from wimmin. **BUT:** a) with society as patriarchal as it is, this technology cannot be trusted in the hands of men; and b) at the moment the money spent on this research would be better spent on directly improving the lives of women.

We are in a catch 22 situation—we have to give up this responsibility because it oppresses us, but in doing so we will give up the one thing for which we are valued. THINK ABOUT IT.

-well I just don't trust the bastards with this reproductive technology bit—all that ultra-male-dominated high tech medical science has never cared about women before & I don't think it's going to now. More likely they'll just be using & abusing women to provide the eggs & embryos for their research while the research just brings prestige to the scientists & the results are quite likely used against us. (says another shocker)

We've been sent a very friendly letter from 9th Biennial Exhibition of 2 cartoonists (in Ferrara, Italy, autumn 1991) asking us to put them in touch with cartoonists who've been in SP. If you'd like to know more, write to: Luciana Tufani, Via Ticchioni 38/1, 44100 Ferrara, Italy. Deadline for contributions 31 Jan 1991. (Take note—Angie dear). There'll be a special competition for young women and girls. Sounds good!

## Why not be a tradeswoman?

There are interesting and well-paid jobs going in carpentry, electrics, painting & decorating and all the other manual trades. It isn't all easy, 'coz men want to hang on to these jobs, but there are Women's Training Centres to get you started, and technical colleges and training centres also offer training specially for women.

**SONIA'S STORY ---**  
WHEN I TOLD MY FRIENDS  
MY PLAN -- THEY JUST GIGGLED!



Write, call London Women and Manual Trades for more information; we can tell you where to get training, along with the inside story on Sonia, by Angie and Jo.  
**LONDON WAMT, 52/54 Featherstone St., London EC1Y 8RT**  
**(01) 251 9192**



# period

DISTINCTIVE  
WARNING  
COLOURS  
DISPLAYED  
BY THE  
FEMALE

(THE HANDY  
HOME-GUIDE)



A. Dull  
throbbing abdominal  
pain - Peppermint  
tea urgently  
required.

HANDS UP WHO HAS PERIODS, THEN!

Menstruation  
मासिक धन्ति

When I first started my periods I said to my mum, "Isn't it exciting?" She replied, in an aren't-you-incredibly-stupid sort of voice, "Well you won't think that after you've had a few of them." But I've never really hated it, and sometimes I still get excited when I know I'm about to start bleeding. The thing is, we're not really even given a chance to enjoy something which is such a big part of most women's lives. We're not allowed to talk about it- even adverts for tampons and towels don't usually mention periods, and just allude to it hoping we'll realise what they're talking about. "Carefree gives you freshness each and every day"- what the fuck is that supposed to mean? It's only because we recognise the brand name that we can make any sense of it at all. And above all we mustn't embarrass men by saying anything about our nasty messy bodily habits. My dad once asked my mum to ask me to take my tampons out of the bathroom cabinet, presumably because he didn't like looking at them. But I can just imagine the uproar there'd be if I asked him to take his razor out of the bathroom; he'd think I was be-

ing very unreasonable. I don't particularly like staring at cotton buds or earwax softener when I'm cleaning my teeth, but I don't complain. Given the indoctrination that women are subjected to as soon as they're born ("Don't put little Sophie in that blue cardigan, it's so man-nish"), I can't help thinking that we should re-examine this whole periods-are-a-curse thing. Imagine you're a man (YUK). You've got a load of women who are nothing but nuisances, wanting to do the same work as you and have the same rights as you. What's the best way of keeping them under your thumb so they stay quiet and produce a baby for you every year? Physical violence is okay, but it's not perfect; the women would resent it and always be on the lookout for an opportunity to get back at you. The ideal thing to do is to make them take part in their own oppression- take away their confidence and self respect and what have they got left? Fuck all. Okay, so far so good. But how do you take away a strong woman's self respect? Easy- make her so ashamed of something that's a beautiful part



of her life that she becomes too embarrassed to even talk about it. Make her feel it's something filthy and disgusting- you can even tell her it's a punishment that her sex must bear because of the sins of their mothers. If a woman hates this part of her life, how can she love herself? How can she respect a body that regularly does something she's been taught to believe is dirty and unclean? And- perhaps most importantly- men instantly become superior because they don't do this thing. They start off with an advantage, and once they've got their foot in the door they're going to make sure they use it.

We must reclaim our menstruation. Paint pictures with your blood, send used tampons to men you don't like, proudly advertise your periods. It's a pity Shocking Pink doesn't do its "Hi, I've got my period" Tshirts any more. Or what about "Hi, I'm expecting my period in a week", or "Hi, I finished my period eleven days ago"...

And I'd like to add that, although I tried not to, this article might have hurt or offended some people who don't have periods, because of amenorrhea or other problems. well, I didn't mean to and really apologise if I did.

# SPONGE

**Dear Shocking Pink Girls**

Here's a few details of that superb alternative to tampons — THE NATURAL SPONGE or CORAL REEF DWELLER to its friends.

It all began (my experience that is), with a rather personal operation. I was forbidden to use tampons immediately afterwards and was forced to resort to sanitary towels (and yes, "life stood still for me" one week out of four!). Also, I found s.t.'s were causing mega-irritation of my parts, even the enviro-friendly non-bleached ones (- towels, not parts!).

Then "Our Bodies - Ourselves", that mega-manual, came to my aid with the mention of sponges (a distant memory of the first ever edition of S.P. mentioning them too!), so I popped into the local chemist and purchased a nice little number for about £1 (tho' they're now £1.50!! inflation!).

The first time I used it I just shoved it in, then realised that getting it down again was a little tricky (somewhat like removing a cap which has got vacuum-packed up there!). So, I got wise, and wound some cotton sewing thread (any colour you fancy) around one end, very tightly and it acts like a conventional tampon.

A fan thinks the last issue of SP was great, and says:

I enjoyed your piece on Tampax. I've always hated the bastards for putting all those bleaches in them but when an "environmentally friendly" sign appeared on the packet it was the last straw. How can a product be environmentally friendly when it isn't even fanny-friendly!

I've stopped buying Tampax now in protest and thought you'd like to know about Natracare. They don't use bleaches or whiteners, the only thing that bothers me is that they're still bright white. I get them from Green Farm (tel. 0435 883457), who do a mail order service free. They cost £1.89 for 20.

**We'll try and find out more from them; if you've got any helpful experiences with or comments about periods, please tell us.**

Oh yeah. It is easier to insert when slightly dampened. To clean, during the period I rinse in boiling hot, (or as near as from the tap), water and then under cold before re-inserting (otherwise you'd burn your bits off!), and at the end of each period (or during if it's smelly!) I rinse in hot water cider vinegar or white wine vinegar. There's no need to sterilise, as tampons aren't sterilised. I find each sponge lasts 2½ periods, (a matter of personal preference but at £1.50 a time it's not financially crippling.) And sponges are cheap in Greece so get your pals to bring some back from their hols!

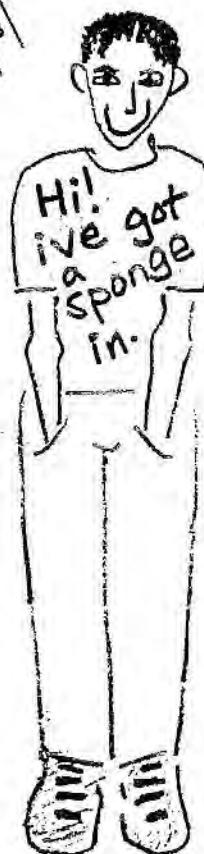
As for embarrassment in public loos: if there is paper available you can (and I have) just whip it out, squeeze out the blood between loo-roll and re-insert - a bit messy, but works if you're desperate! Hope this is helpful to you.

X

PS The sponges from a certain "Natural Beauty Shop" are hard, rough and overpriced. Local chemists are best.

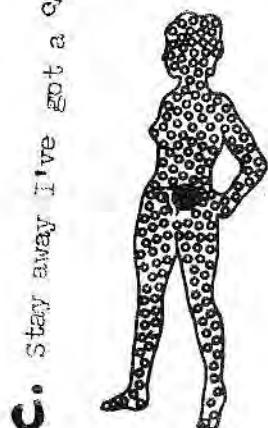
PPS I have really heavy periods and I've never flooded using a sponge. Also, smaller sponges are better for the lighter days, easier to insert/get out.

Thanks also to the secret sponge - using Mum!! - love, SP.



- is that like marmite?

behind my back.



Stay away i've got a sponge

## A LITTLE BIT MORE ON SPONGES

I began using them 2 periods ago when I realised that bits of Lil-let were being left behind when I extracted them — yuk, the last straw. My best friend told me to buy a small natural sponge from Boots' baby shelves (less than £2) & cut it up into 4 bits of various sizes for light/heavy days, which was good advice & cheaper than buying those tiny ones. I don't mind pulling them out by hand so I haven't bothered sewing in threads but it is a bit messier. (The smell of fresh blood is amazing! I'm discovering vampire tendencies...) Anyway, in public loos I just squeeze them out down the toilet & wipe my hands on the paper but it's best to carry Kleenex or even those 'Wet-ones' things because the supply of bogroll can never be relied on. When possible I rinse them under a cold tap (hot water 'fixes' blood stains so I think they just stay yellow with cold). I'm glad to know about the vinegar cos I was wondering about disinfecting & no one knew. Sponges soaked in vinegar used to be a method of birth-control...but I wouldn't recommend it, in case you were considering...



**Don't** let VPL (visible panty line!) ruin the line of stretch clothes.

- **Instead:**
- (a) wear a sponge,
- (b) g-string
- OR
- (c) chastity belt.

answers on a postcard please

Dosed up to the eyeballs  
With Marmite.



23

another TAMпон.

This was written by the mum of one of the collective members. She (the mum) is sixty-one now, so when she started her periods it was at the end of the second world war. Tampons were much less widely available than they are now, and there were no stick-on towels. So this is what it was like...

I never thought that I would EVER have a period; for such a long time I'd been eagerly looking forward to being a real woman. Was that a faint spot of blood on my knickers? Was there an ache in the bottom of my stomach? Was that backache I had the other day any sign? But I got to the age of sixteen with nothing at all, and my mother was about to see a specialist about it when IT happened! Oh, the elation and the agony, and I certainly suffered with it over the years; at times it was so bad that I had to take an occasional day off work. I never really suffered from PMT, except perhaps a touch of melancholy the night before; more often than not I'd feel energetic and wound up for a couple of days beforehand.

There were no tampons in my day. We made our own pads, held up by a piece of string or elastic. The pads were made from a firm cotton square with two opposite corners folded in and sewn down. Before it was folded the square was about the size of an LP record. Once you'd done all this folding and sewing, you had to measure a piece of elastic around your waist, pass it through loops on each end of the pad and then fasten at the side. This was the forerunner of the manufactured sanitary towels with belts, but the later models have little plastic clips to hold the loops of the towels. In my day, if you found you didn't have any elastic in the house, you had to use string; this was very uncomfortable because, not being stretchy, the string would tighten as you bent down and cut into you.

As the towels were used, the day's supply would be wrapped in newspaper then later rinsed through and boiled in a special old saucepan. You had to be careful about hygiene too, with bloodstained cloth hung around you; there were a lot of old wives' tales. You mustn't swim or take a bath. You mustn't get your hands and feet cold. You mustn't wash your hair, unless you can dry it straight away (no hairdryers around in those days!). You mustn't sit on anything cold, or even on a wooden chair without a cushion. You mustn't have any cold drinks or ice-cream. You mustn't make cakes or pastry until after the second day. You mustn't strain yourself by walking too far or by lifting heavy weights, but on the other hand you mustn't sit around too much either. You mustn't have any sex—absolutely none at all.

Well, I tried all the modern things as they came on the market, but could never get on with tampons; they caused a separate ache around my navel. After having my first baby I didn't have quite as much pain, and after the second there was hardly anything—just a bit of backache and a faint ache in my loins. I didn't stop my periods until I was about 56, although I missed a period here and there in my fifties. Hot flushes came much later, and I'm still getting the odd flush six years afterwards! Apart from that, the only other symptom of menopause that I had was high blood pressure, and I'm glad to say that I've recently been able to stop the tablets that I was taking for that. We've come a long way since my teenage days!

We zapped  
you  
Jase!!

HI!  
I'VE GOT  
MY  
PERIOD

Progesterone is released

एस्ट्रोजेन की गुरुता  
Oestrogen is released

24

D. Don't know where I am  
but I'm feeling O.K.—  
it's safe to approach me.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!  
- Get wicked!

## PERIOD SPELL

Everyone knows that when you've got a period it's the fault of the nearest bloke and they therefore deserve to suffer for it. But SP has discovered an ancient witches spell (of course suppressed by centuries of patriarchal wickedness) which will transfer your period onto a bloke of your choice (lots of blood and lots of pain). Here is the spell.

displayed  
by distinctive colouring  
to warn of their  
hugely  
bad mood.

Periods are nice,  
periods are fun,  
Periods should be  
shared by everyone.  
Being a boy is no  
excuse  
Coz periods are on the  
loose!

PMT in the kitchen,  
trying to cook your  
bloody chicken.  
Your moans and nagging  
make me MAD—  
OK boy, I feel BAD!

Drops of semen and a  
pint of green snot—  
Add the blood from  
your knifed cock.  
Boil it up, but it needs  
texture;  
Chopped-up bollocks  
complete the mixture.

A dose of this once a  
week  
and then you'll have  
your monthly leak!

**HM Government Health Warning:** To be taken  
with a **LARGE** pinch of  
salt.

## IRA continues British campaign

There have now been 21 incidents in the IRA's latest campaign in Britain (so the telly tells me), and it's going very well. They killed that Tory bastard whose name I've forgotten, oh Ian Gow, wasn't it? And the other week they shot the ex-governor of Gibraltar (where Mairead Farrell & her 2 comrades were shot), but unfortunately he survived. It's been quite good in propaganda terms, with a concentration on right-wing establishment figures and army targets, and how many people could restrain a smile at the Stock Exchange being blown up? Not a single person has been arrested or charged in relation to any of the incidents—pretty impressive.

Her Thatcherite Majesty has remarked that "the IRA is at war with Britain"—well I'm glad she's finally noticed. The tactic of going for high-profile attacks in Britain is an obvious response to censorship. The Broadcasting Ban means that Sinn Fein are almost never on TV anymore, and there seems to have been a policy for years now of reporting almost nothing of the war if it happens in Ireland. The bigoted media only bother mentioning things if they happen in Britain. Shock Horror! Well they shouldn't be so shocked, since Britain is waging war in Ireland. It'll only stop when Britain GETS OUT OF IRELAND!

And wasn't that smart when Mandela said the British govt should negotiate with the IRA—serious embarrassment for slimy politicians who tried to pretend he hadn't really said it...

### BOYS CORNER

*I've been poll tax nothing but I'm tired now, typesetting is a beauty*

**martin millar** well he seemed like a nice boy to us so we bumped into him. He agreed to be interviewed so here it is. (He writes very funny books, about Brixton—home of S.P., and loads of interesting people. They are: Milk, sulphur and Abby starvation, Lux the Poet, Ruby and the Stone Age Diet.) Yellow is his favourite colour and he showed us a yellow mug which he got from testicos—  
but alas, when he went back to get more they only had batman ones.  
He likes being scottish.  
He likes writing books but finds it "a bit of a pain" that he has to do it on his own. He thinks he wouldn't have come to anything otherwise.  
He spoke very quietly, which is nice in a boy (don't you think so, dear reader?) and seemed extremely non-violent—he once left a kung fu class because there was too much fighting & competition. He feels safer now he's got a bike anyway.  
He agreed with us that feminism hasn't won yet, and then got embarrassed that he might be trying to tell us about feminism. His parents don't like his feminism.  
in *Ruby & the Stone Age Diet*. He's written a comic novel and just needs someone to draw the pictures now. His next book is going to be about some fairies that everyone's really going to hate it but I like it He END

*oh I'm really tired now, typesetting is a beauty*

*oh I'm really tired now, typesetting is a beauty*

*oh I'm really tired now, typesetting is a beauty*



## Randy Rev's bride No 28

ROMEO Reverend Glynn "Scotty" Wolfe - listed in the Guinness Book of Records as the world's most married man - is planning to wed for the 28th time.

The scheming 81-year-old Californian minister wants to divorce his 27th wife, Daisy, 19, so that he can marry her 15-year-old Filipino sister.

But first he is using Daisy as a nice little earner to pay for his new bride's trip to the States. He says she will pose nude for Playboy magazine for £6,000 - which should cover the honeymoon too.

NEXT PLEASE: Rev Wolfe with Daisy. Now he wants to marry her sister.

tadpoles OK?

4000

4000

25.

25.

## Book Review Moll Cutpurse & The Fires of Bride both by Ellen Galford

Does reading lesbian fiction plunge you into deep depression, so that by the time you get to the end of the book you just want to hide in a corner and the idea of FANCYING anyone is completely out of the question... Well here are 2 books that actually make you feel like it's a good plan fancying women, in fact you could well think it's the cleverest thing you've done in ages. **Moll Cutpurse—her true history** is about a WICKED woman living in Shakespearean times who gets up to all sorts of dodgy exploits & adventures. And **The Fires of Bride** is about raunchy goings-on among women in the outer Scottish isles of somewhere, with a bit about medieval nuns thrown in. They've been out for a while now, but I loved them both and think they're guaranteed to cheer anyone up who wants a break from The Dead Serious Stuff. Apparently she's got another book out now & if I find out what it is I'll tell you. well how amazing—her new one just got sent into the SP office!!!

**Women's News** is an Irish Feminist Magazine. Price £1.00. Prized at 50p / bop outside N. Ireland. Women's News, 185 Donegall St, Belfast 1. We like it—enuff said!

## WILDCAT CARDS



Lesbian & Gay Switchboard  
031 837 7324 (will put you  
in touch with a local group)

**WHATEVER YOU DESIRE** £4.95  
Oscars Press, ed. Mary Jo Bang. This is a nice little anthology with poems by 2 ex-SP collective in it. There will be readings in London and around the country this autumn so see if you can get along. And buy one. (shameless plugging but nevertheless...)

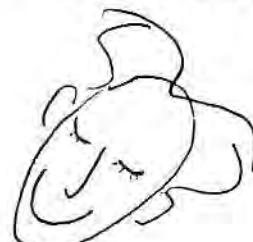
**SHEBA FEMINIST PUBLISHERS** are seeking short stories for their forthcoming anthology **EXCITEMENT**—stories about Sex in the 90s by Women. Send a s.a.e. for details to: 10a Bradbury Street, London, N16 8JN. The deadline for received manuscripts is 31 October 1990.

Black Lesbian & Gay Centre

081 885 3543

## Book review Queendom Come by Ellen Galford (virago £4.99)

**Queendom Come** is Ellen Galford's latest offering & it's a wonderfully exciting adventure story about dykes trying to survive in Thatcher's Britain (well, Scotland—this is set in Edinburgh) when Albanna, the Ancient Britain & virago returns to save the people of her queendom. It all starts when some businessman turns up in the local hospital after being mysteriously stabbed in the bum during a ritual on Arthur's Seat. It's a really interesting & funny book & it's quite satirical & political as well, which is nice.



1 Shocking pink!

My hedge hates me. It eats my food  
and then wears it...

## SISTERWRITE ★ WINTER READINGS ★

Friday 16th November 7pm  
**Caroline Natzler**

reading from her new collection of lesbian feminist stories *Waterwings* by Only Women Press

Monday 26th November 7pm  
**Marilyn Hacker**

reading from her new book *The Hang-glider's Daughter* by Only Women Press

Saturday 1st December 7pm  
-International AIDS Day

**readings to be held at Sisterwrite with special guest celebrities**

£1 waged, 50p unwaged  
refreshments available

tel: 071 226 9782, open Mon-Sat 10-7pm  
level wheelchair access tube: Highbury

**LIVEWIRE BOOKS** want stories for their forthcoming book *A Man in My Life* (?!). They want short stories about any kind of relationship with any man, by women up to 25, up to 3,000 words. Contributions for Teenagers, 34 Great Sutton Street, London EC1V 0DX. Deadline: 31st Jan 1991.

### GRAPEVINE BOOKSHOP

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**PEOPLE IN TROUBLE** —  
**SARA SCHULMAN**, £5.99  
(SHEBA)

VERY INTERESTING! — WE BOTH READ IT IN 2 DAYS! WE:  
GASPED — AT THE EXPLOITATIVE ANTIICS OF (THEY THINK) LIBERAL YUPPIES.  
SQUEELED — AT THE OBNOXIOUSNESS OF THE ICKY TICKY STRAIGHT MAN.  
GOT ANNOYED — AT KAT'S NON-COMMITMENT.  
SNIFFED — AS THE LESBIANS + GAYS ACTED SHEROICALLY IN THE FIGHT AGAINST AIDS.  
YES, THEY'RE STEREOTYPES. YES, IT'S A MORALITY TALE. YES, IT'S A BIT ONE-DIMENSIONAL. BUT YES, IT'S GOOD + A LORRA LORRA LAFFS (SAYS CWA).

### Book Review To do something Beautiful

by Rohini

I think this is the best new book I've read this year. It's about the lives of lots of different people, mainly women, in Bombay, mostly in the shanty towns, who get drawn together in various industrial disputes & women's struggles. It looks at things very much from the women's point of view, which is a change when people are writing about workplace struggles etc, and is very interesting if you don't know much about India. But the reason I liked it most was that Rohini was brilliant at looking at lots of different people, not just 1 or 2 main characters, and giving a short but really vivid picture of their lives and how they see things, really getting inside their head, before going on to talk about someone else—it seems very understanding of people and very un-self-centred.

PINK SPOT  
Why do anarchists drink  
herbal tea?  
Because proper tea  
isn't available.

← OH NO!  
NOT A TERRIBLE  
JOKE — CUT IT OUT  
+ SEND IT T TINNY MALLETT...

### SOCIALISM, FEMINISM, ANTI-RACISM

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DON'T BLAME ME!!  
I DIDN'T BUY THIS

### don't deport Sonia Malhi

Sonia Malhi has been living in this country for the last seven years. The British govt now wish to send her back to India and refuse to take account of her circumstances and the hardship she will suffer. They say she cannot appeal against the decision because of a law they passed in 1988.

Sonia first came to England in 1983. She got married in 1986. The marriage ended because of her husband's violence. The following year, her parents in India died, so now she has no-one to return to.

The Home Office insist Sonia must go back. They say that they reached their decision after fully considering her case but in fact they haven't even bothered to interview her.

Before 1988 Sonia could have appealed to an 'Adjudicator' who would have looked into the whole case and particularly the compassionate circumstances. They could prevent the H.O. deporting her. The 1988 Immigration Act removed this right of appeal & independent enquiry.

Without right of appeal, Sonia must apply to the courts to rule on a technicality, i.e. whether the H.O. acted unlawfully in making a decision to deport her without interviewing her—but the court will have no power to look at Sonia's case as a whole to decide whether she should be deported.

#### What You Can Do

- 1 Write to the Home Secretary, Queen Anne's Gate, London, asking him to stop the deportation. Quote reference no. S 653846
- 2 Write to your MP asking her/him to take up the case with the Home Secretary and parliament
- 3 If you're involved with an organisation, get them to write to the Home Secretary.
- 4 Send a donation.

The campaign holds regular meetings to which everyone is invited. To find out about the next meeting, telephone (021) 551 4518 or (021) 554 4900. c/o 101 Villa Road, Handsworth, Birmingham 19.

(This was taken from a pamphlet sent us by the West Midlands Anti-Deportation Campaign. They are also organising a petition.)



THE WOMEN'S  
THEATRE GROUP

## CHRISTMAS WITHOUT HERODS

by Lisa Evans

October 26th Barnet November 1st  
Mansfield, 2nd Nottingham, 3rd  
Worksop, 10th Bristol, 19th Southport,  
23rd Peterborough, 26-27th  
Cheltenham, 29th Sutton, Surrey.  
December 1st Swindon, 4th Hemel  
Hempstead, 5th Willesden Green.

Tel. WTG: 021 251 0202 for details

A play about human rights

## INDEPENDANT LIVING ALTERNATIVES

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FOR PEOPLE DISABLED

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Tracey Jarinaway,  
Independent Living Alternatives,  
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Empire Way,  
Wembley, Middx.  
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Mixing cabaret, cinematic role-playing,  
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soppy reverie, and thinly veiled hostility

New York's

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## ANNIVERSARY WALTZ

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Peggy Shaw and Lois Weaver play a  
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anniversary

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## WOMEN FORCED TO HAVE HOSPITAL BIRTHS

Yes, it's those bloody NHS reforms again. GPs have to send women to have their babies wherever the local authority has placed a contract, so women have even less choice about where to give birth. This also means that home delivery units are being closed down due to (the usual) lack of

money, so there is less opportunity for women to choose to give birth at home. Five years ago there were 120 of these units, now there are only 66 in Britain. The argument that hospital births are safer is unfounded as there is no proof that the drop in perinatal deaths is linked to the drop in the number of home births.



**Atrocity says:**

fucking  
fuck the  
fucking  
POLL  
TAX!

Cut a thick slice of bread for everybody. Toast it on both sides, and spread it with butter or margarine while it is still hot, then spread it with a thin layer of Bovil or Oxo, and eat it as soon as ever you can.

DON'T Pay  
POLL TAX!

THE Metropolitan police are to pay £2,000,000 in compensation for damage caused during the Trafalgar Square poll tax riots.

The settlement would be the biggest single payment for damages made by the police as a result of the 31 March riot.

The claimants are builders Higgs and Hill, whose £57 million Grand Buildings site on the corner of Trafalgar Square and the Strand was extensively damaged when 300 rioters scaled scaffolding and set light to site buildings.

Huts were destroyed, masonry damaged and important paperwork and computer records destroyed.

Scotland Yard has already paid out about £300,000 to other claimants for damage arising from the riots under a clause in the 1838 Riot Damages Act which compels the police to reimburse for damage caused "by persons riotously or tumultuously assembled together," when the police have been unable to contain the riot.

The media have been heavily involved with the police in trying to get Trafalgar Square defendants convicted. After the riots the tabloids acted as bulletin boards for the Metropolitan Police, printing whatever 'wanted' pictures and press releases they were given and appealing for their readers to shop such public enemies as 'the Mohican hair girl', 'the biker' and 'the earrings man'. Video tapes and photos of the riots were seized by the police for use against the defendants in court. Yet the police and the Crown Prosecution Service tried to stop the defendants being allowed to see the evidence that was to be used against them!! However, these attempts were unsuccessful because of a lot of pressure from the solicitors representing defendants.

If I'm asked to talk about my diet again I'm just going to start humming.

## TAX BOMBERS

PETROL bombers have attacked a firm of bailiffs employed to seize property from poll tax defaulters.

The company's offices were badly damaged by a Molotov cocktail hurled through a window. A spokesman for Madigan's, of Northampton, which is employed by 200 councils and was featured on TV, said the firm had been threatened by anti-poll tax protesters.

A group called the Trafalgar Square Defendants Campaign has been set up to provide support for ALL defendants, and to expose what really happened on the day of the riot (ie. that it was the police who started the riot by attacking the demonstrators). The TSDC is independent of all political organisations and is run by and accountable to all those arrested. The TSDC organised a picket of the Mirror building to protest against the 'rogues' gallery, as well as pickets of Pentonville and Brixton Prisons to support those already jailed as a result of the Anti-Poll Tax Unions. They also organised the Poll Tax Demo on the 20th October. The TSDC can be contacted c/o Haldane Society, 38 Mt Pleasant, London WC1X OAP (071-833 8958).

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CHRIS OR ANITA FOR MORE  
INFORMATION AND NEWSLETTER.

# THINGUMMYBLOB

In an argument about feminism, my dad said to me once, "The only people who call themselves Ms. are spinsters who don't want anyone to know they're not married."

Well, I call myself Ms. because I don't see why people SHOULD know if I'm married. Frankly, it's nothing to do with them and I don't want to be branded like a pig at a market with my marital availability. And it makes me sick when I see otherwise sensible women getting married and suddenly losing their identity along with their names; some even go as far as to take their husband's first name as well. "Oh, I'm Mrs. Joe Bloggs now," says a woman who only the day before had been called Eileen Smith. I always think "Princess Michael of Kent" isn't the sort of name that princesses get given in fairy tales.

But of course when you think about it, it doesn't make a lot of difference whose name you take, because they're all men's. Some women say that we should use our mothers' names—but their last name is probably only their father's, and so on and so on. And is this patriarchal system unique to Britain? If only it was. Here are some examples out of the *Guardian* of what they do in other countries.

**In BELGIUM** women usually keep their own name if they get married. Children are given the father's name if the parents aren't married.

**In DENMARK** all women keep their own name unless they sign a declaration saying they don't want to. Children are given either parent's name, but it's usually the father's.

**In FRANCE** many women keep their own names, but a child must be given its father's name unless the mother goes to the town hall before the child is born and declares that she wants it to have her name.

**In ICELAND** women keep their own names, and children are given the own name of their father; Gunnar Olafson's son would be called John Gunnarson; his daughter would be called Mary Gunnarsdottir.

**In GERMANY** most married women take their husband's name, BUT some men take their wife's name. Children are usually given the father's name, or both in a double-barrelled version.

**In GREECE** women keep their own names. Children are given the father's name.

**In HOLLAND** women keep their own names. It's illegal for a child to be given its mother's name unless she's not married and the father won't admit the child's his.

**In ITALY** women keep their own names and often give them to their children.

**In PORTUGAL** if a woman gets married she keeps her own name, which is already a combination of her mother's and father's, and joins it to her husband's. Children are given the last two names of each parent so they have four in all, but they are usually known by the last two names of the father.

**In SPAIN** a married woman keeps her own two family names, the first her father's and the second her mother's. Children are given the first name of each parent, so the mother's mother's name is lost.

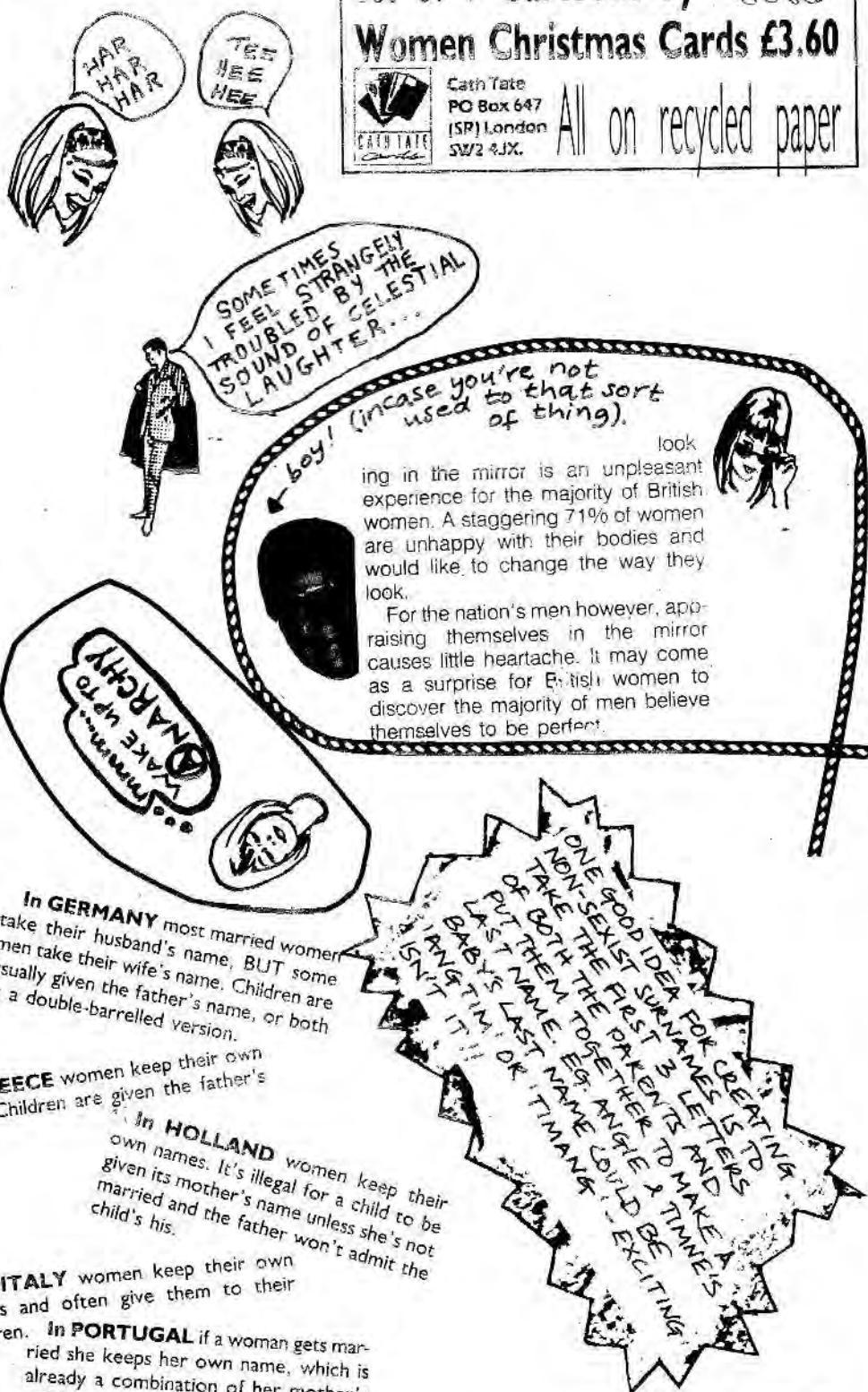
**1991 Cartoons by Women Calendar £5.50**

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All on recycled paper



I think people should invent completely new last names for their children that've got nothing at all to do with either of the parents or even their most distant relatives. Just think how nice it'd be if children were called things like Gloria Buttercup or John Dandelion...

P.S. Sorry it's only European countries—result of us thieving information from silly papers!

## GUITAR FOR WOMEN

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As a born-again Christian,  
I was surprised to read that  
a fellow Christian wanted  
to hear from another Christian  
who was, like himself,  
gay.

Where in the Bible does it state that God receives into his fold 'Gay Christians'? In Romans IV, God clearly states that such men have left the knowledge of God.

With the help of the devil, this person is using his body to mock God. God made man to be with woman!

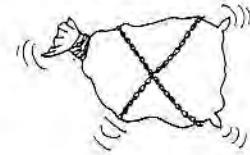
There are many good deliverance ministries in England for homosexuals who have a burning desire to be set free from that type of lifestyle.

I would suggest he finds one.

| Good eh?  
| Don't you just  
| luxuriy those  
| darling moral  
| wankers...?

101 HOBBIES FOR A RAINY AFTERNOON

BLEUCH,  
WHAT A DIAHARD



N° 38: TYING TIMMY MALLET UP IN A SACK,  
DUMPING HIM AT THE BOTTOM OF THE ENGLISH  
CHANNEL & SEEING IF HE CAN ESCAPE BEFORE  
HE DROWNS. (APPROX. 4 MINS)



N° 78: MAKING TIMMY MALLET DIVE  
BLINDFOLDED INTO A VAT OF SULPHURIC  
ACID FROM A HEIGHT OF 40FT.  
(WHATEVER YOU DO DON'T FORGET THE SULPHURIC  
ACID HE COULD END UP WITH A NASTY BURN  
IF HE TRIED TO DIVE INTO AN EMPTY TUB.)



GROOMING  
FOR BOYS

10 EASY STEPS...

TO BEAUTIFUL HAIR.

## LESBIAN MOTHER LOSES DAUGHTER

A lesbian who was granted custody of her daughter had it removed when her ex-husband appealed against the decision. Lord Justice Glidewell said: "It is my view that it is undesirable that this child should understand at an early age the nature of her mother's relationship." The court said that although homosexuality is not an absolute bar to gaining custody, where the father had remarried and the mother "had turned lesbian" (sounds painful!) the courts should aim as close as possible to find an "ideal home environment" for the child, namely "a home of loving and caring parents—a mother and father" according to the judge.

## PATRIOTIC BOLLOCKS

Get this then: the conductor of the Proms concerts has been sacked for deciding not to play the shitty nationalistic-shitty tunes Rule Britannia and Land of Hope and Glory, such as are always opportunity for a load of Union Jack waving and mouthing off on the last night. So the poor bastard was instantly dropped by the BBC.

Fuck You!



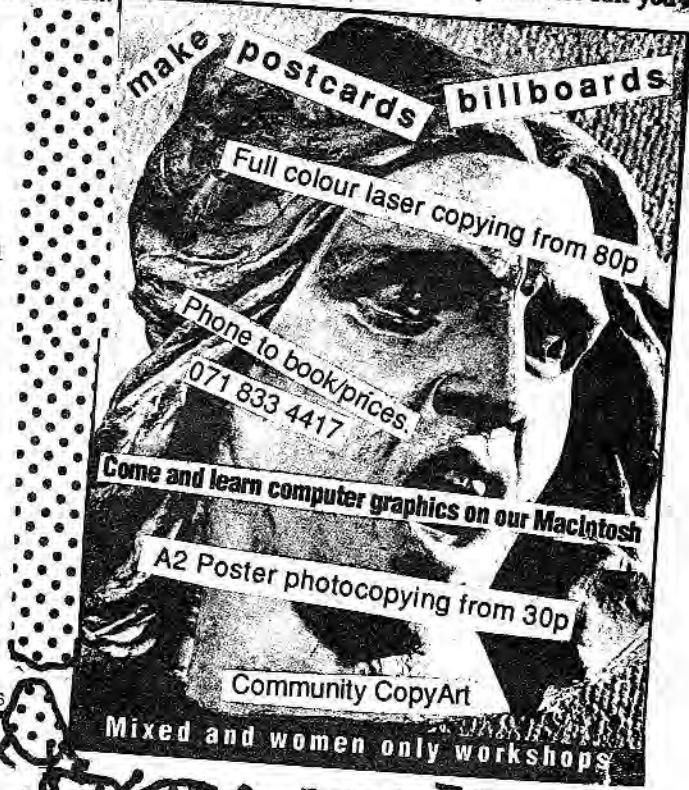


Doesn't it make you angry when, as a woman, you have to queue for bloody ages in public loos while men are in and out in no time? Once or twice when there's been a long queue I've thought, "sod it, I'll use the Mens' but then I've been subjected to snide comments from men insisting they push in front of me. And mens' toilets are always bloody disgusting anyway (a bit like men in general, really). Because women are socialised to sit down on the toilet when they pee, they take longer than men, who are expected to pee standing up (which is far superior as we all know). Periods and pregnancy also give women greater need of toilets - the fact that women menstruate means that they often need urgent access to toilets, and hormonal change and increased pressure on the bladder also affects toilet use. According to a survey carried out by Cornell University in the USA, men spend an average of 45 seconds using a public toilet while women take an average of 80 seconds (how did they find out??). However, because architects and planners are almost always male, the fact that women need more toilets than men is never recognised.

For a long time there weren't any public loos for women at all, and it was only through the Ladies' Sanitary Association's campaigns for women's 'restrooms' that the principle of having a Ladies' as well as a Gentlemen's toilet was firmly established (this was at the turn of the last century).

**Shockin Pink**  
**ADVICE Corner**

By the way, make the most of your youth to flared and all-pleated skirts; you will find they will not suit you well later on.



**Page 32.**

give yourself the self-confidence that figure control supplies: good brassiere so that you don't wobble; comfortable but controlling belt; well-cut underclothes that do not get into a bunch round your middle. *Look OUT FOR MORE USEFUL ADVICE*

# veganism

Some tips for those wonderful people that will now IMMEDIATELY become loving, peaceful and COMPLETE vegans after reading this wonderful article.

**When I first became vegan,** I didn't realise the things that were involved. Why would they put bits of dead animals in bread and cakes and those lovely plain chocolates? but they did! You'll find that dead animals are in everything you like most and are about to miss! But don't despair—the rewards are great.

#### Things you need to look for:

★ E'no.s—400's the worst. They can be made from crushed beetles, the urine of a pregnant mare, etc. etc.

★ GelatINE (I've been told gelatIN is vegan)

★ Lactose and lactate compounds e.g. calcium lactate.

★ Glycerol, Glycerine—Both of these are only vegan if stated "from vegetable origin".

This is only a general idea/guide. There are lots of additives & preservatives ('E's, or their chemical names) that the meat-pushers use to confuse us.

**Drugs:** Most people tend to forget alcoholic drinks—alot of them are non-vegan and don't state ingredients such as bull's blood or fish extracts, and tobacco, whether in a straight cigarette not, is tested on beagles.

I could go on and on...but if you can't go the whole hog (?), then do it bit by bit, or go as far as you can (every bit helps!).

A bit on what you CAN eat: Consider a balanced diet. (A pound of lentils on each shoulder-arf arf—the typist). You need Iron (found in dark green veg.), Vit. A (carrots), B12—production of this is aided by eating yeast products, eg bread, vegemite & it's also available on prescription, Calcium (spinach, Soya Milk With Added Calcium, a bit in water.) A good balance of lentils, beans, nuts and FRESH veg. should see you through. **Watch & learn** which symptoms mean which missing nutrient.

**Recommended reading:** Vegan Shopper's Guide, E for Additives. OK, that's it, I have to go to sleep.

Activists  
destroy  
meat  
Animal rights  
activists have

been blamed for a fire at a meat warehouse at Fratton Industrial Estate, Portsmouth, in which a lorryload of pate was destroyed.

I can't say I like this new fangled free-range farming. They're under my feet...

We can't even regulate their food properly! Back to battery, I say...

PAGE  
33  
THIRTY  
THREE!

**Green bloody green. Why am I green? Because all this talk of green is making me sick.**

Environmental destruction is the mass terror of our time and at least one reason for this has to be because it's true and it's happening. Another reason might be because we're going into a world economic disaster-decline and the ruling class needs to divert our thoughts in a direction they think they can handle, a mass fear for grim times.

But why and just why does anyone think it's happening? Because we've all been a bit careless with the washing up liquid? Please!!! Green is the new guilt for advertisers to sell things with: "oh Mrs Housewifey, is naughty naughty you still using the wicked old ozone-killer hairspray?" Jesus, you'd think it was something we indulged in like chocolate, even though we knew we shouldn't (never mind getting into how chocolate is sold to us). But of course all those Environmental Death Products were only like that because the producers produced and sold them that way. It's not the fault of individual consumers. So isn't it amazing that the disaster caused by consumerism has been turned around into another sales ploy!

And if I see one more woman smiling at me from the TV screen saying "and now I can do my bit for the planet too" I think I really will puke. The last time anyone said "do your bit" it must have been World War 2 propaganda posters. Sounds all very nationalistic to me, and that's why La Thatch can use a bit of it too. Just make the ecopocalypse into a matter of individual conscience, a case of if we all, well, "do our bit", and it's great! All the politics of what should be one of the greatest criticisms of world capitalism-imperialism yet have just vanished. The so-called first world countries can busy themselves trying to clean up their patch, while the rest of the world carries on being poisoned and starved as usual, and maybe nobody much in this "first world" will ask how it happened.

Capitalism is a system of exploitation. Its driving motive is profits, and you only make a profit by exploiting someone or something along the way. The first thing (in some ways) anyone noticed was that the working class got exploited, then women and Black people also pointed out that they were getting abused by this system, and now we can see that capitalism also exploits the environment. It treats it like an everlasting free resource and an everlasting free waste tip BECAUSE IT CAN. We have to make sure it can't: by constantly trying to prevent it along the way, and ultimately by overthrowing the whole system for good.

The South West London Young Lesbian Group is open to young women up to the age of 25. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month from 7.30pm to 10pm. Activities include watching videos, badge-making, lazing around, going out, etc. For more details phone Amy on 081 874 5387. Good access.

# rosalia Page

## WOMEN IN ACTION

ANOTHER LETTER FROM ROSALIA!

Dear SP, thanks for sending a copy of Shocking Pink with me being interviewed by you, I really enjoy it. I hope everything is all right with all of you at the "staff of Shocking Pink." Of course I'm still prepared to be your correspondence in Namibia but unfortunately there is really not a lot happening and which can be shocking to publish, but I'll keep in touch.

I mean from a political point of view there is not a lot happening in politics which is shocking, maybe this time I can move out to our neighbours in South Africa where a well known church priest and president of the world federation of churches was having an affair with a white married woman while himself is married. Isn't it shocking if a church priest is manipulating a woman with his position as a leader within the church and among the black oppressed ones in South Africa.

It was a pleasure to be interviewed by you any how I'll try to be always in, I really hope to come and study next year in Britain.

Forgive my handwriting  
love, rosalia

THESE CUTTINGS  
WERE ALL SENT  
BY LOVELY  
ROSALIA

## Rapist jailed for 12 years

A MAN who claimed there was something wrong with his mind and that he could not follow his trial was yesterday sentenced to an effective 12 years' imprisonment after being convicted on two charges of rape and one of assault in the Windhoek High Court.

Jafet Ameb, 28, was accused of raping two seven-year-old girls at Grootfontein on the night of August 31 last year. He also allegedly assaulted the other girl on the same day and at the same place. He allegedly misled the girls by promising them sweets.

When the trial started on Tuesday, Ameb claimed he could not follow his trial as his head was buzzing and he thought "something was wrong in his mind". He alleged he had suffered from head problems since 1988 after allegedly being badly assaulted by police members.

Dear Shocking Pink, As I promise that I will be some sort of a correspondence I'll try to fulfill my promise.

I would like to outline a few points to SP. NB First Namibia is an independent country with a lot of problems, most of my reports will be as a young woman from a political point of view but not shocking! 2. I need some money to travel to places to meet young girls which I believe will fit in SP because of the age and thinking as young girls and women.

My stories might not be useful because of the points I made. Please if so let me know to stop.

The Namibian is an independent newspaper and edited by a dynamic young woman called Gwen Lister. The reports I have sent I get them in the uneducated ones all over the world and in Namibia. The pictures are about women as the most oppressed ones mentioned is also a woman and she creates job for them to be independent, isn't nice? Brickmaking is made to believe is man's job and the woman just prove them wrong.

Hope to hear from you,  
Rosalia, Namibian Correspondent for Shocking

THIS  
IS  
PAGE

34

THIRTY  
FOUR

WOMEN admiring the results of their first efforts. Over the past months they have taken part in various courses, ranging from the practicalities of making their bricks to business practices.



## Defence Fund for Mohawk Sovereignty

In the wake of the police attack on the people of Kanesatake, the Mohawk people need assistance in protecting their sovereign territory. Quebec Provincial Police laying siege to the community refuse to allow food to be carried in. They clearly fear that such aid will enable the Mohawks to carry on the defence of their lands.

As people who believe in sovereignty and self-government for First Nations, one thing we must do now is to send material aid to help the Mohawks to buy food, medical supplies, fuel, etc. Even when the blockades are lifted, funds will still be needed to help rebuild and further the struggle for aboriginal title to the Kanesatake lands. With this in mind, an ad-hoc committee of solidarity activists in Toronto has put together a defence fund to provide immediate assistance. The money is being saved in a special Bread & Roses Credit Union account, and relayed to the Mohawk people through activists with the Leonard Peltier Canadian Defence Committee.

**Your immediate contribution is essential.** Funds can be sent individually or through organisations. Support the First Nations struggle for sovereignty in this emergency situation.

**Send donations to:** Defence Fund for Mohawk Sovereignty, c/o Bread & Roses Credit Union, 348 Danforth Ave, Suit 211, Toronto, Ontario, M4K 1N8, Canada.

### Dear Shocking Pink II

Hello y'all. I've heard about your project from Alison who used to work on it a few years now, so I'm finally writing you to send you a copy of my project's publication, Youth Lib 'Zine. I'm also sending you a flyer you might want to reproduce in SP, appealing for financial aid to the Mohawk people. The Mohawk nation, a part of the Iroquois Confederacy, is a sovereign nation whose territory includes part of what is commonly referred to as Canada and the United States. The Mohawk have been engaged in the armed defense of their territory for over a week now, ever since they moved to protect with force a sacred site which was about to be turned into a golf course illegally. They have set up barricades to protect themselves from what seems to be an imminent invasion, and have now occupied Mercier bridge going into Montreal, threatening to blow it up if Mohawk lives are lost.

If you could please reprint the flyer in your 'zine it would probably do some good.

Thanks,  
K.

"WE'RE GOING TO MAKE THIS WOMAN REALLY SWEAT."

## PINK-ERVIEW

We decided that it was time S.P. interviewed someone really famous, but we couldn't get anyone so we had a chat with the queen instead.

S.P. Wot's in yer 'andbag?

Queenie: Dog biscuits, packet of B&H (they're smoother than Camel), Bloodsports Weekly and I can't go anywhere without my mirror.

S.P. Wot do you think of Margaret Thatcher?

Queenie: Oh, that nasty loud woman who keeps coming round... Everyone says I've got to be nice to her, but she's always going on at me... don't know WHAT she's talking about. Once she even tried to stop me going on holiday. I never like to leave her alone with the cutlery... and her husband drinks like a fish, you know, nor that I blame him. I'm sorry, have you seen my glasses?

S.P. Wot did y' think of the Poll Tax Riot?

Queenie: What riot?... Anyway, how do you know that Thatcher woman?



this is from a scale-smashing rally in Berkeley, USA - good innit? the women smashed up cans of Slim Fast diet powder, diet coke, & bathroom scales. I think we should have a go at that here!



PECKHAM BLACK WOMEN'S CENTRE has a new lesbian worker!! Phone for details of group meeting - all Black DQs welcome - eat, drink, chat, discussions, Weds & Fri 10-5.30pm, 69 Bellenden Rd, SE15 5BH, 071-358 1486.

FEMINIST LIBRARY are at 5 westminster bridge rd, London SE1. Tel: 071 928 7789. Open 11-8pm Tues, 2-5 pm Sat + Sun. They offer journals from all over the world, a cozy room and kettle! Fiction, non-fiction, magazines, information, advice, research, a newsletter, readings.

They've got a reading on Sat 17th November at 3pm by Liz Whitelaw on her book 'A biography of Cicely Hamilton' - who was a playwright/novelist in the early 20th century feminist movement.

BRINGING ASIAN WOMEN TOGETHER - an Asian worker has recently joined the Peckham Black Women's Centre & is keen to establish links with all Asian, Oriental & Middle Eastern women in Southwark. We provide advice, workshops, creche, information: housing, welfare rights, immigration, pregnancy testing, education/training courses. Please feel free to drop in & we will do our best to help you. Address as above, opening times Mon-Thurs 10-5.30pm. All Asian & African Caribbean women welcome irrespective of sexuality, class, disability or age.

pink pig trucks! -there was a riot the other day.



SAPHRO SISTERS - a social + support group for young lesbians. Meets 6.30-10 pm every Saturday in Wolverhampton. For more info phone Deborah (0902) 343045. They say they're "a very skint but hardworking group of girls" & sound very nice.