

issue 7 (70)

Promoting good habits



Schools  
-  
9  
Pink!



Have you seen her key ring?



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A visit from the D.H.S.S.....



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## oral sex and aids

PTO FOR  
the SAFE SEX  
photo love →

The United States' first reported case of apparent AIDS transmission through oral sex has raised concerns for both lesbian and heterosexual women.

The case involves a man whose only sexual or other risky activity was regular oral sex with a prostitute whom he says used intravenous drugs. Over a period of two years, the man both performed and received oral sex with the woman, who has not been tested for the virus that causes AIDS. The man subsequently tested positive for antibodies to the virus, a sign that he is infected.

Public health officials have concluded that the man almost certainly became infected through oral sex, making this case the first confirmed case of transmission by this route.

But while this case should increase awareness of the possible risk from oral sex, it has not changed the advice of public health officials, who have been saying

for some time now that oral sex carries some risk of transmission. It has been known for some time that HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, is found in saliva and in vaginal secretions as well as in semen, but the concentrations are lower. Furthermore, some chemicals in saliva are believed to have a protective effect, lowering the risk of infection for a person performing oral sex. Cuts or sores in the mouth, on the other hand, increase the risk of transmission.

Women performing oral sex on their partners, particularly if they have any cuts or sores in their mouths or if their partners are HIV-positive or have engaged in high risk activities, should consider lowering their risk by using barriers (condoms or dental dams) and otherwise avoiding contact with their partners' bodily fluids.

by karen endor  
info from usa today 1/25/89,  
washington post 1/31/89

introducing:

"UNUSUAL Rumpy tumpy with Valerie Singleton"

LONDON  
**friend**

**New group  
for black lesbians  
and lesbians of  
colour.**

- ★ **Discussions**
- ★ **Special Events**
- ★ **Coffee Bar**

Every second and fourth  
Sunday in the month at  
6.30p.m. 86 Caledonian  
Road, Kings Cross, N1.



DID YOU KNOW?  
THAT VAL E  
H.R.H. ANNE,  
WENT ON  
SAFARI  
TOGETHER??

**London Lesbian & Gay Centre**

invite you to their new  
Lesbian venue,

**The  
ORCHID,**

**Open Tuesday to Sun-  
day, 6pm-11pm. First  
floor. All women  
welcome at 67/69  
Cowcross Street, EC1.  
Tel. 01 608 1471.**



SHE had the heterosexual-SEX blues...

'Bye Chris. We're off to bed now!

BYE.

It's OK for Chris. She doesn't have to use all these non-eco-friendly condoms and worry about SAFE SEX. She's so lucky to be a Lesbian. (I wish I was.)

But Chris knew sex wasn't so simple - she was worried about SAFE SEX...

I've been hearing all these things about how I should be wrapping myself up in cling film and covering all my interesting orifices

# SHE'S SO UNUSUAL

Listen Minny, do you think we need DENTAL DAMS?

DENTAL DAMS?? BUT the dentist says I've got perfect teeth...

Look, I've got some condoms in here - we can try them tonight...

DISCREET BAG TO HIDE EMBARRASSMENT/THINGS LIKE

I CAN'T WAIT - Honestly, you're really flipping now. Where do you suggest we PUT them?

No! I mean... you know... DENTAL DAMS - CONDOMS SAFE SEX & ALL THAT!

DISCREET BAG TO HIDE EMBARRASSMENT/THINGS LIKE

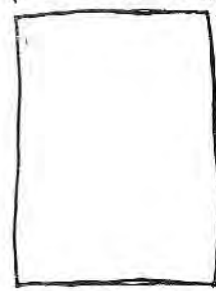
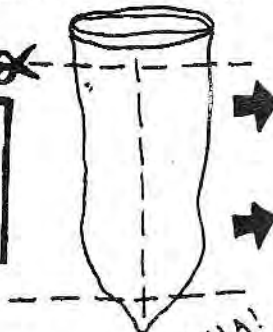
CONDOMS? GET SERIOUS Chris. We're LESBIANS! Lesbians don't wear condoms!

1. CUT OFF THE ENDS, and UP THE SIDE... (follow the dotted lines)...

2... AND OPEN IT INTO A SQUARE... place it over your mouth or your partner's vagina when

HOW TO CUT UP A CONDOM

(and you thought they were useless)



VOILA! told ya it was easy...

IT SEEMED AN AGE BEFORE CHRIS FINALLY EMERGED FROM THE BATHROOM...

I WAS BEGINNING TO THINK YOU WEREN'T COMING. WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?

LOOK! Here's one I prepared earlier..

WELL, WHAT D'YOU THINK?

IT'S... ER... VERY STYLISH...

She certainly turned a few heads...

YOU DON'T LIKE IT, DO YOU?

WELL, I WOULDN'T SUIT IT, LET'S PUT IT THAT WAY. IT LOOKS GREAT ON YOU, THOUGH.

I MADE IT MYSELF!

JUST IGNORE THEM - THEY'LL SOON GO AWAY.

Wow! We wish we dared to wear our condoms the way you girls wear your dental dams in public.

Well, it's killed off my mum's suspicions - she's sure you're a man since she found my condoms under my bed!

OK CHRIS, YOU'VE CONVINCED ME. (YOU SAFE SEX SLUT YOU!)

- HIV is present in bodily fluids, namely blood, semen, and vaginal secretions.
- HIV can be transmitted through having unprotected anal, vaginal or oral sex, and also through sharing needles. You cannot get HIV from kissing, holding hands, from swimming pools or toilets, or from touching a person with HIV or AIDS.

**PREVENTION:** Obviously, avoiding contact with bodily fluids is the way to prevent the transmission of the HIV virus. -Great. What do I do?

- Use a condom when having any kind of intercourse, or when giving someone a blow job.
- Do not have unprotected oral sex with a woman when she's on her period. Use dental dams... or improvise. Condoms work better and are cheaper and easy to find... just cut off both ends, and slit it up the side to form a latex square. Place the square over your mouth or your partner's vagina- and have fun. Lesbians DO have to worry about safe sex... ps. it's a good idea to do this all the time, or at least when you're making love...

- It would be nice if we could all be in straight, monogamous relationships wouldn't it? Of course not, but that's what Maggie thinks (that's cause she never has sex). It's not the number of partners you have that will put you at risk for the HIV virus, but whether or not you practise safe sex. A person who has one lover and doesn't practise safe sex is at a higher risk than someone who had 10 lovers and was safe with all of them.
- HAVE FUN!

\* DENTAL DAMS ARE QUITE DIFFICULT TO GET HOLD OF BUT YOU CAN GET THEM FROM THE THRILLING BITS CATALOGUE WHICH COSTS £2 FROM:  
THRILLING BITS  
BCM BITS  
LONDON WC1N 3XX

ALWAYS SAY IF YOU'VE GOT YOUR PERIOD - or wear your 'Hi! I've got my period' T-shirt - available in luminous pink for the dark

● HIV is the virus that has been known to cause AIDS syndrome. You cannot catch AIDS.

AIDS syndrome is not one disease, but a group of diseases associated with the HIV virus.



## DEAR AUNTIE ANGIE

When I do the weekly washing I have found that for every 7.4 pairs of my knickers & 5 of my sister's there is only ONE of my dad's. Is this usual? Could he be skimping in order to save money for the family budget or is he just lazy? The strain of worrying about this is having an effect on my nerves. Please help.

Concerned, Plaistow.

Your dad sounds plain dirty. He is neither skimping for the family, nor being merely lazy. It goes far deeper than that.

## DEAR AUNTIE ANGIE

I am interested in shrubs. My friends laugh at me. Is this really a problem? I don't know what I'd do without them.

Shrub fan, Harlesden.

Dear Shrubette,

This is something to be proud of. I spit on your so called "friends" who laugh at you. Women who love shrubs have always been discriminated against, but most continue to love shrubs, because they can be no other way. (I myself have a fair collection of shrubs.)



## ITALIAN TOP TEN

SHOCKING PINK  
23 TUNSTALL RD, BRIXTON,  
LONDON SW9 8BZ

SOME FAIRLY  
INTERESTING  
THINGS  
ABOUT ITALY  
YOU MAY  
WANT TO  
KNOW...

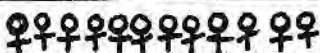


Cinestra Pictures are running a 10 week (3 days a week) video production course for women covering all areas of video production.

Dates—Oct 9th to Dec 13th. No experience necessary.

Priority given to unemployed women. Cost £40. Disabled access. Creche available.

Closing date for applications Sept 21st. For application form and details contact: Cinestra, 11 Mowl Street, London SW9 6BG. 01-793-0157.



Ciao e benvenute a tutte le ragazze italiane qui in Inghilterra!

Hello! and WELCOME to all Italian girls here in England!

Quante siete? Dove siete?

Fatevi vive per Diana!!

How many of us around here? Where are you? Make yourselves be heard, for Diane's sake!!

Nello spirito di sorveglianza internazionale fateci sapere che ci siete e che siete meravigliosamente vive e scalpitanti...

In the spirit of International Sisterhood let us know that you exist and are alive and kicking...

La buona novella e' che, Udite! Udite! DONNE,

presto questo fa-vo-lo-so giornale sara' reperibile nelle migliori librerie italiane. Contente?

The Good News is that—lend us a hear, WOMEN—soon this fabulous magazine will be available in our best Italian radical bookshops. Happy?

Italians Get Over Excited  
up on

Nel frattempo sappiate che SP vende mutandine e magliette con il spiritoso ed orgoglioso scritto: "Ciao! Ho le mie mesturazioni!", in inglese, naturalmente il che suona così: "Hi! I've got my period!" (Se siete interessate a comprarne per voi o per fare un regalo carino a qualche vostra amica, ragazza, parente, non dovete fare altro che scrivere al seguente indirizzo: follow address) Inoltre se volete abbonarvi spedite un vaglia postale pagabile al lo stesso indirizzo e riceverete da queste terre lontane questa meraviglia grafica, 4 ben 4 numeri annuali!!! Ragazze in gamba che volete far pratica d'inglese e tenervi in contatto con quello che succede nel mondo anglosassone, non perdetevi quest'occasione unica! Noi siamo un collettivo di ragazze inglesi e una italiana che scrive anche per raggiungere tutte voi. ciao, a presto!



# REJECTION- Can you handle it?

Some people are more resilient than others when it comes to rejection. Test how good, or bad, you are at taking the knocks!

1 If you don't get the first Saturday job you go for, you never try again? Yes/No

2 Every time you finish with a cat you're convinced you'll never get another? Yes/No

3 You always agree with whatever the rest of your mates are saying, whatever you think? Yes/No

4 If your cat says she hates your new dress, you burst into tears? Yes/No

5 You'll do anything to keep your cat happy? Yes/No

6 Being asked out is the only thing that proves to you that you are attractive? Yes/No

7 Last time somebody said something to you that hurt your feelings you couldn't sleep properly for a week for worrying about it? Yes/No

8 If you don't get the lead part in the school play, you never dare audition again? Yes/No

9 If somebody doesn't start talking to you at a party within five minutes you go straight home? Yes/No

10 You always say yes even when you really want to say no? Yes/No

## YOUR SCORE:

Mainly Yes: It doesn't take a lot to make you feel rejected, does it? The slightest knock throws you into a fit of depression and makes you want to give up! The trouble is you worry more about what others think of you than what you think of yourself. It's about time you started having a bit more confidence.

The world isn't against you, you know, so stop thinking you're a useless failure and start fighting back.

Mainly No: Nobody likes to feel rejected, but you've learnt how to handle it well. You know that however hurt and down you feel sometimes, you'll always feel better the next day when you've had a chance to tell yourself that being rejected isn't anything to be ashamed about. You can't please everyone, and you're not afraid to say what you really think, even if it means that you won't be popular for a day or two. That confidence well topped and you can't go wrong!



I don't see the point of this quiz.

Send your problems to me, Maggie, and I'll do my best to help.  
Don't keep your worries to yourself.

# HELP!

IF YOU'D LIKE SOME HELP WITH A PERSONAL PROBLEM, WE'LL PUBLISH YOUR LETTER INCLUDING YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS TO MAKE SURE EVERYONE KNOWS WHO SENT THE LETTER EXCEPT YOU.



## Dear Maggie,

MORE SERIOUS PLEASURE is on its way soon from **SHERA**. We want

AND PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR SELF ADDRESSED ENVELOPE WITH CHEQUES MADE PAYABLE TO: THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY

lesbian erotic short stories which reflect our diversity... for example we want stories from black lesbians, disabled lesbians and Irish lesbians, stories no more than 6,000 words. DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 13 1989. For further info. call or write to



**SHERA** FEMINIST PUBLISHERS, 10A BRADBURY ST., LONDON N16 8JN. 01-254-1590.

Dear Shocking pink,  
I was swirling ground in a cess-pit of my own making the other day when it suddenly occurred to me - if being a Lesbian is an illness, WHERE IS MY SICKPAY? backdated this amounts to about £364,000. IS any one interested in forming a lobby-group to claim back from the b.H.S. what is rightfully ours?  
Hesta, Grimsby.

**I'VE FAILED MY EXAMS**

Good.

**CAN I GO SWIMMING?**

Yes.

**AM I DEFORMED?**

No.

**WHAT ARE PANTY LINERS?**

Expensive.

**SHE STILL FANCIES HIM**

Sad.

**SHOULD I TELL THE TRUTH?**

Definitely not.

# LONDON friend

Find out about our ...

## Womens Groups

or just phone for a chat.

★ Now open ★

Tuesday & Thursday 7.30-10p.m.

01-837-2782.

### Are They Lying?

My mates are always bragging about the number of girls they've been out with and the things they've done together. Half the time I don't even understand what they're on about, let alone do them myself. Do you think they're making it up? I'm 16 and feel a bit left out.

Katie, Carlisle.

I should think they're almost certainly making it up, but it doesn't really matter whether they are or not. The point is that you're always going to come up against people who boast about things they haven't done, and you just have to learn to take it with a pinch of salt. If you're happy with your own way of life then don't try to rush it just so you can join in their daft, immature conversations. Chances are they're just trying to outdo each other and don't really have a clue themselves!

Desley



2 fresh faced soldier boys pulled to bits when 100's of IRA demonstrators turned on them totally unprovoked.

NICE little Policeman married - 6 daughters brutally slaughtered by IRA terrorists

mindless violence

Despicable

AN ATROCITY

I despise the IRA

BIAS! CENSORSHIP, I won't find out anything from the media

DEPTFORD TOWN HALL

FEWISHAM COUNCIL WILL NOT ALLOW SINN FEIN COUNTEILLORS TO SPEAK HERE!

NO THE MEETING IS NOT HERE. GO TO THE ALBANY TO MIX WITH TERRORISTS

TORY GUN GROUP MEET HERE

AS A LA BOUR COUNCILLOR SAY WE WILL NOT ALLOW PEOPLE WHO ADVOCATE VIOLENCE TO SPEAK IN TOWN HALL

AT THE ALBANY.....

WE ARE IN THE BELLY OF THE BEAST

NORTHERN IRELAND IS A BRITISH COLONY- RULED BY FORCE AND OPPRESSION..

WE NEED SELF-DETERMINATION

THE BRITISH ARMY IS PROPPING UP A STATE THAT WAS NEVER VIABLE IN THE FIRST PLACE

WHAT ABOUT THOSE TORIES? THEY WERE ALLOWED INTO THE TOWNHALL THEY SUPPORT VIOLENCE!

IT IS QUITE CLEAR THAT THE BROADCASTING BAN IS DESIGNED TO STOP SINN FEIN BEING SEEN AS PERFECTLY ORDINARY PEOPLE WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT LIVING STANDARDS IN THEIR OWN COMMUNITY

I FEEL PRIVILEGED TO BE HERE, FIRSTLY IN MEETING SINN FEIN FACE TO FACE PERSON BECAUSE OF THE TREMENDOUS SIMILARITY BETWEEN WHAT IS HAPPENING IN NORTHERN IRELAND AND WHAT IS HAPPENING TO BLACK PEOPLE HERE

REJOICE! REJOICE! FALKLANDS WAR

LIBYA BOMBING

AFTERWARDS...

YOU LOOK IGNORANT DEAR- COME OVER FOR TEA TOMORROW

O.K!

NEXT DAY

SO YOU SEE, IN 1170 THE ENGLISH INVADDED IRELAND.

STATE TERRORISM?


I HATE THE STATE

BY 1921 IRELAND HAD BEEN PARTITIONED: 26 COUNTIES IN THE SOUTH BECAME THE 'FREESTATE'; 6 COUNTIES IN ULSTER BECAME 'NORTHERN-IRELAND', A PROVINCE OF THE UK THAT WOULD BE CONTRIVED WITH A PRO-BRITISH MAJORITY. IN 1968 THE NATIONALIST CIVIL RIGHTS CAMPAIGN GOT FULLY UNDERWAY BEGINNING WITH A PEACEFUL PROTEST OVER HOUSING.\*


INTRODUCING 'ATROCITY' THE CAT.

\* READ BERNADETTE DEVLIN'S BOOK AVAILABLE ON LOAN FROM S.P





THEN, IN AUGUST 1969 BRITISH TROOPS WERE SENT IN 'TEMPORARILY' 'TO PROTECT CATHOLICS'. IN 1970 THE PROVISIONAL IRA WAS FORMED, A YEAR LATER INTERNMENT WITHOUT TRIAL WAS INTRODUCED. IN JANUARY 1972 BRITISH TROOPS SHOT DOWN 13 PROTESTORS ON A CIVIL RIGHTS MARCH. THE BRITISH EMBASSY WAS BURNT DOWN IN DUBLIN. DURING JUNE & JULY OF THAT YEAR THERE WAS AN IRA CEASE-FIRE WHILST TALKS TOOK PLACE WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, THESE TALKS BROKE DOWN. BY 1974 THE 'PREVENTION OF TERRORISM' ACT HAD BEEN INTRODUCED.



IN 1981 THE HUNGER STRIKE BEGAN. HUNGER STRIKER BOBBY SANDS WAS ELECTED TO WESTMINSTER. IN OCTOBER THE HUNGER STRIKE ENDED WITH 10 MEN DEAD. 1982 WAS THE 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR OF THE SHOOT TO KILL POLICY. 6 UNARMED MEN WERE KILLED. BY 1985 THE ANGLD-IRISH AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED. LONDON + IRELAND CONSULT ON NORTHERN IRELAND POLICY, LOYALISTS\* FEEL THEY ARE BEING SOLD-OUT. IN MARCH 1988 ON THE ROCK OF GIBRALTAR THE S.A.S SHOT DEAD 3 UNARMED MEMBERS OF THE I.R.A

## WHAT YOU DIDN'T HEAR ON TV. ATROCITIES.... TWO CASES

IN ONE INCIDENT A WOMAN, HEARING THAT HER SON WAS BEING BEATEN, APPROACHED A GROUP OF SOLDIERS WHO PROMPTLY FIRED A PLASTIC GUN AT HER FROM A DISTANCE OF ONLY 3 YARDS, HER SON AND 3 OTHERS WERE ALSO INJURED

ANOTHER CASE INVOLVED A 19 YEAR OLD PATRICK DOHERTY WHO WAS WALKING TO THE LOCAL CHINESE TAKEAWAY WHEN A PASSING PATROL FIRED PLASTIC BULLET GUNS AT POINT BLANK RANGE. WHEN HE WAS RELEASED FROM HOSPITAL AND MADE A FORMAL COMPLAINT HE WAS CHARGED WITH FRAUD AND ATTEMPTING TO KIDNAP A BRITISH SOLDIER

\*LOYALISTS = PRO-BRITISH PROTESTANTS

HERE'S A LITTLE SOMETHING I PREPARED EARLIER...



### BOOKLIST

**One Day in my Life**, Bobby Sands, Pluto 1983 £4.95. Written in prison on toilet paper and smuggled out. Short, brilliant, but don't expect to be able to go to the pub afterwards.

**Ireland: the key to the British Revolution**, David Reed, Larkin Press 1984 £3.95. History & political analysis from the RCG, 400 pages of heavy going, still my choice.

**Only the Rivers Run Free: Northern Ireland: the women's war**, E. Fairweather, R. McDonough, M. McFadyean, Pluto 1984 £6.50. Made up of personal accounts and interviews, "balanced" but still really good.

**Murder on the Rock: How the British government got away with murder**, Maxine Williams, Larkin Press 1989 £2.50. RCG again, very short. The preparation, carrying out & cover-up of the Gibraltar murders.

**Peggy Deery, a Derry family at war**, Nell McCafferty, Virago 1989 £4.99. Story of one working class nationalist woman, my friend's current favourite.

Bye then love



Nothing but the same old story: the roots of anti-Irish racism. Liz Curtis, Information on Ireland 1984 £2.50. **A History of the Irish Working Class**, Peter Berresford Ellis, Pluto 1985 £8.95. Long thick Marxist history.

**Out for Ourselves: the lives of Irish lesbians and gay men**, Women's Community Press 1986 £4.95. **Unmanageable Revolutionaries: women and Irish nationalism**, Margaret Ward, Pluto 1983 £5.95. History of the Irish women's movement.

**War and an Irish Town**, Eamonn McCann, Pluto 1980 £5.95. Growing up in Derry, I think.

**Out of the Maze**, Derek Dunne, Gill & Macmillan 1988 £6.95. Story of the "biggest jail escape since the war", gripping adventure story. I'm told.

**Ten Men Dead**, David Berresford, Grafton 1987 £3.99. The 1981 hunger strikes, pretty harrowing, but crucial. **Ireland the Propaganda War**, Liz Curtis, Pluto 1984 £6.95. British media on Ireland, therefore lies. **Northern Ireland: the Orange state**, Michael Farrell, Pluto 1976 £7.95. Socialist history, mostly after partition & last 20 years.

### PAPERS

**An Phoblacht/ Republican News**. Sinn Fein's weekly paper. News on Ireland minus the lies. **Women's News**. Irish feminist magazine. **Troops Out**. Monthly magazine of Troops Out Movement.

I'M GOING TO IRELAND! I WON'T FIND OUT ANY-MORE AROUND HERE.



SO SHE WENT ON THE 'TROOPS OUT' DELEGATION ON AUGUST 11<sup>TH</sup>, HOPEFULLY SHELL TELL US ALL ABOUT IT NEXT ISSUE.

SP. What do you think of boys?



**MICHELLE.** Not a lot

**A.** Male, egotistical, chauvenist. Grandmother does everything, makes his breakfast, cleans his socks. My cousin, he's the worst. He doesn't do anything. His mum does everything.

**SP.** Why did you go out with Dennis...then?

**A.** Because he pestered me for about a year and a half. Pestered, pestered, pestered.

**SP.** What way did he pester?

**A.** Continually ringing up, asking me to go out, coming round always, uninvited. The reason I accepted was because we agreed on a non-physical relationship. Initially meant to be purely platonic.... continual harassment led to an unenjoyable and boring sexual relationship.



SAUSAGE.

**SP.** Why do you think men tend to put women down?

**MICHELLE.** I think blokes are jealous of us because we are beautiful and gorgeous and intelligent and they are not.

**SP.** Do you think men are worth the bother?

**A.** Men are o.k if you make exceptions for them, if you expect to get as much from a man as from a woman then you will find that you are let down. By expecting less from a man it is easier although a hassle to get on with them.

**MICHELLE.** I do not hate men but I think they have a lot to answer for. I think men are into putting women down because we can do the one major thing that it is impossible for them to do... give birth. Create life...

**SP.** Why do men continually put woman down?

**A.** They obviously feel and know they are inferior!!!

**SP.** What's become of Dennis now?

**A.** He still likes me best.

**SP.** You know he's so rude to you, why's he so rude if he still likes you?

**A.** When I went out with one of them he just spread horrible rumours and stuff about me when I rejected him.

**SP.** He sounds a bit of a pratt. Did he have spots?

Yes

on his back. The worst sort of spots are the pussey white ones you can feel through T-shirts. Actually I really like squeezing spots. That is WOMEN'S spots. Men's spots make me feel sick just looking at them.

**MICHELLE.** I never squeeze spots.

**LENOR.** That's very good. I've squeezed spots since I was so young that I don't think I could give up if I tried.

So

**MICHELLE.** Denis loves you still. Just get everything you can out of him!

**LENOR.** Flowers, meals.

**MICHELLE.** I was at this ball and I was dancing with this girl that I've fancied since I was 12, so obviously having a great time! Then this gross bloke came up to us and started dancing with us-he was such a DICK! My friend was acting the real matchmaker and she gave me the thumbs up to get something going with guy- I didn't want to! He was a real prat, he danced like something out of "Saturday Night Fever Revisited"!! I got rid of him later...Then I got more hassle from these two other blokes, one grabbed me and pulled me close and tried to get off with me basically. I got pissed off (obviously), so I whacked him, he let go then his friend tried. I pushed him away and then the two of them wouldn't let me get off the dancefloor, but I managed to get away eventually! I was a bit pissed off about the whole thing though...

At school they said to me **MICHELLE** do you **REALISE** you **HIT** the most good looking bloke in St Matthews School!

**LENOR.** What you had to do out of 12 blokes was pick the most goodlooking bloke but I just can't tell the difference. Unless they are really really stunning. There's some blokes that look good but I don't fancy them, they all look arrogant, hairy & spotty.

**ANITA.** Looking at blokes at the swimming pool today who I used to think looked good I just don't any more.

**MICHELLE.** I used to like the popstars who looked like women.

**LENOR.** I wonder if they look at women and think that all women look the same?

(No one knew the answer to this question. Ed.)

**LENOR.** I don't know ANY bloke who oozes sex. I can't even imagine one.

**PENNY.** So why do women go out with blokes then

**MICHELLE.** They're conditioned into it.

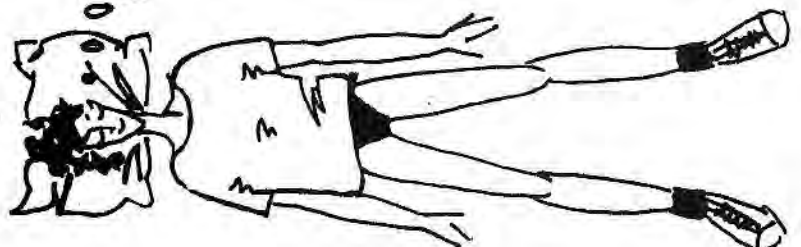
**A.** They've got someone to walk them home at night, they're like body guards.

**MICHELLE.** Like my parents won't even let me come HERE. They don't know I'm here.

**A.** Dennis goes to the gym 3 times a week but he tells me not even cycle too much in case I get muscles.



I'VE GONE OFF  
HIM





**ANNIE:** That's interesting that thing about men being bodyguards, parents worrying etc. cos I had this friend when I was 18 & he was about 40 and I used to go to his house sometimes. My mum was really pleased that I knew this man (because she thought I was a lesbian) but when she found out how old he was she got all freaked that I'd gone there alone. So they sort of want you to have boyfriends for protection but they have to be the right kind. She was right, by the way, I am a lesbian. I find it less confusing.

**So how would you go about chatting up a girl?**



## New York's **SPLIT BRITCHES** present **LITTLE WOMEN : THE TRAGEDY**

'INNOVATIVE LUNACY....HILARIOUS AND GLEEFULLY SURPRISING' Boston Globe.  
.....censorship, Louisa May Alcott, Little Women, pornography, morality, burlesque and sex. Set in the heaven of our dreams, LOIS WEAVER, PEGGY SHAW and PEG HEALY have created a tarantella of characters : the preacher, the feminist and the prostitute.  
'SCATHINGLY FUNNY' Boston Phoenix.

September 5-30 Tues-Sat 8p.m.  
**THE DRILL HALL ARTS CENTRE,**  
16 CHENIES STREET,  
LONDON WC1.  
01-637-8270.

### SHE FEELS SORRY FOR BROS

"I do feel sorry for Bros be in the next few years I imagine that they're going to experience a lot of unhappiness and let's face it, they're not looking good. "I really can't see the attraction, but maybe they have a hidden talent." She like Yazz and Madonna the "Yazz always looks as though she's having a good time. Madonna's the same. I think Into The Groove was the record she ever made."

### SHE'S NOT AFRAID TO EXPRESS HER

"I'm not afraid to say what I think. Girls should learn to stand up for themselves a lot more and become more independent. Nene's album, Raw Nene! Sush! should be out in the next few weeks. Nene Cherry — way to go, keep 'em peeled. Nene Cherry — way to go, keep 'em peeled."

### FILTER ALL WATER



DON'T EVER put your knickers on, without lightly taking them first. O.K?

DON'T EVER DO THIS WITH FRIENDS



# Can your Family say this? "We SLEEP well - LOOK well - and FEEL well!"

*We're so perfect!*

**H**i I'm Kim and I want to talk about parents getting divorced. My parents got divorced about 5 years ago; I was about 9 years old at the time. My mum only had me so I found it very hard being an only child. There was no other children around to talk to.

We spent a lot of time at my nan's house so I did not have my friends around me. My dad sometimes rang up my nan's house saying nasty things and when I was at school I found it hard to work and concentrate.

I don't see my dad that often. We sometimes phone each other. He has always been a heavy drinker. We never went on a family holiday anywhere. Some nights he came in drunk. It was horrible, he used to throw things about and scream at my mum, it was so frightening. I sat up in my bedroom and cried and cried.

In the end we moved out to my nan's house. I was really upset but relieved to think that all that arguing was over. Sometimes I sat and dreamed that it was all over and we were happy. I remember those nights lying awake and crying and shouting telling them to stop but then did not. Eventually we moved back to my house and I was ready to start my new life with just me and my mum.

6 years on and I am now 14 years old. I have still had problems but we have been able to sort them out. My mum has met someone new and in the near future I will have some step brothers and sisters. I still do not see my dad very often but as I get older I find it easier to cope with and in the future I hope this experience will make me stronger.

I hope that this story will help kids that are going through a divorce in the family that it DOES get easier.

by Kim Hanrahan.



Take the pain  
AWAY Mummy!

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SORRY LARA  
next issue. XX





... Well, One might expect dear old Anne to face problems when telling mother dearest that she was a dyke. But me, I knew I had it easy when I told my mum. You see she was one of those quaint people (so loved by Dame Jill Knight) a **LESBIAN MOTHER** ! In fact most of my school life I had been paranoid that my friends or enemies would find out that she was a dyke and that I would get shit for it. Me and mater had some big blow ups with her accusing me of being homophobic, me saying I was just scared! I clung to my own heterosexuality like a cloak of protection for 3 years, "I can't help it I was born this way !!" As a straight I had my life mapped out, I was never going to get married and I would wait until I was 30 before I started breeding !

So aged a tender 17 and a half I proudly decided I was a dyke after all and thinking she'd be dead chuffed I made sure my mum was the first to know. To my amazement the first thing she said was; "oh shit, I was right looking forward to being a granny and bouncing your babies on my knee !" Well really, there is no pleasing some people !! Anyhow I was quick to point out she'd never mentioned these illicit desires when I was straight, besides she of all people knew that me being a lesbian would not stop me getting broody !!!

PS I want you to be the first to know I've decided to bring my pregnancy plans forward 5 or 6 years and hope to hear the patter of tiny feet by 1995. Wish me luck !!



# NAFF ALL.

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## ★ Madonna

has been a superstar for over six years now. Always in the headlines she was held up as a role model, a heroine by the Media.

★ Something for young women to aspire to, Madonna clones could be seen walking the streets.

But then suddenly 5 months ago all this changed. Suddenly the media went all quiet about her. Why could this be. Intrepid as ever, Shocking Pink reporters went to ask her why. This is what we found out.

THANKS shocking Pink. I'm gonna dedicate this next album to you.

WOW! what a surprise



★ I've always fancied women since I was four. But I always felt that it was wrong to feel that way. So I concentrated on other things and tried to forget about it. I worked really hard at my career, learning how to dance and sing. Then I joined a band with my boyfriend. It was called The Breakfast Club. I can't remember what he was called...

Then I became really famous which paid off all the years of effort I'd put into training my body to near perfection. But there was something missing, something indefinable. I watched with interest as Martina Navratilova won Wimbledon and saw how happy she was afterwards with her "friend" who had sat watching in the audience. The friend was a woman and I thought how amazing it was that this internationally famous sportswoman

could have a satisfying life AND a girlfriend. Deep in my heart I knew this was what I wanted. But at the time I was heavily involved with Sean Penn and the press made a lot of that relationship. I felt that it would be really hard to break free from the boundaries of heterosexual life so I thought that maybe getting married would curb my homosexual tendencies. So me and Sean got hitched while helicopters flew above our heads trying to get exclusive shots of our wedding. When last-minute doubt over marriage reared its ugly head, I reasoned with myself that if the press were going to be that snoop over an ordinary het relationship imagine what they'd do over a gay one?



(THE WAVY BITS ON THE BRA ARE FLAMES!!) & YES, she is sensible & practical enough to have a bucket of cold water to drop the bra in before it burns her arm.

Things seemed to go really well with Sean at the start and I believed that we could make it work. But then we went and made this film called "Shanghai Surprise" starring me and Sean which was just a complete flop at the box office and the critics trashed us. After that Sean had a few run-ins with the police and things just went from bad to worse. I went to a women-only bar that I knew of in New York - I had to go in disguise of course, as I just couldn't afford anymore controversy in the press at the time. Despite my nervousness over being "found out", I found that for the first time I was really enjoying the freedom of dancing without men oggling at my body.

Once I'd taken that step I knew there was no going back. I had finally faced up to the fact that I was attracted to other women. I finally met a woman, her name is Sarah. I decided that I really liked her and I eventually brought her home with me. Sean wasn't too pleased about that... There were a lot of arguments and

there were rumblings in the press over the stability of my relationship with Sean. Then finally it all came to a head when I was seen out with my girlfriend in several "unacceptable" places, and Sarah admitted that there was something going on between us.

I no longer go to bars in disguise, why should I? I think lesbianism has given me a positive choice in life and despite all the hassle that I've had in the press, I don't regret making the decision to be more open in my lifestyle.

In my last album, True Blue (obviously an anti tory joke - clause 28 is shit) I was making my first steps towards coming out. People can easily work out what's going on in my mind if they listen to the words of "Live to tell". My next album's going to be called "OUT n PROUD" and I'll be a lot more explicit in that. Basically the content is Lesbian love songs. I'm bored of singing all this stupid heterosexual crap.

So there you are...



# POLL TAX BESET BY BEASTLY GERMIES!

Poll tax, poll tax, we like the poll tax, poll tax is very nice. But awful things have been happening to it. We've seen the most shocking graffiti, and that's just the beginning...

People appear to be **SABOTAGING** the registration systems. I mean, just because the massive amount of data that has to be stored for poll tax is a bit of a **weak point**, well, I think that's just taking advantage. **F-O-R-I-N-S-T-A-N-C-E** in Scotland the computer system used by local councils to store registration info has been struck by a virus—horror!!! Apparently every 15 minutes it eats the name of someone on the register and replaces it with the name of someone who has recently died. Oh no! And we've also heard rumour that councils in London have been beset by similar germies—in one office names and addresses are just falling off computer screens and vanishing. Grim, eh?

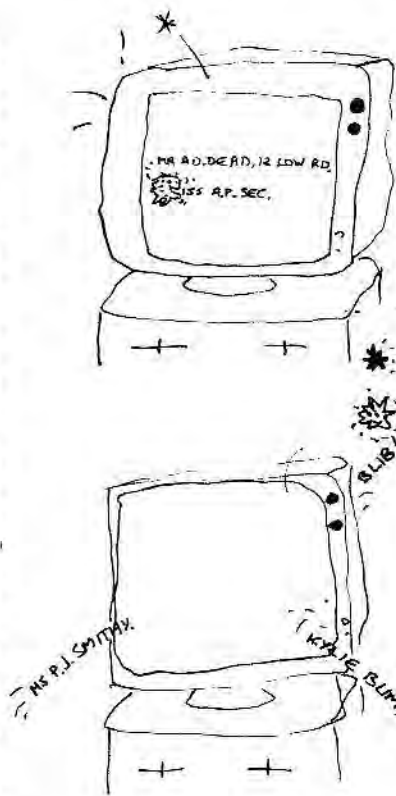
But still more distressing is the tale of the registration office in Islington, N, London that was set on fire. Now that's not even subtle. Y'know, Ollie, sometimes I get this feeling like, y'know, like everyone's against me, like they've all got this one idea in mind and they're all trying to get me...

\* **NEWS FLASH** \*  
100,000 people in Scotland haven't registered + 1 million haven't paid!!!

**LISA FROM CANADA:** I don't understand this Poll Tax...  
**A:** You don't understand how it works, or why they're doing it?  
**L:** Oh I KNOW why they're doing it—it's because they can't put all the poor people in a concentration camp and gas them.

IF YOU HADN'T, STU AND I WOULD NEVER HAVE GOT TOGETHER...

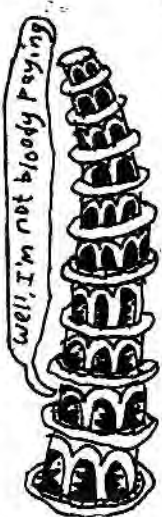
THE VIRUS FOR THE PEOPLE.



But supposing SP readers still haven't been convinced that poll tax is a really good idea, first of all: If you're over 18 we are wisely advised that you just shouldn't register, since you've probably got a very good chance of not being caught—thousands of people in Scotland haven't paid, and very few have been fined.

And if you live somewhere like Lambeth where so far less than a quarter of forms have been returned correctly, and the council has got F-all resources to track anyone down, you're probably onto a winner.

But anyway, if you want to know more about how not to know, or if you want to Get Active, you should contact your local group via London Federation of Anti-Poll Tax Groups, c/o Tottenham Against the Poll Tax, c/o 72 West Green Road, Tottenham, N15. 01-802 9804.



and he pretended to be that as well... IT WAS GREAT!

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**ATROCITY**



Fuck off  
Fuck OFF  
fuck off fuck  
Off fuck off  
fuck off

the stroppiest cat in the world.

# MODERN

## FACT FILE

**NAME:** Jen  
**AGE:** 16  
**SEXUAL PREF:** Women  
**HEIGHT:** 5'6"  
**FAVE PLANT:** Geranium

## FACT FILE

**NAME:** Kylie  
**AGE:** 14  
**SEXUAL PREF:** ~~the girls~~  
**HEIGHT:** 5'5"  
**MEASUREMENTS:** 36-25-35  
**HAIR COLOUR:** Ash  
Blonde/Brunette Roots  
**EYE COLOUR:** Mid Blue  
**FAVE RAVE:** Yason, K.R.S.I,  
Vivaldi's 4 Seasons  
**FAVE PRODUCT:** Clariol sure-  
hold Mouse  
**HOBBIES:** Girls, watching  
"Neighbours" & "Blankety Blank",  
Make-up, clothes, Green Politics.  
p.s. I'm ozone friendly- are you?

## FACT FILE

**NAME:** Deborah  
**AGE:** 14  
**HOBBIES:** ~~Grass skiing~~, playing  
the guitar  
**HOPEFUL CAREER:** Air hostess,  
but I'd like to smuggle really heavy  
drugs on the side.

## FACT FILE

**NAME:** Dawn  
**OTHER INFORMATION:**  
Unobtainable

## DEBORAH BRATCH

"I don't know why I bother coming to Buddies. Most of the time me (my best-mate Jenny used to dance together, or if Jenny wasn't with me I'd just dance round my handbag which was really boring and I'd usually end up feeling dizzy) falling over in front of everyone. I don't think I'll meet a nice girl here, I mean it isn't that sort of place- oh yeah- you might find a nice one night stand, but I'm more interested in a long term relationship.

"It can be really embarrassing you know - admitting you don't have a girlfriend & everything, sometimes I used to feel like a right gooseberry if Jenny got off with someone and started snogging in front of me. Like a couple of months ago she met this beautiful brunette called Veronica- She just said "See you later Debs" and went off in a Ford Sierra with her. I've never seen her since, it really pisses me off. I don't think I'll come here again."

## WE DROPPED IN ON BUDDIES DISCOTHEQUE IN BROUGHTY FERRY ON THEIR SPECIAL UNDER-18 DISCO NIGHT AND TALK- ED TO FOUR GIRLS ABOUT..... GIRLS!



WENDY FERRIE

"I'm not straight, but I'm not a lesbian either. I've never really thought about me being anything, even though until quite recently I had only thought that I was attracted by men. I'd meet them and then get to know what they were really like, and then think GOD! HOW BORING/SELFISH/INCONSIDERATE/THICK, ETC, ETC, THEY WERE!

"And then one day, well, over a short period (OF TIME!) I realised that I really liked one woman in a way that I never had before. It was really weird because I hadn't ever really thought of it before. I had lesbian and bisexual friends, but I just never occurred to me.

Anyway when I realised, I wasn't shocked or frightened or anything, just surprised - really surprised! I have a good relationship with my mum, and I'm really proud of her because she is so "modern" or revolutionary (!!!) than my friends mums. Well I told her that I was bisexual and she was really pleased! I think that she perhaps thought that she had brought me up well - that I didn't have "inhibitions"? to do with the sex of the person. That I liked whoever for what they were like in person.

"I don't like labelling myself because I don't know, myself, and also because everyone is so different and expects and believes different things about the same issue. This is all mixed up, but I'm just taking it as it comes and enjoying it all as well!"

## JEN McCREADIE

"I knew I was a dyke when I was eleven. I just wasn't interested in boys. My friends were interested in boys but I just didn't seem to be. Whenever I read about Lesbians I'd be completely fascinated. I can remember one thing when I was 10 in the Sunday Times magazine. It was a piece about a film



shot on the streets of a city in the USA. In the article there was a picture of a dyke and her girlfriend- I really liked the smiles on their faces. During the filming, the girlfriend was attacked by some boys. The dyke tried to protect her but was stabbed to death herself. I thought that was bad, that that should happen to such a lovely woman.

"I kept the mag. I had it tucked down the side of the wardrobe, but my mum threw it out.

"I ended up conforming for about 3 yrs. Well, I got off with a bloke when I was 11 and 15. In between that I really fancied girls: by the time I was 15 I was DEFINATELY kidding myself that I fancied boys.

"I didn't know any dykes. There were none at my all girls school. None in my family. The daughter of someone I've known since I was a baby, was married and divorced and now she's a dyke, but I don't KNOW her. But I pricked up my ears when my mum & dad were talking about what a disappointment she was to her father.

"There was SOME information available to me. When I came across "Sinking Stealing" by Jan Clausen (by the Women's Press) in my local library, I was very pleased. After that I haven't really read any books by men. I just think they look incredibly boring... & how they portray women... Then I discovered Spare Rib and then eventually Shocking Pink.



# LOVE

# I WANT YOU



"I don't really hate men, I just don't socialise with them. I can't relate to them. It really pisses me off all the sexual harassment you get just walking down the street & it really bugs me. That sets me against them. Well, it doesn't give them a very good start in my books.

"I used to listen to Janice Long on Radio 1 & she interviewed a guy from Gay Switchboard:- I wrote the number down and phoned them sometimes for a chat which was quite helpful.

"There's quite a lot of pressure from my mother, especially, to marry a rich man. I just think, yeah, yeah, boring. I don't want to do that.

"Nobody hates me at school, but I usually just sit in the corner. I listen in to everyone's conversation. I just observe them and how they act. I don't get any hassle for not participating in the conversations which are often about their boyfriends & what they do with them. I don't understand their attraction when they say that everything they do is disgusting. It seems to me that they really like the boys to look at, but once they've got off with them they say how disgusting they are and what bastards they are.

"There's a couple of girls I can talk about politics with, which is quite good, except most of my class are TORY which I'm not. Because the Tories think they represent the whole moral standing of the country & their attitude is for people to be selfish. & obviously, Section 28, which is really bad.

"Supposedly 10% of the population is gay, therefore 10% of taxpayers etc are being conned into paying to be ignored and OUTLAWED.

"If 10% of the population are gay, I think probably 9% are in the closet or even still in marriages with children and just doing it on the side basically.



**KYLIE BLIM**

"When a girl first asked me out I was quite shy really, but I was glad I wasn't going to be left out, not having a girlfriend. On my first date I did the usual things like my mum

said. Things like putting on loads of deodorant (the Body Shop one is good) and just putting on a little bit of blusher but not too much or it can look tarty. Some girls would drop you straight away if they think you're a tart. Its to do with being dirty or something so my mum says. I guess I go for big girls who are into sports but I think a good personality is more important than good looks-except for spots which I'm not in to. I don't just come to Buddies to get off with girls, I've got interests of my own. I like to meet my mates and have Make-Over sessions which is this thing where you advise each other on how to make the most of your good points. To give an example for instance (and I'm being quite honest here) my eyebrows are quite close together but are actually a nice shape, so my mates suggested just plucking the hairs in the middle which can give such a straggly look. It is much better now and gives you much more confidence. Also we pool our pocket money to buy budget packs of things like Immac and Easy-Lax and L'Oreal "At Home" perms. These can seem like small details but it is attention to detail which helps you to stand out from other girls, which is another thing my mum said. I think she's right don't you? I've got other hobbies like "Mixing and Matching" which is this thing where you take something like Acid socks and get an outfit together around that. For instance you would wear a more orangy lipstick than usual and maybe go up West to get a Smiley T-Shirt.

You have to wash all these bright things quite carefully because you can spoil a whole look if the colours go grey. I rinse all my things in really clean water which really helps maintain their freshness.

"I have got plans for the future because you do need to think ahead. Once I'm steady with a girl I'm still going to make the effort to look my best because you have to keep their interest up. Relationships take a lot of work and there's no point being slack and then be surprised that she's getting off with your best mate. What I mean is things like wearing slippers in the house even in the middle of the day. You're either in bed or you're up and dressed (shoes with just a bit of a heel is fine if you're feet are feeling tired) and ready to face the new day. This might seem like a small thing but I reckon this thing with slippers has ruined a lot of steady relationships. Surprisingly it was my Mum who told me about this thing with slippers. My mum and me get on really well and I think it's because we're both a size 12 and can swop clothes which helps bring us closer together. Also I think she's right about a lot of important things don't you? SO what about what I basically think about Buddies, Girls and looking good. I just want to say a big "HI" to Dawn (we're going steady since last Saturday night) and to all my mates in 4b. I'm really looking forward to receiving my Christy Mudpack and Ann French Cleansing Milk and I'll always be a fan of Blue Jeans, the fabbestmag EVER!!

**DAWN FERRIER**

"Yeh, the deoderant from the Body Shop is very very good. I use it all the time. I knew I was a lesbian when I was seven. My mum is more worried about my new lover being a Tory than being a girl. I was in the SWP for a bit. bye then."

# COMING OUT OF PRINCESS ANNE....

"Every self-respecting young  
get MUST come out"



wag, wag of  
white  
kid glove.



I was  
happy  
as I  
was,  
but  
there  
was a  
lot of  
social  
pressure

THE TIME CAME...

COMING OUT BALL OF  
PRINCESS ANNE.



I COULDN'T HELP BEING  
SHY - I WANTED TO BE  
DIFFERENT.



SHORT POEM ABOUT MY GIRLFRIEND.

i've got it bad—i like your boots,  
i like your leather jacket yeah;  
my mum would like you slightly more  
if you had court shoes and some hair.

London Fringe Award Winners

## GAY SWEATSHOP

present

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## Deportations treble

The number of people  
deported from Britain has  
trebled during the last 12  
months following the in-  
troduction of new powers  
by the Government last  
August.

The increase coincides  
with the removal of rights  
of appeal for those  
threatened with deporta-  
tion, and the granting of  
greater powers to immigra-  
tion officers.

## Judge brands two PCs as liars

### after woman cleared of assault

A JUDGE branded two Met-  
ropolitan Police officers as  
liars yesterday and said that  
their contempt for the public  
could lead to juries disbelieving  
what any police officer says in  
court. Judge Geoffrey Rucker  
made his comments at South-  
wark crown court, south Lon-

don, after quashing a convic-  
tion against a woman who had  
been charged with assaulting  
and insulting two constables.

Mrs Cheryll Holland, aged 36,  
from Morden, was arrested by  
PCs James Kellett and Simon  
Hartfield about a road tax disc  
in March as she arrived to open  
her mother's flower shop.

The police alleged that she  
locked herself inside the shop  
and shouted through the letter  
box. At the appeal hearing yes-  
terday a postman confirmed the  
shop had no letter box. She was  
detained for four hours and last  
April was given a conditional  
discharge.

The judge said he was ap-  
palled "that police officers who  
are there to protect us are pre-  
pared to perjure themselves  
over a matter as trivial as this."

## 10 BLACK WOMEN EX-PRISONERS

tell Ruth Chigwada of the Voice Newspaper of discrimination that they each  
experienced.

*Shocking Pink reports on what we read was said in the Voice.*

Fumi was framed because the  
police couldn't find anything to  
press charges against her  
boyfriend. They framed her with a  
false passport which they showed  
to her. It was obviously false and  
Fumi said so. "WE KNOW YOU  
BLACK PEOPLE, YOU DISGUISE  
YOURSELVES", was the reply.

Fumi was lied to, tricked (told if  
she accepted their charges her  
daughter could be returned to her),  
and also not informed of her rights  
to see a solicitor and make a phone  
call.

In prison, black women are  
stereotyped more often as  
unemployed, single parents, living  
below the poverty line and in poor  
housing. Their children are taken  
away from them as they are likely  
to be seen as "unfit mothers". This  
becomes more likely as a result,  
because they often lose their coun-  
cil flats while in prison because of  
rent arrears.

Parole to see children and family  
becomes harder and attempts to  
regain custody of children are  
harder as they no longer have a  
home and fixed address.

**TRAGIC:** Black women  
sent to prison suffer  
more than their white  
counterparts.

Racial discrimination as well as  
female harassment is widespread  
in prison. Derogatory comments  
and more frequent strip searches  
are common examples. When one  
woman complained about the state  
of the toilet the prison officer said  
"YOU ARE LUCKY TO HAVE ONE.  
IN YOUR COUNTRY YOU WOULD  
HAVE TO GO TO THE BUSH"

Today 19% of women prisoners  
are black even though ethnic  
minorities only make up 5% of this  
country's population.

Shocking Pink says it's disgusting.  
This blatant racism must stop.

# The adMinistry of Truth on Food Irradiation

§- by A. Green-Agender (Ms) -§

This September parliament will be debating a bill to introduce food irradiation. Banned in this country since 1967, the new bill hopes to bring us in line with other EEC countries where food irradiation is a standard practice. The food industry and the government are keen to see the bill passed—as is the ailing nuclear industry. For them, food irradiation could be another “nice little earner”. For us, the lowly consumer, food irradiation poses a major threat to our well being, by denying our bodies the whole food needed to both heal and maintain vital energy.

So what is food irradiation? It is a form of food sterilisation, whereby large doses of gamma rays are directed at the food's molecular construction. Gamma rays are such an energetic force that they literally knock the living daylight out of foodstuffs by disrupting their life systems. Whilst this suspends all life, it also prevents ripening and rotting—will still higher doses kill pests, bacteria and viruses. Therefore food irradiation acts as a preservative. The gamma rays themselves have to come from a source of radiation—namely Caesium 137. By happy chance, Caesium 137 is in plentiful supply in the waste from nuclear power stations. They couldn't bury it or sink it at sea, so now we've got to eat it—and pay for the privilege. It is important to stress that at “recommended levels” the food does not become radioactive. However if equipment being used developed a fault or food got “dosed” several times if left trundling around on the conveyor belt, then the food could indeed become radioactive.

Unfortunately the dangers do not stop here (who said Shocking Pink was good bedtime reading?—and what's THAT floating in my cocoa?)

Because the food has been sterilised and stripped of life by irradiation, it follows that its nutritional qualities will be affected. In potatoes irradiation can kill off half the Vitamin C content—and continues to deplete it in storage. Add to that the usual 50% loss in cooking and you end up with a nutritional non-entity. This has serious implication for those on low incomes where potatoes play a central role in the diet. Fish & rice lose a quarter of their B Vitamins—and that's before cooking. Painful periods and pre-menstrual tension are symptoms of lack of B Vitamins, but ultimately vitamin deficiencies drain the life force and set up a process of dis-ease.

Food irradiation also alters the taste of some foods. Dairy produce can taste chalky, meat develops a “wet dog” smell and celery turns brown. Obviously a chemical change has occurred in the foodstuff, which could present a danger to health. The

food industry has done the usual experiments on animals to reassure us that there's no safety hazard. However besides the issue of cruelty to animals—animal experiments are known to be unreliable—look at the Thalidomide disaster of the 60's for proof of that. Not only are animals a completely different species from us, but how likely are we to eat irradiated chicken three times a day for three weeks and then stop? Has every foodstuff been tested? What about combinations of foodstuffs eaten over ten years? There are high residues of pesticides and fungicides in our foods already—how do these chemicals react when shaken about by gamma rays? Do they produce new and unknown toxins? Questions, questions and pitifully few answers for a food process already in use for a number of years.

One of the bogus claims of the pro-food irradiation lobby is that the process will do away with unpopular additives, flavourings and preservatives. In fact the opposite is the case, as it becomes necessary to mask bad smells, revive colour and restore flavours.

Also conventional preservatives may still have to be used to kill off any remaining bacteria, in the food. It has also been said that food irradiation would see an end to the outbreaks of salmonella that the popular press has been busy bringing to our attention. However whilst salmonellae in poultry is killed in the irradiation process—botulism bacteria is not. Botulism is a much more dangerous form of food poisoning than salmonella—indeed it usually kills. Because the radiation kills off the organisms that give meat its rotting smell, it will be impossible to tell whether the meat (or vegetable) is unfit to eat. Although it is illegal to “clean up” dirty produce by irradiation factory farming techniques contribute to unhealthy produce (witness the salmonella in eggs affair) it is known to go on.

On top of these problems irradiated food is known to bruise more easily and become more prone to fungal and insect attack. Therefore the storage problems become more, not less. Yet the myth being perpetuated to the public is that irradiated food means an end to food going off and causing food poisoning.





Will stored food be rigorously checked for developing infestations and kept religiously at the right temperature? And who will check that the individual consumer does all these things? As usual it's not the food industry's problem. No question here of the polluter pays the price principle.

By now you may be wondering—given all the above drawbacks why the food industry even wants to bother with the irradiation of food. As with all things capitalist— it comes down to profits. The food and nuclear industries operate on the same economic system that was put into use in the Industrial Revolution and is still practiced with a vengeance today. This system employs three basic principles:

1. Expanding the market
2. Increasing efficiency
3. Technological advances.

Thus the food industry must expand—but there is only so much that the population of Britain can eat. The answer is to make trade more international—and the irradiation of food will ensure that food does not perish when shipped over vast distances. Coupled with mass advertising (over 300 million a year by the food industry compared to the Health Education Council's budget of £250,000 a year to promote healthy eating) to prepare a "new market" to the wonders of food irradiation, the industry looks set to achieve its goal of constant growth.

Efficiency is the food industry's next aim in order to cut costs as much as

possible. Because the industry is so huge, it is no problem to buy the latest irradiation plant and place it next to huge stores of the raw materials required. The distributors will then be able to stockpile large quantities of goods, and exercise great control over what they supply to retailers. The stores will cater for large transporters which can then shift the goods to huge out of town shopping complexes—no question of cheaper goods for small corner shops in narrow streets. Food irradiation is invaluable in that it prolongs storage life and cuts down on wasted produce. Inevitably small firms could suffer from increased competition and fewer more automated storage centres spell job losses too.

Finally there is the question of technological advance. Since the industrial revolution, it has been the aim of most businesses to do away with workers whenever possible—or to deskill their jobs and thus reduce the wages bill. Advance means bigger machinery, and its dependence on increasing supplies of the earth's dwindling resources. Never mind that there is only so much expansion that we can take—or that future generations may be left impoverished. And what does the food industry care of job losses? People are still consumers, and in need of food—even if their spending power is reduced to a giro cheque. Advance also means to up-date your product. Back in 1985, the farmers

union agreed that the "Way Forward" in recognition of a static market was to shift towards "higher value products" and to invest in research so that "new and exciting products" may be developed. Hence we have the humble potato converted into numerous highly processed nutritionally disastrous and highly priced "potato snacks". And now "research" has provided us with the gift of food irradiation.

Food has become the plaything of the multinational profiteering

**We do not inherit the world from our parents. We borrow it from our children.**

industries—linked with agribusiness and all its army of chemicals and heavy machinery. We are nothing without safe clean food—we are what we eat. Don't let business interests corner us into accepting irradiated food laced with chemical residues and liberal doses of additives. Watch out for the sale of irradiated goods and refuse them. By eating such processed food not only is there a risk of ill health—but also the endorsement of a greedy and selfish economic system that only serves to enslave us to faceless profiteers.

\*note—Much thanks to the Wales Green Party for their info leaflet on Food Irradiation. Costs 30p and is available from the Green Party, 36-8 Clapham Rd, London SW9 03Q

## RECYCLE IT!

Local South London Collections for Paper,

-Paper Collections-

Friends Of The Earth

Sainsbury's Car Park Exit- Nine Elms, Off Wandsworth Road, SW9.

Clapham High Street, Bus Garage Forecourt, next to Natwest Bank.

First Saturday each month, 10a.m.-4p.m.

Safeway, Stretham Common. Second Saturday each month.

Council Collections-

Western Riverside Transfer Station,

Smugglers Way SW.18

7.30-6p.m., 8a.m.-8p.m. Sat&Sun.

Romney Civic Amenity Site, Vale Street SE.27

7.30a.m.-4.30p.m. weekdays

8a.m.-5p.m. weekends.

P.S. For more info and other collections nationwide: Recycling Dept. F.O.E., 01-490-1555.

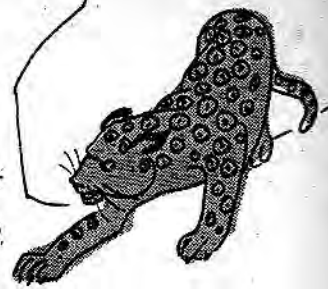




Help to carry one another's burdens (6.2)



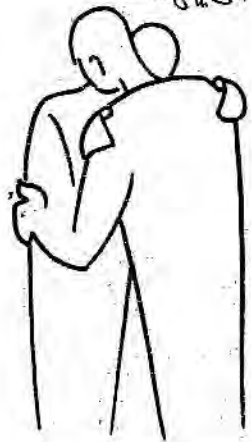
And so I tell you not to worry (12.22)



Like a leopard I will lie in wait (13.7)

# SPEXCLUSIVE!

On an expedition to Palestine SHOCKING PINK discovered buried in the foothills of Mount Sinai, this last book of the Bible where Mary tells all as it actually was. It was left out on purpose by the men who print it because it starts... (and we quote)



I  
ALL THE REST IS A LOAD OF CRAP,

II  
Here is the actual truth; Once upon a time there was a young woman called Mary (that's me) and she was really clever—much cleverer than all the men in the world (put together!)

III  
Well she wanted to have a baby, but she was a lesbian and didn't want to marry a man, and in those days it was totally unacceptable to have sex and not be married, and the kid would be proof of it.

IV  
She didn't give a shit about that, but she had an apprenticeship with a carpenter and she knew that if he knew, and everybody else knew about the kid, she'd be chunked out of her lodgings and wouldn't learn about carpentry.

V  
So she devised a plan.

VI  
She seduced the carpenter one night and he fell deeply and terribly in love with her while she fell pregnant. He was so in love with her that he would do anything for her and never throw her out, or anything.

VII  
Anyway at that time, everyone else was really confused and didn't know what the meaning of life was, etc, etc (which is, as we all know nowadays, 48—or is it 42 or 38, oh I can't remember). Anyway Mary decided to give everyone the answer to it all and invented GOD.

VIII  
Well, she is everlasting, brill, funky etc, etc and burns everyone in a place called Hell, who doesn't believe in her.

IX  
Also GOD had been the one who got Mary pregnant so that was alright.

X  
The word Virgin was invented at that time and meant a woman who chose not to have sex with men, but still had a great time loving women.

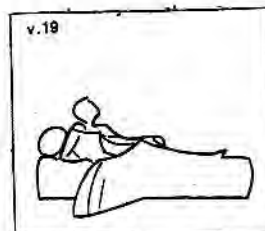
XI  
Anyway over the years this word got mucked about—by men (who didn't like it) and as Mary and Joseph lived together and Mary's lover lived in church—the House of God, they got thought of as married.

XII  
All of it was mucked about changed to suit men, by men but you all now know the real truth, and can tell all your mates about it.

AWOMEN.



LET'S  
PARTY!





# Sensible Footwear



## Feminist Theatre Company

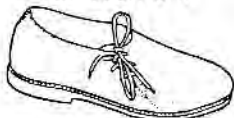
Mon 23—Fri 27 Oct., daily workshops leading to December performance. Come and get involved so you can put your point of view across in performance at: YMCA, Great Russell St., WC1.

Please tel: 01-482-2633 to book.



## MARGED SHOES

A Woman's Co-Op Making Shoes And Boots For Women.



NEW

For A Catalogue Send SAE To:- Stable Cottage, Derry Ormand Park, Betws Bledrws, Lampeter, Dyfed, SA48 8PA.

# Nuns take aim at £670,000



I've just been sitting here picking my nose and I look up and there's a office full of people over there watching. I can't help it, I'm short sighted.

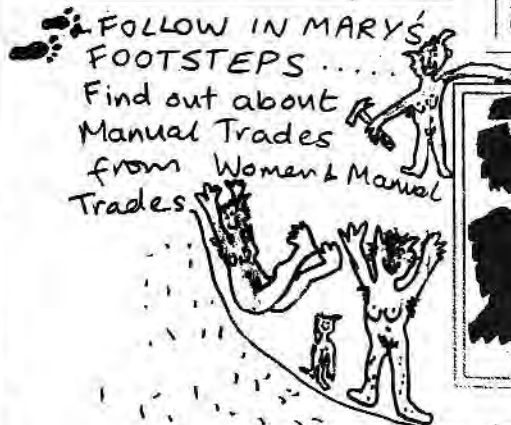
## Spellbound taxman . .

A COVEN of witches has won tax exemption in the United States — as a "legitimate religious group".

The high priestess of the coven in the eastern state of Rhode Island, Joyce "Lady Genevieve" Siegrist, said last night:

"With this ruling, we witches will definitely be able to come out of the closet and take our place in society."

Mother Bernadette (left) and Mother Xavier, of the Adorers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, of Montmartre, practising their snooker shots. They need £670,000 to repair their Tyburn Convent in west London and, if a sponsor can be found, may stage a snooker contest soon.



## 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 onto 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. Write/call London Women and Manual Trades for more info at: London WAMT, 52/54 Featherstone St., London EC1Y 8RT. 01 251 9192.



## HARINGEY WOMEN'S TRAINING & EDUCATION CENTRE

Still have vacancies in Construction Trade Courses. Part time (3 1/2 days a week):

Plumbing

Carpentry & Joinery

Painting & Decorating

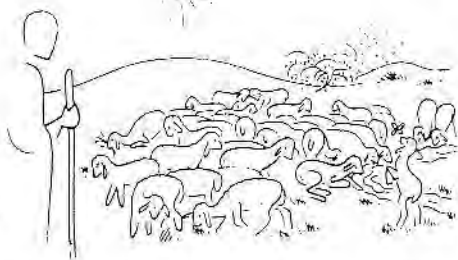
Courses are free with allowances and travel expenses paid.

Beginning week commencing 18th Sept.

Contact HWTEC for more info. at

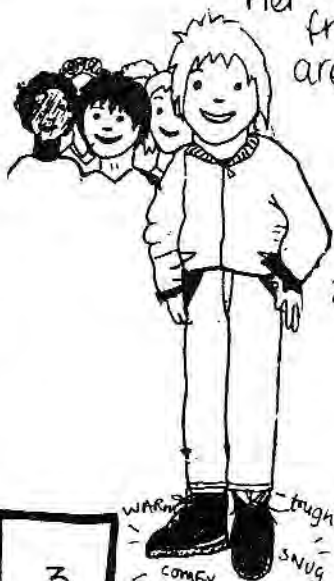
Former Somerset Lower School, Lordship Lane, Tottenham, London N17.

Tel 01-801-6233.



will be the shepherd of my sheep (34.15) but I'll join a Union - the pay is so bad!

1. Karen and her friends are happy, and outgoing now. But once, a long time ago...



# Monkey Boots

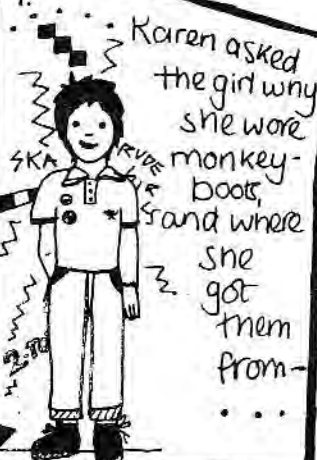
girls can wear 'em  
I love 'em  
cool  
A True story (thanks to Kaz!)  
or Blisters!  
Karen was



3.

Karen got really fed-up, but one day she saw a girl at her school wearing monkey-boots, but it was alright for her, she was accepted, 'cos she was a 'Rude-Girl' - (into 2-tone etc)

4.

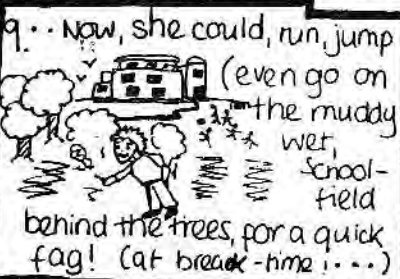


5. fed up with silly, unpractical shoes, and wanted sensible, versatile footwear, so she became a 'rude-girl' as she thought it was the only way her friends wouldn't laugh at her way of dress, - and accept her.

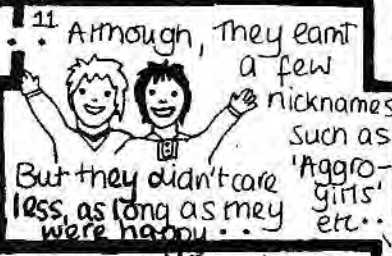
8. She rushed to buy them at the market.



7. So Karen saved and saved, Soon she had £9!



10. She had made friends with the 'Rude-Girl', and they both felt really happy wearing their boots to school and soon their friends stopped making comments.



12. Girls at school saw how practical the Boots were, and soon, quite a few girls wore them, and none of them regret doing so to this day!!



It's nice living in high density housing isn't it.  
oh shut up!

Debi



# The Struggle For Liberation 1914-1918.

## by Lulu de Crass.

**R**emember those fabulous "dining out girls"? *"The wartime business girl is to be seen any night dining out alone or with a friend in the moderate priced restaurants in London. Formerly she would have never have had her evening meal in town unless in the company of a man friend. But now with money and without men she is more and more beginning to dine out."*

The Daily Mail. 1915.

During the years 1914-1918—such a short period historically; British women threw away the constraints of the Victorian age that had bound them to the "home", and embraced the Brave New World. Whilst men engaged in the most widespread war-faring ever experienced, women had been waging their own Great War. Here is their story...

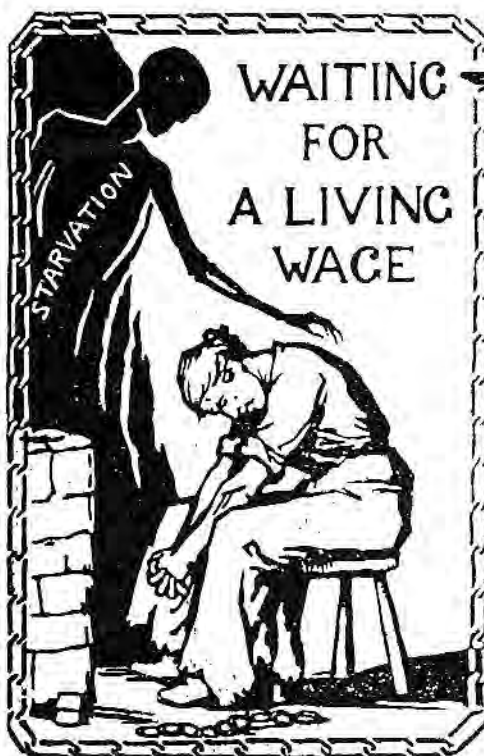
Until the advent of the first world war women were still expected to fit in with the images that Victorian society had assigned to them, and which Edwardian men were only too happy to see continue. Since the French Revolution of the 1790's the middle classes had sought to establish a degree of stability in that now well-known myth—and power structure—the Nuclear Family. Gone was the pre-industrialized family in which everyone did their part. In the new system the perfect wife and mother was the centre of the private domain of the home. The outside world was the wicked world of money-making, coalmines, ironworks, poverty, disease, crime, and other foul deeds (e.g. Freemasonry).

The perfect "Lady" was married, brought forth sons, felt no sexual desires and above all was idle. The husband's wage was supposed to provide servants, cooks, nurses and governesses. On top of all this the "perfect lady" was of a delicate nature, and frequently unwell. Furthermore she was also stunted intellectually. As one wanker wrote in a popular magazine of the time "Temple Bar"

*"In some things she is as ignorant as a child, but hers is a blessed ignorance... little Betty's mind is more eager to watch the flight of swallows or inquire into the growth of roses than to learn the distinction of shillings, pounds and pence, and I would not have her different."*

Women of this time, indeed Edwardian women experiencing the war, have been much affected by this image. To not conform to it meant punishment in one form or another, and men had much to lose by women rejecting such a passive and powerless role.

### § Episode One §



Before the outbreak of war the lot of most women was back-breaking work, either in the home in the fight against dirt and disease or in the various other options open to them. At the lower end of the scale this included work at the coal tips, employment in the cotton mills (mostly single women) and the various "sweated" trades. These trades, such as dressmaking, artificial flowermaking, box making and nail making were carried out either in the home or in small dark & crowded workshops well out of the reach of the few factory inspectors. Although the trade unions were gaining popularity they were mostly run by men for men and had little to gain by fighting for the working conditions of women. Needless to say wages were very low and the hours very long. It was not uncommon for women who worked in these trades to resort to prostitution in order to top up their wages.

Another much hated "opening" for women was going into service where often the employers insisted upon changing their names and giving them a more "suitable" one instead.

*"A respectable girl, about 18 years of age as housemaid: tall and of good appearance: one who has not been out before preferred: must be willing and handy with her needle."*

Evening Express.

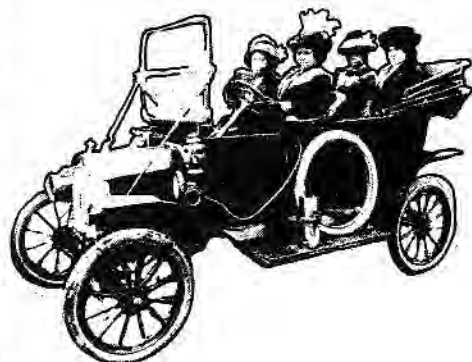


For the middle class woman who desired a career the openings were fewer, clerical work in the new offices, typing and filing (but at a lower wage than men doing the same job), shop assistants, nurses, and elementary school teachers. A very few, mostly single women, had recently entered the medical profession, lectured at universities, and in a few cases had become factory inspectors. This small group of women were to play a very influential role in the emerging women's movement of the war years.

Before the war, the average wage of women in industrial work was eleven shillings (under 60 pence) per week, a third of the average male wage for the same job. However this was not a situation that many women tolerated without considerable protest. Most evident is the strike of the Cradley Heath chain workers in 1910, organised by Mary McArthur of the National Federation of Women Workers. The following year this outstanding woman organised strikes by jam and pickle workers, rag pickers, bottle washers and distillery workers. This general labour union did more to organise women in the workplace than any other body. The women marched in their Sunday-best, picketed and raised funds with much enthusiasm.

**So remember girls there is no future without a past. Know where you come from, and know your history!**

§ See next issue for episode 2. §



# BIRBECK COLLEGE University Of London

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**WOMENS STUDIES** Part time courses where all women are welcome.  
No qualifications.

Choose from: *Creative Writing; Black Women into Family Albums and Photography; History Workshops; Lesbian Issues; Women and Christianity; Women in Irish Literature; Women in Art; Women's Spirituality; Feminist Cinema; Women in Islam; Black Women's History; Women and Music; Writing for Journalism and many others.*

Details from Virginia Peters, Centre for Extra-Mural Studies, 26 Russell Square, London WC1B 5DQ.  
Telephone 01-636 8000 ext 3853.

HELLO READERS!

HAPPY READING!

women's  
photography  
collective



**monocrone**

Monocrone is a really excellent and friendly photography darkroom run by Black and white women. You can either work by yourself if you're quite confident, or you can go to sessions where there is supervision on offer for more help. They also run very good courses—I know

because I went on one, and they definitely like to see work being done by Black women and girls.

If you want to book time in the darkroom, or to find out more about their courses, contact them at: **Monocrone, Clapham Pool, Clapham Manor Street, London SW4 6DB.**  
Tel: 978 2458

## DARKROOM TIMETABLE

### Tuesdays

10.00am - 1.00pm ..... Open Access (mixed)  
2.00pm - 5.00pm . Open Access (women only)  
6.30pm - 9.30pm ..... Supervision (mixed)

### Thursdays

10.00am - 1.00pm ..... Supervision (mixed)  
6.30pm - 9.30pm .. Supervision (women only)

### Saturdays

2.00pm - 5.00pm .. Supervision (women only)

AT LEAST 75,000 people in London are homeless, constituting a "shanty town".

## The bra again

DOES Judy Miles (July 20) really "simply step into her bra"? Not so simple, I would have thought. The way I have managed since first wearing one is to put it round my waist, fasten it at the front and simply swing it round, putting my arms through the straps and heaving it up. All that lugging up the legs and over the hips doesn't bear thinking about.

Jean Barr thank god for that.

Since so few women wear them these days, here is a picture of a BRA to remind you.



Jeff Fitzpatrick did the two-minute mile down the street. I hope he doesn't think I fancy him.

## Doctor reinstated

Dr Jennifer Colman-Archer, who was struck off after calling a colleague a queer, a fairy, and a poof, won back her right to practise yesterday because she was suffering from a rare brain disease at the time.

= how

MAD  
MAXINE







War plain... the mock German village which the army is building for exercises on Salisbury Plain against local protests -

PHOTOGRAPH GARRY WEASEL

This is the new town of FIBUA - 'FIBUA' stands for 'Fighting in Built-Up Areas' - created by the British Ministry of Defence (U.K. Land Forces). It will never be lived in. Its only purpose is to train troops for fighting and killing in a war in Germany.

This "mock village" is said to resemble settlements on the North German plain, and is regarded by the Army as an essential element in its NATO commitments.

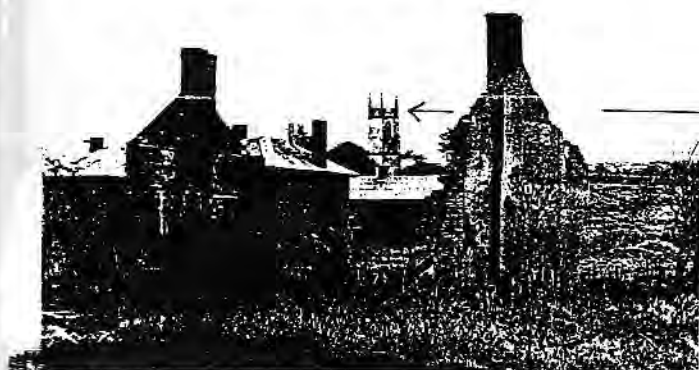
It is due for completion by the end of next year at an estimated cost of £15 MILLION.

This fake village, covering 30 acres, is being built at a time when it is estimated there are as many as 11,000 homeless people in LONDON alone!

A long campaign by people in the 4 surrounding real villages to get a public inquiry, or some other investigation of the military's plans appears to have come to nothing.

The military are creating this village of death with the same arrogance and insensitivity with which they evacuated, and took over the nearby village of Imber - now used for training British troops for house-to-house combat training in Northern Ireland. The Cruise missile convoy also goes to Imber village, for exercises in genocide - will it also "hide" in this new mock village?

Yellow Gate, Greenham Common - We are non-violent, non-aligned, anti-racist, autonomous women.

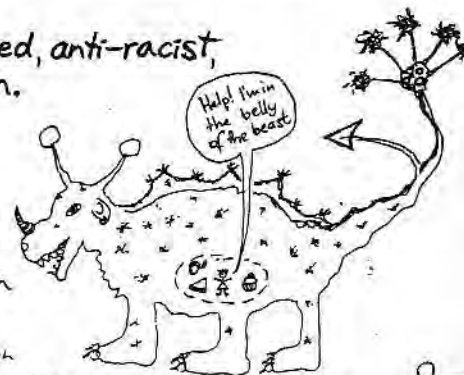


Imber Village Church,

occupied by Yellow Gate women

- June 14<sup>th</sup>, 1988
- December 17<sup>th</sup>, 1988 - 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of evacuation
- March 25<sup>th</sup> 1989

A LUTA CONTINUA!

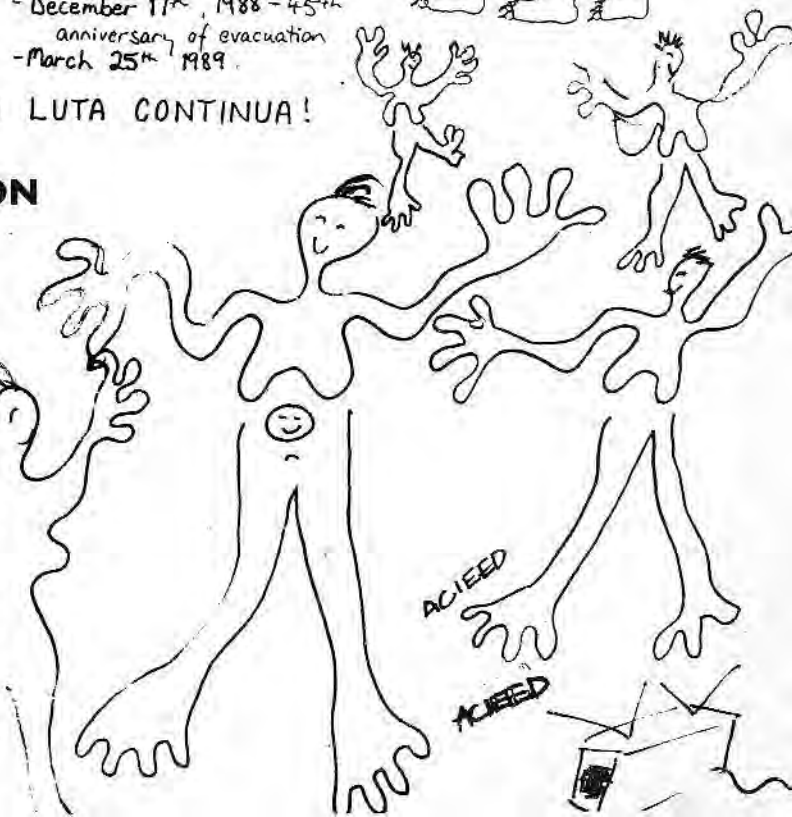


## YELLOW GATE GREENHAM COMMON

On the night of Friday August 11 to Saturday August 12, five women from Yellow Gate tracked the exercising Cruise missile convoy to Imber Village (Salisbury Plain) which was stolen from the villagers in 1943. This action was also in memory and tribute to Helen Thomas, a Welsh woman killed by a police truck one week before. Helen openly made the connections between the Welsh and Irish nationalist struggles, through non-violent direct action. Four of the women were arrested after singing to attract the attention of the MOD and were charged with Trespass. While two were released immediately on bail, the other two were held illegally at Salisbury police station, and subject to intimidation and mistreatment.

They were threatened with the Prevention of Terrorism Act; one was accused of being a member of the IRA, and the other told there was not a chance of her being released until after the 20th anniversary was over. The woman, who had a foreign accent was told: 'Why are you concerned about Cruise? You're not British.' She was also watched by a WPC while showering. This was designed to humiliate in the same way as strip searching women prisoners.

Both women had fulfilled their obligations under law by providing names and addresses, and neither has a record of failing to surrender to bail. Under the terms of the Bail Act (1976), they should have been released immediately on Bail with the other two women. Complaints are being submitted to the Wiltshire Constabulary.



Although Dennis  
always bought  
Jack (for boys)



THIS IS TOTALLY  
IRRELEVANT

It didn't solve his  
problems.  
In fact it  
didn't cover  
his real  
problem  
at all.

Problem  
area....

# DENNIS

H  
A  
R  
A  
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S  
M  
E  
N  
T

Cor Dennis.  
You've got  
cute balls.



The taboo of male  
Self defence, @



The wierd reaction of  
other boys

PUTTING UP WITH CRUDITIES....



You can't be sane.  
You hit Sally. She's  
the best looking girl  
at St Catherine's



itch  
itch

Smell



Women pissing  
in the street  
make me so  
angry & jealous.  
I hate girls

WHAT WILL DENNIS  
DO ? MORE LATER..



**GRAPEVINE BOOKSHOP**  
'Too much of a good  
thing can be wonderful'  
**Mae West.**

Grapevine bookshop, radical  
booksellers to East Anglia.  
Dales Brewery, Gwydir Street,  
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to sell **SHOCKING PINK** and it  
also sells Books, Records, Badges  
etc.

London's Gay Community Bookshop

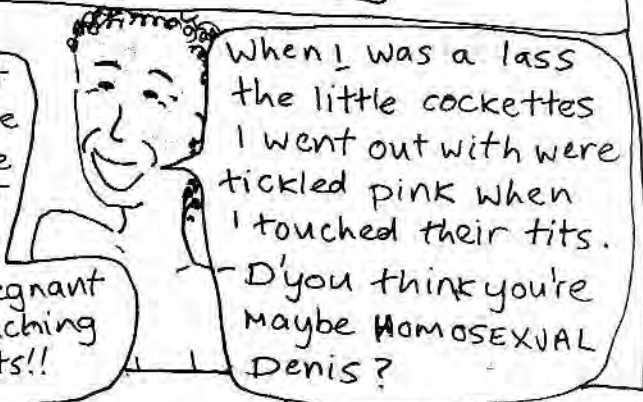
**Gay's The Word**

for the best in lesbian,  
gay and feminist  
reading with thousands  
of imported titles.

Mon - Sat 11am-7pm  
Sun 2-6pm

66 Marchmont Street,  
London WC1N 1AB.  
Telephone: 01-278 7654





**OLGA**  
...NATIONAL

### OLGA Lesbian Campaign.

The Organization For Lesbian and Gay Action is launching a campaign to fight for the custody rights of Lesbian Mothers. **Join in the struggle!** We need information, advice and input from Lesbian Mothers. We are working towards a European Lesbian Custody Demonstration.

Please contact: **OLGA**, 38 Mount Pleasant, London WC1X 0AP.  
Tel: 01-833-3860.

● Researching Material for dissertation on PORNOGRAPHY and it's links with SEXUAL ABUSE. Any info/opinions gratefully received (willing to answer questionnaire!). Contact: R. Eagle, 50 Burleigh Rd, Loughborough.

**Life begins at sixty**



Reduce the Monarch

Do the Royal Family have NS numbers? Will they pay the Poll tax?



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY SHOCK- ING PINK

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Sonias for all their dedication and hardwork in producing SP for the past 7 issues. Apart from being incredibly attractive and beautiful their skill at typesetting and layout will be sorely missed, we love them lots and lots and want to sleep with them too. The time that they have devoted with massess of selflessness and courage has been greatly appreciated by all the readers. We wish them all the success in their successive careers:

**Agent001:** Following in the footsteps of Seve Balisteros (who also worked on SP before his change) is set to become a World famous golf professional, good luck to her. **Agent002:** Confused, tired, older but not wiser, is looking for a job. Interested? Anything considered. STOP PRESS! Remarkably she's just been

snapped up by our budding golf pro. **Agent003:** has seen an opening in the market of feminist glass and ceramics jewellery, and is also successfully infiltrating the Tory Party. **Agent004:** will be absent. **Agent 005:** Is plumbing and being a wonderful mother to the little kittens. **Agent 006:** is predicted to work on City Limits. Enough of that. They've gone and that's what hurts. A merry Christmas and a happy new year! More seriously, our assets have not been frozen, we've got : a computer, an orange filing cabinet, a stamp, an assorted collection of Spare Ribs, The complete set of Jackie magazine going back to 1963, some nice plants, back copies, a good relationship with Bilo at Central Books, ooh! And Noel at East End Offset, and an attractive set of subscribers, an office with big windows, a reasonable bank account, and a LAYOUT BOARD. It's a lot of

work to do SP but NOW IS A GOOD TIME TO GET INVOLVED because it'll be a newish group finding out how it's going to come out.... Our mummies want us to put more time into our schoolwork, what with GCSEs coming up in a few years, BYTE then bye bye.

I about that... There  
lot of arguments and

So there you are-



# Alice Walker



The popular author of the Pulitzer Prize winning *The Color Purple* will be making a rare visit to this country in September to launch her latest novel, *The Temple of My Familiar*

**Sunday 17th September 7.30pm**  
The Hackney Empire  
291 Mare Street, London E8  
01 985 2424

**Wednesday 20th September 7.30pm**  
Sheffield City Hall  
Organised by the Independent Bookshop  
0942 737722

**Thursday 21st September 1-2pm**  
Waterstones Bookshop (book signing)  
91 Deansgate, Manchester M3  
061 832 1992

**Friday 22nd September 1-2pm**  
Silver Moon Women's Bookshop (book signing)  
68 Charing Cross Road, London W2  
01 836 7906

**Saturday 23rd September 8pm**  
The Africa Centre  
38 King Street, London WC2  
01 836 1973

The Women's Press



THEY WROTE  
THAT THEMSELVES!

There are several  
inaccuracies.

I DO NOT WISH TO SLEEP  
WITH THEM (full stop)

esp. because:-

1. They are old,
2. bitter,
3. wrinkled,
4. AND hardened by their time at SHOCKING PINK.

We need to recruit new, young, fresh SWEET SIXTEENS (for me to sleep with !!)

WE NEED YOU!

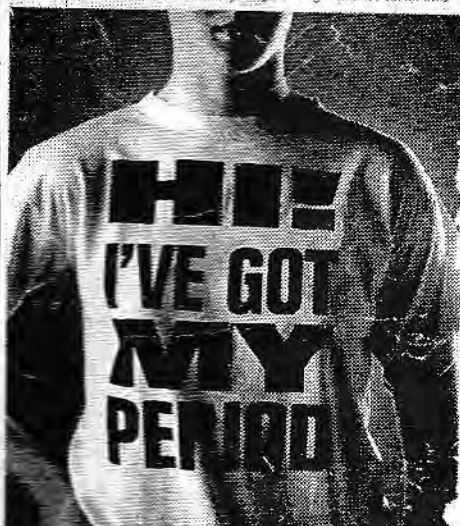
Loveyalots&lots&lots.

X X X



## Good News for Women

As you can imagine, your finger is a lot softer and



### HI I'VE GOT MY PERIOD—T-Shirts

seen the advert get the period...oops!...T-Shirt. (Shocking Pink, fighting Menstrual taboos) Send £5 + 50p p&p to SHOCKING PINK, 23 Tunstall Rd, London SW9 8BZ. Honest. 54 originals for sale. Get yours NOW.

KNICKERS also available, 'HI I'VE GOT MY PERIOD' or ▼ VARIOUS COLOURS LIKE 'Peach', 'sky blue', 'Pastel pink'.



## 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.

01 737 5901 or 274 8854 (ansaphone).

SNIP

For your free Lil-lets sample pack write to: FREEPOST, Marion Cooper, Smith & Nephew Consumer Products Ltd., Alum Rock Road, Birmingham B8 3DZ. (No stamp required.) Only one coupon per person, please.

3/8/24-7/89

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

**Lil-lets**

CLAIM YOUR FREE PACK - CUT OUT +  
SEND OFF

I'm tired and want to go to bed.

● **LESBIAN REFUGE MEETING:** Thursday 14th September 7pm at Southwark Women's Centre, 2-8 Peckham High Street, SE15. LESBIANS ONLY.

● **LIB EDS 4th annual conference** is on Saturday October 28 at Vaughan College, St. Nicholas Circle, Leicester. Admission: £8 in advance, £9 on the day (waged), £4/£5 (unwaged), £1/£1.50 (young people). LIB ED, c/o 132 Holgate Rd, York YO2 4DL. (0904) 612903.

**HISTORY OF WOMEN ARTISTS 1500'S-1990'S**

**CITY LIT ADULT EDUCATION INSTITUTE**

Stukeley Street, WC2  
01-242-9872  
Wednesday 7.30-9.00  
September-June

AND

**GOLDSMITHS' COLLEGE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON**  
New Cross, SE14  
01-692-7171  
Thursday 7.30-9.30  
September-June

Tutor: Nicole Veillard  
WASL History Co-ordinator

atrocities speaks p.32



## IE NEWS 3

**Jail baby death prompts inquiry call**

Aileen Ballantyne and Angelia Johnson

**T**HE Home Secretary, Mr Douglas Hurd, has been asked to initiate an inquiry into the treatment of pregnant women held in Holloway prison, north London, after a prisoner claimed she was in labour for nearly four hours in a locked room before an ambulance was called.

In a statement to her lawyers, the woman said: "I was left there suffering and rolling from pain and begging them to take me to hospital but was only given a pain-killer." She was taken to Whittington Hospital, north London, where the baby was stillborn. It is understood that the child was born prematurely.

Ms Jo Richardson, Labour's spokeswoman on women's issues, has tabled a parliamentary question calling for an National Health Service inquiry into the management of the prison's mother and baby unit.

The woman, Mrs Olufunni-layo Olatunbosun, from Nigeria, is awaiting trial on charges of smuggling drugs.

**Come to a WOMEN'S MUSIC WORKSHOP at the LEWISHAM ACADEMY OF MUSIC.**

Every Wednesday evening, 7-9pm. All styles and all standards welcome. Free creche.

We're at: 77, Wat-son's St., London SE8. For details ring 01-691-0307.

**Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA)** was brought in in 1974, supposedly as an emergency measure after the Birmingham pub bombings, though it has in fact been prepared before. It allows for detention without charge for up to 7 days without charge. Also for people & overwhelmingly Irish to be questioned and searched, which for women may include strip searching at ports of entry to Britain. Also for exclusion from Britain for Irish people even if they live here, without any reason given or right to appeal. In November 1988 the European Court of Human Rights ruled against Britain for detaining people for over 4 days without charges (Guine's saying one). The PTA has absolutely nothing to do with "terrorism" and is practically never used to deal with "terrorist" offences. It is a state weapon against the Irish community in Britain, 1. for low-level surveillance and information gathering, as recommended by Army bastard Frank Kitson (when detained you can be charged with withholding information, i.e. there's no right to silence); 2. to harass and intimidate Irish people out of any political activity whatsoever. REPEAL IT.

**Leeds Abortion Fund**  
 Every year some women in Leeds set up an abortion fund, mainly due to the fact that 80% of women wanting abortions have found it impossible on the NHS. The choice therefore is to continue with an unwanted pregnancy or go private (which costs between £150 and £200). They obviously need regular donations so any help would be appreciated. Send money or offers of support (benefits, etc.) to: Leeds Abortion Fund, c/o Box 32, 52 Call Lane, Leeds, LS1 6DT. (From Direct Action newspaper).

**Art festival of art and banned films & videos in Ireland** in Southwark. The art exhibition will be at the South London Art Gallery, 65 Peckham Road, London SE5, from 13th October to 2nd November. The film festival will start on 19th October and will include one women-only screening—phone SP for details nearer the time.

**Strip-searching**  
 Strip-searching is a form of psychological torture used especially against Irish Republican and Black women, in prisons and at customs, but also any other people, including male prisoners, that the police want to harass and intimidate. Strip-searching is NO WAY done for security. Women are made to undress completely, often removing tampons/sanitary towels, and then 'searched' by men, etc. i.e. the whole process is degrading & humiliating. Irish women prisoners can be strip-searched every day when they have had no contact with their families. Strip-searching should be banned and anyone who knows anything says so. Contact: United Campaign Against Strip-Searching, c/o ALA, 36 Old Queen St, London SW1.

**Abortion**  
 Abortion has been seriously attacked in the US. In July the Supreme Court (an unelected body with powers of law-making almost as great as parliament here) upheld a Missouri state law which puts very serious restrictions on when a woman can get an abortion. The Missouri statute says that life begins at conception, that a doctor must conduct extensive tests to see whether the foetus could supposedly "survive" with whatever amount of male-invented technology, and worst of all that public hospitals and employees may not perform abortions even if necessary to save a woman's life. This means that in Missouri only women with enough money to pay private clinics can get an abortion. Poor women will have to have unwanted babies or risk potentially deadly back street abortions. Up till now, abortion has been legal in the US since the 1973 Supreme Court Roe v. Wade decision, though I think there were probably the same sort of hindrances as in Britain. This new decision is generally agreed to be an open invitation to all states to pass similar anti-abortion laws.



"If you can't find love with a man or with a woman, you will always find it with a house plant."

**Tina Turner**

DON'T FORGET TO BRUSH YOUR TEETH AFTER READING SHOCKING PINK

