

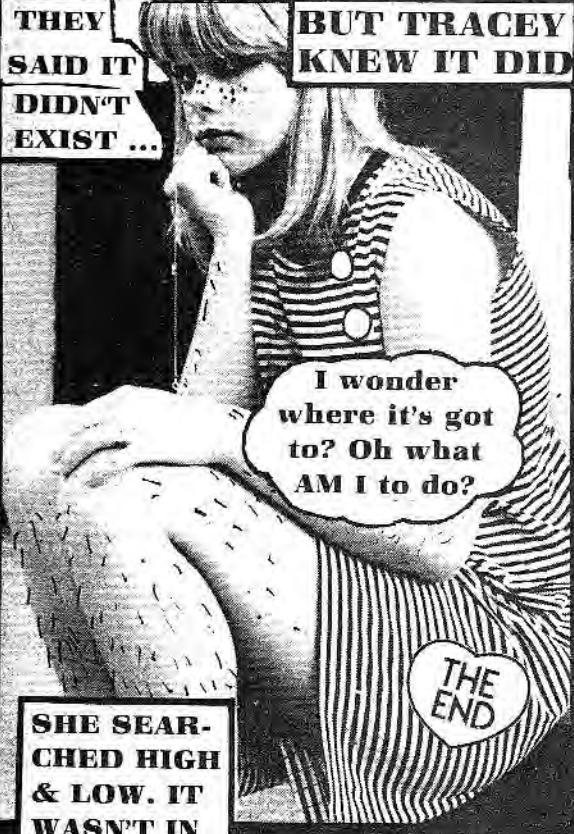
SHOCKING

60p

Issue 12503

THEY
SAID IT
DIDN'T
EXIST ...

BUT TRACEY
KNEW IT DID



SHE SEAR-
CHED HIGH
& LOW. IT
WASN'T IN
THE KIT-
CHEN, IT
WASN'T IN
THE HALL
...

Maybe it's
in here ...

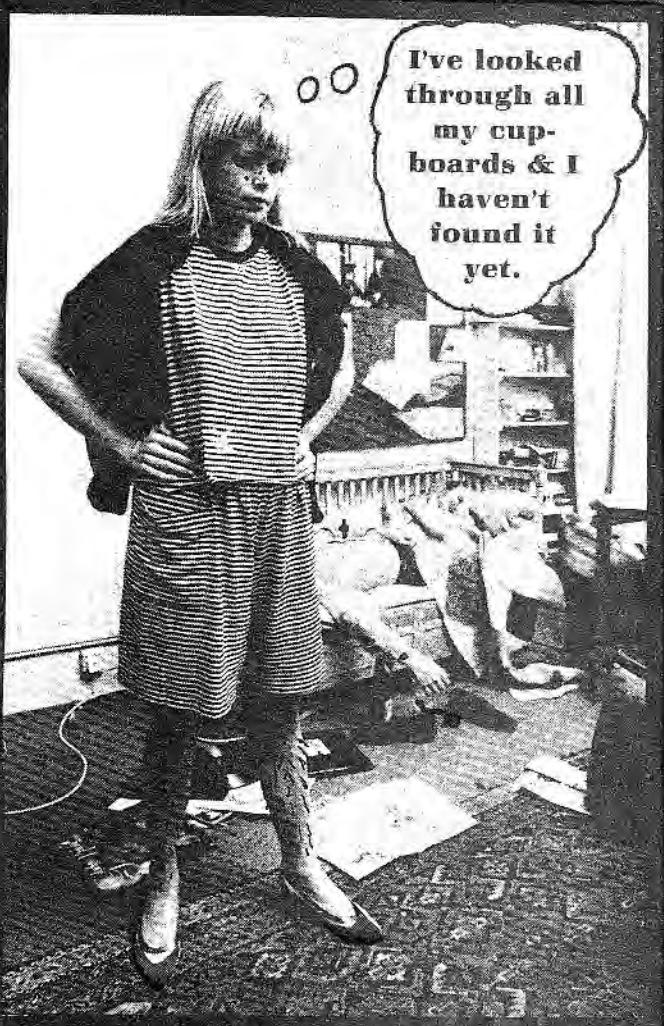


INCLUDING ...

Here & There .. Love & Devotion .. 25%
EXTRA—Frost .. NHS—The Rocky Road to
Revolution .. Lies .. Musical Riots .. Lets have
a Baby .. (Lets Not) .. Shells Special .. Should
Boys Be Sprayed Blue at Birth? .. SWAPO in-
terviewed .. Lots of advertising.

PLUS: Periods, Poetry, Postering.

I've looked
through all
my cup-
boards & I
haven't
found it
yet.



Letters, letters, letters, letters, let

Dear Shocking Pink,

I lost my job as a waitress and was forced to wash dishes instead by a new manager because I had a **SHOCKING PINK SKINHEAD**.

Can I have a free T. Shirt as compensation?

Lizi. Aberdeenshire.

SP2 say we're very sorry. We can't give you a free T. Shirt because we are only poor. Anyway free T. Shirts don't get you your job back. Our advice to you is to join a self help group for skinhead waitresses. (There should be one near you.)

Dear Shocking Pink,

I think Shocking Pink is great. Thanks to everybody who helps. Sorry to say that nobody wants to order it. My teacher read it and told me not to bring it in anymore as it is **offensive and unnecessary**. But I can keep the posters up because they're not offensive. The teacher is a man.

Love Haley.

Shocking Pink says it is only as offensive as is necessary.

SP says thank you for the letter. We **DIDN'T** get your pubes. In fact quite often we don't get letters. Maybe there is an official censor who intercepts some of them. If anyone else doesn't get a reply please please don't give up on us. Try again.

Shocking Pink!!

Where do I begin? At the end may be—in sisterhood, yours sincerely, Jan Haave. OK, I think the mag is BRIL!, you hear that all the time I'm sure. I'm a 23yr old Lesbian—socialist artist from Canada on a working holiday in the UK. By the way, I sent in one of my prize pubies back in November to you—from Edinburgh. Surely you must have gotten it! I'm disappointed in the contest—it must have been fixed! I've got no FRIED.... Whoops! Friends Because.....

a) I have a nasty habit of pointing out minor hygienic things (you've got more dirt under your nails than I've got in my back garden)

b) Garlic and onions are an irreplaceable part of my daily diet.

c) I throw insults at imperfect strangers who look at me the wrong way. (Hey you!, is that a baby, or do you always dress up your pit bull terrier pup when you go out for a walk?) the truth

d) I travel around too much, and don't have much time off. Actually, I do have one acquaintance in London—the old grey guy walking around Oxford Circus with the sign relating high protein diets with LUST!

Well, if I don't win the contest, I will try to stop by for a cup of coffee the next time I'm in London. (I live in ringwood—South West).

Oh—one more thing, while reading your Brilliant, Electric, Mass of Literary Wonder, I was struck by a great idea. I'm going to dye my underarm hair pink—I may have to bleach it first to get the right shade of Fuschia (What's that—SP) I want, but it'll be fun anyways. Which me luck!

PS. How does the collective feel about nostril hair and chunky earlobes?

eg. Marjina Shanahan.
P27183
H.M. Remand Centre,
617 Warrington
Bisley,
Cumbria, WA3 6BP.



REVENGE
AT THE BOTTOM
FOR AGGRESSION

Dear Shocking Pink,

The sixth form head has told me and another 6th former that we can't bring SP or Spare Rib into school because we may not turn out normal. We may influence other 6th formers about rights etc. and we shouldn't be reading them anyway! What makes me sick is that if I brought in the Sun or the Star he wouldn't say a thing.

Lesley Hanlon. Liverpool.

Yet more on bigotted teachers ... ?

Dear Shocking Pink,

Did you know that it is the duty of every Catholic girl to marry and reproduce? And that lesbians and gay men are perverts? Believe it or not that is what one of my RE teachers told me. It's strange that there are still people who believe such crap. I'm glad to see someone is putting them right.

Haley Magee. Liverpool.

Why not write a letter ... ?

There are women in prison. Whether justly or not, they need your support. Why don't you write a letter to one of them now & again and add a small amount of sunshine into their tedious days behind bars. (in conditions that are definitely NOT healthy).

If this idea is appealing to you why not S2 readers than write to us & we will send you details & addresses of needy women.

Dear Shocking Pink,

I have just picked up a copy of this amazing piece of literature at the Bookplace in Peckham and have spent a good few hours digesting its contents. I think the magazine is fucking excellent so I will endeavour to obtain it whenever it comes out. It is so hard to get anything decently anarchist written by young women these days. I wish I could have got something like this when I was struggling through the education system. I was seen as a terrible misfit because I happened to be fond of an oversized black raincoat which I wore with an adapted uniform and impossibly back combed hair Thank God SP2 is around to give support to others in the same boat now.

Janice Charlesworth . London.

Dear Shocking Pink,

Thanks alot for the poster. I had just about given up on you. I will put it up but it will be taken down the next day.

I was reading Spare Rib & one of the teachers told me not to bring it in again. It wasn't suitable for a young lady to read. Lets hope Shocking Pink is better! Thanks a lot.

Lots of love

Haley.

We did not make any of these letters up.

INCREDIBLE BUT TRUE!

LOST & FOUND
EXISTING IN
MAN'S SOCIETY



Contents.

Thing	Page
Heartbreak Hospital	4
Page Five	5
The Truth	6
Better than Getting Pissed	7
It's Not Fair	8
If you squash us up anymore we'll erupt	9
You are NOT alone	10
Romance & Nervous Conditions	11
Kidnapping of Aboriginal Children	12
Beat Evil Alton	13
INS and OUTS of contraception (the)	14
The shape of things to come	15
Guess What	16
Bits & Pops	17
Cry of Resistance	18
Manchester '88	19
There's more to life than boy meets girl	20
YOUR PIN UP	21
Council Cuts at Kings Cross	22
'It's not easy'—Bience from Swapo	24
The politics of youth working & Ami's true feelings	26
'Gentle robbery' .. and more	28
Page 29	29
Two pages of periods	30
What on Earth Possessed Selina?	33
eh? All part of the plan?	34
Who's fooling Who?	35
Boys corner	38

Distributed by Central Books
01-407 5447

Shocking Pink Developments, Changes, Editorial.

Like so many hard left magazines *Shocking Pink* was in severe financial straits. '*Bride*', similarly, was on the verge of folding. *Shocking Pink* thought there was only one thing for it; they approached '*Bride*' and proposed a merger. *Bride* was initially unsure (SP called it coy) (actually SP felt mucked about by *Bride*'s changes of heart). But (thank God) '*Bride*' eventually decided to go for the union and this issue is the outcome. There were *no forced redundancies* but a few of the '*Bride*' group regrettably felt they couldn't accept the huge drop in wages.

All the new merged collective believe the resulting magazine is a fair representation of both groups basic beliefs. If you think there is unreasonable bias towards EITHER one of the former magazines we'd be interested to hear your opinions.

"Where others go we follow" motto of the SP collective.



PHOTO
LOVE
FEST



JANET BRIGGS:-

Dedicated to fighting evil

she knows

she must get a mass strike to stop the Tory cuts & save the NHS. But how can she get others to join the struggle?



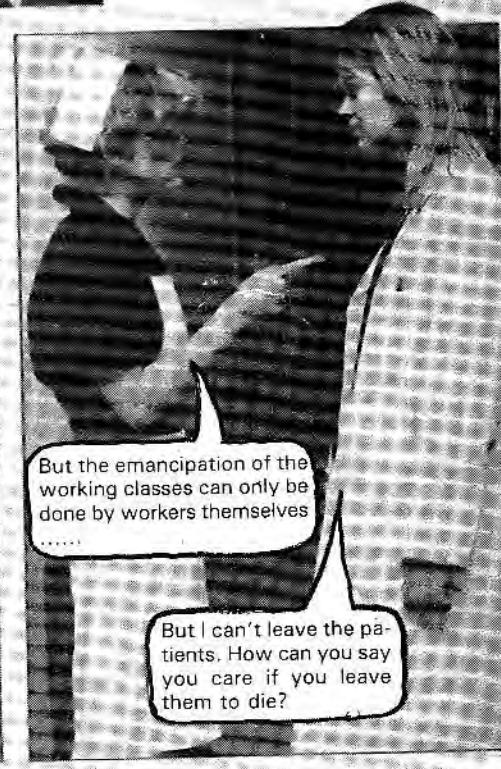
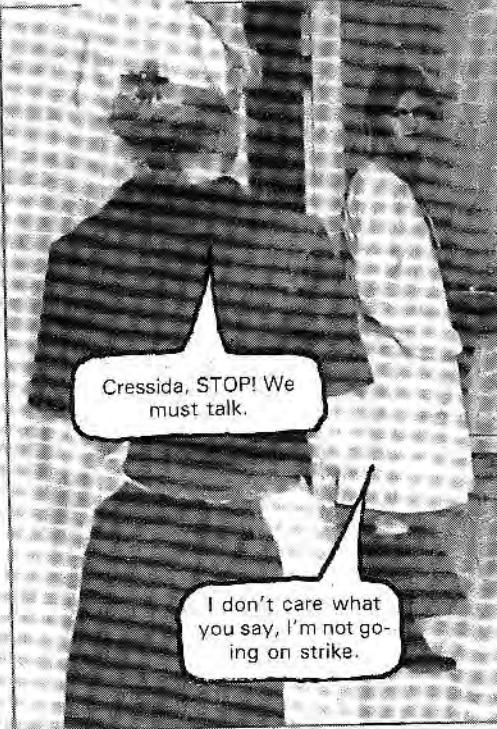
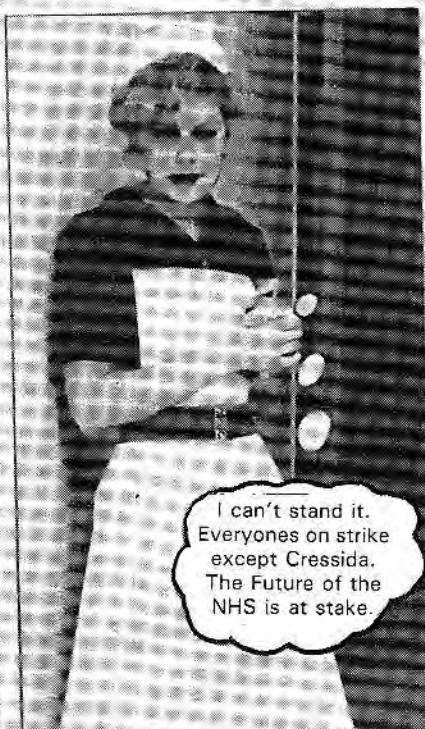
HUGO BRACEY-GIBBONS:- A paediatrician on £40,000 pa. doesn't give a shit about the NHS, he's private anyway. £2 Billion in tax cuts to the rich in the budget appeal to him.

CRESSIDA SANDERSON:- Indignant that everyone else is on strike, she's the only one still working. She's in the RCN, the no strike union & she's going to marry Hugo.

THE STORY SO FAR ... Thatcher is trying to dismantle the NHS. Tax cuts for the rich leave nothing for the Hospitals. Janet desperately wants to fight back but Cressida is scabbing.

HEARTBREAK HOSPITAL

SOME TIME IN THE FUTURE.
NO ONE KNOWS WHERE,
NO ONE KNOWS WHEN.





* Note—that's if you've got 2 yrs training (for a 37½hr week). A woman at COHSE head office says that after EIGHT years you might be on £8600. BIG DEAL.

GCSE

According to the S.P. survey, 83.7% of readers are 13 or under. So this article is for you: a brief guide to those lovely GCSEs you are going to have to do next year (from a guinea pig who now wants to join an anti-animal experiment group).

ENGLISH LIT.

This one's supposed to be really radical. Teachers have to 'take care to represent all sections of society'—avoiding the middle class, white dominance. Unfortunately, it turns out I've had ONE token 'black book'—Bhowani Junction (read it!). All the rest have been middle class, white & written by men! Radical?—try 'the Sun' mate. Stand outside a supermarket in the pouring rain trying to do surveys... 'scuse me, I'm doing a survey for my geography, and ...

'Piss off'
'But, but, please, it's for my exams, and ...'

'THUMP!'
Or you can go on a trip to a car factory with your mates & get whistled at by loads of hunky blokes. TIP—whistle back, they die of embarrassment. (Actually, this year they sent me to a cosmetics factory instead. CHAUVINISTIC PIGS!)

RE.
Yeah, someone does actually do it. Well, they decided that a syllabus based on Christianity was a bit biased, so they've been really nice & let us learn all about Jews & Muslims too. WOT ABOUT THE REST? All practicing Buddhists, Hindus, Jehovahs witnesses &

CHEMISTRY.

Scary! Lots of silent assessment, with teachers scribbling nasty comments on clipboards behind your back. On the other hand, if you love blowing things up, and don't give a shit about your grades, this is for you. (If you're really clever, you could make a letter bomb & send it to No 10)

BIOLOGY.

So you thought biology was all about sex did you? WRONG! In fact, if you looked through my file you'd probably not recognise it when you found it anyway. Basically, it's all about plants, so if you never grew out of flower power, this is for you!

GEOGRAPHY.

Another one for the greens. You'll find out all about the environment, (like if it rains a lot you get floods ... WOW!) If you're really lucky, you can go & atheists, write to your MP now.

RUSSIAN.

If you're really brainy (or just gullible) you can try Russian. Except your school probably doesn't do it because they're scared you'll turn into a commie. Just in case you can, however, here's what to expect. Too much work, lots of crazy grammar, & text books that make Janet & John books look feminist. (Dear little Petya spends all his time bunking school & going fishing, while doormat sister Masha cooks his porridge & makes him lots of sandwiches.)

Well, I've run out of space now, but if you want to find out about more subjects, just give me a ring!

READERS' QUESTIONNAIRE — THE TRUE RESULTS.

Astonishingly, we had 23,554 replies, of which 11,550 were spoilt. 5 were disqualified because they were from our male readers.

ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS.

1. Two women confessed to belonging to a young women's group, one of which has since left. 20,000 admitted to once belonging to the Socialist Workers Party.

2. An amazing 23,432 women bought their SP on the picket line at Fords, Dagenham.

3. Somewhat surprisingly no one had ever seen SP before.

4. 83.67% of our readers are under 13.
12.87% are over 65.
6.25% are 23.
2.2% don't know.

5. 10,789 women were bought SP by their mums.

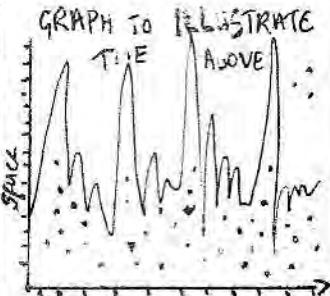
6. 99% of our readers thought SP was "superbly brilliant", one person (Kathy Baker of 55 The High St, Bury St Edmunds) thought it was "shit".

7. 19,078 were hassled into buying SP, the rest were too drunk to realise.

8. 96% of our typical readership did not know what the women's movement was, and thought that it was probably a new bra design.

9. This question seems to confuse a lot of our readership. Most were unsure about what all the terms meant (bit like us really). So these figures may be slightly exaggerated. An astonishing 98% said that they were Maoists. The other 2% wanted to know the proper definition of the word 'feminist', and I'm afraid we can't help there, 'cos we don't know if such a thing still exists.

10. We must admit that we were rather shocked at the answer to this question. Everybody without exception thought that we were already living in a socialist country, and thought that Thatcher has managed to uphold the ideals of Marx (and Engels) successfully. Is everyone living in Utopia we ask ourselves?



SUBSCRIBE WITH MELANIE Mac-FADGEN AND THE QUEEN MUM!!!!

Yes it's true, these are two SP subscribers! So hadn't you better do it too? All cheques to be made payable to: 'SHOCKING PINK 2'. We're a quarterly magazine (that means there are four issues per year, Not that we're a quarter of the size of other mags). So subs are: £2.40 (four issues) for individuals £480 (four issues) for institutions, 'cos we know you've got loads of money.

Donations are also very welcome.



send it to
SP2
go The
South London
Womens
Centre
55 Acme Lane
Brixton
London
SW2
< MEL...
Covers rates

STUDENTS
SP2 IN
UPHEAVAL
holiday
Blackpool-yay's
Ruth Marshall.

NUSOCON.

This year SP sent 6 investigative reporters to the NUS womens conference. 450 student women represented the colleges of Britain & voted on policy for the next year.

It was a violent couple of days. An 80 year old man was knocked over by SWP (women only) led protesters who said the working mens conference which was sharing the building had sexistly denied women access to the cafe & toilets. Later a woman was attacked by a man who was angry because he couldn't come in to the women's bit.

Three women burst into tears, the RCP only got 2 votes for national womens officer despite the fact that there were 3 RCP delegates that could vote (the SWP shrewdly didn't stand), Kate & Angie went swimming, we sold 86 copies of SP & 5 T Shirts and we got a parking ticket. (Does any HELPFUL youth worker like Bernard Davies want to pay it?)

It was good to see so many women together but it wasn't perfect. It seemed a bit bureaucratic, ineffectual & unrelated to real life. The CP won the post of Womens Officer.

The aim of the action is to cause the old and often infirm serious amounts of stress. Thus throwing them into confusion, which could possibly result in them voting against themselves.

One way of doing this was tested out by a group of 8 lesbians (ages ranging from 28-29) who gave not a damn and threw themselves, almost literally, into the midst of the House of Lords.

This was on an entirely impulsive decision made THAT VERY SAME MORNING.

The budget they were on resembled that of a government one eg. the NHS; they spent a mere £2.80 in Clapham High St market on a washing line.

Ironically it was a Lord who granted the women entry to the gallery, Lord Monkswell. In doing so he expressed his wish that they wouldn't do anything to embarrass him.

I remember hearing the shouts as the 2 women climbed down the ropes, "Lesbians are Out", "Shame on you", and "This is a peaceful demonstration". (By

ABSEIL Makes the Heart Grow Fonder



©KATE CHARLES-SMITH. CATH TATE CARDS. PO BOX 647, LONDON SW1 4JX.

the way I should add at this point that the women didn't actually abseil, they climbed down the ropes.) Two nearby women thought they were going to hang themselves. I mean come on we're angry but not suicidal.

One of our heroines said, "For me it was an expression of how angry I felt, I enjoyed myself. It didn't change anything but I said what I wanted to say".

At least this action gained publicity in the tabloids, seven front pages, included the word LESBIAN on them.

A few weeks later on International Womens Day they chained themselves to the railings at Buckingham Palace. This time the budget was higher; £140 for the chains. In their inimitable style they were dragged off by the boot boys singing women's songs.

Both times these women have got away without convictions, merely a few hours in a cell. It goes to show that anyone can be involved in direct action, so don't sit around waiting for this group to do all the work

"IT'S BETTER THAN GOING OUT & GETTING PISSED"

SP2 Guide to Party Games. For girlies aged 5-55 only.

* Musical Riots

Rules—While the music is playing all the girlies must run around gaily (no offence). When it stops all run into the street with arms eg bricks, metal piping, broom handles & other ordinary household weaponry. Then smash windows, (whilst shouting a lot). This can be difficult to do at the same time).

Whomever is the last person to be arrested* is OUT OF THE GAME—Shame on you!!

Pin the Black triangle on Dame Jill Knight's nose.

Rules—One picture of the Dame should be up on a big blank wall. A large black triangle with pin should be placed in the hand of the blindfolded person who will then attempt to pin it somewhere in the vicinity of the Dames nose. Each player takes a turn.

The winner is the one who gets the furthest away from her nose.

The Ultimate Right-On Party Game.

Rules—All players sit in a big circle, with crossed legs, smiling, (wearing hand-made shoes).

Each person, with their right hand strokes the adjacent persons left shoulder.

Nobody, (bloody-well) wins.



News from Nowhere

RADICAL BOOK SHOP
100 WHITECHAPEL
LIVERPOOL 1 051-708-7270
MON.-SAT. 10 - 5.30

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BOOKLIST
NOW AVAILABLE.

WIDE SELECTION OF LESBIAN
AND FEMINIST BOOKS.

MAIL ORDER

ANDREA DWORKIN, radical lesbian feminist & campaigner, will be signing copies of her book 'In-be signing' at 'News From Nowhere' on Wednesday 18th May from 1pm-3pm. The press release says she is an 'exciting & thought provoking feminist writer'.



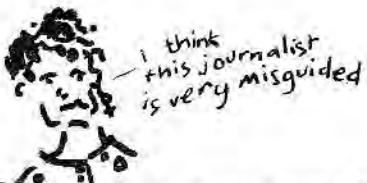
Gay's The Word

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

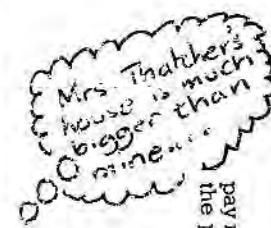
Kate & Louise



* "Girls of today LIVE A LIFE OF LUXURY AND COMFORT. They have grown over-dependant and lazy to the point of being spoiled. When they are not watching TV they sit for hours talking to girlfriends on the phone about the latest hit records and hairstyles and then sarcastically back-biting others for trivial reasons or for no reason at all" These words of wisdom are from Abdullah-al-Ateeq, a women journalist who writes for the Saudi Gazette. She suggests young women should "should clean up public parks, do charity work, donate blood or even a kidney." SP feel that perhaps Abdullah is lacking a little feminist-Marxist foresight, perhaps she could contact us with the names and addresses of these 'over-dependant' girls and we will contact them so they can form an international girly-chat network.



Polly ticks? No,



pay nearly £2000/year less when the poll tax comes through.

Thatcher will

"YOU'RE ALRIGHT
CO I HAVEN'T EVEN
GOT A HOUSE!"

* Remember the debate around televising parliament? We were shattered and intrigued to learn that Tory MP's formed over 80% of those who said no to having the cameras watching them.

* The 200 richest people in the British Isles are worth over £26 billion. These rich folk tend to be Geminis, they have left school at 15 and are self-made millionaires. No mention of course of the popstars, golfers and TV presenters that own 1000's of acres in Scotland. They plant trees, get massive tax benefits, chop the trees down and sell 'em. VERY swift, ruin the environment and get tons of money. Better than doing a 9-5 I s'pose. And what about the aristo's me wonders? ...The deprived rich who work hard watching their intrest pile up on their inherited wealth.(They're mostly librarians.)

* The clause that has had more name changes than a certain well-known nuclear power station looks all set to grace the statute book as section 28 of the Local Government Act. After a Commons vote of 254 to 201 the Bigots Charter will become law in June. In spite of his apparent opposition to the clause, Labour's Shadow Environment spokesman (person?) John Cunningham refused to give any undertaking that the clause would be repealed when Labour came to power. However, openly gay MP and SP reader, Chris Smith, spoke up against the clause, saying that 'true morality and true decency mean accepting and celebrating diversity, and being tolerant'.

This clause will be utterly devastating. Don't just sit there, don't just sulk

March on London—April 30th.

For more action contact OLGA on: 01 833 3860.

* While we're battling with Satanic Alton (eat and be blasphemous*), California has become the 23rd state that requires written parental permission for girls under 18 before they can get an abortion.

* Alton has called for supporters of his bill to fast & pray.

It's not FAIR



No one asked me if I wanted to! —*

- (a) Come here
- (b) Go to that school
- (c) Live in this place
- (d) Be BORN...

* tick box.

He Wasn't Crying but he Was Scared.

* Last February at the university of East Anglia 2 male students went into a womans' room. She was alone in bed. Saying they were looking for her boyfriend, they ripped the covers off her & stood staring. They pulled her out of bed & she landed heavily, injuring her shoulder.

The Union of Students said any complaint had to go through the proper democratic procedures and then did nothing. The University Authorities sat on it too. Most of the men said 'THEY WERE JUST DRUNK'.

It was only when the women did their own campaign, printing leaflets etc that the Union took notice. The men were then voted off university accomodation, but it took two women, a flying beer glass & a cry of 'fucking bastard' to get one of them to leave the place. Clare told SP2 'he wasn't crying but he was scared'. Later he claimed he was being intimidated by women. He is 6ft 6 inches tall.

* Fight
fight
fight
fight

♀ Fight...

→ MORE...?

* JUST A RAPIST?

The women at UEA are now building a campaign to get professor Jones (lecturer in Danish) removed from UEA. In 1986 he raped a woman at Newcastle University & the SU fought to get him the sack. To cover it up the authorities transferred him to UEA—whose leaders (and Student Union!) didn't seem too worried about it. But now UEA women are building links with Newcastle and are fighting back. GOOD.

good!

(if anyone has got a place for me to live, contact SP.)

The last time they tried to introduce a poll tax it led to a 'PEASANTS REVOLT'.

**So you think
we're living in
a democracy?
So you think
everyone has a
right to speak
out?**



BEING ROWDY.

★ The new public order bill has a new definition of being disorderly. The bill does not require proof that the 'disorderly' conduct actually causes alarm, harassment or distress. It's enough for a police officer to say that it does.

The burden of proof in a criminal trial is on the defendant, rather than the prosecution. What this means is the prosecutor doesn't have to justify why she is making a case, but the defendant has to make a case for proving her innocence. *Innocent until proven guilty* is a saying of the past.

Control of Protest.

I think this is good & should go in.
If there's a free page lets put this in
Partially edited.

I think I love this article.
Good facts, good points.



UNDER THE PUBLIC ORDER BILL.

Organisers must give 7 days advance notice to the police of any proposal for a procession or demonstration. Organizers who fail to give advance notice, give certain details or do not comply with the details they do give the police risk prosecution. The maximum penalty for an offence is £400 fine.

★ The most senior police officer present (which could in practice be a junior rank officer) has complete freedom to impose any conditions and directions on the march if he or she believes the march—
a) may result in public disorder or
b) may result in serious damage to property or
c) may result in serious disruption to life of the community
d) the purpose of the march is intimidation of others.

★ If the organisers fail to comply with the above conditions there are penalties of up to 3 months imprisonment or £1000 fine.

★ If you participate in (as well as organising or inciting others to participate in) a prohibited demonstration there are penalties of up to 3 months & a £1000 fine.

Things seem to be getting to be getting harder, or is it us being paranoid?

Hhhmmmm, think back a little sweet reader.
REMEMBER

Brixton/Peckham 81/85
Mossside + Toxteth 83
Greenham 83
Miners Strike 84/85
Molesworth 85.
Broadwater Farm. 85
Wapping Printers 86

All of these were classified as civil disturbances by the state, we call it the stirrings of a revolution what do you think?

OTHER LAWS....

★ Under the Town Police Clauses act of 1847 orders can be made for preventing obstructions during public processions. The public meetings Act of 1908, originally to prevent the disruption of meetings by suffragettes, makes it easy to arrest 'disturbers' at any public meeting. Using 'Common Law' powers police are able to set up road blocks and turn back pickets (used often during the miners strike).,

WHO'S WATCHING WHO?

★ Since 1981 police have been involved in intelligence gathering operations. There is a Central Intelligence Unit based at Scotland Yard, London, that relies on 24 intelligence officers to pass on information about industrial disputes, marches, meetings & community tension. The CIU works at street level, which means they'll be listening to your conversation, gossip, noting down unusual incidents.



SHOCKED BY SHOCKING PINK?

IS IT TOO RADICAL, TOO... MARXIST, TOO FLIPPANT, TOO SEPARATIST, OR TOO REFORMIST? ARE YOU ANNOYED BY ITS LACK OF CLASS ANALYSIS, ITS TASTELESS HUMOUR OR ITS ANACHRONISTIC WISHY-WASHYNESS? (OH SORRY - ANARCHISTIC...)

THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE YOUNG + OLD DONOT READ SP2. THEY PREFER OTHER THINGS. HERE ARE SOME OF THEIR CHOICES....

GUIDE

C = Corrupting, Capitalist, CVAP

??=We don't know much...

! Pay!
! Closkin

SERIOUS SHIT.
DAMAGING EFFECT
ON THE BRAIN.
28P ALL OVER THE
BLOODY PLACE.

HEAVY BUT GOOD.
50P FROM LEFTIE
BOOKSHOPS OR BY SUB
FROM OUTWRITE,
OXFORD HOUSE,
DERBYSHIRE ST.,
LONDON, EC2.

WE KNOW NOTHING ABOUT
THIS EXCEPT IT'S HAVING
A HEATED DEBATE OVER
WHETHER ANIMALS OR
HUMANS ARE MORE IMPORTANT...

* Marxists
* OK

*

PATRONISING CRAP.
YOUNG VERSION OF
THE TIMES. FASHION
BY WOMEN, THE
REST BY MEN.
"USELESS TO
THOSE CONSIDER-
ING A DEVIANT
CAREER..."

THIS ONE'S HAVING A
HEATED DEBATE OVER
WHETHER A TRANSEXUAL
WOMAN IS REALLY A MAN
AND SHOULD SHE BE
ALLOWED INTO ♀ ONLY
EVENTS...

→ OH YES WE DO - 40P

BEST BIT-HOSPITALISED
COPPER SPOT.
50P ON DEMOS, OR
51 SUB - £1.75 FOR 6-
P.O. BOX 467, LONDON
E8 3QX.



JO + REBECCA SAY IT'S THE
PAPER AIMED AT BUILDING A
SOCIALIST REVOLUTION. BEST
BIT- INSIDE THE SYSTEM. GOOD
FOR NEWS. ONE OF THEIR GURUS
ANDY STRUTHERS, CALLED SP2
"MESSY LITTLE HAMSTERS"
AND WE'RE STILL NOT GOING TO
JOIN THE PARTY.

50P OUTSIDE TUBES + ON DEMOS.
(* AND I SAY B.D.L.L.D.C.E.S.)

WITH A TRACE
ZINE. 40P

"A FORENSICS MANUAL
FOR YOU + ME" INFO
SEEN IN LAST ISSUE AND
ON SPECIAL BRANCH,
MIS, THE POLICE
COMPUTER, ETC.
SCARY BUT USEFULL
INFORMATION.

12 FROM @BOOKHOPS
AND BM HURRICANE
LONDON, WC1N 3XX.

GOOD BIT ON APHRA
SEEN IN LAST ISSUE AND
BIT ON HOW LAST TIME
THEY TRIED TO IMPOSE
POLL TAX IT SPARKED
OFF A PEASANTS REVOLT.

25P FROM RE-SISTER
1/2 WOMEN'S CENTER,
299 WOODHOUSE LANE,
LEEDS 2.

FASHION

"BORN AGAIN VEGANS."
ECOLOGY, PURITY + LOVE.
ALL A BIT ALIEN TO SP2
BUT WE LIKE THE IDEA.
PEOPLE WHO LOATHE
THE PINK PAPER WILL
LOVE THIS ONE.
20P + SAE FROM JOHN,
14 MEDWAY RD., FULLWOOD, PRESTON,
LANCS. PR2.

KARL = heavy

GROUCHO = flippant

! Great!

GOOD BUT USEFULL
INFORMATION.

WE KNOW NOTHING ABOUT
THIS EXCEPT IT'S HAVING
A HEATED DEBATE OVER
WHETHER ANIMALS OR
HUMANS ARE MORE IMPORTANT...

14 MEDWAY RD., FULLWOOD, PRESTON,
LANCS. PR2.

④ Anarchist

* Marxists

*

14 MEDWAY RD., FULLWOOD, PRESTON,
LANCS. PR2.

SILVER MOON
WOMEN'S BOOKSHOP

- Central London's Feminist Bookshop
- For the **BEST** in women's writing
- Including a wide choice of Lesbian & Black women's writing
- Fast, efficient mail order service
- SILVER MOON QUARTERLY
- Records, tapes, jewellery, cards
- Bookstalls, Book boxes, Library supply
- Visit London - visit us!

68 CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON WC2H 0BB
TELEPHONE: 01-836 7906

shocking blue
a new exciting, radical magazine by young women for little boys.
Our wimpy male readers have been complaining that there just isn't enough in SP for them. Fuck off.
We told them, you've got 'Shout' and 'Action Man'. But because we're so nice and realise that we have to help our fellow beings, we've produced a magazine for them. Unfortunately, it is only half the size of SP, there is no colour and the printing quality isn't very good. A lot of work went into it (approximately 5 minutes) and it includes articles such as 'What to do when your girlfriend gets her hands on a copy of THE WOMAN MANIFESTO', 'Beauty Tips' and 'Knitting patterns'. You can place an order through SP at post 45p (solidarity price £1). But hurry up, cos it's a limited edition. Buy it for your little brother.



SEND FOR ONE OF OUR LIVELY CATALOGUES OF WOMEN'S ART REPRODUCED ON POSTCARDS, WRITING PAPER etc... (special offer: large s.a.e. please to: CARMINE PINK, (S.P.), 4 DASHWOOD RD, OXFORD, OX4 4SC)

NAMING THE WAVES

Edited by Christian McEwen.

Naming the waves, poetry is full of stories & insight into women's experiences. The personal side of our lives which is all too important to be ignored. You are what you eat.

The book chooses a wide range of stories sent in & collected from women (some well known, some not) in Britain & USA. 'Naming the Waves' talks about modern living, modern love and modern sorrow. The thing I like about this book is that it gives the established women writers work the chance to be viewed. There's a feeling of continuity, without losing the diversity. It's easily understood & the language is accessible. Books like these make it possible for other women who've never really thought they could put pen to paper to have a go. Cos we've all got stories to tell & write about.



IF she hurts you, you've only yourself to blame— You were ignoring her however hard she sulked— She's pestering today— What tomorrow?

ANNIE ON MY MIND

Janice Garden

When Lee Winthrop first meets Annie Kenyon in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, she knows something important is happening. Both seventeen years old, from opposite sides of New York—chance meeting begins a wonderful, absorbing romance. Frank and bitter-sweet, this love story was chosen by The American Library Association as one of the Best Books for Young Adults.

IN BRITAIN IT COULD BE BANNED
VHS £2.25



ROMANCE BY

Also published by the Women's Press. Verona & Desiree are two totally different sisters, Verona hides from reality, seeking comfort in food and romantic novels. Desiree is more down to earth but finds herself frustrated by her role of housewife & mother.

But when relatives arrive from Jamaica, however, both sisters find their attitude will dramatically change.

METROPSIUM
by Tsitsi Dangarembwa.

Published by the Womens Press.

Set in Rhodesia in the sixties, this book tells the story of Tambu, a young village girl, who finds herself in a new & alien environment when her rich uncle offers to pay for her education. Overjoyed at first she soon discovers that her education costs more than money. It also deals with her cousin Nyasha who returns from England only to find herself a stranger amongst her own people.

This book has serious comments to make about the violence & loss of culture produced by colonisation. But it has its light touches; 'you're better off losing your virginity to a tampon, which won't gloat over its achievement, than to a man who would add you to his list of hymens'.

If nothing else the cover's brilliant!

KIDNAPPING OF ABORIGINAL CHILDREN.

I DON'T
MAKE
THE
PROBLEMS

WHY
MUST
I
PAY ?

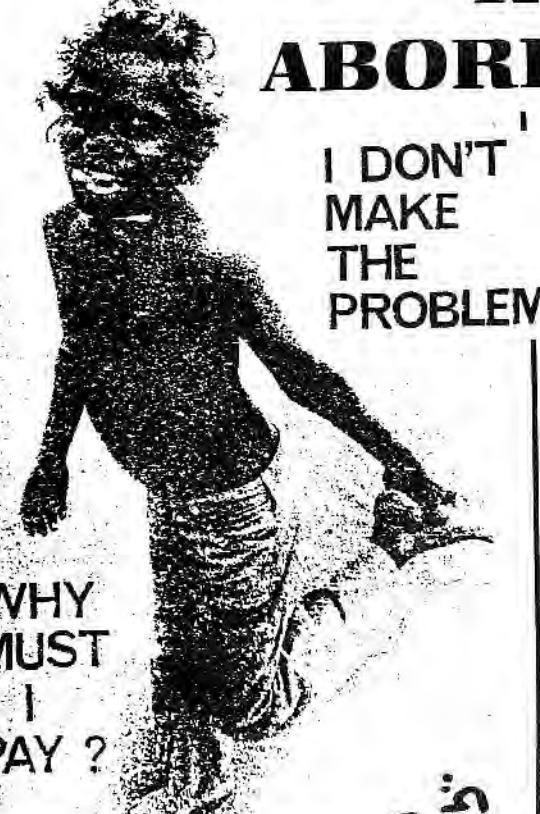
GIRLS AS YOUNG AS 13
WITHOUT CONSENT
STERILISED

In some Aboriginal communities, women & girls as young as 13 have been sterilized without their knowledge or consent. The drug that has been used on these women is called Depo-Provera, an injectable drug manufactured by the Upjohn co. The drug has many dangerous side effects ranging from upsetting the body's ability to resist infection & disease, nausea, change in sex drive, diarrhoea, depression, change in blood pressure, loss of hair, weight loss & infertility.

Depo-Provera is mainly used in Third world countries (women in Africa, Asia, Latin America etc) also in Fourth world countries including Aboriginal women, Pacific Island & Maori women, women in institutions (welfare, prison, mental institutions) as well as women with disabilities and migrant women. Women in these situations are robbed of the power to control decisions about their own lives and the politics of population control is used against them most severely.

In 1987, Ms Deeman-Hall, a graduate of Queensland Cook University and Sister Kelly, from Oonandatta (a remote Aboriginal community in the far north of S.Australia) attended an Aboriginal health seminar in Australia. Both women stated that Aboriginal girls have been injected with Depo-Provera without their consent, having been informed that they were going to have a measles or immunization injection. They also described the large numbers of women that had their fallopian tubes tied without their consent, when in hospital to give birth. Ms Deeman-Hall said her information on Depo-Provera used on Aboriginal women is based on her research over 7 years with a group of social workers. She knew of 130 women who had been given the drug, often under the guise of immunization against measles and its' use is increasing in Queensland.

"They're not telling the families anything.. its' use is widespread in Queensland and has happened in the rest of Australia, mainly in remote areas" she said. "Up to 70% of babies were delivered by caesarean section because many doctors sent to the communities were young and wanted to practice on them." (Ms Deeman-Hall.) Sister



In the 1890s, thousands of Aboriginal children were forcibly removed from their families by welfare authorities and put into white homes & institutions. In New South Wales alone, between the period 1883 to well into the 1970s over 6 thousand children were taken from their families. Considering that Australia has five other states and two territories, the overall figure must have reached appalling dimensions. They were taken forcibly in the past and then later through the legal process of adoption and wardship.

The instigators of these immoral acts, kidnapping, assaults & false imprisonments, were seen as 'Acting from high Christian Morality'. The policy of the governments of those early days was 'Assimilation', the common belief being that, 'When children were placed in a first-class private home, the superior standard of life would pave the way for absorption of these people, into the general population (Aboriginal Protection Board NSW. 1926). Aborigines were regulated by special laws, made 'Wards of State' and 'Protected Persons' restricting their movement, places of residence, sexual relations, the right to socialise and the guardianship of their children.

The onset of colonization had a disastrous effect on Aboriginal family life. It has produced a tangled network of tragedies. What occurred was a deliberate attempt to 'breed out' the Aboriginal race. On missions and reserves (nothing less than concentration camps). Aboriginal women were raped every day, by stockmen, postmasters, police and the commandant. To save the local White man's embarrassment, the child born from the rape, was taken away by the White authorities without the mothers consent. It was nothing less than attempted genocide. This gross abuse and cultural genocide began with the governments' deliberate policies of forced removal of Aboriginal children from their parents, which is continuing to this day, destroying thousands of Aboriginal families.

'As in all other societies, children are vitally important, they are the future and hope'.

Basically the 'Assimilation' meant Australia was to become a homogeneous (White) society, and Aborigines had to give up all their traditions and culture. 'In view of all Australian Governments' Aborigines were expected to attain the same manner of living as the White Australian.'

'Black men, we wish to make you happy, but you cannot be happy unless you imitate White men. Build huts, wear clothes and be useful... You cannot be happy unless you love God... love White men... learn to speak English...' (A quote from Governor Gawler, Adelaide 1835.)

Kelly claimed that ringers & station hands from the area had been told when the girls had injections & were 'safe'. A statement from one of the girls who eventually sought alternative contraception (IUD) after beginning a relationship with a local stockman says 'during this time, I believe a breach of confidentiality occurred as this stockman was given information that I had an IUD inserted. He was also given the impression that even if I didn't have an IUD inserted, I would have been SAFE anyway as all Aboriginal girls in Oonandatta are unable to have babies anyway'.

The use of Depo-Provera on Aboriginal women is one of the many appalling examples of institutionalised racism in

Australia. The drug is banned in the USA but not in the UK. A full report on sterilization of Aboriginal women will come out in May 88 to coincide with Joan Wingfield's tour (Black activist from S Australia, rep of the Kokatha peoples). The report will be sent to various embassies and the United Nations to demand a full and public international enquiry on Depo-Provera's use on Aboriginal Women. Joan Wingfield will be in London from June 13 to June 20. She will be giving speeches about her peoples' struggle during this time. For more information about the tour dates contact the Black Australian Information Centre situated on the 3rd floor, 52 Acre Lane, Brixton SW2.

Written by the Land Rights Support Group.

IN
AUSTRALIA?

*Mothers where's your daughter?
'She's gone' cried mother.
What happened?*

*I'll tell you, the white man took her
like he's been taking children, land and
life for too long. Where does it stop?
These children have been taken away
by the governments.*

*They've been taken away from their
land their culture and parents. Over
the last 200 years, white man has been
stealing land from the Aboriginal
peoples.*

*They put the Aboriginal and Koorie
children in White communities leading
to racial harassment, violence, rape,
slavery, runaways, suicides, death and
more.*

*Meanwhile in other parts of these
countries their elders parents &
friends are being beaten, raped, star-
ving, murdered & falling ill to man
made illnesses.*

*After children have been taken away
from their culture, colour & parents
there seems to be nothing but one
long nightmare ahead of them. Many
runaway from the white situations
they've been put into, soon to find
more despair for being young, Black
and homeless. Living on the streets in
any city is anything but easy. Many
young people turn to Alcohol, Petrol
sniffing and glue sniffing. → cont.*

Robbed of power...

(Written and compiled by ...
Aboriginal Land Rights Support
Group.) Resource from (SNAICC)
Secretariat of National Aboriginal And
Islander Child Care.



What's Happening To The Children??

The powerful ones say that we must make a world for the children of today. But Powerful ones We are the children of today, and you're making a mess that we will have to clean up one day for the children of tomorrow. But if you carry on in these wicked greedy ways there will be no children tomorrow. So stop for a minute and listen to the children's laughing, crying, screaming and singing. Powerful ones you have no power, your power is greed, and your greed has become murder. Greedy ones listen to the children before it's too late and there's no one left to clean up your mess. Children have rights too!!!

They say the police are there to help you! The police in Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa don't help you if you're of a different colour or culture, instead they beat you, intimidate you, rape you and even KILL you!

Violence to Aborigines in Queensland is the highest in the world, San Francisco is second. Street Kids have been picked up by the police and driven to nearby harbours and thrown in the water (regardless of the child being able or not to swim) 'We'll give you a lift if you give us a lay'. She refused so they beat her repeatedly and took her home. Kids have been forced to stand for hours against the walls with their hands on their heads striped naked and raped. The average age of street kids that sniff glue and petrol is 5-11!

Black women need to be able to make choices about what they want to do with their lives, which means that individual Black women need to be able to decide whether they want to terminate a pregnancy or not in the light of their individual circumstances. To force Black women to bear children they do not want is a further assault on their dignity and fundamental human rights as well as on their other relationships.

If David Alton's Bill succeeds it may open the way to women gradually losing control over their fertility and their own bodies. For us this will not be a new experience. As slaves we were forced to carry children we did not want and to abort children we did want. May we not find ourselves in this choice-less situation ever again.

NOW IS THE TIME FOR BLACK WOMEN TO SPEAK OUT

We have not been targeted for involvement in these campaigns, and have indeed been excluded by racist assumptions that we are incapable of exercising control over our reproductive processes. The lives of most Black women have been a daily battle for the survival of ourselves and our children in what is a hostile environment. That battle leaves little time to get involved in any campaign on any issue.



Article put together by Kirsty Maye.
Information from 'Aborigines Today,
Land And Justice (Survival Interna-
tional) B.A.I.C.'

The centre urgently needs volunteers.

Is abortion more accessible to Black women than it is to white women because it is being used as a subtle form of birth/population control? This is probably our greatest fear. Do doctors find it easier to sanction abortions for Black women because of deep-seated racist fears about the growth of the Black population in this country?

BIG IMPORTANT DEMO.
ON MURRS ST MAY. Contact
number below for details

DOCTORS NEEDLES NOT KNITTING NEEDLES

...written by two women
from 'The Black Women
Health Project.'

Black Women & THE ALTON BILL

**THE
EVIL**

**NOT A
FIGHT**

= FAB (01-831 6838)

THE FIGHT ALTON'S BILL CAMPAIGN

For further information and involvement in
Black Women Against Alton
contact the FAB office at

An irreverent look at **CONTRACEPTION**

-The 'INS' and 'OUTS'
For 'With it' young things!

IN: CONDOMS
THE CAP
MASTURBATION
NUNHOOD
CHOCOLATE

OUT: THE PILL,
because it
can fuck you
up,
THE COIL,
WITH 'GAY ABANDON'
(unless she's your
girlfriend...)



HIS 'n' HERS...

Brook Advisory Centres, Central Office,
153a East St, SE17
Tel. 703 9660

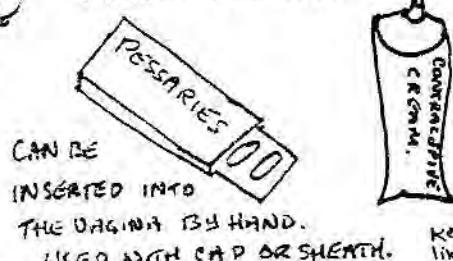
Basic Facts about contraceptives available →

available in various sizes...

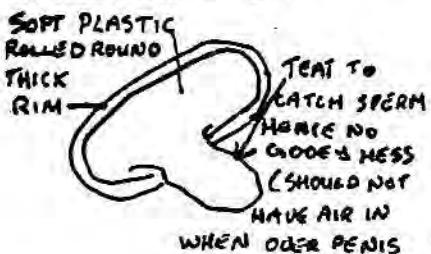
THE CAP

The cap or diaphragm is a flexible rubber dome which you put into your vagina before you have sex and which covers the mouth of the womb, preventing the sperm from meeting the egg. You should always use spermicide (which inactivates the sperm) with a cap and you should leave the cap in place for 6 hours after you have sex. It needs to be fitted by a trained person and the size checked once a year at least, or when you've gained or lost a lot of weight, or had a baby, miscarriage or abortion. If used with care every time you have sex, it's very effective and there are no effects on your periods or general health.

IUD - COIL - a small white plastic device which is inserted in the uterus by a trained person. No one is quite sure how the coil works.



DUREX - fits over the erect penis before penetration and prevents the sperm entering the vagina.



Vasectomy: Men have to go to their GP to get referred to a consultant

Remember - sperms are hardy - like a man swimming the Atlantic covered in treacle..

Alternative applications for unused contraceptives:-

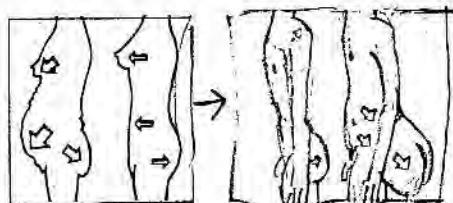
PINGING CONDOM COMPETITIONS,

ONE SIZE FITS ALL
Did you know... in the beginning condoms came in 3 sizes - small, medium + large. Now they only make them large, because no-one ever bought the other sizes. Hahaahaha

(OR COPY OUR MODELST NEW FASHION CONCEPT)

OR.....
'Thembie's teabag technique'
(see above the nuns)
DO NOT REUSE...

THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME



NEW! BOWEL BABIES! →

Update from Francis:-

Now there's one shop selling 3 sizes again - large, extra large and huge

What the press say

"We've tried it and it works"
Sunday Times

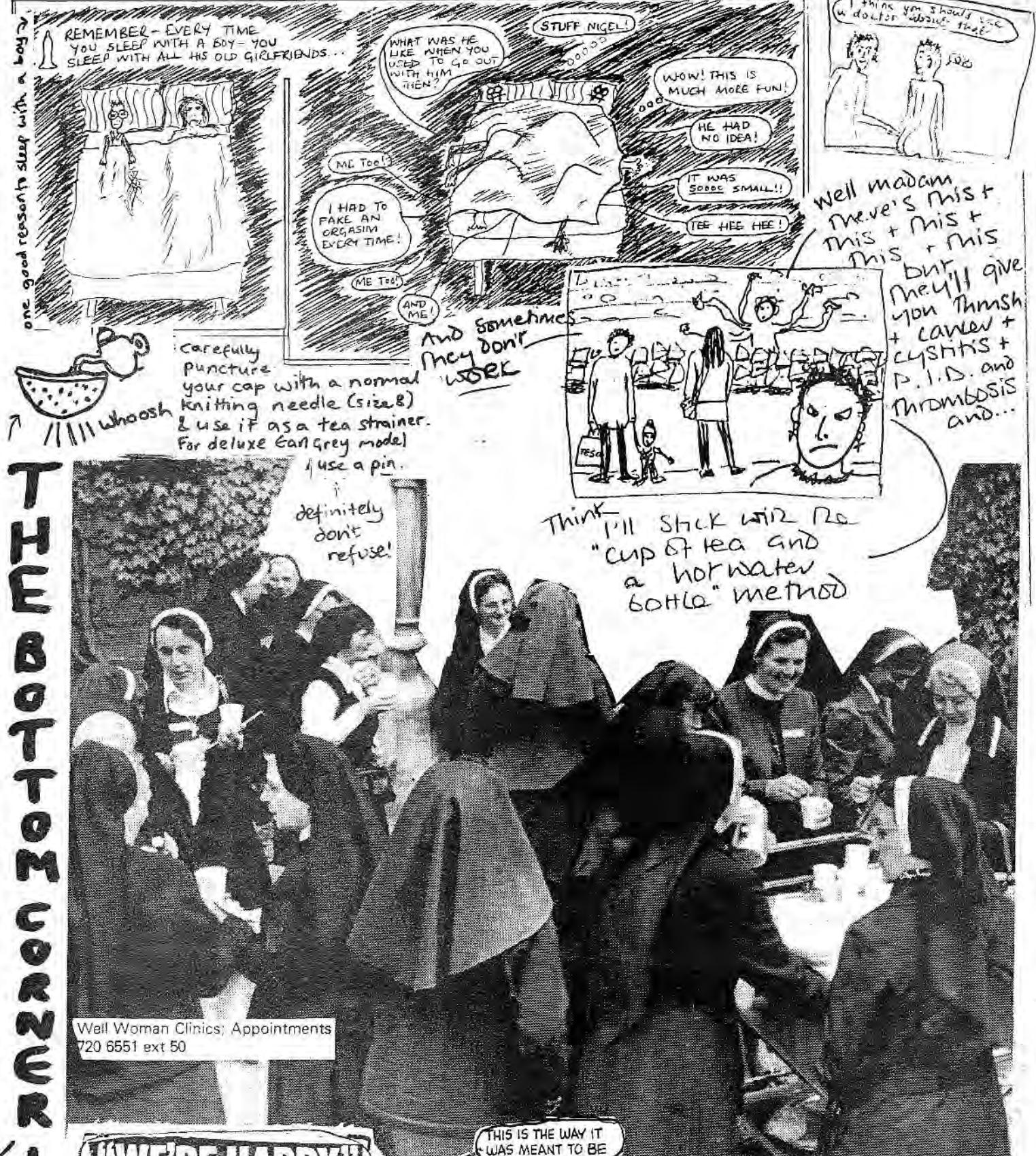
What the public think

"It does everything you claim it to do most successfully".
R.D. Aylesbury

"It's magic".
Mrs. R.R. Leicestershire

"In a less scientific age you would probably all have been burned as witches... it really does have a magical effect".
R.C. London, N18

THE BOTTOM LINE



Perfectly simple
without perfectly legal,
without fuss,
without heaven.



GUESS WHAT.

It is one of the most talked about days in the calendar. Radio, television and the papers speak of it weeks if not months in advance. Particularly this year with wide reported coverage of a surplus of money waiting around and not just in the city either. Have you guessed yet? The BUDGET. Yeh, that event where once a year the second most important person according to the hierarchy of government—the Chancellor, comes into his own. He wakes up in the morning, walks out of No 11 Downing St holding high in the air a suitcase to an excited mass. People clicking away with their cameras; shouts of "Over here Chancellor, here, higher, higher!"

Speculation as to what was to be in this year's budget was rife. The NHS was top nomination. Supporters such as the Labour party made **March 14th NHS day**. They asked the government to spend a fraction of the surplus of money it had on what is generally accepted to be an NHS in desperate circumstances:—Hospitals closing, people dying because of a lack of staff and the funds to pay them. Modern equipment so badly needed is not being supplied. People have left the NHS in **droves** because of lack of pay and low morale.

Money is a **reality** in our lives, we need it in order to live. But what degree does this budget in the 9th year of Thatcherism consider for most of us to be an acceptable level of existence? Taxation. Relief for mortgages. Independent tax system for married women. Was there anything for the average working man. (I'll say man because that's the way they analyse what we get, which speaks **volumes** to me!) General taxation has gone down to 25%, which means that for every pound earned 25p goes to the treasury (government), supposedly to help us. (By the way an opinion poll showed that most people would have preferred to give their one or two pence cut to the NHS.)

Great you might say, but when you consider that there are at least 5 million people who are dependent on supplementary benefit (some of us working here included) as their only source of income and don't pay tax. Well, what's in it for them? We now hand you over to Nigel Lawson, Chancellor to see what he has done to improve the situation. Over to you Nigel ... ("er, blank, er") Nothing, well that's just not good enough quite **frankly**. But Nigel says that he has cut higher taxation on the better off & the **moguls** in the city, that % who can least afford to pay more! And what of the NHS which is so prominent in the country's CONCIOUSNESS? Would there be any extra money so badly needed? **NO ... NOT A PENNY**. Not even a red cent and no mention of future help either. Well done Nigel. (Maybe that's why the brief case is so tatty!)

About Sup Benefit:—By the time you get this article the SB system will have changed according to new government Laws (rules?). It will be called 'Income Support' and will directly downgrade the living standards of effectively 60% of people on benefit. Once again Thanks but No Thanks, the squeeze is on.



APOLOGY.

We are very sorry that the socialist revolution didn't take place on March 4th. This was due to heavy rain. The organisers of the event are planning it for late summer when the weather will be better, (to cater for fair weather revolutionaries as well as the hard core) & hope to move it further up North.

- What do YOU think our model was looking for?
- The women's (liberation) movement.
 - Her missing period.
 - Her knife,
 - Something to eat.



Dear Shocking Pink,

You sent me a copy of SP2 under the instructions of my Aunt, Ross Bennett. She didn't actually tell me anything about SP2 at all. It just arrived OUT OF THE BLUE! But when I read it I instantly forgave her.

Other than the printing, I can't find anything wrong with Shocking Pink 2! By the way, have you noticed that when a mixed group of people get together, when a male (pratt) is speaking, he subconsciously (!!!!!*) cuts out the women by only directing his eyes & speech at the other male (pratts) !! Puke ... Puke ... Puke!! (You probably already knew that, but anyway!!!)

GOOD LUCK!

Luv Clare. Byeee



...NOT BAD, EH?



SP2,

Equality for women
What is equality today? Getting
the same as men? Taking
on their standards & living on
their level?

All very well and good, but why struggle to reach them? Men have made the world what it is today—throughout history they have made the rules and dictated the standards.

Now look at it. But there again, who is to say it would have turned out any different if the roles were swapped from the beginning?

There must not be bitterness or despair, but we have to look ahead with hope, not reaching for 'equality' with men, but a different pathway.

Reject all this facade of politics & '1980's youth' crap—we are strong and we are beautiful in ourselves. Don't look back or make a big noise. Just turn away, not being oppressed & oppressing nobody.

Equality with men today is nothing to shout about, it should be enough to know you are woman, a young woman with youth and strength to shape yourself the way you want to be within yourself.

Love a Kate Bushing Tree, S.
London.

SP2 says they agree with most things in this letter BUT think it is a bit unrealistic to say 'just turn away, not being oppressed & oppressing nobody.' If only we could. But we cannot really get away from male oppression in society today, its all over the place.



Cambridge laments, the departure

Dear Shocking, Pink Women— It was very nice of you to come and visit me and eat almost all of my food, I had a lovely time, especially in bed and Ms. Selfridge. Been seen out with you has done wonders for my street cred. Now you have gone I am very lonely with nothing to do except count my presents and contemplate my knickers.

Please print this in your mag, so more people will understand what a great privilege it is to have you stay.

An awful lot of LOVE, from— LOUISE, A SP reader, Cambridge!

SP says—if you want us to come and stay with you let us know. We're planning a UK tour in 1988 and need people to put us up, ta! P.S. SP are a really nice collective!?!?????!!!!!!

of SP women



Dear Shocking Pink & everyone in the world.

I think your magazine is pretty amazing, but am bored. My friends keep deserting me! (& I can't tell them a damn thing) so please could some of your wonderful people write to me (& I'd write to you). We could share secrets, problems, news, views, ANYTHING! & make really good friends all over the country!!!!!!

Write to me about anything (except hamsters called bubble & squeak) at 23 Friars Walk, Westlands, Newcastle, Staffs, ST6 2HA.

Love & kisses,

Mary-Anne Harrington.

“LORRA LIES”

on-the-spot-apology

In a stunning and startling show of ridiculous negligence WE LOST the 50 page summer special Bride prepared ESPECIALLY for you. Can you believe it? Awful but true. Thankfully we found one of the best pictures and are happy to bring it to you, (see back page).



17

WOMEN'S MOVES
STRONG, CARING WOMEN
TO MOVE YOUR STUFF

ANYTIME!

01 733 3519

On the 20th of February 1988 thousands of men, women and children took over the city of Manchester in a national demonstration against Clause 28 of the Local Government Bill. The city's steeped in a history of struggle and rebellion (eg., the Peterloo Massacre of the 19th Century, where textile workers fighting for the right to food and better living conditions were slaughtered by the army.)

Manchester was once again spearheading the cry of resistance, playing host to a national day of protest. People from all over Britain and Europe showed their anger at this new era of Victorian puritanism.

The government has clearly hoped that the Clause will go through unnoticed, but as was shown in the now infamous 'House of Lords' and Ideal Home Exhibition demonstrations, and other actions all over the country, we are not gonna take this Shit sitting inside our cosy closets:::::

Gay or Straight, Lesbian or Heterosexual ... This law will affect you! So be there on the 30th, April in London!

SP—We're running, we're under a bridge...
...Always gets a good response under the bridges...
Crowd—WOOD WOOD WOOD
WOOD WOOD WOOD WOOD
SP—There are still Discontented Heterosexuals looking us but we are still chanting loudly!
Crowd—VIRAJ MENDIS, LESBIANS & GAY MEN: ONE STRUGGLE, ONE FIGHT!!!

SP—What's your name?
M—My name is Maria.
SP—Where you from Maria?
M—Camberwell.
SP—The S. London contingent IS HERE!
ALRIGHT! Bigday.
M—So why did you come down today? It wasn't for shopping was it?
SP—No! To fight Clause 28!
M—Down with central government.
SP—The one that gives you a bad feeling every time you hear it, Ladies, Women oh we're off again.
M—Oh.
X—Can I buy one?
SP—You want a Shocking Pink? 60p.

JC—Woo, I'm being interviewed by SHOCKING PINK!
SP—Shush, shush!
JC—Aberdeen, we came down last night.
SP—Why?
JC—Cos it's important that the clause is protested against and defeated.
SP—Uhuh, and are you surprised at the response?
JC—I thought that if we can be bothered to come all the way from London, Aberdeen, there better be at least 7,000 other people here as well.
SP—We reckon there's more than that don't you think?
JC—Yeah easily.

SP—What is your name?
MS—Maud Sulter
SP—You're Maud Sulter?
MS—Yes.
SP—Oh Brilliant—we've got a really good one here!
SP2—Oh really?
SP—Oh my God; you wrote that really (SP, overcome and awe struck). To cut a long story short— Maud Sulter turns out to be a famous Blackwoman Poet and Visual Artist. She's from Glasgow but works in Manchester.

MS—I've seen SP, we have it in our local book store, and I'll encourage young women to become involved with it.

SP—Do you have a lot to do with young women?
MS—Yes, I sometimes do young women's workshops, writing workshops and stuff.
SP—For young women in Manchester?

MS—Well all over Britain really, going into colleges and stuff. So I'll certainly promote your magazine. (SP says—let's hope they don't pass a law against it!)

SP1—Where are we? There's people dancing in the street here; the Police are trying to move them on. I think we've reached SP1+2 'The Rally', by the looks of it. The police wear different hats than they do in London, they've got pointy things on top and badges on the front. Everyone's moving along now.

The march itself started from All Saints at about 1pm and tramped into Albert Square (not that one...) about an hour and a half later, having covered several miles of shopper-crowded street in the process. Although there were reports of bricks thrown at protestors, and some instances of verbal abuse the general atmosphere was relaxed and relatively cheerful. Student gassocs, activist groups, youth groups and social groups were well represented. (If anyone wonders what kind of "social group", we mean things like Kenric, which is a nonpolitical organization for dykes!!). The anarchists were out in force, the SWP in less force than usual. Gay men and lesbians marched side by side (leather clones and Knit-yer-own-meusli dykes). There were Black protestors from the Black Lesbian And Gay Centre, there were White protestors, Jewish protestors, Disabled protestors, Ablebodied protestors and even heterosexual protestors. There were protesting children, and animals. And there were NO arrests! Which just goes to show that if you don't swamp a demonstration with uniformed bigots and bullies you won't get trouble in return.

'BIG DAY! BIG DAY!'

Classified...

DISABLED LESBIAN SPEAKER.
Hated is on the streets against Lesbians and Gays. We must unite together, remembering our differences. Remembering that we are from every community and that Lesbians and Gays will be here to stay. Don't let them smash our community. Fight back for our right to live in decent humanity!

NATIONAL STOP THE CLAWS DEMO, MANCHESTER

SUE JOHNSON, (Sheila Grant, Brookside).
It's great to be here, I hadn't intended to speak, I'm not very good without a script, but I have to say something. When I first heard about Clause 28, I thought about Hitler's 'Burning of the Books' and we all know what happened over there, and it must not happen over here! Bless YOU.
The crowd responds with roars of, 'SHEILA, SHEILA, SHEILA!'

SP1—Can you hear this? It's quite good
(SCREECH, SCREECH, WHINE, WAIL, SCREECH)

SP2—This is a violin woman, she's excellent she uses just her voice and works with the violin and drumbeat. It's kind of melodic. I think you'll like it, (SCREECH, SCREECH, WHINE, WAIL)

SP2—Well you might like it, I like it that's why it's on tape.
Violin Woman—PUT YOUR LAWS DOWN YOUR DRAWS, WE ARE GONNA STOP YOUR CLAUSE!
Crowd joins in.

On the train back to London, we spoke to some people who had been on the march, (we were in good company, with the likes of Micheal Cashman, Ian Mckellen) but we went for the common women, we heard them singing loud songs, most of which the tape machine failed to record because of its blueness! (Liar, batteries ran out!) We did manage to chat with them and others.

LINDA BELLOS—(Leader of Lambeth Council)—We are not a small minority. WE ARE MILLIONS!!(CROWD—YEAH!)

MELANIE MCFADYEAN—(Advice columnist for J17)—It's good to be here but none of us should be here because there should be no clause 28. They call it the new moralism, I call it the new bigotry (Crowd—YEAH!) the new barbarism (Crowd—YEAH!). This is the promotion of repression. This government is against choice. And when it comes to independence. And when it comes to sex they get REALLY hysterical. (Crowd—HEHEHEHE). They want everyone to be like them. I say: DAMN THEM. WOOOOOOOOO!.

SP—Give us a song, we're from Shocking Pink!!
Singing Dykes—We're abseiling, we're abseiling down a washing line to the Lords, we're abseiling never failing, we're abseiling against the clause.

SP—Lovely, what's your names then?
SD—Sue and Pat and...

SP—Where you from?
SD—Islington.

SP—North London, yeah well... What did you think of the march?

SD—Great, there was a lot of people on it, but there should have been more.

SP—Why did you come to Manchester?

SD—I came to meet the man, and to swirl in a cesspit of my own making...

I'm severely disappointed.

SP—Do you know anyone in London who didn't come today? What are you going to say to them?

SD—They let us down.

SP—How do you think the clause will affect young women?
ADDIE—Well, I don't think it's a particularly wonderful career move, coming out with Clause 28. (When is it ever, SP Collective).



In fact the answer is that the woman you're looking for is... no.

TAKE NO HEROES!

The Shocking Pink List of Acceptable Heroines.

VINNIE MANDELA—South African black activist.

SHEILA GRANT—Veritable tower



of strength.

WILMETTE BROWN—Nice woman from Women For Wages For Housework.

MICHELLE SHOCKED—S.P. contributor.

EMMA 'WILD' CHILD'RIDLEY—Post feminist

and fast young woman.

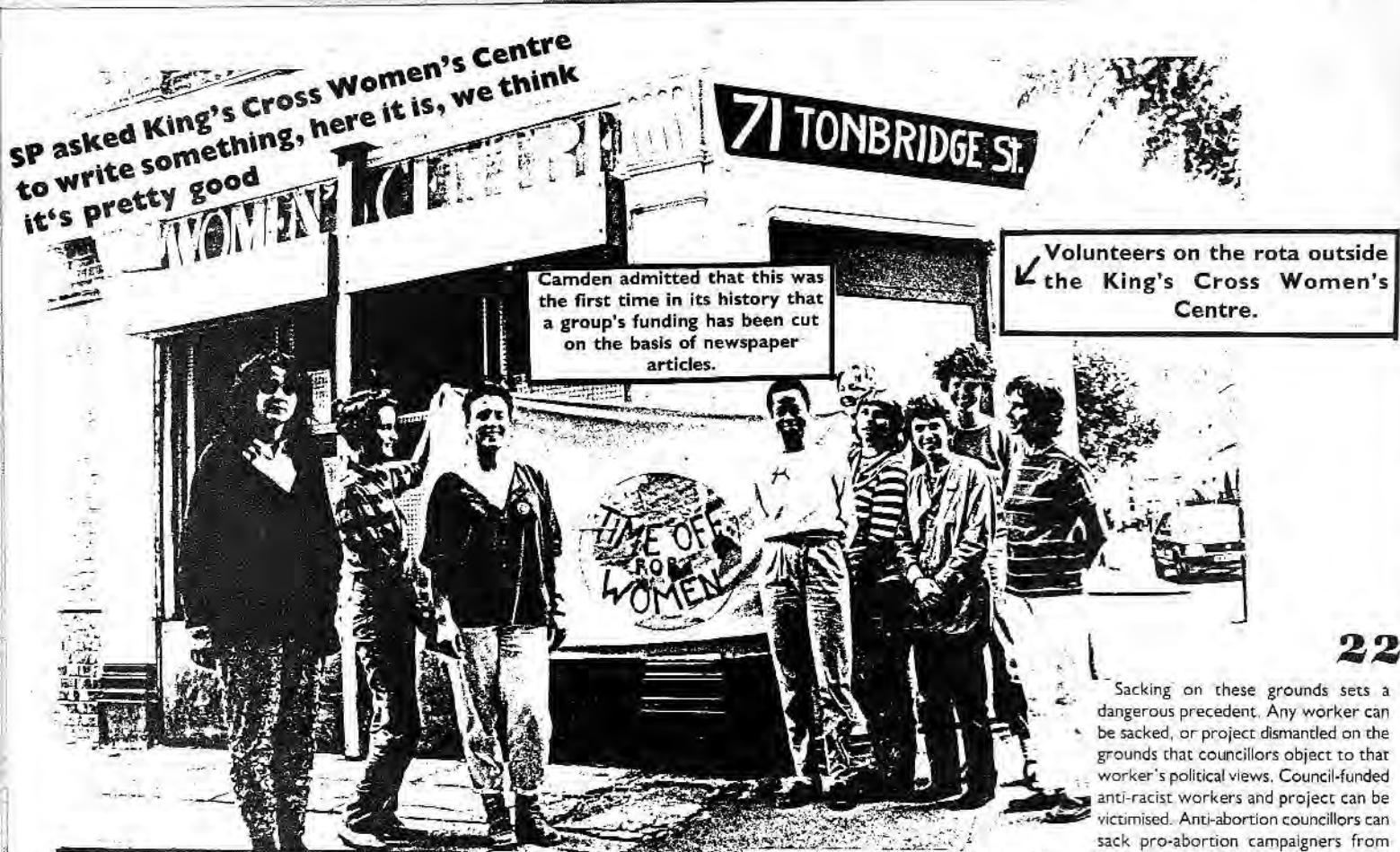
MY MUM—Or your mum if you choose.

BERTRAND RUSSELL—For saying, 'Religion is the biggest single hindrance to human progress'.

MARTINA NAVRATILOVA—Strong left hand.

MAYA ANGELOU—For being so honest!

LASSIE—For being a female dog who saved everyone within pawing distance.



22

Class group has provided a unique social service. It has focussed on building Afro-Asian unity, against the divide-and-rule which weakens Black communities, bringing together Black & Third world women of different nationalities, ages, dis/abilities, sexual choices, and social and cultural backgrounds. Camden Council has to explain why it wants to see an end to this service.

There were about 100 letters of support—some in Asian languages—in both HinD's and SRC's appeals to the Review Panel. They also had a petition with over 1500 signatures, together with a week-by-week record of HinD's direct service provision to Camden residents. There was also a strong letter of support from the previous chair of the Women's Committee:

"The centre carries out valuable and pioneering work and is used as a base by a very wide range of women's groups. Some of its work is controversial and the centre has a high public profile. It would be alarming if the centre had been singled out for major cuts for this reason."

When pressed by left-wing Councillors who respect & support the Centre, the **Council admitted both cuts to the Centre were made purely on political grounds** which they would not specify. The only 'evidence' the Review Panel offered to justify cutting 3 women's jobs was a set of newspaper articles attacking Wilmette Brown, the Centre's Black joint co-ordinator, for challenging racism in the peace movement. The Council's report targets Ms Brown as follows: "... members should be aware of the high public profile assumed by one of the paid workers for HinD." This targeting of Black activists is itself racist—what a member of Camden Black & Ethnic Peoples Consortium, (which is supporting the two groups) called 'sus' (a law used to harass young Black people by stop & search on suspicion that a crime may have been or is about to be committed—no proof is needed).

A NEW KIND OF SUS

On 28 January, Camden Council's Grants Review Panel confirmed 100% cuts in funding to Housewives in Dialogue, which runs from the King's Cross Women's Centre, & Sex Race and Class, the Black and Third World women's discussion and study group based at the centre.

The Women's Centre is the oldest in Camden. Through continuity & hard work the Centre has developed the expertise to provide first-class anti-racist, anti-sexist services to grassroots women, starting with young Black & immigrant women, many of whom—understandably—distrust agencies & organisations. These women know that the Centre has stood up for the poorest & most vulnerable, opposing sexism & racism including by the local State which funds our services.

At the same time as the Council is cutting us, they are counting on our work continuing. As benefits, jobs & services are cut, more & more women are coming to the Centre. Whether it's finding out how & where to sign on, where's the best place to look for accommodation, what sort of courses are on offer, if there are any jobs, or what it's like to be a lesbian, women know they can rely on the Centre for straightforward advice & information. We never say 'there's nothing we can do'.

To make these cuts in services, the Council has had to deny the work done by many young women who volunteer at the Centre. Like the young women who come for help, the volunteers on the rota are from many different backgrounds and situations—Black and white, immigrant, lesbian, single mothers. We get the highest quality

anti-racist, anti-sexist training from the Centre's joint co-ordinators. From immigration problems to anti-lesbian harassment and many other legal/social/emotional problems which overlap, we volunteers work to get women the rights and resources they're entitled to, from the Council & other statutory or voluntary agencies. Working together to win back what is rightfully ours is exciting and rewarding for the volunteers too.

An example of the kind of work we do: A young Asian woman who was 9 months pregnant recently came to the Centre for help in getting the maternity benefit she had signed for three weeks before. Also, she had been trying to get a Council flat but had not been treated as a priority. She had been forced to live separately from her husband, in a bed and breakfast with her 3 yr old daughter. Her last landlord had thrown out some of her belongings including most of her daughter's clothes. We helped her fill out the forms for furniture claims, moving expenses and clothes replacements and we arranged her an interview with a national Black newspaper to publicise her situation. Since then she has been offered a temporary Council flat for one year and we're pursuing the DHSS about her claims.

Her story is a typical example of how State agencies dismiss, ignore & mess over those of us on the bottom of the pile. Many of us at the Centre have gone through similar things, so we help & advise from first hand experience.

The grants ran out in March. These services, and the jobs of 3 women workers, two of whom are Black, two of whom are lesbian and one a single mother. We get the highest quality

Sacking on these grounds sets a dangerous precedent. Any worker can be sacked, or project dismantled on the grounds that councillors object to that worker's political views. Council-funded anti-racist workers and project can be victimised. Anti-abortion councillors can sack pro-abortion campaigners from any job—even if it has nothing to do with abortion. Camden admitted that this was the first time in its history that a group's funding has been cut on the basis of newspaper articles. But it won't be the last.

The 100% cuts to HinD and SRC are part of a series of State attacks aimed particularly at those of us who don't and don't want to fit into Thatcher's right-wing 'yuppie model'—ie. Most of us! They are examples of increasing repression and the move to the right, as are the cuts in Social Security benefits and tighter prostitution laws (to keep us financially dependent on men and the family), workfare (job training schemes—slave labour), increased immigration controls (to prevent us from reclaiming our wealth and sharing information internationally) and Clause 28 (anti-lesbian/gay legislation which sets out to police and discipline women who are refusing the work of sexual relationships with men by choosing to be lesbian).

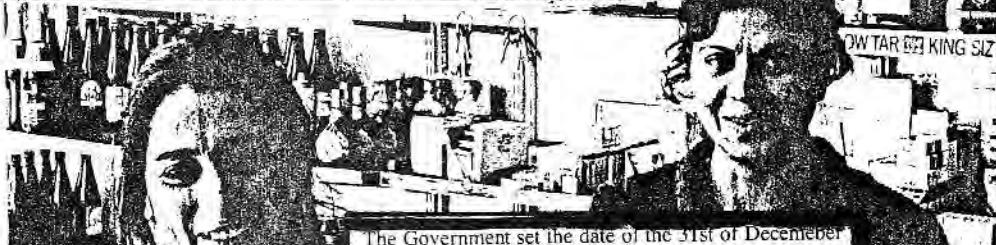
By implementing these cuts and others, Camden Council is toeing the Thatcher line, denying us resources to make us more vulnerable to the violence of poverty, racism, homelessness, anti-lesbianism and all the other violence women are forced to confront in this cut-throat society. More and more young women are being forced in self-defence, into illegality in order to be able to choose how, where and with whom we want to live our lives. Self-defence is no offence! At the centre we offer legal advice too!

Centre volunteers and users have launched an SOS campaign—Save Our Services, determined to resist these cuts. The workers are taking legal advice, and are calling on their union, NALGO, for help. To help us fight these 'racist attacks of a financial kind', call, drop in or write to us at: King's Cross Women's Centre, 71 Tonbridge Street, London WC1H 9DZ. Tel. 01 837 7509. (Open Monday—Thursday, 11am—5pm).

RACIST

LAW

The 'British Nationality' ACT



These kids may
be born here,
but it doesn't
mean they have
any rights!

Last year the European Court of Human Rights found that the British laws discriminate against women settled here as they are not allowed to bring in a husband in the same way as men can bring in their wives. Since then the government has embarked on a campaign to abolish the right of settlement altogether, thereby making the law equally unfair on everyone.

The Government set the date of the 31st of December 1987, as the final date for people to apply for 'British Citizenship'. At the cost of £60, you will be entitled to have the same rights as other members of your society even if you have been living here for over thirty years and considered your self to be a voting member of 'society', with all that entails (sp say that's not much). If you fail to send your application in before that date, you can Apply for 'Naturalization' at the princely sum of £170.

This will not however guarantee you the Right to 'British Citizenship' and ultimately the right to live here. Even if you have lived under 'the old system' of 'British Citizenship' for more than thirty years, you still don't have the right. Naturalization, will be at the discretion of the 'Home Office and the present 'Home Secretary, 'Douglas Hurd'.

This right to citizenship even more convinces it's self to be 'RACIST', when you consider that the right to citizenship is giving to people from other 'WHITE' countries, ie. Canada, U.S.A., South Africa, Australia, whose grandparents or parents were born here in the U.K. This will exclude many first generation people who have settled here and also it will exclude many children born here, they will not have the automatic right to 'British Citizenship'.

We feel that these racist laws should be fought against. We also point out that the last Labour government, under the leadership of James Callaghan, produced a discussion document on 'British Citizenship'.

In 1971, a guarantee was given that the rights of settlement for dependants of those already settled would not be affected by future legislation, a promise which this government does not feel it has to honour.

Immigration Proposals – the main points

1. There will be no automatic right for the wives and dependants of men already settled here to join them. It must be shown that suitable accommodation and support, without recourse to public funds can be provided before permission is granted.
2. The right of appeal against deportation will be severely limited. Appeals on points of law only will be allowed, but the right to appeal against the use of discretionary powers by officials will be stopped.
3. All claims to British citizenship must be established before arrival in Britain. Those arriving without a valid authority to enter the country will be removed with no right of appeal.
4. In the case of polygamous marriage, only one wife will be allowed to join a husband settled in Britain.

In order to gain Naturalisation as a British Citizen you need to meet the following requirements:

- *you may apply if you are:
 - *aged 18 or over and are not of unsound mind
 - *of good character
 - *have sufficient knowledge of the English language:

This means; that your mastery of the English Language must be sufficient for you to fulfil your duties as a citizen.

If because of a disability you cannot speak, it will be sufficient if you can communicate in writing or by using British Sign Language.

*If you live either in the United Kingdom, or abroad in Crown Service ie. working directly for Her Majesty's United Kingdom Government.

*You meet the 5 year resident requirements or are unemployed overseas in Crown service under the United Kingdom Government.

You will meet the five year residence requirements if:

*you were in the UK at the beginning of the 5 year period; and in that 5 year period you were not outside the United Kingdom for more than 450 days; and

*in the last 12 months of the 5 year period you were not outside the UK for more than 90 days; and in the last 12 months of the 5 year period your stay in the United Kingdom was not subject to any time limit under the immigration laws; and

*you were not at any time in the 5 year period in the UK in breach of the immigration laws.

Once you have asked for naturalisation, you are then required to put an advert in a Local Newspaper stating that you intend to take out British Citizenship by naturalisation and that if anyone objects they should make their objections known. If no one objects then your application is sent to the Home Secretary, who then decides whether to grant you citizenship or not.

SHOCKING PINK ASKED BIENCE FROM SWAPO TO AN INTERVIEW. WHAT IS WRITTEN HERE ARE HER EXACT WORDS (ALTHOUGH WE'VE CUT A BIT).

What does SWAPO stand for?

SWAPO is an abbreviation standing for The South West African People's organisation. Namibia is situated in the South West of Africa, so it is called South West Africa. Around 1968 the name was changed to Namibia, the reason for this is that there is a desert called Namib, which is a word from one of our own languages meaning 'shield'.

In the 14th and 15th centuries when the Portuguese were going round The Cape of Good Hope, one of the places they landed was the Namib desert, and because it was desert they thought that the whole area must be desert, so they never penetrated the country. So for the Namibian people the desert shielded them, at least for a long time, from foreign intrusion. In fact the first white people who came to Namibia were the white missionaries who came across the South African border. They regarded our people as uncivilised pagans, their mission was to civilise the people without any regard for our own cultures and our own traditions. So that for today, because of foreign values and traditions our own cultures and traditions are either totally destroyed or where people have been able to hold on to them, they have tried to hold on to them.

In 1884 the Germans came to Namibia and stayed until 1920. There was a mentality that European countries had to look after Africans. In 1920 Namibia was handed over to South Africa who divided it into provinces, some mainly speaking English. In 1910 saw the Union of SA, in 1961 it became The Republic of SA.

In 1920 when SA was given Namibia, they tried to incorporate it as part of SA. They transplanted their apartheid policies to Namibia as well. What makes the difference between SA and Namibia is the fact that in Namibia we are speaking about an illegal occupation of the country and that the people don't have a right of self-determination in terms of independence. Whereas in SA the struggle is more about democratic rights for the majority of the people to have a say in the dismantling of apartheid rather than a fight for independence.

The majority of white people in Namibia do not owe any allegiance to the Namibian state, they see themselves as South Africans not Namibians therefore they are settlers. If you look at the Civil Service, police force, soldiers—all are South Africans, and at the end of the day they will go back to SA, whatever happens, because they owe no allegiance, and are there to make as much profit as they can out of their occupation of Namibia. Today about 10,000 SA troops are occupying Namibia. We have a population of about 2 million; that means there is one soldier for every 15 adults. Since 1972 parts of Namibia, especially the North, have been placed under Marshall Law. People were prohibited from leaving their houses after 6pm until 6am. Meetings were banned so that when 2 or 3 people were together that constituted a meeting. It was a severe restriction of peoples' movement. Today if a woman's giving birth, there is no way after 6pm that they can take her to hospital. Most black people don't have running water, so it's a very risky thing to make use of the toilet after 6pm. There have been occasions where people have been shot dead because they wanted to make use of the toilet.

As a woman there is no part of my life



that I can call my own under apartheid because all aspects are dominated by the fact that I'm black, whether it's health, education or basic human rights. All those things are determined by laws. In a country like Britain people take those things for granted, but one thing that one should know is that everything one has tried to get today in whatever part of the world are rights and freedoms that people at one time fought for.

... and we shouldn't wait as the Church made us believe...

Education is divided—there are schools for blacks and schools for whites. The black schools are further divided into the different ethnic groups. People who speak different languages go to different schools. In terms of state expenditure on schools it spends 4 or 5 times as much on white schools. So in black schools sometimes you find 50 students in one classroom, some without desks or tables and most things we have to buy ourselves, like books, pencils, fees and uniforms. Education does not serve the purpose it is supposed to serve in terms of giving you that self-confidence, that self-expression, that knowledge of whatever is happening around you and around the world. In history we were taught how great the white people were when they came to Africa and fought the barbarians. We were taught that black people who resisted foreign domination were cruel and bad. So today back home you have statues of white heroes and nothing of people that we regard as our heroes, to a point that I really hated my black forefathers and mothers and worshipped white heroes and heroines. The contents of history denies us our own past. Today in the context of the liberation struggle we are trying to tell the other side of our history and maybe one day, in an independent Namibia we will be able to have monuments to honour people who fought for their country.

In geography, I knew a lot about Europe. The first time I came to Britain was in 1982, but I already knew what Oxford, Newcas-

tle and Liverpool were like, what was discovered by Newton, everything. The only thing that I knew about my own country was that Namibia was situated in the south west of Africa and had a population of so-on. We weren't even taught about our mineral wealth. Because of the restrictions placed on us we couldn't even move around to come to know our own country.

In terms of science it was almost non-existent. Maths is non-compulsory and always placed against a course like history, and when finally you complete your education you find that if you want to become an engineer, doctor or whatever, you realise that you needed maths to do that. Those are real handicaps placed through your schooling to gear you towards certain fields.

One thing I have to mention is the use of Afrikaans in the schools. Afrikaans is a language that has so-far only been used in 3 countries—South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia. It is a language that is spoken by our oppressors, and it also humbles us in terms of our international communication. When I first left Namibia in 1977, the first country I went to was Botswana. I could not communicate with the people because they spoke English and that is something that has really enclosed us within Namibia in terms of communication with the outside world.

For those of us who have managed to complete our equivalent of A levels, there are still further obstacles; we don't have a university in Namibia so we have to go to SA and even if you've passed you need special permission to go to SA; you have to have a scholarship, which means that because it's a state scholarship, they can determine the courses that you have to take, and they advise people to do either nursing, teaching or arts courses like social studies. So that for years the highest qualified Namibian was a teacher or a nurse. When I completed my A levels I wanted to study law, when I approached a white inspector of schools I was told that as a black child my intelligence was much lower than that of a white child and that I wouldn't be

able to study law. Fortunately I got a grant from the Church so that I could go to SA and study my law degree there. I didn't stay long, I went in 1976 and because of the Soweto uprisings I was deported back to Namibia. When I went back I gave up anything about school and really got involved in politics in terms of addressing meetings, talking to people about the situation in the country, and why we shouldn't wait as the Church said. They made us believe that even if we were suffering now, after death there would be a better world, and that if someone hits you on one cheek that you should turn the other cheek. Religion combined with repressive measures by the state really pacified our people.

There are people like my grandmother who have lived for 80 years under such a system. For her there is no vision that things can change. If a young person tells her that it is possible, if we fight, she thinks that because they have been educated they think that they are more clever. This whole thing of racial superiority and inferiority is really ingrained in peoples' thinking. Just as white people think that they are more superior, black people also feel that they cannot do without whites. Simple things like if the white people leave the country, would you be able to make a box of matches? The whole feeling of dependency on whites has always been there. But things change in terms of us taking our own destiny in our own hands, especially the young people who have said enough is enough. We try to reach

No-one on this earth can ever tell me that he or she would like to die.

No-one.

out and learn about struggles that were waged in neighbouring countries, so that there is this vision that Namibia can also be independent, and that's how many of us either got involved in various struggles inside Namibia or decided to leave.

SWAPO

Decisions to leave, involve a lot of considerations. One might be a direct threat or threat of imprisonment, of torture, maybe your village has been totally destroyed or you have been raped, or maybe detained or just the sheer repression that exists in the country forces people to flee. The other reason may be also because you feel that waging a struggle inside the country is so confined that many of us feel that coming out and being voices for our people in the international forum is another dimension to our struggle, because issues that happen in Namibia never reach the outside world. We feel that it is our responsibility to be out here to talk about our own experiences in the country. Others would leave because the education system is of such a nature that none of them could ever think of having greater opportunities to further their studies, and choose the courses that they want to do.

Most important is the young people who have come out to join the armed struggle that is being waged by SWAPO against the SA government. For years and years we have tried to be very peaceful; we had demonstrations, petitions to the United Nations, to the British government, to the USA and other governments, and nothing happened. In fact what happened was that all those people who were trying through peaceful means to negotiate with the SA government were either imprisoned or shot. Faced with such brutal measures by the SA government we had no alternative but to take up arms. I think that people assume that it's either the warmongers or people who have got no regard for human life or that it's a very easy decision to be

That desire to be a free person or at least to be treated better than a dog, can make people take up arms.

involved in a war. Speaking as a person who is involved in that very war—it is not an easy decision. No-one on this earth can ever tell me that he or she would like to die. No-one. Unless you are forced by circumstances, circumstances like freedom. That desire to be a free person or at least to be treated better than a dog, can make people take up arms.

Young people in this country have gone through the stages that any person goes through; you are a baby, then you become a child, then you become an adolescent, then you become an adult. For many Namibians these normal stages of development do not exist. You jump to adulthood without experiencing what childhood means and for many people, especially those who have been born in the last 10 or 20 years, they have been born amidst a war situation and for them that's the only language that exists for them at the moment. I've got a daughter of 10 years old, and when she was about 4 she said, 'Mummy, I want a gun'. I said, 'What do you want to do with a gun?' and she said, 'I want to shoot the enemy'. Now I'm not saying that a child of 4 knows what she is talking about, but what I'm saying is that children are growing up under such circumstances that they would rather play with guns than with toys like other children do at the moment. Which is really hard and the longer the struggle, the harder people become, the more hatred there is and it's obviously a very very difficult decision. A decision first and foremost to decide to leave Namibia.

Now I'm not speaking about leaving Namibia, having a passport, getting on the

plane and flying out. If I speak about leaving, it's trekking for miles and miles across the boarders, without food, without water. When some of us left we put on something like 10 panties, 2 trousers and shirts. That was the only thing we had on when we left because even if you took a bag, after days and days of walking there's just no way that you can manage to carry it across. And that's the way that people make their decision to leave Namibia. Leaving, also means that there is no chance for you to see your family. I haven't seen my family for 11 years. When we leave Namibia we go to neighbouring countries, Botswana, Zambia or Angola where we have got camps and live there like a big community in exile. We have got schools and clinics and try to live as normal people do. For most people it is the first time in their lives that they can have a life that is worth living in terms of, ironically, feeling free. Something that has been denied them in their own countries.

Life in the camps is really hard. Sometimes we sit together and try to make it easier by making jokes about it. We have to clear bush areas, set up tents or build houses from clay and sticks. We train young workers, nurses and teachers. Most importantly the people who live in the camps need to eat, they need to dress and they need tents to sleep in, and that's where people like you come in, the international community by giving us material support. There are always collections of old clothes, blankets, shoes or whatever that are being sent down to the camps where people make use of them.

In terms of food UN agencies and especially socialist governments send food down. Sometimes it's so difficult that people only eat once a day. We have to draw water from wells that you make in the camps. I was brought up in an urban area in a town in Namibia, so it was the first time for me to go to a village—that's how the camp looks like. I remember when I had to go and draw water. Now in Africa it's quite traditional, let me not necessarily call it traditional, but it's maybe easier for people to carry things on their heads. Women used to go and draw water especially those living in the rural areas in Namibia. So I would go and put the bucket on my head and I would find that I couldn't carry it, and they would carry it without holding it. With me I had to carry it holding it, but by the time I reached home the bucket would be half full, and I would be wet all over! And the others really enjoyed those of us who had grown up in urban areas and would say, 'look at this one, they really don't know what life is like!' The same thing with making fire or just life generally. So that in a way camp life has taught us not to take things for granted. At the same time the people who live in rural areas feel sorry for us as well because I remember being asked, 'Bience, do you have to buy everything in town? It must be really difficult because at least those of us who live in rural areas, we can grow our maize or our millet. And we have got at least our little cattle or whatever'. And you always feel sorry for people in rural areas and yet it's the other way around.

Within this camp you achieve so many things; you achieve a community of people, a new nation, whereas back home it is always divisions. You have people who have grown up in rural areas and people who have grown up in urban areas sharing their experiences. People from different races and different ages, and that is the importance of being a member of a liberation movement—you combine different facets

of the struggle, be it race, class or sex and fight against all those within the context of national liberation.

Now what am I doing here? I am here to study, and the reason that I can do this is that the international community gives money to the organisation and offers places for Namibians to be able to study. So today we have got thousands of Namibians all over the world, studying in different fields. The most important thing is that when people go on scholarships there is no sexual division. You will find men and women doing carpentry, doing medicine and doing science. I think that this is a very very important part because you break down the whole notion of male subjects and female subjects. At the same time you equip women in a future Namibia to get into areas where it was always men's work.

What the SA government is doing at the moment is that it has seen what SWAPO as the national liberation movement is doing for the Namibians. If you count the lawyers, doctors, engineers or whatever you can count them on one hand. If you count those of us who have been educated by SWAPO, we are hundreds and hundreds and SWAPO has only been in existence since 1960. To counteract that SA is now creating scholarships for Namibians to study, foreign companies are also doing that in order to say, 'Well we are doing a lot for the Namibians'. Most of us living in this country would be people who are in exile and come either from the refugee camps in Angola or Zambia and are sent by the movement. Scholarships are offered to the movement, who then select candidates to come on the scholarships. So when I am finished I will go back to the camps to do whatever is required of me. Most of the doctors, engineers or whatever, are the ones who have completed their education and they are putting things in motion back in the camps.

I spend three quarters of my time having to attend meetings, going to address meetings or writing articles for various newspapers and journals, and also it's a great opportunity just to meet people. For 21 years of my life I lived in this big prison—Namibia, in which I could never come out and meet people outside. Now I'm trying to learn so much from other people's struggles. I have talked to a great many people who said that by having involved themselves in solidarity campaigns for people thousands of kilometres away, that it has also awakened their own consciousness of fighting against issues in this country.

The other day I was telling people that, please remember we can also cry and that we can smile, and that we have got hearts, because people always assume that if you are involved in a struggle you are strong and you are determined. Some of my friends who came to know me the other way round; I really like going out and dancing at discos! Then I have to rush off to a meeting or I invite them to a meeting that I'm addressing. They say, 'Bience, I can't believe it!'. One woman told me, 'Bience, you are not one of us. We have got all the time in the world to do our essays and revise, and here you are, everytime after lectures you run off to a meeting or you do this and that, where do you get all the energy from? Then you still manage to hand in your essay on time or you still manage to pass the exam'. And I said, 'Well it's commitment and organisation that really gets you through'. You can do so many things and feel exhausted afterwards but there is something that keeps you going all the time.

Going back to talking about Namibia most of the fighting takes place in the north. Because we are based in Angola what the SA government is trying to do is keep us out of Namibia. They've employed their military bases around the north, and that area has been declared an operational area. The security forces can do whatever they like. Journalists cannot go into that area and even if you go there you have to have a permit. In 1981 it was extended so that about two thirds of the country is now under a state of emergency.

Britain has got enormous economic interest in SA in Namibia. Everyone abhors SA but ...

About a month ago there was a bomb blast in a bank, formerly Barclays, which went off at a time when the majority of people in the bank were blacks, depositing cheques and changing cheques because it was the day that they were paid. 15 people died right there on the spot, and now after about 3 weeks there are 31 people dead, and more than 100 injured. SA is claiming that SWAPO planted the bomb, now what we are saying is that if we are so horrible, why not plant a bomb (I'm sorry to say this) where we know there is a majority of white people. People are arguing that because 1 or 2 white people also died, that SA would not plant a bomb, but SWAPO would despite the fact that 31 blacks died. These are the type of things that happen in Namibia. We don't know things like trials. Twice SA soldiers have been charged with murder and twice the SA state president stopped the trials for security reasons. What's the difference between what Hitler did then and what SA is doing now? We say where is the world now? Why don't we all stand together and fight? The answer is clear—economic interest speaks louder than the lives of blacks. Britain has got enormous economic interest in SA in Namibia.

Everyone abhors SA but no-one speaks about ways in which we can bring the SA regime down. SA is not as powerful as the world makes it out to be. I am sure that if we were left there without the collaboration of western countries we would have brought down the SA government a long time ago. Apartheid continues, Namibia's illegal occupation continues because of countries like Britain, that support SA both economically and politically, in terms of always finding ways behind which SA can hide. Britain can denounce Apartheid policies but SA knows it has got a reliable ally. Even when in 1978 the SA government bombed one of our refugee camps in Angola when more than 600 Namibians were massacred. The bombs that were used were supplied by Britain, the weapons by the US so we are speaking about directly giving aid to the government to prop up its' military machine & further repress the people. So we are waging a just war and we want peace as much as anyone else but in order to get peace you have to resort to a war of liberation. You live for today so that tomorrow will take care of itself, but despite that fact people have got a future, a future where we will go back to an independent Namibia. I feel very very confident about that so when somebody says how does it feel to be away from your family for so long it's mainly that feeling that I have that life would be very much better after that drives me on. They'll let us have the end of the stick, hopefully. Once Namibia is free we will live for the rest of our lives with our beloved ones. It's tough. It's definitely not easy.

FUCK ME...
THIS IS BORING

Threat to youth conference

IF ONLY THE
GLC HADN'T
GONE....

The other day some of the SP workers went along to a 'Threat to Youth Conference' which was really boring. The only 'youths' who were there was us and about three others. There was a multitude of youth WORKERS, who thought that they could organize FOR US. We went to a lecture on the new criminal justice bill. The bloke who was giving it aimed it all at young boys (yuk) what about all the young women who get banged up in some shit hole? We know that there aren't as many young women as boys in detention centres, but surely this is because we're too clever to be caught? When we first started producing this magazine we tried to get support from the youth service in our area but couldn't. Because they hadn't set us up (and so didn't have complete control over us), they didn't help us at all. We saw what had happened to Sheffield young lesbian group (see SP issue 1) and didn't want it happening to us. So these are the ideas that we came up with:

Survival kit for 'youths'

1. NEVER trust a youth worker, they always think that they know best.
2. NEVER go to ANY local government body for funding 'cos they'll just give you a shit time and demoralise you (they think that you're too stupid to do things on your own and need them to help you).
3. Even if you do get some money from local government, it won't last, so it's best not to get too dependent on them.
4. Show them what you're made of. You don't need some fuck-head telling you what to do.
5. Go get organised! (Without any help from the youth scene).
6. Dye your hair pink. (Like us)
7. If you need money either do some fund raising or steal it.
8. Beware of police infiltrators.
9. Get publicity for your cause by doing illegal things.
10. Don't get caught!

If you too, have had shit from the 'youth' scene write and tell us about it.

I'D ONLY STEAL
OFF SOME RICH
BASTARD !

I BLAME THE
STATE NOT THE
WORKERS & I'M
NOT EVEN IN
THE SWP.

ACTUALLY I
KNEW A
REALLY NICE
YOUTH WORKER
ONCE....

Dear Shocking Pink,
My poems are all true experiences of my past encounters of living at home in a strict Muslim family, which is why I left.

Ami—Her true feelings

I have been suffering,
For the past five years.
The pain won't be forgotten,
Because I cried so many tears.
The memories of the hurt,
They played with my fears.
They always put me down,
But I smiled like a clown,
I was always pretending,
Because the pain was never-ending.
I always wanted to be cared for,
Suffering, but nobody ever saw.
Oh those blows to my heart,
Why did it all start?
Suffering in the past,
The pain and memories of old times last.
Now that I'm here,
The hurt I will share.
We're in the same boat,
And it's so shocking.
It will get better,
Because the boats stopped rocking.
The calm waters have started flowing.
At last love is showing.

By Ami



A READER'S OPINION POLL
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- Is this woman ...
- a) more obsessed with her hair care than the new DHSS benefits?
 - b) promoting Thai Air Lines?
 - c) very beautiful?
 - d) The next best thing to a cup of hot chocolate, (but only on Thursdays)?
 - e) eh?

i thought this mag was about youth?

i used
to be a
bit of a
rebel...



REVIEWS



A



LET'S HAVE A BABY



A Typical "Happy" Couple

Have you noticed how family life, monogamy & having babies seems to be rampant at the moment? If there's one programme which really gets on my nerves it's *Moonlighting*. It's all female tantrums, weddings & babies (popping out painlessly of course). FUCK OFF David & Maddy—We really don't give a shit whether you 'love' each other or not. There are more important things to worry about than the sex life of two american wankers.

Up yours
David
Addison!



.... Have you noticed all this family stuff being shoved down our throats at the cinema recently? Films like 'Fatal Attraction' where you're supposed to be horrified that the man has an affair with someone, when he's got a pretty wife, cute & cuddly rabbit all to himself at home? (Presumably it would be OK if his wife was ugly).

.... And propaganda like 'Baby Boom' or 'Three Men & a Baby' where even changing the nappies is cute. All this is just pushing Alton's Bill forward. 'How could anyone get rid of such an adorable little thing?' Looking after them is so much fun? Why don't they try growing one in a grotty bedsit, with 2 week waits for a Giro & a violent landlord?



JAGGED EDGE. Not quite a film review

This is a thriller about a woman lawyer who takes on a case involving a man accused of brutally murdering his wife. Although the woman character is shown as very strong and ends up confronting the killer singlehanded and blowing his brains out (Hah!), I still realised that this film is just like most of its kind in that it's about women getting cut up by men. That seems to be about as far as Hollywood can think, even in the '80s. One friend thought it was good that the lawyer was a woman for a change, but the film wasn't exactly an advertisement for women to join the profession. I left feeling frightened all the way home AND all night. I'm fed up with being scared, especially by films that pretend to be about "liberated, successful" women and have just the same underlying message as all the rest—woman you better be scared! This one will probably be on TV soon. Its just blatant mass intimidation. Is this what they call entertainment?

THE DAUGHTERS OF EGALIA, by Gerd Brantenbuerg.

Journeyman. \$4.95

Petronius is a young 'manwom' (meaning male, but the 'wom' part of the word becomes the man bit) who has been socialised into being a 'peho' (willy-holder) and shaving his chest, like all the other men-wim for the sake of common decency. His father, a 'housebound' (male housewife) accepts that his wife is the head of the family and that he must bring up his wife's children.

Petronius, after too many bad experiences with butch wim, abandons the road his father has taken, becomes a homosexual and sets up a masculist movement to fight the oppression of his sex.

This book can get a bit predictable but in general is hilarious. It puts men in women's shoes in a (not-so) fictitious society, which is only a reversal of the one we live in now. If you could do with some self indulgence & giggles, definitely read this.



Lisa Jagger, 16, works in the Wimpy in Huddersfield.
"When my boyfriend went off with another girl, I did the same."

GIRLS ARE BRILLIANT



HELEN'S SECRET GUN HOLD-UP

A CHURCHGOING wife held up a post office at gunpoint and dealt in drugs... without her family knowing a thing.

Yesterday charity worker Helen Windeller, who turned to crime to get out of debt, was jailed for five years.

Windeller, 37, left her bank clerk husband asleep, stole a car and drove 70 miles to raid the sub-post office at Orpington.

ton, Kent, the Old Bailey heard.

She carried out the robbery "in the gentlest way" and made her escape with £200.

"THE GIRL seems to me to be a menace to the young men in the area."

JUSTICE SIR FREDERICK LAWTON, age 75, on a 14 year old rape victim

WOMEN JAILED 'FAR TOO OFTEN'

TOO many women are being sent to prison, welfare campaigners claimed last night.

Women convicted in crown courts are more than twice as likely to be jailed as men, they said.

And a convicted woman's chances of being sent to prison have more than doubled over the last 10 years, said the National Association for the Care and

Resettlement of Offenders Director Vivien Stern said that women in jail had, on average, fewer previous convictions than men.

Now the association is calling for an inquiry into why so many women are sent to prison.

Latest figures show there were 1,728 women prisoners in June, a 10 per cent increase in a year.

Bigot.

By Rifa Bhunnoo.

You are so pig headed. What, just because I won't come around to your point of view?

No it's not that at all. But don't you see that by oppressing women ...

Oh you talk such a load of crap. OK OK I'll grant you—women are fine working, but in their own fields.

What, like staying home, breeding babies and laying down for men like you?

No, not only that, but they are OK at something artistic or nothing too strenuous.

Oh, I could kill you sometimes. You don't know nothing. What about the women who don't want to do 'something artistic'? What about the ones who want to fly a plane, mend a car or all those other things, 'masculine' things.

Oh well, they're all lesbians anyway.

BANG YOU'RE DEAD.



BUT WHAT are they looking at? I wonder?

This play is excellent. It traces the life of a woman, Nell, through the centuries, from a jester in Elizabethan time to a woman in a present day women's centre. Nell is a feminist, a lesbian, a suffragette, a worker, a friend of Emily Bronte, but never ONCE did she join the SWP. I think this is a serious defect in the plot. The cast (all 3 of them) acted with tremendous courage and stamina, backed up by ingenuous special effects. Hysterically funny with serious undertones.

Bumping into 2 of the cast a couple of weeks ago in the street, they were ecstatic when we shouted 'Red Rag, wooooo!', having thought that fame had finally come their way. Sorry to disappoint them. But all the best in the future. Shit I can't write reviews. Get up off your arse and go and see this one—you'll love it! Details on listings page 29

COMING NEXT ISSUE
Women In Labour.

This is not a joke. We are going to have a classified ads section. For 20p a word (money in advance please) you can say just about anything you want. This is serious. SP2 is distributed to nearly 4000 people & if we assume that 3 people read each copy that's 12 000 readers.



For sale: T-shirts, one size
fits them all!
Choice of two: Green men, pink
or Start on Pink background.
S.P. head on white background.
£4.50 each. Cheques Postal/orders
payable to: Shocking Pink 2) G/so South London
→ 55 Acre Lane Brixton S.W. 2



Advice & information on
un/employment

Telephone: 01 587 1636
Or write: Room 203, Southbank House,
Black Prince Rd, London. SE1 7SJ.

WO, YEAH! MORE
NEWS! NEWS!

* A woman has been sacked because of her sexuality!!! (I don't find this so surprising, ed.) Her work was "fine" but because she was openly lesbian she got the chop (grilled or fried? ed.) A Dyke worked as a chef & allegedly sent messages to the customers revealing her sexuality in her cooking as she had no other contact with them. (Nouvelle cuisine a la Lesbienne???) Anyway, she was sacked on the grounds that her sexuality was bad for business. So, when planning your summer hols, remember NOT to book into the LESCEAVE CLIFF HOTEL, PRAA SANDS, NR. PENZANCE. But we would suggest that you go and blow the place up (careful, we'll get done for incitement, ed.). First to bring us a bit of brickwork gets a desirable SP twinset. If you've experienced this kind of shit from employers contact: Lesbian Employment Rights, Room 206, Southbank Hse, Black Prince Rd, London SE1 7SS.



IT'S HARD TO GO ON WHEN YOU'RE ACHING INSIDE.

IT'S ONLY IN ADVERTISING FOR SANITARY PROTECTION THAT WOMEN ARE PORTRAYED AS BEING ACTIVE—TAMPAX & LIL-LETS ADS IMPLY THAT THEIR TAMPOONS ALLOW WOMEN TO GET ON WITH THEIR 'EVERYDAY' ACTIVITIES OF RESCUING CATS FROM SKYSCRAPERS, LEAPING OFF SKI-JUMPS, SWIMMING THE CHANNEL ETC; NORMALLY WE ARE PORTRAYED AS THE STEREOTYPICAL PASSIVE PRODUCT ACCESSORY TO BOOST SALES ... (Womens Media Action Group)

Call it what you like,
a period's a bl**dy nuisance.

THE ADVERTISING

The Applicator

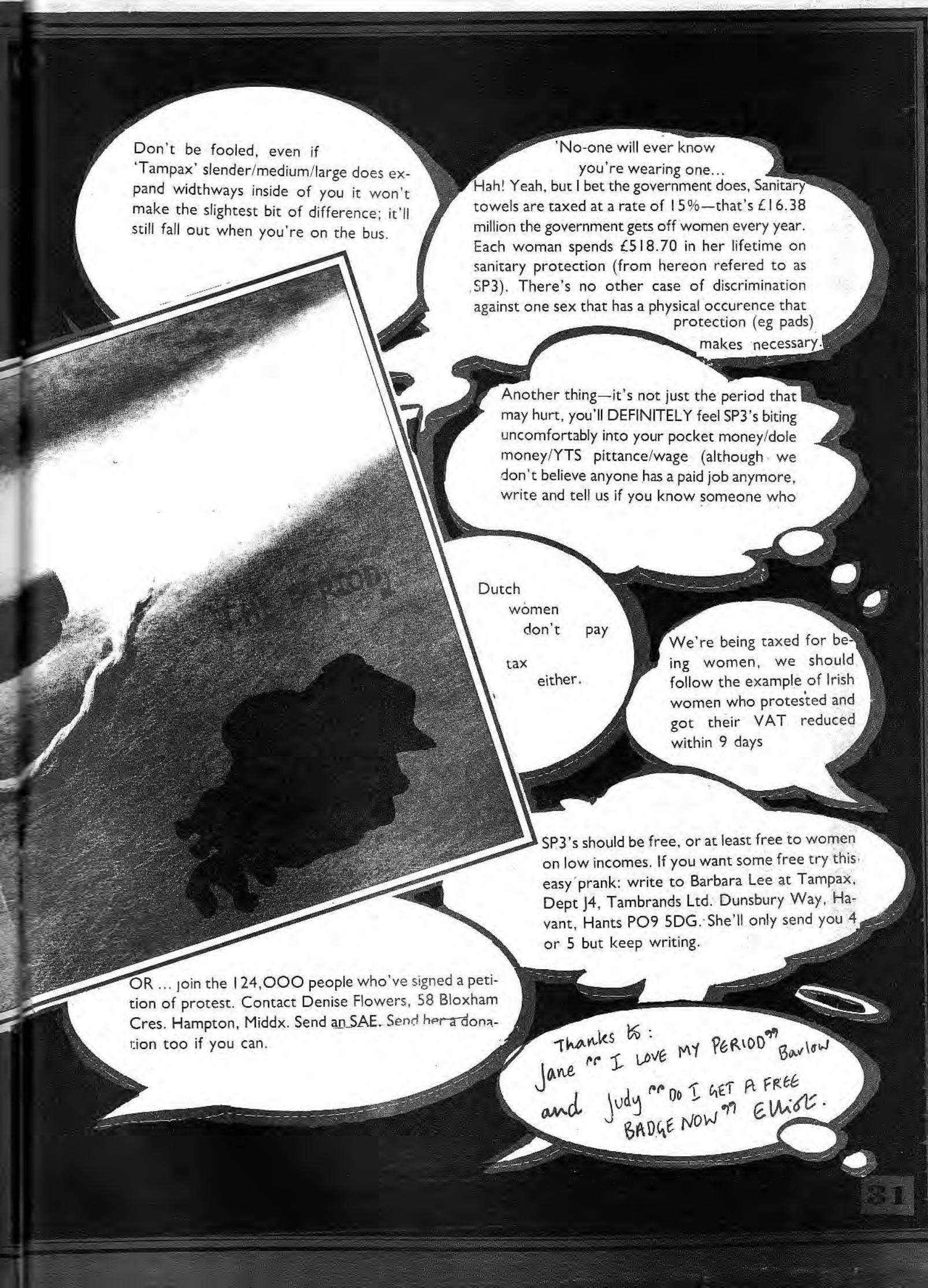
BECAUSE WE WANT
YOU TO FEEL REALLY
SQUEAMISH about
touching yourself

The Tampon

SUPER-PENETRATIVE SHAPE,
TO REMIND YOU OF THE EVIL
WILLY (IN CASE YOU'RE SUFFERING
ANY ENVY)

TO PLUG YOU UP, LIKE A BATH
MAY BE?

FEMINISM. THE
COMPLETE
PAIN RELIEVER.



Don't be fooled, even if
'Tampax' slender/medium/large does ex-
pand widthways inside of you it won't
make the slightest bit of difference; it'll
still fall out when you're on the bus.

'No-one will ever know

you're wearing one...

Hah! Yeah, but I bet the government does, Sanitary
towels are taxed at a rate of 15%—that's £16.38
million the government gets off women every year.
Each woman spends £518.70 in her lifetime on
sanitary protection (from hereon referred to as
SP3). There's no other case of discrimination
against one sex that has a physical occurrence that
protection (eg pads)
makes necessary.

Another thing—it's not just the period that
may hurt, you'll DEFINITELY feel SP3's biting
uncomfortably into your pocket money/dole
money/YTS pittance/wage (although we
don't believe anyone has a paid job anymore,
write and tell us if you know someone who

Dutch
women
don't
pay
tax
either.

We're being taxed for be-
ing women, we should
follow the example of Irish
women who protested and
got their VAT reduced
within 9 days

SP3's should be free, or at least free to women
on low incomes. If you want some free try this
easy prank: write to Barbara Lee at Tampax,
Dept J4, Tambrands Ltd, Dunsbury Way, Ha-
vant, Hants PO9 5DG. She'll only send you 4
or 5 but keep writing.

OR ... join the 124,000 people who've signed a peti-
tion of protest. Contact Denise Flowers, 58 Bloxham
Cres. Hampton, Middx. Send an SAE. Send her a dona-
tion too if you can.

Thanks to:
Jane "I LOVE MY PERIOD"
Barlow
and Judy "DO I GET A FREE
BADGE NOW?" Elliot.

'WOMEN DEMAND THEIR OWN SPACE, NOT JUST THE CORNERS'

From our correspondents in Granada, Spain.

I spent International Womens' Day as any other. The sun sets, Julie calls round & tells me there's a demo in town in 15 mins. Leaflets were passed around & chanting began. 'Women demand their own space, not just the corners.' A big posse of women pouring down a side street, clapping, shouting & taking up a lot of space. For the first time in 2 months I felt safe on the street. A ladder appeared & a woman climbed up to the balcony of a building, climbed over, used her bum to smash the windows & broke in. When we got in we started battering the entrance doors, enormous wooden double doors like you'd expect to see on a church. In no time at all they gave & we trooped in. The chant changed from 'Queremos un espacio para la mujer' (we want a womens space) to 'tenemos un espacio para la mujer' (we've got).

Later I found out it's a municipal building. We listened as a couple of women read out manifestos. One on the need for a womens' space, the other on the specific struggle of young women in Granada. Julie takes over the story here. Women realised there was too little support for a permanent occupation since the women remaining would have to battle the police who were waiting round the corner. Close to 10pm a police car appeared. Meanwhile, 3 blocks away there were 50 officers in vans. This successfully intimidated those who were unsure if they wanted to stay. Its hard to forget that only 15 years ago Franco was still alive, & most of the women there were old enough to remember. The womens space, though temporary was being used. Women sat on the floor, exchanging strategies & beer, discussing what could be done in the future. It was symbolic—the women kept saying—a symbolic occupation. But the chant, as we walked down the street, resounded from nearby buildings. 'WE WANT MORE!' 'QUEREMOS MAS!'

Contact address.

Asamblea De Mujeres de Granada, C/O Marques de Falces, 5-2, Granada, SPAIN.

HIPHOP LESPOP (Hup!)



Newsletter of Peckham Black Women's Centre

69 Bellenden Rd, London SE11 5BH. Tel. 01 358 1486

OUT, PROUD & FIGHTING. By Noel Halifax of the SWP.

This was meant to go in the Shocked by Shocking Pink bit of this issue but the rabid Anti Trot who laid out that page quietly removed it. This pamphlet is very very good. It goes into the history of Gay & Lesbian Oppression and shows how the shit clause 28 is part of a drive towards strengthening the family.

I AM NOT A RABID ANTI-TROT! I'm just alle/gic to the Sun!



La Asamblea de Mujeres de Granada se concentró en la Plaza del Carmen y fue a la calle San Matías a reivindicar unos locales municipales. Las mujeres de Granada exigen el

● CONTACT WOMEN IN MANUAL TRADES 52/54 Featherstone St, E11 8RT (01 251 9192) & get their 'March' newsletter, with info on where/how to train/get work, news & ads from women who'll mend things for you etc.

● PECKHAM BLACK WOMENS CENTRE is an advice, resource & activity centre for all Afro Caribbean & Asian Women in Southwark. 69 Bellenden Rd, SE15. Provides good services and produces 'IN PRINT' a newsletter with articles on all the shit legislation and how it hits Black women particularly badly. (REALLY really good—Loads of info.) Phone Arlene 358 1486.

LESBIANS AND GAYS
come along to our worship service,
Sundays, Metropolitan
Community Church, 2a Shoreditch
Road, Brixton, S.W.12. 672
7020. (15 mins walk from Brixton
station). MARRIAGE DAY BAPTISM

★ LESPOP ★ (LESBIAN & POLICING PROJECT)

Not ANOTHER AGM ???!!

Yes!—Come to this one though. LESPOP's work is exciting & essential. Come to the meeting & get involved.

London Women's Centre,
Wesley House,
4 Wild Court,
London WC2 5AU
17th MAY at 7pm.

Food .. Drink .. Creche .. Full Access
★ GUEST SPEAKERS ★

ANOTHER EPISODE IN THE LIFE OF THE MORAL CRUSADER! DEATH!

LISTEN GOD, OLD SON!
THIS IS TIME FOR ACTION!
IT'S TIME FOR BURNING THOSE
STINKIN' LESSIES 'N' SLEAMING
PODSTOLES IN HELL
ETC., ETC. !!!



Why the left is in disarray: We have noticed the discrepancy on the left. We have diagnosed this as diarrhea. It is a disaster that there is so much disagreement and dissent within the left as a whole. We will soon all be in dire straits. It is deteriorating quickly. We can deduce that this is deflected on the degenerate class, so much deception and decline we will all soon decompose dangerously. DDT could be a result of this. Maybe the main disaster is that no-one knows what the fuck they're talking about all the time. Bit like this article really. We need communication. Fuck-off all you who wank on and lets talk some real words.

Hatred.

Almost everyone touches the sore sometime. Some jump back immediately. But others continue to pick and, without even realising it get their fingers covered with pus. And so the infection spreads. The first symptom is one's subconscious saying, "Don't mix with them." "Don't mix with them." So you avoid them. And because you have no contact with them you think that they must be different from you. We are born with rational hatred, not irrational hatred. And irrational hatred intensifies for such a small reason as once the first name has been called a second must follow.

And suddenly names aren't enough. More active hatred is required. So you throw a stone or two. Or three. You smash the window of the shop on the corner. (The one which is owned by the man from Bangladesh.) You write filthy words on his car which don't come off easily so he has to drive around with the humiliation and shame publically exposed. Then it has gone too far. The hatred cannot be reversed and is accelerating into something which was never anticipated. But you're in control. You've got the upper hand. You're holding the steering wheel. So you drive your car into his. You drive your car into his shop so you can loot and steal some alcohol (for a Whites-only party).

And then there are your politicians. They talk about South Africa. It's a crying shame, a disgrace, an appalling regime. (And most of all it's uneconomic). But the man in charge of the crying shame is one of their best friends. So they won't impose sanctions. They won't help the beaten, starving, ignored blacks. They won't hear the cry. They shut their ears and their minds and bask in the security of being conservative and wealthy and white.

So let the hatred reign. Let the hatred live. Racism is in. Equality is out. Racism stems from hatred. And ignorance. Ignorance of simple human emotions. Ignorance of how to live together in peace and harmony. But to live in peace and harmony with people of other nationalities we must first live in peace and harmony with people of our own nationality. And who is going to do that? Are there any volunteers?

By Joanne Hirschmann.

The hatred cannot be reversed and is accelerating into something which was never anticipated.
What? That's a bit pessimistic isn't it?



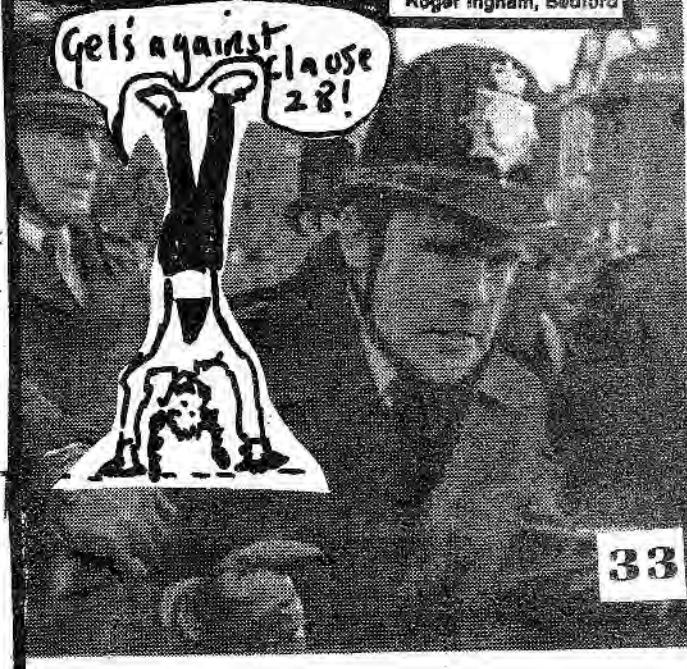
Double take... Selina before (left) and after

Cut it out, Selina!

● ONE WONDERS what on earth possessed Selina Scott to commit the sacrilegious act of altering her lovely long hair? Once one of the world's most beautiful and elegant women, she now looks like a Greenham Common peace protester dragged through a hedge backwards.

One can only hope that other beautiful women do not follow her lead.

Roger Ingham, Bedford



Brum/Yemeni Women.

WHO DECIDES WHO'S BRITISH?

Update.

Well, as far as Zana & Nadia Muhsen are concerned it's still got sod all to do with them. The 2 Birmingham women and their mother Miriam Ali, have been involved in an 8 year struggle against the British and Yemeni authorities for their right to return to England. Soon after Xmas the Yemeni government allowed that the two women should be able to return, accompanied by their husbands and children. However, because the women were under-age when married, the British State refuses to recognise the marriages and will not let the husbands into Britain.

Nadia and Zana are so desperate to return that they have said they will divorce their husbands in order to gain entry visas, but this will mean losing their kids. Under Yemeni law women are almost never granted custody in divorce cases.

SP2 would like to point out the racist coverage the press has given the case. Sensational headlines, eg. **SEX SLAVE GIRLS SEEK DIVORCES** (Daily Mirror 16/3/88) and quotations "*I consider I was raped, and my son is an outcome of that*" (Zana, Observer 21/2/88), do nothing to help explain or resolve an increasingly complex situation.

We have just heard that one of the sisters has been granted a divorce but she is refusing to leave Yemen until both are granted visas.

And a Scot bequeathed his two daughters their weight in pound notes. The elder girl inherited £51,200 and her younger, chubbier sister received £57,344.

IN AN historic judgment, a judge in India sentenced to death six policemen including two officers on charges of humiliating and torturing a woman in public. This is the first time Indian police officers have faced the death sentence since independence.

At least 17 people, including seven women, were killed in the north Indian state of Punjab in attacks by suspected Sikh terrorists. In one incident terrorists shot dead seven people, five of them women, all family of a suspected police informer, Mr Harbhajan Singh.



STUDENT MOTHERS FIGHT ...

When talks with the principal of Leeds Poly (ex Labour MP Chris Price) got them nowhere, student mothers organised a bit of direct action to draw attention to the lack of childcare facilities in their college. Six women with children under 5 stormed into the principal's office accompanied by the local press, radio & TV. Meryl Cunliffe of the Poly Womens group says, 'there was no demonstration as such. The kids brought out their toys & sweets & within half an hour he had agreed to everything'. The women have now been promised 4 places at Leeds Univ creche. Meryl describes this as a partial victory. 'Really we need facilities HERE. A lot of women are put off attending college because of the poor childcare provision.'

All part of the plan?

1988 budget .. well, it had to be in there somewhere, more government concern for the state of the family. And how do they plan to reinforce the sacred institution now? Abolish unmarried mums, THAT'S HOW. From April social security will force single mothers under 18 to rely on their families for financial support. Changes in the benefit system mean that if young women can't get help from their families (or charities, the government suggest) their children will have to go into care. So: first it's goodbye to abortion, and now if you end up with a baby, whether by choice or accident, they leave you with this dilemma—sponge off your parents (if they're sitting on a pile of inherited wealth or own a Scottish forest), or give up the kid, kid. Gives new meaning to family planning huh?

IT MAKES ME BLOODY SICK!!!! and me too, and me.(the typesetter.) I'm going to wash my hair.

Who's fooling who?

1. Women who do building work will:

- (a) Get big ears
- (b) Get very big muscles
- (c) Get all hairy
- (d) Get a useful skill

2. The 1975 Sex Discrimination Act says:

- (a) Men and women have equal rights to jobs and training
- (b) A man and a woman doing the same job must get equal pay
- (c) Boys should be sprayed blue at birth
- (d) A woman's place is in the home

3. The youngest ever channel swimmer was:

- (a) A boy
- (b) A duck-billed platypus
- (c) A girl
- (d) A sealink ferry

4. The fastest cross-channel swim was by:

- (a) A man
- (b) A miniature poodle
- (c) A woman
- (d) A hovercraft

5. The highest-paid trade you can trade as an apprentice for is:

- (a) Hairdressing
- (b) Toolmaking
- (c) Painting & decorating
- (d) Car mechanics

6. An employer turns you down because you're a girl. Your best bet is:

- (a) Contact The Equal Opportunities Commission
- (b) Try another employer
- (c) Put a spanner in his works
- (d) Cut your hair and use a deep voice for your next interview

7. The average pay for men in the UK is:

- (a) £80.50 per week
- (b) £154.50 per week
- (c) £192.00 per week
- (d) £99.00 per week

THE QUIZ

8. Women's average pay in the UK is:

- (a) £80.50 per week
- (b) £154.50 per week
- (c) £192.00 per week
- (d) £99.00 per week

9. Your careers officer has a fit when you say you want to be a bricklayer. You should:

- (a) Get her a glass of water and suggest she goes home early.
- (b) Switch off and plan what to do on Friday night.
- (c) Insists that she contacts the CITB (Construction Industry Training Board) for you
- (d) Promise not to be silly and ask her to train as an airline pilot

10. Your boyfriend says that women can't do manual trades because it's too dirty. You should:

- (a) Ask him who cleans his toilet
- (b) Smother him in handcream
- (c) Point out that 97% of cleaners are women
- (d) Agree that yes, most cleaning jobs are done by men

11. In the UK in 1983 women as a percentage of the workforce were:

- (a) 10%
- (b) 43%
- (c) 62%
- (d) 35%

12. Your Dad says girls can't handle building work. You should:

- (a) Cement him to the floor
- (b) Demand that he does all that heavy, tiring housework from now on, since men are so much stronger
- (c) Tell him that lots of girls win prizes for being the best apprentice in their manual trade
- (d) Ask him why the towel rail is falling off the wall

Phew! Glad that's over! Now it's time to see how you scored

- 1. a = 2 b = 1 c = 3 d = 0
- 2. a = 3 b = 2 c = 1 d = 0
- 3. a = 0 b = 1 c = 3 d = 2
- 4. a = 1 b = 3 c = 2 d = 0
- 5. a = 0 b = 1 c = 2 d = 3
- 6. a = 2 b = 0 c = 3 d = 1
- 7. a = 1 b = 3 c = 0 d = 2
- 8. a = 3 b = 0 c = 2 d = 1
- 9. a = 0 b = 2 c = 1 d = 3
- 10. a = 2 b = 1 c = 3 d = 0
- 11. a = 3 b = 2 c = 0 d = 1
- 12. a = 0 b = 3 c = 1 d = 2

Now add up your score and read on to find out how much you're prepared to put up with in the name of love!

24-30

Oh, dear you've got it bad, haven't you? You're absolutely convinced that this is the BIG LURVE THING and you're prepared to put up with quite a lot to make sure it goes on and on. Are you really ready for something so serious?

You do have a life of your own to live as well, you know. Perhaps you should cool it a little and try not to be quite so understanding. You'll probably find that your boyfriend will still be interested even if you don't mop his brow every night!

17-23

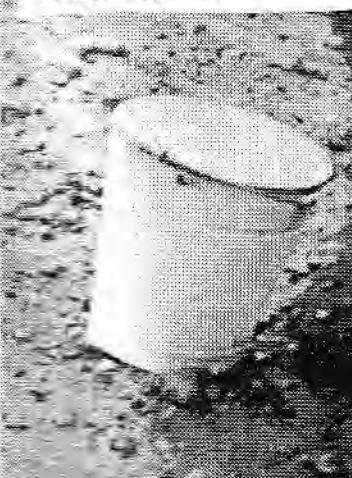
Mmmmmmmmm. You've got quite a level-headed approach to romance. You don't mind being involved and getting the odd cuddle but you're keeping your eye on Number 1 as well. Don't forget, there are two people involved in a romance and perhaps you should try and find out a little more about what he's like before you decide what to do next. If he turns out to be not very interested you're probably better off without him!

10-16

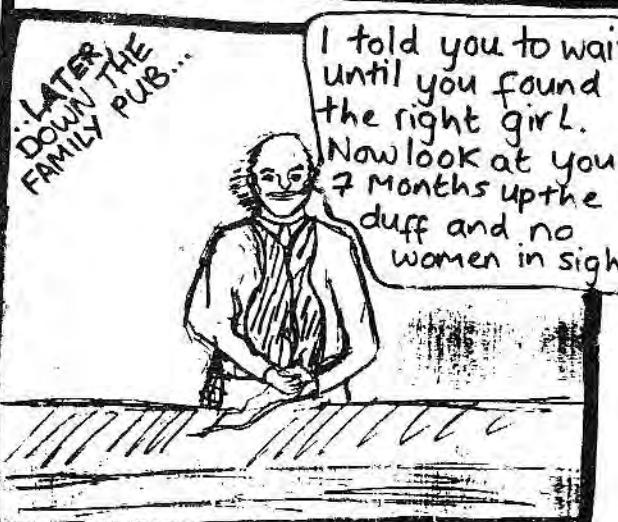
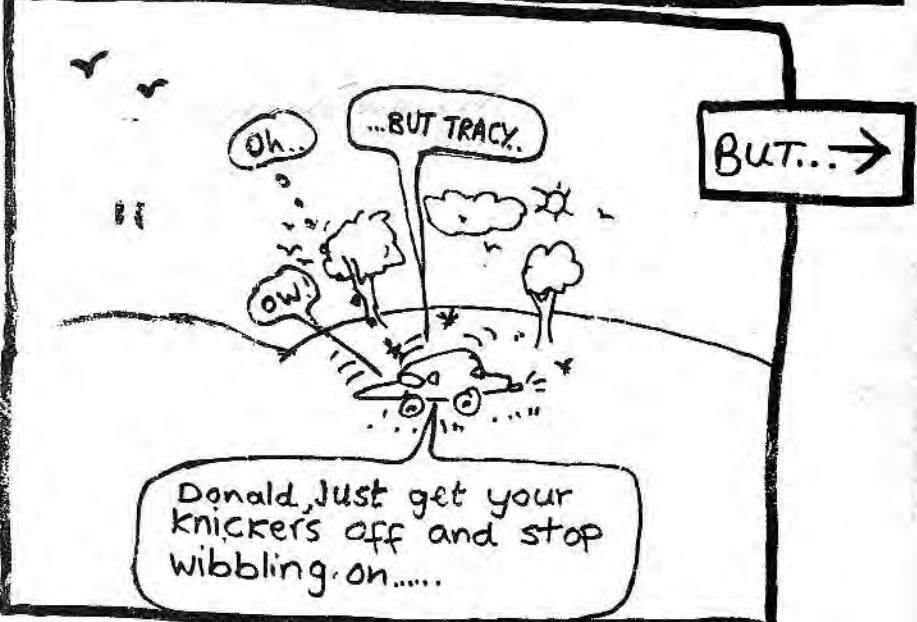
It's a no-no! You're obviously not really in to this romance thing at all! Don't panic, though, 'cos your boyfriend isn't either! You both quite like the idea of it but neither of you are prepared to put in any effort.

At least you're both on the same wavelength so neither of you are getting hurt but maybe you're missing out on a better time with someone else. If there's no-one on the horizon for either of you perhaps it would be best if you both stuck to your own pals for now!

Questionnaire courtesy of Women and Manual Trades
Answers courtesy of 'Jackie' the enemy magazine.
A Big thank you to them both for this unprecedented bit of co-operation.



IF... (A SORDID TALE)

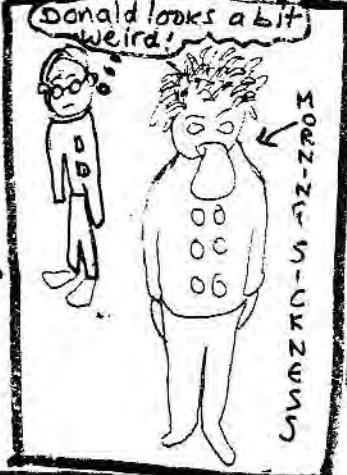


IF ONLY 'DONALD' HAD HAD SOMEONE TO TALK TO, SOMEONE WHO UNDERSTOOD...
WHETHER HE HAD A BABY...
or merely a hairy cyst??



OH DEAR. Donald's pregnant, and he barely knows the girl!

There was an incy tiny weeny hole in one of the condoms... Donald was NOT one of the lucky ones →



Slight pangs of conscience led Tracy to send occasional gifts and notes of sympathy to Donald... but really she was busy with her own life, and the token gestures very soon petered out.

Donald was alone.



It was his MUM who threw him out but it was his dad who wouldn't let him back



BUT HE DIDN'T. SO NO ONE KNOWS WHAT'S BECOME OF HIM... WHERE HE IS (IF HE IS...)

ALL ALONE...WHAT COULD BE WORSE?!

HELP!

HELP
JOY
ADVICE

● **MANCHESTER GAY YOUTHLINE.** 061 236 6283. Saturdays 12-4, Sundays 4-6.

● **MANCHESTER GAY YOUTH GROUP.** (under 25) is at Manchester Gay Centre, 61 Bloom St, Saturday 3-7, Tuesday 7-9.30.

● **ALSO IN MANCHESTER.** SAPPHO's, a women only upstairs bar at Rembrandt's, Sackville St. It's open 'til midnight & serves food.

● **AND ... THE VICTORIA.** Another women only night on the first saturday of the month. Get there before 9.30. It's run by Lesbian Link and closes at 2am, Hardman St (off Deansgate).

● **OUTSIDE MANCHESTER.** Stop the clause! What is it now? 673? Nope 29. Nearly there! April 30th—London.

● **IN LIVERPOOL.** Demo against Jill Knight. (The woman who wrote clause 28. Eeek!) April 25th—at the university.

● **LESBIAN ARCHIVE HAS HAD IT'S FUNDING CUT.** This is bad. It is appealing against the decision, but (send donations if you can).

● **LEEDS.** All this stuff goes on or at least we hope it does. We got it out of an oldish copy of Re-Sister & we're sorry if any of it is derelict.

● **Women against deportations** every fortnight 4pm, Harehills Housing Aid, Roundhay Rd.

● **Women's Reproductive Rights** meet once a month. Ring 625445.

● **Women & Ireland** last Wed each month. 8pm. Trades club.

● **Women & Manual Trades** 2nd & 4th Wed each month. Primrose pub, Meanwood Rd. 8pm.

● **LONDON AGAIN.** Womens Media Action Group. Thursdays, 6pm at a Woman's Place, Embankment Tube. Fights sexism in the media & advertising.

● **The Irish Women Abortion Rights Campaign** is active through the Union of Students for Ireland (USI). Women have a shit time in both N&S Ireland where even mentioning the word abortion is seen as a complete taboo. To have or assist an abortion is punishable by a life prison sentence!

Send letters of support or write for information to Karen of 72 Cabra Park, Phibsboro, Dublin, or Anne at Queen's College Students Union, Belfast, N. Ireland.

● **Shocking Pink** would like to send goodluck wishes to the recently formed Jewish Lesbian & Gay helpline, a nationwide service which operates on 01 833 8126. In a religion which expects heterosexuality, marriage & family life to be a matter of course, lesbians & gays often experience enormous moral burdens which prevent them coming out. This helpline is therefore invaluable in that it provides support, comfort & advice to Jewish lesbians & gays who feel alienated from their brothers and sisters.

● **Want to make your bed & lie in it?** Carpentry training for women—Lambeth Women's workshop. 2nd floor, Unit C22, Park Hall Trading Estate, Martell Rd, West Norwood, London SE21 8EA. Tel: 01 670 0339.

● **Want to hit back?** Women against Violence against women. Every Wed, 7pm. AWP, Hungerford House, Embankment tube. Annie 923 1374.

● **From a confidential survey conducted via a popular magazine** in 1983, Dr Tony Baker estimated that there were over 1,200,000 incest survivors in the Greater London area alone.

Want to talk about it?

● **Action against Incest, I High St, Dundee, DD1, IDT.** Tel. 0382 21545.

~~● Incest Crisis Line. 01 898 4792.~~
~~● Incest Survivors' Line. 01 274 7748.~~
~~Hungerford, Hse, Victoria Embankment, London WC2H 9AQ.~~
~~Tel 01 670 0339.~~

● **Rape Crisis Centre.** Tel 01 837 1600.

● **ISIS (Incest Survivors In Strength).** Crisis line and office. Tel 01 274 7748 Mons 10am-10pm.

● **Want a Nice Holiday?** Lesbian Studies Summer School 1988. 22-25 July. Fees—£10-£80. Courses in lesbian sexuality, film, history, literature, lesbian-feminist theory, & creative writing. Lesbian Archive & Information Center, BCM 7005, London WC1N 3XX. Annabel 01 405 6475.

● **Want to meet lovely lesbians? (Yes Please).** Lambeth Young Lesbian Group. Jenny 274 7722. Pam 274 7215. Madu 737 7151.

● **WANT TO LAUGH & CLAP?** Red Rag Women's theatre Company—see Review on p 24

● **May 19-22.** London L&G centre, Farringdon Tube.

● **June 10.** Landerdale hse, Highgate.

● **June 11.** Old Bull Arts Centre, Barnet. Tel. Bridget Hurst for more info on 01 249 6066 or 01739 1728

● **WANT TO SIT QUIETLY & LISTEN?** Mushroom Book Events. (Sounds nice ...)

● **May 4.** Merle Collins. Performance poet & novelist (eg 'Angel')

● **May 12.** Maggie Gee. 'a versatile novelist' (oh yes, but can she cook?)

● **June 2.** Michele Roberts. Wrote novels about Mary Magdalene & Mrs Noah.

All at: The Auditorium, Country Library, Angel Row, Nottingham. Tel. 0602 582 506. £1.50 waged. 75p unwaged.

● **WANT TO ORGANISE?** Lesbian Employment Rights, Room 205, Southbank House, Black Prince Rd, London SE1 755.

● **WANT TO MAKE A RECORD?** Ova music studio, recording studio. Music resource centre for women & girls. Tel 01 281 2528.

● **WANT TO FIGHT BACK?** After Alton Conference. Womens lib & socialism into the 1990's. April 23rd 10-4.30 Caxton House, 129 St Johns Way, London N19. Creche. £5 waged, £2 unwaged. Contact Lyn Ferguson, 12a Canonbury Sq, London N1.

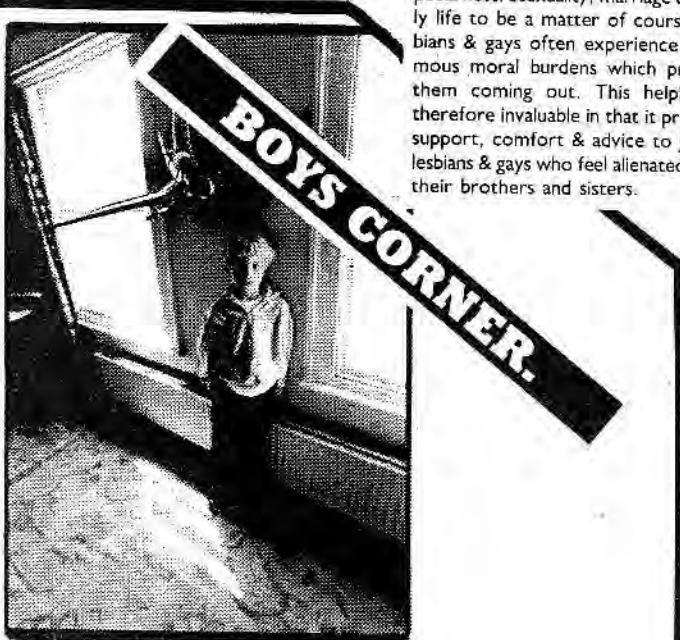
● **BLGC**, (Black Lesbian & Gay Group)—Unit 4, Tottenham W'shops. 2 Somerset Rd, London N17 9QP. 885 3543.

● **MERIDIAN**—Exists as a forum for discussion & understanding for people who have been sexually abused. Contact HQ—178 Oxford Rd, Manchester. 061 274 3493.

● **THE SOUTH LONDON WOMEN'S CENTRE** is open 10am til 4pm Tues-Sat. There is a creche, a cafe, a sitting room, a cheap photocopier & quite a bit more. All women are welcome to come & use it. 55 Acre Lane, SW2.

● **A NEW EXHIBITION BY THE LESBIAN & GAY YOUNG PEOPLE'S PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP** takes the form of a fictional photostory about coming out at school. There are 9 coloured panels with factual back-up information at the foot of each. It's available for hire from Camerawork, 121 Roman Rd, Bethnal Green, London E2 0QN.

● **LESPOP.—ON MARCH 16th 1988 THE LONDON BOROUGH GRANTS SCHEME,** Who have funded LESPOP since 1985 have refused to continue funding, though they HAVE funded GALOP (Gay mens Project) who do the same type of work. Lespop have supported many different Women's groups. If LESPOP closes there will be one less place for Lesbians & Women to go for support. They are asking women to help support their fight against closure, and are appealing against the decision, so send letters of support, esp if you've used the project & even if you haven't. There's a Benefit on May 3rd at The Amazonian Club, The Market Tavern, Nine Elms Lane, Vauxhall and an Annual General Meeting on May 17th at 7pm at 4 Wild Court, London WC2B (which is where you should send your letters of support if you write them).



Dear SP,

My name is Nigel. My friend, Sonia showed me a copy of SP and I'm worried as I think I am a lesbian.

This is because I fancy girls and SP says if you fancy girls you might be a lesbian.

My teacher says lesbians are ugly, monstrous, evil people who should be made illegal. Also I've heard that supporters of clause 28 will hunt me down and castrate me for promoting homosexuality. What should I do?

Yours, scared, Nigel, Essex.

Our advice is perhaps you should have a sex change as women are better than men anyway. Boys are generally spotty, smelly and stupid. We feel this is where your real problem lies! GOOD LUCK.

ASHA

Advice, support and temporary accomodation 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).

● **IF YOU WANT TO SEE MARY DALY, ZOE FAIRBAIRNS OR LIZ STANLEY &** hear them talk about things, contact West & Wilde Bookshop in Edinburgh (031 556 0079) because they have organised it.

BOOK Review!

'OUT OF THE GUTTER'. A survey of the treatment of homosexuality by the press. (Armitage, Dicky, Sharples) (CPBF). Well I thought (Berenice) this book was really interesting & well prepared. It was a Saviour for me as I used it for my dissertation on attitudes towards Lesbianism. Worth getting.



Feeling Left Out, Rejected, Unwanted?

Nobody likes to be turned down, and no one likes to turn anyone down. Least of all the SP workers, who have the painful task of deciding who's stuff'll go in and whose won't. They want to say they are very sorry to all contributors who've been left out.

Subject to demand all material not in the periodical will be available in supplement form with titles like 'coping with death', 'schizophrenia', 'the build up to the SP/Bride merger', 'All those poems' including the celebrated 'moonlight swim reflections', 'toothpaste tragedy' and 'the Blob of authority'.

You don't have to
struggle alone...:

NEXT SP2 DUE OUT IN AUGUST - IF YOU FANCY SPENDING YOUR SUMMER HOLS SLAVING OVER A HOT LAYOUT BOARD, GET IN TOUCH!

Revolutionary Communist Party summer school
Friday 22 to Friday 29 July Central London
Register early! (Big discounts)

PREPARING FOR POWER

Contact Anne Burton on (01) 729 0414 or write to BM RCP (SP), London WC1N 3XX for brochure and more information

but you can't

- THANK YOU
- Clare Somerton for admitting she knew us in Manchester, The South London Womens Centre, Jess, Bience, Kim, Louise (lo), The CP, SWP, RCP, RCG, IMG, ITV, BBC, AEU & Bertrand Russell. Also thanks to Leveller Graphics. But where has Sandra Blemster got to? Has she burnt out?
 - SORRY
 - To Steph, Hope Augustus's ex manager for calling her capitalist.
 - This was an unintended mistake.
 - And to everyone else who knows us.

There is no copyright on this magazine. It is too valuable. Any part can be reproduced without the collective's agreement.

* EXCERPT FROM 'BUNTY'
Promoting homosexuality while it still can

ARE YOU
SURE YOU'RE
ALL RIGHT?

OH, YES - I'VE NEVER BEEN
SO HAPPY IN MY WHOLE LIFE!

CAMDEN LESBIAN & GAY UNIT

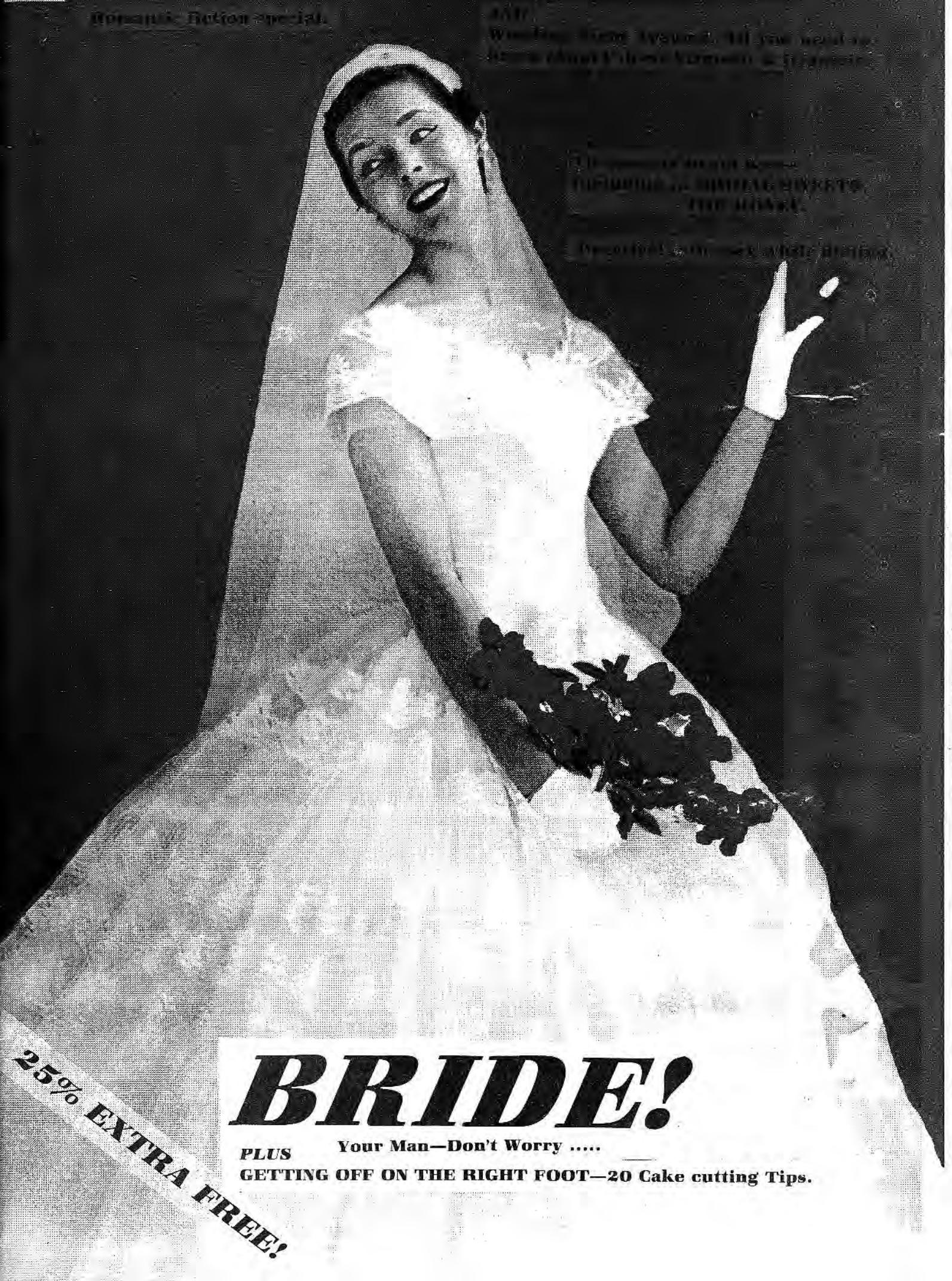
has moved to
40 Theobalds Road,
WC1
Phone 405 2675

This will be accessible, but isn't yet. Accessible toilet 3 doors down.

We can advise Lesbians & Gays about things which matter to us.

Contact: Jane, Jennie or Linda.





BRIDE!

PLUS Your Man—Don't Worry

GETTING OFF ON THE RIGHT FOOT—20 Cake cutting Tips.

25% EXTRA FREE!