

No 13

FRIDAY AUG 16

1974.

melbournian receptions
block arcade city



9pm - 1.30am
byog \$1.80

GAY LIBERATION

phone: 414926 - 8pm - 11pm.

GAY LIBERATION CENTRE

259 BRUNSWICK ST' FITZROY 3065

TELEPHONE 41 4926

THE NEWSLETTER

It is becoming more and more expensive to produce and send the newsletter. We are determined to keep it free and available to anybody who wants it.

We are therefore requesting people who receive the newsletter to make a donation. If you can spare a couple of dollars it would help us tremendously to keep on going.

If anybody has or knows where to get a gestetner or roneo machine cheaply let us know as this is the key to a regular and free newsletter.

THE CENTRE

The centre needs furniture, mainly chairs, coffee mugs, tables, shelves etc. If you have anything that could be put to good use at the centre, give us a call and we will even arrange to have it picked up. The centre could also use some decoration, posters etc.

The centre library is growing fast, and we would really like lots more books, especially on the topics of homosexuality, feminism, revolution, liberation, including journals, periodicals, comics (?) etc.

COUNSELLING GROUP

People are still needed to staff the centre and answer the telephone. Believe us, we really do get a lot of phone calls.

Informal get-togethers are organised by the counselling groupd for people who have had little contact with Gay Lib. or with other homosexuals for that matter. Come and meet some friendly people. For further information phone the centre 41 4926

GAY PRIDE WEEK ??????????????????????

Some discussion has been going on in the last few general meetings concerning the pros and cons of having a Gay Pride week this year. Last years Gay Pride week was a success and especially was useful in reaching a wider spectrum of people than are normally exposed to Gay Lib.

As a result a planning meeting is being organised to co-incide with the general meeting on Friday 13th at the Gay Lib centre. This is leaving things a bit late, but in anticipation of of some things happening, various venues at Melb. uni have been booked for late Sept.

Homosexual Lecture Series

"The homosexual in society"
Wednesday evenings, 7.30 P.M.
Monash University Rotunda Building R!
Sponsored by the Monash University
Centre for Continuing Education.

N. B. CARS LEAVE CENTRE 6.30 P.M. FOR MONASH

NEXT GENERAL MEETING :

SEPT.. FRIDAY 13th.

GAY LIB' CENTRE 7:30pm

WE HAVE A COMPETITION !!!!!!!

WE WILL BE AWARDING A "POOFTA BASHER AWARD"

TO SOME DESERVING CRETIN EVERY MONTH OR SO, THIS
WILL CULMINATE IN "THE POOFTA BASHER OF THE YEAR"
AWARD AT THE END OF THIS YEAR.

AUGUST POOFTA-BASHER

AUGUST Nomination For The POOFTA-BASHER Of The YEAR AWARD.

Norm Kirk (Labour P. M. of New Zealand) who, in parliament this week, completely opposed any homosexual law reform. Despite the fact that law reform is official Labour Party policy in N. Z., he said that he would not permit any Labour Parliamentarian to bring such a Bill, nor would he permit a private members Bill. Should the right-wing Opposition put forward a Bill he will prevent any debate.

So Norm, you shit; if you win the award against a lot of other competitors who are trying hard, we will send someone to N. Z. to give you what you deserve.

VIVA IL MARICONE!!!!

Reported in DIGGER:- Buenos Aires -The Homosexual Liberation Front (F. L. M.) of Argentina have received reports of terrorist attacks being carried out by the Chilean regime against the homosexual community.

Homosexuals have been repressed along with workers, students & patriots.

A well known gay in Santiago, Lola Pumales, was raped, tortured, castrated & tormented by groups of militia. Scores of homosexuals have suffered the same fate. "Their bodies are left for several days in the public streets in order to intimidate the population. People are being arrested for having long hair or beards, for wearing mini skirts, for dressing in red."

The FLM statement calls upon the "world homosexual communities to repudiate the Chilean regime & its victims. In the garden of fascism, all that grows is the flower of death & horror".

-Liberation News Service.

IT CAN'T HAPPEN HEREOR CAN IT ?

The acting Activities Officer of Melb. Uni sent us a note with applications from a Melb. Uni. Queer Basher Society for ads of their activities to be placed in the uni ad rag and activities sheet. The note said that the Activities Office people agreed not to publish these ads. They felt the ads are highly discriminatory and won't tolerate idiots like these.

We appreciate the support and solidarity of the people at the Activities Office and if anybody comes across such shit could they please let us know as we certainly will do something about it.

SEXISM

in Gay Liberation?

Dear Gay Lib.

I was rather surprised when I read on page 3 of the Gay Lib. issue of National U that three men had "prepared" the issue. You see until then I had the idea that I was also one of the people who had prepared it.

I seem to remember being one of the initial contacts, asking people here and interstate for articles, trying to get photos developed, picking up articles and graphics, choosing material, going to editorial meetings. And I seem to remember that Carolyn and Lynne did a lot of work on the paper. They both came to the meetings, Carolyn did the cover and Lynne some of the photos, and Carolyn drove people around to pick up material. I seem to remember that Sylvia, Ken, David and Bill Morely came to some of the meetings, and I seem to remember asking Robert to change his definition of feminism. (instead he added a few meaningless words)

On the other hand I do not remember seeing Bill's article and poem, Lynne James' article and poem, or "our" Gay Manifesto (and by the way where did that come from?) before they appeared in print. And I was also surprised to find that the graphics Laurie had collected were not used, Bill Morley's short story, specially written for National U, was not used, Laurie's article was retitled quite pointlessly, and no-one apparently had bothered to proof read my article or Sylvia's, so that some of what we had written had been turned into gibberish.

Obviously editors have to make decisions, and not everyone will like those decisions, but the point is that in this case the editors were a group of people, and not just two or three men. Gay Liberation has always worked on the basis of having no leaders, and encouraging the maximum possible participation by members. It is rather ironic the supplement was introduced by the words, "Gay Liberation is not just for an elite; it's for you! Gay Liberation welcomes all those sisters and brothers etc."

I have talked to the men concerned about all this, and they feel that there were some accidental slip-ups and misunderstandings. They feel that it can be sorted out on a personal level. But it seems that sexism is almost always personal and unintentional/unconscious. And for me at least the National U slip ups, like the Rennie Ellis business last year, raises some general issues.

Once again I have asked myself what I am doing in Gay Lib, why I am wasting my energy in an organisation that often seems to be run for and by male chauvinists. If I am going to work for the patriarchy it certainly will not be for Gay Lib men who have no pay-off to offer, except their own rhetoric and queenly patronage. But if there is going to be an organisation which claims to speak for and cater for all radical homosexuals, I am not going to see it dominated by men.

And since Robert has defined feminism for me I thought I might as well define the non-sexist male for you.

The non-sexist male: There are some men engaged in "life-giving, death-serious struggle", but they are very rare and you are unlikely to meet one. What you are more likely to meet is the self-proclaimed non-sexist. Non-sexism in this sense is yet another of Man's ideologies. It has three functions — (1) it is an ego trip for the believer, (2) it improves his position in competition with other males (he can claim ideological superiority to them), (3) it disarms and mystifies militant women. The ideological non-sexist is easily recognised because on the one hand he will tell you at great length how non-sexist and liberated he is, while at the same time he will be behaving in a sexist (or typical male) fashion to all the women present, i.e. boring women, intruding on their private thoughts, interrupting them when they speak, intruding on their conversations, trespassing on their body space, touching them without invitation or encouragement, objectifying them, making bitchy personal remarks and disregarding their talents and skills.

Think about it.

Yours sincerely

Jocelyn



Dear Gay Liberation People,

Well, sexism in Gay Lib rears its ugly head again — this time in the specific form of the men who elitistly manipulated and otherwise fucked up the gay issue of Nation U.

In this issue we are told that Gay Liberation is for heterosexuals, that feminism is about equality (whatever happened to liberation?) and hit with a bunch of sexist poems.

Fortunately, we also read that the Gay National U Collective was all men. This at least, absolves the women involved from blame.

Whatever happened to the Gay National U Collective that had equal numbers of men and women? Whatever happened to the ideas the women put forward and were accepted — and the graphics they contributed?

And why was it necessary for the guys who layed it out to act in such a totally sexist way to the female AUS staff down at National U offices?

I could go on for quite a while but what's the point? There is really only one thing I've got to say:-

The women left GLF once because of the sexism of you blokes. Now that we are back we are here to stay. So get off your arses and change your heads or you'll be out on your ears!

in Lesbian Feminist Anger,
Laurie

RENDEZ—VOUS

I would like to meet you
after our great-great-great grandchildren
are not commemorated as the Ancient Ones.

I would like to meet you
when I can no longer remember
being charred alive as a witch,
when you can no longer recall
being roasted alive as a faggot.

I would like to meet you
when we both have utterly forgotten
what tears could be;
when we will wear no
breasts or penis or uterus,
vagina, testicles,
no beard, no blood.

I would like to meet you
in identically muscular clitorine
large-brained naval-less bodies,
smooth green flesh, pale budshade,
that takes nourishment
only from air/sun/water,
not from any prey.

I would like to meet you
when each of us recognise
the ember of this planet
glowing in the eye of the other.

Then
we could speak.

ROBIN MORGAN

ABOUT THAT GAY NATIONAL 'U'...

-From One of the 'Accused'.

1. The thanx directed at Robert, Bill & Ray, in small print, by the usual editors of National U, -Franz & Andrew, was NOT intended to exclude or denigrate the women who participated in the Gay National U. It was simply a gesture towards Gay Liberation through those 3 people that they happened to know by name.

Surely the individual credits given to (most of) the contributions would have offset the above mentioned, unintentional 'slight'?

2. As for the other objections about the cover, sexist poetry & 'self-proclaimed -non-sexist-males', why not discuss these issues together rather than publicly compound // an already complex situation in such a frigid/limited medium as print. That would seem to be the old divide & be conquered HYPE or is it the new divide & be pure(ly ineffective in) ideology HYPE?

3. I have never proclaimed to be 'non-sexist' & have yet to meet a non-sexist person male or female. What I would claim is, that having experienced the hurt of sexism & having seen similar hurt done to others, there has to be another way to live. A non-exploitive/ non-sexist alive-LIFE & that's going to take a lot of effort, time & patience with ourselves & eachother. Clichés pigeon-holing anything offensive &/or painful isn't getting anyone anywhere.

JUST WHAT IS SEXIST???

-william.

IN REPLY TO 'ABOUT THAT GAY NATIONAL 'U' - From one of the accused '

Point for point:-

1. William says quote: "...unintentional 'slight' ". May i suggest that one of the attributes of sexist actions is that they are "unintentional", and that they are no less sexist for being so.
2. William says quote : "...why not discuss these issues together rather than publicly....". May i suggest yet again, that the Gay Lib Newsletter is hardly "public" and more to the point, what better place for discussion and disagreement amongst Gay brothers and Sisters , than their own Newsletter.
3. No reply to this idealistic rave.

A-C. R.

Minority Pressure Groups

Some people at Preston Institute o! Tech. are organising a short course dealing with low budget communications, i.e. minority pressure groups. Gay Lib. has been invited to supply a speaker to talk on ..."methods adopted to bring about a change either politically or in community attitudes, and the effectiveness of the program." People interested in presenting a talk about Gay Lib should contact Mark on 347 8596 . People interested in attending should contact Max Ripper - Head, Design Dept. Preston Inst. of Tech. (the course will be held Sept. 12 - Oct. 31 7pm - 9pm Thur.)

FEMINIST &/OR GAY 'FITZROT' POETRY MAGAZINE?

Recently Fitzrot printed an all Female poetry magazine titled 'Period Piece' under the editorship Thalia & A-C.R., the magazine materialized into a 'Feminist' orientation that was hoped for but not totally expected. Since that success the idea for a Feminist &/or Gay poetry magazine has been gaining weight. There are polemical problems and tensions involved in such a combination that need discussing such as where will the Radicalesbians contributions go, in the Feminist arena or in the Gay? -- If that is so will the Gay part become the male part? & if that were the case would the likely difference in 'tone' of 'both sides' cause enough antithropy to warrant 2 & not 1 magazine?

As so much is still in the planning stage anyone that is interested in PARTICIPATING with poetry prose, graphics, & generally, has got time to think on this 'project' & to offer not only tangible contributions but IDEAS on WHY? WHAT? HOW?

If you are interested please contact :-

A-C.R. c/- The GLF Centre 259 Brunswick st. Fitzroy Vic. or.....
Lynne Walters , 130 Brunswick rd. Brunswick Vic. or.....
phone 386 375 or....
William, 61 Copin st. Richmond 3121

WANTED

Gay couple (female) both 30, easy - going and warm, with friendly three year old child, seek together and liberated gay male couple to share idyllic country home 45 miles from Melb. View to alternative family where we share and learn together. The setting includes varied animals, vegetable garden, fruit trees, a river and dam and a state forest next door. Single gay people also welcomed. Why not visit us anyway?
Phone Devlin's Bridge 97 8235

MELBOURNE GAY LIBERATION

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you for the parcel fo Melb. Newsletters. By its arrival we assume that you have received a copy of Gay Liberation Press, and wish to obtain more copies of the first issue. Regrettably, only a small number were printed, and these have been used. We can only offer to send you multiple copies of further issues, hoping that this will be satisfactory.

Our stated policy is to promote as much as possible, the writing of Australian material. We feel however, that this can be encouraged by the distribution here, of overseas writings. As Sydney Gay Liberation was already importing seventy copies of Body Politic from Canada a month, we have decided to continue this arrangement, offering subscriptions for Body Politic through the Press and other places. Thus, if you are agreeable, we would like to place an advertisement for Body Politic in the Melbourne Newsletter, and in anticipation, have enclosed the necessary information on a seperate sheet.

Regarding material for Gay Liberation Press, we are interested in most things at this stage. If anybody in Melbourne wishes to write an article or whatever they think is suitable, could you please advise them to submit it care of the above address?

in gay love
Terry Bell
for Gay Liberation Press

BODY POLITIC

Canadian Gay Liberation Journal published 6 times yearly

Subscription rate \$4.00 per year
Send your name and address to:

Body Politic
P.O. Box A 76
Sydney south 2000
NSW

Make all cheques/money payable to Gay Liberation Press.

8 Gay 'Males' Need Billetting !

Jon Ruhwolt (from Doctor Duncan Bookshop) has asked if it would be possible for Melb. Gay lib. to billet 8 Gay 'Males', himself included, over the Oct. long-weekend (the 14th). If anybody could help to accomadate them please contact William at 61 Coppin st. Richmond 3121, or Jon himself c/- P.O. Box 111 Eastwood S.A. 5063 THANX.

Gay Liberation Press
P.O. Box A 76
Sydney South 2000

**DOCTOR DUNCAN
REVOLUTION
BOOKSHOP**

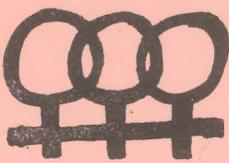
FEMINIST & GAY LIBERATION RESOURCES

A COOPERATIVE NON-PROFIT BOOKSERVICE
Non-sexist & quality homosexual literature.

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KEEP INFORMED! SUBSCRIBE TO OUR
MONTHLY BOOKNEWS - \$1-50 per year

P.O. Box 111 EASTWOOD S.A. 5063



THE ALTERNATIVE

a group for gay women

MEETS : EVERY THURSDAY — 8.00 pm

GAY CENTRE

259 BRUNSWICK ST.
FITZROY. (entrance at rear)

Provides a relaxed and accepting atmosphere in which homosexual women can come together in order to break down the barriers of loneliness and isolation.

8 th AUGUST "LESBIAN MOTHERS" — are you one?

do you want to
be one ?

legal, social, emotional
aspects

15 th AUGUST RECORD NIGHT

22nd AUGUST "BUTCHES AND FEMMES"
—role playing: its pros and cons!

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT : LAURIE 347 8596

RADICALESBIANS RESURRECTED !

An open Radicalesbian CR is held every Sunday fortnight. Ring the Centre for details. Next Meeting: Jocelyn's 142 Rae st. Nth Fitzroy
SUNDAY 11 th. AUGUST

CAMP FEMALE TEENAGERS.

Group for Camp Women in their teens meets Saturday Arvos (afternoons)
at the Women's Center; -16 little lonsdale st City .
Next Meeting on the 24th August :- 2p.m.