

FC, catella 4, 44

# Women Against Rape

licensed bar

## BENEFIT

women only

food

## PARTY & DISCO

raffle

STAR ATTRACTIONS =

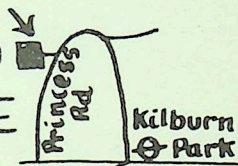
\* D.J. Terri Quaye

\* Clapperclaw (live satirical music)

TICKETS = 60p

40p (claimants, pensioners)

7.30-12.00pm. CARLTON CENTRE



Belsize Rd

Kilburn  
High Rd

# SATURDAY 4th MARCH



For further information ring: (01) 800 7379-221 5754

## GO-AHEAD TO RAPE

"There may be people who will die who would not have died. Even if it is only one person that would concern me" said the Home Secretary of the firemen's strike (the first in history).

THE HOME SECRETARY MUST SAY: is he concerned about the daily danger to women created by rape and by courts that give the go-ahead to rapists?

Every woman, whatever her age, race, nationality or position is forced to live with the fear of rape, in the streets and in our own homes. And women have made it abundantly clear that we cannot tolerate courts which encourage rape, which put the victim on trial and show the rapist sympathy and support.

June 1977: 3 Appeal Court judges, Justices Roskill, Wien and Slynn, let a rapist Thomas Holdsworth walk free because they felt his "promising army career" was more important than a woman's suffering. Carol Maggs, the raped woman, exposed the "Justices" to the press, and millions of women all over the country protested that this decision gave men in the forces - and therefore all men - license to rape.

October 1977. Flying in the face of women's fury Judge Peter Mason gave a 6 month sentence to Maurice Markham, a rapist from the Royal Navy, and told him "it would be a shame if the country loses your services." Women Against Rape invaded the court house.

THE HOME SECRETARY MUST SAY: Are women expected to serve our country by peacefully allowing ourselves to be raped by anyone in uniform?

Are we one of the perks of the job to make up for low pay and bad conditions in the armed forces?

September 1977. Judge Zigmund in Manchester let a man off with a suspended sentence for raping a 3-year-old girl. He told the 3-year-old's mother, "you will forget it and so will your little girl." The same judge gave a young man one year for petty theft. The mother has not forgotten and has got thousands of other women, and men, to support her demand for the judge to be sacked.

THE HOME SECRETARY MUST SAY: is rape of children really a trivial offence?

Carol Maggs and 3 year old's mother are among the women picketing the Home Office today. Women all over Britain and Northern Ireland and women all over the world are fighting to stop rape. Are the forces of authority behind us or against us?

THE HOME SECRETARY CANNOT STAY SILENT as though nothing were happening. WE DEMAND URGENTLY A PUBLIC STATEMENT FROM MERLYN REES on the way justice is being administered in rape cases.

### WOMEN AGAINST RAPE

Women, and men, who want to support this demand can contact us at the Women's Centre; 138 Drummond Street, London NW1, tel 624 6364, 800 7379  
Women's Centre, Maid's Causeway, Cambridge, tel. 57142, Bristol  
79 Richmond Road, tel 422116

# W.A.R. at Home Office and homos at the War Office!

LONDON. With banners reading "Join the forces—licence to rape" and "A judge a day lets a rapist away," 25 women from various groups—including Wages Due Lesbians and the Maureen Colquhoun Action Committee—picketed the Home Office in Queen Anne's Gate. The picket was part of a continuing campaign by WAR (Women Against Rape) against recent court decisions which, they say, "give men, and particularly members of the Armed Forces, licence to rape."

Among the demonstrators was Philomena O'Grady from Manchester, whose three year old daughter had been raped by a 20 year old man. The girl suffered internal bleeding and stretch wounds, Ms O'Grady told GN, but the man was only given a six month suspended sentence when he appeared before Mr Justice Zigmund at Manchester in September.

The judge told Ms O'Grady: "You will forget it and so will your daughter."

In companion, Mr Justice Mars Jones last month imprisoned a 36 year old Blackburn man for four years after he had admitted sexual offences involving a boy of 13 he had picked up in a park.

### Prison

Mr Justice Mars Jones said: "Apparently you do not think there is anything wrong with corrupting young lads under age. It is my paramount duty to protect the public and I have no alternative but to pass a substantial prison sentence."

WAR claims that judges are showing themselves to be biased against women in their handling of rape cases.

Ms O'Grady, who has formed a WAR group in Manchester, has organized a petition calling for the dismissal of Mr Justice Zigmund. The petition has so far been signed by 7,000 people, she said.

She told the story of the rape of her daughter over a loud-hailer as civil servants hurried out to and back from their lunches. Few people stopped and listen. The majority of men who passed by laughed.

### Cases

The demonstrators handed out leaflets demanding a statement from Home Secretary Merlyn Rees. The leaflets also listed judgments against rapists that have particularly angered women's groups. These included:

The case of Thomas Holdsworth, of the Coldstream Guards, who was given a suspended sentence in June this year for a brutal sexual assault on Carol Maggs, then 17.

Royal Navy engineer Maurice Markham, who was sentenced to six months imprisonment in October for attempted rape and actual bodily harm. The judge, Mr Justice Peter Mason, told him: "It would be a shame if the country loses your services."

### Gay murder

The WAR leaflet also drew attention to the killing of two gay men, John Fore and Dennis Chalke, by soldiers Dale Patrick Martin and Anthony William Bottrill who, like Holdsworth, served with the Coldstream Guards.

"Gay women and men," stated the leaflet, "are investigating how Army training takes attacks on gays as normal-like rape."

There were two men in the picket, representing the Payday group (Men in Support of the Wages for Housework Campaign). The Wages for Housework Campaign itself was also represented.

Support was also given by the English Collective of Prostitutes. After picketing the Home Office, the demonstrators went to Buckingham Palace and delivered a letter to Prince Charles saying that, as an officer in the Royal Navy, he had a responsibility to make a public stand on the issue—particularly in regard to the Markham case.



Women pickets outside the Home Office demand an end to "go ahead" sentences given to rapists

LONDON. Demonstrators from ALGG (All London Gay Groups) picketed the Ministry of Defence in Whitehall recently to demand an enquiry into British Army training methods.

The demonstration followed a Gay News report revealing soldiers on certain combat courses are trained to react to homosexuality with uncontrolled violence.

Five women—representing the WAR (Women Against Rape) group, Wages Due Lesbians, and the Maureen Colquhoun Action Committee—joined the twelve-man picket.

During the 1½ hour lunchtime demonstration, 600 leaflets were handed out to civil servants entering and leaving the Ministry, and to passers-by.

The leaflets stated that the brutal sexual assault on Carol Maggs by guardsman Thomas Holdsworth and the killing of gays John Fore and Dennis Chalke by guardsmen Dale Martin and Anthony Bottrill resulted from Army training methods that equate the "proving" of "masculinity" with military efficiency.

Both Dale Martin and Anthony Bottrill were serving with the 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards—as was Thomas Holdsworth.

### Enquiry

"We demand an enquiry into training methods which have resulted in the vicious rape of a woman and the brutal murder of two homosexual men," stated the ALGG leaflet.

But many civil servants, striding briskly out of the Ministry of Defence, were less than interested. One demonstrator told GN: "I've had one 'bugger off' several 'piss offs' and one 'my old regiment'."

Nearly all the insults were delivered in good "Oxbridge" accents, he added, "the minions were quite polite about it."

### Police

Two policemen who—together with a third stationed at the Ministry door—had been present at the beginning of the demonstration were gradually joined by four more over the course of the 1½ hours.

But, apart from some aggressive warnings that anybody who caused an obstruction would be "nick'd" and orders to keep the Ministry steps clear, there was no confrontation.

In fact, one policeman seemed as if he were trying to help the demonstrators present their case in the best manner. He told them to stand still at the side of the Ministry steps and not to wander about.

"It looks a bloody shambles otherwise," he said.

### Letter

Before they left, the demonstrators tried to deliver a letter addressed to Mr Fred Mulley, Secretary of State for Defence, calling upon him to make a statement.

They were not allowed to approach the entrance to the building but a Ministry of Defence security officer was sent out to collect the letter.

## Biggest union meeting boycotts Scarborough

THE 700,000-strong National and Local Government Officers' Association (NALGO) will not be holding its 1981 conference in Scarborough, because of the town's refusal to accept a conference booking from the Campaign for Homosexual Equality.

The NALGO conference, Britain's largest union conference with 2,000 delegates, was invited by Scarborough Council and agreed

to meet there in 1981. But at its last national executive meeting, NALGO was asked by EC member Mike Blick to join the boycott of Scarborough, until the local council lifted its ban on CHE.

He told the committee that Scarborough councillors had shown "plain, old-fashioned prejudice."

And he told Gay News: "I still hope very much that NALGO can

meet there in 1981, by Scarborough changing its mind on CHE."

Previous conferences to have boycotted Scarborough include the Liberal Party, the Society of Civil and Public Servants, and the National Union of Students. It is thought that the town's financial losses have now topped the one-million mark.

## Complaint

LONDON: Robert Box, editor of the homosexual sex-mag *Mister Quorum*, has complained to the Press Council over an article in *The Sun*.

The article, titled "Scandal of the Child-Sex Mags", said *Mister Quorum* published full-length colour photographs of children—a statement denied by Robert Box who said that his models were in the 18-25 age range.

## Blasphemy meeting

LONDON: A public meeting on the Gay News trial is to be held in Brixton on January 9. Starting at 8pm, there will be speakers from the gay movement, the labour movement, and from the church. The meeting is to be held at St Matthews Church Hall, on Brixton Hill opposite the town hall.

## Court snubs prosecution over new sauna trial

LONDON: Charges have been dropped against the last remaining defendant in the Hereford Sauna Case, after an Old Bailey judge told the police they were wasting public money.

In a previous eight-day trial, before Judge Marnan, the jury had been unable to reach a verdict in the case of Mr H, who was charged with buggery.

The police demanded a re-trial, and Mr H appeared again at the Old Bailey on December 2. But neither of the two police sergeants in the case turned up. One was awaiting surgery in hospital whilst the other was away in Germany at a family funeral. The prosecutor asked for an adjournment until the officers were back on duty in London and available to give evidence.

It was then that Judge Laughton-Scott intervened to ask

the prosecutor whether he was determined to proceed.

Was the prosecutor aware that trials at the Old Bailey cost a great deal of public money? This was, said the judge, the case of a man in semi-private indulging in a "peccadillo" with another consenting adult. He referred also to the opinion of the previous trial judge on the amount of court time that had already been taken up with the case.

What did the prosecutor wish to do?

The prosecutor wished to put in a quick telephone call to the Metropolitan police solicitor's office. And he returned to the court to say that the charge would be dropped.

Mr H was then set free by the court, and looks like having a happier Christmas than he expected.

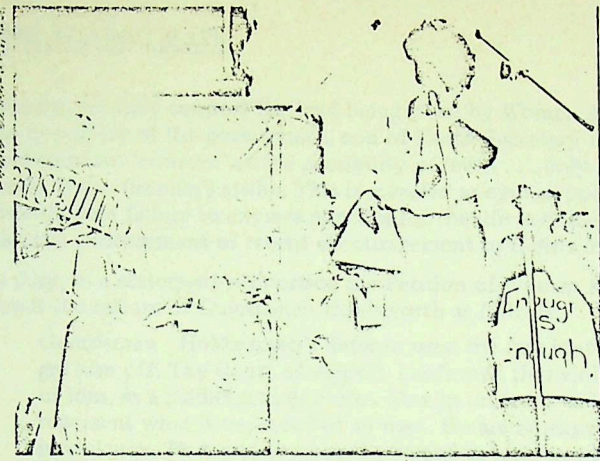
## Ghost of Gay Street

BATH: Ms Margaret Royal, a West Country ghost-stalker, has come across an unusual spook in Bath.

Not that she has it herself, for the phantom—dressed in Regency-style, with white hair tied back in a bow—only appears to men.

And his customary haunt is a path behind Gay Street! Ms Royal told the Western Daily Press: "I am not going to speculate on why he only appears to men."

NI WS



Chief prosecution witness...

# GUILTY!

**THREE JUDGES** were found "guilty of rape and conspiracy to rape" at a public trial held in Trafalgar Square recently.

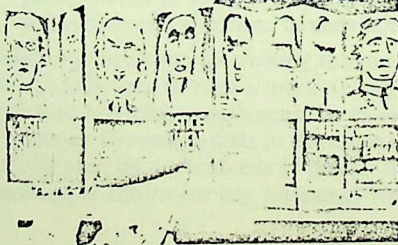
The Women Against Rape group organised the trial at which Lord Justice Roskill, Mr Justice Slynn, and Mr Justice Wienn—the judges at the centre of the row over the release of gardaman Tom Holdsworth—were declared guilty by a jury of 200 women.

The verdict was also endorsed by the majority of the large crowd of onlookers—men and women.

Chief witness for the prosecution was Carol Margt, the victim of Holdsworth's brutal sexual

assault. Other witnesses included a friend of the woman injured by a poison bottle when she was attacked outside a feminist disco in Vauxhall (see GN125), and representatives of women's groups from Britain, Canada, and the USA.

Also declared guilty of "conspiracy to rape" were Evelyn Jones, Lord Chancellor; Mervyn Rees, Home Secretary; Denis Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer; and David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services. The "court" demanded damages from "all those who live by the daily rape of women—£10,000 for every woman in the country.



The defendants declared guilty

## Lesbian sues psychs

**From Gay Community News MASSACHUSETTS:** A lesbian woman is attempting to raise between five and ten thousand dollars to pay for legal action against neurosurgeons who, she claims, administered more than 30 electric shock treatments to her against her will.

She also claims that she was coerced into having a castration, an experimental psycho-surgical technique which caused her "to have minor and minor seizures," has wiped out all memory of her high school education and has made it impossible for her to hold down a job.

She asserts that the psycho-surgery performed on her is part of a "new wave of lobotomies aimed against 'maladjusted' women and other minorities."

## Peachy benefit

**LONDON:** Hot Peaches are back in London after a tour of America, Japan, Vienna, Munich and Berlin. The American gay theatre troupe, Jimmy Carroll, Ann McKoy, Peggy Shaw, and pianist Jan Robbins is making two concert appearances of the UC Von August 5 and 6. Hot Peaches will also unveil its new show, "Gay Trindis autobiographical" at the Oval with performances from August 9-14. The performance on August 9 will be in aid of the GN Fighting Fund.

## Mormons

**SALT LAKE CITY:** A local hotel, owned by the Mormon Church, recently cancelled reservations for a human rights conference. The Church, which virtually runs the state of Utah, discovered that the conference had been sponsored by gay organisations.

## Mother appeals

**LONDON:** A lesbian mother has won the right to live with her lover openly. The Appeal Court recently rejected an application by her ex-husband that would have forced her to hide her lover away whenever her children came to visit.

Lord Justice Stamp said that keeping the lover—known to the children as "Auntie Pat"—hidden would do more harm than good.

"Better, I think, to let them meet her in an ordinary way and to see her living in the house with their mother," he said.

### Overwhelmed

Both he and Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce held that this would make it far easier for the daughter, aged 9, and the son, aged 5, to come to terms with their mother's lesbianism. If the fact were kept secret the children could be overwhelmed by a sudden discovery of the truth in the future.

"It is important for both these children to continue to develop a close and affectionate relationship with their mother," said Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce. But he added: "On any view, the only real hope that the children have of attaining emotional maturity without profound disturbance is if the parents, and 'Auntie Pat' are open to a quite unusual degree of wisdom and tact. If that is lacking, I think the future for these children is bleak."

## MAGICAL MYKONOS!

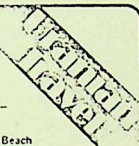
This small Greek island has a lively gay scene with bars, clubs and Super Paradise — the gay nudist beach.

We offer accommodation at the Mykonos Beach Hotel where a friendly relaxed atmosphere exists. Also available is a house suitable for 3 to 4 persons.

Uranian's resident gay courier is on hand to make your holiday run smoothly and hassle free.

For further details and a brochure, please write or phone

Uranian Travel Ltd.  
313 Brompton Road, South Kensington, London SW3 2DY  
Telephone 01 584 6558 (24hr. ansaphone brochure service)



## BRIGHTON PRIVATE GUEST HOUSE MARINE VIEW

24 NEW STEINE BRIGHTON Telephone: 63870  
Comfortable Rooms All H&C Colour TV Lounge  
Own keys with access at all times  
Sited on seafront square less than five minutes walk from bars and clubs  
Relaxed Friendly Atmosphere

## The Pan Club



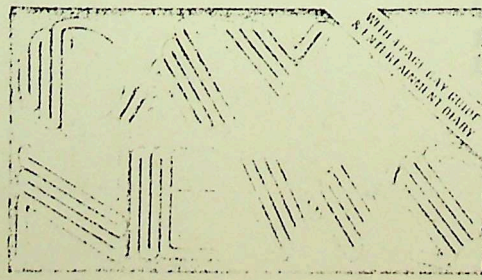
52-54 Bute Street, Luton, Tel: 414344  
FRIDAY 29th JULY  
Boys Plus  
FRIDAY 5th AUGUST  
The Harlequents  
FRIDAY 12th AUGUST  
Candy Du Barry  
EVERY THURSDAY  
FREE DISCO FROM 11.15 LATE

## THE OASIS CLUB

12 PARK ROW, BRISTOL 1 Tel 23447

The Oasis Club is visited by all and now boasts a new water attraction to Bristol's most popular and successful gay night club.

Open 7 nights a week from 10.00pm onwards  
Bristol's most popular and successful gay night club



NUMBER 124  
July 28 -  
August 10, 1978

THE WORLD'S  
LARGEST  
CIRCULATION  
NEWSPAPER  
FOR  
HOMOSEXUALS

UK/EIRE 25p  
US/CANADA \$1

FOURTHLY

## MEN AGAINST RAPE

As men, we fully support the lead being given by Women Against Rape in exposing the hypocrisy of the government, and of Home Secretary Rees in particular. He has spoken of his 'concern' at the possibility of 'even . . . only one person' dying as a result of the firemen's strike. This is revealed as cynical politicking when set beside his complete failure to express concern for the life and liberty of rape victims, and his tacit endorsement of recent encouragement to rapists in the courts.

In July, in a statement supporting the Petition of Women Against Rape, we wrote about the release of Guardsman Holdsworth as follows:

Guardsman Holdsworth's defence used the fact that he was a soldier to get him off. The Court of Appeal confirmed that violence was expected of him, as a soldier and as a man. Men in uniform—soldiers, police—represent what is expected of all men. We are all expected to be experts in violence. That means we are expected to have power and authority over women, to use violence or the threat of violence first of all against *them*.

The reported remarks of Judge Mason, in the recent case of Royal Navy engineer Markham ('It would be a shame if the country loses your services') amount to a reaffirmation of judicial policy in the face of protest against the Holdsworth judgement. The endorsement of rape by government and the courts makes women justifiably more suspicious of *every* man. It serves to divide women from men even further at a time when recession is already setting those with no pay increasingly against those with low pay.

In our earlier statement, we wrote:

Women Against Rape have shown how women's weakness in the face of men's violence is rooted in their lack of money. The more women are financially independent of men, the easier it will be for men to refuse to play the policeman and foreman, in marriage or in the street, at home or abroad.

Women Against Rape are voicing the question of countless women when they ask: '... is licence to rape a 'perk' to supplement low pay in the armed forces?' Given that servicemen represent the violence that is expected of all men, we ask: are leniency towards rapists in the courts and the continuing legality of rape in marriage seen by government as 'perks' for *all* men? Is unrestraint of rape part of a package, in return for pay restraint? We have no doubt that it is.

Pay Day  
79 Richmond Road  
Bristol BS6 5EP  
(Tel: 0272-422116)  
189 Highbury Quadrant  
London N.5