

* * * * *

"SENTIMENTAL ANZAC PARTY", FRI. EVENING, APRIL 25th, at THE CENTRE, 259 BRUNSWICK ST., FITZROY. ENTER BACK LANE, OFF GRIEVE ST. DONATION: \$1.00. BYOG. IMAGINATIVE DRESS!

THE COUNSELLING SERVICE IS DESPERATELY IN NEED OF FUNDS TO CONTINUE - DONATIONS WELCOME.

* * * * *

GAY LIBERATION MELBOURNE, APRIL NEWSLETTER, 1975 259 BRUNSWICK ST., FITZROY, 3065
PHONE: 41-4926

Report on the April General Meeting - and some recent Gay Lib History

After a period of nothingness for Gay Lib. Melbourne, a well-attended February General Meeting decided to abandon the idea of maintaining a gay lib. centre (too costly considering the amount of use and the increase in rental, the off-putting back lane entrance, no-one prepared to keep the place clean). The only activity that people present wanted to maintain, and were prepared to work at, was the Gay Counselling Group. So it was agreed that alternative premises (smaller, cheaper, more convivial) be sought, and in the meantime, the existing Centre would house the Counselling Group.

In fact, such alternative premises have been very difficult to get, and the April meeting (19-4-75) has reversed the decision of the February meeting, and decided to stay at 259 Brunswick St. A rapidly deteriorating financial status left only that option, or closing the Centre (and with it the Counselling Group). A financial statement for the period 10th Jan. to 19th April follows this report.

The situation is different from that of the February meeting however, for along with with the rental increase is a promise of substantial renovations to the upstairs premises. The landlord has promised to line the walls and ceiling; provide a front-entrance (already the staircase for it has been constructed); repair, sand and polish the floor, and erect a partition to divide the space effectively into a phone room and a largish space suitable for parties, etc. Also, for the three weeks of renovations no rental will be charged.

A group of three people - Chris (the downstairs tenant), Gary and Mark are prepared to work to ensure that the Centre is financially viable. With the bank balance in the red it is necessary to generate sufficient money to pay the \$30 per week rent, plus phone bills, over \$100 per quarter. Most other costs are covered by the Melb. Uni. Union Council grant. In the past Gay Lib. hasn't had great difficulty surviving because of the income from the Dances. These are no longer being held, mainly because the commercial dances were proving too competitive. The party this Friday (ANZAC night) is going to bring in about \$150 (we hope). Also, Chris is going to organize a sort of drop-in/ coffee shop in the front part of the Centre (once the partition is up), with the Counselling Group still staffing the Centre.

GAY LIB FINANCIAL STATEMENT (Saturday 19-4-75)

Last Bank Statement (No. 35) - 10th January, 1975.
CREDIT \$515-93

DEBITS

8 Jan:	\$160	Rent 4/12 to 28/1
15 Jan:	\$100	Newsletter - printing & postage
26 Feb:	\$20	Community Radio Federation (see article in this issue)
18 Feb:	\$139-29	P.M.G. Phone bill
26 Feb.	\$55-20	Gay Lib Badges
20 Mar:	\$1	Bank charge for cancelled Rent cheque, dishonoured
3 Apr.	\$1	Ditto
	\$1-50	Bank Charge - Quarterly fee
18 Apr.	\$90	Rent 29/1 to 25/3 less phone bill for Chris S.

→)-----
Total \$567-99
Debits

CREDITS	\$515-93	As per Bank Statement No. 35 (above)
25 Mar:	45-90	donations by cheque to Gay Lib.
18 A pr.	8	Donation to enable Rent cheque (18/4) to be honoured.
	<u>\$569-83</u>	

TAL CREDIT, as at 19-4-75, = \$1-84 (= \$569-83 less \$567-99)

GAY LITERATURE AND LIBRARIES

We recently checked out the Fitzroy Library's collection on homosexuality, which for a non-specialist library, are probably very good, though with somewhat of a male bias. One good sign is the proportion of titles written since 1970, and the relative scarcity of heterosexist studies of homosexuality from the standpoint of "homosexuality as a deviation/sickness/madness/immaturity/perversion...etc, etc".

The Fitzroy Library welcomes recommendation from readers and a few people in Gay Lib are interested to submit a list to the Librarian before their next buying period, around September. If you see important omissions from the list below please let us know, giving the relevant details. And better still, if you know certain books well (including those on the list), we would appreciate your writing and sending a pithy review, to assist in the building up of an annotated bibliography of homosexual literature.

The Mooney Valley Regional Library (ph. 37-8528) has a specialization in the 300 - 309 categories, which includes the category that contains most of the books on homosexuality (301.4157). We hope to mention Mooney Valley's holdings in a future newsletter.

DON'T FORGET THAT IF YOU WANT A BOOK THAT IS NOT IN YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY, THE LIBRARIAN CAN ARRANGE FOR IT TO BE BORROWED ON THE INTER-LIBRARY LOAN SYSTEM.

HOLDINGS ON HOMOSEXUALITY AT FITZROY LIBRARY, 18-4-75

Dennis ALTMANN, Homosexual Oppression and Liberation, Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1972. 242 p.

Donald Webster CORY, The Homosexual Outlook: a subjective approach, Intro. by Dr. Albert Ellis. London, Nevill, 1953. 326 p.

J.Z. EGGLINGTON, Greek Love London, Spearman, 1971. 1971.

Marion FOSTER, A Not So Gay World: Homosexuality In Canada Toronto, McLelland & Stewart, 1972.

Mervyn HARRIS, The Dilly Boys; Male Prostitution in Piccadilly London, Helm, 1973. 126 p.

Laud HUMPHREYS, Out of the Closets: The Sociology of Homosexual Liberation. Englewood Cliffs, Prentice-Hall, 1972. 176 p.

Harford MONTGOMERY, The Other Love: an historical and contemporary survey of homosexuality in Britain. London, Heinemann, 1970.=

Arno KARLEN, Sexuality & Homosexuality: the complete account of male and female sexual behaviour and deviation - with case histories. London, Macdonald, 1971. 666 p.

Bryan MAGEE, One in Twenty: a study of homosexuality in men & women. Revised edition. London, Corgi, 1969.

Len RICHMOND (ed.) The Gay Liberation Book. Gary Noguera (co-editor) San Francisco, c.1973. 208 p.

Hendrik Ruitenbeek (ed.) Homosexuality: a changing picture. London, Souvenir Press, 1973. 218 p.

Kay TOBIN, The Gay Crusaders New York, Paperback Library, 1972. 238 p.

Thorkil VANGUARD, Phallos: a symbol and its history in the male world (translated from the Danish by the author). London, Cape, 1972. 208 p. Plates (28 illust.)

Donald WEST. Homosexuality: with a foreward by Hermann Mannheim London, Duckworth, 1955. 145 p.

Ian YOUNG, (ed.) The Male Muse: a gay anthology New York, Crossing Press, 1973. 127 p.

PERSONAL NARRATIVES

Jean COCTEAU, Le Livre Blanc London, Owen, 1969. 76 p.

FITZROY LIBRARY'S HOLDINGS ON HOMOSEXUALITY (cont.)

- Michael DAVIDSON, Some Boys
London, David Bruce & Watson, 1970. 199 p.
- Michael DAVIDSON, The World, the Flesh & Myself.
London, David Bruce & Watson, 1973, c.1962. 354 p.
- Ian HARVEY, To Fall Like Lucifer
London, Sidgwick & Jackson, 1971. 171 p.
- Brian READE (compiler) Sexual Hertics: male homosexuality in English literature from 1850 to 1900: an anthology selected with an introduction by Brian Reade.
London, Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1970 459 p.

"OPPRESSION UPON REFLECTION 1974"

Mike Clohesy & Peter Waal, of CAMP, N.S.W., have written a book which is a very thorough documentation of events effecting the homosexual movement (mainly in Australia) in 1974. Details of various submissions and letters to government and private organizations, mentions of homosexuality in the media, etc. are noted, with precise references to sources.

If nothing else, it will be of great historical interest...and an excellent record of who the enemy are. But it's more than that. For example the recording of the (unfinished) correspondence with the Directories Section of the P.M.G. about a suitable classification for C.A.M.P. (N.S.W.) in the phone directory might be useful for any other homosexual rights organization that gets entangled with the Post Office.

The book concludes with an interesting proposal for a Homosexual Bureau to "analyze and change existing attitudes and practices within the Australian Public Service relating to homosexuals".

Copies of this publication (72 pages) are available from CAMP N.S.W., Box 5074, G.P.O., SYDNEY, 2001. (\$1.00) Ph. (02) 827-3063 (Secretary).

COMING EVENTS:

- Fri. 25th April: "Sentimental Anzac Party". Donation \$1. BYOG. 259 Brunswick St., Fitzroy. 8 p.m. Imaginative dress! Proceeds to Gay Lib.Counselling Group, to keep centre going.
- Fri. 25-27th April: National Conference of ACCEPTANCE (an organization for catholic homosexuals). To be held at Travel Lodge, King's Cross, Sudney. Admission \$10 for 3 days. Although Acceptance (Melb.) will be sending observers to the Conference, it is not an official participant in the Conference.(Further info. Box 276, SOUTH CARLTON, 3053)
- Sun. 27th April: Monthly meeting of th Counselling Group, 6 p.m. at the Centre. See notice page 5.
- Wed. 30th April (to be confirmed): Fourth planning meeting for the National Conference of Homosexuals, to be held at Melbourne University, on the week of 16 - 17 Aug. For further information contact Laurie Bebbington, 347-7433.
- Fri. May 2nd: Gay Dance/Melbournian, Block Arcade, with "Mississippi"and Busby Berkeleys". B.Y.O.
- Sat. May 17: General Meeting of Gay Lib, 8 p.m., Centre. Ph. 41-4926
- Sat. 31st May - 1st June: International Women's Year Seminar "Lesbian in the Workforce". Carslaw Bdg., Sydney Uni. Registration \$2-00. Enquire Box 5074, G.P.O. Sydney, 2001, or phone (02) 827-3063.

NOTICE: - A gay women wants to share here East Melbourne flat with compatible gay women. For further information contact Centre, 41-4926

The Community Radio Federation (C.R.F.) is an organization of various community groups which has formed in response to current developments in the concept of radio broadcasting. Recently we have seen the introduction of F.M. Radio and a new commercial station in Sydney, as well as the beginnings of an A.B.C. Access Station in Melbourne. It is expected that new legislation governing broadcasting in this country will be approved in the next few years.

Some have deplored the narrow concept of radio where commercial interests have public licence to exploit air space for their own benefit, with little direct responsibility to the community. The kinds of radio programmes that arise from this situation are those that satisfy the profit criterion. Minority views are not only usually unprofitable, but dangerous to the order which maintains broadcasting in capitalist hands.

The only alternative is the A.B.C., which serves a specific aspect of our culture very well, by producing professional and artistic programmes of a highly specialized and often controversial nature. But here, to have their point of view put to air, minorities depend on the good will of professionals who have an elitist concept of radio, and also they must tackle the conservative bureaucracy of the A.B.C.

So it can be seen that because of economic and political conditions, many attitudes and opinions are denied publicity. The idea of Community Radio is to provide an avenue for such points of view and to enable groups to find their own way of expressing their ideas with a minimum of professional and economic constraint, and certainly if possible no political constraint. The obvious way to make this a reality is for minority groups to ^{band} together to own and run a radio station themselves. So far the most appropriate legislation to facilitate this kind of radio station is not yet in existence, however due to political pressures in the last year (not the least of which issued from the C.R.F. itself) the Broadcasting Control Board gazetted a new radio licence to be applied for by interested community groups. C.R.F. have of course applied for this licence and is the favourite contender. So it seems likely that the C.R.F. will go to air sometime this year. The position on the dial of 3CR will be between 3LO and 3UZ.

GAY LIBERATION IN COMMUNITY RADIO

C.R.F. has been formed into a company for purposes of the licence application. Gay Liberation is an official member of C.R.F., with full voting rights, along with another 60 odd groups. The radio station will be finally financed by listener subscription. But to get it on the air and going for the first 6 months each member group has to contribute an amount of money vaguely in proportion to its available resources. The amount allocated for Gay Liberation is \$200, of which \$20 has already been paid (ratified by the Feb. General Meeting). In addition to this a good microphone and an ordinary cassette player are essential if we are to make our own programmes. At least \$100 should be reserved for this.

So far attempts to involve people in Gay Liberation's membership in C.R.F. have not been very successful. This could be related to the diffuse situation in which Gay Liberation presently finds itself. However I am now making an appeal to readers to contribute, especially their ideas and labour, in the hope that there is widespread and tangible support among homosexuals for us to speak to society. I see this as not only as Gay Lib venture, but as a means available to anybody or group of people with an idea even distantly related to homosexuality, and wishing to convey it to a wider audience. If there are many people who feel they can contribute in this manner, then our membership will function beneficially to both C.R.F. and ourselves. Remember, at the moment Gay Lib is a potential owner of a radio station as much as any other member of C.R.F.

Obviously the desire to express an idea is not enough to make a radio programme, as anyone can discover for themselves simply by speaking into a microphone and listening to the result on tape. There are some basic acoustic techniques that must be mastered even before programme format is considered. To deal with these problems, on Sunday 13th April, C.R.F. had its first training seminar. It is expected that there will be another, probably on 27th April (daytime).

There is a lot to learn and a lot to do, not only in developing methods for our own programmes, but also, in helping make C.R.F. a success. So the response to this letter will be a determining factor as to whether Gay Lib can continue its involvement in C.R.F. If there is support for our membership of C.R.F. then I feel our \$300 will come easily and justifiably. If you are interested, get together a group of friends with an idea, and microphone and cassette recorder, to find out what it is like to experiment. Write a script and see how it comes out on tape. Even read a play or poem. There are many possibilities, but experience is the teacher. That builds resolution, which is what we need now.

For those of you who wish to give moral support to C.R.F., subscription fees will be gratefully accepted. Write to The Secretary, C.R.F., P.O. Box 145, NORTHCOTE, 3070.

GAY LIB IN COMMUNITY RADIO (cont.)

If you wish to support C.R.F.'s licence application, write to The Secretary, Australian Broadcasting Control Board, Marland House, 570 Bourke St., Melbourne, 3000.

Please let me know if you are planning anything, or are wanting to help or advise. If there is anything more about C.R.F. you wish to know, I'd be happy to talk about it. Contact me through the Centre, 41-4926, weekdays after 8 p.m.

PETER EDEN.

MELBOURNE UNI. GAY GROUPS RESUMING

Lunchtime meetings are being held again at Melbourne University, and activities are being planned. The next meeting is on Thursday, 1st May. Watch the daily bulletins for details, or contact Ann Pentelow on 347-4653.

If anyone knows the whereabouts of the Gay Lib cupboard's key, please tell Ann.

CONSCIOUSNESS-RAISING GROUP

A consciousness-raising group (gay men only so far interested, but women welcome) is being convened. Meetings could be held at Peter Lademann's house in Coburg. Anyone interested please contact Peter (36-0445), or leave message at the Centre (41-4926).

GAY LIB SPEAKERS

Gay Lib's public-speaking group of 8 people is available for engagements. Recently the group has sent representatives to speak at a live-in camp for Karingal High's sixth formers, a South Yarra Young Labor Association's Branch meeting, and an Apex Club meeting.

Some possible

Where possible we would like about six weeks notice. Also, when you mail an invitation, please leave a phone number for contact.

GAY LIB COUNSELLING

41-4926

The Gay Lib Counselling Group is working rather more efficiently than it has for some months. About 15 people are rostered on a fortnightly cycle, usually two people a night, weekdays, and sometimes weekends. But if you can't raise anyone the first time you call, please keep trying.

People call in or phone for a number of reasons, most not seeking "counselling" in a conventional sense: people new in town, visiting, isolated, feeling down, or just wanting to chat. Others require referral to sympathetic lawyers, doctors, clinics, psychologists, etc.

The Counselling Group can act as a contact point for people wanting to get in touch with others to form a group that meets their needs, e.g. consciousness raising groups, others "coming out", married, at secondary school...or whatever. Some people have a understandable trepidation about giving names and addresses over the phone (we assume ourselves, for safety purposes, that the phone is bugged). It's best managed then if you drop in and leave your name personally. Any lists will be kept in strict security.

If you would like to work with the Counselling Group you would be welcomed. Especially needed are people available for the odd night, but not on a regular basis. Emergency rostering at present is almost non-existent.

The next meeting of the Counselling Group is on Sunday, 27th March, 6 p.m. at the Centre, when the lawyer who represented the two men ordered to go to South Australia or be gaoled for their confessed homosexual acts, will be present to talk about this case and civil rights in general.

P.S. We have a cassette recording of the interview on P.M. (the A.B.C. radio programme) with the two men concerned.

Donations to the Counselling Group to maintain the Centre are urgently sought. Can you help?

NAME.....ADDRESS.....
.....

Please find enclosed \$ donation to Gay Liberation Front.

Telephone
347 7433

Telegrams
Natstud, Melbourne

Telex
AA32638

Australian Union of Students

date 22/4/1975 ref RT

97 Drummond Street, Carlton, 3053, Melbourne

Dear all,

Please find enclosed a copy of the various motions passed at the 1975 Annual Council of the Australian Union of Students. Certain of these motions are now being debated on campuses in a process known as constituent ratification. When we moved at Council to have these referred to students, we hoped to provide an opportunity to raise awareness of homosexuals and homosexuality.

AUS also decided to sponsor a National Homosexual Conference to be held on 16-17 August. The agenda includes:

SATURDAY: A session on the means by which homosexuals are oppressed (ie. education, media, religion, psychology etc.). Workshops on coming out, bisexuality, lesbian mothers, homosexuals and their families etc. In the afternoon, a 'speakout' will be held - anyone is welcome - in a session closed to the press, to speak out on their personal experience and views. An afternoon session will discuss why homosexuals are oppressed and a dance/party will be held for Conference people Saturday night.

SUNDAY: Sessions will be held on "Homosexuality and Feminism" and "Homosexual Movements - past and future". Workshops will be held on related topics - effeminism, ageism, objectification, lesbian separatism (Women only). Workshops will also be held to plot directions for the future.

Papers for the conference are now being invited, and these will be circulated before the conference. For further information about the conference or what AUS is doing, or if you wish to be placed on the mailing list, please contact Jeff Hayler or Laurie Bebbington at AUS.

In homosexual solidarity,

Ron Thiele.

HOMOSEXUAL MOTIONS:

1. Sexuality - adequate sex education and freely available contraceptives through student health centres on every campus.

- active support for the struggle of male and female homosexuals against their oppression with particular emphasis on discrimination within tertiary institutions and for the campaign to repeal all laws that discriminate against homosexuals.
2. AUS supports the struggles of lesbians and homosexual men against hetero-sexist oppression and actively supports campaigns which include homosexual liberation struggles.
3. AUS opposes all discrimination, legal, economic or social against homosexuals; further, that AUS calls for the repeal of all oppressive laws against homosexuality.
4. AUS recognises the validity of homosexual relationships and is committed to publicly advocate the positive and healthy nature of those relationships and that this motion be passed to the press and other relevant media sources.
5. To implement motions F.12 and F.13 of the National Affairs Commission, AUS Annual Council 1975, that
 - a) the SVP organises a national conference of homosexuals.
 - b) \$500 be allocated for this purpose.
 - c) Council recommends the regions allocate further assistance.
6. AUS representatives when overseas, on behalf of the Union, be directed to clearly support the above principles, and that the AUS delegation to the next IUS and ASA Conferences, be instructed to raise any question of the oppression of homosexuals.
7. AUS Council calls on Government education departments to form commissions to examine all curricula with a view to pointing out their biased presentation of only a heterosexual nuclear family-oriented life-style in texts, songs, library facilities and general course disposition, etc.
8. AUS Council directs the Executive and Secretariat to call upon teachers, trainee teachers and teacher unions to campaign against the presentation of only a heterosexual, nuclear family-oriented lifestyle and present alternative points of view to the accepted sexist stereotypes.
9. The EVP and R.O. engage in an analysis to mobilise resources to effect meaningful change in the innately heterosexual nature of:
 - (i) Government Education Department attitudes in teacher-training institutions and schools;
 - (ii) Oppressive teacher training which negates homosexual ability/creativity expertise by insisting that a singly-defined sexuality is compatible with the teaching of children.

And further that the EVP be instructed to prepare a submission to the Schools Commission and the Curriculum Research Institute, outlining AUS policy on the hetero-sexist nature of educational institutions and curricula.
10. Council call on the Education Officers of its constituent organisations to examine tertiary education curricula, particularly in the social sciences, with a view to pointing out their discriminatory non presentation of material relating to homosexuality.