

THE NORTHEAST'S OTHER NEWSPAPER

MOTHER GRUMBLE

Mar 22 2008

3



NEWS
MINERS
GAY LIB.
ECOLOGY
HAWKWIND
ETC.



EDITORIAL



When we started producing Muther Grumble, we said that it was to be a community newspaper for the North-East. Although we deliberately left that to define itself, we felt that it would be our main job to create an awareness that was lacking, or unexpressed, in the area, and to urge people from their dissident apathy into dissident activity. However the picture is not so dull as we imagined, and quite a few individuals and groups have got in touch with us, and thus potentially in touch with you, and have told us about their social, political and cultural activities. Though there must be many things going on around that we do not know anything at all about - Teesside for example is still almost a complete mystery to us as far as knowing people goes - it has become more and more obvious to us that the north-east is not a wasteland but an area of active feeling about its conditions. Thus our stress has now moved towards providing a platform for you to express your views and to find people with common interests: a platform, but also a co-ordinating centre for valuable - costly? - and useful or hard-to-come-by information.

As for the paper itself, we feel that it is moving in the right direction, by concentrating on the community interests of the north-east and we want to keep it going that way without becoming sectarian: which means that we don't all agree with everything in the paper.



We were surprised by how much activity there is, and you probably would be too. This is probably because the individuals and groups who are active in the area cannot afford the time or the money to publicise themselves properly. This will be one of our main functions - to help people to find each other and to pass on knowledge and experience, as well as to give the psychological comfort of strength in numbers.

Organisation is not our game: that only leads to bureaucratisation, patronisation, alienation and deterioration. What we would like is co-ordination. This can be done through the paper, through individual contact - come up and see us sometime - and, in the future, through duplicated info-sheets as well. If this sounds like a good idea, write and tell us, preferably with information about your interests, hassles, successes, present and future activities, or just what you would like to see us doing. Keep on sending in your articles (deadline 15th of every month) and we'll print as much as we can, although we need more pages. A lot of people have sent us poetry, which we like, so keep on sending it and we'll try and print a poetry supplement to a later issue.

Muther Grumble's address is:- 13 Silver Street, Durham City, Co. Durham.

To be successful in our aim of being an effective and efficient local info. and co-ordinating centre we need feedback - we can only give out to others what you give us. So write and let us know, give us any ideas or facts or anything.

The contacts we have made so far have proved very rewarding and, to get back to the paper itself, we have great hopes on every front - except the financial, which is, to say the least, worrying. The Benefit Concert that we were going to hold this month in Newcastle has had to be cancelled due to licence difficulties with the city council and the probability of power cuts (small price to pay....) that would have meant clearing the hall of all intelligent life. We were hoping that the Benefit would put us, and several other groups on financially safe ground. But now we are as broke as ever. We're not in debt yet, but it's not impossible before the next issue. We need donations - money, cigarette coupons, stamps (green, pink and of the realm) etc., but most of all we need people willing to sell the paper. It costs a nauseating £300 to produce each issue and we've got to get that money back in order to produce the next one. No-one's profiting from it here; we're all living on £7-8 a week and we're not complaining (not seriously anyway). If we get more money than we need it will go to other financially struggling groups. And of course, if we can get more money in, Muther Grumble can become better value with more pages, etc.

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WHO DUNNIT?

Answer on page 11

CLUES:- Maurice, Ian, Mike, Don, Spot-on Geoff, Andy, Bernie, Alan, Tony, Paul, George, Simon, Captain Moonlight, Joe, Dave, Rich, ('Fraid not girls), Ken, Helen, Viv, Jane, Ali, Chris, Lynn, Stan, Janis, Clair, Marian, Brief Encounter, Crawford's for vittels, Daeha Pubs., NEEB for black-outs, (power to the miners), and we could go on all night... (whoops, we have).
Didya kna roses grow on ya!

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(tel:- 668498)

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4 Lave Road,
S.Shields.

Subscribe to Muther Grumble:
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If you want to talk about your grumble or what you're doing or simply yourself contact Muther Grumble at:

13 Silver Street, Durham City.



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SMOKE RINGS

You may have read in the last issue of Muther Grumble a small article entitled Dope Grill, about interviews on drug use carried out recently at Nevilles Cross college. All residents and some non-residents were interviewed. Publicity about this has been strangely lacking in spite of a few scandalised students having sent a representative to Palatinat, the student newspaper, to tell them what had happened.

A Palatinat reporter went to Nevilles Cross that afternoon and interviewed first the president and vice president of the Junior Common Room and then Mrs Whitehouse, the vice principal, Mr Cotsworth, the chief administrator, and Mr Lipton, the senior tutor.

Mr Peter West, president of the JCR said that although some people had been alarmed on receiving the circular, he thought the authorities had taken the best possible action. Should there be any drug users at Nevilles they should, he felt, be discovered with the least amount of publicity and discreetly dealt with. He said Nevilles has hitherto been the most successful college in placing its students in local schools for teaching practice and that, also, Nevilles students depended on references from that righteous establishment to secure permanent jobs when they left. He felt that Nevilles had the best interest of its students at heart and said his interview had been conducted in a most cordial atmosphere.

West paused to think when asked if he thought students would name themselves, friends or acquaintances as drug users. But the JCR's vice principal cut in and said he thought one person might break down caus-

ing the rest to lose fear, abandon hope (whichever is appropriate), and tell all. "I have known the police use similar methods", he added. The administration received the advent of Palatinat with astonishment, having not expected their students' reaction to their gentle little questionnaire. No-one, they said, had raised any objection at the time. Mrs Whitehouse said the survey had had to be undertaken because someone from outside of the college had informed them that Nevilles had a drugs problem and that the police would be informed if nothing was done about it. She said that, though she doubted any drugs problem existed they could not afford to take any chances as the college produced teachers of young children. She suggested that should Palatinat publish the story, the police would feel obliged to enter the college to search it for drugs and do other disquieting things resulting in bad publicity. In reply to this, the reporter pointed out that if there were drug users in Nevilles, the police probably knew about it and would take action or not at their own discretion. Mrs Whitehouse then said that the police did in fact know, but that she knew the Chief Constable.

Finally Mrs Whitehouse threatened Palatinat with a "D" notice (presumably some form of censorship order) from the university vice chancellor. All those present insisted that the interviews had been short and cordial, that all students in the college were to be interviewed and that no one was being victimised.

Some students spoke to Palatinat shortly after the

interviewing had finished. One girl said she had been grilled for about twenty minutes and actually compared the situation with the Spanish Inquisition. Others, (notably university, as opposed to teacher training students) were asked a few questions in an interview lasting only a few minutes.

The morning after the interviews began, Mike Eccles, president of Durham Students Union, received a complaint from at least one Nevilles student. When Palatinat asked him what he had done about this he said he was taking legal advice and that if the students were within their rights he would send out a circular advising them of this. He would know the legal position, he said, by that Friday (Jan 21st). He appears, however, to have taken no action at all.

Later the editor of Palatinat went out to Nevilles Cross. He returned saying that the story, though it could perhaps be printed, was of little interest and scarcely merited a place on the front page. Just before Palatinat appeared, the editor was summoned to the vice chancellor and was told that the informant was a girl from Nevilles Cross itself and that the article should not be printed for the sake of this girl, if for no other reason. Palatinat was later told by someone else that this girl had told her mother there were drugs in the college and that her mother had phoned the authorities.

By this time, Palatinat was at the printing stage and the front page being taken over by a student election drama, a few columns inches had been saved for the Nevilles story on page seven. This was eventually filled by a story on homosexuality. Palatinat was sold the next day with a cyclostyled inset stating that the facts relat-

ing to the Nevilles Cross affair would be printed in the next issue. This led to an unpleasant scene between the editor on one side and the Nevilles Cross authorities plus some officers of Durham Students Union on the other.

During this scene, apparently, was let fall the strange intelligence that the girl who first told Palatinat about the interviews was known to the authorities and had "recanted".

A few days later, Mr Paul Scott interviewed the Nevilles Cross authorities on behalf of a London magazine. Much the same was said to him as was said to Palatinat. They denied emphatically that anyone within the college was responsible directly or indirectly for allegations of drug abuse there. Mr Scott went on to mention that he knew the police knew of the affair. They prevaricated at first, but Mr. Cotsworth later supplied Mr Scott with a statement from Mrs Whitehouse. The police, she said, had been consulted and had been most co-operative. The Nevilles Cross authorities also told Mr Scott that they were only interested in their college. A student interviewed by him later said she had been asked if she knew drug users in another, named, Durham college.

Nevilles Cross has recently issued a statement which reads as follows:- "After allegations from an outside source that Nevilles Cross college had a 'drugs problem' the principal and senior staff members sought the co-operation of resident students to determine whether the allegations might be true. The allegations have no foundation, in fact, and the principal is grateful for the ready help and advice willingly and freely given by the student body." This has duly been published in the latest issue of Palatinat.

Sian.

SUNDERLAND SAU

The brief life of the Sunderland Schools Action Union was a catalogue of disaster.

It met almost every conceivable obstacle before finally expiring after two months.

Not least of the problems was apathy. According to George, a member of the now defunct action committee, only ten people showed any real interest, even after the idea had been canvassed thoroughly.

The International Socialists refused to help and the group got short change from the London branch of the Schools Action Union, which George claims has been taken over by Maoists.

The Sunderland branch never did have any central organisation. "We were left to do it all ourselves and none of us knew where to start", he added.

A local newspaper interviewed some of those in-

volved and duly tore the group to pieces in its columns.

Then, the first meeting had to be cancelled after the landlord of the pub which the group had booked changed his mind and asked them to go elsewhere.

"The police had been to see him," claims George.

They found a new venue and set off to redirect people from the original pub. Outside, claims George, were three policemen.

"They were carrying some of our leaflets, so we decided not to bother", he said.

Three of the group distributed leaflets to pupils outside the gates of South Moor School in Sunderland in late October.

The Headmaster, Mr Budge, sent his prefects round the school to collect the leaflets. These were then burnt.

Mr Budge then contacted Mr. Armstrong-James, Principal of Sunderland College of Education, (Langham Towers) after he found out that the three action group men were students there.

Subsequently, Cary Smith, George and another member of the action group were hauled in before Armstrong-James.

He told them distribution of the leaflets must cease. The penalty for refusing to comply would be immediate

suspension.

The third man then dropped out. But Smith and Alan Kell decided to make a stand.

They distributed leaflets again the following Thursday outside the gates of South Moor School.

Reaction was swift. A day later, they were both suspended. A week later, they were expelled.

They were granted an appeal before the Board of Governors but lost their case.

In desperation, they appealed to the National Union of Students for help, but none was forthcoming.

Smith and Kell then went home with them went all current hopes of establishing a schools action group in Sunderland; a place which, as we all know, has an outstanding record in the field of staff-pupil relations.

Belinda.

Alan at MG would like to hear from anyone interested in Schools Action Unions, as we think it would be useful for SAU's to coordinate for mutual support and transfer of information.

DURHAM ARTS CENTRE

Durham City, home of the Cathedral and the ultra-conservative University, is sadly lacking in any central arts centre. Therefore I am trying to set up such a centre, to be open to all.

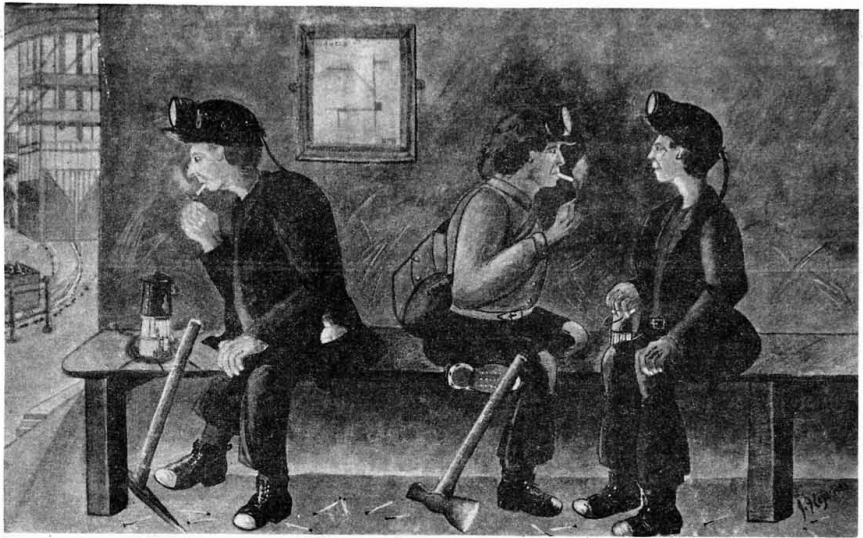
Several difficulties, mainly financial, will have to be overcome but I hope the centre will contain: a theatre cum cinema adaptable for travelling exhibitions, talks and educational purposes during the day, an area for exhibiting art, sculpture, photography and pottery. In time it would include painting facilities and silk-screen press, and a coffee/snack bar. The activities will be for you and your friends to act, exhibit, and merely observe - it depends on you for artistic and financial support.

Such support is already growing, and on the weight of this the authorities must take note. To some this project will conflict with the City's theatre plan at Milburngate that will finish in 8 years, and, with a changing heart, might include youth facilities. In the interim something must be created to fill the void that now exists. There is no reason why the activities should conflict - in fact they should be complementary to each other.

Anyone interested in this idea can contact me at Muther Grumble.

Rich.

ME AN' ME MARRA



Newcastle was indisputably the heart of the mining community of the north-east, its main arteries branching out into the neighbouring coal-seams of Northumberland and Durham, fetching and carrying the ceaseless road of coal.

Although it is no longer the staple industry of the area it has handed down a firm tradition recorded in the many songs and poems of the miners themselves.

Humour was a main feature of the earliest recorded songs, such as the Collier's Rant (1784) :

*As we an' me marra was gamin' te work
We met wi' the devil, it was in the dark,
As up wi' me pick, it bein' the neast,
An' aa hawked off his claws, likewise his
clubfeet,*

*(chorus) Follow the horses, Johnny me laddie
Follow them through, me canny lad oh
Follow the horses, Johnny me laddie
How lad, lie away me canny lad oh.*

Yet it was a black, grim humour, no doubt a reaction against the inherent hardships of mining. Other songs, not so harsh, originate from the pre-industrial Revolution era; for example, Byker Hill :

*Geordie Thompson had a pig
And he hit it with a shovel and it danced
a jig*

*All the way to Byker Hill
It danced the Elsie Marley,
(Chorus) Byker Hill and Walker Shore,
me lads*

*Collier lads for evermore,
me boys
Byker Hill and Walker Shore,
me lads
Collier lads for evermore.*

George Hitchin in his essay "First Day" writes "I tailed along behind the men until we reached a point where the last electric light glowed. Beyond lay utter darkness. The light of my lamp grew in brightness in contrast to the enveloping gloom. We had been following a narrow railway, but presently we turned off at an angle, leaving the railway behind as we entered the travelling road or gallery. A hundred yards or so along this road we stopped outside an iron gate, but not before I had received my miner's baptism by knocking my head on the roof. Beyond the gate, as in a corridor, were lights, voices, a jingle of harness, the stamping of hooves and a strong smell of horse manure. Just inside the stables stood the wagonway-man, talking to a youth. Gillie held up his lamp to see my face.

"What's thou called, hinny?"
"Hitchin," I replied. "Geordie Hitchin."
"Sailor Hitchin's lad?" he inquired.
I admitted it, and he turned to the youth by his side. "Not very big, is he?" They both laughed. "Gang we' Fred, here," he instructed me. "I'll see thee in-bye. And mind thou doesn't fall in the greaser." He rumbled my hair with his hand."

The Industrial Revolution brought a greater demand for coal and conditions deteriorated. The miner's voice became more embittered. e.g. Thomas Wilson's "The Pitman's Pay" 1826:-

*Think on us himties, if ye please
An' it were but to show yor pity
For a' the toils and tears it gi'es
To warm the shins o' Lumnon city.*

Militancy increased as the 19th century approached. Blacklegs were brought in to break strikes, and the hatred this caused boiled over into "The Blackleg Miner" :

*Oh early in the evenin' just after dark
The Blackleg miners creep out an' gan te work
Wi' their moleskin trousers an' dorty auld
shirts
Go the dorty blaakleg miners.*

*They take their picks an' down they go
Te dig out the coal that's lyin' below
An' there isn't a woman in this town row
Will look at a blaakleg miner.*

*Oh Devala is a terrible place
They rub wet clay in the blaakleg's face
An' round the pit-heaps they run a foot-race
Wi' the dorty blaakleg miners*

*Oh divvent gan near the Seghill mine
For across the way they stretch a line
For te catch the throat an' break the spine
Of the dorty blaakleg miner.*

*Ye take yor duds an' tools as well
An' down ye go te the pit of hell
It's doon ye go an' fare the well
Thou dorty blaakleg miner.*

*So join the union while ye may
Don't ye wait till yer dyin' day
For that may not be so far away
Ye dorty blaakleg miners.*

In another song, the militant mood is reflected, this time against the owners during the great "lock-out" when miners protested about a 10% pay reduction. The word "candy" is used in the song. It originated when a local candy-seller turned blackleg hirer in the early days of north-east miners strikes. Afterwards blacklegs were called candy-men.

*Oh the miners of South Medomsley, they're
ganin' te make some stew,
They're gamin' to boil fat Postick and his
dorty Candy Crew,
The maisters shall have nout but soup as
long as the're alive
In mem'ry of the dortu trick in 1886.*

Because of the conditions and lack of safety regulations disasters were frequent. Tommy Armstrong's famous Trimdon Grange Explosion records one such event.

*Oh let's not think of tomorrow lest we
be disappointed be
Our joys may turn to sorrows as we all
may daily see
Today we're strong and healthy, but to-
morrow brings a change
As we all may see from the explosion that's
occured at Trimdon Grange.*

*Men and boys set out that morning for to
earn their daily bread
Not thinking that by evening they'd be
numbered with the dead
Lets think of Mrs Burnet once had sons
but now has none
By the Trimdon Grange Explosion Joseph
George and James have gone.*

*February left behind it what will never
be forgot
Weeping widows helpless children may be
found in many a cot
They ask if father's left them an the
mother hangs
With a weeping widows feelings tells the
child its father's dead.*

*God protect the lonely widows and raise
up each drooping head
Be a father to the orphans do not let
them cry for bread
Death will pay us all a visit they have
only gone before
And we'll meet the Trimdon victims where
explosions are no more*

The tradition continues today with such men as the late Jack Elliott of Birtley, and Johnny Handle.

*The collier lad, he's a canny lad,
And he's always of good cheer
And he knaas how te work,
And he knaas how te shork
An' he knaas how te sup good beer.*

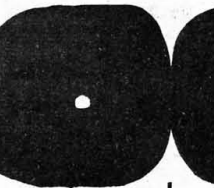
Nowadays poets still write in appreciation of the miners' hard struggle. For example, Robert Morgan wrote:

*On the way out, through twisting roads
of rocky
Silence, you could sense images of con-
fusion
In the slack chain of shadows; muscles
Were nerve tight and thoughts infested
With wrath and sharp edges of fear.
Towards the sun's lamp we moved, taking
Home the dark prisoner in his shroud of
coats.*

Jim and Geoff.

"The Argument" by James Floyd - Ashington miner - by courtesy of the D.L.I. Museum.

Many thanks to Joe Gott, steward of Bearpark Working Man's Club, who has helped out immensely during the miners strike by laying on meals at most mealtimes for the picketing miners. Ally, his wife, also took run down to the pickets to keep them warm. Apparently he has also helped a lot of the miners financially. Keep it up Bruvvers!



TONIGHT A
DRAMATIC INTER-
VENTION INTO
TELEVISION BY THE
LIGHT OF OUR LIVES.

GOOD EVENING, I WISH
TONIGHT TO SPEAK TO
YOU ABOUT THE
POWER CRISIS. WHICH IS
DUE, AS YOU KNOW, TO

THE SELFISH ACTION
OF A SMALL
NUMBER OF
UNPRINCIP.....

J. HARTY 1987 ZZZ

MOTORWAY MADNESS

In the one house left standing in Marianople St, Sandysford, Newcastle (number 3), lives Mrs Margaret Neary and her dog and cat.

She's a nice, elderly lady who lives by running a bed and breakfast service from her house. She's a gentle, homely woman who has worked hard to buy her house which is completely paid for and therefore freehold property. She's never claimed any Social Security, grant or pension which she's entitled to.

Now, Newcastle City Council want her land for their bizarre motorway scheme which will put the whole of Newcastle in chaos. The motorway itself doesn't touch her land but they say they want the land for the contractors to build from. An offer for the land has never been made in writing but the amounts suggested haven't even been enough to buy a new house from which she can carry on her bed and breakfast business.

Two years ago she was offered a house in Harrison Place, Sandysford, but it would have been no use to run her business from as it's a cul-de-sac and lorry drivers, who are her main customers, could never park their lorries in such a small street.

Of course she refused; but that was not the end of it. Firstly a woman called at her house with the keys to the house she'd refused in Harrison Place - she didn't take them. Following that, two men also from the Council, turned up and told her that she had to take the keys to that same house. Again she refused. Lastly three men put a rent book and a set of keys through her letter box.

She went after them but they drove off in a car. She took the keys back to the Civic Centre and told them again she didn't want that house under any circumstances. Incredibly, nothing else was heard about it.

When all the rest of the street was being knocked down she went along to the Civic Centre with a friend and insisted on seeing the plans. Reluctantly she was shown them by a City Engineer, Mr. Tony Harris. She looked at them and said "You're going to build private enterprise shops and houses on my land". Mr. Harris looked surprised and said "I didn't think you knew how to read a map, and anyway we need the land for contracting purposes; we don't want to say it's for private enterprise."

Just before Christmas

she received a letter from the Council saying she had until Feb 1st 1972 to get out because on that day the bulldozers would be coming to knock her house down. The day before the bulldozers were to come the BBC got in touch with the City Planners who said they'd given Mrs Neary a time extension, although they hadn't told Mrs Neary. This suggests that the extension was given because of the BBC getting in touch with them.

After interviewing Mrs. Neary I went to the City Planning Department and I asked if the motorway was going through her land and they told me it wasn't. I then asked what the land was needed for and they replied "You've got me there." I asked them if private enterprise shops and houses were going to be built on the land, and they quickly replied "No they weren't, we'll probably be building another branch of the motorway through there in 10 - 15 years time", and then as if an afterthought said "Anyway the land will be needed for the contractors". I asked them why they had offered such a low amount for Mrs. Neary's land when it was so valuable and they said "It isn't valuable. She's claiming false sympathy there." I said that if they're selling the land to private enterprise then it must be valuable. They couldn't answer that and quickly said "Well she's had it good over the last two years, we've knocked down the surrounding houses and she's had plenty of parking space for lorries etc., we've done her a good turn and it's time she did one for us, living off the fat of the land blah blah.."

In fact Mrs. Neary's business has gone down; as there are no houses around her, people think she's moved so they haven't given her their business.

Mrs. Neary is adamant that she won't move unless a good offer is made for her land, enough to buy a new house so she can remain independent and run her business again.

She has been trying for a public meeting for a long time but the council won't allow it; they will only hold a meeting with her and her solicitor alone. They are scared of public reaction, and earlier this month they stopped the Evening Chronicle publishing an interview with her, claiming she had had

enough publicity already. Earlier this month she noticed a black car parked at different places in the street during the day, with two men sitting in it reading newspapers and watching her house. I don't know whether they had two eyeholes cut in their papers or not but they sat there all day watching her house; what for?

Your guess is as good as mine. Perhaps the Council have called in the Mafia, or the IRA, or Interpol, or Donald Duck, which is more likely because that's nearer to the way they seem to be behaving.

On the 15th. February she had a meeting with the Council at her solicitor's office but all that came out of it was abuse and threats from the Council. It is just absolute deadlock now.

Owing to the deadlock she is now going to take the case through the courts. This is how the situation stands at the moment. Watch Muther Grumble next month for the continuing episode.



not our class, dear

You might think that if you pay your rent and are a good tenant you are secure. But no.... not if you live in Jesmond, Newcastle. There, the Council are trying to evict people in the multi-occupied houses scattered amongst the most elegant and true blue houses in Newcastle.

Their method - an obscure bye-law no one had heard of - saying that such houses should have official approval. They say they are doing this to see that such houses are properly maintained. But they have refused to use their powers to force landlords to look after their property.

The real reason is that Self-styled "best people" don't like living amongst the worst (that is the people whose income is the worst and can afford only one room).

So far vague promises have been given to students who are organised through the N.U.S. but none to the mass of tenants - the lower paid workers and unemployed.

The moral - Get organised and fight.

HELP

Down here in Stockton and Teesside I am very anxious to start a group for helping people with their social problems. Present day life needs a more dedicated and practical approach to the realities of people's problems than the Samaritans have.

Mention loneliness. The majority only think of the old who are lonely and by themselves. But the young too suffer constantly from loneliness - because you don't see them, because they are not labelled lonely, because there appear to be no symptoms, they are forgotten. NOT ANY LONGER.

One of these young people rings up the Samaritans and what happens? "Well, have you tried joining something...a youth club, the Y.M.C.A., the Scouts?"

Oh, for pity's sake, Samaritans! Anyone who has been lonely knows how much use that is; it just causes further embarrassment. Recently a Samaritan told me that they will go somewhere with a person to help him make friends, if he wishes. But believe me, when people ring up the Samaritans, they are not told that.

I don't want to oppose the Samaritans...every bough may yield fruit, but I wish to help much more practically. I believe that we must all pool our experience in order to solve these problems together.

Keep your eyes open and you'll see lonely people of all ages in the cinemas, in the park, in the church at the back (when did the church ever help anyone?), or in the folk clubs and in the pubs, trying to drown their sorrows.

This is just one problem that needs attention. There are many more that a group such as I am trying to start will tackle - with vigour and with determination. To do this it must have like-minded energetic people. Maybe the lonely and the reserved themselves will respond best to this challenge and emerge as having the best qualities for the task.

So I challenge anyone, especially on Teesside, to drop me a line, tell me what you think of what I have written, and if you can help in any way. I want to meet you, and the sooner the better. DON'T YOU THINK?

NO MAN IS AN ISLAND
NO MAN STANDS ALONE
REALLY!!

(Contact Stuart H. Smith - address on Graffiti page.)

Dear Ma,



Feel lonely, bored or merely insane? So do we, so send your letters and your love to us at 13, Silver St., Durham City.

Dear Muther,
I hope you will take kindly to congratulations from a Liberal who believes we should work through the system but I do think your paper is first class - and may prove to be one of the most significant developments in local journalism.

It is certainly a great improvement on the other underground papers I have seen. These seem, at times, to be intent on creating a violent situation and possibly worse advocate "pig" hatred with a greater ferocity than Mosley could ever have used against the blacks. Well done and good luck.

Sam

Dear Muther Grumble

Congratulations. On reading your first edition, I thought Oh God! another underground load of rubbish. I was further convinced when reading words like "fuck" and other unusual oddities. Then I began to think, God this paper really has a lot of useful info in it. Pity though the law is bound to bust them, because of the petty obscenity enclosed in your first edition. But after reading Muther Grumble 2, all I can say is congratulations on being a real underground paper. Good luck in the future.

lots of love and peace

Jimmy Redd (BIT)

Dear Muther,
Having just read your second edition, especially the information on how to thwart abortive activities of certain Durham landlords with fellow students, I thought I'd take the opportunity to get an appropriate dig at a certain landlord of notoriety who invited me to his office concerning my attempts to get a flat next year.

Brimming over with anticipation of my own room next year and what colour scheme I liked, I arrived at the office only to be balled out on this man's every malicious and pent-up frustrations caused by me - "the typical student" (?)

Perhaps this kind gentleman has forgotten where he gets his bread from - students paying extortionate rents for really crapped up property.

Although I Appreciate that this man has many worries and probably an ulcer, I dislike this capitalist-student apartheid.

Yours Grumbingly
Jane



Dear Ma
Because of the small number of freaks in the populace as a whole, many heads, especially those in small towns, find that they are isolated from any freak contact, except for "underground" papers, which can never wholly

replace personal interaction.

The Tranquillity Tea Service aims to take the philosophy of love and peace out to people. To do this we are setting up a sort of mobile "Gandalf's Garden" cum info service, loosely commune-ish, in a converted single-decker bus.

We shall be travelling the highways and byways of Britain, stopping to rap and drink tea with anyone who would like information on alternative services, or news of the freak community at large.

We also hope to become a meeting place where people living in the same area will learn of each others' existence.

We shall be carrying small circulation, minority interest, and local magazines, info service broadsheets - but mainly love and peaceful vibes, so that those harassed by a speedy competitive world can take a short rest and re-charge their souls.

If you see us, knock on the bus door if it's shut, tho' it most likely won't be; if we're moving stick your hand out!

We are rather-sided at present - if there are any women who would dig to come with us we'd love to hear from them.

We can be contacted via 7, Summer Terrace, Rusholme, Manchester 14, or if you can phone 061-224-9087, and leave a message; but please don't expect an immediate reply, we will be picking messages up

maybe fortnightly, and you might just miss us, but we'll do our best to reply to everyone as quickly as we can.

Love Joe

Dear Muther,
Yeast is basically Gay people who, regardless of their political inclinations have joined together to form a society for students in Durham. Apart from creating a grapevine through which all friendly Gays can get to know one another as intimately as they like, Yeast hopes to create an alternative to the usual heterosexual rut in which Durham students usually find themselves. In doing this the hope to achieve a more general awareness among Gay people - that they are Gay and should enjoy it.

Newcastle Gay Lib have been very nice to us, as have some women outside the university, who have offered to meet any nice women at any time, under the

auspices of Yeast. Although the society is not politically inclined in any special way, we do welcome members with bees in their bonnets about anything at all and hope to indulge in a little non-futile discussion with our leftist friends in Gay Lib; but Yeast is as Yeast does, so that gives everybody a chance.

The way to contact us is to write c/o Dunelm House, New Elvet, Durham City, and let us know some way we can contact you by university internal mail or enclosing SAE (if you live out) and we will send some nice person to chat you up. Waiting to hear from you soon.....

(Yeast also runs a totally anonymous "advice" service which hopes to comment on or discuss any related problems without a view to converting. Letters should be earmarked 'A' and sent to Dunelm as above.)

love Yeast.

Wisht noo lads, am ganna tell ye about the Miners' Benefit held in the dance hall at Geordieland University on February the twelfth.

Wey man, the lads got an undred and fifty pounds and Boldon Colliery Brass Band got an undred pounds from a pert who wuddint give us his name. The perty waz canny and made fyeuls of wor tyrants. A scottie lad caalled Alex Glasgow sang sum funny songs which wer aall reet.

Graham Bond and Pete Brown cudent cum fer theyer van conked out doon south and the bluddy lites war cut off and candel powar tuk over which war just great as it war aall warm and glowy.

Mondikian Mogphebas

I WONDER WHY JOHNNY CRAWLS UNDER THE TABLE ON ALL FOURS WHENEVER THERE'S A POWER CUT?

I'M PLAYING AT BEING A MINER, MAM!

One of the great mistakes of the alternative press is that it usually ignores certain aspects of the body.

Anyone who reads even a small cross section of them will be aware that dope and sexuality are their main physical concern.

Lots of people haven't got much bread (in both meanings) and I think that it is time for a collection of cheap recipes to take their place. So here's the first - we'll be carrying one in each issue.

Barley Soup

- 2 large onions
- 1 lb. of any vegetables in season (mixed)
- 1 quart stock or water
- 2 oz. fat
- 3 oz. barley

seasoning to taste
Melt fat in saucepan, add finely chopped vegetables and fry for ten minutes. Add the stock or water and the barley and simmer for two hours. Season to taste and serve.
Should serve 3 - 4 people.

Remember that all food is cheaper from a market than it is either from the corner shop or a supermarket.

Tony.

Bari the Clown lives with a pretty, blonde chick, who never speaks unless spoken to, in a Newcastle bedsit. At 35, he has been a mercenary soldier in the Congo, done three years service in the regular army and been president of the Birmingham Hells Angels for 17 years. He now works as a hors d'oeuvres chef in a top Newcastle restaurant.

The first thing that struck me about him was that at 35, when most of his contemporaries were settled down to mortgages and pension schemes, Bari was still doing what turned him on without thought of dropping back in. The amazing thing about the Angels is that they are not a bunch of kids rebelling just for the hell of it, but a proved alternative life style.

It's all too easy to condemn them as thugs or mindless cycle-freaks without realising that in the 50's and 60's when they got off the ground over here, there wasn't much going in the way of alternative scenes. They were the forerunners of our phun/dope/revolution culture of today.

Many pacifistic hippies would be wearing skull and crossbone emblazoned denims and riding cycles today, given Bari's slum background and environment. The Angels of yesterday and the freaks/heads of today are one 'n the same, 'cept in those days dropping out was tougher.

The following interview was recorded for Muther Grumble on Feb 10th.

Paul: What made you become an Angel?

Bari: It took class to wear filthy jeans and long hair in those days. Anyone could put on tight trousers and velvet collars, but it was something else to save up and buy a bike. Another reason was safety. If someone picks a fight with one Angel, they



pick a fight with them all. People say we are cowards for fighting with knives and chains, but it takes a lot more guts to face another bloke who's tooled up the same knowing that you're both gonna get fucked up really bad and end up in hospital.

Paul: How did you lose your finger (left index)?

Bari: In a fight. I've got a steel plate in my skull, a steel pin in my arm, a punctured lung and scars all over the place. If I ever rejoined the angels, they'd have to rivet me back together.

Paul: What made you leave the Angels?

Bari: Mainly a chick called Julie, but I'm on parole for G.B.H. as well.

Paul: Have you ever tried any other drop-out cult?

Bari: Yeah, I tried flower-

power a bit ago. It was OK - they were individuals, they wore what they liked and did what turned them on. We got into a fight eventually, so I gave it up. This may sound funny now, but what happened was that two of us would go round a dance hall offering flowers to people; if they didn't take them, the rest of us would come up behind and fuck them over.

Paul: How do Angels react to freaks and hippies?

Bari: They're OK. They don't bug-us - we don't bug them.

We regard them as a source of bread. Security at festivals, doing their heavy work for them etc. When you come down to it, there are two types of people - Angels and Citizens. If you're not an Angel you're a Citizen.

Paul: What do you think of the police?

people like them? Well, it tuts and shakes its head when it reads about them in the papers, it sends them to prisons and mental homes when it sees them in court. Society turns its head and tries not to see - and perhaps if it ignores the problem it might go away.

In a society where many can afford cars, and Concorde can be built and wasted, why don't we open our eyes and try to help the young addicts? Why are there no rehabilitation centres with extensive after-care treatment? Even if the addicts are lucky enough to be physically cured, they are pushed back into the same society they dropped out of. They get straight back to their addict friends, feeling vulnerable and afraid.

In the whole of England there is only one organisation run by young people, with all the money raised solely by donations. Although this organisation is doing some wonderful work, the problem is too big for a small organisation to cope with.

The young addicts do not want to be lectured at; they know they are killing themselves; they do not want to be pitied; they just need help. Why is it not available?

The names in this article are not the real names of the people described.

Bari: It's like this. Angels put on a uniform, go out and stomp people who piss them off and get persecuted for it. Figs put on a uniform, go out and stomp people who piss them off and get paid for it. If I had 'em for every time I've been kicked round a police call I wouldn't need to work today. They never stomp hounding you and calling round on petty excuses. They're all mutherfuckers.

Paul: What did you do in the Congo?

Bari: We got paid £200 a month and we were allowed to go into shops and take what we wanted to show the natives that we didn't take no guff. It was pretty good. I stuck that for 18 months.

Paul: What other countries have you visited?

Bari: I was in the States for 18 months with the Angels. I met Sonny Barger and Terry the Tramp. Sonny's dead now.

It's fucking great over there. Everything's much more together. The Angels are a really organised bunch of guys. I worked on a snake farm for a long time. Reptiles are one of the things I know a lot about. Name any snake and I'll tell you about it.

Paul: Are the Angels over here as heavy as the Frisco chapters?

Bari: Some of them are really bad fuckers. My wife's boy friend was killed in a shotgun and knife fight in a car park.

Paul: How did that happen?

Bari: He went over there with some mates to fuck over a rival gang but they were waiting tooled up. He got shot.

Paul: Last question Bari.

Would you ever go back to the Angels?

Bari: I'd go back today, but like I said the hospitals would have to rivet me back together. The Angels are the baddest fuckers around but I could never turn my back on them.

Dats all for now.

Paul.

honk honk

The Texas Memorial Museum on the University Of Texas campus has started to collect car bumper stickers.

Museum director Willena Adams told a reporter: "We feel bumper stickers are a vital part of 20th century man's legacy."

"There has been as much creativity shown in making bumper stickers as in some best-selling novels."

Favourites in the California freeways at present include:

Hire The Morally Handicapped, Keep America Clean - Eat a Pig-ear, Dirty Old Men Need Love Too, Honk If You Love Jesus, Apple Pie Makes You Sterile, POW's Never Have A Nice Day, and What Sort Of Day You Have Is No Business Of Mine.

During the 1964 election campaigns, the Aldine printing company in Los Angeles turned out 25 million stickers with hard political messages.

Ron.

South Shields Council, worried by increasing vandalism in the area, are instructing all local schools to give lessons in "Civic Pride" to combat the problem. Right on!

Pete and Roy are two boys in their late teens; Pete is a registered Morphine addict, both of them are under psychiatric treatment. They lean heavily on each other, feeling they have no other friends. A few weeks ago Roy forged a letter from a doctor for Pete, who handed it in at his local chemist from which he obtains his supply of Morphine. Then a few days ago, Pete broke into the same chemist's and stole two phials of Morphine; while the alarm bell was ringing Pete injected the Morphine. Later he was caught and admitted to the crime of which he had no recollection. Pete has been busted but to the Drug Squad's frustration, they have never been able to catch Roy in possession of the drugs which he uses regularly.

Both boys are completely helpless mentally and physically. When they are together the conversation revolves around drugs, who has been busted and who has gone off to the dreamland of India.

The police consider these boys as criminals who must be caught - the T.Rex people think they are really hip and heroes. They are neither. They are two very sad people in a complete mess to which it is difficult to see an end.

And what does society do with these boys and the many young

WHY?

bombed-out

In the continued campaign to bar anyone with long hair from the Old George Inn, Bigg Market, Newcastle, the manager (famed for his rantings on 'bloody drug fiends') threw out bodily one worthy freak whom we shall call X.

Not deterred, X returned the following day with a shoe box containing an alarm clock wired to two bits of wood. "It's a bomb" he declared, and ran. So did the manager. Constables were summoned and general havoc created. The manager issued a summons against X and barred a few more people as a token gesture. Current estimates among informed circles put the number at 70 - 100 people not allowed to sup his lukewarm beer. MAKES YA THINK! Don't take no guff from no barmen kiddies.

Latest News.

As a result of a hearing-up received subsequent to these incidents, while standing outside the pub talking to some friends, X has spent two stretches of two days in hospital. High time the Man discovered it's not wise to mess with crazed dope fiends. Plots are hatching, an das a fact.

Paul.



The miners' strike has been only a partial victory financially. But the victory is the miners' - not the N.U.M.'s, and especially not the T.U.C.'s. The strike was won despite the union movement not because of it. The N.U.M. has been more of a hindrance than a help, with area and national officials telling the pickets to "cool it" and Strike Claimants' Committees to "shut up, sit back and be damned".

And poor Teddy. His 7 to 8 per cent ceiling has plastered him. He must be squirming in his tights, having at last seen the light (excuse the pun). Anytime now he's going to see his precious (undeclared) incomes' policy

fade into oblivion as the railwaymen, agricultural workers and others take encouragement from the success of the miners' efforts and stick the boot into poverty. People power O.K. Wilberforce let the government off the hook - but not until the garrutting was nearly complete and the wound should keep festering and re-opening.

The tactics of the strike were new and effective - in particular the extension of the concept of picketing to the mass picketing of coal supplies and power stations, and the decision not to pay out strike pay, which enabled miners to claim Supplementary Benefits,

A lesson learnt

Since the introduction of the 1971 Social Security Act, it has become impractical for Trade Unions to pay strike pay, as all but £1 of such payments will be claimed back by the S.S. from Supplementary Benefits payable to strikers.

Thus the S.S. has become the only official strike fund that strikers can draw on. Obviously in situations like the miners' strike the holders of the strike fund purse strings - the S.S. - were in a very strong position to smash the strike by restricting the level of benefits paid out in an attempt to starve strikers back to work.

It was certain that miners were going to have a hard time getting their full weekly benefits while the strike lasted.

Despite this the N.U.M. officials agreed to provide stewards in most strike claims centres to protect S.S. officials from angry miners who were systematically robbed of benefit entitlements throughout the strike. No "protection" was offered to the S.S. handling claims in Armstrong Hall (Harton and Westoe Miners' Lodge), South Shields. The hostile treatment meted out to strikers claiming supplementary benefits resulted, on the second day of claims being made, in the setting up of a Strike Claimants' Committee, organised and functioning with the intention of obtaining as much money as possible for every striker. The Claimants' Union was invited to send advisers to this body, which it did, and which gave the miners valuable background experience on the Social Security Acts.

The Committee was representative of all the lodges involved in the dispute; in retrospect this was perhaps not the best structure, for it is essential that such a committee be aggressive, militant and self-confident, and a strictly representative body does not necessarily meet such a need, for the best known members of the various union branches tend to be their officials - often not the most assertive of people outside of the formal structure of the branch. And, in fact, some of the Shields committee members were too liable to pressure from the N.U.M. area office, who on several occasions ordered its members to desist from "causing trouble" with the S.S. and to disband the comm-

ittee.

In spite of this the committee did work; but had, at the start, it been composed entirely of militants relating to the S.S. in a similar way as to the N.C.B. (which, in the Shields area would probably have meant a disproportionate number of Mechanics delegates), then it undoubtedly would have been more effective more rapidly. Although the striker experienced the need for collective action (and a committee to make it possible) very quickly, it took some time for many of them to realise that the S.S. is not a welfare agency and cannot be responded to as such. It seems important from this experience, therefore, that the normal role of the S.S. as a means of oppression by the state, plus its special implied position as potential strike-breaker in disputes where there is no strike pay or no tax rebates, be widely and swiftly discussed in order to determine from the outset the aggressive role of any Strike Claimants' Committee that may come out of the struggle. This is especially necessary in smaller local strikes, where the pressures on the strikers to return to work on a sell-out are so much stronger and more insidious.

The existence of the Strike Claimants' Committee made many important gains from the S.S. for all strikers; hundreds of strikers were being deprived of even their basic rights and would, no doubt, have done so throughout the strike through their own ignorance of the system, and the committee's involvement ensured their financial gain. Elsewhere in the country - even in the county - strikers were being robbed blind without being any the wiser. There is a desperate need for an efficient means of distribution of knowledge and experience, as it was only in the last two weeks that other areas were beginning to realise what the Shieldsmen had seen from the beginning.

The most important issue was that of single strikers:-

The single men were at first refused any benefit at all, under the Ministry of Social Security Act 1966 Section 10 disqualification. As a result of the committee's intervention, the vast majority received regular payments of £4 per week under Section 13 ("urgent needs"), from the end of the second week, which is far earlier than the S.S. have been broken on this issue in any major strike hitherto. The Wilberforce offer prevented the development of the campaign in the throes of being organised to get

single strikers' needs met in full. That is all single people, whatever their real personal needs, were getting only £4 a week; many had rent to pay on top of their own requirements for food and so on. In any future strike, drawing from this experience, getting the £4 regularly (the S.S.'s code limit) should not take so long to get established, and full payment can be fought for at an earlier stage. It is known that elsewhere Section 13 payments were difficult, if not impossible, to obtain, and were certainly not the norm they became in S. Shields.

It is perhaps indicative of the concern of the N.U.M. nationally that the edition of the "Miner" that appeared in the second week of the strike stated that single men could claim in urgent need under Section 13: no explanation of how to fight for such payments, and no further mention for the duration of the strike, and certainly no indication that they should be expected as a matter of course by most single people.

Another important issue settled as a result of strike claimants' committee intervention was that of the "rents ceiling": the S.S. refused to pay rent allowances of more than £4.30p. The committee forced a reversal of that decision resulting in many hundreds of pounds being paid out. Shields is not the only area where rents are often higher than £4.30p: it would be interesting



The black facts

15 years ago there were 7000,000 miners in this country producing 212,000,000 tons of coal a year. Before the strike this year, there were 280,000 miners producing 140,000,000 tons of coal a year. That means the coal miner has pushed his productivity up by about 70% in that time - a figure surpassed by no other industry. At the same time, miners real wages have slipped 25%.

Of the 280,000 miners employed by the N.C.B. today, 86,000 earned less than £20 a week basic before the strike. Many had to work several double shifts a week (i.e. 15 hours) in order to bring home a relatively decent wage packet.

Working conditions in mines would be terrible in any other industry with no toilets, or facilities for food and drinks, and cramped working conditions in Courminers chip coal from thirteen inch shafts. Imagine your belly for 1 hour, day after the roof an inch head and the wall few inches wider body!) Race war probably the most unworkable and dangerous of 1971 - an ordinary industry, with disasters - prov figures state that were killed and injured in the

to know what happened elsewhere. The means by which this problem was solved was by re-directing a busload of pickets with claimants' committee members to the Regional Controller's office where the numerical strength of the miners frightened the regional officials into reversing their decision on the rents question (backdated to the start of the strike!); thus an important example to the miners of the value of collective action. More of this sort of mass action is needed to break down the blind faith in union leaders - national and local, often ignorant, sometimes downright opposed to the interests of their members.

As time went on, the committee's relevance and importance were seen by everyone - including those who had at first succumbed to pressure from the N.U.M. reaction. It was seen in and by practice; therefore it is clearly important that such a body be not a complaints committee, but a co-ordinating group to assist as many people as possible into coming into direct confrontation with the S.S.

The S.S. forced counter-representation as an important issue, even though it has long been tacitly accepted as normal procedure for "ordinary" claimants. Possibly this was balked at by the S.S. only because the staff at the claims centre were largely inexperienced people drafted in from Longbenton. But in any case, despite such ploys



"The Salvage Drawers" by Oliver Kilbourn - Ashington miner. Courtesy of DLI Museum.

ns in the acceptable istry - rest rooms, r hot meals horribly spaces (in ty Durham with picks ch high lying on our after day, with above your ls only a than your k is problematic jobs. In r year for th no major sional at 69 men 639 seriously-e mines.

Officially 673 miners died of pneumoconiosis last year. In fact it is estimated that over 4,000 miners and ex-miners die from this disease each year. The official figures are so low because doctors dislike diagnosing this disease as the cause of death. With the introduction of new high-speed cutting machinery more dust is raised, making the problem even worse, and the death rates higher. When a miner "officially" dies of pneumoconiosis, his widow gets £150 plus £2.67p a week plus free coal for life. The miners' union has never seriously campaigned for higher pensions for its members, as not many live past retirement age.

as the S.S. acting manager twice persuading his staff to withdraw their labour, the claimants' committee won acceptance for all strikers to be represented at the counter. The initial tendency was for only committee members to gain experience of this aspect of the struggle; had the strike lasted longer, more and more people would have been actively representing fellow strikers. But had the composition of the committee been different from the onset (as indicated above) then this point would have been appreciated at an earlier stage of the process. More widespread involvement and sharing of experience could have been completed even within the six weeks.

However, whatever its shortcomings due to lack of experience, the strike claimants' committee's existence, information and pressure, financially benefitted the Shields miners, embarrassed the S.S., and opened the eyes of many strikers and their families to the iniquities of the Social Security system and its tactics.

It seems clear that whenever a strike takes place, be it national or local, official or unofficial, the setting up of a Strike Claimants' Committee (or similar) should be simultaneous with that of the Strike Committee and the organisation of pickets. South Shields area S.C.C. members are preparing a claims manual for strikers, for use in conjunction with the C.U.'s Strikers Handbook, as a practical guide for those who are inexperienced in dealing with the S.S. strike breaking machine.

A small supply of the leaflets issued by the committee in Shields to the miners is still available from South Shields Claimants' Union - 4, Lawe Road, South Shields.

A personal view

The following is a statement from a miner who has been very active in the area during the strike. He wishes to remain anonymous:-

"Dunston and Stella power stations were successfully picketed during the strike. There was no violence and lorry drivers and others were very sympathetic towards the strike. They refused to take their lorries past the pickets. The police, on the whole, were good and at times actually advised deputies not to go past the pickets into the pits, telling them that they did it at their own risk and that their actions could comprise provocation.

"Over the past few years the ratio of deputies to men has decreased appreciably. Westoe had 200 men at the pit during the strike doing safety work - pumping etc. - when 50 would have been enough.

"95% of claims of damage in pits due to safety work not being carried out are false. Hydraulic supports, which are used in the majority of pits, usually last the life-time of the face. The N.C.B. should concentrate as much on safety during normal working times as they did during the strike.

"The north-east will support the Enquiry if directed to by the N.U.M. National Executive. But the National Executive has been extremely fortunate in coming out of this (the strike) in one piece and with the leadership cult thing continuing, had the N.U.M. Executive been offered £3 immediately prior to the strike then they would almost certainly have recommended the miners to accept it. There was sufficient militancy to prompt the National Executive to further action.

"The National Executive's inertia has been apparent throughout the strike and the victory is a one of the rank and file over a limited, anachronistic union bureaucracy. There is a good case for the voting on the National Executive to be made known to the miners, so that they are aware of the particular way the Executive members voted.

"Throughout the Trade Union movement we want accountability of full-time officials by periodic re-election and the democratisation of TU rules and regulations, so that the rule book would cease to be the policeman of the rank and file."



Community spirit during the strike has been tremendous in the north-east. Within the mining families themselves, wives have been 100% behind their husbands - even though they've faced the unsurmountable problem of feeding a family, paying rent etc., on an insanelly small amount of S.S. Benefit; but then, they're used to having to turn shillings into pounds having been faced with the atrocious amounts of money paid to their husbands by the N.C.B. over the past years.

In Bearpark - a large mining community near Durham City - where it was feared that the pit would not reopen after the strike - miners' pickets were swelled by friends and supporters in other jobs who joined them during their lunch hours.

Outside of the mining communities, active support was given to the strikers by lorry drivers who refused to take their loads past the picket lines, and substantial sums were raised throughout the north-east for the miners' benefit fund.

95% of all open-cast mining ceased production in Durham, and Teeside dockers blocked 22,000 tons of coal carried on the ship "World Explorer".

But what are the implications for the future? How much of a success was the strike? It has been generally assumed that the government thought it could sit it out until sympathy swung away from the miners, but miscalculated both the effects of picketing and the amount of feeling in the country for the miners' case.

Heath must know that he can't afford to let a crisis like this happen again - and it could very easily - for example, the railwaymen could prevent deliveries of coal to power stations by picketing, as most coal is delivered by rail. Therefore the government may well try to introduce an alternative "safe" fuel to power stations for the future. They've given the miners £113m. If they'd done this before the strike they'd have saved millions (far more than the total pay offer was worth) in lost machinery, S.S. payments, lost production in industry etc.

It remains to be seen whether Heath and Carr's failure to act during the first weeks of the strike was part of a deliberate policy to run down the mining industry. They could have been using talk of deterioration of pits during the strike as an excuse to close less efficient mines, thereby speeding up the process of phasing out the use of coal as a power source without causing a national outcry about redundancy. On the other hand, they may have been waging a propaganda war through the news media - propaganda that was largely ineffective.

Certainly for the moment all 289 of the country's pits have reopened, and only 22 faces out of a total of over 1,000 have been sealed (and 11 of these were in a very poor condition before the strike). Only the next year will show if all these pits will remain open.

The very success of the miners' picketing has probably ensured that the government will try to prevent such tactics in the future. A government spokesman said just after the strike: "That we shall have to review the law on picketing is in no doubt, and we will."

compiled by Ian and Mike

ARREST = Your Rights

As a person living in a democratic society you have rights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person, that all are equal before the law and entitled, without discrimination to equal protection of the law. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile, and that everyone charged with a penal offence has the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law at a public trial in which he has had all the guarantees necessary for his defence.

Unfortunately, far too often people are denied their fundamental rights. Quite often they could help themselves, if they knew these rights. Below are some of the more important basic rights everyone is entitled to.

ARREST WITHOUT A WARRANT:

A policeman can arrest you without a magistrate's warrant for many offences. Briefly, if he has reasonable cause for suspecting that you have committed, are committing, or are about to commit, an arrestable offence: i.e. all offences of theft, blackmail, obtaining property by deception, most serious offences against the person, unlawful possession of drugs and many others.

If you are told you are being arrested ask what for. He is bound to tell you. Note carefully what he says, his number (if in uniform); do not resist arrest even if it is unjust.

If asked to accompany an officer to the station ask if you are under arrest. If not, you do not have to go, but he can detain you to search for drugs or give a breathalyser test.



ARREST WITH A WARRANT:

If a policeman has a magistrate's warrant to arrest you, it must be shown or read to you as soon as possible. Except in the case of civil debt, e.g. non-payment of rates or maintenance, in which case it must be shown to you actually on arrest. Ask to see it and note whether it states that you are to be released on bail.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE BEFORE ARREST:

Generally speaking the police cannot search you and seize articles before arrest, but under the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1967, the police can search and detain a person or vehicle if they suspect possession of drugs, and may seize anything they find which appears to offer evidence of a drugs offence. In some cities this can also relate to suspected stolen property.

SEARCH OF PREMISES:

The police cannot search your premises without a search warrant issued under the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1965, is valid for 30 days and gives police power to search premises or persons named, and to seize any drugs, papers or substances as evidence.

If you live in premises which are, or were in the past year, occupied by a person convicted in the last five years of handling stolen goods, police can enter and search on written authority from a superintendent.

Whatever the case you are entitled to be shown the warrant before letting them in. If police are posted outside while a warrant is fetched and you later prove to be innocent you can legally sue for defamation of character.



QUESTIONING:

You are not bound to answer any police questions (except on who was driving your car at a given time). However, it is better to say, "I do not wish to say anything until I have seen a solicitor" than to stay silent as this could imply an admission. Give your name and address so that family and friends can be informed of your arrest.

Once arrested police cannot question you unless cautioned, "You are not obliged to say anything unless you wish to do so, but what you say may be put down in writing and used in evidence". The writing down need not be in your presence. You should be cautioned again immediately on being charged and again if any further questions are asked. If under 17 you should as far as possible be questioned in the presence of your parents or guardian.

Do not take notice of police threats, inducements or promises that a confession will make things easy for you.

BAIL:

Bail can be granted by the police or the magistrate. If you are arrested on a warrant and it does not state that you should be given bail, the police cannot grant it. However, when arrested without a warrant (more usual) they may release you on bail and must if it will be 24 hours before they can bring you to a magistrate and if the offence is not serious.

You will be required to make a recognizance (a promise to pay a specified sum of money if you fail to attend court) with or without sureties, in a reasonable amount, to appear in court at the time specified. If the offence

is serious, or if you are under 17 and in need of care, or if release would defeat the ends of justice, the police will not grant bail. On your first appearance in court you can apply for bail.

If over 17 and the offence is minor, (i.e. carry no more than a maximum sentence of 6 months imprisonment) the magistrate must grant bail unless one of the following applies:-

- 1) You have previously been in prison or borstal.
- 2) You have failed to answer bail before.
- 3) The offence is alleged to have been committed while on bail or if an offence is likely to be committed whilst on bail.
- 4) While they establish your identity and address, or if you have no fixed address or live outside the U.K.
- 5) If the alleged offence is one of violence, or having a weapon, or indecent assault.
- 6) For your own safety.

If you are refused bail or the amount is absurdly high you can apply to a high court judge to grant or lower the amount of bail, but there is no Legal Aid to do this.

RECOGNIZANCES AND SURETIES:

Bail does not mean you must produce this money. It means that you, or your sureties, could pay it if you failed to appear. You may have to get sureties. These are people to also sign an obligation to pay if you do not appear.

STATEMENTS:

You may either write a statement or you can dictate it to a policeman who must write down the exact words spoken, may not prompt, and must only ask questions necessary to make the statement coherent. It should be signed as being quite voluntary and true, and countersigned by all officers present.

Never sign a statement until you have read it through carefully. Foreigners can make a statement in their own language.

SEEING A SOLICITOR:

If you do not know a lawyer, do not accept a police recommendation, but get your friends or relatives to get you one. Do not make any statements or sign anything until he arrives. You are entitled to talk to him out of hearing of anybody else. At this stage he is the only person you can talk to freely. Do not talk to anyone else including relatives.

CONTACTING RELATIVES:

Insist on using a telephone, unless a telegram is better, to give an essential message to your lawyer, friends or relatives, or you can ask for writing materials. A letter or telegram can be posted or sent by taxi at your own expense. You can sometimes be seen by relatives or friends but not in private and you cannot exchange any articles.

FINGERPRINTING AND PHOTOGRAPHING:

Without a magistrate's order the police cannot take your fingerprints until you are convicted, and to do so without your consent is assault. The same applies for photographs.

IDENTITY PARADES:

You cannot be forced to go on an identity parade. Never do so without legal advice.

CHARGING:

The police should give you a form containing precise details of the charge and a statement that you are not advised to say anything. Note the name and number of the arresting officer and the time when you are charged.

SEARCHING:

Once charged the police can search you for evidence or things that you could injure yourself or others with while in custody. Other articles you are entitled to retain. A list of the things taken will be shown to you; read it carefully before signing it.

POLICE WARRANT CARD:

Ask to see and examine an officer's warrant card and try to note his name and number.



REMEMBER:

The police must tell you as soon as possible what you are charged with. If arresting you on a warrant they must show you it as soon as possible. They must allow you to communicate with, telephone, or telegram your family, friends or lawyer, immediately after arrest. They must allow you to talk to your lawyer out of their hearing. They must not compel you to accompany them to the station unless arresting you. They must not hold out any inducements or make any promise or threat in order to get a statement from you:- such a statement can be ruled inadmissible by the court. They must not compel you to have fingerprints taken without a magistrate's order. They must not search your premises without a magistrate's warrant or special police authority which you are entitled to see.

LEGAL AID:

You can apply for Legal Aid at the magistrates court or obtain an application form at the clerk's office. You can name a lawyer you desire. Refusal of Legal Aid depends on your financial situation.

FROM:- ARREST: A GUIDE FROM THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES.

Don.

ALL ALONG THE WATCHTOWER

The man who is prosecuting Peter Hain, Mr Francis Bennion, Q.C., is forming a group designed, he says, to help protect society from those elements who wish to disrupt it.

His researchers will gather files on "subversives" and use the law to prosecute whenever possible.

He would not have much difficulty in wiping the nation clean of all dissent as there already exists, waiting in the wings, the complete apparatus of a police state.

Imprecise laws such as the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act, 1875 and the seditious laws are now being used more frequently against the individual.

But any analysis of the freedom of the individual must encompass his whole life experience; visual, emotional and psychological as well as immediately political realities - viz. his relationship with institutions and laws in our society.

For example, the fact that on any given weekday in this country, according to the Central Office of Information, 1/3 of the adult population can be found watching television in the evenings, is a far more serious, if insidious, threat to individual liberty than, say, an instance of corruption in a city police force.

Patrick Goldring's book "Broiler House Society" examines pressures toward social and cultural uniformity implicit in the design and conception of our ferro-concrete city centres and tower block suburbs.

For many non-literate people in Britain, old buildings embody their only sense of history - an immediate visual reference to a different life style.

So, in a sense, every new motorway can be regarded as an attack on the imaginative universe of the individual.

Then there are moves to harness university research programmes to the demands of monopoly capitalism with the Government playing contractor.

But learning, science and philosophy are free or they are nothing.

Moves against liberty will become increasingly easy in an atmosphere of low awareness among the public.

Few people realise that the standard of newspapers in Britain is probably worse than anywhere else in Western Europe with the exceptions of Spain and Portugal.

The tit and bum merchants here sell about 9 million copies a day; a terrible indictment when ranged alongside Italian newspapers of high penetration among all sections of society such as Corriere della Sera or Il Messaggero.

As Jenny Lee told the miners at last year's Durham Gala: "There is a conspiracy to make you like fodder for the Roman games - fed on a diet of bingo and beer".

A huge sub-culture of Morlocks, fit only for the conveyor belts, may suit the economic prerogatives of the technocratic state but it also exacts its price in terms of widespread social violence and 'strong arm' policing. So the hammers are coming out on a political front where individual liberty is now under severe attack.

Incarnement in Ulster has struck at individual liberty in three ways.

First, the once sacred liberal-democratic ideal of no imprisonment without trial has been lost.

Second, the power of the judiciary has been suspended in favour of the Executive

(Government). It is to be hoped that the lawyers will not suffer this for long.

Third, police powers have been extended to the Army which is not as accountable to you and I as are the police.

In 1970, for instance, there were 3,509 complaints lodged against the police by people in Britain. 210 of these complaints were upheld and there were dismissals from the force in consequence.

The expulsion of Rudi Dutschke from Britain in January 1971 was, said Jim Callaghan, "A nasty dent in our tradition of dissent".

The warning bells for threatened political liberty came through loud and clear in the summary of Sir Derek Hilton, chairman of the Immigration Appeals Tribunal.

He said: "We consider that planning and organisation can be as important as physical participation in demonstrations and the like".

Dutschke complained: "As a result of this decision, it should now be clear to every foreigner that even the ability to think critically and discuss politics is risky in the eyes of the present Government."

Four days later, Robert Carr's home at Hadley Green, near Barnet, was bombed.

Increasing pre-occupation of police in crime prevention as opposed to simply detection has also made inroads into individual liberty.

Near to home, Durham police were contravening the Criminal Justice Act of 1925 when a police photographer, standing within court precincts took snaps of the public attending a drugs court hearing in October 1970.

This led to the remarkable

statement from Alderman Andrew Cunningham, chairman of the Durham Police Authority, who said: "It is quite possible that the police might have to resort to what may not be constitutional or legal practice in their attempts to stamp out crime."

"They may sometimes have to break the law. The point is they should not be found out breaking the law."

New police powers also arise from the Misuse of Drugs Act. In London and in some other cities, police can now stop and search you in the street if they have reasonable grounds for believing that you are carrying dangerous drugs.

This might be an invitation to stop and search anyone who has long hair or who does not wear a three-piece suit.

At the moment of going to Press, there are two more weapons which may soon be brought into use against the individual.

One is the possible abolition of the caution, up to now required once the police have decided on an arrest.

The other is the Night Assemblies Bill where 999 people together at night is just company but 1,000 is to be illegal. That is of course unless permission for the crowd's assembly was requested months in advance!

Finally, there is now not-so-nice Oz. Obscenity has now been extended to embrace the articulation of a life-style at odds with convention.

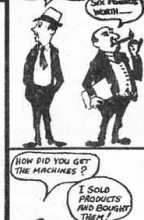
Oddly enough, the Spectator summed it up best of all: "The outrage expressed by those who contributed to the Oz School Kids Issue is but a small cry when compared with the universal moan of oppression that haunts the world".

Captain Moonlight.

AGAPE

A group of young people in Leyburn and the surrounding North Yorkshire Dales countryside, aghast at their recreational and cultural stagnation, and hoping to provide much needed social services, are endeavouring to set up AGAPE.

This will comprise: a place (+ organisation) for discos./groups/poetry readings/films/theatre/musical evenings/music classes/meetings/discussions/improvisations/happenings and wotnot: a coffee bar + soul food/wholefood/vegan or whatever restaurant (mayhap) together with art gallery on walls, etc. + community noticeboard; a research, info., advice and help centre: a shop for records, books, magazines, arts and crafts, aesthetic materials (supporting self and we hope contributing to rest of project): W Morris-type workshop or playpen; Magazine - LINGHAM - local and elsewhere goings-on, poetry, belles-lettres, features, reviews,



letters, graphics etc., giving local talent an outlet 'mongst other things and if this succeeds, we might launch a little press.

We'd like please finance or ideas thereabout - we are hoping of course for premises and this will mean substantial outlay on purchase or lease, we may try for either charitable status or for membership subscriptions.

In any case we'd like publicity, mag. contributions, sales outlets, ideas, interest, support.

Contact Pete Thornber, "Rockington", Cliffe Drive, Leyburn, Yorks. (Tel. 3167 - ask for Peter by name).

Quiz: It wasn't the Parrot See page 19

FLYING TOUR

At 2pm on Sunday 13th Feb. two transit vans rolled up outside Newcastle Students Union. Two roadies approached 'Courier' office (Newcastle University Paper) saying "Hullo, we're Wings and are doing lightning gigs up and down the country at non arranged venues, can you fix us up with somewhere to play?" Inside the vans full of kids, long-haired people and dogs, Paul and Linda McCartney were recognisable. Stan Calbert (warden at Havelock Hall) fixed them up to play there.

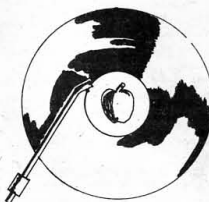
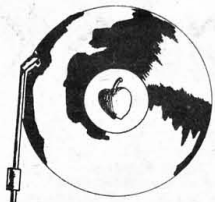
Paul McCartney stated that he wanted the charge to be 50p a ticket; the hall porter set 500 as the maximum gate. Havelock Hall wanted to charge 60p and so make a certain amount to go to the hall funds, but McCartney disagreed and said 50p per ticket or no gig. McCartney and Wings then proceeded to lift all the door money i.e. £250, perhaps for their expenses as when a hotel was recommended (quote: "Money no object") decided to go for the recommended hotel and stay at the Swallow (very classy).

McCartney and Wings played two 1 hour sets in which they featured Paul's new single "Give Ireland back to the Irish" twice. Paul says he is pleased that this has been banned nationally as he thinks this is the best thing that could happen to it and will probably help to increase sales. The music was classed by those who heard it as funky blues and pretty good stuff at that. Unfortunately owing to the surprise visit only a select audience of 500 University Hall of Residence students were able to attend.

The impression McCartney gave was that he had decided to do lightning gigs at no fixed venues as he did not want a large number of people to attend. Possibly all he really wanted was to get the feel of being on tour again but not perhaps to encounter large audiences and maybe run into mass hysteria as in the days of Beatlemania.

To some of the audience he gave the impression of retaining his "Superstar" image - getting what he wanted.

Andy and Bernice



A review of the film adaptation of Henry Miller's novel: *Quiet Days in Clichy*. (Tynaside Film Theatre)

As yet the film has no certificate; people who saw it were asked to fill in a questionnaire which was intended to gauge audience response.

The film won an award at Cannes in 1970; it deserved it; it would be a crime if it were not given a certificate.

To quote the hand-out - "Henry Miller and his friend Carl starve and sex their way through young days in Paris. That's all, but its a great deal". The film consists of a series of events, uncoordinated with regard to plot, and sexual encounters in the lives of Jofy and Carl; many of these encounters are shown as flash-backs.

streets of Paris.

The photographic essays of Paris and Luxembourg are excellent, expressionistic. Use of still photographs. Particularly I like the live action shots of Paris at night when Jofy is roaming the streets and meets Mara. Shoals of car headlights surge across the frame like lost souls of 20th century men. (How's that for a poetic pun?).

Throughout the film there is a beautiful use of captions, often within voice bubbles containing thoughts passing through the head of Jofy, or simply making additional comment on the action of the film. All lettering is in white, usually appearing over the picture, very well laid out and easily read (which makes a nice change).

Yes folks; there are full

GERMS DON'T MOLEST HUNGRY PEOPLE

Editing is rapid; within a single episode the film cuts suddenly from one scene to the next; fantasy, stream of consciousness and flashbacks are all expertly knitted together with the present to form a combined whole.

The music is great; Country Joe on top form, Ben Webster providing backing for the hilarious night club scene. Who provides the acid rock music when Jofy is in bed and being harassed by an indignant whore (is it The Fish?). Anyway, these fantastic sounds provide the backing for Jofy's stream of consciousness - the cafe signs and street signs (Menilmontant) - he sees himself as a cripple in a wheel chair, there are images of a pram, a squat, bearded little man is seen propelling himself on a trolley and then is seen rolling himself along a pier until he falls in the water. Double exposure combines the fantasy with the actual events: the image of Jofy in his wheel chair together with a shot of the whores rushing about the flat. There is also some beautiful accordion playing which provides backing when young Colette disappears from the flat and wanders about the

close-ups of men's and ladies' genitals but I promise I didn't get a single erection, if that's what's meant by not having been corrupted (although one of the boys did have a very nice bum).

Quiet Days in Clichy seems to me to give an honest impression of the level on which the two main characters function. The film is far less damaging than many that never have anything like the same "porn" content. What is noticeable about the film is a lack of aggression and violence. Jofy and Carl are likeable guys, not insensitive sexual tyrants. They are sentimental and weak. True they regard women primarily as sexual objects ("come and see my new cunt!") But they also feel genuine affection for some of the women. They are exploited just as much as they exploit the women who pick them up. Most of the women are whores or lame ducks of one sort or another.

Basically the film is self satirical, pricking a thousand insane 'romantic' bubbles.

If you're looking for rational social comments which will excuse the liberties the director has taken you won't find them. Perhaps the only faction that could have legitimate objections to the film is women's lib. I don't know the answer. Alan.

FILM REVIEW

On Feb. 3rd., Newcastle's Mecca Ballroom 'The Mayfair' gave the Jimi Hendrix 'Live at Berkeley' film a showing. Added to this was the attraction of two American groups live on stage, 'Catmother' and 'Jimmy and Vella'. Unfortunately, both of which although quite good were not well received by the audience, largely of young Hendrix fans.

Finally their moment came and fifty minutes of nostalgia began with the film switching from Jimi in the rear of a car and people boycotting the Woodstock movie outside a local cinema, to the rehearsals with Mitch Mitchell and Billy Cox on Bass.

Then it's the real thing as Jimi plays 'Johnny B. Good'. But the film really takes your attention as he plays his adaptation of 'The Star Spangled

Banner' going into 'Purple Haze' bringing back nice memories and ending by smashing his guitar against the microphone stand. Next, with a new guitar, he plays 'Machine Gun' while the picture alternates from the stage to National Guardsmen running riot at Berkeley State University. Tear gassing, arresting and clubbing' (in one sequence a girl), stone throwing students.

The film has some excellent colour work and sound recording but is rather disjointed, especially near the beginning, and never really flows smoothly. However, a film well worth seeing if you get the chance and would like to see Jimi live. This very nice memorial ends rightfully enough with 'Woodoo Chile' and, as in the rest of the film the good close-ups illustrate the skill and feeling with which this man played.

Don

MUSIC REVIEW

Lindisfarne - Newcastle City Hall - 10th February.

The Callies from N. Shields played first, doing an acoustic set featuring a nice version of Tim Hardin's 'Reason to Believe' brought to fame recently by Rod 'the mod' Stewart. This group featured some nice vocal harmonies and, I understand, have an album out shortly.

'Good Habit' allowed this set with some really nice 'Acid' rock (catch it, Hawkwind, maybe competition) and featured some nice clarinet work. A work called 'Flying' particularly sticks in my mind. A bunch of really talented musicians from Wales and it will be good to see them again in the future.

Ron Geesim appeared next and I think maybe freaked a few of the audience with his particular style of comedy and music. Unfortunately the majority (nas-

ty word) only wanted to see Lindisfarne and poor Ron was slow handclapped by the Lindisfarne fans and eventually left the stage. Personally I think this act by the audience destroyed the evening's atmosphere. But I hope Ron doesn't hold this against Newcastle and that we will have a chance to see him back in the north-east soon.

Lindisfarne came on stage and the City Hall erupted into 'Clear White Light' as T.V. cameras started rolling (and rocking). Lindisfarne went into numbers featured on the 1st and 2nd albums including Alan Hull's 'We can swing Together', 'Lady Eleanor' and the more recent 'Fog on the Tyne' as well as - yes, you've guessed - 'Clear White Light' together with new and as yet unreleased material. The ovation Lindisfarne received was well deserved as they completed a really good set.

Andy

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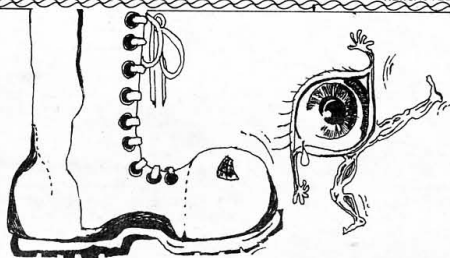
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Muther Grumble	10	10	Reflection		

DWARF

In June 71 a leaflet was sent out by the Dwarfs in London which began with:

"The Dwarf Movement was started at the beginning of this year (71) as the Aquarian Liberation Front, with the broad aim of establishing an alternative society, without government, authority or bureaucracy, in which all men, women, black, white, young, old, gay, heterosexual etc., can live in peace, freedom, love and harmony with themselves, each other and their environment.

After many discussions and changes of name the first Dwarf carnival happened in Portobello Road in March (71). More than 2,000 people sang, played and danced in the streets with Hawkwind and others.

Dwarf mushroomed from this, with a big public meeting at BFI at which many people from all over London and the country got together afterwards to form Dwarf groups in their communities, towns and cities."

That's how it started and since then Dwarf has grown and expanded in the British Isles except in one place and that's the North-East, but now an attempt is being made to start one or more groups in the North-East. While the North-East has a reasonably large population of freaks, heads, and hippies, virtually nothing has been done to bring a community spirit to the region.

Dwarf are in need of people who really believe in the Alternative Society and not just in following the crowd, because if a Dwarf group or groups is to begin and to flourish we'll have to start many Dwarf Ministries, not like the ones in Whitehall which make laws for people to break, but Ministries to help people find crash-pads, to help in squatting, to give information on communes, to help in the growing of macro food and all the other things which make up the REAL Alternative to what is now laughingly called the Modern Society of the Straights or Plastics, and for these Ministries we'll need people who'll work long and hard, for no pay, to collect all the necessary information.

No matter where you live in the North-East or whatever or whoever you are, if you want to move away from this machine in which we are forced to live then don't just sit there either agreeing or disagreeing because what is needed is a dialogue between all the people in the region as a whole and for the flow of information about starting a new group or groups of the Dwarfs, and for action as well as words.

(Gateshead Dwarfs: see Graffiti page)

Gay Liberation Front

Recently five men appeared before Newcastle Crown Court under charges of Buggery, Attempted Buggery, and Indecent Assault; another three cases are still to be heard. All the cases were resulting from information discovered during investigation of the Town Moor Murder.

On different occasions during 1971 each man had had homosexual relations with the same youth, who was at that time 15 years old. There would have been other men but after one year no charges can be brought. Care proceedings are in hand for the youth in question. Prosecution of the men, all responsible members of society with good jobs, was based on their own admissions and all pleaded guilty.

It was established from police evidence in court that there was no question of corruption and that the boy, then a shop assistant, was not only willing, but had sometimes taken the initiative and was well known by homosexuals in the city. Each man when interviewed by the police readily admitted the offences and had been most cooperative. None had known he was under sixteen.

The most important aspect of the case is the view held by the law on the subject of homosexuality.

All were subjected to psychiatric reports and will be receiving treatment in the future. The judge said to one man, "I am not going to make it a condition that you have psychiatric treatment as I know you want to be cured."

A G.L.F. member has said to me, "I have always been Gay and I lead a perfectly normal life. I certainly am not mentally ill and in need of being cured." Right on!

Also in court, such things as this, from a probation

officer, were said. "He leads a confused and sheltered life and would like to assert his masculinity but does not know how to go about it." Who needs to and with whom one wonders.

In sentencing, the judge, looking very masculine in his red robe and long grey wig, said, "Due to the very unusual circumstances of this case, I shall not send any of you to prison but no-one should think that homosexual offences on boys and young men are not a very serious matter."

Two were sentenced to two years probation, one to three years probation, one to six months in prison suspended for two years, and one to twelve months in prison suspended for two years. The judge said, "You all run a very serious risk if you do this again." All but one must pay costs.

Had the boy been over sixteen but under twenty-one, the charges would still apply but to have it off with a girl over sixteen is all right. What the law says, in fact, is that two men, over sixteen, however much they desire to, and however willing, cannot have it off with each other but can have it off with as many women over sixteen as they like.

The men involved in this case suffered mental strain as a result of possible repercussions with their jobs, families and reputations.

The Gay Liberation Front exists to try to solve this problem but they need more people to support them. Above all they need Gay people who feel they can come into the open, without being affected by personal repercussions, and fight against the injustices put upon them.

I hope our Gay brothers n' sisters succeed in being accepted by the law as soon as possible.

Don.

There are over 2,000,000 homosexuals in Britain: that works out as one in twenty of the population. You must know at least one without realising it. This is a pretty big minority, for which there are no organised meeting places except the "gay bars": such places usually only tolerate gay people in exchange for beer at up to 30p a pint (Eldon Grill) or strict adherence to the managements' ideas of dress and conduct (Royal Turks).

Homosexuals are forbidden by law to be introduced to one another, to show affection in public, or to make love unless both are over 21 (never in Scotland, Ireland, the Armed Forces or the Merchant Navy), and are compelled by social pressures to hide their natural selves, especially from their closest friends, relatives and employers. This double life imposes terrific pressures and stresses, leading to consultation with unsympathetic psychiatrists who recommend "aversion therapy", which is now known not to work, and which may lead to severe personality disorder.

Gay Liberation Front now exists all over the world, and tries to alleviate these problems by bringing homosexuals together, free from the atmosphere of rip-off bars and the pressures of society. We demand to be accepted as a contributing part of society, with no reservations.

Right on - Chris'n'Eric - North-East GLF. (see "graffiti").



Two weeks ago a mass walk out was staged by the customers of the Gay Trouper dine bar. This was made in protest over the sacking of the entire bar staff. This was reported in the local press giving one or two minor grievances on the side of the bar staff. (The management refused to make any comment). The ex-staff are in common agreement that it is high time the full facts were brought to the public notice. A Mr. William Mourn was the manager of the dine bar and had been employed as such for a period of ten weeks. Officials of the Swallow Hotel who own the dine bar conducted a routine stock check, and stocks were found to be £700 down for that ten week period. So the management immediately started dismissing the bar staff, giving no reasons (except in two cases).

Stock control is the manager's responsibility not the bar staff's. So the logical action of the management would have been to have dismissed the person in charge. But no, as well as sacking the manager (the reason given was lack of

experience), the management also took the unprecedented action of dismissing the rest of the staff.

As far as the ex-staff are concerned Mr William Mourn obtained his position there mainly because he was smartly dressed; he had no previous experience whatsoever in running a public bar. So why blame the bar staff for the failings of the person in charge? The under-manager at this time was a Mr. Steven

LAST ORDERS

Lyalls and he states that as far as he was concerned the majority of the sackings was due to personal vendettas conducted by the pseudo-manager from the hotel alone.

They had also done the same against two families from the Newcastle area. As far as we are concerned you don't court-martial the crew of a ship if it runs aground: the captain is at fault.

So why don't the management admit their faults and

give the public the full facts instead of sacking innocent workers and making them scapegoats for their own failings. It is bad enough being sacked in this time of redundancy without having a cloud of suspicion heaped on their heads at the same time.

- Mr. William Mourn (manager. Sacked for lack of experience.)
- Mr. Steven Lyalls (under-manager. No reason.)
- Mr. Barry Wooldridge (doorman/barman. Sacked for giving two free pints out on his night off when he wasn't even behind the bar. Witnesses can be provided.)
- Mr. Dennis Christie (barman. No reason.)
- Mr. Chris Webb (barman. No reason.)
- Miss Vivian Cox (barmaid. No reason.)
- Mr. Rod Lee (barman. No reason.)
- Mr. John Pigg (part-time barman. No reason.)

Note: if the management are so observant in noticing fiddling behind the bar how is it that a wall jukebox was stolen whilst the bar was crowded?

The most far-seeing revolutionary alternative to our society which is being proposed at present comes from a body of very famous and respected personalities who could never be accused of being impetuous or paranoid; except by megalomaniacs and industrial barons frightened of any challenge to their rule.

I refer to the proposals outlined in the *Blueprint for Survival* published in the January issue of *The Ecologist*. A statement of support for the *Blueprint* has been signed by many scientists and experts including Sir Frank Fraser Darling, Sir Julian Huxley, Peter Scott; experts from departments of zoology, organic chemistry, archaeology, bacteriology, geography, botany, medicine, economics, etc. etc.

When in 1945 Roosevelt and his advisers had to make a decision of whether or not to use the atom bomb many scientists who had helped to develop the weapon recommended against its use without at least attempting to demonstrate first of all to Japan the destructive potential of the bomb. But the scientists weren't listened to. It seemed that once the project had been started it had gained a momentum of its own. This time it is even more important that we listen to the scientists. We must make our governments listen. The following article is a summary of the *Blueprint for Survival*. Read it very carefully then try to see a copy of the full document.

The *Blueprint* is divided into two sections; the first is entitled *The need for change*; the second *Towards the stable society: strategy for change*. There are also a number of appendices.

the need for change

It is obvious that with regard to population, stability can only be achieved if we reach the state where only one person is born for each person who dies. If the developed countries achieved this state by the year 2000 and the developing countries by 2040 the world's population will stabilize at 15,500 million (4 times the present world population).

The developed countries with only one third of the world's population are responsible for 80% of the world's total consumption of raw materials. Industrial societies are committed to expanding production (and therefore consumption); very high growth rates occur for the use of particular resources, such as oil.

When we use resources we must return waste; these are the demands man makes on the environment. At present these demands double every 13½ years. Consider it this way: would you sooner receive £1000 or the sum of ln p. doubled 20 times? If you chose to have ln p. doubled 20 times you'd receive £5242.88p. This is the way we are increasing our demands on the earth. It's called exponential growth; RAPE IS TOO GOOD A WORD.

The proper way to control crops is to have the level of unwanted species controlled by those that don't harm crops, but instead we use pesticides which are becoming increasingly expensive and ineffective. Also pesticides are causing very dangerous pollution of the environment. High yield crops may solve immediate problems but ruin long-term productivity.

It is a scientific fact that humans depend for their survival on the continued existence of a great variety of plant and animal species which at first thoughts seem to be of "no use" to us. We have already killed off many species and threaten many more.

We can't rely on synthetics and substitutes to replace the raw materials we now use because these also require materials.

The developing nations are acquiring the same aspirations as the developed nations, when they can't achieve a Western standard of living all hell will break loose.

Unless we control the situation we can expect unemployment, epidemics, famine, the breakdown of societies and the overthrow of governments - death for our children.

The British Government is hiding its head in the sand. Lord Rothschild's department has stated that they are undertaking "no specific studies on the environment which require an environmentalist or ecologist". This is very alarming, especially when considered together with the recommend-

ation by the same department that control over all scientific research should be transferred to government departments.

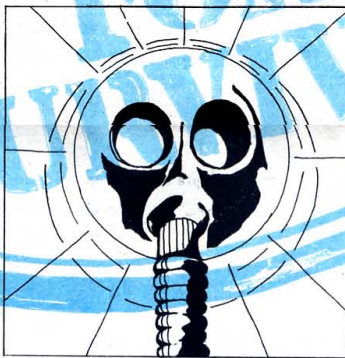
Meanwhile all the pressures on the government are to continue the growth of industrial output.

towards the stable society: strategy for change

Populations must be determined by the carrying capacity of the land, the amount of food the land is able to produce using diversified farming methods. Britain must reduce its population to 30 million. A great many people in the developing worlds are merely existing, unable to live as human beings for sheer lack of food.

Governments must stop immigration. They must publicize the need for population control. Free birth control advice must be available and free access to contraceptives, sterilization and abortion. Research must be carried out into further means of controlling population, including humane forms of socio-economic restraints if necessary.

The consumer society must end. Products must be made to last, a number of fiscal measures are proposed to these ends: A raw materials tax (a tax on water for example). An amortisation tax - short lived products would be taxed heavily. A power tax; this would cut down the production of pollution and favour the employment of men as opposed



to machines. Industrial pollution can also be reduced by stopping the use of synthetic compounds which can only be broken down with difficulty; inevitably this means reducing total consumption.

An integrated control of crops, as opposed to the present chemical control, must be introduced. Integrated control is the combination of biological control, mechanical control, crop-species diversity and the precise use of species specific pesticides.

Inorganic fertilizers must be phased out and be replaced by organic manures. Agriculture must return to the methods of rotation and leys, highly diversified farming practices must be readopted. Cities must be decentralized, people must live in small communities surrounded by the farms which supply them. This way sewerage can be returned to the ground.

In order to preserve the diversity of plant and animal species it has been recommended to the UN Human Environment Conference that measures be taken to protect certain areas of wilderness.

The desirability of any new developments, such as reservoirs, airports, nuclear power stations, must be considered from the point of view of their long term effect on the environment. Economics must be integrated with Ecology.

Decentralization of government is necessary for four reasons:

The stage of transition from present society to a stable society will require the full support and participation of all members of the communities which go to make up the larger community. These communities would have to be small enough for individu-

als to feel their opinions could have direct effect.

Farming and industry must be grouped in much smaller producer-consumer units to avoid waste and over production.

Modern society alienates people from one another and from their environment. Small communities are the only social units which can offer realization of our human needs and aspirations.

Such a decentralized organization of population would make minimum demands on the environment. Urban organization requires a great deal in terms of raw materials and output.

The aim is not to become introverted. As well as establishing communities we require global communication; regional and extra-regional organization will still be needed.

The transition of industry from a growth economy to a stable economy will have to be phased over a long period. We can't immediately do without export markets.

Public transport must be developed and private transport discouraged. Rail is the most effective form of public transport. Decentralisation will decrease the demand for mobility, there will be less need to travel. Men released from road building can be employed clearing derelict land and restoring railways and canals.

Manpower will be much more in demand, and resources must be conserved, the emphasis will be on quality not quantity - "...jobs then given on the basis that work must be provided by the community for the sake of that community's stability and not because one group wishes to profit from another group's labour or capital as the case may be".

The *Blueprint* ends with a detailed and integrated strategy for achieving aims, illustrated by a diagram showing schematic outline of change measured against a time scale. In applying the programme computers have "an important role to play in demonstrating the consequences throughout social and ecological systems of a great number of changes over a given period of time".

Finally, an extract from a newsletter from Friends of the Earth.

how you can help now

Join Friends of the Earth.... help us to construct a network of activist cells throughout the country. Write to your local council, your M.P. and the Department of the Environment asking them to take immediate steps to curb those who are destroying our environment, and to initiate rational environmental education policies..... Promote social groups and engineer gatherings to discuss the possibilities of re-cycling centres and transport pools. *Get out and get involved!* If you think your professional capabilities will be useful, tell us what you can do for us; we shall do the same for you.

If you like use MOTHER GRUMBLE as a contact point for interested people in the North East. Send us letters, pay us a call. But it is essential that we have people to deal with letters and enquiries. We are really snowed under with work.

The addresses of the Soil Association, The Movement for Survival and Friends of the Earth are printed in Graffiti, page 19.

Alan.

MEANWHILE

"The greatest risk to mankind is the growing band of noisy and extreme ecologists and conservationists who want to put a brake on technology and impose hasty bans on scientific products", a leading chemical manufacturer said last night.

Mr. David G. Hessayon, the managing director of Pan Britannica Industries Ltd..... told extreme conservationists:- "Please play quietly so that we can get on with our work." "for God's sake be careful," he continued, "technology is like a wife: if you criticise it long enough and loud enough then it must surely leave you."

(reprinted from the Guardian)

DUST MY BRAIN



Listening to a playback of a tape recorded by a gang of prisoners laying rails in the Angola State Penitentiary, the researcher duly noted that in the third verse of 'John Henry' the singer had, in fact, used one verse of Child Ballad number 137.

The collision between African and European cultures which resulted in Hogman Mxey singing: "I'm gonna shoe your pretty little foot, Momma I'm gonna glove your hand." led among other things to the development of rock music. The relationship is commonly recognised and, along with the "they got rhythm" syndrome, consigned to the cosy stock of folk myths upon which we build our appreciation of Black contributions to art in general and music in particular.

Of course radicalism rears its head (ugly, that is) in the occasional outbreak of "back to

the roots" mania - will Elmore James ever recover from his last baptism of fire at the hands of a thousand would-be Eric Claptons? I'm not pleading for more recognition for Black music within the existing framework. What I am saying is that we should look at the way styles and fashion change within rock music itself and try to recognise why they do. At the moment, music is the common denominator that links together those who don't stand up for the National Anthem whenever they go to the pictures. It is fashionable to see people like John Lennon, Bob Dylan and Mick Jagger as "representatives" and I would go along with that; the title, however, does not embody only those aspects of representativeness which are commonly presented to us by the headlines of the "Daily Express" or the "News of the World". Only Dylan seems to realise it but anyone who depends for his status on the approval

of public consumer tastes is the prisoner of those who link his product with the mysterious, all powerful man in the street.

This is the crucial part: anyone who fails to see a relationship between himself and that man in the street is fooling himself. Anyone who didn't read the article on Pete Bennett in "Rolling Stone" should, if they want to find out what John Lennon, the Image John Lennon, is all about. I do not think anyone can accuse him of insincerity; whether he realises it or not, however, he is the centre of a machine for making money. It has always struck me as ironic that "Power to the People" did not reach the ears of the public through the writings of Eldridge Cleaver, George Jackson or Angela Davis but via the tinkling cash registers of E.M.I. Support Your Local Capitalist.

Here we are back at Black music (almost).

and my central theme. It's probably very risky to try to impose a scheme of development on to popular music, in fact the field is far from satisfactorily defined by its title, but for the purposes of my point, there are certain stages, certain periods, when Black Music and the White Market were very close - I doubt if they have ever come directly into contact with each other, but they have come close.

In the Thirties, Fats Waller, Louis Armstrong and the odd guest soloist (predominantly white) Swing "orchestras" presented to the white world the smiling, rhythmic but basically child like negro in much the same way that the Clancy Brothers presented, in the Fifties, the smiling, drunken, rebellious Irish. This representation of Stereotype has continued whenever the market had to acknowledge Black Music. The image has changed, obviously, with popular

awareness of changing Black identity.

How far, however, do the Temptations really differ from the Mills Brothers? As I said, the market in the Thirties presented the negro as rhythmic, laughing and capable of profound musical beauty at times, but basically child like. Think of how the market presents him now Rhythmic he still is; he does not laugh so much now, we have "given" him equality and he must present himself as a serious human being. Rochester has given way to Isaac Hayes.

However, the function of the market is to present, for the consumer, a palatable experience, a vicarious enjoyment of participation in the adventure of a historical situation from which he may be socially isolated. Perhaps "insulated" is a more appropriate word, for this essentially what happens when real contact with the rest of humanity is homogenised and plastic-

ised by the media which supply us with our imagery and frames of reference. We thus "experience" the Ghetto and Detroit through James Brown or Marvin Gaye.

The threat of a revolution in Black America is utilised in music much the same way as the working class rebel was utilised by the bourgeoisie literary press in the writing of Alan Sillitoe and John Osborne a few years ago. The reason that we do experience it in music now is because this is the aspect of black history at this time which is most readily saleable to the white market. At the moment, the white market is orientated towards black urban political (dance) music. In 1967 it was orientated towards black rural (dance) music of the 30's and early 40's.

(continued over page)

A band of ever-rising popularity, with a reputation among freaks everywhere and two successful albums under high-flying caps, Hawkwind visited Durham for the second time recently. They were a somewhat restructured band to that which came last time having three new members since then. Replacement drummer and bass guitarist and additional poet/flautist.

The Dunelm gig was weird in many ways and Hawkwind were

audience may have felt it. Whatever, things were not flying as they could have been. Their South African poet said,

"I'm normally much more cool than I was tonight but I got very agitated by the fact that the audience was completely a dead thing. I told them to get up and they did but they still stayed in rigid postures. I think it's all to do with being a student, even though we didn't play as well as we could. To be a

tremely exceptional."

I commented that the sound was heavy and that the vocals suggested a bad trip. Maybe there was no reaction because everyone was freaked out.

"Yeah, well it's different each time we play. Tonight could have been a bad trip but it wasn't meant to be. We can be soft and floating, not in the same way as Quintessence. It's good to be able to have more than one

and faults during the gig, but they were all keen to point out that 'there's no limit in rock to what you can do. We are not pretending to play technically brilliant sets featuring fast accurate guitar work; that doesn't matter so much with us. Bands like Van de Graaf are playing highly organised, complex rock. They are tight but in a different way to us. We're more into feelings, you know. With us it's a gestalt, not a particular slice. You're getting the whole cake."

Their manager thought too many people thought of Hawkwind too seriously. They are serious. But he was talking of the fashion he saw as created by the media, the fashion that began possibly with Cream of intense sit-down concert playing.

"We don't want people to sit down and concentrate on us as though they are studying for an exam or vivisection. This examination thing is something most 'progressive' bands get but we want people to get up like they would if Rod Stewart was around. We're just people having a good time, enjoying ourselves and trying

NOT A PARTICULAR SLICE

anxious to comment on it afterwards.

"Tonight we had a lot of equipment hassles that we just couldn't get round. Dave Brock's guitar wasn't coming through at all most of the time as his amplifier kept packing in and Nick Turner dropped his saxophone on stage and couldn't play it after that. We've also had a lot of gear ripped off lately so things weren't like they could be at all. We usually do a lot of improvisation around spontaneous ideas and sometimes around things that were worked out but we just couldn't get off tonight because of the equipment hang-ups."

The previous evening they had played in Bradford where "the vibes" they said "were good" although they had lost some microphones there.

"Our audience were mainly heads, and everything was really good, the whole place was rocking and you could feel it as soon as we played a note."

Nick Turner commented, "I like Durham, I enjoyed it last time here but then my equipment was working and tonight it wasn't."

So Hawkwind didn't play as well as they could and the

student is to be a walking critic.

"Our music has to do with liberation on a lot of levels. Tonight was to do with liberation on a physical level and everyone seemed so immovable, but often it's liberation on a psychic level. Tonight I was trying to get into a chant, like a mantra, to try and break the rigidity but it didn't work and due to the equipment we couldn't send out the sounds that we wanted to and the acoustics too were very strange. The sound seemed to drop down in front. For one reason and another we weren't able to communicate."

"It's not just that they weren't on their feet, there was just no energy contact. People can sit down but they can dance in their heads but you can feel it man. Sometimes the strobes have a hypnotic effect but you can sense an energy source if the audience are there with you. Wherever we play we try and play into the natural energy source. We can feel it if it's there and it comes back to us and sometimes it's really powerful, like it was in Bradford. Tonight it wasn't there but the whole gig really was ex-

side. We often do things we've not done before and maybe never do them again but it has to be done once to find out how it is.

"One thing is to involve people but the question is are we trying to involve them in our trip or are we trying to get in on theirs?"

"Every gig is different due to all the different circumstances. Tonight a lot of people didn't like it. I know. I don't feel very good about

THE WHOLE CAKE

it myself. After a while we were beating our heads against a brick wall. When we're trying for a contact it brings us down if we can't find it. Even so we weren't thinking bumper thoughts. The vocal phrases used tonight were orientated to feeling good. They were a poem about cosmic dancing - hardly a bad trip. But it was disappointing to everyone that we couldn't get it on."

Again they talked of equipment being ripped off

to generate that to others. People who get to dig what we are doing don't have to examine and try to understand us. They know already."

Whatever their equipment hassles, Hawkwind were a force you couldn't help but feel one way or the other. Hopefully they'll play more in the north-east in the future and give more the opportunity of plugging in on their energy bands.

Kevin

cont.

Just previous to that we enjoyed a boom in "soul" music.

If we examine each of these periods separately they seem linked with a corresponding phase of white musical development. It seems to me that what happened was that black music developed in a situation where it was closer to its social and historical location than white popular music. (Even now, the leading avant-garde black musicians are linked to their blues roots. Coltrane started in a band backing Joe Turner; Ornette Coleman started playing in Jump Bands in Texas). Music served in Black Slave Culture many of the purposes which folk music had served for the peasant population in pre-industrial white society. It bound them together in a common tradition to which outsiders were denied access; they shared experiences and wrote stories and encapsulated their values into songs. These kinds of traditions are the essential strengths of great black music, from field hollers through Charlie Parker to Archie Shepp and Cecil Taylor.

The white proletariat, its folk traditions destroyed by the industrial revolution, has been subject to whatever form of music the music "industry" has churned out. His-

torically, the development of communications systems has brought (potentially) the world into the living room. The media as entertainment offer us experiences from which we are otherwise alienated. Black music contains the raw emotionalism which has been intellectually distilled out of the majority of European classical music and, as such, is a rich source for the plagiarist as well as the aficionado.

Almost all of rock music stems directly from black music of one form or another. The Beatles never shook of the influence of Chuck Berry, Smokey Robinson, Little Richard, Larry Williams, Mary Wells etc. etc. Bob Dylan has called Robinson "the greatest living poet". The point is, however, that we only ever experience those aspects of black music which, at any given time, are awakened in the consciousness of the consumer by either the interest generated by "newsworthy" events (e.g. the Soledad Brothers - Angela Davis - Chicago Trial - Vietnam War = popular anti-establishment feeling = "Burn Baby Burn" = Elvis recording "In The Ghetto") and/or the adoption of relevant black forms of white musical trend setters (Beatles, Stones, Dylan, Acker Blik, T. Rex, Cream, etc. etc.).

I am not saying that this

is a bad thing. Far from it; what I am saying, however, is that we should recognise what happens between the creation of the music and the enjoyment via the media and records.

The essential elements, those which express the values of the group, those which aim to expand the emotional potentialities, those which go beyond merely titivating the consumers' palate are filtered off - all is reduced to the level of the lowest common denominator because the average taste buys more than the enlightened.

At the moment, music is the badge which identifies a person as a member of, purportedly, an alternative culture. In black music, and I do not even mean exclusively the music of people like Albert Ayler, Roland Kirk, this is truly the case. Surely any white alternative culture must draw its music from a source freed from the manipulative talons of the big companies. The sooner we recognise the Superstar system for what it is, a high pressure con, the sooner we can force record prices down and demand music by people who care about something other than whether they're going to become millionaires.

Les Goffon
January 1972

AHIMSA

Ahimsa played their best gig so far on Saturday, Feb. 12th., in Dunelm ballroom, heading an evening's entertainment of the calibre not often attained in Dunelm. Their new songs are stronger and the band as a whole is much tighter.

As they devote more and more of their time to the band Ahimsa can only get better.

At present they can be booked for gigs by contacting Mike at the Muther Grumble Office.

RIP-OFF

A firm calling themselves "Price Promotions" of P.O. Box No.9 Hull, advertises nationwide, aiming particularly at students and young people, L.P. records at £1.00 each.

At the moment they are being investigated by Hull and Newcastle police in connection with fraud charges.

At least two Newcastle students have lost their money, and any others who have sent away money and not yet received the promised L.P. should contact Det. P. Moore at Newcastle 23451 Ext. 341 or 342.

Andy and Bernie.



ANSWER TO QUIZ ON P.2:
DONE WHAT?

CLAIMANTS UNIONS.
Ncle. Larry Carter, Flat A, Thornton House, Beechgrove Rd., Elswick. Tel Elswick Action Group Centre.

South Shields. (also Jarrow) 4, Lawe Rd., S. Shields. Tel. 62213. 'Joe'.

Durham. Muther Grumble office, 13, Silver Street, Durham City.

Send your small ads in to us - usually they're free (if you are a good cause - and who isn't?)

FOTOMYX :

Programme inquiries to Bill and Keith, 15, Lawe Rd., South Shields.

Hartlepool Folk Club. Nursery Inn, Hart Lane. Every Sunday 7 pm.

Richard Flogs his Best British Rubbish and Some Canny Curios at his stall in Newcastle Bigg Market, opposite Freemans and at the Quayside on Sundays. Also he buys Curios.

Double bedsit wanted. Apply in writing to 49, York Crescent, Newton Hall, Durham. J. Briggs.

Sunderland I.S. Every Thursday. Londonderry Hotel, High St., Sunderland. 8 o'clock.

NORTH EAST GAY LIBERATION FRONT.

Newcastle - meets every Wednesday, Royal Court Grill, Bigg Market. Durham - contact Chris through Muther Grumble for details, meetings etc. With love.

All Things Nice. A mag. of new words. Available at the end of March. Price 5p. From all good street-sellers.

Anyone interested in forming (or who belongs to an existing) women's lib/feminist group please get in contact with Alison at 107, St. Paul's Road, Jarrow.

Divine Light Mission. 10, Akenside Terrace, Jesmond, Newcastle.

Thomas McKenna Bookshop. 11, Arcadia, Percy Street, Newcastle. SECONDHAND BOOKS.

SOC'EM (Save Our City From Environmental Mess) 79, Rosebery Crescent, Jesmond, Newcastle 2.

OXFAM SHOPS:- North Shields. 98, Howard Street. Whitley Bay. 104, Park View. Berwick. 47/49 Walkergate. Hexham. 7, East Gate. Newcastle. 205, Shields Road and West Jesmond Station, Jesmond. Bishop Auckland. 157, Newgate Street. Darlington. 9, Court Arcade, Skimmergate. Tel. Darl. 2233.

Durham. 86, North Road. Gateshead. 10, Jackson Street. Hartlepool. 6, Murray Street. Spennymoor. 11, Cheap-side. Sunderland. 16, Helmside.

Congratulations to Mike Brewer on his success in the JCR presidential elections at Bede College.

Hartlepool IS:- public meetings held alternate Tuesdays starting Feb. 29th at North Eastern Hotel, Lynn Street, (off Church Street, H/pool) Durham I.S. In the Buffalo Head pub, Mondays at 7.30p.m.

National Council for Civil Liberties: helps people defend their rights, and investigates violations of those rights. 152, Camden High Street, London, N.W.1. (01-485-94 97).

Brief Encounter for traditional/contemporary folk. Write to 5, Albert St., Western Hill, Durham, or Tel. Durham 3504 between 6 and 9 p.m.

A guy what makes trousers (E2) and other clothes - contact Simon, 1, Salisbury Gardens, Jesmond, Ncle. 6.30p.m. -7.30 p.m. or Sat. and Sun. afternoons.

RELEASE:- General help, advice, info service. Helps with social, medical, legal, problems. 70, Princesdale Road, W.11. (tel. 01-727-8636)

RELEASE Ncle reps: Seb Sheldon and Rod Ireland, rooms 37 and 53 Embleton House, Leazes Terrace.

Street Theatre. Anyone interested? Please contact Andy or Don at 10, Ashleigh Grove, Benton, Ncle. Phone 668498.

Back numbers of Muther Grumble from 2nd floor, 13, Silver Street, Durham City.

WANT TO TALK TO SOMEONE? We will try and help you in any way we can. Anytime Day or Night call or phone Andy or Don. 10 Ashleigh Grove, Benton, N/cle. Phone 668498.

DWARFS:- Harry and Phil, 49, Poppewell Gdns., Low Fell, Gateshead.

Geoff wants an A level (distinction) Swahili preferred. Apply MGHQ.

MUTHER GRUMBLE badly needs use of a transit van for two days a month to go to printers

Wanted by three Grumblers:- a house to live in without running water on the walls. Must be in Durham City. Apply Muther Grumble office.

Agitprop Bookshop has an amazing array of books, pamphlets, posters, papers and badges on racism, women's and gay liberation, imperialism, industry, education, and children's books all available by post. Send s.a.e. for full details to 248, Bethnal Green Rd., London, E.2.

BECOME A MUTHER GRUMBLE REP. AND WIN A FREE ICED BUN.HA. HA.

CYRENIANS:- need full time and part time volunteers to work with social misfits in small teams all over Britain. Get keep and pocket money. Must be over 18. Donations really needed to keep soup kitchens and shelters running. Newcastle c/o Chaplaincy, Newcastle University. Durham c/o David Constantine, 6, Kieper Trce, Durham City.

THERE IS NOT AN All Night Chocolate Machine in Durham Market Place (We SHOULD know).

24 hour free information and help service for young people and those trying to create alternatives to society. We're interested in what you're doing and what happens in your area - so please tell us. 141, Westbourne Park Road, London, W.11. (01-229-8219)

ULTIMA THULE BOOKSHOP

crowley - cohen - burroughs - dylan - genet - leary - vova - zen - poetry - magick - fiction - joss sticks - tarot cards - small press publications - all the 'underground' papers - drama - eastern religions - records.

22, Arcadia, Percy Street, Newcastle. tel. 23679.

Muther Grumble info service: any help needed? Come and drink our coffee.

The Forestry Commission has branches all over the country.

HELP TEESIDE HELP:- I challenge YOU to help start a vigorous action group to help youngsters who have a problem to solve that problem successfully. It may be sex, loneliness, drugs or despair. See Page 5. If you can help in any way write now to Stuart H. Smith - 14, Middleham Road, Stockton.

Directory of Alternative Work-ideas, possibilities outside conventional jobs system - up to date edition available end of March. 20p including postage to:- Uncareers. 36, Rookery Rd., Birmingham 29.

Disque: all folk, blues, heavy contemporary music. Branches at Newcastle, Chester-le-Street, Wallsend, Jarrow and Whitley Bay.

Shakespeare etc: Jesmond, Ncle. Posters, second hand books and records for sale.

Come see our stall - hand-made leather goods etc. John and Maz, Bigg Market, and Quayside, N/cle.

Spectro Arts Workshop: 10, Station Rd., Whitley Bay.

ELEPHANT ROCK: Hartlepool Poetry Jazz Club. Alex Hand Sextet Nursery Inn, Hart Lane. Every Thursday 7.30 pm. FREE

FOOD: 'will exchange good vegetarian food for your old money' Mo's Diner, 46, Brentwood Avenue, Jesmond, Newcastle 2. Help keep this place open - it's the only one of its kind in the North. Non-segregational digs freaks and straights. Love Mo.

The Secretary, The Soil Association, Walnut Tree Manor, Stowmarket, Suffolk. IP 14 3RS

Acting Secretary, The Movement for Survival, c/o The Ecologist, Kew Green, Richmond, Surrey.

Friends of the Earth, Colin Clews, 45, The Oval, Ouston, Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham. (see page 15)

Muther Grumble requires parrot, must be educated.

A NEW SEMI-ACOUSTIC BAND

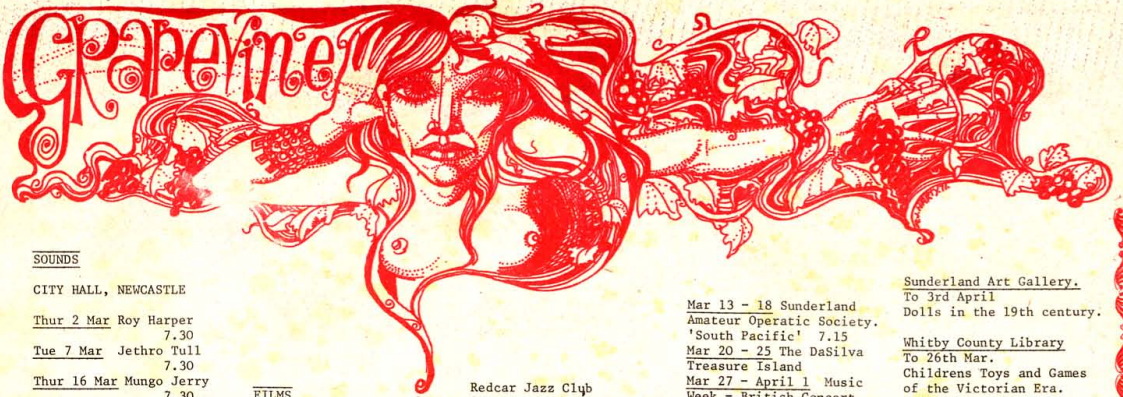


enquiries to Mike Mogie, Muther Grumble office, 13, Silver Street, Durham.

Wart - please come back to Durham.

Street sellers wanted all over the cosmos - especially around the North-East. You get 2 a copy plus a free read. Apply MG office 13, Silver Street, Durham City or Don & Andy, 10, Ashleigh Grove, Benton, Ncle 12. tel. 668498.





SOUNDS

CITY HALL, NEWCASTLE

Thur 2 Mar Roy Harper 7.30
 Tue 7 Mar Jethro Tull 7.30
 Thur 16 Mar Mungo Jerry 7.30
 Wed 22 Mar Leonard Cohen 7.30
 Sat 25 Mar Heads Hands and Feet 7.30
 Sun 26 Mar Rory Gallagher 7.30
 Wed 29 Mar Yes
 Thur 30 Mar Chuck Berry

MAYFAIR, NEWCASTLE

Fri 3 Mar Quintessence, Medicine Head and Fogg
 Thur 9 Mar Procul Harem, Fat Grapple
 Thur 23 Mar Groundhogs (N/cle Tech gig)
 Fri 24 Mar David Bowie, Armada

YMCA WHITLEY BAY

Mar 15 Kestrel and Quickbeam 7.30. Audio-visual participation. First of a series of progressive pop events - mostly local groups - experimental light shows - synthesised sounds - projections - movies.
 Every Wednesday.
 Mar 22 Mandrake
 Mar 29 Illicit Still

LONDONDERRY HOTEL S/LAND

Every Sat. Good
 Vibrations Disco 8pm

TOP RANK SUNDERLAND

Mar 5 Faces
 Mar 12 Not yet booked
 Mar 19 "
 Mar 26 "

STEREO SOUND DISCO
 GRETNE GREEN WEDDING INN
 NEWTON AYCLIFFE
 Mondays and Saturdays.

MUTHER GRUMBLE BENEFIT CONCERT

Sorry Kiddies! The concert, due to take place on Mar. 3 at the Exhibition Hall N/cle has had to be postponed... due to people beyond our control. We're trying to find out reasons. But meanwhile we're trying to get another venue together. Watch this space!

WANTED: events for this page. We want to make Grapevine as complete a picture as possible of what's on in the area. Send events to: Muther Grumble, 73 Silver St., Durham.

FILMS

TYNESIDE FILM THEATRE

Cinema 1 (open to all)
 Mon Feb 28 - Mar 4
 Sunday Bloody Sunday
 Mar 6 - Mar 11 The Land-Lord and Alice's Restaurant
 Mar 13 - Mar 18 Death In Venice
 Mar 20 - Mar 25 Five Easy Pieces
 Cinema 2 (Members only)
 Wed Mar 3 - Mar 4
 Quiet Days In Clichy
 Mar 5 Les Amants (Movie Milestone)
 Mar 6 - Mar 11 Lion's Love and Frailty Thy Name Is Woman
 Mar 12 Streetcar Named Desire (Movie Milestone)
 Mar 13 - Mar 18 Portraits Of Women and A Woman's Place
 Mar 19 Electra (Movie Milestone)
 Mar 20 - Mar 22 Night Games and Le Bonheur
 Mar 23 - Mar 25 Rachel, Rachel and The Fox
 Mar 26 Ace In The Hole (Movie Milestone)

DURHAM UNIVERSITY FILM SOCIETY

Appleby Theatre 8.15pm
 Mar 1 Dutchman
 Mar 8 Tell Them Willie Boy Is Here

FOTOMYX SOUTH SHIELDS (At the Pier Pavilion)

Mar 14 Gospel According to St. Matthew - Pasolini with live music and poetry.
 Mar 28 Sympathy For The Devil - Goddard with Jagger sound track. Also live music.

FOLK

Londonderry Hotel, S/land
 Every Sunday 8.00pm

Wetheralls Sunderland
 Every Friday night

Little Theatre, Middlesboro
 Folk Club meets here 19 Mar

Sunderland Empire Theatre
 Sun 5 Mar The Settlers and The McCalmans 8.00 pm

Hartlepool Folk Club
 Sun Mar 12 Hunter Musket (From London)

Sun Mar 19 Boxology
 Sun Mar 24 Gardiner

Redcar Jazz Clyb
 Coatham Hotel Sunday nights

The Cutty Wren
 Royal Hotel, Redcar
 Thur nights.

Gretna Green Folk Club
 Newton Aycliffe. Every
 Wednesday 8.00pm
 Mar 1 Jim Sharpe
 Mar 8 Residents night
 Future guests include
 John Leonard, Martin
 Carthy.

St. Mary's College
 Durham City. Sat.
 nights

Fettlers Club
 Stockton. Monday
 nights.

City Folk Club, Durham
 City Rugby Club, Durham.
 Thursday nights.

Bridge Club (High Level
 Ranters) Bridge Hotel,
 Newcastle.
 Thursday nights.

Durham University Club,
 Chaplaincy, Durham City.
 Thursday nights.

Guisborough Folk Club
 Wheatshaf, Hutton Rudby.
 Friday nights.

Elephant Rock
 Hartlepool, Nursery Inn.
 Thursday nights.

Marquis of Granby,
 Framwellgate Moor.
 Tuesdays.

Mar 7 Johnny Handle
 Mar 14 Brief Encounter
 Mar 28 Fettlers.

THEATRE

ASSEMBLY ROOMS, NORTH
 BAILEY, DURHAM.

Feb 29 - Mar 4 8.00pm
 Gogol - The Government
 Inspector. Open to the
 public. A DUT production.
 Power guaranteed: we
 have a generator.

CAEDNON HALL, BEDE COLLEGE,
 DURHAM

Bede/Hilds Gilbert and
 Sullivan Soc. presents
 Ruddigoe. Sat 18 Mar
 2.15 & 8.00, 20th & 21st
 at 8.00. Tickets -
 City Info Office, Musicore,
 House of Andrews.

SUNDERLAND EMPIRE THEATRE

Mar 6 - 11 Northern Dance
 Theatre 7.30

Mar 13 - 18 Sunderland
 Amateur Operatic Society.
 'South Pacific' 7.15
 Mar 20 - 25 The DaSilva
 Treasure Island
 Mar 27 - April 1 Music
 Week - British Concert
 Orchestra, Royal Phil-
 harmonic and Northern
 Sinfonia.

UNIVERSITY THEATRE, N/CLE

Feb 29 - Mar 4
 The Crucible by
 Arthur Miller.
 7.30 pm every night.
 Mar 7 - Mar 11
 University Gilbert
 and Sullivan Soc.
 present Ruddigoe.
 7.30 pm

Mar 16 - April 1
 Waiting For Godot
 by Beckett. Prod. by
 Gareth Morgan.
 7.30 pm (Sat. 8.00)

April 5 - April 29
 The Cherry Orchard
 by Chekhov.

7.30 pm (Sat. 8.00).
 3.00 pm matinee on
 the last Sat.)
 Feb 29 - Mar 11
 (Gulbenkian Studio)
 Faust. Goethe, Marlowe,
 de Ghelderode, Gounod,
 C.P. Taylor - an exper-
 imental exploration
 of the legend and the
 actuality.
 7.30 pm (Sat. 8.00)

EXHIBITIONS

University Theatre N/cle
 An exhibition of felt tip
 drawings. A bright
 colourful exhibition of
 drawings by N/cle artists.
 Feb 26 - Mar 18

Spectro Arts Workshop
 Whitley Bay

Feb 28 - Mar 18.
 Grahame Stevens -
 Pneumatics. Exhibition
 is two structures - one
 air, one water, + docu-
 mentary material and a
 movie "Atmosfields"
 Movie will be shown on
 Sats 4, 11, 18 Mar at
 2.00 and 4.00 pm.
 Mar 23 - April 14.
 Sue Aylwin - Masques
 and Metaphors...
 painting, sculpture
 and masks...wear one
 if you dare...exhibited
 in room environment
 created to invoke that
 in which they were
 conceived...

Mar 27 - April 15
 Photography Exhibition
 in Whitley Bay Library.
 Gray Art Gallery,
 Hartlepool.

To 5 Mar. Robert Watson.
 To 19 Mar. Hartlepool As
 It Was. Local photographs.

Sunderland Art Gallery.
 To 3rd April
 Dolls in the 19th century.

Whitby County Library
 To 26th Mar.
 Childrens Toys and Games
 of the Victorian Era.

Middlesboro' Art Gallery
 To 15th April
 A Selection from the
 Permanent Collection.

Felling Branch Library
 Feb 29 - Mar 13
 Historic Architecture of
 County Durham.

MEETINGS

Hartlepool I.S.
 29th Feb 'Russia and
 China: Are They Socialist'
 Discussion.
 14 Mar 'Socialism in Ulster'
 Speaker from N/cle A.I.L.

2 Mar Peter Hain 'The
 Radical Future' Connaught
 Hall, YMCA, Blakett St.,
 Newcastle. 8.00

14 Mar Bishop Kenneth
 Skelton former Bishop of
 Matabeleland 'The Rhodesia
 Sell-Out' Committee
 Room C, Students Union,
 N/cle University 8.00

28 Mar Donald McAvoy (NUT
 national executive) on
 Tory Education Policy.
 Young Liberal HQ. 258,
 Westgate Rd., N/cle. 8.00

John Ord (Scotland Rd Free
 School) will be speaking
 in Newcastle about the
 middle of March. Watch
 out for further details.

POETRY. Spectro Arts
 Workshop.
 Mar 16. S00P poetry
 band at Bay Hotel,
 Cullercoats 7.30

April 1st. Spectro
 Arts Workshop open
 day.

