April 1981

Established 1974

IN TOUCH

NEWSLETTER OF THE IRISH GAY RIGHTS MOVEMENT



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THE OFFICIAL VIEWS OF THE IRISH GAY RIGHTS MOVEMENT ARE EXPRESSED ON THE GENERAL SECRETARY'S PAGE. OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN BY-LINE COLUMNS, LETTERS, ARTICLES AND GRAPHICS ARE THOSE OF THE CONTRIBUTOR AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS OF THE MOVEMENT. CONTRIBUTIONS, BOTH LITERARY AND PICTORIAL ARE WELCOMED.

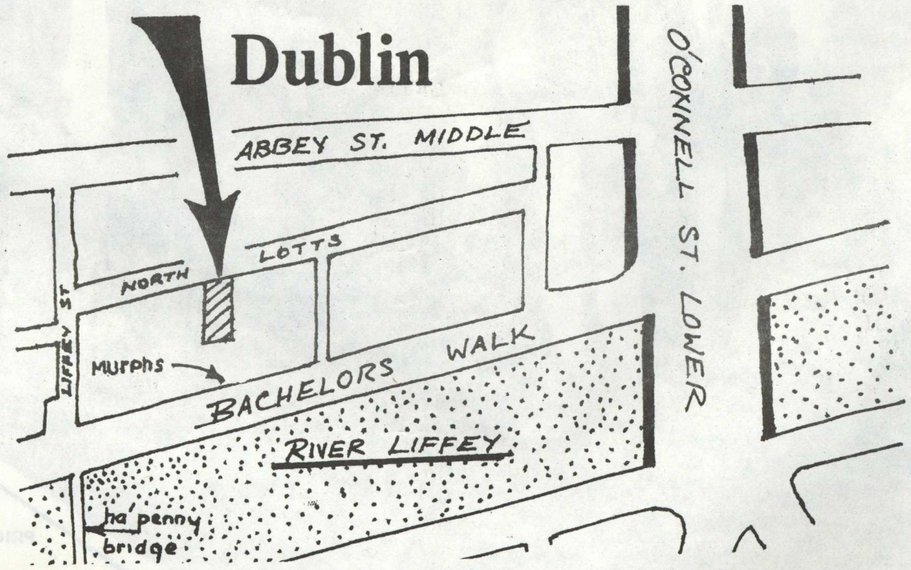
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FRONT COVER: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND ASSOCIATES BEFORE SETTING OFF TO CORK FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

CONTRIBUTORS: STEVE QUILLINAN- BRANCH NOTES, CORK REPORT.
A.J. O'NEILL-CRUISING. PAGE 15 PHOTO- TONY GALVIN CORK COMM.
FRONT COVER AND PHOTOGRAPHY - TREVOR J. NOBLE.

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POST OFFICE BOX 739, DUBLIN 8 IRELAND. APRIL 1981.

PHOENIX CLUB





General Secretary's Desk

THE PAST THREE MONTHS HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY BUSY FOR BOTH THE INCOMING AND OUTGOING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES OF THE MOVEMENT. IN ADDITION TO TIME-CONSUMING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IN CORK, THE MOVEMENT ALSO SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME IN THE INAUGURATION OF THE HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY COMMISSION.

IT WAS SOMEWHAT DISAPPOINTING THAT, DESPITE THE LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO ATTENDED THE A.G.M., NOT MUCH ATTENTION WAS DEVOTED BY MEMBERS TO THE FUTURE POLITICAL DIRECTION OF THE MOVEMENT. CONSIDERABLE ENERGY WAS DEVOTED TO DISCUSSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS AND TO OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS, AND NOT ENOUGH TIME SPENT ON DECIDING THE COURSE OF THE MOVEMENT FOR THE COMING YEAR.

HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE MISLEADING TO PAINT A NEGATIVE PICTURE REGARDING THE A.G.M., WHICH LAID DOWN A NEW STRUCTURE FOR GREATER INVOLVEMENT OF RURAL MEMEBRS IN THE RUNNING OF THE MOVEMENT, AND WHICH GAVE THE INCOMING COMMITTEE A BROAD MANDATE IN POLICY AREAS. THE ADOPTION OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS IS INDICATIVE OF THE AGREEMENT OF THE MEETING WITH EXISTING POLICY AND STRATEGY.

THROUGH THE COMMISSION FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY, IT IS HOPED TO PUT PRESSURE ON VARIOUS IDENTIFIED GROUPS IN SOCIETY TO RECONSIDER THEIR ATTITUDES TO HOMOSEXUALITY. FURTHER DETAILS ON THE OPERATION OF THE COMMISSION ARE CONTAINED LATER IN THIS NEWSLETTER.
THE COMMITTEE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE NEWLY-ESTABLISHED COMMISSION WILL BE VERY SUCCESSFUL IN CARRYING OUT IT'S MANDATE FOR REFORM.

WITH THE NEW STRENGTH GIVEN TO THE MOVEMENT BY THE RECENT COMMITTEE ELECTIONS, MEMBERS CAN BE SURE THAT THE I.G.R.M. WILL BE INCREASING IT'S RANGE OF SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES, BOTH SOCIAL AND POLITICAL, IN THE COMING YEAR. I WOULD ASK THAT ANY MEMBER WHO HAS IDEAS WHICH WOULD BE OF USE TO THE MOVEMENT, TO COME FOREWARD TO EITHER THE DUBLIN OR CORK COMMITTEES. IDEAS, WITHOUT THE NECESSARY SUPPORT TO CARRY THEM INTO ACTION, ARE, OF COURSE, OF LITTLE USE TO ANYONE!

FINALLY, AS THE MOVEMENT ENTERS INTO THE SEVENTH YEAR OF IT'S OPERATION, I WOULD APPEAL FOR A SPIRIT OF RECONCILIATION AND UNITY WITHIN THE GAY COMMUNITY. THERE IS NOTHING SO POINTLESS AS DIVISION AND DISHARMONY AMONG THOSE SERVING THE GAY COMMUNITY, AND THIS MOVEMENT IS DETERMINED NOT TO FOSTER ANY FURTHER DIVISIONS. WE CALL ON THOSE CONCERNED TO PUT THE NEEDS OF THE GAY COMMUNITY BEFORE SELFISH COMMERCIAL AND MERCENARY CONSIDERATIONS, AND TO UNITE WITH THE IRISH GAY RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN A JOINT EFFORT TO ACHIEVE BASIC CIVIL RIGHTS FOR GAYS IN IRELAND.

7th. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
CORK — 28 FEBRUARY 1981



REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE IRISH GAY RIGHTS MOVEMENT - 1980

1. 1980 has, in my opinion, been a reasonably successful year in the operation of the I.G.R.M. As the last A.G.M. convened in our Camden Street offices in February, 1980 who could have foretold that the Movement would be in it's present consolidated position a mere twelve months later?

2. One of the first steps following the opening of new offices at 18 North Lotts was the reorganisation of the telephone service. The name of the service was dropped and Gay Switchboard substituted, partly because of it's better publicity value but also to bring our service into line with those in Europe and America. The Post Office have promised to install a phone in the Cork Branch during March, 1981.

3. An extensive advertising campaign has been undertaken by the Movement to draw attention to it's services, and advertising was accepted for the first time by the National Sunday newspapers viz. the Sunday World and the Sunday Tribune, thus opening up large publicity opportunities for the I.G.R.M. Advertising has been placed in trade union journals- (I.T.G.W.U., C.S.E.U., P.O.W.U.) and in student journals- (USI News, UCC Review, UCD Bulletin), as well as in several other papers. A months advertising with Capital Radio yielded a good response. Advertising has also been placed with Spartacus Gay Guide.

4. A telegram to An Taoiseach concerning the rate of suicides among gay people received excellent media exposure, and was given full coverage on RTE radio and television news broadcasts. Several interviews resulted in the national press for officers of the Movement. The alarm expressed over the rate of suicides has subsequently been confirmed by statistics on the general rate of suicides released by the Department of Health. Unfortunately, our representations had little effect on the Government, though Dr. Noel Browne T.D. raised the matter in the Dail on 11th. December, 1980.

5. The Movement was represented at several conferences during the year, including the "Friend" gay counselling conference in Belfast (May, 1980), Gay Christian Weekend in Glencree (November,1980), and the A.G.M. of the Scottish Homosexual Rights Group (January, 1981).

6. I.G.R.M. applied for membership of the International Gay Association in October, 1980. We will be represented at the next I.G.A. meeting in Turin in April, 1981.

7. The L.G.S. Begfiending group applied for use of I.G.R.M. premises in July, 1980. The group have been meeting twice weekly since then, and have made a valuable contribution to the befriending of new contacts, including those referred by the Gay Switchboard.

8. The Cork Branch reopened it's premises at 4a McCurtain Street, Cork in May, 1980. Financial support was made available from central funds, and the premises has been completely refurbished through voluntary work by Cork and Dublin volunteers.

9. As a result of an increase in the number of members living outside wither the Dublin/Cork catchment area, several meetings were arranged in various towns and cities including Drogheda (25 October), Dundalk (26 October) and Galway (November).

10. A new Regional Convenor has been appointed to deal with correspondence in the Limerick and Clare area. Existing convenors continue to operate as usual, and their dedicated service to the I.G.R.M. is much appreciated.

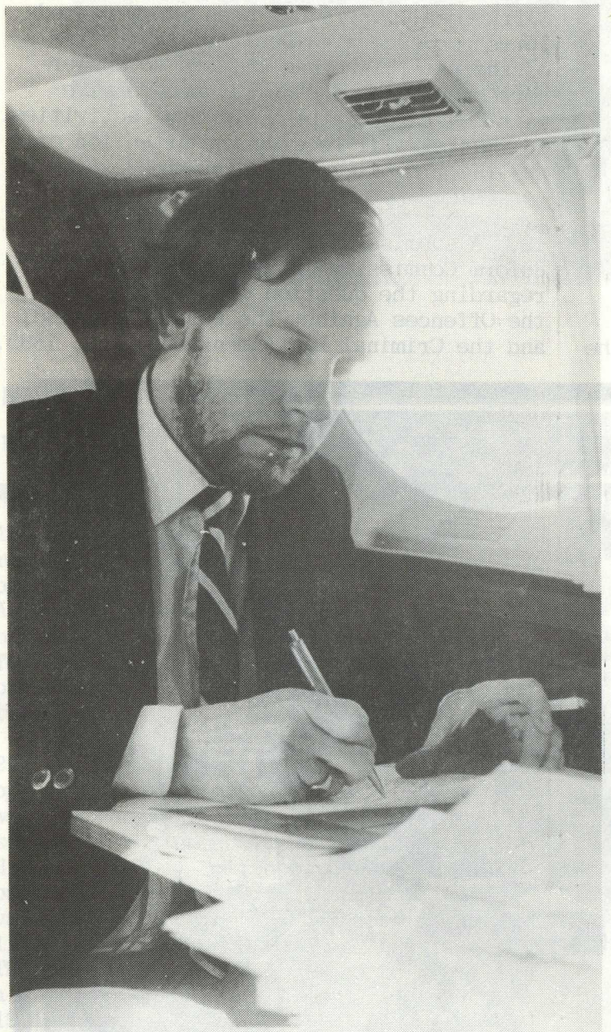
11. The English newspaper "Gay News" continues to refuse to list the I.G.R.M. among other national gay organisations, and under gay switchboards, despite the assurances of it's late News Editor, Harry Coen. There has been a protracted correspondence with Denis Lemon, Editor of the paper, who has refused to answer correspondence and has refused to give fair coverage to the Movements' activities. The matter will receive the attention of the incoming Executive Committee.

12. A submission was made to the Law Reform Commission in September, 1980 regarding the question of a review of the Offences Against the Person Act, 1861 and the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 1885.



The review of statute law as it concerns assaults to the person will be considered soon by the Commission and representations by the I.G.R.M. will be made at that stage.

13. The Movements' newsletter In Touch, first published in 1977, is now published in an improved colour format. There is now a greater emphasis on regional news and political items, while a contact page and book review column have also been introduced. Circulation of the newsletter is now at it's highest ever, and the total print order for the February 1981 edition was 3,000.



THE RETURNING OFFICER FOR THE ELECTIONS TO THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE OF THE I.G.R.M. WAS FOUNDED MEMBER JIMMY MALONE, SEEN HERE ON THE I.G.R.M. ZEPPELIN EN ROUTE TO CORK.

14. The London Gay Irish Group has made initial contact with the I.G.R.M. and it is proposed to seek as much cooperation as possible between both groups. It is also proposed to make a monetary grant to the London group to enable it to develop it's activities.

15. Discussions have been held with the Eastern Health Boards' Psychiatric Services to enable I.G.R.M. to consider the Boards' attitude to patients with psycho-sexual problems. Particular attention is being paid to the use of aversion therapy and hormone treatment in the Boards' clinics. Discussions are also in progress regarding an introductory lecture by I.G.R.M. Officers on the subject of homosexuality to doctors and other workers in the Psychiatric Services of the E.H.B.

16. The foregoing report has indicated some of the main activities of the Movement in the past year; I hope that more members will take an active interest in the running of the I.G.R.M. over the next year so that we may expand still further on our activities. I would like to thank my colleagues and friends for their support and encouragement.

John L. Ryan

JOHN RYAN,
GENERAL SECRETARY.

FEBRUARY, 1981.

AGM REPORTS

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1980

At the Annual General Meeting on 16th. February, 1980 the following were elected to the Executive Committee of the I.G.R.M. CLEMENT CLANCY, JOHN COUGHLIN, WILLIAM EASTWOOD, JOHN FOX, RAYMOND KAVANAGH, PATRICK MAHONY-RYSH, JOHN RYAN.

At the first meeting of the Committee on 19 April, 1980 the following officers were elected unanimously: Chairman, to rotate among Committee members. General Secretary, JOHN RYAN. Financial Controller, CLEMENT CLANCY, Minutes Secretary, RAYMOND KAVANAGH. It was also decided that meetings of the Committee should be held monthly.

JOHN RYAN resigned his position as General Secretary on 1 August, 1980 but retained his position on the Committee.

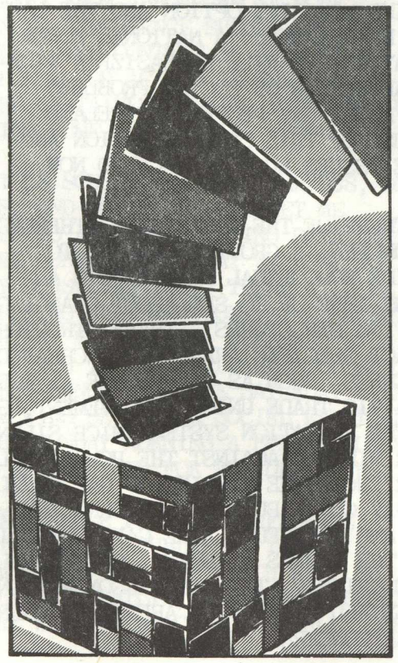
TREVOR NOBLE was coopted to the Committee on 14 September, 1980.

RAYMOND KAVANAGH resigned his position on the Committee with effect from 14 September, 1980.

At the Committee meeting of 3 October, 1980 the following appointments were ratified: National Chairman, SEAN.J. CONNOLLY. General Secretary JOHN RYAN. Financial Controller, CLEMENT CLANCY, Minutes Secretary, WILLIAM EASTWOOD. Social Director, JOHN COUGHLIN.

WILLIAM EASTWOOD resigned his position on the Committee with effect from 6 November, 1980.

The Committee would like to thank all our members and volunteer helpers who have assisted the Movement in it's various activities over the past year, and over the past seven years of the I.G.R.M.'s existence.●





National Gay Conference

NATIONAL GAY CONFERENCE CORK 1981

THE DECISION TO HOLD A NATIONAL GAY CONFERENCE IN IRELAND, INDEED THE VERY CONCEPT OF A NATIONAL GAY CONFERENCE HAS BEEN A LONG TIME IN THE MAKING. IT IS NOW APPROXIMATELY EIGHT YEARS SINCE THE VERY FIRST INITIATIVES WERE TAKEN IN DUBLIN BY JUST A HANDFUL OF COURAGEOUS HOMOSEXUAL PEOPLE TO SET UP AN ORGANISATION WHICH SOUGHT TO PROMOTE THE IDEAL OF HOMOSEXUAL LIBERATION. WHAT HAS NOW BECOME A COMMONPLACE ON THE LIPS OF THOUSANDS OF GAY MEN AND WOMEN IN THIS COUNTRY SEEMED AT THAT TIME A DARING AND ALMOST FOOLHARDY ADVENTURE. BUT AS TIME HAS SHOWN, COURAGE AND TENACITY HAVE REPAID THE EFFORTS OF THOSE FIRST FALTERING YEARS. A BRIEF LOOK AT OUR ACHIEVEMENTS SINCE THEN AMPLY ATTESTS TO THE WILL TO CHANGE THAT EXISTS AT PRESENT WITHIN THE GAY MOVEMENT. AN INTENSE SOCIALISATION HAS DEVELOPED IN WHICH THOUSANDS OF GAY PEOPLE GATHER TOGETHER EVERY WEEKEND TO ENJOY THEIR OWN COMPANY AND TO FORM THEIR OWN COURTSHIP PATTERNS WITHOUT INTERFERENCE OR ADVERSE COMMENT.

FROM THIS EMBRYONIC SITUATION IN DUBLIN THE MOVEMENT HAS GROWN. DISCOS, COUNSELLING SERVICES AND OTHER VENUES FOR GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT HAVE BEEN FIRMLY ESTABLISHED WHERE MANY GAY PEOPLE CAN NOW MOVE FREELY AND CONFIDENTLY TOGETHER. MORE IMPORTANTLY, THIS CLIMATE OF FREEDOM HAS FOSTERED A NEW INDEPENDENCE IN THE PROVINCIAL AREAS AS WELL TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT ONE MAY SAFELY SAY THAT WE HAVE ARRIVED AT A POINT WHERE THERE IS A STRONG GAY MINORITY REPRESENTATION IN THE THIRTY-TWO COUNTIES.

FOR THIS REASON, IT IS FELT BY SOME PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY THAT THE TIME IS NOW RIPE FOR A GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF WHERE GAY PEOPLE ARE GOING IN IRELAND. UNFORTUNATELY, DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN THE GAY SITUATION IN OTHER COUNTRIES TEND TO PUT US IN IRELAND SOMEWHAT IN THE SHADE ESPECIALLY IN THE LIGHT OF OUR CONTINUING LEGAL OPPRESSION. GAY CONSCIOUSNESS IS AFTER ALL A GROWING MINORITY OPTION AND THE LAW MUST BE CHANGED. A NATIONAL FORUM ON GAY ISSUES WILL EMPHASIZE A WIDE-SPREAD SERIES OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS THAT BESET GAY PEOPLE IN IRELAND BECAUSE OF THIS DESCRIMINATION AND THESE ISSUES MUST BE TACKLED NOW.

THE THEME OF THE CONFERENCE, THEREFORE, IS CONCERN, A GROWING CONCERN TO PROVIDE HOMOSEXUAL PEOPLE WITH A STRONG IMPETUS TO SET ABOUT CHANGING EXISTING STRUCTURES. THESE STRUCTURES ATTRACT SPECIFIC AREAS FOR INCREASED AWARENESS SUCH AS GAY PEOPLE AT WORK VIS-A-VIS TRADE UNION INVOLVEMENT, GAYS AND THE EDUCATION SYSTEM WHICH SILENTLY DISCRIMINATES AGAINST THE HOMOSEXUAL EXPERIENCE, THE HOUSING OF GAY COUPLES, THE GAY CONTRIBUTION TO JOURNALISM , THE ARTS AND THE MEDIA, THE GAY CONNECTION WITH THE WOMENS MOVEMENT, GAY SEXUALITY AND COURTSHIP, THE GAY PERSON WITHIN THE FAMILY AND MANY OTHER AREAS OF URGENT SOCIAL CONCERN.

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INFORMATION

SINCE IT IS CONCERN FOR ISSUES SUCH AS THESE WHICH HAS STIMULATED THE NEED FOR A NATIONAL CONFERENCE, THE FORMAT OF THE CONFERENCE WILL REFLECT JUST THAT NEED.

OUR ACTIVITIES WILL CONSIST OF AN OPEN FORUM OF DISCUSSION LINKED TO AND SUSTAINED BY WORKSHOPS WHERE TOPICS SUCH AS I HAVE MENTIONED AND MANY OTHERS WILL BE BROUGHT FOREWARD. THESE WORKSHOPS WILL IN TURN BE RE-INFORCED BY DISPLAYS OF GAY LITERATURE WITHIN THE CONFERENCE CENTRE AND WE INTEND TO SHOW SOME GAY FILMS, AN EXHIBITION OF ART AND PERHAPS SOME POETRY READINGS.

PERHAPS IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT SINCE THE GAY ISSUE IS NOT JUST AN IRISH ISSUE BUT IS INTERNATIONAL IN SCOPE, WE HAVE INVITED A PANEL OF SPEAKERS FROM ABROAD WHOSE MORE ADVANCED EXPERIENCE SHOULD PROMPT IN THE IRISH CONTEXT AN EFFECTIVE PROGRAMME FOR ACTION IN THE FUTURE. WE ARE CERTAINLY LOOKING FOREWARD TO MEETING SOME INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE.

ALL THIS SOUNDS TERRIBLY SERIOUS, OF COURSE AND SO IT IS, BUT LET ME HASTEN TO ADD IN PROVIDING DETAILS OF THE CONFERENCE, THAT WE HOPE TO ENJOY OURSELVES TOO. THERE WILL BE AN OPENING REGISTRATION, WINE RECEPTION ON FRIDAY MAY 15th. - FOLLOWED BY A FILM WHICH IN TURN WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A DISCO-DANCE. ON THE SATURDAY EVENING, THERE WILL BE A GALA SOCIAL EVENT AND ON THE SUNDAY MORNING A BUFFET LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ALL DELEGATES.

THE TIMETABLE FOR THE CONFERENCE EVENTS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN A CONFERENCE PROGRAMME WHICH WILL BE FINALISED SHORTLY , AND THE CONFERENCE CENTRE WILL BE AT CONNOLLY HALL, CORK.

FORUM, WORKSHOP, FILMS

CONNOLLY HALL
May 15th – 17th

FURTHER DETAILS ON THE CONFERENCE ARE AVAILABLE VIA THE I.G.R.M. NATIONAL OFFICES, POST OFFICE BOX 739, DUBLIN 8, FROM WHOM REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ●



THAT'S LIFE

● SOCIAL DIRECTOR AND COMMITTEE MEMBER JOHN COUGHLIN HAS BEEN BUSY OVER THE PAST FEW WEEKS REORGANISING THE DUBLIN DISCO AND CLUB ARRANGEMENTS. A NEW DJ ROTA HAS BEEN INTRODUCED GIVING ALL DJ's THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY ON DIFFERENT NIGHTS IN ROTATION, AND MAKING USE OF FRESH TALENT. JOHN TELLS ME THAT HE IS ALWAYS HAPPY TO TRY OUT ANYONE VOLUNTEERING AS DJ FOR THE CLUB. THERE IS ALWAYS A NEED FOR DEPENDABLE HELP IN RUNNING THE PHOENIX CLUB, AND MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO HELP IN THE COFFEE-BAR, CLOAKROOM, DISCO AND GENERALLY AROUND THE CLUB AT THE WEEK-ENDS.

A NEW CEILING OF MIRROR MATERIAL HAS BEEN FITTED OVER THE DISCO FLOOR. THE WALLS AT EITHER END OF THE DISCO WILL BE COVERED WITH A SIMILIAR MATERIAL IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, AND WHEN THE JOB IS FINISHED, THE OVERALL EFFECT SHOULD BE FANTASTIC!

MEMBERS SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING THE CLUB AND IT'S FACILITIES ARE ALWAYS WELCOME, AND CAN BE GIVEN TO ANY MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE.

THE CLUB NIGHT ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH IS SLOWLY ESTABLISHING ITSELF. THE MAIN PROBLEM IS THE FACT THAT IT IS HARD TO REMEMBER WHICH THURSDAY IS WHICH, AND OFTEN, PEOPLE HAVE SHOWN UP ON THE WRONG NIGHT. THE COMMITTEE IS PRESENTLY LOOKING AT THE POSSIBILITY OF OPENING THE CLUB EVERY THURSDAY, BUT CAN ONLY DO THIS IF THERE IS SUFFICIENT HELP IN RUNNING THE CLUB FROM MEMBERS. WE WOULD BE GLAD TO HAVE YOUR OPINIONS ON THIS SUBJECT!

FULL DETAILS OF PHOENIX CLUB HOURS OF OPENING ARE SET OUT ELSEWHERE IN THIS NEWSLETTER.

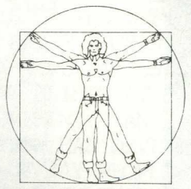
● THIS ARTICLE APPEARS WITHOUT PREJUDICE

ACTING ON REPORTS FROM SEVERAL SOURCES, A CONNITTEE MEMBER PHONED LONDON GAY SWITCHBOARD ON 10 MARCH, 1981 AND ASKED FOR INFORMATION ON THE GAY SCENE IN DUBLIN. THE UNFORTUNATE SWITCHBOARD VOLUNTEER GAVE THE NAME OF A COMMERCIAL CLUB VENUE AND THE NAMES OF TWO GAY BARS.

WHEN ASKED FOR THE NAME OF ANY GROUPS OPERATING IN DUBLIN, GAY SWITCHBOARD AGAIN GAVE THE ADDRESS OF A COMMERCIAL CLUB VENUE!

ON A SECOND PHONE CALL, THE I.G.R.M. COMMITTEE MEMBER ASKED IF ANY INFORMATION WAS AVAILABLE ON THE I.G.R.M. RELUCTANTLY LONDON GAY SWITCHBOARS SAID THAT THE I.G.R.M. RAN AN "ILLEGAL DRINKING CLUB" WHICH SHOULD BE AVOIDED.

NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE COMMITTEE TAKE THE GREATEST EXCEPTION TO THE DESCRIPTIONS GIVEN BY L.G.S. OF THE MOVEMENTS' PHOENIX CLUB IN DUBLIN. CONSEQUENTLY, WE HAVE INSTRUCTED OUR LEGAL AGENTS TO ENTER PROCEEDINGS FOR DAMAGES AGAINST L.G.S. IT IS ALSO OUR INTENTION TO FORCE L.G.S. TO DISCLOSE IN COURT THE SOURCE OF THEIR INFORMATION.



MAN AROUND LIMITED

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For telephone reservations, information and brochure requests call: (01) 221-1140

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(01) 229-0806 (01) 229 1868

MAN AROUND

Interested ?.....

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HELPING IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE IRISH GAY RIGHTS MOVEMENT? ONE OF THE MOST PRACTICAL FIRST STEPS IN HELPING OUT IS TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT THROUGH FULL MEMBERSHIP..... MEMBERSHIP ALLOWS YOU TO VOTE IN THE MOVEMENTS' ELECTIONS, AND TO RECEIVE COPIES OF ALL CIRCULARS AND NEWSLETTERS: IT IS ALSO A WAY OF EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR OUR ACTIVITIES AND IDEALS.

APPLICATION FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP OF THE IRISH GAY RIGHTS MOVEMENT

INDIVIDUAL SUBSCRIPTION:
TO: THE GENERAL SECRETARY, IRISH GAY RIGHTS MOVEMENT, P.O. BOX 739, DUBLIN 8.

.....

I have read, and agree with the aims and objectives of the Irish Gay Rights Movement. I wish to support I.G.R.M. by way of full membership. Please enroll me as a member. If accepted, I agree to be bound by the Conditions of Membership as stated in the Constitution (revised) and in related circulars.

I am 18 years or over.

BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

NAME:.....

ADDRESS FOR NEWSLETTERS, CIRCULARS ETC. (PLAIN SEALED ENVELOPE)

.....

.....

IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO RECEIVE NEWSLETTERS PLEASE TICK HERE: .....

DO YOU WISH THE ENVELOPE TO BE MARKED PRIVATE? ..... (YES OR NO)

ANY OTHER DETAILS.....

.....

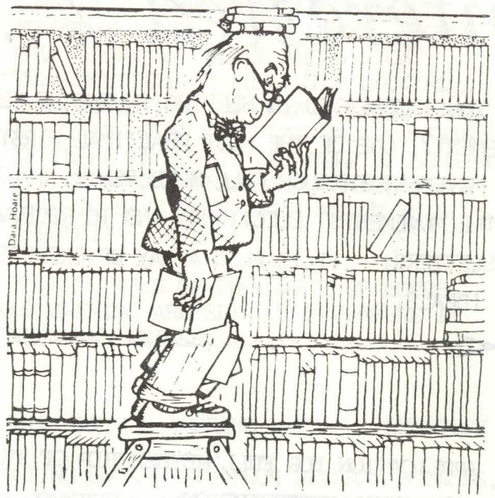
SIGNED: .....

DATE: .....

I ATTACH POSTAL ORDER OR CHEQUE, CROSSED PAYABLE TO I.G.R.M. TO THE VALUE OF £ .

INDIVIDUAL SUBSCRIPTION £10 STUDENTS AND UNEMPLOYED, AND O.A.P. £5
(RATES APPLICABLE JULY, 1980)

MAIL ORDER



THE IRISH GAY RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH BOOKS UPSTAIRS, DUBLIN, ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE A NEW MAIL ORDER SERVICE FOR MEMBERS OF THE I.G.R.M. POSTAGE OF 60p. FOR ONE BOOK, 90p. FOR TWO AND 1.30P FOR THREE OR MORE IS CHARGABLE ALSO. ALL ORDERS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. ORDERS WILL BE PROCESSED BY THE OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY, I.G.R.M. IN CONFIDENCE. ALL ORDERS SENT IN PLAIN COVER. PRICES MAY VARY ACCORDING TO STERLING/PUNT PARITIES.

GAY NEWS BY POST PER 10 ISSUES(INCL. POSTAGE)	£9.00
MALE HOMOSEXUALS, MARTIN WEINBERG	£5.75
GAY LEFT COLLECTIVE; HOMOSEXUALITY, POWER AND POLITICS	£5.81
SOCIETY AND THE HEALTHY HOMOSEXUAL, MARTIN WEINBERG	£3.95
HOMOSEXUALITY, TIME TO TELL THE TRUTH, LEONARD BARNETT	£2.57
HOMOSEXUAL DESIRE, GUY HOCQUENGHEM	£5.15
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LAW AND GAYS IN NORTHERN IRELAND	£0.22
LAW AND SEXUALITY: HOW TO COPE WITH THE LAW IF NOT 100% HETEROSEXUAL! , COHEN	£1.47
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CONUNDRUM, JAN MORRIS	£0.74
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HISTORY:	
COMING OUT, JEFFERY WEEKS (HOMOSEXUAL POLITICS IN BRITAIN FROM 19th. CENTURY TO PRESENT)	£5.81
COME TOGETHER, A. WALKER (THE YEARS OF GAY LIBERATION, 1970 TO 1973)	£5.81
SOCIALISM AND THE NEW LIFE, ROWBOTTOM AND WEEKS (THE PERSONAL AND SEXUAL POLITICS OF EDWARD CARPENTER AND HAVELOCK ELLIS)	£7.00

TICK BOXES BESIDE ITEMS REQUIRED. CUT OUT AND USE THIS PAGE AS YOUR ORDER FORM ENCLOSING NAME, ADDRESS AND REMITTANCE.

Member
Board of Supervisors
City and County of San Francisco
District 6

COMMITTEES:
Chair:
URBAN AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
Vice-Chair:
RULES
Member:
LEGISLATIVE AND PERSONNEL

CAROL RUTH SILVER

26 March 1981

02.04.1981
1) To read, and for action please.
2) Reply signed [signature] 4/4/81

John Ryan
I.G.R.M.
18 North Lotts Lane
Bachelors' Walk
Dublin, 1
EIRE

Dear Mr. Ryan,

I am writing at the request of Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver and to you at the suggestion of Mr. Michael Mason at Gay News in London.

As you may know, Supervisor Silver was Supervisor Harvey Milk's closest colleague on the Board of Supervisors. The assassination of Supervisor Milk was a strong blow to her. She asks that I write to you because of the reported plans of the assassin, former-Supervisor Dan White.

Mr. White has made it clear that he plans to move to Ireland to live with family there. This offers him the possibility of living in peace after causing havoc and distress in the lives of so many of us, both in San Francisco and elsewhere. Such escape is very difficult to accept.

For this reason, Supervisor Silver would like to help lay the plans to cause him to be as miserable as possible and to make it impossible for him to escape the results and consequences of his actions.

We hope that you will be willing to work with us to this end. A start will be the picketing of his arrival. Obviously, the specifics of this situation are not available now. I am looking now for an indication of support.

Please let me know at your earliest convenience of your feelings about this proposal. I look forward to your feedback.

Sincerely,

[signature]

Arthur M. Morris, III
Aide

Room 235 • City Hall • San Francisco, California 94102 • (415) 558-2254

CORK REPORT

STOP PRESS++++++GAY SWITCHBOARD+++CORK++
021-505394+++STOP PRESS+++OPERATIONAL+++

YES, AT LONG LAST MUNSTER HAS IT'S OWN SWITCHBOARD SERVICE. THE SERVICE WILL INITIALLY OPERATE ON MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY EVENINGS FROM 8pm TO 9.30pm. IN EFFECT, AS THE CENTRE IS MANNED FOR SEVEN NIGHTS A WEEK, IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO CONTACT US FOR INFORMATION OUTSIDE THOSE TIMES. BY THE WAY, IT IS HOPED TO EXTEND OUR SERVICE ON A DAILY BASIS; IF YOU HAVE EXPERIENCE OF HANDLING A SIMILAR SERVICE OF WOULD LIKE TO LEARN HOW TO DO SO, PLEASE CONTACT EITHER TONY GALVIN OR DOMINIC DALY WHO ARE RUNNING THE SERVICE. AS ANYONE OF YOU WHO HAVE TRIED TO DO SO WILL KNOW, GETTING A PHONE INSTALLED IS INCREDIBLY DIFFICULT . WE WOULD ACCORDINGLY LIKE TO THANK DUBLIN I.G.R.M. FOR HELPING TO PUSH OUR APPLICATION THROUGH IN RECORD TIME.●

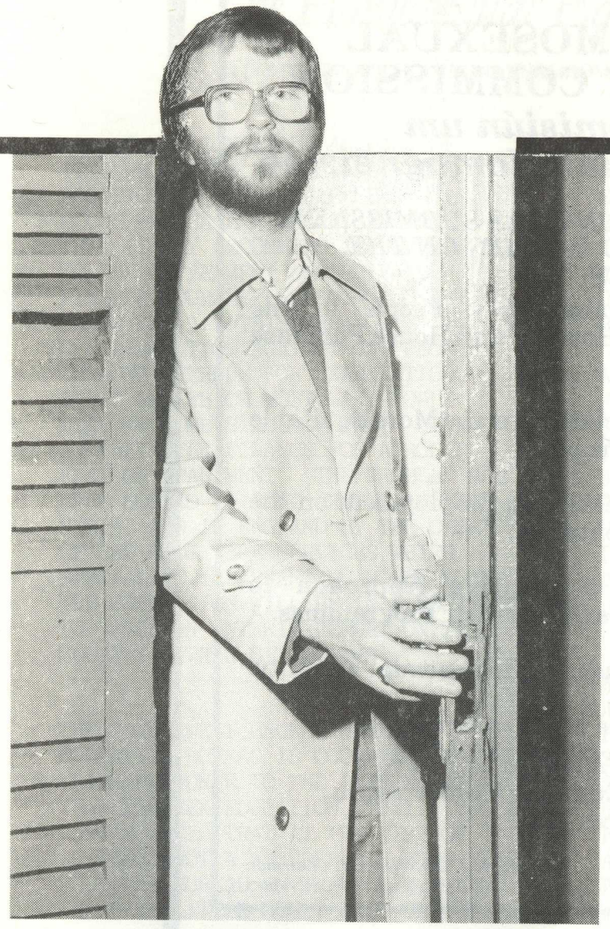
ONCE AGAIN, I AM DELIGHTED TO REPORT THAT THE CENTRE AND IT'S FACILITIES ARE BEING USED TO AN INCREASING EXTENT. AS A RESULT OF THIS, OUR EXPERIMENTAL OPENINGS ON SUNDAY NIGHTS HAVE NOW BECOME PERMANENT FIXTURES. THE VIDEO NIGHTS (EVERY THURSDAY) ARE ALSO IN OPERATION AND I WOULD LIKE TO THANK TRISH FOR PROVIDING MACHINE AND FILMS FREE OF CHARGE TO THE CENTRE.
SOME FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS:
"THE SONG OF BERNADETTE", "THE CLONE RANGER", "DAME FLORA, A TRAGEDY", "DAME FLORA MEETS GODZILLA", AND SIMILAR MOVING EPICS (ALL IN LIVING GAY COLOUR).●

THOSE OF YOU WHO WERE ABLE TO MAKE IT TO THE A.G.M. OF THE MOVEMENT IN CORK WILL, I'M SURE AGREE WITH ME THAT IT ALL WENT OFF QUITE SPLENDIDLY AND INDEED, WE IN CORK WERE BOTH HONOURED AND PROUD TO BE THE HOSTS FOR THE EVENT. I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT JOHN RYAN WILL COVER THE EVENT COMPREHENSIVELY ELSEWHERE IN THE MAG. SO I WILL CONFINE MYSELF TO THE SOCIAL SIDE. IT IS PROBABLY TRUE TO SAY THAT THE NIGHT OF THE 28th. WAS THE OCCASION OF THE LARGEST SINGLE GATHERING OF GAYS OUTSIDE DUBLIN IN THE HISTORY OF THE IRISH GAY MOVEMENT. AT ONE STAGE, IT SEEMED THAT WE WOULD ACTUALLY HAVE TO TURN PEOPLE AWAY, ALTHOUGH FORTUNATELY, THIS DID NOT TURN OUT TO BE NEEDED. ALL IN ALL, A SPLENDID DAY AND A LANDMARK IN THE HISTORY OF I.G.R.M. OUR THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO TRAVELLED SUCH LONG DISTANCES TO MAKE THE EVENT SO SUCCESSFUL!●

READERS WILL BE INTERESTED TO KNOW THAT I.G.R.M. CORK HAVE RECENTLY MET IN PRIVATE SESSION WITH THE RT. REV. BISHOP OF CORK, CLOYNE AND ROSS, DR. POYNTZ AND THE MOST REV. BISHOP OF CORK AND ROSS, (R.C.) DR. MURPHY. ON BOTH OCCASIONS, THE POSITION OF GAYS IN THE DIOCESE WAS OUTLINED TO THEIR LORDSHIPS AND REQUESTS WERE MADE FOR A BETTER UNDERSTANDING FROM THE CHURCH TOWARDS GAYS. I AM GLAD TO SAY THAT AT BOTH MEETINGS WE WERE CORDIALLY RECEIVED AND USEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE CONVERSATIONS ENSUED.●

VISITORS TO NUMBER 4 WILL HAVE NOTICED THAT RENOVATIONS ARE ALMOST COMPLETE INCLUDING OUR MUCH NEEDED OFFICE. NEEDLESS TO SAY, ALL THIS WORK HAS COST A GREAT DEAL OF MONEY. IT WILL NOW BE NECESSARY TO EQUIP THE OFFICE PROPERLY, AND I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOUR HELP IN DOING SO.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FRANK AND TRIONA WHO HAVE TAKEN OVER THE MANAGEMENT OF HILLS BAR. THEY TELL ME THAT GAYS WILL OF COURSE CONTINUE TO BE VERY WELCOME IN WHAT CAN JUSTLY BE CLAIMED TO BE IRELANDS FRIENDLIEST BAR . OVER THE PAST YEAR, WE HAVE ENJOYED A WARM RELATIONSHIP WITH HILLS AND IT IS GOOD TO KNOW THAT THIS WILL CONTINUE.



WE URGENTLY NEED A FILING CABINET(S) AND SUCH THINGS AS FILE HOLDERS, PREFERABLY GRATIS! WE WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN BUYING A SECOND-HAND TELEPHONE ANSWERING MACHINE.●

THE NEW REVAMPED CORK REVIEW IS NOW OUT, AND WE ARE PLEASED THAT NOT ONLY DOES IT CARRY ADVERTISING FOR I.G.R.M. BUT THAT IT GIVES A COMPREHENSIVE LISTING FOR ALL OUR LOCAL ACTIVITIES. A CONTACT COLUMN IS ALSO BEING PLANNED AND I AM ASSURED THAT GAY ADVERTS. WILL BE WELCOMED. WE WISH EDITOR TINA NEALON AND ALL THE STAFF EVERY SUCCESS FOR THE FUTURE.●

THE CORK COMMITTEE OF I.G.R.M. IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT ANGELA STOUT HAS BEEN CO-OPTED. ANGELA RECENTLY STRUCK A MAJOR BLOW FOR WOMENS LIB BY BECOMING CORK'S FIRST WOMAN BUS DRIVER AND I AM CERTAIN THAT SHE WILL PROVE A GREAT ASSET TO THE COMMITTEE. BY THE WAY, ANGELA HAS OPENED HER OWN CAFE IN BARRACK STREET, CALLED APPROPRIATELY ENOUGH "ANGIES", DON'T FORGET TO CALL IN!●

CORK I.G.R.M. IS PLAYING A MAJOR ROLE IN THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL GAY CONFERENCE, CORK '81 WHICH WE ARE CONFIDENT WILL BE A GREAT SUCCESS.
WE HOPE THAT EVERY READER OF "IN TOUCH" WILL MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO MAKE IT DOWN TO CORK FOR THE WEEKEND. FOR FURTHER DETAILS RING 021-505394 EVENINGS.●

U.C.C. GAYSOC CONTINUES TO BATTLE ON DESPITE THE REACTIONARY ATTITUDE OF THE COLLEGE GOVERNING BODY IN NOT RECOGNISING THE SOCIETY. GENERAL SECRETARY JOHN RYAN AND CORK SECRETARY STEVE QUILLINAN HAVE BOTH WRITTEN TO THE JOINT BOARD COUNCIL URGING THEM TO REVIEW THEIR DECISION. THE COMMISSION FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY HAS ALSO MADE REPRESENTATIONS IN THE MATTER TO THE COLLEGE AND TO THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND.●

A PROPOSAL AT THE A.G.M. BY PAT MAHONY RYSH AND SECONDED BY SEAN SLATOR EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH U.C.C. GAYSOC AND PLEDGING SUPPORT IN THEIR QUEST FOR RECOGNITION WAS UNANIMOUSLY PASSED BY CONFERENCE. SINCE THE A.G.M. A JOINT MEETING OF U.C.C. GAYSOC AND I.G.R.M. CORK WAS HELD AT NUMBER 4 ON THE BASIS THAT CLOSE COOPERATION SHOULD EXIST BETWEEN "TOWN AND GOWN", AS A RESULT OF WHICH CORK I.G.R.M. HAS COMMITTED ITSELF TO HELPING THE GAYSOC IN ANY WAY IT CAN, WHILE FULLY RECOGNISING THE INDEPENDENCE AND INTEGRITY OF THE GAYSOC.●

THE HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY COMMISSION

An Comisiún um Chomhionannas Homognéisigh

THE COMMISSION INVITES SUBMISSIONS FROM INTERESTED PARTIES ON THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

1. Discrimination against Gay People in the provision of Public Housing and House Purchase Finance.

2. Reform of Tax Structures to make More Equitable Provision for Gay People.

3. Negative Discrimination in Employment on the basis of Sexual Orientation.

4. Development of a Positive Approach to Homosexuality in Sex-Education Programmes.

5. Trade Union Attitudes to Homosexual Equality.

Submissions should be made in writing to:

THE SECRETARY,
Homosexual Equality Commission,
Post Office Box 739,
Dublin 8.

SEAN J. CONNOLLY, Chairman
JOHN F. RYAN, Secretary

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HAVE FINALLY APPROVED THE FORMATION OF THE COMMISSION FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY, WHICH WAS FORMALLY LAUNCHED ON 27th. FEBRUARY, 1981. THE I.G.R.M. CHAIRMAN AND GENERAL SECRETARY HAVE BEEN APPOINTED TO THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSION, AND WILL OVERSEE IT'S WIDERANGING AND IMPORTANT PROGRAMME. ALREADY, ACTION IS BEING TAKEN IN THE EDUCATIONAL SECTOR, AND REPRESENTATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THIRD LEVEL COLLEGES CONCERNING THEIR ATTITUDES TO GAY STUDENTS. IN THIS RESPECT, SPECIAL ATTENTION IS BEING PAID TO ST. PATRICKS COLLEGE, DRUMCONDRA AND TO UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK. IN BOTH OF THESE COLLEGES, THE AUTHORITIES ARE APPLYING PRESSURE ON GAY STUDENTS AND STAFF IN AN OPEN ATTEMPT TO STAMP OUT GAY AWARENESS AND DISCUSSION OF HOMO-SEXUALITY IN THE COLLEGES.

THE COMMISSION WILL MEET WITH THE CIVIL RIGHTS COMMITTEES OF MAJOR UNIONS IN AN EFFORT TO ALERT UNION LEADERS TO THE DANGERS OF EMPLOYMENT DESCRIMINATION BASED ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION. THE FIRST AREA OF EMPLOYMENT REQUIRING EXAMINATION WILL BE THE TEACHING PROFESSION. DUE TO THE ARCHAIC SECTARIAN CONTROL OF EDUCATION IN IRELAND, CONSERVATIVE RELIGIOUS MORAL CODES ARE NECESSARILY IMPOSED ON TEACHERS AND ON STUDENTS. TEACHERS UNIONS HAVE ALREADY REBELLED AGAINST THIS STRANGLEHOLD BY INSISTING ON THE RIGHT OF TEACHERS NOT TO TEACH RELIGION. IT IS A NATURAL EXTENSION OF THIS PHILOSOPHY THAT TEACHERS SHOULD BE FREE TO LEAD THEIR OWN PERSONAL LIVES WITHOUT UNDUE MORAL PRESSURE FROM THEIR EMPLOYERS. IT IS CLEAR THAT IF GAY TEACHERS ARE ABLE TO TO LIVE MORE SELF-FULFILLING AND HONEST LIVES, THIS WILL HELP THEM TO COMMUNICATE A MORE HEALTHY AND BALANCED VIEW OF SEXUALITY TO THEIR STUDENTS.

The Homosexual Equality Commission

AN COMISIÚN UM CHOMHIONANNAS HOMOGNÉISIGH,

THE COMMISSION WILL, AS PART OF IT'S PROGRAMME, INVESTIGATE THE POSITION OF GAY PEOPLE SEEKING HOUSE PURCHASE FINANCE, IN ORDER THAT IT MAY RECOMMEND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE FINANCE SOURCES (BUILDING SOCIETIES, BAMKS ETC.). THIS AREA OF DESCRIMINATION AGAINST GAY PEOPLE IS LONG OVERDUE FOR EXAMINATION. IT IS ONE WHICH MOST GAY PEOPLE MEET AT SOME STAGE OF THEIR LIVES AS THEY SEEK FINANCE FOR A HOUSE, FLAT OR APARTMENT. THE PROBLEM HAS BEEN SOLVED TO SOME EXTENT IN THE U.S.A. AND IN ENGLAND BY THE ONSET OF GAY BROKERAGE SERVICES WHICH SPECIALISE IN ARRANGING HOUSE LOANS. THE COMMISSION WILL BE IN A POSITION TO ISSUE AN INTERIM REPORT ON THIS SUBJECT WITHIN SIX MONTHS.

THE GOVERNMENT-BACKED HEALTH EDUCATION BUREAU IS COORDINATING THE IRISH RESPONSE TO THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR SEX-EDUCATION, 1981. YOU WILL HAVE NOTICED THAT AT THE TIME OF WRITING, NOT A WHISPER HAS BEEN HEARD FROM THE BUREAU ON THE SUBJECT, AND THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT THEY WILL REMAIN SILENT UNLESS PRESSURE IS APPLIED! THE COMMISSION WILL MAKE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS TO THE BUREAU REGARDING THE CORRECT GENERAL APPROACH TO SEX-EDUCATION PROGRAMMES, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ENLIGHTENED APPROACH TO HOMOSEXUALITY BASED ON IMPUTS FROM THE GAY COMMUNITY.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT PART OF THE COMMISSION PROGRAMME WILL BE AN EXAMINATION OF TAX STRUCTURES FOR GAY PEOPLE. IRISH TAX STRUCTURES ARE GEARED TO THE NEEDS OF HETEROSEXUAL SOCIETY AND THE COMMISSION WILL EXAMINE THE TAX STRUCTURES IN COMPARISON TO FACILITIES FOR GAY PEOPLE IN OTHER E.E.C. COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY BELGIUM AND THE NETHERLANDS.

HOPEFULLY, THE COMMISSION WILL RECEIVE THE WHOLEHEARTED SUPPORT, BOTH MORAL AND FINANCIAL , OF THE GAY COMMUNITY. SUBMISSIONS TO THE COMMISSION SHOULD BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY, COMMISSION FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY, BOX 739, DUBLIN 8. FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, WHICH WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGED, SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE FINANCIAL OFFICER, H.E.C., P.O. BOX 739, DUBLIN 8.●

WOMEN'S GROUP

EVELYN BROMLEA TELLS ME THAT SHE AND ALICE DORMAN ARE INTERESTED IN FORMING A WOMENS GROUP WITHIN THE I.G.R.M. STRUCTURE. ANY WOMEN MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO CONTACT EVELYN AT P.O. BOX 739, DUBLIN FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

1981 EUROVISION SONG CONTEST

THE IRISH GAY RIGHTS MOVEMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVES OF REGIONAL GROUPS WERE PRESENT AT THE EUROVISION SONG CONTEST IN DUBLIN RECENTLY. TICKETS WERE PROVIDED BY R.T.E. AT THE REQUEST OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY, WHO POINTED OUT THAT MANY GAY PEOPLE HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN THE RUNNING OF THE CONTEST. THEREFORE, THE I.G.R.M. SHOULD BE REPRESENTED AT THE CONTEST ON BEHALF OF IT'S MEMBERS AND ON BEHALF OF ALL GAY MEN AND WOMEN IN IRELAND. WE ARE HAPPY THAT R.T.E. SAW FIT TO AGREE TO OUR REQUEST.●

CRUISING



COTTAGING AND TRAWLING ARE TWO SUBJECTS WHICH HAVE BEEN LARGELY IGNORED BY GAY ORGANISATIONS BECAUSE OF THE FEAR SUCH GROUPS HAVE OF LOSING WHATEVER SUPPORT THEY MIGHT HAVE IN THE 'RESPECTABLE' STRAIGHT COMMUNITY. FIRSTLY, BY TRAWLING AND COTTAGING, WE MEAN THAT COMMON PRACTICE AMONG GAY MEN TO HANG AROUND CERTAIN AREAS AND PUBLIC FACILITIES WITH THE INTENTION OF MAKING CASUAL SEXUAL CONTACT. IT IS HARD TO UNDERSTATE THE NUMBER OF THE GAY COMMUNITY WHO ARE INVOLVED ON A REGULAR BASIS IN THIS ACTIVITY, AND FOR WHOM INDEED, IT FORMS THE MAJOR OPPORTUNITY FOR SEXUAL CONTACT WITH OTHER MALES.

SEVERAL EXPLAINATIONS ARE ADVANCED FOR COTTAGING AND TRAWLING IN THE GAY COMMUNITY, AND MOST CENTRE ON THE UNDENIABLE FACT THAT GAY MEN ARE SUBJECT TO LEGAL AND SOCIAL PRESSURES IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR NEED FOR SEXUAL CONTACT. THIS IS ESPECIALLY PLAUSIBLE IN IRELAND, WHERE THE ESTABLISHED GAY MOVEMENT HAS ATTRACTED ONLY A TINY MINORITY OF THE GAY POPULATION TO IT'S FACILITIES. THE MAJORITY OF GAY PEOPLE, FOR REASONS WHICH ARE NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR, ARE NOT PREPARED TO GET INVOLVED IN ANY OF THE ACTIVITIES, BOTH SOCIAL AND POLITICAL OF THE GAY ESTABLISHMENT. SOME PEOPLE FEEL EXCLUDED BECAUSE THEY ARE MARRIED, SOME FEEL UNEASY AMONG A YOUNG UNINHIBITED DISCO SET.

IT IS ARGUED THAT SUCH PEOPLE FIND AN EASY AND PAINLESS RELEASE FROM THEIR PENT-UP EMOTIONS IN THE ANONYMOUS POSSIBILITIES OF A DARK LANEWAY. IT IS ALSO INTERESTING TO NOTE THE LARGE NUMBER OF OLDER MEN WHO GO COTTAGING ON A REGULAR BASIS, AND ALSO THE NUMBER OF GUYS WHO LEAVE CLUBS AND DISCOS ON THEIR OWN, ONLY TO SPEND AN HOUR OR TWO WANDERING DARK PARKS AND QUAYS.

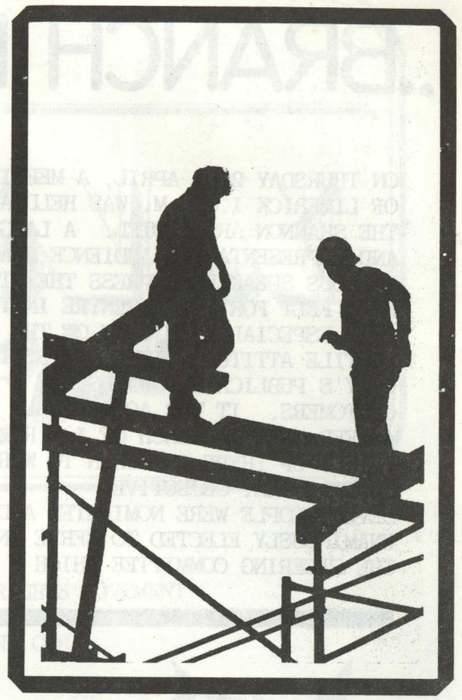
I AM NOT ATTEMPTING TO CONDEMN COTTAGING OR TRAWLING AS SUCH, BUT ONLY ASK WHY THE EXISTING SOCIAL FACILITIES SEEM TO BE INADEQUATE FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING INTERPERSONAL CONTACT. THOSE WHO CONDEMN PUBLIC SEX SEEM TO IGNORE IT'S EXISTENCE IN SUCH DEVELOPED GAY CULTURES AS NEW YORK, SAN FRANSISCO, AMSTERDAM AND EVEN LONDON. IT IS ALMOST CERTAIN THAT AS THE IRISH GAY SCENE DEVELOPS, COTTAGING AND TRAWLING WILL BECOME EVEN MORE WIDESPREAD.

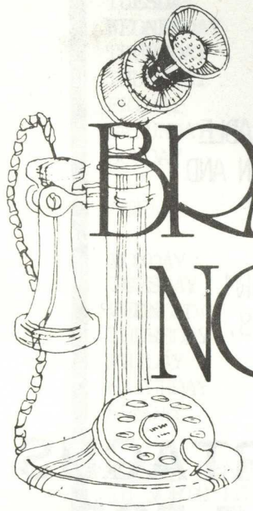
THE DANGERS OF SEEKING SEX IN PUBLIC PLACES CANNOT BE MENTIONED TOO OFTEN: THESE ARE NOT ONLY LEGAL, BUT ALSO PHYSICAL. GAYS IN IRELAND HAVE SO FAR BEEN SPARED THE ROAMING GANGS OF "QUEER BASHERS" WHICH OPERATE IN

SOME AMERICAN AND ENGLISH CITIES, AND WHO HAVE KILLED MANY UNFORTUNATE GAYS IN RECENT YEARS. GAYS OUT TRAWLING OR COTTAGING CAN HARDLY EXPECT THE POLICE TO STAY OUT OF THE WAY WHEN THE FUN IS GOING ON, AND SUDDENLY APPEAR OVER THE HORIZON WHEN TROUBLE OCCURS!

THERE IS ALSO THE EVER PRESENT DANGER OF ROLLERS, WHO DISPOSE OF WALLETS AND BANKROLLS WITH A PRACTICED EASE.

THE ONLY LEGAL ADVICE TO THOSE WHO ARE CAUGHT "IN THE ACT" BY THE GARDAI IS TO KEEP A COOL HEAD, AND NOT TO MAKE STATEMENTS ON THE SPUR OF THE MOMENT. REMEMBER THAT IS IS FAR EASIER FOR THE GARDAI TO OBTAIN A PROSECUTION IF THEY HAVE A STATEMENT FROM THE ACCUSED SUPPORTING THEIR ALLEGATIONS. INSIST ON SPEAKING TO A SOLICITOR AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITY. READ THE GUIDELINES FOR THOSE WHO ARE ARRESTED, PUBLISHED BY THE I.G.R.M. LEGAL SUB-COMMITTEE, AND KNOW YOUR RIGHTS IN ADVANCE. ●





BRANCH NOTES

MEMBERS IN THE SOUTH-EAST WILL ALREADY KNOW THAT THE I.G.R.M. ARE CONVENING ANOTHER LOCAL GET-TOGETHER IN WATERFORD ON SATURDAY/ SUNDAY 11th. AND 12th. OF APRIL, 1981. LONG STANDING MEMBERS WILL KNOW THAT WATERFORD WAS ONE OF OUR FIRST SUCCESSFUL LOCALLY SELF-SUPPORTING REGIONS WITH A RESIDENT CONVENOR. HOWEVER, FAR AWAY HILLS BECKONED, AND WE WERE LEFT WITH SOME VERY LOYAL MEMBERS AND NO CONVENOR. ●

IT IS HOPED THAT THE NEXT EDITION OF IN TOUCH WILL INDICATE A RETURN TO MORE ESTABLISHED PATTERNS. FOR DETAILS ABOUT THIS AND FUTURE GATHERINGS, PLEASE WRITE TO NOEL CLARKE, LOCAL GROUP ORGANISER, AT THE I.G.R.M. NATIONAL OFFICES. ●

ALL AREAS IN ENGLAND AND WALES WITH IRISH CONNECTIONS, IE. LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, BIRMINGHAM, LEEDS/ BRADFORD, CARDIFF, COVENTRY AND LONDON HAVE BEEN CIRCULATED WITH I.G.R.M. NEWSLETTERS AND INFORMATION LEAFLETS. WE EXPECT AN INFLUX OF VISITORS THIS SUMMER FROM BRITAIN, AND THIS CAMPAIGN IN ADDITION TO OUR COMMUNICATION WITH THE LONDON-IRISH GAY GROUP SHOULD CONSOLIDATE AND EXTEND HARMONIOUS CONTACT BETWEEN GAY PEOPLE ON BOTH SIDES OF THE IRISH SEA. ●

...BRANCH NOTES...

ON THURSDAY 2nd. APRIL, A MEETING OF LIMERICK I.G.R.M. WAS HELD AT THE SHANNON ARMS HOTEL. A LARGE AND REPRESENTATIVE AUDIENCE HEARD VARIOUS SPEAKERS EXPRESS THE STRONG NEED FELT FOR A GAY CENTRE IN THE CITY ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THE HOSTILE ATTITUDE DISPLAYED BY THE CITY'S PUBLICANS TOWARDS GAY CUSTOMERS. IT WAS ACCORDINGLY AGREED THAT A BRANCH OF I.G.R.M. BE SET UP THERE AND THEN TO WORK TOWARDS THAT OBJECTIVE.
SEVEN PEOPLE WERE NOMINATED AND UNAMINOUSLY ELECTED TO SERVE ON THE STEERING COMMITTEE WHICH WILL BE CHAIRED BY STAN O'GRADY. THE CORK COMMITTEE WHICH TRAVELLED UP (EN MASSE) TO THE MEETING WILL GIVE EVERY POSSIBLE SUPPORT AND HAS PROMISED TO HOLD A BENEFIT NIGHT AT NUMBER 4 IN AID OF THE PROPOSED LIMERICK CENTRE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
IT WAS HEARTENING TO SEE REPRESENTATIVES FROM PLACES AS FAR APART AS TRALEE, MALLOW, CLONMEL, AND ENNIS AT THE MEETING, AND I AM SURE THAT EVERYONE WILL JOIN WITH US IN APPLAUDING THE INITIATIVE OF I.G.R.M. GAY LIMERICK.●



SPARTACUS

AN INVALUABLE GUIDE TO ALL GAY TOURISTS WORLDWIDE.....
LIMITED STOCKS AVAILABLE

SPARTACUS GAY GUIDE IS AVAILABLE TO PERSONAL CALLERS TO DUBLIN AND CORK I.G.R.M. AND CAN ALSO BE PURCHASED FOR £IR 8.00 , BY WRITING TO THE SECRETARY, IGRM, POST OFFICE BOX 739, DUBLIN 8.

BUY A SPARTACUS GAY GUIDE FOR A FRIEND NOW

The PHOENIX Club

SERVICES WITHIN THE IRISH GAY RIGHTS MOVEMENT

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS- DUBLIN AND CORK

DUBLIN:

MONDAY TO FRIDAY,	7.30pm.-9.00pm.	GAY SWITCHBOARD 786593
TUESDAY	7.30pm.-9.00pm.	LGS BEFRIENDING GROUP
WEDNESDAY	7.30pm.-10.00pm.	WEDNESDAY AWARENESS GROUP
THURSDAY	7.30pm.-10.00pm.	PUBLICATIONS GROUP
THURSDAY	11.00pm.-1.30am.	PHOENIX CLUB
FRIDAY	11.00pm -2.00am.	PHOENIX CLUB
SATURDAY	11.00pm.-2.00am.	PHOENIX CLUB
SUNDAY	10.30pm.-1.00am.	PHOENIX CLUB

CORK:

MONDAY	8.00pm.-9.00pm.	COUNSELLING SERVICE
TUESDAY	8.00pm.	COMMITTEE NIGHT
WEDNESDAY	7.30pm.-9.00pm.	COUNSELLING SERVICE
THURSDAY	8.15pm.	VIDEO SCREENINGS
FRIDAY	11.00pm.-2.00am.	PHOENIX SOCIAL
SATURDAY	11.00pm.-2.00am.	PHOENIX SOCIAL
SUNDAY	10.00pm.-12.30am.	PHOENIX SOCIAL

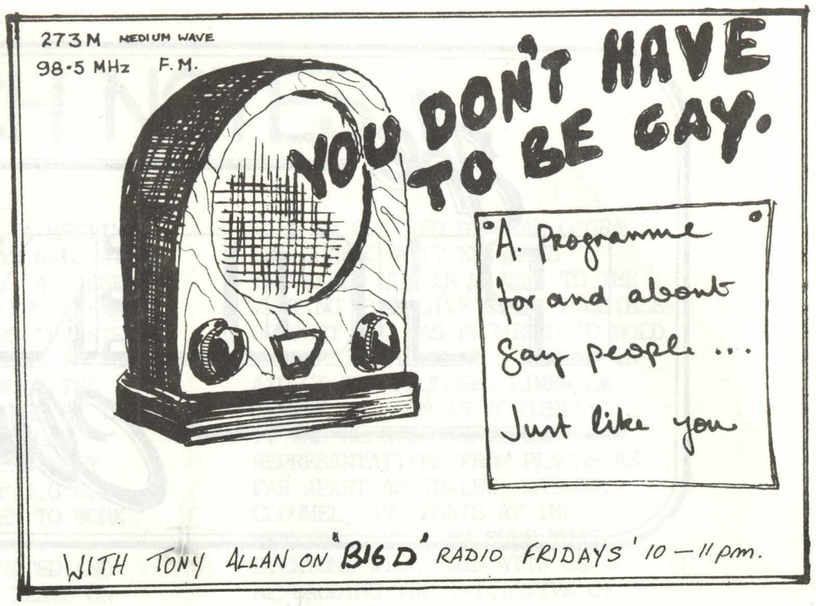
DUBLIN VENUE:
18 NORTH LOTTS, OFF BACHELORS WALK, DUBLIN 1.

CORK VENUE:
4 McCURTAIN STREET, FIRST FLOOR, CORK.

RIGHT OF ADMISSION RESERVED BY THE MOVEMENT



DISCO SUN MORNINGS.



IRISH GAY RIGHTS MOVEMENT

P.O. BOX 739
DUBLIN 8,
IRELAND.

National Headquarters:
18 North Lotts,
(off Batchelors Walk)
Dublin 1.

Cork:
4 McCurtain Street,
(First Floor)
Cork.

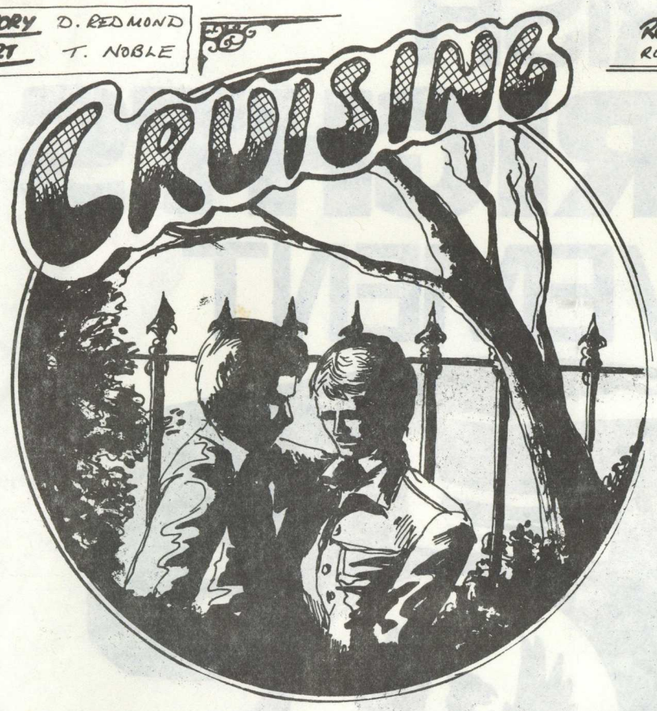
Phone (01) 786593 Mon. – Fri. 7.30 p.m. – 9.00 p.m.
Saturday 3.00 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.

AWARENESS MEETINGS

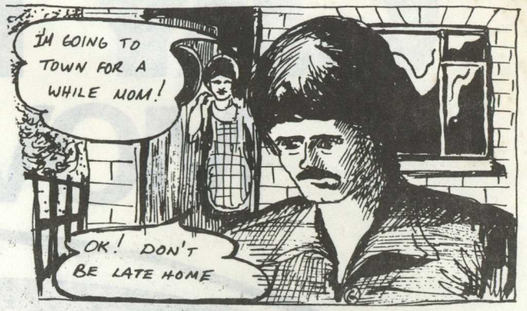
THE WEDNESDAY AWARENESS MEETINGS HAVE BEGUN AGAIN EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT AT 18 NORTE LOTTS, STARTING FROM 7.30p.m.
TOPICAL, FRIENDLY AND INFORMAL DISCUSSION OF TOPICS CONNECTED WITH THE GAY LIFESTYLE IS THE GENERAL THEME, AND ANYONE IS FREE TO COME ALONG AND SPEAK THEIR MIND!
THE WEDNESDAY AWARENESS MEETINGS ARE ORGANISED BY JIMMY MALONE, WHO RAN A SERIES OF SUCH MEETINGS WHEN I.G.R.M. WAS BASED AT 46 PARNELL SQUARE. THEY WERE VERY SUCCESSFUL THEN, AND IT IS HOPED THAT MORE AND MORE PEOPLE WILL BECOME INVOLVED IN THE CURRENT SERIES OF MEETINGS.
IF ENOUGH POEPLE SHOW INTEREST, IT IS PLANNED TO INVITE OUTSIDE SPEAKERS TO ADDRESS THE GROUP ON AREAS OF SPECIAL INTEREST.
IN THE PAST, PEOPLE LIKE FR. MICHAEL CLEARY AND DR. NOEL BROWNE T.D. HAVE ATTENDED WEDNESDAY AWARENESS GROUPS.
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, MAKE A DATE FOR NEXT WEDNESDAY AND EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 18 NORTH LOTTS STARTING AT 7.30p.m. AND GOING ON 'TILL ABOUT 9.30p.m.
YOU WILL BE VERY WELCOME!

STORY D. REDMOND
ART T. NOBLE

CRUISING



ROB IS BORED SITTING AROUND AT HOME SO HE DECIDES TO ROAM AROUND TOWN FOR THE EVENING.....









WHAT IS THE BIG SECRET?
FIND OUT NEXT ISSUE.

2017.21.Q1.6.3

IRISH GAY RIGHTS MOVEMENT



GAY SWITCHBOARD

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