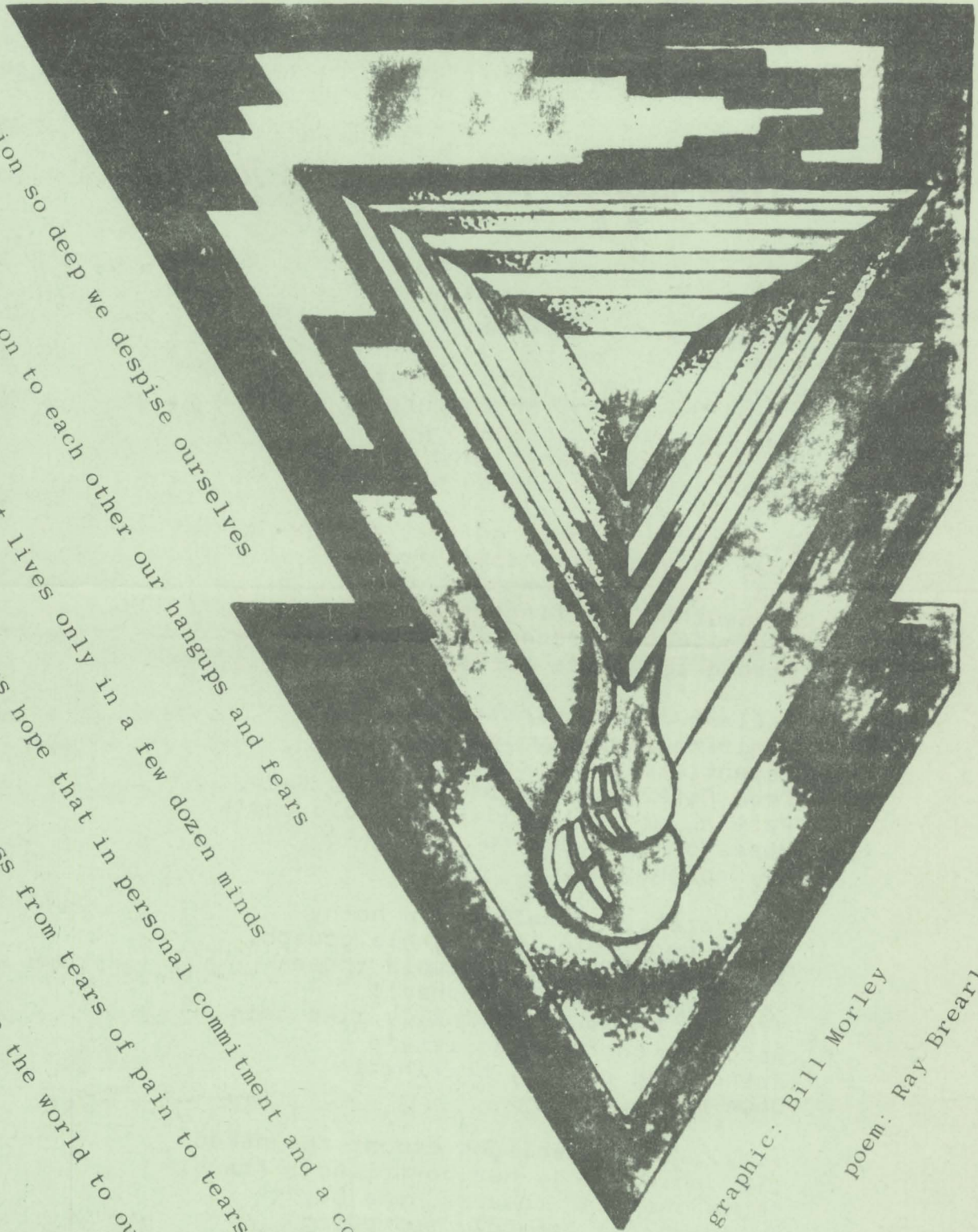


# Gay Liberation Newsletter

Our oppression so deep we despise ourselves  
and project on to each other our hangups and fears

Our movement lives only in a few dozen minds  
but inspires hope that in personal commitment and a common struggle

we will pass from tears of pain to tears of joy  
and change the world to our vision.



graphic: Bill Morley  
poem: Ray Brearley

Melbourne

June '74

# G L AND A I COMMUNITY Y B RADIO

When our beloved ALP government gathers itself together its cabinet will consider the Mailean Report "Independent Inquiry into FM Broadcasting" on the introduction of FM radio into Australia. Among the recommendations made by the report is that there be provision made for at least two "community stations" and three "public access stations" A community radio station to be is owned and financed by a federation of community groups with particular interests, while the public access stations will be owned by the Department of Media which will lease time to approved applicants.

Already a couple of meetings of representatives from groups with socila, envirommental, migrant and cultural interests have taken place. At these meetings constitution of a community radio has been discussed. Although the above report has to my knowledge not yet been considered so that no legislation regarding issuing of licences, broadcasting standards is existent, it is important for interested groups to organise themselves now. Here are some of the likely features of a community radio station, as extracted from discussion at the above meetings.

The aim of this community radio station is to facilitate the discrimination of propaganda by minority groups who have been denied access to the existing media or who have not had direct control over material presented about them.

Because of the constitutional difficulties of making provision for the rights of groups and views unpopular within the federation, it was decided to simply run the station democratically on a day to day basis with as little overall policy as possible, where each member group has equal voting rights. The wide range of membership groups ought to ensure that no majority policy should dominate. It seems likely that the federation will have to be incorporated in order to qualify to hold a licence. This will in turn influence the constitution of the federation and each member group.

The cost of getting such a radio station is not yet clear and this will determine whether membership is financially feasible. At the moment it is estimated that equipment ( based on specifications most likely to be required by law) would cost \$20,000 among 100 member groups, which would make the cost reasonable. Also, cost to each member group could be weighted according to its means. It is unlikely that direct government aid will be available to community radio, as the government is organising its own public access stations.

As you may see, the legal status of such a federation cannot yet be clear nor can the financial potential be known, but it is important to get the federation established to the extent that groups make an honorable commitment to membership. This is why we need support from anybody who has any suggestions. There are several questions which need to be answered:

1. Should Gay Liberation join the federation or be content to gain access to the Department of Media stations? The difference here is that Gay Liberation will have the opportunity of actually running a radio station and participating in decisions. This seems to me more compelling than the occasional broadcasting experience with established radio. The success of membership depends on involvement.
2. How much involvement is possible? Is there anyone with experience in broadcasting or electronics? Has anyone heard any Gay Lib. radio in the U.S.A?
3. Would there be any people willing to subscribe to community radio and thereby provide money? Should Gay Lib. try to get a university students union organisation to join the federation and work through that? That would solve financial problems but may lose direct control.
4. Can you give moral support to community radio by writing to a member of parliament, as this will help when legislation is drawn up and licences granted?

If you can make any contribution whatsoever to the present discussion in the way of good advice based on experience or any opinions on the whole venture, then your interests will be most welcome. We want to estimate our total resources, financial, labor and creative, so please come forth.

The next meeting of representatives of groups interested in community radio will be on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June at a place as yet unknown. Much more information will then be available. If you want to say or do anything regarding community radio then ring the Gay Liberation centre.

Peter Eden  
Roberts Hall - Monash University  
541-2900

# Homosexual Lecture Series

"THE HOMOSEXUAL IN SOCIETY"

Wednesday evenings at 7.30 P.M.  
Monash University Rotunda Building (R5)

commencing July 31, 1974

The overall theme of the series is the relationship of the homosexual to society.

Previously, the homosexual has been seen by society as a "deviant", used by society to mark out the boundary of sex-appropriate behaviour for its "non-deviant" members. But now homosexuals are coming to see themselves not just as misfits in an old society but as agents for the abolition of sex-roles for a new society. This series of lecture-discussions will survey forces that are operating to promote this redefinition of homosexuals of themselves in our society and those forces opposing this change.

HOMOSEXUAL LECTURE SERIES PROGRAMME

- JULY 31 INTRODUCTION TO THE SERIES  
"Homosexuality and attitudes to homosexuality in our society and in other societies"  
.....DAVID WIDDUP
- AUGUST 7 THE HOMOSEXUAL FAMILY  
"The development, internalization and maintenance of sex-roles in our society and the effect this has on homosexuals."  
.....JOHN WARE
- AUGUST 14 THE HOMOSEXUAL IN LITERATURE  
"The projection of a stereotype of the homosexual; the stereotypes of men and women. Breaking down the stereotypes."  
.....DILYS KEVAN
- \*AUGUST 21 INFORMAL SOCIAL GATHERING AT "FIVE" CLUBROOMS, 270 Lonsdale Street, City. Society Five is a society for the rights of homosexuals.
- AUGUST 28 THE LAW IN RELATION TO HOMOSEXUALITY  
The laws against homosexuality as they are applied to the rich and to the poor, Censorship as an obstacle to change in attitudes. A cross-cultural analysis of the rights of homosexuals and the recognition of homosexual relationships. Equal rights in employment and housing."  
.....DAVID WIDDUP
- SEPTEMBER 4 PSYCHOLOGY AND THE HOMOSEXUAL  
"Change the individual and preserve the myths OR change society and confront reality. The use of aversion therapy, brain surgery and chemical castration on homosexuals. Conflict within the psychological and psychiatric professions and the development of organizations that assist the homosexual to confront and change a hostile environment."  
.....JOHN WARE
- SEPTEMBER 11 RELIGION AND THE HOMOSEXUAL  
"Religious attitudes to homosexuality in our society with particular reference to the 1971 Melbourne Anglican Synod Report in favour of homosexual law reforms, and the 1973 Sydney Anglican Synod Report in opposition to homosexual law reform. Conflicting attitudes within the Church. Conflicts for the christian homosexual."  
.....,PETER BONSALE-BOONE
- SEPTEMBER 18 THE HOMOSEXUAL MOVEMENT IN AMERICA AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER AMERICAN MOVEMENTS  
.....DENNIS ALTMAN
- SEPTEMBER 25 FEMINISM, SOCIALISM AND HOMOSEXUAL LIBERATION  
"Relationships and interactions between the movements in Germany 1860-70 and the implications for our own society."  
.....TESS LEE ACK
- OCTOBER 2 SEXISM  
"Sexism in the Women's and Homosexual movements  
.....KAY DANIELS

\*N.B. AUGUST 21 MEETING WILL NOT BE AT MONASH BUT AT SOCIETY FIVE CLUBROOMS.

# GAY LIB'S WEEKEND AT BLACKWOOD

The road through Greendale to Blackwood was narrow and eerily lit by the car lights. We overshot the turnoff to the house, and got what we thought was a hostile appraisal from the locals through the bar window of the Blackwood Hotel, but they turned out to be John and Jim waiting for us with the key!

The house was set in a large lawn with trees. It was very cold. As we arrived, our attempts at conversation were difficult and tentative. It seemed as if the fires we lit would never make the place warm. We felt unsure of ourselves and each other.

Carolyn, John and I started to cook. Greek bread with cheese and salami, roasted frankfurters, coffee and ovaltine began a weekend of fabulous eating. The abundance of food which everyone brought and the atmosphere of the house with its generous appointments got us past any possible hassles over food or territory. Communal cooking and sharing seemed the natural thing to do.

Once we had settled in over Friday night, and most of the rest of us had arrived on the Saturday morning, we were into it - Chris, Peter and Robert visited a nearby pottery kiln; Jeff, John and Rex went shopping; Jim and Michael collected firewood, and Carolyn, Glenda, Colleen and Steve played music together in one of the bedrooms. John and I slept in.

Two heavy locals in their hot beach buggy followed Tina and Jennifer to the house. When they were not asked to come in, they let down the tyres of two of our cars before they left. But we didn't allow them to get us paranoid.

About lunchtime, Chris found some magic mushrooms in the valley. He was convinced they were the right ones, so about five of us went out to find some more. Between rainshowers, we collected half a bucketful of the golden-top ones.

For a while we just looked at them spread out on the kitchen table. Robert ate some raw, but they reacted badly in his stomach, and he had to go for a long walk in the fresh air with Peter. A lot of us had them cooked with onions on toast. It was my first experience with hallucinogens. I had eaten about five mushrooms, which was too many for a first time. Poor Doug had two serves! Carolyn was brilliant - she had two, and laughed and giggled at the rest of us all afternoon.

I was high for the first couple of hours - kissing and hugging everyone, feeding people mushrooms, laughing at my own jokes...."Everyone who laughs is a cynic...(laugh)"...., getting into everything, but I couldn't keep up with myself. I didn't realise till afterwards how badly I had crashed. Everyone was so supportive and understanding. It was beautiful. I was amongst real friends.

As darkness fell, Trevor arrived with the G.L.F. film society equipment. He screened an old motor-bike racing movie, and Alfred Hitchcock's thriller "Dial 'M' for Murder". I was too out of things for the movie to increase my paranoia. In the middle of the film Glenda and Monica took Steve and me to the Bacchus Marsh Hospital to see if we were O.K. The drive and the crisp air slowly brought us in touch with things. I came to realise I still lived on this planet and that I had wet my pants! After the doctor had seen us, I was so glad to be going back to the house rather than staying the night in the hospital.

When we got back, Trevor had already been thanked by the Blackwood Teddy Bears Committee, who had sworn on oath (Teddy Bear biscuits in hand) that the weekend had to be made an annual event.

Supper ended what was generally felt to be a long day.

Sunday morning.....and it had rained most of the night. Half of us were trying to sleep off the effects of the day before as John masterminded the cleanup of the kitchen. Jim was out cutting some wood for the fire when Robert burst in holding a crooked moss-covered walking stick and looking like The Old Man of the Forest.

Lyn and Holly had found a beautiful oval in the valley which could be an ideal site for a picnic in the spring. It had been developed many years ago between a hillside and a stream, and some magnificent English trees have flourished on the verge of the picnic ground. Old gold diggings can be seen in many parts of the valley.

We were sitting round the fire after breakfast, subdued but happy, when Monica and William got us into some consciousness raising. We had good reminiscences of ourselves, and a lot of venom for Right-to-Life and the Catholic church. We were together, close and warm, and the city was in perspective.

Lyn, Holly and I sat looking through the lounge window at the garden. A joint changed the way we felt about the rain and the leaves.

We had all eaten well during the two days, but we surpassed ourselves Sunday afternoon. Holly's soup, its flavour heightened with wine, was followed by Steve and Lyn's vegetable casserole served with eggs, steak, chops, sausages and bacon. The banquet was completed with Robert's Turkish delight and coffee.

After cleaning up the house, we left, feeling that the warmth and solidarity we had found together would still be with us back in the city.

Ray.

# GAY LIBERATION RESOURCES

A summary of Melbourne Gay Liberation's main activities and resources.

Resources	Venue	Time	Price
<p><u>Gay Liberation Centre</u></p> <p>A meeting place for homosexual people. 259 Brunswick St. Fitzroy, 3065 phone: 414926</p>		8 P.M. to 11 P.M. evenings other times when arranged.	no admission charge
<p><u>Library</u></p> <p>Books, magazines, reports, periodicals, manifestos, broadsheets</p>	Centre	8 P.M. to 11 P.M. evenings	free borrowing service
<p><u>Dr. Duncan Revolution Bookshop</u></p> <p>Feminist and gay liberation resources. Non-sexist and quality homosexual literature</p>	P.O. Box 111 Eastwood S.A. 5063	mail order service.	free catalogue sent on request
<p><u>Melbourne G.L.F. Newsletter</u></p> <p>A monthly collection of articles, graphics, poems, news, letters, and photographs. A forum for feminist and gay opinion. The newsletter group is open to anyone. Editorial policy is determined by consensus of those present.</p>	Centre or Strawberry Press, 11 Johnston St. Collingwood	when arranged	free. sent by mail on request
<p><u>Contact for homosexual people.</u></p> <p>The gay liberation phone service. (414926)</p>	any phone	8 P.M. to 11 P.M. evenings	5¢ or free
<p><u>Informal, open contact groups</u></p> <p>Feel ready to come and talk with friendly people about homosexuality, gay liberation, or anything you wish to discuss.</p>			
<p>Women's group c/o Laurie Bebbington 3478596</p>	ring for details	Sundays 8P.M. fortnightly	no charge
<p>Mens Group c/o John Holden, 3475338.</p>	ring for details	"	no charge

Resources (contd.)	Venue	Time	Price
<u>Consciousness-raising groups</u>			
Women c/o Carolyn Austin, 255701	ring for details	when arranged	no charge
Men c/o John Holden, 3475338,	ring for details	when arranged	no charge
or leave your name, address and phone number on the noticeboard list at the centre.			
<u>Gay Liberation Counselling Group</u>			
A committed group of counsellors are available to talk over personal problems with any homosexual person. The aim of the group is self determination for the person concerned. In general, women counsel women, and men counsel men. The group does not pretend to have all the answers. Fortnightly meetings are held to discuss the group's perspectives and progress.	Centre	Mondays fortnightly 8P.M.	no charge
<u>Crash-Pads</u>			
Temporary accomodation is available for gay people who without a place to stay. The centre can be used any night and other places by arrangement. A list of crash-pad addresses is pinned to the centre noticeboard.	Centre	any evening	no charge
<u>Films</u>			
Gay Liberation Film Society late shows. Supper, tea & coffee served.	Centre	10.30 PM	\$1.00 for a year's membership
Oppression and Liberation Season:			
"Blood of the Condor"	"	June 21	50¢ for supper
"Ballad of Joe Hill"	"	June 29	
"Asylum"	"	July 5	
"Dream Life"	"	July 13	
"Fortune and Men's Eyes"	"	July 27	
<u>Dances</u>			
Gay Liberation Dances. Licensed.	as advertised	as advertised	as advertised
Next dance: Friday June 28, Melbourn- ian Receptions, Block Arcade, City. 9 P.M. - 1.30 A.M. B.Y.O.G. \$1.80			
Women's Dances. Women Only. Licensed.	as advertised	as advertised	as advertised
Next dance: Special Benefit for Amazon Acres, Trophy Hall, Melbourne University, Friday July 12. Women only. 8 P.M. B.Y.O.G. \$1.50			



Resources (contd.)	Venue	Time	Price	
<u>Parties</u>				
Sunday record nights. We are loaned a fine stereo system for these evenings. B.Y.O. records & grog.	Centre	Sundays 8 P.M.	no charge	
Women's parties. Women only. B.Y.O.G Next party: Saturday July 6	Centre	9 P.M.	no charge	
<u>Anti-sexist, anti-authoritarian politics:</u>				
<u>General Meetings</u>	Centre	1st Friday each month	no charge	
Discussion of organisation, finance, coming events, Also general discussion, time permitting.				
<u>July 5 General Meeting. University venue.</u>	Undergraduate lounge, Union House, Melbourne University	Friday July 5, 8 P.M.	no charge	
**** Finances and current business planning of coming events				
Suggested topics for general discussion:				
**** sexism in gay liberation **** gay liberation's relationship to the gay community.				
<u>Radicalesbians</u>				
Temporarily in recess. A new group of radical gay women is being discussed.				
<u>Melbourne Effeminate Movement</u>				
A movement of men committed to anti-sexist struggle and the development of a politics of liberation based on a recognition of the importance of sex-role conditioning and the need for thoroughgoing revolutionary change in society.	meetings at the centre	Tuesdays fortnightly 8 P.M.	no charge	
<u>Law Action Group</u>				
A group working to change the laws which discriminate against homosexuals.	Centre	Tuesdays fortnightly 8 P.M.	no charge	
<u>Speakers</u>				
Speakers on homosexuality and gay liberation are available for the media, schools, youth clubs, political groups, religious and philosophical discussion groups, etc	by arrangement	by arrangement	by arrangement	

Resources (contd.)

Venue

Time

Price

Consciousness-raising groups

Women c/o Carolyn Austin, 255701

Men c/o John Holden, 3475338,

or leave your name, address and phone number on the noticeboard list at the centre.

ring for details  
ring for details

when arranged  
when arranged

no charge  
no charge

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fortnightly  
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Films

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Centre

10.30 PM

\$1.00 for a year's membership

Oppression and Liberation Season:

"Blood of the Condor"

"Ballad of Joe Hill"

"Asylum"

"Dream Life"

"Fortune and Men's Eyes"

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50¢ for supper

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# SPECIAL NOTICE

AT THE GAY LIBERATION  
CENTRE WE WOULD LIKE  
TO UPGRADE THE  
RESOURCES AVAILABLE  
to the GAY community.

## WE URGENTLY NEED

\*\*\*\*an electric typewriter with typesetting capability

\*\*\*\*an electric stencil cutting machine

\*\*\*\*a Roneo or Gestetner duplicating machine

\*\*\*\*floor coverings

\*\*\*\*an expanded library

Donations over \$1000 welcome.

# SEND ALL MONEY

to

The Treasurer,  
Gay Liberation Front,  
259 Brunswick St.,  
Fitzroy. 3065