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LONELINESS

'There are thousands of desperately lonely gay people all over the country, you know. What are we going to do about them?' This was the comment I heard a few evenings ago as I discussed with an intelligent and very integrated young man the way that this magazine was developing. He felt that *Gayscene* was the medium to take the lonely by the hand and help them along the path. Indeed, we are here to introduce places to meet people in all parts of the country the same way that we hope in the months to come that we shall be introducing new topics to our readers, all designed to encourage people to think on a broader scale.

'But it isn't just as simple as that, you know. Lonely people there are, but they fall into so many different categories within that general loneliness. For here and now let us just take gay people. Now there are those that are lonely because they are shy, they know where to go but are either too shy to go or too shy to do anything but sit in a corner when they are there. Then there are lonely people that are lonely simply because they have completely different interests to the majority of us — perhaps they study the Lesser Short-Toed Lark (believe me it does exist) — can you really see this gentleman sidling up to someone at the bar and saying 'when was the last time you saw . . .' and so on. Lastly there are the people who like to be on their own. They quite enjoy sitting in a corner watching what is going on without necessarily joining in and would probably die if any notice was taken of them. Their happiness is just being allowed to be themselves by themselves

For the sake of this article shall we just mainly deal with those who desperately wish to make friends but just don't seem to have

By JEAN HARVEY

the knack of being the most wanted chap in the room. Firstly, the biggest mistake to make is to arrive, purchase your drink and then disappear into a corner. This is fatal and will leave you just about as lonely as you started out. Decide on a place that if you have never been to you know exists (if you are reading this then you have quite a lot to choose from). Don't go on a Monday night: pick a Friday or a night when there is something special. arrive too early: give the place a chance to warm through. Either sit at the bar, then you can at least talk to the bar staff, or choose a fairly central table. You will either have to join people who are already sitting there or as soon as the place fills up you will find someone will be sharing your table. This is the moment when you do not pick up your cigarettes and dash off into the night. It will already have taken some courage to be there in the first place, so I suggest you have thought up something before-hand. Holidays, a film, or something that you can confidently string a couple of sentences together about. Even keep a copy of this mag in your pocket and ask if they have been to so-and-so that is advertised in there and what is it like. This should get something started. Honestly, if you just once pluck up the courage the first time it does get easier.

Then there is the other side of the coin, the people that talk about 'the lonely' are the very ones that are most able to help. It's so easy if one is with a crowd of people to become wrapped up in one's self and quite forget what is going on around us. If just once we all went out of our way to draw into our own crowd someone who is alone, then we would all be doing our thing towards helping those less fortunate than ourselves.

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Jean_Harvey of Gayscene in an exclusive interview with

DOROTHY SQUIRES

As I travelled to talk to Dorothy Squires the main thing that interested me was what is the tremendous attraction that the gay crowd have for her. It didn't take long to find out. Dot Squires undoubtedly has the exceptional ability to come out from behind and lead the field. She grasps every opportunity, in many cases she makes the opportunities for herself and gives of herself to the very last ounce. Dot thinks that perhaps a lot of the gay boys in her audiences identify themselves with her. Ready and prepared to take on any comer, she practically defies the world at large and no doubt that is exactly what most of us would really like to do. Love the ones we love with everything we have and nuts to the rest.

Dorothy, born in Wales, spent her early singing career entertaining miners: she had her first taste of big success at 15, broadcasting with Charlie Kunz. She lives in Bexley, Kent, where she has been for over 20 years in a lovely old house with spacious gardens and a most inviting swimming pool. The house has eleven bedrooms, with a gorgeous lounge which has a most warm and welcoming effect on visitors. Obviously Dot, who is well known for her super parties, has her friends in mind, because there is a large party room and a games room for those who like to play table tennis, etc. A very grateful fan sent her a gipsy caravan which has pride of place in the garden. Dot's own hideaway den has an airy study with attractive open stairs up to a large spacious bedroom. But to me the sight of a huge grand piano in the lounge made me feel that some nights Dot must give a lot of pleasure to a gang of friends just sitting around playing and

Currently Dot is working hard on new material for her forthcoming American storm show at Carnegie Hall (by the way, there are very few of the special three-day tour tickets left, so those of you who intend going should not delay any longer). With her personal arranger of long standing, Nicky Welch, she is working on several new numbers. Dorothy Squires is an artiste who believes that nothing but the best will do either by way of performance or visual impact. Until recently her gowns were by Doug Darnell but she has now gone over to Mark Cantor, Danny la Rue's designer. She has had three stunning gowns made for America — turquoise and blue, apricot and beige, and a superb black chiffon alive with a multicoloured over top. The Carnegie Hall show is part of an American whirlwind tour which includes a number of television appearances. Dot believes that if you go to the States you have to go big.

As I think all her fans must be aware, Dorothy Squires cannot abide injustices. Not for her to meekly pay up and keep quiet: she will and has fought hard and long when she believes herself to be in the right. Throughout her personal life there has been times of stress and difficulties, but nothing deters her for long and no race is worth running if she can't be out in front.

Her greatest hobby and interest is in horses. She has a small string of chasers. Top of the list is Esban, and Dot has just bought Norwegian Flag, a six-year-old from Ireland. Her trainer is R. H. Clay who has stables just outside Wolverhampton. At home she has two dogs—a pointer and a poodle—who play tag round and round the pool, and are a cabaret turn themselves.

Dorothy is born under the sign of Aries, believes in playing hunches and is never without her gold anklet. Her personal manager, Maurice Clark, is devoted to her good interests and is constantly on the 'phone talking to agents, fans and a million and one other people. Dot's big new number is 'If He Walked Into My Life,' released as a single in August, and I gather there are some splendid new arrangements currently under way.

Dorothy particularly asked if she could say a big thank-you to all the gay boys through our *Gayscene* columns. She is aware of the fantastic following and loves all the flowers and tributes at each performance. She personally sees all the fan mail and deals with it herself: no one is ever fobbed off, and everything she does, from gowns to recordings, she has her fans and their likes and dislikes right in front of her mind.

For me I found Dorothy Squires quite charming and dedicated. She gave up two hours of her precious time to talk to Gayscene and couldn't have been more interested in what we were doing with the magazine. Certainly Dorothy is a dynamic personality, with thousands of others we will be following the coming months with great interest and will bring you news from America and her coming tours. Dorothy appears at the Fiesta Club, Sheffield, from the 17th September, after which she flies to New York. We wish her, on behalf of all Gayscene readers, a wow of a show, and come back soon.



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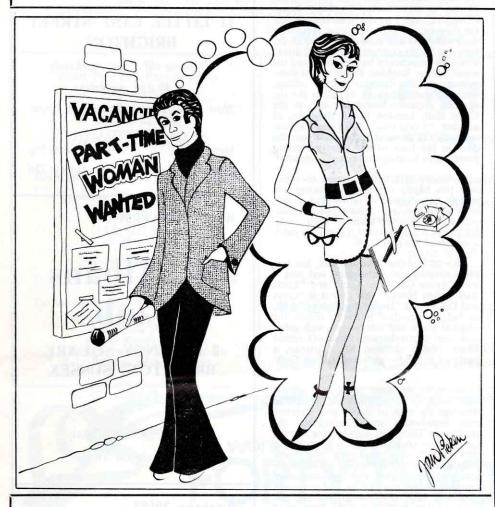
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"NOISES OFF"

By 'THESPIAN'

"Business is always better on the nights the boys rehearse," said Ada, the landlady of the 'Golden Cross,' Portland Road, Hove, although I would have thought that the thumps and bumps coming from over the Public Bar and echoing around all the bars was hardly conducive to a quiet drink, albeit the snatches of bawdy songs and the music of the Brighton Beaux might compensate for the thunder on the ceiling, whetting the customer's appetites for the opening night on December 4th, at the Coop Hall, London Road, Brighton, of another "Forty-two" Club production: certainly the demand for drinks from the door at the back of bar from perspiring participants must up the takings somewhat.

However, as I had managed to sneak into this happy atmosphere (visitors are strictly not allowed at rehearsals), ostensibly helping to carry some props just completed by Ronnie Hunter, their indefatiguable Stage Director, I hoped to catch a snatch of the plot.

This pantomime, like the last, has two plots running simultaneously: last year it was "Annie Get Your Gun" and "Little Red Riding Hood," this year it is "Guys and Dolls" and "Dick Whittington," with, as before, parodied lyrics to match the original score and interwoven with other non-pantomime characters such as Captain Bligh, Major Barbara, Mr. Christian, a party of E.N.S.A. girls and Lillian Gish, all merrily mixed together.

Not quite so mixed up as the barmaid who came up to replenish the drinks, to discover six men in slacks and sweaters plus high-heeled shoes, emulating the traditional Tiller Girl high-kicking routine (all sixty-six stone of them — heaven help that ceiling!) whilst imploring "Come and play with me"! Evidently it will all look lovely "on the night" with the addition of costume, make-up and wigs, and obviously she must have thought so, for she announced that she already had a long list of seat applications, and said that she had been threatened with all manner of atrocities by the downstairs customers if they weren't filled.

Actually, Tony Stuart told me that he would only be mailing seat application forms to members living outside Brighton, as over the years the demand for seats had become so great that just to cope with the correspondence had become a full-time job, and, let's face it, he has enough on his plate as writer, choreographer and producer. Members who live in Brighton will be informed through the press when tickets will be available at the Club for themselves and their guests.

"That Guy Whittington and his Dolls" certainly looks like being another winner, and should bring pleasure to a host of people, and if poor Damon Runyan is turning in his grave I think he'll be spinning quite merrily, and the recipients of the charitable donation will be equally happy. Over £1,000 has already been raised by this marvellous company for local charities, so the 'People's Dispensary for Sick Animals' can no doubt expect a sizeable donation to their very worthy cause.

Hope the ceiling and the beer hangs out, Ada!

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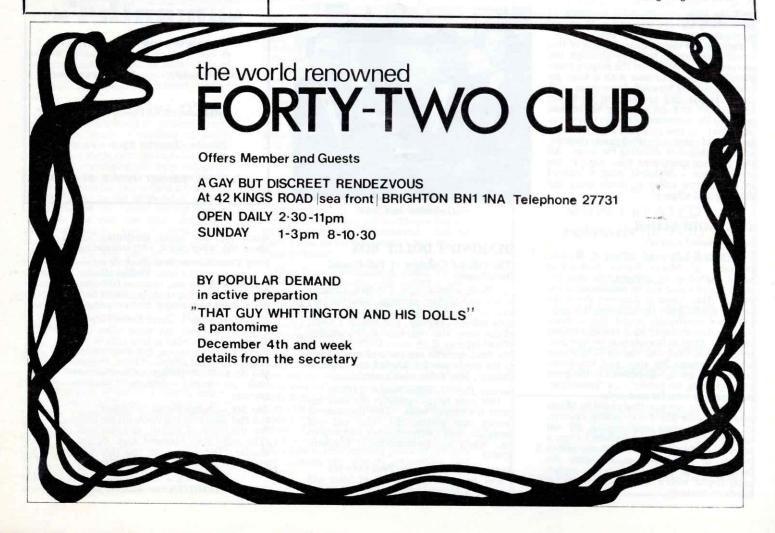
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FOOTLIGHTS

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

The Palace, London

For me this particular Superstar left a rather damp fizzle as it shot heaven bound. We have heard so much about it — the music has heralded its appearance and the PR boys really have done their job well. The show is sold out for weeks, but it never really makes it; all the best is in the first half, and by the middle of the second one realizes how uncomfortable the seats are — always a sign of a wandering mind.

The cast and general choreography is super. Stephen Tate playing the disillusioned Judas gave an exceptionally good portrayal, but Paul Nicholas as Jesus was most disappointing. Jesus came out a weak, ineffectual man with an astonished look as if he'd mixed the ingredients and was amazed that they had worked out. He was cool and rather nondescript. I find that interpretation quite unacceptable. Dana Gillespie as Mary gave a clear understanding to this difficult part — she gave depth to the songs and, of course, 'Everything's Alright' and 'I Don't Know How to Love Him' are beautiful numbers. I particularly like the staging for 'Hosanna' which came over extremely well.

Perhaps the most fantastic piece of this whole show came half-way through the second act: at this point the staging completely comes up to date with a huge air cushion moving forward down stage. Off jumps Herod and proceeds to throw off his topcoat and do a raving tap dance, taunting the surprised Jesus (he wasn't the only one). At this point the audience went quite wild and screamed and clapped, some on their feet shouting for more. All this had me convinced they were in the wrong place — obviously what is wanted in the theatre today is much more tap dancing and singing!

THE GODFATHER

(A Paramount release)

In March last year, Albert S. Ruddy, producer of Mario Puzo's best-selling novel, stated quite categorically that the word Mafia would not be mentioned in the movie. This omission does not shield the paying public from the fact that this gripping and terrifyingly brutal film is practically a documentary on American-Italian violence. Marlon Brando is at his best portraying Don Corleone, the top family man who puppeteers his sons and henchmen into violent crimes, sometimes in the guise of 'protecting his family' — a 'protection' that spreads very far and wide.

He sits in a position that could be Moses presiding over the flock, giving favours, demanding respect and paying off old debts in the most brutal fashion. Once a favour is asked of Don Corleone one is forever in his debt—at any time the favour may be asked back, as one undertaker found with a bloody corpse on his hands to beautify.

Family loyalty in true Mafia style is here — weddings, christenings and meals, with women and children looking quite unaware of the violence that is ripping them all apart. The film is brutal and explosive — not for the squeamish — but the three hours rushes by without a murmur from an enthralled audience. Francis Ford Coppola directs superbly, and names such as Al Martino, Morgana King and Sterling Hayden crop up in the cast list quite taking one by surprise.

The sets, designers and general property people need an Oscar to themselves. The famous store of Best and Co. on Fifth Avenue was used for one of the scenes, although this company went out of business just a year ago. Windows were cleaned, mannequins dressed wearing styles of the 40's, and decorations for Christmas startled casual passers-by as the crew set about recreating Yuletide in the middle of Easter. Fashions are back to the 40's and this film has started the swing. If for nothing else, *The Godfather* is worth a visit for sets and staging alone.



Godfather and Sons

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... Well, what a week I've had, running hither and thither, opening Supermarkets and autographing detergent bottles — my poor lallies! Anyway, I've rented a small chalet atop the well-known 'Fazakerley Wheel-tappers & Shunters Club' just for a few days, so with my plate of sandwiches at the ready, records loaded on the autochanger, here's this week's varda:—

Garden Party — Rick Nelson (MCA)
This must be my record of the week be-

This must be my record of the week because it's simply bona. Tells the story of 'young man getting old,' very sad and nostalgic, and I hope it never happens to me. (Own up, Dymond-Dolly Clackett, Staffs).

Sugar Me - Lynsey de Paul (MAM)

I've never been sugared, at least not lately, but Lynsey is de-lovely, in fact too

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Long Cool Woman in a Black Dress—
Hollies (Parl)

Just made for me, this one (the record, not the dress). Super to jig around to on a black night with a cool man or vice-versa.

One Night Affair — Jerry Butler (Mercury)
Where do they get these titles from?
Turns out to be 'Man in love with Woman'
thing, terribly noxious, but commercial.
(I like one-night affairs—Victor, Brighton)
(So do I—Ruth Biddett—Cleckheaton)
(We get letters — Johnny Dymond —
resting)

Big Six — Judge Dread (Naffdisc)
I feel sure that the tumbrills are coming

I feel sure that the tumbrills are coming for this type of record, reminds one of 'The night they invented Jack Payne' or similar. Did I ever tell you that I once crossed a horse with a skunk? (*see below)

(FOOTLIGHTS continued on page 10)



When we look in the mirror just prior to going out, we usually see our faces: perhaps that is why our hands don't get as much attention as they should. After all, our hands are used to greet people in a handshake and leave a lasting impression. Nothing is worse than a handclasp from a wet, lettuce-like hand, or the reverse of having your hand crushed in a vice-like grip!

But hands do get noticed you know—holding a glass, taking a cigarette, even as they emphasise a point of view. It is of little use saving for a beautiful ring if it is eventually to be placed on a harsh, unkept hand.

There are many good and not necessarily expensive hand creams to prevent rough, dry or sore hands. Chilblains on hands and feet can be most miserable, as this complaint is partly through bad circulation, time spent massaging will help this problem, especially through the worst winter months. If you happen to have a job where grubby hands cannot be avoided, do purchase one of the many barrier creams available and rub this into your hands after every wash. You can obtain tubes that slip easily into a pocket so you can use it during the day as well. These creams will form a protective film which is capable of resisting penetration and thereby save damage to the skin. The majority of the dirt will therefore stay on the outside and be washed off. But you must use it every time — once a day simply is not enough.

Nails

With perseverance, nails will gradually become easier to cope with. The most important part of the manicure is care of the cuticles. (1) Clip nails to an oval (not pointed) shape, then perfect the shape with the use of a file. I would highly recommend that you treat yourself to a Diamond Deb nail file, which will last for years and really smooths the nails, helping to prevent splitting and peeling. (2) Massage a cuticle cream or even a good hand cream into the cuticles, always pushing

away from the nails. (3) Now soak nails for a short time in soapy water, then dry. (4) Using a cuticle oil, or if the nails are breaking, use a 50/50 mixutre of white iodine and almond oil, work round the cuticles with a cotton wool bud, or some cotton wool wrapped round the end of an orange stick. Use of metal manicure tools (other than file already mentioned) can be dangerous if used roughly. (5) After you have treated each nail, clip any loose cuticle or hang-nail that may remain, but only cut away if completely necessary. (6) Lastly, scrub nails with a brush and after thoroughly drying, massage in hand cream. I'm sure you will be pleased with the end result. You may also buff the nails to make them shine: this helps to stimulate circulation and makes the nails generally healthier. Cuticle remover is also used to bleach under nails. This will remove nicotine, carbon and other stains.

Readers' Letters to Beau Ego

Since our first Beau Ego column last month, I have received numerous letters, all of which will be answered. Among them came useful tips which I will give in these columns.

First from Graehame a useful tip for wet shavers who suffer with 'shaver's rash.' This reader suggest you put a couple of drops of Dettol in the water and this will help relieve the rash. He also recommends Johnson's Baby Lotion as an effective after-shave for dry skin.

I was asked by several readers whether really hot baths are harmful. Certainly they are not refreshing and a hot bath will leave you lethargic and feeling very weak. Bath water should be about 100 deg. F. You can always go back to the favourite mum's way and test the water with your elbow. Don't forget it is probably easier to have a really hot shower than a bath as this water is running over you and you are not soaking the skin in excessively hot water.

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Preston Guild Week September 4-9th. Open 9 a.m.- 11 p.m. (continued from page 8)

ALBUM OF THE MONTH

Sonny and Cher, The Best of . . (Atlantic K40012)

Here it is, all the goodies from years gone by: 'The Beat Goes On, What now, my Love?, I Got you, Babe' — to name

my Love?, I Got you, Babe'—to name but five. So if this is your bag...(Anything's my bag — Zelda, Nantwich (37))
Well, that's this month's bijou byline, dearies. Don't forget to see the 'Godfather' film, absolutely butch, and look out for the new Jewish musical — 'OKLA-HYMIE.'
(*Winnig the Book)

(* Winnie the Pooh)

LALLYTAPPERS

Will you still love me tomorrow?' -

Shirelles . . . Ah, what memories! 'New Orleans' — Harley Quinne . . . All the old ones are back again. I told you so last month. No need to sulk — and don't slam that door.

P.S.. Having a lovely holiday, wish you were here — Lottie the Bottie (what a cheek!).

Memo to Harvey: If you cut, censor, blue-pencil, delete any or all of the preceding pearls, I'll never speak to you again, and what's more, the water in this hotel is quite safe as it's been passed by the manager.

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For three years Lee Sutton has been resident at the Bishops Waltham Country Club each Sunday evening. He has now decided to have a complete break for a while and this meant a bumper farewell night at the beginning of September. The club was packed with every table booked a fortnight in advance, and Lee gave one of his most stunning performances. The second half he appeared in an exotic dinner suit which took the audience completely by They cheered, clapped, and surprise. cried while he went through such numbers as 'At The Club,' 'Pollywollydoodle' and 'Thanks for the Memory.' The crowd just wouldn't let him off and even yours truly was dragged on by Lee to do a couple of the old favourite duets with him. Finally, exhausted and throat-sore, he managed to get away. Eddie and Norman from the club presented him with a beautiful silver tea set (he does like his cup of nan) and Lee will be back at the club to do Sunday nights on a slightly less regular basis quite soon. In the meantime there is a constant Sunday night programme booked, with artists like The Dumbelles, Al Dornay, Mr. Honey, Melitza and Peter Maxwell. So Sunday night at the BWCC will as always be a super star-studded Sunday.

I recently had the pleasure of presenting The Dumbelles at Le Club Gigi in Bournemouth, and what a tremendous show this act put on. The material is new, fast and superbly timed. The costumes are stunning and presented to the best advantage. Where this couple score is on the choice of material. Not for them the old stuff you've seen a million times by one or other of the acts about town. Completely fresh pieces that have been selected from hours of listening to LPs and tapes. Into the act goes a super strobe strip which is quite an innovation. Both the Johns are easy to work with and turn up on time and with everything worked out. This makes life so much easier for the agent and the venue. We hope to see a lot more of this act—which deserves bookings in larger establishments where it can be seen to the best advantage.

Le Club Gigi held a super Tutankhamun Night a couple of weeks back. The first prize was a replica scarab necklace direct from the British Museum, with two replicas for second and third. There were numerous entries, making the choice for the judges extremely hard, as the entries were of a particularly high standard. At Bishops Waltham the regular first Monday of the month provided excellent entries for the September theme of Movie Personalities. In October the theme will be Viennese. Oscars of Bournemouth have been holding Monday night shows with a very successful Bank Holiday Drag Night and a Pyjama Party later in the month.

Jean Fredericks was seen on TV in the Larry Grayson Show: this act is getting around these days. I understand from a mouse hiding in Larry Grayson's office that Jean is to go on tour with Larry later this year. This can only be another first for the Canadian artiste.

The DOK continues to be a successful club with cabaret most evenings. We shall be carrying a feature on this London club next month and will be able to tell you more of their cabaret scene then.

more of their cabaret scene then.

Allan Haynes in London has been changing his programme of cabaret with some most interesting artistes appearing nightly. This late night London rendezvous seems to be a haunt of cabaret artistes appearing in town and top names can be seen here sipping a little fruit juice after a hectic night's work.

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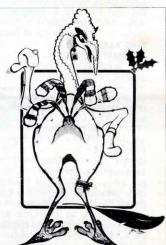
"Oooooh guess who?"

"Vont to buy a present?"



c

"O.K. Mary, let's get the show on the road!"



".... and what do you think you're gonna do with that stuffing?"

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