

CAPITAL GAY

JULY 2, 1982

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More than 1200 people beat the tube strike and braved torrential rain to complete the Gay Pride Carnival Parade, drenched to the skin, on Saturday.

Traffic in central London — even the rent Mecca of Piccadilly Circus — was brought to halt as the dripping carnival squelched by.

Capital Gay's photo-journalists were there and bring you a full report of the parade, and the partying that followed, on pages 8 and 9.





A bigger

A huge gas-filled balloon bobbed along above the Gay News float that led marchers on the Gay Pride Carnival Parade 1982 through central London on Saturday.

doesn't seem to explain the wide variety of crowd estimates that ranged from one of 900 in Park Lane to another of 3,700 in Tottenham Court Road.

Julian Hows

Snub

We asked the police for their estimate but a press officer said: "I'm sorry, we don't have one. We only tend to get them on the very big marches."

That snub aside relations with the police were excellent: they seemed to have learnt from their mistakes of the last London parade in 1980 when officers made snide remarks, issued curt instructions and finally arrested a man, Frank Egan, for wearing a meat cleaver in his hat.

In the trouble that followed that incident two years ago ten men were arrested. Of the 3,000 marchers between 1,000 and 1,500 marched on Bow Street police station. In subsequent trials most were acquitted.

Ignored

But this year it was a different story. The only problem was the weather — Julian Hows, apologising for not wearing an original costume for which he has some reputation, said a policeman even ignored him urinating outside the Dorchester Hotel in the rain.

The parade ended at the University of London Union in Market Street where hundreds swam naked in the pool, sweated in the sauna, listened to lovely Mark Bunyan's songs and stories, watched Consenting Adults, danced, tried self-defence, took part in political workshops, ate, drank, watched the video of the march or just sat and steamed until they dried out.

Video

But with chants of "Gay is Good, Gay is Angry, Gay is WET" spirits were lifted and even the police smiled.

Further down Piccadilly cameras poked out of St James' Church to record an official video of the march which splashed on past Eros and up Shaftesbury Avenue where people hung out from the fifth floor and dangled a Gay Pride banner.

People were leaving and joining the parade throughout its progress but that

Hyde Park



Homosexuality 30s-style in *Another Country*. And 80s-style in the street out side...

Talk of the walk

THE ANGEL

73, Lambeth Walk, SE11 735 4309

Friday July 2nd
Saturday 3rd July
Sunday 4th July
Monday 5th July

Tuesday 6th July

Wednesday 7th July

The Fabulous Addrella
Carla
The Trollettes
Glenn Barrie's Golden
Oldies
The Angel's Own
Competition Evening
The All New Gay Bingo
Night

Admission FREE very reasonable drink prices

Buses 3, 159, 172, 109 (Westminster), alight War Museum

Opening Soon

London's largest selection of
gay leatherware at

MiSter LEATHERMAN

40, Frith Street, London W.1.

(in the basement under Paradise Cine Club)

Look out for more news next issue

PARADISE CINEMA CLUB & BOOKSHOP

40, Frith Street, W1

All new American films. Full length, sound & colour
Admission £3.

Membership FREE with this ad

We have the largest selection of mags,
readers, videos etc all exchanged at half price



Hyde Park



Piccadilly Circus

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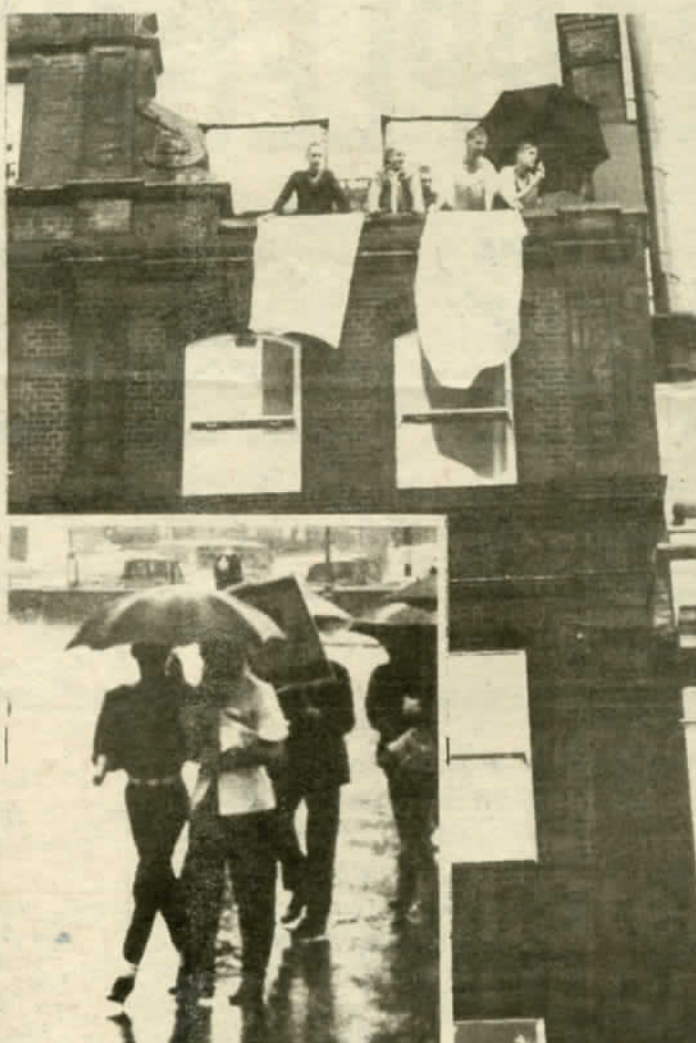
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A bigger splash!

A huge gas-filled balloon bobbed along above the Gay News float that led marchers on the Gay Pride Carnival Parade 1982 through central London on Saturday.

But as the parade made its way down Park Lane a huge thundercrack directly overhead made us jump out of our skins, and the lightning struck the GN balloon.

"I've still got the charred remains" said GN owner Robert Palmer later, adding: "Perhaps God was trying to tell us something!"

The rain began in Hyde Park as people gathered at 12.30 but the sun came out and the march moved off cheerily. The rain returned as we made our way down Park Lane. In Piccadilly the Heavens opened.

It was here during the worst of the 'monsoon' that Capital Gay counted 1,200 people. A few were sheltering in doorways but most got too wet too quickly.

Hair dye was running. Make-up was smudged. Banners sagged.

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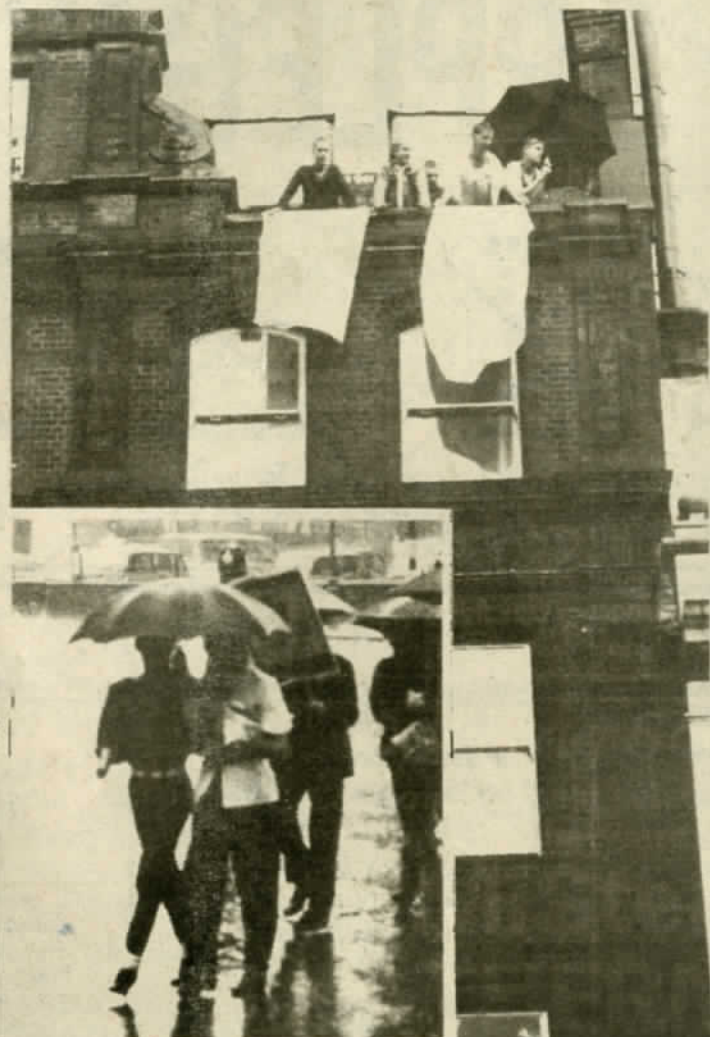
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