

**LG CARF**

**Lesbian & Gay**

**Campaign Against Racism & Fascism**

Feb '92

10p

**EURO-PRIDE**

**RACIST PRIDE**



"Euro Pride 92" has recently launched its campaign symbol for this year's Pride march in London - two white male hands. The March has been billed as a focus for all lesbians and gay men across Europe. The new logo couldn't make it clearer that this is not the case, as it joins in the racist nature of European integration!

The fightback launched from the Stonewall Bar in June 69 gave birth to the modern Lesbian and gay movement, yet the facts about this tremendous battle, which lasted for 3 days and nights, against police and assorted bigots are being deliberately hidden by our misleaders in our movement.

#### The Pride Committee - A History of Racism.

#### Anti-Racist

The Pride Committee - a private company - has had a long history of racism. Last year Committee officials sabotaged Black Focus on Pride organised by "Black Experience" (officially part the Committee). When Black Experience turned up, their stalls were given to a local tradesman, when finally they got a stall with no power supply the Committee official said "We thought you'd just bring a Ghetto Blaster and some Batteries". At around 9.p.m that night when all other musical activities were in full swing, the Pride Committee called on 15 police officers to shut down the Black Experience sound, an outright threat to all the black lesbians and gay men present.

Stonewall was a black and latino gay bar and therefore it was no accident that it was constantly raided and harassed by the racist homophobic police. The police tactics were to divide our community, in collaboration with gay business men who owned and controlled the clubs and bars, they argued "You accept our prices and rules or you get the same". The Stonewall management sided with the police and as a result the place was burnt to the ground.

Racism is an everyday experience for black lesbians and gay men in the lesbian and gay community. This racism has been fostered by our self proclaimed "leaders" who want to separate the struggles against homophobia and against racism so they can present a respectable, ie. racist, face to our oppressors. To add to this there are racist door policies in clubs and pubs by open refusal of entry to black people and harassment from the establishments' security.

The Stonewall riot was as much against racism as it was against homophobia. Thousands of lesbians and gay men from all over New York poured out onto the streets to support the black and latino lesbians and gay men, and drag queens from the stone-wall bar in a united struggle against racism and homophobia.

#### "Fortress Europe"

#### Pride?

"Euro-Pride" itself is being built on the basis that rights for Lesbian and Gay men can be slipped through the back door as part of European Unification. "Fortress Europe" is already showing its true colours. The Asylum Bill in Britain and similar measures across Europe, are fuelling the rise of racism and fascism. Legal reforms will mean little while Fascist and Racist gangs are roaming the streets attacking and killing black people and increasingly targeting lesbians and gay men. At the same time, so called European Unification increases the racist domination of European nations against neo-colonial ("third world") nations.

Yet for years now the Lesbian and Gay marches, which are supposed to celebrate the Stonewall uprising, have been organised as publicity events for the "Pink Economy". We must reclaim it not only out of respect for our sisters and brothers who fought so hard in the past but as a focus for struggle and action now.

#### Europe

Across Europe there is a massive wave of Fascist, racist and anti lesbian/gay attacks. In Berlin this has been met with a militant response from lesbians and gay men joining in with black people and youth fighting on the streets against the fascists and the police. In Britain such attacks and murders have escalated in the wake of the Gulf War, Clause 25 and the Asylum Bill. Yet the fight against clause 25 was abandoned in favour of putting our hope in these same governments to dish out legal reforms. Until then we are supposed to sit tight and wait!

LG CARF meets every Monday at the London Lesbian & Gay Centre at 7.30pm

# WHAT WE ARE & WHAT WE'VE DONE

Lesbian and Gay Campaign Against Racism And Fascism came into existence in October 1991. This was in response to the rapid growth of fascist organisation and an increase in racist activity. Following the relatively smooth introduction of Section 28 and Clause 25, there has been an increase of racist and anti-gay murders.

The leaders of the lesbian and gay movement have showed us they are not interested in providing direction to defending ourselves. Last years pride march demonstrated to black lesbians and gay the racist nature of this leadership.

LGCARF is an integrated lesbian and gay organisation prepared to campaign within our community and join our struggles as lesbian and gay men with the struggle against racism and fascism. If we are going to succeed we have no choice but to link our struggles for sexual freedom with that for black liberation.

We have been active in support of ; STOP LE PEN demonstrations and pickets, anti-fascist pickets at Brick lane, the Martin Calvert campaign for his reinstatement, Vandana Patel campaign and Anti Asylum Bill demonstrations. Our aim for the coming months is to ensure that there is an anti-fascist and anti-racist contingent on this year's Pride March.

We have affiliated to both the ANL and the Anti-Racist Alliance calling for a joint conference on building an anti-racist and anti-fascist movement based on building a unified struggle of lesbians and gay men, black people, women, Irish Jewish people, the labour movement and of youth.

Join us in building such a movement preparing for our resistance to our oppression and organising for the fights against fascism, racism, homophobia and sexism.

## **LGCARF ■ PUBLIC MEETING**

TO DISCUSS BUILDING AN  
**ANTI-RACIST AND ANTI-FASCIST  
CONTINGENT  
ON PRIDE '92**

**WED. 26 FEB. '92**

8PM

LONDON LESBIAN & GAY CENTRE  
69 COWCROSS ST. EC1 • Farringdon tube.  
ALL WELCOME

*cont. from front.*

### **Self-Defence**

Self-defence against these attacks is a life and death issue. It is vital that we are not isolated in this struggle. The rise in anti lesbian and anti-gay bigotry also fuels racism. AIDS hysteria was an excuse for the introduction of the last set of immigration controls in Britain.

We must campaign and demand that the labour movement physically joins our defence. This must be a united struggle against both racist attacks and anti lesbian/gay attacks, otherwise we face bloody defeat. We must as lesbians and gay men fight against racism and fascism in our community and in society in general. This fight must be linked with our fight against homophobia in society and fight alongside black lesbians and gay men against homophobia in the black community.

### **Building Alliances in Struggle**

Lesbian and Gay Support the Miners (LGSM) and other labour movement support groups have shown that it is possible to win active support from within the labour movement. Lesbians and gay men opening organising with Thamesmead youth last summer showed that real alliance with the black struggle destroys any divisions. We need to build united struggles of all

sections of society under attack.

### **Anti-Racist and Anti-Fascist Pride '92**

"EURO PRIDE" must be changed to be an event with its main focus in launching a militant fight against racism and fascism across Europe. We must use Pride 92 as a means of building with all groups under attack. We must challenge the unelected 'fixers' who now dominate Pride and are trying to usurp it in favour of cosy collaboration with the racist, anti-gay 'establishment'.

They have demonstrated their own racism, and with EuroPride they are accomodating to the racist character of "Fortress Europe". Naturally this line fits in with preserving their own privileges and improving their status - while black people and lesbians and gay men face murder. These leaders will in the end if not challenged will be presiding over our bloody sell out, all for just a few crumbs soak in our blood!

This is why we must unite to build a powerful anti-racist and anti-fascist contingent on Pride. LGCARF will be organising meetings over the coming months open to all interested groups and individuals, to prepare such a contingent.

LGCARF

# Anti-Racist Alliance V. Anti Nazi League: What's Going On?

In the last few months a lot of confusion has been created by the emergence of two anti-racist organisations with basically similar aims. First on the scene was the Anti-Racist Alliance (ARA), which was announced at the end of October 91, but has only really appeared on the ground since the new year. Since then the Anti-Nazi League (ANL) mark 2, has been launched on the initiative of the SWP.

## What Are The Differences?

Looking at their platforms very little! Both organisations correctly point to the growing level of racist and fascist attacks in Britain and across Europe. Both organisations point to the racist character of legislation being introduced by many European governments and the racist preparation for closer European integration in 1992. Both organisations opposed the Asylum Bill.

Similarly both organisations have a very broad spectrum of sponsors, which include left Labour MPs, some left trade union leaders, media figures and all manner of liberals etc. Neither organisations take up the question of the need for self-defence against racist and fascist attacks. Neither organisations look towards the self-organisation of the oppressed people and the working class as the only way to defeat racism and the fascists. Neither organisations draws the links between the rise of racism and anti-lesbian/gay bigotry etc.

One difference is that ARA includes a large number of black groupings and affiliates and argues that fighting racism "Has to be based on the black experience" and therefore involve black leadership. While it is true that it is impossible to fight racism and fascism without the involvement of black leadership and self organisation of the black communities, the real question is what should be the basis of such a leadership and organisation.

Prominent in the ARA is the National Black Caucus lead by Lee Jasper, a "liberal" who recently issued an invitation to Louis Farrakhan to visit Britain. Farrakhan is a reactionary black sell-

out religious leader in the USA, who is openly anti-semitic, anti-gay and sexist.

Along side Lee Jasper in the ARA is the Chair of Cardinal Hume's Committee for the Caribbean Catholic Community and Paole Zion an organisation that supports the racist repression of Palestinians by the Israeli state. There is no way that such a leadership can fight for black liberation or unite the struggles of all the oppressed.

On the other hand, the ANL states that the important question is "political leadership" not black leadership and that its is an anti-fascist rather than anti-racist movement. This is rather odd since the SWP do not regard the fascism as a serious threat in the present period. There is no way in practice that we can fight fascist without fighting racism or without self-defence. To achieve this we need to fight for a united front of black organisations, lesbian/gay organisations and the labour movement.

What both organisations share is a very bureaucratic method - neither of them is concerned with creating an open, democratic and accountable structure for their movements. They think it is sufficient for self-appointed leaders to take "A moral stand" against racism and fascism. In fact this approach will kill off any chance of building an effective movement.

LGCARF has affiliated to both organisations ( we are glad that OUTRAGE has taken the same decision). We think it is essential that lesbian and gay activists should take part in these campaigns in order to link the struggles of black people and lesbians and gay men against their oppression and demand that the labour movement join us in our physical defence.

There has to be a political argument in order to build a real movement, but the present state of confusion (with no real clear political differences in direction) is an obstacle to the struggle. That is why we are calling for ARA, ANL and Anti-Fascist-Action (AFA) to organise a national democratic anti-racist/anti-fascist conference. Only through free and open debate can there be any real progress that will have any chance of building a movement that can reach and involved working class and oppressed communities in taking effective collective action.



## MARCH ON BNP HQ REMEMBER ROLAN ADAMS 1 YR ON!

**DEMONSTRATE 12 noon  
SATURDAY 22 FEBRUARY**

St Nicholas Church, Plumstead High Street SE18

On the 21st February Rolan Adams, a fifteen year old black youth and his fourteen year old brother, was attacked by a gang of white racists (the Nazi Turnouts) as they were returning home from a youth club on the Thamesmead estate in south-west London. Rolan was stabbed in the neck and died whilst trying to escape.

# LGCARF: Our Programme

**No platform for fascists, drive fascists out of the lesbian and gay community.**

Fascists pose a physical threat to the very existence of the working class and oppressed (women, black and racially oppressed, and lesbians and gay men). Some liberals suggest that we should allow fascists "free speech" and prove them wrong by "democratic" argument, but for the oppressed who know that every time the fascists open their mouths they are organising for our deaths, such liberties cannot be afforded. For our own safety, and the safety of all oppressed, fascists must be physically prevented from organising at any time. And those fascists who have the sickening hypocrisy to try and organise (or even "Socialise") within our community, must be immediately driven out before their plan to drive us underground is realised.

**Fight racism. For militant struggle against all forms of racism in the lesbian and gay community - stamp out racist activity.**

More than anything else, fascism today breeds on racism. Many people may today "democratically" object to fascism, but when they share society's racism they are easy fodder for tomorrow's fascists. Divisions amongst the working class and oppressed are exploited by our enemies to further divide us and create scapegoats for the policies of the ruling class. That's why we must unite the workers and all the oppressed if we are to have any success in fighting fascism. For lesbians and gay men this must begin with a struggle against racism within our own community. Whether this is expressed through blatant discrimination in bar/club door policies, collaboration with racist police, so-called jokes, lack of facilities for black lesbians or gay men or the "Euro-Pride - Racist-Pride" celebration plans of the gay capitalists, all forms of racism must be challenged. LGCARF is committed to militant struggle against racism within our community which inevitably threatens all lesbians and gay men.

**For self-defence against anti-lesbian/anti-gay and racist attacks. Fight for the labour movement to support our defence.**

The police, courts and establishment offer no protection from fascist attacks, in the end they always side with the fascists. That's why we must organise ourselves for physical defence against the fascist and racist menace, as well as the increase in anti-lesbian/anti-gay attacks that go alongside it. But it is no good for all the oppressed to stand separately defending ourselves, allowing the fascist to pick us off one by one. It is essential to mobilise the labour movement (the organisations of the working class) - the ultimate enemy of fascism - to crush the fascists.

**Open all borders. For the right of free and unhindered entry and stay in Europe.**

Immigration controls and the restrictions of movement between nations are part of the imperialist racist legacy. "Fortress Europe" allows for free travel between European nations whilst it increases the restrictions on "non European", particularly black people. Immigration is not the problem, racism is. Germany and France have increased the racist immigration legisla-

tion on their statute books as a "response" to the growth of racism and fascism, and Britain is bringing in the racist Asylum bill - all this has simply fuelled the growth of the fascism and further isolated and scapegoated black people. LGCARF opposes racist immigration controls as a response to racism. But to say some immigration controls are necessary is to say: White people can travel and work anywhere in Europe, black people must keep out. So we say open all borders.

**For a mass working class, black, Irish, Jewish, lesbian and gay anti-facist/anti-racist/anti-sexist movement, building links with other anti-racist/fascist groups internationally.**

Only a mass working class movement uniting all the oppression and prepared to fight all the manifestations of oppression can smash the fascists who grow like a cancer on the divisions and sectoralism amongst us. Furthermore, such a movement should build links with anti-racist/anti-fascist movements across the world, overcoming the national divisions fascists feed off.

This is our programme. LGCARF is a united front that welcomes all groups and individuals who have common agreement with our 5 point programme to join with us in actions against racism and fascism. We invite you to join us!

## LGCARF SOCIAL • FUNDRAISER



9pm til late

Friday 28th February '92  
at the Locomotive (pub) Jamestown Rd NW1  
Camden Town tube £3 or £1 conc.  
No Dress Code - Come As You Dare!

## NEWSFLASH!

### NAZIS BOMB SWEDISH GAY BOOKSHOP!

The Lesbian & Gay Community of Stockholm and Gothenburg have been singled out for fascist attacks. The lesbian and gay bookshop, the *Pink Room*, was bombed and demolished by nazis. There will be a picket outside the Swedish Embassy in London in support of a general strike by the Swedish trade unions against racists, fascists and bigots -

**JOIN LGCARF ON THIS PICKET!**

**Friday 21st February 5-7pm**  
Montague Place WC1