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FANFARE



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EDITORIAL.

Another year has come and gone and to my surprise, and total delight, the Phoenix is still here, getting stronger by the day.

It has been a good year in many respects - mainly for me personally. Joy has taken the tedious task of membership matters completely out of my hands, and I'm left only with doing this magazine - Which Joy must proof read to rid it of all my bad grammar and spelling mistakes.

A special word of thanks must go to our regional organisers. You have done a tremendous job and thereby also taken on the pressure I once had to carry on my own. Maybe I don't always say it, but please be assured - your efforts doesn't go unnoticed nor unappreciated. Thank you very much.

As regards the SABC program about us - I must apologise to all those who stayed home to see it on the 19th. On Friday, 17/7/87, the SABC phoned to tell me that the program will not be broadcast on that date - too late to notify any of you. (Think of my poor phone bill!) The excuse is that other programs must get preferential treatment. I know we don't agree with that, but it is their choice, after all. I suspect that our moral protectors have found something 'undesirable' in the program, and it must be re-edited - or they have shelved it permanently. I can give no date for possible future broadcast and ask that we all just pray that it will get shown eventually. It will mean so much towards increasing our membership. For 7 years we have been struggling for recognition, and still we fail - My frustration know no bounds!!

Due to the fact that membership fee has gone up (like everything else) I will try to produce a slightly thicker Fanfare. Watch out for it towards the end of September. However, to do this I need material - How about it? Put those pens to paper and tell us all what you've been up to. Most of us enjoy a good gossip!

POLITICAL JOY.

By Joy.

A quick glance at my watch told me what my feet had been telling me for hours. The time was nearly 1.00am, and the results of the election hadn't been announced yet, and my feet hurt. I had been on my high-heels since 6.00am the previous day.

I could hardly believe that I had been assisting with the elections in their final stages for the last 3 days.

It all started some time back, when I wrote a computer program to assist the PFP in the election which was then due in few weeks time. The program needed to be installed at the PFP offices in Cape Town, and I was discussing with Anne (a Computer Salesperson - not my sister Ann) who was going to install it. I had indicated that I (Joy) would be very willing to do it, but that my male self (James) would not be so willing. "But what shall I tell them? My reputation is at stake!" said Anne.

"Tell them I'm having a sex-change, if you feel you must say something" I replied. "But rather don't say anything, unless you are asked".

So began three very busy days during which I worked well over 12 hours per day for the time leading up to the election. I assisted with the computer, and when that was running smoothly, I offered my help in other areas.

On the evening before the election day, the women I was working with all said that I must remember to wear my party colours the next day. Red, white and blue. What fun that was going to be. All the way home I was deciding what to wear. In the end I decided on my red skirt, blue blouse and white high-heels. Much nicer than a dull grey suit!.

During the morning on election day, I was asked if I had voted yet. I had been in two minds about this, as I was

not quite sure how Joy could vote for James, and also my polling district was over 40 kms away! I was given a friendly talking to about the importance of every vote, so I got in my car and off I went. I remember thinking that I was nearly as nervous as the night I was stopped for going through a stop street (as Joy) in the rain.

On the way, I decided that I would have to show my identity document (male), and if questioned, I would make mention of the letter from my doctor, and say something about having a sex-change, and that my book of life has not been changed yet. As it turned out, a smile to the people at the reception desk, my identity book, and a comment to the effect that "Sorry, that has not been changed yet", and I was cleared to vote. After that I was on my way back to carry on working.

Everybody accepted me as a friendly and helpful person, who came just at the right time.

When the results started to become available, we all realised that the PFP had lost its status as Official Opposition. However our candidate was returned to Parliament with an increased majority. So there were a lot of happy and sad faces around, but nothing will ever rob me of the Joy of those three days.

Who knows - I may yet go to Parliament House, by invitation of our MP, to help him keep his seat, as we have another election in 2 years time.

- - - - -

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1986/87

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>
Library books rental- - - - -	R 96,00	
Library deposits - - - - -	R 120,00	
Balance B/F from 1985 - - - - -	R 202,02	
Subscriptions 1986/87 - - - - -	R 888,00	
Interest on cheque acc- - - - -	R 20,21	
Donations - - - - -	R 155,53	
Two Floppy disks sold to Joyce-	R 29,12	
Sales Fanfare Back issues - - -	R 80,00	
Library (Registered postage)- - - - -		R 28,50
Prontaprint (Photo screening) - - - - -		R 129,60
Purchased library books from Joyce- - - - -		R 60,00
Purchased 4 Typewriter ribbons- - - - -		R 79,00
Print Fanfare back issues - - - - -		R 116,94
Postage Fanfare back issues - - - - -		R 4,40
Fanfare printing issue 23 to 28 - - - - -		R 447,85
Postage Fanfare issue 23 to 28 - - - - -		R 170,51
Postbox rental- - - - -		R 15,00
Stationery- - - - -		R 202,71
Petty cash to Joy - - - - -		R 20,00
Purchased 10 Floppy disks - - - - -		R 145,60
Purchased 2 ribbons for printer (Computer)- -		R 64,00
Banking fee + commision - - - - -		R 12,09
Balance in bank - 16/5/87- - - - -		R 94,68
	<u>R1590,88</u>	<u>R1590,88</u>

Donations by: Joyce
Thelma
Marlene
Sandra (Durban)
Jane
Joy
Lynne

The PHOENIX SOCIETY thanks the above members for the kind donations without which this financial statement would never have balanced.

WHEN IT'S OK FOR BOYS TO BE BOYS.

From the London Daily Express.

Parents in the liberal 60's and 70's may have looked on little boys dressing up in mommy's clothes as harmless fun.....They may even have encouraged them to play with dolls to avoid sexual stereotyping.

Now the experts say that maybe parents shouldn't be quite so carefree. For when little Johnny starts experimenting with your lipstick, it could be time to call in the experts.

According to a major study of children on the West Coast of America, homosexuality can be recognised and prevented by parents.

Richard Green, professor of psychiatry at the University of California, monitored a group of effeminate boys over a period of 15 years. At least half the boys are now practising homosexuals".

Donald West agrees: "Boys who dress in girls' clothes are more likely to develop into homosexuals.

Dr.Green's survey reveals other common factors. Their mothers were dominant, and the bond between mother and son was very close. Dr.Arnon Bentovim, child psychiatrist at Great Ormond Street, in describing 'feminine' boys who have been brought to him says: "There is an intense relationship with the mother, and the boy cannot cope with the prospect of separation. The only way he can manage is to say: 'I can be a mummy when I grow up'. So he dresses in her clothes and tries to become her".

Another common factor is the shadowy nature of the father's presence. Sometimes he was not there because of his career, or because he was separated from the boy's mother. Sometimes, he would spend more time playing with a more 'macho' son rather than the 'sissy' one.

Often both parents had wished for a girl. In the mother's case, this led her to dress the boy in effeminate clothes and ignore signs of feminine behaviour. In the father's case, disappointment in the sex of his son led him to neglect him and spend less time with him.

A combination of these circumstances, in various degrees, produce boys who dress in girls' clothes and (mostly) became homosexuals. But was it these factors alone, or was there an innate genetic mishap which made homosexuality pre-ordained?

Psychiatrists disagree on this. Dr. Harold Behr thinks it's environmental. "Something has gone wrong with their early relationship at home rather than something innate".

But what is absolutely crucial is whether this disposition is fostered or discouraged. A psychiatrist at a London Teaching hospital says about boys dressing as girls: "My gut feeling is that it is a dangerous situation. If a child came to me presenting that symptom, I would recommend therapy".

None of the parents of Dr. Green's 'sissy boys' had thought there was anything wrong for a year or so. But Dr. Green notes that it is vital to influence a child's behaviour early on. If a pattern is allowed to continue, it becomes entrenched. If the moment of correction passes, it may have gone forever.

Apart from stopping the cross-dressing and discouraging the doll playing, there are positive things a parent can do. All mothers are aware of the close love they feel for their male children. But it is not to be indulged. (But it is Ok to love their daughters, presumably - Ed) There is a moment in his teenage years when he becomes interested in girls, joins a mixed group for dates, and he must be encouraged to do so.

As Dr. Green says: "As a boy's first love, the first

person with whom he identifies - the mother - must be snipped away at just the right time so that he can dis-identify from her". And the father's involvement with a son is vital. An aggressive father may be disappointed in a boy who doesn't like rough-and-tumble games. But that is no reason to ignore his son. There are other games, there are other activities to share. There is no need to drive him into the dolls' house because he is shy of the sports pavilion.

And if these homebased remedies fail, there is always psychotherapy!

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(Oh boy! As if there was something to cure in the first place! Why must they try to cure something which is natural anyway! The world still wants to know why we have all these divorces, alcoholics, wars, baby battering, murders, etc!? To actually encourage the breakdown of the mother son bond which is vital if any child, boy or girl, is to grow up more or less normal. It goes completely beyond my comprehension. And this from the learned folks who are supposed to guide us to a better world. There must be a lot of truth in the saying: "There's none so blind as those who will not see" - or is it a case of the blind leading the blind? But, enough from me. Phaedra Kelly from the Ilse of Wight wrote the following answer - ED)

ALL PSYCHIATRISTS ARE 'DRESSED TO KILL'

'Dressed to kill' was the title of a movie, and also a chapter heading of my latest book, 'The Naked Transient'. The sentiments expressed in the article 'When it's Ok for boys to be boys' confirm my ideas. (If you didn't see the movie, the psychiatrist finds himself becoming a Transsexual, which he can't handle, and thus becomes a jealous murdering psychotic).

The plot suggested to me that the psychiatrist became aware of his feelings out of an increasing awareness of his own androgenous envy of both his female and TS

patients, rather than that he was a TS who later became a psychiatrist.

Androgenous envy is the crux of the matter. Duality (or transgenderism) is a natural consequence of human nature. In our modern society, with its aggressive pressurised chaos, and its apparent freeness to do your own thing, more cases of transgenderism are being seen.

However, psychiatry and psychology at present still fail to accept that duality is a natural, human and indeed, rather a better-balanced state. Their inability to see the weakness of their concepts of a single gender (false monism) has blinded them not only to its real dangers, but to their own awareness of it, as demonstrated in the movie.

Bobbie (the TS psychiatrist) was a weak character by our TG standards. He was a lot more honest however, than most of his colleagues, who never practised what they preached. They bleated on about Freud and Jung's theories, but never put them into practice.

A true transgenderist lives a life of Psychological Androgeny (PA for short). Briefly described, PA means the ability to juggle two concepts (masculine and feminine), and to be able to come to a decision that benefits all concerned, without loss to either side. This is a facet of androgeny which has been known and documented since ancient civilizations over 5000 years ago. Psychology now claims to have 'discovered' PA!

On the basis of conflicting professional help, the Hippies of the 60's dressed boy-children as girls, and vice-versa, or else gave them a free hand to do it themselves. (The Victorians gave this up, finding it impractical). Now, the 'professionals' tell us that society has created homosexuals. How easy it is to create homosexuality in the laboratory, when it is a synthetic item in the first place, and not true duality as in transgenderism.

One authority correctly claims that homosexuality is the 'sexualization' of emotion. To me, it is homosexual behaviour to regard anything remotely transgendered as homosexuality, or as sexuality at all. A human whose emotions are repressed may seek to express them in extreme ways, and as a result, sexualise their expression of feeling with their own genital sex. But why are their feelings repressed? Because of the emotionalization of sex! If a hug, a kiss, or even a charming word is taken as being smutty, sensational or with sexual intent, then that makes sex into an emotion of its own - and a shocking emotion at that.

Nobody warned the little boys in the study about that. Nobody told them that if they did what is only natural to a boy (as much as to any girl), and showed their desire to wear light, soft and attractive clothes, to be nurturing and gentle (or assertive as well as other moods), then society would see their behaviour as 'odd', 'kinky' etc, creating external pressures on the child to conform. Some did, others accepted the comments and sexualised their innocent feelings, and became homosexual. We accept those feelings as part of our gender duality, whilst remaining heterosexual.

A girl is called a 'tomboy' in her dual stage, which is accepted as being 'only a stage'. Woe betide anyone who assumes anything sexual in it!. Within 'little girl society', there will always be some who have not yet met that stage, as well as those who have passed through it. It is one thing for them to have had their fling, and then discover their own private monism (single gender) - quite another thing for them to be understanding of the girl who is still in her tomboy duality. This is what makes women as much fake monists as most 'non TG' men. Once out of their dual stage, neither men nor women are sufficiently balanced to be able to be tolerant of those who are not yet out. It is on this basis of imbalance that we judge monism, and find it lacking.

Therefore, had the researchers equally covered the female tomboy, I would suggest that an equal number of

subjects would have emerged later as butch lesbians, as effeminate boys becoming homosexuals.

Fear is what fools people into thinking that their first thought about us is sexual. 'He must be a poof' isn't their first thought - it is their second, after, 'God help me if that person is really androgenous, knows himself and is independent'. Society likes the smell of its own excrement. It fears a truly new solution, and enjoys being warlike and busy interlocked in strife, as that keeps it busy and so avoids the reality of seeing its own death coming.

If all humanity were regarded as one body, then logic (masculinity) and emotion (femininity) used in disharmony could be represented as germs attacking its cells. Used in harmony however, they are beneficial. We all have maternal as well as paternal feelings in us. What a pity we were unable to warn those children selected for the study!

I have interviewed many Transformers, and my own findings were not of a mother-love (Aedipus) complex, but rather of a father-love (Electra) complex. In my view, Transgenderists are 'extra-heterosexual' people, liking and appreciating women so much that they want to be one. Helps to cool off the extra desire!

There is an urge to be 'Daddy's Girl', rather than to be 'mummy's boy'!

Until we manage to de-sexualise clothing in the eyes of society, children will continue to be labelled 'odd' if their genital sex and clothing-implied-sex do not agree.

Stereotypes will continue, gender division and assumption of gender through emotions must go on, until they are recognised for what they are. Only then will our dual-gender emerge into a true gender-spectrum. Men may then be as gentle as women can be assertive, which is all part of being a truly complete human being anyway.

Who will be blamed when the feminist (protesting uterus envy), and the masculinist (claiming penis envy) finally realise that what they were after was androgeny envy? Why us, of course! Could we expect enlightenment to change their attitudes? Could we at least teach them that they don't need to learn to become one of us, since it was in all of us to start with? That they can help themselves by ceasing their negativity, and respect our examples? Perhaps!

At last society no longer persecutes but helps the Jewish nation. Why? Guilty conscience from the Holocaust or Pogroms? At last society is freeing to the wilds all native aboriginal peoples of the world - people who can teach non-tran types a lot.

I agree with the London Teaching Hospital Psychiatrists point of view, calling it 'a dangerous situation', but for different reasons. The experiment should never have been suggested in the first place! And the therapy should have been given to the idiot who suggested it!

In my candid opinion, even if those little boys were to grow up to become good honest Drag Queens, they would be a lot better individuals than the average non-tran man.

"Personnel? About Mr. Jenkins. I think it's time we move him out of the hormone department!"



PHOTO GALLERY.



THE DUREAN GIRLS HAVING FUN.



GINA. UK. AFTER TRANSFORMATION GOT THROUGH WITH HER.

MORE PHOTOS.



PHAEDRA KELLY'S GLAMOUR.

RENEE SAYS HI!



FROM DOWN UNDER.

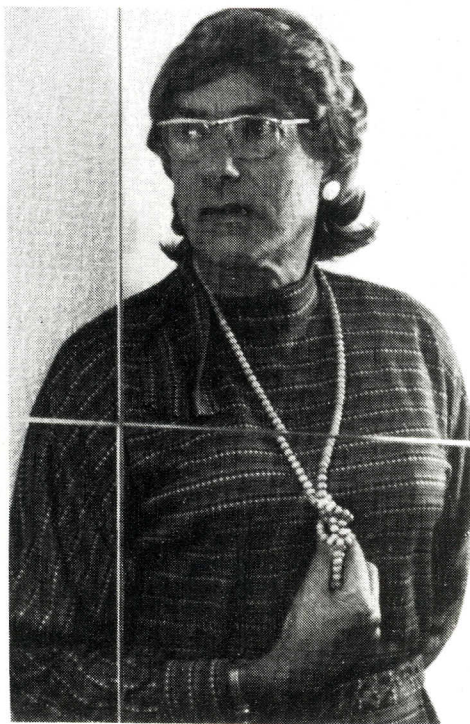
JAN BAXTER OF
THE SEAHORSE CLUB,
MELBOURNE



LEFT TO RIGHT: LYNETTE, JAN, LANA IN AUSTRALIA.

AND STILL MORE.

BERNICE - CAPE TOWN



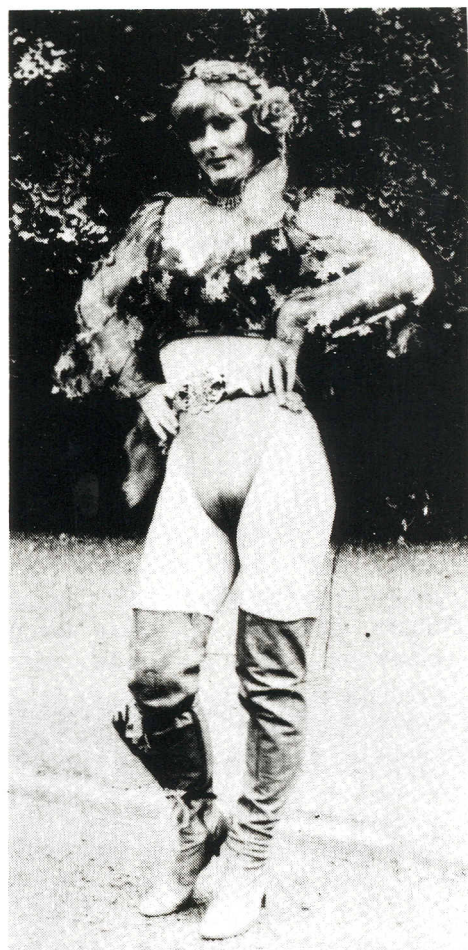
TONI - MALTA.
GLAMOROUS AS EVER!



SAVE YOUR WEDDING TACKLE — RATHER TUCK!

By Phaedra Kelly.

As a gender transient, I regard the testes of the m-to-f androgyne to be sacred. I am delighted at the new trend of stopping half way. The hermaphrodite androgyne, (born to it, or grown to it), is a third gender, and a much finer being than any subjugated, brow beaten, law-bound feminists' good newmale. There can be no sadder little animal than a male feminist, unless its a female masculinist; a concentration of two hyper-negative over-political poles of false monism, which make their false duality more hysterical and effeminate than any castrato would know how to be. At least a castrato is aware of his actions. Those two creatures thankfully, have the fertility of a mule, and every one is thus the last of his line.



The Authoress: Phaedra Kelly
demonstrating 'the tuck'

The gender transient, called variously a Transgenderist in SA and UK, a She-male in the USA, or a shim in some areas, should still be able to breed. Plato's 'mind children' are not enough. If we want to assimilate peacefully into society, and evolve as we should into a

better future, then we should out-breed the non-tran saps. This is a method which avoids war, politics and genocide, which are the methods of sap society.

Keep your wedding tackle.... and learn how to tuck. Keep your bust and hormones as well. Tucking consists in popping your testes back up into your body's original sockets (without any pain), and tucking your penis between your legs. A similar process is used in karate to protect them and remove them from the target area. Various exercises such as hatha-yoga help. if you can achieve a half-lotus position, it helps them pop back. If you have ever laid on your back with your knees up and legs apart in the classic modern female sexual position, then you may have already felt at least one of your testes pop back into their sockets. Leg stretching exercises help to gradually widen the passages and so make it easier for them to pop back. once this is done, the next stage is to pull your penis down between your legs, and then to tuck it between your buttocks. this locks the testes in place. If you now wear a pair of tight undies it also helps. Sitting and walking are enhanced, but I would not try horse riding! I had a modelling session on a spirited Arab gelding once, and was sore for three days afterwards!

With this method, there is no bulge to be seen, except caused by the testes in their sockets, which look like the upper mound of the female organ. The penis pulled down and back looks like the slit of the vagina and uterus. With practice, semi-nude and even nude glamour modelling sessions are possible, even with opening the legs slightly before there is any danger of a drop-down. Warning - photographers who don't know the situation can die of heart failure if you suddenly change sex in front of them. In semi-nude, excess scrotal flesh can show, and at first glance looks like the labia of a woman if you have tucked properly.

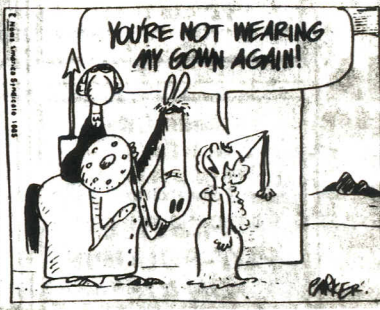
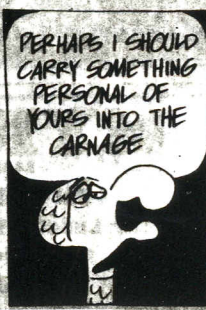
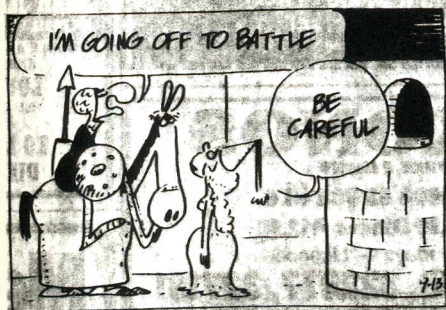
I enclose a photograph of myself dressed for a carnival, in a red thunder-thigh bikini. I have a full set of functioning male genitalia, but leave you to judge on

seeing the picture, whether you think you are looking at a male or a female genitally?

"They should have warned you that too many hormones would give you a hangover Mr. Jones."



THE WIZARD OF ID by Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



NEWSPAPER SNIPPETS.

TV STUNS ALL IN COURT APPEARANCE!

LONDON - A 19-year-old man, said to be 'desperately seeking' a sex-change operation, appeared before a Bath magistrate yesterday - dressed as a woman.

Transvestite Elenka Ashford, who was born Crawford McGee, arrived at the court fabulously dressed in an ultra-short white mini-dress and black stiletto shoes. Her dyed-blond hair was swept back in a spectacular plume and she carried a black leather clutch bag. Two giant yellow earrings and bangles finished off the striking outfit, which turned heads in the crowded streets.

Elenka, an unemployed hairdresser, was given two years probation after she pleaded guilty to stealing a red skirt worth R26 from a shop in Bath.

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MAN IN SHIRT FINED FOR FLASHING

CAPE TOWN - A man who dresses as a woman was fined R150 (or 50 days) in the Cape Town Magistrates Court for lifting his skirt and 'flashing' on a city street.

Theodore Jack, 31, of 24th Avenue, Elsiesriver, was convicted yesterday of exposing himself outside a Cafe in Cape Town on May 12th. He pleaded not guilty.

Constable Johannes Bester said he was passing in a police vehicle when he saw a person lift a skirt and showed a man's private parts.

Replying to a question by the Magistrate, Bester said Jack was wearing the same clothes he had on in court - a purple knitted skirt, a yellow jacket and black high-heeled shoes. Blushing, Bester said that underneath the

skirt Jack was wearing see-through pantihose and his private parts were clearly visible.

The Cafe was busy and there were many people around, but no one laid a complaint because the police were already there.

Replying to the Magistrate in a high-pitched voice, Jack said he was drunk at the time and couldn't remember the incident. He said he was homosexual and always dressed in women's clothing because 'it's the way I feel'.

Miss A.A. Peckham, for the State, asked him what he was wearing under the skirt at the time. Jack bent down as if to lift his skirt and Miss Peckham hurriedly told him, "No - don't show us. Just tell us in words".

Jack said he was wearing women's panties and that the policeman was lying. In mitigation he said he was an unemployed weaver and was doing washing and ironing jobs.

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NAKED TRANSEXUAL HAS THEM BOOING!

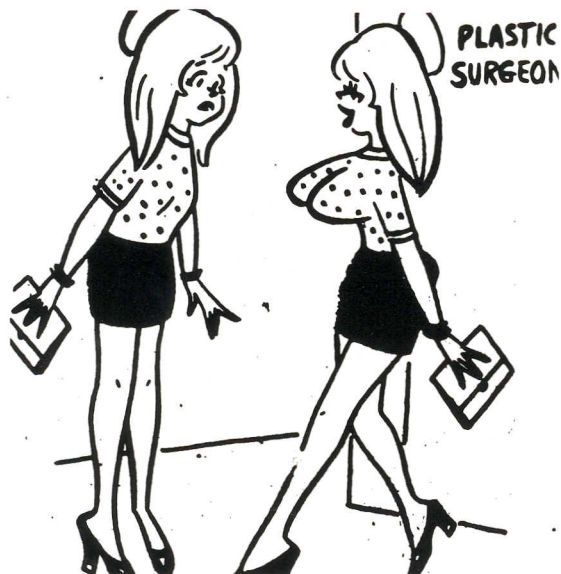
CANNES - "Mascara", a Netherlands entry - in the directors fortnight component of the Cannes Film Festival - has possibly made history by being the first mainstream movie ever to show a full-frontal of a TS.

It certainly shocked a large section of the audience in the packed cinema, and booing mingled with applause at the end. The film wasn't having a good reception anyway and the walkout began about 15 minutes into the movie, and there was continuous fidgeting.

But after the scene where what appears to be a beautiful woman turns to face the audience - and reveals herself to be a man from the waist down - the walkout began in earnest. (*Just goes to prove that the world isn't ready for us yet* - ED)

There was an audible gasp among the women in the audience. The Transsexual, who is named Eva Robins in the cast list, plays the 'girlfriend' of Michael Sarrazin in the movie, which is about a senior police officer (Sarrazin) with strange tastes. At one point the Sarrazin character gets toggged up in a designer frock and pounces about the waterfront in it. A bizarre film indeed.

But a British film recieved a better reception than "Mascara". "Personal Services" got an enthusiastic reception from an audience who roared with laughter throughout. It, too, has a scene in which a transsexual, played by a man, reveals all - but in the British film it is an "old Lady" who looks not unlike that loveable comedienne, Irene Handl. (This article illustrates once again that if we portray women in a comedy situation, it's fine - but heaven help us if we try to do it seriously, and it's even worse when we do it so well! - ED)



"Dr. Landon knows just what a feller wants!"

MAID IN JAPAN.

Just a geisha's mince away from Tokyo's famous Akihabara District, where tourists and industrial spies mix in the world's busiest marketplace, is a door with the legend "Elizabeth Club".

On the first floor of the drab concrete structure is a shop that specialises in the sale of female underwear - Large sizes. Up the short flight of stairs, the second floor has 600 lockers reserved for the club's regular customers.

On the third floor is a dress-hire department where clients can choose anything from an office girl's uniform to a traditional silk kimono, a rhinestone-studded evening gown, a virginal white wedding gown - or a little girl's pink cotton skirt adorned with flowers and lace.

In another room on the third floor, six trained beauticians apply finishing touches to the emerging butterflies with liberal applications of powder and eye-liner.

But no amount of make-up can hide the hairiness of hands and arms, or the tell-tale swell of muscle beneath the lacy fichu.

The Elizabeth Club, you see, is no theatrical agency, nor is it the haunt of tired housewives taking a course in health and beauty. It caters solely for men - mostly businessmen - who indulge in an unusual hobby. They like to dress and act like women for relaxation.

A businessman founded the club 5 years ago, and, although the Transvestite members call themselves 'gay', most are married, with children, and would be horrified to be called homosexual.

"The difference between 'homosexual' and 'gay' is that 'gays' enjoy cross-dressing as a hobby", explains club manager Yumi Kataoka. "Most of our customers come here

simply to relax. They don't come here looking for partners. There are homosexual bars in other parts of Tokyo for those looking for something else".

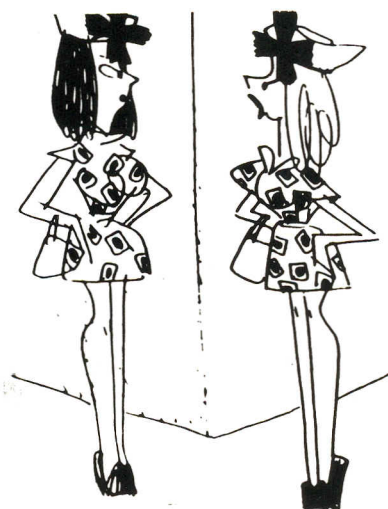
At the Elizabeth Club, the action happens in three neatly decorated salons where the 'girls' put their feet up after a hard day's work. They chat and sip cold drinks (Japanese women aren't known for indulging in alcohol) and pose for instant cameras which click incessantly around the room. Most members keep photo albums handy to show off past triumphs - when they were the perfect geisha girl or the most blushing bride.

"We are all narcissists", says client Candis [REDACTED], cuddling his (her?) teddy bear.

What businessmen claim is therapy is not cheap. One client, who says he goes to the club twice a week, pays about R700 a month for the joy of feeling 'gay'.

"It's worth it", he says. "Before I came here. I used to crossdress in a secret room in my house, so my wife and children wouldn't see me. It was very lonely!"

"Being my brother is no excuse not to develop your own dress sense!"



MEMBERSHIP LIST 1987/88.

Transvaal

Justine
Sue
Sidney
Rhonda
Doreen
Joanne
Antonette
Brenda

Transvaal

Bobbie
Lynne
Renee
Jean
Thelma (Hon member) *
Angela (RO)

Orange Free state Adelle

Natal

Joyce
Michelle
Sandra (RO)
Rosslyn ½
Monique
Rene'

Cape Province

Alice ½
Joy (Membership Sec)
Marlene *
Robyn
Bernice

Australia

Jan [REDACTED]
Marina [REDACTED]
Lady Paula Howard *
Louise Hordern *

East London

Sandra

Border
Sandra (RO)

England

Gina
Kim [REDACTED] *
Phaedra Kelly *

Malta

Toni

Zimbabwe
Shirley

Sweden

Anette [REDACTED]

U.S.A.

Connie

* - Non paying members

½ - Members who joined late last year. Membership expires December 1987 unless renewed.

HAVE A LAUGH.

"George, I'd never have recognised you but for that mole on your chin!"



"But, Mr Jacobson, you'll get used to boys whistling at you!"



IN DEFENCE OF ELECTROLYSIS.

BY JOY.

In a recent letter which I read from Jan [REDACTED], one of our newest, but very experienced members, she mentioned that her experience with electrolysis was that, after nearly 100 hours, and many hundreds of rands (or should I say Australian Dollars) she gave up with no noticeable difference.

As I am also undergoing electrolysis to have my beard removed, I decided to write to FANFARE. I know that beards are our greatest enemy, and we go to great lengths to remove or cover them up.

I will give some background information first - something a lot of people are not aware of. Firstly, electrolysis is the only permanent method for removal of excess body hair. Secondly, there is really only one method of electrolysis that works, and it is the 'KREE' method, which uses a fine needle with a high frequency current to cauterise the hair follicle. The so-called 'electric tweezer' just does not work, and is only as effective as plucking.

When I went for my first visit, my operator explained to me that even with the KREE method, the success rate depends to a large degree on operator efficiency, and the strength of the current used. A bad operator, or a good operator using the wrong current, will result in the hair follicle not being killed, and all you have had is an expensive pluck.

A very important factor which is often overlooked, is that we all have three cycles of hair growth, with one active and two dormant per follicle at any time. This means that, for every hair you see on your face, three treatments are needed to remove 'it'. Add to that an average operator efficiency of 75-80% for a very good operator, and you can see that it takes a long time and

patience to get rid of your beard.

I started off with a fairly light beard, and for some time I plucked it out. This worked reasonably well, and I would recommend it to anyone who wants to dress for long periods, and who cannot afford electrolysis. However, plucking tends to distort the hair follicle, making subsequent electrolysis less efficient.

After reading Jan's article, I went off and found all my cheques for the treatments I have had so far, and this is my story. After some 35 visits of an average of two hours each, and a total outlay of R1250.00, I am now almost completely beard free. I now go for a visit once a month, and we play 'hunt-the-hairs'

It really gave me a fantastic lift when my Estee Lauder lady commented on how good my skin is looking. Particularly since the last time a razor touched my face was over two weeks before that compliment. Then somehow all the pain and expense were worth it. I can now go for well over a week after a treatment without being able to see any hair, and then only a few on my upper lip (which was the last area we tackled) become noticeable. A quick trim with a pair of scissors, and I am ready for a new day.

When I mentioned Jan's story of 100 hours and no difference to my operator, he was shocked, and said that there must be something wrong!

Yes, electrolysis plays havoc with your TG life. You need a growth of at least two days for the operator to see the lie of the hair, and insert the needle accordingly, and your face looks like a battlefield for a good few days afterwards.

I recommend electrolysis to any serious cross dresser. You can't last a full day in public unless your beard is out. So either pluck it out, or have electrolysis. Sure - both hurt. But in the end look at, and feel my face, and tell me if you think it is not worth it.

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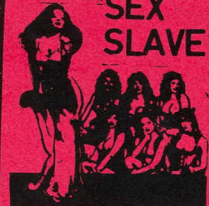
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