

RECEIVED 26 JUL 1999

MINUTES OF THE 3rd AGM OF MEMBERS OF THE SFC
AT BABUSHKA, CALEDONIAN ROAD, N1. ON 16/06/99.

1. INTRODUCTION. The upstairs room at Babushka was a pleasant and stylish venue for our meeting. Tim (chair) welcomed everyone, and invited us to introduce ourselves.
2. MINUTES: No matters arising from the last minutes.
3. AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING : agreed.
4. REPORTS (I) Officers.

Editor In Chief (Tuppy) : Please see attached report.

Ivor : suggested a Premium Line for the SFC, but Tuppy felt that it would be too much hassle and the members deserve free info.

Treasurer (Antony) : We have currently £1,556 in funds.

The party at the house in Hampstead made a profit but the second party, which was moved to North Hampstead, lost money. The next major opportunity for fund raising will be the selling of issue 2 of Consenting Adults Newspaper at the next Erotica event in November . We hope to print the next issue of Consenting Adults in the autumn, and it will cost between £1500 and £2000 to print. Other expenses incurred were the hiring of Conway Hall on the 28 June 99 and the printing of the leaflets for the Parade on the 31 July 99. We would be grateful if people could look for inexpensive venues for Arcadia parties.

Press Officer (Jeff): There is a confused picture of the nation's views on sex given by the media as it has gone from an oppressive view to a liberal view and back to an oppressive view. The present government is also giving the nation a confused message. There may be changes made by the Obscenity Bill, and it seems that the newspapers have not come to the grips with this issue. The television seems to be more liberated, there are more documentaries and discussions about sex. But the backlash is that the Press claims that the television is becoming 'filthy'! The SFC have contributed to television, national and local radio debates. The broadsheet newspapers give the message that sex is fun but don't do it. The tabloids except the Sport still publish mischievous exposure stories, identifying families, television personalities and sportsman. The News of The World is back to exposing swingers clubs. We should continue to monitor the press, and advise people about how they may protect themselves.

Chair (Tim) : It has been a simple year chairing the SFC as we have sorted most of the problems out. However, last year we said that we would have two or three rallies of supporters, but we have not achieved this aim. We would like opinions from members about the number of members meetings to be held. Our simple message at the beginning of the SFC campaign has made headway for sexual freedom for consenting adults. Tim attended the Cambridge Fair, and handed out SFC leaflets, and felt our message was supported and accepted. It seems that the State

is stepping backwards. We now have good relationships with the Metropolitan police, and they were very co-operative with the organisation of the Cannabis March.

Internet (John): There are details of all the Arcadia events , the Sex Maniacs Ball and the Erotic Oscars on our website. Details of the Obscenity Bill are also on the website. Please call John if you cannot find a subject.

Outreach Officer (Grant): Grant's aim is to put the SFC in touch with other groups. We have a lot of events based around London, but we must remember that there is a lot going on in other parts of the country. We might want to consider doing a roadshow around the country. There has been positive media coverage about transgender as it is now recognised under the Sex Discrimination Act. However, in reality it means that people will have fewer rights.

5. **Summer Events** -- Rally at Conway Hall. 28 June.

Tuppy: Original plan was to divide the evening into four parts:

1. Sex around Britain. We hope to bring speakers from around the country.
2. Pros and Cons of swinging, polyamory and fidelity. Also have speakers from the SM scene.
3. Media and the Law
4. Input from the floor. Then summary from the SFC. If anyone knows any good speakers please contact.

Grant and Tudor commented that the last symposium was very enjoyable and sociable and there needs to be opportunity for discussion.

5-1. Summer Events-- SFC Parade Sat. 31 July 99

Tim: Meet at Soho Square at 2 p.m. and march to Parliament Square ending the event at the Home Office , whistling to wake them up. People may picnic at St. James Park if they wish. The police are co-operative. We must put leaflets in the shops and clubs.

Tuppy: we are thinking about organising a party in the evening, if anyone knows of a venue. Everyone at meeting thought this was a great idea.

Ivor: suggest we lay a wreath outside the Admiral Duncan pub which was nail bombed as the Parade passes. This was agreed. Ivor will organise wreath and John will talk to the publican.

5-2 Summer Events--SFC Photoshoot Friday 18 June .

Antony has been supporting Reclaim the Streets , and as part of the demonstration we decided to do a SFC photoshoot at the Bank Of England. Some tube stations may be closed. Rona has volunteered to be the 'Bonk Of England' and will be crowned by two strippers at 2.15 p.m. Please be prompt if attending. We will finish by 3 p.m and return back to Bank Tube. Tim will hand out leaflets.

6. Proposals for SFC Aims , Rules and Organisation.

Jeff: would favour no change as people know exactly what the aims are.
This was agreed.

Rules: No change was agreed.

Ivor: commented that nowhere in the rules does it state what the organisation should be. He also felt that the name SFC is a bad name as it smacks of political bureaucracy, and we should have a one word name.

Organisation: the reference to membership subscriptions was cancelled.

7 Election of SFC Officers.

Treasurer: Antony

Editor in chief: Tuppy

Press Officer : Jeff

Membership: Robert

Chair: Tim will remain until the 31 December 1999.

2 Vice-chairs: Tuppy and Jeff

3rd Vice-chair: Stevie.

Outreach Officer : Grant

Internet Officer: John

Secretary: Cathy.

8. Any other business:

Benefit Show for the SFC.

Tuppy thanked Ivor for holding the Benefit Show for the SFC on 19 August 99 at Hackney Empire Studio. 'Material' is a new solo show reflecting on Ivor's job as a comedian alongside his experiences as a prostitutes client and adventures on the fetish scene. It is a small venue so you are advised to reserve tickets. Doors open 8 p.m, show starts at 8.30pm. Reservations : 0181 985 2424

***Please note: All press and media enquiries must be directed to Ivor Dembina on 0171 738 7486. Flyers were available at meeting.

9. Any other business: The Striptease Playhouse at Parker Street, Drury Lane WC2 is offering facilities for strippers. First event Wednesday 23 June tickets £15/12 . Ring 0171 344 4444 to book. Flyers available.

8 Any other Business: 20th Anniversary Party for the Outsiders.

The Event was held at Kew Gardens and was wonderful with a tactile fashion show, exotic foods and belly dancers. Thanks to all who helped.

9 Next members meeting MONDAY 13 September 99.

SFC Steering Committee Report

delivered to the AGM

16th June 1999

The Committee meets monthly at Jeff's and work hard from 7.30-11pm. Cathy takes minutes and Tim, Jeff and Tuppy chair in turns.

Members are Tim (Chair) Tuppy and Jeff (Vice Chair) Cathy (Secretary), Antony (treasurer) John (Internet) Robert (Membership secretary), and Grant (outreach officer). We do seek more executive help.

- 1) We planned the Sexual Freedom Weekend 24-26th July 1998 — the Friday Gala Film Night, the Saturday Parade and Picnic or, as it turned out, picnics, and Symposium for a Sexier Future, in the Conway Hall on the Sunday, and ran the events on the Saturday and Sunday.
- 2) We sent invites to members to the all night beach party, organised transport, and enjoyed it very much.
- 3) We discussed all the attention the media are giving to sex and our individual roles in it
- 4) We wrote to the West Midlands Police about the Robert Mapplethorpe book being seized and got a reply. The book was eventually returned and charges dropped.
- 5) We organised the Sex Worker's Show and Tell performance at the Real John School Party which took place after the Sex Work

Re-assessed Conference on 9th September 1998 at The University of East London, where we had a very successful stall.

6) We were pleased to accept the money made by the benefit events Arcadia III and Arcadia IV.

7) We organised a presentation and stall at the Anarchist Bookfair and found everyone to be on our side at last!

8) We organised a serious delegation to deliver the 2nd batch of petitions to the Home Office on 28th October 1999. A spokeswoman from the Sexual Offences Review came out to accept them at the gate and listen to one of our delegates, Revd Chad Varah. We have had several responses since from the Home Office promising that we will be consulted in their Review of the Sex Offences laws, but no such consultation has emerged, in fact we watch more restrictive legislation being created all the time.

8) On 5th November 1999, Tuppy spoke and won the debate "Pornography may be beneficial in society" at the Oxford Union

9) We did the tea and food stall at the Rubber Ball Pervefest in the Conway Hall on Saturday 31st October 1999 where we also ran a Stewarding Workshop and attracted new stewards.

10) We've had two articles published about our campaign— in the *Parliamentary Monitor* and *Gay Times*, plus we took part in the Modern Times TV show which caused a stink and and got written about in the Mail, Guardian and Sport.

11) Most of the year has been spent helping TV programmes yet nothing has been screened that we are proud of. Jeff and

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Cathy's appearance in the Cicada "documentary" on swinging was totally misrepresentative of what was filmed and what was promised. Now we insist that the views of the SFC are expressed in any programme before we agree to take part.

12) Lots of SFC members contributed to the 1999 Sex Maniac's Ball and Erotic Oscars. Anna Maria was in charge of tickets and Oscar coordination, Richard provided the musicians for the Sensuality Tent, Rob & Mel and David & Wendy ran the tent, Stevie was a brilliant chief steward and many of you worked really hard. The best ball ever, which made £10,000. Tim was awarded "Campaigner of the Year for Sexual Freedom 1999" in the Erotic Oscars.

13 Tim always runs the stall at the London Fetish Fair every month selling papers and promoting the SFC.

14 We were not granted a stall at Erotica in November but teams of people stood outside in the rain and managed to sell £700 worth of papers. Our stall at the Fantasy Show raised about the same amount of money.

15 We eventually get around to examining the guests' ticket stubs from Arcadia and the Ball, where many write they they would like to help the SFC. We invite them to come and help on stalls first, to get to know them, and hope they will become more and more involved. Tim leaving at the end of the year will leave a huge gap, and we need people to take responsibility.

16 The new brightly coloured leaflet, now with its update sticker announcing the date of our 1999 Sexual Freedom Parade, has been given out at many events including the Cannabis March and Festival, The Strawberry Fair, the Sex Maniac's Ball, and we invite

4

all members to carry on distributing them!

17 The SFC Info line 0171 460 1979 and Website are kept up to date so supporters know what we are doing.