

~~CENSORED~~

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE REFORM
OF THE OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS ACTS

NCROPA

FIGHTING SEXUAL CENSORSHIP

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May 1991

MEMBERS GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 12TH JUNE 1991

A MEMBERS' GENERAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE REFORM OF THE OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS ACTS (NCROPA) WILL BE HELD AT 7.00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 12TH JUNE 1991 AT:-

**CONWAY HALL
RED LION SQUARE
LONDON, W.C.1**

(Nearest Underground Station - Holborn)

ALL FULLY PAID-UP MEMBERS OF THE NCROPA ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

ADMISSION WILL BE ON PRODUCTION OF THIS NOTICE. PLEASE, THEREFORE, REMEMBER TO BRING IT WITH YOU.

FACILITIES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS CURRENTLY DUE FROM ANY MEMBERS WISHING TO ATTEND THE MEETING TO BE PAID TO THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY AT THE DOOR.

SUBSCRIPTIONS STILL REMAIN AT £5.00 PER YEAR (£2.50 FOR SENIOR CITIZENS, STUDENTS AND UNEMPLOYED).

Those unable to attend, but whose subscriptions are also currently due, are asked to post their remittances as soon as possible to the above address. This will save the additional cost of sending reminders.

PLEASE DO YOUR BEST TO ATTEND AND WE SHALL VERY MUCH LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU.

(PLEASE NOTE: THIS MEETING IS NOT OPEN TO THE PRESS AND MEDIA)

P.T.O.

Dear Member,

Yet again I have to begin with apologies for the paucity of 'feedback' between the NCROPA Committee and the membership throughout the past year. I fear, however, that there is no simple answer to this problem. A combination of vastly increased funds, more members able and willing to donate large amounts of their time, but, above all, a vast increase in the number of hours in a day, might possibly do the trick, whereby a regular and frequent members' publication could be produced. You will, I'm sure, appreciate how I and the NCROPA Committee have to give priority to campaign action. Since we are all volunteers and the NCROPA has no paid staff of any description, I do hope you will bear with us and remain assured that the work of trying to achieve the aims and aspirations of the campaign, viz. the eradication of sexual censorship, is being tirelessly and unceasingly pursued, even though you, as a most valued supporter of that work, may not always be properly informed of the details of much of it. The enclosed "NCROPA IN ACTION" booklet, a brief résumé of just some of this work will, I hope, help to demonstrate this. Please remember, however, that in joining an organisation like the NCROPA, you are not subscribing to belong to a cosy, talking-shop of like minds, or for glossy, in-house publications, but mainly to support the colossal task of bringing about fundamental changes in our laws, in a country not well-known for its easy acceptance of change and one steeped in hypocrisy, intolerance and bigotry.

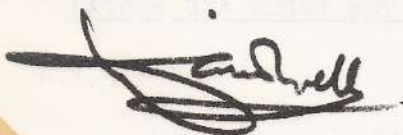
All in all, it has not been a good year for the NCROPA. In spite of the publication of its own Home Office Cumberbatch/Howitt Report, the Government seems more entrenched than ever to resist any relaxation of restraints on free expression, and 'Opposition' parties are almost as bedevilled by sympathetic, pro-censorship factions within their own midsts. I am constantly asked if I think the arrival of the much-hyped 'Single European Market' in 1992 is going to change matters here. I am not optimistic, because the British Government's typically arrogant attitude that, contrary to what nearly all other EC countries may currently think, they will soon bring them round to their way of thinking, is already being openly flaunted. Whether John Major - or perhaps a Government of a different hue - will be willing or able to change that supercilious point of view remains to be seen.

Some members of the NCROPA Committee have also this past year been battling with health problems, including Eric Miller and especially Dr. David Kennington, who has had two operations and is currently awaiting two more, and my own health could be better (as well as troublesome personal family matters), but we are all battling on. (I only mention this as a contributory factor to explaining frequent NCROPA delays, especially concerning correspondence, and not in a wallow of 'sob-story' self-pity!)

There is no doubt that the NCROPA must acquire a much higher public profile. We hope the Petition to the Government we are launching will contribute to that aim and we shall need the help of every member in the collection of signatures for that Petition, forms for which will be sent out under separate cover. We also plan more highly-visible pickets/vigils/demos to places like the Home Office which will need strong support.

Finally, I must make my usual plea for all members to pester their own MPs. MPs are always claiming that they get hundreds of letters from our opponents but few from the likes of us. That is because they are much more active, not greater numerically or intellectually. MPs literally count the letters. Please make yours count! PLEASE WRITE NOW - AND OFTEN! But whatever else you do, please continue to support the NCROPA, and a very big thank-you for all your past support in a long, bitter, but so vitally necessary fight.

Yours sincerely,



DAVID WEBB
Honorary Director