

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

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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.