

NEWS

The Roundhouse in London is to be the home of Europe's first black arts centre. A joint venture of the GLC and Camden Council, it represents a major step towards satisfying the repeated demands of the black community that their arts and culture have a permanent venue, where the best work of London artists can be seen, and where visiting arts and artists from the rest of Britain and from Asia, Africa and the black cultures of Australasia and the Americas can be welcomed. Information from Remi Kapo, The Roundhouse, Chalk Farm Rd, N W1 8PB (01-482 4024).

Accident Cover-up on Youth Training Scheme. An internal MSC document recently leaked to the South East Region of the TUC reveals that information on accidents to YTS trainees is being withheld from Area manpower Boards. These were set up with trade union, employer and community representatives to oversee YTS and safeguard the interests of trainees. Contact Rod Robertson (01-388 2366).

Coastguard Stations threatened. Once again the Government has been shown as totally insensitive to the needs of the country. In their efforts to reduce the civil service, coastguard staffing levels are now under threat. The Ramsey Maritime Rescue Sub-Centre, Isle of Man has been selected for closure creating a large gap in the search and rescue facilities in the dangerous waters of the Irish Sea. Another proposal is to eliminate five posts which provide essential liaison with the helicopter facilities around the coast. Information from Tom Hoyes (Civil Service Union 01-402 7451 ext 35).

The Weavers This month sees the first ever production in Scotland of this play about the rebellion of a group of grossly exploited weavers in Silesia in 1844. Of interest because it was the first play about an industrial dispute and was a political as well as a theatrical focus when first performed in 1893. At the Royal Lyceum in Edinburgh, 11 April-4May (031-229 9697).

MEETINGS

Left Perspectives and Ultra-left Diversions 10 Apr (Wed) public meeting 8pm Public Library, Queens Avenue, Muswell Hill, N10. Speaker: Monty Johnstone. Organised by Muswell Hill CP.



Women and Print 18 Apr (Thurs) An open meeting for all women working in printing trades with the first public showing of the video *No Set Type*. At a Womens Place, Hungerford House, Victoria Embankment, London WC2 (01-836 6081) 7.30pm admission free. Wheelchair access.

Public meeting on Peace 26 Apr (Fri) Organised by Loughborough CND, with Bruce Kent. Everyone welcome, admission free, full access for wheelchairs and assistance available for disabled visitors. 7.30pm at Hindley College, Shepshed, Leicester.

Norwich Women's Film Weekend 29-31 Mar. This promotes the work of women film makers from the UK and abroad and this year will explore the contribution of women scriptwriters. Paula Milne of *Driving Ambition* will be there to discuss her work and there will be the first screening of *The Future of Emily and Anne Devlin*. At Cinema City, St Andrews St, Norwich (0603 622047) Tickets weekend £10 (unwaged £7.50) Day £5.00 (unwaged £3.50).

Serif-Celt 13 Apr. The first ever Celtic languages Book Fair exhibition, and conference on contemporary writing and publishing in the Celtic languages, Irish, Manx, Scottish, Gaelic, Welsh, Cornish and Breton. 10-7pm at the London Welsh Centre, 157-163 Grays Inn Rd, London

WC1. Contact Peter Berresford Ellis (01-263 0581).

CAMPAIGNS

Human Rights Book Week A new initiative to focus attention on human rights. From 22 April to 1 May bookshops and the media will be asked to give special attention to the suppression of humans rights. Organised by Amnesty International, Anti Slavery Society, British Refugee Council, International Aid and Defence Fund, Minority Rights Group, Third World and Zed Presses. Contact Kaye Stearman, Minority Rights Group, 29 Craven St, WC1 (01-9306659).

Campaign to Retain Skill Centres The Civil Service Union is publishing the effects which the proposed closure of 29 Skill centres would have. This includes the loss of thousands of training opportunities for the unemployed, closure of vital training services used by industry, and the loss of 1000 jobs. For details of their campaign contact John Randall (01-555 8469).

CONFERENCES

Literature Teaching Politics Conference 12-14 Apr (Fri-Sun). This year the theme is Socialist/Feminist Strategies in Education. Sessions on English teaching and the intelligentsia, love and sacrifice, the women's picture, masculinity and teaching practice.

Open Forum on the miners' strike and education. Jazz Band and creche. At the Bristol Poly Humanities Dept. Contact Helen Taylor 0272 655384.

The Labour Committee on Ireland AGM 14 Apr (Sun). Speakers include John McDonnell (Deputy Leader of the GLC), Clare Short MP, Christine Crawley MEP and Ken Livingstone. Creche available and disabled access. All labour movement friends welcome. 11am, County Hall, London SE1. Registration £1.50 (50p unwaged).

FILMS, VIDEO

There are no excuses is an eight minute VHS tape with interviews and animated illustrations, which looks at incidents of sexual harassment at work and how different trade unions have dealt with them. Intended to generate discussion on how and why trade unions can and should tackle sexual harassment in workplaces. Available from Open Eye Film and Video Workshop 90-92 Whitechapel, Liverpool. (051-709 9460).

Nicaragua A question of democracy describes the history of Nicaragua, its historical relationship with the US and the situation today. Suitable for use in the context of world development campaigns, Latin American and third world solidarity groups, trade union and political organisations. 35 min colour video. Available from Isthmus production, 14 Broad St, Nottingham NG 3BW (0602 411073) price £20.

Leila and the Wolves Drawing on the Arab heritage of oral tradition and mosaic-like story-telling, this film is an exploration of the collective memory of Arab women and their hidden role in the recent history of Palestine and Lebanon. Opening at the Notting Hill Gate Cinema, London April 11 for four weeks.

Entries for the May Update should be sent as soon as possible (latest date Friday 5 April) to Maria Loftus, Marxism Today 16 St John Street London EC1M 4AY or tel 01-608 0265 or 01-2499509 (evenings). Space is limited, so if you want to guarantee that your entry is published we suggest that you book it into our classified columns under the appropriate heading. Ring Dave Kitson on 01-608 0265 for more details.