

# ACORN

Issue  
No 1 1995  
Editor  
David Acorn

## Editorial

Part from reminding all that we are now entering our 8th year, a length of time not envisaged by anyone at the start (and we still have quite a few members who were in at the beginning, so we can't have been too repetitive or boring), I'll just say that we are now also entering a new era and leave you for a moment in the capable hands of Vernon, who drew up this new draft —

## Constitution

With this issue of *Acorn* you will find a draft constitution for The Acorn Society. This will be discussed and voted upon at the first AGM of the Group on 1st April. (See page 16.) I know it is not as interesting to read as *Acorn* itself, but please do take time to do so and to prepare any comments that you may have.

David indicated in his editorial to the last issue why the Group needs to be democratised. If that is to happen then it needs to have a Constitution, which must be approved at a General Meeting.

Constitutions are the legal basis on which organisations are run. They define why the organisation

## Contents

	Page
Editorial . . . . . D.A.	1
Constitution . . . . . M.Q.	1
Rest of Open Letter . . . . . Ian	2
Amanda . . . . . J.P.	3
Loving Cut -- Two . . . . . A.W.	4
The Ring . . . . . E.S.	5
Confused . . . . . P.B.	5
French Phimosis . . . . . Anon.	8
Contact Corner . . . . . P.H.	8
Tight as a Drum . . . . . Anon.	9
Diverse Thoughts . . . . . R.B.W.	12
Water Jet Surgery . . . . . J.T.	13
From Birth Forward . . . . . G.C.	14
Books . . . . . Anon.	15
What a Business . . . . . Anon.	15
Words . . . . . G.D.	16
Acorn Gathering & AGM . . . . .	16

Printed & Published in England by The Acorn Society

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## Correspondence

Please send all correspondence to:

THE ACORN SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 113  
WESTON-SUPER-MARE  
AVON; BS23 2ED

Letters for forwarding should be marked in pencil with the recipient's identifier. They should be stamped 1st class and be enclosed in an envelope addressed as above.

exists, who can join, how the subscription is to be determined, how the organisation is administered, and how the money is to be looked after.

Of necessity, a Constitution is fairly large and complex, but we have tried to strike a balance between specifying all that is essential for the Society to run as a balanced and harmonious group and, on the other hand, dotting every *i* and crossing every *t* in totally incomprehensible legal jargon.

It is important to remember that an organisation can only do what its Constitution's 'Objects' clause says it can do. However, it is not obliged to do absolutely everything in this clause, nor do it all at once. Hence, provision has to be made for what might want to be done in future as funds, etc. permit.

The clauses about meetings and ballots may seem complex, but with a membership spread all over the country (and some overseas) it will not be economical for the committee to all meet in one place every time a decision needs to be taken. Nor for the membership to always have to come together when their consent to something is required. Provision has therefore been made to allow most committee work to be conducted by telephone or post, and for some decisions of the membership to be by postal ballot. Neither stops a physical meeting from being held if that is considered more desirable.

Formal notice of the AGM and a form of proxy will be enclosed with issue 2/95. Please support the democratisation of the Society by either attending the AGM or appointing a proxy to vote on your behalf. Comments on the Constitution can be raised at the meeting, but time can be saved if you put them in writing to me via David as soon as possible so that we can sort them out and see their effects on the Constitution as a whole. We would also like to hear from anyone who wishes to be proposed for the Committee.

Finally, if there are any solicitors or accountants amongst our membership who would be prepared to offer their services to The Society (in confidence if necessary), then we would like to hear from you.

*Vernon – London*  
on behalf of the interim steering group

[I have to offer my sincere apologies to Ian for not including his last two paragraphs which were on another page and somehow got separated. He feels that his overall feelings might be misconstrued without them, and it would make my conscience clearer if you would all read his entry again in 8/94 plus the final portion which I gladly publish here. — D.A.]

### **Rest of 'Open Letter 8/94'**

**I**am, in general, opposed to the circumcision of young boys other than for medical or religious reasons. I do understand the desire for sons to be

like their fathers or brothers, particularly if there is to be a modest degree of family nudity. I would support any man who decided that he wanted to be circumcised. It is a personal choice, and one should be free to exercise choice freely.

Do I, just occasionally, speculate about what it would be like to have a foreskin? Yes, of course I do! My bank statement dropped through the letterbox last Wednesday (the same day as *Acorn*). Thankfully I am in credit, but I did wonder what it would be like to have a credit balance with 6 figures before the decimal. No, I have not bought tickets for the lottery.

Ian

[We don't know who Amanda is, but I have had two requests for correspondence with her. Here is one from a French member, showing not a little frustration with enquiries he has made on his favourite subject. — D.A.]

## Amanda

Dear Amanda,

Your letter in *Acorn* really inspired me very much. The first time I have read somebody with apparently the same orientation as myself. For a very long time I have wanted to know what is the best kind of circumcision.

Here in France it is incredible how taboo it is. What is more exasperating is that I have met many women who are pro circumcision, but I could never find their real reason. I'm beginning to suspect that they all had sex with Arabs, whom they had liked, and that they are afraid to speak about it in case someone guesses what they have done.

But it seems improbable that it is the only reason. Absolutely everybody avoids the subject, and there are never any details on circumcision in magazines, books or pornography. Circumcision is the operation for phimosis. That's all.

I have tried to talk about it to a large number of psychologists and psychiatrists. They all refuse to answer the root of the question. But what has really surprised me were those women who were very pro circumcision, who got their babies circumcised because it was cleaner. Some talked very easily on sex, but when I asked them what kind of circumcision did they believe was better – the wall. I tried to tell them that primitives were usually not interested in hygiene. Just the same – the wall.

I would be very pleased if you or someone else would write more of the same kind. Imagine that a man that you love feels like getting circumcised and asks you your opinion and advice. What would you say? Only a woman can really answer to that – dicks are made for pussies.

J.P. – France

## Loving Cut — Two

I was interested to read Ms Carrington's article in a recent issue of *Acorn*, and greatly admire her determination to help her partner with his little problem, and his courage in complying with her wishes. May they long enjoy the result.

A short frenulum severely restricts the free movement of the foreskin and may be damaged by normal sexual activities. I personally can cite four such cases:-

1. A close relative ruptured his frenulum during loveplay (not intercourse) with his fiancée.
2. As a teenager my frenulum split while strongly retracting my foreskin. Later I cut the remaining tie to improve freedom of movement (and never regretted doing so).
3. Two comrades in the RAF suffered a similar injury during intercourse, both with the same female partner who was reputed to have a very narrow vagina.

Earlier this century it was customary in Peru to sever a baby boy's frenulum, but a complete circumcision was not performed. Also, Felix Bryk's book describes how young boys would cut themselves likewise to attain full retraction of the prepuce.

Some writers have considered the frenulum to be analogous with the female hymen. I quote from correspondence in a 1974 issue of *H & E*:

"The foreskin is intended by nature to prevent too promiscuous mutual intercourse in youth, the pain of pressure on the part of the contracting parties delaying the double rape until the last possible moment of courtship."

"In the last century a woman's crowning ambition was to learn that she had, with her hymen, severed what was then called (and is no longer) the G-string that underpins the foreskin of the glans."

I cannot quite agree that nature intended the foreskin as a check on promiscuity, and doubt many swains were as virginal as is indicated here. But it is a romantic picture, and would certainly be a memorable experience for the lucky few who sacrificed their cherries simultaneously in this manner.

In conclusion, I consider the frenulum to be a disposable structure, which should be removed if it limits movement of the foreskin or causes discomfort during foreplay or intercourse.

I would be interested in readers' opinions on this subject.

Now to other matters. The 'new look' newsletter is both restrained and dignified, and this format should be retained. Many thanks to both the designers and producers.

R.F.W's desire to read the Felix Bryk classic raises the question of its availability and, if so, what demand would there be? And at what price?

A survey of members would be interesting in this respect.

*A.W. – Sussex*

[One of the items I am proposing at the first AGM is the setting up of a library from which photocopies of articles can be obtained for a small sum, and book publishers' names. — D.A.]

## The Ring

The article by Amanda Carrington in 7/94 is interesting in regard to the penis ring which her boyfriend uses. However, from the description I cannot understand exactly how it works ie. how does the foreskin cover the ring? Perhaps it is to do with whereabouts the ring is positioned, or its width. Could you ask Amanda for more details including where the rings are obtained from, the price and the name of the magazine in which they are advertised.

*E.S. – Lancs*

[There you are Amanda, lots of comment on your contribution with a pair of balls in your court. — D.A.]

## Confused

A few years ago, at the age of 10 or thereabouts, my cousin Alice, who was five years older than me, took me Christmas shopping in London. As we walked among the crowds in Oxford Street we saw a sight which I've never forgotten. A scruffy-looking boy about my age was coming towards us weaving through the crowds when suddenly he stopped, undid his trousers, produced a big fat willy, and started peeing down the drain! The crowds swirling around him pretended, in true British fashion, not to notice; but Alice and I were so astounded we just stood and watched. The boy, who had a defiant smirk on his face, saw us looking and winked while he went on pissing. Such a thing was totally unthinkable where I had been brought up, and the fact that this boy could expose his penis and urinate so nonchalantly in full view of everybody just took my breath away.

It wasn't just that though that held me riveted. What I couldn't fail to notice was how different this boy's penis was from my brothers', both of whom had a small round tomato on the end, while this lad's tapered to a long nozzle of corrugated skin. As he saw us watching him, he wagged his penis up and down for our benefit and tugged at the tip, stretching it as he went on peeing.

This brought Alice and I back to earth with a bang and we walked on, giggling our heads off.

Although such a sight was not common then in this country (I'm told it has become more so since kids have taken up drinking lager), I have recently had a similar experience when on holiday in the Black Forest. I was walking through a crowded market in Frieburg when a young respectable-looking fellow with glasses and a briefcase, suddenly stopped, whipped out his cock, and started peeing unconcernedly into a tub with a miniature tree in it. Once again I couldn't help hesitating as I wandered along so as to take a long look at his penis as he did so, struck by how similar it looked to that of the rude London boy. He saw me staring and frowned indignantly, as though it were the most natural thing in the world to expose your penis and urinate in front of scores of housewives doing their shopping. Perhaps it was, in Frieburg.

Anyway, to go back to my original story. As we left the peeing boy behind, I still couldn't believe my eyes, and said as much to Alice, who still couldn't stop giggling. Later we talked about it more calmly, and I told Alice how different it seemed from my brothers with their tomatoes stuck on the end, and it was then that I first found out about circumcision. Alice who was knowledgeable about such things, explained that my brothers had both had their willies circumcised because it was the done thing for people from our background. Mother always referred to it as the boy's 'little gentleman', and I've since discovered that a circumcised willy was considered the hallmark of a gentleman in those days.

Alice went on to satisfy my curiosity by telling me that circumcision meant cutting off the foreskin in childhood and that it provided a lot of benefits. She said that foreskins were nasty, dirty, smelly things which gave boys lots of trouble in later life, and nice girls wouldn't have anything to do with them! It was thus made clear to me that circumcision in a boy was not just desirable, it was mandatory for a girl with a proper British upbringing to insist on it!

What I didn't know was how quickly and easily such convictions can be forgotten – although temporarily – when you meet someone you really fall for. My very first serious boyfriend at college proved to have a long tight foreskin, and I really couldn't have cared less. Naturally, with my background, I did comment on it and asked him why he hadn't been done. He seemed puzzled, and asked me instead why I thought he should be. I told him what Alice had said, at which he was quite offended. Then he called me a silly goose and asked me if I had any complaints about the state of cleanliness of his willy. I had to admit that there was absolutely nothing to complain about, and the subject was never mentioned again.

Eventually I married a man who conformed to my family's ideal in that he was circumcised. By now I had enough experience to know that the derogatory remarks made by my cousin about foreskins were rather exaggerated, but I still kept at the back of my mind the comforting thought that circumcision

conferred a mark of respectability, if not superiority, on a male, and had no qualms about my husband's missing foreskin.

However, the subject was brought to the forefront of our attention on the birth of our son a few weeks ago. We both instinctively feel that he ought to be circumcised as the 'right thing', but recently there has been a barrage of anti-circumcision publicity in the health pages of the press – *The Independent* in particular – copies of which I have kept for reference, which I enclose. Firstly there was a rather breath-catching full-page spread about an American book on the reversal of circumcision which catered for the large numbers of men there who feel bad about being circumcised, with the book being reviewed sympathetically by the lady editor.

Then there was a letter from a consultant who commented unfavourably on the fact that parents can elect to have boys circumcised, whilst it was a serious offence to do it to girls. In giving reasons, he explained that there was mounting evidence that the loss of the foreskin caused harm throughout a male's life, since it detracted from pleasure during sexual arousal, destroyed specialised nerve endings, and often left a man with mechanical sexual problems due to insufficient skin being left. The other point he made was that many men are badly affected psychologically, as is borne out by the American experience mentioned above.

Another letter which was published in June was from a man who had been circumcised in adulthood and who complained about a loss of sensitivity, confirmed by his wife.

Finally, the lady health correspondent published a report the other day from an official Australian medical publication, *Genitourinary Medicine*, that the view that circumcision protects against sexually transmitted diseases is a myth.

Consequently, I and my husband have been having second thoughts about whether to treat Junior to the snip or not. We are not totally naive, and since all these reports originated from the same paper (and the same lady editor), it did occur to us that the paper might have an unreasonable bias against circumcision, despite the fairly compelling evidence produced. Our GP however gave a similar view and told us there wouldn't be the slightest hope of getting him done under the National Health, and that we'd have to go private. When I voiced our misgivings, based on long-term views, based on family custom, he suggested rather curtly that if I didn't believe him I should refer to the baby books and take their advice. So I did. There are dozens of such books available now, a lot of which don't even mention circumcision, merely advising on foreskin care. The others dismiss the operation as being unnecessary and occasionally dangerous. Even one American baby book did not advocate circumcision as such, merely mentioning it as an alternative, whilst stressing that there were no medical grounds for it.

The upshot is that, under this mass of anti-circumcision advice, and with no contrary view of any substance, we have finally and somewhat reluctantly decided that Junior shall retain his foreskin. I only hope that we have done the right thing, and would greatly appreciate comment from your members on what to me is a highly confusing issue.

*Penelope Baxter*

[I won't publish the articles mentioned as Penelope has adequately described them, and we have published bits of them before. — D.A.]

## French Phimosis

A French Sexologist doctor has written a small thesis on the natural cure of phimosis.

He has worked especially with teenagers and explained to them how to pull regularly on their foreskins. He says that in a month it is usually cured and his patients were very pleased to have the benefit of such a simple therapy. He says too, that in the hundreds of cases he has handled, he has never sent one to a surgeon.

To illustrate what he says, he shows a photograph of a negro with a very large plate in the lip and asks if there is a limit to the extensibility of tissue; and the foreskin being much softer than the lip, it is much easier.

He believes that phimosis comes from the prohibition of masturbation; that if little boys were left to their own devices, they would play and pull their pricks around and the problem wouldn't occur. So, if what he says is true, circumcision is 'never necessary'.

The thesis (with colour photographs) is available for 130 French francs from: A.M.E., Boite Postale 220, 92108 Boulogne Cedex, France.

It is called *Traitement medical du phimosis congenital de l'adolescent*, by Dr Michel Beauge. He lives in: 6, rue Parc, 29000 Quimper, France.

*Our French Correspondent*

## Contact Corner

Circumcised guy seeks correspondence and/or meetings with like minded guys.

*P.H. – Milton Keynes*



## Tight as a Drum

I had always wanted to be circumcised just as long as I can remember. It all began when my father used to wash underneath my foreskin and told me that I should always keep it clean.

I asked him why he didn't have a penis that looked like mine, and he told me that this was because he had been cut as a baby. I asked him why I hadn't been done when I was a neonate and he replied that he had asked the doctors at the time, but they suggested that these days it wasn't done routinely and not to worry.

Both my Mum and my Dad were quite keen for me to be cut as a baby because my foreskin, even then, seemed pretty long. As a young boy my Dad often said that I may have problems when I'm older, and that if I did, I should tell him and he would sort everything out.

Well, at 15, I eventually made up my mind that I wanted to be cut just like my Dad, and told him that I wanted to see our GP. Within one week I had my appointment. Only one problem though, my penis was fully functional and didn't need circumcising!

The only thing that I had tried that made any difference to the appearance of my knob was the addition of superglue, which gave it the look of having phimosis. This went down well with the GP who didn't suspect a thing and referred me on to the hospital urologist.

One month later I had an appointment to meet with him, and he was more than happy, even after examining me and putting up with my story about having a tight foreskin, to circumcise me. I remember him telling me all about the operation, that it would be a complete circumcision, and that I would be 'completely circumcised back.'

The waiting list was only one month and I could hardly believe that this charade had worked so well. My father thought it rather ironic that he had asked for me to be cut at birth because it was a bit of a family tradition, and that in the end I needed it anyway. When I went to the hospital I met two other blokes there who were to be circumcised the following day, just like me. Neither of them seemed to know much about what the operation involved and what was going to be removed. I got them straight on a few facts and then we shared experiences and stories. Both of them were older than me – in their twenties.

On the day of the op I quickly checked that the superglue I had applied that morning was still working. Then I awaited my turn to go under the surgeon's knife. On awakening I couldn't believe that it had actually been done until I was alone with the curtains drawn and I could see for myself what the surgeon had done. I was disappointed because, even though there was a lot of swelling, I was sure that the surgeon hadn't removed enough of my prepuce. Before

the op I had an overhang of foreskin of at least an inch, and the glans was ultra sensitive so much that when I had an erection I couldn't touch it with my hand as the sensation was too intense.

As the wound healed my worst fears were confirmed. During the flaccid state there was a lot of skin bunching behind the glans, and when I was particularly cold this would encroach markedly over the corona of the helmet and look as though I almost had my foreskin back again. I was resigned at the time to having it remain like that, besides which, during an erection it looked fine and improved my sexual enjoyment no end.

Two years later I met my present boyfriend who surprised me one day by saying that he was proud of my circumcised cock and wished that he had been cut as a baby. He was under the impression that, at 23, he couldn't do anything about it. I was pleased and surprised to hear him talk on the subject, and proceeded to tell him how it was possible to get his cock cut on the NHS if he was willing to do a little play acting and invest in a tube of superglue.

He eventually decided to give it a go, but wanted me to help because he didn't know exactly where to place all the glue. He fooled his GP no problem and was referred on to the surgeons. Unfortunately, at the surgical consultation, the doctor decided that my partner needed only his frenulum cut, an operation called a frenuloplasty, to relieve his problems of phimosis. It seemed that we hadn't spread the glue enough over his helmet, and it must have collected all around the frenulum, thus looking a less severe form of phimosis. We decided to go for the op in the mind that we could always try again and say that the original op was unsuccessful. This wasn't necessary however.

Doug, my partner, on the day of the op spoke to the surgeon personally and asked him the difference between a full circumcision and a frenuloplasty. The doctor said that it didn't take much longer to do but took longer to heal afterwards. Doug told him that he wouldn't like to come back to have a full circumcision done a second time if this op failed. He also said that he'd prefer a full circumcision to start off with, so that he could guarantee the surgery would be successful.

After consulting the senior surgeon a full circumcision was agreed and done. When I met him at his parents' house that evening I was still under the impression that he had had a frenuloplasty and didn't know until he showed me his newly cut and exposed knob end that he had been fully cut back. The skin that remained on the shaft was nice and tight. The scarline was 1 inch from the lip of the helmet, and his helmet bulged about 4mm away from the shaft on all sides. It was a fine sight. He was very happy with the result and soon fully healed in 3 weeks.

Now, 4 years after this, Doug and I were still together and kept going on about how much loose skin was present on my erect and flaccid cock (I could still move some of the shaft skin over the corona when erect). I had just discovered *Acorn* and how other people had had revisions done on their cocks to

improve the appearance. This discovery really excited me and I quickly got the names and addresses of several recommended doctors who were sympathetic to patients having revised circumcisions purely on cosmetic/psychological grounds. I excitedly phoned up my final choice and had a frank discussion over the phone as to the cost and what exactly I wanted done. Then I made an appointment for two weeks later.

Doug drove me there and I wore a jockstrap and tracksuit bottoms so that I had support but not too much pressure. When I rang the doorbell the doctor quickly answered and asked us both in. I was expecting that Doug would have to wait in the car but the doctor invited him into the study/operating room with me. He asked me whether I wished Doug to stay and I said yes.

He quickly got me to lie down on his couch and take off my trousers and jockstrap, and then asked me why I had been circumcised and when. He asked Doug whether he wanted to be cut too and was genuinely interested when he said he'd already been done. The doctor remarked as to the amount of spare skin that was bunched behind my helmet and asked if I wanted this removed so that it was 'nice and tight'. This was exactly what I wanted. He then asked if I wanted the scar near the helmet or halfway down the shaft. I knew exactly what I wanted and requested it to be up near the glans.

I watched the whole op because it was done under local. At one point Doug actually came over and assisted the Doctor because the stitching took such a long time. The Doctor pointed out that this scar should be much neater than the previous one because of the number of stitches that he had put in place. Soon my cock was bandaged up and in my jockstrap. I quickly went to the loo and came back into the room to see the Doctor inspecting what kind of job Doug had done 4 years previously. The Doctor said that it was very neat and tidy for an NHS job. I was very satisfied with the operation, the Doctor telling me exactly what he was doing at every stage. As we left he asked me to come back in 6 weeks time "when you'll be able to show off your new cock", he said.

The swelling soon decreased and I was pleasantly surprised how the new cut had produced the 'tight as a drum' look that I had always desired. Even when flaccid the helmet was totally exposed and not even the smallest flap remained to cover the glans. Wanking is now very intense as there is now only a very small area near the tip of my cock that is really sensitive. Also, the helmet seems to have increased in size, the corona become more flared and prominent. This also happened to Doug's cock. I'm very pleased with the result and would recommend a revision operation to anyone who considers it.

*Anon*

## Diverse Thoughts

I intend this to be my last letter for the foreseeable future since by now you have a backlog of several, and there's little point in writing yet more. Not a whiff of complaint, mark you. I've said before that I've had a pretty fair crack of the whip in your columns and all the new blood needs to be given a chance. I only hope that the next time a 'saga' comes wafting in on the breeze that you'll suppress it in favour of whatever backlog of letters you have, including mine. Incidentally, the only sagas so far have mostly been tedious epics terminating inevitably in the sublime state of circumcision. If you should ever succumb to the temptation again, how about one lauding the benefits of foreskin retention? Of course it will not enjoy the tense wind-up to the finale of the flashing scalpel with subsequent catharsis all round and sighs of relief – "Got rid of the fucking thing at last!" Strange what turns people on though!

On this subject, David, you must have developed an eye for the genuine letter and those that are not. For example, although I really enjoy reading the letters from the ladies, and applaud their general objectivity – and tendency to treat the cock as a joke rather than the crown jewels, I can't help feeling that one or two in the past may have stemmed from the same pen – probably male. Certainly the last two in 7 and 8/94 (Amanda and Jill) gave me pause for thought. The language used by one ("hard cock inside my hole...") is not really what you'd expect even from a tough old taggy up Kings Cross – more like a contribution by a *Forum* pud-puller. The other one, smacking her lips at getting spattered with blood as she slices through her boyfriend's penile parts is so reminiscent! Anyway, it's still so much more entertaining than the anthropological stuff which I don't think was even mentioned as a preference in your questionnaire.

I've already told you how pleased I was to find 'Anon' in 6/94 having a go at me, and noted how pleased he said he was at being circumcised. Hello, I thought, we've got a bit of a tiger here. So what a let-down to find in 7/94 that, instead of swaggering up to a girl and proudly confronting her with his splendidly de-frocked ding-dong with the words, "How about that one then?", he is diffidently and defensively imploring her not to be rude about it! But as Rabbi Lionel Blue told me on a recent visit to Bedford, "Don't take it too heavy, my friend".

I must say I was surprised and delighted to see that *The Daily Telegraph* has at last deigned to mention our subject. I had virtually written it off as too stuffy, unlike *The Independent* with its gallant lady foreskin defenders, *The Guardian* as ever with its penchant for the minority view, and the noble example of *The Times* which, after the war, supported Gairdner's campaign against pernicious and unnecessary surgery, culminating in its scoop in reporting Princess Diana's courageous stand against the Palace circumcisers. You have to admit, David, that the campaign against circumcision is rising to a crescendo – from all quarters. What about asking if any of our readers

have actually changed their minds over the last year or two as a result of what they've read in *Acorn* or anywhere else?

I was happy to see that a few more disgruntled 'circumcisees' (boom boom!) have decided to come out of the woodwork, and that I'm no longer a lone voice crying in the wilderness. I can't wait to see what Norm-UK turns out to be.

So, as we launch ourselves into 1995 with a cry of "Earwiggo, earwiggo, earwiggo", I wish you and your ladyfriend all the best in the coming year. Happy New Year to All.

*R.B.W. – Bedford*

## **Water Jet Surgery**

I thought members might be interested in the following item which appeared in *The New Scientist*, 23/7/94. The circumcision application, as an alternative to laser surgery, is obvious. According to *Tomorrow's World*, the technique dramatically reduces blood loss as blood vessels can be exposed, to be cut and sutured. (They showed a liver operation.)

'A cutting device that uses high pressure liquid could soon be replacing the surgeon's traditional stainless-steel scalpel, following the successful testing of a prototype in Germany.

A German engineer has designed the system, which uses a pump to force sterile water-based cutting liquid through tiny nozzles at pressures up to 150 bar. The resulting water jets were found to slice through animal livers, kidneys and hearts causing minimal damage to blood vessels and nerves.

It may be possible to couple the water jet to surgical lasers, which are being used increasingly for a wide range of surgical techniques ranging from cataract removal to hernia operations. But the optical fibre that brings the laser beam to the tissue to be cut off overheats and must be replaced. The German engineers want to replace the last few millimetres of the optical fibre with a low pressure water jet, thus reducing the heating of the tissue.'

## **Boxer Shorts**

My nephew, aged 30 and cut at 5 months due to a tight foreskin (according to the clinic nurse), asked his Missus to sew up the flies in his boxers. His cock kept poking through and rubbing against the zip of his jeans, which he found very uncomfortable. Incidentally his own son is still intact – whenever the subject has arisen (twice in my presence) my nephew kept very quiet. I take it therefore as read that he does not agree, but I would love to discuss it with him though! My sister is very pro, as was my nephew's father (her first hubbie). He wasn't cut though.

## Masturbation

I have always applied friction directly to the knob, even when a cavalier. I always found moving skin over the knob, or up and down the shaft, a real turn off and I lose the erection. It was one of the principal reasons I wanted to be circumcised – I still want a ‘drumskin tight’ cut so partners must stimulate the knob.

I personally do not find much additional stimulation from baby oil. Two Jewish friends **adore** it, and I love applying it! Incidentally, they are both very tender after coming, as is a Muslim friend. I must confess to enjoying continuing stimulation after they have come – they leap and yell (as I do when the roles are reversed), but I carry on regardless, telling them to complain to their mohel/sunnersi, not me!! (I think it must be the fact that they have nothing to protect the glans, despite what I do, that I find a turn on. Perhaps Ray Hamble would like to comment.)

*J.T. – Westcliff*

## From Birth Forward

**H**ad my mother not been so frugal, I suspect that I would have been circumcised at birth (early 30's) as our family doctor probably favoured it. I was seven years old when my brother was born and remember being called in while the doctor was visiting. He made me drop my shorts and then retracted my foreskin. I don't remember my reaction at the time, nor his remarks to my mother, but it did, I think, trigger my interest in cocks! Certainly as a result three or four of us local boys inspected each other's cocks. My first encounter with a circumcised cock, which we all inspected closely, was some time during the war when some evacuees joined us. We used to play naked in the local brook.

At boarding school, I reckon that my peer group was divided roughly 50-50. By the age of thirteen, when we had medical checks, my foreskin was quite loose, and I enjoyed rolling it back in the bath and washing it well.

Some twenty years ago when I was working in the tropical heat of Nigeria, I used to get very sweaty and sometimes a little sore around the genitals. I found that keeping the area shaved prevented this. Also at that time I conditioned my foreskin to remain retracted at all times, since when, I think the glans rim has enlarged, making it less easy to draw the foreskin forward, which suits me as I prefer the glans uncovered.

I have occasionally thought of having some of the excess skin removed to make for a smoother shaft, but don't really consider the cost justifiable.

Since contracting malaria in 1990, I have also developed diabetes, needing injections twice daily. This seems to have reduced my sexual capabilities, which is more worrying than the form of my penis!

As my parents were both from large families, I have a plethora of cousins worldwide. Of the ones I know about,  $\frac{1}{3}$  are circumcised.

G.C. – Staffs

## Books

In reply to the enquiry by G. – Birmingham in Issue 7/94:-

*The Joy of Uncircumcising* by Jim Bigelow is available from UNCIRC, PO Box 52138, Pacific Grove, CA 93950 at \$16.95 plus postage and packing. This is going to be more than the \$2 quoted for U.S. rate but unfortunately I cannot remember how much they charged me some two years ago.

Two more books in the same vein:-

*Decircumcision* by Gary Griffin, available from Second Skin, 1335 Kentucky Street, Dept. 5, New Orleans, LA 70117 at \$14.95

*Say No To Circumcision* by Thomas Ritter, available from NOCIRC, PO Box 2512, San Anselmo, CA 94979 at \$10.95 plus P & P.

This organisation also produces a good deal of anti-circumcision literature and information.

Anon

## What a Business!

Submitted by an *Acorn* member, taken from *Bedside Manna*, by Rabbi Lionel Blue.

A lady passes a shop with clocks in the window. She goes in and says to the old man behind the counter, "I'd like to buy a watch. What do you recommend?"

"I know nothing about watches," he says, "I am not a watchmaker."

"Then what are you?" she asks tartly.

"I am a Jewish ritual circumciser", he says.

"Then why do you have all those watches and clocks in the window", says the lady indignantly.

"Madam", he replies wearily, "What should I put in the window?"

## Words

Anthony betrays he's had a good classical education in 'Words' 8/94. He and others may be interested to know that I mischievously coined the word 'circumcisee' as a derivative to 'amputee'. Would you admit it describes, more precisely, the same thing? In my account 'Anxieties' 3/94, I mentioned that the word 'circumcised' didn't enter my vocabulary until early teens. It was explained in a scripture lesson by a red-faced male teacher responding to the provocative questioning of one of the girls in our class. Prior to that, from primary school days, my condition, and those likewise, had been described and accepted as 'cut'. Until I began reading *Forum*, and then *Acorn*, I didn't realise that this simple crisp word had such specific common parlance amongst the initiated. Those so conscious of it, like me, have many a smile when we open newspapers and see headlines like 'Gas showroom staff to be cut'. (Bet that didn't include the Chairman!)

I enjoy the double entendre of words and malapropisms, and there must be many still to come in the *Acorn* sphere of interest. That word alone is such a perfect title for our Society. How I wish that I'd thought of it! But perhaps I should now own up and say it was me who chose the typeface and made a naughty addition to the letter 'A' for our magazine masthead. I'll hitherto sign my contributions G.D. for 'graphic designer'.

G.D. – Yorks

## Acorn Gathering and AGM

An *Acorn* gathering will be held in Croydon, South London over the weekend of 1st/2nd April and will incorporate the AGM on the Saturday afternoon.

If you are interested in staying overnight on the Friday and/or Saturday the price will be £33-50 per person per night sharing a twin room. This includes Evening Meal and Breakfast (Single room prices on request.) £10 per night deposit (payable to Croydon Park Hotel) will be required with bookings. Please contact Brian, by phone or via *Acorn*, as soon as possible to ensure that the hotel has enough room for us.

Note that it is not essential to stay overnight in order to attend the AGM, formal details of which will be in the next issue.

## Subscriptions

Those who haven't yet renewed their subscription will, never the less, have received this first edition of the year. I would ask that the renewals come in quickish so that we can set a budget out before the AGM. Many thanks in advance.

David.



# ACORN

Issue  
Nº 2 1995  
Editor  
David Acorn

## Editorial

In with this issue are the AGM agenda and voting forms, all of which are self explanatory. All I'd like to say is that in it all, confidentiality still abounds.

Through the good offices of Brian in California I have been introduced to an organisation called GNU, standing for Glans Naked and Unashamed. It is newly formed, the first issue of its quarterly newsletter went out in December, and has 39 members in 4 Continents, 80% of whom are circumcised. From what the Organiser tells me of their aspirations, they are a mirror image of ourselves, the Name belying the fact that it is 'For and about men whose foreskins, or lack thereof, are a source of fascination for them'.

He has a copy of one of our newsletters and is very impressed with it. In turn he sent me a copy of their first newsletter and asks if we could have a mutual reprint agreement, so that he could put some of our items in his newsletter and vice versa. In this way a lot of personal contacts might ensue, but I would like to know if there are any objections to this.

## Contents

	Page
Editorial : D.A.	1
American Trend : Brian	2
In Response to Penelope : G.D.	3
Pain: (Why Boys Are the Cry Babies) : William	5
Better Late Than Never : J.H.	7
Sensitivity : J.H.	9
The Favourite Pastime : S.F.	9
Taking Care of Willy : Ray	10
Yes and No : R.B.	12
The Clinic (Pt 4) : J.G.	13
Celebrity List : Anon	16
Contact Corner : M.L.	16
Croydon Meeting and AGM : Vernon	16
As A Woman I Think : .....	16

Printed & Published in England by The Acorn Society.  
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## Correspondence

Please send all correspondence to:

THE ACORN SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 113  
WESTON-SUPER-MARE  
AVON, BS23 2ED

Letters for forwarding should be marked in pencil with the recipient's identifier. They should be stamped 1st class and be enclosed in an envelope addressed as above.

To stay in America still, the first item today is from Brian in San Fransisco. Happy reading.

D.A.

## American Trend

You may have read or heard that the current trend in the U.S. now is not to circumcise newborn babies routinely. In fact the process is questioned in all areas now. Lots of magazine articles spell out pros and cons, radio and TV talk shows feature heated debates, by both men and women, on the advantages and disadvantages of the foreskin. It's today's hot topic. One sees addresses and phone numbers listed where one can get foreskin restoration information (probably at great expense).

The following is a cutting from *The San Jose Mercury News* by one of those chatty columnists.

"They were talking about circumcision on the car radio. I wasn't paying much mind. Circumcision is a decision that has come and gone in my life. For me and my sons, the foreskin follies were a foregone conclusion. It was ritual.

"But now, I understand, lots of 'experts' disdain the practice, be it for religion or health. There was one woman on the programme who was really upset. She said that circumcision was an attack on human rights; that it was an act of brutal disfigurement; that it had a psychological aftermath that led men to become violent. She said that for many circumcised men, way down deep in their psyche is a resentment toward what had been done to them, and then as adults they try to get even. I thought she was going overboard.

"But then, as one red light turned green, someone said something that really shocked me. 'Men who have been circumcised,' said this panellist, 'enjoy only a small percentage of the sexual pleasure of men who have not been circumcised.' I almost drove off the road. Now I was listening closely.

"One male caller said that he had been circumcised as a baby, but then had the foreskin replaced as an adult. 'And it was fantastic,' he said, speaking of his sexual awakening. 'All those years,' he said, 'I had never known what I was missing.'

"There were more calls similar to that. Testimonials to foreskin. 'Don't you see?' said another caller. 'That's where the nerve endings are.'

"The woman who had spoken of human rights – to nobody's particular interest – now was animated. She chortled that men everywhere were seeking to have their foreskins replaced. 'Parents should realise just how serious a deprivation circumcision is,' she was saying, glad to have everyone's ear. Well, she had mine. 'Men who have been circumcised have no idea what they've been missing!' I let that waft through my cerebrum.

“Could this be true? This is the sort of idea that can drive a man mad. How would you like to be told, for example, that your taste buds are defective? That you just don’t know what pizza tastes like because you lack a facility for spices? Well, unfortunately, there is no way of knowing. Sex certainly has seemed pleasurable in my life. I keep thinking: ‘seemed.’ But if these experts know their stuff, imagine what it must be like for non-circumcised men.

“Well, as I drove along, I decided to change the station. But my mind wandered. Most men, I mused, even if they have concerns about circumcision, are unlikely to hunt around for their old foreskins. And who wants somebody else’s? Still, I hated to think that life is full of champagne and caviar, and I’ve spent it all sipping Kool-Aid. It’s like when I tell a friend I had a wonderful time at Lake Tahoe, and he smiles and says, ‘Nice, but have you seen the Alps?’ It’s like when I show an old friend my best column and he just nods, then adds, ‘By the way, have you read my 12-volume series on the rise and fall of the Roman Empire?’ That’s show-off stuff.

“Maybe all those guys with foreskins are just showing off. Maybe it’s not nearly as great for them as they want us deprivées to feel.

“That’s what I believe. And I wish they’d shut up.”

*Brian Rogers – USA*

## In Response to Penelope

**M**ay I first thank you for your splendid letter in 1/95. It had all the good things many of us like to read: a woman’s view of our favourite topic, intrigue, experience, humour and a serious question at the end.

In respect of the latter, I do urge you and your husband to overturn your ‘final reluctant’ decision and follow your instincts to circumcise your baby son. In support of this advice I make the following points:

1. The great majority of us who had our cocks cut without our consent are grateful to our parents for doing it, and wish to pass the perceived benefits on to our sons. Your husband is clearly one of us and well satisfied with his own circumcision or he wouldn’t for a moment have been party to the first accord you reached.
2. You are better informed to make a judgement than most mothers in your position, having experienced seeing both sorts of penis during childhood and sexually testing them as an adult. Whilst you’ve recognised your cousin’s criticism of foreskins was overdone, your letter clearly indicates a preference for your husband’s circumcised willy. You should endorse this on your son.
3. Your mother’s mode of expression on the subject may now seem quaint, but the substance was sound. Circumcision is the mark of a gentleman because no gentleman would service a woman with his penis unclean. Of course,

most men with foreskins follow this code and, like your college boyfriend, are scrupulous about penile hygiene. The point is, that in their case, there is always room for doubt in a woman's mind, and as you discovered, even asking leads to outrage, hurt and embarrassment. When a lady is confronted by a circumcised penis she has absolute physical assurance of cleanliness there in her hand, and thereafter has no reason to mention it.

4. You and your husband's perception of the current anti-circumcision campaign in the media is quite correct. It is selective and greatly biased. Millions of men throughout the world have lost their foreskins so you are bound to get a few hard cases and dissenters. They are more than matched by those who regret having been left uncircumcised, and especially by those who've had problems as a result. Our own *Acorn* survey and letter content over the years will bear this out. Remember that this male operation has been practised for thousands of years, independently, in many cultures, ancient and modern, around the world. It wouldn't have endured if both men and women hadn't found its results prophylactically and sexually beneficial. At the moment our society is on a down cycle of circumcision fashion and, like many other time-honoured traditions, is due to be 're-discovered' in a decade or two. It is strange now, when the whole slant of medicine is on preventative action and healthy lifestyle, that circumcision is an exception in not taking its rightful place and gaining acceptance in that cause.

5. There is an emotional dimension shared by pro-circumcisionists which is hard to explain to those who are anti. I was pleased to be circumcised like my father, and wanted my sons to be circumcised like me. Wives and partners often pick up this feeling and are very supportive of their men in this matter. My wife is, and I suspect you are too. Over twenty years ago we were in exactly the same position as you and your husband. We wanted our boys cut, but were defeated several times by prevailing medical opinion. I've always regretted we didn't go privately and have our wish for them carried out. From this disappointing experience I recommend you go right ahead now. Don't be fobbed off with 'wait and see' and alternative remedies if trouble should arise. The time is now. His foreskin should be back behind his glans before he ever knows it once covered it! Later on, it's harder to find a co-operative practitioner, and it's more expensive, more painful, and more embarrassing to have it done. You will have great satisfaction seeing your son grow up neatly circumcised, clean and trouble free, and knowing he is going to delight some future sexual partner(s) all the better for it. Who knows, it may well be a sought-after novelty then.

G.D.

## Pain

Article from *The Independent* [Several members have sent in this one, and here it forms part of a letter. – D.A.]

### Why Boys Are The Cry Babies

Baby boys are well known for crying more when they are vaccinated than baby girls. And now doctors from Canada believe they know why.

They say that boys who have been circumcised have their pain response enhanced – an effect that can last for several months after the procedure has been carried out. That means pain relief should be given to the babies before circumcision to save them from pain later.

Curious as to why boys appear to experience more pain, Doctor Gideon Koren of the Hospital for Sick Children, Ontario, set up an experiment to measure the distress caused by the needle. The boys, aged 4-6 months, were having routine diphtheria-whooping cough-tetanus injections. Some were also given an injection for meningitis. Half the babies had a local anaesthetic cream rubbed on their thighs half an hour before the injections. All their responses were recorded on video and assessed by an impartial observer.

Dr Koren says in *The Lancet* that the circumcised boys, who made up 71% of the total, overall had more pain. 'Male circumcision is the most common neonatal surgical procedure. It causes intense pain and measurable changes in behaviour that last up to a day. We found that circumcision was associated with increased infant pain response. Circumcised boys had significantly longer crying bouts and higher pain scores.'

Pain was measured by evaluation of the expression on the baby's face, his movements and his crying. Dr Koren says that although his observations are speculative, given the small number of babies in the test, pain relief should be given routinely to those to be circumcised.

---

This report appeared in *The Independent* of February 3rd. and touched on a subject which seems not to have been talked about very much since I became a member. (Admittedly, I have been a member for only a year and a quarter.)

Circumcision experiences in *Acorn* and the letters I have received on the subject mentioned only a slight discomfort for a few weeks after a circumcision as being the normal experience. Why should babies suffer pain and adults not? Individuals differ in their pain thresholds, of course, and I suppose different penises have different quantities of nerves and blood vessels. Other operations involving cutting flesh are assumed to be painful. Why should circumcision not be? Is it to do with the psychology and/or upbringing of men?

Because I had heard so frequently about 'a few weeks discomfort at most', nothing had prepared me for the agony I had to endure after my re-circumcision 7 months ago. I suffered the most extreme constant pain for 3 months, unable even to touch my penis without feeling I was going to faint or vomit, severe pain for another 3 months and now, 7 months later, I still suffer when not actually having an orgasm. My cock has ceased to be a source of pleasure.

Did I have a particularly sensitive penis? It doesn't seem likely. Did other *Acorn* members who felt only a little discomfort after their operations have non-sensitive foreskins? It seems improbable. Do men who have frequent sex or who masturbate frequently suffer more or less on being circumcised? I don't imagine anyone has done any research on the subject. It seems that circumcision is a very hit and miss affair. Very little medical/scientific study seems to have been done on the subject, and we seem to know very little. For example, what happens to the nerves and blood vessel endings when the flesh of the foreskin and penis are cut away? Are they damaged beyond repair; do they regenerate in some way? I had a very thick vein running down the front of my erect penis. It has now gone. What has happened? In addition, I have lost  $\frac{3}{4}$ " from the length of my penis. No one can explain this. No one even hinted that this might be a possibility.

I have been told that, before I became a member, there was some discussion about how much skin should ideally be cut away, but this subject hasn't cropped up since I have been a member. (Is it possible that the pain I suffered is associated with the amount of flesh removed?)

As might be imagined, my very sobering experience has turned me from a pro-circumcision man into a convinced anti-circumcision man.

Now for a slightly different, but connected, subject. When re-reading letters sent to me more carefully, it struck me that many *Acorn* members like cut cocks very much, and the more extreme the cut the better. Some letters were less than objective. I had many letters from the 'tight as a drum school'. (Stupidly, I fell for it). In these letters, the excitement engendered by the idea of severely cut cocks was often cloaked in authoritative or semi-medical language. On reflection, it is impossible to be 'tight as a drum' when both soft and erect – unless one's cock remains the same size in both states (possible but unusual). This is the kind of fantasy, parading as fact, which can be dangerous. Likewise, cutting frenulums with scissors (7/94) must surely involve a certain risk. (This article appeared without an editorial caution of any kind).

I have considerable sympathy for the point of view of R.B.W. (1/95), when he says that some articles read like straightforward male fantasy (I was going to say pornography), rather than factual events. I enjoy erotic fantasy a great deal, and I imagine most *Acorn* readers do too, but I do think that in a responsible magazine such as *Acorn* is trying to be, there should be a clear distinction between fantasy and scientific or medically accurate articles. Circumcision is a very interesting subject, because it is the meeting place for a number of

interests, religion, sexual fantasy, the opportunity for hetero and homosexual men to discuss a semi-taboo part of their body, hygiene, aesthetics of the male body, etc, etc, but because there are these superimposed layers, I think it is important to acknowledge the strength of suppressed sexual fantasy when we talk about our subject.

I would be interested to hear what other members think about the points I have raised. I would also, in view of my new shortened state, be interested to learn anything about cock lengthening operations.

*William*

[I am not medically qualified to state whether anything done to one's body is dangerous or not. We have from time to time stated that we cannot take any responsibility for anything said or done by members: and I reiterate here.

On the question of sorting fact from fantasy, if I'm not told an item is fantasy, who am I to be the judge and jury. Your letter has really touched me, but who is to say that another member might read it and not say to himself that here is a bloke who gets his rocks off with a pain and mutilation fantasy? At the moment, the only published known non-factual item is 'The Clinic' — D.A.]

## Better Late Than Never

**B**orn in the 1940's, when it was fashionable to have baby boys circumcised, I was duly 'done' when a few days old, so I believe. I have *never* regretted it since. The cut was almost perfectly made to the small penis and obviously with no lasting memories of pain or other discomfort, resulting in a good-looking cock which I am proud to possess for the rest of my life!

I was to grow up in a North London suburb, going first to a primary school and then on to a mixed secondary school with other boys, many of whom had also been cut at just after birth. Little boys are always inquisitive and fascinated to compare attributes and I was (and still am for that matter) no exception. I formed some general schoolboy observations, such as how pleased I was with what I had – a large knob uncluttered by the folds of skin I saw on the shafts of the majority of my school friends – only some 30% of them seemed to be like me. Also I noticed that, as a general rule, taller boys *and* shorter boys than me both generally had smaller penises (particularly in girth) than those of us who were, like me, of average height.

As a young teenager, my sex organs had matured to adult size and I masturbated a great deal, deriving hours of mental and physical bliss from wanking, often many times a day (perhaps yesteryear's equivalent of today's feeling of euphoria experienced by teenagers in drugtaking, but with no addiction or side effects!)

When I wanked, it was not long before I became aware of a small tag of skin that, when my penis was erect, stretched from the rim of the glans to the top of the shaft. It was only about 4mm wide and, fortunately, was exactly in the centre on the top side, but caused my knob to be pulled at this point. I found I could even pass a needle and thread through a small hole underneath the tag of skin, which was quite fun, and I frequently wondered whether to tug extra hard to break the tag, but I thought the pain would be too much. No real problem when masturbating – all worked extremely well but, then in my late teens, I wondered if the tag would cause problems if I had sex.

I consulted my GP, who took a look at my cock. He forced me to erect it in his presence (by placing his fingers under my balls and pressing hard). From what he saw he concluded that no problems with intercourse would be caused, but suggested that, if I had surgery at any time in the future for anything else, I should request that the tag should be snipped.

Later I went on to father three sons with absolutely no difficulty at all, but in 1982, following the birth of our third son, I was told by a doctor that there would be roughly an 80% chance of me fathering yet another son if we were to have more children. 'Enough is enough', I thought, and immediately requested a vasectomy, which was granted and organised as one of four to take place during a lunch time at the National Women's Hospital in London (the only operation carried out on men there) a week or so later.

With some trepidation (you don't like to risk upsetting a surgeon who is just about to attack your balls!) I asked if they would be prepared to remove the post-circumcision tag from my shaft at the same time. To my astonishment they agreed. The vasectomy took place under local anaesthetic which, as I'm not squeamish, allowed me to sit up a bit and watch. It was a strange feeling seeing some of the tubes attached to your most manly parts being tied off (by a woman) but, viewed in a detached way, quite exhilarating at the same time. Then, quick as a flash, out came the surgeon's snips, and the 39 year old tag was no more.

After a couple of weeks, when the bruising from the vasectomy had subsided, it was time to do some experiments. And yes, the erection was now perfect and the site of the tag was hardly noticeable, the big knob now perfectly shaped – and I had a bonus: even more erotic nerve endings, hitherto covered up, exposed to give me more pleasure still! As some of you who come to the Croydon meeting in early April may be able to see, I am lucky enough to possess an organ which has very little scarring (the result of having been circumcised as an infant) and now, thanks to the tag removal, complete in every way.

I am a keen club and beach (and anywhere else that it's legal) Naturist, so I have, for over ten years now, been able to present a perfectly formed circumcised penis which I am not reluctant to have seen on such occasions, and to advance my feeling of 'openness' I decided after the operation to remain in the shaved state they had given me, *indefinitely*. So I am still one of the ever



growing number of *smoothies* amongst naturists who enjoy the advantages of depilation. (If any readers of *Acorn* are interested in Smooth Naturism or in *The Smoothie Club* – a UK based international club of some 200 member units – I should be only too happy to hear from you via the Editor.)

### Postscript

It is so sad that the medical profession has deemed circumcision an ‘unnecessary operation’ to put a baby boy through, and thus my three sons (and eventually their partners) will not be able to benefit from the cleanliness and elegant good looks of a splendid roundhead.

*J.H. – Middx*

## Sensitivity

Are there any readers who are in their late forties or early fifties, and who have been circumcised from childhood, experiencing a considerable lessening of the sensitivity of the knob during masturbation or when having sex, compared with, say, ten years ago? I have asked my doctor about this and he says it is ‘all in the mind’. I remain unconvinced, and continue to feel less sensation when rubbing. Is it because I have wanked my unprotected (ie. no foreskin) penis for all these years, or does it happen as we all get older anyway? There is one bonus: because of the sensitivity being less, it takes longer to climax, but when the climax is reached, I find it is far ‘higher’ than before, and spurting more powerful (the yield remains as much as before). We would be interested in your related views and experiences.

*J.H. – Middx*

## The Favourite Pastime

I am a new member of *Acorn*, so please forgive me if my letter oversteps the bounds set by the Society. I write regarding masturbation, something that I get a great deal of pleasure from. I have a fairly loose foreskin and usually rub that backwards and forwards over my glans, although sometimes I keep it pulled back and wank on a lubricated shaft à la roundhead.

I much prefer the use of the foreskin, which leaves me asking, ‘Do cavaliers masturbate more than roundheads? And how often?’ I average between 50 to 70 times a year.

If any members would like to contact me direct I’d love to hear from them, via *Acorn*.

*S.F. - Milton Keynes*

## Taking Care of Willy

I suspect that members join *The Acorn Society* for many and varied reasons not entirely associated with a detached, altruistic, scientific interest in the male genitalia and, especially in circumcision or the lack of it. In spite of all manner of protestations of innocence I guess that most of us belong because, one way or another, we are sexually turned on by talk and thought about willies, balls and all the paraphernalia that goes with them. There are not, to my knowledge, similar fan clubs for those intrigued by, say, thumbs or ear lobes or the length of our eyelashes.

Asked to justify my membership publicly, I could claim professional interest as a doctor and the need to keep abreast of society's social and moral attitudes to matters on the sexual agenda. However, if the truth be known, I'm addicted to my cock and, because I'm an obsessively sexual gay man, other guy's cocks as well, along with what they do with them.

You may well say, 'Speak for yourself'. Nevertheless, I imagine that I also speak for many other members in the supposition that, either heterosexually, homosexually or solosexually, we use, and possibly in the process 'abuse', our dicks rather more excessively than a high percentage of 'ordinary' guys in the community. (Please don't pick me up on the political correctness of the use of the word 'ordinary').

Many is the time when I've emerged from a sex session with my willy red, raw and ever so sore, having earned its keep the 'hard' way. What's to be done in such circumstances and, more to the point, what steps ought we to take to keep our dangly bits in good condition to minimise this 'trauma potential' (to coin a bit of highfalutin jargon)?

I'm old-fashioned by nature and, when the heat's on, my lifelong standby has been good old pink Germoline, regardless of its mentholic or eucalyptus smell – after all, the colour is right! A little smeared thinly onto a piece of lint, which is then wrapped around the offending plonker and held in situ by wearing a pair of snug fitting briefs overnight, usually sees me right and ready for getting married (again) in the morning. I guess any simple antiseptic cream, like Savlon, would do just as well, but I think we should pay more attention than we are often inclined to do to friction abrasions of this kind. There are too many nasty infections capable of getting into the system through minor breaks in the skin, and it's important to clear up any blemishes as quickly as possible.

Of course, the risk of getting such problems can be minimised in the first place if sensible precautions are taken beforehand. We don't all produce sufficient pre-cum 'love juice' to lubricate our willies as thoroughly as we might, and not all other orifices necessarily make up the shortfall when we take an exploratory trip inside. So extra preliminary lubrication is often a great help, especially if you plan to take your time over the foreplay and the bang.

Remember that pre-cum, spit and even KY tend to evaporate quickly, and the resulting tackiness can actually increase the risk of friction damage during 'non-penetrative erotic genital stimulation' (the posh phrase for wanking!). In such circumstances, an oily lubricant – eg: baby oil, vaseline or even butter – has its merits, but remember that such products will destroy the latex from which condoms are made. So if you intend to don a rubber mack as the moment of pica approaches, then you must stick to a water-based lube like KY.

By the way, the Health Promotion Department of the Huntingdon Health Authority in Cambridgeshire has produced a helpful leaflet recommending 'gel charging' of condoms before use either during masturbation or intercourse. It suggests that a teaspoonful of a water-based lubricant gel (eg KY) squirted into the teat and flared end of a contoured condom can not only make intercourse 'more pleasing than not wearing a condom' at all, but also that it is 'fantastic' for solo and mutual masturbation. There is no doubt that a condom used in this way affords a good barrier protection against friction burns.

The ultimate in looking after Willy must be the on-going regular attention which you should pay to 'him' every day. After all, any good workman always looks after his tools. You know what happens to a housewife's hands when she has them in and out of water every day. They become soggy and the skin loses its elasticity and strength. That's why they resort to regular massage with emollient creams or lotions like Nivea, Attrixa or liquid lanoline, and your dick deserves the same treatment. Each morning or each evening – or both if you enjoy it sufficiently – you should gently massage some cream into the shaft and glans. Pay special attention to the scar area behind the glans if you've been circumcised and to the opening at the tip of your foreskin if it's a bit on the tight side or inclined to split. 'How much cream?', do I hear you ask? Well, I guess the size of the job depends upon the size of the knob, if you get my drift, but truly only a little is necessary, and it should be massaged well in.

From time to time the skin may need to be toughened or hardened a little. The glans of roundheads is particularly vulnerable. This is when a daily application of a little surgical spirit comes into its own. Only do be careful if you already have slight abrasions, because the smarting 'ouch' factor can be pretty high in such circumstances.

So there you have it. A little caring forethought for your foreskin and preparation for your prick will certainly pay dividends when duty calls. Ahhhhh... Bless your little sodden cocks.

*Ray Hamble*

## Yes and No

After a rather dreary patch, I feel the newsletter is getting better again. You got a bit clinical with lurid descriptions of the operation of circumcision. If there is anything which puts me off circumcision it is the pain that I may be inflicting on my son in the early days of his life. My wife's views on the subject are interesting as she has been married several times and has had children on both sides of the Atlantic. She cannot believe that the medical profession cannot make up its mind whether it is a good thing to cut or not to cut, and then to stick with it and avoid all the harmful penis envy that results from being different.

She is English and born into a middle class family in the late 40's. Given her background, her brothers were all circumcised, as were most of her early boyfriends. Her first husband was, surprisingly, uncut, which she found rather novel and quite a thrill. Her first son was delivered in a private hospital in the mid 60's, and she had a genuine dilemma as to whether to have him done. Her first husband had always rather regretted his foreskinned state – most of his peer group had been circumcised – so encouraged her to have him done. Because of a change of circumstance the second son was born in a National Health hospital in the early 70's and circumcision was not available. In fact she was told that it was out of fashion, and although her firstborn was done, no-one was being circumcised nowadays – that was a barbaric hangover from the past.

She then divorced and married an American who, of course, was circumcised. She had a son in America in the mid 70's and almost without her being asked, he was circumcised in hospital with a substantial additional medical fee. By 1980, when her next son was born, circumcision in USA was 'optional'. In fact, the 'avant garde' were moving against it. At that stage it was 2:1, so she was happy to leave him intact to make it 2:2.

Now she is back in England, married to me, and we are considering, rather belatedly, having children of our own. I am circumcised and, on balance, she prefers the circumcised cock. But she hates subjecting her little ones to pain and circumcision is still 'out' in this country. I gather however, that the Americans are rethinking their position and the pendulum seems to be swinging back in its favour again. I gather AIDS and STD's are less likely if circumcision has been performed.

The important thing however, seems to be not our own views, but what our peer group is doing. For a child, the most important thing is to be the same as everyone else. I know that, as a 52 year-old I am relieved at having been circumcised. If I was a 30 year-old now, I would be marginally upset at being in a minority. If I was a 20 year-old and circumcised, I would be angry at my parents for making me different.

On balance therefore, I suspect that we will leave our prospective son intact, because the balance of opinion appears to be against circumcision, despite both of our preferences. This would make my wife's score 3:2 in favour of the foreskin. Both my own sons (from my ex-wife) have foreskins, the NHS being continuously against it.

So – are we right? Will the pendulum swing again as it may be doing in USA. This is a much more interesting subject for *Acorn* than dorsal slits, Plastibell cuts, etc. I'd be interested if others had experienced the same dilemma.

*R.B. – London*

P.S. Let's have another poll of members. Age, education, whether children circumcised, wife's attitude etc.

## The Clinic

### 4. The Men In Her Life

(With thanks to the member who contributed much of the material for this episode.)

Julie had been 12 when her brother Clive had been born. Her mother had seen this as the perfect opportunity to introduce her and her 14 year old sister Anna to the practicalities of child care. They were closely involved in feeding, bathing, nappy changing and so on. When Clive was 6 weeks, a doctor and nurse visited the house by appointment and carried out a circumcision.

Julie and Anna had been intrigued by this and their mother had explained that their father was circumcised and that they wished Clive to be the same. She explained the hygienic and sexual advantages of circumcision, and was especially enthusiastic about the neat and tidy appearance of Clive's penis as the wound healed. They all thought it a great improvement after the long straggly foreskin which had previously adorned his penis. Her mother suggested to both girls that they should try to choose circumcised partners for their own health and satisfaction, and should ensure that any sons they might have were done to match. All this took place at a highly impressionable age, and the advice had been fixed in Julie's mind ever since.

Julie admitted to a strong sex drive and by sixteen she had been ready to lose her virginity. Her boyfriend had been very shy about the whole matter and had taken some seducing. He had insisted that their first lovemaking take place in the dark. When Julie at last saw him naked, she was delighted to find that he had been beautifully circumcised. She told him how pleased she was, and he confessed that he was embarrassed about his cut penis. She reassured him that there was absolutely no need – nothing could be better!

This first love affair had been very happy and most satisfactory in bed. It had lasted all through the sixth form but inevitably, after they had gone to different universities, they had drifted apart.

University had brought new men into her life, and with it her first experience of foreskins. She had several boyfriends. Each time at the critical moment when she saw or handled their penis for the first time, she hoped to find it circumcised. Each time she was disappointed. Were there no circumcised men left in the world? Her closer acquaintance with the foreskin did nothing to endear it to her. If anything, her latent prejudices were reinforced, and she looked back nostalgically to her first boyfriend and his beautifully crafted dick. Eventually she met, fell in love with, and ultimately, at the age of 22, married Mike. Her marriage was very happy but she had to confess that she still found his long wrinkly foreskin a turn off. What's more, he seemed over sensitive and didn't last long enough to satisfy her. If there was a cloud over her marriage, it was in bed. After a couple of years she had gently mentioned her concerns and asked how he would feel about having a circumcision. But he had clammed up and had refused to discuss it in any depth. It was alright for babies, he implied, but not for adult men. And that was it.

A year ago, she had become pregnant and had given birth to her baby son, John. She was determined that the new man in her life should be circumcised. She told Mike of her wish, but he had not been keen. She reminded him that he had said that circumcision was OK for babies. Eventually, after a lot of pressure, Mike had agreed to leave the final decision and arrangements to Julie. But having overcome one hurdle, she was confronted with three more; the hospital, health visitor and GP had all refused point blank to arrange for John to be circumcised. She had rung several other surgeries but none performed circumcisions either on the NHS or privately. She didn't really know where to turn next.

One evening, when John was already three months old, Julie and Mike had dinner with Sally and Alan Morgan. Julie and Sally had met at the antenatal clinic and had soon become firm friends. Sally had given birth to a son, Darren, about a month after John was born. Both babies slept peacefully through dinner, but as coffee was being served, Darren started to whimper. Sally went out and comforted him and was soon back.

"Is everything alright?" asked Julie solicitously.

"Yes, he's OK. he's got a sore willy because he was docked this morning."

"What do you mean?" asked Julie.

"We've just had him circumcised. He's a bit sorry for himself now, but I'm sure he'll thank us for it in the future."

The wine and brandy had made everyone a little less inhibited and there then followed a very frank and open discussion on circumcision. At least between three of them – Julie noticed that Mike stayed very quiet. Both the women

were enthusiastic about male circumcision and so was Alan. He recounted how he had had to be done as a teenager, and how much better everything – comfort, hygiene, sex, appearance – had been afterwards. This is why he had been so keen for Darren to be cut.

Walking home afterwards, Julie was wondering whether to raise the topic with Mike, when he suddenly said:

“You know, I think you’re right. Perhaps we ought to have John circumcised. Why don’t you get that doctor’s name from Sally?”

Julie smiled to herself, for already in her handbag was Dr Bishop’s address and telephone number safely written down.

And now Julie was sitting in Dr Bishop’s surgery, nursing John. The doctor had explained the procedure and she was just signing the consent form.

“Do you do adult circumcisions as well?” she asked.

“Yes, of course. Why – do you know someone who wishes to be circumcised?”

“My husband isn’t circumcised and I think he would benefit from it. Would you see him and try to persuade him?”

“Why do you think he would benefit?” the doctor queried.

Given this opening, Julie told her story. The doctor listened patiently and with some sympathy, and wondered how he could help her.

“And so,” she ended the saga, “that’s why I’d like you to persuade him to have the operation.”

“I’m afraid it’s not my job to persuade him. I shall be very happy to see him and discuss with him the pros and cons, how he might benefit, what the op would entail and so on. But in the end, the decision must be his. After all, it’s his foreskin, and he must be convinced that it’s for the best before he consents to have it removed. Why don’t you get him to bring John in for his check in two week’s time. Then I can have a chat with him, and see what his real worries are.”

Julie realised that this was as far as she was going to get; but she doubted that it would be enough to persuade Mike.

“Thanks,” she said, “I’ll get him to come in, and if you could be just a tiny bit persuasive, just for me, I would be eternally grateful.”

“We’ll see,” he responded. “And now if you would like to bring your baby over to the couch and take off his nappy, we can make sure that at least one of the men in your life is circumcised.”

*I.G. – London*

## Celebrity List

Here are two more names for the list, both British Actors:-

John Neville has a foreskin

Stephen Dillane is circumcised

*Anon*

## Contact Corner

I am considering having a complete removal of the frenulum and would like to hear from anyone who has had this done recently, especially regarding sensitivity.

*M.L. - Norwich*

## Croydon Meeting and AGM

We hope that as many members as possible will attend the AGM in Croydon on 1st April. This will be an ideal opportunity for you to have your say in how *The Acorn Society* develops during 1995.

To complement the AGM there will be a more general gathering of members on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning (with a few coming Friday night!) If you have not already booked a place for the *Acorn* Gathering then please see the note Brian added with Issue 1/95. Bookings should now be sent to Brian as soon as possible to ensure enough space at the hotel.

Note that it is not necessary to stay for the general Gathering in order to attend the AGM, but it does provide a relaxed atmosphere in which to get to meet other members and discover the 'faces behind the initials' in the magazine.

*Vernon - London*

## **As a woman I think...**

*Acorn* thanks all females who have contributed to our eternal debate and invites more to do so. Yours is a different and valued viewpoint.

After all, it's the 'end user' who really matters.



# ACORN

Issue  
No 3 1995  
Editor  
David Acorn

## Editorial

The write-up of the meeting is being done by a member but isn't finished yet, so will be in the next issue. I would just like to say thank you to all who attended and installed me as Chairman of the Society. It is an honour. My only disappointment there was that the time went so quickly that I didn't get the opportunity to have a long chat with everyone, but 26 is a large number. I expect others felt the same. Next time I hope. But still, what a great turn-out!

*David.*

## Circumcised Stammerers

As a new member of the Society I am unaware of the full range of topics which have previously been discussed, so accept my apologies if I bring up something that may have already been done to death.

The article in Issue 2/95, 'Why Boys are Cry Babies', brought to mind another problem which one never seems to encounter now. In my younger days I was aware that a considerable number of people were afflicted with speech problems - some with quite bad stammers.

## Contents

	Page
Editorial . . . . . D.A.	1
Circumcised Stammerers . . . . . G.C.	1
Wishing . . . . . D.C.	2
Frenulum Removal . . . . . C.W.	3
Mum from: "Mum's Dilemma" . . . . . Mrs M.B.	4
Operative Record . . . . . B.B.	5
How Come! . . . . . R.B.W.	6
Thoughts on 2/95 . . . . . A.R.	6
Editor's Response . . . . . D.A.	9
Restoration . . . . . Anon.	10
Revision . . . . . Anon.	13
Doing Things . . . . . ZED	14
Self Circumcision . . . . . Dave	15

Printed & Published in England by The Acorn Society  
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## Correspondence

Please send all correspondence to:

THE ACORN SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 113  
WESTON SUPER MARE  
AVON, BS23 2ED

Letters for forwarding should be marked in pencil with the recipient's identifier. They should be stamped 1st class and be enclosed in an envelope addressed as above.

As far as I was able to observe at the time, they were all circumcised. Over a period of time I knew three stutterers quite well. One in my teens was a local boy of about the same age who was tightly cut and said he vaguely remembered being done at about the age of five. Later on a man in his late thirties, and very difficult of speech, told me much the same; that he had been done about the age of four, and he too was tightly cut. The third person was a younger man in his twenties from the Antipodes, not so badly affected speechwise, but displaying the other characteristics of tightly cut and at about the age of four.

Is it possible that, if circumcision is performed on a boy during the speech formative years, approximately between the ages of 2 and 5, the pain trauma could affect the boy's speech patterns? I would not expect either immediate neo-natal or later life performance of the operation to have any such effect. Members experiences and observations would be welcome either directly or in the magazine. Perhaps Dr Ray would like to comment!

G.C. – Stafford

## Wishing

There's nothing like a delivery of *Acorn* to stimulate the...pen, so here is a view and some comments from the other side of the fence.

I became aware of my circumcised (dorsal slit) state at about the age of 11 or 12. I was unable to join in some of the games that little boys played (seeing how many sixpences you could put into your foreskin, or seeing how large a bulb you could make when ballooning), and felt very different.

Also, a rather insensitive girlfriend when I was about 20, openly stated that she preferred a foreskinned penis. I have found that most women are just polite, but secretly prefer foreskins.

I have for years fantasised about having a long tight foreskin – I avidly search adult videos for them – and have tried almost everything to stretch my skin. I've tied weights to it, sticking plaster, and even superglue to try to re-create a foreskin. I contacted the Surgical Advisory Service in London, but all they wanted to do was cut off what I have got. I've asked my GP if he could do anything or refer me to someone (that took some nerve on my part). He told me not to bother so much about it.

I read in *Acorn* of men and women who want to inflict this 'minor operation' on their sons. *Why?* A woman can never begin to understand about a man and his bits. Why does a father wish to deprive his son as he has been deprived. He must know of the conflicts, and the grass always being greener, etc. Leave a boy to make up his own mind – if he wants to see if the grass is greener, he can, but not if he has already been cut. An uncircumcision is almost impossible.

If I could sue the GP who slipped a pair of scissors into the end of my penis, even if it was a parental whim, and in one quick snip cut so much away from me, I would take him for everything.

I am sure I'm not a voice in the wilderness. I am also sure that some doctors and surgeons who have been cut understand the dilemma. Is there no surgery or clinic that will re-constitute a foreskin, or re-sew a dorsal slit (a lateral cut and 6 sutures would do the job for me). I'm sure that if gender re-assignment clinics can make an artificial vagina, they can also make a foreskin. How about you, Dr. Ray – or do you know someone who would do it.

*D.C. – Wales*

P.S. Has anyone got any videos with suitable material – I'll trade!!

[Here's another member one must feel sorry for. The only help I can offer, D.C., is to ask you to ring NORM(UK) on (01279) 429771, and I hope you get your wish one day. – *D.A.*]

## Frenulum Removal

As a long-term supporter of the Society, I write as one of those who have been circumcised at their own wish as an adult. I can honestly say, having had sex both with and without the luxury (?) of a foreskin, that I have not had any misgivings about losing forever the 'cap to my acorn'. I accept without reservation that I could (and probably correctly) be accused of bias. I am not one, however, of those who think the operation should be mandatory – in fact I get the impression that most *Acorn* members feel that it should be the right of the individual to choose.

My preamble over, I now come to the point of this letter. At the time of my circumcision, much to my everlasting regret, I did not elect to have my frenulum removed, resulting in a tag of flesh beneath the neat circumcision that was given me. My decision at the time was based on :-

- a) ignorance of what I would be left with (Oh, for *Acorn* then!), and
- b) fears from vague stories that I'd heard, that removal of the frenulum would result in enormous loss of sensitivity, and possible problems with sexual performance.

Now, some twelve years later, I still have not come to terms with the proof that my frenulum still exists. I have approached several clinics and asked about frenulum removal, but have been put off by their replies; basically, 'No, there are too many nerves associated with it' etc. I still hanker after the removal of the frenulum, but I would be interested to hear from fellow members, either through the newsletter or directly, on their views and suggestions, ie, how many had their frenulums removed at the time of circumcision, and did they have

any regrets? And have any members had a frenectomy after a circumcision, with what results? Would they recommend or advise against me continuing in a search for a frenulum removal? If they do, I would be grateful for contacts, as, unlike some of our braver members, I do not relish (or intend) to carry out the act with my own hands. Nor do I get turned on at the thought of paying £500 for the loss of that bit of skin.

I will, of course, reply to any letter I receive.

*C.W. – Fife*

### **Mum from “Mum’s Dilemma”**

**T**hank you for printing my letter in *Acorn* last year. Since writing, more has emerged. First – my son, quite out of the blue, told me his close friend, with whom he was playing pissing games when his own problem arose, has his willy skin pushed back all the time. I gathered he was circumcised. As I have, through their close friendship, got to know his mother quite well, I told her our story, and she confirmed that she’d had her son done at a few days old. This was when they had been living in an ex-pat community whilst her husband had a contract in the Middle East. Apparently some of the men had encountered foreskin problems in the heat, and after one brave chap had had the chop and enthused, others had followed, extending the fashion to their male children too. Out there it was a routine matter at the hospital where her son had been delivered. She was now convinced that all boys should be done at birth, and was surprised at the opposition she encountered when she returned to this country to have her second son cut.

Following your own very good advice, David, I raised the matter of the lesser operation with our practitioner. She said she would be quite willing to refer my son for this procedure if that was my wish, but she remained personally in favour of full circumcision. She sees it as a permanent solution to a range of potential problems which a defective foreskin can cause, including those for any future sexual partners. She also disclosed that she is Jewish and therefore prejudiced in this matter, her own son having been done in her faith.

My husband has also told me that he had difficulty with his foreskin as a child and was at one time due to have it circumcised. Fortunately, he thinks it was forgotten when the trouble passed. I have noticed that his foreskin is a bit on the tight side and he doesn’t like me to push it back too far. This makes me wonder if the problem could be inherited by our son. My husband is used to delegating what he thinks are ‘small problems’ at work, and in his usual management style has delegated this domestic one to me. I actually think he is a bit embarrassed about the whole thing!

Reading *Acorn* and your contributors' comments has made me have a re-think on my own view of circumcision. I can now see some merit in the procedure and wish I'd had my son done when it was suggested at the time of the original incident. However, it seems best, because of the variety of the opinions given, to wait until he is between schools, and in the light of the timely item 'Informed Consent' in the same issue, provide him with all the information to make his own decision. For this purpose I am saving a file of our correspondence and other cuttings relevant to the matter. All this is some years away, but if *Acorn* is still around, I'll write and tell you the conclusion. Thanking you and all your readers.

*Mrs M.B. - Oxford*

## Operative Record

**B**il Brierley has sent me a copy of his operative record from a Californian hospital.

O'CONNOR HOSPITAL	Room Number:	OPT/SURG
	Patient:	WILLIAM BRIERLEY
	M.D.	ROBERT ANDONIAN
	Date:	9-2-82

Surgeon: Robert Andonian  
Assistant: —  
Anesthesiologist: —

ANESTHESIA: Local - 18cc's of 1% Xylocaine injected circumferentially at the base of the penis, and on two occasions about thirty minutes apart, 9cc's each time.

PREOPERATIVE DIAGNOSIS: Redundant prepuce with frenular tattering.

POSTOPERATIVE DIAGNOSIS: Same as above.

OPERATION: Circumcision and frenuloplasty.

COMPLICATIONS: None

DRAINS: None

BLOOD LOSS: 20cc's

FINDINGS: The foreskin was redundant. There was marked vascularity explaining the need for a second anesthetic injection about 20 minutes into the procedure. The frenulum was broadly tethered, and repairing a transverse incision vertically.

PROCEDURE: In the dorsal supine position, the patient was prepped and draped for surgery. 1% Xylocaine anesthesia was injected circumferentially. Using a scalpel the outer surface of the redundant prepuce was circumferentially

incised. The skin was then pulled back and the inner surface was incised, and then the skin was incised. The frenulum was repaired by cutting transversally the broad tethering band and then repairing this with interrupted #4-0 chromics vertically. Hemorrhage was controlled with #3-0 chromic ties and bovid. The severed margins of prepuce were then reapproximated with interrupted #4-0 chromic sutures.

A vaseline gauze and then Coban dressing was applied, and explicit homecare instructions were given to the patient in the Operating Room. He was taken to recovery with an ice bag on his circumcision site for discharge from the Outpatient Clinic.

## How Come

On casting another eye over 6/94, a couple of points arise which could do with a mention. Firstly, I wouldn't dream of calling Brian a liar when he watched his nephews being circumcised "without a whimper" since I have never been privileged to witness such a scene. But it does require a suspension of imagination, if not belief, to accept that living flesh can be sliced from his nephews without pain. Can any amount of technique, short of anaesthetic, achieve such a miracle? If so, I should think it's very much the exception rather than the rule.

Secondly, Brian's account, read in the context of his family relationship, clearly indicates his membership of the Jewish persuasion. So how come he himself has "been in both states" (ie. cavalier and roundhead)? To their credit, Jews don't go grubbing after converts, and marriage to a Jew would more likely result in her exclusion rather than his acceptance I should have thought. Just thought I'd mention it.

R.B.W.

## Thoughts on 2/95

Unfortunately I did not have the time nor opportunity to attend the AGM. This was a pity, as my project would have made significant progress; although, to be fair, it would have put members on the spot who would, perhaps, have felt somewhat pressured to reveal all unannounced and at 'short' notice. [This was done at the meeting by another photographer and most were happy to take part and possibly go down in posterity. – D.A.] Nevertheless, I fully (eventually) intend putting these photographs together and feel that the publishers of *Femalia* (a truly enthralling 'life-size' photostudy of female genitalia) in San Francisco – 'Down There Press' – may be sufficiently interested. Incidentally, also available through them and via the famous 'Good

Vibrations' store in the city with the Golden Gate, is *Men Loving Themselves* by Jack Morin, Ph.D., a photostudy of male masturbation, and the female equivalent, *I Am My Lover* by Joanni Blank. Although many would consider such photography to be of gay interest, this is not so, and is of equal value to females and anyone who has a natural fascination for, as a male, one's own sexual organs, and females so that they can more fully appreciate the variety of male genitalia.

Browsing through some Italian erotica, I was astonished to see the likes of Jean Claude van Dong – OK forget the cliché – who has two penises and two sets of testicles, all of this equipment(s) being fully functional. Does this mean he doubles his pleasure, I wonder?

Re: Issue 2/95. A genuinely fascinating read, showing great insight and perception on the part of these members. Personally, I disagree with circumcision as a fashion 'accessory' or for purely cosmetic considerations. I really can't see the point of 'butchering' a perfectly good penis because it may look better. For feeling perhaps, appearance never. However, if circumcision is done for medical reasons (in my instance, phimosis – overly tight foreskin), or because a person really has a desire to be circumcised for, perhaps, religious reasons (and I do know a few who have had to have this done), then it has done me no harm (having been cut a decade ago) and rather has increased my level of pleasure without unwanted over-sensitivity and discomfort when flaccid. I can assure M.L. of Norwich that I had the same misgivings when I was circumcised, and was most concerned that the glans, having been 'under wraps' for so long, would become irritated through friction on clothing. This did not happen and I found no such irritation. Even whilst the wound was healing there was no great discomfort but, do please try not to have an erection. This really is uncomfortable! Thankfully at least, M.L. has the opportunity to choose whether he needs to be circumcised when there are others, especially in the U.S., who are now considering reversal operations, whilst forgetting that the pleasure comes *not* from the penis but from the brain. Sexuality is more a state of mind than erection!

In the same breath, J.H. (Middx) states a contra-opinion and one that may well be equally valid. I cannot comment on loss of sensitivity from childhood, but it seems to me to be no great loss, since J.H.'s pleasure is on par with what he has experienced in the past whilst reaching plateau takes longer – something any woman would appreciate. Supposedly, we're 'all off and running' before a woman has a chance to 'warm up'. Of course, the psychology of sex is far removed from its physiology; sensitivity is something of a state of mind rather than the condition of the glans, but then again, each person responds in differing manners.

William's penis-size worry is something that medical science or surgery has, as yet, not found an answer to. The respected U.S. journal, *Medical Post*, reports that the results from phalloplasty operations for penile enlargement and/or fattening proved disappointing. Surgeons carried out this procedure

on 162 men and found that, immediately after surgery, the penis lengthened from 3.8cm to 5.5cm, and by 5.0cm to 7.3cm in girth. BUT, six weeks later, these enlargements had 'shrunk' by 50 per cent, and some patients reported their gain had amounted to NOT ONE MM. Much worse were the side effects – distorted penises, poor symmetry, and post-op complications. Costs were quoted at \$4,725 for the 'basic' operation, to \$6,100 for the 'ultimate' version (including thickening). The health authorities in the U.S. now recommend regular 'exercise' to increase blood supply to the nerves and tissues of the penis! Exercise? Clearly a recommendation to masturbate frequently! If blood isn't pumped to this area on a regular basis, the nerves can be damaged through 'starvation', and thus desensitised. Sounds Silly? Not really. Think of a muscle; the more it is exercised (up to a point) the stronger and more resilient it becomes. The penis is no different. If you're not 'beating the meat' regularly, viz solo-sex, then the penis, and through it, orgasmic potential, may not be as great as in full-blooded youth (and why should they have all the fun). It also means that erections may take much longer to rise, and even manual stimulation won't feel quite the same. Add a little more exercise to your normal routine over the next 24 hours, pump the testosterone, and this could make a real difference. I hope this has provided thoughtful reading for William, and whilst you're at it, try some porn as an exciting appetiser.

To end, and I could have written much more, but think it better for as many as possible to have say in the newsletter, I have no objection to Brian Rogers's proposition. The more who are interested the better. Women have this sort of inward-looking self-sexuality/awareness thing (through the likes of Betty Dodson, the 'Mother of Masturbation'), so why not men, and perhaps, encourage further contact between the U.K. and the U.S. It doesn't mean women who have a genuine concern for their sexuality are lesbians, and this applies equally to men.

I very much believe that initialled letters and correspondence directed through The Acorn Society as some sort of 'clearing house' is a bit silly. From what I have read it seems, at least to myself, that the membership is intelligent, literate and sensible. We all know why we read this newsletter and have become members. The 'feeling' is mutual, and it is also clear that many members are married, others single, gay, hetero, bisexual, so we should be able to use our names and addresses, if desired, without fear of being pestered. Common sense dictates that writing to another member should be done sensibly, privately, and above all, discreetly. I have no objection to people writing direct, and the membership should really feel the same way.

I trust this letter and its contents will have something to say in the Newsletter (how about adding the odd photograph or photocopy of a photograph/diagram or line drawing. This would improve the newsletter's appearance and presentation no end). And I too emphasise the need for the female contribution to the newsletter. It would be really interesting to read what women have to say about the male genitalia. I think it would be most illuminating and, perhaps,



unexpected. Above all, it would perhaps, open our eyes to exactly what women know or are curious to discover.

*Aldo G. Rabaiotti.*

## Editor's Response

I feel I must say something here about anonymity. I know that all members hope that all other members are able to speak about their feelings honestly and freely. Is it a British or totally human trait that one finds it hardest to "bare one's soul" to either the nearest and dearest or other close friends? It may be due to the fear of being ridiculed, not taken seriously or just thought of as not being normal ("Darling, I have this urge to put a steel bar through my glans and stick something up my peehole!"). For whatever reason, if this weren't true there'd never be a need for The Samaritans.

It is very difficult for most people to keep secret material in the home or workplace, therefore there is always the chance that the newsletter may be found and read. It isn't difficult to explain that you have an interest in circumcision for some reason or another, but there is no 'out' when a letter of yours, duly signatorised, is published on an aspect that other people wouldn't understand, and could then be bandied about.

As will be seen from one of the letters in this issue, we do have some public figures amongst our readership. There has also been an instance where a newsletter was thrown away and found by someone else (in this case he joined us). It could have been sent to a Sunday paper for cash if prominent names and addresses were on it and then we would have been a household name.

*Acorn* can only live because members have total confidence in being able to write exactly how they feel in the certain knowledge that when they ask for 'Anon' to be put on the end of their letters, that's what will happen, and the only person in the world other than themselves who knows who wrote it is me, and to me everything is totally sacrosanct.

With regard to the other items. We have had diagrams and line drawings in the newsletter, but are still trying with photocopies of photographs. Unfortunately most photographs nowadays are coloured and these don't take too well to be copied. Also, our system is that I script out the newsletter on software called ABILITY and send it on a disc and a printed A4 copy to Vernon who does the artwork, composites and prints onto the final A5 version and sends it on to Brian who photocopies, makes it into the booklet and sends it out to you. Fitting photographs through this process is difficult as they don't double photocopy very well.

Lastly, hardly an issue goes by when we don't have the views of at least one female, this one being no exception.

I've written this for the benefit of all newcomers who may be wondering about the same things as Aldo, but for goodness sake don't be deterred from writing about anything at all by what I have said.

D.A.

## Restoration

Forgive me for insisting on anonymity, but I hold a position in public life and I am keen to avoid the attentions of our fearless press. My wife brings home *Acorn* which is made available by a colleague in her common room. As a potential member I have been following your reports with interest for a couple of years, and I think you are doing a good job – there is nowhere else where such matters get discussed. My wife too finds your paper compulsive reading. Her previous husband was uncircumcised, whereas I have been 'done', and she has some pronounced thoughts on the subject – she particularly enjoys reading the occasional letter from a woman, and finds an identity of views with most of them.

I would like to respond to a couple of points raised recently. Firstly, I see your new constitution commits you to monitoring new developments in the field of foreskin restoration, and I notice you have printed a couple of letters on the subject, one containing an eye-watering diagram of surgical restitution (which looks like a pattern for a patchwork quilt) and another on stretching.

As an 'unhappy circumcisee', I followed the BUFF skin stretching system for a couple of years and then bought Jim Bigelow's *The Joy of Uncircumcising*, which, despite its name, is an angry little book. I was impressed by the mass of strongly worded letters quoted in it from men who were not prepared to go through life with the mark of their parents' neurosis (or the American medical profession's greed – they are reported to buy a yearly Mercedes on the income from circumcisions) stamped on their genitals. Amen to that! Incidentally, one man said that his aim in restoration was to be able to go on a nudist holiday to Europe without feeling humiliated, and I can identify with that because I have always had a yen to do the same thing myself but have never been able to face the idea of being a curiosity.

I started off using the surgical tape system you describe in 7/94, and after a couple of years had enough surplus skin to go to the next step. This involves using a large stainless steel ball-bearing under the new skin which is taped shut over it. I found surgical tape quite impracticable since it meant ripping it away from the skin every time you took a pee, and used instead a half-inch diameter, quarter inch wide ring of cohesive bandage (sticks to itself, not to the skin), which gave enough grip to hold things in place.

You can also buy a tailor-made stainless steel 'distance piece' directly from Jim Bigelow for about \$100, but unless you can be sure of the size, you will probably be wasting your money. Latterly I have been using a cheap and effective device using the same type ring, a baby bottle teat of the rounded sort with the flange trimmed off and a hole drilled from side to side through the tip, plus a handful of elastic bands. The teat should fit neatly over the glans and the skin then pulled forward beyond the end of the teat. The ring is then applied to the rosette of 'foreskin' which is rolled back with the ring riding over it to be nipped into place at the narrowest part of the teat. An elastic band is then threaded through the holes in the side of the teat tip which should just be protruding beyond the rosette of skin. Other bands are then plaited to it to form a loop at the end which is applied round the leg just below the kneecap. The length of the elastic should be adjusted to maintain a constant slight tension. The beauty of it is, that the whole device can be removed in a moment or two, and if the worst happens you are not left feeling the need to explain away the huge ball-bearing which has just clunked to the floor down your trouser leg.

In this way I have now reached the stage where my glans remains fully covered under most circumstances, and I actually have some overhang in cold weather or after activity. My wife is pleasantly surprised by how much it resembles the real thing, but has reservations about its function in sexual activity – it does not behave like a proper foreskin, being anchored much further back, has no frenulum to flip it back into place and no taper to provide resistance against retraction, which my wife found so rewarding to do with her previous husband.

One of Jim Bigelow's claims is that, although you can never repair all the damage done to you by circumcision, you can restore some sensitivity to the glans by keeping it permanently covered. This may well be the case, but it only works if you're young enough to still have some residual feeling in the organ. After 60-odd years of exposure, my penis head has become totally numb to direct stimulation, and my only hope for orgasm is a powerful fantasy to accompany frantic sexual activity or manipulation – with a high failure rate. This is now a major cause of friction, in every sense of the word (or if you prefer, sore point), with my wife, since my chances of achieving a come without making her sore too are almost nil. The only way left to me of keeping her sexually fulfilled is by frequent cunnilingus, of which I'm not particularly fond. As far as I'm concerned, my only recourse is a porno magazine and a tired wrist, although the extra skin does make manipulation so much easier. Perhaps this will answer J.H.'s query about the sensitivity of circumcisees as they grow older – the message is, make the most of it while it's still there! As Alex Comfort said in his *Joy of Sex* in his case for retaining the foreskin, "in bloody old age you need all the help you can get!".

Although I obviously take a similar view to R.B.W., I do think he was very unkind in pulling someone's leg for pleading for female understanding and

avoidance of criticism (1/95). A disapproving reaction from a girl to your circumcised penis can really destroy your confidence for years to come, as I know to my cost. As a thirteen year old in the late forties, I went on a farm holiday near Brean Sands for a couple of weeks. One day when it was raining, I joined up with another lad of my age and went to watch the cows being milked. In the cowshed we watched the milkmaid, known to the family as Our Madge, who was about our age, pulling steadily away at the long pink danglers, and the thought which was uppermost in my mind was voiced by my companion – “That reminds me of something rude,” he said. Our Madge grinned at him and replied, “Oh, Ar, whatsat then?” “I don’t know,” he said, “but I wish it was me!” Madge then turned to him, grinning, and pulled his shorts down to reveal a penis which closely resembled the cow’s teat, except that it ended in a long rosebud-tipped foreskin. I watched closely as she gave it the same energetic treatment she had used on the cow, feeling desperately envious, not just of what the girl was doing, but of the lad’s long foreskin. When eventually he shed his offering on the cowshed floor, Our Madge generously offered me the same service, but was startled to see my skinless organ which was a complete novelty to her, and she made no bones about her disapproval of it. I tried to explain what circumcision was and why, but she said she thought it daft, cutting the skin off, “You can’t ‘work’ it properly!”. I found the whole incident dreadfully embarrassing and still wince when I think of it.

To change the subject. Mary Whitehouse has spent the best part of her life campaigning for the suppression of porn. Some people condemn her as a hypocrite, but she is not. She is, however, a woman, and women can have no idea of the power of what I call the male sexual imperative. They consequently have no inkling of the misery and desperation faced by men who, through psychological or emotional damage (in some noteworthy cases, from circumcision), are unable to form relationships which defuse this imperative in a socially acceptable way. I am talking here of men who would like nothing better than a normal relationship with a normal girl, but because of mental or physical shortcomings, real or imagined, lack the confidence to do so, and spend their lives in loneliness and misery as a result. The only relief such people can have is pornography and the five-fingered widow.

By doing so much to suppress pornography, Mary Whitehouse has succeeded in lowering yet further such men’s feelings of self-worth by criminalising them and branding them all as perverts. They are not perverts though. The criterion for pornography in my book is whether it causes harm to those involved. The real perverts are those who demand material which do damage to those involved, ie. child sex and so on. But where the participants are willing and perform harmless and natural sexual acts which have no bad effect on them, it is a totally different matter; a quick glance at the enthusiastic ladies who volunteer to be Readers’ Wives should support this point. It is for this reason that I must take R.B.W. to task again, for his rather cruel and contemptuous reference to “*Forum* pud-pullers” in 1/95: such people may have little other choice.

I notice that G.D. in the same issue is eager to get Penelope Baxter to circumcise her little boy whilst admitting that his boys kept their foreskins – he should put his money where his mouth is! And another pro-circumcision correspondent not only has two uncircumcised boys of his own, but ably defends foreskin retention for an unborn son.

I find reports of the American group ominous – the sort of chap who joins an organisation with a name like *Glans Naked and Unashamed* is hardly likely to fulfil the balance you aim to strive for, and publishing their material could well bias the paper in a way a lot of your readers would not approve of. But what really interested me in your excellent paper was Brian Rogers' report from the American newspaper. What if the writer's reaction is that of the typical American, circumcised like all his friends and never thinking of it as anything but the norm, but suddenly being told that an enormous wrong has been done to him? As the writer said, "that sort of realisation can drive a man mad". He then switched off his radio and his mind to the whole business. But you don't just conveniently dismiss a thought like that, and I wonder how many Americans who heard the same programme tried to do the same thing, but find it all comes back to them in the small hours of the night when the thoughts of the troubled and sleepless race away? But time can be no healer when you are reminded of it every time you take a pee. So my advice to them is – get Jim Bigelow's book and start stretching NOW!

Anon

## Revision

Just a quick query that perhaps you can raise in the magazine. I was most interested in the item 'Tight as a Drum' in 1/95 as I have a personal interest in the subject of revisions. Would it be possible to discover from 'Anon' as to which doctor performed the revision to give such a good 'tight as a drum' result? It would also be interesting to know whether the frenulum was removed as well.

The result that 'Anon' describes is something that I long for, but I had just about given up being able to achieve, because when I have discussed this in the past, the doctor has tended to be a bit vague on the final appearance. I am sure that other people could be interested too.

I am happy to receive correspondence from anyone regarding the subject of revisions.

Anon

## Doing Things

As a one-time reader of *Forum* I was delighted to discover *Acorn*. At last, an exclusively cock-orientated forum for cock conscious guys like myself. Long may it continue. Thank you for your dedicated efforts. In time, maybe we'll be able to see each other's cocks in print, even.

I've been 'doing things' to my genitalia for almost as long as I can remember. I hadn't had pubic hair long before I shaved it off, which I continued to do periodically. Nowadays, due to the successful but long and tedious application of a home depilation kit, I no longer have any pubic hair to shave!

Then there was the time, some twenty-odd years ago, when I started to wish I could keep my piss-hole to stay 'open' (don't ask me how this strange desire arose). It didn't take me long after that to discover I had a thin triangular web of skin at the underside end of my piss-slit. Having discovered the previous year on holiday in Greece that it was possible to cut oneself underwater painlessly (unseen jagged rocks in this case), it occurred to me that I could submerge my cock in the bath water and dispose of this 'unwanted' bit of skin with a scalpel. I hadn't achieved it yet by any means, but I was definitely on the way to getting my piss-hole to stay open of its own accord.

One further means to this end was by, firstly, a Prince Albert piercing. Then, more effectively, by similar rings in the glans through either side of the piss-hole, helping to part the 'lips'. Above all this, nothing has been quite so successful as the progressive sub-incisions which to date give me a piss-hole open to approximately half an inch below the glans rim. At this stage, my piss-hole will no longer close up of its own accord at all! And anyway, it has a new, lower-placed P.A. and an inverted P.A. – with a 5mm thick ring in it – to contend with.

Needless to say, I am delighted with things as they are, not least because of the additional bonus the sub-incision provides – that of digital access to the delightfully sensitive inner skin of the piss-tube. This alone is good enough reason for sub-incision.

Reading through back numbers of *Acorn*, I notice an item from P.D. of Dublin about his sub-incision. I would be quite interested to know how he came to the conclusion that cutting the urethra open halfway down his cock was the optimum incision for ideal pissing. Did you, P.D., do it in one go, on a recommendation, or cut it by degrees in the hope of finding such a point – or is it coincidental to some other motivation? As one in a similar position, I'd really like to know. I piss somewhat untidily these days and haven't spurted on climax for ages, although neither worry me unduly. At least part of the reason for this is no doubt my PA, which, with the ring out, provided an extra underside outlet for piss. The ring in position obviously disrupts the flow. I have considered cutting my PA away, thereby extending my sub-incision, but feel I would probably succumb to another, even lower, PA (no doubt eventually

continuing the sub-incision process). In fact, at one point last year, I did partially cut and considerably 'weaken' it.

A point I want to raise, for someone I hope to answer, with regard to sub-incision, is, could I now be circumcised? My foreskin is quite loose and covers the head easily, but can usually be persuaded to stay back for a few hours at a time below the glans rim. I guess if I did/could get cut, my scarline would, of necessity, be below the sub-incision. Can anyone confirm?

I'm not 100% certain yet if I want to be circumcised, since I am able to keep it back off the glans at least temporarily. Conversely, it must be years since I used my foreskin for masturbatory purposes. I usually use dry stimulation of the glans etc., holding the skin back tight. This I would obviously not have to do. I have none of the usually-cited concerns – ie. cleanliness, causing cervical cancer etc. – plus, if two photos in certain American magazines are anything to go by, cut cocks look pretty good to me.

Should I go ahead with this momentous and expensive decision? I only have one chance, so I have to get it right, don't I? What do other Acorners think – and – has anyone ever kept their severed foreskin?

*ZED*

## Self Circumcision

Some of my first memories as a child are of two or three very painful visits to the family doctor. It seems my mother had noticed that my foreskin was very tight.

The doctor used a small wooden spatula to push down between my foreskin and glans to release the tight skin. My parents would then, every night, try to push back my foreskin. On one occasion it became stuck behind my glans. I remember the doctor visiting the house to push it back over the tip of my penis. This course of treatment must have worked as my foreskin became very easy to retract, although my mother would often tell me that one day I might need a circumcision.

I think my mother's words and my experience at the age of three must have drawn my attention to circumcision. By the age of eight or nine I had noticed that some of my friends had very different shaped penises to my own. This, I realised, must be circumcision.

I found myself pulling back my foreskin and liked the look and feel of my penis this way. As my foreskin was now in good working order it would always roll back over the tip of my penis. As I reached my early teens I tried lots of different methods to hold back my foreskin, including the use of paper clips, glue and, most successfully, a small rubber band. This I would place on the

tip of my foreskin and then pull back over my glans. The rubber band would be hidden under the folds of skin below the rim of my glans. This gave the look of circumcision and would hold back my foreskin for as long as I wished, which I would do for days at a time without any problem at all.

At the age of eighteen I started work. Now having a regular income I thought of having a properly conducted circumcision. I contacted three private clinics, but the price was very high, £500 in some cases (I now know of places in London where it is possible to have it done for £200, but sadly this was not the case in the 1980's).

My girlfriend at the time was going to work overseas for 3 months, so I thought this was a good time to have the operation, but I had no cash for it. My only option was to do it myself.

I spent many hours looking at books to get to know how it could be done. I found the idea was not such a bad one, and was quite possible.

To start with, I froze my foreskin, using ice cubes in a plastic bag. I then stood over the bathroom sink and slowly cut off the tip of my foreskin. I then pulled the outer layer of skin back over my glans, which left the under layer of skin still covering the glans. The top layer could now be cut off completely. The next thing was to pull the under layer back over the glans and join the two open wounds. I then used six stitches from an army first aid kit to hold the two edges together. The whole of this took about ten minutes and was very painful. The wound took a week to heal together and the result was very good.

My first erections were very tight, but this soon passed as the skin stretched again. My girlfriend was very shocked when she came home, but she soon got used to it and admitted that she had always hoped that I would have it done. Sex is very exciting even after ten years without my foreskin, and I have noticed no loss in sensitivity at all. I still find it exciting when a new girlfriend discovers my circumcision, the reaction to which is always good. I think most females like circumcision as I have been told that it looks better and can be more fun.

*Dave (Non-member)*



# ACORN

Issue  
No 4 1995  
Editor  
David Acorn

## Editorial

We had hoped to get a member to do a write-up on the weekend and AGM at Croydon in April, but so far he hasn't been forthcoming, so I thought I'd better do a bit of filling in. The hotel was first-class, new, large and grand. All meals were on a help yourself basis and eat as much as you like (I can tell you we have a few gluttons amongst us). About 25 members turned up so a small conference room in the hotel was hired, where we all gathered at about 2pm. I was asked and agreed to take the Chair until a Chairman was voted in at the AGM, and as some members couldn't get there until 3.30 I asked everyone to talk to everyone else for a couple of hours, reminding them of the subject which brought them there. In previous meetings members had started off very tense and embarrassed, but I'm pleased to say that in no time at all the room was abuzz, and everyone moved around to chat in singles and groups which formed and reformed.

When the AGM got under way, the necessary Officers were voted in, and it was an honour for me to be nominated and voted in as Chairman, the duties of which I

## Contents

	Page
Editorial	D.A. 1
Funny Foreskins	Anne 2
Tags	G.D. 3
Famous Name's Status	H.C. 3
Status	Anon 3
Circumcision Controversy	B.H. 4
Many A Slip	5
Soaps' Social Stance	R.B.W. 5
Self Indulgence	A.D. 6
Travellers' Tails	Anthony 8
Restore Again	J.J. 9
School Medicals	G.D. 10
Clothing Optional	C. 10
Think About It	S.H. 12
Childhood Memories	C.B. 14

Printed & Published in England by The Acorn Society

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## Correspondence

Please send all correspondence to:-

THE ACORN SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 113  
WESTON-SUPER-MARE  
AVON, BS23 2ED

Letters for forwarding should be marked in pencil with the recipient's identifier. They should be stamped 1st class and be enclosed in an envelope addressed as above.

hope I can carry out to everyone's satisfaction. The minutes of the meeting will be published in due course, with all the Officers and proceedings. Most of the time was taken up with discussing the Constitution, which was eventually not accepted in its present form but would be re-written more simply.

Afterwards, there was a scar photography session in one of the rooms, the prints of which (black and white) didn't turn out too well, lacking definition. The next morning we were shown a video of an operation with the patient there to show what it looked like a fortnight after. All very interesting, and from letters I've received, everyone seemed to enjoy the whole weekend tremendously, with a lot of new friendships being made.

*David Acorn*

## Funny Foreskins

Having read a copy of *Acorn* at a friend's house, I have been persuaded to write of my experiences and preference.

When I was at college I had a boyfriend who became a lover. He had a very tight foreskin. At the time I thought this was as it should be. His cock was quite thin and tapered to a tight ruckle at the tip. When he was hard he could pull the skin back to reveal a point of purple. When we did try to have sex his skin was always forward and the whole thing lasted only a minute or two. (I didn't really feel very much of his cock when it was inside me.) He taught me to wank him and I enjoyed this more than sex. I used to have to roll the tassel of skin between my fingers and gently pull it forward. When he had a come his sperm was still inside his skin and I enjoyed squeezing it out. Sometimes he pulled his skin back to finish off but he stopped me from doing it.

Later on I had a much older man friend. He had a very short cock but the tip was very big. He had a long but loose foreskin that hung over the end, and when he was hard his knob end swelled up more than the shaft (when I first saw it I thought he had a deformity) with all his foreskin rucked up behind it. I never had a chance to wank him but his cock felt very nice inside me. It was with him that I started to enjoy sex.

My present man has a thinner but longer cock. His foreskin is easy to push back, is not too tight or very long and when he is soft you can see the end of his knob. He has a little trick. When he is inside me he can pull on his skin and the tip of his cock bends up. That is really nice.

*Anne*

## Tags

I was interested in J.H.'s account ('Better Late than Never') in 2/95 where he mentions the offending skin tag resulting from his otherwise excellent neonatal circumcision. Similar descriptions of the freak feature have appeared in one or two other stories I've read over the years in *Forum* and elsewhere. All have mentioned the same experience of having a hole or free passage behind the tag, through which they can pass a thread etc. It certainly is an intriguing variation, and I would be glad if members or Dr. Ray could give an explanation as to how these tags arise, and why they are not picked up and remedied at the post operative inspection.

A good suggestion too from R.B. in the same issue, proposing another poll of 'register of members interests', as it is ever changing. Possibly it also prompts some of the more reticent to add a few sentences of potted life history to the good headings he lists, when they wouldn't bother to send in a full blown article. It may seem simple and mundane to them but, be assured, they make interesting reading to the rest of us.

G.D.

## Famous Name's Status

Actor Tom Berenger. In the film *At Play in the Fields of the Lord* (video available), directed by Hector Babenco.

In one brief scene, Berenger enters the Amazon Forest. In order to merge with the scenery and not to antagonise the naked Indians who might mistake him for a missionary and aim their poisoned arrows at him, he strips completely naked and offers a full frontal view of his genitalia to the camera.

Berenger certainly lives up to his macho image. He is circumcised and extremely well hung, with a thick and long penis and large testes.

H.C. – London

## Status

We hear a lot about the circumcision status of various personalities in the world of sport and theatre, but has any member any information concerning the status of television personalities, newscasters, weathermen etc. in this country?

Anon

## The Circumcision Controversy

There is a very interesting article in the latest edition of *HONCHO* magazine of Feb 1995, under this title. It is the result of a 15 year study, reviewed by Chuck Thompson.

Although in the USA today the rate of circumcision has dropped to 60% according to the National Institute of Health, it is thought that this is higher as the figures only state those carried out in hospitals, not those done later in doctors' offices, or privately instead of in a hospital to save money. Of course, that doesn't include those done by the Mohelim. The figure is more like 80% today.

'The major health risks for the uncut male are due to the moist warm space between the foreskin and the head of the penis, which offers microbes a natural harbour where they can multiply, fed by smegma.'

He states that, in the USA, the ones who suffered most, of all the men he has spoken to about their trauma and ridicule by their peers, were those who were not circumcised during the post world war period. Even in Britain 100 years ago circumcision became popular initially as a preventative against masturbation. Let's face it, those who are 'cut' don't have any problem masturbating, do they? Urologists encouraged routine circumcision in the USA, Dr Spock urged all parents to ensure their boys were done, in all his baby books.

In 1971, against all the advice given by urologists, the American Academy of Paediatrics determined there was no medical value in circumcision of the newborn. In 1975 this was echoed by the Obstetricians, gynaecologists, and was quickly echoed by those who were already opposed to circumcision. Major campaigns by NOCIRC and NOHARM gained momentum.

'While circumcision advocates offer many health-related arguments for their point of view, the overriding argument for retention of the foreskin on the part of anti-circumcision groups is the greater sensitivity they believe the foreskin provides.'

In 1989, with much more research available, and with the growing concern over sexually transmitted diseases, especially AIDS, an AAP Task Force on Circumcision changed its position. The members concluded that there were in fact clear medical benefits conferred by circumcision, including prevention of phimosis, para-phimosis and balanitis, and a reduced risk of penile cancer. They also found strong evidence associating circumcision with a much lower incidence of urinary tract infection. This position coincided with the long held opinion of urologists who have always favoured infant circumcision. Dr Thomas Wiswell, a paediatrician who was vehemently against circumcision, changed his mind completely after he became involved in the studies of 200,000 boys born in military hospitals. He discovered a twentyfold increase of urinary tract infections amongst the uncut baby boys during the first year

of their lives. Research shows that, based on studies in the USA, the overall figure is twelvefold. The more alarming fact is that 10-15% of these infected males end up with permanently scarred kidneys. 10% of this damaged group later developed high blood pressure. Adults who had urinary tract infections as children make up one quarter of the patients who need dialysis or transplants. This points to the fact that urinary tract infection as a baby is a serious condition.

Of the 60,000 cases of penile cancer which have been recorded in the USA since 1930, only 10 have been circumcised men. It was widely reported that uncircumcised soldiers suffered greatly during the Gulf War due to sand getting under their foreskins. This was also a problem in WW2 in the African campaign. These are just a small amount of quotes from the whole article. Chuck Thompson has a group which publishes a quarterly magazine. Anyone who wants further information should write to Chuck Thompson, PO Box 691024, Hollywood, CA 90069, USA enclosing a SAE and IRC.

*B.H. – Leeds*

## Many A Slip

Condoms are more likely to fail when worn by young inexperienced circumcised men, according to Australian researchers. In a survey of 108 men who, over 12 months, used 4809 condoms between them, they found one in thirty sheaths slipped off and one in twenty broke during use. Failure was also caused by the conventional method of rolling on the condom, rather than pulling it on like a sock, say the authors in the *International Journal of STD and AIDS*.

[Not very convincing statistics really. How many were circumcised, and what was the breakdown of failures? Also, they weren't very virile, averaging out at just once a week. — D.A.]

## Soaps' Social Stance

For some time now, Celia Hall and Cherrill Hicks have been waging a hard hitting campaign in the *Independent* to keep the hackers and slashers away from little boys' bodies and defend their right to retain and enjoy their foreskins (or dispose of them if that's what they want).

It seems that their message has reached far afield and is now well-understood in Australia. Last year (or was it the year before?) I remember being revolted and sickened in *Sylvania Waters* at the sight of the feckless, workshy son-in-law, grinning idiotically as he held his crying baby up with its penis wrapped

in a blood-soaked bandage, explaining what a good thing it was. I wonder what the baby would have said if he could talk?

This time it was *Neighbours* turn to raise the subject, as an older man looked at his new grandson, sleeping peacefully in his cot, and remarked that it would soon be time for the 'big op', making a stretching gesture with one hand and a scissors motion with the other. I was surprised and delighted with what happened next. He was immediately slapped down by both his daughter-in-law and his wife and after stammering that he thought it was better for hygiene, vigorously denied by both women, lapsed into hurt silence. The girl said she was having none of that nonsense and that no-one was going to touch her baby, whilst the older woman joined in energetically, saying it was a barbaric thing to do to a baby and out of place in these enlightened times. Here, here!

If you consider that these soaps, particularly American – and it would seem, Australian – toe the line on current thinking and try to get social messages across to the people who watch them, it would seem that Australia is following Britain and America's lead, working to convince young mothers and women in general that they should fight off the residual pressures for circumcision from well-meaning but misguided parents.

Another nugget of wisdom from Cherrill Hicks' column is the preceding item about condoms. Only a minor point of course, but when added to the mass of Cherrill's and Celia's hammer blows, chipping away at the edifice of entrenched circumcision, you cannot fail to raise a cheer that women are fighting to preserve the integrity of men's bodies.

PS. Please don't suppress all strongly-felt expression of views as being 'hurtful' – if we're too mealy-mouthed our paper will fade into platitude and boredom, which would be a pity.

R.B.W.

[Happy to oblige sometimes. See 'Circumcision Controversy' — D.A.]

## Self Indulgence

I have been a regular reader of the newsletter for two years now. I thought that perhaps it was about time I wrote a little article.

I look forward to each gripping instalment of *Acorn* for the variety of entertainment it provides. We have the horror stories of nervous grown men having to undergo radical surgery. There are the psychological features: "I was butchered as a baby, that is why I'm a wonky adult!". The cultural features, looking at circumcision in other countries, and finally, the best bit of all, the sexy features.

Let's face it. I am 21 years old. I was cut when I was 19 (although everyone in hospital kept telling me I must be 20!). I've been wanking for as long as I can remember and I've been gay ever since I was born. I enjoy the sex bits best. You don't really want to know about the traumas of adult circumcision because you probably know more than I do about that.

I believe that wanking is perhaps the most wonderfully thrilling experience a man can have in his life, and thankfully we men can have lots of these thrilling experiences. But not as many (so we are told) as women.

My ultimate pleasure comes in the form of a bottle. Unfortunately, as I am only a poor student I cannot afford a masseur, so I borrowed a book from our local library and read up all I needed to know on the art of self massage. Couples can try this out too.

Firstly, take a king-size bottle of baby oil, squirt huge quantities into your palms and rub into your body. It doesn't really matter where you begin, you simply need to get yourself covered. Once you have become more slippery than a tin of mackerel you need to rub the body all over. Try to use long slow movements. Pay particular attention to the chest, lower back, stomach, palms of the hands, soles of the feet, buttocks, inner thighs and dangly bits. These areas are called erogenous zones or 'love buttons' if you live where I do. Personally I concentrate on inner thighs, buttocks, palms of the hands and ear lobes. However, every man to his own, so you must find your own favourite love buttons.

Setting the right atmosphere is all important. Do give yourself plenty of time to really ease your body. You need a warm room. I have candles (don't use domestic lighting). Blazing log fires and a soft white rug are optional extras but I manage without them! Some gentle music can help. There are lots of CDs available with tranquillity and relaxation mood music.

If you like aromatherapy, try essential oils like Jasmine (said to strengthen the male sex organs), or sensual Ylang Ylang which smells like sin in a bottle. Whether these potions actually perform the miracles they claim to is not something I wish to debate. However, they smell lovely and send me to sleep.

Now then, what you do after that is entirely up to you. Sometimes I fall asleep, sometimes I give certain love buttons a bit of a seeing to. The main thing is relaxing more, enjoying the feel of sensual massage and loving yourself a little bit. Worship your body whether you are circumcised or not (tenuous link).

I hope, readers, you like my little article. Next time I'll tell you how to choose winning lottery numbers.

*A.D. – Lancaster*

## Traveller's Tails

“Traveller's tales don't normally impress me,” I told the somewhat ragged stranger over mulled ale, “they can be no more substantial than tankard froth!”

“But you are far too cynical for your own good,” went the olive skinned, bearded stranger, “I may be well versed in mysticism, but I can distinguish between truth and fiction.”

“Mysticism?”

“Yes, the Kaballah, and years of studying it!” He stroked his dark beard. “You and I have one small feature in common,” he grinned mischievously, “from a glance in the urinal – an unintentional glance – I see that you, too, are circumcised.”

I blushed in surprised embarrassment. I usually manage to successfully conceal my status with the cupped palm of my left hand, while the other steadies the glans and gives concealment from the other side. What a wily voyeur he was!

“We are few these days, but in that far off land, the country of Cuttingem, things were decidedly different. It was a land of conformity, tradition, inconsistency...and, er, circumcision!

“The inhabitants were mainly Tidies, who were staunchly loyal to the ruling House of Klip, and I was immediately accepted by them, our shared feature, you know! The Tidies practised universal circumcision as a mark of conformity, following the tradition of the House of Klip. And so vigorous were the mothers with regard to trimming their baby boys that they could be described as Kliptomaniacs!! Mothers even had the clarion call, ‘Born to be Shorn!’ and indoctrinated their sons with, ‘Wise Guys Circumcise! Don't Put Foreskins To The Fore!’ Even maidens delighted in their beaux being, ‘Tidy in both body and mind!’ With the Tidies, there was a small minority, The Choose, who regarded the operation as a religious ritual, as indeed was the case with me.

“Challenging the practice of both The Choose and Tidies was a persistent minority who preferred to remain as they were born, the Smegs, or Brotherhood of Skin, with the double emphasis on hood!! They rejoiced in being truly natural as their Maker meant them to be. ‘Why chop off something so beautiful? Why destroy the comfort, protection and a great source of pleasure?’ Being such a tiny minority, they kept their naturalness well concealed. They particularly dreaded the Foyel, who's speciality it was to produce Choose and Tidies with a sharp knife! The very thought of his Office made them wince, man and woman alike, shaking them from cross-legged complacency. What a terrible thing to do to a little baby?



"I couldn't help chuckling when a Foyel confided in me: 'Oi, Oi, there's nothing more satisfying than going to work on a Smeg!' That would hardly have gone down well with the Brotherhood of Skin, who treasured the parts Foyels often reached."

"You're pulling my ..." I interrupted, "but that's not allowed, is it? Onan, and all that! But curiously, that land seems like this country before the Second World War?"

"Perhaps so," said the stranger, "but in Cuttingem, things were to change... when the government introduced a State Health Service for the whole country, unnecessary surgery was not included in its provisions. To become a Tidy meant a tidy sum, which made the natural part more acceptable in time. Eventually, there was a new uncircumcised generation isolated from the House of Klip and less conforming. Now, remaining Tidies were a minority, subject to certain derision. Down came the old maxim, 'Born to be Shorn', and in its place went, 'Keep him natural, you know it makes sense!' Obviously, you know how they felt from your own experience. I recall your surprise, blush, and cupped hands. Ah, my friend, don't feel bad at all, since you lack my conviction."

"What's that?" I asked, feeling movement in the pubic shrubbery.

**"Circumcision with religion!"**

*Anthony*

## Restore Again

I have always heard that uncircumcised cocks were/are more sensitive than circumcised ones. Having read that some Jewish men during the Second World War were able to stretch their (cut, obviously) foreskins to escape detection by the Nazi death squads, I decided to see if this really worked.

After more than a few months of stretching and pulling what was left of my foreskin (done as a baby), I am happy to report that it is now nearly as long as my glans. I thought I might as well continue until my glans is completely covered, which should not take more than a few weeks now.

I have to say that I have found the whole exercise very pleasurable, and that my orgasms have increased in intensity as a result. The feeling of skin moving over my glans is wonderful, and even with a full erection is not painful at all. Has anybody else tried this? If you have a yearning to become uncircumcised then I recommend it, although it calls for persistence and determination. I'd be interested to know other members' views, especially those of a doctor.

*J.J. - Derby*

## School Medicals

Looking back through past newsletters and reading about school medical inspections made me remember my own experience. Our class was about 11 or 12 at the time and we were all ordered to the gym changing room to strip off and don only our PT shorts. The doctor and a nurse set up their stall in the gym teacher's office whilst another nurse weighed and measured us in the changing room.

We queued up in alphabetical order and as in turn, our details were entered on a card, we were each asked to drop our shorts momentarily, and a further note was made. I didn't realise it at the time, but the sharp eyed nurse must have been recording whether we were roundheads or cavaliers.

Later in the office, in the presence of parents (though not all attended), the doctor listened in with a stethoscope and gave us a more detailed examination. Later, when we all compared notes, it emerged that those of us without our foreskins were never asked to drop our shorts. Those intact were, and had their skins retracted. Presumably a glance at the nurse's note on the card indicated whether this was necessary, thus avoiding the need to embarrass parents (as it would in those days!), by asking if their son had been circumcised.

Two must have had a problem because they both appeared next term, circumcised, but clearly done by different operators. One had a thorough job done – skinned right back – but the other had a thick roll of skin around the base of his glans, although it was fully exposed. Both said that they hated their new status and found the operation painful and unpleasant.

*G.D.*

## Clothing Optional Head-to-Head

I recently visited a 'clothing optional' resort in Florida. At a rough estimate, not counting the employees who always had to wear something, on average about 80% of adults, male or female, were nude in any gathering at a given time. However, almost none of the teenagers were nude, and only about 50% of the pre-teens. I think those statistics in themselves are interesting. I guess the adults were the ones who were there by choice.

Of the adult men who were nude, the overwhelming majority were circumcised. Of the boys, I only saw one who wasn't. He was playing volleyball in a game I was umpiring, with a boy and girl pair of twins who were nude, and five children wearing bathing costumes or shorts. From what I had overheard, the twins had not wanted to strip completely, but had been made to do so by their mother who was sitting near to me. At the time I reflected on how cruel parents could be in inflicting their enthusiasms on their children without regard for peer pressure, particularly when quite a big crowd was

watching. However, once they were playing, the children seemed to forget any inhibitions they may have had and not even noticed who was clothed and who was not. And, in the event, I was grateful to her as, having her son and the other boy in the nude, very similar in size and appearance except for their penises, afforded an unusual opportunity for comparison. As they jumped around in the volleyball game they each got a partial hard-on from time to time, so they could be compared that way too. I don't know how old they were – they seemed quite big but had no pubic hair and tiny balls. The twin girl was, interestingly, much more developed than her brother.

I remembered a recent item in *Acorn* by a Briton visiting America, who commented on the butchered appearance of her American nephews' circumcised penises. Although I am personally opposed to the circumcision of minors, I have to say that, comparing these two boys playing volleyball, the circumcised penis looked much neater in all states. Not having seen a boy's penis which was circumcised for many years, nor an uncircumcised one since my son was very small, I would not have been sure what to expect, but I have to say that, in this case at least, the circumcised penis was much more attractive. It appeared to be completely symmetrical with a neat rounded end like a cigar, and there were certainly no ragged bits. The uncircumcised penis looked wrinkled, especially at the tip, and it was not symmetrical. Not that this is any reason to circumcise of course, and a sample of two is hardly representative, but I think a visitor from outer space might have deduced that the circumcised state is the natural one, and cosmetic appearance is not unimportant in our world.

An interesting postscript. Sitting next to me after the game was a woman I knew somewhat, aged about 40, and I casually mentioned to her the boys different circumcision states, saying I was surprised young boys were still subjected to it. I couldn't help noticing how vehemently she defended circumcision, saying she had made sure her son was "done as soon as he was born". Then she said: "And it's so much better for oral sex." I think this is quite a common attitude among American women. At least I have heard it before several times.

C. – *South Eastern U.S.A.*

[Your findings on young peoples' nudity on naturist beaches is echoed exactly by mine in this country, presumably because of the embarrassment of body changes going through puberty and after. — *D.A.*]

## Think About It

I wonder if you readers will be interested in the thoughts and ramblings of a middle-aged woman on the subject of circumcision?

I have always been aware of the controversy, since it was fairly common for little boys to be circumcised when I was a girl. In general though, our attitudes were formed by a vague consensus that it was a 'good thing' from the point of view of cleanliness, although very few felt strongly enough about it to object to a foreskin, especially since in the balance of likelihood your prospective boyfriend would have one. Most of my girlfriends at the time certainly had no strong opinions on the matter and tended to treat it as slightly indelicate, and therefore good for a giggle. Most accepted the view that circumcision might possibly be cleaner, although not from personal experience to my knowledge – I never heard a complaint and never myself had cause to. Those who had experience of both circumcised and uncircumcised penises tended to appreciate the different options provided by the foreskin, making the point that it was more fun to play with, although once again this was considered a minor asset and of little significance in a boy's desirability.

When I got married I was largely indifferent whether my new husband was circumcised or not, and it would not have affected my decision either way. In fact my new husband had a foreskin and, like me, never gave circumcision a moment's serious thought. Over the years I grew to enjoy our sexual relationship far more than any of my previous short-term flings, and settled down into a haze of sexual contentment, getting to know my husband's intimate anatomy better than he did himself. We both took a delight in oral sex and it became clear to me that any misgivings I might have had over cleanliness were totally unfounded. First off, the horror story of smegma never materialised: I realised that I had a far greater problem than he did, since it not only formed under the foreskin of my clit, but also in all the internal creases. Since we both bathed regularly there was no problem anyway.

The matter of circumcision however, suddenly came to the fore when my husband had to be circumcised a couple of years ago through failing to tuck his tip away before operating his zip when under the influence. He was not too upset about it at the time since the doctor said it was a minor procedure which would have no effect on our love life and went ahead and signed the consent form. Since then of course we have read in the press that it is not considered necessary to circumcise in such cases, and as a result of our experiences we are both very upset about it. Before his circumcision, my favourite sexual treat was to give him oral sex by taking his penis into my mouth with his long foreskin fully forward and sucking it gently before pulling back on the skin to expose the sensitive pee-hole to the tip of my tongue. This always gave him a delightful sexual jolt which set the scene for the rising sensation as I gradually exposed more and more of his tip to my tongue until finally I freed the rim of his knob completely, pulling back hard and rolling my tongue over

the surface of his knob and inner foreskin lining. This sent him absolutely frantic and usually ended in an emission in my mouth before he returned the compliment by treating me to a similar luxury.

This oral sex feast became an important aspect of our love life. It never occurred to us that circumcision would make any difference since we had been assured that sensitivity would not be affected. But I'm here to tell you it's not true! The lack of sensitivity gradually manifested itself as his knob got used to permanent exposure and changed in colour and texture. The mind-blowing jolts of pleasure he experienced as I gradually stripped his skin from his tip changed into a much more muted response and, although he still enjoyed it, we both felt the zing had gone out of our love life. He also gets significantly less sensation from normal intercourse and masturbation than he used to. We did talk about suing the doctor who was so insistent that he should be circumcised but we're not too keen on having our names splashed in the *Sun* or *Daily Mirror*.

The point to be made though is one of caution. I've learnt to distrust the judgement of young people – they tend to be so susceptible to crazes and fashions. Although they're considered old enough to marry at sixteen, to be killed in action and to vote at eighteen, I'm sure that on the emotional side of sexuality they don't settle into maturity until they're well into their thirties. So many of them are thoroughly mixed up about their sexuality and the attitudes of others, and it takes an awful long time for them to come to terms with sexual reality, and to be able to separate fact from fantasy. Consequently, any young man who feels an overpowering urge to get himself circumcised should put off the final decision for as long as possible and at least into the mid thirties. Only then can he be sure of making a decision which he might otherwise regret for the rest of his life.

*Sheila Hodges.*

## **Member To Member Correspondence**

**N**o charge is made for forwarding letters from one member to another. The letter to be forwarded should be sealed and stamped (preferably 1st class).

The letter should then be enclosed in an envelope addressed to The Acorn Society at the PO Box number given on the first page. A covering note saying to whom the letter is to be forwarded and quoting your name should be included.

More than one letter for forwarding can be sent at a time provided the intended recipient is marked in pencil on the corner of the envelope.

The forwarding service must not be abused, however, and will be withdrawn from anyone who uses it to send inflammatory or insulting mail.

## Childhood Memories

Herewith some childhood memories which might be of interest to other *Acorn* members.

My interest in foreskins/circumcisions began at an early age and I cannot remember when my foreskin was other than fully retractable. Being born at home in the late 30's, mother would not have been offered the chance of having me circumcised – a dream which has stayed with me to this day. I don't have any brothers – just one sister some 10 years older than myself.

At bath time – standing in a bowl of water in the sink (no bath in those days), mother would always push the skin back for washing, but never bothered to pull it forward again afterwards. Some time later it would roll forward of its own accord, although it was always on the 'short side'. I was never able to participate in ballooning the skin with urine as I've read in other contributions to the magazine and wonder now if I missed out!

A boy of my own age (about 7) showed me, in an old air raid shelter one day, how to manipulate the skin to cause a very pleasant feeling. I remember that he wasn't able to retract his skin, only the tip, as it was too tight.

I believe that things that happen in childhood stay with you for the rest of your life. For example, I have always hated spiders which lurked on the limewashed walls of our outside toilet, and the dislike of water, having been pushed in on my first visit to the baths at infant school. Some time later, my pal and I were playing with a girl, some 3 or 4 years older than us, called Eunice (a name rarely heard of nowadays), and what happened that day, which I can recall quite clearly, has been a source of excitement and stimulation throughout my life, and centres on foreskins and circumcision.

It was summertime and her older brother had put up a tent in their garden, and the three of us were playing inside. Seizing the chance, and being quite forward for her age, and obviously interested in sexual matters, she suddenly suggested that we show her our willies. We weren't quite sure, but after some persuasion and a promise to show us 'hers' afterwards, we agreed to go along with her naughty idea. She started with my pal, and once his willy was stiff, tried to pull his foreskin back, but without success. Instead, using a finger and thumb, she rubbed and stretched his skin to and fro beyond the tip to produce a climax, such as it was at that age. Then it was my turn. My skin had partly retracted of its own accord whilst closely watching her manipulate my pal. With one skilful push with finger and thumb (again), my foreskin went right back behind the rim. She stood at my side and proceeded to work the skin rhythmically up and down without attempting to pull it forward over the rim, leaving the glans exposed throughout. After a short time her administrations caused a lovely feeling all over, at which point she pulled hard back on the skin several times to finish (me) off.

It was now her turn and, true as her word, she allowed us to feel up her legs and the cotton material of her knickers. She then lifted her short skirt at the sides and, using both thumbs, pulled down and discarded this mysterious navy-blue garment. For starters, she leaned forward, flipped up her skirt again and gyrated her arse cheeks under our noses. We couldn't see very much but better was to follow. She knelt down on her knees and elbows, and with her skirt still up around her waist, parted her legs and thrust her arse up in the air to reveal a full rear view. We could then see her puckered bum hole and much more. Tiring of this she then turned over, stretched out on her back on the rug and lifted her skirt up again. She raised her knees, keeping her feet on the ground, and then parted her legs wide to expose her totally hairless cunt for our approval in all its youthful glory (hairless regions on 'big' girls are still preferred to this day). We were invited to have a closer look. She then used a finger of each hand to pull her thin lips apart to show her vaginal opening. She placed a finger inside, then withdrew it, traced the line of her slit upwards, and proceeded to tease on and around her tiny clitoris which came into view as she eased back its protecting skin with her other hand. It didn't take long for her to 'bring herself off', at which point she clamped her legs together, trapping her hand and probing finger in the process. We then watched her pull her skirt down without putting her knickers back on. My pal and I were completely bemused to say the least.

She sat opposite to us on the rug, leaving her legs apart and her 'goodies' on view. She took hold of a finger of our hand in turn and gently ran it up and down the length of her slit, which I recall was moist and warm to the touch. Eunice had no intention of letting the situation rest there, in that she went on to tell us various stories, whether fact or fiction we'll never know. Apparently her brother Sam and his friend often coaxed her to play with their willies (probably the reason she was so proficient), and in return they gave her money for sweets, etc. Whilst her brother's willy was similar to ours, only longer and fatter (she was only just able to close her hand round it), his friend's willy didn't have any skin over the end and behind the rim when stiff, and she had to wet her fingers to slide up and down his willy in order to make him 'spurt'. Being curious, she'd asked about the difference and been told that he'd been circumcised (what?) as a baby, and the remaining shaft skin wasn't able to be drawn forward over the rim, even when soft. She explained to us that the operation consisted of cutting off the skin, but she didn't know why – probably he didn't know either as it had been done in infancy. His willy end was permanently dry whereas her brother's was moist when she'd pulled the skin back, which was quite tight after it had become erect. He had insisted that she pull the skin over the tip each time for maximum effect – and to show his friend what he was missing, no doubt! She said it was easier and quicker to make her brother 'spurt'. His friend kept telling her to pull Sam's skin down and hold it back. Doing this gave her a strange exciting feeling, especially as the boys had insisted she pull down her knickers and show them her cunt whilst masturbating and prior to having their willies manipulated by a young

innocent(?) female. After each session she would go into her own bedroom and relieve the excitement that had built up in the manner which she had shamelessly showed to us earlier. It seemed an older friend called Lillian, who was an unmarried mum with a little boy, had shown her how to masturbate, doing it for her the first time, and it had now become a regular habit. Eunice said her friend had a lot of hair around her slit and above it which had been shaved off at hospital prior to the baby being born. The hair had grown back again in a few weeks. At baby's bath time and nappy change time she had watched with great interest as her friend attempted to retract his tiny foreskin, without success. She persisted however, and some weeks later she was able to ease the tiny skin back behind the rim to wash underneath and coat it with vaseline to prevent soreness before pulling it forward again. Her mother had told her to do this. The baby's father was uncircumcised and had a very long foreskin. She told Eunice that she regularly had to pull his skin right back to ensure that he was spotlessly clean before 'making love', and that when the time came, she should always do the same unless the boy was circumcised, when such action would not be necessary. Eunice had also asked her friend whether 'playing with herself' would cause her clitoris to enlarge: "With a little bit of luck, yes", her friend had joked.

If the baby cried a lot, Lillian would remove his nappy and gently squeeze and rub his tiny penis, which worked quite well and had a soothing effect. Lillian showed Eunice how to do this and when Eunice used to baby-sit for Lillian and her boyfriend when they went to the cinema or the pub, used to use this technique herself.

It was soon time to go home, but is it any wonder that, since that sunny day nearly 50 years ago, my particular 'turn on' is about foreskins, circumcision and related topics. All being well, Eunice must now be nearly 60 years old. Soon after this 'day of enlightenment' Eunice and her family moved away and I never saw her again. My pal and his family also moved away, so I never knew whether he was ever able to retract his foreskin. It was some years later that I decided to become a 'skin back' and then I encountered 'big girls' with breasts of all sizes which are a source of fascination to us mere males.

Finally, I hope the 'Attitude to Circumcision' (Issue 7/94) brings a good response from both sexes. As a 'skin back' in adult relationships, comments have varied, which can be detailed in another letter if this contribution is printed either in whole or in part. Women certainly have their particular views on this topic – let's hear from them, ie. Husband's, boyfriend's, brother's status, and their first encounters with the male member.

*C.B. – Cheadle*



# ACORN

Issue  
No 5 1995  
Editor  
David Acorn

## Editorial

Just a couple of items. I get a few letters complaining that there's a lack of consistency in the timescale of the newsletters. We have a team of three to get the newsletters out, each of whom have very responsible full-time jobs. We also each have active outside interests which require commitment and cannot be done half-heartedly. Add holidays and the odd family commitment, and you can see that to co-ordinate on a rigid timescale is impossible. It would be the same whoever did it. So please bear with us and you can be assured that you will get 8 editions by the end of the year. At least the complaints mean that the newsletters are always very eagerly awaited.

Brian, as well as his task on the newsletter, also does most of the donkey work with regard to the meetings, which seem to be coming now at the rate of two a year. He has asked me to tell you that the next one is on the weekend of October 14th at Watford. All details can be obtained from him by ringing (01726) 882956. If you get his answerphone and you can't give him your number, just say your name to let him know you are interested and then phone again sometime.

## Contents

		Page
Editorial	D.A.	1
The Meeting For Me	N.S.	2
My Circumcision	K.H.	3
Shaving	A.R.	7
Self-Indulgence 2	D.H.	8
Another Muslim	H.C.	9
Resignation	P.D.	11
Sir Michael Tippett	T.A.	14
Pumping	B.H.	15
Regrets	W.M.	16

Printed & Published in England by The Acorn Society

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## Correspondence

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THE ACORN SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 113  
WESTON-SUPER-MARE  
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Finally, I must say thank you to those who write to me, whether for publication or not. I always love to hear from you and am only sorry that I can't answer them all. It's a credit to all the members that we have managed to get so many editions out without being accused of being repetitious.

*David Acorn*

## The Meeting For Me

Going to hospital to be cut the week before your fifteenth birthday certainly makes you learn about circumcision. Like all boys at that age, I'd noticed the different cock styles. We all had, and some of us kept a check list of who had and hadn't been 'done'. The split seemed to be about 50/50, though in the sixties a lot more circumcised teenagers were around than now.

I'd asked my father about circumcision as early as twelve. A growing cock knob and tightening frenulum meant I had to be cut and have a frenoplasty during one Summer holiday from school. From then on a general curiosity grew to an adult fascination. Why do some circumcised guys have stitching showing on the shaft; others have a wide brown ring, yet others have nothing showing at all? Could you choose to have plenty of inner foreskin left on the shaft or not, and, if you couldn't, why had some guys so little left and others have a cut mark halfway back on the shaft?

A chance meeting with a guy who is cut (and happy to talk about it) put me in touch with *Acorn* just in time to get a membership and go to the recent meeting at Croydon. Until joining *Acorn* I'd thought that, apart from noticing the occasional magazine article or advert in the paper wanting information (which I'd never answered), I was the only man in the country fascinated by foreskins, or the lack of them. For me, it wasn't just knowing which guys I knew or had met who were cut or not, but also wondering how the circumcisions some had had done had turned out. Indeed, until joining *Acorn* and having things explained, I hadn't even realised there are so many methods to use when getting cut.

Opening a door and walking into a room with 50 guys you'd never met before could be off-putting for a newcomer to an *Acorn* meeting. Having been to Croydon I can say what a pity it is that all the *Acorn* members unable to get there cannot guess how friendly and easy-going meetings can be. Most of us in small groups of three or four so you could move around from one to the next as you wanted to. Interesting for me was that not all the guys present were cut. Several were uncut but thinking of circumcision, so they needed talking into it, or out of it, depending on preference and personal experience. One guy was uncut and very happy to stay that way.

Women together seem able to exchange ideas about their own and other women's bodies more easily than men together. Yet I've found that men in company, irrespective of their sexuality, are just as interested in one another.

In any gym, pool or changing room, whether the chat is about cars, cricket, or curtain material, as soon as you drop your pants the other guys will check your cock – discreetly, of course.

With *Acorn* members, I've at last met a group of adult guys, varied in background and age, self-assured enough to talk about all the things of interest to us. **It's great!** That we all got on so well together was noticed by other hotel guests when, after drinks, we all sat down together at a communal table in the dining room. "What a jolly lot you all sound together, said a couple at the buffet, "where are you all from?" Thinking fast I answered, "The Prince of Wales gents darts team from Margate. We're playing a tournament." If only they'd known!

*N.S. – London*

## My Circumcision

I was not circumcised as a baby. When I was born in 1972 circumcision was no longer offered to parents and it was not the custom in my family. My father is uncircumcised and as far as I know so is his older brother. Again, I do not think either of my cousins on my mother's side are circumcised.

Nothing was said about circumcision either at home or at school. I was totally unaware of the meaning of the word until my mid-teens. At secondary school I noticed a few Asian boys in the showers whose penises looked different from mine, but took no real interest in this difference.

I was never taught at home or school anything about the need to retract the foreskin and wash regularly, although in my teens I started to do this when having a bath without any prompting. Similarly, I was not taught to retract the foreskin whilst urinating and so stale urine used to collect inside the foreskin.

A local computer club brought me into contact with V. who became good friends with me and my parents. When I was about 15 I started joining him in marshalling at motor sport events. This involved several overnight stays and we naturally saw one another's penises whilst showering and dressing.

V. noticed that I was uncircumcised and raised the subject with me. As I said, I knew nothing about the subject and so he explained what circumcision was and why some boys are circumcised. He told me that he had been circumcised as a baby. He also told me of the need to wash regularly and to retract the foreskin whilst urinating. I could retract my foreskin to completely expose the glans but if I pulled it back more it hurt as the frenulum stopped the bottom from going back very far.

At first I could not see the benefits of having a circumcision, despite being told about the problems suffered by some men with a long or tight foreskin. When I left school I went into catering and found myself working in a hot

and sticky environment all day. Needless to say, I got very sweaty under my foreskin and it was sometimes quite unpleasant, just as V. had predicted it might be, however I still didn't want to consider circumcision.

As I left my teens I got myself a regular girlfriend and at this point discovered that when I had a very hard erection my tight frenulum not only hurt but also pulled on the back of the glans and made the piss slit point down at right angles to my shaft. My girlfriend suggested that this was not right and could interfere with proper sex. I remembered what V. had said and asked her if she thought I ought to be circumcised. She considered this to be a very good idea.

The next time V. and I were together I told him that I had decided that I wanted to be circumcised. It came as a bit of a surprise to him since I had previously been so strongly against the idea. Once he had discussed it with me and determined that I was serious he set about trying to find a doctor who would do the operation as I wanted it, without fuss, and at a reasonable price. Fortunately he belongs to The *Acorn* Society and was able to ask for other members' recommendations.

It was clear that I was unlikely to get the operation from the NHS, and if I did I was still likely to have to wait a very long time and then have no choice in how it was done. Two suggestions only seemed worth following up. One was the Surgical Advisory Service, with prices at around £750 and the other was a Dr. Sifman who charged £200. All the reports on Dr. Sifman were good and so we decided to go to him. This selection process took nearly a year since we wanted to be absolutely sure we got the right surgeon and V. wanted to be sure that I really was serious about wishing to be circumcised. The more I thought about it though, the more I felt it was the right thing for me to do.

Eventually I went to see Dr. Sifman at his North London surgery at the end of November 1994. I had a long discussion with him and he examined my foreskin and frenulum. He agreed to perform a circumcision under local anaesthetic and we agreed a fee of £200. I didn't want my parents to know about my circumcision and also wanted to have a week off work to allow it to start healing. I therefore asked if it could be done in March, which was provisionally agreed.

In February I wrote to Dr. Sifman confirming my desire for a circumcision and requesting the operation for Sunday 19th March. This was confirmed by Dr. Sifman within a few days and V. and I each booked a week's holiday to start then.

By this time I had changed my girlfriend and the new one knew nothing at all about circumcision. I told her about it and gave her a booklet which V. had given to me a couple of years earlier to explain it all.

We spent Saturday night in a hotel not far from home so that we could get some pictures of my uncircumcised penis. Not surprisingly I was somewhat

nervous that night, but determined to go through with the operation the next day. In the morning I had my last uncircumcised wank.

We arrived at the surgery at 2:15 in the afternoon, ready for a 2:30 appointment. The doctor was ready for me and I had soon signed the consent form which he gave me. I told the doctor that I wanted my frenulum removed and a fairly tight circumcision with the scar line placed well back on the shaft so as to remove only outer skin and keep all of the inner skin. I undressed completely and got onto the couch whilst the doctor finished his preparations.

Meanwhile, V. set up a video camera which the doctor had agreed we could use to record the operation so that my girlfriend could later see it. I didn't want to watch the operation directly but when I saw it on the small tv monitor we had connected to the camera I found it very interesting and watched everything except the initial anaesthetic injections.

My genitals were first swabbed with an iodine based antiseptic and then I was given the local anaesthetic (Bupivacaine) which was injected into the base of the shaft. The first two injections were quite painful, but I never have liked having any injections. As the anaesthetic began to work I didn't feel the remaining injections.

The doctor was soon clamping my foreskin and determining exactly where he was going to place the cut. He placed a large pair of forceps across the foreskin where he was going to cut it and clamped them tight. One quick stroke of the scalpel along the side of the forceps removed my foreskin for ever. As the forceps were removed a certain amount of blood spurted out over the plastic sheet which covered me. I don't think it was really very much, but it looked like a lot as it spread over quite a large area.

The places where I was bleeding were found and sealed, either with simple pressure from small forceps or by using an electric cautery device. After most of these bleeding points had been sealed the doctor removed my frenulum. I had expected that this would be done first to make the foreskin more mobile. The frenulum was quite tough and the doctor had to use both scissors and scalpel to remove it.

Despite all his efforts with the cautery device, the doctor could not completely stop me from bleeding where the skin had been removed. He placed a couple of stitches in there and then started to stitch the two cut edges together. He used a lot of small stitches, close together, and it took much longer to stitch me up than it had done to do the initial circumcision. Dissolving stitches were used so that I would not have to return to have them removed.

Once the stitching was completed the wound was covered with gauze and then tightly bound with bandage, from half way down my glans to just short of my scrotum. I was cleaned up and told to dress and sit quietly for a while. The whole operation had taken about an hour and a quarter.

I was given a glass of apple juice to drink and sat quietly whilst the doctor packed everything away (and V. put away the video camera). About 20 minutes later the doctor again checked me to see if the bleeding had stopped. It appeared to have done so, but I was asked to phone later in the evening with a progress report, or immediately if the bleeding started again. I was given some co-proxamol pain killers and some gauze for later dressings and allowed to go.

On arrival at our hotel about an hour later the anaesthetic was starting to wear off, I took a couple of paracetamol tablets and crashed out on the bed for just over an hour before having a hearty dinner. All had seemed well just before dinner and so I called the doctor to report ok as soon as dinner was over. When I got back to my room I found that I had bled somewhat more, however this didn't worry me.

The glans was very bruised looking for about four days, but looked particularly bad that first night. The bandage had been put on very tightly and it compressed my urethra somewhat so that when I had a pee there was considerable resistance to it coming out.

I took a couple of the stronger pain killers before turning in, but I was rather uncomfortable and I didn't get a good night's sleep. I got up twice during the night to have a pee so as to relieve the pressure. In the morning however there was no real pain at all and we set out for our week's holiday. Although I had to take things easy, and for the first few days was walking with my legs apart as if sitting on a horse, I was able to do all I wanted on holiday and I resumed driving on the Thursday.

The initial dressing was to be kept on for 48 hours and so I soaked it off in the bath on Tuesday evening. It took about an hour to soak off, with me gradually unwinding it as each layer came free. Quite a lot of dried blood dissolved out into the water. When the dressing was off, the cut looked like a broad pink ring around the penis, with a wavy line of dried blood and the black stitches in it. The frenulum area however looked very bruised and sore. A new layer of antibiotic gauze was laid over the wound and held on with fresh gauze bandaging. We couldn't get this as tight and smooth as the doctor had done and it was rather bulky.

I had no real pain and, apart from the first night, very little serious discomfort, but I am glad that I took the week off work and would recommend this to anyone whose job is at all active. During the whole of the first two weeks I only took four doses of the stronger pain killer and about the same of paracetamol – mainly at night as a precaution rather than as a necessity.

The dressing was changed again on Thursday and Saturday nights. Each time the cut looked nicer and cleaner. It was, of course, still very tender and was somewhat painful to try to lift up to examine the frenulum area.

I went back to work a week after the circumcision. The first day was a bit of a shock to the system, but the discomfort had practically all gone by the second day. During this week the stitches started to come out and most were out by the end of that second week, when I showed the results to *Acorn* members at their conference. The frenulum area still had a scab on it and the scar line was still rather rough, but I was already very pleased with the result.

The stitches had all come out by the middle of the third week and I had my first circumcised wank on the Wednesday. I found this highly pleasurable and shot loads all over my chest! The last scab finally came off the frenulum area the following Wednesday – three and a half weeks after the operation.

Dr Sifman has done the operation completely to my satisfaction and I think it is very neat. When I am erect the colour contrast in the skin is very clear. The scar line has been placed 1¾" behind the rim of the glans on a penis which is 6" when erect. My girlfriend also likes my circumcised penis, which no longer bends downwards when fully erect.

I immediately found I was much more comfortable at work, and really experienced the full benefit during the recent summer months when the kitchen got exceptionally hot.

I would recommend circumcision to anyone who has any tightness in their frenulum or foreskin, or who regularly works in a hot and sticky place. I hope that these notes will be helpful to anyone still trying to make up their mind.

*K.H. – London*

## Shaving

A really excellent idea, I feel, would be to put the Society on the Internet (or one of those bulletin boards). Doing this should attract very many curious and potential members from around the globe. I think this is worth doing immediately, if not by yourself, then perhaps through one of the members through a PC/Modem set-up. What do you think? [We are already on both the Internet and Bulletin Boards, by the kind offices of a couple of our members, and nearly all our overseas members obtained in the last year have come through this route, mainly via America. — D.A.]

A personal point. J.H., whom I recently wrote to via you, is, by admission, a depilator – a 'smoothie' (terrible title!). I am considering removing some, or part, of my pubic hair, but the scrotum leaves me baffled. A razor, even a safety or an electric – potentially devastating! The only course of action seems to me to use a hair remover, but have you seen the warnings on a tube of this stuff. Do you have any idea if this chemical (like IMMAX) stuff is safe to use on the scrotum, and will not adversely affect the testicles. Any members out there able to offer a little advice here, as well as your good self, or perhaps you already practice this. [I do, intermittently. You shouldn't worry about using

a safety razor (unless you've got DT's). A Philishave was a bloody mess, but a double bladed safety gives me no problems. — D.A.]

A request for information and for the interest of the membership. It seems everyone is thoroughly preoccupied with circumcision, its merits/demerits, necessity or non-necessity. Of course, this is a particular interest of the Society and especially for those who are contemplating or have become dissatisfied with circumcision. Let us see a little more on other aspects of the male genitalia: appearance, statistics, anatomy, sexuality etc., particularly masturbation/orgasm. Do any of the members have any special techniques, information they can share.

*Aldo G. Rabiotti.*

[We often get requests for more on the personal sexual side, and in the last issue of 1994, Ray Hamble asked for personal information on masturbation. As far as I know he didn't get a reply. In 4/95 we had an article called 'Self Indulgence' in which A.D. extolled the virtues of wanking, a pastime Woody Allen once called 'Making love to yourself', one in which everyone indulges. George Bernard Shaw divided people into two classes – the 95% who admit to masturbation, and the 5% who are liars. Having got that bit of by-the-way over, as everyone is agog to know how others do it, I'd like to ask everyone to write and tell their methods in glorious detail. Each issue I'd like to print a cavalier method and a roundhead method as they are generally very different. If you're shy, just call yourself Anon and don't even tell me who you are.

To start the ball rolling I have a recent letter on the subject, which I'll call 'Self Indulgence 2' — *David Acorn*]

## Self Indulgence 2

I am interested in lubrication! Do people use it? If yes, when? Always or intermittently? When did they start using lubricant? What was their first lubricant made from? Do circumcised and uncircumcised masturbate with different kinds of lubricants? Has anyone made a special lubricant because they are circumcised or uncircumcised?

I personally enjoy wanking with all lubricants, e.g. spit, Vaseline, KY jelly, Liquid Silk, Cyberglide, etc. etc., but use them at different times. Cyberglide is easily revitalised with a dab of water from a glass, and is therefore good when you feel incredibly horny, when you know that you're going to spend the whole morning tossing off.

Liquid Silk is great for someone to wank you off and this is what I use it for.

Vaseline was my first lube and is special because of that. If I have problems getting really hard then I wash my cock, dry it, and then smear my helmet



with Vaseline and plenty in my right palm. I then slowly lubricate down the helmet and shaft to the very base.

I think the question of shaving of the genitals is therefore closely linked to lubrications and their use. If nicely, neatly trimmed, the pubic hair is not in the way of your handstroke and you don't pinch hairs. Even better though, is the feeling of the shaved ball sac and base of the cock. The lubrication is twice the fun if smeared all the way round the dick and sac.

I keep my whole cock shaft shaved and ball sac too. I also shave a little bit off the top of my inside thighs too. Apart from this I leave most of the pubic hair above my cock. I don't think that I would find complete hairlessness a turn-on, although I'm sure it feels great for sex. It would leave me thinking of my cock as looking like that of a child – and I'm a man, and like looking that way.

What do other members think about lube, and how do they use it? I think that circumcised men wank more than cavaliers with lubricant, just from talking to friends and family.

*Dan H.*

## Another Muslim

**H**aving just read the controversy regarding circumcision and non-circumcision within the Muslim faith, I feel it incumbent upon me to show that there is a great deal of tolerance and understanding in that faith, and not all intolerant fundamentalism.

I have already revealed much about myself in previous essays in *Acorn*, including my status as an uncircumcised Muslim. My Muslim lover had 'symbolically' circumcised me by cutting my frenulum and shedding my penis blood. Afterwards, the local Imam had examined my penis, and having ensured that my glans was already desensitised, and that my foreskin could be permanently retracted, had pronounced me a "true and genuine Muslim", welcoming me into the faith with, literally, open arms.

Since then, I have, to my utmost ability, practised the faith as much as was practicable, adhered to all regulations concerning bodily hygiene and its functions. My cock and armpits remain shaven, and will be so till the day I die. I've avoided pork and, when in my country, have regularly attended Mosque and fasted diligently the month before Ramadan, the Islamic New Year. Needless to add, I have always tried to live by the tenets of the Koran.

I hope that all my earnest efforts do not count for nothing in the eyes of other Muslims who come from a different part of the Muslim world, just because my little fold of prepuce, hitherto always permanently retracted by being neatly tucked behind my corona, makes everything null and void – nay, even filthy.

I come from a country which, though no less Islamic than any of the others in the Middle East, is, nonetheless, far less fundamental, which is why, maybe, that Malaya has a thriving economy with plenty of foreign investment.

Malay women are allowed to drive vehicles, and the veil is not imposed on them but remains a personal family choice. Neither is female circumcision ever practised.

In my country, male circumcision lies in the hands of private doctors, or, if available, local hospitals – not the barber, the professional circumciser, or whoever else performs it in the Middle East. Thus, in poor remote villages, where complete medical facilities are not always easily available, there remains a proportion, albeit small, of Malay Muslim men who have not been circumcised. The local mosques take personal circumstances into account, and make dispensations for foreskinned men to be Muslims. Even when government medical teams occasionally tour remote parts, they are far more concerned with general health and the nutrition of natives than with circumcision, which is considered a private matter.

Prepuces like mine, which retract permanently, are no problem once confirmed by the Imam to be Muslim, but men with obstinately hooded penises, or long overhangs, have to be re-examined by the Imam once a year to check for glans hygiene. A dirty glans will incur a heavy fine, donated to the mosque's good causes, and the culprit may be requested to present his cock for examination more frequently – perhaps every 6 months.

My lover taught me the steps whereby I could become an uncircumcised Muslim. If, at a later date, the opportunity arose, he told me that I could always have the full circumcision with a ceremony included, if I wished. In the meantime, I should commence to retract my foreskin permanently and gradually desensitise my glans, which was then raw, liver-coloured, and painful when touched.

I may not be the Muslim of some narrow conceptions, but the local Imam, the mosque, and the religious authorities of my country recognise me as one, and that is all I need. Religion, especially an imported foreign one, always adapts itself to the local customs of the country in order to thrive. The Malays are racially, culturally and linguistically entirely different from the Arabs, and even amongst the Malays themselves, customs differ from region to region.

He revealed to me a pagan Aboriginal/Malay custom (it was not a Muslim custom) of his fishing village, which had become integrated into the circumcision ritual. One year before the Event, all the soon-to-be-circumcised pubescent boys received instructions on foreskin retraction and glans desensitisation.

They were then taken out on a nude fishing trip into remote waters where, on one side of the boat they stood in a neat row. Facing each youth, stood his opposite number, an older man in his mid-thirties, also completely naked. These older men, in their prime of life, were specially chosen for their qualities

of proven manhood. They had to be married, potent and virile, the father of children and even, to put it bluntly, favourably endowed with good-sized penises and long heavy scrotums. Needless to add, they had to be circumcised too.

After some prayers, incantations and blessings by the village priest, each older man retracts the foreskin of the youth opposite him. Then each older man masturbates himself and massages his semen into the freshly exposed glans of the youth. This signifies the youth's rite of passage into full manhood, even before circumcision is achieved.

Be it said that this was a straightforward ceremony, neither as painful to the youth to have his glans semen-rubbed, nor as titillating to the older man to play with his own cock, as my words may make it seem. This was a nude male-bonding society, and all the youths had grown up seeing the cocks of the older men, as a matter of daily routine,

During the interim year between this semen-rite and circumcision, it was deemed correct for the youth to approach the older man who was his opposite number, on a regular basis, for his bodily fluids with which to massage his glans, now under ceremonial obligation to remain permanently retracted or as often as possible if the foreskin was loose. The older man's bodily fluids could be urine, natural lubrication or, best of all, semen – whichever of these fluids was convenient for him to offer at the time. After circumcision, this custom ceased, but the older man now became a kind of Godfather to the newly circumcised youth, and oversaw his welfare in every department of his life, especially in matters relating to intimate sexual problems.

*H.C. – London*

## Resignation

I am resigning from *The Acorn Society*, not without some tinge of regret, to return to an honest and open relationship with my wife. I have found much of the material in *Acorn* useful in working out my deeper feelings about my sexuality, and wish to thank you for making it possible for all us contributors and readers to write freely on subjects that are not dealt with anywhere else.

I think I share an obsession with the penis (principally mine) with most of the members of *Acorn*, and, through often painful discussions with my wife, have managed to find logical explanations for my obsession which might be useful to other members.

During the last few years, some of the occasions of self-mutilation have led to some joint enquiry as to the origin of my penile obsession. Mutilation of my penis and bisexuality were facets of the same obsession, which are shared by

some members of *The Acorn Society*. I have no doubt that my obsession lay in very early conditioning by both my parents, but largely to fulfil the wishes of my father that I escape infant circumcision. I have written about this before to *Acorn*, but have a new insight to add. My mother told me that up until I was 6 months old, she (or possibly my father) would fondle my penis until it was erect, and then tug at the foreskin to free it from the glans to which it was naturally attached. This would happen at least once a day. In the course of doing this she occasionally caused bleeding, and may have torn my frenulum apart. Needless to say, only the members of *Acorn* not circumcised in infancy could have been subjected to this sort of conditioning. More recently, I have been reminded that my short foreskin showed some scarring parallel to the glans, prior to anything that I did to myself. My GP at the time, with whom I raised the query, confirmed that there were no records of any operations other than tonsillectomy at age 5 in my medical notes, and my mother recalls nothing of the sort. I am left with the strong suspicion that my father gave me a dorsal slit to relieve a recurrent phimosis, sometime after the age of two. I have a nude photograph of me at age 26 months with an intact, if rather aged (dark adult looking, rather than pale and bud-like) foreskin. My father's continuing interest in my penis, and his probable attack on it, go a long way to explaining my bisexuality and desire for self-modification.

After a boyhood in which obsession with my own and others' penes got me into trouble on more than one occasion, I managed to control the obsession by submersion (in the psyche) from age 15 to 28, when a rather premature vasectomy under local anaesthetic awakened the mutilation demon. The attraction for others' penes followed about 12 years later when heterosexual activity had lessened greatly.

All this has nearly wrecked a super marriage partnership, and I am a very lucky man to be able to look forward to a return of this partnership in the future, without the spectre of my father's skeleton in my mental cupboard.

As I have experienced a spectrum of uncircumcised and circumcised states during my sexually active (auto-, hetero- and homo-) lifetime, I would like to give my opinion on the 'ideal' state; uncircumcised with normally bared glans whether flaccid or erect. Reasons: Heterosexual activity is easier for your partner – she has a foreskin to play with if she wants, and plenty of loose shaft skin makes full intercourse much easier for a tight and/or poorly lubricated vagina; wanking and being wanked are also easier and can be varied.

Before I finally sign off I would like to reply to ZED, and to raise a new issue.

1. ZED can be assured that if he continues to extend his subincision, that once the jet can fall clear of his glans, the splashing, wandering and dribbling will stop. Once ejaculation can come clear of the glans, the range increases to about 6 feet. On circumcision after subincision, ZED should be aware that he will be fixing about 8 inches (assuming a 6" penis

with a 2" knob when erect) of shaft skin to, at most, 4" of split urethra. The surplus goes into a hood over the glans, which is technically more difficult to circumcise than a freely mobile all-round foreskin. It will have to be done by 'cuff resection'.

2. The new issue is **Prostate Problems**. I am sure that some *Acorn* members, like me, have noticed the insidious onset of symptoms of prostatic enlargement... slower, smaller calibre stream, stop/start during urination, getting up in the night. The medical literature tells us that there is an epidemic among the over 50s in Western countries, that at least 25% of males over 50 will have at least one operation to relieve kidney threatening blockages before they are dead. The drug companies are racing to try to find a drug that they can put all of us over-50s on for the rest of our lives to 'prevent' prostatic enlargement. Yet the causes are unknown and remain largely unresearched.

Speaking from my own and friends' experiences, the obstruction is worse at night, during stressful periods, after long periods of sitting (eg. driving on a long journey), and is least after exercise. By keeping a diary of activity, stress levels and diet as well as of symptom scores (I use flow - rated 1 good, to 3 poor), sensation (rated 0 normal, to 2 very tingly), number of pumps to clear the residual out at the end (0 to 10), and number of intercurrent stop/starts (0 to 10), I have discovered other factor(s) contributing to **my** varying condition. Chocolate invariably leads to obstructive symptoms between 6 and 12 hours after consumption (a number of temptations after the diary discovery have confirmed this). I was very fond of chocolate! Bacon, pork and beef have also been associated with symptoms between 12 and 48 hours after consumption. Transfats and items containing them are also suspect but not experimentally proven on me by inadvertent challenges.

The fully detailed composition of transfats and of chocolate are unknown; they may contain hormone-like compounds, or my problem may be allergic. The meats are more likely to contain hormone residues, which may be quite 'natural'. The circumstances under which I ate those meats (away from home) meant that I could not check their origin. What I do know is that nearly-mature cockerels that I have raised and eaten have given me problems, whereas immature birds, hens of the same age as the young cockerels, and old hens do not. Natural testosterone levels in meat may therefore influence prostatic enlargement. Stress is known to raise one's own testosterone levels, so that may explain the coincidence of stress and worsening of prostatic symptoms.

None of this is in the scientific literature, but I am satisfied that, apart from occasional lapses when eating with friends, or out, the elimination of chocolate, transfats, and all male animals from my diet, as well as the control of stress, has maintained my prostate in a more normal state than it has been in the last few years. I would encourage anyone who is worrying about prostatic symptoms, which fluctuate inexplicably, to keep a detailed diary. That may help to pinpoint, as it has done for me, some of the more controllable associates

with symptoms, which can then be avoided. If you go to your doctor about this, at best he/she will send you away saying come back when it gets worse, but he/she may offer you drugs for chronic medication or an operation which usually removes your power to ejaculate, and which may make you impotent and incontinent as well.

*P.D. – Dublin*

[I know he won't be reading this, but I know the first part of this letter must have caused Paul a great deal of anguish to write. Most of us know how the effects of events in our childhood stay in our minds forever. I hope you'll all join me in wishing Paul a very happy future. — *D.A.*]

## Sir Michael Tippett

The leading British composer, Sir Michael Tippett, in his autobiographical *Those Twentieth Century Blues* (London: Pimlico, 1991, £10 paperback originally, but now £3.99 in book clearances), includes (p.1) an account of “the horrors of a second circumcision – a quite dramatic affair, which certainly left an emotional scar. It was my father’s decision that both Peter (his brother, two years older) and I should be circumcised. This had nothing to do with religion. In his own first sexual encounter in adult life, with a woman, he had experienced the common problems associated with a tight foreskin and decided he himself should undergo circumcision. Subsequently, he felt that Peter and I should be spared such problems; in addition it might possibly be worthwhile for reasons of morality or cleanliness (a notion that became prevalent in post-war America).

Unfortunately my operation proved unsatisfactory, and a second was needed. The doctor decided that I, aged 5, should not have an anaesthetic this time, but should be lulled into sleep by other means, while sitting on the basin in anticipation. When the cut occurred I woke immediately and let out a piercing shriek. There was blood everywhere”.

Sir Michael was born on 2 January, 1905, and his father in the last year of the Crimean War, in 1859, marrying late. ‘Post war America’ therefore refers to the 1920’s. The family was comfortably middle class, the father having made his money as a solicitor, and this account illustrates the quite widespread interest in circumcision among this class around the turn of the century.

The book mainly concerns Michael Tippett’s activities as a composer, concentrating on the 1940’s and the 1970’s, and on the literary and other sources which inspired his music. There is recurrent coverage of his homosexuality (mostly at a time when homosexuality was illegal), mainly dealing with the problems of managing his relationships with his partners, with how he influenced them and they him, and with its effects on his other friends. The book includes substantial sections on his dreams, which he analyses

according to Jungian principles, and on his pacifism and conscientious objection to the 1939-1945 war.

*Tony Acorn*

## Pumping

I have recently been introduced to the pleasures of 'pumping'. What is pumping? Well, to put it in the right context, it is submitting your cock to a vacuum, using a proper vacuum pump and a lucitite (a special type of plastic) tube. These tubes vary in diameter but are all the same length. They start at 1.75" diameter by 11" long. Unlike the so-called pumps you can buy from sex shops, these items are properly made in the USA. You choose the right sized tube to suit you, but allow that when you are erect you are always thicker in diameter.

To use the pump you must do some preparation, in that you massage your cock with a suitable lubricating cream, my favourite being Boots A & E cream. This softens and lubricates your skin, allowing it to stretch. Heat is recommended, and to this end a heat pad is wrapped around the tube. The neck of the tube does not use a rubber ring to seal it, you just grease it with vaseline around the edge and just inside the entrance. You then slide your cream-coated cock inside the tube, connect the pump by its instantaneous coupling, and pump, the vacuum drawing you into the tube, making it airtight. Your cock slowly expands to fill the tube breadthways and stretches in length. It is a very pleasant sensation and the size increase stays for a couple of hours. This has an advantage if sex is getting a little boring and you want a change. For those who are gay, the company makes a buddy tube, which is a double ended tube that has the valve in the middle so that you can pump your partner at the same time as yourself. Even have a tug-of-war!

If you do it regularly each day, the stretching increases, and there is an increase in both girth and length, but this occurs to dedicated pumpers who do it for hours at a time, 2 or 3 times a day. I do it for about an hour when in the mood. As a point of interest to those of you who are circumcised and want to get back a foreskin, I know of one pumper who has done exactly that, now has a foreskin, and his cock has stretched to 9.5" in length (genuine size).

Anyone who is interested in this is welcome to write to me and I will endeavour to answer any questions.

*B.H. - Leeds*

## Regrets

I have a great deal of sympathy for Mr and Mrs Hodges (Sheila Hodges, Issue 4/95), and Mrs Hodges account of her husband's recent circumcision, after which, both lost much of the excitement and pleasure of lovemaking. Her excellent description of the slow loss of sensitivity exactly parallels my own experience after my re-circumcision a year ago.

Although I was circumcised as a baby I knew very little about circumcision, or even penises, and, as I used to get a great deal of pleasure from my frenulum, and particularly from sliding my foreskin back and forward over the rim of the knob, I assumed this was normal in a circumcised penis. I now realise that I had been only partially circumcised, as I had a foreskin which covered half my knob.

What I have found in my new, totally circumcised, state, is that there is now a large and empty gap between having a sexual idea and orgasm. Reaching orgasm now requires a great deal of tedious, strenuous, and not particularly pleasant, manipulation, and then BANG! an orgasm. Before, this period of 'build up' before orgasm was extremely pleasurable, and is a most important part of any loving relationship. It can even be enjoyed without necessarily ending in an orgasm.

It is, I think, impossible for a man, circumcised at birth, to know how much more pleasure he might have enjoyed if he had a foreskin, just as it is impossible for an uncircumcised man to understand how little sensation (comparatively speaking) a circumcised man has.

I contacted NORM (UK) (mentioned in 3/95) (Phone 01279 429771) and found it very helpful to discuss the feelings of anger, which this situation brings with it, with other men who understand this difficult-to-talk-about problem. I have also found the book *The Joy of Uncircumcising* (quite a big book actually, Anon 3/95, but, I agree, not the best possible title) extremely helpful. This gives us unhappy circumcisees some hope that all is not lost, as it seems to be possible to regrow a certain amount, at least, of cut foreskin.

On the other hand, it has to be said that the appearance of my new penis has been very much admired. I think that this is because the head has grown bigger, or appears to be bigger, and even when soft my penis has a more sexual appearance. So if you value appearance over sensitivity a circumcision could be an option.

May I also say that I agree with Sheila Hodges' last remarks about how long it takes some people to reach emotional maturity and sexual reality, and some men (myself for example) are well past their thirties before they can separate sexual fact from fantasy. My impression is that women are much better at reaching this maturity than men.

*William*



# ACORN

Issue  
No 6 1995  
Editor  
David Acorn

## Editorial

I expected to get a few comments in the postbag after the TV programme *It's a Boy*, but in fact only got one, from a bitter, angry member who saw himself as the baby strapped to the frame screaming its head off. A friend, who isn't a member, also said that he became very distressed to see it. After being circumcised as a baby, with the operation botched, he had to have another one which left him not growing properly.

The programme was fascinating inasmuch as, dealing only with the religious ritual side of circumcision, it was attacked by people inside the religions. It appeared to me that the defenders, Dr Sifman among them, didn't realise that the final programme would be so anti-ritual-circumcision, as their defence could have been more passionate. There was a follow-up viewers' programme which I failed to see, but hope that someone made a copy and brings it to the meeting this week.

To turn to the meeting. At the last count we have 22 members coming. This and the last meeting shows a vast difference to the first couple, where there were only a handful at each and all very tense and ill-at-

## Contents

	Page
Editorial : : : : : D.A.	1
Bolivia Revisited : : : : : V.Q.	2
Terminology : : : : : Anon.	3
Fundamental Trimmings : : : : : C.	4
A Matter of Weight : : : : : Anthony	6
Redundant Foreskin : : : : : H.F.	6
Circumcision and Masturbation : : : : : R.H.	7
Self Indulgence 3 : : : : : Anon.	8
Self Indulgence 4 : : : : : Anon.	9
Shaving : : : : : R.H.	10
Radical Circumcision : : : : : B.W.	11
Future for Circumcision : : : : : Anon.	12
Tags : : : : : J.A.	14
Famous States : : : : : R.L.	14
Non Restoration : : : : : G.D.	15

Printed & Published in England by The Acorn Society  
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## Correspondence

Please send all correspondence to:

THE ACORN SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 113  
WESTON SUPER MARE  
AVON, BS23 2ED

Letters for forwarding should be marked in pencil with the recipient's identifier. They should be stamped 1st class and be enclosed in an envelope addressed as above.

ease with each other. We now have a core who have become good friends but are only too pleased to welcome other members who will come along, of which this time there are about five. More, I hope, about it later.

*David Acorn*

## **Bolivia Revisited**

In Issue 8/92, D.P. – London, submitted an item entitled ‘Bolivia’, which reported a story originally on an electronic bulletin board (BBS) in the USA. The gist of the item was that the Bolivian Constitution included a requirement that its citizens must be uncircumcised.

I was extremely sceptical at the time, but had no means to verify the statement. Recently I gained access to the newsgroups on the Internet and discovered a newsgroup devoted to Bolivian culture. I placed a message in that newsgroup asking if there was any truth in the matter. Three people have replied as follows:-

1. “The information that you got is wrong. The practice is becoming popular among newborn boys for several reasons. First of all because of hygiene, secondly to avoid infections etc. There are other factors also as for convenience for the mother to take care of the baby. When a person becomes an adult the main reason is hygiene. I know that almost 50% of the population gets the circumcision done at birth.” — Wilma S. Siles.

I thanked her and said I didn’t realise circumcision was so popular in South America. I asked if she was a native Bolivian, living in Bolivia. I got the following reply.

“Circumcision is becoming popular because Bolivian native people are not very clean, so that circumcision helps to avoid infections.

I was born in Bolivia and I live in the United States for almost nine years, and work at Michigan State University” — Wilma.

2. “It is not so. In Bolivia live many Jewish people and all the just born boys are circumcised. I am a Jewish mother and my son is circumcised too.” — Luisa Marek de Vasquez.

3. “Respecto a la circuncion en Bolivia, lo que tu insinuas es absolutamente falso. Los bolivianos son amantes de la copsas naturales. No creo que por razones religiosas o higienicas se les imponga al sexo masculino la teoria de la circuncion” – Guillermo Rojas.

So there you have it! Bolivia does **not** require its citizens to be uncircumcised – indeed, the infant circumcision rate is about 2/3 that of the U.S.A. and about 5 times that of the U.K.

*Vernon – London*

## Terminology

Am I the only person to find myself thoroughly fascinated by the terminology with which we boys are encouraged to refer to our private parts? I was born in the late 1950s, to a lower middle-class family in Southern England, and in my earliest years my penis was my 'nothing'. I knew no other word for it – and, although I clearly remember at the age of about 5 saying to my mother that there must be a proper word for it, and that we could perhaps find a library book which would tell us(!) – 'nothing' it remained.

I don't remember any moment of confusion or readjustment, but at junior school it certainly wasn't your 'nothing'; the terms universally used were 'cock' or 'prick'. The school had a fair social mix, in a recently built neighbourhood of a new town, but 'willy' – which was used by some boys – seemed to me then to be a more working-class name; the posher kids referring to their 'cocks' or 'pricks'. However I do recall one lad confiding that he was shortly going into hospital to have his 'ding-dong' circumcised – which was the first and only time I've heard that particular piece of nomenclature.

At secondary school, 'dick' was far and away the commonest term – together with 'balls', which was used to refer both to the testicles and the genitalia in general. As we were all hitting puberty at the time, this meant that for many years I was under the impression that 'dick' was the word used to describe the sexually mature organ, while 'cock' and 'prick' referred to undeveloped equipment; young boys had cocks or pricks, adolescent lads and young men had dicks.

As for circumcision itself: no-one in my family is circumcised, and the junior school friend was the first person I'd ever heard using the term – I had no idea what the term really meant. However, I clearly remember, pre-secondary school, an older boy in the Scouts talking about 'circumcision' and then – when I asked him for an explanation – saying something to the effect that the end of your dick sometimes got bunged up with dirt and became sore, in which case the doctor would chop it off. I've no idea whether this individual was circumcised, but the explanation seemed bizarrely improbable, and puzzled me a great deal.

When I started secondary school, there was a reasonable sprinkling of cut cocks to be seen in the showers after games. Many of these were completely undeveloped, others were on boys who were already reaching puberty. This was really the first time I'd ever seen large numbers of other boys' willies: we didn't undress for games at junior school, and the only other time I'd had a good look at another penis came as the result of some pre-pubescent fumbling with my best (uncircumcised) friend. But the strange thing is that I don't remember being at all puzzled by the circumcised cocks I now saw for the first time. Nor do I remember any dawning of the light over my scouting friend's explanation. Rather – surrounded by both immature and growing

cocks, at various stages of puberty and of all shapes and sizes, I think I simply accepted the circumcised sort as just another sort of natural variation on the form I possessed myself.

It wasn't until sex education began – in our second year at secondary school – that I really began to realise what the implications of the difference were: that it wasn't something that occurred naturally, but was the result of human intervention. Obsessed with my genitals as all boys are at that age, my fevered pubescent imagination seized on this idea with enthusiasm: somehow it seemed to me that it was the most self-confident, athletic, popular boys who were the circumcised ones, and I dreamed about becoming like them. They were a group for which I felt awe and admiration – an elite from which I was excluded – and I took any opportunity I could to catch a glimpse of that tantalising difference. But I vividly remember a lad in my house, who'd been shorn of his foreskin during the summer holidays, arriving back for his second year displaying one of these – to me – fabulously altered tools, the healing scars on which were still clearly evident. Unfortunately, however, it couldn't have happened to a worse candidate – he was a quiet, rather shy boy, already well into puberty. His penis was already quite large, so the circumcision was painfully visible to all and sundry and, as a result, he was mercilessly teased about it – to his intense embarrassment.

But, to return to the point with which I began. What are other members' terms for their equipment? Am I the only person in the world who had a 'nothing' when young? What did others call it? And, for those circumcised as boys, what was the term used to describe the operation? 'Bimming' was one referred to (in these pages, I think) recently. Are there others? Perhaps we could have an *Acorn* glossary to get some of the idea of the range of terminology across geographical, social and chronological categories.

*Anon – London*

[I had two sisters and my mother used to refer to both their genitals and mine as 'botties'. — D.A.]

## Fundamental Trimmings

Here, in the deep South, in the Bible Belt, there are many so-called Christian Schools, run by denominations who interpret the Bible literally. Although most of the students come from this religious background, a small but increasing number of parents who are not fundamentalists are choosing these schools for their children. They apparently feel the disciplined, drug-free and violence-free environment offered compensates for the distortion of the academic curriculum (rejection of evolution for example), the frequent and compulsory prayer, the physical punishment (for which both boys and girls

are liable by written contract up to the age of eighteen) and the relegation of females to a subordinate role.

Canadian neighbours of mine, the LaPierres, who recently moved to the U.S.A. for the first time, decided to send their 15-year-old daughter and 13-year-old son to such a school. The other day, I ran into the family at a social gathering and the subject came up. A group of us were chatting, and Mrs LaPierre was relating rather amusingly some of the rigours of life at the school. She then said that John, her son, had had to be circumcised. An embarrassed silence fell over the group. I could hardly believe my ears, of course wanting to know more but not liking to ask. I noticed the boy, who was in the group, turned a bright red, and his sister looked at him with a smile on her face. Sibling schadenfreude. The mother was obviously not the type to notice this.

Fortunately, another neighbour, a newly married girl whom I do not believe can be more than 22, broke the silence and asked what Mrs LaPierre meant. Unfortunately the reply was not very explicit. It seems that at a routine physical on entering the school, the doctor had recommended circumcision "to be like the other boys" (very common here). One speculates it could also have been to combat evil temptation.

Incidentally, if I had been making up this story I would have had chapter and verse on what the doctor said, and, of course, the doctor would have been a sexy young woman. But sorry, folks, this is real life.

By a curious coincidence, a week or two later Mr LaPierre asked me to help him complete some medical insurance claims, as he was unfamiliar with U.S. procedures. The circumcision charges were among them. From memory (I could hardly make notes), they were approximately:-

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Covered by Insurance</b>
Physician's Fee	\$540	\$400
Hospital Fee (Outpatient)	\$680	\$540
Lab. Fee	\$150	\$120

This total of \$1,370 (I remember the exact figure) does not include any fee for an anaesthetist, which presumably means a local anaesthetic was used. From experience with other surgery, I know a general anaesthetic would have added another \$400 or more, but if you're paying \$1,370 anyway, what, I suppose, is another \$400?

*C. – SouthEastern U.S.A.*

## A Matter of Weight

One consequence of weight-watching not directly associated with seeking a healthier shape, happened to be *Acorn* oriented.

Weighing naked made me more conscious of my circumcision, by having to look down at the liquid crystal display. Beside the wonder of electronics, a scar such as used for thousands of years as an identification mark of tribe or creed! I conjured up thoughts of how much extra weight I'd be carrying had my foreskin not been excised in infancy!! Could it be perhaps 2 ounces, 3 when particularly fleshy, or even 4 or more when thick and long? I bet there are no figures readily available, even from hospitals.

Presumably, neonates must have about  $\frac{1}{3}$ oz of prepuce, which would make the maximum 'cull' of 2,000,000 per year 18.5 tons. That represents the sacrifice of a full hundredweight of infant foreskins each day in the U.S.A. when circumcision was at its peak – almost four skins being excised every minute.

Though originally used for the production of interferon, severed infant foreskins are currently used in the treatment of extensive burns in the United States.

*Anthony*

## Redundant Foreskin

Being blessed with a long and tight prepuce which, much to my annoyance, would not retract until the age of 13, I later had severe discomfort when working in hot, dusty conditions due to the accumulation beneath the prepuce (I think it found its way in by capillary action due to the moist condition). By experiment, I found that, because of its tightness, the prepuce would, if dry, remain permanently in the fully retracted position. And so it has been for the last 50 years, wrinkled up and completely redundant, leaving the glans bare. I push it forward about every two months just to check that it is still healthy. The bare glans has given no discomfort; liberated from the constraint of the prepuce, the glans has expanded. My late wife and I had a wonderful sexual relationship.

For primitive man, a foreskin probably afforded good protection for his penis during hunting activities. But I have long been of the opinion that for modern man a foreskin is, at best, useless, and quite often a liability. In principle I am very much in favour of circumcision, for which I would have opted had I been near a centre. In U.S.A., circumcision appears to be accepted as the norm by most people, and procedures such as Plastibell have led to more uniformly satisfactory results.

*H.F. – Tayside*

## Circumcision and Masturbation

The elephant hasn't forgotten! Several months ago, in 8/94, I sought the views of readers on the difference between the quality and techniques of masturbation, and sexual activities generally, between the circumcised and uncircumcised. I promised to keep readers informed of the outcome, and David Acorn reminded me, subtly, on page 8, Issue 5/95, that I had not done so. [Sorry, Ray, I didn't mean it that way. I'd just not seen much response for you and was hoping that my initiative might help you. — D.A.]

At the same time as I asked the question in this magazine, I posed a similar query to the readers of *Zipper*, in which I write a regular column. The response was very disappointing in both instances. I got a few comments on masturbation in general, but the key issue of its interaction with circumcision in particular didn't produce sufficient information to be worthy of analysis.

What did emerge was that masturbation, even into considerable old age, is a most important sexual outlet for most men. It is seen by them as being very much a behaviour pattern in its own right, not merely as a second-rate substitute for partnered sex. Several correspondents made it quite clear that they preferred solo masturbation to any form of sexual intercourse with either men or women. They could develop their powers of fantasy to incorporate any whim or kink that appealed to them without having to take into account the views of any partner. Neither was their enjoyment impaired by any performance shortcomings on the latter's part. Furthermore, they had no problems of shyness or nervousness with strangers to overcome, nor had they any fears of infection.

Arising from the correspondence, the concept of a national 'Group' to bring together dedicated wankers for fellowship, fun and mutual support in the event of any psychological anxieties was mooted. It is still in the formative stages and I shall be happy to pass on any letters which members may care to send, to the convenor in Yorkshire. Just send them to me in a sealed, stamped, but unaddressed envelope, via The Acorn Society at the W-s-M Box number.

*Ray Hamble*

[Running on with this subject I have so far only had two replies to my request. Both are cavaliers, but the second one doesn't do it in a cavalier fashion. Please let us have a lot more of your closet pleasures. — D.A.]

## Self Indulgence 3

In response to your request, with the safeguard of anonymity which I know I can trust, I hereby bare my soul.

I am now just over 70, married, with about a 7" cock having a thick foreskin which just covers my glans when soft and nearly disappears when hard.

I was first introduced to wanking by a friend when I was about 8 or 9. He told me that if I kept rubbing my jimmy up and down I would get a sudden nice feeling that would make me shudder. How right he was. After that I used to have a 'rub-up', as it was called, with many boys as I grew up. The excitement of each boy as he first obtained a bead of come approaching puberty was great. All the knowledge was passed down from the older boys at school, including sucking yourself off, a pastime I loved and managed to carry on until I was about 18, when my body thickened out. I remember at the start how disappointed I was that my come didn't have a really positive taste. I felt sorry for the tubby boys who couldn't bend down enough. Another thing that we used to do in our teens was to see how many wanks on the trot it took to come dry. Four was about the average and it made our foreskins puff up to twice their thickness, which took a couple of days to go down.

When I got married I still carried on wanking, unbeknown to my wife. I never regarded it as a substitute for sex, but as a part of sex itself. So when my wife, having had her children, showed less and less inclination for sex, and finished completely when I was about 45 (this being not uncommon, I'm told), it didn't upset me at all, I still had my wanking.

Up until the age of 60, my method was almost always the same, a full fist clutch, drawing back my foreskin completely until my frenulum was tugged, then pushing fully forward until the root of my cock was tugged, pulling my balls as well. This was started very slowly so that the slight moisture under my foreskin caused an exquisite friction over my knob and corona. When it became completely dry after about 20 strokes I would go faster and faster. Not that coming was the be-all and end-all. I enjoyed it so much that I would go on for an hour or more without coming, and even then leave it till later, when the orgasm would be more intense.

So that was up to about 10 years ago, when I found that my knob began to lose its sensitiveness. Whether this was due to age or the fact that my 3 or 4 wanks a week had taken its toll, I don't know. So from then on I had to look for stimuli of one sort or another. I tried many things and always found that novelty helped (thank goodness), and one step invariably led to another. For instance, I started one way by strangulation of my cock and balls with a tied handkerchief. From there it went onto cock rings (3 or 4 at a time), and then, if I pulled my skin right back down the shaft and wedged it under the rings, I found I was pseudo-circumcised, and thence with KY jelly or cream I could have a circumcised wank, still using my fist. I tried rubbing my thumb across



my knob, dry, like I'd seen the young American boys on video do, but it didn't do anything for me at all. Probably the most never-fail way is to put a rod (a biro pen is OK) up my bum and waggle it around until I touch my prostate gland. The only drawback to this method is that the orgasm tends to feel very sharp, so I take it out at the very beginning of feeling myself coming.

Then I read in a book that masturbation can be enhanced by tension. It said to lie on your back, tense the muscles at the base of the cock as if you were finishing a pee, but keeping them tense. Do the same with the anus muscle. Then, keeping your heels still, press outwards with your knees. Press your eyes shut, keep catching your breath for as long as you can, and if you've been wanking during this, your stroke will shorten to about half an inch involuntarily. If you give yourself up to this you will find (hopefully) that you have a constant feeling of coming until at last you do come. It works for me most times, but there are a few times when I fail to get the feeling. There was a sex doctor, named Robert Chartham, who advocated something similar. He said to put a thickish book between your legs right up under your scrotum and squeeze hard. I managed to come only once. The book must have been Moby Dick.

As time has caught up on me my amount of ejaculation has dwindled, and where before I could shoot it out, it now is just an ooze. My constant worry is that I should either get to a state where I never reach orgasm, or that I lose the urge anyway. What's the quickest form of suicide?

That's all I reckon. I am not a one-off human being, so that I should imagine that everyone can relate to one bit or another of my wanking career.

*Anon*

## Self Indulgence 4

**A**lthough a cavalier, I very rarely make use of my foreskin when wanking (although, funnily enough, I shoot further this way), but prefer the direct contact with the bare knob. By now my knob is sufficiently tough that I can't really feel any difference whether the skin is forward or retracted.

I prefer the use of some form of lubrication, although I can dry wank without the knob becoming too sore. Preferred lubrication is saliva or KY jelly – they produce very different sensations.

Also, different results are produced depending on whether I use my right or left hand – I find the normal clenched fist method the best. The inner foreskin for a couple of inches behind the knob is quite sensitive, especially in the area around the join of the skin (the raphe I think it's called).

I have found a good method is to position myself over a washbasin, so that my balls are resting over the rim and pressure is applied to the perineum, which tends to heighten the orgasmic sensation.

Although holding the foreskin tightly back so there is no movement at all is quite pleasurable initially, I prefer to have some loose skin moving as I come, otherwise I lose quite a lot of sensation (this is one of the factors making me hesitant in going for circumcision).

I apply pressure up and down the shaft and knob until I come, when I find it impossible to touch the upper side of my knob, and intense sensation comes from the frenulum area just under the glans and towards the tip. There's an initial spurt or two, then it becomes mostly a dribble!

I need to have some sort of sexual outlet preferably every other day, and my pattern at the moment seems to be normal intercourse once a week and wanking two or three times a week. Not ideal, as I far prefer the former, and there is no comparison in the quality of orgasm.

The main thing of course, is that I enjoy my cock so much and make as much use of it as I can.

*Anon*

## Shaving

I was interested in Aldo Rabaiotti's request for advice on genital shaving in 5/95.

I am now 62 and, apart from occasional lapses of no more than a few months, have kept my pubic area close shaved since puberty. I didn't go through those dramatic changes until rather late, around 16, although I had already been homosexually active for seven years since I was nine. I had grown to enjoy the smooth feel, and my increasing resentment at the first appearance of hair was fuelled by ridicule from already hirsute schoolmates who scorned its late arrival in my case. Shaving off the few preliminary wisps adequately allowed me to explain the absence of a more luxurious growth. My reputation for sexual promiscuity gave me licence to do such strange things.

I have both experienced, and seen in others, considerable painful skin burning of the scrotum from the use of various depilatory creams and, though some recent arrivals on the market claim to be harmless in 'even the most tender areas', I am reluctant to experiment. My experience with electric razors has always been painfully disastrous. Very many years ago, as a young hospital doctor, I was sometimes expected to shave potential patients for surgery and achieved a beautifully close result with an old-fashioned 'cut-throat' razor. I don't recommend any D.I.Y. enthusiast to attempt such an approach today, however.

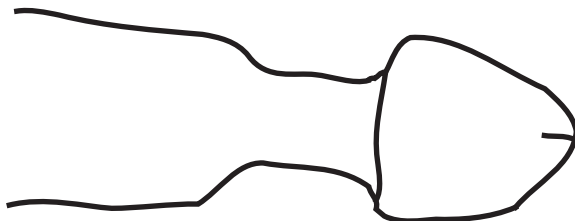
Nowadays, I use a Gillette twin-bladed 'Contour 11' razor (I think that's what it's called, I've been using it for yonks), together with Somerset's Shaving Oil, rather than foam or gel. This comes in easily packable tiny 10ml bottles, and I get mine from the larger branches of Boots, but I must admit it isn't widely available. It's quite expensive at £2.99, but you only need three drops, and it lasts for several months. I am able to grip the neck of my scrotum and stretch the skin over my testicles so that I have a smooth surface to shave. It literally takes only a couple of minutes every morning after my shower – much quicker than my chin – and I can't remember when I last 'nicked' myself.

*Ray Hamble*

## Radical Circumcision

I was showering at my local swimming baths after my weekly swim, when two other men joined me, and I couldn't help noticing that both were well-circumcised like me. What was remarkable however, was that one of the men had a huge knob and the area immediately behind the corona had been cut down to give a deep inlay of about ¼" depth and running ¾" - 1" up the shaft.

This gave a quite incredible look to the organ and made me most envious. How this cut had been achieved I find rather puzzling, and wonder whether any of our members have such a cut



or knows how it was possible to remove so much skin safely.

This sighting reminds me of my schooldays in the late 40s and 50s, when it was the custom to cut boys at birth. I was one of the unlucky ones to have missed the chop (my father told me my foreskin would naturally retract, as his had, when I got older. Sadly, it was much too long and loose).

I used to be fascinated at shower time or in the changing rooms to observe all the different types of cut, from very radical to just the tip missing. I should have thought the latter would have never given its owner a moment's peace, it would have been so sensitive.

Being at the school for many years, I eventually got to know (and make a note of) who had been circumcised and who was uncut, and it was interesting to note that just over 50% were cut, and I at the time was in a minority. I got the impression that the cut majority preferred their state and certainly didn't envy me. I remember one boy being interested in my foreskin, and I asked him if he regretted its loss on his radical cut. He said he didn't, but preferred his as it was, "it is much more practical like this". So I never got any impression

that circumcision was anything but a bonus to a boy. Since being cut at 24, I've also never regretted it: it's a bonus to a man as well.

*B.W. – Surrey*

## The Future for Circumcision

Having just returned from holidays abroad, I've had an opportunity to make an informal comparison of the status of our favourite subject in Europe and here. A large, crowded naturist beach in Southern France provided, however, only a tiny number of examples: I saw just three circumcised dicks in two days. One belonged to a man in – I would say – his early fifties. The other two were on much older men, both of whom appeared to be in their early seventies. Nationalities at the beach were a mixture of (mainly) French, with British, German, Dutch and a few Spanish. I wasn't able to determine the nationalities of the three circumcised individuals I saw – but I was perturbed to see that they formed such a tiny minority, and were maturer rather than younger men. There was a very broad range of ages at the beach, with many families, and although the older adolescent boys and young men kept themselves covered, two younger boys – about 7 or 8 years old – who were bathing without swimming trunks were quite definitely uncircumcised. Funnily enough, one of them appeared to have a penis that – to an amateur eye – showed all the signs of latent phimosis: the foreskin was long and bunched well beyond the end of the penis, with the outline of the glans, very tightly enclosed, clearly visible inside.

An interesting comparison came on my return to England, when, in the midst of the August heatwave, I spent a couple of days sunbathing at a naturist beach on the south coast. Here, the contrast couldn't have been more different. I would say that between 30 and 40% of cocks were cut, and over a very wide age-range, from elderly gentlemen to young men who appeared to be in their late teens and early twenties. The other noticeable difference was in the variety of circumcisions on view. One or two examples of the classic all-American 'clipcock' with very little inner foreskin visible (though it has to be said that these were very much in the minority), through some quite loose 'acorn' examples (the vast majority), to (my own particular preference) cocks which had been quite tightly cut, but with the scar clearly visible an inch or so down the shaft from the glans. There were one or two really beautiful circumcisions of this sort.

Now these weren't in any sense representative – let alone scientific – samples, but it's further anecdotal evidence to bear out what the research suggests: that on the continent at least, circumcision seems to be dying the death.

What conclusions can we draw from this? It does begin to look as if, in the rest of Europe, routine circumcision is firmly on its way out. As we know, the

incidence of the operation in Britain and the US is, likewise, very much on the decline. Quite apart from its use for religious reasons, there are always going to be those who wish to elect for the operation out of sexual and/or aesthetic considerations. As a gay man myself, I know there's a particularly strong interest in circumcision in the gay community.

But in the light of current medical opinion – which seems to be turning against circumcision as a medical treatment – I wonder whether we're going to be in the situation, in 30 or 40 years time, where the routinely circumcised cock will be a thing of the past. Instead of being a relatively common operation, undergone by a large number of men and boys (whether willingly or not), will circumcision have become marginalised into a specialist procedure, undertaken only by those with a particular interest in the subject – rather in the way that piercings and other body alterations are at present?

If this becomes the case, one implication occurs to me. At the moment, anyone sporting a circumcised dick may have been cut for a number of widely accepted reasons (as part of their religious faith or for medical reasons) as well as for the sake of appearance, or simply because it turns them on. But eliminate the purely medical category and circumcision becomes a different thing altogether: a personal statement about aspects of an individual's own sexual interest, just in the way that nipple and genital piercings are now.

The difference of course, is that the latter are easily disguised when the occasion demands it and discretion is needed. Circumcision isn't, of course, and I wonder whether, in a future where the operation for purely medical reasons has died out, boys and young men who would like to have themselves cut, may feel unable to do so because of the way it may be felt publicly to advertise what could be interpreted by others as 'abnormal' sexual interests and preferences. After all, in the shower with the rest of the team, if you remove, "I was cut at birth/as a boy because of a tight foreskin" as a possible explanation, there isn't much you can do with "I'm actually Jewish/Islamic/American" as a defence if all the other evidence is to the contrary! And the thought of having to explain a circumcised dick to an unsympathetic audience, in the way you might have to explain a visible genital piercing, could be enough to deter many men from having the operation.

Are we witnessing the end of the cut dick as an innocent, unremarkable, reasonably widespread form of the penis, to be seen on boys and men of all ages? Will circumcision change (religious reasons apart) into a minority operation: a specialist procedure practised only by those interested in body alterations and improvements – and, indeed, only by those who don't need to disguise a cut dick from unsympathetic eyes?

*Anon – London*

## Tags

The mention by G.D. of skin tags in 4/95 reminded me of the penis of my best friend when we were around 9 or 10 years old. We often used to play with and examine each other's willy, and I noticed that when my friend's foreskin was fully retracted, two tags of skin appeared to connect the rim of his glans to the inner foreskin which was spread back over his shaft. Both tags were on the top part of the glans, but I don't think there was any hole underneath them (I'm sure I would have noticed if there had been). Instead, they extended down into the bottom of the sulcus. Apart from these tags, my friend's penis was quite normal, larger than average I thought, with a foreskin which fully covered the glans with just a slight overhang, and was easily retractible.

A possible explanation for the presence of these tags could be that they result from an adhesion between the inner foreskin and the rim of the glans. It could be that the separation which normally occurs between the glans and the foreskin during the development of the penis had failed to spread over the entire surface of the glans.

I would also like to repeat G.D.'s request for more survey information from our members. Questions I would like to include would be, for those not cut in infancy, at what age was their foreskin first pulled back? And if cut later than infancy, the reason for the operation?

*J.A. – Yorks*

[I am beginning to compile another survey, much deeper than previously. G.D. has given me a good basis, but I would like to hear from members what items they would like to see in the survey. So let's hear what you want to know. — D.A.]

## Famous Status

Here are three more well-known names for the Cut/Uncut list, all seen in Turkish baths or saunas over the years.

The actor, Christopher Ellison, who used to play D.I. Burnside in Thames TV's *The Bill*, is uncircumcised with a long pendulous foreskin.

The well-known actor and gay activist, Sir Ian McKellan, is fully circumcised.

The comedian, Stanley Baxter, was uncircumcised, but with a withdrawn foreskin.

*R.L.*

## Non Restoration

I am intrigued by the recent items and details of Jim Bigelow's uncircumcising method. As a contented roundhead, it's not that I wish to undergo such a procedure to reform my missing foreskin, but the fact that, from assessing my circumcision, I couldn't if I wanted to!

It's not that I belong to the 'drum tight' brigade either. My operator left a 3 or 4mm remnant of foreskin behind the sulcus. There is not enough to bunch up and form a collar shielding the corona. Rather, because I was cut before full penile development, the unrestricted glans expanded to give a very deep pronounced rim and step down behind it. The upper section of the frenulum was split just below the meatus and destroyed. It remains attached at the base of the glans groove, but exerts no forward pull as it once did before it was cut. As described earlier, there remains an encircling stump of skin which is the leading healed edge of the original foreskin. This will incurve or outcurve in the sulcus as I choose – something of a fashion accessory, what?

However, although this will pull down the shaft and disappear into it when forced, it simply will not push forward onto the glans at all. The rim is far too deep and wide, and the not very elastic skin just won't expand enough laterally to go forward over the glans one millimetre. I even tried to do this many times as a child and soon after the op, thinking I could obtain some glans cover to show my friends. But for me it proved impossible. From this seemingly permanent state, I wonder how then does one even start the restoration procedure? Perhaps my operator anticipated Bigelow and did a thorough job to prevent it! I read in 6/94 that D.S. of Staffs is similarly afflicted. I suppose with sheer persistence, pain and effort, one could eventually pull some shaft skin forward on top of itself onto the glans, but the true edge would still be in its circumcised resting place, and who wants that!

I much appreciated the letter 'Restoration' from Anon in 3/95. The personal details were really interesting; eg, adolescent experience with milkmaid, and also wife's route to *Acorn* and expressed disappointment with his denuded dick. (How about a contribution from you, Mrs Anon?) Though I didn't agree with all his sentiments, I could understand them. Anon here seems to have been a Bigelow success story, and he is honest enough to admit that the 'end result' falls short of his physical ambitions. I suspect the main triumph for him, and others likewise, is the feeling of mental satisfaction in having thwarted the aim of those who cut them without their permission. Now they are no longer condemned to endure a lifelong exposure of their glans at the whim of someone else. How they must long to go and flaunt it in front of their operators!

It seems that what divides us all is our ability to enter the minds of those who circumcise. Many of us carry their irreversible (yes! despite Bigelow, we can never be the same again) mark on the most precious part of our anatomy.

In the late 40s, quite outside my consent or control, a pair of scissors closed on my foreskin. In a second it was gone for good, their snip determining that for ever, my penis would look different, and my sexual sensations would be altered, and not as nature intended for me or my partners. I often reflect on this, and reckoned that they considered the improved appearance, easier hygiene and trade-offs in sexual stimulation (ie, less sensitive = longer satisfaction), were worth a small amount of risk and temporary discomfort. I think they were right and wish more of their kind around to prevail today. How far-reaching that moment was! You don't think so? Well, one consequence is that I'm writing this and you're reading it – forty years on!

G.D.

## Disclaimers

Views expressed in articles appearing in *Acorn* magazine are those of the respective authors and do not represent official policy of The Acorn Society.

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Contributors to *Acorn* magazine will only be identified by initials and town unless they either request complete anonymity or explicitly request that their name and address be published with a specific article.

Correspondence will be forwarded to other members if sent in a sealed, 1st class stamped envelope, enclosed in another to the PO Box and with a statement of the identifier of the intended recipient.

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Please note that the PO Box is not emptied daily and therefore mail sent via the PO Box to another member will take considerably longer to arrive than would a letter sent directly.



# ACORN

Issue  
No 7 1995  
Editor  
David Acorn

## Editorial

First, I would like to apologise to any member who has had letters returned to them. Due to a mix-up with me moving house and the Post Office not getting their act together, the P.O. box was discontinued for a short while, and letters were returned to senders, the number of which I know not. I was lucky enough to have a chat with the man whose job it is to return, and found out that he has so many to do that he hasn't time to read anything but the address, thank goodness. I don't think it will happen again after the letter I sent.

Letters for publication now seem to be getting fewer and fewer. Don't say that we've exhausted the subject! If you have any opinions of any sort, questions requiring others' opinions, or matters brought up on any other subject, please let me know and we'll do our best. Again, in the old questionnaires, everyone ticked an interest in masturbation techniques, so everyone would therefore be interested in reading others' styles. So come on, let your innermost secrets hang out anonymously, and send your items for Self Indulgence.

## Contents

	Page
Editorial . . . . . D.A.	1
Sensitivity . . . . . A.G.R.	2
Happy Now . . . . . I.D.	3
Smooth Talk -- Shaving . . . . . J.H.	4
Self Indulgence 5 . . . . . A.S.	6
Book Review: (Circumcision -- A Definitive Overview) . . . . . G.D.	9
The Truth From Women . . . . . J.S.	11
Mystery . . . . . T.F.	12
Why Wash? . . . . . M.S.	12
Circumcision and HIV . . . . . J.P.	14
Chinese Take Away . . . . . Anon.	16

Printed & Published in England by The Acorn Society  
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## Correspondence

Please send all correspondence to:

THE ACORN SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 113  
WESTON SUPER MARE  
AVON, BS23 2ED

Letters for forwarding should be marked in pencil with the recipient's identifier. They should be stamped 1st class and be enclosed in an envelope addressed as above.

Brian has agreed to become the Society Librarian so that we can build up a stock of literature that can be photocopied and be available for any member who would like to purchase at production cost only. Plus a list of books relevant to our interests and where they can be obtained. So if you have any literature which would be of interest to us please lend it so that we can make a master copy and return to you. Also any information on published books. Many thanks in advance.

*David Acorn*

## Sensitivity

**I**t is curious that many believe or 'feel to believe' that there is some, or significant, loss of sensitivity following circumcision. Would this loss be instantaneous I wonder?

Masters' and Johnson's revolutionary study into sex and human sexuality considered this very same point, at a time when 95% of all hospital newborns were circumcised in the U.S. They concluded (admittedly from a small sample population of 231 circumcised and 16 uncircumcised) that the circumcised glans has no greater sensitivity than that protected by a foreskin. This is interesting because Masters and Johnson talked about **increased** sensitivity (rather than loss of...) following circumcision. *Acorn* members ask questions regarding poorer sensitivity following circumcision, which is an interesting turnaround, based possibly on trends and fancies! It had also been assumed that the circumcised male would also suffer from poorer ejaculatory control because of the continually exposed glans nerve endings during intercourse/masturbation. To test this premise, 35 circumcised males were matched, at random, with 35 uncircumcised, and, following sessions of intercourse and masturbation, concluded that, quote:- "from a physiological point of view, a retained foreskin probably contributes little, if anything..."

I am concerned that Sheila Hodges has invested a great deal in the erotic value of the foreskin. If a particular part of the body has been so imbued with sexual significance and is then taken away, it is obvious that, to a greater or lesser degree, sexual enjoyment has to be interfered with. Clearly, the Hodges' used the foreskin as a focal point for sexual arousal and orgasm. Physiologically (albeit psychologically), it is the glans as a whole, the 'tag' area and the corona in particular, that is the seat of the male orgasm. Very much subjective, it would be near impossible to quantify or evaluate greater or lesser sensitivity. Texture of the glans, its colour and appearance, vary considerably (as do the female genitalia) both when flaccid and erect and, of course, on health, state of mind and sexual arousal. I must, however, re-state and place great emphasis on not choosing circumcision as a 'fashion option'. Additionally, I cannot accept parents having their child circumcised (except for medical necessity). This is a decision that should be left to the man!

In *The Encyclopedia of Sex Practice*, it does state that circumcision deprives the penis of its protective covering with the result that the highly sensitive terminal nerves in the glans gradually lose some of their sensitivity. How much? Well, who can say. Unless there is a build up of scar tissue, for whatever reason, then it would seem these nerve endings should remain as such. How long have your fingertips been exposed to all sorts of abuse? Have you experienced any loss of sensitivity? Realistically speaking, the entire surface of the body receives much more exposure than the circumcised penis. It has to be said, however, that the foreskin is richly supplied with nerve endings, and is particularly sensitive where the skin 'joins' the shaft. Personally, I found my foreskin, and particularly its tip, almost without sensation. Herein lies the difficulty. To some, the foreskin and its loss will come as a pleasant surprise, and especially where it is wanted. Whereas, circumcision, often out of necessity or tradition, may turn out a bitter experience, and where the desire for a foreskin becomes as much a sexual focal point as someone looking to be circumcised.

I am, however, a little perturbed by this preoccupation with foreskins, bared glans' and circumcision. There are other parts of the male genitalia, and many aspects to consider. It is a pleasure to see more female opinion and experience in the Society's newsletter. It should be a pleasant departure from the usual circumcision 'debate' to hear more on the sexuality of both males and females. Anne and Sheila Hodges' letters were most illuminating. Let's see much more of this.

*Aldo G. Rabaiotti*

## Happy Now

As a comparatively new member of the group, may I say how very much I enjoy the newsletters. It is particularly enjoyable to me to read the opinions of the female sex as to their feelings about foreskins in general, and some foreskins in particular. It would be excellent if that foreskin aficionado, Tuppy Owens, could be persuaded to write a piece on how her interest in foreskins began, and how it has progressed.

It has always amazed me that women writing in *Forum*, and other magazines, scarcely ever mention whether their partners are circumcised or not. Perhaps that is because the great majority of young men these days are mercifully spared this indignity. Having recently watched the frightening programme on TV about child circumcision, and seen the agonies of the parents and the children themselves, I am hoping that there will be many less circumcisions performed in the future.

As you may have guessed, I was circumcised in infancy. I have never discovered why, as my brother and all my cousins were left with their foreskins, of which I became envious at a very early age. This envy remained with me

throughout my school years. Although about 50% of the boys were circumcised I still felt somehow deprived.

Nevertheless, I have been happily married for many a year, and my wife has never complained about my state. We began visiting naturist beaches about twenty years ago and, like some of your other correspondents, I was decidedly unhappy as to my uncovered state. As a 'naturist', I felt that I should be as nature intended, so, belatedly, I began stretching the remains of my foreskin. The process took several years, but now I am neatly covered (would J.J. of Derby tell us how he did it in a 'few months'?). Anyhow, I can now hold my head up on any naturist beach, and I defy any of your expert spotters to detect whether I was anything other than a true cavalier.

This improvement however, has not only been aesthetic. I now get a great deal more enjoyment from sex with the extra movement of skin. I only wish I had begun stretching as a schoolboy. By now I would perhaps have achieved that extra inch overhang which some of your contributors enjoy, though what they actually do with all that extra length I would very much like to know.

It was suggested in 1/95 that 'the foreskin is intended by nature to prevent too promiscuous mutual intercourse in youth, due to the pain of pressure on the contracting parties...' I would suggest that the opposite is true, and that the main purpose of the foreskin is to facilitate penetration for the young and inexperienced. Your comments would be welcome.

*I.D. - Herts.*

## Smooth Talk — Shaving

“**Y**ou look great, I wish I could have a lovely smooth body like you!” That was the opening remark from a guy whom I had never met before (also called John, I was to discover later) as I climbed into a jacuzzi in which he was wallowing at a Naturist Health Club I visited in Kent recently. It made all my time shaving worthwhile – and made me feel really good too! John became more and more interested in my smooth state and indicated that he would like to try to become smooth himself. I explained that he had to have some degree of dedication, and that I have belonged to The Smoothie Club from its inception some six years ago – and what about joining it after he'd shaved his pubes off? As readers of *Acorn* will probably know from my past correspondence and articles, I am completely committed to being a 'Smoothie' for life. I started well over ten years ago by shaving off all my pubic hair – like many folk, I had previously tried it from time to time just for a week or two, but now I intended that it should be 'permanent'. Then some five or six years ago I was introduced by way of an ad in *H&E* to The Smoothie Club, a club specifically for Naturists and others who depilate. I decided to join. During the course of corresponding with other TSC members I noticed that some of the male members shaved even more than I did! Spurred on by this, one day

I decided to go 'the whole hog' and shave all my unnecessary body hair off. Being very fair haired (originally light ginger) and not very hirsute anyway, I felt ideally suited to my new hairless state. Initially it felt a little strange, but I quickly became used to it and very much enjoyed the lovely smooth feeling of my fair skin and the complete openness (concealing absolutely nothing at all – especially as I am also fully circumcised with a particularly large knob) that I had when in the presence of other Naturists and nude friends. Together with letting you present a cleaner, open appearance, there are other practical advantages to being smooth too such as not leaving hairs all over the place, letting the sunshine get to the skin without any restriction and various others, especially at intimate times with a partner, which I'll leave to the reader's imagination! Actually shaving is nothing new: Men have shaved their facial hair for centuries according to the prevailing fashion and women in most western countries shave off most of their body hair, the exceptions being pubic hair and, in some countries, underarm hair. According to Katherine Viner of *Guardian Newspapers*:

“Both sexes are programmed by Nature to grow hair on their bodies, yet traditionally it is seen as a male attribute while hair on women's bodies is 'unfeminine'. Anything hinting at aggressive sexuality – such as the perceived 'animality' of body hair – is the prerogative of the male only. How strange, then, is the recent trend for hairlessness in men. Gone are the hirsute, rug-chested male models of the seventies: from the Chippendales to aftershave ads, today's male pin-up is a hair-free zone. A study recently presented to the British Psychological Society suggested that men are becoming very close to women in their obsession with 'perfect' bodies: V-shaped, muscular *and hairless*.”

There are many ways of achieving a smart, smooth hairless state from creams, waxing, wet-shaving and electrolysis to the humble electric Lady Shave that I use. You just have to choose the most suitable for your skin and abundance of hair. Regarding shaving the scrotum which 'leaves A.R. baffled' (*Acorn* No 5, 1995, page 7), there are a number of options – you must choose the best one by trial and error. As mentioned I use an electric shaver that has a reciprocating (not circular) action daily pubically and twice a week on the rest of the body. Some of my Smoothie friends wet shave or use depilation cream. As long as your skin is not allergic to the cream (test it first on a small area!), it may be applied by hand or applicator to the scrotum with no detrimental effects, despite the rather alarming warnings on the instruction sheet. And don't worry, your balls won't be eaten away or drop off!! Once done, you will benefit as I do from having a new awareness of the smooth, totally exposed, sex organs hanging there for all to admire! What I do predict is that we shall be seeing over the next few years a steady increase in the number of men and women who, having tried shaving off their body hair, will decide to become, like me, permanent 'Smoothies'. So why don't you give it a try yourself and present to the world the new 'hairless you'? I think you'll find that you will prefer to be smooth ... and of course you, like Jacuzzi John, will then be able to join The

Smoothie Club and correspond with, and possibly meet, other members. The Smoothie Club organisers may be contacted for more information at: T-S-C, PO Box 1409, Worthing, West Sussex, BN14 8PE.

It would be helpful to mention this *Acorn* article, its author and his code "H.11." when enquiring or applying for membership. The author would also like to hear from other *Acorn* members who are smooth and circumcised via the *Acorn* Box Number. Finally, if A.R. can think of a better name than the 'terrible title' Smoothie, I should like to hear from him. There seems to be no proper antonym for 'hirsute', that could be used, so I'm happy to be:

*Smoothie John H.*

## Self Indulgence 5

I was born in November 1939 and circumcised very soon thereafter. I was never given a reason by my parents (in fact we never discussed sex at all – I found out about it by experimentation and through stories in the playground, like so many other children). My father was circumcised, so it may have been a family tradition, although we were not particularly religious, and not Jews. I have been very happy with my cut state, although the exposed glans has always been deliciously sensitive, and could be part of the cause of climax and ejaculation at a stage too early in many cases. At school I noticed that the uncircumcised penis was a relative rarity, whereas today, from observations in changing rooms, saunas etc, they are very much in a majority now. In America though, I understand that the vast majority of boys are circumcised in infancy. I have equivocal views about the wisdom of circumcising a boy before he is old enough to think for himself, but, on balance, I do not think I would have had a son of mine circumcised at birth (my wife and I have two lovely daughters).

I have had a deep interest in the penis, and my own in particular of course, since I first started remembering things as a small child. I well remember sessions in my parents' greenhouse with a girl when I was 4 years old, examining the differences between us between our legs, and fondling each other with enthusiasm. Several years later, it was 'doctors and nurses' with another girl, either in my bedroom or, more enjoyably, in a hayloft, and awareness of the tendency of my penis to become very stiff when being played with, either by me or my girlfriend. We had no idea of course of the reason for this phenomenon. I don't think we even thought that my penis would fit nicely into the hole between her legs, we were so naive in those days.

At the age of about 8, when at a single-sex prep. boarding school, I discovered that many of my friends had a similar interest to my own, and I discovered the sheer ecstasy of rubbing the loose skin around the shaft of the penis up and down until what I came to know as an orgasm occurred. There was no ejaculation at that age of course, but it was not long before some of my

slightly older friends managed to eject a jet of creamy fluid from the tip of their penises on reaching orgasm. Encouraged by their success, I renewed my own masturbation sessions with vigour until I, too, joined the ranks of those who could achieve ejaculation. Needless to say, I was proud to show off my new maturity to my friends.

As is the case with so many boys' schools, there was a great deal of nudity, especially when bathing, and we all took a great deal of interest in the difference between the roundheads and the cavaliers. One boy reckoned he could tell whether another was circumcised or not by looking at his fingernails, and we had to pull out our little members to prove whether or not he was correct. I can't remember whether his diagnosis was better than the simple theory of probability! In the swimming baths, I was always very interested to see the occasional erection, and wonder why it had been brought about.

In my teens, I would masturbate many times a week, sometimes keeping the ejaculate in a test tube to see how many ejaculations it took to fill the tube; how long it took to achieve ejaculation from the flaccid state; how quickly I could achieve a second ejaculation after the first; if I could achieve ejaculation and keep the semen inside my body by using the right muscles; if I could achieve ejaculation while my penis was still flaccid (by the use of cream or other lubrication). All these 'tests' were faithfully recorded, together with detailed statistics of length and circumference, both when flaccid and erect.

You ask for details of appearance and statistics, so here goes:- when flaccid, my penis is 4.6" long (3.1" of shaft and 1.5" of glans), with a 4.5" circumference, rising(!) to 6.9" long when erect (5" shaft, 1.9" glans), and a 5.8" circumference. I find the ratios between circumference and length, and glans to shaft, very interesting. When flaccid, the circumference is 97.8% of the length, but reduces to only 84% when erect. In effect, the penis becomes relatively thinner as it expands. In the ratio of glans to shaft, the glans is nearly half the overall length of the penis when flaccid, but reduces to only 38% when erect. I would not be surprised if prolonged use of a vacuum tube over the past 25 years has not had an effect on these figures, although the overall length of my penis, both when flaccid and erect, has not altered significantly since I was a late teenager at school. After several sessions in the tube over a short period of time, my penis will eventually expand to the full 8" of the tube, but will not hold that length for more than 10 or 15 minutes after being taken out.

Both my wife and I shave our pubic hair for greater satisfaction when making love (there's no hair to get in the way!). My wife shaves hers completely (not just the 'bikini line'), and I shave all the hair off the shaft and scrotum, and a narrow margin around the base of the shaft. I also trim the hair on my lower stomach with my electric razor. In the early days of shaving I used a wet technique with foam when in the shower, but this was prone to causing small cuts. I then discovered that it could be done perfectly safely and cleanly with a safety razor when completely dry, without causing any damage whatsoever.

A shaving session invariably brings on an erection and a yearning for an orgasm, which has to be satisfied by one of many methods. If I have shaved before a shower, then it is a simple matter to maintain a strong erection with soap or shower gell, and induce a climax with a soapy massage. Alternatively, I take the shower head and direct the spray on my shaft and balls, paying particular attention to the frenulum. This produces a wonderfully tingling sensation, although only the most powerful shower jet will stimulate my penis to orgasm. It is a most wonderful prelude, however.

Like Dan H., I use Liquid Silk as lubrication, both for solo masturbation (it is delightfully non-oily) and mutual masturbation with my wife, and lubrication is also virtually essential when using the vacuum tube. The sensation when my glans is massaged through a thin film of lubrication is simply exquisite!

I have used mirrors a great deal when masturbating, both to watch myself when doing it, by whatever method, and also for taking close-up photographs of my penis while it is being manipulated.

Many years ago, I manufactured a masturbation machine out of my meccano kit. It comprised a padded ring which fitted round the shaft of my penis, and was pumped up and down by a reciprocating arm powered by an electric motor. It was extremely effective, and satisfied my desire to find a method of achieving an orgasm without touching my penis. Interestingly enough, I saw an almost identical machine in a blue movie, only this time it had a dildo on the end of the reciprocating arm which was pumping the star's vagina!

One of the most exhilarating methods I use, is a giant vibrator in the form of my Black and Decker orbital sander – without the sandpaper! The vibrating pad is placed against the penis and/or balls, either through clothing if circumstances don't permit nudity at the time, or, of course, when naked. It works so quickly that it is quite easy to achieve a very powerful orgasm when the penis is still quite flaccid. I can thoroughly recommend this method.

A favourite occasion for masturbating is while watching blue movies. I have quite a selection of my own, and like nothing better than to turn all the lights out, set the video going, pull my penis out of my trousers and settle down to a long period of stroking my very stiff member for up to an hour and a half, at the end of which I 'finish it off' with a few quick strokes near the tip. It has been aroused for so long that it takes very little to 'take it over the top' in a thrilling explosion.

One method which intrigues me, but which I haven't tried yet, is the gouged-out water melon. There's plenty of lubrication of course, and I look forward very much to having the right circumstances in which to try this out. Meanwhile, I will finish by mentioning pumping – another of my favourite preludes to masturbation. I say 'prelude' because it is not possible, of course, to stimulate the penis while it is in the tube, but it is in fine shape for a very powerful climax as soon as it is released in its expanded state.



Unlike B.H. of Leeds, I use a tube which I bought in a sex shop, and serves my purpose admirably. It is 8" long, so there is no danger of overstretching the penis, particularly if you work up to the full length in stages. Not only is the sensation in the penis quite exquisite, but it is also a very fascinating visual experience to see it gradually enlarging and filling the tube. I started using the tube some 25 years ago, starting with the smallest of its type then available, and working through the intermediate size up to the 8 incher I now use. As I said earlier, I do not think that the length of my penis has been affected by use of the tube, but its ability to expand in the tube and the circumference, when erect, have, I believe, improved.

A.S. - Argyll

## Book Review

### **Circumcision — A Definitive Overview by Dr Michael Barrie G.P.**

(57pp of illustrated text wired into card cover. All monochrome. Published by Beechgrove Press, London 1995, ISBN No 34686778. Available with cheque for £4, payable to EDTA Productions, from Dr Michael Barrie, 7 Wentworth Court, Waterside Close, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7TT.)

My interest was aroused by reference to this book in a *Radio 5 Live* magazine programme, where the author presented his views to the lady doctor/presenter of the health issues section. Like cheating when picking up a 'whodunnit' by turning straight away to the last page, many may wish to save time and start at Dr Barrie's concluding sentence on page 52. After an extensive study of both sides of the argument, he writes; "I believe that circumcision is not justifiable unless medically indicated".

Depending on your prejudices, you'll either nod sagely as you read the rest, or counter his arguments with your own convictions. He emerges as a fair-minded man who does support the operation when certain medical indications are present. All other ritual, custom and preference arguments are deflected with frequent quotes from an extensive bibliography. No less than 81 instances are listed at the back.

For what is obviously an economy production for an anticipated small circulation publication, it is well illustrated. Some pictures are not for the squeamish. Holister Incorporated, manufacturers of the Plastibell, have kindly provided photographs and diagrams, and permission to show the required technique for it. Perhaps when they've discovered the overall anti-circumcision message they accompany, they may think it wasn't such good PR after all. I can't imagine them expanding their UK sales as a result, although I can see many parents choosing this method if they are among the few faced with the inevitable for their little boy.

The introduction covers all the history quickly and adequately, from its Middle Eastern emergence to the world-wide situation today, then quickly moves on to methods. One adult method, called 'classical circumcision' is given rather a brief coverage; 2pp text and illustration, against 9pp for neonatal Plastibell, the implied preference for the author, if needs must, for an infant. A page and a half goes on to discuss anaesthesia, which is well up-to-date if a little technical.

By now we're halfway through the book, and the arguments begin under a section titled 'Circumcision – the pros and cons'. In support of his opinion, Dr Barrie sets up the well-known aspects, one by one, under a series of sub-heads. 'Ritual' receives interpretation as family rather than religious tradition which, not unreasonably, he skates over contesting. He invalidates parents irrational whims, yet does fairly state: "Parents do have a right to choose, but today have to pay for the procedure privately unless there is convincing medical indication". Maybe, but some even-handed information would be useful for those who wish it. Elsewhere, he reports that "The cost of a private Plastibell operation is about £80 for a twenty minute out-patient procedure", and reiterates that: "Parents have every right to choose, but must be prepared to pay". He advises that "some parents will demand to have the operation performed, and refusal to do so merely results in transferring the onus elsewhere". Fine, but how many practitioners are prepared to help by performing, or referring when they've lost the argument?

*Acorn Society* members, because of their consuming interest, may have been reading all that comes their way on the subject for many years and, like me, have come across most of Dr Barrie's material already. However, we continue to read in the hope of finding a morsel or two that is new. This book doesn't disappoint. News to me, was a 1992 study among adolescents who were questioned about their circumcision status, in which the majority of 'circumcisees' scored higher in the satisfaction stakes (whatever they are). I also learned for the first time that it used to be a requirement of the US Navy that their personnel be circumcised.

The author provides a good resume of conditions indicating circumcision, complications arising from it, and diseases debated as related to it – not all in layman's language. It is bang up-to-date with encouraging reports of Bigelow's restoration method. Rather wastefully, the work accommodates the printing logistics of 4pp or 8pp multiples by leaving 7pp blank at the end. I would have liked to have seen these filled with case studies of parents and sons explaining their different experiences and reasons for being cut (or not?), and how some of them felt about it before, during and after. Overall, a well ordered work, carefully argued against an ancient tradition by a modern medical practitioner. As one who respects his efforts, but remains pro-circumcision, I just wish a practitioner of equal standing would write a counterbalancing tract to promote the procedure.

G.D.

## The Truth From Women

I believe that I have found the way to question women about circumcision. I started to get interested in circumcision when I was young because I had noticed that many women were fascinated by it. But as soon as I tried to speak seriously to them about it they seemed to panic. When they are clearly asked, they are always ill at ease and answer that it makes hardly any difference, that they don't mind etc. This I feel is because they don't want to hurt anybody's feelings.

Recently, I have read the book, *Circumcision. An ethnomedical study* by A. Thomas, and seem to have met women just like 'The Well-travelled Girl' on page 167, taken from *Forum* 1985.

So, ladies, when you say that the personality of a man is much more important than if he is circumcised or not, I believe that you are telling the truth. Many men get circumcised of their own free will. So let us imagine that you have a man that you love very much and who feels like getting circumcised. Just as you are very fussy about the colour of a pair of shoes or a dress, I cannot believe that the penis of your man is of so little importance to you that, if he wants to get himself circumcised and asks for your opinion on the type of circumcision, you will not have a preference. Do you prefer a short or medium sized circumcision? Do you prefer it close to the glans or down the shaft? Do you prefer the frenulum removed or not? Or anything else?

Regarding the frenulum, I have a bit of information. Two women asked me about the accidental tearing of the frenulum. They happened to be making love when it happened and said that it bled incredibly. But they thought that afterwards making love was much better. It was a kind of male defloration, and a real man has to be deflorated in the same way as a woman. Another woman hadn't had that experience, but she said that a woman feels the frenulum and it is unpleasant.

I can imagine that, just like 'The Well-travelled Girl', you do not want to hurt anyone's feelings. If you say that you prefer a circumcised penis you may hurt the man you love if he hasn't one and regret it all your life, and vice versa. If you say that you prefer uncircumcised you may lose your Prince Charles.

But if circumcision is going to be, then why not have the best? And how could we have the best if you do not give your opinions? You are the best placed for knowing what is the preference. And as David says, you can do it anonymously.

*John Smith – London*

## Mystery

**M**y girlfriend has never seen an uncircumcised cock and is rather intrigued. Besides mine, she has only seen about half a dozen anyway, all circumcised apparently, like me. Could you perhaps mention it in the magazine so that maybe some of your readers would be able to lend us photographs. She'd obviously be interested in all the varieties there may be (I'm not sure, but articles in the magazine seem to indicate that foreskins can vary in length), and how they can be pulled back, or how they are affected by the state of erection. I haven't myself seen a foreskin since I was quite a small boy, so I can't remember much about them. I must admit that her interest has got me interested too.

So could you perhaps put people in touch with me (not her, initially, as I think she'd be too embarrassed at first).

*T.F. – Yorks.*

## Why Wash?

**C**leanliness is next to godliness is fine up to a point, and it's better to be clean than dirty. Unfortunately, a lot of people seem to feel so guilty about the subject that they go over the top and claim to wash under their foreskins twice a day, to quote but one reference. If the truth were known, they probably only wash when necessary, which is hardly ever!

I've reached this conclusion after two particular experiences which should be of interest to those members who hang onto their foreskins, whilst being of passing interest to roundheads. I've always been extremely sensitive beneath my foreskin, both tip and foreskin lining. To give you some idea how sensitive, I find it very difficult to bear oral sex, whilst at the same time finding normal sex wildly enjoyable and satisfying, provided my foreskin stays forward until the last inch or so of thrust. This is easily achieved, since my foreskin is both very long and very tight, although I have no difficulty pulling it right back if I need to. The fact is that I don't need to, and therefore my knob stays covered almost permanently, which suits me fine.

As a kid, my mother was rather paranoid about cleanliness, and right up to the age of ten used to pull my foreskin back in the bath for hygiene purposes. I used to find this treatment excruciating and yelped with pain every time the rough flannel came in touch with my sensitive glans. At the same time I used to get stimulated by having the tight ring forced back over the knob, and this used to give me an erection, causing her feelings of guilt, so she eventually left it for me to do, asking me after my bath if I'd "washed my willy with the skin back?" I said I had but I lied – the closest I got was to pull my skin back and forward under the water until I got a hard-on.

A few years later when I started courting, I was self-conscious about my organ, and like most lads, took pains not to give offence. I used to soap my hand and then rub my skin gently backwards and forwards, letting the soap reach under the skin with minimum friction. The only trouble was that, afterwards, my foreskin and penis head dried out, and I found the constant chafing of the two dried surfaces against each other, without the usual lubrication, very uncomfortable. Adding a bit of spit helped, but I never got really comfortable until the natural lubricant was restored. What I did find though, was that the moisture left on my penis head after normal sex with my girlfriend did the trick marvellously and, like my own lubricant, was almost odourless.

I consequently gave up routinely cleansing under my foreskin completely, with no ill effects and no adverse comments from my girlfriend. It is my experience that the only bad smells experienced with a foreskin are caused by dried urine or semen around and under the tip of the foreskin. This is easily eliminated by rubbing it with spit after peeing, or rinsing it with a drop of water if available.

So much for the extravagant demands for constant preputial scrubbing which so many readers seem to accept as gospel. But this is not the end of the story by any means, because it would appear that what is good for the gander is good for the goose as well! When I first started going with my girlfriend, she was sexually inexperienced, and got a severe and persistent dose of cystitis. If any of our lady readers have had cystitis they will know how unpleasant and uncomfortable it can be. The doctor gave her creams, which helped for a week or two, but it always seemed to come back.

Eventually she confided her troubles to an older woman at work who was able to sort the problem out for her, to her very great relief. The woman said, in strict confidence of course, that in her youth she had been rather wild, and after getting kicked out of her home, she went on the game for a year or two before finally pulling herself together and becoming a respectable married woman. She said that cystitis was a common complaint for girls just starting in the profession, and the advice she gave, based on her experience, was that my girlfriend should first throw her knickers away, stop using bleached or coloured toilet paper (ie. any toilet paper) after peeing, strictly avoid contact with soap or bath foam, and to rub the area with natural live yoghurt several times a day. To her amazement she asked my girlfriend if I was circumcised, expressing approval that I wasn't: the extra friction of a shaft without the mobile cushioning action of the foreskin and its extra lubrication tended to irritate sore membranes. She then asked if I washed often, suggesting that soap retained under the foreskin, even in minute quantities, could cause trouble.

My girlfriend was naturally a bit worried about going around knickerless – although nowadays, if you believe the papers, it is the fashionable thing to do, whatever the social background. It is also beneficial to female hygiene because, as her friend pointed out, air circulating around the moist folds of the vulva keeps everything sweet and clean, thus avoiding the need for the

constant washing which most girls wearing knickers find necessary to stop their outer folds smelling of stale urine. Removing all the pubic hair on the underside of the vulva, which can get a bit swampy with urine, also helps. The woman told my girlfriend that most street girls give up wearing knickers (in summer at least), finding it more hygienic, more arousing for the punters, and more convenient in every respect, particularly having a crafty pee. One of the things which upset householders in red light districts is the sight of two or three girls standing in a doorway with their skirts up, peeing on the pavement (why is it girls like to pee in company?). From the girls' point of view, standing on a corner for hours, with no public toilet around, creates a real problem, and the nature of their profession desensitises them to what other people find unacceptable.

My girlfriend, who is addicted to soap and water, balked at the idea of not washing her private parts, and asked how she should 'blot' her inner and outer lips if she could not use toilet paper after peeing? Her colleague told her that, if it was a problem, the best way to remove surplus drops was to waggle her hips when she'd finished. Washing, where necessary, was best achieved by sitting in a bath of hot water – provided no soap was used.

The lady's advice was taken and worked a treat. My girlfriend has had no recurrence of cystitis, and now says she thoroughly enjoys the slightly risque feeling of not wearing knickers, as well as the sense of freedom and comfort of having air circulating around the fanny. For the information of more mature lady readers, the woman said that the same procedure solves the distressing problem of *pruritis vulvae* (twat-itch), which affects so many older women, particularly widows. To complete the treatment though, she smilingly suggested that they should get themselves a well-endowed toy boy, preferably uncircumcised.

*M.S. (not a member)*

## Circumcision and HIV

(From the Internet Newsgroups)

The following is an unedited excerpt from an article which appeared in the *Winnipeg Free Press* on Sunday, July 23, 1995

Title: AIDS Clues Turn Tide — Scientists Discover Circumcision Key  
Reporter: Catherine Mitchell

Widespread male circumcision would go a long way to protecting the world from AIDS, two Manitoba experts say.

“Male circumcision, if it could be universally implemented would be a very effective prevention” says Dr. Frank Plummer, an international pioneer in AIDS research.

Plummer and his colleague, University of Manitoba microbiologist head Dr. Allan Ronald, know that what they say may be unpopular. For some time now the tide has turned against circumcising infant boys as more parents believe it to be unnecessary and painful.

The two researchers base their conclusions on the work they have done in Africa, where a collaborative research program with Kenyals University of Nairobi has begun to unlock the AIDS mystery.

Research teams led by Plummer and Belgian Dr. Peter Piot (who discovered the deadly Ebola virus in 1976 and now leads the United Nations’ AIDS program) dug out many pieces to the puzzle of how the immunodeficiency virus is transmitted, how it locks into the male and female genitalia and how it grows.

For men, research indicates that an intact foreskin plays a big role in contracting AIDS.

“It is now recognized as an important risk factor in HIV infections among men” Plummer says.

The whys of this are unclear. It used to be thought that HIV would enter through the urethra, but now that isn’t so Ronald says. It is believed to enter through the mucus membrane or skin of the penis.

Ronald theorizes that the uncircumcised penis, with its warm moist conditions, incubates the virus, protecting it until it can find a way in. Universal circumcision, he stresses, would give wider health benefits to boys, noting that those not circumcised get about fifteen times as many bladder and kidney infections.

Ronald notes the American Pediatric Association has begun to cautiously endorse circumcision again, after actively discouraging it.

“I think from the health perspective, we need to encourage parents to consider male circumcision.”

The article continues to discuss transmission to women and unborn children and other aspects of the infection.

*John Pritchard – Manitoba, Canada*

[Any comments? — Ed.]

# Chinese Take Away

## "Where You Can Eat Dirt Cheap"

- 50 Bol Oxs.....Hot Meat Balls
- 51 Sur Kum Siz .....Sausage Slices
- 52 Hol Mein Kok .....Scrag End Encased in Ladyfingers
- 53 Kok Sor.....Boiled Pork Fillets Rubbed in Chilli
- 54 Long Dik.....Coq In Van
- 55 Yu Nuk .....Meatball Extract

### Vegetables

- 56 Pei Sof .....Chinese Leaves
- 57 Wot Kung Fru Dat.....Tossed Salad
- 58 Pu Bik .....Young Sprouts
- 59 Du Rex .....Entre Coat

### Specialities

- 60 Lik Mein .....Plate of the Day
- 61 Munt Lee .....Popular Dish of the Period
- 62 Kow Poo.....Savoury Pancakes
- 63 Ho Mo.....Sausage Surprise

### Desserts

- 64 Vee Dee.....Spotted Dick
- 65 Yu Pong .....Crap Suzette
- 66 Ars Plk.....Chocolate Fingers
- 67 Hoo Shat In Fan.....Chocolate Spread
- 68 Or Jee.....Chinese Stuffing on Bed of Mandarins
- 69 Wun Tun on Goo Lis .....Crushed Nuts

### Beverages

- 70 Yu Rin .....Jasmin Tea
- 71 Wob Lee Tit.....Milk Shake

**Please Do Kum Again**

*Anon*



# ACORN

Issue  
Nº 8 1995  
Editor  
David Acorn

## Editorial

**B**attling with broken bones in my foot and a stiff bout of the current flu epidemic, I've been determined to keep my promise of eight issues this year, so this is why this one is hard on the heels of the last, and should reach everyone long before Xmas.

Looking back over the year, we have to congratulate ourselves on the achievements – two great meetings, resulting in about a quarter of the membership now knowing and being friends with each other (and always looking for more to join them – there's always a warm welcome for everyone), and increased membership again. It always delights me to get letters beginning, "I've been lent a copy of your magazine and enjoyed it so much I want to join and read a lot more." Or, "I thought I was alone with what I thought was a peculiar interest, until I heard of you and found I wasn't."

I feel very guilty sometimes over not being able to answer all the letters with questions in them, I just haven't got the time. Priority has to be given to all those who are enquiring about joining, even though the success rate is only

## Contents

	Page
Editorial . . . . . D.A.	1
Self Indulgence 6 . . . . . Trevor	2
Revelations from Egypt . . . . . J.S.	5
Letter from Norway . . . . . G.N.S.	6
Doctors Invited To . . . . .	
Circumcise Boys . . . . . P.A.J.	7
Ban Or Female . . . . .	
Circumcision . . . . . T.A.	8
Störn in a Teacup? . . . . . Jane	9
How Beautiful . . . . .	
They Stand . . . . . R.H.	11
The Spoken Foreskin . . . . . R.B.W.	12
Subscription Renewal . . . . .	13
Self Indulgence 7 . . . . . J.H.	13

Printed & Published in England by The Acorn Society  
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## Correspondence

Please send all correspondence to:

THE ACORN SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 113  
WESTON SUPER MARE  
AVON, BS23 2ED

Letters for forwarding should be marked in pencil with the recipient's identifier. They should be stamped 1st class and be enclosed in an envelope addressed as above.

about 20% (most enquirers seem to be looking for some sort of sex club). So what I propose to do in the coming year is to answer any queries through the newsletter if I can't write personally. In this way too, other members might benefit from any information given.

It just remains now for me to thank all those who have sent contributions throughout the year (keep them coming), and ask you to take this as your Christmas card from the team, Brian, Vernon, Dean and myself, wishing you all a very happy Christmas and all you want for yourself in the New Year.

*David Acorn*

## Self Indulgence 6

**M**y earliest recollection of that pleasurable activity is at about the age of 8. I was at a boarding 'prep' school, and we slept in dormitories of about a dozen. We had the usual curiosity about our own and each other's equipment. Nonetheless, I, at any rate, didn't want a rhythmic rustling of the bedclothes to betray what I was up to. Self-consciousness? Not wanting any distraction as I concentrated on the pleasure? Who knows! Anyway, as no doubt lots of other small (and large) boys must have done in similar situations, I used to lie on my back with my knees raised and the bedclothes stretched over them to allow space for movement underneath.

It must have been because of being in this position that the technique I used to use was to push my little boy's prick between my thighs, then release the pressure so that it would spring back, rubbing against the inside of my thighs on both strokes. This must have been how I discovered the joys of wanking, because I remember some time later having a conversation with a friend of similar age and describing to him how to do this to get a nice feeling. He said he knew, and described his more normal method of holding his cock and rubbing it up and down. I think I used to do something like this when I came, to prolong the orgasm, so I knew what he was talking about, although it hadn't occurred to me to start that way. I think I experimented with his suggestion, naturally, but didn't find it as satisfactory to start with. In the end I must have adopted it because I haven't been using my thighs for as long as I remember, and whenever I have a go out of interest nowadays it isn't very satisfactory.

By the way, I was circumcised as an infant, very cleanly, with only a broad but faint scar on my shaft to show what had been, except for a slight wrinkle at one point, about one-eighth of an inch circumferentially where there is about a millimetre or two of additional skin. Would the above technique have worked for a cavalier? We were about equal in numbers at the school – there were plenty I could have asked. Somehow, our primness-brainwashing prevented us, my circle at least, from being very open about sex at that age. Later on we overcame the inhibitions to some extent, and there was some groping and

mutual wanking – very enjoyable. But I must have forgotten about my early technique by then – I don't remember demonstrating or talking about it.

I spent many years in boys' dormitories and used to see bedclothes raised over knees frequently. I thought it looked too obvious and generally in later years used a one-handed technique lying on my side, with the other hand holding the bedclothes slightly away to allow free movement underneath. When we were older there was a lot of jocularity about wanking, and some boys (exhibitionists?) didn't mind being heard. But I think modesty prevailed with most, while they were actually doing it. People who did it together would also do it in private and keep quiet about it, otherwise they were teased unbearably.

Of course, after puberty we adolescents were spouting sperm all the time, whether we wanked or not. Clean pyjamas and sheets would be stained the first night and stiff by the time they were changed. Presumably, the ladies who handled them took it as a matter of course. I never remember my mother mentioning it, though I was certainly conscious of the evidence. However, I don't think I had many wet dreams as I was often wanking several times a day. The toilet was convenient, where the technique was, when coming, to lean forward and push my cock down between my legs, perhaps a bit painfully, so that I would squirt straight into the pan. It saved trouble with paper and wiping, and the risk of getting it on my clothes. It was also possible, when randy, to do it in class with a hand moving very subtly in my pocket, though I then had soggy underpants to put up with. It was of course necessary to be sitting at the back of the classroom, to the side. Whenever I was in the bath, with a bit of privacy (unusual at school), I would of course automatically extend soaping my cock to include an orgasm.

I was surprised by my mother once when I was about 10. It was summer, and I had been sleeping in the garden. I think she had come out to check that I'd gone to sleep, but I'd got up to have a piss against the hedge, and holding my cock had somehow turned into a wank. Suddenly I heard her say, "Are you alright?", about 10 yards away, looking at me and smiling. Oh, the embarrassment! I forget what I said, crimson-faced, but I remember dreading breakfast the next morning – I was sure she'd have told my father and he'd know what I'd been doing, even if she didn't, and... I didn't know what he'd do. I could hardly believe it when nothing was said by anyone.

There was another occasion when my younger brother, sleeping in my room at the time, said at the meal table, "I woke up last night and you were shaking in the bed". I nearly died – I think there was a momentary silence then a cover-up conspiracy – all spoke at once.

The other embarrassing thing was the way it would suddenly go hard, in the most awkward places. Like if you were wearing thin games shorts, and certainly whenever you got out of bed. I always had a towel ready to hold in front of me. And how, during puberty, it would feel as though it was bursting,

when it seemed to treble in size in about a year. It was quite painful at times, it used to be so hard. Those were the days! I tell my girlfriend about it to get her excited.

On the subject of lubrication, I tend to stick to saliva as being suitably slippery, always to hand (!) and not leaving a mess like oil. For me, dry wanking and wet wanking are almost two separate activities. Nowadays I can hardly come while using the first, but it gives a great sensation, while with the second it gets difficult to hold out, but it is essential when actually coming in order to maximise the sensation. So it depends whether I am feeling urgent to come or not. If I'm doing it by myself I will probably do it wet anyway, as I fancy an orgasm. However, my girlfriend gives me wonderful wanks by stroking it dry, using various strokes, sometimes hard, sometimes soft, in various places up and down the shaft and around the knob. She's got amazing technique. She gets me in a state of paroxysm, desperate to come, but holds me on the edge for what seems like ages. Then when she feels the moment of no return finally approaching, she quickly sucks it or wets her hand, and the most wonderful orgasm goes on and on and on.

She says she's never had an uncircumcised cock and doesn't fancy one. I have always said that I thought having something extra to play with would make sex more fun. But, thinking about the pleasure I get from being wanked (better than fucking I have to say, in terms of sheer sensation, though fucking does have its own pleasure. Also since fucking by definition is wet, assuming the woman is aroused, I have trouble controlling coming), I wonder if a cavalier would be able to have the same exquisite dry-wanking sensation.

One item of vital importance to a good wank, in my opinion, is that it needs two hands – one to impart the main stimulation round the top of the shaft and knob, and the other, equally important to getting full satisfaction, giving background stimulation round the base of the shaft and balls. The latter is particularly important as orgasm approaches and during it. The joke about 'one-handed readers' of porno magazines is unfortunately true – if I am wanking myself I enjoy visual stimulation, but magazines are a problem – turning the pages, or even keeping them open, interferes with the main object of the exercise. Videos are better, but then perhaps you want to control them, rewind, or pause over a good scene.

Of course, the best wanks are those done by someone else. But unless they understand the importance of using two hands they tend to be disappointing. Some women are just downright lazy! And you'd think they would understand because they have even more bits that they like being stimulated. I've heard it said that a woman has more nerve endings in her clitoris than a man has in all his genital area, and that therefore they must be having more intense orgasms. What a thought!

*Trevor* (Not my real name, but definitely my real experiences)

## Revelations From Egypt

I was 16 when my mother took up a senior medical appointment in Cairo. During the summer I was left in the care of Tagrid, our Egyptian maid, whilst my mother went to work in the hospital. Tagrid was only a year or two older than me but, whereas I was still very much an adolescent, she had the physique of a mature woman, small with heavy breasts and flashing black eyes.

Summer holidays were bad news in Egypt – too hot to go out, and nowhere to go anyway. I used to moon about whilst Tagrid got on with her job. One day she decided that I needed livening up and started teasing and tickling me, with the result that I ended up with a massive hard-on. I was desperately embarrassed, but my frantic efforts to hide it only drew her attention to it. She gave a dirty laugh and, smiling saucily at me, asked if I'd like to see her 'Kuss'. Without waiting for a reply, she turned her back on me and, watching me over her shoulder, slowly raised the hem of her long frock up her thighs to her waist, leaving her whole lower body exposed. It was then that I discovered that Egyptian girls don't necessarily wear knickers, because Tagrid's shapely bottom was totally exposed. When she saw she had my shocked attention, she turned to face me and separated her knees – and a second exciting discovery dawned on me – 'kuss' did not mean bottom after all. Furthermore, Egyptian girls do not believe in pubic hair, and I was absolutely riveted to see a plump bulge of smooth bare flesh between her legs, neatly separated by the long split of her vulva. I could hardly believe my eyes, let alone my good fortune, and never having seen such a thing before, gawped disbelieving at Tagrid's bald little kuss. Whereupon, she had a belated attack of modesty and covered herself up again, laughing like a drain.

She then demanded that I show her my 'zibb' and, putting her arms around my hips, pulled my shorts down, revealing my youthful erection. She was intensely curious about my voluminous foreskin, which totally shrouded my erection, and asked where my knob was, breaking into delighted laughter when I drew my foreskin back to show it to her. Apparently, all Egyptian males, including the Coptic Christians, are circumcised, and Egyptian girls never get to see an adult foreskin. Tagrid, who was Coptic, explained that the Muslims not only insisted on male circumcision, but most Muslim girls, other than those from educated families, were circumcised too, whilst the Copts in general tended to leave their girls intact. I had not the faintest idea what she meant by female circumcision and she used this as an excuse for a bit more exhibitionism, baring her kuss for me again and separating the lips to show me the fat little clitoris which Muslim girls had cut away in a procedure she called 'tabzir'.

This childish game of "I'll show you mine if you show me yours" continued for some time, but then things got more serious. Poor little Tagrid was married to a man thirty years her senior. He treated her badly, she said, because she had not yet given him an heir.

Our mutual revelations soon developed into mutual explorations. She took an obsessive delight in playing with my foreskin, saying how much she preferred it to her husband's huge 'cut' zibb which, she claimed, hurt her. As a joke she threatened to circumcise me with her teeth, nipping the bud of my foreskin hard, and stretching it out whilst I shivered with fear and delight. She said she loved me, and asked if I would come back and marry her when I grew up.

We soon progressed to the next stage. She showed me how to caress her pretty little kuss with my fingertips, while she rubbed my foreskin to and fro over my penis head until, to her delight, I swooned in my first productive orgasm.

Inevitably we reached the final milestone. One day she got it out for me, pulled it erect and laid me on the floor with a cushion under my backside. She then raised her skirt to bare her kuss, and crouched over me, giving me a worm's-eye view as my rigid little plonk was slowly engulfed in her sexual slot, imparting jolts of undreamed of pleasure when she moved her body up and down on it. As we both shuddered towards a climax, she reached down with both hands, pulling the skin of my shaft down hard towards my balls. This had the effect of drawing my foreskin back from my knob, exposing it and the sensitive inner lining of my foreskin to the mind-blowing friction of wet, velvety kuss, and I lost consciousness in the explosion of feeling which followed.

To my deep sorrow – and hers too – she left us shortly afterwards when she moved to Ma'adi on the other side of Cairo, and I never saw her again. The message behind this story is that, to me, the foreskin is central to sexual enjoyment, and Tagrid certainly didn't look on it as a drawback – except in the physical sense of course!

*J.S. – St Albans*

## Letter From Norway

The article about circumcision of boys, which follows, was in the Oslo paper *Aftenposten* on 30 October 1995. It is not a 'lively paper' – 'dry' would be a better description, and it rarely covers a topic such as circumcision. I waited to see whether there would be any comments in response to the article, but didn't find any. In Norway it is virtually taboo to talk about circumcision. If one raises the subject, one is looked upon as odd. Norwegians are very uptight about it, with only a very few exceptions.

I hope we'll get many more issues of *Acorn*, which is always interesting and enjoyable to read. Whenever it comes in the post nothing else gets done until I

have read it. Best wishes to Tony, David and everyone in *Acorn* for Christmas and a really good 1996.

G.N.S. – Oslo

[We all heartedly return the compliments of the season. — D.A.]

## Doctors Invited to Circumcise Boys

By Per Anders Johansen

The Norwegian State Health Authority has asked the Norwegian hospitals to carry out ritual circumcision of boys if their parents wish. A new circular from the State Health Authority proposes that every Norwegian hospital can be asked to arrange circumcision of newborn boys. At several hospitals doctors have refused to circumcise, often because they say it takes too much time, money and resources. For both Jews and Muslims ritual circumcision has very great religious importance.

‘Norwegian hospitals should arrange that circumcision of new-born boys can be done’, says the circular on *Ritual Circumcision of Boys*. The Health Authority fears that ritual circumcision would otherwise be done by travelling circumcisers without medical training. Some new-born Muslim boys are circumcised by barbers without anaesthetic because hospitals will not do the operation.

### Ritual Performance

‘The Norwegian health service should show understanding for rituals of this type, so long as it does not involve sexual mutilation. The health service should make it possible for such an operation to be done by a doctor. This avoids operations being done by non-medical personnel’, says the circular.

‘We cannot close our eyes to it, which would only push people into the hands of quacks’, says Jorgen Holboe, the head of section of the Health Authority.

Behind the new rules from the Health Authority lies the initiative of the county medical officer in Buskerud. At present, Muslims in Hordaland have to travel to Oslo for a hospital circumcision. The circular is now with Minister of Health, Werner Christie, who will evaluate it before it is sent out to the country’s hospitals.

The State Health Authority proposes that circumcision of boys is done before the new-born is discharged from the maternity ward. In addition, the Authority wants the practice restricted, partly because circumcision requires anaesthesia if the operation is done long after birth, which increases the risks and cost of the operation. Although Norwegian hospitals are now being invited

to make available resources for ritual circumcision, the new circular ensures that no-one can demand to have it done.

'Ritual circumcision of boys is an operation on healthy children. In principle, no-one has a legal right to have such an operation done by the public health service, since it does not involve a treatment for illness', according to the Health Authority. At the same time, the Health Authority is allowing for parents to have to pay their share if they want their child to be circumcised.

### Religious Ritual

In the Muslim tradition the whole foreskin of the boy's penis is removed so that the boy is not thought of as 'unclean'. In Jewish belief, circumcision is a ritual which has been done for 4,000 years, ever since Abraham circumcised himself at the age of 99, at God's command. To the Jews, circumcision symbolises the covenant between God and man, and must be done within eight days after birth. In the USA and Australia, most new-born boys are automatically circumcised after birth. The reason there is that it is thought to be more hygienic and give less danger of infection.

## **Ban on Female Circumcision**

**(from *Norway Now*, N° 22, Nov. 1995, p7)**

The Standing Committee on Social Affairs in Norway's national assembly, the Storting, has voted unanimously to introduce special legislation forbidding female circumcision in Norway. This practice will be punished along the same lines as grievous bodily harm, which carries a prison sentence of up to 8 years.

"This is a stiff penalty, and a clear signal that female circumcision will be regarded as a serious crime", says Havard Wennevold Osflaten in the Standing Committee. The ban will also affect parents or guardians who take girls abroad to have them circumcised there. The new law will apply to all persons resident in Norway, not only those who have Norwegian citizenship. Through this new legislation, Norway comes into line with Great Britain and Sweden.

[Female circumcision is customarily practised in Somalia, Egypt, Muslim Sudan and in other parts of Saharan Africa. Norway has 3,485 female residents of all ages with citizenship of any African country.]

*Translations and notes by Tony Acorn*



## Storm in a Teacup?

There is frequently in *Acorn* a call for women to give their views on circumcision, so although I find writing about it slightly embarrassing (I should hate my Mum or Dad to read this), I thought I might put pen to paper. Incidentally, I get lent *Acorn* by a friend, and we both agree that it's far more interesting – and instructive – for a woman than the trivial stuff churned out in most of the women's magazines. In my view, *Acorn* should be on view in every doctor's waiting room so that women could read it, especially those with young children, so they know how to answer awkward questions about the subject, since most are ignorant about it.

I come from an army family and was brought up in a number of army stations, mostly in Germany. When my brother was born in the local BMH (British Military Hospital) I remember my mum telling my dad, with some amusement, how the adjutant's wife had also produced a son on the same day and had demanded that the boy be circumcised immediately. She was known to be a bossy woman who tried to wear her husband's rank, but in this case she met her match. The matron, who was an even more bossy woman, told her very firmly that circumcisions were not carried out in BMH's except for medical reasons. Whereupon the woman threw a terrible tantrum, but without success, as to my certain knowledge, the boy remained intact!

I asked my mum afterwards what circumcision meant, and she explained that it meant cutting the piece of loose skin off the end of a boy's willy, demonstrating what she meant on my new brother's tiny sprig of flesh. This raised a lot of questions in my mind because I had no idea that the foreskin housed something underneath it, and thought that the operation would merely make the boy's willy shorter. However, I discovered the real facts not long after. Both my parents were very relaxed about nudity in the home and I often saw them undressed. As a small girl I was deathly proud of my dad's monster willy, in such contrast to the tiny little winkles of the boys in my class. One evening, while we were on holiday in the camper van, I woke up to hear my mum laughing and, peeping out from the bunk over the cab, I watched with curiosity as she undid my dad's zip, fished his huge willy out and pulled his thick, heavily veined foreskin right back to reveal the dark-coloured bulb underneath, which she then tickled with the tip of her finger before pulling the skin back over it again, giggling like a schoolgirl as she did so. I found this discovery very exciting, but then, as I watched, I was even more surprised to see his penis double in size and thickness as it rose in a majestic erection. At this point the light went out, leaving me wiser about the male anatomy, but raising more questions than it answered.

A year or two later, the camper was the scene of another exciting tour of discovery when we took the son of mum's friend with us on holiday, and I had to share the cubby hole above the cab with him. We were both zipped into individual sleeping bags, but zips were meant to be opened and I couldn't wait

to put my new-found knowledge to the test. He responded with enthusiasm to my invitation to feel me between the legs whilst I explored the wrinkle of loose skin on the tip of his willy before it reared up in a miniature imitation of my dad's erection. Holding a big hard willy is much more exciting than holding a small soft one and I tried capping and uncapping his knob as I imitated my mum's actions and found out why she seemed to enjoy it so much. But if I'm honest, on balance I think I would have preferred a tube of smarties!

Later on in mid-teens, as sexuality took on a new importance for me, I was to extend my basic knowledge a lot farther, as I shall describe. I used to have my friends round to play tapes on the hi-fi when my parents went off to a social meeting in the mess. The atmosphere soon got you in the mood, and we quickly paired off and discovered the joys of what we used to call 'heavy petting'. Fear of pregnancy prevented us going any further in those days. I noticed my best friend sitting on a boy's lap on the sofa as he slid his hand up her dress whilst she rubbed her hand against the bulge in his jeans. Soon we were all at it and, although furtive at first, we soon shed our inhibitions and became more open in our sexual activity. I and my boyfriend watched while a girl put her boyfriend's hand down the front of her knickers so he could touch her vulva whilst pulling his penis out and openly masturbating him, ignoring the curious stares of the rest of us, before we too got fired up by the spectacle and followed suit. I quickly learned that pulling a boy's willy would eventually end up with spurts of white gunk all over the carpet – and experienced for the first time the swoony delight of the female orgasm as my boyfriend's fingering took me over the top.

Up to now, circumcision had not been an issue, since none of my boyfriends had been done. We all knew something about it from R.I. of course, and I remember the snigger when one of the teachers, reading from the Bible, faltered slightly at having to mention 'the uncircumcised Philistines'. But we all laughed like a drain when one of the girls called out from the back of the class, "Please Miss, Steve's a Philistine", and several of the boys shouted, "So am I". I used to pull my boyfriend's leg by asking him, "How's your little Philistine today?" whereupon he'd indignantly reply, "Not so much of the little, if you don't mind".

Anyway, one day a girl brought along a new boy to our 'hi-fi' session and he joined in the petting with enthusiasm. Suddenly the girl said in a loud whisper, "What's happened to your skin?" whereupon the boy said that he'd been circumcised. We were all dead curious of course and crowded round to look at his unfamiliar looking organ with its big bare knob totally uncovered. The boy seemed unconcerned and slightly flattered by all this attention. He was happy to explain that he had been born on an American air base where boys were automatically circumcised within hours of birth. Although basically laid-back about the whole thing, he did admit when I asked him about it that he often wondered what it was like to have a foreskin, and asked me anxiously if I found his penis funny in any way. I told him, no, but both he

and I knew that it was less satisfying to handle, since what was left of his skin was tightly stretched, and permitted very little movement compared with the other boys. I was never aware of any difference in cleanliness, although it was not a matter I concerned myself about, and certainly none of the penises I've handled since have been noticeably unpleasant in any way, circumcised or uncircumcised.

In later life I had a couple of circumcised partners, although the vast majority were not, and I formed my own opinions on the subject. Frankly, as far as making love is concerned, it is a big yawn to most women, since it makes absolutely no difference, at least as far as her pleasure is concerned. I am not so sure about the man though, and have a suspicion that his enjoyment may be lessened, but not a lot. But the benefits claimed for circumcision are to my mind an illusion, and exist mainly in the imagination of people like those very pro-roundhead readers of yours with a personal axe to grind. Consequently, I really don't think there is anything to be gained by it, and even if only one boy grows up with problems caused by circumcision, that is one too many. I have to say that for this reason I felt slightly uneasy about your series, 'The Clinic'. The punchline was often a baby being circumcised, which is frankly a bit tacky, and it worries me rather that there are people who take pleasure in the thought of a little baby undergoing such a painful ordeal for no good reason.

*Jane Smith*

## How Beautiful They Stand

Never mind 'The stately homes of England, amidst their tall ancestral trees', let's just concentrate on human dicks for a while. They're definitely good enough for me. They, too, 'stand beautiful' from time to time. Not always, mind you, because some dicks are definitely prettier than others. Mine, for example, is a very ordinary circumcised cock which certainly will never be in the running for any 'Bollocks Beautiful' award. It's getting to look a bit gnarled and old now, at the age of 62, possibly from frequent use. It still works a treat, and I love it to shreds for every thrill it gives me, but I've got to acknowledge that when the chips (and the trousers) are down, it has certainly had its day.

I met a guy in Scotland recently, on Guy Fawkes night to be exact. I can assure you it was in private and he was well of age to give consent. From the close proximity of 69s I was struck by the very beauty of what stood before me. It would embarrass the young man concerned if I were to go into too much detail but, after 53 years of actively assessing thousands upon thousands of dicks, both professionally and sexually, I have to say that, to my eye, he had one of the 'prettiest packages' (whether soft or hard) that I have ever encountered. I'm not commenting on its performance – just its appearance. Everything about it – neither too large to be intimidating, nor too small to

be a giggle; perfection of circumcision; ratio between length and thickness; 'balance' between balls and cock; thrusting well forward in front of the pubic bone, rather than dangling weakly between the legs; delicacy of skin texture, etc. etc., – was all in total harmony. I could just sit and look at it for hours – like looking at the Taj Mahal by moonlight, or the Grand Canyon, or the River Nile at sunset. The whole ensemble was an object of singular beauty.

Do other readers also have this sense of appreciation of aesthetic magnificence, in a completely detached sort of way, with regard to some sets of male genitalia? It is like recognising beauty in a pretty face, and isn't necessarily associated with any particular sexual desire. Answers, NOT on a postcard please, to our worthy editor for future comment and appraisal.

*Ray Hamble*

## The Spoken Foreskin

If you tune in to Channel 4 these days, sooner or later you're going to hear someone, invariably a woman, mention the word 'foreskin', (...Bill? Yes, if he had as much intelligence as he's got foreskin, he'd be a genius...) as though it's the most natural thing. A few years ago, you would never hear a well brought-up young lady mention the word – she was much more likely to say 'fuck' – or even 'cunt', and besides being taboo in a way that sexual swear words were not, foreskins were unknown territory to a lot of them.

Things seem to have changed with the consignment of routine circumcision to history and the consequential near-universality of foreskin among the younger generation. The taboo seems to have disappeared and the word 'foreskin' is becoming ever more common currency, even in polite circles, although I must say, hearing it from a sweet, demure young girl still gives me a jolt. The first time I heard a young lady say it on TV, she accompanied it with an embarrassed giggle as though aware of how daring it was. But nowadays it seems to be on everyone's lips and has become commonplace in everyday conversation. For some reason though, men still seem to be a bit coy about it.

One part of society which seems highly foreskin-orientated is the pop scene. I was astounded to hear (Channel 4 again) the young lady host introduce a group known as 'The Virgin and the Foreskin', without blinking an eyelid! Questions spring to mind at a provocative handle like that, such as, who is the virgin and whose is the foreskin? – and what is the association between the two? Not a very close one I should imagine, or half the description would no longer apply! There again, there was a group a few years back who called themselves 'The 4 Skins', and I remember with amazement the mother of one of them claiming the credit for dreaming up the name.

Then there is another group which rejoices in the horrible name of 'The Smegs'. I do wonder if the young ladies who bandy such names about understand the significance. If the mother of one of the group dreamt that name up too, she should be ashamed of herself for neglecting her offspring's genital hygiene.

What is it with pop groups, then? It was our very own *Acorn* which astounded us with the news that a British pop 'star', on a visit to S. America, wowed his audience by stuffing a lemon under his foreskin! Elvis Presley, despite his American birth, rejoiced in a foreskin, as did Jimi Hendrix. Since foreskins seem so important to the pop scene, could it be that potential stars are vetted to ensure they are fully equipped?

But it's not just foreskins and not just the pop scene which shock the sensitivities these days. I heard Theresa Gorman the other day on the BBC, accusing a stuffy Tory colleague of considering all women as either grannies, nannies or fannies. Even that repository of right-wing respectability, *The Spectator*, has its moments: a lady philologist, Dot Wordsworth, who does a short column on the correct use of words, has been gleefully titillating the readership recently by going on for week after week about Jessica Mitford's aunt's fascinating – and mischievous – report that the local people use the word 'cunts' to mean garden moles. Just to ensure that less worldly readers got the message, she then went on to contrast this with the poet Carlyle's use of the word 'twat' to mean a nun's habit. In the same magazine, the well-known Greek tycoon columnist, Taki, has twice described people he disliked as looking like a 'circumcised penis'. But then, the Greeks have always been, and still are, famous for their preference for the foreskin as a mark of bodily perfection, and their distaste for circumcision.

R.B.W.

## Subscription Renewal

Subscriptions are now due for renewal and a form is included with this issue. Early renewal will ensure uninterrupted receipt of *Acorn* in 1996.

## Self Indulgence 7

I might as well admit it to you all! I am a dedicated wanker!

Most people think it is a derogatory term to be called a wanker, but if I am referred to in that way I actually enjoy it because I enjoy being one so much! It is so much a part of my life and has been since I reached puberty at the rather early age of eleven.

But let's go back a bit. To when I was born in 1943. It was the fashion for baby boys to be circumcised routinely (well, about 50% of them anyway) and

I was no exception. I have marvelled at the skill of the surgeon ever since, giving me invisible scarring and unrestricted growth to my extra large knob, clean and available for all to see, uncluttered by any foreskin.

During my childhood I was aware that some other boys were different to me. We had the usual mutual inspections – I was amazed at how many variations there were in length and girth, as well as whether or not I could see the other boys' knobs as they could mine.

Then at my early puberty I became aware that my balls and cock were getting much larger, and the latter gave a nice sensation when rubbed when it was stiff. My nearly eight-inch cock was only to be a little longer than average, but its girth and the size of my knob especially were of special interest to the other boys. My friends, most of whom hadn't reached puberty yet, would become jealous if they saw me in the changing rooms at school and frequently would try to kick or punch my balls for revenge. They called it 'knackering me', I remember. They would also devise other methods of 'torturing' my sex organs too, such as tying my balls up tightly and squeezing them or hitting them. Looking back on all this, although they were cruel to this shy lad, I actually enjoyed the attention it brought to me. Sometimes they would strip me, hold me down with my legs apart, and wank me until I came, which I quickly realised I enjoyed even more.

As time at secondary school went on, we teenage boys would indulge in some extra curricular activities, such as three or four of us going to a remote shed, stripping off, and having contests where we would wank ourselves or each other to try to see who could shoot the furthest! A prize for the winner!

At about the age of 18, I can remember frequently seeing how many climaxes I could achieve in one day (I think 10 or so was my limit – oh, for those days again!) and comparing with my friends. My fair-skinned prick was so sore at the end that I would vow to abstain for a week – but I'd never achieve this, and be at it again a day or two later. I realised that I was a compulsive wanker!

I would use two basic techniques. My favourite was to lie on my front on my bed with my balls and cock wrapped in a piece of cloth, and pump away, using rapid buttock movements as with conventional sex. My piece of cloth (often my pyjamas) and my bed would become anyone I wished to fantasise about. Often I would draw my left leg up to increase the friction on my knob to achieve a good climax.

As time went on I used the 'full fist clutch' method. With this method I was able to have about an inch of movement of my fist over the length of the shaft between the underside of the knob and the base of the cock. But with very tight skin there when erect (due to the full circumcision) I quickly moved on to the basic method I still use, that of forming a circle of the thumb and forefinger of the right hand which, when opened up about half an inch, would slip lightly over the widest part of the knob. My left hand would push my balls up from underneath. Then the other three fingers of my right hand would hit

the top of my balls on each downward thrust – a sensation which I enjoy – and, preferably with a little lubrication, a full and controlled workup to ejaculation could be achieved, easing off the frequency of rubbing to prolong the pleasure. This then became my main method of masturbating four or five times a week (less if conventional sex was available) for about 20 years.

In my mid-forties I noticed, over a period of perhaps 3 or 4 years, a definite lessening in the sensitivity of my knob. My GP assured me that it was all in the mind and not physical at all. But I seriously wondered if it was to do with the nerve endings becoming less sensitive due to the frequent rubbing of my unprotected knob by the method described.

Other things happened. Whereas up to now I had always preferred to have my thighs as wide as possible apart while wanking, I now had greater pleasure by pressing my knees and thighs tightly together. Indeed, to this day, if I have help from a partner, I request that they immobilise my legs by tying my knees tightly together with a leather strap for maximum sensation, taking care that my balls are above my thighs and not trapped between them.

As an added stimulus to increase the sensations, I have also enjoyed using metal rings and leather straps or cord around my balls; having my sex organs tortured (gently!) – perhaps a throwback to my schoolday experiences; totally shaving my body hair (especially keeping the pubic hair shaved), and using lubrication such as baby oil or KY jelly. A friend has also made me use a wanking machine he constructed. Basically, it consists of a soft chamois leather pouch lined with a polythene bag which is well-lubricated with oil. By inserting my erect cock and then placing the device between the mattress and sprung lower portion of the bed to give pressure, a very efficient and enjoyable wank can be performed by kneeling by the bed and thrusting.

In 1984, when I was 41, and having fathered three sons, I had a vasectomy. Contrary to my anxieties, I discovered that, far from diminishing my sexual keenness, I became more randy than ever! Furthermore, my outpourings at climax were effectively unchanged.

I have always had an active Couper's Gland, which produces a clear fluid that lubricates the knob, especially visible when the previously stiff cock becomes flaccid – especially nice for oral sex for which my large circumcised knob is particularly well suited. This I enjoy, but from time to time I have to ask my partner to stop, as my nerves in the lower part of the knob 'jangle' in a way that makes it oversensitive. A moment's pause is all that is needed before resumption. This is akin to stopping wanking for a while to enjoy it more when it is restarted.

Now in my early 50s, my climaxes are sadly less frequent. But the good news is that they are far, far higher than before. Whereas they used to be 'controllable', I cannot resist crying out and almost passing out with the extreme pleasure they bring. And that's not all: the amount of spunk that I produce must be an all-time record for my age! It gushes out with some

dozen or more spurts of excellent strength – just as when I was in the school contests! Afterwards I am totally exhausted both mentally and physically, and must have about 10 minutes to recover, after which I can erect again. Another orgasm can sometimes be experienced after some 6 hours, though I usually leave it a day or two.

I enjoy the fun of experiencing sexual fantasies when wanking in the presence of, or being wanked by, others – either males or females. Generally my experience has been that females really do not know how to wank a cock very well by hand (though they can be excellent by oral means). Well, why should they? They, poor creatures, haven't got one, and therefore don't know from personal experience how to maximise the pleasure! To be masturbated by another male is very pleasurable indeed, as he knows the amount of friction to use etc. I find the technique used is usually much better on my circumcised prick if he too is a roundhead – and presumably the same goes for uncut males. Perhaps members could comment, as I obviously can only speculate on the latter. Finally, self masturbation. To be honest I must admit that, for me, this is the best. Only you can know the way you feel as you approach climax, and so can adjust your rubbing speed and technique accordingly. The best for me therefore, is to be naked in the presence of another male who may or may not be dressed (both have a turn-on for me), and who enjoys oiling my sex organs up liberally (perhaps I may have a metal ring forced over my balls to pull them forward and increase the rigidity of my cock further), but who, having worked me up, lets me take over for the final stretch to full climax.

Who was it who said that a long 'journey time' is the most enjoyable part of having sex and, if you then arrive at the terminus at the end too, there can surely be nothing to complain about?

I am sure that readers of my completely frank and honest account on a subject that is very dear to *Acorn* members' hearts, will find at least some similarity to their own experiences – especially those circumcised members. It would be most interesting to compare and contrast your own experiences with mine in future issues of the magazine, so please don't be shy in coming forward.

Finally, may I refer to the article in 6/95, 'Radical Circumcision'. B.W. – Surrey might like to know that the shape of the penis in the sketch is very familiar to me – my own! If I stimulate my knob only (not the shaft) from the flaccid state, it becomes engorged with blood and gives the effect described – large knob supported by a slender top of the shaft, just as in the illustration.

*J.H. – Middx.*