

AIDS warning may be sent to every family

By JOHN BURNS

MRS THATCHER was considering a nationwide alert over AIDS last night. It would mean sending a letter to every one of the 22 million homes in Britain warning of the incurable disease.

The move is among options under review following senior Government health advisers' warnings that Britain faces its most devastating epidemic since the Black Death.

The Government is alarmed over the latest figures showing there are now 30,000 carriers and victims of AIDS in Britain.

And there are widespread fears that the disease, once dubbed the gay plague, is beginning to be transferred by non-homosexuals.

Among the main targets of a new publicity drive are young people who are thought to be most at risk because of casual sexual affairs.

A TV advertising campaign also aimed at youngsters could follow.

Health Secretary Norman Fowler has already admitted his worries over the disease. Some specialists claim it could soon surpass cancer as a major killer.

The proposed leaflets could encourage thousands to seek blood tests and so help check the spread of the virus which has killed almost 250 people in Britain.

In America, where 10,000 have died, women are almost as much at risk as men, latest surveys indicate.

Spending boom at the shops

TILLS are jingling in the biggest boom in consumer spending in two years, says a bosses survey.

And the spending trend could boost jobs, says the Confederation of British Industry in a report.

But much of the demand is being met by imports and UK industrial output remains stagnant.

John Sallis, head of the CBI's retail survey group, said yesterday: "This month's results show the best increases in retail sales volumes since July 1984."

Clothing shops have seen the highest growth

'Stalker' police sued

POLICE chief James Anderton is being sued in a private prosecution by the businessman at the centre of the John Stalker affair.

Mr Anderton, Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, is to face charges of conspiracy to pervert the course of justice.

He is being taken to court, along with two other police officers, by Kevin Taylor in a bid to clear his name and find

out why he is still being investigated two months after the end of the Stalker case.

Mr Taylor, 54, was a key figure in an inquiry into allegations that his friend John Stalker, Manchester's Deputy Chief Constable, had associated with known criminals. Mr Stalker was suspended, but was reinstated last August.



Vicky's bedtime, curled up in the bath



Glen: Nightshift

A bride sleeps in the bath

BRIDE Vicky White's honeymoon started with a startling discovery—her handsome young husband snores like a buzz saw.

She was forced to flee the nuptial bed dragging blankets after her to make up a new one in the bath.

And that's where she slept for her honeymoon week as Glen snored the night away next door, at their hotel in Ostend, Belgium.

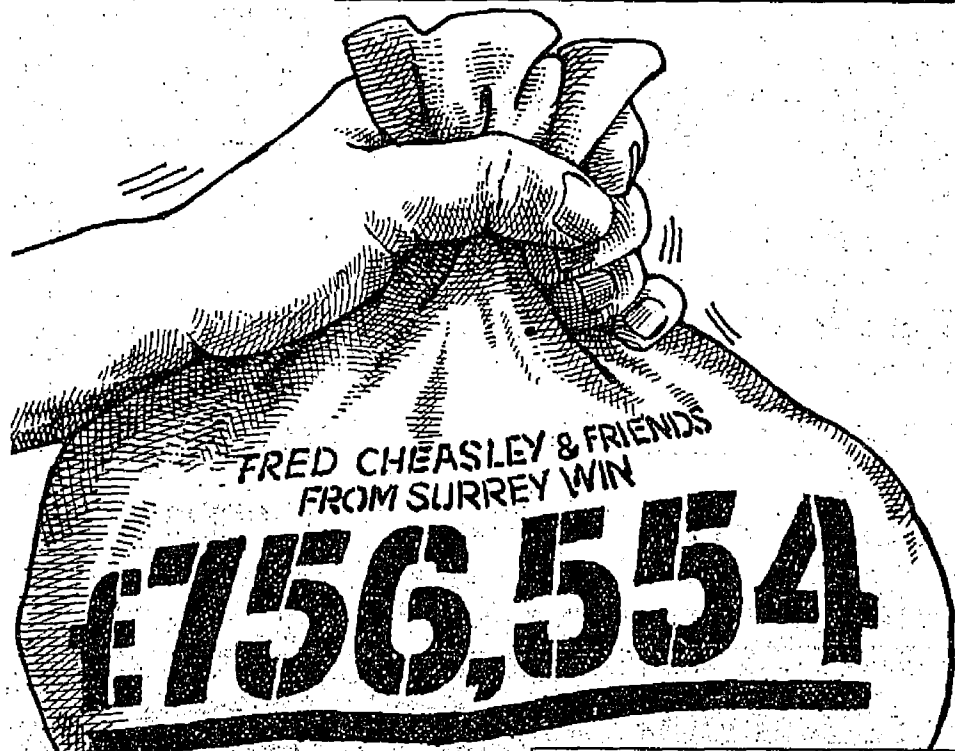
Peace

Back home at Henstridge, near Wincanton, Somerset, 19-year-old Vicky said: "It wasn't exactly the most romantic honeymoon night in history."

But there is a happy ending for the newlyweds.

Glen, a forklift driver, now works permanent night shift so that Vicky can sleep in peace.

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