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Little Flo leads the Trafalgar battle call



SAVE US...Little Flo the inflatable whale looms over the crowd at yesterday's anti-slaughter rally in Trafalgar Square

WHALE OF



Michael Wilding

Stars unite in bid to end killing

By LIZ GILL

IF you were 160 tons of blubber with a huge snout and little eyes you might not expect to have a lot of friends.

Yet 7,000 people including politicians, showbiz celebrities and policemen packed Trafalgar Square

yesterday to tell the whale: "We love you and we want to save you."

They stood in silent tribute as recordings of the great beast's cry rang through the air.

The anti-slaughter rally organised by Friends of the Earth, came on the eve of the International Whaling Commission's conference in

And at today's talks Britain is expected to seek a Common Market ban on further imports of sperm whale oil, and back moves to stop the killings.

Dwarfing everyone at the rally was Little Flo, a 40ft inflatable blue whale, symbol of

threatened species.

The crowd was told by comedian Spike Milligan:
"The whale can't speak for himself, we have to do it for him."

Wearing a T-shirt embla-zoned "Extinction is for ever" TV's Botanic Man, David Bellamy, warned:— "We, as thinking organisms,

do not have the right to drive any other organism to extinc-

TV "Avengers" girl Joanna Lumley, carrying a "Save the Whales" balloon, joined actor Colin Welland in reading children's poems specially written for the campaign.

PARKING meters celebrate their 21st birthday this week, But don't bother about a present—the meters have already helped themselves to £56 million. That's the amount reckoned to have been collected since they were introduced in 1958. In those days it was sixpence (2½p) in the slot for an hour. Now the cost in some parts of London has risen to 30p for an hour.



By GORDON OGILVIE

DEBONAIR Michael Wilding. that typically-English screen charmer of the 'forties and 'fifties, died yesterday aged 66.

He was found uneonscious at his home, Ivy Cottage, near Chichester, West Sussex, where he had apparently stumbled and banged his head.

Four-times married ding—wife No. 2 was the 20-year-old Elizabeth Taylor—made his name in a series if clean-cut celluloid romances with Anna Neagle.



Success

Among them were "Spring in Park Lane," "Maytime in Mayfair," "The Courtneys of Curzon Street" and "Derby Day."

Dame Anna said last night: "This is very, very sad news. He was so charming and we had such a wonderfully happy and successful relationship."

Wife No 1 was actress Kay Young. Then, at the height of his fame, he married Miss Taylor.

They divorced five years later after she had borne him two sons, Michael and Christopher.

Wilding's next wife was millionairess Susan Nell, After their divorce, he found 13 years of happiness with actress Margaret Leighton.

She died at Ivy Cottage three years ago.

Dame Anna said ! "He seemed to lose all interest after Margaret's death. He was very lonely."

In Washington, Elizabeth Taylor, now a senator's wife, was said to be "very upset."



Save them...three bobbies back the campaign

Girl, 3, murdered

From Page One

her feet sticking through the perimeter fence of the site.

She was alive, but suffering from severe injuries. She was taken to Edgware Hospital but died there ten hours

Arthur Pyke, leading the investigation, said the cause of death was asphyxiation, but she had not been strangled.

Gipsies toured the countryside in cars hunting the murderer, and sent phoned alerts to other caravan sites.

Yesterday the dead girl's parents, who have another younger daughter, were being comforted by friends.

Neighbour Mrs Anne Rooney said: "Margaret was a lovely, pretty little girl; a little angel. She looked just like Shirley Temple.

"She was very friendly but would never go strangers."

Last night a man detained in Norwich was helping police inquiries.



21 YEARS' EXCESS TIME

Opinion: Page 8 Pictures by Hilaria McCarthy