

QB

Nottinghamshire's Queer Bulletin

December 2009/January 2010
Number 51

In this edition:

Towers and trees
Birds and Bees
CCTVs

and

Bitchy queens
Gobby queens
Bitter queens
and aubergines

and

Gropeapanda (spell check failed)
NCCSOIEAG (spell check failed??)

If you have any information, news, gossip or libel or wish to comment on anything in QB, please contact

QB
Lesbian and Gay Switchboard
7 Mansfield Road
Nottingham NG1 3FB

or e-mail

notts@lgswitchboard.fsnet.co.uk

The deadline for the next edition will be early January 2009

**Switchboard is registered
charity number 1114273**

SHERIFF TO OPEN LGBT HISTORY EVENT

FREE



Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage's 2010 exhibition will be preceded by a celebration in **Nottingham Council House**.

They will use the Ballroom to preview the exhibition, showcase some of the work that the history project has done and present awards to groups and organisations which have made an important contribution to our community.

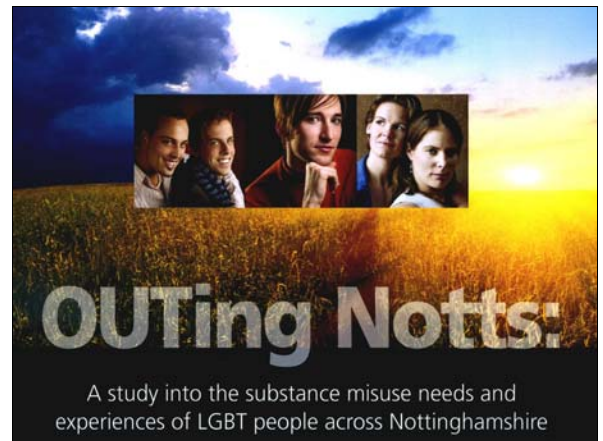
The Sheriff, Councillor Leon Unczur, has agreed to present the awards. The event will take place on Tuesday February 16th from 7.30 to 9.15 pm and is free and open to all. Unbelievably the food and drink (*some* of it alcoholic) will also be free.

..... and while we are giving you advance notice of things for next year's LGBT History Month, we can also tell you about the Exhibition. Now that the View from the Top gallery (above Waterstones) has closed, the exhibition will be sited in the **Studio at Broadway Cinema**. The dates are Tuesday February 23rd to Sunday February 28th. Like the Celebration, the Exhibition is free.

LGBT DRUG USE IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

OUTing Notts was a joint effort by the Nottingham Council for Equality and Human Rights, the Notts Drug and Alcohol Action Team and the University of Central Lancashire.

The report was launched on October 29th at Broadway cinema.



Statistics on local LGBT drug use are presented by age, type of drug, gender etc. What was most valuable were the comments from the various focus groups and recommendations for future action by those agencies which support people with drug and alcohol problems. The latter included:

- The importance of monitoring sexual orientation
- The need for staff training
- The need for services to be pro-active
- The development of more services for gay, bisexual and trans women

The document will be made available in pdf format. E-mail Nottingham Switchboard for a copy.

COUNTY COUNCIL LGB EVENT

Something with the long name of the **Nottinghamshire County Council Sexual Orientation Independent Equalities Advisory Group** (or NCCSOIEAG?) met more or less for the first time on October 21st. The group was asked to make initial comments on the Nottinghamshire Sustainable Community Strategy and how their priorities might affect LGB people. E.g.

- Do people feel able to access local services? If not, what stops that happening?
- What do you think could be done to celebrate diversity and promote tolerance in Nottinghamshire communities?***

... and rather a lot more. Many useful comments were made, but they need to be developed in much more detail over the next few years.

The group will now meet quarterly and will alternate a) between the North and South of the County and b) between daytime and evening meetings. Please note that people who attend in a voluntary capacity can claim travelling expenses.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday January 27th in the evening in Nottingham. If you wish to attend either as an individual or as a member of a group or organisation, please send an e-mail to Switchboard or Rainbow Heritage.

*** One of many things which were suggested was for the County Council to fly the rainbow flag (as the City Council does) above County Hall next February.

What will Mrs Cutts say? Wait and see.

NEW GAY HOTEL FOR NOTTINGHAM

Switchboard gets calls from time to time asking for gay hotels in Nottingham and our response has been ... "well, there are one or two which are gay-friendly, but nothing you could really call a gay hotel". That may be about to change.

The New Gables Hotel is a 12 bedroom gay hotel just over a mile from the city centre.

We can't let you into the secret of the address yet as there will be an official opening on November 24th with the Sheriff of Nottingham (he gets around) as guest of honour and a launch party on November 27th at the New Foresters. For information, or to book a room, contact Debbie or Maria at the New Foresters.

0115 958 0432 or debbie@newforesters.com

UPLOAD DOWNLOAD

One of the ways in which the Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage website is developing is in the number of documents which you can download directly from the site.

For example, you can now read all (yes, every single one!!!) 51 editions of QB. You can download the entire book which your beloved editor wrote about gay Nottingham in 2000 and you can see the full details of Fairy Towers (see page 4).

Many of the displays which were on view at the LGBT History Month exhibitions in 2008 and 2009 are there, including:

- Gays and lesbians in the Holocaust
- Gay Nottingham Times
- Civil Partnerships
- Birds, bees and educated fleas
- Nottingham Forest Anti-homophobia poster
- Cartoon gays
- The Justin Campaign
- Notes and queerries
- Punishment across the world for gays

Most of these are in the NRH's Resources section of the www.nottsrainbowheritage.org.uk website.

VERSE AND WORSE

Inspired by the *Sapphist Writers*, QB thought it was time to launch itself into the world of poetry. Unfortunately, all we have come up with is a few Limericks which each address a quirk of the English language.

The **OUGH** problem

A Loughborough farmer named Clough
Was tilling his fields through and through,
When he started to cough
And fell off his plough,
Though his workmanship stayed very thorough.

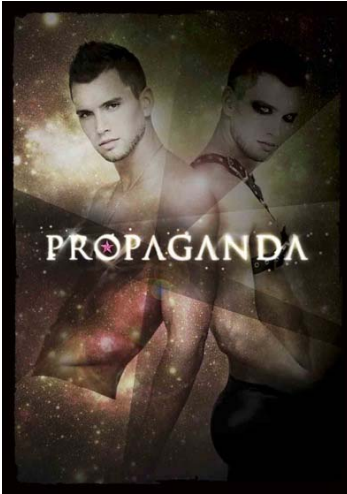
The "**Nothing rhymes with orange**" problem

One day, while eating an orange
I bumped into old Mr Gorringe.
He said "Dolly Clacket
Looks like Hilda Bracket".
I said "No! She looks like Dr Hinge."

The "**posh people's names**" problem

The Right Hon. Miss Ellen Q Cholmondeley
Looked exactly like Joanna Lolmondeley
But Hiram P. Featherstonehaugh
Cut off her head with a bandstoneaugh
Her appearance is now much less colmondeley.

PROPAGANDA



It's "fresh", "new", "dazzling", "plush", "hot" and "exciting" and probably several other adjectives.

And "it" is the new gay bar **Propaganda** at

8 Broadway
The Lace Market
Nottingham
NG1 1PS

We have no pics from inside, so if you want to know what it's like, you'll have to go along and have a proper gander yourself.

GATSBY'S GRATES

Gatsby's has closed as a gay bar. HGN received a letter from the management. Here are some bits from the letter:

"There are a few narrow-minded bitchy queens on the gay scene that have boycotted Gatsby's for their own reasons, tried to cause me and my friends/family a lot of trouble over the last few months."

"Those old gobby queens know who they are and the kind of games played by grown men is beneath me and my standards and should be left in the playground!"

To those that did nothing but cause trouble and slate the place, you will be the first people to complain that there are only a few gay bars left, but if you're going to be vile old bitter queens, you're never going to have a nice gay bar in Nottingham. We have decided to close."

CCTV

Homophobic incidents continue to happen near NG1 and @D2. As a result of prolonged discussion at the Police LGBT Forum and with the City Council, CCTV coverage of those areas should start soon.

WHERE PRAISE IS DUE

The City Council have agreed to print a leaflet outlining many of the things happening locally for next February's LGBT History Month. Early in the new year, you will be able to pick these up at the bars, NG1, Broadway etc.

Will they be flying the rainbow flag again over the Council House? Wait and see.

COME TO DADDY



Come to Daddy is a new once-a-month night. It's a men's only night for bears, bigger guys, hairy guys, and their admirers, in fact anybody (short, tall, fat, thin, hairy smooth). that wants a male-only night out. It's every **THIRD** Friday in the month at the Foresters, so the next event is on December 18th - 10 pm to 4.00 am. £5 entrance For further info contact info@cometodaddyclub.co.uk

The website is at www.cometodaddyclub.co.uk

WOMEN'S FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL

A women-only, friendly, no experience required, 5-a-side football session. The group meets for fun and fitness and all levels and abilities are welcome; the group operates as an equal opportunities session for gay and straight women and welcomes those with disabilities. Minimum age 18 ... but we can make exceptions! A good opportunity to make friends. The social side is very supportive and we often do socials throughout the year

Operates Tuesday and Friday evenings, 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm, cost £2.50 per session. Meets at the Astro-turf area, Forest Recreation Ground, Mansfield Road.

For more information
email: joolzy_joolz@hotmail.co.uk
Telephone 07790 998205

WEST NOTTS COLLEGE GROUP

There's now a support/social group for students at West Notts College in Mansfield. It meets every first Monday of the month during term time.

For details, contact Sharon (daytimes only) on 07947 782036.

Gay Nottingham Times

No. 12 Claiming our history, Celebrating our present, Creating our future

In commemoration of the 700th anniversary of the accession of King Edward II in 1307

Out of Their Tree

Nottingham Castle was one of King Edward II's favourite residences, and he is its most famous gay inhabitant.

Edward's DNA survives in several million people around the world today. Here are some his LGBT descendants



King Edward II (1285-1327)



W. H. Auden (1907-1973) poet



Virginia Woolf (1882-1941) writer

The Plantagenet Kings of England



Lawrence of Arabia (1888-1935) soldier/adventurer



Anthony Blunt (1907-1983) Soviet spy

The Stewart Kings of Scotland

The Beauforts

The Kings of Spain

The Pierreponts of Holme Pierrepont

The Stewart Kings of Scotland

The Strothers of the USA

The Hastings, Earls of Huntingdon

The Stanhopes of Shelford and Rampton

The Tudor Kings of England



Marlon Brando (1924-2004) actor



Queen Kristina of Sweden (1626-1689)



Clare Balding (b.1971) sports journalist



E. M. Forster (1879-1970) writer

The Stewart Kings of Great Britain

The Byrons of Newstead

The Turings of Edwinstowe



King James I (1566-1625)



Sir Noel Coward (1899-1973) actor/writer



Lord Byron (1788-1824) poet



Alan Turing (1912-1954) inventor of the computer

Space restricts giving the full lines of descent. Only selected linking families are included.



Rupert Everett (b.1959) actor

NEWS FROM HEALTHY GAY NOTTINGHAM

Healthy Gay Nottingham "Drop In"

If you're in town on a Saturday between 10 am and 2 pm or Monday evenings between 5 pm and 7 pm, why not drop into Healthy Gay Nottingham for **FREE** tea, coffee, juice and biscuits.

Join us for a chat; meet up with friends; get advice about any aspect of your life as a member of the LGBT community

Access counselling; get tested for HIV, Syphilis, Hep B, Gonorrhoea and Chlamydia, (testing is every Monday evening and alternate Saturdays).

Christmas Party



Come and join us on Saturday 19th December at the "Drop In" for our Christmas Party between 10 am and 2 pm. This year we have decided to have a Christmas party for the community. Come along and pull a cracker, sing along to Christmas tunes, meet up with friends and other groups and organisations, all welcome.

Free non-alcoholic drinks and buffet nibbles.

HGN Closing times over Xmas and New Year

Closes 1 pm on 24th December and re-opens 10 am Monday 4th January

New for the New Year at HGN:

Auricular acupuncture

(That's small pricks in your ear). A balancing treatment to help with relaxation, low mood, anxiety, addiction and help alleviating post party blues.

See website or call for further information or to book a session.



World Aids Day 1st December 2009

Come and join a variety of Nottingham organisations and groups on a free evening of music, dance and theatre to mark World Aids Day 2009.

Tuesday 1st December between 6 pm and 8 pm @ "Life at the Mission" on the corner of Parliament Street and George Street, opposite Argos.

There will also be a cake baking competition with a prize for the winner and an art auction, so bring your wallets and purses, all art donated by local people.

Money raised on the evening will be going to the Notts. Hardship Fund. For further information contact Ric at Healthy Gay Nottingham (0115-947 6868)

World Aids Day Service

A service for World Aids Day at St. Peter's Church in Nottingham (next to Marks And Spencer). Reflection – Remembrance – Prayer. **Sunday 29th November** at 3 pm, followed by refreshments.

BRITISH MUSEUM TURNS PINK

The people involved with the national LGBT History Month organisation are having a launch event on November 19th at the British Museum in advance of next February's celebrations.

Ben Bradshaw, Trevor Phillips and Michael Cashman will be among the speakers. The event is timed to be a part of Anti-Bullying Week and there will be afternoon and evening sessions for teachers and youth workers.

There will be exhibitions and displays from many organisations including (we hope) Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage.

LESBIAN PARENTS' GROUP

The point about the Lesbian Parents' Group is that there isn't one. At fairly frequent intervals Switchboard gets requests from local women for information about such a group. That suggests that there is an unmet need.

If there are local women, either single or couples, who have children and would welcome a local group where they could gain support and socialise, then leave contact details with Switchboard. When/if we get a reasonable response, then we will try to organise an initial meeting.

Our contact details are on the back page.

Lesbian & Gay Switchboard
 0115 934 8485 or 01623 621515
 Monday-Friday 7-9.30 pm
 7 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG1 3FB.
 notts@lgswitchboard.fsnet.co.uk
 www.nottslgs.org.uk

Healthy Gay Nottingham
 0115 947 6868
 Monday-Friday daytimes
 c/o The Health Shop, Broad Street,
 Nottingham NG1 3AL.
 read more (and e-mail) via
 www.healthygaynottingham.org.uk

Police Homophobic Crime Helpline
 0800 085 8522

Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage
 c/o NVAC, 7 Mansfield Road,
 Nottingham NG1 3FB.
 0115 9349529
 nottsrh@hotmail.co.uk
 www.nottsrainbowheritage.org.uk
 (Heritage Lottery funded)

SOME LOCAL LISTINGS

- Breakout** Social group for gay & bisexual men. Tuesdays 7.30 pm (at HGN, 12 Broad St.) Contact Switchboard or HGN or go to www.breakoutnottm.org.uk
- Older Gay Men's Group** Support and social group for men aged 50+. Meets 3rd Saturday of month, 4 pm at the Health Shop. Contact HGN.
- Outburst!** Group for LGBT young people up to the age of 25. Meets every Monday at Base 51. Phone or text 07940 761160 (Davina) for details or e-mail outburst@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
- Lookout** The quarterly free lesbian newsletter. For details e-mail lookoutmag@hotmail.com

Details of the following local groups can be obtained from Switchboard:

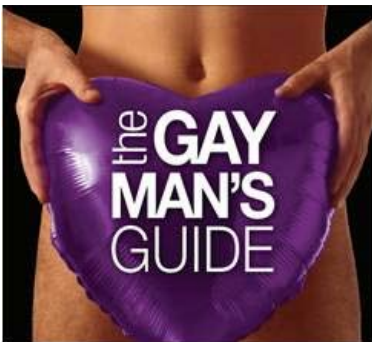
Nottinghamshire Hyking Dykes; Stately Homes Group; Notts Lesbian Book Club; Re-Creation; Women's Badminton; Badminton Social; Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement; East Mercia MSC; Chameleon Group; University of Nottingham & Trent University LGBT Societies; Peak Ruffties; Nottm Women's Film Group; Grizzly; LIRAIN; Notts Police OUTNetwork; Flying Colours; SMOC; Nottm Bi Women's Group; LiNk-Notts; LAFS; Eat Out Nottingham; North Notts Gay Women's Walking Group; Ball Bois football team; Sparta Women's Football; Women's 5-a-side football; Open Walking Group; Tagadere: Weekenders; Sapphist Writers; Gay Outdoor Club.

Switchboard has an accommodation file: if you are seeking flat/house share or have accommodation to offer, contact us; the service is free.

DIARY

THE GAY MAN'S GUIDE RETURNS

Paul Strickland's play was performed to a full house at the Lace Market theatre in 2008. It returns, in a re-written form, to the same theatre in February 2010. The play is based on real interviews with gay men - several of them from Nottinghamshire.



February 3rd - 6th
 7.30 pm
 Tickets £7

At the Lace Market Theatre, Halifax Place, Nottingham.

0115 950 7201

BREAKOUT XMAS PARTY

Breakout's party is on December 15th at the Lord Roberts (in the Green Room) from 8.00 onwards. It's a "bring food and share" event.

We expect that there will be a raffle and that the prizes will be up to the fabulous standard to which we are accustomed.

MORE WORLD AIDS DAY EVENTS

Friday 27th and Saturday 28th. Fundraising for the Hardship fund (£1 entrance) at the **New Foresters**. A staff show on the Friday.

Tuesday Dec. 1st: collections for the Hardship Fund in the **Market Square**

CLAUSIFIED AD

 ★ Nottingham: large Scandinavian bear type seeks ★
 ★ fairies and pixies for sack-emptying duties. ★
 ★ Short term contract only. No claus-trophobes ★
 ★ need apply. ★
 ★ Details from the Elf Shop, 10 Broad Street or ★
 ★ from the National Elf Service. ★
 ★*****

STRAIGHT TALKING

For those able/willing to travel to Birmingham, the Crescent Theatre is performing "**Straight Talking**" on November 26th & 27th.

It's about some of the problems of obtaining appropriate help from your GP if you are LGBT. For details go to

www.crescent-theatre.co.uk