

# QB

## Nottinghamshire's Queer Bulletin

February/March 2013  
Number 70

In this edition

QB has reached three score and ten.

Will clogs soon be popped?  
Will the choir invisible be joined?  
Will buckets be kicked?  
Will mortal coils be offshuffled?

Or will we bound into our seventies  
energised by HRT, botox and dis-  
creet cosmetic surgery?

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 February 27th

**Switchboard is registered  
charity number 1114273**

## LGBT HISTORY MONTH IN NOTTINGHAM

**FREE**

Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage is again holding a **Celebration and Awards Evening** in the ballroom at Nottingham Council House.

It's from 7-9 pm on Tuesday February 26th. It's free entry (as is the food and drink), no tickets and all are welcome.

Please note that the ballroom holds a maximum of 200 people, so late comers may have to be refused entrance. The guest speaker is **Greg Woods** (see below), Professor of Gay & Lesbian Studies at Trent University.



This year's awards will go to

- **Nottingham Women's Centre**
- **Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust** and **Catherine Conchar**, their Head of Equality and Diversity
- **WOW**, the Worksop LGBT Youth Group

Two further awards will also go to a group and an organisation which are no longer functioning, but did valuable work in the past.

**Nottingham Gay Liberation Front.** A photo of Kris Kirk and Carole Taylor from one of their 1970s gay street theatre productions is shown on the left..

**Discern** - a charity which supported, amongst other things, the sexuality of disabled people and had a very positive view of LGBT people.

## THANKS FOR THE SUPPORT

Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage has asked us to mention the support they have had this year from the City Council, Nottinghamshire NHS Healthcare Trust and, in particular, the Cooperative Community Fund which provided a donation of £600 towards LGBT History Month activities.

The **co-operative**

## LGBT HISTORY MONTH EVENTS

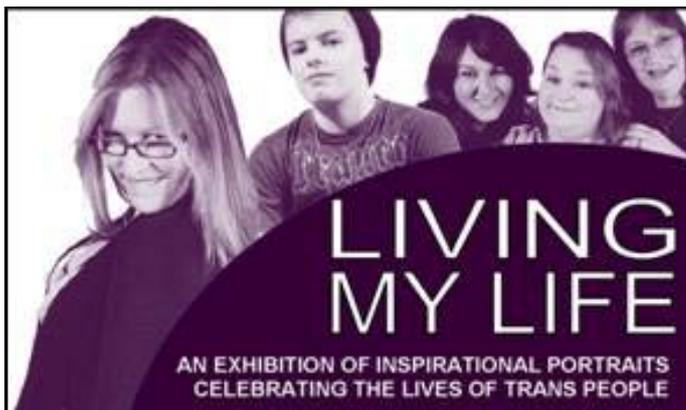
.As usual, lots will be going on in and around Nottingham. **The Rainbow Writers' group** will have

- An event at Newstead Abbey, 11 am-4 pm, Saturday Feb. 9th "be magnetically drawn into our sphere" !!
- Saturday Feb. 16th Performances + a discussion of LGBT fiction. 2.45-5 pm in the Newton/Arkwright building at Trent University
- On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> February between 1.30 and 2.30 pm the Rainbow Group will be putting on a drama and poetry performance in the Newton/Arkwright Building.

As well as the Celebration and Awards evening, **Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage** will arrange the following displays:

- Sherwood Library - 1st-14th February
- Radford/Lenton library - 1st-14th February
- Hyson Green Library - 1st-14th February
- The Meadows library - 4th-28th February
- Arnold Library - 8th-22nd February
- Radcliffe on Trent library - 2nd-28th February
- HM Prison library - 31st January-28th February (NOT open to the general public!)
- Gedling Civic Centre - 1st-15th February
- W. Bridgford Police station 1st-28th February
- Rushcliffe Register Office 4th-14th February

They have also been loaned the transgender "Living my life" exhibition (see pic below) which will be displayed at Duncan Macmillan House throughout February near to the Café Art.



**Nottinghamshire NHS Healthcare Trust** is also organising its own events. The "Living my life" exhibition will be accompanied by a **Sapphist poets** exhibition and a Rainbow Wall display (made up of rainbow coloured bricks) of quotes and inspirations from Senior Managers, staff, service users and carers.

The Trust's CEO will again be raising the Rainbow Flag above Trust HQ on the 1<sup>st</sup> February, and flags will be raised at other Trust sites too, e.g. Rampton Hospital. Furthermore on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Feb they will be hosting an event at Highbury Hospital on Religion/Belief and Sexual Orientation.

## QB'S BITS

- Apologies to **Narvel Annable** We missed a vital hyphen from his web address in the last QB. If you want digital downloads from Amazon of *Lost Lad*, *Scruffy Chicken*, and *Death on the Derwent* go to <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Narvel-Annable/256339904432276>
- **Stonewall** has recently produced a booklet called "Working with older lesbian, gay and bisexual people." You can download a copy from Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage's website at <http://nottsrh.webeden.co.uk/#/documents/miscellaneous/4541065055>
- **Lucy Wake** will once more don her Super Mario outfit to march up Mount Snowdon to raise money for Nottingham LGBT Switchboard. She has decided to trek up the, apparently, most difficult path of Snowdon - Watkin Path.
- **G Spot** on Heathcoat Street has now re-opened as **Gossip**
- The **North Notts Women's Walking Group** has folded
- **Breakout** has moved to the Newmarket (back room) corner of Broad St. and Lower Parliament Street
- **LAFS**, the Mansfield-based lesbian group, has been transformed into **Mansfield Rainbow Divas**, a new social group. They can be contacted at [mardivas@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mardivas@hotmail.co.uk)
- **Tracey Whitefoot** has been commissioned by Nottingham City Council to produce LGBT representative images for use across the council. She is looking for volunteers to act as models and would like to hear from anyone planning a civil partnership. If you are interested, please contact Tracey (soon) at 0788 777 6798 or e-mail [tracey@whitefootphotography.com](mailto:tracey@whitefootphotography.com)
- **@D2** has re-opened. Is it gay once more? We're not sure. Let us know your opinions if you've dropped in recently.
- The **City Council** holds an **LGBT Forum** every three months. It's there so that representatives of local LGBT groups, services and organisations can let the Council know what their current concerns are. In this time of cuts it is important that our voice is heard. The meetings are usually during an afternoon. If someone from your group can get along, contact Switchboard for more info.
- Notts Switchboard would like to thank **Eat Out Social** for another generous donation
- We are sorry to hear that **Roshni**, the counselling service for black, Asian and refugee women, has closed due to "the cuts".

## LGB AWARENESS TRAINING



### Nottinghamshire's RAINBOW HERITAGE

**Notts Rainbow Heritage** is running another of its LGB Awareness training days on Tuesday March. 5th 9.30 to 4 pm at Arnold Library. £35/person. Previous sessions

received fabulous evaluations. It is for workers from any organisation with little or no knowledge, who want to learn more about LGB issues.

If any of the people you work with might benefit from this, get them to e-mail NRH or leave a message on their voicemail. Contact details are on the back page.



Leigh & Natasher bring the gay goings on to your home with **Friday Night Out** - Nottingham's ONLY specialist programme for the gay and lesbian community. This fresh, fun and exciting show is specially for the queer community and brought to you by this dynamic gay and lesbian twosome every Friday from 22:00 - midnight

Before you go out stay in with **Leigh & Natasher**, who bring you the Gaylist - the only gay playlist you'll ever need! Plus regular special guests from gay and lesbian groups all around Nottingham, including the likes of the Nottinghamshire LGBT Switchboard, Nottingham Hyking Dykes and more.

Every week this milestone in local radio combines all of your upbeat classics with some slightly leftfield yet surprisingly enjoyable picks, with a sprinkling of the duo's touch of fun, glamour and tongue-in-cheek banter finishing off the two hours of non-stop entertainment.

If there's something happening on Nottingham's thriving gay scene that they don't know about then it's not worth knowing...or they haven't had your email yet. So get in touch by emailing the programme at [out@trentsound.com](mailto:out@trentsound.com)

### ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ IN QB 69

- |                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. The Dog & Partridge | 2. The Roebuck            |
| 3. The Mill            | 4. The Dragon             |
| 5. The Rotunda         | 6. Kitsch/Casablanca      |
| 7. La Chic/Part Two    | 8. Marios/Shades          |
| 9. The Real Art Café   | 10. Gatsbys/Central/Niche |

## VACANCY AT BANNA HOUSING

**Banna Housing Co-operative** has a small flat to rent near Nottingham city centre and St. Ann's. This is one of 4 self-contained flats that are set aside by a housing association to provide safe and affordable housing for lesbians.

As a new tenant, you would become a member of Banna, which is an important aspect of living in the flat. You would benefit from low rent in exchange for taking part in managing and maintaining the property via monthly meetings, follow-up tasks and regular duties.

If interested, please contact us. We will then ask you to complete a short application form and attend an informal interview.

Email us: [bannahousing@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bannahousing@yahoo.co.uk)  
Or write to Banna Housing Co-operative  
PO Box 10020, Nottingham NG1 9GR

## OUTBURST AT NGY AND MORE

From the 1st of October, there are going to be two nights in the City for LGBT young people

Now on Wednesdays between 6 pm and 9 pm, **Outburst** has had a facelift, slapped on some new shoes and is raring to go! It's at NGY, 29-33 Castle gate.

**LGBT Youth Nottingham** will be running at Life at the Centre (22 Lower Parliament St.) on Monday's between 6 pm and 8 pm. To find out more about LGBT youth Nottingham and what they do, they have a facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/LGBT-Youth-Nottingham/130774586989719?ref=ts&fref=ts>

Also at Twitter: @LGBTYouthNotts

## SOME MORE EQUAL THAN OTHERS

At the City Council's December meeting of the **Equality and Fairness Commission**, we heard from a member of Healthwatch, which will have a central role in overseeing and, they hope, guiding the new arrangements for the NHS.

We were told that they received demographic monitoring from an organisation called HELP, with the intent of using the results to prioritise the issues those groups considered most important. The fact that the first survey by HELP included no monitoring of sexual orientation did not inspire confidence. After complaints, HELP sent out another monitoring form which did include sexual orientation.

It is worrying that even after the Equality Act has become law, it is still necessary to push organisations into acknowledging that we exist.

# Birds, Bees and Educated fleas

A first-ever museum display, "Against Nature?", which opened in January at the University of Oslo's Natural History Museum in Norway, presents 51 species of animals exhibiting homosexuality.

Homosexuality has been noted in over 1500 species, says the exhibition coordinator. E.g. most dolphins are bisexual - he's not called "Flipper" for nothing.



The Great Cormorant is also known as the European Shag.

About 1 in 500 pairs of Cormorants is composed of 2 male birds. It therefore seems that male Shags seldom shag males.



Over 50% of courtships amongst dwarf cavies are of the same-sex variety. Females court each other by performing a rumba-like dance while slowly circling each other.

GCSE



BSc



MA

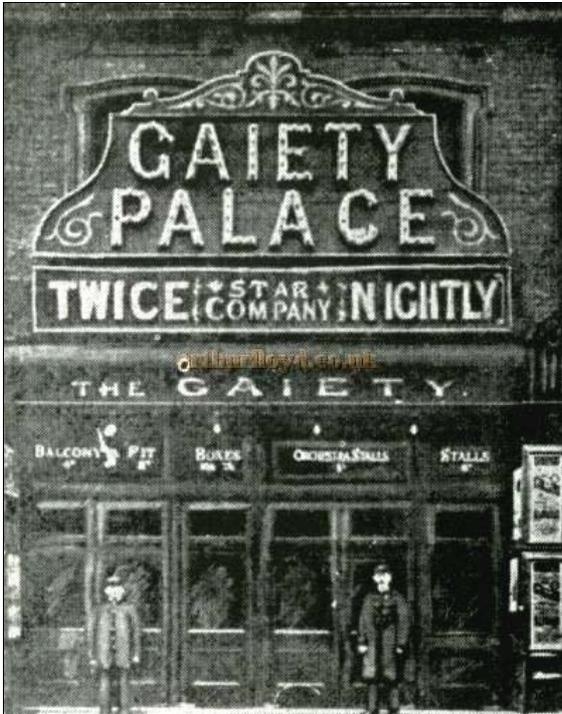


PhD



# THE NOTTINGHAM MAP

There's a link to the map on the homepage of Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage's website. Every red spot on the map links to a place with some LGBT connection. Here are some of those places.



**The Scala** was the final name of a building on Market which opened in 1878 as the Gaiety Palace of Varieties and later became the Kings Theatre. In the 1960s and early 1970s it had a reputation for showing "risqué" films and films with a gay theme - such as "Fortune and Men's Eyes".

It also served as an unconventional meeting place for gay men. A local man who often went to the Scala described the set up as "like musical chairs." People were continuously changing seats until an agreeable arrangement could be reached. The comment was "For one and nine pence, you could have a wonderful night out."

What is now the "**Galleries of Justice**" museum on High Pavement in the Lace Market used to be the Nottingham Assize court. In 1964, one of the last trials under pre-1967 legislation took place here.



**John Clarkson** was sent to prison for consensual gay sex at a time when the law was very different from today.

The local journalist **Ray Gosling** wrote the following:

"John had had a run in previously with the police. They had tried to do him for a burglary and failed. Egg on PC Plod's face. The Bill was determined to have John. They watched his flat. Sussed it and kicked his door in at 7 am. Off in the van. And the sheets to forensic.

I remember Nottingham Assize, the old court on High Pavement. The thin bed sheet held by the ushers. Learned QC pointing with a stick to the stains. The jar of Nivea was passed along the jury. "Notice the pubic hair." He got three years."

In the early 1980s, John became Coordinator of Nottingham Lesbian and Gay Switchboard.

The modernised **Victoria Leisure Centre** is shown in the picture. In the late 1970s members of Nottingham CHE group had badminton evenings there. In recent times the women's badminton group has also met there.

The event which gave the Centre notoriety in our history was the "Gay Swimming Furore" in the mid 1980s. This took place when two issues collided: AIDS hysteria and a concerted effort by right wing press to demonise gays and to brand councils which supported us as "loony left".

A group of gay men hired the small pool at the Centre - this was publicised as "Gay Swimming on the Rates". Parents banned their children from going on school swimming lessons because - with the collusion of the press - the children would get AIDS.

The situation escalated to such an extent that it was reported in practically every newspaper in the UK.



## NEWS FROM THE HEALTH SHOP

The Health Shop has been at the heart of Hockley and the LGBTQ community for the past 21 years. Initially our drugs and sexual health clinic was set up in response to the Aids epidemic and was closely entwined with the Gai Project (now Healthy Gay Nottingham, HGN).

Throughout the years The Health Shop has worked with a grass roots approach to sexuality and sexual health. Despite changes in management and a few changes in NHS trusts, staff at The Health Shop have always kept the needs of their clients at the heart of their work, driving innovation, service development and expectations so that the needs of clients get met.

Within the last year, over 900 people who identify as LGBTQ presented to The Health shop. The Health Shop has a holistic approach to sexual health and wellbeing. We encourage open discussion around sexual practice, sexuality, relationships, increasing sexual safety and empowerment. We offer a safe space for anyone to explore concerns around domestic and/or sexual abuse and where required we can refer to specialist services.

The Health Shop has worked to develop a specific sexual health service for lesbian women which has now become integrated within our main stream service. We have leaflets which focus on the sexual health needs of lesbian and bisexual women. Additionally, in recent years we have developed our sexual health service to fully include and meet the needs of clients who identify as Trans and/or gender queer. Much of this development has occurred in relation to close working links with local support groups and with clients from the LGBTQ 'Community'.

The Health Shop runs a Clinical Psychology Service (CP) which was established in 2004. The CP service is a specialist service that sees people with psychological issues or concerns regarding sex, sexuality, and/or HIV. In addition to these issues, the CP service also sees people with sexual dysfunctions and disorders and problematic or compulsive sexual behaviours.

In line with the CP service's philosophy of being non-judgemental and inclusive, we use a variety of psychological therapies in an integrative manner. We explore with clients their problems, try and understand what may have caused them, or what maintains them, and what can be done to deal with them.

Every year The Health Shop has a presence at Nottingham Pride, providing sexual health 'shag packs' for all sexualities which also include sexuality specific domestic abuse/violence leaflets. Staff are proactive in joining the pride march and now have a fabulous new 'The Health Shop supports Nottingham Pride' Banner!

The Health Shop staff really enjoy this bright and vibrant day, feeling the impact of its importance whilst meeting and celebrating with everyone attending Pride. In addition to Pride, we also hold an event each year for World's Aid's Day, linking with other services, in raising awareness of HIV.

With the many public sector NHS cuts and changes, there is understandably a concern about what services will continue to be delivered, though currently we understand that there are no plans to reduce the level of service provided. Although The Health Shop and Healthy Gay Nottingham are separate services funded by different NHS trusts, we will continue to work in partnership to fight for the needs of LGBTQ people and ensure that the needs of LGBTQ clients are taken into consideration when services are being commissioned.

### **Services you can access from the Health Shop are as follows:**

The Health shop is a free, confidential and none judgemental drugs and sexual Health Service. We offer services via drop in and appointments.

- Support and Advice around any aspect of sexual health and wellbeing
- Asymptomatic sexual health testing for anyone who is sexually active. The test involves a blood sample and a urine/or self taken vaginal swab. (We do not provide anal or throat swabs)
- Pregnancy testing and advice, The Health Shop staff are aware of issues that some same sex couples/Individuals may face and we can offer relevant advice and support during pregnancy testing/advice appointments.
- Free condoms, dental dams, water based lubricants and rubber gloves.
- Advice and support around cervical screening, testicular self-examination and self breast examinations (including campaigns to increase the number of lesbian, bisexual women and Trans men accessing cervical screening).
- Hepatitis A and B vaccinations
- Clinical Psychology Service
- Testing for Blood Borne Viruses such as Hepatitis C and HIV
- Rapid HIV testing on Tuesday and Thursdays—(results in 20 mins)
- Support and advice around substance use such as steroids, ketamine, Mephedrone, amphetamine, heroin, crack etc
- Needle and syringe programme and related harm reduction advice
- Wound care and access to homeless nurses team
- Auricular Acupuncture, relaxation and detox teas. Workshops, campaigns and out reach.

The Health Shop, 12 Broad Street, Hockley, Nottingham, NG1 3AL – 0115 9475414

## NOTES AND QUEERIES

- Not only did US evangelical clerics say that gays were responsible for Hurricane Sandy - wrath of God once more - but also that we rigged the US presidential election. Apparently gay billionaires put a virus into the electronic election machinery.
- The tendency for website names to be made from 2 or 3 squashed together words can have unintended consequences. Who can forget that Pen Island is the mecca for pens ([www.penisland.net](http://www.penisland.net)) and that Speedo of Art is a designer's website ([www.speedofart.com](http://www.speedofart.com)). Susan Boyle's latest album was to be celebrated at *susanalbumparty*, which many read as Su's anal bum party.



- Continuing the theme: we would be very interested if anyone can tell us what happens in the building which bears the sign shown below - it's at 33. Park Row, Nottingham.

Butt Dyke  
House

- We have been informed that the chairman of Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage sometimes does his ironing dressed in a pink tutu

## NOTES AND ENQUEERIES

A strange new website called **Enqueer** claims to provide a "comprehensive site" for Nottingham's LGBT tourists ... so, under "bars" it lists only 2 gay bars: **Niche** and **Fellows, Morton and Clayton**.

After we'd choked on our cocoa, we looked further. It claims to be Nottingham's only lesbian guide ... so, under "lesbian" it lists .... nothing. And Pride is at the Arboretum. Then, there is the **Miraj Hotel** - in Ashbourne, Derbyshire. Obviously they are quite fond of our neighbouring county; under "shopping and personal grooming" the single entry for Nottingham is Derby's Beauty Clinic.

## NEW HIV SUPPORT GROUP

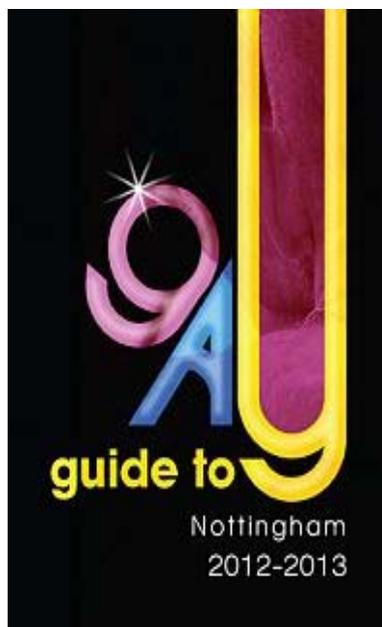
The **Terrence Higgins Trust** in Nottingham will launch its new and men's HIV Self Management Group in January 2013. It will provide a chance to meet and talk with other men in a safe setting and will deal with issues such as:

- HIV Management-Useful Coping Strategies
- Diet and Health
- Emotional Well Being

For more information, contact Adrian on 0115 882 0121 or 07811 442469  
THT, Unit 1, 12 High Pavement,  
(Next to Pitcher & Piano Bar)



## AN UPDATE FROM HGN



From New Year HGN and the Health Shop will be moving to Heathcoat Street while the current building is being renovated. Condom packing will take place in the Green Room at the Lord Roberts 5.30-7 pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month.

You can now download the 2012-3 Gay Guide from the HGN website - see back page.

## DONATIONS WHICH COST NOTHING

Do you shop online at Amazon, John Lewis, PC World, Vodafone? You can raise money for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Lesbian & Gay Switchboard at no cost to you!

We have registered with **www.givingabit.com** who have partnered with over 1,200 shops that will pay us a donation every time a purchase is made. It will not cost you a penny more and it is free to sign up.

All you need to do is go to [www.givingabit.com](http://www.givingabit.com) and sign up. Once you have signed up, click on 'Find a Charity or Community' from your Quick links box, and choose Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Lesbian & Gay Switchboard. You still buy directly from your favourite shops, you just visit them through links to their websites on the givingabit.com website to create a donation for us! Thank you for your continued support!

Lesbian & Gay Switchboard  
 0115 934 8485 or 01623 621515  
 or text 07624809360  
 Monday-Friday 7 pm-9.30 pm  
 7 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG1 3FB.  
 notts@lgswitchboard.fsnet.co.uk  
 www.nottslgs.org.uk  
 Follow us on Facebook at  
 www.facebook.com/NLGSUK  
 & Twitter at https://twitter.com/nottslgs

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

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

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Stop Hate Crime UK  
 (now operating in Nottinghamshire)  
 0800 138 1625 (24 hour helpline)  
 www.stophateuk.org

## SOME LOCAL LISTINGS

- Breakout** Social group for gay & bisexual men. Tuesdays 7.30 pm (at The Newmarket, Broad St.) Contact the Chair on 07941 855921 email andyandsteve01@gmail.com www.breakoutnottm.org.uk
- Outburst!** Group for LGB young people up to the age of 25. Meets Wednesdays at NGY (29-33 Castle gate) Phone Base 51 (at NGY) on 9525040 for details
- Lookout** The quarterly free lesbian newsletter. For details e-mail lookoutmag@hotmail.com
- WOW** LGBT Youth Group. Wed. 6.30 - 8.30pm Centre Place, Worksop. Tel: 01909 479191 email: info@centreplace.org.uk

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

Notts Hyking Dykes; Bi-Delight: Lesbian Book Club; Women's Badminton; Badminton Social; Lesbian & Gay Christian Movement; Chameleons (trans); Re-Creation (trans); Nottingham & Trent Uni LGBT Societies; Peak Ruffies women's walking group: LIRAIN (lesbians into real ale); Police OUTNetwork; LGBT Rainbow Writers Group; Sapphist Writers; SMOG (for straight partners of LGBT people); Lesbian Café evening; SYNT (Women's social group): Gay History Tours; Bi Women's Group; LiNk-Notts (lesbian e-mail info service); Mansfield Rainbow Divas (women's group); Eat Out Social; Ball Bois football team; Sherwood Ladies 5-a-side football; Tagadere (HIV+ support group); Weekenders (Sheffield-based walking group); Gay Outdoor Club; Panthers Rugby Club; Dinner Ladies (women's eat out group); LGBT Recovery (drugs/alcohol) Download a directory of groups & services from the Local Facilities page of Switchboard's website

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

## DIARY

### WINNERS ON POINTS

A welcome return for **Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo**. Winner of the Critics' Circle National Dance Awards and the TMA Theatre Award, the Trocks' combination of pure comedy, extraordinary technical prowess and genuine love of ballet has made them a global phenomenon. At the Royal Concert Hall, February 8th and 9th.



### WRITE UP YOUR STREET

A creative writing weekend for gay and bi men at Unstone Grange, Nr. Chesterfield. 1st-3rd February. You don't need to have already won the Booker prize or had articles published in The Lady!

Details from Richard McCance, Stonewall Breaks, 2 Devonshire Promenade, Lenton, Nottingham, NG7 2DS or e-mail dunedin10@yahoo.co.uk

### MILLION WOMEN RISE

The next Million Women Rise benefit is Saturday 16th February at the Polish Centre, Clumber Avenue off Sherwood Rise and will star the Very Good Disco Band!! More info to come on Facebook and LinkNotts.

Million Women Rise is a UK-wide movement of grass roots women who are united by their opposition to violence against women and who hold a vision of a world free from male violence. The inspiration for MWR came from a group of women who organised the first march in 2008. They dreamed of a strong visible presence of thousands of women marching together to say "enough is enough".

Million Women Rise organises an annual women and children's march and rally in London that not only aims to raise awareness of violence against women but also celebrates International Women's Day and the achievements and courage of women around the world. The march is always held on the nearest Saturday to IWD and next year will be held on Saturday 9th March.

Once again a coach will be going from Nottingham and Loughborough. Here in the East Midlands we fundraise both for the national march (which costs £18,000 to stage) and local costs.