

# QB

## Nottinghamshire's Queer Bulletin

December 2013/January 2014  
Number 75

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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

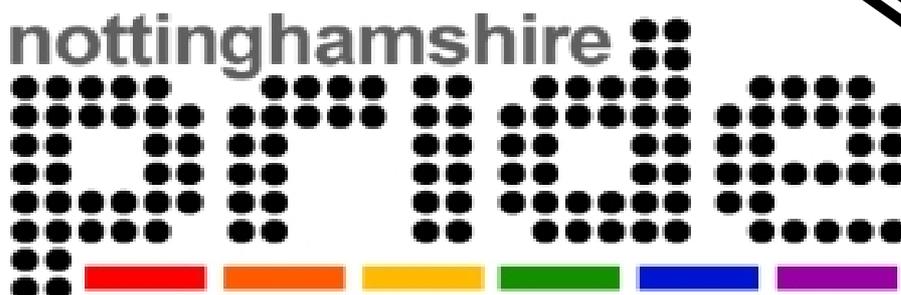
notts@lgswitchboard.fsnet.co.uk

The deadline for the next edition will be December 28th

Switchboard is registered  
charity number 1114273

## WHAT FUTURE FOR NOTTS PRIDE?

FREE



At Pride's AGM on October 23rd, a decision was made to wind up the charity, that decision being prompted by debts of about £17,000.

Shortly afterwards Leigh Ellis (pictured) commented on Pride's Facebook page that he was willing, with support from others, to look for ways of rescuing what most people regard as a valuable element in LGBT Notts life. The response showed that many backed this proposal. To that end, a meeting took place on Oct. 31st at which a new committee was formed with the view to hold a Pride event in 2014.



The first priority is to raise the funds to pay creditors. There will be shortly a meeting to formally hand over and elect committee members. Volunteers are needed to help fundraise and campaign to ensure pride goes ahead. They hope to change the constitution to introduce an executive board made up of previous chairs and other experienced members of the community to ensure pride continues to operate far beyond 2014. More in the next QB.

## PUBLIC HEALTH AND SEXUAL HEALTH

This year the "LGB&T Public Health Outcomes Framework Companion Document" was published. It was endorsed by Duncan Selbie, Chief Executive of Public Health England and repeatedly stresses:

- Training in LGB+T issues for all staff
- Monitoring of sexual orientation and gender identity
- Outreach into the LGB+T community
- Provision of specialist LGB+T services where appropriate (and the local community view is that they are definitely appropriate here)

Now that sexual health services have become part of Public Health, they are the responsibility of the Council, though administered by the NHS. The changes have prompted the following questions:

- Under the new arrangements, will there still be a service called "Healthy Gay Nottingham"?
- Healthy Gay Nottingham's outreach services have been in abeyance for some time. When will they resume?
- Will the LGB+T community be consulted about the new arrangements?
- Will the national guidelines for LGBT Public Health be followed?

Continued on the next page.

## CONTACTING PRIDE

If YOU want to help with Pride, you can get in touch with them through the Nottinghamshire Pride website, through their Facebook page (both Googleable) and – if in doubt – through Switchboard.

## PUBLIC HEALTH & SEXUAL HEALTH

Alison Challenger, Consultant in Public Health for the Council, has provided the following answers to the questions set out on the front page:

“Public Health have now started reviewing all sexual health services, including outreach work to the LGBT community. The review of services will ensure the needs of this group are met and that services are accessible for the LGBT community. Further consultation is planned as part of the review of sexual health services. The review will also take into consideration any changes which may be required in line with recommendations from published documents and guidance.

There has been no decision made on whether the Healthy Gay Nottingham service name will continue to exist or not. Regardless of the service name, all the roles of Healthy Gay Nottingham will exist in the form of targeted services for gay and bisexual men and men who have sex with men. Before any changes are made to the service name or delivery of the service, patients and the public will be consulted.

We plan to have the outreach and health promotion part of the service to restart as soon as possible. A Public Health manager at Nottingham City Council is currently working with the service to re-design and improve outreach and health promotion delivery by the Healthy Gay Nottingham service.”

\*\*\*\*\*

Jens Zimmermann, the one remaining full-time worker at Healthy Gay Nottingham, was given his notice at the end of October. At the moment there is no news about what, if anything, will be in place by January.

## CANCER AWARENESS

Nottingham University Hospitals are running a project in partnership with Stonewall trying to gain feedback from lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people about their awareness of cancer symptoms, seeking help and advice, and any experiences of cancer services. This survey is for all LGBT people: those with and without cancer. The survey will be entirely anonymous and will help them improve their services for LGBT people.

Please use the link to find out more and access the survey.

<https://www.nuh.nhs.uk/working-with-us/equality-and-diversity/health-champions-programme>

## THE LAST OUTING



This is a research study exploring end of life care experiences and concerns of older LGBT people has begun at the Sue Ryder Care Centre, University of Nottingham. The project will run until August 31st 2014) across the UK. This study is the first of its kind across the UK and consists of three phases:



**Phase 1:** A survey of LGBT older people's experiences and needs in relation to care in later life and end of life care.



**Phase 2:** In-depth interviews with up to 60 respondents to examine issues highlighted by the survey, incorporating 'eco-maps' (a participatory visual technique to map out and prompt discussions about respondents' supportive networks).



**Phase 3:** A public engagement workshop to feedback findings and to collaboratively develop recommendations to contribute to outcomes of the study.

We invite you to participate in this project if you meet the following criteria:

- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Trans Aged 60 or over
- People under 60 who have LGBT partners aged 60 or over
- Currently living in the UK

You can contact us on:  
[thelastouting@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:thelastouting@nottingham.ac.uk)

## READING THE SMALL PRINT

On renewing Nottingham Switchboard's insurance, they were devastated to learn that the insurance does not cover the following:

- Donkey riding
- Gorge walking
- Use of motor tricycles
- Weightlifting
- Use of non-mechanically propelled watercraft

## REPORTING WORKS

“What’s the point of reporting homophobic crimes, nothing’s ever done about it”. That is a sentiment that is often expressed, but it happens to be wrong.

Here are some statistics provided by the Crown Prosecution Service for Nottingham in 2013. They show the number of homophobic-related cases taken to court and the success rate.

MONTH	Successful prosecutions	Failed prosecutions
APRIL	16	1
MAY	15	1
JUNE	16	2
JULY	15	3
AUGUST	12	3
SEPTEMBER	16	3

## FORBIDDEN FORWARD

**Forbidden forward: the Justin Fashanu story** is a book by Nick Baker about the UK’s only out professional football player. It’s now published and you can get it from Waterstones, W.H. Smith etc, or directly from [www.justinfashanustory.com](http://www.justinfashanustory.com) where it is two pounds cheaper plus free post and packaging.

Some of the book deals with Justin’s time in Nottingham and includes photos supplied by Nottinghamshire’s Rainbow Heritage and comments from Ross Smith who knew Justin at the time when Ross managed Part Two club.



## ARE YOU CRAFTY?

I have started a group for Nottingham Craftspeople. You can see it at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Nottinghamcraftspeople/>

It’s a women’s group for Nottingham crafters. Whether you’re a beginner or advanced, whatever your craft e.g. sewing patchwork, jewellery making, carving, paper or badge making, knitting etc. Chat, share skills and tips, meet up, maybe even put on our own craft fair! Please join / share with anyone who you think might be interested.

Cheers Morag

## THE CONSORTIUM

Nottingham’s grants for “communities of identity and interest” are to be delivered through 3 consortia. One consortium will bring together gender and sexual orientation and will be led by the Women’s Centre. Nottingham Lesbian & Gay Switchboard will be part of this consortium along with Base 51 (which houses Outburst), Recreation and several women’s groups.

If/when this consortium becomes established, it may help to improve one of the glaring gaps in local LGB facilities - social/support services for LGB people from black and minority ethnic communities. Already some of those in BME women’s groups have raised this issue. Perhaps we will be able to report progress sooner rather than later.

## QB’S BITS

- Students at the Hasidic yeshiva of Gur have been banned from eating any food products based on soya out of a fear that it may lead to an increase in “gay sexual activity”.
- Lesbian and Gay Switchboard would like to thank the **Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement** for their welcome donation.
- **Breakout**, the gay men’s social group, will now be meeting every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the Month from 7.45pm in the basement room at the Lord Roberts.
- There’s a new social group - **Lesbians in Nottingham**. It meets at 8pm on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month at the Women’s Centre, 30 Chaucer Street. The group is for lesbians and women questioning their sexuality. It is particularly for those who want an alternative to the pub scene and especially welcomes older women.
- Well done the **Lord Roberts!** Guy Bentley, the landlord at The Lord Roberts says “I would just like to let you know, we have been fundraising during September, for Marie Curie cancer care. My customers and staff have raised a massive £1113 for the charity.” Guy joined Nottingham’s cockle man on his round - both in drag.



## EINSTEIN'S BLACKBOARD (Article by Tony Scupham-Bilton)

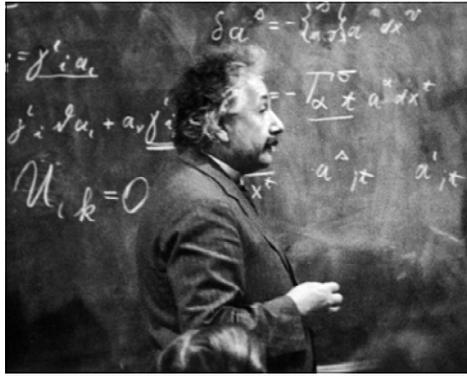
Einstein's Blackboard – it sounds like something out of Warehouse 13, a physical object imbued with supernatural powers, the paranormal source, perhaps, of Einstein's genius, to be protected from the outside world by a thick glass screen. Actually, it is. Protected behind a glass screen, I mean, not the paranormal bit.

The blackboard in question reverses this idea. It is a blackboard that has acquired priceless and somehow magical status because it was used by Einstein himself. Even his chalk is protected behind glass.

There are several blackboard's used by Einstein in the UK. The one I have in mind is located at the University of Nottingham. It was used by Einstein in a public lecture he gave there on 6<sup>th</sup> June 1930. He had been planning a visit to Nottingham at the invitation of a friend of his who was Reader in Atomic Physics at Nottingham. Illness prevented Einstein from making his first planned visit in 1928, but 2 years later he was staying with Prof. Sir Arthur Stanley Eddington (a closeted homosexual, played by David Tennant in a recent BBC drama-documentary) at Cambridge when he decided to visit Nottingham.

Stopping off at Woolsthorpe Manor, the home of Sir Isaac Newton, Einstein arrived in Nottingham to give his lecture. On a blackboard – just an ordinary blackboard – Einstein wrote an outline of his lecture. Written in German it was signed by the great man himself. The visit was a national event, not just of local importance, and was filmed by British Movietone News to be shown in cinema's across the country the next day.

Apart from Einstein's visit to Newton's home and Prof. Eddington in Cambridge, the biggest LGBT link to his blackboard comes in the person of the Professor of Astrophysics at the University of Nottingham, who is the official Keeper of Einstein's Blackboard. Between 1999 and 2007 both positions were held by Peter Coles. Professor Coles is one of the few out gay astrophysicists in the UK.



Einstein + blackboard



Professor Stanley Eddington



Professor Peter Coles

Peter was appointed professor at Nottingham, his first professorship, in 1998 and took up his position on New Year's Day 1999. A native of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Peter spent several years at Queen Mary and Westfield College in London immediately prior to moving to Nottingham. Before that he had studied Natural Sciences at Cambridge before moving down to Brighton on the south coast and the University of Sussex.

It was in Brighton in 1989 that Peter encountered his worst case of homophobia. As a gay teenager in Newcastle he was accustomed to the northern "school of hard knocks" and developed a thick skin, as he admits on his blog. It was after he left a Brighton club, alone, in the early hours of the morning when he was attacked by a group of yobs for no other reason that he had left a gay club. Peter was beaten unconscious. his attitude to homophobia.

Peter graduated with a D.Phil., and completed a subsequent postdoctoral research fellowship about a year later and moved to London and Queen Mary and Westfield College. Working at Nottingham Peter found a working environment comfortable with his sexuality. He founded the university's astronomical society and delighted in showing off Einstein's Blackboard to the media, including popular science broadcaster Adam Hart-Davis in his BBC Radio 4 series "The Eureka Years".

However, once he left Nottingham a former colleague and fellow Nottingham University professor made a comment on Peter's blog which Peter found homophobic – the use of the word "faggot" in relation to "dead wood" in academia in the UK. An investigation held by the University of Nottingham found that the comment was "isolated" and took no action. It was months before they even bothered telling Peter of their decision.

But that's all in the past, and Peter is back in Brighton as Professor of Theoretical Astrophysics and Head of the School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences at the University of Sussex. He is also Fellow and council member of the Royal Astronomical Society.

## POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS



My name's Gurmit Kaur and I'm a Community Cohesion Inspector, working within Nottingham City Council's Community Relations team.

One of my roles is to try and improve engagement within lots of communities; aiming to improve the trust and confidence that people have in us.

We've started to talk with a number of LGB & T groups and organisations to establish key contacts. This is both to understand who we would need to work with in times of critical incidents and also to improve the way we work within communities.

As part of breaking down barriers and for groups to raise issues, we want to ensure we're meeting you at a time that suits you. So please, if we have not yet contacted you and you would like more information, please get in touch with any of the team.

CPO 9978 Julian Best tel 07956 131854  
julian.best@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk  
PCSO 8184 Zoe Wade tel 07595 074172  
zoe.wade@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk  
Inspector Gurmit Kaur tel 07812 008940  
gurmit.kaur@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk  
Community Relation team on  
community.cohesion@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

## NEW FROM STONEWALL

Stonewall has just produced two new documents. They are "Protecting LGB people - a practical guide for Police Forces" and the "Stonewall Hate Crime survey 2013".

They can be downloaded from Stonewall's website, though it's not always easy to locate things there. Both can be found (along with about 70 other useful documents) on the Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage website. Go to

<http://nottsrh.webeden.co.uk/#/documents/miscellaneous/4541065055>

## WHO'S GETTING AWARDS?

Every year since 2008, Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage has presented awards to organisations, groups and individuals who have benefited the local LGBT community.

The 2014 awards will be presented at the Celebration evening on Tuesday February 25th at Nottingham Council House - more details in the next QB.

2014's awards will go to:

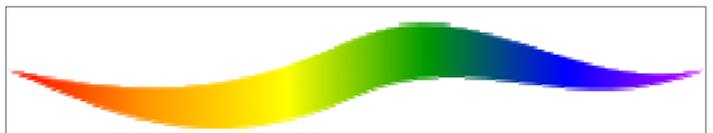
**Tagadere**, the volunteer run, user-led self help support group for people living with HIV in Nottinghamshire



The **E.on LGBT Network**. Many know about the financial support they have given to Pride, but they have been involved in many other worthy activities.



**Recreation**, the locally run weekly support/social group run for Trans persons by Trans persons. Recreation is inclusive of all ages and incorporates all people under the spectrum of Transgender/Trans



## HOUSE/FLAT TO SHARE OR LET?

Lesbian and Gay Switchboard has an accommodation file of people who have houses/flats to share or let to other LGBT people. At the moment they have people contacting them who need accommodation, but very few people offering to provide accommodation.

If YOU have a house/flat to share, let them know - the service is free. Contact details on the back page.

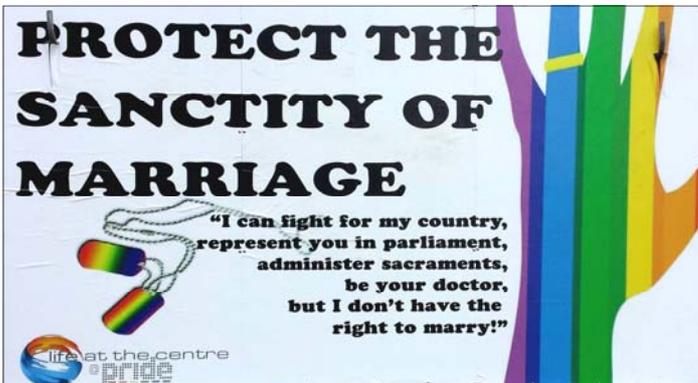
**A reminder.** Stop Hate Crime UK began work in Nottinghamshire a while back in cooperation with Notts Police and Nottingham City Council. Get in touch with them if you have experienced any homophobic incidents. Contact details are on the back page.

## MORE TEA, VICAR?

Make your own statement about the overuse of plastic bags. **GOD HATES BAGS** is mockery of American Baptist Pastor Fred Phelps's anti-gay hate campaign which is centred around the slogan "God Hates Fags".



Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage's Pride displays "Vicars in a Twist" showed varying religious responses about Equal Marriage. No equivocation from Nottingham's **Life at the Centre**, which once again had a forthright poster displayed on its wall.



And finally, there's the Gosford Anglican Church in New South Wales, Australia, which proclaims "We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, gay, filthy rich or dirt poor, skinny as a rail or could afford to lose a few pounds."



## GET YOUR VOICES HEARD

Ruth Rigby, new managing director for **Healthwatch Nottingham**, has pledged to champion the voices of local people throughout health and social care services within the city.

Ruth stated, "I am delighted to be joining Healthwatch Nottingham as Managing Director. My immediate priorities are to develop the structures necessary to ensure that people using health and social care services and their carers feel that their opinions are listened to, respected and taken into account by decision-makers."

Our shared aim must be to improve health and social care services and systems wherever necessary and to the highest possible standards."

Healthwatch Nottingham came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 and plays a major role in influencing the city's health and social care services. It works with Nottingham people to get their voices heard and have a greater say in the design and improvement of local services.

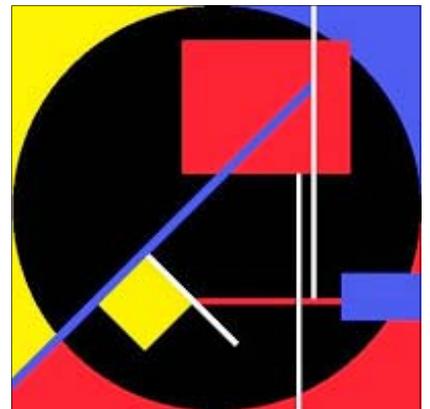
Ruth can be contacted via [info@healthwatchnottingham.co.uk](mailto:info@healthwatchnottingham.co.uk)

This provides another route for people to express any concerns they might have about sexual health services

## FIVE LEAVES BOOKSHOP

The older among us will have fond memories of Mushroom Bookshop, which closed about 13 years ago. It was an "alternative" book shop which was very LGBT friendly. Ross Bradshaw, who used to work at Mushroom, has now opened **Five Leaves Bookshop**.

Ross says "Five Leaves Bookshop will include dedicated lesbian and gay sections from the start. Supporting and promoting LGBT concerns is important to us, and we welcome people dropping in leaflets and posters advertising LGBT events as well as shoppers!" They will also stock Diva, Curve, Gay and Lesbian Quarterly, Gay Times etc.



The shop is at 14a Long Row, that's down the little alleyway next to Primark and over the road from the Tourism Centre. It will open on November 9th. The website is

[www.fiveleavesbookshop.co.uk](http://www.fiveleavesbookshop.co.uk)

## Become a Trust Member!

Nottinghamshire Healthcare wants to involve people in planning, reviewing and developing our services. By becoming members, people will be able to have their say on the services and matters that affect their lives and make a real impact on how we develop our services and future plans.

At Nottinghamshire Pride this year we will be encouraging more people to sign up so as members you will be able to influence our future services. Membership is free of charge and open to anyone who is 12 years or over and lives in England or Wales.

If you would like to learn more about becoming a member you can find details on the Trust website at:

<http://www.nottinghamshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/get-involved/become-a-member/>

You can apply online or by telephone, or to receive more information please contact the membership office on: 0800 012 1623 or the Involvement Team on 0115 9934567.

### Benefits of being a member:

- ✓ Receive a Member welcome pack when you have registered
- ✓ Receive the Trust newsletter
- ✓ Discounts from major retailers through "NHS Discounts"
- ✓ Access to the Trust Involvement Centres and Trust library
- ✓ Receive invites to events, conferences and involvement opportunities with the Trust
- ✓ Tell us what you think about our services and how they might be improved
- ✓ Influence plans for the future development of the Trust and its services
- ✓ Vote in elections for, and stand for election to the Members' Council
- ✓ Support our anti-stigma campaign to tackle the stigma and discrimination people with mental illness or a learning disability can face.



Lesbian & Gay Switchboard  
 0115 934 8485 or 01623 621515  
 or text 07624809360  
 Monday-Friday 7 pm to 9.15 pm  
 7 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG1 3FB.  
 nottinghamswitchboard@gmail.com  
 www.nottsrgs.org.uk  
 Follow us on Facebook at  
 www.facebook.com/NLGSUK  
 & Twitter at https://twitter.com/nottsrgs

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Healthy Gay Nottingham  
 0115 883 1338 Monday-Friday daytimes  
 Victoria Health Centre, Glasshouse St.,  
 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)

## SOME LOCAL LISTINGS

- Breakout** Social group for gay & bisexual men. 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month. 7.45 pm (at Lord Roberts, Broad St.) 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 Invasion (trans); Free to Be (Christian group) Nottingham & Trent Uni LGBT Societies; Peak Rufties women's walking group; Resonate (Nottm. LGBT youth group); Rainbow Writers Group; Sapphist Writers; Man Up (bears, leather group); Lesbian Café evening; SYNT (Women's social group); Gay History Tours; Bi Women's Group; LiNk-Notts (lesbian e-mail info); Mansfield Rainbow Divas (women's group); Eat Out Social; Ball Bois football team; Nottingham Craftspeople; Lirain (Lesbians into real ale) Sherwood Ladies 5-a-side football; Tagadere (HIV+ support): Lesbians in Nottingham (social group); Emerge (Police, fire, ambulance social group); Gay Outdoor Club; Panthers Rugby Club; Dinner Ladies (women's eat out group); LGBT Alcohol Support 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

### JUICE

There's another helping of **JUICE**, the women's disco, on Saturday December 7th - 8pm-1am.

It's at The Federation Club, Clarendon Road, Nottingham, NG5 1BH (between Sherwood Rise and Hucknall Rd).

### WORLD AIDS DAY SERVICE

This will take place on World AIDS Day, Sunday December 1st, at 2.15 pm, at St. Peter's Church, St. Peter's Square - next to Marks and Spencer.

### BREAKOUT'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

As usual, Breakout, the gay and bi men's group, will be having a Christmas Party. It's on Tuesday December 17th at the Lord Roberts - in the basement bar. It is described as a "fuddle" - as regards food, it's a bring and share night.

### OH, YES IT IS!

Panto time approaches. At the Playhouse, it's Jack and the Beanstalk (with a final appearance from Kenneth Alan Taylor). At the Theatre Royal, it's Peter Pan. Don't say you haven't been warned.

THE TAGADERE WORLD AIDS DAY 2013

# CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER 12 - 4PM

ST. ANN WITH EMMANUEL CHURCH/ROBIN HOOD CHASE/NOTTINGHAM NG3 4EY

**FREE ADMISSION**  
 HOT FOOD & DRINKS AVAILABLE



tagadere.org.uk  
 REGISTERED CHARITY 1129416