

QB

Nottinghamshire's Queer Bulletin

April/May 2015
Number 83

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

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The deadline for the next edition will be April 27th

**Switchboard is registered
charity number 1114273**

STONEWALL'S NO. 1 EMPLOYER

FREE



In 2013 Notts NHS Healthcare Trust made it to 4th in the Stonewall Employers' index and they were the highest organisation in the NHS. In 2014, they inched up to 2nd place and this year, they are number one.

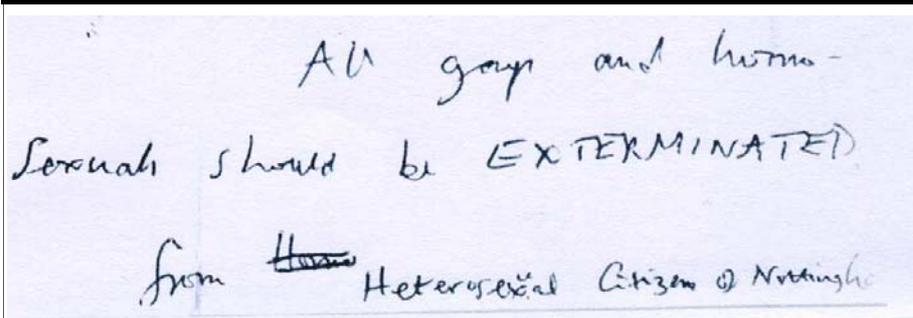
Much of the work behind the Trusts' progress is due to their head of Equality and Diversity, **Catherine Conchar** and this is one of the reasons why Catherine was given an award at the Celebration and Awards evening organised by Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage.

Catherine's work with the Trust is not the only reason for her award. When she previously worked for Nottingham City Council, she was the driving force behind several important events,

She organised Nottingham's first conference on tackling homophobic bullying in schools. She arranged an anti-homophobic bullying pack to be sent to every Nottingham School. She persuaded Nottingham Forest to put pictures of both their men's and women's football team on to an anti-homophobic and anti-transphobic poster. No other football team has done anything like that. Here's a photo of Catherine



THE HATE-FILLED CARD



Shown above is part of letter contained in a card presented to Lesbian and Gay Switchboard at their stall during a showing of "Pride" at Broadway. See inside for the full details.

LGBT HISTORY MONTH IN NOTTINGHAM

As usual, rainbow flags were everywhere. The one shown below was seen at the Notts Police HQ, while, amongst other places, they could be seen at the Council House and the HQ of Notts Healthcare NHS Trust.



Notts NHS Trust also organised a whole series of events, including a conference - "Coming out, being out" - held in collaboration with Nottinghamshire County Council.

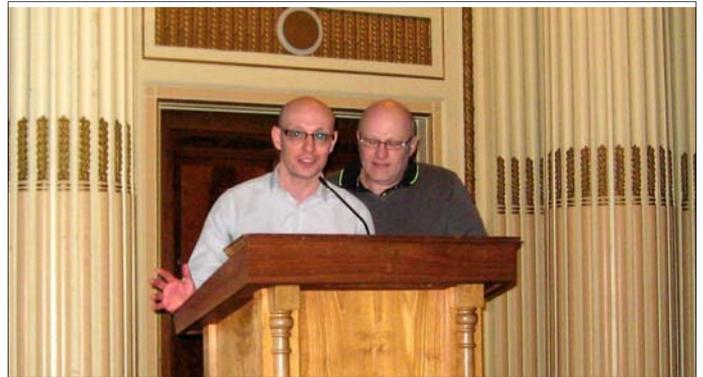
The pictures below show the display about the history of Nottingham Pride in the Trust's reception area and Richard McCance talking about his coming out experiences as set out in the "Late Outbursts" book of older LGBT people's memoirs.



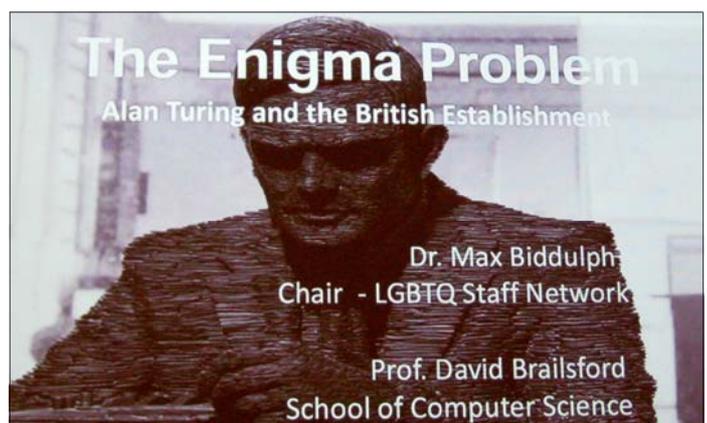
About 130 people attended Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage's Celebration and Awards evening at the Council House.

The award to Catherine Conchar is highlighted on the front page, but there were also awards to the organisers of Eat Out Nottingham and to the Nottingham Pride Committee responsible for making the 2014 Pride a success in difficult circumstances. The upper picture shows Steve and Norm from Eat Out Nottingham and the lower picture shows members of the Pride Committee.

The Pride Committee confirmed that 2015's Pride will be held on Saturday July 25th. You can read more about Eat Out Nottingham elsewhere in QB.

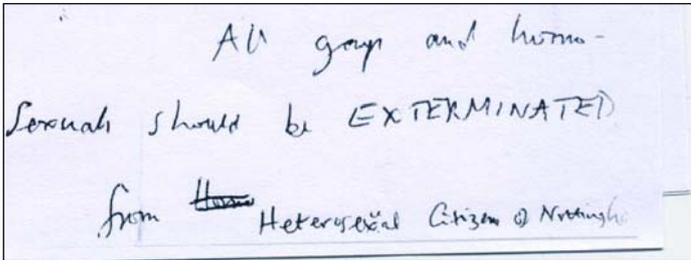


The University of Nottingham organised a string of events including a well-attended lecture dealing with Alan Turing's academic achievements, the technicalities of his code breaking work as well as his life as a gay man.



EXTERMINATE! EXTERMINATE!

On February 2nd Lesbian & Gay Switchboard had a stall at Broadway, where they were showing the film "Pride". Someone walked up to the stall and placed a card on the stall, adding "this is for you lot". The card was filled with "disgusting", "filthy" "contemptible" etc and ended with "all gays should be exterminated".



The person is a Broadway member and Broadway immediately removed him from the cinema, told him not to return and revoked his membership. The incident was reported to the Police and the person concerned will receive a caution, which will therefore appear on his criminal record.

The situation was also featured on NottsTV, with contributions from Richard Almond, of Switchboard, Leigh Ellis, chair of Pride and Superintendent Ted Antill from Nottinghamshire Police. An extract from this can be seen at <http://nottstv.com/categories/news/?bctid=4043018926001>

The **TRUE VISION** website explains clearly what a hate crime is and that includes internet hate crime. It gives advice and guidance about reporting hate crimes, including reporting hate crimes online, if you do not want to report directly to the police. Go to <http://www.report-it.org.uk>

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

Jews, Lesbians/Gays/bisexuals/transgendered people, people with disabilities, Roma gypsies, Black African heritage, Trade Unionists/communists/political activists, Polish people and Jehovah's Witnesses were all groups targeted by the Holocaust.

On 27th January 2015 a group of people gathered at All Souls Community Centre to remember these groups. Representatives or allies of each of the groups lit a candle, we also lit a candle for survivors and righteous gentiles/righteous nations. There was an 11th candle to mark the 11m people who died and to affirm our solidarity with all groups and our decision to remember.

The event was planned by NCBI Nottingham, Nottingham University Jewish Society and Lesbian and Gay Switchboard.

This was the first such event in Nottingham City, if you would like to be involved in next year's event please contact ncbinotts@ncbi.org.uk

THANK YOU, THANK YOU

Lesbian and Gay Switchboard would first like to say "thank you" to **Richard Townsley** and Ashfield District Council **UNISON** for organising a fundraising event which raised £121 for Switchboard.

Secondly, thanks goes to **Demi Harman**, who used her participation in a charity "white collar" style boxing match on the 28th February to raise money by setting up a fundraising page on Mydonate.

The page is active until May 28th, so to support Demi, go to

<https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/demiharmanpcb>



If you want to receive QB by e-mail, just contact Switchboard and ask to be put on to the e-mail list. The e-mailed version not only appears 14 days before the printed version - it's also in glorious colour!



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HELPING WITH RESEARCH

A PhD researcher from the School of Sociology and Social Policy at University of Nottingham is carrying out a research on transnational same-sex couples and hopes to recruit participants locally. The term "transnational same-sex relationship" is defined as partners who come from different countries (e.g. one may be British and the other one, Italian). The aim is to explore ways in which same-sex couples build a sense of belonging, home and intimacy, and how they manage to sustain their relationships in spite of the possible geographical/ cultural/ legal/ economic challenges of staying together. This investigation wishes to promote purposive conversations on how contemporary dynamics of migration interact with the intimate lives, choices and expectations of same-sex couples today.

Participation will comprise of 2 interviews involving both partners. The first will focus on your personal narratives as a couple and as individuals, touching upon subjects related to upbringing, sense of belonging, relationships with family and friends, intimate expectations, possible transnational movements, etc. The second interview will focus on material culture and its relationship with social life, thus exploring the significance of "things" and "stuff" (objects, decorations, food, art, and even sounds and smells!) in your daily lives as a couple and how those "things" may elicit an alternative biography of your lives together, of your sense of belonging and domestic life.

Participation in this research is voluntary and you may withdraw from it at any point. Participating in the research does not require any prior work from your side; I am interested in your story and your everyday life. The researcher is also flexible with time and will always try to accommodate your needs i.e. travel to you; carry out interviews when you wish to. If you are interested in taking part or have any further questions please to do not hesitate to get in touch with the researcher: Juan Anzola at lqxjda@nottingham.ac.uk.

NEW GROUP: QTWALKS

A new monthly walking group has been organised through QT Notts. Walk 1 – Meet at Newstead station on Saturday March 14th at 10.45 for 11.00 set off. Call/text Sam on 07837089855

Please join us for a gentle, very flat 6 mile walk starting from Newstead train station and going through Lord Byron's Newstead Abbey grounds and nearby pretty villages of Linby and Papplewick. Mainly pretty countryside with a short stretch of road walking (with pavement). Bring water and a packed lunch.

The walk is open to all who identify under the gender and sexual diversity umbrella (LGBTIQA), and their supporters. We aim to keep all QT events family friendly. Kids and well-behaved dogs welcome.



Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage is our local LGBT (Lesbian, gay bisexual and trans) history project. Their exhibition will include:

- The Nottingham Map - 75 points of LGBT interest in the city
- Alan Turing
- The "Who did what?" Prize Quiz
- LGBT badges and T shirts
- Equal marriage
- LGBT books and films

There will also be information from several local LGBT groups and services. Your opinions will be sought on issues of importance.

ADOPTION AND FOSTERING

Nottingham City Council's Fostering and Adoption Team is supporting LGBT Foster and Adoption Week 2015 which takes place 2-8 March. The event is run by UK charity New Family Social (NFS) which now boasts a membership of over 1000 households (96 are located in the East Midlands Region).

This year's theme is harder to place children; evidence suggested that same sex couples are readily matched with child which may be a result of willingness on their part to consider older children and sibling groups (Source: National Register, 2012).

Nottingham City Council has seen a rise in the number of prospective adopters coming forward from the LGBT community. This year alone (April – Dec), over a quarter (16%) of applications going through the adoption process with Nottingham City Council who have been matched to a child are same sex couples.

The team recently attended the Rainbow Heritage's Annual Celebration Event at the Council House along with NFS and will also be supporting Nottinghamshire Pride again this year in July.

For more information please contact 0115 9151234 or visit www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/love

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.



In the Autumn of 1991 a lesbian couple were expelled from the **Asda** store in Hyson Green after they kissed each other. As a response, Nottingham Outrage organised a Kiss-in in November 1991. The pictures show one of several couples kissing by the Asda checkouts and other people holding banners with the following comments:

- **Asda Supports Discrimination Actively**
- **All Seriously Dissatisfied Actually**
- **It Asda-be pervect**
- **Another Sodomite Demands Acceptance**

Even the local BBC estimated that at least 100 people took part in the Kiss-in.



QB'S BITS

- **Pastor Williams** of anti-gay Praise Cathedral Church of God in Indiana has been arrested for sexually harassing a man at a lake. The pastor's first name is Gaylard.
- First we heard that the **Lord Roberts** had closed, then, like a phoenix from the ashtray, it has reopened under new management. It is now "all clean and smelling of lemons".
- The release of 30 year old documents showed that **Margaret Thatcher** wanted to ban dildos.
- You couldn't make it up. In Russia they intend to ban Transgender people from driving.
- There is now a website devoted to Nottingham's **Ray Gosling**, the late broadcaster and gay rights campaigner. You can find it at www.raygosling.org
- Sophie's partner Jojo lives in the USA. They want to live together here in the UK, but Sophie states that to do this she will have to "sponsor" Jojo via a visa requirement of £18,600 annually. As usual, if you're well off you can do what you like. Sophie urges people to sign a petition to raise awareness: <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/p/families>
- **Breakout** gay men's social group has a new chairperson, Wesley Bleakley. The group continues to meet every 1st and 3rd Tuesday at the Lord Roberts at 8.15pm.
- The **Age UK over 55 lesbian social group** originally stated it was for "women born women". Age UK have now stated "Sorry, we got it wrong, the group does welcome trans women."
- We hear that **NG1** should no longer be described as a gay club and their ID procedure poses particular problems for some trans people who may find places such as Propaganda and the New Foresters more welcoming.
- Many years ago, the **Palais** (now Oceana) hosted drag balls. Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage was told that some of the regulars were known as "Brenda the Breadhag", "Tallulah", "Handbag Annie" and "Bumface".
- In times of austerity, organisations often have to take major steps to retain their financial viability. Here's one such instance which rebounds to Nottinghamshire's advantage. **LGCM** (Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement) will be giving up their expensive London HQ and moving to Newark.
- A review of the **50 Shades of Grey** film commented that it brought to mind a line from a Victoria Wood song ... beat me on the bottom with a Women's Weekly. By the way, the next volume of Peter Scott-Presland's book on CHE (see next page) will be called 50 Grades of CHE.



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BADGEMANIA 4



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or call 0845 330 3131.

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ON THE BUSES

Nottingham City Council arranged for information about LGBT History Month to be displayed during February on the LED information panels at City bus stops.

Route	Destination	Time
48	Clifton	3 min
3	Clifton	5 min

February is LGBT History Month

EAT OUT NOTTINGHAM

Eat Out Nottingham is an LGBT dining group that meets 10 times per year (Wednesday nights monthly from February to June, and August to December). The group visits different restaurants and provides a relaxed, social environment for people to meet and make new friends.

The group has proved to be quite popular and the number of attendees typically ranges from 15-25. Some of the restaurants we've visited over the years include Encounters, Petit Paris, Emilio's and Antalya. We're also keen to try out new restaurants. We aim to make newcomers feel as welcome as possible.

The cost of the meal includes a £1 donation per diner and the donations collected over the year are split evenly between two causes: Nottingham Lesbian and Gay Switchboard and The Notts Hardship Fund.

Eat Out has been running since 2006 and will soon be holding its 100th event. Although the group is LGBT orientated, guests are welcome to bring friends regardless of sexual orientation - all we ask is that people are tolerant and open minded. To be included on our mailing list please email eatoutnottingham@hotmail.co.uk

HEALTHWATCH

The NHS says that it will not treat anyone unfairly because of their: gender, race, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity status, marital or civil partnership status or gender reassignment. The NHS also says it will give extra support to some groups so they have the same chances as other people to be healthy.

The Worksop Youth group WOW were asked "Is this your experience?" Their responses included:

- I don't feel comfortable telling the doctors I'm gay. I feel judged by them.
- The practice presumed same sex partner was a relative.
- Kingsmill Hospital – they presumed I was heterosexual.
- Bassetlaw Hospital – I was made to take a pregnancy test even after explaining I am a lesbian.

Healthwatch Nottinghamshire is interested to hear from LGBT communities who live in Nottinghamshire (there is Healthwatch Nottingham for the city) about their experiences of using health and social care services – good or bad.

www.healthwatchnottinghamshire.co.uk

AMIABLE WARRIORS

Amiable Warriors is the title of a book dealing in detail with the history of CHE up to 1973. CHE was the Campaign for Homosexual Equality. In Nottingham it was active from about 1970 to the early 1980s.

The book has been written by **Peter Scott-Presland**, shown on the right introducing the book at the Manchester LGBT Festival.

Peter makes the point that GLF, the Gay Liberation Front, has become the campaigning organisation that people remember, but the products of CHE were far more numerous and historically important.

Without CHE, Nottingham would not have Lesbian & Gay Switchboard, nor the year 2000 history project which became part of Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage. Now defunct organisations such as Nottingham Friend, and Nalgay (forerunner of current trade union LGBT support groups) would never have existed. The Pavilion Club, the first gay club in the Midlands, would not have started without CHE. Locally, inclusion of sexual orientation in Councils' Equal Ops policies were pushed through by CHE.

There will be at least two further books dealing with CHE's history beyond 1973.



NOTTS TRANS HUB

Notts Trans Hub is new "hub" website created for the safer space guidelines and to provide support for trans community organising in Notts.

Subscribing to Notts Trans Hub will bring you're their monthly bulletin. This is a way of sharing information with anyone interested without them being deluged with lots of emails – services, supporters, and trans folks can send us information to put in the bulletin (to nottstranshub@yahoo.co.uk) and we will share it in the monthly email.



To subscribe, go to <https://nottstranshub.wordpress.com/mailling-list/> or reply "yes please" to nottstranshub@yahoo.co.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

<https://twitter.com/rainbowheritage>

SOME LOCAL LISTINGS

Outburst! Group for LGBT young people aged 11-19
Meets Wednesdays at NGY (29-33 Castle gate)
Phone Base 51 (at NGY) on 9525040 for details

Lookout Quarterly lesbian newsletter. 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; Sanctuary (LGBT BME group); Chameleons (trans); Re-Creation (trans); Nottingham Invasion (trans); Trans4ME (young people's trans group); Free to Be (Christian group) Nottingham & Trent Uni LGBT Societies; Peak Rufties women's walking group; Rainbow Writers Group; Man Up (bears, leather group); Lesbian Café evening; QTWalks; SYNT (Women's social group); Gay History Tours; Bi Women's Group; Age UK over 55 lesbian group; LiNk-Notts (lesbian e-mail info); QT Notts (info sharing by e-mail) 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; Notts Trans Hub; Tagadere (HIV+ support): Nottingham BiTopia & BiTalkia (Bi social groups); Lesbians in Nottingham (social group); Emerge (Police, fire, ambulance social group); Gay Outdoor 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

DIARY

SEWING MACHINE SINGER

Opera North is doing a double bill of Puccini's **Gianni Schicci** (probably the only "comic" opera that genuinely makes you laugh) and Falla's **La Vi-de Breve**.



The latter is in what is sometimes called a "regie" production i.e. where the director goes mad and ignores the original story. The new story line includes a transgender sewing machinist. Nevertheless, the production is devastating and won an award on

its first appearance 10 years ago. Tuesday March 24th at the Theatre Royal.

BAD HABITS



The Theatre Royal invites you to don your cut up chintz curtains when "Sing-a-long-a-Sound of Music" returns on Friday March 27th.

BEAUTIFUL THING



Beautiful Thing is a glorious urban love story between two young men set on an inner city housing estate. It tells the story of teenager Jamie's relationship with classmate and neighbour, Ste.

Together the two boys find comedy, warmth and the music of Mama Cass through their loud-mouthed next door neighbour, Leah.

At Nottingham Playhouse from April 21st to May 9th.

JUICE

The women-only Dance night returns on Saturday March 28th at the Federation Club, Claremont Road, Nottingham, NG 5 1BH. 8pm 'til 1am. £5, waged, £3, unwaged. Free parking.