

# QB

## Nottinghamshire's Queer Bulletin

October/November 2010  
Number 56

In this edition:

Sad news.

We regret that due to the dire economic circumstances (which, that dear Mr Cameron says are entirely the fault of the previous Labour government and have absolutely nothing to do with the banks) we will have to double the price of QB.

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 mid November 2010

**Switchboard is registered  
charity number 1114273**

## NOTTINGHAM PRIDE ON THE FOREST

**FREE**



The general consensus seems to be that Nottingham Pride on the Forest Recreation Ground was a success. Some people had reservations about the move from the Arboretum, but as a first attempt at holding the event at a new venue the Pride Committee deserve congratulating on getting most of it right first time. There will probably be one or two things which can be tweaked next year. The publicised demo by a few young male Muslims was reported as being rather pathetic. The slightly cloudy weather aspect was, so I am told, due to two members of the Pride Committee who were reluctant fully to commit themselves to the annual naked anti-rain dance.

## WANTED

**Nottingham area. 35 year old WLTM persons of any age with GSOH, good listening ear and friendly disposition for 121 chats on a regular basis! Good telephone manner essential.**

Yes, Lesbian & Gay Switchboard, your local LGBT information service & helpline, is 35 this year and is looking for new volunteers for the next training session beginning late Autumn - we especially welcome women and people from ethnic minorities. Phone, write, e-mail or text if you want to get involved. Our contact details are on the front page.

## OUTBURST: AN UPDATE



Three months ago it seemed that Outburst had no future; In early June a local MP wrote to Jon Collins about this issue. As far as we know, he has yet to reply. Nevertheless, there have been some positive developments since then.

Outburst will continue, for the time being, at Base 51 with support from Base 51 and elsewhere. Some of that external support will come from Healthy Gay Nottingham, who will attend the group at least once a month. Young people requiring counselling can receive it from Healthy Gay Nottingham/The Health Shop, Base 51 and via targeted support services that will be negotiated and promoted to the group on the Nottingham Youth website.

The young people at Outburst wish to set themselves up as an independent group with its own constitution and finances and are being assisted in this process.

In September 2011 the City Council hope to open NGY, a youth centre at the old Trent FM building on Castle Gate. A 4 million pound grant has been obtained to refurbish and re-equip the building. When open, Base 51 will move there and if Outburst wishes, they will be given a free space to use for their meetings. The new building will have excellent facilities and will provide a safe space where young LGB people will see positive images and supportive literature. Staff will have received LGB awareness training.

## THANK YOU



On behalf of the **Health Shop**, thank you very much to all the people who visited our health promotion stall at Pride. We received fantastic feedback about our sexual health information leaflets, especially from Lesbian and Trans people who were thrilled to see sexual health information finally being provided specifically for them.

Thanks too to Outburst, who included our Trans leaflet on their stall. We were most surprised at the number of Heterosexual leaflets that were taken, as we'd debated whether to include any at all. It's great to know that there were plenty of straight people supporting Nottingham Pride this year.

If anyone missed us, or we ran out of leaflets by the time people got to us, call the Health Shop for copies of your own specific sexual health information booklet.

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

## WHO WANTS BETTER SEX?

The Sex Course is a one day course for men who have sex with men, where you will find out how your body works and how to get the best out of it during sex. Unprotected anal sex is the major route of transmission amongst gay men, and many men have concerns about how risky oral sex is. The course includes hints and tips on making sex both safer and more enjoyable and will help you to explore what you want from your sex life in a non-threatening, non-judgemental and fun space.

It's on Saturday 20th November 10 am-5 pm at the Healthy Gay Nottingham premises at 12 broad Street, Hockley, Nottingham NG1 3AL. To find out more or to book a place on this course or at any of the courses all around the UK go to <http://www.gmfa.org.uk>

## THE POWER OF THE WORD

Some newspapers, the Daily Telegraph is one, cling to the word homosexual. That word was widely used at a time when gay men and lesbians were assumed to be mentally ill and/or criminals. The word carries a lot of negative baggage and those still using it are usually well aware of this.

Some recent research in the USA demonstrates the importance of avoiding the “wrong” words. They asked the same question twice, but varied the wording.

“Should homosexuals serve in the US Army?” 49% said “yes”.

Should lesbians and gay men serve in the US Army?” 70% said “yes”.

## RAINBOW VISION

Rainbow Vision is a new project hosted by Derbyshire Friend and funded by the Equalities and Human Rights Commission. One of our aims is to work jointly with other LGB&T centres, groups and communities across the East Midlands to develop 3 specific Forums - Youth (13-25 years old), BAME (Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic Communities) and Trans. National research and local needs assessments have identified that LGB&T people within these 3 communities are particularly poorly represented. They are more likely to be socially isolated from their peer groups, unclear about regional and national issues affecting their lives and less likely to be aware of their rights and how to exercise them.

Through networking events and virtual forums, our aim is to support these 3 communities to identify their own needs plus areas that they may want to work on collectively and then help them to engage effectively with other organisations and groups both regionally and nationwide. The overall outcomes will be to liaise, network, share best practice, improve experiences, socialise and set goals for joint working and hopefully community activism.

**Can you help us?** We are currently liaising with some groups and individuals across the East Midlands around possible participation in the 3 Forums. We are experiencing problems in knowing how to get the BAME Forum started. If you are interested in getting involved or have advice to offer or prior experience that we can learn from we would be very grateful if you could get in touch.

Also if we have not yet been in touch with you about the Youth or Trans Forum and you would like to get involved/find out more do get in touch.

Please contact Oonagh McKay or Beth Seymour on 01332 207704 or [rainbowvision@gayderbyshire.org.uk](mailto:rainbowvision@gayderbyshire.org.uk)



## QB'S BITS

- The **Justin Campaign** football tournament, organised last July at Nottingham University, was such a success that the event will return to Nottingham next year.
- Now that the arrangements with Nottingham **Tourism Centre** (as reported in the last QB) have begun, you can now pick up QB in the Centre.
- **Banna Lesbian Housing** now has its own PO box. If you want to write to them, it's at Banna Housing Co-op, PO Box 10020, Nottingham NG1 9GR
- **Come to Daddy** is restarting. It's now at Fuel on the last Saturday of each month beginning on Saturday September 25th

## LGB AWARENESS TRAINING

A reminder that if anyone in the organisation that you work for is in need of high quality LGB Awareness training, then Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage's highly praised “**Proud to be Gay**” session is taking place on November 25th at Arnold Library.

For details, either phone 0115 9349529 or e-mail [nottsrh@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nottsrh@hotmail.co.uk)

At £25, this is not cheap training, but very expensive training made cheap because it is sponsored by the Heritage Lottery Fund.



**Nottinghamshire's  
RAINBOW HERITAGE**

# NOTTINGHAM IN THE NEWS

**LGBT HISTORY**

**Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage**, your local LGBT history project, has been collecting cuttings from newspapers going back as far as 1915. This page is devoted to quotes based on what the papers had to say about us.



Southwell Diocese has opened a wide-reaching debate on homosexuality, the subject of a report to go to the General Synod.

Nottingham Evening Post. Feb 16th 1981

## **UNDERSTAND BEING GAY, CHURCH ASKED**

There is a widespread ignorance about homosexuality, said the chairman of the Southwell Diocesan board, Rev Malcolm Goldsmith. "It needs to be said loud and clear that homosexuals are not perverts, nor are they men and women with some dreadful illness. Of course, some of them go off the rails, as do heterosexuals. But your sons and daughters are not in danger, because one in 20 of all adults they meet is likely to be homosexual."

Others at the meeting expressed their views:

Just because they have different sexual ideas does not mean that they are any less human. (Barbara Lacey)

Homosexuals were often lonely and found it hard to mix in society. (Nora Healey)

God had designed men and women to compliment each other not their own sex. If everybody turned to homosexuality, then the human race would soon die out. (Yvette Freeman)

Newark Advertiser 20th Feb. 1981

## **LESBIAN GHETTOS REPORT SLAMMED**

A senior Conservative councillor today attacked a report urging the creation of lesbian "ghettos" in Nottingham. Coun. John Carter hit out at the report which suggests that lesbians might be housed in neighbouring homes.

"With lesbians and gays, it will make them more of a target than they are already. If they want to live normal lives, they don't want to live in Number One, Lesbian Avenue."

Nottingham Evening Post January 17th 1984.

## **GAY ADVICE**

I wonder if readers have seen the Council's latest publication for homosexuals and lesbians? It's a leaflet bearing the advice "It's OK to be Gay".

It goes on to justify as acceptable what is behaviour of a most degenerate and immoral kind. There are lists of meeting places and even a contact address for "gay Catholics".

I expect it won't be long before attempts will be made to brainwash us into thinking it is acceptable for schoolchildren to be homosexual.

Nottingham Evening Post June 16th 1986

## **TORY COUNCIL WILL DELIVER**

I read with interest your report on the pleas of Nottingham's homosexual community not to turn them into an election issue. In fact, it is Labour's insistence on putting a high profile on any pressure group, no matter how crackpot or insidious, at the expense of those that form the backbone of Nottingham's citizenship that we as Conservatives condemn.

Nottingham Evening Post April 17th 1987.

# MORE PRIDE PICS





Dear Marj,

**I have a real problem with dealing with rejection. I don't really know how to approach people in bars and find that if I end up going home by myself at the end of the night, I become incredibly depressed and it seems to take ages for me to get out of the rut. This isn't a recent thing and it feels as though it has been an on-going process.**

**I'm not a bad looking guy but there seems to be something about me that isn't giving off the right vibe. Any advice you can give me?**

**Anon, 45.**

Dear Anon, 45.

Thank you for your letter. It sounds as though you've been going through a pretty rough time lately honey. As human beings we are inherently relationship and contact seeking so when these very early relational needs are not met, feelings of despair, shame, anger and depression can manifest...feelings that it seems you are all too familiar with.

You mentioned that you have felt this way for some time and are concerned about the vibe that you give off. I'm wondering if there have been earlier experiences in your past whereby you have felt shamed or rejected in some way, particularly when seeking love or nurturing? If this is the case, being faced with similar situations as an adult can trigger some of these hidden and buried feelings from the past. Even though you may not be consciously aware of these, the emotions and feelings that accompany them will still feel incredibly real and as though they are happening again in the present, thereby making it feel incredibly overwhelming. If you are aware of this pattern beginning to repeat itself, it is important that you find a way of grounding yourself in the moment (removing yourself from the situation in question, speaking to a friend, listening to or dancing to the music etc) so that you have time to process what is happening and separate the past from the present.

You may not be consciously aware of it but there may also be a part of you that is seeking relationships, which are not quite right for you in the sense that for

romantic relationships to be successful, there has to be a degree of mutual engagement on an adult level.

If we seek relationships to satisfy unmet needs from our childhood, there will be a disparity in the power balance of the present relationship because we may be unconsciously searching for a mother or father figure instead of a romantic partner. If you feel that this could be the case or it is becoming more of a persistent problem, it may be worth accessing support from a counsellor so that you can have a safe space to really explore the impact that your past may be having on your present and begin to disentangle it so that it does not feel as though it is repeating itself.

Rejection in itself can be a tricky foe to tackle, particularly if it is triggering shaming feelings or memories from your past but here are some tips to help you when on a night out and looking for love, sex or friendship:

Easier said than done but try to be yourself and feel confident about this. Whilst the shy thing can be cute and endearing, poor eye contact, rapid or barely audible speech, interrogation style questions or an hour long monologue about yourself can be a turn-off as they prevent the other person remaining in contact with you.

Relationships, in whatever form can only thrive if there is dialogue and mutual engagement. Smiling, eye contact, showing an interest in them as well as sharing bits about your self is always a good start. There is also nothing wrong with being clear in your own mind about what it is that you would like from the other person (sex, friendship, relationship) and using subtle questions to ascertain whether or not you are both on the same page. It is better to do this early lest you both feel disappointed or resentful that one or both of you has been giving the other mixed messages.

Remember, everyone's taste is going to be different so it is impossible to try and be everything to everyone. Be patient though, don't give up and really get to know yourself first because if you don't know who you are and what you want, how will anyone be able to meet those needs? Be clear in your mind about what you want from a relationship and be mindful that you do not find yourself forming relationships which ultimately do not meet these real needs but instead leave you feeling unhappy simply to avoid rejection or displeasing the other person.

As I said before, rejection is not the easiest foe to beat but there is hope and if you can find support from friends, family or even a therapist, you can begin to safely explore why rejection has such a massive impact on you. With insight comes change and a choice to perhaps do things differently and really give yourself the opportunity to find the right relationship, which will be satisfying, rewarding and real.

Take care and good luck. Marj. xxx

## MARLENE DIETRICH - A TRIBUTE

Marlene – movie star, cabaret artiste, war hero, lesbian – and atheist!



In this entertaining show, Terry Sanderson looks at the many aspects of Dietrich's complex personality.

He will use generous clips from Dietrich's films, examine rare archive material of her medal-winning anti-Nazi war work and then show a complete performance on the big screen of her famous one-woman show, with which she toured the world. Recorded in Sweden in 1963, this is Dietrich at her peak, accompanied by Burt Bacharach and his orchestra.

A very rare opportunity to see this sizzling performance that sold out in London and New York!

Nottingham Arts Theatre  
George Street, Nottingham, NG1 3BE

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2010, 3pm and 7pm  
Tickets £15 Box Office: 01159476096  
Or on-line from [nottingham-theatre.co.uk](http://nottingham-theatre.co.uk)

## LAFS SUPPORT GROUP

Would you like to meet other women who are lesbian, bisexual, transgender who identify as lesbian, or uncertain of their sexuality - age 16 plus?

*Informal group in Mansfield/North Notts areas  
Come Along For A Chat  
Make New Friends And Have Fun!*

**Now Meeting  
on 2nd Tuesday  
of each month  
From Tuesday 12th October  
7pm - 9pm**

*Lots planned -  
will be at Leicester Pride,  
going bowling - lots more  
So Come And Join Us!*

**Call 0784 979 8802 (before 9pm)  
Or email: [lafs1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lafs1@hotmail.co.uk)  
for details and venue**

## SERVICES PROVIDED BY HEALTHY GAY NOTTINGHAM

New resources are now available from HGN (Gay Guide available from the bars and clubs) or to download from HGN website.

- HGN Service leaflet
- New Gay Guide 2010/11
- Coming out booklet
- Male rape booklet
- Emotional wellbeing booklet

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

HGN are looking to recruit volunteers to help deliver their services. Various roles are available:

- “Meet and Greeter” The duties attached to this volunteer role are mainly around being available to welcome clients, service users or professionals to the service during office hours; open days; training days; drop-in sessions; or during any other time we are open.
- Condom Packer Assistant This role is primarily to help the condom packers in their role.
- Office Assistant This is a General Administration role.
- Outreach Assistant This role is assisting the Outreach team carry out their duties.

There will be full training provided. For more information contact Healthy Gay Nottingham.

### Healthy Gay Nottingham is “going postal”

No it's nothing to do with Terry Pratchett's book of the same name. Postal Chlamydia test kits are now available from HGN for under 24 year olds. Get them from the HGN Saturday drop-in or from the HGN Outreach team when you see them in the bars and clubs. All it takes is a little bit of wee to put your mind at rest.

### Positive About Sex day at HGN to mark World AIDS Day

To coincide with the launch of HGN's second instalment of “The Sex Tips” booklets for gay men, which looks at ways of spicing up your sex life, they will be holding a one day event on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December. The Positive About Sex Day is in its planning stages, but will be offering a number of workshops looking at different aspects of sex, and how to get the most fun out of it.

If you any ideas what you'd like to see included or you want to register your interest in attending, please contact HGN via email or phone, (see back of QB).

Please be aware there will only be a limited amount of places available for each session, registration will be required to make sure you don't miss out on the one you are interested in

Lesbian & Gay Switchboard  
0115 934 8485 or 01623 621515  
or text 07624809360

Monday-Friday 7-9.30 pm  
7 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG1 3FB.  
notts@lgswitchboard.fsnet.co.uk  
www.nottslgs.org.uk

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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  
(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](http://www.breakoutnottm.org.uk)
- Outburst!** Group for LGB young people up to the age of 25. Meets every Monday at Base 51. Phone Base 51 on 9525040 for details. The Trans group meets at 6.30 on 1st/3rd Thursday each month at the International Community Centre. Contact Davina 07940 761160
- Lookout** The quarterly free lesbian newsletter. For details e-mail [lookoutmag@hotmail.com](mailto:lookoutmag@hotmail.com)

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

Nottinghamshire Hyking Dykes; Bi-Delight: Stately Homes Group; Notts Lesbian Book Club; Women's Badminton; Badminton Social; Lesbian & Gay Christian Movement; East Mercia MSC; Chameleon Group; University of Nottingham & Trent University LGBT Societies; Peak Ruffties; Grizzly; LIRAIN; Police OUTNetwork; Flying Colours; SMOG; 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; Youth groups in Mansfield (Opening Doors) and Worksop (WOW).

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

## DIARY

### LOOT

Loot, Joe Orton's masterpiece of black farce, pokes a viciously satirical stick at the Catholic Church, attitudes to death and the integrity of the police force.

It's at the Lace Market Theatre from October 4th to 9th. Halifax Place, Nottingham, NG1 1QN  
Telephone: (0115) 950 7201

### Fanny's! Women Only Night

Upstairs @ The Canalhouse Bar,  
Canal Street, Nottingham NG1 7EH  
(Next to Via Fossa)

Saturday November 27th 8pm – 1am

Disco starts at 9pm £5 Entry

Although this venue is upstairs, there is a lift.

Tickets available on the night.  
Any queries e-mail

[fannys.nottingham@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:fannys.nottingham@hotmail.co.uk)

### THE HABIT OF ART

After a sell-out success in London, Alan Bennett's latest smash hit play comes to Nottingham.

Oxford 1972. Benjamin Britten, sailing uncomfortably close to the wind with his new opera, seeks advice from his former collaborator and friend, W H Auden. During this imagined meeting between the two gay men, their first for twenty-five years, they are observed and interrupted by, amongst others, their future biographer and a young man from the local bus station.

Deeply funny and thought provoking, this new play reflects on growing old, on creativity and inspiration, and on persisting when all passion's spent: ultimately, on the habit of art. It's at the Theatre Royal, November 2nd to 6th.

### FANCY A SCREW?

Britten again. Benjamin Britten's edge-of-your-seat psychological thriller, *The Turn of the Screw*, is based on a chilling Henry James ghost story. It's on November 17th at the Theatre Royal as part of the Opera North Autumn season.

For tickets TELEPHONE: 0115 989 5555