

QB

Nottinghamshire's Queer Bulletin

October/November 2011
Number 62

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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
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Nottingham NG1 3FB

or e-mail

notts@lgswitchboard.fsnet.co.uk

The deadline for the next edition will be October 31st 2011

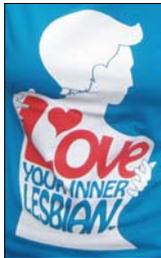
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25,000 AT PRIDE

FREE

Yes, the estimate is that 25,000 people visited Nottinghamshire Pride at the Forest Recreation Ground. This easily breaks the previous record and shows that Pride really had become too big for the Arboretum. A sunny success! Congratulations to the Pride Committee.

The Pride marchers included the Mayor, the Sheriff and the Chair of the County Council - no, that was NOT Mrs Kay Cutts.



MORE PRIDE PICS



SEE YOU NEXT TUESDAY

See you next Tuesday is a social gathering for "Girls who like girls". It's from 8.00 pm every Tuesday in the Orange Tree pub, on Shakespeare Street.

No agenda just a place to meet each week to make friends and have a relaxed chat and a good few laughs with new people, all very welcome. It's been going now for only a few weeks, but already we have a regular bunch of lovely ladies of all age groups!

For info please email syntgirls@hotmail.co.uk and there is also a Facebook group - [facebook.com/syntgirls](https://www.facebook.com/syntgirls).

QB'S BITS

- **CS2**, the new sauna, is now open at 1, Lennox Street (on the corner with Cranbrook Street). It's in what used to be the proposed OutHouse building just down the road from NG1 and @D2. Don't understand why their phone number has to be an 0871 number.
- In Mansfield, Zeus sauna has closed - but only for refurbishment. It will soon reopen under the new name of **Manzfield's**.
- Switchboard would like to thank **Reflections** sauna, the **New Foresters** and the **County Council LGBT Employees Group** for making collections/donations to support the helpline.
- Networks are the thing. The University of Nottingham Staff LGBTQ group is trying to establish an LGBT network for Nottingham, while the East Midlands LGBT Network has been revived by Derbyshire Friend.
- Autumn is the time for self-improvement and **New College Nottingham** is at the forefront. Under "Spiritual awareness" it is offering a 6 week course on "Fairies for beginners", while under "Creative arts" you will find a 5 week course in making your own tiara. We are not making this up, you know.
- **Notts Rainbow Heritage** is running another of its LGB Awareness training days on Wednesday Nov. 16th 9.30 to 4 pm at Arnold Library. £25/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.

THE JUSTIN TOURNAMENT

The University of Nottingham hosted the second Justin Tournament (as part of the Justin Campaign to rid football of homophobia) on July 2nd 2011.

Teams came from as far away as Belfast, though the winners were Nottingham's **Sparta Black** (for the women) and **Zonal Marketing** for the men.



Basketball star John Amaechi (below) presented the prizes and the whole event was attended by many enthusiastic fans, one of which is shown on the right.



Where, you will ask, were **Nottingham Ball Bois**? Actually, they were in Rotterdam, winning a 3rd place at the Eurogames.



 ★ **A request.** Lesbian and Gay Switchboard has
 ★ had an enquiry asking about gay friendly barbers
 ★ in the Hucknall area. If anyone knows of such a
 ★ person, can they please contact Switchboard.
 ★ E-mail notts@lgswitchboard.fsnet.co.uk
 ★

ALL CHANGE AT BREAKOUT

Breakout has recently appointed **Andrew Burton** as their new Chairman (see below), the social group which is for gay and bisexual men of all ages meets on a Tuesday evening at Healthy Gay Nottingham (HGN) which is on Broad Street, just up from the Broadway Cinema.

Andrew says "if you are feeling at a loose end on Tuesday evenings and are looking for something to do then come and say hello. Doors open at 7.30 pm with events starting from 8 pm and vary each week from fun quiz nights to guest speakers, games etc. Everybody is made welcome - we also provide tea and cake, so come along and join us and I look forward to meeting you"

Also Andrew is always on the lookout for anybody who thinks they may have something of interest to the group and would like to come and talk or entertain the group, or if you just require more information, he can be contacted on 07941 855921 or by email at andyburton21@ntlworld.com

PRIDE AGM

At their AGM **Angela Barker** was elected as the new Chair, with Chris Varney as Vice Chair, Dawn Barker (no relation!) as Secretary and "To Be Announced" as Treasurer. Angela mentioned some of 2011's innovations: the Council House gala, the Youth Pride and the work for IDAHO Day. It is hoped that these will continue and perhaps expand.

In this time of financial cuts, Pride hopes to divert some of its fundraising to assist local groups and organisations which have charitable aims. They are, of course, always looking for volunteers to help out. If that sounds like YOU, then contact them through the www.nottinghamshirepride.co.uk website.

SWITCHBOARD NEEDS YOU!

Lesbian & Gay Switchboard, your local LGBT information service and helpline, is looking for new volunteers for the next training session beginning late Autumn - we especially welcome women and people from ethnic minorities. If you want to get involved:

Phone 0115 934 8485 Mon. to Fri. 7 pm-9.30 pm
 Or e-mail notts@lgswitchboard.fsnet.co.uk
 or text 07624809360 or write to NLGS
 7 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG1 3FB.

Do you work for Nottingham City Council? Are you LGBT? Why not join the staff network. For further information e-mail

lgbt@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
 E-mails are kept confidential



Rosey Cox (Chair)

A Trans Timeline - 4



1885 Prince Eddy, the Duke of Clarence, heir to the throne of England (the king we never had) attends Transvestite clubs.

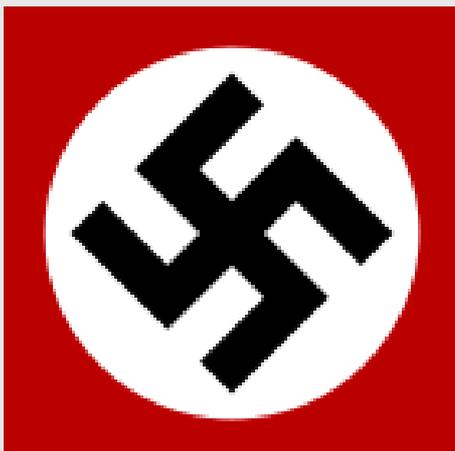
Some say he was Jack the Ripper - this was proven later to be impossible - a Princess Diana-like character, able and compassionate - he died of the flu before he could be crowned - a popular and good man.

1900-1905 Turn of the Century Film Makers Mitchell and Kenyon record a cross-dressing Carnival in Crewe.

First World War (1914-1918)

Transvestites were being regularly shot, charged as spies or cowards.

1932 "Man Into Woman", the story of Lili Elbe's life, Male to Female transition, and sex reassignment surgery is published.



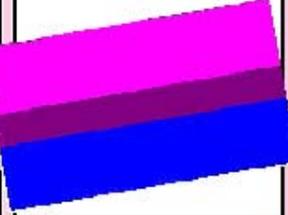
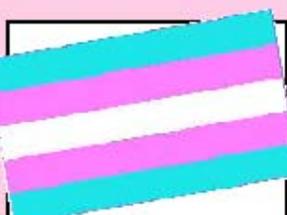
The Second World War (1939-1945)

Eugenics. Nazis abuse, murder and sterilise transgender people. Aversion Therapy is first used to eliminate homosexuality and later is used on transgender people.

SEXUALITY

The Flags are Out!

Since the Rainbow Pride flag was introduced in 1978 other groups have designed their own flag of sexual identity. Some have more than one flag in use. These are the most common. They fly alongside the Rainbow flag with pride.

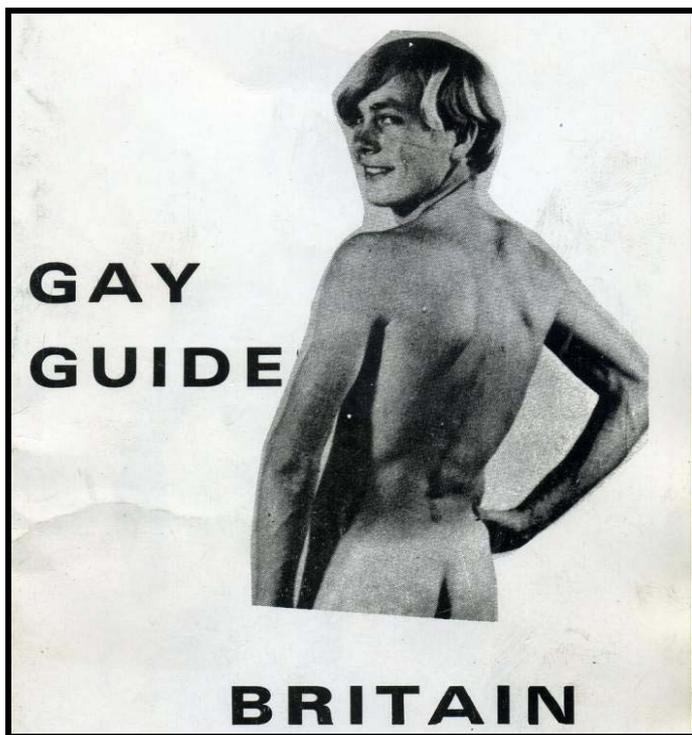
 <p>LESBIAN Designed by Sean Campbell in 1999. The double-bladed axe is an ancient symbol from matriarchal societies</p>	<p>BISEXUAL Designed by Michael Page in 1998. It represents female pink and male blue genders overlapping.</p> 	 <p>TRANS-GENDER/SEXUAL Designed by Monica Helms in 2000 and first flown at Phoenix Pride, Arizona</p>	<p>PANSEXUAL Designed by Nottinghamshire blogger Just-Jasper in 2010 for those capable of loving anyone of any gender</p> 	 <p>ASEXUAL Chosen by poll in 2010 by the Asexual Visibility and Education Network to represent those with no interest in sex</p>
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COMMUNITY

Groups with a shared interest across the sexual spectrum have also adopted flags. Here are just a few. Others include cowboy pride, uniform pride and leather girl pride. You could easily see them all at Nottinghamshire Pride.

<p>LEATHER PRIDE Designed in 1989 by Tony DeBlase (1942-2000) and introduced at the International Mr Leather competition in Chicago</p> 	<p>GAY GOTH PRIDE Rainbow version of the Goth Pride flag introduced by Erik Dunesque in London 1990.</p> 	<p>INTERNATIONAL BEAR BROTHERHOOD Designed by Paul Witkoske from a concept by Craig Byrnes. Chosen by poll at a Chesapeake Bay Bear pool party in 1995.</p> 
 <p>DRAG PRIDE Designed by Sean Campbell in 1999 for drag queens as opposed to transsexuals and cross-dressers</p> 	<p>SKINHEAD PRIDE Designed by Belgian bloggers SkinDavid and Shadowskin for the 10th anniversary of the FENIX Global Skin Movement in 2006</p> 	<p>MUSCLE PRIDE Designed in 2007 for body builders, "muscle marys" and muscle worshippers. The 3 reds represent muscle tone and strength</p>  

GAY GUIDE - 1970 STYLE



A visitor to the Notts Rainbow Heritage stall at Pride produced a Gay Guide to Britain - no date on it, but the content puts it round about 1970. The listings for Nottingham showed 3 old favourites, the Flying Horse, the George and the Roebuck, but also gave the Cherry Tree. We can find no trace of the latter - perhaps they confused it with the Peach Tree (now Langtry's) which did have a gayish past.

Many of the bars/clubs in the guide are given letters which clearly refer to their services and clientele, but there is no explanation of the letters. The Tow-rope Coffee Bar, Birmingham is LJ, RT and AYOR; our own Flying Horse is R, WE anyone got any idea what they mean?

Occasionally things expand beyond the odd letter e.g. The Radnor (Bath) *very rough*; Old Beams (Exeter) *the biggest breakfast in Devon*; The Bullshhead (Guildford) *Saturdays best, under the clock, ask for Walter*.

TEXTSPEAK FOR THE OVER 80s

- ATD -at the doctor.
- BFF -best friend fell.
- BTW -bring the wheelchair.
- BYOT -bring your own teeth.
- FWIW -forgot where I was.
- GGPBL -gotta go, pacemaker battery low
- GHA -got heartburn again.
- IMHO -is my hearing aid on?
- LMDO -laughing my dentures out.
- OMMR -on my massage recliner.
- ROFLACGU -rolling on floor laughing and can't get up

LGBT HISTORY BLOG

Our esteemed local LGBT historian, Tony Scupham-Bilton has contributed much to QB (e.g. The Flags are Out on the opposite page). He's now started an LGBT History blog. You can read it at <http://queerstoryfiles.blogspot.com>

He has given us the following background about the reasons behind the blog and what it will contain.

"For 5 years I've been doing guided tours of Nottingham with historical LGBT themes. During my research I've uncovered lots of information that I can't use on the tours for various reasons, but I think the information should reach an audience. So I decided to put in into a blog.

Some people think history is dull. I don't. The popularity of "Horrible Histories" proves that even the most boring periods of history have interesting bits. LGBT history is no different, and much of it has yet to be re-discovered.

I'm not trying to prove that the society we live in could only have happened because of gay men and women alone, That's far from the case. I have no heterophobic agenda. I'm not "reclaiming" gay history, I'm "rediscovering" it. I see myself as an explorer and I hope you feel the same as you read my blog.

Without denying the existence of homophobia, discrimination and bigotry in the world, I want to show that there's much to celebrate as well. My blog will bring you queer stories and facts from through history and around the world, and perhaps a few puzzles and games along the way for you to use in your own celebrations in LGBT History Month. There'll also be guest bloggers and interviews, and information on other history blogs and websites around the world.

Too many LGBT blogs, websites and magazines are not very family-friendly, and I think children are often the ones most interested in history. I want my 13-year old niece to be able to read my blog. If I need to introduce "adult" themes I'll give advance warning. Here's just a sample of the range of subjects I will be covering:"

- The lady who saved millions of lives and introduced a new language into the UK.
- The link between "Star Trek", "Right Said Fred" and the US Embassy in Luxembourg.
- How a gay poet invented St. Valentine's Day.
- How Eros and an assassination became part of the "Gayest Games in Ancient Greece".
- How the first "Queen" of Great Britain chose the world's most internationally-used national flag.
- How the Age of Aquarius is truly "the Gay Age".
- Who owned the world's most expensive bathroom loafahs.

NEWS FROM HEALTHY GAY NOTTINGHAM

Well it's that time of year when the new **Gay Guide** to Nottingham is out. You can either pick up a copy from any of the bars and the club, Broadway cinema and the tourist information centre. As with all things involving listings, things do change so for an updated listings do check out the website:

www.healthygaynottingham.org.uk

Speaking of the **website**, check out the new and improved version and let us know what you think. If there is anything you might like us to include drop us an email. There is also a photo gallery including some picture from Nottinghamshire Pride 2011.

NEW GROUP WORK INITIATIVE FROM HGN

In addition to HGN supporting and delivering GMFA courses, we are launching new work shops for gay and bisexual men. Over the next 12 months the workshops will focus on different aspects of gay and bisexual men's emotional well being. You're welcome to attend all or just pick the ones you're most interested in. To book a provisional place, please contact us. These courses have limited places and we advise you to book early.

The first course is the ' Emotional Well being workshop' and is planned for the Autumn 2011. It aims

To provide a safe and supportive environment whereby gay, bisexual and MSM men can understand the importance of maintaining their emotional wellbeing and the impact that not doing so can have on their sexual health and relationships.

To promote and strengthen the self-esteem and confidence of the participant, thereby helping them to maintain emotional wellbeing, healthy relationships and negotiate safer sex.

This will be followed by

Satisfying Sex - December 2011; Happy Healthy Relationships - February/March 2012; Understanding & Managing Sexual difficulties - May/June 2012

Nottingham Pride

The theme of Life's a Beach went down really well with over 1,000 people visiting the stall. For pride weekend we distributed more than 1,400 condom packs which amount to a potential 2,800 safer shags.

You can play spot the HGN banner on the you tube links:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UHfO27AX98I>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q7AQOVFrbio>

Facebook

Even we have caught up with the whole Facebook thing – why not request to be a friend??

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/215184745193634>

Sexual health service provision questionnaire

100 attendees at Nottingham Pride Event @ Forest Recreation Ground, Nottingham - Date: 30th July 2011

100 questionnaires distributed	90 returned
51 men participated	39 women participated
40 men identified as homosexual	
3 men identified as bisexual	
5 men identified as heterosexual	
3 men chose not to disclose their sexual identity	
18 women identified as lesbian	
12 women identified as heterosexual	
7 women identified as bisexual	
2 women chose not to disclose their sexual identity	
Oldest man to participate was 61	
Youngest man to participate was 15	
Mean age of male participants was 31.5	
Oldest woman to participate was 51	
Youngest women to participate was 13	
Mean age of female participants was 26.1	

Key results

27% of male respondents engaged in both oral and anal sexual intercourse (not applicable in respect of female respondents)
51% of male respondents had regular sexual health check ups; 27% of male respondents went to GUM for sexual health screening.
47% of male respondents did not have regular sexual health check ups; 30% of female respondents had regular sexual health check ups.
17% of female respondents went to GUM for sexual health screening; 64% of female respondents did not have regular sexual health check ups.
72% of male respondents said they would make use of a sexual health screening service in the city centre.
71% of female respondents said they would make use of a sexual health screening service in the city centre.
Only 35% of male respondents had had Hep B vaccination None of the respondents claimed to be HIV +ve
80% of male respondents said they were aware of their HIV status; 72% of female respondents said they were aware of their HIV status
88% of male respondents felt well informed about the dangers of STIs.
10% of male respondents believed there was a cure for HIV; 12% of male respondents felt comfortable having unprotected anal (receptive) intercourse with a casual male partner.

Given more choice of where to obtain sexual health screening male participants opted for the following:

47% GUM	33% Health Shop	25% GP
8% SHOT at Broad Street	6% Private room at a pub	
4% Sauna	14% Gym	16% Pride

Given more choice of where to obtain sexual health screening female participants opted for the following:

46% GUM	38% Health Shop	51% GP
18% SHOT at Broad Street	23% Private room at a pub	
5% Sauna (strange since the question explicitly stated gay men's sauna!)	8% Gym	10% Pride

Andrew Wallis – Sexual Health Nurse. SHOT Pride Survey results 30 July 2011. What are your views on these results? We would really value your feedback to enable us to develop our services. Look out for our new sexual health campaign starting in September.

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

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

Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage
c/o NVAC, 7 Mansfield Road,
Nottingham NG1 3FB.

0115 9349529 nottsrh@hotmail.co.uk
www.nottsrainbowheritage.org.uk

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 HGN, 12 Broad St.) Contact Switchboard or HGN or go to 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
- Lookout** The quarterly free lesbian newsletter. For details e-mail lookoutmag@hotmail.com

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

Nottinghamshire Hiking Dykes; Bi-Delight: Stately Homes Group; Notts Lesbian Book Club; Women's Badminton; Badminton Social; Lesbian & Gay Christian Movement; East Mercia MSC; Chameleon Group (trans); Re-Creation (trans); Nottingham & Trent University LGBT Societies; Peak Ruffties walking group; Grizzly; LIRAIN (lesbians into real ale in Nottingham); Police OUTNetwork; Flying Colours (investors' group); SMOC (for heterosexual partners of LGBT people); Bi Women's Group; LiNk-Notts (local lesbian e-mail info service); LAFS (Lesbians in Ashfield friendship & support); 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 (HIV+ support group); Weekenders (Sheffield based walking group); Sapphist Writers; Gay Outdoor Club; Youth group in Worksop (WOW); Panthers Rugby Club.

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

DIARY

POWER TALKING

NEW GMFA COURSE FOR GAY MEN

'Power Talking' course gives gay men communication skills for life

Do you want to improve your communication skills, including negotiating the sex you want?

The course takes a look at the different ways that communication skills can affect our lives, in a relaxed and friendly group setting. You'll learn about building your skills in effective communication in a variety of situations, whether with friends, at work or with sexual partners. Plus, there'll be plenty of tips that you can put into action after the course, to make you a happier, more confident communicator.

All of GMFA's courses and workshops are free of charge to participants but places are limited and must be booked in advance. To book a place, go to www.gmfa.org.uk/national or call 020 7738 3712.

The 'Power Talking' course takes place on two consecutive Saturdays from 10:30am to 5:30pm. BSL interpreters can be arranged prior to the course. The dates for 2011 are: 10th & 17th September: Brighton, London, Manchester, Newcastle. 17th & 24th September: Birmingham, Bristol, Leeds, **Nottingham**, Southampton. 1st & 8th October: Leicester

TRIUMPH OF THE WILL

Yes, **Will Young** returns to the Royal Concert Hall on Wednesday November 2nd.

Tel. 0115 989 5555 and on the revamped website, you can now book online. www.trch.co.uk



CARAVAGGIO: EXILE AND DEATH

Takes the audience on a journey of a man's search for forgiveness and redemption after a life fascinated with youth and sexuality, violence, solitude and love. Scarred by imprisonment and the Catholic Church's dismissal of his works, gay artist **Caravaggio** lived a painful and dramatic life.

Combining highly physical choreography with stunning projections and a beautiful soundtrack, Darshan Singh Buller has created a show that tells the tempestuous story of Caravaggio's life and art.

At Nottingham Playhouse, Wed. Sept. 28th at 8 pm.