

QB

Nottinghamshire's Queer Bulletin

April/May 2012
Number 65

At 65 we have now qualified for our state pension.

Our staff now cluster around the telly nibbling their Battenburg cake during Countdown. If we could remember, we would provide our normal concise summary of what to expect in the pages which follow, but no It's all gone blank. Sorry.

Nurse!

This edition of QB is supported by a generous donation from Nottingham Ballbois

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 April 28th 2012

**Switchboard is registered
charity number 1114273**

EAST MIDLANDS LEADS THE WAY (AGAIN!)

FREE

The National LGBT History Month website has a calendar of events. The UK is divided into 12 regions and the events in each region are listed. In 2010 and 2011 the East Midlands led London and the same has happened this year.



Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage was responsible for many calendar entries, but they received splendid support from Nottingham Ball Boies, Sapphist Writers, Leicester LGBT Centre, Grantham College, Derbyshire Friend and others.

Nottingham Ball Boies organised a "Kick it out" panel discussion on homophobia in football. The panel included Frank Clark, Chairman of Nottingham Forest and the FA's Equality Officer as well as Lou Englefield, (of Pride Sports), Megan Davies (the Justin Campaign), Earl Barrett (formerly of Manchester City, Everton and Aston Villa) and Danny Lynch



of "Kick it out". One question was "what would be the main problem if a well-known footballer came out?" The consensus seemed to be a combination of intrusive and salacious media and the fans. Frank spoke about the time he was manager of Leyton Orient when Justin Fashanu was in that team. Justin was out to the management and team mates without any problems. It all changed when the media got hold of things.

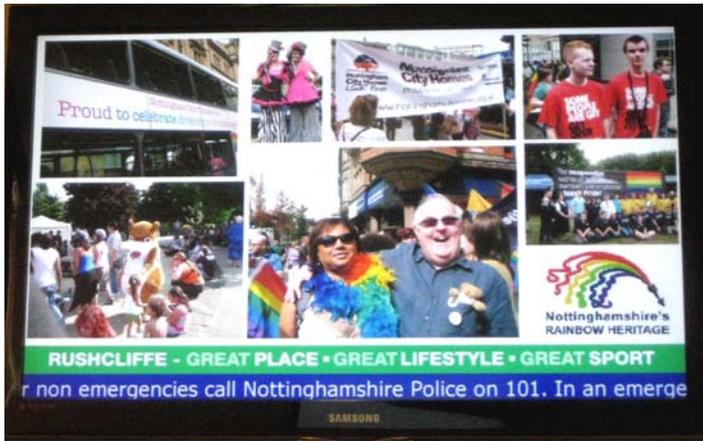
The event received a great deal of media coverage - see the Ball Boies website. The event's host, Dr. Scott Lawley of Nottingham Trent University and of Nottingham Ball Boies FC, agreed that change would be a long-term process. "Challenging homophobia will mean changing often ingrained cultures and attitudes at all levels within the game".

Bassetlaw Councillor Ian Campbell sent us the following news and photo



Last year the Conservative administration at Bassetlaw Council refused a request to raise the rainbow flag. This year, the new administration changed that policy. Group leader of the Worksop youth group WOW, Helen Azar-Sadler, believes hoisting the flag sends out a positive message. "It's dragging Bassetlaw kicking and screaming out of the dark ages," she said.

LGBT HISTORY MONTH ON TV



Not only did Nottingham Ballbois find themselves before the cameras of East Midlands Today and Sky Sports. Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage also made it on to TV - though it was on the TVs at West Bridgford Police Station as part of the scrolling series of pictures shown in their reception area.

TV cameras also roamed around the Celebration and Awards event at the Council House on Feb. 28th, those these were the cameras of Trent University students from the Department of Journalism.



The Sheriff of Nottingham and the Sheriff's Lady presented the awards to (amongst others) Sapphist Writers - seen above. An award was made to Nottingham CHE (the Campaign for Homosexual Equality) for its work in the 1970s and 1980s. Two members of the original 1972 committee are seen below - Roger Hollier and Heather Cook. Heather accepted the award and made a speech which several people described as inspirational.



QB'S BITS

- A rose by any other name? The Lace Market bar FAG has decided to change its name to **F&G**, which stands for "friendly and gay".



- The relocated **Reflections Sauna** will be opening soon - in March, they say. One innovation will be a garden patio for smokers.
- The **City Council's** Stonewall rating is now 135th out of 363. Last year it was 205 and the year before 235. Making steady progress.
- **Notts Fire and Rescue** is now 119. Last year it was 253 and the year before 303. The Service was required to give Stonewall clear evidence of how it provides a safe and inclusive environment and how it supports LGB staff. This evidence included the flying of rainbow flags on fire stations during International Day Against Homophobia, our joint sponsorship of Nottinghamshire Pride and the increased declaration of sexual orientation within the workforce.
- We (and quite a few others) were surprised to hear that **@D2** closed early in January.
- A staff LGBT forum has recently started at **New College Nottingham**. Those involved hope to start an LGBT student group.
- Advance notice. The end of the world will arrive on June 27th, according to Hungarian politician Gabor Jobbik, who says that the start of the Gay Eurogames will threaten the future of humanity.

Hi! I'm a drummer looking to form a live electronic/dance band, to write & perform original music.

Musical styles ranging from dance, dub, drum & bass, alternative, indie, pop etc. Influences Chemical Brothers, Prodigy, Dreazone etc. Instrumentation line up flexible, would prefer live bass player. Tel: 07515 673238

I am also available for session & on going work with original & cover bands of any musical style.

LGBT ADOPTION/FOSTERING WEEK



An event was organised at the Portland Leisure Centre on Feb. 29th by the City Council. It was part of LGBT Adoption and Fostering week. If this is an issue which interests you, phone Nottingham City Adoption & Fostering Service on 0115 8762696.

Someone from the Adoption and Fostering team was invited to be present at the Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage Celebration, but they didn't turn up.

ALL TORQUE



The **Gay Classic Car Group** have now opened an East Midlands group. They are a social group with an interest in classic cars.

GCCG is a national organisation with strong regional activities, and is run by a committee who

co-ordinate a varied programme of events throughout the year and produce a quarterly magazine, 'Big End'. Every year there are over 20 events across Britain.

As our membership grows, we are expanding our services to members via web and email, and we holding a wide range of events that are interesting, enjoyable and accessible for everybody taking part. We can be contacted at

eventseastmidlands@gccg.org.uk and
www.gccg.org.uk
www.facebook.com/gccgeastmidlands

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



**Nottingham
City Council**

Rosey Cox (Chair)

Nottinghamshire Healthcare **NHS**

NHS Trust

Positive about integrated healthcare

Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust hosted the Stonewall Regional Seminar (at their HQ at Duncan Macmillan House, Nottingham) on Thursday 23rd February 2012. The seminar focused on Religion and Sexual Orientation in the Workplace.

The Seminar was aimed at Stonewall Diversity Champions and took place while the rainbow flag was flying on the roof and Sapphist Writers were holding their display in one of the cafés.



Speakers from Stonewall and Transport in London both made the point that the number of conflicts in the workplace between faith and sexual orientation as a result of the 2003 legislation is small. The event focussed on how to deal those occasions when there is a conflict.

When the conflicts do occur, the first approach should involve mediation and training. Collaboration between organisations' faith networks and LGBT networks has been found to be effective. A few case studies were used to illustrate times when mediation and training had failed and disciplinary action had to be taken.

There was concern that if those involved in tackling these issues were not themselves well informed, then some might leap straight to the disciplinary stage.

Stonewall's booklets "Religion and Sexual Orientation" and "Love thy neighbour" can both be downloaded from the Stonewall website.

OUT OF THE BLOCKS

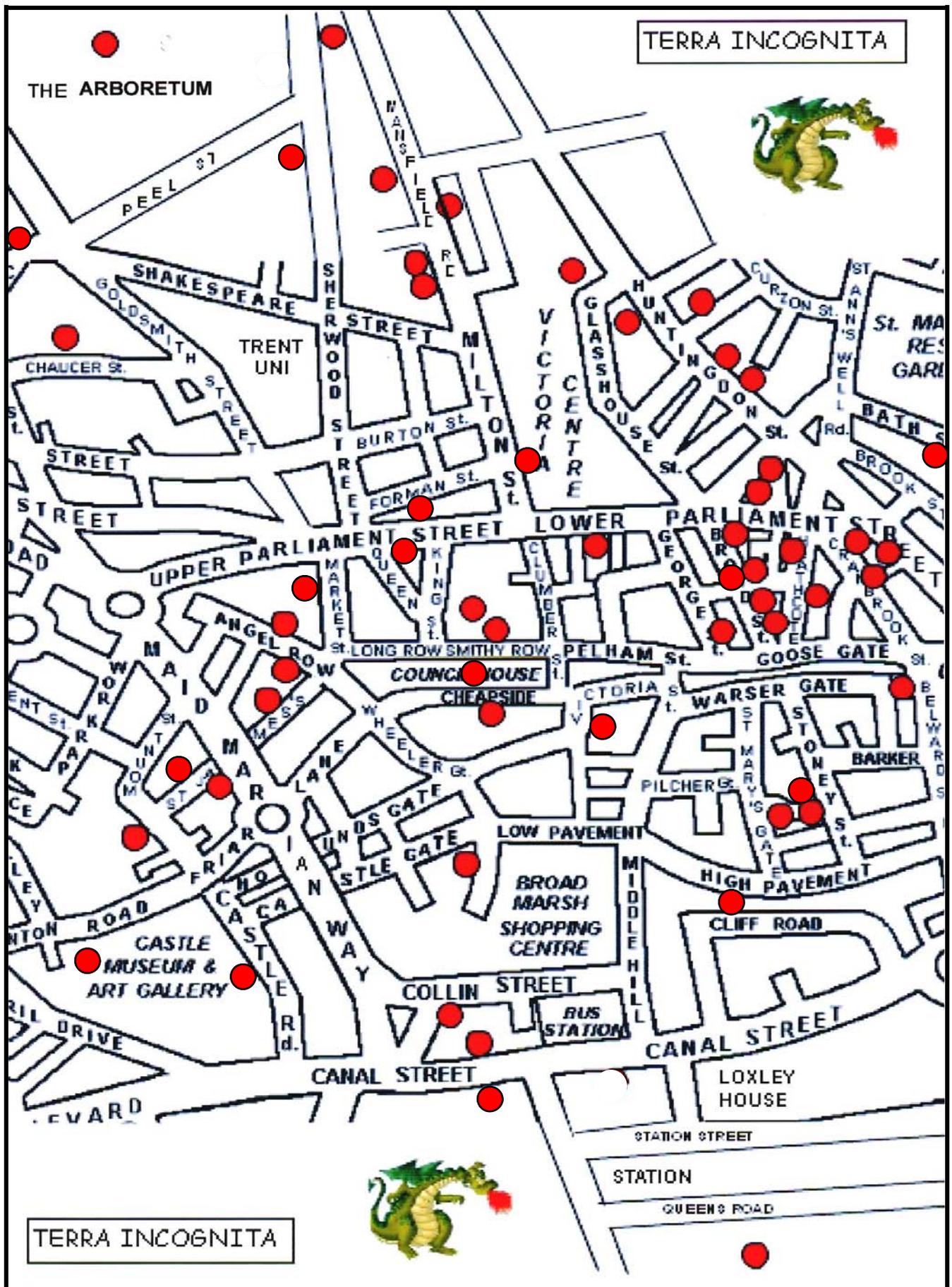
A new sports history timeline, **Out of the Blocks**, takes us on a tour of LGBT history in sport – from 14 AD to 2018. Thanks to the industrious Tony Bilton, we can now see how LGBT participation has always been a part of sport. You can see the timeline via the link below

<http://lgbthistorymonth.org.uk/website/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Out-of-the-Blocks-4.pdf>

You can also read his details of LGBT Olympians at <http://lgbthistorymonth.org.uk/website/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/lgbt-Olympians-list-2.pdf>

THE NOTTINGHAM CITY CENTRE MAP

If you go to the Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage website www.nottsrainbowheritage.org.uk you can see the Nottingham map on the menu. Every one of the nearly 60 circles is a place used (past and present) by LGBT people. Click on the spot to get the details. Anything missing? Let us know, but, if possible, we'd like a photograph.



A Trans Timeline - 7

1979 A series of programs entitled 'A Change of Sex' are aired on the BBC - viewers could for the first time follow pre-op transsexual Julia Grant through her transition. It also highlighted the arrogance at that time of psychiatrists based at the Gender Identity Clinic, Charing Cross Hospital.



1979 When celebrated jazz musician Billy Tipton died in Spokane, Washington, it was revealed that he was a woman. Tipton, who played in big bands in the 40s and 50s, lived for 56 years as a man, marrying several times and raising children.

Nottingham's Chameleon group for Trans people started in 1983.



1991 Transvestite comedian Eddie Izzard receives a nomination for the prestigious Perrier Comedy Award at the Edinburgh Festival.

1992 Press For Change is founded on the 27th February in a London Coffee House.

1991 Gender Trust is founded. FTM activist Jamison "James" Green took over Lou Sullivan's FTM newsletter and transformed it into FTM International, Inc., the world's largest information and networking group for female-to-male transgender people and transsexual men.

1993 Transgender youth Brandon Teena was raped and murdered in Humboldt, Nebraska.

This hate crime brought widespread attention to transgender discrimination and violence and became the subject of the award-winning film, Boys Don't Cry.



ROSELESS IN NEWARK

In 2006 the **Newark Advertiser** refused to print an advertisement for a lesbian walking group on the grounds that they were "A family newspaper". The 2007 Goods and Services Act put a stop to that attitude.

On February 22nd, the Newark Advertiser gave positive coverage to a story about a local lesbian couple that visited a **Damon's Restaurant** in Lincoln and were subjected to homophobic comments from a member of staff. It was Valentine's Day and the restaurant offered a red rose to couples. On asking for a rose, the women were told "lesbians aren't real couples".

The problem with the newspaper arose on the Advertiser's Facebook page. An internet troll wrote "Gay is wrong" as a Facebook comment on the story and this comment was "liked" by the Newark Advertiser itself.

After a complaint, the following response was made: "The Advertiser would like to apologise for an earlier post that appeared on this story. It was posted in error by one of its employees and does not in any way represent the views of the company." Perhaps it was "error", but the Advertiser has "form" on this issue.



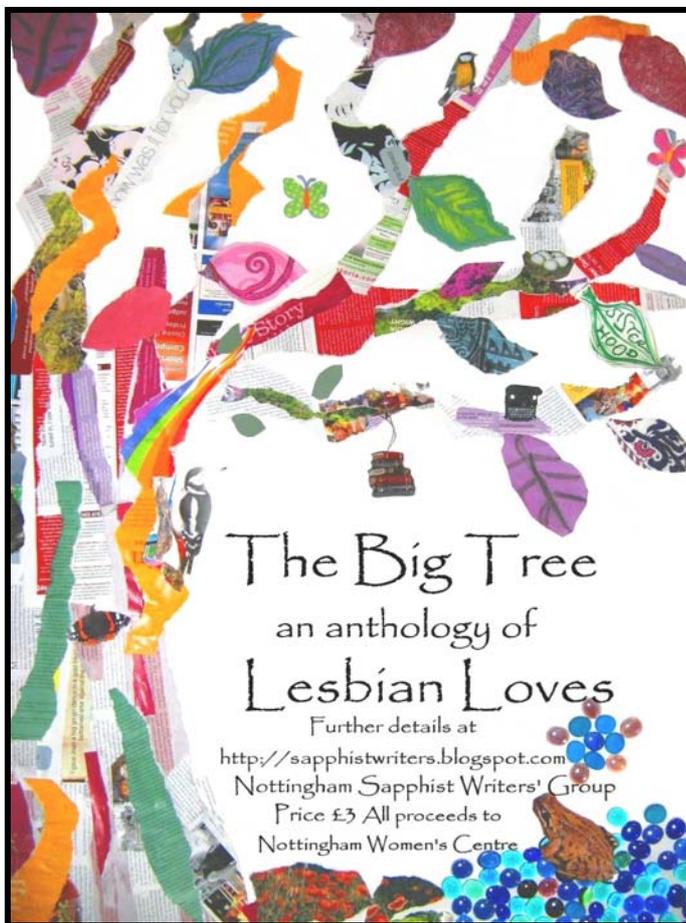
Trent Sound...listen online. For those living in the Nottingham area who enjoyed the style of Radio Trent and are looking for an up-to-date community, sport and news service along with classic music from the 70s, 80s and 90s, Trent Sound could be the station for you.

The station, launched in June 2011, broadcasts exclusively online, so listeners will need either a PC, laptop or phone to be able to tune in.

A temporary licence from Ofcom went live from December 12th on 87.9FM until 8th January, but since then the station has resumed its solely online presence. Check out RnB, dance and camp pop hits on **Saturday Night Out**, Nottingham's only specialist programme for the city's gay community.

The weekly show is presented by Alan Lynch & Tristyn Cole, and is broadcast every Saturday from 19:00 - 22:00. If you miss the show, you can listen again. See the website for further details.

www.trentsound.com/saturday_night_out.html



Sapphist Writers launched their new e-anthology on 28th February at the Council House LGBT celebration evening. The anthology can be bought via their blog. <http://sapphistwriters.blogspot.com/>

Price: £3 Format: e-book (pdf)

All proceeds to Nottingham Women's Centre

The anthology is the culmination of four years work; a collection of poetry, short stories and flash fiction, based around the theme "relationships", which reflects the diversity and talent within the Sapphist Writers group.

Sapphist Writers is open to all women writers who identify outside of the mainstream heterosexual identity. We're also pleased to announce that we will be returning to Nottingham Women's Centre, alongside exciting new plans to increase the use of the centre by our community.

CUTTS IN A PICKLE

Last year Switchboard and QB criticised County Council leader Kay Cutts for the disproportionate cut in her council's grant to the voluntary sector.

On February 8th, East Midlands Today showed the letter written to Mrs Cutts by Communities secretary Eric Pickles (we've squeezed his photo in on the right - easier said than done) which criticises Mrs Cutts for exactly the same reason.



GOD AT THE SUPERMARKET

The Equalities and Human Rights people recently asked for opinions on whether “accommodation” might be made for the beliefs of religious people who don’t wish to provide their services to gays and lesbians.

“Accommodation” for religious beliefs actually happens at Asco supermarket. It’s a small shop - they only have one checkout - but they employ a string of people waiting on standby.

When Mrs Vishnu saw a joint of beef coming towards her on the conveyor belt, she said that as a Hindu she would not deal with this, but that was OK as Mr Young was there to take over. Unfortunately, when a jar of coffee appeared he, as a Mormon, refused to touch it. No problem. Mrs Wesley took his place, but things came to a halt when a bottle of gin glided towards this strict Methodist. Not to be defeated, as a Jew Mr Abrahams had no difficulty with the gin and things were fine until the pork sausages rolled into view.

“Don’t be silly”, said Mr Wilde, taking his seat at the checkout, “I’ll deal with this” ... but the rest of the staff walked out because he was gay.

Richard Frost

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www.furniturerepairantiquenottingham.co.uk



Recovery Group is a new, user led, support group for LGBT people to meet safely and discuss issues around alcohol and drug problems.

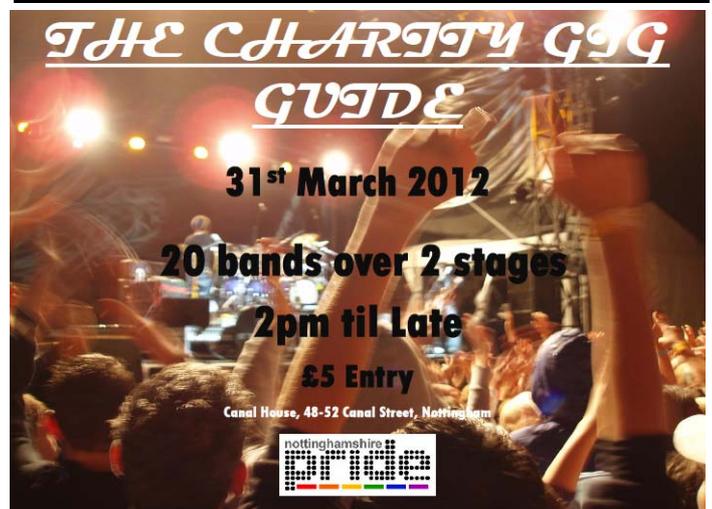
It meets every Thursday evening from 7.30-9 pm at Self Help Nottingham, 2nd Floor, Ormiston House, 32-36 Pelham Street, Nottingham NG1 2EG. For details, e-mail info@selfhelp.org.uk or phone Self Help on 0115 91116111 (Mon-Fri 9 am to 1 pm).

HIGGS BOSON DISCOVERED

We have had an e-mail from Trent University Physics department saying that they have confirmed the existence of the Higgs Boson using a device shown below called the Small Hardon Colander.



PRIDE NEWS



March 31st The Charity Gig. Bands night at the Canal House, 48-52 Canal St.. 20 bands over 2 stages from 2 pm 'til late. The event will raise money for Pride’s chosen charities. £5 entry.

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 the Chair on 07941 855921 email andyandsteve01@gmail.com www.breakoutnottm.org.uk
- Outburst!** Group for LGB young people up to the age of 25. Meets 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:

Notts Hyking Dykes; Bi-Delight: Lesbian Book Club; Women's Badminton; Badminton Social; Lesbian & Gay Christian Movement; Chameleon Group (trans); Re-Creation (trans); Nottingham & Trent University LGBT Societies; Peak Ruffies walking group: LIRAIN (lesbians into real ale); Police OUTNetwork; Flying Colours (investors' group); Sapphist Writers; SMOC (for straight partners of LGBT people); Gay History Tours; Bi Women's Group; LiNK-Notts (local lesbian e-mail info service); LAFS (Mansfield area women's group); Eat Out Social; North Notts Gay Women's Walking Group; Ball Bois football team; Sherwood Ladies 5-a-side football; Open Walking Group; Tagadere (HIV+ support group); SYNT (Women's social group); Weekenders (Sheffield based walking group); Gay Outdoor Club; Worksop Youth group Worksop (WOW); Panthers Rugby Club; Dinner Ladies (women's eat out group); LGBT Recovery (drugs/alcohol) Download a detailed 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

SIMON IS NUMB

Intensely vulnerable and painfully honest, Simon Amstell award-winning comedian, actor/screenwriter and presenter (Never Mind the Buzzcocks) returns with a brand new stand-up tour for 2012.



It's called **Numb**. The Guardian says "The real deal. Where philosophy collides with anxiety: where Heidegger meets Woody Allen" (well, they would, wouldn't they?) At Nottingham Playhouse on Sunday May 13th 7.30 pm

NUTS CRACKED

Matthew Bourne, who brought you the male Swan Lake, returns to Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky and gives you his Nutcracker.

Follow Clara's bittersweet journey from a hilariously bleak Christmas Eve at Dr. Dross' Orphanage, through a shimmering, ice-skating winter wonderland to the scrumptious candy kingdom of Sweetieland.

1st to 5th of May at the Theatre Royal.

FANCY BEING MANIPULATED?

Derren Brown, the gay master of magic, mind control, manipulation and psychological illusion comes to the Theatre Royal with his brand new show **Svengali**.



The blurb says that buying a ticket means that you consent to being filmed for TV. If you can't wait to have millions watch you stick a rubber washing up glove on your head and be hypnotised into believing you are a cockerel, this is for you.

21st to 26th May at the Theatre Royal. Phone 0115 989 5500 for more info/tickets.

SORRY TO DISAPPOINT

The nudist leapfrog competition planned to take place in the Market Square on April 1st has been cancelled.