



GGLCommunity News

The Annual General Meeting!

Vote for your Committee, or Stand yourself!

DIARY OF EVENTS

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER



Thank you to so many of you who sent Christmas Greetings – they are much appreciated. For those of you who came along to one of our December Thursdays, will have seen the Christmas Tree grow rather this year. An ex-warden of the Friends Meeting House planted a tree in the garden several years ago, took it with him when he moved and the tree continued to grow in the new garden. Well, the time came for it to be chopped down and it made it's way back to the Meeting House – we supplied the lights, the Friends decorated it. It was a central feature for our Christmas Party with Jelly, cream, sandwiches and buns. An old fashioned festive tea that provided lots of fun – who doesn't like a 'Pass the Parcel' with goodies and forfeits!

I hope you enjoyed the time and 2016 brings peace and the things you want for yourself.

We all want to see better things in the future, but that doesn't happen without effort. For our Group, as it gets older so does the membership and the Committee Members (some more than others). It's not so easy to do the things we used to. The next two years will have to bring changes if we are to survive – more input from the membership is an obvious one and in what form do we survive, if we want to?

Lots to think about. With the AGM rapidly approaching in April (28th) it gives you time to put some thought to the issue.

Enjoy the programme we have put together for you and may 2016 be your year.

Till next time

Michael x

Chair

Check out this link to Cheltenham Borough Council's new LGBT page!
http://www.cheltenham.gov.uk/info/200041/equality_and_diversity/295/communities_of_interest/6

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Notice is hereby given of the
Annual General Meeting
of the
Gloucestershire Gay and Lesbian Community
on
Thursday 28th April 2016 at 7.30pm prompt
(doors open 7.00pm)
at the Friends Meeting House,
Gloucester**

NOMINATION FORM AGM—28th April 2016

I (print name)..... hereby
nominate(print name)
for the following positions):

Vice Chairman	[]
Treasurer	[]
Secretary	[]
Committee Member	[]
Newsletter Editor	[]

Signed (proposer)

Signed (nominee)

NB Both the proposer and nominee must be members of the GGLC and the nominee must have been a member for the requisite period of time as set out in the Constitution.

COMMITTEE

As you are aware the AGM is rapidly approaching. At the moment there will be some current Committee Members who have indicated they will stand again and some who would prefer not to. You must have been a member of the GGLC for at least a year before you can be nominated. We are looking for people who are “doers” rather than “talkers”. Work seems to be left to the same people each time. The commitment is not big – the Committee meet about every 6 weeks and hopefully everyone will have a task so we share the burden between us all. It can be interesting, fun and sometimes not so interesting and fun – but it is always good working together and supporting the gay community. The committee are an exceptionally nice bunch of people! If you want more information, see any Committee member for more information. You need to get a nomination form completed, signed by yourself, proposer and nominator. Everyone needs to do this, current as well as potential new committee members.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Michael

PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee for nominating me as person of the year 2015. I am very pleased and honoured to have received this award. It came as a great surprise to me on the evening of the annual dinner to hear my name announced.

My sincere thanks

Mike B.

NORTH SOMERSET LGBT FORUM

This group is a voluntary forum whose aims are to provide a voice for the LGBT Community of North Somerset and to be the “go” organisation for the LGBT for their community. They are looking at social activities and celebration of LGBT life and ideas of what the community would like to see happening, particularly in and around Weston Super Mare. If you can help or are interested please get in touch with Nigel at nigel.nslgbtforum@gmail.com

NEW ARCHIVE GRANT

Gloucestershire Archives were fortunate enough to be allocated a substantial grant this week. Don't forget we are one of the few counties who have a LGBT section. If you have any LGBT information you would like to see kept, do let me know. We can prepare documents ready for archiving and submit them with our papers. It is vital we keep LGBT History for the County. Any questions, or possible deposits of archive material, do contact me at the Group or e-mail sam.bairstow@gloucestershire.gov.uk.

Michael

Membership Update

We have 60 members. This is 3 down on the last newsletter report October 2015.

We have 3 new members, Asad S, Elaine R L and David M.

A warm welcome to the Group !

Rob P.

Membership secretary

Annual Pride Launch Ball

The Ball takes place on Friday 5th February from 7.30pm at the Cheltenham Regency Hotel and cost £20, this includes a buffet live entertainment, a fundraising auction, raffle and a disco until midnight. We also offer tickets for £10 for entry after 9pm once the buffet has finished.

This is an event to raise funds for the Gloucestershire Pride, but is also a really fun evening where all members of the LGBT&I community can let their hair down.

Tickets are available at <http://www.glospride.org.uk>.

Richard Stevens

Vice Chair/Secretary

Gloucestershire Pride

Weekly events October to January

Maggi presented her very entertaining Ukulele Night to start of the month, followed by a News Quiz by Peter. The outstanding event this particular month (24th) was our Annual Dinner celebrating our 41st year. A big thank you is due to Chris and Julie who organised the event at Gupshill Manor near Tewkesbury. The venue, menu and the standard of service received unanimous praise from the 27 members and guests in attendance. We are planning to hold our 2016 Dinner on **Saturday October 29th** at the same venue. Menu details and price will appear in a later newsletter.

Tina from Stonewall Housing gave us an informative evening; “Kinky Boots” was the choice for our November film night, and “Taboo” presented by Michael was thoroughly enjoyed. The Toy Dog racing evening was a fun event. Heading towards the festive season we had our usual Christmas Music evening in the capable hands of Julie and the following week we held our Christmas Party.

The New Year started with a General Knowledge Quiz compiled by Peter including a “Charades” interlude featuring Julie and Michael. Our Annual “Wrapped Auction” evening raised a fantastic £196.95 for group funds. Every year our loyal members provide items ranging from the sublime (i.e. excess boxes of Christmas chocolates) to the ridiculous and even downright naughty! A big thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to this very welcome boost to our finances.

If you think you can help present an evening for the group, don’t be shy – contact any Committee Member (details available elsewhere in the Newsletter) and we will be happy to assist

Peter C.

National AIDS Helplines

“You can ask what you want to ask”

0800567123

KNOCK 'EM DEAD

We have just booked 10 pin Bowling at Barnwood, Gloucester for 7.30pm on Wednesday 10th February. You do need to book a place before the night, so please let me know as soon as you can.

Michael

GGLC Wrapped Auction 14th January 2016

The 2016 Wrapped Auction was attended by 15 GGLC members who between them donated 63 parcels all beautifully wrapped. Bidding was mostly brisk and generous, with the winning bids varying between 10p and £11.00 which resulted in a **Grand Total of £196.95**, which was quite an increase on last year which I seem to remember was around £150. The lots were as always interesting, ranging from a Christmas cracker tape measure to books, DVDs, lots of chocolates and sweets, £5.00 note, sherry, key-rings and many more items, all too numerous to mention, including rather a lot of packages for Men only, which caused quite a bit of banter and laughter. All in all a very enjoyable and profitable evening for the group. Many thanks to everyone who attended, brought parcels, and spent their money in support of our group.

Julie S (Treasurer)

GLOUCESTERSHIRE PRIDE

The group are planning to hold a Bottle Tombola again for Pride this year. Michael cannot be here to help but is able to lend us his large gazebo and other equipment. We need you to offer to help on the day, getting set up and manning the stall as well as collecting stock for the tombola. If you can help in any way, please contact Peter, Secretary.

Raffle

The Raffle takes place the last Thursday of the month. Don't forget to bring your money and all donations for prizes gratefully accepted.

This is one of the few fund raising events for our group

BANGED UP

Do you remember my piece in the last edition? I have kept in contact with the “Real Voices” LGBT group at HMP Ashfield and they thank us for our Christmas wishes.

I have 6 people who are willing to visit the prison and have applied for passes to allow us into the prison. If you want to be included please let me know asap.

Michael

Sing Out Bristol

This choir, who come highly recommended by members who have seen previous concerts, are having one on Saturday 9th April 2016 at St. Georges Concert Hall in Bristol. The theme of this concert is Going to the Movies,

Check them out on their website <http://singoutbristol.com/>, perhaps some of us will join them in song?

Young People's Social Group

GAY-GLOS Aims to provide a safe meeting place for LGBT young people (and those exploring their sexual orientation) aged between 14 to 18 years old in the county of Gloucestershire.

We meet 12:00 midday to 3:00pm every second Saturday in Gloucester. The group is free to join and we are able to help those who need it with transport costs.

Contact via our Website www.gay-glos.org or email to youth@gay-glos.org or leave a message on 01452 306800 and we will call you back.

JULIAN

There are still two tickets left for the Julian Clary Show on May 22nd at Cheltenham Town Hall. See Julie, our Treasurer, for tickets.

Gloucestershire Pride

Pride is on Saturday June 11th this year—put the date in your diary!

Mixed Musings

We are now in a new year, and looking back over the past twelve months a lot has happened. Some of it has been good, we have seen more places becoming more accepting of us and things like marriage in the UK has almost become unremarkable in a very short time. In fact, the speed this has happened shows that it's time had come, and it will be very difficult for this country to backtrack in the future.

In other parts of the world, the news is less good, though even in the more oppressive places some of the stupidities and proposed laws have been blocked by the elected government bodies (no names, no pack drill..).

In all countries where they have religious extremists we see opposition to human progress, including in the supposed Land of the Free, I guess you can only be Free if you are Free the way they want.

Europe is experiencing an influx of people whose world view and experience are very different from most of our population, and this is bound to bring them into conflict with our community. The only possible response to this is to understand they are unaware their attitudes are not acceptable in our societies, and to provide the opportunities for them to learn that freedom is for everyone and everyone deserves our respect. At least one Scandinavian country is running courses to help new arrivals to understand better the world they have arrived in, and it is having good results, if only other places would be as sensible.

The year ahead is bound to be interesting, at which point we could remember the old Chinese curse, “May you live in interesting times”, but it will also be a time of new opportunities, new chances to learn and appreciate different peoples and perspectives (not necessarily agreeing with them!). Let's embrace these new challenges, and make them positives!

Graham, Editor

Gay & Lesbian Humanist Association (GALHA) http://www.galha.org/	Lesbian & Gay Christian Movement Alan 0117 982 1512 http://www.lgcm.org.uk/	Jewish Lesbian & Gay Help Line Mon & Thurs 020 7706 3123
Gay Bereavement Project Helpline: 020 7403 5969 Tuesday 7.30pm to 9.30pm	Beaumont Society (Transgender Issues) http://www.beaumontsociety.org.uk/	Transvestite Help Line Rita 0117 951 4481
Gay Girls of Gloucestershire 07561 067888 http://www.gaygirlsofgloucestershire.co.uk	Gay Men's Project West of England 0117 955 1000 Wiltshire and Swindon 01793 695 300	Living Springs Metropolitan Community Church, Bath 01172 2301170

Gay Outdoor Club

The national website has changed to <http://www.goc.org.uk> so all you out-doors types log on and see what you could be getting involved in!

FORTHCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Feb

6th Graham V
13th Ian V
22nd Kenneth A

March

6th Raymond S
26th Robert K
29th Andrew D
29th Trevor D
30th Michael C H

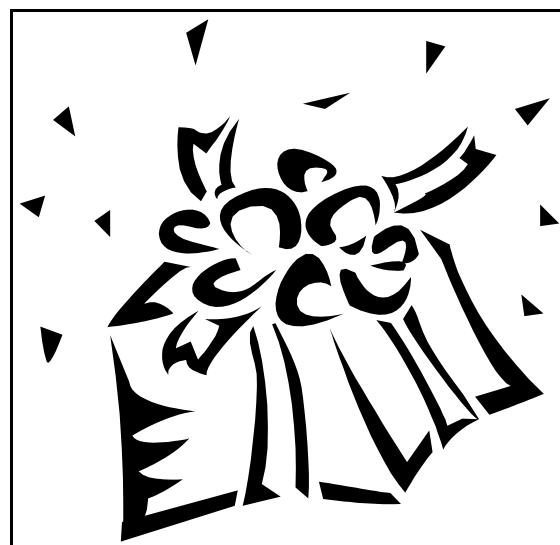
April

2nd Paul L J
8th Alan R
9th Jim G

9th Richard B
16th Michael W
18th Pater C
21st James W
25th Peter W
30th Jeremy R

May

2nd Malvin K
2nd Royston G
5th Davina H
10th Alan L
17th Geoffrey C
24th Kaylee S
25th Jay S



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU ALL



GGLC's SOCIAL CALENDAR DIARY OF EVENTS

February

- 4th Beetle Drive _Michael CH
- 10th 10 Pin Bowling 7.30 start
- 11th Toss Off for THT—Pancake Night!
- 18th The Edison Trust, A Talk by Naomi
- 25th Coffee, Chat and Raffle

March

- 3rd Healthwatch Glos, A Talk by Anna
- 10th The Closet—Film presented by Robert N
- 17th “Protecting you, your family and your wealth”
a talk by Simeon
- 24th No Meeting—Skittles at Bishop’s Cleeve Golf Club
- 31st Coffee, Chat and Raffle

April

- 7th Hate Crime—A Talk by Chief Inspector Neil Smith
- 14th Quiz Night—Julie and Chris
- 21st Coffee, Chat and Raffle
- 28th Annual General Meeting—7.30 prompt start!

May

- 5th Yet Another Nelly Night—Classic TV Comedy, Robert N
- 12th Julie’s Music Night—Theme: Cities of the World
- 19th Scatergories _ Game Night, Chris and Julie
- 26th Coffee, Chat and Raffle

Advanced Warnings and Notes!

*The diary is subject to change due to changes in circumstances,
whim, Editor’s insanity and attacks by weasels..*



GGLC



GGLC



GGLC

GLOUCESTERSHIRE
GAY & LESBIAN
COMMUNITY

c/o 50 Knowles Road,
Gloucester GL1 4TP

07050 627273

www.gglc=glos.co.uk
info@gglc-glos.co.uk

GGLC

CONTACTING THE GGLC

Gloucestershire Gay & Lesbian Community meets most Thursdays, from 7.30pm, in Gloucester city centre. A warm welcome is assured for everyone. For further details or directions please phone 07050 627273 or write to :-

The Secretary, GGLC, c/o 50 Knowles Road,
Gloucester GL1 4TP. (postal only)

We also have our own website www.gglc.co.uk and the email address is info@gglc.co.uk - several new members have contacted the Group this way!

Your Committee

Chairman: Michael C-H.

Vice-Chair: Howard H.

Secretary: Peter C.

Treasurer: Julie S.

Membership Secretary: Rob
P.

Member: Chris D.

Newsletter Editor: Graham V.

If anyone knows of any new venues opening, please let us know.