

Gay West



Member's Magazine
For July 2016
In Print - On-Line - Mobile
Non-members £1.50p



Member's Page

**THIS IS YOUR PAGE WHERE YOU CAN VOICE YOUR
OPINIONS ON JUST ABOUT ANY SUBJECT AND YOUR
MAGAZINE AND IT'S CONTENTS.**

Official Notice

**When attending GayWest Events, would everyone
please make their own way to the venues and book
independently where appropriate.**

Notice - Join us on Facebook you may find it easier by going to
the link at the bottom of our Website home page.

HELP REQUIRED - We now have our places booked for Bristol and
Weston-S-Mare Prides. Members of the Committee will be manning the
GayWest stall at these Prides. So that we can have a toilet, and grub
break please could you help us out for an hour or so on our stall, it is
great fun and with the sunshine and lovely gay people to chat to what
could be a better way to spend a couple of hours in the summer time.

Also we will be doing the same in September at the Age UK's event at
the M-Shed where we also require some help.

If you can help with any of these events please contact me.

On 07758 810 134 Colin

Contact us on:- GayWest PO Box 586, Bath. BA1 2YQ

Website :- www.gaywest.org.uk Email:- info@gaywest.org.uk



:- www.gaywest.org.uk



:- [www.gaywest social](http://www.gaywestsocial)

Chair's Blog

July. Star date 2016AD. Planet Earth. We have now arrived at the peculiar time of this planet's year time when crowds of earthlings waving multi-coloured flags and dressed in colourful clothing come together all through the northern hemisphere jigging about, drinking and eating in huge quantities and causing huge noises they call music!! It has been said that in many studies carried out, these particular earth beings tend to be of a different breed than others that we have examined and do not multiply in the same way as the other types. Our learned citizens have in our part of the Galaxy have named these specimens as being Gay!!

Welcome to GayWest's Pride season more details inside.

On a more serious note, I thought it would be good to update you on the non social side of what GayWest is involved with. Recently myself and John Martin have received our security clearance for Leyhill Prison. Here we will be involved in setting up and running a GBT group at the prison. We are also participating with Ashfield prison in the same way this is so, when an inmate is released back into the community they will have some support within the LGBT community.

GayWest receives a number of requests from asylum seekers and this normally is in the shape of a letter that states they are a member of our organisation that we construct for them to send to the Home Office. These types of request have increased recently and we are now in the process of developing a more constructive response.

As you know John is our Outreach officer for GayWest and is involved on behalf of the group with other LGBT groups developing better contacts and reaching out to those in the Gay world who may be on their own or just wanting support and assistance. We also support many of the set-ups helping gay men and women who have Drug or Alcohol problems. With this in mind we were invited to the launch of the Bristol Drugs Project Drop in Centre 'PRISM' for LGBT people that will operator on Mondays. This took place on the evening of June the 13th and we were made very welcome.

Chair's Blog Cont'd

We met many of the volunteers who do a great job in this field. More details and how to get in touch can be found on the links page of GayWest's website and in leaflets at the Rainbow Cafe.

A new Monthly "Rainbow Cafe" will open its doors to everyone in Weston-S-Mare in September and will be on the second Saturday of each month starting on September 10th from 2.00 - 4.30pm at the Badger Centre. This has been achieved by North Somerset LGBT group, FFLAG, and GayWest as a joint venture. I think this is a step forward and shows what can be achieved by working together.

As always if you have anything you would like other members to know about or you fancy helping the GayWest team on the committee or simply helping at the Bath Rainbow Cafe please get in touch by sending us an E-Mail to info@gaywest.org.uk or you can call me on 07758810134.

Have a good read and a good July. Colin.

NEW RAINBOW CAFE

Weston - S - Mare is planning a Rainbow Café, This is to be held at The Badger Centre. The Grand Opening will be on September 10th 2016. It will be open from 2.pm - 4.30pm and thereafter on the 2nd Saturday of each month. They will be serving tea, coffee and cakes and it will be a great place to meet and chat, so come along and give your support.

The 401 Marathon Challenge by Ben Smith

You may have seen the collection box in The Rainbow Café. He is undertaking the huge feat in aid of Kidscape and Stonewall.

The final three Marathons will be in Bristol on the 3rd, 4th and 5th October 2016 so give all the support that you can. More details to follow.

NEWS

GayWest would like to add it's support and thoughts for those injured and the families of those killed in the Orlando nightclub massacre. The picture shows the support that Bristol gave on College Green.



Committee Meetings :-

Wednesday 13th July at 2pm

Wednesday 17th August at 2pm

any member who wishes to attend, please contact

Colin on 07758 810 134

Entertainment

Firstly it was a book, then a play and now it has been made into a film.
“Holding the Man” is reported to be the film of the year.
Now on Digital HD DVD from Peccapics.com

There are lots of entertainments to look out for to celebrate the Pride Season with venues throughout the area. Including The Watershed.

You can contact them on 0117 927 5100 or
on their website www.watershed.co.uk

Matthew Bourne - The Red Shoes

Tuesday 4th - Saturday 8th April 2017

An intoxicating drama where life imitates art with fateful consequences; The Red Shoes will dazzle your senses and break your heart. So another one to put in your diary.

History of Gay West

There are still a few copies left of Robert Howes’s History of Gay West (Gay West: Civil Society, Community and LGBT History in Bristol and Bath 1970 to 2010. ISBN 978-1-906236-75-5). This tells the story of the group’s development from its origins as the Bath Gay Awareness Group. More details can be found on the GayWest website.

Entertainment

FLORENCE FOSTER JENKINS

Somewhat of an enigma, Florence Foster Jenkins throughout her life gave her public the impression that she was an accomplished operatic singer.

Born in 1868 in Philadelphia, she had no formal training for singing, but went on from the age of just 17, to become the talk-of-the-town and played sold-out recitals to her adoring fans.

Promoting her was her doting English-born husband St Clair Bayfield, who arranged all the concerts for Florence, but ensuring that critics were kept away and that no unfavourable reviews ever reached his wife's eyes

During an ab-
in 1944, Florence
to Carnegie Hall
where she enter-
strong audience
repertoire of clas-
was a sensational
home-made cos-
much to the aura.
ly adored her – in
musical inepti-

Most of the
were kept from her,

to acquire and read some of them. Her reaction was tragic, and she died shortly afterwards – some say from a broken heart.

Playing the part of Florence was the excellent multi-talented Meryl Streep who gave a performance that was both funny and yet full of pathos. St Clair Bayfield was played with much aplomb by Hugh Grant who excelled as her 'spiritual' husband, but who was actually having an affair with a younger woman. All the cast were superb and although set in New York, it was filmed entirely in England at Pinewood studios and at London locations.

This is a film which I cannot praise enough and is well-worth seeing for the atmospheric feeling of period detail and exceptional cinematography by Danny Cohen.

An illustrated paper-back book of the film has been published by Pan.

Valentino



sence by St Clair
booked herself in
for a concert
tained the 3,000-
with her bizarre
sical arias – and
success – her
tunes also added
Her fans absolute-
spite of her total
tude.

spiteful reviews
but she did manage

Leisure

GAY OUTDOOR CLUB (GOC)

A wide range of walks and other outdoor activities locally and nationally. For further details see the GOC web site <http://www.goc.org.uk>.

Local telephone contacts are: Nigel 01793 770099 Ken 07790 759162 or Bill 07503 650354.

LOCAL GOC EVENTS THIS MONTH

Sun 17 Jul 2016 The Severn Bridge

An 8.5 mile walk taking in the best views of the Severn Bridge which we will cross on foot. Designed by Sir Gilbert Roberts, construction started in 1961 & was completed in 1966. It is grade 1 listed, 445ft high & cables supporting the bridge deck comprise 18,000 miles of wire. It was opened on 8th September 1966 by The Queen. We will see the remains of the former Severn ferry pier and terminal and the geologically important Aust cliffs. Packed lunch required as the only food option is the Severn View Services!

Thursday 21 Jul 2016 An evening country walk on the edge of Bristol

A five mile walk in parkland, fields and woodland, with some good views and interesting features. Visiting the Leigh Woods estate to the west of the Avon gorge, the terrain is gently undulating, and mainly on paths and tracks.

Sun 24 Jul 2016 Westonzoyland and Sedgemoor Battlefield.

A 5 mile (8 km) level walk. ST 356 354 (Postcode TA7 0EU) beside an information board describing the Battle of Sedgemoor 1685. The walk includes walking over stiles, through fields and pastures, alongside King's Sedgemoor Drain and finishes walking through a disused RAF Airfield, abandoned in 1968.

On The Water

Getting my sea legs
Back in the early part of May I enjoyed an amazing week in the Lake District, a landscape photographers /painters paradise and the weather was warm sunshine. While there, we, meaning the other half was with me, went cruising! On Windermere lake



on one of the biggest cruise liners on any lake in the UK it was a great way to view the scenery of this area. Later on Sunday 22nd May we went and joined other members of GayWest for a trip around Bristol's Harbour this time on a much smaller boat called "The Bristol Packet" for some one who has lived in Bristol all his life, I still learnt more of Bristol maritime history from the commentary given while on this trip. A really good trip. Afterwards it was suggested that we needed some refreshments so we all trooped around to the Hatchet inn where we enjoyed food, drink, and a good chat. Another successful GayWest social event.



The Pride Season Reports.....

Gloucester June 11th We were surprised to see The Queen in attendance especially as it was her birthday, (See Pictures on Back Page). The day turned out to be one of mixed weather, but the event was well supported with plenty of stalls, music and very well attended by a predominately young crowd. and the numbers kept us all busy with lots of enquiries. We had great support from Laura, Amy, and John.

Midsomer Norton June 18th - Their FIRST pride was a great success Friday saw a showing of the film "Pride", On Saturday there was a homemade cake competition followed by a champagne cream tea and an evening of nightclub music, very enjoyable.

Well Done Midsomer Norton.

Bristol July 9th This is to be held at **Millennium Square** and the amphitheatre. The Parade will be leaving Castle Park at 11am.

For those of you who want to go to the **Dog Show** - Saturday 2nd July

Venue - Castle Park - Register from 11am, show at 1pm

Free / £2.00 Entry, There is a wide variety of events so please go to www.bristolpride.co.uk

GayWest is having a stall in the Community Tent, so do come along and give your support, as it is a new venue it will be very different, but I am sure just as enjoyable.

Weston - S - Mare 30th July This popular Pride returns to Grove Park. The Cost for Adults is £5.00 and the parade leaves The Knightstone Island at 11am.

GayWest is having a stall, please give them your support.

There are over 50 Pride Events throughout the UK also many across the World.

Links include fynetimes.co.uk gaytimes.co.uk

GayWest and other Events

Second Wednesdays of each month GayWest's
Bristol Social Evenings ; Old Market Tavern 8pm
Fourth Wednesdays of each month GayWest's
Bath Social Evenings : Barley Mow (Bathwick Street) 8pm

July Saturday 2nd Exmouth Pride
Saturday 9th Bristol Pride, Millennium Square, Bristol.
(PLEASE NOTE NEW VENUE)
Sunday 10th 1pm After Pride Lunch at
“Catch 22” Restaurant on College Green, varied menu
at reasonable prices.
Sunday 31st *Puppetry of The Penis ONE NIGHT ONLY*
Bristol Hippodrome

August Sunday 14th 2pm GayWest PICNIC
Hanham Woods Bring your luxurious picnic hampers to Conham River Park Picnic Area, off Conham Road, Hanham.

September Saturday 17th Annual General Meeting
Sunday 25th at M.Shed Age UK - Celebrating Age.
Christmas Time Tyntesfield visit to be arranged
(A fabulous Victorian outing).

December Friday 16th The GayWest Annual Dinner -
Another event not to be missed.



Spot The Queen !!

