



Claiming our Past
Celebrating our Present
Creating our Future

LGBT History Month bulletin 91 2011

Welcome to the 91st LGBT History Month Bulletin. This covers December 2011



Schools OUT Conference

As always the Schools OUT Conference will be held on the first Saturday of February 2012. It is entitled: **Educating OUT Prejudice through the LGBT Lens**. Featuring the Classroom, The Rainbow Project and presenters and speakers from the other protected characteristics, the Conference will be rich in resources and ideas for practitioners in the classroom and stakeholders in an exclusive education service. Below you can find further details and how to register and book your place.



Schools OUT Annual Conference 2012

Saturday 4th February

9.30 am - 6.00pm

The Drill Hall

16 Chenies Street, London WC1E 7EX

[Drill Hall location](#)

To register call the Drill Hall box office: 020 7307 5060

Fees

Until Jan 26 11 Student or Unemployed £10, Retired £15 Individual £40

Organisation £50

2011 After Jan 26, Student or unemployed £15 Retired £20 Individual £50

Organisation £60

EDUCATING OUT PREJUDICE THROUGH THE LGBT LENS

- Celebrating our new website [the Classroom](#)
- Gender Intelligence, Mermaids and GIRES will explore how to challenge the concept of binary gender
- Disability History Month will explore challenging disability
- HMI/Ofsted will explore how we can use the curriculum to celebrate diversity
- Workshops will explore the lesson plans on the website and there will be an opportunity to view the Rainbow Project films (see Rainbow below)...

...plus the usual chance to network and Schools out AGM vote in the new committee

Pride House



The launch of the UK Olympic and paralympic Pride House on Friday the 9th of December in London's Living Room at City Hall was supported by Pride House London ambassadors including psychologist, author and former NBA basketball player John Amaechi, member of the Great British women's sitting volleyball training squad Claire Harvey, LGBT History Month co-chair, trainer and campaigner Sue Sanders, author, journalist, broadcaster and campaigner Peter Tatchell and founder and chief executive of Diversity Role Models Suran Dickson.

On 26 July 2012, Pride House London will open its doors in support of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) community. Continuing the great work realised by Pride House Vancouver and Whistler at the 2010 winter games, this will be the second Pride House to join the line-up of Olympic houses and the first to be present at a summer games, representing a significant milestone for the LGBT community.

As one of the largest houses in London next summer, Pride House is expecting more than 250,000 visitors over seventeen days. A diverse programme is being developed with a number of partners to be announced in the New Year. Some highlights visitors can expect to find include live music and entertainment, an art exhibition featuring LGBT artists, sports tournaments and demonstrations with special appearances by professional athletes and big screens stationed around the venue showing televised broadcasts of Olympic events and highlights of Pride House.

Equalities office Launches Competition at LGBT History Month pre-Launch

At the groundbreaking LGBT History Month Pre-Launch, held at the Kia Oval Cricket Ground in Kennington in collaboration with Pride Sports, Lynne Featherstone, Minister for Equalities launched a competition to find a logo for sports clubs, fans and players across the country to mark their support for the campaign. The competition is targeted

at young people but is open to anyone with creative flair. Entrants have been asked to come up with a design that embodies the messages as outlined in our [Charter for Action](#) and helps spread the message that hate of any kind in sport is not acceptable. The competition will run until 18th January. Rugby Union star, Ben Cohen will then shortlist the top designs from all the entries and then it will then be over to the general public to vote for the winning design on Facebook. For more information about the competition, go [here](#).



Other exciting events at the Pre-launch, dedicated to sport for the second year running, was an announcement of the Pride House for LGBT Olympians in London, the campaign to bring the Gay Games to London in 2018 and an account of the athletics career of Alan Turing, who will feature largely in next year's pre-launch, dedicated to his centenary. Attendees were able to take the opportunity to have their photos taken with a board promoting the Justin Campaign to eradicate homophobia in football.

Sarah Williams of the Rugby Football League handed the honour of playing in the tackle Homophobia shirts over from Sheffield Eagles to Leeds Rhinos and gave two of the legendary shirts to the organisers Sue Sanders and Lou Englefield. Tears were jerked when the London gay Men's Chorus gave a rendition of Make Your Own Kind of Music and The Pink Triangle Theatre gave a agit-prop performance about homophobia.

The Equality Act Explained

Just go [here](#)

Rainbow Project Film Competition



A European project has launched a students' film competition *and* is looking for teachers and pupils to pilot a series of films and lesson plans.

The Rainbow project is a pan-European Education project involving Schools OUT and Ant Creative Media in the UK with partners in the EU in the Basque Country, Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy, Bulgaria and Germany. It aims to tackle homophobia and transphobia by challenging stereotypes on an international scale. Coming up to its

second year, the project, which will be complete in February 2013, has launched a film competition for young people aged 15 to 19, with a prize for the best film in each category. The categories are animated, drama and documentary.



**SHORT FILMS
COMPETITION
against
HOMOPHOBIA**

**DEADLINE FOR
ENTRIES:**
MAY 11th
2012

SEEKING:
YOUNG PEOPLE
aged
15-19 years
OLD
FROM THE
EUROPEAN
COUNTRIES

<http://rainbow.ecfa.info/>

To find out more details and how to enter the competition go [here](#). The winning films will be shown at the Milan LGBT Film Festival 2012.

If you are a teacher and you would like to pilot the short films with some of your pupils contact Tony Fenwick at fenwicktony@hotmail.com

Turing



Next year LGBT History Month will start to focus on maths and science, to celebrate the centenary of Alan Turing. The Month will still be focused on sport up to and including the Olympics, where we believe we have made roads and built bridges to facilitate the continued participation of LGBT people in sport, but then it will be time to move on. The next LGBT History Month Pre-Launch will be held at Bletchley Park on November the 15th. Put the event in your diaries and watch this space for further developments.

All-Year-Round Calendar Gives Free Publicity



The LGBT History Month/LGBT Consortium calendar is now up and running and we are ever so pleased that you are adding your events with enthusiasm and exploiting the free publicity that it offers to you all.

Please check it out and add to it if you have an event or want to plan your diary. And please remember that it is an all-year-round calendar; IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT FEBRUARY! If it's your event and it's happening, stick it on there. You know it makes sense.

Badge Bags



Stuck for a gift for the friend who has everything? Scratching your head for a prezzie for the rellie? After seven successful years of LGBT History Month you can buy your revered friends, lovers, relatives and anyone else really a set of every single one of our badges. A snip at £10+£2 p&p

To buy send a cheque for £12 to BM LGBT History Month, London WC1N 3XX. Hurry to get them before Christmas!

Events calendar

Click [here](#)

LGBT Birthdays

Transgender

Jan Hamilton

(8 December 1964 –)

The first officer in the British army to transition from male to female. Hamilton was the subject of a 2008 Channel 4 documentary entitled "Sex Change Soldier".

Rebecca Anne "Becky" Allison

(21 December 1946 –)

American cardiologist who is known for her work advocating for transgendered people. She was elected chair of the American Medical Association Advisory Committee on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender issues in 2008; and is incoming president of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association.

Lesbians and bisexual women

Joan Armatrading

(9 December 1950 –)

British singer, songwriter and guitarist. Armatrading received an Ivor Novello award in 1996 and has been nominated for the BRIT Awards twice and three times for the Grammy Awards. Her hits include the song "Love and Affection".

Carol Ann Duffy

(23 December 1955 –)

Scottish poet and playwright. Duffy was appointed Britain's poet laureate in 2009 and is professor of contemporary poetry at the Manchester Metropolitan University. Her collections include *Selling Manhattan* (1987), which won a Somerset Maugham Award, and *Rapture* (2005), winner of the TS Eliot Prize. Her poems are widely studied in schools.

Sophie Ward

(21 December 1966 –)

English actress and the daughter of actor Simon Ward. Her career includes roles in the films *Young Sherlock Holmes* and *Return to Oz*. In 1995, she played a housewife who leaves her husband for another woman in the TV film *A Village Affair*. She and her partner Rena Brannan wed in a ceremony in 2000, before same-sex civil partnerships were legalized in the UK.

Gay and bisexual men

Michael Cashman

(17 December 1950 –)

British Labour politician and former actor. Cashman has been a member of the European Parliament for the West Midlands constituency since 1999. A founder of Stonewall, he is also an honorary associate of the National Secular Society and a patron of London-based HIV charity The Food Chain. He is well known for having played Colin Russell in BBC TV's *Eastenders* – a character involved in the first gay kiss in a British soap opera.

Noël Coward

(16 December 1899 – 26 March 1973)

English playwright, composer, director, actor and singer. He ran the British propaganda office in Paris during World War II and worked with the Secret Service to persuade the American government to help Britain. His plays, such as *Private Lives*, *Design for Living* and *Blithe Spirit*, are a popular staple of theatre programmes in the West End and beyond.

Matthew Shephard

(1 December 1976 – 12 October 1998)

A 21-year-old student at the University of Wyoming who was tortured and murdered for, witnesses claimed, being gay. His death drew attention to the issue of hate crime nationally and internationally.

Homophobia and Transphobia Quotes

"Homophobia within football is currently the subject of national debate and the ban given today highlights the fact this type of behaviour will not be tolerated.

"Thousands of people pay each week to watch sport and enjoy themselves, and they should not have to hear offensive language and abuse while they do so. We will continue to take action against those who behave in such a way at football matches."

Hampshire Police spokesperson on fining a fan £200 and giving him a ban for homophobic abuse during a match (Queerty 08-12-11)

Clinton was right to say being gay was not a Western invention, however, she should also have said that homophobia was certainly a Western invention, promoted in Africa by Christian Right leaders such as Scott Lively, Lou Engle and, to a certain extent, Rick Warren. The Christian Right's exportation of homophobia has been happening over a number of years, well ahead of the "Kill-the-gays" bill in Uganda.

The Rev Dan Vojir blames US evangelists for the wave of homophobia in some African states (Opednews.com 08-12-11)

"My mommy's gay but she doesn't need fixing"

A child confronts ultra-conservative US presidential candidate Michele Bachmann on a walkabout tour (Huffington Post 12-12 11)

"Transphobia has no place in feminism. None whatsoever. You can dress it up in as much theory as you want, you can stick your hands over your ears and deny you've done anything wrong, you can wilfully twist the truth into lies, but if you're transphobic, you have no place in feminism".

Stavvers (Another Angry Woman 28-11-11)



Season's Greetings. See You in the New Year!

LGBT History Month Patrons:

John Amaechi, former international basketball player, broadcaster and psychologist, **Christine Burns**, Equality and diversity specialist, podcaster, campaigner, **Dr Harry Cocks**, social historian and writer, **Angela Eagle MP** Work and Pensions, **Professor Viv Gardner**, Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama, **Professor Martin Hall**, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Salford University, **Sir Ian McKellen**, actor, **Cyril Nri**, actor, director and writer, **Ian Rivers**, Professor of Human Development; Subject Leader for Sports Sciences, Brunel University, **Professor Sheila Rowbotham**, lecturer and campaigner, **Labi Siffre**, poet, songwriter and singer, **Professor Melanie Tebbutt**, Director, Manchester Centre for Regional History, Senior Lecturer, Manchester Metropolitan University, **Gareth Thomas**, rugby international, **Jeffrey Weeks**, historian, sociologist, author and LGBT activist, **Stephen Whittle OBE**, Professor of Equalities Law in the School of Law at Manchester Metropolitan University