

QB

Nottinghamshire's Queer Bulletin

June/July 2011
Number 60

★
★ **June 1st** ★
★

★ **Nottinghamshire Pride** ★
★ **Gala** at the Council House, ★
★ Nottingham. £12 per ticket ★
★ or £100 for a table of 10 ★
★ people. Starts 7:30 pm, ★
★ black tie/formal dress, live ★
★ entertainment, Pimm's re- ★
★ ception on arrival. ★

★ For more details go to ★
★ [www.nottinghamshirepride.](http://www.nottinghamshirepride.co.uk) ★
★ [co.uk](http://www.nottinghamshirepride.co.uk) ★



If you have any information, news, gossip or libel or wish to comment on anything in QB, please contact

QB
Lesbian and Gay Switchboard
7 Mansfield Road
Nottingham NG1 3FB
or e-mail
notts@lgswitchboard.fsnet.co.uk

The deadline for the next edition will be June 30th 2011

**Switchboard is registered
charity number 1114273**

KAY! WHY?

FREE



Is it the wife of Dobbie the House Elf? No, it is Mrs Kay Cutts, the axewoman of County Hall. A local blog describes her as “an opportunist promoted beyond her ability” and nicknames her “The Vogon” - Google if required.

Despite David Cameron urging local authorities not to take the easy option and stop funds to the voluntary sector, Mrs Cutts has done just that on a grand scale. We hear that most local authorities will have to sustain cuts of about 30% over 3 years. Our local leader opted for a much bigger cut in one year to the voluntary sector, though the uproar this caused prompted some backtracking. We hear that she will be going through each grant application personally, so if that is the case, those who find their funding cut will know that the cut has Kay's personal blessing.

Lesbian and Gay Switchboard's grant has been stopped For more details, see inside. The money saved by stopping Switchboard's grant is approximately one fifth of that spent by the council on having a new floor for Mrs Cutts' office (as reported in the Evening Post) well, it's a matter of priorities, isn't it. That Switchboard's grant has been stopped is no surprise.

- In 1999 the local Conservatives said “when we get into power we will stop your grant” They're in power ... grant stopped.
- In 2006, Mrs Cutts complained to Notts Police after they made a donation towards the printing of an issue of QB which contained an article criticising the dear lady.
- Also in 2006 Mrs Cutts was quoted in the Evening Post as saying that spending money to support Nottingham Pride was a waste of money - the Post disagreed.
- In 2010 it was alleged that Mrs Cutts refused to shake hands with Ian Campbell, a gay young man who won the Young Person of the Year Award. She says she didn't refuse. It was reported that she refused to be photographed with him because he was a Labour Party activist.
- Before Mrs Cutts ascended to her throne, Notts County Council were 37th in the table of Stonewall's best employers. A year later they were at 100, and now they don't appear in the top 100 at all..

For those in need of a good laugh, go to

<http://parishofnottinghamshire.blogspot.com> which charts the follies, the hypocrisies, the cynicism and incompetence of the benighted Tory County Council. In 2009, David Cameron said “If you want to know what a Conservative government will be like, look at our Conservative councils.” For once, he spoke the truth. Roll on 2013.

THE CUTTS CUTS

Lesbian & Gay Switchboard's grant from the County Council has been stopped because, says the Council, they have "high reserves which will enable you to continue in the next financial year".

Yes, they do have reserves but the majority of the reserves are in restricted funds, which means that they cannot simply be switched to fill a gap left by the County Council's decision. Switchboard received a letter from the County Council about 2 years ago stating that the reserves in the restricted funds would not affect the grant. The unrestricted reserves amount to about £4000, equivalent to about 30% of a Cutts office floor. Enough to survive next year, but after that??

Switchboard was informed on October 8th by senior management at Notts T-PCT that they had heard that the County would stop Switchboard's grant. This was nearly 2 months before the grant application was sent in. The application process was therefore a farce.

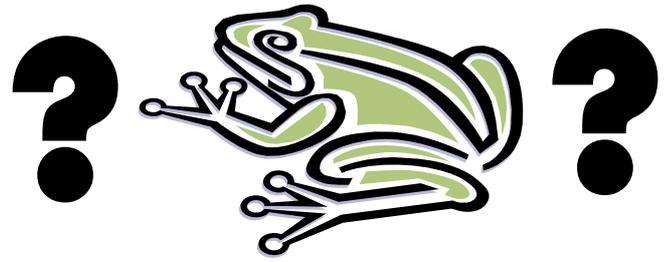
Last year, Switchboard's entire service cost about £12,000. The biggest expense (£4300) was advertising the service all across the County. Switchboard uses every possible source of free publicity, but time has shown that without paid advertising a significant number of people would not be reached. Another major expense is the production of QB - £2200 last year. The remaining £6000 goes on room rent, phones, insurance, examination of accounts, training, stationery, the texting service fee, volunteers' travelling expenses, printing leaflets, affiliation fees, etc. It is worth spelling out what Switchboard provides for £12,000

- A helpline, which reaches about 1400/year by phone, e-mail, text and letter
- 6 editions of QB/year
- Edits the Nottingham gay and lesbian page of the Dmoz internet search engine
- Provides a community voice on the City and Police LGBT forums and also on the Fairness Commission and City Community Equality Forum.
- Maintains the most accurate database of Notts LGBT information
- Acts as a mailbox for Notts Pride
- Manages the accounts of Nottinghamshire's Rainbow Heritage
- Signposts many people to local social and support groups. Without the publicity which Switchboard provides, some of these groups would wither away.

Notts T-PCT, which will itself soon disappear in the NHS reorganisation, has had to stop its grant. The loss of the 2 grants totals £4000/year. Switchboard's volunteers have already stated that in future they will waive their travelling expenses, saving about £1000, so the 25 volunteers don't simply give their services absolutely free, they actually pay to give those services. Is this what "The Big Society" means?

We now need your help. When we do our fundraising at Pride, please be generous. When social groups raise funds, think of us and finally, be a **FRONG**.

WHAT'S A FRONG?



Frongs were born 30 years ago and used to be **FR**riends **O**f **N**ottingham **G**ay **S**witchboard. Nottingham and Notts Lesbian and Gay Switchboard would make them **FRONANLAGS** so we've stuck with **FRONGS**.

FRONGS set up a standing order with their bank to pay Switchboard a small amount each month. As Switchboard is a registered charity, **FRONGS** who are tax payers can enable us to reclaim tax and so boost any contribution by about 25%.

You can download a **FRONGS** form from Switchboard's website www.nottslgs.org.uk or from its Facebook page. For those who still retain their steam radios, give us a call, e-mail or text and we'll put a form in the post.

LESBIAN AUTHORS' BOOK EVENT

A promotional poster for a book event. The background is a warm, golden-yellow color with intricate, swirling patterns. At the top, the text "AUTHOR READINGS & SIGNINGS" is written in a bold, black, serif font. Below this, the dates "24-25th of July," are displayed in a similar font. A large, stylized black letter "W" is centered on the page. Underneath the "W", the text "waterstones.com" and "feel every word" are written in a smaller, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the address "1/5 Bridesmith Gate Nottingham" is written in a bold, black, serif font.

**AUTHOR
READINGS &
SIGNINGS**

24-25th of July,

W

waterstones.com
feel every word

**1/5 Bridesmith Gate
Nottingham**

As a follow up to last year's successful event, **Bold Stroke Books** are organising another lesbian authors' weekend at Waterstones.

On Saturday 24th July 6.30 - 8.30 pm, there will be author panel readings followed by an author "meet and greet".

On the Sunday there will be a publishing panel starting at 11.30 am. Get all your publishing questions answered

QB'S BITS

- The rumours that **B Bar** on Heathcoat Street was to become a gay bar called "Rumours" were just rumours. Won't happen. They could not obtain a licence.
- CS is a poison gas. **CS2** is not a molecular variation (or the new Citroen), but a sauna - it's short for City Steam 2. ("All equipment installed will be new and with a very high standard of cleanliness and hygiene. It will be on two levels with a large sauna, Jacuzzi and bespoke steam room, plus modern high powered showers and private rooms"). Opening soon, location and date to be revealed later - see www.cs2sauna.com
- Restructuring + "the cuts" have led to one of Notts Police's LGBT advisory groups being wound up. The Police's City LGBT Forum will continue to meet quarterly at Central Police Station. Next meeting June 23rd, 6 pm.
- **Nottingham's City Register Office** will be taking over the grand space of the Council House - see page 6.
- With sadness, we report the death of Angela Extall. She was a friendly and lively person, with an infectious smile and sense of humour, who will be sadly missed. For several years she volunteered on Lesbian & Gay Switchboard and was a trustee at the time Switchboard registered as a charity.
- We've had an e-mail from **Gatecrasher**, a clubbing event which occupies what used to be the old Elite Cinema on Parliament Street. The Gatecrasher website nowhere mentions the word "gay", but the descriptions of the various floors are certainly intriguing: The **Tunnel** ... a room designed to be dark, intimate, dangerous and very now; The **Arkade** ... chic but deviant, cool but dangerous

APPY GAYS ARE HERE AGAIN

No sooner do we have Grindr, than it is overtaken by **Kroozr**. We hear that this new app "cuts down on valuable 'sussing out' time and weeds out weirdos. All users need to do is turn on their smartphone and wait for Kroozr to assess nearby men with its inbuilt Kinsey Scale."

"Kroozr (they say) is the new future of gay dating that will turn every trip to M&S, every queue for the cashpoint into a hot party full of your type of guy. Just fill in the details of your ideal man, turn on the app and go about your business. When you get within eyeshot of a hot guy, you can check him out on Kroozr."

They've even developed a 'filtering' feature, whereby you can set the app to screen out men with ponytails, bumbags or Chinese symbol tattoos. (Unfortunately, we also have to report that this item appeared on April 1st).

PRIDE NEWS

The Pride Committee says "We have now confirmed the arrangements for the **Pride March**. We will be going from the City Centre assemble in Smithy Row from 10 am. We will be having some entertainment on the square before we leave.

The March will set out from the square at 10.45 am before heading up Queen Street and on to Upper Parliament Street. The full route is on the website. We want to make this the best March so far with lots of colour and noise!"

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED "Pride relies on volunteers for all we do. Pride is not FREE. It costs over £40,000 this year to put it on, but if we are to keep admission on the day free we need your help. We need 20 volunteers to help as Stewards to help marshal our Pride March on 30th July from 10 am, just two hours to help make the March a success and keep things moving.

We also need lots of volunteers on the Pride day at the site to help collect all the lovely donations that you will all be giving us. Come and shake a bucket. If you can spare an hour or two we need your help on the day and before. Please, get in touch, WE NEED YOUR HELP. Your Pride needs YOU!! "

MEMBERSHIP "Slowly Pride is recruiting more and more paid up members. Pride is "owned" by its members, we are a registered charity but we rely on our members. It is our members who elect our Committee and Officers at our AGM each year.

If you care about Pride in Nottinghamshire and want to have a say and play a part, you need to join Pride. It is easy to do, just go to our website and fill in the form. You can even pay the £4 by PayPal. How easy is that? Or you can do it the old fashioned way and write to us or get a form from us at any event.

Only members will be eligible to vote at our AGM. The AGM will be held on Thursday 1st September 2011 at the New Mechanics Institute, Nottingham at 7 pm. Members will be able to elect our Pride Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and committee members. We will also set our plans for 2012. If you want to have a real say you need to join and become a member. We will also be holding a special General Meeting - see back page."

Richard (Pride Chair)
richard@nottinghamshirepride.co.uk
www.nottinghamshirepride.co.uk

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)

A Trans Timeline - 2

1673 French explorers Louis Joliet and Jacques Marquette come into contact with the Illini Indians in 1673, and are astonished to discover a subset of Illini men who dressed and acted out the social role of women. The Illini termed these men "ikoneta" while the French referred to them as the "berdache."

1676 MTF transsexual Abbe Francois Timoleon de Choisy attended Papal inaugural ball in female dress. His memoirs, published postmortem, offer the first written testimony of cross-dressing.



1700s "Molly houses" provided a space for the English gay community to meet, carouse and relate to one another. "Mollies" were men who often cross-dressed and developed their own queer culture.

1728 Chevalier D'Eon, born Charles d'Eon, was a famous French spy/ambassador who was born male but lived a significant part of his/her life as a woman. Chevalier's birth sex was a hotly debated question.



Notes and Queeries

On the road driving south out of Stockholm to Södertälje is a feature known as "The King's Kerb." This is where King Gustav V's car crashed because the driver was distracted while being given a blow job - probably by the King.



A BBC radio programme promoting safer sex mentioned getting free condoms, which would be given away on "a first come, first served principle."



A first-ever museum display, "Against Nature?", which opened in January at the University of Oslo's Natural History Museum in Norway, presents 51 species of animals exhibiting homosexuality. Homosexuality has been noted in over 1500 species, says the exhibition coordinator. E.g. most dolphins are bisexual - he's not called "Flipper" for nothing.

Swiss operatic tenor Hugues Cuenod was singing well into his eighties. He made his debut at the New York Met aged 85. Now 104, he is looking forward to his civil partnership ceremony now that Switzerland has passed laws recognising same-sex relationships.



The Archers was the first soap to have a Civil Ceremony. On December 14th 2006 chef Ian and farming dogsbody Adam tied the knot, much to the embarrassment of stepfather Brian (what will the village think?) Aldridge. Will the course of true love run smoothly, or will one of them fall into the threshing machine? Dum-ti-dum-ti-dum-ti-dum dum-ti diddily dum.





The Council House Nottingham

The Council House makes an exceptional and unique location for civil partnerships, exuding grandeur and elegance.

Offering a variety of beautiful licensed rooms, such as the magnificent Ballroom overlooking Old Market Square to the more intimate splendour of the Sheriff's Parlour, The Council House can accommodate ceremonies of various sizes.

With room rates, including the registrar's fee, ranging from just £75 to £300, it offers excellent value for money too.

Book now to hold your special day in one of Nottingham's most prestigious buildings.



Win lots of great prizes by following My Nottingham Wedding on Facebook, where you'll find lots of helpful hints and tips for your special day.

For more information visit www.mynottingham.gov.uk/weddings

The Council House, Old Market Square,
Nottingham NG1 2DT
t: 0115 947 5665
e: office.register@nottinghamcity.gov.uk



Nottingham
City Council

LESBIAN ICONS ARE HERE

K. D. Lang - and the Siss Boom Bang - come to Royal Concert Hall following the release of her new album Sing It Loud. 7.30 pm, Saturday June 4th.



And then there's **Claire Summerskill** in "WELL THAT EXPLAINS IT!" Let's talk about Sex! Sexual Orientation! Relationships!

Let's talk about being Single, Married, being Bi, Gay, Lesbian, Straight and those who see themselves as just a little bit on the wonky side... Everything you've ever wanted to know about all these subjects but were too afraid to ask ...in case someone gave you a funny look.

Friday June 17th at Nottingham Playhouse.

WOMEN'S HISTORY WALKS

Over the last few years the **Nottingham Women's History Group** have been running very popular walks around Nottingham highlighting the lives of women – both famous and unknown. We have now published the walk as a **FREE** A5 size, 16 page booklet, so that the public can follow the walk at their own convenience. You can get a copy of the walk any of these ways:

- E-mail nottmwomenshistory@googlemail.com and we'll send you the booklet as a PDF (Adobe)
- Download from the web site www.nottinghamwomenshistory.org.uk (this will be available soon)
- Look out for it at libraries around the city and Nottingham Women's Centre

Send a stamped addressed A5 size envelope (33p stamp) to

Nottingham Women's History Group
25 Cavendish Vale, Nottingham, NG5 4DS
For more information contact Mo on **07950 472022**

WOW! WE'RE ONE!



W.O.W (Worksop out on Wednesdays) celebrated its one year Anniversary with a big event held at The Centre Place. The event was attended by over 50 people made up of professionals from agencies throughout the county showing their support; and also attended by young people who have benefited from the service over the last 12 months. The W.O.W service is the only group in the Bassetlaw area of its kind and it has become widely recognised and appreciated

W.O.W is a free, confidential support group run by The Centre Place for young people aged 16 to 25 who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning their sexuality living within Bassetlaw. The service officially opened its doors in February 2010 and has consistently run every Wednesday evening from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm since.

During the last 12 months over 40 young people from the LGBTQ community have accessed the service for various forms of support, and the young people have been working in partnership with local services to raise awareness of the issues affecting the LGBTQ community, to combat stigma and discrimination as well as changing public attitudes and policy.

THE JUSTIN CAMPAIGN

The Justin Campaign is named after Nottingham Forest footballer **Justin Fashanu** and aims to counteract homophobia in football. Last year Nottingham University hosted a very successful tournament.

This year, the Justin Campaign Tournament is taking place on 2nd July 2011 at The University of Nottingham Sports Centre and we need TEAMS!

We will be running a female tournament and male tournament and the fee is £4 per player. If you would like to submit a team, please email

nottingham.events@thejustincampaign.com before June 1st 2011.

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); University of 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; Panthers RFC (Rugby group); Open Walking Group; Tagadere (HIV+ support group); Weekenders (Sheffield-based walking group); Sapphist Writers; Gay Outdoor Club; WOW (Youth group in Worksop).

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

DIARY

SPLENDOUR

Nothing at all to do with a sugar substitute. The **Scissor Sisters** make a quick return to Nottingham, but this time as part of the Splendour music festival at Wollaton Park. It's on Sunday July 24th. Tickets available online at www.seetickets.com

PINK THERAPY

Over the years members of the LGB communities have frequently had negative experiences of psychiatrists, psychotherapists, counsellors, and evangelical religious group trying to "convert" us to become "straight" or who simply avoided the reality of our sexuality altogether. "**Therapy's relationship to homosexuality**" is a public lecture by Dominic Davies which examines this issue. It's on Wednesday June 8th 6.30-8.30 pm at Nottingham University - room A32 Dearing Building. For more information, contact Lindsay Cooper at 0115 9514461 or e-mail lindsay.cooper@nottingham.ac.uk

LGBT HISTORY AT BREAKOUT

Tony Bilton will give another of his amazingly well-researched LGBT history talks at Breakout (12 Broad St.) on Tuesday June 21st. It will centre around the background to the various LGBT flags. Starts at 8 pm - doors open at 7.30 pm.

NOTTS PRIDE EVENTS

The Pride committee has organised a series of events in the run up to Pride itself. Here are some:

- June 13th (Monday) - special General Meeting of all members at the Lord Roberts, at 7 pm to discuss and, we hope, adopt a new constitution.
- June 19th (Sunday) - A special night of burlesque at @D2. Starts at 9 pm. Admission on the door towards Pride.
- July 2nd (Saturday) - Pride stall at the Justin event at the University of Nottingham - see previous page
- July 6th (Wednesday) - Quiz night at the Lord Roberts 9 pm. A chance to test your knowledge. Teams of a maximum of four people, £4 per team all proceeds towards Pride. Get a team together!
- July 9th (Saturday) - pre-pride BBQ at The New Gables Hotel (1, Hucknall Road) 12-4 pm. Debbie will be doing the cooking.
- July 17th (Sunday) - Pride Film Show 2 pm. Priscilla Queen of the Desert @ Broadway Cinema. Tickets from Broadway box office, film showing followed by Priscilla event at @d2 (cabaret at 6 and 9 pm) and themed night at NG1. Sponsored by Notts Police OUTnetwork.