



GGL Community News

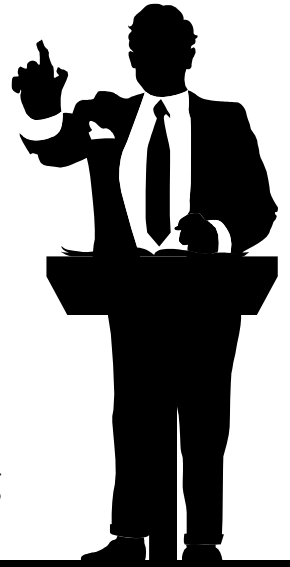
Autumn 2022

Annual Dinner Menu!

The latest News, Views and Opinion

DIARY OF EVENTS

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER



I have just come back from the Tump (the riverside Park near our Cottage) in the Forest of Dean conducting an interview with Sophia of Radio Gloucestershire.

She is working on an ambitious project about LGBT+ community in Gloucestershire. Difficulties in living and working in rural areas, entertainment, gay scene, meeting friends and partners. Quite a challenge, but I must say am impressed on her ideas and what she hopes to achieve. She is asking various LGBT+ people to contribute so if you feel you have something to contribute, do contact her at Radio Gloucestershire or our own Howard who is working with her.

It was glorious sat by the river, you could hear what water was left rushing by, the sun on your face. Trouble is, 100's of others enjoy it too and the weekends are like Bournemouth without the Gay clubs!!

It was interesting going through history of the Group and how much we have achieved over the years. The changes, both good and bad, have not stopped coming, yet we have been able to rise to the challenge each time. Even through COVID we now have higher membership than when it started. Let's hope we can keep adapting to the changes and secure our future.

I cannot finish this letter without mentions of another change – our dear friend Rob P has finally been able to step down as Membership Secretary. He has been a stalwart at the task, fulfilling this role, on and off, over the past 30 years. We were well looked after. The Committee decided to award Rob the title of "Emeritus Membership Secretary" (the former holder of an office, having retired but allowed to retain their title as an honour.) We thank you Rob for all you have done to support the Community and the individuals within it.

A most warm welcome to Sergio F to take on the role. He has already made inroads to learning and sure he will be a great asset to the Group. As several of you know, I am going home to Canada for a vacation and

for us to convalesce after long COVID. Both Alan and I are looking forward it to tremendously and will see you in a few weeks

See you at the Annual Dinner

In friendship

Michael

Thank You!

I would like to say a big thank you to all those GGLC members who sent me get well wishes during my recent stay in Gloucester Royal Hospital. One member even sent me a quiz to keep me occupied!. All the messages were a tonic.

I am now home after my op and feeling fine

Sincerely

Neil W

GGLC Membership Payments

GGLC members have 3 choices when paying their membership,

- 1 BACS
- 2 CASH
- 3 Cheque

Our preferred method of payment is via BACS for those who use internet banking, this way we get our money promptly and the members don't have to wait for their cheques to clear the bank.

Cash and cheques can be paid in person at any meeting, however due to us only meeting once a month now, cheques may not be paid into our bank very quickly and could possibly take a few weeks before they clear the member's bank.

Pay-Pal is being phased out as it is rarely used and by using this method GGLC loose a percentage of the money through administration costs. So please pay by BACS if you can or cash at our meetings.

Many Thanks, Craig, Treasurer.

Raffle

So, the raffle is back on, when we have face to face meetings.. Due to the current changing situation, we have to play this by ear, just bring along all the goodies you have been saving up for when we do meet up!

Graham, Editor

PRIDE

The time has suddenly crept up on us and Gloucestershire Pride is on September 10th 2022 at the Park in Gloucester City. You can find times and more details on line and they will be announced at the next Group Meeting.

For those attending meetings, you will know the Committee made some changes to how we will take part this year. For several years now we have held a bottle stall. It has always gone really well, but the collecting of bottles, storing them, heaving them in and out of cars and setting up on the days has become more arduous ,as those of us helping get older, the bottles seem to get heavier and the helpers dwindle.

This year we are hosting games which anyone can take part in – fairground style entertainment where you can win small prizes. We will give this a trial and see how it goes. If you can help, please see Mike and Rob at the group or contact Peter, our Secretary. All help eventually – even if it is to cover for an hour so everyone gets chance to walk around.

Thanks

M

Membership Update

We are now 63 members which is an increase of 7 on the last membership report Spring 2022. So the number continues to increase from the low of 51 reported in the Winter into Spring newsletter 2021/2. Getting back to the face-to-face meetings in Gloucester is no doubt helping to increase the membership numbers.

We have 9 new members and these are the following: Andrew L, Kevin S, Ebenezer O, Alberto L, Elhagi J and Navi K, Bessem S, Warlen Fand Emerson B.

We all wish a very warm welcome to you all!

Sergio

Membership Secretary

From the Mayor of Gloucester

When I look back, it seems it might be a fantasy to think I would be a city mayor one day. But here I am.

It is an honour and privilege to be the mayor of such an historic and diverse city such as Gloucester.

In my year we have had the tall ships festival, on August 6th we have had 60 years of Jamaican Independence and many celebrations this year of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

The mayor's duties include representing the city council at civic, ceremonial and community events both within and outside the city. The mayor supports the arts, business and sporting events. The mayor chairs meetings of full council.

In my civic year, I have honorary positions in various organisations such as honorary president or honorary member.

It is my determination to represent all the various communities in Gloucester. It is a diverse city with many different languages and people. It is also going through regeneration in various parts of the city.

During covid, organisations came together to help those who needed help and there were ordinary people doing the extraordinary.

We have charities helping those who have fallen on hard times and also experiencing the cost-of-living crisis.

My year will be one of challenge as well as fun. There will be sombre occasions, commemorations, celebrations and meeting up with other civics.

Along with the Sheriff and deputy mayor, we will do our best to be good ambassadors for the city.

Howard

GGLC Vice-Chair

Mayor of Gloucester

PRISM

PRISM has recently relaunched. It is a group for LGBT+ people who work for the City and County councils. Gloucester City Council has unanimously passed a motion of all party support. GGLC has supported the setting up of PRISM.

Can you help?

We need volunteers from across the LGBT+ Partnership to run the stand at Hartpury University Freshers Fair on Wednesday 21st September.

It is a key event where we often get approached by young folk hoping to find a safe and welcoming LGBT+ group/space in Gloucestershire.

Whether you are a straight ally or LGBT+ you'll be great. Please volunteer.

Many thanks,

Emma

The LGBT+ Partnership

Supporting Cheltenham, Gloucestershire and Beyond.

www.lgbtchelt.co.uk

Gloucestershire Pride—September 10th

Pride is on again this year, and the Group will have a presence there. We will be doing two different games, on where you have to knock off tin cans from a table, and another where you have to toss a ring over a flamingo—yes, you read that right! Volunteers are always needed to work the stall, so put your name forward and have some fun!

Graham, Editor

ANNUAL DINNER

You will find information in this Newsletter regarding the Annual Dinner – the Highlight of our year. It is a fun evening, held at a lovely venue and the meal is at a heavily subsidised rate. Even non members receive a good discount – the reason is to encourage people to join the Group. Do see Peter will you money and order form. We have to pay for 25 people whether we have that number or not.

Dress is from smart casual up to dinner jacket – whichever you prefer.

This is our 48th year – do join us.

M

OTHER NEWS

In June we hold our Platinum Jubilee for her Majesty the Queen – a formal tea and it was a good evening. The Picnic at Cannop Ponds was at the start of the good weather, although a cool breeze came off the lake late afternoon. It was a slow start but members arrived in ‘dribs and drabs’ for a relaxing afternoon. As I write this the sun is shining again and it is the Rounds hosted by Mike and Rob. I have much to do with going away I could not make it this year but am thinking of you all and hope you had a good time.

For me personally, two very enjoyable days out with the Mayor. If his official Consort could not make it he asked me to be his companion. The first was Westminster Abbey – marvellous to be in the Abbey with the royal trumpets, us processing down the aisle (!), and the place full with over 2000 people singing. Fantastic. We were sat withing feet of Prince Charles and the dignitaries sat 2 rows in front of us. I did recognise Jay Blades from the Repair Shop and had my photo taken at the reception after with the Gospel Choir (sang at Harry and Megans’ wedding). The next outing was the opening of the 3 Choirs Festival at Hereford. I was privileged to be there from the very start and we processed through Hereford City from the Town Hall to the Cathedral. Lots of townspeople out clapping and cheering us on. I felt very honoured to be included). I hope Howard will be able to report on some of his escapades!

Could you not put a piece in the Newsletter?– it doesn’t have to be earth shattering. Somewhere you have been, have done, a show seen. holiday – anything we would like to hear about it.

It’s the personal stuff people find interesting.

Think about it – one of us will help you write something if you want.

M

Group Telephone

The Group has a new telephone number, 07942383275. It is a single payment for a year, covering all texts and calls, and a phone has been donated by Craig.

Graham, Editor

BALLS

Yes, the round ones you can handle! Some really big and heavy and the others rather wooden and lumpy. You've guessed it – our evenings of 10 Pin back in April and in August, Skittles at the Farmers Club in Gloucester. Both evenings were really good and quite affordable.

The Skittle were £10 each for several games, sandwiches and chips, cost of the “sticker upper” and a game of Killer. It was really good to see some ladies come along we have not seen for a while, as well as newer members. It was great fun. We could not hand over the trophy to the winning team as we could not find who has it! Any ideas? There was only a point in it for the team round but the Killer round was very tense. A very surprising result and well done – I won't reveal the winner but let him tell you all the next meeting!

Thanks

M

A Change of Personnel

After many years, Rob P. has managed to stand down as our Membership Secretary, with Sergio volunteering to take on the post, so please welcome him into his new job, and be kind as he learns the ropes!

We all know the gentle way in which Rob has handled reminding us about our (often) overdue membership subscriptions, the efficiency with which he has dispatched the Newsletters and his comprehensive reports on the state of the membership at the A.G.M.s. He will be missed, though I think everyone will agree he deserves a rest after such devoted service.

The committee, on your behalf, when first told the news, immediately proposed Rob be given the title Emeritus Membership Secretary, which Michael has explained in his Chairman's Letter. It also means he can back up Sergio in an emergency!

Graham, Editor

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 07903 472899 and we will call you back.

Thursday 3rd November 2022

For our meeting in November we have a special guest speaker, whom I am sure we will find informative and interesting.

Our Speaker will be Phil Hoare, Director and leader of the LGBT group Journey Asylum. Phil has been working with the group in and around Birmingham and will be happy to share some of the particular challenges these asylum seekers face and how the wider LGBT+ communities can understand, welcome and support.

This is a group with whom Peter S also works.

Graham, Newsletter Editor

Progress Pride Flag and the Rainbow Flag—Quick History

The new Progress Pride flag is featured on our front cover this Newsletter. It is based on the Rainbow flag used by us, with black and brown stripes to represent marginalized LGBTQ+ communities of colour, along with the colours pink, light blue and white, which are used on the Transgender Pride Flag, which were added by Daniel Quasar, and a yellow triangle with a purple ring, representing the intersex community, added by Valentino Vecchietti.

The original Rainbow flag, designed by Gilbert Baker, had eight stripes, hot pink, red, orange, yellow, green, turquoise, indigo and violet, representing sex, life, healing, sunlight, nature, magic, serenity and spirit. Note, none of the colours represented any particular community, it was for us all. Due to production difficulties, the pink and indigo were dropped, and turquoise became blue. Not sure if dropping sex and serenity was a good move!

As you may gather, I am not quite sure about the new flag, as I believe the Rainbow is for all of us, but I am in favour of bringing in the communities who feel they are not represented. The proliferation of flags representing ever smaller groups has always felt to me that we are separating from each other, and as we all know, divided we fall, united we stand.

Graham, Editor (*thoughts are mine and may not represent Group policy*)

Adverts and Information in the Newsletter

You will notice there are still adverts and notifications about other organisations throughout the Newsletter, as usual. Realistically, those involving meeting up are not going to be going ahead, but they are being kept in with the hopes we will be back to usual sometime in the future, and they will be back in business.

Graham, Editor

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

National AIDS Helplines

“You can ask what you want to ask”

0800567123

Hope House Sexual Assault Referral Centre

We had an email from Ava, who is a Crisis Worker at the Sexual Assault Referral Centre in Gloucestershire.

They are looking to raise awareness of the service so that others know where to come to, if they have been raped or sexually assaulted.

They offer practical and emotional support, as well as medical care, to anyone who has experienced sexual violence; regardless of gender, disability or sexual orientation- and you don't have to have reported to the Police in order to receive their care. The team are made up of male and female crisis workers who work around the clock to offer tailored support to victims who access the service. The advice line is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (0300 4218400).

If you would like to find out more about the service:

Phone: 0300 4218400

E-mail: hopehousesarc@glos-care.nhs.uk

Website: www.hopehousesarc.nhs.uk

Facebook: @GloucesterSARC

Twitter: @HopeHouseSARC

Instagram: HopeHouseSARC

G.G.L.C. Annual Dinner 2022

will be held at

Hatherley Manor Hotel Gloucester GL2 9QA

Saturday October 29th 2022

7.00 for 7.30 p.m.

£17 (Members) and £24.00 (Non Members)

Please use the booking form below to reserve your place(s)
and return with payment and your choice of one item for each course from
the menu attached to:

Secretary GGLC c/o 50 Knowles Road, Gloucester , GL1 4TP

(Please use info@gglc.co.uk if returning by email not membership@gglc)

NO LATER THAN MONDAY OCTOBER 10th 2022

Please reserveplaces at £17(Member) andat £24.00 (non-member)

I enclose Cheque/P.O for £made payable to GGLC or will pay by BACS ()
(30-93-48 00902186)

Name..... Address.....

.....

.....

Email or telephone number to acknowledge receipt of your booking and menu choice

..... (to save money, tickets will not be issued)

*****Please let us know of any special dietary requirements*****

(Please note: Discount price is only available to MEMBERS of GGLC at time of booking)

Menu choice for GGLC Annual Dinner 2022

To be held at:

Hatherley Manor Hotel, Down Hatherley Lane, Gloucester GL2 9QA
Saturday October 29th - 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.

Please choose one item from each course (Cheeseboard will be included)
*and return with payment and booking form to: **Secretary GGLC, 50 Knowles Road Gloucester GL14TP or (info@gglc.co.uk)***

First Course:

Tomato & Basil Soup (GF,DF, VE)

Ham Hock Terrine, Red Onion Marmalade and Toaster Brioche

Smoked Mackerel, Green and Fennel Salad

Main Course:

Mushroom and Herb stuffed Chicken wrapped in Pancetta, Fondant Potato,
Wilted Greens, Tarragon Sauce

Roulade of Belly Pork and Black Pudding with Tewkesbury Mustard Mash, Bean
Bundle, Stock Sauce

Pan Roasted Salmon, New Potatoes, Evesham Asparagus with Dill Cream
Moroccan Butternut Squash, Red Onion and Cranberry Tagine, Rice (GF, DF, VE)

Dessert:

Apple Bread & Butter Pudding, Cinnamon Cream

Berry and Lemon Cheesecake, Citrus Curd

Strawberry and Raspberry Meringue, Chantilly Cream

Chocolate Orange Torte (GF, DF)

Cheeseboard Selection for Sharing

Tea and coffee included and guests are responsible for their own drinks

Longfield Community Hospice

Hi, I'm Louise, Community Engagement Officer for Longfield Community Hospice in Minchinhampton, near Stroud. My role is new but I have been working at Longfield for four years and I've seen the incredible difference we make to families across Gloucestershire. I am approaching local groups and offering to tell them a little about what we do, in case a group member, or someone known to the group, can benefit from our help.

Longfield Community Hospice is a registered charity. We support adults in Gloucestershire with a life-limiting condition, their loved ones and carers, and people who have been bereaved. We're here for anyone living with cancer, neurological and respiratory diseases, and organ failure, from diagnosis onwards, throughout every stage of their condition. We also support people living independently with dementia. Our free and expert care helps people achieve the best possible quality of life, and maintain independence and dignity for as long as possible.

At our Wellbeing Centre, we run individual and group sessions on different days of the week, including Relaxation, Living well with fatigue and breathlessness and Tai chi movements for wellbeing. We also offer complementary therapies and counselling. Our sessions help people manage symptoms, look after themselves emotionally and physically, and take control of their lives again.

The Wellbeing centre is a calm and relaxed environment. All our staff are warm and friendly, Debbie, our cook, makes amazing cake - it's legendary and I thoroughly recommend it!

We do not have a bedded unit. Instead, we have an expert Hospice at Home team, who care for people at home in their last days of life. Although the main clinical care remains with relevant NHS teams, we work in parallel with these services to support a patient's health and wellbeing. The service enables people to die in their own homes with loved ones, and it often prevents unnecessary hospital admissions and enables people to be discharged from hospital to die.

I have kindly been invited to come along to one of your meetings so you can find out a bit more about us. I look forward to saying hello and answering any questions you may have. Until then, you can take a look at our website www.longfield.org.uk or give me a call on 01453 886868 for a chat about what we offer.

LGBT Humanists UK www.lgbthumanists.org.uk/	OneBodyOneFaith Alan 0117 982 1512 www.onebodyonefaith.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) www.beaumontsociety.org.uk/	Transvestite Help Line Rita 0117 951 4481
Gay Girls of Gloucestershire 07561 067888 www.gaygirlsofglos.co.uk	Gay Men's Project West of England 0117 955 1000 Wiltshire and Swindon 01793 695 300	National LGBT Helpline 0300 330 0630 10am—10pm every day

Gay Outdoor Club

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

FORTHCOMING BIRTHDAYS

September

4th Neil W

8th Mike B

11th Brian H

15th Peter T

19th Paulo L-T

30th Navi K

October

1st Peter S

6th Alberto L

28th Bessem S

November

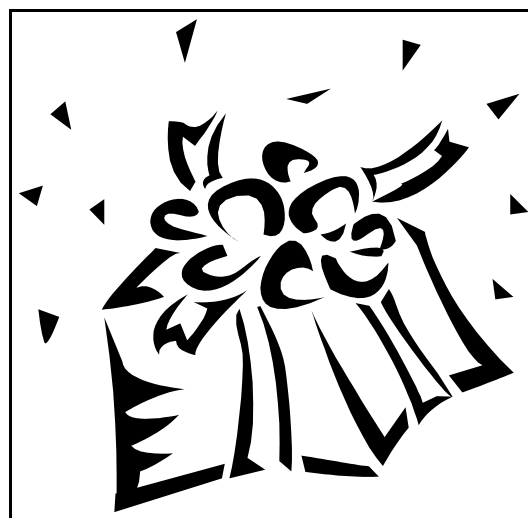
17th Roger T

December

9th Howard H

9th Robert N

13th John W



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU ALL



GGLC's SOCIAL CALENDAR DIARY OF EVENTS



September

1st GGLC Meeting
10th Gloucestershire Pride
15th GGLC Virtual Meeting

October

6th GGLC
20th GGLC Virtual Meeting
29th Annual Dinner

November

3rd GGLC Meeting and Speaker
17th GGLC Virtual Meeting
24th Games Night—bring games!

December

1st GGLC Meeting
14th Christmas Party—Santa supplying the grub!
15th GGLC Virtual Meeting

Advanced Warnings and Notes!

Gloucestershire Pride is on 10th September.

We are just getting back into having events again, so we may be out of practice! If things change, we will try to let the membership know, but mistakes may occur.

This can all change at short notice—please keep an eye on the web site and your email!

The diary is subject to change due to changes in circumstances, whim, Editor's insanity and attacks

by Jellyfish Sprites.

GGLC



GGLC



GGLC

GLoucestershire
GAY & LESBIAN
COMMUNITY

W/5 50 Knowles Road,
Gloucester GL1 4TP

07050

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

GGLC

CONTACTING THE GGLC

Gloucestershire Gay & Lesbian Community meets 1st Thursday monthly, from 7.30pm, in Gloucester city centre. A warm welcome is assured for everyone. 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, and a new telephone number 07942383275

Your Committee (till AGM)

Chairman: Michael C-H.

Vice-Chair: Howard H.

Secretary: Peter C.

Treasurer: Craig F.

Member: Rob P.

Member: Peter S.

Member: Sergio (Membership Secretary)

Newsletter Editor: Graham V.

The committee roles not voted on are decided at the first Committee Meeting.

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

HELPING HAND

Don't forget the Group is here to help one another. If you are unwell, still needing to self isolate or stuck, need groceries or medication, contact our Secretary or Membership Secretary. That will find someone who can help you.

Front Cover: The image is of the Progress Pride Flag, developed in 2018 by non-binary American artist and designer Daniel Quasar and expanded on by Valentino Vecchietti. Graham, Editor