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BRIGHTON REMEMBERS TRANS LIVES LOST IN 2018

It was standing room only at the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDoR) Vigil at Dorset Gardens Methodist Church on Sunday, November 18.

The chapel, dressed with beautiful silk trans and non-binary flags, provided the perfect backdrop for members of the trans and non-binary communities with their allies to honour the lives of those lost to anti-trans hate crime in the last year.

Stephanie Jayne Scott and Sam Hall hosted the vigil and the Rainbow Chorus, conducted by their musical director Aneesa Chaudhry, provided the musical interludes culminating with a beautiful rendition of This Is Me.

Ruben from Transformers spoke about the need to continue to be hopeful and the power of activism in inspiring young people. Sam from Clare Project spoke about being born into a binary world and his insights into gender and privilege. Stephanie spoke about the very first TDoR that they helped to organise and their hope that in the years to come there would be less pain and suffering.

Revd Deborah Cornish, the new Minister at Dorset Gardens Methodist Church, reminded everyone that each name was a person with a family who mourned their loss, and spoke about the honour she felt at Dorset Gardens Methodist Church being chosen to host this event.

Everyone attending was invited to help create a Wall of Names on the side of the chapel to those who had lost their lives in the last year worldwide. This was then moved to the round flint chapel on the ground floor at Dorset Gardens for quiet reflection and remembrance.

Politicians from Labour and the Greens attended as did senior police officers from Sussex Police who attended out of uniform along with representatives from many LGBT+ groups and organisations.

The event was funded by the Sussex Police Property Fund. Event and names preparation was organised by Brighton & Hove City Council LGBT Workers’ Forum.

Lunch Positive provided tea and sandwiches at the social event following the end of the service.

For a full list of the names of those who lost their lives in the last 12 months, view: https://tdor.info/

The event raised a fantastic £5,773 which included a contribution from the meals per head charge of £2,213, the raffle raised £1,460 and £2,100 from the sale of the Tom of Finland portrait kindly donated by Jamie Durrant via Graham Munday and the team at The Brighton Bear Weekend. Singer Diane Horan from the duo Heart & Soul walked away with the stunning creation after making the highest bid.

Thanks to the performers Maisie Trollette, Dave Lynn, Kara Van Park, Spice, Mrs Moore, Heart & Soul, Jennie Castell, Miss Disney, Jason Lee, Sally Vate, Suspiciously Elvis, Miguel Santiago, Lee Burridge and Matt Rood who donated their time free of charge. Special thanks to Dovina Sparkle who hosted the evening.

The Hotel staff organised by manager, Brendan Shannon were superb and thoroughly supportive during the planning and delivery of the event.

We would also like to thank the individuals and companies who donated raffle prizes, including James Robinson at Gilded Cage Tattoo Studio and Ashley Beachey at Charles Street Tap for their art work; to Frame Factory and Leo Frames for the frames that complimented these pieces of art. Thanks to The Bedford and Brighton Tavens, the team from Nando’s, The Amsterdam, Domino’s Pizza, Subline, Choccywoccydoodah, Jury’s Inn Waterfront and Innocent for their donations of meal vouchers and drinks.

Special thanks to Club Revenge, Bent Double at the Komedia, British Airways i360 and the cast of Kinky Boots for the musical for the very kind donations of tickets and hospitality. Also huge thanks to Sandi Carter for the home made cushion, Angela Coen, Marc Edwards at Break-A-Lash. Nice’N’Naughty, Guns Florist, Aztec Jewellery Designs, Boo-Styles Salons and Kim Hobson for their contributions to the list of prizes for the raffle.

Finally thanks to everyone who bought tickets and attended for the overwhelming support you all showed us, we are truly grateful.

WORLD AIDS DAY

The Brighton & Hove World AIDS Day (WAD) Partnership are organising a series of events to mark World AIDS Day on Saturday December 1. The partnership includes BHCC Partnership Community Safety Team, Gscene, Lunch Positive, Martin Fisher Foundation, Sussex Beacon, Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust, Sussex Ecumenical HIV Chaplaincy and THT South.

WAD EVENTS - SATURDAY DECEMBER 1

COMMUNITY EVENTS

OPEN EVENING @ Sussex Beacon Shop, 130 St James Street, on Fri, Nov 30, 6-9pm. Pop along and chat to staff and volunteers from Sussex Beacon.

OPEN EVENING @ Audrey Emerton Building Foyer, Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton on Fri, Nov 30. Drop in and talk to staff and patients about HIV stigma. Representatives from the HIV Positive Speakers Bureau, Martin Fisher Foundation and the HIV team at BSUH will be on hand. They will be showing film clips, animations and research findings on the stigma experiences of people living with HIV nationally and locally.

WORLD AIDS DAY LUNCH POSITIVE COMMUNITY DROP-IN. Community Room (1st floor) Dorset Gardens Methodist Church, Dorset Gardens, Brighton. Drop in on Sat, Dec 1 anytime from 1-4pm. This is a free and informal community event to bring people together on this special day. Everyone is invited to drop by and share some delicious food from the buffet, prepared by Lunch Positive volunteers. No booking is required, just drop by at any time during the afternoon.

MEMORIAL SPACE. New Steine Gardens, Brighton. Lunch Positive Refreshment Stall from 4-7pm on Sat, Dec 1. Lunch Positive will be offering hot drinks to everyone attending the World AIDS Day Vigil & Reading of Names. Volunteers will be on hand to answer questions about the evening’s events, and to take additional names of those we have lost to be read at the vigil.

CANDLELIT VIGIL

BRIGHTON AIDS MEMORIAL CANDLELIT VIGIL. New Steine Gardens, Brighton, on Sat, Dec 1 from 6-7pm. Everyone is welcome to attend the remembrance event to those lost to HIV/AIDS in Brighton & Hove for the Reading of Names and Candlelit Vigil. Space will be available for anyone seeking quiet moments of reflection. New names to be read (in addition to those read in previous years) can be emailed to susschivchap@gmail.com by Nov 27, or can be added to the list during the day at the Memorial Space in New Steine Gardens.

CHOIRS CONCERT

WORLD AIDS DAY CHARTITY CONCERT. St Mary’s Church, St James Street, Brighton. Actually Gay Men’s Chorus, Brighton Gay Men’s Chorus and Rainbow Chorus are jointly producing this year’s 12th annual fund-raising concert to mark World AIDS Day. To allow people to attend after the Candlelit Vigil at the AIDS Memorial in New Steine Gardens, doors open 7pm, concert starts at 7.30pm.

EXHIBITION

WORLD AIDS DAY EXHIBITION RE-FRAMING STIGMA. Rainbow Hub, 73 St James St, Brighton. Experiences of living with HIV in Brighton & Hove from Nov 24-Dec 2, Mon-Fri, noon-3pm.

FUNDRAISERS

LIP SYNC FOR YOUR LIFE @ Bar Revenge on Tue, Nov 27, 9pm raising money for the Rainbow Fund. £2 from every special Fishbowl on sale from Nov 27- Dec 2 goes to Rainbow Fund.

QUIZ WITH LIZ @ Bar Revenge on Wed, Nov 28, 8pm, raising money for the Rainbow Fund. £2 from every special Fishbowl on sale from Nov 27- Dec 2 goes to Rainbow Fund.

RED PARTY @ Club Revenge on Sat, Dec 1, 10.30pm. £1 from each person through the door to the Rainbow Fund. £2 from every special Fishbowl on sale from Nov 27- Dec 2 goes to Rainbow Fund.

THT will be bucketing at ASDA and SUBLINE on Sat, Dec 1.

ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY CABARET @ Charles Street Tap fundraiser for THT South on Sat, Dec 1. Hosted by Drag With No Name, with Sally Vale, Jason Thorpe, Pat Clutcher and many more to be announced. Doors open 7.30pm (following the Candle Lit Vigil at the AIDS Memorial). Entry £2 minimum donation, all going to THT South.

WORLD AIDS DAY KARAOKE @ Bar Broadway fundraiser for THT South on Sat, Dec 1. Hosted by Chris Hibbert and Chris Hannan from 8.30pm (following the Candle Lit Vigil at the AIDS Memorial)

XS GROUP LIVE PRESENTS… RED PARTY @ The Arch, fundraiser for the Sussex Beacon on Sun, Dec 2, with DJs Wildblood & Queenie. Alex Ryan and Paul Heron. Doors at 4-11pm, £5/£7.

DRAGATHON @ POWDER ROOM @ Club Revenge fundraiser for World AIDS Day on Sun, Dec 2, from 8-11pm. All the performers are donating their fee for the night to the Rainbow Fund, as well as the DJs and Managers! Performances from Alfield Ordinary, Lydia L’Scabees, Rob From Finance, Tayris Mongardi and more. £2 from every special Fishbowl on sale from Nov 27- Dec 2 goes to Rainbow Fund.

EXHIBITION PART OF THE ENDAIDS2030 FESTIVAL. Jubilee Library, Jubilee St, Brighton from Nov 26- Dec 3. The project is part of the International HIV/AIDS Alliance’s work within the Partnership to Inspire, transform and Connect the HIV Response (PITCH). This series of pictures from advocates explores the changes facing LGBT people, men who have sex with men, sex workers, people who use drugs and adolescent girls and young women to access life saving HIV testing or treatment services in Nigeria, Myanmar and Uganda, often as a result of discrimination and criminalisation.
THE HEALING POWER OF NATURE

Martlets Hospice has begun a unique project to support bereaved men as they tend to a community allotment. Funded by Hospice UK, Earthworks is a weekly space for men to get together to grow and harvest an abundance of vegetables, flowers and fruit. Led by a hospice counsellor and a volunteer gardener, it provides a welcoming and supportive environment in which to work, whilst enjoying getting outside in the fresh air.

Jane Cato, part of the hospice’s Bereavement Team, said: “It’s all very relaxed; each morning begins with a cuppa in the allotment shed around the wood burner. Previous gardening experience isn’t important; you can take on whichever jobs interest you, whether that’s lighter work in the greenhouse or getting really stuck into the digging and clearing. Simply getting closer to nature can be very therapeutic, regardless of what the weather’s doing!”

“It’s a very hands-on way for people to come together and to use their skills and energy to complete practical tasks, whilst gaining the benefit of talking to others who are in a similar situation – if that’s what they want to do. Less than a quarter of those using our hospice bereavement services are men and there’s nowhere else in Brighton & Hove for bereaved men to get together. So, it makes sense to find an alternative way to support these men, since we know we can help them.”

To find out more about Earthworks, or to sign-up, contact the Martlets’ Patient & Family Support Administrator: 01273 273400, or email bereavement@martlets.org.uk

LGBT+ PARTICIPANTS NEEDED FOR DEMENTIA RESEARCH PROJECT

Jane Green, a qualified dementia nurse specialist studying an MSc in Ageing, Health and Disease at Cardiff University, is conducting research into looking at modifiable dementia risk factors in the LGBT+ and heterosexual populations. Her research survey, which is to investigate factors that may affect the risk of dementia in later life, will aim to find out how common risk factors are in the adult population and examine if there are any differences in the number of risk factors amongst LGBT+ and heterosexual people.

Jane says: “Various factors, such as alcohol, smoking and depression, are shown to increase a person’s risk of developing dementia. It is reported that LGBT+ adults are more likely to have experienced depression or other mental health issues. In addition, the prevalence of substance misuse amongst the LGBT+ population is also reported to be higher than the heterosexual population, primarily in relation to tobacco and alcohol.

“My research study aims to ascertain if there is a significant difference in the prevalence of dementia modifiable risk factors amongst the LGBT+ adult populations in relation to the heterosexual adult populations. Data will potentially be used to assess if there is a need for health and education provision within the LGBT+ communities.”

To complete the survey, which takes just five minutes, visit: cardiff.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/lgbt-dementia-risk-factors

GRIEF ENCOUNTERS - NEW PROJECT AT SWITCHBOARD

The Rainbow Fund is supporting Switchboard in developing a new initiative, Grief Encounters - a pilot project that aims to support LGBT+ people who have experienced a bereavement.

In addition to the universal experiences of grief, pain and distress, LGBT+ people face other barriers and stressors in bereavement including homophobia (trans/bi/queerphobia), failure to acknowledge our relationships, estrangement from our families, legal and financial issues, being excluded from discussions and decisions being made by family members and health care professionals.

There is currently no LGBT+ specific service for those experiencing a bereavement. In the New Year, Switchboard is planning to start the set up of a peer support group providing an exclusive and dedicated space to explore grief. It’s important that the specific needs of the LGBT+ communities are voiced so they can receive the best and most appropriate support.

Switchboard are keen to talk further to anyone wanting to share their experiences, thoughts and ideas. If you would like to be on their mailing list to receive updates about further developments of this project, call 01273 234009 to speak to or leave a message for Jackie, Switchboard’s new Grief Encounters Development Worker. Alternatively, email: jackie.engelberg@switchboard.org.uk

TWO MORE NEW TRUSTEES AT LUNCH POSITIVE

Every Friday Lunch Positive the HIV lunch club provides a weekly peer-led community lunch for people with HIV at Dorset Gardens Methodist Church, Brighton.

The Board at Lunch Positive have appointed two new trustees Chris Sarson and Margot Uden who bring a wealth of governance experience and important insights into living with HIV. With these latest appointments, the Board continues to diversity in terms of members, skills and experience.

Chris who has experience of buddying with AIDS Support services in Leicestershire, is also joining the charities management committee. He has been a fundraising coordinator in the local voluntary sector and instrumental in fundraising for many local charities.

Chris said: “I’m thrilled to become a Trustee of Lunch Positive and with the other trustees, service users and volunteers look forward to the charity’s continued success.”

Margot has worked in the voluntary sector both nationally and internationally on a range of initiatives that focus on engagement and empowerment through volunteering, and is particularly interested in peer support.

Margot added: “I have always had such admiration for Lunch Positive, what the team achieve together every week, and the impact it has on so many people’s lives. I am delighted to be part of the team and am looking forward to exciting times ahead for the organisation.”

For more information about Lunch Positive, visit: www.lunchpositive.org
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**SING, SING, SING - THE ART OF GOOD HEALTH**

This year’s annual Director of Public Health report asks: Should we look closer at the role of arts in health? The report highlights the positive impact being involved in the arts can have on health and wellbeing at all stages of life.

Headline figures show that locally people are more likely to engage with the arts than elsewhere in the country – but that we still have inequalities. People with disabilities and those who are carers engage less than the rest of the population. The report states that addressing this is a high priority so that everyone across the city can benefit.

The report illustrates that the arts can build better emotional health and wellbeing, promote healthy lifestyles, help people manage long-term conditions, reduce social isolation, improve communication, and help support the bereaved.

It links closely with the city’s cultural framework, which sets out how public bodies and the cultural and creative sector will work together to ensure more people can benefit from participating.

Alistair Hill, Brighton & Hove City Council’s Director of Public Health, said: “For my first report I’ve chosen to focus on the contribution arts and culture make to health and wellbeing locally and what more we can do. We absolutely should be looking at the role of arts in improving health, especially in our highly creative city. There is good evidence on how the arts can help to improve health and wellbeing. Locally we already have so many community arts groups working in health and care settings, as well as health activities running in arts and culture settings. We also have a fantastic opportunity to promote better health and wellbeing at one of the 60 festivals we have each year in Brighton & Hove.

“If we work on the recommendations, continue to build on existing good practice and ensure that the arts are inclusive for everyone across the city, we could become a nationally recognised centre of excellence for the arts and culture in supporting wellbeing. I want to thank everyone for their input into the report, particularly the very talented Shanni Collins from our public health team who created the beautiful and vibrant artwork we used in the report.”

Geoff Raw, Chief Executive, added: “This report provides a new and refreshing twist on how we can nurture and improve the health and wellbeing of the city seen through the lens of art and culture. The strength of our arts and culture sector and the health and wellbeing of the city seen through the lens of art is a new and refreshing twist on how we can nurture and improve the health and wellbeing of the city. Embracing this vibrant sector and his report points to how we can channel its creative energy for our personal health and social wellbeing.”

To read the full report, view: [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/public-health](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/public-health)

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**THE GRAND BRIGHTON HALF MARATHON - LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP TO RUN**

General entry places in the Grand Brighton Half Marathon 2019 are close to selling out - people wanting to run in the race are urged to enter soon to avoid disappointment. The 29th Brighton Half Marathon will take place on Sunday, February 24, 2019 and features a stunning seafront course, which takes in many of the city’s famous landmarks.

Since its first staging in the 1990s, the race has become one of the most popular races in the UK. The 13.1 mile route takes runners from Brighton’s famous Pier, through the centre of the city, before heading along Hove Prom, past Hove’s colourful beach huts and the new British Airways i360 viewing tower on the seafront. Headline sponsor, the Grand Brighton, the iconic seafront hotel, is also featured on the course route.

The race is popular with both beginners to half marathon and seasoned distance runners and, being one of the first major half marathons in the running calendar, is a great training event for anyone embarking on a full marathon in the spring.

Martin Harrigan, the Grand Brighton Half Marathon’s Race Director, said: “As the race approaches sell out, we’re advising all runners interested in joining us on February 24 to register soon to avoid disappointment. Unlike some other races, we never re-open for general entries so this is a last chance to enter. The 2019 race promises once again to be a great celebration of running in the city and we welcome runners of all abilities and wheelchair racers to our 2019 event.”

The race is organised by Brighton-based charity the Sussex Beacon, which provides specialist support and care for people living with HIV through both inpatient and outpatient services. The charity helps hundreds of people living with HIV in Sussex and the race is the charity’s largest annual fundraising event.

To register to run, view: [https://register.canbook.me/brightons-event-2019](https://register.canbook.me/brightons-event-2019)

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NEW STUDY REVEALS 100% OF PREP BOUGHT ONLINE IS THE REAL DEAL

Reassurance has come for the thousands of people currently sourcing HIV prevention pill PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) online as a new study commissioned by HIV organisations Terrence Higgins Trust (THT) and PrEPster, which campaigns for wider PrEP access, finds that samples from the six leading online suppliers are the real deal.

Following testing by scientists at Imperial College London, the 14 samples from the six main online suppliers of generic PrEP were found to contain what is necessary to prevent HIV infection. There was no evidence of fake or counterfeit PrEP in any of the samples bought online. These findings are important as it’s thought nearly half of PrEP users in England are accessing PrEP outside of the NHS trial. When taken as prescribed, PrEP gives almost 100% protection against HIV. The results were presented at the HIV Drug Therapy Conference at Glasgow’s SEC in October 2018.

Generic drugs are copies of brand-name drugs that have the same dosage and intended usage as the original drug. Generic PrEP can be bought online for between £20 and £30 a month.

Drug samples were bought directly from online suppliers and care was taken to ensure those placing the orders were not known to the online suppliers as PrEP activists.

PrEP is currently available in England as part of a three-year NHS England trial providing access to 10,000 people. However, within one year of starting, it has already had to be increased by 3,000 places (to 13,000) due to a surge in demand. Almost 9,000 people are currently accessing PrEP via the trial with some of the busiest clinics now unable to provide PrEP to gay and bisexual men due to being oversubscribed. This means people at risk of HIV are finding themselves unable to access this game-changing drug. PrEP is available on the NHS in Scotland and via an uncapped study in Wales. The drug from NHS England’s three-year PrEP IMPACT Trial was also tested in the study, as well as a sample of Gilead’s Truvada, which is the non-generic version of PrEP.

New figures published recently by Public Health England showed a 17% drop in new HIV diagnoses in 2017, which is a 28% decline over two years. The drop among gay and bisexual men is even bigger with a 31% drop in two years. 2016 saw the first decline in new diagnoses among gay and bisexual men since the very start of the HIV epidemic. PrEP alongside condoms, HIV testing and the rapid initiation of effective treatment for people living with HIV, which means the virus becomes undetectable in the blood more quickly and therefore can’t be passed on, has played a key role in that progress.

Will Nutland, co-founder of PrEPster, said: “The data should offer further reassurance to those sourcing online PrEP in other parts of Europe, given that many of the supplies from the sellers are imported via the UK. This data builds on the existing results of therapeutic drug monitoring testing and offers additional and ongoing assurances about the quality and integrity of generic online PrEP being sold by six of the main suppliers.”

Ian Green, Chief Executive at THt, said: “These results clearly show that the PrEP being privately sourced online from the main suppliers is fit for purpose and therefore, when taken as prescribed, highly effective at preventing HIV. Understandably, those considering ordering PrEP online have some concerns about what they are buying and hopefully this will act as further reassurance.

“But this doesn’t change the fact that NHS England must make PrEP routinely available to those who need it. It’s unacceptable that many trial sites on the IMPACT Trial are now unable to provide PrEP for gay and bisexual men as no-one should be denied a pill which can prevent HIV as we work toward reaching zero HIV transmissions in this country.”

GREEN PRESSURE BUYS GP WALK-IN CENTRE SIX-MONTH REPRIEVE

Proposals to close the Brighton Station walk-in centre in March have been put on hold for a further six months. The Greens say residents deserve answers over the future of urgent care services in the city. A council report has revealed that the walk-in centre will be funded until September 2019, while commissioners of the service “will not implement any significant changes until public engagement is complete”.

Green Councillors and Caroline Lucas MP raised concerns with health officials over their proposals to replace at short notice the walk-in centre with some services in ‘GP clusters’, plans that Green Health Spokesperson Cllr Dick Page described as “vague and unrealistic”.

Questions posed by the Green Group of Councillors have revealed a serious underlying problem: that the city faces an estimated shortage of one GP to every 2,500 patients, a figure worse than other areas in Sussex and now the second worst ratio anywhere in England. Greens also called for more information on the impact that closing the walk-in centre could have on already stretched A&E services at the Royal Sussex County Hospital.

Around 400 patients a week are seen by clinicians at the walk-in centre, which is open from 8am-8pm, seven days a week.

There are currently six different ways an individual can access urgent ‘same day’ care in Brighton & Hove, including 8am ‘ring up and be seen’ appointments at GP practices. However most options are unavailable if someone is not registered with a GP. With increasing pressures facing local health services, the Greens are now urging health officials to produce a clear plan for the future of urgent, or ‘same-day’ care.

“This shows the numbers of patients that are likely to be diverted from A&E by the provision of a walk-in centre — including those who are transient, who have not registered with a GP, or who simply are not able to see their GP, any proposals to close it will need to be supported by a clear contingency plan — not just more talk of ‘integration’ or ‘hubs’, which are often a smoke screen for local health services absorbing yet more cuts. There also needs to be a clear and specific public consultation, laying out the facts, finances and options — without any spin.”

JACK LYNN CROWNED MR SUBLINE 2018

Six contestants battled it out for the Mr Subline crown on Saturday, November 24 at Subline club. Jack Lynn was the popular winner with Simon D and Mr Wykes joint runners up. The evening was hosted by Pat Clutcher who was kept on her toes by the lively antics of some of the contestants. Pictured left to right: Pat Clutcher, Jack Lynn and Steven Lee, the manager at Subline.
Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year
GOVERNMENT COMMITTED TO END THE HIERARCHY OF HATE CRIME LAW

Sarah Champion, Labour MP for Rotherham, has welcomed the Government’s commitment to end the hierarchy in Hate Crime legislation and identified two gaps that should be included in a forthcoming review.

Champion has written to the Ministry of Justice to highlight two specific gaps and anomalies in existing legislation. Firstly, at present there is a legal distinction between racial and religious hate crimes and those which are homophobic, biphobic, transphobic and disability related. Racially and religiously related hate crimes are seen as aggravated offences, allowing for longer sentences to be added to the basic offence. Hate crimes which are homophobc, biphobic, transphobic and disability related are not seen as aggravated offences.

Secondly, Ms Champion raised Stirling Up offences, which are not currently extended to disability and transgender identity. Stirling Up offences relate to conduct which is likely to stir up hatred. She believes that the nature of hate speech has mutated over recent years, and the increased prevalence of online abuse around these identities needs to be addressed.

In response, Lucy Frazer MP Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Justice, has confirmed that these elements will be considered as part of the review.

Commenting on the review, Ms Champion said: “It is imperative that hate crime legislation applies equally robustly to defend all protected characteristics. Existing legislation simply does not do that, by imposing a wholly artificial hierarchy. Hate crime based upon disability, sexual orientation and gender identity is as wrong as that based upon race or religion and should be treated as such under law.

“I am pleased that the Government has agreed that these inconsistencies need to be considered by the forthcoming review, and I hope that changes will soon be implemented to better tackle hate crime in all its forms.”

END OF AN ERA - CHARLES AND HIS TEAM LEAVE DOCTOR BRIGHTONS

Charles Child and his team finally said goodbye to Doctor Brightons on Saturday, November 3, raising £1,040.06 for the Rainbow Fund in the process. The evening kicked off at 7pm with a VIP party for close friends and regular customers. Charles provided wonderful canapes, prosecco and oysters served by some sexy butlers in the buff before throwing the doors open to the general public at 9pm for a party that went on till the early hours of Sunday morning.

Charles and his team celebrated their ninth birthday in March this year in the knowledge their landlords, Enterprise Inns, were not going to renew their lease on the building which was coming to an end.

Charles wanted to take over the responsibility of a new lease, but Brighton & Hove Council told him that despite the fact he had been the tenant for the previous nine years, the new lease would have to go out to competitive tender. Charles felt that was unfair and announced he would be leaving Doctor Brightons in July when his lease with Enterprise Inns ran out.

The reaction from his customers was immediate and with the help of a supportive lobbying campaign, which included his local Green Ward Councillor Tom Druitt, he decided to bid for a new 15-year lease which he was awarded in July at almost three times the previous rent.

Pride came and went, but no lease was forthcoming from the City Council so, reluctantly, Charles decided he could not continue to run his business with no guarantees about the lease and decided to return to Norwich to run his flower business.

ReGENCY TAVERN TO RAISE FUNDS FOR RAINBOW FUND

The Regency Tavern are holding a fundraiser for the Rainbow Fund on Friday, December 14. The party starts at 8pm with entertainment from Jason Thorpe, current holder of the Golden Handbag for Favourite Entertainer (Singer) and Billie Gold from 9pm. Money on the evening will be raised through a raffle featuring loads of fantastic prizes and bucket collections.

The Rainbow Fund awards grants to LGBT/HIV organisations who deliver effective frontline services to LGBT+ people in Brighton and Hove. For more information about the Rainbow Fund, view: www.rainbow-fund.org

James Ledward, Editor of Gscene Magazine, said: “The team at Doctor Brightons are a great loss to the commercial LGBT+ scene in Brighton & Hove. Charles’ hosting skills are legendary. He is the current holder of the Golden Handbag for Favourite manager, Doctor Brightons has won the Golden Handbag for Favourite Mixed venue for the last two years, and they have been a great supporter and champion of the Rainbow Fund.”

Customer were invited on the night to make a donation to the Rainbow Fund and the magnificent total of £1,040.06 was raised in the bucket collection.

Chris Gull, Chair of the Rainbow Fund, added: “I would like to thank Charles and his team for supporting our concept of centralised fundraising and the thousands of pounds Doctor Brightons have raised for the Rainbow Fund over the years. Their donations have benefited many LGBT and HIV organisations and we will all miss the venue and Charles’s generous hospitality.”

The Rainbow Fund make grants to LGBT/HIV organisations who deliver effective frontline services to LGBT people in Brighton & Hove.
WISHING EVERYONE A VERY HAPPY & SAFE HOLIDAY & NEW YEAR

PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF OUR KEY EVENT DATES IN 2019

Public Meetings: Wednesdays @ 7PM
23rd Jan* | 10th Apr** | 10th Jul* | 23rd Oct*

*DORSET GARDENS METHODIST CHURCH **THE PHIL STARR PAVILION, B RIGHT ON FESTIVAL

B Right On LGBT Community Festival: 28th Mar-14th Apr
VICTORIA GARDENS, BRIGHTON

IDAHOBIT: Fri 17th May 6PM
INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA, BIPHOBIA & TRANSPHOBIA
OUTSIDE JUBILEE LIBRARY, BRIGHTON, BN1 1GE

Brighton & Hove Solidarity Vigil: Wed 16th Oct 6PM
OUTSIDE THE RAINBOW HUB, 93 ST JAMES STREET, BRIGHTON, BN2 1TP

EXCITING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE
- Admin Assistant
- Advocate
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- Social Media Coordinator

Please visit lgbt-help for more info

The LGBT Community Safety Forum is an independent group of lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBT) volunteers in Brighton & Hove. For more info visit: lgbt-help.com or call: 01273 855620 option 4 or email: info@lgbt-help.com or pop into The Rainbow Hub at 93 St James St, Brighton BN2 1TP

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Photography by THOMAS KNIGHTS.
TASTER DAYS FOR VOLUNTEERS AT MARTLETS

Put something back into your local community by giving just a few hours of your spare time each week to Martlets Hospice in Hove.

Volunteers are urgently needed to help at the hospice’s nine charity shops and its Hove Warehouse & Distribution Centre. You’ll meet lots of new and interesting people, it’s great fun, plus you’ll get a fantastic feeling from doing something worthwhile for the city and its people.

Val Persaud (79) has been volunteering for Martlets for more than 20 years. She’s worked in several of the hospice’s charity shops and has, for the last 16 years, been helping behind the scenes in its warehouse with the important task of sorting the clothes that have been donated. She said: “I open up the bags and sort through the clothes as we receive them, hanging them up and steaming them so that they look lovely and are ready for the shops.

“I love volunteering, it’s something I’ve always done because it keeps me busy and active. I’m here three times a week and it takes me an hour to get here, on two different buses, so I must really enjoy it! I’ve made lots of friends whilst volunteering and I feel like I’m really doing something useful for the community. I love it.”

To find out more about volunteering for Martlets, email: peopleservices@martlets.org.uk or call 01273 718788.

For more information about Martlets, view: www.themartlets.org.uk

HIBERNATION LUNCH RAISES £10,568 FOR THE RAINBOW FUND

Bear-Patrol raised £10,568 for the Rainbow Fund at the Hibernation Community Lunch 2018 on Sunday, October 21 at the Old Ship Hotel. Pictured left to right is Mystery, who compered the entertainment part of the afternoon, while auctioneer Jennie Castell raised £7,010 from the auction alone. Chris Gull, Chair of the Rainbow Fund, Danny Dwyer, who organised the event on behalf of Bear-Patrol, and Krissie DuCann, one of the entertainers and a long-term supporter of Bear-Patrol. The grand total raised at the event was £15,568.

The Rainbow Fund awards grants to LGBT/HIV organisations who deliver effective frontline services to LGBT+ people in Brighton & Hove.

www.rainbow-fund.org

AUCTION FOR LEZ INGHAM’S FREDDIE MERCURY PAINTING RAISES £2,700 FOR THE RAINBOW FUND

Local artist Lez Ingham presented Marc Walmley, owner of Man Zone Barbers, with the certificate of ownership for her painting of Freddie Mercury, at his seafront flat last month.

At the auction for this unique piece of art on Sunday, October 21, during the Hibernation Community Lunch at the Old Ship Hotel, Marc bid £2,700 for the painting. The money raised has been donated to the Rainbow Fund making the grand total raised at Hibernation 2018 to £15,568.

Last year, Lez donated a painting of George Michael for auction at the same event, which raised £3,300, bringing the total value Lez’s paintings have raised for local LGBT+ causes in the last two years to £6,000.
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BRIGHTON RESIDENTS’ CHRISTMAS HABITS REVEALED

New research from Contact the Elderly, the national charity dedicated to tackling isolation and loneliness through face to face contact, has highlighted Christmas anxiety is a common festive issue with 78% of Brighton residents still without plans for Christmas Day. Contact the Elderly commissioned the research, which also reveals that a quarter of us feel anxious and worry about making plans for the festive period, to highlight the impact of societal pressures on families over Christmas and the impact it can have on older people left to spend Christmas alone.

The charity released the festive research to coincide with news that they’ve joined forces with Community Christmas, an organisation which aims to ensure no older person spends Christmas Day alone if they don’t want to. The Community Christmas website lists events taking place across Brighton that are open to older, vulnerable people in all communities who would otherwise be spending Christmas Day alone. 22% of those surveyed said that they would want to know about events taking place on Christmas Day across Brighton.

“Any event, which creates the all-important connections that hold communities together, can be a Community Christmas event. No two events are the same and they vary from community Christmas lunches to formal sit-down dinners in community centres like Befriended & Hope Community Christmas lunch in Hurstpierpoint and Hove Methodist Church.

Caroline Billington, founder of Community Christmas, said: “Community Christmas is growing organically with more and more events and activities being added to the site every day. I think it’s really important to emphasise that anyone can host an event; it doesn’t have to involve cooking a Christmas feast for 20 people. It could just mean arranging tea and Christmas cake at a local village hall, or singing Christmas carols in the pub. It’s anything that gets people together in the community who otherwise might be alone on Christmas Day. “I can’t wait to see how it will change and evolve under the leadership of Contact the Elderly and create more community connections.”

Meryl Davies, Chief Executive of Contact the Elderly, added: “Everyone recognises that Christmas can be a difficult time of year, particularly for people who are isolated or vulnerable. Caroline made it her mission to ensure that anyone who doesn’t want to spend Christmas Day alone doesn’t have to. As an organisation, it is the perfect fit for Contact the Elderly, which has been fighting isolation and loneliness among older people for over 50 years through volunteer-led social gatherings.”

For more information on Community Christmas activities, view: www.contact-the-elderly.org.uk/Christmas

BREWERY RAISE £600 FOR RAINBOW FUND

Bedlam Brewery, based on a farm just outside Brighton, donated to the Rainbow Fund 10% of the profits from their newly launched Wilde Grapefruit Pale Ale, sold during Brighton Pride weekend. Pictured Bedlam Brewery Communications Manager Sally O’Connor and Sales Director Daniel Hoskins receiving their certificate of thanks acknowledging the £600 donation from the Chair of The Rainbow Fund Chris Gull.
CAT IN A FLAT

The purrfect gift for your cat-loving friend.
By Kathrin Burckhardt and Julie Barnes

Many people feel awkward about constantly calling on their neighbours to look after their cat, and most cats are not keen on cattery environments which can be stressful and feel a little like a punishment for your pet. Which is why a Cat in a Flat cat-sitting voucher is a present for the cat too – not just the human.

Booking a cat sitter is also a great way to meet local cat-loving people. Most of the cat sitters who have joined Cat in a Flat are cat lovers who can’t have a cat of their own, perhaps because their partner is allergic, or their landlord doesn’t allow it. These people miss the companionship of having a cat in their lives and look forward to making new furry friends in their neighbourhood.

Chris was over the moon that she could finally go away on holiday again. Her cat was diabetic so she struggled to find someone experienced enough to help. Until she met Maria through Cat in a Flat. Maria’s own cat was also diabetic so she knew exactly what to do.

Jennifer had always used a cattery in the past but noticed a huge difference in her cat’s behaviour after giving Adam a try. Monty didn’t give her the usual silent treatment upon her return and seemed so happy and content, that she was worried he preferred the cat sitters company to her own.

Cat in a Flat vouchers can be given as a well-considered gesture, showing your friend or family member that you understand just how important their furry member of the family is. It can be given as a gift on its own, wrapped up with some of their kitty’s favourite treats, or included in that email reminder, you know, the one reminding your friend to book their flight to join you on the group weekend away!

Whatever the case might be, we know your cat-loving friend will be thankful for this wonderful gesture.

Do you have a friend or family member who is just dotty about cats and you’ve run out of cat-print T-shirts and mugs to give them? Or perhaps you have a bestie who always has to turn down a weekend away as they feel they can’t leave the cat on its own or bother the neighbours again? Have you been trying to treat your retired parents to a city break – somewhere they always dreamt of going but never did - but they have a cat and you know they want to be sure their fur baby is well looked after?

How about this year you add a little additional gift to your plan? The gift of a cat sitter. Ready to drop by and pamper their furry loved one at agreed times during the days they are away, a cat sitter will follow any specific cat caring instructions on the kitty boss’s command. That way you and your friend/family can be sure that their cat will be properly cared for and won’t get lonely while they are away.

By giving a cat sitting voucher, the recipient can choose the sitter that suits them best. Simply by entering their postcode, Cat in a Flat’s website will match them to a wonderful community of cat sitters that live nearby. All cat sitters offer daily visits and some even offer to stay over. They can also filter their search by the cat sitters’ reviews, rates, experience and police checks, giving them many options to find the ‘purrfect’ sitter.

Cat in a Flat’s mission is to help cats stay in the comfort of their own homes by connecting cat owners with trusted, local, cat-loving sitters. The sitter will also send regular updates and pictures of the cat, so owners know that all is OK and so that they won’t miss their kitty – too much!

All cat sitters are fully insured, undergo all the checks and are required to write a full, personal profile, giving your cat-loving family member or friend peace-of-mind when they are away. No more stress, no more fuss and no more guilty trips to the cattery.

By giving a cat sitting voucher, the recipient can choose the sitter that suits them best.

Cat in a Flat vouchers can be given as a well-considered gesture, showing your friend or family member that you understand just how important their furry member of the family is. It can be given as a gift on its own, wrapped up with some of their kitty’s favourite treats, or included in that email reminder, you know, the one reminding your friend to book their flight to join you on the group weekend away!

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MORE INFO

Kathrin Burckhardt and Julie Barnes are co-founders of Cat in a Flat - a trusted cat sitting community created by cat lovers for cat lovers. Its mission is to help cats stay in the comfort of their own homes by connecting cat owners with trusted, insured, local, cat-loving sitters.

https://catinaflat.com
www.instagram.com/catinaflat/
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- 4th Jan: New Year Roast

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Information on other support available over the Christmas & New Year period
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SHOPTING
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1. **HITLER’S HOLLYWOOD** (Eureka blu-ray). There were about 1,000 films made during the Third Reich; director Rüdiger Suchsland’s thesis is that the majority of these films had one auteur: Josef Goebbels. The film also looks at how cinema can act as a collective unconscious for a nation. Using some fascinating clips he finds plenty of evidence for Nazism being the supreme death cult. The disc also includes the same director’s earlier sift through the archives, From Caligari to Hitler, which looks at the cinema of the Weimar Republic and finds evidence, admittedly using a healthy dose of hindsight, that collectively the films show a fear of some authoritarian madman lurking in the wings.

2. Assorted Christmas decorations, £1.50 to £10.99; Rocky Horror necklaces, £16; glitter toppers, £4.99; and lots more Rocky Horror fancy dress from £1.50 (Barbary Lane, 95 St George's Road, Brighton, barbarylane.co.uk and Facebook)

3. Vinyl Coasters pack of 4 £4.50 (LUST!, 43 Gardner Street, Brighton, BN1 1UN. lust.co.uk)

4. Dog Bottle Stopper, £10.99 (England at Home, 22b Ship Street, Brighton, 01273 205544)

5. Tricerapot Porcelain Planter, £29.50 (Pussy, 3a Kensington Gardens, Brighton, 01273 604861)

6. Bone Bit Gag, £24.95 (Taboo, 2 Surrey Street, Brighton, BN1 3PA also at 8 Blatchington Road, Hove, BN3 3YN. taboo.shop)

7. Flower Press, £22.50 (Dowse, 27 Gloucester Road, Brighton)

8. Calendars from £13 (Prowler, 112-113 St James's Street, Brighton, 01273 603813)

9. Enamal Kettle, £49.95 (Inhouse Space, 28 Gloucester Road, Brighton, 01273 682845)

10. Tricerapot Porcelain Planter, £29.50 (Pussy, 3a Kensington Gardens, Brighton, 01273 604861)

11. Warwic Rowers Calendar aims to promote positive, inclusive and respectful attitudes towards people of all genders and sexualities. Buy online: warwickrowers.org

12. Cat in a Flat is a cat-sitting community created by cat lovers for cat lovers. Its mission is to help cats stay in the comfort of their own homes by connecting cat owners with trusted, insured, local, cat-loving sitters. Vouchers available online: uk.catinaflat.com

13. Tricerapot Porcelain Planter, £29.50 (Pussy, 3a Kensington Gardens, Brighton, 01273 604861)

14. Cat in a Flat is a cat-sitting community created by cat lovers for cat lovers. Its mission is to help cats stay in the comfort of their own homes by connecting cat owners with trusted, insured, local, cat-loving sitters. Vouchers available online: uk.catinaflat.com
Lust | noun 1. A passionate desire for something: she had a lust for power. 2. A very strong sexual desire: his lust for her was eternal. 3. A shop selling a unique mix of quirky homeware, unusual gifts... and sex - spread over three floors with erotic accessories and books, lingerie and clothing.

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WINTER WARMERS AT LEGENDS

Legends have added a new Winter Warmers section to their menu to warm you up during those long winter afternoons on Brighton seafront.

I always think of Legends as a great place to catch a quick snack during my lunch hour. These new additions to the menu, along with the specials which are advertised daily on the blackboard in the bar, provide something more substantial for the ladies who lunch crowd - those who have time to spend, eating and chatting with friends all afternoon.

Most of the new additions you will find in the Winter Warmers section of the menu. The Moroccan Braised Lamb Tagine (£9.50) is stunning and would grace the menu of any high-end restaurant. Tender pieces of slow cooked lamb cooked in shallots, apricots, dates, spices, and served with spicy couscous. Very tasty and highly recommended with plenty of tender, moist lamb to enjoy.

The Prawn, Haddock and Salmon Pie (£9.95), served in potato pastry, is beautifully presented and does not disappoint. The sauce is not too creamy, which allows the distinct flavours of each of the three fish the opportunity to shine. Highly recommended.

If pies are your thing, the Braised Beef & Mushroom Shortcrust Pie (£8.50), served with creamy mash, vegetables and gravy, is very impressive. Perfect pastry, lovely pieces of slow cooked tender beef, and strong flavoured mushrooms. The consistency of the gravy is just right, and all in all once again this is a fine addition to the menu this winter.

If time isn’t on your side and you’re popping in during your lunch hour, I suggest you try a couple of choices from the Bucket & Spades section of the menu where extravagant Deli-Style Sandwiches on thick artisan bread (£5.50-£5.95), delicious Homemade Burgers (£9.50) and refreshing Salads (£7.95-£8.95) are on offer.

The Norwegian Prawns (£4.95), served with Marie Rose sauce and buttered artisan bread, are spectacular and my favourite dish on the whole menu. The Mozzarella Sticks with sweet chilli sauce (£3.95) are well worth trying and the Crispy Fried Whitebait with lemon, tartar sauce and buttered brown bread (£4.95) is great value for money, crisped to perfection and the portion is substantial.

INFO

Legends serve food: Mon–Sat 12–5pm, Sun 12.30–4pm

Reservations are advised for Sunday Lunches, call: 01273 624 462

www.legendsbrighton.com

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www.legendsbrighton.com
LEGENDS CELEBRATES 25 YEARS AT THE TOP!

On Sunday, November 25, Legends celebrated 25 years at the top of their game, with an afternoon packed with entertainment from drag legends Maisie Trollette, Miss Jason and Lola Lasagne appearing together as J-Lo, Sally Vate and new drag queen on the block, Pat Clutcher.

The venue was packed all afternoon with many old friends and former employees in the audience. Lola Lasagne summed it up nicely when she said that: “Without Tony Chapman and his two venues Legends and previously Revenge we would not have the gay scene we have today or the amazing voluntary sector organisations that he helped fund over the years through his commitment to community fundraising.”

In the late 1990s, Tony’s venues were pivotal in earning Brighton & Hove the accolade of Gay Capitol of the UK and today when tourists visit the city they continue to flock to this award winning, two floor entertainment complex on the seafront.

£715.42 collected in the buckets was match funded by Tony Chapman bringing the total raised for the Rainbow Fund to £1,430.84.

Special thanks to Danny Dwyer who shook buckets all day on the door and Luke Holloran from the Brighton & Hove LGBT Community Safety Forum who took electronic donations.
Hibernation 2018, the annual Community Luncheon organised by Danny Dwyer and Bear-Patrol, broke all previous records, raising an amazing £15,568 for MindOut and the Rainbow Fund on Sunday, October 21 in the Paganini Ballroom at the Old Ship Hotel on Brighton seafront.

Hibernation, now firmly established as one of the city’s premier LGBT+ community events, saw over 200 of Brighton’s finest welcomed by the Mayor of Brighton & Hove, Cllr Dee Simson. The High Sheriff of West Sussex, Caroline Nicholls DL was also in attendance.

£5,000 has been donated to MindOut, the LGBT mental health service, as Bear-Patrol’s continued commitment and support for their Counselling Project; £10,568 has been donated to the Rainbow Fund to distribute to LGBT+/HIV organisations providing effective frontline services to LGBT+ people in Brighton & Hove.

Entertainers included Krissie Duccan, Dave the Bear, whose spectacular Jessica Rabbit and Leather Daddy routine went down a treat, Rob ‘The Voice’ Stevens, who performed showstoppers from the musicals and was joined by Jennie Castell in his Meatloaf set, and David Raven, whose moving rendition of Over the Rainbow opened the show and set the tone for the afternoon’s entertainment.

Mystery hosted the entertainment and Carole Todd’s direction kept everything moving along very nicely. Jennie Castell, ably assisted by Graeme Atack, excelled as auctioneer with her efforts alone generating £7,010 towards the final total raised. Nora Fitch did a sterling job selling raffle tickets.

Toastmaster Dan Rennie-Hale brought an element of order and decorum to the proceedings as did the new General Manager at the Old Ship Hotel, Jason Bramwell, whose help and support ensure the event happens in such wonderful surroundings.

Star item in the auction, an original piece of pop art of Freddie Mercury painted especially for Hibernation by local artist Lez Ingham, raised £2,700 which, along with the £3,300 raised from the auction of her painting of George Michael at last year’s Hibernation, brings the total donated by Lez to Hibernation’s fundraising in the last two years to £6,000. Well done Lez!

Brighton cross-stitch enthusiast Robert Flint’s remarkable embroidered portrait of fifteen renowned drag stars raised a fantastic £1,300. The drag artiste project took Robert seven months to complete with each individual portrait of 6,400 stitches taking three and a half weeks making an astonishing 96,000 stitches in all and about 2,160 hours spent sewing!
Information is correct at the time of going to press. Gscene cannot be held responsible for any changes or alterations to the listings.

**SUNDAY 1**
- **AMSTERDAM** Karaoke with Jason Thorpe 9.30pm
- **BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY** Karaoke: Competition Grand Final 7pm
- **BAR BROADWAY** Chris Hibbert & Chris Hannam’s WAD karaoke fundraiser for THT 8.30pm; Broadway Remixed@Broadway Lounge: Ross Cameron 10pm
- **BASEMENT CLUB @ LEGENDS** Fusion: DJ Peter Castle 11pm
- **BOUTIQUE WAD Saturday Sessions**: fundraising for NAT 8pm
- **CAMELFORD ARMS** WAD: free hot drinks for those attending the Memorial Service 12pm
- **CHARLES ST TAP** Annual WAD Cabaret Fundraiser for THT South: host Drag With No Name, Kara Van Park, Sally Vate, Jason Thorpe, Pat Clutcher & more TBA 7.30pm
- **DR BRIGHTONS** Saturday Session: DJ Nick Hirst 9.30pm
- **GROSVENOR BAR** cabaret: Miss Terry Tour 9.30pm
- **INFINITY BAR** Camp Cabaret & WAD Fundraising with Pat Clutcher 6pm. Pat Clutcher’s karaoke 7pm
- **LEGENDS BAR** Pre-club DJ 7pm
- **MARINE TAVERN** Saturday Club 4pm
- **PARIS HOUSE** live jazz: Jason Henson Trío 4pm; TC’s Joyful Noise: DJ Kenny 9pm
- **QUEEN’S ARMS** cabaret: Peppy Cock 6pm; Kara Van Park 10pm
- **REGENCY TAVERN** cabaret: Kara Van Park 9pm
- **THE STABLE** @ LONDON WC2 Total Fekkin Nude: naked party 9pm
- **SUBLINE** Leathermen South Xmas Meet & WAD Fundraiser for THT 10pm
- **THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS** live rugby: Barbarians v Argentina 2.30pm, England v South Africa 3pm, live football: Southampton v Manchester United 5.30pm
- **ZONE** cabaret: Martha D’Arthur 10pm

**SUNDAY 2**
- **AMSTERDAM** Karaoke: Jennie Castell 5pm; roasts: 12pm-Till gone
- **BAR BROADWAY** Fireplace Sessions present: Lascle Wood 8.30pm
- **BASEMENT CLUB @ LEGENDS** Pop/Candy: DJ Claire Fuller 11pm
- **BRIGHTON SAUNA** Naked Day 12pm
- **CAMELFORD ARMS** Bear Bash: free food/raffle 5pm; roasts:select menu 12pm–Till gone
- **CHARLES ST TAP** cabaret: host Sally Vate – Rose Garden 7.30pm; Sally’s Rock & Roll Bingo 8.30pm; roasts 12pm
- **FIRE & LIGHTBOX** @ LONDON SW8 Stark Bollock Naked party 2pm; gay adult film stars: John Thomas & Kai Davis 5pm; Near Bollock Naked: underwear/lockstrap party 6pm
- **INFINITY BAR** cabaret: Topsy Redfern 5pm
- **LEGENDS BAR** World AIDS Day cabaret: Lady Imelda 3.30pm; roasts: 12.30–4pm
- **MARINE TAVERN** roasts 12.5pm; Drag Open Mic & WAD Fundraiser with Stephanie Van Clijz 9pm
- **PARIS HOUSE** live: Fleur de Paris 6pm
- **QUEEN’S ARMS** double cabaret: Martha D’Arthur 6.30pm & 10pm
- **REGENCY TAVERN** roasts 12.5pm; JB’s Jukebox 2.30pm
- **SUBLINE** Guilty Pleasures: DJ Screwup 9pm
- **THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS** Live football: Chelsea v Fulham 12pm, Arsenal v Spurs 2pm, Liverpool v Everton 4.15pm
- **VELVET JACKS** Caribbean roasts 1pm
**DECEMBER LISTINGS**

**BRIGHTON SAUNA**
- 75 Grand Parade, BN2 3JU, Tel: 01273 689966 www.thebrightonsauna.com
- OPEN Mon-Thur 10-1am, Fri 10am through till 1am on Mon.
- DISCREET ENTRY: You can enter and leave the sauna by the back door in Grand Parade Mews by Parking Bay Number 5. Once you’re there call the staff on 01273 689966 to be let in.
- **TWO FOR THE DIARY:** Would you like an invitation to Brighton’s newest fetish events the Horse Fair or the private Pool Party for younger fetish scene fans? If so, the guest list is now open for December’s events at the Brighton Sauna!
- **HORSE FAIR Thurs** (6) from 9pm - 2am the role play fantasy night where willing mares offer themselves to dominant stallions, without ever showing their faces. Expect fit, athletic guys 18+, as well as muscular studs and classical ‘real men’ more familiar with the traditional fetish scene! Choose your role and let them know you would like to attend online.
- **POOL PARTY** Thur (13) from 6pm - 2am exclusively for fit, good looking lads 18-40 with hot guys partying in trunks, towels or even less. Bring your hottest swimwear and sexiest Speedos and chill with the sexiest boys in the city and on the south coast. Entry £15 includes first drink and locker facilities.
- **Horse Fair** have the full run of the place, including the steam room, jacuzzi, adult cinema and darkrooms. Over 100 guys are expected to attend.
- You can enter and leave the sauna by the back door in Grand Parade Mews by Parking Bay Number 5. Once you’re there call the staff on 01273 689966 to be let in.
- **H-Partyboys**
- **LEGENDS**
- **BASEMENT CLUB**
- **CAMELFORD ARM**
- **BRIGHTON SAUNA**
- **CAMELFO RD ARM**
- **SUN** (30) it’s the Pre-NYE KARAOKE PARTY at 7pm.
- **Mon** (31) it’s the NYE GLITTER PARTY at 8pm.
- **ONE FOR THE DIARY** Sat (1) it’s the Karaoke Competition GRAND FINAL with £100 prize from 7pm.
- **REGULARS** Thu FREE ENTRY for 25s & under, proof of age required (TBS reserve the right to withdraw the offer at any time). Wed TBS NAKED DAYS from 11-1am and Sun 12pm - close, towels issued for showering but none to be worn.

**BAR 7 CRAWLEY**
- 7 Pegler Way, Crawley, RH11 7AG, Tel: 01293 511177, www.7crawley.co.uk
- OPEN daily from 6pm, closed Xmas Day.
- **DRINK PROMOS** Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat & Sun all night
- **XMAS** Fri (21) it’s XMAS CABARET with Slice at 7pm.
- **Sun** (23) it’s XMAS KARAOKE Party from 7pm.
- **NYE** Sun (30) it’s the Pre-NYE KARAOKE PARTY at 7pm.
- **Mon** (31) it’s the NYE GLITTER PARTY at 8pm.
- **REGULARS** Fri 7-UPSTAIRS with DJs, 8pm, free b4 11pm • Sat 7-SINS with DJ Jazzy Jane at 8pm, free b4 11pm • Tue CREWSDAY with DJ Lewis Osborne at 7pm.

**Bar & Kitchen**

**CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH**
4 Course Meal Plus aperitif and after dinner cabaret
£70 per person

**KARAOKE SATURDAYS with Jason Thorpe - Starts 9:30pm**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>SONG</th>
<th>PERFORMER</th>
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<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>Sally Vate</td>
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<td>Kara Van Park</td>
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**SUNDAY SERENADE**

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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Jennie Castell</td>
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<td>9th</td>
<td>Chase Adams</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th</td>
<td>Jamies Watson</td>
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<td>23rd</td>
<td>Gabriella Parrish</td>
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<td>30th</td>
<td>Wain Douglas</td>
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**MORE INFORM ATION AT:** www.amsterdambrighton.com
DECEMBER LISTINGS

BOUTIQUE
- 2 Boyces St, West St, BN11AN, 01273 327607
www.boutiqueclubbrighton.com
- OPEN Fri-Sat 8pm, Sun 9pm - late
- Entry Fri-Sat £5, Sun £3
- PRIZES WINE PRIZES, great ales
- 30-31 Cemelford St, BN2 1TQ, Tel: 01273 622386, www.cemelfordarms.com
- OPEN daily from 12pm
- FOOD Mon-Sat 12-9pm; Sunday 12-4pm
- WAD Sat (1) is WAD with free hot drinks for those attending the memorial service from 12pm.
- NYE Mon (31) NYE LATE NIGHT PARTY from 9pm, free entry. Tue (1) Jan is the New Year’s Day HANGOVER PARTY from 12pm – Bloody Mary anyone?
- REGULARS Thur is the BIG CASH QUIZ with a £300 cash prize, free sarnies and great atmosphere from 9pm.
- Sunday is the BEAR BASH with free food and a raffle at 5pm.

BOUTIQUE
- 2 Boyces St, West St, BN11AN, 01273 327607
www.boutiqueclubbrighton.com
- OPEN Fri-Sat 8pm, Sun 9pm - late
- Entry Fri-Sat £5, Sun £3
- PRIZES WINE PRIZES, great ales
- NYE PARTY with DJs spinning tunes over three floors from 9pm, entry £5.
- ONE FOR THE DIARY Fri is T.G.I.F with superstar DJs Franco (7 & 28) and Oli (14), plus competitions and giveaways! Entry: quote Gscene on the door for free entry (7 & 28), free entry for West Street & North Street office workers (14).
- REGULARS SATURDAY SESSIONS: hit the dancefloor with DJs Saul (8 & 29) and Franco (15), bringing the house down with tunes to get you moving, plus free shot drinks on the hour/giveaways, including free pitchers for the happiest group (1).

THURSDAY 6
- BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY Total Request Thursday: DJ FRESH Princess 9pm
- BAR BROADWAY Big Quiz: Ross Cameron & prizes 8.30pm
- BASEMENT CLUB @ LEGENDS Now That’s What I Call Legends: DJ Claire Fuller 11pm
- CAMELFORD ARMS £300 Big Cash Quiz 9pm
- CHARLES ST TAP Throwback Thursday 9pm
- CROWN KEMPTOWN Finland Independence Day Party: Finnish music, drinks & toast 7pm
- GROSVENOR BAR Abel Mabel’s Balmy Bingo 8.30pm
- HORSE FAIR @ BRIGHTON SAUNA Role play and fetish night for stable lads, stallions & mares - www.jamiehp.co.uk 9pm
- INFINITY BAR The Clinic with Lydia L’Scabies, music, games & more 8pm
- MARINE TAVERN Xmas Lights Switch On: Stephanie Von Clitz & Rusty Vagazzle 8pm
- PARIS HOUSE World Music: Yuna Steebich live 9pm
- QUEEN’S ARMS cabaret: Davina Sparkle 10pm
- REGENCY TAVERN Karaoke/Open Mic with Jason Thorpe 8pm
- SUBLINE Brace Yourself 9pm
- THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS Mitch’s Quiz & Chili 7.30pm

FRIDAY 7
- AMSTERDAM cabaret: Sally Vate 9.30pm
- BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY Hair Today Gone Tomorrow: Catarina Coelho-Sandalls cuts off her hair in aid of MindOut + host Spice & cabaret 7.30pm
- BAR BROADWAY Jukebox 5pm
- BASEMENT CLUB @ LEGENDS Glitter: DJ David Noakes 11pm
- BOUTIQUE T.G.I.F: DJ Franco 8pm
- CAMELFORD ARMS Friday Club 6pm
- CHARLES ST TAP Fabulous Friday: DJ Morgan Fabulous 8pm
- GROSVENOR BAR cabaret: Keris Lea of the Sundaes 9.30pm
- INFINITY BAR Friday Funhouse 6pm
- LEGENDS BAR Pre-Glitter 9.30pm

SATURDAY 8
- AMSTERDAM Karaoke: Jason Thorpe 9.30pm
- BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY 7 Sins 9pm
- BAR BROADWAY Brighton Bear Xmas Bear-a-oke: karaoke: Jon B & Peter Reid 7.30pm
- BASEMENT CLUB @ LEGENDS Fusion: DJ Peter Castle 11pm
- BOUTIQUE Saturday Sessions: DJ Saul 8pm
- CHARLES ST TAP Fierce: DJ Claire Fuller 9pm
- GROSVENOR BAR cabaret: Davina Sparkle 9.30pm
- INFINITY BAR Camp Cabaret: Spice 6pm, karaoke 7pm
- LEGENDS BAR Pre-club DJ 7pm
- MARINE TAVERN Saturday Club 4pm
- PARIS HOUSE Live jazz: L’Escargots Trio 4pm, TC’s Joyful Noise: DJ Kenny 9pm
- QUEEN’S ARMS double cabaret: Candi Reel 6pm, Kara Van Park 10pm
- REGENCY TAVERN cabaret: Lady Imelda 9pm

CAMELFORD ARMS
- 30-31 Cemelford St, BN2 1TQ, Tel: 01273 622386, www.cemelfordarms.com
- OPEN daily from 12pm
- FOOD Mon-Sat 12-9pm; Sunday 12-4pm
- WAD Sat (1) is WAD with free hot drinks for those attending the memorial service from 12pm.
- NYE Mon (31) NYE AFTER PARTY all day from 12pm.
- REGULARS Thur is the BIG CASH QUIZ with a £300 cash prize, free sarnies and great atmosphere from 9pm.
- Sunday is the BEAR BASH with free food and a raffle at 5pm.
 CHARLES STREET TAP

Wishing you a Gay Christmas & Happy New Year!
FREE entry every night!
FREE confetti cannons and party poppers NYE!

THE GAYEST SHOWMAN

NYE PARTY MONDAY 31st 9pm-5am
limited pre bookings available £5 each including glass of bubbly
Welcome to the big top - free entry till 5am>

xmas eve from 7.30pm
Gabriella Parrish's Christmas Show>

wednesday 19th from 8.30pm
Silly Willy Wednesday Finale
with The Drag With No Name

sundays from 7.30pm followed by Spice’s Rock & Roll Bingo
2for£6 craft-club every sunday from 5pm

2nd November Rose Garden
9th November Miss Thunderpussy
16th December D.W.N.N.
23rd December Jenny Castell
30th December Lusinda Lashes

1/2 price drinks - fridays 5-9pm
closed xmas day - opening 11am boxing day and new years day
other days - open daily from 10 am / food served 10am to 10pm

WWW.CHARLES-STREET.COM FOR FULL DECEMBER LISTINGS, 8-9 MARINE PARADE, BRIGHTON. 01273 624091
*ALL DRINKS OFFERS SUBJECT TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS AVAILABLE AT THE BAR, NOT IN CONJUNCTION WITH ANY OTHER OFFER AND MAY BE WITHDRAWN AT ANY TIME WITHOUT NOTICE. R.O.A.R. I.D & SEARCH CONDITION OF ENTRY
### Charles Street Tap

- **8 Marine Parade, BN2 1TA, Tel: 01273 624091, www.charles-street.com**
- **OPEN 10am daily**, closed Xmas Day, from 11am on Boxing Day & NY Day.
- **FOOD daily** from 10am - 10pm, inc: breakfast from 10am, 2-4-1 burgers on Tue till 10pm: choose any burger and get cheapest free; fresh homemade **Sunday roasts** from 12pm; hand carved roast beef or turkey £8.75, roast lamb shank £10.75.
- **DRINK PROMOS** Mon - Thur all cocktails £4.95 from 5 - 8pm; all draught beer & cask ale £4 all night on Mon; half price drinks on Fri - 5.30pm, Sunday Craft Club: any two craft cans or bottles £6 from 5pm.

#### listings

**SAT 1(1) CHARLES STREET TAP’S ANNUAL WAD CABARET FUNDRAISER for THT South with host Drag With No Name plus: Kara Van Park, Sally Vate, Jason Thorpe, Pat Clutcher! Doors 7.30pm (following the Candle Lit Vigil at the AIDS Memorial), entry £2 minimum donation all going to THT South.**

**XMAS Wed (19) is SILLY WILLY WEDNESDAYS Season Finale and Xmas Special with Drag With No Name from 8.30pm.**

**Mon (24) is XMAS EVE CABARET with Gabriella Parrish and host Spice at 7.30pm.**

**NYE Mon (31) is THE GAYEST SHOWMAN NYE PARTY with Joan Bond, giveaways galore and chart/dance anthems right into 2019 from 9pm, free entry all night but £5 pre-bookings available and a glass of bubbly. Charles Street Tap say: “Let’s celebrate the end of 2018 and the brand new year as only we know how! It’s going to be a fabulous night of glitter and glamour in the big top with the greatest ring master, Joan Bond, who will be whipping out giveaways galore!”**

**ONE FOR THE DIARY Sun (16) is CHARLES STREET TAP’S 1ST (or 18th?) BIRTHDAY PARTY with cabaret: Drag With No Name and host Spice at 7.30pm.**

**REGULARS THROWBACK THURSDAYS with 00s guilty pleasures/90s retro anthems from 9pm.**

**Sunday CABARET with host Spice from 7.30pm: Rose Garden (2), Miss Tiara Thunderpussy (9), Jennie Castell (23) and Lucinda Lashes (30). Saturday is FIERCE with DJs from 9pm. This month’s line-up: Claire Fuller (8), Grant Knowles (15 & 29) and Morgan Fabulous (22).**

**Bar 7**

- **ROTTINGDEAN CLUB live music: Paul Middleton 8.30pm**
- **THE STABLE@LONDON WC2 Total Fekkie Nude: naked party 9pm**
- **SUBLIME Jingle Bears with BBW: fundraiser for Rainbow Fund 10pm**
- **THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS live football: Bournemouth v Liverpool 12.30pm, Chelsea v Man City 5.30pm, Leicester v Spurs 7.45pm**
- **ZONE cabaret: Sally Vate 10pm**

**Sunday 9**

- **AMSTERDAM cabaret: Chase Adams 5pm, roasts 12pm-till gone**
- **BAR BROADWAY** **Fireplace Sessions present: Jason Thorpe 8.30pm**
- **BRUNSWICK PUB El GeeBee Tea Queue: Paul Diello & LGBT+ talent 7.30pm**
- **BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS Pop/Candy DJ Claire Fuller 9pm**
- **BRIGHTON SAUNA Naked Day 12pm**
- **CAMELFORD ARMS Bear Bash: free food & raffle 5pm, roasts & select menu**

**Monday 10**

- **BAR BROADWAY Classics Jukebox 6pm**
- **CHARLES ST TAP Gaymers Night: consoles, board/card games 8.30pm**
- **INFINITY BAR All Day Karaoke 12pm, Karaoke with Tommy Tanker (aka Pat Clutcher) 7pm**
- **LEGENDS BAR Drag With No Name’s Winter Season 9.30pm**
- **PARIS HOUSE live jazz: Nils Solberg-Mick Hamer Trio 2pm, Sara Oschlag Trio & band 8pm**

**Tuesday 11**

- **BAR 7@CRAWLEY Crowdsay: DJ Lewis Osborne 9pm**
- **BAR BROADWAY Regency Singers presents Piano Singalong 9pm**
- **INFINITY BAR Free Jukebox 12pm**
- **MARINE TAVERN Curly & Quiz 7.30pm**
- **PARIS HOUSE live blues: Harry Homework & Alfie Barnardi 8pm**
- **QUEEN’S ARMS cabaret: Kara Van Park 9pm**
- **THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS live football: Everton v Watford 8pm**

**Wednesday 12**

- **BAR 7@CRAWLEY Fresh: DJ Jazzzy Jane 9pm**
- **BAR BROADWAY Tabitha Wild’s Play Your Cards Right 9pm**
- **BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS Ice: DJ Claire Fuller 11pm**
- **BRIGHTON SAUNA Naked Day 10am**
- **CAMELFORD ARMS Seniors’ Lunch 2-3.30pm**
- **CHARLES ST TAP Drag With No Name’s Silly Willy Wednesday 8.30pm**
- **INFINITY BAR Quiz: Jason Thorpe 7pm, Karaoke with Tommy Tanker (aka Pat Clutcher) 8pm**
**PICS FROM CHARLES STREET TAP + GROSVENOR**

**GROSVENOR**
- 16 Western Street, Hove, BN1 2PG, www.thegrosvenorbar.com
- OPEN: Mon–Fri 3pm–late, Xmas Day 12–3pm, Sat & Sun 1pm–late.
- DRINK PROMOS: Mon–Fri 3–5pm.
- NYE: Mon (31) NEW YEAR’S EVE PARTY with Davina Sparkle from 9pm.
- ONE FOR THE DIARY: Saturday is top CABARET at 9.30pm: Terry Tour (1), Davina Sparkle (8), Spice (15), Pooh La May (22) and Jennie Castell (29).
- REGULARS: Thur is ABEL MABEL’S BINGO at 8.30pm, Fri CABARET with local and national stars lighting up the stage at 9.30pm: Keris Lea from the Sundaes (7), Trudi Styles & the Piano Man (14), Jason Thorpe (21) and Marsha Mallow (28). Expect high camp comedy and huge vocals from Marsha Mallow (28). Drag Idol semi-finalist who has rubbed shoulders with stars from RuPaul’s Drag Race! She says: “Marsha Mallow is a voluptuous, quick witted queen with a big set of lungs to match!”

**FRIDAY 14**
- AMSTERDAM: cabaret: Spice 9.30pm
- BAR 7@CRAWLEY: 7 Upstairs 9pm
- BAR BROADWAY: Jukebox 5pm
- BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS: Glitter: DJ David Noakes 11pm
- CAMELFORD ARMS: £300 Big Cash Quiz 9pm
- CHARLES ST TAP: Throwback Thursday 9pm
- GROSVENOR BAR: Abel Mabel’s Bingo 8.30pm
- INFINITY BAR: The Clinic with Lydia L’Scabies, music, games & more 8pm
- POOL PARTY@BRIGHTON SAUNA: H-Partyboys event exclusively for 18–40 year old guys 7.30pm. Free membership at www.jamiehp.co.uk
- MARINE TAVERN: Throwback Thursday 80s Night 8pm
- PARIS HOUSE: World music: Babou with Abraham De Vega & band 8pm
- QUEEN’S ARMS: cabaret: Jennie Castell 10pm
- REGENCY TAVERN: Karaoke/Open Mic with Jason Thorpe 8pm
- SUBLIME: A Silencio Carol: life drawing, dancing, cocktails and donuts 8pm
- THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS: live football: Vidi v Chelsea 5.55pm, Arsenal v Qarabag 8pm
- THREES JOLLY BUTCHERS: live football: Vidi v Chelsea 5.55pm, Arsenal v Qarabag 8pm
- THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS: live football: Vidi v Chelsea 5.55pm, Arsenal v Qarabag 8pm
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**INFINITY BAR**
- 129 St James’s Street, Brighton, BN2 1TH, www.infinityGayBar.com
- Facebook: Infinity Bar Brighton. Text Alerts: text ‘Infinity’ to 88802.
- **OPEN** daily from 12pm – 12am.
- **DRINK PROMOS** Thursday from 12pm – 12am.

**WAD** Sat (1) is CAMP CABARET & WAD Fundraiser with Pat Clutcher at 6pm, karaoke with Pat Clutcher at 7pm.

**XMAS** Mon (24) is Xmas Eve with Voice of Broadway Jason Thorpe’s XMAS SING-ALONG from 8pm. Tue (25) and Wed (26): see Infinity Bar’s Facebook for opening times/entertainment.

**NYE** Mon (31) NYE PARTY with host Stephanie Von Clitz at 8pm, the Countdown Show is at 11.30pm. Tue (1) Jan: see Facebook for NY Day entertainment details.

**REGULARS** Mon is ALL DAY KARAOKE from 12pm, karaoke with Tommy Tanker (aka Pat Clutcher) at 7pm. Tue is ALL DAY FREE JUKEBOX. You pick the tracks from 12pm. Wed QUID with Jason Thorpe at 7pm. karaoke with Tommy Tanker (aka Pat Clutcher) at 8pm. Thu is THE CLINIC with Queen of Flea Lydia L’Scablies, music, games & more from 8pm. Infinity Bar’s say: ‘No matter what ailment or injury you have, our resident Nurse Lydia will tend to your every need. She might even share an embarrassing secret with you in the form of a show! Expect loads of drink deals, including shots, to get you in the mood for a swig and a swivel!’

Kick the weekend off at FRIDAY FUNHOUSE from 6pm. Sat CABARET at 8pm. Spice (8). Jason Thorpe’s Xmas Sing-Along (15), Camp Cabaret with Pat Clutcher (22) and Davina Sparkle (29). Stick around for karaoke. Pat Clutcher on hosting duties (22), at 7pm.

Sun Cabaret at 5pm. Topsie Redfern (2). Pat Clutcher (9 & 30). Marsha Mallow (16) and Davina Sparkle (23).

**THE STABLE**
- 29 Endell St, Covent Garden, London WC2H 9BA
- **ONE FOR THE DIARY** Saturday (15) is the TOTAL FEKKIN NUDE, the naked party for gay/bi men, at 9pm. Jamie HP events say: ‘This is the largest Saturday naked event in the UK set within the sabitourious Stable men’s spa in Covent Garden’

**XMAS** Saturday (22) is the TOTAL FEKKIN NUDE XMAS PARTY at 9pm.

**REGENCY TAVERN**
- Rainbow Fund fundraiser with raffle/buckets: Jason Thorpe 8pm. Billie Gold 9pm.
- Rottingdean Club Charity Party in aid of Rainbow Fund with Krisie DuCarr & friends 7pm.

**SUBLINE** Steam 9pm
- ZONE: cabaret: Kara Van Park 10pm

**SATURDAY 15**
- **AMSTERDAM** Karaoke with Jason Thorpe 9.30pm.
- **BAR @ CRAWLEY** 7 Sins 6pm.
- **Bar Broadway** Sea Serpents’ Xmas Party in Broadway Lounge 7.30pm.
- **BASEMENT CLUB @ LEGENDS** Fusion: DJ Peter Castle 11pm.
- **BOUTIQUE** Saturday Sessions: DJ Francie 8pm.

**CHARLES ST TAP** Fierce: DJ Grant Knowles 9pm.
- **GROSVENOR BAR** cabaret: Spice 9.30pm.
- **INFINITY BAR** cabaret: Jason Thorpe’s Xmas Sing-Along 6pm, karaoke 7pm.
- **LEGENDS** Pre-club DJ 7pm.
- **MARINE TAVERN** Saturday Club 4pm.
- **PARIS HOUSE** Live jazz: Lawrence Jones & band 4pm; TC’s Joyful Noise: DJ Kenny 9pm.
- **QUEEN’S ARMS** cabaret: Poppy Cock 6pm. Gabriella Parish 10pm.
- **REGENCY TAVERN** Regency Tavern’s 1st Birthday: Aliﬁe Ordinary & free buffet 9pm.
- **THE STABLE @ LONDON WC2** Horse Fair: role play and fetish night for stable lads, stallions & maris - www.jamiehp.co.uk 9pm.

**SUNDAY 16**
- **AMSTERDAM** cabaret: Jamie Watson 5pm; roasts: 12pm-till gone.
- **BAR BROADWAY** Fireplace Sessions present: Billie Gold 8.30pm.

**BASEMENT CLUB @ LEGENDS** Pop/Candy DJ Claire Fuller 9pm.
- **BRIGHTON SAUNA** Naked Day 12pm.
- **CAMELLEORD ARMS** Bear Bash, free food & raffle 5pm. roasts & select menu 12pm-til gone.
- **CHARLES ST TAP** Charles Street Tap’s 1st (or 18th!) Birthday Party; host Spice + Drag With No Name 7.30pm; Sally’s Rock & Roll Bingo 8.30pm; roasts 12pm.

**JAMIE HP EVENTS LONDON**
- **MEMBERSHIP & SPECIAL INVITES** Visit www.jamiehp.co.uk for free membership, discounted entry and special invites.

**FIRE & LIGHTBOX LONDON**
- 6a South Lambeth Place, SW8 1SP

**ONE FOR THE DIARY** Sat (1) is the SBN Xmas Party at 7pm; Sun (2) is the SBN & NBN Xmas Party from 2pm.

**THE CLINIC**
- Live jazz: Lawrence Jones & band 4pm; TC’s Joyful Noise: DJ Kenny 9pm.

**LEGENDS**
- Pre-club DJ 7pm.
- **MARINE TAVERN** Saturday Club 4pm.
- **PARIS HOUSE** Live jazz: Lawrence Jones & band 4pm; TC’s Joyful Noise: DJ Kenny 9pm.
- **QUEEN’S ARMS** cabaret: Poppy Cock 6pm. Gabriella Parish 10pm.
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- **THE STABLE @ LONDON WC2** Horse Fair: role play and fetish night for stable lads, stallions & maris - www.jamiehp.co.uk 9pm.

**SUBLINE** The Men’s Room: DJ Scrapulous 9pm.
- **THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS** live football: Man City v Everton 12.30pm. Fulham v West Ham 4.30pm.
- **ZONE** cabaret: Dave Lynn 10pm.

**WAD** Sat (1) is CAMP CABARET & WAD Fundraiser with Pat Clutcher at 6pm, karaoke with Pat Clutcher at 7pm.

**XMAS** Mon (24) is Xmas Eve with Voice of Broadway Jason Thorpe’s XMAS SING-ALONG from 8pm. Tue (25) and Wed (26): see Infinity Bar’s Facebook for opening times/entertainment.

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Sun Cabaret at 5pm. Topsie Redfern (2). Pat Clutcher (9 & 30). Marsha Mallow (16) and Davina Sparkle (23).

**THE STABLE**
- 29 Endell St, Covent Garden, London WC2H 9BA
- **ONE FOR THE DIARY** Saturday (15) is HORSE FAIR from 9pm (9.20pm station). – an underground club where willing males offer themselves to stallions, without ever showing their faces. Expect over 150 fit, athletic guys 18+, as well as muscled studs and classical ‘real men! Entry: £15 incl coat check and first drink.

**ONE FOR THE DIARY** Saturday (15) is TOTAL FEKKIN NUDE, the naked party for gay/bi men, at 9pm. Jamie HP events say: “This is the largest Saturday naked event in the UK set within the sabitourious Stable men’s spa in Covent Garden”

**XMAS** Saturday (22) is the TOTAL FEKKIN NUDE XMAS PARTY at 9pm.
Party at Legends & the Basement Club all Christmas and New Year including 24th Christmas Eve, 26th Boxing Day and every night until 31st NYE
plus NYD Recovery Party (free entry every night except NYE £3)

W
ice
11pm-3am / free entry

SELECTED BOTTLES £2.50
HOUSE SPIRIT & MIXER £2.50

NOW! THAT'S WHAT I CALL LEGENDS
11pm - 3am / free entry
It's a retro 70's, 80's & 90's party with DJ Claire

F
Glitter
Friday night disco
11-4am / free entry

DJ David Noakes (Kiss FM, Capital FM & Greatest)

Fusion
Saturday night dance party
11pm - 4am / free entry
Chart & club remixes DJ Peter Castle

Su
Pop! Candy
Sugar coated pop with DJ Claire
11pm-3am / free entry

Drinks Promos!

Prices & promos may be subject to change - Deals exclude certain products - Mixer from gun - T&C's Apply
THE BIGGEST & BEST SAUNA ON THE SOUTH COAST
ALL MALE SAUNA 25 GRAND PARADE BRIGHTON BN2 9JA 01273 889966

THE BRIGHTON SAUNA.COM

BRIGHTON SAUNA
TUESDAYS
FREE ENTRY UNDER 25'S ALL DAY

WEDNESDAY & SUNDAY
NAKED ALL DAY
THE BRIGHTON SAUNA

THURSDAY 6th 9pm - 2am
Jamie HP HORSE FAIR
THE BRIGHTON SAUNA

THURSDAY 13th 8pm - 2am
H-Partyboys 18-40 Private POOL PARTY
THE BRIGHTON SAUNA

Monday through Thursday 10am to 1am
Friday 10am, then 24 hours through till 1am on Monday
Closed from 8pm xmas eve till 11am boxing day
www.thebrightonsauna.com
The Brighton Sauna & Jamie HP Team would like to wish you, your families, & Friends a wonderful Christmas & a fantastic 2019.

Jamie HP

London & Brighton Events

WHATS ON THIS MONTH @ JAMIE HP

SATURDAY 1st TFN (Naked Party) 9pm-2am
THE STABLE 29 Endell St, Covent Garden WC2H 9BA
SUNDAY 2nd SBN & NBN 2pm-10pm
Fire & Lighthouse 6a south Lambeth place SW8 1SP
John Thomas & Kai Davis on stage 5pm
THURSDAY 6th BRIGHTON HORSE FAIR 900pm
The Brighton Sauna 275 Grand Parade Brighton BN2 9JA
SATURDAY 8th TFN (Naked Party) 9pm-2am
THE STABLE 29 Endell St, Covent Garden WC2H 9BA
SUNDAY 9th SBN & NBN 2pm-10pm
Fire & Lighthouse 6a south Lambeth place SW8 1SP
Mr Biggs & Aj Alexander on stage 5pm
THURSDAY 13th BRIGHTON H-PARTYBOYS POOL PARTY 800pm
The Brighton Sauna 275 Grand Parade Brighton BN2 9JA
SATURDAY 15th LONDON HORSE FAIR 9pm-2am
THE STABLE 29 Endell St, Covent Garden WC2H 9BA
SUNDAY 16th SBN & NBN 2pm-10pm
Fire & Lighthouse 6a south Lambeth place SW8 1SP
Hans Berlin & James Bennett on stage 5pm
THURSDAY 27th LONDON H-PARTYBOYS POOL XMAS PARTY 730pm
THE STABLE 29 Endell St, Covent Garden WC2H 9BA
SATURDAY 22nd TFN XMAS (Naked Party) 9pm-2am
THE STABLE 29 Endell St, Covent Garden WC2H 9BA
SUNDAY 23rd SBN & NBN XMAS PARTY 2pm-10pm
Fire & Lighthouse 6a south Lambeth place SW8 1SP
Alon Kenny & Bob Steel on stage 5pm
WEDNESDAY 26th SBN Vs NBN BOXING DAY PARTY 2pm - 8pm
SATURDAY 29th TFN (Naked Party) 9pm-2am
THE STABLE 29 Endell St, Covent Garden WC2H 9BA
SUNDAY 30th SBN & NBN 2pm-10pm
Fire & Lighthouse 6a south Lambeth place SW8 1SP
TUESDAY 1st NYD SBN & NBN 2pm-8pm

www.JamieHP.co.uk

OUR FREE MEMBERSHIP GIVES YOU
DISCOUNTED ENTRY AND SPECIAL INVITES

[Social media icons: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Tumblr]

[Text: TOTALLY FEKKN NAKED TFN STARK BOLLOCKS NAKED SBN NEARLY BOLLOCKS NAKED NBN HORSE FAIR POOL PARTY SPORTS PARTY]
LEGENDS BAR

- OPEN daily from 11–5am.
- FOOD Mon–Sat 11am–5pm, Sunday lunch 12.30–4pm: choose beef, belly pork, chicken supreme or nut roast served with roast potatoes, seasonal vegetables, homemade Yorkshire pudding and real stock gravy. Make sure you leave some space for one of the moresish desserts.
- DRINK PROMOS Buy one bottle of wine and get 2nd half price, Mon–Fri 12–11pm, excluding Xmas period. Try Legends’ winter selection of guest gins!
- WAD Sunday (2) is WAD CABARET with Lady Imelda and fundraising from 3.30pm.
- XMAS Mon (24) XMAS EVE PARTY with food and drinks from 11am. Tue (25) terrace and bar open all day from 11am. Wed (26) Boxing Day CABARET with Lola Lasagne’s multi-layered show at 3.30pm.
- NYE Mon (31) is the NYE COUNCPTOWN to 2019 with DJs Claire Fuller & Peter Castle over two floors from 9pm. £5 entry.
- ONE FOR THE DIARY Sun (23) is CHARLIE HIDES SHOW with the star of RuPaul’s Drag Race from 3.30pm. Charlie competed on series 9 of RuPaul’s Drag Race and is the first contestant to represent Great Britain on the show. He is a Royal Television Society Award-winning cabaret artist, YouTube sensation, and “man of 1000 faces”. Known around the world for his uncanny comic imitations of A-List celebrities, he’s surprisingly popular with the divas he portrays. Cher called him her “favourite impersonator”, Lady Gaga, Madonna and Kylie Minogue are all fans of his viral YouTube “Nightmare” videos, and Boy George called the series, “comedy genius”.
- REGULARS Fri Pre-GLITTER at 9.30pm with hosts heating you up before the big one downstairs. Sat Pre-Club sounds from 7pm. Sunday CABARET at 3.30pm. Topsy Redfern (9), Martha D’Arthur (16) and Davina Sparkle (30).
- Mon (3) 10 & 17 is A WINTER SEASON with the legendary Drag With No Name causing a scene at 9.30pm.

LEGENDS BASEMENT CLUB

- OPEN Wed–Sun 11pm and Mon (24) for Xmas Eve Party.
- DRINK PROMOS various deals on Sun, selected bottles £2.50 and house spirit & mixer £2.50 on Wed, £2.50 selected drinks on Thu. Drink promos may differ over Xmas and NYE.
- XMAS Mon (24) XMAS EVE PARTY with DJ Peter Castle dusting off your favourite Xmas classics from 11pm. free entry. Wed (26) is BOXING DAY ICE with DJ Claire Fuller. Sat (29) is XMAS FUSION with DJ Peter Castle. Sun (30) is XMAS POPICANDY with DJ Claire Fuller.
- NYE Mon (31) COUNCPTOWN to 2019 NYE PARTY with DJs Claire Fuller and Peter Castle on 2 floors at 9pm. £5 entry. Tue (1) Jan NEW YEAR RECOVERY PARTY with tunes to perk you up at 11pm. free entry. Basement Club say: “Recover from the biggest party of the year with a mix of dance, chart and classic pop.”
- REGULARS Sat is FUSION with DJ Peter Castle spinning chart /club remixes. Sun is POPICANDY with DJ Claire Fuller pick & mix of new/retro pop. Wed is ICE with DJ Claire Fuller melting the dancefloor with chart/house/r&b. Thur is NOW THAT’S WHAT I CALL LEGENDS with DJ Claire Fuller taking you on a journey through the 70s/80/90s. Fri is GLITTER with DJ David Noakes sparking up the dance floor with chart/dance.
- CHARLES ST TAP Gaymers Night: consoles, board/card games 8.30pm.
- INFINITY BAR All Day Karaoke 12pm; Karaoke with Tommy Tanner (aka Pat Clutches) 7pm
- LEGENDS BAR Drag With No Name’s Winter Season 9.30pm.
- PARIS HOUSE live jazz: Nils Solberg-Mick Hamer Trio 2pm. Alex Bondono & band 8pm
- QUEEN’S ARMS cabaret: Kara Van Park 9pm

MONDAY 17
- BAR BROADWAY Classics Jukebox 6pm
- FIRE & LIGHTBOX@LONDON SW8 Stark Bollock Naked: naked party 2pm; gay adult movie stars: Hans Berlin & James Bennett 5pm, Near Bollock Naked: underwear/ jockstrap party 6pm
- INFINITY BAR cabaret: Marsha Mallow 5pm
- LEGENDS BAR cabaret: Martha D’Arthur 3.30pm. roasts 12.30–4pm
- MARINE TAVERN roasts 12.30–5pm, Drag Open Mic. Stephynn Von Ciltz 9pm
- PARIS HOUSE live music: Dave Williams & band 6pm
- QUEEN’S ARMS double cabaret: Topsy Redfern 6.30pm & 9.30pm
- REGENCY TAVERN roasts 12-5pm, JB’s Jukebox 2.30pm
- SUBLINE Gufly Pleasures: DJ Screwpalpus 9pm
- THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS Pre Home Match Warm-Up: Brighton v Chelsea 12pm; live football: Southampton v Arsenal 1.30pm, Liverpool v Manchester United 4pm
- VELVET JACKS Caribbean roasts 1pm

TUESDAY 18
- BAR 7@CRAWLEY Crewday: DJ Lewis Osborne 9pm
- BAR BROADWAY Regency Singers’ Xmas Party Sing-along 9pm
- INFINITY BAR Free Jukebox 12pm
- MARINE TAVERN Nat’s Xmas Quiz & Curry 7.30pm
- PARIS HOUSE live blues: Dr Mike Blue 8pm
- QUEEN’S ARMS Lola Lasagne Show 9.30pm
- REGENCY TAVERN Quiz Night 8pm
- THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS live football: Chelsea v Bournemouth 7.45pm

WEDNESDAY 19
- BAR 7@CRAWLEY Fresh! DJ Jazzy Jane 9pm
- BAR BROADWAY Tabitha Wild’s Play Your Cards Right 9pm
- BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS Ice: DJ Claire Fuller 11pm
- BRIGHTON SAUNA Naked Day 10am
- CAMELFORD ARMS Seniors’ lunch 2-3.30pm
- CHARLES ST TAP Drag With No Name’s Silly Willy Wednesday: Season Finale & Xmas Special 8.30pm
- INFINITY BAR Quiz: Jason Thorpe 7pm; Karaoke with Tommy Tanner (aka Pat Clutches) 8pm
- MARINE TAVERN Pink Pound: free £25 raffle 7pm
- PARIS HOUSE live music: Jason Henson Trio 8pm
- QUEEN’S ARMS cabaret: Spice 10pm
- SUBLINE Floss: candy floss/electric music/pop-up performance/visual art 9pm
- THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS live football: Chelsea v Bournemouth 7.45pm

DECEMBER LISTINGS
THURSDAY 20

- **BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY** Total Request Thursdays: DJ FRESH Princess 9pm
- **BAR BROADWAY** Big Quiz: Ross Cameron & prizes 8.30pm
- **BASEMENT CLUB @ LEGENDS** Now That’s What I Call Legends: DJ Claire Fuller 11pm
- **CAMELFORD ARMS** £300 Big Cash Quiz 9pm
- **CHARLES ST TAP** Throwback Thursday 9pm
- **GROSVENOR BAR** Abel Mabel’s Bingo 8.30pm
- **INFINITY BAR** The Clinic with Lydia L’Scables, music, games & more 8pm
- **MARINE TAVERN** Throwback Thursday 80s Night 8pm
- **PARIS HOUSE** World Music: Pollito Boogalloo 8pm
- **QUEEN’S ARMS** cabaret: Pat Clutcher 10pm

REGULARS THROWBACK THURSDAY with 80s tunes from 8pm.

FRIDAY 21

- **AMSTERDAM** cabaret: TBA 9.30pm
- **BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY** cabaret: Slice 9pm
- **BAR BROADWAY** Jukebox 5pm

SATURDAY 22

- **AMSTERDAM** Karaoke with Jason Thorpe 9.30pm
- **BAR 7 @ CRAWLEY** 7 Sins 9pm
- **BAR BROADWAY** Jukebox 4pm
- **BASEMENT CLUB @ LEGENDS** Fusion: DJ Peter Castle 11pm
- **BOUTIQUE** Saturday Sessions Xmas Special: DJ Franco’s Xmas playlist 8pm
- **CHARLES ST TAP** Fierce: DJ Morgan Fabulous 9pm

MARINE TAVERN

- 13 Broad St, BN2 1TJ, Tel: 01273 905578, www.marinetavern.co.uk
- OPEN: daily from 12pm, from 7pm Xmas Day.
- FOOD: daily from 12-9pm, Curry & Quiz on Tue from 7.30pm (quiz starts 9pm), roasts £7 each every Sunday 12-5pm. booking advised.
- DRINK PROMOS: Pink Pound Night on Wed with £1 drinks.
- **WAD (Sun)** WAD DRAG OPEN MIC fundraiser with Stephanie Von Clitz at 9pm.
- **XMAS (Thur)** Xmas Lights Switch On with Stephanie Von Clitz & Rusty Vagazzle at 8pm. Fri: (7) Yuna Steebich live XMAS SHOW at 9pm. Fri: (14) CABARET with Pat Clutcher and Xmas raffle at 8pm. Tue: (18) in Nat’s XMAS QUIZ & Curry for £1 at 7.30pm. Sun: (23) is DRAG OPEN MIC Xmas Special with Stephanie Von Clitz at 9pm. Mon: (24) is XMAS EVE CABARET at 8pm.
- Tue: (25) XMAS DAY PARTY at 7pm. Wed: (26) BIG BOXING DAY BASH at 8pm.
- **NYE** (Sun) is DRAG OPEN MIC: the best of 2018 hosted by Stephanie Von Clitz at 9pm. Mon: (31) BIG NYE BLACK & WHITE FANCY DRESS PARTY at 8pm. Tue: (1 Jan) is NEW YEAR’S AFTERPARTY and Karaoke with Jay at 5pm.
- **REGULARS THROWBACK THURSDAY** with 80s tunes from 8pm.

THURSDAY 8.30pm

Abel Mabel’s Bingo

FRI CABARET 8pm

14th Jason Thorpe & Billie Gold
Raising Money for the Rainbow Fund

21st CABA-REGENCY
Brighton Students

SAT CABARET 8pm

1st Kara Van Park
8th Lady Imelda

15th REGENCY TAVERN 1ST BIRTHDAY
With Alfie Ordinary & Free Buffet

22nd Krissie Ducann & The Pianoman
Raising Money for MindOut

SUNDAY: TRADITIONAL ROASTS 12-5pm

BEST QUALITY Beef/Chicken/ Lamb/ Nut Roast

BEST VALUE Roasts 2nd & Starters a dessert from £17.95

LEGENDS BAR & BASEMENT CLUB + MARINE TAVERN

BIG BOXING DAY BASH is £300 Big Cash Quiz

BIG NYE BLACK & WHITE FANCY DRESS PARTY is £300 Big Cash Quiz

Sun: (30) is DRAG OPEN MIC: the best of 2018 hosted by Stephanie Von Clitz at 9pm. Mon: (31) BIG NYE BLACK & WHITE FANCY DRESS PARTY at 8pm. Tue: (1 Jan) is NEW YEAR’S AFTERPARTY and Karaoke with Jay at 5pm.

THURS 10pm

THUR OPEN MIC & KARAOKE with JASON THORPE 8pm

TUE QUIZ 8pm £1 ENTRY

FRI CABARET 8pm

14TH JASON THORPE & BILLIE GOLD
RASING MONEY FOR THE RAINBOW FUND

21ST CABA-REGENCY
BRIGHTON STUDENTS

SAT CABARET 8pm

1ST KARA VAN PARK
8TH LADY IMELDA

15TH REGENCY TAVERN 1ST BIRTHDAY
WITH ALFIE ORDINARY & FREE BUFFET

22ND KRISSIE DUCANN & THE PIANOMAN
RASING MONEY FOR MINDOUT

SUN 2ND/9TH/16TH JB’S JUKEBOX 2-30am

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

20TH XMAS OPEN MIC & KARAOKE
 WITH JASON THORPE 8pm

25TH XMAS DAY
BAR OPEN TILL 4am

31ST NYE PARTY WITH DAVE LYNN 11pm

FREE BUBBLES AT MIDNIGHT

PICS FROM LEGENDS BAR & BASEMENT CLUB + MARINE TAVERN

GSCENE OUT & ABOUT 43
PARIS HOUSE

- 21 Western Rd, BN3 1AF, T: 01273 724195, www.parishousebrighton.com
- OPEN daily from 12pm, closed Xmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year’s Day.
- FOOD served 12pm – close every day.
- XMAS Sat (22) is the AND ALL THAT JAZZ XMAS SPECIAL with Sam Carise at 4pm. TC’s Joyful Noise (DJ Kenny) is at 9pm.
- NYE Mon (31) NYE PARTY with soul/blues from Sam Chara with Theseus Gerard on percussion & Tim Lee on keyboards, plus Maryltn Du Sax and DJ Chris Havoxx from 8pm.
- REGULARS Sunday live at 6pm: Fleur de Paris (2), Sam Chara & band (9), Dave Williams & band (16), Louis Checkley & band (23) and Polito Boogaloo (30).
- Mon free live jazz at 2pm: Hei Club Trio with Mick Piggott & Nils Solberg (3). Nils-Solberg & Mick Hamer Trio (10 & 17), acts with bands at 8pm: Jack Kondon (3). Sara Ochlag Trio (10) and Alex Bondonno (17).
- Tue live at 8pm: Yellow Funk Machine (4). Harry Horney & Allie Barnardi (11) and Dr Mike Blue (18). Wed free live acts with bands at 8pm: Chris Cough (5). Will Gardener (12) and Jason Henson Trio (19). Thur is free world music night at 8pm: Tres Amigos (6), Babou with Abraham De Vega & Band (13), Polito Boogaloo (20) and Son Gusanchando (27). Fri PARTY TIME with DJ Havoxx at 9pm. Sat is AND ALL THAT JAZZ with live jazz at 4pm. Jason Henson Trio (1), L’Escargots Trois (8), Lawrence Jones & band (15) and Oll Howe Trio (29). TC’S JOYFUL NOISE with DJ Kenny at 9pm, free entry.

GROSSEVON BAR cabinet: Pooh Lay May 9.30pm
- INFINITY BAR Camp Cabinet: Pat Clutcher 6pm; Pat Clutcher’s karaoke 7pm
- LEGENDS BAR Pre-club DJ 7pm
- MARINE TAVERN Saturday Club 4pm
- PARIS HOUSE All that Jazz Xmas Special: Sam Carise 4pm, TC’s Joyful Noise, DJ Kenny 9pm
- QUEEN’S ARMS cabinet: Lucinda Lashes 6pm; Allan Jay 10pm
- REGENCY TAVERN MindOut Fundraiser: Krisiss DuCann & The Piano Man 9pm
- THE STABLE@LONDON WC2 Total Felkin Nude Xmas: naked party 9pm
- SUBLINE The Men’s Room: DJ Screwpulous 9pm
- THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS live football: Arsenal v Burnley 12.30pm, Cardiff v Man City 5.30pm
- ZONE cabinet: Spice 10pm

SUNDAY 23
- AMSTERDAM cabinet: Gabriella Parrish 5pm; roads 12pm–til gone
- BAR 7@CRAWLEY Pre-Xmas Karaoke Party 7pm
- BAR BROADWAY Fireplace Sessions

QUEENS ARMS

- 7 George St, BN2 1RH, T: 01273 696873, www.theqabrighton.com
- OPEN 5pm Mon-Fri, 2pm Sat & Sun, from 7pm on Xmas Day & Boxing Day.
- DRINK PROMOS Mon- Fri 5–9pm, Sat & Sun 2–6pm.
- XMAS Mon (24) XMAS EVE CABARET with Davina Sparkle at 9pm. Tue (25) is the XMAS DAY CABARET SHOW with Spice at 10pm & Wed (26) is the BOXING DAY CABARET SHOW with Kara Van Park at 10pm.
- NYE Mon (31) NYE SHOW with Kara Van Park pitching up from 9pm, free entry.
- ONE FOR THE DIARY Sat double helping of CABARET 6pm with Poppycok (1, 15 & 29). Candii Reii (8) and Lucinda Lashes (22), then at 10pm, Kara Van Park (1 & 8). Gabriella Parrish (15), Allan Jay (22) and Son of a Tutu (29).
- REGULARS Mon CABARET at 9pm: Spice (3) and Kara Van Park (10 & 17). Tue is the Lola Lasagne Show from 9.30pm. Wed (5) is Sally Vate’s last show before panto at 10pm. Spice takes over from (12) at 10pm. Thur CABARET at 10pm: Davina Sparkle (6), Jennie Castell (13), Pat Clutcher (20) and Tanya Hyde (27). Fri CABARET with top acts tearing up the stage from 10pm. Poppycok (7), Dr Beverly Ballcrusher (14), Drs Moore (21) and Drag With No Name (28). They say the Welsh can sing, and Dr Beverly Ballcrusher (14) is no stranger to that rule. Known for huge vocals, biting repartee and a sharp tongue, this is one Crush you won’t fall out of. She says: “Sassy Stryker, Dave Lynn, Lola and DE Experience all helped me with tips and guidance until I felt brave enough to start doing full shows. I sing live... being Welsh it’s in our DNA! I’m known not to pull any punches so I can be a bit sharp tongued... All I hope to make people smile and forget their troubles for an hour!” Sunday: DOUBLE CABARET at 6.30pm & 9.30pm Martha D’Arthur (2), Cherry Liquor (9). Topsy Redfern (16), Kara Van Park (23) and Jason Lee (30).

- THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS live football: Everton v Spurs 4pm
- VELVET JACKS Caribbean roasts 1pm

MONDAY 24
- BAR 7@CRAWLEY Xmas Eve Karaoke Party 7pm
- BAR BROADWAY Xmas Eve: Fireplace Sessions pres Laura Nixon 9pm
- BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS Xmas Eve Party: DJ Peter Castle 11pm
- CHARLES ST TAP Xmas Eve Cabinet: host Spice + Gabriella Parrish 7.30pm
- INFINITY BAR Xmas Eve: Jason Thorpe’s Xmas Sing-Along 8pm
- LEGENDS BAR Xmas Eve Party 7pm

TUESDAY 25
- AMSTERDAM Xmas Day: 4-course dinner & appetit £70 followed by cabaret from Sally Vate & Jason Thorpe, booking essential – 01273 670 976 12pm
SATURDAY CABARET SHOWS AT 6PM & 10PM
1 DEC POPPY COCK
KARA VAN PARK
8 DEC CANDI RELL
KARA VAN PARK
15 DEC POPPY COCK
GABRIELLA PARISH
22 DEC LUCIND LASHES
ALLAN JAY
29 DEC POPPY COCK
SON OF A TUTU

SUNDAY CABARET DOUBLE CABARET 6.30PM & 9.30PM
2 DEC MARTHA D’ARTHUR
9 DEC CHERRY LIQUOR
16 DEC TOPSIE REDFERN
23 DEC KARA VAN PARK
30 DEC JASON LEE

OPENING TIMES
MON-FRI 5PM - LATE • SAT & SUN 2PM - LATE
XMAS DAY & BOXING DAY OPEN FROM 7PM
**DECEMBER LISTINGS**

### REGENCY TAVERN
- **32-34 Russell Sq, Brighton BN1 2EF T: 01273 235 652, www.regencytavern.co.uk**
- **OPEN Sun-Wed 12–11pm, Xmas Day 12–4pm, Thur 12pm-12am, Fri & Sat 12pm-1am.** The Regency Tavern is dog friendly.
- **FOOD** Tue–Sat 12–8pm, Sunday roast 12–5pm, two for £19.95, booking recommended.

- **XMAS Thur (20)** is XMAS KARAOKE & OPEN MIC with Jason Thorpe at 9pm. **Tue (25):** open till 4pm.
- **NYE Mon (31)** NYE PARTY with CABARET from Dave Lynn at 11pm and free bubbles at midnight.
- **ONE FOR THE DIARY** Fri (14) is the Regency Tavern’s FUNDRAISER for the Rainbow Fund with Jason Thorpe at 8pm and Billie Gold at 9pm. Money on the evening will be raised through a raffle, featuring loads of fantastic prizes, and bucket collections!
- **REGULARS** Tue the QUIZ is at 8pm. **Thur is KARAOKE/OPEN MIC with host Jason Thorpe at 8pm.** Fri (21) is CABAY REGENCY at 8pm. Sat free ENTERTAINMENT at 9pm. Kara Van Park (1), Lady Imelda (8), REGENCY TAVERN’S 1ST BIRTHDAY with Affie Ordinary & a free buffet (15) and Krissie DuCann & the Piano Man raising money for MindOut (22). Sun (2, 9, 16) it’s JB’S JUKEBOX at 2.30pm.

#### WEDNESDAY 26
- **BAR BROADWAY** Xmas Day: Fireplace Sessions pres Jennie Castell 9pm
- **CROWN KEMPTOWN** Xmas Day 12pm
- **GROSVENOR BAR** Xmas Day 12pm
- **LEGENDS BAR** Xmas Day 11pm
- **MARINE TAVERN** Xmas Day Party 7pm
- **QUEEN’S ARMS** Xmas Day 7pm. Xmas Day: Spice 10pm
- **REGENCY TAVERN** Xmas Day 12pm
- **VELVET JACKS** Xmas Day 11am
- **ZONE** Xmas Day: Les Festive Fiesta 12pm

#### THURSDAY 27
- **BAR 7@CRAWLEY** Freeth: DJ Jazzy Jane 9pm
- **BAR BROADWAY** Play Your Boxing Day Cards Right: prizes inc £100 jackpot 9pm
- **BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS** Boxing Day Ice: DJ Claire Fuller 11pm
- **BRIGHTON SAUNA** Naked Day 10am
- **CAMELFORD ARMS** Boxing Day: Xmas After Party 12pm
- **CHARLES ST TAP** Boxing Day 11am
- **CROWN KEMPTOWN** Boxing Day 6pm
- **FIRE & LIGHTBOX@LONDON SW8** Stark Bollock Naked Boxing Day Party; naked party 2pm. Near Bollock Naked Boxing Day Party: underwear/jockstrap party 6pm
- **GROSVENOR BAR** Boxing Day 3pm
- **LEGENDS BAR** Boxing Day cabaret: Lola Lasagne 3.30pm
- **MARINE TAVERN** Big Boxing Day Bash 6pm
- **QUEEN’S ARMS** Boxing Day 7pm: Boxing Day cabaret: Kara Van Park 10pm
- **ROTTINGDEAN CLUB** Boxing Day cabaret: Kara Van Park 2pm
- **SUBLIME** Boxing Day Floss: candy floss/ electic/pop-up performance/ visual art 9pm
- **THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS** Boxing Day: live football: Fulham v Wolves 12.30pm. Brighton v Arsenal 5.15pm. Watford v Chelsea 7.30pm

#### FRIDAY 28
- **AMSTERDAM cabaret: Kara Van Park 9.30pm

### ROTTINGDEAN CLUB
- **89 High St, Rottingdean, BN2 7HE T: 01273 309529 t therottingdeanclub**
- **FOOD** served daily, ask at the bar for full menu.
- **MEMBERSHIP** The Rottingdean Club, a members’ bar in the heart of the village, is perfect to meet friends and clients, work remotely with a coffee or mingle with likeminded members. With regular entertainment, a large garden with lager and cider on draught and free Wi-Fi, this a unique venue so pop in to ask for membership details or email bar@therottingdeanclub.co.uk. The Rottingdean Club says: “We’re a private members’ bar where there’s always a warm welcome. We offer the comforts of a traditional pub with modern standards of service and superb food!”

- **XMAS Mon (24)** is violinist Miguel Santiago’s XMAS CONCERT at 4pm. Rottingdean Club say: “Miguel returns for his Christmas showcase bringing to life wonderful carols and songs on his violin. There will be free mince pies for everyone.” Stick around for vocalist Jennie Castell’s XMAS SOIREE at 6pm Wed (26) is Boxing Day with Kara Van Park from 2pm.
- **NYE: Mon (31), NYE PARTY with Debbie Cobbett live at 9pm, doors 7pm. no ticket needed. Rottingdean Club say: This NYE we have the utterly fabulous Debbie Cobbett joining us to sing us through to 2019. No ticket needed, just rock up, have a good night, and ring in 2019 with us!”
- **ONE FOR THE DIARY** Fri (14) is Krissie DuCann & Friends CHARITY PARTY in aid of the Rainbow Fund at 7pm.
- **REGULARS** Tue is QUIZ NIGHT at 8pm. £1 per person. Sat (8) is live music with Paul Middleton on stage from 8.30pm.

#### THREE JOOLY BUTCHERS
- **59 North Rd, BN1 1YD T: 01273 608571, www.3jollybutchers.com**
- **OPEN** daily from 12pm, closed Xmas Day.
- **FOOD** Thursday is Mitch’s QUIZ & CHILLI Night from 7.30pm, vegan options available. Fri Home Match Warm Up with Fri & Pint £9 before Brighton football matches.
- **REGULARS** Watch Sky/ST SPORTS LIVE on the big screens including premier league football and rugby internationals (see listings for fixtures and times).
**SUBLINE**

129 St James’ St, BN2 1TH, T: 01273 624100, www.sublinebrighton.co.uk

**OPEN** Sun, Wed & Thur from 9pm, including Boxing Day. 10pm Fri & Sat. closed Xmas Day, Thur (27) and Fri (28).

**WAD Sun (1) is LEATHERMEN CHRISTMAS and WAD Fundraiser for HTF at 10pm. Free entry in leather gear, otherwise £5.

**XMAS Sat (8) is JINGLE BEARS with the boys from Brighton Bear Weekend, entry £5 members, £8 non.**

**Thur (13) is A SILENCIO CAROL absurdist theatre with a seasonal twist with Club Silencio at 8pm, entry £8 on the door. Club Silencio say: “You might think you know this story. You don’t, the real one’s much more gory. It’s our annual Christmas Special and you won’t want to miss an all-new show from the Silencio team with all the usual Silencio nonsense, life drawing, dancing, cocktails and donuts! You costume assignment is ‘Tinsel’ and there’s prizes for best creation! Get there early to avoid disappointment – the last two Christmas shows were at capacity!”**

**Fri (21) is FILTH - XXXMAS mixed full fetish party, advance tickets recommended.**

**Mon (24) is THE NIGHT BEFORE... with festive frolics galore from 9pm, entry £3 members, £5 non.**

**NYE Mon (31) Tumbling into 2019 NYE PARTY from 10pm, advance tickets £5 members, £7 otherwise, £8/£10 on the door on the night.**

**ONE FOR THE DIARY Wed is FLOSS, the queer, progressive, open and alternative experience with free candy floss, electronic music, pop-up performance and visual art, experience joy and rapture from 10pm, entry £5 on the door with proof of event share.**

**Fri (7) is DIRTY TACKLE sports wear night, £3 in kit/£5 otherwise.**

**Sat (8) is JINGLE BEARS with the boys from Brighton Bear Weekend, entry £5 members, £8 non.**

**Sun (30) is the CUM IN YOUR PANTS underwear party, under £3/£5.**

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**BAR 7@CRAWLEY 7 Upstairs 9pm**

**BAR BROADWAY Jukebox 5pm**

**BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS Xmas Glitter: DJ David Noakes 11pm**

**BOUTIQUE T.G.I.P: DJ Franco 8pm**

**CAMELFORD ARMS Friday Club 6pm**

**CHARLES ST TAP Fabulous Fridays: DJ Morgan Fabulous 9pm**

**GROSVENOR BAR cabaret: Marsha Mallon 9.30pm**

**INFINITY BAR Friday Funhouse 6pm**

**LEGENDS BAR Pre-Glitter 9.30pm**

**MARINE TAVERN MindOut Charity Fundraiser: Country & Western themed party with live vocalist Emie 9pm**

**PARIS HOUSE DJ Havock 9pm**

**QUEEN’S ARMS cabaret: Drag With No Name 10pm**

**ZONE cabaret: Tabitha Wild 10pm**

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**SATURDAY 29**

**AMSTERDAM Karaoke with Jason Thorpe 9.30pm**

**BAR 7@CRAWLEY 7 Sins 9pm**

**BAR BROADWAY Jukebox 4pm**

**BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS Xmas Fusion: DJ Peter Castle 11pm**

**BOUTIQUE Saturday Sessions: DJ Saul 8pm**

**CHARLES ST TAP Fierce: DJ Grant Knowles 9pm**

**GROSVENOR BAR cabaret: Jennie Castell 9.30pm**

**INFINITY BAR cabaret: Davina Sparkle 6pm, karaoke 7pm**

**LEGENDS BAR Pre-club DJ 7pm**

**MARINE TAVERN Saturday Club 4pm**

**PARIS HOUSE Live jazz: Oli Howe Trio 4pm. TC’s Joyful Noise: DJ Kenny 9pm**

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**BAR 7@CRAWLEY 7 Upstairs 9pm**

**BAR BROADWAY Jukebox 5pm**

**BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS Xmas Glitter: DJ David Noakes 11pm**

**BOUTIQUE T.G.I.P: DJ Franco 8pm**

**CAMELFORD ARMS Friday Club 6pm**

**CHARLES ST TAP Fabulous Fridays: DJ Morgan Fabulous 9pm**

**GROSVENOR BAR cabaret: Marsha Mallon 9.30pm**

**INFINITY BAR Friday Funhouse 6pm**

**LEGENDS BAR Pre-Glitter 9.30pm**

**MARINE TAVERN MindOut Charity Fundraiser: Country & Western themed party with live vocalist Emie 9pm**

**PARIS HOUSE DJ Havock 9pm**

**QUEEN’S ARMS cabaret: Drag With No Name 10pm**

**ZONE cabaret: Tabitha Wild 10pm**

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**SUBLINE WED FLOSS**

FLOSS + ELECTRONIC MUSIC + POP-UP PERFORMANCE + VISUAL ART + EXPERIENCE + JOY + RAPTURE + QUEER = FLOSS

**THUR BRACE YOURSELF**

9pm - 1.30am • FREE LOCKERS

**FRI STEAM**

9pm - 4am • MEMBERS FREE B4 11pm

**SAT THE MEN’S ROOM**

9pm - 4am • DJ SCREWPULOSS • MEMS FREE B4 11pm

**SUN GUILTY PLEASURES**

9pm - 2am • DJ SCREWPULOSS

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**SAT 1 LEATHERMEN**

XMAS & WORLD AIDS DAY FUNDRAISER
FREE ENTRY IN LEATHER GEAR OR £5 • DOORS 10PM

**FRI 7 DIRTY TACKLE**

SPORTS KIT NIGHT • £3 IN KIT OR £5 • DOORS 10PM

**SAT 8 JINGLE BEARS**

WITH BBW • £5 MEMBERS/E8 NON • DOORS 10PM

**THU 13 A SILENCIO CAROL**

ABSURDIST THEATRE WITH SEASONAL TWIST • £8 • DOORS 9PM

**FRI 21 FILTH XXXMAS**

MIXED FULL FETISH PARTY - ADVANCE TICKETS RECOMMENDED

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**SUBLINE XMAS MON 24 THE NIGHT BEFORE...**

OPEN FROM 9pm-2pm • £3 MEMBERS/E3 NON
25TH CLOSED • 26TH OPEN FOR FLOSS • 27TH CLOSED • 28TH CLOSED

**SUN 30 CUM IN YOUR PANTS**

UNDERWEAR PARTY • £5 MEMBERS/E5 NON

**MON 31 SUBLINE NYE**

TUMBLING INTO 2019! ADVANCE TICKETS £5 MEMS/E7 NON
£5/£10 ON DOOR ON THE NIGHT • DOORS 10PM

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**BAR 7@CRAWLEY 7 Upstairs 9pm**

**BAR BROADWAY Jukebox 5pm**

**BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS Xmas Glitter: DJ David Noakes 11pm**

**BOUTIQUE T.G.I.P: DJ Franco 8pm**

**CAMELFORD ARMS Friday Club 6pm**

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**QUEEN’S ARMS cabaret: Drag With No Name 10pm**

**ZONE cabaret: Tabitha Wild 10pm**

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**SATURDAY 29**

**AMSTERDAM Karaoke with Jason Thorpe 9.30pm**

**BAR 7@CRAWLEY 7 Sins 9pm**

**BAR BROADWAY Jukebox 4pm**

**BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS Xmas Fusion: DJ Peter Castle 11pm**

**BOUTIQUE Saturday Sessions: DJ Saul 8pm**

**CHARLES ST TAP Fierce: DJ Grant Knowles 9pm**

**GROSVENOR BAR cabaret: Jennie Castell 9.30pm**

**INFINITY BAR cabaret: Davina Sparkle 6pm, karaoke 7pm**

**LEGENDS BAR Pre-club DJ 7pm**

**MARINE TAVERN Saturday Club 4pm**

**PARIS HOUSE Live jazz: Oli Howe Trio 4pm. TC’s Joyful Noise: DJ Kenny 9pm**

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**BAR 7@CRAWLEY 7 Upstairs 9pm**

**BAR BROADWAY Jukebox 5pm**

**BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS Xmas Glitter: DJ David Noakes 11pm**

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**CAMELFORD ARMS Friday Club 6pm**

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**MARINE TAVERN MindOut Charity Fundraiser: Country & Western themed party with live vocalist Emie 9pm**

**PARIS HOUSE DJ Havock 9pm**

**QUEEN’S ARMS cabaret: Drag With No Name 10pm**

**ZONE cabaret: Tabitha Wild 10pm**
**DECEMBER LISTINGS**

**VELVET JACKS**
- 50 Norfolk Sq, BN1 2PA, Tel: 07720 661290
- OPEN Tues-Thur 4-11.30pm, Xmas Day 11am-2pm, Fri & Sat 12-11.30pm, Sun 1-11pm
- FOOD Indian/Sri Lankan Street Specials, ask at the bar for more info. Caribbean Roasts served on Sun.
- DRINK PROMOS 4-7pm daily excl Sat.
- NYE Mon (31) is the BIG NYE LATE PARTY from 9pm.

**THE ZONE**
- 33 St James’ St, BN2 1RF, Tel: 01273 682249, www.zonebrighton.co.uk
- OPEN 11am Sun-Thur, 10am Fri & Sat, Xmas Day 12-4pm.
- DRINK PROMOS all day, every day.
- XMAS Tue (25) with Les’ FESTIVE FIESTA from 12pm.
- ONE FOR THE DIARY Friday top CABARET at 10pm: Davina Sparkle (7), Kara Van Park (14), Stone & Street (21) and Tabitha Wild (28).
- REGULARS Saturday CABARET with many sensational acts at 10pm: Martha D’Arthur (1), Sally Vate (8), Dave Lynn (15), Spice (22) and JP Christian (29). ‘Human Jukebox’ JP Christian (29) has a repertoire of over 400 songs and he can apply himself to a number of styles from the last 60 years – musicals, pop, rock, soul and swing. Incredibly versatile, and with the range to match, JP brings variety to the Brighton scene!

**SUNDAY 30**
- AMSTERDAM cabaret: Wain Douglas aka Karin V. 5pm; roasts: 12pm-till gone
- BAR 7@CRAWLEY Karaoke Party 7pm
- BAR BROADWAY Fireplace Sessions present: Tabitha Wild 6.30pm
- BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS Xmas Party/Candy DJ Claire Fuller 9pm
- BRIGHTON NAUGHTY Naked Day 12pm
- CAMELFOOT ARMS Bear Bash: free food/raffle 5pm; roasts/select menu 12pm-till gone
- QUEEN’S ARMS cabaret: Poppy Cock 6pm; Son of a Tut 10pm
- THE STABLE@LONDON WC2 Total Fekkin Nude: naked party 9pm
- SUBLINE The Men’s Room: DJ Screwpuss 10pm
- THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS pre match Warm-Up: Brighton v Everton 12.30pm; live football: Liverpool v Arsenal 5.30pm
- ZONE cabaret: JP Christian 10pm

**MONDAY 31**
- BAR 7@CRAWLEY NYE Glitter Party 9pm
- BAR BROADWAY Annual Hogmanay NYE Party with Paul Middleton live 9pm
- BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS NYE Party: DJs Claire Fuller & Peter Castle 9pm
- BOUTIQUE NYE Party: DJs 8pm
- CAMELFOOT ARMS NYE Late Night Party 9pm
- CHARLES ST TAP The Gayest Showman NYE Party: host Joan Bond, giveaways & tunes 9pm
- INFINITY BAR NYE Party: Stephanie Von Clitz 8pm; Countdown Show 11.30pm
- LEGENDS BAR NYE Party: DJs Claire Fuller & Peter Castle 9pm

**TUESDAY 1 JAN**
- BAR BROADWAY New Year’s Day: Fireplace Sessions pres Aaron Lawrence aka Spice 9pm
- BASEMENT CLUB@LEGENDS NYE Recovery Party 11pm
- CAMELFOOT ARMS New Year’s Day Hangover Party 12pm
- CHARLES ST TAP New Year’s Day 11am
- FIRE & LIGHTBOX@LONDON SW8 Stark Bollock Naked New Year’s Day Party: naked party 2pm; Near Bollock Naked: underwear/jockstrap party 6pm
- GROSVENOR BAR New Year’s Day 3pm
- INFINITY BAR New Year’s Day - see Facebook for details 12pm
- MARINE TAVERN NYE Afterparty & Karaoke with Jay 5pm
- THREE JOLLY BUTCHERS New Year’s Day: live football: Everton v Leicester 12.30pm, Cardiff v Spurs 5.30pm
THE EDGE NIGHTCLUB
WORLD AIDS DAY
IN AID OF LOCAL CHARITIES

FEATURING
DJ CLAIRE FULLER
DJ LIAM SEARLE
THE BOX DJ KT

JOIN A CELEBRATION TO RAISE AWARENESS
SAT 1ST DECEMBER
OPEN 7PM-5AM FREE ENTRY B4 10 VIA THE BOX BAR

THE EDGE NIGHTCLUB PRESENTS
2018 NEW YEAR
3 DJ'S - 3 BARS
MON, DECEMBER 31

DJ CRAIG LAW / DJ LIAM SEARLE / DJ KT

OPEN 8PM-6AM
FREE BUBBLY AT MIDNIGHT
DRESS TO IMPRESS
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT WWW.MEDOUTTICKETS.COM

FEATURING
AURA JAY - DJ DARCY BUCKLAND - DJ MISSY B - BELLA BLACK
DJ AUDIO K9 - DJ LIAM SEARLE - DJ ARTHUR HUTCHINSON
DJ MIKEY 6 - DJ PHIL MARRIOTT - DJ CLAIRE FULLER - DJ KT

WHAT'S ON AT THE EDGE?

MATES RATES
EVERY MONDAY (10PM-5AM)
FREE ENTRY B4 MIDNIGHT

EVERY TUESDAY (7PM-4AM)
50p OFF ALL DRINKS & HAVEN OVER £30

EVERY WEDNESDAY (7PM-5AM)

EVERY THURSDAY (7PM-4AM)

EVERY FRIDAY (7PM-5AM)

EVERY SATURDAY (7PM-5AM)

EVERY SUNDAY (10PM-4AM)

AURORA'S GODMOTHER KARAOKE

GLOW

THE WINNER AM

4 THE EDGE

HAPPY 10PM FREE ENTRY B4 10PM

Bella Black

BAR 150

A DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE VENUE NIGHTCLUB OF THE YEAR 2018 UK
PICS FROM HAMPSHIRE BOULEVARD, PORTSMOUTH

HAMPSHIRE BOULEVARD

Hampshire Terrace, Southsea, PO1 2QN. Tel: 02392 297509

OPEN Sun & Mon 9pm, Tue–Sat 7pm; closed Xmas Day & New Year’s Day.

DRINK DEALS selected drinks £1.50 on Mon, 2-4-1 selected drinks on Tue, till midnight on Wed (incl selected doubles £3), 7–10pm on Fri, all night on Sun.

SOUTHAMPTON

BOX BAR
Compton Walk, SO14 0BH
TEL: 023 8036 6163

www.theedgesouthampton.com

EDGE
Compton Walk, SO14 0BH
TEL: 023 8036 6163

www.theedgesouthampton.com

LONDON HOTEL
2 Terminus Terrace, SO14 3DT
TEL: 02380 710652, www.the-london.co.uk

SOLENT LISTINGS

SATURDAY 1

PORTSMOUTH

HAMPSHIRE BOULEVARD
Blank Xmas Editions 9pm

SOUTHAMPTON

BOX BAR
World AIDS Day Fundraiser: DJ Liam Searle, KT, Claire Fuller & Neil Sackley 10pm

EDGE
World AIDS Day Fundraiser: DJs Liam Searle, KT, Claire Fuller & Neil Sackley 10pm

SUNDAY 2

PORTSMOUTH

HAMPSHIRE BLVD
90s & 2ks: DJ Luke Ennor 9pm

SOUTHAMPTON

EDGE
Cabaret v Karaoke with drag host Aura Jay 10pm

MONDAY 3

PORTSMOUTH

HAMPSHIRE BLVD
20Something 9pm

SOUTHAMPTON

EDGE
Reboot Reloaded: DJ Darcy Buckland 10pm

TUESDAY 4

PORTSMOUTH

HAMPSHIRE BLVD
Cherry’s Xmas Bingo 7pm; cabaret: Mary Golds 8pm

SOUTHAMPTON

EDGE
Time Out: DJ Arthur Hutchinson 11pm

WEDNESDAY 5

PORTSMOUTH

HAMPSHIRE BLVD
Big Navy Night Out: Aura Jay 9pm

SOUTHAMPTON

BOX BAR
Beauty and the Balls Bingo: host Miss Disney & prizes 8pm

SATURDAY 8

PORTSMOUTH

HAMPSHIRE BLVD
Blank Xmas Editions 9pm

SOUTHAMPTON

BOX BAR
The Big One: DJs 10pm

EDGE
The Big One: DJs Liam Searle, KT & Claire Fuller 10pm

SUNDAY 9

PORTSMOUTH

HAMPSHIRE BLVD
90s & 2ks: DJ Luke Ennor 9pm

SOUTHAMPTON

EDGE
Cabaret v Karaoke with drag host Aura Jay 10pm

MONDAY 10

PORTSMOUTH

HAMPSHIRE BLVD
20Something 9pm

SOUTHAMPTON

EDGE
Reboot Reloaded: DJ Darcy Buckland 10pm

TUESDAY 11

PORTSMOUTH

HAMPSHIRE BLVD
Night on the Lashes: Lucinda Lashes/Karaoke 9pm

SOUTHAMPTON

BOX BAR
Winner Takes It All: quiz with drag host Thorn Hill 8pm

EDGE
Smart: DJ Liam Searle 10pm

WEDNESDAY 12

PORTSMOUTH

HAMPSHIRE BLVD
Big Navy Night Out: Aura Jay 9pm

SOUTHAMPTON

BOX BAR
Beauty and the Balls Bingo: host Miss Disney 8pm, Bar 150 karaoke 10.30pm

EDGE
Bar 150: DJs Lee Harris & Audio K9 10pm

THURSDAY 13

PORTSMOUTH

HAMPSHIRE BLVD
Night on the Lashes: Lucinda Lashes/Karaoke 9pm

SOUTHAMPTON

BOX BAR
Winner Takes It All: quiz with drag host Thorn Hill 8pm

EDGE
Smart: DJ Liam Searle 10pm

FRIDAY 14

PORTSMOUTH

HAMPSHIRE BLVD
We Love Fridays: DJ Toby Lawrence spins tunes to get you moving, entry £3 till 11pm/£5 after.

SOUTHAMPTON

EDGE
GLOW: DJ Mikey G 10pm

EDGE
GLOW: guest DJs & UV lights 11pm

SATURDAY 15

PORTSMOUTH

HAMPSHIRE BLVD
Blank Xmas Editions 9pm

THURSDAY 6

PORTSMOUTH

HAMPSHIRE BLVD
Night on the Lashes: Lucinda Lashes/Karaoke 9pm

SOUTHAMPTON

BOX BAR
Winner Takes It All: quiz with drag host Thorn Hill 8pm

EDGE
Smart: DJ Liam Searle 10pm

FRIDAY 7

PORTSMOUTH

HAMPSHIRE BLVD
We Love Fridays: DJ Toby Lawrence 9pm

SOUTHAMPTON

BOX BAR
GLOW: DJ Mikey G 10pm

EDGE
GLOW: guest DJs & UV lights 11pm

SATURDAY 1

PORTSMOUTH

HAMPSHIRE BOULEVARD
1 Hampshire Terrace, Southsea
TEL: 02392 297509

SOUTHAMPTON

BOX BAR
Compton Walk, SO14 0BH
TEL: 023 8036 6163

www.theedgesouthampton.com

EDGE
Compton Walk, SO14 0BH
TEL: 023 8036 6163

www.theedgesouthampton.com

LONDON HOTEL
2 Terminus Terrace, SO14 3DT
TEL: 02380 710652, www.the-london.co.uk
SOUTHAMPTON
- BOX BAR Beauty and the Balls Bingo: host Miss Disney 8pm; Bar 150 karaoke 10.30pm
- EDGE Bar 150: DJs Missy B, Lee Harris & Audio K9 10pm

THURSDAY 20
PORTSMOUTH
- HAMPSHIRE BLVD Night on the Lashes: Lucinda Lashes/karaoke 9pm
SOUTHAMPTON
- BOX BAR Winner Takes It All: quiz with drag host Thorn Hill 8pm
- EDGE Smart: DJ Liam Searle 10pm

FRIDAY 21
PORTSMOUTH
- HAMPSHIRE BLVD We Love Fridays: DJ Toby Lawrence 9pm
SOUTHAMPTON
- BOX BAR GLOW: DJ Mikey G 10pm
- EDGE GLOW: guest DJs & UV lights 11pm

SATURDAY 22
PORTSMOUTH
- HAMPSHIRE BLVD Blank Xmas Editions 9pm
SOUTHAMPTON
- BOX BAR The Big One: DJs 10pm
- EDGE The Big One: DJs Darcy Buckland, KT, Claire Fuller & Neil Sackley 10pm

SUNDAY 23
PORTSMOUTH
- HAMPSHIRE BLVD 90s & 2ks: DJ Luke Ennor 9pm
SOUTHAMPTON
- EDGE Cabaret v Karaoke with drag host Aura Jay 10pm

MONDAY 24
PORTSMOUTH
- HAMPSHIRE BLVD 20Something 9pm
SOUTHAMPTON
- EDGE Reboot Reloaded: DJ Darcy Buckland 10pm

WEDNESDAY 26
PORTSMOUTH
- HAMPSHIRE BLVD Bingo: host Miss Disney 8pm; Bar 150 karaoke 10.30pm
- EDGE Bar 150: DJs Missy B, Lee Harris & Audio K9 10pm

THURSDAY 27
PORTSMOUTH
- HAMPSHIRE BLVD Night on the Lashes: Lucinda Lashes/karaoke 9pm
SOUTHAMPTON
- BOX BAR Winner Takes It All: quiz with drag host Thorn Hill 8pm
- EDGE Smart: DJ Liam Searle 10pm

FRIDAY 28
PORTSMOUTH
- HAMPSHIRE BLVD We Love Fridays: DJ Toby Lawrence 9pm
SOUTHAMPTON
- BOX BAR GLOW: DJ Mikey G 10pm
- EDGE GLOW: guest DJs & UV lights 11pm

SATURDAY 29
PORTSMOUTH
- HAMPSHIRE BLVD Blank Xmas Editions 9pm
SOUTHAMPTON
- BOX BAR The Big One: DJs 10pm
- EDGE The Big One: DJs Darcy Buckland, KT, Claire Fuller & Neil Sackley 10pm

SUNDAY 30
PORTSMOUTH
- HAMPSHIRE BLVD NYE Warm Up Party: DJ Luke Ennor 9pm
SOUTHAMPTON
- EDGE Cabaret v Karaoke with drag host Aura Jay 10pm

MONDAY 31
PORTSMOUTH
- HAMPSHIRE BLVD NYE Indoor & Outdoor Party 9pm
SOUTHAMPTON
- BOX BAR NYE Party: DJs Craig Law, Liam Searle & KT + free bubbly at 12am 9pm
- EDGE NYE Party: DJs Craig Law, Liam Searle & KT + free bubbly at 12am 9pm
Here we go - our best of 2018. A year that brought us love, laughter and sunshine, lots of sunshine. Thank you to everyone who made it so: The Tempest, Wild Family, Patterns disco darlings, Syndicate, Nightshift, Brighton Pride, B, Please, Club Barbara and our amazing 1BTN fam. And to you dear clubber, dear listener, dear reader. Here’s to many more because we two old ladies, who really should know better, don’t plan to retire just yet. For our top 20 albums of the year, check out perfectdistructions.com. Catch Wildblood and Queenie at a discotheque near you and on 1btn.fm 1st Fri 1-4pm and 2nd & 4th Weds 8-10pm.

WILDBLOOD & QUEENIE’S 2018 TOP 20

1. SOPHIE LLOYD Calling Out Classic Music Company
Simply the most uplifting tune you’ll hear. Making our day everyday.

2. WAAGEED ft Ideaiah Strength (Wajeead’s String Mix) Dirt Tech Reck
Proving the beauty in 4-to-the-floor will always keep us spellbound.

3. THOMAS PIZZINI Flash (Original Mix) Guendalina Records
Kooky and glorious and making us feel like movie stars with every play.

4. TECH SUPPORT Taking It Back Astropical Tape
When you just be yourself and the rewards are disco heavenly.

5. GIRLS OF THE INTERNET Fondness Makes The Heart… Drab Queen
Who said piano house was done? An anthem for our age.

6. REBECCA HOODLESS In The Grey Quartzera Music
When the moment is this heartfelt who can help but fall in love?

7. APPAREL WAX 004A1 Apparel Wax
Sample us a disco classic and you’ll always have us smitten.

8. SPECIAL REQUEST Brainstorm Houndstooth
A Pride anthem that had us jumping all summer long.

9. ROÍSÍN MURPHY All My Dreams The Vinyl Factory
Róisín continues to soundtrack the best nights of our lives.

10. DC LARUE Cathedrals (Joey Negro extended Disco mix) Z Records
A 1BTN moment of bliss that keep us disco dancing all summer long.

11. JONATHAN LEE Try Me No.19 Records
No winter can survive without summer. Donna Summer, of course.

12. AUSTIN ATO Ben’s Groove Me Me Me
Loopy, laid-back and just so bloody lovely. Just how we like our Ben.

13. J-FELIX ft Emsun J-Freq/Glide Tru Thoughts
Brighton’s most charming man makes charming groove. No surprise.

14. AMY DOUGLAS Never Saw It Coming (Crooked Man remix) DFA
Classy lady + classy remix + classy classic ensuring we press play.

15. ART OF TONES Where The One Is Local Talk
Outstanding wonder from one of our albums of 2018. Priceless beats.

16. HONEY DIJON feat Sam Sparro LOOK AHEAD Classic Music Co
A combo so classic we wanted it over and over. And over and over.

17. PURPLE DISCO MACHINE Dished (Male Stripper) Eton Messy
The tune that made everybody dance – much to Queenie’s amusement.

18. RON BASEJAM After The Sun Futureboogal
Repeat: we want you, need you, want you, need you, Ron do Ron.

19. MEDLAR & MSSS Baby Gone Batshit Dubplate
Utterly adorable nu-disco delight that had us going, erm, batshit.

20. JON DELERIOUS Reminiscence (Original Mix) Nordic Trax
It’s all about bass, bouncing disco infused cowbell accompanied bass.

DJ PROFILE: DJ MISSY B

’Tis the season to be jolly, just in case you hadn’t realised! So this month Queenie catches up with the ever lovely Missy B (quite miraculous given her busy schedule!) and hears about how two Noels are better than one, why she’s currently favouring the 90s, and her hopes for what Santa may bring this year…

Hello – how are you? I’m very well thank you, hope you are too?

Where can we hear you over the Yuletide season – and generally!? I’m all over the country these days! Mainly at The Edge nightclub in Southampton, Hampshire Boulevard in Portsmouth, G Sundays @ Bar & Beyond in Chelmsford, and Gremio De Brixton in Brixton.

What are you playing these days? I have to go back to the 1990s classics and some of the amazing house remixes that are available as sadly most of the new chart type releases don’t float my boat at all!

Any other projects going on? Nothing in the immediate pipeline but in the new year I’m looking into remixing a few of my favourite tracks and production.

It being December and all – what’s your favve Xmas tune of all time?
As much I don’t want to admit it, it has got to be Mariah Carey’s All I Want For Christmas…

Any memorable Xmas gigs? Where would you LOVE to play over the festive season? For a long time I’ve played the Summer Christmas at Hampshire Boulevard in Portsmouth. I always look forward to this as: one, it’s always smack bang in the middle of the year; two, I get play Christmas tracks near summer time; and three, it’s a full on Christmas party with decorations everywhere and fancy dress. Two Christmases in one year - what’s not to like? As to where would I love to play, hmmm hmmm I’d have to say somewhere hot haha!

Ever cleared the floor with a Xmas tune? Not yet. but there’s still time!

Do you have a Xmas guilty pleasure (mine being Quality Street for breakfast)? Cant beat chocolate for breakfast, right? I’d call that more of a tradition then a guilty pleasure. Every Christmas morning where I live we have a charity swim in the sea. Yes in the freezing cold sea dressed as something Christmas themed. The guilty pleasure would be the shot of Jager after haha. Please drink responsibly lol.

What are you hoping Santa will put in your stocking on Xmas morn?
A teleportation pod to help with the travel to my gigs hahaha!

DJ MISSY B’S CURRENT TOP FIVE

1. DUBROCCA v Mario Winans I Don’t Wanna Know (DubRocca remix) 702
2. YEAH YEAH YEAHS Heads Will Roll (DiscoTech 2015 remix) Fools Gold
3. MARSHMELLOW, Juicy J You Can Cry Joytime Collective/Columbia
4. KHIA My Neck, My Back (Lick It) (Bootleg) White
5. VAN HELDEN v Butter Rush I Need A Painkiller All Around The World
ALADDIN
Pavilion Theatre, Marine Parade, Worthing. Box office: 01903 206206 or www.worthingtheatres.co.uk

ALADDIN (Nov 30–Jan 1). Poor but happy Aladdin hopes all his dreams will come true when he discovers a magical lamp and the mystical genie trapped inside it who will grant the holder three precious wishes. Fame, fortune and the hand in marriage of the beautiful Princess Jasmine await but first our hero must defeat the wicked sorcerer Abanazar who also seeks the lamp and more: world domination! With his doopy brother, Wishee Washee, and ever-faithful mother, dame Widow Twankey, by his side, Aladdin must summon all his courage in this rags-to-riches tale of good overcoming evil. With an all-star cast including Lee Latchford-Evans from pop supergroup Steps as Aladdin, CBeebies presenter Rebecca Keatley as Princess Jasmine, Dave Lynn as Widow Twankey and the voice of Brian Blessed as the Genie of the Lamp. The production features dazzling scenery, costumes, special effects plus plenty of magic, mayhem, laughter and traditional pantomime audience participation.

ACTUALLY CHRISTMAS
St Andrew’s Church, Waterloo St, Hove, www.tickettailor.com

IT’S ACTUALLY CHRISTMAS! (Sat 22). An evening designed to fill you with festive cheer and usher in Christmas time to Hove as only Actually can. St Andrew’s Church will again be packed to the rafters as the audience joins in with congregational carols and enjoy the beautiful Princess Jasmine await but first our hero must defeat the wicked sorcerer Abanazar who also seeks the lamp and more: world domination! With his doopy brother, Wishee Washee, and ever-faithful mother, dame Widow Twankey, by his side, Aladdin must summon all his courage in this rags-to-riches tale of good overcoming evil. With an all-star cast including Lee Latchford-Evans from pop supergroup Steps as Aladdin, CBeebies presenter Rebecca Keatley as Princess Jasmine, Dave Lynn as Widow Twankey and the voice of Brian Blessed as the Genie of the Lamp. The production features dazzling scenery, costumes, special effects plus plenty of magic, mayhem, laughter and traditional pantomime audience participation.

THE FOUR MAN
The Four Man, Fictional London (Sat 13 and Sun 14). Join the Four Man and their new friend, the mysterious and elusive Mr. O’Hara, as they travel to London to meet the four man of the title. With a cast of thousands and a plot that twists and turns at every turn, this is a show not to be missed.

THE DOME
New Road, Brighton, Box office: 01273 709709

CHRISTMAS QUEENS (Mon 3). ‘Tis the season to be Mary! RuPaul’s Drag Race winner Bob The Drag Queen will host alongside Asia O’Hara, Blair St. Clair, Eureka O’Hara, Kameron Michaels, Manila Luzon and Sharon Needles for a holiday spectacular.

PULL A CRACKER WITH BRIGHTON GAY MEN’S CHORUS (Sat 8). Back by popular demand, the multi-award winning Brighton Gay Men’s Chorus is bound to get you in the festive mood with an evening of seasonal favourites like Silent Night, Christmas, Baby Come Home, I Wish It Could Be Christmas Every Day and O Holy Night. There will also be songs from The Greatest Showman, Leona Lewis, Tina Turner and George Michael to name a few; all arrangements exclusively created for BGMC. The show will raise funds for the Sussex Beacon.

EL GEEBEE TEA QUEUE
The Brunswick, Holland Rd, Hove, Box office: www.wegottickets.com

EL GEEBEE TEA QUEUE (Sun 9). Acts include: Bussie Gracie orchestrates an adventure through the most remarkable and mundane aspects of existence whilst flying high on caffeine, herbs and pure glee; Bashema performs self-penned compositions, jazz, blues and pop covers; Jo Crocker takes inspiration from Radiohead, Linkin Park, Evanescence, Adele and Lana Del Rey; Victoria The Magic Lady was raised by witches and uses her magic powers for good not evil (most of the time); Cain McKenzie is a comedy monster, expect brutal honesty and a glimpse of the world through his eyes; Cerys Evans has performed with the Barbican, the Thrive Foundation, toured the UK with one-woman show The Four Man Plan, and at Polar LGBTQ Salon. Junkyard Dogs, Edward St, Brighton

EL GEEBEE TEA QUEUE FESTIVAL (Sat 1–Sun 2). Two days of pure unadulterated LGBTQ talent. Over 30 acts of the best comedy, cabaret, live music and spoken word. Tickets on the door.

EYES WIDE OPEN
eyeswideopencinema.co.uk
The queer cinema collective presents:
FACING MIRRORS (Wed 5–Thu 6). Set in contemporary Iran it tells the story of an unlikely and daring friendship that develops between a cisgender female cab driver and her passenger, a transgender man desperately awaiting a passport to leave the country to escape a forced marriage. While the driver’s initial instinct is to help, she’s caught off guard on discovering that her passenger is trans. What emerges is a connection between them that challenges social norms
Jack and the Beanstalk
Brighton's GIANT family Pantomime
and Magical Christmas Fayre

20th - 29th December 2018

Hilton Brighton Metropole

To book tickets please visit www.jackinbrighton.com

Both shows on Friday 28th December will be supporting The Sussex Beacon.
and religious beliefs, reflecting the paradoxes of modern-day Iran in which gender reassignment surgery is legal and prevalent, but social acceptance isn’t widespread.


HOVE FOR THE HOLIDAYS
St Andrew’s Church, 56 and religious beliefs, reflecting the paradoxes of modern-day Iran in which gender reassignment surgery is legal and prevalent, but social acceptance isn’t widespread.


HOVE FOR THE HOLIDAYS
St Andrew’s Church, 56

- **JACK & THE BEANSTALK**
  Hilton Brighton Metropole, King’s Road, Brighton, www.jackinbrighton.com

- **JACK & THE BEANSTALK** (Thu 20–Sat 29).
  Classic panto with Christopher Biggins appearing on-screen as the downtrodden King, plus West End performers such as David Rumelle (Round the Horne – Revisited, Stop Messing About) plays Dame Trott and Keris Lea, who shot to fame as the lead singer in The Sundaeas on the BBC 1 primetime talent show, All Together Now, returns as The Fairy. Features a huge LED video wall, a 7ft animatronic giant and the biggest sing and dance-along version of Baby Shark in Brighton.

- **TINA C: HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS** (Sun 16).
  Get together with a country music icon and celebrate Xmas good times with top quality music and comedy. The world may be getting hotter, and global leaders’ hearts growing colder, but it’s exactly the right temperature and as toasty as heck as American legend Tina C talks about her life, view of the world and sings up a winter storm to celebrate the birth of a baby who was born to bring people of all religions together. ‘The best character comedy you’ll ever see’ The Guardian.

- **PINK FRINGE**
  Marlborough Theatre, 4 Princes St, Brighton, Box office: www.brownpapertickets.com

- **DJ S/HE (TOMBOYS DON’T CRY)** (Fri 7).
  Transgender DJ based in London, plays an intense set of electro, queer-hiphop, synth-wave and deep-house.

- **RAINBOW CHORUS**
  Regency Town House Annexe, 10 Brunswick Sq, Hove

- **RAINBOW CHORUS: LES MISTLETOE** (Sat 15).
  The Rainbow Chorus is known for its eclectic repertoire and this Christmas sees Brighton & Hove’s oldest LGBT+ choir bring the sounds of the West End to Kemp Town with a rabble-rousing and rip-roaring medley of songs from the long-running musical Les Misérables. The 60-strong choir will also perform a fabulous selection of iconic hits from one of the greatest rock bands of all time, Queen, plus Christmas classics and a couple of extra musical surprises. Throw in a dash of mulled wine and festive fare with all the feel-good cheer of the Rainbow Chorus and the result is a right royal Christmas cracker of an evening!

- **SNOW Q**
  Regency Town House Annexe, 10 Brunswick Sq, Hove

- **SNOW Q (Fri 21).**
  Maria Jastrzębska, local poet and co-editor of Queer In Brighton, is involved in an exciting collaborative project which culminates in an installation in the basement of the historic Regency Town House Annexe. Words, music, sound, art, photography, film reimagines Hans Christian Andersen’s Snow Queen story exploring contemporary issues of loneliness and social isolation, mental health, gender, sexuality, migration and exile.
Edward Gardner & BBC Symphony Orchestra
William Walton’s Viola Concerto, Partita For Orchestra, Sonata For String Orchestra (Chandos CHSA5210).

Edward Gardner and the BBC Symphony Orchestra are joined by James Ehnes for a tart performance of William Walton’s (1902-1983) Viola Concerto. The Concerto was written for the pioneering viola player, Lionel Tertis in 1928/29, but Tertis rejected the work as too modern, so it was taken up for the first performance by Paul Hindemith.

Tertis later realized his mistake, and performed the work frequently, helping it become established as a major work in the instrument’s repertoire. Walton combines bluesy harmonies and jazzy rhythms in the opening movement with beautiful lyrical lines for the soloist, relished here by Ehnes, as well as typically spicy writing for woodwind and brass. The central Scherzo has busy, quirky rhythms in a kind of off-kilter, swirling dance, and the finale launches with a humorous, bouncy melody from the bassoon, soon picked up by the soloist. Towards the end of the movement, the solo viola is accompanied by a repeated bass clarinet pattern, and Ehnes is particularly sweet-toned here.

Gardner and the BBCSO are tight throughout, and Gardner manages particularly well the balance of Walton’s often weighty orchestra against the mellow solo instrument. The Concerto is joined here by two much later works, firstly a late transcription by Walton (assisted by Malcolm Arnold) of his own String Quartet No. 2, as a Sonata For String Orchestra. Walton revised some material, particularly in the first movement, and he frequently sets material for a solo quartet against full string orchestra, in the manner of a concerto grosso. The first movement contains a rather Elgarian fugue, and the Presto which follows is fraught and somewhat impatient in mood, and Gardner brings out the detail whilst achieving an appropriately pushed tempo. The violas and cellos are particularly dark and brooding in the slow movement, and the finale has excitingly driven rhythmic energy throughout. The disc concludes with Walton’s Partita For Orchestra, a more overtly celebratory work, with its wallop of an opening for full orchestra, with a lot going on and some truly virtuosic demands placed on the orchestral players. The central Pastorale Siciliana is more subdued, with a lilting, meandering duet for viola and oboe, followed by lots of solo writing for various instruments, and the playful Giga Burlesca is great fun. Gardner and the BBCSO are on top form, and the three pieces here, whilst all very much ‘ Waltonian’ in their orchestral writing, show off well the often-underestimated range of mood in his work, from darkly brooding, through liltingly lyrical, to full-on extrovert fun.

Lumen Chamber Choir
Lumen De Lumine Convivium Records CR046.

The London based amateur chamber choir Lumen, directed by Benjamin Thiele-Long, has released a fascinating disc of new unaccompanied choral works. The recording is the result of a great project to create a platform for new composers of sacred and secular choral pieces. Thiele-Long and the choir selected the composers via a successful kickstarter campaign, and as a result, they have recorded brand new pieces by 12 different composers. The range of styles is impressive, yet all the works would be accessible for most good amateur choirs, so it provides a great opportunity for choirs who are looking for something new. You can read more about the project and some of the composers on my blog, but the works on offer here range from the simple but effective harmonies of Sam Oliver’s There Is No Dusk To Be, to the more challenging, surging chromatic lines and jazzy harmonies of Simon Whiteley’s The Way Of Life. Eastbourne-based composer Clive Whittburn’s Who Is My neighbour? puts biblical texts from Luke and Matthew up against data on migrant deaths, contrasting the pulsing, chomping statistics with a keening soprano line, somehow adding to the moral challenge through the simplicity of its melody. And Joanna Gill’s Safe In The Arms Of He is equally moving, in its touchingly intimate setting of a text written by parents on the death of their son from cancer. The 13-strong choir show incredible versatility in tackling such a broad range of styles and moods, and despite some occasional tuning issues in a few of the more stretching pieces, they gave committed and convincing performances throughout.

Verdi’s La Traviata is live from the MET Opera (Sat 15), Diana Damrau and Juan Diego Flórez lead, with Yannick Nézet-Séguin conducting.

The Royal Ballet performs Tchaikovsky’s The Nutcracker (Tue 13), live from the Royal Opera House.

In local cinemas: Dukes at the Komedia/Duke of York’s, Brighton, Cineworld Eastbourne, the Connaught Cinema, Worthing. Check times.

The Covent Garden Sinfonia, conducted by Ben Palmer (12.30pm & 3pm, Mon 24), perform Prokofiev’s Peter and the Wolf, and Howard Blake’s soundtrack to The Snowman, to a live film screening.

ST ANNE’S CHURCH, LEWES
Box Office: www.lewesfestivalofsong.co.uk
@ nickb86uk
nbclassical@hotmail.co.uk
ALL THAT JAZZ
BY SIMON ADAMS

1 SAML LEAK/DAN TEPFER Adrift (Jellymould). It is by pure coincidence, not seasonal intent, that all three CDs this month are by pianists, the first from a duo and the other two by piano-led trios. London-based Sam Leak and NY-based Dan Tepfer came together for a Steinway Piano Festival in London in, I think, 2016, for which Leak was commissioned to write a suite for the duo to play and improvise around. This first-time collaboration was so successful the result was subsequently recorded in NYC. In eight short sections, the duo cross and blur the lines between jazz and classical music, obscuring the difference between notated and improvised contributions. Subtle melodic themes sit alongside passionate improvised sections, the two carefully avoiding the collision of notes and egos that can overwhelm the best of piano duos. Throughout, the music is consistently engaging and melodic, a broad gestural sweep carrying all before it.

2 TORD GUSTAVSEN The Other Side (ECM). Pianist Tord Gustavsen grew up in rural Norway playing church music, which accounts for much of what you hear on his recordings. Over the course of what are now eight ECM albums with various trios, quartets and larger ensembles, Gustavsen has delivered reverential, almost meditative music that is contemplative and serene in equal measure. Nothing is rushed, and everything takes it quite turn. His trio of bass and drums can pick up speed in places if required, moving along gently while Gustavsen picks out a melody above them. Three of the pieces here are arrangements of Bach pieces, the remaining nine written or arranged by the leader. Together they create a hypnotic set of great strength.

3 MARCIN WASILEWSKI TRIO Live (ECM). In complete contrast to the Nordic ice age above comes this ebullient trio set from Polish pianist Marcin Wasilewski and his trio, best know as the group behind the famed Polish trumpeter Tomasz Stanko, who died just a few months ago. Recorded in Antwerp in August 2016, the set comprises four originals plus Herbie Hancock’s Actual Proof and Sting’s Message In A Bottle, which is proving to be a surprisingly effective addition to the jazz cannon of late. Wasilewski is a tuneful player who delivers both quietly swinging melodic lines and rolling, hypnotic musical grooves of passionate intensity. Bassist Sławomir Kurkiewicz and drummer Michał Miskiewicz slot right in behind him, the trio pulling everything effortlessly along behind them. That’s not to say they don’t do slow, as the opening folkish Sovebian Dance shows, but they are at the tuneful best when they lit rip a little. There are a lot of fine piano trios out there at the moment, but Wasilewski’s is one of the best. What a fine end to the jazz year.

ARTS MATTERS
BY ENZO MARRA

This month I’ve searched and sourced exhibitions to visit, both local and just a short journey away.

DYNAMITE GALLERY
13 Trafalgar St, Brighton, BN1 4EQ, www.dynamitegallery.com

WAR IN THE STARS (Nov 2–Dec 31) includes Star Wars fan art and features artists from around the world. The Star Wars themed group show will be an eclectic mix of original and printed artwork, sculpture, and custom toys, from abstract portraits of much loved characters to custom resin Star Wars inspired toys that people are moulding in their kitchens. Now over 40 years old, Star Wars is a true cross generational property, and artists are inspired by different eras of the popular franchise. For some, that is a love of the original trilogy, while younger artists are inspired by the cartoons and newer movies in the series. The exhibition includes a vast number of artists, including: Carne Griffiths, Graham Carter, Joseph Loughborough and Sophie Gibson.

ONCA
14 St George’s Pl, Brighton, BN1 4GB, www.onca.org.uk

LOST SPECIES DAY 2018 is an exhibition of new works by POC artists responding to the theme of biodiversity, racial justice and environmental justice. The works are generated through an artist residency on the ONCA Barge, curated by Imani Robinson. Remembrance Day for Lost Species (or Lost Species Day or RDLS), occurs each year on November 30 and was established in 2011. It is a chance to explore the stories of extinct and critically endangered species, cultures, ways of life and ecological communities. ONCA has been one of the lead organisations supporting RDLS from the outset, and this project, supported by funding from Arts Council England, is part of the nationwide Season for Change celebrating the environment through culture and inspiring urgent action on climate change.

ARTISTS’ OPEN HOUSES
Brighton & Hove and beyond, https://aoh.org.uk

The Artists’ Open Houses return with the 2018 Christmas AOH Festival on November 24, which runs for three weekends (Nov 24 & 25, Dec 1 & 2, 8 & 9) and is available to view throughout Brighton & Hove and beyond.

MARTYRS GALLERY
Lewes, www.martyrs.gallery

SOMETHING GLOWING AND ALIVE: Works by Chagall, Piper & Sutherland is on show (until Dec 16, Thu-Sun, 12–5pm). In association with Goldmark Gallery they are presenting a sale of prints, lithographs and original drawings by Marc Chagall, John Piper and Graham Sutherland, three luminaries of 20th century art whose work was famously commissioned by Walter Hussey for Chichester Cathedral. All Martyrs’ profits from sales at this exhibition will be donated to the St Michael’s Organ Appeal.

WORTHING MUSEUM
worthtinghamuseum.co.uk

SUSSEX MAKERS: PAINTED, PRINTED & CRAFTED (Dec 1–Feb 16 2019). A selected group of local makers come together to display beautifully crafted and created wares.
One of his latest projects is to explore the essence of drag queens on canvas. He has already painted M aisie Trollette and M ary M ac, and has others planned for a future exhibition. He aims to complete about 10, depicting both drag queens and kings over the next year.

Then he plans to turn his attention to homeless people living on Brighton’s streets. It’s an ambitious work programme for one of Brighton’s still-developing artists.

“I need to find what is the Ian Brown style,” he says at his basement studio under his Brighton home. “I’ve moved from realism, more towards pop-orientated street art.”

He finds that drawings sell more easily than paintings and his work has gone to the USA, Russia and Australia.

His parents never regarded art as a proper job, but when his work started to be recognised, they rethought their values, “especially when I came out,” he admits.

Ian Brown had always been interested in art, but when he became a Primary School Head at a relatively young age, he admits he just didn’t have the time to paint. When injury gave him time off work, he turned to painting again as a form of therapy.

Just over two years ago, after turning to part-time teaching, Ian moved to Brighton finding more of a market here for his particular style of portraits which often emphasises the bear and leather world.

THE ART OF THE DRAG QUEEN

Brian Butler chats to up and coming artist Ian Brown about bears, drag queens and the homeless.

MORE INFO

Find Ian’s work on Ianbrowntudios
For sales enquiries or commissions, email: ib1966@aol.com
**TRANS TEEN SURVIVAL GUIDE** by Owl and Fox Fisher (Published by Jessica Kingsley Publishers).

As you’d expect from this engaging, fun and frank pair of local authors and international activists, their book is full of direct, simple and life affirming advice, gleaned from their own personal experience and those of many other people. Never ones to swerve a difficult subject and at ease in explaining complex matters in easy to digest and understand ways, this is a powerful book. Timely, blunt and engaging, it’s an all-encompassing guide and possibly is the go-to book on ensuing the fraught process of coming out and living an authentic version of you is done in an empowering, safe and life-affirming way. The authors share a warmth and vitality that stops this book from veering too close to being earnest, but there is a serious, hard won message in this book. Brimming with useful, practical tips on just about everything a gender variant teen could want to ask or know, it’s the perfect, validating, unconditionally loving festive gift.

**RUPAUL’S DRAG RACE: PAPER DOLL BOOK** (Published by Blue Streak).

Ten illustrated punch-out paper dolls of the winning contestants from the first eight seasons of RuPaul’s Drag Race fill the pages of this book with their slaying outfits and wigs, including: Tyra Sanchez, Sharon Needles, Jinkx Monsoon, Bianca Del Rio, Bob the Drag Queen, and two All-Star Winners: Chad Michaels and Alaska Thunderf**k. With a fun foreword by Michelle Visage, this is the perfect gift for the fierce queen in your life, whatever their shady age.

**WUVABLE OAF** by Ed Luce (Published by Fantagraphics).

Oaf is a large, hirsute sex-wrestler who lives in San Francisco with his kittens and listens to a lot of Morrissey. The book follows Oaf’s search for love and his pursuit of Eiffel, the lead singer of the black metal/queercore/progressive disco band Ejacluid. Luce weaves between the friends, associates, enemies, ex-lovers and pasts of both men into the story of their courtship - it’s as charming as it is nuts and great Graphix novel fun.

**HURRICANE CHILD** by Kheryn Callender (Published by Scholastic Press). Twelve-year-old Caroline lives on Water Island and has suffered the bad luck of a kid born during a hurricane. She has no friends at school, can see things no one else can, and her mum took off and never came back. New student Kalinda turns things around; not only is she a friend, she too can see the things that Caroline sees. They band together to find Caroline’s mum, diving into a magical realist world, exploring their shared gift, and discovering first love at the same time in this sweet story.

**THE DESCENT OF MONSTERS** by JY Yang (Published by St Martins Press-3PL). The third of a trilogy of fantasy novellas, Decent is a gorgeously written and beautifully rendered and unique fantasy world featuring queer characters with incredible depth - echoes of Le Guin. This new book from queer, non-binary, post-colonial intersectional feminist Yang is set in the same Silkpunk futurist universe - a well imagined world filled with fully realised characters and is delightfully odd as it flows into the investigation into atrocities committed at a classified research facility.
“By loving ourselves we can learn to love others, by being kind to others we can learn to be kind to ourselves.”

NOT TODAY: HOW I CHOSE LIFE

Trans campaigner and broadcaster Sophie Cook chronicles her voyage towards truth, validation and authenticity in a new autobiography that charts her journey from self-harming and having suicidal thoughts to finally transitioning and learning how to love herself.

“I know that one day I’ll kill myself, because I don’t know how to stop feeling this way, but it won’t be today. In the meantime I’m going to do the best I can to enjoy every single day and then on the day that I die, in many, many years time, I’ll look back and realise that I didn’t get around to doing it. With this simple revelation I found a way to live. It may not have slain my demons completely but it significantly reduced their power to hurt me.”

Having spent a lifetime hating herself and struggling with post traumatic stress, her gender identity, self harm and suicide, RAF veteran and former motorbike racer, newspaper editor, Premier League football and rock photographer, Sophie Cook was at breaking point when she transitioned in 2015.

“I’d reached the point where I had to either change my life or end it,” Sophie says as she sips her coffee and looks wistfully out to sea.

Since that point she has been busy and it’s breathtaking what she’s managed to pack in these last three years.

She became the first transgender woman to work in football’s Premier League as club photographer for AFC Bournemouth following her transition, and was Europe’s first trans TV newscaster with Brighton’s Latest TV where she also presented her own chat show. She now has a show on RadioReverb.

Sophie has also been flying the flag for diversity and inclusion as well as forcing the discussion about mental health awareness on to the national agenda as an in-demand public speaker, delivering keynote talks and LGBT+ workshops across the UK for high profile organisations including the TUC, Kick It Out and Stonewall.

In April 2017, Sophie was selected by the Labour Party to contest the East Worthing and Shoreham seat in the General Election where, against all the odds, she increased the Labour vote by 134% and narrowly missed out on becoming the UK’s first transgender MP.

“Everything that I’ve done since my transition has been about trying to raise awareness and help others, whether it’s mental health, hate crime, trans inclusion or breaking down the walls of prejudice. Politics felt like the ultimate way in which I could try to make a difference.”

Sophie’s autobiography, Not Today: How I Chose Life, has just been published and charts her personal journey from despair to redemption, and is designed to act as a self-help book for anyone struggling with their mental health or identity.

From her childhood, and her first suicide attempt at the age of 12, through post traumatic stress after saving a colleague’s life following an explosion whilst in the RAF, Sophie explores and examines her self-harming and depression, ultimately finding redemption, awareness and self-love.

“Over the past three years I’ve spoken to thousands of people about my journey and how I overcame my demons and this, in turn, has helped them with their mental health and now it’s time to tell my full story for the first time.”

Poignant and heart-rending, yet at the same time inspiring and uplifting, Not Today traces a journey from private torment to personal triumph. Told with honesty and candour - and written with warmth and intimacy, outlining the huge emotional and social toll of gender dysphoria and chronicling a voyage towards truth, validation and authenticity.

Sophie’s compelling story portrays the fragility and fortitude of human emotions, demonstrating how, by conquering fear and summoning strength, a person is capable of making the progression from loathing themselves to loving themselves. But Not Today isn’t just a memoir.

“There’s all of the stories and ideas that are floating around in my head and I really needed to share them. It’s part autobiography, part self-help book, part political manifesto, and part personal philosophy. It’s everything that makes me, me, and everything that I understand about how my journey led me here.

“Not everyone has the opportunity to change the world with a single act but we can all make incremental changes, by being nicer to people, by helping them, by standing up to hate, or by respecting those that we meet.

“If we want to change the world we first need to look within ourselves and find the strength, compassion and love that fuels the human spirit. By loving ourselves we can learn to love others, by being kind to others we can learn to be kind to ourselves, unfortunately so many of us fall down on loving ourselves.”

MORE INFO

Not Today: How I Chose Life is the perfect Christmas present and is available as a paperback or eBook from www.sophiecook.me.uk/book

Sophie Cook: My battle against the Demon within (A Love Story)
RUNNING UP THAT HILL
The Provocative performances of Harry Clayton-Wright.
By Craig Hanlon-Smith and Harry.

Harry Clayton-Wright is a self-described provocateur known to many in Brighton for his regular performances at the Marlborough and as part of the Fringe Festival. Since working with the Australian boylesque Briefs Factory, his world domination is all but enshrined in our constitution were we to have one. Known to Briefs fans the world over as a regular feature in their Close Encounters troupe, whilst on tour in Adelaide, Harry secured himself a five-star review in The Guardian for his solo 107-hour long slumber party.

In between a return to Brighton for his solo Sex Education, and rehearsals for Briefs’ Christmas West End run, I caught up with Harry for a few choice words about his past, present and glittering future. How did it all begin?

“To make people feel something. I call myself a provocateur because I like to elicit a reaction. Laughter, sometimes shock, to think or to question. I’m a fan of a rug pull, providing a water cooler moment: something you’d share at work, ‘You’d never believe what I saw last night…’ But I like to make sure it’s accessible and fun and interesting. I love dancing on the line between tears of sorrow and unadulterated joy.”

That’s certainly true of your solo project Sex Education which is largely built around a conversation with your mum and relationships with your family. Talk us through where it came from, why you wanted to share those stories.

“Sex Education is about how we learn about sex and how that shapes us later in life. My mum never spoke with me about sex and my dad bought me five gay porn DVDs. So I went and interviewed my mum and unearthed the porn from underneath my bed all to try and work out how these things have influenced me and shaped my experiences, if they have at all. I share the good, the bad, the ugly, the upsetting, and engage in conversation with the audience about their experiences too. There’s some dance in there and I make cucumber sandwiches for everyone.”

This is true, it was the last thing I wanted to eat but as Harry made his way around the audience I didn’t dare refuse and willingly munched away.

“It’s a lot of fun! Raw, honest, moving, and I really love performing it. Sex Education is my debut solo theatre show and was lucky enough to win the LGBTQ Brighton Fringe Award in 2017 after presenting it at the Marlborough (which is my favourite venue ever).”

Interesting you should say that about the Marlborough as, although you’ve been travelling the world with Briefs and with your own work, you intermittently continue to make Brighton your home, returning again and again. What is it about Brighton that has captured you?

“I just love the place. Brighton immediately felt like home the first time I visited in 2014. I first moved here in 2015 for a residency above the Marlborough and try and come back whenever possible. There’s just a magic to Brighton. Summers here are incredible, hanging out on the nude beach and watching the sun set. I’ll always try and come back as much as possible. It’s queer and it’s gorgeous and it’s home.”

Of course Briefs played the festival here in 2016 is that how did your association with them came about?

“No, I’ve known the Briefs boys since 2012 when I saw their first show in Manchester. From being on the same circuit we became friends, partied together, shared a lot of time hanging out and I always loved my time in their presence. I didn’t think I was being considered when I found out they were making a new show. I remember getting the call asking if I wanted to come to Australia and make work with them and saying the biggest ‘yes’ and then realising that my life was about to change. And it really has. We made the show Briefs: Close Encounters between March - May 2017, which played for three months on the South Bank in summer that year. It’s now playing in Leicester Square over Christmas. Performing in the West End is a dream come true which is all thanks to the show.”

Are you directly involved in the creation as well as the performance of the show?

In this show I play a character called Delia Objectophilia who falls in love with the lamp in her living room, which then comes to life in the form of a strapping male dancer. We then perform a pas de deux to Kate Bush’s Running Up That Hill (one of my favourite songs ever). Making the routine was very much a full collaboration with Fez Faanana, the director of Briefs, we’d riff on ideas and character development and music.

“It’s also then rehearsing with the dancer to find out what our bodies can do together and making choreography that works for the partnership. The routine is as much about dance as it is about comedy and storytelling. I’m not a trained dancer, which makes for good comedy, but there also has to be an element of technique with lifts and tricks, which I get to learn from the professionals. It’s been an amazing experience to be part of the development of a piece of spectacle. I also get angle grinded on while wearing a jock strap, so that’s fun.”

I wouldn’t argue with that. What advice would you give to 15-year-old Harry?

“Don’t be afraid to try new things. Chill out you give to 15-year-old Harry? Don’t be afraid to try new things. Chill out more. It really does get better. Being different becomes a real strength.”

MORE INFO
Briefs’ Close Encounters is running now at the Leicester Square Spiegel Tent until January 3, 2019.

GSCENE
Drag With No Name is quite a striking drag persona - how did he arrive at it?
“Complete accident,” he admits. “I had been hosting karaoke for three months after leaving the pub trade, and I decided to drag up one night in my own right. I’d previously done Cilla and Dame Edna impersonations for single nights. Seconds before I was about to take to the stage, I realised through all the fear and excitement of it all, that I hadn’t even come up with a name! I remember it vividly in slow motion as I came through the door and stepped onto the stage, and turned to the crowd and said: ‘Hi I’m... the drag... with... no name!’ And the rest is history.”

What about gay politics?
“This is a tough one. I do have a very strong opinion, I’ve been on the scene too many years not to, especially the action that should and needs to be taken to educate others and enable us to live safer and happier lives. Unfortunately, or fortunately, social media is the main instrument and tool enabling us to do all of this these days, and it can become very tiresome and irksome when people don’t listen or get abusive because they disagree with other people’s views and opinions. Often that becomes regressive in form, and sometimes that prevents me from being as vocal I would like.”

How did he feel about winning the Golden Handbag this year?
“Yayyy I was soooo happy to have won again! It’s my fourth or fifth time of winning now and with about seven runner-up awards too over the years, I’m chuffed and very proud to know that people still enjoy what I do. There’s life in the old girl yet.”

What advice would he give to a young Scott?
“Live your life with gay abandon and don’t worry about everything all the time. Be yourself, be kind to others, and be the best person you can be.”

What about the future? He readily admits that he used to just live his life for the work he does - “a bit like a drug” but when his boyfriend became ill last year, the experience changed them both forever. “My future and present is completely and utterly all about him, and the many happy times and experiences we can possibly cram into this short time we all have on this beautiful little planet.”
The progress made by the LGBT+ communities in recent years is unquestionable. A recent UK-based attitude survey suggested that almost 65% of the population considered same-sex relationships to be “not at all wrong”. Whilst the wording form the British Attitudes Survey may suggest something of a back-handed compliment, this data released in 2016 is a positive increase of 50% since 1987.

Same-sex marriage is legal in 27 countries and there have been landmark changes to the law across the world including most recently in India, and Britain is now considered to have the highest levels of LGBT+ acceptance in the history of these islands. However, there are still international atrocities committed against LGBT+ people including countries that are part of the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth we are regularly told by Brexiteers, that will be an essential part of our nation’s family in the years following our departure from the European Union.

There are still inequalities across the UK too. Whilst Scotland has announced including LGBT+ communities as part of the state funded education curriculum, same-sex marriage is nowhere near the process of legalisation in Northern Ireland, which still remains a sizeable part of these islands and is one that has Theresa May’s Government by the political nuts.

A few years ago you would have been forgiven for believing our popular media output was run amuck with homos. We seamlessly swept from the patronising comedy of our 1970s confirmed bachelors in the likes of Are You Being Served?, to the flagrant and seemingly enjoyable butt f***s of Queer As Folk some 20 years later. Our lesbian kisses and gay-boy hand holding rocked the tabloid media with headlines such as “EAST-BENDERS” but where are we now, another 20 years on?

LGBT+ characters, whilst beginning to feature in many of our regular TV shows and films, often do not take a leading role unless the film (usually) is specifically listed as an LGBT+ work. Many writing teams continue to seemingly avoid any LGBT+ representation in storylines and those that do suggest the LGBT+ ‘lifestyle’ to be fraught with problems and dysfunctional consequences.

The recent Bohemian Rhapsody, still packing them in at the box office, is produced by a team of heterosexuals including two of the former band-members of Queen - Brian May and Roger Taylor. The role of Freddy Mercury is played (exceptionally well I might add) by a heterosexual actor in Remi Malek, and at times sections of the script appear to suggest that had only Mercury not been hell bent on not hanging out with the straights then he might never have lost his way into hedonism and subsequent death.

Nor is there, strangely, an epilogue to remind us all that it was probably the forced diet of heteronormativity that f***ed it all up in the first place. LGBT+ life as recorded by those who do not live it.

Researchers at Men’s Pharmacy have taken matters into their own hands and examined the most popular TV shows from the last 10 years, as described by IMDB, to examine the LGBT+ representation presented. There are some interesting summary results:

The percentage of LGBT+ leads in IMDB’s most popular 20 TV shows was at 20% in 2008, rising to 65% in 2013 and 2015, however this since declined to 25%. Although the number now appears to be drastically reduced, many programmes introduce characters whose orientation is at best ambiguous*.

Out of 220 shows in the last 10 years, there have been 153 LGBT+ lead characters which is a huge increase on previously recorded numbers. Despite this, 76% of these leads have been played by non-LGBT+ actors*.

In 2018 there were no LGBT+ actors playing LGBT+ lead roles at all, whereas in 2009 there were nine LGBT+ actors playing LGBT+ lead roles, and 11 straight actors playing LGBT+ lead roles*.

The number of LGBT+ actors playing straight roles fluctuates year on year. In 2009 the number of LGBT+ actors in straight roles peaks at seven however it then plateaus and sits at an average of one-two LGBT+ actors playing straight roles for the five years between 2013 and 2018*.

LGBT+ representation in different genres varies greatly. In science fiction, 76% of shows do not feature lead LGBT+ characters, whilst 69% of fantasy shows, and 61% of action programmes, share a similar lack of LGBT+ leads.*

In contrast, over 60% of the most popular TV shows in genres such as teen dramas, dramas, political/legal dramas, and horrors, all contained prominent LGBT+ lead characters*.

The non-LGBT+ actors playing LGBT+ roles is a continuing discussion. Whilst we have LGBT+ actors playing heterosexual parts, it would be challenging to suggest the reverse cannot be true, although in many cases these performers are not ‘out’ and sometimes feel they are unable to be as part of their developing career. What is absolutely true though, ask any member of the LGBT+ communities, is that growing up not seeing oneself reflected in our national storytelling can have damaging long-term consequences. Perhaps with the advent of programmes such as ITV’s Butterfly change is in the air. Researchers at Men’s Pharmacy would suggest that nothing is guaranteed.

INFO

*All reported findings from Men’s Pharmacy – full report available at: www.menspharmacy.co.uk/blog/lifestyle/lgbt-media-representation/
And as yet another festive season approached, our Mary awoke regularly throughout the night hoping for an angel of the Lord to appear and bless the empty fruit of her womb in the place of thy Lord Jesus. The last thing she wanted to bring into the world was another baby let alone an illegitimate immigrant who would aspire to become a bearded radical preacher from the Middle East. But our Mary was a reasonable and kindly soul who would find that in Christmas 2018 her gentle and considerate opinions were not wanted. What’s more, organised religion would be commandeered the world over by sanctimonious and judgemental conservatives who hated homosexuals or change (and were sometimes violent) and as the organised religion insisted on the implementation of a Messiah, our Mary had no choice but to lay back and think of Jerusalem and thus her womb was blessed with the Christ child anyway.

And to the ever patient Joseph hoisted his inexplicably pregnant Mary onto the back of a donkey and they were off. To be honest, had they turned out to be, it wasn’t for her. She wasn’t a man between the ages of 25-49 she would not even have been a statistic. She might have grown a moustache in the hope of collecting a few coppers, but that fundraising campaign was only for boys and as the publicity suggested certainly not boys who loved other boys and so whatever kind of Mary she turned out to be, it wasn’t for her.

And so as to inspire thousands of tea-towel wearing under fives the world over, she dropped her knickers over a feeding hatch and hoped for the best. Much like most posting messages to randoms on an app after a night out on the lash; if in doubt, push it out.

The shepherds in the field were a grumpy lot, but understandable so. They felt ignored for decades by the ruling elite and relentlessly mocked by the liberals, those on the left and those on the right. Directional divisions were no longer a thing as everybody appeared to hate everybody anyway. The left were no longer loony except they of course were, but this was one of the many colloquialisms that was now banned in the name of supporting those with particular health conditions.

The collective shepherd heads were however turned by a host of charlatans calling themselves angels. This gaggle of cloud inhabiting magnificence proclaimed the word of the Lord and the shepherds believed every syllable of it. They blindly trundled off and firmly closed the stable door behind them, seeming content with a future that resembled the insides of a derelict out-house or at least the United Kingdom following the (not yet) planned events of March 2019.

The right to bear arms was critical to social and political freedom not least of all if those arms were sold to corrupt and tyrannical regimes in the name of world trade. At least if leaving the EU did mean there would be no more pain au chocolat on a Monday morning or Stella Artois on a Friday evening, we could line our pockets with the sales of military equipment that killed the foreign muck in the first place. Phew. Looks like we will be fine after all.

And as the newly born messiah rubbed the remnants of disintegrated placenta from the corners of his eyes, looked about himself and said to all present “what the buggery bollocks is this f***ing shit?” the shepherds replied: “but if we put our faith in you, everything else will be fine. That is how it works, right?”
So, someone somewhere welcomes the new addition to global Nazism. I don’t know who these people may be because I live in a gay bubble of my own making. Not much mention yet of the potential death penalties of the gays and trans masses in the European Fourth Reich strongholds of Italy, Sweden and the rest, but - wow - what a bout of honesty from newly elect Jair Bolsonaro in Brazil. You see, unlike the consensus here in Brighton, home of the Britgay, my concern has always been further afield. Let’s face it we’re only gonna worry about organised gay killing if it gets anywhere near Hove.

Bolsonaro means trouble globally because this hate will spread like lube down a priest’s cassock as it ignites these Euro strongholds. But it’s not just the gay problem that should concern us just yet. Like history on rewind - see what happens to the Jews first. Not me – history. Rousseff, a former Brazilian President, opened up a Palestinian embassy in Brazil as a matter of course. This will soon become a mate-stand as the Zionist-right moves in.

And then there’s the Queer ‘problem’. I wrote about this with Putin years ago and here we are on the other side of the world from Copacabana Beach having the same conversations on Brighton Pier. Because those attacks in Pushkin Square have become hate currency around the world. Because we didn’t act.

Nazis have always been good at torture and Bolsonaro had grandstanded this ideal when it comes to the gays. Don’t worry, he’s also a misogynist and a racist too - so it may take time to get to everyone else, but he will eventually.

Remember, he stated to Playboy (I rest my case) in 2011, he would be incapable of loving a gay son (we can only see the reverse as true), he followed on by saying that he would prefer any gay son to die in an accident. That gay children should be beaten as children. What’s shockingly outrageous though is that he added that if a gay couple moved in next door to him that it would lower the value of his house. Well, excuse me – has anyone ever heard of gaytrification down there? We think you’ll find it’s the opposite, love. Best of all, is that he said that UNESCO is trying to promote the rights of the LGBTI community in schools. Too right they are! Nevertheless, it brings back shudders of a once Police Chief Constable from Greater Manchester who advocated the same here in the early 1980s – and a devout Christian with it. Oh god, there, I’ve slipped into religion again.

Religion is always a useful conduit for this type of rhetoric not because religion is hateful per se, but that it’s an easy way into people’s spiritual hearts, which, let’s face it, with the political incompetency across the globe, is a huge market these days. I’ve even started chanting something myself just to rid the thoughts of the world from my mind.

The rise of Neo-Zionism continues to offer us a warning - I wouldn’t pretend to be Jewish despite all the evidence in my DNA. I’d play it down. Protect and survive as they say. The so-called joyous effects of moving the US embassy to Jerusalem was an early supportive announcement of Bolsonaro, which is hardly surprising.

Jarrod Kushner’s cash cow anyone? More deaths in a Synagogue anyone? It all foretells that freaky Gay American Ambassador in, soon to be up for right wing grabs, Germany. Keep your eyes on that one when Merkel hangs up that A-line skirt for the last time.

Always keep your eye on the issues of Jewish ‘issues’ in the UK that begin to surface with all this hate circulating. It happens every season. Remember, the gutless rabble rousers amongst us when it does.

It’s not going to be easy. We’ll be feeling the effects of Brexit after all so we may take our eyes off the ball. It may require you to get out there and vote with your feet. It might also require you to (wait for it) put down that phone and actually interact – the most difficult task of all. Most important it requires you not only to look, but to see. Because it is here upon us. Next year’s Euro shitstorm will be just a nasty taster, especially since we’ve decided (yes all of us) to surrender the European Bill of Human Rights. How the hell did that ever protect us? I hear the cry from the back pews. Well, from next year on - you’re going to find out!

The elections will continue to lie. After all, Bolsonaro got over 50% of the popular vote - Hilary Clinton got the same. And voter fraud, Facebook fraud, Twitter fraud, will still get into you without you knowing, and before long you will be inadvertently fetching up the same vomit of populism. You’ll be delaying an answer when you think that just maybe the UK isn’t so badly off after all without all those Polish workers, now ensconced in the houses they built on their minimum wages. While the housing market freezes around the mortgage slaves of the UK and the legions of interest-rate apocalyptic Britain. Remember, the first rock they throw isn’t important. Neither is the second one or the third. What’s important is when we stand back and allow the rocks passing us to start the avalanche. Will you be gazing at your phone dodging the rocks? Probably.

And where will us refugees go then? Where will our new world be?

We’ve stopped listening to the poets so here’s some Genet to keep you going till next time.

Oh, go through the walls if you must - walk on Of roofs, of oceans - cover yourself with light Use menace, use prayer… My sleepers will flee toward another America.

“Bolsonaro means trouble globally because this hate will spread like lube down a priest’s cassock as it ignites these Euro strongholds”
‘SECRET’ SANTA

I obviously don’t have much of a life because today I found myself thinking about Santa Claus’ gender. Is Santa male, female or gender queer? Either way, the name wouldn’t have to change, as it basically harks back to the Dutch name ‘Sinter (Saint) Klass’, so we cannot assume that he/she/they have identified themselves as any particular gender. It’s only when you look at other countries’ names for this individual that the gender seems to have been defined as male;

Father Christmas, Papai Noel, Pere Noel or even Dùn Che Lao Ren, which means Old Man Christmas in Chinese. But how do we find out for sure about Mr/Ms/Mx Claus?

Several years ago someone my husband and I know moved to Herefordshire to raise chickens, pretty much on an industrial scale, also known as farming. Now, most of you will not know or care but the way to find out the sex, known as ‘sexing’, of a chicken, is to blow on its privates and check if you can see a tiny willy. That reminds me of a very memorable evening I once had, probably a story for another day. Now that seems quite easy, however you do need to be trained and once you have you’re then known as a ‘chicken sexer’. The process then is basically, blow on bits, willy pops up: male; blow on bits, no willy: female. Easy, right? But there lies the problem with this method, as much as I’d like to, I don’t think that I can approach a white haired, bearded, obese, elderly man and ask “do you mind if I can blow on your crotch to see if a willy appears?”

Even if I did have the courage to do it, would this then make me a ‘Santa Sexer’? and then I’ll only know whether Santa has outer bits or inner bits, or possibly even a combination of both. Then, if I do identify the sex, is my role as a Santa Sexer over? Once you’ve done Santa, that’s it, isn’t it? At this point my brain got too confused in Santa sexing scenarios that I had to stop.

“Even if I did have the courage to do it, would this then make me a ‘Santa Sexer’?”

However, again I accept the fact that I need a hobby, my mind then turned to Santa’s sexuality as well as his/her/their gender. Santa may appear to be male, female, or a combination of both, but how would you know his/her/their sexuality? I guess you could wait until you know where he/she/they are going to be, I guess the obvious time would be Christmas Eve and you hear someone large blundering around your living room, then switch the relevant dating app and see if he/she/they are on there. Not exactly fool proof but then what else can one do when they are trying to figure who and what makes Santa want to come only once a year? Well, I guess while you’re down there blowing about, you could just ask politely what way, if any, they swing.

Anyway, after all that thinking I am more confused than ever. Have a great gender neutral, sexually fluid, winter season break everyone.
Many may recognise the lyrics of a popular drag song, ‘You’re pulling my hair bitch. You stood on my dress bitch. You think you’re a fan but you’re only a mess bitch’. But how many of you have paused to wonder what that’s all about?

Consent is overall a straightforward concept that should be a well-acknowledged notion in every part of life from sexual acts to workplace scenarios, but with drag, the line of what’s consent seems to become blurred. Many people overlook that consent applies whether it be an encounter with Susan at the reception desk at the office or an encounter with a drag queen at the bar.

Due to the considerable amount of contact between fans and artists on social media, many fans feel a deep connection to the artists despite having often never met in person. Despite a few online communications, an initial in real life meet up would perhaps be best without a running and jumping hug. Why? Because you don’t genuinely know each other.

I and many fellow artists are victims to the fact that wearing a revealing outfit means being almost definitely touched inappropriately on a night out or at a gig. Many excuses are established and examples include, but aren’t restricted to, ‘that ass is padding anyway’, ‘well, they’re showing a lot off’ or ‘I am gay, so it doesn’t count’. If any of those responses were used in another context, say to a woman at a party in a local bar, they would be deemed totally improper, at least I hope so. The same applies to drag.

Clothing is never consent, neither is costume; which is what drag, primitively is, a costume and a mask.

“Clothing is never consent, neither is costume”

Beyond leery incidences, the mundane acts are the ones that go ignored regularly. Rude and entitled nature is prevalent in many instances of these encounters for drag artists. I’ve found when I’ve respectfully refused an interaction, such as taking a photo, facing a response of entitlement from the individual asking; as if it was an obligation. I can imagine how this must impact more well-known queens daily. No matter if it’s about photo opportunity, a hug, encroaching on a conversation or less innocent actions like an ass grab or invading dressing areas, remember drag is never permission.

Many performers discuss their trepidation about how they’ll be treated by the public in drag for many obvious reasons but there are many other reasons performers could be further persecuted to this behaviour than evident. I spoke to a newer performer on the south east scene, Scarlett Fever, a fellow AFAB queen, to gain further understanding of how newcomers to drag could be affected. We discussed recent trouble she’s faced whilst at drag events and these ranged from being called ‘retarded’ in the streets to being screamed at by a loud hen party in a local bar.

She stated drag is an extension of her personality: “Just because we’re wearing heaps of makeup, wigs and costumes, and we act in a confident way, it doesn’t mean we aren’t real, vulnerable people underneath.” To me, this resonated perfectly, and for somebody so new to the scene to already understand this so well was saddening. However, it’s a brilliant answer for why people act the way they do to drag artists; because to some people we’re not viewed as real people, but as characters; characters that people can act out any fantasy which they see fit.

I spoke to Miss Tache, a London-based student who explores varying levels of femininity and masculinity in drag whilst navigating club scenes and is still exploring how best to present. They commented that when using any sort of gender-bending they’re portraying a different side of their personality: “That side can often be more extroverted, flirtatious or sociable, but that doesn’t mean I want to show it to everyone.” And this becomes problematic when queueing for clubs or standing at a bar, and having groups of people or sometimes lone individuals trying to engage in a handsy way or familiar fashion. They may dress as a ‘confident extravagant deity’ but that doesn’t mean they are. Miss Tache offered a tip for individuals interacting with drag artists: “Always try to match the energy of the performer you’re approaching.” That’s brilliant advice. Often people can take a while to warm up to the space they’re in. She ended with a remark that if they are looking stressed or overwhelmed: “Don’t push it (or me), say a polite hello and save your ‘YAS HUNTY SLAY’ for when I don’t look panicked over how much change I dropped after buying a drink at the bar.”
WHAT IS LOVE?

This issue of Gscene is the ‘daddies’ issue, and the theme for contributors is ‘Older men and their admirers’, so there’s a few things I’d like to share with you as a ‘Daddy’, and as an ‘older’ man.

Relationships come in all shapes and sizes. As I’ve gotten older and become a ‘daddy’, (or perhaps a granddaddy!), I’ve realised that healthy relationships are defined by the way people treat one another and not by whatever differences or similarities might be present. I know couples where there’s an age gap, different ethnicity or backgrounds, and some where gender and/or sexuality are fluid. What I’ve learned is that none of these things cause bad relationships. They may make a relationship challenging, but every relationship has obstacles to overcome. A healthy relationship includes acceptance and truth, boundaries and care, vulnerability and strength. With ourselves and with others. These are things that aren’t contingent upon age, sexuality, or gender.

Over the years as a pastor I’ve also learned that God doesn’t care if you’re gay, lesbian, straight, bisexual, trans, or other. God doesn’t care if your preference is for another consenting adult who is older or younger than yourself. God doesn’t care if you have lots of sex or live like a nun. Sex is something humans get hung up on - not God.

However, I’ve found that God does care about how we treat each other. God cares whether or not we are in a healthy relationship. God wants the way you live your life to be fulfilling for you. God cares whether or not you know who you are, and if you are able to live abundantly in that. God cares whether you’re secure enough in your identity to live with integrity.

Whether you believe in God, or not, relationships are not always easy. They require honesty and balance. All of us can be idiots at times. We can all be judgemental. We all make mistakes. My own life is as messy as can be, and there’s an attic full of dusty family baggage that I’ve never got around to unpacking - and maybe never will. I suspect that it’s much the same for most of us. Understanding that I occasionally need a little help from those around me helps me to be patient when it’s needed by someone else.

“Understanding that I occasionally need a little help from those around me helps me to be patient when it’s needed by someone else”

But I would hope that those who know me would also let me know when I’m way out of line, on a course that might end up with me damaging myself or others, without being judgemental about the choices I make. It’s what friends are for. And as corny as it sounds that’s the kind of friend I have in Jesus. Someone who knows who I am and supports me unconditionally. Someone who helps me live in balance. Someone who never judges me.

Now I know that there’s folks that will point at the Bible, scream loudly about hell and damnation, and talk about some kind of judgement day. But in my experience they’re usually the same people who think that relationships are about control and fear. Control to make sure they get it all ‘right’, and fear that they never will. The fear and judgement they’re laddering out is grounded in an unhealthy relationship with themselves, which is mirrored in their relationship with others, and with God.

So listen to your daddy. Be proud of who you are. Treat others with love and respect – regardless of whether they’re a long-term relationship or a Grindr hookup. Live out and proud. And allow others to do the same. You’ll be happier in the long run. Honest.

CALL ME MARGARET

Do you remember the first time you ‘got daddied’? Mine was about three years ago, and I nearly dropped my mobile!

“But I’m still in my 30s!” I thought. “But I only have three grey beard hairs!” I thought.

Then I realised he was almost 20 years younger than me. And then I thought: “Actually, he is pretty sexy.”

Then I messaged back: “I’ve not been called that before, but you’re fit, thank you!”

Thankfully he did not, but carried on calling me ‘Daddy’. We never met, but others soon followed in his handsome footsteps; the era of being a Daddy had begun!

Obviously I still don’t see one when I look in the mirror. I mean, I only recently got home content cover and still share a flat, how mature can I be? ‘Daddy’ conjures up beards much longer than mine, and several kilos more on the scale, nicely spread across shoulders, pecs, as well as belly. Also a generous amount of fur around (usually) large nipples. I have none of those things, albeit the three grey hairs have considerably grown in number.

“The rest of my 20s proceeded with being terribly bad at being gay, mostly going on terrible dates set up by straight girlfriends with ‘my other gay friend’”

As a 20-year-old twink myself, I wouldn’t have dreamed of approaching a man almost twice my age! Me, a shy wallflower, sitting in a dark and quiet corner of the bar (no, not that kind of a corner), not speaking unless spoken to.

Ironically, the first man to ever speak to me said he was 35, and I think he shaved a few years off too. He had a BMW and owned a pristinely furnished flat. To a student, the epitome of grown up. This impressed me, and arguably often counts as a factor in the older-younger man dynamic, but didn’t quite entice me into a life as his trophy boyfriend.

(Besides I was hardly a trophy back then. I still had hair that I didn’t know what to do with, plus we were coming out of the 1990s and my dress sense was more confused than a young drag queen in a wig shop).

He offered to buy me a mobile, after I explained that the closet doors were just about ajar and the land line was off limits, but that’s when it all got too real and I bolted. Whilst I don’t think I even knew the term, I guess he was my first, as well as my first daddy. The rest of my 20s proceeded with being terribly bad at being gay, mostly going on terrible dates set up by straight girlfriends with “my other gay friend”.

Inevitably, I got older and wiser and even though I never consciously realised when, age has very much (within reason and legal parameters of course) become a number. So whether you want to call that ‘Daddy’ or any other name, if you’re old enough to drive or still have most your own teeth, I guess you can call me.
The following was written by John, who died some years ago. John was very generous in leaving us his story and I know that he’s really pleased that his first-hand experience of pain, illness, insecure housing and suicidal distress has meaning for people and helps us to illustrate how MindOut helps people with similar issues.

JOHN

I’m 83 and life had thrown me on a heap and just left me there to die. I’m full of cancer. I have bowel cancer. I have a colostomy. I have bipolar and all of my life I’ve wanted to kill myself. I got in touch with MindOut because I met one of their volunteers in a gay bar; he was handing out leaflets and talking to people about suicide. I had never told anyone I was suicidal, not even my doctor, I was too scared and I thought they would lock me up. Now I have an advocate and without a doubt this has saved my life.

I live in a block of flats, private rented. The lift is always broken and sometimes I’m unable to get out of my flat because the lift doesn’t work and I can’t walk down the stairs. My legs are bad and I walk with a frame. Without doubt I’d fall down the stairs. At times I was a prisoner in my flat. Once I went out to the shops. When I returned home the lift was broken. It was 7pm, dark, cold. I have no family and no friends. I slept on a bench near my block of flats. I was terrified, I thought I’d be attacked or murdered. I’d nowhere to empty my colostomy bag, it over spilled, I stank! I noticed someone waiting for a lift at 5am, it was working again. I got in with a lady who said I was disgusting, that I stink and she was going to call the police and have me put in care. I wanted to die.

My advocate was furious that I was in this situation. He got all sorts of people on side to help me; people from the council and housing options, my landlord was put in his place, council housing was offered, I have home help and support with my personal care. I have a safe place to live without a lift. All this from a chance meeting in a gay bar with a kind man!

I asked to join the peer support groups at MindOut. I was so nervous, but arrived jolly and flamboyant and a bit cocky but terrified. “Who would like me or want to talk to someone like me?” I thought. I loved it. I go every week and speak to people like me, gay people with problems - lonely, suicidal, older and younger, gay men and women and transgender and non-binary.

I met a friend there. He’s 30 something. We meet up for coffee and for chats about life. We go to the theatre. I can’t understand why he would want to spend time with me as I’m so old and so unwell. I’m in pain a lot, I smell too, I know I do because of the colostomy. But he genuinely does care and I feel worthy again. I’m good for him too, I’m a good role model, he definitely needs a good role model, someone to talk to and guide him. We both have our issues, we talk about suicide, that helps. Being gay is hard. It’s less hard with a friend and with MindOut.

The advocacy we provide at MindOut works to build trust with each client so that we can help them make plans to address the difficulties in their lives. Advocacy can help to resolve urgent and practical issues, as illustrated in the case study below.

COLIN

Colin is in his early 60s, has enduring mental and physical health problems and has been told he lives with schizoid affective disorder and has recently recovered from cancer. He has been actively involved in LGBTQ politics for the last 40 years. He has been the victim of serious physical homophobic assault and can feel unsafe when he leaves the house.

Colin’s welfare benefits had been cut off, leaving him with no income. Colin came to MindOut in crisis, feeling paranoid and persecuted by the DWP. He was acutely, desperately suicidal, he had recently been to a local suicide hotspot to end his life but couldn’t find the right place to jump and was afraid he would survive the fall. He feels that other support services wouldn’t understand his experiences as a gay man and he’s ashamed of his suicidal distress. He had talked to his GP about suicidal distress but they didn’t respond well. He trusted the advocacy worker and was able to talk about his feelings.

We discussed his suicidal distress, how and when it feels unbearable. We discussed what has helped in the past, what resources he has, what services he could access both day and night, and other support. We agreed a safe plan, including his request for the advocate to contact his GP to ask for a referral to the Crisis Team. Agreed that he would use the MindOut online support service and ‘check in’ daily.

Colin was reassured that we could help with his benefits issues and find out why benefits have been stopped. He didn’t feel able to contact the DWP himself, he was too distressed. At Colin’s request, the advocate spoke with the DWP on his behalf and explained his situation and the impact it was having on Colin.

The advocate requested that a manger call Colin as soon as possible, and to ensure a gentle voice used so as not to cause further distress.

The DWP manager rang Colin two days later and informed him that there had been a glitch in the computer system which had stopped Colin’s benefits by mistake. The manager apologised for distress caused and took full responsibility for their error. Colin was surprised by how pleasant the woman sounded and was satisfied with the outcome.

Sudden, unexplained withdrawal of welfare benefits is likely to cause distress to anyone, especially if you have a pre-existing mental health condition. Colin added that their age is a factor because he has lost confidence in his ability to manage adversity, is more afraid for his physical safety and is isolated by this.
SHARP WORDS

Hitting the soft stuff! Del Sharp on the difficulties of staying hydrated and her lasting fondness for all things fizzy

Sharpe Words is puzzled. Have we all become massively thirsty or is it climate change or just a collective dry mouth of despair that’s making us drink all the water?

As a child I don’t remember drinking anything but tea and the occasional bottle of Corona for a treat. Not the Corona that we know and love today, that’s certainly more preferable. No, this was brightly coloured burpy pop where every bubble had passed its ‘fizzical’ and came in big glass bottles delivered in a lorry to the door and from which you could get money back on the empties from the corner shop. Dandelion & Burdock and Orangeade were my favourites, though I’m sure nothing naturally grown went anywhere near them.

Looking back it’s quite possible I spent my first 10 years full of tartrazine and caffeine and now like everybody else have decided it’s time to drink something else to make up for it. I’m sure I got thirsty at some point and drunk straight from the tap, perhaps once or twice in 1976.

I’m not sure when it happened but now we all carry water bottles around as if we’re going for a 20 mile hike rather than on a 15 minute bus journey. I’m certain it used to be only people on the way to or back from a gym, or some arduous ball game, who ever carried water bottles. How fit they must be, how hard they’ve worked out I would think enviously, equating the requirement to carry water to being fit, slim and happy.

I think I only decided I might get thirsty when we were all being told to drink eight glasses of water every day by every health organisation going. Obviously, I know that 80% of our bodies are made up of water, but surely we could drink a bit too much and eventually become completely liquid and then just fall down a drain or something, which would be terrible.

But I obediently started to drink water at home. I never thought I’d have to lug it around with me all the time. I am guilty though of wanting an attractive bpa-free leak proof bottle for myself and have spent a great deal of time deciding on the colour and size.

But, of course, I’m compelled to now because I worry I might get thirsty, then I worry that I don’t get thirsty and it might be a sign that I need to drink.

I’m not sure when it happened but now we all carry water bottles around as if we’re going for a 20 mile hike rather than on a 15 minute bus journey.

Yes, I know I could actually buy a bottle of water if suddenly dry, but the thing is I’m trying to save the planet and not buy the plastic. My lasting fondness for all things fizzy has made me cut down on multipacks of carbonated water and rely on the tap instead.

Honestly it wasn’t that long ago I realised that the carbonated water doesn’t really come out of the spring like that. Maybe I assumed there was a spring of bubbles and one without. I find it hard to enthuse about tap water but, although it didn’t come out of a Scottish spring, it’s just as good as anything else I could put to my lips. Even if it has been through a few sewers, a bit of bleach and a strainer. Though I haven’t actually tried any artesian water from Fiji yet - that’s been through volcanic rock and (comfortingly) never touched human hands, according to its website, nor have I had anything out of a glacier with added electrolytes or with differing amounts of PH level.

A tiny malevolent part of me does sometimes wonder, just fleetingly, to not worry about trying not to use plastic when I see other people blatantly not bothering about it. My last workplace had the luxury of a free drink vending machine and filtered water, none of the cups were recycled and my occasional involuntary disapproving glance at those using the cups for a quick slurp or to have them lined up on their desk for the day were thankfully ignored. Note to self here - “not everyone has a mug or bottle on them so save the indignation for massive multinational companies leaving plastic waste in far away places they think we don’t know about”. There - self is now put in its, briefly, self-righteous place.

Of course, what is always acceptable is the bedtime glass of water, to have a few gulps of before sleeping and then have a bit left for that time when we dare not look at the alarm clock after that visit to the bathroom. I have been gleefully told that my glass has a regular furry visitor, which I hadn’t realised, but now know why there is a rather chewy texture to the water from time to time.

Drinking in general, even alcohol, now seems quite complicated. Part of me thinks it was all so much easier when we weren’t told to drink or how much we should have. We did manage and didn’t get dehydrated, and there was always the 5p back on the Corona bottles.

Actually, it might be quite nice if the pop still got delivered every few weeks and the odd slurp at the tap was all we thought we needed. But at least I don’t burp as much now, not really.
I HAVE A PHOBIA

Ray A-J asks: Halloween - a time of fear or fun?

Only darkness reigns here, here in this kingdom of terror and fright, for once, on this night, fear rules, see the young and old, flock the halls, the streets, the cities, covered in paint, see weathered old lace, yet a gleeful joy clings to each face, see buckets, see lanterns, lit up with the same glow, the promise of sweets, candy, and treats they know they'll be blessed if their paint is pretty and layers of cut up mashed together fabrics are good enough to stir some sort of fright or laughter or question of 'so who have you come as?'

For this is Halloween, the one time where all are dolled up, dressed in celebration of the spooky and fearful creatures that live in our TV screens, or dance across pages of books, this is Halloween, a time where fear becomes mockery and terror turns to laughter as the night ends and children skip away with buckets spilling over full to the brim of treats because fear and horror is only defeated, controlled, with laughter and the realisation that nothing is that scary

When you're in a crowd of haphazard skeletons and last minute ghosts made out of sheets, thank goodness for Halloween.

Ah, Halloween. The one night of the year when we all, young and old, embrace everything that is spooky. We dress up, layer ourselves in paint and glorious costumes to mimic the very essence of our favourite characters.

Streets become lit with the eerie glow of pumpkins. Eager children flock to the streets, cheerfully pleading for the sickly sweet goodness of candy. And, despite the bleakness of an October night, the chill in the air, and various shadowy figures dolled up in fake blood, potentially a little too merry as they swarm the streets, each and every partaker is illuminated with joy.

Halloween was only a month ago. Actually, at the very time of writing this, it was the exact night of Halloween. And this time of spookiness and horror had me thinking; isn't Halloween weird?

Each year, on the 31st October, we dress up as ghouls, ghosts, and bloody, ferocious fang filled werewolves, walk the spooky streets and the darkest of nights, and demand sweets from strangers. Weird right? When put on paper like that, Halloween sounds like something out of a stranger danger warning you'd hear at school.

As a child (heck, even now) I never experienced the joy of trick or treating and Halloween; in all fairness, walking the streets at night in a costume at the age of seven wasn't exactly a safe thing to do in my little town. But that didn't stop me from becoming completely fascinated by the holiday. Even with my all consuming fear of Peter Pettigrew and the dark, I wasn't deterred by the idea of a night that celebrates all things scary. Don't get me wrong, as a child I was scared of everything imaginable - and I had a wildly overactive imagination. And yet, the one night a year when every ghost and gory creature was imitated by herds of people, knocking on the door of the one place that seemed safe, didn't at all faze me. How?

Halloween isn't about being scared. It's really not. It may immerse itself in the dark and scary, but it doesn't want to leave those eager trick or treaters clinging to their parents for protection. We've turned something that sounds so terrifying into something light and fun. Instead of being scared of the characters we're exposed to in daring horror films, we mock them. The Jasons and Chuckies of the horror world are turned into nothing more than dolled up kids in wigs and hilariously sweet homemade costumes.

It's a fabulous idea really, especially because it's aimed at the very people that we expect to be petrified of these films - kids. So, for me, the promise of dressing up as a haphazardly put together skeleton, or shamefully bad witch (complete with cheap broomstick and plastic hat that keeps being taken away by the wind), is wonderful.

So now each year, I rather look forward to Halloween. And with every passing festival of ghosts and ghouls, the fears that controlled me as a child get etched away - eroded, until I can see the humorous side. So, thanks Halloween, and I look forward to your return next year.

"We've turned something that sounds so terrifying into something light and fun. Instead of being scared of the characters we're exposed to in daring horror films, we mock them"
I’ve never particularly understood the obsession of inter-labelling within the community. Jocks and twinks and bears – oh my! Why is age, body hair and weight the definitive categories in which we choose to adhere to a label? Going down the checklist – I’m a young, hairy, slim guy – so I’m an otter, right? If I were to shave, I’d be a twink, if I were to bulk up, I’d be a jock, when I get older, I’ll be a twunk… (?). Where did these terms come from and why is everyone just going along with them without question?

This is something that’s plagued me for a while and I’m sure others agree and are equally as confused as to why we even have definitive categories for when we have sex; top, bottom, vers, vers top, vers bottom, the lists are endless. I guess some would say that as a very sexually-active community (heterosexual people are bonking too, why don’t they have these weird labels?) we’ve narrowed down what we like and how to find that particular thing on the men we choose to bed. Grindr has filters for preference, you can probably choose to only see twinks, bears, whatever. Funny how Grindr doesn’t ask about your education, your hobbies, even to connect to Spotify to display your music taste, but it does ask your weight, your height, your sexual position. But I can’t pin the creation of these tribes solely on Grindr, even though it does reinforce the argument of the supposed vanity of our community.

So where did this grand gay animal kingdom originate from? Your guess is as good as mine. Ironically the first time I was called a twink was by a straight female friend. She had let me borrow her sister’s mesh top, which I paired with some faux leather trousers that I had ordered to her house so my parents would be none the wiser. It was Halloween, the twinkiest of nights, so I suppose I fit the stereotype to a T. It wasn’t exactly a reach for her to call me a twink. I mean you can imagine 16-year-old me, badly bleached hair and all, wide-eyed in my ‘Halloween’ getup (what even was my costume?). She explained the conditions needed to be met and I immediately said, “I’m too hairy to be a twink”. I think I was actually eager for her to call me something else, to find out my ‘tribe’. Finding a word for how I felt about boys had been, while at times difficult, wonderful for my journey in the long-run. Identifying as gay was so, so scary but so, so empowering. Why wouldn’t a second label, an inter-label for what kind of gay I was, make me feel even more secure in who I am?

The obvious reason, which I’ve kind of touched upon, is that ‘tribes’ are based purely on physical attributes. And unlike the LGBTQ+ community, which I was profoundly grateful for discovering, there isn’t really a community for twinks, bears, otters, jocks, etc. Instead of bringing us closer to each other, they just divide and sub-categorise us. As if we need to be further marginalised. Twinks are bottom-shamed (which is a whole other can of worms that I plan on dissecting soon enough), jocks are ashamed for being gym bunnies, otters are ashamed for being too hairy, bears are ashamed for not being slim, it just seems like no matter what we do we’re never good enough.

Disclaimer: Obvious not all gays criticise each other in this way and I’m sure there are plenty of you reading this who can’t relate at all because you’ve renounced all these silly labels and pigeon holes. But, let’s be honest, it’s become common practice for us to be mean-spirited and catty towards each other as long as it’s under the playful guise of throwing shade (which more often than not isn’t even witty, it’s just bitchy).

That’s how I felt, being an otter. I was cute but not cute enough, I was slim but had too much body hair, I was young but didn’t have boyish features. I guess there are some exceptions to the inner-workings of ‘tribes’ – daddies, for example, don’t necessarily have to be traditionally older men anymore. There’s been a rise of the daddy label, crossing over into the hetero lexicon, that now means having a certain attitude, a wise aura as well as/in spite of appearance. When straight people say it, they just mean someone they find attractive, but the origins of the daddy label or ‘tribe’ actually stem from dominant/submissive relationships and the leather community. That’s part of the reason I’m hesitant to group daddies in with other ‘tribes’ like bears and jocks, they have a legitimate sexual origin and fetish community whereas bears are just stocky, hairy gays and jocks are just muscly, smooth gays. There also doesn’t seem to be as much of a negative connotation around being called a daddy, perhaps due to it becoming a meme-tastic phenomenon and no longer meaning strictly an older gay man. But it could also be because leather daddies have a genuine community. There are events, archives, bars, clubs and even districts dedicated to that subculture. All I’m saying is ‘tribes’ just seem to pit us against each other, rather than narrow down our preferences. Maybe you disagree and think ‘tribes’ aren’t that big of a deal or have lost their relevancy. But they’re so ingrained into our natural vocabulary that if I say twink or bear, you have a certain image in mind already, don’t you? Think about the oddity of that immediate stereotype next time you look across the bar at a couple of young gays, older gays, slim gays, stocky gays, hairy gays, smooth gays, jacked gays. Do you really think one word that summarises their bodily features should classify them entirely?

Our bodies are simply one aspect of our person. We need to get past the incessant cataloguing of people and just recognise each other for who we are, not who we appear to be. In the words of the great American poet, Ariana Grande, “Thank You, Next.”

“…it’s become common practice for us to be mean-spirited and catty towards each other as long as it’s under the playful guise of throwing shade (which more often than not isn’t even witty, it’s just bitchy)”

THE RAMBLINGS OF A NOT-SO-TRENDY TEEN
Gay ‘Tribes’ and their effect on us
By Lee Henrique
Bisexuality: the term bisexual and its meaning have shifted over time. It used to be a word that described sexual and romantic interest in both men and women. It’s now changed to mean attracted to more than one gender. Men, women, non-binary identities, demigender, agender etc. For me, in my formative years, I identified as bisexual until I heard the term pansexual and was educated on what that meant. I then identified as pansexual, which means you’re attracted to a person regardless of their gender. This term popped up to be inclusive of trans people and genders outside of the binary, but for me, now that the meaning of bisexual has swayed to be inclusive of all genders it’s a sexuality that I’m once again happy to identify with.

All my life I’ve fought a hard fight to being taken seriously as bisexual. In my teens and 20s I was a very feminine, male looking person with a natural softness and femininity about me and therefore I was read as gay. Even when I had girlfriends people would brush it off as me ‘experimenting’, because, for them, it was easier for me to fit into that neat, easy to understand box of being a feminine, gay man. I struggled to find and maintain friendship groups and relationships with bisexual or heterosexual people as people would tokenise me as the gay of the group. When presenting as male and in relationships with women, I’d struggle as they were looking for me to be a boyfriend or a husband to them, they wanted me to be ‘the man’ and that was something I definitely wasn’t.

As I transitioned physically my sexuality didn’t change, as much as I hoped it would, and I’m still stuck in the middle ground, a place that’s hard to live in. As a woman of Amazonian proportions, covered in tattoos with a partially shaved haircut, people now want to slide me into the lesbian box. This is a box I’m happier pretending to sit in than the gay box that I used to pretend to sit in. The reason I’m happier sitting here and letting people assume my sexuality is that my gender is now read as female and I’m so much happier being read as a woman’s girlfriend than I was her boyfriend.

I didn’t have a partner when I began transition and I really didn’t want one. I had so much to change about myself and I knew that over the space of a couple of years I was to have many surgeries abroad and I didn’t want to have to drag a partner through that so I remained single. I was granted a year off surgery to heal from one large set of operations in August 2017 before the next big set in August 2018 just four months passed, from which I’m still healing. In my year of surgical downtime, I got myself a girlfriend and a boyfriend and I’ve been happy being a girlfriend to them both. It feels completely freeing to be someone’s girlfriend as opposed to their boyfriend. There are a different set of expectations and it’s a place in which I feel comfortable.

I wish it was a place in which everyone else felt comfortable too. Both my girlfriend and boyfriend were comfortable with my bisexuality and knew that it took nothing away from my feelings towards them individually. However, it’s society that can’t understand my bisexuality. When read as a man, I was deemed too feminine to have a girlfriend and now read as the woman I am, I’m deemed too butch to have a boyfriend. It’s a shitty situation to find myself in and I’m not the only one. Bisexual erasure has been around for all of time.

The gay community has always embraced people as their own whose face fits in their box and it’s commonplace to see bisexual erasure. Part of this is rooted in deep misogyny of many a cis gay man and their disgust at the thought of a vagina. It’s sad that the gay scene is still riddled with cis men who find the very idea of a vagina so disgusting that they can’t think of their fellow bed partners as being bisexual as it may put them off. Madness. In heterosexual culture, bisexual men are quickly classified as gay and bisexual women are seen as little more than the object of porn for cishet men. For reasons like these, most bisexual people never come out. A very famous example of bisexual erasure is that of Freddie Mercury. He was read as gay and society and its boxes want to attribute his mannerisms into that gay box even though he famously had a relationship with a woman.

Even now, in an age of people being able to express their sexuality and gender a little easier than we could in the recent past, and with the media taking interest in these issues, there’s been almost no bisexual representation in mainstream television shows. For as long as I can remember we’ve been flooded with programmes that depict gay characters. For me personally, watching Queer as Folk some 20 years ago at 18 years of age was a massive thing, but it was focussed around cis gay men, revolutionary for its time, maybe, but exclusive to other genders and identities under the umbrella.

I’ve been delighted by the 2018 TV series, The Bisexual, where writer, creative director and leading lady, the beautiful Iranian American Desiree Akhavan’s character splits from her long-term girlfriend in her 30s having lived her life as a lesbian and is now exploring her sexuality as a bisexual. It’s such a breath of fresh air to be able to relate to a television character when it comes to terms of sexuality.

I’m also keeping a very close eye on E!’s latest offering, The Bi Life, a dating show for bisexuals hosted by gender fluid Courtney Act/Shane Janek, the first of its kind, its contestants are made up of questioning, bisexual and pansexual identities. They’ve touched on trans and non-binary identities but I’m yet to see any of the cis contestants go on a date with someone who isn’t cis. I’m waiting hopefully.

Waiting hopefully kind of sums up my lifelong bisexual experience. Waiting for understanding, waiting for acceptance. Bisexuality really is the forgotten sexuality and whilst it’s easy to say, ‘F*ck boxes’, ‘be who you are’, the same people who shout that rhetoric are the ones who are putting us in boxes that don’t fit. I’m quite happy in my bi box, it fits me, as it does so many others and maybe one day we’ll get mainstream acceptance.

“Waiting hopefully kind of sums up my lifelong bisexual experience. Waiting for understanding, waiting for acceptance. Bisexuality really is the forgotten sexuality”
I made a new friend recently. An older gay man. Since moving to Brighton in 2010, I’ve met and become friends with a lot of gay men, mostly my age (48) or older, and this was another such encounter. We hit it off, and found we had lot in common, including being parents. This is something I deeply admire in many of the older gay men I know. This determination to have kids. I mean it’s so difficult to do. Right? Compared to a lesbian couple, and infinitely harder than for a straight couple, a gay male couple have very few options for parenthood. But these guys I know, they’ve been so creative. Not just couples, but single men too. Again, harder than for a single woman, biologically speaking at least.

The impetus often seems to come from women in their lives. Friends, relatives and colleagues. The men I know who are gay and have kids have often been approached to ask whether they would like to father a child. The request sometimes comes from lesbian couples who are close friends or family, sometimes from single women, straight and gay, and occasionally in a really roundabout way from a friend of someone who knows someone who is looking for a ‘sperm donor’. But men aren’t simply sperm donors, and nor should they be thought of as such. Just as women are not just baby makers or housewives. These ideas are reductive, and rob the human race of the dignity that we ought to bestow on our collective fertility.

I don’t know any gay men who have willingly given their sperm without some kind of agreement being struck that they will have a part in their child’s life, should one arrive on the planet as a result of said understanding. They all have roles in the lives of their children and those of their children. They are the subject of fascination and sometimes of ostracism. Either way becoming a parent was out of the question. But now I see more and more queer people making conscious decisions to raise children, and finding ways to achieve that which can only benefit society. And they do a fantastic job. They’re raising open-minded and articulate youngsters, with a head start in life when it comes to treating others equally, fairly.

When people work so hard to have children, sometimes without any biological connection, you start to see something beautiful emerging. It transcends the traditional and opens our eyes to the reality of parenting. It’s a job. And it has little to do with DNA or indeed biology. Nurture trumps nature every time. A selfish act in the first instance, choosing to parent a child is also an immense responsibility, and one which never leaves you. Even when they grow up and leave home, you carry a burden that will never be lifted, but which somehow, strangely, makes you feel lighter.

I’ve said this before, children make you less selfish in the end, and that has to be a good thing. It’s a quality I see in many of those gay dads I know, and it’s really encouraging. Many straight dads could learn a thing or two. Gay dads stay at home, work part time, do school runs and ballet lessons, football and sick days. They endure homophbic comments and scrutiny of their lives and those of their children. They are the subject of fascination and sometimes of derision. Yet they ride the scorn and push on with their lives in the hope that one day this will all seem normal to others. Because it is just that. Normal.
**LGBT SERVICES**

- **ALLSORTS YOUTH PROJECT**
  - Drop-in for LGBT or unsure young people under 26
  - Tues 5.30–8.30pm: 01273 721211 or email info@allsortsyouth.org.uk
  - www.allsortsyouth.org.uk

- **BRIGHTON GEMS**
  - Social group for gay men over 50 with several events every month inc meeting at Dorset Gardens 2nd Monday of month 2.30pm last Fri of month 7-9pm. For info email info@brightongems.com www.brightongems.com

- **BRIGHTON & HOVE POLICE**
  - Report all homophobic, biphobic or transphobic incidents to: 24/7 assistance call Police on 101 (for emergencies)
  - 099 Report online at: www.sussex.police.uk
  - LGBT train (not 24/7) email: LGBT@sussex.pnn.police.uk
  - LGBT Officer PC James Breeds: Tel: 101 ext 558168 James.breeds@sussex.pnn.police.uk

- **BRIGHTON & HOVE LGBT SAFETY FORUM**
  - Independent LGBT forum working within the communities to address and improve safety and access issues in Brighton & Hove 01273 855620 or info@lgbt-help.com

- **BRIGHTON & HOVE LGB T SWITCHBOARD**
  - Help-line with email & webchat facility (opening times on the website) 01273 204 050
  - LGBT Older Peoples Project
  - LGBT Health Improvement and Engagement Project
  - LGBT Disabilties Project
  - Rainbow Cafe: support for LGBT + people with Dementia
  - Volunteering opportunities 01273 234 009
  - www.switchboard.org.uk/brighton

- **BRIGHTON ONEBODYPONEFAITH**
  - Formerly The Gay Christian Movement. Contact: Nigel Nash
  - nigelnash@me.com www.onebodyponefaith.org.uk

- **BRIGHTON WOMEN’S CENTRE**
  - Info, counselling, drop-in space, support groups 01273 698035 or visit www.womenscentre.org.uk

- **LESBIAN & GAY AA**
  - 12-step self-help programme for alcohol addictions:
    - Sun, 7.30pm, Chapel Royal, North St, Bhn (side entrance).
    - 01273 203 343 (general AA line)

- **LGBT NA GROUP**
  - Brighton-based LGBT (welcomes others) Narcotics
  - Anonymous group every Tue 6.30–8pm, Millwood Centre, Nelson Row, Kingswood St. 0300 999 1212

- **LGBT+ MEDITATION GROUP**
  - Meditation & discussion, every 2nd & 4th Thur, 5.30–7pm, Anahata Clinic, 119 Edward St, Brighton.
  - 07789 861 367 or www.bodhitreebrighton.org.uk

- **LUNCH POSITIVE**
  - Lunch club for people with HIV. Meet/make friends, find peer support in safe space. Every Fri, noon–2.30pm, Community Room, Dorset Gdns Methodist Church, Dorset Gdns, Brighton. Lunch £1.50.
  - 07846 446 384 or www.lunchpositive.org

- **MCC BRIGHTON**
  - Inclusive, affirming space where all are invited to come as they are to explore their spirituality without judgement.
  - 01273 515572 or info@mccbrighton.org.uk
  - www.mccbrighton.org.uk

- **MINDOUT**
  - Independent, impartial services run by and for LGBTQ+ people with experience of mental health issues. 24 hr confidential answerphone: 01273 234839 or info@mindout.org.uk and out of hours online chat
  - www.mindout.org.uk

- **NAVIGATE**
  - Social/peer support group for FTM, transmasculine & gender queer people, every 1st Wed 7-9pm & 3rd Sat of month 1-3pm at Space for Change, Wndlesham Venue, BN1 3AH. For info see https://navigatebrighton.wordpress.com/

- **PEER ACTION**
  - Regular low cost yoga, therapies, swimming, meditation & social groups for people with HIV.
  - contact@peeraction.net or www.peeraction.net

- **RAINBOW FAMILIES**
  - Support group for lesbian and/or gay parents
  - 07951 082013 or info@rainbowfamilies.org.uk
  - wwwRAINBOWFAMILIES.org.uk

- **SOME PEOPLE**
  - Social/support group for LGBT or questioning aged 14-19, Tue 5.30-7.30pm, Hastings.
  - Cal/text Cathrine Connelly 0797 3255076 or email somepeople@eastsussex.gov.uk

- **TAGS – THE ARUN GAY SOCIETY**
  - Social Group welcome all inEast & West Sussex Areas.
  - Call/text 07539 513171 www.tagsonline.org.uk

- **VICTIM SUPPORT**
  - Practical, emotional support for victims of crime
  - 08453 899 528

- **THE VILLAGE MCC**
  - Christian church serving the LGBTQ community. Sundays 6pm, Somerset Day Centre, Kemptown 01273 667353 www.thevalleymcc.org

**HIV PREVENTION, CARE & TREATMENT SERVICES**

- **AVERT**
  - Sussex HIV & AIDS info service 01403 210202 or email confidential@avert.org

- **BRIGHTON & HOVE CAB HIV PROJECT**
  - Money, benefits, employment, housing, info, advocacy.
  - Appointments: Thur 9am-4pm. Wed 9am-12.30pm
  - Brighton & Hove Citizens Advice Bureau, Brighton Town Hall. 01273 733390 ext 520
  - www.brightonhovecab.org.uk

- **CLINIC M**
  - Free confidential testing & treatment for STIs including HIV,
    - plus Hep A & B vaccinations: Claude Nicol Centre, Sussex County Hospital, on Weds from 5-8pm.
    - 01273 664 721 or www.brightonsexualhealth.com

- **LAWSON UNIT**
  - Medical advice, treatment for HIV +, specialist clinics, diet & welfare advice, drug trials. 01273 664 722

- **SUBSTANCE MISUSE SERVICE**
  - Pavilions Partnership. Info, advice, appointments & referrals 01273 731 900. Drop-in: Richmond House, Richmond Rd, Brighton, Mon-Wed & Fri 10am-4pm, Thur 10am-7pm, Sat 10am-1pm, 9 The Drive, Hove 01273 680714 Mon & Wed 10am-12pm & 1pm-3pm, Tue & Thu 10am-4pm, info & advice only (no appointments), Fri 10am-12pm & 1pm-3pm.
  - Gary Smith (LGBT+ Support) 07848 476634
  - or email gsmith@pavilions.org.uk
  - For more info visit weblink: pavilions.org.uk/services/treatment-recovery-options/

- **SUSSEX BEACON**
  - 24 hour nursing & medical care, day care 01273 694222 or www.sussexbeacon.org.uk

- **TERRENCE HIGGINS TRUST SERVICES**
  - For more info about these free services go to the THT office, 61 Ship St, Brighton, Mon–Fri, 10am–5pm
  - 01273 764200 or info@brighton@tth.org.uk
  - **Venueteam**: info on HIV & sexual health, and free condoms/lubricant for men who have sex with men
  - **The Bushes Outreach Service @ Dukes Mound**: advice, support, info on HIV & sexual health, and free condoms & lube
  - **Netteach**: online/mobile app outreach in Brighton & Hove. info on HIV/sexual health/local services. THT Brighton Outreach workers online on Grindr, Scruff, & Squirt.
  - **Counselor Male**: discreet, confidential service posts free condoms/lubex sexual health info to men who have sex with men without access to East Sussex commercial gay scene
  - **Positive Voices**: volunteers who go to organisations to talk about personal experiences of living with HIV
  - **Fastest (HIV testing)**: walk-in, (no appointment) rapid HIV testing service open to MSM (Men who have sex with Men). Anyone from the African communities, male and female sex workers and anyone who identifies as Trans or non-binary. We now offer rapid 15 minutes results for HIV/Syphilis: Mon 10am–8pm, Tues–Fri 10am–1pm, Thurs 10am–8pm (STI testing available)
  - **Sauna Fastest at the Brighton Sauna** (HIV testing): walk-in, (no appointment) rapid HIV testing service for men who have sex with men, results in 20 minutes: Wed: 6–8pm (STI testing available)
  - **Face2Face**: confidential info & advice on sexual health & HIV for men who have sex with men, up to 6 hours per appointment
  - **Specialist Training**: wide range of courses for groups/individuals, specific courses to suit needs
  - **Counselling**: from qualified counsellors for up to 12 sessions for people living with/affected by HIV
  - **What Next?** Thurs eve, 6 week peer support group work programme for newly diagnosed HIV+ gay men
  - **HIV Support Services**: info, support & practical advice for people living with/affected by HIV
  - **HIV Welfare Rights Advice**: Find out about benefits or benefit changes. Advice line: Tue–Thu 1–2:30pm, 1–2:1 appts for advice & workshops on key benefits

- **TERRENCE HIGGINS EASTBOURNE**
  - Web support & info on HIV sexual health & local services via netreacht and myhiv.org.uk
  - Free condom postal service contact Grace Coughlan on 07584086590 or grace.coughlan@tth.org.uk

- **SEXUAL HEALTH WORTHING**
  - Free confidential tests & treatment for STIs inc HIV; Hep A & B vaccinations. Worthing based: 0845 11134564

**NATIONAL HELPLINES**

- **NATIONAL LGBT DOMESTIC ABUSE HELPLINE** at galop.org.uk and 0800 999 5428

- **SWITCHBOARD** 0300 330 0630

- **POSITIVELINE (EDDIE SURMAN TRUST)**
  - Mon-Fri 11am-10pm, Sat & Sun 4-10pm 0800 1696806

- **MAINLINERS** 02075 825226

- **NATIONAL AIDS HELPLINE** 0800 7 76123

- **NATIONAL DRUGS HELPLINE** 0800 7 76600

- **THT AIDS Treatment phoneine 0845 4700474
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