

NORTH SOMERSET **LGBT+ FORUM**

Newsletter



October & November 2024



The Forum team didn't let the weather spoil their day at Taunton Pride in September... You can't have rainbows without rain!

**WE'VE
MOVED!**

COME ALONG TO

67

**MEADOW STREET
TO SEE OUR NEW HQ!**

**The Home of
Our Weekly HQ Drop-Ins:**

50+ Mondays 3-5pm

Family+ Wednesdays 3-5pm

Trans+ Fridays 3-5pm

Coffee, Cake & Chatter

Sundays 12-4pm

**Full details on page 4
and back cover!**

RAINBOW READERS

Join us in a free, warm and welcoming queer book club in Weston! We'll delve into books that feature LGBT+ themes & characters and meet up to discuss our thoughts. Ages 18+



Rainbow Readers will be held on the last Thursday of the month 6pm-8pm at:

**North Somerset LGBT+ Hub
67 Meadow Street
Weston-super-Mare
BS231QL**



Presented by

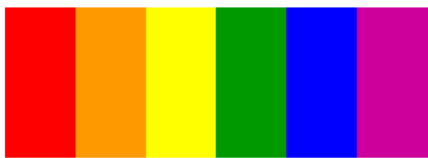


For more information, email:
mel@superculture.org.uk

NORTH SOMERSET LGBT+ FORUM
Newsletter

Oct & Nov 2024

Compiled, designed and printed at our charity HQ by volunteer trustees. All information is correct at the time of print.



NORTH SOMERSET
LGBT+ FORUM

Reg charity no. 1174545

**67 Meadow Street,
Weston-super-Mare
North Somerset
BS23 1QL**

Our HQ is open 12-5pm every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and 12pm-4pm every Sunday (excluding Bank Holidays).

support@nslgbtforum.com

www.nslgbtforum.com



eBay Store

Seller: nslgbtforum



Discogs Store

Seller: NSLGbTForum



Etsy Shop

Seller: nslgbtforumshop



Letter from the Editor...

Hi all,

Welcome to our latest Newsletter!

We've had a bit of a break from our monthly Newsletters while we get everything sorted with our new venue. Thank you for your patience and rest assured normal service will resume from now on!

Summer may already be a distant memory, but within this edition you will find lots of local activities to whet your appetite and stay active and connected to your community. Read on to find out about Black History Month 2024, Trans Pride Bristol's month of events in November, the return of Weston Super Sapphic, and much more!

Here at the Forum, we're continuing our weekly drop-ins (see back cover), plus holding events as part of our trio of Socialites groups. And be sure to save the date now for World AIDS Day on 1st December - we have some plans yet to be announced (watch this space).

But to continue the work we do and to provide support to our communities, we need your help. We are an independent, registered charity, and rely on donations to remain operational. If you are able to, scan the QR code (right) to donate via PayPal, or head to our online charity stores listed in the left-hand column to help us fundraise. All donations are gratefully received.

See you soon!

Thom x



Scan for our PayPal link to donate

Please note our HQ will be closed:

Sunday 3rd November (for Comic Art event)

Sunday 24th November (HQ only - Gayme running as normal 5-8pm)

Say Hello to Our New HQ!

It's official! We have moved venues. Our new HQ is still on Meadow Street in Weston-super-Mare, but we have moved from 68... to 67!

Despite being only a digit different, our new HQ is down the road, next door to Atlantic Fish Bar, opposite C&J's Little Shop of Allsorts and their wonderful trans mural.

Our opening times have mostly remained the same (see page 3), however our new Sunday opening hours are 12-4pm.

The new venue boasts a welcoming social area with sofas and beanbags, a community notice board and library (see below!), refreshments, resources and a gender-neutral toilet. We'll also



be using the space for all our weekly drop-in groups, plus it is available to hire - please email us to find out more.



Grace Period Project

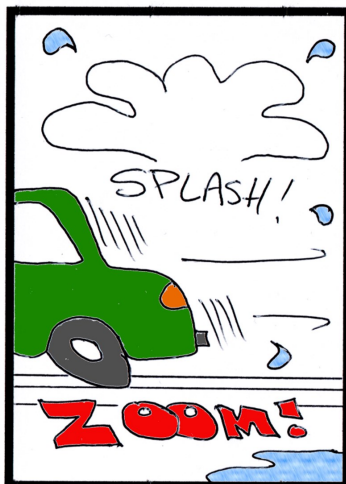
The gender neutral toilet in our new HQ has been supplied with free sanitary products. They can be found underneath the sink and are available for anyone to take. These items have been kindly provided by the Grace Period Project, to reduce period poverty and break down the taboo of menstrual health. For more information about the Grace Period Project, head to www.thegraceperiodproject.co.uk



Calling all booklovers! We are thrilled to announce that our new Forum HQ has its very own LGBT+ Library! Borrow any book for a deposit of £2 per title, then return to receive your deposit back. We're also interested in any LGBT+ books you may like to donate. Drop them off to us or email if you have lots as we may be able to collect!

Murof the Gay Gonk

by *TWGA*



Exclusive Comic Workshop!



Sunday 3rd November

Calling all comic fans! The North Somerset LGBT+ Forum are thrilled to announce that the fantastic folk at Pride Comic Art Festival will be hosting an exclusive workshop at our new HQ on Sunday 3rd November!

LGBTQA+ themes in the past have usually been hidden from comic strips due to censorship and a perception that comics were for kids! However, there has always been a rich and vibrant underground scene for the community by the community. Now with more comic artists being able to produce and sell their work independently, LGBTQA+ characters and themes are making their way into the public eye.

Pride Comic Art Festival gives LGBTQA+ artists, writers and creators centre stage to exhibit and sell their work and stories and for the general public to discover a world of talent and stories.

In addition to their annual Festival, the organisers, Rough Sketch Productions, also run workshops and events for the community.

So, if you love comics, graphic novels, character design, cartooning or indeed any kind of art, why not come along to an exclusive workshop this November? Taking place at the new Forum HQ (67 Meadow Street - but you knew that already, right?) between 12-3pm, this is your chance to get creative and make some LGBTQA+ themed comic art.

As this is a special event, spaces are limited to 10, and entry is £20.00 plus a small booking fee. There will be refreshments available and you can take your artwork home at the end.

To take part in this awesome event, please head to our Eventbrite page, using this QR code or via the following link:



tinyurl.com/3jwch2

Any enquiries, please email us via support@nslgbtforum and don't forget to check out Pride Comic Art Festival's website and social media - linktr.ee/pridecaf

Be sure to book your tickets soon - once they're gone, they're gone!

RECLAIMING NARRATIVES



Black History Month 2024

October is Black History Month, and to find out what is going on in North Somerset, check out the details below! All the events are hosted by a wide range of local and national organisations and are taking place in and around North Somerset or are accessible online. Join the celebration of Black History Month 2024 by supporting at least one of these exciting events!



BHM & Exhibition Launch: Reclaiming Narratives

October 1st - 31st
The Other Place

The Reclaiming Narratives exhibition underscores a commitment to correcting historical inaccuracies and showcasing the untold success stories and the full complexity of Black heritage. It's about taking control of our stories and honouring our heroes while challenging the narratives that have often overlooked the contributions and achievements of Black individuals both in the UK and globally.

Exhibition Grand Opening & Reception: Tuesday 1st October, 4-8pm. Refreshments will be provided.

General Opening Times: Monday-Friday, 10am-5pm. The Other Place is located 81-83 Meadow Street, WsM, BS23 1QL.



Suntou Susso at the Tithe Barn

October 6th
Nailsea Tithe Barn

This event will be held at Nailsea Tithe Barn on Sunday 6th October 2024 at 7.30pm, featuring Suntou Susso, a multi-instrumentalist, kora player, percussionist, singer and composer from The Gambia. The Tithe Barn can be found at Church Lane, Nailsea BS48 4NG.

Tickets are available here:
www.ticketsource.co.uk/nailsea-folk-club





**Reclaiming
Narratives: BNSSG
Virtual Discussion**

October 17th

Online

Hosted by Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board (BNSSG ICB) and featuring guest speaker David Corbin, this event will involve our powerful speaker with engaging discussions, and thought-provoking conversation. We aim to reclaim narratives that have been overlooked or marginalised. Let's come together to honor the past, celebrate the present, and inspire a brighter future.

Scan the QR code above to add this event to your calendar to join virtually on October 17th between 11.30-1pm.



**Don Letts:
The Rebel Dread**

October 11th

Bristol Beacon

Don Letts is a pioneering DJ, known for his dynamic sets that blend old and new school dub reggae, both nationally and internationally.

Alongside his DJ career, Don has released several influential compilation albums, continuing to push the boundaries of music and the audio/visual medium.

This event takes places at the Bristol Beacon, Trenchard Street, Bristol, BS1 5AR. Doors open 10pm, entry £16.35



**Black History
Month Annual
Forum, 2024**

October 17th

Weston College

As proud residents of Weston-super-Mare, we are investing in our community and fostering a space for meaningful dialogue and positive change. This event is a way to uplift our town and create a platform for diverse voices.

This year's theme, "Reclaiming Narratives," will showcase a wide range of speakers from across the South West and beyond, covering topics like EDI, sport, health, well-being, intersectionality, and entrepreneurship. Their stories and insights will help us reflect, connect, and grow as a community.

This event is brought to you by Race Equality North Somerset, Weston College and Weston College Global Majority Group.

Date: 17th October 2024

Time: 4.00pm – 8.00pm

Venue: Weston College Conference Centre, Lower Church Rd, Weston-super-Mare BS23 2AS

Get Your Free Ticket:

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1021330616367



blackhistorymonth-ns.org.uk



Weston Super Sapphic

This year's Weston Super Sapphic event takes place **Saturday 23rd November** at the 1st North Worle Scout Hut (BS22 7QW) between 10am - 4pm. The event promises to be a fantastic showcase of sapphic literature, with readings, interviews and many stalls to browse. The Forum will be running a tombola as well as a stall of LGBT+ merch and a selection of second-hand books on women's studies, feminism and sexuality. Entry is free and refreshments will be available.



Introducing... Socialites 18 - 25!

To complement our existing social groups Young Socialites and Socialites, we're thrilled to add a third group to the family - **Socialites 18-25!**

Socialites 18-25 is a dedicated group for young adults to enjoy activities with their peers in a safe and welcoming space. To recap, our Young Socialites group is for 13-17 year-olds, and our original Socialites group is for anyone aged 18+. This means anyone who is 18-25 can also attend Socialites too!

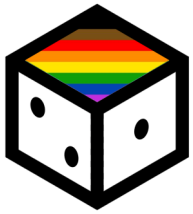
Please email us for any suggestions of activities or events you'd like to see happen across the district, and we'll do our best to make them happen.



Trans Pride Bristol are hosting a vast array of events in November, including a clothes swish, cycling club, skateboarding sessions, plus the annual Trans Day of Remembrance vigil on **Wednesday 20th November**, 4pm - 6.20pm at Cloak, 182-184 Cheltenham Road, Cotham, Bristol, BS6 5RB.

The month of events concludes with Trans Pride Community Day, taking place on **Saturday 23rd November**, between 12-4pm at The Station, Silver Street, Bristol, BS1 2AG. Full details of all events are available by heading to: www.transpridebristol.org.uk/events

News in Brief



GAYME

Our board game night Gayme returns to the Bridging The Gap Together! hub, 59 - 61 Meadow Street, WsM BS23 1QL on **Sunday 27th October** and **Sunday 24th November**, between 5 - 8pm. Gayme is a monthly board game night open to everyone to enjoy, in a fully accessible, friendly venue. Entry is free, and there's also no need to book. *Please note, under 13s need to be accompanied by an adult.*



The second Day of SEND event to be hosted by North Somerset Parents & Carers Working Together is taking place on **Wednesday 23rd October** at Priory Community School. The event runs 9am - 8pm and is free for parents, carers, and professionals to attend. Save time on the door by booking a space in advance; simply scan the QR code top-right.



THE EDDYSTONE TRUST
HIV and Sexual Health Services

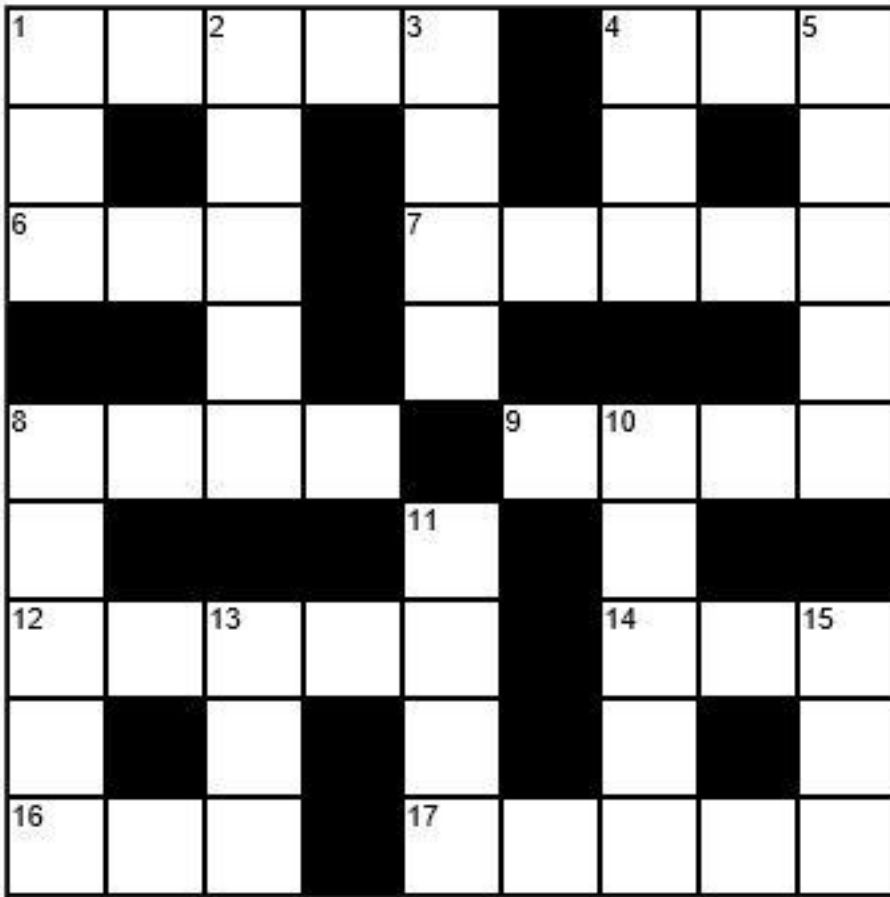
Eddystone Trust return to our HQ for free HIV testing and advice on **Tuesday 8th October** and **Thursday 7th November**. This is a great opportunity for confidential support and guidance, as well as a chance to pick up condoms, red ribbons and literature. The session runs from 12.30 - 4.30pm and there's no need to book a space.



LGBT+ wedding photographers Rebel Love are holding an LGBT+ Wedding Fair on **Saturday 16th November** at The Station, Silver Street, Bristol BS1 2AG. Discover unique vendors, get inspiration from stunning displays, and chat with experts who can make your day extra special. Tickets are available via tinyurl.com/2ydvkyup

If you have an event you wish to advertise in our next Newsletter, please email support@nslgbtforum.com FAO Thom.

Puzzle Page



Crossword

Across:

1. ___ Dodger, delicious biscuit (5)
4. Famous cartoon builder (3)
6. ___ Giedroyc, comedian (3)
7. Queen, king, prince, etc. (5)
8. Great with chips (4)
9. 80s sibling pop duo (4)
12. To make lots of noise (5)
14. Baby's dining neckwear (3)
16. What a cow does (3)
17. In addition (5)

Wordsearch

Once you've finished the crossword above, see if you can find your 20 answers in the wordsearch below!

M	A	N	B	R	O	S	B	T	O	Y	F	U	F
E	Q	C	C	Q	X	E	E	I	X	S	I	C	M
L	W	J	T	Z	G	T	H	T	B	H	S	C	M
T	G	N	O	N	S	G	J	Z	L	Y	H	J	Y
S	U	I	V	B	F	A	G	X	D	R	U	M	X
B	J	Q	U	A	R	U	F	V	C	C	X	R	F
O	R	I	W	Y	O	R	M	O	W	S	X	L	T
J	B	O	M	Y	W	O	S	O	F	W	U	F	O
A	I	W	Y	Y	D	B	I	E	O	S	H	W	Q
M	L	R	P	A	Y	O	X	X	V	O	V	O	Y
M	L	I	G	W	L	T	I	T	J	R	T	T	P
Y	S	A	P	K	Y	L	E	R	Z	T	I	M	Z
G	X	K	C	V	O	G	W	A	H	P	N	Q	D
C	P	G	Q	M	N	B	O	A	F	O	R	U	M

Down:

1. Rosie's barge-dwelling partner (3)
2. To turn into liquid (5)
3. A round, canvas tent (4)
4. A small beach, popular with turtles (3)
5. Multiple debts (5)
8. The only LGBT+ charity for North Somerset (5)
10. Metal machine (5)
11. ___ MacLachlan, TV's Agent Cooper from *Twin Peaks* (4)
13. The world's most famous Doctor (3)
15. A feathery snake? (3)

NATIONAL HATE CRIME AWARENESS WEEK 2024

LGBTQ+ ROADSHOW

LGBTQ+? We want to hear from you! The Diversity Trust is gathering the voices and experiences of the LGBTQ+ community around hate crime reporting. We want to know:

- What barriers stand in the way of reporting?
- What challenges do you face in accessing support?
- What would give you more confidence in reporting hate crime?
- What needs improving in reporting services?

We'll be holding our workshops across the week at these venues:

Sunday 13th October, 6pm - 7pm
The Armadillo Youth Cafe, Yate

Monday 14th October, 6pm - 9pm
Daisy & Bean Cafe, Bath

Tuesday 15th October, 12pm - 3pm
**North Somerset LGBTQ+ Forum,
Weston-Super-Mare**

Thursday 17th October, 10am - 12pm
St Peter's Church, Yeovil





**NORTH SOMERSET
LGBT+ FORUM**

**FREE TO
ATTEND**

Weekly Drop-Ins

67 Meadow Street, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1QL



Mondays 3-5pm: 50+

A drop-in for any LGBT+ community members aged 50 and over. Join us for a chat and a cuppa!



Wednesdays 3-5pm: Family+

A drop-in for parents, carers or guardians of LGBT+ children to talk with others about their experiences or ask questions.



Fridays 3-5pm: Trans+

A drop-in for any transgender, non-binary or gender-questioning community members aged 18 and over.



Sundays 12pm-4pm: Coffee, Cake & Chatter

Our door is open all day for visitors to grab a cuppa and chat with our volunteers, browse resources or purchase LGBT+ merch!

Our HQ is also open to everyone 12-3pm every Mon, Weds and Fri

For all enquiries, please email support@nslgbtforum.com

@nslgbtforum @nslgbtforum @nslgbtforumsupport @nslgbtforum