

NORTH SOMERSET **LGBT+** FORUM

Newsletter



October 2023



The Mayor of Weston-super-Mare Cllr Ciaran Cronnelly joined the Forum's BIGGEST EVER Rumble in the Jumble in August, visiting our HQ and three other venues on Meadow Street!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY AT A GLANCE

Portishead Poacher Quiz
Wednesday 4th October

**Weston Literary Festival
Radical Book Stall**
Saturday 7th October

**Young Socialites
Photography Workshop**
Monday 23rd October

Gayme
Sunday 29th October

See inside for times and venues

PLUS

50+ Drop-In
Mondays 3-5pm at our HQ

Trans+ Drop-In
Wednesdays 3-5pm at our HQ

Family+ Drop-In
Fridays 3-5pm at our HQ



**NORTH SOMERSET
LGBT+ FORUM**

**FREE TO
ATTEND**

Weekly Drop-Ins

68 Meadow Street, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1QN



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: Trans+

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



Fridays 3-5pm: Family+

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



**NORTH SOMERSET
LGBT+ FORUM**

Sundays 10am-4pm: HQ Open Day

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



NORTH SOMERSET LGBT+ FORUM
Newsletter

October 2023

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

A large print A4 version of this newsletter can be requested via email.



**NORTH SOMERSET
LGBT+ FORUM**

Reg charity no. 1174545

**68 Meadow Street,
Weston-super-Mare
North Somerset
BS23 1QN**

**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 October Newsletter.

The nights might be drawing in and the clocks are getting ready for their bi-annual fondling, but here at the North Somerset LGBT+ Forum there are always rainbows to keep us smiling!

After an unusually busy September with three local Pride events in as many weeks, the team are looking forward to a slightly calmer October. We have our regular monthly Quiz Night at the Poacher pub in Portishead, a Radical Book stall at Weston Central Library and our regular board game night Gayme to enjoy, plus our weekly community drop-ins continue at our HQ on Meadow Street (see opposite page for details).

But we can't stay still for long - November and December are already looking busy and I can't wait to tell you all about what we have planned in our next newsletter. Be sure to pick one up in person at our HQ, or you can find current and back issues on our website.

Unfortunately, I must sign off this letter with some tough news. Our landlord is increasing our HQ rent in December, which will place a strain on our resources and budget. However, we are determined to carry on and provide North Somerset's LGBT+ communities (and their friends, families and allies) with a safe space to visit and events to enjoy. To do this, we rely solely on your kind donations and support. You can access our online stores via the links listed in the column on the left of this page. Alternatively, if you wish to donate via PayPal, head to paypal.com/paypalme/nslgbtforum or scan the QR code below.

We are also happy to accept donations at our HQ of any unwanted books, DVDs, CDs and bric-a-brac. All donations, no matter how small, are greatly appreciated.

All the best,

Thom x



Scan for our PayPal link to donate

We had a Gay Old Time!

On the evening of Saturday 23rd September, The Front Room in Weston was filled with laughter and music as we celebrated all that is Good, Old and Gay - yes, it was The Good Old Gays!

Veteran drag artists Camilla Parkyaballs introduced the acts, which included the fantastic Des Henly's Singers & Strummers, the outrageous stand-up of Matthew Hardy, the hilarious drag king Uncle Carl, and Bridgwater's own Ms Lady Elise. Meanwhile, Cyclone Pole Fitness Academy took the crowd's breath away with their magnificent pole dancing acts, while musical theatre star Natasha Tara Newsom-Mabey turned up the disco heat with an

incredible rendition of 'I Will Survive'. Then, finally, the incredible Lady Imelda stole the crowd's hearts with her amazing performance as both singer and outrageous 'havoc creator', dressing as a nun using a white tee shirt and a black cardigan from Peacocks, and making jokes that are quite unrepeatable in this family friendly publication!

The Forum tombola was also a massive hit, raising over £300 for the Forum to help fund the work we do and allow our HQ to remain open during this challenging financial time. A huge, huge thank you to all who attended, performed or helped us in any way, you are all fabulous, darlings!

The poster features a dark red background with a gold border. At the top, there are logos for 'SUPER CULTURE', 'FRONT ROOM', and 'NORTH SOMERSET LGBTQ+ FORUM'. The text 'Saturday 23rd Sept. 2023 7.30pm' is on the left, and 'Front Room Theatre 13 Central Walk, Weston-super-Mare BS23 1FF' is on the right. The title 'The GOOD OLD GAYS' is prominently displayed in a gold, stylized font. Below the title is a photograph of five drag performers in elaborate costumes. At the bottom, a yellow banner reads 'AN ALTERNATIVE CABARET FOR AN AUDIENCE WITH A BIG HEART AND A BROAD MIND'. Below that, smaller text says 'An evening variety featuring - LGBTQ+ comedians, musicians, drag Queens, drag Kings and dancers!'. At the very bottom, it says 'GET YOUR TICKETS HERE' with a QR code.



Clockwise from above:
Natasha Tara Newsom-Mabey belts out a classic; Lady Imelda in the world's biggest dress; the tombola table; Matt Hardy and Forum chair Steve; light and sound legend Ivy; Dave Turner does unspeakable things to a pole; and Camilla Parkyaballs fights the spotlight with the night's house keeper (aka our Daredevil Grandad David!)



Young Socialites Photography Workshop



YOUNG SOCIALITES

Our Young Socialites group (for young LGBT+ community members aged 13-17) are invited to sign up

for a weeklong photography workshop with Bridging the Gap Together! during the October half term, with photography expert Jamie.

The workshop will introduce you to the basics of photography and explore ways of communicating with images. Each participant will contribute to a 32-page magazine and be invited to a group exhibition.

The workshop will run from 10am - 2pm between Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October. Please register via the link below by Friday 6th October. <https://tinyurl.com/54eps3xm>

Looking back on September...

With both Pride in Weston and Taunton Pride rescheduled to September, we ended up indulging in no less than three Pride events in one month! If you saw us at Taunton, Bridgwater or Weston last month, we hope you had a wonderful time like we did. Thank you to everyone who stopped by to say hi!

Gayme Night 29th October



GAYME



The next instalment of our popular Gayme night is on **Sunday 29th October**, 5pm till 8pm at the Bridging the Gap Together! hub, located at 59-61 Meadow Street, WSM, BS23 1QL. As always, at this free event we will have a great range of board and card games available to play, and even if you attend solo you will be welcomed by attendees to join their teams and make new friends. We will also have our Tuck Shop on site, selling food and drink at very reasonable prices (you'd be amazed what you can get for a pound!) See you there!



News in Brief



Weston Literary Festival takes place between 5th - 8th October, with a variety of events taking place across the town. The North Somerset LGBT+ Forum will be holding a Radical Book Stall at Weston Central Library on **Saturday 7th October** between 9.30am - 1pm. Entry is free, and we will have a great range of second hand books available to buy. Topics include gender, sexuality, lesbianism, and women's studies.



Our Forum HQ has been kindly stocked up by the fantastic team at The Grace Period Project, who aim to end period poverty by providing free period products to anyone who needs them. Their packs can be found in paper bags under our coffee table and in our gender neutral toilet. Further details about this brilliant project can be found here: thegraceperiodproj.wixsite.com/the-grace-period-pro



Hate Crime Awareness Week takes place this year between **14th - 21st October**. Hate crime awareness will be promoted across North Somerset with the help of organisations such as the Mavis Bus, StreetSafe, Proud Bar and the North Somerset LGBT+ Forum. If you would like more information about reporting a hate crime, please head to our website: www.nslgbtforum.com/reporthatocrime



Our monthly fun-filled quiz night returns **Wednesday 4th October** at the Poacher in Portishead! Doors open at 7pm, for a 7.30 start.

Entry is £2 per person, max 5 per team. There will be prizes available to winning teams, so why not come along?

The Poacher can be found at 106 High St, Portishead, Bristol BS20 6AJ. There is a car park on site, and fantastic food and drink available at the bar!

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

RADICAL BOOKS

at Weston Central Library

Saturday 7th October 2023

9.30am - 1pm

Books about...

Women's History	LGBT+ Issues
Sexuality	HIV/AIDS
Gender	Alternative Families
Race	Women's Poetry
Feminism	LGBT+ History
Social Issues	

Raising funds for the North Somerset LGBT+ Forum

