

# NORTH SOMERSET **LGBT+** FORUM

# Newsletter



February 2024

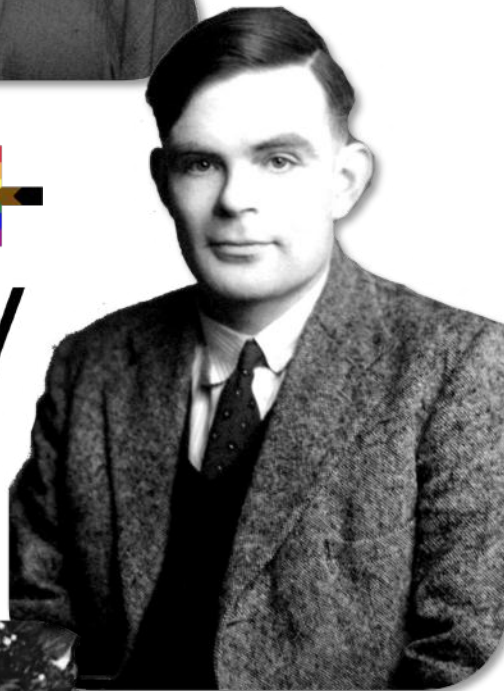


**Audre Lorde**

1934 - 1992

*American poet and civil rights activist*

# LGBT+ History Month



**Alan Turing**

1912 - 1954

*Mathematician and computer scientist*



**Marsha P Johnson**

1945 - 1992

*Gay liberation activist and performer*

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY AT A GLANCE**

### **Reclaiming Queer History**

Wednesday 7th February

### **Portishead Poacher Quiz**

Wednesday 7th February

### **Free HIV Testing**

Thursday 15th February

### **Young Socialites Get-Together**

Friday 16th February

### **Gayme**

Sunday 25th February

### **Rainbow Readers**

Thursday 29th February

### **Revenge of the 90s**

Friday 1st March

*See inside for times and venues*

## **PLUS**

### **Our Weekly HQ Drop-Ins**

**50+** Mondays 3-5pm

**Trans+** Wednesdays 3-5pm

**Family+** Fridays 3-5pm



#HIVTESTINGWEEK

# ITEST.

## **FREE HIV TESTING WITH THE EDDYSTONE TRUST**

**DATE:** 15th Feb 2024

**TIME:** 12.00 - 16:00

**VENUE:** NSLGBT Forum, 68 Meadow St,  
Weston-super-Mare BS23 1QN

**CONTACT:** [benjamin.rossiter@eddystone.org.uk](mailto:benjamin.rossiter@eddystone.org.uk)



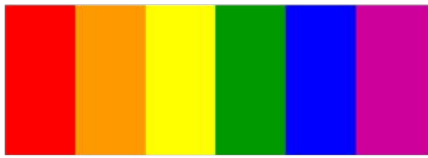
**STARTSWITHME.ORG.UK**

Produced by Terrence Higgins Trust for HIV PREVENTION ENGLAND  
© Terrence Higgins Trust, 2024.  
Terrence Higgins Trust is a registered charity in England and Wales (reg. no. 288527)  
and in Scotland (SC039986). Company reg no. 1778149. Photography by George Powell.

**NORTH SOMERSET LGBT+ FORUM**  
**Newsletter**

**February 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

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

*Our HQ is open 12-5pm every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and 10am-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 February Newsletter.

This month is LGBT+ History Month, an international awareness event that has taken place annually every year since 2005. This year's theme is 'Under The Scope', celebrating LGBT+ peoples' contributions to world of medicine and healthcare both historically and today. If you fancy testing your knowledge of LGBT+ history icons, head to page 10 for our cheeky image quiz! We'll also be finishing the month with an exciting retro fundraiser - flip to page 9 to find out more!

On the theme of healthcare, The Eddystone Trust will be visiting our HQ on Meadow Street for a day of **free** HIV testing on **Thursday 15th February**. Details can be seen on the opposite page. Our first session last month was well-attended, and given the impact of HIV and AIDs through our community's history, it is a drop-in that we highly recommend visiting. It is also a great opportunity to speak with Eddystone volunteers about their work and pick up some merchandise, condoms or red ribbons.

Additionally, with a focus on mental health and wellbeing, there are a variety of local events and services available to residents of North Somerset this month and beyond. Read on for more details - and keep an eye out for details of Portishead's Spring into Wellbeing event in early March, the Forum will be running a stall, so be sure to say hi! More details on page 6.

And finally, slightly off-topic, but have you had a chance to visit Weston Museum's Doctor Who art exhibition? Myself and Steve visited the display the other week and it is fantastic! The exhibition has been extended to run until April due to its popularity, plus it is free entry and fully accessible, so the perfect local event for Whovians young and old. Be sure to check it out!

Don't forget, if you fancy helping us out, you can access our online stores via the links listed in the column on the left, or you can donate via PayPal by scanning the QR code on the right.

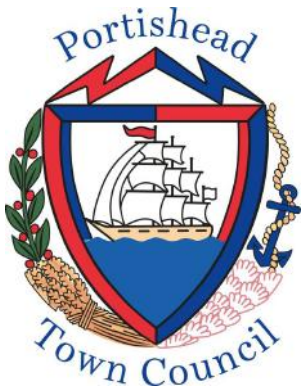
Stay strong, and see you soon!



Scan for our PayPal link to donate

*Thom x*

# A Huge Thank You to...



The North Somerset LGBT+ Forum trustees and volunteers would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the following town councils who have kindly provided our registered charity with the following financial support through their Town Council Grants Programme:

**Portishead Town Council:** £1,500 - Received in December 2023 & January 2024.

**Weston-super-Mare Town Council:** £1,000 - Received in January 2024

**Clevedon Town Council:** £500.00 - Received in October 2023.

Alongside our amazing teams own fundraising activities, these additional amounts will contribute to the ongoing running costs of our HQ on Meadow Street and ensure we can continue to offer a safe and warm venue open 4 out of 7 days of the week staffed by unpaid volunteers, and will also enable us to continue to support the towns of North Somerset with outreach activities, LGBT+ drop-ins, awareness events & quizzes, through having a base of operations to work from. **Thank you!**

Additionally, **Nailsea Town Council** have awarded us £500.00 from their Wellbeing Reserve, for which we would also like to say thank you!

## Fancy helping us receive a further £1,000?



Please nominate the North Somerset LGBT+ Forum for a £1,000 donation through the Movement for Good awards.

Please visit the following link to nominate us: [www.movementforgood.com](http://www.movementforgood.com)

Click on the blue box that says 'Nominate a charity for £1,000', and search for us by name or charity number (1174545). Our charity type is 'community'. You can then add your details to nominate the charity, and you'll receive an email confirmation. Your nomination is greatly appreciated!

# LGBTQ+ Histories Amplified: Reclaiming Queer History

2 - 3pm Wednesday 7th February 2024

FREE ENTRY



THE  
OTHER  
PLACE.



NORTH SOMERSET  
LGBT+ FORUM



Race Equality North Somerset

81 - 83 Meadow Street  
Weston-super-Mare BS23 1QL

This LGBTQ+ History Month, join Race Equality North Somerset and the North Somerset LGBTQ+ Forum at The Other Place to take part in a virtual webinar, and share ideas and thoughts.

Taking place on **Wednesday 7th February** between 2 - 3pm, this virtual event is held in partnership with AfroQueer Studios. Committed to social impact, they will bring you a curated panel of queer speakers representing both white and global majority voices this LGBTQ+ History Month. Attendees can watch the webinar and discuss their thoughts with others.

During this event, queer storytellers will share their connection to their histories, the ways in which these impact the ways they move in this world, and im-

portantly, showcase the role LGBTQ+ resilience and inimitability play in redefining, recreating, and rebuilding more equitable systems for thriving LGBTQ+ communities.

It is time we retell queer histories, recognising that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people have been and continue to be at the centre of black, indigenous, and other people of colour movements.

The Other Place is a fully accessible venue and on-street parking is available on Meadow Street and nearby roads. Please note that parking charges will apply. Light refreshments will be served. Entry is free, however tickets will need to be reserved via the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/ya2etp77>

## RACE EQUALITY WEEK 2024 5th - 11th February



The 4th annual Race Equality Week takes place this month between **5th-11th February**.

The event above is just one of several being held by Race Equality North Somerset, with an additional four being held at The Other Place (81-83 Meadow Street, WsM, BS23 1QL). Scan the QR codes to reserve tickets, or pop into our HQ for assistance,

### Launch of REW2024: Make It Visible!



Monday 5th February,  
10am - 12.30pm

Join the campaign launch and mark the start of national Race Equality Week 2024  
#ListenActChange

### The Big Collaboration (Webinar)



Tuesday 6th February,  
12.15pm - 1.45pm

How Can We Get Everyone To Listen, Act And Change?

### Lead The Change (Webinar)



Thursday 8th February,  
12-2.30pm

The Power of Leaders in Driving Real Change

### Race Equality Week: Closing Event



Friday 9th February,  
12.30-2.30pm

What have we learnt, what comes next?



**Portishead residents have the opportunity to take part in a day dedicated to self-care and promoting overall health and happiness on Saturday 2nd March across multiple venues in the town centre!**

The Spring into Wellbeing Day is a free event, organised by Portishead Town Council, the Portishead Lions and the Beacon Hub to encourage residents to discuss taking care of their mental, emotional and physical health.

Taking place on **Saturday 2nd March** from 10am-4pm, the day will expand on the inaugural event which took place last year, and is expected to be even bigger and better with the aim of supporting more residents and more services across the town.

The day takes place across the town, including Somerset Hall, the Beacon Hub, the Folk Hall and the Library. There will be workshops, crafts, information and advice on ways to improve health and wellbeing, plus refreshments at most locations as well as music and prize draws.

There will also be a team of onsite phlebotomists performing a range of up to 7 blood health checks including prostate, cholesterol, kidney, liver, iron, diabetes and thyroid. Residents can book online and one test will be fully funded but they can also choose to have more during their times slot, at a subsidised cost of £28 per test.

There will also be an opportunity to find out about CBT (Cognitive Behavioural Therapy) and other complimentary therapies. Plus workshops from Off the Record, North Somerset Parent Carers Working Together, Now Hear This Music and Mindful Parenting and Community Project. More details are available at [www.portishead.gov.uk/wellbeing](http://www.portishead.gov.uk/wellbeing)

For more information about this event, please email [wellbeing@portishead.gov.uk](mailto:wellbeing@portishead.gov.uk) or call 01275 847 078.

Alternatively, find the Town Council pages on Facebook (@portisheadtc) or Instagram (@portishead\_town\_council).

# MIND IN SOMERSET

## FEBRUARY COMMUNITY DAYS

**NORTH SOMERSET LGBT+ FORUM**  
68 MEADOW STREET, WSM,  
BS23 1QN

**Introducing Weston's  
mental health Fridays.**

Community Day 10-11am at  
LGBT+ Forum HQ in  
Meadow St.

**18+ Sessions**

**Bookable MH navigation single  
sessions 1-3pm**

Citizens Advice Shop - The  
Sovereign Shopping Centre.  
High St.

**Contact**  
[kara.boleyn@mindinsomerset.org.uk](mailto:kara.boleyn@mindinsomerset.org.uk)

Friday Feb 2nd  
10:00 - 11:00  
**Casual Friday**  
A cuppa, biscuits &  
MH chat!

Friday Feb 9th  
10:00 - 11:00  
**Fun Friday**  
Board games,  
thought games  
and us!

Friday Feb 16th  
10:00 - 11:00  
Guided Self Help -  
**Anxiety & Panic Attacks**  
Week 1 of 6

COMING  
SOON

Writing for  
wellness

Art for  
all

# News in Brief



Have you joined the Rainbow Readers queer book club? Delve into books with LGBT+ themes or characters in a group presented Super Culture and hosted by the Forum.

This month's book is *You Exist Too Much* by Ziana Arafat, with February's session taking place at the Bridging the Gap Together! hub between 6-8pm on **Thursday 29th February**. Email Mel via [mel@superculture.org.uk](mailto:mel@superculture.org.uk) for further details and to request a copy of the book!



Our next Gayme night is on **Sunday 25th February**, 5pm till 8pm at the Bridging the Gap Together! hub, 59-61 Meadow Street, WSM, BS23 1QL. As always, 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. Entry is free and there's no need to book. We will also have our Tuck Shop on site, selling food and drink at very reasonable prices (three items for £1!) See you there!



**YOUNG SOCIALITES**

Aged 13-17? This half-term, our Young Socialites group is meeting on **Friday 16th February** at our HQ on Meadow Street in Weston-super-Mare between 3-6pm. There'll be films, games and cakes to enjoy. Feel free to bring along your ally friends or any crafts you fancy working on while you're with us!



Are you the creative type? We are always on the look out for LGBT+ content for our monthly Newsletters, so if you are part of our community and would like to have some of your work published, please email [support@nslgbtforum.com](mailto:support@nslgbtforum.com) for more details. We are keen to feature poems, comic strips, illustrations and microfiction, however we are open to many other ideas too!

If you have an event you wish to advertise in our next Newsletter, please email [support@nslgbtforum.com](mailto:support@nslgbtforum.com) FAO Thom.



# Join the Forum for the fundraiser of the decade!

Zig-a-zig-ah!



## Revenge of the 90s



Friday 1st March 2023. 10pm - 4am. Queenshilling. 9 Frogmore Street. Bristol. BS1 5NA.

Join us in celebrating **LGBT+ History Month** with a club night commemorating the naughtiest, nuttiest and most tasteless decade ever - it's the return of **Revenge of the 90s!**

Revenge of the 90s started in 2014 at Bristol's premier independent LGBT+ club The Queenshilling, playing the best (and worst!) of 90s pop, dance, RnB and Britpop. It ran for five years before moving to Weston-super-Mare and raising funds for the North Somerset LGBT+ Forum along the way, however the 2020 lockdown stopped the music playing...

Ten years since that first thrilling night of nostalgia, Revenge of the 90s returns to its original home for one night only!

Save the date - **FRIDAY 1st MARCH 2024!** Doors open at 10pm, with all money raised going to the Forum to ensure we can continue running our groups, events and activities. The Queenshilling can be found at 9 Frogmore Street, Bristol BS1 5NA (opposite the Hatchet Inn and close to Trenchard car park).

So, if you remember a time when trading Beanie Babies could fund your university fees, Corona was just a drink and the amazon was just a rainforest, or perhaps you were born just too late but have an affinity with Britney and Whitney, be sure to join us for a night filled with the likes of S Club 7, Spice Girls, Blur, Shania Twain, Take That, Ace of Base, Nirvana, 2 Unlimited, The Prodigy, Vengaboys, Oasis, Destiny's Child, B\*Witched, Steps, Backstreet Boys, En Vogue, and many more! Phew!

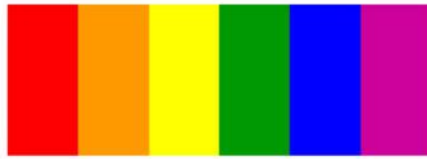
Fancy dress is welcome but not compulsory. Entry is £4 before 11pm, £7 after. We regret that this is strictly an 18+ event.



Above: The Queenshilling looking just a little bit camp

# LGBT+ History Month Quiz

LGBT+ HISTORY MONTH



1st - 29th February 2024



**NORTH SOMERSET  
LGBT+ FORUM**



Can you identify the LGBT+ icons from history on the page opposite?

Write your answers under each picture and we'll publish the answers in our March Newsletter.

If you love quizzes, why not come along to our monthly charity quiz at the Poacher pub in Portishead? Our next event takes place on Wednesday 7th February, and future dates can be seen in the box to the right.

The Poacher has a great range of food and drink on offer, plus we'll be awarding prizes to the winning team. See you there!



## MONTHLY CHARITY QUIZ!

1st November 2023	7th February 2024
6th December 2023	6th March 2024
3rd January 2024	3rd April 2024

£2 entry per person, max five per team

Arrive 7pm for a 7.30pm start

**Raising funds for**



**NORTH SOMERSET  
LGBT+ FORUM**

Reg. charity no. 1174545



1.



2.



3.



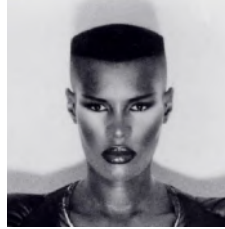
4.



5.



6.



7.



8.



9.



10.



11.



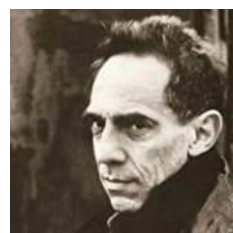
12.



13.



14.



15.



16.



17.



18.



19.



20.

# NORTH SOMERSET

TALK  
CLUB

## MONDAY

7.00PM - 9.00PM

TALK CLUB NAILSEA@65  
65 HIGH STREET  
NAILSEA, BS48 1AW

## TUESDAY

6.30PM - 8.30PM

TALK CLUB CLEVEDON  
YMCA CLEVEDON  
MARSON ROAD  
CLEVEDON, BS21 7NN

## WEDNESDAY

6.30PM - 8.30PM

TALK CLUB PORTISHEAD  
THE BEACON HUB  
PORTISHEAD METHODIST CHURCH  
HIGH STREET, BS20 6EN

## THURSDAY

6.30PM - 8.30PM

TALK CLUB WESTON-SUPER-MARE  
HORNETS RFC  
HUTTON MOOR RD,  
WESTON-SUPER-MARE, BS22 8LY

## SATURDAY

9.30AM

TALK & SWIM Clevedon  
CLEAVDON MARINE LAKE,  
170 OLD CHURCH RD,  
CLEVEDON, BS21 7TU

Join us: [TalkClub.org](http://TalkClub.org)

Talk Club is a talking group for men over 18.

#TalkClub10

@TalkClubCharity

