

NORTH SOMERSET **LGBT+** FORUM

Newsletter



April 2024



Our Revenge of the 90s fundraiser at the Queenshilling was a hair-raising success!

Photo: Proper Job Productions

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY AT A GLANCE

Portishead Poacher Quiz

Wednesday 3rd April

The Recycled Dalek

Saturday 6th April

Drag Diva Lockdown

Saturday 6th April

Retro Music Quiz

Wednesday 17th April

Free HIV Testing

Thursday 18th April

LGBT+ Quantocks Ramble

Friday 26th April

Gayme

Sunday 28th April

See inside for times and venues

PLUS

Our Weekly HQ Drop-Ins

50+ Mondays 3-5pm

Trans+ Wednesdays 3-5pm

Family+ Fridays 3-5pm

*Please note our HQ will be closed
on Mon 1st and Sun 7th April*

NORTH SOMERSET TESTING SESSIONS

with the eddystone trust

Join Ben for a non-judgemental chat about sexual health and get any questions answered. You can also get yourself tested for Chlamydia, Gonorrhoea, HIV & Syphilis during the sessions below. For more information ring Ben on 07587638818



NSLGBT+ Forum
Meadow Street,
Weston-super-Mare
BS23 1QN

Thursday 18th April (12:00 - 16:00)
Thursday 16th May (12:00 - 16:00)
Thursday 20th June (12:00 - 16:00)

eddystone.org.uk

NORTH SOMERSET LGBT+ FORUM
Newsletter

April 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



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Seller: nslgbtforum



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Letter from the Editor...

Hi all,

Welcome to our April Newsletter.

Just a quick note from me this month as we have a lot to pack into this edition, but I think you'll agree we have lots of exciting events and activities to look forward to!

Don't forget we love to hear from you via email (support@nslgbtforum.com) if you have any ideas or suggestions for things you'd like to see happen in your community.

See you soon!

Thom x



Scan for our PayPal link to donate

Jackie Evans 1961 - 2024



The trustees and volunteers of the Forum were deeply saddened to hear the recent passing of Jackie Evans. Jackie was Forum secretary between 2017-19, and a loyal supporter of the charity. She worked tirelessly to support the wider community in her work, and remained a passionate ally to the organisations and communities of Meadow Street and beyond.

Forum Chair Steve shares these words:

"For anyone who knew Jackie Evans, they would describe her as a fierce supporter for anything that benefitted the local community and for the organisations and charities she cared passionately about across North Somerset. Jackie often became enthused when she heard about the many community projects taking place across our district, and you would never be short of a hand to support these if Jackie was available. Her work with Lowering the Bar, The Other Place, Race Equality North Somerset and the support provided in founding the North Somerset LGBT+ Forum will serve as Jackie's legacy for us all to continue. Personally I will miss Jackie's "No Nonsense" approach. Rest well..." Steve

revenge of the 90s

Oops! We Did It Again...!

March's Revenge of the 90s fundraiser
was a smash hit!



Revenge of the 90s returned to the Queenshilling on Friday 1st March for the first time since pre-pandemic, and we were blown away by the amazing supporters who came along and kept the dancefloor buzzing! A huge, huge thank you to each and every person who joined us - your support raised an incredible **£1,898.00** for our charity! This ensures we can continue to provide a safe space for our community at our HQ on Meadow Street, as well as offering drop-ins, groups and activities for you and your community to enjoy across North Somerset.

Massive thanks are also due to the wonderful staff at the Queenshilling, both at the bar and the door, plus Nathan George Burgess Russ for his wonderful photographs and relentless support. See you again soon!



All photographs by Nathan George Burgess
Russ at Proper Job Productions © 2024

Back to the 80s at the Black Cat!

Our music-loving trustee Dave will be returning to the Black Cat Micropub for another Retro Music Quiz on **Wednesday 17th April** as part of our Socialites group. This month's theme is the 1980s, the decade that brought us Duran Duran, Kate Bush, and Roland Rat! Join us from 7.30pm for an 8pm start. Entry is £2 per person, with five rounds of classic 80s music trivia to keep you guessing all night. This month's quiz will be raising funds for the wonderful Aishah's Food Charity.

The Black Cat can be found at 135 High St, Weston-super-Mare BS23 1HN, next door to the Samaritans building. See you there!



SOCIALITES
NORTH SOMERSET
LGBT+ FORUM

RETRO
MUSIC QUIZ
at the
BLACK CAT

Back to the
80s

Wednesday
17th April

7.30pm for 8pm start

Teams of 1-4 people

5 rounds of 80s musical trivia!

Great ales to try!

Prizes to win!

Everybody welcome!

The Black Cat Micropub
135 High Street, WsM, BS23 1HN



Socialites Sundays

If you're at a loose end on a Sunday why not head down to our HQ on Meadow Street between 12-3pm? Join us for our Socialites Coffee, Cake & Chatter get-together! We have tea, coffee, cake and biscuits available, plus some lovely new sofas! No need to book, just pop along when you can. See you there!



THE
EDDYSTONE
TRUST

HIV and Sexual Health Services

Eddystone Trust return to our HQ for free HIV testing and advice on **Thursday 18th April**. 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 - 4pm and there's no need to book a space.



A big Thank You to Thatchers!

The North Somerset LGBT+ Forum would like to extend their thanks to the Thatchers Foundation for their generous support in providing a £1,000 grant to the charity in March. This grant will ensure we can continue to maintain our HQ on Meadow Street, as well as assist with costs

relating to things we have planned as we continue through the year (watch this space for updates!).

To find out more information about the Thatchers Foundation, head to www.thatcherscider.co.uk/about/thatchers-foundation/

DOWNLOAD
THE BEST
LGBT+
TITLES WITH
BORROWBOX



Details opposite page →

Looking back on March...

After starting the month in a retro style with our Revenge of the 90s night, we returned to the 21st Century with Portishead's Spring Into Wellbeing event the very next day! This event brought together dozens of local organisations to help the communities of North Somerset access support with a variety of services on offer. Our chair Steve was thrilled to be between our friends at Off The Record and Eddystone Trust, as well as our neighbours Bridging The Gap Together!

Several of our team also attended a BBC Radio community event for services in North Somerset, which provided a great photo opportunity (below!).



Looking beyond April...

Save space in your diary for the following events that are taking place later in the year...

Sunday 5th May and Sunday 26th May:

Rumble in the Jumble (see back cover)

Further afield...

Saturday 1st June: Portishead Pride

Saturday 27th July: Pride on Sea (Burnham on Sea)

Saturday 13th July: Bristol Pride



Meet The Recycled Dalek!



Are you aged 13-17? Fancy meeting a Dalek? They're very tame really, especially if they're made of rubbish!

Merlin Summers created his very own Dalek out of recycled materials that he found in skips, such as old cardboard, recycled coffee lids, a paint roller, a sink plunger, and a Kinder egg!

Join our friends at Bridging The Gap Together! And Forum trustee Laura at Weston Museum, Burlington Street, Weston-super-Mare BS23 1PR on **Saturday 6th April** between 2 - 4pm (please arrive just before 2pm) to meet Merlin and his metallic creation. Merlin will also share his story and explain how he made his Dalek - and maybe show off its moves!

This event is open to all young people aged 13-17, and their allies and friends. Please ensure each person wishing to attend reserves a ticket. Tickets are free and can be found by heading to: tinyurl.com/y6yw2ytf

Also...

Don't forget Weston Museum's '60 Years of Doctor Who Art' Exhibition is running until Saturday 13th April, so if you haven't visited it yet, be sure to pop by before it dematerialises!

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eAudiobooks and
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Somerset Libraries



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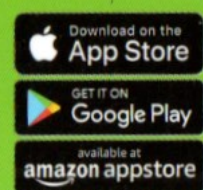
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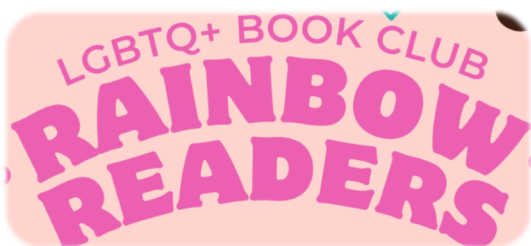


Apple
App Store



Google
Play Store





Delve into books with LGBT+ themes or characters in the Rainbow Readers queer book club presented Super Culture and hosted by the Forum!

Email Mel via mel@superculture.org.uk for details. All books are supplied for attendees to read prior to the group sessions, which are held the last Thursday of the month at the Bridging The Gap Together! hub (opposite Forum HQ).

WANTED!

Could you pay tribute to Divine, dance yourself dizzy to Sylvester, revive Julian and Sandy, or be the new Larry Grayson or John Inman? We are looking for entertainers, singers, musicians, comedians, magicians, or burlesque dancers for our second variety night in June - a show commemorating LGBTQ Icons!

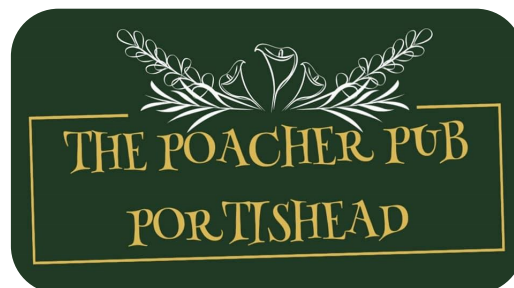
To take part in our GOOD OLD GAYS 2: LGBTQ Icons, email events@nslgbtforum.com with your proposal. Your performance should be no more than 10 minutes long and have an LGBTQ+ connection. We look forward to hearing from you!

Rumble in the jumble

Calling local businesses!

If you run a small, independent business in North Somerset, would you be interested in hosting a stall at our forthcoming Rumble in the Jumble community events in May? We are keen to have local crafters, bakers, makers or vintage sellers in our mini artisan market, and all we ask for is a £10 stall fee.

Details of the events are on the back cover of this Newsletter. For more information, or to register your interest, please email support@nslgbtforum.com FAO Thom.



Our monthly fun-filled quiz night returns **Wednesday 3rd April** 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 next Newsletter, please email support@nslgbtforum.com FAO Thom.



Let's Go Backpacking: The Quantocks! (LGBTQ for short!)



With the clocks going forward, it's time to enjoy the longer evenings with our Socialites group for LGBT+ community members aged 18+. The Forum invites you to join our trustee Dave for a ramble across the Quantocks on **Friday 26th April**. We'll meet at 6pm at Dead Woman's Ditch, finishing our walk at a nearby pub.

Please note that the meeting place can only be reached by car, so please email events@nslgbtforum.com to ensure we have your contact details in case you cannot find us.

The walk includes some small sections of steep climbs and inclines, so be sure to wear sensible shoes. The walk will last approximately two hours, covering around three miles.

To register an interest in this event, be sure to email us or feel free to join our Facebook group (search for 'Socialites - North Somerset LGBT+ Social Group'), where you can also reach out to other members if you would like to arrange a lift, share photos of the walk and connect with others in your local community.



GAYME

Our next board game night Gayme takes place on Sunday 28th April

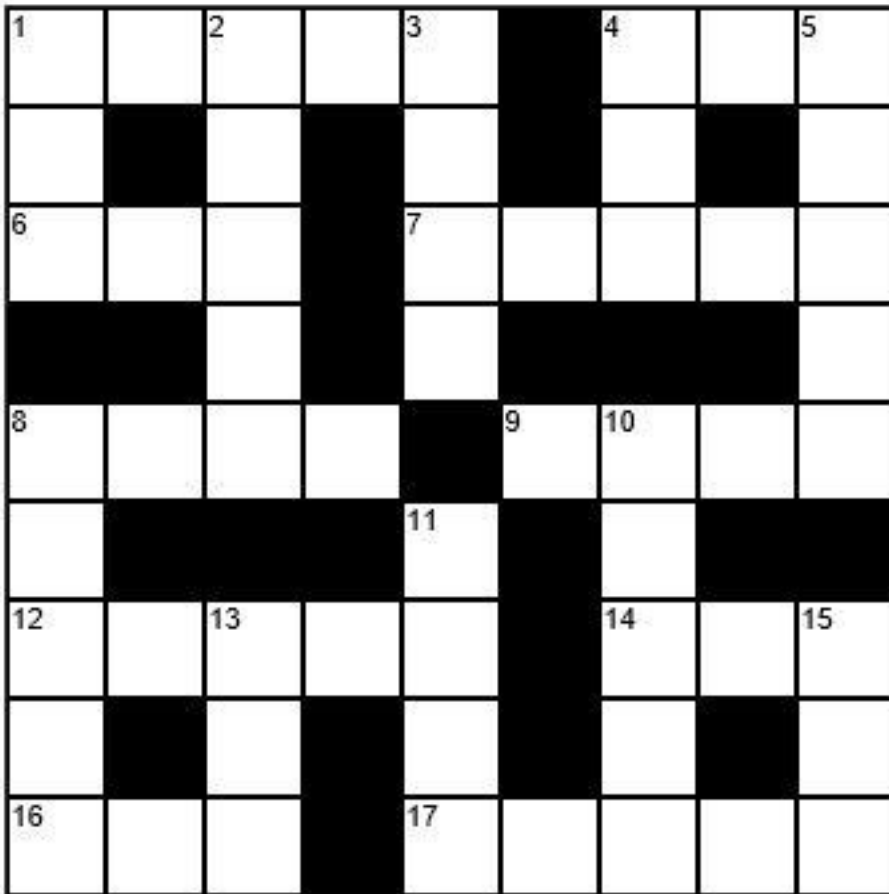
Join us 5pm till 8pm on **Sunday 28th April** at the Bridging The Gap Together! hub, 59-61 Meadow Street, WSM, BS23 1QL.

Gayme is a group for anyone to join who enjoys board games, card games or fun activities, and the venue is fully accessible. Please note that under-13s need to be accompanied by an adult.

Entry is free and there's no need to book. We also have our Tuck Shop on site, selling food and drink at affordable prices. See you there!



April Puzzle Page



Crossword

Across:

1. Acronym of an awesome community (5)
4. Often the spouse of 14-across (3)
6. Not a liquid or solid (3)
7. A delicious sugar used on cakes (5)
8. ___ Hoops, ring-like crisps (4)
9. Flat and round (4)
12. Tranquillity (5)
14. Often the spouse of 4-across (3)
16. A starchy root vegetable (3)
17. Juicy summer fruit (5)

Wordsearch

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



Down:

1. The Last ____. Channel 4 comedy show (3)
2. ___ Brush, famous fox (5)
3. A fun test of knowledge (4)
4. Me!?! (3)
5. Tricks and illusions (5)
8. Pharrell Williams' most famous song (5)
10. The country with the biggest population (5)
11. Every four years... (4)
13. To point or direct (3)
15. Homer Simpson's catchphrase (3)



FREE TO ATTEND

**NORTH SOMERSET
LGBT+ FORUM**

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.



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

@nslgbtforum @nslgbtforum @nslgbtforumsupport @nslgbtforum

NORTH SOMERSET LGBT+ FORUM'S

BIG **Rumble in** **the jumble**

**FREE
ENTRY!**



10AM - 4PM

**FAMILY FUN, BOARD GAMES, PRE-LOVED & VINTAGE ITEMS,
CRYSTALS, HANDMADE GIFTS, LGBT+ MERCH & MUCH MORE!**



SUNDAY 5TH MAY
and
SUNDAY 26TH MAY

AT THE FOLLOWING VENUES on Meadow Street:

