

GayWest

A way of keeping in touch!

Vol. 7 September 2020

Top Stories in this Newsletter

Shadows from the last rays of warm sunshine becoming longer as the sun slowly sinks to the horizon and soon we are in darkness, and now the summer sleeps and the Autumn awakes the thicker shirts come out of their hibernation in the closet, soon it will be the turn of the winter vests!

But here at base camp, we soldier on, into the unknown as we move into the last quarter of 2020. A year we should have been popping the corks and celebrating the group's exceptional 50 years. 2020 has not finished its unusual course yet but all things come to an end and we will be keeping the celebratory drinks on ice until better times are here again.

So here is the **GayWest News**

We managed to set up our first committee meeting since March on September 8th held at our home as normal and of course keeping to the rules we all now have to live under. This meeting was the last for our Events Co-ordinator & Minutes Secretary, Michael Reid, who had decided to stand down back earlier in the year after more than 9 years on the committee. Myself and all the team thanked him for all his support and work for GayWest over the years.

One of the main topics to be discussed at this meeting was in relation to what would normally be the Month for the group's AGM. As we were no further on regarding being back to our Café, I felt that as the Chair of GayWest the other committee members would have to make a decision on this issue alone, discussing all the options at their disposal.

It was finally agreed that the AGM would be cancelled this year until September 2021 and that the committee would remain as elected at the 2019 AGM. If any of you have any comments on this please let us know through the normal channels.

The Committee also discussed future event ideas, such as having a Monthly Sunday pub lunch, continuing with our Monthly social evenings, and other outings, all when it will be safe to do so.

There was also some interesting developments regarding GayWest's work with the Prison communities Gay groups, which is a very exciting development for the future in an area that not many LGBT organisations are involved in. Our outreach team will give you an update on this, possible in time for the October Newsletter.

Colin.

From
the Chairman

**GayWest
News**

Entertainment

**Film
Report**

**Rainbow
News**

**Picnic in
the park**

Obituary

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GayWest News....

GayWest - Now has a WhatsApp Group and a Zoom Virtual Rainbow Café Group.

Membership If you received a reminder with this newsletter, you can pay on-line Standing Order or by cheque, as your support is very important to keep the group going.

Words of Wisdom....from a friend....

This comes from 2 math teachers with a combined total of 70 yrs. experience.

It has an indisputable mathematical logic.

This is a strictly mathematical viewpoint and it goes like this: What Makes 100%?

What does it mean to give MORE than 100%?

Ever wonder about those people who say they are giving more than 100%?

We have all been to those meetings where someone wants you to give over 100%.

How about achieving 103%? What makes up 100% in life?

Here's a little mathematical formula that might help you answer these questions:

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

Is represented as: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26.

Then: H-A-R-D-W-O-R-K $8+1+18+4+23+15+18+11 = 98\%$

And K-N-O-W-L-E-D-G-E $11+14+15+23+12+5+4+7+5 = 96\%$

But, A-T-T-I-T-U-D-E $1+20+20+9+20+21+4+5 = 100\%$

And, B-U-L-L-S-H-I-T $2+21+12+12+19+8+9+20 = 103\%$

AND, look how far ass kissing will take you.

A-S-S-K-I-S-S-I-N-G $1+19+19+11+9+19+19+9+14+7 = 118\%$

So, one can conclude with mathematical certainty, that while **Hard work** and **Knowledge will get you close, and Attitude will get you there.**

It's the Bullshit and AssKissing that will put you over the top. Now you know why Politicians are where they are!

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“The Boys in the Band”

Being released on “Netflix” on September 30th, this is another remake of the 1960’s original with an all gay cast, if you did not see the original or missed the storyline, now is the time to catch-up with one of the moments in the history of Gay Rights.

The Attitude Magazine for October has an in-depth article which you might be interested in.

Music for my ears

All of us enjoy some kind of music, some being involved with the making of music some just listening to music to relax or have it in the back ground.

But music is one of the most profound senses that man has and can effect our lives in many ways.

Music brings joy and happiness, can make us feel sad, can change our moods and can fire up memories and passion. The World is full of music in a kaleidoscope of different cultures and passions and sentiments. From the beauty of the Classics, the rawness of Rock and Pop. The love stories of Opera and the dangers of modern Rap.

You can sooth the soul, or march an army into battle with music, you can heal the sick with music and you can dance the night away and all of your troubles with music. What a wonderful thing that us humans have been blessed with.

My own love of music was Born at the start of the sixties with the sound of that well known band from Liverpool and a song entitled “ Love Me Do” The Beatles of course. From then I went on to form a band, as we all did in those days and imaged myself as a famous pop star. Well that did not quite work out but I learnt to play all styles of music, from heavy rock to Swing band and Jazz and even the classics.

Nowadays, due to my continuing hearing loss this wonderful art form is becoming a struggle to enjoy in all it’s ways but as long as you can pick up the vibes you can hear the sounds from your memories.

So here's your challenge— — Why not let us know what you love about music, your favourites your memories, good and bad, and we can publish them in our next newsletter. Like a lot of things we take for granted, music is around us these days on a daily basis but when the silence comes it is profound.

Colin.

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Picnic Time in *Castle Park Bristol* on Wednesday 9th September, we met at *The Bandstand* and a good time was had by all who attended, it was just lovely to get out and meetup and have a good chat.



Contact us on info@gaywest.org.uk or by phone on 07758810134 Colin.

Letter from Jeremy Meadows (Past Chairman)

Please can you let the Gay West Membership know that **Mike Skinner**, an ex-member of the Gay West Committee has sadly died. He passed away on 5th April 2020 and was just 61 years old. He had a sudden heart attack.

In the late 1990's Mike was an events coordinator on the committee. He was also Membership secretary for a time. Mike was a very popular member of Gay West. He loved all the social gatherings at the time and made many friends.

He had a great sense of humour. You could hear his laugh a mile away!

In recent years he had moved from Bristol and set up home in Wales to enjoy his retirement.

Mike loved life and was passionate about travel. His favourite place in the world was Finland where he often returned.

He also loved football and music. He was a great fan of Toyah and Fleetwood Mac.

He will be missed by his friends and all who knew him. He is gone too soon.

I hear from Ernie that Gay West is thriving under your leadership Colin.

It must be a great shame not to be able to have the Saturday coffee mornings.

It is fantastic that they have continued for so many years.

I hope to see you soon. Take care and best wishes to everyone at Gay West.

Jeremy (Meadows) x