

# Gay West

A way of keeping in touch!

Vol. 10 December 2020



GAYWEST  
WISHES  
ALL MEMBERS  
A VERY HAPPY  
CHRISTMAS  
AND  
A PROSPEROUS  
NEW YEAR

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Top Stories in this Newsletter

## Chair's Christmas Message

Welcome to the December Christmas Newsletter an issue full of Christmas cheer. 2020 has been a year we all probably are not going to look back on with much excitement. A difficult year for all of us, each with our own thoughts and disappointments and worries. Most of us enjoy the social and support aspects of our group a very important part of what GayWest is all about.

Throughout a normal year we visit the gay groups in our local prisons who need a lot of support, take part in our local Prides. The group has established a working relationship with Age UK Bristol as well as Age UK Bath who have put LGBT+ people who they are aware of in touch with our group and in doing so we are working together to reach out to any still closeted elderly people.

We have gained new members this year in spite of the problems. We have also established contacts with the younger Gay groups which is very important for them and us.

On a plus note during this strange year the group, with the help of its members now have a WhatsApp group and a regular virtual cafe using Zoom.

Back in October we were able to reopen the "Rainbow Cafe" at present and until April as a Monthly event. We are able to do this within the present Government guide lines because we are, as stated above an officially recognized support group for LGBT+ people.

Anyone wishing further details related to this can contact me on 07758810134. More information on the Cafe on page 6.

While writing this blog we heard the good news about the Corona Vaccine roll out and there are many members who will be near the top of the list.

So lets look into our crystal ball for 2021, when we can hope for a much better year.

The group has still to celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday, we have already been contacted about LGBT History month events for the new year and our bookings for this years prides have been rolled over for 2021.

We are already looking at events and outings for spring and summer next year so I hope this will give you all some cheer with something to look forward to.

I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a much better new year in 2021.

Colin.

Christmas  
Past

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Christmas  
Message

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GayWest  
News

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Film & Book  
Reviews

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Recipe

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The Covid  
Carol

Xmas Quiz

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Rainbow  
Cafe

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## Film Reviews....

“**The Human Voice**” with Tilda Swinton This one is especially for our lady members.

“**Possessor**” Riveting, Violent, subversively queer Sci-fi thriller.

“**One more for the Road**” with Colin Firth and Stanley Tucci

A heart breaking tale of love, loss, keep the tissues handy.

“**No hard feelings**” Winner of the “Teddy Award” in Berlin

Hedonistic lifestyle, hook-ups, sexy and witty to the end.

“**Summer of 85**” with Felix Lefebvre and Benjamin Voisin

In a coming of age melodrama set in Calais 35 years ago. It was freely adapted from the 1982 novel “Dance on my Grave” by Aidan Chambers, some of you may have noted this book in The GayWest Library.

“**Living in Limbo**” featuring Graham Norton a Pixar film with a genius blend of silly and the serious, a Christmas Cracker.



## Book Reviews....

**With a rash of books out at this time of year, here are a few....**

“**To the end of the world**” (Travels with Oscar Wilde) by Rupert Everett

Part memoir, part travelogue and part film making diary.

“**Home Stretch**” By Graham Norton - gripping yarn, with major gay content.

“**The Glamour Boys**” by Chris Bryant - The secret story of the Rebels who Fought for Britain to defeat Hitler.

“**Loving**” Photographic History of Men in Love 1850 - 1950 By Hugh Nini and Neal Treadwell The breath taking defiance that loving represents is captivating and beyond beautiful.

“**Shuggie Bain**” by Douglas Stuart The winner of the Booker Prize 2020 A dark brooding semi-autobiographical tale of a tough childhood in the east end of Glasgow.

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## Vegan Paella    Feeds 4    ready in 45 minutes    Ingredients

1 1/2 tbsp. of olive oil  
300g closed cap mushrooms, sliced  
1 1/2 tsp smoked paprika  
1/2 tsp cayenne pepper  
2 tsp cider vinegar  
1/2 tbsp. soft brown sugar  
1 onion thinly sliced  
1 red pepper sliced into strips  
900ml vegetable stock  
300g paella rice  
200g frozen garden peas  
1 lemon cut into wedges.



### Method

- 1 Heat 1 tbsp. of the olive oil in a 28cm pan, tip in the mushrooms and cook for 10 mins; until golden. Add the paprika and cayenne, then cook for a further 2 mins before adding the cider vinegar. Once the liquid has been absorbed, add the brown sugar and cook for a further 2 mins. Spoon onto a plate and set aside.
- 2 Add the remaining olive oil to the pan, along with the onion and red pepper. Cook for 5 mins, until starting to soften, then stir in the mushrooms along with the vegetable stock.
- 3 Scatter in the rice and season. Bring to the boil, then reduce the heat and simmer for 15 minutes without stirring. The rice should be cooked, but still have some bite.
- 4 Remove the pan from the heat and sprinkle over the peas. Cover and leave to sit for 15 minutes. Stir in the peas, season, then serve with lemon wedges on the side.    Eric

### **Travel...**

Why not go to the Eurogames Arts Culture World Pride to be held in Copenhagen from the 12th to the 22nd August 2021    said to be the most exciting LGBT+ event.

More information on [copenhagen2021.com](http://copenhagen2021.com)

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## A Covid Carol

In the months of Covid, the virus gave to me....

Twelve MPs blustering  
Eleven Lockdowns lingering  
Ten high streets closing  
Nine nurses nursing  
Eight shoppers hoarding  
Seven Zoomers zooming  
Six commuters coughing  
Five golden friends  
Four nasal swabs  
Three households bubbling  
Two metres spacing— and a debt in  
Rishi's Magic Money Tree.



## A Newspaper Report...

Be sure your sins will find you out !

**An Anti LGBT Campaigner is caught climbing down a drainpipe by police after a raid.**

A married MEP was caught as police raided what was described as an illegal Gay Sex Party. This occurred during lockdown in a Brussels flat where officers found about 20 mostly naked men.

The 59year old Hungarian who has now resigned and who was a close ally to their strongman prime minister Viktor Orban. He was met by the police, after he hurt himself after climbing out of a window. Many of those at the party were said to be diplomats working in the nearby EU headquarters.

The MEP helped to rewrite a constitution declaring Hungary would protect “ the institution of marriage as between a man and a women”.

What a Hypocrite!

Most of the men at the party were fined for breaking lockdown rules.

## Xmas Quiz...

1. The French word “Noel” is often used around Christmas, but what is it’s original meaning in Latin?
  2. Before becoming tied up with Christmas What was YULE?
  3. In what decade did “Coca-Cola” start using Santa Clause in it’s advertisement's?
  4. In which country did “Silent Night” originate?
  5. In which country did the custom of putting up a Christmas Tree begin?
  6. From which country does the Poinsettia Plant come?
  7. In the song “Twelve days of Christmas” What is given on the 7th Day?
  8. “Wigilia” is a traditional Xmas Eve Supper from which Country?
  9. Which Cartoon Character is a Christmas eve favourite watched by millions in Sweden?
  10. In which country would you get a nightly gift from a YULE LAD ?
- The Answers are on page 6.

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## A Festive Rainbow Café

Join us for a touch of festive cheer at the "Rainbow Café" on Saturday 19th December.

Including a Mince Pie and a door ticket prize draw. As we are limited in numbers you must book for this event, see information below



## GayWest in 2021 and why your just the one we are looking for!

2021 will we hope be a much better year for us all and a great year for the group. But we do need your help so we can achieve this. As we mentioned in last months newsletter Michael Read has retired from the committee after many years. So we need a full committee comprising of **Chairman, Treasurer Membership secretary, Magazine/Newsletter Editor ( Vacant ) Events co-ordinator ( Vacant ) Minutes secretary ( Vacant ) Café Host ( Vacant ) Café host co-ordinator Outreach officer, Website and Social Media Controller ( Vacant )** please get in touch with myself regarding these posts, as we wont be able to continue without you.

Colin.

## The Rainbow Café.

*The Rainbow Café will be open monthly until further notice from 10.30 - 12.30*

*Places will be limited so you will need to book in advance.*

*The Café will run on a Table Service system*

*On Entry, you will have to register your Name and Telephone Number and Post Code, or use the NHS CR Code, via the mobile app. Apply a hand sanitiser and wear a mask or face covering.*

*You will have to maintain a Minimum of one metre of social distancing as we all have to protect each other, through this difficult time.*

*Contact :- Colin on 07758810134 or [info@gaywest.org.uk](mailto:info@gaywest.org.uk)*

*30, Woodpecker Close, Keynsham, Bristol. BS31 2FU*

*The new year Saturday Café openings are on January 23rd, February 20th and March 20th*

Quiz Answers...  
1. Birth.. 2. A Pagan Midwinter Festival. 3. 1920's. 4. Austria. 5. Germany. 6. Mexico  
7. Swans-a-swimming. 8. Poland. 9. Donald Duck. 10. Iceland.