

GayWest

A way of keeping in touch!

Vol. 9 September 2021

Welcome to your September Newsletter.

Well here we are in a very important time for the group, it's the time of the year that as members of GayWest you get a chance to vote for those you would like to be on your committee. All committee roles are members who give up their time voluntarily to run the group's many activities. At the A.G.M (Details page 3) it is your chance to bring up any issues you would like discussed or suggestions you may wish to put forward..

Last years A.G.M. had to be cancelled, so it is an important time for you to have your say. As your chair for many years I am willing to put my name forward again this year. The group has a lot of challenges ahead but has been able to keep everything alive and kicking in one of the most challenging periods of the groups history. The good news is that we have also gained many new members during this difficult time so lets look to the future with open arms and hearts.

Bristol is in the news as a good place for gays to visit for a holiday break according to Attitude Magazine, complete with a photo of its recently painted "Rainbow zebra crossing" now looking a bit worse for wear. Read all about it in the September edition, available at the Café.

As someone who has had a strong connection with music as a listener and musician it was sad news to hear of the death of one of my favourite drummers Charlie Watts who was 80. Although not a flashy player his timing and precision drumming was a style to follow for any would be percussionist. Along with Buddy Rich, Keith moon and Ginger baker they are all up there making a hell of a sound . RIP Charlie.

You can send us your articles and comments / letters by email to info@gaywest.org.uk or post at 30, Woodpecker Close, Keynsham, BS31 2FU

We await them in anticipation !



In the news



GayWest events

Book and Film Reviews

GayWest Annual General Meeting

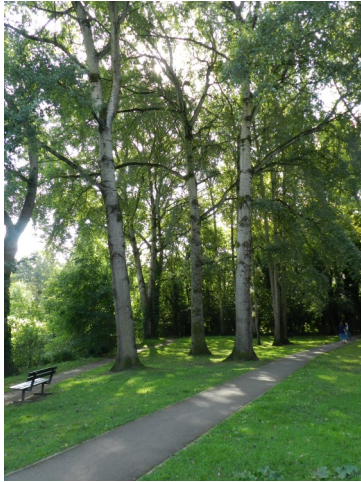
Wells Musketeers

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Events this Month

Woodpecker Walk 3

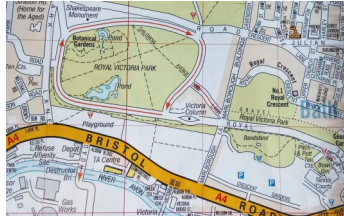


The next Woodpecker walk will take place on Sunday September 19th with the usual start time of 11am. Meeting at 30 Woodpecker close.

This is a round trip across fields and on roads taking in different highlights of Keynsham.

We will return to 30 Woodpecker at the finish of the walk for light refreshments.

GayWest Annual Picnic



This is open to everyone. This includes all members of Gay West and GMG – this is a joint event. You are encouraged to bring your own picnic.

BRIEF HISTORY – Royal Victoria Park was opened in 1830 by Queen Victoria herself, when she was aged 11. This is situated just north/west of the city centre on Upper Bristol Road (A4). There are so many attractions for you to do in this beautiful 57-acre (23 hectare) park which is popular for local and visitors alike.

GETTING THERE – If you are coming via Bath Spa Railway Station or Bath Bus Station, you can catch 3a, 4 or 39 to Monmouth Street, then walk towards the park, or alternatively it is about 15 minutes' walk (one mile). All Bath Park and Rides run on Sundays (nearest one is Lansdown (drop off/on in Milsom Street). There is limited car parking within the park, free on Sundays. Charlotte Street car park is nearby, chargeable.

WET WEATHER - In event of wet weather, please meet inside, Royal Victoria Park Pavilion, Victoria Park, Bath BA1 2NR.

Welcome back to the social evening's our next one at
"The Old Market Tavern" is on Thursday **9th** September
starting at 8PM



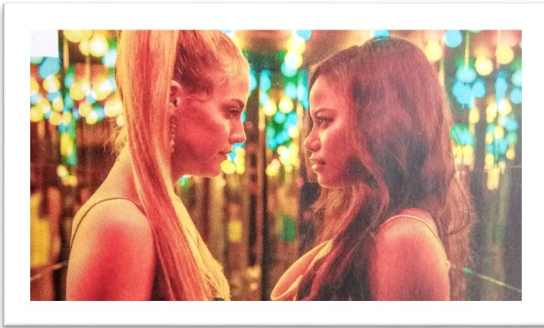
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Reviews

Film

Dancing With Danger



Stripping, prostitution, and Murder, a thrilling and (partially) true—story of a road trip gone horribly wrong.

Janicza Bravo's wild wayward road movie could have just been a gimmick or a stunt but emerges as something thrilling and vital the rare film that manages to depict real life through the prism of life online Its also just a hoot powered by the chalk and cheese performances of Taylor Paige as the jaded, wary Zola and Riley Keough as fellow stripper Stefani, an unhinged airhead who whisks her off on a supposed dancing gig that goes way south and way dark.

Book

Desire: A Memoir Jonathan Dollimore

Jonathan Dollimore renowned cultural critic and gender and queer theory trailblazer—examines a life spent dedicated to understanding the delight and disorder of desire. Through recollections of his working class upbringing teenage attraction to risk and danger, struggles with depression, discovery, of love and literature and his adventures cruising in the gay subcultures of the late 20th– century New York, Brighton and Sydney. Dollimore captures a vision of a newly liberated hedonistic world soon to be devastated by Aids. Out Now

Gay Books can also be obtained from Queerlit.uk
Manchester's Independent Gay Book Shop

GayWest A.G.M.

This years A.G.M will be on Saturday 25th September. Starting at 11.15 am.

It is very important that you try to attend, as for the group to continue we need a strong dedicated bunch of members for your committee.

We have sent out to you all a nomination form. Please read carefully. The form is in a PDF file that can be downloaded and printed.

E-Mail or other electronic versions will not be excepted.

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Three Gay Musketeers go to Market

The three gay musketeers in their finery
Arrived at Wells street market.
Col D'Artagne, Jim Aramus and Jojo Jathos,
Resplendent in billowing satin cloaks,
Ruby red, dark emerald green and turquoise.
Jaunty hats plumed with equal magnificence.
Beneath their outfits, bodies honed and toned,
By years of physical man to man duels.

Unbeknown to market browsers and stallholders,
This wasn't a passing acting troupe
Hired to to brighten the already sunny day.
They were the real gay troubadours,
Having recently purchased, quite brazenly,
Rainbow coloured undies from Marks and Sparks.
When Jim Aramus complained about the tight fit,
Col D'Artagne retorted, "Well you did pot for the micro
briefs."
They sashayed and swayed through the market,
Spearing pies, sausages and sweet meats with stilettos.
At cheese stall, tossed French flavor's into swag bag.
Bread similarly acquired, a couple of baguettes,
And that was surely lunch prepared.
They posed for selfies before ornate mirrors.
Tried on sun hats, panamas, for future escapades.

Across the wafting aroma therapy stall
They spied a young bronze Adonis,
Bare tanned torso with nipples erect.
Long dark hair and assured pose
He stared brazenly at the Musketeers
With his gorgeous piercing blue eyes.

The three moved around him in a colourful dance,
Daggers stroking his body affectionately.
Adonis held himself, loving the attention.
Not a word, just self love possessed.
Col D'Artagne could resist no longer,
Cut the string holding up Adonis's shorts.
A proud sight to behold for market browsers.
A gasp and a cry of awe went up,
The Musketeers scarpered and regained composure.

The trio swaggered into the Bishop's Palace,
To settle on the grass for their picnic.
Hardly established Col D'Artagne spotted the swans.
Drawing his rapier he was set on a roast meal.
He advanced slowly with blade poised.
A wily swan was having none of it,
Paddled rapidly and rang the bell.
Immediately a flock of priests in black appeared,
Like giant ravens they floated across the grass.

The gay Musketeers, stunned by the sight, fled
Out passed the town crier in faded green garb.
"Oh yeah, beware these three colourful chaps."
They ran through the arch onto Cathedral Green.
There they beheld the future, a hovering drone.
Bewitched they paused and were filled with dread.
As the threatening drone moved towards them,
The trio high tailed through streets and alleys,
Found their patient horses grazing on a roundabout,
Mounted in a flurry and galloped to the hills.
"Oh yeah, oh yeah, beware the gay scoundrels"
Echoed in their wake as they crossed the hills.