

**Welcome,**

Summer, The season of Prides, by now, many, such as Bristol's will have passed and hopefully was an enjoyable event for all who managed to attend. As chairman of GayWest I was invited to give a talk about the group, as it is today, and its history and connections with the City of Bath.

Taking place at The American Museum in Bath on August 10th, this being a launch party for Bath Pride 2023.

However this event has now been cancelled due to allegations and online social Media tweets, that the organisers of this event had received, and the hopeful future of Bath pride were somehow not being inclusive of LGBTQIA+ people from minority backgrounds. The accusers are from the LGBT+ community themselves.

The people working to put Bath on the map with its own pride, are like us and are all volunteers, giving up their own free time for the benefit of others.

Now the whole future of pride in Bath is in doubt. Who to blame? Well a minority of our very own LGBT people.

***A copy of the full statement sent to me from the Bath Pride organisers is available on request.***

Our ever growing membership is good news and we welcome our new members to our group, see page 2.

And on Page 4, are the job descriptions for a few key organisers that we are looking for to help run your very unique gay social organisation.

**Colin**

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**Film Review**

Boys on Film 22



"These are films that embrace a historical view of the homosexual experience, with many exploring stories of men who are hiding something important while facing a serious challenge. These are mini-dramas that provoke us to identify more strongly with each other." Rich Cline, [Shadows On The Wall](#)

BOYS ON FILM 22: Love To Love You out now on DVD, Blu-ray and on-Demand.



**Carol**

A wealthy woman and a department store clerk begin an illicit affair in this must-watch LGBTQ+ film set in the 1950s. Adapted from the cult classic *The Price of Salt* by Patricia Highsmith, it depicts how unexpected romance can change your life.

The GayWest Book Library

Jim has recently put all our books onto the Database, all 350+ of them, but has found a few missing, please can you look and see if you have any of them, and return them, so others might enjoy them.

We are always grateful for newer books to add to our collection, if you have any.

Thanks

On Saturday 16th July 22 at "The Rainbow Café" those of us who like cake had the pleasure of a top class product from one our Prize winning members, see photo, Delicious, is there any more??



*We welcome our newest members to the group.*

**David, Mike, Matt  
& Guan**

*We hope you all will enjoy being members of GayWest.*

## ALEXANDER'S RAG TIME BAND

In 1938 Hollywood's 20<sup>th</sup> Century-Fox film studio produced a film which was Oscar-winning and featured a host of stars popular at the time and still well-remembered today.

Music and lyrics were by Irving Berlin who wrote no less than 26 songs for this delightful film.

Top of the bill was **Alice Faye**, Tyrone Power, Don Ameche and Ethel Merman (all of whom are firm favorites of mine.)

The plot revolves around a struggling small band conductor (Power) and a young aspiring female singer (Faye); their paths cross in a night club and through a miss-understanding, the band leader gets hold of the song-sheet she (Faye) brought with her and starts playing it. Faye hears the music, takes to the stage and sings a wonderful rendition of "Alexander's Rag Time Band" which is greeted with much enthusiasm by the otherwise bored audience.

The night club owner says he likes their music and will hire them *but only as a group*.

This leads to even more antagonism between the two principal characters: and the lady is particularly outraged!

In between their problems, along comes **ETHEL MERMAN** who looks

divine and warbles equally divine songs that Berlin ever penned. The conductor and his musicians get their call-up papers, the band dissolves, and they go off to war. During the conflict, the musicians form another band and entertain the troops at moral-boosting concerts, and when the war is over they go back home and the band is reformed in civvy-street.

For Faye, her career has nose-dived and she is singing at the lowest and most devastating time of her career.

Then again, by some cinematic stroke of luck, the band leader hears of her shows and visits the downtown sleazy venue where Faye is earning a pittance and has slipped into a deep mood of depression and anxiety. On hearing her sing, Power approaches her and wins her confidence and she agrees to sing with the band again "for old times sake". Of course it is a huge hit and highly successful

and Faye renews her singing activities with the band. Better still

their romance is re-kindled and glory be! There is one of the happiest endings of all films.

I never tire of watching this film and have at least two copies on DVD,

In later years, I had the greatest of pleasure and honour of meeting Alice Faye who was on a visit to London: she agreed to appear at a bijou cinema in May (of which I was a member) and so the chance of a lifetime came when my name was called and I met this lovely screen apparition in person!

It was and remains for me, an unforgettable occasion.

Valentino 07/2022

## *GayWest Events — Dates for your Diary*

### **Social Evening :-**

This is held on the **SECOND** Wednesday of each month from 8pm. at The Lodekka, Tramway Rd, Brislington, Bristol BS4 3DS  
This month on August 10th



## **GW Organisers job descriptions**

### **GW Event's Organiser - Job Description**

1. To be conversant with the access to the Computer  
i.e. [info@gaywest.org.uk](mailto:info@gaywest.org.uk) for addresses and information of interest etc.
2. To research and plan events of interest for members to attend, that will take into Consideration of Ease of Travel, Parking, Buses etc. And cost if any.
3. To plan ahead, at least one event for each month so that members can consult Their Diaries and plan their activities, well in advance.

### **GW Newsletter – Magazine Organiser - Job Description**

1. To be conversant with the access to the Computer  
i.e. [info@gaywest.org.uk](mailto:info@gaywest.org.uk) to access other items of interest for maybe publication
2. To have an element of design flair and an eye for detail and presentation.
3. To work to deadlines, have a regular pattern of work and content

### **GW Rainbow Café Host/ and organiser – Job Description**

2. Unlock and set up the café for the morning, following the guidelines,  
Descalc the Coffee Machine on a regular basis (Monthly), to put up Notices.  
Arrange to replace any supplies needed, Coffee, Tea etc.
3. To organise Assistants for each Saturday to take the monies,  
The Financial Organiser will have prepared the float, at the end of the previous week.  
Café Assistants will organise the purchase of fresh cakes and milk, will clear tables and wash-up, wash tea towels for the next week.
4. Important – **To greet each visitor as they arrive and make them welcome,**  
If they are new, instruct them on the Café, its purpose, and all costs etc.
5. If Potential New Members- give them information leaflet and application form. Make any general announcements about events for the coming week.