



Inside this months Newsletter

Chair's Message, Brain Teaser's, GW events	Page 2
Winter Lights	Page 3
Winter Lights continued , GW at Christmas , Leyhill visit.	
Committee member volunteers	Page 4
Brain Teaser's Answers	

Welcome to 2023. I would like to wish you all a happy and healthy new year. As is usual at this time we all look ahead, maybe planning new places to visit, make changes to your life or maybe just decide to carry on as normal. When we were all slightly younger we may be planning our career paths, planning our long time futures. Now maybe just what we are doing next month!

As we are into a new year we thought we would fresh up the look of your newsletter which I hope you will approve.

I would also like to remind you all that GayWest would not exist if it were not for the voluntary hard work that is put in by your committee members (see page 4) we need more of you to volunteer as GayWest organisers by joining us on the committee, so if your interested please get in touch, email address on top of page or have a chat with a committee member at the Café or call me on 07758810134.

Recently we have received from past members printed copies of past GW magazines, as we have duplicates these will be at the Rainbow Café for you to look at. All past magazines have been digitized and added to the GayWest digital history file.

Colin.

BRAIN TEASER'S

Answers on page 4

1

What has a mouth but cannot eat, what moves but has no legs and what has a bank but cannot put money in it ?

2

Tom's height is six feet, he's an assistant at a butchers shop, and wears size 9 shoes. What does he weigh?

3

There is an ancient invention still used in some parts of the world today that allows people to see through walls, What is it?

GayWest Events January 2023

GayWest Social evening

Join us for our first social evening of the year at “ **The lodokka**” Tramway Rd, Brislington, Bristol, BS4 3DS

Meet from 8pm for a chat, a laugh and to put the world to rights.

The venue is part of the Hungry Horse chain and the food is good and reasonably priced.



Winter Lights

Happy new year everyone.

The bright lights of Christmas seem a distant memory. January is nearly here and its cold and dark the days are short and night seems to last forever. The days are often cold and crisp with little heat from the winter sun.

Look out the window to your garden or maybe park when you're out walking and see the bright lights of evergreen foliage shining right back at you. Many of our evergreen shrubs and even some trees, showing off their bright golds, silvers, greens and reds. Some trees and shrubs produce brightly coloured barks and stems.

The most precious of all these lights in our out outdoor spaces are winter flowering plants.

There are quite a few plants around that flower in the wintertime. Often whether, they are deciduous or evergreen the flowers are often scented, and added bonus for our senses at this time of year,

Here are a few to maybe tempt you: -

Clematis cirrhosa balearica

One of the very few evergreen clematis. It has small dark green compound leaves.

It will grow in full sun while its roots are in the shade and will grow to 3.5 meters up a trellis. The flowers are produce are large and creamy five petaled bell like flowers.



Daphne bholua 'Jacqueline Postii'

A shrub that can grow up to 2 meters or more if happy in its position. They will grow in full sun to semi shade. The growth is often twiggy. It has mid green lanceolate leaves and are usually evergreen. In the winter it produces clusters of mauve star shaped flowers with yellow anthers and are sweetly scented.



Erica Darleyensis silberschmelze

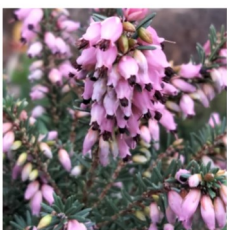
A small sub shrub that required acidic soil. Grows to around 2 feet in height and width. Has small needle like green leaves. The flowers are white with brown anthers and is scented.

A single flowering but has a very long flowering period. It is also a good source of pollen for early bees and insects



Erica Erigena 'Irish Dusk'

Again, is a small shrub requiring acidic soil. This has dark green needle like leaves and will grow up to 1 meter high and wide. It produces lovely pink flowers over a long period of time.



Gaywest

January Newsletter 2023

info@gaywest.org.uk

Iris unguicularis

A lovely evergreen iris producing 10-inch-long dark green narrow leaves. The plant is classed as herbaceous. The plant is best grown in the full sun with well-drained soil. In January it produces large mid blue/mauve flowers with yellow falls. These are often scented and make great cut flowers in the house. The flowers occur on 5-inch stems.



Prunus subhirtella autumnalis

A beautiful deciduous tree reaching 20 feet when mature. It produces lovely just pink semi double flowers and will occur right throughout the winter period from November to March. Other varieties in the group produce lovely bright pink flowers.

From GayWest's Gardening Coach

www.gardening-coach.co.uk or email gardencoach2022@gmail.com



GayWest at Christmas

A few events to celebrate Christmas 22 took place at the " Rainbow Café " one was our Christmas raffle that was well supported and raised funds for the group and also at the Café we had a easy to answer quiz. All well supported with cake and those wonderful mince pies!

On Friday 16th it was the groups annual Christmas Dinner and after 2 years being a buffet at the Café due to a well known virus we had a 3course dinner at " The Crown inn " in Salford. The event was well attended and the venue did us proud, good service, good food and a wonderful Christmas atmosphere.

Colin.



Leyhill Visit

Back on what was World Aids day (1st December) Jim and myself were invited to Leyhill open Prison to a presentation event. Back in August 2022 we attended the prisons Pride concert event which was extremely good all the entertainers were themselves inmates. Money raised at this event by the residents themselves in cake and coffee sales and tickets. Was divided between GayWest and Macmillan cancer.

GayWest received a donation of £ 464.00p and excepted the cheque at the presentation ceremony.

As a support group for LGBT people as well as social we made a donation back to the residents of Leyhill of £250.00p to be spent on books and other items for their library. Leyhill has been supporting GayWest since 2015 when we first helped those who were gay at the prison.

Your GayWest Committee.... 2022—2023

Chairman.... Colin O'Brien Treasurer.....Brian Milligan Membership...Eric Baldwin Events..... ..
Cliff Pasmore Minutes Sec. .Tony de lezameta

The following posts are vacant. Newsletter editor, Rainbow Café co-ordinator, Website and IT