



February is the time of the year that LGBT History is celebrated so at “ The Rainbow Café “ we will have a small display of GayWest History, generally in the form of past magazines etc.. During the month.

Robert Howes book on GayWest is still available just google Gaywest book, and information on how to buy will be there. Also our 50th anniversary booklet is available as a PDF file on request.

So this month we have a few articles related to LGBT past.

The group continues to have new members joining on a regular basis and keeping our membership secretary on his toes (I know he enjoys the work) this also reminds me that we are still needing volunteers to take up roles on our committee so if interested please get in touch with myself via the usual methods.

As January is a usually a quite month I have been overwhelmed by the attendance at our “ Rainbow Café “ which has seen numbers exceed 30 on the most Saturdays, and this during January!

Also I would like to mention that an easy way to pay your membership fee is by setting up a standing order, this not only benefits you but also cuts down the work at our end. It can be a yearly payment or monthly which ever suits you best. You will need to notify us if you wish to do so. We already have members who pay this way.

Colin

Inside this months Newsletter

| | | |
|-------------|-------|------------------------------|
| Page 1. | _____ | Chairs Message |
| Page 2. | _____ | The Radnor Oliver Frey |
| Page 3. | _____ | Netflix Films |
| Page 4. | _____ | William Lygon |
| Page 5. | _____ | GW events Your committee |
| Page 6 & 7. | _____ | “Snow” The GayWest Gardener |

Gaywest

February Newsletter 2023

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Post war Radnor

Being one of the oldest known gay pubs in Bristol, believed to go back as far as the 1930's. Run by the Broadhurst family from 1925 until 1975.

The then new owners claimed it wasn't a gay pub and later in 1976 it traded as The Porcupine.

The pub then was long and narrow with a snug room at the back behind curtains were the most outrageous queens congregated. A table was always reserved for a group known as the tea set.

It was closed for many years before becoming the Radnor Rooms wedding and Function rooms in 2017.



As the wedding venue

Oliver Frey, Known as Zack.

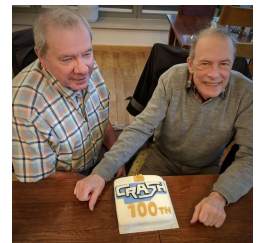
Oliver Frey was a Swiss Artist best known for his book & magazine illustrations under the name of Zack Art. Becoming well known for his erotic illustrations in British gay magazines.

He was Born in Zurich on the 30th June 1948 and moved to the UK with his family in 1956.

His early work was for the Eagle comics. Later in the early seventies he created the erotic art for the comic strips for the "Rogue" caricature portrayed in the "Him magazine which was owned by him and his long term partner Roger Kean. They set up Reckless Books in Ludlow, where they lived for many years. Specialising in young adult action & adventure, historical and gay adult reading all illustrated by Frey along with many books on all subjects.

Oliver Frey died from Cancer on August 21st 2021 His partner Roger Kean died on the 3rd January 2023

Roger Kean was known to me via our exchanges via GayWest Facebook account. I first contacted them in October 2015. We were putting together a special addition of the GayWest magazine all about members coming out stories, (still available to read from our website) and contacted them to see if it was possible to have one of Zack 's illustrations for our cover. It was a bit of a cheek as they were on sale as special additions only. But to our surprise they were delighted to support us and sent us a print for our cover and also prints from the him magazine. Some of these will be on show at " The Rainbow Café " during February as part of LGBT History month. Colin



Oliver & Roger



In their younger days



Illustrations by Oliver Frey, Zack Art.

Netflix Films

If you have the facility to get them, can I draw your attention to two of them which are in series form?

The 1st one is called. “**Move to Heaven**”. A strange title but worth looking at it, it is a series of some ten episodes. It is about a son and father who are called the Trauma Team. When someone dies, they are called to clear the house of all the furniture and personal effects.

The most personal item such as a passport, family pictures etc. Are placed in a yellow box to be returned to closest relatives.

The boy is autistic and for him, this must happen, this is where the series becomes interesting.

But however difficult it is, he finds a way to deliver it, meeting all aspects of human life, including a gay couple.

The 2nd is called “**The King’s Affection**”. It takes place in the early days of the Chinese dynasties.

It depicts the birth of twins to the King and Queen. This creates a big problem, as one is a boy and the other is a girl, which is not permitted, as it is seen as an abomination and one of them has to go??? It shows the life of the King from childhood to an adult and the many intrigues in the court and its workings, and the loves of the King which are very heart warming and sentimental.

Hope that you enjoy both titles, and you will find others that have been produced. Both are South Korean series dubbed in English.

Des Eastup

GayWest Needs your help!

We are urgently looking for copies of any past copies of our magazines.

that you no longer wish to keep, in particular:-

- 1. The Early years 1970—1984**
- 2. 2003, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2011 and 2016**

Any others would be appreciated. Contact Jim on Info@gaywest.org.uk

WILLIAM LYGON, SEVENTH EARL BEAUCHAMP

William Lygon, 7th Earl Beauchamp, (b 20/02/1872 – d 14/11/1938) was styled Viscount Elmley until 1891, and was a British Liberal politician.

Background and Education:

Beauchamp was the eldest son of Frederick Lygon, 6th Earl Beauchamp, by his first wife, Lady Mary Catherine, daughter of Philip Stanhope, 5th Earl Stanhope. He was educated at Eton College and Christchurch, University of Oxford, where he showed an interest in evangelism, joining the Christian Social Union.

When political enemies threatened to make public his homosexuality he resigned from office to go into exile. Lord Beauchamp is often assumed to be the model for the character Lord Marchmain in Evelyn Waugh's novel *Brideshead Revisited*.

Political Career:

In 1902, Beauchamp joined the Liberal Party and the same year he married Lady Lettice Mary Elizabeth Grosvenor (the daughter of Victor Grosvenor, Earl Grosvenor) at Eccleston, Cheshire, 26th July 1902. They went on to have three sons and four daughters.

Sexuality and Blackmail:

In 1931, Lord Beauchamp was "outed" as a homosexual. Although Beauchamp's homosexuality was an open secret in parts of high society and one that his political opponents had refrained from using against him despite its illegality, Lady Beauchamp was oblivious to it and professed a confusion as to what homosexuality was when it was revealed. At one stage she thought her husband was being accused of a bugler! He had numerous affairs at Madresfield and Walmer Castle, with his partners ranging from servants to socialites, including local men.

In 1930, while on a trip to Australia, it became common knowledge in London society that one of the men escorting him, Robert Bernays, a member of the Liberal Party, was a lover.

It was reported to King George V and Queen Mary by Beauchamp's Tory brother-in-law, the Duke of Westminster, who hoped to ruin the Liberal Party through Beauchamp, as well as Beauchamp personally due to his private dislike of Beauchamp. Homosexual practice was a criminal offence at the time, and the King was horrified, rumoured to have said "I thought men like that shot themselves".

The King had a personal interest in the case, as his sons Henry and George had visited Madresfield in the past. George was then in a relationship with Beauchamp's daughter Mary, which was cut off by her father's outing.

After sufficient evidence had been gathered by the Duke, Beauchamp was made an offer to separate from his wife Lettice, retire on a pretense and then leave the country. Beauchamp accepted and left the country immediately, living a nomadic life in the global "gay" hotspots of the time. Shortly afterwards, the Countess Beauchamp obtained a divorce. There was no public scandal, but Lord Beauchamp resigned all his offices.

Following his departure for the continent, his brother-in-law sent him a note which read: "Dear Bugger-in-Law, you got what you deserved. Yours, Westminster."

Lady Beauchamp died in 1936, aged 59, estranged from all her children except her youngest child. Lord Beauchamp died of cancer in New York City in 1938, aged 66. He was succeeded in the earldom by his eldest son, William. Of the Earl's seven children, all but the second son Hugh (who was homosexual) married, but only two left children.



Our Events organiser has been working hard and has given us a lot of information on places to visit and shows to go to in our area. Too much to list all here. But you can find all the information on the GayWest website, open up the site's home page and go to the box that says entertainment!

There you will find all info for Mother Goose, My Fair Lady, The King and I, Bath theatre tours, Bath Holbein museum, and more.

We welcome our new members to GayWest

Mark, David, Steve, Chris and Peter

We now have 95 members from all parts of the Country, with about a third, attending our Gatherings every Saturday at The Rainbow Café in Bath.



GayWest Events 2023

GayWest Social evening

Join us on the SECOND Wednesday of each month for our social evening at

“The Iodekka” 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.

This Month Wednesday 15th



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

It is important that you come forward to join the team and enable the group to continue.

“Snow”

In the depths of winter there never seems to be much going on in our gardens. Often wet and cold and dark days and nights. But things are moving in the ground and have been for a number of weeks and until they start to flower in February, snowdrops are a true winter joy.

Throughout February and early March there are many snowdrop sales throughout the UK . Even here in Shepton Mallet we have a snowdrop festival from 13th – 19th February. There are many gardens open as well where vast swathes of snowdrops can be viewed growing and they truly look like lying snow.

Snowdrops consist of about 20 species of bulbs and from that there are hundreds of hybrids. Mostly flowering from February but, some will flower in January and a few will flower in later autumn too. They are generally grown in woodland places and will also grow out in the full sun in well drained calcareous soils.

The common *Galanthus nivalis* is often referred to as native but, none are found here within the UK in ancient woodlands. They are more from the northern hemisphere. Snowdrops (*Galanthus*) fall into 4 main flowering categories and those being Single, double, green and gold.

Galanthus nivalis.

Narrow grey green leaves up to 6 inches in length. The flowers are single, 3 larger outer petals and 3 inner petals. The inner petals have a green marking on the ends of the petals. Flowering from February in to March.



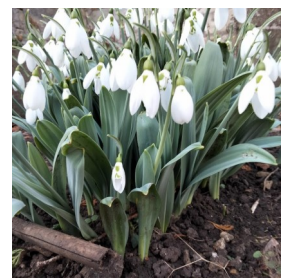
Galanthus nivalis floro plena.



The same as above with the exception that the leaves are shorter and the flowers are double. It also flowers later in February.

Galanthus elwesii.

This snowdrop can grow up to 30cms. With broad grey/glaucous leaves up to 2cms wide. The flowers are large to an inch in length nodding white flowers. It is also a single but like a lot of snowdrops have a nice scent. The green markings on the inner petals can merge together making them more pronounced.



Galanthus Hobgoblin

This snowdrop is classed as a green snowdrop and it get this classification from the green markings on the outer petals as well as marking on the inner petals. This bulbous plant will grow to 6 inches in height and make a lovely clump in a reasonable time.



Galanthus Ashwick Green



This snowdrop is a double green. With green markings on the outer petals as well as on the many petals inside. A hybrid from G.Nivalis floro plena. A lovely local snowdrop.

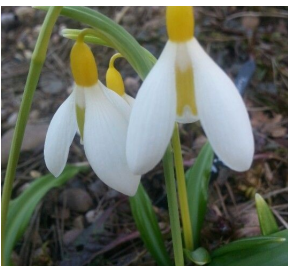
Galanthus Wendy's gold

This snowdrop as the name suggests is classified as a gold snowdrop. This means that the normal green markings are yellow along with the ovary at the top of the flower. This variety has been around for many years and makes a lovely clump with its greenish leaves. The flowers held high over the foliage.



Galanthus nivalis Madelaine

A charming gold snowdrop with clear gold markings on its petals. Makes a nice clump in a short space of time.



From GayWest's Gardening Coach

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

February 14th the day of romance ! So after you have spent all your money on that expensive romantic meal ,with the odd pound or two of change left, you could bag yourself a prize in our Valentines Raffle on Saturday 18th February at " The Rainbow Café " Donations much appreciated.

Coming up sometime in March will be our first Woodpecker walk of 2023 details in next months newsletter