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Welcome to your June Newsletter. So here we are nearly in the middle of the year, with the longest day on the 21st which is also the official start of summer according to the seasons. So enjoy these longer daylight hours, summer outings and of course its holiday time.

Read all about it!

As the title says, if you login to the GayWest website and go to publications where you can read about what the group was up to from 2015 until now. On this page you will see a list of all the newsletters and magazines and other publications that have been produced. Just click on the one you wish to read and there it will be. You can download them to your device, read online or print out and read later.

As the year is moving along do remember that we are looking for members to join our committee so that, new ideas and vision and sparkle can be maintained within the group.

Have a good Month,

Colin info@gaywest.org.uk Tel 07758810134.

The George — Norton St. Philip



Situated about 5 miles south of the City of Bath lies the village of Norton St. Philip in the Mendip district of Somerset. Central to the village is the reputed oldest tavern in England, built in the 14th century, nowadays designated as a Grade 1 Listed building.

It was originally built as a wood store for Hinton Priory which was one of the ten medieval Carthusian houses of England, established by William Longspee, Earl of Salisbury in 1222.

The resident monks disliked the Priory, and a new house was constructed at Norton St. Philip ten years later.

A Licence to sell ale was granted, and the upper floors were added as accommodation. It became an Inn and was an overnight stopping place on the stage coach route between London and the South West: the notable Samuel Pepys with his wife and family stopped on route from Bath to Salisbury.

Following the failed Monmouth Rebellion in 1685, the notorious judge Jeffries conducted twelve executions by hanging of rebels — on the village common nearby.

Restoration funded by the Wadworth Brewery, was undertaken in 1998 and extensive archaeological investigation followed. The Inn has been used in major feature films including: Tom Jones, Remains of The Day, and The Canterbury Tales.

Today, this unique and historical building has become a popular tourist attraction which includes a restaurant.

A comprehensive handbook detailing the Inns history, is available on site.

Valentino

Annual Picnic at Bradford on Avon, BA15 1DE Wednesday 26th



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.

Please note:- that this is being held on a WEDNESDAY not usual SUNDAY because it is very popular at the weekends, and gets packed out.

STARTING MEETING POINT – Please meet me at 1300 hours prompt in Westbury Gardens, between Cenotaph and BOA Tourist Information Centre.

Depending on the numbers and availability of seating, originally at the meeting place.

We could move to near Tithe Barn where there are plenty of picnic tables.

BRIEF HISTORY – Bradford on Avon was famous for the wool and weaving industry. Now it is a famous historic town, with beautiful views of River Avon. Also there is a canal nearby. Tithe Barn is not to be missed, an amazing place to see. <https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/bradford-on-avon-tithe-barn/>

GETTING THERE—*Train* - Catch a train from Bristol Temple Meads leaving at 1203, which goes to Weymouth calling at Keynsham (1211), Oldfield Park (1218), Bath Spa (1222) arriving at Bradford on Avon at 1234.

Bus - Catch D1 bus from Bath Bus Station at 1155, arriving at Bradford on AVON Town Bridge at 1240

Parking - nearest parking is at St Margaret's Car Park (BA15 1DE) with 34 spaces, maximum of 3 hours at £2.60). There is additional parking at the Railway Station.

WET WEATHER - In the event of wet weather, please meet me inside the 'BOA Teapot Cafe', Silver Street, BA15 1JX near Bridge Yard.

MORE INFO - www.bradfordonavon.co.uk

GayWest Events 2023

GayWest Social evening Wednesday 14th June.

Join us for our social evening at

“The Lodekka” 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.



Looking ahead to summer days.

Your chance to have a tour around the Gardens and grounds of Lydiard Park near Swindon. On Wednesday July 12th.

Meet at 11am.

Parking £4.00p House entry £ 5.30p which includes house and grounds. You will be given the tour by one of our members.

There is a café in the grounds for those welcome refreshments.

Lydiard Park, Tregoze, Swindon, SN5 3PA

Access from junction 16 M4.



Other events in our area to go to

Bristol Gay Pride June 24th to July 8th The Queer films on at the Watershed. (Queer vision short films.)

www.pride Bristol .co

Holburne Museum lots of events on contact Tel 01225 388569

Craft beer festival 9th and 10th June At Lloyds ,Bristol Harbourside www.bristol craft beer festival .co.uk

Jade Adams (Gay comedy) for tickets contact Bristol Old Vic.org.uk/what's on.

Bath Theatre Royal ..New Cole Porter Musical Roman Holiday 10th June—Sat 1st July.

St Mary Radcliffe Bristol Hidden Treasure. Free Exhibition open till Sunday 17th September

Stmaryredcliffe.co.uk.

On Sunday May 21st the Woodpecker Walkers reached the summit of Maes Knoll with panoramic views over Bristol and the Chew valley lakes



HELP !

GayWest Needs your Help

We are urgently looking for copies of any past magazines, Meeting Minutes or anything that you have relating to GayWest History, that you no longer wish to keep.

Please contact Jim on Info@gaywest.org.uk

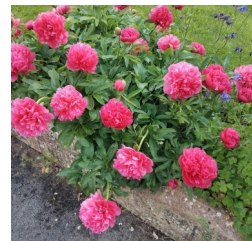
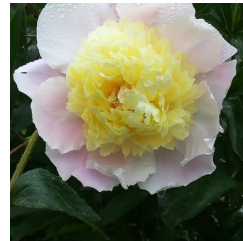
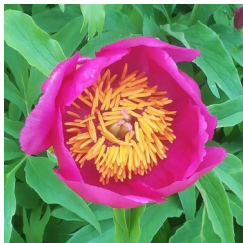
Tutu

Peony belongs to its own family Paeoniaceae.

It is native to Asia, Europe and northwest America. The group consists of around 33 species of hardy herbaceous and shrubby perennials. They are primarily grown for their handsome bowl-shaped flowers in white, cream, red, yellow, and pink shades. The flowers are single, semi or complete doubles resembling a tutu. The flowers are also sweetly scented and make good cut flowers for the house. The foliage is often a deep red colour when it emerges. Paeonies is split into three groups – Tree, Herbaceous and Intersectional.

Tree

Woody shrubs with small to large flowers depending on type. The shrubs are often rounded and wide or vase shaped. The leaves often emerge as red shades in most species. All tree peonies are deciduous. The flowers with some are impressively large but all are short lived. They flower from mid-April to mid-May depending on the years weather



Herbaceous

Herbaceous peonies make over time very large imposing clumps but have a somewhat brief flowering period of mid spring to early summer. The flowers are on the whole large and in many colours, some can get to over 8 inches across. The stems and leaves on herbaceous peonies are often red/ crimson when they emerge. The flowers have a sweet scent and make very good cut flowers

Intersectional (Itoh)

These are a hybrid created in the 1940's from tree and herbaceous peonies. The leaves are reminiscent of tree peonies. These like the other two are deciduous and make a compact wood clump. The flowers in any shades of white, yellow, pink, purple, and red. The flowers are more often semi- full double flowers. They are rarer in gardens as they can be very expensive however where you find them in gardens, they are most impressive.

Peonies dislike poor wet or very dry soils. They also dislike shade. They tend not to make great pot plants as they have deep root systems.

On the whole peonies are pest free however, they do suffer from peony wilt, a form of botrytis. Plants suffering from this should be removed disposed of or burnt.

From your GayWest Gardening Coach.... www.gardening-coach.co.uk or email to gardencoach2022@gmail.com