



LGBTQ+ STAFF NETWORK



Newsletter

February 2021

LGBT+ History Month 2021 Edition

A monthly newsletter will be sent to all JoE staff members who are signed onto the 'Announce' mailing list. This is being sent from the LGBTQ+ Staff Network.

If you have any suggestions for this newsletter, or if anyone has any virtual activities and/or support groups they feel would be useful to share please do send these in

[Email us HERE](#)

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Network and Societies Statement

Considering the Mind, Body and Spirit theme of LGBT+ History Month this year, we want to begin by encouraging fellow LGBTQ+ people to find time to be kind to themselves; mind, body and spirit. The network and societies have shared the challenges the pandemic has created for LGBTQ+ students and colleagues, be it feeling cut off from our community, questioning or living an inauthentic self or not being supported by those who we may be in lockdown with. In a time where we feel angry and upset by the homophobia, biphobia and transphobia in the world, we need to seek strength from the radical compassion in the LGBTQ+ community and celebrate our joys, wins and stories.

Although we may not be able to come out in body this History Month, we have put together a list of events and support networks to connect our minds while we strive for inclusion for all, which unites us in spirit.

We want to call on our allies to join us in challenging preconceptions about the shape, depth and breadth of LGBTQ+ history, learn about our struggles and challenges and advocate for positive change. This month is a time to take stock of our rich history as a community – the emotion, comradeship and pride, and to seek resilience to overcome the barriers that remain. History Month allows us to think about what we have never been taught, and about history that is not only hidden but also actively erased. LGBTQ+ people have always existed, and History Month is another chance to reflect on discrimination, ignorance and hatred that needs to be tackled. We cannot and should not ignore injustice and that our compassion and solidarity for one another are among our greatest strengths; even when that bond is threatened by attempts to divide us, our history shows that we are stronger together.

We believe that we should use history month to reflect on our varied but connected experiences and fight for our trans siblings through rising transphobia in this country, for our lesbian siblings who are harmed in the intersection of homophobia and misogyny, for our bi siblings in the face of erasure and high rates of domestic abuse and for our gay siblings whose struggles we so often dismiss in favour of seeing them as 'the most privileged among us'. We must fight for those of us whose place in the community is defined by one letter or by several, and for those of us who are Q, I, A, or no letter at all. We must look out, celebrate and uplift one another, and recognise and honour our differences and our similarities. Looking on our history will strengthen our resolve, commitment and fight for one another and inspire us to keep working towards a more inclusive environment globally, for not only all LGBTQ+ people but all people.

Events

Below is a snapshot of events coming up over the next three weeks of LGBT+ History Month. Click on the images for the event details.

If you would like a full list of all events being held over LGBT+ History Month 2021, please click [HERE](#)

Stand-up comedy and fascinating talks combine to present an evening of mind-blowing insight, sexual knowledge, politics and hilarity - with prizes for the audience who leap into the challenges!

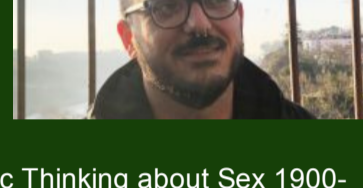


Viral Sites: Scott Burton's Sculpture, Undetectability, and Public Art in the First Decade of the AIDS Crisis in the U.S.

To register for the event click [HERE](#)

Chemsex and queer survival - A talk from João Florencio

To sign up for the event, please click [HERE](#) to email the LGBTQ+ Society requesting for more details



Beyond the Binary: Scientific Thinking about Sex 1900-1950 - In this talk Dr Chiara Beccalossi will examine how, the traditional binary definition of sex was challenged at the beginning of the twentieth century.

PRISM talks from South West based LGBTQ+ STEM professionals - Dr Melissa Brooks and Dr Alex Dudgeon will speak about their work and their experiences as LGBTQ+ individuals in STEM.



Queering the country house - This seminar interrogates the relationship between queerness and the country house, asking how queer/ed approaches can disrupt heteronormative interpretations of such sites - featuring Anthony Delaney

Exeter play showing history of loneliness and exclusion

Dr Charlotte Jones and Dr Fred Cooper, from the University of Exeter, will work with organisations and individuals in Devon and Cornwall to develop and stage the new production, as well as to discuss the endemic issue of LGBTQIA exclusion.

The play will be written by LGBTQIA communities and playwright Natalie McGrath through a series of creative workshops held in collaboration with the Intercom Trust, the main charity in the South West supporting LGBTQ+ people through training, activities, and legal issues.

The original theatrical performance will feature a series of historical vignettes of queer stories from the past 150 years, and will be performed at Exeter's Northcott Theatre as part of a week-long festival, with corresponding events, workshops, discussion forums, and stalls.

Read the full article [HERE](#)



New Terrence Higgins Trust resources developed for and by trans, non-binary and gender diverse people

Little is known about the sexual health needs and knowledge of trans and non-binary people making it challenging to design effective health promotion and clinical services for them. In November 2019, Terrence Higgins Trust conducted a survey in sexual health and HIV knowledge, attitudes and experience which aimed to address this.

Survey demographics

The survey was disseminated online via target advertising and through the charity's social media channels. The survey captured experiences through quantitative and qualitative data. A total of 223 responses were collected, of which 208 were suitable for analysis.

Respondents could select multiple answers to how they described their gender. Most used more than one term or described it in multiple ways:

- 45% identified as non-binary
- 31% trans man
- 15% trans woman
- 56% genderqueer/fluid/non-conforming
- 16% other: trans masculine/masc, demigirl/boy, trans, neutrois, androgyne.

Nine individuals identified themselves as intersex. The age range of participants was 16 to 72. The majority of respondents described their ethnicity as White British (174).

To read the survey results click [HERE](#)

To read the Terrence Higgins Trust Sexual health for trans and non-binary people resources click [HERE](#)



LGBTQ+ Collections

The LGBTQ+ Collections guide has been created to help you engage with key education and research resources available through the Library. You'll find digital archives to support research and books and literary works by LGBTQ+ authors.

Browse the online reading list to explore a range of fiction, non-fiction and audio-visual resources to learn more about LGBTQ+ history, culture and community.

To find out more and to get stuck in click: <https://libguides.exeter.ac.uk/lgbtq>

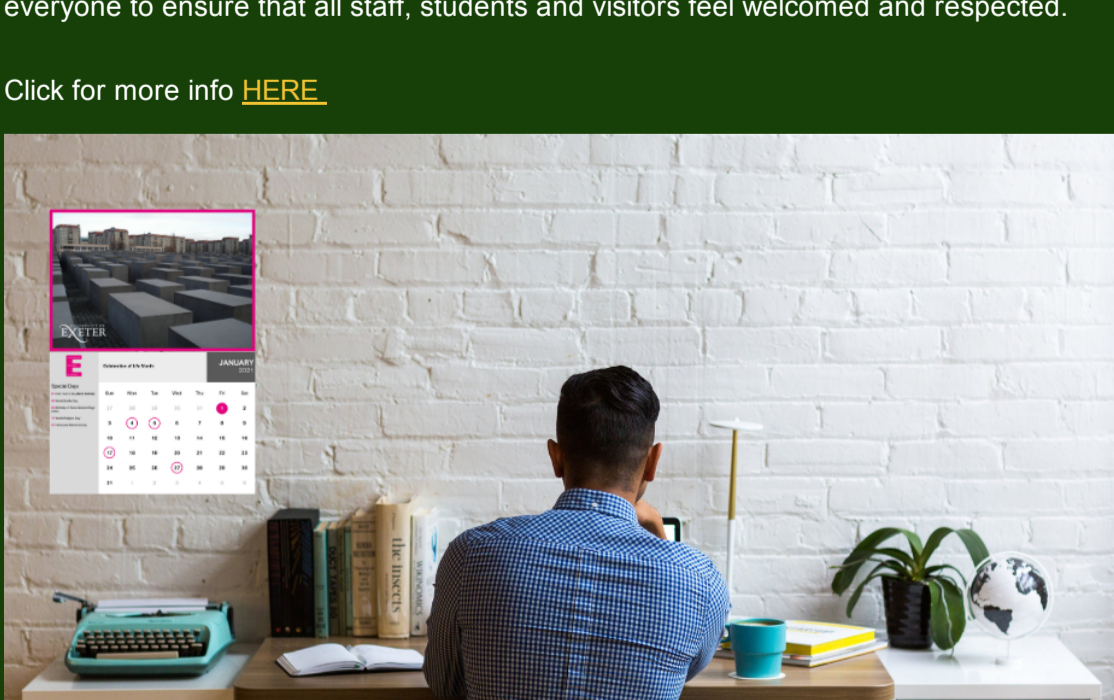


New EDI Calendar

The EDI Team, have put together two calendars for 2021. 1 PDF version that you can print out, or read through virtually, and a second Outlook calendar that you can drop onto your daily calendar. Created in conjunction with the LGBTQ+ Staff Network highlighting the significant dates in the LGBTQ+ annual calendar.

The EDI Calendar gives everyone within the University community easy access to information on important religious, cultural, international and health-related events throughout the year. Our University community is diverse and it is the responsibility of everyone to ensure that all staff, students and visitors feel welcomed and respected.

Click for more info [HERE](#).



Fortnightly Social

We are now running our virtual socials more regularly (fortnightly). These will be held every other Wednesday 12:00-13:00. Feel free to drop in/out at any point during this time.

This month's meetings are:

Wednesday 10 February 2021

Wednesday 24 February 2021

Just click on the button below when it is time for the event.



[Join Teams Meeting HERE](#)

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