

# December 2016 Newsletter

## Dates for your diary

DECEMBER

**World Aids Day:** 1st December

**December Social:** 6th December

**Winter Meal:** 14th December

JANUARY

**January Social:** 9th January

FEBRUARY

**LGBT History Month**

**February Social:** 6th February

Welcome to the December Rainbow Network newsletter! This will be sent out on the last Monday of every month. If you have any suggestions for future content, please contact [Tom Syder](#).

All University staff should be able to take time to attend Rainbow Network events – if you are having problems getting permission, please contact [Sheena Griffiths](#).

## World AIDS Day

1st December is World AIDS Day, a global public health campaign to raise awareness of the AIDS pandemic which continues to disproportionately affect members of the LGBTQ community.

Solidarity with HIV/AIDS patients is traditionally shown by wearing a red ribbon, and [Terrence Higgins Trust](#) are offering these ribbons this year.

To mark World AIDS Day, Old Joe will turn red on the evening of 1st December, and Special Collections will be running a lunchtime exhibition at the Cadbury Research Library.

There will also be events happening in Birmingham including a vigil outside St Philip’s Cathedral, with information on the [Umbrella website](#).

## Volunteers Needed

The committee are looking for volunteers from the network to take on the following roles:

- Welfare Officer—a member of the network committee and the first point of call for any staff member who is experiencing workplace issues relating to being LGBTQ.
- Third Party Reporters—volunteers who work with the campus police officer to support victims of hate crimes to report these crimes, or to report them on the victim’s behalf.

Please contact [Phillippa Treharne-Jones](#) for more information about these roles or to express an interest.

Join our mailing list by emailing [lgbtq@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:lgbtq@contacts.bham.ac.uk)

## Parents and Carers Survey

All UoB staff who are parents or carers are invited to take part in this short survey about a new staff Parents and Carers Network. There will be a prize draw of a £25 National Book Token for participants.

[Parents and Carers Network survey](#)

The questionnaire will close on **Friday 23rd December 2016**.



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## Opportunities and Events

### Rainbow Voices Christmas Concert

The Rainbow Voices choir present Singing in a Rainbow Wonderland!

Saturday 10 December, 7pm at All Saints Community Centre.  
Further information and tickets available [here](#).

### BGSO Christmas Concert

Birmingham Gay Symphony Orchestra will be performing the score from Tchaikovsky's Sleeping Beauty, followed by festive favourites.

Saturday 17th December, 3pm at St Pauls Church, Birmingham.  
Further information available [here](#).

### Outward Expressions Event

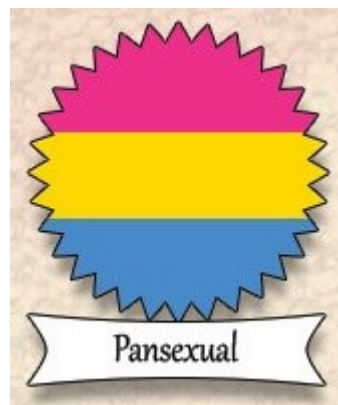
Outward Expressions is a Birmingham-based LGBT art and photography group which organises activities including opportunities to develop and practice skills and visits to galleries.

The group are meeting on 7th December at 11am for East Meets West, a free exhibition of emerging Midland artists at the Waterhall Gallery, Birmingham.

Join the [Facebook group](#) for more information.

## Flag in Focus

Each month we'll be highlighting one of the many LGBTQ community gradient flags. This month it's:



Pansexual people can be attracted to people of any gender identity, and the pink, blue, and yellow stripes of the flag represent feminine, masculine, and non-binary identities.

It was first used online in 2010, and has since become a popular image for increasing visibility of the pansexual community. Source: <http://pansexualflag.tumblr.com/>

## LGBTQ+ Community

### WATCH

LGBT History Month Launch Event 2016 at the University of Birmingham Bramall Building

### READ

Interview with Romario Wanliss, a trans activist and spoken-word artist who spoke at mac Birmingham for Trans Day of Remembrance

### SIGN

A petition to stop cuts to HIV services in the UK's highest HIV prevalence areas

Are you following us on social media? You can keep up to date with the latest campus and LGBTQ+ news and resources via our Facebook and Twitter accounts.



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Thanks to everyone who came to our November social. Don't forget that the next one is non-alcoholic and scheduled for **Tuesday 6th December at 5.30pm** downstairs in Costa in University Centre. Look out for the Rainbow Flag!

[Facebook Event](#)

