



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



February 2018 Newsletter

Note from the Chair

Welcome to the special LGBT History Month edition of the Rainbow Network newsletter!

The Rainbow Network and the University have organised a series of events to mark this important month in 2018, some corresponding to the national theme of Geography.

We are delighted to see a rise in the number of departments organising their own events, and I would like to thank everybody who has contributed.

It is more important than ever for LGBT communities and allies to shine a light on their achievements, and this annual celebration of our shared history is an excellent opportunity to get involved and learn about the past and present lives of LGBT people.

LGBT History Month 2018

LGBT History Month 2018



LGBT HISTORY MONTH

#UoBLGBTHM

guildofstudents

Observed across the UK each February, LGBT History Month is an annual observance of LGBT history as well as the history of LGBT rights and related civil rights movements. The University has organised a series of thought-provoking events that are open to all visitors, whether or not they identify as LGBT, to celebrate LGBT History Month 2018. Find out more about those events [here](#).

Dates for your diary

FEBRUARY (LGBT History Month)

Thursday 1st February
National Time to Talk Day

Friday 2nd February
LGBT History Month Launch Event
12:30pm-13:30pm
Bramall Music Building, First floor

Tuesday 6th February, 12:00pm
February Network Social
Noble Room (Staff House)

Tuesday 13th February
Midday Committee Meeting
Arts G37

**A full listing of this year's events
can be found on our [2018 Calendar](#)**

Find out more: intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/rainbownetwork
Join our mailing list: lgbtq@contacts.bham.ac.uk



[/RainbowNetworkUoB](https://www.facebook.com/RainbowNetworkUoB)



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LGBT History Month 2018 'Out and About in Birmingham'



As the 2018 theme for LGBT History Month is **Geography**, the Cultural Geographer, Dr Phil Jones will explore the definition of a queer space and how these spaces are evolving in response to legal, cultural and technological changes. This will be followed by a panel discussion inviting experiences of the Gay Village and identifying distinctive features of the queer spaces in Birmingham.

Date: Monday **5 February** 2018

Time: 12:15pm—13:45pm

Location: Murray Learning Centre, UG07, University of Birmingham, B15 2TT

9 LGBT+ people who defined and defied in 2017

20% of LGB workers have experienced verbal bullying in their workplace in the last 5 years. Attacks on LGBT+ people have increased by 80% in the UK during the last 4 years. 45% of LGBT+ pupils were bullied due to their sexual orientation or gender identity in school.

All these depressing statistics demonstrate the need for people to come out, be proud and be visible role models. Read about [9 LGBT+ people](#) who came out in the media in 2017 and made a difference.

National Time to Talk Day

1 February is [National Time to Talk Day](#). This day offers everyone the opportunity to be more open about mental health.

Although mental health problems affect 25% of the population, people are still afraid to talk about it. By getting people talking about mental health we can break down stereotypes, improve relationships, aid recovery and take the stigma out of something that affects us all. Time to Talk Day provides a chance to talk, to listen and to change lives.

Find out more: intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/rainbownetwork

Join our mailing list: lgbtq@contacts.bham.ac.uk

DfE consultation on LGBT-inclusive sex education

Following on from the Government's announcement that Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) will be made compulsory in every English secondary school from 2019, the Government is now requesting people across the country to provide their views on what should be included in the subject syllabus.

The statutory guidance for teaching RSE was last updated 17 years ago and has no mention of LGBT relationships. It is essential for LGBT people and allies to express their thoughts and come out for LGBT people. Read more about Stonewall's views on the matter and take part in the consultation process by completing the Department for Education Survey [here](#). Deadline for the survey: 12th February 2018.

'Homosexuality, Religion and Coming Out'

As part of [LGBT History Month 2018](#), Matt,



Founder of the Naz and Matt Foundation, will

BE THE PERSON YOU WERE BORN TO BE

present a short film on his experiences followed by a talk and a panel discussion involving the University Chaplaincy and others. More information [here](#).

Date: Wednesday **28 February** 2018

Time: 18:30pm—20:00pm

Location: University of Birmingham Medical School, Leonard Deacon Lecture Theatre of Birmingham

Rainbow Network Lunchtime Social

In an attempt to be more inclusive of people who find it difficult to attend after-work socials, February's Rainbow Network social will be taking place on Tuesday **6th February** at **12:00pm** in the Noble Room (Staff House).

Look out for our lovely mascot if you're not sure which table we're at!



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