

Newsletter May 2007

Drinks

After the success of our March Spring Party we are again having a **Drinks Party** at **Essence** (www.essence-bar.com) on **Friday 11 May 2007 from 7pm**. Essence is on 2 – 5 Carthusian Street, London EC1M 6EB, just round the corner from Barbican tube station. This is an informal social event with a pay bar following a number of requests by members that we met up more often. It is open to anyone so please bring friends and colleagues who are not members you want to introduce to LAGLA.

We hope to see you all there.

International Day against Homophobia – 17 May 2007

Tooks Chambers, LAGLA and Camden LGBT Forum present a two-month series of events to mark the International Day against Homophobia. LAGLA members are welcome to all events. Email to rsvp@lagla.org.uk to confirm your place on the list. Places are limited and the sooner you reply the better. Events take place at Tooks Chambers (see www.tooks.co.uk for directions).

17 May **Pansy Project Planting** at various locations around the London Borough of Camden from 10.30am

Pansy Project Private Viewing: Tooks Chambers 7 p.m.

Artist Paul Harfleet revisits locations planting pansies as close as possible to where homophobic abuse has been experienced. These self-seeding pansies act as a living memorial to this abuse and operate as an antidote to it; some pansies wither whilst others thrive in car park borders and windswept road verges. Each pansy's location is named after the abuse received. The Pansy Project recently featured in the 21st London Lesbian and Gay Film Festival: www.thepansyproject.com

Speakers: Paul Harfleet
Stephen Kamlish QC
Ben Gooch (GALOP and FtoM Network)
Camden LGBT Forum
Andrea Woelke (Lesbian and Gay Lawyers Association)

23 May **Family Law Seminar**

Tooks Chambers, 6.30 p.m.

Speakers: Elizabeth Woodcraft - Re G: Recognition or a missed opportunity
Andrea Woelke - International same-sex partnerships

30 May **Debate: Is LGBT Equality incompatible with Freedom of Religious Expression?**

Tooks Chambers, 6.30 p.m.

Speakers include: Catherine Rayner (Chair)
Rabbi Mark Solomon
Representative from the Lawyers Christian Fellowship

Please ensure you book early for this as the Lawyers Christian Fellowship may otherwise take up the available places!

27 June **Discrimination on Grounds of Sexual Orientation: Employment, Goods and Services Seminar for Solicitors**

Tooks Chambers, 6.30 p.m.

Speakers: Sarah Bourke
Lou Hart (Camden LGBT Forum)
Adam Straw

28 June **Current Issues in LGBT Immigration and Asylum Law**

Tooks Chambers 6.30 p.m.

Speakers: Navtej Singh Ahluwalia

Wesley Gryk

- 13 July **Closing Fundraiser**
in support of JFLAG (Jamaica), Mozaika (Latvia), Aswat (Palestine) and GALZ (Zimbabwe) including:
- a showing of "Queer Fear: Gay Life, Gay Death in Iraq" introduced by Ali Hili of Iraqi LGBT
 - an auction of Pansy Project images
 - music from Highart

Research

NatCen is looking for long-term same-sex couples for a study into the impact of legislative change. Please see the attached flyer.

Riga Pride - Amnesty

Amnesty International is organising a pan-European action in support of Gay Pride in Riga, Latvia, which involves as many Amnesty activists as possible attending Riga for its Pride march on Sunday **3 June 2007**. In 2005 and 2006, Latvia saw its first two Gay Pride marches banned owing to what the authorities referred to as "security threats". In 2005, the Latvian Prime Minister said that he could not accept "that a parade of sexual minorities takes place in the middle of our capital city next to the Dom Cathedral".

All members from all over Europe will participate in this year's pride event and display international support and solidarity with Latvia's LGBT community. Please consider attending. Several LAGLA members are going. If you are interested, please contact Andrea. Other organisations, including ILGA (the International Lesbian and Gay Association) and other European city Pride event organisers will be participating in the event. Media interest in this issue is high, and major news channels such as SkyNews, BBC and possibly the CNN are expected to be present during the march. I attach links to recent Amnesty statements on Latvia Pride:

<http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGEUR010192006?open&of=ENG-347>

<http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGEUR520032006?open&of=ENG-2EU>

<http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGEUR520022006?open&of=ENG-2U6>

Email

You are one of very few people who receive our newsletter by post and this causes some delay. In addition you will not receive reminders and updates. If you have regular email access, please email Andrea with your details so your email can be added to the list.

Committee

Chairman

Secretary

Treasurer

Social Secretaries

Conference Coordinator

Other Committee Members

[Andrea Woelke](#)

[Haema Sundram](#)

[David Josiah-Lake](#)

[James Carroll](#)

[Rachel Woodd](#)

[Panay Vassiliou](#)

[Hassan Khan](#)

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