



The University of Manchester
LGBT Staff Network Group

It's time for Pride again!



Yes it's hard to believe that it's time to start planning again for our 2014 entry into Manchester Pride. It doesn't seem like ten days, let alone 10 months, have passed since we lifted the classy golden Rubik's Cube in honour of our 'best themed float'. But can we win a prize for the third year running? That all depends on your input! We need enthusiastic volunteers and some great ideas to give us a top notch entry that centres around this year's theme....LOVE! So how can we top it? What ideas do you have? A planning group is meeting at the beginning of June, but you can always be involved after that—especially on our construction evening. So—whatever thoughts you have, just message lg.bt@manchester.ac.uk

WELCOME

A big welcome to the second newsletter of 2014. The new name and logo has had some positive feedback, so we'll be keeping it! As always, there's been plenty going on and there's plenty more to come in 2014—so read on and see how you can be involved!

Enjoy the newsletter and as always we're happy to receive content, stories or ideas for inclusion.



Stonewall



The questionnaire for the 2014 Stonewall index has recently been released and there are many changes. We've already begun completing different sections, but more input is required so we can have a stronger entry and hopefully improve on our score and ranking from the past three years. If you cannot commit to contributing directly, maybe your office or unit could host the Stonewall banner for a week or two—this just re-enforces the university's commitment to LGB equality. More info from lg.bt@manchester.ac.uk

IDAHOBIT 2014

The Rainbow Flag was proudly flown in University Place to mark IDAHOBIT (International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia). We also ran a very successful evening event—the talk show debate around the theme 'Equality—Is The Struggle Over?' attracted lively debate as staff, students and academics put forward their points of view. After the event, delegates were given the chance to contribute to the LGBT Campus Map by posting a memory or fact about LGBT life on campus. All this aided by free wine from Barefoot Wines. A truly splendid event!



Find us on Facebook



Find us on Facebook! Search for our group: 'LGBT Staff Network Group—University of Manchester'

thinkdifferently equality and diversity



LGBT History Month 2014



Once again, the University organised several events throughout February to celebrate LGBT History Month. A popular event was "Coming Out Stories" – a number of staff and students shared their experiences of coming out at home, during their studies and in the workplace. This prompted discussion in the room and a number of the 'audience' sharing their own stories.

A social 'Speed Networking' event was held for network members to try and encourage more people to participate in network activities and give members the opportunity to get to know each other in a relaxed and fun environment. The event was enjoyed by all and a second networking event will be planned during August in the run-up to Pride.

The Martin Harris Centre and the Contact Theatre had a wide-ranging number of events and activities throughout the month which were well supported by the network.

The annual LGBT quiz was this year hosted by MMU and team UoM did exceptionally well in finishing a very respectable 2nd place (out of 11 teams!). We're still to win the quiz however... maybe 2015 will be our year!

History month was also marked by the flying of the rainbow flag across campus. Flags were visible on the Sackville St building, Student's Union, The Martin Harris Centre & University Place. Network members are still working with the University to try and have a flag pole placed in a prominent position on South Campus.



Social Events

BOOK GROUP

Thursday 4 September 5pm TROF Bar

Book is 'An Honest Ghost' by Rick Whitaker

WALK OUT

Every second Sunday of the month

PRIDE CONSTRUCTION & SOCIAL

Thursday 14 August 5pm (venue TBA)

PRIDE FRINGE EVENTS

Details of various events will be announced throughout July and August.

MORE DETAILS ON FACEBOOK PAGE!

Bi Visibility/Trans Awareness Days

As you are aware, the University marked both Bi Visibility and Trans Awareness days on campus by flying the respective flags. For 2014, we'd like to do something more on each of the days—so September 23rd and 20th November. Both dates are already marked on the 2014 [Diversity Calendar](#)—but we should do more! What would our bisexual and Trans members like to see? How can we mark these important dates and raise awareness around campus?

Any ideas can be sent to lg.bt@manchester.ac.uk and these topics will be added to the next agenda.

The Bolds Project

We've been contacted by The BOLDS Project who are looking for volunteers. The project is 'a visual reflection on the human's body and its undressed appearance shaped by experiences, reflections, family life and professional career'. They're currently looking for LGBT Professionals in Manchester and would like to invite members of ALLOUT to participate.

This is the chance to be part of something totally unique, so we'd

like to encourage you all to find out more:

<http://theboldsproject.tumblr.com/>

and make contact with Marta who will give you more information: tbproject100@gmail.com

Timetable of Meetings 2014

We've seen increased attendance at 2014 meetings so far! Our next meeting is **23 June at 9am in Hanson Meeting Room, Humanities Bridgeford street. BREAKFAST PROVIDED!** Everyone has been invited by meeting request.

The remaining meetings for 2014 will be September 24 (12.30pm-1.30pm) and December 18 (4.30pm-5.30pm)