



# LGBTQ History Month

## Rainbow Rambling on campus, Manchester and beyond!

### On campus



The Coupland Building 1 is where the famous World War II codebreaker, mathematician and computer scientist Alan Turing worked while he was at Manchester. Turing had become famous for his 1937 paper introducing a 'universal machine' – one that could do the work of all possible calculating devices. During World War II he was recruited to Bletchley Park, where he helped to decode German messages that had been encrypted by Enigma machines. At the University Turing helped with programming, and from 1951 he worked in Coupland Building 1, which was a purpose-built annexe housing a new computing machine – the Ferranti Mark I

which had been developed with the engineering firm Ferranti. Turing focussed on wider issues and on projects that could use the computer. The best known of his Manchester publications introduced the 'Turing test', a way to define whether machines could think. Turing died in 1954, 16 days before his 42nd birthday, from cyanide poisoning. An inquest determined his death as a suicide, but it has been noted that the known evidence is also consistent with accidental poisoning.

### Samuel Alexander Building, Manchester, United Kingdom



The AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power was founded in New York in 1987 to fight in AIDS epidemic in the LGBTQ community. It has become synonymous with the fight against AIDS and its logo and motto (Silence=Death) have become recognisable all over the world. 'ACT UP' was spray painted on the side of the Samuel Alexander building at the University of Manchester (date unknown), and although someone has attempted to clean it off, a shadow of the graffiti can still be seen. The University was home to one of the first gay societies in the country, called the Homophile Society.



### UOM Students Union

The University of Manchester is home to one of the oldest LGBTQ societies in the country. It was originally called the "Homophile Society", but has since expanded to include other non-heterosexual and non-cisgender orientations.

### St Peter's House Church and Chaplaincy, Precinct Centre, Oxford Rd, Manchester *Manchester Lesbian and Gay Chorus and St Peter's House (2000)*

The Manchester Lesbian and Gay Chorus was founded in 2000 when a small number of singers came together and met at St Peter's House at the University of Manchester. By the following year, the choir officially formed as an organisation, and started rehearsing regularly in Manchester's Gay Village. The choir now has over 80 members, ranging from people in their early 20s to early 80s.



### 178 Oxford Road (Waterloo Place) Gay and lesbian hotline

Home of 178 Oxford Road, the basement of which played host to the Friend hotline starting in the



mid-1970s, the Gay Switchboard starting in 1975, a TV/TS hotline starting in 1978, and Lesbian Link starting in 1979. The basement office was the first location of what is now the Joyce Layland LGBT Centre on Sidney Street. It was set up by Manchester Gay Alliance Group, which was made up of the Manchester Lesbians Group, the TV/TS group, the Homophile Society (the University of Manchester's gay society), and a group from the Campaign for Homosexual Equality.



# Manchester

## Sackville Park Gardens

Sackville Gardens is one of the few green spaces left in the centre of the City and is a peaceful oasis in Manchester's hustle and bustle. As well as the Beacon of Hope memorial, the gardens is also the site of the Alan Turing memorial and the National Transgender Remembrance Memorial.

## Alan Turing Memorial

This is a statue to the memory of Alan Turing, who was famously prosecuted for homosexuality. It's located between Manchester's Gay Village, on one side of the park, and the University of Manchester (in the background of the photo) on the other side.



## Beacon of Hope

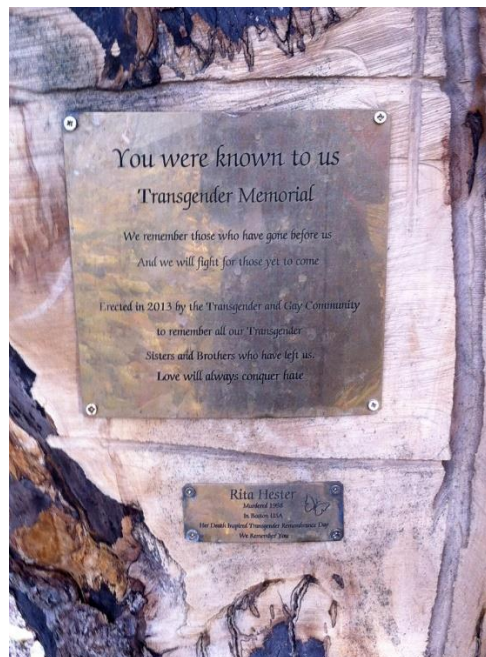
The Beacon of Hope is the only permanent memorial in Great Britain for people who have, or have suffered from, HIV/AIDS. The sculpture, designed by Warren Chapman and Jess Boyn-Daniel, was erected in 2000 in the form of a decorated steel column.





### The Transgender Memorial

At the Canal Street end of the park is the Transgender Memorial. The sculptor-carver of the memorial was Shane Green, "an established tree carver with several decades of experience, and whose major work to date was a series of 26 tree carvings of athletes made over a 26-day period at the London 2012 Olympic Games. The main decorative element in the sculpture is the butterfly. Several butterflies are carved and represent the change from one state of existence to another – from caterpillar to butterfly, from one gender to another. The rest of the memorial space was created by Tony Cooper, Angela Moonchild, Dawn Pomfret, Darren Knight, Linda Leaa Sardi, Jennifer Johansson, Jenny-Anne Bishop, Karen Richards and Astrid Walker, many of them members of the local trans community and Friends of Sackville Gardens."



### Pankhurst Centre – 60-62 Nelson Street

#### *The Clause 28 Tea Set and Pankhurst Centre, Manchester*

Tea set was created in protest of Clause 28 by Claudia Clare at a pottery class in 1988. The Tea Set comprises eight cups or mugs, eight plates, two teapots, a jug and a sugar bowl. The cups and mugs record political protests by lesbians.





### 75-77 Ardwick Green North, Manchester, United Kingdom

#### *George House Trust*

George House Trust has been providing support services to people living with HIV since 1985.



### 49-51 Sidney St, Manchester (behind 8<sup>th</sup> Day shop and café)

#### *LGBT Community Centre and Sidney Street Cafe*

Manchester became the first place to build an entirely publicly funded, purpose designed centre for the gay community, just as Thatcher's government were enacting Section 28. The building of such a centre was a bold and controversial move by Manchester's Local Authority as in June 1987, a little publicised bill had passed through the House of Lords and continued on its way to be passed by the House of Commons. Section 28 of the Act inserted a new section into the (amended) Local Government Act 1986: 2A - (1) A local authority shall not - (a) intentionally promote homosexuality or publish material with the intention of promoting homosexuality; (b) promote the teaching in any maintained school of the acceptability of homosexuality as a pretended family relationship. Section 28 became law in May 1988. From then on service such as phone lines, youth clubs and social events have been held here.





### Canal Street area - The New Union

This has been a meeting place for the LGBT community in the North West since 1865.



### Canal Street/Sackville Street - Triangle Club / The Rembrandt

A social club for D/deaf Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender members and guests. Established in 1985 as the first club for Deaf LGBT in the UK but now closed. Regular meetings were held in the Rembrandt Pub near Canal Street. The Rembrandt is one of Manchester's oldest gay bars and used to be called the Ogden Arms.





### Manchester Town Hall

Manchester Town Hall is a Victorian, Neo-gothic municipal building in Manchester, England. It is the ceremonial headquarters of Manchester City Council and houses a number of local government departments. Designed by architect Alfred Waterhouse, the town hall was completed in 1877. It is a Grade I listed building. Carl Austin-Behan was Lord Mayor of Manchester (2016-17), and Manchester's first openly gay Lord Mayor. Allan Horsfall, founder and Life President of the Campaign for Homosexual Equality, died in August 2012. In October that year, on what would have been Horsfall's 85th birthday, CHE organised an event to celebrate his life, in the Banqueting Room at Manchester Town Hall, compered by Peter Scott-Presland, with tributes and presentations from people who had been associated with Allan Horsfall over the years. Peter Tatchell described him as "one of the grandfathers of the gay rights movement in Britain" and "one of the truly great pioneers of LGBT equality in Britain".



## Cheshire

### Mobberley – Newton Hall

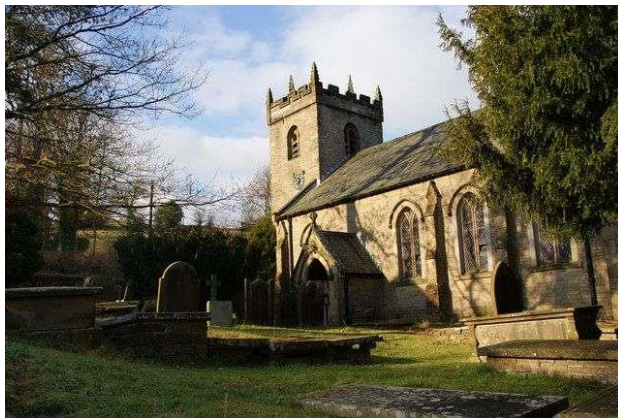


George Herbert Leigh Mallory was born at Newton Hall on the 18th of June 1886. Mallory took part in the first European attempts to scale Mount Everest, ultimately losing his life on the mountain in 1924. Mallory's personal life spanned both same and different-sex attraction and friendship, including a relationship with James Strachey (brother of Lytton Strachey,) friendship with fellow Climber Cottie Saunders,

and marriage with Ruth Turner. On his marriage to Turner, he wrote to Lytton Strachey "It can hardly be a shock to you that I desert the ranks of the fashionable homosexuals (and yet I am still in part of that persuasion) unless you think I have turned monogamist. But you may be assured that this last catastrophe has not happened."



### St James' Church, Taxal, Cheshire (1707 and 8)



notable for its C16-C17 Gothic-survival tower, from a period when there was comparatively little church building. The building is Grade II\* listed.

#### *Early lesbian weddings*

Two entries from the marriage register of the parish of Taxal, Cheshire for 1707 and 1708 suggest that women may have been able to marry one another as women. 'Hannah Wright and Anne Gaskill, Parish of Prestbury. 4th September 1707.' The ancient parish church (originally dedicated to St. Leonard), served the townships of Taxal and Yeadsley cum Whaley (Whaley Bridge). The present church in Taxal is dedicated to St James and mainly dates from the early C19, but it is especially

Sources: <http://rictornorton.co.uk/eighteen/lesbmarr.htm>  
<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1088087>

### Court House, Knutsford

The building stopped holding trials in 2010 before being officially closed in 2014, but was perhaps most notable for being where the Cheshire mathematician who cracked the German Enigma Code, **Alan Turing**, was convicted for gross indecency in 1953 after admitting a sexual relationship with a man, a sentence that was repealed and Turing given a posthumous Royal Pardon after a major campaign in 2013.



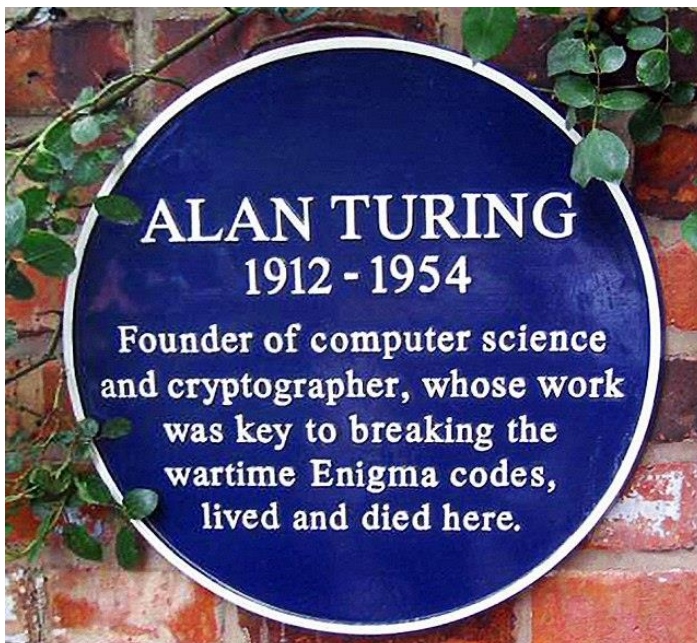


## Adlington Road, Wilmslow



A former home of Alan Turing, the brilliant mathematician and Nazi code-cracker, was Copper Folly on Adlington Road, Wilmslow. The five-bed semi – formerly known as Holly Mead – also comes complete with an historic blue plaque honouring Turing's achievements. Secrecy and controversy surrounded his later life as a result of his open homosexuality. After his suicide on June 7, 1954, his place in history was

quietly played down, as well as his links with Wilmslow. It is suspected that the executors of Turing's will tried to cover this up his death when originally selling the house by changing its name on the deeds from Holly Mead to Copper Folly.



The blue plaque - the first in Wilmslow – was laid at his former home in 2004, to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Turing's death. It was unveiled by Alan Turing's friend, Dame Kathleen Mary Ollerenshaw, DBE (née Timpson; 1 October 1912 – 10 August 2014) who was a British mathematician (at the University of Manchester) a politician and was also Lord Mayor of Manchester from 1975 to 1976. Upon her death, she left a legacy in trust to support distinguished research visitors and public engagement activities at the School of Mathematics, University of Manchester. An annual public lecture at the University is named in her honour.