

# LGBT Community Newsletter

May 2011



Registered charity 1072772

## Welcome to Intercom's May Newsletter!

Pride Fund for  
Plymouth

Help Advocacy and  
Support Service

Local LGBT Collective Meetings (all welcome),  
starting with Dorset, next Thursday (5<sup>th</sup>)

In Celebration of Prudence  
de Villiers

Campaigns Newsflash Update

Exeter Rainbow Café  
drop-in

### Round and about: Community news

Exeter Pride report

Married Gay Men — local support

Penzance Arts Club,  
forthcoming events

Gay Outdoor Club, forthcoming events

Pride events over the summer

Deadline for the June Newsletter is 25 May !

## Pride Events in Plymouth: New Funding, New Opportunities



Intercom now has a special small-grants fund for supporting Pride events in Plymouth.

When Plymouth Pride Event closed down earlier this year, they transferred their final assets to Intercom, earmarked for the purpose of helping new Pride events in the city.

We have worked with Plymouth Pride Event since it was set up, and we pay a warm tribute to all that Mike and his colleagues achieved over those years.

The new fund has been named the Prudence de Villiers Fund.

Prudence played a vital rôle in Plymouth LGBT community life and community development for decades. She was greatly loved and respected, and is much missed. (See below for the memorial celebration held on 9 April.)

Plymouth Pride Event and Intercom are proud to name the new Fund in her honour.



**Plymouth Out Fest.** The 2011 Out Fest was originally scheduled for 19 March, but had to be deferred. (We are told the University had accidentally double-booked the site). The local organisers will be announcing a new date in due course. We'll circulate the new date as soon as we know it.



a project of The Intercom Trust

## Help, Support and Advocacy

**Safe — Community-based — Confidential**

### Problems with —

- Discrimination?
- Harassment in the neighbourhood, or at school, or anywhere else?
- Prejudice in the family or workplace?
- Self-esteem and internalised negative feelings about being LGB or Trans?
- Difficulty accessing needed health-care on a basis of equality?
- Social Isolation as an LGBT person?
- Other issues of social exclusion or prejudice?

### Get in touch. Intercom may be able to help.

We've been supporting LGBT people and our families in the peninsula since 1998.

In the last few months, we've been able to help with:

- neighbourhood homophobic abuse;
- marriage problems (e.g. coming out to an opposite-sex partner);
- social isolation;
- LGBT people living with physical disabilities;
- continuing healthcare, entitlements and direct payments;
- advocacy and support with DWP / JobCentre Plus;
- support for tribunal cases;
- supporting families dealing with local Children's Services;
- addressing prejudice in social services;
- transphobic bullying in school;
- and we've worked with the police to get a successful prosecution of a serial homophobic attacker in cruising areas.

### Breaking News: Extended counselling service!

We are delighted to say that we have just taken on two new student counsellors working from our Exeter office, and under supervision. Welcome to both of you, and thanks!

**Confidential Helpline, Cornwall Devon Plymouth & Torbay** Freephone **0800 612 3010**  
**helpline@intercomtrust.org.uk** (or 01392 201018)

**Confidential Helpline, Dorset Bournemouth and Poole** **01305 26 66 42**  
**dorsethelpline@intercomtrust.org.uk**

In Cornwall & Devon this service is funded by the Big Lottery Fund (Reaching Communities Programme)

In Dorset this service is jointly funded by Dorset County Council, Bournemouth Borough Council  
and Poole Borough Council



**LGBT**  
Collective  
lgbtcollective.org.uk

## Local get-togethers across the peninsula

“LGBT Collective events” are County-wide inclusive friendly get-togethers of local LGB people and Trans people. They happen about every three months.

Collective evenings are in two parts:

- a social with coffee, chat etc.,
- and then discussions about community activities, forthcoming events, and any current issues of LGB and Trans interest or concern. Bring your thoughts along!

LGB people and Trans people are warmly welcome to come along to their local Collective meeting.

As we said above, these events are friendly and inclusive.

If you're part of an LGBT social or activity group and want to promote it, or an individual wanting to see what's going on and meet people, or if you want to help make a difference —just come along!

**Dorset**      **Thursday 5 May, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

The MCC Church Hall in Pokesdown, Bournemouth. BH7 6JT

If you can offer a lift, or if you need a lift, email Dwayne and he may be able to help people to make a connection. ([dwayne@mccbournemouth.co.uk](mailto:dwayne@mccbournemouth.co.uk))

**Cornwall**      **Thursday 12 May, 7-9 p.m.**

The MI Bar, Lemon Quay, Truro. TR1 2LL. (Next to the Hall for Cornwall)

If you can offer a lift, or if you need a lift, email Al and he may be able to help people to make a connection. ([Al.Green@CIOSPCT.cornwall.nhs.uk](mailto:Al.Green@CIOSPCT.cornwall.nhs.uk))

**Devon**      **Monday 23 May, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

Café Nero, 71-74 High Street, Exeter. EX4 3DT

If you can offer a lift, or if you need a lift, email Karen and she may be able to help people to make a connection. ([karen-harris@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:karen-harris@hotmail.co.uk))

**Somerset**      Somerset Collective events are currently proving difficult to arrange. For the time being, if you live in Somerset, North Somerset or B&NES and want to go along to a Collective, see if you can get to the Bournemouth or Exeter events. Or give Intercom a shout if you'd like to help with trying to set up a Somerset Collective event in the autumn.

**The next round of local Collective events will be in August / September.**

The LGBT Collective website is [www.lgbtcollective.org.uk](http://www.lgbtcollective.org.uk)

## In Celebration of Prudence de Villiers, 9<sup>th</sup> April



Plymouth's Athenaeum Theatre was filled by friends of Prudence de Villiers and her partner Gay for a magnificent afternoon of talks, music and reminiscences in tribute to Prudence, who died in January. It was an unforgettable celebration; but then, Prudence herself was much loved, and unforgettable.

For the source of these pictures, and more coverage, see <http://www.prudence.me/memorial.html>.

## Campaigns Newsflash

There was a very strong response to our Newsflash to supporters about current threats to our hard-won legal equality. We've had loads of e-mails about this. (Haven't even had time to count them, but thanks to EVERYONE who's made their voice heard!)

Apologies to anyone who didn't get the Newsflash e-mail—we've worked out that our e-mail handler got jammed that day, and some of them didn't get sent.

We've updated our Campaigns web-page, and added a link so you can read Intercom's response to the Government about the dangerous proposal to water down the Equality Duties.

Have a look at the updated page, [www.intercomtrust.org.uk/campaigns](http://www.intercomtrust.org.uk/campaigns).

## Intercom's Rainbow Café



The Rainbow Café drop-in is open at the Intercom Centre in Exeter on Tuesday evenings (18:00 – 21:00) and Saturday daytimes (11:00 – 14:00). Tea and coffee, biscuits, good company, and all for £1.

The events are run by trained staff and volunteers, and they're a great place to make contact with other people, and also to make contact with Intercom and find out more about what we do, what we can offer, etc.

The Rainbow Café is looking for volunteers! If you think you can help, call Lizzie on 01392 678744.

**Love to all!**

**Michael and the team**

## Community news

### Exeter Pride



*Alan Quick (Chair of the Exeter Pride Committee) writes:*

WOW! If you missed it - you missed out!

I am just writing to say a very big THANK YOU to everyone who helped make Exeter LGBT Pride 2011 such a huge success.

Organised by a small team of trustees with the support of many volunteers and sponsors, the hard work came to fruition and it produced a fantastic day of fun (and some serious) events and activities.

**The sun really shone on us, right from the start until late in the evening** —

#### **Fire Engine on Parade**

The rainbow flag parade with the fire engine was started by the Lord Mayor, and so many community groups and individuals took part.

The whole parade was outstanding, everyone put in good spirits by the Samba band “Street Heat”.

#### **Fire Jugglers, Clowns, and so much more...**

The band played outside Exeter Phoenix on arrival before everyone went in to see the stalls or take part in workshops. More than 500 people attended in the first two hours and many more came along later in the day!

The DJs playing on the terrace were very popular all day where everyone was also enjoying the good weather.

The drumming workshops went well, the youth space and speed dating looked good fun and there were several enjoying Zumba dance. The clowns, fire jugglers and live music were brilliant.

The panel discussions were very interesting. It was the debate about the Equality Bill, with Exeter MP Ben Bradshaw among the panellists, that saw a full house, a smaller number attending the sport/homophobia debate.

#### **The Evening**

The bands which performed in the evening created an incredible atmosphere in the hall.

Lots of people rounded off the night at Vaults, many surviving until the 5am close.

#### **Feedback and coverage**

The feedback from those who attended Exeter Pride has been rewarding. There has been nothing but praise and congratulations on a well-organised day of events – and all of it free!

The television and press coverage was positive and being just the third Exeter LGBT Pride, it bodes well for future events which, it is hoped will be bigger and better.

#### **... And next year...!**

Anyone who would like to help organise next year's Exeter LGBT Pride is invited to contact the organising committee now on 07980 134560 or email: [info@exeterpride.co.uk](mailto:info@exeterpride.co.uk) .

The website is [www.exeterpride.co.uk](http://www.exeterpride.co.uk).

### Gay Married Men — local support

There is now local support for gay men who are married. For more details have a look at <http://www.lgbtcollective.org.uk/lgbt-groups?sobi2Task=sobi2Details&catid=4&sobi2Id=121> or e-mail Rob at [gaymarriedsupport@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gaymarriedsupport@hotmail.co.uk).

### Pink Up! Pink Out! in Penzance, 30 April

Pink Up! Pink Out! is a bran-new LGBT night at the Penzance Arts Club, and they're running a Bank Holiday Special event on **Saturday 30 April** (£2.50 entry charge, with DJ).

Then **from July** Pink Up! Pink Out! will be a **monthly** event at the Penzance Arts Club, on the first Saturday of every month.

For more info, have a look at [www.outabout.org.uk](http://www.outabout.org.uk).

### Gay Women's social group, Penzance

Pink Slipper is a new social group for gay women, meeting 2:30 – 4:30 on Saturdays at the Blue Snappa Café on Market Jew Street, Penzance.

For more info, have a look at [www.outabout.org.uk](http://www.outabout.org.uk).

### LGBT mix night, Penzance

OUTabout is an LGBT mix night at the Penzance Arts Club, 8:30 – 11:30 at the Arts Club, Penzance. Free! No door charge!

For more info, have a look at [www.outabout.org.uk](http://www.outabout.org.uk).

### Gay Outdoor Club activities, late April / early May

There are local walks and other activities coming up in and around Bournemouth, Haytor, Wadebridge, Blandford Forum, and Bristol. For details see the GOC website, [www.goc.org.uk](http://www.goc.org.uk).

Pride events coming up...	
<b>Bourne Free</b>	<b>Bournemouth Pride, 8 – 10 July. <a href="http://www.bournefree.co.uk">www.bournefree.co.uk</a></b>
<b>Cornwall Pride</b>	<b>Truro, Saturday 27 August. <a href="http://www.cornwallpride.com">www.cornwallpride.com</a></b>
<b>Pride Torbay</b>	<b>Torbay Pride, 28 -31 July. <a href="http://www.pridetorbay.org">www.pridetorbay.org</a></b>
<b>Plymouth Out Fest</b>	<b>Plymouth Pride: To Be Announced. <a href="http://www.plymouthout.co.uk">www.plymouthout.co.uk</a></b>

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<p><b>Our June Newsletter will go out at the end of May.</b>  <b>The deadline will be <u>Wednesday 25 May</u>.</b>  <b>Local Groups, if you want us to promote your events,</b>  <b>let us know in good time!</b></p>
<p>If you would like...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to be removed from this circulation list, or</li> <li>• to change your e-mail address, or</li> <li>• to ask to have these Newsletters in a different format</li> </ul> <p>please e-mail <a href="mailto:news@intercomtrust.org.uk">news@intercomtrust.org.uk</a>, or phone our Exeter office on 01392 201015.</p>