



## OCTOBER 2017 Ageing Better LGBT EVENTS

Ageing Better LGBT events are social and support activities which promote wellbeing in the LGBT community.

*Ageing Better LGBT events are welcoming for people who are 50 or over, and usually open to people of all ages.*

						1 5pm Illuminate
2 11am Bards & Books  2pm Positive West Midlands	3 11am Rainbow Bridge  7pm Journey Film Club	4	5  7pm Acting Out	6  2pm Positive West Midlands	7	8 1pm Queer Women's Skill Share  5pm Illuminate
9 2pm Positive West Midlands  6pm Married Men's Group	10 11am Rainbow Bridge  7.30pm Brum Bi Group	11	12  7pm Acting Out	13 2pm Positive West Midlands	14	15 2pm ASPECS  5pm Illuminate
16 2pm Positive West Midlands  6pm A Rainbow Of Opinions	17 11 Rainbow Bridge  7pm Journey Film Club	18	19 11am Pink Sou'westers  <b>7.30pm Acting Out</b>	20 1pm Journey Asylum Seekers' Social  2pm Positive West Midlands  <b>6pm Rainbow Bridge</b>  <b>7.30pm Acting Out</b>	21 3pm Rainbow Spirit  <b>7.30pm Acting Out</b>	22 1.30pm Brum Bi Group  5pm Illuminate
23 2pm Positive West Midlands  6pm Married Men's Group	24 11 Rainbow Bridge  7pm LGBT Polska	25	26 10am Ageing Better Conference  7pm Acting Out	27 2pm Positive West Midlands	28	29 5pm Illuminate
30 2pm Positive West Midlands	31					

## 🎪 FEATURED EVENTS 🎪



### Active Citizenship and Community Organising Training

Saturday 11th November, 9.30am - 4.00pm

Birmingham LGBT Centre, 38-40 Holloway Circus, Birmingham B1 1EQ

**FREE** for LGBT people of all ages (lunch provided)

The Ageing Better LGBT Hub is offering this one-day FREE training course for members of the community who are interested in setting up community activities, and those who are already organisers who are looking to develop their skills.

Active citizenship is about taking steps or taking on a role within your community which improves the lot not just of yourself but of others within that community. Community organising develops the capacity of people with shared interests and goals, to use their passion and energy effectively and collectively to create positive change.

Registration is from 9.30am for a 9.45am start and the course is expected to finish by 4pm. **Booking is essential** as places are limited. Please contact **Maria Hughes**, on **0121 643 0821** or [mariahughes@blgbt.org](mailto:mariahughes@blgbt.org) for more details.

*You're invited to the...*



Learning & Sharing Conference  
for a day to share & celebrate our achievements  
of the past year.

The LGBT Hub has been asked to invite group organisers and participants to the:

### Ageing Better in Birmingham Learning & Sharing Conference

Thursday 26th October, 10am - 4pm

BVSC, 138 Digbeth, Birmingham B5 6DR

The Learning & Sharing event is a celebration of Ageing Better activity in the last year, to include:

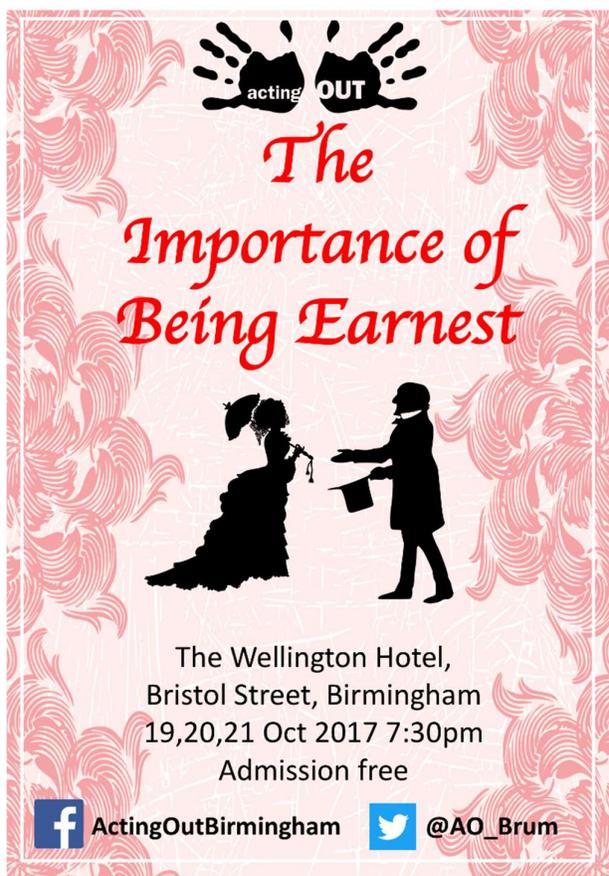
- Sharing information on activities participated in, and what we've learned along the way
- Thinking about new ideas for activities and how to support isolated 50+ people to take part
- Hearing presentations or seeing visual displays from community groups.

It will also give an opportunity from people involved with all the Hubs to meet each other.

Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

If you have a particular story to share, or new ideas to bring, and you'd like to take part, please contact **Maria** as **soon as you can**, as places are limited. **0121 643 0821** or [mariahughes@blgbt.org](mailto:mariahughes@blgbt.org).

## FEATURED EVENTS



### Acting Out presents: The Importance of Being Earnest

19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> October, from 7.30pm

The Wellington Hotel, 72 Bristol St,  
Birmingham B5 7AH

FREE for LGBT people of all ages



### ASPECS

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2pm - 4pm

Birmingham LGBT Centre, 38-40 Holloway Circus,  
Birmingham B1 1EQ

#### FREE for LGBT + allies of all ages

Are you Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, or just questioning your sexuality, AND have been diagnosed as having an Autistic or related condition (Asperger's Syndrome, Tourette's Syndrome, Autism, etc.)?

ASPECS (Autistic Spectrum People of Every Category of Sexuality) is a networking group which has been linking together LGBT people with Asperger's Syndrome and related conditions across the country. It is mainly based on Facebook, but there have been some face-to-face meetings in Sheffield and Manchester. A new group is now being set up in Birmingham, which is welcoming LGBT people with autism, Asperger's Syndrome, ADHD and other similar conditions; to provide a safe space for mutual support and socialising.

If you are interested in attending or want to find out more, please contact Maria on 0121 643 0821 or [mariahughes@blgbt.org](mailto:mariahughes@blgbt.org). You can also apply to join the Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/53253797142/>

## 🎨 FEATURED EVENTS 🎨



### Rainbow Bridge Art Exhibition

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October, 6.30pm - 8.30pm

Birmingham LGBT Centre, 38-40 Holloway Circus, Birmingham B1 1EQ

**FREE for LGBT + allies of all ages**

Rainbow Bridge has been set up to bridge the gaps between lesbian, gay, bi, trans and heterosexual communities, to enable them to find out more about each other and activities, groups and services which are of interest to them.

Rainbow Bridge has set up a special event to showcase art made by people in the LGBT+ community. We are proud to be welcoming displays by Fairyfay Tromans-Wales, Ellie Fenton Buxton, David Smith, Damien Ferne Giuseppa Barresi and others, to be confirmed.

Look out for further updates by joining the Rainbow Bridge Facebook group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/787474638101615/> - or email [rainbowbridgelgbt@yahoo.com](mailto:rainbowbridgelgbt@yahoo.com).



### A Rainbow of Opinions: A tolerant society?

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October, 6pm - 8pm

Birmingham LGBT Centre, 38-40 Holloway Circus, Birmingham B1 1EQ

**FREE for LGBT + allies of all ages**

You are welcome to attend the next debate, which asks:

#### A tolerant society . . . . ?

- Do you think the UK is a 'tolerant' society?
- What does that mean for LGBT+ people?
- How do you feel about being 'tolerated'?
- How do you react to others being 'intolerant'?

What do you think . . . . ? Come and discuss with us!

'A Rainbow of Opinions' is a new debate and discussion of topical issues to broaden people's minds and enable us to learn from each other, hosted by **Marc Ryder**. The basic aim of the group is to provide a forum where people can express their views and consider the views of others.

Topics do not have to be LGBT-related but it may be interesting to consider how a general issue may impact on LGBT people.

If you'd like to attend, or find out more, please contact **Maria** on **0121 643 0821** or [mariahughes@blgbt.org](mailto:mariahughes@blgbt.org).

## REGULAR EVENTS



### Acting Out

Thursdays 5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> October, 7pm - 9pm

The Wellington Hotel, 72 Bristol St, Birmingham B5 7AH

**FREE for LGBT people of all ages**

Acting Out is an open and diverse theatre and social group, based in Birmingham. We aim to provide the LGBT community and friends with a fun, relevant and interactive theatre experience.

The group currently has around 40 full members who take part in all aspects of putting on productions, from writing scripts and directing to technical and performance.

If you would like to join us, but you're nervous about coming to the first meeting, please contact [actingoutchair@gmail.com](mailto:actingoutchair@gmail.com) and we will arrange to meet and greet you.

### Bards & Books



Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, from 11am

Birmingham LGBT Centre, 38-40 Holloway Circus, Birmingham B1 1EQ

**FREE for LGBT + allies of all ages**

We are a friendly, welcoming group who read and discuss books of interest to the LGBT community. Free tea and coffee provided; lunch together afterwards is optional.

The book for October is: "The Heart's Invisible Furies" by John Boyne

The book for November is: "Out in the Army: My Life as a Gay Soldier" by James Wharton

You are welcome to just turn up, or contact [bardsandbooks@gmail.com](mailto:bardsandbooks@gmail.com) for more details.



### Brum Bi Group - Networking Meetup

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30pm - 9pm

Birmingham LGBT Centre, 38-40 Holloway Circus, Birmingham B1 1EQ

**FREE for Bi + allies from 18+**

Brum Bi Group is a safe and friendly social and peer support group for people aged 18+ for anybody who fits under the bisexual umbrella, whether they identify or are questioning their sexuality/romantic life.

Brum Bi Group meets once a month on a Tuesday evening from 7.30pm until 9pm, where topics can be discussed events are planned and a general good old chin wag with bisexual pals who can relate. All over a free drink of tea or coffee.

At 9pm we head to a local pub in the Birmingham Gay Village for drinks and a social.

You are welcome to just turn up, or contact [brumbicoffeegroup@gmail.com](mailto:brumbicoffeegroup@gmail.com). We are also on Meetup here: <https://www.meetup.com/Brum-Bi-Group-Meetup/>



## **Brum Bi Group - Brum Bi Coffee**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 1.30pm - 4.30pm**

Café Soya, Unit 2 Upper Dean Street Birmingham B5 4SG

**FREE for Bi + allies from 18+**

Brum Bi Coffee is a non-scene social group for bisexuals, pansexuals or those who are exploring or questioning their sexuality. We are a very easy-going social group where people can be themselves and meet new people.

Brum Bi Coffee meets every 4th Sunday of the month, from 1:30 pm till 4:30 pm, at Café Soya near Birmingham open market. Look out for a small purple unicorn named 'Xena' on one of the tables to find us.

You are welcome to just turn up, or contact [brumbicoffeegroup@gmail.com](mailto:brumbicoffeegroup@gmail.com). We are also on Meetup here: <https://www.meetup.com/Brum-Bi-Group-Meetup/>



## **Illuminate**

**Sundays 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> October 5pm - 7pm**

Birmingham LGBT Centre, 38-40 Holloway Circus, Birmingham B1 1EQ

**FREE for LGBT + allies of all ages**

Illuminate is a non-religious space with no formal liturgy sacred and secular music playing. Some silence is observed in a darkened room, a discussion follows led by a group member or an informal chat in the second half.

It is a space for reflection and inspiration without a particular religious dimension.

You are welcome to just turn up, or contact Loz on [lbradley1990@outlook.com](mailto:lbradley1990@outlook.com) for more details.



## **Journey Church Asylum Seekers Social**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October, 1pm - 3pm**

Birmingham LGBT Centre, 38-40 Holloway Circus, Birmingham B1 1EQ

**FREE for LGBT + allies of all ages, including asylum seekers**

The Journey Church Asylum Seekers Social is a support and social group for LGBT asylum seekers and LGBT friends, to be a community mixing across generations and cultures.

You are welcome to just turn up, or contact Maria Hughes on **0121 643 0821** or [mariahughes@blgbt.org](mailto:mariahughes@blgbt.org) for more details.



## Journey Film Club

Tuesdays 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> October, 7pm - 9pm

Birmingham LGBT Centre, 38-40 Holloway Circus, Birmingham B1 1EQ

**FREE for LGBT + allies of all ages**

Bringing the Silver Screen to LGBTQ Birmingham and Friends, we show the Classics to New Releases!

Journey Film Club aims to show a variety of different types of films to suit all tastes, on first and third Tuesdays of the month.

Doors open for 6.45pm for 7pm start.

3<sup>rd</sup> October - **EVITA** - PG - 2hr 15min **\*\*7PM START\*\***

“The truth is that I never left you...”

High-flying, adored! The film adaptation of the hit Broadway musical depicting the infamous real-life story of Eva "Evita" Duarte de Peron, the wife of President Juan Peron, who rose from poverty to become the most famous Argentine woman in history. Her huge political influence and constant charity works earned her scorn and fear from the military and upper classes but adoration and love from the workers and descamisados. Evita's legendary life is displayed before your eyes as the most hated and most beloved woman in Argentina.

17<sup>th</sup> October - **DONNIE DARKO** - 15 - 1hr 53min

Donnie Darko doesn't get along too well with his family, his teachers and his classmates; but he does manage to find a sympathetic friend in Gretchen, who agrees to date him. He has a compassionate psychiatrist, who discovers hypnosis is the means to unlock hidden secrets. His other companion may not be a true ally. Donnie has a friend named Frank - a large bunny which only Donnie can see. When an engine falls off a plane and destroys his bedroom, Donnie is not there. Both the event, and Donnie's escape, seem to have been caused by supernatural events. Donnie's mental illness, if such it is, may never allow him to find out for sure.

You are welcome to just turn up, or contact [journeyfilmclub@outlook.com](mailto:journeyfilmclub@outlook.com) or visit [www.journeyfilmclub.co.uk](http://www.journeyfilmclub.co.uk) for more details.



## LGBT Polska

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October, 7pm - 8.30pm

Birmingham LGBT Centre, 38-40 Holloway Circus, Birmingham B1 1EQ

**FREE for LGBT + allies of all ages, Polish and Polish-speaking**

LGBT Polska is a social group of friendly people for Polish LGBT community and Polish speaking friends in West Midlands. Our meetings take place every fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm till 8:30 pm, followed by recreational drink at the pub. Additionally we meet at the pub - Sidewalk (Hurst Street) - every second Friday at 7:30 pm. Just pop in, find us and relax.

LGBT Polska to otwarta grupa zrzeszająca polską społeczność LGBT oraz mówiących po polsku przyjaciół w West Midlands. Nasze spotkania odbywają się w czwarty wtorek każdego miesiąca o godzinie 19:00 - 20:30, po czym rekreacyjnie wychodzimy na drinka do pubu. Dodatkowo spotykamy się w pubie Sidewalk (Hurst Street) w drugi piątek każdego miesiąca o godzinie 19:30. Po prostu przyjdź, znajdź nas i zrelaksuj się.

**Birmingham  
Married  
Men's  
Group**

**Married Men's Group**

**Mondays 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 6pm - 8pm**

Birmingham LGBT Centre, 38-40 Holloway Circus, Birmingham B1 1EQ

**FREE for men of all ages**

Married Men's Group is for men who are attracted to men, but who are married to or in a relationship with a woman, or who have been previously.

The group welcomes men of all ages from Birmingham and surrounding areas, for mutual support in a welcoming atmosphere, with free tea and coffee.

You are welcome to just turn up, or contact [mmgbham@hotmail.com](mailto:mmgbham@hotmail.com) for more details, or visit <http://mmgbham.wix.com/marriedmensgroup>.



**Pink Sou'westers: Coventry Cathedral, ruins and blitz experience**

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October, 11am**

Coventry Cathedral, Hill Top, Coventry CV1 5AB

**For LGBT + allies of all ages - MUST BOOK (£5 per person, subsidised by Pink Sou'westers) - see below**

Designed by Sir Basil Spence, Coventry Cathedral is a fascinating and moving mix of the old and new with an extraordinary history of three Cathedrals in one setting. A world-wide icon of Hope, Peace and Reconciliation, it houses the finest collection of 1960s art in Britain including Graham Sutherland's great tapestry 'Christ in Glory', one of the largest in the world, as well as Britain's largest collection of stained glass. St Michael's tower is the third tallest in England.

Includes optional lunch at the Rising Cafe, below the Cathedral, run by Betel, a Christian charity which offers hope and support to people with drug and alcohol addictions. Be aware that for a large group there is a minimum charge of £9.20 including service, per person, so be hungry! The Cathedral is 15-20 mins walk from the station, or take a bus to the main bus station Pool Meadow which is a few yards away. Large car park close by at CV1 5GA.

**Booking:** Contact Jan on [jes5005@hotmail.com](mailto:jes5005@hotmail.com) or ring **07929 601 145**. She will always acknowledge your booking within 48 hours; let her know if you have to cancel so we can offer your place to someone on else. For delays or cancellations on the day ring 07929 601 145.

Pink Sou'westers offer affordable, accessible, inclusive, non-scene events and activities. All LGBTs are welcome at all events regardless of age or area of residence. Pink Sou'westers social network is run by a committed group of volunteers with no paid staff.

For general information contact **Lesley** on [swbgroup@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:swbgroup@blueyonder.co.uk) or **07976 274 271**.

If you are apprehensive about coming get in touch and we will do all we can to support you.



## Positive West Midlands

**Mondays 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2pm - 4pm**

**Fridays 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2pm - 4pm**

Apache, 190 Corporation Street, B4 6QD

**FREE for LGBT + allies of all ages**

Positive West Midlands is a support group for people living with HIV & our supporters & volunteers. Providing social support and sign-posting to other agencies.

Come along, make new friends and share experiences over free tea, coffee and biscuits.

You are welcome to just turn up, contact [info@positivewestmidlands.co.uk](mailto:info@positivewestmidlands.co.uk) and also visit <https://www.facebook.com/positivewestmidlands/> for more details.



## Rainbow Bridge

**Tuesdays 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> October, 11am - 1pm**

Birmingham LGBT Centre, 38-40 Holloway Circus, Birmingham B1 1EQ

**FREE for LGBT + allies of all ages**

Rainbow Bridge has been set up to bridge the gaps between lesbian, gay, bi, trans and heterosexual communities, to enable them to find out more about each other and activities, groups and services which are of interest to them.

Rainbow Bridge holds weekly networking coffee mornings to 'break the ice' so that people can meet each other and get a taste of what different community groups can offer.

So, if you've ever wanted to go to a group but felt nervous about not knowing anyone, have always wondered what is offered at Birmingham LGBT Centre but have never visited, or you are looking for a group or activity that is right for you - Rainbow Bridge is here!

You are welcome to drop in, or contact [rainbowbridgelgbt@yahoo.com](mailto:rainbowbridgelgbt@yahoo.com) for more details.



## Rainbow Spirit

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October, 3pm - 6pm**

Birmingham LGBT Centre, 38-40 Holloway Circus, Birmingham B1 1EQ

**FREE for gay men of all ages**

The spirit of friendship and support - this is what is shared by Rainbow Spirit. We aim to do this by exploring our sexuality, deriving strength and support from each other in the face of continuing homophobia.

The group meets monthly, and offers a variety of activities based broadly on creativity, self-empowerment and mutual support. Our aim is to be inclusive of all ages and ethnic backgrounds, and each meeting offers time to socialise, welcome new members and enable friendships to develop. We are part of the Edward Carpenter Community, a national organisation which promotes the same aims.

For more details, contact **Jon** on **07974 477206**, e-mail **jonhomer@hotmail.com**. We are also on the Meetup website as **Birmingham Rainbow Spirit**.



*Ageing Better works with communities to bring people together with fun social activities, and help to prevent isolation for people 50 and over. It is also about encouraging mixing of age-groups to share different life experiences.*

*LGBT community groups can access practical and financial support from the LGBT Hub, at Birmingham LGBT.*

*If you are currently running an LGBT community group, want to set up a group or simply want to find out more, please contact **Maria Hughes** on **0121 643 0821** or **mariahughes@blgbt.org***