



NOVEMBER 2017 Ageing Better LGBT EVENTS

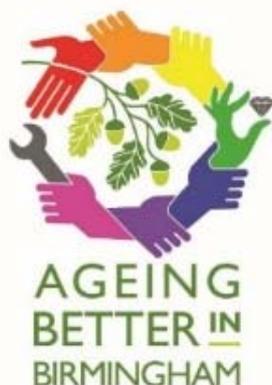
Ageing Better LGBT events are social and support activities which promote wellbeing in the LGBT community.

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

Groups are listed in alphabetical order, overleaf.

		1	2 7pm Acting Out 7pm TranSpectrum	3 2pm Positive West Midlands	4	5 5pm Illuminate
6 11am Bards & Books (with Rainbow Bridge) 2pm Positive West Midlands	7 7pm Journey Film Club	8	9 7pm Acting Out 7pm TranSpectrum	10 1.30pm B'ham Older LGBT People's Housing Group 2pm Positive West Midlands	11 9.30 <i>Active Citizenship & Community Organising</i> 3.30 TranSpectrum 4.30 Hidayah	12 12pm <i>SHOUT OUT (incl. QWSS)</i> 5pm Illuminate
13 2pm Positive West Midlands 6pm Married Men's Group	14 11am Rainbow Bridge 7.30pm Brum Bi Group	15	16 11 Pink Sou'westers 7pm Acting Out 7pm TranSpectrum	17 1pm Journey Asylum Seekers' Social 2pm Positive West Midlands	18 3pm Rainbow Spirit	19 11am OUTward Expressions 2pm AuSPECS 5pm Illuminate
20 2pm Positive West Midlands 6pm A Rainbow Of Opinions	21 11 Rainbow Bridge 7pm Journey Film Club	22 6pm Ageing Well Together 7.30pm Pink Sou'westers	23 7pm Acting Out 7pm TranSpectrum	24 2pm Positive West Midlands	25 3.30 TranSpectrum	26 11am Brum Bi Fest 5pm Illuminate
27 2pm Positive West Midlands 6pm Married Men's Group	28 11 Rainbow Bridge 7pm LGBT Polska	29	30 7pm Acting Out 7pm TranSpectrum			

🌈 LGBT HUB SUPPORTED EVENTS 🌈



Active Citizenship and Community Organising Training

Saturday 11th November, 9.30am - 4pm

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

FREE but must book

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

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.

This training workshop will look at examples of successful citizen-led community actions and will introduce a variety of inclusive and empowering practical methods which can promote and facilitate effective community organisation and activism.

Please contact Maria on 0121 643 0821 or mariahughes@blgbt.org to book, or for further details.

If you can't make the date, this course will be run again on 13th January 2018.

SHOUT

FESTIVAL OF QUEER ARTS & CULTURE, BIRMINGHAM

9th - 19th November; various venues and times - includes FREE events

Returning to this year's SHOUT Festival is the annual SHOUT OUT community event on 12th November. Taking over public spaces at mac Birmingham, this year's SHOUT OUT is packed with more goodness than ever before including performances, live music, arts workshops, family activities, films, and much more.

Rhiannon from our own Queer Women's Skill Share group will be running a crafting workshop, open to all, between 12.30pm and 1.30pm. We would love to see other Ageing Better groups getting together to attend the day.

The full day's schedule will be announced closer to the time. You can find information about this event, and the SHOUT Festival programme, here: <http://shoutfestival.co.uk/> and pick up a brochure from Birmingham LGBT Centre and other arts venues.



🌀 COMMUNITY GROUP EVENTS 🌀



A Rainbow of Opinions: A tolerant society?

Monday 20th November, 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, or RSVP on Meetup: <https://www.meetup.com/Birmingham-LGBT-Meetup/events/244573095/>



Acting Out

Thursdays 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th November, 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 and we will arrange to meet and greet you.



Ageing Well Together: “Ageing Well With HIV”

Wednesday 22nd November, 6pm - 8pm

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

FREE for LGBT people of all ages

Ageing Well Together brings together LGBT people of all ages who are involved or interested in the Ageing Better in Birmingham LGBT programme; whether they want to participate in events, set up and run groups and activities or take part in consultations with the LGBT community.

The next meeting includes the discussion: “Ageing Well With HIV”.

Refreshments will be available.

If you'd like to attend, or find out more, please contact Maria on 0121 643 0821 or mariahughes@blgbt.org; or RSVP on Meetup: <https://www.meetup.com/Birmingham-LGBT-Meetup/events/244573044/>

AuSPECS

Sunday 19th November, 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.)?

AuSPECS LGBT Autistic Network is a networking group which has been linking together LGBT people with Asperger's Syndrome and related conditions across the country, via Facebook.

The Birmingham group welcomes LGBT people with autism, Asperger's Syndrome, ADHD and other similar conditions; to provide a safe space for mutual support and socialising.

Refreshments will be available.

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



Bards & Books: 4th Birthday Book Group

Monday 6th November, from 11am

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

FREE for LGBT + allies of all ages

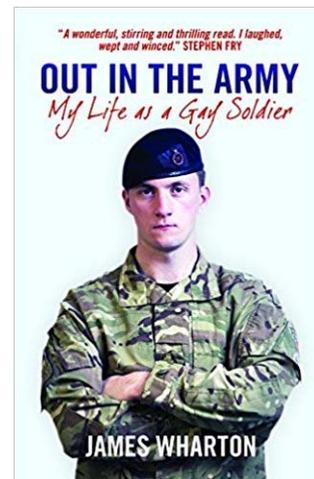
Bards & Books - the LGBT book group - is celebrating its 4th birthday on Monday 6th November, at its regular monthly meeting.

The book being discussed is “Out in the Army: My Life as a Gay Soldier” by James Wharton, and James himself will be coming to the meeting, at the start of his new role as Wellbeing Services Manager for Birmingham LGBT.

Bards & Books will also be joined by networking social group Rainbow Bridge.

So, if you're interested in books, want to make new friends and enjoy some birthday cake, please come along to Bards & Books. You don't have to book, but if you're on Meetup you can RSVP here: <https://www.meetup.com/Birmingham-LGBT-Meetup/events/241783726/>

For more information about Bards & Books, please contact bardsandbooks@gmail.com.



Birmingham Older LGBT People's Housing Group

Friday 10th November, 1.30pm - 3.30pm (12.30pm for lunch)

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

FREE for LGBT + allies of all ages

We meet every two months to discuss the housing needs of older LGBT people, including sheltered housing and care homes. At our meetings, we discuss our needs and aspirations and invite agencies to give presentations so that we know what's available.

The November meeting will include a workshop developing ideas towards an Ageing Better Fund application.

Lunch will be provided between 12.30pm and 1.30pm.

Please contact Maria on 0121 643 0821 or mariahughes@blgbt.org for more information or to confirm your attendance (and if you want lunch).



Brum Bi Group - Brum Bi Fest (10th Anniversary!)

Sunday 26th November, 11am onwards

The Penthouse (above The Loft Lounge), Bromsgrove Street, Birmingham B5 6RG

FREE for Bi + allies from 18+

Come and celebrate Brum Bi Group's 10th Anniversary with a lovely Bi Fest this autumn!

Did you go to BiCon UK this year and wish the next one was sooner?

Fancy a day out in Birmingham with the a group of fabulous bisexuals?

If the answered YES to both questions, then Brum Bi Fest is for YOU! There will be a huge range of activities and workshops to join in with! The event is free but donations will be gratefully accepted - pay on the door what you wish. All attendees will get a name badge with the option to put their own pronouns on.

So far our sessions include:

Safe Sex Workshop with Birmingham LGBT / Umbrella

Brum Bi Write-In

Bisexuals & Boardgames

Naked Lunch

Trans* safe space

Music Improv

In similar fashion to Bi Visibility Day, there will be an after party downstairs hosted by The Loft, with access to the bar all day. The After-Party will be held downstairs in the Loft from 6pm until 11pm.

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



Brum Bi Group - Networking Meetup

Tuesday 14th November, 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. We are also on Meetup here: <https://www.meetup.com/Brum-Bi-Group-Meetup/>



NEW: Hidayah

Saturday 11th November, 4.30pm - 7pm (includes Bollywood dancing)

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

FREE for LGBT+ Muslims and friends

Hidayah is an organisation created to increase the representation, acceptance and equality of LGBT+ Muslims through providing a public face to the community and creating spaces to communicate. Hidayah is a social group which connects with other LGBT Muslim communities, and can signpost to other support agencies.

Hidayah runs a social meet up group for the LGBT+ Muslim community and their LGBT+ friends at Birmingham LGBT Centre every 2nd Saturday of the month, 5pm - 7pm. The November meet up offers the chance to take part in Bollywood dancing from 4.30pm - 6pm, followed by a workshop to create Christmas decorations, 6pm - 7pm.

For all enquiries, please contact: info@HidayahLGBT.org



Illuminate

Sundays 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th November, 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 for more details.



Journey Church Asylum Seekers Social

Friday 17th November, 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 for more details.



Journey Film Club

Tuesdays 7th & 21st November, 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, unless otherwise stated. Admission is free, however donations towards refreshments are welcomed.

7th November - 54 - 15 - 1hr 33min

An anthology film retelling the story of the famous Studio 54, a hot disco hangout for the social elite of New York. The movie follows several characters at once, some of whom are in desperate straits and on the verge of crashing.

Doors open at 7:15pm for a prompt start at 7:30pm.

21st November - IN BED WITH MADONNA - 18 - 2hr

From the rain of Japan, through threats of arrest for 'public indecency' in Canada, and a birthday tribute to her father in Detroit, this documentary follows Madonna on her 1990 'Blond Ambition' concert tour. Filmed in black and white, with the concert pieces in glittering MTV color, it is an intimate look at the work of the music performer, from a prayer circle with the dancers before each performance to bed games with the dance troupe afterwards.

You are welcome to just turn up, or contact journeyfilmclub@outlook.com or visit www.journeyfilmclub.co.uk for more details.



LGBT Polska

Tuesday 28th November, 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 13th & 27th November, 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 for more details, or visit <http://mmgbham.wix.com/marriedmensgroup>.



OUTward Expressions: "We often find it necessary to keep our homosexuality quiet" and other exhibitions

Sunday 19th November, 11am

mac, Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham, B12 9QH

FREE for LGBT + allies of all ages

Are you interested in art and or photography? If so, OUTward Expressions maybe of interest to you.

We are a friendly LGBT group of artists, photographers and people who enjoy visit to art galleries. We discuss art and take photos and sketch/ paint at places of mutual interest - a café or pub usually features at our events, so they are social occasions too. It doesn't matter if you are experienced, just starting out or anywhere in between, we are encouraging, helpful and share tips and our experiences - the only thing you need is an interest in the subjects.

Our next visit is to the mac (Midlands Arts Centre to see its current exhibitions:

"We often find it necessary to keep our homosexuality quiet"

Marking the 50th anniversary year of the partial decriminalisation of male homosexuality in England and Wales, SHOUT presents an exhibition of documentary photography charting the history of the Gay Liberation Front in Birmingham in the 1970s.

Saddleworth Moor: Responding to a Landscape

Artist Matthew Murray has created a photographic odyssey, an epic series of landscape works made over a period of four-and-a-half years.

The Fence and the Shadow

The Fence and The Shadow is a new series of paintings by artist Dr. Sally Payen based on her exploration and research about the contested landscape of Greenham Common and the women's peace camps and anti-nuclear protests that took place in the 1980s.

Meet at the entrance to the cafe at 11am. Please note that the car park is no longer free of charge and its £2 for four hours - unless you have a blue badge.

Please contact Jay on 07983 353 584 or email Paddy at paddy.broughton@btinternet.com if you'd like to attend, and let them know any access requirements you may have.

You can join the OUTward Expressions Facebook group and keep up-to-date with meetings and activities, here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/outwardexpressions/>



Pink Sou'westers: The Commandery, Worcester

Thursday 16th November, 11am

The Commandery, Sidbury, Worcester WR1 2HU

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

The Commandery, Worcester, is a glorious Grade I listed site dating from the 12th century. The Commandery's long and varied history is reflected in its range of architectural styles from Medieval to Victorian. Using state of the art audio interpretation, choose from six key periods in the Commandery's history. From Medieval times through to the 1950's via the Tudors, the Civil War, the Georgians and the Victorians, you can be transported to the period of your choice. Also, why not enjoy the grounds with their peaceful gardens and magnificent architecture, all in the heart of historic Worcester. Followed by local lunch.

Transport: We will get trains from New St Station at 9.49am calling University, or Moor St Station at 9.39am calling Snow Hill, Jewellery Quarter, Galton Bridge and Stourbridge Junction. £9.30 day return or £6.15 with senior rail card. (Please check nearer the time in case of autumn leaf changes!).



Pink Sou'westers: Cocktail Masterclass

Wednesday 22nd November, 7.30pm

Rose Villa Tavern, 172 Warstone Lane, Birmingham B18 6JW

For LGBT + allies of all ages - MUST BOOK (£20 per person) - see below

Want to mix and shake like a pro in the beautiful setting of the Rose Villa's ornate interior? Our 2 hour class will be the perfect way to expand your knowledge and show off your skills at your next party! Drink on arrival to whet your appetites, history of cocktails and spirits - all you need to know to navigate your way through any cocktail menu, tricks of the trade, and of course, a tutorial on a couple of classics - your Margaritas will be the talk of the town!

Competition style tests judged by your fellow mixologists - who's paid the most attention and will be leaving with the cocktail making crown?

Transport: We strongly advise arriving by public transport - take a bus, or the train or tram to the Jewellery Quarter station and the pub is a short walk away opposite the Chamberlain clock. £20 per person. If you want some pub grub (wings, burgers, subs, salads, nachos etc. including vegan and gluten free) to line your stomach, arrive to eat at 6.30pm. Must book and pay in advance.

Booking: Contact Jan on 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 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 6th, 13th 20th 27th November, 2pm - 4pm

Fridays 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th November, 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 and also visit <https://www.facebook.com/positivewestmidlands/> for more details.

Queer Women's Skill Share

Craft events, queer history talks,
reading and supporting good causes.

Queer Women's Skill Share Crafting Workshop (as part of SHOUT Festival)

Sunday 12th November, 12.30pm - 1.30pm

mac, Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham, B12 9QH

FREE for LGBT + allies of all ages

As part of this year's SHOUT OUT community day at
mac, Rhiannon from Queer Women's Skill Share is

holding a crafting workshop for all visitors to the mac, followed by a social get-together for
Queer Women's Skill Share members to enjoy the rest of the day.

No need to book - just turn up!

For more information, and to join the mailing list, please email midlandsqwss@gmail.com.



Rainbow Bridge

Monday 6th November, from 11am (with Bards & Books)

Tuesdays 14th, 21st November, 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!

Also Tuesday 28th November, 11am at Second Cup café, 64 New St, Birmingham B2 4DU

You are welcome to drop in, or contact rainbowbridgeigbt@yahoo.com for more details.



Rainbow Spirit

Saturday 18th November, 3pm - 6pm

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

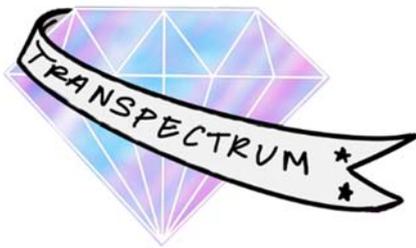
FREE for gay men of all ages

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.

In our November meeting, we will be looking at the situation for gay men in other parts of the world, with some information and video footage leading to discussion about the problems faced by men in other countries of the world, where to be gay is illegal, and gay men are being persecuted, tortured and even killed for being who they are. To finish on a more positive note, we will be looking at ways we might offer the hand of friendship to a group in one of these countries.

You are welcome to just turn up. For more details, contact Jon on 07974 477206, e-mail jonghomer@hotmail.com. We are also on the Meetup website as Birmingham Rainbow Spirit.



NEW: TranSpectrum

Thursday socials, from 7pm

Venue to be arranged

Saturdays 11th & 25th November, 3.30pm - 5.30pm

3 Threes Coffee Lounge, 17-19 Martineau Way, Birmingham B2 4UW

For trans and questioning people of all ages

TranSpectrum is a Safe Social Space for anyone who identifies under the Trans* umbrella (as defined by Stonewall) - whether you are questioning your gender, don't fit in a box or don't want labels, or if you are comfortably identifying as anything other than Cisgender. A meet up for the whole gender spectrum.

For more information about venues, please contact Louie on 07518 152 064, email transpectrum@outlook.com or social media:

<https://transpectrum.wordpress.com/>

<https://www.meetup.com/TranSpectrum/>

<https://www.facebook.com/TranSpectrum/>



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