



Chair's Report 2008-2009¹

This Chair's report covers the period 1st April 2008 to 31 March 2009.

2008-2009 has been a year of positive change for BLGBT. The charity started the year as Birmingham Pride Community Trust - with a part time co-ordinator – and has become Birmingham LGBT Community Trust – a charity funded by Capacity Builders with a full time worker including the Transgendered community in our remit.

In the first 6 months of the year the Trust continued to work towards our historic four work priorities²

The Gay Birmingham Remembered Exhibition was exhibited at Symphony Hall during May 2008 with a successful launch event attended by key stakeholders. Following this targeted parts of the exhibition moved to Perry Beeches School where it was well received by staff and pupils. We are grateful to Head Teacher Liam Nolan who assisted the trust in achieving funding from Birmingham City Council to arrange for the exhibition to tour secondary schools in the North Birmingham Area.

Significant progress was made on the regeneration of the gay village. The Trust continued its participation in the Birmingham City Council Steering Group chaired by Steve Bedser. Following the setbacks and lack of progress in 07-08 the Trust organised a petition amongst visitors to the gay village, retail premises and venues during May and over the Pride festival weekend. Over 2000 signatures were collected and presented to Birmingham City Council by Councillor Yvonne Mosquito in June resulting in funding being allocated for the proposed improvements which are scheduled to begin after the Pride Festival this year. Thanks to Steve Bedser for convening the group and his liaison with Birmingham City Council and to Gary Woodward for his hard work and commitment to keeping the project alive. I would also like to thank Councillor Mosquito for her support in championing the project.

We held a number of meetings with Primary Care Trust leads and health professionals to underpin our work in the area of LGBT health. Despite a number of contacts with the council we were unable to progress the needs of older LGBTs in residential and day care.

¹ Please note: the financial year of BLGBT runs April to March which corresponds to the funding year for Capacity Builders; however, the timescale for spending in year 1 was halved as there was an unexpected delay in the funding process.

² Addressing homophobic bullying in schools, the needs of older LGBs in residential and day care, the health needs of the LGB community and the regeneration of the gay village.

We undertook a blues skies discussion as to the future of the Trust its mission, funding and staffing requirements. Setting in motion plans to secure funding for full time support from a worker.

In July we hosted our annual Pink Picnic event in Cannon Hill Park. The event was enjoyed by all despite mixed weather.

In the second half of this period Capacity Builders funding was confirmed and we formalised our partnership with the LGBT consortium in order to build capacity in the LGBT third sector in Birmingham. This funding enabled us to kick start our planned process of growth and organisational change.

Our long serving co-ordinator Lesley Pattenson decided to leave the organisation. On behalf of all the trustees past and present I would like to thank Lesley for her hard work and commitment to the Trust since our beginnings.

I will report on our achievements in the second half of the year under our 4 new strategic objectives:

1. To act as the voice of the LGBT third sector in Birmingham, based on a knowledge and evidence of real need, creating a positive and visible LGBT community
 - Trustees participated in discussions on the proposed Southside Bid and continued their input into the BCC Gay Village Steering Group.
 - The Trust also participated in the Birmingham House consultation process alongside representatives of other minority groups.
 - The Trust in collaboration with Advantage West Midlands and Equality and Human Rights Commission ran a successful Health event entitled *LGBT Health – Who Cares?* At which key research findings were presented to representatives from Primary Care Trusts including senior managers and strategic leads and members of the community. 50 people attended this event.
 - We began work on a city wide LGBT cultural event planned for November 2009, entitled SHOUT! A steering group of influential arts, sports and cultural professionals was established to drive the agenda forward. The festival will include visual arts, sports, performing arts, heritage, film, dance and community events.
 - The trust was represented on the steering group of the West Midlands LGBT Employees Network and the Birmingham Women's Policy Group.
 - In March the Trust was awarded the Zone Readers Award for Midlands Gay Charity of Achievement which was a fantastic recognition of our impact and growth.

2. Create a highly skilled LGBT third sector that has high aspirations for success which has adequate Infrastructure and is able to access relevant support from mainstream agencies
 - The trust has engaged with a number of agencies and organisations as listed in the Development Worker's report
 - Our Development Worker has undertaken 1-2-1 surgeries with forum groups to address fundraising needs and skills gaps.
3. To build an engaged LGBT community empowering individuals and groups to participate fully in society
 - We undertook a survey amongst the Forum groups and have begun the process of reinvigorating the meetings.
 - We have developed a new interactive website for the Trust, which will be launched shortly, that will enable members of the community to engage with LGBT groups and access information and support.
4. To lead by example by being a successful organisation that is efficient, effective, transparent, open and evidence based.
 - We set up an office in the Custard Factory and undertook a recruitment process for a full time Development Worker – employing David Viney.
 - We worked with consortium to conduct a strategic review of our work and governance and created a 3 year strategic plan which maintained our key work priorities whilst expanding the scope of our work.
 - We developed a fundraising strategy to ensure the sustainability of the trust
 - Policies and procedures have been developed for the trust
 - The trust undertook a skills audit and based on this has recruited new trustees to add to the skills and experience of the Board. I would like to welcome Katie Engel, Lindsey Myers, Ashok Patel, Jon Penny, Michael Syrret and Rita Tappia to the Board.

The trust is looking forward to a successful year in 2009-2010 and has ambitions to recruit additional workers, undertake a programme of consultation events, and further develop the Community Forum and infrastructure support for the LGBT third sector.

I confirm that the balance sheet and income and expenditure accounts are true and accurate for the financial year ending 31 March 2009.





Supported by:



Income and Expenditure Account	Year to 31-Mar-09	6 months to 31-Mar-08
Income		
Donations incl Birmingham Council	12,478.33	2,500.00
Donations towards Gay Birmingham Remembered	2,850.00	
Forum Subscriptions	225.00	275.00
Heritage Lottery Fund re Gay Birmingham Remembered	5,000.00	20,000.00
LGBT Consortium	12,903.00	
Refund from BVSC	-	110.58
FIT Box Office	-	43.79
Total Income	33,456.33	22,929.37
Expenditure		
Heritage Lottery Fund re Gay Birmingham Remembered	18,355.26	19,130.87
Coordinators fees and expenses	4,656.27	6,199.47
Forum costs		211.50
Directors expenses	380.20	117.08
Pride Ball	51.00	
Publicity	586.63	229.13
Printing costs	281.75	
AGM and meeting costs	491.91	114.90
Internet and communication costs	2,818.57	
Funding application consultancy	665.00	
LGBT History		
FIT performance	-	881.25
Total Expenditure	28,286.59	26,884.20
Excess of Income/ (Expenditure) over Income	5,169.74	- 3,954.83
Balance Sheet		
Current assets - Bank account	22,585.72	19,352.80
Debtors	44.00	
Creditors	- 81.25	- 1,974.07
	22,548.47	17,378.73
Represented by:-		
Accumulated funds - brought forward	17,378.73	21,333.56
Add: Surplus/(Deficit) for period	5,169.74	- 3,954.83
	22,548.47	17,378.73

NOTES

Income & Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet for Financial Year 1st April 2008 - 31st March 2009

- ✚ These Accounts represent a full year compared with the previous 6 month accounting period. The Board of Trustees previously authorised the change to a standard fiscal year.
- ✚ These Accounts have been independently examined by Steve Bentley.
- ✚ Donations of £10,000 were received from Birmingham City Council.
- ✚ Final Lottery funding of £5,000 was received for the Gay Birmingham Remembered project together with £2,850 of other donations towards specific GBR projects.
- ✚ Publicity costs relate to the Pink Picnic.
- ✚ Three Directors claimed expenses.
- ✚ Internet and communications costs mostly relate to the first 50% development costs of the new BLGBT Community Trust website.
- ✚ Funding consultancy related to a further lottery fund bid for more support workers.
- ✚ Coordinators fees relate staffing costs prior to David Viney's appointment as Development Worker.

FINANCIAL COMPARISON

Caveat: These accounts represent a full year compared against the previous 6 month accounting period.

Income	2006 total	2007 total	October 2007 – March 2008	2009 total
Donations	£966.00	£10,696.50	£2,500.00	£12,478.33

Expenditure	2006 total	2007 total	October 2007 – March 2008	2009 total
Coordinators Fees & Expenses	£4,392.81	£5,171.68	£6,199.47	£4,656.27
Directors Expenses	£118.90	£180.22	£117.08	£380.20

Publicity	£133.00	£1,990.63	£229.13	£586.63
Internet and communication costs	n/a	n/a	n/a	2,818.57

Simon H Pickford ACA
Treasurer
9 April 2009