



COMMUNITY EVENTS

AUGUST 2019

All events listed are supported by Ageing Better in Birmingham LGBT Hub

promoting wellbeing in the LGBT community

Groups are listed in alphabetical order, overleaf.

Monday	Tuesday	Weds	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1 12.30pm Rainbow Bridge 6.30pm LGBT Line Dancing 7pm Acting Out 7.30pm Journey Film Club	2 11am Positive West Midlands 6.30pm Brum Bi Group	3 1pm Birmingham Lgbtq+ Writers	4 5pm Illuminate
5 11 Bards & Books 11am Positive West Midlands 6.30pm Trans Central	6 7pm Journey Film Club	7	8 12.30pm Rainbow Bridge 6.30pm LGBT Line Dancing 7pm Acting Out 7.30pm BGLAD 7.30pm Positive West Midlands	9 11am Positive West Midlands 1.30pm ALBA	10	11 10.30am Boot Women 5pm Illuminate
12 11am Positive West Midlands	13 11am Rainbow Bridge 7pm Brum Bi Group	14 12pm Ageing Better	15 12.30pm Rainbow Bridge 6.30pm LGBT Line Dancing 7pm Acting Out 7.30pm Positive West Midlands	16 11am Positive West Midlands 12.30pm Journey Asylum Seekers Group 6.30pm Brum Bi Group	17 2pm Birmingham Hippodrome 3pm Rainbow Spirit	18 11am Wheels of Pride 5pm Illuminate
19 11am Positive West Midlands	20 11am Rainbow Bridge 6.45pm Journey Film Club	21 7pm Sutton Rainbow Social	22 12.30pm Rainbow Bridge 6.30pm LGBT Line Dancing 7pm Acting Out 7.30pm BGLAD 7.30pm Positive West Midlands	23 11am Positive West Midlands 8pm Pool & Karaoke	24 1pm OLN	25 12pm Brum Bi Group 5pm Illuminate
26 BANK HOL	27 11am Rainbow Bridge	28	29 12.30pm Rainbow Bridge 6.30pm LGBT Line Dancing 7pm Acting Out 7.30pm Positive West Midlands	30 11am Positive West Midlands	31	

FEATURED EVENTS



Journey Film Club: Film Choice Meeting

Thursday 1st August, from 7.30pm

The Dragon Inn, Arcadian, Hurst Street, Birmingham B5 4TD

All welcome

Want to help us decide which films to screen next? If so, come along to our Film Choice Meeting! We will be meeting at The Dragon Inn (Wetherspoons).

Not able to attend? Send us a message with your suggestion and we will consider it at the meeting: <https://www.facebook.com/events/900381076961503/>



NEW: Birmingham Lgbtq+ Writers

Saturday 3rd August, 1pm - 3pm

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

FREE to LGBTQIA+ adults

For our first session, we'll have a chat about one of the cornerstones of writing - character.

How do writers develop characters? What makes them feel real? What characters pop up again and again in fiction, and what would you like to see represented more?

If you have any examples of really good characters in fiction or non-fiction, feel free to bring them along. Then, we'll do a 15-20 minute writing session, using a prompt to get things going.

After a short break for tea and coffee (or to keep writing, if you've struck gold) there will be time to share bits we've written.

Good to know:

- Everything is optional, there's no obligation to share or to stay for the whole thing, and if you want you can just turn up and write.
- This is a creative session, so the aim is to generate new ideas and get some writing done, rather than to critique work.
- The session is free to attend and open to LGBTQIA+ adults.
- Basic refreshments will be available for a donation, & you're welcome to bring your own snacks.
- Accessibility: entry is through the LGBT centre. All toilets are gender-neutral and there is a ground floor disabled toilet.

No need to book - just turn up and write! Or RSVP here:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/2293331757382302/>

or join the Meetup group: <https://www.meetup.com/Birmingham-lgbtq-writers/>



NEW: Dance at PWM

Thursdays 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th August, 7.30pm - 9pm

'Apache', 190 Corporation Street, B4 6QD

FREE for LGBT + allies

Come and learn to dance for free at PWM every Thursday. Lessons will initially be jazz/ tap, and suitable for all ages and abilities. Be prompt and bring loose fitting clothing and suitable footwear. It will be a easy going and fun environment and an enjoyable way to get some exercise.

See <https://www.facebook.com/events/2537766926246177> and <http://www.positivewestmidlands.co.uk>



Brum Bi Group AGM

Tuesday 13th August, 7pm - 9pm

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

Brum Bi Group

FREE for Bi + allies from 18+

Brum Bi Group Needs You!

Time for us to be business bis and get our lovely bi house in order. We will be making lots of important decisions about the future of Brum Bi Group and could do with lots of support for this event. You can stand for roles and vote via email or message if you can't be there in person.

All roles are open and they are: Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, IT, Networking Lead, BiCamp Lead, Pride Lead, Membership Tsar, Publicity and Social Media Team, (Annual) Events Team

Full agenda to follow, and see: <https://www.facebook.com/events/2249867695130875>.



Kindness Café

Saturday 17th August, 2pm - 5pm

Birmingham Hippodrome, Hurst Street, Birmingham B5 4TB

FREE

Join us at Birmingham Hippodrome for an afternoon of queer reminiscence, art, tea and coffee during our Kindness Café. Inspired by the work of artist Ryan Kerney we will be combining queer archival materials from the theatre with artwork as we map the site of the old Nightingale and what it was like. We'll also be airing our laundry in a drop-in art activity, drawing on and decorating underwear to add to our washing line (all pants provided and unused we promise!)

Tea, coffee, biscuits aplenty and relaxed company as we explore queer Birmingham history. Anything you make will support the exhibition launch and inspire performances on the night, so a great opportunity to shape new queer arts in the city.

Good company, showtunes, yummy treats and a safe and inclusive environment in the heart of the village. You don't need to book - just drop in at any time.



NEW: 'Wheels of Pride' lesbian cycling group

Sunday 18th August from 11am

Pype Hayes Park, Chester Road, Birmingham B24 0NR

FREE for lesbians of all ages

A new group for lesbians who like to cycle is setting off on its first ride from Pype Hayes Park car park, to New Hall Valley Country Park where there is a rainbow garden, then back again. It's a steady five-mile ride, mostly on cycle paths, suitable for women who don't have a lot of confidence on the road, and there is the option of visiting The Digby Pub at the end.

Cyclists will need to bring their own cycles, water and possibly a snack. Wearing a helmet is recommended.

It is planned to repeat this ride again on 22nd September, taking in the New Hall Water Mill Open Day.

If you are interested, please contact Amanda McAvoy on 07806 828 818.

**MAKE
SOMEONE'S
DAY!**



"Make Someone's Day" launch event

Wednesday 14th August, 12pm - 3.30pm

Outside OIKOS Café, 58 High Street, Erdington, Birmingham B23 6RH

FREE

Make Someone's Day is a new campaign from Ageing Better in Birmingham, launching in Erdington, around how making a habit of having conversations with those around us can make a difference to our lives now and in the future.

Come and introduce yourself to a neighbour. Start a conversation with someone you don't already know, and help make Erdington the best place to grow older!

Find out more: <https://www.ageingbetterinbirmingham.co.uk/makesomeonesday>

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Acting Out

Thursdays 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th August, 7pm - 9pm

The Craven Arms, 47 Upper Gough Street, Birmingham B1 1JL

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.



ALBA

Friday 9th August, 1.30pm - 3.30pm

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

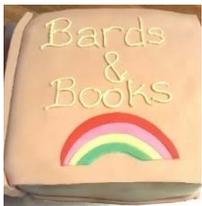
FREE for LBT women asylum seekers and refugees

ALBA is a support group for women asylum seekers or refugees. If you are a lesbian, bisexual or transgender woman and have come to the UK to seek asylum, then you will be very welcome to come and join us at our monthly meetings on the second Friday of the month at Birmingham LGBT Centre.

At our meetings, we spend some of the time listening to anyone who wants to discuss their case and share ideas to overcome their challenges. We also celebrate members' birthday with gifts and share donated toiletries, clothing and other items.

We can support our members further by accompanying them to LGBT and arts events, as well as to appointments such as those with doctors or solicitors. We may be able to support the costs of travel.

Further information at <https://albalbtwomenbirmingham.wordpress.com/>.



Bards & Books

Monday 5th August, 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. Tea and coffee provided (30p contributions welcome); lunch together afterwards is optional. We meet on the first Monday of the month (second Monday, if the first is a bank holiday).

In August, we will be discussing "The Miseducation of Cameron Post" by Emily M Danforth.

In September, we will be discussing "The Argonauts" by Maggie Nelson.

If you can't make a meeting, join the mailing list and you will be sent a review of the book, based on the group discussion. To find out more, and join the mailing list: bardsandbooks@gmail.com.



BGLAD

Thursdays 8th & 22nd August, 7.30pm - 9pm

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

FREE for LGBT + allies of all ages

Birmingham Gays and Lesbians Against Depression is a friendly support and social group for those suffering from depression or other mental illness; all our members understand depression or other conditions like anxiety, OCD or stress. The group cannot offer counselling or individual support but can guide towards options, and is part of the MIND peer support network of groups across the country.

We meet on alternate Thursday evenings (the second and fourth Thursday each month) from 7.30pm to 9pm. To contact BGLAD, phone **0121 301 1284**.



Boot Women: Bewdley

Sunday 11th August, 11.30am

Dog Lane car park, Bewdley DY12 2EF

For Lesbians, Bi Women and Women Allies

Boot Women is a walking group for women, primarily lesbians, based in Birmingham and the surrounding areas. We meet on the second Sunday of the month.

In August, we will go on an exciting four mile walk with steam train return. We will set off from Bewdley, walking alongside the river and through parkland to Seckley Wood where we can take a break. Then on to Arley Station to join the Severn Valley Railway and take a steam train back to Bewdley (there will be a charge for travel). Unfortunately dogs are not allowed on the train.

Meet for shared lifts at Cannon Hill Park (Russell Road car park, B13 8RD) for 10.30 departure. Or go directly to the start of walk at Dog Lane car park (DY12 2EF), ready to leave at 11.30am. Charges to park are £4.60 for up to six hours so it's a good idea to car share.

Bring a packed lunch and something to sit on. A fee of £1 is required to cover costs of admin. Additionally, donations for Women's Aid of £1 (or more) are welcome.

Any enquiries or just to let us know you're on your way and/or running late, call or text the Boot Women phone: 07754 530 130. For more information, see <http://www.bootwomen.org.uk/>.



Brum Bi Group

Brum Bi Group

No Networking Meetup: AGM is on 13th August (see Featured Events)

Bisexuals & Boardgames: Fridays 2nd & 16th August, 6.30pm - 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.

You are welcome to join us for board and tabletop card games at **Bisexuals & Boardgames**, on the first and third Friday of the month. Feel free to bring your own games, use our own games supplied or just simply take part and watch.



Brum Bi Group

Brum Bi Group: Brum Bi Coffee

Sunday 25th August, 12pm - 4pm

Damascena, 5-7 Temple Row West, Birmingham B2 5NY

For bisexual people and allies

Need a bit of a break from mainstream life? Come and have a good chat and a brew at Brum Bi Coffee!

Brum Bi Coffee meets every fourth Sunday of the month, from 12pm till 4pm, at Damascena, on Temple Row. Look out for a small purple unicorn named 'Xena' on one of the tables to find us.

For more details, contact brumbicoffeegroup@gmail.com. We are also on Meetup here: <https://www.meetup.com/Brum-Bi-Group-Meetup/>.



Illuminate

Sundays 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th August, 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, with sacred and secular music playing. We observe silence 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 Asylum Seekers' Group

Friday 16th August, 12.30pm - 4pm

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

FREE for LGBT + allies 18+, including asylum seekers

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

We meet on the third Friday of the month.

You are welcome to just turn up, or contact Phil Hoar on 07484 837 773 or philhoar@btinternet.com for more details.



Journey Film Club

Tuesdays 6th & 20th August, 6.45pm - 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. You are welcome to just turn up, or contact journeyfilmclub@outlook.com or visit www.journeyfilmclub.co.uk for more details.

Tuesday 6th: **The Festival** 7pm start

After his girlfriend dumps him at graduation, a young man thinks his life is over. His best friend has the perfect solution: three days at a giant music festival.

Tuesday 20th: **Happy Together**

Lai (Tony Leung Chiu Wai) and his boyfriend, Ho (Leslie Cheung), arrive in Argentina from Hong Kong, seeking a better life. Their highly contentious relationship turns abusive and results in numerous break-ups and reconciliations. When Lai befriends another man, Chang (Chen Chang), he sees the

futility of continuing with the promiscuous Ho. Chang, however, is on his own personal journey and, ultimately, both Lai and Ho find themselves far from home and desperately lonely.



LGBT Line Dancing

Thursdays 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th August, 6.30pm - 9pm

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

FREE for LGBT+ allies of all ages and abilities

Come along and join us for a fun night of line dancing with other LGBT people and their friends. Absolute beginners very welcome - dances are taught from scratch. We use a range of popular music to dance with (and some country music). No special dress required but wear shoes that don't have a grip. It's good fun, and you don't need a partner!

You are welcome to just turn up, but if you would like more information, please contact Dave on davewaring73@googlemail.com.



OLN - Older Lesbian Network

Saturday 24th August, 1pm - 3.30pm

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

FREE for older lesbians (self-defined)

Older Lesbian Network meets every fourth Saturday of the month at 1pm at Birmingham LGBT Centre. Each meeting starts with a chat over shared food brought by the women attending and this is followed by a led discussion on a pre-arranged topic. Topics are decided by the group and usually planned about six months ahead. Sometimes group members with a special interest in a subject present ideas for discussion, other times we invite speakers with specialist knowledge. The group also meets socially from time to time for meals or theatre outings.

New members are always welcome. There is no set age limit; it is up to women who are considering attending to define 'older' as they wish. The focus of the group is, however, to support and value the lives of older lesbians.

Contact olnwestmidlands@gmail.com for more information.



Pool & Karaoke

Friday 23rd August, from 8pm

The Fox, 17 Lower Essex Street, Birmingham B5 6SN

For LGBT + allies 18+

Meet at Fox at 8pm, in the pool room your welcome to play pool or just chat and socialise, make new friends. Karaoke starts around 10pm till late.

No need to book but you can RSVP on Meetup: <https://www.meetup.com/Birmingham-LGBT-Meetup/events/263451793/>



Positive West Midlands

Mondays 5th, 12th, 19th August, 11am - 4pm

Fridays 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th August, 11am - 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.

We meet every Monday and Friday at our own venue in Corporation Street, opposite the Magistrates' Court. There will be no event on August bank holiday.

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



Rainbow Bridge LGBTQ Networking Group

Tuesday coffee mornings: 13th, 20th, 27th August, 11am - 1pm (not 6th August)

Thursday coffee mornings: 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th August, 12.30pm - 2.30pm

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

FREE for LGBT + allies of all ages (donations welcome)

Rainbow Bridge is holding our regular Tuesday and Thursday Coffee Mornings in the old café space in the Birmingham LGBT Centre as part of the Ageing Better in Birmingham programme.

We welcome everyone for refreshments and a chance to meet and chat with other LGBTQAAI attendees. Our aim is to provide a non commercial space where for a few hours you can socialise and relax in good company.

There is no charge for the refreshments but any donations of snacks you enjoy or cash donations are welcome.

For more information, contact rainbowbridgegbtq@hotmail.com, join our Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/787474638101615/> or find our events in the Birmingham LGBT Meetup group.



Rainbow Spirit

Saturday 17th August, 3pm -6pm

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

FREE for gay men of all ages (donations welcome)

Rainbow Spirit is a community of men attracted to men who meet to develop personal empowerment, friendship and support. We aim to do this by exploring our sexuality, deriving strength and support from each other in the face of continued homophobia. We embrace mind, body, and spirit through a diversity of activities, discussions, and sharing of our different experiences.

During our Saturday meeting, as well as our specific activities, we always make time for a chat together over tea and biscuits. We ask for a small donation of £3 during the meeting. This goes towards to our Hardship Fund, which means, for example, that we can give bus fares to the asylum seekers who attend. Occasionally, we arrange additional social events where we might go for a walk, watch a film, visit the theatre or just enjoy a coffee together.

Please feel free to join us from 3pm -6pm on the third Saturday of the month. You will be warmly welcomed.

For more details, contact **Jon** on **07974 477206**, e-mail jonghomer@hotmail.com. We are also on the Meetup website as **Rainbow Spirit Bham - celebrating our lives as gay / bi men - mind/body/spirit**.



Sutton Rainbow Social

Wednesday 21st August, from 7pm

Quinto Lounge, 21-23 Birmingham Road, Sutton Coldfield B72 1QA

For LGBT + allies

We are inviting LGBTQI people from all over Sutton Coldfield - and surrounding areas - to get to know each other in cosy surroundings. Come and find Maria & Richard at the Quinto Lounge, near the back.

Just turn up, or for more info, please contact **Richard** on r-green11@sky.com, or RSVP on Meetup <https://www.meetup.com/Birmingham-LGBT-Meetup/events/263591054/>.



Trans Central

Monday 5th August, 6.30pm - 8.30pm

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

FREE for M-to-F trans people and allies

Trans Central is a (MTF), or Male to Female transgendered community support group; that meets in the Birmingham LGBT Centre in the West Midlands on the first Monday of each month at 6.30pm (Tuesday if the Monday is a bank holiday).

The group will aim to provide practical help and peer support to the local Trans community, while also creating the opportunity for individual members to take part in community programmes and events, which will work towards helping improve confidence, increase knowledge, and empowering Trans women, while in a relaxed, comfortable, safe and friendly environment.

You are also welcome to use the changing facilities at Birmingham LGBT Centre.

Contact **Bobbi** for more details on **07908 319 439**.



Ageing Better works with communities to bring people together with fun social activities, and help to make connections 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.

If you would like to receive this information, together with the LGBT Hub Newsletter, every month electronically, please contact Maria.