



COMMUNITY EVENTS

DECEMBER 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 3pm Journey Film Club 3pm Rainbow Pooch Pride 5pm Illuminate
2 11 Bards & Books 11am Positive West Midlands 6.30pm Trans Central	3 11am Rainbow Bridge 7.30pm Journey Film Club	4 <i>7pm Queer Question Time - see back page</i> 7.15pm Birmingham TAMNS	5 12.30pm Rainbow Bridge 6pm Roll-Out 6.30pm LGBT Line Dancing 7pm Acting Out	6 11am Positive West Midlands 6.30pm Brum Bi Group	7 11am InteGreat Theatre 1pm Birmingham Lgbtq+ Writers 3pm Proud Baggies	8 11.30am Boot Women 1pm Rainbow Pooch Pride 5pm Illuminate
9 11am Positive West Midlands	10 Birmingham LGBT Centre CLOSED	11	12 12.30pm Rainbow Bridge 6.30pm LGBT Line Dancing 7pm Acting Out	13 11am Positive West Midlands 1.30pm ALBA	14 11am InteGreat Theatre <i>12.30pm Seldom Heard Food Stories</i>	15 5pm Illuminate
16 11am Positive West Midlands <i>6pm Outbox Theatre</i> 6.30pm TranSpectrum	17 11am Rainbow Bridge 7pm Brum Bi Group 7pm Journey Film Club	18	19 12.30pm Rainbow Bridge 6pm Roll-Out 6.30pm LGBT Line Dancing 7pm Acting Out	20 11am Positive West Midlands 12.30pm Journey Asylum Seekers Group <i>1pm Quinborne Choir</i> 6.30pm Brum Bi Group	21 2pm InteGreat Theatre 3pm Proud Baggies 3pm Rainbow Spirit	22 12pm Brum Bi Group 1pm Rainbow Pooch Pride 5pm Illuminate
23	24	25 Birmingham LGBT Centre CLOSED	26 Birmingham LGBT Centre CLOSED	27	28	29 3pm Proud Baggies 5pm Illuminate
30	31	1 Jan 2020 Birmingham LGBT Centre CLOSED	2	3	4	5





Quinborne Choir - Christmas Wellbeing Performance

Friday 20th December, 1pm - 2pm

Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham B3 3DH

FREE for the general public

Join us for a Christmas event with a difference! Quinborne Choir will perform some classic Christmas songs and invite visitors to be part of the performance in the Round Room.

Established in 1939, Quinborne Choir is a welcoming and friendly choir singing an imaginative range of choral music, including well-loved famous works and lesser known gems. Singing can be therapeutic and has been proven to have positive benefits for those with Dementia and mental health conditions, that is why this performance is about wellbeing. Some people may be a little shy about singing, so we will also be providing some simple instruments, which were made during November's Dementia-friendly session.

<https://www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/bmag/whats-on/wellbeing-christmas-choir>.

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Acting Out

Thursdays 5th, 12th 19th December, 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.

Ageing Better LGBT Housing Group

There is no meeting in December. Contact Maria on 0121 643 0821 or mariahughes@blgbt.org.



ALBA

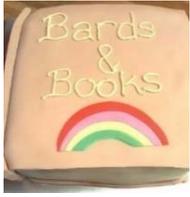
Friday 13th December, 1.30pm - 3.30pm

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.

To find out more, contact albalbtwomenbirmingham@gmail.com or visit <https://albalbtwomenbirmingham.wordpress.com/>.



Bards & Books

Monday 2nd December, 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 December, members can either bring a piece of text that they have written themselves or bring a piece by another writer that has some significance for them. Pieces should be no longer than 500 words and have some (can be very loose) connection to Christmas and LGBT. Please email your choice to Bards & Books (see below) by Friday 29th November so that they can be shared and read prior to the meeting.

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

BGLAD members are joining with Positive Mental Health Group on 12th December and won't be meeting at Birmingham LGBT Centre. To contact BGLAD, phone 0121 301 1284.



Birmingham Lgbtq+ Writers

Saturday 7th December, 1pm - 3pm

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

FREE to LGBTQIA+ adults

We usually start with introductions and a bit of a discussion, do a writing prompt in the middle, and then end with tea and some optional sharing of work.

All parts are optional, and all levels of experience and genres of writing are welcome, including non-fiction, poetry and drama. This is peer-led so there is no 'teacher' although there will usually be some notes/quotes to jump off from. We're here to learn from each other! Basic refreshments provided, feel free to bring your own snacks. No theme planned this month, just a social meetup for tea and a chat. All writers who identify as LGBTQIA+ very welcome. The second hour will be quiet time to work on personal projects, and as usual there will be some prompts and an optional creative writing exercise.

No need to book. See our Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/blgbtqwriters/> or our Meetup group: <https://www.meetup.com/Birmingham-lgbtq-writers/>.



Birmingham TAMNS Group

Wednesday 4th December, 7.15pm - 9.15pm

The Warehouse (Shaw's Passage entrance), 54-57 Allison Street, Birmingham B5 5TH

For Trans/ neurodiverse adults 18+ (£5 voluntary donation is requested)

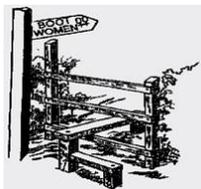
Birmingham TAMNS Group is a musical support group for Trans and Autistic or Neurodiverse adults.

If you'd like to connect with other Trans and Neurodiverse people, do some music making or even some stimming with musical instruments, then TAMNS group is the place for you. The group offers the chance to engage with others in multiple ways in a low pressure environment.

It is open to anyone on the trans and neurodiverse spectrums, and you do not need to be out or to have a diagnosis. This group is 18+ only due to the limited resources available for autistic adults. The venue is fully accessible and has a gender neutral toilet.

Bring your own instruments if you have them, ear defenders and any other sensory aides if you need them. Water will be provided

For more information, see <https://www.facebook.com/events/2470069959985094/> or email n.rowe2@gmail.com.



Boot Women walk: Birmingham Canals and Christmas Market

Sunday 8th December, 11.15am

The Cube, 196 Wharfside Street, Birmingham B1 1RN

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.

Get your Santa hats ready for our Christmas walk. We'll be staying local and exploring the Birmingham canals. Our walk along the towpaths will take approximately two hours and will end at the German Market, where we will enjoy a festive drink in the Snowhouse. Due to the weather the towpath may be slippery, so please wear appropriate footwear. Meet us at the padlock bridge by the Cube/ Mailbox at 11.15am for a 11.30am start.

A fee of £1 is required to cover costs of admin. Additionally, donations for Women's Aid of £1 (or more) are welcome. Remember to bring some lunch/drinks and something to sit on.

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/> or <https://www.meetup.com/Birmingham-LGBT-Meetup/events/qsnrxqyzqblb/>.



Brum Bi Group

Networking Meetup: Tuesday 17th November, 7pm - 9pm

Bisexuals & Boardgames: Fridays 6th & 20th December, 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.

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 also 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.

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



Brum Bi Group: Brum Bi Coffee

Sunday 22nd December, 12pm - 4pm

Warehouse Café, 54-57 Allison Street, Birmingham B5 5TH

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. Look out for a small purple unicorn named 'Xena' on one of the tables to find us.



Illuminate

Sundays 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th December, 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.



InteGreat Theatre

Saturdays 7th & 14th December, 11am - 4pm

Saturday 21st November, 2pm - 5pm

Custard Factory, Gibb Street, Birmingham B9 4AA

FREE for LGBT + allies of all ages

Come and join us at InteGreat Theatre our Deaf and hearing theatre group. We're looking for new members, no experience needed, to join us to prepare for our Panto.

To apply for membership get in touch by emailing contact@integreattheatre.org.uk OR text/call/ FaceTime 07957 166 364. More details on <http://www.facebook.com/InteGreatTheatre/> and <http://www.integreattheatre.org.uk>.

See last page for news on InteGreat Theatre's January panto!



Journey Asylum Seekers' Group

Friday 20th December, 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: Film Choice Meeting

Sunday 1st December, 3pm - 5pm

Boston Tea Party, 190 Corporation Street, Birmingham B4 6QD

FREE for LGBT + allies of all ages

Want to help us decide which films to screen next? If so, come along to our Film Choice Meeting!

Not able to attend? Send us a message with your suggestion and we will consider it at the meeting. Comments here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/428320334491254/> or contact journeyfilmclub@outlook.com.



Journey Film Club

Tuesdays 3rd & 17th December, 7.30pm / 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. You are welcome to just turn up, or contact journeyfilmclub@outlook.com or visit <http://www.journeyfilmclub.co.uk> for more details.

Tuesday 3rd December: *The Miseducation of Cameron Post* (2018) - 7.30pm start (1hr 36)

In 1993, a teenage girl is forced into a gay conversion therapy centre by her conservative guardians.

Tuesday 17th December: *A Bad Moms Christmas* (2017) - 7pm start (1hr 44)

A Bad Moms Christmas follows our three under-appreciated and over-burdened women as they rebel against the challenges and expectations of the Super Bowl for moms: Christmas. And, as if creating a more perfect holiday for their families wasn't hard enough, they must do all of that while hosting and entertaining their own mothers. By the end of the journey, our moms will redefine how to make the holidays special for all and discover a closer relationship with their mothers.



LGBT Line Dancing

Thursdays 5th, 12th, 19th December, 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

There is no OLN meeting in December. Contact olnwestmidlands@gmail.com.



Positive West Midlands

Mondays 2nd, 9th, 16th December, 11am - 4pm

Fridays 6th, 13th, 20th December, 11am - 4pm

'Apache', 190 Corporation Street, Birmingham 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.

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.

Our last meeting of the year is on Friday 20th December, and we will be closed until Monday 6th January.



PROUD BAGGIES
1968 CLUB

Proud Baggies 1968 Club

The Hawthorns, 9 Birmingham Road, West Bromwich B71 4LF

FREE to 50+ LGBT supporters

Saturday 7th December vs Swansea City; Saturday 21st December vs Brentford; Sunday 29th December vs Middlesbrough - all kicking off at 3pm

Proud Baggies, West Bromwich Albion's official Supporter Group for LGBT+ fans has launched a campaign to reach out to the over 50 LGBT+ community and in particular those who, for whatever reason, may have lost touch with their community. There is also the opportunity to participate in additional social events throughout the year.

The 1968 Club is open to anyone over 50 who identifies as LGBT+. You don't need to be a West Brom fan or even a football fan! If you're interested in joining us for a game or want to find out more, please email info@proudbaggies.com or call/text Neil on 07825 110814.

Anyone else, of course, can still join us for games and/or become a member of Proud Baggies by joining online: <https://proudbaggies.com/become-a-member>.



Rainbow Bridge LGBTQ Networking Group

Tuesday coffee mornings: 3rd, 17th December, 11am - 1pm
(no coffee morning on 10th December)

Thursday coffee mornings: 5th, 12th, 19th December, 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 rainbowbridgelgbtq@hotmail.com, join our Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/787474638101615/> or find our events in the Birmingham LGBT Meetup group.



Rainbow Pooch in the Café

Sunday 1st December, 3pm - 5pm

Boston Tea Party, The School Yard, 106 High Street, Harborne, Birmingham B17 9NJ

For LGBTQIA+ dog walkers of all ages

Love Dogs? Have a Dog? Identify as LGBTQIA+? Then come along to one of our dog-friendly events.

At Rainbow Pooch Pride we recognise that canine companionship can make a big difference in the lives of LGBTQIA+ individuals. Whether it is lending a non-judgmental ear in times of need, providing unconditional love and acceptance, or becoming an integral member of our 'alternate' families, these four-legged friends are always there offering their silent support service. Whether it's a walk in the park, or a conversation over coffee and cake, our friendly and informal social events bring the LGBTQIA+ community together through the love of dogs. So join us to say #thankyoudogs

Rainbow Pooch in the Café is on the first Sunday of every month in the upstairs room of Boston Tea Party, Harborne. Meet up for board games, cake, coffee and conversation!

For more information, please contact Gina on hello@rainbowpoochpride.com or message on WhatsApp on 07812 398 361. Website: <http://www.rainbowpoochpride.com>.



Rainbow Pooch in the Park

Sundays 8th & 22nd December, 1pm - 4pm

Car Park, Highbury Park, 20 Shutlock Lane, Kings Heath, Birmingham B13 8QE

FREE for LGBTQIA+ dog walkers of all ages

Rainbow Pooch in the Park meets on the second and last Sunday of every month. Join us out in nature for a social dog walk. The first hour is for dogs that prefer to walk on-lead and is followed by an off-lead walk thereafter. Come along to either or join us for both!

Please note: We have to manage the number of dogs at each event so if you're coming be sure to RSVP.

For more information, please contact Gina on hello@rainbowpoochpride.com or message on WhatsApp on 07812 398 361. Website: <http://www.rainbowpoochpride.com>.



Rainbow Spirit

Saturday 21st December, 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.



Roll-Out: an introduction to role-playing games

Thursdays 5th & 19th December, 6pm - 9pm

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

FREE for LGBT+ people of all ages

The most popular table-top role-playing game, Dungeons & Dragons features a vast array of excitement, challenges and fantastically fun role play. Create your character and set off on your adventure, growing and adapting on the fly, and sometimes flying ... cause yeah that's a thing!

Open to all ages, absolutely anyone is welcome to join. You'll need just two things: imagination and a willingness to participate. We meet twice a month on the first and third Thursday.

If you have any questions or enquiries please feel free to email me on crittersfarmboi@gmail.com or send a WhatsApp message to 07835 528 826 with your name. I look forward to seeing you there, sincerely, your Dungeon Master Ben Baker.

Sutton Rainbow Social

There is no meeting in December. Contact Maria on 0121 643 0821 or mariahughes@lgbt.org.



Trans Central

Monday 2nd December, 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.



TranSpectrum

Monday 16th December, 6.30pm - 8.45pm

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

FREE for trans and NB people

TranSpectrum offers a supportive space for all people of non-cis-gendered identities with a Semi-Structured discussion and/or activity at each meeting surrounding gender identity as well as time to chat, network and have some tea. We meet every month on the third Monday.

You can just turn up, or email Lorna on Doctorwhogfm@hotmail.co.uk or text 07910 096 241.

COMING UP IN JANUARY



InteGreat Theatre Performs

Jack & THE 3 PANTO Lands

Featuring, Goldilocks,
Snow White & Cinderella.

**Saturday 18th January
at 7.30pm** (Adults Only)

**Sunday 19th January
at 2.30pm**
(Family friendly all ages)

**Midlands Arts Centre,
Cannon Hill Park, Queens Ride,
Birmingham, B12 9QH**

Adults: £7 Children: £4

Falling on hard times and forced to sell his prized cow, Jack adventures above the clouds searching for a way to save his family.

Not finding your average beanstalk land, Jack finds himself the hero in the stories of Goldilocks, Snow White and Cinderella instead.

Fighting villains and time itself, can Jack save his new friends and his family?

Come along, join in, learn sign language and sign song and help Jack find his Happily Ever After!

Featuring a mixed cast of deaf and hearing adults, the panto is performed in both British Sign Language and voiced in spoken English.

Book online here: <https://macbirmingham.co.uk/event/jack-the-3-panto-lands> or call Midlands Arts Centre on 0121 446 3232. For further information, contact contact@integreattheatre.org.uk.



We make every endeavour to ensure this information in this monthly listings is correct and up-to-date.



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@lgbt.org.

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

QUEER QUESTION TIME

4TH DECEMBER
7:30PM

Doors open at 7:00pm
**THE LOFT
LOUNGE**

143 Bromsgrove Street
Birmingham B5 6RG

As the General Election approaches, **Queer Question Time** returns. The event has taken place in the run up to the last five general elections and follows the format of the BBC TV programme. Panelists include:

RT. HON ANDREW MITCHELL

Birmingham Sutton Coldfield MP (Conservative)

SHABANA MAHMOOD

Birmingham Ladywood MP (Labour)

LEE DARGUE

(Liberal Democrats)

KEFENTSE DENNIS

(Green Party)

TBC

(Brexit Party)

Steve Ball, who will be chairing the event, says: "Queer Question Time provides an excellent opportunity for the LGBT community to engage with what is likely to be the most important and unpredictable general election for a generation. Politicians of all parties are accountable to the electorate and this is our opportunity to make sure that the LGBT voice is heard."