



Lesbians, Gay Men, Bisexual and Transgendered Individuals
in Probation and the Family Courts

New LAGIP Vice Chair and North Eastern Coordinator

Congratulations to **Margaret Sinclair** who was voted in as the new vice chair of LAGIP last month after Sam Newbould decided to step down in August. Margaret is a senior probation officer from West Mercia Probation Trust and previously regional coordinator for the Midlands. Although typically a new Midlands coordinator would be found, Margaret is going to fill both shoes for the time being.

And a warm hello also goes to **Teresa Dcaccia**, a women's safety worker from Harrogate who stepped forward to represent the North East of England for LAGIP.

Margaret and Teresa can be contacted via email by margaret.sinclair@lagip.org.uk and teresa@lagip.org.uk



Tell us what you think!

We want LAGIP to be an accountable staff association that reflects the views of you, its members. We want to know what you think about a whole range of issues, including:

What do you want from your regional coordinator? Are there things they could be involved with that they're currently missing out on? What do you see as the priorities for LAGIP at the present time? Is there anything we're not paying attention to that you think we should? Is there anything we spend too much time on?

We want to start a discussion with you about the future of LAGIP but obviously need your help to do it! We have set up a discussion page on <http://www.my-communities.co.uk/secure/mycommunity.php> and a discussion thread on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/pages/Lagip/167194353321102) as well.

Chair's roundup



During September LAGIP Chair Amanda Watts attended two important conferences that took place in Cardiff. The first was *Come Out and Play: Transforming LGBT Leadership*, organised by the Cardiff-based LGBT Excellence Centre; the second the *Stonewall Workplace Conference*, organised by Stonewall Cymru.



Both conferences were well attended by individuals from all over the UK as well as from abroad and here Amanda feeds back her experiences.

Come Out & Play

Come Out and Play took place between the 31st August and 2nd September in City Hall, Cardiff and featured many guest speakers including the human rights activist, Peter Tatchell. The workshops were very diverse and primarily centred upon LGBT health-care focusing on issues such as blood donations by gay and bisexual men; the care and management of transsexual prisoners; developing professional knowledge about breast cancer in lesbian and bisexual women, and other issues such as domestic abuse/sexual exploitation; faith and sexuality; and Ugandan constitution and international laws on sexual minority rights; plus many other workshops.

The workshops that I attended included one run by Graham Robertson and Mark Robinson from the L&G Foundation in which they discussed their *Enough is Enough* campaign which aims to end homophobia, please see the following website for further details: (www.lgf.org.uk). The reason to start this campaign was based on their emotional reaction to recent murders of LGBT individuals.

Health Needs

Being a lesbian situated in Wales I thought it imperative to attend the workshop entitled The Health Needs of Lesbians and Bisexual Women In Wales run by James Taylor a health officer from Stonewall. James informed his audience of the need for tailored services for L&B women in the health service and for all health staff to be trained in these areas. The audience learned that 2 in 10 L&B women who informed their health professional that their sexuality were ignored and treated as those they were in a heterosexual relationship thus ignoring their specific needs making them invisible in the health-care sector. James further stated that 1 in 5 L&B women were informed that they would not be at risk of cervical cancer screening as they were not in a heterosexual relationship. We also learned that 20% of L&B women self harm compared to 0.4% of the population; 1 in 4 have an eating disorder, and that 6% attempted to take their own life in the previous year, in Mid Wales it was as much as 11%.

Other workshops attended were LGB&T domestic abuse and sexual exploitation run by Gwent Police; LGB organisations in Bradford providing mental health services run by Jake Arturio Bardem; Media and Trans run by Jenny Anne Bishop; a screening of *In Their Shoes* by Lisa Lipman and Mike Talbot; Pitching the Queer run by Ellis Cirvello from an LGBT Centre for Health and Well-being in Scotland who explained that you are 3 times more likely to suffer from mental health problems if you are LGBT, and that we are not presenting ourselves as LGBT in order to access appropriate services. Ellis talked about creating champions in mental health which will make a difference to health-care practice.

Continued...

Stonewall Workplace Conference

The Stonewall Cymru conference took place at Cardiff Millennium Centre on 29th September and was opened by Andrew White director of Stonewall Cymru, and featured keynote speakers Ben Summerskill, Chief Executive of Stonewall, and Jane Hutt AM, Minister for Finance and Leader of the House, Welsh Government.

Over the course of the day I attended a career development session run by Craig Stephenson (National Assembly of Wales), Keela Shackell (Environment Agency) and Ian Edwards (Lloyds Banking Group) and a session entitled leading lesbians-breaking the glass ceiling run by Laura Doughty (Deputy CEO of Stonewall), Tracy Myhill (Cardiff and The Vale University Health Board) and Jane Farleigh (UK Border Agency).

Following the sessions there were inspirational speeches from Professor Laura McAllister (Chair of Sport Wales; Professor of Governance at the University of Liverpool's School of Management); Lance Corporal James Wharton (The British Army) and Julian Bucknell (Service Development Manager, Barclays).

For more information on either conference please drop me a line via email.

Amanda Watts
chair@lagip.org.uk

If you've attended any recent LGB&T conferences that you'd like to publicise please contact either Amanda or Richard Beavis, National Coordinator at admin@lagip.org.uk



Broken Rainbow UK – 0300 999 5428 (LGBT)

Broken Rainbow runs the only national lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans domestic violence helpline, providing confidential support to LGBT communities, their families and friends.

Broken Rainbow's objective is to relieve the distress and suffering caused to lesbians, gay men, bisexual and transgender people by domestic violence and abuse, in particular but not exclusively by doing the following:

Raising awareness in the LGBT community and elsewhere of the impact of homophobic, transphobic and same sex domestic violence on the lives of LGBT people

Offering advice, support and referral services to LGBT people experiencing homophobic, transphobic and same sex domestic violence

Broken Rainbow also offers information, advice and training to people who are responsible for domestic violence policy and practice in mainstream and specialist organisations, or who are otherwise involved with the survivors and perpetrators of those suffering from domestic violence, with a view to increasing the physical safety and mental well-being of LGBT people who experience such violence or abuse.

For more information visit <http://www.broken-rainbow.org.uk/index.html>



REGARD is a national, volunteer run organisation of disabled lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgendered people.

<http://www.regard.org.uk>

Their aims are

1. To offer information and advice to our members and disabled LGBT people
2. To combat the social isolation of our members
3. To advocate disabled issues to the LGBT community and LGBT issues to the disabled community.
4. To campaign on issues affecting disabled LGBT people

They have a newsletter and also a couple of online groups for members: **Regard Online** for news and notices; and **Regard Chat** for discussion and more social contacts.

Full Membership of Regard is open to disabled lesbians, disabled gay men, disabled bisexuals and disabled transgender people. Full membership is free, although donations are always welcome.

Friends, supporters and allies are welcome to become **Associated Members**.

Organisations and groups who support the Regard's campaigning and other work can become **Organisational members**. Please complete and return [this form](#) to: **BM Regard, London, WC1N 3XX**.

Once you are a member you will be subscribed to the e-mail list regard-online and regard-chat.

[Click here to download the application form](#), and either e-mail it to secretary@regard.co.uk or print it out and post it to

**BM Regard
London
WC1N 3XX**

Transgender Memorial Day, All Saints House, Birmingham

November 18th 2011

The Transgender Memorial Day this coming 18th November is set aside to memorialize those who have been killed due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice and serves several purposes. It raises public awareness of hate crimes against transgender people, an action that current media doesn't perform very well. It also publicly mourns and honours the lives of trans people whose lives were taken owing to anti-transgender violence.

A limited number of places are available for members wishing to attend the All Saints House event.

The schedule for the event is as follows

13.30/14.00	Meet and Greet at All Saints House, Birmingham
14.15	Address by us as Chairs of the networks
14.30	Address by NOMS representative of West Midlands Diversity Team
14.45	Prayer by regional chaplain
15.00	Speakers/Stories/Personal Thoughts by attendees (invited in advance)
16.00	Prayer by National Chaplaincy (a non-denominational reading etc)
16.15	Candlelit Vigil on the lawn area

If you'd like to attend, please send an email to Richard Beavis at [**admin@lagip.org.uk**](mailto:admin@lagip.org.uk)

LGB Health Fact File

According to Department of Health briefings, LGB people are...

- 4 times more likely to suffer major depression
- 3 times more likely to be accessed with an anxiety disorder
- 7 times more likely to have attempted suicide
- 3 times more likely to have suicidal intent
- 10 times more likely to smoke
- 2 times as likely to have consumed alcohol in the past month

36% of LGB people (aged 60-91) have been subjected to verbal abuse

44% of men and 16% of women have been physically attacked. Lower self-esteem and increased thoughts of suicide were associated with experiences of violence.

Only 25% of older LGB people believed that health professionals were positive towards LGB people

Only 16% trusted health professionals to be knowledgeable about LGB lifestyles.

Reporting Transphobic Hate Crime

Whether you are a trans person, taken to be a Trans person, or associated with a Trans person - report online at TCrime.net, police on 999, or contact GIRES (Gender Identity Research and Education Society) at Molverley, The Warren, Ashted, Surrey, kt21 2SP, 01372 801554.

www.gires.org.uk; info@gires.org.uk.

A crime is transphobic if it is perceived by the victim or by any other person to be based on prejudice, discrimination or hate motivated by the victim's apparent transgender status or association in any way with the transgender community.

Also see www.TranzWiki.net (this enables trans people to contact those who can help them).

For more information and support the following organisations may be of interest as well:

a:gender 020 7035 4253 email - agender@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk; website - www.csag.org.uk

Depend email - info@depend.org.uk; website - www.depend.org.uk

FTM Network - 0161 432 1915; website - www.ftm.org.uk.

Gender Matters 01902 744 424; website - www.gender-matters.org.uk

Gendys Network email - gendys@gender.org.uk; website - www.gender.org.uk/gendys

Mermaids 020 8123 4819, email - mermaids@freeuk.com; website - www.mermaidsuk.org.uk

Press For Change - 0161 432 1915; website - www.pfc.org.uk

The Beaumont Society - 01582 41220; email - enquires@beaumontsociety.org.uk; website - www.beaumontsociety.org.uk

The Beaumont Trust email - bmontrust@aol.com; website - www.beaumont-trust.org.uk

The Gender Trust - 01273 234 024; 0845 231 0505; email - info@gendertrust.org.uk; website - www.gendertrust.org.uk

The Sibyls - email - enquires@sibyls.co.uk; website - www.sibyls.co.uk

Women of the Beaumont Society - 01223 441 246, 01684 578 281; email - wobsmatter@aol.com; website - www.gender.org.uk/WOBsmatters

Further Reading... Violence in LGB&T Communities

Walby, S. & Allen, J. (2004) Domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking: Findings from the British Crime Survey. Home Office. London.

HM Government (2007) Cross-government Action Plan on Sexual Violence and Abuse. Home Office. London.

Walby, S. & Allen, J. (2004) Domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking: Findings from the British Crime Survey. Home Office. London.

Amnesty UK (2005) Sexual Assault Research. Amnesty. London.

Povey, D. (2005) Crime in England and Wales 2003/2004: Supplementary Volume 1: Homicide and Gun Crime. Home Office Statistical Bulletin No. 02/05. Home Office. London; Department of Health (2005) Responding to Domestic Abuse. DH. London. (from 'Statistics on Domestic Violence': www.womensaid.org.uk)

Dodd, T. et al (2004) Crime in England and Wales 2003-2004. Home Office. London (from 'Statistics on Domestic Violence': www.womensaid.org.uk)

Forced Marriage: A Wrong not a Right, Home Office and Foreign & Commonwealth Office, 2005

S Walby, *The Cost of Domestic Violence*

Unifem (2003) Not a minute more: Ending Violence Against Women. United Nations Development Fund for Women. New York. <http://www.un.org/en/women/endviolence/pdf/VAW.pdf>

Unifem (2003) Not a minute more: Ending Violence Against Women. United Nations Development Fund for Women. New York. <http://www.un.org/en/women/endviolence/pdf/VAW.pdf>

Walby, S. & Allen, J. (2004) Domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking: Findings from the British Crime Survey. Home Office. London





إيمان Imaan

LGBTQI Muslim Support Group

Imaan supports LGBT Muslim people, their families and friends, to address issues of sexual orientation within Islam. It provides a safe space and support network to address issues of common concern through sharing individual experiences and institutional resources.

Imaan promotes the Islamic values of peace, social justice and tolerance through its work, and aspires to bring about a world that is free from prejudice and discrimination against all Muslims and LGBT people.

In September 1998, a group of us were brought together in London by an advert placed in the Pink Paper by visiting founder of Al Fatiha Foundation, the US gay Muslim group.

Back then, Muslims who were gay were not part of a discernable group. If anything we were part of a larger, mostly London-based Asian presence that congregated at gay Bhangra clubs like Club Kali and Shakti - if at all.

The need to reconcile Islam with sexuality seemed to coincide with a coming-of-age of a particular generation of gay people from Muslim backgrounds born in this country that had witnessed the growth of a gay culture in England. It was inevitable therefore that at some point they would start to ask, 'Why should I not be able to be both gay and Muslim?'

Al Fatiha UK was founded and evolved into Imaan - the Arabic word for 'Faith', which more closely expressed the ethos of the group and its members.

Imaan is an independent organisation run by volunteers and without external funding. All donations of time or money will be gratefully received. Please contact the Imaan Chair by email: tawseef@imaan.org.uk

Monthly Imaan meetings are held at central London venues. For details of the next meeting please contact the Imaan Events Officer by email: info@imaan.org.uk

To network with other LGBT Muslims, friends, families and supporters, join the Imaan forum: <http://www.forum.imaan.org.uk>

Transgender advocates welcome revised standards of care

On 25th September The World Professional Association for Transgender Health released its newest Standards of Care for the Health of Transsexual, Transgender, and Gender Nonconforming People at a symposium at the Emory Conference Centre in Atlanta.

WPATH revision committee chair Eli Coleman launched the 7th version of the standards of care to some 300 people who attended the symposium as part of a partnership with the Gay & Lesbian Medical Association and the Southern Comfort Conference, the largest transgender conference in the nation that takes place annually in Atlanta.

"This is a momentous occasion," Coleman said. "This was a very, very important task. Just the title is a fundamental change — you do not see Gender Identity Disorder - we've made a clear statement that gender nonconformity is not pathological."

For more information please see <http://www.thegavoice.com/index.php/news/national-news/3525-transgender-advocates-welcome-revised-standards-of-care> by **Dyana Bagby**.

LAGIP and Inner Enigma are working together to offer

Springboard & Navigator Development Programmes



Springboard for Women

Navigator for Men

What do they cover?

- self assessment
- skills assessment
- identifying your values
- the world about you
- setting goals
- assertiveness
- networking
- putting yourself across positively
- building your image

Arrangements:

- Location:
YHA, Potato Wharf, Castlefield, Manchester, M3 4NB
- 4 x 1 day workshops

Springboard

7th Jan;
4th Feb;
10th March;
21st April

Navigator

14th Jan;
11th Feb;
3rd March;
14th April

Cost

The usual charge per person is around £500 – but LAGIP and Inner Enigma are subsidising the training for members and the cost per person is £120. This includes the registration fee and handbooks.

Members are, however, encouraged to approach employers for support and where fees are being paid by employers, the cost is £300 (+VAT) per place.

Individual fees for Inner Enigma members who are currently unwaged may be reimbursed subject to attendance at all sessions unless absence is due to illness.

Visit www.lagip.com to download an application form



LAGIP Vacancy

LAGIP currently has the following post to fill.

- South West Regional Coordinator

We welcome nominations for this post which comprises the following duties:

Regional Coordinator role

- Liaise with LGB&T groups in Region
- Act as Regional contact point for LGB&T issues
- Facilitate LAGIP regional meetings
- Liaise with other LGB&T staff groups in MOJ

If you're interested, or think you know someone who would be, please visit <http://www.lagip.com/NEC.Nominations.2011.doc> for a copy of the nomination form and more information about the nomination process.

Contact Us

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North Western Coordinator	Helen Dale	helen.dale@lagip.org.uk
South Eastern Coordinator	Clare Saunders	clare.saunders@lagip.org.uk
South Western Coordinator	VACANT	
Wales Coordinator	Diarmuid Mulligan	diarmuid.mulligan@lagip.org.uk
General Enquiries		admin@lagip.org.uk

Help Support LAGIP

We now have a new batch of LAGIP branded mouse mats and small badges to advertise ourselves with. In the next few weeks we'll have more colourful LAGIP lanyards, too and it's all free to our members.

If you'd like to demonstrate your support for LAGIP by using or wearing these, send an email to admin@lagip.org.uk demanding your free stuff!

