



OutStories Bristol - Recording the lives of
lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans
people in Bristol.

Annual Report 2017

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The objects of OutStories Bristol are

- a) To promote social inclusion for the public benefit of people in Bristol and neighbouring districts who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender by gathering and recording the experience of people who are socially and economically excluded on the grounds of their gender identity or sexual orientation
- b) To promote the needs of such people and supporting their participation in society through the publication of their common history
- c) In furtherance of these objects, the trustees shall:

- I. Increase, co-ordinate and provide information about opportunities for LGBT people in Bristol and neighbouring districts to record their individual and collective stories
- II. Give LGBT people a voice and facilitate their engagement with relevant agencies that record the history of the City, in order to influence the quality and relevance of local services and provisions and so better meet the needs of LGBT people
- III. Research or participate in research into the causes and effects of social exclusion of LGBT people in Bristol and neighbouring districts
- IV. Promote activities that support the health and well-being of LGBT people in Bristol through the collection and publication of shared history

[OSB Constitution, Section 3, adopted 9th May 2017]

Membership of the Association

Membership of OutStories Bristol is open to anyone who is interested in furthering its purposes, and who, by applying for membership, has indicated his, her or its agreement to become a member and acceptance of the duty of members set out in sub-clause iii of this clause. A member may be an individual, a corporate body, or an individual representing an organisation which is not incorporated.

Sub-clause iii reads, “The charity trustees... ..may refuse an application for membership if they believe that it is in the best interests of OutStories Bristol for them to do so”

[OSB Constitution, Section 9, adopted 9th May 2017]

Membership at 30th September 2017 was

64	Registered members (61 in 2016)
301	Names on the e-mailing list (324)
341	Members of the facebook group (327)
618	Followers on Twitter (358)

Trustee and officer roles

Functions and duties of charity trustees

The charity trustees shall manage the affairs of OutStories Bristol and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of OutStories Bristol. It is the duty of each charity trustee: (a) to exercise his or her powers and to perform his or her functions as a trustee of OutStories Bristol in the way he or she decides in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of OutStories Bristol; and (b) to exercise, in the performance of those functions, such care and skill as is reasonable in the circumstances having regard in particular to: (i) any special knowledge or experience that he or she has or holds himself or herself out as having; and (ii) if he or she acts as a charity trustee of OutStories Bristol in the course of a business or profession, to any special knowledge or experience that it is reasonable to expect of a person acting in the course of that kind of business or profession.

[OSB Constitution, Section 12, adopted 9th May 2017

Trustees in the period since 8th October 2017 were:

	<i>First elected or co-opted</i>	First trustee under new constitution	
Andy Foyle	10/10/11	09/05/2017	Co-chair 10/10/11
Andy Hole	09/10/12	09/05/2017	Treasurer 19/07/16
Anthea Makepeace	07/02/15		
Charlie Beaton	10/10/11	09/05/2017	Secretary 10/10/11
Cheryl Morgan	10/10/11	09/05/2017	Co-chair 10/10/11
Chris Leigh	10/10/11	09/05/2017	Web Admin 10/10/11
Robert Howes	Supporter	09/05/2017	Collections

A volunteer who participates in the business of the trustees but does not wish to become a trustee is styled “supporter” with no voting rights and no responsibility for the affairs of the Association.

Activities in the Period October 2016 to September 2017

1. Trustees

Following the AGM held 8th October 2016, trustees met on 15th November, 25th

January and 22nd March. Trustees arranged a special, extraordinary general meeting (SGM) which was held on 9th May to adopt a new Charity Commission compliant constitution, now in force, with a view to applying for Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) status. Trustees subsequently met following the SGM on 9th May, 18th July and 19th September 2107.

2. Events

- AGM 2016 – thanks to Jana Funke for her talk, “Beyond the Well of Loneliness”, which is available to listen on-line: <http://cherylmorgan.podbean.com/e/beyond-the-well-of-loneliness-jana-funke/>
- Bristol Impact Fund – application declined
- Data Protection Policy adopted
- Journey to Justice exhibition, 2nd October 2017
- Stall at Bristol Pride 8th July 2017
- Creative Histories Conference July 2017 - Andy F leading OSB contribution
- Collaboration with Bristol 24/7
- *LGBT History Festival – Robert spoke at the Exeter Hub on "Opening the public sphere to LGBT+ issues in the Bristol region, 1970-2000 and beyond" on 12th February 2017.*
- Queer Beyond London Blog - on behalf of OSB, Andy F wrote about Bristol and Robert wrote about Bath
- Revealing Stories Exhibition was live at Bridge Learning Campus (Ben Bird), 6-10 Feb; M Shed (Karen Garvey), 18-23 Feb; BRI (Andy Hole), 26 Feb; Trinity (Lottie), 4 March; University of Bristol, Senate House (Christina Harris), 6-13 March, University of Bristol, Beacon House (Christina Harris), 13-27 March and Bristol City Council’s Central Library as part of "Journey to Justice", 2nd October.

Activities 2016-17 by Cheryl Morgan on behalf of OutStories Bristol

Public Talks

- LGBT History Month, Bournemouth (Feb 18) – Trans Women in the Ancient World
- LGBT HM, Exeter (Feb 12) – Trans Women in the Ancient World
- LGBT HM, Exeter launch event (Feb 11) – Trans History as Activism
- LGBT HM, Exeter (Feb. 9) – Twilight People Project (Trans people of faith)
- LGBT HM, Bath University (Feb 23) – What Have the Romans Queered for Us?
- LGBT HM, Watershed (Feb 25) – Trans People in Art Down the Ages

Private Talks

- V&A Museum LGBT Staff Group (Apr 29)
- SPACE LGBT youth group, Bath (Jun 6)
- Bristol LGBT Refugees Group (Aug 30)

Academic Conferences

- Sexing the Past, Liverpool (Mar 3-5) – Gender and Citizenship in Ancient Rome

- Rethinking Gender, Royal Holloway (Jun 10) – Gender and Citizenship in Ancient Rome

Publications

- *Notches* – “Evidence for Trans Lives in Sumer”
<http://notchesblog.com/2017/05/02/evidence-for-trans-lives-in-sumer/>
- *History Matters* (Sheffield University) – “Earinus: A Roman Civil Rights Activist?”
<http://www.historymatters.group.shef.ac.uk/earinus-roman-civil-rights-activist/>
- *Lambda Literary* – Review of the Michael Dillon autobiography
<https://www.lambdaliterary.org/reviews/11/26/out-of-the-ordinary-a-life-of-gender-and-spiritual-transitions-by-michael-dillon-lobzang-jivaka/>

Software

- Created an app for the Twilight People (Trans People of Faith) project
<https://www.twilightpeople.com/twilight-people-smartphone-app/>

3. Charitable Status

The 2013 annual general meeting adopted a proposal by the trustees for OutStories Bristol to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and replace the current constitution with one acceptable to the Charity Commission. A new constitution, provided by the Charity Commission, was adopted on 9th May 2017 and an application for the status of Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) is in preparation.

4. Thank you

Thank you to members, trustees and supporters of OutStories Bristol for their invaluable contribution that made it all happen and, in particular, for their regular donation to the running costs in 2017, thanks to Charlie Beaton, Chris Leigh, Josie McLellan, Kim Renfrew and Robert Howes.

End of the Annual Report 2017