



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

Annual Report 2018

Objects of OutStories Bristol
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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 2018 was

63	Registered members (64 in 2017)
337	Names on the e-mailing list (301)
346	Members of the Facebook group (341)
701	Followers on Twitter (618)

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 7th October 2017 were:

	<i>First elected or co-opted</i>	
Andy Hole	09/10/12	Treasurer + Co-Chair 19/07/16
Charlie Beaton	10/10/11	Secretary 10/10/11
Cheryl Morgan	10/10/11	Co-chair 10/10/11
Chris Leigh	10/10/11	Web Admin 10/10/11
Robert Howes	Supporter	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 2017 to September 2018

1. Trustees

Following the AGM held 7th October 2017, trustees met on 21st November, 16th January, 12th March, 4th June, 17th July and 18th September 2018.

2. Events

- AGM 2017 – thanks to Dr Jen Grove of the University of Exeter for her illustrated talk on the life and work of Edward Perry Warren (1860-1928)
- Stall at Bristol Pride on Millennium Square on 14th July 2018
- Stall at Trans Pride South West at The Station on 25th November 2017
- Collaboration with Bristol 24/7 on the filming of “Talking LGBT+ Bristol”
- LGBT History Month – exhibition and talks at M Shed on Saturday, 10th February 2018
- Revealing Stories Exhibition was live at Bishopston Library 1st February to 7th March 2018 and Hargreave Lansdown, Anchor Road, Bristol 6th to 16th July 2018
- Oral history recording of a conversation between four people about LGBT life in Bristol in the Nineties
- LGBT Academic Conference at Liverpool – papers by Cheryl and Robert – March 2018

Speakers at this year’s LGBT History Month event at M Shed in February

- Dr Justin Bengry (Goldsmiths College, University of London), “The Pink Pound”
- Jonathan Cooper OBE, “Referendums for rights”
- Darryl Bullock, “David Bowie Made Me Gay”
- Cheryl Morgan, “Die Young, Stay Pretty: Women Warriors in the Ancient World”
- Beth Asbury (Ashmolean Museum), “Queer culture around the world”
- Dr Jana Funke (Exeter University), “Lesbian & Bisexual Suffragettes”

In addition, Tom Marshman provided LGBT+ themed audio tours of the museum.

OutStories Bristol would like to thank Bristol City Council’s Bristol Museum Service and Karen Garvey for help with history month

Activities 2017-18 by Cheryl Morgan on behalf of OutStories Bristol

Public Talks

- LGBT History Month, Cambridge University (Feb 2) – Chosen of the Goddess: Trans People in Ancient Mesopotamia

- LGBT HM, National Maritime Museum, London (Feb 9) – Die Young, Stay Pretty: Women Warriors in the Ancient World
- LGBT HM, M-Shed, Bristol (Feb 10) – Die Young, Stay Pretty: Women Warriors in the Ancient World
- LGBT HM, University of Manchester (Feb 15) – Rome’s Trans and Intersex History
- History Acts, Queen Mary College, University of London (May 15) – panel discussion on trans history with Kit Heyman, Clare Tebbutt, Morgan M Page & Catherine Baker

Private Talks

- Malmesbury LGBT+ Youth Group (Oct 8)

Academic Conferences

- Queer Localities, Birkbeck College, University of London (Nov 31) – Working with the City (with Julian Warren)
- LGBT+ Classics: Teaching, Research, Activism, Reading University (Feb 12) – How Not to Erase Trans History
- Historical Fiction Research Network Annual Conference, Stoke-on-Trent (Feb 23-24) – If Your Past Isn’t Queer It Isn’t Realistic
- Sexing the Past, John Moores University, Liverpool (Mar 3-5) – Favorinus, A Roman Intersex Celebrity
- West of England and South Wales Women’s History Network Annual Conference, Bath (Jul 7) – Who Gets to be a Feminist?
- Critically Queer, University of Bristol (Oct 20-21) – Favorinus, A Roman Intersex Celebrity

Publications

- *History Matters* (Sheffield University) – “How Not to Erase Trans History”
<http://www.historymatters.group.shef.ac.uk/erase-trans-history/>

3. Collections – items deposited in Bristol Archives by Robert Howes in 2018

- Bristol Pride 2017: 79 items
- Bristol Pride, 7 July 2018: 98 items
- Bath Carnival and Pride, 14 July 2018: 6 items
- Weston Super Mare Pride, 28 July 2018: 14 items
- Miscellaneous Gay West journals and documents

4. Charitable Status

A new constitution, provided by the Charity Commission, was adopted on 9th May 2017 in preparation for an application for the status of Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The Association’s application was declined by the Charity Commission on 28th February 2018 and, following advice of the LGBT Consortium, trustees decided by correspondence on 10th April 2018 to withdraw the application, as the amount of work required for a successful application at this time would be disproportionate to the benefits.

5. 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 2018, thanks to Andy Hole, Charlie Beaton, Chris Leigh, Josie McLellan, Kim Renfrew and Robert Howes.

End of the Annual Report 2018