



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

Annual Report 2019

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Thank you

1. 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]

2. 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 11th September 2019 was

71	Registered members (63 in 2018)
371	Names on the e-mailing list (337)
350	Members of the Facebook group (346)
759	Followers on Twitter (701)

3. 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>	<i>Resigned</i>	
Andy Hole	09/10/12	28/02/19	Treasurer to 28/02/19
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
Jamie Lawson	25/03/19		
Marek Barden	25/03/19		Treasurer from 25/03/19
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.

4. Activities in the Period October 2018 to September 2019

Trustees

Following the AGM held 13th October 2018, trustees met on 20th November, 15th January, 25th March, 21st May, 23rd July and 24th September 2018.

Events

- AGM 2018 – thanks to Dr Amber Regis of the University of Sheffield for her illustrated talk entitled *John Addington Symonds: from Bristol via Davos to the archive and library*
- Stall at Trans Pride South West at The Station on 24th November 2018
- Revealing Stories Exhibition was live at W-s-M Town Hall from 31st October to 28th November 2018, Somerset Central Library, Taunton – 28th January to 4th February and M Shed, 11th to 16th Feb.2019
- Outing the Past LGBT History Festival Taunton, 2 February 2019: "Gay West's Pop-Up Coffee Shop: Civil Society Refreshes Itself", talk by Robert Howes
- LGBT History Month – exhibition and talks at M Shed on Saturday, 16th February 2019
- Stall at Bristol Pride on The Downs, 13th July 2019
- Proud Bristol, 21 August 2019: "Pride in the South West", talk by Robert Howes

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

- Stephen Williams, former Bristol West MP, “What it was like being an openly gay MP” in conversation with James Higgins of Bristol 24/7
- Lisa Power, a founding member of Stonewall, “A personal memory of the late 80s from Section 28 to the start of Stonewall’s rise”
- Max Carocci, anthropologist and lecturer at Goldsmith, University of London “Native American Two-Spirits: Alternative Histories of Gender and Sexuality”

- Rachel Rose Reid, a performance storyteller in conversation with Cheryl Morgan, talking about a French Mediaeval story with a non-binary person as the main character, “The Romance of Silence”
- Dr Edson Burton, writer, historian and curator, and Linda Devo “Decolonising Sexuality (LGBTQ in Black History)
- Elissa O’Connell of Feminist Archive South, “Reclaiming Queer Feminist Liberation: using feminist and LGBT+ history to explore solidarity and inclusivity in activism then and now”
- Gemma Brace of University of Bristol Theatre Collection, “Wake Up and Dream” – an introduction to the life of theatre designer, Oliver Messel, illustrated with items from the collection”

In addition, the film “Talking LGBT+ Bristol” by Bristol 24/7 and Tusko Films was screened.

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

Activities 2018-19 by Cheryl Morgan on behalf of OutStories Bristol

Public Talks

- “Meet the Spartans”, LGBT History Month, Taunton, 2nd February 2019
- “Die Young, Stay Pretty: Amazon Warriors in the Ancient World”, LGBT History Month, The Senedd, Cardiff, 9th February 2019
- Stonewall 50th Anniversary Memorial Service, Lord Mayor’s Chapel, Bristol, 29th June 2019
- Book launch for *Introduction to Transgender Studies*, Gay’s the Word, London, 2nd August 2019

Private Talks

- “At the Court of the Rainbow Emperor”, LGBT History Month, University of Bristol, 7th February 2019
- “Chosen of the Goddess: Trans People in Ancient Mesopotamia”, Queens University Belfast, 14th February 2019
- “Trans People in History”, Rethinking Sexology Workshop (University of Exeter & Gendered Intelligence), The Watershed, Bristol, March 16th, 2019
- “Trans History in Bristol”, Crossroads, Wick, 27th July 2019

Academic Conferences

- “Steampunk Revolutions”, Historical Fictions Research Network Annual Conference, Central Library, Manchester, 22nd February 2019
- “Ovid & the Scythians”, Outing the Past, Ulster University, Belfast, March 29-31, 2019
- “In Search of Transgender Scythians”, Gender, Methodology and the Ancient Near East, University of Ghent, April 8-10, 2019
- “Who Gets to be a Feminist?”, Transversal Transfeminisms, University of Roehampton, London, July 30th, 2019

Publications

- “Trans Lives in Rome” in *Introduction to Transgender Studies*, Ardel Haefele-Thomas (ed.), Harrington Park Press

Collections

Items deposited in Bristol Archives by Robert Howes in 2018 were

- Bristol Pride, 2019: 111 items
- Ongoing deposit of Gay West newsletter, committee meeting minutes and other documents

5. Financial Report for the year ending 30th June 2019

Our financial year runs 1st July to 30th June.

Total income for the year was £626 and was solely from donations. Our thanks to Hargreaves Lansdown plc for giving £250 and the six individuals, named in section 6 below, who made donations.

Total expenditure was £532 comprising £194 on fees associated with our website and cloud storage, £72 bank charges and £266 for insurance for two years.

Therefore, surplus was £94. Cash in bank at 30/6/2019: £1319. Turnover was low because OutStories was not involved in any major projects during the year.

The accounts have been independently checked and verified by Donald Branch; our thanks to him.

6. 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 donations to the running costs in 2019, thanks to Charlie Beaton, Cheryl Morgan, Chris Leigh, Josie McLellan, Kim Renfrew and Robert Howes. Our thanks also go to University of Bristol Research IT for updating our 'Mapping LGBT+ Bristol' Android and iPhone apps to extend their life.

End of the Annual Report