

UK PREGNANT GIRL

Miss World International

Emma-Jay
Webber

Forever with Pride

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CONTENT AND WORDS FROM OUR EDITOR

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Welcome to issue 21 of our free for all to read monthly LGBTQ+ e-magazine. I'm so pleased to be able to bring to you all in this month the fabulous Isle of Wight Pride 2023 as well as all-of our other wonderful guest articles, you really are in for a treat.

Pleasedon't forget that we can only stay a free to read e-magazine with your help and support so please if you could do a little fundraising on our behalf that would be greatly received.

Alex Gibbon Comedian

Phoenix 55 Fostering

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Pride Isle of Wight 2023

Angela Bra

When reading the e-magazine don't forget that the photos and logos are also loaded with live links that will take you the owner of the articles web and social media sites. So do click away.



UK PAGEANT GIRL

Emma-Jay Webber

Queen of Diversity: The alarming rise in anti-LGBTQ+ legislation in the USA is not stopping Emma-Jay's hopes to become first LGBTQ+ Ms World International as she travels to Miami to represent the United Kingdom.

Last year Emma-Jay, from Bristol, made history as the first LGBTQ+ finalist to proudly walk the Ms Great Britain stage since the pageant began 77 years ago, but now she has her sights on the biggest crown of all - Ms. World International.

Emma-Jay has been giving a much-needed voice for the LGBTQ+ community for the last 6 years and has competed in many pageants winning titles at both National and International level.

Being Ms United Kingdom and a finalist for Ms World International is much more than a title. She hopes to represent the change and be the beacon of light for those LGBTQ+ individuals still hidden from sight due to fears of rejection.

"Most importantly I aim to change the game for LGBTQ+ individuals in pageantry. I have ran numerous campaigns which had people taking part from across the globe and thus proving that there are no barriers in becoming a modern beauty queen, and any girl, regardless of sexuality is deserving of the crown".

"I feel like I have a greater responsibility than I have done in previous competitions. To win the Ms United Kingdom crown was amazing. But to go to the world stage, to a US State, where last

year passed the 'don't say, gay bill' and to be competing, to be openly gay, is a little bit

It's just over a year since Florida passed controversial legislation known as the "don't say gay" bill, which prohibits discussions in schools about sexual orientation and gender issues. Already in 2023, US legislators have introduced 385 anti-LGBTQ+ laws at the state level, more than the past five years combined and only a few weeks ago, Tennessee governor Bill Lee ratified laws that restrict drag shows and ban gender-affirming care for trans youth.

"It is a really serious matter at this time, and I'm going to be taking my family with me. It's incredibly important for them to see mummy on stage, saying, 'it's okay to be our family,' regardless of what this legislation is trying to tell us".



Emma-Jay will compete at the Ms World Finals, in Miami from August 20-24th at The Diplomat Hilton Hotel. She is proud to not only be flying the UK flag but also the Pride flag for LGBTQ+ rights.



"I don't just stand for the 'L' (in LGBTQ+), I stand for the whole LGBTQ+ community."

www.instagram.com/uk_pageantgirl www.facebook.com/UKpageantgirl

Latest Update 30th October 2023

I am back from Miami!

Ms World International was incredible! It was such an amazing experience meeting so many empowering women from all over the globe!

The competition was hard, and as a single mum with 2 children to look after at the same time it came with a lot of behind-the-scenes challenges and struggles. However, I worked hard and put my heart and soul into every event.

The significance of representing the LGBTQ+ community for the first time in Ms World International history was not lost on me. With the competition held in the Anti LGBTQ+ state of Florida it was a momentous occasion to give a much-needed voice for those who have been silenced by the legislation and to stand tall while there the increasing hostility towards our community continues to grow.

I hope my participation sends out a message to the world that's 'it's ok to be gay' and we will continue to be PROUD.

Ms World International has been the biggest achievement in my pageant career and I am so proud that I was crowned Ms World International Women 2023 and also placed Ms World International 4th Runner Up.

I would not have been able to achieve this without the help of my incredible sponsors;

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Edinburgh Gin launched the latest collaboration in its *Edinburgh Gin Presents* initiative, created to raise funds for supporting the arts in collaboration with Edinburgh Festival Fringe. The new limited-edition bottle and liquid (£35) - designed in collaboration with iconic comedian, actor and writer **Eddie Izzard** - is available now, with every penny of profit set to be donated to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society to support artists. This is the second in a series of special collaborations, the first being with Phoebe Waller Bridge in 2021 when the *Edinburgh Gin Presents* initiative was launched

A limited run of only 2,400 bottles is available to buy from edinburghgin.com, or at the Edinburgh Gin shop (Hanover Street) and the distillery (Rutland Place) in the city centre of Edinburgh.

As a global champion for creativity, inclusivity, and a rich history of performing at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Eddie was a natural choice of partner for Edinburgh Gin. Working together, they have co-crafted a one-off recipe and bottle design that captures the very heart of Eddie herself.

She hopes the funds raised will help give others an opportunity to bring to life their own self-belief on the stage at the career-defining Edinburgh Festival Fringe.



The fabulous Eddie/Suzy Izzard



At the core of this unique gin are the classic Edinburgh Gin botanicals: juniper, coriander seed, angelica, liquorice and orris. However, Edinburgh Gin has created something truly special with Eddie, incorporating additional botanicals, the initial letters of which spell out a sentimental guiding word for Eddie; “Believe”, **B**ladderwrack Seaweed, **E**lderflower, **L**emon myrtle, **I**ncan berries, **E**chinacea, **V**erbena and **E**lderberries.

She has used this word throughout her life when seeking strength for challenges she has faced. The bottle itself is also a crafted piece of art that brings to life the gin in a truly eye-catching design, with the carefully chosen botanicals surrounding a beautiful sketch of Eddie as she gazes out to the distance with a bracelet celebrating her new chosen name, Suzy.

Further showing its support for the Edinburgh Festival Fringe this year, Edinburgh Gin also hosted a series of events at the Edinburgh Gin Distillery, at which the limited-edition bottle was available for purchase.

Visitors were able to immerse themselves in the enchanting wonder of Edinburgh at an exclusive Gin & Oyster experience set to bring the essence of the beautiful coastal

city to life through taste, or experience the sights and sounds of Scotland's first 360-degree cinema while sipping three delightful cocktails through this exclusive series of Edinburgh Gin events took place throughout the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in August.

Speaking on the creation and launch of the new botanical mix and bottle, Eddie Izzard said:

“I was very happy to be asked to work on a new distinct recipe and limited-edition bottle of Edinburgh Gin as I am a patron of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe - the largest arts festival in the world - and because the profits from the sales are going to help new generations of acts starting their careers there.

As someone who performed from 1981 in 12 Festival Fringe shows over 13 years, I have a strong connection with the great historical city of Edinburgh. The seven letters of BELIEVE each represent a different botanical that has gone into the creation of the new and limited-edition recipe. This means a lot to me as I have performed in different languages, acted in a lot of films and run multiple marathons despite many setbacks, but I know anything is possible if you believe.”



Karen Crowley, Brand Director at Edinburgh Gin, said:

After a brilliant collaboration with Phoebe Waller-Bridge in 2021, we are so pleased to bring to life another wonderful partnership with the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, this time with the inimitable Eddie Izzard.

"It has been inspiring to work with Eddie and hear all her wonderful stories during the development of this exciting new gin. We have worked together closely to make sure this is a design and recipe we are all really proud of. We're delighted to be able to offer the profits of the bottle to the next generation of talent, and continue giving a helping hand to the future Eddie Izzards of the world."

Beyond its winding streets and magical history, Edinburgh has offered the world a stage through its famous arts festivals for more than 75 years, bringing people together, welcoming brave work and introducing new talent.

Eddie's first comedy show at the Fringe was in 1981, the first of 12 Festivals over 13 years. Eddie has gone on to perform worldwide in a number of languages, acted in many films and remains a key supporter of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. All profits from the *Edinburgh Gin Presents: Eddie Izzard* limited-edition bottle - available now - will continue to contribute to the arts' recovery by creating subsidies that will help the next generation of talent.

For more information, you can visit www.edinburghgin.com/fringe-presents or follow at: @edinburghgin on Instagram, @Edinburgh_Gin on Twitter and www.facebook.com/edinburghgin.

Eddie Izzard Limited-edition Bottle

Available now Stockists: edinburghgin.com, the Edinburgh Gin Shop (49 Hanover St, Edinburgh EH2 2PJ), the Edinburgh Gin Distillery (1A, Rutland Place, Edinburgh EH1 2AD) RRP: £35



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NOMADIC BOYS

ONE LOVE, ENDLESS ADVENTURES

Hi we are Stefan and Sebastien a French/Greek gay couple from London.



Since our humble beginnings in 2013 when Nomadic Boys was simply an online account of our stories and photos for friends/family, our gay travel blog has grown to become one of the largest and most successful online LGBTQ travel websites in the world!

Nomadic Boys has also become our full-time vocation. Well, more than that: it has become our baby! It is one of the best things to have come out of our relationship.

When we set off for Asia in 2014, we started writing about the different gay scenes of each place we visited and published interviews with locals about what it's like growing up gay in their country.

As a result, we started getting more and more interest, especially from our LGBTQ community.

Gay travellers were seeking out advice about where it's safe to stay, where they can go out, is it safe to be gay in that place and other general safety tips. Our blog served as a way to answer these concerns and inspire gay travellers.



For every place we visit, we like to make local gay friends to experience the culture and gay scene from their perspective. This inspired the Gay Stories section. We always aim to seek out and support local LGBTQ businesses, which is particularly important in countries with anti-gay laws.

We also collaborate with hotel brands, tourism boards and speak at conferences to promote gay travel.



Ironically, after almost 5 years of non-stop travelling, we realised we craved a more permanent home base again! We also needed to invest time in Nomadic Boys and elevate our content. So upon returning to Europe, we decided to settle in the place where Stefan is originally from: Cyprus!

We still travel most of the year, but instead of big trips, we prefer to do smaller trips that still allow us to see a place in detail, but to stay there long enough so we get a rich experience.

As long as we have internet access, we can work/base ourselves anywhere in

the world.

Our mission is to inspire and show you that you can visit more places in the world than you thought possible, by providing a first-hand account of our travel adventures, which will help you plan a fun and safe trip.

Wherever we go, we will tell you about the local gay scene, the friends we meet, the amazing sights we visit and the delicious foods we try. We will also tell you where it is safe to stay and how you can plan an exciting, fun and problem-free trip. We will give you an insight into the local gay life, unique things to do and the best way to connect with LGBTQ locals.

Website: www.nomadicboys.com

Insta: [instagram.com/nomadicboys/](https://www.instagram.com/nomadicboys/)

Fb: [facebook.com/nomadicboys/](https://www.facebook.com/nomadicboys/)

TikTok: [tiktok.com/@nomadicboys](https://www.tiktok.com/@nomadicboys)

Twitter: twitter.com/nomadicboys

Youtube: [hyoutube.com/@nomadicboys](https://www.youtube.com/@nomadicboys)





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The Q32 LGBTQ Music Chart

For the week of July 30, 2023



The Q32 LGBTQ Music Chart for the week of September 1, 2023

TW	LW	< * >	Artist / Song Title
1	3	>	Hometime – Burn the Photograph
2	2	<	Jill Knight and Johnny Schaefer - Don't You Dare
3	4	>	Jaden Cornelious - Lost Without Your Love
4	2	<	DJ Pluto - My Underground Planet
5	15	>	Butterfly Feels – So Obsessed
6	9	>	River Westin - Blush
7	10	>	Cooper Bloom - End of Time
8	8	*	KingQueen - Beautiful
9	6	<	MaMa Silver – Take Me Home Tonite
10	5	<	Drayden - Give It Up
11	13	>	Wild Black – Stay Dreamin’
12	30	>	Cerulean Chameleon, Jaymze - - BOOM!
13	16	>	Jah’Mila - Slow Down
14	18	>	Stacie Lynn – Sorry Not Sorry
15	7	<	Izra Fitch – California
16	12	<	Bobby Marks – Invisible Freak



17	19	>	Tori BLK - Two Scared Girls
18	28	>	TeawhYB – Main Character
19	23	>	Spencer Jordan – The Sky is Green
20	25	>	Kai Mata – Summertime Sin
21	17	<	OVRtone ft. Gregory Dillon - Heaven
22	26	>	Mariah Counts - ALPHA
23	29	>	Gabrielle Sofia - MOVE ONd



24	NEW	*	Trans Peter Pan – LGBTQIA+
25	22	<	Shawn Red – Ya Man
26	NEW	*	Robbie Finnegan – Lone Wolf
27	NEW	*	Stewart Legere - You Won't Be Punished for the Lie
28	21	<	Tafari Anthony - Falling Back
29	11	<	TYA - Josephine
30	14	<	Boisier, Francis Michaud – Je Me Prends
31	27	<	Anthony Hughes - Shining
32	NEW	*	Brayo Bryans, Velvet Code – Break The Spell

Want to help increase the exposure of our queer community of artists? Then vote for your favorite LGBTQ artists in the Q32 LGBTQ Music Chart!

Voted on by the fans, chart results are released every Sunday night and new songs are added to the voting each week on Mondays. You can vote for as many artists as you like once per day.

Head on over to curatedbyq.com/music-chart/ and start voting now!

And check out the chart music on our Spotify playlist, updated each Sunday night!

spotify.com/playlist

The OUT LOUD Series

OUT LOUD: The Podcast

New episodes released every week featuring new music from LGBTQ artists around the world, artist interviews, and more.

Hear episodes on your favorite podcast platform! Curatedbyq.com/radio/

OUT LOUD: The Radio Show

All New Releases. All LGBTQ.

Hosted by **The Q's** founder Kenney Fitzpatrick, the OUT LOUD radio show is a companion to the OUT LOUD podcast, giving you even more opportunities every week to hear music releases from the global LGBTQ music community.

The show broadcasts several times per week out of Canada, Australia, South Africa, and the UK. Check out our Radio page online for the days, times, and stations.

Curatedbyq.com/radio/

OUT LOUD: The Video Show

Hosted by **The Q's** founder Kenney Fitzpatrick and featuring in-depth conversations with LGBTQ artists.

Watch the latest shows now on:

YouTube.com/@QCreativeNetwork



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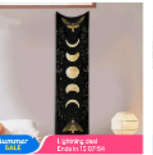
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Hi my name is Rosie Craven, I am an LGBT+ Specialist Counsellor and offer counselling through my private practice called RUCounselling, shortened from Rainbow Umbrella Counselling. I offer counselling face to face from my office on New Walk in Leicester, and also virtually through Skype and Google Meets, I work virtually across the UK.

Counselling is a form of talking therapy that provides a safe and confidential space for you to talk about your issues and concerns. I will help you to explore your thoughts, feelings and behaviours so you can develop a better understanding of yourself and of others.

I am a trained, qualified and experienced Integrative Counsellor. My focuses are in Psychodynamic and Person-Centred Approaches which enable me to offer a tailor-made approach to counselling that best suits your therapeutic needs. I am an individual member of The BACP and currently working towards accreditation.

I offer LGBT+ Specialist counselling as navigating your sexuality and/or gender identity can sometimes feel like swimming the deepest oceans. It can feel isolating, relationships may change and the need for human connection goes unmet.

I work in a way that is positive and empowering, to build on your inner strength. Counselling offers the space to explore your processes and discover your sense of strength by navigating through what is your truth, and what is projections from other people.



Rosie Craven

LGBT+ Counselling may be helpful in managing difficulties with:

Questioning Sexual
and/or Romantic Orientation
Questioning Gender Identity
Gender Dysphoria
Body Dysmorphia
Shame/Guilt
Anxiety
Depression
Self-Harm

I offer short term and long-term counselling. Short term counselling typically lasts between 6 and 18 weekly sessions and is generally more directive and goal-focused in comparison to long term counselling. This may be helpful if you are experiencing therapy for the first time and would like to get an idea about how the process works, or have a limited time to engage with therapy.

Long term counselling offers the time and space to build a trusting relationship, work at a pace that feels comfortable and at a depth that explores patterns and emotions that are rooting the difficulties. Long term counselling is quite different to short term counselling as long term counselling is a more explorative process in comparison to short term counselling which is more directive and focused. Long Term Counselling will typically last between 6 months and 18 months.

I trained at The University of Leicester from 2014-2019 where I received my degree in Integrative Counselling. I took my counselling placement at The Leicester LGBT as a Volunteer LGBT Counsellor from 2016-2018. I was then employed by the centre from 2018-2021 where I worked as a Trans Adult Counsellor. I treasure the experience of working at The Leicester LGBT Centre because of the skills, colleagues and knowledge that I gained through working for the LGBT+ community.

I started my private practice RUCounselling in April 2022 from my office on New Walk through the support of The Princes Trust.

Private practice is wonderful as I am able to offer clients long term counselling as well as short term term counselling, which means that the work can be more explorative and in depth.

My core values are diversity, inclusion, confidentiality and empowerment. I also believe that it is essential for the work to develop a trusting and open therapeutic bond, to work with mental health in a way that is positive and affirming, and to encourage the brain to focus on positive neural processing to bring about positive change within the mind.

To access RUCounselling, please feel free to have a look at my website, where you can contact me through the online form, you can also send me an email or drop me a message or phone call. I offer free informal initial chats which last typically around 10-15 minutes. I then charge £40 per session which are 50 minutes long.



www.rucounselling.com

Social Media Links:

Facebook: [@RUCounselling](#)

Instagram: [@RUCounsellingService](#)

Twitter: [@RUCounselling](#)

TikTok: [@RUCounselling](#)

Best Wishes,

Rosie Craven MBACP (She/Her)

FERRARA, 1505 — WASHINGTON DC, 2008

Separated by 500 years, yet united by their talent, Serafino and Parker embark on similar journeys of discovery while fellow artists, assassins, princes and envious classmates rage and scheme around them.

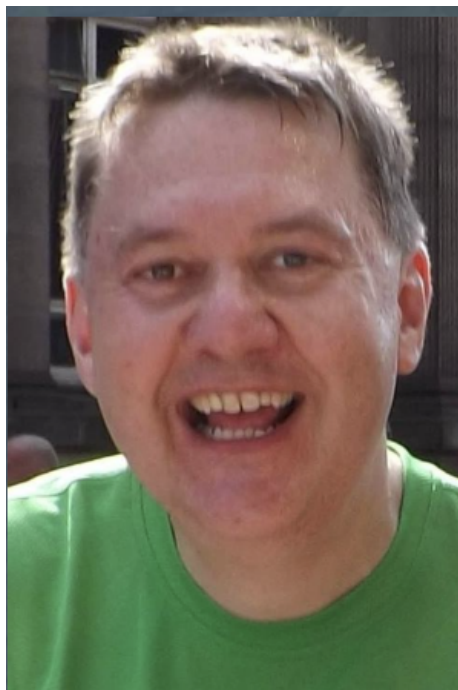


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GARDENING WITH GOODFELLOW



September 2023

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The forecasters are saying it will be a good September weather wise so hopefully we will get some extended time in the garden. You'll be able to keep that all over tan topped up and shock the neighbours with all the birds you get – of the feathered kind of course!

September is a time for collecting seeds from Fuchsias, Dahlias, Lilys and lots of other plants if you fancy the idea of experimenting and seeing what colours you will get, as they will be different from the parent. When you take cuttings, you get an exact copy of the parent but seed adds variation not only in flower colour but possibly height and form. You never know what you will get and there is the fun in trying it.

September is a good time to plant bulbs for next spring, such as crocus, daffodil, Tulips etc. Each bulb should be planted at a depth equivalent to twice the height of the bulb. This means you can put larger bulbs such as Daffodil under smaller crocus bulbs and then you can have a succession of flowers in your borders or planters. You don't need any fancy compost for bulbs so if you're growing in containers you can reuse some of your compost from the tomatoes or finished patio planters.

If you've grown tomatoes and are deciding to clear the plants this month, you will no doubt have plenty of green tomatoes. Don't throw these away, you can keep them in a cool dry place still on the vine and place upside down and this will help them ripen. Alternatively you can try green tomato chutney or as the film title suggests, 'Fried Green Toamtoes.'



Far left is a ripe seed pod on a Fuchsia, You can either sow right away or dry and store until spring. Left cut off the whole truss or vine to help your green tomatoes ripen. Store in a dark, cool and dry place.

If you are emptying your greenhouse, give it a good clean before you put anything else inside. There will be plenty of bugs around and you can use a smoke canister or chemical spray or if you don't like the idea of either of those, there is always biological control or just place some of those sticky yellow patches on stakes for a week or so but keep the door shut otherwise you are inviting more pests in.



Far left – larger bulbs such as daffodils can be planted first with a little compost added and then smaller bulbs placed on top.

Left – if keeping them for indoors, you should leave the tops of the bulbs showing above the compost. If outside then fully cover them.

You will still have time to start some autumn potatoes in those sacks if you want, they will get a good start before the cold weather comes. You will need to transfer them inside the greenhouse before the frost though. Keep dead heading your Dahlias and they will keep producing good flowers right up until the first frost in October.

It's a good time to complete autumn maintenance on your lawn. It will look bad when you first do it but it quickly recovers. This is when you scarify the lawn which pulls out all the dead grass and moss and you can even out lumps and bumps with some top dressing. It looks drastic if you've never done it before but you will soon appreciate how much it reinvigorates your lawn.

This month you can take semi-ripe cuttings of a lot of plants like Fuchsia and these need to be approximately six inches long. Called semi-ripe as you take the soft tip but also some of the slightly older wood as well. These take longer to root than the spring softwood cuttings but if you are pruning back, it always seems a shame just to compost everything – give it a try!

Next month we can look at Hard Wood, (cuttings), and I'm sure the thought of that will raise a few eyebrows – remember it's cuttings we're talking about.

Welcome to our first readers garden photo.

This months photo is of

Send us a DM on Facebook if you would like to get your garden seen in our garden page.



This is a new area of our editors garden on the Isle of Wight

Gardening with Goodfellow would love to see your garden. If you would like to have a photo of your garden in our next issue please email one photo to foreverwithpride@foreverwithpride.com and don't forget to let us know who you are and where you live.



SUPPORT



Herne Bay LGBTQ+ Society was set up by a trans male and a bisexual female who live in Herne bay Kent and wanted to offer other LGBTQ+ people in Herne bay an wider area

www.facebook.com/groups/238383438252893

Hblgbtqsociety@outlook.com

Phone: 07857966507



The Open Table Network (OTN) began because many churches and their congregations do not easily, kindly or honestly welcome LGBTQIA+ people, therefore, many LGBTQIA+ people have nowhere spiritually to belong.

<https://opentable.lgbt/>

Hblgbtqsociety@outlook.com

Phone: 07501753618



FFLAG is a national voluntary organisation and registered charity. We are dedicated to supporting parents and families and their LGBT+ members.

We offer support to local parents groups and contacts in their efforts to help parents and families understand, accept and support their lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender members with love and pride.

www.fflag.org.uk

support@fflag.org.uk

Phone: 0300 688 0368



My name is Alex Gibbon (They/ Them) and I am a non- verbal, queer comedian.

Fresh from a busy Pride Circuit, my show "Fat, Femme & Crippled" had a phenomenal 6 show run at this year's Edinburgh Fringe Festival from the 10th-15th August at Bar 50, as part of the Free Festival circuit run by Laughing Horse Comedy.

When I drive my mobility scooter on stage, I navigate the intersection between disability and queer culture - whilst making you laugh without speaking a word.

I was incredibly grateful to be given the Phoebe Waller Bridge 'Keep it Fringe' Award that largely funded my journey towards bringing my show to Edinburgh.

5 years ago, I lost the ability to speak due to a neurological disorder. Yet when I ride side saddle onto my stage with a bottle of wine in hand and heels higher than Joan Rivers' plastic surgeon - you might not even notice.

The irony in this is that I used to be a singer. So going from being that to becoming baby Annabel with a drinking problem gives me lots to joke about.

"My brain still remembers how to talk; it's just decided to take the Lake House route to my mouth. So essentially, I'm a windows update with a pulse".

I have used comedy to educate, captivate, and titillate my audiences as I demolish society's stereotypes and expectations of how disabled people are "supposed" to be.

My show is a constant reminder that bad life choices are not just a luxury of the able-bodied.

Disabled people are just as capable and daring, even more so, because we have less to lose.

Who needs dignity when you have the best parking spots to choose from.

Most of all, I prove that being disabled does not mean you can't live a great life. And that queer and disabled are not communities exclusive of one another. I'm both. I celebrate both. And yes, I make jokes at the expense of both.





I've been highly successful within the Pride Circuit and comedy clubs in and around the southwest of the UK. And after only 10 months on the comedy circuit full-time, have been scouted and am now managed by the incredible team at Mirth Control Comedy.

Following my show's feature length debut at Edinburgh Fringe: I have been reviewed in both Playbill, as well as Euro News in their top 20 shows to see at the fringe. This is on top of also having mentions in Euan's Guide, Binge Fringe magazine, and Forbes: who categorized me in their Ultimate List of LGBTQ Shows At Edinburgh Fringe 2023.

Reviews:

"I spent most of *Fat, Femme & Crippled* between laughter and just the right amount of panic of what would come out of the app next - I was merrily agape after every utterance. Hilarious" - *Jamie Wareham, Forbes Contributor / QueerAF.*

'Alex Gibbon has carved out perhaps the most niche comedy act of this year's festival... Less strange and more interestingly unique, there's 'Fat, Femme & Crippled', a show from non-verbal comedian Alex Gibbon. He's a fascinating performer who doesn't let a neurological condition get in the way of a hilarious time... Gibbon brings mountains of personality to the set through great one-liners and his wonderfully expressive physicality' *Jonny Walfisz, Euro News.*

'Gibbon is expressive. When he met with Playbill, he had lipstick and a wide smile his eyes lit up when his phone delivered a funny line.... Gibbon has made it his artistic mission to destigmatize being both disabled and gay, using the power of laughter.' *Diep Tran, Playbill.*



My sights are now set on a busy year ahead, as I'm planning to take Fat, Femme & Crippled on tour as well as sell out as many comedy nights as possible.

Be sure to check me out @alexgibboncomedian on social media to find out more. And if you want to see me perform in your venue then be sure to contact either myself at booking.alexgibbon@gmail.com. Or contact my agent directly at booking@mirthcontrol.org.uk

And below is a link to my bio on Mirth Control Comedy's Website where you can find out more:

<https://www.mirthcontrolcomedy.com/alexgibbon>

Thanks for reading this and I look forward to performing for you soon.



Find me on **Facebook** and **Insta**: @AlexGibbonComedian



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We are Donna Vella and Terri Jenkins. We have been together for almost 17 years. Terri came out when she was 18 and Donna when she was 30.

Terri was already a Foster parent and during our courtship it was something that I became aware of. When we moved in together we decided to continue fostering after a break.

We have now fostered together for approx. 15 years. We currently have 3 young people with us and our own 21-year-old son who is very active in supporting us with fostering.

2 years ago we decided to start our own independent fostering service. Our plan had always been to work in the leaving care support sector when we retired from fostering, however due to some experiences we have had we decided to go this route first.

Phoenix55 Fostering Service is our passion as we firmly believe that we need to get things right for the next generation and that means ensuring that the Foster parents that are with us receive the best support, training and guidance. As experienced foster parents we have a unique insight into how that looks and what is needed.

The LGBTQ+ community is very underrepresented in fostering. In all the time we have fostered and at various different agencies we have only ever met one other gay couple. As gay women and Service owners we aren't sure as to why this is. Foster families come in all different shapes and sizes and sexuality and gender identity should not be a barrier.

Our sexuality has never been an issue with any of the young people or children that we have fostered over the years. Yes there have been questions about our relationship but we have just answered honestly the same way we did with our son.



Start Your Fostering Journey With Us

Have you ever considered fostering?
Are you looking to transfer?
Do you want to chat about fostering without having to commit?

Get in touch!
We have an open door policy to all!

Contact us

01745 421669 enquiries@phoenix55fostering.com

We have had a few 'questions' over the years from assessors about our relationship as in who does what role, how would you explain your sexuality to a child and the such, however we have understood that this has been a necessary part of the process. The only time we have had to push back is when we were asked to prepare a letter to be shown to young people or children before moving in with us explaining we are gay and what this meant.

We took a strong stance on this as didn't feel it was appropriate and assured that we would openly discuss and answer any questions.

Our service covers North Wales and the North West of England for applications to foster. However we are more than happy to supply support and guidance to anyone wanting to foster.

If you would like to learn more please contact us on 01745421669 or email enquiries@phoenixfostering.com
linktr.ee/phx55 - this links to all our social media accounts.



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PRIDE **ISLE OF WIGHT**

Pride 2023

Isle of Wight Pride more than made up for the bad weather postponement in July; with a fabulous weekend featuring a parade, community village and entertainment.



Union Street Ryde

Some light rain on Friday night did not dampen the spirits and the launch party with DJ host Boom Party Live and fabulous drag queens Dawn and Cherry Liquor set the scene for an amazing weekend.

On Saturday, crowds lined the streets in Ryde for a parade attended by many local community groups, businesses, and supporters.

The parade and followers arrived on the seafront to be welcomed by a sea of colourful flags of the LGBTQIA+ community. In the parade was Peter Tatchell, human rights campaigner, whose opening speech was about the importance of Pride and the inequality around the world.

The event was free, and a community village held on Saturday and Sunday informed and entertained visitors. A popular feature was Selfie Island with its Unicorn's.



Lower Union Street Ryde

On the main stage, Saturday crowds were entertained by tributes Utmost



View From Main Stage



DJ Woody Cook



Amrick Channa

Elton and MDNA – Madonna. Drag from Lucy Caboosi and the Island's fabulous Quivers, with the evening topped off by Amrick Channa from X Factor and The Voice (UK) and headliner DJ Woody Cook.

IW Pride Plus, on Sunday, finished the weekend on a high with tributes, The Gay-Ties Revival Show and local entertainment from the 2Bfit4life Dancers, Molly Downer Musical, Theatre Train and Miss Autumn Star & The Burlesque Belles. A Promise to Love Ceremony was led by Celebrant Sue Edwards and the weekend finished with Starstruck - The Ultimate Years & Years Tribute.

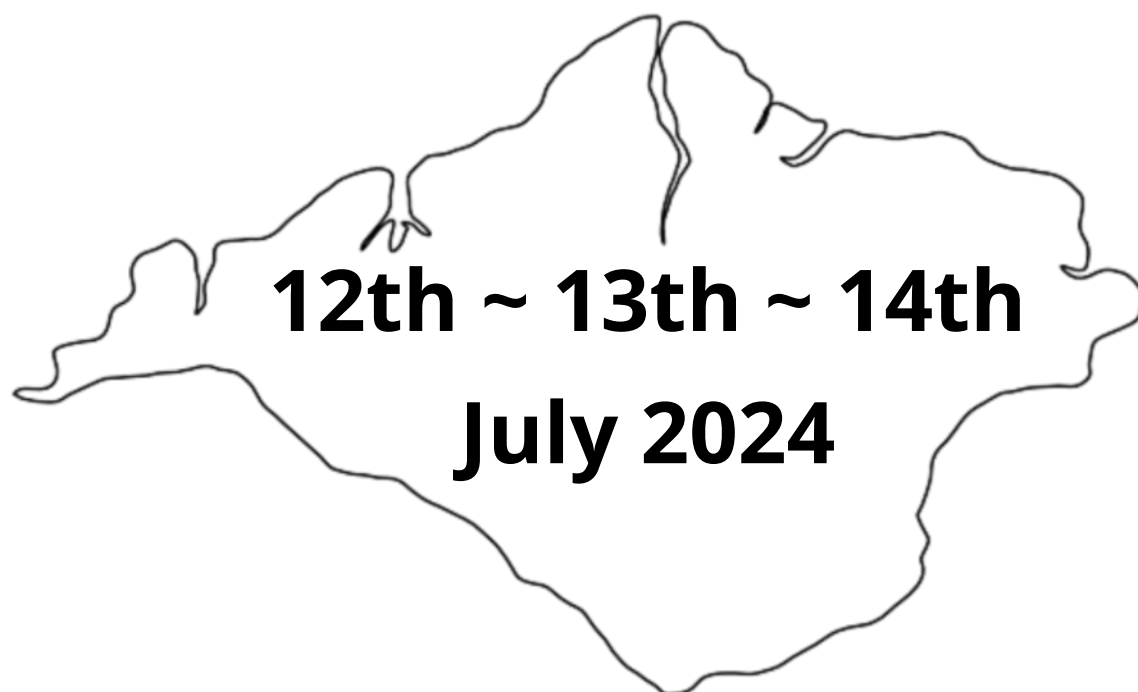
A street collection was held, and IW Pride would like to thank everyone who contributed and helped to raise £2,282 to assist the charity in its work to support the Island's LGBTQIA+

The dates for Isle of Wight Pride 2024 are the 12th, 13th & 14th July.

www.iwpride.org/



Cllr Karl Love ~ Peter Tatchell ~ David Hill



www.iwpride.org

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Angela Bră

Pronounced like “candelabra” and equally classy, Miss Angela Bra is a musical comedy drag queen whose sets blend parodies, original songs, one liners and storytelling. A 2022 finalist in Manchester’s drag competition, The Crown, she’s

also a 2022 and 2023 venue finalist in Drag Idol. Angela's solo comedy hour “MicroRAVE” was recently nominated for Best Comedy Show at the 2023 Buxton Fringe, which she has also performed in Manchester and at the Morecambe Fringe where it received a five-star review from the Lancaster Guardian.

The show has just completed a full run at the Edinburgh Fringe, during which Angela made it to the semi-finals of Hootenannies Fringe Act of the Year. MicroRave is now set to tour with dates already booked in Birmingham, Nottingham, and New Mills - with London, Retford and Leicester soon to confirm. Angela is also one half of the award-winning double act show “Annie & Angela’s Disco Divorce Party” and in 2022 appeared as the over-enthusiastic PE teacher in Tuckshop UK’s Edinburgh Fringe show “The Sickening 90’s Drag Prom”.

Angela is also the host of both touring party bingo night “Bop & Bingo” and “Boozy Bingo” in Bolton - as well as her own “Absolutely Dabulous” bingo events. She also MC’s for FunnyBoyz in Liverpool and regularly hosts private functions.





When she's not bingo-ing, brunching, or in cabaret she also performs at comedy nights across the country. Recently this has included closing the show at Queer As Joke in Birmingham, MCing for ROFL Comedy in Stoke and performing opening and middle twenties at many other venues. In 2022 she performed her solo show, "Life Lessons", at the prestigious Kings Head Theatre in London.

Angela's debut album, "MicroRAVE", is available now on all streaming platforms and features tracks promoted through her social media presence on TikTok (where she has over 10,000 followers) and Instagram (where her numerous followers include Cheryl Hole.) Her Facebook page has a five-star rating from clients and event attendees.

And if that isn't enough, she also sings pop classics (with or without her acoustic guitar), DJ's and, thanks to her background in primary teaching, hosts drag queen story times.

"Angela Bra is well on her way to establishing herself as national treasure status, much more of this and she'll be made a Dame!★★★★★" - The Lancaster Guardian

"A fun show and a real crowd-pleaser" - Buxton Fringe Review

"A cheerily endearing persona...she will get you taking part, whatever your initial reluctance..." - Chortle



Headline set (20 mins) at Queer As Joke, Birmingham (April 2023)

-https://youtu.be/53n_NPqIGnU

Performing live at the 2022 Drag Idol Final at The Eagle, Manchester

-<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M10NEIA8NoE>

Official video for my parody of Kylie's Padam Padam:<https://youtu.be/nAht1oEqOLY>

Official video for live favourite, Meal Deal

-<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-atTZt67V58>

tiktok.com/@missangelabra(includes

Angela's "Drag Queen Diaries" series of blog posts as well as jokes and songs)

[https://www.athomewithangelabra.](https://www.athomewithangelabra.blogspot.com)

[blogspot.com](https://www.athomewithangelabra.blogspot.com)(includes all live dates)





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Image released of man police would like to identify after homophobic attack

Detectives investigating a homophobic attack on two men outside the Two Brewers venue in Clapham have released an image of a man they want to identify. The image was taken from outside the venue at the time of the attack.

Detective Chief Inspector Jivan Saib from the Central South Command Unit leads the investigation and said:

“I am asking the public to look at this image and see if they recognise this individual – it is vital that we identify and locate him as soon as possible.”

The incident happened at approximately 22:15hrs on Sunday, 13 August as the two men stood outside a nightclub – they were approached by a man who attacked them with a knife before running away.

Both men, aged in their 20s and 30s, were taken to hospital for treatment and have since been discharged.

Enquiries are ongoing to locate and arrest the suspect.

DCI Saib continued: “Officers have already collated witness accounts and scoured CCTV for evidence and this work remains ongoing.

“I appreciate those who have come forward and spoken to police but would ask that if you were in the area and saw these events unfold, but have yet to contact us, then please do so.”

PC Hayley Jones who is the dedicated LGBT+ Community Liaison Officer (CLO) for Lambeth and Southwark added:

“We understand some people from the LGBT+ community may not have the confidence to speak to police; my role was introduced to provide a dedicated LGBT+ point of contact to support the community and advise on investigations where homophobia and transphobia is a motive. You can contact me directly for advice and support, or to assist this investigation.”

Anyone with information is asked to contact police on 101 or tweet @MetCC and quote CAD 7198/13Aug. You can also provide information anonymously to the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

If you wish to contact the Lambeth and Southwark LGBT+ CLO please contact PC Hayley Jones on 07825101104 or Hayley.Jones@met.police.uk



[Do you recognise this man?]



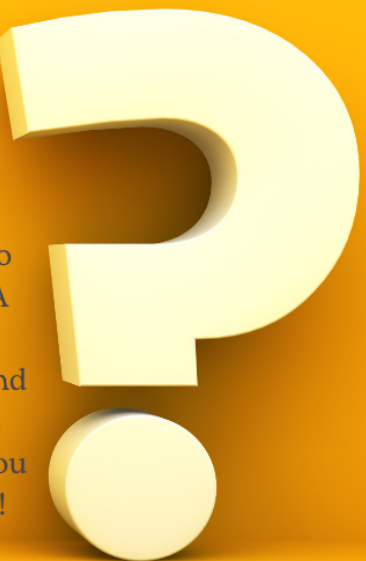
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