

AMY BECOMES MAYORESS

Broadcaster and club hostess Amy Lane has become the Mayoress of Camden at the invitation of new gay mayor Jonathan Simpson. Amy, who hosted Preston's Red Ribbon Cabaret in the past, said: "I nearly fainted when Jonathan asked me . . . It will be an absolute honour."



NEW STONEWALL REPORTS

Stonewall has just published two new reports.

- Different Families: the experiences of children with lesbian and gay parents
- No Going Back: a report on lesbian and gay asylum seekers.

Both reports can be obtained from Stonewall, tel. 08000 502020.

AND FINALLY . . .

New gay superhero comic "Spandex", has been nominated for an Eagle Award, in the category best British Colour Comic Book, the comic world's equivalent of an Oscar.

The comic's creator, Martin Eden, said he was "shocked" to be nominated. He added: "I'm so proud of my comic and really trying to do things that have never been done in a comic before. I'm up against some big titles in my category, so it'd be exciting if

the indie guy won!"

Spandex Issue Two is currently on sale. This issue involves the Brighton-based Spandex team heading for Japan to recover the stolen crown jewels at the request of the Queen. While in Japan, they fight with the Pink Ninjas, face down the terrifying Gayzilla and recruit Neon, the world's first gay, fluorescent ninja.

Spandex can be ordered online from www.spandexcomic.com.



LARGE PRINT VERSION OF THIS NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

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LESBIAN GAY BISEXUAL & TRANS SUPPORT SERVICE

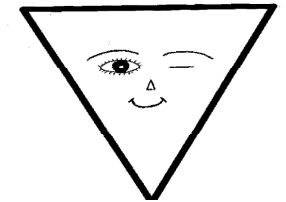
NEWS FROM OSCAR

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LGBT DROP-IN BEGINS

Lancashire LGBT Centre has announced a new service, a drop-in on the first Thursday of the month 6.30pm—8.30pm, at Disability Equality North West, 103 Church St, Preston, PR1 3BS. The next drop-in will be on July 1st.

This will be a safe space for LGBT people to be themselves, make new friends, talk confidentially about matters of concern, and find out about other LGBT events and activities in Lancashire.

For further information please call 07966 373 110, email lancashirelgbt@yahoo.co.uk or check www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=106643469083

NORTH-WEST LGBT FACEBOOK GROUP

Facebook users may well be interested in a group promoting social events for LGBT people in the north-west. The link is: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=84429380196>

COALITION ACTION?

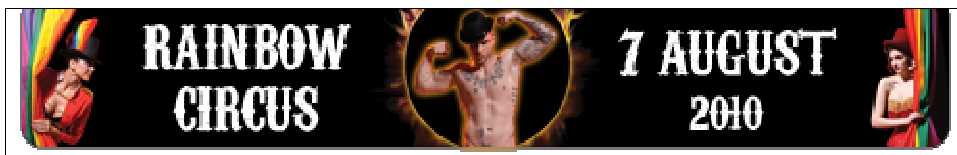
The coalition government has promised action on some gay issues.

These include helping schools deal with homophobic bullying, pressuring other countries to support gay rights, stopping deportment of gay asylum seekers at risk of harm, treating gay sex convictions as spent, and pushing for international recognition of UK civil partnerships.

However the government is not planning full marriage for gay couples.

navajo

**Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual &
Trans Friendly Service**



LIVERPOOL PRIDE

Liverpool Pride will be happening on **7th August** and the theme is "Rainbow Circus" as voted for by the LGBT community in the city. Talks are under way with the council to hold a march on the day, and street performers, artists and club promoters are working together with the festival organisers to ensure a safe and colourful day for all.

MANCHESTER PRIDE

Later in the month it's the turn of Manchester to host its Pride festival. It'll be ten days of sport, film, arts, heritage, entertainment and partying, culminating in the Big Weekend on **August 27th—30th**.

Acts confirmed for the main stage include Belinda Carlisle, Heaven 17 and Beverley Knight. Wristbands already on sale for the Big Weekend at an early bird price of £12.50 till July 1st.

More news in our next newsletter about other Pride events which this year include items as diverse as a swimming pool party for trans people, a Pink Dog Show, It's A Gay Knockout, talks by LGBT armed forces veterans, women's events, a ceilidh, sports events including ice climbing and salsa dancing, and an LGBT family fun day.

LGBT CARERS GROUP

Do you regularly support a relative, friend or neighbour who is ill, frail, disabled or misuses substances?

Brand new services are on their way for lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans carers in the North West. LGBT carers provide unpaid care to a relative or friend who could not manage without their help due to illness, age, disability or addiction. LGBT carers will be able to get online to find information, discussions and support at their fingertips, or attend a new support group in Manchester to find information and support in person. These new services will launch during **Carers Week (14-20 June)**.

For more information contact Glenn Street on 0161 234 4254 or go to **www.lgf.org.uk/carers**.

RESEARCH REQUEST

An Oxford University researcher is looking for male volunteers over 50, of any sexuality, who have spent most of their life NOT in a relationship, to take part in his research project into what being single means to you, in the past and the future.

The format will be a conversational interview for around 1.5 - 2 hours. You can also choose a place that you find most comfortable.

All information will be anonymized and confidential.

If you are interested, please contact Yiu-tung Suen at 07942 582142 or email: yiui.suen@sociology.ox.ac.uk

CATHEDRAL EVENT

There will be another service of inclusion for LGBT people of all faiths in Manchester Cathedral at 7.30pm on **June 23rd**. All are welcome to join in the celebrations of Manchester's rich LGBT heritage.

Celebrate is supported by the Bishop of Manchester's Advisory Group on Sexuality, the city's Interfaith Forum and the Lesbian & gay Foundation. It's a free event with refreshments.

GAYDIO GOES LIVE

Friday June 18th sees the launch of a new gay radio station in Greater Manchester. Gaydio will be broadcasting on 88.4FM.

Gaydio will broadcast a mixture of upbeat music and targeted speech programming 24 hours a day and will also be available online.



GMFA GAY MEN'S COURSES



Gay men's health charity GMFA is continuing its national groupwork programme with two courses in June and July which will be staged in Manchester, Liverpool and other cities around the country. The Manchester dates are **Saturday 19th June** "Building Your Confidence" and **Saturday 24th July** "Getting A Boyfriend". For more information or to book places on these courses please visit the website www.gmfa.org.uk/national and click on the city of your choice.

EASTENDERS ACTOR ABUSED

Marc Elliott, the actor who plays gay Muslim Syed in Eastenders, has revealed he gets regular abuse in the street for playing the role.

Marc said: "Since playing Syed I have really got it in the neck when I'm out. A lot of people are supportive but there is still a huge amount of negativity. I haven't been threatened but there's a lot of cat-calling in the street. Any insult, I've had it thrown at me."

But he added that he valued the opportunity to play the character.