

Gay Times is first sold in high street stores (1995)

Gay Times is a magazine aimed at gay men. It was first sold by the John Menzies Newsagent chain in 1995.

The first gay March is held in the UK (1971)

The first gay march in the UK took place in London, ending with a rally in Trafalgar Square protesting against the uneven age of consent for gay men (which at this stage were 21).

Sexual Orientation, Religion or Belief Anti-Discrimination Act (2003)

The first time LGB people are protected from discrimination and harassment on the basis of homophobia, in the work place

The first gay TV series is shown (1979)

Gay Life was the first ever gay television series. It was commissioned by London Weekend Television.

Trans people were given the right to change their gender 'definitively and for all purposes' (2004)

In 2004 transgender people were given the right to be heard before a 'gender recognition panel' to apply for a 'Gender Recognition Certificate'. In order that they are awarded one they had to show that they could answer 'yes' to at least three of these questions 1) Has the person taken decisive steps to live in the gender which they believe to be more appropriate? 2) Do they intend to live in that gender until they die? 3) Have they been medically diagnosed as having gender dysphoria? 4) Have they undergone any medical treatment?

The age of consent for gay men is lowered to 16 (2001)

Despite the fact that in 1998 an overwhelming majority of MP's voted to lower the age of consent to 16, the clause was defeated later that year by the House of Lords. Thus the age of consent was not actually reduced to 16 until 2001.

Oscar Wilde is sentenced to 2 years at Reading Gaol (1895)

Wilde was convicted for Gross Indecency.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oscar_Wilde

The first Pride parade and carnival is held in London (1972)

The first Pride parade was called Gay Pride.

The attempt to make sexual acts between women illegal fails (1921)

The Lords were concerned that if such a law were to be passed they would be unable to identify women who were lesbian and that by making it illegal more people would learn about it and may partake themselves!

David Copeland bombs the Admiral Duncan in Brixton (1999)

David Copeland set off three nail bombs in London. The first targeted black people in Brixton. Copeland said he hated them, yet he did not know a single black person. The second targeted Asian people in Brick Lane. The third device targeted lesbian and gay people at the Admiral Duncan Pub, in Soho. In each attack people were killed or hurt who were not of the target group. One of the fatalities at The Admiral Duncan was a young, pregnant, heterosexual woman.

The World Health Organisation finally deletes 'homosexuality' from its International Classification of Diseases (1990)

In 1981, the Parliamentary Council for the assembly of Europe passed resolution 756 which called on the World Health Organisation (WHO) to remove homosexuality from the list of its international classification of diseases. After 9 years of lobbying by ILGA (International Lesbian and Gay Association) it was finally done on May 17th 1990. This is why we celebrate IDAHO (International Day Against Homophobia) in May each year. www.idaho.org.uk

First Civil Partnerships are held (2005)

The first civil partnerships in the UK took place in Northern Ireland on 19th Dec 2005, followed by Scotland on 20th Dec and England/ Wales on the 21st Dec 2005.

Stonewall Riots (1969)

A riot took place at the Stonewall Inn in New York on 27th/28th June 1969 after the police raided gay bar 'The Stonewall Inn'. The event led LGBT people in New York to rebel against an unfair police system which victimised LGBT people. The riot is generally considered to have been started by a transgender person, Sylvia Rivera. Rioting continued in some form for 5 days. It led to reforms in the way that LGBT people were treated in New York and twelve months later they held the first ever pride march.

The Terrence Higgins Trust is founded (1982)

The trust was named after the first gay man believed to have died with AIDS in the UK.

The Goods and Services Act makes it illegal for LGB people to be discriminated against by people providing a service. (2007)

The legislation applies to schools as well as commercial, public and voluntary organisations. In practice, it means that a hotel owner cannot refuse to let a double room to a same-sex couple, and that schools must include SRE information for LGB students alongside that designed for heterosexual students.

The age of consent for gay men was reduced to 18 (1994)

Following much campaigning action by several gay groups the age of consent was lowered. However, there was much disappointment that it remained at 18, 2 years older than the age of consent for heterosexual young people.

The term 'homosexuality' is first used (1869)

Your starter task ☺: When did these key events in LGBT History take place?

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