

Greenbow Messages:



Dublin Pride Week:

Dublin Pride Week started on 17th June. Many events had Sign language interpreters provided: Pride Debate, GLEN's discussion on LGBT mental health, the Pride Parade Concert, Ceremony of Love and Remembrance and finally Pride Bingo at the George. All the members who attended these events said they enjoyed them. The Dublin Gay Pride Parade was held on Saturday, 25th June with 25,000 people marching down the streets to celebrate their pride! It was the biggest Dublin Gay Pride Parade ever! Eight deaf stewards were there to look after Deaf Greenbow/DLF members during the parade and the Pride Concert. Greenbow and Deaf Lesbian Festival hired a red convertible car for the parade, which was a big hit with many people taking pictures of it.

Greenbow Sports Day :

Greenbow Sports Day was held at the Papal Cross, Phoenix Park, on Sunday, 2nd July. A good number of members attended the sports day. The weather was beautiful and everyone enjoyed fun sports on the fields of Phoenix Park. There were different sports and games, which everyone took part in. Hopefully Greenbow will organise another sports day next year.

Deaf Lesbian Festival:

Deaf Lesbian Festival was hosted in Dublin for first time on 22nd June. About 60 Deaf Lesbians joined the festival. The story of the DLF event is on page 3 of this newsletter. Enjoy the read!



Activities Weekend 26th to 28th August 2011 At Carlingford Adventure Centre, County Louth

Includes 2 continental breakfasts, 1 lunch, 1 evening meal, accommodation, 3 outdoor activities (dry and wet) and a coach to and from the adventure centre to Dundalk Station

Total cost: €185 per person

A deposit of €60 must be paid by 31st July, which is non-refundable. You may pay in full by 31st July if you wish.

Balance to be paid by 16th August

Limited to 20 people.

If you are interested in going on the activities weekend please contact Eddie Redmond, Hon Treasurer: 0872345744 or email redmond.eddie@gmail.com

Please see their website:
www.carlingfordadventure.com



Drugs and Alcohol Workshop

Date: Saturday, 17th September 2011
Venue: Outhouse, 105 Capel Street, Dublin 1
Time: 2-5pm

NORTHWEST PRIDE- SLIGO: 9TH TO 14TH AUGUST 2011

Friday 12th AUGUST

Outwest presents:

A Fine Function:

Table Quiz & Karaoke

With Ms Claudia Shifter, Scarlett Rose & Lucy Lashes followed by DJ.

Irish Sign Language (ISL) Interpreter provided - courtesy of Greenbow Deaf LGBT

Venue: Glasshouse Hotel, Sligo. Price €10 on the door. Doors open 7.30pm

Accommodation

If you want to stay at the University Campus in Sligo, the cost is 25 euro per night.

Please contact Greenbow: 0863671375 or deafgreenbowlgbt@yahoo.ie

Saturday 13th AUGUST

NORTHWEST PRIDE PARADE!!!

Assemble from 1pm at City Hall, Sligo Butterflies, Beauty and Bounce as we take to the streets in celebration of our lovely selves.

All friends, family and allies welcome! Bring your banners, your bubbles & join in the joy!

Parade moves off at 2.30pm sharp.

Post- Parade Chill-Out @ Glasshouse

Hotel 4 – 6pm

Relax in that post-parade glow and sample the Glasshouse's lovely menu.

'PRIDING HIGH' - THE PRIDE PARTY

With the fabulous **LOUNGE LIZARDS**, **Twanda**

Faux-Knightley & DJ

Proud Mary

Glasshouse Hotel. Doors open 10pm. Price

€12/€10 concessions

<http://northwestpride.wordpress.com/events>

GAZE: 19th Dublin International LGBT Film Festival
28th July to 1st August 2011

There will be new LGBT films shown at the festival:
Going South, Sea Purple, La Zombie, Who took the Bomp, Querelle, We Were Here, Romeos.

More information on Gaze website coming soon. Watch out for the LGBT films on their website: www.gaze.ie

OUTWEST DISCO

Mill times Hotel, Westport, Co Mayo

on Saturday Night, 24th September, 2011 at 10.30pm. Admission: €10 at the door!

Outwest website: www.outwestireland.ie/

If you want to stay at the hotel, see their website: www.milltimeshotel.ie

Ri Ra – Fun and Excitement together.....



.....at the first European Deaf Lesbian Festival 2011

Deaf Lesbian Festival was an exciting event organised by Irish Deaf lesbians (Sinead Braiden, Alvean Jones, Jane O'Brien, Tracey Treanor, and Michelle Goodwin with previous committee members Kavo Sharma and Elizabeth Fitzgerald) under Greenbow on June 22nd – 26th this year which was so important for us because it was our first time in Ireland organising such a huge event which is normally based in America.

Deaf Lesbian Festival (DLF) was established in 1998 in Rochester, New York to encourage Deaf lesbians to be united together and support each other as a deaf gay minority in the hearing world. From then on, the DLF event was held every two years in different states: New York, San Francisco, Texas, Long Island, Seattle, and forthcoming in Chicago in 2012. All the events were organised by Deaf led lesbians who organised a programme of workshops, cultural activities and social activities for four or five days. In San Francisco DLF 2008, international deaf participants were encouraged to host the first European DLF. We won the bid to host the first European DLF 2011 in Ireland!

In the past year, the committee of five deaf lesbians have been fundraising and advertising the event to try to gain funds and participants. Also we were setting up a website to show our programme, which you can have a look at: www.irishdlf.ie. Our aim was to bring Deaf lesbians together and celebrate our sexuality and our deaf culture. Not only that, we also wanted to empower Deaf lesbians and bisexual women of multicultural status by building social networks, raising awareness of discrimination issues faced in society by sharing emotional support and standing up for our human rights. About 70 women from nine countries: USA, UK, Ireland, Sweden, Portugal, Germany, Japan, Italy and Belgium, came to our exciting event!

On the first day we had Registration and the Opening Ceremony, where Sinead Braiden, the Chairperson, welcomed the participants with wine and refreshments and ice-breaker introductory games. Many participants were tired from the long journey to Dublin, so we bid them good night early!

They were up bright and early for our light workshops the next day: *Framing Gay Girls* and *Lesbian Erotica*, to share ideas and opinions, and that helped them get ready for their rewarding pint of Guinness at the Guinness Storehouse, which we arrived at by traditional Irish horse and cart. They were very impressed with the surprise alternative transport! The day ended with a showing of an old silent lesbian film from the 1920s and a trip to the pub to sample our Irish liquid delights!

On Friday we had not told the participants where we were going on our Mystery Tour until we were well away on the bus to Belfast where Shane Gilchrist and Paula Clarke showed them an historic, exciting tour around the City Hall, troubled areas and the shipping docklands. We had a late BBQ lunch in Carlingford in the rain; luckily we could shelter indoors! We ended up at a lesbian club that evening with free shots for everyone to dance the night away.

On Saturday morning we had two workshops: *Lesbian Networking in a Modern World* and *Wellness*, at Trinity College and then were ready for Gay Pride! We followed Greenbow's convertible red car where many deaf gay and straight supporters came to follow in the parade! The Lord Mayor at City Hall signed 'Ireland' when we passed and we were delighted at this! We ended up at the Pride Party at Dublin City Council grounds where an interpreter signed to the music lyrics. In the evening we all dressed in polished reds for our Cherry Ball with red themed ballroom complete with complimentary red lights, cherry sweets and Irish cherry pottery plates for everyone and a huge cherry in the room. At the ball there were some Deaf performers: a comedian Pinky Aiello (USA), a song signer Jayne Fletcher (UK) and Irish pole dancers!

On Sunday, we allowed everyone a lie in with a late start at Trinity College with biddings for the next European DLF. It was voted that we change the name to "International Deaf Lesbian Festival" to be clearer for the media, to have it bi-annually with USA having their own DLF in rotation. It was also voted that the next International DLF (IDLF) will be held in Belgium in 2013 after Chicago's DLF in 2012. We then had a historic tour around Trinity College and Book of Kells. Some people then made their long way home, but others bravely stayed awake for the Bingo Night at the George Pub, Ireland's oldest gay pub. There were interpreters there for the drag show and the bingo, but unfortunately no deaf won.



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It was a great success, which would not have been possible without all the support and sponsors we had to make this event memorable, so we wish to give a heartfelt thanks to all our sponsors: Greenbow, Irish Deaf Society, Irish Deaf Youth Association, Irish Deaf Sports Association, Irish Deaf Women's Group, Reads, Cineworld, Dublin City Council, Qlub, Stage Door Café, Dublin Lesbian Line, Outhouse, Dublin Pride, Pantibar, Irish Film Institute, IrishDeaf.com, Filmbase, and stage performers and ISL interpreters/International sign language interpreters.

GAY WORLD NEWS

Rhode Island Passes Civil Unions Bill

New York: Rhode Island approves bill that will allow same-sex couples to enter into civil unions.

This bill will grant couples in civil unions the same rights and benefits given to married couples under Rhode Island Law.

Senate President Teresa Paiva Weed, a notable opponent of gay marriage, spoke in favour of civil unions ahead of the vote, noting that it was a "historic day" for Rhode Island.

The bill was offered as a compromise this spring after Gordon Fox, the openly gay speaker of the Democratic-controlled House, declared he could not raise enough votes to pass a same-sex marriage bill.

However, Gay rights advocates believe the bill to be inadequate because of its allowance of religious organisations to not recognize the unions. For instance, a religious hospital could choose not to allow medical decisions to be made by a same-sex partner or a religious university could deny family medical leave to gay employees

Paiva Weed still trusts that the bill is still a worthy tradeoff as she discussed before the Senate Judiciary Committee, "We have moved one step in the right direction toward ensuring that individuals receive equal rights and protections under the law."

Source:
www.gcn.ie/Rhode_Island_Passes_Civil_Unions_Bill

Brad Pitt Celebrates NY's Marriage Equality



Actor Brad Pitt today sent a statement to *People* magazine lauding New York's recently passed gay marriage law.

It is encouraging that New York has joined the movement to grant equal marriage rights to its citizens. But it is each American's Constitutional right to marry the person they love, no matter what state they inhabit.

No state should decide who can marry and who cannot. Thanks to the tireless work of so many, someday soon this discrimination will end and every American will be able to enjoy their equal right to marriage.

Pitt, who has said he won't marry Angelina Jolie until everyone can marry the person they love, also donated \$100,000 of his own money to fight California's anti-gay Proposition 8.

Source:
www.towleroad.com/2011/07/brad-pitt-celebrates-nys-marriage-equality.html

A Famous Gay Quote

"I didn't choose the fact that I was gay, but I did choose whether to live my life as a gay woman-that was the terrifying thing for me. Especially being a gay actress."

Portia De Rossi, a former star of TV Comedy Ally McBeal and partner of Ellen Degeneres.

BECOME A MEMBER OF GREENBOW

If you want to become a member of Greenbow, please contact our secretary, Dominic McGreal, for a membership form or download a membership form from our website.

Address: Greenbow, 105 Capel Street, Dublin 1.

Mobile Text: 086-3671375 Email: deafgreenbowlgbt@yahoo.ie

Website: www.greenbowdeaf.com

Our office hours are Mon-Fri, 2-5pm