

University of St Andrews LGBT Alumni Association Newsletter - Winter 2010/2011

Introduction

Dear members,

Welcome to the University of St Andrews LGBT Alumni Association's newsletter.

We have news for you about our events since our foundation at our inaugural meeting following the graduation ceremonies of June 2009 and details of some events coming up soon. We also have an update for you from the LGBT Society.

We are pleased to report that membership has been growing steadily. We now have a growing international membership of graduates from the 1970s until the present day.

We have held meetings in Scotland to-date but, as our membership now has a broader spread, we plan to hold events in other parts of the UK in the coming year and may well plan for events abroad in the future if there is demand from our members.

We hope that the coming year will take us from strength to strength and we will be in touch again soon with more news.

We are always keen to hear from our members so please contact us if you have any suggestions to make.

Yours,

The Organising Committee

Edinburgh Pride 2009

Our first summer meeting was held at Edinburgh Pride in June 2009. Members who attended enjoyed the festivities during the day and were entertained by a drag act in Edinburgh's premiere cabaret bar, Priscilla's, in the evening.

Annual Reunion Dinner 2009/10

December 2009 saw our first annual reunion dinner in Edinburgh's pink triangle. About a dozen members and their guests came along and enjoyed the gathering, which was followed by a pub crawl around the Scottish capital's gay bars. See photograph below.

Glasgow Pride 2010

Our summer meeting this year was in Glasgow during July and coincided with the annual Pride celebrations. This event was a great success and the members who came along enjoyed the lively and colourful atmosphere in Glasgow's gay-friendly Merchant City.

Update from the LGBT Society

Hello Alumni! We hope you're all well! We thought we'd get in touch to let you know what LGBT Soc has been up to this year!

We've been using Venue 2 in the Union as our venue this year. It's a far cry from the bright lights of the Mansfield but we've been making good use of the bar and the sound system. We've continued using the Vic for parties and have invited DJs from GHQ to provide the tunes! The opening party and Halloween party were both fab nights - we managed to find all the components of 'The Village People' amongst the costumes at the Halloween party (Theme: 'Drag up the Dead') and we're currently recruiting a Santa for our grotto at the Christmas party!

This year we've had various events to support Stonewall's 'Education for All' campaign and





during Semester Two, we'll be holding some fundraisers for the campaign, which seeks to tackle homophobic bullying in schools. We'll also be teaming up with the Student Representatives' Council to put on some university-wide events for LGBT History Month.

Last month, 20 members of the society headed to Madrid for the annual LesGaiCineMad film festival! As in previous years, this trip was a mix of films, clubbing and site-seeing, and it was a brilliant way to spend the first weekend of reading week!

Last week we held an EGM and we're really excited to have Dylan as our new society treasurer. He is an evening degree student in St Andrews and is also a professional drag queen so stay tuned for a drag show in Semester Two!

We've been having a great time organising everything and you are always welcome to come back to visit – we appreciate the support!

Rob & Dani
President & Vice-President, LGBT Soc

Annual Reunion Dinner 2010/11

This year's event will be held in Manchester on the evening of Saturday the 22nd of January. A dinner will be arranged in a restaurant and will be followed by some pubbing and clubbing on Manchester's famous Canal Street. Please contact the Association to book your place, preferably by New Year.

Summer 2011

If you would like to suggest a particular Pride festival that you would wish to see the Association organise an event at during the coming summer, please get in touch. We are always keen to take suggestions from our members and to arrange events to suit as many as possible.

Organising Committee

The Association is run by an informal organising committee, which communicates electronically to arrange our events. The committee is open to all members of the Association so please contact us if you would like to join it and help out.

Alumnus Chronicle

The LGBT Alumni Association is now a well-established and recognised group and we place an annual notice in the *Alumnus Chronicle*, which is sent out to all St Andrews alumni. Please look out for the date of our 2011/12 reunion dinner when you receive your copy in June.

Membership

Thank you for supporting the Association by having taken out life time membership. We would encourage you to let your St Andrews LGBT alumni friends know about the Association and encourage them to pay the one-off £10 fee for membership. The funds raised go towards production and postage of our newsletters and towards the maintenance of our website.

Contact

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Facebook Group: University of St Andrews LGBT Alumni Association