

# Queer Histories and Identities in the UK

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Timeline for LGBT History Month February 2019

# 1897

first homosexual rights  
groups formed, the  
Scientific-  
Humanitarian  
Committee and the  
Order of Chaeronea



# 1913

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word “faggot”  
first used in  
print to  
reference gays

*“All the fagots [sic]  
(sissies) will be dressed in  
drag tonight”*

# 1951

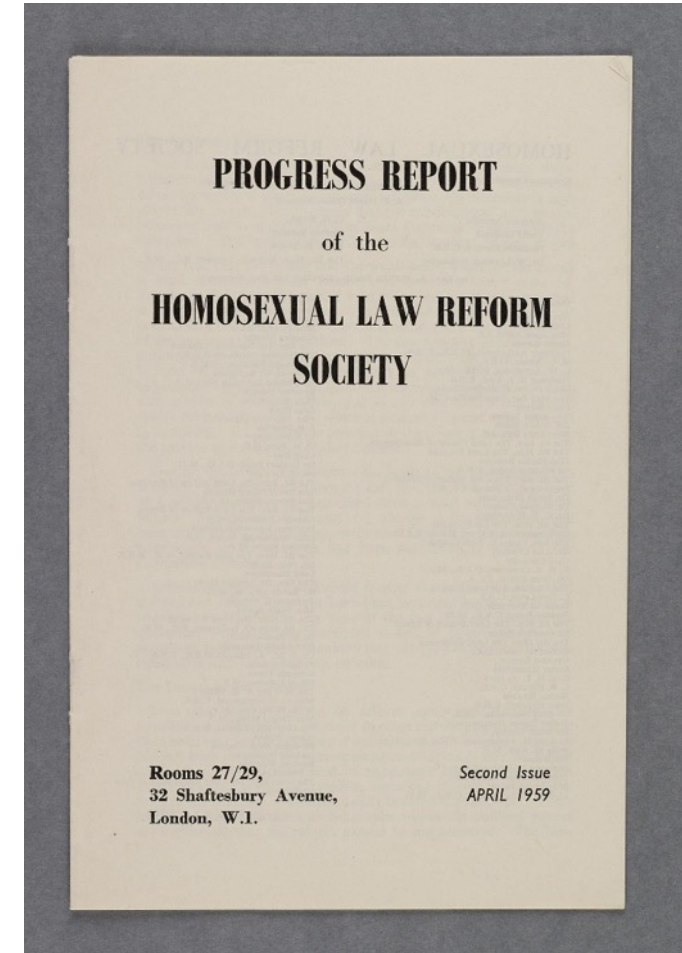
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first known British  
trans woman,  
Roberta Cowell,  
underwent  
reassignment  
surgery & changed  
her birth certificate



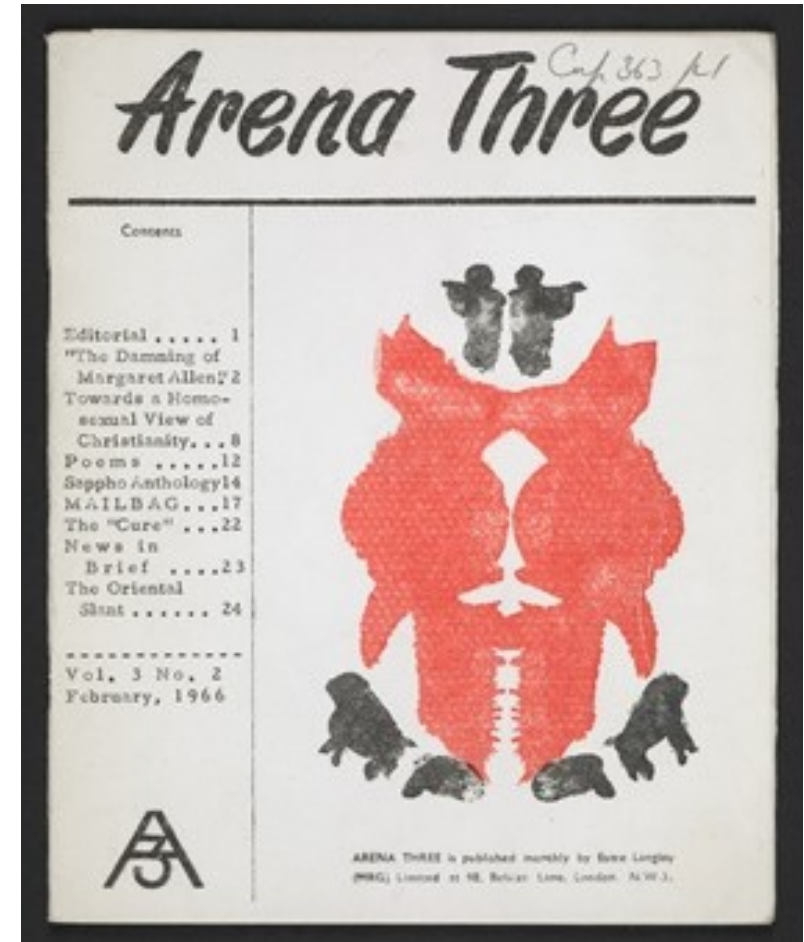
# 1958

Homosexual Law Reform  
Society founded and  
campaigns for the  
legalization of same-sex  
relationships in the UK



# 1963

Minorities Research Group became the UK's first lesbian social and political organisation; eventually published a monthly journal, *Arena Three*





# 1966

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The Beaumont Society,  
a trans support group,  
founded to promote  
information, education,  
and research



# 1967

The Sexual Offences Act decriminalized homosexuality in England, though it remained illegal in the Merchant Navy, Armed Forces, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Channel Islands, or the Isle of Man





# 1969

LGBT community members responded to a police raid on the Stonewall Inn with a series of spontaneous acts of violence known as the “Stonewall Riots”



# 1972

first Pride held  
in London with  
approximately  
2,000  
participants



# 1974

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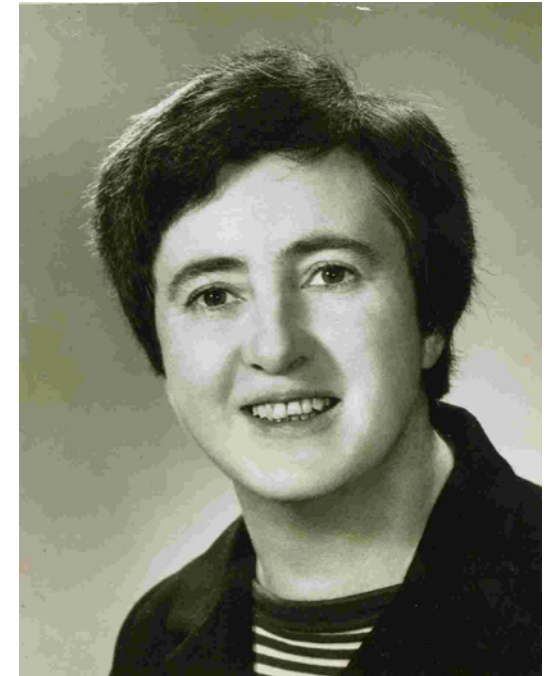
London Lesbian and  
Gay Switchboard,  
an information and  
support helpline,  
established



# 1974

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Maureen Colquhoun  
becomes the UK's first  
openly lesbian  
Member of Parliament



# 1978

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creation of the  
rainbow flag as a  
symbol of gay  
and lesbian pride





# 1980

the UK's first  
Black Gay  
and Lesbian  
Group formed





# 1982

first UK AIDs  
charity, the Terry  
Higgins Trust, is  
established after  
the death of Terry  
Higgins from AIDs



# 1984

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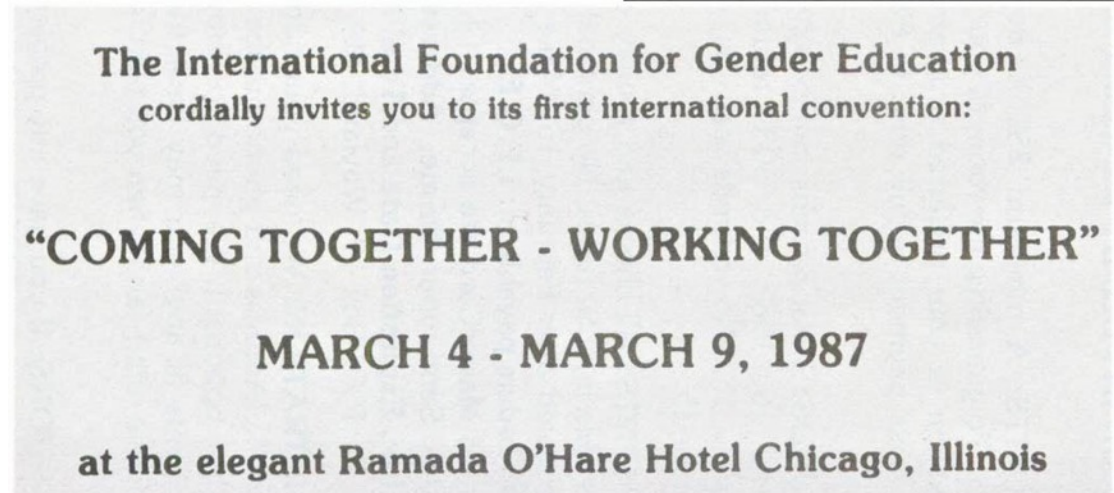
Chris Smith  
becomes the  
UK's first  
openly gay MP



# 1987

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International  
Foundation for Gender  
Education (IFGE)  
founded to promote  
acceptance for  
transgender people



# 1988

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Section 28 of the Local Government Act 1988 introduced restricting LGBT+ education; abolished in 2000 in Scotland and repealed in 2003 in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland

stated that a local authority,

*“shall not intentionally promote homosexuality or publish material with the intention of promoting homosexuality,”*

or

*“promote the teaching in any maintained school of the acceptability of homosexuality as a pretended family relationship”*

# 1990

OutRage is formed in response to the murders of five gay men; called for police to begin protection of gay and bi men, rather than arresting them

**EQUALITY NOW!**

**STUFF**

**SECTION 28**

**OUTRAGE!**

**HOMO PROMO**

☆ SAMPLE A "FREE TRIAL OFFER" OF HOMOSEXUALITY  
☆ HEAR THE STORIES OF STRAIGHTS TURNED QUEER  
☆ REJOICE AT BEING SAVED FROM HETERO HELL

***Demand The Tories Repeal Section 28***

Section 28 has been used by local authorities more than 35 times to deny lesbian and gay applications for grants and facilities. Many teachers are now afraid to give factual information about homosexuality in class.

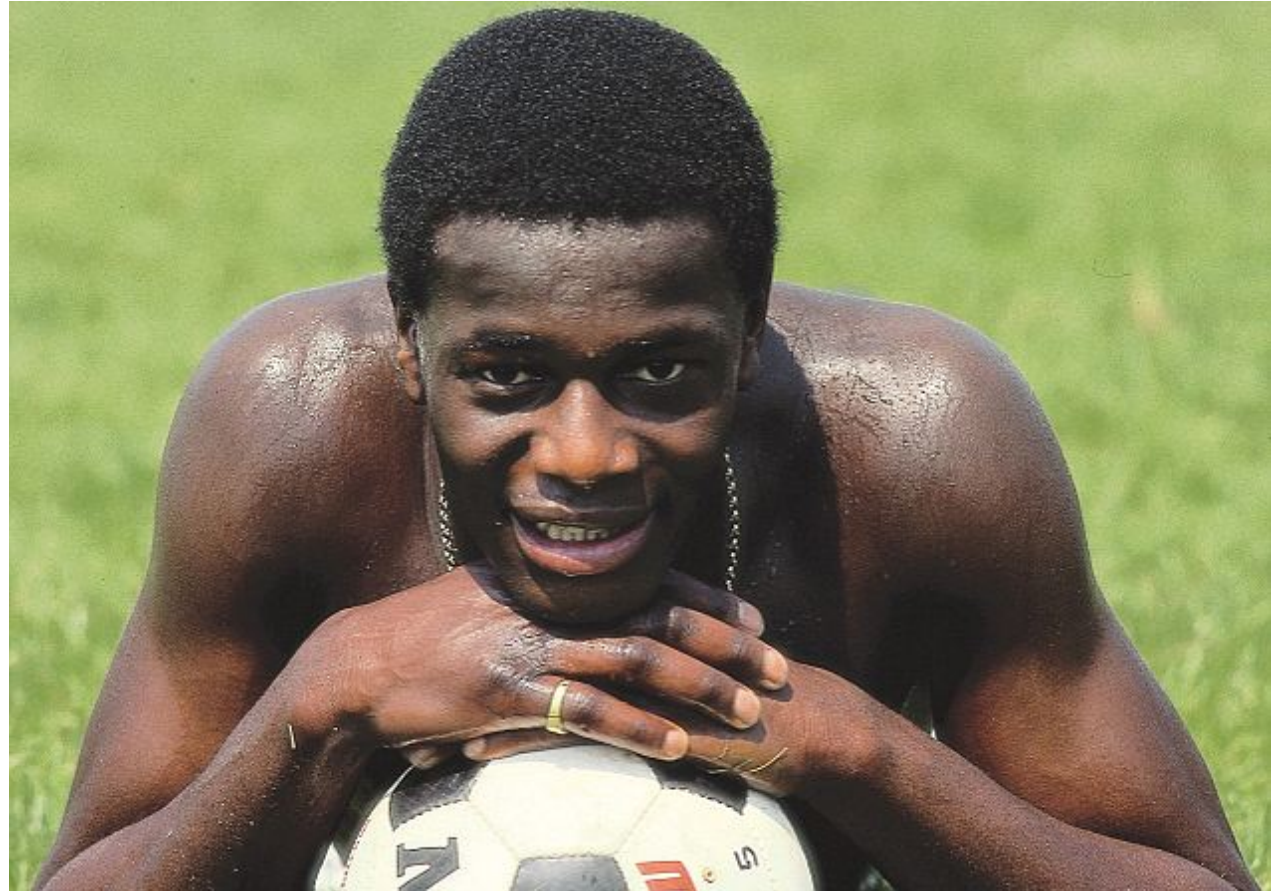
**1pm THURSDAY 30th APRIL**  
**Tory Party HQ, Smith Sq, SW1 (Westminster tube)**

printed by OUTRAGE! LLGC, 87-89 Cowcross Street, London EC1M 6BP tel: 071 490 7153  
Weekly meetings held in LLGC every Thursday night 7-9. ALL WELCOME.

# 1990

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First professional footballer came out as gay, Justin Fashanu; later committed suicide





# 1991

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the first formal  
meeting between the  
UK Prime Minister  
(John Major) and  
LGBT activists



# 1992

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murder of Marsha P. Johnson, an African American transgender woman who was also an LGBTQ activist and advocate for trans people of colour



# 1995

UK charity, Mermaids,  
founded to offer  
resources to young  
people, their families and  
carers, and professional  
working with gender  
variant young people



# 1997

UK Government  
recognized  
same-sex  
partners for  
immigration  
purposes





# 1998

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Waheed Alli became the first openly gay member of the House of Lords and one of a few openly gay Muslims



# 1999

the Admiral Duncan,  
a gay pub in Soho, is  
bombed, with 3  
people killed and at  
least 70 wounded





# 2002

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equal rights granted  
to same-sex  
couples applying  
for adoption



# 2003

Employment Equality  
(Sexual Orientation)  
Regulations become UK  
law, illegalising  
discrimination against  
lesbians, gay and bi  
people in the workplace



# 2004

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Civil Partnership  
Act 2004 passed,  
granting same-sex  
unions certain  
rights in the UK



2005, Christopher Cramp and Matthew Roche, the first couple to complete a Civil Partnership in the UK. Mr. Roche died from cancer the next day.

# 2004

the Gender Recognition Act 2004 gave trans\* persons legal recognition of their gender, with rights to a new birth certification, but listed options remain limited to a binary “male” or “female”



# 2005

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*Education for All*  
campaign launched to  
address homophobic  
bullying in schools





# 2007

“Some People Are  
Gay. Get Over It!”  
campaign launched  
by Stonewall



# 2011

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UK Courts rule in favour of a gay couple refused a double room by a bed and breakfast in 2008



# 2013

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## Marriage (Same-Sex Couples) Act passed in England and Wales



Teresa Millward and Helen Brearley



# 2013

First Trans  
Pride event  
took place  
in Brighton



# 2015

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US  
legalised  
same-sex  
marriage





# 2016

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49 are dead and 53 injured in a shooting at Pulse, a gay nightclub in the US



# 2016

Prince William appears on the cover of gay magazine *Attitude* stating that “no one should be bullied because of their sexuality”



# 2018

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Scotland embedded  
LGBTI teaching  
throughout national  
curriculum



# 2020

Same-sex marriage became legal in Northern Ireland, the last country in the British Isles to grant marriage equality

