

## Wolverhampton LGBT Network celebrates LGBT History Month 2007 five decades

**L lesbian** - A woman who has a sexual relationship with another woman.

**G gay** - A person who has same-sex relationships, usually applies to men.

**B bisexual** - A person who has relationships with men and women. Some of the people here are true bi-sexual, some have lived parts of their lives with opposite sex partners and parts with same sex partners.

**T trans** - All sorts of people!

- People who dress like the opposite sex
- People live their lives as members of the opposite sex
- People who want to change their gender by surgery

Like everybody else, trans people may be gay or may be straight.

**Wolverhampton LGBT Network meets on the first Monday of most months. For more details phone Terence Higgins Trust on 01902 711818 or see [www.lgbtwolverhampton.org.uk](http://www.lgbtwolverhampton.org.uk)**

## the sixties

### **L Rachel Carson**

Rachel is a famous environmentalist. She is most famous for writing *The Silent Spring* (1962) which alerted the world to environmental pollution and the dangers of DDT. She started the world-wide awareness of the dangers of environmental pollution.

### **G Andy Warhol**

Andy is remembered as an artist and film maker. In 1962 his picture of a Campbell's soup can which shot him into public attention. He started working with film in 1963 and with silk screen prints from photos. He died while being operated on for gall bladder trouble and left \$500M.

### **B Joan Baez**

Joan was a peace activist and worked for Martin Luther King. She discovered the unknown Bob Dylan. She became famous for writing and singing protest songs against the Viet Nam war. She was in the first *Live Aid* concert.

### **T April Ashley**

April was born George Jamieson. In 1952 he went on the Paris stage. In 1960 he had a sex change and became April. She became a photographic model until she was outed by the *Sunday People*.

## the seventies

### **G Freddie Mercury**

Freddie helped found the group *Queen*. In 1975 their record *Killer Queen* won an **Ivor Novello** Award. Freddie died of an AIDS related illness. *Bohemian Rhapsody* was re-released and became the best selling U.K. single ever.

### **B Richard O'Brien**

Richard worked in film and theatre and as a jazz musician. He married twice and has three kids. Richard's one and only big stage hit was *The Rocky Horror Show* which came out in 1973. Presenter of TVs *The Crystal Maze*.

### **T Wendy Carlos**

Wendy was born Walter and became a successful concert organist. In the 1960s he became famous for experimenting with electronic music. His *Switched on Bach* was a million seller. 1979 Walter became Wendy.

### **L Pat Arrowsmith**

Pat is a peace campaigner. She has been involved with C.N.D., the Aldermaston Marches, the Greenham Common protests and Amnesty International. She is also known as a novelist, poet and artist.

## the eighties

### **B** Denholm Elliot

Denholm was a stage and film actor, appearing in over eighty films. He married twice. He lived a straight life with his family and a gay life in London with his two regular gay lovers. He won three BAFTAs.

### **T** Georgina Beyer

Georgina was born George Bertrand, of Maori origin. George was transgendered in 1984 to become Georgina. She became a councillor and MP. She hopes to become a world-wide gay and trans activist.

### **L** Maggie Hambling

Maggie made a name for herself as a painter and sculptor. She was the first artist in residence at the National Gallery in London. In 1995 Maggie was awarded an O.B.E.

### **G** David Geffen

David is a film and music producer. He founded *Asylum Records* and *Geffen Records*. With Stephen Spielberg and Jeffrey Katzenberg, David runs the *DreamWorks* movie studio. He set up a foundation to support AIDS work and the arts. He was declared to be the world's richest openly gay man. In 2006 David sold a Jackson Pollock picture for \$140M.

## the nineties

### **T** Brandon Teena

Brandon was born female and chose to live life as a male. His details were leaked to the local press by the police. After two local men beat and raped Brandon, the town's sheriff refused to investigate Brandon's complaint against them. A week later they shot him dead and eventually the authorities had to act. Subject of the film *Boys Don't Cry*.

### **L** Ellen de Generes

Ellen is a stand-up comic and entertainer. She had a very popular television series *Ellen*. Ellen is now the host of a chat show and in 2004 won four Emmys for this show.

### **G** Ian Roberts

Ian was an Australian professional rugby player. In 1988 he was the highest paid player in the world. After he retired from the professional game in 1991 he came out as gay. He is now working as an actor.

### **B** Carol Ann Duffy

Carol is a Scottish poet and playwright. She was the partner of the poet and painter Adrian Henri in the 1980s in Liverpool. Carol was the long-term partner of the writer Jackie Kay and they have one daughter. Carol is a poet and playwright and in 1995 was awarded an O.B.E.

## the noughties

### **L** Amelie Mauresmo

Amelie is a French professional tennis player. She toured the world with her girlfriend Sylvie Bourdon until 2001 when they split up. Amelie's game began to fall apart around then. In 2006 she was the Wimbledon Women's Champion.

### **G** Will Young

Will has a degree in Politics. He won the ITV talent show *Pop Idol* in 2002 and had a number one hit. He then came out as gay. He has gone on to act in a film and continues to be a successful entertainer.

### **B** Jaci Taylor

Jaci was married and has two kids. She separated and set up home with Felicity Roberts. She became a Plaid Cymru councillor in Aberystwyth. In 2000 she was elected mayor with Felicity as her mayoress.

### **T** Eddie Izzard

Eddie is an entertainer, married with kids, and he dresses as a woman. He started as a stand up comedian and has appeared in the odd film. In 2000 Eddie won two Emmys for outstanding performer and writer of a variety show, *Dressed to Kill*. In 2001 he took over the organisation of Amnesty International's British fund-raising concert.