



Unite the union

CELEBRATING LGBT HISTORY MONTH

February 2010



<p>1290 - Punishment for homosexuality was first mentioned in English common law.</p>	<p>1885 - Labouchere Amendment known as 'The Blackmailer's Charter' made homosexual acts illegal.</p>	<p>1895 - Oscar Wilde was sentenced to 2 years imprisonment with hard labour, setting a precedent for the treatment of gay men in 20th century.</p> 	<p>1951 - Roberta Cowell, the first known male-to-female trans person underwent surgery. She was able to legally change her name and gender.</p> 	<p>1957 - Wolfenden Report made recommendations on legalisation of homosexuality for consenting adults over 21 in private. The British Homosexual Law Reform Society, founded the following year, campaigned for the introduction of these recommendations.</p>	<p>1964 - <i>Arena Three</i>, the first lesbian magazine (1964 private subscription, 1969 from newsagents) was published by Minorities Research Group.</p> 	<p>1967 - Homosexual acts in private for consenting adults over 21 was decriminalised in England and Wales.</p> <p>Committee for Homosexual Equality was formed.</p>	<p>1970 - London Gay Liberation Front (GLF) was founded.</p> <p>First UK gay demonstration took place in London.</p>	<p>1972 - <i>Gay News</i>, the first UK gay newspaper was founded.</p> <p>First UK Pride carnival and march took place in London to raise awareness of LGBT discrimination and promote understanding and cooperation.</p> 
<p>1973 - First national gay rights conference organised by Campaign for Homosexual Equality was held in Morecombe.</p> <p>GLF set up a helpline, the first of its kind.</p> 	<p>1974 - 1st national lesbian conference.</p> <p>1st International Gay Rights Conference was held in Edinburgh which led to the formation of ILGA, International Lesbian and Gay Association in 1978.</p> <p>Founding of 'Schools Out', campaigning for LGBT equality in education.</p> <p>Scottish Minority Group was formed.</p>	<p>1979 - Women's Liberation Movement held its first lesbian conference.</p> <p>Gay Life, the first ever gay TV series, commissioned by London Weekend Television.</p>	<p>During the 80's a number of unions set up lesbian and gay (later to include bisexual and trans) structures to give a voice and take action on LGBT equality.</p> 	<p>1980 - Male homosexuality was decriminalised in Scotland and in Northern Ireland in 1982.</p> <p>The first black lesbian & gay groups were founded.</p> 	<p>1982 - Terrence Higgins Trust was launched, named after the man thought to be the first to have died with AIDS in the UK.</p> <p>Following the case of Jeff Dudgeon, gay activist in Belfast, male homosexual acts were decriminalised in Northern Ireland.</p>	<p>1985 - South Wales miners joined the Pride march to thank lesbian and gay people for their support during their strike.</p> <p>The TUC & Labour Party adopted lesbian and gay equal rights policies.</p>	<p>1988 - The first national conference for lesbians and gay men with disabilities.</p> <p>Section 28 made it illegal for local authorities to "intentionally promote homosexuality". This was repealed in 2000 in Scotland and 2003 in the rest of the UK.</p> 	<p>1989 - European Gay and Lesbian Sport Federation was founded.</p> <p>Stonewall Group was set up in response to Section 28.</p> 
<p>1990 - 'Outrage!' was founded by Peter Tatchell and others to challenge homophobia and safeguard the human and sexual rights of LGBT people.</p> 	<p>1992 - Press for Change, a campaigning organisation for trans people was formed.</p> <p>London hosted first Europride.</p> <p>World Health Org. removed homosexuality from its classification of illnesses.</p>	<p>1997 - Equality Network founded in Scotland working for LGBT rights and equality.</p> <p>Angela Eagle, became the first 'out' lesbian MP.</p> 	<p>1998 - First TUC Lesbian and Gay Conference which became LGBT in 2002.</p> 	<p>2000- The age of consent was equalised for gay men at 16.</p> <p>"Betty's Bus" (Betty Gallacher - Chair of Unite's National LGBT Committee) became a much loved and permanent fixture on Pride marches.</p> 	<p>2003- After years of lobbying, particularly by the trade union movement, finally discrimination at work on grounds of sexual orientation became illegal.</p>	<p>2004 - Sexual Offences Act sweeps away the Victorian Laws making male homosexual acts punishable.</p> <p>Recognition of homophobic assault as a "hate crime".</p> <p>Legal right for trans people to live in their identified gender and change the sex on their birth certificate.</p> 	<p>2005- First LGBT History Month took place to mark and celebrate the lives and achievements of LGBT people.</p> <p>Same sex partners could legally register their partnership with equal rights to benefits, housing, inheritance, immigration, pensions etc.</p> 	



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Campaigning for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans members

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