

Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/

celebrating the lives and times of rainbow folk in Grand River country

Guelph Gay Equality Newsletter → Guelph Gay & Lesbian Equality Newsletter → Guelph Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Equality Newsletter

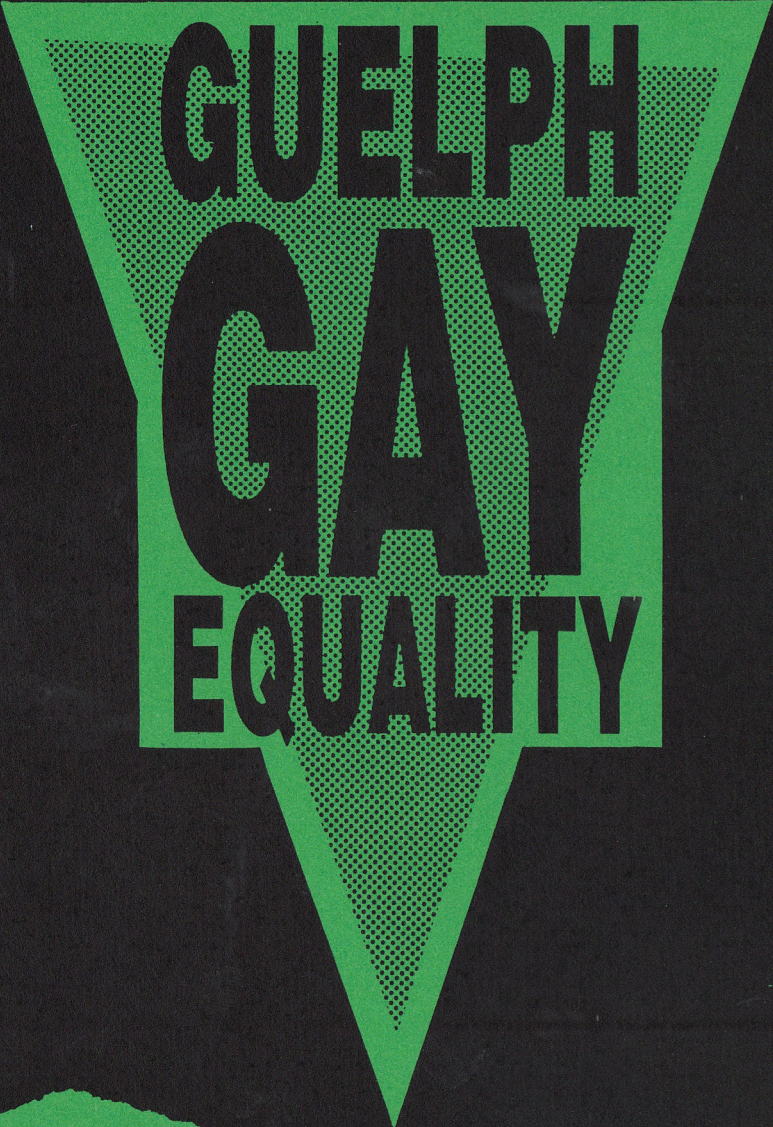
Publishing History: Issued by **Guelph Gay Equality (GGE)** from 1977, May - 1990, August. Issued by **Guelph Gay & Lesbian Equality (GGLE)** from 1990, September - 1993, April. Issued by **Guelph Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Equality (GGLBE)** from 1993, May - 1995, September.

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**GUELPH
GAY
EQUALITY**

NEWSLETTER FOR DECEMBER 1989

DAVE GRANT

Fundraising/Support Coordinator

A.C.G.W.C.
21 Orono St.
Guelph, ON
N1E 6L9

Telephone
(519) 763-2255

Give out free condoms to the poor, group urges

under the AIDS shadow

PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS

Mary Jones, 35 Wells Drive
BRAMPTON, Ontario, L6W 1H7
(416) 451-4570

EQUAL RIGHTS AND FREE CONDOMS In a package of recommendations designed in part to fight AIDS, the Ontario Public Health Association during its annual meeting in November endorsed strong and insightful resolutions, "aimed at making Canada a more healthy society." Recommendations included free condoms to the poor, giving the same legal rights to homosexual spouses as those enjoyed by heterosexual couples, limited anonymous HIV testing, condoms and clean needles for prison inmates, and expanded home care for people with AIDS. Joan Anderson, president of the Canadian AIDS Society and a member of the PHA suggested that these are realistic and possible recommendation. The Toronto Star 112189

SPECIAL THANKS Mary and Larry Jones, the founders of Parent and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) in Brampton were in Guelph in November and spoke at a GGE meeting. The meeting was attended by about 60 people including 3 members who were accompanied by their parents. Mary and Larry said that this was the largest gay group they have spoken to outside of an engagement with Lesbian and Gay Youth in Toronto. The Jones look forward to coming to Guelph every year and they are certainly well received. It was, for many (all) a warm, dynamic, informative, and supportive evening and we look forward to sharing the experience again next year. On June 10, 1990 Mary and Larry have been invited back to the University of Guelph to speak to a symposium directed toward health care professionals.

Once again I would like to thank the Jones, the parents who attended and all the people who came out - it was great!

AIDS COMMITTEE The Aids Committee of Guelph & Wellington County is a community based service established to provide educational and support resources for persons affected by HIV/AIDS in Guelph & Wellington County.

Our office hours are Monday to Friday 9 am to 5 pm. Counselling and educational materials are available including library reference books, brochures and referral services. The AIDS Committee also has a speaker bureau available to interested community groups. Support services provide direct client services on an individual or groups basis, utilizing staff and trained volunteers to meet the practical and emotional needs of our client population. Volunteers are involved as "buddies" who are matched on a one to one basis with clients or as practical assistants to clients. Future plans include a Body Positive Group for individuals who want to learn how to cope more effectively with testing positive.

Body Positive Groups

The support program of the AIDS Committee of Guelph and Wellington County will be offering a Body Positive Discussion Support Group for individuals who want to learn how to cope more effectively with testing positive. The group will run weekly for eight sessions with attendance limited to ten members, plus two facilitators.

Topics which will be covered in the group include:

- basic medical facts about HIV;
- treatment and health care;
- accessing health care;
- developing a personal wellness program;
- dealing with fears and stresses related to HIV;
- telling others about being HIV positive; and
- safer sex practices.

If you have tested positive and are interested in joining this group, please call Deborah Azim, Support Coordinator. All call received are strictly confidential.

If you would like more information about the support program of the A.C.G.W.C. or if you would like to access any of the services available through support, please call Deborah Azim, Support Co-ordinator at 763-2255, or by visiting our offices in person.

All services provided by the AIDS Committee of Guelph & Wellington County are strictly **CONFIDENTIAL**.

A.C.G.W.C. upcoming events:

December 1st is WORLD AIDS DAY. To celebrate, the A.C.G.W.C. is holding an official opening of our new offices. Invitations will have gone out to the G.G.E. executive and Members and we would welcome your attendance!

ALSO...In conjunction with WORLD AIDS DAY, we are pleased to co-present the New Zealand film "A DEATH IN THE FAMILY". A story of a PWA, his friends and family in the final stages of his life.

WHERE: The BOOKSHELF CINEMA, 41 Quebec St., Guelph. SCREENING TIMES @ 7:00 and 8:15 pm. Call 821-9271 for more details.

Volunteers and monetary donation\$ are always needed and appreciated. If you would like to help us fulfill our mandate please give our office a call.

Currently ideas are being looked at for future Fundraising and Community outreach activities. If you would like to get involved in either the planning or execution of these events, please call Dave Grant, Volunteer Co-ordinator/Fundraiser at our regular office number.

The AIDS Committee of Guelph & Wellington County would like to thank all the Members and the executive of Guelph Gay Equality, for their recent financial contribution. Your kindness and generosity are appreciated. Also a big THANK YOU to all those GGE members who are offering their valuable time in volunteering with us. I am sure we will have no trouble making use of your collective talents!

If we can be of any assistance to you, or if your groups require any further information on the AIDS Committee of Guelph & Wellington County please feel free to contact us!

Dave Grant

Volunteer Co-ordinator/Fundraiser

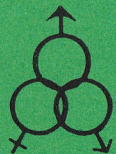
(519) 763-2255

A NOTE FROM OUR CO-ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR The year end is fast approaching. With that in mind we are thinking ahead, not only to the new year, but to a new decade as well. We have lots of ideas with regards to where we want to take the GGE. There is a lot more that we could be doing and areas that we are already working on that can be improved. But we need your input and support to bring these changes into being. The GGE can only work as well as the support its members provide. So if you have any bitches or ideas or complaints or suggestions or if you can help out in any way, then let us know. The Gay Nineties are almost here again. Let's really make it our decade!

David S.

MISCELLANEOUS AFFAIRS/EVENTS

A NEW CLUB ON CAMPUS The executive of the Guelph Gay Equality would like to acknowledge a new gay oriented club at the U of G. The Guelph Gay **Network** (please note the difference in names) is a small politically motivated group who aim to cater primarily to those gays and lesbians who are out and feel ready to take a stand on the political issues of the day. Meetings are held Mondays in room UC 344 and memberships are \$8. Our best wishes extend to Michele and the GGN.

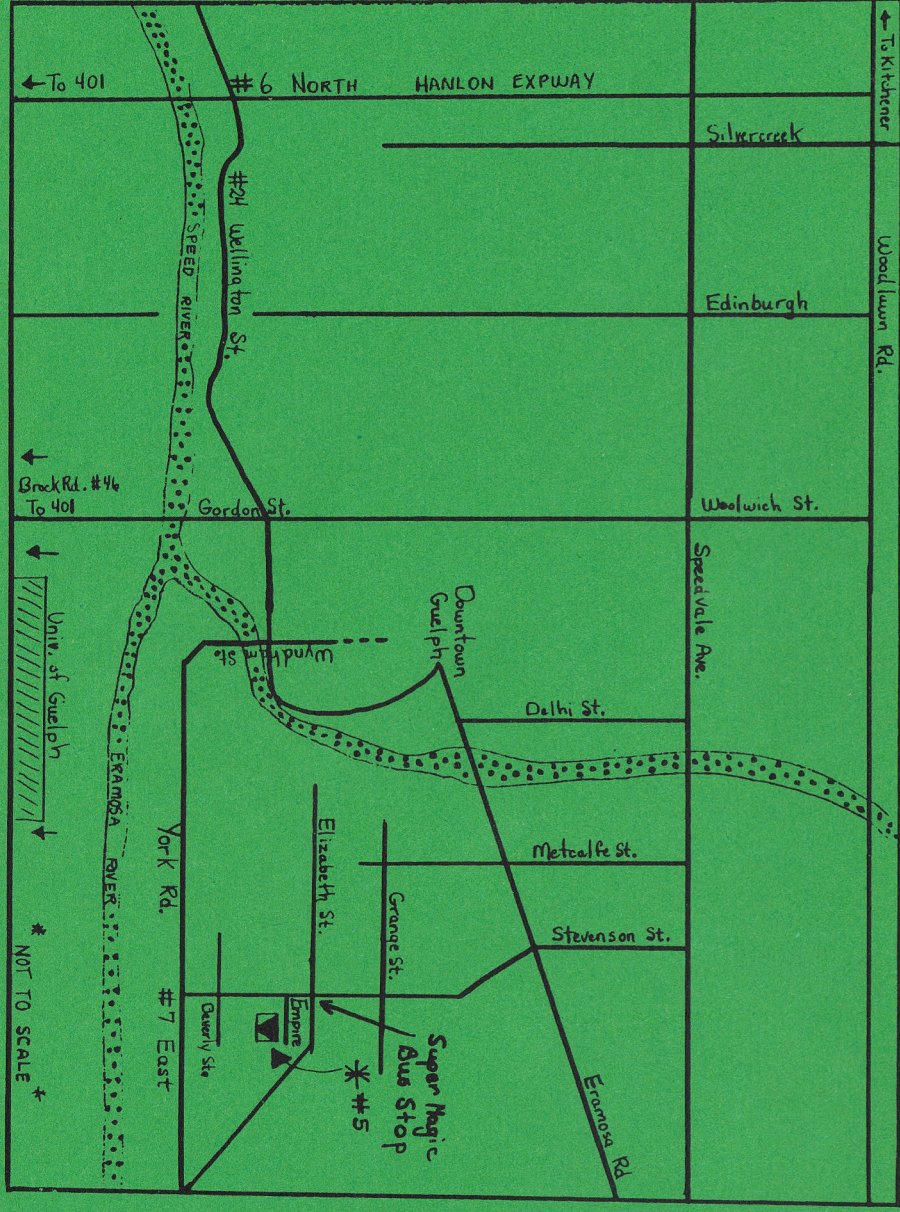


AIDS COMMITTEE OF GUELPH AND WELLINGTON COUNTY
SUITE 107, 73 DELHI STREET, GUELPH, ONTARIO, N1E 6L9
TELEPHONE (519) 763-2255

HOURS: MONDAY AND THURSDAY, 5 - 7 PM

AI

PLAY



MAP TO CCE DANCE - 5 Empire St.

DECEMBER 1989

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
* At Time of Publication our Guest Speaker was unconfirmed. Please call the Gayline during staffed hrs for details. **Contact Reggie for details (and food assignment) ***Meet at donut shop at Frederick St. Mall Kitchener, call Lisa ****Hot apple cider & Christmas cookies featured. Call Karen 746- [redacted]						
Grand River Free Spirit Community Church 2 pm Robins Nest*****	4 GGE Movie Night 50th Anniversary of the Wizard of OZ 8 pm UC 536	5 GGE Movie Night 50th Anniversary of the Wizard of OZ 8 pm UC 536	6 GLOW Coffee House Call: 884-GLOW	7 Gaywire 7-8 pm CIUT 89.5 FM GEM Coffee House 8 pm Unitarian Hall S.Service Rd.E. of #10	8 WOODS 2nd Annual Christmas Dinner***** GEM Dance 9 pm Clarke Hall 161 Lakeshore Rd. W., Mississauga	9 WOODS 1-3pm Ice Skating Columbia Ice Fields Call Lisa for details 579-[redacted]
GRFS as above	11 *GGE Guest Speaker Karen Andrews (to be confirmed) Call the GayLine	12 *GGE Guest Speaker Karen Andrews (to be confirmed) Call the GayLine	13 Gaywire GEM Coffee House Womyns Grp. U of W. Campus Centre Rm 135 8:30 pm ****	14 Gaywire GEM Coffee House Womyns Grp. U of W. Campus Centre Rm 135 8:30 pm ****	15 GGE**Pot-Luck Dinner & Dance 6:30 pm Sharp Polish Hall,5 Empire \$3 Admission	16
GRFS as above WOODS 2nd Annual Floradale Hike 1:00 pm ***	18 GGE Social Night	19 GGE Social Night	20 Gaywire GEM Coffee House	21 Gaywire GEM Coffee House	22	23
CRFS as above	25 NO MEETING	26 NO MEETING	27 Gaywire GEM Coffee House	28 Gaywire GEM Coffee House	29 	30
HAPPY HOLIDAY!!! 						

I had been doing homework for my Astrophysics course. It was a blustery spring day, very warm. The kind of day that promises something special. And sometimes delivers. This time it did.

Brian blew in, complaining that his life was not worth living, something that happened at least once a day. I had gotten used to it.

Sam and Brian had gone out for dinner, and Sam has asked Brian to move in with him. My fine room-mate responded by throwing up all over Sam's shoes. Brian was now in the market for advice about the relationship. The exact words were: "Jason, what am I going to do? C'mon, help, you always have good advice."

All of my friends said this, which really confused me. If I gave such great advice then how come when I walked into bars I scared the shit out of the men I found there. The minute I walked into a bar I froze up with an "if you're not serious then leave me alone" look on my face. The men I was interested in were never interested in me. The ones who were interested in me always drooled. And I have always hated men who drool.

Brian decided to lie down for a while and I hauled out the things I needed to draw up an astrological chart. Brian wanted me to do a Tarot reading, but I didn't feel right about it. Something was happening -- and it was interfering with the cards.

A little while later the door bell rang. When I opened it Sam and another man, whose name I didn't know at the time, entered.

This stranger was devastating. The first thing I notice about any man are hands and eyes. He had large palms and long, sensitive fingers, pianist's hands. His dark green eyes sparkled with life, and his glossy black hair was bound up in a braid that reached to his shoulder blades. I was lost.

Sam spoke first, "Is Brian around?"

"Yes," I said, my eyes never leaving the stranger's face. "In the bedroom."

I didn't even notice Sam leaving. A few minutes later it struck me that I was alone with a strange man in my living room -- one whose name I didn't know. And staring a stranger is bad manners for a host.

"I'm Jason," I said. "Jason North."

"How do you do?" he replied. "I'm Patrick Kallandery."

"Irish?" I was amazed at how scintillating my conversation was.

"Yes. Black Irish," he said. Then he noticed my look of confusion. "Black hair rather than red. If I had red hair then I would be red Irish."

"Oh," I said, then "Would you like something to drink?" I asked inanely. Come on, brain! I thought to myself. Get a grip.

"Coffee would be nice," he replied.

"Brian and I don't drink coffee. We do have tea."

"That would be fine."

So I nipped into the kitchen and put the kettle on, got the tea cups down, and found the tea bags. And danced around in front of the stove because -- because it seemed like the thing to do.

He was holding my astrology book when I brought the tea in. "Whose crap is this?"

"Mine."

"Do you really believe in this junk?" he demanded.

"Of course I do. If you don't believe in it, it doesn't work."

We sipped our tea in silence, waiting for Sam and Brian to appear. "What are they doing in there?" Patrick asked.

I got up to go find out. Then we heard a groan coming through the thin wall, which answered what they were doing. I was not about to go knocking on Brian's door.

"They're at it again." Patrick said.

"Sounds like it." I replied. Gods, those two. I don't know how many nights I'd spent listening to them through the wall -- sound carried well in that apartment -- and crying myself to sleep, alone in my narrow bed.

We finished our tea, and waited for Sam and Brian to appear. Finally Patrick asked:

"Do you dance?"

"Yes."

"I don't think they are planning to come out and I feel like going dancing. Would you like to come with me? I would like some company."

We danced until all the bars were closed, then we walked around the city and talked. We watched the sun rise on the point. Then I went home, pulling myself in around seven o'clock.

After the second date we held hands, after the third we kissed. We went out seven times before we slept in the same bed, and eight before we made love. It was six months before I moved in with him.

Patrick tried to teach me Erse, and I taught him how to cook. We would sit by the fire on stormy winter nights and I would watch while his long fingers wove music on his harp, listen while his beautiful voice sang old Irish songs. This did not mean we didn't fight. In the five years we were together we fought quite a few times, and some of those fights nearly killed our relationship. But we always made up. I was happy then, safe, secure. I should have known it would not last.

Curse you, Gods. Did you bring him into my life for the express purpose of taking him out of it again? If the relationship had died by itself, we could have at least stayed friends. If he had died in an accident, I would mourn him, then get on with my life. But this was not accidental for they knew what they were doing. Did you enjoy your joke, Gods?

The phone rings again.

"Jason? Sam asks. "I just got back in town and heard what happened. Are you all right?"

"I'm fine," I lie. "The police arrested the men who beat Patrick up, and then they let them go. Lack of evidence, they said. I think it was something else, some kind of cover-up. But you know the police. You can never get a direct answer from them. If Patrick had been straight..."

"How many were there?"

"Five."

"Five! What did they use?"

"Dr. Webber says it looks like a chain and a length of pipe. It also looks like they kicked Patrick around."

Patrick lying in the hospital bed in the Critical Care Unit. His proud nose smashed back into his face, eyes and lips swollen shut, teeth and jaw broken. The monsters had shaved his hair, painted 'faggot' on his head, and -- Great Mother -- crushed his right hand.

The doctor told me that in addition to the injuries I could see there were three broken ribs, a broken femur and internal hemorrhaging. They were trying to stabilize him before even trying to operate.

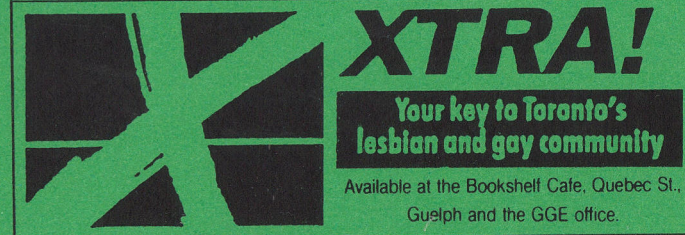
I managed to sneak into the unit for a few second. When I put my hand into Patrick's left hand, it closed. Somehow he knew who it was. Knew it was me. I stood there, fighting down the nausea and wishing I could heal him.

I wanted to scream a scream that would have blown out all the windows in the hospital. I wanted to unleash a flare of magic that would have taken the hospital apart brick by brick. My mind filled with what I would do if every those five men came under my hand. What I would do with hot irons and flensing knives, what I would do with boiling oil and my own hands if necessary.

No, not again. This is not the way. I cannot allow myself to hurt anyone, even if they have hurt me. I can think about torturing those men. But I could never do it. Or could I?

Damn you! How dare you take what is mine! We did you no harm, and you did this to him! To both of us! Damn you to the black pits of Hades!

IDS:
SAFE



XTRA!
Your key to Toronto's
lesbian and gay community

Available at the Bookshelf Cafe, Quebec St.,
Guelph and the GGE office.

NIK TURK'S ALTERNATIVE TOP FIVE

1. PUMP UP THE JAM. - Technotronic (-)
2. DRAMA. - Erasure (3)
3. PERSONAL JESUS. - Depeche Mode (1)
4. FRENCH KISS. - Little Louie (-)
5. RUN. - New Order (2)

(-): indicates chart position last month

GGE MEMBERSHIP A GGE membership entitles you to a free GGE dance admission, voting privileges, discounts at GEM, GLOW and CLGRO affiliated activities and GGE newsletter free in the mail. Get yours today, only \$12.00. Help support the GGE!

GGE T—SHIRTS Would you like your very own GGE T—Shirt? They cost \$10.00. See Marty and get your GGE T—shirt.

PUBLICATIONS The GGE office receives regular issues of Xtra, Rites, RFD, LGYT newsletter, HUGS newsletter, HALO newsletter, GLO Niagara newsletter, GO Info and several others. Check out these and our library — all available in the GGE office.

NEW DANCE LOCATION Polish Hall, 5 Empire St. Guelph, 9 p.m.

DEADLINE

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER MUST BE RECEIVED BY:
December 8, 1989

The GGE Newsletter is published monthly by the GGE. Typesetting and layout -
CSA Graphics. Editing, Marty Russell.

RITES

A magazine for
lesbian + gay
liberation with a
feminist bent!

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M4Y 2L4 •

STAFFED MONDAY THRU THURSDAY, 7:30 -9:30 PM

☐ THE GAYLINE ☐ 836-4550 ☐