



Are you suffering from a relationship breakdown?

## FREE ½ HOUR INTERVIEW

Civil Partnerships/Separation/Contact & Residence of Children,  
Property & Financial Issues upon Separation, Domestic Abuse

- Legal Aid Available
- Low Hourly Fees

Contact: Daniel Priest, Partner

**Freephone: 0800 1071 208**

admin@campions.co.uk

## LOW FEE CONVEYANCING

- 1st Time Buyers Discount
- Free Online Quotes
- Fixed Fees - No Hidden Extras

Low  
Cost  
EPCs

**Freephone: 0800 1071 207**

admin@campions.co.uk

**www.campionssolicitors.co.uk**

45-49 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG1 3FH  
(Nr. Victoria Centre)

**FREE CAR PARKING**

**resolution**  
first for family law

Regulated by The Solicitors Regulation Authority  
Written Quotations Available on Request

Community  
Legal Service



# LOOKOUT

Jun Jul Aug 2012

Issue 63

## LGBTQ BOOK FESTIVAL

AUGUST 4-5, 2012

Waterstones, Nottingham

2:00pm Saturday: Author Readings/Signings

Followed by Meet and Mingle

11:00am Sunday: Author Readings/Signings

And Publishing Q&A

Followed by the Author-Reader Lunch

[www.boldstrokesauthorfestuk.com](http://www.boldstrokesauthorfestuk.com)



### Editorial:

As some of you will know, I've produced a website which should prove to be a useful addition to the Lookout communication chain. One holdup at the moment is the name as Lookoutmag is already in use by an American religious organisation. Watch this space as the saying goes. Suggestions and ideas always welcome.

Anybody who caught these Book Festivals at Waterstones over the past 2 years will know what fantastic events they have been. This year looks like being no exception with an even better line up of authors to delight all tastes.

Enjoy reading? Think about joining the Book Club.

Enjoy writing? Think about joining Sapphist Writers.

see page 3 for details

Rebecca S Buck

Jane Fletcher

Robin Sommers

D Jackson Leigh

Cari Hunter

Lesley Davis

Gill McKnight

Andrea Bramhall

Justine Saracen

Crin Claxton

Victoria Oldham

## News from the Nottingham Women's Centre

There are some new things happening at the Centre that you might be interested in:

- The Women's Centre now hosts a lesbian cafe evening on the 2nd Monday of each month. The cafe is run on a drop-in basis from 5.30pm - 7.30pm with volunteers making the food. It's a chance to unwind after work, socialise and meet other lesbians (as well as an ongoing opportunity to talk about things you'd like to see happening at the Centre).
- The Sapphist Writers meet at the Centre straight after the cafe. If any other groups would like a space to meet, please get in touch: [admin@nottinghamwomenscentre.com](mailto:admin@nottinghamwomenscentre.com) or 0115 941 1475.
- Also, the lesbian noticeboard is now back up in the welcome space. Please use the board to advertise events, groups, houses to let, lesbian-friendly services and anything else appropriate. If you've got anything to advertise please drop it in to the Centre or e-mail it across and we'll get it up when we refresh the board each month.

As well as all that, we've got the usual courses running and new groups emerging, including the Radical Readers - a feminist reading group that meets on the last Wednesday of each month, from 5.30pm - 7.30pm. Keep an eye on our website for more information: [www.nottinghamwomenscentre.com](http://www.nottinghamwomenscentre.com).

**LOOKOUT! Is sponsored by CAMPIONS SOLICITORS**



## WOMEN'S REGULAR EVENTS & SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

### WOMENS DISCO

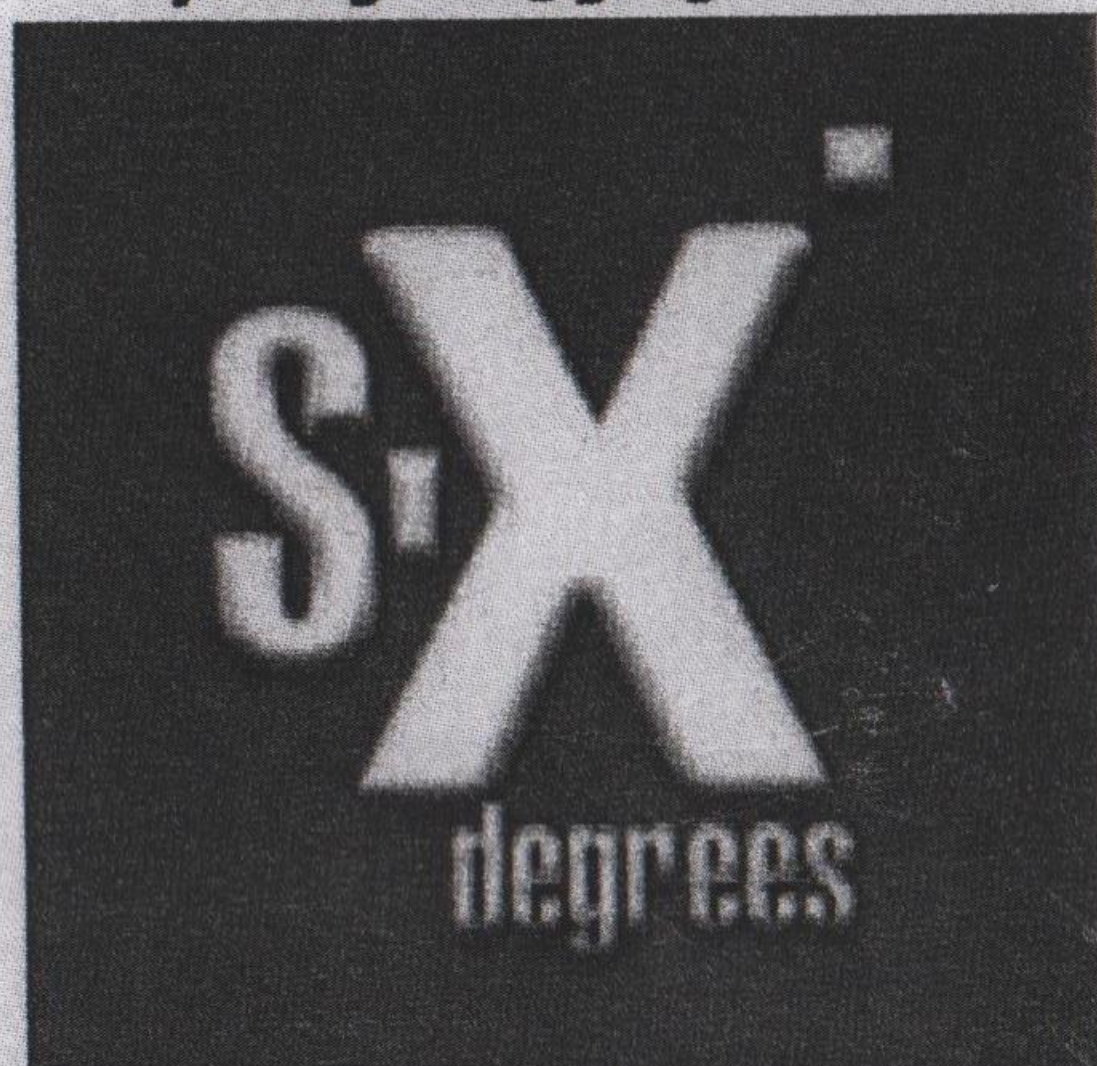
**Saturday 16th June**

**2012**

**8PM - MIDNIGHT**

**BELPER TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB, FREE PARKING,  
£5 ENTRANCE ON THE DOOR**

**EMAIL REQUESTS TO  
djsixdegrees@googlemail.com**



Belper Town FC, Christchurch Meadow, Bridge Street,  
Belper, DE56 1BA



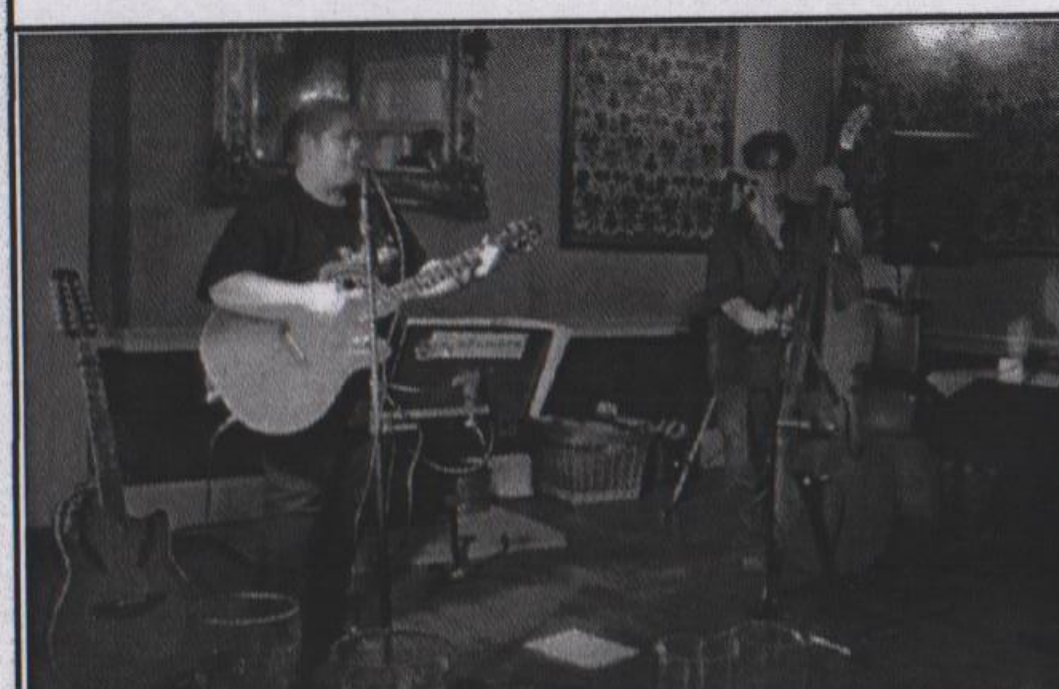
**GARBO**

[www.myspace.com/garbouk](http://www.myspace.com/garbouk)

**31 May Browns café Bistro, Mansfield**

**1 June Moda Italian resto Hucknall**

Mary, on the left above, comes out at night called Hell Mary in Vampires Rock (currently touring & in Nottingham this December) during the day she's a qualified to give guitar lessons. Check out all her talents at [www.marygmusic.co.uk](http://www.marygmusic.co.uk)



**Delicata**

Rachel Delicata & Shirley Novak  
singer/ songwriter duo  
local gigs a speciality

[delicatomusic.com](http://delicatomusic.com)

**2 June Bulls Head, Belper**

**3 June Birmingham PRIDE**

Headlining on Friday night at this year's  
WIT Festival

**Women In Tune 15th festival**

**16 — 20 August**

**Lampeter, Wales**

**SA48 8ND**

<http://www.womenintune.co.uk>

*women only*

**DISCO  
Melbourne**

**NOT on in June**

**but back in September featuring  
another live set from**

**Delicata**

Check out the website:  
[melbourneladiesdisco.moonfruit.com](http://melbourneladiesdisco.moonfruit.com)

BeatRoute Sounds Presents...

**JUICE**

for WOMEN with an enhanced sense of fun

@ The Fed

Resident Dj's

D'Or & Diddy

Saturday

8pm-1am

\* Women only

\* Dancing

\* Garden

\* Free parking

\* Accessible

\* Pool table

**MAY 26<sup>TH</sup>**

**SEPT 8<sup>TH</sup>**

**DEC 8<sup>TH</sup>**

**Waged: £6**

**Unwaged: £4**

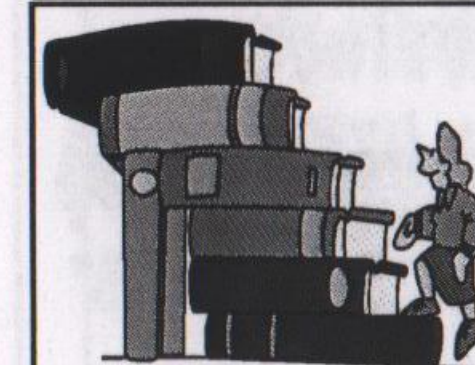
Federation House, Claremont Road, Nottingham NG5 1BH  
(between Sherwood Rise and Hucknall Road)

Buses Yellow Line (Sherwood Rise) Brown Line (Hucknall Rd)

For more info email: [juicenottingham@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:juicenottingham@yahoo.co.uk) or join

Facebook: [juicenottingham](https://www.facebook.com/juicenottingham)

## Sports & Socialising



**Midweek Book Group**

Read a set book and then join in  
with the discussion group

**Meeting at 7:30 Canalhouse Bar**

**Canal Street, Nottingham**

If you would like to join us please contact the group co-ordinator by joining the yahoo discussion group: from now on please check on the LinkNotts group email facility

4th July- Sing You Home by Jodi Picoult

15th August- When God Was A Rabbit by Sarah Winman

26th Sept- Gone with the Wind by Margaret Mitchell

**Sapphist Writers**

Nottingham Based Women's  
Writing Network

Meets Second Monday of Every Month, 7.15pm

For more info email [sapphistwriters@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sapphistwriters@yahoo.co.uk)

<http://sapphistwriters.blogspot.com/>

**Lesbians in Nottingham konnected:**

An online community/ email group in  
Nottinghamshire

for lesbians to keep in touch and informed

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/linknotts>

**See You  
Next  
Tuesday!**  
for girls who like girls

Doing very nicely but always  
scope for new comers.

**meet. chat. laugh.**

every tuesday 8pm

orange tree

shakespeare st, nottingham

[facebook.com/syntgirls](https://www.facebook.com/syntgirls)

[syntgirls@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:syntgirls@hotmail.co.uk)

**LAF'S  
SUPPORT GROUP**

Would you like to meet other women who are  
lesbian, bisexual, transgender who identify as  
lesbian, or uncertain of their sexuality  
- age 16 plus?

**Informal group in  
Mansfield/North Notts areas  
Come Along For A Chat  
Make New Friends And Have Fun!**

**Meeting on the last  
Thursday of each month  
7pm - 9pm**

**So Come And Join Us!**

Call 0784 979 8802 (before 9pm)

Or email: [lafs1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lafs1@hotmail.co.uk)

for details and venue

**Now on Facebook:**

**Mansfield Rainbow Divas**

**Sherwood Ladies**

**5-a-side footie**

Meet every Tuesday 6 - 7 at the  
Forest Astro Turf (Goose Fair site)  
Suits all levels of fitness & ability,  
everyone welcome

More info Julie Bennett 07790 998205

or email [joolzy\\_joolz@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:joolzy_joolz@hotmail.co.uk)



**WOMEN'S BADMINTON**

PORTLAND LEISURE CENTRE

Newcomers please check for details

**THURSDAY EVENING**

also

Possibility of **SATURDAY MORNING**

For details of either session contact

Ruth or Rachel on 0115 982 6952



## Sunday Walking & Holiday Opportunity

**NOTTINGHAM HIKING DYKES** walk 3rd Sunday of the month at 10:30.

10th Jun : extra event  
6/7/8/ July : camping in Norfolk  
Wed 4th July - Woodhouse Eaves  
17th Jun : Chrome Hill from Longnor + optional camping  
Wed 13th July - mid-week evening stroll from Cropston  
15th Jul : Beresford Dale meet at Mo's caravan site



For full details of the various walks and camping events please make contact direct with the group  
www.nottinghamhd.homestead.com or www.peakhd.webs.com or ring Lesbian and Gay Switchboard 0115 9348485



### Derby Walking Women

Walks are normally on the 1st Sunday of the month, meet at 10:45 for 11:00 start, each walk is organised by volunteer(s) and full details are given out on the walk the month before or check out the website <http://www.derbywomenswalkinggroup.webs.com>

Sunday 3rd June meet at The Green, Baslow P&D car park £4 for 4 hours or on-street free  
Long & sometimes steep ascent to start but well worth it for the views. Lunch stop around Froggat  
Details can also be obtained by contacting the overall co-ordinators on 07786 803455  
(or an email can be sent on to them via [lookoutmag@hotmail.com](mailto:lookoutmag@hotmail.com))

### North Nottinghamshire Walking Group

The group is not able to do regular walks at the moment but make contact direct to find out the latest.  
Phone Julia 07961 847091 or email [nnwalkers@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nnwalkers@yahoo.co.uk) for more details.

**SHEFFIELD HIKING DYKES** All Sunday walks start at 10:30 unless otherwise stated. Contact the group direct for details of locations and other walks. A full & varied programme of walks throughout the year. Check out their website <http://hikingdykes.webs.com/sheffield/> or phone Deena on 0114 268 6409 or Sandra on 01226 767179 or email [sheffield-hd@hotmail.com](mailto:sheffield-hd@hotmail.com)

**Peak Ruffy walks:** These walks are for women who like walking longer and faster and over more challenging ground. Hikes are usually about 10 to 14 miles in the Peak District on the last Saturday of the month.

Information about forthcoming walks is posted to members of the peakruffies yahoo group. You can join this group by emailing: [peakruffies-subscribe@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:peakruffies-subscribe@yahoo.co.uk)



<http://peakhd.webs.com/walks.htm>

Here it is : one web site with ALL the walking group dates in calendar format

### Women only activity holidays run from a spacious homestay in mid

Breaks for small groups 6-8 fully catered over 4 nights / 3 days in Pennal, West Wales.

Mainly hiking &/or biking but can also include any of the following:-  
Kayaking; Kitebuggying; Powerkiting; Kitesurfing

All hiking and biking is from our doorstep & can be graded to whatever level you choose, with the amazing views we have here you won't be disappointed. The village has a good local pub just 2 minute walk from our house, so if you want to go for a drink in the evening you've not far to walk back. Just five miles west from us is the coastal village of Aberdovey which is renowned for its fantastic flat beaches & lagoons for kitesports or an evening stroll.

For group bookings please contact me to see if we can sort some discounted prices out for your stay.

[www.gogirlholidays.co.uk](http://www.gogirlholidays.co.uk) 0794 752 6678

## INTERESTING STUFF

### Reliable female joiner

All types of joinery work undertaken



**KATE** 0115 926 8826

all types of repairs

NO  
JOB  
TOO  
SMALL

doors & floors  
cupboards  
built

Over 20 years experience

### Nottingham Women's History Group Summer 2012 Programme

#### Mothers and Midwives

Saturday 16th June 2pm - 4pm

Following the successful exhibition at the Weston Gallery, University of Nottingham, the principal curator Dr Tania McIntosh will explore the changing experience of midwifery practice and birth in Nottingham.

Held at our exciting venue -  
The Bandstand, at the Arboretum,  
Waverley Street, Nottingham,  
NG7 4HF

Cost £2 donation

#### Poverty, Prosperity and Politics

Thursday 12th July 7 pm

Our popular women's history walk from the castle, through to the market square

Meet at Nottingham Castle Gatehouse  
Cost £2 donation

For further information contact  
Nottingham Women's History Group  
[www.nottinghamwomenshistory.org.uk](http://www.nottinghamwomenshistory.org.uk)  
[nottmwomenshistory@gmail.com](mailto:nottmwomenshistory@gmail.com)  
Mo 07950 472022 or Val 0115 941 9186

### Wovenfest

Tiny festival · live music · books to browse · things to try · garden · nr Nottm Trent Univ tram stop · wheelchair access ·

Where? Friends' Meeting House, 25 Clarendon Street,  
Nottingham NG1 5JD

When? Afternoon & early evening, Saturday 9 June 2012  
More ? @ Wovenfest · [www.single-bass.co.uk/wovenfest](http://www.single-bass.co.uk/wovenfest)



### Nottingham Training Services

Bespoke courses organised from 2 hours to 3 days can be delivered in-house or at training venue. All courses include registration, course materials, certificates & First Aid Manuals

Julie Bennett 07790 998205  
[info@nottinghamtrainingservices.co.uk](mailto:info@nottinghamtrainingservices.co.uk)

### Personal trainer

Nottingham based but willing to travel

Fitness assessments & weekly training plans provided

[Jo\\_jo\\_gordon@hotmail.com](mailto:Jo_jo_gordon@hotmail.com)

07984 326390

### MORAG'S CRAFTS

Morag's Crafts was launched in January 2012 when I finally overcame my phobia of sewing machines. I would probably have been the "person least likely to" carry on sewing after school, due to a combination of a super seamstress sister, and a succession of sewing teachers, all of whom made me cry! So I only started again recently after my partner unearthed her grand-mother's sewing machine.

A strong desire to reduce/re-use/recycle had always made me loathe to throw away old torn or worn clothes, and made me think how nice it would be to do patchwork. So with sewing machine at the ready and after several weeks researching the subject online, I finally put needle to fabric. To my surprise I really took to it, starting with cushion covers (easier as small, square and 2 dimensional) and proceeding to bags, mobile phone covers, table runners and strips of bunting. I haven't got as far as quilts yet, but who knows?

With an increasing stack of finished items piling up, I thought perhaps I could sell some and have started going to craft fairs with my wares, and have an online shop on etsy.com. Covers for mobile phones seem the most popular so far - they're made with various patterned fabrics and are lined with felt to give a soft, non-scratch interior. As well as the cushion and mobile covers, I make reversible shoulder bags and table runners (so you get two styles for the price of one!) and 5 metre lengths of bunting suitable for parties or decorating a room. My fabrics are all recycled from old clothes or bedding so they get a second life. Everything I make can be made to order in your choice of colour or pattern so you can have a unique item that goes with your colour scheme or outfit.

If you'd like to have a look at my creations, you can see them online at [www.etsy.com/shop/moragscrafts](http://www.etsy.com/shop/moragscrafts). Hope you find something you like and, if you'd like to order a custom made item, just let me know. Thanks

### Morag Christie

#### GUITAR TEACHER

Guitar, songwriting & music theory

Electric and acoustic guitar

Friendly, patient teacher

Current CRB check

Adults and children welcome

Take exams or just learn for fun!

£10 per ½ hour

[moragchristie66@gmail.com](mailto:moragchristie66@gmail.com)

Tel: 07800 868 085 / 0115 929 3891



Guitar

Music theory

Songwriting

All music styles

Beechdale area

You can send your own reviews, requests for further information, donations, adverts, articles and details of social events (by 7th August please) to [lookoutmag@hotmail.com](mailto:lookoutmag@hotmail.com) or to  
Lookout C/o The Women's Centre, 30 Chaucer Street, Nottingham NG1 5LP.



**24 hour  
Free  
Helpline  
for women  
Experiencing  
Domestic abuse**



- Confidential support for women by women
- Support for families
- Someone to talk to
- Drop in service
- Help finding refuge
- Safety planning
- Pet foster care
- Support with benefits, housing issues and solicitors

**We can help you break free**

Confidential help - 24 hours a day  
7 days a week, 365 days a year  
Freephone **0808 800 0340**  
Textphone **0808 800 0341**  
Office **0115 947 5257**  
**www.wais.org.uk**

**Reducing the harm caused  
by domestic abuse**

Funded by the Big Lottery

One IDVA said "Many people think "why doesn't she just leave?" We understand just how difficult it is for a women to leave an abusive relationship with all its complexities. We're non-judgemental and raise awareness within other agencies who may not fully understand domestic abuse and we work hard to ensure women are treated fairly, without discrimination and with understanding. I get so much satisfaction from my job because I get to follow the woman's journey and afterwards, women have information and knowledge that they didn't have before, to use when they need it most."

Nationally an average of only two per cent of domestic abuse is reported, while in Nottingham, this is more than threefold at 6.5 per cent of domestic abuse offences reported.

If you would like to talk to someone in confidence, about domestic abuse, call our free helpline on **0808 800 0340** 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Just a few months into their relationship, Nathalie's partner started to question where she had been if she came home from work late. This became more frequent and soon she wasn't allowed to go anywhere without her. Nathalie's partner started to go through her bank statements and search through messages on her mobile phone meaning nothing was private.

Nathalie, 47, always blamed herself for what happened. She minimised what was actually going on and learned to live with it but soon things escalated into violence and when she suffered a serious assault and imprisonment in her house, the police became involved.

Nathalie was referred to a Multi Agency Risk Assessment conference where local agencies discuss the highest risk survivors of domestic abuse in their area. As one of those agencies, Women's Aid Integrated Services (WAIS) contacted Nathalie but she said she was back in the relationship with her partner and didn't want our help. 5 further months of physical and emotional abuse went by and following another violent incident which saw her partner removed from their home by the police, Nathalie was finally ready to accept help and get out of her situation.

WAIS work with women and their children who have been affected by domestic abuse and have specially trained Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA's). A WAIS IDVA supported Nathalie through the whole court process, going along with her to see solicitors and other appointments with her and court hearings. They also sought counselling and help from Victim Support and Broken Rainbow as well as referring her to have extra security fitted in her home.

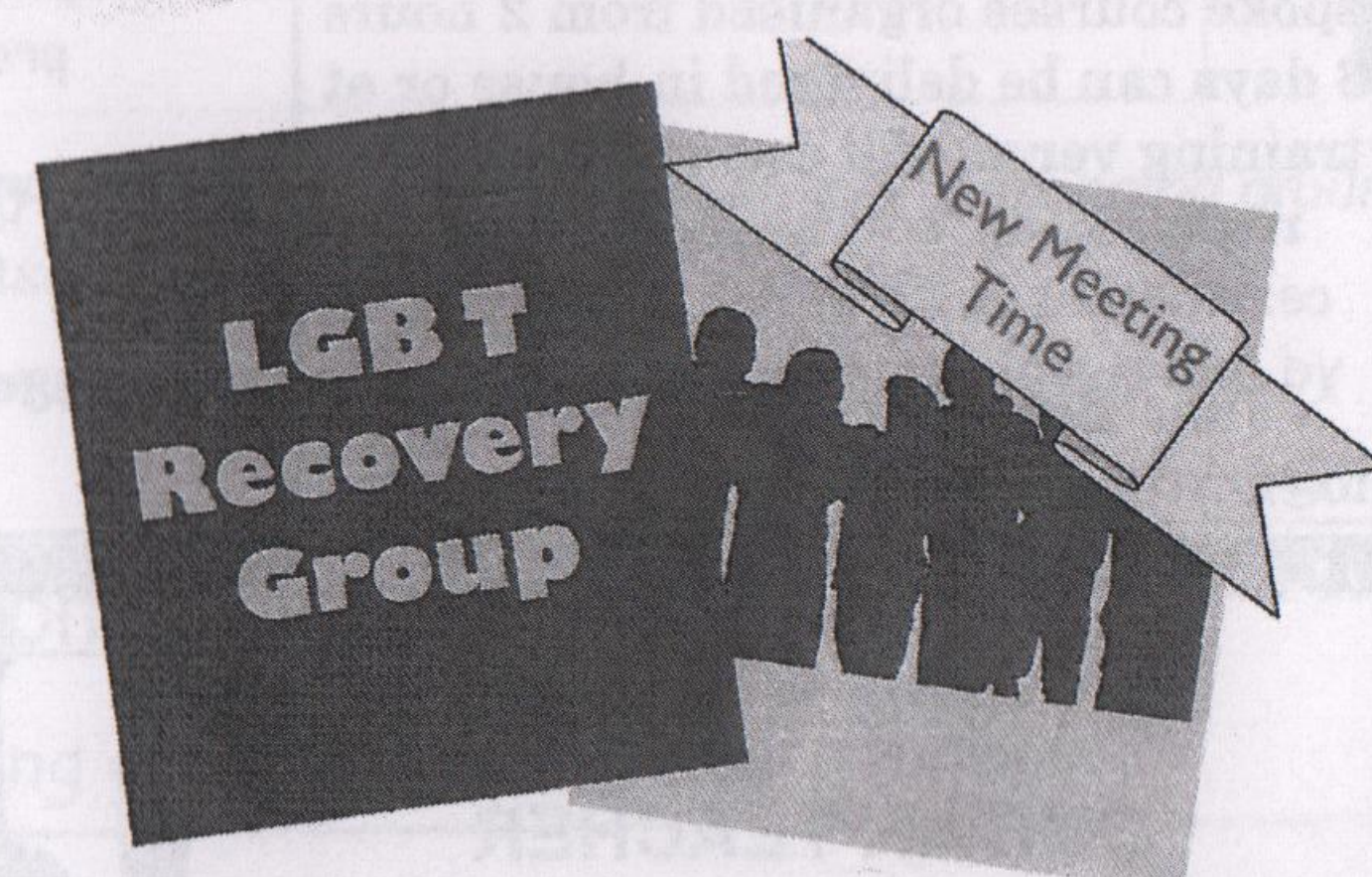
**Who do we work with ...**

Our IDVA's work with all women and their children who live in Nottingham City and South Nottinghamshire, who are at high risk of harm. We also work with women who have abusive partners going through the court process. Helping women to stay safe and rebuild their lives is our priority. We're totally independent but work with other agencies to share information as quickly as possible as this can make all the difference when protecting survivors of domestic abuse.

Here are a couple of additions to the HELP page.

It gets difficult to tell whether all of the info given is up to date.

If you are involved with any of the groups maybe you would let readers know about some of the successes or positive outcomes you've had



**Recovery Group is a new user led support group for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people to meet safely and discuss issues around alcohol and drug problems**

Every Thursday Evening 6:30-7:30pm  
At Self Help Nottingham  
2nd Floor, Ormiston House  
32-36 Pelham Street  
Nottingham NG1 2EG  
For more details contact the Self Help Nottingham Information Line on 0115 911 1661 (9am-1pm Mon-Fri) or email [info@selfhelp.org.uk](mailto:info@selfhelp.org.uk)

This group is supported by The Recovery Network at Self Help Nottingham. For more information about finding, joining or starting a self help group contact: 0115 911 1662 [therecoverynetwork@selfhelp.org.uk](mailto:therecoverynetwork@selfhelp.org.uk)



**HELP & SUPPORT — this hasn't been updated for a while**

**Nottingham Rape Crisis Centre**

If you have been sexually assaulted and need help, information, or someone to talk to phone 0115 941 0440. Confidential, free and independent. Run by women for women

**Women's Drug Service**

Free and confidential service for women who use, have used or are at risk of using drugs. Tel: 01623 785 444

**Outburst!**

Is an LGBT group for young people aged 11 to 25. Meet at Base 51 every Monday from 5:30 to 8pm.

Contact details  
07940 761160  
0115 952 5040

**Nottingham Police LGBT Consultation Group.**

Meets every 3 months (usually at the Adams Building in the Lace Market). Representatives from local lesbian/bi groups are welcome. Details via Switchboard or the GAI Project.

**Broken Rainbow** Helpline 020 8539 9507 for lesbians experiencing abuse from their partner.

**FLAME** (Lesbians with ME group) Support & social group for lesbians with ME (Chronic Fatigue Syndrome) contact Self Help Team, Ormiston House, 32-36 Pelham St. 0115 911 1661 or Morag on 0115 847 1544 or email: [morag@ntlworld.com](mailto:morag@ntlworld.com) or [nottlesbiancentre@ntlworld.com](mailto:nottlesbiancentre@ntlworld.com)

**Relate Nottinghamshire**

The Relate counselling service is available to all adult couples experiencing problems in their central relationship, including gay and lesbian couples. Tel: 0115 950 7836.

**Nottingham LGBT Consultation Forum**

(formerly Notts LGBT Community Voice)  
(and before that the LGB Forum)

meets every 3 months, and can be contacted via Switchboard (0115 934 8485),

**Tipping the Velvet**

Advice for women who have sex with women. Advice & help with sexual health, drug use, domestic violence, etc. Service is free & open to women of all ages. For more info contact Donna. The Health Shop, 12 Broad Street, Hockley, Nottingham NG1 3AL or 0115 947 5414 or [healthshop@nottinghamcity-pct.nhs.uk](mailto:healthshop@nottinghamcity-pct.nhs.uk)

**Nottingham & Nottinghamshire Lesbian & Gay Switchboard**

Confidential info, advice & support from trained volunteers.

C/o VAC, 7 Mansfield Road, Nottingham NG1 3FB or e-mail [notts@lgswitchboard.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:notts@lgswitchboard.fsnet.co.uk)

0115 934 8485 or 01623 621 515 Mon - Fri 7.00 - 9:30 pm

**Domestic violence within Lesbian and Bisexual relationships**

**Roshni Community Outreach service for ALL women 0115 988 1414**

Monday to Thursday: 9-5 pm Friday: 9-4.30 pm

**Broken Rainbow helpline 08452 60 44 60**

Monday: 2 - 8pm Wednesday: 10 - 1pm Thursday: 2 - 8pm

**Lezzie Family Group**

The Group continues to meet on the first Saturday of the month at Stonebridge City Farm, St Ann's, Nottingham middayish. We are a small group with mainly young kids 0-8 but happy to welcome older kids and mums/grans/aunties of all sorts. The kids are black, white, boys, girls, fostered, adopted, with donor's help or home made. The farm is free, has a few animals, a small play area, café and gardens. We sometimes arrange to meet at other places too.

Ring to check us out first if you like

Judi 07888657916