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Community  
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# LOOKOUT

Sep Oct Nov 2011

Issue 60

## NEWS FROM LOOKOUT

Here we are at Issue No 60, that means Lookout has been around for 15 years. Hopefully, during that time, women have seen something that has interested them enough to encourage them to get out and participate in the many and varied events that have been on offer. This time, however, there has been a sad lack of anything much to include so I sought some feedback from women who regularly use internet based communication avenues and, it would seem, this is their preferred medium. So much has changed over the past 15 years, almost beyond recognition. In fact, 250 of you get Lookout via email and of the 300 who still get a paper copy I suspect not all actually NEED to get it that way. I have friends who still steadfastly refuse to have anything to do with computers but they are in a very small minority.

It is becoming increasingly clear that Lookout has had its day and perhaps the time has come to wind the whole thing up.

What do you think?

This is your chance to have your say.

Send your comments to [lookoutmag@hotmail.com](mailto:lookoutmag@hotmail.com)

## News from the Nottingham Women's Centre

Nottingham Women's Centre was first set up 40 years ago. Over the years, the activities and projects within the Centre have changed but the core aim of supporting and empowering women remains the same.

The Centre recently appointed a new Centre Manager - Melanie Jeffs. Melanie is a lesbian and a feminist and is keen to hear people's views on how the Centre should continue to evolve over the coming years.

Other news from the Centre -

New training courses - the Centre runs a wide range of basic skills and personal development courses throughout the year and has childcare on site. New courses start in September - get in touch for more information about enrolling.

Refurbishments - the kitchen and welcome space have recently been refurbished with thanks to a generous grant from Nottingham Soroptimists. Please feel free to use the space to catch up with friends over a coffee or to browse a selection of the books from the women's library at the Centre.

The Centre has some paperwork belonging to Lesbianline - if anyone is able to claim it, please get in touch.

Contact details:

Nottingham Women's Centre, 30 Chaucer Street, Nottingham, NG1 5LP

Tel: 0115 941 1475, E-mail: [admin@nottinghamwomenscentre.com](mailto:admin@nottinghamwomenscentre.com), new website coming soon!

**LOOKOUT! Is sponsored by CAMPIONS SOLICITORS**



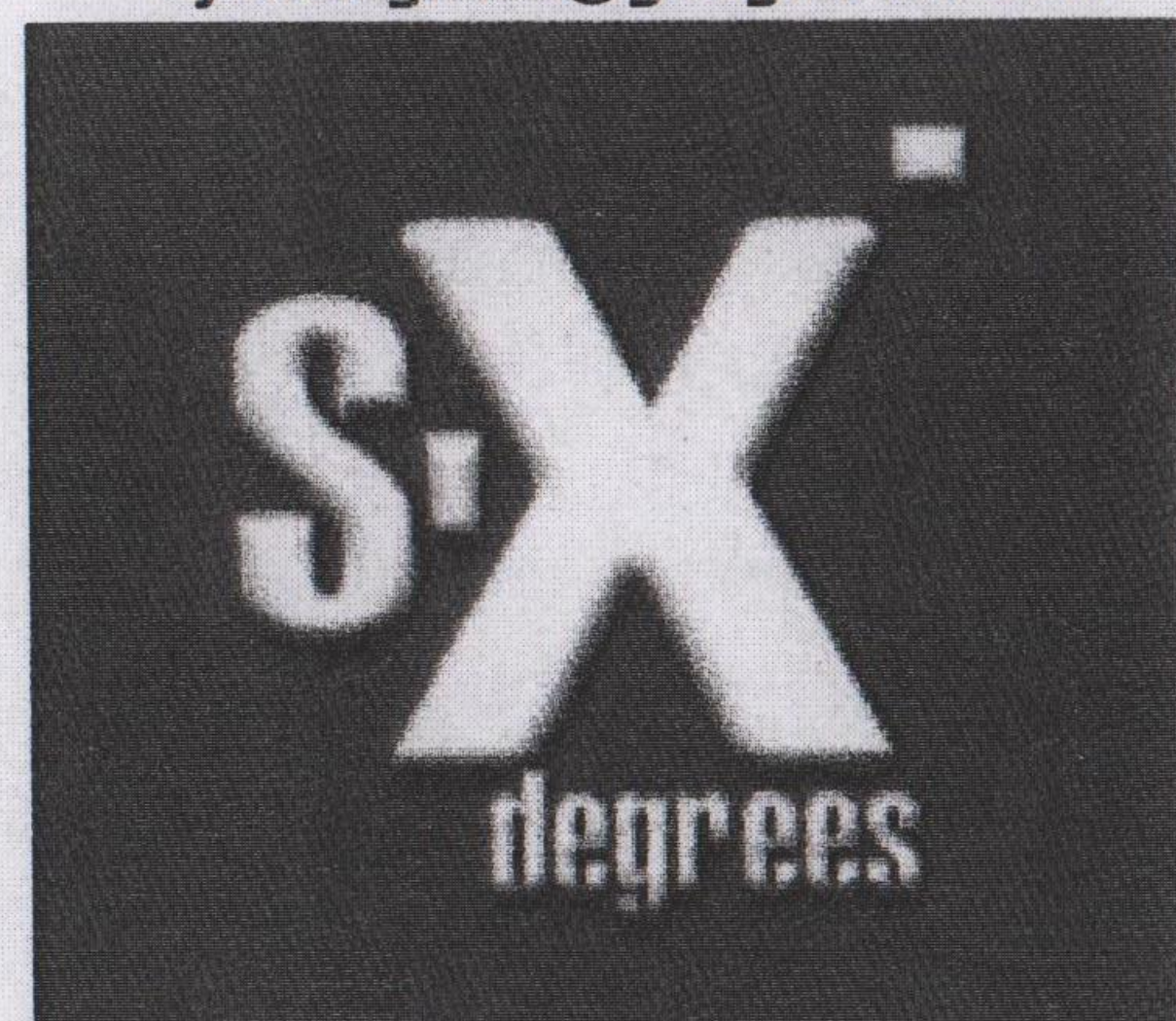
## WOMEN'S REGULAR EVENTS & SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

### WOMENS DISCO

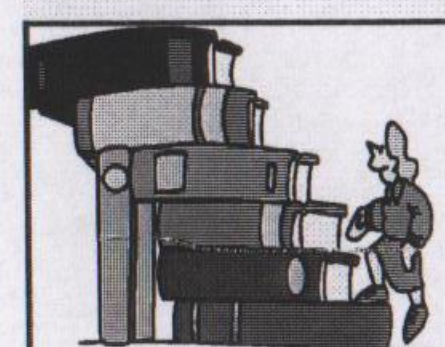
15th October 2011

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



#### Midweek Book Group

Read a set book and then join in  
with the discussion group  
Meeting at 7:30 Canalhouse Bar  
7 Sep: Disobedience Naomi Alderman

See page 5

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

#### 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>

#### Sapphist Writers

Nottingham Based Women's  
Writing Network

Meets Second Monday  
of Every Month, 7.15pm

For more info email  
sapphistwriters@yahoo.co.uk  
<http://sapphistwriters.blogspot.com/>

#### Dyke Out Lincs (DO Lincs)

~ The social & friendship group  
for

Lincolnshire Lesbians ~



Online website with discussions and events/  
get2gethers

- \* Going out and meeting other Lesbians around the county & surrounding areas
- \* Chilling out at other local events
- \* And it's totally free to join!

How do we all meet up?

- \* Regular get2gethers each month
- \* Adhoc get2gethers...pubs, walks, meals, movies etc
- \* Members can add get2gethers

Come and join in...meet more people and have fun  
To join Dyke Out Lincs (DO Lincs) -

<http://dykeoutlincs.ning.com>

After this year's  
summer break you  
must all be looking  
forward to the  
return of  
THE  
friendliest fun social  
evening around.

Let's raise the roof  
as well as a few  
eyebrows in sleepy  
Melbourne.

Next date for your  
diary

Fri 16th Dec

Women only

### DISCO

Friday 2nd Sept

8pm—midnight

(bar til 11)

Dancing to

DJ Kaz

British Legion  
Hall

Derby Road

Melbourne

Just south of Derby

£2 on the door

Cheap bar prices

Email Lookout for travel directions



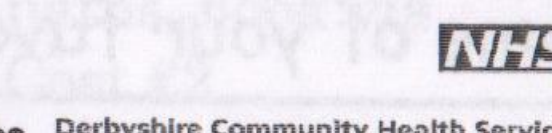
## Sports & Socialising

### LESBIAN, BI & TRANS WOMEN @ TENNYSON

Women @ Tennyson is a free monthly social  
group for lesbian, bisexual and trans women.

The group runs the first Wednesday of the  
month at 1 Tennyson Avenue, Chesterfield from  
7pm to 9pm.

Please call Sarah or Michaela on 01246 559431  
or email [sarah.thomasin@nhs.net](mailto:sarah.thomasin@nhs.net) for more info



support, advice, friendship and fun!

See page 7 for programme of talks for Jun, Jul & Aug



#### WOMEN'S BADMINTON

PORTLAND LEISURE CENTRE

Newcomers please check for details

THURSDAY EVENING

Contact

Cristina on 07903 943064

For details of SATURDAY MORNING Contact  
Ruth or Rachel on 0115 982 6952

### 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.

Meetings

Ring to check us out first if you like

Judi 07888657916

### 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!

Now Meeting  
on the last Thursday  
of each month  
From Thursday  
27th January 2011

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

NEW NEW NEW

See You  
Next  
Tuesday!  
for girls who like girls

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)



## LOCAL LIVE GIGS



Po' Girl

**The Glee Club Nottingham: Thursday 1st Sept 7pm**

Their name is a nod to the women of New Orleans who at the time of the railroad strikes gathered scraps of food from the restaurants and delivered the notorious Po' Boy sandwiches to the men while they were striking. It's about the solidarity of the workers, as well as to all the musical influences that came out of New Orleans that have shaped Po' Girl's sound. Ideal gig if you like bluegrass/folk/harmonies and the music of The Wailin' Jennys and Be Good Tanyas.

**Sunday 4th Sept**

**Darley Park concert & fireworks**

UK's largest free outdoor classical concert



**And in Derby**

**Roll Out The Beryl**

**Guildhall Theatre**



**Wed  
Nov 2nd  
7:30**

Some of your favourite Beryl Reid characters

Some of your favourite Doris day songs  
Guildhall Theatre 4pm & 7:30 Sunday 30th October



**Dale Diva : Believe**  
13th Nov 2:30 & 7:30  
Derby Theatre

**Diva for a Day :**  
10th Sept  
Great Hall



## OTHER STUFF

Yes, it's coming round to the annual Leicester women's charity disco on Saturday 29th October at the Slater Street health club. This year we have no less than 3 fabulous female djs. The chosen charity this year is breakthrough breast cancer and you will be able to buy tickets direct through our website shortly.

Only other contact at the moment is via Nottingham Hiking Dykes.

I've been asked to tell you about a recent book by the "gay-brain" scientist, Simon LeVay. It's title is "Gay, Straight, and the Reason Why: The Science of Sexual Orientation." It finally puts to rest the old "chosen lifestyle" theory of homosexuality which has done our community so much harm. Dr. LeVay has spoken at quite a few PFLAG chapters over the years. It would be great if you could let your membership know about this book, or post a link to it on your Facebook wall. Here's a link to the page which has more information about it: [http://www.amazon.com/Gay-Straight-Reason-Why-Orientation/dp/0199737673/ref=cm\\_cr\\_dp\\_orig\\_subj](http://www.amazon.com/Gay-Straight-Reason-Why-Orientation/dp/0199737673/ref=cm_cr_dp_orig_subj)

I checked on your behalf & "gay" in this context includes lesbians. Like "man" includes women!?

If, in the future you are visiting the Emerald Isle and find yourself in County Galway, then drop in at "The Hungry Bookworm", Abbey Lane, Loughrea. Recently opened by Angela & her partner, it is a café, tapas & wine bar, with second-hand books for sale too. Furnished with settees, comfortable chairs & tables, you will receive a warm, gay friendly Irish welcome. The food is very reasonably priced and we found the sweet potato and lemon grass soup served with home-made soda bread & butter delicious and great value at 3 euros. There is also a small outdoor area so it's a great place to visit whatever the weather and you can top up on your holiday reading at the same time.

Ann

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

## Nottingham Women's History Group

**2011 autumn programme**

**Open Planning meeting**

**Monday 5th September 7pm**

at Fade, Hard to Find Cafe. Help us plan our events, chat about women's history, and get involved

**Not just flat caps and pipes**

**Saturday, 15 October, 2 - 4pm**

A journey through St Anns Allotments - Nottingham's hidden gem. Heritage tour of Victorian detached gardens in the heart of St Anns, Nottingham. See <http://www.staa-allotments.org.uk> for more details, meeting point..

The walk covers steep hills and uneven paths, book via [mo\\_heritage@staa-allotments.org.uk](mailto:mo_heritage@staa-allotments.org.uk), Cost £2

**Tap dancing at Boots**

**Saturday, 12 November, 2 - 4pm**

An exploration of images of women in history - on film and through their own words. Gillian Murray, MACE

At International Community Centre (ICC), 61b Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG1 3FN

Cost £3, includes refreshments Flyers to follow.....

We are also planning for 2012

A return trip to the Mary Potter Museum

Suffragettes Women and sport  
More walks Pass the word

Nottingham Women's History Group  
[nottmwomenshistory@googlemail.com](mailto:nottmwomenshistory@googlemail.com)

[www.nottinghamwomenshistory.org.uk](http://www.nottinghamwomenshistory.org.uk)

**Tel Mo 07950 472022 or Val 0115 941 9186**

Over the last few years the Nottingham Women's History Group have been running very popular walks around the city highlighting the lives of women - both famous and unknown. We have now published the walk as a FREE A5 size, 16 page booklet, so that women can follow the walk at their own convenience. You can get a copy of the walk any of these ways:

E mail [nottmwomenshistory@googlemail.com](mailto:nottmwomenshistory@googlemail.com) and we'll send you the booklet as a PDF (Adobe)

Down load from the web site  
[www.nottinghamwomenshistory.org.uk](http://www.nottinghamwomenshistory.org.uk)

Look out for it at libraries around the city and Nottingham Women's Centre

Send a stamped addressed A5 size envelope (33p stamp) to

Nottingham Women's History Group  
25 Cavendish Vale, Nottingham, NG5 4DS

## Book Group

Some of the books under consideration for the autumn

**The Dispossessed** by Ursula K. Le Guin  
Shevek, a brilliant physicist decides he will seek answers & attempt to tear down the walls of hatred that have isolated his planet of anarchists from the rest of the civilized universe.....

**The idea of perfection** by Kate Grenville  
Harley Savage comes to Karakarook to help establish a heritage museum. Douglas Cheeseman has been sent to supervise the demolition of Bent Bridge. Like the bridge, they may have been bent but not broken, but their futures are very much in doubt.....

**The Glass Room** by Simon Mower  
Landauer House shines as a marvel of steel, glass & onyx. Built for newly weds, the radiant honesty & idealism of 1930 quickly tarnishes as the storm clouds gather. The house slips from hand to hand but exerts a gravitational pull on those who know it.....

**The Fifth Sacred Thing** by Starhawk  
Set in 2048, California, in a time of ecological collapse, when the hideously authoritarian and corporate-driven Stewards have taken control, one region has declared itself independent. It's a love story set in the context of the defence of the city against the invaders.

**Women on the edge of time** by Marge Piercy  
Connie is a Mexican-American single mother who has been confined to a mental institution where is under-goes "mind control". From being a woman on the edge of society she resolves to fight back.

**Body of Glass** by Marge Piercy  
In the middle of the 21st century, life as we know it has changed for all time. Shira meets an extraordinary man who is a unique cyborg

**Gaining Ground** by Joan Barfoot  
The story of Abra, a woman who leaves her husband, children & suburban security to live as a hermit. After 9 years her solitude is broken by the arrival of her mother.

**Truths** by Rebecca Buck  
In 1808 Elizabeth Cooper, found guilty as a thief, is sentenced to hang & thrown in to prison. In 2008, Jen is a costumed tour guide where the prison has become a museum.

**To kill a mockingbird** by Harper Lee  
*You all know it - or think you do.*



## Walking Groups

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



18th Sep : meet at the car park in the centre of Hathersage, GR 231815 , 8 miles .

16th Oct : meet outside the Black Swan in Ashover GR349633. 6.5 miles

20th Nov : meet in main car park at Baslow GR258722 . 7 miles

18th Dec : meet at car park on Church Street, Southwell. 5 miles

[www.nottinghamhd.homestead.com](http://www.nottinghamhd.homestead.com) or [www.peakhd.webs.com](http://www.peakhd.webs.com) or ring Lesbian and Gay Switchboard 0115 9348485

To celebrate 20 years or thereabouts we have booked Strelley Hall (nr Junc 26 of M1) for a picnic party on Saturday 10th September from 2-8pm. We will have use of an indoor room, and the grounds. We will be organising some games to play e.g. rounders and croquet. Please bring picnic food to share.

There will be a small charge to cover the cost of the hall hire and providing tea and coffee (between £3-5 per person, depending on numbers), any surplus will be given to Breakthrough Breast Cancer charity.



### 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 4th Sept meet at

the car park at Upper Burbage Bridge SK 260830 NE of Hathersage for a 9kms walk

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, for further details 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)

28th Aug: Moscar Heights, 7 miles, park on side of road

11th Sept: Kinder Scout, 9 miles meet at Birchall Clough car park

25th Sept: Hathersage, 6 miles, meet by bus stop on main road through Hathersage

Fri 7th Oct to Sun 9th Oct: 20th Anniversary weekend. Fawcett Mill Fields, nr Lake District

For the full programme check out the website or contact Sheffield Hiking Dykes direct



Some groups also do evening walks in the summer: make enquiries direct

**Peak Ruffy walks:** Future Peak Ruffies walk dates:

*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. When you join us for a walk, please ensure you have appropriate walking gear – boots, waterproofs and warm clothing – and carry sufficient food and drink for a full day in the hills.*

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

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

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



## HELP — updated from The Gay Guide

### 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 915 2882

### 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 [nottslesbiancentre@ntlworld.com](mailto:nottslesbiancentre@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

(former 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

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

## Lesbian Parenting Group (see also Page 3)

Singles or couples, with children looking for support, information exchange and socialising, then leave contact details with Switchboard so we can assess local interest.

Contact us by e-mailing [notts@lgswhitchboard.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:notts@lgswhitchboard.fsnet.co.uk) or phone 0115 9348485 (Monday to Friday 7-9pm)