Hello Peeps!

It’s Friday! It’s Five To Two and it’s....

All The Colours of the Rainbow!!!!

Now we all know how much you enjoy queuing outside Booth’s in Northwich to get your next tin of Anchovies but just on the off-chance that you are looking to brighten up your day with a touch of Fun, Funk and Fabulousness why not join Sally and me for our One Off Superspecial ‘Not-Quite-A-Pride’ Zoom Event Of The Year - ‘All The Colours of the Rainbow’!

With our unique mixture of Mirth, Memories and Music (crafted and inspired by you) join us at 2:00pm and we’ll share a couple of hours together.

As a special treat, I have put together a just-for-fun QueerQuiz that is printed on page five of this special edition of the Rocket that we’ll be going through at 3:00pm so no cheating by googling the questions in advance (the answers will be printed in issue 7 for those of you too busy queuing for Anchovies).

So summon up the spirit of summer sunshine and bring your sunny self to ‘All The Colours of the Rainbow’ Zooming in at 2:00pm on Friday 31st.

See you then!

www.silverrainbows.com  info@silverrainbows.com  01270 653150
Shirley’s Choice
Everything Possible
The Flirtations

I first heard this song at a club in New York on the evening of 5.11.1991. I was with my then girlfriend, J, on a week’s holiday, staying at an arty ‘brownstone’ apartment owned by two gay guys in Greenwich Village. The following day would be my 38th birthday; I’d not long realised I was a lesbian (d’uh!) and we were having a wild holiday in the Village, trying all the gay bars and my still quite recently discovered sexuality. This was my choice for an evening out, we didn’t know who the Flirtations were, but they had Cris Williamson and Tret Fure as support acts, we had heard of them, and reckoned it’d be ok.

As it turned out J and I were both blown away by the Flirtations who sang and had beautiful voices, particularly Michael Callen. The AIDS epidemic still had its devastating grip on the gay community and The Flirts were HIV/AIDS activists, so the crowd were very similar to those we hung out with back in London, and many of their songs related to this theme. Not all though, and one I was particularly taken with was Everything Possible, a song to be sung to a young child as maybe a lullaby, explaining to the child that they ‘can be anybody that they want be’ in life. Michael Callen said he wished somebody had sung this song to him when he was small; so did I.

Fast forward a number of years, J and I had long since split, and together with my then partner G, I was co-parenting twin girls, N, and F. I had introduced G to the Flirts and to this song amongst others, and one or the other of us would sing it to the girls when they were tiny. They loved it too.

Fast forward many more years. The girls will be 30 next year; ye god’s that makes me feel old! G and I are no longer together and not in touch but I still love the song for all the amazing memories it brings back - from both sides of the big pond - and I'm sure G and the girls do too. (And maybe even J!)
Ron’s Choices

Everybody’s Talkin
Nilsson

I Love You Samantha
from “High Society”

If I Should Fall in Love Again

My own personal story is that after nearly 51 years of being together, my partner, Allan Green, sadly died on Friday March 13th this year. We had met, and never been apart since Wednesday 23rd July 1969, 2 days after man landed on the moon.

There are 3 tunes which I associate with him;

A few weeks after we met, we went to dinner with a friend while on holiday in London. This man was also friendly with John Schlesinger and we were told that we must go to see his latest film which, in 1969, was Midnight Cowboy.

Allan didn’t like sitting through films and it was the only film we actually sat through in a cinema! Its iconic tune “Everybody’s Talkin” sung by Nilsson virtually became “our tune” from that time and we pledged to have it at our funerals. Although we couldn’t have a proper funeral due to CV19, I did play it in the car, very loudly with the windows open, as I followed the hearse to our local cemetery.

The second tune is also from soon after we met when we started going to a pub on the East Lancs Road between Manchester and St Helens. This pub had a large function room and a very camp organist called “Beau” who played there to a full house every night.

After our third or fourth visit he “twigged” that we were a gay couple and promptly nicknamed me “Desi” and Allan “Samantha”. As a consequence, whenever we walked into the room he would switch to play I love you Samantha from the film High Society!

As an amateur theatre organist myself, my own personal tribute to Allan is an old wartime favourite which begins; “If I should fall in love again, I’d fall in love with you again”. Even playing it now brings me out in floods of tears.

Ian’s Choice

Love’s Gone Mad
Seventh Avenue

as it takes him back to his disco days in Oliver’s during the mid-80’s.

Simon’s Choice

So Many Men, So Little Time
Miquel Brown

as it was the track he remembers when he was coming out and going to ‘Rockies’ In Manchester (and always missing the last train home)

Fiona and her girlfriend’s Choices

Searching (Looking for Love)

Love Pains
Hazel Dean

Karma Chameleon
Culture Club

They would follow Hazel Dean across the Northwest and always sang along to Searching (Looking For Love) and played Love Pains on the cassette in the car (it was on their Mix Tape - along with Karma Chameleon By Culture Club)

Moe’s Choice

It’s Raining Men
The Weather Girls

Follow Silver Raibows at twitter.com/RainbowsSilver
As we are all being encouraged to exercise to improve our health and well-being we are starting up a programme of ‘Tea & Toddlers’ (bring your own tea). Starting with Marbury Country Park on August 6th and Astbury Mere on August 20th.

6th August
Marbury Country Park
(pictured above)
Comberbach,
Northwich
CW9 6AT
Meet in the car park at 1:45pm to set off at 2:00pm (car parking charges do apply) Bring your own tea.

Marbury Country Park lies in the heart of Northwich Community Woodlands and is an integral part of the Mersey Forest. Former industrial land is gradually being transformed to create a rich and green environment stretching from Marbury to Northwich. Many of the features of the Country Park, including the lime avenues and the arboretum, are a legacy of the days when Marbury was a grand estate. Join us for a toddle through splendid woodlands and enjoy views across Budworth Mere.

20th August
Astbury Mere Country Park
Sandy Lane, Off A34
Newcastle Road,
Congleton
CW12 4FR
Meet in the car park at 1:45pm to set off at 2:00pm (car parking charges do apply) Bring your own tea.

Astbury Mere Country Park occupies the site of a former sand quarry, just off Newcastle Road in Congleton, Cheshire. The site encompasses 14ha of open space, just ten minutes walk from the town centre, with paths linking into the local countryside. It is right on the edge of the Peak District National Park.

These will replace the usual 'Zoom & Tattle' for those weeks but you can still sign in and say 'Hello!' on Wednesday 12th and 26th starting at 2:00pm.

If the events are a success we hope to continue the programme throughout the autumn so remember to check our website for updates to our events calendar -
www.silverrainbows.com

Best wishes and I look forward to seeing you all soon.
Kathryn Dawn Lang OC AOE, known by her stylized stage name k.d. lang, is a Canadian pop and country singer-songwriter and occasional actress. Hits include "Constant Craving" and "Miss Chatelaine". Lang, who came out as a lesbian in a June 1992 article of the LGBT news magazine The Advocate, has championed gay rights causes. She reflected on coming out in a 2016 interview with The Canadian Press, saying it "felt like it was the most responsible thing for society and myself" at the time. She also noted that dealing with the fallout was something she struggled with in the years that followed. "It's a very hard thing to unravel for me and decipher," she said. "In a way you can't. It's all just a big ball of wax of who I am and what my role in popular culture was – and what pop culture's role was in me."
music

1. In 2017, Miley Cyrus’s album ‘Younger Now’ contained a song called She’s Not Him. Which female model was she talking about?

2. Which international singer celebrated 30 years of Top 40 hits in 2018?

3. The lyrics ‘I love this record baby but I can’t see straight anymore’ are from which song? Sung by whom?

4. Following George Michael’s arrest in LA, what is the name of the song where he parodied the event in the video?

5. Which London university did Freddie Mercury graduate from?

tv and film

1. Which UK show screened the first pre-watershed lesbian kiss on TV?

2. Who won the UK season of RuPaul’s Drag Race?

3. Which American show screened the first ever lesbian wedding?

4. Which member of the Fowler family in a popular British soap opera was HIV positive?

5. What is the name of the Channel 4 drama which was based around Manchester’s Canal Street area?

lgbt+ history

1. When was the red ribbon (the solidarity symbol for people living with HIV/AIDS) introduced?

2. Thomas Neuwirth is better known as which Eurovision Song Contest winner?

3. In which year was the age of consent equalised for LGBT+ people in the UK?
4. Why was the gay playwright Joe Orton imprisoned in May 1962?

5. What year was same-sex marriage (not civil partnership) legalised in the UK?

sports

1. In 2017, which country banned Warwick Rowers Naked Calendar?

2. Which Strictly Come Dancing competitor and World Cup-winning Rugby Union player has his own foundation to challenge homophobia and bullying?

3. A 2016 BBC Radio 5 Live survey found that what percent football supporters would have no issue with their club signing a gay player?

4. In 2016, which British Olympic team featured the first married, same biological sex couple winning a gold medal?

5. Which openly gay diver won an Olympic gold medal at the Beijing games in 2008?

Answers will be printed in issue 7 of The Rocket

Anything you’d like to get off your chest, anything you’d like to let the rest of the gang know about, any pics, games, puzzles, you name it you can send them in for inclusion in the next issue of The Rocket to colin@bpcnw.co.uk.