



Alarming rise in Homophobic Attacks

E.A.G.L.E was very alarmed to learn of yet another anti-gay attack in Wexford Town. The individual (who will remain unnamed) was attacked walking home from the Stores nightclub on Sunday night 13/07/2008.

It is becoming a very worrying trend that in an era of openness and unprecedented acceptance, there is still a minority of small minded, vindictive thugs who use physical violence to put the gay community down.

E.A.G.L.E would strongly recommend not to walk around the town alone at night time.

Although the Gardai were called after the attack, there was little they could do to help the situation. We would plead for

anyone who suffers any kind of verbal or physical homophobic attack to lodge a complaint with the Gardai.

All incidents must be reported for the Gardai to start taking the situation serious. E.A.G.L.E will be contacting the Gardai Gay Liaison officer in the coming weeks to discuss the serious increase in attacks in the last few months.

If you have been the victim of an attack, homophobic or otherwise, please report the incident to the Gardai at the following 24 hour numbers.

WEXFORD	053 - 9165200
NEW ROSS	051 - 421204
GOREY	053 - 942122
ENNISCORTHY	053 - 923534

"Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind."

Dr. Seuss

LGBT NOISE DEMONSTRATES FOR FULL GAY MARRIAGE.

LGBT Noise, one of the groups leading the fight for full Gay Marriage in Ireland, held a series of protests on Saturday 28/06/08.

Demonstrating against the much criticised Heads of Bills on Civil Unions, LGBT Noise and Gay Groups around the Country held simultaneous protests in Dublin, Cork, Galway & Waterford. Described as "a shoddy, half-baked plan for a registration scheme - dog license, anyone?" the majority of the gay community agree that the proposed bill does not come any near to granting full equality to Gays & Lesbians.

E.A.G.L.E were very proud to actively take part in the demonstrations outside the Gaiety Theatre, joining in a spirited crowd of 250+ people. In the South East, sOUTH, Waterfords LGBT Group lead the campaign in Red Square.

EAGLE V SOUTH BOWLING

A well prepared team of 6 people representing Wexford's Gay Community travelled to Waterford on Wednesday 09/07/2008 to take on sOUTH in the first of a series of Challenge matches.

In what turned out to be a very close scoring bowling match E.A.G.L.E came out on top despite sOUTH having home advantage. Preparation was definitely the key to victory as Team E.A.G.L.E have been clocking up many hours at the new Leisuremax Bowling Alley in Wexford town over the past few months.

It is hoped that sOUTH will be travelling to Wexford in the coming months to seek revenge. We are also trying to organise a 5 a side football match in the near future. If there are any sporty people out there who would like to take part, email us @ GAYWEXFORD@GMAIL.COM for more details of upcoming sports events.

DAY TRIP TO OAKWOOD

E.A.G.L.E are organising a day trip to Oakwood at the end of August. This trip is open to everyone to come along. We are hoping to go Sunday 24th August. if anyone is interested, please ask any committee member for details or email us at gaywexford@gmail.com. Due to the nature of the trip Deposits will be requested. Keep an eye out for more details in the coming weeks

SEXUAL TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS INFORMATION

STIs or STDs (sexually transmitted infections/ diseases) are everyone's worst nightmare. Unfortunately they aren't just a nightmare but a growing problem in Ireland. Ireland has seen a big increase in STIs during recent years. We often think "that's not my problem, it's not gonna happen to me" and all too often we forget, are too lazy, too horny or too drunk to use condoms.

Don't think that STIs only affect the hormone crazed types that shag anything available. Having unprotected sex even once can put you at risk of getting an STI. There are at least 25 different types of STIs and all of them are serious but most are completely treatable. They can however, cause long term problems if they aren't diagnosed and treated properly. If you are having sex (anal, oral or vaginal) you should have regular check ups for sexually transmitted infections. The most common STIs in Ireland are genital warts, non-specific urethritis (NSU) and chlamydia.

What is an STI or STD and who can catch one

Most STIs or STDs are infections that pass from person to person through sexual activity without contraception (those super handy condoms again!). You can catch an STI from unprotected sex (vaginal, anal or oral).

Worrying symptoms:

If you've had unprotected sex (vaginal, anal or oral) and have any of these symptoms, go for a check up immediately.

- * An unusual discharge/ liquid or smell from your vagina, penis or bum.
- * Blisters, boils, lumps, swelling or itching in or around your vagina, penis or bum.
- * Burning or painful feeling when you pee.
- * Pain during sex.

The symptoms are different for every STI and you might have one of these symptoms without suffering from an STI. Other STIs have no obvious symptoms at all. If you have any worry

at all that you might be infected, then for your own peace of mind, go to a clinic or GP and get tested.

Screening / Treatment in Wexford – South East.

Unfortunately free anonymous drop in Testing Centres are only available in Urban Centres, Dublin, Cork, Galway etc.

Waterford Regional Hospital does have an STI Clinic once a week but this is in no way LGBT friendly. For those of you looking for anonymity your best bet is head to the city but expect to have to wait as STI Clinics in the cities are often crowded so expect a few hours to go through the process. Don't forget your local GP though. This option is probably the easiest and most accessible but you will have to pay. If you are worried about anonymity, anything you visit your local doctor about is held in the strictest confidence "doctor patient confidentiality."

As much as we hate to admit it the only 100% proven way not to risk catching an STI is abstinence, for everyone else, wear a condom.

“Labels are for filing.
Labels are for clothing.
Labels are not for
people.”

Martina Navratilova

INSIDE LOOK: GAY TV

VAL WALSH

From the moment he flounced onto the screen one had the impression that there was something funny about Mr. Humphries and his first "I'm free" confirmed it. He was as gay as a bag of poodles. Whilst it was never actually said in the show one was left with no confusion as to Mr. Humphries sexual preference. With his many camp costumes and endless innuendo he quickly became a favourite cast member of the show "Are You Being Served?". His

stereotypical portrayal of a gay man was amusing to watch, inoffensive and most importantly for the 1970's audience he was unthreatening.

Claybourn Humphries was by no means the first gay character on T.V. or in films. I have used him to begin with as he is the first I remember.

Mr. Humphries was the first "one of those" that many of us remember seeing on T.V. but since then there has been an explosion of homosexual characters, films, T.V. shows and even T.V. stations.

Whilst most of us are familiar with the stereotypical portrayal of gay men and women in shows such as "Will and Grace" or films like "My best friends wedding" I will in the coming months be exploring the lesser known gay and lesbian characters who have made a significant contribution to LGBT society.

I will be choosing one character per month and discussing how they made a difference. If any of our readers has a particular favourite you would like me to write about please feel free to contact me through the contact details provided for E.A.G.I.E.

Until next time happy camping.

CHANGE OF CONTACT DETAILS

We are currently relaunching our website and changing hosting providers, so for all the latest news - check out the BEBO sites, and if you need to contact us for whatever reason, don't hesitate to do so on

GAYWEXFORD@GMAIL.COM

INTERVIEW: THE JADES

The spice girls came, conquered our hearts and went their own ways, leaving a string of broken gay hearts. The likes of Bewitched, All Saints, and Girls Aloud took turns of filling in the void, a void that no short lived reunion tour could fill. With rumours rife that Nadine is to leave the Girls Aloud, what will become of the loyal gay following ??? Could the answer be on our very own doorstep ? GW says yes and are highly recommending local Wexford girl rockers The Jades, finalists in You're a Star, to take the music industry by storm in the coming Months. While comparisons to other girlbands are plentiful, good looks, great image, fantastic voices. The Jades offer something different. They write their own music, play their own instruments and can actually perform live, recently supporting The Bangles at their Vicar Street gig.

GW have been very lucky to meet up with Yvonne O'Sullivan of The Jades for a quick interview.

GW: You have just released your new single "Sooner or Later" and first album is due out soon. Tell us more

Yes we released our first single from our debut album to radio on May 16th and I can honestly say we've been absolutely delighted with the positive reaction we've had for it. The radio stations have been fantastic, with pretty much most of the regional stations nationwide putting it straight onto to their priority playlists. Also the reaction from the public has been great. It seems to have appealed to a really broad range of age groups which is fantastic because that means there will be much interest in following singles and the album. We've just completed a radio tour of 15 stations over the past 2 weeks so that has been a great experience.

GW: Any plans for your promo tour ? We hope Wexford is pencilled in on the Calendar....

Well at the moment, both Sheila and Elaine are based in the UK so we are not gigging. We will hopefully be releasing our album around September time so that is when we plan to get back out on the road.....which no doubt will either lead to or from Wexford. By that stage we will have had a couple of singles out so people will be able to sing along!!

GW: You and the girlies have known each other since childhood, are there any Gerri Halliwell type tantrums or is it all harmonious bliss.

Oh God....the tantrums....well yes as you can imagine with any group who have to spend so much time with each other there are bound to be disagreements.....but then you throw.... 10 years together, 2 sets of sisters(only one set of sisters left now as Caroline decided to call it a day last year) all very much independent girls..... into the pot and yes there HAVE BEEN AND ALWAYS WILL BE TANTRUMS now and again.....but I mean you need them too just to break any tension build up and to clear the air.

GW: Knowing that democracy never works and there being only 3 in the band who gets the casting vote for important decisions.

No, to be fair there are never really any major issues regarding important decisions. We all have pretty much the same aims and ideas for the band so to be honest we just do what's best for us all as a group which is fairly obvious most of the time anyhow. Regarding songs and music...well obviously whoever writes has most of the say on the basics but then we all say how we feel about how things are going etc....and we all usually are fairly much in agreeance. We also have our manager Claire Leadbitter (also manages The Frames) to give her much respected opinion also so as you say if its not broken....don't fix it !!

GW: Yvonne, it has to be mentioned ! Eurovision 2008. The Lesbians voters swung it in 2007 with Serbia and the gays handed it to the gorgeous Dima Bilan for Russia this year. Considering The Jades went so close to

representing Ireland a few years back. Did ye stay in and watch the show and who got your douze points ???

Well now I didn't get to see the whole thing as I'm pretty much on the go all of the time, but I did tune in for a few songs....and I must say from what I saw...Norway would've got my douze points!! I'm an old fashioned Eurovision girl who likes a nice song and would love to see a few more countries going back that route. Poland was also very good... but unfortunately Ireland would not have scored on my card at all. Ireland has so much more to offer so I hope they see the light next time round and go back to our routes....a strong melodic ballad.

See more and download the jades single "Sooner or Later" @ www.thejades.ie and keep an eye out for gigs in the coming months.

FASHION SHOW MODELS REQUIRED

The Irish Wheelchair Association & E.A.G.L.E are jointly running a charity Fashion show in the Riverbank House Hotel, Wednesday 10/09/2008. If anyone is interested in volunteering or more especially modeling on the night, for a very worthy cause, please let us know on gaywexford@gmail.com.

EAGLE OVERVIEW

E.A.G.L.E is a Wexford based LGBT Community Group offering support and services to Wexford's gay population, their friends & family and to neighboring counties.

E.A.G.L.E. is also one of the first equal rights advocacy groups in the South East creating awareness and lobbying for the introduction of legislation that will see all citizens of Ireland as equals.

E.A.G.L.E is a non profit organization and currently relies solely on fundraising activities to provide our current services. We are actively seeking external funding from Local, Community and State Bodies to extend and develop the services which we can offer to support the LGBT community.

Some of our current Services include LGBT friendly sports, social and cultural events (twice monthly)

E.A.G.L.E Line - A dedicated line for people to seek information and contact us

Information - Provision of information on LGBT related issues and related organisations (Held an information week in February 08 in partnership with sOUTH Waterford)

Organise transport to LGBT events around the country

Lobby for Equality Legislation and network with other Equality Organisations

Some of the services we are actively hoping to establish and are currently seeking funding for

E.A.G.L.E Centre - An LGBT friendly drop in centre for Co. Wexford. A focal meeting point for the LGBT community. A venue to supply emergency accommodation, counselling, information, recreation and training.

E.A.G.L.E Youth Support Group - A specific Youth Group offering young gay and lesbian people a chance to meet people and make friends their own age. Providing support, counselling & information. Making it easier for young people to "come out" and accept their sexuality and highlight problems associated with homosexuality among young people such as depression, isolation, self harm, bullying and drug abuse.

Health Promotion - Providing information on sexual, mental and physical health, Running information nights / lectures / seminars. Obtaining and distributing literature and condoms among the LGBT community. Developing relations with LGBT friendly medical staff with the view to providing STI screening in Wexford.

Community Integration. To participate more with other community groups and events. We are planning on entering a Float in the 2009 St Patrick's Day Parade and have agreed joint fundraising events with local charities.

E.A.G.L.E Media. We have a number of Media aspirations for the coming year to promote the activities of E.A.G.L.E including developing broadcast applications for BEBO, developing a column in local Newspapers and hopefully a segment on local radio.

sOUTH

sOUTH is a committee of volunteers, based in Waterford, set up to help and support the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) community in Waterford and the south-east

sOUTH offers support and organises developmental and social events for the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) Community who may want to discuss issue's affecting them.

For more information about sOUTH and our Drop In Centre please see our contact details (below).

Wexford LGBT Community group



GAYWEXFORD@GMAIL.COM

gaywexford.bebo.com

EagleT05.bebo.com (The Gay Team)

085 1346039 (6pm - 7pm)

Waterford LGBT Community Group



southlgbt@gmail.com

www.bebo.com/SouthLgbtW

ABOUT LGBT NOISE

Lesbian Gay Bisexual Trans-gender (LGBT) Noise was founded on the 18th November as a politically non-affiliated protest organisation. We hope to reach out to all LGBT people who seek an outlet for their frustration at living as second-class citizens in a modern republic. LGBT Noise will campaign under the ethos that, unless all Irish LGBT people and their friends make enough NOISE, our Government will continue to avoid this crucial issue.

NOISE MISSION STATEMENT

To secure the provision of full civil marriage equality for all in the Republic of Ireland, without regard to gender or sexual orientation. To raise awareness among the public about the urgent need for such provision through public demonstration, education, advocacy and partnerships with other organisations.

For more info go to www.lgbtnoise.ie

"If Michelangelo had been straight, the Sistine Chapel would have been wallpapered."

Robin Tyler

What's on at South 51?

- ✓ Wednesday Night Texas Hold-em Poker starts at 9.00pm
- ✓ Thursday Night: Topsy Thursday Drinks promotions on pitchers of beer, pitchers of cocktails and shots
- ✓ Friday Night: Party Night - Live D.J. Party Games / Spin 'n' Win Drinks promotions on pitchers of beer, pitchers of cocktails and shots
- ✓ Saturday Night: Live D.J. & Late Bar
- ✓ Sunday Night: Live Traditional Music

Planning a Party?

Talk to our experienced team. Let us plan the party to your requirements. We cater for Birthdays, Christenings, Hen Nights, Work Occasions, etc.

General Manager: John Scully, Contact (053) 9174559
'Head the Right Direction - South 51'