



LGBTQ History at Gloucestershire Archives

Finding evidence of LGBTQ lives in archival collections can be tricky, partly because of the nature of documentary evidence, and partly because of the historical need for many LGBTQ people to maintain lives of secrecy.

Here you will find references for the material in our collections that inspired the themes of this [online exhibition](#). Please do remember that new sources are always being uncovered, so this list shouldn't be considered exhaustive.

All references can be used to find material in our [online catalogue](#).

Cheltenham

Most of the information about pubs and clubs comes from the newsletters of the Gloucestershire Gay and Lesbian Community (GGLC) group, available via collection D12678.

Jenny's comments were donated to the [project](#)'s collection D13414, as part of accession 13414.

Resources related to collaboration can be found in the GGLC newsletters (D12678) and in the [project](#)'s collection (D13414).

Cotswolds

David Rollinson's 1982 article can be found in our Local Studies collection, via reference R332.18GS. The documents referenced in David's piece are uncatalogued, but can be accessed via the papers of the Holford family of Westonbirt (D1956).

Forest of Dean

Records – no pun intended – about Joe Meek can be found in our Local Studies Collection. Begin your search with a text search for the influential producer in our online catalogue's 'local studies' section.

We don't have much about Ivor Novello, but you can find a re-recording of a 1914 recruitment song [SR22/54926GS] in our collections. We also have letters from Herbert Howells, one of Novello's Cathedral School friends [D10828/1/1/51], in which he and others are mentioned.

Gloucester

All material relating to the Gloucestershire Gay and Lesbian Community (GGLC) group can be found via D12678. The GGLC newsletters also include articles relating to the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement.

Mark and Sigurd's wedding/blessing celebrations can be found via D11526.

The remaining material for this section is held within the [project](#)'s collection (D13414 accession 13414): other community groups, EACH records, the South Gloucestershire timeline for youth group information, and Paul's recollections of their civil partnership celebration.

The records for Gay-Glos (D12612) are closed, at the time of writing.

South Gloucestershire

Paul's reflections were donated to the [project](#)'s collection D13414, as part of accession 13414.

Much of the information about campaigning comes from the GGLC newsletters (D12678) with additional sources coming from within the [project](#)'s collection D13414 – EACH's material and the South Gloucestershire timeline.

Stroud

All three quotes in this section come from the 'Untold Stories' DVD created by the Gloucestershire Gay and Lesbian Community (GGLC) group. This film is available along with other GGLC material via D12678.

There are also items about helplines in GGLC newsletters (see above) and both helplines and youth groups in the [project](#)'s collection D13414.

Tewkesbury

Unsurprisingly, much has been written about the Despensers, Tewkesbury Abbey, Edward II and their respective deaths. Begin your search for anything connected with these men by using a quick search for in our [online catalogue](#).

Mary Blathway's diaries can be found via reference D2659/27.

The Historic County

The two quotations are taken from 1994 and 2009 editions of the Gloucestershire Gay and Lesbian Community (GGLC) group's newsletters (D12678).

We hope you've enjoyed exploring what we know so far about the LGBTQ history of Gloucestershire and South Gloucestershire.

If you are interested in helping us explore our existing collections, collect new material, or add to the exhibition please [contact us](#).