The Scottish Parliament will hold its final vote on Scotland’s equal marriage bill on Tuesday 4 February when the ‘stage 3’ debate on the Marriage and Civil Partnership (Scotland) Bill will offer one last opportunity for MSPs to make any amendments to the Bill before they decide whether or not to pass it into law.

If the Bill passes Scotland will become the 17th country in the world to legalise same-sex marriage and give LGBT people an equal right to marry the person they love.

Having secured important changes to the Bill since the initial draft, we now have one of the most progressive equal marriage bills in the world. Major victories such as scrapping the spousal veto and allowing the option of gender-neutral marriage ceremonies mean that Scotland’s legislation really will provide genuine marriage equality for all, including trans and intersex people. That’s why the Equality Network strongly believes it was well worth the wait.

Thirty-four years after Scotland decriminalised (male – Ed.) homosexuality in 1980, our MSPs will have the chance to remove the final major piece of sexual orientation discrimination from Scots law, the last big step in the long journey towards full legal equality for lesbian, gay, and bisexual people in Scotland.

For trans and intersex people there is still more work to do in order to secure legal equality, and of course achieving equality under the law doesn’t guarantee an end to the barriers, prejudice and discrimination that LGBT people face in society. So our work tackling inequality in all of these areas will continue.

Nonetheless, this should be an opportunity to celebrate significant progress – it is fitting that the vote will take place during LGBT History Month, a chance to reflect on how far we’ve come as a society and to recognise all the work that generations of LGBT people in Scotland have put into fighting for equal rights over very many decades.

For our part, the Equality Network wants to thank everyone who has contributed to the campaign over the past six years, and all those who have supported our work for LGBT equality in Scotland over the past seventeen years.

If you are reading this before the vote happens there is still time to contact your MSPs:
www.equalmarriage.org.uk/itstime

and please join us outside the Scottish Parliament at 1pm on the day of the vote for the final rally of the campaign!
There is an amazing year of the arts around Scotland starting in Edinburgh with the annual event of the National Theatre's production of War Horse which completely sold out its three week run at the Festival Theatre prior to the show. This breathtakingly imaginative piece of theatre, told in a totally life-like way through the use of puppets, brings the story of a young boy and his horse Joey back to life. The show was an absolute triumph and Edinburgh was the first stop for the national tour of the play which is due to finish at the Royal Albert Hall in London. The show is a must see for all ages.

Theatre

Out in Edinburgh

The Premiere of the latest play from the team behind the smash hit The Burgh Coffeehouse was a huge success. The play, which is situated on Commercial Street and described as a "rustic independent coffeehouse," was packed with people enjoying the great prices, with a wide variety of coffees and drinks to choose from. The staff behind the bar, and good tunes pumping from the stereo, we have a great atmosphere to enjoy.

The Burgh Coffeehouse

Dundee

Miss Kelly Wilde has been busy, for a complete update on how things are going for her, please visit www.misskellywilde.com or if you prefer, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MissKellyWilde.

For those of us who are 25-35, Allsorts (LGBT Youth Scotland), meets every Tue, and offers a great space for young people to chill, meet others and take part in activities and workshops that happen from week to week. There are great chances to be involved with other LGBT Youth Scotland events, but among that, some of the young people have worked hard over the past months to work on an annual booklet, about how to better understand Transgender. The booklet entitled TRANSCENDENT Gender Identity: Explained is really helpful and useful, and is written for everyone. You can get the PDF here at, http://www.fias.org.uk/UserFiles/Fil...jpg. For more information on Allsorts, search for "AllsortsGLYTES" on Facebook or check out www.lgbtyouth.org.uk.

Happily New Year! I hope you all had a cheery festive season! I have a brief update to offer in 2014, a year ago, the LGBT community in Edinburgh have announced their dates. If you are more up to date with the upcoming details. If you are interested in more information, please visit www.girlsScotland.org or www.beefiarsebeaumng.com to find out more. There are plenty of opportunities to play the part of the Edinburgh Fringe 2014. Go along and see if it is for you.

With Brett Herriot

album roofing azl's stormed to the top of the 40's providing a much needed blast of their signature impressible pop. The city's Music Hall on 12th Mar 2014, a year ago, the great city of Glasgow! One of the largest sporting events in the world, is taking place at the same time. The city will be a magnet for tourists and visitors alike, a sight to see. The programme is sure to attract the fans of the sport. The Desert is in talks to bring the show to Glasgow, which is on Mon 3rd to Sat 8th of Mar.

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At least, it will be a great start to the year and for Klozet, it's looking to be an amazing year ahead.

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Andi Watson
aberdeen@scotsgay.co.uk

Highland LGBT Forum held its AGM in Inverness with a disappointingly low turnout. Rosemary, the newly elected Chair, is supported by charity trustees Sandra in Thurso and Tony in Inverness. They would like to hear from anyone in- terested in taking on the roles of Secre- tary and Treasurer, as well as other potential committee members or volun- teers who would like to help the LGBT community across the Highlands & Islands. E-mail forum@gay-ne.co.uk

New group LGBT Moray Youth founded with an aim to be looking for volunteers and youth workers. Find them on Facebook or E-mail Katie at lifegomyouth@gmail.com

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No-Call to Action for the LGBT Community

The Pink Castle Club will continue their work raising funds for LGBT charities. They are seeking new members and ideas for events. If you would like more details, contact the club organiser Morgan Cowley by E-mail: morgan@tramstop.org or 07925 939193.

HIGHLAND LgbT LIVES
Exhibition in Ab Dent Weekends will run on Sat 22nd and Sun 23rd Feb from 4pm at The Bike Shed Community Arts Venue (Grant Street, Inverness). The project is funded with a grant from LGBT His- tory Month Scotland. If you would like to contribute artwork, there are sev- eral workshops on Saturdays in Feb. Participation in the project can allow you to be as ‘out’ or as ‘anonymous’ as you like. If you’re 16 or over and would like more details, contact the event organiser Morgan Cowley by E-mail: morgan@tramstop.org or 07925 939193.

Here we go with my first update and round up of 2014, from a corner of Scotland. Ab Fab Aberdeen University LGBT Society invites you to their 16th an- nual charity Gaylidh to be held on Sat 15th Mar at the Marriott Hotel, Dyce Ab- merdeen. This year they are raising funds to support LGBT Helpline Scot- land, whose aim is to provide informa- tion and emotional support to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their families, friends and supporter- s across the country. In recent years the Gaylidh has raised considerable amounts of money for chari- ties and organisa- tions such as Terrence Higgins Trust, Kaleidos- cope Trust and Broken Rainbow. This year they hope to make this the biggest yet! Join them for a champagne reception, 3 course dinner (with half bottle of wine), guest speaker, a fantastic raffle and of course our fun-filled 40th! Tickets cost £35 and will be available from www.ausa.org.uk/abfab until 8th Feb. If you have any questions or queries about the event please contact Judith ABFab’s President by E-mail: president@abfab.org.uk

Those wonderful people at Cheers Bar & Club are ready to ramp up the enter- tainment again in 2014, with the likes of Sandra London, Angi Brown, Miss Jason, Nicki French, Dave Lynne and Miss Penney all confirmed so far! As well as those regular, Steve has been trying to be up the loose ends on a few new acts for Cheers so watch this space for more news on those, and don’t forget the reg- ular entertainment team Miss Romy, Craig Wren, Scotty West, Daisy Chains, Miss Cherry Bakeland, Debbie Dazzle, Scarlett Diamonte, Vicki Pint and the rest who keep you amused throughout the year. They are also always on the look out for new acts that they can approach to perform so if you have any ideas get in touch with them via twitter and Face- book.

Don’t forget that as well as Cheers there is the Market Arms next door where at 7.30pm on Tue 11th Feb in the River- side Lounge (Glen Mhor Hotel, Ness Bank, Inverness). The special discussion for LGBT History Month is ‘What’s left to fight for?’ Admission is free and there is a bar serving hot and cold drinks. The group is also organising a Walk ‘n’ Talk on Sun 16th Feb meeting at the Town Hall in Dingwall at 2.30pm for a 4-mile hill fol- lowed by a late lunch in a local cafe. You’ll hear about ‘The Queer Tale of Hector MacDonald’ and there’s a rumour you’ll be serenaded by a local fiddler. Contact Morgan (details above) for more info.

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J

n is often a month when we re-

thought out and start to

away the credit card bills for all

that festive shopping! However while

the nights start to stay lighter a little

longer, the scene is still as vibrant and

this month we have a Scotia Gay ex-

clusive! The word is ‘Chalky’s’ and it’s
to go and we will be revealed.

Out the Scene:

As some of you may have noticed,

Mond NightClub is no more. Follow-

ing its shift from the Omni to the

building that was once GHO at the Fr
c

dearly Place, things obviously haven’t

worked out and the building is going

to be lying empty. Now, John and his

team at Planet are taking it over and are

in the final preparations for open-

ning its shift from the

ishing their prenight. Inst-

tially, it will be open six nights a week

with plans to open seven nights in the

near future. It will feature a LGBT Stu-

dent night on the 4th of the month which is

still to be confirmed. Open from 10

& 12pm with drinks from £2.80. We is a

new exciting mainstream student

night called “Yolo Wednesdays” with

two months open to the VIP experience

and drinks from £2.80. This will be a

monster night! The legend that is Miss

Cilla Slack also returns on a Thu with

“Funk” which will have various addi-
tions to the GHO Thu that will really add an

extra to the night, one being a new

version of the old ‘In Like a Lion’ Sun. Fri and

Sat will be open from 6 pm with acts and

singers and various things to attract

the lucky people that finish up the Fri and

off er office parties and cater for early

evening drinkers before the club rev-

elers descend upon the club later in the

evening. One of the main differ-

ences with Chalky’s is the new VIP expe-
rience, which will operate all Fri and

and will be offering premium drinks with

an amazing feature period, with all of the

boys donning kilts for the New Year bash

and launching NTB off to a fantasti-

c party. Preparations are being made

for the NTB’s 21st birthday – it’s the old-

est surviving LGBT Bar in Edinburgh. And

that is due to everyone past and present

who has worked hard to keep the bar’s

heart beat throbbing away in the Edin-

burgh scene. For the birthday which is

officially on 14th Feb, they are running a

day three day event. This sees the launch

of a night of comedy with resident com-
dian Scott Agnew and Maureen Younger

hosting the night and with some of their

comedy connections adding to the fun.

It’s also the start of the Love of Lawyers

hosted by lawyers with a fantas-

tic show of comedy and mind control.

Sat night is the last evening under powers

with a fantastic gay love of Lawyers with

the Love of Lawyers and a bit of

darkness to the evening. The DJ’s arrive and get the tunes going

out Mar.

Please E-mail:

StephenMcGillard@healthequality.org.uk or call

0131 654 3456 for more information.

A reminder that Pride Scotia will be on

Sat 24th June – bigger and better than ever!

Finally whatever you choose to do in

the coming month, have fun and stay safe!

LGBT History Month returns in Feb with a

packed programme of events in Scotland.

The festival, which began in Scotland in

2005, aims to get people engaged with LGBT is-

sues. Youth and community groups, arts or-

ganisations and cultural collectives all over

Scotland have whipped up a foamy cocktail of

events and activities from football matches to

writing workshops, philosophical discussions

and film screenings, encouraging people of all

orientations to express themselves and chal-

lenge prejudice.

The full programme is available to download from the LGBT History Month website at

www.lgbthistory.org.uk

#lgbtsmallsteps challenge

However, LGBT History Month is not just about engaging or attending big events. As part of LGBT History Month 2014, we want to cele-
brate the small, personal ways people have marked the occasion.

The idea is simple: choose a small step from our suggestions on the LGBT History Month website, or come up with your own idea; carry out the action during Feb and let us know how it went by using the hashtags #lgbtsmallsteps on Twitter, Instagram, Tumblr or Vine, or leaving a message on the LGBT History Month Facebook.

LGBT History Month Closing Party

And if you’re not exhausted by the end of

Feb, muster your energy one last time and join us at our closing party. It’s

a marriage made in heaven of LGBT His-

tory Month has joined forces with

We’re Home Mardi Gras Party!

As well as showcasing some of the

whopping 26 events supported this

year – from the huge range of youth

and community groups, arts organisa-

tions and cultural collectives all over

Scotland – Dive is sprinkling its trade-

mark kaleidoscopic extravagance over

the whole affair to bring you an epic

carnival of LGBT history, talent, music

and art.

(Scotland) Edinburgh, Fri 28th Feb, 4pm – 3am, £5 suggested donation (all proceeds go to charity) / #lgbtsmallsteps / 0131 654 3456 for more information.

Whatever you’re up to throughout Feb have a very Happy History Month!
A second date with my new beau, Ban, and we’re watching a movie. Hope this turns out to be our secret, too!

**Gaylord Blade**

Gaylord, mate, I forgot to mention ... I AM MAN-CRAZY!

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**WOMEN**

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**Glasgow, Edinburgh And Surrounds**

Sexual 忽略 management. Roger, 43, In Gai, Male, Theta Glasgow, T 0141-722 3917. E-mail: Roger@thegayroom.co.uk

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**Me To Meet Massage**

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**IN T ERGAY**

IN T ERGAY FRIENDS ABROAD

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