

## LGBT History month - February

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7 attachments (14 MB)

DIGITAL History Month 2019.pdf; Faces-of-2019-V2.pdf; 2019-theme-jpg; 2019-Factsheet-4-Marsha-P-Johnson-jpg; 2019-Factsheet-3-Robert-Graves.jpg; 2019-Factsheet-2-Magnus-Hirschfeld-jpg; 2019-Factsheet-1-Mariella-Franco-jpg;

**LGBT History Month** is celebrated in February in the UK. Founded by the charity 'Schools OUT', the aim of the month is to celebrate the lives and achievements of lesbian, gay, bi and trans people from the past and present.

Coleg y Cymoedd celebrates LGBT History month, with the aim of:

- increasing the visibility of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, their history, lives and their experiences in the curriculum and culture of educational and other institutions, and the wider community;
- raising awareness and advancing education on matters affecting the LGBT community;
- working to make educational and other institutions safe spaces for all LGBT communities; and
- promoting the welfare of LGBT people, by ensuring that the education system recognises and enables LGBT people to achieve their full potential, so they contribute fully to society and lead fulfilled lives, thus benefiting society as a whole.

The theme this year is '**Peace, Activism and Reconciliation**'. The "**Four faces**" selected for 2019 are:

Magnus Hirschfeld - a trail-blazing genius who advanced the understanding of human sexuality and the advocacy of LGBT human rights.

Marielle Franco - a Brazilian Councilwoman, who was killed on 14th March 2018 when her car was pummelled by drive-by shooters.

Robert Graves - a prolific writer in 1916, while in action in WW1.

Marsha P Johnson - an American gay liberation activist and self-identified drag queen.

Each year, The Proud Trust writes a simple, easy to use, Education and Resource Pack for LGBT History Month. The Pack, which includes activities and a powerpoint introduction to help bring LGBT awareness in to classrooms, can be found on the link below or attached to this email.

<https://www.theproudtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/download-manager-files/DIGITAL%20History%20Month%202019.pdf>

Also below are links to associated websites and resources that staff may wish to use as part of their lessons with learners. I have attached some documents for ease of reference. Resources include:

- LGBT wall chart which highlights important legal milestones and identifies visible and significant contributions made by individuals and groups
- curriculum subject area identities/posters
- real life stories

[http://www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk/resources/Wall%20Chart%20A0\\_V7.6.pdf](http://www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk/resources/Wall%20Chart%20A0_V7.6.pdf)

<https://lgbthistorymonth.org.uk/curriculum-posters/>

<https://www.stonewall.org.uk/our-work/campaigns/lgbt-workplace-stories>



LGBT Workplace Stories -  
stonewall.org.uk

www.stonewall.org.uk



We believe that anyone can be a role model. A role model understands the influence they have and uses that influence to create positive change. By sharing your story you're doing just that – showing others that it's possible to be comfortable and successful at work without

We encourage you to display posters to raise awareness of this national event, and encourage discussions to show the College's commitment in providing a welcoming community for our LGBT staff, learners and visitors.

Coleg y Cymoedd highlights LGBT History month as a good opportunity to celebrate our LGBT community. We will be celebrating LGBT history month during the month of February by:

- holding LGBT awareness sessions
- having information displays on each campus
- profiling LGBT role models
- having Rainbow Laces available to purchase on each campus

Further events at the College will also be advertised during the month.

If you would like to get involved, or would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact [equalityanddiversity@cymoedd.ac.uk](mailto:equalityanddiversity@cymoedd.ac.uk).



W: [www.cymoedd.ac.uk](http://www.cymoedd.ac.uk)







# Marsha P. Johnson

## (1944–1992)

**Marsha P. Johnson** was an American gay liberation activist and self-identified drag queen. She was one of the prominent figures in the Stonewall uprising of 1969. A founding member of the Gay Liberation Front, Johnson co-founded S.T.A.R. (Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries), alongside Sylvia Rivera. Johnson was known as the "mayor of Christopher Street".

Born Malcolm Michaels Jr. in Elizabeth, New Jersey, Johnson attended an African Methodist Episcopal Church and was a devout Christian throughout her life. Johnson first began wearing dresses at the age of five but stopped temporarily because she would get harassed by boys near her house. She described being the victim of sexual assault as an adolescent. Johnson's mother told her that being homosexual is like being "lower than a dog".

Johnson waited on tables after moving to Greenwich Village in 1966. She called herself "Black Marsha" but later decided on "Marsha P. Johnson, getting Johnson from the restaurant Howard Johnson's on 42nd Street. She said the P stood for "pay it no mind". Johnson identified herself as gay, as transvestite, and a queen (referring to drag queen). Susan Stryker, a professor of human gender and sexuality studies at the University of Arizona, Johnson's gender expression may be called gender non-conforming in absence of transgender, which was not used broadly during her lifetime

Johnson was one of the first drag queens to go to the Stonewall Inn, after they began allowing women and drag queens inside. In the early hours of June 28, 1969, the Stonewall uprising occurred. While the first two nights of rioting were the most intense, spontaneous demonstrations and marches occurred for roughly a week. On the second night, Johnson climbed a lamppost and dropped a bag with a brick in it down on a cop car. Johnson joined the GLF and participated in the first Pride on the first anniversary of the rebellion.

Though regarded as "generous and warm-hearted" under her Marsha persona, Johnson's dark side sometimes emerged under Johnson's "male persona as Malcolm", resulting in Johnson being hospitalized and sedated. When the violent side emerged, Johnson could be aggressive and speak in a deeper voice and "become a very nasty, vicious man, looking for fights".

In 1975, Johnson was photographed by Andy Warhol. In 1990, now an AIDS activist, Johnson appeared singing the song "Love" while wearing a "Silence = Death" badge.

Shortly after the 1992 pride parade, Johnson's body was discovered in the Hudson River. Police ruled the death a suicide, but friends and the local community insisted Johnson was not suicidal and noted that the back of Johnson's head had a massive wound. Several people saw a neighbourhood resident fighting with Johnson on July 4, 1992. During the fight he used a homophobic slur, and later bragged at a bar that he had killed a drag queen named Marsha.

The 2017 documentary, *The Death and Life of Marsha P. Johnson*, follows trans woman Victoria Cruz as she investigated Johnson's murder. American drag queen TV personality RuPaul called Johnson an inspiration, "the true Drag Mother." During an episode of his show, RuPaul told her contestants that Johnson "paved the way for all of [them]". In 2018 the New York Times published a belated obituary for her.

Source - Wikipedia

## 2019 History II: Peace, Reconciliation, Activism



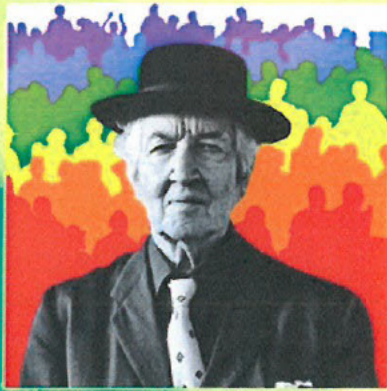
Lesbian Gay Bisexual Trans  
History Month

Schools  OUT UK  
The LGBT Education Charity

Charitable Incorporated Organisation No. 1156352







# Robert Graves

## (1895–1985)

**Robert Graves** was a prolific writer. In 1916, while in action in WWI, He published his first volume of poems. His most well-known works include *Lawrence and the Arabs*, a biography of T. E. Lawrence, whom he knew well, published (1927), the autobiographical *Good-bye To All That* (1929), which recounted his wartime experiences, and his most commercially successful work, *I, Claudius*, published in 1934. Using classical sources, he constructed a complex and compelling tale of the life of the Roman emperor Claudius, a tale extended in the sequel *Claudius the God* (1935). The books were turned into the very popular television series in the 1970s starring Derek Jacobi.

Graves' youth was turbulent, contracting measles then double pneumonia. As a captain in the war, Graves caught shrapnel in his lung and initially reported dead, recuperated with Siegfried Sassoon, who introduced him to Wilfred Owen. Shell-shock also blighted Graves life for many years. In 1918, he survived Spanish 'flu.

Graves lived his life from thereon in a series of heterosexual relationships. He married painter Nancy Nicholson in 1919. After that he had a relationship with US author Laura Riding, a bizarre period during which the ménage à trois between Robert, Nancy, and Laura became a ménage à quatre with Irish poet Geoffrey Phibbs, which ended only when Laura attempted suicide by hurling herself from a window, apparently followed by Graves himself from a lower floor. Laura rescued Graves from his failing marriage. Later he formed a relationship with Beryl, wife of his colleague Alan Hodges. They married in 1950 and she out-survived him. He fathered eight children.

In his youth, Graves had more Uranian tastes. He was hauled over the coals at Charterhouse for a relationship with a fellow pupil. He had 'platonic' crushes on men in his youth. However there is no evidence that he formed a relationship with Sassoon, Owen or T E Lawrence. This is not surprising, given that homosexuality was illegal at the time.

Graves wrote: "In English preparatory and public schools romance is necessarily homosexual. The opposite sex is despised and treated as something obscene. Many boys never recover from this perversion. For every one born homosexual, at least ten permanent pseudo-homosexuals are made by the public school system: nine of these ten as honourably chaste and sentimental as I was."

Graves, who took up boxing as a defence against bullying, is scathing about the public school system regarding its tacit acceptance of male homosexuality as a perversion of its own creation. But the question is whether the 'normal channels' were the heteronormative values and norms imposed by a proscriptive legislature and a proscriptive society which he came to accept and adopt as his own, or whether he rejected his other self – his bisexuality or pansexuality (neither of which were recognised in his younger days) because of the trauma of Charterhouse.

Either way, Robert Graves was throughout his life an enigma. Goodbye to All That was a Foxtrot Oscar to England in which he rejected all its values and forswear never to set foot in it again. His account of WWI events was fiercely contested by Sassoon and his own father, both of who put pen to paper to make amendments. Following the war, Graves said he would never again take orders from another. At times he embraced socialism and feminism and was a committed atheist. In his later years he corresponded regularly with Spike Milligan.

Sources - The Guardian, Spartacus Educational and Wikipedia

## 2019 History II: Peace, Reconciliation, Activism

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