

Gordon 8340 7083

Was 22 in 73, now 60 – remembers a cryptic advert in Time Out or Gay Times, from Peter Gold or Golds, no women, met in peoples homes, spoke about sex and where to find it! Also had socials around the festivals. Dec 73 met 1st partner at Chaukah party (women were there also but uncomfortable) Stayed with Frank for life till Frank died after 30 years together. Went to live with partner in America.

Jewish group introduced him to Gay Philadelphia Jewish Group, so suggestions of global community and communication.

Saw TV programme on CHE 'campaigning for homosexual equality' on TV and though I need to be involved with this, he had been totally closeted and not done anything and felt he was missing out. Contacted TV and was put in touch with organisation and went to a room in Camden, where he met a man. Who said you can either go to the bars or you may be more suited to a social group that meets in a church in lison grove. Very nervous he went to lison grove and door was opened to him by a man who said 'we have two things in common we are both gay and we are both jewish'. The man recognised him from the synagogue. He was taken to a costume ball in shepherds bush, which flabbergasted him. He also went to the King William in Hampstead.

Remembers going to a posh penthouse of a rich man with palm trees in the entrance for JGG, was this Koblers London flat.

? was koblers London flat the place with palm trees or was this someone else?

Note: global communication of JGG, Women came at some point but not comfortable, met jew not at jewish group. Not political JGG.

08/06/08

GORDON

(60)

8390 7083

Jglg info

When did they get involved, how, what know about origins

73- ADVENT - ^{CRIPPLE} @ home, no women - talked about visiting places & see
made friends & went open - festival orientated parties, no services.

Dec 79 - Church party met at parties, around Victorian - (see ad
tel home)

Where did they use to go, was there any Jewish scene
some one / guy there - he was only 20 -

Some women at church party - 73 "let out of place"

met from 74

Genie 75 moved in with Frank,

Group intro to ^{JEWISH} PHILADELPHIA group / series in USA
Origins do they know anything about it

Purely social -

CAMPAIGN for Homosexual equality

Regan Ralle - no guy - met for party support -

Came out at 22 in 1972 as being CHE on TV
Where in London did they use to go

met in small room -

social group in church in Lissen Ave

or pub

"dear god, got 2 chips in common we are both gay & both
Jewish"

What if any interaction do they recall with the Jewish community

Party in Stephen Smith - costume party

high way in RAMPSTEAD -

P.T.O

Notes on chat with Peter Golds – 13 June 2008-06-13 020 -7537-3109

Yes was that GLF research group, died a death very fast, but it gave an inputus for him and others to call a meeting. 200 people attended following advert in first edition of gay News, other papers, but not JC as they refused to carry the advert. The meeting was at the 'West Central Jewish Youth Club' near Bedford Square in November 72. The advert was placed by Simon Benson, but Peter sweated blood over the event. Women were at this meeting. Gay of course in those days, encompassed both men and women. A resolution was made to set up the 'JGG'. Retrospectively we know this is the oldest continuing Jewish Gay organisation in the world, with San Francisco starting 3 months later. JGG was a non political organisation. Yet actions speak louder than words and note from minutes in the 70s that donations were given to Jewish Blind Society, and the Gay News campaign for its editor. (£48 1977)

Chat with student Rabbi, (gay not out) who was opposed to the group saying keep in in the fold don't make a seperation.

Minutes were taken and it was decided to set up a group, the next meeting had about 20 people and was held in Willesden at the home of David Lutyens great niece of Chaim Weitzman. This meeting was a sort of committee and the first big event was the seder. During the 70s Miriam Margolis attended events and a seder was even held at her home.

A side shoot was the helpline, for which Peter Golds recalls donating an answerphone.

In 77 a Scotisish JGG was formed but this didn't last that long.

Used to do 'chat show' to jewish youth groups always 1 women, 2 men, it was always the women who got the stick from the audience.

One day got phone call from posh address, can you come to my house, Peter went. Door opened by Butler, Picassos hanging, henry moore and Bacon. It was a gay check Jew called Freddie Kobler, the founder of Grand Metropolitan Hotels. He became a sort of benefactor to the group and invited them to his country home and pool in the summer on a regular basis. He left much money to Aids charities and other philanthropic endeavours. (minutes at Hall Carpenter, talk of lunch and tea at East Grinstead House of Freddie Kobler – to be held on September 3rd 78, with lifts available.)

Minutes were kept and their was a minute book.

Peter was upset to be ignored by JGLG on their anniversary and is harbouring resentment, and has nothing to do with them any more. Said he and I would meet at a later date.

Action

Meet peter, where are minute books. Michael Brown was active for that first meeting, does anyone know him?

Conversation with Belinda 13/06/08 not phone number given

First got involved in 86, she and 3 others went to a Friday service at Alyth Gardens Synagogue, Rabbi Eli, Lizzi, Belinda and her partner. Spoke with the guys about women becoming more involved with 'JGG'.

Went to conference in 87 with 6/7 of the men, in Amsterdam and spoke about women being more involved, subsequent to this at the AGM of September 87, the name was changed to ' Jewish Gay and Lesbian Group' – Attracting women was always difficult though.

Around this time they set up the Jewish lesbian and gay switchboard, which took calls at certain times, this is different to the information line for the group which already existed.

Belinda became first women chair in 1990. She went on to be president of world congress of Lesbian and Gay Jews in 91. So had to resign as could not hold both posts.

In late 80s early 90s, younger ones broke away, (19 – 25) with Hinnenu, Michael Chisick, Paul (lev) Pedro, Natalie Kaufman . The younger group was less male dominated than JGLG. Women in this group wanted to link with the older women and break away from the men, older women and older guys were not keen, thinking the Jewish bond was more important than the gender split. The solution was the separate women's events/dinners which continue to this day.

JGLG had number on wall of 'Gateway Club' also.

91 introduced Shabbat services once a month to try and become more religious, this was in addition to a monthly Friday night service. Spoke of various venues for these services – Leo Beck, Euston quaker house, need diminished with establishment of Bet Klal.

A group was also set up in Birmingham for a bit by Brian Manley (who Belinda is still friendly with).

JGG used to have notices at Heaven for the information line. Also advertised in Capital Gay and Pink Paper, Gay Times.

Seder always important, at Barry Davies home quite often. (would be a good person to speak to.)

Further info: Jack Gilbert, Lev Pedro, Michael Chiswick, Natalie Kaufman.

~~1st~~
~~2nd~~
~~3rd~~
~~4th~~
~~5th~~

Worms

late 80s early 90s

19-25
Hawaii - young person group

had new women -

later women arriving in bus
signature -

~~Mark~~

group in BRAN
BRAN MARCH

TRAC GIC got as original

MICHAEL CHILSEN / NATALIE WADSWORTH
70 & 80s group phone

CEV
PENC

GROUP (N/A)
Male. control
9/19/92 Male

holyoke
when asked

Galaxy shot - number on wall shoe

Jamil CLETON anyone May 22 83
School camera,

1994 MARCH

12 hours

Jamil warm jacket
want to go to school, wanted

coffee.

Jglg info

- Avenue Home
- BERNARD'S Home

BERNARD

When did they get involved, how, what know about origins

86- Amsterdam World Congress / 5
not much of version, welcome to fight on a fight - so of the
Patti Eli & LIZZI

BERNARD & PATTI

spoke to
Benny Davies - Seals at his home

Where did they use to go, was there any Jewish scene

James Seaton

Shirley Shabman

more dinner in 86-

went to anyone in 87 - with 6/7 of the LESBIAN

at AGM and of GAY + LESBIAN

So

87

Origins do they know anything about it

LESBIAN & GAY SWITCHBOARD

FACTS Series
Charges hope
here

the days of Peggy - personal bond -

CHAIR - 90 - 1st woman -

the one a man
Sat also once a man
Leo back
→ ELI SARAH LEO

91/92 Amsterdam World Congress DGB Jews -

91 Shabbat on Sevens - tried to become more religious
Where in London did they use to go - held Sevens quaker meeting home in Euston

Bot KAC

1995-

Jews C&G group - stayed at Centre town -

What if any interaction do they recall with the Jewish community

CAPITAL GAY & PINK PAPER

GAY TIMES & CLUBS

rites in HEAVEN on down -

Notes on conversation with Russell Vandyk – 06/06/08

First got involved with JGG (Jewish gay group) in 73, was an advert in press and had a po box number – met for a coffee evening at Peter Gold's flat in Hampstead, about 4 guys. In those days gays were setting up gay interest groups, like a gay chess group, so a gay Jewish group was in that vein also. It was a time of liberation, when you felt / 'being gay was it'. It was not political, and very very discreet, even cheques were made out to 'Jewish Liaison Group' something that continues to this day!

At the time he was living in a room in a flat in the west end, the scene tended to be Early Court where he went to the Colherne and Colabana club. Also went to the Salisbury, which tended to be full of older guys and was a bit intimidating. Also Toppers on Poland Street.

He mentioned that the JGG had a sort of 'Benefactor' Freddie Kobler, a very rich guy from Trust House Forte, who used to invite them to his country estate and let them laze around his pool, he was older. Says he (long died) set up a big trust for HIV/Aids and is a known figure I should check out.

Email later to say I should try to track down, Simon Benson

Further Action:

Check out Freddie Kobler

Simon Benson

Peter Gold