

## Campaign for Homosexual Equality

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## CHE members' update, November 2016

#### Next CHE meeting

Please come along to our meeting on Saturday 14 January 2017. The main speaker will be Professor Jeffrey Weeks, who has been described as "the most significant British intellectual working on sexuality to emerge from the radical sexual movements of the 1970s". He has recently published an updated edition of his book Coming Out: Homosexual Politics in Britain from the Nineteenth Century to the Present. After a break for light refreshments, Peter Scott-Presland will talk on "Punting with Pride". The meeting will as usual be at the London Friend Office, 86 Caledonian Road, King's Cross, London N1 9DN, 2pm for 2:30. All welcome, no charge, but it would help our planning if you could let us know that you're planning to come.



Jeffrey Weeks



Helena Kennedy

#### **New Vice-President**

We're delighted to announce that Helena Kennedy, Baroness Kennedy of The Shaws, has agreed to become a Vice-President of CHE. Baroness Kennedy is a leading lawyer and civil rights campaigner.

#### **LGBT History Month**

CHE continues to support LGBT History Month. We're sponsoring the launch event on 30 November at the Speaker's Chamber in the House of Commons. Unlike previous years, there are very strict limits on the numbers of people who can attend, but Nettie Pollard, Peter Scott-Presland and Ross Burgess will all be there. There are also no stalls this year, but we have invested in a pull-up banner, which will be in use for the first time.

History Month 2017 has a theme of citizenship and the law. The National Festival will take place in many locations throughout February (see http://lgbthistorymonth.org.uk/nationalfestival/) and the associated Academic Conference "Sexing the Past", will be in Liverpool from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> of March (see <a href="https://sexingthepast.com/">https://sexingthepast.com/</a>). CHE is once again sponsoring the Allan Horsfall Memorial Lecture in memory of our founder: the speaker will be the biographer and playwright Diana Souhami.



Ross Burgess with the new pullup banner

### **London Metropolitan Archives Conference**

We plan to have a stall (jointly with the UK LGBT Archive) at the LGBTQ History and Archives Conference, "Queer Time, Queer Place, Queer Action". Saturday 3 December at the London Metropolitan Archives in Clerkenwell. Tickets £15 / £10 from www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/queertime-queer-place-queer-action-sexualities-and-localities-tickets-26943527817.

# Oliver Merrington

Sadly we have to report the death of Oliver Merrington during the summer. Oliver was a CHE member for many years in Cambridge and also played an important role in looking after the Hall-Carpenter archive of LGBT material now held at the London School of Economics. His funeral last August was attended by representatives of CHE and a number of other voluntary organisations to which he gave his time and effort. Our condolences to Luca, his partner of 17 years.



Diana Souhami

## The Feminist Library

The Feminist Library, founded in 1975, is an important collection of literature relating to the women's liberation movement. CHE contributed to its emergency fund when it was threatened with closure earlier this year, and has now signed up as a Friend of the Library, which moves into the Old Kent Road Studios during 2017.



logo for 2017