



Campaign for Homosexual Equality

c/o London Friend, 86 Caledonian Road, London N1 9DN

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CHE members' update, September 2015

October Quarterly meeting

The main speaker at our next Quarterly Meeting will be the veteran Gay Campaigner **Andrew Lumsden**. He's been researching the Victorian politician Henry Labouchère, notorious for his amendment to the 1885 Criminal Law Amendment Act, which introduced the crime of 'Gross Indecency', under which thousands of men, from Oscar Wilde onwards, were sent to prison. Andrew will be updating us on his research, and reading extracts from his essay, including the 1890 moment when Labouchère defied the Speaker and alleged a Government conspiracy to protect high-status 'sodomites', and the attempts in 1921 to extend Gross Indecency to include women.



Labouchère

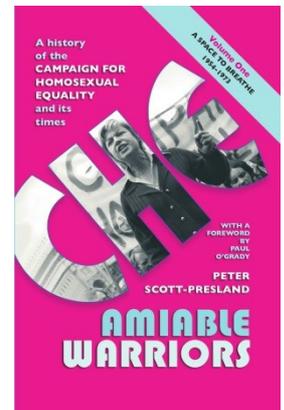


We will also be showing an early film about **the Gay Liberation Front**, followed by a discussion about relations between CHE and GLF, on which Andrew, as a former GLF activist, will be well placed to comment, as will Peter Scott-Presland who has been documenting this period for Volume Two of *Amiable Warriors*.

The meeting is at 2:30pm on **Saturday 10 October** at the London Friend Office, 86 Caledonian Road, London N1 9DN (nearest station, King's Cross). No charge, light refreshments provided, but it would help our planning if you could let us know (e-mail address above) if you're planning to come.

History and Archives

Our AGM set new priorities for the Executive, and have committed CHE to the cause of preserving and recording LGBT history and the archives that embody that history. First of all, of course, we're continuing to publish our own history, *Amiable Warriors*. Sales of Volume One continue to be steady, mainly via Amazon, and we've had our first two reviews, by Brett Humphreys in *The Pink Humanist*, and by Rictor Norton on his *Reviews and Critiques* website. Meanwhile Peter Scott-Presland is working hard to get Volume Two out next year.



We're giving support (moral rather than financial at present) to the **LGBT History Project**, whose online encyclopaedia of LGBT life in the UK continues to expand. Its pages have now been viewed over five million times. Following a discussion on the sidelines of our AGM between the Project's founder, Jonathan Harbourne, and Jeff Evans of LGBT History Month, it's been agreed to rebrand the Project as the **LGBT Archive** – www.lgbtarchive.uk.

And we're continuing to support **LGBT History Month**, for instance by funding the Allan Horsfall Memorial Lecture in February for the next five years. The History Month theme for 2016 is Religion, Belief and Philosophy. It's being launched this November at Queens' College Cambridge: we're making a donation towards this event, and we plan to have a stall there, as in previous years.

