

National Ambulance
LGBT Network



Back to LGBT Basics - Trans

A quiz looking at some
important cultural moments
in trans history

Supporting Lesbian, Gay,
Bisexual, Trans staff,
patients and communities

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Joshua Barraclough, 6 November 2019

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National Ambulance
LGBT Network



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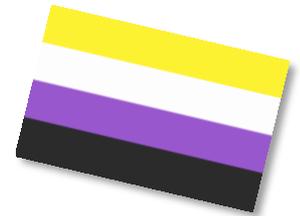
How Does This Work?

Read This
First!

In this pack of information you will find some interesting facts about Trans history. You will find out about the trans community throughout history.



A little warning though... on each slide there is some information that is not correct.



Can you spot the false facts?

Have fun reading and we hope you enjoy finding out more about trans history and culture.

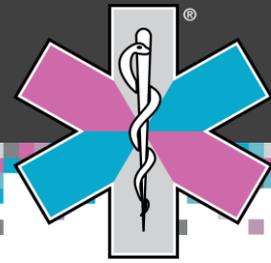
You can find out the answers to this quiz on the National Ambulance LGBT Network website at www.ambulanceLGBT.org/

Talking Terminology



Old term: Transexual	Old term: Sex change	Old term: Transvestite 
<p>The word 'Transsexualism' first appeared around 1965 when a psychiatrist called John Oliven, from Columbia University, coined the word. It is now generally considered outdated and transgender is more widely accepted.</p>	<p>The term 'sex-change' is an outdated term which is also factually incorrect. Gender Confirmation Surgery is preferred as a more accurate way to describe procedures which confirm who they know themselves to be.</p>	<p>Magnus Hirschfeld coined the term 'transvestism' in 1910. He used it to describe persons who habitually and voluntarily wore clothes of the opposite sex.</p> <p>In the 1970's the term crossdresser was coined, and today is more widely accepted than transvestite. Crossdresser is a term for someone who identifies with their assigned gender and who presents in ways typically associated with a different gender. Drag Kings often only present in this way part of the time and may present in a way typically associated with their assigned gender in most of their day to day life. Crossdressers may or may not identify as trans.</p>
New term: Transgender	New term: Gender confirmation surgery	New term: Crossdresser 

Gender Identity Flags



The Transgender Flag

The Transgender Pride Flag was created in 1999 by a trans woman from the USA called Monica Helms.



Black Trans Flag

Raquel Willis created the Black Trans Flag as a symbol to represent the reduced levels of violence the black trans community face.



Non-Binary Pride Flag

The Non-binary Pride flag was created by Kye Rowan in 2014 when there was a call for a flag that could represent the non-binary community.



Genderqueer Pride Flag

Designed by genderqueer writer and advocate Marilyn Roxie, the genderqueer flag was created in 2011.



Agender Pride Flag

Salem, an artist from New York created the agender flag in an effort to increase visibility. They were 20 when the flag was created.



Genderfluid Pride Flag

The Genderfluid flag was designed in 2012 by JJ Poole and displays five coloured horizontal stripes.



The Trans Flag

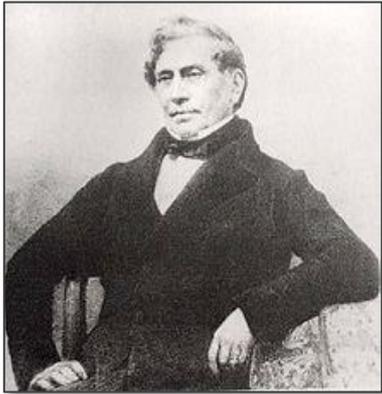
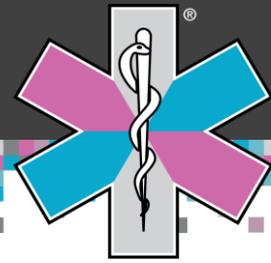
The Trans Flag was created by Michelle Lindsay a graphic designer from Ottawa, Canada.



The Trans Kaleidoscope

The Trans Kaleidoscope was created by members of the Toronto Trans Alliance in 2014. The colours represent a range of gender identities across the spectrum.

James Barry



James Barry

James Barry was a military surgeon in the British Army, born in Cork, Ireland in 1789. He went to University in Edinburgh. He lived both his private life and public life as male so that he could attend University and become a surgeon despite being born female.

His first posting was to Cape Town, South Africa in 1816. Whilst there, Barry performed the first Caesarean section in Africa in which both the mother and the child survived. The baby boy he delivered was named James Barry Munnik in his honour.



There was no denying Barry was a very skilled surgeon and wherever he went he made great improvements to healthcare and sanitation.



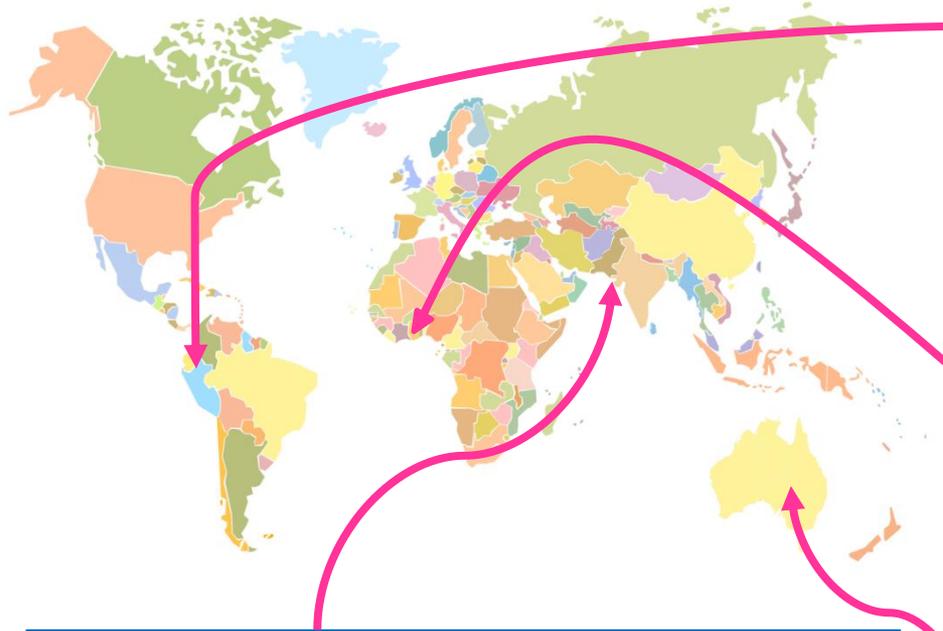
He was profoundly passionate about providing quality health care. However, he did seem to have issues with authority and was not easy to work with. He even had an altercation with Marie Curie when he visited the Crimea.

He died in London in 1865. His last instruction was that he wished to be buried in the clothes in which he died, without examination. Unfortunately, this was ignored and a charwoman hired to lay out the body discovered the truth about his sex; at first she tried to blackmail the army, and when that failed she made the news public.



Portrait of James Barry

Gender Diverse Cultures



Quariwarmi (Inca)

In pre-colonial Andean culture, the Incas worshipped the chuqi chinchay, a dual-gendered god. Third-gender shamans performed sacred rituals to honour this god.

Mino (Benin)

The Kingdom of Dahomey (now Benin) had an all-female regiment of female warriors called the mino (our mothers). They were unmarried and childless women who were thought to have masculine or aggressive traits.



Hijra (South Asia)

In South Asian cultures including India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh, hijras are those assigned male at birth who adopt a feminine gender identity, women's clothing and other feminine gender roles. Hijra generally live on the margins of society and many live in well-defined, organised, all-hijra communities, led by a guru.



'Sistergirls' and 'Brotherboys' (Aboriginal)

In Canada, indigenous transgender people are known as 'sistergirls' and 'brotherboys'. As in some other native cultures, there is evidence that trans and intersex people were much more accepted in their society before colonisation. Now, there is much more stigma attached to these individuals.



The Crossdresser's Ball (1880)



The Crossdresser's Ball, also sometimes called the The Drag Ball, took place on the 24 September 1880 In Hulme, Bolton.

The Temperance Hall in Hulme was hired for an event on 24 September by a group of men who claimed to be from the Pawn Brokers' Assistants' Association. The ball started around 21:30 and the blinds of the windows looking into the hall were drawn or covered with newspaper.

There were around 47 men attending the Hall that evening and music could be heard from inside. Detective-Sergeant Jerome Caminada took interest in the loud music and covered windows. Caminada climbed onto the roof of an outhouse which allowed him to see into the hall.

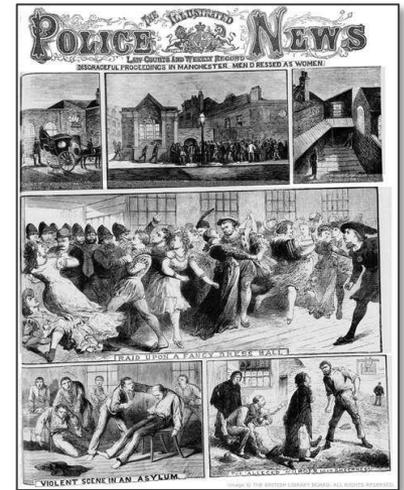


Jerome Caminada
1890

From this position he watched through the windows into the hall, he saw the large group of men, however about half of them were now dressed in women's clothing.

At 02:00 police raided the ball. The men inside attempted to resist arrest but it was futile. Women's clothing was strewn around the room as some had attempted to quickly change.

The men were arrested and charged the next day with having 'solicited and incited each other to commit an unnameable offense'. The trial was a mixture of social outrage and humour. Sadly, many of the men were sent to prison with hard labour.



The Illustrated Police News, 1880. The front page shows the events of 24th September 1880 and the arrest of the men at the drag ball.

Magnus Hirschfeld



The first trans ally?

Magnus Hirschfeld was a German physician and sexologist. An outspoken advocate for sexual minorities, Hirschfeld founded the Scientific Humanitarian Committee the first advocacy group for gay and transgender rights.



Magnus Hirschfeld

He founded the Institute for Sexual Research, which opened on 6 July 1919 in Berlin.

Working with surgeons he established and operated what was in practice the world's first Gender Identity Clinic. One of Hirschfeld's first clients was Einer Wegener, who transitioned to become Lili Elbe, undergoing the world's first documented male to female gender reassignment.

- 1897** Dr. Magnus Hirschfeld founds the first gay liberation organisation in Germany: the Scientific Humanitarian Committee.
- 1910** Magnus Hirschfeld coins the terms 'transvestite' and 'transsexual'.
- 1919** Magnus Hirschfeld becomes one of sexology's founding fathers when he opens the world's first sexological institute, the Institute for Sexual Science in Berlin. It becomes the first clinic to serve transgender people on a regular basis.
- 1932** Magnus Hirschfeld performs the first 'documented' Sexual Reassignment Surgery (SRS) on Dora-R.
- 1932** *Man Into Woman*, the story of Lili Elbe's life, MTF transition, and SRS is published.
- 1933** The Institute for Sexology is raided, shut down, and its records destroyed by the IRA. Physicians and researchers involved in the clinic flee Germany.



The 'Real' Danish Girl



Lili Elbe, was a Danish transgender woman and among the early recipients of sex reassignment surgery.

In 1930, Elbe went to Germany for sex reassignment surgery, which was highly experimental at the time. A series of four operations were carried out over a period of two years. In 1931 Elbe was looking forward to her final surgery involving a uterus transplant since she wanted children. Sadly, her immune system rejected the transplanted uterus. The operation and a subsequent surgical revision caused an infection, which, in that pre-antibiotic age, led to Elbe's death from cardiac arrest on 13 September 1931, three months after the surgery.

In 2000, David Ebershoff wrote *The Danish Girl*, a fictionalised account of Elbe's life. It was an international bestseller and was translated into a dozen languages.

In 2015, it was made into a film, also called *Boys Don't Cry*, produced by Gail Mutrux and Neil LaBute and starring Eddie Redmayne as Elbe. The film was well received at the Venice Film Festival in September 2015, although it has been criticised for its casting of an English cisgender man to play a Danish transgender woman.



The Nazi Party



In 1933, the Nazi regime launched their assault against the queer and trans community of Germany. LGBT clubs and organizations were banned and raided across Berlin.

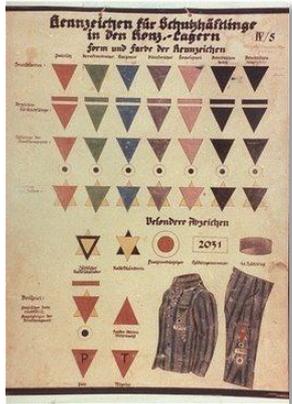


Holocaust victims included homosexual men and transgender women.

Most people sentenced under Paragraph 175 served time in state prisons rather than death camps. The total number of people imprisoned in concentration camps under Paragraph 175 is estimated between 5,000 to 15,000, with a death rate of 60 to 75%.



Pink and black triangle arm bands worn by LGBT people during Nazi occupation



Nazi chart showing the badges used for "undesirable" groups

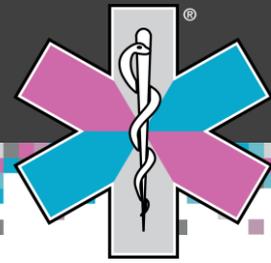
On 11 November 1933, the police were asked to 'pay special attention to transvestites' and to 'deliver them to the concentration camps'. The Nazis made little distinction between trans people and queer men and women. Trans women were inverted pink triangles along with cis men. And trans men wore inverted red triangles.



Charlotte von Mahlsdorf

Charlotte von Mahlsdorf was a trans woman and a survivor of Germany's brutal regimes. Following an altercation with her father who was a Nazi, she was sent to a Nazi psychiatric institution before being sentenced to juvenile prison as an anti-social delinquent. She continued with LGBT activism until her death in 2002.

Christine Jorgensen



Christine Jorgensen captured international headlines in the early 1950s as the first person in the United States to undergo a successful gender-reassignment operation.



Christine Jorgensen

After graduating high school, Christine was drafted into the US Army for World War II. After the war, Christine moved to Denmark to pursue gender transition.



Newspaper headline from December 1952

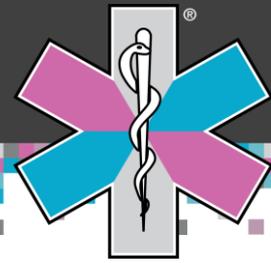
After being treated with extensive psychotherapy and a series of insulin injections, Jorgensen underwent several surgical operations and, with the announcement of her transformation in 1952. She became an instant celebrity.



Christine Jorgensen

In 1959 Jorgensen announced her engagement to typist Howard Knox. The couple was unable to obtain a marriage license because Jorgensen's birth certificate listed her as male. Unfortunately, Knox lost his job, when his engagement to Jorgensen became known. It is difficult to imagine how challenging life could have been for the pair but Jorgensen remains an inspiration for many trans people today.

The Stonewall Riots



The Stonewall Inn

The Stonewall Riots, also called the Stonewall Uprising, began in June 1969 when San Francisco police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay club.

In the early hours of the 28 June police entered the bar and harassed those inside.



They arrested 13 people, including those who they considered to be violating the state's gender-appropriate clothing law.

Due to the constant harassment by police, the LGBT people outside the bar became increasingly agitated. This led to an uprising of hundreds of people. The protests, involving thousands of people, continued in the area for five more days.

Many of those who instigated and took a vital role within the uprising were transgender people particularly transgender women of colour.



Marsha P Johnson

Sylvia Rivera



Marsha P Johnson and Sylvia Rivera are two trans women who have been identified as playing a key role in the uprising and subsequent protests that followed.

This is widely considered to be the most important event that led to the gay liberation movement and the modern fight for LGBT rights in the United States.

Today, Stonewall is best known as the lesbian and gay rights lobbying group that has existed in the United Kingdom since 1989.



Marsha P Johnson



Marsha was a co-founder of STAR (Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries) with her friend Sylvia Rivera, she was one of the first activists to aggressively fight back against institutional prejudice in the wake of the Stonewall uprising.

Famously, when asked by a judge what the initial 'P' stood for, Johnson replied '**Pay it no attention**', which would become her signature.

An eccentric woman known for her outlandish hats and glamorous jewellery, she was fearless and bold. Despite her difficulties with mental illness and numerous police encounters



As an African American trans woman, Marsha P. Johnson has consistently been overlooked both as a participant in the Stonewall uprising and more generally, LGBT activism. Despite this, following the events at Stonewall, Johnson and her friend Sylvia Rivera co-founded the Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries (STAR) and they became fixtures in the community, especially in their commitment to helping homeless transgender youth.



Marsha died in 1992. She was found in the Hudson River. Although friends and acquaintances said that they had witnessed her being harassed earlier in the day and insisted that she was not suicidal, her death was ruled a suicide. Many still believe she was murdered or attacked.

Sylvia Rivera



Rivera was one of the earliest and most influential transgender rights activists following the Stonewall Inn uprising in 1969, at which she was present at only 17 years old.



Initially Rivera supported the Gay Rights Bill, however she felt betrayed when the bill became in law in 1986 as it only included the rights of the transgender community.

Rivera was different to many in the mainstream gay liberation movement because of her diverse and complex background. She was poor, trans, a drag queen, a person of colour, and endured many years of homelessness. For all of these reasons, Rivera fought for not only gay and trans rights but also racial, economic and criminal justice issues.



She spent almost her entire life fighting for civil rights reform, not only for gay and transgender people, but also for African Americans, and as part of the feminist movement. On her death, one prominent activist cited her as 'the Rosa Parks of the modern transgender movement'. Her portrait now hangs in the National Portrait Gallery.



In the United Kingdom



1951

Roberta Cowell became the UK's first full surgically altered trans woman. She had a vaginoplasty in 1951, via a surgical method invented and performed by Dr Harold Gillies. This occurred two years before Christine Jorgensen's surgery in Denmark.

1961

April Ashley had gender reassignment surgery in Casablanca in 1960. After returning to England, she became a successful fashion model and actress. She became the first person in the UK to be outed as transsexual by the Sunday People in 1961.



1979

A series of programs entitled 'A Change of Sex' are aired on the BBC - viewers could for the first time follow transgender woman Julia Grant through her transition. It also highlighted the arrogance at that time of psychiatrists based at the Gender Identity Clinic, Charing Cross Hospital.

2013

Trans Pride Manchester is an annual Pride event for Trans people held in Manchester. The 2013 Trans Pride was said to be the first Trans Pride in the UK and it has grown every year since.



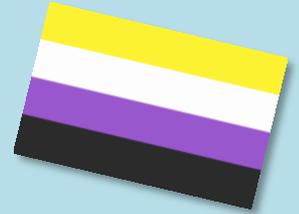
The Answers [1]

Don't Cheat!



The following slides contain the answers to the quiz. Don't peek until you have worked out which piece of information is incorrect on each of the slides.

Good luck!



The Answers [2]



Talking Terminology

Talking Terminology

Transgender

Transsexual ✗
The word "Transsexualism" first appeared around 1965 when a psychiatrist called John Oliven, from Columbia University, coined the word. It is now generally considered outdated and **transgender** is more widely accepted.

Transvestite ✗
Magnus Hirschfeld coined the term "transvestism" in 1910. He used it to describe persons who habitually and voluntarily wore clothes of the opposite sex.

Transgender ✓
In the 1970's the term crossdresser was coined, and today is more widely accepted than transvestite. Crossdresser is a term for someone who identifies with their assigned gender and who presents in ways typically associated with a different gender. Drag Kings or Queens present in this way part of the line and represent in a way typically associated with their assigned gender in most of their day to day life. Crossdressers may or may not identify as trans.

Sex Change ✗
The term "sex-change" is an outdated term which is also factually incorrect. Gender Confirmation Surgery is preferred as a more accurate way to describe procedures which confirm who they know themselves to be.

Gender Confirmation Surgery ✓

Crossdresser ✓

Drag kings are mostly female performance artists who dress in masculine drag and personify male gender stereotypes as part of an individual or group routine. The correct term here should be crossdresser.

Gender Identity Flags

Gender Identity Flags

 The Transgender Flag The Transgender Pride Flag was created in 1999 by a trans woman from the USA called Monica Helms.	 Black Trans Flag Raquel Willis created the Black Trans Flag as a symbol to represent the reduced levels of violence the black trans community face.	 Non-binary Pride Flag The Non-binary Pride flag was created by Kyle Rowan in 2014 when there was a call for a flag that could represent the non-binary community.	 Genderqueer Pride Flag Designed by genderqueer writer and advocate Marilyn Roke, the genderqueer flag was created in 2011.
 Agender Pride Flag Salem, an artist from New York created the agender flag in an effort to increase visibility. They were 20 when the flag was created.	 Genderfluid Pride Flag The Genderfluid flag was designed in 2012 by JI Poole and displays five coloured horizontal stripes.	 The Trans Flag The Trans Flag was created by Michelle Lindsay a graphic designer from Ottawa, Canada.	 The Trans Kaleidoscope The Trans Kaleidoscope was created by members of the Toronto Trans Alliance in 2014. The colours represent a range of gender identities across the spectrum.

The black trans community, particularly trans women of colour face increased hate crime and violence compared to the wider trans movement. Unfortunately many trans women of colour are still murdered each year around the world.

James Barry

James Barry

James Barry was a military surgeon in the British Army, born in Cork, Ireland in 1789. He went to University in Edinburgh. He lived both his private life and public life as male so that he could attend University and become a surgeon despite being born female.

He was profoundly passionate about providing quality health care. However, he did seem to have issues with authority and was not easy to work with. He even had an altercation with Marie Curie when he visited the Crimea.

His first posting was to Cape Town, South Africa in 1818. Whilst there, Barry performed the first Caesarean section in Africa in which both the mother and the child survived. The baby boy he delivered was named James Barry Munnik in his honour.

There was no denying Barry was a very skilled surgeon and wherever he went he made great improvements to healthcare and sanitation.

He died in London in 1865. His last instruction was that he wished to be buried in the clothes in which he died without examination. Unfortunately, this was not done and a charwoman found the body discovered the truth about his sex. He was tried to blackmail the news public when that failed she went public.

Florence Nightingale

James Barry was reported to have had an altercation with Florence Nightingale not Marie Curie. The portrait highlighted is actually of Florence Nightingale not Marie Curie. Marie Curie was a Polish physicist and chemist who conducted research on radioactivity.

The Answers [3]



Gender Diverse Cultures

Gender Diverse Cultures

Quarwami (Inca)
In pre-colonial Andean culture, the Incas worshipped the chuqui chinchay, a dual-gendered god. Third-gender shamans performed sacred rituals to honour this god.

Mino (Benin)
The Kingdom of Dahomey (now Benin) had an all-female regiment of female warriors called the mino (our mothers). They were unmarried and childless women who were thought to have masculine or aggressive traits.

Hijra (South Asia)
In South Asian cultures including India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh, hijras are those assigned male at birth who adopt a feminine gender identity. Hijras generally live on the margins of society and many live in well-defined, organised, all-hijra communities, led by a guru.

'Sistergirls' and 'Brotherboys' (Aboriginal)
In Canada, indigenous transgender people are known as 'sistergirls' and 'brotherboys'. As in some other native cultures, there is evidence that trans and intersex people were much more accepted in the society before colonisation. Now, there is much more stigma attached to these individuals.

'Sistergirls' and 'Brotherboys' are indigenous transgender people from Australia not Canada. If you look at the map you will see the arrow pointing to Australia not Canada.

The Crossdresser's Ball (1880)

The Crossdresser's Ball (1880)

The Crossdresser's Ball, also sometimes called the Drag Ball, took place on 24 September 1880 in Hulme, Bolton.

The Temperance Hall in Hulme was hired for an event on 24 September by a group of men who claimed to be from the Pawn Brokers' Assistants' Association. The ball started around 21.30 and the blinds of the windows looking into the hall were drawn or covered with newspaper.

There were around 47 men attending the Hall that evening and music could be heard from inside. Detective-Sergeant Jerome Caminada took interest in the loud music and covered windows. Caminada climbed onto the roof of an outhouse which allowed him to see into the hall.

From this position he watched through the windows into the hall, he saw the large group of men, however about half of them were now dressed in women's clothing.

At 02:00 police raided the ball. The men inside attempted to resist arrest but it was futile. Women's clothing was strewn around the room as some had attempted to quickly change.

The men were arrested and charged the next day with having 'solicited and incited each other to commit an unseemable offense'. The trial was a mixture of social outrage and humour. Sadly, many of the men were sent to prison with hard labour.

The Illustrated Police News, 1880. The front page shows the events of 24th September 1880 and the arrest of the men at the drag ball.

Jerome Caminada 1890

The Crossdresser's Ball took place in Hulme. Those who are better at Geography than I am will know that Hulme is in Manchester not Bolton.

The Ball took place in a working class district of Manchester and a majority of those involved were from Manchester and Sheffield.

Magnus Hirschfeld

Magnus Hirschfeld

The first trans ally?

Magnus Hirschfeld was a German physician and sexologist. An outspoken advocate for sexual minorities, Hirschfeld founded the Scientific Humanitarian Committee the first advocacy group for gay and transgender rights.

He founded the Institute for Sexual Research, which opened on 6 July 1919 in Berlin.

Working with surgeons he established and operated what was in practice the world's first Gender Identity Clinic. One of Hirschfeld's first clients was Emer Wegener, who transitioned to become Lili Elbe, undergoing the world's first documented male to female gender reassignment.

1897 Dr Magnus Hirschfeld founds the first gay liberation organisation in Germany: the Scientific Humanitarian Committee.

1910 Magnus Hirschfeld coins the terms 'transvestite' and 'transsexual'.

1919 Magnus Hirschfeld becomes one of sexology's founding fathers when he opens the world's first sexological institute, the Institute for Sexual Science in Berlin. It becomes the first clinic to serve transgender people on a regular basis.

1932 Magnus Hirschfeld performs the first 'documented Sexual Reassignment Surgery (SRS) on Dora-R.

1932 *Man Into Woman*, the story of Lili Elbe's life, MTF transition, and SRS is published.

1933 The Institute for Sexual Research is shut down and its records are destroyed by the IRA, physicians and researchers are persecuted in the clinic, the Germany.

We're not sure what the IRA were doing in Germany in 1933! It was actually the Nazis who raided and shut down the institute. Much of the research was burnt. Hirschfeld was out of the country at the time and being a Jewish physician who advocated for sexual minorities he decided to stay away from Germany for a while.

The Answers [4]



Lili Elbe

Lili Elbe

The 'Real' Danish Girl



Lili Elbe, was a Danish transgender woman and among the early recipients of sex reassignment surgery.

In 1930, Elbe went to Germany for sex reassignment surgery, which was highly experimental at the time. A series of four operations were carried out over a period of two years. In 1931 Elbe was looking forward to her final surgery involving a uterus transplant since she wanted children. Sadly, her immune system rejected the transplanted uterus. The operation and a subsequent surgical revision caused an infection, which, in that pre-antibiotic age, led to Elbe's death from cardiac arrest on 13 September 1931, three months after the surgery.

In 2000, David Ebershoff wrote *The Danish Girl*, a fictionalised account of Elbe's life. It was an international bestseller and was translated into a dozen languages.

The Danish Girl film, also called *Boys Don't Cry*, produced by Gail Kirsch and starring Eddie Redmayne as Elbe. The film was well received at the Venice Film Festival in September 2015, although it has been criticised for its casting of an English cisgender man to play a Danish transgender woman.



The film loosely based on Lili Elbe's life is called *The Danish Girl*. *Boys Don't Cry* is a 2000 film starring Hilary Swank which is a dramatization of the real-life story of Brandon Teena. A trans man who was raped and murdered by his fiends when they realised he was trans.

The Nazi Party

The Nazi Party

In 1933, the Nazi regime launched their assault against the queer and trans community of Germany. LGBT clubs and organizations were banned and raided across Berlin.



Historical victims included homosexual men and transgender women.

On 11 November 1933, the police were asked to 'pay special attention to transvestites' and to 'deliver them to the concentration camps'. The Nazis made little distinction between trans people and queer men and women. Trans women wore inverted pink triangles along with cis men. And trans men wore inverted red triangles.



Nazi chart showing the badges used for 'undesirable' groups.

Most people sentenced under Paragraph 175 served time in state prisons rather than death camps. The total number of people imprisoned in concentration camps under Paragraph 175 is estimated between 5,000 to 15,000, with a death rate of 60 to 75%.



Pink and black triangle are badges worn by LGBT people during Nazi occupation.

Charlotte von Mahlsdorf was a trans woman and a survivor of Germany's brutal regimes. Following an altercation with her father who was a Nazi, she was sent to a Nazi psychiatric institution before being sentenced to juvenile prison as an anti-social delinquent. She continued with LGBT activism until her death in 2002.



Charlotte von Mahlsdorf



Trans men would have worn black inverted triangles along with cis women who were deemed 'undesirable' by the Nazi Party.

Christine Jorgensen

Christine Jorgensen

Christine Jorgensen captured international headlines in the early 1950s as the first person in the United States to undergo a successful gender-reassignment operation.



Christine Jorgensen

After graduating high school, Christine was drafted into the US Army for World War II. After the war, Christine moved to Denmark to pursue gender transition.



Newspaper headline from December 1952

EX-GI BECOMES BLONDE BEAUTY
Operation Transforms Brave Youth

After a course of intensive psychotherapy and hormone injections, Jorgensen underwent several operations and, with the announcement of her transformation in 1952. She became an instant celebrity.



Christine Jorgensen

In 1959 Jorgensen announced her engagement to typist Howard Knox. The couple was unable to obtain a marriage license because Jorgensen's birth certificate listed her as male. Unfortunately, Knox lost his job, when his engagement to Jorgensen became known. It is difficult to imagine how challenging life could have been for the pair but Jorgensen remains an inspiration for many trans people today.



I hope most people spotted this one! Christine Jorgensen was given hormone injections as part of her treatment not insulin injections.

The Answers [5]



The Stonewall Riots

The Stonewall Riots



The Stonewall Riots, also called the Stonewall Uprising, took place in San Francisco in 1969 at the Stonewall Inn, a gay club.



In the early hours of the 28 June police entered the bar and harassed those inside.



They arrested 13 people, including those who they considered to be violating the state's gender-appropriate clothing law.

Due to the constant harassment by police, the LGBT people outside the bar became increasingly agitated. This led to an uprising of hundreds of people. The protests, involving thousands of people, continued in the area for five more days.

Many of those who instigated and took a vital role within the uprising were transgender people particularly transgender women of colour.



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Today, Stonewall is best known as the lesbian and gay rights lobbying group that has existed in the United Kingdom since 1989.



The Stonewall Inn and therefore The Stonewall Riots were in New York City not San Francisco. It was the New York City police who raided The Stonewall Inn and harassed those inside.

Marsha P John

Marsha P Johnson



Marsha was a co-founder of STAR (Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries) with her friend Sylvia Rivera. She was one of the first activists to aggressively fight back against institutional prejudice in the wake of the Stonewall uprising.



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Marsha died in 1992. She was found in the Hudson River. Although friends and acquaintances said that they had witnessed her being harassed earlier in the day and insisted that she was not suicidal, her death was ruled a suicide. Many still believe she was murdered or attacked.

Famously, when asked by a judge what the initial 'P' stood for, Johnson replied 'Pay it no attention', which would become her signature.



An eccentric woman known for her outlandish hats and glamorous jewellery, she was fearless and bold. Despite her difficulties with mental illness and numerous police encounters

Marsha's famous signature when people asked her what the 'P' stood for in her name was 'Pay it no mind' not 'Pay it no attention'.

Sylvia Rivera

Sylvia Rivera



Rivera was one of the earliest and most influential transgender rights activists following the Stonewall Inn uprising in 1969, at which she was present at only 17 years old.



Initially Rivera supported the Gay Rights Bill, however she felt betrayed when the 1986 act only included the rights of the transgender community.



She spent almost her entire life fighting for civil rights reform, not only for gay and transgender people, but also for African Americans, and as part of the feminist movement. On her death, one prominent activist cited her as the Rosa Parks of the modern transgender movement. Her portrait now hangs in the National Portrait Gallery.

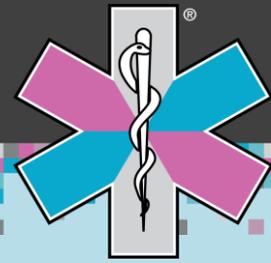


Rivera was different to many in the mainstream gay liberation movement because of her diverse and complex background. She was poor, trans, a drag queen, a person of colour, and endured many years of homelessness. For all of these reasons, Rivera fought for not only gay and trans rights but also racial, economic and criminal justice issues.

When the Gay Rights Bill came into law in 1986 it actually excluded trans people. Something which Sylvia Rivera felt angry and betrayed about.

She did very little activism for 20 years following this and struggled with drug addiction.

The Answers [6]



In The United Kingdom

In the United Kingdom

1951
Roberta Cowell became the UK's first full surgically altered trans woman. She had a vaginoplasty in 1951, via a surgical method invented and performed by Dr Harold Gillies. This occurred two years before Christine Jorgensen's surgery in Denmark.

1961
April Ashley had gender reassignment surgery in Casablanca in 1960. After returning to England, she became a successful fashion model and actress. She became the first person in the UK to be outed as transsexual by the Sunday People in 1961.

1979
A series of programs entitled 'A Change of Sex' are aired on the BBC - viewers could for the first time follow transgender woman Julia Grant through her transition. It also highlighted the arrogance at that time of psychiatrists based at the Gender Identity Clinic, Charing Cross Hospital.

2013
Trans Pride Manchester is an annual Pride event for Trans people held in Manchester. The 2019 Trans Pride was said to be the first Trans Pride in the UK and it has grown every year since.



Trans Pride Brighton was said to be first Trans Pride event in the UK. The first march took place in 2013. On the 14 September 2019 the first Trans Pride London took place. In years to come we may see other big cities with pride events specifically for the trans community.



We have come to the end of the quiz! Count up your answers and see how well you did!