The Cairde Corcai Newsletter

Welcome to the second edition of the newsletter from Cairde Corcai. It's full of information and social dates, so much so that we've included a calender at the end for you to cut out, stick on the fridge and keep track of your social life with. We look forward to seeing you all at at least half of the events and those that you can't make it to send a friend instead.

Health Day at Cairde Corcai

Sat Nov 6, 12 - 5 pm
£5 Donation to Centre per 1/2 hour session

Hands on Healing
Healing Workshop
Reiki
Seichem
Indian Head Massage
Shiatsu
Reflexology

Cairde Corcai Official Launch

Sat 11th December
If you'd like to get involved in the planning of the launch, contact Mary O'Leary at the Centre Thursdays 10am - 2pm.

Bush Telegraph

Apologies to anyone who tried to phone the Centre recently. We were accidently cut off. But snippity snip - we're connected again!

CORK LESBIAN LINE

The Cork Lesbian Line is a voluntary organisation that has been running as a helpline for many years. We have been a bit short staffed of late, but a bright new team will be up and running shortly. We operate between the hours of 8 - 10pm on Thursday nights where we offer listening and support and can provide a befriending service when necessary. Our number is: 021 271 087

Have you done your lesbian duty lately?
Would you like to be surrounded by lucious lovely lesbians?

You can! All you have to do is sit in a chair, make cups of coffee (or barley cup!) and chat with interesting, gorgeous babes. Be a Drop-In Queen! One Saturday a month 2 - 6pm at the Centre. Contact Sue at 021 399344. If this doesn't appeal, perhaps you would like to join that fabulous, dynamic group of women on the Admin Group. It's fun, challenging and there's pints in the pub after the meetings! Contact the Centre.

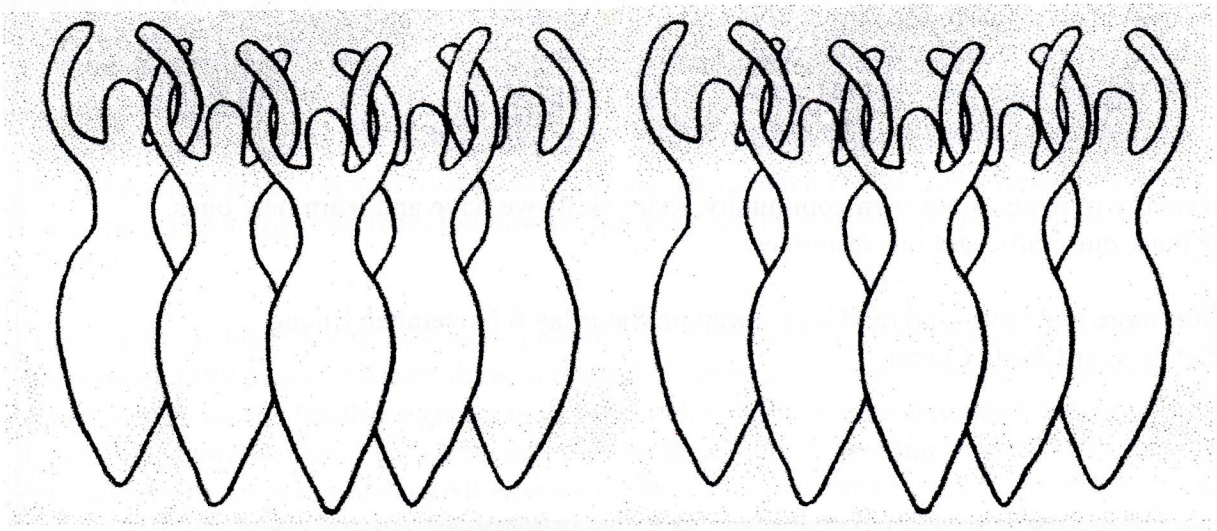
Art & Craft Fair

Sunday 12th

On ~~Saturday 4th~~ December from 2 - 6pm we hope to hold an Art & Craft Fair. Women will have a space to buy and sell their own arts and crafts. This is the ideal opportunity to pick up that perfect gift or item for yourself or someone else. In order for the Fair to be a success we need as many women as possible to come along and sell their work. If you are interested in a stall space or have any further enquiries please ring Helen or Eithne at 021 975024

New Owner for Loafers

New look, new changes. Longer opening hours and more space. We spoke to John Healy, the new owner, to see what this meant for us lesbians: "Thursday is still going to be women's night in the back room, but wait for it...a room called the New Room will have a pool table! And a juke box! There's more: Bingo on Tuesday nights at 9pm has taken off to a great start; good fun prizes, but cash prizes also. The bingo books are £3 each and this is currently going to charity." John has a marketing background and has vast experience of the pub trade. His final words were: "I will be good for Loafers and Loafers will be good for me". It's certainly a whole new colour scheme inside!



Sunday Breakfast at Cairde Corcai

Fed up with having to make your own breakfast on a Sunday? Would you prefer to have a lover make it for you? See her come into the room with a tray laden with succulent goodies, the Sunday papers tucked under her arm and the smell of fresh coffee wafting from the kitchen? Well, we can't offer you that, but what is on offer is a lovely hearty veggie breakfast made by lovely hearty women. Sound appealing? Well drag yourself out of bed then on Sunday 12th December for brekkie from 12pm at the Centre. Nominal fee.

Mailing List

Would you like to be on the Cairde Corcai mailing list? Send your details into the Centre!

Renting Space at the Centre

If you are looking for somewhere to run a class or workshop and would like to rent space at the Centre, the cost is £7.00 per hour. Please contact the Chris at 021 399344. Please note that the Centre is women only.

Do you want to be a heroine and have adoration and praise heaped upon you?

There are three ways to do this:

1. Open a lesbian bar and massage club
2. Join our funding group and make government agencies give us money!
3. Join our fundraising group and work at creating interesting and effective ways of making people part with their earnings.

If you wish to do any of the above, please contact the Admin Group as soon as possible!

Social Events Group

For all those people who eventually want to do no 1. above, this is an excellent way to practise and you'll get almost as much adoration and praise!



Women's Fantasy Ball

Sat. 13th November 1999 8 'till late
Ashbourne House Hotel
Glounthaune Cork

That risqué annual event, the "Cork Women's Fantasy Ball", promises to live up to it's saucy reputation. Whatever your fantasy: demure, enigmatic, cyber, glitzy, sleazy or downright scary, this is the event which defies exclusive dress codes and allows you the freedom to be whoever you damn well like for the night.

Featuring Fab tunes from the lovely DJ Sweet (Libida – Dublin), warm-up "Games" courtesy of the delicate Toma and delightful Miss Louise, prizes for just being outrageous, creative and unusual – and, as always, women, women, women, some of whom travel "religiously" from England, Scotland, Wales and further afield for a debaucherous hell of a night.

So go on, pack up your costume/s and make a date with us. You can book a room at the Ashbourne House Hotel by calling Cork (freephone) 1800 353 319. (Special rate for ballers)
Ticket only admission - £7.00/£5.00 (available at Loafers Bar)
For more information, call: 00353 (0)21 316135.

The Day I Got To Be Cinderella

Two years ago in October, I moved to London. When I left, I promised myself faithfully that no matter what happened, I would come to Cork for the Fantasy Ball the following month. But coming towards the time of the Ball, I had no money to come home. I was really pissed off and I thought "I just can't go" and I gave up.

At about 2 o'clock *on the day* of the Ball, I was moaning to my flatmate and she suggested offering my services to the airlines as a courier for hand delivery packages. So I gave it a shot, but it was much too late to organise something. Then I remembered a story that a woman on my course had told me: In her extended family, there were a number of cousins who would be going to college over the next few years, but it would be very difficult for their parents to finance it. She had come up with the idea of having the whole family chip in for each child and so share the burden. And I thought: "If I get twenty pounds from each of six friends, I can go to the Ball. So I started ringing round. I even rang a friend who I thought would tell me to jump in a river. I said, "I don't have any money and I really want to go to the Fantasy Ball. Will you give me twenty quid so I can go. This isn't a loan, I can't pay you back." And she said "OF COURSE I'll give you the money". Then she said: "Look, my brother is home on holidays. He'll give you money as well".

So I got the price of the flight, but by this time it was 4 o'clock. I rang a taxi company and said "Can you get me to Stansded for a 5.30 flight?" And the woman said, "Oh, you're cutting it tight, luv, but we'll try. So, I ran into my room, threw my best dress into a bag, grabbed my make-up and flew out the door. I made it to the airport by the skin of my teeth, and on the plane I remember thinking "Fuck sake. Three and a half hours ago, I wasn't going anywhere and now I'm going to a Ball! I must be completely off my head".

While I was somewhere over the Irish Sea, my lover had innocently rung me in London to say hello, and discovered that I had left for Cork, but my flatmate didn't know if I had made the flight or not.

At 12.30 that night I found myself standing at the door of the Vienna Woods Hotel soaking up the atmosphere that was created by a hundred dancing, gorgeous, amazingly-dressed women. What a sight for sore eyes! My lover had completely given up on me by this stage, and when she saw me, she walked up and without preamble, took me in her arms and kissed me the deepest, warmest, most gorgeous kiss ever.

I got to be Cinderella and go to the Ball!

LESBIAN L.E.T.S

sharing skills in our community

L.E.T.S stands for local economy trading system. It's a system devised as a way of organizing swaps of energy without the hangups we have about money, a sort of non-direct barter system. It all works much like using an ordinary cheque book . We give units of energy a name and value e.g 1 punt=1 lezzy. We then swap those with each other for products or services.

For example: your garden is a scabby mess of old mattresses and whiskey bottles, you wish to turn it into a vegtable paradise. You employ 10 dykes to come over and graft . You employ 1 dyke to deliver half a ton of horse shit and yet another dyke to make the tea. You are now 300 lezzys in the red, but next spring you have bags of veg, you are selling at 10 lezzys a bag. You have borrowed dyke energy and turned it into dyke food!

We keep energy moving in our own community, share skills we have and learn new ones, swap our junk, our crafts, and our resources.

Come learn more and have a pretend lessy swap on Saturday 6 November 1 hour before the bingo at Cairde Corcai

Bingo

Saturday 6 November 9pm
at the Centre
with Bingo Caller Supreme
Chris

Web Pages

The web pagers are running a course in HTML and web page design. It started on Thursday Oct 28th, 6-7pm at the Centre and will run every Thursday till Xmas. We have room for one more, and to do the course you must have a PC and be online. The course is free of charge, and anyone doing it will donate time to us in return.

The Music/Singing Focus group is not currently going ahead. There's great interest in attending events, but we need some extra woman power in organising so if anyone wants to contribute please contact Trish at trishali@iol.ie

Also, could one rep from each focus group be put forward to attend a focus group meeting so that we can get to know one another and begin to network. It would be good if focus groups could say what date/time would suit them to meet. Replies to Ali at trishali@iol.ie

Access All Areas

4th & 5th December 1999
10am – 6pm
@ Farranree Community Centre, Pophams Road, Cork
(No. 3 Bus from outside Easons)

Since the closure of the Lesbian Health Project as part of the schemes run at The Other Place, a skeleton (though shapely!) LHP has been run by a small band of volunteers both in Cork and Dublin, with a view to making sure that funding is applied for to hopefully get the whole thing up and running again one day with premises and paid workers and resources and things like that! What we have managed so far however is to gain funding from Southern Health Board to continue running the Lesbian Health Day. We have also since received a donation from the now disbanded Lesbian and Gay Health Caucus in Dublin.

The fourth Lesbian Health Day is programmed to happen on the weekend of 4th – 5th December 1999 and as the date implies instead of being a one day event as in previous years, acting on the feedback given, the Lesbian Health Project has extended the event to cover the whole weekend with a social event on the Saturday evening as well! This year the title for the event is Access All Areas with the theme covering topics as diverse as disability rights, transgendered issues, mothering in the lesbian community, staying sober, accessing insemination services, lesbian lines, mental health, access to alternative health therapies, ageing, younger lesbians – whatever YOU want to talk about. The format will be very open in that we are hoping women will come along and join a large group on Saturday morning to discuss everything! Out of that discussion will come a plan for smaller groups to discuss individual issues. Lunch will be provided on the premises for a donation. We have again organised childcare for the event with Wallaroo but as this is limited to a maximum of ten children it is suggested that you book with us on 087 6530656. We will have a signer present on the day to facilitate the participation of women with hearing difficulties. The evening event – although details are not yet finalised, will be in a fully accessible venue, with entertainment, music and lots of fun. On Sunday the weekend will continue with more meetings, discussions, workshops (and Lunch!) and in the afternoon when the groups are finished we will have another large discussion to feedback, comment, agitate, and plan for the future! The weekend will end with a ceremony to mark World AIDS Day for those who wish to attend.

All women should come to this national event happening in Cork. There really will be something for everybody. If you haven't seen your particular interest above, or if you'd just like to get involved and be a part of organising, please contact the LHP on 087 6530656, write to us c/o Cairde Corcaí, 14 George's Quay, Cork, or e-mail us on lhpcork@hotmail.com We are also looking for women to offer accomodation to those lesbians who are coming from far away.

Cairde Corcai Contact Details

Address: Cairde Corcaí 14 George's Quay, Cork
Tel: 021 316449
Email: cairde.centre@oceanfree.net
Web Site: http://members.tripod.co.uk/Cairde_Corcai/

What's On In Cork – Calendar of Events

Nov 13th	Fantasy Ball	What else can we say?
Nov 6th 12 - 5pm	Health Day	Health Day at Cairde, £5 donation to Cairde Corcaí per ½ hour session
Nov 6th 8 – 9 pm	LETS	Find out what LETS is
Nov 6th 9 pm	Bingo with Chris	Followed by a party!
Dec 4th 2 – 6pm	Craft Fair	Bring your money and your goodies!
Dec 4th & 5th	4th Lesbian Health Day	Run by the Lesbian Health Project. This year at Farranree Community Centre
Dec 11th	Launch	Official Launch of Cairde Corcaí
Dec 12th from 12pm	Sunday Breakfast	What better to do of a Sunday Morning!

Regular Events at the Centre

Creative Writing Group	Wednesdays 8.30	Writing Group, c/o Cairde Corcaí
Health Focus Group	Wednesdays 8.30	Health Group c/o Cairde Corcai
Tribal Belly Dance	Thursdays	Contact Marius at 021 323419
Web Pagers	Thursdays 6pm	Email cairde.corcai@oceanfree.net Or write to Web Pagers Group c/o Cairde Corcaí
Women Living with Male Partners		Contact Mary O'Leary during at the Centre during Referral Hours

Drop-in	Saturdays 2-6pm	Come in for a chat and a cuppa
Referral Service	Thursdays 10am – 2pm	Referrals and Information

Word Search Dyke Film & TV

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BOUND
EMMERDALE
DESERT
HEARTS
FEMALE
PERVERSIONS
TANK GIRL
FIRE
XENA
BAR
GIRLS
GABRIELLE
ALL OVER ME
HIGH ART
ELLEN