

get news

If you want to receive regular mailings and stay informed, at no cost, fill out the details below ▼

Name(s):		
Address (inc Country/Region):		
Zip/Postcode		
Email*:		

(*If you are happy for us to send Safety Net mailings to your email address).

GB2K+2

join contact list and Yahoo! group

Our printed contact list is circulated to all those on it after each festival, at no charge, and allows opportunities for networking, making and maintaining contact. If you would like to be on this list, please tick here and, if you wish, add your telephone and email details for the list:

Telephone

Email:

(If you are happy for others to contact you by email, and be sent an invitation to join our Yahoo! Group)

<http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/groups/thesafetynet>

We take the security of your information seriously. We will process your details on computer, unless you write separately to request otherwise. By asking to receive the contact list, you undertake to keep other people's details confidential, and not to pass them on. We will remove you from our records by request, on non-delivery of mailings, or if you do not respond to our periodic requests to check and update details.

When complete, hand this form in to one of the team in the Safe Space, or post it to one of the contact addresses (see "need help?").

donate

Please help us cover the cost of our lists and seminar speaker programme. Cheques should be made payable to 'The Safety Net'. Our accounts are provided annually, and we encourage regular giving through standing orders.

party

Twice a year at house parties we meet, eat, drink, chat, relax, talk about Greenbelt and plan our activities, worship, and perhaps go into town. There is a small charge for food. Car shares can be arranged. We can sometimes help meet costs if you would otherwise not be able to come. Join the mailing list for details about the next houseparty.

need help?

Email us: safespace@geocities.com
Or alternatively, write to:

Conrad Henley-Calvert
(mailing list/finance):
39 New King Street, Bath, BA1 2BN
+44 (0) 1225 333610 or
mobile: 07958 599857

Tony Petersen (Greenbelt Liaison)
Trevor Barton (Programme Coordinator):
C/o 28 Suffolk Avenue, Shirley, Southampton,
SO15 5EG
+44 (0)23 8034 7102 (Tony)
+44 (0)23 8057 6307 (Trevor)

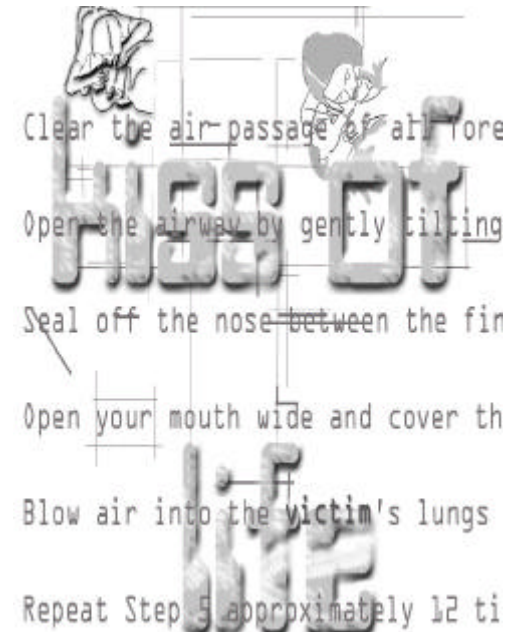
Anna White (Contact):
12 Village East, Ryton, Tyne & Wear, NE40 3NU
(0191) 413 3780



kiss of life

SAFETY NET

Providing Safe Space at Greenbelt 2002



WEB SITE:
www.geocities.com/westhollywood/9381/

EMAIL:
safespace@geocities.com

our story

Safety Net is a group of lesbian, gay, heterosexual, and bisexual Christians and their friends who recognise that sexuality is an important part of human experience and seek to affirm that in ourselves and others. We accept and respect a wide variety of opinions: we consist mainly of people who believe that same-sex love is in keeping with their faith, those who are re-examining their views and those who recognise celibacy as a valid lifestyle.

Most of us have been or remain evangelical. Too often we have encountered discrimination within the churches. Some of us have encountered opposition to our views, relationships and ministries, and the church has often seemed unwilling to address the issue in any helpful way. However we do recognise, and welcome, growing efforts within the churches to reconsider their points of view.

Greenbelt Executive had, throughout the late 1980's, allowed a group called College House to address the issue of homosexuality and Christianity at the Festival. As a consequence, a number of gay and lesbian Christians identified each other. Out of this a "no agenda" space was developed at Greenbelt. This allowed lesbian and gay people and their friends to meet and pray together. Individuals were personally affirmed and challenged. Leading out of this, our group, "Safety Net" was formed. "Safe Space" was and is a proving space for this affirmation at Greenbelt. In parallel to this, the wider Christian communities began discussions around homosexuality and Christianity. This was reflected in seminars and discussions on issues of human sexuality.

kiss of life

Festival Programme



Friday

6:30pm | Conrad Henley-Calvert : Getting from There to Here: A Short History of Safe Space | Crest Room

10pm | Welcome to Safe Space! | Crest Room | including Beryl Quennell: "Weave a Web" Worship at 11:30pm

Saturday

4pm | Kirsti Reeve: *Why would any self-respecting lesbian Christian become a Catholic?* | Crest Room

10pm | HIV+/AIDS Vigil run by Christian Aid | Arena | see festival programme

11pm | Safe Space | Crest Room | including short alt. Worship service at 11:30pm with funky digital video by Trevor Barton exploring the festival theme and following the AIDS vigil 'Kiss of Life'

Sunday

1pm | **Headline Safety Net Forum Debate:** "Procreation Prerogative" – the Church's reaction to childless families, fostering and same-sex parenting? | Jeremy Marks (Courage Trust), Sue Essau (Relate, tbc), Beryl Quennell, Tony Petersen and others | Hosted by Joan King, author of "Family and all that Stuff" | see festival programme for venue etc.

6:30pm | Jeremy Marks on *Courage Trust's Journey* | Crest Room

10pm | Safe Space | Crest Room (+ short communion service with Revd Dave Earl and Conrad Henley-Calvert)

Monday

12 noon | Safety Net fun closing Worship jamboree | Crest Room

space that's safe

Our main activity at Greenbelt every year is Safe Space – an informal opportunity to make contact, meet together and chat. Cold drinks will be available. **Safe Space is an "attitude free" zone, and we ask anyone attending to do so in that spirit.** A bookstall will be open at Safe Space and literature available, as well as brochures and an information board you can check out throughout the day.

what we can offer

Our faith, love, prayer, joy and worship; space for questioning without judgement; strength of faith found in our struggle against intolerance; empathy with people who come from discriminated minorities; different outlooks (such as unique insight into relationships); resources.

shape and aims

We exist because of Greenbelt, and our work is directed towards it. Our aims can be summarised as:

- ⇒ Support of lesbian, gay and bisexual Christians
- ⇒ Maintaining the profile of the issue of homosexuality at Greenbelt and contributing to full and open discussion
- ⇒ Looking at the relationship between culture, Christian spirituality and sexuality
- ⇒ Exploring opportunities for broader social justice action in all settings

In fulfilling these aims we have a dialogue with Greenbelt management, but we are not part of its structure or that of any other group. Our own organisation is informal, consisting of a mailing list and contact people. Decisions are made at open meetings during the year.