

## Amazing Pride

Amazing Pride. How sweet the sound  
That saved a queer like me!  
I once was lost but now am found  
Was afraid but now I'm free.

'Twas Pride that taught my heart to feel  
And Pride my fears relieved  
How precious did that Pride appear  
The hour I first believed.

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Through many dangers toils and snares  
We have already passed.

'Twas Pride that brought us safe thus far  
And all our foes outclassed.

When we've been out ten thousand years  
And all our rights been won  
We've no less days to sing Pride praise  
That when we first begun.

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## Jerusalem

And did those feet in ancient time  
Walk upon England's mountains green?  
And was the holy Lamb of God  
On England's pleasant pastures seen?  
And did the Countenance Divine  
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?  
And was Jerusalem builded here  
Amongst these dark satanic mills?

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Bring me my bow of burning gold  
Bring me my arrows of desire.  
Bring me my spear: O clouds unfold!  
Bring me my chariot of fire.  
I will not cease from mental fight  
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand  
Till we have built Jerusalem  
In England's green and pleasant land.



## The International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia

*An event organised to remember the lesbian, gay, bi and transgendered communities worldwide who continue to be oppressed and persecuted, not for any crime committed, but just for being who they are*



This event has been organised by Croydon Area Gay Society — [www.cags.org.uk](http://www.cags.org.uk).



For details of other LGBT groups in Croydon, see [www.lgbt-croydon.org.uk](http://www.lgbt-croydon.org.uk)



*Silver Rainbow*  
For older lesbians  
and gay men in Croydon

10:45am, Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2012

Queen Victoria's Statue, Katharine Street, Croydon

## Introduction

**WE ARE GATHERED HERE TODAY** to send loyal greetings to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth on the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee. We meet beneath the statue of Queen Victoria who you will recall celebrated her Diamond Jubilee in 1897. It was during the reign of Queen Victoria that many of the laws against homosexuals were enacted. It was also at this time of Empire, that the same laws were applied against homosexuals in the colonies.

Today in the United Kingdom most of the laws that were used previously to oppress LGBT people have been rescinded. However, this is not true for the ex-colonies. Most still continue to apply anti-gay laws, which were inherited during the days of the British Empire.

Today as we meet to support the aims of IDAHO, we shall remember our sisters and brothers who live in the 40 countries of the Commonwealth that continue to persecute and oppress homosexuals under laws inherited during the reign of Queen Victoria.

### The Commonwealth of Nations

#### *Homosexuality is still a criminal offence in:*

Antigua and Barbuda	Namibia
Bangladesh	Nauru
Barbados	Nigeria
Belize	Pakistan
Botswana	Papua New Guinea
Brunei	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Cameroon	Saint Lucia
Dominica	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Gambia	Samoa
Ghana	Seychelles
Grenada	Sierra Leone
Guyana	Singapore
Jamaica	Solomon Islands
Kenya	Sri Lanka
Kiribati	Swaziland
Lesotho	Tanzania
Malawi	Tonga
Malaysia	Trinidad and Tobago
Maldives	Uganda
Mauritius	Zambia

#### *Homosexuality is legal in:*

Australia  
Bahamas  
Canada  
Cyprus  
Fiji  
India  
Malta  
Mozambique  
New Zealand  
Rwanda  
South Africa  
Tuvalu  
United Kingdom  
Vanuatu

## Programme

Croydon Community Choir: *Amazing Pride*  
(verses 1 and 2)

Oratory: 'Idaho in context with the past'

*Amazing Pride* (verses 3 and 4)

A letter to Her Majesty The Queen  
on her Diamond Jubilee

*Jerusalem* (first verse)

Thanks and appreciation

*Jerusalem* (last verse)

*Amazing Pride* (last verse)

*You are invited to a panel discussion and debate on "Same-Sex Marriage" – 8pm this evening at Croydon Unitarian Church, 1 The Croydon Flyover, Croydon CR0 1ER.*