

AMIABLE WARRIORS

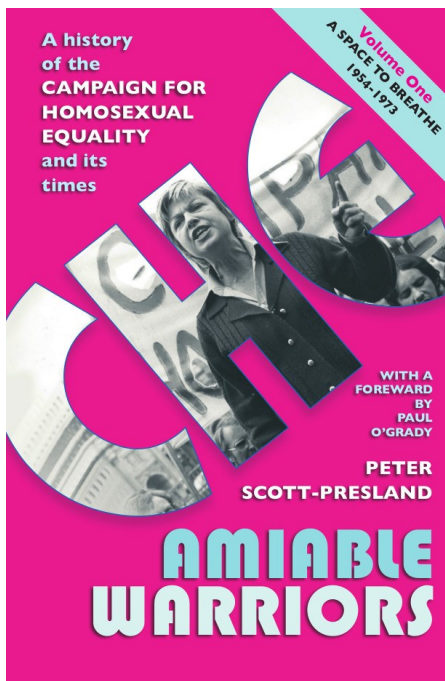
A history of the Campaign for Homosexual Equality and its times
Volume One: A Space to Breathe, 1954–1973

By Peter Scott-Presland

THE PUBLISHING EVENT OF 2015

One of the most important works of LGBT history
of the 21st Century (so far)

- The Campaign for Homosexual Equality (CHE) was the largest LGBT organisation ever in the UK. It had over 5,000 members and 150 local groups, from St Ives to Sunderland, from Swansea to Norwich.
- For 20 years (1970–90) it campaigned ceaselessly for the human rights of LGBT people.
- It provided a social network, support, counselling and encouragement to ‘come out’ for tens of thousands of LGBT people all over the country. For people living in smaller towns it was often the only form of support and socialising that was available.
- The story of CHE is the story of courage in small things, as ordinary lesbians and gays battled to get their voices heard in their communities.
- It’s also a story of humour and anger, ruckus and rumpy-pumpy, told with wit, elegance and style by a journalist [Peter Scott-Presland] who has interviewed many of those involved, and knew many more.
- A monument to a generation of activists which is also a thundering good read.



Special Manchester Conference price £25

at the News From Nowhere book stall in the foyer of the Central Library
10am – 5pm, 14 February 2015

Hear the author reading from the book in the Central Library 1:20pm (space 3),
book signing at 2.30pm (Shakespeare Hall).

www.amiable-warriors.uk

Don't just take our word for it...

Paul O'Grady, from his Foreword to Volume One:

This wonderful book celebrates those early days of CHE and honours those brave pioneers who weren't afraid to speak out in the fight for Equality in what were unenlightened times. I'm proud to have been there. Enjoy.

Peter Tatchell, human rights campaigner:

If you want to understand how we won LGBTI law reform in the UK, read this history of the pioneering Campaign for Homosexual Equality – and remember with pride the CHE campaigners who trail-blazed the equal rights we now enjoy.

Jeffrey Weeks, Research Professor, Arts and Human Sciences, South Bank University:

I enormously enjoyed it. Reading it was a bit like being immersed in a great Victorian novel, with intense detail and vivid character sketches, and a gently unrolling plot. ... The author's grasp of detail is astonishing, and his energy in both doing the research and in developing the narrative is very impressive. And entirely convincing. ... It's a very important achievement, and a major contribution to LGBT history.

Ken Plummer, Emeritus Professor of Sociology, University of Essex:

Amiable Warriors is a magnificent achievement. Peter Scott-Presland has given us a wonderful gift that future generations can cherish. In this richly documented, meticulously crafted and beautifully written study we are shown the earliest days of struggles to bring about a more human world. I look forward to more volumes to come.

Dr Matt Cook, Senior Lecturer in History & Gender Studies, Birkbeck, London University:

Through exhaustive research and by taking local and individual lives seriously, Scott-Presland captures the extraordinary reach, range and impact of the CHE. ... Engaging and rich in detail, *Amiable Warriors* is both a great read and a fantastic resource.

Charles Upchurch, Associate Professor of History, Florida State University:

Thoroughly researched and engagingly written, this is an important work that deserves a wide audience.

Jeff Evans, Director of Academic Affairs, Schools Out/ LGBT History Month:

[Peter Scott-Presland] tells the extraordinary story of pioneering endeavour using oral and written testimony from those involved; it is an impeccably researched piece of work. It is however, not an uncritical reading of those heady early years, it is grounded in the practical realities faced by those pioneers of the first popular democratic 'homosexual' reform movement. We wait eagerly for Volume Two.

**Order your copy now: Email: sales@amiable-warriors.uk
Press enquiries: author@amiable-warriors.uk**