**CELEBRATORY DINNER FOR JEFF DUDGEON’S MBE AT LINCOLN’S INN**

**THURSDAY 10 MAY 2012**

**GUEST LIST**

**Jeffrey Dudgeon MBE** (Belfast, NIGRA since 1975, Strasbourg case 1975-1982, author *Roger Casement: The Black Diaries - With a Study of his Background, Sexuality, and Irish Political Life* (679pp. – now an antiquarian item), chair South Belfast UUP, companion of JMY back in Belfast)

**Mrs Vida Shaw** (Belfast, my sister, architect, Senior Lecturer Built Environment Londonderry, widow of Peter, mother of Patrick, Jenny and Victoria and grandmother of seven, companion of Reg Hamer)

**Richard Kennedy** (Inaugural President of NIGRA, street fighting gay activist in Belfast throughout the 1970s. Subsequently married, divorced, two children and new partner Louise for past twenty years. Immortalised in a poem by the late Ulster poet John Hewitt as "The fat boy whose brave jokes gave light and air," and to tell you the truth, not much has changed.) & **Louise Lunn** (Huddersfield, theatre lighting technician, “stoic partner of Richard & mystified admirer of Jeff’s endearing nature.”)

**Terry Munyard** (Strasbourg barrister, at Garden Court, founder of ‘Inquest’, currently defending at Hague Special Court) & **Praveen Greedharry** (London)

**Paul Crane** (Strasbourg case solicitor, Lemos & Crane co-founder) & **Gerard Lemos** **CMG** (L&C practitioner & policy-maker informing action on social problems)

**Austen Morgan** (Historian and author *Labour and Partition: Belfast Working Class 1905-1923*, biographer, barrister 33 Bedford Row, and human rights lawyer)

**John Lyttle** (Belfast, *NIGRA News* record reviewer in 1970s, London journalist and writer, chaptered in ‘Children of the Revolution’ (2011), & **Ian Di Michele** (IT head, Lazards)

**Brian Robinson** (Portadown, British Film Institute, Senior Programmer, London Lesbian & Gay Film Festival) & **Pas Paschali** (former editor *Him* and *Attitude* magazines, Managing editor, Creative department, *Guardian*, civil partner of Brian Robinson since 1982)

**Eamon Somers** (National Gay Federation President for three terms, Development Consultant providing services to housing associations in London, fiction writer) **&** **Tomas Campbell** (Head of Clinical Health Psychology in Newham Psychological Services, clinical and research interest in HIV and African people. Tomas met Eamon in 1982 at a disco in UCD.)

**Kate Hoey** (MP for Vauxhall since 1989, proposed NI age of consent equalisation 1995, former Sports Minister, Rathlin Island)

**Michael Mason** [since died] (News editor *Gay News* and co-founder of *Capital Gay*) **&** **Graham McKerrow** (*Gay News* reporter, co-founder & editor *Capital Gay* 1981-89, edited magazines in Paris & London, editor Guardian & Observer Syndication Service)

**Sean McGouran** (NIGRA secretary, co-founder Belfast Gay Pride, *Irish Political Review* writer, London.) [not present]

**Michael Brown** [since died] (London, queer activist since 1954, high point - GLF)

**Julian Meldrum** (CHE,Gay Monitoring & Archive Project, THT, Fitness trainer)

**Robert Wintemute** (Canada, Human Rights Law Professor, King's College London, author and international campaigner)

**Robert Howes** (Bath, *Gay West* author, librarian and LGBT history researcher, Westminster CHE, London & Cambridge Friend)

**Tyler Dillard** (Alabama, LLM Queen’s University Belfast human rights law, Projects Advisor for RBS through Reed, London, commencing legal training contract with international law firm Clyde & Co 2013) **& Bilal Zahid** (Craigavon, St Andrews University, Habitat for Humanity, NI Office Belfast, Foreign Policy Advisor, Cabinet Office)

**David Paternotte** (Brussels, LGBT politics researcher, ILGA-Europe, met at ILGA Turin 2011)

**Nick Billingham** (CHE campaigner, volunteer AIDS worker London Lighthouse, retired civil servant)

**Matthew Parris** (Author, journalist with *Times* & *Spectator*, Conservative MP for W. Derbyshire 1979-86 at time of NI law reform when he came out unnoticed except by us) & **Julian Glover** (London, Guardian leader writer and columnist, Prime Minister’s chief speechwriter) [apologies].

**Michael Smyth** (Belfast, formerly solicitor Clifford Chance London, member Press Complaints Commission)

**Brian Garrett** (Belfast solicitor, member Standing Advisory Commission on Human Rights, President Irish Association, retired judge)

**Maurice Leitch** (Muckamore, acclaimed and prolific Ulster novelist, author ‘The Liberty Lad’ with prominent and first gay character, BBC producer London)

**Michael McManus** (author *Tory Pride and Prejudice: The Conservative Party and Homosexual Law Reform,* secretary to Edward Heath)

**Angus Hamilton** (Solicitor Hamiltons, writer on gay legal issues, District Judge since 2005 sitting in Stratford, East London) [apologies]

**Paul Bew** (Lord Bew of Donegore, Professor of Irish Politics, QUB, author of *Ireland: The Politics of Enmity 1789-2006* and *Enigma: A New Life of Charles Stewart Parnell*, 2011

**Peter Ashman** (Strasbourg case adviser, *Justice*, Foreign & Commonwealth Office gay rights adviser, Adroit Consultants LLP) – not now able to attend [since dead].

**APOLOGIES & 1982 COMMONS SPEECH BY MATTHEW PARRIS**

**Tony Gifford, Strasbourg barrister and last peer alive who voted for 1967 Act in the House of Lords is currently working on a similar case for Jamaica:**

From: anthony.gifford@btinternet.com
To: jeffreydudgeon@hotmail.com
Subject: MBE
Date: Thu, 19 Apr 2012

Dear Jeff

Wow, that is great news. Many congratulations, nothing less is deserved for the courage which you showed at a time and in a place where there was such hostility and ignorance.

I wish I could be with you on the 10th May, but yes, I am based in Jamaica and I am recovering from some heavy surgery and could not travel.  I hope that Terry will be there. I have good memories of that trip and how we fought the case, and  now I am involved in taking a similar case from Jamaica to the Inter American Commission on Human Rights. The struggle continues.

With best wishes

Tony

**Nigel Warner, key ILGA-Europe mainstay from UK, and CHE:**

From: nwarner@gn.apc.org
To: jeffreydudgeon@hotmail.com

Date: Sat, 31 Mar 2012

Dear Jeff,

Very sorry to say that I will be on holiday then. Very sad to miss the event – would love to have been with you. Have a great time, and congratulations on the great achievement and recognition.

I was at the UK Chairmanship Conference on LGBT issues in SXB on Tuesday. The president of the Court spoke, and of course mentioned Dudgeon.So your name lives on!!!!

A very big hug

Nigel.

**Peter Brooke, NIGRA, ‘Gay Star’ editor, Brecon, Wales:**

Dear Jeff MBE

Thanks for this and I would have liked to have been with you but on the 9th May I plan to be in Paris for the opening of an exhibition - Gleizes-Metzinger, Du :"Cubisme" et après - in the Musée de la Poster (improbably enough). I have an article in the catalogue. Slight question mark since I've had to renew my passport and it hasn't come back to me yet but not expecting any problems.

Finding it difficult to cope with all this respectability! Whatever happened to being gay as a counter-cultural phenomenon?

Best

Peter ([www.peterbrooke.org.uk](http://www.peterbrooke.org.uk))

**Ralph Wilde, ECHR age of consent plaintiff, UCL Reader in public international la**

From: ralph.g.wilde@gmail.com
To: jeffreydudgeon@hotmail.com
Date: Mon, 16 Apr 2012

Hi Jeff

Many congratulations on the MBE! Richly deserved. I am delighted for you.

It is very kind indeed of you to invite me to the dinner. I would have loved to come, but that day I am already scheduled to go up to Manchester to see my parents, and as I am only up for one night and I then go away to Zimbabwe and then Brasil for work for a considerable amount of time, I can’t miss it. I’m very sorry not to be able to raise a glass to your honour, and I hope you have a lovely evening! I will be there in spirit. All the best

Ralph.

**HOUSE OF COMMONS HANSARD 25 OCTOBER 1982**

**NORTHERN IRELAND (HOMOSEXUAL OFFENCES) ORDER**

**Mr. Matthew Parris (Derbyshire, West)** I wish to speak only briefly. and not on those constitutional issues on which other hon. Members are more competent to speak than I.

 The subject of the order is adult male homosexuality in the last major part of this Kingdom where it is still outlawed. Seldom does so small a measure, debated in so short a time and brought at such a late hour, touch so deeply the lives of so many thousands of people in the United Kingdom. I do not believe that homosexuality is morally wrong or necessarily harmful, although I accept the fact that many hon. Members think of it as an affliction. But surely we can all agree that it is an impractical interference in the privacy of adult life to brand such people as criminals, as we still do in Northern Ireland.

Hon. Members luckier than I may find that personal conviction gives wings to their argument—the more powerfully they feel about an issue, the more powerfully they can speak. Unfortunately, that is not so in my case. I can happily argue the toss, but where I feel as deeply, strongly and personally as I do on this issue, argument altogether fails me. I support the measure with all my heart.

11.24 pm Rev. Martin Smyth (Belfast, South) **[THEN MY MP!]** Like my colleagues from Northern Ireland, I oppose the order…