

# What did Turing ever do for me?

Sarah Winmill

Director of IT for Support Services

# What did Turing ever do for me?

## Turing as gay role model

Sarah Winmill

Director of IT for Support Services

## Legal position of homosexuality in the UK during Turing's lifetime

7 August 1885 (Section 11 of the Criminal Law Amendment Act – the Labouchere Amendment) created the offence of 'gross indecency', the first specifically anti-homosexual act

It became known as the 'blackmailer's charter'

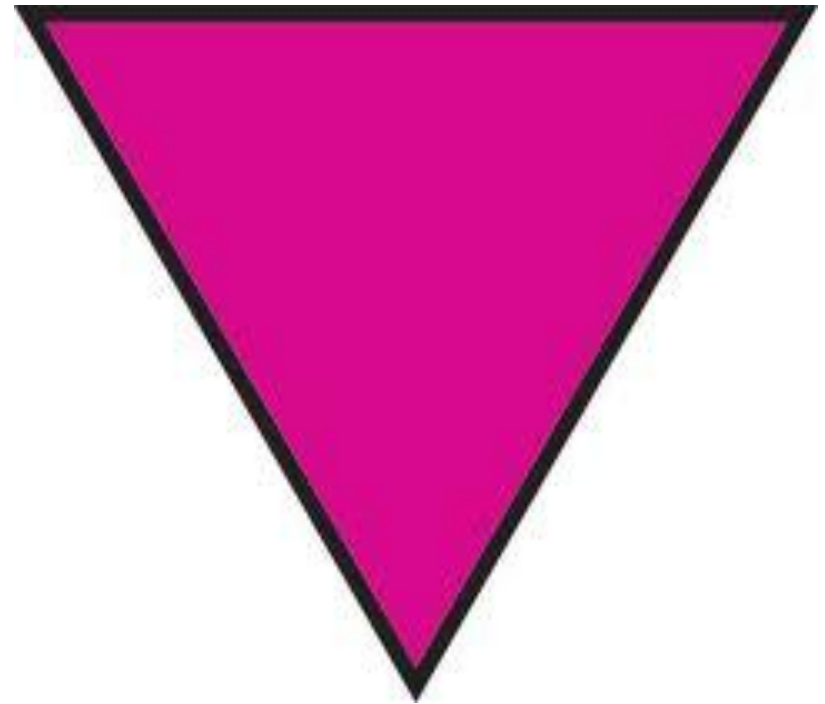
# Gay society



# Gay symbols



# Gay symbols



# Gay symbols



## During 12 years of Nazi power

- Estimated 50,000 gay men sentenced and imprisoned
- Up to 15,000 deported to concentration camps





## After Nazi defeat



- Neither the Allies nor the German or Austrian States recognised gay men or lesbians as victims alongside other groups
- Not considered eligible for compensation
- In 2001 finally recognised

# Gay and lesbian history

- **1957 Wolfenden Report**
  - recommended that "homosexual behaviour between consenting adults in private should no longer be a criminal offence"
- **1967 Sexual Offences Act**
  - decriminalised homosexual acts in private between two men, both of whom had to have attained the age of 21

## Gay and lesbian history

- **1984** Chris Smith MP first MP to come out in office
- **1988** Section 28 of the Local Government Act
  - forbids ‘ the acceptability of homosexuality as a pretended family relationship’
- **1994** gay male age of consent dropped to 18
- **1997** GCHQ relaxed its regulations on relating to the employment of gays and lesbians

## Gay and lesbian history

- **1997** Chris Smith becomes first gay Cabinet Minister
- **2003** Section 28 repealed
- **2004** Civil Partnership Act

## Section 28 of the Local Government Act 1988

A local authority "shall not intentionally promote homosexuality or publish material with the intention of promoting homosexuality" or "promote the teaching in any maintained school of the acceptability of homosexuality as a pretended family relationship".

Repealed on 18 November 2003 in Great Britain

# Gay role models



# Gay role models



# Gay role models





# Gay role models



# Gay role models



# Gay role models



# Gay role models



# Gay role models



# Gay role models



## Gay role models

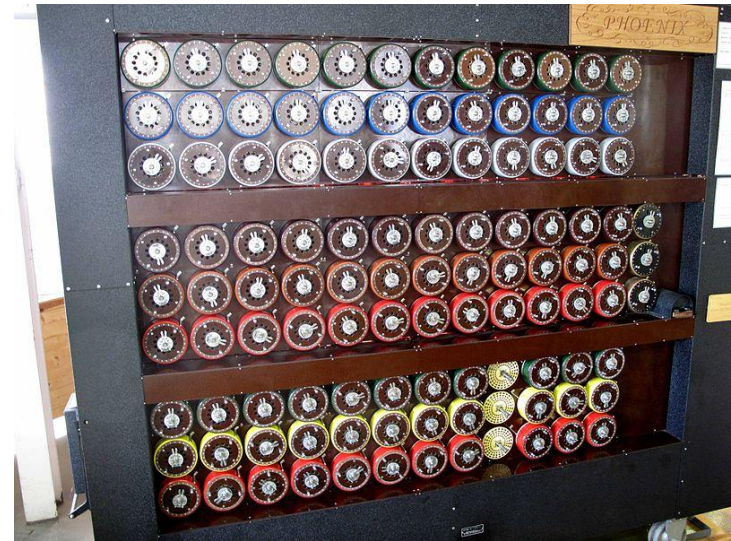


# Gay role models





# Gay role models



## Gay and lesbian history

10 September **2009** Prime Minister Gordon Brown

‘While Turing was dealt with under the law of the time and we can't put the clock back, his treatment was of course utterly unfair and I am pleased to have the chance to say how deeply sorry I and we all are for what happened to him ... So on behalf of the British government, and all those who live freely thanks to Alan's work I am very proud to say: we're sorry, you deserved so much better.’

**Thank you Alan Turing.....**

**Thank you Alan Turing.....**

**.....you showed it's OK to be me**

**?**

**Thank you Alan Turing.....**

**.....you showed it's OK to be me**

@swinmill

sarah.winmill@bcs.org

