

HIV & AIDS



A Local History



This local Brighton & Hove timeline of HIV & AIDS has been compiled through personal recollections of people infected, affected or involved in the care of people with HIV; and using sources of historical data. If you have information or images which you would like to share and to expand this important local history please e mail timeline@lunchpositive.org. This local history document will be updated periodically, and displayed as part of the city's annual World AIDS Day commemorations.

1981



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1982



10 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (1982).



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1983



4 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (1983).



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1984



The first person from Brighton known as having died from AIDS is reported in the news. This was the 45th reported AIDS death in the UK.

Claude Nicole GUM Clinic, which provides HIV testing, moves from small facilities at Royal Sussex County Hospital to Royal York Buildings, Brighton.

22 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (1984).



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1985



The Sussex AIDS Helpline is formed in the same offices as Brighton Gay Switchboard on Ditching Road. The helpline provides telephone advice, information and support to people who have been diagnosed positive; families and friends; and to those who are concerned about the condition.

54 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (1985).



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1986



49 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (1986).



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1987



67 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (1987).



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1988



Sussex AIDS Helpline opens its building in Cavendish Street, Brighton. This becomes the Sussex AIDS Centre and Helpline. The organisation now sees and supports people face to face.

After some time providing informal peer support for many people with AIDS, Father Marcus Riggs secures stipendiary premises from the Diocese of Chichester to open an HIV support centre. This opens in Camelford Street, Brighton and becomes known as Open Door.

99 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (1988).



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1989



Our House/Body Positive Brighton is formed in central Brighton as a drop-in and support service for people with HIV.

178 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (1989).



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1990



Hove General Hospital opens Ward 6 as the first specialist HIV ward in the locality.

210 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (1990).



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1991



282 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (1991).



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1992



Claude Nicole Centre relocates from Royal York Buildings to Royal Sussex County Hospital, where it becomes a GUM clinic. The Lawson Unit opens in the same building for HIV testing and care.

The Sussex Beacon opens as Brighton's first HIV hospice in a purpose built building on Bevendean Road, Brighton.

343 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (1992).



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1993



364 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (1993).



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1994



Brighton & Hove starts use of dual combination therapy in small numbers of patients towards the end of 1994 and into 1995.

385 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (1994).



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1995



13% patients are taking antiretroviral AZT mono or dual therapy of ddi or ddc.

Brighton & Hove appoints its first Consultant HIV Physician.

Treatment of patients locally with dual combination therapy starts increasing toward the end of this year, and increases significantly within a year.

461 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (1995).



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1996



UK first pharmacist led anti-retroviral clinic starts in Brighton.

43% of patients are taking mainly dual or triple therapy.

533 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (1996).



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1997



Hove General Hospital Ward 6 closes.

HIV inpatient and research pharmacy moves from Hove General to Brighton General Hospital.

Elton John HIV Centre opens at Brighton General Hospital, dedicated to HIV care.

581 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (1997).



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1998



Outpatient pharmacy including HIV moves from The Royal Sussex County Hospital to Sussex Eye Hospital.

The founder of Open Door - Fr. Marcus Riggs dies, his loss is mourned by many.

624 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (1998).



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1999



The Sussex AIDS Centre & Helpline merges with the Terrence Higgins Trust to become THT (South).

675 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (1999).



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2000



758 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (2000).



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2001



810 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (2001).



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2002



883 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (2002).



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2003



984 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (2003).



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2004



Royal Sussex County Hospital dedicates Howard Ward 2 to HIV care.

Sussex Ecumenical Chaplaincy started by Churches Together in Central Brighton & Kemp Town. The Chaplaincy includes the following Christian denominations:

Methodist

Church of England

Roman Catholic

Old Catholic

Salvation Army

Society of Friends (Quakers)

Metropolitan Community Church (MCC)

Although the Chaplaincy is Christian it is available to anyone, whether from a different faith or with no formal faith background.

Brighton Body Positive lists as a limited Company.

1099 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (2004).



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2005



Elton John Centre at Brighton General Hospital closes.

Brighton Body Positive Closes, citing lack of funding.

1228 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (2005).



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2006



1362 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (2006).



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2007



Around 65% of patients locally are receiving treatment on antiretroviral medications.

1503 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (2007).



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2008



Open Door closes due to a need for capital investment and lack of funding. Some specialist support work is taken up by THT (South). Open Door was the last standing HIV organisation offering a lunch service and 'drop in' for peer support & social care.

Volunteers from Open Door start planning alternative provision for people with HIV to meet in a safe and supportive space of their own.

1596 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (2008).



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2009



Volunteers from Open Door inaugurate Lunch Positive, a weekly lunch club for people with HIV, provided entirely by volunteers. Lunch Positive holds its first weekly lunch service at Dorset Gardens Methodist Church. This new service offers low cost meals, peer and social support to those affected by HIV.

The Brighton & Hove AIDS Memorial, designed by Mark Romany Bruce, is unveiled in New Steine Gardens, Brighton. An annual candle-lit vigil and reading of names of those lost to AIDS from the locality starts being held at the memorial on World AIDS Day – December 1st.

Brighton & Hove has 9 deaths of its residents from AIDS. SOPHID Data. (Survey of Prevalent HIV Infections Diagnosed).

1678 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (2009).



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2010



Lunch Positive attains 100 referred members, and becomes a registered charity.

Outdoor Positive holds its first walk as a health and social group for those affected by HIV.

Brighton & Hove has 2 deaths of its residents from AIDS – SOPHID Data.

1818 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen in the last 12 months and are alive at the time of this year's latest data (2010).



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2011



80% of patients attending the Lawson Unit are prescribed antiretroviral treatment. This is an increase due to a change in treatment guidelines.

Lunch Positive wins a Special Achievement Award at the LGBT Golden Handbags Ceremony.

Peer Action forms as a social networking group for people with HIV.

Local Consultant HIV & Sexual Health Pharmacist receives lifetime achievement award.

1909 persons registered at the Brighton & Hove HIV clinic have been seen during the last 12 months and are still living at October 2011.



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