

**HIV
Knowledge
is power!**

World AIDS Day Information Pack 2015



**WORLD AIDS DAY
1 DECEMBER**

#WADmerseyside



World AIDS Day

In 1988 a summit of health ministers agreed that a united global effort was required to halt the spread of HIV.

As a result, **World AIDS Day** emerged as the first ever international health day.

World AIDS Day (WAD) is held yearly on 1st December. It is a day to show support for people living with HIV, remember those who have lost their lives because of HIV, and learn the facts and realities of HIV today, in the UK and worldwide.

Why do we wear red ribbons to mark World AIDS Day?

The red ribbon is worn as a sign of support for people living with HIV. Wearing a red ribbon for World AIDS Day is a simple and powerful way to challenge the stigma and prejudice surrounding HIV and AIDS that prevents us from tackling HIV in the UK and internationally.



About this pack

This pack has been put together to help you mark World AIDS Day within your workplace or business. The information contained in the pack is meant as a support to help you learn more about HIV and understand how HIV can be transmitted.

You will find a list of useful web sites all of which are reputable and accurate and contain a whole range of information on a local level, regional level, national level and international level.

There is also a list of ideas of how you can support this international day of awareness.

There is a list of organisations that can support you with your HIV awareness and fundraising and their contact details can be found at the back of this document.



About HIV

What is HIV?

HIV stands for the Human Immunodeficiency Virus. It is a virus which attacks the body's immune system - the body's defence against diseases. When someone is described as living with HIV, they have the HIV virus in their body.



What is AIDS?

AIDS stands for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. A person with HIV is considered to have developed AIDS when the immune system is so weak it can no longer fight off a range of diseases with which it would normally cope.

How is HIV passed on?

HIV can only be passed on through infected blood, semen, vaginal fluids, rectal secretions or breast milk.

The most common ways HIV is passed on are:

-  Sex without a condom with an HIV positive person
-  Sharing infected needles, syringes or other injecting drug equipment with an HIV positive person

Is there a cure for HIV?

No, but treatment can keep the virus under control and the immune system healthy. People on HIV treatment can live a healthy, active life – although some may experience side effects from the treatment. If HIV is diagnosed late, treatment is likely to be less effective.

How can I protect myself and others from HIV infection?

Always use a condom when having vaginal or anal sex. You may also want to use a condom or dental dam during oral sex although the risk of transmission of HIV is much lower. Find out [here](#) where you can get free condoms. Never share needles, syringes or any other injecting equipment.

I don't know anyone with HIV... do I?

Today there are more people than ever before living with HIV in the UK, but many people think they don't know anyone with the virus. But one in four people living with HIV don't know they have it, and even if someone does know they are HIV positive, they may not feel able to tell you.

Source: www.hivaware.org.uk



Statistics

HIV in Liverpool 2014

- 🚫 77 new HIV infections in Liverpool – 20% increase from last year
 - 🚫 Heterosexual sex accounts for the highest proportion of new cases (42.9 %)
 - 🚫 Just under a third (30%) were exposed to HIV through sex between men *(Source: Centre for Public Health, LJMU)*
- 🚫 19,176 people in Merseyside tested for HIV in a sexual health clinic *(Source: Public Health England, Sexual Health)*

HIV in the UK 2014

- 🚫 6,151 people were diagnosed with HIV in the UK
- 🚫 There are nearly 110,000 people living with HIV in the UK.
- 🚫 Approximately 26,000 people living with HIV in the UK have not yet been diagnosed.
- 🚫 More than one million HIV tests were performed in sexual health clinics
- 🚫 40% of adults newly diagnosed with HIV were diagnosed late
- 🚫 Less than 1% of people with HIV died. *(Source: www.nat.org.uk)*

People living with HIV globally

- 🚫 Estimated 35 million people living with HIV worldwide
- 🚫 50% of people living with HIV worldwide are women
- 🚫 1.8 million AIDS-related deaths *(Source: UNAIDS)*

Treatment can keep the virus under control and the immune system healthy. People on HIV treatment can live a healthy, active life, although they may experience side effects from the treatment.

If HIV is diagnosed late, treatment may be less effective.



How can HIV be prevented?

HIV is a preventable infection. If someone knows that they are HIV positive they can take action to stop it being passed onto others. If someone is aware of how HIV can be passed on they can take action to protect them.

It is important for **EVERYONE** to know their HIV status, research shows that early diagnosis and treatment saves lives and helps reduce onward transmission of the virus.

NATIONAL HIV STARTS 21 NOV 2015 TESTING WEEK

Know your HIV status this World AIDS Day
HIV Positive
HIV Negative
Untested

Around ¼ people living with HIV in the UK are unaware of their infection

Where to get a FREE HIV test this World AIDS Day

Date	Time	Venue
Tues 24 th November	11 – 3pm	Health Information Centre, The Beat
Wed 25 th November	12 – 8pm	Armistead Centre, The Beat
Thurs 26 th November	11 – 3pm	Health Information Centre, The Beat
Wed 2 nd December	11 – 3pm	St Brides Church, Percy Street

The tests are free, confidential.

HIV rapid testing will be available at all venues except St Brides Church. The HIV test at St Brides will involve taking a blood sample, the results from this blood test will be available approximately one week later.

HIV testing - The Beat, Hanover Street L1 4AF

www.liverpoolcommunityhealth.nhs.uk/health-services/sexual-health.htm

0151 247 6500

HIV testing in Liverpool click [here](#)

<http://www.liverpoolcommunityhealth.nhs.uk/health-services/sexual-health/abacus/abacus.htm>

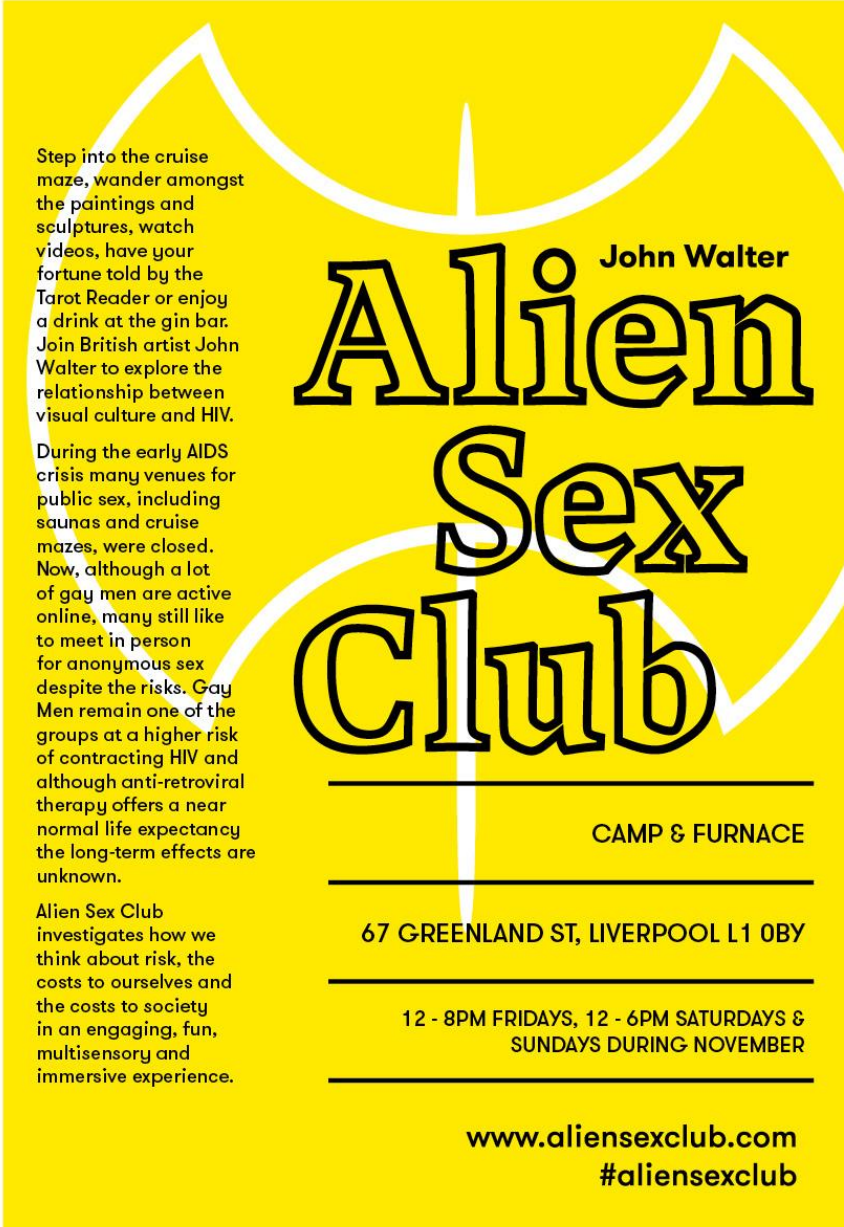
You can get a full sexual health screen free of charge at your local sexual health clinic

Alien Sex Club, an exhibition by John Walter – www.aliensexclub.com

Alien Sex Club is a major multimedia project by the British artist **John Walter**, which will explore the relationship between visual culture and HIV today. The installation involves artists, activists and **HIV specialists, clinical academics and scientists** in collaborations for a public programme of talks and performances that aim to provide audiences with a new vocabulary for understanding and talking about HIV and the factors contributing to its transmission. The public programme will be free to visitors. The architectural installation will also offer visitors

Free rapid HIV testing – see below testing times

Date	Time
Fri 6 th November	5pm – 7pm
Sat 7 th November	1pm – 4pm
Fri 13 th November	1pm – 4pm
Fri 20 th November	1pm – 4pm
Sat 21 st November	1pm – 4pm
Fri 27 th November	5pm – 7pm
Sat 28 th November	1pm – 4pm

A yellow poster for the 'Alien Sex Club' exhibition. The title 'Alien Sex Club' is written in large, bold, black-outlined letters. Above 'Alien' is the name 'John Walter'. The poster features a white graphic of a stylized alien head or a leaf-like shape. On the left side, there are three paragraphs of text. At the bottom, there is information about the venue, address, and opening hours, along with the website and social media handle.

Step into the cruise maze, wander amongst the paintings and sculptures, watch videos, have your fortune told by the Tarot Reader or enjoy a drink at the gin bar. Join British artist John Walter to explore the relationship between visual culture and HIV.

During the early AIDS crisis many venues for public sex, including saunas and cruise mazes, were closed. Now, although a lot of gay men are active online, many still like to meet in person for anonymous sex despite the risks. Gay Men remain one of the groups at a higher risk of contracting HIV and although anti-retroviral therapy offers a near normal life expectancy the long-term effects are unknown.

Alien Sex Club investigates how we think about risk, the costs to ourselves and the costs to society in an engaging, fun, multisensory and immersive experience.

John Walter
Alien Sex Club

CAMP & FURNACE

67 GREENLAND ST, LIVERPOOL L1 0BY

12 - 8PM FRIDAYS, 12 - 6PM SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS DURING NOVEMBER

www.aliensexclub.com
#aliensexclub



What you can do this World AIDS Day

- 🎗️ **Wear a red ribbon** - Red ribbons can be sold or handed out, supported by information about the red ribbon, what its meaning is, and why people wear one.
- 🎗️ **HIV awareness in schools** – Teachers resources [here](#)
- 🎗️ **Create an information point** – limited resources can be requested from Sahir House, use the enclosed list of useful websites to download resources or make your own. An information point or stall can be an excellent way of raising awareness and engaging with students, colleagues and educators alike.
- 🎗️ **Organise a fundraising event** or request a collection tin from Sahir House
- 🎗️ **Know the FACTS** - Invite Sahir House or Armistead to deliver HIV awareness information sessions to your work place, school or college
- 🎗️ **Include a World AIDS Day feature** in any publications in your community / workplace to raise much needed awareness and understanding of the impact of HIV
- 🎗️ **Get tested** & promote HIV testing
(National HIV Testing Week 23rd November - To find your nearest testing centre [here](#) or phone 0151 237 3990)
- 🎗️ **Wear Red Day** – raise money for Sahir House
- 🎗️ **Tweet** - #WADmerseyside
- 🎗️ **Attend Sahir House World AIDS Day Event at St Georges Hall,**
Liverpool on Tuesday December 1st.
Doors open 4pm, event commences 5pm – 6.30pm.
This is a FREE event

(If you would like to have a stall at this event please contact
Serena Cavanagh - serena@sahir.org.uk)

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WORLD AIDS DAY EVENT 2015

Tuesday December 1st

Doors open 4pm,
offering tea & coffee

Event commences 5pm—6.30pm

St Georges Hall Concert Room
Liverpool, L1 1JJ

Testimonies from people
living with HIV

Up For Arts Community Choir

The reading of the remembrance list
by candle light

This is a FREE event, all welcome

For more information contact
Sahir House
0151 237 3989



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Organisation	What is it?
<p>Sahir House www.sahir.org.uk 0151 237 3989</p>	<p>Your local HIV charity supporting people and families living with or affected by HIV on Merseyside.</p>
<p>The Armistead http://www.liverpoolcommunityhealth.nhs.uk/health-services/sexual-health/armistead.htm 0151 247 6560</p>	<p>Sexual health promotion service for Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people and for male and female sex workers.</p> <p>HIV rapid testing drop-in sessions on Wednesdays 2pm-3:30pm</p>
<p>The Community Specialist HIV/AIDS Nursing Service www.liverpoolcommunityhealth.nhs.uk/health-services/nursing-services/community-hiv-aids-nursing-service.htm 0151 295 8650</p>	<p>A community-based, citywide service that provides support, care and advice to HIV positive adults at varying stages of their disease process.</p>
<p>Sexual Health St Helens http://getiton.org.uk/st-helens/</p>	<p>Sexual health and relationship advice for Halton and St Helens</p>
<p>Southport & Ormskirk services www.isis.sefton.nhs.uk/</p>	<p>Integrated sexual health service provided in Sefton</p>
<p>Brook Wirral 0151 670 0177 info@wirralbrook.org.uk Brook Liverpool 0151 207 4000 admin@merseybrook.co.uk</p>	<p>Brook deliver sexual health clinical sessions across Merseyside</p>
<p>Sexual Health Clinics (GUM)</p> <p>Sexual Health Wirral - 0151 514 6464 Royal Liverpool - 0151 706 2622/23 Southport Hospital - 0170 451 3303 St Helens Hospital - 0174 464 6473 Halton - 0192 875 3217 Warrington GUM - 01925 644 202</p>	<p>Testing, treatment and care for all sexually transmitted infections</p>
<p>www.worldaidsday.org/</p>	<p>This web site provides information & resources for World AIDS Day each year</p>

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