

this week

04
OCT '23

www.lecowza.co.za

LGBTQ+

History Month



READ ALL ABOUT IT

GAY MEANS HAPPY:
A TESTAMENT TO THE DYNAMISM
OF LANGUAGE



artwrk.

make a statement



T-SHIRT PRINTING



PHOTOGRAPHY



BULK PRINTING



081 896 4146

CONTENTS

<i>On the Cover</i>	6
<i>Thoughts</i>	17
<i>Insights</i>	21
<i>Recipe</i>	22
<i>Reviews</i>	25

CONTRIBUTORS

Machaba Matsapola
Morake Mmotla
Motlago Molepo

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Somewhere beyond right and wrong, there is a garden. I will
meet you there.”
—*Rumi*



from the **TEAM**

Welcome to Issue 4 of Lecowza This Week, where we celebrate the diversity of LGBTQ+ voices during LGBTQ+ History Month. As we honor the courage, resilience, and achievements of the LGBTQ+ community, we are proud to spotlight three remarkable individuals whose stories inspire us all.

In this issue, meet local trailblazers who have defied stereotypes and broken barriers, showing that love knows no bounds and that acceptance and understanding are the keys to a more inclusive world. Their journeys are a

testament to the power of authenticity and unity.

We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our readers for your unwavering support. You've made Lecowza This Week a platform for diversity, representation, and the celebration of love in all its forms. Your support fuels our commitment to continue telling stories that matter.

Thank you for being a part of this incredible journey.

Morale

artwrk.

make a statement



WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO

 081 896 4146

On the COVER



MEET *Belinda*

**ACTIVIST
BELIEVES THAT
THINGS WILL
EVENTUALLY
GET BETTER
FOR LGBTI
COMMUNITY.**

By Machaba Matsapola

Growing up, Belinda Marobane was a tomboy who loved playing soccer and was attracted to both boys and girls. In high school, she dated a guy and that was when her first born was conceived. The 32-year-old from



Lebowakgomo is now a mom of two and identifies as Bisexual. A simple definition of Bisexual is an individual who is romantically attracted to people of their own and opposite gender.

Even though she knew that she was also attracted to girls from an early age, Belinda didn't get to explore her options until she was

21. “In high school, I used to have a crush on female teachers but thought it was a phase,” she shares. “I first dated a girl when I was 21 and she was more feminine than me.”

According to Belinda, her mom never approved of her lifestyle and was even happy when she got pregnant with her second born. “My mom was over the moon when I gave birth to my daughter and thought I was finally heterosexual,” she laughs.

Belinda’s wish is to create more awareness about the LGBTQ+ community in Lebowakgomo where she resides. “I feel there’s still a lot of discrimination against the LGBTQ+ community hence we want to host an LGBTQ+ event during the month of October which is LGBTQ+ History Month,” she shares. “I know a lot

of people from my neighborhood who are in the ‘closet’ and afraid to come out because they are afraid of being disowned by their families, I’m talking about both male and female”

Belinda wishes that people from Limpopo province could be more open minded when it comes to the LGBTQ+ community like Gauteng and Western Cape provinces where the LGBTQ+ community enjoy more freedom and get to live their best lives.

She invites people to come to the LGBTQ+ Meet & Greet event which will be on the 28th October 2023 at Majamos Pub in Lebowakgom Zone B. “The event is for everyone and we want people to be more educated about the LGBTQ+ community and have fun at the same time,” she shares.

24 Hour Photo books

We create photo
books for all
events and
themes.



artwrk.

make a statement

 081 896 4146

On the COVER



MEET *Temosho*

**TEMOSHO
URGES PARENTS
TO ACCEPT
THEIR KIDS AS
THEY ARE AND
SUPPORT
THEM.**

By Machaba Matsapola

It's common knowledge that you can tell the difference between an individual who was raised with love and that without one. It's also common knowledge that most people from the LGBTQ+ community have experienced discrimination



and homophobia from home and are ridiculed by those who are supposed to embrace and

support them. Temosho Kgagudi is a 37-year-old lesbian woman and her story is similar to most black people in the LGBTQ+ community. “I grew up in Mhlaletsi which is a rural area in Sekhukhune and realized that I was attracted to girls when I was 14 in boarding school,” she shares.

Temosho later moved to Lebowakgomo township but she was living in the closet until she came out when she was 33 years of age. “It was scary for me to come out and before I gathered the courage to tell my parents, I had confided in close friends and a cousin,” shares Temosho. “I was relieved after I told my family because I started being free and now I’m able to introduce them to my girlfriend.”

Even though Temosho is

openly a lesbian woman, she says she still experiences a lot of discrimination, especially from guys who like to make silly and dangerous remarks. “I was nearly raped by a guy who kept saying he wants to sleep with me to prove that I’m actually a woman and it was very scary; I had friends who were raped and killed because they were lesbian,” she says with a broken heart. For Temosho, she feels like a place like Pretoria is the best place to live as a member of the LGBTQ+ community because there are social clubs where the LGBTQ+ community congregates and share ideas.

“Parents should accept their kids as they are and embrace them because it can be hard when you’re discriminated by your family and the community where you live,” she advises.

On the COVER



MEET *Lehlogonolo*

17-YEAR-OLD SHARES HER TRANSITION JOURNEY FROM A BOY TO A GIRL.

By Machaba Matsapola

Since Lehlogonolo Shoba was 8 years old, she always loved to play with girls and explore with her aunt's make-up on her face. However, when Lehlogonolo was born, her assigned gender was male and she was referred to as a boy. 9 years later, the 17-year-old



from Lebowakgomo identifies as female and has been feeling like that for a while now.

“When I was young, I used to be

confused and thought that there was something wrong with me,” shares Lehlogonolo. “I used to get teased and bullied because I was the boy who behaved like a girl, even at home I was ill-treated and I’d feel depressed.” It was then at her tender age that she researched on the internet and found out that she was in fact a transgender and not gay. According to Wikipedia.org: “A transgender person is someone whose gender identity differs from that typically associated with the sex they were assigned at birth; some transgender people may desire medical assistance to transition from one sex to another identity.”

Even though Lehlogonolo never underwent a transition surgery or transitioned legally, she identifies as a girl because that’s how she

feels inside. During the interview, I could tell that Lehlogonolo understands who she really is and that made it easier for me to understand where she was coming from. Though life was unbearable for Lehlogonolo at some point, she says things got better with time because she doesn’t face much discrimination like she used to. “I stay with my grandmother and two uncles, they don’t discriminate against me but I think they tolerate me; at school teachers always supported me and I even get to wear girls’ uniform,” says Lehlogonolo.

Within the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex (LGBTI) community, transgender people are the most misunderstood and are often attacked or killed because of who they are. Some of these attacks are fueled by



religious or cultural beliefs.

“I wish religious leaders could understand that being a transgender or someone from the LGBTI community is not really a choice but you’re born that way,” she pleads. “No amount of prayer will change who you are and we are not possessed by evil spirits or anything like that; the LGBTI community has been

there from the beginning of time.”

When it comes to her life’s aspirations, Lehlogonolo wants to be a medical doctor and have a clinic that will assist the LGBTI community with basic needs. “I wish to run a clinic that will provide medication and psychological help for the LGBTI community in general,” she concludes.



GAY MEANS HAPPY

*A testament to the dynamism of
language*

By Morake Mmotla

No, like literally! The word “gay” has undergone a remarkable transformation over the years, evolving from a simple adjective meaning “happy” or “lively” to a term primarily associated with homosexuality. This linguistic journey reflects not only changes in language but also shifts in societal attitudes and cultural perceptions.

In the heyday of old Hollywood movies, the term “gay” was commonly used to describe a carefree and joyful state of being. Characters in films of the 1930s and 1940s would often exclaim, “I feel so gay!” to express their happiness and enthusiasm. It was a word imbued with positivity, reflecting the lighthearted spirit of the era’s cinema.

However, as the mid-20th century progressed, the word “gay” began to take on a new and more specific meaning. The emergence of the gay rights movement in the 1960s and 1970s pushed the term into the spotlight as a descriptor for people with same-sex attractions or relationships. This transformation was not without

its challenges. It marked a period of societal upheaval, as individuals and communities fought for acceptance and equal rights.

The shift in the meaning of “gay” was not only linguistic but also cultural. It mirrored a broader shift in the way society understood and approached issues related to sexuality. The word “gay” became a symbol of identity and pride for LGBTQ+ individuals, as they worked to dispel stereotypes and gain recognition and equality.

This transformation was not without its complexities. For a time, the older meaning of “gay” coexisted with the newer one. People could still use “gay” to describe a joyful mood or a lively atmosphere, but its primary association was gradually shifting toward its new definition.

Today, the word “gay” primarily signifies someone who identifies as homosexual. However, the old meaning of the word has not been entirely lost. It still occasionally appears in literature, songs, and casual conversation to describe happiness or cheerfulness. This duality



of meanings reflects the richness and flexibility of language, which can adapt to changing societal norms and values. The journey of the word “gay” from meaning “happy” to primarily signifying homosexuality is a testament to the dynamism and power of language to reflect and shape cultural and societal change. Old Hollywood movies remind us of a time when “gay” simply

meant joyful, but the evolution of this term has played a significant role in the LGBTQ+ rights movement. It is a reminder of how words can carry the weight of history and embody the struggles and triumphs of a community. So, the next time you hear someone say “gay,” remember that its meaning is not fixed, but rather a reflection of an ever-evolving language.



Tempoint

EMBROIDERY & BRANDING

OUR SERVICES

EMBROIDERY
GRAPHIC DESIGN
WEB DESIGN
DIGITAL MARKETING
MEDIA BUYING
BRANDING & SIGNAGE

info@tempointdesign.co.za
061 412 4917
074 927 3107

www.tempointdesign.co.za
1814 Zone F Lebowa gomo
(opposite mall@lebo on the R579)



By: Morake Mmotla

isn't Pride Month in June?

Wait, isn't Pride Month in June? Yes, Pride Month is celebrated in June, but LGBTQ+ History Month, which takes place in October in some countries, serves a different purpose. While Pride Month commemorates the Stonewall riots and celebrates LGBTQ+ identities and culture, LGBTQ+ History Month focuses on recognizing the historical contributions and struggles of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender,

queer, and other diverse sexual and gender identity communities.

Rodney Wilson, a high school teacher in Missouri, is a pivotal figure in the establishment of LGBTQ+ History Month. In 1994, he proposed the idea to dedicate a month to LGBTQ+ history, aiming to foster understanding and inclusivity in educational settings. His efforts laid the foundation for this month-long observance.

During LGBTQ+ History Month, educational institutions and various organizations host events, lectures, workshops, and exhibitions to educate the public about LGBTQ+ history. It's an opportunity to shed light on key moments, individuals, and movements that have shaped LGBTQ+ rights and advocacy.

In essence, LGBTQ+ History Month complements Pride Month by providing a platform for discussing the past struggles and achievements of the LGBTQ+ community. It underscores the importance of acknowledging history in the ongoing fight for equality and acceptance for all, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.



Lemon

VANILLA SCONES



RECIPE

Ingredients

6 cups flour
2 cups amasi or milk
250 g butter
1 teaspoon vanilla essence
1 teaspoon of lemon essence
1 cup sugar
6 teaspoon baking powder

Cooking Instructions

Step 1

Preheat your oven to 180 degrees Celsius Sift flour and baking powder then cut your butter into tubes mix until it resembles breadcrumbs

Step 2

In a bowl mix eggs sugar vanilla essence and amasi whisk until well combined

Step 3

Mix your wet to dry ingredients but don't over mix your batter. On a floured surface roll 1cm thick and cut with a cookie cutter then whisk egg and a little bit of milk then brush your scones and bake for 15 to 20 minutes and golden on top. Enjoy!

Motlago Molepo is the founder of Food Creative and a self-taught cook who loves cooking and baking in her spare time.

Instagram: @food_creative



Zone B
P H A R M A C Y



WE DO
DELIVERY
AROUND LEBOWAKGOMO
AND SURROUNDING AREAS



Our services

Self medication

Prescription

Chronic prescription



Shop No 1, Zone B pharmacy
2971 Zone B, Kholofelo Centre
Lebowakgomo

WORKING HOURS

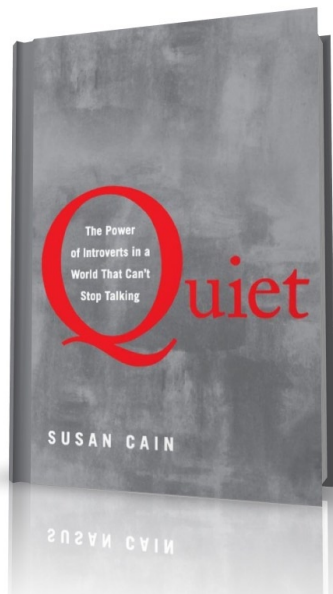
MON-SAT : 08H30 - 20H00

SUN : 08H30 - 18H00

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS : 08H30 - 15H00



069 324 5298
067 954 3956



QUIET: THE POWER OF INTROVERTS IN A WORLD THAT CAN'T STOP TALKING

Susan Cain

Review By: Morake Mmotla

“Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can’t Stop Talking” by Susan Cain is a revelatory masterpiece that celebrates the often-underappreciated strengths of introverts. With meticulous research and eloquent prose, Cain navigates the complexities of introversion, dispelling myths and providing a compelling case for its significance in our extrovert-centric society.

Cain’s storytelling effortlessly weaves together real-life examples

and scientific studies, engaging readers with relatable narratives that resonate deeply. She emphasizes the value of solitude, the power of listening, and the depth of introvert creativity. In a world that often clamors for attention, this book serves as a reassuring and empowering guide for introverts to embrace their authentic selves.

“Quiet” is not just a book; it’s a call to action for introverts to shine and for extroverts to appreciate the quiet strength that lies within. It’s an indispensable read for anyone seeking a better understanding of human nature and the diverse ways in which we contribute to our world.

Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World that can't stop Talking by Susan Cain is available everywhere books are sold.

If your business
is not advertising
with us,

**It Does
Not Exist.**

.....
Give us a Call



☎ +27 81 896 4146

✉ info@lecowza.co.za