

LGBT+ History Month

The University of Edinburgh Staff Pride Network supports LGBT+ colleagues and allies, one of whom is HCA staff member Emma. We asked her about her role as Ally Representative.

Hi there! I'm Emma, the School of History, Classics and Archaeology's Modern Apprentice who has recently been appointed as Ally Representative in the University of Edinburgh Staff Pride Network (SPN). As it's LGBT+ History Month, I thought I'd let you know how my role works and what you can do to support the community at the University.

Ally reps show constant support to the LGBT+ community in many ways. They familiarise themselves with the language to use when talking with LGBT+ people such as preferred pronouns, they organise and become involved in events, they educate themselves on the history of the movement – LGBT+ History Month is an annual month-long observance of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender history, and the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements, founded in 1994, and a great source of information – and last but not least they stand up for what they believe in! As well as an Ally Rep I am also the Meeting Secretary for the Network, and am part of the events team in the committee whilst creating and curating the SPN Instagram account.

I've supported the LGBT+ community fully throughout my life so am determined to put my organising skills to work to create some fun and engaging events and make sure LGBT+ voices are being heard and respected across the School and the wider University with my other fellow ally rep, Tara Spires-Jones. We'll do everything we can to make the UoE a more inclusive place and to encourage other allies to speak out and show their support for the community.

If you are interested in becoming more educated and involved

in the Staff Pride Network, join our lovely group of people in the network to keep making supporting the LGBT+ community possible! If you're at the University and have any questions, or if you have event ideas or important issues regarding LGBT+ staff or students at the UoE for myself and my other ally rep to follow up on, contact me at the School and I'll get back to you!

Further information:

Find out more about University of Edinburgh Staff Pride Network

Network events for LGBT+ History Month

LGBT+ Allies

University of Edinburgh staff – join the Network



Dr Molly Merryman

LGBT+ History Month Event

As part of LGBT+ History Month Dr Molly Merryman gave a lecture, 'Queer Voices from the Pandemic' on 9 February, 2021. You can view a recording of the lecture at [this link](#).

LGBT+ History Month and Time Warp, 2018



Student Ambassador Ruby reports on a busy February for the School's Societies.

February has been a busy month here at the University – particularly for History, Classics and Archaeology students! Not only have we had the Staff-Student Pub Quiz and the History and Classics Society trips, but it's also been LGBT+ History Month and RAG (“Raising And Giving”) Week!

A lot has been going on across campus this LGBT+ History Month; our student's association has been running everything from film screenings, to LGBT+ self-defence classes. The History Society has also managed to get involved and organise some events of our own. We collaborated with PrideSoc (the University's LGBT+ society) to write a pub quiz, we designed historical Valentine's cards, and we led a walking tour of Edinburgh's LGBT+ history. Did you know that the 1974 International Congress on Homosexual Rights took place on our

campus?



Our Valentine Cards.

RAG Week takes place in the last week of February and is an opportunity for societies to host fundraising events for worthwhile causes. This year, History, Classics, Archaeology, and Retrospect (our School's student journal) decided to combine RAG week with LGBT+ History Month and host the event Time Warp. Time Warp was billed as a "party for people of all sexualities, genders and degrees", and all profits went to the Scottish charity *LGBT+ Health and Wellbeing*

Time Warp was held in Teviot Underground – one of the many bars and live music venues on campus – and was DJ-ed by volunteers from FreshAir, Edinburgh's student radio station. There were glowsticks, glitter aplenty and a slideshow of historic LGBT+ photos (because who said parties can't also be educational?!)



The Time Warp raised over £100 for charity and we had a blast!