

# Staff Pride Network Newsletter – Issue 5

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### Welcome to the February 2018 edition of the Staff Pride Network Newsletter!

Happy LGBT+ History Month! As part of a diverse calendar of events (see the events section below for details), on Thursday 8 February we will launch our new official University of Edinburgh Student LGBT+ History Month. Following from Communications & Marketing, we've decided on two designs for LGBT+ and Ally staff members, with such an obvious symbol, we can show to new staff, students, alumni and visitors that our workplace is inclusive, and our campus can become a welcoming rainbow! You can choose between the 'University of Edinburgh' or 'University of Edinburgh LGBT+ Ally' designs. Pick yours up as an event, or email us and we will send it to you in internet mail.

To reach out to the 13,000 staff across the University, we have additions to enhance our new LGBT+ History Month logo on every school or building, and we've put in place a plan to launch this logo project. Please read his introduction in this newsletter and email him if interested.

On a corporate level, we've worked with Procurement to improve policy wording and they have now included a new 'LGBT+ community benefits' on their supplier contracts.

As well as the regular Central & HR Lunchtime and evening socials and just staff networked monthly lunch, we've organised a programme of events in Transgender Day of Remembrance and in November. Please see our LGBT+ History Month calendar for details.

Finally I'd like to express my thanks to all the SPN volunteers for their time and dedication, resulting in the University raising 132 places in the Stonewall Workplace Equality Index in the last year. At their March conference in November we were delighted to feature as a best practice example of a network starting up. We look forward to continuing our efforts to make the University an even more inclusive place to work and study.

John Walker  
Co-Chair, Staff Pride Network

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### Socials - Date change and call for venue suggestions

Our monthly socials now occur on the first Friday of every month. This is just to make things a bit more consistent, and keep us all on the same page! We hope you like the new venue at Oldquoin on Bristle Place, again fully accessible. Catch us there from 5.30 till late.

### World AIDS Day Fundraising



Hope congratulations to Remus Nelson who through his efforts managed to raise £21.85 for WorldAids Care and £28.07 for the National AIDS Trust. Well done!

### SPN Book Group



The SPN Book Group has been meeting since October and we have a small group of passionate book readers choosing an eclectic set of books. We meet on the third Thursday of the month at 6pm in the St Andrew Reading Company in Pentlands (formerly The Betting Shop). Read more...

### Take part in research on LGBT+ employees and business leaders

Do you want to contribute to the measurement of LGBT+ people at work and in business? If so, how is your chance to take part in an exciting project that aims to do just that. Also you will have opportunity of meeting & SPN committee members at whom University are conducting an online survey to better understand the psychological experiences of LGBT+ people within the workplace, either as employees or as senior managers of a business/local enterprise. The survey takes around 15 to 20 minutes to complete and yourself as well as your employer/organisation will remain anonymous. The study is being funded by the British Academy and will be used to inform policies and practices surrounding LGBT+ inclusivity within workplaces as well as enabling the growth of LGBT+ entrepreneurs within the UK economy. For more details and to receive an online link to the survey, please email [spn@ed.ac.uk](mailto:spn@ed.ac.uk)

### LGBT+ Football 5-a-side

Edinburgh's LGBT+ football team, RedTails FC are having a 5-a-side competition in February for LGBT+ History Month. It is being held at the Carr Exchange in Edinburgh, on Saturday 17th February 2018, 10am-6pm. There will be complimentary soup and sandwiches afterwards at the venue. The fee for competition is £5 per player, and each team can have up to a maximum of 8 players. Get in touch with Stuart Wilson at [Stuart.Wilson@redtailsfc.co.uk](mailto:Stuart.Wilson@redtailsfc.co.uk) if you'd like to participate.

### Pride Saltire launch



The launch of Pride Saltire is only two weeks away! There will be much to do, with entertainment, a licensed social engagement bar, and socials in both the community and business fair, all held at the beautiful Colinton House in East Lothian. Keep an eye on the Pride Saltire Facebook and Twitter pages for more announcements to come.

### LGBT+ British Muslims study

The Network has received a report from a PhD student examining psychological wellbeing, acculturation and identity amongst British Muslims of Pakistani heritage who have come to attraction. Read the full report [here](#).

### Call for site rep volunteers



We need an active interest and a 15-20 min time slot. A looking for volunteers from across the University to be Site Reps for their area. The main purpose of the role is to help to promote the SPN and upcoming events, but also act as a point of reference for feedback info and ideas. Based at the Western General campus, I am a post-doctoral researcher working on therapeutic gene editing and in my spare time I love to bake, and obviously it's also a hair cutter. I am really excited to take on this lead role and hope that through recruiting Site Reps for all areas of the university, we can reach all LGBT+ colleagues and allies. I am passionate about ensuring that the great work we do benefits all LGBT+ colleagues and work on the site benefits all LGBT+ colleagues and allies, no matter where in the university they may be based. That's why we need you. Contact me if you're interested, we want to work for you! If you wish to take part, please get in touch with me at Peter.Townsend@ed.ac.uk

### Stonewall conference feedback

Carol Day attended the Stonewall Conference alongside our co-chair Jonathan, and she had some notes to feed back on the sessions she attended. Read more [here](#).

### Take part in a survey about homophobia in sport

We have been contacted by an undergraduate Sports and Exercise Science student from Napier University whose history project looks into the role of LGBT+ athletes, and homophobia in sport. We're currently conducting a survey to identify the most active people to target to help take part in any activity without fear of judgement. To this end, she is seeking respondents to a short, anonymous questionnaire about their experiences in or around sport. If you wish to take part, you can take the survey [here](#).

### Transgender Remembrance Day 2017

Transgender Remembrance Day 2017 was held on 18 November 2017. The event was organised by our Trans Rep Co-ops, and more than forty people attended the event, staff and students, LGBT+ and allies. You can read more about the event on [Gina's website](#).

### TransEDU launch - report

TransEDU is a website and resource that provides data on and for transgender students and staff in further and higher education, funded by Strathclyde University as well as the Leadership Council and the Scottish Grant Council. Our Trans Representative Co-ops were along to the launch at Strathclyde University on 14 December 2017. Read more [here](#).

### Events

**SPN and Pridefest Lunch**  
Date: Wednesday 7 February 2018  
Time: 12:00 - 14:00  
Location: Kings Building Centre  
Facebook event

**Poetry and Place: Queer Space**  
Date: Wednesday 7 February 2018  
Time: 16:00 - 17:00  
Location: 1st Floor, Geography Building  
Event page on LGBT+ History Month site

**Parish - SPN Film screening and panel**  
Date: Thursday 8 February 2018  
Time: 19:00 - 21:00  
Location: 1.10, 10 George Square  
Facebook event

**Queer AF Cabaret**  
Date: Saturday 10 February 2018  
Time: 19:00 - 21:00  
Location: Cabaret Bar, Pleasance  
Facebook event

**SPN Coffee Social - Central area**  
Date: Wednesday 14 February 2018  
Time: 11:00-14:00  
Location: David Colquhoun Room  
Facebook event!

**SPN Coffee Social - King's Buildings**  
Date: Wednesday 14 February 2018  
Time: 11:00-14:00  
Location: Huxtable Cafe, South Building  
Facebook event!

**SPN LGBT+ Book Group**  
Date: Thursday 15 February 2018  
Time: 17:00 - 18:15  
Location: The Portico Shed  
SPN calendar

**Pride Saltire Launch**  
Date: 17 February 2018  
Time: 12:00-13:00  
Location: Colinton House, East Lothian  
Facebook event

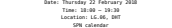
**Panel event: Past, Present and Future of Procurement**  
Date: Thursday 22 February 2018  
Time: 16:00 - 18:30  
Location: 1.10, 10 George Square  
SPN calendar

**SPN Queer Showcase: Performance Lecture "The Five Ages"**  
Date: Friday 23 February 2018  
Time: 17:30 - 19:30  
Location: 1.10, 10 George Square  
Event page

**SPN Queer Showcase: Queer Film Studies**  
Date: Friday 23 February 2018  
Time: 17:30 - 19:30  
Location: Practice Suite, 1.10 DB  
Event page

**SPN closing event: Let's Talk About Detransitionality**  
Date: Wednesday 28 February 2018  
Time: 18:00 - 19:30  
Location: Business School Auditorium  
Event page

Full events calendar  
Booklet information  
Contacts and Committee  
Help, support and advice  
[StaffPRN@ed.ac.uk](mailto:StaffPRN@ed.ac.uk)



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