

Pride Edinburgh



Pride Edinburgh is on Saturday 16th June 2018 and we have LOTS of plans! All are welcome to join us for the march, wear a Rainbow Lanyard and a University Staff Pride Network t-shirt and stay for the Queer AF cabaret.

We'll meet at Levels Cafe, Holyrood Road from 11am in advance of the march moving off from the Scottish Parliament at 12.

We have set up an ePay link (<https://bit.ly/2xrpIaz>) and an order form (<https://bit.ly/2xpWwRj>) so you can buy a Staff Pride Network t-shirt for the march at cost price of £13.20, and we'll send it to you internal mail. You can also collect from Central or Little France. With or without a t-shirt, feel free to wear your Rainbow Lanyard and join us to celebrate Pride and show solidarity with LGBT+ people around the world.

Once you've marched, applauded the speeches, visited the community fair in Teviot and Potterow and ceilidh-danced your wee heart out, SPN are proud to present a special Pride Edition of Queer AF Cabaret. Drag queen host Georgia Tasda will be joined by a selection of Edinburgh's finest queer performers. The fun begins at 6pm in Teviot Underground. Free entry to all!

Rainbow Lanyards



We have been overwhelmed by the enthusiasm for our Rainbow Lanyards and are delighted that the latest batch of 4000 Rainbow Lanyards has been delivered. Our RL Distribution Team of 6 has a small backlog at the moment, and will send out your order as quickly as they can. Any help with this would be appreciated. If you'd like to help, let us know!

Of the 4000 lanyards already delivered, Card Services have funded 1400 for new staff who will be able to choose between a blue and rainbow lanyard; Finance, Student Wellbeing, ISG Library Services and Informatics have paid for 700 lanyards for their own staff; Finance, Card Services and Social Responsibility & Sustainability have donated 1400 to the Staff Pride Network for us to supply others throughout the University; and the shop ordered 500 to sell at a reasonable £2 to students, alumni and members of the public.

We were even contacted by an Edinburgh Business School PhD student who wanted to wear one of our rainbow lanyards to her viva!

What does your Rainbow Lanyard mean to you?

Staff Pride Network Newsletter – Issue 5

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[View this email in your browser](#)





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+ Network. 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 campuses can become welcoming rainbows! 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 11,000 staff across the University, we have additions to enhance our new LGBT+ network. We have added to our LGBT+ network a new 'LGBT+ community benefits' section on our website. We have also included a new 'LGBT+ community benefits' on our regular contracts.

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 regular contracts.

Finally I'd like to express my thanks to all the SNM volunteers for their time and dedication, resulting in the University rising 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 as an even more inclusive place to work and study.

John Hadden
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 Chompdown 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!

SNM Book Group



The SNM 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 Portico (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 do you think to take part in an exciting project that aims to do just that. Also you will have opportunity of meeting a SNM committee member here at the University and collecting 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/social 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 emma@lgbt.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 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 with 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 request from a PhD student examining psychological wellbeing, acculturation and identity amongst British Muslims of Pakistani heritage who have same-sex attraction. Read the full request.

Call for site rep volunteers



By the name of Peter Tennant and in 17th Feb I'm looking for volunteers from across the University to be Site Reps for next year. The main purpose of the role is to help to promote the SNM 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 hike, 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.Tennant@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.

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 trying to recruit people to every take part in any activity without fear of judgement. To this end, she is seeking respondents to a short, anonymous questionnaire about their experience 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 Co-ops 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.

Events

SNM 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 – SNM film screening and panel

Date: Thursday 8 February 2018
Time: 19:00 – 21:00
Location: L1.01, St George Square
Facebook event

Queer AF Cabaret

Date: Saturday 10 February 2018
Time: 19:00 – 21:00
Location: Cabaret Bar, Pleasance
Facebook event

SNM Coffee Social – Central area

Date: Wednesday 14 February 2018
Time: 11:00-14:00
Location: David Committee Room
Facebook event!

SNM Coffee Social – King's Buildings

Date: Wednesday 14 February 2018
Time: 11:00-14:00
Location: Huxtable Cafe, South Building
Facebook event!

SNM LGBT+ Book Group

Date: Thursday 15 February 2018
Time: 17:00 – 19:00
Location: The Portico Shed
SNM calendar

Pride Saltire Launch

Date: 22-28 February 2018
Time: 12:00-17:00
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: L1.06, 1st
SNM calendar

SNM Queer Showcase: Performance Lecture "The Five Ages"

Date: Friday 23 February 2018
Time: 17:30 – 19:30
Location: L1.01, St George Square
Event page

SNM Queer Showcase: Queer Film Studies

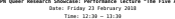
Date: Friday 23 February 2018
Time: 17:30 – 19:30
Location: Practice Suite, L11 DB
Event page

SNM 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



THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

November Newsletter



August Newsletter – Members' Stories Edition

August Newsletter
[View this email in your browser](#)



Staff Pride
Network
for LGBT+
colleagues
& allies

Welcome to our special Members' Stories Edition of the Staff Pride Network Newsletter

We hope you enjoy this newsletter focused on YOU, our members. Our Communications & Media Team have been involved in all manner of developments over the last year and they have managed to deliver exciting projects including the glossy newsletter at the end of 2016. To deliver a singular, regular newsletter, they set up this Mailchimp format and with the launch of our logo made it look pretty, I hope you agree. This fascinating edition brings together event reports, personal stories, university experiences and Staff Pride Network influencing. From January 2017, we would love to hear from you about your events, experiences and all that interests you which make up our wonderful LGBT+ community. Please note, you will only be able to link to the full length articles on our members' stories until we please email us at staffpridenetwork@ed.ac.uk to be added, whether LGBT+ colleague/PHD student, or straight/non-LGBT+ ally, follow our Twitter for regular SPN updates @staffpride. Until next time.

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Debbie Aitken - Coming Out To Students



After attending the newly formed Staff Pride Network and realising that the staff LGBT+ community is much bigger and more diverse than I ever imagined, I felt empowered to be open with an entire lecture theatre full of students in the medical school about my identity as a LGBT+ person. I was talking to the medical students about seeing each patient as a whole person, and how it's important to remember that what they might think an LGBT+ patient looks like isn't necessarily always very accurate. [Read more here](#)

Ali McDonald - LGBT+ Internationalisation



In January along with two colleagues I attended the Stonewall Scotland LGBT+ Internationalisation Seminar, hosted by the University of Dundee. Having worked in International Student Support for over 8 years and more recently becoming a Staff Dignity and Respect Advisor, this resonated right up to my stomach. [Read more here](#)

Anabel Noelke/Jonathan MacBride - LGBT+ Research Promoted In The University



As part of February's LGBT+ History Month calendar, Anabel Noelke hosted a seminar 'LGBT+ and the Media'. Both staff and students attended and after an introduction and video showing her research, Anabel led a vibrant discussion. The following month Anabel presented her research at Demos in London and has since been published in a journal. The following email was sent on 12th March to the entire Business School staff mailing list and it made me proud to see my workplace promoting a colleague's work in the LGBT+ sphere. [Read more here](#)

Susan Thomson - Ghost Empire screening: A Response



A documentary trilogy which 3 directed, Ghost Empire 3 Singapore, Ghost Empire 3 Cyprus (about the Turkish occupied North of Cyprus), as well as the trailer for Ghost Empire 3 Britain which is currently in production, screened at Edinburgh University on the evening of Thursday 23rd Feb 2017 supported by the LGBT+ staff network as part of LGBT+ history month. The films look at the British colonial legacy of (now 36) former colonies, which continue to criminalise homosexuality, around the world. [Read more here](#)

Gina Maya Roberts - LGBT+ History Month Asexual Awareness Evening



The organisers had booked a narrow room with a table for twenty. By the time they'd closed the door for the screening, sixty people had arrived. Anonymity, clearly, is a subject of interest not to be underestimated. It makes sense in our hyper-sexualised society to ask the question, 'Is it just me, who find the media's sexual blurring overwhelming?' It's easy to imagine the seriousness of an asexual identifying person confronted with the daily stream of images in pop culture, and seeing themselves as outsiders and wanting greater recognition, and accommodation. [Read more here](#)

Tammy French - Speyside Way Challenge



My fiancée and I completed the 66 mile trek along the Speyside Way in March. Our group raised a great £381.52 that will be divided between the charities Calaid and Help for Heroes. The trek was challenging but luckily I didn't get. [Read more here](#)

Jonathan MacBride - Out in Edinburgh, Mental Health & Wellbeing



April's Out in Edinburgh focused on mental health and wellbeing, with presentations from the lead counsellor at LGBT Health & Wellbeing's counselling service, a staff member from Health In Mind, Heriot University's Head of Student Counselling and Wellbeing services and a Barclays staff resource member who talked about some of their positive initiatives to make the workplace a healthier place for its staff and that embracing diversity within the company can have a positive impact in the outside world. [Read more here](#)

Oliver Main - Joining The University of Edinburgh



When I stumbled across the Administrative Assistant job at Edinburgh University Careers Service, I knew it was a job I should apply for. What I didn't know was whether Edinburgh University was an employer that would support me in my transition - having socially transitioned had been on the lengthy waiting lists for medical assistance. So, I began my research first, based on my last job interview with Stonewall (Programmes officer for the diversity champion program). I contacted the University of Edinburgh where a Stonewall Diversity Champion, Cheryl, they were awesome. Meeting in the right direction, looks promising. [Read more here](#)

Events

SPN Social

Date: 1 September 2017
Time: 17:30-21:00
Location: The Potting Shed

Drop by for a social drink with members and the committee at this fully accessible venue.

SPN Coffee Afternoon - A Celebration Of Allies

Date: 23 September 2017
Time: 21:00-21:00

Location: Tenet Library Bar, Committee Room

Join us at our regular monthly coffee afternoon. There is a Celebration Of Allies theme this month for which the reason will be revealed in one week's time. Please drop in any time for a coffee and cake, catch up with your LGBT+ colleagues and ask a committee member those questions you've been dying to have answered!

Full Events Calendar
Detailed Information
Contact & Committee
Help, Support & Advice
staffpridenetwork@ed.ac.uk

Festival Digest – 16th August