



The Wales LGBTQ+ Timeline Collection

Caerdydd / Cardiff Edition

Introduction



In 2021 the Welsh Government commissioned training in LGBTQ+ Language and History for local museums, libraries and archives to encourage the celebration of local stories of sexual orientation and gender identity.

This is part of the work being done on raising awareness and understanding of the diverse population of Wales and compliments the Welsh Government Action Plan which aims to:

- tackle inequalities experienced by LGBTQ+ communities;
- challenge discrimination;
- create a society where LGBTQ+ people are safe to live and love authentically, openly and freely as themselves.

The training provided effective learning points and practical tools to enable staff and volunteers to move forward with a fully inclusive programme resulting in an expansion beyond the organisation to the general public, such as family historians, local historians and community groups. Allowing the promotion of historic material in ways not realised before and enhancing work with partner organisations in not only in making LGBTQ+ material accessible to the public, but also in collecting and preserving this heritage.

An outcome of the LGBTQ+ Language and History training is the construction of timelines for each of the 22 counties of Wales. This provides a means by which local people,

allies and events can be celebrated instead of replicating mainstream narratives and celebrities.

A baseline of highlighted moments from history was constructed by Norena Shopland from her Welsh historic material collection on sexual orientations and gender identities, and from that contributed to the Hanes LHDT+ Cymru / LGBTQ+ Research Group Wales established to encourage and promote research into Welsh LGBTQ+ history. Their website, LGBTQ Cymru is funded by Swansea University to record as much information as possible on this history.

<https://lgbtqcymru.swansea.ac.uk/>

People are encouraged to add to and keep expanding the timelines to make them as comprehensive as possible.

With thanks to Mark Etheridge - Principal Curator of Collection Development, Amgueddfa Cymru – Museum Wales for additional material for this edition.

There were thousands of 'female sailors' and 'female soldiers' throughout history. Those who cross-lived often for decades and served on board ships and in military regiments. Some gained great fame such as Hannah Snell.



Photo credit: Wikimedia Commons



19th CENTURY >

1842

A female sailor

On Thursday last, just as the *Lady Charlotte*, was about to sail from Cardiff, the attention of P. C. Perkins, was drawn to a person in a sailor's dress, who was exhibiting money rather carelessly, and expressing great anxiety for the sailing of the packet. Perkins accosted him, and on his refusing to give any account of how he got the money, or where he came from, took him to the Station House.

Mr. Superintendent Stockdale, after asking a few questions, suspected that the apparent sailor boy was a girl, and charged her with being so, which she resolutely denied. A woman was made to search her, and the young sailor turned out to be a pretty looking Welsh girl. Finding disguise to be useless, she gave an account of herself, her assumed name as the sailor was Edward Williams, but her real one is Mary Davis. She is 20 years of age. She lived with her father, who is a decayed farmer, about nine miles from Merthyr, and between that place and Neath.

Having a brother away from home, she determined to go in search of him. She had received a letter lately from him enclosing £5, and it contained a request that

she would come to him; this letter she had lost, and so entirely had she forgotten her brother's address, that she did not know whether the letter came from America, Australia, or Ireland.

Her purpose in the present instance was to go to Bristol, and from thence to America. She was taken every care of at the Station House and visited by the Worthy Mayor and the Rev. T. Stacey who after hearing her statements, were convinced she was of weak mind. She was directed to be sent to the Union House, until her friends could be communicated with, and her money was left in Mr. Stockdale's hands. Mr. Stockdale deserves great credit for his humane attention to the poor girl, who, had she been suffered to go into the town, would doubtless have been robbed of her little pittance.

She has resumed her feminine dress; the reason she gave for abandoning it was that she thought she could travel more safely amongst sailors as a man than as an unprotected girl. She cannot speak a word of English.

Source: *Welshman*, 23 September 1842

1855

On Wednesday evening last, a young woman, dressed in sailors' clothes, was taken to the station-house, for being drunk and disorderly. On the following day she was taken before the magistrates.

Her name is Susan Brunin, of Newport. She had been at sea for three months, and passed for an able seaman. A captain of a vessel, in the Cardiff Docks, also engaged her, and actually paid her a month in advance, but on finding that he had engaged a female, he refused to keep his contract.

The magistrates reprimanded the prisoner, and advised her to return to her home, and adopt a more decent mode of living. She was then discharged.

Source: *Monmouthshire Merlin*, 18 August 1855



1859

1859

Cardiff Police Intelligence.
A Female Sailor – Singular Case

Ann Stuart, aged 18, without bonnet, shoes, or stockings, was brought up by Sergeant Giffard on the following charge. It appears at a very early hour this morning the prisoner made her appearance at the Police-station and sat down among several vagrant men, and whilst conversing with them she said she had served two years and a half on board ship as a sailor, and as there were French and American vessels lying in the docks here, if she could get a jacket and a pair of men's trousers she would go for a sailor again.

She said she had no friends, and if she could not go to sea she would drown herself, for she was tired of the life she was then leading. Sergeant Giffard then took the prisoner into custody on the latter charge. He said she had been before the magistrate of the Thames Police-court, London, and the master of the vessel she had sailed in had been compelled to pay her wages as a sailor. The magistrates asked the prisoner where she came from, and she replied that Scotland was her native place, but she had been walking through the country, and that accounted for her appearance at Cardiff. The magistrates ordered the prisoner to be detained at the Workhouse.

1861

The death penalty for buggery was abolished when the Offences Against the Person Act 1828 was replaced with the Offences Against the Person Act 1861.

A total of 8921 men had been prosecuted since 1806 for sodomy with 404 sentenced to death and 56 executed. Homosexuality remained illegal until partially decriminalised in 1967 in England and Wales, and 1980 in Scotland.

1867

Throughout history, society has been fascinated by ‘masculine’ women, those whose extreme masculinity leads to questions of gender identity, and one of the most famous in Wales was Marged ferch Ifan. The *Cardiff and Merthyr Guardian* highlighted Marged’s story, adding, “The town of Cardiff contains a few of these worthies, who, when they shuffle off this mundane stage, will doubtless be noticed in some future post obit memorial.”

Source: *Cardiff and Merthyr Guardian*, 25 October 1867

Photo credit:
Wikimedia
Commons



1883

The *Cardiff Times* reproduced an interview with American star, Lulu, Queen of the Air, a male circus acrobat who deliberately cross-worked as a woman to increase audience numbers.

Source: *Cardiff Times*, 13 January 1883



1887

1885

The British Parliament enacted Criminal Law Amendment Act 1885, section 11 of which, known as the Labouchere Amendment, prohibited gross indecency between males.

It thus became possible to prosecute homosexuals for engaging in sexual acts where buggery or attempted buggery could not be proven.

The Labouchere Amendment became known as the Blackmailers Charter because it was so easy to accuse men, regardless if it was true or not, of being homosexual.

1887

John Nash, 34, and Henry Jones, 20, two soldiers, the former belonging to the Welsh and the latter to the Western Regiment, were charged with an act of gross indecency at Cardiff on the 9th of October.

Prisoners elected to give evidence on oath, and made statements in which they emphatically denied the charge, and urged that it was improbable they should have acted as described by the witnesses, assuming they had gone to the latrine for a wrongful purpose.

The jury found the prisoners not guilty, and there were forthwith discharged.

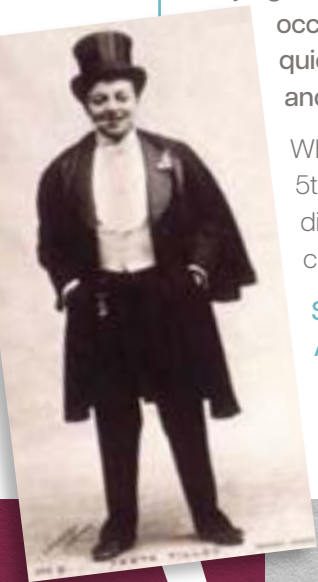
Source: *South Wales Echo*, 9 November 1887

1887

Vesta Tilley, one of the best-known male impersonators of her era appears at the Grand Music-hall, Westgate-street Cardiff. "Wearing masculine evening dress, as usual, and carrying an opera hat under her arm, whilst she occasionally puffed a mild cigar, she quickly captured her audience, who again and again demanded her re-appearance."

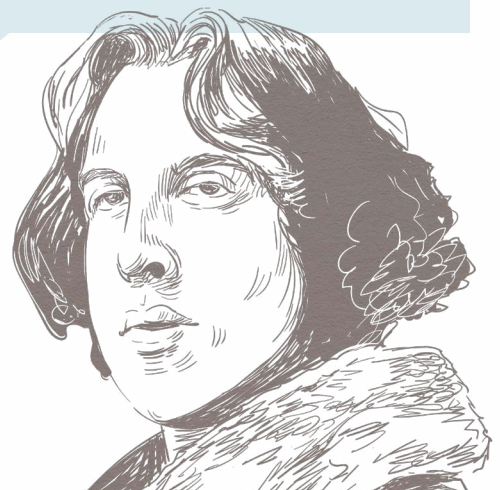
When the 'Dancing Marquis', Henry Paget, 5th Marquess of Anglesey (1875–1905) died, Tilley bought many of his flamboyant clothes.

Source: *South Wales Daily News*, 30 August 1887



1895

Oscar Wilde, tried for gross indecency over a relationship with Lord Alfred Douglas, was sentenced to two years in prison with hard labour.



1898

1898

Alleged Unnatural Offence

At Cardiff Police Court to-day, before the Stipendiary (Mr T. W. Lewis), Ismail Hassan (27), an Arab seaman, and Nathaniel Miles (19) were committed for trial at Glamorgan Assizes on a charge of committing an unnatural and abominable offence on the night of the 4th inst. in Dumballs-road. Discharged. Ismail Hassan, an Arab, and Nathaniel Miles were found not guilty of a nameless crime at Dumballs Field, Cardiff.

Sources: *South Wales Echo*, 6 May 1898 & *Evening Express*, 6 August 1898



Cardiff in the late 19th century.

20th CENTURY >

Photo credit:
Wikimedia
Commons



1906

An inquest was held at Cardiff on Thursday touching the death of Francis Knight, the hermaphrodite child of Henry Knight, commercial traveller, Penylan-road.

The mother said the child, which had been delicate from birth, was so formed that it was impossible to tell whether it was a boy or girl. Dr. Boyd, who made a post-mortem examination, said death was due to a clot of blood on the aorta. A post-mortem was the only means of ascertaining the sex of the child, which he found to be a girl. A verdict of "Death from natural causes" was returned.

Source: *The Cambrian*, 25 May 1906.

1908

Binkie Beaumont, a theatre manager and producer, is born in 1908. He was brought up in Cardiff and later friends with John Gielgud despite Gielgud's partner John Parry moving in with Beaumont.

Binkie Beaumont in 1933



> 1921

1914

The First World War broke out in August 1914. Army historian A.D. Harvey writes that "at least 230 soldiers were court-martialled, convicted and sentenced to terms of imprisonment for homosexual offences" during World War I. See 2021 for details on Chris Bryant's book.

1915

Glamorgan Archives
Fingerprint Registers DCONC 3/2/1-7

Martha Alice Hodson. Commits offences while masquerading as a man. Date of custody and fingerprinting: Copied from prison form 6/5/1915. Sentence: Not in custody in this city. "This girl was staying at the "Haven," No. 4 Partridge Road and dressed as a man.



1921

The Criminal Law Amendment Act was revised in the House of Commons to include a section making sexual "acts of gross indecency" between women illegal. While the Act was passed by the Commons, it was defeated by the House of Lords.

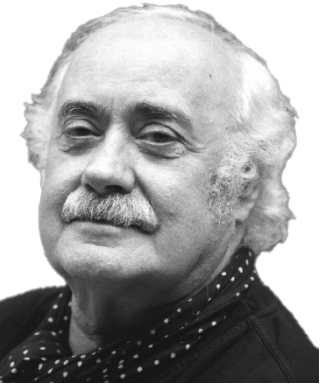


Photo credit:
Wikimedia
Commons

1929

Welsh actor and author Vittorio Giorgio Andre "Victor" Spinetti (1929-2012) was born in Cwm, Blaenau Gwent. Spinetti lived with his partner of forty-four years, Graham Curnow.

He trained at the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama in Cardiff, of which he later became a Fellow.

1939

Peter Gill, a Welsh theatre director, playwright, and actor is born in Cardiff on 7 September 1939. Described in *The Guardian* as one of British theatre's unsung heroes.

Source: *The Guardian*, 4 September 2019

1945

World War II ends. Following the war, moral attitudes to homosexuality changed.

1946

Michael Dillon has one of the first sex reassignment surgeries from female to male.

1951

Roberta Cowell, a former World War II Spitfire pilot, becomes the first transgender woman to undergo male-to-female confirmation surgery.



1954

1954

Alan Turing, an English mathematician, logician, cryptanalyst and computer scientist, influential in the development of computer science, committed suicide.

He had been given a course of female hormones (chemical castration) by doctors as an alternative to prison after being prosecuted by the police because of his homosexuality.

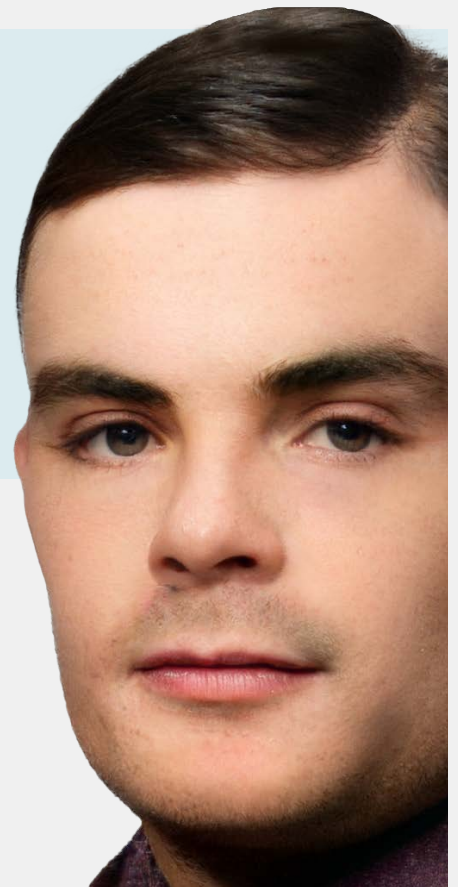


Photo credit: Wikimedia Commons
File:Alan-Turing-Rephotography.jpg

1954

Bail was allowed by the magistrates at Newtown, Montgomeryshire, when committing Cliff Gordon, described as a B.B.C. dramatist, of Churchill-way, Cardiff, for trial at Chester Assizes charged with attempting to procure another male person to commit an improper act at Newtown on Nov. 13.

Source: *News of the World*, 31 January 1954



1957

The Wolfenden Committee is formed. When it concludes in 1957 it recommends a partial decriminalisation for male homosexuality. When these recommendations are not followed by the government the Homosexual Law Reform Society is formed to campaign for the recommendations to be enacted.

1962

1959

Kathleen Freeman (1897–1959) was a British classical scholar and author of detective novels under the pseudonym Mary Fitt.

She attended Canton High School on Market Road, now Chapter Arts Centre.

From some time in the 1930s until her death, she lived with her partner, Dr. Liliane Marie Catherine Clopet (1901–1987), a GP and author, at Lark's Rise, a house on Druidstone Road in St Mellons.

Freeman dedicated all her novels (written as Freeman, rather than Fitt) to Clopet.

Freeman died in 1959 in St. Mellons at the age of 61. Clopet considerably outlived Freeman, dying in 1987 in Newport.

Source: Wikipedia



1962

A letter to the *South Wales Echo*: "I must admire Mr. Leo Abse (MP for Pontypool) for his courage in presenting a Bill to amend the laws relating to homosexuality. The victims of blackmail are their own executioners; they ruin not only their own lives but the lives of innocent people. A. Margaret Patten, Melrose Avenue, Penylan, Cardiff."

Source: *South Wales Echo*, 27 February 1962



Photo credit: Wikimedia Commons

1965

A Canadian, LGBTQ+ romantic drama film, *Winter Kept Us Warm* debuted as the opening film of the Commonwealth Film Festival in Cardiff, Wales on September 27, 1965. The film's gay subtext was carefully coded by David Secter, who wrote the

film based on his own experience falling in love with a male fellow student but feared that a more explicitly gay film would not attract an audience. Even some of the film's cast have claimed in interviews that they did not know at the time that the film was actually about homosexuality.



1967

Ten years after the Wolfenden Report, Cardiffian MP Leo Abse introduced the Sexual Offences Bill 1967 supported by Labour MP Roy Jenkins, then the Labour Home Secretary.

1970

Gay Liberation Front (GLF) was established.



1970

1970

This key enabled access to a nightclub called SIRS on St. Mary St. Lewis Robinson tells us: "Sirs opened during the 1970s and closed sometime in the 1990s... It was gay man only club and people were invited to become members. 'Sirs' was a one off and a great place to go. I have lots of happy memories there. There was a great sense of freedom going there because everyone could be themselves, you didn't have to hide who you were or pretend to be someone else. There was a single door to 'Sirs' via the street entrance, you needed

the key to get into this door. There was no signage or anything to indicate it was 'Sirs' so a regular person had no idea there was a gay club there."



Photo credit: © Museum of Cardiff collection, CARCM: 2020.72

1970

Come Together, the newspaper of the *Gay Liberation Front*, was formed by the GLF's Media Workshop in 1970. Issues 1-16 have been digitalised by the Bishopgate Institute. The magazine mainly covered London but did include regional details including Howard Llewellyn in Cardiff, and a number for Community Services.

And in issue 16 further regional ads appeared for CHE (Campaign for Homosexual Equality), Cardiff Friend and bars:



Source: *Come Together*, Issue 16 (undated)

1970's

Photo credit: © Museum of Cardiff collection, CARCM:2012:58



This lamp used to hang above the entrance to the Kings Cross pub in the City Centre. The Kings Cross pub attracted the LGBTQ+ community from the 1970s until its closure in 2010.

A visitor to the 2012 Cardiff Mardi Gras recalled: "Cardiff Kings Cross was my first experience of a gay night out. It was a lovely night and really opened my eyes to how open and accepting a gay night out in town can be. Shame that it's closed."

1971

Badge worn by a member of Cardiff Gay Liberation Front. Cardiff Gay Liberation Front was founded in July 1971, but after several independent meetings it merged with Cardiff Campaign for Homosexual Equality, and the combined group held weekly meetings in Chapter Arts Centre.



1973

1973

Homosexuals seek fair deal in education.

A move to end discrimination against homosexual teachers will be launched in Cardiff at the weekend. Homosexuals throughout the country will visit the city on Saturday in connection with a campaign designed to educate children about homosexuality.

At least 80 members from local Campaign for Homosexual Equality groups will be at the national council meeting at University College, Cardiff. But their pleas could fall on deaf ears at Cardiff City Hall. Already the education committee have told Cardiff's CHE group to quit their regular meeting place at Chapter Arts Centre in Canton. General Secretary of CHE Mr. Paul Temperton said: "We think the only way

we can achieve better understanding with people about homosexuality is to tell the young what it is all about." Ald. Sidney Doxsey, deputy chairman of the city education committee, who once described the local homosexual group as "weirdos," said today he would not comment on the plan before it is discussed at CHE's meeting on Saturday. But he said he had received many letters of support for his outspoken demands that the local CHE group should be banned from meetings at the arts centre. He said, "Last night I sat in at one of their meetings and I haven't changed my view that this non-conventional organisation has nothing to do with art and should not therefore be allowed to meet at the arts centre.

Source: *South Wales Echo*, 4 September 1973

1973

Chemical castration

In January 1973 at Cardiff Assizes, William Coleman (61) was charged with offences of indecency and attempted buggery. He had a long history of sexual offences. Coleman was placed on probation for three years on the condition he attend the East Glamorgan Hospital psychiatric clinic once a week for treatment of Cyproterone acetate for chemical castration.

Source: *New Scientist*, 8 March 1973

1974

Labour MP Maureen Colquhoun comes out as the first lesbian MP.

1974

Gay Liberation takes over a conference.

About 50 members of Gay Liberation groups took over the congress of psychosexual difficulties at Bradford University in September. Among the groups was the National Transvestite Group from Cardiff.

Source: *The Times*, 14 September 1974



1970

1975

An anonymous writer from Cardiff sends a letter to the *South Wales Echo* entitled, Homosexuals Don't Need Pity, adding, "As a homosexual male I do not live in fear; I do not feel I have to hide my sexual orientation from my friends or family. I do not feel crippled, handicapped, abnormal. And do you know why? Because I have come to terms with my sexuality. I'm not ashamed of it and do not hide in a closet."

Source: *South Wales Echo*, 29 November 1975

1975

In the LGBTQ+ collection at St Fagans National Museum of History are two badges showing a pram and the double female symbol. The donor of these badges volunteered at Cardiff Women's Centre on Coburn Street in the 1980s. She recalls how "I was part of Cardiff Women's Centre which was based in Corburn Street. Being a lesbian and a lesbian mother myself I volunteered there for quite a number of years".



Photo credit: F2020.6.14-15 © Amgueddfa Cymru – Museum Wales

1980

In two separate cases Cardiff magistrates fined men £20 each for “importuning for an immoral purpose” in the men’s public toilet at Cardiff Castle. Thomas Davies, aged 30, of Kingcraig Street, Roath, and Peter James Davies, aged 20, of Caernarvon Way, Trowbridge, both admitted the offence. Davies’s solicitor, Mr Peter Davies, said he understood the toilet has a certain notoriety.

Source: *South Wales Echo*, 30 July 1980.

1980

Welshmen fight for Gay Equality.

The *South Wales Echo* publishes an article on ‘a national campaign for homosexual rights is to be led for the first time from South Wales – by Professor Michael Jarrett, of the archaeology department at University College, Cardiff.

Source: *South Wales Echo*, 29 August 1980

1980

Noel Sullivan from the group Hear'Say is born on 28 July 1980 and grows up in Cardiff.



› 1984

1982

Welshman Terry Higgins dies of AIDS in St Thomas' Hospital London. His partner Rupert Whitaker and friend Martyn Butler set up the Terry Higgins Trust (which became the Terrence Higgins Trust), the first UK AIDS charity.

1984

MP Chris Smith is elected making him the first openly out homosexual politician in the UK parliament.

Lesbians and Gays Support the Miners, a campaign of LGBT+ support for striking workers in the miners' strike of 1984 and 1985, is launched. The film *Pride* covers their story.

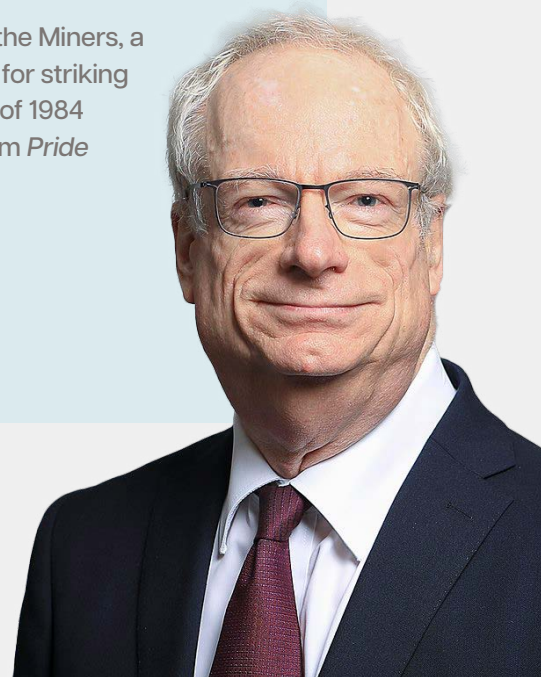


Photo credit: Wikimedia Commons
© Roger Harris

1984

The first Pride march in Cardiff is organised by the Cardiff University Gay Society (Gay Soc), a social and support group. This gold sticker is from late 1984 used to advertise meetings in The Terminus pub on St Mary Street, Cardiff. Meetings later moved to The Kings Cross pub. The society organised the first pride march in Cardiff in 1985.



Photo credit: F2021.19.1 © Amgueddfa Cymru – Museum Wales

1985

Lesbians in Wales meet at the Welsh College of Music and Drama causing a flurry of letters of complaint.

Source: *Western Mail*, 4 April 1985

March of the sinful gays a letter writer proclaimed in objection to the first gay march in Wales.

Source: *South Wales Echo*, 20 May 1985

City club where boy meets boy – the South Wales Echo prints a long article on one of Cardiff's most famous LGBTQ+ venues, the Tunnel.

Source: *South Wales Echo*, 20 November 1985



1988

1988

Section 28 of the Local Government Act 1988 enacted as an amendment to the United Kingdom's Local Government Act 1986, on 24 May 1988 stated that a local authority “shall not intentionally promote homosexuality or publish material with the intention of promoting homosexuality” or “promote the teaching in any maintained school of the acceptability of homosexuality as a pretended family relationship”.

There was not a single prosecution under Section 28 because nobody knew what ‘promote’ meant or what a ‘pretended family relationship’ was supposed to be.

1988

AIDS article upsets Tory.

A row erupted when Tory Mr Ian Batty complained about descriptions of homosexual acts contained in an article in the Cardiff student weekly *Gair Rhydd* as part of an Aids Awareness Week.

Source: *Western Mail*, 16 February 1988

1988

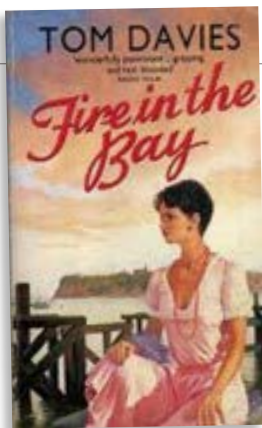
The controversial children's book, *Jenny Lives with Eric and Martin*, had been published in 1981 in Danish and in 1983 by Gay Men's Press. The author aimed to give children knowledge about different types of family relationships, but when found in a public library in 1986 the book was condemned. In 1988 comedians Mel Smith and Griff Rhys Jones (originally from Cardiff) parodied the book, making fun of the furore.



Photo credit: © Amgueddfa Cymru – Museum Wales F2020.6.40

1990

The novel, *Fire in the Bay* by Tom Davies is published. Located in Cardiff Bay, it features several individuals described as transvestites, including Sophie James, a beautiful young Somali.



1994

These stickers were produced by the Older Lesbian Network (OLN) Wales for the Cardiff Mardi Gras in the 1990s.



Susan Edwards, the ex-senior archivist at Glamorgan Archives, describes the activities of the OLN. "The Older Lesbian Network always used to have a stall at Mardi Gras. It started in 1994, it was an offshoot of the OLN in London. It organised events, debates once a month. There was a newsletter and when we started, we used a typewriter to type everything up and photocopied everything! There were lots of arguments about what would go in the newsletters, i.e., what was appropriate. The OLN had two sides to it - fun versus feminism. It really has its origins from 1980s feminism."

Photo credit: © Amgueddfa Cymru – Museum Wales F2020.6.40

1994

Cardiff Aids Helpline in the classified ads of *Gay Times*, April 1994



1999

1998

In British law there was nothing to stop a gay man or woman individually adopting a child, subject to approval. This was rare. Some research carried out at Cardiff University 1998 found that only three out of 2000 approved adoptions were by gays.

Source: *Heinemann Themes in Psychology: Human Relationships*, Christina Rycroft & David Moxon, 2001

1999

The first Cardiff Mardi Gras takes place in Bute Park, Cardiff, in September 1999 as a response to an increase in hate crime in South Wales.

1999

A conference on *Eunuchs in Antiquity and Beyond* is held at Cardiff University on July 27. One paper includes *Natural Eunuchs in Roman Law: "Not Diseased or Defective"* by Mark Brustman. "Being naturally impotent for procreative sex, innately gay men were referred to in the ancient world as "born eunuchs" or just "eunuchs." A link to the full paper is on the LGBTQ Cymru site under Welsh History, 1990s

Cardiff County Council follows the announcement of by the Scottish Executive to scrap the controversial law which bans councils from promoting homosexuality. Councillor Reece made a personal speech in which she described the stigmatisation that lesbians and gay men feel and the way in which the legislation hinders the provision of comprehensive educational, social and welfare services. She was backed up by Councillor Nigel Howells who described Section 28 as "an abhorrent piece of legislation". "It provides a shield for homophobic bullying in schools, prevents education and was a bigots charter which legitimises discrimination against an easily demonised section of society," he said.

Source: *BBC Wales*, 30 October 1999

21st CENTURY >

2000

In April, protests are held outside the Senedd in Cardiff Bay, against MP David Davies' (Monmouthshire) erroneous exhibition of 'gay' literature which he believes school libraries would have to stock if Section 28 is repealed. Gavin Cox, Assistant to Montgomery AM Mick Bates, in his complaint against the poor argument put forward by Davies said "Section 28 as a mode of protecting young children legitimises homophobia and may well result in more harm than good. The longer that children are taught that heterosexual marriage is the only correct form of relationship, the longer intolerance will exist and children will continue to suffer."

Source: *South Wales Echo*, 5 April 2000

2000

The UK Labour government stops banning homosexuals from the armed forces after the European Court of Human Rights rules it unlawful.

The government also introduces legislation to repeal Section 28 in England and Wales – Conservative MPs oppose the move. The bill is defeated by bishops and Conservatives in the House of Lords.

Scotland abolished Clause 2a (Section 28) of the Local Government Act in October though it remains in place in England and Wales.



2003

2001

At Chapter Arts Centre the play *Carrying Lyn* by Paul Jeff, Lyn Levett, Richard Morgan, Mike Pearson, John Rowley was staged. It was a multi-site performance when a group of men carried disabled trans performer Lyn Levett from Cardiff Central Station to Chapter. The route passed 12 fixed points, was videoed and these 10-minute fragments were collected by cycle couriers and then taken back to Chapter for the audience.

Source: *Theatre in Wales*, 2001

2002

Wales' gay club, *Club X*, on Charles Street, Cardiff, renews its flirtation with the funkier side of house on May 17, with electrofunkateers K-Klass and delectable double act, The Superstarz. The club is also expanding its ring of punters to include straight clubbers in addition to its current gay clientele with a new hard house night, Generic, on the first Friday of each month, again open til 6am.

Source: *Barry & District News*, 10 May 2002

2003

Thrilled by our gay marriage

Lisa Slade and Julie Stamps from Barry created history after taking part in Wales' first lesbian commitment ceremony. Taxi driver Lisa (31) spoke about the effort it took her, and Morrisons' employee Julie (23) to publicly declare their love. Visiting the registry office in Swansea, Julie and Lisa were asked if they would be willing to launch the first of the same-sex ceremonies. They agreed, waiting until July 1, because the registrar was on holiday. Lisa added: "We were told there'd be media attention, but we never expected all this hype. It really surprised us." The reception was held in the Golden Cross pub in Cardiff.

Source: *Barry & District News*, 10 July 2003

2003

Section 28, which banned councils and schools from intentionally promoting homosexuality, is repealed in England and Wales and Northern Ireland. Employment Equality Regulations made it illegal to discriminate against lesbians, gays or bisexuals at work.

2004

The Civil Partnership Act 2004 is passed by the Labour Government, giving same-sex couples the same rights and responsibilities as married heterosexual couples in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.

The Gender Recognition Act 2004 is passed by the Labour Government. The Act gives transsexual people legal recognition as members of the sex appropriate to their gender (male or female) allowing them to acquire a new birth certificate, affording them full recognition of their acquired sex in law for all purposes, including marriage.

2004

Gwent Police back Mardi Gras.
“Gwent Police will be looking for new recruits in Cardiff this weekend as tens of thousands of people attend the Welsh Lesbian and Gay Mardi Gras. The force will have a recruitment stand in the market on Cooper’s Field, and officers will offer information on joining up.”

Source: *South Wales Argus*, 3 September 2004

Cardiff Lions RFC formed, the first gay and inclusive rugby team in Wales.



2008

2006

World record breaking hurdler and Cardiff born Colin Jackson is outed in a kiss-and-tell story in the News of The World, prompting his coming out to his own parents. He didn't speak about his sexuality publicly until he was 50. “I'm not a person who goes around flying a flag,” he said in a 2020 interview, “I was born in a community of minorities already (his parents are first generation Jamaican immigrants and Jackson was raised on a Cardiff council estate). Being born black Welsh and trying to find your way in the world was difficult enough, so I was never going to be a flag-bearer for something else again. Which I think some people in the community got slightly offended by,” he adds, “saying, 'No, you should be setting an example' ... Does he think there's a perception that if you're famous, you owe the public that knowledge of your sexuality? “Yes, yes, yes,” he nods, emphatically. “It's your life,” he adds.

Source: Lauren Taylor, 'Being born black Welsh was difficult so I was never going to be a flag-bearer for gay community', *Belfast Telegraph*, 21 March 2020

Photo credit: Wikimedia Commons



2008

Russel T. Davis brought the first openly queer character to the Doctor Who Universe: Jack Harkness, portrayed by John Barrowman. There was an on-screen kiss between Jack and The Doctor. Jack was also the central character in *Torchwood*, a spin-off of the 2005 revival of *Doctor Who*, which aired from 2006 to 2011.

2008

South Wales Gay Men's Chorus is formed by Andrew Bulleyment. Uniform worn by a member of South Wales Gay Men's Chorus.



Photo credit: F2021.73.1-4 © Amgueddfa Cymru – Museum Wales

2008

Angela Eagle becomes the first female MP to enter into a civil partnership (with partner Maria Exall).



Photo credit: Richard Townsend
<https://members-api.parliament.uk/api/Members/491/Portrait?cropType=ThreeFour>

2009

Welsh rugby star Gareth Thomas becomes the first known top-level professional male athlete in a team sport to come out while still active in professional sport.

2010

The Equality Act 2010 makes discrimination against lesbians and gay men in the provision of goods and services illegal.



Photo credit: ukhomeoffice
Wikimedia Commons



2008

2008

Cardiff Dragons FC was founded in 2008 and is Wales' first and only LGBTQ+ football team. Their first match was held on Sunday 26 October 2008 where they beat the London Romans 5-4 at Caedelyn Park, Whitchurch.



This shirt was worn by Cardiff Dragons from 2008 to 2011. David Amos recalls how the Cardiff Dragons were set up: "I never thought for one minute that there would be a team in Cardiff. In 2008 I was contacted (through the Gay Football Supporters Network) by two men from Birmingham who were coming to university in Cardiff... they asked if there



were any teams in Cardiff... and I said no. They said they would put something on the net to see if anyone would want to come along to a training session. That's how it all started in July 2008. 13 people came to our first training session... it's gone from strength to strength to strength."

2010

On 2 November, *Liberal Youth Wales* took their anti-homophobic bullying campaign to the Senedd in Cardiff Bay at 12.30pm to present their petition to the chair of the National Assembly Petitions Committee, Christine Chapman AM.

The petition read:

"We, the undersigned, call on the National Assembly of Wales to urge the Welsh Government to issue compulsory guidance to all schools (faith, state or private) concerning homophobic bullying. We strongly urge that changes are implanted quickly and urgently."

Commenting on the petition, campaigns officer for Liberal Youth Wales Oliver Townsend said:

"The Assembly Government promised to publish guidance on anti-homophobic bullying ten months ago, but has failed to deliver.

"Meanwhile, children in schools across the county continued to be bullied for simply being gay or transgendered. It is just unforgivable to ignore this problem any longer and we are determined to make the Assembly Government listen."

Source: *The Guardian*, 2 November 2010

2011

In December, *Mr Gay UK* is won by Cardiff man Samuel Kneen.



2012

2011

The Guardian features: 'Cardiff today – Bloggers meet up, LGBT month and can love be found online? As the first of February, today will also see the start of a month-long celebration of Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender History Month (LGBT). National Museum Wales is hosting a packed programme of exhibitions, events and activities and there will be a special evening lecture at National Museum Cardiff on Ancient Greek Homosexuality on Thursday 10 February, 6pm.

Source: *The Guardian*, 1 February 2011

2012

Welsh Pride, the first LGBTQ+ exhibition is held at the Pier Head, Cardiff Bay. It consists of 20 panels of people, events, and allies and exhibition stands. At the launch, the then National Poet of Wales, Gillian Clarke, read out her poem Sarah at Plas Newydd, July 5th 1788 and, as far as we know, this remains the first and only poem in the world to be dedicated by a national or Poet Laureate to the LGBTQ+ people of a country.

Born in Haverfordwest in 1876, Gwen John grew up in Pembrokeshire and studied art with her brother Augustus. She spent most of her life in France where she had a long-term relationship with Rhodin but was also attracted to women, and is well-known for her portraits of women. There is a certain gender ambiguity about John including signing her letters to Rhodin as 'John Mary'. She died in 1939.

Ganwyd Gwen John yn Hwlfordd yn 1876 a tyfodd yn Sir Benfro a bu'n astudio celf gyda ei brawd Augustus. Treuliodd y rhan fwyaf o'i fywyd yn Ffrainc lle cafodd cefn gyda ei brawd Augustus. Treuliodd y rhan fwyaf o'i fywyd yn Ffrainc lle cafodd cefn gyda ei brawd Augustus. Treuliodd y rhan fwyaf o'i fywyd yn Ffrainc lle cafodd cefn gyda ei brawd Augustus. Treuliodd y rhan fwyaf o'i fywyd yn Ffrainc lle cafodd cefn gyda ei brawd Augustus.

Known as *Brenhines ein llen* ("The queen of our literature"), Kate Roberts was one of the most important writers in Welsh language literature. She was born in 1891 in the Rhosgadfan, Gwynedd. A Welsh nationalist, she was a member of *Plaid* and ran the Welsh-language press *Gwasg Gee* with her husband. She died in 1985 in Dornig. Recent research by Alan Llwyd has uncovered more details of her bisexuality.

A adwaenir fel "Brenhines ein llenyddiaeth", oedd Kate Roberts yn un o awduuron mwyaf pwysig mewn llenyddiaeth Gymraeg. Cafodd ei geni yn 1891 yn Rhosgadfan, Gwynedd. Mae cenedlaetholwr Cymreig, ei bod yn aelod o Blaid Cymru ac yn rhedeg *Gwasg Gee* ym 1985 yn Dornig. Mae ymchwil ddiweddar gan Alan Llwyd wedi datgelu mwy o fanylion am ei deurywioldeb.

Alan Llwyd
KATE ROBERTS
1891-1985

2012

Songbirds Choir formed in 2012, a community choir for LGBT+ women and non-binary people based in Cardiff (and the only such choir in Wales).



2012

Consultations on legislation to allow same-sex marriage in England and Wales began in 2012. There was only one government consultation in Wales and this took place on 15 May 2012 at the United Reform Church, Cardiff. Response to the Equal Civil Marriage Consultation was published on 12 June. A copy can be found in Glamorgan Archives Ref: 16 – Same-sex consultation – 2012 D1227



2015

2013

Passes like this one were given to artists who performed at the 2013 Cardiff Mardi Gras, held for the first and only time at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium. Artists from that year included Beverley Knight and Rylan Clark. The first ever Cardiff Mardi Gras event took place on September 4th 1999

with 5,000 in attendance, since then it has grown in popularity and now attracts over 50,000 people. In 2014

Cardiff Mardi Gras changed its name to Cardiff Pride.



2013



These rainbow laces were donated by Cardiff Dragons. Cardiff Dragons FC are Wales' first and only LGBTI+ football club.

In 2013, Stonewall launched their Rainbow Laces campaign to address homophobia in football. Rainbow laces were given to all Premier League and Football League Clubs and players were encouraged to wear the laces to show support for LGBTQI people in sports.

2014

Cardiff Mardi Gras is renamed Pride Cymru, and has been operating under this name ever since.

2014

Same-sex marriage becomes legal in England and Wales on 29 March under the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013.

2015

The Pinc List, the 40 most influential LGBT people in Wales is published for the first time by *Wales Online*.

2016

Hannah Blythyn, Jeremy Miles, and Adam Price became the first openly gay members of the Welsh Assembly.



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

2016

Among those in the 2016 Pinc List is La-Chun Lindsay, an American aerospace engineer, born and raised in Rock Hill, South Carolina, who was the Managing Director of Wales' largest industrial company, GE Aviation Wales. La-Chun worked hard to create a working environment where everyone could be themselves and oversaw the inception and huge growth of the Wales GE GLBTA Chapter, now the largest chapter in the UK. She was included on the 2017 Pinc List before returning to the USA.



Source: [Wikipedia](#); [Wales Online](#), [The Pinc List 2016: The 40 most influential LGBT people in Wales](#), 13 August 2016

Photo credit: Wikimedia Commons
By Lachun1 - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0



2017



2017

Pride Cymru relocates from Bute Park to City Hall Lawns and has been held there ever since.

2017

Museum of Cardiff hosts *Celebrating LGBT Cardiff* their first LGBTQ+ exhibition.

2017

Stonewall Cymru publishes its 'LGBT in Wales: Hate Crime and Discrimination' report asking 1,272 about their life in Wales. Almost one in four LGBT people (23%) had experienced a hate crime or incident due to their sexual orientation and/or gender identity in the last 12 months. Half of trans people (52%) had experienced a hate crime or incident because of their gender identity, and one in five LGB people who weren't trans (20%) had experienced a hate crime or incident due to their sexual orientation in the same period. The number of lesbian, gay and bi people in Wales who had experienced hate crime had increased by 82% in five years, from 11% in 2013 to 20% in 2017. 50% of respondents were male, 44% were female and 6% described their gender in a different way. 66% were gay or lesbian, 26% were bi, 7% used a different term to describe their sexual orientation and 2% were straight. 10% of respondents said they identify as trans and another 3% said they were unsure. 32% of respondents were disabled and 3% were black, Asian or minority ethnic.

2018

On the Pinc List: Vish, of Indian descent is feature. Brought up in Cardiff, Vish is the founder of Glitter Cymru, a Cardiff-based social and support group for LGBT+ people formed in 2016, who also identify as black, Asian or minority ethnic.

The aim is to empower its members to feel that their BAME LGBT+ identities are valid and that they are not alone. In March 2019, Vish gave a Ted talk called "Glitter saved my life" and spoke of growing up being described as "feminine" and not knowing where or who to turn to. Vish described the "shame" at not meeting expectations, but said it was a love of Disney

and Bollywood divas which got them through the tough days.

Vish spoke of the pressure to conform, especially when family began discussing arranging a marriage to an Indian girl. "I knew about my Queerness from a young age, I just wished everyone else could." Vish is also listed from 2018-2022 on the Pinc List.

Source: Ruth Mosalski, 'The Pinc List 2018: The 40 most influential LGBT+ people in Wales,' *WalesOnline*, 18 August 2018



2019

2018

At the National Eisteddfod held in Cardiff in August 2018, LGBTQ+ events (programmed under the title 'Mae ar y Maes') were included as part of the official programme for the first time.



2019

The first Wales Deaf Pride is held at Pride Cymru.

2019

Abderrahim El habachi is an LGBTQ+ volunteer and activist. An asylum seeker from Morocco, Rahim is the outreach officer and committee member for Glitter Cymru, a HIV awareness activist, an artist (actor/involved in writing theatre) and has volunteered with other organisations like Pride Cymru and EYST. After hearing news from Morocco that an influencer was publicly outing trans and gay men, Rahim decided to create a digital series, on his online platform, dedicated to educating the Moroccan public about the LGBT+ community. Rahim continues to apply pressure to the Home Office to ensure that asylum seekers are treated fairly and equally. Growing up in a Muslim family in Agadir, Rahim had no idea about LGBT+ life until seeing a French film. Fleeing Morocco, because of his legally and religiously shunned sexuality, Abderrahim, suffers from PTSD after being targeted. Since arriving in the UK, Rahim has continuously lent his voice to lifting up asylum seekers and refugees. In 2021 year, Rahim created his own podcast 'Queerness and all that sh*t' which explored various queer themes, including culture, race and more. He has appeared on the Pinc List from 2019-2021.

Source: Ruth Mosalski, 'Pinc List 2019: The most influential LGBT+ people in Wales,' *Wales Online*, 17 August 2019

2019

G(end)er Swap expanded into Wales with a social meetup and clothes swap at Shift in Cardiff.

2019

Organised by Glitter Cymru, the first Welsh PoC and Ethnic Minority Pride was held on 10 August 2019 at Cathays Community Centre, Cardiff. Glitter Cymru presented in the Senedd “the experiences of arrival and settlement of LGBTQ+ forced migrants in Wales”,

the very first report of its kind. This report called for an umbrella LGBTQ+ Plan for Wales, kickstarting the idea for the LGBTQ+ Action Plan. This report is also vital in the inclusion of LGBTQ+ forced migrants in the upcoming Nation of Sanctuary Report.



F2019.47.1 © Amgueddfa Cymru – Museum Wales

Banner made by Glitter Cymru in 2018, and used at various pride events including the first Welsh BAME Pride held on 10 August 2019 at Cathays Community Centre, Cardiff.



2020

2020

Selena Caemawr, of Jamaican heritage, is a queer, autistic writer based in Cardiff and otherwise known for being an internationally recognised speaker in topics such as race and disability inclusion, Selena is the social entrepreneur behind Aubergine Cafe in the Riverside area of Cardiff, a plant-based community cafe owned and run by autistic people, hosting events such as an online arts programme, and Queer Writers Cardiff. Aubergine also facilitates meetings for transgender peer support and trans rights campaigns.

Cardiff-based activist, **Shash** is a dedicated activist committed to trans and BAME issues. A panellist at Stonewall's Roundtable 2020 in London, Shash is a member of the Wales Equality Alliance, which was vital in the production of a Welsh Government statement released in 2020 backing and supporting trans people in Wales. Shash was also one of the organisers behind the Cardiff and Valleys Trans and Non-Binary Mutual Aid Fund, which helps educate allies on where to donate and on what is happening to trans people. She co-founded Trans Aid Cymru, which has helped transgender people in Wales with finances, food and transport. As a conversion therapy survivor, Shash has lent her voice to helping ensure that conversion therapy is banned for transgender people and spoken out in the media to highlight the need for protest for a blanket ban on LGBTQ+ conversion therapy. Shash appeared on the Pinc List 2020-2023.

[2020 continued over...](#)

2020 continued...

Isaac Blake, is a proud gay Romani Gypsy advocating for, and represented his community, promoting LGBT+ visibility. Executive Director of the Romani Cultural and Arts Company, he has supported LGBT+ Gypsy, Roma and Travellers to attend events internationally. Isaac has developed arts and performance programmes on Gypsy and Traveller caravan sites with young children and adults, worked in schools and colleges, and promoted arts as a medium for empowerment and advocacy throughout Wales with Gypsy, Roma and Travellers. He has engaged widely with non-Gypsy communities to promote dialogue and improve social cohesion. Isaac led a team of academics and researchers in collating appropriate items and artefacts for the RomArchive, an international digital archive for art of the Roma. Isaac co-ordinated and produced the first international LGBTQ+ GRT spoken history archive; publishing a linked e-book to complement the online archive and has appeared in the Pinc List from 2020-2022.

Source: Joseph Ali, 'The Pinc List 2018: The 40 most influential LGBT+ people in Wales,' *WalesOnline*, 22 August 2020

2020

TransAid Cymru started as a local mutual aid group in Cardiff, called South Wales Trans Nonbinary Mutual Aid (or SWTN Mutual Aid). They were set up in June 2020 with the ethos of the fundamental principle of mutual aid: 'that we are all responsible for caring for one another and changing our conditions.'



2020

2020

Glitter Sisters started as the womynx and enby part of Glitter Cymru. This is the only group for Queer PoC womynx and ebnyx in Wales.

2020

Glitter Cymru held the very first Queer PoC Womynx panel in Wales, chaired by one of Stonewall's Founders, Olivette Cole-Wilson.



2020

Cardiff-born Sheldon Mills appears in the BBC Wales documentary, 'Black & Welsh'. Despite being told in school he would never attend the university of his choice, Sheldon qualified as a solicitor and as Chair of Trustees for Stonewall, supported Stonewall's groundbreaking partnership with UK Black Pride. Sheldon, who grew up in the Ely area of Cardiff spoke 'about the embrace of Cardiff's black community and how it has helped him be the confident gay, black man he is today. "As a gay man, I was out, I was so out it was ridiculous," he said. "Whatever anybody says about black people and what they say about gay people - and in those days it was a lot - I was held by my black community as a gay man at 16 or 17. I had no homophobia at all."

Source: Kathryn Williams, 'The black top lawyer who was told by teachers he would never achieve his dream of going to university,' *WalesOnline*, 26 October 2020

2021

To compliment the Llywodraeth Cymru/ Welsh Government's LGBTQ+ Action Plan, Norena Shopland is commission to provide a 5-session training course in LGBTQ+ Language and History for local museums, libraries and archives. The only government in the world to have done this.



2021

Norena Shopland talks to Cardiff born MP Chris Bryant about his book *The Glamour Boys: The Secret Story of the Rebels who Fought for Britain to Defeat Hitler*. The full interview can be seen on Pride Cymru's Facebook page.

Photo credit: Chris McAndrew / UK Parliament

2021

The Queer Emporium opens in Cardiff at 2-4 Royal Arcade, St Mary's Street, with 20 LGBTQ+ run businesses and creators, as well as events, and an outdoor cafe!

The Queer Emporium is believed to be the first Queer Emporium in the UK, and possibly the world.



Photo credit: F2021.50.1 © Amgueddfa Cymru – Museum Wales



2021

2021

Owen J Hurcum became the world's first non-binary mayor and Wales' youngest ever elected mayor of Bangor City Council in Gwynedd, Wales.

Photo credit: Owen Hurcum



2021

[Yasmin Begum](#) is a queer Welsh-Pakistani writer, activist and artist living in Cardiff. She has started several big campaigns for social justice in Wales, including the campaign to ditch the Thomas Picton statue in City Hall. She has been incredibly solid in her support and allyship to trans people in the face of growing transphobic campaigning.

[Rania Vamvaka](#) is co-chair of Glitter Cymru, and the founder and chair of Glitter Sisters International, the enbys and womxn branch of Glitter. Rania is an out and proud bisexual woman, and has spoken on and organised countless panels surrounding the importance of queer people of colour rights giving a voice to those who need it. Rania was part of the Welsh Government's Expert panel, regarding the LGBTQ Action Plan, contributing on the asylum section. She co-led on the collaboration with LGBTQymru and edited Wales' first bisexual

2021 continued over...

2021 continued..

poetic anthology, comprised of bisexual poets of colour. She co-lead with Displaced People in Action on the very first All Wales research on LGBT+ Asylum Seeker Housing Needs and was the co-lead on the first ever queer creative collaboration between Stonewall Cymru, Eisteddfod Genedlaethol and Glitter Cymru. Rania also co-lead on the research panel collaboration between Fast Track Cities Research Group and Cardiff University's Genders and Sexualities Research Group on the stigma of HIV. She was awarded Cardiff University's Community Equity Award for her work with Glitter Cymru and the prestigious FfWG Academic Honour for Women Graduates on her research on LGBTQ+ asylum policy. She leads Wales' first ever national collaboration and campaign between Glitter Cymru, LGBTQymru and BEAT, to raise awareness on eating disorders within the LGBTQ+ community. Rania also leads Wales' first ever housing coalition to provide safe and accessible housing for LGBTQ+ refugees and asylum seekers. Rania was on the Pinc List from 2021-2023.

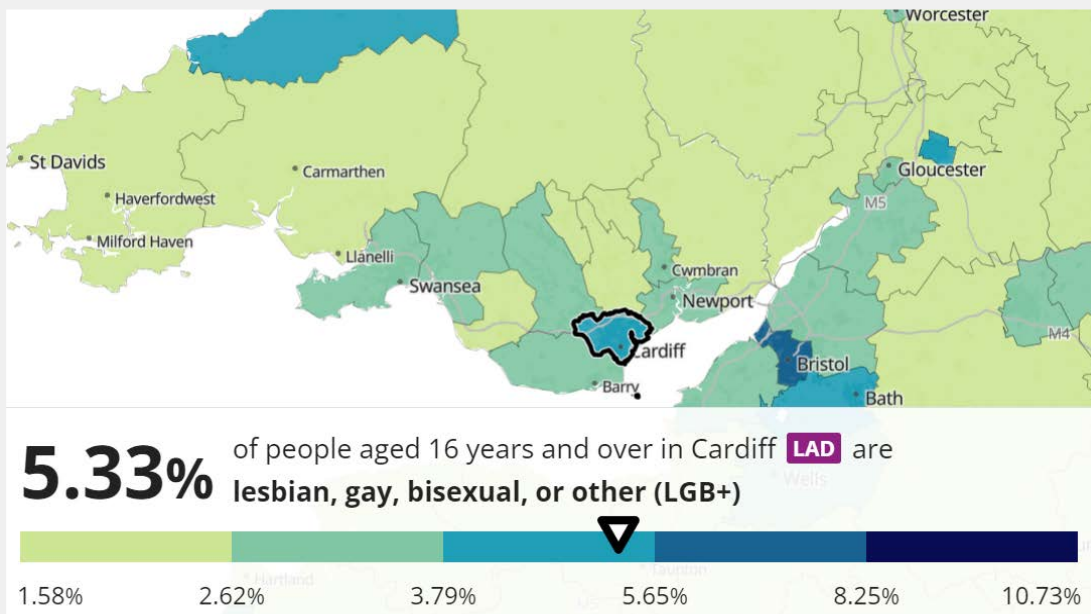
William Everett, working in partnership with Pride Cymru and the Deaf LGBT+ Community in Wales has increased visibility of deafness. Since taking over as chair of Wales Deaf LGBTQIA Pride in 2020 it was rebranded as "Deaf Cymru Pride" with a new logo and website and outreach which is now completely deaf-lead. He works with Pride Cymru, NHS Wales, Deaf Hub Wales and Deaf Rainbow UK amongst others to improve things for Deaf LGBTQIA community in Wales. William has worked closely with Pride Cymru's access officer to ensure that deaf people are able to access all events/activities with ease. The focus is on breaking down barriers presented to the deaf community at the forefront of all work being undertaken. William is passionate about improving accessibility to information in BSL for deaf LGBT+ people & the deaf community, promoting deaf awareness, education, employment and volunteering opportunities for deaf people.

Source: Ruth Mosalski and Joseph Ali, 'Pinc List 2021: Wales' most influential LGBT+ people,' *WalesOnline*, 22 August 2021



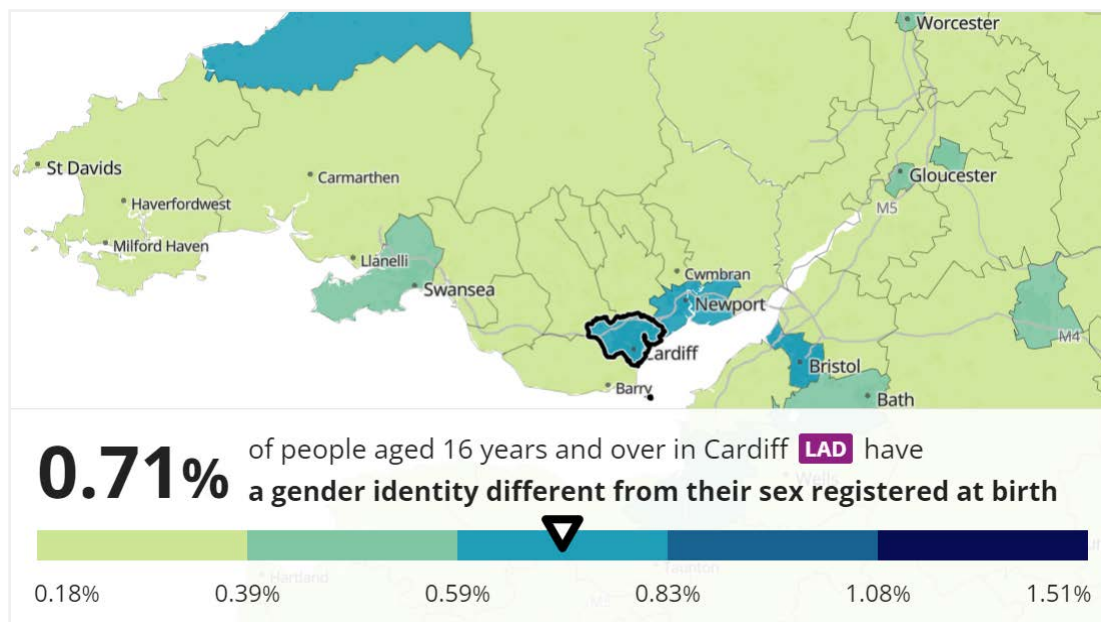
2021

2021 The 2021 UK Census was the first in world history to include questions on sexual orientation and gender identity. Some care should be taken over the figures as not all people answered the question.



2021

The 2021 UK Census was the first in world history to include questions on sexual orientation and gender identity. Some care should be taken over the figures as not all people answered the question.



2022

2022

Dr Kate Nambiar is a queer mixed-race transgender woman, who has worked in trans healthcare for the last decade. Having moved to Wales, Kate works at the Welsh Gender Service and trains and informs healthcare professionals about trans healthcare, particularly in sexual reproductive health. Kate is currently part of the team that has helped develop Wales' HIV Action Plan and is currently working on a research project looking at how trans and gender diverse people define good treatment from the gender service. She is working to implement the Welsh HIV Action Plan with the aim of being a nation free of HIV transmission by 2030.

Dr Numair Masud is a gay refugee, research scientist at Cardiff University and the current treasurer for Glitter Cymru, an LGBT+ community group dedicated to ethnic minorities. As someone who has claimed asylum in the UK, Numair speaks openly about challenges faced by those seeking asylum. Numair has recently been involved with Stonewall's LGBT+ school role model programme and continues to write opinion pieces on key issues faced by LGBT+ people with higher education. He has been actively involved with the University of Sanctuary scheme, which is a UK-wide initiative that aims to make education more accessible for refugees and those seeking asylum.

Source: Joseph Ali, 'Pinc List 2022: Wales' most influential LGBT+ people,' *Wales Online*, 20 August 2022

2022

Glitter Cymru and DPIA launched the "LGBTQ+ Asylum Housing Needs Report," the very first report of its kind in the UK, advocating for LGBTQ+ only asylum housing.

2023

After fleeing Morocco and seeking asylum in Wales in January 2022, [Ayoub Boukhalfa](#) has starred in a bilingual film, led performances in National Theatre Wales productions and helped run a choir which performed at the King's Coronation. Aouyb has also given a platform to queer men of Muslim origin living in Wales and volunteers for Oasis Cardiff and the Welsh Refugee Council. Described as "a symbol of positivity both within the refugee and asylum seeker community and queer community in Wales," his voluntary work and strength has been an inspiration to many.

[Zara Siddique](#) is the co-founder of Wales' most successful lesbian book club, Lez Read, which Zara and co-host Naz set up a year ago. Zara is also the driving force behind Queer Parents' Morning at the Queer Emporium, creating an inclusive and welcoming space for queer parents and their families to connect and build a supportive community. She is completing her PhD at Cardiff University, which focuses on making AI safer for marginalised communities and serves as the student parents and carers officer at the university.

Source: [Katie Hoggan, 'Pinc List 2023: Wales' most influential LGBTQ+ people,' Wales Online, 17 June 2023](#)



2023

2023

Llywodraeth Cymru/The Welsh Government publishes its LGBTQ+ Action Plan stating in the introduction, 'The Welsh Government wants to make Wales the most LGBTQ+ friendly nation in Europe. It is an ambitious goal, but we believe we can support all LGBTQ+ people in Wales to live their fullest life: to be healthy, to be happy, and to feel safe.'

Source: [Llywodraeth Cymru/The Welsh Government, Equality and human rights, LGBTQ+ Action Plan for Wales.](#)

2023

The Revd Jarel Robinson-Brown is a theologian and Assistant Curate at St Botolph's-Without-Aldgate. He has served churches in Cardiff, South Wales and South East London. Prior to full-time ministry, he studied classical music as a pianist and organist. Revd Robinson-Brown is passionate about issues of justice, particularly in the areas of race and sexuality. He is the author of the book, "Black, Gay, British, Christian, Queer: The Church and the Famine of Grace" (2021).

Source: [BiM2023, 'Black, Gay, British, Christian, Queer,' 11 April](#)



Thank you

These have been just a few highlights from Caerdydd / Cardiff's sexual orientation and gender identity history.

If you think we've missed anything that should be included, please do let us know by using the web link below.

We will update the timeline on a regular basis.

www.lgbtqcymru.swansea.ac.uk



Draig Enfys

 search **Draig Enfys**