



# **The Wales LGBTQ+ Timeline Collection**

Caerffili / Caerphilly 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.

# 14<sup>th</sup> CENTURY >

## 1326

King Edward II (1284–1327) was on the run from his wife Queen Isabella. He had become dependent on the man contemporary sources referred to as his ‘husband’, Hugh Despenser and Isabella had invaded the UK with the intention of removing Edward from his throne and replacing him with his son. In October, the two men retreated to Caerphilly Castle and attempted to rally their remaining forces but had to flee again, this time to Neath Abbey. Having been caught, Hugh was hung, drawn and quartered and Edward taken into captivity.

Source: Wikipedia



CAERPHILLY CASTLE AS IT STOOD.



# 19<sup>th</sup> CENTURY >

## 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.

## 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.

## 1895

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



# 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY >

## 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.

## 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.



## 1951

## 1928

Evan Herbert, 45, collier was sentenced to three years imprisonment for committing buggery with Leslie Victor Duke on 28 July 1928 at Blackwood.

Source: UK Calendar of Prisoners, 1868-1929, via Ancestry.

## 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

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

## 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.



## › 1967

## 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.



Leo Abse

Photo credit: © National Portrait Gallery, London

## 1967

When Leo Abse pushed forward the recommendations of the Wolfenden Report of 1957 recommending a partial decriminalisation of homosexuality, in 1967, MPs reacted in a variety of ways. Eirene Lloyd White, Baroness White (1909–1999) was a British Labour politician and journalist who was elected Labour MP for East Flint in 1950, one of the first female MPs in Wales. She believed it was a ‘difficult, embarrassing, and distasteful’ subject and described homosexual activity as ‘something extremely repugnant’. Bizarrely she went on to support the motion. She thought, ‘that in considering the subject of make homosexuality a number of men consciously or subconsciously are moved to vehement condemnation by some feeling that they have to assert their own virility in the process.’ In 1970, Eirene retired from the House of Commons and was created a life peer on 12 October 1970 taking the title Baroness White, of Rhymney.

*Sources: Wikipedia; Tory Pride and Prejudice: The Conservative Party and homosexual law reform, Michael McManus (Biteback Publishing, 2011); Sexual Politics: Sexuality, Family Planning, and the British Left from the 1880s to the Present Day, Stephen Brooke (Oxford University Press, 2011).*

## 1970

Gay Liberation Front (GLF) was established.



## 1974

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

## 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

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.

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

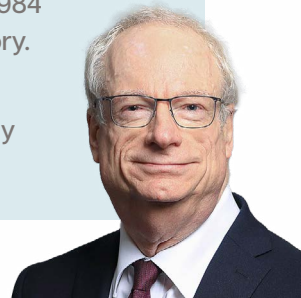


Photo credit: Wikimedia Commons  
© Roger Harris



## 1998

## 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.

## 1998

Ron Davies, former Secretary of State for Wales, Member of Parliament, and member of the Welsh Assembly for Caerphilly, stood down from office on 27 October 1998 citing “an error of judgement” in agreeing to go for what he said was a meal with a man he had met while walking on Clapham Common in London, which is a well-known gay meeting place. He was mugged at knifepoint. The full details of the incident (which he infamously called a “moment of madness” at the urging of Tony Blair's Press secretary Alastair Campbell) have never emerged. He later acknowledged that he is bisexual, and was receiving treatment for a personality disorder which led him to seek out risky situations. He stood down from Parliament at the 2001 general election.

Source: [Wikipedia](#)

# 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY >

## 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.



## > 2002

## 2002

### Gays flout God's laws, says head

A headmaster faced calls for his suspension yesterday after telling pupils at morning assembly that homosexuals, divorcees and unmarried mothers were "flouting God's laws". Bill Beales, of Cwmcarn High School, near Caerphilly, South Wales, said that in the current climate of political correctness people who broke the rules for "right living" escaped criticism. "Through the thin veneer of political correctness, the fundamental precepts, beliefs and value system of the Christian faith are being eroded by spin doctors and politicians," he said. "They are keener on gaining votes than standing firm on the principles of right and wrong.

Caerphilly council leader Lindsay Whittle criticised the speech given at the 820-pupil school as "entirely inappropriate". He said that Mr Beales should be suspended pending a full investigation. "How many pupils left the assembly feeling worthless because their parents are divorced, because they live with a single parent or may be homosexual?" he said. "When children from certain backgrounds are singled out in this way there is a danger bullying could be

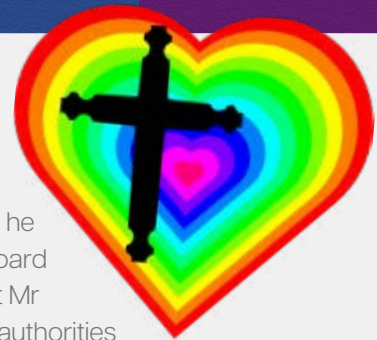
encouraged." Mr Whittle said he had written to the school's board of governors suggesting that Mr Beales be suspended. Local authorities can advise about suspensions but the final decision lies with the governors.

Denver Preece, the board's chairman, said that Mr Beale had "100 per cent support from the governors". He added: "I am making no other comment, none whatsoever, until I next speak to my governors."

Geraint Davies, of the National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers, said: "We have to teach our children that no one in society should be discriminated against because of their background."

Mr Beales said yesterday that his speech, entitled "Paradoxical Freedom", was not about attacking individuals. He wanted to highlight the unfair accusations of "bigotry and discrimination" faced by Christians who defended the principles of their religion.

Source: *The Telegraph*, 4 June 2002



## 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.

## 2003

### Gay partners rush to register at town halls

"More and more gay couples are taking advantage of the new legal right to register their relationships. Registration ceremonies are already being organised by local councils in Swansea, London, Leeds, Bournemouth, Manchester, Liverpool, Brighton and Hove, Bath, Devon and Somerset - and they are about to start in Caerphilly, South Wales ... They do not yet incorporate any legal rights for the couple, although they encourage equality among employers, housing authorities, immigration officials and others who wield power."

Source: *The Observer*, 9 February 2003



## 2003

## 2003

A lesbian couple from Barry were the first in Wales to sign a gay pledge the day after the Government announced plans for same sex couples to be awarded equal legal rights as married couples. Lisa Slade, 31, and Julia Stamps, 23, took part in a service on Tuesday July 1 at the Swansea Council's Celebration Suite at County Hall, the first Welsh authority to offer a commitment ceremony. Lisa and Julia met five years previously while working in a discount food store in Caerphilly.

Source: *Barry & District News*, 3 July 2003

## 2003

### Farewell in flowers to drag queen

The body of Jason Massiey (32), alias Lady Ding, of John Street, Markham, Caerphilly, was found floating in Pen-y-Fan pond, Manmoel, Newport. He was believed to have been suffering from depression. Fellow drag artist Miss Kitty (27) of Riverside, Cardiff, was the on-stage partner of Jason in their long-running show at Cardiff's Kings Cross. "Jason was my best friend and I don't think I could ever replace working with him - and as a friend I loved him dearly." Chris Marshall, manager of the King's Cross pub in Cardiff, said: "Jason was probably the wittiest and most talented drag queen I've ever seen. He would have made it very big given the opportunity, so it's a great loss. Friends made a floral tribute to Massiey at Cardiff Mardi Gras.

Source: *Barry & District News*, 4 August 2003



## 2003

Caerphilly Youth Services, Basement team run Caerphilly Borough's only specific LGBTQ+ group for young people, providing a safe and confidential environment where young people are able to express their true selves, whilst meeting other young people that share the same experiences and issues.

**L.H.D.T.C.+**  
**L.G.B.T.Q.+**

hunaniaeth  
deurywiol  
amrywiaeth  
lesbiaidd  
hebrwy  
heterorywiol  
cyfeillgarwch  
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information  
diversity  
Transgender  
Lesbian  
Gay  
Proud  
Queer  
Heterosexual  
asexual  
Friendship  
genderfluid  
support  
Equality  
Bisexual  
Identity  
Bigender

Prosiect Gwasanaeth Ieuenctid Caerffili yw hwn sy'n cefnogi bobl ifanc sy'n cydnabod neu'n cwestiynu eu rhyw a'u hunaniaeth rywiol.

Cynhelir cyfarfodydd y dydd Sadwrn olaf pob mis yn Islawr Coed Duon, Llyfrgell Coed Duon, 192 Y Stryd Fawr, Coed Duon, NP12 1AJ.

Os oes gennych ddiddordeb yn y prosiect hwn cysylltwch â Gweithlwr Ieuenctid yn y Prosiect Islawr.

Rhif Ffôn: 01495 235511  
E-bost: yrslawr@caerffili.gov.uk  
Twitter @youth4u1  
Facebook: youth4u  
Testun: 078 7635 8034

A Caerphilly Youth Service Project to support LGBTQ+ young people or those questioning their gender or sexual identity.

Meetings will be held the last Saturday of each month at Blackwood Basement, Blackwood Library, NP12 1AJ.

If you are interested in this project please contact a Youth Worker at the Basement Project.

Tel: 01495 235511  
E-mail: thebasement@caerphilly.gov.uk  
Twitter: @youth4u1  
Facebook: youth4u  
Text: 078 7635 8034

Caerphilly Youth Services  
Basement  
Gwasanaeth Ieuenctid  
Youth Services  
Caerphilly

## 2006

## 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.

## 2006

Fourteen Gwent gay couples became civil partners since legislation came into force in December - and more than 30 more were planning to follow suit. Alan Haines and Darran Richards were among the first to be joined in civil partnership in a ceremony at Newport Register Office on December 21. The couple, who had been together for 18 years, were determined to make use of the historic new legislation on its first day of operation. Darran, 42, a former Risca Comprehensive School pupil, said the reaction from the majority of people has been supportive. "I was worried about what people would say mainly because many of my old school friends didn't know," he said. "But most people have been supportive and some old school mates even contacted me through the website Friends Reunited to congratulate me and say how happy I looked."

Source: Barry & District News, 10 January 2006

## 2007

On the 40th anniversary of the partial decriminalisation of homosexuality several men spoke out of their experiences. Colin Davies, 61, of Caerphilly said “queer-bashing” was a regular occurrence as he was growing up and as a result, he found it impossible to “come out of the closet”. He said it was easier and safer to be “one of the boys” than be honest about his sexuality and the only place he could truly be gay in his 20s was in a secret private members club in Cardiff called Sirs.

“You had to be very careful about what you did and who you spoke to. You could not let yourself be yourself,” said Mr Davies. “There were always jokes about gays, poofs and faggots and a lot of people

were disgusted with it. You were told you were a freak, it wasn't natural, it wasn't supposed to be.” Mr Davies was never attacked because he kept quiet about his sexuality. He even married a woman he fell in love with and they had two sons together before they split and he went back to his gay lifestyle. “I think I did feel pressured into relationships with women in those days,” he said “Nowadays it is so open and so easy going - people don't care and it's lovely. They have the law backing them up too. I'm glad that people can be themselves and not be in the shadow like we were when we were kids.”

Source: *BBC*, 27 July 2007



## 2008

## 2007

Fostering “enriched” the life of a gay Anglican priest who spoke out against Catholic Church calls to sidestep new regulations allowing same-sex couples improved adoption rights. Reverend Martin Reynolds, originally from Caerphilly, believed it would be “a disaster for children” if Catholic Church leaders succeed in watering down proposals, saying he and his male partner have had great joy in caring for their 19-year-old foster son, who has complex learning difficulties, for the last five years.

Source: *Barry and District News*, 25 January 2007

## 2008

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



Photo credit: Wikimedia Commons  
Open Government Licence v3.0

## 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.

## 2012

Youth4u - Caerphilly Youth Service runs Caerphilly Borough's only specific LGBTQ+ group for young people. The group has successfully supported one young person in putting together an LGBTQ+ group within her school and had sent emails out to all Caerphilly Borough schools to ask if they could visit the schools to raise awareness of the group.

Source: *Fyne Times*, 'Caerphilly Youth Services launch LGBTQ+ Youth Group', unknown date.



## 2015

## 2012

The TV documentary, 'I Woke up Gay,' featured Chris Birch, from Ystrad Mynach who, after a stroke, changed from a rugby playing lad with a girlfriend to a gay, image conscious hairdresser interested in fashion and interior décor. Although Chris was adamant that he was straight in his old life, most of those around him (including his partner) believed that his gay sexuality must have been dormant, and that he was just in denial, and the trauma to his brain brought this to the surface. A researcher from the University of London confirmed that the 'bulk of the evidence in biological sciences, in genetics and in psychology suggest that sexuality is something you are born with and develop later on in life.' Chris said he was happier than he had ever been in his new life but he and his mother had become estranged. "It is easy to assume that she was not able to cope with his new sexuality, but in reality there are doubtless many complex issues around finding that you have a son with an entirely new personality."

Source: *Splag Wales*, Newsletter Issue 44, May 2012

## 2015

Steve Strange (born in 1959 in Newbridge, Caerphilly) died in 2015. He was the leader of the new wave synth-pop group Visage, best known for their single "Fade to Grey", and was one of the most influential figures behind the New Romantic movement of the early 1980.

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



## 2014

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

## 2016

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



Photo credit: Wikimedia Commons;  
By Welsh Government - GOV.WALES,  
OGL 3

## 2016

Scott McGlynn, a celebrity interviewer and blogger, appears as No. 24 on the Pinc List, 40 of Wales' most influential LGBTQ+ people. He was bullied at secondary school for being gay, and since published a book about his experiences. He was voted into the *Guardian's* Pride Power List 2016.

At No. 11 is Gerald Jones, a Caerphilly councillor, who served his home community of New Tredegar for 20 years, was elected to Parliament as the MP for Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney in May 2015.

Source: *WalesOnline*, 'The Pinc List 2016: The 40 most influential LGBT people in Wales,' 13 August 2016



## 2019

## 2017

Andrew Creak, a 20-year-old film student who grew up in Caerphilly, was part of a group of activists who teamed up to host Merthyr Tydfil's first LGBT club night. When he was growing up Andrew 'always knew he was different but it wasn't until he was a teenager that he noticed it meant he was treated differently. It was at school that Andrew realised that some people might have a problem with who he is. "I didn't really feel safe around everyone in school. There was a feeling that it wasn't right or normal to be gay," he said.'

Source: Oliver Milne, 'This is what it's like growing up LGBT in The Valleys,' *WalesOnline*, 25 February 2017

## 2018-19

Caerphilly Council publishes its Strategic Equality Plan in which they stated:

- > The council's Equalities, Welsh Language and Consultation Team has provided training for school staff and governors and has actively promoted events which raise awareness such as LGBT History Month, Black History Month etc.
- > The Council's Youth Service runs an LGBTQ+ Youth Group called "Guys, Gals and Non-binary Pals" (GGNP). The group is a unique initiative which supports young people aged between 11 and 25 years who identify as LGBTQ+. This full-time project provides access to support, information and advocacy for those across the county borough and surrounding areas. Young people are provided with a safe and confidential environment to express themselves whilst

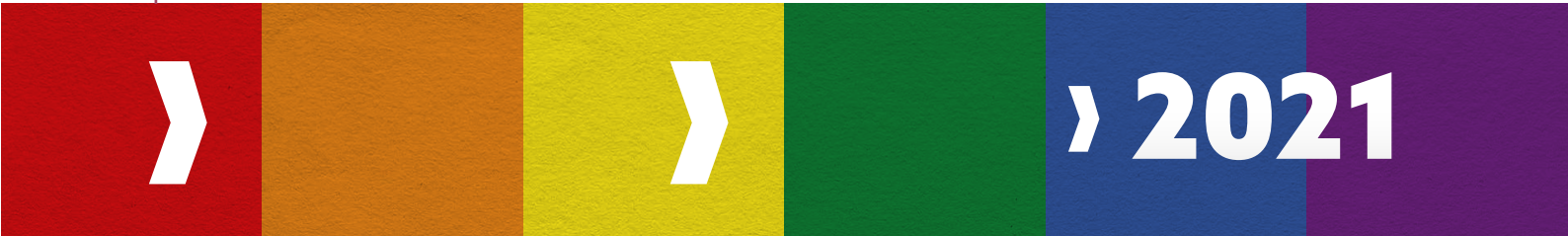
2018-19 continued over...

2018-19 continued...

- having the opportunity to engage and socialise with other young people that share the same experiences and challenges.
- > Representatives from Caerphilly County Borough Council, had a 'Proud Councils' stall at Pride Cymru's Big Weekend. Staff engaged with visitors to discuss how councils can further improve upon the work they undertake to ensure equality for LGBT+ residents and employees, as well as signposting to services offered by councils and partners.
- > Caerphilly Council marked LGBT history month throughout February, with a number of activities and events to celebrate diversity and inclusivity. The rainbow flag was flown proudly throughout the month of outside Penallta House, with the building also lit up in rainbow colours. On 22 February 2019 the Council hosted at Penallta House a marketplace

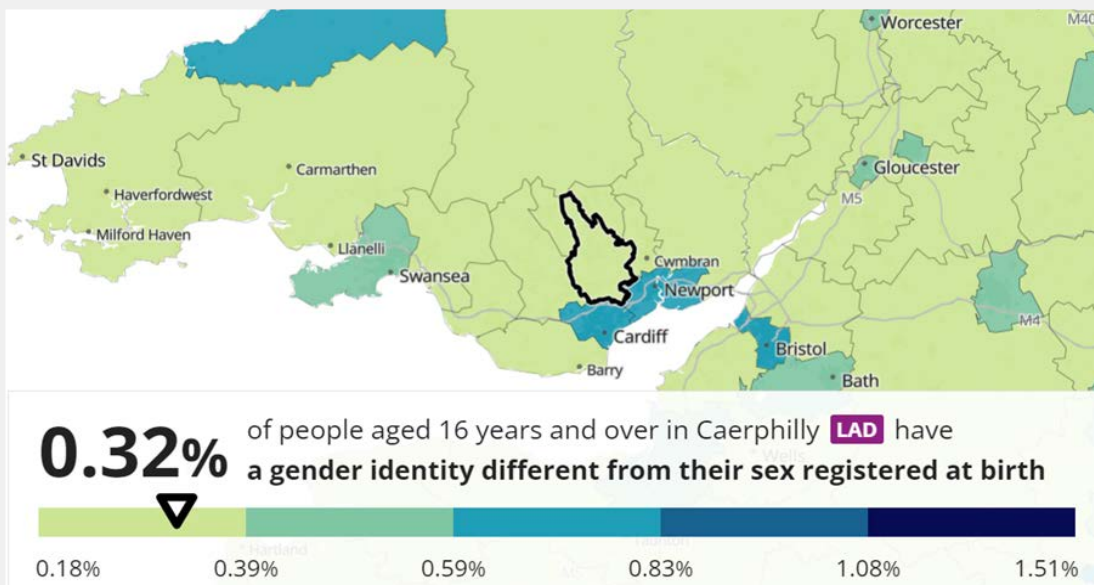
event where businesses and organisations such as Gwent Police, Chwarae Teg and Caerphilly Library Service were on hand to promote, raise awareness and celebrate LGBT History Month as well as signposting people to support services that they may need to speak to for advice. Schools were also being encouraged to get involved with LGBT History Month. All Secondary School pupils were asked to take part in a design competition to produce a project (artwork, model or similar) which represents what LGBT means to them. Pupils were also encouraged to consider this year's theme of 'peace, activism and reconciliation' as a part of the design.

**Source: Caerphilly County Borough Council, Strategic Equality Plan Annual Monitoring and Improvement Report 2018 – 2019, 23 October 2020. Available online.**



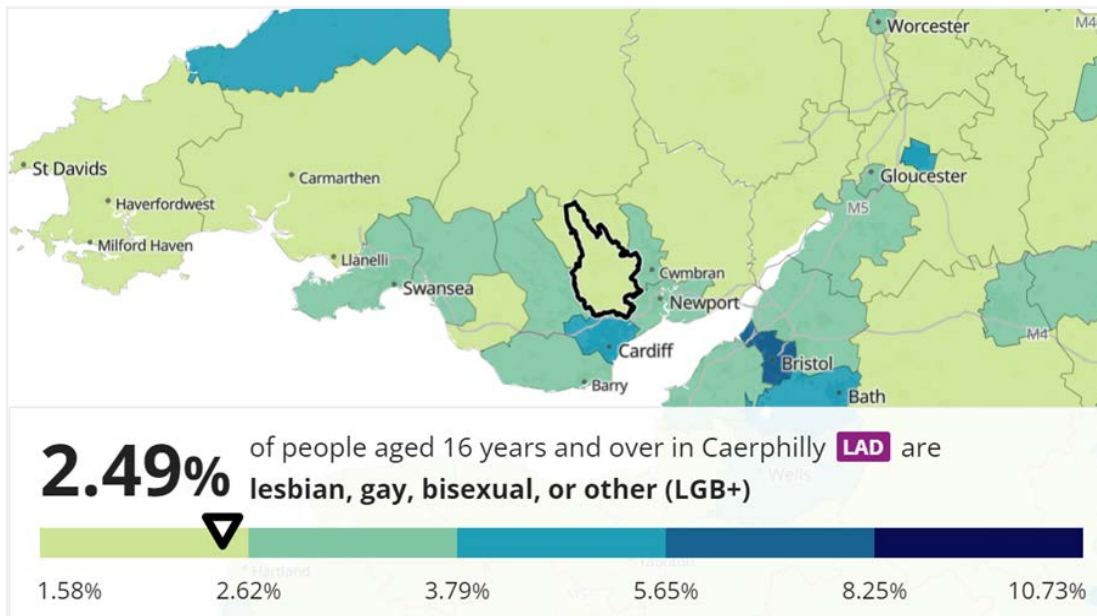
## 2021

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# 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.



## 2021



Gwent Police launch LGBTQ+ community group in Caerphilly. CSO Rhiannon Collins and the team at Bedwas police station lead a new LGBTQ+ engagement group in Caerphilly and hope to create a safe, inclusive space in which people can talk openly about their community. The inaugural meeting, held at Coffi Vista, Caerphilly, on Wednesday 13 October, saw residents, police officers and councillors join one another in sharing their thoughts on public safety, community cohesion and inclusivity. Inspector Gavin Clifton said: "We're committed to dealing with and preventing crimes experienced by LGBTQ+ people, including crimes targeted towards people as a result of hatred or hostility towards a personal characteristic. The sessions are set to be held monthly.

Source: Heddlu Gwent Police website, News, 15 October 2021



## 2022

Cadw (meaning 'to keep' or 'to protect') is the historic environment service of the Welsh Government and part of the Tourism and Culture group, working to protect the historic buildings and structures, the landscapes and heritage sites of Wales, to make them available for the public to visit, enjoy, and understand their significance. As part of History Month in February, Cadw published its blog, *Seven Listed Buildings with links to Wales' proud LGBTQ+ History*, including a piece on King Edward II and Hugh Despenser:

Hugh Despenser became the king's favourite and alleged lover around 1317 and for years Despenser effectively ran the kingdom on Edward's behalf. At Caerphilly Castle "signs of their relationship can still be found across castle grounds to this day, with the decorative stone heads overlooking the castle's Great Hall supposedly representing the pair."

Source: Cadw website, 21 February 2022



» 2022

## 2022

Proud Councils - a group of eight south Wales local authorities committed to improving support offered to LGBT+ staff within councils - was shortlisted for the public sector equality award in the PinkNews awards. The group - Newport, Caerphilly, Torfaen, Blaenau Gwent, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil, Cardiff, Bridgend and Swansea councils - also seek to ensure local government across Wales is a visible leader in the field of LGBT+ rights, actively championing LGBT+ inclusion in communities.

Source: South Wales Argus, 'Councils applauded for supporting LGBT staff,' 13 June 2022





# PRIDE IN VETERANS STANDARD

FIGHTING WITH PRIDE

## 2023

Councillors in Caerphilly have pledged to support current and former LGBTQ+ members of the armed forces, who for years faced discrimination and were at risk of losing their jobs. The council has agreed unanimously to sign up to the Pride in Veterans Standard (PIVS), committing to helping veterans and their families impacted by the armed forces' former ban on homosexuality. The military ban on LGBT personnel was in force between 1967 and 2000, and during that time anyone in breach of the

rules faced being sacked, stripped of their medals, or losing out on their pensions. Earlier this year, the UK Government apologised to veterans affected by the policy, which then-defence secretary Ben Wallace branded a "shameful and unacceptable" chapter of the armed forces' history.

Source: Nicholas Thomas, 'Caerphilly Council pledges support for LGBT veterans,' *South Wales Argus*, 30 November 2023



## 2023

## 2023

Caerphilly holds its first Pride on 24 June. Cllr Jamie Pritchard, Deputy Leader of the Council said: "We at CCBC, are committed to ensuring Caerphilly County Borough remains an inclusive place to live, work and visit for all, and this event is just one way we can listen to the voices of our LGBTQ+ community." Pride Caerffili was a huge success as Caerphilly town centre was filled with rainbow flags, banners and bunting and 23,957 visitors.

Source: Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili/ Caerphilly County Borough Council website, 'People line the streets at the first Pride Caerffili,' News Centre, 30 June 2023







## Thank you

These have been just a few highlights from Caerffili / Caerphilly'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](http://www.lgbtqcymru.swansea.ac.uk)



**Draig Enfys**

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