

LGBT HISTORY MONTH 2022

blurring borders

a world in motion



WHAT IS LGBT HISTORY MONTH?

LGBT History Month takes place in February every year and offers the chance to connect and to reflect on the past and present of the LGBT community.

LGBT History Month provides an opportunity to celebrate LGBT culture and progress towards equality over time, and to explore what the lessons of history can teach us for the future.

WHY DO WE HAVE LGBT HISTORY MONTH?

LGBT History Month aims to “*eliminate prejudice by educating people*” (Sue Sanders, LGBT History Month UK’s co-founder).

It provides an opportunity to teach people about the history of the LGBT+ rights movement and to highlight LGBT+ voices and stories that have often been minimised in history and in contemporary society.

LGBT History Month also encourages us to consider how to build on this movement in the future. Whilst progress towards LGBT+ equality has come a long way in terms of inclusion, attitudes towards same gender relationships, and equal marriage, there is still a great deal of work to be done for LGBTQIA+ equality, representation, and inclusion across the world.

THIS YEAR'S THEME: BLURRING BORDERS

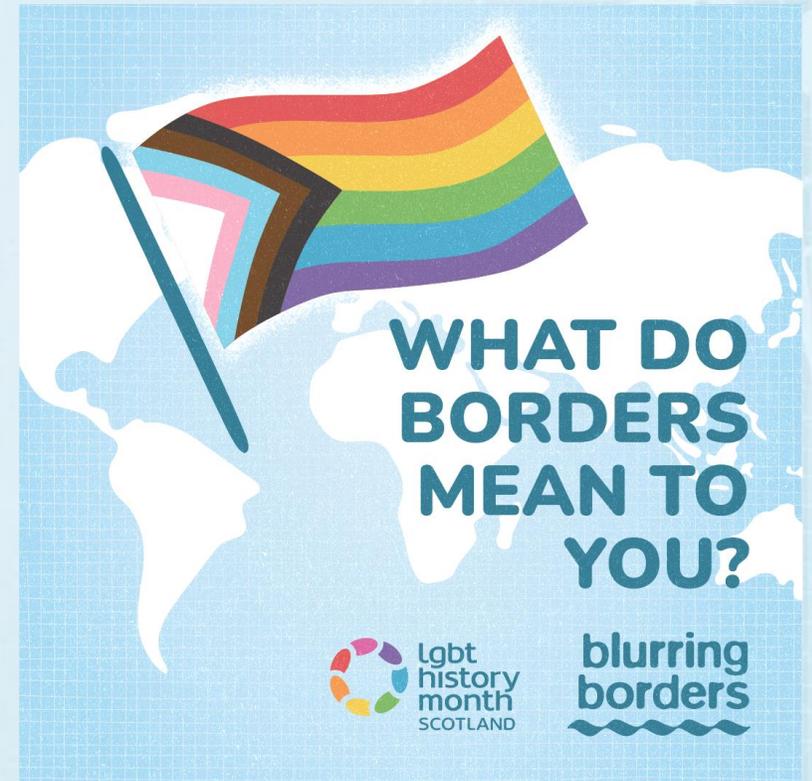
In 69 UN member states, including a majority of African nations, LGBT people are still criminalised under homosexuality and “cross-dressing” laws, as well as being targeted under numerous other offences.

Right now, LGBT+ communities in countries like Poland and Hungary are faced with a rising tide of anti-LGBT movements.

THIS YEAR'S THEME: BLURRING BORDERS

We know that no country has yet reached the destination of protecting and championing the rights of all LGBT+ people. With this in mind, we encourage you to come together and reflect on the power of people and the strength of solidarity across borders.

We are asking people to reflect on what role can we, in the UK, play in supporting LGBT people internationally? And what lessons can we learn from the past and present of the LGBT+ community around the world to create a better future, both at home and beyond?



INTERNATIONAL LGBT+ HISTORY FACTS

To get you thinking about the topic international LGBT+ rights and inclusion here are some key facts below:

- In 1791, France became the first country to decriminalise homosexuality. Today, all but 69 countries have followed suit, some of the most recent additions in the last few years were Angola, Gabon and Botswana.
- The world's first Member of Parliament publicly known to be LGB was Coos Huijsen in The Netherlands, elected in 1972.
- In 1988, Sweden became the first country to introduce anti-discrimination laws based on sexual orientation. Now, 57 countries provide broad protection against discrimination and 81 provide employment protection based on sexual orientation.
- Denmark became the first country to legalise same-sex unions in 1989, while the first to legalise same-sex marriage was the Netherlands in 2001 – since followed by 29 other countries.
- The Netherlands was the first country to fully legalise joint adoption by same-sex couples in 2001. The figure now stands at 32 countries, as well as a number of Mexican states and British territories.
- Non-binary legal recognition was introduced in Malta in 2017 and Uruguay in 2018.

ACTIVITIES TO GET INVOLVED

The theme is intended to inspire, engage and provoke conversation – what that looks like is entirely up to you. To provide some inspiration see the ideas below.

Study historical and contemporary international LGBT+ activists such as:

- Harvey Milk (USA)
- Simon Nkoli (South Africa)
- Dorottya Rédei (Hungary)
- Victor Mukasa (Uganda)
- Gauri Sawant (India)
- Kasha Nabagesera (Uganda)
- Anna Grodzka (Poland)
- Kenita Placide (St Lucia)



And many 100's more people across the globe who have done and/or are doing amazing work to support LGBT+ communities. Allow these stories to inspire and consider how LGBT+ activism impacts communities.

ACTIVITIES TO GET INVOLVED

Read about and discuss historical changes which have shaped LGBT+ rights and equalities across the globe:

- Stonewall Riots and their impact on global awareness of LGBT+ rights and inclusion.
- Colonisation and the legacy of anti-LGBT laws in former British colonies.
- HIV/AIDS epidemic.
- Global progress towards decriminalisation and marriage equality.



1969 Stonewall Riots

SHARE YOUR LGBT HISTORY MONTH

Remember to share your activities/events during LGBT History Month on the LGBT History Month website:

<https://www.lgbthistory.org.uk/>

You can also share via Twitter by tweeting @LGBTHistoryScot.



SUPPORT FOR LGBT+ YOUNG PEOPLE

Need to talk?

LGBT Youth runs a live chat service on its website that is free, confidential and you'll be chatting with experienced youth workers! (Times vary throughout the week)

You can also find local and digital youth groups via the LGBT Youth website www.lgbtyouth.org.uk

Digital youth groups are now offered via Discord through the Pride and Pixels service. For more information on this service email:

info@lgbtyouth.org.uk



RESOURCES TO SUPPORT LGBT HISTORY MONTH

- lgbthistory.org.uk/resources/
- lgbtyouth.org.uk/national-programmes/schools-and-teachers/lesson-activities-and-assemblies/
- ourstoryscotland.org.uk/
- tie.scot/
- lgbteducation.scot/
- rainbow-europe.org/
- humanrightspulse.com/