

## Pride Month 2025

Pride Month is held in June each year, and it is a time to celebrate LGBTQ+ communities all over the UK and around the world. In 1972, the first ever pride parade was held in London, and was a day where people could celebrate. Now, there are lots of Pride events held in the UK, typically in big cities like Manchester, Brighton and London. There are floats held by companies and organisations (Girlguiding regions often have them!) and such an amazing community spirit throughout the event. Local shops, restaurants and businesses also often decorate their buildings or have freebies and exclusive items to celebrate.

One of the most notable origins of Pride was in New York, and is called the Stonewall Riots. In 1969, police raided a local gay bar called the Stonewall Inn. At this time, LGBTQ people had faced harassment and discrimination for years, however this time they fought back and this led to days of protests for their rights.

This inspired an activist group to form in the UK, called the Gay Liberation Front. They challenged laws and stigma around the community, and wanted to change people's minds and prejudices surrounding LGBTQ+ people.

Today, Pride celebrates the culture and identities of LGBTQ+ people, however still recognises the challenges they face. It is such an important event to hold as it provides a safe space for so many people – last year Manchester Pride saw 17,000 people attend and celebrate!

There are lots of ways to support pride, whether you are part of the LGBTQ+ community or not. For example, you could;

- Attend a local Pride parade
- Educate yourself on the history of Pride and LGBTQ+
- Donate or fundraise for charities supporting the community, eg Stonewall, Mermaids or Switchboard
- Support visibly by adding your pronouns to your social media or email signature

Girlguiding supports pride in lots of different ways. One of which is attending Pride Parades around the UK! This is such an exciting opportunity as you are on the float walking through the parade, celebrating with like-minded people!

Girlguiding also promotes inclusivity within the organisation for individuals that are part of the LGBTQ+ community. There are lots of resources to support them, and more often than not attending weekly meetings acts as a safe space and allows the individuals to spend time with their friends. Importantly, it isn't just the members that are supported; volunteers also have resources and support available!

There are also items like Pride badges, flags and other merchandise that can be purchased from the shops. I have got a Pride badge on my badge blanket!



[stonewall.org.uk](https://www.stonewall.org.uk)

[mermaidsuk.org.uk](https://www.mermaidsuk.org.uk)

[Switchboard.lgbt](https://www.switchboard.lgbt)

[https://shop.girlguidingnwe.org.uk/search?q=pride&\\_pos=1&\\_psq=pride&\\_ss=e&\\_v=1.0](https://shop.girlguidingnwe.org.uk/search?q=pride&_pos=1&_psq=pride&_ss=e&_v=1.0)