Happy Valley Pride 18 - 27 July 2025



Welcome to West Yorkshire's Weeklong Queer Festival

Since our first ever festival back in 2016, never has it felt so urgent to stand up and be seen. The catalyst for Happy Valley Pride was a piece of homophobic graffiti aimed at a young person. Since then, we've worked with almost 10,000 kids, teaching lessons of inclusivity and celebrating differences. The young people of Calderdale are quite amazing: respectful, inclusive, and nonjudgemental. While we may be teaching the lessons, we can all learn from them.

This year we are very proud to be back again with our amazing community and allies in the Calder Valley. But we need to call on you now to stand by each other's side in helping to create a brighter world for all LGBTQIA+ people. One free from prejudice, discrimination, and most of all — free from hate. Let's keep doing what we do best — celebrating our diverse and fabulous lives.

So, what have we got in store for you? A week of some of the UK's biggest queer talent, including Jeanette Winterson, Le Gateau Chocolat, Jacob Alon and Sharon Le Grand. And, as it's been such a hit, we're bringing the Big Bingo Show back! The Big Day Out will kick off with our Youth Pride Stage, we've got the incredible Cocoa Butter Club, Masters of the Scene bring a full ABBA live band to the park and Drag Race UK royalty Ginger Johnson, Michael Marouli and Tomara Thomas headline as the Angels of the North. Legends Duckie present a big queer club night (fastest fingers first snag those tickets). Then join us in Todmorden for a Sunday Service with Sister Sister and David Hoyle.

At Happy Valley Pride everyone is welcome.

Be Here, Be You, Be Proud!

Tim, Darren & Jenn

At a glance...

7th - 26th July

Identity: Youth Art Exhibition @ Hebden Bridge Town Hall

Friday 18th July

The Incident @ Trades Club

Saturday 19th July

Flag making workshop @ Handmade Parade Workshop

Sunday 20th July

Queering Joy @ Hebden Bridge Town Hall

Monday 21st July

The Big Bingo Show @ The Old Gate

Tuesday 22nd July

Jeanette Winterson @ Hebden Bridge Picture House

Big Gay Quiz Night @ Barbarys

Wednesday 23rd July

Cal De Cabaret x Sharon Le Grand @ Trades Club

Thursday 24th July

Queering Joy, Lovenotes performance @Hebden Bridge Town Hall

Tea Time Disco @ Drink

Jacob Alon @ Trades Club

Friday 25th July

Le Gateau Chocolat Cabaret Gala @ Hope Chapel

Saturday 26th July

The Big Day Out @ Calder Holmes Park

Peter Tatchell @ Little Theatre

Sid Akbar @ Little Theatre

Duckie @ Trades Club

Sunday 27th July

Sister Sister's Sunday @ The Golden Lion

Buy tickets: happyvalleypride.co.uk

Identity: Youth Art Exhibition

We are thrilled to present artwork created by kids taking part in our Youth Engagement programme.

Education has always been at the core of Happy Valley Pride's mission, we make it a priority to educate the next generation with lessons of tolerance, love and equality.

This year, we have worked with schools and youth groups across Calderdale to help students learn more about the LGBTQIA+ community, anti-bullying and the diversity of families in our area.

The Happy Valley Pride Youth Engagement Programme is led by Terry Logan, working with Adam Pryce, and plays a leading role in the provision of quality creative learning for young people around LGBTQIA+ life through education and art. Our youth work has been recognised by Stonewall and recently won a Service to the Community award from Hebden Royd Town Council.

The Youth Pride Takeover forms part of The Big Day Out on the 26th July.



7th - 26th July
Hebden Bridge
Town Hall,
St George's Street,
Hebden Bridge
HX7 7BY
Free to attend



The Incident

(Partner event)

The Incident are an exciting, new teenage brother and sister duo from Halifax. Tom Davies (lead vocalist, pianist & songwriter) & Emma Maggie Davies (lead vocalist, guitar).

2024 was the year The Incident burst onto the scene with their debut single, which was selected by Abbey Road as one of its top 5 tracks of the week. The young duo, known for their exhilarating live performances were swiftly invited to play for Noel Gallagher, The Pixies and Richard Ashcroft's VIP Live Lounge at The Piece Hall in Halifax, all three shows sold out. They appeared at Electric Bloom, Happy Valley Pride's youth music event earlier this year.

"You don't hear voices like that very often do you – staggering, there's not much you can say when someone's that talented"

Jusin Hawkins (The Darkness)



Doors 20.00 Friday 18th July

The Trades Club,
Holme Street,
Hebden Bridge HX7 8EE
Tickets £10/£8
Plus booking fee

Purchase from thetradesclub.com



Flag making workshop

A fun, free, family-friendly workshop with Handmade Productions.

Show your pride whoever you are and whatever your age by creating colourful flags and bunting. You'll be able to create and then see your flag flying at The Big Day Out this year and at future Happy Valley Pride festivals. Totally free and suitable for adults and kids of all ages.

13.00 – 16.00 Saturday 19th July

Handmade Parade workshop,

Victoria Road, Hebden Bridge HX7 8LN



Queering Joy:Music, Protest, Desire

"Queer" is more than another word for gay.

It describes how we change the world; how we've rejected rules and binaries; how we've created new connections and choices; our own cultures and communities.

In this warm and welcoming workshop, we'll use poetry and creative writing to explore queer joy, and how it is expressed in desire, music and protest. Facilitated by Clare Shaw (Bloodaxe), and by Lauren C Maltas (Writing Squad), this is an inclusive, participatory writing workshop. You're sure to leave with a stack of your own writing, as well as contributing your own words to a song which will be performed by the Lovenotes at their extraordinary musical celebration of queer music and queer joy!



Workshop: Sunday 20 July, 12.00 - 14.00/

Performance from the Lovenotes: Thursday 24 July, 18.00 -19.30

Hebden Bridge Town Hall, St George's Street, Hebden Bridge HX7 7BY

Free to attend
Please book your
place at
happyvalleypride.co.uk
as capacity is limited



The Big Bingo Show is back!



Your hostess with absolutely the mostest, Timberlina returns for an evening of fun, games and laughter!

Utterly joyous, this is a bingo show like no other — a finely-tuned, fun-packed fantasia where everyone is a winner. Be ready for spontaneous dance routines.

is a winner. Be ready for spontaneous dance routines, ridiculous sing-a-longs and bingo-branded prizes to make you the envy of your friends.

The Big Bingo Show started life at the legendary Royal Vauxhall Tavern in London. Queer slapstick performance artist

Timberlina has been gracing creative and heritage venues for over two decades appearing at Tate Museums, the V&A, Latitude and Manchester's legendary Mother's Ruin.

This year Tim will be joined by Todmorden's very own DJ Plop who will provide all the tunes and soundtrack the show!

This is the big launch night of Happy Valley Pride 2025, come down and join us – everyone is welcome and it's entirely FREE!



Jeanette Winterson: Oranges at 40

We are absolutely thrilled to welcome renowned writer Jeanette Winterson to Happy Valley Pride for a very special talk focusing on her groundbreaking debut novel Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit.

More details on the next page



Jeanette Winterson CBE was born in Manchester. She was adopted by Pentecostal parents and raised to be a missionary.

After leaving home at 16, she did a variety of jobs while studying, and later took a degree at the university of Oxford.

Her first novel, Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit, was published in 1985. In 1990, she adapted it for a 3-part BBC TV series. It won a BAFTA for best Drama.

In 2011 she revisited some of that material in her bestselling memoir Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?

Jeanette Winterson has written over 20 books fiction and non-fiction, plus endless amounts of journalism. Her work is published around the world. Fun Fact — she has a big readership in China.

Her 1992 non-binary novel Written on the Body was named one of the top 25 post-war Queer novels by the New York Times.

Fun Fact — her portrait hangs in the National Portrait Gallery next to Kate and Wills.

Her essays about AI - 12 Bytes at AI - have taken her to tech conferences all over the world.

Her latest book of short stories is Night-Side of the River. Ghost stories from the past and the future.

Jeanette's talk will be followed by a Q&A.



Valeeda Mop's Big Gay Quiz

Night



Everyone loves a quiz invite your friends, think
up a team name
and let your hostess with
the mostest, Valeeda Mop
lead you on a merry dance
full of questions - she's got
some 'quality' prizes!

Valeeda Mopp has been a performer on the South Yorkshire circuit for years, she is no stranger to the stage in many a community centre and likes nothing better than to draw a meat raffle, call the bingo or host a quiz night. This is her first gig for Happy Valley Pride, and she is "reight chuffed" to be part of this year's festival.

She's brassy but classy, not afraid of saying what she thinks. And she's coming to Mytholmroyd for one night only, hosting a quiz at lovely Barbarys.

Quiz starts at 20.00

Tuesday 22nd July

Barbarys,

15 - 17 Bridge End, Mytholmroyd HX7 5DR

Free to attend

(entry to quiz by donation)



Cal de Cabaret x Sharon Le Grande

Cal de Cabaret are once again teaming up with HVP for a very special night created for, and by newcomers to the cabaret stage - The Summer Showcase Megamix!

More details on the next page

Doors 19.00, Shows 20.00 Wednesday 23rd July The Trades Club, Holme Street, Hebden Bridge HX7 8EE

Tickets £16
Plus booking fee
Purchase from
happyvalleypride.co.uk



In cabaret ANYTHING can be an act. Expect drag demons, cabaret cats, clown creators, comedy cuties... the list goes on. In this special festival showcase, your hosts Mook and Lizzy will premiere performers who have taken part in a series of workshops facilitated by the best in the fields of cabaret, drag and creation. The iconic Ms Sharon Le
Grand is the loud-mouth
Liverpudlian queer that
we've been craving ever
since Lily Savage went into
retirement. With the voice
of an angel and the gob
of a drunken sailor, she'll
sooth your ears before
pulling them right off.

At last year's Happy Valley Pride, Sharon was the star of Duckie and blew the roof off The Trades Club. This year you can catch her starring in a full-length show (and looking for her handbag)!

Sharon performs regularly in London at venues such as Soho Theatre, The Divine and The Royal Court Theatre. She has been featured in magazines such



Tea time disco

What do you wanna do at tea time? Have a right good dance, that's what.

A Happy Valley Pride favourite, Tea Time Disco returns to Drink for an early evening bit of bop and booze, glitz and glamour.

Join legendary DJ Red Helen (V Festival, Brighton Beach, D*I*S*C*O) as she spins disco stompers, queer anthems and all round boogie weirdness - and it's all over before the sun goes down.

Wear your dancing shoes to work and pop-in on the way home! Whoop!

DRINK! is open six days per week and serves the best beer and organic wines known to anyone of any gender!



17.00 - 20.00 Thursday 24th July Drink!

15 Market Street, Hebden Bridge HX7 6EU

Free to attend





Jacob Alon

With debut album, In Limerence, Fife born artist Jacob Alon introduces themselves as one of the fiercest and beguiling of voices in contemporary folk music.

More details on the next page



But to limit Jacob solely as a folk artist would be doing them a grave disservice. Theirs is a voice to stop traffic, a storyteller to provoke conversation, and a musician shaking off the shackles of any genre specifics.

Though their first songs have flickers of Adrianne Lenker, Nick Drake, Rufus Wainwright and other titans of modern-day songwriting, Alon also feels like a limitless artist. While their raw power shines through with just a voice and guitar, they have the personality and panache of a pop star.

In whatever sonic guise they take, their commitment to devastatingly frank lyricism, and to pulling humor and warmth out of despair, makes them a special young voice. Bittersweet symphonies in their truest form.

Throughout all of the twists and turns of their childhood and young adulthood, the love they didn't receive and then learned to give themselves, music has remained the freest and most effective way for Alon to make sense of the world. Already described as having "one of the most remarkable voices of their generation" (The Independent), and "breathing new life into the singer-songwriter genre" (The Times), whilst In Limerence has "all the hallmarks of a modern classic" (The Observer), Jacob Alon is a one-of-akind artist doing evocative things.

A genuine must-see, we are absolutely thrilled to present Jacob and their band as part of Happy Valley Pride festival, they were at the top of our wish-list this year — catch them now before they go stratospheric.

'An artist of profound honesty, there's a magic to everything Jacob Alon touches'

Clash Magazine

'Jacob Alon's music conjures an intrinsic sense of hope'

Billboard

'A distinctive new voice'

Rolling Stone UK

Friday night cabaret gala: starring Le Gateau

Chocolat and Frankie



Frankie Thompson: Worst of British Selection

Highlights from the solo work of the 'hysterically funny, deeply strange' (Time Out) acclaimed clown Frankie Thompson. The idiot behind smash hit Edinburgh shows CAttS and BODY SHOW. Frankie's work has been performed across the UK with sell-out runs in London, Edinburgh, Bristol and Brighton. She was a semi-finalist in the BBC New Comedian of The Year Awards 2024.





Imagine a Music Box, a Chocolate Box, a Juke Box, and a Dress-Up Box all collide and burst into life...
Their name would be Le Gateau Chocolat!

Your favourite Black, bearded, and bass singing drag icon hits Happy Valley Pride for one enchanted evening of Musical Theatre madness.

Expect a mountain of laughs, a stream of

'Stomp-along Drag Fun'

The Guardian

nostalgia, and a tug at the heartstring as Gateau crams every single musical you know and love into an hour of high kicks, high drag and high glamour.

Serving Do-Re-Mi with Hi-La-Ri-Tea

'A delightful hour of warm musical theatre joy'

Musical Theatre Review



Blast off! With the **Big Day Out**

Our FREE celebration in the park is back! This year our headliners are Drag Race royalty The Angels of the North - Ginger Johnson, Michael Marouli and Tomara Thomas. The queens will be joined by Masters of the Scene performing ABBA's hits with a full band, DJ's Red Helen and Flux Capacitor from Divine (our queer club night) and so much more - singers, speakers, craft stalls, face painters, activities for kids, our LGBTQIA+ info hub, food and drink stalls and oh yes, those Pink Pooches will ride again!



Rikki Beadle-Blair

He's back and we couldn't be happier! Rikki Beadle-Blair MBE will be here to host The Big Day Out.

A trailblazing performance powerhouse, Rikki has it all: actor, director, choreographer, writer, producer - there is nothing this man can't do! Working across film, theatre, TV and radio, Rikki has won numerous awards and hosts the Annual UK Black Pride event. This is his third year hosting The Big Day Out and we're thrilled!



22

Generika

Calderdale's alternative Queen of Positivity was recently nominated for the Pride of Todmorden award 2025.

A talented performer,
GenErika has been taking
Calderdale by storm with
her charity fundraising drag
& cabaret shows - inspiring
audiences with her creativity
and generosity.

With a fierce commitment to spreading love and acceptance, this quirky queen recently fell in love with the hole between Hebden and Todmorden and now she's here to slay at The Big Day Out.



Terry Logan's Rainbow Divas



She's back! Happy Valley Pride's resident DIVA presents a whole new set at The Big Day Out 2025!

Sing and dance your heart out to all the best diva songs - big wigs, bright lipstick and a voice that will bring you rolling down the Calder River, straight into the heart of Pride!

Terry will, once again, be joined by the utterly fabulous **Glitterbomb Dancers!**

The Pink Pooch Parade

The campest dog show in Calderdale returns and this year it will be a carnival of capes - visit the Handmade Parade's making stall and create a wearable work of art for your pooch.

Which categories will you enter - waggiest tail, small and sassy, cookie catch? And just who (drum roll) will win Best in Show 2025?

Bring your furry friend - at Happy Valley Pride everyone is welcome (especially doggies)!



The Cocoa Butter Club

'The Cocoa Butter Club's roster of queer performers of colour is one of the most sought after black books around.'



The Cocoa Butter Club are hitting the stage at Happy Valley Pride and presenting a one-off Queer Cabaret not to be missed. This is where the melanated are Celebrated!

Celebrating everything from neo-burlesque and poetry, to drag, hoops and voguing The Cocoa Butter Club will have you screaming 'yaaaaas queen, smell like cocoa butter up in hurr!'

Masters of the Scene are **Abba**

Get ready to experience the thrill and excitement of one of the greatest pop groups of all time!



Masters of the Scene - ABBA The Show is an internationally acclaimed act, captivating audiences across theatres in the UK and Europe. **Inspired by ABBA's** legendary 1979 "Live at Wembley Arena" tour, Masters of the Scene delivers an authentic and unforgettable live performance, recreating the magic of ABBA with stunning accuracy.

Featuring timeless hits such as Dancing Queen, Mamma Mia, Gimme Gimme Gimme, and many more, the show also showcases gems like Summer Night City, Eagle, and the powerful The Winner Takes It All.

A fun, high-energy show with a full live band, exceptional vocalists and musicians, Masters Of The Scene will have you singing and dancing from the start!

Angels of the North: Ginger Johnson, Michael Marouli and Tomara Thomas

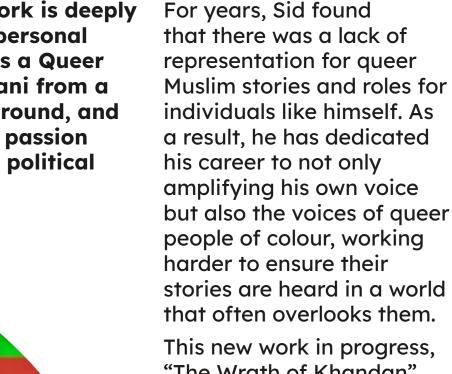
All right, lasses, buckle up for our headliners, the stars of Rupaul's Drag Race season 5 - winner Ginger Johnson and fellow legendary queens Michael Marouli and Tomara Thomas.

Together they are The
Angels of the North
presenting a hilarious and
stunning show. Following
hit tours in the UK and
Australia, the Geordie diva's
sashay their way to Happy
Valley Pride!



Sid Akbar

Sid Akbar's work is deeply rooted in his personal experiences as a Queer British Pakistani from a Muslim background, and is driven by a passion for social and political change.



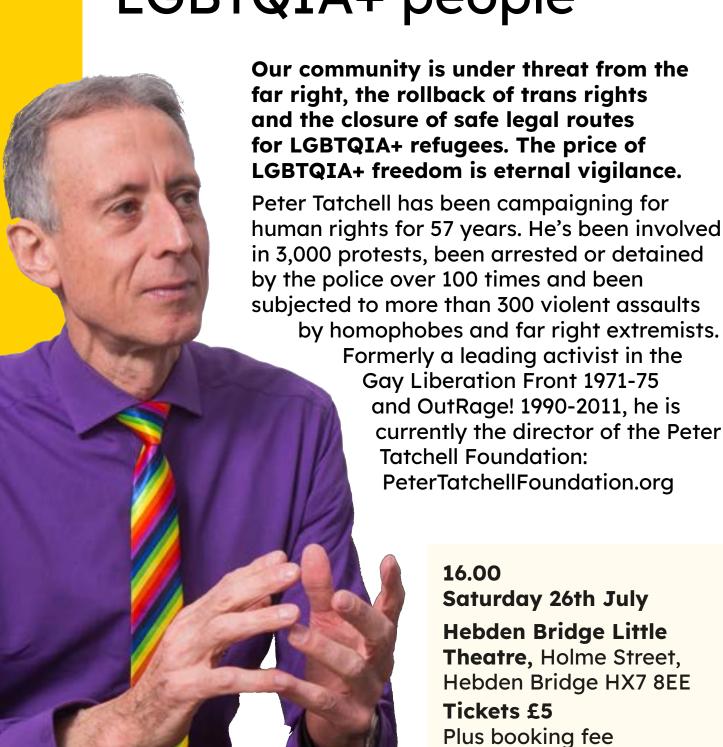
This new work in progress, "The Wrath of Khandan", invites audiences on a thrilling rollercoaster ride with spectacle, heartfelt storytelling, and cultural authenticity, celebrating family in all its complexities, contradictions, and infinite possibilities.

14.00
Saturday 26th July
Hebden Bridge Little
Theatre, Holme Street,
Hebden Bridge HX7 8EE
Tickets £5
Plus booking fee
Purchase from
happyvalleypride.co.uk





Peter Tatchell: Danger! Future challenges for LGBTQIA+ people



Purchase from happyvalleypride.co.uk



Duckie's Summer Splash



Introducing a moist music hall and a damp disco for those that like it clammy.

Featuring lots of body fluids, numerous gender fluids, two Franks, some cats, some brats, a bit of katak and the juiciest performance art ever seen in a nightclub.

Hosted by Azara in a shiny suit with DJ Joe Egg in a wet vest and Tink and El dribbling on the door.

Starring Frank Bertoletti, Frankie Thompson, Vipul Bhatti and Zack Mennel.

Keep it drippy...

Free wet wipes on request.

Duckie is a club and performance night for grown-up's and may include sensitive material. Over 18's only.





This partner event is sold out: Please check back for returns

Sister Sister's Sunday: With very special guest David Hoyle

It's the day of rest but not in the Happy Valley. Join us for our annual come-down at the Golden Lion in Tod. An afternoon of fun and frolics. starring two of our favourites, **Drag Race UK stand**out Sister Sister and the legendary David Hoyle. More details on the next page 14.00 onwards **Sunday 27th July** The Golden Lion, Fielden Square, Todmorden OL14 6LZ Free to attend

For the third year in a row Sister Sister joins us for an afternoon of macabre comedy, with her smooth mic flirting and harebrained stories that will leave you feeling tickled and, frankly, uncomfortable. Let us pray.

Sister will be joined by the Patron Saint of Happy Valley Pride, David Hoyle who will deliver a Sunday Sermon. David is the ORIGINAL performance avalanche, an all singing, all raging legend. He's appeared on TV screens and stages worldwide. He might not have won out in the conclave, but Rome's loss is our gain.

As if that wasn't enough, the afternoon will be rounded off by DJ Plop, plopping some crazy-ass tunes to keep everyone on edge - FUN!



Access

We're dedicated to improving access to Happy Valley Pride year on year. We encourage anyone with access needs to get in touch with requests, suggestions or offers of support.

This year we are using the following icons throughout the brochure:

Wheelchair — Shows if the venue is wheelchair accessible.

Seating — this icon has a traffic light system.

- Fully seated
- Informal seating (with bookable seats on request to the venue)
- Red is a standing event (with bookable seats on request to the venue).

Spoons — The number of spoons used indicates the mood of an event

- One spoon represents a quieter/lower volume event;
- Two spoons represent a moderate/mixed event
- Three spoons are loud/crowded events

We've improved our access information to include:

- Online video walk-through of each event.
- Online info indicating which events have BSL and induction loops.
- Mental health first aider present at The Big Day Out.
- Tracking for wheelchairs available at the Big Day Out.
- This year we will have a Wellbeing Point at The Big Day Out.
- We have increased the number of toilets and food provisions at The Big Day Out.
- Limited tickets for carers and those experiencing hardship are also available.
- An access friendly version of the brochure will be available to download from our website: happyvalleypride.co.uk

Hardship Fund

Limited free tickets are available for anyone experiencing hardship. Please limit your request to one ticket and one event only, so we can support as many people as possible. Limited carer tickets are also available for disabled audience members who need support attending an event. Email info@happyvalleypride.com with your request.

For detailed information and to make access requests, please visit:

happyvalleypride.co.uk/access

Info

Tickets

All tickets are available via our website happyvalleypride.co.uk

As a charity we do not issue refunds unless we cancel an event.

Donations

Happy Valley Pride is a registered charity and relies on donations and funding. We have made many events within the festival free to attend. You can donate via our website happyvalleypride.co.uk or using collection buckets at

events - your generosity means we'll be back in 2026 for our tenth anniversary, so thank you!

Photography

We have photographers at all our events, and images taken are used in future marketing. Please find a member of the team and let us know if you would rather not be photographed.

Thanks

You've got the love we need to see it through. We would like to thank:

The funders, donors and sponsors who continue to believe in us. All the local shops, pubs, bars and businesses who advertise in our brochure, decorate their shops and put our posters up every year. The artists and practitioners who come from near and far to create such cultural stimulation, hills and valleys away from the dizzy streets of the cities where you'd normally find

them. And, of course, all of you absolute blooming beauties who join us to celebrate LGBTQIA+ life in our vibrant valley.

Happy Valley Pride exists because of a huge community effort and its success is down to the hard work of volunteers who believe in trying to create a better world for LGBTQIA+ people. Standing together, we are stronger.

Be Here, Be You, Be Proud.















Who we are

So how do we do it all? A lot of blood, sweat and Queers...

Happy Valley Pride exists to support the LGBTQIA+ community in the Calder Valley and beyond, promoting equality and diversity to eradicate discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, through arts, education and engagement. We are Alternative; Rural; Proudly Northern; Award-winning; Community-built.

We are a registered charity that cockily punches above its weight, providing essential queer visibility, empowerment and positivity to thirteen thousand people annually of all ages, sexualities, genders, ethnicities & abilities... on minimal funding and collective action. We are proud winners of the Community Spirit Award for Arts and Culture for our annual programme of work.

In a nutshell, we deliver annually: a 10 day festival, including the Big Day Out; events for all including under 18's & over 60's for which we won a Kev **Commission for Calderdale** Council's Year of Culture: an annual artistic Youth **Engagement Project** working with 3,000 kids, 80 teachers and 20 schools, which recently won the **Hebden Royd Contribution** to the Community Award; a mental health initiative called Mind Your Head, and campaigns responding to the needs of our community, including Stand By Your Trans, supporting our continually attacked trans siblings.

We have a small, dedicated team of two people who make it all happen as half volunteers/half paid staff on 1-2 days per week, funding permitting. Our Youth Programme is led by two passionate practitioners employed for short periods of time. We have 55 zealous trustees and volunteers, dedicated to making our valley better for the LGBTQIA+ Community. And we have thousands of supporters, who prop us up

when things get a bit too much.

We work incredibly hard to raise capacity, and do pretty well with some amazing funders behind us. But organisationally we're teeny-tiny. So if you like what we do, and think it's worth it, please consider donating to our cause, buying tickets to our events, buying our snazzy tee shirts and grabbing a cold pint of beer at the Big Day Out.

Thank you. We can't continue without you.

He here Be You Be Proud