



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 non-judgemental. 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

Cover photo: Le Gateau Chocolat by Maxim & Wilde



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

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Local Cask Ales, Curated Cocktails, Whiskey & Wine



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Signature Fine Dining A La Carte Restaurant

Tasting Menus

Afternoon Tea

# 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.



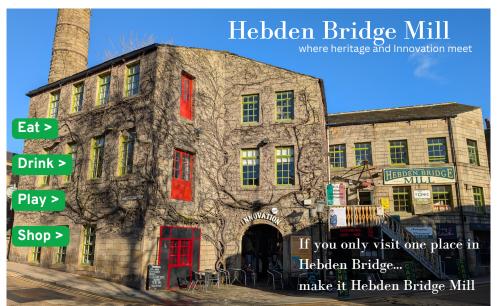
13.00 – 16.00 Saturday 19th July

Handmade Parade workshop, Victoria Road, Hebden Bridge HX7 8LN

Free to attend









St. George.s Sq., Hebden Bridge, HX7 8ET
E: info@hebdenbridgemill.co.uk
T: 01422 844160

# 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



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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.

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.

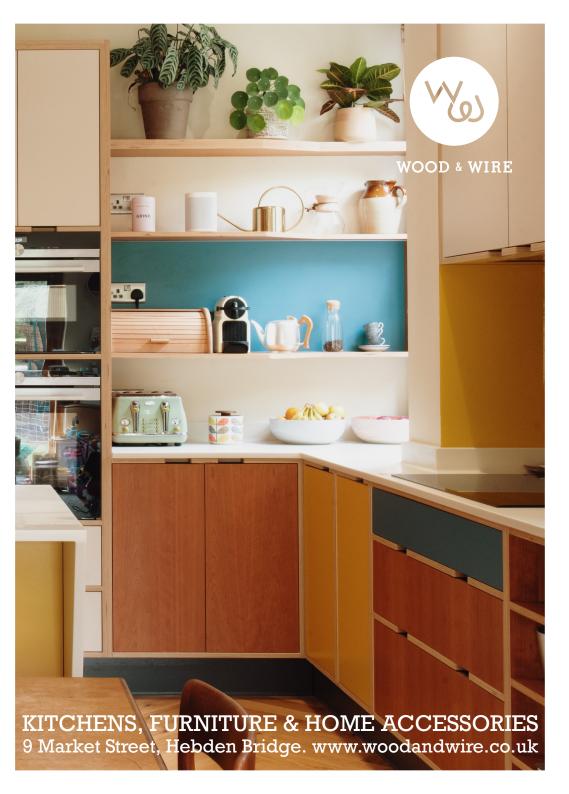
Her essays about AI - 12 Bytes at AI - have taken her to tech conferences all over the world.

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.

# JEANETE WINTERSON ORANGES AT 40





# 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)











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

A Happy Valley Pride favourite, Tea Time Disco return 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!





#### 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.

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.

'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

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-a-kind 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.

#### Doors 19.30, Thursday 24th July

The Trades Club, Holme St, Hebden Bridge HX7 8EE This is a standing show

Tickets £13

Plus booking fee

Purchase from happyvalleypride.co.uk



## FRIDAY NIGHT CABARET GALA

Starring Le Gateau Chocolat and Frankie **Thompson** 

Doors 18.45. **Shows 19.30** Friday 25th July

Hope Chapel, New Road. Hebden Bridge HX7 8AD

#### **Tickets £18**

Plus booking fee

Purchase from happyvalleypride.co.uk







#### 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.

'Like nothing you've ever seen before... We all need some Frankie Thompson in our lives' ★★★★

To Do List

'Wonderfully, confoundingly funny' ★★★★

One of the Guardian's top five best comedy shows 2022

> Frankie Thompson photo by Holly Revell





Hardcastle Crags- HEBDEN BRIDGE



#### LIVE WILD'S WEEKLY LGBTQ+ SESSIONS

Connect with nature, self and community whilst learning a range of practical outdoor skills in a relaxed, safe and supportive environment.







Sustainable Fashion Local Art & Gallery **Ethical Jewellery** Recycled Stationary Fairtrade Homeware Organic Kid's Clothes



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#### We are Suma

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across film, theatre, TV and radio, Rikki has

The Big Day Out and we're thrilled!

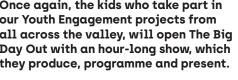
won numerous awards and hosts the Annual

UK Black Pride event. This is his third year hosting

YOUTH **PRIDE** 

Once again, the kids who take part in our Youth Engagement projects from all across the valley, will open The Big Day Out with an hour-long show, which they produce, programme and present.

Expect to see singers, bands, performances and parades in this celebration of identity and exclusivity. This year we're thrilled that Halifax band The Incident will headline with a very special, acoustic performance.



y Road Studios



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 RAMBOW DIVAS



She's back! Happy Valley Pride's resident DIVA presents a whole new set to 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 enterwaggiest 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]!



### 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.

**ANGELS OF** THE NORTH



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!

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!

'Pure entertainment from start to finish... Angels. Icons. Legends' \*\*\*\*

Ginger Johnson,

Michael Marouli

and Tomara

**Thomas** 

The Chronicle



### 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.

For years, Sid found that there was a lack of representation for queer Muslim stories and roles for individuals like himself. As a result, he has dedicated his career to not only amplifying his own voice but also the voices of queer people of colour, working harder to ensure their stories are heard in a world that often overlooks them.

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

Our community is under threat from the far right, the rollback of trans rights and the closure of safe legal routes for LGBTQIA+ refugees. The price of LGBTQIA+ freedom is eternal vigilance.

Peter Tatchell has been campaigning for human rights for 57 years. He's been involved in 3,000 protests, been arrested or detained by the police over 100 times and been subjected to more than 300 violent assaults by homophobes and far right extremists. Formerly a leading activist in the Gay Liberation Front 1971-75 and OutRage! 1990-2011, he is currently the director of the Peter Tatchell Foundation: www.PeterTatchellFoundation.ora

#### 16.00 Saturday 26th July

Hebden Bridge Little Theatre, Holme Street, Hebden Bridge HX7 8EE

#### **Tickets £5**

Plus booking fee

Purchase from happyvalleypride.co.uk











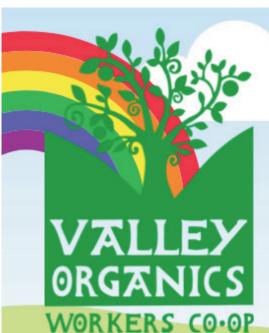


Working across
Calderdale and Kirklees,
the LGBTQ+ yOUTh
Service supports young
LGBTQ+ people, their
parents and carers.

Whether it's one-to-one support, youth groups, or advice, we're here to help young people feel seen, heard and supported.

Find out more - thebrunswickcentre.org.uk





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The Brunswick Centre is here to help you feel great, live well, and be proud — connecting you to a wide range of health and wellbeing support designed for LGBTQ+ people.

- Help with smoking, alcohol, and drug use
- Mental health and emotional wellbeing services
- HIV prevention and support
- Screening, awareness, and information
- Safe, inclusive spaces
- And much more

Visit the Well Proud Info Fair at The Big Day Out!

Explore our LGBTQ+ health and wellbeing projects: thebrunswickcentre.org.uk/wellproud





















DUCKIE'S SUMMER SPLASH

Wetter than ever, Duckie return to the Happy Valley for their annual sloppy spectacle!

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.

Frank Bertoletti photo by @starqazeartist 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.

21.00 – 2.00 Saturday 26th July

**The Trades Club,**Holme Street, Hebden Bridge HX7 8EE

Tickets £19 Plus booking fee
Purchase from happyvalleypride.co.uk

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LEVEL is a new, community-informed pilot programme supporting LGBTQ+ people where there is harm in intimate relationships.

LEVEL offers a 22-week one-to-one intervention, alongside dedicated support for current and former partners affected by harm.



levelchange.org.uk



The Fox, Water Street, Todmorden



Guest beer and lager on keg and in can from Queer Brewing, the UKs first queer and trans owned brewery special discount throughout Pride month!





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.

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 crazyass tunes to keep everyone on edge - FUN!



The Golden Lion, Fielden Square, Todmorden OL14 6LZ

Free to attend













# **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.

#### THANK YOU!

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; Awardwinning: 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 Key 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.



Celebrating LGBTQIA+ life in Calderdale

# STAND BY YOUR TRANS

happyvalleypride.co.uk





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