



LEICESTER PRIDE 2025

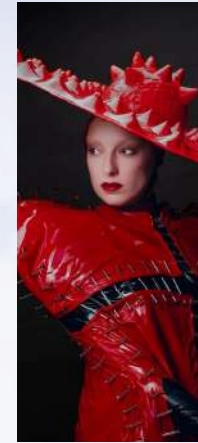


SATURDAY 30TH AUGUST
1-9PM - ABBEY PARK
FREE ENTRY - LAST ENTRY 7PM
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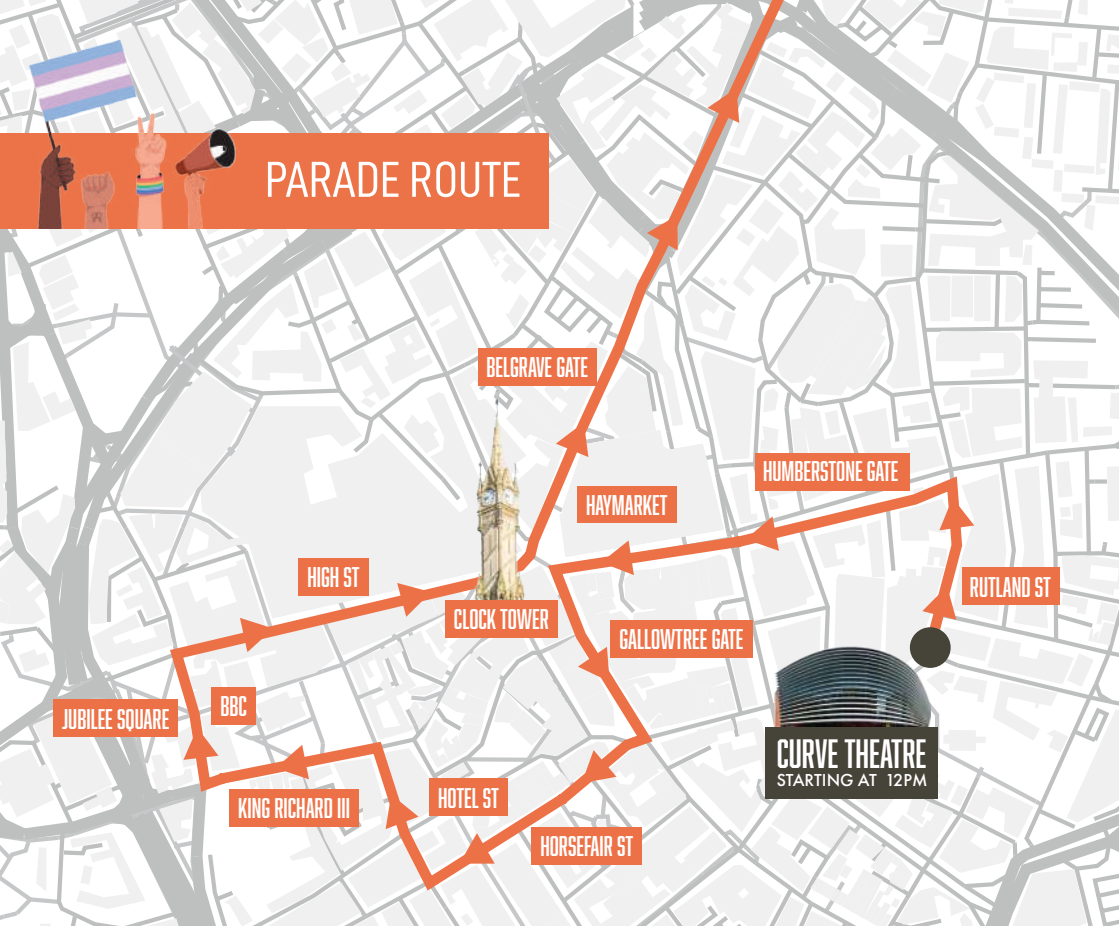
@leicesterpride



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PARADE ROUTE

SAFETY INFORMATION

Please note that the event site is glass free. This means no glass bottles, alcohol or containers are allowed on the event site. During the parade you cannot drink alcohol as most of the city streets are alcohol free areas.

Please ensure that you wear suitable clothing and footwear, remember to use sun cream and drink plenty of water. We will be operating Challenge 25 throughout the day, so please bring identification with you.



We have a zero tolerance on any form of hate crime, if you experience or witness any, please report it to my security team. I hope you enjoy Leicester Pride 2025, rest assured that public safety and your welfare is my top priority.

Craig Thorpe
Security & Safety Operations Director
E-mail: security@leicesterpride.com

BAG SEARCHES ON ENTRY NO DRUGS NO GLASS NO SHARPS NO ALCOHOL

WELCOME



Dear Friends, Family, and Fabulous Community,

As we open the pages of this year's Leicester Pride Magazine and step into another celebration of who we are, vibrant, diverse, united. We do so with hearts full of love and eyes wide open to the reality around us. 2025 has not been an easy year for many in our LGBTQ+ family, and especially for our trans siblings, who have faced relentless, cruel scrutiny, political targeting, and an unprecedented level of media-fuelled hostility.

The recent Supreme High Court ruling that restricts access to public toilets for trans and non-binary individuals is not just a legal decision, it's a human one, with real-life consequences. It's a ruling that tells members of our family they are not welcome in the everyday spaces so many take for granted. It sends a message of exclusion, of fear, of othering. And we, the Leicester Pride Committee, want to be crystal clear: we utterly reject that message.

We stand proudly, firmly, and visibly with our trans and non-binary siblings. You are not a debate. You are not a distraction. You are not a problem to be solved. You are cherished, essential members of our community, and Leicester Pride is your Pride.

This year, more than ever, our theme is unity. Unity not as a buzzword, but as a powerful, necessary act of resistance and love. It is only through standing shoulder to shoulder whether you're gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans, queer, non-binary, intersex, asexual or an ally - that we can weather the storms we face and emerge stronger, louder, prouder.

But while it's been a year of hardship, it has also been a year of bravery. We have seen trans activists and allies speak truth to power. We've seen grassroots networks grow, mutual aid flourish, and local communities rally in support of one another. From the steps of Parliament to the streets of Leicester, people have said "enough is enough." This Pride, we echo that cry. Enough of division. Enough of scapegoating. Enough of pretending equality has been achieved when so many still live in fear.

But there is hope. Always hope. Because hope lives in every person who dares to live authentically. Hope lives in the parent who embraces their child's identity with open arms. Hope lives in the teachers, the artists, the youth groups, and community leaders working quietly and fiercely behind the scenes to make our city a better place for LGBTQ+ people to live, work, and love.



WELCOME

Here in Leicester, our Pride isn't just a one-day parade. It's a declaration. A promise. A home. It's every volunteer, performer, organiser, and attendee who shows up and says: "I'm here, and I belong." We want everyone in our community, especially our trans family to know THIS Pride is for you. This city is for you. And we will not back down.

As a committee, we are committed to action, not just words. This year we've expanded our partnerships with trans-led organisations, increased the visibility of trans voices in our events and programming, and worked to ensure our spaces are safer and more inclusive than ever. There is much more to do, and we are listening, learning, and growing together.

To our allies reading this: your voice matters. When you speak up at work, at school, online, or at the dinner table you make a difference. Allyship isn't a title, it's a practice. And now, more than ever, we need allies who are active, vocal, and unwavering.

To our trans siblings: you are not alone. We see you. We honour you. We are with you. As we come together to celebrate this Pride with music, laughter, joy, and colour let us also carry forward the spirit of resistance and remembrance. Let us hold space for both celebration and grief. And let us leave this Pride not just feeling seen, but fuelled to make change, to build bridges, and to lift one another higher.

Thank you to every single person who makes Leicester Pride what it is. From our hardworking volunteers to our incredible sponsors, partners, performers, and most importantly: you, the community.

Let's march together, dance together, and stand tall together. Because we are many and, more importantly we are one.

With Pride and Solidarity,

Martyn Parker
Chairman

Craig Thorpe
Director

Simon Harrison
Event Manager



DONATE

Leicester Pride is one of the UK's largest free Pride festivals

Our aim has always been to keep the festival free to attend for all. To achieve this we work with many sponsors and partners and we are forever grateful to them for their generous contributions.

If you are able, we would welcome you to support us directly. We are a registered charity and all money is invested into our annual events or donated to other local LGBTQ+ charities.

To donate to Leicester Pride, please scan the QR code below.



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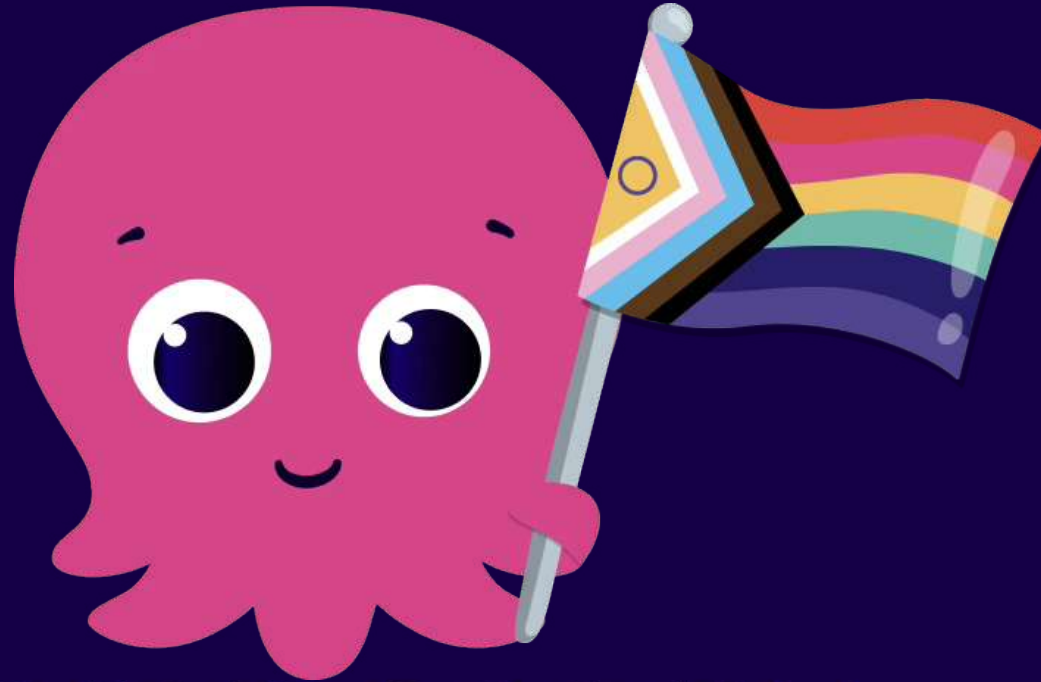


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LEICESTERSHIRE

- B** **New Lubbethorpe** Laxford Road, Lubbethorpe LE19 4BF
- B** **Wigston Meadows** Newton Road, Wigston LE18 3UR
- B** **King's Meadow** Kirby Lane, Melton Mowbray LE14 2TS

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

- B** **Hollygate Green** Hollygate Lane, Cotgrave NG12 3JW
- B** **Fernwood Village** Phoenix Way, Newark NG24 3UA
- B** **Romans' Quarter** Ward Road, Bingham NG13 8GF
- B** **Stonebridge Fields** Stonebridge Lane, Market Warsop NG20 0DS
- B** **The Hawthorns** Beck Lane, Sutton-in-Ashfield NG17 3AH
- B** **Barratt Thoresby Vale** Ollerton Rd, Edwinstowe NG21 9PS
- DW** **Thoresby Vale** Ollerton Rd, Edwinstowe NG21 9PS
- DW** **Elm Tree Park** Blidworth Lane, Rainworth NG21 0HF

LINCOLNSHIRE

- B** **The Meadows** Off Camp Road, Witham St Hughs LN6 9XN
- DW** **Lancaster Grove** Azalea Lane, Witham St Hughs LN6 9XN

SOUTH YORKSHIRE

- B** **Knights View** Doncaster Road, Langold S81 9RS
- B** **Thornberry Gardens** Lodge Lange, Dinnington S25 2PB

DERBYSHIRE

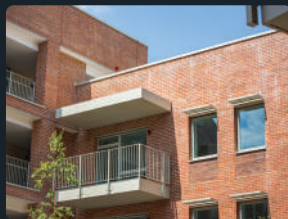
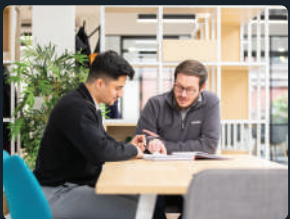
- DW** **Bluebell Meadows** Off Inkersall Rd, Chesterfield S43 3YJ
- B** **The Spires** Inkersall Green Road, Chesterfield S43 3YJ



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Alexis Blake is a familiar face to thousands on TikTok. A bold, brilliant trans woman using her platform to inspire, educate, and uplift.

With her trademark warmth and unshakeable honesty, Alexis shares her life, love, and journey of self-discovery with humour and heart. Now, she's stepping onto the Leicester Pride stage as host for the very first time. In this exclusive interview, Alexis opens up about the power of visibility, the strength of community, and the joy of living as your authentic self. No filter, just truth.



How does it feel to be stepping onto the Pride stage as a host for the first time?

I'm terrified and so grateful to be asked. I grew up attending Prides and being involved in them. They're incredibly important to celebrate LGBTQ+ people and protest with love.

As a proud trans woman, what does Pride mean to you personally, especially in a year that's been so tough for the trans community across the UK?

Pride has always been a safe space for me to be my authentic self. It's more crucial than ever for our community to stand together.

This year, we've seen so many attacks on trans rights, especially around public spaces. How do you stay grounded and resilient when the world feels heavy?

I try to stay level-headed and show that trans people aren't a threat. We've always existed.

Representation matters so much, especially for trans people. What would you say to young trans folks who might be seeing someone like them on a Pride stage for the first time?

It's okay to be you – whatever that means. The world can be dark, but you'll find light with people who support you. Surround yourself with them. Don't rush the journey – it's a marathon, not a race. Only do what makes you happy, not anyone else.

You're known for your charisma, courage, and voice. When did you first discover your passion for performance and the spotlight?

Before transitioning, I was a professional male dancer. Being on stage was a thrill. When I accepted I had to transition, I knew my performing career was over. I gave it up to become the real me. Now, creating content lights that same fire in me. I'm grateful to have the platforms I do.

Who were your trans or queer role models growing up, and how have they shaped your journey?

Kim Petras helped me relate to being trans. She was a teen girl sharing how she felt she was supposed to be: a girl – it resonated deeply with me.

Pride is a celebration, but it's also a protest. How do you balance joy and activism in your work, and what message do you hope to share from the stage on August 30th?

History is always being made. The tide will turn and things will get better. I'll keep sharing my life to show what being trans means to me.

In such divisive times, community means everything. What does a supportive LGBTQ+ scene look like to you, and how can we help build that all year round?

Keep having open conversations. Be honest and share feelings, while respecting that we all have our own views. Everyone deserves basic human rights. It's easy to turn away from trans people because we're the current target, but I believe that target will shift. We must stick together.

You've spoken beautifully on TikTok and Instagram about Liam. How has his love and support shaped your journey, personally and publicly, as a trans woman?

He's always been my number one cheerleader. He made my transition easier because he accepted me, the real me, even before I did.

Transitioning with a partner by your side can be deeply emotional. Were there moments during that journey where you both grew stronger in unexpected ways?

Facing online hate brought us closer. People couldn't understand how Liam could stay with me after I transitioned. His unwavering love and standing up to trolls definitely made us stronger.

We don't often hear enough about joyful, affirming love stories in the trans community. What would you say to someone who's scared they won't find love after coming out?

No one can truly love you until you're living as your true self. Only then can you learn to love yourself.

Finally, if you could leave the Leicester crowd with one message at the end of Pride, especially for our trans and non-binary family, what would it be?

I promise it gets better. There's a lot of hate right now, but we're not going anywhere. We're a small percentage – so allies, please speak up, make your voices heard, and be proud of who you are.

LEICESTER PRIDE
PRESENTS

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**NIKKI
BENTLEY**

HOSTED BY
**LEA MARTIN
& MARTY SMITH**

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7PM - 1AM DRESS CODE: BLACK TIE TICKET £60 INC. 3 COURSE MEAL

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WITH HOSTS

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Helsinki DANCE ARENA

robby lewis
Katherine ELLIS
brat disco

ANDY SMITH
CHRIS BLACKMORE
GARETH HAZARD
FANNY BURNS BINGO

DOVER CASTLE COMMUNITY STAGE

LOLA LASAGNE
KIRK FOWKES GOODWIN
SANTANA ROUGE
RUBY VIOLET JAILA THORNE
RUBELLA VAXINE AUNTIE GINGER
ELLIS NETTLETON
REGINA SPARKLE
SILVER SIPPERS
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FANNY BURNS
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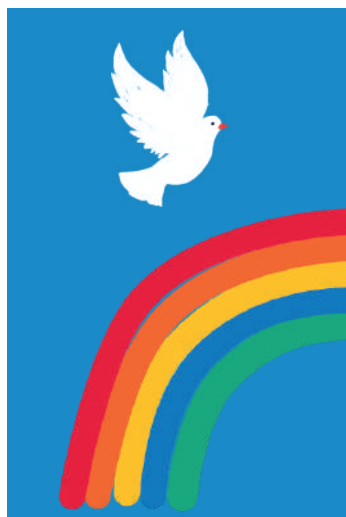
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LAST YEAR



LAST YEAR





18 OCT - 8 NOV

EDWARD ALBEE'S

WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?

CATHY TYSON
AS MARTHA

AN EVENING OF
FUN AND GAMES

DIRECTOR
CARA NOLAN

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Curve is run by Leicester Theatre Trust, a registered charity (no. 230708). We gratefully acknowledge and welcome the continued support of and partnership with the above organisations.



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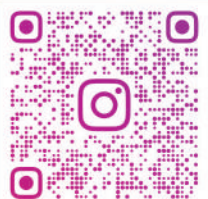
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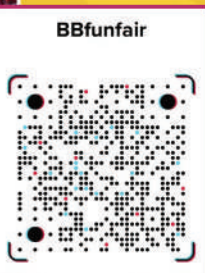


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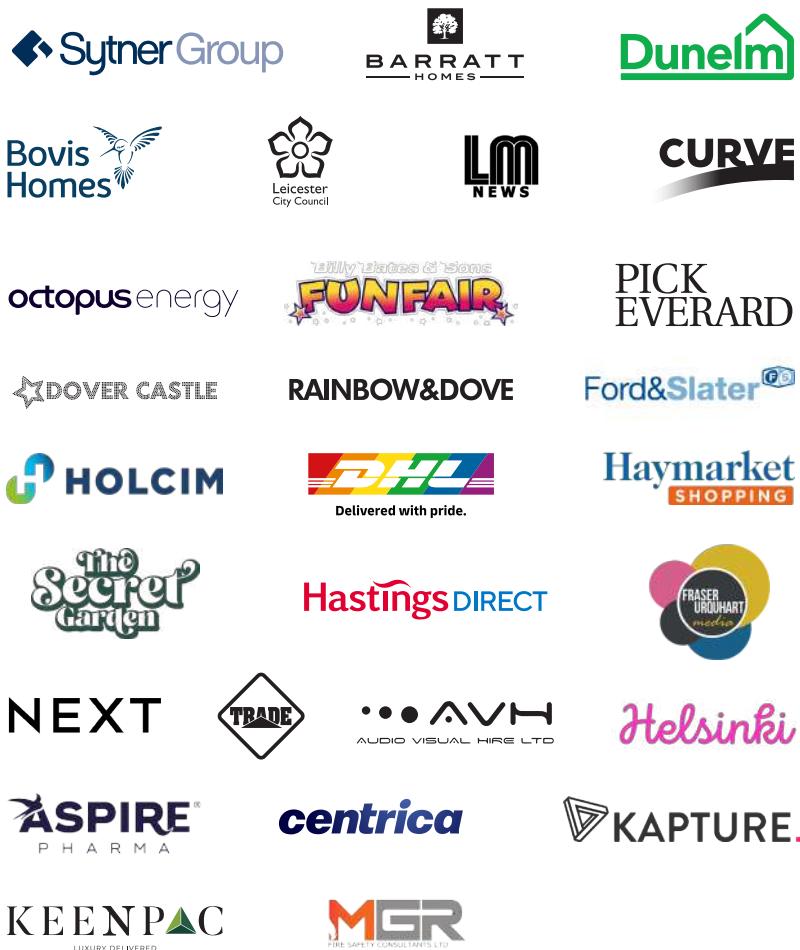
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22 NOV - 11 JAN

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LYRICS **OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II**
BOOK **HOWARD LINDSAY and RUSSEL CROUSE**

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DIRECTOR **NIKOLAI FOSTER**



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Maria

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Captain von Trapp

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