

Pride

Volunteer Resource

We want to support our members to celebrate and attend Pride events across Scotland. Attending Pride events gives us the opportunity to engage with a diverse range of people to ensure Girlguiding is as inclusive as possible.

This resource will cover the main Scottish Pride events, how to plan attending an event with tips from volunteers, ways you can celebrate inclusion and talk about Pride within your unit and where to go for advice if you need it.

Pride month takes place during June, but events can be held from May to September. Pride is a celebration of love and friendship to show how far lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and all other queer identities' (LGBTQ+) rights have come since the Stonewall riots in June 1969, and to raise awareness of the work still to be done. The Stonewall riots were an important protest in the USA that changed gay rights for a lot of people all over the world.

Each Pride event is different, but many have:

- A colourful parade through the town or city
- A community programme
- Live music and performances
- Family fêtes and funfairs



Why should Girlguiding be at Pride?

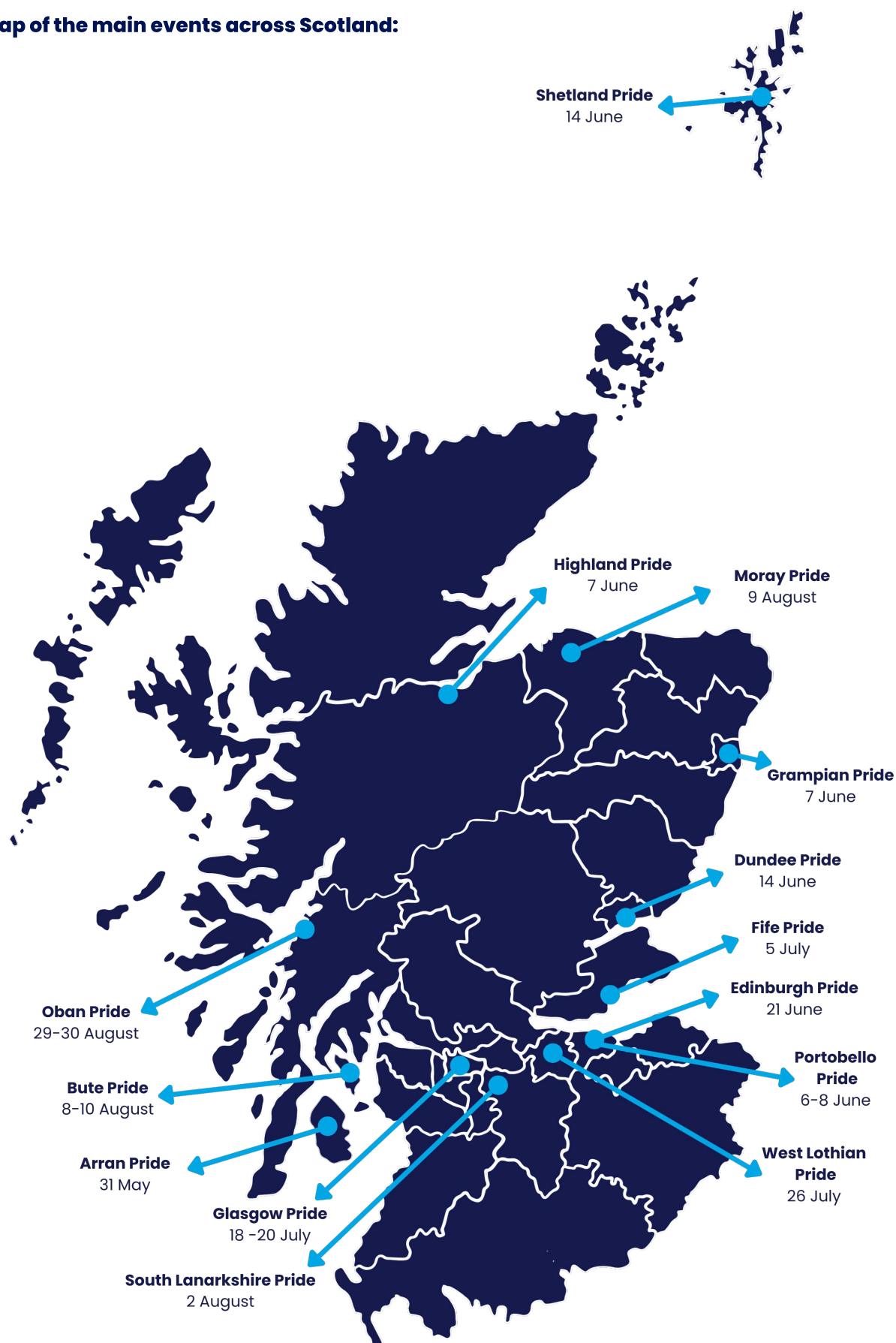
There are a number of reasons why you might want to attend Pride with your county, district, division or unit. It is a way to celebrate our LGBTQ+ members, helping them to feel included in line with our policy of being open and inclusive. It highlights that members and supporters are welcomed irrespective of their faith, race, culture, nationality, sexual orientation or gender identity. Pride is also a good opportunity to reach potential members who may not have considered volunteering before, or who may not know much about Girlguiding.



Where does Pride take place?

There are Pride events happening in towns and cities all over Scotland from May to September this year and we want to support you attending!

Here is a map of the main events across Scotland:



Taking girls to Pride

Timeline for attending events:

Initial planning:

- Chat to your girls to see if they would like to attend, and if they want to be in the parade.
- Scope out the event – where and when will it be? Are your county or other units attending the event that you can join? How much will it cost us to attend? Is there a parade you can be involved in or a stand you can have?
- Check Girlguiding guidance on activities
- Make a rough budget for the event if there are costs involved
- Decide how the costs will be covered

Administration tasks:

- Make any bookings, if needed (e.g. contact the organisers for a spot in the parade or a volunteering stand, coach for travel etc.)
- Order your pride kit or get your own
- Pay any deposits
- Think about somewhere nearby but quieter you can use as your drop off and pick up point
- Think about quiet, safe spaces you can use if girls feel overwhelmed
- Write and send consent form
- Collect money from parents/carers if relevant
- Complete the risk assessment
- Ensure you have the first aider and first aid kit
- Identify a home contact and get them to complete the form
- Organise any other supplies you need for the event and pay any suppliers
- Have a look at the resources for supporting LGBTQ+ members and talking about Pride to girls

Leading up to the event:

- Send reminder information to parents/carers
- Brief volunteer team
- Decide what you will all be wearing and let everyone know – something distinctive is always useful for crowded areas

On the day:

- Have fun!
- Make sure to have a way of keeping track of your girls, for example try to stay in pairs or have 1 leader at the front of the group and 1 at the back
- Let the home contact know when the event has been completed

After the event:

- Pay any final costs
- Submit any first aid incident forms
- Debrief with volunteer team
- Send any photos to web@girlguiding-scot.org.uk
- Arrange to send back your kit
- Reflect with your girls about what it meant to them to attend Pride

Shona, Rainbow leader

I've been going to Edinburgh Pride for the last 2 years. I volunteer, in Edinburgh, as a Rainbow leader.

But I go to Pride with 148 Guides & Rangers and Cramond Rangers where my daughters are leaders.

We take part in the parade, it's great fun and totally inclusive. I think it's important to show inclusivity within Girlguiding, I'm 55 and straight and I can show the girls that we should embrace the LGBTQ+ community and being a part of it – we are who we are, we shouldn't be embarrassed.

It's a great day but can be completely overwhelming. It's noisy, hot, busy. The Rangers and Guides were given a chat beforehand. On the day some of the girls get shy, others are noisy. You have to let them do what's comfortable for them. Wearing our uniform helped as well as the placards we were given. Everyone could see we were a group with teenagers and young adults, we had no issues at all. We were made to feel very welcome and in fact lots of people came over to talk to us. The girls enjoyed every minute, in the first year we took 2 girls, but last year we took about 10. Hopefully this year we can take even more!

We take flags, whistles, lanyards, hats, backpacks anything rainbow or Pride related we can find. We painted our faces and were given temporary tattoos. We also brought extra water and snacks.

Sometimes parents come too as it's a bit scary sending your child off to such a march. We invited any hesitant parents to come with us, they did, and they all had a great time.

I'd say to other volunteers. Don't think about it, just do it. It's a great experience for the girls and the leaders. If parents are concerned just talk it through. It's not a compulsory event it's a choice. But it's an important choice to give. I wouldn't miss it for the world.



Janet, Ranger leader

Initially we discussed it with the Rangers as we do for all events and trips they'd like to do in the year. We gave them some ideas in line with the tips on the Girlguiding website for each month. Several Rangers said they'd would like to attend the local Pride event. We had a chat about inclusion before the event as we had been doing the Express Myself theme and it all fit into quite a few of the activities.

I work for the NHS and there was Pride promotion stall at work, so I asked for the contact details there and emailed the organisers. We didn't have enough members going to have a stall as our Rangers said they all wanted to be involved in the march. We might have considered a stall if there had been more of us.

Once we had decided to attend, we initially contacted the Pride event organisers, then discussed with our district commissioner and did our risk assessment along with our information sheets and consent forms.

On the day the instructions we were given by the organisers were a bit confusing and since we were there with young people, I wanted to ensure things were safe. Doing a dynamic risk assessment with our Rangers and 2 adult

helpers meant we decided to march at the back of the parade so we could see exactly what was happening. This worked out in the end. The Rangers really enjoyed it, flying flags, smiling dancing and painting their faces.

We took small backpacks with us carrying water, suncream, first aid kits and snacks.

The girls all had a lot of fun. In the future I would like to attend a more established Pride event and join up with more units.



Pride Kits

This year we have put together kits that you can borrow. They contain:

- 1 banner
- 5 placards
- Flags
- Stickers
- Button badges



Get your own

If you'd like to have your own kit, you can download the pdfs for print below:

- [Banners](#)
- [Placards](#)
- [Button badges](#)
- [Flags](#)
- [Stickers](#)
- [T-shirt graphic](#)



Order your kit

You can borrow a pride kit from us. Let us know which event you are attending, on what day and how many members are attending by filling in this form at least 2 weeks before the event.

Pride kits are sent out by a courier and must be re-packaged and returned to Girlguiding Scotland in a fixed timescale so that they can be used by other groups.

We may require you to post your kit on to another county. All postage costs will be covered by Girlguiding Scotland, and we will provide you with instructions on the best way to post them.

Order your kit here



Resources and inclusion activities

[See the Girlguiding equality and diversity policy and more information here.](#)

[Find more ways to explore diversity and inclusion here.](#)

It is important that guiding remains a safe space for LGBTQ+ members. [See the guidance on supporting and celebrating LGBTQ+ members from Girlguiding here.](#)

Celebrating Pride in your unit

Even during Pride month, it can be difficult to talk to your unit about LGBT topics and there are so many diverse experiences within the community it can be tough to know where to start. Here are some useful links and advice to get you talking about Pride:

Where to go for advice

[The Proud Trust](#) has advice for trusted adults, which volunteers often are, who want to talk about LGBTQ+ topics with their units. They also have more general advice, for example, how to support a young person who comes out to you. [LGBT Youth Scotland](#) have lots of great resources for volunteers and girls and can help provide further support for young people.

Talking about Pride in your unit

You can find advice from Girlguiding on [chatting about LGBTQ+ topics in your unit here](#). There are many different terms in the LGBTQ+ community and [The Safe Zone](#) has a useful glossary of terms, including less known identities such as agender, demisexual and aromantic. It might be worth printing it off or having it open on your phone so you can reference it during your meeting.

Guiding with Pride without attending an event

Attending a Pride event is just 1 way we can show our support for the LGBTQ+ community. You can celebrate Pride without attending an event, and at any time of the year. Check out the activity ideas below for some inspiration on showing Pride in your unit, or have a [read of this blog from Girlguiding for different ways to celebrate.](#)

Have a go at the unit meeting activities within the themes 'Know Myself', 'Express Myself' and 'Take Action' for more ways to talk about inclusion and self-expression throughout the year. You can find the programmes activities [here](#).

Activities for Rainbows and Brownies:

- Introduce the Pride flag and discuss the meaning of the different colours. You might want to chat about other flags too. Members can design and make their own flag to celebrate diversity and different families. [Find out more about the Pride flags.](#)
- Members could use local maps to help them plan a route for a Pride parade through the local area. [Learn more about what Pride is about.](#)
- [Read It's Okay To Be Different by Todd Parr](#) as a unit and get girls to talk about their differences and similarities. They could create self-portraits to celebrate these differences.
- Do some LGBTQ+ colouring or fill out a worksheet and learn more about different identities. [Download free resources.](#)

Activities for Guides and Rangers:

- Learn about Pride as a celebration of diversity and as an event that promotes respect. You could even hold your own unit-based Pride celebration. [Find out more about Pride.](#)
- [Vocabulary Extravaganza](#) by The Safe Zone is an activity to help members learn about different terms used by the LGBTQ+ community. This resource should help make it clear to members how powerful language is, clear up any misconceptions or questions and teach members new words.



Peer Education

Peer educators are role models girls can relate to. They help girls to learn about things which directly affect their lives. Our Peer Educators can deliver sessions on [Breaking Free](#), giving girls the tools to challenge any gender stereotype that limits them and makes it harder for them to reach their goals. Gender stereotyping happens every day. It's in the way clothes are designed, the toys we give children and the jobs we're encouraged to do. It's time to challenge these gender stereotypes which make it harder for young people to achieve their dreams.

[Request a session here](#)

Advice and support

If you've got questions about Girlguiding and LGBTQ+ identities, check out Girlguiding's webpages on [lesbian, gay and bisexual members](#) and on [trans members](#), or email inclusion@girlguiding.org.uk. You could also find out if your local area has an Inclusion adviser for more information or do the [including all e-learning on the learning platform](#).

If you have any general feedback about inclusion contact inclusion@girlguiding.org.uk or if you have specific feedback about this resource and the kits please email enquiries@girlguiding-scot.org.uk.



The illustration shows four hands of different skin tones (purple, yellow, red, blue) holding a large, wavy rainbow banner. The background is dark blue with white stars, pink hearts, and yellow confetti. A hand in the bottom left holds a white flag with a rainbow border and a yellow circle. The Girlguiding Scotland logo is in the top right. The text 'Guide with Pride' is in large white letters. At the bottom, the website and social media handles are listed.

Girlguiding Scotland

Guide with Pride

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