

Pride Guide

2026 EDITION



www.congletonpride.co.uk

Registered charity 1207409




Millie's
Vets
by James Ede


kanga

Congleton  Chronicle



Congleton
Town Council


GROUNDWORK
CHANGING PLACES
CHANGING LIVES

Plus Dane Housing


Mark's Events
EVERY DETAIL COUNTS


edit.

Congleton Inclosure Trust


PEAR
HOSPITALITY GROUP

The Margaret Williamson Memorial Fund

Welcome to Congleton Pride 2026

Pride means different things to everyone. For me, it's a combination of community, visibility, and protest for LGBTQIA+ people and our allies. Pride started as a riot against injustice, transforming into a vibrant celebration of being our true selves. We show that we are here and not going anywhere. It signals to anyone questioning or in the closet: you are not alone, and a loving community is waiting to embrace you. We are stronger together.



An "all for one" approach is exactly how we stand against the rising tide of hate.

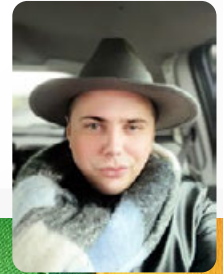
Abby Smith

Co-chair, Congleton Pride

On behalf of everyone at Congleton Pride, I'm delighted to welcome you to Congleton Pride 2026! Now in our seventh year, we are incredibly proud to bring our community together once again to celebrate love, equality, diversity and acceptance. Whether you're joining us for the first time or have supported us from the beginning, thank you for being part of this special day. We hope you feel welcomed, celebrated and proud to be exactly who you are. Happy Pride!

Ronan Clayton

Co-chair, Congleton Pride



How the new EHRC Code of Practice harms the Trans, Non-binary and Intersex community

The government's new EHRC guidelines are a damaging step backwards, pressuring organisations to exclude trans people from everyday life.

These unworkable rules force domestic abuse refuges to navigate complex legal hurdles, risking turning vulnerable trans women away. In healthcare, forcing hospitals to place trans patients on wards contradicting their lived gender strips them of dignity and endangers lives. Crucially, this harms cisgender women too. By encouraging spaces to rigidly police biological sex, any woman who doesn't fit traditional, feminine stereotypes faces intrusive scrutiny, harassment, and wrongful exclusion. These guidelines protect no one - they simply create division and compromise safety for all.

Come and join us at Congleton Pride on Saturday 18th July 2026!

This time our entire event - day and night - takes place in Congleton Town Hall.

Daytime: 10am to 5pm

Grand Hall

Market stalls including LGBTQIA+ community groups and charities, local makers and sellers of goods. The Town Hall bar will be serving drinks and snacks. Live entertainment including:

11:00	Mark Benson
12:00	Jasmine Allen Estate
1:00	Andy Hofton
2:30	LB Dance
3:00	Monday's Monsoon
4:00	The Proud Marys

Large room upstairs (Bridestones Suite)

Have a go at crafting with The Creative Club (bead art), Needlessly Felted or Game of Throws Crochet. Please book online (see below right) to reserve a space - because things may be busy on the day!

Small room upstairs (Spencer Suite)

Safe/quiet space. Somewhere to chill and recharge. There'll always be a volunteer available to talk to in confidence.

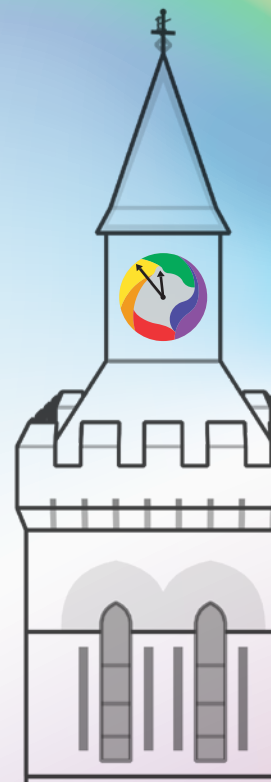
Daytime event and After Party are free entry. There is a small charge for the craft activities to cover the cost of materials. Event details may be subject to change.

After Party: 7pm till late

Join us for music and drinks. Starring Claire Brocklebank as Kylie and Madonna! Round off the night and this year's Pride at our disco, with our founder and co-chair Ronan Clayton as DJ.

You'll need a free ticket (see below) to come in during the first hour. From 8pm we throw the doors wide open - and anyone can come in without a ticket as long as there's still room for you in the Hall!

Scan the code for more event info on our website. Includes links to tickets for After Party and crafting.



Please be considerate and prioritise those with access needs. We have taken steps to make this year's event as accessible as possible.

The Grand Hall will host stalls with wide spaces to allow wheelchair access. A Safe/Quiet Space will be available in the Spencer Suite on the first floor. The volunteers there are trained in reporting hate crime. The lift can be reached on the right of the bar area just before the Grand Hall.

Push-button doors are available at the Town Hall entrance and the Bridestones Suite, and the Grand Hall doors will remain open throughout the event. Plenty of seating will be available around the Town Hall and assistance dogs are welcome.



There are two accessible toilets in the Town Hall: one on the ground floor, just left of the entrance hall, and one on the first floor opposite the Bridestones Suite. The nearest Changing Places toilet is at Congleton Leisure Centre, Worrall St.

All Congleton bus services will be free of charge for Pride, and can accommodate wheelchairs and dogs. Disabled parking spaces are available at Antrobus St. (2 spaces), Back Park St. (3), Fairground Car Park (6) and Princess St. Market Car Park (2).

This Pride Guide is available in large-print format at the Information Centre. The Accessibility Marshal is Kay Wesley, who can be contacted by phone or text on 07711 459740

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We're now running our third survey about local people's attitudes to LGBTQIA+ people, and what Congleton is like for them as a place to live, work and socialise. Scan the code if you'd like to take part or see the results from past surveys.

Pride is about community!

It goes beyond our annual event: we're here all year round. Follow us on social media. Join us in person at Caffeine Connections every month.

We also maintain a list of local organisations and groups supporting the LGBTQIA+ community.

More details at www.congletonpride.co.uk

Millie's Vets

by James Ede

Millie's Vets is Congleton's only independent Veterinary practice and was established in January 2023 by local Vet James H. Ede, a proud member of the rainbow community.

Millie's Vets provides high quality Veterinary care to the pets of Congleton and surrounding areas.



Opening Times

Mon - Fri: 08:30 - 18:00

Sat: 09:00 - 16:00

Sun: Closed



01260 222999 | www.milliesvets.co.uk



Millie's Vets, 6 John Bradshaw Court, Alexandria Way, Congleton, CW12 1LB