



LGBTQ+ History Month

wellbeing  forum

LGBTQ+ History Month:

This week, we will be exploring different remarkable figures in LGBTQ+ History.

Monday:

Lesbian figures

Tuesday:

Gay figures

Wednesday:

Bisexual figures

Thursday:

Transgender figures

Friday:

Historical moments

Then

Anne Lister:

Anne Lister was deemed “the first modern lesbian”.

She was involved in “Britain’s first known lesbian wedding”, marrying Ann Walker.

Anne Lister is the first woman in modern history who has had the courage to accept that she is a lesbian.



Now

Sandi Toksvig:

She is considered the first woman in the UK to come out as lesbian while in the public eye.

After coming out, people reacted saying that she would never work in TV again.

She came out in 1996, and has since written TV shows, children's books, and received an OBE.



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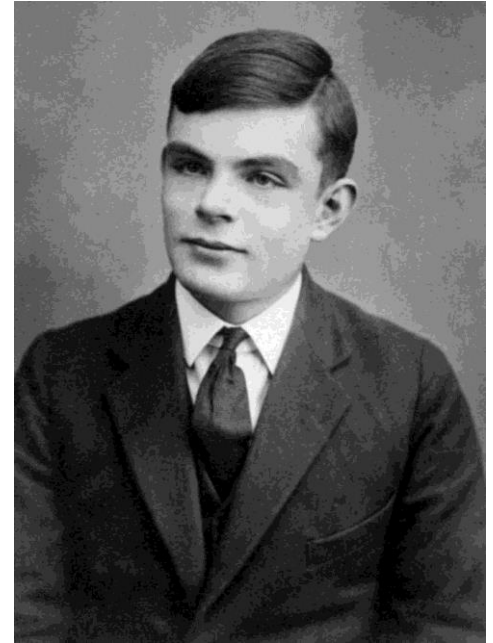
Friday: Historical moments

Then

Alan Turing:

Alan Turing single handedly revolutionised the world of programming and led a team that created a machine to crack the German enigma code, which shortened WWII.

In 1952, he was then convicted for being sexually active with his boyfriend, leading to him being barred from many social opportunities



Now

Tom Daley:

Olympic Gold and Bronze medalist Tom is an openly gay professional diver and icon.

Tom Daley is married to Lance Black, and they have raised a son together.

In October 2021, Tom Daley announced he would campaign to stop countries that have banned homosexuality from being in the Olympics.



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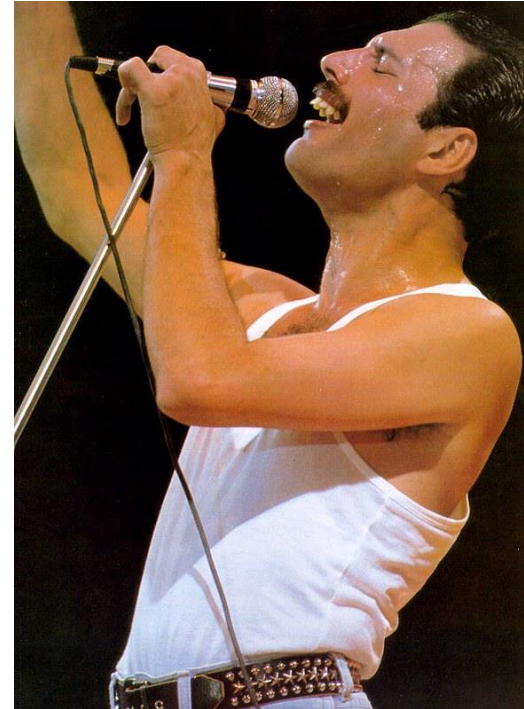
Then

Freddie Mercury:

Lead singer of popular band 'Queen', Freddie Mercury was a bisexual icon.

One of his most popular songs is Don't Stop Me Now, and the film Bohemian Rhapsody is a biography on his life.

Being an openly bisexual man in the 80s, Mercury caught HIV, which developed to AIDS, and resulted in his death in 1991.



Now

Stephanie Beatriz:

You might recognise her as the character of Rosa Diaz from Brooklyn 99, or her voice as Mirabel from Encanto.

Beatriz came out as bisexual in 2016, which inspired the character of Rosa Diaz to be bisexual too.

Beatriz has said that she has known about her sexuality since the age of 13.



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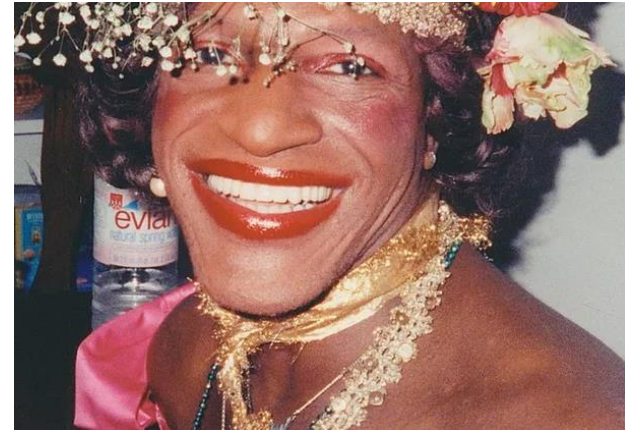
Then

Marsha P. Johnson:

Marsha P. Johnson was a pioneer for LGBTQ+ rights.

She led the Stonewall riots in June of 1969, which began the yearly Pride month.

Pride month is an annual celebration of the LGBTQ+ community where people are given opportunities to protest against backwards ideas and laws.



Now

Mj Rodriguez:

Mj is the first transgender woman to win a golden globe.

She is in the popular TV show Pose, which documents what life in New York City as an openly queer person was like.

She started her acting career quite young, but had to put her dreams to a pause for years in order to transition, and feel comfortable in her skin.



Now

Other notable figures:

Sophie: icon in current music

NikkieTutorials: highly popular
makeup artist and beauty
vlogger



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The AIDS crisis:

In 1981, a mysterious virus began to spread in the US, but only among gay men.

As it was mainly in the gay community, former US President Ronald Reagan remained ignorant of the virus, despite thousands of deaths.

The virus spread all around the world in the following years, growing to become an epidemic.



The AIDS crisis:

However, awareness slowly but surely grew when extremely popular figures like Freddie Mercury passed away, and when Princess Diana hugged AIDS victims in hospital wards, breaking down stereotypes.

Now, there are plenty of treatments for AIDS, like PrEP, which doesn't allow HIV to live in your body and develop into the deadly AIDS.



Western acceptance:

Up until 1992, the World Health Organisation classified same sex attraction as a mental illness.

On 17 July 2013, gay marriage was finally legalised in England and Wales. This is not even 10 years ago.

However, in some countries, like Iran, LGBTQ+ history is still being carved, since being gay is still punishable by death.

