

A GAY GUIDE

To Newcastle



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Hi there!

Firstly, your Students' Union would like to congratulate you on being offered a place at Newcastle University; you should be incredibly proud of yourself!

This booklet, which has been compiled by the team at the Students' Union, contains everything a student needs to know to get a good head start being LGBTQ+ in Newcastle. We're very lucky that we have so many amazing resources in our area, and we can't stress enough the importance of accessing them if you feel that you need to. Everything from finding some friends at the LGBTQ+ Society to getting regular STI testing is included in this guide.

Good luck, and congratulations once again!

To reach out to your LGBTQ+ Liberation Officer, your Marginalised Genders Liberation Officer, or another member of the Liberation Team, please email edi.union@ncl.ac.uk. This inbox is monitored **9:00-16:00, Monday-Friday, excluding bank holidays**.

To reach out to your Wellbeing and Equality Officer, please email wellbeing.union@newcastle.ac.uk.

Support and Advice Hub

We have created the Support and Advice Hub as the physical and digital space for you to seek information, advice, and guidance in the Students' Union. We are here to listen, here to help.

The Support and Advice Hub houses two services, each offering bespoke support or advice on a wide range of topics. The first is the Student Advice Centre, which provides free, confidential advice on anything academic, financial, personal, or housing related. This service is independent from the University, so it may be an option if you would like help from another party.

The second is the Welfare and Support Centre. Taking an intersectional and holistic approach to wellbeing, you can use this service for any welfare related concern you may have. Here, you can find an array of resources and friendly faces who can point you in the right direction should you need support elsewhere. We are located in the Students' Union, so please pop in, or if you prefer, head to our pages here: nusu.co.uk/support.



You can also reach us on wsc.union@newcastle.ac.uk

LGBTQ+ Safe Space

Located at Newcastle Helix in the Frederick Douglas Centre (Room 1.12), our LGBTQ+ Safe Space is a social space where anyone who identifies as part of the LGBTQ+ community can enjoy. It is a relaxed and welcoming place, full of games, entertainment, and signposting to services by Students Union and the University. No need to book-just come and enjoy anytime.

nusu.co.uk/spaces/safe/lgbtq

University Student Health and Wellbeing Services

The University provide a wide range of wellbeing support, from self help guides to talking directly to an advisor. For more information visit - ncl.ac.uk/wellbeing

Trans, Transitioning and Non-Binary Student Support at the University

The University provide an Initial Point of Contact (IPC) within the Student Health and Wellbeing Service who can support and advise students who might find that helpful. The IPC may also liaise with or signpost students to other parts of the University or external services as appropriate. The IPC can be contacted by email at inclusive@ncl.ac.uk

As a Students Union, we welcome your thoughts, ideas and feedback on this guide. To get in touch about your thoughts, comments, for support or to update on any particular sections please email edi.union@ncl.ac.uk

The Trans Fund

Students can apply for up to £50 towards new purchases of items such as binders, clothes, makeup, and other items that will make trans, non-binary students and gender questioning students' lives easier. Please email the welfare team on WSC.union@ncl.ac.uk for more information and how to apply.

**How many years
has it taken people
to realize that we
are all brothers
and sisters and
human beings in
the human race...
we're all in this rat
race together!**

Marsha P Johnson

LGBTQ+

Organisations



and Events

LGBTQ+ Society

Why not join our very own LGBTQ+ Society? The society puts on many events throughout the year, such as informative discussions, pub quizzes, nights out, and has their annual LGBTQ+ conference in February (a day of amazing talks from external speakers) and more!

Be North

Be North is a local Trans community group that offers weekly support session to trans individuals. They offer support drop-in sessions every Tuesday at 18:00-20:00 and have many online resources. You can contact them here:

 be-north.org.uk
 hello@be-north.org.uk
ReCoCo, 1 Carlior Square, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 6UF

Northern Pride Festival

With many family friendly events and plenty of nights out to be had, Northern Pride in July, is the perfect way to end your year at uni!

LOCAL LGBTQ+ CHARITIES

Albert Kennedy Trust

Albert Kennedy Trust is a charity that advocates for safe homes and better futures for LGBTQ+ young people. Since 1989, they have helped over 50,000+ LGBTQ+ people, and provide many support services. More information can be found on their website: akt.org.uk

Northern Pride

Northern Pride is one of the biggest charities for LGBTQ+ people in the North East, their flagship mission being to promote, provide and protect. They have many events and outreach projects and are the hard workers behind the annual pride festival! Find them here: northern-pride.com

Hart Gables

Hart Gables is the leading LGBTQ+ service in Teesside. They provide a forum to connect and focus on issues facing the Tees Valley. They were established in 1997 and have been working to make a more inclusive and safer space for LGBTQ+ people ever since! Find them here: hartgables.org.uk

Rainbow Home

LGBTQ+ Asylum Seekers charity. A social and support group for LGBTQ+ people who are seeking asylum in the UK or who have recently received leave to remain.

✉ RainbowhomeNE@gmail.com
 🌐 RainbowHomeNE

Northern Lights Metropolitan Community Church

Run by and for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, and trans people. Weekly Sunday services at 18:30 at St. James United Reformed Church, Newcastle, NE1 8JF. Offers House Group meetings during weekdays (*usually Wednesdays, run on Zoom – for more information contact directly*).

☎ 07770 543 407
 🌐 northernlightsmcc.org.uk

Pride In Mind

A social and support group for LGBTQ+ people with lived experience of mental health conditions. For more information contact Mish Loraine on:

☎ 07902 403630.
 ✉ mish.loraine@netogether.co.uk

The North East LGBT Fed

LGBT+ organisations acting together as one voice for the North East LGBT+ communities. Various activities across the region and volunteer opportunities.

✉ mail@lgbtfed.com
 🌐 lgbtfed.com

Streetwise

Not an LGBTQ+ service but open to ALL young people. Offering free counselling, information, advice, sexual health issues, and contraception.

☎ 0191 230 5400
 🌐 Streetwisenorth.org.uk

Mindline Trans+

A UK wide services offering a confidential emotional, mental health support helpline for people who identify as Trans, Agender, Gender Fluid or Non-binary. Plus support to family members and friends, to provide signposting to other services & resources.

☎ 0300 330 5468 (Currently open only on Friday evenings)
 🌐 Mindlinetrans.org.uk

National Trans 24hr Helpline

Supports anyone who is Trans, Intersex, Questioning, and Non-binary. Available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year – offering a listening ear and tailored support.

☎ 0330 043 4069
 ✉ Nationaltrans24helpline@gmail.com

NATIONAL LGBTQ+ ORGANISATIONS

LGBT Foundation:

A foundation that offers a range of support for LGBTQ+ people including domestic abuse support, sexual health support, substance misuse support as well as many helplines and resources.

🌐 lgbt.foundation/

MindOut

MindOut is a mental health service run by and for LGBTQ+ individuals. They offer peer support groups, advice and information, a counselling service and much more if you are in need of support.

🌐 mindout.org.uk

The Proud Trust:

The Proud Trust is an organisation that offers support and resources for LGBT+ youth across the country. They have a tool which locates nearby LGBT+ youth groups as well as specific POC and Trans youth groups.

🌐 theproudsttrust.org

Stonewall:

Stonewall is a UK charity that works to get many companies and organisations to strive for acceptance and provides many resources, including a handy feature that locates nearby LGBTQ+ organisations.

🌐 stonewall.org.uk

TRANS SPECIFIC

Mermaids:

Mermaids is one of the UK's leading charities, focusing on helping trans and gender diverse young people. They offer online communities, web resources, events and a trans specific helpline.

🌐 <https://mermaidsuk.org.uk/>

Trans Unite:

Trans Unite is an online directory of nearby Trans services and support groups in the UK, with each group added being reviewed and verified. Their mission is to bring trans communities together to foster support and exchange advice.

🌐 transunite.co.uk/

Gendered Intelligence:

Gendered Intelligence is a trans-led charity in the UK focusing on increasing the understanding of gender diversity as well as increasing the quality of life for trans people. They offer many events throughout the year and many good resources.

🌐 genderedintelligence.co.uk/

There are many more national trans charities and organisations which have been detailed in an article by All About Trans.

You can find them here:

www.tht.org.uk/hiv-and-sexual-health/sexual-health/trans-people/resources

HELPFUL ETHNIC RESOURCES


UK Black Pride:

UK Black Pride is the world's largest free pride event for LGBTQIA+, Black, and POC. They run activities throughout the year alongside their main event and promote the wellbeing of the communities they represent.

 ukblackpride.org.uk/

Gaysians:

Gaysians is the umbrella brand for the South Asian LGBTQ+ Community, and acts as a central hub for all resources, support groups, and networks related to being LGBTQ+ and South Asian. They also produce their own educational content.

 gaysians.org/

There are many more LGBTQ+ charities and organisations in the UK tailored to ethnic diversities.

Stonewall has made an article showcasing Black LGBT Organisations:

stonewall.org.uk/about-us/news/black-lgbt-organisations-you-should-know-about

SOCIETIES

SOCIETIES:

While the below are an example of past and present Students' Union societies, this is subject to change and new societies are often created throughout the academic year. So keep an eye on our activities page for any new societies or feel free to create your own!

LGBTQ+ Society:

Why not join our very own LGBTQ+ Society? The society puts on many events throughout the year, such as informative discussions, pub quizzes, nights out, and has their annual LGBTQ+ conference in February (a day of amazing talks from external speakers) and more!

Drag Society:

Fan of drag? Join our very own Drag society, open to all! Be it performing, makeup, quizzes or Drag race watch parties - there is something for everyone!

Feminist Society:

Feminist Society are a group of people that discuss the past, present and future possibilities to the feminism movement. They host many events, such as craftivism, important discussions, guest speakers and many more!

Disability, Mental Health and Neurodiversity Society:

A community of students with disabilities, who are neurodivergent or have a long-term mental health condition/mental illness. They work with students to raise awareness and discuss related issues, through informative talks and many great events!

Sexpression:

Sexpression advocate for safe and consensual sex and visit local schools to deliver sessions that discuss these topics alongside gender identity, contraception and STIs. They also host many socials and advocacy events for these issues.

You can see the full list of societies and more at: nusu.co.uk/getinvolved/societies

SAFETY

and Reporting

SAFETY AND REPORTING

We take all disclosures of sexual violence, spiking, hate related incidents, dangerous behaviours (initiations), and domestic abuse seriously, and aim to help you understand the ways in which we can support you through this and explore your options.

Below we highlight some of the different ways in which we can support you and explore your options.

Support is available to you even if a formal report is not made.

VIA THE UNIVERSITY:

Hate Crime

Student Health and Wellbeing Service supports anyone who faced hate crime. <https://www.ncl.ac.uk/wellbeing/our-support/hate-crime/>

Sexual violence

Service supporting students who faced sexual violence or harassment. <https://www.ncl.ac.uk/wellbeing/our-support/sexual-violence/>

Staying safe

For all support available to stay safe on campus, including University security team, check <https://www.ncl.ac.uk/wellbeing/our-support/staying-safe/>

Other support available <https://www.ncl.ac.uk/wellbeing/our-support/>

VIA THE STUDENT'S UNION:

Need to talk to someone? You can come and talk to someone in the Welfare and Support Centre with whatever you have on your mind.

You can find all the support available for Unwanted Sexual Behaviour, Hate Crime and Discrimination, Safety Support and Contacts here (<https://nusu.co.uk/support/welfare-centre/4>)

VIA THE POLICE:

You may prefer to report to the Police. This can be done alongside or instead of accessing the support available at the University or your Students Union. If you choose to report to the Police, please note: the Police are duty-bound to record and investigate complaints of criminal activity and it will greatly assist the Police if you could provide as much detail as possible.

HATE CRIME

In an emergency you should call 999.

National Helplines and Reporting Services:

Connected Voice: Hate Crime Advocacy:

Supports people across Northumberland, Tyne and Wear who have experienced or are at risk of hate crime.

0191 235 7013

advocacy@connectedvoice.org.uk
connectedvoice.org.uk/services/
advocacy/hate-crime-advocacy

Stop Hate UK:

Report hate crime in Newcastle,
there are a number of online
reporting options.

0800 138 1625 (24 hrs access)
stophateuk.org/talk-to-us

Victim Support (all crimes):
0808 1689 111

Tell MAMA (anti-Muslim hate crime):
0800 456 1226

On Your Side (anti-Asian hate crime):
0808 801 0393

If you are concerned about
antisemitism, the Union of Jewish
Students can help. You can also
contact CST(<https://cst.org.uk/>) to
report an incident and receive support.

**It is revolutionary
for any trans
person to choose
to be seen and
visible in a world
that tells us we
should not exist.**

Nightclubs

Pink Triangle

PINK TRIANGLE OF NIGHTCLUBS AND BARS

We know not everyone will want nights out but here's some examples of what's on offer!

Rusty's

Unit 3and4 International Centre for Life, Times Square, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE1 4EP

Rusty's is a gay bar located in the Newcastle's very own Times Square. Directly next to Centre for Life, this is a great place to get some drinks and dance to cheesy pop hits.

Rusty's Showbar

Unit 3and4 International Centre for Life, Times Square, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE1 4EP

Formerly known as the Blonde Barrel, this is Newcastle's newest cabaret venue offers great time for anyone who enjoys live performances and drag shows! Open Friday to Sunday, starring many local, national and, international drag queens.

Powerhouse & Pink Room

7-19 Westmorland Road, City Centre, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 4EQ

Powerhouse started as a gay club in the 1980s and is one of the largest gay friendly clubs in the North East.

You can head there on a Monday for their 90s night and possibly see Newcastle LGBTQ+ Society there too!

The Yard and Switch

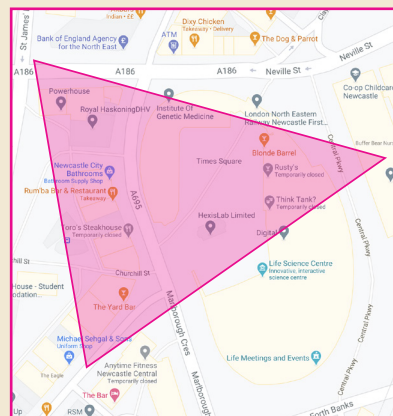
2 Scotswood Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE4 7JB

The Yard is a chill bar, to talk with friends, and maybe sing some karaoke. Switch is a great bar located just next to The Yard. It has a light up dancefloor, and hosts many fun events through the year.

Boulevard

3-9 Churchill Street, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 4HF

Boulevard is a cabaret bar that hosts many entertaining shows throughout the year and no two nights are ever quite the same. Each night is ticketed so make sure to grab yours in advance.



Sexual Health & Medical Services

SEXUAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES

Your Sexual Health Service 4 Newcastle

For more information about sexual health services available including STI Testing, locations and opening hours check:



sexualhealthservices4newcastle.co.uk
Contact Number: 0800 500 3019

FURTHER INFORMATION

Mental Health and Helplines:

youngminds.org.uk/find-help/LGBTQ+ People Near You: stonewall.org.uk/young-futures/lgbtq-support/youth-groups

Our Sexual Health Support

We offer a range of services, free resources, and online guides on the topic of sexual health. We also promote visibility on sexual health issues and aim to ensure you are informed and supported when making any health choices.



nusu.co.uk/support/welfare-centre/2

**Be yourself,
the world
will adjust.**

Manabi Bandyopadhyay

Faith Organisations + Resources

We recognise that Newcastle does not have everything in terms of inclusive faith spaces, and so we have compiled a list of inclusive national organisations for each faith in hope that they can answer any queries.

The University Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Team

The University Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Team are a team of chaplains of different faiths who work together to provide faith and spirituality support for students. They are committed to working with students and staff of different faiths or none, and to making the University a place of religious tolerance, diversity, and respect. You can find out more and get in contact with your questions here:

ncl.ac.uk/chaplaincy

National/online LGBTQ+ faith resources:

CHRISTIANITY

OneBodyOneFaith:

OneBodyOneFaith: the new name for the lesbian and gay christian movement, which is a long-standing christian organisation. they offer resources, local groups, information and support.

onebodyonefaith.org.uk

Diverse Church:

A body that provides pastoral care for LGBTQ+ students to encourage them to grow their faith. They provide events and online communities to promote safe inclusive spaces.

diversechurch.website

BUDDHISM

The Gay Buddhist Fellowship:

The Gay Buddhist Fellowship: Supports Buddhist practice in the Gay men's community. Although based in San Francisco, they provide support for people all over the world.

gaybuddhist.org

Rainbow Sangha:

Provide educational resources as well as events. Also link to other UK based organisation hosting LGBTQ+ inclusive events.

europeanbuddhism.org

HINDUISM

Gay and Lesbian Vaishnava Association (GALVA):

Offer information and support for those that practise Hinduism or Vaishnavism as well as suggested readings and positive perspectives.

galva108.org

ISLAM

Imaan:

LGBTQ+ support group for Muslims, founded in London. They host an online forum as well as answers to common questions about Islam and Sexuality.

🌐 imaanlondon.wordpress.com

Hidayah:

LGBTQ+ Support group, hosting online events, based in the North. They have a health and spirituality WhatsApp group chat and many educational resources including a documentary which they helped create.

🌐 hidayahlgbt.com

Naz and Matt Foundation:

A foundation started to empower and support LGBTQ+ individuals to resolve challenges they may face due to religion. They offer support, legal advice, and host many events.

🌐 nazandmattfoundation.org

Inclusive Mosque:

An organisation committed to creating safe and inclusive spaces for worship and spiritual practise. They host fortnightly prayer sessions over zoom on Fridays.

🌐 inclusivemosque.org

JUDAISM

Jewish LGBT+ Group:

Jewish LGBT+ Group: The longest established Jewish LGBT+ group in the world and are established in London. They host online events such as LGBT+ café and a Kabbalat Shabbat service monthly.

🌐 jglg.org.uk

Keshet UK:

Keshet are a UK organisation that host online events and also create bespoke resources for schools, organisations and youth groups to foster inclusion of LGBT+ Jewish people in UK Jewish life.

🌐 keshetuk.org

Laviot:

Laviot is an organisation that caters specifically to LGBT+ Jewish women and non-binary people. They host events and are based in London. ✉

laviotinfo@gmail.com

🌐 laviot.org/

SIKHISM

Sarbat:

An organisation offering LGBT+ resources and events for those that practise Sikhism. Also offer links to external resources and site.

🌐 sarbat.net/

SOCIETIES:

Our religious and cultural societies can help bring you together with other students who share the same unique perspectives and may become your community home whilst in Newcastle. For further information on our societies, turn to page 9-10 or look through our website: nusu.co.uk/activities/societies. Some specific societies available at time of print include:

- **Catholic Society**
- **Christian Union Society**
- **Hindu and Sikh Society**
- **Islamic Society**
- **Jewish Society**

To get in contact with Newcastle University Students Union's Faith or Belief Liberation Officer or another member of the Liberation Team, please email edi.union@ncl.ac.uk. This inbox is monitored 9:00-16:00 Monday-Friday, excluding bank holidays.

NHS Non-Emergency Line:

111

NHS Emergency Phone Line:

999

Support and Advice Hub:

nusu.co.uk/support

Switchboard (LGBTQ+ specific):

0800 0119 100

Nightline: (A term time student led helpline) Contact them here: nusu.co.uk/support/welfare-centre/5/nightline

Wellbeing and Equality Officer:
wellbeing.union@newcastle.ac.uk

Samaritans:
116 123 (Anytime)

Student Health and Wellbeing:
ncl.ac.uk/wellbeing

Mermaids (Trans Helpline):
0808 801 040