

# Celebrating Pride



"Moving to University helped me feel more confident in my sexuality and gender. A highlight for me was going to my first Pride event, where I just felt so free to express myself in a safe space where I know I wouldn't be judged or questioned."

**- Xan Llewllin, Designer, Manton Wood**

"It was such a memorable day - I remember thinking that my cheeks hurt so much from all the smiling. The floats were extravagant and there was a carnival feeling with all the wonderful music being played."

**- Paula Dixie, Regional Trainer, Hatfield**

"I'm nearly 63 and, in my time, being gay was not accepted like it is today. I'm proud to see countries letting people express themselves - everyone should have the right to be accepted."

**- Otto Groenendjik, Label Operative, Selby**

"The atmosphere is always brilliant and there is such a mix of genders and orientations. I have always felt that it is important for people to be accepted for who they are and pride does just that, celebrating how far the LGBTQ+ community has come."

**- Bev Coldwell, Zone Manager, Kiveton**

"Pride has many purposes - protest, celebration and community to name three. I attended my first pride in 2008. It was an eye-opening experience as it was my first exposure to the larger community and I realised I wasn't alone."

**- Carl Mawson, Order Processor, Manton Wood**

