

Stonewall

ABOUT THIS RESOURCE

This resource is produced by Stonewall, a UK-based charity that stands for the freedom, equity and potential of all lesbian, gay, bi, trans, queer, questioning and ace (LGBTQ+) people.

At Stonewall, we imagine a world where LGBTQ+ people everywhere can live our lives to the full.

Founded in London in 1989, we now work in each nation of the UK and have established partnerships across the globe. Over the last three decades, we have created transformative change in the lives of LGBTQ+ people in the UK, helping win equal rights around marriage, having children and inclusive education.

Our campaigns drive positive change for our communities, and our sustained change and empowerment programmes ensure that LGBTQ+ people can thrive throughout our lives. We make sure that the world hears and learns from our communities, and our work is grounded in evidence and expertise.

To find out more about our work, visit us at www.stonewall.org.uk

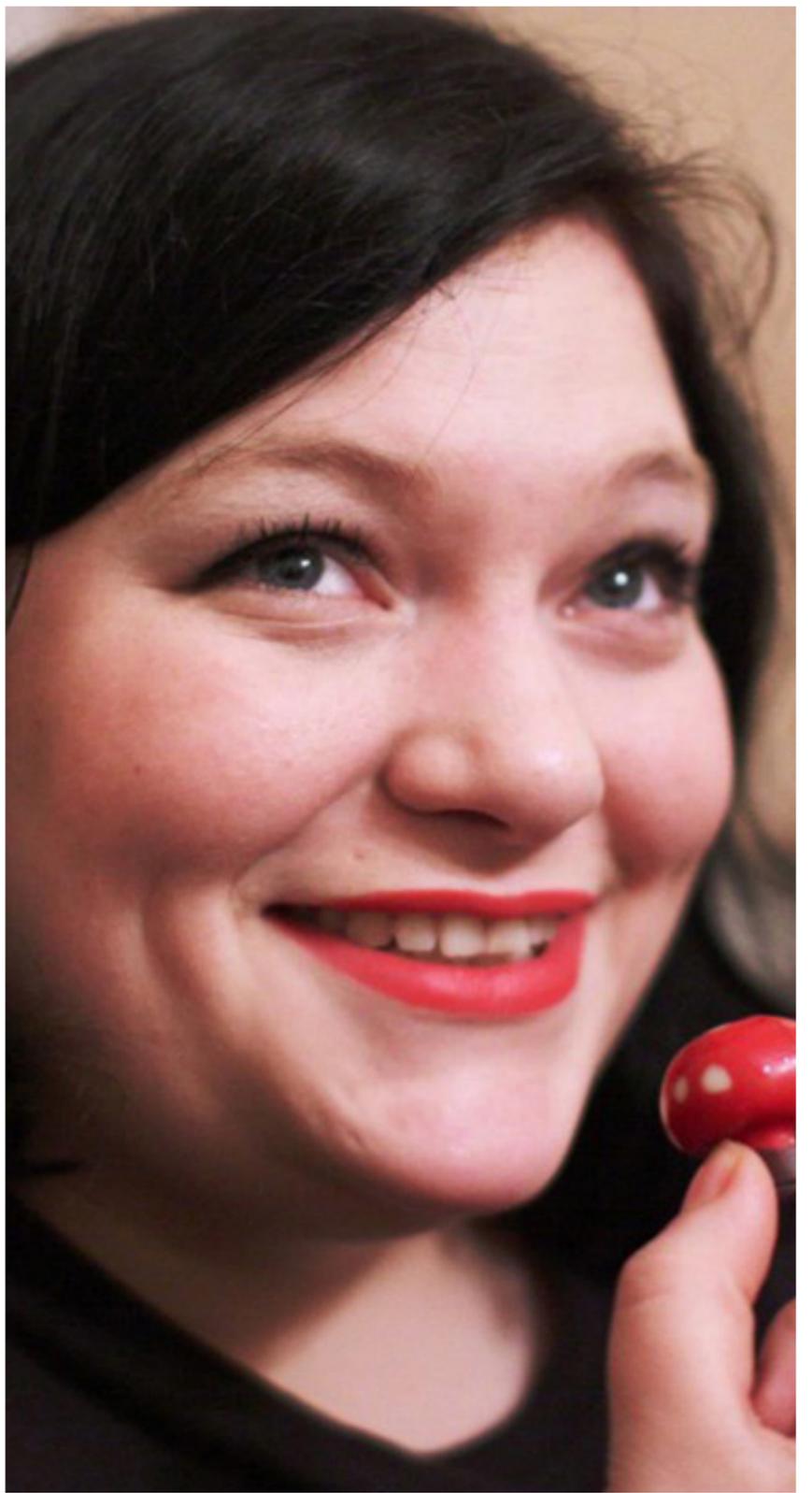
Registered Charity No 1101255 (England and Wales) and SC039681 (Scotland)

Stonewall is proud to provide information, support and guidance on LGBTQ+ inclusion; working towards a world where we're all free to be. This does not constitute legal advice, and is not intended to be a substitute for legal counsel on any subject matter.

'SO MANY
ISSUES WOULD
BE SOLVED
IF PEOPLE
UNDERSTOOD
BISEXUAL
PEOPLE EXIST.'

LIBBY BAXTER-WILLIAMS

Libby is the Director of the bisexual women's advocacy organisation, Biscuit. Even after coming out as a teenager it took her a long time to be open about being bisexual, because how can you be something that doesn't exist? Now she works to make sure that experiences like hers are in the past. She hosts events especially for bisexual people, campaigns against bi erasure, and works with LGBT organisations to make their bisexual representation better.



Every year on 23 September, Bi Visibility Day celebrates bi people across the globe, while recognising the work still required to make biphobia a thing of the past and to put bi visibility on the agenda.

Bi refers to an emotional and/or sexual orientation towards more than one gender. At Stonewall we're proud to work with lots of inspirational bi people and share their stories to achieve acceptance without exception.

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'BI PEOPLE
OF FAITH
EXIST AND
YOU DON'T
HAVE TO
HIDE TO BE
ACCEPTED.'

ZAC SNAPE

Zac is a bi trans man and a maths student at the University of Sheffield. He grew up in Suffolk with his parents and four siblings where he attended Roman Catholic schools. When he first came out at school, he was supported by teachers and the school chaplain who helped him to talk through and reconcile his sexuality and trans identity with his faith. He has found acceptance and support in both LGBT+ and Catholic groups at his University and has been involved in student activism improving the lives of LGBT+ students throughout the UK.



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'FRIENDS TOLD
ME BISEXUAL
PEOPLE DON'T
EXIST, BUT
I'M REAL AND
MY SEXUALITY IS
WONDERFUL!'

JACQ APPLEBEE

Jacq is a Black, disabled, bisexual activist and writer. They are one of the co-founders of the support and social group: Bi's of Colour. Jacq produced the Bi's of Colour History Report - the first of its kind in the world, documenting the lives and experiences of minority ethnic bisexual people.



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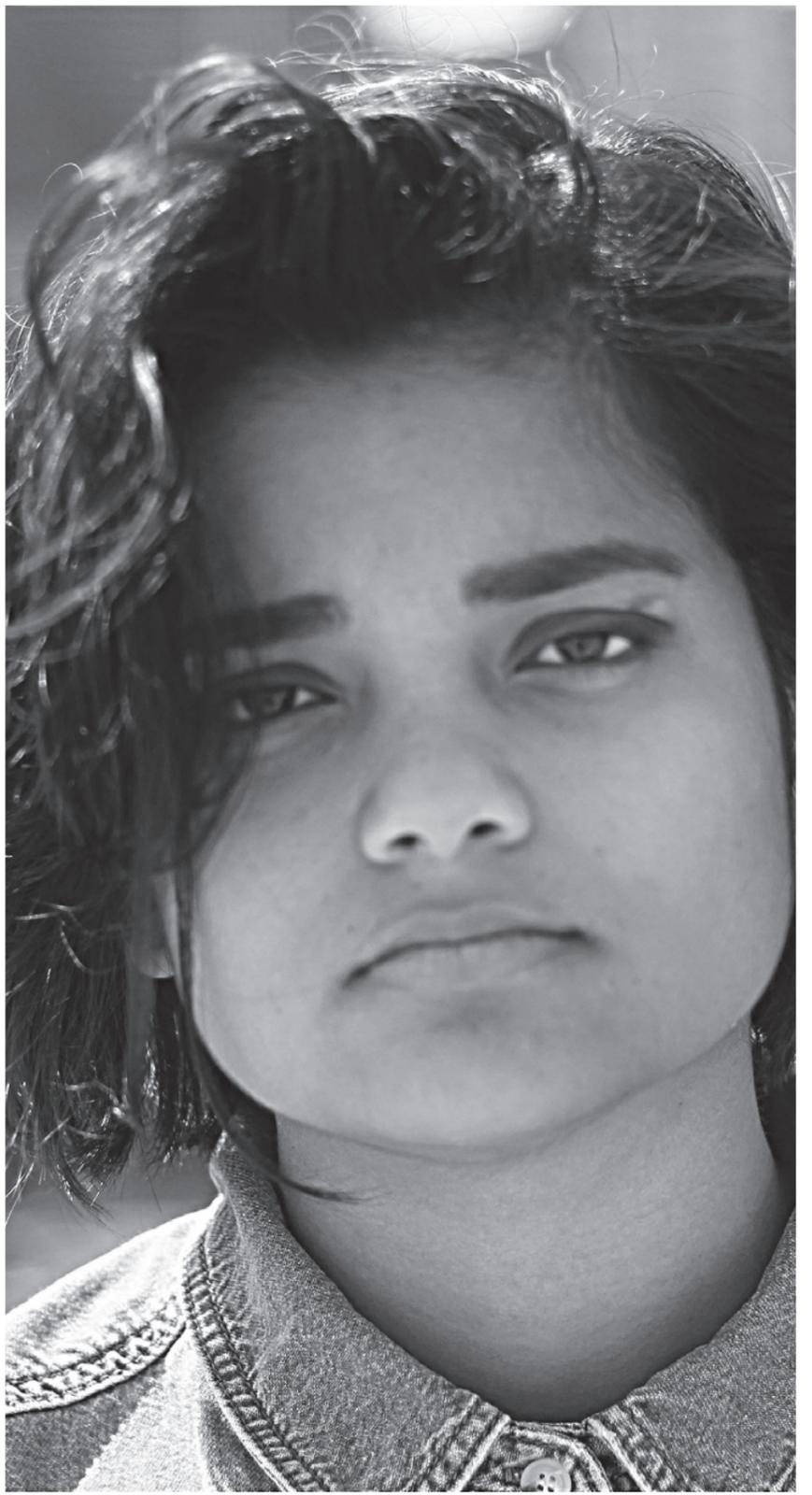
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'SHAME IS IN
OPPRESSION
AND
IGNORANCE,
NOT IN LOVING
BEYOND ONE
GENDER'

SURYATAPA MUKHERJEE

Suryatapa is a journalist and writer who is also into photography, and filmmaking. She uses her creativity to question inequality of all kinds. She was interviewed for a series on bi experiences in India which led to the UN including bi content in their global charter on LGBT rights.



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'BEING BI IS
PART OF MY
IDENTITY
AND IT IS
VALID AND
BEAUTIFUL'

EMILY EATON

Emily is a student, vlogger and activist from Essex. Taking part in Stonewall's Young Campaigners Programme led her to become a Bi Role Model and she aims to create inclusive safe spaces for support and discussion. Emily is passionate about advocating for the LGBTQ+ community and women's rights; she is a great fan of theatre, Disney, tea and travelling. Having previously felt the consequences of bi erasure, Emily now strives to be visible in the community and challenge stereotypes.



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'BI VISIBILITY DAY IS HERE TO SAY YOU'RE NOT ALONE'

MARCUS MORGAN

Some people think bisexuality is mythical, Marcus disagrees even though he's a magician. He came out as gay in his teens and as bisexual in his twenties. He thinks it's easy for bisexual people to feel alone because society says it's rare. It isn't. Since finding the bisexual community he's become a Stonewall Role Model and set up the UK's only bisexual cabaret night "CaBiRet". He campaigns with The Bisexual Index to spread the word that being bi is valid, positive, and something to be proud of. Being bisexual is liberating and the bisexual community is empowering.



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'SOME PEOPLE SAY BEING BI IS JUST A PHASE BUT YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE REALLY FEELING'

JEN YOCKNEY MBE

Jen is a genderqueer bi woman who runs the UK's longest established bisexual support organisation, BiPhoria, and has helped many other people to build bi support in their local area. She's the editor of Bi Community News magazine, and set up BiVisibilityDay.com in 2001 which tracks all the events that mark Bi Visibility Day worldwide. In 2016 Jen was the first person to appear in the Honours List for services to the bisexual community - and the first Mx. You can follow her on Twitter at @jenyockney



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'PEOPLE ARE BEAUTIFUL. THE CONTENTS OF SOMEONE'S CHARACTER, MIND AND SOUL ARE FAR MORE IMPORTANT TO ME'

SIMON BOWKETT

Simon is from Devon but grew up in Sussex. He is a dad to four (awesome) kids, and the Chief Executive of a charity that works with homeless people, offenders, and people with drug and alcohol problems, and has also been a local councillor and parliamentary candidate for a major political party.



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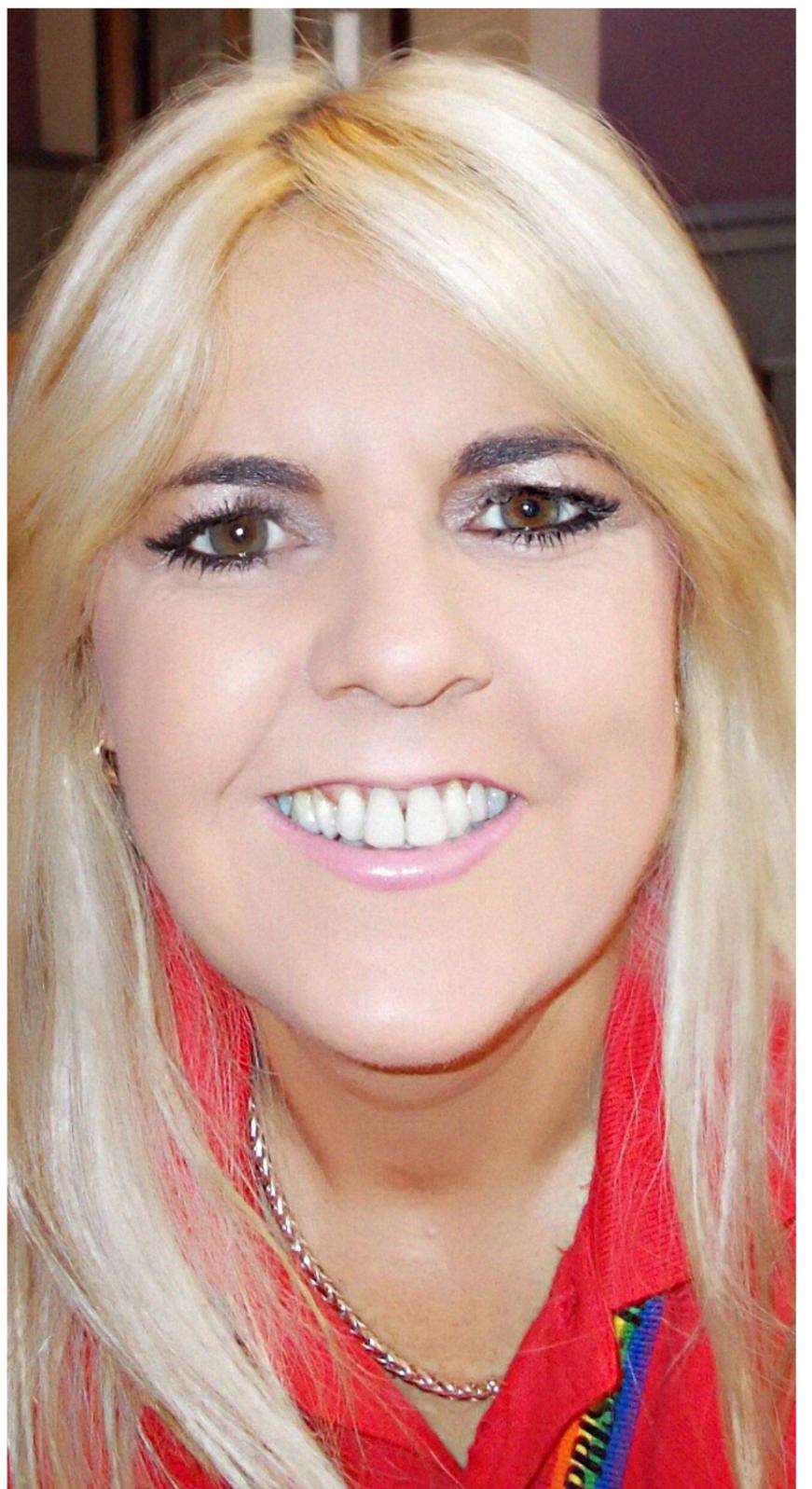
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**'BI VISIBILITY DAY
GIVES ME THE
PLATFORM TO STAND
UP AND SHOW
THAT I AM OUT, I
AM PROUD, I AM
BI - AND THAT I AM
VISIBLY PROMOTING
OUR VIBRANT
AND DIVERSE
COMMUNITY'**

SUE VINCENT-JONES

Communications specialist Sue Vincent-Jones is Co Chair of PRISM, the Welsh Government's LGBTI+ Staff Network. She is committed to creating a vibrant, refreshing and exciting network which is open, warm and inclusive. Role model Sue, believes in leading by example and thinks we should all be free to be ourselves – whenever and wherever we want.



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'I CARE ABOUT PERSONALITY, NOT GENDER. BEING BISEXUAL FEELS LIKE THE MOST NATURAL THING IN THE WORLD'

RIA HOPKINSON

Ria grew up in a working-class Lancashire town and survived an English degree at Oxford University before making her home in north London. She's an award-winning sports and arts journalist by day and a classical violinist by night. One of the best things Ria learned at school was the word "bisexual", and she's been out and proud ever since.



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'THERE IS STILL A LOT OF WORK TO BE DONE WITHIN THE LGBT COMMUNITY AND BEYOND, WHICH IS WHY IT IS IMPORTANT FOR BI PEOPLE TO BE VISIBLE, OUT AND PROUD'

CANDACE CHAN

Candace grew up in Hong Kong and always felt like an outcast there, for her moving to London was the best decision she made for herself. London has given her the freedom to be who she wants to be and love who she wants to love. It took Candace a long time to accept who she was and not try to pass as straight/gay. Biphobia and bi-erasure exist in everyday life even within the LGBT community. Candace hopes that sharing her story will help more people find self acceptance and self love.



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**'OTHERS ARE
CONFUSED BY WHAT
BEING BISEXUAL
MEANS BUT FOR
ME IT IS THE CLEAR
AND SIMPLE IDEA OF
BEING ATTRACTED TO
PEOPLE REGARDLESS
OF GENDER'**

BENEDICT O'CONNELL

Ben grew up around the west of London. He enjoys playing sports including running and playing for an LGBTQ football team, as well as writing songs and playing guitar. He currently teaches Philosophy and English in a sixth form college and has previously taught English as a foreign language in Belgium, France and China. For Ben, Bi day of visibility is important as often bisexuals are misrepresented as heterosexual or gay depending on their partners or the spaces they occupy.



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