

We're loud and proud!

Hundreds of people gather to celebrate Newbury's annual Pride event

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NEWBURY'S annual Pride event returned to the town centre and Victoria Park on Saturday.

The festival, launched in 2021, boasted a variety of live acts across two stages, as well as a range of stalls from organisations, charities and community groups.

More than 530 people joined a march through the town centre and into Victoria Park, where a further 1,000 joined throughout the day.

Newbury Pride treasurer and vice chairwoman Andrea Brookes said: "It was a huge privilege to celebrate with our LGBTQIA+ siblings, allies, supporters and the wider local community on Saturday.

"It's always a special and joyous occasion for us, but this year's Pride had a particular urgency and importance in light of an emboldened and hostile Trump White House and the recent Supreme Court judgement which has had a devastating impact on our trans friends.

"We're so grateful for everyone who came out to show their support."

Revellers of all ages enjoyed the acts on the main stage, fea-



Revellers gather in Victoria Park

Ref: 29-0225AN

turing acts such as 1990s pop star Lolly, London-based dance troupe Homoparody, Rock Choir, as well as local DJ Hypester who closed the stage on Saturday evening.

The new community stage on the park's bandstand played host to the Princess Academy, entertaining families for the first hour, followed by panel talks and spoken word.

Newbury Pride secretary Will Beharrell said: "It was incredibly heartening to see so many people come together to celebrate and have a good time in the scorching sunshine.

"We're so thankful for the financial support from Greenham Trust, Newbury Town Council, Thatcham Town Council, Vodafone, Horsey Lightly Solicitors, Dreweatts,

2BCL and Newbury Building Society.

"Without this support, we would not have been able to put on such an ambitious event."

For more information about events organised by Newbury Pride, including fundraising Drag Bingo evenings and social brunches, visit newburypride.org.uk or follow Newbury Pride on social media.



On the march

Ref: 29-0225K



Showing their colours

Ref: 29-0225L



A butterfly spreads her wings

Ref: 29-0225AS



Hound and clown

Ref: 29-0225AT



Youngsters joined in the fun

Ref: 29-0225X



Fun in the sun

Ref: 29-0225AY



Smiles on parade

Ref: 29-0225AX



Singer George Stacey

Ref: 29-0325Y

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The parade makes its way through Parkway

Ref: 29-0225AB



Mayor Newbury David Harman and friend

Ref: 29-0225A



Amber Rose Turner, Julian Swift-Hook (of Kennet Radio) and Bodacia

Ref: 29-0225AZ



Sign language

Ref: 29-0225E



Thatcham deputy mayor Mark Lillycrop

Ref: 29-0225AW



Beating the heat

Ref: 29-0325N

Pictures: PHIL CANNINGS

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