



for liberation and equality

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Rt Hon Patricia Hewitt MP to open Leicester Pride

Leicester's gay festival SUMMER OF LOVE will be opened by the Rt Hon Patricia Hewitt MP (Leicester West)

Patricia Hewitt will be opening Leicester Pride from the main stage in Victoria Park, Leicester at 14:00 on Saturday 25th June. She will be giving an address of welcome at the launch of the one day Festival.

Leicester Pride is one of the city's established public festivals; this is the fifth event run by Leicester Pride Limited, the voluntary organisation that runs the annual celebration for lesbian, gay and bisexual people in Leicestershire.

Pride events are run in various parts of the UK as a way of promoting the visibility of the LGB community. On Saturday 28th May for example, over 100,000 people watched the Carnival Parade in the centre of Birmingham as part of the Birmingham Pride week end. Events in Brighton and Manchester have already featured in several TV broadcasts and attract large numbers of people.

Leicester Pride begins with a parade that will echo the theme of this year's event: "Summer of Love: peace, passion and partnerships". The parade will set off from Bishop Street at 1 p.m. on Saturday 25th June and makes it way through the city centre up to Victoria Park for the start of the afternoons festivities.

Organisers of Leicester Pride are keen to point out that their event is for the whole community and previous Prides have been attended not just by gay people but by their families, friends and colleagues. Many members of the public gather on the streets to watch the flamboyant and colourful parade and join the audience on the park for the free music stage that goes on all day.

Also speaking at the launch event will be Sir Peter Soulsby, MP for Leicester South.

Ends

Contact

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