



Annual Report 2014-2015

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FROM THE FOUNDING DIRECTORS



It is not often we both step back and acknowledge how much we have achieved as a fairly new organisation.

Writing this report, it feels as though our progress reflects that of the wider LGBTQ+ movement, here in the UK.

We have achieved so much in the last few years, but there is still much to be done.

As we move forward, those voices that tell us we should stay where we are, often get louder. But they are not the loudest voices we hear. This year, our supporters have witnessed the discrimination that we still face as a community, they have felt the unfairness and injustice and they have let us know that we are not alone.

For Proud2Be, this was a year of firsts. We launched the first ever Pride procession in the historic market town of Totnes, Devon. We also installed a temporary rainbow crossing, which was the first of its kind for a rural town.

As always, we are overwhelmed by the support we receive, which inspires and motivates us to keep on moving forward.

Thank you,

Jae Price

Founding Directors

Max Price



VISION

Our Vision is a world where all people are safe, free and proud to be themselves

MISSION

Our Mission is to support lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans &/or questioning+ (LGBTQ+) people, in Devon and beyond, to lead empowered, fulfilled and authentic lives

VALUES

- Inclusivity
- Empowerment
- Celebration
- Integrity
- Bravery



HIGHLIGHTS OF 2014-2015

Community

- Facilitated 12 social groups in South Devon, with an average of 28 people attending each month
- Hosted Totnes Pride 2014 with the first ever Pride procession in Totnes, attended by approximately 1200 people
- Teamed up with local trans organisation Transfigurations to host Transgender Day of Remembrance event in Torquay, South Devon
- Launched and facilitated 4 youth groups, with 22 young people aged 13-18 attending from Totnes and surrounding areas.
- Facilitated 5 Art and Craft Days in Totnes, South Devon
- Hosted 2 fundraising discos in Totnes, South Devon
- Celebrated and promoted our work at 2 local Pride events



'Really wonderful atmosphere at the Proud2Be social evening tonight. Thank you everybody for being so beautiful – in spirit, mind and body, and for caring so much for other people. I am Proud2Be a member of such a wonderful group' – Carol

'What a fab bunch of people, it was my first time here and they made me feel so welcome, and for that thank you all' – Kathryn

'Well, I have to say I have just had THE loveliest evening I have had since starting this journey' – Joanne

'The Proud2Be group is great for being so welcoming and inclusive. We tend to end up with things going on in our lives on all parts of the LGBTQI+ spectrum (with usually an added dimension of disability) rather than fitting neatly into any of the subdivided smaller boxes. The group meetings are great fun.' –

Anna



Training

- Facilitated 2 Anti-Bullying workshops to students in Wolverhampton and Aylesbury as part of Local Heroes
- Facilitated 4 Anti-Bullying workshops for schools and colleges in South Devon
- Facilitated a 2 day 'Working with LGBTQ+ Young People' Training in Partnership with Teignmouth Targeted Families
- Facilitated 1 Equality & Diversity Session to the charity sector



"It was one of the best sessions on diversity I have attended and the feedback was excellent." – Dan Phillips, The Princes Trust

"Proud2Be used very professional and encouraging methods to engage with young people but also they made sure that participants feel confident and safe during the work. Proud2Be brought a huge value to the whole project." – Aggie, Healthwatch Devon

"Working with Proud2Be Project has been invaluable to our students. They discuss important and potentially sensitive issues with an excellent balance of professionalism and approachability. The students have thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated the sessions that they have had."

Mr H. R. Davies, Teacher & PSHE Coordinator, Torquay Boys' Grammar School

"The students definitely got a lot out of those sessions. They were great with the students and really drew some serious thought and debate out of them" – Staff member, Torquay Academy

"I've been shown more ways of treating people equally in society and will act differently towards others" – Year 9 student, Torquay Academy

"Over the last year I have been growing more confident in myself and who I am. When you came in today and you showed me how happy you are being you... I just can't describe how happy I suddenly felt too!" – Year 9 student, Torquay Academy



Campaigning

- Installed the first temporary rainbow pedestrian crossing in Totnes, during the week of Totnes Pride 2014, to celebrate diversity and raise awareness about the issues still faced by the LGBTQ+ community. The crossing was funded by a successful crowdfunding campaign.
- In February 2015 we launched a campaign to install a permanent version in the rural town. If approved, this will be the first of its kind in Europe. In the reporting year the the campaign received 28 pledges of support, locally, nationally and internationally.



"It looks joyous and it has a message that is in tune with the Totnes ethos. So yes, let's have a permanent rainbow crossing to celebrate difference and harmony." - [Gill, Proud2Be Facebook Page Comment](#)

"Totnes Rainbow Crossing will help remind us all that as a community we value diversity." – [Alan Salt, The Principal – King Edward VI Community College, Totnes](#)

"I support the campaign for a permanent rainbow crossing in Totnes as a symbol of our town's support for diversity." – [Dr Sarah Wollaston MP \(Totnes\)](#)

"It is an important symbol of equality, and it will demonstrate how truly enlightened the town of Totnes and its people really are." – [Martin, London](#)

News Coverage:

[Herald Express](#)

[BT.com](#)

[Pink News](#)



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Media

- Shortlisted for the Community Group Award at the Pride of South Devon and the 'LGBT Community Organisation' award at The National Diversity Awards 2014
- Made The Gay UK's New Year's Honours List for Community Project
- Recorded a heartfelt and honest [video](#) to celebrate Proud2Be's 3rd Birthday
- Recorded a video for Bitpod about 'Embracing diversity in the workplace'
- Named high profile LGBTQ+ activists Peter Tatchell, Christine Burns MBE, Aderonke Apata and Andrew Solomon as our Patrons
- Hosted and produced 10 Proud2Be Radio Shows on Soundart 102.5 FM Guests included human rights activist Peter Tatchell
- 8,225 unique visitors to the Proud2Be website and 9,030 visitors to the Proud2Be YouTube Channel. Via our twitter account we secured 167 new 'followers', 5224 'Page Visits' 546 'Mentions' and 205.7K 'Tweet Impressions'.



"I'm very proud to be a Proud2Be patron. Congratulations on your wonderful work for the LGBT community. Much admiration and appreciation"

Peter Tatchell, Proud2Be Patron and human rights campaigner

"It strikes me as such an important project"

Christine Burns MBE, Proud2Be Patron and retired political activist

"I am proud to be a patron of Proud2Be. The best weapon against prejudice is openness; every person who is open about who he or she is and who he or she loves breaks the collective closet that has for so long immured LGBTQ people. That expands our ability to live our lives fully, to marry whom we wish, and to experience joy."

Andrew Solomon, Proud2Be Patron, writer, lecturer and activist

"It gladdens my heart to be asked to become a patron of Proud2Be. I couldn't have said otherwise given the love, energy and enthusiasm that exude from Jae and other Proud2Be members when we first met! I am delighted to be part of the great work they are doing to raise the profile of LGBTIQ people in Devon."

Aderonke Apata, Proud2Be Patron and human rights activist



Volunteers

We supported a team of:

- Ten social group volunteers
- Twenty-nine fundraiser volunteers
- Three office volunteers
- Sixty Totnes Pride volunteers
- Fifteen rainbow-crossing volunteers



"I first became involved in the Proud2Be Project as a volunteer for Totnes Pride 2013. Since then it has literally changed my life in the most positive and inspiring way. I was made to feel part of a family, a safe space where, for the first time in my life, I could actually be myself. Proud2Be Project has enabled me to gain confidence, meet some wonderfully supportive friends, have fun, be encouraged to be who I am, and to no longer feel isolated and alone. I am immensely grateful to Proud2Be for helping me to find my voice again, my purpose and enthusiasm for life, one where I am finally, truly, proud to be who I am." **-Ange, Proud2Be Volunteer**

"It allowed a few skills to flourish and expand. It also gave me a lot of confidence to work with a big group of people. I certainly will do it again." **-Totnes Pride Volunteer**

"Totnes pride was one of the best days of my life. It meant a huge amount to be part of something really special, celebratory, and inclusive. I felt immense pride to be involved with some of the most inspirational, passionate, beautiful people I have ever met on an incredibly special day." **-Totnes Pride Volunteer**

Totnes pride 2014 has been the highlight of my year, I met so many lovely, inspiring, friendly, caring, people within the Totnes community, it makes me proud to be who I am in a lovely safe and happy environment." **-Totnes Pride Volunteer**



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Extract of Statutory Accounts for the year ending 31st May 2015
as approved by the Board of Directors on 16th February 2016

Profit and Loss Account

	2015	2014
£	£	£
Turnover	15,463	16,936
Cost of sales	(3,793)	(4,961)
Administrative expenses	(11,468)	(11,152)
Operating profit	<u>202</u>	<u>823</u>
Other interest receivable and similar income	1	2
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	<u>203</u>	<u>825</u>
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	(40)	(5)
Profit for the financial year	<u><u>163</u></u>	<u><u>820</u></u>

Balance Sheet at 31st May 2015

	2015	2014
	£	£
Current Assets		
Debtors	142	-
Cash at bank and in hand	5,478	2,806
	<u>5,620</u>	<u>2,806</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(5,387)	(2,736)
Net assets	<u><u>233</u></u>	<u><u>70</u></u>
Capital and reserves		
Profit and loss account	233	70
Reserves	<u><u>233</u></u>	<u><u>70</u></u>

The above results reflect our not for profit ethic whilst allowing for a small increase to reserves in order to maintain and improve our capacity to provide services to our beneficiaries.

Of the income received in the year, £4,085 is grants from organisations (2014 £9,268). If grants are unspent they are technically due back to the donor and so these are shown in the balance sheet as deferred income and are included here within creditors. The amounts included within creditors for the year are £3,806 (2014 £1,677).



LOOKING AHEAD TO 2015-2016

Community

We will host the third Totnes Pride, with the aim of making the event even more inclusive, colourful and diverse.

We will continue delivering our monthly adult social group in South Devon. Our focus will be to develop a strategy that enables us to reach and support those people who are currently unable to attend the group due to financial constraints and/or transport limitations.

We will continue delivering our youth group in South Devon. In response to feedback from our consultation with the membership, we will aim to run the group twice monthly from January 2016.

Training

We will begin delivering a series of LGBTQ+ Hate Crime workshops for the Equality and Human Rights Commission as part of the LGBT Hate Crime Partnership.

We will deliver more LGBTQ+ awareness workshops in schools and colleges in Devon and Cornwall.

Campaigning

We will continue campaigning to install Europe's first permanent rainbow crossing in Totnes, South Devon, in time for Totnes Pride 2016 on 3rd September.

We will continue inviting a diverse range of people to contribute to the Proud2Be campaign. We will begin planning the launch of our second online campaign 'Loving Your Story', which will enable LGBTQ+ people to share their stories.

Media

Our founders, Jae & Max Price will deliver a talk at the very first TedxTotnes event in October 2015. The talk will see the twins reflect on their experiences of growing up LGBTQ+ in a rural area and the bullying they faced as teenagers.

Volunteers

We will provide a wider and more diverse range of volunteering opportunities and develop our volunteer package to enable volunteers to access even more in-house and external training.



THANK YOU

Devon & Cornwall Police

Big Lottery Fund

South Hams District Council

Paige Adams Trust

Devon Community Foundation

Network of Wellbeing (NOW)

The Allen Lane Foundation

Our Sponsors

The Barrel House

Bob the Bus

Food in Community CIC

We are Family Magazine

The Gay UK

Pride in Plymouth CIC

Eden Rise, Totnes

Tesco, Newton Abbot

Terrace Coffee Shop, Totnes

Blue Geranium

Potclays LTD

Ninety-Three Totnes

Travis Perkins, Totnes

Seeds Bakery, Totnes

ROC

Sainsbury's, Newton Abbot

Rainbow Requisites

Redhouse Gifts, Totnes

Wilkinson, Newton Abbot

Totnes Passivhaus Bed & Breakfast

Bay Horse Inn, Totnes

Greenlife, Totnes

The Cott Inn, Dartington

Coates English Willow

Hobbycraft, Newton Abbot

Lush, Exeter

Diva, Totnes

Totnes Natural Health Centre

Gazebo, Totnes

Guppy Fish Body Art

Arbery Books

Original Plumbing Magazine

Soundart Radio 102.5 FM

Manticore Spa

Saif Ali

Rainbow Crossing Sponsors

Nicky Rayner

Trevor Newton

The Eddystone Trust

Loz and Ali

Jo Minshull

The Barrel House Ballroom

Andy & Nathan Headford-Lord

Saima Ahmad

Dot Spink

Bekki Redshaw

Sara and Ange

Karen's Friend

Julie Kast

Royal Seven Stars Hotel, Totnes

Karen Abadie

Lou and Amanda

Kaz Winton

David

Sinbad

Steve Daulby

James and Geoff

Our Patrons & Supporters

Peter Tatchell

Christine Burns MBE

Aderonke Apata

Andrew Solomon

Stephen Fry

Suran Dickson

Jess Macintyre

To all our volunteers and to all the websites, newspapers, magazines and blogs that shared our news and publicised our work.



Proud2Be
Empowerment | Community | Pride

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