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PinkUK

PinkUk.com LGBTQ+ guide for the UK & worldwide



Photo courtesy of the British Film Institute 2023

London's LGBTQ+ 'FLARE' film festival 15 - 26 March. Pictured: 'How to tell a secret'

'How to tell a secret' looks at the stigma of living with HIV in Ireland. Shaun Dunne and Anna Rodgers's film explores the experiences of a generation who are fighting back. Unsurprisingly, this one's booked out for the on-site screenings but... there's loads more on show at the festival.

2023's pink shoots...

It's almost spring and some Pink shoots are showing through.

We hope you're filling your diary with things that interest you, whether it's relationships, socialising, enjoying cultural or sports activities or just hanging out in private time on or off line. Basically, March kick-starts the LGBTQ+ communities' scenes in the UK and in many

places around the world.

For fans of LGBTQ+ films, up-coming in London Town is the long-established and internationally renowned LGBTQ+ FLARE Festival delivered by the British Film Institute. Founded in 1988, it's one of Europe's largest LGBTQ+ film festivals; this year it's running a mix of onsite and digital screening; it

Continued overleaf...

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promises a wealth of films covering all things pink and rainbow with a theme of 'Heart, Body and Mind'. [Read more on our site](#) and access the UK-available films as some are copyright restricted as to where you live.

For visitors outside the UK you can view

[Five Films](#)

[for Freedom](#) 15–26 March showcasing some top talent in queer and LGBTQ+-related films.

Wednesday 8 March launches International Women's Day. A host of events are taking place around the world – one is the fab [FemFest](#) a must-do if you are near or in Brighton, which we alerted you to it last month. It goes without saying that March has a Celtic flavour with Welsh and Irish festivities in the UK and around the world: first mark Wales' St David's Day so check out the [Cardiff scene on 1 March](#) and Ireland's St Patrick's Day on 17 March with some fun scene spin offs into the LGBTQ+ scenes for example [Dublin Bear festival](#).

On a political note, the global rights group ILGA have published their annual

narrative on LGBTQ+ rights in countries in Europe. Their report makes for some chastening reading, just in case you were one of those people who think everything's now pretty cool for LGBTQ+ rights in Western countries. Actually, it's not that great, even in the West.

For example, the UK gets [a shellacking](#) for its policy on Trans and LGBTQ+ asylum seeker rights. ILGA publishes an 'LGBTQ+-friendliness' country index in May, so we'll aim to update you on the rankings for each European country then. Equally sombre thoughts go to the LGBTQ+ communities of Ukraine on the anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine on 24 February last year. [You can help them here.](#)

Finally, as we paint the world Pink, we're appealing for volunteers who might be interested in gaining or offering experience in online publishing. If you'd like to find out more [check out this page](#). Wishing you a fantastic spring of pink fun and new adventures. **Love and Pink Respect XX**

[Scene](#), the leading UK LGBTQ+ online magazine, is growing across the UK. We're proud to support them.



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Her Majesty, The Royal Vauxhall Tavern



We're privileged to feature one of London's most famous LGBTQ+ and queenly cabaret venues this month, the Royal Vauxhall Tavern. As such, we're naming the venue emphatically a 'she' as she is so illustrious and majestic. The crew who manage her are a vibrant independent company who, so the word on the pink street goes, offer consistently brilliant cabaret and performances with national artists and the best local artists showcasing their work. The 'RVT', as regular customers call

her, is situated just south of the Thames in the namesake area of Vauxhall and is recognised as one of London's most diverse venues for cabaret performances and other arts. There's history, too. Originally a Victorian-era music hall, it's also famous for Paul O'Grady performing in drag as Lily Savage in the late 1990's alongside artists such as Gabrielle, Bucks Fizz (The Fizz), Liberty X, Three Degrees and Toyah. If you're in London Town, stroll down and enjoy the vibe.

[Her Majesty,
The RVT](#)

500+ prides & events

So far for 2023 we have **160** festivals listed in the UK and **540** LGBTQ+ prides events in 40 countries worldwide for **2023**. [For 2024](#) we have three prides in the UK and **10** in eight other countries.



[Add your event](#)