

FRIENDS OF EDWARD CARPENTER
LGBT VOICE AND INFLUENCE

FRIENDS OF EDWARD CARPENTER
ARE PROUD TO PRESENT A WEEKEND OF EVENTS
TO CELEBRATE LGBT HISTORY MONTH

SATURDAY 21ST & SUNDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2015
MILLENNIUM GALLERY, SHEFFIELD

SATURDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2015

1.00pm OFFICIAL OPENING

Welcome and introduction to LGBT Voice and Influence.

1.15 – 2.00pm TRANS VOICES - CAROL ROBSON

Carol Robson presents extracts from her one woman show *Finding Me (Take Me As I Am)* nominated for top spoken word performance at the Greater Manchester Fringe Festival in 2014. Expect poetry, stories and unique insights from this local personality.

"The putty-like flexibility of spoken word allows [Robson] to navigate this ever-changing universe with lyrical élan." (Edinburgh Fringe ****)

**Please note, this performance is not suitable for children.



2.15 – 3.00pm SHEFFIELD LGBT VOICES

Screening of several films reflecting Sheffield LGBT voices. These include a series of short coming out films from Sheffield Hallam University and Sheffield University, and EDEN Film Production's *Families Like Ours*.

3.15 – 4.00pm TRANS VOICES - NELL STOCKTON

Nell Stockton offers us sharp and unique insight into gender identity and its inherent struggles and issues. Expect a personal story of transition, acceptance and rejection, and consideration of the politics, challenges and aspirations of trans people in the UK today.

7.00 – 10.00pm CONCERT - GRACE PETRIE

The acclaimed lesbian folk musician and political activist joins us for a special concert to celebrate LGBT History Month. Grace has recorded four albums, appeared at numerous festivals in the UK including Latitude and Glastonbury, shared the stage with Billy Bragg and Dick Gaughan, and has appeared several times on BBC Radio 4's *The Now Show*.

"You stole the f@!#ing show, sister!" - Billy Bragg (on Grace's 2011 Performance at Glastonbury)



Tickets are £8.00 / £5.00 concessions - further details and online tickets sales are available from www.cliffordevents.co.uk

SUNDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2015

11.00 -
12.00pm

LGBT VOICES FROM HISTORY - EDWARD CARPENTER IN SHEFFIELD



Rony Robinson and **Sally Goldsmith**, long-time admirers of Carpenter, will explore the history of Edward Carpenter, one of the first gay rights activists, who lived in Sheffield at the turn of the century. An important social reformer, Carpenter fought for workers' rights, women's emancipation, clean air, sustainable living, and many other causes that resonate fully in our world today. Carpenter lived openly as a gay man at the time of Oscar Wilde's trial and imprisonment. He wrote publicly about homosexuality, corresponding with Siegfried Sassoon and others on the subject, as well as igniting the passion in E.M. Forster to write *Maurice*!

Rony and Sally will present a fascinating opportunity to meet with an LGBT voice from our local past. This will include a performance of Carpenter's socialist hymn 'England Arise!' especially adapted for Brass Band by the Woodhouse Prize Band.

12.30 –
2.30pm

LGBT VOICES FROM HISTORY - FILM: PRIDE

Special screening of the British film that recently won the *Queer Palm Award* at Cannes. *Pride* is based on the true story of how a group of gay activists decided to raise money to support the families of striking miners in 1984, forming bonds between the two very different communities.

Starring Bill Nighy, Imelda Staunton, Dominic West, Andrew Scott and Paddy Considine, and directed by the Tony Award winning theatre director Matthew Warchus.



This is a free screening and you can reserve your place using our Eventbrite page:
<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/pride-free-screening-tickets-15217061641>

2.45 -
3.30pm

PRIDE – A REFLECTION

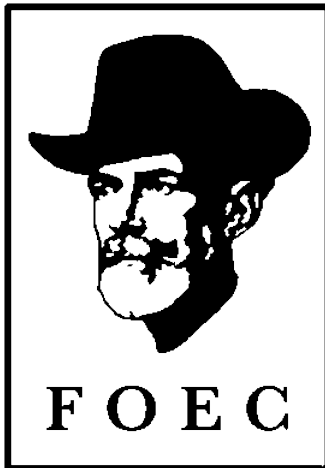
Rony Robinson will host a discussion with **Mike Jackson**, co-founder of Lesbians and Gays Support the Miners and **Barbara Jackson**, Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign. This discussion will offer a unique insight into the miner's strike and the story behind the film.



4.00pm

END

Presented with support from:



Friends of Edward Carpenter are a group of people who are dedicated to establishing a permanent memorial to Edward Carpenter in Sheffield City Centre, recognising his historical and social importance and unique association with the city.

Edward Carpenter (1844 -1929) was a significant cultural and political activist, who advocated the 'Simplification of Life' and put his beliefs into practice. He campaigned throughout his life on many issues of social concern, ranging from women's suffrage to the protection of the environment, from sexual emancipation to the formation of trade unions. For over forty years he formed a strong bond with the people of Sheffield, living openly as a gay man in Millthorpe, Derbyshire only a few miles away. His life was one of quiet celebration while his writings and example laid the foundation for the gay liberation movement of the twentieth century. Through his many friendships, Edward Carpenter transversed the divisions of class, gender, sexuality, race and creed. Men and women from across the world and from all walks of life came into connection with each other through him and his connections with Sheffield and home at Millthorpe.

Our aim is to connect with the diverse worldwide population of interested people to establish the memorial. This is a big task, and we will be seeking local, national and international support to achieve this.

Primarily, we need to raise the funds required to establish a fitting memorial for Edward Carpenter, one that will provide both a concrete and spiritual focus for all who are inspired and influenced by him. We aim to commission a work of public art that has integrity and that will ensure a respectful place of pilgrimage, meditation, celebration and memorial in the heart of the City of Sheffield.

You can see more information about our activities as well as opportunities to donate at www.friendsofwardcarpenter.co.uk