

## Results From the Survey 2021

This version prepared for the board meeting due to take place on 16<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021

**We had 32 Responses.** The survey took respondents an average of just under 9 minutes to complete

We had a good range of responses that appear to be broadly representative of our membership. A summary of the results with everyone's comments is given on the following pages. The OLGBT board should carefully consider the feedback received and use this to help plan future services and developments.

Feedback indicates that the main reason people participate in OLGBT is a desire for friendship, social contact and to relieve loneliness. Implicit within this is the need to support the mental health and wellbeing of group members. There seems to be a high level of satisfaction with what we have been doing and a strong indication that respondents would like to have more of the same.

Physical meetings at community venues are important to everyone but most people want a combination of both online and physical meetings.

Six respondents need help with transport and two with technical issues. There are individual comments that refer to wanting regular telephone calls, feeling cut off and being unable to attend social meeting due to distance or caring responsibilities. This adds to the evidence of need for an OLGBT volunteer based befriending role.

We had eleven respondents interested in facilitated meetings for emotional support. This would be a new service.

Areas where we could consider improvement include:

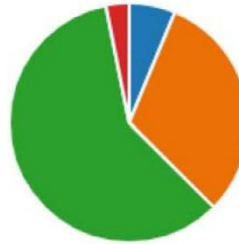
- We only had one respondent who is not white British. We need to consider how to encourage people from ethnic minorities to join OLGBT.
- How can we better meet the needs of women members?
- How can we better meet the needs of people in outlying areas?
- We need to bear in mind that as this survey was promoted by email there may have been people that it did not reach. How will we connect to those who only have a phone number? Maybe this is another part of the role for befriending volunteers.

**The comments include a lot of praise, thanks and compliments that tell us that the OLGBT group is wanted, needed and does a great job. Always good to hear - well done to the board past and present!**

---

### 1. How would you describe your gender

● Non Binary	2
● Female	10
● Male	19
● Other	1



One person identified as other Gender - MTF Transgender

### 2. Do you identify as Trans

● Yes	4
● No	28
● Other	0



### 3. How would you describe your sexual orientation

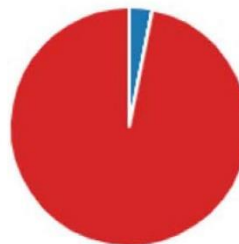
● Lesbian	7
● Gay	15
● Bisexual	6
● Heterosexual	2
● Other	2



Two people identified as other Sexual Orientation – 1 Pansexual, 1 Asexual

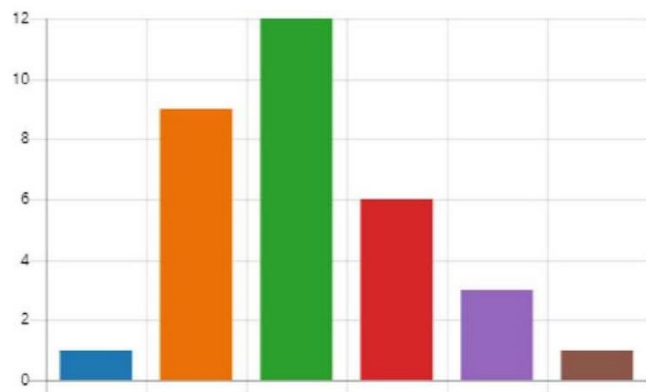
### 4. How would you describe your Ethnicity

● Asian or Asian British	1
● Black, African, Caribbean or Bl...	0
● Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Grou...	0
● White British or White Other	31
● Other	0



5. What is your age range?

Under 50	1
50-59	9
60-69	12
70-79	6
80-89	3
Over 90	1



6. Would you describe yourself as having a disability or life limiting health condition?

Yes	13
No	16
Prefer not to say	3



7. Which area do you live in?

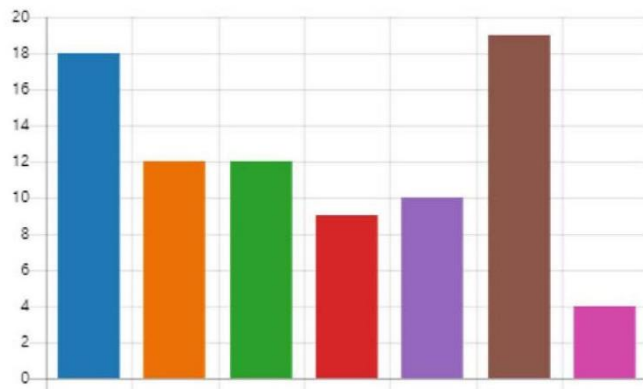
Stoke-on-Trent	16
Newcastle-under-Lyme /North...	5
Staffordshire Moorlands	5
South Staffordshire	2
Other	3



Three people identified as other Area – 1 Shropshire, 1 Crewe, 1 Not specified

8. Which OLGBT Services and Activities have you used in the last two years? (Please select all that apply)

● Weekly Online Zoom Social M...	18
● Regular social meetings at ven...	12
● Group get togethers and outi...	12
● Craft workshops (bookmaking...	9
● Dance, singing, drama.	10
● Reading the newsletter and ot...	19
● Other	4

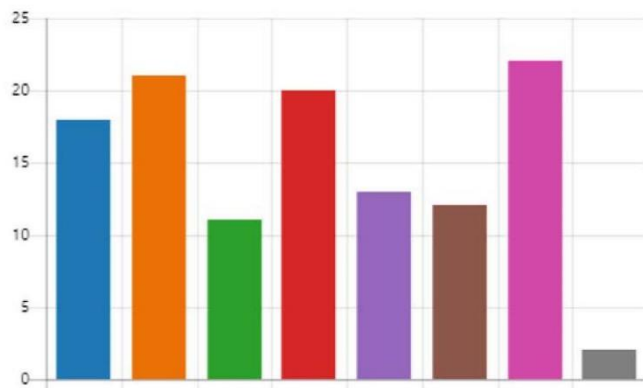


Four answered "Other" the comments were:

- None
- Not had the courage to join
- Prefer not to answer
- None as I'm always at work

9. Which OLGBT Services and Activities are you likely to use in the next 12 months? (Please select all that apply)

● Weekly Online Zoom Social M...	18
● Regular social meetings at ven...	21
● Facilitated meetings for emoti...	11
● Group get togethers and outi...	20
● Craft workshops (bookmaking...	13
● Dance, singing, drama, perfor...	12
● Reading the newsletter and ot...	22
● Other	2

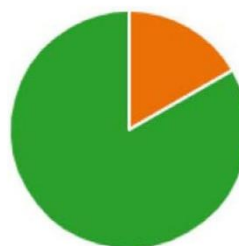


Two answered "Other" the comments were:

- Prefer not to answer
- Social activities in line with Covid rules/ restrictions

10. Over the next twelve months would you like our meetings and activities to be

● Virtual meetings online (Zoom)	0
● Physical meetings at communi...	5
● A combination of both the ab...	25
● Other	0



## 11. Do you need any of the following help or assistance to access OLGBT?

Technical help to use Zoom	2
Transport to meetings	6
Other	3



Three answered other - two had just said none, one mentioned the difficulty getting out as a carer.

## What did you hope to gain through contact with the OLGBT Group?

- Make new friends learn new things
- social interaction with likeminded people
- Social interaction
- Make friends
- Make friends. Socialise and who knows maybe love one day
- Companionship- sharing of knowledge/ interests- learning new skills
- Support, friendships, feeling of belonging
- To know there are others like me
- Support and friendship and social interaction
- Community, communication, breaking feelings of isolation
- Contact with likeminded individuals and similar core values and to share new experiences. To help me be a less anxious and more confident person to take the ""safe space"" with me in day to day life. To develop relationships, friendships and maybe even intimacy, although the latter is less important.
- I nearly forgot.... to have fun."
- Just to have contact with like mined people.
- Support when needed
- A network of friends and social/emotional support
- Understanding of others environment
- Get to know more people.
- Nothing yet, I work nights it's difficult to meet up or do the zoom meetings
- To make new friends and do activities with like minded people
- No expectations, just contact
- More friends
- I wanted the feeling of belonging again,
- Make new friends
- Social contact
- It would be nice to meet more women but I cannot make the Monday cafe meeting
- Meet new people
- to meet OLGBT local people socially and make new friends
- To make new friends.
- contact o similar people
- Support, social contact, friends
- A social life with other LGBT people. Something worthwhile to do.

### **Which of your hopes and expectations have been met?**

- Have met some nice people
- formed new friendships
- Both
- Not attended any yet
- some of the above
- None at the moment. Haven't used zoom or been to social activities in a while
- To know there are others like me
- New activities that I had not expected, I made a book.
- Communication
- It's early days for me but I have been made welcome and comfortable by group members during any interactions so far.
- Can't really say because. I have only been on zoom twice
- None to date
- All and above and beyond my expectations. The projects before and during Lockdown brought me into contact with some inspirational people as well as strengthening existing bonds within the group. I also ended up with more skills and some creations to be proud of
- Help from friends I have made and now respect
- None.
- Meeting new friends
- Contact
- None
- None yet
- Making friends via the network who I keep in touch with between meetings
- It's a fun zoom meeting mainly because of how it is chaired.
- As above
- "I have both met such people and made new friends
- Craft and dance/singing workshops have been an unexpected and enjoyable bonus especially when we could meet in person"
- None yet as I haven't been to any meetings.
- As I can't get out I'm feeling a bit cut off
- Social network
- A social life with other LGBT people. Something worthwhile to do.

### **Which hopes and expectations have NOT yet been fully met?**

- Like to do new things
- Not attended any yet
- I'd like the group to continue to develop/ grow within our local area.
- None at the moment
- None
- I would like to understand more about food and how to keep it safe and how to make it.
- To answer this objectively I must state that due to Covid restrictions and limited time with the group I am a newcomer. From recent experience no doubt, I will gain from the group and its members as I get to know them.
- Zoom is ok but not like meeting a person face to face
- N/a

- A more diverse attendance at online and in-person meetings. But it's been great to see more new faces recently.
- I have been very grateful to the zoom meeting and now face to face x I hope funding allows this to continue
- All
- Activities
- I have none
- All
- I didn't have any clear cut expectations
- None
- I'd like to know how many older lesbians are in the group. My perception is that it is a group for older gay men.
- I can' expect anything as I can't participate.
- Bi weekly socials

### **What could we do differently or better?**

- More workshops
- Not attended any yet
- Meetings/ activities/ events
- Perhaps a weekly phone call to the most vulnerable. Loneliness is bad.
- Please, just keep doing what you are doing, it is really helpful, thank you.
- Coped very well considering the pandemic
- "I feel that maybe zoom meetings could be restructured differently to allow more time to discuss the current events. Perhaps an extra half hour so people can still share past events from the previous week and anticipated events to follow. This would allow more time for researched topics to be discussed. I feel that sometimes we don't don't justice to the efforts made to collate and provide those topics.
- Anything to help with the echo at Fenton meetings lol.
- Possibly different seating arrangements at Fenton. I guess they will evolve to suit.
- I think that the lockdown and rules have been very difficult so meeting and doing more outside things are of more value to people
- N/a
- More regular meetings and activities
- Of course more financial help
- Don't know.
- Arrange activities
- Spend more time doing social activities. When COVID allows.
- N/a
- You are doing extremely well
- Maybe an occasional weekend meeting in the day time.
- Status Quo
- have an additional monthly meet up similar to the Fenton cafe, or even at the Fenton cafe, but at a different time to a Monday afternoon
- I've emailed Sue asking her about her experience of joining the group.
- Provide transport 4 those of us who cannot drive to s o t meetings
- I think the weekly Zooms need more variety. Different themes not just catch up and news.

### **Any other suggestions or comments?**

- More get togethers
- Stay well x
- Maurice needs a new computer, can't we buy him one?
- As for the face to face meeting, is one every month sufficient?
- The staff are very welcoming and supportive at Fenton Town Hall.
- The Chairman Rocks!
- "Great to see more people volunteering as trustees.
- Fabulous to witness the growth from a tiny base of a handful of gay and bisexual men in 2009 to the diverse thriving community with nearly 50 members and a mailing list of almost 200.
- In December 2019 the group became a registered charity "
- Encourage all people to communicate x loneliness is a sad thing
- More branches & groups.
- When are people diagnosed with being old? There are many who are very capable after being retired, and who are active and energetic, and who really need to have a good workout regularly. Not much available!
- Enjoyable
- a move towards more meetings in person and less zoom but taking into account how covid is progressing/declining and members' concerns about this
- Join us on Thursday nights for badminton at the MAC at 7.30pm. Promote physical activity as part of what 'older' gay people can do. Theres the social side of it too.
- The group is developing into a nice support and friendly group
- Thanks to the board for all your hard work