

Pride Reading Group

The LGBT+ reading group (or 'Pride Reading Group') was launched in October 2016 as part of a wider library service strategy to provide a more visible offer to LGBT+ members of our community. Other strands of this strategy included new stock, better signposting of stock and adding posters advertising LGBT+ inclusivity in libraries.

The group is not advertised as being specifically for LGBT+ members, but as a place 'to talk about the best in LGBT+ writing, from classics to the latest young adult novels.' Most members do identify as LGBT+ and because we read titles themed around LGBT+ issues, the book we choose each month often acts as a jumping-off point for discussion of things we have encountered in our own lives, or of contemporary LGBT+ concerns.

Members often share recommendations of other LGBT+ themed arts and events. They have also been engaged in suggesting titles that they would like the group to read. We try to pick titles held by the library service wherever possible. The group is especially valuable as there are very limited activities in Hillingdon aimed specifically at an LGBT+ audience. Current members' ages range from early 20s to 60+.