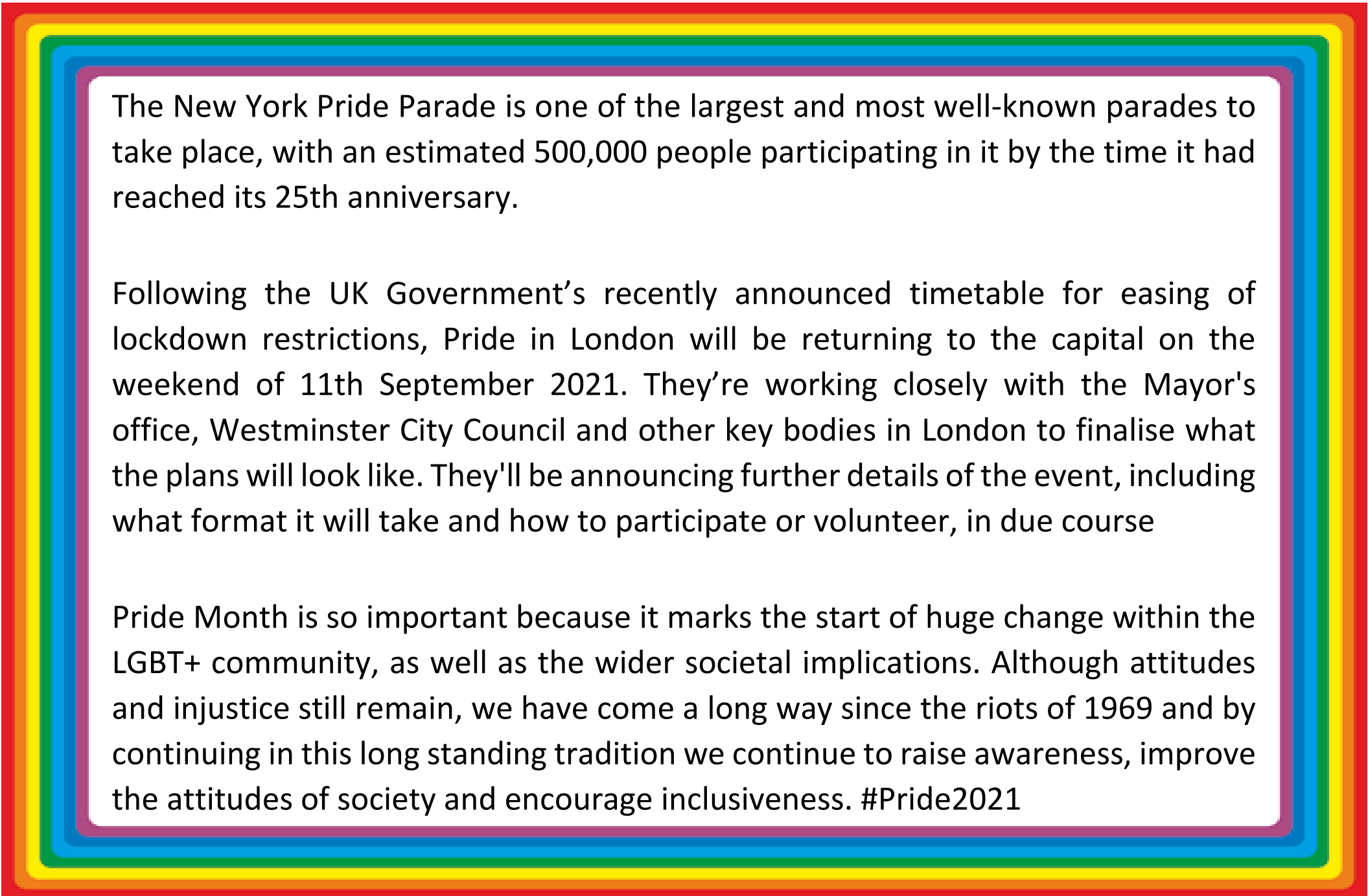


Pride is an annual LGBT celebration. Every year during the month of June the LGBT community celebrates in a number of different ways.

Across the globe, various events are held during this special month as a way of recognising the influence LGBT people have had around the world.

Why was June chosen? Because it is when the Stonewall Riots took place, way back in 1969.

As well as being a month long celebration, Pride month is also an opportunity to peacefully protest and raise political awareness of current issues facing the community. Parades are a prominent feature of Pride month, and there are many street parties, community events, poetry readings, public speaking, street festivals and educational sessions all of which are covered by mainstream media and attracting millions of participants.



The New York Pride Parade is one of the largest and most well-known parades to take place, with an estimated 500,000 people participating in it by the time it had reached its 25th anniversary.

Following the UK Government's recently announced timetable for easing of lockdown restrictions, Pride in London will be returning to the capital on the weekend of 11th September 2021. They're working closely with the Mayor's office, Westminster City Council and other key bodies in London to finalise what the plans will look like. They'll be announcing further details of the event, including what format it will take and how to participate or volunteer, in due course

Pride Month is so important because it marks the start of huge change within the LGBT+ community, as well as the wider societal implications. Although attitudes and injustice still remain, we have come a long way since the riots of 1969 and by continuing in this long standing tradition we continue to raise awareness, improve the attitudes of society and encourage inclusiveness. #Pride2021

## **The Stonewall Riots**

The riots were prompted by a raid that took place during the early morning, at the Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Village, Manhattan. The LGBT community held a series of spontaneous, often violent demonstrations to protest against the raid and calling for the establishment of places that gays and lesbians could go and be open about their sexual orientation. In such places there should be no fears of being arrested. The riots served as a catalyst for the rights of LGBT people, and within 6 months, 2 gay activist groups had formed in New York. Over the years since the event, many gay rights organisations have been formed. Not just in the US but around the world.

The 1969 riots are widely considered to constitute one of the most important events leading to the gay liberation movement and the twentieth century fight for LGBT rights in the United States.



**Stonewall Riots**  
**28 June 1969**



## Who started the June celebration?

Known as the 'Mother of Pride', it was Brenda Howard (1946-2005) who coordinated the first LGBT Pride march in 1970. As well as sparking the idea for a week of events around Pride Day. These events then developed into the annual LGBT celebrations held every June. Additionally, Howard along with another bisexual activist is credited with popularizing the word '*Pride*' to describe these festivities. She was a fixture in New York City's LGBT Community, was active in the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights which helped guide New York City's Gay rights law through the City Council in 1986 as well as ACT UP and Queer Nation.





A decorative border consisting of multiple concentric lines in the colors of the rainbow: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, and red.

Pride Month

2021