

LGBTQ+ HISTORY MONTH NEWSLETTER

University of Leicester School of Physics and Astronomy
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LGBT+ in STEM: Spotlight on JJ Eldridge

Today, we're highlighting the work of Prof. JJ Eldridge, from the University of Auckland.

[Professor Jan \(JJ\) Eldridge](#) is a theoretical astrophysicist whose work focuses on understanding the evolution of stars through numerical modelling. She received her MA, MSci and PhD from the University of Cambridge.

Following her doctorate, Eldridge worked at several astrophysical institutions before becoming a lecturer and professor at the University of Auckland, where she continues to research stellar evolution and structure. Recently, Eldridge was also elected as the Head of the University's Physics Department.



Today's donation link is [Gendered Intelligence](#), a trans-led charity that aims to increase the visibility and quality of trans experiences in the UK & beyond, especially for young trans people. Donate to them [here!](#)

Eldridge is a non-binary trans woman and has been a strong advocate for LGBTQ+ inclusion within science and academia. These efforts include [leading campus efforts for trans and LGBTQ+ inclusion](#) at the University of Auckland.

She is also an active public speaker, giving outreach talks on a number of scientific topics, and has

more recently been exploring the world of science-fiction through assessing the accuracy of common sci-fi ideas. In her talks, she also often references gender issues, such as in [this public lecture](#) on mind swapping and gender diversity.

Follow Prof. JJ Eldridge on [twitter](#) or at her [blog!](#)



EVENTS TODAY

10th Feb: Film Screening: *My Days of Mercy* (7p.m.)

Join the University of Leicester LGBT+ Society for a screening of this 2017 romantic drama, starring Elliot Page. Join the film via the LGBT+ Society's [Facebook page](#).

RECOMMENDATIONS & RESOURCES

Book for younger readers: [Peanut Goes for the Gold](#) is a charming picture book by Jonathan Van Ness. The story follows the adventures of Peanut, a nonbinary guinea pig who chases their dream of being a rhythmic gymnast. Available from [hive.co.uk](#) & [uk.bookshop.org](#).

Book for older readers: [The Song of Achilles](#) by Madeline Miller is a fresh

retelling of the heroic Greek tale as a quiet romance between Achilles & his comrade Patroclus. Available from [Pages of Hackney](#) & [uk.bookshop.org](#)

Podcast: [Queer as Fact](#) is an international queer history podcast. Hosts Alice, Irene Eli & Jason explore topics & figures from around the world, and the context of those stories within queer

history. Find them on [Podbean](#), [Spotify](#) & [Acast](#).

Livestream: shanodin is a bisexual, genderqueer streamer who is creating a friendly gaming space with an emphasis on LGBTQ+ inclusion. They play a wide variety of games, as well as hosting charity streams and community nights. Find them on [Twitch](#) & [Twitter](#).



Today's key figure in British LGBTQ+ history is [Labi Siffre](#), a gay Black singer, songwriter, musician and poet whose work has been widely covered and sampled throughout the evolution of British & international music. Born in 1945, Siffre was an active musician between 1970-1975 & 1988-1998, with some of his best-known songs including "It Must Be Love", "Crying Laughing Loving Lying" and "Something Inside so Strong". His work has been covered and sampled by artists including [Madness](#), [Kenny Rogers](#) & [Kanye West](#). Siffre met his partner, Peter John Carver Lloyd in 1964, and they were finally able to enter a civil partnership in 2005 after [the Civil Partnership Act 2004](#) enabled same-sex couples to attain this. He is still an active artist, and you can read his poetry & more on [intothelight.info](#).

Contact us

To recommend scientists, events, donation links, books and podcasts for future editions, please contact the PGR Reps at the emails below:

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