

# Scarborough Safe Venue Project

## Discovery report

### What's this?

For a few months now, I've been promoting a survey through <http://scarboroughsvp.co.uk/> which has the aim of discovering what the possibilities are for a self-run LGBT community safe venue in Scarborough.

I received 19 responses and the results are very positive, thank-you.

I am following an Appreciative Inquiry process which will take a while but goes through four stages: Discovery (where we are now) where we work out what gives us life, Dream where we take those elements and create our own vision of what we want, then we Design what sort of things we will need to make it happen, and then we hit Destiny and get people in place who are committed to making it happen. The process is focussed on a topic, in this case, what do we want? It focusses on building the positive rather than firefighting problems. Assuming the process works, we can use it ongoing and just keep feeding in new questions.

In this report, I will summarise the responses and attempt to shape some initial themes. I will let the responses settle for a short while and then work on defining the next step, so I will be in touch later about that.

### Describe a social moment you enjoyed recently, what was the best part of it?

Great venues included:

- being outdoors in the sun (2)
- L'Amour
- The women-only cricket festival in Hull
- The theatre
- a garden party / barbecue (2)
- Viaduct Showbar in Leeds
- a wedding
- Sci-Fi Scarborough

1 person said a disability-friendly venue is essential for them

Looking at 'purpose':

- Spending time with friends (10)
- Laughing and having fun (2)
- Doing something meaningful, making a difference, coming together as a community
- Eating
- Dancing
- Pokemon Go
- Leisurely lunch

Being accepted, friendly, feeling safe (5).

Accoutrements:

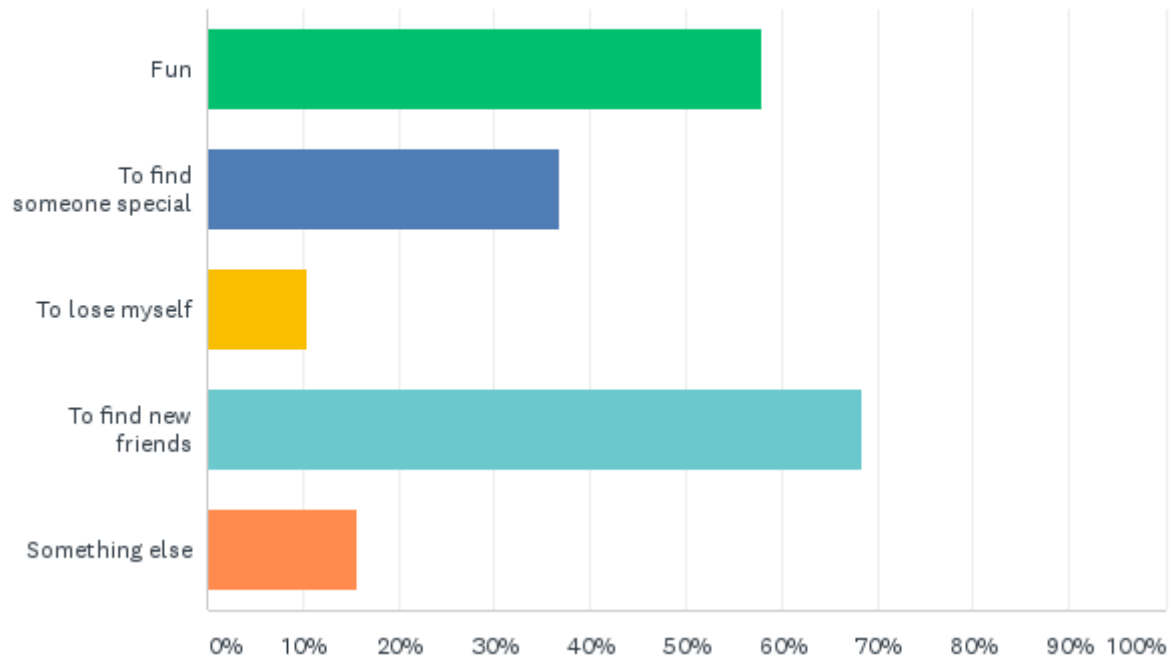
- Tea
- Coffee

## **Is there somewhere in Scarborough where you would feel safe and comfortable holding hands with your partner?**

- anywhere (5)
- no (6)
- yes (2)
- yes but we are not necessarily visible as LGBT (2)
- I wouldn't feel safe in many places / not always (2)
- There aren't many LGBT places in Scarborough, not even a Pride
- no partner

# What do you want out of life at the moment?

Answered: 19 Skipped: 0



The 'something else' answers were:

- gentle happiness
- to help people
- we need a completely gay place to meet new partners

## When in your life did you feel most alive, engaged, effective? What's the story behind that, why was that moment so special?

- on holiday
- met new friends (2)
- felt accepted by regular people
- learning, being stimulated and challenged at uni
- when my children were born
- when I had a passion for doing something with people I felt (sexuality wise) safe with
- helping refugees on Lesvos
- going to Pride in Leeds
- can't remember / too tired / not sure (3)

- new job
- new partner, falling in love
- constantly
- being young and away from home
- getting married / civil partnership (2)
- now, through therapy
- involved in alternative music
- in London

## **What's the thing you would most like to resolve, sort out, get done?**

- I would like to find a group of LGBTQ people I could befriend and hang out with (2)
- Set up a safe venue for the LGBTQ community to meet / hold events at (2)
- I want to forgive my family / resolve some past issues (2)
- my insecurities
- don't know / not sure (2)
- acceptance, equality
- address bigotry and prejudice among those in power/authority / lack of equality and understanding of LGBT issues here in Scarborough (2)
- my health, I have ME/CFS
- my love life
- money problems / clear my debt (2)
- trip to Iceland
- world peace
- help people
- meet a new partner
- get out more to friendly groups and environments
- loutish people in Scarborough

## **Where do you find inspiration?**

- everyday people (2)
- what people wear and do
- in the thank-you of someone I helped
- in a donation received
- I don't / I'm not (2)
- the sea / beach (4)
- nature / countryside / landscape (4)
- singing in my choir
- coffee
- art
- online, Twitter, Tumblr, Instagram (2)
- friends (2)
- everywhere
- universal vibration
- my children
- my community
- my understanding of unfairness and injustice
- music
- film
- tv
- comics

## **Imagine it's 5 years into the future and this project is established. What's it like? What does it offer?**

- A safe place to meet
- counselling
- LGBTQ events
- days/nights out

- entertainment
- advice
- links
- not just a bar
- culture
- opportunity
- support
- friendly, relaxed atmosphere
- a modern coffee bar
- good food
- nice setting
- some nightlife
- occasional wine bar evenings

## How much do you think you might invest in shares?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Nothing	15.79%	3
£100-£900	63.16%	12
£1,000 - £4,900	0.00%	0
£5,000 - £10,000	0.00%	0
more	0.00%	0
Perhaps a small regular direct debit	21.05%	4
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>19</b>

## What skills do you have that you might wish to bring to bear on this project?

There were all sorts of responses here but it sounds like we know someone who knows bid writing and finance, a graphic designer and artist, a writer, an event organiser, a plumber and heating engineer, a business manager, a renovator and crafter, a project manager and a hairdresser.