Trans Focus

The World from a Transgender Perspective

September 2026



"I don't care if you're gay or lesbian or transgender. Everybody should have an equal chance."

– *Dolly Parton*

Carla & Penny pay their personal tribute to Dolly Parton

Welcome to September

Welcome to the September edition of *Trans Focus*.

“Wake Me Up, When September Ends” (Green Day, American Idiot Album, 2004).

Actually no! I love September.

For the first time since 2020, Carla has swerved Benidorm Pride. Mainly due to a very busy schedule. Penny doesn’t go to the Benidorm event, but she also has a busy schedule. One of our Tgirl contributors, Summer will be going for ther day to enjoy the parade. I’ll try and persuade her to take some photos for our October edition.

It doesn’t mean our heart and soul arent with those attending. Every Pride carries more and more significance these days and we are all too aware of that.

Last months heroes include Directors Ally Pankiw, known for *Black Mirror*, and Kate Herron, who directed *Loki*, having both rejected opportunities to work on HBO’s new *Harry Potter* series. Read more about it in this edition.

Count Binface. If you arent aware, he stood almost single handedly against far right politician and under investigation Nigel Farage in the Clacton by-election. Gaining not far short of 10,000 votes shows that joke candidates can be challenged.

Forget the A-Team. The T-Team are in this edfition to help you with any trans related problems. I’ll have to admit, trying to put together the T-Team photo story was a nightmare. It took way too long, but eventually Carla managed it. Try to look beyond

the slight differing in appearances and height of the girls, but its all in good fun.



Costa Blanca T-Girls meet Count Binface.

Finally, as I write this, I hear that the wonderful Dolly Parton has passed away aged 80. We are heartbroken here and couldn't let this edition pass withput placing her in her rightful position – On the front cover.

As if that wasn't enough, a day later we heard that Tim Curry, famously Dr Frank-N-Furter on the Rocky Horror Picture Show has also passed at the age of 80. Read my obituary inside.

We are hoping our mix of light hearted and serious contributions to this months magazine hit the spot. As ever we invite anyone who wants to contribute to contact us.

Have a wonderful month.

Thank you for reading.

Love

Carla & Penny xx



Penny, Carla and Emma enjoy Sunday afternoon drinks in the heat.

Dolly Parton: The Queen of WOKE

By Penny



How a star became the trans community's softest, brightest and most radically loving icon.

In the grand couture of American pop culture, few figures shimmer with the effortless grace of **Dolly Parton**. She has always been more than sequins and sass; she is a woman who understands that true glamour is rooted in generosity, empathy, and the courage to love loudly. And it is precisely this, her unwavering embrace of LGBTQ+ people, especially the trans community, that crowned her, quite unintentionally, as the *Queen of woke*.

A Legacy Sewn in Kindness

Long before "woke" became a political battleground, Dolly was practicing a softer, older kind of activism: **radical compassion**. She surrounded herself with queer and trans people, not as tokens, but as family. She spoke of them with tenderness, defended them with conviction, and refused to let anyone diminish their humanity.

Her message was always disarmingly simple:

"I just want everybody to be treated good."

In a world addicted to outrage, Dolly's clarity felt revolutionary.

Her Trans Community: Loved, Seen, Protected

Dolly's support for trans people wasn't a press-release performance, it was lived, daily, and deeply personal.

- She openly acknowledged that her inner circle includes **transgender people she loves dearly**, and she has long advocated for their right to live without shame or fear.
- She dismissed anti-trans legislation with the same gentle steel she uses to defend her own femininity: people deserve to be who they are, full stop.
- She refused to let religion be weaponized against trans lives, reminding the world that judgment is not a virtue — love is.

This wasn't activism. It was Dolly being Dolly.

A 40-Year Friendship That Defined Her Allyship

One of the most touching chapters in her story is her decades-long bond with **Jason Pirro**, her chauffeur and assistant, a transgender man who worked with her for nearly forty years.

Dolly didn't "support" him; she cherished him. She learned from him. She protected him. She honored him in her memoir.

In the fashion world, we'd call this *heritage*: a relationship that shapes the house, the silhouette, the ethos. Jason was part of Dolly's house, and she made sure the world knew it.

The Dolly Doctrine

If Vogue were to distil her philosophy into a single editorial pull-quote, it would be this:

Kindness is couture. Inclusivity is elegance. Loving people as they are is the ultimate luxury.

Dolly Parton never set out to be a cultural warrior. She simply refused to abandon the people she loved. And in doing so, she became a beacon, a rhinestone-studded symbol of what it looks like when fame is used not to dominate, but to uplift.

That's why she's the Queen. Not of controversy. Not of politics. But of **woke compassion**, delivered with a wink, a wig, and a heart big enough to hold everyone.

Dolly Parton:

A Life of Love, Kindness and Acceptance



The world has lost one of its brightest lights. Dolly Parton, the legendary singer, songwriter, actress and philanthropist, died on 25 August 2026, aged 80.

For millions, Dolly was the Queen of Country. But for many of us, she became something more: an ally, an icon and, perhaps most importantly, someone who made us feel accepted.

Dolly never seemed interested in telling people how they should live their lives. Instead, she repeatedly spoke about treating everybody with kindness and respect. She publicly supported same-sex marriage and, when LGBTQ+ issues became increasingly politicised, continued to speak in favour of acceptance. In

2023, as Tennessee introduced a series of anti-trans measures, Dolly made her position clear: she wanted everyone to be treated well. That mattered.

Dolly came from a deeply conservative part of America and built her career in country music, a world that has not always been welcoming to LGBTQ+ people. Yet here was this enormously successful woman saying, in effect, that being different was not something to fear.

Her support was rarely about grand political campaigning. It was often much simpler and perhaps more powerful. She welcomed LGBTQ+ people into her audience, her businesses and her world. Dollywood famously reinforced the message that it was a place where *all families* were welcome.

For a gay or trans person growing up feeling that people like them were somehow unacceptable, seeing someone as universally loved as Dolly offer acceptance could make a difference. She demonstrated that compassion didn't have to be complicated or partisan.

Her legacy will, of course, include extraordinary music, from *Jolene* to *9 to 5* and *I Will Always Love You*. It will include her extraordinary philanthropy and the millions of children reached through her Imagination Library.

But perhaps her greatest legacy is something harder to measure: the people who felt a little less alone because Dolly Parton was in their corner. For a community that has spent far too long being told it doesn't belong, that is a remarkable gift.

Rest in peace, Dolly. And thank you for reminding us that kindness really can change the world.

At the moment I’m sad but in the realisation that I was lucky enough to be alive at the same time as Dolly parton will forever fill me with joy.

Carla

Travelin'Thru
Dolly Parton



Well I can't tell you where I'm going, I'm not sure of where I've been
But I know I must keep travelin' till my road comes to an end
I'm out here on my journey, trying to make the most of it
I'm a puzzle, I must figure out where all my pieces fit
Like a poor wayfaring stranger that they speak about in song
I'm just a weary pilgrim trying to find what feels like home
Where that is no one can tell me, am I doomed to ever roam
I'm just travelin', travelin', travelin', I'm just travelin' on

Questions I have many, answers but a few
But we're here to learn, the spirit burns, to know the greater truth
We've all been crucified and they nailed Jesus to the tree
And when I'm born again, you're gonna see a change in me

God made me for a reason and nothing is in vain
Redemption comes in many shapes with many kinds of pain
Oh sweet Jesus if you're listening, keep me ever close to you
As I'm stumblin', tumblin', wonderin', as I'm travelin' thru

I'm just travelin', travelin', travelin', I'm just travelin' thru
I'm just travelin', travelin', travelin', I'm just travelin' thru

Oh sometimes the road is rugged, and it's hard to travel on
But holdin' to each other, we don't have to walk alone
When everything is broken, we can mend it if we try
We can make a world of difference, if we want to we can fly

Goodbye little children, goodnight you handsome men
Farewell to all you ladies and to all who knew me when
And I hope I'll see you down the road, you meant more than I knew
As I was travelin', travelin', travelin', travelin', travelin' thru



I'm just travelin', travelin', travelin', I'm just travelin'
Drifting like a floating boat and roaming like the wind
Oh give me some direction lord, let me lean on you
As I'm travelin', travelin', travelin', thru

I'm just travelin', travelin', travelin', I'm just travelin' thru
I'm just travelin', travelin', travelin', I'm just travelin' thru

Like the poor wayfaring stranger that they speak about in song
I'm just a weary pilgrim trying to find my own way home
Oh sweet Jesus if you're out there, keep me ever close to you
As I'm travelin', travelin', travelin', as I'm travelin' thru

Written by: Dolly Parton

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mx_I-byng78

Tim Curry:

The Man Who Made It OK to Be Different



Tim Curry has died at the age of 80, leaving behind a career that stretched across theatre, film, television and music. But for many of us in the LGBTQ+ community, his greatest legacy will always be found in a corset, stockings, heels and a pair of fishnet tights.

As Dr Frank-N-Furter in *The Rocky Horror Show* and its 1975 film adaptation, Curry created one of the most extraordinary characters ever seen on screen. I remember going to see the film at Liverpool's Odeon Cinema and was transfixed. I've seen the stage show since, but Dr Frank-N-Furter will always be Tim Curry.

Frank was sexually liberated, flamboyant, gender-defying and completely unapologetic about who he was. At a time when homosexuality and gender non-conformity were still routinely treated with shame or ridicule, *Rocky Horror* offered something radically different: **you could be different, and you could celebrate it.**

For trans people, there is a particular resonance. Frank-N-Furter wasn't a representation of being transgender, and we shouldn't rewrite the character as one. But the film challenged the rigid idea that clothing, appearance, sexuality and gender had to fit neatly into boxes. Its playful defiance of those boundaries helped generations of queer people question why those boxes existed in the first place.

For someone frightened to step outside dressed as themselves, there was something incredibly powerful about watching Tim Curry stride onto the screen looking utterly fabulous, and seemingly completely unconcerned about what anyone thought.

And Curry was so much more than Frank. He terrified us as Pennywise in *It*, appeared in *Clue*, *Annie*, *Legend*, *Home Alone 2* and *The Three Musketeers*, and enjoyed an acclaimed stage career that brought three Tony nominations.

But Frank will endure.

Because sometimes representation doesn't have to be perfect or literal to change someone's life.

Sometimes, seeing someone confidently break the rules is enough to make you wonder whether you can break a few yourself.

Thank you, Tim Curry, for giving so many of us permission to be a little more wonderfully strange.

THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW



Give Yourself Over to Absolute Pleasure

TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX PRESENTS A LOU ADLER-MICHAEL WHITE PRODUCTION "THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW"
STARRING TIM CURRY SUSAN SARANDON BARRY BOSTWICK RICHARD O'BRIEN JIM SHARMAN AND RICHARD O'BRIEN
R RICHARD HARTLEY JOHN GOLDSTONE LOU ADLER MICHAEL WHITE
JIM SHARMAN www.rockyhorror.com

A Little Bit of Good News

Sometimes, when you're transgender, it can feel as though the news is relentlessly negative. Another attack, another headline, another politician arguing about our existence. So it's worth stopping when something genuinely positive happens.

The UK EHRC guidance is nearly a month in and proving to be everything we expected it to be – Impossible to implement. Large companies and organisations are posting support for transgender people and welcoming people to use the toilet that's appropriate for them. I've heard reports that some are renaming, or planning to rename their toilets as gender free. The likely future is that new buildings will be equipped with gender neutral toilets. The one thing I am convinced of it that there won't be self appointed genital police aoutside the mens toilets.

We just need the cowardly government to step in and bring trans rights back into the 21st century.

Now the good news…

Directors **Ally Pankiw**, known for *Black Mirror*, and **Kate Herron**, who directed *Loki*, have both rejected opportunities to work on HBO's new *Harry Potter* series because of their opposition to J.K. Rowling's views on transgender people. Pankiw's response was particularly blunt, telling her team: "Absolutely fucking not!" (I love this reply) She later said that it was simply that easy to say no to funding transphobia. Herron revealed that she had actually been approached twice — and said no both times.

That matters.

These aren't unknown newcomers turning down a minor job. These are established, successful directors being offered the chance to work on one of the biggest television franchises in the world.

They could have taken the opportunity, taken the money and kept quiet. Instead, they made a choice.

For trans people, particularly at a time when our existence is so often presented as a political argument, seeing people with influence publicly say **“No, this isn't something I want to support”** can be incredibly powerful.



It reminds us that we're not alone. There are people prepared to stand beside us — not merely with sympathetic words, but with meaningful choices.

So, among all the depressing trans news, let's celebrate this.

Two women were offered the Hogwarts Express.

They looked at where it was going and said:

No thanks. We'll get off here.

The Welsh NHS Suspension: A Decision That Feels Like Punishment, Not Prudence

The Welsh NHS's decision to suspend all referrals and scheduled gender-affirming surgeries lands with a thud, not as a neutral administrative pause, but as yet another institutional message that trans lives are negotiable. For transsexual women in Wales and across the UK, the announcement reads less like a safeguarding measure and more like a withdrawal of trust, dignity, and continuity of care.

What actually happened

In late August 2026, the NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee ordered an immediate halt to new referrals and even already-scheduled gender-affirming surgeries through the Welsh Gender Service (WGS). This followed concerns about "significantly higher" referral rates compared with England, and questions about aspects of the referral and assessment process. The service was escalated to Level 3, a formal NHS category indicating serious concerns requiring enhanced oversight.

Some patients had already been admitted for surgery when cancellations were issued. Trans groups described the move as "cruel" and an "extraordinary violation" of NHS Wales' duty of care.

Why this feels dangerous

From a trans woman's perspective, the suspension is not a neutral bureaucratic act. It is a withdrawal of essential medical care, care that is already rationed, delayed, and politically contested.

Several issues stand out:

- **The justification feels thin and premature.** Wales' higher referral rates may simply reflect unmet need, better access, or more humane clinical practice. England's gender services are notoriously under-resourced and slow; comparing Wales to a failing system risks pathologising Welsh patients rather than recognising systemic English shortcomings.
- **The timing is chilling.** The decision comes amid a broader UK climate of suspicion toward gender-affirming care, including the Cass Review's ripple effects and increasingly hostile political rhetoric. Even if the review is framed as "clinically led," it is impossible to ignore the political weather.
- **The human cost is immediate.** Surgeries are not cosmetic luxuries; they are medically necessary interventions that alleviate gender dysphoria and dramatically improve quality of life. Cancelling them, especially for patients already prepared for theatre, inflicts trauma, destabilises mental health, and erodes trust in the NHS.
- **The suspension targets only trans people.** Other surgical pathways with high referral variation are not paused wholesale. Only gender-affirming surgery is treated as suspect by default.



For many trans women, hormones alone cannot resolve dysphoria. Surgery is not an optional extra; it is the completion of care.

A pause that feels like a verdict

The Welsh NHS insists this is a precautionary step. But for the women affected, it feels like a judgement, that their identities, their needs, and their futures are suddenly up for review.

The emotional reality

For a transsexual woman, this decision reinforces a familiar fear: that your healthcare can be taken away at any moment because someone, somewhere, decides you are too many, too visible, too complicated, or too politically inconvenient.

It tells you:

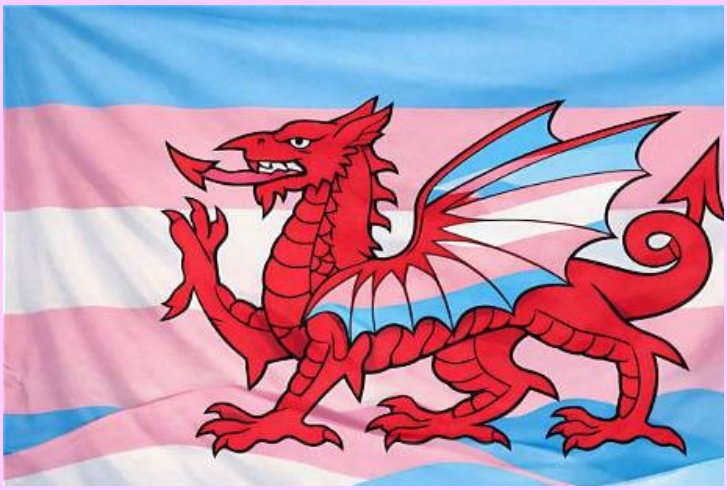
- Your needs are questionable.
- Your referrals are suspicious.
- Your surgeries are optional.
- Your suffering is tolerable.

And it tells the public:

- Trans people's care is something to be scrutinised, not supported.

Until surgeries resume, the message is painfully clear: **Trans people's healthcare is uniquely vulnerable to political pressure, institutional anxiety, and public controversy.**

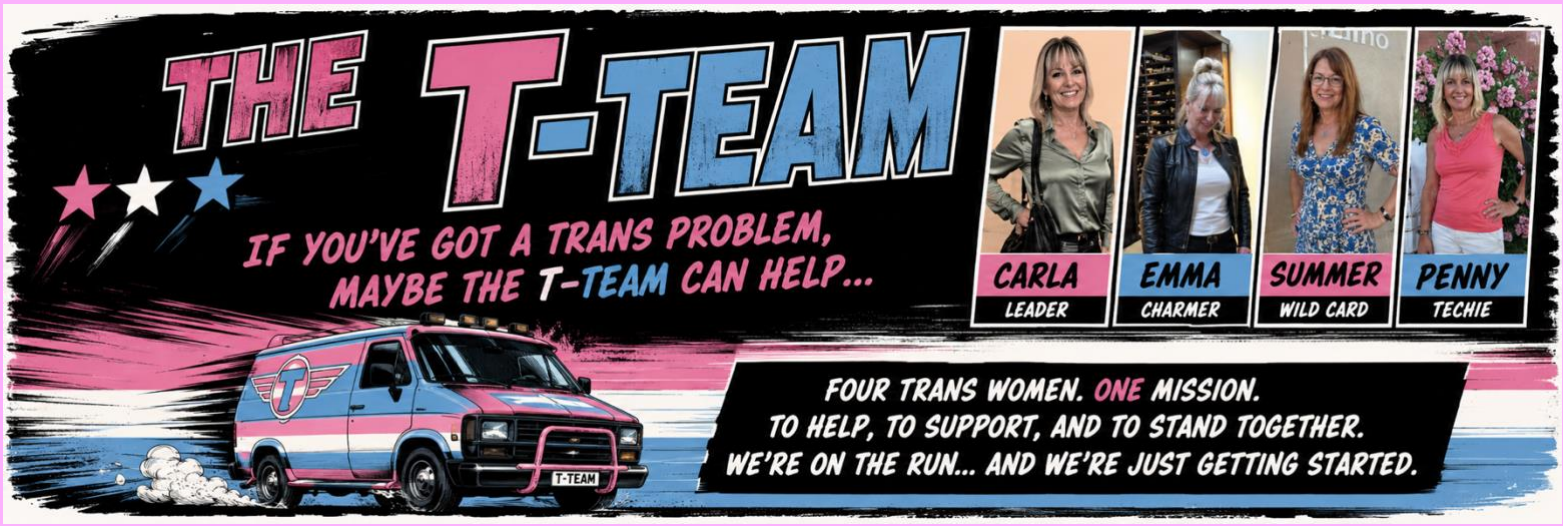
And that is why this suspension feels not just concerning, but dangerous.



What remains available, and why it's not enough

Gwasanaet
Rhywedd G
Welsh Gen
Service

Hormone therapy, psychological support, and endocrine reviews continue. But without surgical pathways, the Welsh Gender Service becomes a half-functioning system, one that can diagnose dysphoria but cannot fully treat it.



In 2024, four trans women from the Costa Blanca came together with a mission: to stand up for trans women who found themselves facing discrimination, prejudice and, sometimes, just needed someone in their corner.

Carla, the leader.
Penny, the techie.
Emma, the charmer.
And Summer, the wild card.

Together, they became the T-Team.

Now, they're on the run — not from the law, but from intolerance, ignorance and anyone who thinks they can tell a trans woman who she is or where she belongs.

If you're a trans woman in distress, if you've got a problem, if no one else will help, and if you can find them...

Maybe the T-Team can help.



Somewhere in the Universe, but probably in the UK, because sadly, that's what is being encouraged by the media and politicians…



Is this a call for help?

The girls are enjoying a relaxing chat and are just about to order some wine, when…



Straight into action.

They waste no time as delay may cause mayhem somewhere in the universe.



The girls are on their way.

There's a bit of a shuffle before Summer decides to drive. She's good like that.



Waiting and watching. Always alert!

Looking for the self-appointed toilet police outside the ladies.



You don't need a Terf Radar to identify the problem.

A crowd starts to gather. She only wanted a wee.



Always the diplomat, nobody does straight talk quite like Emma.



Time to act.

Transgender women are protected by the Equality Act, despite what the toxic media say. Penny explains…



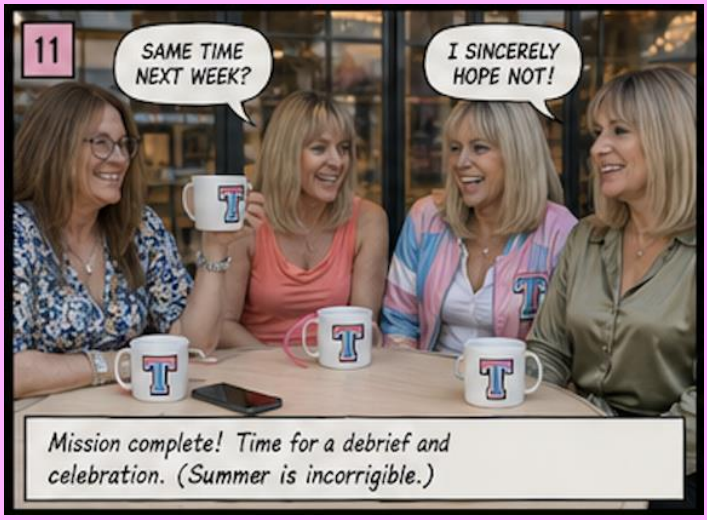
Support gathers round.

Word has spread and women are gathering, offering their backing.



Result!

What a palaver. Just because a woman wanted a wee. You can bet your life there won't be any toilet police outside the men's.



The debrief in a coffee shop. But it's in Spain…

Don't be fooled, there's wine in those cups.

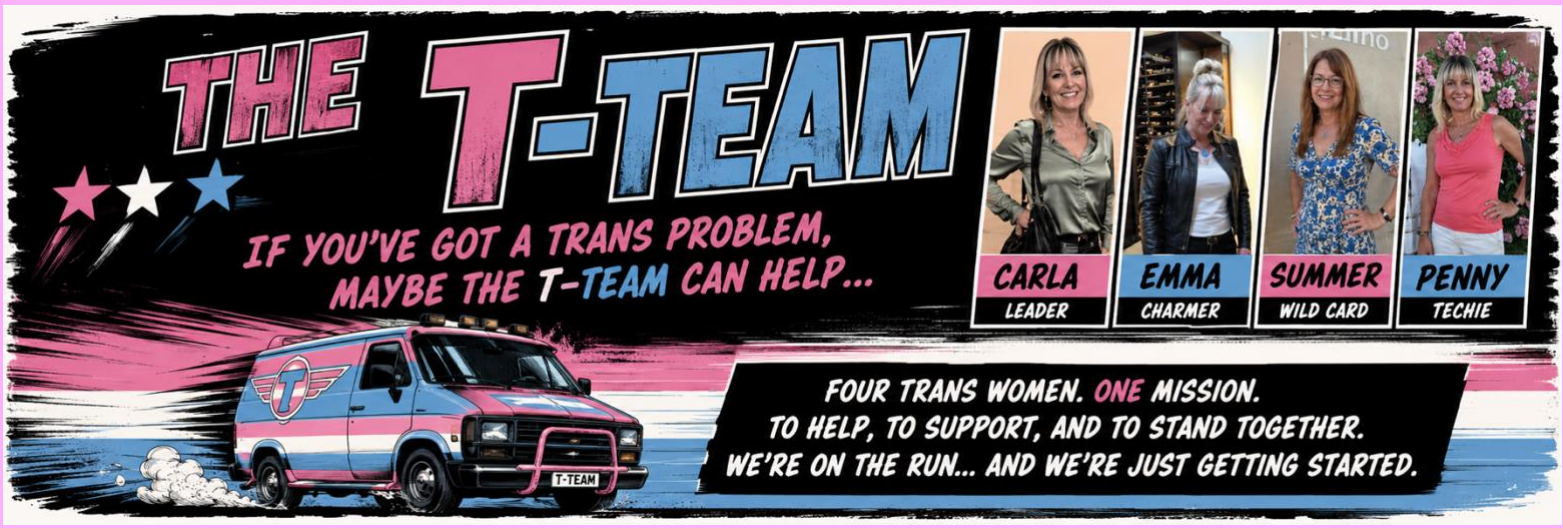


Yet more 'coffee'

And a plan to rid the world of transgender exclusion for ever.



Team photo at the end. Carla is the shortest but must be standing nearest the camera. Either that, or the others are standing in a ditch. Onwards to the next adventure…



Maybe more soon…

The Dangerous Guidance:

When Protecting Women Makes Women Less Safe



Protecting Women Without Policing Women

The Equality and Human Rights Commission's guidance on single-sex spaces came into force on 5th August. At the time, I wondered how something supposedly designed to protect women could create so many problems for them.

Now that it is being interpreted in practice, I'm even more concerned.

The intention may have been to provide clarity and protect women's privacy and safety. But there is a danger that it instead creates confusion, confrontation and, ironically, makes **all women less safe**.

And this isn't simply a dispute between cis women and trans women.

Trans women are women too.

Women have always differed from one another — in appearance, age, disability, sexuality, culture and life experience. Being transgender is simply another difference. Difference doesn't make someone less of a woman.

So where is the evidence that trans women, simply by being present in women's spaces, represent the widespread danger being suggested?

That question became particularly obvious when I watched *The Jeremy Vine Show*, for my sins, after the guidance came into force.

The discussion quickly became confused, with the issue repeatedly framed as **biological sex versus chosen sex**. Jeremy Vine seemed particularly perplexed when discussing a trans man, with a beard and hairy chest, entering a women's toilet because he had been assigned female at birth. His response was essentially that "blokes don't care."

But surely this demonstrates the problem.

If women's spaces are policed according to how someone **looks**, where does that leave women who don't conform to traditional ideas of femininity?



A woman with short hair? A tall or muscular woman? A woman with facial hair or a deep voice? A trans woman who doesn't fit someone's idea of what a woman should look like?

Suddenly, women themselves become responsible for proving that they belong.

The programme also repeatedly returned to the example of Isla Bryson, as though one highly publicised case somehow represents trans women generally.

Meanwhile, the much larger and well-established threats facing women receive far less attention. Domestic abuse, sexual violence, harassment and violence against women and girls remain enormous problems, often committed by men known to their victims.

That is where I want to see the same determination and outrage.

If a man behaves abusively or sexually towards women, **the problem is his behaviour**. We don't need to make every woman who looks different a potential suspect.

And this matters to cis women as well as trans women. If the answer to protecting single-sex spaces becomes determining who is “really” a woman, then women who don't fit somebody's expectations can find themselves scrutinised or challenged.

We are told this is about protecting women's dignity and privacy. Yet the result could be women having to justify their bodies, appearance or right to be somewhere.

Is that really the future we want?

We can protect women without making trans women the enemy. We can have sensible safeguarding arrangements while dealing with **individual behaviour rather than treating an entire group of women as inherently suspicious**.

Cis women and trans women are not enemies. We don't have to choose between protecting one group and protecting the other.

I don't want special treatment. I simply want the same dignity and respect as any other woman.

Women have never been one homogeneous group. Our bodies, experiences and journeys have always been different.

So let's protect **all women** — without deciding that some women are less entitled to dignity, privacy and respect than others.

We can have safeguarding without suspicion.

We can have evidence rather than fear.

And surely we can allow women with different experiences to coexist without one woman's dignity depending upon taking dignity away from another.

Surely that isn't too much to ask.

One thing is for sure, there wont be any self appointed genital police outside mens toilets.

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Protecting Women

They said this was about protecting women.

But who decides
which women belong?

The tall woman.
The muscular woman.
The woman with a deep voice.
The woman with facial hair.
The trans woman.

Do we really want people
examining women,
judging bodies,
questioning appearances,
demanding proof?

The media asked the question
without perhaps realising

Or maybe they did

By doing so
they had exposed the problem.

If behaviour is threatening,
challenge the behaviour.

Don't make suspicion
the price of entry.

Cis women and trans women
are not enemies.

We both deserve dignity.
We both deserve privacy.
We both deserve safety.

Protect women.
All women.

Not by policing them,
but by standing beside them.

Carla Moss



Jamie Lee Curtis and Ruby:

A Story of Courage, Love and Acceptance

When Ruby Guest came out as transgender, she discovered something that many trans people can only hope for: that the people who loved her before she came out would continue to love her afterwards.



Ruby, the daughter of actor Jamie Lee Curtis and filmmaker Christopher Guest, came out to her parents in 2020. It wasn't easy. Although she knew her parents had always been accepting of her, telling them something so deeply personal was still frightening. She initially planned to tell them face-to-face, but couldn't find the courage in the moment. Instead, she eventually sent her mother a message telling her that she was trans.

Jamie Lee Curtis immediately called her daughter. There were, understandably, tears.

But there was no rejection. No questioning of whether Ruby was making the right decision. No attempt to persuade her to remain the person her parents had thought she was.

Instead, there was love.

For Jamie Lee and Christopher, there was a period of learning. Names and pronouns had to become familiar, and Jamie has openly admitted that she sometimes made mistakes. She described herself as a "grateful student", learning from Ruby and trying to become a better ally.

And that is perhaps what makes their story so powerful.

Ruby showed enormous strength by finally saying, *this is who I am*. Her parents showed a different kind of strength by listening, accepting and learning.

Jamie Lee has since become a very outspoken supporter of her daughter, arguing that being a parent isn't about accepting or rejecting your child's identity. It's about loving them.

Ruby herself has said that coming out allowed her to feel more at home in her own skin. She has also spoken about wanting her visibility to help other people feel able to be themselves.

There is something beautifully simple about that.

A daughter found the courage to say who she really was. Her parents had the courage to listen.

And instead of losing a child, they discovered the person their daughter had always been.

“But if one person reads this, sees a picture of Ruby and me and says, ‘I feel free to say this is who I am,’ then it’s worth it”

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Dear Penny,

I live in the UK and it seems like everyone hates trans women and I am to scared to leave my home.

Shirley

Dear Shirley,

Oh love… come sit down, take a breath, and let's talk honestly, woman to woman, heart to heart. You've written from a place of fear so deep it's starting to feel like a second skin, and that breaks my heart because none of this, *none of it*, is your fault.

Let me say your words back to you so you can hear them with the compassion they deserve:

"I live in the UK and it seems like everyone hates trans women and I am too scared to leave my home."

Sweetheart, that sentence carries the weight of someone who has been bracing for impact for far too long. You're not imagining the hostility, the UK has been a difficult place for trans women lately. The media has been loud, politicians have been careless, and the public conversation has been far harsher than you deserve.

But here is the truth you may have forgotten:

It is not "everyone." It is not the whole country. And it is not a reason to disappear.

Fear has a nasty habit of painting the world in one colour, grey, threatening, uniform. It tells you that every stranger is an enemy, every street a battlefield, every glance a judgement. But fear is a terrible cartographer. It draws maps that make the world look smaller than it really is.

There are people, millions of them, who do not hate you. People who will walk past you without a second thought. People who will smile. People who will treat you as the woman you are. People who are quietly, fiercely supportive of trans women even if they don't shout it from the rooftops.

You are not living in a nation of enemies. You are living in a nation going through a loud, messy, uncomfortable conversation, and you're hearing the worst of it because it's aimed at people like you. That doesn't make you weak. It makes you human.

But you cannot let the loudest voices steal your entire life.

You deserve sunlight on your face. You deserve to choose your clothes with joy. You deserve to walk outside without feeling like you're trespassing. You deserve to exist, fully, visibly, beautifully.

And you don't have to leap. You can inch.

- A walk at a quiet time of day
- A drive while presenting as yourself
- A visit to a supportive space
- Meeting one trusted person who sees you clearly

Courage isn't a switch. It's a dial. You turn it a little at a time.

You are not hated. You are not alone. You are not wrong for being who you are.

You are a trans woman — and that is not a reason to hide. It is a reason to live deliberately, tenderly, and proudly, even if pride starts as a whisper.

The world may feel sharp right now, but you are not made of fragile things. You are made of truth. And truth has a way of surviving storms.

When you're ready — even for five minutes — open your door. Not because the world deserves you. But because **you** deserve the world.

With all my warmth, **Penny**

