



**GIG  
BUDDIES**

**PARTNER VENUE GUIDE**



**'Let's get together  
and feel alright.'**

Thanks for showing an interest in becoming a partner venue, or organisation, for Gig Buddies with Thera Trust.

Gig Buddies is a project that enables adults with a learning disability to access more gigs and live events. We're a group of 'sound people' who love getting out, enjoying our passions, and staying up late.

We pair our members with like minded volunteers to get out once a month and enjoy their shared interests. But we also love getting out as a group and discovering new things. This could be anything from an unknown band in a grassroots indie venue, to a national orchestra at the worlds biggest arts festival. What ever it is, we love it live!

For a range of reasons, many adults with a learning disability aren't currently able to get out in the evenings to the things they love. This is where we come in, and we'd love for you to join us in enabling people to stay up late!

**'How f\*\*king great is  
Gig Buddies with Thera'**

**- Tim Minchin**



**'Come together...  
right now.'**

**70%**

of adults with a learning disability say they would like to get out more in the evenings.

**46%**

said that they don't have anyone to go out with in the evenings.

**39%**

said that they are worried people might be rude or nasty to them.

**8%**

said that having venue staff that understood learning disabilities would help them get out.

We want to partner with as many venues as possible to enable you to feel comfortable and knowledgeable in welcoming people with a learning disability into your venue. This guide gives you all the information you need to get involved with Gig Buddies.



Samuel Maggs

Gig Buddies Project Manager for Thera Trust

All data taken from Mencap's 'Going Out & Nightlife survey' 2019.





'I can tell that we  
are gonna be friends.'

We currently work with a wide range of partners from across the arts. From grassroots indie rock, to world class classical concerts, we hope to enable our members to access events no matter their interests. Each of our partners contribute to Gig Buddies in their own unique way.



Scottish  
Event  
Campus

RECONNECT  
Regal Theatre

SUMMERHALL  
Open Minds Open Doors



SWG3







"Mike and myself at the Purple Orange are delighted to be supporting Gig Buddies. It's such a great idea behind the scheme, we just had to get involved. We'd love to help Gig Buddies grow alongside ourselves. We have the platform to help attract more members and volunteers to them. Hopefully our surroundings will help everyone feel relaxed and comfortable and help them make the decision to give Gig Buddies a try!" - Scott, Purple Orange - Bathgate



'Lazing on a sunny afternoon.'




## What We Can Do For You

-  Give our advice and help you adapt and improve your access information that might currently be displayed on your website or social media pages. (Someone with a learning disability may also be physically disabled, but this isn't the case for many people. The advice we can give is specifically around welcoming people with a learning disability to your venue, though this could help a range of people.)
-  Work with you to promote your venue to the local social care community as a welcoming space for people with a learning disability.
-  Along with our team of project ambassadors we can help create accessibility materials for your venue including easy read guides and short films.
-  Deliver Learning Disability Awareness Training to your staff. (At cost/in kind donation.)





## What We Ask From You

-  We're always looking for more Gig Buddies volunteers and gig lovers are our target audience. It would be a huge help to us if you could display our volunteer flyers in your venue, or if we could come along occasionally and hand them out after events. We would also really appreciate having our logo displayed on your website.
-  Do you have a venue member card, or similar scheme? We'd love our members to be involved!
-  We run loads of group socials every year, and love introducing our members to new events and venues. Would you be able to provide us with a number of tickets to an event a few times a year so that we can introduce members to your venue?



All the things I could do  
If I had a little money...

## Helping to fund Gig Buddies

If you really love the work we do, and want to financially support it's continuation, there are a number of ways that you can get involved!

- ✱ Collect for Gig Buddies at your venue. We would love to be your venue's official partner charity, and will more than happily supply your venue with branded donation tins for collections after shows, or at the bar.
- ✱ Have a box of pins on your bar! We can supply you with a box of Gig Buddies pin badges and a donation tin. Or sponsor a 'tap to donate' station in your venue.
- ✱ Would you consider adding 50p to the ticket price for certain events, that can go towards the project?  
A little can go a long way.
- ✱ If you're in the position to make a larger donation, we'd love to talk more about how you can join our consortium of funders.

# 'Why don't you leave your name and your number, and I'll get back to you.'

Check us out on social media, or get in touch with your local Gig Buddies contact. We'd love to hear from you!



Gig Buddies With Thera Trust



@GigBuddiesThera

[www.thera.co.uk/projects/gig-buddies-scotland](http://www.thera.co.uk/projects/gig-buddies-scotland)



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Gig Buddies Glasgow





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