Book of Commemoration

Dr Sylvia Lancaster OBE



S.O.P.H.I.E

stamp out prejudice hatred & intolerance everywhere

Foreword

Dedicated to Sylvia Lancaster, founder of The Sophie Lancaster Foundation, who suddenly passed away on 12 April 2022.

Sylvia understood the pain and devastation that crimes motivated by Hate have on victims, families and communities. She took that insight and created the Sophie Lancaster Foundation. She took the heartbreaking agony from the loss of Sophie and changed the world around her. She became a champion for those from minority communities who want to live free from prejudice. She recognised the need to work with and educate young people - helping them avoid those prejudices that blight the lives of both victims and perpetrators.

Sylvia's campaigning work to get "lifestyle choice" a legally recognised division of Hate Crime was a game changer. It has opened up the debates around misogyny and homelessness and while this work continues we should not underestimate the impact of Sylvia's work. She opened up a debate that demands that everyone is treated with respect and dignity.

Sylvia was our greatest weapon in helping people understand the pain and damage of hatred. She communicated directly and from the heart. Sylvia was a warrior - courageous, fearless and heroic. It is for the rest of us to honour her legacy. Reading the many entries in this book of condolences I am reminded of Sylvia's greatest achievements. She was a great communicator whose words resonated in our hearts—we will all miss her.

Mike Ainsworth

Sylvia brought a unique and fresh new light to the work of the IAG, her commitment and dedication to challenge hate crime also enriched other areas and gave strength to other people who were also victims of hate. Sylvia's cool, calm, soft voice, and easy manner will be a deep loss to us all.

Iqbal Bhana OBE
Deputy Chair
NPCC IAG

She refused to be beaten down or defeated in the face of the overwhelming tragedy of her daughter's death and she inspired her colleagues to continue to fight hatred in all its forms. Zichrona livricha - May her memory be for a blessing.

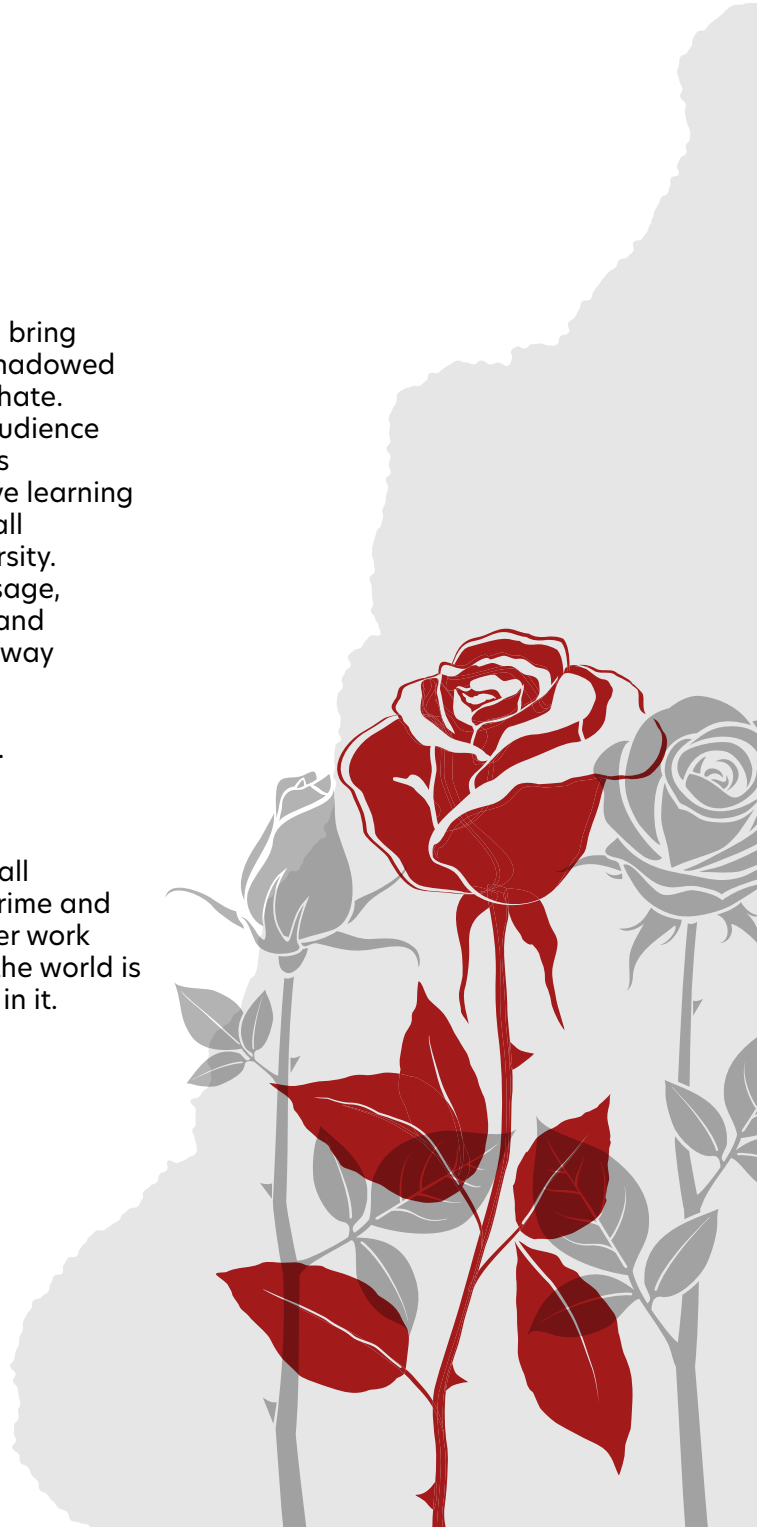
Mike Whine MBE

Sylvia dedicated her life to bring brightness into lives overshadowed or harmed by people who hate. Her ability to engage an audience from children to adults was breathtaking, using positive learning techniques she helped us all appreciate and value diversity. Sylvia was always on message, she understood that pain and sought to heal by the only way she knew, the written and spoken word of truth, humanity and compassion.

Dr Robina Shah MBE

Sylvia was a great ally for all communities facing hate crime and she was a good person. Her work made a huge impact and the world is better for her having been in it.

Nick Antjoule he/him
Head of Advocacy Galop



Tributes

You've been such an amazing and strong woman keeping your Sophie's name alive. Raising awareness about the issues Sophie faced and others. Now is your time to be at peace and go and find Sophie and enjoy your time together. R.I.P Sylvia and Sophie. Xx together again. X Thoughts go to the rest of your family. But they know you were a true angel. X
Kimberley Leece, *Bolton*

You are exactly what every son or daughter should have for a Mother. The love you gave. The strength everyone could feel. You reminded me of my mum. A Warrior, a protector, a home, and a complete love then anyone would want to come home to. Blessed Be Sylvia xx
Claire Worrall, *Bolton*

I met Sylvia when attending a seminar about hate crime through work several years ago. That few hours stuck with me and I will never forget listening to Sylvia tell her story about Sophie. A very brave and courageous lady who spread the word about inclusiveness. I was so very sorry to hear of her passing. My condolences are with her family and friends. Xxx
Juliet Hill, *Mablethorpe*

Sylvia, Sophie's story struck a chord with me, as I remember my boyfriend being beaten up for the way he looked and I was punched in the face as I asked the person to stop. What happened to Sophie, could have so easily happened to me. I have wanted to support your foundation since attending Download Festival, where I first became aware of S.O.P.H.I.E. Hopefully the amazing work you have done will continue, long may your legacy be there to support and educate young people. RIP X Much love to your family and friends at this sad time.
Sarah Thompson, *Portsmouth*

In love and light, we commend you, Sylvia, into the hands of your Creator and into the arms of your beloved Sophie. May we find peace and acceptance from all the work you have done for the community. Blessed be,
Rev. Rachael, *Buffalo NY*

Sylvia, reunited with beautiful Sophie at the great gig in the sky - rock on! And know we're so grateful for your tireless efforts and campaigning. We will never forget either of you brave inspirational ladies xx From a rock chick loud and proud in my thoughts and prayers always xx
Maggie Sands, *Coventry*

Thank you for all of the hard work and the brave fight you have so diligently fought over the years. May both you and Sophie rest peacefully together x
Shannon Louise, *Liverpool*

Sylvia you were, and will continue to be an inspiration to us all. Your strength, humility, courage and determination to make this world a better place are a message to us all. You were the ambassador of acceptance and love. Your mission will go on. If there is anything after this life I am sure you will be with Sophie now, your awesome daughter. Thank you for all you did, all you were, we shall miss you always. Much love, Jenny and Family. LGBTQIP+ allies, supporters of the downtrodden, fighters for peace, love and acceptance. Rest in peace Sylvia. x
Jennifer Richardson, *Staffordshire*

Sylvia was a lovely lady with a beautiful soul. She took her loss and decided not to just accept it but to educate people and try to change people's perceptions. My one wish for her is that she is now reunited with her beloved daughter.
Audrey Gooding, *Crewe*

When I first heard the story about Sophie I was so upset, angry and devastated I told Sylvia they deserve to be beaten and tortured in return... She told me no that's not right, you are then hating! RIP to you both xxx
Claire Morgan, *Milton Keynes*

Sylvia, you were beyond an inspiration. Thank you for being one of my heroes and doing such incredible things out of such tragedy.
Chris Jones, *Shrewsbury*

Having been a member of alternative lifestyle all my life, 59, as a traveller and biker, I have seen the prejudice of people 1st hand. The work you achieved in spreading your message has been invaluable. Sadly like many others you became known to me through the loss of Sophie, the tireless way you campaigned and educated many is so admirable, rest easy, be at peace. Blessed Be.
Dai, *Wolverhampton*

Sylvia; I remember when you and Kate came into my accountancy office in Haslingden and asked me about helping you start the charity officially for Sophie. The passion, the fight, the love was catching. You were amazing, you created a legacy for Adam to take forward and for your grandchildren to be proud of. You may not be here in person but you are in everyone's hearts and you will always remain in mine. I tell my children about you all the time. Thank you for letting me be part of your story. I'm so proud of you xxxx love you lots xx
Catherine Chadwick, *Oswaldtwistle*



I first met Sylvia at college in 1987. We became firm friends. Even then she was a strong determined lady with such a good outlook on life. Amazing character and so determined in every task she undertook. She will be so badly missed but her legacy will long live on. Gone way too early. RIP Sylvia xxx

Andrea Proctor, *Ramsbottom*

When I was working at one of my past jobs in a school I was called down to the hall to help set up a visitor with a laptop and projector as she was doing a talk to a number of students. I quickly found out that the talk was for the SOPHIE charity, and spoke to the lady presenting. It was obvious she was keenly devoted to the charity work, we spoke briefly around the circumstances of Sophie's death and having friends in the alternative community. Another call was raised and I went off to do that. It later transpired (and was revealed to the students at the end of the presentation) that the lady presenting was Sylvia Lancaster, Sophie's mother. It speaks volume that fourteen years later after Sophie's death, and many, many years since I left the job, Sylvia made such an impression on me that I remember after all this time. I just wish I knew beforehand, and they will both be missed.

Tom Bullock, *Bristol*

I met Sylvia during the Preston festival walk for the foundation. I was too scared to talk to her so I got my friend Jackie to ask if I could say hello. She was so friendly and lovely! I love to imagine she is with Sophie now, hugging each other. X

Jodie Smith (Earp) *Kidderminster*

Dear Sylvia... We met you at Whitby Goth Weekend a couple of times and supported your campaign to bring awareness to the fore after losing your beautiful Sophie. Rest in eternal peace with your beloved girl. You have shone brightly. Love Carole and Richard x

Carole Hill, *South Yorkshire*

Rest in peace beautiful lady. Thank you for making a difference to so many peoples lives. Your legacy will live on and never be forgotten.

Carol Roberts, *North East*

Sylvia came to contribute to an Anti Bullying Conference I helped to organise in Staffordshire. Sylvia's message was so powerful and heartfelt and it made me grieve for Sophie as I recognised that although no one would see me as an 'alternative' person now I'm older, my friends and I all strived to look like Sophie in our youth and who knows how close we came to the same terrible consequences of just being ourselves. RIP Sylvia, please keep the message strong from the foundation.

Deb Barnes, *Cannock Staffordshire*

A great woman who achieved so much good out of such tragedy. I was honoured to meet her with my friend Julie. Much love at this difficult time to her nearest and dearest. Laura x

Laura Dickens, *London*

Thank you so much for all your strength... You are beyond inspirational, to continue to make the difference you did after an unimaginable loss and pain. Love & Light x

Dawn Pridham, *Caerleon*

I only spoke to Sylvia once over the phone, but I remember how lovely and kind she was. Learning about her work, hate crime in general and who Sophie was and was like was truly incredible! She was such a powerful influence to me and inspired me greatly. She will be missed dearly, an amazing woman who will be remembered forever. Thank you Sylvia for everything.

Zara Cormack, *Lancashire*

The strength and dignity that shone from you whenever we met was beautiful. You were the best of humanity and will continue to inspire for many years to come. Rest in Peace with Sophie by your side. From all of us at Bloodstock you will never be forgotten.

Rachael Greenfield, *Derby*

Sylvia, may you now rest in peace with your beautiful daughter forever and ever. You truly have a heart of gold and will be missed xxx lots of love, rest in eternal peace special lady xxx

Selina Gill, *Burscough*

Sylvia like Sophie you will not be forgotten. Rest in peace lovely lady

Joanne Glover,
Newcastle-under-Lyme

Thank you. I like to think the world is a better place because of you.

Becky Hodgson, *Devon*

I heard Sylvia speak at a conference in Penrith several years ago. She spoke incredibly, so honestly and movingly on the most horrendous of experiences. Her love for Sophie and her family were clear to see and to find the strength and dignity to continue to try to remove



prejudice and intolerance from our society was truly inspiring. Thinking of all the lives that Sylvia has touched and the significant work she has achieved. I feel very privileged to have had the opportunity to listen to her. Thank you, Sylvia - an absolutely amazing lady xx

Karen Dickie, *Carlisle*

It was a sad day when you left us, all your relentless work on behalf of the alternative community is and will be your legacy for all time, you can rest now and spend some time with beloved Sophie. Gone but never forgotten.

Ron Williamson, *Scotland*

I always felt seen and validated by The Sophie Lancaster Foundation, but I never could have expected how fulfilling and profound meeting Sylvia would be. Sylvia doesn't just listen, she listens with her whole heart and soul. Thank you, Sylvia, for turning your pain and grief into something incredible, and for that half hour of your time. I will always hold it dear.

Amelia Connor, *Hertfordshire*

Sylvia, you would have made Sophie so proud. I hope you're together now. You have created a foundation that has united the alternative community and made us stronger. You were a true inspiration to everyone and I hope yours and Sophie's legacy lives on and on for many many years to come. Rest now.
Rebekah Rogers, *Aberdeen*

An amazing woman who turned something so wrong and tragic into something powerful and positive. My thoughts go out to her family and those close to her.
Joanne Hartley, *Stoke-on-Trent*

You were an inspiration and how to turn such a horrible event to happen to your family to such a positive. I believe you would have found Sophie & the world has another me angel. RIP, you will be never forgotten Sylvia. Sending hugs to your family & friends. You will be missed xx
Sarah Wood, *Burton-upon-Trent*

Rest in peace, Sylvia. You're an inspiration. Your passion for and dedication to stamping out hate was clear. You will be missed so much
Keith Reynolds, *Cannock*

RIP, Back with your beautiful daughter x
Karen Radford, *Manchester*

You took something so tragic and turned it into a way to educate the world of tolerance and kindness towards others. You have made such a difference to people's lives. You are now reunited with your beautiful daughter, and can both shine bright as stars in the sky. R.I.P Sylvia, one amazing lady.
Victoria Reynolds, *Hull*

I am so sorry for your loss. Please accept my sincerest condolences and RIP.
Luke Daley, *Split, Croatia*

You lived your life for others, what a powerful thing to do.
Lucas Salter, *Chester*

Meeting Sylvia empowered me to live my life authentically as an alternative person. Her passion, drive and vision will never be forgotten by the alternative community because she has personally impacted every single one of us with her fierce activism. She will be sorely missed and her absence felt for a very long time. Love and light.
Laura Jenkinson, *Lancashire*

To Sylvia's family, I was lucky to have gotten to know her I send her gifts for herself and for Sophie grave. She was always so nice wrote me letter even message me. One time my doctor was not listen to me about my health I was saying to Sylvia I felt it was because I dress look different they didn't see pass my red hair. Well she told me to go back stand my ground say could you please not judge me on how I dress and look I end up having test done and having operation to save my life. If I didn't have this amazing lady I might not be here. I'm so sad she gone but keep saying she back with her Sophie to special ladies together again. I know they waiting beyond rainbow end. They never be other like Sylvia look out for people who are different. Rest in arms of angels and with our angel Sophie.
Claire Ryan, *Ireland*

A true inspiration. Many would never have recovered from what happened to your family, but you took this tragedy and used your experience to turn it into something truly world changing for the better. If everyone had this outlook then the world would be a wonderful place.
Charles Lamacraft-Perrett,
Basingstoke

Thank you for all you did for us "weirdos". Opening people's eyes and making them understand. You are back with your Sophie. We will never forget what you have done. Love and light to you all. Xx
Liz Kelly, South Lincs

I was shocked and saddened to hear about Sophie's death. What you did was amazing and you'll be missed. Thank you for everything.
Jen Ray, *Aylesbury*

Deepest Sympathy x
Carol Hamill, *Ireland*

Thank you Sylvia. You are an inspiration and left the world a better place than it was. The terrible death of your daughter defined your life purpose, but you were never the victim. Your strength, dignity and love were palpable. Even though I never met you I always felt we were connected - our daughters were both goths, she and I used to visit Bacup when my sister lived there, we were from Lancaster and my mum shared your name. I am so sorry you have left the earth so young and send my love to your family and friends, who will feeling your loss so greatly.
Sue Shone, *Limekilns*

I'm sorry to hear this amazing woman has gained her wings she has done so many amazing things for the world. I sad to think I didn't reach out sooner to catch up but you always think you have more time. Rest in peace Sylvia and may your family find peace knowing you are finally back with Sophie looking down on them xx
Sophie Whittaker,
Caerphilly South Wales

It was with great sadness that I learned of the shocking death of Sophie. It was an uplift to know that from that the Sophia Lancaster foundation was born. Sylvia did so much growing that charity. Now she too has passed, and it is with sadness I write this but also in the hope that those left behind at her passing will continue her work. RIP Sylvia your work born out of such great loss will never be forgotten by me.
Ally Shoat, *Helston Cornwall*



A genuinely lovely woman, with such warmth and dignity. It's a bloody tragedy that she's gone. She was told once she was the mother of the alternative subculture and I think that's absolutely spot on. Rest in peace, Mrs Lancaster xx
Melanie Brehaut, *Belfast*

I was privileged to meet Sylvia on several occasions and was blown away by her spirit and absolute drive and determination to do all she could to Stamp Out Prejudice, Hatred and Intolerance Everywhere. She was an absolute force of nature and the world is a poorer place for her loss. RIP Sylvia. I hope you are at peace with your precious Sophie.
Laura Riach, *West Yorkshire*

I was so sad to hear of your passing. Although I never met you I heard so much about you from my boyfriend , who had met you many times. The work you have by telling the story of your beautiful daughter Sophie was and is amazing and hopefully will continue. My children also know what happened to Sophie and are accepting of people's differences, hopefully more so now they know about Sophie and your work. I know you will be greatly missed by the many "festival friends " you had made over the years but now you can rest in peace with your beautiful daughter once more. Lots of love and condolences to your family and friends xxxx S.O.P.H.I.E
Jenny Smith, *Stoke-on-Trent*

On behalf of everyone at RockFit UK I'd like to thank everyone at The Sophie Lancaster Foundation for the amazing work you do and offer our sincere condolences for your loss. Sylvia was an incredibly strong and inspirational woman and her work will continue to touch the lives of future generations. In her absence may we all continue to stand against the hatred, prejudice and intolerance that she fought against so fiercely. Rest well Sylvia, your work is done x
Hannah Hawkey, *Plymouth*

It takes the courage of a lion to be true to yourself and be who you want to be and the protectiveness of a lioness to always uphold this especially after such a tragedy, may you both rest in peace knowing you have made life so much better for others. Sleep tight Sophie and Sylvia xx
Sally Flitcroft, *Stockport*

Sylvia, I never had the pleasure of meeting you but your work has meant so much to me. My daughter lives an alternative lifestyle and she suffered abuse because of it. We felt we had no where to turn but then I saw a documentary about Sophie. Whilst my heart broke at the loss of such a beautiful young person, it also soared with your words of hope. A hope that still lights a path in the darkness for countless people who, like Sophie, choose to dress and to live a different way. May that light of hope shine forever. Wherever you and Sophie are now, I hope you are together. Please give her a hug from me. RIP Sylvia and thank you x
Karen Bailey, *Burton-on-Trent*

I have never come across such a strong determined woman as Sylvia. Although I sadly never met her the work she did after the tragic pointless violence that took Sophie from her is truly inspirational. They will both never be forgotten.
Carole Roberts, *Lancashire*

May your legacy and the memory of Sophie live on forever. I wrote a poem - It's the music that matters- in memory of Sophie, I will continue to perform it in the war against hate crime and prejudice in memory of you both, Jeff and Tracy x
Jeff Dawson, *Bolton*

The world has lost a true inspiration and strong woman RIP.
Barbara Clifford, *Wrexham*

Sylvia - what an inspirational woman! Now reunited, forever, with her beloved Sophie. RIP both - you will never be forgotten. Much love, Steve xx
Stephen Cowdry, *Swindon*

Sophie was born the same year as me and as a fellow proud member of the goth community, I was devastated by her loss. Your strength and determination to change the world for the better after suffering one of the worst pains imaginable has never failed to inspire me. I have and always will spread your message of S.o.p.h.i.e. May you rest in peace with your beautiful daughter always, neither of you will ever be forgotten by the many hearts you've touched x
Nichola Weall, Aberdeenshire

Thank you for making a difference x
Angie Knight, *Devon*



Sylvia, your outstanding work and devotion creating a foundation which is working tirelessly to stamp out prejudice, and teach people within the community about subcultures will forever remain a legacy. You have done Sophie proud! Your kind heart, warm smile and friendship will be forever missed. Your memory will never leave us, for it will live long in our hearts. Be at rest now beautiful lady. xx
Lindsey Appleton, *Radcliffe*

Sylvia, thank you for all you have done to help children like ours, people like us, the different, the unique. Even in your grief you have achieved so much. Love to your family and everyone whose lives you touched x
Senga Drever, *St Helier*

Sylvia was truly a remarkable lady. She fought for our rights as goths to be treated with respect and feel safer on the streets. As a goth, I have faced years of abuse online and on the streets. The hurtful words often made me wonder if there was something wrong with me, if I was the problem. But Sylvia rightly said in one interview that how we dress is no one's business but ours. And I remind myself of that everyday before leaving the house. The gothic community is immensely proud of her for giving us a voice. It is a shame it was under such tragic circumstances that the Foundation started but Sylvia has kept Sophie's memory alive and I hope they have now reunited in Heaven.
RIP, Sylvia. xx
Hedyeh Farid, *London*

Sylvia was a remarkable woman who did so much for the alternative community. May she rest in peace with Sophie
Nick Finn, *Middlesbrough*

A lovely, dignified and compassionate woman. We need people like Sylvia more than ever today. Sending sympathy and gratitude.
Susannah Walker, *Brighton*

When she fought for a better world, it felt like she was fighting for all of us. Her advocacy was a kind of love that spread over all of us. Thank you.
Lizzi B, *Plymouth*

What can I say apart from what an amazing lady you were. Your daughter was 'different' in fact she was herself like so many other people. You fought for her rights and brought so much light into the subject. I've had my SOPHIE band on for about 14 years, it's been replaced a couple of times but your legacy, kindness, strength and love live on forever x
Sarah Oneil, *Newcastle*

Together again, thank you for all that you have done for the alternative community. I will never forget when the news broke about Sophie. It's been so many years but it's never left me. I hope you've both found peace and comfort together. Always in my heart xx
Mary Beale, *Felixstowe*

She was awesome for what she has done for the community. It is heavy to have lost a child but great to have shown much love and respect I have the up most respect for her mother and daughter back in one another's arm's. RIP xx
Margaret Kennedy, *Hulme*

Thank you Sylvia for standing up for us weirdo mosher freaks!
Lee Brazier, *Nottinghamshire*

She was an absolute inspiration to us all. As an alternative chick I was amazed by her strength after Sophie died. She will be missed and remembered for her courageous work. R.I.P with your Sophie again.
Bernadette May, *Croydon*

I was never lucky enough to meet Sylvia. I approached the charity myself many years ago when my son was the victim of a hate crime. I was already aware of the fabulous work carried out in Sophie's name. I wear my S.O.P.H.I.E band every day with pride and I have a S.O.P.H.I.E lanyard for work too. What Sylvia achieved in the face of hate was truly amazing and I am sure her message will be carried around the world for many years to come. Sleep peacefully Sylvia.
Kerry Gall, *Portsmouth*

Sylvia was an inspiration to many including myself and will be incredibly missed. Rest in peace.
Lorna McCullough, *Burnley*

A amazing brave strong mum who turned a heartbreaking tragedy to helping others . May you and Sophie never be apart again. RIP xxx
Joanna Ostridge, Weymouth

Sylvia, I never met you but came across you a few times, you spoke at my graduation, I'd heard in the news about Sophie - but to hear from her mum was amazing, the work you did in her honour, and the progress you made in her memory is amazing. You shouldn't have had to do that, but you did, and made something positive for the future, out of a terrible negative. Thank you.
Lisa Janicki, *Bolton*

I never got to meet Sylvia but I have followed and shared her daughters story with others. I have always dressed different as well and have dealt with lots of prejudice. May Sylvia and Sophie be reunited! This is a mother who spread love for difference and we will continue to share Sophie's story!
Gabriela Patino, *Dalton GA USA*

Thank you Sylvia for all that you did, a shining light even in dark times. Light and love
Christopher Buckley, *Bury*

I had never met you but I thought your strength and courage you had after Sophie died was amazing.. and to set up a charity in Sophie's name is brilliant.. You and Sophie rest together in peace.. Both taken way too young
Sharron Green, *Leeds*

At rest with your beautiful daughter Sophie. As you close your eyes and rest may all your pain and trouble be lost forever. In the arms of the angels fly high and free. Never forgotten always in our heart. Love from The McNee family.
Teresa McNee & Family, *Bury*



An honour to know and work with Sylvia at the foundation. I have attended some amazing events, met countless wonderful people and learned so much in the six years of working with Sylvia, but probably my fondest memories would be from the hundreds of hours we spent in the car setting the world straight, only stopping at services with KFC for a two piece meal and diet coke. Not just a woman from Lancashire, Dr Sylvia H Lancaster OBE, my boss, my friend. Rest tight Syl. Dena x
Dena Payne, *East Lancashire*

Both Sylvia and Sophie showed the kind of outstanding bravery that is connected by love. This will ripple outwards into infinity.
Mitzi Gaunt, *Nottingham*

Thank you for making our world a safer place for us to be in xx
Vicki Polaine, *Notts*

Such an amazing person, you did so much for the alternative community. You educated people to understand just because we look different, dress different and listen to alternative music doesn't mean we are nasty people, we are still human being's with feelings. We just like to be ourselves and express ourselves in the way we look and dress. You spread that message to other's to educate people and let them no it's okay to look different just be yourself in life. I never knew you personally or Sophie but I will always have you both in my heart and thoughts. I hope you both will be together now and at peace. You will both be remembered, R.I.P Sylvia X X
Lyndsey Hunt, *Flintshire*

How can my words ever truly reflect your presence? Standing beside you as we looked out at the sea, you confided your thoughts and I shared only the briefest of my own. You were kind, generous and graceful, you were warm of heart and strong in ways I could never emulate, but as brief as our meeting was, it will last forever in my mind because that's is all that was needed, a minute, a moment in your company, was all that was needed. Such a gracious, kind and caring soul. May you never fade from this world.
Wayne Reid, *Sudbury*

I worked with Sylvia at Connexions. She was so strong and so kind.
Kathryn Shelton, *Chorlton*

I would like to express my condolences to Sylvia's family and colleagues. I learnt so much from Sylvia and had the pleasure of working a few times with her. Greatly missed already and one of those characters that will stay with you for the rest of your life. R.I.P Sylvia.
Christopher Hardy, *Loughborough*

There are some who bring a light so great to the world, that even after they have gone, their light remains. Shine bright Sylvia.
Evonne Turner, *Hampshire*

The times we met and just chatted will remain amongst those I will treasure. From your strength others drew the courage they needed, and your words will echo through time to leave a lasting legacy. I will forever be proud for playing just a tiny bit part in that legacy. Rest well Sylvia, and know the work you poured your life into, will continue.
Martin Oldgoth, *Colchester Essex*

Sylvia had a powerful effect on me when she came to speak to students at college where I was doing counselling. The whole room listened to this strong courageous lady. I had to speak to her and give her a hug she taught us about hate crime and I try to spread the word at any opportunity. Reunited now with her very much loved Sophie. Xxx
Lesley Middlehurst

As a mother of a bullied goth child I was overwhelmed with your fight to make some good come from evil. I have seen how tolerance has changed as a result of your good work. It has been moving to see people at Bloodstock and hear how their lives have changed because of this work. Finally with your lovely Sophie - enjoy the music and laughter as only a mother and daughter can x
Sue Mitchell, *Thornton Cleveleys*

To an absolutely inspirational woman who fought so much for her daughter Sophie, now sadly reunited with her, R.I.P Sylvia, we will never forget you, we will keep your legacy alive and well.
Sharon Gillie, *Sittingbourne, Kent*

To an absolutely inspirational woman who fought so much for her daughter Sophie, now sadly reunited with her, R.I.P Sylvia, we will never forget you, we will keep your legacy alive and well.
Michelle O'Kane, *Derby*

I met Sophie in the mid 2000s, she was wonderful, and I finally met Sylvia when she was touring colleges in the mid 2010s. The wonderful way she turned such a horrible event into such a world changing movement is something that will never be forgotten. Good night Sylvia.
Dominic Pastore, *Manchester*



A brief meeting and chat with Sylvia at a Make a Noise gig, followed by a few online chats let me have the pleasure of speaking to a warm, genuine, caring and sincere lady. Someone who selflessly gave so much to others after her own tragic loss. The World has lost one of the good.
Gary Preston, *Blackpool*

Thank you for everything you've done. You are a wonderful woman. R.I.P.
Danielle Lahosky, *Pittsburgh PA*

Rip Sylvia xx from my family
Lorraine Williams, *Manchester*

I remember meeting Sylvia in a conference about violence held for students starting out their path to university. She was courageous and mind blowing and so strong I have since followed her campaign and watched Sylvia grow and grow in her fight for change. Sylvia you inspired me by your courage and strength and gave me inspiration to keep studying I've since completed one degree and now am back on a nursing journey. You gave me the fight to carry on believing and standing up for what is wrong. I now pray that your at peace and with your beautiful daughter again, your legacy will sure live on xxx

Rebecca Horner, *Chorley*

Rest in peace Sylvia xx

Charlie Morris, *Basildon*

Sylvia,Your message of respect, tolerance and love will be remembered forever. And your bravery and fight for injustice. From all us Mosher Freak Weirdos... we thank you.

Victoria Shorter, *Redhill, Surrey*

Hi Adam and family I'm so sorry to hear your mum passing away suddenly and I just wanted to say that I have done some work with Sylvia around the story of what happened to Sophie, and spreading the message out saying don't judge a book by its cover and it was great working with her and I know that she and Sophie will be looking over you and being proud of what you can achieve Sending my regards and RIP Sylvia xxxx

Annemarie Jones, *Oldham*

Sylvia will be remembered by her strong grace courage and strength throughout adverse pain.. teaching others the path to respect and peace without prejudice. May you now be at peace and reunited with Sophie xx

Karen and David Richardson, *York*

Sleep well Sylvia knowing you've made your girl proud and brought around so much change and awareness! Was a strong amazing woman and may her voice still be heard for years to come. RIP.

Courtenay Kenyon, Southport

It was over 10 years ago when I met you, and the passion and love you had is still felt now. May you find your peace and be resting happy with your loved ones.

Kelly Hackett, *Huddersfield*

Sylvia was a total inspiration, and the work done by the foundation she created in her beautiful daughter's name is some of the most powerful work I've witnessed in schools. She will be by your side everyday. I am a better person for meeting her.

Donna Hindley, *Manchester*

Sylvia you are going to be missed massively, your tireless work shone a light onto what people who are part of the alternative culture suffer for some on a daily basis, you truly were a very special lady!!

Jason Clarke, *Staffordshire*

RIP Sylvia with your beautiful daughter Sophie, together again forever. XX

Judith Connor, *Baxenden*

To all of those closest to Sylvia, my heartfelt condolences to you all. She was an inspiration to everyone and turned a horrific tragedy into something positive. I'm not sure I could have done the same. Much love to you all xx

Jackie Porter, *Preston*

Dear Sylvia's family and friends,
I have no words to express how heart broken I feel for you now. Sylvia was a Lady, a Queen. Through the foundation, through the frontiers, she helped so many of us, so many of "the others". I want to thank you, to thank Sylvia, and to present my sincere condolences to you. Sylvia is dearly missed. I know you will continue her work, fight her fights, and honour her memory for decades. I hope her voice will help so many Others. I will keep giving the message as long as I can breath. It is so important. Thank you Sylvia for your amazing strength, your love, and your help. From the bottom of my heart, thank you. May she rest in peace with Sophie and may they watch upon us.
With love, Laura

Laura Sifaoui, *France*

Sylvia you will always be remembered for the beautiful and strong lady you were. I hope you and Sophie have found each other in heaven. Sleep easy now darling it's time to rest. Xx

Carey Spanswick,
Wellington Somerset

Dearest Sylvia. The work you have done for our alternative world is amazing! Your daughter shouldn't have gone through what she went through and because of you, hopefully others won't. May you rest in peace with Sophie and your amazing work carries on in both your memories xx

Lizzie Pyne, *Kent*

Sylvia, you will be very much missed. Such a beacon of light in the dark shadows of hate. May your light shine evermore. Thank you and the SOPHIE team for your tireless work to educate and change the view of subcultures and individuality. Rest in Peace.

Angus Gavin, *London*

Rest in Peace Sylvia, your light touched us all xx

Serena, *Ireland*



I'm truly sorry to hear of Sylvia's passing. She was an inspiration to many and raised awareness about hate crime. I did not know her personally, but it is something close to my heart. She's with Sophie now. Sleep well xx
Joy Pace, *Peterborough*

Sadly missed but never forgotten. Go get those hugs off Sophie. Legend of a lady x
Paul Russell, *Measham*

The fantastic foundation you created will live on in memory of you both! Rest in peace with your beautiful Sophie xx
Tracy Pickthorne, *Stoke-on-Trent*

Sylvia - you were an inspiration and a shining light in the darkness. Sophie would have been so proud of the work you did to educate people against hate. The angels have gained another.
Tracy Houlden, *Cumbria*

Rest in peace to you and Sophie, you are together now xx
Nicole Elizabeth, *Northern Ireland*

To Sylvia, I was so fortunate to work alongside you, thank you for all you shared. I will always be grateful.
You could make me laugh and then say something so painful with such honesty, it took my breath away. You have changed the world by what you have achieved and you have been, and will remain, an inspiration. I, like thousands of others from around the world, will never forget you.
Rest in Peace Sylvia, Alison x
Alison Vincent, *Cheshire*

Condolences to all those who were close to both Sylvia and Sophie. I've been reading and thinking about this case all day every day for the past week since somebody drew my attention to it on social media. I do remember reading a news article about it back in 2008 when I was living on the other side of the world, but it didn't get a-hold of me at the time in the way that it has this month, on the 15th year anniversary of this tragedy. The available photos of Sophie are so striking in that they reveal just how radiant and charismatic she was. Sylvia too radiated warmth and kindness in all of the TV and print interviews with her that I've read.
What I feel is that this case is bigger than the events of the morning of 11th August 2007. What took place said something profound about the society as a whole; about an ugly undercurrent that we still have not tamed, or fully understood, 15 years later. Sylvia's campaign work following Sophie's passing has inspired many, and caused many who may not otherwise have done so, to pay attention to the issues of youth violence and prejudice, although ultimately there is no "silver lining", or "closure", here, and I doubt that either Sylvia or Sophie would want there to be. That being said, they've both left behind them a legacy of tolerance, strength and community that will never go away. I really hope that the people of this country can do better, recognize hatred and intolerance before they manifest into something destructive and tragic, and always honour the memory of these two beautiful people.
Steve Byrne, *St Albans*

Your suffering ends, ma'am. You and Sophie are now reunited in Heaven. Thank you for everything you've done for not just the goth community, but for everyone. Requiescat in pace et potentia.
Christian Bethel, *Miami FL, USA*

Sylvia, you are truly an inspiration as all the things you did in these past years and even though you lost your daughter you pushed through by holding such a precious foundation that will live in our hearts just as Sophie and you will. I feel blessed to be able to leave a message and I hope one day I can contribute in a better way. You had this pain in every aspect that I can't imagine but still, you kept doing an amazing job as a voice that still across the world. Thank you for everything, may you rest in peace beautiful soul.
Alison Ramos, *Argentina*

What an inspirational woman! You made a difference to such a cruel world. Rest In Peace Sylvia. Long may your legacy continue
Kirsty Laing, *Sunderland*

I will never know Sophie or Sylvia, but their story of courage, integrity and compassion resonates more vibrantly than I could have imagined it would. Horrifying things happen, wonderful people can make something good come out of them and Sylvia Lancaster has been one such person. Mind how you go, Sylvia.
Liz McNeely, *Derbyshire*

Sylvia, you did everything to help and you missed of what I did for this charity by doing a bake sale and raised 14.33. I did it for you R.I.P Sylvia. I hope your back with your sweetie pie princess.
Grace-Michaela Worthington, *Kingston-upon-Hull*



Sylvia, your strength, determination and hard work you achieved was so powerful for all of us that strive to be different.
I have experienced it and your legacy and the legacy of dearest Sophie will live on forever. RIP now with your darling girl and you really were a remarkable woman.
Sally Luff, *Buckinghamshire*

I'm so sad about hearing of Sylvia's passing. I've gotten to know about Sophie's story while living on my home country (Portugal). In there, the story is not very well known. Still, Sophie's story inspired me to do my own research about prejudice against alternative subcultures and I've done a few university assignments about the topic, as well as giving 2 lectures on the subject. It gave me confidence to stand up for myself. Seeing Sylvia being so active and caring about the alternative community was an inspiration. Unfortunately I never got to meet her. But Sophie will never be forgotten. Sylvia will never be forgotten. RIP.
Oriana Dias, *Sweden*

Dear Sylvia. It has been very sad and shocking to receive the news that you passed away in April. The way you fought for your daughter and the entire alternative community to raise awareness for hate crimes is something I can only salute you for. And I can only say: thank you. Thank you for everything you've done, everything you and the team have accomplished for us in the community is incredible. No one should ever, EVER be a victim of hate crime simply because of what they're wearing, what their race is, what their sexuality is, or whatever. I hope you and Sophie have met each other on the other side. It's now up to us to keep on spreading awareness and stand up for anyone who is being put down. Sophie will never be forgotten and neither will you. Rest in peace. With deep, deep respect from my heart,
Femke Feenstra, *Veghel, Netherlands*

I am absolutely devastated to hear of the passing of this incredible lady, it has truly broken my heart. Thank you so much Sylvia for doing everything in your power to make this world more accepting of us who are different and fighting against hate crime. I get comfort in knowing that you're finally back with your baby girl - the incredible Sophie. You will be missed more than you'll ever know! Fly high angel, all my love always xxx
Caitlin Eveson, *South Wales*

Tolerance is the key when we think in the world as a place to be. Respect is the only way to reach the goal of a nice and beautiful life. RIP both, nice and beauty light beings.
Dani Freire, *Madrid*

RIP Sylvia, with Sophie back in your arms xx
Tracy Moorhouse, *Biggleswade*

I'm sorry for her departure, but I want to believe that she is finally with her beloved Sophie again. With deep respect.
Cicy M. Ortega, *Chile*

I was fortunate enough to interview Sylvia for Bloodstock Radio and she was just how I had imagined her to be - straight-talking, down-to-earth and completely passionate about the work and the aims of the foundation. I've always been proud to work at a festival with a stage named in Sophie's honour in perpetuity and I know that we will continue to promote and support the work of the foundation. RIP Sylvia x
Paul McMonnies, *Bloodstock Festival*

I would like to extend my condolences to the family and friends of Sylvia and Sophie. Sylvia was an incredible inspiration who turned tragedy and loss into a campaign to make the world a better place. I hope that the work continues to honour both Sylvia and Sophie's memories. Rest in Peace xxx
Deborah Pearson, *Bonsall, Derbyshire*

I'm from Peru, a Latino American country. I heard about the case of Sophie and her mum's foundation a few months ago, and I want to express all my support to your cause. But today, 23 May of 2022, I read about the loss of Sylvia Lancaster, a brave woman who not just accepted difference, she loved it, a woman who, far from continue crying for her daughter, dedicated her time and effort to raise awareness about stamp out the hate and prejudice in people who are "different". Thank you Sylvia for all your work, it will not be forgotten. Your message will live forever: "We all are the same, let's stamp out the hate crimes!"
Milagros de María Salas Altuna, *Peru*

It was a pleasure to have known Sylvia. She has helped society to move that little bit closer in the fight to eradicate hate. Her presence will be greatly missed. Rest in peace.
Virbai Kara, *Oldham*

Sending my love and condolences to the family, friends and all who continue Sylvia's work. It was because of her, I was able to understand and provide the support my daughter needed as a teen. Sending love & light to all of you.
Stephanie Scott, *US*

I was absolutely devastated to hear of Sylvia's passing. She did so much for so many people and no amount of words will ever be good enough to truly thank her for all that she did. Rest in peace, Sylvia - reunited with Sophie. Blessings and prayers to all family and friends at this difficult time.
Rhiannon Bunting,
Kingston Upon Hull

Thank you for so much care for others when you had suffered such profound loss. We owe you a huge debt!
Mike Jeffries, *Birmingham*

Sylvia was the second mum who didn't know I existed. Her embracing of everything that we are, in and after Sophie's life, made me grateful to her existence, knowing that there were multiple women with the title of "mother" who would welcome me with open arms (the other being my own mum). Her work to attempt the end of hate for people not like yourself has been so powerful to the world, and we have very much lost a bright light with her passing. Writing this is gut wrenching, though to know she no longer suffers with the health issues she did is also a great comfort. Sleep well, Sylvia. You will be sorely missed.
Emma Gibson,
Wishaw, North Lanarkshire



Sylvia, I will never forget your testimony and meeting you. The warmth you had in spite of all you went through. The drive to change the perception of and recognition for alternative people. The mission to stamp out hatred and intolerance everywhere. You touched many, many lives professionally and personally in a way not many others did. Sylvia, you will be deeply missed but leave the world a more tolerant place. Rest in Peace.
Cathy Mathias, *Manchester*

Sylvia will always be one of the strongest and most inspiring women I have ever met. I feel so privileged to have worked with her on so many different occasions. She has change life of so many and for me personally she influenced who I am today. And I will always be grateful for that. She will be missed forever but hers and Sophie's legacy will live on with each and every one of us. The fight for justice and equality will carry on.
Lenka Kaur, *Bradford*

I had the pleasure of meeting you. Totally inspirational presence and relatable passion so get the message out in the world to celebrate difference. Hate has no place here . Love and light. Rest well in paradise as your legacy goes on.
Emma Smith, *Lancashire*

I am heartbroken to hear of Sylvia's passing. She was a true warrior queen who always worked her socks off to educate others about the dangers of hate crime and was a true shining light to the alternative community. She will be dearly missed. Rest in Peace Sylvia Lancaster, with Sophie together as angels now.
Rhiannon Bagley

Growing up as a goth I really appreciated all the work you did to end the hatred and violence toward people who looked different. You were the forefront of protecting an entire generation of metal heads and goths and will not be forgotten.
Maria, *Bristol*

Sylvia & Sophie's legacies will live on. Wonderful human beings. Together once again, forever more. Rest in peace, angels.
Tifannii Dalvero, *Staffordshire*

You became a legend fighting for what happened to Sophie but your both together now where you can look after each other R.I.P and you will be sadly missed by one and all.
Derek Sanderson, *Halifax*

My condolences go out to Sylvia's family, and my thoughts are with Sylvia too. I was genuinely very saddened by the news of her passing, I remember when Sophie was killed reading about it in the paper - I was a kid around 10. It stayed with me, god knows now Sylvia and her family felt. Sylvia did so much good out of an awful tragedy. Rest in peace, I feel very blessed to have been on this planet at the same time Sylvia was. I am sure she will very much be missed by all who loved and knew her.
Sam Harrison, *Liverpool*

My heart aches, Sylvia did so much for the alternative community and she will certainly be a huge miss. She was so passionate in her work and Sophie would've been proud of her mother. Rest easy Sylvia.
Sophie Ellis, *Cumbria*

Sylvia thank you for everything you did for us all, whilst dealing with your own heartbreak. We will never forget you and Sophie x
Max Saunders, *Stourbridge*

I met Sylvia at the Holocaust Memorial centre in Laxton, Newark. The conference was 'Say no to hate'. It was such a privilege to meet this remarkable women. Her message will be one that share within my professional life as a teacher and as a mum educating my own children about celebrating difference. Rest in peace. Love and best wishes to all x
Rebecca Gosling, *Nottinghamshire*

Sleep easy Sylvia ,reunited with her daughter Sophie... Two are people who made a huge impact on this world and made the world a better place. Rest in power girls xxx
Sophie Wilde, *North West*

I never got the privilege of meeting this wonderful person but the work she did with her team after losing Sophie was something that always stuck by me, I'm so appreciative of everything she has provided despite the hardships she faced. Sending everyone love, and light during this difficult time.
Kris V, *Canada*

Rest In Peace with your Beloved Sophie. You were/are such an inspiration to thousands of people. Thank you x
Catherine Langhorn, *Colwyn Bay*

Thank you so much for all you have done for us weirdos. May you rest in peace.
Rachel Bax, *Bristol*



So shocked to hear the news but what a legacy. Hopefully mother and daughter are happily together x
Sam Greenley, *Cambridge*

Sylvia was a truly remarkable woman. I worked with her at Connexions. Very direct and down to earth, but also very caring and warm. Sylvia will be a great loss to everyone who knew her.
Kath Kenworthy, *Rochdale*

I always admired you, how you chose to campaign after your loss,your fight will carry on, RIP x
Laura Tavener, *Bath UK*

Thank you for being an amazing human and a fantastic voice and advocate for human decency. Thank you. Rock in peace.
Dale Barrett, *Barton upon Humber*

The day we met many years ago as youth workers, there was laughter truths and respect as a pal. I loved it when we got to work together, you brought such experience and passion. After your tragic loss and I moved away, we never got to see each other again but you have always been in my heart. I followed your journey through out the years. Now I am back in England and you are gone. I will forever hold your memory and will always promote your work with young people.
Kirsty McMahon, *Lancashire*

What a truly inspirational lady. She really did so much to fight hate and discrimination, especially with regards the alternative community. My condolences to all who knew her well.
Naomi Cumberland, *Peterborough*

Thank you for sharing your love and light with the world, and the tireless work you did with SOPHIE foundation. You made a huge difference. Your light will shine as an example for us all.
Sue Morley, *Workington*

You were a brave and inspirational woman, your tireless work regarding hate crimes will hopefully contribute to a more tolerant society.
My daughter is a Goth and I am a proud mother. I hope you and Sophie rest together in peace.
Love and light. XX
Julia Elliott, *Stamford, Lincolnshire*

All my love to you all. It is very hard but her memories and the foundation will always live on. xx
Catherine Tuitt, *UK*

Beautiful Lady inside &out. Sophie will never be forgotten & will live on in our hearts & soul. Sylvia now reunited with her beautiful precious daughter.
God bless xx
Karen Potter, *Grimsargh*

Sylvia, you took a chance on myself and my co host to not only be a guest on our show but also affiliated your cause with us. It will always mean the world you took that chance on us. The world is a darker place now you're no longer with us, forever be proud of all you achieved and I hope you're looking down and smiling seeing all the hearts you touched. Forever our goth fairy god mother.
Jamie Westwood, *Birmingham*

I was incredibly sad to hear of the recent passing of Sylvia. She was an incredible lady for all that she did.
Kelly Ann Winkworth, *Portsmouth*

All my love to you all. It is very hard but her memories and the foundation will always live on. xx
Catherine Tuitt, *UK*

RIP Sylvia. Back with your beautiful daughter now. Never forgotten.
Howarth Michelle, *Whitworth*

God bless you Sylvia and your beautiful daughter Sophie, may you both rest in eternal peace with the Angels. Thank you for your tireless work in campaigning to make this world a better place and to stamp out prejudice, hatred and intolerance everywhere to try and ensure a tragedy like Sophie's death never happens again xxxxx
Angela Burgess

I was part of the yahoo group set up to support Sylvia on the day of Sophie's inquest. In reality the strongest person that day was Sylvia and it was obvious to her the power her tragedy had brought. No one could have done what Sylvia did, no one could get G. M. P. to champion hate crime from where they were then.. and she knew she could.. And she did. Sophie and Sylvia's time here may have passed but their legacy amounts to more than any two lifetimes could hope to achieve. xxx
James Wood, *Lancaster*

Sylvia Lancaster was a formidable woman, her courage to speak out against prejudice and hate crimes to stop. She will be sadly missed by her family and friends. RIP Sylvia you are now reunited with your beautiful daughter Sophie.
Donna Quinn, *Crawshawbooth*

I met Sylvia twice, once in the courtroom when her daughter's killers were sentenced, and once when we marched with the Sophie Lancaster Foundation in the Preston Guild march. Both times, she went out of her way to say hello to everyone, no matter the circumstance. She was a truly lovely person. She took an awful thing and turned it around, and made it a force for good. It was an honour and a privilege to say goodbye to her at her funeral yesterday. I hope that, somewhere, she and Sophie are together again.
Annette Reynolds, *Lancashire*

It was a privilege and a honour to call Sylvia a friend, from the first time I spoke to her to the time she attended my SophieFest Tamworth festival , she always had time for me, I will miss her so much, the next festival I do will be a very special one, you inspired me to be the person I am today xx
Stuart Routledge, *Tamworth*



I am so sad to hear of your passing Sylvia. You brought nothing but good to this world. RIP Sylvia and of course your lovely daughter, Sophie xxx
John Howell, *Kingsbury*

Rest in peace. To have to deal with the horrendous murder of your daughter by mindless thugs, but then turn it around into teaching something positive is amazing. I'm sorry our justice system is allowing the perpetrators out way too soon. You will be forever remembered as dignified & courageous. Sleep well alongside Sophie
Rachel Howarth, *Tottington*

Sylvia was such a light. She was proof that a mother's love transcends, tirelessly campaigning and educating after Sophie's senseless murder. To me she is such an inspiration, filled with the bravery of turning her grief and pain into a force for good which has no doubt helped countless. I'll miss reading her messages and reading about all the amazing work that she was doing. Her legacy and her daughter will never be forgotten. She'll be greatly missed x
Skye

Rest In Peace Sylvia. You are now finally with your daughter again, at long last. Thank you so much for all of the tireless efforts you put in to Stamping Out Prejudice Hatred & Intolerance Everywhere. Sleep well x
Emma Radwanski, *Weymouth*

Sylvia, what to say that has not already been said a thousand times and by people fortunate to know you far better than I... I hope you knew what an inspiration you were, still are. Your kindness and courage are the 2 things I will remember most about you. I know the SLF team will continue to do you and Sophie's memory proud and will ensure they know I, and CACH, will do all we can to support them.
Anna McLauchlan, *Staffordshire*

Sylvia, you were one remarkable woman, who through your own pain and suffering fought to enlighten others so they could be free to be themselves without stigma. Long may your message and legacy live on. RIP Sylvia, you can now be at peace and back in holding your beautiful Sophie.
Yvonne Grant, *Sunderland*

Absolutely lovely person I only met Sylvia once when she came to where I used to work she saw me in my weirdo mosher freak hoodie and came straight over to me and thanked me for supporting Sophie with a hug
Anthony Phipps,
Newcastle-under-Lyme

We met Sylvia at a Bahá'í Summer School in Waterford with her friend Odette and were very impressed by the talk she gave there. We have followed her work with the Sophie Lancaster Foundation ever since, and were very proud when she received an Honorary Doctorate at our local University a few years ago. May she now be at pace with Sophie whilst others continue her work here...
Carolyn Neogi, *Godalming*

Rest in peace Sylvia you will always be in our thoughts along with Sophie
Keith Sully, *Weston-Super-Mare*

I didn't know you or Sophie but can see the impact that you both have had, worldwide. I hope you are at peace and with Sophie once again. You both leave behind a legacy.
Jo Pope, *Cleethorpes*

Sylvia was such a special woman, and she will be remembered so fondly for changing the way people judge others. May you find comfort in knowing that she helped so many people and will continue to do so with her fabulous charity. Love and blessings to you all
Sylvie Hirst, *Canterbury, Kent*

May you R.I.P for eternity Sylvia reunited with Sophie thank you for everything you have done to keep Sophie's memory alive over the years. Both of you will forever be truly amazing people I will never forget Sophie's warm caring nature every time I saw her, and it's clear where she got it from. My sincere condolences to Adam and family and friends everywhere connected with Sylvia and Sophie xxxx
Martin Schofield, *Rossendale*

Shine on Sylvia, your work here is done, we've got this now. Rest in Peace knowing you leave this world a less ignorant place. Wherever your soul goes now, I hope it gets a AAA pass. From the volunteer wristbanders at Bloodstock who work for Festaff.
Vanessa Kimberley, *Uffington*

Thank you for all you did to help people who don't feel they fit in or find their place to be accepted.
Alison G



Sylvia. You have made Sophie so very proud. You fought every single day in memory of her. I don't think anyone could comprehend how difficult it must have been to have gone through what you did, yet you still turned around such a distressing and tragic loss and incident, turned it into something people can learn from and take comfort in knowing they're not alone with Sophie's charity, and raising awareness with hate crime. I myself am alternative and Sophie's death impacted me a lot, I have followed her case so closely. We are so thankful for your work.
Now it's your turn to be reunited with dear Sophie. May you both rest in peace in eternal love and glory, with each other. You made a difference, both you and Sophie.
Sleep well... xx
Cassie Ash, *Stoke-on-Trent*

I am so sorry Sylvia has passed, My heart is broken for her family. Your mother was such a dignified and compassionate woman with unbelievable inner strength. May she find peace with her Beautiful girl Sophie. Love and light forever.
James George, *Shaw*

To Adam, Nic, Niobe and Ruby, Sincere condolences on the loss of your Mum and Nana. She made light where there was darkness. She turned hatred into positivity and love, she will always be remembered. Such an amazing woman. Such an amazing Mum and Nana. Love to all.
Paul Whitehouse, *Stockport*

Thankyou for what you have done for the alt community and thankyou for raising awareness. May you reunite with Sophie x
Sophie Hughes, *Stoke-on-Trent*

You are a total inspiration to me and my daughter. I honestly don't know how you continued after what happened to Sophie. You will be missed Sylvia. Love and light.
Laura Silcock, *Cleveleys*

I just want to extend my heartfelt condolences to all of Sylvia's family on the passing of true warrior of life. I had the privilege to do some work with Sylvia & the wonderful Sophie Lancaster Foundation team. Aside from her inspirational work, leadership and her commitment to making this world a better more loving place where people take care of each other was her genuine kindness. She made time for people and listened, always treating people with the dignity & respect they deserved. I'm very sad she's gone but one thing is for sure hers & Sophie's memory will live on. Thank you.
Leon Herbert, *Leicester*

Sylvia and her family were brought together with Bloodstock and the wider community under the most tragic of circumstances, for years Sylvia fought for change and was one of the biggest driving forces to help start this monumental ball rolling, without Sylvia's passion and unwavering drive, change would still be a distant dream, its now down to us all to continue Sylvia's dream for a better tomorrow and keep both the memory of Sylvia and Sophie alive forever. RIP from Adam and everyone at Bloodstock Festival xx
Adam Gregory,
Derby, Bloodstock Festival

Sylvia, your work was an inspiration to me and countless others. I am so very grateful for all of the help you gave me and for the many times you delivered lectures to my students, who were always deeply moved by your words. The day you were awarded an honorary degree at Surrey was one I'll treasure forever xx
Jon Garland, *Guildford*

Lovely lady having had the pleasure to meet you a few times. You made a difference xx
Julie Atkinson, *Manchester*

Sylvia was a phenomenal campaigner. Her work tackling hate crime has left an indelible mark on the sector. She will be greatly missed but never forgotten. Lots of love Mark.
Mark Walters, *Brighton*

I never met Sylvia Lancaster but hearing of the amazing work she did, how she turned the heartbreak of Sophie's murder into the wonderful Sophie Lancaster Foundation is inspiring...her passing is a shock but I am sure she will be looking down in the knowledge that her work will continue and the fight against hate will go on ... RIP Sylvia Lancaster and Love &Light to both you and Sophie.
Duane Wilkinson, *Leeds*

I met Sylvia not long after the foundation began at a gig in Manchester. Sylvia was an inspiration and a hero to many of us. She will be greatly missed but leaves an incredible legacy for herself and Sophie. Rest in peace, thank you for everything you've done.
Jordan Ramsden *Blackpool*

A woman I will always have the highest respect for, who took the pain of an unimaginable tragedy that no parent should have to endure and used it to fuel a desire to make this world a kinder place. The world is lesser for Sylvia's passing, and I hope she has been reunited with Sophie in the world beyond this one.
Luke Courtney, *London*

After what happened to Sophie you became a voice for the alternative community and everybody looked up to you. You will be sadly missed.
Dawn Arkell, *Derbyshire*

Thank you Sylvia for being a voice for the alternative community and to stand up for us. I have bullied through my time for being different but you were our voice you were our saviour, I am so glad your at peace now and your back with sophie, we will miss you and we will spread awareness through your work. You and sophie are now our angels, may you both rest in peace xxx
Chrissie McCartney, *Manchester*

An inspiration to the world xxx
Stephanie Bardelli



Sylvia knew my thoughts about her, I told her so, so many times... I'm honoured to have known her, worked with her professionally, worked with her via Sophie and I shall ensure her message lives on and continues xxx
Love and light Sylvia
J Yot

Such an inspiration; love and light in an often dark world. Sincere condolences to the family x
Corinne Hastilow, *Tamworth*

Sylvia remains a force for good in a world that can be violent and ignorant. She continues to inspire us to resist hatred and promote understanding and compassion.
Elizabeth Doyle, *Gateshead*

A true inspiration in this world may your legacy and Sophie teach this world not to hate people that are different we are all human we are all different and special in our own way R.I.P Sylvia xx Your work lives on.
Rebecca White, *Lancaster*

Thank you for the work you did after the tragic loss of Sophie, you were so brave, open and kind. You welcomed me at Whitby and made me feel one of the family. This is what you achieved for Goths all over the world and it is immeasurably valuable. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Rest in peace with your girl. Emma.
Emma Baird, *Melbourne AUS*

I still can't believe you're gone, it just doesn't seem real :'(you truly were one of the best people to walk the earth just the same as Sophie. What you have done for people like me and other goths, EMO's and anyone a little different— you have literally changed the lives of so many people. I'm so devastated that I will be never be able to thank you in person. The foundation that you have created and the incredible work that you have done up until today is still helping the people that just need that little bit of reassurance that it is okay to truly be who they feel they really are. As much as we all miss you beyond any words can ever say, we will honour your memories and your incredible work forever. RIP angel.
Love Oriane xxx
Oriane George, *Rochester, Medway*

I grew up in metal circles in South London during this time and was greatly affected by the events, and experienced the sort of hate directed towards our sub-culture on a regular basis. Sophie's death and the following events were such a shock, but watching Sylvia and what was created from this tragedy was incredible. I still wear my S.O.P.H.I.E wristband to this day, and have recently ordered a new T-shirt. The documentary had me in tears, and I have only ever managed to watch it once, with the pain it brought. The world has lost another beautiful soul, but I hope Sylvia and Sophie are now re-united.
Love and Light x
Alex Walker, *Bendigo AUS*

I was deeply, deeply heartbroken to hear of Sylvia's passing. All she and her family have done to protect and make people safe is inspirational and down right amazing! Sophie's story hit hard and always stuck with me especially as someone who is different and had a very similar style to Sophie. She would be so proud of what the family and foundation has achieved. Rest in peace and know you will always be remembered and adored. -Stace' x
Stacey Humphreys, *Cardiff Wales*

