



Statewide News

April - May 2010

What's On: Brisbane | North Qld | Central Coast | Gold Coast | Toowoomba

Loving Your Way **Wishing you a happy & safe Pride**

27 May	Pride Packing Party Mineshaft, Sportman's Hotel
4 June-17 Oct	Prejudice & Pride Exhibition Museum of Brisbane, City
5 June-2 July	Pride Food For Thought Gatherings Nundah, New Farm, Chelmer & West End
18 June	Lesbian Health Trivia Night Fundraiser TLC Building, South Brisbane
24 June	Community Conversations QAHC Resource Centre, Ipswich
25 June	Film Screening "People, Parties, Pride & Power - Brisbane" Jahal Theatre @M Deedy Cinema, City
27 June-4 July	Brisbane Leather Pride Week 2010 Various locations
3 July	Teneriffe Festival Teneriffe
8 July	Justice Michael Kirby In Conversation State Library, Southbank

QAHC's Loving Your Way Tent @ Fair Day

- Cabaret Q Performances
- Mens Sex & Pleasure Maze
- Intro BDSM Demonstrations
- Live Breast Self Examination Demonstration

qahc www.qahc.org.au/lovingyourway • 1800 177 434 • Find us on

Welcome to the Qld Association for Healthy Communities Newsletter

For contact details, to update your subscription details, give us feedback, or to unsubscribe, click [here](#) or see our details below.

Outlook 2007 users may not be able to view the picture. If you are unable to view the pictures in this email, please visit our website <http://www.qahc.org.au/newsletters/qahc> and view online. Please enjoy QAHC News.

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Healthy Communities Fund Appeal



QAHC's Healthy Communities Fund has awarded over \$100,000 since it was set up in 2008 for many important LGBT community projects in Queensland, but the Fund is now running low and without your support, could face closure.

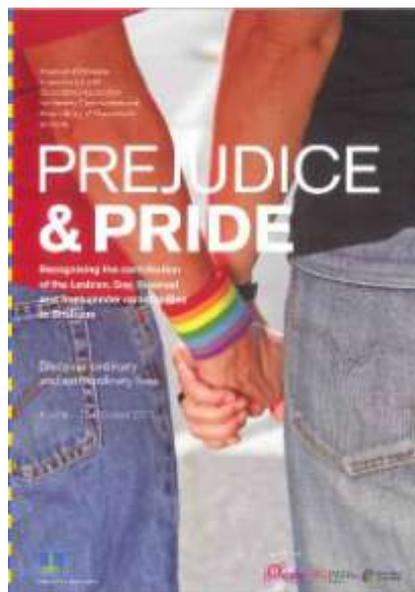
Projects that have received funding have allowed LGBT people across the state to connect with other likeminded people and make new friends. This alone is a great benefit for LGBT people's health and wellbeing as people who are connected to their communities are generally happier and healthier, therefore, this also benefits our HIV prevention work.

Some examples of grant recipients include Open Doors Youth Service, Australian Transgender Support Association Queensland, Aqualicious, QAHC's Lesbian Health Action Group, Cairns Rainbow Families Network, QUT Student Guild Queer Department, Gold Coast Gay Day, Team Queensland, and Sunshine Coast Pride Fair to name just a few.

Closing the Fund would be a step backwards for LGBT Queenslanders and is an option we don't want to consider, so we're appealing to you to show your support and make a donation to the Fund.

QAHC is a registered health promotion charity and all donations \$2 and over are tax deductible. You can help continue the fantastic work of LGBT community groups across the state by donating now at www.qahc.org.au/donation or by sending a cheque or money order to QAHC, Reply Paid 1372, Eagle Farm BC QLD 4009.

MoB Prejudice and Pride – QAHC Thanks Brisbane City Council



QAHC is grateful to the Brisbane City Council for providing two grants which have supported our LGBT History Project and in turn, has helped QAHC contribute to the new Prejudice and Pride exhibition at the Museum of Brisbane, as well as the archives of the State Library of Queensland.

We highly recommend that you visit the exhibition if you get the chance and be sure to stop at a viewing station to watch digital stories on some of Brisbane's LGBT community leaders (including QAHC patron and Australia's First Lady of Rock, Carol Lloyd).

These digital stories illustrate one way that we have preserved some of Brisbane's LGBT history. One of the BCC grants has also allowed us to record oral histories of other prominent LGBT community members.

Prejudice & Pride: Recognising Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender lives in Brisbane reveals and recognises the vitality and diversity of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) histories and lives – how they have shaped and been shaped by Brisbane.

Prejudice & Pride features stories and donated objects from hundreds of Brisbane residents including identities such as local activists Gai Lemon, Toye de Wilde and Brian Day and well known doctor Wendell Rosevear OAM who opened the first LGBT medical clinic at Highgate Hill during the 80s AIDS epidemic.

Prejudice & Pride also celebrates our LGBT culture – the importance of 'reclaimed' words and common language, identity and iconic symbols like the pink triangle and rainbow flag.

The exhibition coincides with the 20 year anniversary of homosexuality being decriminalised in Queensland along with the 21st anniversary of Brisbane's Pride Festival.

It's important to remember and preserve our LGBT history for future generations and we thank Brisbane City Council for recognising the importance of this project, and assisting our efforts to collect, record, catalogue and preserve Brisbane's LGBT history. The Prejudice and Pride exhibition runs from 4 June until 17 October at the Museum of Brisbane, Ground Floor, 157 Ann St, Brisbane.

While we are proud of the work of our dedicated team of volunteers who have worked hard to contribute to the exhibition and archives, there is still so much more we could do to preserve our LGBT histories, and not only just in Brisbane. You can assist our efforts to continue the work of the LGBT History Project by making a donation at www.qahc.org.au/history. Your donation will go towards preserving our LGBT histories for future generations.



Lesbian Health Action Group Fundraiser – Trivia Night



Think you know your trivia? Want to win some fabulous prizes? Come to the LHAG Trivia Night during the Brisbane Pride Festival and support the QAHC Lesbian Health Action Group. This fun trivia night will be held on Friday 18 June from 6:30PM at the TLC Building, 16 Peel St, South Brisbane.

Lesbian health promotion receives no government funding in Queensland yet there are a number of issues that particularly affect this community. QAHC's Lesbian Health Action Group relies on volunteers, grants, sponsorship, donations and other fundraising efforts like the trivia night to perform their important work to improve the health and wellbeing of Queensland's lesbian community.

Everyone is welcome, so come along to test your knowledge and enjoy a fun night while supporting a good cause. Who knows, while you're racking your brain for answers you may even make some new friends.

This is a drug and alcohol free event but softdrinks will be available for sale and tea, herbal tea and coffee will be provided free. You're welcome to bring your own food or nibbles.

Free parking is available at the rear of the building and there is a ramp and elevator for wheelchair access, but please note there are no suitable wheelchair friendly toilets available (sorry).

The cost is \$15 for waged adults, \$12 for Brisbane Pride members, \$10 adult concession, and \$5 for children aged 5+.

For more information call Una on 0448 933 285 or visit www.qahc.org.au/lesbian where you can also make a donation to LHAG to support the work of this fantastic group of volunteers in case you can't make it along to the trivia night.

QAHC: Call to Volunteers – Pride Fair Day & Pride Month

As the calendar clicks into June 2010 & the thermometer starts to decline, here at QAHC, things are a little different as we start to warm up & get ready to feel the love alongside the LGBT community coming to celebrate the month of Pride.

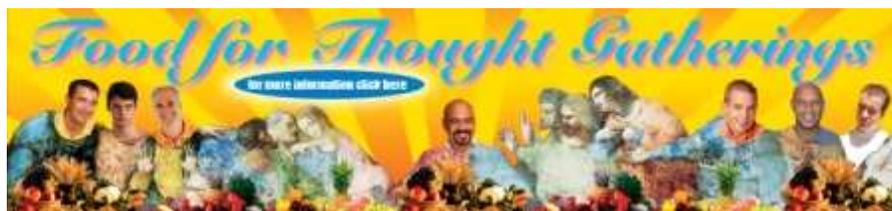
“There are as many different ways to live and to love as there are people on this earth, and there is no reason at all why we should have fewer ways to show and share our love for each other than are open to everyone else.” Mark Morein, President, QAHC.

Equality amongst the community has been a big issue in the last twelve months with marches and rallies across the country demanding equal rights for everyone. This year the Brisbane Pride Festival theme is *Love Our Way*, acknowledging that it is time for the government and the wider community to recognise our relationships in all manner of the word.

Ambitious as always, QAHC wants to share with our community how we engage with the love & showcase our growing funded & non funded activities across the Pride month. This is where we are calling up you, to lend us a helping hand!

Be it at Fair Day or the Rally, or helping out at the QAHC Stall, checking in coats at a Leather Pride event or assisting us at Queens Ball. If you have time to spare & would like to play a part in making our presence felt across the Pride month please contact 3017 1777 or email info@qahc.org.au (subject line: Pride Volunteer) for further information.

Pride 'Food for Thought Gatherings'



A series of Food for Thought Gatherings have been developed especially for the Brisbane Pride Festival, encompassing a series of 4 events running over 2 hours each.

Held at selected cafes & restaurants across Brisbane and combine exercises from QAHC's popular 'Exploring Gay Men's Relationships Workshop, with a social gathering where guests enjoy a meal together.

The first event held in Nundah was a great success, attracting a range of guys not normally 'out on the scene'. The next event is a lunch at midday in Fortitude Valley, 13th June. The third, a dinner in New Farm from 6:30pm, 24th June and final event, a supper in West End from 7:30pm, 2nd July.

At a cost of \$10 for each gathering, Food for Thought has been designed to compliment any budget. To secure your booking, payment is required prior to the gatherings being held. To book phone Jan at QAHC reception on: 07 3017 1777. Limited numbers of seats are still available!

Leather Pride Week 2010

The men in the Gay Leather/SM community (as it was called back then) were among the hardest hit by HIV/AIDS back in the eighties. These men, who had challenged their own sexual boundaries, felt personally confronted at the idea of restricting themselves to "safe" practices when so many had only recently challenged boundaries on sexual practice and unrestricted themselves from the bounds of illegality of homosexuality.

Much has changed since those days though & organisations such as Bootco celebrate the myriad ways in which Gay Leather and BDSM can safely enhance and expand our sexual and sensual lives. Leather Pride Week, which runs from 27 June – 4 July presents a range of activities to be involved in.

As principal sponsor of Leather Pride Week 2010, QAHC is committed to supporting community groups and organisations promoting safer sexual practice & sexual health. HIV and other sexually transmitted infections remain a very important issue for our communities with HIV infections continuing to increase in Queensland.

QAHC recognises that sexual health is influenced by a range of lifestyle, knowledge and social factors and we seek to address these. One such initiative is the support for Bootco to host a series of Men & Women Only workshops, aimed to help along those with a fledging interest and perhaps stimulate and rekindle the interest of those further along. The workshops for men cover basic bondage and rope work, as well as navigating power exchange relationships. For women, a series of workshops will feature safe role playing, negotiation & esoteric sexual practice.

At the QAHC *Loving Your Way* tent at Brisbane Pride Fair Day, Bootco will be conducting a series of BDSM demonstrations & discussion on how you might incorporate safer play into your sexual life. The demonstrations are a perfect lead in to the workshop series being run during Leather Pride Week 2010.

For more information on Leather Pride Week 2010 or Bootco www.bootco.org.au



Sexual health workshops for men and women who like it a little different

Hot times on cold nights

Part of Brisbane Leather Pride, June 27 to July 4, 2010

Tickets and information www.bootco.org.au

Tuesday June 29 Workshop - women only Safe Play, Role Play and Negotiation Skills 8pm. 320 On Leichhardt, ex Alliance Hotel (Upstairs) Presented by Miss Red	\$15 each workshop, \$25 for both	Tuesday June 29 Workshop - men only Basic Bondage and Rope Work 8pm. Mineshaft Bar, Sportsman Hotel. Presented by the experienced men from Tighter N Harder.	\$25 each workshop, \$45 for both
Thursday July 01 Workshop - women only Fisting, F***ing, Kinky Fun and Safety 8pm. 320 On Leichhardt, ex Alliance Hotel (Upstairs) Presented by the Order of Seven		Thursday July 01 Workshop - men only Power Exchange Relationships 8pm. Mineshaft Bar, Sportsman Hotel. Presented by the experienced men from Tighter N Harder.	

Mixed events: Hell for Leather Ride - Sunday June 27, all welcome. Leather Pride Launch - Sunday June 27
Movie night - Monday June 28 (Shortbus rated R) Leather Dinner - Wednesday June 30
www.bootco.org.au

Save Thousands with a 2010/2011 Entertainment Book

QAHC is also fundraising for the Healthy Communities Fund by selling the ever-popular Entertainment Books. The books are filled with hundreds of discount vouchers that can save you big dollars on fine and casual dining, fast food, accommodation, car hire, beauty treatments and much more.

The Brisbane & South East Queensland books are selling for \$65 and the Gold Coast and Surrounds books are selling for \$55, plus \$8 postage and handling (the books are very heavy as they're filled with discount vouchers).

The new 2010/2011 books are selling fast and won't be available much longer so be quick to get your copy at www.qahc.org.au/entbook or drop into our Brisbane office (30 Helen St, Teneriffe) to pick up your book and start saving. The books are valid until 1 June 2011 so get yours now to get the maximum value from it.

Triple Treat Raffle – Three Prizes... Three Winners...



Imagine lazing on the beach at the Sunshine Coast, or discovering the wonders of the Daintree, or living it up in Sydney for a weekend... by simply purchasing tickets in the Triple Treat Raffle you could soon be enjoying one of these experiences while being satisfied in the knowledge that you're supporting LGBT Queenslanders.

Gay and Lesbian Travel Australia, in association with the Daintree Eco Lodge and Spa, Horizons at Peregian, and The Hughenden Hotel have donated three accommodation packages to QAHC to help us fundraise for the Healthy Communities Fund which awards small grants for LGBT community projects in Queensland. Not only do you have the chance to win these great holidays (with extras thrown in to guarantee a memorable time), but we're also throwing in \$250 cash with each prize to help you get to your destination or use for spending money.

The total combined prize value is \$3300 and tickets are just \$5 each, or you can get three tickets for every \$10 spent. With only 2000 tickets available in the draw, you've also got great winning odds, so get your tickets now at www.qahc.org.au/raffle, or drop into our Cairns, Sunshine Coast or Brisbane Resource Centres to pick up your tickets. But hurry, the draw is on 25 June so get your tickets while they last! For more prize details and terms and conditions go to www.qahc.org.au/raffle.

Oz Showbiz Cares/Equity Fights AIDS Supports 2 Spirits Project

Oz Showbiz Cares/Equity Fights AIDS work hard to fundraise for The HOPE Fund to assist people living with HIV and recently awarded QAHC's 2 Spirits Cairns team \$7500 for a HIV prevention/arts project. The funding was possible as Oz Showbiz Cares/Equity Fights AIDS received money from an overseas benefit hosted by Hugh Jackman and Daniel Craig.

While QAHC's 2 Spirits team receives ongoing Federal Government funding, there's never enough money to do all of the health promotion work we need to do across the state to prevent the incidence of HIV, STIs and Hepatitis C in Queensland's Indigenous community, and we also know that using the arts as a health promotion tool is extremely effective, so we are grateful that we have the opportunity to host this exciting project.

The funding will be used to host a series of free art workshops and will cater for up to 30 Indigenous people in the Cairns region. The attendees will not only learn about health related information and HIV, they will acquire basic skills in printing, painting and drawing from acclaimed Indigenous artist Arone Meeks who will be facilitating the workshops. To further address the need for appropriate information within Indigenous populations attendees will be encouraged to become peer mentors and talk with others in their community about HIV.

The drawings, paintings and prints produced in the workshops will be exhibited in Cairns during AIDS Awareness Week/World AIDS Day to raise awareness on HIV prevention, and to support those living with HIV. Watch out for more news on the project in future newsletters.

QAHC would like to thank Oz Showbiz Cares/Equity Fights AIDS for funding this project and helping us address HIV infection rates in Far North Queensland's Indigenous population.

Hats Off BrisVegas 2010 Fundraiser

Oz Showbiz Cares/Equity Fights AIDS are once again hosting a gala variety concert (with a difference!) to fundraise for The HOPE Fund. The HOPE Fund provides assistance for people living with HIV/AIDS in Queensland and is administered by Queensland Positive People and QAHC is a partner organisation.

The show will feature the cast of Mamma Mia! (including Anne Wood, Michael Cormick and David Sommerville) along with a host of other talent including aerialist Mark Winmill; David Hamilton puppets; DIVAS; Oscar Theatre Company and the cast of Harvest Rain's Jesus Christ Superstar plus many more!

QPAC's Playhouse Theatre is the venue for the night and the show will be on Monday 23 August at 6:30PM and tickets are just \$40. Tickets available from www.qtix.com.au while they last!

Support QAHC and Get Your Business Noticed

QAHC is always looking for prizes for raffles, competitions and giveaways to help us engage with the LGBT community to promote our health and wellbeing messages and raise money for our unfunded LGBT community work in Queensland. If you would like to contribute goods or services that we can use for prizes or giveaways and promote your business to a new audience, contact QAHC's Fundraising Coordinator Jason Russo on 07 3017 1728 or email jrusso@qahc.org.au.

QAHC thanks all of its sponsors and supporters as without your support, we wouldn't be able to do as much as we do for Queensland's LGBT community. More information on QAHC's sponsors and supporters can be found at www.qahc.org.au/sponsors.

2010 QAHC Tropical Alternatives Film Festival Wraps Up



The Queensland Association for Healthy Communities (QAHC) 4th Annual Tropical Alternatives Film Festival (TAFF) was a huge sensation this year, with over 900 people attending across the state.

During the month of May we screened at 8 regional locations including; Cairns, Townsville, Mackay, Rockhampton, Hervey Bay, Sunshine Coast, Toowoomba and the Gold Coast. TAFF continues to bring LGBT stories and lives to regional Queensland.

Feedback from attendees was very positive. One attendee said "I thought it was lots of fun, great to have this social event on the calendar" and "I liked the program and the movies were great".

The Queensland Pride Short Film competition also debuted – in all fourteen entries were received, seven of which were screened at the festival. Furthermore, MacKay was added to the film festival's regional screening locations for 2010.

QAHC would like to thank the sponsors of TAFF 2010 who contributed over \$15000 of sponsorship to make the film festival happen.

The Queensland Pride Short Film Competition Audience Award will be announced on the 16th June, 2010.

For more information or to arrange an interview, contact Amanda Dean at QAHC on 3017 1733, 0407 768 293, or adean@qahc.org.au.



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"Doing Queer" – QAHC's pilot survey on the lives of LGBT people in the Redlands area goes online.

Queensland Association of Healthy Communities is conducting a survey on the experiences and private lives of LGBT people living or working in the Redlands Shire. The survey goes online on the 4th of June and will be ongoing.

The information gathered in this survey will be used by QAHC to identify areas in the Redlands where services are needed. QAHC Health Promotion Officer Amanda Dean says:

"We want to find out how best to deliver HIV/AIDS prevention programs in this area where the community is clearly very low-key, and where there aren't very many social or public spaces where LGBT people know they will be safe.

Using this survey, we want to improve access to information about sexual health, mental health and other issues which we know are prevalent in our community."

Research from the 1998 'Writing Themselves In' report has shown that up to 11% of the population is same-sex attracted, and yet services for queer people are still lacking in many areas.

"Of all Brisbane areas, we know the least about LGBT people in the Redlands Council region. Redlands Shire is relatively close to the Brisbane CBD, and yet the community is still largely invisible – which can negatively impact the health of LGBT people in that area."

The survey can be accessed through the QAHC website: www.qahc.org.au/research

For further information or to arrange an interview contact Amanda Dean at QAHC on 3017 1733, on 0407 768 293 or at adean@qahc.org.au or visit our website www.qahc.org.au/research

QAHC Training and Development

Creating Change, Respecting Diversity and Maintaining Confidentiality

The Queensland Association for Healthy Communities Inc (QAHC) has provided sexuality and gender identity awareness training to health and health related service providers in Queensland since 2005. Both half-day and whole-day workshops are delivered in either open- access or in-service formats, generally free of charge. QAHC is committed to providing a high standard of interactive and challenging adult learning experiences. The continuing development and delivery of training tools and resources for service providers seeks to support the development of inclusive services for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) clients.

QAHC offers a range of workshop options including: Creating Inclusive Services, Half Day Sexual and Gender Identity Awareness, Regional Sexual and Gender Identity workshops, "What you don't see" Youth workshop, LGBT Families and LGBT Seniors workshops, as well as several new and exciting workshops under development and shorter sessions tailored to your organisation's needs. Many of the workshops and

factsheets can be accessed free from the QAHC website, or QAHC can provide facilitators for a reasonable fee.

For more information check out www.qahc.org.au/training
Or to discuss your training requirements contact the QAHC Training and Development Coordinator, Ricki Menzies at rmenzies@qahc.org.au or call 0409722208

Gender Diversity Workshop

Creating Change ●●●●● **Celebrating Diversity** ●●●●●
●●●●● **Maintaining Confidentiality** ●●●●●



Transgender ●●●●● **Transsexual** ●●●●● **FtM** ●●●●● **MtF** ●●●●●
Sistergirl ●●●●● **Intersex** ●●●●● **Gender Queer and any other diverse gender identity** ●

●●●●● **Are you working with gender diverse clients and feeling like you are working in the dark?**

Let QAHC shine the light on gender diversity and assist you to better support the people you are working with.

Have you previously attended the Creating Inclusive Services workshop and found you needed more information around working with your gender diverse client?

●●●●● **then this is what you have been waiting for** ●●●●●

The Gender Diversity Workshop aims to expand QAHC's current training resources to provide a greater depth of information on transgender identities, gender identity, the process of transitioning, social pressures related to identifying as transgender and transitioning, health outcomes and providing inclusive service provision mechanisms. The training will also aim to develop participant's awareness of how we understand gender in the mainstream community, how these values influence the understanding of transgender issues and impact upon the accessibility of services for transgender clients.

To register please complete the attached registration form or for more information contact QAHC's Training and Development Coordinator, Ricki Menzies at rmenzies@qahc.org.au or phone 07 5479 4866.



CHOICES

NEW DIRECTIONS

EMPOWERMENT

NEW SKILLS

SUPPORT

QuiHN
NEW DIRECTIONS

Drug and alcohol use in the LGBT community is 2 to 4 fold higher than in the broader heterosexual community. Drug use can be hard to manage and various areas of life can be affected. People who are experiencing difficulties managing their substance use may also be experiencing some mental health problems such as anxiety, depression or bipolar. QuiHN is offering counselling and support to those who are looking to better manage their drug use and mental health concerns. QuiHN's counsellors are tertiary trained and are aware of and sensitive to the issues faced by members of the LGBT community.

Supporting the LGBT Community

QuiHN now offers counselling for individuals from the LGBT community in a non-judgemental, confidential and supportive space based at the Queensland Association for Healthy Communities (QAHC) in Newstead. Our fees are low and fee waivers can be arranged for those in financial stress. For more information or to book a counselling session, please phone QuiHN on: **3620 8111**

(Please quote 'New Directions' to book a session at QAHC.)

QuiHN

qahc

Not so Private Lives national survey

University of Queensland research has shown almost 50 percent of same-sex attracted women over the age of 34 have children in their lives and most want to marry.

The final report from the *Not So Private Lives* national survey also found the issue relating to children was not restricted to people of an older age, as almost a third of both same-sex attracted females and males under the age of 25 said they planned to have children.

Researcher Sharon Dane, from UQ's School of Psychology, said research relating to same-sex parenting had generally provided overall figures when it came to the numbers who report having children.

"Results based on different age groups, however, are likely to offer a more meaningful interpretation of these findings given that people in general are having children in later years," she said.

"For example, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the peak child bearing age for women is between the years 30 and 34."

She said when focusing on the results for the cohort over 34 years of age, 47.1 percent of same-sex attracted women reported having children in their lives, whether their own or the result of a current or past relationship. For same-sex attracted men in this age cohort, the figure was 17.6 percent. The large majority of these individuals were in a same-sex relationship.

Among participants who reported having at least one child under the age of 20 in their lives, 64.7 percent of same-sex attracted women and 24.1 percent of same-sex attracted men reported living with these children full-time.

Ms Dane said although the findings from the survey revealed the majority of same-sex attracted participants selected “marriage” as their personal choice for relationship recognition, results indicated this was even more likely to be the case among those with a same-sex partner and living full-time with young children.

“For example, among those living full-time with children in which the eldest child was under the age of 13, 74.7 percent reported that they would like to marry,” she said.

“In cases where the eldest child was under the age of five, 80.8 percent selected marriage as their personal choice.

“Given the ongoing opposition to same-sex parenting from certain sectors, perhaps the need to have one's relationship validated is of even greater importance among same-sex couples with young children.

“This is consistent with other findings from the survey which showed that the more same-sex attracted people felt that their relationships were valued on a comparable level with heterosexual relationships the greater their reported level of well-being.”

She said currently the Australian government didn't provide a means for these relationships to be formally recognised at a federal level.

“It seems contradictory that those who are opposed to same-sex couples entering into a legally and socially recognised relationship, such as marriage, argue so based on the well-being of children,” she said.

“Denying parents the opportunity to validate their relationships can send a hurtful message to these young people.

“It implies that the people they rely on for love and protection are depicted by society as being less than capable of providing this.”

She said recent research from America on the impact of marriage on same-sex couples found the large majority reported that their children were happier and better off as a result.

The full report from the Not So Private Lives survey can be viewed at www.notsoprivatelives.com



Married. Straight. Gay. Bisexual.

Completely confidential Men's sexual health line
1800 155 141
Staff available business hours.
Automated information service available other times.
www.men.org.au

Call us about:
Sexuality issues
Sexual health
Referrals Information
Support

Cairns Tropical Pride

Cairns Tropical Pride

Tropical Pride Float
in Cairns Festival Parade
5.30pm Sat 21st August
@
The Explorers

Pride Awards Night
6.30 pm Fri 27th August
@
OutFront Bar

Pride Dance Party
"Out! Proud!"
@
Blue Sky Brewery
9pm Sat 21st August

Pride Fair Day
@
The Tanks
11am - 6pm
Sun 29th August

2010

**A Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender
Community Festival**

cairnstropicalpride.com.au

Cairns Regional COUNCIL

Cairns FESTIVAL 2010

QPP Update

Peer Support and Community Development Officer Northern

We are very pleased to introduce David Couplan-Jones as the new QPP Peer Support and Community Development Officer Northern, a role that will encompass Cairns, Townsville and associated areas. David will be based in Cairns and can be reached on 0400 149 773 or dcouplanjones@qpp.org.au. David would be pleased to hear about anything relevant to Northern Queensland. From now on, please contact David to be kept informed about activities in these regions.

New fact sheet focus group

Queensland Positive People are seeking your views on a new information resource, about a specific health topic, intended for highly sexually adventurous men who have sex with men. We are particularly interested in hearing from HIV-positive men, HIV-positive/Hepatitis C positive men as well as HIV-negative/hepatitis C negative men. You will be paid a fee for your time and asked to sign a confidentiality agreement. Please contact Peter Watts at QPP to register on 1800 636 241

CALD Social Group

The next date will be Saturday 12 JUNE from 11am at the State Resource Centre in Manilla St, EAST BRISBANE. Then, every two months, on 14 August, 9 October and 11 December. People are asked to bring a plate of food that represents their own culture.

This social group is a collaboration between QPP and ECCQ and is a social afternoon for families from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds affected by HIV.

Planet Positive Brisbane

The next Planet Positive in Brisbane for 2010 is FRIDAY JUNE 25 from 6pm. It will be upstairs at the Shafston Hotel, EAST BRISBANE. There is plenty of parking on site or there are several bus routes stopping next to or nearby the venue (227, 232, 230, 235) or a ferry stop at Mowbray Park. Subsequent dates are Friday 1 October and Friday 17 December.

Planet Positive Gold Coast

I'm currently looking at new venues for this event as I was unhappy with our previous venue. The dates however will be Friday 6 August and Friday 12 November.

Comedy Film Nights

At the State Resource Centre from 6pm on Tuesday August 10 and November 9. We'll choose the movie on the night and we'll order some pizzas for dinner.

Townsville Social Group

Townsville Sexual Health, Positive Directions and QPP will continue to host social afternoons for people living with HIV and their families in Townsville. We have a new location at Clint Bradley's Deli in Domain Central on Duckworth St, Garbutt. Dates set are Saturday August 14 and November 13 and bus 204 gets you there if you're not driving. Please contact me on 1800 636 241 for more information.

Brisbane Social Group

The Brisbane social group continues to meet on the first Saturday of the month at the QPP State Resource Centre from 12pm. Upcoming dates are June 5, July 3, August 7, September 4, October 2, November 6 and December 4.

Brisbane North Social Group – now twice a month

Due to increased demand, the social group for people across Brisbane's northern suburbs will continue to be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month from 12pm at Moora Park, SANDGATE, as well as the second Sunday of the month. As the venue for the second Sunday event changes from month to month to various places across the northern suburbs, I ask that you call 1800 636 241 to find out the next location.

Positive Action Cairns (PAC)

PAC is a social, advocacy, support and networking group run by and for people living with HIV in Cairns. The group meets monthly and is open to anybody living with HIV in Cairns. Upcoming dates Thursday June 10, July 8, in the evening. Please email positiveactioncairns@hotmail.com or call 4041 5451 for more information.

For further information on any of the events or opportunities listed here, please call myself on 1800 636 241 or email jheywood@qpp.org.au. You can also visit our website at www.qpp.net.au for the latest information, articles and resources.



GLWA Counsellors wanted!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

NEW GLWA TELEPHONE COUNSELLOR TRAINING PROGRAM STARTING SOON

Apply online @ www.glwa.org.au

**Got some free time?
Like to support your community?
We also need volunteers for
non-counselling positions.**



WOW: Women On Women's Health Study



A FEMALE PARTNER STUDY

If you are 18 years of age or older and you have had a female sexual partner in the last 12 months, the Sexual Health Research Unit at Melbourne Sexual Health Centre is conducting a women's health research project that you may be interested in.

What is the study about:

The WOW study aims to see how commonly BV occurs in women with female sexual partners and how it may be related to sexual activity. Several studies have demonstrated that women who have female sexual partners are at higher risk of BV than other women but it is not clear why this is so. Some studies suggest BV may be sexually transmitted, however this remains unproven.

What is BV:

BV is a common vaginal condition. In BV a woman's usual healthy vaginal bacteria (in particular lactobacillus bacteria) are replaced by an overgrowth of mixed bacteria. BV may cause symptoms of an abnormal vaginal discharge or odour (smell). However, more than half the women with BV do not have any symptoms so are often unaware of the infection.

What you have to do:

Take self collected vaginal swabs (at home) and complete an on-line survey every 3 months. We provide reply paid envelopes to send the swabs back to us.

Risks from this study:

No risks are foreseen for this study. Self-collection of vaginal swabs is a simple and painless procedure. This method has been used in numerous studies and in situations where women prefer self collection.

Your Specimens:

Samples will be stored at Melbourne Sexual Health Centre and coded (with no name). They will be examined for organisms related to the study of bacterial vaginosis.

Confidentiality and Ethics:

All of the information you submit to us is stored securely and coded to ensure your privacy. The study has been approved by The University of Melbourne and Alfred Hospital ethics committees

What's in it for you?

1. This project does not require any clinic visits and can be done by the internet, telephone and post.
2. Reimbursed with Coles-Myer vouchers to the value of \$20.00 every 3 months
3. An 1800 number to discuss any sexual health concerns
4. Your participation will contribute to understanding the health of women who have sex with women.

Interested?:

If you are interested in learning more please contact us:

Website: www.wowhealth.org.au

Call toll free: 1800 082820

Email us at: wowhealth@mshc.org.au

WOW: Women On Women's Health Study – Bacterial Vaginosis

Bacterial vaginosis (BV) is a common vaginal condition. In BV a woman's usual healthy vaginal bacteria (in particular lactobacillus bacteria) are replaced by an overgrowth of mixed bacteria. BV may cause symptoms of an abnormal vaginal discharge or odour. However, more than half the women with BV do not have any symptoms so are often unaware of the infection. BV is associated with complications such as preterm delivery, pelvic inflammatory disease and increased risk of HIV acquisition (if exposed to HIV). The symptoms of BV can also be chronic and relapsing. Many women with BV find their sexual self-esteem is affected and some women avoid sexual contact or have problems with libido.

Amazingly, given BV is the most common cause of vaginitis in the world, its specific cause is unknown. BV is usually treated with an antibiotic called metronidazole given for 1 week. Symptoms often recur after treatment however. We don't know whether BV recurs because the treatment hasn't worked, or because a woman has caught it again. It's very hard to answer these questions when as yet we don't know what the exact cause is.

The prevalence of BV in women who have sex with women (WSW) is much higher than in exclusively heterosexual women. Studies from around the world have shown that about 20-30% of WSW have BV at any one time. Interestingly, some studies have looked at lesbian couples and have found that if one woman has BV, her partner very often has BV too (about 90% of the time). As 50% of women with BV don't have any symptoms, a woman may not know she has BV until she is tested. It is possible that exchange of vaginal secretions during sexual contact may transmit BV from woman to woman. One study which supports this theory showed that when healthy volunteers were directly inoculated (vaginally) with the vaginal secretions of women with BV, the volunteers usually then developed BV as well. There have been no studies done to assess whether female partners of women with BV should get treated, but currently we recommend these female partners get tested and offered treatment if they have BV.

We are doing the WOW (women on women's health) study to try to find the answer to some of these questions about BV in women who have sex with women. Why is it so common? Is it sexually transmitted between women? Do specific sexual practices result in BV? Or is it some other factor that is not related to sex? Why do some women not catch it even if their partner has it?

The WOW study is the first study of its kind in world – no other research has followed WSWs over time to try to establish who catches and BV and why. Hopefully the WOW study can help provide some information to help WSWs and health professionals prevent and manage BV - so all WSW can have health happy vaginal flora!

Priscilla gets historical 2! Queer Brisbane Bus Tour

Saturday July 17th
10am to 5pm



Meet in the Valley to come ride and walk with some queer history buffs down Brisbane's rainbow memory lane, and check out Brisbane's hidden past. Venues, people, places, memorials ... there's a lot to see if you know where to look! The tour will end at the Museum of Brisbane Pride and Prejudice exhibition of Brisbane's LGBT history.

Bookings are ESSENTIAL!!
Phone Jan or Tim at QAHC on 3017 1777
\$5 donation

This LGBT Heritage Tour is part of QAHC's LGBT History Project. The project is an initiative of QAHC, and has received initial funding from the Brisbane City Council and the QAHC Healthy Communities Fund. It is a partnership with the State Library of Queensland and the Museum of Brisbane.



slq state library
of queensland
www.slq.qld.gov.au



What's happening in your area

Brisbane

Lesbian Women's Writers Group

Announcing the formation of a new community of lesbian women writers meeting once a month, from 2pm to approx 4pm every third Sunday at QAHC, 30 Helen Street Newstead.

We're interested in finding ways and means to support lesbian women writers/ing in Brisbane and surrounds (ie within a 40k radius from the GPO in Edward St City). Although we are open to applications by long distance members.

Some of the ideas we have so far are: monthly meetings to workshop work in the short term, but eventually, we would like to hold regular public readings, produce an annual anthology of our work, raise funds to pay for a weekend retreat and perhaps even invite agents or publishers from the industry to address the group.

This group is NOT only for published lesbian women writers but also for those lesbian women interested in stoking the fires of their creative writing imaginings.

On a final note if you have any questions re the definition of lesbian women please contact Sian at doccarooni@gmail.com. In fact, for further queries about the group please contact Sian or Anne on 0424 285236.

The Church of United Spiritualism of Australia

Service starts at 7pm on the Third Monday of the month. Contact Reverend Peter Newlands 0423 040 328. All welcome. QAHC Training Room, 30 Helen Street, Newstead.

2 QT 2 B STR8

Social support group in Logan for LGBT young people 16-25
P: 32088199 E: 2QT2BSTR8@yfs.org.au M: 0403587708

Brisbane Lesbian and Gay Pride Choir

Provides an opportunity for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender people to sing together.

The Choir is an a cappella, SATB (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) group. We sing well known popular music including ABBA, Madonna, Queen, Dolly Parton, Sweet Honey in the Rock, Blue House and Cole Porter, as well as spirituals, early music, folk songs and original songs.

We are available for public and private performances and aim to entertain audiences not only within the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender community, but also general audiences from the wider Brisbane Community.

For more information please visit the website <http://www.myspace.com/brisbanelesbianandgaypridechoir>

BrisBears

BrisBears is a Club for men who identify as Bear, who enjoy facial and body hair and admirers of men who have facial and body hair. We meet on the 3rd and 5th Saturday of each month at:

The Sportsman Hotel 130
Leichhardt Street
Spring Hill, Qld 4000

For more information please visit our website www.brisbears.org.au or email info@brisbears.org.com

Changeling Aspects

Our aim is to help where we can, with information and advice to enable the reader, whether they be Transsexual or just wanting to understand someone they know who is Transsexual, to make the next step along the way. This can be to make a move towards becoming the new gender or returning possibly to a previous position. Please visit <http://www.changelingaspects.com/index.htm>

ATSAQ – Australian Transgender Support Association of Queensland Inc

The Australian Transgender Support Association of QLD (ATSAQ) was formed in 1990, to help, advise and assist the transgender community in Queensland. It is run by transgenders for transgenders and provides emotional/moral support for people with Gender identity Disorder (formally known as Gender Dysphoria) their families and friends. Visit <http://www.atsaq.com/>

Dykes on Bikes

For lesbians who love motorbikes. New look chapter. New contacts, new rides, great fun.
For more information call Vicki on 0403-798-131

Open Doors

Counselling and support for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender young people 12-18yo and their families. Drop in every Wed between 12-5pm. For more information phone 3257-7660 or email opendoors@opendoors.net.au or visit <http://www.opendoors.net.au>

ACCEPTANCE BRISBANE

Support group for GLBT Catholics. Meet every 2nd Friday monthly for mass and discussion.

E: acceptance_brisbane@yahoo.com

Brisbane Gay & Lesbian Business Network (GLBN)

The Gay and Lesbian Business Network (GLBN) is the portal for gay and "gay friendly" individuals and businesses wishing to be involved in business, social and support networks within the gay and lesbian community.

The Vision of the GLBN is the establishment of a business network, which is renowned for the development, and provision of informative business and support systems, which focus on current and developing business issues. For more information email secretary@brisbaneglbn.org or visit <http://www.brisbaneglbn.org>

Brisbane North Social Group

A new social group for people across Brisbane's northern suburbs is now held on the fourth Tuesday of the month from 12pm at Moora Park, SANDGATE. Details are attached but upcoming dates are **June 23, July 28, August 25, September 22, October 27 and November 24**. Trips to Mt. Cootha and Maleny are scheduled for July and October and will require an rsvp.

North Queensland (Cairns, Townsville)

Queer Youth Action Group

Join the Queer Youth Action Group to increase support for LGBT young people in Far North QLD. For more information contact QAHC: 4041 5451

Body Positive

A Cairns based group for people living with HIV. Monthly social events, fundraising activities. Contact Jarran at Queensland Positive People (QPP) Ph: 1800 636 241 or Kevin at QAHC Ph 4041 54 51.

BoyZout

A social Group for gay men of all ages based in Cairns meets once a month. Contact Graham & David Ph: 4093 9492 or email: boyzout@people.net.au

Tablelands Social Network

A social group for LGBT people living on or visiting the Atherton Tablelands. For details on upcoming events contact Louise through www.glbtqfnq.info

Cairns Sunboys

Nude social group in Cairns sunboys@rainbownet.info Cairns: sunboys@gmail.com.

G.R.A.C.E. - (Girls-rent-a-crowd-events)

We are a group of fun loving gay women who meet up once every three months (or so) for dinners, camping, picnics etc. If you are interested in becoming a member (which is free) then contact me on MOB: 0427 657 350 or QAHC 4041 5451 (Wed 9am - 1pm) or send us an email to bindy123@bigpond.com with your details.

Connecting Rainbows

Servicing from Mossman and north: LGBT Social gatherings and support group for all ages. Contact Billi on 4098 2005. E: bili1@live.com.au

Tank Girls Downunder

Women's motorbike club. E: seej01@hotmail.com

Barista Sista

Coffee, tea etc. Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays 6am – 4pm at Rusty's Market, Sheridan Street, Cairns

Cairns Rainbow Families

Social group for same sex parents/caregivers. Contact Rhonda: 4041 5451 or rhonda1@live.com.au

Fruitloops

Cairns LGBT Business Networking Group. 1st Friday every month at Blue Sky Brewery, Lake Street, Cairns. 5pm – 8pm. Gigi 0400 767 367. www.fruitloops.net.au

OUT!

Cairns only monthly LGBT dance party night. An LGBT community organised event. 1st Saturday each month at Blue Sky Brewery. Facebook profile outincairns@hotmail.com or visit www.outincairns.org.au.

OUT Loud

Cairns LGBT Choir. Practice

The Sovereign Hotel – Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings.

Grrlzone

Is an independent women's and lesbian's collective providing safe, fun and diverse women's entertainment events in Townsville and Thuringowa. They run the GrrlSpot women's dance on the first Friday of the month and Molley Malones (Flinders Street East, Townsville). Contact them at info@grrlzone.org.au or visit www.grrlzone.org.au

ROSA's

Is a recreational, outdoors, social activities group for gay women in Townsville and surrounding districts. Contact them via email at madhouse33@hotmail.com or visit www.rosatownsville.com.

Transbridge - Townsville

A support group for transgenders in the Townsville area.

We have connections with sexual health, mental health, AISA counselling and others by association.

374 Fulham Road, Heatley, Townsville QLD 4814

If we can help you at any time we have a mobile phone for 24 hour support at:

Mob Ph 0412 168 299

Ph (07) 4779 9229

Fax (07) 4779 9229

Central Coast (including Sunshine Coast)

Coffee catch-up & ClubRok

Join us at the Coffee Star @ 2pm, the third Saturday of each month. The Coffee Star is in Bolsover St near the 'new' bridge. **Coffee Catch Up is at 2pm from now on!** This gives us all a chance to chat, meet some new people and talk about other ideas for social activities, all without the need to yell over loud music. I would love to see you, and feel free to bring other people along with you, the more the better! If you are shy, we are happy to arrange a pre-meet before hand so you know a friendly face. Transport could be available from Rocky and Yeppoon if you require a lift, let me know.

Clubrok

ClubRok has moved to the Anchor Hotel in North Rockhampton. Come and check out ClubRoks new home - larger, better and now serving cocktails. A line up of drag shows will help to keep everyone entertained and a good night of fun is almost a guarantee! The next show for Clubrok will be at the new location, the Anchor Hotel just over the bridge next door to Drummonds Golf Shop

Diversity Party

Fraser Coast GaysClub Wharf (Criterion Hotel)Wharf Street, Maryborough6pm - 10pm (then club opens to General Public until late)

More info log onto www.frasergays.com

Re-occurring event 3rd Saturday of every month.

PFlag Rockhampton

Meets 1st Tuesday of every month

Community Health Centre, Room 2, Cnr Bolsover & Cambridge Street, Rockhampton

Contact: Neville or Rosemary 07 4928 7275 or rosiejnevillek@bigpond.com

Rock'in Rocky Females - Rockhampton Bi Club

Contact: 'The Girls' rockinrockybigroup@hotmail.com

The group is for mid 20's to late 30's females ONLY. We enjoy regular outings together. Some of us have children and husbands, some of us have kids but not the hassle of the man and some of us are single females.

Rainbow Brigayde - LGBT Youth Group

Every second Tuesday from 12th February. Location: Verbyl, 40 James Street, Yeppoon.
Time: 5.00pm - 7.00pm. Contact Cameron Vella (Rainbow Brigayde Manager)
rainbowbrigayde@hotmail.com or 07 4939 9212 (youth volunteer)

This is a youth based support system and group get together for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons of the Capricorn Coast. Rainbow Brigayde is based in Yeppoon but anyone who feels the need to talk can call or email anytime.

Lesbian Social Dinners

First Thursday of each month. Location: Rocky's Tavern, Cnr Alma & Derby Street, Rockhampton.
Time: 6.30pm onwards. Contact Sandy & Denise 07 4928 4520

Lemon Lounge

Second Wednesday of the month. Time: 7.00pm. Location: Varies
Contact: Ricki 0408 843 221

Sunshine Coast Queer Collective

Every Second Wednesday (starting March 2008) Time: 12.20pm
Location: Lawn area at the back of the student guild.

Woman 2 Woman

Support group for lesbian and bi women on the Sunshine Coast and Cooloola Coasts.
Contact: For support and info on what's on phone Ricki 0408 843 221 or rickicate@msn.com

Trans Sunshine Coast

A social and peer support group for Transgender people. F2M, M2F, Gender Queer. Friends and family are welcome. One on one peer support available. Second Thursday of the month 5.30pm – 7.30pm. Contact Carly: kallan1@optusnet.com.au or QAHC on 07 5451 1118.

ShOUT

LGBT young people and their friends drop in night. 6.00pm – 8.00pm. Last Thursday of the month. QAHC, 10 Pikki Street, Maroochydore. Ph: 07 5451 1118.

Gold Coast (including Logan)

Castaways

Every first Monday of the month, the Castaways group holds a luncheon. This is a lively occasion for People Living with HIV/AIDS, their partners, family and friends as well as the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community. A lunch is provided and a donation of \$4.00 is appreciated by those attending. For more information email: goldcoastcastaways@hotmail.com or call 07 3017 1777 or 0425 778 994.

Project Asia

Project Asia is a free & confidential group for Asian guys & their friends who are gay, bi/curious.

Project Asia is a social group that will also include Education Forums and a way to help make it easier to form friendships, social opportunities, gain access to health and community services and to provide safe space.

The groups will be held one evening per month with a view to extending this into other social opportunities on the Gold Coast.

This will also provide an opportunity to give feedback for resources for Asian men.

For further info about Project Asia email projectasia@hotmail.com or call/text 0419 759 686.

Gold Coast Alliance

GC Alliance (GCA) is a new Gold Coast based LGBT social group.

GC Alliance is open to gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, transgender, intersexed people, their family and friends.

For a roster of monthly events email Grant gcalliance@live.com.

Logan Central Social Group

Meets monthly and is something new and social for the Logan area. Come along and meet some locals and help us plan for our region. If you are interested call or email Ged on 0419 759 686 or 07 3017 1777 (Tues & Thurs). Email: logan@qahc.org.au

Toowoomba

GLBTF Toowoomba

A group for anyone from Toowoomba who is Gay, Lesbian, bisexual, transgender and their friends. Meeting every Friday night from 8pm til late. Burke & Wills Cocktail Bar, Ruthven Street, Toowoomba. For more details see <http://www.facebook.com/reqs.php#/group.php?gid=38970570172>

Prism

LGBT Youth, family and friend group meets every 3rd Sunday for Barbecue and Guitar Hero.

Prism, in association with QAHC, Open Doors and Young Women's Place, holds regular events for the LGBT community and their supporters, with a particular aim of including families, young people and others who may not feel welcome at all LGBT events. Contact Amanda 3017 1733 for more info.

<http://www.facebook.com/groups.php?id=541933313#/group.php?gid=178627720522>

Alliance

The Alliance is a group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, transgender, straight and label-free staff and students of the University of Southern Queensland. It is run by students with the support of the USQ Student Guild. The Alliance aims to create an environment where students, staff and local community members can feel free to be who they are without the threat of discrimination and harrassment. Email usqalliance@gmail.com. Website <http://usqalliance.webs.com>



YOU MIGHT NOT
FEEL IT
BUT YOU COULD
STILL HAVE IT!

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INFECTIONS DON'T ALWAYS
SHOW SYMPTOMS;
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Qld Association of Healthy Communities Inc - Brisbane

Ph: **07 3017 1777** email: info@qahc.org.au
Fax: 07 3852 5200 web: www.qahc.org.au

Postal Address: PO 1372, Eagle Farm BC Qld 4009
Street address: 30 Helen St, Newstead Qld 4006

Sexual Health information & referral	1800 155 141
Indigenous Gay Men & Sista Girl	07 3017 1736
Members	07 3017 1779
Volunteers	07 3017 1777
Donations and Bequests	07 3017 1728

Qld Association for Healthy Communities Inc – Sunshine Coast (including Central Coast)

Postal Address: PO Box 2077, Sunshine Plaza Qld 4558
Street Address: 10 Pikki Street, Maroochydore Qld 4558
Phone: 07 5451 1118

Qld Association for Healthy Communities Inc – Cairns

Postal Address: PO Box 12112, Cairns Qld 4870
Street Address: 290 Draper Street, Cairns Qld 4870
Phone: 07 4041 5451 Freecall: 1800 884 401

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