



Statewide News

Feb - Mar 2010

What's On: [Brisbane](#) | [North Qld](#) | [Central Coast](#) | [Gold Coast](#) | [Toowoomba](#)

**GOLD COAST
GAY DAY 2010**

**Parklands Showgrounds Southport
Sunday May 2 – May Day Long Weekend**

All weather venue – plenty of free parking

Featuring
Kate Cook – Australian Idol
Big Book Fantasy, Mish, The Rosie Burgess Trio
DJ's – Laszlo K, RJ Sims, Jake
Hosted by
Trixie O Nassis and Nana Rama Licious

Entry \$12

Starting at 11am
Fully licensed (no BYO)
Hot Bodz Competition
Jumping Castle | Stalls | Games
Loads of entertainment | Prizes
Sausage sizzle | Under 12s enter free!

Bring your entry band along to MP's for free entry
into the AFTER PARTY for Gold Coast Gay Day

Sorry no pets allowed due to venue regulations

www.goldcoastgayday.com

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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2010 Tropical Alternatives Film Festival



The Queensland Association for Healthy Communities (QAHC) are proud to present the 4th Annual Tropical Alternatives Film Festival (TAFF) in 2010.

Screening during May in Cairns, Townsville, Mackay, Rockhampton, Hervey Bay, Sunshine Coast, Toowoomba and the Gold Coast, the Tropical Alternatives Film Festival will show a variety of films highlighting the richness of the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people.

“Many LGBT people love movies but find their lives and their stories are not regularly reflected on the silver screen. The Tropical Alternatives Film Festival shows movies that mirror some of the lives and experiences of people in our community. The opportunity to see these types of films is rare for people living in regional Queensland” says QAHC Festival Coordinator, Amanda Dean.

In addition to the fine selection of films, QAHC is proud to launch the Queensland Pride Short Film Competition as part of the 2010 Tropical Alternative Film Festival.

This short film competition will be showing locally made films in a free session during film festival screenings.

Tickets for the film festival are \$12 per film. In Cairns the event runs over four days and has a day pass or festival pass (see below for details). In all other places it is \$25 for a Tropical Film Lover's Pass (which includes entrance to all three movies plus entertainment and finger food during the Tropical Interval), and the Queensland Pride Short Film Competition will be a free screening (bookings essential to secure your spot).

For more information please visit <http://www.qahc.org.au/films>

Please note: Entries for the Queensland Pride Short Film Competition to be shown during TAFF 2010 have now closed. Thank you to everyone who has entered their films and good luck in the selection process. We will notify entrants of their film inclusion status soon.

A Cuppa Can Help QAHC



Are you a coffee lover? Do you enjoy supporting a worthy LGBT charity? If so, you can combine your passion for a good brew with your support for QAHC. Our friends at Wicked Brew Coffee are generously donating 10% of all orders over \$20 to QAHC. Even better for you, you'll also get a 5% discount off your order! Simply enter the code **QAHC2311** when you order online at www.wickedbrewcoffee.com.au

2010 – 2011 Entertainment Book – Enjoy a Bargain and Support QAHC

For all of you that love a bargain, we have some great news! The best value discount book around is now available to order pre-release! And better still, if you buy now, you'll also get a bonus sheet of vouchers featuring fantastic offers from places like Shingle Inn, The Chelsea, Bar Barossa and more.

Entertainment Books are filled with hundreds of 25% - 50% off, or two for one deals and can save you thousands of dollars. This year's Brisbane and South-East Queensland book will be selling for \$65 and the Gold Coast & Surrounds book is \$55 (plus \$8 postage and handling for each book ordered) and you can pre-order by visiting www.qahc.org.au/entbook. Not only will you save thousands of dollars by taking advantage of the fine and casual dining, fast food, movie, accommodation, car hire, theme park, and beauty offers available, but you'll also be supporting QAHC's Healthy Communities Fund (awarding small grants for LGBT community projects in Queensland) with \$13 from every Brisbane book and \$11 from every Gold Coast book sold towards the Fund.

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QAHC Brisbane



Big Gay Day – Thank You to Volunteers!

On Sunday, 07 March QAHC Outreach Team & Volunteers were certainly kept busy entertaining over 5,000 party goers at Big Gay Day. This year the Team set up a Chill Out Space featuring DramaDownUnder campaign imagery, male mannequins in DramaDownUnder jocks, bar tables & bean bags.

Several performances also featured within the Chill Out space this year as a draw card for people to access the tent. These included demonstrations from Bootco Brisbane & The Order of the Twelve Swords on rope play practice with experienced male & female BDSM players. Consequently, this generated some healthy discussion with punters wanting to find out more on how to incorporate BDSM play into their relationships.

Aside from the chill out function of the tent, QAHC Outreach crews were busy signing people up for free sms sexual health test reminders & handing out DramaDownUnder tagged underwear & stubbie holders, safe sex packs & other assorted goodies. The tent also featured the Mr Q Search for a Cover Model contestants who were promoting the campaign wearing our campaign tagged jocks, making the space a very popular spot indeed!

Other activities on the day included setting up posters, screen imagery & other health related info + roaming around the crowds to make sure punters were okay. By the end of the day over 20 QAHC Staff & Volunteers contributed over 100 hours of work, with over 2,500 resources handed out...a full on day, but fun had by all!

Do you like to Party? Enjoy meeting people? Want to get involved in the upcoming Pride Festival or future Outreach activities? For more information on how you can play part contact Brett Stevens or Brett Mooney at QAHC on 3017 1777 or info@qahc.org.au

Sexpo 2010

For the second year running QAHC teamed up with a number of sexual health related agencies such as Queensland Positive People, QHealth, Positive Directions, Hepatitis Council, Respect & Ethnic Communities Council of Queensland to create a One Stop Sexual Health Spot at Sexpo 2010.

Staged over 4 days & with a range of agencies on board we managed to distributed over 2000 Sexual Health bags to a range of people containing a variety of sexual health related information as well as having punters spin the sex wheel, with prizes for answering correct questions.

From QAHC's perspective there was a steady flow of Queers check out the stall, with over 200 Coming Out booklets & 500 Drug Safety booklets the most popular resources taken from our table, aside from the QAHC content in the show bags.

For more information on how you can play part in QAHC's Event Outreach Team contact Brett Stevens or Brett Mooney at QAHC on 3017 1777 or info@qahc.org.au

Aqualicious Pool Party

On Saturday, 20 February Centenary Pool came alive with the annual Aqualicious Pool Party fundraiser complete with fun, frivolity and just a little lycra to keep everyone entertained. If that was not enough, the twelve metre inflatable croc certainly tipped the balance.

Once again, the Aqualicious Swim Team invited the QAHC along to the party, which provided great opportunity to interact with partygoers, with some of the Outreach crew stripping down to lycra – still with a QAHC Tshirt, to be identifiable of course!

The Pool Party is the main fundraiser for the Aqualicious Swim Team to generate financial support for members to attend swim meets both in Queensland & Interstate. This year Aqualicious were fundraising towards the Team defending their Short Course State Championship in Cairns.

Aqualicious Swim Team – Success

You supported them at the Pool Party and now they are State Champions – THANK YOU – they couldn't have done it without you.

Team Aqualicious (QAL), Brisbane's GLBTI Swim Team has won the Queensland Branch Trophy for Club Aggregate Points at the AUSSI Masters Queensland Short Course State Swim & Club Championships held at the Trinity Aquatic Centre in Cairns on 12-14 March 2010.

Successfully defending the title the team won in Noosa in 2007, Aqualicious fielded the largest team with 43 swimmers and the squad delivered performances that saw them outrank all other clubs to take the coveted Club Trophy & State Title for the second time in a row. Team Aqualicious are the only GLBTIQ club in Australia to win a State Title and now have added a title defence to their trophy cabinet.

Aqualicious foster a team spirit of fun, friendship and fitness. Team Aqualicious, train at Splash Centenary Pool on Gregory Terrace, Spring Hill Tues and Thurs 6-7:30pm and Sat 9.00 - 10.30am. Check their website for more details. www.aqualicious.com.au

National Condom Day

While some people were hoping to share the love this Valentine's Day, the Queensland Association for Healthy Communities (QAHC) & Queensland Health were out in the heart of Brisbane's entertainment precinct, the Valley Mall to remind everyone that February 14 was also National Condom Day, helping to raise awareness of the day and answer questions on sharing the love in a safe, yet fulfilling way.

Whilst there were initial concerns around interacting with punters in such a hectic space as the Valley Mall on a Saturday night, these concerns seemed to disappear as a range of positive interactions & support for the initiative were received by both punters & a distant, but watchful eye of the Police. A great night had by all & something we would like to repeat in the near future due to its success.

National Condom Day aims to promote the importance of using condoms to help protect lovers from HIV & sexually transmitted infections (STI's). The number of HIV notifications has increased in Queensland in recent years. In 2008, the number of people notified with a newly acquired HIV diagnoses (166) was 91% higher than in 1998 (87). Across Queensland STI rates have continued to increase with 15, 700 cases of Chlamydia reported in 2008, a 18% increase from 2007.

QAHC Outer Metro Event News

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 3017 1733 to find out the next location.

Out West

LGBT Dance Party and Parade

Saturday 17th April 2010

6.00pm – 11.55pm

Murphy's Town Pub, Union Place Ipswich

2010 Tropical Alternatives Film Festival Coming soon to Toowoomba

The Queensland Association for Healthy Communities (QAHC) are proud to present the 4th Annual Tropical Alternatives Film Festival (TAFF) in 2010.

Screening on **29th May** at the Metro Cafe & Events, the Tropical Alternatives Film Festival will show a variety of films highlighting the richness of the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people.

"Many LGBT people love movies but find their lives and their stories are not regularly reflected on the silver screen. The Tropical Alternatives Film Festival shows movies that mirror some of the lives and experiences of people in our community. The opportunity to see these types of films is rare for people living in regional Queensland" says QAHC Festival Coordinator, Amanda Dean.

In addition to the fine selection of films, QAHC is proud to launch the Queensland Pride Short Film Competition as part of the 2010 Tropical Alternative Film Festival.

This short film competition will be showing locally made films in a free session during film festival screenings.

Tickets for the film festival are \$12 per film and \$25 for a Tropical Film Lover's Pass (which includes entrance to all three movies plus finger food during the Tropical Interval), and the Queensland Pride Short Film Competition will be a free screening (bookings essential to secure your spot).

To find out more go to www.qahc.org.au/films or contact Amanda on 30171733

LGBT Coffee Group

5.30 pm last Thursday of every month **29th of April**

191 Margaret Street, Toowoomba

Bon Amici

LGBT community social gatherings

Webb Park in Toowoomba to have a family day and BBQ **11th of April** at 1130am BYO a plate

For more information on any of these events please call Amanda Dean on 3017 1733 or email adean@qahc.org.au

QAHC Training and Development

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. 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 is proud to announce another round of their very successful Open Access workshops, Creating Inclusive Services – working with the LGBT client, occurring in April. For more information on workshops in your area please Ricki Menzies, QAHC Training Coordinator at rmenzies@qahc.org.au.

Ricki is also in the process of writing new training workshops to be piloted later in the year. So keep your eyes open for further information regarding these. If the above dates are unsuitable for your organisation requests for in-service training around sexuality and gender identity and creating inclusive services are still being taken. So if training is what your organisation needs then please contact Ricki to book your session or for further information about all the different training QAHC offers.

Rainbow Service on the Sunshine Coast

QAHC & Relationships Australia are excited to announce the commencement of an outreach relationship counselling service on the Sunshine Coast for LGBT people. This outreach program is called the “Rainbow Service”.

Such a service has been operating in Brisbane for 18 months, and the program is to be extended to both the Sunshine Coast and Cairns. Whilst LGBT individuals and couples have always been able to safely access RA services, this program aims to increase accessibility by offering some counselling sessions at QAHC offices.

The Rainbow Service offers confidential counselling to individuals and couples on a broad range of issues impacting on their relationships. The counselling will be provided by a qualified, gay friendly counsellor.

The outreach program commences on 22nd February 2010. Appointments will be available on Monday mornings commencing at 9.00am. The cost of the service will be \$75 per session, or \$35 for concession card holders. Please note that there are no EFTPOS facilities. Sessions will be held at the QAHC office, 10 Pikki Street, Maroochydore

LGBT Rainbow Relationship Counselling Service

The counselling service offers a half-day of relationship counselling each week from the QAHC office on the Sunshine Coast.

LGBT clients and their families utilising the Rainbow Service on the Sunshine Coast are provided with the choice of accessing the Counselling service at the QAHC office at 10 Pikki Street Maroochydore or a Relationships Australia office located at Coloundra – Cherbourg – Gympie – Maroochydore – Noosaville at any other time.

The service is available at QAHC, weekly on

Mondays
From 9am to 1pm

Counselling can be provided either face to face or via the telephone. All bookings for the Sunshine Coast Rainbow Relationship Counselling Service are to be directed to the Relationships Australia Contact Centre on

1300 364 277

Relationships Australia 

Sunshine Coast Bequest Fund

Massages at QAHC for PLHIV

If you are living with HIV and living on the Sunshine Coast, you are welcome to access the Sunshine Coast Bequest Fund, which reimburses or subsidises several services, including massage, anti-retroviral therapy and vitamins.

Six one hour long appointments for massages with Max are available approximately every second Wednesday at the QAHC Resource Centre in Maroochydore. Upcoming dates are April 14 & 28.

As the Bequest Fund is administered by Queensland Positive People, you need to call QPP to make an appointment. Please do so on **1800 636 241** and ask for either Jarran or Jon, who can also tell you about accessing the other services available through the Bequest Fund.

Kathy tackles the tough cross gender issues

(This is extract of a story that appeared in the Senior Lifestyle Magazine December/January 2010 edition)



Kathy Noble celebrated her eighth birthday quietly and her 21st passed without special mention this year, but she will be throwing a “big birthday bash” in Townsville with a big group of friends for her 75th.

It takes a real woman to multi-task three birthdays a year, let alone the multitude of other projects on Kathy’s plate – which is exactly why Kathy celebrates them all. “I’ve just passed eight years since my operation to become a woman, and 21 years since my two heart attacks, which is when everything really started to happen,” she said. “When the tests came back, the doctors found I was pumping four times the amount of prolactin around my body that a normal female would have, let alone a man. “I’d felt I was a girl in a boy’s body since I was six, but at

the time I was dealing with growing up in London during the Blitz, so that took my mind off it a bit!” Although cross-dressing since she was 17-year-old Frank Noble, it wasn’t until the hormone imbalance triggered her heart attacks that Kathy took steps towards being acknowledged as a woman, prompted by overwhelming emotions and the beginnings of female physical attributes naturally occurring. “I never told my first wife, or my parents, but when I shaved off my beard and my second wife didn’t even recognise me, I told her what I was going through and, while surprised, she accepted it,” Kathy said.

“My daughter back in the UK took a little while to come around, but we talk every week now and she knows it’s the same person on the inside. Her kids are in their 20s and they’ve all accepted it too and call me Kathy.”

The fighting spirit that sent Kathy through a wartime childhood and continual hurdles in her journey to self-realisation as a woman can still be seen in her active lobbying of government for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered (LGBT) recognition. Her most recent success has been through her involvement with the LGBT Ageing Action Group, which last month secured the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Queensland Association for Healthy Communities (QAHC) and CareConnect, a State and Federally funded home support provider.

One area of health care Kathy hopes the MoU will help to address is the shortfall in new psychiatrists and psychologists coming through learning about diagnosing transgendered people, which must be done before surgery and legal paperwork can be done. In the meantime, she’s also continuing to lobby for rights for the wider LGBT community, following the implications of a recent decision by the attorney-general that could have implications for same-sex marriage in Australia.

Kathy also runs an information, support and advocacy website at www.changelingaspects.com.au

News from QAHC Cairns

Cairns community was surprised recently to find out that one of its number is a budding author with three books to his credit and another in the pipeline. Phil Lesbirel's third book 'A Matter of Honour' was released in December 2009 and he held a book signing at the February OUT party.

His other releases are 'A Trip to Hell' and 'Growth of Love'. All three books with gay themed content are now in the Library Of Congress in the United States as part of the library books available for readers. They are available at <http://www.philliplesbirel.com> the official website for the publisher Xlibris Corp, and available also through Amazon.com



Gay Men's Health Retreat

QAHC will be holding a health retreat for gay men on Magnetic Island in April. We've booked the whole of the Arcadia Beach Guesthouse to give us a private space to unwind, explore some of the health issues specific to gay men in a safe environment, enjoy good food and make friends with other gay men from the area. During the retreat we'll have time to explore some issues important to gay men; **Relationships**, **Cruising** and **Sexual Pleasure**. There will also be time to share our concerns and hopes with others, relax and take part in other group activities as well as enjoy the beautiful location.

The retreat will run from the late afternoon of Friday 16th April to the afternoon of Sunday 18th. Cost is \$100 per person (\$80 concession) and includes accommodation for the two nights and all food and activities. Participants will have to organise their own travel to and from the island. The guesthouse has a number of rooms with differing levels of comfort but the focus of this retreat is on developing new skills, knowledge and relationships so all participants pay the same amount, with beds allocated by lottery (couples will have priority for double beds) prior to arrival.

To express an interest in attending the retreat call Nick or Kevin at QAHC on 4041 5451 or drop me an email at nconnor@qahc.org.au. Places are limited so attendance is not guaranteed.

Post Mardi Gras Week 2010



Post Mardi Gras Week included the launch for 'Drama Down under' Phase 2. Turtle Cove held a Trivia Night and the night was a great success with not only sexual health questions featuring but the whole night drama down under resources were handed out (as prizes and gifts)

The next event on the Post Mardi Gras calendar was at Skinny Dips Resort. The night was the end of their PMG activities and we used Dolly Diamond to raise the discussion on Sexual health and drama down under. Over 40 men also attended this function and only one was at the previous night. Condom packs, stubby holders and booklets etc were handed out.

Next up was the Turtle Cove Beach Party - The beach party started at 2pm with QUAD bike races. QAHC was providing Drama Down Under prizes (undies and stubby holders) The undies created a lot of talk and guys who won them wore them later that night. Dolly then did a cabaret act.

QAHC Gold Coast and Logan News

It's coming.....Gold Coast Gay Day!!

Lots of work is being done by the committee to make Gold Coast Gay Day 2010 the most fantastic one yet! Sunday 2nd May is the date to mark in your calendar!

Kate Cook has been announced to perform as well as a great line up of DJ's, bands, solo acts, our fab local drag queens and dancers.

Parklands has been announced as the new venue for Gold Coast Gay Day bringing the event much closer to Surfers Paradise.



Gay on the Gold Coast Website



DO you have a community group on the Gold Coast?? Are you planning an event for the LGBT community on the Gold Coast?

Gay on the Gold Coast is a new Website for the Gold Coast which can promote your group or event. The site has been set up by QAHC on the Gold Coast to provide information for the LGBT community.

To place information on the webpage email your information to gc@qahc.org.au or call Ged on 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 friends and families.

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

Rainbow Runners

Rainbow Runners Club is a running and walking club that meet at 8 am on Saturday and 6pm on Monday evenings. We meet at the Kurrawa park sign which is on the left hand side of the Kurrawa Surf Club Broadbeach.

After each run or walk we meet at a local cafe and have breakfast or a drink. Monthly social activities will be organised such as a sausage sizzle at the end of each month and other events. The group is great way to get fit but if running is too much we have a diverse walking group that meet on Saturdays.

For more info call Anthony 0434643239 or email rainbowrunnersclub@yahoo.com.au



Logan Rainbow

The Logan Rainbow logo is a colorful graphic. At the top, it says 'Somewhere..... Under the Logan Rainbow' in a playful, multi-colored font. To the right are two musical notes. Below the text is a small illustration of a group of people, including a person in a wheelchair, walking together. The logo is shaped like an inverted triangle with a pink top section, a yellow middle section, and a blue bottom section. The text 'LGBTI' is written in the pink section. Below the triangle, there is more text: 'New LGBTI social group for LOGAN and surrounding districts', 'The group meets once a month, is child friendly. Make new friends!', 'Help plan group events.', 'Facebook : Logan Rainbow', and 'Light snack provided.'. At the bottom, it says 'PH/Text: 0419759686 for info.' and 'Hope to see you there.' followed by the logo for 'qahc'.

Drama Downunder

A new phase of 'The Drama Downunder', a nation-wide campaign encouraging gay men to become more savvy about sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and to get regular sexual health checks has been launched across Queensland.

The multi-media 'Drama Downunder' campaign encourages homosexually active men in Queensland to take care of business downunder, by improving their sexual health knowledge, and by getting regular sexual health checks.

The campaign has been designed to address rising rates of sexually transmitted infections among Queensland gay men. There is particular concern that rising STI rates are partly driving new HIV diagnoses: having an STI can dramatically increase the potential for HIV to be transmitted during sex as sores and other irritations caused by STIs provide an effective gateway for the virus to pass from one body to the next.

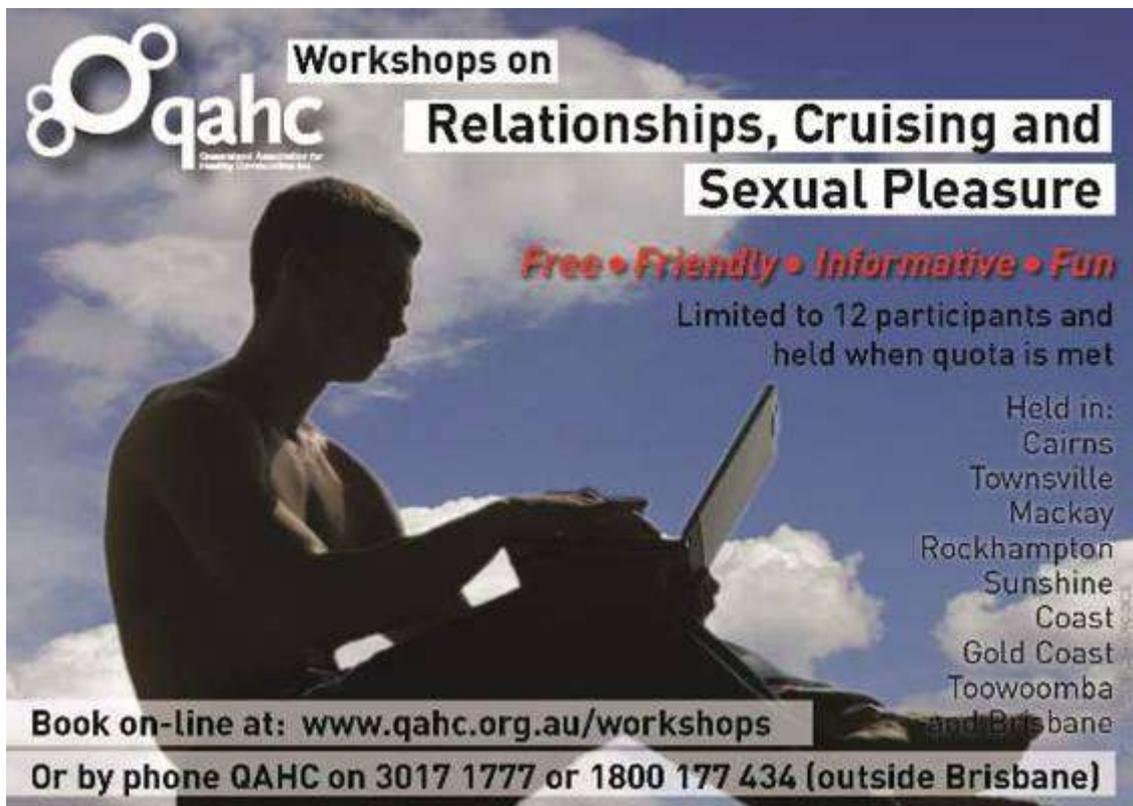
The campaign materials feature a model in various states of drama, downunder. In some images his underpants are on fire; in others he has swirls of smoke rising up; and in others he appears happy. While some STIs are all too obvious—being painful and/or irritating—others can have no symptoms at all. This makes regular sexual health checks vital for all gay men who like sex.

The campaign website, www.thedramadownunder.info, provides a comprehensive range of information about STIs, testing and treatment. The site also features two interactive services. The first is a reminder service where users can sign up for SMS or email reminders to book in for their sexual health checks. The second is a partner notification service where people who have recently been diagnosed with an STI can notify their partners via SMS or email, anonymously if they wish, in order to look after the health of their partners.

The Drama Downunder man will be seen on billboards and bus shelter ads, in press ads, in ads on gay chat-sites and on other websites, and in a range of items containing sexual health information and referrals, including a booklet, posters, cruise cards and postcards for distribution at gay events and clinics. All products will refer the reader to the campaign's website.



QAHC Workshops



The advertisement features a silhouette of a man sitting on a boat, using a laptop, against a background of a blue sky with white clouds. The QAHC logo is in the top left corner. The main text is in white boxes on a dark background.

Workshops on
Relationships, Cruising and
Sexual Pleasure

Free • Friendly • Informative • Fun

Limited to 12 participants and held when quota is met

Held in:
Gairns
Townsville
Mackay
Rockhampton
Sunshine
Coast
Gold Coast
Toowoomba
and Brisbane

Book on-line at: www.qahc.org.au/workshops

Or by phone QAHC on 3017 1777 or 1800 177 434 (outside Brisbane)

2 Spirits' exhibition at UMI Arts gallery space



The '2 Spirits' group exhibition will be launched at UMI Arts gallery space on Friday 5th March, 2010 at 5.30pm, with a small performance included at 7pm.

2 Spirits is an Indigenous program at the Qld Association for Healthy Communities (QAHC). The program aims to improve the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander gay men and sistergirls through health promotion, community development and referral and support activities. An important component of the program is its social support group, Yupla Mipla Ahfla.

In July 2009, QAHC partnered with local artist Arone Meeks to conduct art workshops with members of Yupla Mipla Ahfla. Participants learnt about drawing techniques and composition while formulating ideas and images around issues faced by the Indigenous gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) community.

The 2 Spirits exhibition showcases works by some of these Yupla Mipla Ahfla members.

Many dualities occur in the natural world — e.g. female and male, feminine and masculine, dark and light, Sun and Moon, water and earth, smoke and air — the Chinese view this duality as manifestations of yin and yang.

This duality within the essence of being is seen manifest in many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (GLBT) people who can be described as having 2 Spirits. 2 Spirits people are generally perceived as different by the Indigenous and wider community where the level of acceptance and tolerance can vary from community to community. 2 Spirits people contribute to Indigenous communities and have a place and role to play in maintaining traditional and evolving culture. 2 Spirits people are part of your community.

Whether these 'Spirits' are in balance, or trying to achieve balance, they are evident within the cycle of one's time here on Earth.

Sexuality and Gender Identity is considered to influence patterns of health outcomes for GLBT people. QAHC's Vision is: a Queensland where all, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people achieve the best possible health and well-being, and participate fully in the life of communities, free from stigma and discrimination.

The UMI Arts office and gallery space is located at Shop 2/151 Martyn Street Parramatta Park, Cairns. It is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.

For further information please contact UMI Arts on 07 4041 6152 or admin@umiarts.com.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.

Sunboys of Brisbane

Nudist social group for men. Meet on the third Saturday of each month for a BBQ & swim. Email them at sunboys@netspace.net.au or check out their website www.brisbanesunboys.com Sunboys is not a sex club, but a group of guys who enjoy socializing in a nudist environment

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.glbtfqnq.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

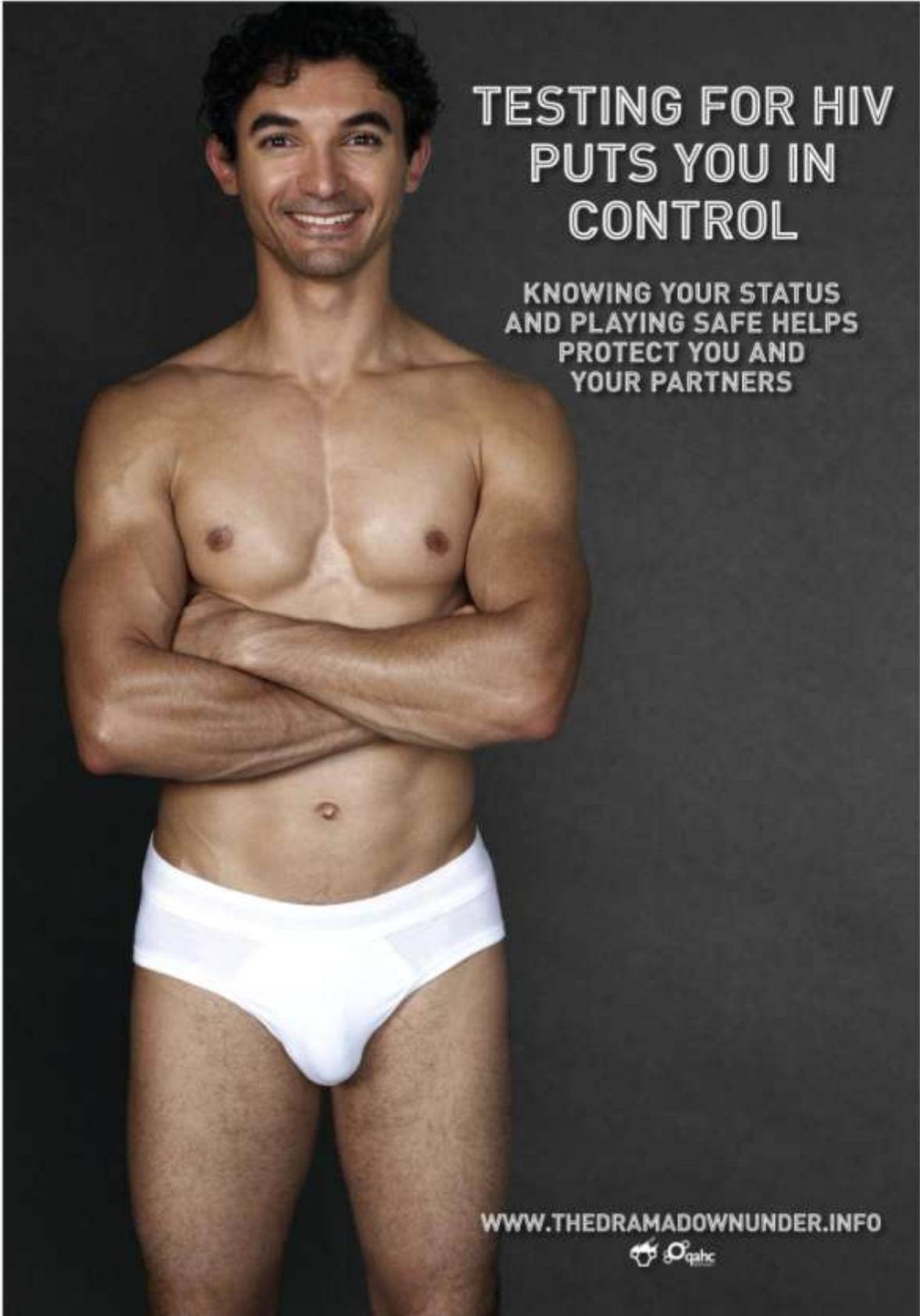
LGBT Youth, family and friend group meets every 3rd Sunday for Barbecue and Guitar Hero.

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>

A photograph of a man with dark, curly hair and a friendly smile, standing with his arms crossed. He is wearing white briefs. The background is a solid dark grey.

TESTING FOR HIV PUTS YOU IN CONTROL

KNOWING YOUR STATUS
AND PLAYING SAFE HELPS
PROTECT YOU AND
YOUR PARTNERS

WWW.THEDRAMADOWNUNDER.INFO



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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