



Edition #12 – July 2011

Welcome to the Queensland Association for Healthy Communities Newsletter

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Please enjoy QAHC News.

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LGBT Health News

Lesbians, Anxiety and Depression: Research Project

Nerieda Anderson is a psychology Honours student at CQUniversity. In her Honours research project she will explore experiences of anxiety and depression among women who identify as lesbian and/or same-sex-attracted. Nerieda identifies as lesbian and is committed to conducting research that will contribute towards enhancing the amount of quality research regarding lesbian and same-sex-attracted women, an area that has been lacking in the past.

An important survey is now open and available to any woman 18 years of age or older who identifies as lesbian or same-sex-attracted. Survey participants do not need to have experienced anxiety and/or depression themselves. It is important that the survey attracts a wide range of women.

Participation is entirely voluntary and anonymous. This research has been cleared by the Human Research Ethics Committee of CQUniversity (Ethics Clearance Number: H11/05-076).

To access the survey click the link below or search for the link via Facebook:

http://qtrial.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_aYuG2o1xtOdP5cw

Search FACEBOOK for: Anxiety and Depression in Lesbians and Same-Sex-Attracted Women

End Homosexual Panic as a defence for murder!

In 2009 Homosexual Panic was used as a defence for murder in a case where three drunk men were walking through a church yard in Maryborough and two killed one, later alleging the man that they killed had made a sexual advance.

Dr Wendell Rosevear OAM had this to say. "Just imagine if there was heterosexual panic as a defence for murder, how many dead men and women there would be for every declined offer of sex. We need to teach young people that an offer of sex is a compliment, but it is always your right to say "Yes " or " No". Safety comes from your right of choice and your honesty to name your own boundaries."

"As I have worked in Prisons since 1975, I am aware of at least Seven homophobic murders in Queensland and it needs to stop. We have anti vilification laws in Queensland after the vilification and murder of Michael at Manly beach. Now we need to get rid of Justification of Murder laws."

"The existence of these protections in law and the fact that male rape was only included in law in 1997 in Queensland shows how deeply homophobia has underpinned the law in this state. Prior to 1997 Rape was defined as "unlawful carnal knowledge of a female". The premise dated back 300years when a British Judge said It was impossible for a man to be raped unless he fought to the death....implying if you didn't fight to the death, you must have consented to the rape and so we see the origins of victim blame. Another myth arising from this homophobia is that "male victims must be gay" or "gays deserve to be raped".

"In a Society that doesn't value all people equally, this generates another barrier for male victims to ask for help as they don't want to be re-victimized by stigma or blame."

"Hence although not all gays want marriage, we need a Society that guarantees equality to achieve justice which is the equal value of all. Any law that feeds homophobia contributes to preventable bullying in the school yard, homophobic murder and suicide risk if individuals don't see themselves a valuable people."

Please click on the links below to find out what MP Grace Grace is doing about this issue and a link to the online petition.

http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/view/EPetitions_qld/CurrentEPetition.aspx?PetNum=1694

<http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/queensland/moves-to-end-homosexual-murder-defence-20110609-1fupv.html>

A round-up on the same-sex marriage debate:

My Marriage Story

GLBTIQ groups from across the country are calling for Australians from all walks of life to share their stories about why marriage equality is important to them.

A new website - mymarriagestory.com.au - enables gay and lesbian Australians and their families and friends to share stories with marriage equality advocates quickly and easily.

The website will help GLBTIQ organisations from across Australia identify and promote stories that show Members of Parliament why marriage equality matters to so many Australians, both gay and straight.

Last year the Lower House of Parliament passed a motion calling on MPs to consult with their constituents about marriage equality. This new campaign will help GLBTI organisations across Australia share meaningful stories with national law-makers.

"This campaign is about putting a face to the huge support for equality from across Australia," said Alex Greenwich of Australian Marriage Equality.

"It will be a way for all the groups campaigning for marriage equality to reach out to as many Australians as possible and combine our voices in calling for equality."

Stories are sought from the old and the young, parents and grandparents, city and country. Supporters will be encouraged to ask family members, friends and work colleagues to share their story. To show how much marriage equality matters, stories are being sought from every part of Australia.

During the 2010 Federal Election, Geoff Thomas inspired many Australians when he told Tony Abbott that he, a Vietnam veteran and plumbing contractor, was supportive of marriage equality for his gay son and for all Australians.

"Lesbians, gay men, trans men and women, and indeed all Australians should have the right to marry whoever they choose to spend their life with. By showing our faces and telling our stories we can help to make this a reality." said Mark Morein, President of Healthy Communities www.qahc.org.au / www.healthycommunities.org.au

For further information, please contact: Phil Browne – 0428 140 359

Marriage Equality Info and Action List

A plain-english guide outlining simple actions that everyone can follow to lobby for marriage equality. It's available online for use by all Australians. It will help you to start lobbying with confidence. Please share this with your friends/family on Facebook, Twitter and e-mail. <http://tinyurl.com/marriage-equality-aus>

Join this new Facebook page "Action 4 Marriage Equality"

Join this page to be kept informed of opportunities for you to take simple and easy action to bring about marriage equality www.facebook.com/pages/Action-4-Marriage-Equality/205103192859870

Qld followed by W.A. ALP pass motions in support of marriage equality

In mid June the Qld ALP passed a motion at their state conference supporting marriage equality. www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/labor-faces-same-sex-marriage-pressure-as-queensland-branch-passes-motion/story-fn59niix-1226078030046%20

www.youtube.com/watch?v=tQMNj8D7zbQ

One week later the West Australian ALP also passed a motion also supporting marriage equality.

www.australianmarriageequality.com/wp/2011/06/25/wa-alp-pro-gay-marriage-vote-adds-momentum-ahead-of-national-conference/

www.theaustralian.com.au/news/wa-labor-backs-same-sex-marriage/story-e6frg6n6-1226082037136

W.A. and Qld join Tasmania, South Australia, and Victorian ALP branches and the national ALP Women's network in supporting marriage equality. With NSW having their ALP state conferences in July, it's possible that support from other state ALP branches will further increase pressure on the Federal government to support marriage equality.

New York becomes the 6th (and most populated) US state to allow marriage equality.

New York state has passed legislation allowing same sex marriage to its 20 million residents. This happened on the same day that the West Australian ALP endorsed marriage equality. The New York Governor signed the bill on the same day it was passed by the Senate, with the law taking effect 30 days from that date.

<http://ht.ly/5q6nS>

www.youtube.com/watch?v=C6Ad4phxOC&feature=player_embedded



New poll shows 75% of Australians think same sex marriage will happen.

New poll results released on 8 June strengthen the call for marriage equality.

www.samesame.com.au/news/local/6895/3-in-4-think-same-sex-marriage-WILL-happen.htm

The poll results can be seen here www.samesame.com.au/go.php?

New marriage equality TV commercial begins in Australia.

Proud mum of a gay son, Shelley Argent (OAM, National Spokesperson for PFLAG and Senior Queenslander of the year) uses a new national television campaign to challenge the Prime Minister on her continued opposition to marriage equality.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=27ZIOicqriY&feature=player_embedded

Marriage Equality supporters pay \$31,000 to meet with the Prime Minister.

The PM has met with opponents of marriage equality to hear their case but has refused to meet with marriage equality supporters. The only way supporters can get to speak to the PM was to pay \$31K to win a charity dinner with her.

www.australianmarriageequality.com/wp/2011/06/16/gay-activists-to-push-equality-at-lodge/

Australia continues to ignore UN recommendation to recognise same-sex marriage.
sxnews.gaynewsnetwork.com.au/news/marriage-recommendation-ignored-008986.html

MP says the Government's measures to stop gay and lesbian Australians from legally marrying overseas are "petty and mean-spirited."

www.samesame.com.au/news/local/6923/Marriage-ban-is-petty--mean--MP-tells-Gillard.htm

Another politician says they are being flooded with e-mails OPPOSING marriage equality.

Qld Senator Sue Boyce says "The current debate about same sex marriage has prompted more emails to my office than almost any other topic - the vast majority opposed."

See http://www.sueboyce.com.au/QoL/QoLities/QueenslandonLineMarch162011-Same_Sex_Marriage.htm

Despite polls show that 62% of Australians support marriage equality, few from this 62% are contacting their MP's.

Please get all your friends/family to e-mail your MP using this easy webform.

www.australianmarriageequality.com/mpdb/email.php Tell your MP that gays and lesbians should have identical rights to our straight friends/family - i.e. we should be able to choose whether we wish to marry or not.

The Labor Party is seeking feedback from its members and supporters on it's national policy ahead of its National Conference in December.

The Australian Labor Party has provided its members who support marriage equality the opportunity to make submissions to help shape party policy in the lead up to the ALP National Conference in December. Through a webform launched by the ALP, supporters can suggest a change to party policy. See

www.australianmarriageequality.com/wp/2011/06/11/alp-gives-marriage-equality-supporters-chance-to-be-heard/ and www.heraldsun.com.au/news/alp-ready-to-debate-gay-marriage/story-e6frf7jo-1226073500616

Anna Bligh says marriage equality is "an issue of basic human rights and fairness".

Queensland Premier Anna Bligh has signalled she will personally champion the push to legalise same-sex marriage.

www.brisbanetimes.com.au/queensland/gay-marriage-a-basic-human-right-20110620-1gbns.html?posted=successful#makeComment

Comedian Josh Thomas discusses marriage equality and homophobia on ABC's Q&A program.

Watch what Josh said by clicking here www.youtube.com/watch?v=nil_8pCNDWY

Read more here www.australianmarriageequality.com/wp/2011/06/23/josh-on-marriage-i-just-want-a-toaster/

Brisbane Equal Love marriage rally Saturday 13 August.

Next Brisbane rally is Saturday 13 August at 1pm in Queens Park Brisbane behind the casino. Join "Equal Love Brisbane" on Facebook to be kept informed of future Brisbane rallies and news.



LGBT Counselling and Information Services now available at Healthy Communities

QAHC collaborates with businesses and agencies to provide a number of counselling and information services for LGBT individuals. Please ensure you call the number listed for the service to make appointments as you are unable to make appointments through Healthy Communities.

Special rates apply as well as concession rates for people with a health card. Appointments are negotiable outside of the indicated times. Clients are provided with the choice of having their appointment at a Healthy Communities office or from the location of the service provider.

QuiHN - LGBT Drug, Alcohol and/or associated Mental Health Counselling: Counselling and support for people with drug, alcohol and/or associated Mental Health problems.

Brisbane – Wednesdays 1pm – 5pm
To book call 07 3620 8111.

Relationships Australia – Rainbow LGBT – Relationship Counselling Service – Support for individuals and couples with their relationships.

Brisbane – Thursdays, 8.30am – 4pm
Sunshine Coast – by appointment
Cairns – by appointment

To book call 1300 364 277

Focus Hypnotherapy – Working towards the development of personal growth.

Brisbane - Mondays, 12.30pm – 4.30pm
To book call 07 3168 1779

Resolve Matters – Provides support to members of the LGBTI community wanting to resolve life's issues. In counselling Sam assists clients to explore issues relating to sexuality, relationships, children, parenting and relationship breakdowns. Through meditation, Sam can assist clients to develop agreements regarding donors, parenting, cohabitation and property division.

Brisbane - Tuesdays, 10.00am – 2.00pm
To book call 0438 361 135

LGBTI Legal Service Inc – Free legal advice and information

Brisbane – Wednesday evenings – 30 Helen Street, Teneriffe – 6pm – 7.30pm, drop in service

Statewide – Phone advice for regional clients
All enquiries call 0401 936 232

John Bal Counselling – Sexuality Counselling (John Bal Counselling Cairns; Emotional Balance Brisbane) - Emotional Balance and John Bal Counselling provide a friendly confidential and non-judgemental service for people with questions or issues arising out of their sexuality.

Brisbane – Tuesdays
To book call 07 3805 6993

Cairns – Thursdays, negotiable times
To book 0409 426 585

QAHC Projects

Sexual Health

Rip & Roll

You may have noticed that Healthy Communities' latest sexual health campaign 'Rip&Roll' got a bit of media attention this past month. Rip&Roll is a basic 'condom reinforcement' campaign which aims to reinforce condom use as a community norm among gay men, especially with casual partners and/or among people of different or unknown HIV status. This is the second year we have run the campaign (with the support of Junior, our ad agency), this year with new people featuring in the adverts.

One element of the campaign featured a real gay male couple in a loving embrace, placed on outdoor advertising (bus shelters and billboards). This caused problems for a minority in the community, including Wendy Francis of the Australian Christian Lobby.

Complaints claimed that depictions of the homosexual lifestyle and condoms were not appropriate for children who may see the poster at a bus stop. An organised campaign led to Adshel, who look after advertising in bus shelters, taking the posters down.

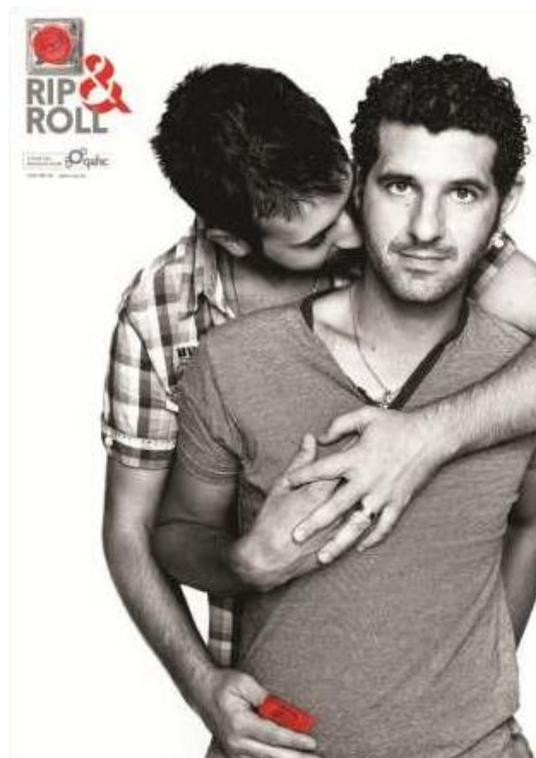
After speaking with Adshel to try and get them to change their mind and reinstate the posters, Healthy Communities sent out a media release alerting people that Adshel had given in to homophobia in removing the posters. One of the guys featured in the advert, Michael, set up a Facebook page and by the next morning had over 50,000 supporters (now just under 100,000). Healthy Communities and Michael then spent the next day responding to media enquiries from around Australia and the world and attending a protest outside the Adshel office in Fortitude Valley.

Following the overwhelming support of people from right across the community and realising that the small number of complaints received by Adshel had been orchestrated, Adshel decided to reinstate the posters, which went back up over night. They also offered to extend the campaign for an extra two weeks at no cost to Healthy Communities.

All complaints to the Advertising Standards Bureau were eventually dismissed, with the ASB saying they were “strongly in favour of the important health message this advertisement portrays and considered that whilst some members of the community would prefer not to see the issue advertised, the public health message overrides any social sensitivity”.

Goa Billboards (who stood up to the complaints and didn't take the advert down) was so shocked at the level of homophobia received, they got together with other advertising companies in Brisbane (BCM and Grand Brands) and launched the 'Embrace Acceptance' campaign. With free advertising on Goa's electronic billboards, the campaign featured a range of couples, gay, lesbian & straight and parents and children, in the 'Rip&Roll' pose, sending out a message of acceptance for diversity.

Healthy Communities would like to thank all those who lent their support to the campaign to get Rip&Roll back up on the bus shelters. Whether you joined a Facebook page, contacted Adshel or Goa, sent us a message of support or talked about it with your friends, your efforts saw the decision reversed within 24 hours and showed that Queensland will not be dominated a vocal minority that do not represent the views of the majority of Queensland families.



White Wolf Black Party

Over the long weekend, the fun didn't stop at the Pride Rally or Carnivale', with the Healthy Communities Outreach Crew teletransporting (we wish) the Rip & Roll booth over to White Wolf the following night, which now attracts over 800 guys (over 30's) to their parties. The photo booth proved a winner with Rip & Roll campaign imagery also featured throughout the venue.

A big thank you to the White Wolf crew for supporting sex initiatives which is an example of the Brisbane Gay/MSM Team continuing to build on the relationship with venues & events, as well as the great work of our Outreach Crews hitting the party circuit promoting sexual health messages.

Deeje Hancock joins the Healthy Communities team



Hey everyone, my name is Deeje Hancock and for those that haven't met me, I just started at Healthy Communities in the role of project manager for SAM's or sexually adventurous men. Previously I was the General Manager of QNews, a role which I held for just under five years and enabled me to meet many of you and others from the community, and before that have held such diverse roles as Assistant Manager of the Sportsman Hotel and ten years as a state retail sales and marketing manager.

I am also the President of the Brisbane Pride Festival Association. Around Christmas time I decided I wanted to work more closely with the community and leave the corporate side of it behind. I was extremely excited to hear of the SAM's project and whilst its early days yet have enjoyed getting feedback from those of you I have spoken to, its sure to be an exciting year learning about the sexually adventurous men, infiltrating their networks and opening them up (so to speak) to the resources of self education available through Healthy Communities.

If you consider yourself a sexually adventurous man, or have some expertise in the area I want to chat to you, otherwise I look forward to the next year working with all of you here at Healthy Communities and getting into my Sexually adventurous men.

LGBT Health

Disaster Recovery Support

Healthy Communities is to be funded under the Mental Health Disaster Recovery Package, which is a joint initiative of the Australian and Queensland Governments under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements.

The new service will provide individual and group counselling for LGBT people affected by the floods and cyclone in Queensland. The service will also work in with other disaster recovery support services in Brisbane and across the state to ensure that LGBT people get the support they need.

The project is funded for 2 years, and recruitment for a social worker/counsellor position will start very soon.

Many Genders One Voice empowers Trans and Gender Divers communities

The Many Gender One Voice community meetings held on the 17 of June were a huge success with over 20 people participating in talking about the needs of the Trans and Gender Diverse community and how to work together.

Health Communities hosted 2 well attend community meetings that had representatives from many of the Trans and gender diverse groups and services including:

- ATSAQ/Gender clinic
- Freedom! Gender Identity Association
- Changeling Aspects
- T- Bar
- Open Door/ Jelly Beans
- Trans Sunshine coast
- QTs for boys
- G-spot
- T Girls
- Health Communities
- Seahorse

Key issue that were identified in the discussion to affect Trans and Gender Divers people included:

- Access to medical support
- Discrimination
- Legal rights
- Housing
- Mental health

Access to medical support was identified as the largest issue with Gender Clinics on the Gold Coast and the Sunshine Coast closing. There are just not enough Trans and Gender Diverse trained doctors and medical specialist to meet the growing number of clients in South East Queensland.

The forums decided that some of the actions that could be taken on these issues included: starting a face book group, creating a contact list of services and events, and writing letters to Queensland Health to argue for more services.

The next stage of the forums is to start a working group of volunteers to get some of the ides of the ground. If you would like to volunteer contact Amanda Dean at Health Communities by email adean@qahc.org.au.

Multicultural Action Group

Is your sexuality more important that your culture or religion? That was the question posed to around 50 attendees at a forum during the Brisbane Pride Festival, jointly organised by the Australian GLBTIQ Multicultural Council and the Multicultural Action Group at Healthy Communities. A range of speakers talked about their experience of being an LGBTIQ person from a minority ethnic background, and answered questions from the audience. Evaluations from participants showed that people valued the opportunity to hear and talk about these issues and wanted more opportunities to come together and share our diversity.

The Multicultural Action Group also had a space in the Healthy Communities tent and Carnivale. We highlighted the anti LGBTI laws around the world, using a large version of the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Trans and Intersex Association state sponsored homophobia map (see <http://ilga.org/ilga/en/article/1161>). Visitors to our space were also encouraged to show the cultural diversity of the LGBT community in Brisbane, by having their photo taken and placing it on a large world map.

The Action Group will be having stall, along with other sexual health organisations, at the Brisbane Multicultural Festival, Roma St Parklands, Sunday 16th October.



Pride Rally & March + Carnivale

With the aim of showcasing the fabulous work our organisations growing funded & non funded work, whilst celebrating the Brisbane Pride Festival alongside our community, it was certainly a case of all hands on deck for Healthy Communities Staff, Volunteers & Board Members over the Queen's Birthday Long Weekend!

For the Brisbane Sexual Health Team this involved coordinating a large team of staff & volunteers across the day, development of site plans for the Carnivale' tent, cross program Briefings & assistance overall with the coordination of the Rally & March.

Over at the Rally, Healthy Communities shone brightly with over 100 bandanas handed out to Rally goers, alongside 100 Rip & Roll posters featuring our Couple in embrace provided to the crowd creating a significant presence during proceedings. Mark Morein, President of Healthy Communities, & our Patron, Toye De Wild spoke at the Rally, both to resounding applause, as well as Michael our cover model who featured in that Rip & Roll poster.

At Carnivale the Healthy Communities marquee was a hub of activity, with space a premium as community lapped up the interactive nature of our exhibits & programs on display which included LHAG, Multicultural Health, History Group, Healthy Communities (General), 2Spirits & Quit Line. Aside from our individual programs, Queensland Community Health jumped onboard with the Pit Stop Program (General Health Check) featuring in our tent with over 120 people passing by during the day, & the Gay/MSM Team visioning a Queen Sized bed providing a humorous platform for a range of community groups to be interviewed on.

A great day had by all, albeit a few cursory words unloading the truck & blurry eyes the following morning! If you would like join in on the fun & be a part of the excitement at these types of events, inquire at Reception on becoming a volunteer with the Healthy Communities Event Outreach crew.



Ageing Action Group

Specialised support is now available for LGBTI seniors through a partnership between Healthy Communities and Care Connect, a not-for-profit, non-religious aged care organisation. Care Connect has been funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing to provide aged care packages for LGBTI people in south east Queensland (and a first in Australia). New Care Connect staff, Sujay and Ian, are in place to co-ordinate the care of LGBTI seniors. They can be contacted on (07) 3867 2200 for more information.

Seniors Week activities are being planned for LGBT seniors in Brisbane and Cairns this August. In Cairns, Healthy Communities received a grant from the Department of Communities for an 'Ageing Differently' forum and expo to be held on 24th August. In Brisbane, Healthy Communities will once again be hosting the Seniors Week luncheon at the Sportsman Hotel on Sunday 21st August from 12pm to 3pm. Booking are essential via 3017 1777. Both events are free. More info in the next edition.

Out & About is back! **Brisbane**

The Out & About social group run by QAHC has recommenced. Tim Klazema has taken on the role of co-ordinating outings, so please call Tim on 3017 1777 or email tklazema@qahc.org.au for information on upcoming social outings.



Two Spirits

2 Spirits at the three-day Laura Aboriginal Dance Festival

2 spirits FNQ were joined by Cairns Sexual Health Service and were one of 77 stall holders at the three-day Laura Aboriginal dance festival June 17-19.

Up to 5000 people attended the festival. This was a great opportunity for us to get out and network with service providers and meet people from all of the Cape York communities.

We had three non-stop days of information sharing and resources and condoms were snapped up by the community (especially our recently produced Aboriginal and Torres Strait

youth posters) – and services providers will now take this education campaign back to their communities.

2 Spirits did a live broadcast with Bumma Bippa Media that went through to Cairns and surrounding districts via National Indigenous Radio Service and across the country to all stations around Australia.

We received wonderful feedback on our feedback forms and have had requests to visit communities all over the Cape. A highlight of the festival was an appearance of Condoman who was warmly greeted by 100s of young teenagers.

Capacity Development

Community Mapping

200 LGBT groups and networks across Queensland have been invited to participate in an online survey of their needs. The project is an initiative of the 'LGBT Roundtable' of the Department of Communities, who have contracted Healthy Communities to deliver the project.

The Survey looks at the needs of LGBT groups and networks, including meeting space, equipment, training, funding, governance and linkages. The results of the survey will also be used to create an online directory of LGBT groups and networks, which will be promoted by the Department of Communities.

If you are part of an LGBT group or network and have not been invited to participate, please contact Kel Harris, Community Mapping Project Officer on 3017 1763 or kharris@qhac.org.au.

Pride Packing Party – huge success

Continuing the ground swell of support for Healthy Communities since the Rip & Roll Adshel controversy, at the beginning of the Pride month over 70 people joined us at the Healthy Communities Pride Packing Party downstairs at the Sportsman's Hotel, our biggest Party yet!

With over 2000 safe sex packs assembled, 750 Pride Showbags & 500 Lesbian Health Packs completed during the course of the evening, Healthy Communities Staff were certainly kept up with the packing mayhem – so much so, running out of stock towards the end of the event.

A big thank you from the Brisbane Team to everyone that attended on the night & look forward to seeing you at the next Packing Party in October! Stayed tuned for more details to come!



Other

Sunshine Coast Office is Moving!!

Healthy Communities' office in Maroochydore has moved! From a leased office space in Pikki Street, we have now moved to a property we own at 107 Maud St. The purchase of the property was made possible through a generous bequest for use by Healthy Communities on the Sunshine Coast. The new office provides for increased desk and meeting spaces, and a more useable rear yard.

Renovations on the property were assisted via a grant from the Sunshine Coast Regional Council and \$4806.95 from the Energex Energy Conservation Communities Fund (Maroochydore Branch) for electrical items.

An opening event will be held in the coming months.

New Contact Details:

Phone: 07 5458 9300

Fax: 07 5451 1059

Postal Address: 107 Maud Street, Maroochydore Qld 4558

Community Activities

Mature Aged Men's Group [Brisbane \(External\)](#)

The Mature Aged Men's Group meets in the Brisbane area on the last Saturday of the month at The Sportsman Hotel at 4.00pm. You will find a group of mature men who enjoy the company other mature men and maybe you might even find younger men who also enjoy the company of mature men meeting for a social afternoon get together, talking or listening, just generally socializing for an hour or so before going off somewhere for an evening meal together as a group. The atmosphere will make you glad you called in, maybe you might even want to join the group, it won't break the bank. Email matagedmen11@gmail.com for more information.

Brisbane North Social Group now twice a month [Brisbane \(External – QPP\)](#)

Now twice a month, the Brisbane North Social Group continues to provide social support opportunities for HIV+ people and their friends in Brisbane northern and outer suburbs. The second Sunday of the month is a revolving lunchtime outing that will be at a different location each time. This is to ensure that as many people as possible have the opportunity to attend. We ask that you call the QPP State Resource Centre on 1800 636 241 to find out the location of the next Sunday outing. On the fourth Tuesday of the month, the group will continue to gather on the boardwalk at Moora Park, Sandgate from 12 noon for a bbq lunch with salads and drinks. **New members are always welcome.**

Out West [Ipswich \(External\)](#)

Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual, Transgender, Inter-sex and Friends
Dance Party and Social Group

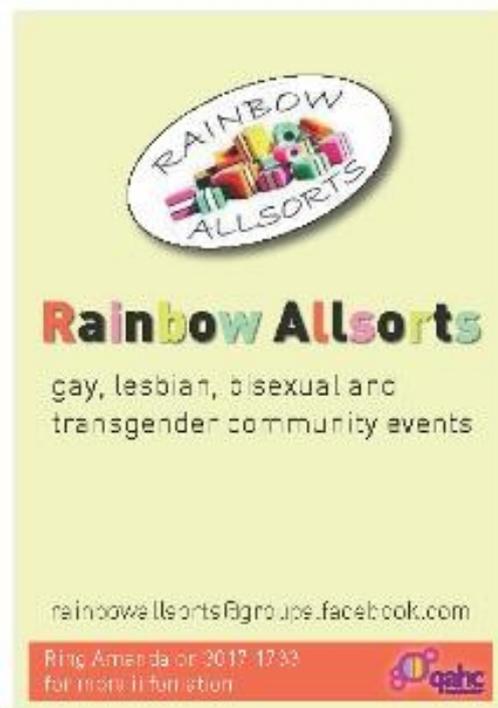
OutWest was started in October 2008 so that Ipswich and Rural Qld's GLBT population had a safe place to go and mix with like minded people.

Cost \$10 – 3rd Saturday of the month at Ipswich CWA
Please call Amanda on 3017 1733 or email adean@qahc.org.au

Rainbow Allsorts **Toowoomba**

Coffee Group @ 5.30pm
Fortnightly on a Thursday @ Jilly's Cafe

Please contact Amanda on 3017 1733 for dates and more information. Facebook page [rainbowallsorts@groups.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/rainbowallsorts@groups.facebook.com)



TBar – Sunday Session Club night **Brisbane (External)**

When: 1st Sunday of the month
Time: 4pm – 9pm
Where: St Paul's Tavern, Spring Hill
For the Queer at heart and their mates
Trans, Gender Messy, Queer, Gay, Dyke, Poof, Straight...All inclusive
DJ's and Happy Hour 4pm – 6pm

Please send an invite for this page onto anyone you think may be interested in joining us for a fun Sunday arvo session.

Tab Oo Ipswich (External)

Drag Shows
North Ipswich Bowls Club
Contact tabooshow@hotmail.com

Fundraising and Volunteering Opportunities

Equality in Health – Please support our efforts to promote equality

To coincide with the launch of our new look, Healthy Communities is also launching a new campaign titled 'Equality in Health' which will be calling on all sides of politics to support the LGBT community in the lead up to the next State elections.

While there have been a number of positive changes for our community in recent years, and it's been 21 years since homosexuality was decriminalised in our State, there are still a number of inequities that we are faced with.

Healthy Communities has been advocating for equality for all LGBT Queenslanders for over 25 years, and we continue to do so, but this requires community support. We are asking for donations from the community so that we can advertise in major publications presenting our issues and asking for support from all sides of government and challenge them to review their stance on LGBT issues such as marriage equality, equal age of consent and adoption, as well as call for better funding for LGBT health and wellbeing services.

You can support our efforts by making a donation at www.qahc.org.au/donation or by sending a cheque or money order (made out to QLD Association for Healthy Communities) to: Healthy Communities, Reply Paid 1372, EAGLE FARM BC QLD 4009.

If you're not in a position to make a donation to our cause, you can still help us fight for full equality by writing to your State and Federal MPs and ask for full equality and funding to improve the health and wellbeing of our community. Alternatively you could volunteer to work at events and help us promote our community's health and wellbeing. You can also talk to everyone you know about the inequities that our community still faces and ask them to take action too.

We shouldn't settle for being second-class citizens. Take a stand and assist our efforts to gain full equality for all LGBT people.

For more information visit www.qahc.org.au/donation or call 1800 177 434.

Healthy Communities BBQ – Volunteers & Staff

From Packing Parties & LGBT History events, Fun & Esteem, TAFF Film Festival's, Lesbians In the Millennium through to the Pride Rally & March, Brown Sugar Ball or Carnivale' ... it has certainly been a busy period & without dedicated teams of volunteers & staff, none of this would have been possible.

On Sunday, 17 July we would like to invite you, your partner & family along to a BBQ in New Farm Park to congratulate your efforts & say thank you.

We would also like to use this opportunity to welcome some new faces into our Volunteering Team, so please join in & hear some direct accounts of what it's like to be a part of the extended Healthy Communities team.

Food + Drinks provided.

Date: Sunday, 17 July

Start time: 1pm – 4pm

Location: near Rotunda, New Farm Park

RSVP: QAHC Reception – 3017 1777 or info@qahc.org.au (subject line: Volunteer BBQ)

Any questions please contact Reception or speak to your Healthy Communities Program Coordinator for more information. RSVP not essential, but preferred.

SBS Foundation – Healthy Communities Awarded Partnership

The SBS Foundation has granted Healthy Communities a regional partnership for our Anti-Homophobia Ad. SBS will be airing our community service advertisement in Queensland over the coming year, with a concentration on May 20112 and International Day Against Homophobia. Many thanks to the SBS Foundation for your generous support.

Energex Award Grant for Maud Street

Energex Energy Conservation Communities has awarded Healthy Communities \$4806.95 for energy efficient electrical equipment for our new Maud Street, Maroochydore resource centre. The funds will be used to purchase equipment that will be used by staff, volunteers and community members and groups accessing the centre. We are very grateful to Energex for supporting Healthy Communities and LGBT people on the Sunshine Coast.



Entertainment Books – Get Them While You Can!

We're fundraising for the Healthy Communities Fund by selling the ever-popular discount voucher Entertainment Books.

These books are filled with hundreds of vouchers which can save you thousands of dollars on things like dining, accommodation, car hire, beauty services etc.

You can support our efforts and enjoy a bargain at the same time. Order your books now at www.qahc.org.au/entbook, but hurry, we're going to sell out very soon and may not be able to get our hands on any more stock.

Queer Fridge Magnets – Get Yours Now!

As a fun fundraiser, we're selling our very own Queer Fridge Magnets! These pop out, dress up fridge magnets feature male and female (or gender diverse if you switch the bottom halves) figures which you can dress up or down!

These magnets are only \$3 each, and you can pick them up from 30 Helen St Teneriffe, or get one posted out to you for an extra \$2. Order yours online at www.qahc.org.au/queerfridgemagnets.

Links to Community Resources

Brisbane

<http://qahc.org.au>

Qld Association for Healthy Communities Inc

<http://qgroups.com.au/>

Qnews Community Group Listings

<http://www.changelingaspects.com/index.htm>

Changeling Aspects

<http://www.atsaq.com/>

ATSAQ – Australian Transgender Support Association of Queensland Inc

<http://www.opendoors.net.au>

Open Doors

<http://www.brisbaneglbn.org>

Brisbane Gay & Lesbian Business Network (GLBN)

<http://qpp.net.au>

Queensland Positive People

Central Coast (including Sunshine Coast)

www.gaysunshinecoast.com.au

You will find information for the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Transgender community in the Sunshine Coast. Covers event, social and support groups, health information, health services and more.

www.gayrocky.com

You will find information for the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Transgender community in the Rockhampton area. Covers event, social and support groups, health information, health services and more.

www.fraser gays.com

This website supports the gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender people in the Fraser Coast area. Maryborough, Hervey Bay, Fraser Island, Gympie, Bundaberg.

Gold Coast & Logan

<http://www.gayonthegoldcoast.com>

Gay on the Gold Coast is a new website that will keep you up to date with LGBT activities, groups and services on the Gold Coast. Gay on the Gold Coast is a QAHC initiative to give the LGBT community a website to enhance social opportunities and information.

<http://www.goldcoastgayday.com>

Gold Coast Gay Day is a festival for the lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and transgender community, their family and friends. Please check back for regular updates on Gold Coast Gay Day 2011.

<http://www.facebook.com/people/Logan-Rainbow/100000742765606>

LGBT Social Group for Logan and surrounding areas.

<http://www.qspace.net.au>

Qspace for LGBTIQ youth on the Gold Coast have moved to Wednesdays at 4pm. Qspace is for under 18yr olds. For more information on Qspace and support for young LGBTIQ people contact Anna on Telephone: (07) 5569 1827, mobile: 0437 013 710.

Rainbow Alliance have been holding regular “get togethers”, most recently Yum Cha, Ice Skating with plenty happening for the rest of the year. For information email or text Rainbow Alliance at gcrainbow@live.com or SMS you name to 0466 882 527

The Harvesters Club

The Harvesters Club is a Gentlemens only dinner club. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month, at different restaurants on the Gold Coast, which we book out and are closed to the public.

For further information please contact Noel at

PO Box 5885

Gold Coast MC QLD 9726

Phone: 07 5570 1571

Email: harvesters69@optusnet.com.au

Redlands Region

http://www.facebook.com/amandaextreem?v=wall&story_fbid=133520703353770#!/group.php?gid=123166191055457&ref=ts

This group is for LGBT and allied people, groups and businesses who live / work / play in the Redlands area.

Toowoomba & Ipswich

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=103881489667269>

West Moreton AIDS Memorial Quilt Project - HIV/AIDS is a worldwide problem that knows no territorial or cultural borders. It is a disease that can be only fought globally with global understanding. You can help by encouraging friends to create panels for their loved ones. Make a panel yourself. Your contribution will bring about a truly international Quilt spirit."

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=104328909605210&ref=ts>

Toowoomba Lesbian Group – Come along and meet new people. Everyone welcome!

Cairns

Cairns Rainbow Kids

Cairns Rainbow Kids meet in Cairns each week on Friday mornings from 9.30 until 12, at a variety of places so please email or message us to find out where we will be this week.

The group provides a fun weekly activity for children while also providing an opportunity to meet other LGBT parents for socializing.

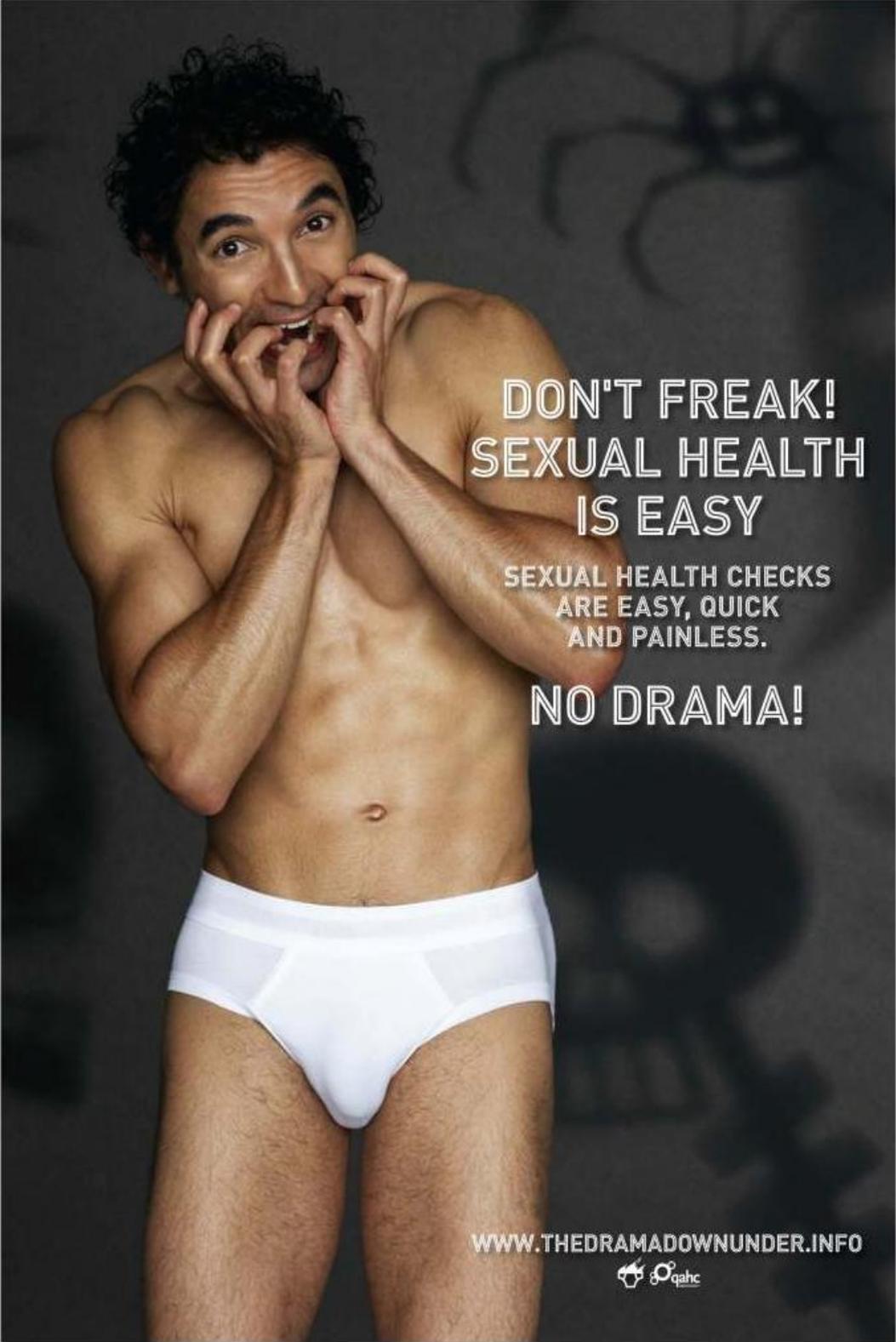
We are on Facebook – Search for Cairns Rainbow Kids or email us on cairns.rainbow.kids@gmail.com



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



**DON'T FREAK!
SEXUAL HEALTH
IS EASY**

**SEXUAL HEALTH CHECKS
ARE EASY, QUICK
AND PAINLESS.**

NO DRAMA!

WWW.THEDRAMADOWNUNDER.INFO



QAHC Contact Details

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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