



Edition #13 – August 2011

Welcome to the Queensland Association for Healthy Communities Newsletter

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If you are unable to view this email, click here <http://www.qahc.org.au/newsletters/qahc>.

Please enjoy QAHC News.

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LGBT Health News

Be Counted this Census

In the 2011 Australian Census, for the first time ever, same-sex couples will be able to indicate they are married.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has created a new category of Relationship as Reported for Couples (RLPCP). Question 5 is where same-sex partners who want to indicate they are married can do so.

More information on how to complete your Census Form to indicate you are married can be found here <http://www.australianmarriageequality.com/wp/take-action/be-counted/>

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The Best Project

Contact Inc is conducting a survey for The Best Project and your response would be appreciated.

This project is currently inviting young people (aged 16 – 30) with disabilities to share their stories of

love, dating and friendship through an online survey. We are particularly interested in hearing from young people who identify as GLBTIQ, curious or questioning their sexuality. Responses from young people with no disabilities are welcome too. The next phases will involve creating a performance with young people in Brisbane with interested groups. We welcome national and international responses to the survey.

Here is the link to the survey:
www.surveymonkey.com/s/The_Best_Project

The closing date for the Survey is 05th August 2011. Please share it with your networks. Thank You for your participation!

The Best Project

is a collaboration between **Contact Inc (Brisbane)**, **Mammalian Diving Reflex (Canada)** and **Thomas Banks (Melbourne artist)**

about the project

This project is currently inviting young people (aged 16-30) with disabilities to share their stories of love, dating and friendship through an online survey. We are particularly interested in hearing from young people who identify as GLBTIQ, curious or questioning their sexuality. Responses from young people with no disabilities are welcome too. The next phase will involve creating a performance with young people in Brisbane with interested groups. We welcome national and international responses to our survey.

about Contact Inc.

Contact Inc. is a community cultural development organisation, working with people from diverse cultures, backgrounds and ages. Contact Inc. creatively collaborates with artists, community members and organisations to address social, cultural, environmental and economic issues with specific focus on communities affected by violence, vulnerability and marginalisation.

about Thomas Banks

Thomas Banks lives with cerebral palsy, and he has reached significant achievements during his life and his professional career. Thomas is an openly gay guy with a passion and natural ability to interact with people in the community and bring them into his world through strong advocacy, creativity, performance and honesty. He's a highly dedicated young emerging artist who works with various arts organisations in Melbourne including Platform Youth Theatre, St. Martin's Youth Arts Centre, Next Wave and he organises an annual writers' festival in Meredith for young people from that region.

about Mammalian

Founded in 1993, Mammalian Diving Reflex is a research-art atelier dedicated to investigating the social sphere, always on the lookout for contradictions to whip into aesthetically scintillating experiences, producing one-off events; theatre-based performance, videos, installation, theoretical texts and community happenings. Company members range in age from 13 to over 80 years old.

Interested?

Survey Link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/The_Best_Project

Email: Contact Inc.: info@contact.org.au
 Mammalian: darren@mammalian.ca

Websites: Contact Inc.: www.contact.org.au/
 Mammalian: www.mammalian.ca/

Phones: Contact Inc.: +917 32553900
 Mammalian: 416 642 5772

Logos: contact., mammalian diving reflex, Queensland Government, Australian Government, Australia Council of the Arts.

Invitation to be interviewed about Lesbian Aged Care needs

Li-Min “Melody” Lee is a student from Taiwan undertaking her Master of Public Health at the University of Queensland. As a student and a lesbian, Li-Min thinks the aged care service needs of LGBTI people is an important issue, but it has been given little attention in the field of health care policy research.

As part of Li-Min’s research dissertation, Li-Min is inviting older lesbians to be part of a study to better understand lesbian experiences of accessing aged care services, as well as their concerns about aged care service needs in Queensland.

The findings of the study will provide recommendations for appropriate aged care services for lesbian women that will be relevant to health care service providers and policy makers, and will make a valuable contribution to the LGBTI community.

Please forward onto friends, colleagues or anyone you feel may be interested in assisting Li-Min with her research.

Ethical clearance for this study was obtained from the School of Population Health Research Ethics Committee, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia. Any reports or articles published from this study will only include de-identified data and no personal information will be disclosed. If any personal data is collected it will be used for the purpose of this study and no other, without your expressed permission.

Please contact Li-Min “Melody” Lee on limin.lee@uqconnect.edu.au or phone 0431 730 287 to participate.

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Gay Men and Relationships Study: Monogamy as an HIV and STI Prevention Strategy

Sexual health advice for gay men usually focuses on sexual behaviours rather than on intimate relationships and researchers know little about men’s reasons for choosing monogamous or other kinds of relationships. In this project, the researchers are asking men to tell them about their experiences and thoughts on relationships, monogamy and open relationships.



Participation involves a 60-minute interview in a convenient location. The researchers hope to speak with:

- Men in monogamous or ‘open’ relationships
- single men looking for relationships, and
- men who prefer being single.

Confidentiality of the information provided is assured.

The researchers hope the findings will inform HIV and STI health promotion activities by exploring how issues such as trust, loyalty and communication in different kinds of relationships shape men’s choices

around safer sex.

For more information, you can contact Duane at ARCSHS on (03) 9285 5352, d.duncan@latrobe.edu.au, or view the following webpage: www.latrobe.edu.au/arcshs/surveys/relationships-study

This is a collaborative project between researchers at the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health & Society (ARCSHS) at La Trobe University in Melbourne, and The Kirby Institute for Infection and Immunity in Society at the University of New South Wales in Sydney. The project has received ethical approval from the human research ethics committees of La Trobe University and the University of New South Wales.

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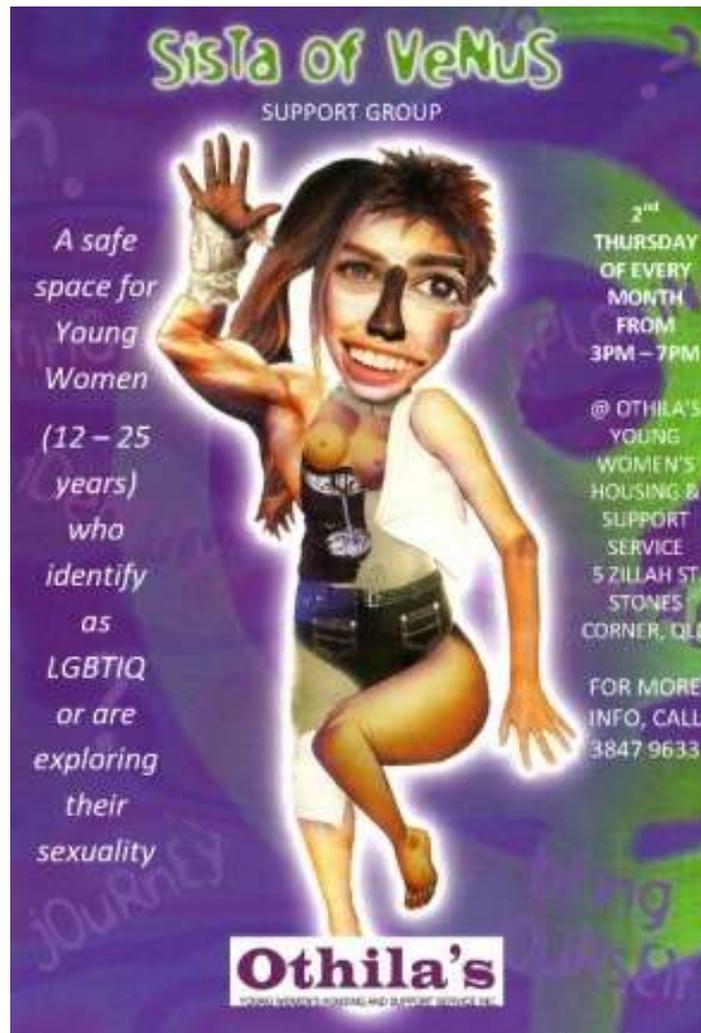
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Sista of Venus Support Group

The support group has just recently been re-launched by Othila's Young Women's Housing and Support Service for young women (12-25years) who identify as LGBTIQ or are exploring their sexuality.

The group is a safe and supportive space for young women to connect socially with other young women, participate in drug and alcohol free activities, and to learn about topics such as; safe sex, healthy relationships, self care, etc.

The group is facilitated on the second Thursday of each month from 3pm – 7pm at Othila's (5 Zillah St. Stones Corner, QLD).



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A message from Brad Colbourne – Acting CEO Hepatitis Queensland

Hello,

Thursday, 28 July, was World Hepatitis Day.

Some people said to me "Happy Hepatitis Day" and I took that in the good spirit that it's intended but also with some mixed feelings.

On the one hand, I think about the tremendous toll of viral hepatitis - the daily impacts to people's lives and well-being. I think about some of the callers to our Infoline who have experienced stigma and discrimination from their friends, family, or workplaces. I think about the thousands of people who were diagnosed in Queensland this year, and have ordered resources from us, and what they may be going through. And I think about the barriers to accessing services that we sometimes encounter through education and training. And it makes me sad.

On the other hand, I think about how many profoundly dedicated people there are in this sector - the liver clinic teams, GPs, specialists, researchers, non-government workers, and government staff, and how talented and personally-invested so many of them are in confronting viral hepatitis head-on. I think about all our clients and people affected by viral hepatitis who are fighting this health condition with optimism, humour, tenacity, and compassion. And I can see reason to be happy.

So it seems like every day is World Hepatitis Day.

So, thank you for your support for World Hepatitis Day this year.

Thank you for your YouTube videos.

Thank you for attending Qld events.

Thank you for your generous donations.

And thank you for your remembrances of supporters who are no longer with us.

Happy World Hepatitis Day!

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

Marriage Equality Info & Action List

Want to see same sex marriage legalised? Don't know what to do to make it happen? Who to contact? What to say?

This plain english guide provides all the info you need to take meaningful action right now with just a few clicks and only a few minutes. It contains lots of weblinks to really useful resources. It will help you to take simple and effective actions with confidence.

Click here to view the Info & Action list

https://sites.google.com/site/action4marriageequality/info_action_list

Please share this with everyone you know who supports equality and encourage your friends and family to take action too. Even if you would choose not to marry, it's important to show that same sex love is equal to straight love, and should be treated equally by being allowed equal recognition, and the choice of marriage should be available to all.

"Action 4 Marriage Equality" on Facebook

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-MarriageEquality/205103192859870

My Marriage Story Campaign

Marriage Equality Matters to everyone, everywhere - from all walks of life. Whether it's you, your sister or brother, mum or dad, daughter, son, cousin, neighbour or work mate. Get your family and friends to make a real difference by sharing their story today. We need to show Australia that marriage equality is an issue that affects everyone.

Can you or someone you know submit your story and tell why marriage equality matters to you?

Over 170 stories are already submitted but more are needed. Click here

www.mymarriagestory.com.au to read sample stories and submit your own story. While on the website, please click the links to share this by Facebook, Twitter and e-mail.

"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." Mark Morein, President of Healthy Communities

Redlands MP surveying his electorate on Marriage Equality.

Andrew Laming MP for Bowman (Redlands) will be sending a survey to all households in his electorate which will include a question asking if you support same sex marriage.

www.baysidebulletin.com.au/news/local/news/general/join-in-redlands-biggest-survey/2229956.aspx. The survey will be delivered to each letterbox and will not be available online.

It should arrive in letterboxes in August. Tell anyone you know living in Redlands to keep an eye out for it and to complete the survey asking for marriage equality.

National Marriage Day protest against equal marriage rights.

On 16 August a large protest against same sex marriage will be held at Parliament House Canberra. The website www.marriageday.org.au/ says to come in bus loads to support "natural" marriage. Do they believe that if same sex couple were to marry this would be unnatural?

Never underestimate how powerful the opponents of marriage equality are. They have been granted multiple meetings with the Prime Minister, while the supporters of marriage equality have continually been refused meetings. In June supporters of marriage equality paid \$31,000 to win a charity dinner with the PM, yet Ms Gillard has failed to meet the deadline that the dinner be held within 3 weeks www.news.com.au/national/gay-couples-to-share-31k-dinner-with-pm/story-e6frkw0-1226075899575

Opponents have also delivered thousands of letters to the PM

www.starobserver.com.au/news/australia-news/new-south-wales-news/2011/05/20/pm-accepts-anti-marriage-letter/52541 and are flooding MP's with e-mails asking not to amend the Marriage Act.

MP's to report to Parliament on what voters say about marriage equality

On 17 August (the day after the anti-marriage equality rally) MP's will tell Parliament if their electorate supports marriage equality or not. news.ninemsn.com.au/national/8269202/parliament-to-hear-gay-marriage-views

Please take urgent action today to tell your MP you support marriage equality:

1. Click here to e-mail your MP - it takes less than 1 min

www.australianmarriageequality.com/mpdb/email.php

2. Click here to see if your MP is surveying his electorate

www.australianmarriageequality.com/wp/take-action/respond-to-your-local-mps-survey/

Brisbane MP reports his survey on same sex marriage is running at "Ten to One AGAINST"

Brisbane marriage equality advocate Phil Browne reports that he recently met with Graham Perrett MP for Moreton on Brisbane Southside. The MP says his electorate survey results are strongly against marriage equality.

Please tell everyone you know in his electorate to complete the survey. His electorate covers - Fairfield in the north to Eight Mile Plains/Kuraby in the South and Tarragindi/Annerley in the east to Oxley in the west. Federal MP's are to report back to Parliament about their constituents views on marriage equality on 17 August. Please help turn around this result by completing his survey grahamperrettmp.com/home/same-sex Currently he will have to report that his electorate does not want marriage equality.

Brisbane MP wants to hear from people refused a same sex marriage overseas.

Marriage equality advocate Phil Browne reports that Graham Perrett MP wants to speak with anyone living in his electorate who has been declined a Certificate of Non Impedance to Marriage (CNI), a document required by overseas governments prior to an Australian being married in their country. CNI's are routinely issued to Aussies wanting to marry an opposite sex partner overseas, but refused to Aussies wanting to legally marry a same sex partner overseas, thereby preventing the marriage from proceeding. More info www.australianmarriageequalit...FACT-SHEET.pdf Contact Graham Perrett here grahamperrettmp.com/contact

Mr Perrett is one of three Federal politicians on a new Parliamentary LGBTI Friendship Group www.warrenentsch.com.au/Portals/0/Files/LGBTI.pdf They are investigating Australia's refusal to issue CNI's (amongst other issues). All Australians denied a CNI because of their sexuality should contact his group.

Moncreif (Gold Coast) MP same sex marriage survey is here

www.stevenciobo.com/yoursay/default.aspx?p=2 Electorate map is here

www.stevenciobo.com/aboutmoncrieff/resources/moncrieff.pdf

(NB: the Moncreif survey appears randomly in a ribbon in the top right corner of the page; it only

appears sometimes in an effort to generate a balanced result.) It appeared first time for me - keep trying if you don't see it first time.

Another Brisbane MP is surveying his electorate on same sex marriage.

Ross Vasta MP for Bonner has begun an online survey on same sex marriage. His staff state anyone can complete the survey. Please complete the survey and then share this with all your friends/family via e-mail, Facebook, Twitter etc.

Click here <http://www.rossvasta.com.au/OnlineSurveys/SameSexMarriageSurvey.aspx> to complete the survey.

The fact that Graham Perrett's survey is currently running at "Ten to One against" is a great reason to tell everyone you know to complete the survey.

Rainbow Labor launches new campaign, Three Questions for Marriage Equality.

Labor party members, supporters and Trade Union members can answer three simple questions and have your voice heard about why the ALP must support equal marriage for all Australians. See <http://www.threequestions.com.au/home>

ABC 7.30 program covers marriage equality

A summary of current marriage equality issues www.abc.net.au/7.30/content/2011/s3279559.htm

9 August Census to count same sex marriages for the first time.

For the first time ever, the Australian Census will count same-sex couples who are married. Australian Marriage Equality (AME), which lobbied for the new Census rules, has urged same-sex partners to take advantage of the fact they can now indicate they are married on Census night, Tuesday 9 August.

www.australianmarriageequality.com/wp/take-action/be-counted/

ON THE NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION:

RALLY FOR MARRIAGE EQUALITY
1pm Saturday 13 August
Queen's Park (opp Casino), Brisbane City

Take action on the seventh anniversary of the ban on LGBTI marriage rights! Come to the **BIGGEST** rally for equality yet!

Contact Jess 0432 262 788
 Equal Love Brisbane on Facebook
equallovebrisbane@gmail.com
www.equallove.info

Logos: Equal Love, qahc, pflag, rainbow labor, THE GREENS, MCC, NUS, SOCIAL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP, GAY STRAIGHT ALLIANCE, and others.

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New Service commencing 5th August – LGBT Domestic Violence Counselling and Information

We are extremely happy to announce that beginning on Friday 5th August 2011, Healthy Communities is providing a LGBT Domestic Violence Counselling and Information service in collaboration with the Brisbane Domestic Violence Advocacy Service (BDVAS). This collaboration has opened the door to an exploration of other initiatives that support the LGBT people who experience difficulties in the area of Domestic Violence.

Domestic and family violence is a fundamental violation of human rights. The Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act of Queensland, recognises LGBT people as equally in need of protection when they are experiencing domestic violence. Equally, the Brisbane Domestic Violence Advocacy Service (BDVAS) recognises the importance of accessibility to its services for anyone experiencing domestic violence, regardless of gender or sexuality. The BDVAS provides free and confidential support services to people of the Brisbane metropolitan area who are or who have been impacted by domestic and family violence. Services include information and referral, case management, counselling and advocacy.

The BDVAS-QAHC Outreach Program seeks to provide LGBT people who have or are currently experiencing domestic and family violence, an option to be seen for confidential support within a service environment they are more familiar with.

Workers have highly specialised knowledge about domestic and family violence and work with clients to develop a support and safety plan that they feel comfortable with. BDVAS recognises that choices to remain in or leave a relationship are complex, and can only be made by the person involved; we will work with whatever choices and reality people experiencing violence are in – safety is our first and only concern.

If you wish to make an appointment to attend sessions at Healthy Communities you must phone BDVAS direct on 3217 2544. LGBT people can also contact BDVAS for an appointment at another location.

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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

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QAHC Projects

Sexual Health

Central Qld Men's Retreat

Healthy Communities is holding a Gay Men's Health Retreat at Capricorn Caves from Friday 26 August to Sunday 28 August 2011. We've booked the Capricorn Caves to give us a space to unwind and explore some of the health issues specific to gay men, in a safe environment.

Come and enjoy a weekend getaway to relax, make friends and enhance your wellbeing with other gay men from the region.

For this retreat, there will be a maximum of 40 participants. Men from the Central Coast region (Fraser Coast, Wide Bay, Capricorn) have priority as do those who have not previously attended a Healthy Communities retreat. Men from other areas will be offered places if numbers allow, as will those who have attended previous Healthy Communities retreats.

We encourage all interested men to apply.

Cost is \$100 per person (\$80 concession) and this covers all accommodation, food and activities. Participants will organise their own travel to the venue.

For further information or to express an interest in attending call Tim, Ash or Kevin at Healthy Communities Central Coast Office (5458 9300) or centralcoast@qahc.org.au

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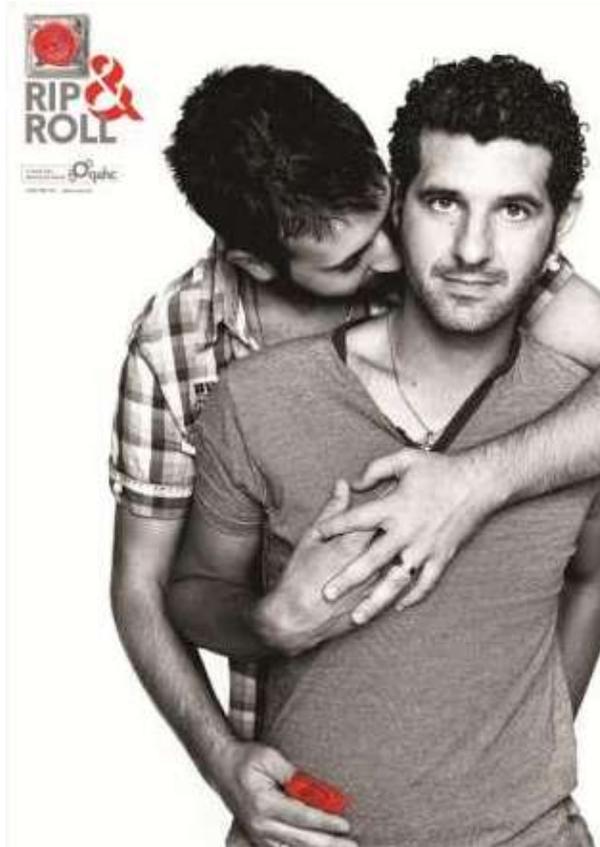
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Rip & Roll Survey

We have had amazing coverage with Rip & Roll. Now we need to know whether the message is having an impact.

Please click on the link here for the Rip & Roll engagement survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PLJBW83>



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Tom Got the Clap

There is nothing embarrassing with having a disease, even if it's a sexually transmitted infection. I learned that when I was 19 after getting my dick sucked at Buchan's Point beat by this hot 25 year old guy. A week later I woke up one morning unable to piss without pain. This was the first sign for me that something was not right.

After I put up with the pain for nearly a week I knew that it wasn't possible to live like this for a longer time, so I went to my family doctor and he took a look at me and asked for a urine sample. I didn't know what I had, but after checking my sample he just said "Well, you got the clap, nothing to worry about." I had no idea you could get an STI from being sucked off.

I have since found out that the clap (also called Gonorrhoea), is an STI caused by a bacteria and is very common for young people under 25. The good thing about Gonorrhoea is that it is curable, after a few weeks of taking antibiotics I was fine. I also found out that if I had left the infection untreated for any longer it could have been harder to get rid of.

I also didn't know that I could have been at a higher risk of HIV if I hadn't got my gonorrhoea treated so now I get a regular STI test.

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Recent Diagnoses of HIV among men in Toowoomba

NOW IS THE TIME TO GET TESTED AGAIN!

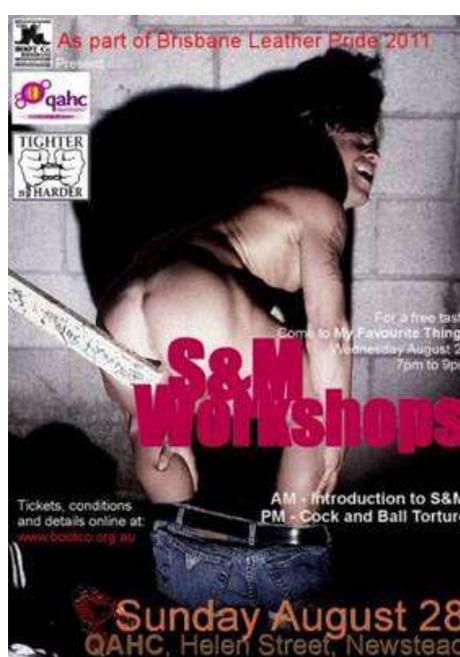
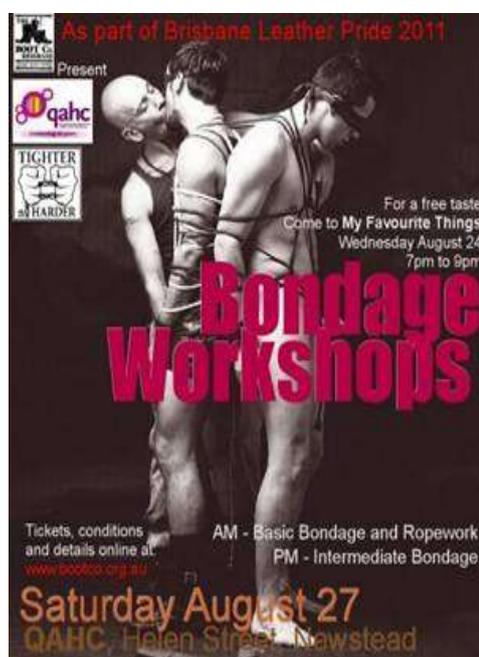
Workers from Healthy Communities (LGBTI health services) and concerned local volunteers have been making contact with men who have sex with men, particularly those who only have sex with guys occasionally because we've become aware of recent diagnoses of HIV amongst men in our local gay community.

There seem to be some common features in the behaviours reported by some of the men who have been recently diagnosed. Barebacking occasionally; Not having a HIV test for more than 12 months, screwing (top or bottom) with trade from the beats or hook up sites, and sex with non-identifying guys all seem to feature in the histories of men who have been recently diagnosed. So this info probably means MOST OF US need to go to the doctor and have another full sexual health screen.

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Leather Pride Festival 2011



Whilst the mercury may read different, the temperature is sure to rise in late August as Bootco presents Leather Pride Festival 2011. This year spanning over two weeks, with members and guests asking for a longer period over which to celebrate in leather sexuality & inclusive of events such as Corium Dance Party + Mr Qld Leather Competition through to Movie Nights & Dark Arts Exhibition.

As the Community Partner of Leather Pride Festival 2011, Healthy Communities is committed to supporting community groups and organisations promoting safer sexual practice & sexual health. This includes Groups such as Bootco, which celebrate the myriad ways in which Gay Leather and BDSM can safely enhance and expand men's sexual and sensual lives.

For the fourth year running, Healthy Communities continues to provide targeted developmental support of the Festival with a series of workshops aimed at upskilling men in BDSM practice. This includes introductory courses Basic Bondage and Ropework or Introduction to S&M through to the more advanced such as Intermediate Bondage or Cock & Ball Torture.

The workshops are run by highly experienced presenters in a safe and confidential environment. Last year's workshops received rave reviews from participants, with Presenters addressing adventurous sexual practice, safety, skills in a fun and engaging manner. The workshop cost includes workbooks and other materials. Bookings are essential because both workshops last year sold out within two weeks of the ticketing going live online

For info on Leather Pride Festival 2011 visit www.qahc.org.au/LeatherPride



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Leather Pride Week 2011 – Volunteers

Healthy Communities in conjunction with Bootco Brisbane, who organise Leather Pride Festival 2011 are offering a limited number of free tickets to the Festival events in return for your time... On Friday, 02 Sept (Tom's Bar) & on Sat, 3 Sept (Corium) through till the early hours, we are calling upon volunteers (men only) who have a few hours to spare & have some fun at the door whilst representing Healthy Communities.

For further details on how you can play a part, contact Reception on 3017 1777 or email info@qahc.org.au (subject line: Leather Pride)

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MANCAMP – Bush Party for Men

On Friday, 9 September the Brisbane Gay/MSM is packing up our gear & heading off to a three day camping, music and social event for men, North West of Brisbane.

“The emphasis of this event is for guys to meet new mates in a social atmosphere, enjoy some great tunes and soak in a weekend away from the city”, Craig Worland, Crew Parties.

With the Bonfire, Fire Twirlers, Live DJ's through the night, and a range of activities available during the day incl. 4x4 Drive Trek – there are a number of options available so that you can choose to make your weekend exactly how you want it.

Healthy Communities is jumping onboard in support of the event with free ManCamp Survival Kit's + a range of conversation starters & other activities you can join in if you wish.

For tickets + more info head to www.greentix.com.au/evinfo.php?eventid=160387

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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.



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2 Spirits

NAIDOC – Nikki Hill, Healthy Communities 2Spirits Program - Cairns

“National Aborigines’ and Islanders’ Day Observance Committee”

NAIDOC Week is an annual event celebrating Australia’s rich, unique and vibrant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

This year the national NAIDOC theme was ‘CHANGE’: the next step is ours.

NAIDOC is a celebration that brings Indigenous and non- Indigenous people together to enjoy an array of cultural experiences including traditional music, dance performances, colourful art displays and native foods.

The Cairns NAIDOC Official Opening commenced with a Welcome to Country and the raising of the Aboriginal, Australian and Torres Strait Islander flags along with speeches, entertainment and Indigenous Arts displays.

2 Spirits participated in NAIDOC in the park. This was a wonderful event with huge amounts of people flooding our stall for giveaways, information, dams and condoms. 2 spirits were happy and proud to participate and celebrate the culture, history and achievements of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

For me personally NAIDOC in the park is a step toward ensuring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island culture and identity is not lost for my children and the younger generations.

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Capacity Development

Cairns Tropical Pride Festival

Cairns Tropical Pride Festival is an annual event for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) community of Cairns and Far North Queensland, as well as their families and friends, to celebrate the diversity of the region and connect to the wider community. 2011 marks the fifth anniversary of this popular and fast-growing event, which is destined to become a leading national event in the LGBTQ calendar.

The festival's winter timing fits in with the most idyllic time to visit Tropical North Queensland: whilst the southerners are finding it a bit chilly and are dreaming of a warm, tropical getaway, Cairns is usually a pleasant 25c during the day, making the Cairns Tropical Pride festivities a desirable holiday experience for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people from around the country.

This year, the festival consists of three major events:

- ◆ Out! Proud! Dance Party - Saturday 20th August
- ◆ Tropical Pride Community Awards Night - Friday 26th August
- ◆ Tropical Pride Fair Day - Sunday 28th August

With previous years' Fair Day attracting over 2000 people, and over 500 at the official Dance Party, Cairns Tropical Pride Festival 2011 will be even BIGGER and BETTER than ever!

For more information log onto the website <http://cainstropicalpride.com.au>



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Tropical Alternatives Film Festival – Gold Coast

The Tropical Alternatives Film Festival returns to the Gold Coast with a new venue at Bond Uni.

The movies will be shown in the Cerum Centre in theatre 4.

With true theatre style graduated seating, the venue is perfect for this year's film festival.

Our movie line up is the Sea Purple, the TAFF short film comp and the hilarious movie, You Should Meet My Son.

Once again the movies are subsidised at \$10 per session or \$25 for an all day pass which also includes the Tropical Interval with light refreshments.

For more info contact Ged on 0419 759686 or go to www.qahc.org.au/films



2011
tauff

Tropical Alternatives Film Festival
A very queer film festival

**Cerum Centre
Bond University
Robina
Saturday 27 August
3pm start**

**For details: www.qahc.org.au/films
Ph 0419 759 686**

**Tickets: \$10 per session
\$25 all day pass (Includes supper)**

Bond University is the venue for the event and in no way endorses and is in no way academically linked to this event.




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Sunshine Coast Pride Fair 2011 is 12 weeks away!!

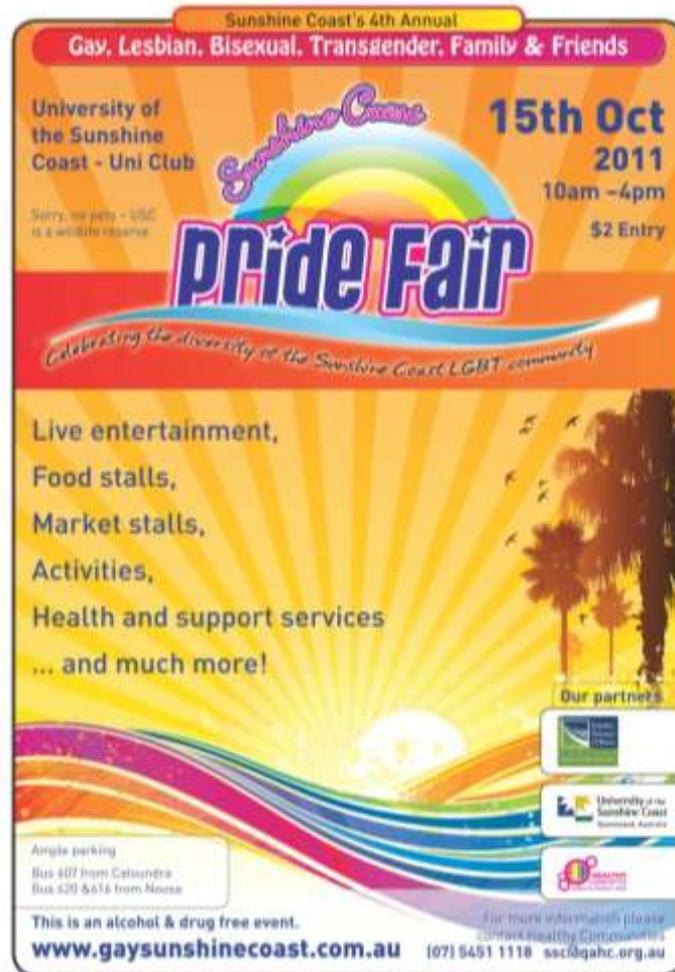
To share some of the costs of putting on a major event like this, we are seeking sponsors and stalls to support the festival and take advantage of the opportunity to get your brand seen by over 1000 LGBT people, their families and friends.

The Sunshine Coast Pride Fair (SCPF) celebrates the region's diversity by bringing together the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community and their friends and family in a fun and supportive environment. It's also a great opportunity to raise awareness of local gay-friendly businesses, health services, and performers and to allow the LGBT community to gain access to information on health, sexuality and support services.

The Healthy Communities (QAHC) initiated the SCPF in 2008 and has been pleased to see the festival be embraced by the local community, and grow over the past three years and is looking forward to other companies and organisations getting involved with the festival. SCPF is the perfect opportunity to promote your business and display your products or services to the many people who will be in attendance throughout the day. Last year's event attracted participation from 50 stallholders and over 1000 visitors.

The 2011 SCPF will be held on Saturday 15 October at the University of the Sunshine Coast's 'Uni Club' which has been generously donated by our partner the University of the Sunshine Coast.

For further information about Sunshine Coast Pride Fair Day or to book a stall, please contact Ashleigh Broom on 07 5458 9305 or abroom@qahc.org.au.



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LHAG does International Lesbian Day

It is with great pleasure that LAHG announces that they will be hosting the 2011 ILD Expo on Oct 8.

For the past few years Citylickers has very successfully hosted this wonderful event with LHAG being the main beneficiary for the past few years.

This year Citylickers have handed the organisation over to LHAG and this will be our main fundraiser for 2011. As an unfunded group it has been difficult to find money to enable us to continue with the work of LAHG, promoting the health and wellbeing of lesbians and same sex attracted women in QLD. We have produced 2 calendars and a performance of the Vagina Monologues, but with a successful expo LHAG would be able to increase the work that it does.

So look out for more information in the next few months and save the date Oct 8, lets make this the biggest and best ILD so far.

Whispers have it that The Wickham is on board and there may be a women's event that evening to help celebrate, so if you are a performer, interested in holding a workshop or would like to have a stall that will help promote our themes for this year, Mental Wellness, Safe and Healthy Relationships and Lesbian Identity (whatever that means to you) then email womenshealth@qahc.org.au

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Community Activities

LGBT Seniors Week Luncheon [Brisbane](#)

Healthy Communities are hosting another free Senior's Week Luncheon at the Sportsman Hotel on Sunday 21st August, 12pm – 3pm.

People must ring Healthy Communities and speak to Jan on 3017 1779 to reserve a place. They must also pre-order their main meal and dessert.

People are also encouraged to bring an item of significance to them that provokes a memory that they can share with others.

Seats for the luncheon are filling fast so book as soon as possible!

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Gay Group Cruise Australia – Week Fantastique

TravelOUT has organised a Group cruise for lesbians, gays and friends to the Pacific from Brisbane returning to Brisbane with Sydney Mardi Gras Parade & Sydney Mardi Gras Party optional extension. The cruise departs Brisbane Saturday 25th February 2012 and returns Saturday 3rd March 2012. The itinerary will be Brisbane – Noumea – Lifou – Port Vila – Brisbane.

For more information and to make bookings please click on the link <http://www.travelout.com.au/cruise/46-gay-group-cruise-australia-week-fantastique>



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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.

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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.**

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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

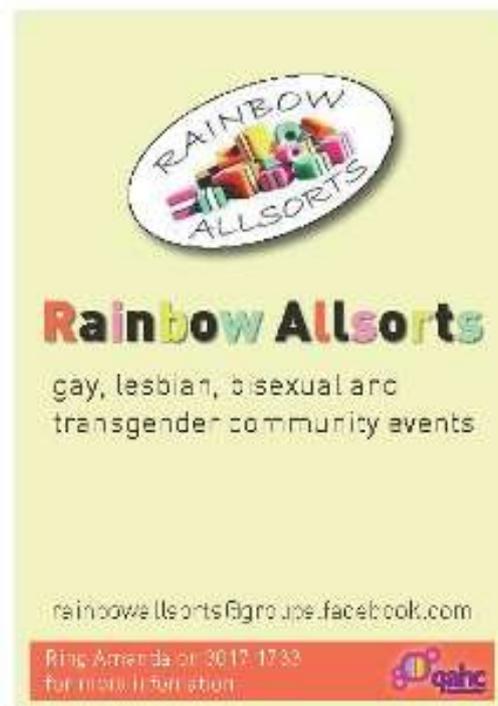
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Rainbow Allsorts [Toowoomba](#)

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)



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TBar – Sunday Session Club night [Brisbane \(External\)](#)

When: 1st Sunday of the month

Time: 4pm – 6pm

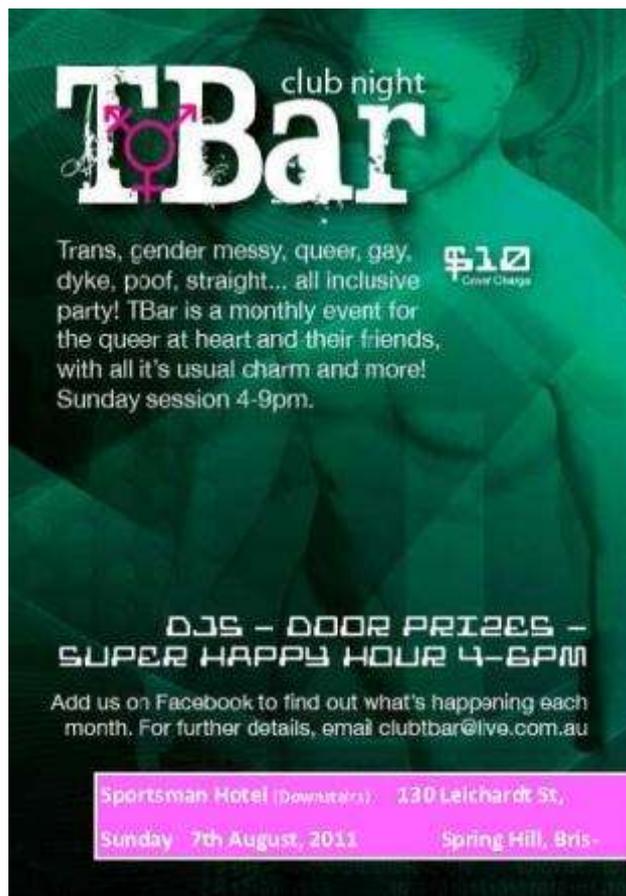
Where: The Sportsman Hotel

Cost: \$10

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.

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Tab Oo [Ipswich \(External\)](#)

Drag Shows

North Ipswich Bowls Club

Contact tabooshow@hotmail.com

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Queer'n Redlands [Redlands \(External\)](#)

Tuesday 2nd & 16th August – Tight Arse Tuesday (TAT's) movie group is starting up and will meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month alternating between Capalaba and Victoria Point cinemas. For more information about the group and upcoming movies please email Ali at tatflicks@gmail.com.

Friday 12th August – QnR Dinner @ Sitar New Farm 7pm and GLWA Movie Night @ Palace Centro Cinema, James Street, New Farm.

Saturday 13th August – QnR presence at rally for Marriage Equality @ Queens Park (opposite Treasury Casino) Brisbane 1pm – 4pm.

Sunday 21st August – Picnic @ Thompson Beach Victoria Pt 11am – 3pm. A big rug, finger food, football, kites, softball, cricket etc and a sense of humour is a must on the day.

Contact queernredlands@gmail.com for more information on these activities.

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Oz Tag – Women only @ Yeronga Brisbane [\(External\)](#)

LHAG
Lesbian Health Action Group

Invites you to a free, fun, women only Oz Tag (touch football) weekly session

Starting Sunday 15 May 2011
3.30pm - 5.30pm
Yeronga Park
School Road, Yeronga
UBD ref 179, N14
(near the tennis courts)
parking on Honour Avenue

No experience necessary, tuition provided
B.Y.O water
All sessions are drug and alcohol free
Spectators welcome

For more info please call Úna
on 0448 933 285

qahc
Sponsored by
Healthy Communities Fund

brisbane women's social touch football

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Gay Savvy radio

Gay Savvy is a queer friendly radio show / podcast based in Brisbane, hosted by Tim Spencer, Laura Haslam, and Mathew Burke (Spencer, Lucious L and Dktr Burke). The show broadcasts weekly and provides a mix of local and community events, politics and current affairs, entertainment and music.

Broadcasting every Thursday on Zed Digital at 8pm. If you don't have access to a digital radio, you can listen through their Facebook page, or subscribe to the podcast via the iTunes store (simply search for Gay Savvy - new shows available 3pm Friday). To show your support, "like" their page, and tune in. Make sure you tune in to hear Daniel Demant (series 3 podcast) from Germany, chat to the Gay Savvy crew around his experiences whilst studying with Healthy Communities here Brisbane.

www.facebook.com/gaysavvy
gay.savvy.zed@gmail.com

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Professional Events

Training and Development Update

The second half of 2011 will see the delivery of several pilot workshops in and around QLD. There are still a couple of rural and remote sessions of the "Working with your A&TSI LGBT client", along with the 2 Spirits Project, to be held along with the new 'Supporting you Multicultural LGBT client' workshops. Keep an eye out in future editions for dates or email rmenzies@qahc.org.au if your service would be interested in hosting a pilot.

A new version on Creating Inclusive Services for the DV sector will be held in Brisbane and hosted by BDVAS on Aug 30. This will be followed with representation at the National LGBTI Family and Domestic Violence conference discussing the work done in QLD on this under reported issue by BDVAS and QAHC in educating the DV sector.

The Valley Police will participate in another LGBT awareness pilot workshop featuring issues such as mental health, ATODS, DV and working with the LGBT community, hopefully this will be successful and other police divisions will participate in the future.

The QLD Ambulance service engaged the services of Health Communities recently to produce a DVD for ambulance officers on working with LGBT patients and this will be delivered to every station in QLD this year.

Training with QUITLINE phone counsellors continues later in the year and Breastsreen has requested training as well. So there are going to be some wonderfully trained services out there for the LGBT community to access with safety.

And don't forget the well versed Anthony Venn-Brown and his extremely interesting "Walking Between Worlds, working effectively with LGBT people of faith backgrounds" See the registration in this newsletter, there are still some places for service providers and the community presentation is filling fast.

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Fundraising and Volunteering Opportunities

Grab a Money-Saving Entertainment Book While You Can...

We're fundraising for the Healthy Communities Fund by selling the Entertainment Books which are filled with hundreds of vouchers which can save you thousands of dollars. There are offers for fine and

casual dining, fast food, accommodation, beauty, car rental, events and attractions and more...

The Brisbane, Sunshine Coast and Surrounds book is \$65, the Gold Coast and Surrounds book is \$55 and the new Townsville, Cairns, Port Douglas & The Whitsundays book (which has been selling like hotcakes) is only \$50.

While you're enjoying a bargain dinner, holiday or event, you'll also be assisting LGBT community groups and projects across the state through your support of the Healthy Communities Fund.

Sales for these money-saving books usually end in September (unless they sell out beforehand) so get yours now! Visit our office at 30 Helen St to pick up a copy or go to www.qahc.org.au/entbook to purchase online (\$8 postage and handling charge included for postal orders).

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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!

The sheet of magnets are only \$3, and you can pick them up from our three offices around the State, or get one posted out to you for an extra \$2. Order yours online at www.qahc.org.au/queerfridgemagnets. They make a great gift, so buy some for your mates too.



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Pink Piano – A Gay Old Time

On Wednesday 20 July, the Pink Piano bar in Brisbane held a Healthy Communities fundraiser to support our unfunded LGBT community work. The turnout was small, but those who did come along donated generously and had a great time singing around the very pink piano as Lex played and sang. Others danced or enjoyed a drink or the free canapés on offer and some enjoyed delicious items from the menu. We're grateful to the Pink Piano for hosting this fundraiser and look forward to another camp sing-along night in the future.

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Equality in Health Campaign – You Can Win a Samsung Galaxy Tab

We're calling on you to support our campaign to achieve Equality in Health. Enter our competition to win a fantastic Samsung Galaxy Tab by writing 25 words or less describing why you think LGBT people deserve 'Equality in Health' by visiting www.contactme.com/4dd344f523341f000100c693. We'll be using some of the best entries in our media ads to highlight why our community deserves better. You can also help our campaign reach a wider audience through more advertising by donating at www.qahc.org.au/donation.

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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/amandaextrem?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

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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