



Edition #27 – April 2013

Welcome to the Healthy Communities Newsletter

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

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

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LGBT Health News

Travel alert for New York

The Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations today issued an alert for gay men planning to travel to New York City to talk to their medical practitioner about meningococcal vaccination. The alert follows a recent warning by New York's Health Department regarding cases of invasive meningococcal disease in gay men and other men who have sex with men.

Since 2010, there have been 22 reported cases of meningococcal disease in New York among men who have sex with men, seven of which have proven fatal. Four cases have been reported since January.

“We are concerned about risk of meningococcal infection and want to ensure gay men travelling to New York have up to date information in deciding whether to get vaccinated or not,” said Rob Lake, AFAO Executive Director.

Invasive meningococcal disease (often referred to as meningitis) is caused by a bacteria which triggers swelling of the lining of the brain and spinal cord. Symptoms include headache, stiff neck and sudden onset of fever. People may also experience nausea, vomiting, increased sensitivity to light, or confusion. While symptoms typically develop within three to seven days of exposure, they may appear earlier. Meningitis is treated with antibiotics, however, urgent medical attention is vital or the disease can result in serious scarring, amputation or be fatal.

It is still unclear what is driving increased risk among MSM but it may relate to a confluence of factors including increased rates of cigarette smoking, injecting drug use, having multiple sexual partners and immunosuppression amongst MSM who are living with HIV. Transmission risk has also been associated with deep kissing and oral sex.

The Australasian Society of HIV Medicine (ASHM) has issued an alert to its members regarding providing advice to patients planning travel to New York. AFAO supports ASHM’s initiative recommending all unvaccinated men travelling to New York City or Brooklyn be offered a meningococcal C conjugate vaccine, irrespective of HIV status. ACON today issued a media alert to advise gay men in NSW.

“If you’re planning a trip to New York, make sure you discuss meningococcal risk with your doctor. Vaccination is simple and recommended,” Mr Lake said. Unvaccinated HIV negative MSM will require a single vaccine dose. Unvaccinated HIV+ MSM will require two doses (8 weeks apart). MSM (both HIV- and +) who have previously had a meningococcal vaccination will require a booster.

For more information see:

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene’s New Vaccination Recommendations for Men at Greatest Risk for Contracting Meningitis
<http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/pr2013/pr006-13.shtml>

ASHM’s Alert for medical practitioners regarding meningococcal diseases and vaccination advice for MSM travelling to New York.

http://www.ashm.org.au/images/ASHMNews/April2013/Vaccination_IMD_MSM_travelling_to_NYC_Brooklyn.pdf

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The cost of treatment too high? Have your say!

NAPWHA’s latest survey is about barriers to treatment for HIV.

By understanding patterns in treatment behaviour, NAPWHA hopes to develop a clearer picture of the relationship between the decision to treat and the ability to afford HIV medications.

Help us explain the reasons why people choose to start, stop or delay taking treatment by filling out the survey.

[Click here to take survey](#)

With this information, NAPWHA will create an economic model to advocate for further subsidised or free HIV medications. And that will mean improved access for more people.

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Your Story, Our Table: Take a seat, Share your experience, Make a difference!

COTA Queensland wishes to invite Queenslanders to participate in a network to inform our policy and research work which is aimed towards an Age Friendly Queensland where all people can age with appropriate services and dignity and respect.

People who join COTA at the Table will have regular opportunities to contribute their knowledge and experience to ongoing discussions about things such as community care, as well as other issues that impact on people as they age.

COTA Queensland plans to use a variety of mechanisms to facilitate these discussions including surveys, interviews and focus groups. If someone decides to sign up for Your Story, Our Table they will receive notice of opportunities to participate as they arise. However participation in any particular opportunity will be entirely voluntary.

Participants in Your Story, Our Table will go in a quarterly draw to receive a voucher to the value of \$50.00.

Participants in Your Story, Our Table will also receive regular updates about the stories we are hearing and about how those stories are influencing COTA Queensland's Age-Friendly policy and advocacy work. Examples of ways in which we might use the information we receive from the network include:

It will help COTA report to both the Commonwealth and the Queensland government about what people tell us about the types of assistance they get to help them to continue living in their own home or participating in their community.

The experiences of Your Story, Our Table participants will provide examples that can be used when COTA Queensland makes submissions to government about issues that impact on people as they age. We also participate in committees and other forums where we have the opportunity to inform government and decision makers about the experiences people share with us.

Network participants will be offered the opportunity to participate in relevant research projects, for example one of our policy officers is currently planning a project in which she would like to talk to people who live in private rental accommodation.

Consumers can find out more about Your Story, Our Table on-line at <http://cotaqld.org.au/get-involved/your-story-our-table/>

Alternatively, they can take part in our first survey which asks about your experiences of the types of assistance people receive to help them continue living in their own home. The survey

is attached but can also be accessed on our website at <http://cotaqld.org.au/get-involved/community-care-survey/>

People are invited to do either or both!

If you would like more information about Your Story, Our Table, please contact our Research Officer, Fiona Jackson on 1300 738 348 or by email research@cotaqld.org.au.

COTA  **Your Story, Our Table**

COTA Queensland would like to hear stories and experiences from people throughout Queensland so that we can better understand the needs of people as they age.

Take a seat, Share your experience, Make a difference!

Why join Your Story, Our Table?

- ✓ You will have **regular opportunities to contribute your knowledge and experience** to ongoing discussions about things such as community care as well as other issues that impact on people as they age.
- ✓ You will receive **regular updates** about the stories we are hearing and about how those stories are influencing COTA Queensland's Age-Friendly policy and advocacy work.
- ✓ Participants at the Table will **go in a quarterly draw to win a voucher to the value of \$50.**

How do I join Your Story, Our Table?

- ✓ You can join **on-line** at www.cotaqld.org.au by following the links to Your Story, Our Table.
- ✓ **Ring us** on 1300 738 348 or 3316 2999 and ask us to send you a Your Story Our Table participant form.
- ✓ **Complete one of COTA Queensland's surveys** either on-line or in hard copy and indicate that you would like more information about Your Story, Our Table.

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Gay, Bi and Trans Prostate Cancer Support Queensland

First Saturday of every month

Cancer Council Queensland,
553 Gregory Terrace, Fortitude Valley
10am - 12.30pm
Parking under the building

For further information please contact:

David Wells
Phone: 0411 081653
Email: holisticsexualtherapy@hotmail.com

This confidential group is open to all gay bisexual and transgender men who have had a prostate cancer diagnosis.

All issues concerning prostate cancer will be open for discussion including:

- an overview of prostate cancer
- side effects of treatment
- the impact of a diagnosis
- communicating with your partner

having an ongoing support group for gay men with prostate cancer.

Support Groups for gay and bisexual man have been established in collaboration with [Malecare](#).



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The New Deal – Gay Men, Sex and Hep C

“The New Deal”, a new website on gay men, sex and hep C has just been launched.

Previously, sexual transmission of hepatitis C was thought to be rare. More recently, there have been increases in the number of transmissions attributed to sex among gay men and other MSM in Australia, particularly those men living with HIV. These increases have also been reported in numerous locations overseas, including in the United Kingdom, Europe, and North America.

Produced by the Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO), the website has been designed to provide gay men with information about sexual transmission of hepatitis C and how to prevent it, testing for and treatment of hepatitis C, as well as information about HIV and hepatitis C co-infection.

AFAO President, Willie Rowe, points out why the website is needed. “With the recent increases in gay men getting hep C through sex, it is important they are informed about the risks and what they can do to address them.”

Hepatitis C is a significant health issue in its own right but there are particular health concerns for those people living with HIV.

Robert Mitchell, President of the National Association of People with HIV Australia (NAPWHA) explains why this information is important for HIV-positive men. “Having both HIV and hep C can have serious impacts on the health of HIV-positive people. It can make treating both viruses more difficult and can also increase the progression of hep C and liver disease.”

The website can be found at www.thenewdeal.org.au.



Sexual Health

Testing Point at Healthy Communities

This is a **FREE** after hours peer based HIV/STI testing to the LGBT community once a week on Tuesday nights from 6-8pm at 30 Helen St Teneriffe.

To attend the clinic you can just walk in on the Tuesday night or make an appointment on 3017 1733

This clinic is now providing full STI testing.

Testing Point will provide peer support and health promotion to clients.

There is also the option for people to take part in a trial of a Rapid HIV Test. This trial is currently underway to demonstrate the effectiveness of rapid HIV testing within Queensland.

As this service is bulk-billed via Medicare, people will need to bring their Medicare card

Testing Point is run by qualified volunteer nurses and volunteer private GPs.

HIV testing.
KNOWLEDGE IS POWER.

Testing Point
Starting on 27th of November
FREE after hours peer based HIV/ Syphilis testing
Tuesday nights from 6-8pm at 30 Helen St Teneriffe
Will need Medicare card
Run by qualified volunteer nurses and volunteer private GPs
Walk in or make an appointment

Men.org.au 1800 177 434 **MEN MEN**

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Men in the Middle

Men in the Middle is a 6 week workshop group for gay, bisexual and Trans* men.

Talk with other men is a comfortable and safe environment about your experiences about coming out, community, meeting guys and relationships.

Next workshop commences on Monday 15th April, 6.30pm – 9.00pm and then every Monday evening for 6 weeks.

Please contact Evie Ryder at eryder@qahc.org.au or phone 3017 1733 if you would like to attend.

Men in the Middle

Six week workshop group for gay and bi men in Brisbane (aged 26 to 45)

Talk with other men about your experiences of coming out, community, meeting guys and relationships.

Next workshop commencing April

For more info: ring 3017 1733 or email eryder@qahc.org.au

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LGBT Health

Out & About Social Group

The next Out and About event will be run in conjunction with the LGBTI and Friends Community Fun & Support Picnic. <https://www.facebook.com/events/482054241849223/>

WHAT: Community Picnic / BBQ

WHEN: SUNDAY 14 APRIL - 11 am till 4 pm

WHERE: New Farm Park, near the river (Look for the Rainbow Flag)

WHY: 1) To come together, support each other and let everyone know each and every one of us are loved and valued. 2) Because we are FABULOUS!

WHO CAN ATTEND: Any LGBTI folk and our Straight supporters and friends. Family and pet

friendly.

WHAT TO BRING: A picnic rug, a ball or frisbee if you wish.

Some like-minded folk are concerned at the current state of mental health and well being within the LGBTI community. So come and join in an informal and fun day - the LGBTI Mental Health and Suicide Awareness Community Day where you can connect, learn, and be supported.

Come on your own, or come with friends/family. People on their own are especially encouraged to attend - we are organising greeters and facilitators to help the day run smoothly.

Connect with your community

Reconnect with friends and/or establish new friends.

Learn what support services are available

De-stigmatise mental health and suicide in the LGBT community.

Encourage people who are considering suicide to seek support.

There will be relevant resources about depression, anxiety, suicide prevention, and suicide bereavement available on the day.

The LGBTI population in Australia suffers from mental health and suicide issues at up to 4 times the rate of the heterosexual population. This will be a safe space to share, talk and connect.

This event has the backing of major health advocate organisations, Healthy Communities and RU OK?

If you need to contact for further information and details please contact ph 30171777 www.qahc.org.au/outabout. Group Co-ordinators: Andrew Thompson 0409470751 and Rob Heard 0403 269 589

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LGBT Counselling and Information Services

Please ensure you call the number listed for the service to make appointments as you are unable to make appointments through Healthy Communities.

Clients are provided with the choice of having their appointment at a Healthy Communities office or from the location of the service provider.

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

Brisbane – Thursdays, 8.30am – 4pm

Cairns – by appointment

To book call 1300 364 277

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

LGBT Domestic Violence Counselling and Information - 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.

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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Healthy Communities in Cairns

There are several LGBT health groups meeting regularly in Cairns, including the Cairns Lesbian Health Group, the LGBT Ageing Action group and the Cairns LGBT Youth Network. If you are interested in taking part in any of these groups or just want a chat to find out what they are up to, please give me a call. There are also plans to establish a group to work on implementing some of the recommendations from last year's Trans* and Gender-diverse Conference. Any trans* people interested in taking part are invited to let me know, or can call me for more information.

Healthy Communities continues to operate in Cairns and is supported by a number of volunteers who work in the health action groups mentioned above, and by others who volunteer their time once or more times a fortnight to work on the reception at Draper St. An orientation session was held for new volunteers early in March. The Cairns Tropical Pride committee is currently meeting, making plans for this year's Tropical Pride Festival, and the Out! Cairns committee meets regularly to organise the monthly Out! parties which have been the mainstay of Cairns' LGBT social scene for many years now. Volunteering for any of these groups is a great way to meet new people and develop friendships while also doing a service for your community. If you have thought about getting involved in any of these groups but are unsure about how to go about it or are a bit nervous about what might be involved, feel free to give me a call or come in for a chat about what's involved.

The Men4Men team at Healthy Communities will soon be hosting an information and discussion group for HIV negative partners of HIV positive guys. Very often HIV- partners are left out of the support and information networks that exist for HIV+ guys, yet they live with HIV on a daily basis. This group will focus on improving participants' knowledge about HIV transmission, prevention and sex within relationships, It will also provide a safe forum in which issues to do with living within an HIV serodiscordant relationship can be explored. Contact Nick Connor on 4041-5451 or nconnor@qahc.org.au for more information.

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2Spirits – South East Qld

Lubelicious and STI characters Launch

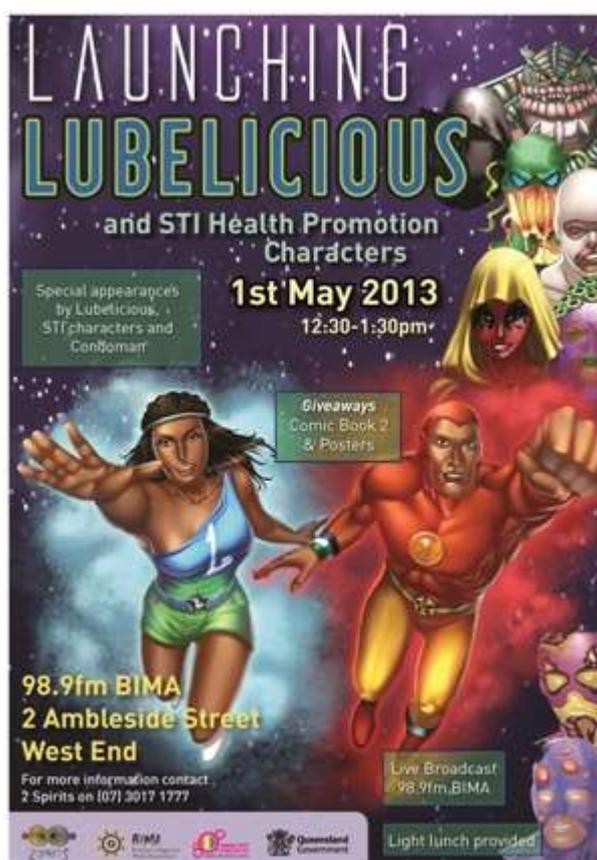
The 2 Spirits Program – the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Program of Healthy Communities, is proud to announce that a launch of sexual health resources featuring Condoman, new sexual health character Lubelicious and a range of characters representing Sexually Transmitted Infections.

The new STI characters of HIV, Syphilis, Gonorrhoea, Chlamydia, HPV, Hepatitis B and Herpes bring life the importance of sexual health in Indigenous populations across Queensland. A new character – Stigmalien, has also been developed to represent the stigma attached to living with an STI, and the shame attached to seeking information about sexual health.

Suits have been developed for all characters. A second comic book – introducing Lubelicious and the STI characters is also available in both had copy and electronic form. The comic book can be viewed by visiting the Healthy Communities website:

<http://www.qahc.org.au/condoman>.

If you would like to attend the launch please contact Healthy Communities on 3017 1777. It is extremely important that you RSVP for catering purposes.



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LGBT Inclusivity Consultancy

Healthy Communities is now offering a consultancy service to support organisations and businesses to become lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) inclusive for not only their clients and customers but also their employees.

The Healthy Communities Training and Development Program has been providing practical support to health and community services to help build open and inclusive rapport with (LGBT) clients in Queensland since 2005.

Over the past few years many large corporations become more LGBT inclusive: Telstra, IBM, Lend Lease, most of the major banks, some universities and many smaller organisations. The corporate closet is one of the final frontiers to be tackled; research shows that many people who may be out in other areas of their life are not out at work, due to either a perceived or lived experience of homophobia, transphobia and heterosexism in the workplace.

Healthy Communities LGBT Inclusivity Consultancy can provide: advice around inclusive policies, procedures, processes, marketing and environment, support to establish an LGBT and Allies network, professional development for staff and assistance in initiating community participation.

To discuss your inclusivity needs in further detail contact the Training and Development Coordinator at training@qahc.org.au.

LGBT INCLUSIVE ORGANISATIONS

The Healthy Communities Training and Development Program has been providing practical support to health and community services to help build open and inclusive rapport with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) clients in Queensland since 2005.

Healthy Communities is now offering a consultancy service to support your organisation to become LGBT inclusive for not only your clients but also your employees.

HOW INCLUSIVE IS YOUR ORGANISATION?

- Do you have LGBT inclusive policies in your organisation?
- Do your services meet the needs of LGBT people?
- Do you need advice to market your services to the LGBT community?
- Are you an 'employer of choice' for LGBT employees?
- Healthy Communities can support your organisation to achieve LGBT inclusivity by offering consultancy, presentations and training.
- When aiming to become an LGBT inclusive organisation, the following goal and qualities should be achieved.

GOAL – LGBT INCLUSION

Provide a welcoming and inclusive environment where LGBT people feel physically, spiritually and emotionally safe and receive a service that responds to their needs.

QUALITIES OF AN LGBT INCLUSIVE ORGANISATION

An LGBT inclusive organisation:

- Invites community consultation and participation to inform the organisation's policies, procedures and practice and engages in social responsibility with the LGBT community
- Communicates its inclusivity through environment, resources, processes and marketing to both employees and clients
- Provides workforce development to raise awareness of LGBT identities and issues for staff and clients and to create an LGBT safe and inclusive workplace.
- Operates LGBT inclusive practice at every level of interaction with LGBT people
- Embeds LGBT inclusivity across all areas of policy and procedures.

Other

Training Rooms for Hire at Healthy Communities

Need somewhere to do some training or supervision with staff???

We are in a great position to be able to hire out our Training Rooms at very reasonable rates to funded organisations and businesses. We have 3 rooms available for hire and you are more than welcome to visit the building and inspect the rooms at anytime. Room specifications are below:

Meeting Room 1 (6 – 8 people)

1. Located on Mezzanine Level
2. Table and chairs to accommodate up to 8 people
3. Kitchenette facilities at bottom of stairs
4. White board
5. Free Wifi
6. Attached bathroom facilities
7. Opening windows
8. Air conditioned

Meeting Room 2 (up to 6 people)

1. Located on Mezzanine Level.
2. Very informal meeting room.
3. Coffee Table and seating to accommodate up to 8 people.
4. Kitchenette facilities at bottom of stairs.
5. Toilet is also located downstairs, however if Meeting Room 1 is not being used, toilet facilities are attached to Meeting Room 1.
6. Portable air conditioner provided.

Training Room (up to 30 people)

1. Located on ground floor through car park.
2. Tables and chairs to accommodate up to 30 people (dependant on configuration required)
3. TV, Video/DVD, Stereo, Overhead Projector, Data Projector, Electronic White Board, Pull Down Screen are available. Kitchen facilities and fridge.
4. Toilet upstairs on 2nd level or at Reception area (Wheelchair accessible).
5. Tables and chairs can be moved to a configuration of your choice. Air conditioned.
6. Outside area for break-out groups.

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Jan Thwaites on 3017 1779 to discuss your requirements. Please spread the word and help us to continue our work in the LGBT Community.

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Fundraising/Marketing and Volunteering Opportunities

Entertainment Books

Get your copy of the 2013-2014 Entertainment Book & Assist Healthy Communities

At Healthy Communities we change the lives of LGBT Queenslanders every day! We wouldn't be able to do what we do without community support. You can help us fundraise by purchasing one of these bargain-filled Brisbane, Gold Coast or North Queensland books.

To get your copy and support us go to:

www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/22637x9. You can pay for your book online and pick it up from our Helen St office to save even more money!

This year there are over 140 new Brisbane offers for restaurants and businesses, including The Coffee Club, Palace Cinemas, Iceworks, Wheel & Barrow, Bacchus, The Euro, Full Moon Hotel, Arrivederci Pizzeria, Ginga Japanese Restaurants, and many, many more! Check out some of the great deals available online <http://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/search-the-book>.

Profits from every book sold will go toward promoting the health and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Queenslanders. Order yours now and take advantage of the savings straight away www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/22637x9.



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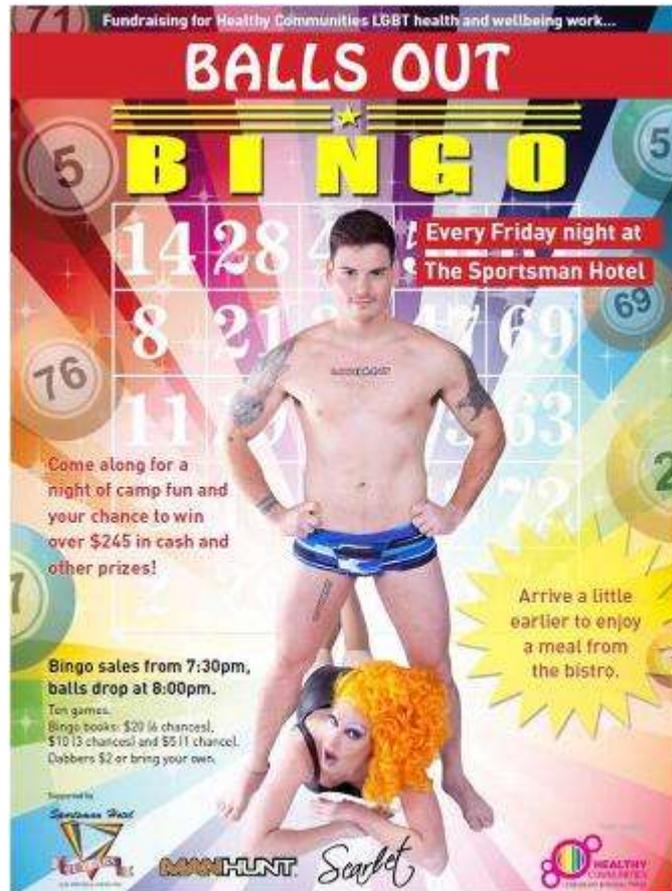
Balls OUT Bingo – Our Friday Night FUNdraiser

Healthy Communities' weekly fundraiser Balls OUT Bingo! is on every Friday night at The Sportsman Hotel, Spring Hill. This is definitely nothing like your suburban bingo hall with hostess Monica Fusion calling out some very different bingo sayings to encourage audience interaction and there's always a lovely barrel turner to help her with her balls.

Over the current financial year Balls OUT Bingo! has raised over \$6000 profit for Healthy Communities LGBT health and wellbeing work in Queensland, and we've rewarded players with around \$9000 in cash plus thousands of dollars worth of other fantastic prizes.

Bingo books are on sale in the lounge bar at Sporties from 7:30pm every Friday night and balls drop at 8pm sharp. Bring some friends for a great night out and book a table for a tasty meal from the bistro.

Many thanks to our sponsors The Sportsman Hotel and Manhunt. Massive gratitude also goes to our wonderful volunteers and all of our regular bingo punters.



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Australia's Biggest Eurovision Party is Back for 2013!

Keep Sunday 19 May free for our fundraiser, Schlagerfest – The Eurovision Experience.

This camp event to celebrate Eurovision will be held at The Wickham Hotel. More details will be released shortly.

This event was a great fundraiser for us in 2012 and we completely sold out so this year we're almost doubling tickets and hoping to sell out again!

Watch out for more information coming very soon...

<http://www.healthycommunities.org.au/schlagerfest>



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Love Goes Beyond Type – Rainbow Business Supporting Healthy Communities

Love Goes Beyond Type is a new local business selling rainbow products, childrens books with gay themes, clothing, wristwear and much more!. Even better, 50% of all profits the business makes goes back into the LGBT community and this includes Healthy Communities!

Get online now and find something for yourself or a unique gift for someone special www.lovegoesbeyondtype.com.

Please support local businesses that support the LGBT community.



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Community Activities

Gay Men's Retreat **Brisbane (External)**

Laugh, Relax and Relate

Yoga - Bodywork - Meditation - Massage - Spa

Opt naked yoga class - Nature walks - River swimming

DATES

Friday evening 17 May to Sunday afternoon 19 May 2013

LOCATION

Balin Garu (gay owned and operated retreat) www.balingaru.com

COST

\$250 (before 15 April) - \$300 (before 1 May) - \$350 (full price)

Includes all food, accom and tuition

BOOKINGS AND ENQUIRIES

Call Trevor on 0417 809 370 or email trevor@qyoga.net

www.thechangespot.com.au or www.facebook.com/thechangespot



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Dragology **Gold Coast (External)**

When: Saturday 20th April 2013

Where: 1 Marine Parade, Southport

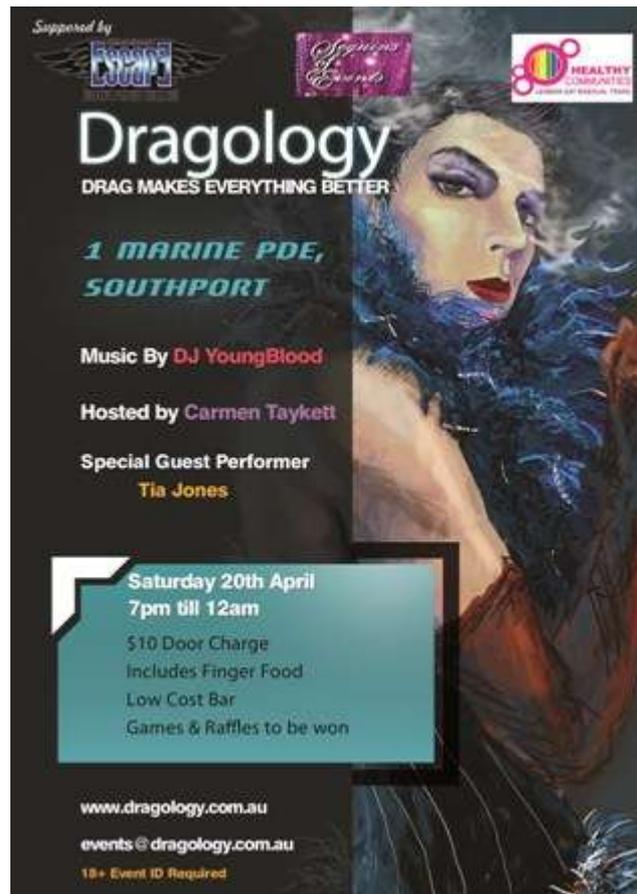
Time: 7pm – 12am

Cost: \$10

Please note this is an 18+ event. ID required.

Includes finger food. Low cost bar, games and raffles to be won.

For more information please email events@dragology.com.au or go the website www.dragology.com.au.



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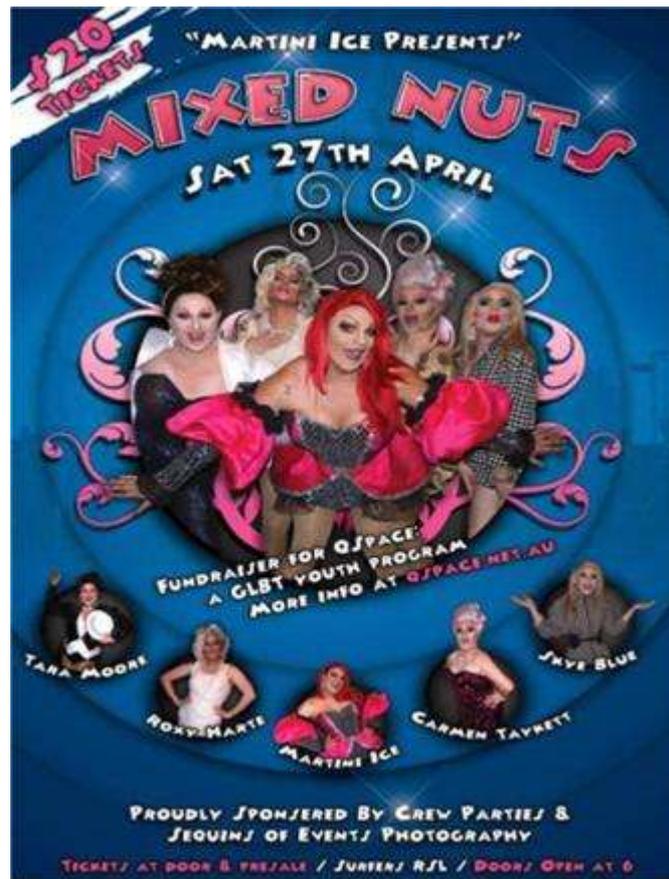
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Fundraiser to support QSPACE, Sat 27th April. [Gold Coast \(External\)](#)

Come and have a great night, while supporting QSPACE Youth Program. Tickets on sale direct from Surfers Paradise RSL (tickets available from 4th April – buy your tickets in advance to avoid disappointment on the night)

QSPACE is a program that supports Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer or Questioning Young People.

For more information about the service provided - www.qspace.net.au.



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Lesbian, Gay, Bi and Trans* Choir – Sunshine Coast [Sunshine Coast \(External\)](#)

Join the new community choir on the Sunshine Coast. It's for anyone who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer.

Meetings are held at the QCWA Hall, 18 Dixon Road, Buderim.

For more information please contact sunnyLGBTchoir@gmail.com or check out the facebook page <http://facebook.com/SunshineCoastLGBTChoir>



Lesbian & Gay Choir

18 Dixon Road Buderim

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Queer Film program at West End Library [Brisbane \(External\)](#)

A community member, Jordan Bastian, has been working with Brisbane Libraries to create a Queer Film program to be screened at the West End library.

The screenings are a free, monthly event that has been designed to be a little bit of an alternative social event. They will be alcohol free, and only restrictive based on film classification.

A facebook page has been produced by Jordan, which will be the main point of communication, and we encourage film suggestions as well!

For more and what films are showing please go to <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Queer-Films-at-the-West-End->

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Queer Comic Club [Brisbane \(External\)](#)

Have you read an interesting or inspiring comic book lately that you think might be of interest to others? Or perhaps a character that you are very fond of in the Marvel or DC comic universe? Or perhaps you've seen a comic made into film or read a review that you find interesting? Why not join other comic book readers/fans in discussion over a cup of tea or coffee?

This is just an idea still in its infancy; but I'd like to invite others to join me in discussion about starting up an LGBT comic reader's interest group. The group would be a spinoff of Brisbane's own, Queer Readers and similarly would meet monthly.

I welcome interested parties who share a love or enjoyment in comics. Feel free to bring your ideas on the night for the group and any aims and/or objectives that you might like to see incorporated.

Name of Group: LGBT Comics Readers

Contact: Curt on phoenixmen28@msn.com

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Keshet [Toowoomba \(External\)](#)

LGBT social choir
Every Wednesday from 6.30pm to 9.00pm.
Bell Street, Shop 26, Toowoomba

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

3rd Saturday of the month
North Ipswich Bowls Club
6.30pm
www.tabooshow.com.au

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MCC Youth Group [Brisbane \(External\)](#)

Where: Metropolitan Community Church

Feathers Women's Social Club [Gold Coast \(External\)](#)

Card Game:

A great opportunity to chat, meet new friends and catch up with old friends
Relax, chill out with a fun game of cards!
Please phone Jan, as she would welcome your call
Phone: 5522 4838 or 04790 95975
The Venue changes each Tuesday...

A social gathering of women who welcome the opportunity to meet like minded women, here on the Gold Coast...

Cycle Sisters: Still going strong and new cyclists welcome on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month (weather permitting) For info please Contact Sandra 04492 79640

Next Events

SATURDAY 20th APRIL - Rock n Roll Dance Theme

Guest Appearance: SUSIE JAY

Featuring: DJ LX



SATURDAY 18th MAY - Feathers 22nd Birthday - Let's Party

Featuring Guest Artists: TRU & KETRINA

Featuring: Resident DJ - DJ LX



Events are created for Lesbians, Straight Women, Transgender - Let's together have a fun

nite - raising funds for Charity

For more information go to <http://www.feathersgc.com> or email info@feathersgc.com

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

<http://www.blgpc.org.au/index.htm>

The Brisbane Lesbian and Gay Pride Choir brings together people who identify as and are proud to be gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, transgender and intersex.

<http://www.owlsbrisbane.com.au/>

OWLS is committed to supporting all women coming out into our lesbian community.

We are a social group for lesbians situated in Brisbane, Australia.

We offer a wide range of events and activities over the year.

These include a monthly get together for breakfast where we enjoy a meal and a chat.

We also enjoy regular dances and outings.

LGBTI AA Group

LGBTI AA Group meets every Saturday at 7.00pm at Healthy Communities, 30 Helen Street, Teneriffe.

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.frasergays.com

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

www.gaycountry.com.au

Gay Country is a website that attempts to improve the quality of life for gays in regional Australia by creating a fun interactive community, thus removing the sense of isolation that many gay people live with.

Gold Coast & Logan

<http://www.gayonthegoldcoast.com>

Gay on the Gold Coast is a new website that will keep you up to date with LBGT 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.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.

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: harvesters69club@gmail.com

<http://www.feathersgc.com>

Feathers Women's Social Club Incorporated is the longest running Gay Women's Social Club on the Gold Coast. We are simply a group of women who volunteer their time striving to enrich the lives of lesbians. Feathers is a non-profit organisation in operation for over 21years hosting social recreational events to cater for all women age groups.

* Feathers offer a safe welcoming environment for lesbians, hosting social functions, excursions and sporting events capturing a varied age group for the young and the young at heart...

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=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 & Street Address: 107 Maud Street, Maroochydore Qld 4558

Phone: 07 5458 9300

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

QAHC News is funded by QLD Health

[Newsletter archive](#)

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