



Queensland Association for
Healthy Communities Inc.

Statewide
July - Sept 2008
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Welcome to the Qld Association for Healthy Communities Newsletter.

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

Please enjoy QAHC News.

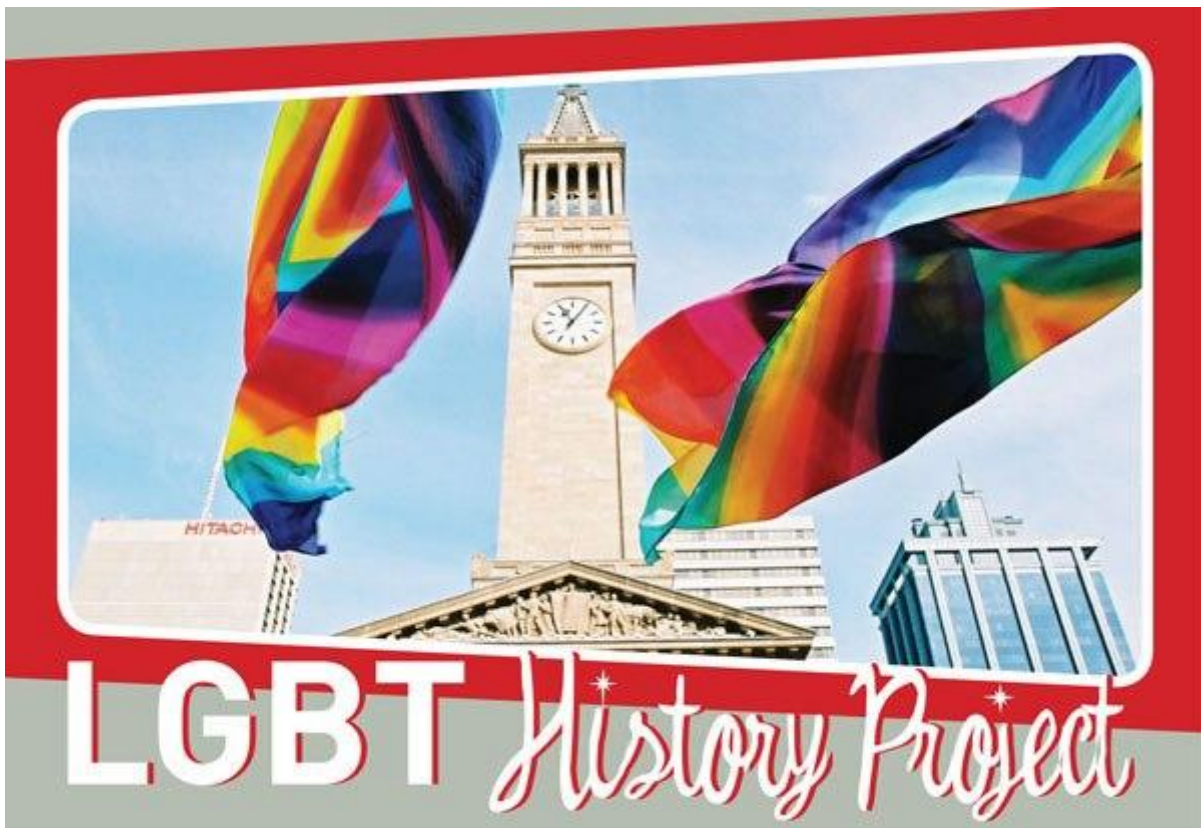
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Don't mothball our histories.....

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Histories have for too long been closeted - now's the time to dig deep into your organisational archives, your personal memorabilia, to gather and share our stories.....

Tune into the LGBT History Project - an initiative of Queensland Association for Healthy Communities (QAHC)*. Funded by the Brisbane City Council for 12 months, the project has now been joined by the Museum of Brisbane and the State Library of Queensland as partners.

This will lead to the Museum of Brisbane having an LGBT exhibition in 2010. The State Library of Queensland is developing its LGBT collections of archives and memorabilia, and will be giving us skills to know what to do with our own collections.

Contact the LGBT History Project Officer:

Carol Low
(07) 3017 1722
0448 154 158
clow@qahc.org.au

Also:
Keep an eye on the QAHC website www.qahc.org.au

* Formerly the Qld AIDS Council

Sporties Bake Off



On Sunday, 31 August the Sportsman's Hotel held their annual Charity Bake Off, which is a fundraiser for various community groups in Brisbane.

On the day prior, a savvy bunch of QAHC volunteers & ATSAQ fought RiverFire congestion to come together to shake, bake & decorate our way into winners glory with QPP's World AIDS Day Cake claiming 3rd place & QAHC's cake raising over \$500 for the charity beneficiaries ATSAQ & PFlag. See attached photos.

Congratulations to the star team of decorators, ATSAQ, QPP & the casual staff on the day at the Bake Off for all the laughs along the way.

QAHC Training and Development update

The training and development program has been working on initial progress plan to deliver the state wide ATODS and Mental Health service providers sexuality and gender identity training workshops to Queensland Health workers at the end of 2008 to mid 2009. QAHC will also be distributing an inclusive service provision resource kit with posters and pamphlets to be displayed in service environments.

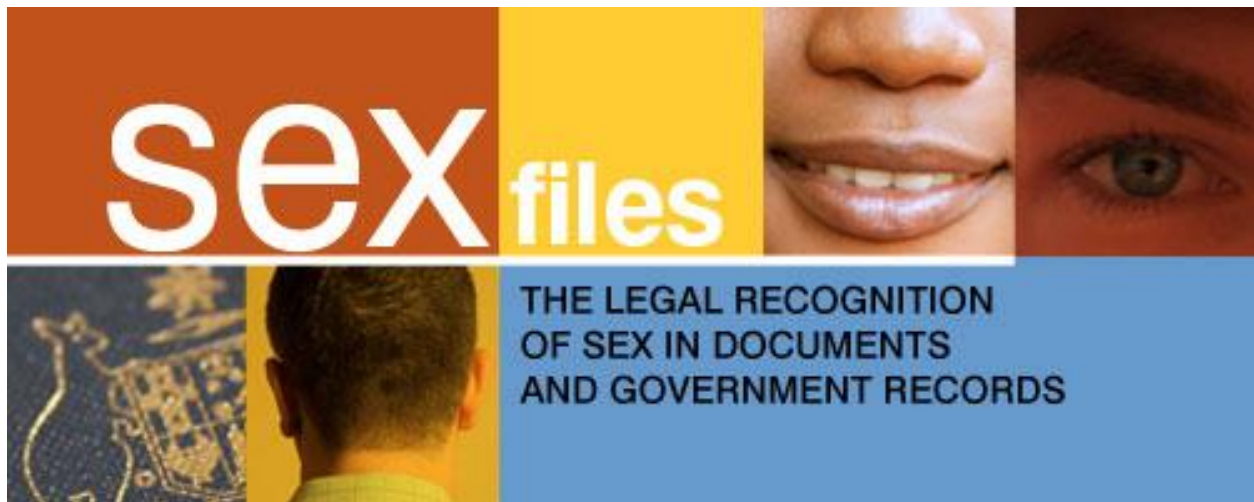
The project has also finally finished the *Supporting Transgender and Sistergirl Clients* resource for service providers and will begin to distribute the resource to both service providers and trans support groups in Queensland. An electronic copy will be available from www.qahc.org.au/transgender in the coming weeks. QAHC has also started an informal trans network, posting ad hoc information on trans resources and health info to members of the trans community who regularly support QAHC trans projects, or who are simply interested in receiving info on trans issues. If you would like more information on the group contact Ms Hilary Knack on 3017 1793 or email hknack@qahc.org.au

LGBT Youth Project Launch

Open Doors has worked with the Office of Youth Affairs (Department of Communities) to develop an LGBT Youth Suicide Prevention Project, which has been funded to roll-out in regional Queensland over the next 12 months.

It has potential for significant direct impact on LGBT young people in regional Queensland. Moreover, the funding by the Queensland Government for this issue is a significant recognition of this group of young Queenslanders and their specific needs, vulnerabilities and barriers to getting help when they need it. It is an important milestone.

Open Doors held the launch at Parliament House on 10 September, to celebrate the implementation of this valuable initiative for LGBT young people in Queensland and the significance of State Government support for them. For more info contact Open Doors on opendoors@opendoors.net.au or (07) 3257 7660



The Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission sex and gender diversity project has released its initial report on the discrimination people experience the basis of diverse gender recognition.

Click on the link below to access the report:

www.humanrights.gov.au/genderdiversity/consultation_report2008.html

To find out more from the community HEROC has developed an online blog for people to submit their views. Click on the link below to go to the blog: www.humanrights.gov.au/genderdiversity

The blog will help HEROC better understand the various social, medical and legal issues concerning sex and gender diversity.

Brisbane Tgirls Website and Social Support

Brisbane Tgirls www.brisbanetgirls.com is a Brisbane based website that is designed to connect local Brisbane Tgirls and those who appreciate them, so they can interact in the physical world.

Supportive connections result in a greater sense of community and confidence, empowering **transgender** girls to have a greater presence in mainstream society. This can occur at all levels from the transgender activist seeking support, to the long time closeted crossdresser wanting to share their interest, to the transsexual wanting to integrate their new persona into society, to those seeking intimate relationships

Contact the website facilitate to post further materials on the website admin@brisbanetgirls.com

LGBT Relationship Counselling - Brisbane

QAHC and Relationships Australia (Spring Hill) are working in collaboration to provide a new outreach service providing Relationship Counselling for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) people in Brisbane.

Confidential counselling will be available to individuals, couples and on a broad range of issues impacting on their relationships, from a fully qualified counsellor from the LGBT community.

Relationships Australia Spring Hill is an inclusive service for all people and have been promoting their service to LGBT groups and services as well as at LGBT events. By working in collaboration with Relationships Australia, QAHC aims to improve access to counselling services for LGBT people.

Further information can be accessed by phoning Dave Wells at QAHC on 07 3017 1777, or to make an appointment contact Relationships Australia on 1300 364 277.

It is envisaged that if this concept is successful that QAHC and Relationships Australia will view opportunities to mirror the success in other regions of Queensland where R.A offices and QAHC Resource Centres exist.

Beginning on August 11th, with available appointments from 8:30am to 3pm, the service will be available every Monday at the QAHC Brisbane office at 30 Helen Street, Newstead. The cost of the service will be \$75 per hourly session, or \$35 for concession card holders.

Sunshine Coast Pride Fair – Sunday 19th October 2008



The Queensland Association for Healthy Communities will be hosting the first Sunshine Coast Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Fair on Sunday 19th October at Millwell Road Community Centre, Maroochydore.

The Pride Fair will bring the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community, their friends and family together in a fun and supportive environment, to affirm and celebrate the community's diversity. It is also an opportunity to raise awareness of local gay friendly health services, performers and businesses and to allow the LGBT community to gain access to information on health, sexuality and support services.

The Pride Fair kicks off at 10:00am and entry is FREE. Door prizes are up for grabs throughout the day including two nights accommodation at Horizons at Peregian and a twin stay at The Hideaway Men's Resort. A great line up of local artists will provide live entertainment while you browse the wide range of market stalls and local community organisations. Also on offer will be a sausage sizzle, face painting, fairy floss and many more activities to keep all amused throughout the day!

To find out more about the Sunshine Coast Pride Fair please visit www.gaysunshinecoat.com.au or call the QAHC office on (07) 5451 1118

Mind, LGBT Culture & Communities - David Farrington

On that cutting edge, QAHC has embarked on an innovative state-wide LGBT mental health & well being (MH) initiative. The program will collaboratively consult, research and strategically lead the LGBT mental health agenda - helping mainstream mental health professionals, LGBT communities and broader services in understanding & addressing the emerging LGBT mental health agenda - the facts, the issues and the potential responses - socially, culturally, politically & organisationally.

Members of the LGBT community, LGBT community professionals, mainstream mental health and other professionals who have a professional or personal interest in diversity, emotional wellbeing, mental health

in any form or just want to professionally know about emerging LGBT mental health research would find the program intellectually stimulating, creative and relevant to their life & practice. Queensland currently leads Australia in the emergent 'LGBT' health movement and identity-based best practice. National and Queensland research* demonstrates LGBT people are at higher risk for mental illness & suicide, less responsive to conventional clinical & prevention strategies, and are more likely to receive culturally insensitive practice leading to greater risk of malpractice, isolation and further illness than mainstream community. Equally, research also points towards LGBT people as experiencing happy, fulfilled and meaningful lives with friends, relationships and work as the core foundations of wellbeing and having great resilience and optimism about our lives & future.

The mental health initiative is broadly aligned with the principles of the new Queensland Plan for Mental Health, but is based upon three foundation values - cultural exchange & learning, the role of the arts in diversity education and community-based mental health promotion and reflexive development of best practice standards for service development and professional practice excellence. I am really keen to hear the practice views and what people feel from other QAHCer's, projects and programs as well as mainstream mental health professionals or receive expressions of interest in training for professionals working in the general public, private and NGO/voluntary sectors in mental health or related areas as well as especially all you out there in our fab steamy Queensland LGBT communities.

The first aspect of the work is scoping out the research-intelligence on LGBT mental health & followed by consultation with mainstream providers and especially queer communities about what MH means in LGBT terms (both illness and wellness), tackling stigma & existing understandings of mental health, creating new socio-cultural perspectives and exploring LGB & T & ethnic-rural differences and difference across people's lifespan. The regional differences across Queensland will be especially interesting. With hopefully a new picture in mind, the program will later evolve towards awareness raising, education and strategic service development & planning and some arty stuff, media stuff and especially film-making. Emotional, psychological and spiritual well-being really does connect to every aspect of health & life - identity, sexual health, family, relationships, work, education, drug & alcohol use as well as history & culture across all ages and backgrounds. The point I want to make is that the 'emotional health & well being universe' is really broad, fuzzy & multi-dimensional and largely unexplored territory. When people see the word 'mental health' for example, it's instantly associated with 'mental illness' ; much of the early work to date has rightly focused towards the illness, disability & the medical model and this has been critical as a starting point & will continue. But this needs expanding and balancing with the positive emotional wellbeing agenda - what keeps us as a community & individuals happy, healthy and resilient for all of life's constant challenges, good and bad. So the program is about a lot of 'unpacking' (just like my bedroom having just arrived from freezing Melbourne !) and travelling, re-defining and getting a bit hippy with the concept ! Come on the journey. Post modernists are especially welcome. So tune in your mind, listen to those vibes and please say hello or share us your thoughts by email if you feel your life, work and interests might connect - we really want to hear what's ON YOUR MIND ABOUT QUEER MINDS !

David Farrington at QAHC on 3017 1763/1777 or at dfarrington@qahc.org.au (in confidence and respect)

- *1. 'Private Lives'- A report on the health & wellbeing of GLBTI Australians. The Australian Research Center for Sex Health & Society (2006)
2. 'Tranznation' - A report on the health & well being of transgender people living in Australia & New Zealand. The Australian Research Center for Sex Health & Society (2007) Source : http://www.latrobe.edu.au/arcshs/download_reports.html
3. 'The LGBT health system community consultation report ; our community, our health'. Queensland Association of Healthy Communities.

Tropical Pride Festival



The Tropical Pride Festival held in Cairns from September 19th - 21st was hailed a great success with each event being well attended.

Kick off on Friday evening on the 19th September welcome saw Skinny Dips Resort welcome over 90

guests for the Community Awards night. Numerous members of the LGBT community received awards for their support in health work, social initiatives and their general enthusiasm to give to the community. Speakers were Paul Martin, general manager of Qahc and PFLAG representative Shelley Argent OAM.

A colourful group of about 50 LGBT folk sparkled and sang their way down the Cairns Esplanade the following evening as part of Festival Cairns 'Parade of Lights'. Their theme of the Village People got the crowds singing along too. The highlight of the festival was the Tropical Pride Fair held on the Sunday afternoon.

The shady tropical venue encouraged a relaxed and friendly atmosphere for stall holders and punters alike. The dog show was a highlight with pampered and preened pooches strutting their stuff across the stage, the drag queens added a touch of glamour and 'Out Loud', the LGBT choir excelled themselves as their voices filled the amphitheatre.

Great press coverage in the local TV news the following week was encouraging as the festival coincided with the Member for Leichhardt, Jim Turnour's parliamentary speech advocating changes to same sex legislation.



Christmas in July - Townsville



25th July 2008 should have been a quiet day for relaxing, except for many of the Townsville GLBT Community. This was the day they were dusting off Santa costumes and getting strange looks from shop assistants when asking for Christmas decorations.

Christmas in July was celebrated in true style at the Mansfield's own Silhouettes Night Club (Formally known as PJ's). With Tinsel, trees and fairy lights spread from Roof top to dance floor, it was evident that the night would be a hit.

The Christmas joy & festivities got into full swing when the Drag Queens "Santa's lil' helpers" from Kin-Kee Fantasy Productions arrived. Mya Fantasy & Trinity Kin-Kee made it a night to remember with their humorous twist on some Christmas Classics, their choreographic brilliance and not to mention their sensational costumes.

With one of the most entertaining shows in a long time – the question on everyone's lips was "When will the next one be?". At this point in time Silhouettes will be running the Ladies Nights. If you would like any information on these nights you please email mansfield_hotel-silhouettes@hotmail.com.

Overall the night turned out to be a huge success with proceeds going to Queensland Association for Healthy Communities (QAHC).

A Change in QAHC staff for Townsville – Amanda Dean

Yes, it is true; yours truly is going to Brisbane. Recently the State government announced an additional \$2million for HIV & STIs. Approximately \$620,000 of this is earmarked for QAHC. The purpose of the money is to enhance our capacity to work with gay/msm around HIV prevention and sexual health.

One of the things this means is that QAHC is employing a Health Promotion Officer for the outer-Brisbane region, which is the job I will be doing from late September 2008. QAHC will also increase the hours of the north Queensland regional staff to full-time. This means that my position now has an extra 8 hours, which for the next 3 months will be used to design and build a gay Townsville website called gaytownsville.com.au.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the wonderful people of Townsville for working with me. In my time with the Townsville community some of the things I have been able to do include: helping get Tropical Alternative magazine back on the streets, supporting WAD events, working on building a Townsville Sexual Health Network and running the first local Tropical Alternative Film Festival. I hope whoever takes over my work in Townsville will bring with them the passion that I have had in working with the Townsville LGBT community and will enjoy working with you as much as I have.

Sexual Health Check ups

If you are having sex then you should be having regular sexual health checks. Not all STIs show symptoms and therefore it's possible to be infected or to pass on the infection without knowing it! Sexual health checks are easy, confidential and are available from your local sexual health clinic or General Practitioner (GP). Townsville sexual health clinic can be contacted on 4778 9600.

Tests are recommended at least every 12 months. If you have recently had sex without a condom or the condom broke don't wait. If you are having sex with more than 1 partner, then you should be testing on a more regular basis. Most sexual health checks in Townsville Sexual Health Clinic are done by a Sexual Health Nurses who are very friendly and have heard almost every sexual health question you could think of.

Your first sexual health check can take up to half an hour and will usually begin with assessing your sexual history to determine what tests to perform so it's important to be honest. Then an examination is performed to detect any signs of STI/HIV. Remember to ask for a test to all parts of the body that you like to have sex with and enjoy a healthy sex life.

Gay Townville.com

In late 2008 Townsville will be getting their own gay website (gaytownsville.com.au). The website will include lots of cool features such as a list of local LGBT events, a gay and lesbian business and service directory, and an online version of the Tropical Alternative Magazine.

This website also hopes to raise awareness of HIV, HCV and STI prevention amongst gay men & MSM through the placement of interesting and informative health education articles.

QAHC invites the LGBT community to get involved with the new website by contributing, articles, pictures, events, and whatever you think might need to be on the website. To find out more or contribute to gaytownsville.com email cns@qahc.org.au or phone 4041 5451.

Project Men

www.projectmen.net

Project Men is the biggest and most ambitious research survey of the health and wellbeing of men ever conducted in Australia, New Zealand and Asia-Pacific countries. It is being carried out through the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society (ARCSHS) at La Trobe University. It is endorsed by Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria.

Project Men aims to describe and understand experiences of male-to-male sexual practices and to understand the meanings attached to experiences of male-to-male sex.

It is anticipated that the quality of the data will improve the relevance of research generated by ARCSHS, especially with respect to the knowledge it will provide about the health and general wellbeing of this very diverse population, and of specific psychosocial experiences enhancing or weakening that wellbeing.

The survey covers areas of general information (age, education etc.), attitudes, relationship concerns, sexual health, sexual practices and social networks.

The survey comprising around 50 click-to-answer questions takes about 15 minutes to complete and is completely confidential. The number of questions varies according to what you have to tell us. Participants must be 16 years or over and have experience of male to male sex. No identifying information will be collected and the survey is set up at a secure URL provided by our net space provider. No staff at either ARCSHS or the provider site will have access to participants' IP addresses, nor will email addresses be required.

This is the one of a series of internet based research projects hosted by ARCSHS to understand the health service and education needs of male-to-male sex communities. Other studies have included Private Lives and TranZnation which were highly successful in recruiting many participants. The reports of these studies can be found on the **ARCSHS** website. The survey is available in three languages, English, Thai and Bahasa, with more to follow as the project gets under way.

The research that will be generated by the **Project Men** survey will benefit the community as a whole by capturing a clearer understanding of the way public health strategies affect individuals in our community. It will also help to guide the development of health education messages that are more relevant and appropriate. Your input has the potential to influence the scope of what the public health sector has to offer the community and to modify the way health professionals interact with individuals within that community.

We would therefore really appreciate any support you can give us to make the survey as successful as possible, in particular participating in the survey if you have had male to male sexual experiences. We would appreciate you forwarding this e-mail to others who might be interested in participating.

It would be great if you can place the attached banner on your website, and promote the survey through your contacts. Please let me know if you have any questions or need the banner in another size or format.

Gay Men's Health Retreat

Gay Men's Health Retreats

Time to unwind!
Time to think!
Time to experience!
Time to be!

Registrations are now open!

An opportunity for you to get away for two nights to revive, engage with other men, and recharge your life!

\$90 waged \$50 unwaged
(Accommodation, Meals and Transport included)

Choose from either: 21-23 November 2008 or 30 Jan-1 Feb 2009

Limited places available.
For information kit and registration form email sgarvey@qahc.org.au or call (07) 3017 1777



International Lesbian Day Sunday 5th October - Amanda Dean



International Lesbian Day was a huge success: great turn-out, warm/welcoming atmosphere, yummy food, good variety of entertainment and outdoor activity. There was Lesbian football and cricket which made for an active day up to a wonderful day. The Lesbian health action group gave out 20 dams, got 50 surveys completed and put a foot in the door for lesbian health being one of the groups first outreach events. I personally licked one dam about ten times in my hands on demonstration of safe sex for lesbians. It was supposed to be black current flavour but all I could taste was latex. I can truly say that on international lesbian day I felt proud to be a lesbian/bisexual and then some.

Entertainment Books 2008/2009

THE NEW 2008/2009 *entertainment* BOOKS ARE WORTH THEIR WEIGHT IN GOLD!

Purchase your brand new 2008/2009 Entertainment™ Book now to receive over \$15,000 in valuable offers, valid through 1 June, 2009. At the same time, you'll be helping community fund-raising!

The Entertainment™ Book is your guide to the best restaurants, hotel accommodation, attractions, sports and leisure activities... all with 25% to 50% off or 2 for 1 offers. Plus, **My Bookings™**... Compare rates, check availability and book your accommodation online.

Here is a sample of the many well known businesses providing valuable offers in the new Brisbane and South East Queensland Entertainment™ Book...

ONLY \$60

QAHC is now selling the Entertainment Books!! If you would like to purchase a book please contact Jan Thwaites on 3017 1779. These are a great gift idea and great value!!



An LGBT guide to what's on and where to see it!

HEDWIG AND THE ANGRY INCH

Brisbane the wait is finally over. The award-winning cult musical Hedwig is finally rocking into Queensland, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* tells the story of Hedwig Schmidt, the unfortunate victim of a gruesomely botched sex-change operation, and an "internationally ignored song-stylist". Her journey to find true love, "her other half", is a rock and roll odyssey which leads her across the Berlin Wall, across the world, and from man to woman. Starring Ezekiel Ox as Hedwig and Lucinda Shaw as Yitzhak.

8 October – 2 November

Cremorne Theatre, QPAC

Tickets: \$45.50 to \$65.75

Bookings: Qtix 136 246 or [ww.qtix.com.au](http://www.qtix.com.au)

www.hedwig.com.au

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

Queensland Theatre Company

Jack loves Gwendolen. Gwendolen loves Ernest. Jack *is* Ernest, only Gwendolen doesn't know it. Lady Bracknell can't possibly approve of Gwendolen marrying anyone who was found as a baby in a handbag at Victoria Station. Welcome to the wonderful world of Oscar Wilde, Victorian England's most brilliant playwright who delighted in satirising the aimless upper classes, and whose wit was as dazzling as it was notorious. Directed by Michael Gow, the cast includes Paul Bishop, Tim Dashwood, Penny Everingham and Jane Harders.

13 October – 1 November

Playhouse, QPAC

Tickets: \$20 - \$57

Bookings: Qtix 136 246 or www.qtix.com.au

www.qldtheatreco.com.au

MAVIS BRAMSTON: RELOADED!

A musical comedy revue for the new millennium, by Peter Pinne and Paul Dellit. This show is filled with great laughs, topical comedy sketches, songs and much much more. Plus the mini-musical Pauline Hanson: The Musical. If you like *SkitHouse*, *The Comedy Company* and *Fast Forward* – you will love this. Starring Steven Tandy from televisions' *The Sullivans*.

Playing until 18 October

StageDoor Dinner Theatre

Tickets: \$40 - \$60

Bookings: (07) 3216 1115

www.stagedoordinnertheatre.com.au

ABBAMANIA

After a highly successful run on London's West End, ABBA MANIA is coming to the Gold Coast. ABBA MANIA is a spectacular musical event recreating on stage the last ever live concert by ABBA in 1979, including over two hours of uplifting, dance inducing hit songs, such as "Dancing Queen", "Mamma Mia", "Voulez Vous", "Waterloo", "Fernando", "Take A Chance On Me", "Super Trouper" and "The Winner Takes It All". ABBA MANIA brings to life the 70's era with vibrant costumes, extravagant lighting and all the endearing memories of the band that took over the disco world, in one unforgettable night.

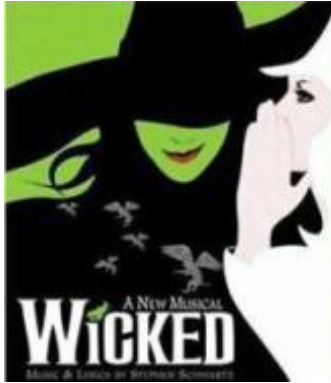
From 29 October

Jupiters Theatre

Conrad Jupiters Casino, Gold Coast

Tickets: \$59 - \$88

Bookings: www.ticketmaster.com.au or 1300 888 086
www.abbamania.com.au



What's On.....

Central Coast

Clubrok

Rocky's Tavern
Cnr. Alma & Derby Street,
Rockhampton
Re-occurring fortnightly Saturday event from 1st September.
Contact Rod **0439 494 331** or clubrok@hotmail.com

CRUSH

Sands Tavern, Plaza Parade, Maroochydore
8.00PM - 3.00AM
www.crushevents.com
Contact: Jason **0408 061 402** or email Jason@crushevents.com
Reoccurring event 2nd Saturday of every month

Diversity Party

Fraser Coast GaysClub Wharf (Criterion Hotel) Wharf Street, Maryborough 6pm - 10pm (then club opens to General Public until late)
More info log onto www.frasergays.com
Re-occurring event 3rd Saturday of every month.

PFlag Rockhampton

Meets 1st Tuesday of every month
Community Health Centre, Room 2, Cnr Bolsover & Cambridge Street, Rockhampton
Contact: Neville or Rosemary **07 4928 7275** or rosiejnevillek@bigpond.com

Rock'in Rocky Females - Rockhampton Bi Club

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

Rainbow Brigayde - LGBT Youth Group

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

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

Lesbian Social Dinners

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

Lemon Lounge

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

Lesbian Mother's Support Group

First Saturday of the month. Location: Varies. Contact: Donna 0412 072 021

Sunshine Coast Queer Collective

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

Gympie Women's Coffee Morning

Second Tuesday of the month. Time: 10.00am
Location: Whispers, Gympie
Contact: Rhonda 0438 163 325

Gay Dads

Contact: Terry Rubes, 0410 772 872 or tezza1108@hotmail.com.

There are men living in various situations. Some raise their children on their own while others are not able to see theirs. We hope to be there for all men who want support and or friendship. If you are a gay dad or grand-dad and want to simply chat or want advice on resources or you are a friend of a gay dad feel free to contact us.

Woman 2 Woman

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

North Queensland

Queer Youth Action Group: Join the Queer Youth Action Group to increase support for LGBT young people in Far North QLD. Next meeting is on the 5th of March at QAHC resource Centre, 290 Draper St, Cairns. For more information contact Amanda Dean at QAHC: 4041 54 51

Spirituality Group: A spirituality group for LGBT people is now happening in Cairns. The group is facilitated by Rev Dr Jason Gregg, a member of the FNQ Parish of St Margaret of Antioch (Catholic Church). The group meets each Tuesday afternoon at the QAHC Cairns LGBT Resource Centre at 290 Draper St, Cairns. Ph: 4041 5451 for details.

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

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

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

WOW - Women on Women: Movie Night. "Girls Night". Last Sunday of every month. 6:30pm @ QAHC, 290 Draper Street, Cairns. BYO snacks and a beanbag.

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

Brisbane

Lesbian Women's Writers Group

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

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

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

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

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

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

2 QT 2 B STR8 - Social support group in Logan for LGBT young people 16-25
P: 32088199 E: 2QT2BSTR8@yfs.org.au M: 0403587708

ACCEPTANCE BRISBANE - Support group for GLBT Catholics. Meet every 2nd Friday monthly for mass and discussion. PO BOX 817, FORTITUDE VALLEY 4006, P: 3846-1714, 3846-1714

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

within the gay and lesbian community.

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

Brisbane lesbian and gay pride choir - Provides an opportunity for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender people to sing together.

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

Rehearsals

Rehearsals are at St Mary's Church, Cnr Merivale St and Peel St, South Brisbane, each Tuesday beginning at 7pm. Auditions are not necessary to join, everyone in the GLBTI community is welcome.

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

For more information please email blgpc@optusnet.com.au or call 3397-2123.

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

The Sportsman Hotel 130
Leichhardt Street
Spring Hill, Qld 4000

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

Dykes on Bikes - For lesbians who love motorbikes. New look chapter. New contacts, new rides, great fun.

For more information call Vicki on 0403-798-131

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

Gold Coast

Castaways

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

Happy Campers

Another great event is held monthly by Happy Campers. The guys from Happy Campers host a monthly BBQ at Chris Cunningham Park, Tweed Heads (behind Centro Tweed) on the last Saturday of every month. There is always a large gathering of people from the community and all new members are welcomed by the organisers. It's a great opportunity to meet local people and connect with a friendly network of people on the Gold Coast and Tweed Heads region. For more info go to www.happycampers.com.au

QLD Association of Healthy Communities Brisbane & Statewide

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

mail address: PO 1372, Eagle Farm BC 4009
street address: 30 Helen St, Newstead

Sexual Health information & referral	1800 155 141
Indigenous Gay Men & Sista Girl	07 3017 1736
Members	07 3017 1777
Volunteers	07 3017 1777
Donations and Bequests	07 3017 1714

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