



Queensland Association for
Healthy Communities Inc.

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Welcome to the Qld Association for Healthy Communities Newsletter.

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Vista users may not be able to view the picture. If you are unable to view the pictures in this email, please visit our website <http://www.qahc.org.au/newsletters/qahc> and view online.

Please enjoy QAHC News.

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Pride 2009 is almost here! We need you!!

The 2009 Pride Festival is fast approaching, and this year, the QAHC Pride Campaign will focus on community involvement for LGBT people, as volunteers, friends, members of social groups, and every other way people choose to engage with the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community. This sort of engagement is important because we know that being involved in the community, belonging to groups, and having healthy social circles brings with it a range of mental health and other benefits. Alternatively, when people don't have the opportunity to be engaged, they may face greater rates of poor outcomes.

This year, we are very keen to engage with some of the LGBT social and community groups that exist in Brisbane, and work together to emphasize the benefits of being involved, and highlight the ways that people can get involved. We will be releasing a community newsletter, creating a QAHC website, and featuring groups in our tent, all to highlight groups that you can belong to.

And of course, we always need volunteers to help out with Pride Fair Day and for the QAHC events leading up to Fair Day. For Fair Day we will need people who want to march with the QAHC float and our brand new, top secret Giant Puppets, help give out condoms, showbags and free bottles of water in the park, and help staff the QAHC activity tent (which will feature a rotating roster of entertainment), our fair day games, and the QAHC community stall.

If you are interested in being involved in any of this, contact Shaun Staunton on (07) 3017 1732 or sstaunton@qahc.org.au

ONE COMMUNITY 2009 – Brisbane Pride Festival



Brisbane Pride Festival is proud to announce the theme for 2009, ONE COMMUNITY. Following on from last years the of Freedom, ONE COMMUNITY is designed to raise the profile of the many vital community groups in Brisbane and surrounds that work to supporting our community in so many ways.

The 2009 festival will focus on bringing the people who volunteer their time to the forefront and recognising their contributions. Without these community groups, so many would be lost. From the youth having no idea where to turn to picking up the phone and calling Open Doors, to the parents struggling to come to terms with their daughter coming out to them, contacting PFLAG, from the gay man calling GLWA in a time of crisis to the person isolated by circumstance, tuning to Dykes on Mykes and discovering they are not alone or the lgbt community member seeking support or referral from QAHC.

The theme for Brisbane Pride Festival is to encourage everyone to have a look in the papers at the community listings and see if there is something they could give a little time to. Your life will be richer for it.

For more information on the Brisbane Pride Festival please check out <http://www.pride.proof.me> or keep an eye out for the Pride Festival Guide at your local QAHC office or upcoming feature in gay press.

Packing Party VI – Thursday, 28 May




Be sure to mark your diary for Thursday, 28 May from 6pm – 9pm as worlds collide with volunteers from the Queensland Association for Healthy Communities (QAHC), Queensland Positive People (QPP) holding our Packing Party VI. This time at the Departure Lounge, Upstairs at the Wickham Hotel, Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley.

Be prepared to expect the unexpected, as this is no ordinary sweat shop with condoms, dams & other assorted paraphernalia forming the basis of games played in between packing moments, with some fabulous prizes on offer as your reward.

The aim of the Packing Party is to replenish much needed stocks of resources for the Brisbane Pride Festival & beyond. With a target of packing over 5, 000 resources, we certainly have some work cut out for us & where we're hoping to call on your assistance!

Bring some friends, get a team together & join in on the fun as we up the ante with a variety of entertainment & shows to help spur you on with free dinner & drinks provided!

Feel free to contact Brett Stevens on 3017 1729 or email bstevens@qahc.org.au for further info or to RSVP.





Men in the Middle

Men in the Middle is a 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, sexuality, gay community, meeting guys and relationships.

Next workshop commencing soon
– limited places available

For more information contact:
Brett on 3017-1729
mim@qahc.org.au



New to the Gay Community? Moved interstate, or just want to socialise with people outside of the club scene?

Men In the Middle is a free 6 week workshop, one night a week for guys 26 to 45 who are gay, bisexual or think they might be. It gives you the chance to talk, listen & learn about a range of topics with a variety of other guys.

Each session covers a range of topics including coming out, sexuality, self esteem, the gay community & scene, safe sex, meeting guys, relationships etc. While there is a structure to the program, it's also flexible, with plenty of room to raise topics you want to talk about in a safe & confidential manner.

Over the last 7yrs Men In the Middle has provided a unique opportunity for many guys to take stock & connect with a variety of other men from all walks of life in a fun, hassle free environment.

The next Men in the Middle workshop commences in July, with a limited number of places available. Feel free to contact Brett at QAHC on 3017 1729 or e: mim@qahc.org.au if you have any questions.

Adonis Central Club – Gym/Cruise Club Opens

Adonis Central Club is an all male gym/cruise club set to open on Friday, 8 May at 200 Wickham Street, Fortitude Valley.

The club offers casual membership access to circuit training, free internet and trainers welcome. Adonis Central Club also has a cruise level for men which has a video room, sling room and private rooms, with free internet also available.

QAHC has been working with the venue operators prior to their opening on creating sex positive health promotion materials inclusive of safer sex & looks forward to building on the relationship developed so far.

Adonis central club is open 6am till late Monday to Thursday and 24hrs operating from 6am Friday through to Sunday 12 midnight. Phone 3666 0226 for more information.

Sex On Premises Venue Clinic – Starts at The Den

On Monday, 18 May from 11am to 1pm Brisbane Sexual Health will be trialling a new weekly Sex On Premises Venue (SOPV) Outreach Clinic at The Den, Fortitude Valley.

Whilst in its initial trial phase, the new clinic will be limited to screening of chlamydia & gonorrhoea but will also offer a sexual health consultation, information & referral service. It is hoped if the trial is successful that a more comprehensive sexual health outreach clinic will be established.

Existing SOPV Outreach Clinics which offer a full range of sexual health screening which include HIV testing are currently operating at Wet Spa & Sauna, Bowen Hills & Bodyline, South Brisbane on a weekly basis.

Big Gay Day – Thank You to Volunteers!



On Sunday, 15 March QAHC Outreach Team & Volunteers were certainly kept busy with over 5,000 party goers in attendance at Big Gay Day 09. This year the Team set up a fabulous jungle themed Chill Out Space, complete with beanbags, sunscreen, safe sex packs & other assorted goodies which proved to be a very popular spot indeed!

Additional activities included setting up posters & other health related info + roaming around the crowds to make sure punters were okay, setting up the event in the morning, through to crowd management at the door, selling tickets for the Matthew Mitcham Raffle & spraying mists of water to cool people down. By the end of the day over 30 QAHC Staff & Volunteers contributed over 200 hours of work, with over 2,000 resources handed out...a full on day, but fun had by all!

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

QAHC Anti-Homophobia Appeal

For those living in New Farm, Newstead, Fortitude Valley, Teneriffe or Spring Hill, watch out for the new QAHC Anti-Homophobia Campaign Appeal hitting your letterbox shortly. The appeal is being sent to all letterboxes in the area, along with over 12,000 Queensland LGBT email addresses and the QAHC database. The appeal is being supported by Big Brother 2006 star David Graham who talks about his experiences of homophobia and the email portion of the campaign is being supported by www.guidetogay.com.

Money raised will further our Anti-Homophobia Campaign and promote equality and acceptance for all LGBT Queenslanders and reduce intolerance and discrimination. You'll also assist QAHC's work of providing information and referrals for people who have experienced homophobia. You can make a difference by donating securely online now by visiting www.qahc.org.au/donation or call Jason Russo on 07 3017 1728 for more information.

Also, in partnership with third year students from Griffith Film School, QAHC has created a television ad aimed at reducing homophobia and discrimination in the wider community. The ad can be viewed on our website www.qahc.org.au.

Tropical Escape Raffle



With the cooler weather approaching, imagine yourself lazing on an exotic beach, snorkelling on a reef or enjoying a cocktail by a pool... make this dream reality and purchase tickets in QAHC's 'Tropical Escape Raffle'. With only 2000 tickets available in the draw, this prize worth \$4920 could really be yours.

The winner and a friend will enjoy return flights with Airlines PNG (exit Cairns or Brisbane) to Port Moresby where they'll board their transfer flight to Tufi Resort. The transfer takes you right to the resort's doorstep and you'll be staying in a luxurious Deluxe Bungalow for three nights.

Tufi is a boutique resort known for its amazing reef diving. The resort offers a range of activities from bat caving to deep sea fishing, bush and nature walks where many species of birds are seen, kayaking, and snorkelling trips for non-divers. You may want to immerse yourself in PNG's local indigenous culture, or simply relax and read a good book in the tropical pavilion.

Airlines PNG and Tufi Experience have generously donated airfares and accommodation to QAHC and the raffle will support this year's Tropical Alternatives Film Festival (TAFF). To help you get to Cairns or Brisbane, or cover visas and spending money (visas approximately \$37 each) QAHC is providing \$300.

Tickets are just \$5 each, or three for \$10, so why not increase your chances by purchasing multiple tickets. Tickets will also be available for sale at TAFF sites near you. The draw will take place at the QAHC office, 30 Helen St, Newstead at midday on 1 June 2009. Purchase tickets now by visiting www.qahc.org.au/raffle or call Jason on 07 3017 1728..

Terms and Conditions: Lottery closes 5pm on Friday 29 May 2009 to be drawn at midday Friday 5 June 2009 at Queensland Association for Healthy Communities, 30 Helen St, Newstead QLD 4006. Winner notified by mail. Flights and accommodation are not available during the Easter, or other public holiday long weekends and are subject to availability. Prize is not transferable for cash. Prize must be claimed within 12 months of the draw date. Visas, passports, meals and travel insurance are at the winner's expense. QAHC ABN 58 039 823 994. For more information call 07 3017 1728.

Entertainment Books – What recession?

QAHC is raising money for the Healthy Communities Fund by selling this year's Entertainment Book. By purchasing an Entertainment Book from QAHC, you'll not only enjoy hundreds of dollars worth of savings (thousands even), and the opportunity to dine with friends at discounted prices, and discover new restaurants and holiday destinations, but you'll also be helping LGBT community groups continue their vital work as beneficiaries of QAHC's [Healthy Communities Fund](#).

You'll be asking yourself 'what recession?' as you enjoy the hundreds of bargains to be taken advantage of in the book with offers ranging from 25-50% off, or 'two-for-one' discounts. The books pay for themselves in no time and are also a great gift for loved ones.

The Brisbane, Sunshine Coast & Surrounds book is selling for \$60, and the Gold Coast & Surrounds book is priced at \$50. Postage and handling is \$8 for every book ordered, or alternatively, you can purchase your book at our reception office at 30 Helen Street, Newstead during office hours and save on postage and handling. For more information contact Jason on 07 3017 1728 or email jrusso@qahc.org.au.

Same-Sex Law Reforms and Recognised Details Certificate

Please see below the body of a response to a letter received from Kathy Noble, President of Changeling Aspects around these issues for Transgender people.

"Dear Ms Noble,

Thank you for your correspondence of 8 January 2009, 12 January 2009, 22 January 2009 and 24 January 2009 in respect of the Government's same-sex reforms and on issues concerning identity documents for transgender people born overseas and the inconsistencies between the terminology used by Equal Opportunity Commissions and the Anti Discrimination Commissions.

As you are aware the Australian Government is awaiting the report on the Australian Human Rights Commission's sex and gender diversity project. As mentioned in previous correspondence, the Commission is currently preparing its report of the project which is likely to be released shortly. The Australian Government will consider the recommendations made by the Commission.

In relation to your concerns about the inconsistent references to transgender issues in State and Territory laws (raised in your letter of 22 January 2009), I can inform you that a project on the harmonisation of anti-discrimination laws is being progressed through the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General. A Working Group of officials has been established to develop options for Ministers' consideration. It is possible that this type of issue may be examined in that context.

In relation to your letter of 24 January 2009, I would like to clarify the Government's position. I can confirm that the Commonwealth Same-Sex discrimination law reforms will have no effect on the Marriage Act 1961. The Marriage Act provides that a marriage must be between a man and a woman. This is consistent with current Government policy and there are no plans to change the Marriage Act to allow for a marriage to be solemnized between same-sex couples.

Gender re-assignment surgery. has never, of itself, changed the status of a marriage which was valid at the time of solemnization. It has always been the case that a validly solemnized marriage would continue, irrespective of whether one of the parties subsequently underwent gender re-assignment surgery. The same-sex reforms due to come into force on 1 July 2009 do not change that position.

The legal recognition of the sex of transgender persons is primarily a matter for the States and Territories, as they are responsible for maintaining their respective Registers of Births, Deaths and marriages. All States and Territories have legislation which enables post-operative transgender persons to obtain either a recognition certificate or an amended birth certificate recording their preferred sex in certain circumstances, unless the person is a married person. Again, the same-sex reforms have no impact on this.

The Government's same-sex reforms amend 84 Commonwealth laws to remove discrimination against same-sex couples and their children. They extend to same-sex de facto couples the same entitlements and obligations that apply to opposite-sex de facto couples.

From your correspondence I now understand that you are also asking about the policy positions taken by other Commonwealth departments and agencies, including Centrelink. I understand that those policy issues are currently under review by the relevant departments and agencies.

I also note that the National Human Rights Consultation may also provide an opportunity to share your views on human rights in Australia. The National Human Rights Consultation was launched on 10 December 2008. The Attorney-General has appointed a Committee of eminent Australians to conduct the Consultation. The members are Father Frank Brennan SJ AO, who chairs the Committee, Ms Tammy Williams, Ms Mary Kostakidis and Mr Mick Palmer AO APM.

Over the coming months, the Committee will seek the views of the Australian public on which human rights and responsibilities they consider are important, whether they are currently sufficiently protected and promoted, and whether they could be better protected and promoted.

The Committee will hold community roundtables throughout regional and remote Australia, as well as in capital cities during the first part of 2009. The Committee is also accepting written and online submissions to the Consultation. They want to ensure that a diverse range of people in Australia, particularly those who would not usually participate in a Consultation such as this, are able to share their views on human rights in a variety of locations around the country.

To help enable this, the Committee is planning to have a strong online presence throughout the Consultation. To register to participate in a community roundtable or to make a submission, you may wish to visit the Consultation website at www.humanrightsconsultation.gov.au.

The Committee will report to the Government on a range of options for protecting and promoting human rights in Australia by 31 August 2009

I trust that this information will be of assistance. Thank you for bringing your concerns to the Government's attention.

Yours sincerely

John Boersig
Assistant Secretary

Robert Garran Offices, National Circuit, Barton ACT 2600 Telephone (02) 6250 6666 Fax (02) 6250 5900
www.ag.gov.au ABN 92 661 124436"

For more information, please visit www.changelingaspects.com.

Brisbane Leather Pride

It's time to get out the chaps and rough up the denim as The BootCo. Brisbane – Queensland's only gay, men-only leather, denim and uniform club is proud to announce the creation of Brisbane Leather Pride Festival, 2009 with a series of events & workshops set to hot-iron its mark on the annual hotlist of events on a Statewide & National level.

Proud to be associated with the Brisbane Pride Festival, Brisbane Leather Pride kicks off on Sunday June 28 in the late afternoon with the festival launch through to early hours of Sunday July 5 with the Corium after-party.

The Queensland Association for Healthy Communities has also come on board to sponsor the Brisbane Leather Pride Festival and working in with BootCo. Brisbane to use the celebrations as a platform for building stronger community links & a vehicle to reach guys with informed, accurate sexual health information involved in or curious on more adventurous sexual play.

The thinking behind the Brisbane Leather Pride was to engage the community at several levels – through sponsors and businesses associated with the club, through networking with men whose preferred sexual practices involved leather or other fetish equipment and researching the scope of risky behaviour in the leather/BDSM tribe.

Joshua Hart, President of Boot Co said the key to Boot Co's success in reaching leather men into leather, denim and uniform was to bring the leather and mainstream gay communities together. It has to do with raising the visibility of leather men and demystifying leather sexuality.

Although serious in intent, the Brisbane Leather Pride Festival is shaping up to be a lot of fun. Eagle Leather from Melbourne has been engaged to run two workshops on BDSM practices – the first on Saturday June 20 – Tops and Bottoms – is an introductory talk about BDSM sex in general, safety in practice and all men are welcome. At \$5 per head cover charge is to enable as many interested men to attend as possible and QAHC will be well represented.

The second workshop (Thursday July 2) - Tie Me Up is a little more complex and hands on. Designed for singles or couples, BootCo suggests you bring the person you would most like to tie up. Again the safety message is embedded in accessible fun.

Against the background of documented risky behaviour in fetishists who 'go it alone' – that is, engage in sexual activities without the benefit of a reference point or community from which to practise – the Boot Co alongside with organisation such as QAHC are determined to make a positive difference by strengthening the community links.

To do this, there is a serious fun agenda.

Monday June 29's movie night featuring Daddy and the Muscle Academy, the biography of Tom of Finland is a fitting start to the week. Wednesday July 1 sees a leather dinner that requires minimal manners and maximum fun. There's a mystery guest speaker and the BootCo committee remain tight lipped about his identity.

Tom's Bar (Friday night July 3) sees the final judging component for Mr Queensland Leather where the contestants will strut their stuff amid the fun.

Finally, on July 4 CORIUM 2009, Brisbane's biggest and best men's leather party takes off at Imaginations night club at the Spring Hill Hotel, with an after party at the Mineshaft Bar at the Sportsman Hotel – 50m away.

At Corium 2009, Mr Queensland Leather is announced.

Boot Co's 2008 Mr Queensland Leather, Pierre Brand won the Australia/NewZealand Mr Leather title and is competing in the International Mr Leather competition in Chicago. Party goers will find out if he returns as International Mr Leather.

Brisbane leather men are making their mark on the community, driven by a canny committee and a community of men becoming comfortable in their own skins.

For more information on BootCo, Brisbane or the Leather Pride Festival visit www.bootco.org.au or contact QAHC

Creativity & Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Communities

LGBT communities are very creative & expressing that creativity is essential for our identity. It helps our health & well being a lot. This is the message from the Social Inclusion & Creative Communities Conference held at the Gold Coast with the Griffith University. But what else does this really mean ? Are we good for the economy as international research says ?! Are we being allowed to be creative enough ? Do we really understand and value our artists and their important contribution to society ? What is the future for Queer Art & for democracy in Queensland & Australia ? Conference presentation available at www.qahc.org.au/mentalhealth

Queensland Arts & Health Consortium

This is a new forum for people & projects interested in advancing the role of the arts & health. QAHC States of Minds is a member and represents LGBT & Queer perspectives.

The latest research on LGBT mental health, well being & alcohol and other drug use

New findings & fact sheets from the research literature are available with more to come for many different groups & people in the community - see - www.qahc.org.au/mentalhealth

'Altering States' Mental Health Conference 25th-26th June, Brisbane 2009

The research is being presented at the Queensland community mental health sector's 2009 national conference 'Altering States' and is about re-designing the mental health system in Queensland. It's a unique event for mental health professionals & service providers and people with experience of the issues see - www.qldalliance.conorg.com.au/vision.html for details

Help us with our research survey – We really need some lovely volunteers to help us find people to complete our survey research. We need a lot of surveys to really change the system !

Contact David Farrington or Shane Garvey dfarrington@qahc.org.au or sgarvey@qahc.org.au 3017 1777 for more info. See - www.qahc.org.au/mentalhealth AND www.qahc.org.au/drugs

Gold Coast and Logan - QAHC

Gold Coast Gay Day Season hits the spot!

Three days of Gay In May have just come to a conclusion with the community on the Gold Coast all a buzz about the recent events over the May Day weekend.

A very successful Tropical Alternatives Film Festival kicked off the weekend with around 180 tickets sold. Gold Coast Gay Day was next with around 2000 people kicking their heels up for the day enjoying a day of entertainment, stalls, lots of activities and of course lots of gorgeous people! Day 3 saw many of the people reconnecting with the recovery BBQ hosted by Happy Campers.

The Community was reveling in having so much happening for the Gold Coast with many expressing that they want more! Much more!

Plans for next years events will start again soon and ideas and feedback can be given via the Gold Coast Gay Day website at www.goldcoastgayday.com

Many of the photos from the day can also be viewed on the website.

Plans for other social activities for the Gold Coast will start soon as well.



The World AIDS Day organizing committee in Logan has started plans for this year's event. Things are still in the pipe line but details will follow as soon as some approval processes have been completed.

We are also very interested to hear from people in the Logan region interested in being a part of a social group and or social activities. One suggestion was to hold a monthly coffee/dinner evening where people could get together, socialise and plan for things that they might like to see happen in the Logan area.

To find out more about the Gold Coast and Logan areas contact the Gold Coast and Logan Health Promotion Officer on 07 30171731 or email gc@qahc.org.au

Gay Movie Nights - QAHC Sunshine Coas

The cooler evenings are bringing people indoors as the LGBT community and their friends enjoy Gay Movie Nights.

The Sunshine Coast evokes pictures of warm sunny days, hot surfers, bikini babes and relaxing afternoons on the beach. As the weather slowly drags us away from the water, people in the LGBT community and their friends are spending their cooler evenings at the free Gay Movie Nights.

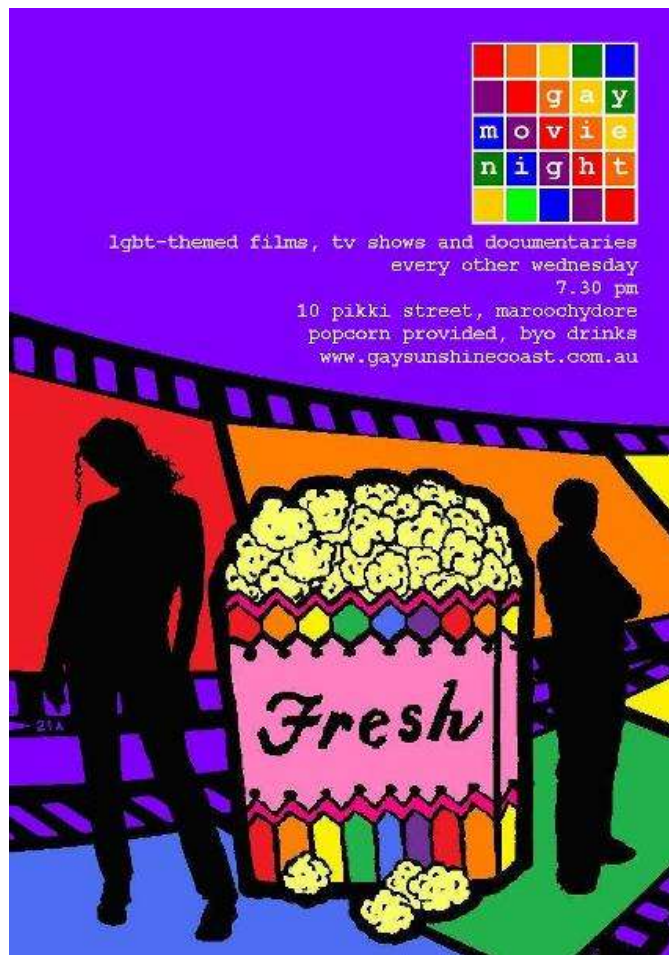
Gay Movie Nights are new to the Coast but are already very successful. Every other Wednesday night, the community rolls up the Sunshine Coast LGBT Resource Centre for the free screenings at 7.30 pm. The Resource Centre used to be a residential home, and the big "front room" is decked out with couches, armchairs and pillows for folks to watch the big screen TV. It's like going to Nana's house, but you're watching gay movies instead of *Deal or No Deal*.

Scott Millman, one of the organisers of Gay Movie Night, is thrilled with the response. "Some of us thought it would be tough going because the community has a reputation for being a bit wary of new things. But our Gay Movie Nights are so informal and relaxed that people have really embraced it. It's been great."

Scott also hinted at one of the secrets to their early success. "Our autumn program has a lot of fun, popcorn movies in it. We want folks to come along and relax with a laugh. We're saving some of our darker dramas and foreign-language films for the winter program—we want there to be as much diversity in our films as there is in our community."

QAHC health promotion officer Katie Bishop is pleased that the LGBT Resource Centre is being put to good use. "We have a number of different groups using the Centre at different times. It's really fantastic to see that the community wants to use the space, and wants to find new ways to keep connected. Gay Movie Night is one more success story for the Centre."

Sunshine Coasters and visitors to the coast can find information on upcoming screenings at www.gaysunshinecoast.com.au



QAHC Cairns Update

Cairns office held a Volunteer Orientation Day on Saturday 18th April. Twelve people attended and made up a balanced mix of five lesbians, five gay men, one transgender person and one PFLAG mum. Facilitators were Kevin, Nick and Molly. All were keen to put their training into action with some assisting at the OUT White Party later the same evening.



The White Party at Blue Sky Brewery in Cairns was sensational, the decorations and lighting adding to the great sense of community on a dance floor full of smiling faces enjoying the music. The OUT committee is to be commended for a job well done.

Starting at 8pm the community, most dressed in white, started arriving well before the usual roll up time of around 10pm. People kept pouring in and despite a couple of hitches with the music for the performers the wonderful host Ms Destiny held it all together with her magic balloons. A surprise act by Babindi Urwin (alias Ms Jamilla l'Lash) was a big hit, barrel girl Ms Pencil Vania distributed the raffle prizes donated by local businesses including, AJ Hackett, Head Office Male Cruise Club, Blue Sky Brewery, Turtle Cove Resort, Civility Hair and Beauty and The Massage Guy .

The next OUT night will be on Saturday 9th May with the theme....The Lion, the Witch and a Really Bad Wardrobe.

Letting Loose Out Histories - Pride 09

This Pride 09 there will be several events celebrating lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender histories in Brisbane:

- **Priscilla gets historical: Queer Brisbane Bus Tour**
Saturday June 27th - 10am to 4pm

Meet in the Valley to come ride and walk with some queer history buffs down Brisbane's rainbow memory lane, and check out Brisbane's hidden past. Venues, people, places, memorials...there's a lot to see if you know where to look!

For further information got to <http://www.qahc.org.au/calendar>

NB. Bookings **essential**. Phone Jan or Tim at QAHC on 3017 1777.
Donation welcome on the day for this event.

- **Honouring our activists: how did we do what we did.....?**

Sharing stories of triumphs, stuff ups and outrageous acts of courage: LGBT activists past and present are invited to participate with Playback Theatre to celebrate, mourn and laugh.

Playback Theatre is a unique improvisational theatre with no script. The material for the performance comes from the audience. No Playback performance is like any other and no-one quite knows what to expect when they walk through the doors. That is the spontaneous nature of Playback, for actors and audience alike.

This event is sponsored by QAHC Healthy Communities Fund as part of the LGBT History Project.

Time: 7.30 pm

Date: Friday 12th June 2009

Venue: 52 Merthyr Road New Farm

Refreshments afterwards. Free event.

Check also QAHC website www.qahc.org.au <http://www.qahc.org.au>

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Win tickets for 25 Down in association with the QAHC LGBT History Project



Letting loose our histories

QAHC LGBT History Project is pleased to be associated with Queensland Theatre Company's new play:

25 DOWN
By Richard Jordan

James is 25, fresh out of art school and utterly lost. His best friend Emma is stuck in a dead-end job, might be pregnant, and thinks she's in love with James.

The trouble is James is gay. Then again, there's always the married man with the comb-over at Emma's work

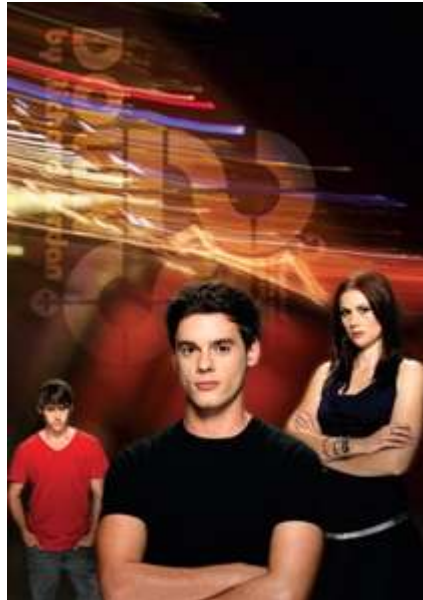
...Simon and Gary also think they might be in love, despite the fact that Gary is old enough to be Simon's dad.

Everyone obsesses about passing life's use-by date as they drift through the coffee shops, bars and apartments of Brisbane.

Richard Jordan's award-winning new play is a heartfelt slice of sex in our very own city.

25 Down is playing at Bille Brown Studio 8 Jun – 4 Jul. Tickets \$36 - \$56, under 30: \$30. call 136 246 to book.

To go in the draw to win a double pass to **25 Down** simply be the first to leave a text message with your name and phone number for the LGBT History Project Officer on 0448 154 158 **on May 30th**.



Healthy Communities Fund - Next round ends 30th June 2009

Money is being made available to lesbian, gay, bisexual and/or transgender (LGBT) projects in Queensland.

The "Healthy Communities Fund" is inviting applications from groups, services, businesses and individuals for projects which help promote the health & wellbeing of LGBT Queenslanders, build & strengthen LGBT communities anywhere in Queensland or to support fundraising activities for LGBT groups.

A total of up to \$25,000 is available in each application round, with a maximum of \$5,000 being awarded to any one application. Closing date for the 4th round is 30th June 2009.

Application Guidelines and the Application Form is available from www.qahc.org.au/fund or by ringing 1800 177 434.

In round 1 (January 2008) 14 projects were successful with \$27,000 distributed, round 2 (June 2008) 6 projects were successful with \$11,184.30 distributed and round 3 (January 2009) 10 projects were successful with \$22,552 being distributed. Projects included workshops, theatre productions, retreats and health campaigns.

"There are lots of great ideas out there in the LGBT community, and with just a little bit of money they can be turned into a reality" said Paul Martin, QAHC General Manager. "In the first three rounds we have been able to fund some great projects which will make a real difference to the lives of LGBT people. We hope to continue this with the next round in June."

The Healthy Communities Fund receives no government funding, and relies on donations to keep it going. If you or your business is interested in making a tax deductible donation to the "Healthy Communities Fund", please contact Paul Martin (General Manager) or visit www.qahc.org.au/fund

Lesbian Women's Writers Group

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

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

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

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

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

Sunboys of Brisbane

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

2 QT 2 B STR8

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

Brisbane lesbian and gay pride choir

Provides an opportunity for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender people to sing together.

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

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>

ACCEPTANCE BRISBANE

Support group for GLBT Catholics. Meet every 2nd Friday monthly for mass and discussion. PO BOX 817, FORTITUDE VALLEY 4006, Ph: 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>

North Queensland

Queer Youth Action Group

Join the Queer Youth Action Group to increase support for LGBT young people in Far North QLD. For more information contact QAHC: 4041 5451

Body Positive

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

BoyZout

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

Tablelands Social Network

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

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.

Central Coast (including Sunshine 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

Diversity Party

Fraser Coast GaysClub Wharf (Criterion Hotel)Wharf Street, Maryborough6pm - 10pm (then club opens to General Public until late)
More info log onto www.frasergays.com
Re-occurring event 3rd Saturday of every month.

PFlag Rockhampton

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

Rock'in Rocky Females - Rockhampton Bi Club

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

Rainbow Brigayde - LGBT Youth Group

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

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

Lesbian Social Dinners

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

Lemon Lounge

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

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

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

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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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