

USQ ALLY Network Newsletter



Issue #33 February 2019



Wow what a busy start to the year already for the USQ Ally Network! We are already onto our second newsletter of 2019 and have had two very successful LGBTIQ training sessions. Not forgetting the three Student Life Expo's - many thanks to all the allies who volunteered their time at these events in order to promote the Ally Network.

Please remember that we are always on the look out for interesting articles, information about events and professional development opportunities to include in the Ally newsletter. You can email ally@usq.edu.au to share your points of interest



LGBTIQ+ Awareness Training

Know anyone who wants to become an Ally? Tell them about our upcoming 2019 training dates.

When? Wednesday 27th March at 10am-12.30pm and

Tuesday 30th April 10am-12.30pm.

Where? Online webinar

How? You can now register for the **March** session or email ally@usq.edu.au for more information.

Pride in Law Event

On Friday 22nd February, two lucky USQ student Allies had the opportunity to attend the Pride in Law Event, 'What makes you TIQ?' (Trans, Intersex and Queer) at the College of Law in Brisbane. There was a panel of experts providing insight into the issues faced by trans and gender diverse youth and promoting positive action in the legal profession and workplace. One of the students who attended was Clayton Lees, who reported it to be a very informative evening, hearing about topics ranging from Aboriginal Brother Boys and Sister Girls, to proper use of pronouns, and some stories of lived experience, such as being open in the workplace. We are grateful to Pride in Law for giving some of our USQ Allies this opportunity. We will be sure to share any more such invitations we receive again with our USQ Ally Network. <https://prideinlaw.org/>



If you are reading a hard copy of this newsletter and wish to access the links, please go to

<https://www.usq.edu.au/current-students/support/lgbtiq-community> where this and past editions are posted.

In the News

Michael Kirby marries partner Johan Van Vloten on their 50th Anniversary

Former High Court judge Michael Kirby married his longtime partner Johan van Vloten last night, on the 50th anniversary of the night they met at a Sydney gay bar.

Kirby announced their plan to get married in November last year following the legalisation of same-sex marriage earlier in 2018. [MORE](#)



Federal Government releases plan to support LGBTIQ seniors in aged care

The federal government has released its Aged Care Diversity Action Plan for senior LGBTIQ Australians, to help address specific challenges they face when accessing aged care services.

The plan, announced by Aged Care Minister Ken Wyatt, is intended to help LGBTIQ people express their needs when speaking with aged care providers and to support aged care workers understand the needs and perspectives of the LGBTIQ seniors in their care. [MORE](#)



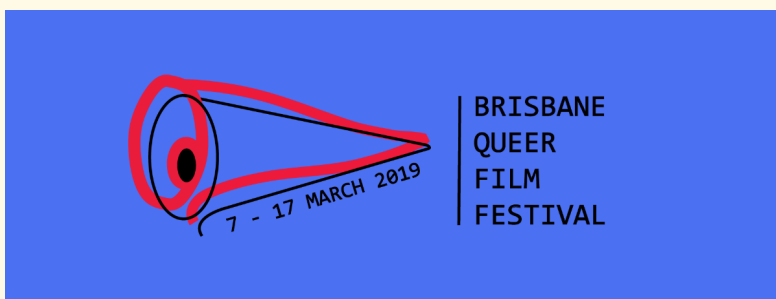
Bollywood's first major LGBTQ film

A new Bollywood film, one of the first to focus on same-sex relationships, has been released in India.

How I Felt When I Saw That Girl is the first mainstream Indian release with a star cast that focuses on a lesbian love story. [MORE](#)



Events



Brisbane Queer Film Festival is a highlight of the Brisbane queer community calendar. Since becoming independent in 2017, the festival returns in 2019 to present, indulge and empower LGBTIQA and gender diverse film, filmmakers and screen content. This marks the festival's twentieth year. Read [MORE](#)



Australian Queer Students' Network (AQS)

AQS is the peak national representative body for all queer students in Australia. It was founded at the annual Queer Collaborations (established 1991) conference of 2011. AQS is a network for queer students to organise and collaborate, gain and distribute resources, and make contacts and connections that will activate their education

experience, increase accessibility and acceptance for students of diverse sexuality and gender across Australia. **MORE**

USQ Ally Network Natter The World's Worst Lesbian – Linda Bayfield

Wednesday 6th March, 12.30-1.30pm

IP H321 Ipswich

Linda's friends and family always joke that she is the "World's Worst Lesbian", a nod to the perceived total 'normality' of her life, except for the fact that she is married to a woman. For the first time, Linda will share publicly her journey towards falling in love, getting married and starting a family. Sounds super 'normal' right?

Linda is a Learning and Organisational Development specialist with a background working in a range of settings, from secondary and tertiary education to government. She currently works as the Senior Learning and Development Advisor in the Human Resources department at USQ.



To register your interest in attending at USQ Ipswich please email ally@usq.edu.au. If you are unable to attend in person, you can register to watch the presentation live online [here](#).

FREE TRAINING USQ STUDENTS!

Ever wondered what to do if someone close to you was having a mental health emergency? Could you recognise the early warning signs of a mental health problem? Would know where to send someone for help? Interested in having a mental health qualification to add to your resume?

Mental health first aid is the help provided to a person who is developing a mental health problem or who is in a mental health crisis. Like physical first aid, mental health first aid is given until the person receives professional help or until the crisis resolves.

USQ is offering FREE MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING to all students over the age of 18. This two day training program will teach you:

- How to recognise the signs and symptoms of mental health problems
- To help people in the early stages of these problems
- Where and how to refer people to get help
- Understand what types of help are effective
- Know how to assist in a mental health crisis until professional help arrives.

To register email mhfa@usq.edu.au



Support Services



QLife/Diverse Voices

QLife is Australia's first nationally-oriented counselling and referral service for people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and/or intersex (LGBTI). QLife provides nation-wide, early intervention, peer supported telephone and web based services to people of all ages across the full breadth of people's bodies, genders, relationships, sexualities, and lived experiences.

3:00pm to midnight in your state, around Australia, every day.

CALL 1800 184 527

ONLINE CHAT

PFLAG

A support group for the family and friends of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Agender and other diverse people.



Toowoomba

Phone: 0478 735 242

Email: pflagtoowoomba@gmail.com



Brisbane

Phone: 0400 767 832

<http://www.pflagbrisbane.org.au/contact-us>



Ipswich

Supporting our GLBTIQ community, their families and friends

<https://www.facebook.com/pflagipswich>

My Big Gay Family My Big Gay Family is a safe, inclusive space to explore and celebrate the depth and diversity of all LGBTIQ families. **Informed. Connected. Empowered.**



The Pinnacle Foundation

The Pinnacle Foundation has been established to provide

scholarships to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Intersex and Queer students who are marginalised or disadvantaged.

[READ MORE](#)



Open Doors

Open Doors provides Advocacy and support

services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual and/or transgender, Intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) young people aged 12 to 24 and their families who live in South East Queensland.

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

Relationships Australia—Rainbow Program

Relationships Australia, Ipswich and Toowoomba, now provides The Rainbow Program,

striving to support the mental health and wellbeing of people of diverse bodies, genders and sexualities, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender & intersex (LGBTI) people, as well as those questioning their gender identity or sexual orientation. Includes counselling and support groups. <http://www.raq.org.au/services/rainbow-program>



Our House Our Haven Inc. is a brand new registered charity organisation based in Ipswich. They are a nurse-led clinic providing care, psychotherapy and different treatment options for chronic and crisis mental health clients. Where staff are trained in supporting those who identify as LGBTIQ+ <https://www.ohoh.org.au/>

