



Issue #49 July 2021



Dear Allies,
Welcome to our July edition of the Ally newsletter! We wish to start by saying a big 'thank you' to the volunteers who helped at our IDAHOBIT events. Check out the photos of the activities that took place across the campuses below.



IDAHOBIT 2021



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

What's going on at USQ?

Become an Ally

We are pleased to be able tell you that we have three new Ally training sessions in the calendar they will take place on a Wednesday between 12 – 1.30pm (approx.). If you know anyone who wants to become an ally please pass on these dates and the webinar links.

- [21st July 2021](#)
- [22nd September 2021](#)
- [24th November 2021](#)

LGBTIQ+ Graduating Students



The USQ Ally Network would like to acknowledge the achievements of our graduating LGBTIQ+ students by offering a Lavender pin as a memento.

The Lavender Pin originated as a tradition in North America, where [Lavender Graduation Ceremonies](#) are celebrated across many universities. The colour lavender has a significance in LGBTIQ+ history and is today used as a symbol of pride.

To claim a pin, please email: Ally@usq.edu.au from your umail account with the following details:

- Your name and student ID
- The congratulations email from the VC regarding your graduation (a screen shot or you can forward the email)
- If you would like to collect the pin from the Student Success and Wellbeing office, and which campus: Toowoomba, Ipswich, or Springfield
- If you cannot collect, a mailing address we can send your pin to. This will be in a USQ envelope but not identified on the outside as from the Ally Network.

SafeZone App

Safety is important for all of us. SafeZone is a free app that connects you directly with the University's Campus Security team or Emergency Services. SafeZone is available free for all staff and students. This is a safety app for your phone which allows you to request assistance from USQ Campus Security easily and discreetly. Download it, and log in with your uni email address! [MORE](#)



What's going on outside of USQ?



Push for Australia to follow UK's new policy for gay blood donors

Australia's blood donation authorities should follow the lead of their UK counterparts and lift blanket bans on gay men donating blood, LGBTIQ advocates say. The UK began new blood donation rules assessing the risk of donors individually. The new policy replaces blanket restrictions on gay and bisexual men. More can be found [HERE](#)

International soccer star Kumi Yokoyuma comes out as transgender

One of Japan's most recognized soccer players didn't feel safe to come out until they were in America: "I had to explain to them what Japanese culture is like and why I felt the need to hide." [MORE](#)



NFL: Carl Nassib becomes first active player to come out as gay

Las Vegas Raiders defensive end Carl Nassib has become the first active NFL player to come out as gay.

Nassib, 28, made the announcement in a video posted on his [Instagram](#) account. Read more [HERE](#)



European government bans 'homosexual' content in schools

Lawmakers in Hungary have approved legislation that prohibits sharing with minors any content portraying homosexuality or gender reassignment, something supporters said would help fight paedophilia but which human rights groups denounced as anti-LGBT discrimination. [MORE](#)



Laurel Hubbard of New Zealand Will Be First Trans Olympic Athlete

New Zealand's Laurel Hubbard is now set to become **the first trans athlete** to participate in the Olympics after the New Zealand Olympic Committee announced her addition to the national team recently. Find out more [HERE](#)



Entertainment



Pixar's beautiful gay short film 'Out' is streaming for Pride Month

Pixar has released its cute gay short film **Out** to YouTube to stream for free to celebrate Pride Month. The nine-minute film stars a young gay man named Greg, who's not yet out to his parents. He's in the middle of moving to live with his boyfriend, Manuel.

But unexpectedly, Greg's parents show up unannounced with a casserole to give their son a helping hand with the move. Find out what happens [HERE](#)

THE WINNER OF 'RUPAUL'S DRAG RACE DOWN UNDER' IS.....

Find out [HERE](#)



Events



2021 Queens Ball Awards: the winners on Brisbane's big night

Brisbane's LGBTIQ+ community gathered at the rainbow-illuminated Brisbane City Hall recently for the 60th annual Queens Ball. In addition to sensational entertainment, the Diamond Jubilee Extravaganza also included the 2021 Queens Ball Awards to honour individuals and groups for their community contributions. Find out who the winners were [HERE](#)

Coming Soon

Wear it Purple Day

We will be proudly celebrating Wear it Purple Day on 27th August this year. We invite you to include purple in your day in whatever capacity! Please visit the website to find great resources for online promotions, including zoom/teams backgrounds and banners you can use in your email signature. **WEAR IT PURPLE**



Supports

LGBTIQ resources and referrals

Please remember that the USQ Ally Network keeps a list of LGBTIQ resources and referrals available for download on the Ally website. Scroll down to the bottom of the page to find the downloadable list. This is a useful tool for you when supporting those who identify or who have people close to them who identify.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our office.

Kind regards,
USQ Ally Network

E: ally@usq.edu.au

Student Services Division | University of Southern Queensland | Queensland | Australia

