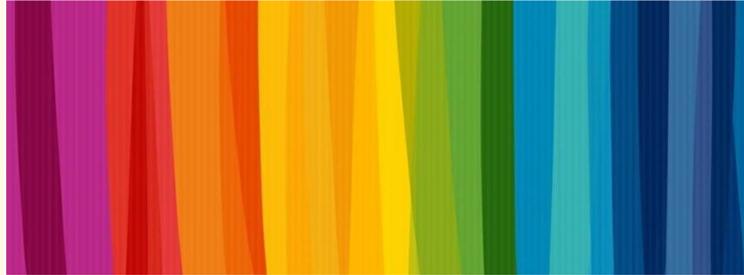


# USQ ALLY

## Network Newsletter



Issue #20 November 2017



Welcome to our last Ally newsletter of the year! And it's a ....



No doubt you have been following the Same-Sex Marriage Survey, and we finally have the result. Included in this edition are just some of the related news items showing the response to this historic moment, the positive and not so positive.

The Ally newsletter will be taking a break over Christmas, as we hope you will be too! We will start up again in the New Year, hopefully all refreshed and ready for 2018! May it be a good year for all of us, including the Ally Network and its initiatives.

We are still available for communication until then, so if you have any ideas you would like to put forward to the network, such as topics or speakers for the Natters for next year, or interesting articles, professional development or networking opportunities, please forward to us by emailing: [Ally@usq.edu.au](mailto:Ally@usq.edu.au)

### In the News - Same-Sex Marriage Survey



#### Same-sex marriage postal survey: 'Love has had a landslide victory' as 'yes' wins

Australians have emphatically voted in favour of legalising same-sex marriage, saying 'yes' to the historic social change by a substantial margin of 61.6 per cent to 38.4 per cent. After years of political stagnation, the public has now tasked the Turnbull government with changing the law before Christmas to allow same-sex couples to marry. [READ MORE](#)

#### I do, I do, I do: Marriage proposals ring out

Steve Lowe always thought Peter Clarke would propose to him one day, he just didn't think it would be today. 'I've been with this man 11 years and now I can bloody marry him!' [READ MORE](#)



#### Bakers should have choice over gay wedding cakes, LNP leader says

Florists and bakers should be able to choose whether they provide goods for same-sex weddings, Queensland Leader Tim Nicholls says. [WATCH VIDEO](#)

## Same-sex marriage: Conservatives dig in on religious freedom in marriage laws

Conservatives in the Federal Government are digging in for a fight over the details of the same-sex marriage Bill, flagging a battle over 'conscientious objection' to marriage equality. Campaigners for a No vote made school education programs and the right of business to refuse services for gay weddings major planks of their campaign, but still lost the popular vote.

[READ MORE](#)



## Other News



### Germany to recognise third gender for intersex people

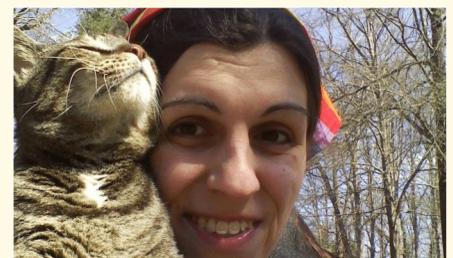
Germany's top court has ruled that there must be the option of registering a gender that is neither male nor female on birth certificates. It would make Germany the first European country to allow parents to designate their intersex offspring as a third gender. The case was brought by a registered female whose chromosome test confirmed they were neither sex.

[READ MORE](#)

## Entertainment

### The internet is loving America's new heavy metal singing trans lawmaker

The Virginia lawmaker who introduced a controversial 'bathroom bill' that attempted to block trans people from using their preferred bathrooms has lost his seat to a trans woman. Heavy metal singer and journalist Danica Roem will become the United States' first openly trans state lawmaker, The Sydney Morning Herald has reported. [READ MORE](#)



### Alex the Astronaut—It's not Worth Hiding

A soulful song from 22 year old songwriter 'Alex the Astronaut' with a message about self acceptance to anyone struggling with feelings of being different. [LISTEN HERE](#)

## Events

### World AIDS Day



**Candlelight Vigil:** From 6.45pm Friday 1st December 2017 Queen Street Mall Stage (Outside Myer). Candles & Auslan Interpreter provided.

**Trans World AIDS Day Community BBQ (free):** Sunday 3rd December 11am-2pm. New Farm Neighbourhood Centre, 967 Brunswick Street, New Farm. RSVP to Dylan dbarret@quac.org.au.



**World Aids Day Senior's Lunch:** Sunday 26th Nov 2017, 11.45am-4pm, Stones Corner Hotel—T Bar, 346 Logan Road, Stones Corner. 3 course meal provided. Please RSVP Jan: 3017 1779 or jthwaites@quac.org.au



### HIV Awareness Week

**LGBTIQ Women Talking Sexual Health:** Talk to the LGBTI representative on ministerial advisory committee on sexual health. Nov 24th 6pm-8pm. Refreshments provided. QuAC, 30 Helen St Teneriffe. RSVP rmenzies@quac.org.au.



### Rainbow Table Toowoomba

**LGBTQIA+ Meet Up:** Dinner & a Drink or Coffee & Cake, 7pm-9pm fortnightly on Friday.

Upstairs at Jilly's Café, 181 Margaret St. Find on Facebook for details. Brought to you by pflag

plfagtoowoomba@gmail.com

# Support Services

## Bulk-billing LGBTIQ-friendly GP in Toowoomba

**headspace** Toowoomba has a bulk billing GP who works alongside their LGBTIQ group. She has a lot of experience with **headspace** centres and clients, and particularly with young people who are transgender. There are no wait times for appointments.



Dr Violeta is available Mondays and Wednesdays at **headspace** and bookings can be made on 4639 9000.

## 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**



## 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](#)

## 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](mailto: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>



## 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>



## 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.](#)

