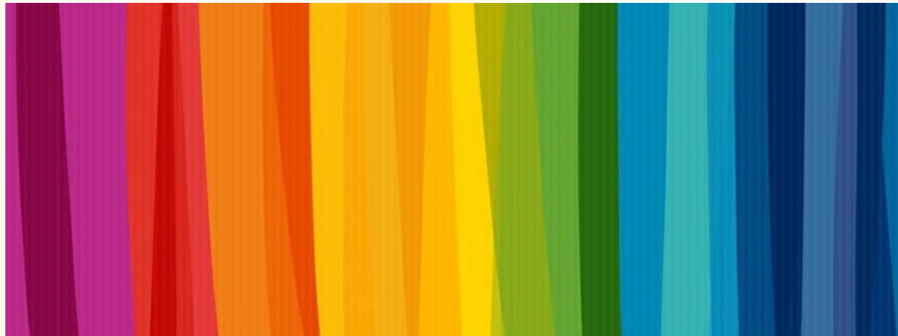


USQ ALLY

Network Newsletter

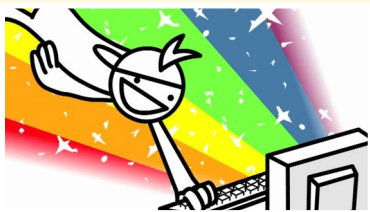
Issue #22 February 2018



Here we are at the beginning of another semester! With the start of a new semester we are on the lookout for new Ally recruits and have been doing our best to drum up some business at Orientation activities and Market Day in Toowoomba and Phoenix Carnival in Ipswich and Springfield. A big thank you to Allies who have been helping out at these! We hope in 2018 that we can connect you with more LGBTIQ community guest speakers, so watch this space! Here's wishing for a great year with more Ally events and growing Ally numbers!

Please don't forget that we are always on the look out 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.

Ally Training



We are pleased to advise that there will be another Ally training opportunity coming up soon.

When? Tuesday 13th March, 5.30-8.30pm

Where? Online webinar

How? Register [here](#) or email ally@usq.edu.au for more information

So please refer any interested parties so that we can build our numbers!

Ally Network Natters

The Natters are starting up again! These are monthly gatherings, featuring a different guest speaker each month, and are intended as a safe and inclusive space for members of the LGBTIQ community and their supporters within USQ. Details of the next Natter are:

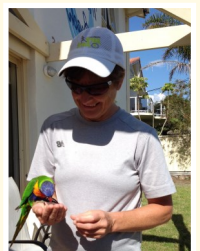
Wednesday 7th March 12.30-1.30pm

USQ Ipswich I402

Title: *Onto the Campus/Out of the Closet?*

Guest speaker: Leigh Dale grew up in country New South Wales and attended university in WA and Queensland, as a prelude to a career teaching English literatures at the universities of Southern Queensland, Queensland, and Wollongong. Throughout her career as a scholar, she has been particularly concerned with trying to understand the relationship between language, power, and formations of identity. In this session, she will explore ways in which LGBTIQI people might identify and be identified in different places.

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 here for the webinar](#).



'I came to Australia on a working holiday visa to earn money for gender reassignment surgery'

Within the Australian-Korean community, gender and sexual identity issues often remain extremely taboo, however Korean transgender man Taylor Song tells SBS Korean that for him, a year's working holiday in Australia would prove to be liberating and defining. [MORE](#)



Indonesian's LGBT community under threat as government sets sights on making gay sex illegal

In the conservative province of Aceh, police have raided hair salons and publicly shamed a group of transgender hairdressers, while in the nation's capital, politicians are finalising new legislation which will make gay sex illegal. [MORE](#)

Victorian Pride Centre winning design 'a vibrant symbol of LGBTI resilience'

Australia's first pride centre on Fitzroy Street in St Kilda to open in 2020 and be 'a place of celebration and a safe sanctuary'. [MORE](#)



Queensland driver's license to be gender free

The department of transport and main roads confirmed last night that licenses will no longer detail gender or height to comply with the new anti-discrimination laws. [MORE](#)

Toowoomba school welcomes first transgender student

A Prestigious Toowoomba girls' school has welcomed its first transgender student. "I know this is a concept many of us may struggle to grasp, but please take time out to think about how much harder it must have been for her to make the realisation."

[MORE](#)

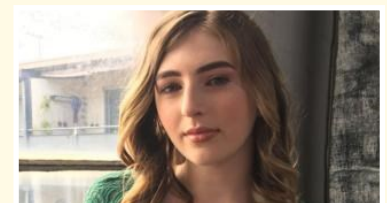


Same-sex marriage is legal, so will churches embrace it?

Christians were on both sides of the debate leading to last year's historic shift to marriage equality. To date, no major denomination has publicly shifted to allow same-sex marriage. Why? [MORE](#)

The transgender teenager who helped change Australia

Trans woman Georgie Stone's young life has been marked by firsts and achievements. Notably, the 17-year-old Australian led a high-profile petition to end a 'discriminatory' legal barrier. [MORE](#)



In the Community



Marg McGrath – Qld Positive People

Marg works Monday – Thursday and comes to Toowoomba once a month for 2 days. QPP is looking for Peer Navigators and anyone knows of someone interested in this role, please contact Marg mmcgrath@qpp.org.au. A Peer Navigator is someone who has a HIV positive lived experience. Peer Navigators are linked with someone who has a new HIV diagnosis or with someone who may have had HIV for a while but is only now starting to seek help. The Peer Navigator provides support by sharing knowledge of support services available, medication knowledge, navigation of the medical system, rights and responsibilities of people with HIV. [WEBSITE](#)

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Events and Entertainment



11 March – Big Gay Day

Wickham Hotel (12.30pm-10pm). Charities benefit from funds raised throughout the day (QuAC, Open Doors, Pride Fair, ADTAQ). Community organisations will have stands during the day. Entertainment provided. Survey on STI's conducted during the event. [MORE](#)

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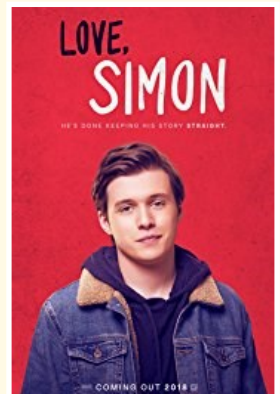
Coming end of March—Love, Simon

Everyone deserves a great love story. But for Simon it's complicated: no-one knows he's gay and he doesn't know who the anonymous classmate is that he's fallen for online. Resolving both issues proves hilarious, scary and life-changing.

For the release of this movie at the end of March, we will be nominating a day and session for Toowoomba, Ipswich and Springfield where interested Allies can join together to enjoy this movie. Watch your emails closer to the release date to see when these nominated sessions will be so that you can register your interest. More on the movie [HERE](#).

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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

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.](#)

