

USQ ALLY

Network Newsletter



Issue #32 January 2019



Happy New Year! I hope you celebrated in style, or enjoyed a quiet and safe transition into 2019. We're all back and raring to go with Ally activities for this year. Already on the cards are many more training opportunities for those interested in joining our ranks or just being educated on all matters LGBTIQ (make sure to tell your friends and colleagues!), plus a great line up of guest speakers for our Ally Network Natters (commencing in March) is already taking shape. So read further for more info, and watch this space each month for more on what is happening around USQ and out in the community.

If you have any ideas you would like to put forward to the network, such as topics or speakers for the Natters, or interesting articles, professional development or networking opportunities, please forward to us by emailing: Ally@usq.edu.au

USQ Ally Network Natter

The World's Worst Lesbian – Linda Bayfield

Wednesday 6th March, 12.30-1.30pm

Room: 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.

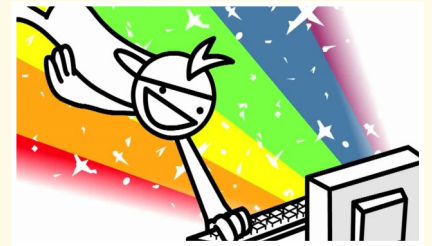
To register your interest in attending at USQ Ipswich please email ally@usq.edu.au. If you are unable to attend in person, you can register to watch the presentation live online [here](#).

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.

LGBTIQ+ Awareness Training

Know anyone who wants to become an Ally? Tell them about our 2019 training dates. We have four training sessions scheduled already for early 2019! See below for the first of these, or [go to our website](#) for later sessions.



When? Wednesday 30th January, 10am-12.30pm OR Thursday 28th February, 10am-12.30pm

Where? Online webinar

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

In the News



What went wrong? Taiwan fails to legalise same-sex marriage

In the final tally in the referendum last month, about seven million Taiwanese voted to restrict the legal definition of marriage to between a man and a woman, with three million supporting the inclusive notion of marriage as between two people. [MORE](#)

Human rights lawyers call on Scott Morrison to remove religious exemptions in 2019

Human rights lawyers in Australia have called on Prime Minister Scott Morrison to make good on his 2018 promise to remove religious exemptions affecting LGBT students and teachers in faith-based schools. [MORE](#)



Melbourne Mums to offer 'free hugs' at Midsumma for young people rejected by family

"I just want kids—and grown ups—to know that if their parents can't accept them as they are, that's their parents' failure, not theirs." [MORE](#)

Chechnya LGBT: Dozens 'detained in new gay purge'

Activists in Russia say there has been a new crackdown against LGBT people in Chechnya. The Russian LGBT Network believes about 40 people have been imprisoned since December - two of whom they say have died under torture. [MORE](#)



[In the News continued..](#)

Anna Wintour absolutely dragged Scott Morrison and Margaret Court for opposing LGBTI rights

Wintour called for Margaret Court Arena to be renamed before saying she has "been alarmed by your Prime Minister's record on LGBTQ rights, which seems backward in all senses." [MORE](#)



Entertainment



Overwatch's LGBT characters are 'educating' gamers

The first two characters you meet when you play Overwatch are Soldier: 76 and Tracer—and now both of them have been revealed as LGBT. [MORE](#)

Amandla Stenberg: Hunger Games star to be honoured for LGBT crusade

Stenberg, 20, became known for their role as Rue in *The Hunger Games* film franchise, before becoming a passionate LGBT+ rights campaigner. [MORE](#)



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

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

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/>

