

USQ ALLY Network Newsletter



Issue #37 June 2019



Have you survived semester one?! Hopefully you are now enjoying a well-earned rest after exam time. We are still busily beaver away in the USQ Ally Network space over the break, so we hope you can still join us for the Ally Network Natter on 3rd July (details inside) and welcome you to drop by (or volunteer!) for the Ally stall at the Student Life Expo that is happening on each campus:

Ipswich: Monday 15th July 11am-1pm

Springfield: Tuesday 16th July 11am-1pm

Toowoomba: Wednesday 17th July 11.30am-2pm

Please email us at Ally@usq.edu.au if interested in assisting at any of the campuses for this event.

Likewise, 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



We are excited to share with you some videos from IDAHOBIT this year at USQ! The first is showcasing the celebrations, the other of executive speeches from our esteemed Ally Champion, Michael Thomas, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Enterprise Services) and Helen Nolan, Pro Vice-Chancellor (student Services). Just click on the pictures to enjoy :)



USQ Ally Network Natter

Wednesday 3rd July, 12.30-1.30pm

H321 Ipswich

'USQ Women's Network' – Kym Davis

Kym Davis is the President of the USQ Women's Network for 2019. The objectives of the Network are to:

- support equal opportunity initiatives for members in the USQ community
- provide a voice and discussion forum for issues of concern to members
- sponsor public information talks, meetings and workshops on topical and emerging issues
- promote mentoring and networking opportunities for members
- encourage personal development for members and
- promote career development for members

The USQ Women's Network has a long history at USQ and the Network is keen to support and partner with the USQ Ally Network to the mutual benefits of all members.

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.

In the News



Brisbane's LUMINOUS Lantern Parade celebrates diversity

Up to 20,000 people flocked to the LUMINOUS Lantern Parade held at Brisbane's South Bank Parklands recently to celebrate diversity. Marching in the parade for the first time in 2019, the Rainbow Hub. Brisbane's Rainbow Hub offers international queer students in Brisbane a safe space to celebrate identity and diversity without discrimination or judgement. [MORE](#)

Victorian Government Bill Hopes to Remove Barriers for Trans People

The Victorian Government will today introduce a bill that would remove barriers for trans people. This allow trans, intersex and non-binary people to choose a sex other than male or female on their birth certificate. The existing law, which requires those born in Victoria to have sterilising surgery before changing the sex marker on their birth certificate, has been called "cruel and unfair, The Age has reported. [MORE](#)



Tennis Australia Named one of Australia's most LGBTIQ+ Inclusive sporting organisations

Tennis Australia has been named one of Australia's best sporting organizations for LGBTIQ+ inclusion at the recent Pride in Sport Awards in Melbourne. The awards, which recognise exceptional efforts in making sport more inclusive for LGBTIQ+ people, were launched last year and are the first of their kind in Australia. [MORE](#)

Landmark Indigenous Suicide Report Paves Way for LGBTQI Recognition

A Federal report which has revealed the shocking rate of suicide in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations has also been hailed as revolutionary for LGBTI people by indigenous advocates. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Evaluation Project (ATSIPEP) was released today as a way to address the suicide crisis in Indigenous communities... [MORE](#)



In the Community



The insider's guide to be LGBTIQ+ in Rural and remote areas

Being LGBTIQ+ in a rural, remote or regional area can be awesome, but it can also leave you feeling isolated, different and alone. To help navigate these issues, we chatted to a bunch of young people from around Australia who identify as LGBTIQ+ and got their thoughts on what the country life is really like for them [MORE](#)

Sport



Andy Brennan: "Accept people for who they are"

Andy Brennan, Australia's first openly gay soccer player, has called for public figures to take more care in comments about LGBTIQ people. His comments come after the recent controversy over Israel Folau. [MORE](#)

Entertainment

What's the verdict? Is Disney's Elsa a lesbian?

Is Elsa a lesbian, or is she not? Back in 2018 various media reported "reliable sources" stated that Frozen 2 would see Elsa ice-skate out of her chilly closet. Disney, of course, say nothing. However, both official trailers released for the film this year offer tantalising hints. [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



Resources

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](#)



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

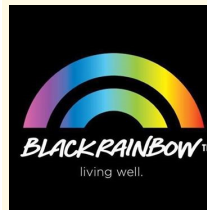
<http://www.pflagbrisbane.org.au/contact-us>



Ipswich

Supporting our GLBTIQ community, their families and friends

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



Black Rainbow is Australia's first and only National ATSI LGBTQTI Suicide Prevention National Advocacy Platform. They support LGBTQTI ATSI people who are homeless, leaving DV relationships or in the justice system.

[CONTACT](#) or their [Facebook Page](#)

www.blackrainbow.org.au

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/>

