

USQ ALLY

Network Newsletter



Issue #31 November 2018



Welcome to the final USQ Ally Network Newsletter for 2018. We 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 2019! 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 We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year!

LGBTIQ+ Awareness Training

We held a successful session on 12th October, with one more training opportunity now left before the end of the year! Participants will be eligible to become formally recognised as a USQ Ally.

When? Tuesday 27th November, 10am-12.30pm

Where? Online webinar

How? Register [here](#) for the November session or email

Ally@usq.edu.au for more information



**So please don't forget to refer any interested parties so that we can
build our numbers!**

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



Scotland to embed LGBTI teaching across curriculum

Scotland will become the first country in the world to embed the teaching of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex rights in the school curriculum, in what campaigners have described as a historic moment. [MORE](#)

Growing up gay in a Christian school had lasting effects on my life

When I was 12, despite not being religious, my parents sent me to a Christian high school. They did this because of the school's small size, community feel, and good facilities. While this may have been well intentioned, there is something neither they or I knew which may have influenced their decision:

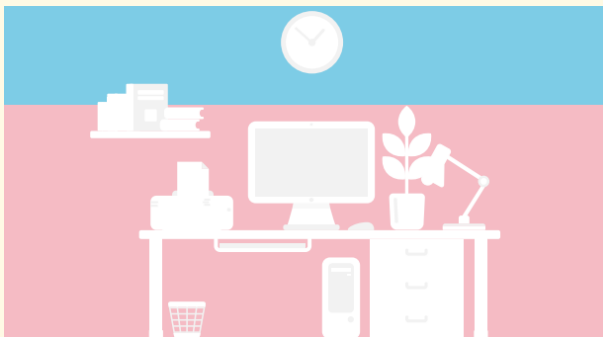
I was gay. [READ MORE](#)



Oliver Griffith hid his sexuality until he was in his 20s.

Westpac offers four weeks paid leave for employees who transition

Westpac's new workplace agreement offers a landmark four weeks of paid leave for transgender staff to begin or continue transitioning [READ MORE](#)



Queensland Intersex Activist Bonnie Hart honoured at Brisbane's Trans Awards

Bonnie (pictured left) has been president of the long-running intersex group Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome Support Group for seven years [MORE](#)



Events

Transgender Day of Remembrance

Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) is an annual observance on November 20 that honours the memory of those whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence.

[MORE](#)



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/>

