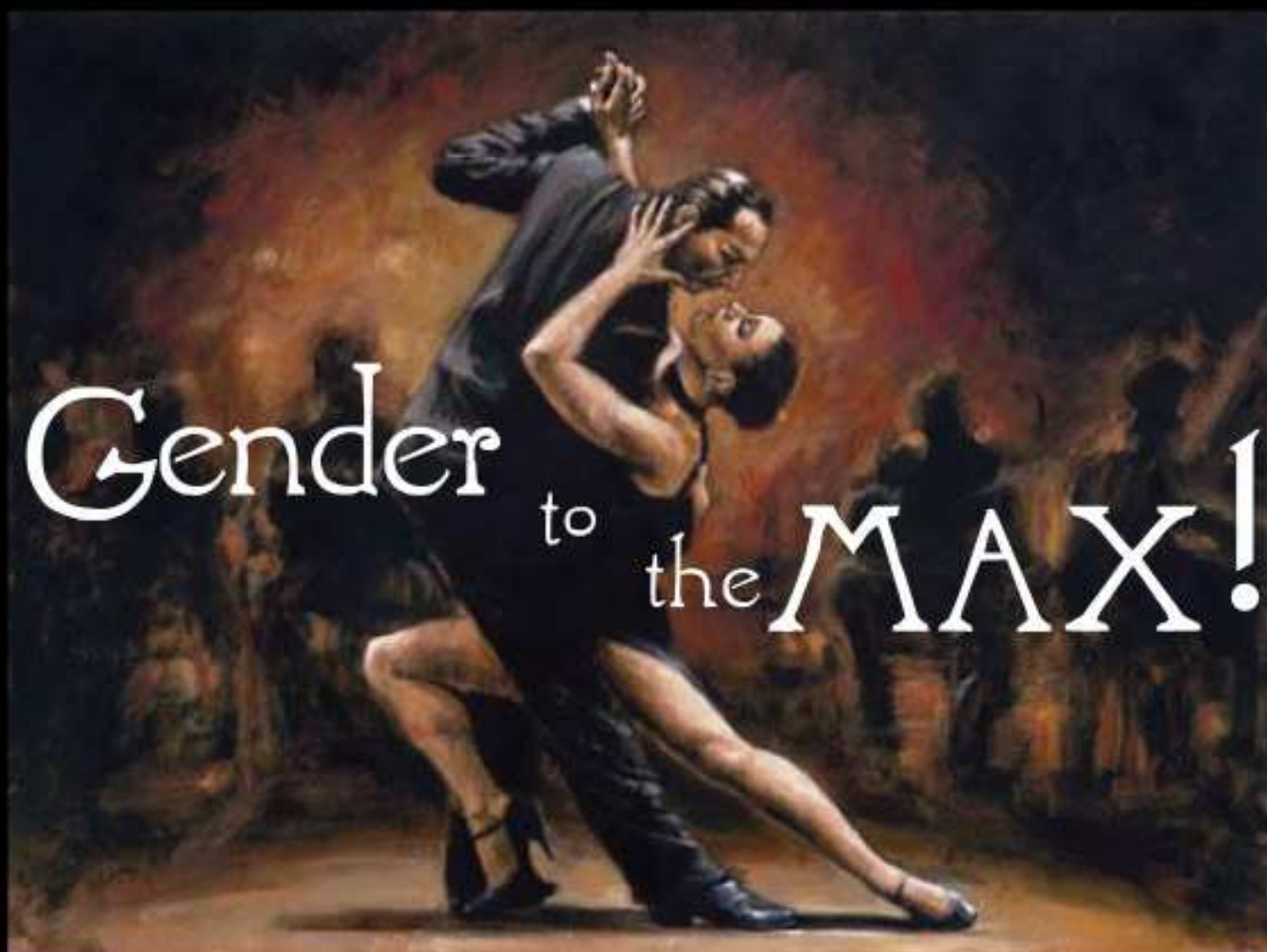




**MAGAZINE OF THE NEW SOUTH WALES  
GENDER CENTRE**

**Edition 90**

**January-March 2012**



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# the Gender Centre Service Magazine

The Gender Centre is committed to developing and providing services and activities which enhance the ability of people with gender issues to make informed choices.

The Gender Centre is also committed to educating the public and service providers about the needs of people with gender issues.

We offer a wide range of services to people with gender issues, their partners, families and organisations, and service providers.

We specifically aim to provide a high quality service which acknowledges human rights and ensures respect and confidentiality.

## the Gender Centre

The place to go for confidential, free services for people with gender issues.



**7 Bent Street**

**PO Box 266**

**Petersham**

**NSW 2049**

**Tel: (02) 9569 2366**

**Outside Met. Sydney 1800 069 115**

**(9-5, M-F)**

**Fax: (02) 9569 1176**

**Email:**

**reception@gendercentre.org.au**

**Website:**

**www.gendercentre.org.au**

**The Gender Centre is staffed  
9am-4.30pm Monday to Friday**



### Our Services

- Support and education
- Social and support groups
- Drug and alcohol counselling
- Quarterly magazine *Polare*
- HIV/AIDS information
- Condoms and lube
- Needle exchange
- Accommodation
- Referrals to specialist counselling, medical, HIV/AIDS, education, training, employment, legal welfare, housing and other community services
- Outreach - street, home, hospital and jail
- Counselling and support groups for partners and family

### Residential Service

For all enquiries relating to the residential service, please contact us.

**Cover:** Carmen Rupe, Australia's first Maori female impersonator, entrepreneur, gender activist, human rights reformist, transgender and sex worker icon and tireless good-time-girl died at St Vincent's Hospital from kidney failure after a long illness. She will be missed by many, from many walks of life. She will live for as long as we live, in our memory and in our hearts.

# Gay and Lesbian Counselling

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Other areas of NSW 1800 144 527

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- Talking it out - Men's Discussion Group
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For further information please contact GLCS Administration on:

(02) 8594 9500

Or via the website:

Website: [www.glcsnsw.org.au](http://www.glcsnsw.org.au)

Or by mail:

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*Hi, Everyone,*

*I am a transgender, and a grad. student in experimental psychology at Towson University (Maryland, USA). I am conducting research on thoughts about gender identity for my Master's thesis and am recruiting people for an online survey. To participate you must be over 18 and identify as transgender.*

*The survey takes 15-20 minutes to complete and asks you to rate how you think about certain things. Please go to the link below and feel free to pass this information along to any friends who may be interested. The study has been approved by Towson University's Institution Review Board for the protection of human participants.*

[www.surveymonkey.com/s/GenderIdentitySurvey](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GenderIdentitySurvey)

January-March 2012

No. 90

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## REGULAR

- 4** Manager's Report by Phinn Borg
- 5** Editorial by Katherine Cummings
- 15** The Counsellor's Column by Anthony  
Carlino
- 27** News Items of Interest
- 30** Events, Workshops and Activities  
February-September 2012
- 31** News Item of Special Interest
- 34-39** Directory Assistance
- 40** Classifieds

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*THE FINE PRINT*

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## FEATURES

- 8** Carmen Rupe, Transgender Icon, Rest In Peace
- 11** Hep C Drug Victrelis Approval Still Held Up
- 11** Aerobic Exercise Results In Visceral Fat Loss
- 12** Pride And Diversity by Liz Ceissman
- 16** My Struggle With Identity by Marika K. Jackson
- 21** What you thought about *Polare* by Katherine Cummings
- 31** 2011 Transgender Day of Remembrance Report
- 32** The Panic Defence Is Under Fire ... And About Time!

## SERVICES & NOTICES

- 7** Gay and Lesbian Counselling
- 10** 89.3 FM 2GLF Community Radio (GLBT)
- 13** Mental Health Nursing Care Project
- 14** SAGE (Sex and Gender Education)
- 19** Barbecues and other events
- 20** Needle Exchange/Pay-It-Forward Binder Program/FTM Australia
- 26** RPA Sexual Health Clinic/Central Coast Transgender Support Group
- 28** Transgender Anti-Violence Project/ Anti-Discrimination Board
- 29** Queensland Gender Centre/ Inner City Legal Centre
- 30** NSW Seahorse Society
- 33** 12th Annual Social Research Conference on HIV, Hepatitis C and  
Related Diseases
- 40** Gender Centre/Aurora Foundation Youth Transtopia 2012

### DEADLINE

for submissions to the next  
edition of *Polare* is the  
eighth of March 2012

# The Manager's Report

**F**irst things first. After a somewhat eventful and even tempestuous year I am happy to wish you all a Happy and Productive 2012. The Gender Centre is proud of its track record in the year 2010-11 as significant changes in services were provided, with more staff time being devoted to advising government departments, local government bodies and commercial organisations on best practice with regard to gender issues in the workplace and services to the transgendered, intersex and gender questioning.

The Transgender Anti-Violence Project was funded and is being supported by the Inner City Legal Centre, the Sydney City Council, the New South Wales Police Force and the Gender Centre.

The Transgender Day of Remembrance was again held in the NSW Parliament House and a report on that gathering will be found elsewhere in this issue.

New discussion and support groups were created and older ones expanded so that there are now regular meetings of a Women's Group, a Boys' Group, an Over-55s Group, as well as groups to supply support, information exchange and social interaction for transgender parents and parents of transgender children.

A number of new activities and events are being added in 2012, commencing with Yoga classes starting February, Tango lessons in March, and informational and instructional events related to hepatitis C. There will also be a safe injecting workshop in March. The Easter Barbecue will be on March 24, at the Joseph Sergeant Hall in Erskineville between noon and 4,00pm.

As usual the Gender Centre will be staffing an informational stall at the Gay and Lesbian Fair

**Polare page 6  
January-March 2012**

on February 12. Come and see us for balloons and candy, oh, and useful information as well!

The postcards printed for us free by the Avant Card Company are now available (there should be at least one loose somewhere in this issue). Keep an eye out for them on the Avant Card



The Avant Card postcard designed for the TAVP

stands in coffee shops and elsewhere, and use them for your correspondence. By doing so you will be helping us to publicise the Transgender Anti-Violence Project, which should provide us with more reliable statistics on anti-transgender violence and the eventual

possibility of a safer world for transgenders and other marginalised groups.

We intend to organise a book recording the history of the NSW Gender Centre, with a possible publication date in 2013, which will be the Centre's thirtieth year of operation. If you would like to contribute to this project and have information to share from early days in the Centre, please let Katherine Cummings, our Information Worker, know on 9569 2366.

On a more familial note we would like you to know that at the end of 2011 Nicola, our Residential Case Manager, gave birth to a beautiful baby daughter Alise Ameerah. The

**Phinn**

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**Katherine Cummings,  
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2256**





Allow me to echo Phinn's message of goodwill for the coming year. We have emerged from a year which saw many steps forward for those with gender issues, and one or two questionable steps, backwards or sideways. Several of our serious

documentation problems were solved, including the revision of Lord Downer of Bhagdad's foolish insistence that the passport used to travel overseas for gender affirmation must match one's original birth assignment, and not one's current identity.

FTM's benefited from the decision by the High Court that genital surgery was not a necessity before document revision, and this decision should logically flow through to MTFs.

It is sad that successive issues of *Polare* have noted the passing of icons of Sydney's transgender history. If I had taken note of all the tributes paid to Carmen, who died on December 15, 2011, there would have been no space for anything else. There was a tremendous outpouring of grief, mingled with pride that we had known such an outgoing activist, entertainer and entrepreneur.

I knew Carmen as a friend. We did not visit each other, nor meet for a drink, but on countless occasions we found ourselves in the same room, talking in support of the same causes or remembering our transgender dead. It is literally true to say that every room was brightened when Carmen entered. Her style was idiosyncratic but stunning and her exit from the world in a scarlet coffin festooned with flowers and a red feather boa was consistent with her love of display, that never concealed her love of the world and of the people who loved her. Rest in peace. Rise if possible. We miss you already and need people like you to fight the good fight.

Carmen was seventy-five. Rose was seventy-six. This brings home to us that we are the first generation (myself included) who are entering old age in significant numbers. Which in turn

underlines the urgency of attending to the looming problem of the ageing transgender. Where will we go when we can no longer look after ourselves. Many of us have lost the love of our families after transition. Many have lost the security they might have expected in retirement following financial trainwreck, divorce, annulment and social rejection.

Many of us are on long-term medication for which there has been no real assessment of long-term use. Many of us now need medication for hypertension, cardiac problems and other age-related ailments and we have no idea how these medications will interact with our hormone dosages. This interaction is called synergy, the reaction of one medication on another, leading to unforeseen side-effects.

*Polare* 89 included a survey intended to allow you to comment on the magazine and make suggestions for improvement. The return was lower than I had hoped and I invite anyone who missed out to add their views. I constantly encourage you, the readers, to write more for the magazine, even if it is only a "Letter to the Editor". This issue carries a piece by Marika Jackson, whose only other contribution to date had been a letter to the editor.

I have tried to answer most of the comments from the survey and point out why we can't do some of the things you'd like (colour throughout, for instance) and have committed myself to addressing some areas where I agree we fall short of the ideal.

In some cases I have asked for concrete examples of my falls from grace, such as the accusations that I am sexist and genderist.

I look forward to further interaction.

Incidentally, for those interested in decimal landmarks, this issue is the 50th issue I have edited for the Gender Centre. I should reach my century in 2024 or 2025 when the Gender Centre will be forty and I will be 88. Whee!

Numbers don't matter. Quality does. Help me make it better.

There is a brief report on the Transgender Day of Remembrance celebration on 18 November in Parliament House. I did not mention a related phenomenon I have noticed becoming ever

## Issue Ninety

more prevalent in our throw-away, socially networked, outsourcing, user-pays, downsizing society.

That phenomenon is the loss of common courtesy.

I believe that the opportunities created by technology, including personal computers, word processors, photocopiers, Twitter, SMS and all the systems that allow multiple messages to be sent at the speed of light to virtually unlimited recipients, have created a carelessness in those recipients which would have been unthinkable in the days when letters were written and it was assumed that RSVP would elicit an acceptance or a refusal, helpful to anyone planning an occasion.

In the case of the Transgender Day of Remembrance, fourteen invited guests apologised for their inability to attend (in some cases well past the RSVP date), and seven invited guests did not bother to provide a response at all. One accepted but did not turn up. Twelve support organisations were invited to send representatives and a few arrived, but none of these groups had responded.

I recently spent eighteen months trying to elicit action from an organisation that owed me recompense for items lost in a work-related fire (not the GC, my other now-former employer). I wrote several emails and made multiple phone calls, but my emails were never acknowledged nor answered, and my phone calls, which went to voice mail or were picked up by co-workers of the person I was trying to contact, were never followed up. Finally I wrote a formal complaint to the person's supervisor and within a few days the money had been transferred to my account. But guess what? The supervisor I wrote to neither acknowledged my letter nor replied to it.

Where have good manners gone? Are we, as a nation, becoming obsessed with the here and now, the fast buck, the personal advantage? It would be easy to say it is not a national fault but a generational fault but I hesitate to believe this. I am old and cranky, but neither as old nor as cranky as that.

One thing I do notice is that people are tending to believe that only they, or their group, know

what is true and what is not. And there is a tendency not to listen to what people are really saying.

I was told recently that I am a racist, because I had said, in a talk I gave at ACON, that there is no such thing as racism. I did say that, but if the people who accused me of racism had listened to the rest of my statement they would have known that I went on to say that there were many kinds of discrimination based on tribalism, nationalism, skin colour, ethnicity, religion ... you name it. But racism is not possible because there is only one human race.

I quote from my editorial in *Polare* 74 (January-March, 2008):

*"If humanity did not feel it necessary to compete rather than co-operate, many of the social and international conflicts that deny our common humanity could be resolved. We have one world and one human race (racism is an oxymoron). If we set out to help rather than exploit those cultures that lag in areas such as health, education and welfare, we would become a just society and not just a society."*

All that was necessary to avoid this misunderstanding was careful attention to what I was saying. Or, failing that, I could have been challenged during question time, or at any time since. But I wasn't. I have no track record of prejudice against other groups within the human race. If anyone feels I have, they should tell me about it and we can talk out calmly what will, I promise, turn out to be a misunderstanding.

A Catholic Priest, Fr. Paul Kelly, is challenging the panic defence sometimes used by those who are charged with reacting violently to a gay or transgender approach (see p. 32). Fr. Kelly is in Queensland but if the panic defence is really being used as mitigation of an assault (in the case in question the defence tried to have a murder charge down-graded to manslaughter), then it is time for this defence to be outlawed once and for all. Good for Fr. Kelly, even if I raise an eyebrow at his statement that, "The Church has always defended basic human rights, it's never said intolerance or violence should be tolerated."

*Katherine*





## A Letter To The Editor

Dear Kate,

This is Mitch, from the Women’s Group, calling in from outside Sydney.

I’m wondering if I can get some terminology cleared up. In drafting a document I need to use the term LGBTI to describe lots of people, but I also need to include people who identify as “sex and gender diverse”. I’m not too keen to extend a well known acronym to something like LGBTI&SGD, which seems to me rather clumsy and unrecognisable to the general public.

What I hope for is for the ‘T’ in LGBTI to be recognised as inclusive of “sex and gender diverse” people (‘T’ as an umbrella term, if you will). I understand ‘T’ to be exactly that, but I was wondering if there was any GC policy on terminology, or something else that could back up my “T equals trans\* and SGD” terminological wishes. Or maybe a definition such as: LGBTI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, Intersex and sex and/or gender diverse) would be better.

Mitch

Dear Mitch,

The Gender Centre does not have any policies defining terminology, although we do have some editorial customs (to call them ‘rules’ would be too prescriptive). We do not, for instance use the term ‘transsexual’ unless we are quoting directly from another document. We feel the term is past its use-by date, as science has not yet devised a way to change a person’s sex. We are also cautious in the area of Intersex, which is full of complex and specific definitions. I try to verify usage in this area with OII.

Terminology is a minefield for anyone with gender issues, and at the GC we tend to trust in other people’s willingness to be tolerant of difference if their usage varies from ours.

As with many situations, a clear definition of **your** understanding of terms is a good start. A meaningful discussion can then follow. Nobody owns a word (unless it is a trademark).

I hope this helps.

Katherine Cummings

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## Issue Ninety Carmen Rupe, Transgender Icon, Rest In Peace

**C**armen Rupe has left us. Often referred to as a transgender icon on both sides of the Tasman, this remarkable woman died on December 15, following some months of ill-health following a fall earlier in the year. Cause of death was given as kidney failure. After a period of vigil during which she lay in state at Redfern's Te Warua Rapu Church a service was held on Wednesday 21 December, well attended by friends and admirers from the drag, Maori, straight and LGBTI communities. She was carried to her hearse in a brilliant red coffin decorated with floral arrangements and a red feather boa.

A small pounamu stone had been placed in her hand before her last journey, after passing through the hands of a number of her friends and well-wishers. This is a gesture allowed for only a few, a gift from the people of Katiwaewae on the West Coast of New Zealand.

Carmen had a long and distinguished career as a drag performer at several of Sydney's seminal



**Carmen in NZ in 2009**

impersonator nightclubs, including Les Girls, and worked in the sex industry, both as a professional and an entrepreneur. She also opened nightclubs, brothels and cafes in Wellington, venues that were openly gay-friendly when this was considered to be outside the law.

In 2008 Carmen led the Decade of the Divas float in the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade. She will be much missed.

**Polare page 10  
January-March 2012**

Carmen was born into a family of thirteen children and was named Trevor but it did not take her long to start kicking the gender barriers apart, and she is said by her sister Tessie to have been 'borrowing' skirts from her mother and grandmother before she was ten.

After leaving school she gave up life on the family farm and explored the bright lights of Auckland and Wellington, having fun by performing in drag while she carried out her National Service military training and worked in restaurants and as a nurse.

By the time she arrived in Sydney in the 1950s and started working in Kings Cross she had set her course to be as exotic as she could in every direction, and to fear nothing. She vowed never to wear men's clothes again. She did a belly dance with a python in tow, and joined the Les Girls troupe as the first Maori female impersonator, as far as we know, performing in Sydney.

She returned to New Zealand and in 1977 ran for the post of Mayor of Wellington on a campaign that included hotel bars being allowed to stay open until 2.00am, prostitution to be made legal, sex education in schools, nude beaches, the drinking age to be lowered to eighteen and abortion to be decriminalised. She was not elected but all her reforms are now legal in New Zealand.

Carmen's legal guardians, in cooperation with her executors and family, are establishing a Memorial Trust to commemorate her memory and her legacy as an LGBT cultural icon and to continue her charitable work (you can be involved in the Trust by emailing [CarmenRupeMemorialTrust@gmail.com](mailto:CarmenRupeMemorialTrust@gmail.com)). There is also a Facebook page at [CarmenRupeMemorialTrust](https://www.facebook.com/CarmenRupeMemorialTrust) for further contact and information.

*[Thanks to GayNZ.com for much of the historical information in this piece. KC]*



**Carmen in the 60s**

# Storm in a D-Cup by Katherine Cummings

Early in January 2012 an ad. for Libra stirred up controversy by ostensibly portraying a tall woman competing in the use of cosmetics (mascara and lip-gloss) with a shorter woman in the powder room of a night club.

The final shot in this juvenile exercise in one-upwomanship was the production by the smaller woman of a Libra tampon. Presumably unable to raise the stakes by entering the murky world of sexual hygiene, the tall woman leaves in a huff.

Some of our more excitable advocates immediately assumed the contest to have represented a transgendered woman versus a genetic woman, with the genetic woman winning the puerile duel by showing that she could use tampons, whereas the other woman could not.

I was contacted by a couple of journalists, wanting to know my point of view. I pointed out that there was no direct statement to show the tall woman as being transgendered and that she could just as easily be transvestite, drag queen, Intersex, genetic woman who had never learned how to apply makeup, any woman not currently in the part of her menstrual cycle that needed the use of a tampon, any woman who had never been able to menstruate or had had a hysterectomy, or any woman who preferred not to have sexual hygiene devices waved at her.

Having watched the Gruen Transfer and Gruen World I know that advertising agencies sometimes deliberately devise an offensive ad. in order to soak up the publicity engendered, both pro and con, on You Tube and other social networks. This being the case I thought we might be playing into the hands of those who try to use gender variance for its shock value by taking notice of the ad. at all. Yet here I am.

In fact the tall woman turned out to be Sandee Crack (stage-name), a Melbourne drag queen, who claimed to be portraying a drag queen and

never imagined she could be taken for anything else. She refused to apologise since she claimed the kind of behaviour she was portraying was part of the life she lives and to apologise would be to deny her the right to be herself, or words to that effect.

If this is really her preferred mode of behaviour in women's toilet areas then I think she might well do with some social counselling, but the same applies to any woman who chooses to take

part in what, in men, would be called a 'pissing contest'.

Incidentally, Libra have probably shot themselves in the foot with feminists by using the tag line "Libra Gets Girls" with the implication that if you can't menstruate you aren't a "real" woman, a concept offensive to almost everyone.

Someone should also have warned them that many feminists resent being called

"girls" almost as much as transgenders and transsexuals resent being called "trannies"; "girls" being reserved by feminists for pre-pubescent females. Most feminists prefer to be called "women" or, in extreme cases, "womyn".

It is a lesson to us all to think before we react and to recognise all the possible types of person who might have been offended by the ad.

A few years back Vanessa Wagner was in a television ad. for Snickers, the essence of the 'humour' being that the candy bar was known for its generous supply of nuts.

But Vanessa was, as ever, unmistakably a drag queen and I am not aware of any sector of our various communities having taken issue with the ad. Nor should they.

This is not to say that we should remain silent when a group is targeted



**Sandee Crack**



**Vanessa Wagner**

## Issue Ninety

for offensive or discriminatory comment. There are many occasions when discrimination against trans- or other marginalised groups is clear and we should not hesitate to act.

The occasion when Kyle Sandilands did not cut off a caller who recommended the murder of a transsexual, and the even more recent occasion when the “Hamster Wheel” was knocking a New Zealand politician and finished their sophomoric attack by saying that when it came to election time he was defeated by a transgendered woman, are two examples of cases where action is justified and should be implemented without hesitation.

In the latter case there was a clear implication that a transgender could be elected only if the opposition was so vile that even a transgender was a better choice. The insult was compounded by the fact that the transgender in question was Georgina Beyer, the first known transgender ever to have been elected to a national parliament; a woman who has given outstanding public service to our community and to all her constituents for many years.

Even if the transgender in question had not had Beyer’s track record of achievement it would still be actionable to draw attention to her transgender status in such a discriminatory way.



**Georgina Beyer**

In my second letter to the ABC on this matter

I asked them to substitute the word Jew or Aborigine for the word “transsexual” in their script and see if it still looked like jolly good fun to be shared with a subset of society who are used to this good-natured teasing...

The “Hamster Wheel” event has been referred to the Anti-Discrimination Board and the Australian Communications and Media Authority for suitable action.

Libra has apologised for the powder-room ad. and withdrawn it from future broadcasting. Meanwhile the ad. continues to go viral on the Internet. ☐☐☐

**Polare page 12**

**January-March 2012**

# 89.3 FM 2GLF

## Community Radio

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or write to:

PO Box 3357 Liverpool, NSW 2170

For general enquiries, community news,  
contact Joe or Paul via:

email: [queeroutwest@hotmail.com](mailto:queeroutwest@hotmail.com)

phone: (02) 9822 8893 (10pm-midnight  
only)

# Hep C Drug Victrelis Approval Still Held Up

The Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PABC) meets regularly to recommend new drugs to be listed and subsidised on Medicare.

Victrelis (boceprevir) was up for consideration at the July 2011 PBAC meeting but the committee is unable to publicise its recommendation - for or against Medicare listing - until the Therapeutic Goods Administration approves boceprevir for use as a hep C treatment drug in Australia.

Victrelis is one of the first drugs to be submitted to the TGA and PABC at the same time, a process that should reduce the time for overall approval and recommendation, but in the case of Victrelis the timing has not worked to advantage and news is still pending on the progress of the drug.

New triple combination therapy drugs have been approved in the US, Canada, Germany, France, the UK, Spain, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark and Brazil.

# Aerobic Exercise Results In Visceral Fat Loss

An article in the *Medical Observer* (23/9/2011) suggests that exercise for patients with liver disease, where weight loss is not achieved, or weight is regained rapidly, may not be as beneficial as aerobic and resistance training resulting in visceral\* fat loss. “There are actually a number of studies that show visceral fat loss, even in the patients who didn’t lose weight,” says Dr Nathan Johnson, a researcher at the University of Sydney.

“The other fat we’re worried about is fat that accumulates in the liver, but we’ve shown that, even in the cohort of obese patients that didn’t lose weight, they actually decreased their liver fat as well.”

\*The soft interior organs in the cavities of the body, including the brain, lungs, heart, stomach, intestines etc., especially those in the abdomen.

The two articles above were taken from *Hep Review* December 2011

**Leaving PRISON is TOUGH... I could do with some genuine SUPPORT**



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Website: [www.wipan.net.au](http://www.wipan.net.au)

Having a MENTOR has changed my life ... my FUTURE is BRIGHTER than ever!

In November I was privileged to be invited to attend and speak at the Pride in Diversity Conference in Sydney which was set up to promote acceptance of GLBTI people in the workplace. The people who attended were from a diverse range of employment sectors including the IT industry, Federal and State government departments, the building industry and financial institutions, to name a few. The overall feel of the day was one of inclusion and an honest desire by these organisations to learn and grow in ways that promote and foster an inclusive work space for all.

My speaking session saw me partnered with a transgendered woman who had successfully transitioned in her work place. Her story was one of hope and a positive future. The information she shared by way of her personal experience gave insight into the potential for successful inclusion and attitudinal change.

My role in this session was more theoretical, dealing with the practical aspects of how to support a transgender person in the workplace, at all stages of their transition and beyond.

The questions that came out of this discussion were insightful and showed a willingness to learn and take on board strategies for the participants' own workplace. One of the key topics I addressed was that each organisation has the capacity to make a difference in addressing the issue of homelessness. By supporting transgender people in the workplace the opportunity for gainful employment, social connectedness and a meaningful life is greatly increased.

Employers that are welcoming make it possible for transgender people to enter into or remain in the workforce and as a result they can remain in secure and stable accommodation.

This rationale seemed to strike a chord with all those attending. Some of the feedback after the presentation highlighted that this point was one which had the most impact.

For Human Resource people, the greater social impacts of work and employment are often lost and this comment they saw as a timely reminder of social justice issues which they had the capacity to address.

One of the interesting connections I made that day was during the session breaks when I was able to speak with representatives from the South Australia police. The officers I met were part of the program in SA similar to the GLLO (Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officer) program of NSW police. They spoke at length about how keen they are to start to connect with and improve their support of transgender people in South Australia.

So for anyone living in SA this may be a great start to a new and better connection with the police. I hope over the next few months to establish stronger links with this police unit and in turn I hope this will enable the police to better support the community.

After a very long day at the conference I left feeling confident that even though they are small steps, this conference provided a firm start to organisations hoping to establish inclusive practices in their workplaces , supporting and enhancing opportunities for the transgender community.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO HEAR BY EMAIL?**

**The Gender Centre is compiling a list of email addresses of those clients and friends who would like to be notified of social, support, educational and other functions and events of interest.**

**Just email us**

***reception@gendercentre.org.au***

**Put "Email list" in the subject line and give us your first name and Email address.**

**PLEASE NOTE:**

The email address for Resources and Polare is:

*resources@gendercentre.org.au*

NB Please put the word 'Polare' somewhere in the subject line

# News Items Of Interest

## QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT TO ESTABLISH LGBTI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The Queensland Government is establishing a consultative panel to help improve responses to LGBTI issues. Karen Struthers, the Community Services Minister, has asked for four volunteers from the LGBTI community to join the ten-member panel, which will convene a round-table discussion in 2012.

“The Bligh Government is committed to ensuring LGBTI people have a bright future in Queensland,” said Struthers. “The LGBTI roundtable ensures government responds better to the needs of all people. We need representation from all reaches of the diverse LGBTI community on our roundtable - all sexual orientations, all ages and all backgrounds.

“A great deal of valuable work has already been done by the roundtable, including ways to reduce suicide and self-harm in LGBTI communities.”

Struthers is encouraging applications from those who identify as bisexual or intersex, as well as applications from young people, and those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Nominations close on Friday, 17 February, 2012. Applications can be downloaded from: [www.communities.qld.gov.au/lgbt](http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/lgbt)

## INTERSEX TONY BRIFFA ELECTED AS MAYOR OF HOBSON'S BAY

When Tony Briffa was Deputy Mayor of Hobson's Bay, a local government area south and west of Melbourne's CBD, he headed a GLBTIQ advisory committee, the first of its kind in Australia.

During his electoral campaign to become Mayor he promised, if elected, to wear his Mayoral robes and regalia in the Pride March,

Now that he has been elected as Mayor, and the first openly Intersex mayor in the world, he intends to honour his promise, but added that he hoped the weather would not be too hot. He will also continue to advocate strongly for the GLBTIQ community and will continue to chair the GLBTIQ Advisory Committee.



**Tony Briffa**

## *Mental health nursing care*

With people of diverse sexuality and/or gender

### RESEARCH PROJECT

#### What do you think?

**As a mental health nurse, what is your role in caring with people of diverse sexuality and/or gender (S/G) ?**

S/G diverse people often experience marginalised social status and poor social support. They also experience higher than average rates of mental health problems such as anxiety and depression, up to and including suicidality.

**Are S/G diverse people disadvantaged in mental health services** – for example, because they are minorities, or because care providers do not feel knowledgeable about their issues?

This research is exploring the role of the mental health nurse in caring with S/G diverse people. Nurses who participate in the research will have the opportunity to reflect on and gain alternative perspectives to develop their practice of caring with S/G diverse people. Participants will also have the opportunity to share their ideas on how institutional settings and organisational environments might usefully be modified to improve the care experience.

#### AIM

**YOU are invited to participate, whatever your own sexuality and/or gender.**

This project has ethics approval from the University of Canberra Human Research Ethics Committee

**If you would like to participate, please contact me via the details below!**

Trish Kench RN  
BN, Bsc Psych (Hons), PG Dip Mental Health Nursing, MA  
Health Nursing, MA  
PhD Candidate  
Disciplines of Nursing & Midwifery  
Faculty of Health  
University of Canberra  
T (02) 6258 8992  
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www.canberra.edu.au  
Postal Address:  
University of Canberra ACT  
2601 Australia  
Location:  
University Drive Bruce ACT  
Australian Government  
Higher Education Regis-  
tered Provider Number  
(CRICOS) : 00212K



**Do You Believe You Are Intersexed?**

If so and you would like to know more and meet others like yourself then contact:

OII Australia [Organisation Intersexe Internationale] at PO Box 1553, Auburn, NSW, 1835 or at:

oii australia@bigpond.com or visit our website at www.oii australia.com

**The Women's Group meets for discussion and mutual support, and the sharing of experiences and opinions.**

**The meetings are normally held on the last Monday of each month at the Gender Centre from 3.00pm to 4.00 pm. The next meeting will be held on 30 January, starting at 3.00pm.**

**Suggestions for guest speakers for future meetings will be welcomed.**


**Katherine Cummings, Convenor**

**Are You Young and Transgendered ? Do You Write Creatively? Interestingly?**

Do You Want To Have Your Say?  
We Want You To Have Your Say!

The Gender Centre Administration would like to see more material for *Polare* coming from the under twenty-five segment of our community. We are aware that the problems and experiences of transgenders who transition early are different from those of transgenders who transition late. We would like to have these differences defined so that we can campaign to improve the legal, social and therapeutic conditions of those who transition early. Such people may have encountered many disadvantages of early transition. They may lack financial security, established reputation and social acceptance. We would like to hear your suggested strategies to help in such situations.

You are encouraged to contribute material for the April-June issue of *Polare*. Please send your contribution to: The Editor, *Polare*, PO Box 266, Petersham, NSW, 2049  
by 8 March 2012



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Salon Bookings taken from 10.00 AM until 6.00 PM  
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**Sex and Gender Education  
(SAGE) Needs You!**

SAGE is a grassroots organisation that educates, campaigns and lobbies for the rights of **all sex and gender diverse people in Australia:** transsexual, transgender, intersex, androgynous, without sex and gender identity **Membership is FREE!**

SAGE no longer sends out printed newsletters - instead we send out occasional news and updates via email, and also post news items, articles and documents on the SAGE website.

**To join SAGE, and receive occasional news updates, go to**

**http://lists.cat.org.au/mailman/lisinfo/sage**

and sign up to our low-volume mailing list  
For more information visit our website  
**www.sageaustralia.org**

**SAGE - campaigning for your rights!**



# The Counsellor's Column by Anthony Carlino

**C**ounselling— what is it all about and what should you expect? For the first-timer, coming to counselling can be a daunting experience. Perhaps a life changing issue or recent event has led someone to seek out counselling – the reasons are many and varied and of course they might include seeking out support in relation to one's own gender. Once the decision is made to come to counselling it can be hard to know what to expect from your therapist.

As a bare minimum, a client can expect to be met by a professional who demonstrates empathy, compassion and the willingness to support you in reaching your goals in counselling. These goals, of course, can be negotiated in the early stages, and reassessed later down the track. A common theme of specialised gender therapy is for the therapist to help clients to integrate their transgender in the widest possible sense and to find their own identity at the same time. This process can involve being supported to accept yourself as you are.

"In my experience, transpeople become much more comfortable in their lives when they stop focusing on 'passing', realising that even passing convincingly is no guarantee for qualifying as a man or a woman. They may still have to deal with endless confrontations about why they are not "genuinely" male or female—for example "because they cannot have children". There are a great variety of transgender people who in some stereotypical view may not "pass", but who feel so thoroughly at ease within themselves that nobody is going to argue. They may not "pass" but they do "convince"! The issue is not primarily one of being male, female or neither but of being considered, respected and treated as whatever one experiences oneself to be. That is in my opinion what gender therapy is all about!"<sup>1</sup>

That is not to say "passing", and a preoccupation with this, will be a theme in counselling for all people. At the Gender Centre counselling is non-formulaic and in that sense, the journey of therapy for a client is very much self-determined. It is your right as a client to decide what you wish to work on and your therapists job to support you in doing so. Thus, while gender might be the main reason a person comes to the Gender Centre for counselling and support, gender is not, in and of itself, completely separate from other factors in a person's life that might come up in counselling. As an example, an individual might come to

counselling seeking to be more self-accepting of her/his gender and with a desire to express it more fully in the world. As therapist and client work on this, it could involve exploring deep and enduring patterns that have prevented someone from a consistent sense of contentment with their



**Anthony Carlino**

gender and its expression. We might come across the realisation that the very first relationships in life with mum and dad were not only unsupportive of gender expression, there was a strict template (spoken or unspoken) that you were expected to fit within, with regard to gender expression, and anything outside this template would not be tolerated. The message being received by anyone who did *not* fit in this template is potentially devastating : "it is not ok to be who you truly are". Part of the work between therapist and client then, might involve undoing this message if it has been carried into adulthood so that one can more fully integrate his/her gender into her/himself and express it more freely. This type of counselling is longer term and involves a development of trust between therapist and client, which is different from shorter-term therapy that seeks to target a particular issue only with short-term goals.

My hope in writing this article is to give readers a better understanding of what the possibilities are in therapy and counselling both at the Gender Centre and in general. You are, of course, always welcome to contact me to discuss further the possibilities and purposes of counselling if you have any questions.

A Happy New Year to all!

Anthony

<sup>1</sup>Zandvliet, T (2000) "Transgender Issues in Therapy" in *Issues in Therapy with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Clients*. Open University Press, p. 182.

Counselling at the Gender Centre is a free service and can be arranged by calling the Centre on 9569 2366 to make an appointment with the Receptionist.

I have chosen the title of this piece very deliberately because for much of the earlier part of my life (up to 67) my difficulty had been precisely that, no more, no less. It would have been wrong to describe my conflicted personality in those early years as 'gender dysphoria'.

My unhappiness then would be better described as being 'maleness dysphoria'. From quite an early age, seven or eight years old, until well into my teens, I was acutely and painfully aware that my temperament and my interests were at odds with those of other boys around my age, including my younger brother and his many friends. We lived in a small, pre-fabricated house in post WW2 Holland where my father was establishing an 'import/export' business after being demobilised from the RAF at the end of the war. It was a semi-rural area with many opportunities for adventurous boys to amuse themselves, and I would sometimes join my brother and his friends to do just that. I much preferred, however, to hang out with the few girls of the neighbourhood. I found their games and their toys far more interesting than robust mayhem.

I was particularly fond of a couple of Jewish twins who lived a couple of streets away and their parents never made me feel awkward about being there so often.

I think the first time I became aware that my behaviour might be considered by others to be unnatural was when my grandfather, who used to send my brother and me a bundle of English boys' comics every two months or so, once accidentally included a comic called 'Wendy'.

I loved it, but when I suggested to my mother that she should ask him to send more of the same, she made it quite clear that that would not happen and then went on to suggest that I should spend less time with my girlfriends and try to join in with the boys more. It was probably as a result of that moment that the discomfort with my

identity germinated in my psyche, the notion that it would be wonderful to *be* a girl.

I became very emotional throughout my early teens and I would cry at the drop of a hat, much to the exasperation of my parents, especially my father who, in every macho way, was a 'man's man'.

My all-boys school was a disaster and my attendance was poor so, when I reached fifteen, my father cleverly persuaded me that a good move would be for me to join the RAF as an engineering apprentice.

Although I didn't realise it at the time, he must have thought it would make a man out of me. I fell for it! I went back to England and into the RAF just before my sixteenth birthday

and served for fourteen years, from 1957 to 1971.

To some extent my father was proved right. Although the first few months of training were nothing short of hell, I soon adapted to the military life and even found the academic part of the apprenticeship to be much easier than it clearly was for many of my comrades.

This boosted my self-confidence and what made things even better was the fact that there was no shortage of females, both on the base and in the local towns. I gained a reputation, when out on the town with the lads as being a bit of a 'chick magnet', to use today's terminology. I had no difficulty approaching girls, chatting with them for a while, and then bringing them over to join my group.

Little did my pals know that *all* I wanted was to 'hang out' and socialise with the girls, nothing more. When it came to going-home time and 'making a move', I was invariably a disaster and the poor girl would be both disappointed and bewildered.

This was very much the pattern throughout my fourteen years of service. My first experiences of sexual intercourse were not until I was 22 and stationed on the island of Malta. Once with a



**Marika**

prostitute and once with a local girl with a 'reputation'. By this time I was spending much of my off-duty hours exploring the island on my own, not wishing to be drawn into the macho drinking binges that were the norm. I was at that time also becoming aware of invariably feeling uncomfortable and somehow threatened in male social situations.

I rented a place not far from the WRN nurses quarters for a while and had a sexual relationship with one of them for about three months. It was wonderful but she finally broke it off because, as she put it, I was "just too *gentle*", although that was probably not what she really meant. Whatever, she was right.

On my return to England in 1965 I spent much of my leave time in 'swinging' London, mostly with a girlfriend with flats in Streatham and Acton. She clearly enjoyed my company and seemed to understand me better than anyone previously. She introduced me to some very interesting people, including gays and especially "transsexuals". I was enthralled by their honesty and readiness to answer my many questions, but couldn't see myself ever having the courage to take such a step. They were just *too* extreme, but didn't seem to care. They seemed to enjoy being seen as 'in your face' transsexuals rather than women. It shook me a little but, at the same time, it opened my mind.

In 1970 I met my soul mate Kathleen through friends. The mutual attraction was instant, and within five weeks we were married. This was Kate's second marriage and she had a daughter of four and a baby boy. We remain happily married to this day, although she is finding it very difficult to come to terms with my decision to transition.

In September 1971 I was discharged from the RAF and entered Nottingham University on a four year Arts in Education course. During this time, our son Adrian was born. I graduated with high honours in 1975.

My degree course included human psychology, and it was there that, for the first time, I came across the kind of information that spoke of sexuality and gender in straight-forward terms. I now knew that I had a condition shared by many others and suddenly faced the truth.

My discomfort as a male was only part of the story. The truth was that I wished I had been born physically female, and, according to what I was reading it was possible, with hormones and surgery, to change a male body into one that would match a female psyche. This was very exciting, and I sought out as much information as was available at that time.

However, I was now happily married with a young family, so any thoughts along those lines were quickly suppressed and remained so for some years.

During that time, whenever these thoughts threatened to take over, I would push them aside. I was not about to contemplate anything that would threaten my family. These episodes would be followed by periods of deep depression.

These periods of depression would be explained as resulting from pressures of work. Important to mention here that my sexual relationship with Kate remained good throughout this period, despite my problems.

In January 1977, I had left Nottingham with my young family to emigrate to Tasmania. I was recruited by the Tasmanian Department of Education as arts consultant, a move none of us has ever regretted. We were all very happy and excited to be in our new home on the other side of the world and for some years I managed to keep my dreams under control.

My work was very challenging and I was receiving recognition for the effectiveness of my initiatives. However, as time went on the feelings of being trapped returned with increasing intensity and for a short period around the early nineties I experimented with women's clothing, wigs, shoes and makeup.

Kate was working nights as a nurse and the children had all left home. I would take photographs of myself and I even went out cross-dressed on a couple of evenings. I really was quite convincing, but I always felt worse than ever afterwards.

It was all very sleazy, fake, not at all what I was seeking. I became so disgusted by this behaviour that I disposed of everything. The feeling of relief as it hit the tip was phenomenal.

It was now quite clear to me that, if I was ever to express myself freely, it would have to be as a woman and the only true and honest way to achieve this would be by submitting myself to gender re-assignment. But, once again, there was my wife and the family which was now becoming quite extended and of which I was the respected head. How could I do something so selfish. It would surely be a terrible shock for them all. I was now feeling more trapped than ever. I spent hours on the Internet reading the stories of people who had taken these steps and the awful repercussions they suffered because of it. Sure, there were some whose wives had stood by them, but they were in the minority. And I'm a grandfather with eight grandchildren, all girls interestingly. How would they take it?

The more I looked into things the more hopeless the situation seemed and the more depressed I became. Finally I became so desperately down that I told Kate about my feelings and she was understandably quite devastated but told me to seek help. If I didn't, she suggested, I might 'go and do something silly'.

Since then;

My GP referred me to Dr Marie O'Sullivan at the Sexual Health Centre of the Royal Hobart Hospital.

After a number of appointments, blood tests and an MRI scan, I was started on a course of hormones in October 2007.

In July 2008, I wrote letters to all significant friends and family informing them of my decision to undergo gender re-assignment.

[See sample following]

With only a couple of exceptions, all have responded supportively. I have taken out a second credit card under a new name. Drivers' licence soon. My chosen new name is to be Marika Kaye Jackson.

I am dressing according to my honest tastes, which is not significantly different from what I was wearing as a man. Jeans, t-shirts, women's flat soled shoes, with a little tasteful 'bling'. Growing my hair longer. Studs in both pierced ears. Significant breast development and reduction of body-hair. Feeling fantastic.

Polare page 20

January-March 2012

Kate has now accepted my course as inevitable, and although still unhappy, she has been enormously relieved to find that friends have not fallen away.

I'm working on my voice.

Electrolysis is too expensive right now, but when I can afford it ...

**and:**

### *Marika's Coming Out Letter to Her Brother*

*Dear David,*

*This is one of the most difficult letters I have ever had to write. I had to do it this way, however, so that, after you have carefully considered what I have to tell you, you'll have enough information on which to base a decision as to whether you could still be comfortable with me as your brother, and uncle to your children, or whether it may be better to cut me off.*

*Of course my sincerest hope is that our relationship can remain unchanged, but I'm realistic enough to face the possibility that the direction I have chosen may just be too confronting and hard for you to bear. Whatever your decision, I'm prepared and will understand.*

*I'm sure Dave that, over the years, it will not have escaped your notice that my interests and pursuits were invariably those of a more creative, intuitive, nurturing and largely uncompetitive frame of mind.*

*This mindset served me well as a life/partner, homemaker, parent, grandparent, artist and teacher. However, on the down side have been the ever present feelings of inadequacy as a man. However I might try, I could not be interested in most of what are generally regarded as male pursuits. On the occasions when I would participate out of necessity or for the sake of sociability, I would invariably feel uncomfortable and fall short of expectations, especially in competitive male situations involving beer, crude humour, 'grunt sports', cars, guns etc. In social gatherings I will invariably interact with the women rather than the men.*

*I've had this conflict between my psyche and my physical self for as long as I can remember but thanks to the support I've had from my wonderful wife, Kate, I've been able to live with it. We've had, and continue to have, a wonderful partnership.*

Recently however, my inner conflicts forced me to seek professional help because of severe bouts of depression. The upshot being that my problem turns out to be a medical condition known as Gender Dysphoria, possibly as a result of incomplete foetal development prior to birth. Although my physical sex is male, my gender (brain sex) is female. Put simply, a female psyche trapped in a male body. This is a condition that is more common than you might think.

As if my situation were not complicated enough, I have, for the last couple of years also experienced the complications of an enlarged prostate which, without treatment, had a high risk of turning cancerous with all that that implies. I was informed, however, that this risk could be greatly reduced with a hormone treatment that would, effectively, shrink the prostate to a size at which it would be unlikely to be any further threat but would also neuter me as a male and bring about some physically feminising changes. For me, the choice was clear.

A little while ago I started on a course of hormones as the first of a series of steps which, over time, will transform my physique to match my gender identity whilst also minimising the prospect of prostate cancer. During this difficult period I will not only be experiencing physical changes, but I'm also told to expect some emotional ups and downs. This will be an especially hard time for Kate. She has found it extremely difficult to accept and come to terms with my decision. She, understandably, feels hurt, betrayed and disappointed. She will need all the support that family and friends can offer her. My worst nightmare is that she may become socially isolated because of embarrassment or because friends have fallen away.

I realise that Kate's hurt and sense of betrayal may also be felt by you and your family. All I can say is that I'm really sorry.

Please understand, Dave, that this letter is not a pathetic plea for sympathy or support. Personally, I don't need either. In fact, I've never felt better about myself. I'm experiencing something that few others have, or ever will; the rare opportunity to be physically re-born.

Yes, I may look a little different but I'm still the same person you've always known, a person who asks for nothing more than acceptance from my family and friends. Please don't worry that, some day, I could turn up in Canada wearing a frock, heavy make-up and heels, a la 'Priscilla, Queen of the Desert'. Yes, there will be some changes in my manner of dress, but only to the extent of accommodating physical changes and avoiding any confusion about my gender.

I will also, at some point, need to adopt a female name. This again, will be necessary to avoid confusion. I'm open to suggestions.

Dave, I would also like you to know, that, in addition to your and my sides of the family, I'll be informing all of my friends. I really don't mind who knows about my situation. I have no feelings of embarrassment, shame or guilt. I just want to be open and honest with everyone. So, feel free to discuss things with your family or whoever.

Its been quite a challenge putting this letter together, and I'm sure it will have raised all sorts of questions in your mind. I'll be quite happy to answer these candidly and without embarrassment.

Finally, speaking as someone whose livelihood has largely been centred on their imagination, I just want to say that its ok to have a sense of humour about all of this. While I would prefer not to be the object of cruel jokes, the value of wit and humour in difficult circumstances can't be overestimated.

Love to you and yours,

Kevin.

## **Barbecues and other events 2012**




Easter Barbecue, Mar 24, noon-4.00pm

Xmas Barbecue, Dec. 8, noon - 4.00pm

**Joseph Sargeant Community Centre**  
60 Prospect St, Erskineville

**Watch the Gender Centre Website, Twitter and Facebook for details**




## NEEDLE EXCHANGE

7 Bent Street,  
PETERSHAM  
(02) 9569 2366  
9.00-4.30  
Monday to Friday

A confidential free service for people  
with gender issues (*Ask for the  
Outreach Worker*)

**Sharps Containers**

Pill Filters Condoms Spoons Water Fit Packs Swabs Dams	 Syringes 1ml, 2.5ml, 5ml Needles 21g, 23g, 25g, 26g
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or phone the Alcohol and Drug Information 24 hr  
advice, information and referral service. Sydney  
02 9331 2111  
Country 009.42.2599

## Pay-It-Forward Binder Program

is a used binder service that provides used  
donated binders to:

\*\*\* guys in the Australian and New Zealand  
region who need a chest binder and are  
struggling financially or cannot obtain a binder  
through regular channels e.g.: Centrelink  
recipients, students, individuals who do not  
have an income, or do not have the support of  
their families to access binders.

The aim is to alleviate some of the dysphoria  
experienced by FTMs and to improve their  
quality of life.

The Pay-It-Forward program accepts donated  
binders, which are cleaned, sized and passed  
on to those in need.

The service is based on honesty and should not  
be accessed by those who are just looking to  
save money.

Our website is:  
<http://binderprogram.ftmaustralia.org> or you  
can email: [binderprogram@ftmaustralia.org](mailto:binderprogram@ftmaustralia.org)



## 2012

FTM Australia is a membership-based network  
which has offered contact, resources and health  
information for men identified *female* at birth, their  
family members (partners, parents, siblings and  
others), healthcare providers and other  
professionals, government and policymakers since  
2001.

### Newsletter

Our newsletter - *Torque* is published four  
times a year for the benefit of members,  
their families and service providers.  
*Torque* is available as a pdf document  
which is emailed to you or available on our  
website. All the information about *Torque*  
is on the website at  
[www.ftmaustralia.org/resources/  
torque.html](http://www.ftmaustralia.org/resources/torque.html)

### OzGuys Discussion List

Our e-mail discussion list is called **OzGuys**.

**OzGuys - is open to FTM Australia members  
living in Australia and New Zealand.**

### Goals of the discussion list include:

- To encourage friendships and  
information sharing amongst  
members
- To empower members and their  
families in understanding  
transsexualism
- To encourage members to adopt  
positive images of being men in  
society and achieve anything and  
everything they dream of.

For more information please visit  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ozguys/>  
To find out more or read our resources  
please visit our website at  
[www.ftmaustralia.org](http://www.ftmaustralia.org)

# What You Thought About *Polare* by Katherine Cummings

*As Polare 89 was being finished off, Phinn Borg (General Manager of the GC) gave me a questionnaire and asked me to include it with each copy of the magazine in order to find out what readers think of Polare, and whether we might improve the magazine by using your collective opinions and suggestions.*

*A similar survey had been conducted in 2001 so it seemed appropriate to do it again after a decade under my editorship.*

*Accordingly the questionnaire was placed in each copy of the magazine and it was sent out to those who receive copies by mail and those who pick up the 'drop off' copies left around the city and it was emailed to those on the Polare email list.*

*The return was disappointing. Only fourteen answers came in, twelve by mail and two by email. Considering that several hundred copies were sent out, I had hoped for at least a hundred responses. I find it hard to believe that we are doing everything so well that very few feel the need to comment. Although the survey is over there is nothing to prevent you from participating. All suggestions for improvement will be seriously looked at.*

*Only four responses were identifiable as coming from individuals. Six came from organisations or professionals (this information was derived from internal evidence) and the remaining four were unclassifiable and could have been from individuals or organisations.*

## **THE SURVEY:**

### **How long have you been reading *Polare*?**

*Nobody who responded to the survey was reading Polare for the first time with issue 89. One person had been reading it for less than six months and thirteen had been reading it for over a year.*

### **How do you usually get your copy?**

*Six respondents were on the email mail-out (it's free, quicker than the print version and has colour on the inside pages). Eight received it by mail and one through "other services". Other services could mean picking it up from the Gender Centre or one of the "drop off" points, or finding it in a clinic waiting room etc.*

### **Do you find the articles in *Polare* useful and interesting?**

*All fourteen respondents said "Yes".*

### **Do you like the way *Polare* is designed and laid out?**

*Twelve said "Yes", two said "No". The suggestions for improvement included: "The formatting could be a little clearer -- less dense text and table of contents more structured."*

I agree about the dense text. When set with the default (100%) spacing I think it sometimes looks cramped. I usually set text at 110% but sometimes if space is limited I revert to 100% rather than start a new page for the sake of a sentence or two. If possible, I edit the text to bring it down to size. I'll try harder.

*Spread the adverts throughout the magazine, amongst the articles.*

Spreading the adverts also makes it hard not to spill an article over onto a new page, but I agree that a full page of ads makes for a heavy-looking page. I've tried breaking them up more in this issue and would appreciate feedback on whether this helps the look of the layout.

*More interesting covers.*

If you mean the pictorial subjects should be more interesting, I would be glad of suggestions. If you mean the general format is dull (subject in a central panel with basic text unchanged except for date and issue number and a new background), then again I am in some agreement. One of the suggestions in this area came from Nicole Moore, (yes, I know the survey was anonymous but Nicole emailed her response so I knew whose it was, and I asked her permission to use her name and show you her version of a more interesting cover). Nicole supplied a rework of the cover for 89 and I think it is more dramatic and interesting than mine. If my system has an advantage it is that *Polare* is easily recognisable and there is a 'family' look to the collected issues that makes it easy to find in a collection of publications. This argument has been raging in the commercial magazine world for decades, with some magazines preferring to keep to a standard format and others changing the image drastically with each issue. Nor is one format

or the other carved in stone. The British humour magazine, *Punch*, used the same cover for over a century, before doing a flip in the



1950s and going over to a format with new covers for each issue. The magazine then went on for another fifty years before going out of existence.

On the left is Nicole's version of the cover for Issue 89. I have slight reservations about some of the typefaces used but I think it is an excellent design, much better aesthetically and more interesting than my version. I promise to try harder.

#### *Shorten the Directory Assistance.*

I have mixed feelings about the Directory Assistance pages. I believe the Directory is useful to many of our readers, although I agree that it takes a lot of space and changes only slightly from issue to issue. Maybe it will be possible to move the Directory to the website with a note directing people from *Polare* to the website. I'll talk to the people concerned.

I have slight reservations because in our earlier survey we asked how many of our readers had access to the Internet and, rather to our surprise, it turned out that only 50% had easy access. This may well have changed over the past decade but who knows? Maybe we need another survey on Internet availability and usage.

#### **What do you like most about *Polare*?**

*Articles (4), Positive personal stories about trans lifestyle (4), Updates about national and international developments (3), Mix of personal stories and 'information' (2), Contacts/Directory (2), Pictures(1), Adverts (1), Articles from regular contributors (1), A historical record of transgender issues (1), Medical progress articles (1), Access to resources and support (1), Katherine's editorials (1), It pushes the boundaries and makes mainstream society think (1).*

There is a mix of preferences here, which is healthy. I'll try and maintain the variety.

**Polare page 24**

**January-March 2012**

#### **What do you like least about *Polare*?**

*Nothing (5)*

Leaving aside the five who found nothing to dislike, there are a number of criticisms to be answered as best I can.

*Layout (1)*

We have dealt with layout. It's not perfect and I'll try to make it better.

*Colour preferable to black and white (1)*

I agree that it would be nice to have colour throughout the print version of the magazine but the method of production does not allow this.

For reasons of economy the covers are printed by a commercial printer and the interior pages are printed in-house on a whoop-de-doo photocopier that marries the covers to the text and folds and staples each copy.

So until we can afford a colour A3 photocopier (probably never) we will be stuck with colour covers and b&w interior text. Of course if you subscribe to the email version of *Polare*, you will be able to enjoy colour throughout. And you may save a tree.

*Political commentary on the various types of transpeople (1)*

I don't understand what this means. I would need specific examples of this transgression. I try to keep my political commentary for politicians, but I'll listen.

*Lack of 'contact' with prominent medicos as a means of promoting a more cohesive picture of TS and IS identity issues (1)*

What kind of contact? Which prominent medicos? Is it suggested that I lobby prominent medicos in the trans field for articles for *Polare*? I would like more input on this suggestion.

*It is sexist/genderist (1)*

Again, I don't understand why I am accused of being sexist/genderist. Sexism usually means favouring one sex at the expense of the other. I don't believe I do this.

Genderism, presumably therefore, means putting down one gender at the expense of another (or others). I don't think I do this, either. Examples, please.



*Delayed postal delivery (1)*

Delayed postal delivery, is sometimes just that, and we have no control over Australia Post, but sometimes *Polare* is late in leaving the Gender Centre, for a variety of reasons. Sometimes we have to wait for the covers because of a backlog at the printers (usually they are very prompt) and sometimes promised text material is late coming in, or there is a delay at the Managerial Committee stage (each issue must be approved for publication after completion by a member of ManCom, for legal reasons).

We try to minimise the delays but it is sometimes hard to achieve this. There are also occasional mechanical breakdowns or holdups with the photocopier. Even placing the magazines in envelopes and getting them to the Post Office can mean a delay of a day or two, depending on staff availability.

Why not have the magazine finished much earlier so that these minor delays do not prevent the magazine being posted on time? Mainly because of the quantity of material that is time-sensitive. The magazine comes out quarterly so that some information can be up to three months old. We are living through a time of rapid change. I would not like to see material even more out of date than the publishing schedule ensures.

*Repetition of similar articles in which the writer describes their coming out (1)*

The objection to repetition of articles about the 'coming out' experience is balanced by the people who ask for more articles about favourable trans experiences. We're not going to please everybody all the time. We are lucky if we can please most of the people most of the time.

*Articles by trans people who assume they can speak for the whole community (1)*

What articles have we published by trans people who assume they can speak for the whole community? Examples, please

*Some articles are a bit long (1).*

It is true that some articles are long. Sometimes this is because I find an article I think would be useful to the readership but it would not make

as much sense if it were shortened (medical articles, for instance), and sometimes the owner of the copyright prefers the piece to be presented as originally written. In rare examples I have run articles in two parts but with three months between issues this makes for a long wait for readers before the second part appears to complete the article.

**Do you find *Polare* too hard to read?**

*Yes (3), No (11).*

**If yes, why?**

*Layout could be better and more professional.*

I'll try harder. Feedback would be helpful. I keep asking for "Letters to the editor", but hardly ever get any.

*Text is sometimes squashed together.*

I have dealt with this problem above. Again, I'll try harder.

**Why do you read *Polare*?**

*Healthcare professional. Helps with work with clients (4), To further understanding of and keeping up to date with trans issues (4), To keep in touch with the community (4), An interest in news and issues relating to the transgender community (3), To find out about services (1).*

I can only say that these are some of the primary purposes for which *Polare* is published. To inform readers of items of transgender and intersex concern and to provide information on developments in medical areas and the provision of social services. Changes in the law relating to gender issues are also important and we try to keep up to date in these areas.

**What topics would you like to see covered in future editions?**

*Medical/surgical/health (4).*

There is a policy of trying to provide material in each issue on a basis of one quarter mtf, one quarter ftm, one quarter Intersex and one quarter medical/health.

This doesn't always work out, because of what is available and timely. Some items overlap more than one sector and some, like the Directory and paid and unpaid ads, are difficult to categorise. But I try to be even-handed.

## Issue Ninety

*Biographies, obituaries and stories about successful and/or prominent transpeople and supporters of trans community (4).*

People are usually interested in other people's lives. As a librarian I am aware that biography and autobiography are among the most popular topics with readers and I will continue to try and report interesting stories about people in our community who achieve their dreams or bring about reform for the community as a whole.

### *Law (2)*

We will continue to try and keep up with changes in the law, and campaigns to change the law. Recent changes in passport laws have been an example of the way laws can change suddenly and one country's lead can be followed by others. Australia's revision of gender entries in passports has apparently affected the UK's planned revisions.

### *Social/political (2)*

Again, we try to cover significant changes in social and political areas. Our aim is to deal with local changes first, but sometimes foreign changes can be significant pointers to possible local progress.

### *Review of medical revelations and legal progress over the life of Polare (1).*

I think this would be interesting but I'm not sure why the time constraint of medical and legal information over the life of *Polare* has been suggested. *Polare* has been running for nineteen years whereas serious study of trans has been under way for around seventy. Why limit the study to the life of *Polare*? Or is it suggested that the *Polare* archive be checked to make up an article on progress during the past nineteen years? That might be interesting if someone would like to undertake it, but I think we can spend the time more usefully recording current changes, researching information, and supporting those movements that strive to improve the trans situation.

### *How the identities of children reassigned at birth have developed?*

I assume this means we should run an article on the outcome of reassignments at birth, and note whether the subjects of these procedures rebelled

against their reassignment later or whether they preferred to stay with the reassigned gender when they were informed about their gender history. It should also cover adverse and favourable life characteristics resulting from reassignment. If there is such an article it might well be interesting but it might also be too academic for general interest. I will look for something and also ask OII if they know of any such study.

### *More articles about transmen.*

I would be delighted to run more material about transmen, and particularly Australian transmen, but I seldom receive such material as ftms tend to write for publications aimed specifically at ftms. I try to feature achievements of ftms and Intersex people as well as mtf and use appropriate news items (such as Intersex Tony Briffa's election to the mayoralty of Hobson's Bay [p.13.]) whenever I can. Ftms are also under-represented in trans writing because they tend to blend more easily into society and often prefer to get on with their lives rather than attracting attention to themselves. I respect their wishes in this regard and understand the preference. Many mtf's wish they could do the same but cannot, for a variety of reasons.

### *More articles that push boundaries (e.g. the impact of religion on people's ability to express their identities).*

Again, I'd like to receive articles on topics such as this one, but is there anyone out there who is willing to write one? I run ads in every issue asking for contributions, but usually they only happen if I solicit them. I use original material, tailored to the Australian scene, wherever possible, but there are not many people out there willing to write for publication. An article on religion would need to be reasoned and reasonable in order to be published. Prejudice works both ways and I try to avoid knee-jerk condemnation of religion or atheism.

### *Being TS and living in rural/regional NSW.*

Again, an excellent area for someone to write about. But who? Ideally, the person writing should do so from personal experience, or

research, or both. The Gender Centre is trying to reach out to rural and regional areas and has had some success. I will try and persuade Liz Ceismann, our Senior Case Manager, to write an article for us, as she does most of the work in this area. It would be good to hear from trans and intersex people in country areas.

*How professionals can support clients with their 'journey'.*

What professionals? GPs, sociologists, psychiatrists, endocrinologists, surgeons ...? What kind of support? More detail, please.

**Any other comments about *Polare* you would like to make?**

The following comments were received:

*Keep going - it is a truly important publication/ Thank you!!*

*It is a really valuable resource and I hope it continues.*

*Thank you to the editor for doing such a magnificent job!!*

*Thanks, great production*

*Keep up the great work!*

*Thank you for this great ongoing publication.*

*It is transgender-centric and disrespectful of those who are not transgender. It is sexist, genderist and old fashioned. It does not reflect reality for many people.*

*Could Polare post a list of author activists e.g. "Just Evelyn", and any books she may have written subsequent to Mom, I need to be a girl*

Leaving aside the compliments and encouragement to continue, for which I give my sincere thanks, and a reminder that much of the work is done by others, who are also deserving of praise and gratitude, mine as well as yours, I will try and deal with the negative comment and the request for information.

I really don't understand what I am being accused of when it is stated that the magazine is "transgender-centric" and disrespectful of those who are not transgender. Nor do I understand the accusations of being sexist and genderist. Please explain, with examples if possible. Old-fashioned is another matter. I may seem old fashioned to some, a) because I *am* old and therefore many of my opinions and

attitudes were formed a long time ago, and b) because I don't necessarily think newer is better. Persuade me otherwise. I'll listen.

As for my not reflecting reality for many people, which people? And in what way do I not reflect reality? Whose reality? Elsewhere I have been accused of lacking street-cred, but the people I encounter who claim to have street-cred often fail to understand the basics of rational debate, including the prior definition of terms, citation of authorities, and the avoidance of generalisations and circularity of argument.

Again, I am willing to be educated, but not at the expense of throwing aside logic and rationality. I'm too old-fashioned for that.

Then there is the informational question concerning "Just Evelyn" and the book, *Mom, I need to be a girl*. The subject of the book is an mtf named Danielle (formerly Daniel) Lindenmuth, and the book is written in the first person by her mother. I cannot find any information about other books that may have been written by this author and, according to Lynn Conway's "TS Successes" webpage, Danielle is working as an electrologist and has little or no contact with other trans people.

There are many lists of transgendered/transsexual people on the Internet and some of the lists are annotated where appropriate with the term "activist", and some name the books written by the people listed. If you have trouble sorting out those that interest you, drop me an email or a postcard and I will try to make up a list of those that I consider to be outstanding, but you will, of course, then be restricted to the ones that satisfy my definitions of "transgender/transsexual" and "activist".

Finally, I am sometimes told I should write more simply, that the articles and other features should be easier to understand. I ran this article through a Microsoft application that measures the reading age appropriate to a given piece of writing.

It came out as equivalent to ninth grade in the American Grade School system (age fifteen or so?). I think that's about as low as we should go, but I'll listen to reasoned argument on the topic.

KC

## **RPA SEXUAL HEALTH CLINIC**

**25 Lucas Street, Camperdown,  
NSW, 2050**

### **WHAT DOES THE SEXUAL HEALTH CLINIC DO?**

- Testing, treatment and counselling for sexually transmissible infections, including HIV
- Gay men's sexual health check-ups
- Sex worker health checks
- Men's and women's sexual health check-ups
- Advice on contraception
- Pregnancy testing and counselling
- Free condoms and lubricant
- Needle and syringe program and sexual health check-ups for people who inject drugs
- Hepatitis testing and vaccination
- Post-exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) for HIV

### **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU VISIT THE CLINIC FOR THE FIRST TIME?**

You will be asked to fill out a registration form.

The information you give us will remain confidential and will be put in a numbered file. Keep this number and quote it for any test results and when making future appointments.

A nurse will determine whether you need to see a doctor or nurse for a medical issue or a counsellor to discuss information on sexual health, safer sex or relationship issues.

### **SOME COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

Do I need an appointment? *Yes, appointment is preferable.*

Do I need a Medicare card? *No, you don't need a Medicare card.*

Do I need to pay? *No, all services are free.*

Do I need a referral from a doctor? *No, simply call 9515 3131 for an appointment.*

(Interpreters available)

## *The Gender Centre Library*

*To borrow books you will need to become a member of the Library. You will need to supply personal details (phone number, address etc.) You can make an appointment to join and see the Library by phoning 9569 2366 on Monday or Wednesday.*

*Video tapes and dvds are not for loan but can be viewed by appointment in the Gender Centre.*



*Books may be borrowed for three weeks.*

*If you are isolated for any reason and would like to have material mailed to you, let the Resource Worker know. Don't forget to include your mailing address!*

## **Central Coast Transgender Support**

*The CCTS is a totally free and unfunded service to all with gender issues. It offers guidance to all who are contemplating commencement of the medical and psychological requirements that are involved in full MTF transition under the Harry Benjamin Standards of Care.*

*The Centre also provides access to high quality, subsidised and certified permanent hair removal and offers alternative direction and instruction for the control and management of problem hair or chronic hirsutism.*

**CCTGS operates Monday to  
Saturday 10am-10pm**

**0404 054 000**

**Email: [smh101@exemail.com.au](mailto:smh101@exemail.com.au)**

## US TV SERIES SLAMMED BY TRANS ACTIVISTS

A comedy series, "Work It", set to premiere early in January 2012 has attracted adverse criticism from gay and trans activists, who claim it makes fun of cross-dressers.

The series centres around two men who dress as women in order to gain employment as female sales representatives.

GLAAD (the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation) has attacked the series on the grounds that it encourages those who watch the series to mock those with gender issues.

GLAAD President, Mike Thompson said "Transphobia is still all too prevalent in our society and this show will only contribute to it. It will reinforce the mistaken belief that transgender women are simply 'men pretending to be women', and that their efforts to live their lives authentically as women are a form of lying or deception."

## ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS TRIBUNAL KNOCKS BACK NORRIE'S NON- GENDER CLAIM

norrie-mAy-welby, who is running a continuing quest for the right to have her sex listed as 'not specified', has received a new setback from the Administrative Decisions Tribunal. The struggle for legal recognition has been running for eighteen months with the latest appeal going to the Administrative Decisions Tribunal after the Attorney-

General over-ruled a decision by the NSW Births Deaths and



**norrie-mAy-welby**

Marriages, stating that although a change of gender was permitted, it could only be a change from male to female or vice versa.

The appeal panel of ADT has said that it found no error of law in the revocation of the BDM's decision to issue an identity document to norrie with the sex shown as "not specified".

norrie says she will appeal the decision.

## ENGLISH MOTHER TO FIGHT TRANS BULLYING

Hannah Whetton (18) was christened Aaron but felt from early childhood she was female. Since transitioning she has endured so much bullying given up her studies in animal care and will enter the workforce.

Her mother, Carol McNellis has accepted the challenge set by her daughter's treatment and intends to work for greater acceptance of transpeople.

"There's nothing in schools teaching kids about people who are transgender. I think if they understood the issue it would be far more widely accepted," she said.

The head of Hannah's former faculty at Broomfield, Eileen Swan, supports the move.

The UK Government recently published new proposals to increase education in colleges about transgender issues but has not yet issued details.

Beth Seymour, a transwoman who works for the local charity,



**Carol McNellis and Hannah Whetton**

Derbyshire Friend, will talk at Broomfield and says that if the government were to supply money to support the project, Derbyshire Friend would try to extend trans education into schools. Hannah hopes to help with the project when her confidence returns.

## NEW LGBTI GROUP SET UP TO LIAISE WITH GOVERNMENT

A new group has been set up to improve the experience of LGBTI people when dealing with government services. Established by the Department of Human Services, the group first met with Human Services Minister Tanya Plibersek on Dec.8, 2011.

## Transgender Anti-Violence Project (TAVP)

The mission of the Transgender Anti-Violence Project is to provide education, support, referrals and advocacy in relation to violence and oppression based on gender identity.

The Project addresses all forms of violence that impact on the transgender, gender diverse and gender-questioning community, including (but not limited to) domestic violence, sexual violence, anti-transgender harassment and hate crimes.

Transphobic crimes affect many gender-diverse people in Australia each year.

The Transgender Anti-Violence Project provides a range of free, confidential services and has already helped a number of people who have experienced incidents that include verbal abuse, physical attacks, bullying, harassment and discrimination.

The TAVP needs to know about your experiences to be able to help you personally and to document the event in order to stop it from happening to others.

### What can I report?

You can report anything to the TAVP. Some examples follow:



- Physical assaults
- Verbal abuse and threats
- Sexual assaults
- Stalking
- Domestic violence
- Family violence

When making a report to the TAVP you will be assigned a support worker, to assess the nature and level of support you may require. The Project will then provide you with ongoing assistance and referral services, including support when reporting to police, counselling, legal support, court support and medical support and follow-up support.

**To make a report, call the Transgender Anti-Violence Project on 9569 2366 or 1800 069 115 or report online at [www.tavp.org.au](http://www.tavp.org.au)**

**Don't put up with it — Don't let them get away with it**  
**STOP DISCRIMINATION**  
**Contact the Anti-Discrimination Board of NSW**

#### Get free confidential advice

Phone (02) 9268 5544 or 1800 670 812 for people outside Sydney.  
If you need an interpreter call 131 450 first. TTY 9268 5522.  
Email [adbcontact@agd.nsw.gov.au](mailto:adbcontact@agd.nsw.gov.au)

#### Make a complaint

Visit our website at: [www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/adb](http://www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/adb)  
to download a complaint form.  
Email [complaintsadb@agd.nsw.gov.au](mailto:complaintsadb@agd.nsw.gov.au)

## QUEENSLAND GENDER CENTRE

The Queensland Gender Centre is run solely by a transsexual in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia with the aim of assisting those in need of accommodation and assistance. It is open to all those who identify as transsexuals and who are mentally stable and drug and alcohol free.

The location of the shelter is kept confidential to protect the tenants. The accommodation is in an upmarket suburb on Brisbane's upper north side.

You can stay either up to six months or twelve months and we can house up to six people at a time.

If you want more information or are interested in assisting with the project, please telephone, write or email the Queensland Gender Centre. Contact details on the Directory pages.

## PLEASE READ THIS!

**If you are moving, or changing your email address, please tell us.**

**Undeliverable copies of Polare waste money that could be used for other services.**

## The Gender Centre has joined Twitter!!!

For those who don't know, Twitter is an Internet text-based social networking system a bit like SMS. Messages are restricted to 140 characters but if you want to keep up to date daily (or more frequently) with what is going on at the Gender Centre, you can do so on Twitter.



Go to the Internet, and type in [www.twitter.com/thegendercentre](http://www.twitter.com/thegendercentre) to see the latest Twitter news. Note that this is one-way information. You can't respond or ask questions on Twitter. If you need further information you will need to phone (02) 9569 2366

or email [reception@gendercentre.org.au](mailto:reception@gendercentre.org.au) or [resources@gendercentre.org.au](mailto:resources@gendercentre.org.au).

## LEGAL PROBLEMS?

**The Inner City Legal Centre will be providing advice sessions for clients of the Gender Centre.**

**The ICLC can advise in the following areas:**

**family law | criminal matters | fines | AVOs | victim's compensation | employment | identity documents | police complaints | discrimination | domestic violence | sexual assault | complaints against government | powers of attorney | enduring guardianship | wills | driving offenses | credit and debt | neighbourhood disputes**

**Dates for 2012 have not been set but sessions will be held monthly. To make an appointment please contact a Gender Centre Staff member on 9569 2366 or email [reception@gendercentre.org.au](mailto:reception@gendercentre.org.au). Bookings are essential**

12 noon	Feb 12 Fair Day	Mar 24 Easter Barbecue						
1.00pm	Feb 15, 22, 29 Yoga	Mar 7, 21, 28 Yoga	Apr 4, 11, 18, 25 Yoga	May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Yoga	Contact Liz early for yoga as there are limited places.			
1.00pm	Feb 21, hep C, transmission, testing/preven-	Mar 14 Dealing with mental illness	Apr 17 hep C Diet/living well with hep C		Jun 19. hep C What does it mean for you?			
1.30pm	Feb 27, Women's Group	Mar 26 Women's Group	Apr 30 Women's Group	May 28 Women's Group	Jun 25 Women's Group	Jul 30 Women's Group	Aug 27 Women's Group	Sep 24 Women's Group
1.30pm	Feb 9 Over 55 Group	Mar 8 Over 55 Group	Apr 12 Over 55 Group	May 10 Over 55 Group	Jun 14 Over 55 Group	Jul 12 Over 55 Group	Aug 9 Over 55 Group	Sep 13 Over 55 Group
1.00pm		Mar 22 Safe injecting workshop NAA						
5.00pm	Feb 29 Youth Group	Mar 28 Youth Group	Apr 24 Youth Group	May 30 Youth Group	Jun 27 Youth Group	Jul 25 Youth Group	Aug 29 Youth Group	Sep 26 Youth Group
6.00pm	Feb 3 FTM Connect	Mar 2 FTM Connect	Apr 6 FTM Connect		Jun 1 FTM Connect	Jul 6 FTM Connect	Aug 3 FTM Connect	Sep 7 FTM Connect
6.00pm	Feb 13 Parents' Group	Mar 12 Parents' Group	Apr 2 Parents' Group	May 14 Parents' Group	Jun 11 Parents' Group	Jul 9 Parents' Group	Aug 13 Parents' Group	Sep 10 Parents' Group
2.00pm		Mar 7, 14, 21, 28 Tango lessons Herb Greedy Hall						

# NSW Seahorse Society



is a self help group based in Sydney open to all crossdressers, their relatives and friends. We offer discretion, private monthly social meetings, social outings, contact with other crossdressers, a telephone information service, postal library service and a monthly newsletter.

THE SEAHORSE SOCIETY OF NSW INC  
PO BOX 2193 BORONIA PARK, NSW 2111

Call on **0423.125.860** and our website is:  
[www.seahorsesoc.org](http://www.seahorsesoc.org)  
Email: [crossdress@seahorsesoc.org](mailto:crossdress@seahorsesoc.org)  
Membership enquiries, change of details etc. contact Membership Secretary,  
PO Box 6179, West Gosford, NSW, 2250  
**“crossdress with dignity”**



# Transgender Day Of Remembrance Report

Issue Ninety

by Katherine Cummings

The Transgender Day of Remembrance in 2011 was held for the second time in Parliament House, courtesy of Penny Sharpe, MLA. We hoped to achieve formal observance of the day with respect for those who have lost their lives to violence in the past year and all previous years and to draw the attention of the public to the TDOR and the reasons for it. We also hoped to involve politicians, jurists and influential members of the public. Press releases were sent to print media, radio and television stations.

The observance was set for Friday 18 November, as 20 November was a Sunday and the Parliament House amenities would not have been available.

We met in the Waratah Room at 1.30pm and light refreshments were served between 1.30pm and 2.00pm. We had hoped for a turnout of 60 or 70 but the highest turnout counted was forty. The only politician who came was Senator Lee Rhiannon from the Federal Greens. Chief Superintendent Donna Adney arrived with four Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officers (GLLOs). The remainder of the guests were mainly from the tg community, and members of service organisations serving the tg community.

There was only one journalist, from SX, who took photographs and conducted some interviews. Irina Pollard, Associate Professor of Biological Sciences at Macquarie University also attended with her partner. Professor Pollard has been teaching a course in reproductive biology for more than twenty years, using guest speakers who are tg or Intersex.

Proceedings opened with an address by Chief Superintendent Adney, who spoke of the need for violence to be resisted by a combination of city officials, the police force, specialist organisations such as the ICLC (Inner City Legal Centre) and the Gender Centre, as well as the community as a whole.

She was followed by Roberta Perkins, who dealt with changes in society over the past thirty years with regard to the rights of marginalised groups, of the progress we have made and the progress we have yet to make.

The last programmed speaker was Donna Macklan, a transwoman confined to a wheelchair who was bashed earlier this year. She spoke eloquently of her ordeal (a deliberate ambush by a group of bigots) and her need to achieve safety and security in her future accommodation.



**Donna Macklin**

Her ordeal took place in Wagga and she has since moved to Sydney.

The floor was thrown open to speakers from the audience and we heard brief accounts of violence and victimisation from Julia, Edwina, norrie, Jessica and Che. Che spoke about the Transgender Anti-Violence Project and drew attention to the availability of "End Transphobic Violence" ribbons, TAVP postcards and other informational documents. Our thanks to Liz Ceissman who took photographs of record. Thanks also to Parliament House staff member, Danny Heldal, who was very helpful and co-operative in preparing the meeting place and arranging for a lectern and microphones.



**Julia Doulman and Senator Lee Rhiannon at the TDOR, Parliament House**

## News Item of Special Interest (see above)

A mother of two lodged an appeal after being sentenced to six months jail for her part in an unprovoked attack on a disabled transgender woman. Christie Keighran, 22, was convicted in November of assault on Ms Donna Macklan, occasioning actual bodily harm and maliciously damaging property.

Keighran called Ms Macklan a hermaphrodite and swung a shovel at her, causing damage to her wheelchair. Witnesses said she then hit Ms Macklan with the shovel and kicked her in the stomach several times. Ms Macklan suffered a broken elbow, fractured vertebrae, cuts and swelling. *Border Times 10 Dec., 2011*

**F**ather Paul Kelly is taking up the cudgels against a plea for mitigation of violence using the 'panic defence', usually an assertion that the victim of violence had made a homosexual advance to the perpetrator. The same kind of defence is sometimes used when a person commits violence against a transgendered person, when they discover the victim's transgender history. This is sometimes referred to as the "Crying Game Syndrome" (in the movie "The Crying Game", one of the central characters assaults the other violently when he discovers that the woman he was about to have sex with is a pre-operative transgender).

Kelly took an interest in the loophole in Queensland law when a man was murdered in the grounds of Maryborough Catholic Church.

Although in this instance the defence was not successful in having the murder charge downgraded, Kelly was shocked that it could even be brought up as a defence.

"It is extremely upsetting and worrying, I was following the trial with great interest and then there was this talk that he [the victim] had made some sort of homosexual advance," said Kelly.

"I never heard of something so terrible, that there is some kind of defence that says if you make a homosexual advance then it can be used in court.

"I just can't believe in this day and age that can be any kind of defence to hurting someone."

Kelly also points out that by bringing up the defence, even when it fails to have the charge lessened, prejudice against the victim can be raised in the minds of a jury and increase their tolerance of violence.

An online petition has been launched at [www.change.org/petitions/campbell-newman-leader-of-qld-lnp-and-all-qld-govt-members-abolish-the-partial-defence-in-queensland-of-homosexual-advance](http://www.change.org/petitions/campbell-newman-leader-of-qld-lnp-and-all-qld-govt-members-abolish-the-partial-defence-in-queensland-of-homosexual-advance).

When enough signatures have been gathered, Kelly intends to take it to the Premier and the LNP leader, Campbell Newman.

It is to be hoped that the principle involved will be broadened to include transgenders and other minority groups subject to violence under these circumstances.

Kelly went on to say that he hoped it would not be seen as remarkable that a Catholic priest was embarking on this project.



**Father Paul Kelly**

"The Church has always defended basic human rights, it's never said intolerance or violence should be tolerated."

"It's a powerful mix of paranoia and intolerance that means people can get their charge downgraded to manslaughter.

"It's not about gay rights, it's about human rights."

Queensland Attorney-General Paul Lucas told the *Brisbane Times* in April that "the passing

of the Criminal Code and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2010 had closed loopholes around the partial defence of provocation.

"No longer can mere words alone, including gay or straight advances, be sufficient for the defence of provocation, except in the most extreme and exceptional circumstances," wrote Mr Lucas in an opinion piece in response to calls for change.

Alan Berman, a senior law lecturer at the University of Newcastle, believes the concept of "exceptional circumstances" was open to interpretation and could involve "a non-violent homosexual advance".

He further suggests that in most cases the defence counsel will assert that the proposition was not purely verbal but might have involved touching the person being charged murder on the leg or other parts of his anatomy, sending him into a fit of uncontrollable rage.



# 12th Social Research Conference on HIV, Hepatitis C and Related Diseases

## 12-13 April 2012

### *Silence & Articulation*

**What can and can't be said about HIV, hepatitis C, drug use and sexual practices?**

**What is emphasised and what is muted?**

**What is seen as acceptable and unacceptable?**

**What do such silences and articulations achieve and why?**

#### **Keynote speakers:**

**John Della Bosca, Former NSW Special Minister of State, 199-2006, National Campaign Director, National Disability Insurance Scheme**  
**Professor Jane Usher, Director, Psyhealth: Gender, Culture and Health Research Unit, School of Psychology, University of Western Sydney**

**Associate Professor Alison Ritter, Director, Drug Policy Modelling Program, Faculty of Medicine, University of NSW.**

**John Godwin, HIV, law and development Consultant Member, Legal Working Group, Ministerial Advisory Committee on Blood-borne Viruses and STIs**

**Abstracts** can be submitted for oral presentations only. There will be no poster presentations or workshops. Please contact the conference organisers if you wish to propose a conference symposium. All abstracts are to be submitted online. Please see the conference website: <http://nchrconference2012.arts.unsw.edu.au> for specific instructions on abstract submission.

**Fees:** Early-bird (before 13 Feb. 2012): \$350.00 / Student: \$275.00 / Day pass: \$225 / Full fee: \$425

**Information:** Conference Organising Committee, NCHSR, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of NSW, NSW, 2052. **Email:** [nchr@unsw.edu.au](mailto:nchr@unsw.edu.au).

**Tel.:** +61 (0)2 9385 6776 **Website:** <http://nchrconference2012.arts.unsw.edu.au>

**Venue:** Kensington Campus, University of NSW, Sydney, Australia.



**National Centre in  
HIV Social Research**



**GROUP OF EIGHT  
MEMBER**

## New South Wales

### THE GENDER CENTRE

#### Counselling

Provides counselling to residents and clients living in the community. For more information or an appointment contact the Counsellor on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday 10am - 5.00pm.

#### Outreach service

Available to clients in the inner city area on Tuesday nights from 6.00pm to 2.00 a.m. and on Thursdays from 10am - 5.30pm by appointment only. Monday and Wednesday afternoons and Friday 10am - 5.30pm. Also available to clients confined at home, in hospital or gaol - by appointment only. For an appointment contact Outreach Worker - 9569 2366.

#### Social and support service

Provides social and support groups and outings, workshops, forums and drop-ins. For more information contact the Social and Support Worker. 9569 2366

#### Resource development service

Produces a range of print resources on HIV/AIDS, medical and other information relevant to people with gender issues and their service providers. We provide printed information including a quarterly magazine *Polare* and a regularly updated website at:

[www.gendercentre.org.au](http://www.gendercentre.org.au)

For more information contact the Information Worker on Monday or Wednesday 9569 2366

#### Drug and alcohol service

Provides education, support and referral to a broad range of services - By appointment only. For an appointment contact the Outreach or Social and Support Worker 9569 2366

#### Residential service

Provides semi-supported share accommodation for up to eleven residents who are sixteen years of age or over. Residents can stay for up to twelve months and are supported as they move towards independent living. A weekly fee is charged to cover household expenses.

Assessments for residency are by appointment only and can be arranged by contacting the Counsellor, Outreach Worker or Social and Support Worker 9569 2366.

**For partners, families and friends** Support, education and referral to a wide range of specialist counselling, health, legal, welfare and other community services are available for partners, families and friends of people with gender issues. For more information contact the Social and Support worker 9569 2366.

### For service providers, employers and others

Advice, support and workshops are also available to employers, service providers, students and other people interested in gender issues. For more information contact the Manager, Gender Centre, 7 Bent Street or PO Box 266, Petersham NSW 2049

Tel: (02) 9569.2366

Fax: (02) 9569.1176

[manager@gendercentre.org.au](mailto:manager@gendercentre.org.au)

<http://www.gendercentre.org.au>

For after hours counselling contact **Lifeline** on 131 114 or **Gay and Lesbian Counselling Service**, 5.30pm-10.30pm seven days on

(02) 8594 9596

1800 105 527

<http://www.glcsnsw.org.au/>

### 2010 - TWENTY10/GLBT YOUTHSUPPORT

Twenty10 provides support to young transgender, lesbian, gay and bisexual people who are having trouble at home or are homeless. We provide accommodation, support, counselling, case management and social support as well as information and referrals for young GLBT people and their families. We run community education programs throughout NSW.

PO Box 553, Newtown, NSW, 2042

#### Youth callers needing help:

Sydney local: (02) 8594 9555

Rural NSW : 1800.65.2010

#### All other callers:

(02) 8594 9550

Fax: (02) 8594 9559

Email: [info@2010.org.au](mailto:info@2010.org.au)

Web page: [www.twenty10.org.au](http://www.twenty10.org.au)

### ACON HEALTH LTD

Information and education about HIV/AIDS, caring, support for people living with HIV/AIDS.

414 Elizabeth St, Surry Hills, NSW 2010 or PO Box 350 Darlinghurst NSW 1300

Tel: (02) 9206.2000

Fax: (02) 9206.2069

tty: (02) 9283 2088

### ACON-HUNTER

129 Maitland Road or PO Box 220, Islington 2296

Tel: (02) 4927 6808

Fax: (02) 4927 6485

[hunter@acon.org.au](mailto:hunter@acon.org.au)

<http://www.acon.org.au>

### ACON-ILLAWARRA

47 Kenny Street, Wollongong PO Box 1073, Wollongong, NSW, 2500

Tel: (02) 4226.1163

Fax: (02) 4226.9838

[www.acon.org.au](http://www.acon.org.au)

### ACON -MID-NORTH COAST

Shop 3, 146 Gordon St Port Macquarie NSW 2444

Tel: (02) 6584 1163

Fax: (02) 6583 3810

[mnc@acon.org.au](mailto:mnc@acon.org.au)

POB 1329, Port Macquarie, 2444

### ACON -NORTHERN RIVERS

27 Uralba Street

Lismore NSW 2480

PO Box 6063

South Lismore NSW 2480

Tel: (02) 6622.1555

or 1 800 633 637

Fax: (02) 6622 1520

[northernrivers@acon.org.au](mailto:northernrivers@acon.org.au)

### AFAO(AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF AIDS ORGANISATIONS)

National AIDS lobby and safe sex promotion organisation.

PO Box 51

Newtown 2042

Tel: (02) 9557 9399

Fax: (02) 9557 9867

### ALBION STREET CENTRE

HIV testing, clinical management, counselling and support, treatment and trials for HIV/AIDS.

Tel: (02) 9332.1090

Fax: (02) 9332.4219

### ANKALI

Volunteer project offering emotional support for People Living with HIV/AIDS, their partners, friends and carers. One on one grief and bereavement service.

Tel: (02) 9332.1090

Fax: (02) 9332.4219

### ASTRA (ASSOCIATION OF SEXY TRANSVESTITES)

An erotic social club for the bold and the beautiful! All ages, shapes and sizes. Discreet meetings, weekly parties.

PO Box 502, Glebe NSW 2037

### BOBBY GOLDSMITH FOUNDATION(BGF)

Provides direct financial assistance, financial counselling, employment support and emergency housing to people in NSW disadvantaged as a result of HIV/AIDS.

Tel: (02) 9283 8666

free call 1800 651 011web

[www.bgf.org.au](http://www.bgf.org.au);

email [bgf@bgf.org.au](mailto:bgf@bgf.org.au)

### BREASTSCREEN

Phone 132050

### CENTRAL TABLELANDS TRANSGENDER INFORMATION SERVICE

Provides information and directions for anyone seeking medical or psychological assistance in changing gender. Provides information on gender friendly services available in the Bathurst, NSW Area. Brings together transgenders, their families and friends and provides support and understanding in a non-counselling atmosphere.

Operates 9 am - 8pm Mon - Fri

Tel: 0412 700 924

### (CSN) COMMUNITY SUPPORT NETWORK

Transport and practical home based care for PLWHA. Volunteers welcome. Training provided.

Sydney Mon-Fri 8.00am-6.00pm

9 Commonwealth St, Surry Hills

Tel: (02) 9206.2031

Fax: (02) 9206.2092

[csn@acon.org.au](mailto:csn@acon.org.au)

PO Box 350 Darlinghurst NSW 1300

### Western Sydney and Blue Mountains

Mon-Fri 9.00am-5.00pm

Tel: 9204 2400

Fax: 9891 2088

[csn-westsyd@acon.org.au](mailto:csn-westsyd@acon.org.au)

6 Darcy Rd, Wentworthville, 2145

PO Box 284, Westmead, 2145

### Hunter

Mon-Fri 9.00am-5.00pm

Tel: 4927 6808 Fax 4927 6485

[hunter@acon.org.au](mailto:hunter@acon.org.au)

129 Maitland Road, Islington, 2296

PO Box 220, Islington, 2296

### MacKillop Centre - Hunter

Training and development opportunities for PLWHA

Tel: 4968 8788

### Illawarra

Mon-Fri 9.00am-5.00pm

Tel: 4226 1163 Fax: 4226 9838

[illawarra@acon.org.au](mailto:illawarra@acon.org.au)

47 Kenny St, Wollongong, 2500

POB 1073, Wollongong, 2500

### Mid North Coast

Outreach project: by appointment

Tel: 6584.0943

Fax: 6583.3810

4 Hayward Street, Port Macquarie, 2444

POB 1329, Port Macquarie, 2444

### HIV AWARENESS AND HIV AWARENESS AND SUPPORT

For HIV positive IDUs and their friends. Meets on Wednesdays. Contact Sandra or Tony at NUAA.

Tel: (02) 9369.3455

Toll Free: 1800.644.413

## FTMAustralia

Resources and health information for all men (identified *female* at birth), their partners, family and service providers. For information contact FTMAustralia .PO Box 488, Glebe, NSW, 2037  
www.ftmaustralia.org  
mail@ftmaustralia.org

## GAY AND LESBIAN COUNSELLING SERVICE OF NSW (GLCS)

A volunteer-based community service providing anonymous and confidential telephone counselling, support, information and referral services for lesbians, gay men, bisexual and transgender persons (LGBT) and people in related communities.

Counselling line open daily from 5.30pm-10.30pm daily (02) 8594 9596 (Sydney Metro Area - cost of local call, high for mobiles) 1800 184 527 (free call for regional NSW caller only)  
Admin enquiries: (02) 8594 9500 or admin@glcsnsw.org.au  
website: www.glcsnsw.org.au

## HOLDEN STREET CLINIC

Sexual Health Clinic is staffed by doctors, sexual health nurses, a clinical psychologist and an administration officer.  
Mon, Tue, Wed. 9.00am-5.00pm (closed 12.15pm-1.00pm for lunch)  
Men's Clinic Thursday evenings 5.00pm-8.00pm  
Appointments preferred (02) 4320 2114  
Ground Floor 69 Holden St, Gosford 2250  
Tel:(02) 4320 2114  
Fax: (02)4320 2020

## INNER CITY LEGAL CENTRE

Available to discuss any legal matter that concerns you.  
Ph: (02) 9332.1966

## INTERSECTION

Coalition group of lesbian, gay, transgender and other sexual minority groups and individuals working for access and equity within local community services and their agencies.  
Christine Bird (02) 9525.3790

## KIRKETON ROAD CENTRE

Needle exchange and other services  
Clinic Hours:  
Monday to Friday, 10am - 6pm  
Saturday to Sunday, 2pm - 6pm  
Outreach Bus - Every Night  
100 Darlinghurst Road  
(Entrance above the Kings Cross Fire Station - on Victoria Street)Sundays

PO Box 22, Kings Cross, NSW, 2011  
Tel: (02) 9360.2766  
Fax: (02) 9360.5154

## LES GIRLS CROSS-DRESSERS GROUP

An independent peer support group for transgender people. Free tuition, job assistance, friendship and socials, general information. Bi-monthly meetings.  
Coordinator,  
PO Box 504 Burwood NSW 2134

## (MCC)METROPOLITAN

MCC Sydney is linked with MCC churches in Australia as part of an international fellowship of Christian churches with a social concern for any who feel excluded by established religious groups. MCC deplores all forms of discrimination and oppression and seeks to share God's unconditional love and acceptance of all people, regardless of sexual orientation, race or gender.  
96 Crystal St, Petersham, 2049  
Phone (02) 9569 5122  
Fax: (02) 9569 5144  
Worship times:  
10.00 am and 6.30 pm  
office@mccsydney.org  
http://www.mccsydney.org.au/

## MOUNT DRUITT SEXUAL HEALTH CLINIC

Provides free, confidential and respectful sexual health information, assessment, treatment and counselling.  
Tel: (02) 9881 1206  
Mon 9.00am-4.00pm  
Wed 9.00am-1.00pm  
Fri 9.00am-1.00pm

## NEON

is a support and social group for transgender people of all ages. It's a chance to get together and discuss experiences, gain support and make friends. We meet at the ACON Hunter office on the last Wednesday of every month from 7pm-9pm and on the second Wednesday from 7pm-8pm  
Tel: (02) 4927 6808 (ask for Cath)

## NEWCASTLE SWOP

SWOP at Newcastle has a Mobile Sexual Health Team  
0249 276 808

## NORTHAIDS

A community based organisation providing step down and respite care for PLWHA on the Northern Beaches.  
Tel: (02) 9982 2310

## NUAA - NSW USERSAIDS ASSOCIATION

A peer-based community organisation providing education on safe injecting, safe using and safe sex. Information on services for injecting drug users. Free needles, swabs, water, spoons, condoms, gloves and lube. Free newsletter and material on HIV and AIDS and other topics of interest or concern to people using drugs illicitly.  
345 Crown Street, Surry Hills, 2010  
PO Box 278, Darlinghurst, NSW, 1800  
Tel: (02) 8354 7300  
Tollfree: 1800 644 413  
Fax: (02) 8354 7350  
admin@nuaa.org.au

## PARRAMATTA SEXUAL HEALTH CLINIC

provides free, confidential and respectful sexual health information, assessment, treatment and counselling.  
Level 1, 162 Marsden (cnr. George St)  
Parramatta 2150  
Ph: (02) 9843 3124  
Mon, Wed, Fri 9.00am-4.00pm  
Tue 9.00am-1.00pm  
Fri 9.00pm-1.00pm

## PLWHA (PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS)

PO Box 831, Darlinghurst NSW 2010  
Tel: (02) 9361.6011  
Fax: (02) 9360.3504  
http://www.plwha.org.au/  
**Katoomba:**  
P.O. Box 187  
Katoomba NSW 2780  
Tel: (02) 4782.2119  
http://www.hermes.net.au/plwha/  
plwha@hermes.net.au

## POSITIVE WOMEN

Can offer one-on-one support for HIV positive transgender women. Contact Women and AIDS Project Officer or Women's HIV Support Officer at ACON.  
Tel: (02) 9206 2000  
http://www.acon.org.au/education/womens/campaigns.htm

## REPIDU

Resource and Education Program for Injecting Drug Users  
Mon - Fri, 9am - 5pm Sat & Sun, 1 - 5 Deliveries Tue, Fri 6 - 9  
103/5 Redfern Street, Redfern, NSW, 2016  
(Redfern Community Health Centre, enter via Turner Street)  
Tel: (02) 9395 0400  
Fax: (02) 9393 0411

## RPASEXUALHEALTHCLINIC

provides a free and confidential range of health, counselling and support services. Ph: 9515 3131  
[See p. 26]

## SAGE FOUNDATION (Sex and Gender Education Foundation)

A voluntary lobbying organisation made up of gender variant people to lobby the government to ensure equal treatment in all respects of life. Sage is non-profit. All welcome.  
Ph: 0421 479 285

Email:  
SAGE\_Foundation@yahoo.com

## SEAHORSE SOCIETY OF NSW

The Seahorse Society is a non-profit self-help group funded by members' contributions. Open to all crossdressers, their relatives and friends. We offer discretion, private monthly social meetings, outings, contact with other crossdressers, a telephone information service, postal library service and a newsletter.  
PO Box 168, Westgate, NSW 2048 or  
Tel: 0423125 860  
www.seahorsesoc.org  
crossdress@seahorsesoc.org

## SOUTH COAST of NSW

from Ulladulla to the VIC Border. We are a group of like-minded people trying to establish a social and support group. Jen Somers, Sexual Health Counsellor, Narooma Community Health Centre, Marine Drive Narooma, NSW 2546  
Tel: (02) 4476.1372  
Mob: 0407 214 526  
Fax: (02) 4476 1731  
jenni.somers@sahs.nsw.gov.au

## (SWOP) SEX WORKERS OUTREACH TRANSGENDER SUPPORT PROJECT

Provides confidential services for people working in the NSW sex industry.  
69 Abercrombie Street  
Chippendale NSW  
PO Box 1354  
Strawberry Hills NSW 2012  
Tel: (02) 9319 4866  
Fax: (02) 9310 4262  
infoswop@acon.org.au  
www.swop.org.au/

## SYDNEY BISEXUAL NETWORK

Provides an opportunity for bisexual and bisexual-friendly people to get together in comfortable, safe and friendly spaces. Pub social in Newtown on 3rd Sunday of every month

## Issue Ninety

followed by a meal. All welcome. PO Box 281 Broadway NSW 2007  
Tel: (02) 9565.4281 (info line)  
sbn-admin@yahoo.com  
http://sbn.bi.org

### SYDNEY BISEXUAL PAGANS

Supporting, socialising and liberating bisexual pagans living in the Sydney region.  
PO Box 121, Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

### SYDNEY MEN'S NETWORK

Welcomes FTM men.  
PO Box 2064, Boronia Park, 2111  
Tel: 9879.4979 (Paul Whyte)

### SYDNEY SEXUAL HEALTH CENTRE

Provides free, confidential health services, including sexuality, sexual function, counselling and testing and treatment of STDs including HIV.

Level 3, Nightingale Wing, Sydney Hospital, Macquarie St, Sydney, NSW, 2000.

Tel: (02) 9382 7440 or freecall from outside Sydney 1800 451 624 (8.30am-5.00pm) Fax: (02) 9832 7475

sshc@sesahs.nsw.gov.au

### SYDNEY WEST HIV/HEP C PREVENTION SERVICE

Needle and syringe program  
162 Marsden St, Parramatta, NSW 2150  
Ph: (02) 9843 3229  
Fax: (02) 9893 7103

### TOWN & COUNTRY CENTRE

Drop In Centre - Weekly Coffee Nights - 24 hour ph line - regular social activities - youth services - information, advice and referral - safer sex packs and more! - for bisexual, transgender folks and men who have sex with men  
80 Benerambah Street, Griffith  
PO Box 2485, Griffith, NSW 2680  
Tel: (02) 6964.5524  
Fax: (02) 6964.6052  
glsg@stealth.com.au

### TRANS MASH

For younger Trans people (25 and under). Newcastle area. Contact Judi Butler j.butler@acon.org.au

### WOLLONGONG - TRAN

Transgender Resource and Advocacy Network.  
A service for people who identify as a gender other than their birth gender. Providing a safe and confidential place to visit, phone or

talk about gender issues.  
Thursday AND Friday 9am - 5pm  
Tel: (02) 4226.1163

### WOMENS & GIRLS DROP IN CENTRE

is a safe, friendly drop-in Centre in inner Sydney for women with or without children. Shower, relax, read the paper, get information, referral and advice.  
Monday to Friday - 9.30 - 4.30pm  
177 Albion Street, Surry Hills, NSW 2010  
Tel: (02) 9360.5388

## A.C.T.

**AGENDER AGENDA** is a non-profit group committed to providing support, education, information and relief to people living with any type of sex or gender related condition (whether symptoms are physical or mental and are attributable to genetic or other origin).

PO Box 4010, Ainslie, ACT, 2602  
Ph: 0412 882 855  
Fax: (02) 6247 0597  
Email: polar@homemail.com.au

### AIDS ACTION COUNCIL OF ACT

The AIDS Action Council of the ACT provides information and education about HIV/AIDS, caring, support services for people living with HIV/AIDS

Westlund House, Acton, ACT 2601  
GPO Box 229, Canberra, ACT 2601  
Tel: (02) 6257.2855  
Fax: (02) 6257.4838  
info@aidsaction.org.au

### PLWHA (PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS)

People living with HIV/AIDS ACT provides peer based support, advice and advocacy for people with HIV/AIDS in a relaxed friendly environment.

Westlund House, Acton ACT 2601  
GPO Box 229, Canberra ACT 2601  
Tel: (02) 6257.4985  
Fax: (02) 6257.4838  
plwha.act@aidsaction.org.au

### SWOP ACT (SEX WORKER OUTREACH PROJECT)

Provides services for people working in the sex industry in the ACT.

Westlund House,  
16 Gordon Street, Acton.,  
ACT, 2601  
GPO Box 229, Canberra, ACT, 2601  
Tel: (02) 6247 3443  
Fax: (02) 6257 2855  
E-mail:  
aacswoop@aidsaction.org.au

# Directory Assistance

## Northern Territory

### NORTHERN TERRITORY AIDS & HEPATITIS COUNCIL

Incorporating Services and Support For HIV Positive and Hepatitis Positive people.

- Needle Syringe Program
- Sex Worker Outreach Project
- Peer Project GLBTI Community Education, Social & Emotional Support
- Community Education

Tel: (08) 8944 7777  
www.ntahc.org.au  
info@ntahc.org.au

## Queensland

### (ATSAQ) AUSTRALIAN TRANSGENDERIST SUPPORT ASSOC. OF QLD.

A non-profit organisation providing counselling, support, referral and information, crisis counselling, drug and alcohol for transgender people, their families and friends.

Ph: (07) 3843 5024 8am-6pm  
Email: trans.atsa@bigpond.com  
www.atsaq.com  
PO Box 212, New Farm, Qld, 4005

### BRISBANE GENDER CLINIC

Doctors from private practices with an understanding of the transgender community ARE available for consultation by appointment each Wednesday afternoon from 1.30pm to 5.30pm.

Phone (07) 3837 5645  
Fax: (07) 3837 5640  
Level 1, 270 Roma Street,  
Brisbane 4000

### CAIRNS SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICE

A public health clinic with an interest in and experience of transgender medicine. Doctors, nurses and psychologist with referral to other services as required.

The Dolls House, Cairns Base Hospital, The Esplanade, Cairns  
Ph: (07) 4050 6205

### GOLD COAST SEXUAL HEALTH CLINIC

A public sexual health clinic with an interest in and experience of transgender medicine. Medical staff, nursing staff, dietician,

psychologist. Referral to speech pathology, endocrinologists, psychiatrists, surgeons available. Consultations free, by appointment.  
2019 Gold Coast Highway  
PO Bopx 44, Miami, Qld, 4220  
Ph: (07) 5576 9033  
fax: (07) 5576 9030

### QUEENSLAND GENDER CENTRE

Transsexual semi-supported accommodation available to those who identify as Transgender and who are drug and alcohol free. Accommodation available for six or twelve months.

PO Box 386, Chermside South, QLD 4032  
Ph: (07) 3357 6361  
www.queenslandgendercentre.org

### SEAHORSE SOCIETY OF QLD

We provide a safe environment for members and other persons in their lives to meet and socialise and offer counselling where possible. We are wholly self-funded and open to both sexes no matter what their sexuality  
PO Box 574 Annerley QLD 4102  
www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/8009/  
seahorse@powerup.com.au

### (SQWISD) SELF HEALTH FOR QUEENSLAND WORKERS IN THE SEX INDUSTRY

Provides a confidential service for transies working in the sex industry in Queensland. Offices in Brisbane, Gold Coast and Cairns. Also has an exit and retraining house for sex workers wanting to leave the sex industry.  
PO Box 5649, West End Qld 4101  
Tel: 1800 118 021  
Fax: (07) 3846 4629  
Email: sqwisib@sqwisi.org.au

### Andrejic Arcade, Suite 32.

55 Lake Street,  
PO Box 6041, Cairns, Qld, 4870  
Tel: (07) 4031 3522  
Fax: (07) 4031 0996  
Email: sqwisic@sqwisi.org.au

### Level 1 Trust House

3070 Gold Coast Highway,  
Surfers Paradise, Qld, 4217  
PO Box 578, Surfers Paradise, Qld 4217

Tel: 1800 118 021  
Fax: (07) 5531 6671

Email: sqwisic@sqwisi.org.au

### Level 3 Post Office Arcade

Flinders Street, Townsville, Qld, 4871  
PO Box 2410, Townsville, Qld, 4810

Ph: 1800 118 021  
Fax: (07) 4721 5188

Email: sqwisit@sqwisi.org.au

## TRANSBRIDGE

A support group for transgenders in the Townsville area. We have connections with sexual health, mental health, AIDS counselling and others by association.

Transbridge Support, PO Box 3572, Hermit Park, QLD 4812

If we can help you at any time we have a mobile phone for twenty-four hour support at:

0406 916 788

email: transbridge@mail.com

## (SATS) SOUTH AUSTRALIAN TRANSEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP

A support group for transsexuals who have changed or are about to change their gender role and for their partners. Also provides information on transsexualism for the community and people with gender identity difficulties.

SATS C/o PO Box 907

Kent Town SA 5071

or the Gay and Lesbian Counselling Service (Gayline) on: (08) 8422 8400 or country on 1800 182 223 or Sarah on 0409 091 663 or [www.tgfolk.net/sites/satsg/hrt.html](http://www.tgfolk.net/sites/satsg/hrt.html)  
email: satsgroup@yahoo.com.au

## Tasmania

### WORKING IT OUT

Tasmania's sexuality and gender support and education service providing counselling and support, mentoring for lesbian, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) Tasmanians and education and training programmes to schools, workplaces, government and non-government organisations. Office hours vary from office to office.

**Hobart**, 39 Burnett St, North Hobart (03) 6231 1200 or 0429 346 122  
Fax (03) 6231 1400

**Launceston**, 45 Canning St, Launceston

**Burnie**, 11 Jones St, Burnie (03) 6432 3643

[www.workingitout.org.au](http://www.workingitout.org.au)

Email: [exec@workingitout.org.au](mailto:exec@workingitout.org.au)

## Victoria

### CHAMELEON SOCIETY OF VICTORIA Inc.

While the group does not meet on a regular basis it is there to provide support and information to those requiring assistance with all matters.  
PO Box 79

Altona, VIC. 3018

Telephone message bank service (03) 9517 9416

email:

[chameleonvicgirls@hotmail.com](mailto:chameleonvicgirls@hotmail.com)

[robr@vicnet.net.au](mailto:robr@vicnet.net.au)

### FTM PHALLOPLASTY CONTACT

Michael is F2M who has had GRS and is willing to be contacted for information and support around Gender Reassignment Surgery for F2Ms in particular phalloplasty as performed by the Monash Medical Centre Gender Team.

Michael Mitchell. Tel: 0405 102 142

Tel: (03) 5975 8916 messagebank

[pathwaysau@yahoo.com.au](mailto:pathwaysau@yahoo.com.au)

## GENDER AFFIRMATION AND LIBERATION

is a caring self-help group for transsexed people. It meet monthly to support people who are in the process of gender/sex affirmation (transitioning or transitioned).

PO Box 245, Preston, VIC, 3072

Tel: (03) 9517 1237

<http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/gaal1>

## PROSTITUTES COLLECTIVE OF VICTORIA

### RhED in the sex industry

Are you interested in contributing to **RED**, the magazine produced by the RhED Program? If you are, please contact RhED on (03) 9534 8166 Mon-Fri 10am to 5pm

## SEAHORSE CLUB OF VICTORIA Inc.

A fully constituted self-help group financed by members subscriptions. Full or postal membership is open to transpersons who understand and respect the purpose of the club. Partners are also considered to be members. We have private monthly social meetings with speakers from relevant professions. Besides a monthly magazine and a library, we offer a contact mail service.

GPO Box 86, St Kilda, VIC, 3182

Tel: (03) 9513 8222

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~seahorse>

[seahorsevic@mbox.com.au](mailto:seahorsevic@mbox.com.au)

## (TGV) TRANSGENDER VICTORIA

Transgender Victoria is dedicated to achieving justice and equity for people experiencing gender identity issues, their partner, families and friends. We provide support on a range of issues including education, health, accommodation and facilitating assistance with workplace issues for those identifying as transgender, transsexual or cross-dresser.  
PO Box 762, South Melbourne, VIC, 3205

Tel: (03) 9517 6613 (leave a message)

[transgendervictoria@yahoo.com.au](mailto:transgendervictoria@yahoo.com.au)

[www.vicnet.net.au/~victrans](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~victrans)

## Western Australia

### CHAMELEON SOCIETY

Provides support to crossdressers, their relatives and friends.

PO Box 367,

Victoria Park WA 6979

Tel: 0418 908839 (8pm-10pm)

Email: [chameleonswa@email.com](mailto:chameleonswa@email.com)

[www.chameleonswa.com](http://www.chameleonswa.com)

## FREEDOM CENTRE

93 Brisbane Street, Northbridge, Perth, WA 6000

Ph: (08) 9228 0354 (opening hours

(08) 9482 0000(admin)

Fax: (08) 9482 0001

Email: [info@freedom.org.au](mailto:info@freedom.org.au)

Web: [www.freedom.org.au](http://www.freedom.org.au)

Provides peer support, information, referrals and a safe social space for young people (under 26) who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, transsexual, queer and questioning. We have a monthly drop-in specifically for Trans- and/or gender diverse young people called Gender Q (see below) on the first Thursday of every month from 5-8pm.

## GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY SERVICES

2 Delhi St, West Perth, WA, 6005

Ph: (08) 9486 9855

Counselling line (08) 9420 7201

Counselling line country areas 1800 184 527

Email: [admin@glcs.org.au](mailto:admin@glcs.org.au)

Web: [www.glcs.org.au](http://www.glcs.org.au)

Gay and Lesbian Community Services provides telephone counselling and other support services for people with diverse sexuality and gender. They have an excellent referral list for trans\* friendly doctors, psychs etc.

## GENDER-Q

Meets at the Freedom Centre (93 Brisbane Street., Northbridge Perth WA) on the first Saturday of every month from 1pm-4pm. It is a free peer-based support session for young people (aged 25 and under) with diverse gender expression. Significant others welcome.

Freedom Centre, PO Box 1510, West Perth 6872, WA

Tel: 9228 0354

[www.freedom.org.au](http://www.freedom.org.au)

email: [info@freedom.org.au](mailto:info@freedom.org.au)

## INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR ANDROGYNOUS STUDIES (IFAS)

See International listings on p.39

## MAGENTA

Magenta offers support, education and information to transgender, male and female workers in the sex industry: PO Box 8054 PBC Northbridge, WA 6849

Tel: 08. 9328 1387

Fax: 08. 9227 9606

## South Australia

### CARROUSEL CLUB

A non-profit, social group that operates as a support group for persons with gender issues, and provides social outlets. Produces a Club Newsletter every two months.  
PO Box 721, Marlestone SA 5033

Tel: (08) 8411.0874

[ccsai@hotmail.com](mailto:ccsai@hotmail.com)

[www.geocities.com/carrousel\\_2000](http://www.geocities.com/carrousel_2000)

### CHAMELEONS

Counselling, information and support aimed at minimising the isolation of transgender people in South Australia. PO Box 2603 Kent Town SA 5071

Tel: (08) 8293 3700

Fax: (08) 8293 3900

AH: (08) 8346 2516

### DARLING HOUSE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

A non-profit, community based resource that operates as a joint project of the AIDS Council of SA and the Gay and Lesbian Counselling Service of SA Inc.

64 Fullarton Rd Norwood

PO Box 907 Kent Town

South Australia 5071

Tel: (08) 8334 1606

Fax: (08) 363.1046

Freecall: 1800 888 559

### SHINE - SEXUAL HEALTH

Networking and Education South Australia Inc. (formerly Family Planning South Australia) provides sexual and reproductive health services for the South Australian community.

17 Phillips Street, Kensington,

SA. 5068 Tel: (08) 8431 5177

Fax: (08) 8364 2389

### **PYCIS**

Ph: (08) 9338 2792  
Fax: (08) 9388 2793  
Email: [picys@westnet.com.au](mailto:picys@westnet.com.au)  
PICYS provide medium to long-term support and accommodation for young people aged 16 to 25 who would otherwise be homeless. PICYS staff are well informed about TTI issues and are trained to provide young people with specialised support. TTI-specific resources and referrals to medical professionals.

### **TRANSCOMMUNITY WA**

We provide peer support for, information resources about, and advocacy on behalf of, people who are transitioning, are planning to transition, or have transitioned. We also organise discreet social events at which significant others and supporters of our membership are welcome.

Contact Lisa on 0427 973 496, email [lisasonau@yahoo.com.au](mailto:lisasonau@yahoo.com.au)

### **TRANSWEST: THE TRANSGENDER ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (INC)**

Support, information, advocacy and social events for all kinds of transgender and transsexual people. Established 1997  
PO Box 1944,  
Subiaco, WA, 6904  
Mob: 0407 194 282  
[hmp Perth@cygnus.uwa.edu.au](mailto:hmp Perth@cygnus.uwa.edu.au)  
[www.geocities.com/transwest\\_wa](http://www.geocities.com/transwest_wa)

### **TRUE COLOURS PROGRAM**

1st floor, Trinity Buildings,  
72 St Georges Terrace. PERTH,  
WA, 6000  
Ph: (08) 9483 1333  
Fax: (08) 9322 3177  
Email:  
[jaye.edwards@unitingcarewest.org.au](mailto:jaye.edwards@unitingcarewest.org.au)  
Web: [www.unitingcarewest.org.au](http://www.unitingcarewest.org.au)  
The True Colours program aims to promote safe and inclusive rural and regional communities where young people with a diverse sexuality and gender, their families and friends are supported and affirmed. This program offers support to young people who are coming out as well as educating the community services sector and community members about the impact of homophobia and heterosexism on these young people, their families and friends.

### **WELLBEING CENTRE OF WA**

Service for people with blood-borne diseases such as Hep C and HIV/AIDS. This service is for people with issues such as health problems, relationships, medication and alternative therapies.  
162 Aberdeen Street,  
Northbridge  
Tel: (08) 9228 2605

[www.free2be.org.au](http://www.free2be.org.au) is a WA based website for DSG youth that has a section on gender too ([www.free2be.org.au/gender.html](http://www.free2be.org.au/gender.html))

# Directory Assistance

## National

### **(ABN) AUSTRALIAN BISEXUAL NETWORK**

ABN is the national network of bisexual women, men and partners and bi- and bi-friendly groups and services. ABN produces a national news magazine, houses a resource library and is a member of the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA).  
PO Box 490, Lutwyche QLD 4030  
Tel: (07) 3857 2500  
1800 653 223  
[ausbinet@rainbow.net.au](mailto:ausbinet@rainbow.net.au)  
[www.rainbow.net.au/~ausbinet](http://www.rainbow.net.au/~ausbinet)  
IRCL (oz.org network) A.B.N.

### **AISS SUPPORT GROUP (AUSTRALIA)**

Support group for Intersex people and their families. We have representatives in all Australian States.  
PO Box 1089  
Altona Meadows, VIC, 3028  
Tel: (03) 9315 8809  
[aissg@iprimus.com.au](mailto:aissg@iprimus.com.au)  
[www.vicnet.net.au/~aissg](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~aissg)

### **AUSTRALIAN WOMAN NETWORK**

Australian WOMAN Network is primarily a lobby and health support group for people who experience the condition of transsexualism, their families, friends and supporters. There are email discussion lists for members as well as a bulletin board providing places for both public and member-only access. There is also a large archive of related material available for education and research purposes.

[www.w-o-m-a-n.net](http://www.w-o-m-a-n.net)

### **CHANGELING ASPECTS**

A caring national support organisation for Transsexual people, their partners and families. For information, please write or call.  
[email:knoble@iinet.net.au](mailto:email:knoble@iinet.net.au)  
[www.changelingaspects.com](http://www.changelingaspects.com)

### **FTMAustralia**

Resources and health information for all men (identified *female* at birth), their partners, family and service providers. Contact FTM Australia for more information.  
PO Box 488, Glebe, NSW, 2037  
[www.ftmaustralia.org](http://www.ftmaustralia.org)  
[mail@ftmaustralia.org](mailto:mail@ftmaustralia.org)

### **TRUE COLOURS DIVERSITY**

True Colours represents young people who experience transsexualism and a network of their parents, families throughout Australia. Whether you are a parent, a family member, a carer, a friend or a young person experiencing the diversity in sexual formation called transsexualism, you have come to a friendly place. TRUE Colours offers mutual support and advocacy for young people with transsexualism and their families. We also offer a parents/caregivers email discussion group.  
Web: [www.truecolours.org.au](http://www.truecolours.org.au)  
Email: [Mail@truecolours.org.au](mailto:Mail@truecolours.org.au)



## International

### AGENDER NEW ZEALAND

A caring national support organisation for Cross/Transgender people, their partners and families. For a detailed information pack, please write or call:

PO Box 27-560,  
Wellington, New Zealand

Tel: (64) 0800 AGENDER  
Email: [president@agender.org.nz](mailto:president@agender.org.nz)  
[www.agender.org.nz](http://www.agender.org.nz)

### BEAUMONT SOCIETY

Non-profit organisation for crossdressers throughout Great Britain. Social functions, counselling and a contact system for members. Provides a magazine - Beaumont magazine  
- Beaumont magazine  
BM Box 3084  
London WC1N 3XX  
England  
[www.beaumontsociety.org.uk/](http://www.beaumontsociety.org.uk/)

### BEAUMONT TRUST

The Trust is a registered charity, the aim of which is the support of transvestites, transsexuals, their friends and families. It fosters research into both psychological and social aspects of transvestism and transsexualism and can provide speakers to address other organisations. It produces literature and arranges workshops, develops befriending facilities and assists with conferences.  
The Beaumont Trust, BM Charity,  
London WC1N 3XX.  
<http://www3.mistral.co.uk/gentrust/bt.htm>

### CROSS-TALK

The transgender community news & information monthly.  
PO Box 944, Woodland Hills CA 91365 U.S.A.

### FTM INTERNATIONAL

A group for female to male transgender people. Provides a quarterly newsletter - FTM.  
160 14th St  
San Francisco, CA, 94103  
<http://www.ftmi.org/>  
[info@ftmi.org](mailto:info@ftmi.org)

### FTM NETWORK UK

A support group for female to male trans people. Provides a newsletter - *Boys' Own*  
FTM Network, BM Network,  
London, WC1N 3XX, England.  
[www.ftm.org.uk](http://www.ftm.org.uk)

### GENDERBRIDGE Inc.

Support and Social Society for people with gender identity issues, their families, partners and professionals involved in care, treatment and counselling.  
PO Box 68236, Newton, 1145, New Zealand  
Phone: (64) (09) 0800 TGHELP (0800.84.4357) (24 hrs)  
[www.genderbridge.org](http://www.genderbridge.org)  
[info@genderbridge.org](mailto:info@genderbridge.org)

### GENDER TRUST (THE)

A help group for those who consider themselves transsexual, gender dysphoric or transgendered. Provides trained counsellors, psychologists and psychotherapists and there is a referral procedure to a choice of other therapists.  
The Gender Trust  
PO Box 3192, Brighton  
BN1 3WR, ENGLAND  
<http://www3.mistral.co.uk/gentrust/home.htm>  
[gentrust@mistral.co.uk](mailto:gentrust@mistral.co.uk)

### INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR ANDROGYNOUS STUDIES (IFAS)

Support, information, advocacy and social events. An incorporated body established to advance the health, well-being, basic rights, social equality and self-determination of persons of any age or cultural background who are transgender, transsexual, transvestite or intersex, or who are otherwise physically or psychologically androgynous as well as gay, lesbian and bisexual people.  
PO Box 1066  
Nedlands, WA, 6909, Australia  
Mobile ph: 0427 853 083  
<http://www.ecel.uwa.edu.au/gse/staffweb/fhaynes>  
IFAS\_Homepage.html  
[www.IFAS.org.au](http://www.IFAS.org.au)

### IFGE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR GENDER EDUCATION

Educational and service organisation designed to serve as an effective communications medium, outreach device, and networking facility for the entire TV/TS Community and those affected by the Community. Publisher of materials relevant to the TV/TS theme. Produces TV/TS journal - *Tapestry*.  
PO Box 229, Waltham, MA 02254-0229 U.S.A.  
<http://www.ifge.org/>  
[info@ifge.org](mailto:info@ifge.org)

### IKHLAS

IKHLAS drop in centre is a community program by Pink Triangle Malaysia. Provides an outreach project, HIV/AIDS information, counselling, medication, workshop and skill building for transgender people in Kuala Lumpur Malaysia.  
PO Box 11859, 50760  
Kuala Lumpur Malaysia  
Tel: 6.03.2425.593  
Fax: 6.03.2425.59

### ITANZ INTERSEX TRUST AOTEAROA OF NEW ZEALAND

Registered non-profit charitable trust to provide a number of educational, advocacy and liaison services to intersexuals, their parents, caregivers, family, friends and partners within the Community and those affected by the Community.  
PO Box 9196, Marion Square  
Wellington, New Zealand  
Tel: (04) 4727 386 (machine only) Fax: (04) 4727 387

### PROSTITUTES COLLECTIVE OF AUCKLAND-NEW ZEALAND

PO Box 68 509,  
Newton, Auckland,  
New Zealand

### PROSTITUTES COLLECTIVE OF CHRISTCHURCH-NEW ZEALAND

Provides a confidential service for trannies working in the sex industry.  
PO Box 13 561  
Christchurch,  
New Zealand

### PROSTITUTES COLLECTIVE OF WELLINGTON-NEW ZEALAND

Provides a confidential service for trannies working in the sex industry.  
PO Box 11/412, Manner St  
Wellington New Zealand  
Tel: (64) 4382-8791  
Fax: (64) 4801-5690

Every effort has been made to include accurate and up-to-date information in this directory. To amend your listing fax (02) 9569 1176 or email the Editor on [resources@gendercentre.org.au](mailto:resources@gendercentre.org.au)

The Gender Centre & Aurora Foundation present:

# transtopia

## 2012

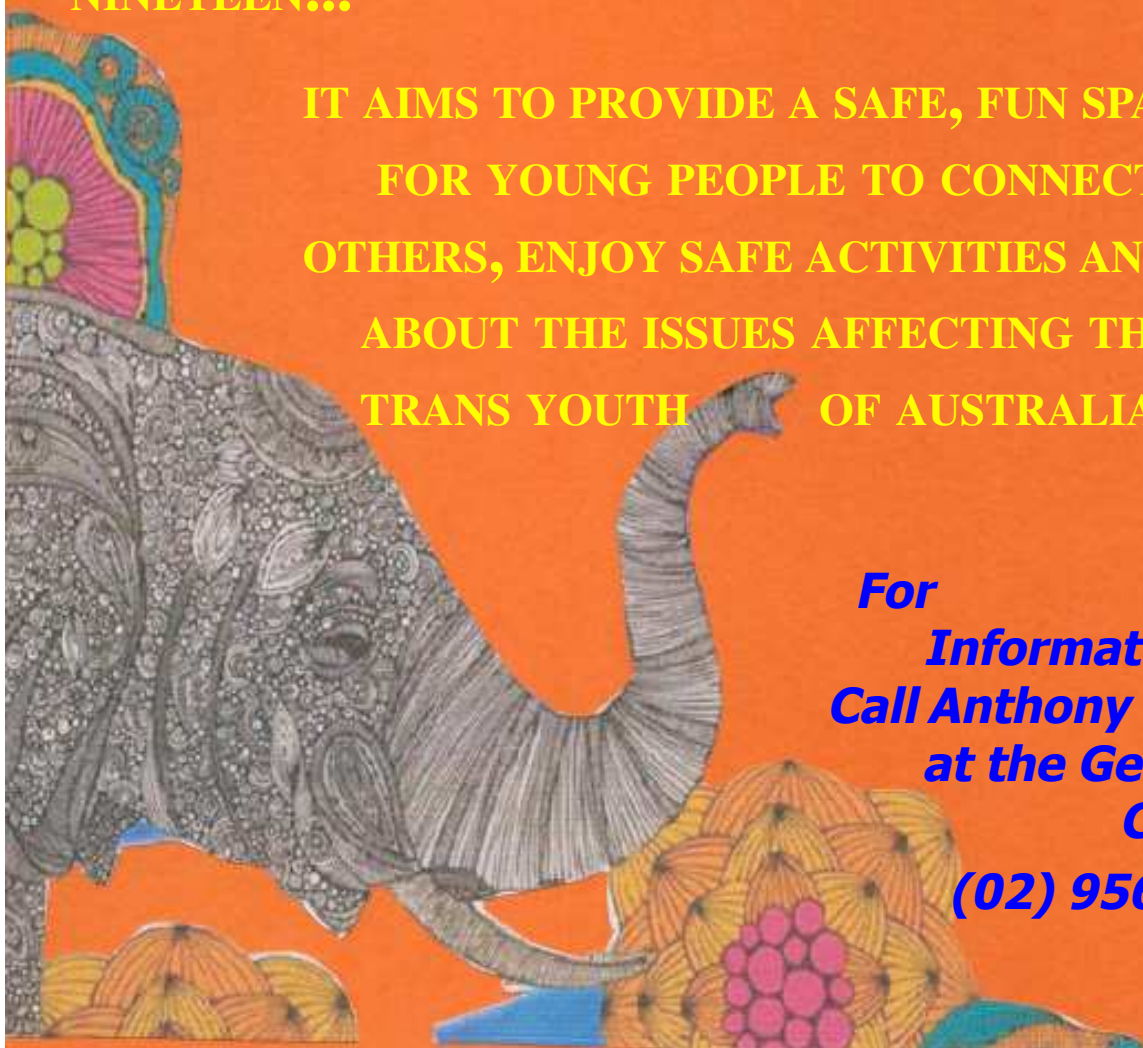
gender-questioning?

gender-queer?

‘TRANSTOPIA’ IS A MONTHLY GROUP TO BE HELD  
OVER TEN MONTHS IN 2012 FOR TRANSGENDER  
YOUTH BETWEEN THE AGES OF FOURTEEN AND  
NINETEEN...

IT AIMS TO PROVIDE A SAFE, FUN SPACE  
FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO CONNECT WITH  
OTHERS, ENJOY SAFE ACTIVITIES AND TALK  
ABOUT THE ISSUES AFFECTING THE  
TRANS YOUTH OF AUSTRALIA.

**For  
Information  
Call Anthony  
at the Gender  
Centre:  
(02) 9569 2366**



# Are You Embarrassed by Ugly and Unwanted Facial or Body Hair?

***You are not alone, and there is a permanent solution. Everywhere people are raving about the results of this amazing method!***

**It is medically and scientifically proven safe to permanently remove your unwanted hair so that it NEVER grows back. This process (called Multi Probe Electrolysis) has 130 years of tried, tested and proven safe and effective guaranteed permanent hair loss results.**

## **Multi Probe Electrolysis is suitable for:**

- All** areas of the body
- All** skin types and skin colours
- All** hair types and hair colours

## **Comments from satisfied clients**

*My skin feels so soft now; I am not embarrassed to be kissed anymore; I just feel so free; I thought I would have to live with this hair, now I know I don't - thank you; I can talk to people and look at them again; 12 years and nothing has grown back - you changed my life; I have so much more confidence; I wish I knew about Permanence a long time ago*

### **Our Guarantee**

***Our treatment has transformed the appearance of thousands of people. We are so confident in our results we put our 100% money back Guarantee behind our work! If in the unlikely event you are not truly satisfied with your treatment, then we insist on giving you back your money - NO QUESTIONS ASKED!***

So phone Sydney's most sought after Hair Removal Specialists for Results **NOW**. Say goodbye to your ugly unwanted hair forever and let us focus on achieving what you want, and this we do every day. The first 27 people to call and mention this ad will receive our special introductory offer - **you pay only \$99** for \$165 of Value - **a saving of \$66.**

**Consultation** Valued at \$60  
**30 Minute Treatment** Valued at \$75  
**Melfol Aftercare cream** Valued at \$30

### **City**

*Dymocks Building,  
Level 3  
428 George St, Sydney  
**9221 8595***

### **Drummoyne**

*170 Victoria Road,  
Drummoyne  
**9719 1391***



**[www.permanence.com.au](http://www.permanence.com.au)**

# **PERMANENCE**

*The permanent hair removal specialists*  
Polare page 43  
January-March 2012

# The Permanent Solution...

in Permanent Hair Removal

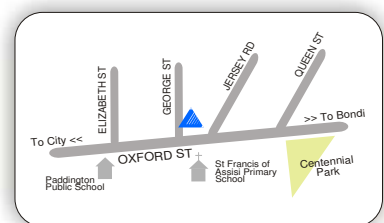
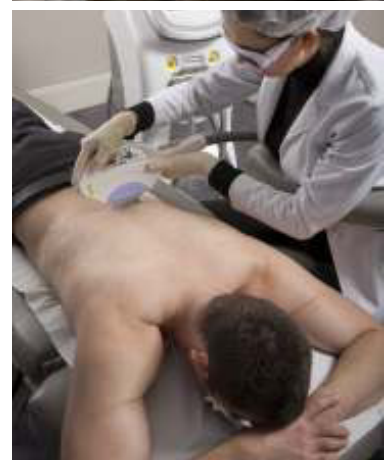
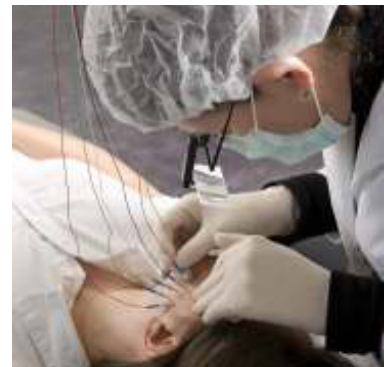
For those who are embarking on the transition from male to female, the permanent removal of hair is vital. However, with so many clinics and procedures to choose from, it's crucial that your chosen solution is reliable, safe and permanent.

At Advanced Electrolysis Centre, we have been specialising in permanent hair removal since 1996, continually improving the methods and the technologies that deliver the best results. You'll be in the hands of our experienced and qualified specialists, where you'll receive the ultimate level of personal care and attention. We also offer on-site parking for our 3hr clients subject to availability.

Galvanic electrolysis is a scientifically proven technique that is effective no matter what type of hair you have, and no matter what colour skin. It works perfectly, even if you have blonde or grey hair. However if you have dark hair this can be treated by laser or IPL, or in many cases a combination to achieve a true permanent result.

So, whether you are in need of some general information, or you have already decided on a method that best suits your needs, come in for a chat and get expert advice on how to effectively be free of your unwanted hair FOREVER!

- Multi probe galvanic 16, 32 and 64 (Dual operator) follicle treatment
- Guaranteed Permanent Results
- Skin Rejuvenation
- Pigmentation Reduction
- Red Veins & Rosacea



Phone: (02) **9362 1992**  
9 George Street (just off Oxford St),  
Paddington  
[aecsdydney.com.au](http://aecsdydney.com.au)