

Polare



*Phia Navin,
in Remembrance*

*TransArt
as therapy*

*A Tribute
to Paula*

*Postgraduate
research
at UNSW*

*Transgender Day
of Remembrance
Report*

*LGBTI
legislation
fails in
Victoria*

Trans
Studies
Conference
U. of Arizona
Report*

**MAGAZINE OF THE NSW GENDER CENTRE
ISSUE 110 JANUARY-MARCH 2017**

The Gender Centre presents:

transtopia 2017

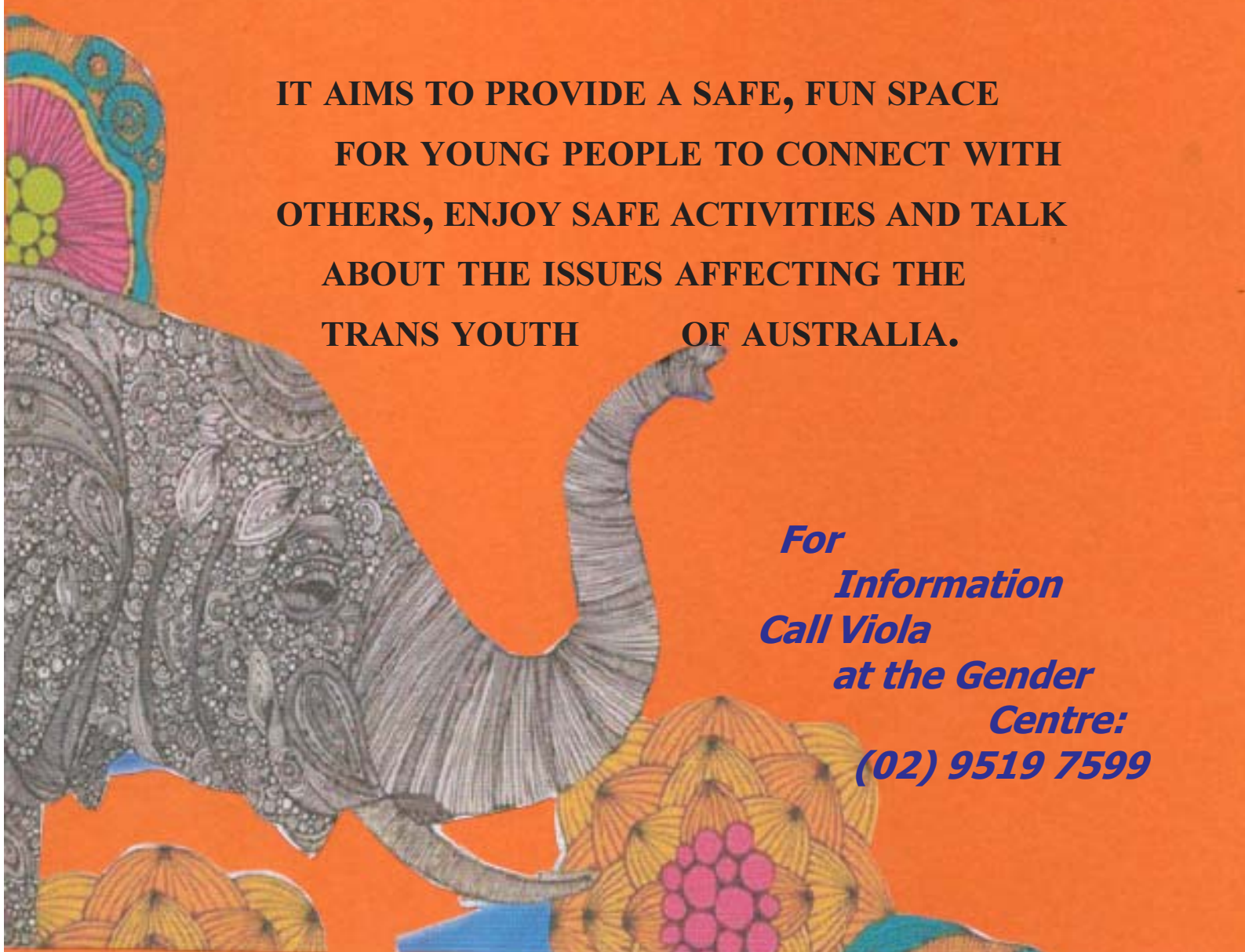
gender-questioning?

gender-queer?

‘TRANSTOPIA’ IS A MONTHLY GROUP TO BE HELD OVER TEN MONTHS IN 2017 FOR TRANSGENDER YOUTH BETWEEN THE AGES OF FOURTEEN AND NINETEEN...

**IT AIMS TO PROVIDE A SAFE, FUN SPACE
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OTHERS, ENJOY SAFE ACTIVITIES AND TALK
ABOUT THE ISSUES AFFECTING THE
TRANS YOUTH OF AUSTRALIA.**

***For
Information
Call Viola
at the Gender
Centre:
(02) 9519 7599***





The Gender Centre is committed to developing and providing services and activities which enhance the ability of gender diverse 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 gender diverse people.

We offer a wide range of services to gender diverse people, their partners, families and organisations, as well as service providers.

We 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 gender diverse people

**41-43 Parramatta Road,
Annandale
NSW 2038**

**Mail to:
PO Box 266
Petersham
NSW 2049**

Tel:(02) 9519 7599

**Outside Met. Sydney
1800 069 115 (9-4.30, M-F)
Fax: (02) 9519 8200**

**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: A member of the NSW Police Force displays the Transgender Flag in front of an appropriately coloured building at the Candlelight Vigil on the Transgender Day of Remembrance, 20 November, 2016.

Gay and Lesbian Counselling

Telephone Counselling:

☐ General line daily 5.30pm to 9.30pm

Sydney Metro 8594 9596

Other areas of NSW 1800 184 527

☐ Lesbian line

Monday 5.30pm to 9.30pm

Sydney Metro 8594 9595

Other areas of NSW 1800 144 527

GLCS also offers face-to-face support groups including:

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Or by mail:

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Mobile: 0415 454 770

Email: mentoring@wipan.net.au

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DEADLINE

for submissions to the next edition of *Polare* is
the eighth of March 2017

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THE FINE PRINT **Polare**
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Polare is published by the Gender Centre,
Inc. which is funded by Human Services -
Community Services and the Sydney South
West Area Health Service, and provides a
forum for discussion and debate on gender
issues.
Advertisers are advised that all advertising
is their responsibility under the Trade
Practices Act.
Unsolicited contributions are welcome
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that they will be published, nor any
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Polare may be published on the Gender
Centre's Website unless agreed otherwise.

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Polare A magazine for people with gender issues.
Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of
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Services - Community Services or the Sydney South
West Area Health.

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Back when the world was young (1960-62 to be precise) I worked for the National Library in Canberra. Soon after I took up my duties there I was given some materials that were to be placed in the Binding Basket.

The Binding Basket turned out to be several metres of steel shelving where library materials needing to be bound or rebound were placed, awaiting the arrival of the next van from the Government Binder. The shelving was called the Binding Basket because in the very early days of the National Library, which was actually and legally the Parliamentary Library, materials for binding were placed in a basket and hand-carried to the Government Binder by a junior employee of the Library.

Why am I telling you this? It is simply a demonstration of the longevity of name-usage, which can long outlive the application for which it was originally intended. When did you last attend a matinee in the morning?

This anecdote is intended to underpin my belief that no matter how the name is changed (officially), the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras will always be associated with the Gay and Lesbian sector of LGBTIQ.

I sympathised with, and took part in, the Mardi Gras celebration when it was a protest march against discrimination but now that it claims to be a celebration of the progress that has been made in recognising the human rights of marginalised groups and has adopted an overarching title for the Mardi Gras of “Creating Equality” its true value seems to be more in the generation of the pink dollar and the provision of a mindless spectacle for the public than for any more serious purpose.

The Mardi Gras has an extensive and varied programme and some of the components may be useful in achieving equality for someone, somewhere, but most are either entertainment, or an extravagant display for the sake of display. The Mardi Gras Parade, in particular, Polare Page 6

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is full of sound and tinsel, signifying nothing yet it is still advertised, and thought of, as the jewel in the crown of the Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras.

Why should I care? I **don't** care if it calls itself the Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras, but from time to time it adopts other names, such as the Gay and Lesbian and Transgender Mardi Gras, or simply the Sydney Mardi Gras, to encourage different groups, with different aims and memberships, to join the charivari.

Last year I used a metaphor to demonstrate that the Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras, which is sexuality-based, was irrelevant to many other minority groups that are **not** sexuality-based. I suggested that to continue to label it as Gay and Lesbian and ignore other groups right to be named and recognised if they are a significant part of the event was illogical.

Unfortunately my metaphor went over the heads of some of those who read it, and created a vociferous demand for apologies, retractions and possibly ritual suicide on my part, rather than provoking a reasoned response.

If gender identity were related in some way to sexuality, I could understand the appropriateness of including transgender people in a function labelled “gay and lesbian”, but since transgender men and women may be gay, lesbian, straight, bisexual or asexual it makes little sense to suggest that “transgender” is a term that fits in some way under the umbrella of “gay and lesbian”.

The inclusion of a transgender component in the Mardi Gras, labelled as such, perpetuates the myth that transgender is a form of sexuality, a myth that many of us spend much of our time denying. Some of us are gay, yes, and some of us are lesbian. Many of us are straight, although some of these terms are hard to define in the transgender milieu. Some are bisexual and a considerable number are asexual and open about it.

Surely there are enough transgender people in a city the size of Sydney to tell truth to ignorance and defend the celebration of that truth without muddying the waters by

appearing to be an adjunct to an entirely different set of truths.

Every November we observe the Transgender Day of Remembrance. Unlike the Mardi Gras the Day of Remembrance is not party-based. It is not a celebration. It is a solemn observance and recognition of the violence and cruelty that still persists in many parts of the world and which must be resisted and condemned here and elsewhere as long as it continues.

But surely we could have other events that celebrate gender identity without dwelling on violence. Surely we have enough people concerned with a need to be who they are and a determination to be accepted as productive members of society for them to come together from time to time to assert their human rights and to help the living.

Why shouldn't we have a **Transgender Day of Celebration** as well as a **Day of Remembrance**? The day could be dedicated to helping those who have been denied an education or have lost their employment and/or their accommodation simply because they have had the courage, or desperation, to come out and say who they are, and have transitioned into the gender role they should have occupied from early childhood.

We could lobby, as the British Press For Change organisation did, for a Parliamentary Working Party to sort out some of the administrative and documentary confusion we currently endure. We could help to draft legislation that would improve the lives of thousands of transgenders in Australia, and by example, in other countries.

There could be a push for affirmative action in the employment milieu. Employers and potential employees could also be brought together in a venue where potential employers could go through files of cvs and potential employees could go through files of job vacancies. These employment 'markets' are in existence in the United States and elsewhere but I have never seen them publicised here.

We could organise accommodation agencies for transgender men and women who find it hard to find a place to live. This is one area where gays and lesbians are well ahead of us. They have share space agencies (some of whom accept transgender men and women among their clients) and these bring together potential landlords and tenants, and also match potential tenants so that spaces can be usefully shared. And not a sequin, a patch of glitter or a tu-tu to be seen.

Katherine



So, there you have my view, which I have expressed more than once, that transgender organisations should divorce themselves from gay and lesbian events that perpetuate the misleading view that transgender is a sexuality rather than a gender identity.

For the contrary point of view, see the piece on the next page, written by Alicia Abela, who has been working energetically and enthusiastically with the parents of transgender children who are taking part in the Gay and Lesbian Parade.

For Those Who Live on the Central Coast of NSW.

The Deepwater Practice in Woy Woy, run by Melissa Turner, has agreed to bulk bill counselling clients who come with a GP referral and who mention that they are also clients of the Gender Centre.

**Unit 2, 101 Blackwall Road,
Woy Woy. Ph: 4344 7386**

“We’ve come a long, long way together, through the hard times and the good.

I have to celebrate you baby. I have to praise you like I should!”

These are the first words revellers will hear, as the families of people who identify as transgender or gender diverse, march proudly in this year’s Mardi Gras march; and ‘celebrating’ and ‘praising’ they will be!

These proud families are a force to be reckoned with (to say the least!), and they will be making sure they are seen and heard this year, as they march for the first time under the Gender Centre banner. Alongside staff members, in a sea of trans-coloured flags, umbrellas and signs, these ‘Transgender Defenders’ are guaranteed to grab everyone’s attention!

In my opinion, the theme for this year’s float, ‘Supporting Families’ does not fully depict just how amazing these individuals are! I was lucky enough to be assigned the endlessly rewarding task of assisting these families in organising this year’s float and what I have witnessed, is something much more than that which can be labelled as mere ‘support’.

Two of the organisers, Efro Blakeney and Lisa Cuda have been advocates for not only their own transgender children, but also for those whose parents are not so accepting and supportive. Sadly, many transgender and gender-diverse children can have their transition turn from something already challenging, into something much more isolating and painful. The results of this ignorance are devastating, with the most frequent cause of suicide reported being their experiences of verbal and physical abuse and rejection by parents. One study* reports that transgender and gender-diverse teens are three times more likely to use illegal drugs and eight times more likely to commit suicide than those who haven’t experienced family bullying and rejection!

So, what message are these proud marching parents sending out?

Keep your eyes peeled and your ears tuned because you **WILL** be hearing their message!

“WE ARE FAMILY! WE LOVE THEM UNCONDITIONALLY!”

There is nothing these parents won’t do to make sure their kids have the rights, the opportunities and the privileges they are entitled to, just like every other kid. Above all, they want them to be safe and happy and for them to know in their hearts that no matter what ignorance they face out there in the world, they have their families in their corner backing them all the way!

The majority of the marchers form ‘The Metro Parents Support Group’, a support group hosted by the Gender Centre on the second Monday of each month. This group provides a safe space for parents and families with transgender and gender-questioning children to come with their questions and concerns in order to be part of the discussions and gain insight and support from each other. It is a very rewarding group, especially for parents who are new to the transgender world and do not know where to turn. Efro and Lisa have shared so much of their experience and knowledge, helping so many families in taking their next step, from the day their kids came out to them, through challenges and court battles, and even their mourning of the child they once knew. You will be inspired by their determination and dedication to their children’s best interests, and ultimately, the love and acceptance that they give selflessly and unconditionally.

Notes:

- (1) Clements-Nolle, K., Marx, R., & Katz, M. (2006). Attempted suicide among transgender persons: The influence of gender-based discrimination and victimization. *Journal of Homosexuality*, 51(3):53-69
- (2) Youth risk behaviour surveillance, 2005. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* from www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/SS/SS5505.pdf

CHELSEA MANNING'S SENTENCE COMMUTED BY OBAMA IN LAST-MINUTE AMNESTY

Chelsea Manning, who was sentenced to thirty-five years prison for leaking documents in 2010 that revealed American military and diplomatic secrets, has had her sentence commuted by President Obama as one of his last executive actions before leaving office on 20th January, 2017.

Manning, who is a transgender woman, has been allowed to have some hormone therapy, and to wear female underclothing, but her hair has been kept to a male military length, she is held in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where she is the only female prisoner, and although she has asked for gender affirmation surgery the army has no experience in this area and no surgeons have been consulted.

General James E. Cartright, who was convicted for leaking similar information to



Chelsea Manning

the media, has also had his sentence reduced.

Another person who has leaked classified and highly sensitive military and diplomatic government documents is analyst Edward

Snowdon, who fled the country and is now living in Russia, but is seeking sanctuary elsewhere.

Chelsea Manning, however, went through a military trial, admitted her guilt and expressed regret, citing the emotional and psychological stresses she was undergoing and stating that she had no intention of putting anyone in danger.

VICTORIAN PUSH FOR GOVT RESEARCH INTO LGBTI

Gender neutral toilets in crisis and evacuation centres, and specialist support services to deal with discrimination against gay, lesbian and

transgender groups are being looked at by Victorian researchers who want to create “LGBTI-inclusive” emergency services.

Natural disasters such as fire and flood are to be considered in the light of statements from women’s health organisations who have claimed that “disaster impacts are heightened for LGBTI people”.

The project will be managed by Latrobe University Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria and the Gender and Disaster Pod.



Dr Jeremy Sammut

Dr Jeremy Sammut, a senior researcher in the Centre for Independent Studies suggests that too often such projects are run by academics with little or no ‘frontline’ experience. He cited the Lindt Cafe siege where police were concerned with social and political elements and two hostages were killed who might not otherwise have died.

“The risk is they can end up diverting crucial services from the core mission, which is to protect the safety of everyone in the community,” he said.

A former Assistant Commissioner for Victoria Police, Noel Ashby, is concerned that singling out special interest groups could interfere with decision-making and slow down emergency response.

Emergency Management Victoria Commissioner, Craig Lapsley, sought survey participants to provide information on research into LGBTI community members who had been caught in emergency situations and may have had difficulty in making use of emergency services, because of discrimination and marginalisation.

The call for responses on social media led to a significant backlash of negative comment but Victorian Emergency Services Minister, James Merlino, stated that, “We need to make sure all members of the community are prepared and supported when a disaster or emergency strikes.”

**The ACON Lesbian and Gay Anti-Violence Project can be contacted on
(02) 9206 2116
or Freecall 1800 063
or avp@acon.org.au**

QUEENSLAND GENDER CENTRE

The Queensland Gender Centre is run 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. PO Box 386, Chermside South, QLD, 4032. Tel:(07) 3357 6361

Luxe Clinic

As the Plastic and Cosmetic Surgeons at Luxe Clinic, we pride ourselves in providing a tailor-made surgical service to the transgender community.

Please visit our website for more information about our surgeons and our services.

[Please mention this ad. in Polare to receive 100% refund of your consultation fee as a credit back to your account when you book for any surgical procedure.]



www.luxeclinic.com

1300 LUXE CLINIC (589 325)

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 2015 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. Bookings are essential.

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 or 1800 105 527

Gender Centre Interest Groups

If you are M2F;
F2M; Over 55;
Queer; Youth
Group (aged
between 14 and
19); Young Female
(under thirty-five);
or Parents of a
Transgender Child,
then there is a
group at the
Gender Centre
tailored for you.
Groups usually
meet once a
month.
Call the Gender
Centre for details.

**They haven't called, they
haven't written...**

**The Editor would like to receive
more contributions from our
readers. Letters, articles, opinions
and life experiences are all
welcome.**

FREE!
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WRITING FOR ADULTS
(nights preferred)**
**Call Margot 9335 2536
or Mim 9335 2350
@ Petersham TAFE**

PARENTS OF TRANSGENDER CHILDREN

The Gender Centre hosts an
information and support group for
parents who have children (any age)
who are transgender or gender diverse.

Meetings will be held on the second Monday of each
month from 6.00pm to 8.00pm. A clinical
psychologist will co-facilitate these meetings.

A light supper will be available.

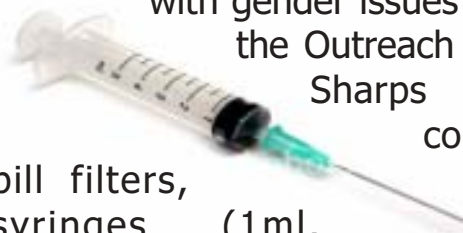
Contact Liz on 9569 2366

The Gender Centre is a Needle Exchange and operates Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 4.30pm.

A confidential free service for people
with gender issues (ask for
the Outreach Worker).

Sharps
containers,
pill filters,
syringes (1ml,
2.5ml, 5ml), needles (21g, 23g, 25g,
26g), condoms, spoons, water, fit
packs, swabs, dams.

Or phone the Alcohol and Drug
Information 24 hr advice,
information and referral service,
Sydney (02) 9331 2111
Country 009 42 2599





Edwina Keelan

Interview One (Viola)

“Transtopia art,” said Viola of the Gender Centre staff, “is art created by a group of transgender kids, aged fourteen to nineteen, who meet once a month at the Gender Centre.

They include transgender boys and girls and the term Transtopia was coined by Anthony Carlino, a former Counsellor at the Centre, who ran the group when it was first formed.”

Viola, who now runs the group, is studying for a Bachelor of Social Welfare. The group started in 2013 and Viola started at the Centre in 2014.

Transtopia invites guest speakers who may be professionally qualified (like a Psychologist) but the group sees itself as a social group rather than a clinic.

“It doesn’t have a clinic feel,” says Viola. “There’s no counselling and we don’t talk about people’s individual issues unless there is a feeling that the whole group can help with the problem.

Recently the Transtopia group created a display of artwork, based on their own feelings and the general situation of transgender. A number of these artworks are now on display in the Gender Centre and the depth



and feeling of many of the works is remarkable.

Viola says, “If you look at the artwork, some of it is positive and some of it is negative. Much of it is based on the group members’ feelings and sometimes it is clear that they are ambivalent. They don’t face much discrimination, partly because they are so early into their transition that although they

can see their future selves they have not yet arrived and their artwork is more about the journey than the destination.”

“They do their arts and crafts sessions once a year so that there is at least one meeting out of the twelve each year where they can do whatever they want, basically whatever is going on for them. Some of them put down on paper and paint whatever is happening to them and the Gender Centre is glad to put their art on the wall, so everyone is happy.



Viola in front of the Transtopia art display



Interview Two (Dr Christine Dean)

Dr Christine Dean completed her PhD eight years ago and lectures in art history at the National Art School. She is also a practising artist and was recently part of a collaborative exhibition in Melbourne, called *Fabrika*, which looked at art and textiles.

Dr Dean will be running a one-semester course in Transgender Art at the National Art School in 2017. When asked how Mental health and Wellbeing related to art, she replied, “You hear the term art therapy, and art is the greatest form of therapy. The reason it is so therapeutic is that you can unlock your personal issues and take them out to the public and make a career out of your art, so it is really the ultimate form of therapy. You could even say it is a form of exorcism.”

my father’s clothes I felt like a ghost or a shadow ... as if I didn’t exist. Essentially I didn’t have a body. But these images are just wonderful. The Transtopia artists are so strong, and they know where they are going and where they want to go.

She looked at the Transtopia artwork again and said “I wish I could have this artwork photographed. It would be great for my next lecture.”



Dr Christine Dean talks to the Over-55 group about transgender art.

She went on to say, “You can really get it all out of you, and is where it is therapeutic, revealing your personal issues, rather than locking things in, for instance when you are going through transition.”

“So many from the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex societies are artists and this is logical because we are the ones who have something to say about our journeys.”

Dr Dean indicated an image of a person divided down the middle, half-male and half-female, then went on to talk about wearing her father’s hand-me-downs, “getting around in



Dr Dean in the Gender Centre Library



FEEDBACK

We invite and welcome feedback at all times. Every three months we will draw the name of someone who has left feedback in the box near the television in the foyer and he or she will win a \$50 Westfield voucher.

Congratulations to Cathy Miller who won the \$50 gift voucher this month.

In place of the usual column of insightful advice, Candy is providing for this issue of Polare a foretaste of her upcoming book with the title that heads this page.

As she outlines in her introduction, the book will be based on her experience as Counsellor at the Gender Centre, and specifically as co-ordinator of the female-to-male support group, and her perceptions and analysis of the social reactions of fims to the change in privilege which they perceive as being part of their transition. Some resent the privilege differential between the genders and some accept it. Now read on...

The Key to the Gentlemen's Club - can trans-men change the world?

Introduction

I began writing this soon after entering a new field, well actually a new position, but the change might as well constitute a new field entirely.

See, I had recently taken on the role of Counsellor at the Gender Centre. The role is unique in that the only formal training that is available is that provided by my predecessor, the counsellor who sat in my seat for the past six years.

And the impetus to write this book? It came out of my first week in the role of leader of a support group for transgender men.

After a long five days of learning and growing, I sat in on a support group for trans-men. The group was attended by fifteen "new" males. I use this terminology, not because I am dismissive of their being men (albeit in the wrong bodies) their entire lives, but because, in our society, these individuals are brand new to the experience of being 'seen' as male.

On top of this, is the extraordinarily unparalleled notion of having the lived experience of a woman, followed by a, sometimes completely stealth, entry into the world of the masculine, as a typically chronological adult. I say chronological because it is certainly understood that the trans* individual is by no means an adult in every respect, but it is their presentation in society as an adult being that is of importance in this conversation.

So, in observing this group of new males one Friday night in July, I was struck by the conversation that ensued. The men who were at the stage in their transition by which they were comfortably and routinely "passing" as male, were discussing the notion of having received *the key to the gentlemen's club*.

At first, I brushed this comment off in my mind, thinking, 'well of course you are now privy to the backroom conversations that 49% of Western society have while the other 51% are in the kitchen...' but as the conversation continued, I became more and more intrigued. It wasn't just that conversations of cars, boobs and bums were rife, but rather the opinions that these new males had about their changed experience in the world, and the impact that it seemed to be having on them.

Group members expressed hurt and disgust that the gender they had always felt themselves to be, was so intrinsically and obviously privileged, that the effects were completely unconscious.

One young computer programmer noted, with an air of nonchalance, that he was now earning "a six figure salary" in a job that had the female presentation of himself earning much less.

From another corner of the room came a reinforcing, yet more perturbed comment, that "male privilege" simply arrived the moment they were seen as truly masculine. This perturbed tone and later supporting explanation, had me intrigued.

These men; individuals who felt male their whole lives, were angry at their own kind. This unique group, in an incomparable situation, were the ones who could expose the deepest, darkest, and most intimately protected secrets of an entire gender.



Candy Jacques

The Premise of the Book

While this book's title suggests a great privilege in the process of transition from female to male, moving up the proverbial ladder as they say, not all of the experiences I hear about being inside this 'Gentlemen's Club' are wholly positive. Evidently, there are some members of the trans-masculine community that are happy to accept these privileges; perhaps as a bonus to becoming what they've always wanted. Others however, see the difference as an injustice, and as unfair to those they leave behind.

This is not another book written purely about the experience of being transgender, although that will certainly play a key role in the stories as they unfold, but rather, this is an exploration of Feminism, and the existence of the second-class citizen, experienced from both sides of the coin.

The unique position of being socially *less than*, followed by a transition in gender and thus power, gives transgender men an opportunity like no other. Can trans-men use this power to really make a change from the inside?

More News of Interest

VICTORIA TRIES, AND FAILS, TO REVISE BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGE LAWS FOR LGBTI

The Victorian Government has made a valiant attempt to remove some of the current legislative injustices that impinge on the lives of LGBTI citizens.

An amending Bill called the Births, Deaths and Marriages Amendment Bill 2016 was introduced on 18 August 2016. If passed into law it would have removed the need for applicants to have undergone sex affirmation surgery before receiving a new birth certificate.

It would also have removed the requirement for the couple to go through a forced divorce if one partner wanted the sex recorded on their birth certificate to be changed. Adults would simply have applied to have their sex descriptors changed on the birth certificate and this birth descriptor could be male, female, or a gender diverse or non-binary descriptor..

The Registrar of Births Deaths and Marriages would be entitled to refuse to register sex descriptors deemed to be obscene or offensive, or not reasonably established as a sex descriptor.

The Bill would have allowed parents or guardians to apply for alteration of the sex descriptor on their child's birth registration and this change would require the child's assent

and would have needed a supporting statement from a doctor or registered psychologist that the child had the capacity to assent. It would also need to be affirmed that the change would be in the best interests of the child. Children over the age of sixteen would be assumed to have the capacity to consent.

One Victorian couple that would have benefited is that of Senator Rice, whose partner, Nobel Prize-winning climatologist Penny Whitton was formerly Peter Whitton.

The couple remained married after Dr Whitton's transition but although Dr Whitton holds an Australian passport declaring her to be female, she cannot alter the sex descriptor on her birth certificate without going through a form of divorce with Senator Rice.

Senator Rice said the changes would remove the "crazy and discriminatory spectre of trans-forced divorce."

The Victorian Attorney-General, Martin Pakula stated that "Nobody should be forced to undergo major surgery or choose between maintaining a legal relationship with their spouse just to get a birth certificate that reflects who they are.

The Bill passed the lower house but was defeated in the Legislative Council on 6 December, 2016. A media release stated that "The Liberal Nationals Coalition has always been prepared to consider legitimate and practical reform, but the bill would have produced unintended consequences..."



The Gender Centre family was deeply saddened by the passing of Phia Navin on the 13th of November 2016. Phia was part of the Gender Centre for many years and was a life member of the Seahorse Society of NSW. Her name, in case you were wondering, was a shortened form of the name of her favourite actress, Sophia Loren.

Phia was born in Coogee on the 6th of March 1929 and named Michael Navin, the youngest of a family of seven children, four girls and three boys. Phia was a primary school student at St Charles' Catholic Primary School Waverly and was a boarding student throughout high school at St Joseph's College Hunters Hill. Phia said she enjoyed sport most at school, but always felt a bit out of place.

Phia often talked about her mother's death when Phia was only ten, which was a great loss to the whole family. Phia's father remarried, but Phia did not get along with her stepmother and said this is why she was sent to high school as a boarding student.

Phia left high school when she was seventeen and gained an apprenticeship, learning fitting and turning at an engineering machine shop in Oxford Street, Darlinghurst.

During this time Phia was living in a rented a room in a house behind the old Darlinghurst Gaol and Courthouse, which has been the National Art School in various forms since 1922.

Phia was a licensed fitter and turner, engine re-conditioner, welder, boiler operator, forklift driver, panel beater and spray painter into her 80s. Phia was also an inventor and worked on a new car design which would have provided more environmentally friendly power for less fuel consumption in a lighter engine.

Phia said she had feelings there was something else she needed in life, but in those days there was never the opportunity to express yourself the way you needed to and it was something no-one ever talked about. In 1952 Phia saw a doctor and psychologist and told them about her feelings but they were unable to help her.

Phia said from early childhood, for as long as she could remember, she felt she was in the



Phia Navin

wrong body; she said she should have been a woman instead of being born male. Despite Phia's inner feelings she married, but the marriage did not change her feelings. Phia told her wife before they were married she "had a problem". Phia's wife saw her "dressed female" twice but would not try to understand and accept Phia's need.

Phia and her wife were married for forty-three years and raised six children, four girls and two boys. They also had sixteen grandchildren as well as some great grandchildren.

Initially they set up home in Penshurst and Phia was working as a skilled fitter and turner at the CSR sugar refinery on the Parramatta River. From Penshurst they moved to Leeton in the central west of NSW where Phia worked in engineering at the fruit cannery and rice mill.

Phia continued to have the urge to "dress female", but with her family constantly around she felt she couldn't.

Their next move was to Wagga Wagga where after working at the meat works Phia grabbed the opportunity to open her own workshop. Phia had a machine shop and would carry out all sorts of mechanical repairs and panel beating. While working at the machine shop

Phia wore “female clothes” under her working day overalls. It was around this time Phia discovered the Seahorse Society of NSW.

By the 1990s Phia’s children had moved away and lived in various places across Australia. Phia and her wife decided they would separate and they divorced. Phia was coming to Sydney quite regularly and attending Seahorse Society meetings and experiencing the night life with other Seahorse Society members. The Seahorse Society’s Annual Balls were a highlight in Phia’s calendar. Phia eventually moved to Caringbah in southern Sydney.

Phia regularly attended the Gender Centre’s monthly Over 55 Support Group until she lost her Driver Licence.

Phia was a good friend to a number of other Gender Centre clients. Many will remember her with great warmth and affection.

Over the years Phia was a member of a number of clubs devoted to other interests, such as: music, dancing, swimming and various sports. Phia played football for eleven years and said it was hard to play in high heels so she gave it up!

For approximately the last twenty years Phia was living full-time as Phia. Phia said she was the happiest and most content she had ever been and had no regrets about being Phia.

She loved a pretty frock, a good high heel and plenty of bling!

Phia’s funeral was held at Rookwood Memorial Gardens and Crematorium on Thursday the 24th of November 2016. Phia’s family, friends, staff from the Gender Centre and members of the Seahorse Society gathered together to bid a very fond farewell to Phia.

The Gender Centre held a memorial for Phia in December 2016 where her various friends were able to share stories and anecdotes about Phia and their shared experiences.

Phia was an absolute delight and it was a pleasure to be in her company. Even as her health declined Phia still managed to crack jokes and make the people around her laugh. Phia is, and will continue to be, greatly missed.



Even Phia’s coffin had its high heels, flowers and bling!

Phia’s tribute was compiled with information from the Gender Centre, from an article by Phia published in Edition 84 of the Gender Centre’s Polare Magazine and from an article published in the October 2015 Edition of the Seahorse Society of NSW Magazine, written by Rhonda, the editor. PW

Gay and Lesbian Fair Day is Sunday 19 February

The Gender Centre will, as usual, be hosting an information and support stall at the Gay and Lesbian Fair on 19 February. Because of the complicated infrastructure revisions of the City Centre, Victoria Park is not available. It is hoped that the Fair can be held in the Camperdown Memorial Park in Newtown. This park is bounded by Australia Street, Lennox Street, Federation Road and Church Street, Newtown. Hours for the Fair are 10.00am to 8.00pm. The Gender Centre stall will be staffed from 10.00am to 4.00pm and its stall will be found near the children’s play area.



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Dates for Special Interest and Support Groups 2017

Transtopia 14-19 yrs 5pm-7pm	Young Women's Group 18-35 yrs 5.30pm-7.30pm	FTM Connect 6.00pm-7.30pm	Parent's Support Group - Sydney 6.30pm-8.30pm (doors open 6.00pm)
Tue February 28	Tue February 14	Fri February 3	Mon February 13*
Tue March 28	Tue March 14	Fri March 3	Mon March 13
Tue Apr 18	Tue April 11	Fri April 7	Mon April 10
Tue May 30	Tue May 9	Fri May 5	Mon May 8
Tue June 27	Tue June 13	Fri June 2	Mon June 5 (1 week early)
Tue July 25	Tue July 11	Fri July 7	Mon July 10
Tue August 29	Tue August 8	Fri August 4	Mon August 14
Tue September 26	Tue September 12	Fri September 1	Mon September 11
Tue October 31	Tue October 10	Fri October 6	Mon October 9
Tue November 28	Tue November 14	Fri November 3	Mon November 13
Tue December 19	Tue December 12	Fri December	Mon December 11
Women's Group 1.30pm-3.30pm	Over 55 Support Group 1.30pm-3.30pm	Queer Agenda Group 5.30pm-7.30pm	
Fri February 24	Thur February 9	Fri February 24	
Fri March 24	Thur March 9	Fri March 24	
Fri April 28	Thur April 13	Fri April 28	
Fri May 26	Thur May 11	Fri May 26	
Fri June 30	Thur June 8	Fri June 30	
Fri July 28	Thur July 13	Fri July 28	
Fri August 25	Thur August 10	Fri August 25	
Fri September 29	Thur September 14	Fri September 29	
Fri October 27	Thur October 12	Fri October 27	
Fri November 24	Thur November 9		
	Thur December 14		

***Note: The Human Rights Commissioner, Edward Santow, will be attending the Parents' Support Group Meeting on 13 February.**

What is cissyfying? And what is un-trans? What about trans-feminisms? SOGI anyone? These were just some of the terms and ideas that engaged me in the days I attended the Trans* Studies conference in Tucson, Arizona. Trans* studies is an academic research area, it is sometimes called trans* theory and trans* scholarship.

It is a specialised and developing area of research done specifically relating to trans* people. It was by far the biggest conference of trans* scholars ever held. There were dozens of panels, over a hundred papers and presentations, there were films, poetry and performance.

So much was happening at the same time it was impossible to see everything. The University of Arizona has been an important institution for trans* studies with the LGBT studies area having been under the leadership of Associate Professor Susan Stryker, a trans* scholar who has also been instrumental in establishing the peer review journal TSQ (Transgender Studies quarterly), along with co-editor Paisley Currah. TSQ is now in its fourth year.

The opening keynote talk was given by Professor Sandy Stone from the University of Texas. A transgender trailblazer, who in 1993 wrote the *The Empire Strikes Back: A Posttranssexual Manifesto*, a foundational academic text that was a rigorous challenge to thinking about transsexualism at the time. During her talk, Professor Stone explained what trans* studies is. She said it's "whatever we do".

This was a pin drop moment that gave permission for everyone of us who didn't necessarily take part in strictly academic research or have a position in a university to feel that we had been granted legitimacy about what we have to contribute to trans* studies.

As the conference unfolded I began to see a deeper value in creative artistic practice as a

form of research and how it is a valid mode of cultural activism. This kind of activism always brings ideas of trans* identity into a conversation.

The other big moment for me was realising that I am an expert on myself. The reclaiming of trans* identity away from medical models is not new. There was a fresher understanding of trans* embodiment having many ways it can exist, from genderqueer, to non-binary gender and I was elated to hear speaker Dr Y. Gavriel Ansara discussing brother boys and sister girls in indigenous Australian culture and how there needs to be a re-thinking of how we view gender.

Western views on gender need to have greater flexibility to better allow for cultural differences and inclusivity.

Trans* people's experiences in developing countries were discussed, in particular Latin America and the great divide between what kept being described as the Global North and the Global South. I understood this to be a generalised term between North and South America but later enquiry came up with this Wikipedia definition:



Professor Sandy Stone

Generally, definitions of the Global North include the United States, Canada, Western Europe, and developed parts of Asia, as well as Australia and New Zealand, which are not actually located in the geographical North but share similar economic and cultural characteristics as other northern countries.

There was a recurring reminder of legal obstacles, poverty, violence and trauma experienced by trans* people around the world. I was moved by the openness of delegates to share and freely exchange ideas and their personal stories. The regions of Asia, Africa Australia and the Pacific were only touched on, in a conference where the Americas dominated.

Mauro Cabral, a trans* and intersex activist from Argentina was the second keynote speaker. He spoke with a decidedly assertive tone for the self determination of trans* people.

He has worked directly with the UN in policy development and bought up the idea of SOGI, (sexual orientation and gender identity). In his talk he went on to explain how these are interconnected and why LGB and T are intermeshed. His own activism positions on intersex issues suggest they have distinct attributes that necessitate a tailored approaches. Although there is common ground, intersex issues and rights are specific and these were not the main focus of the conference. The Centre that hosted the conference is named the Institute of LGBT studies and lacks the I that would imply a concern with intersex as an integrated interest paralleling L, G, B and T.

There was a powerful buzz of collegial unity that culminated in a Transgender Research Association business meeting. What **was** this? Was there an association I didn't know about? I went to the meeting and it turned out to be a foundational meeting.

The conference delegates were there to create the association. There was excitement in the air. What form would it take? How and what would we do with it? How much if anything would membership cost? What would it be called? These are still largely open questions.

My input was to have an artist-in-residence program to support trans* artists and to make it available to trans* visual artists/dancers/musicians to make trans* culture.

I am an artist and trans* culture is what I do. I'm completing a PhD at Sydney College of the Arts at the University of Sydney. I presented a paper about Drag Performance, I have a passion for drag and cross dressing, it's how my own trans* identity flourishes. I am exploring why drag is an important part of trans* culture and hirstory (yes you read

correctly, its not history or herstory - its hirstory). My presentation gave some reference to trans* women who used drag performance, in Sydney there was Carmen Rupe, Carlotta and the other impersonators from Les Girls. In the USA there were Martha P. Jonson and Sylvia Riviera, both of whom were instrumental in starting the Stonewall riots. I also referred to a previous *Polare* article by Nicole Moore (Issue 107) and the work of academic Roberta Perkins.



Mauro Cabral

In popular culture there is no doubt TV programs like RuPaul's drag race have highlighted some troubling aspects found in some forms of drag and this has created

internal hostilities within trans* communities. My overarching interest is in the relationships drag performance has to trans* identities. Drag has been critical for social cohesion and the development of contemporary trans* identity. I am suggesting that drag performance is a rich and valuable cultural asset we must carefully research and document and, above all, enjoy.

The conference was a wonderful collision of ideas, experiences, and people. With the focus on trans* studies, there were academics galore presenting their ideas as well as artists, poets, performers and activists. The generosity and devotion of the conference participants was awesome and I left feeling totally inspired. I am lifted knowing that trans* studies is creating a vast global network where we are writing about ourselves and committed to making the world a better place for trans* people.

LGBT Studies Institute Conference // Arizona State University // Tucson, Arizona, USA // 7-10 September 2016

NOTE: The author of this report has preferred to use the pseudonym "y" but has given permission for his/her email address to be included in case anyone would like to ask for further detail or make a comment directly to the writer.

Email: yzaf2255@uni.sydney.edu.au



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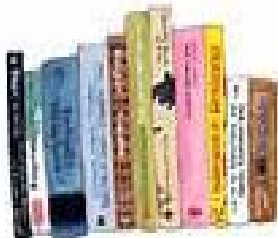
Midmark M9 Autoclave Sterilisation used in this salon.

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GC Library Appeal

If you have books you no longer need and feel they would be of interest to the Gender Centre clientele, we would be very glad to receive them, process them, and place them in the Gender Centre Library for Gender Centre users to read, for entertainment or information.



Contact Katherine on 9519 7599 (Wed, Thur or Friday) or just drop them in marked to her attention. Thanks!



2017

FTM Australia is a peer-based national Australian network offering contact, support and information for men identified female at birth. We have provided quality reliable information since 2001.

OzGuys

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Find helpful medical service providers like GPs, endocrinologists, surgeons and others to support you in your transition journey by registering with the FTM Australia website.

Torque

Subscribe to our electronic bulletin - Torque .

<http://www.ftmaustralia.org/publications/network-news-subscribe>

Australian social, medical and legal information for men transitioning female-to-male.
<http://www.ftmaustralia.org/>

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against
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or the Gender Centre on ph: (02) 9519 7599,
email: reception@gendercentre.org.au

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to download a complaint form:

Email: complaintsadb@agd.nsw.gov.au

My name is Tamie Anthas K. In 2001 and 2002 I was one of the clients of the Gender Centre’s housing service, under Paula’s loving care.

I heard only recently of Paula’s passing, which made me extremely sad and guilty as I felt that I should have stayed in touch with her and The Centre more than I have. But Life has not been too kind for me as I struggled with my own battles. But having said that, I would still consider myself as one of Paula’s success.

In the past few years I have been recognised for my work as a fashion designer. My work has been published in many fashion magazines and has won prizes in competitions. I am well known in the student fashion design industry as a proud transgender woman.

I would like to share my success and my story with the Gender Centre as I know I would have made Paula very proud, and this piece is dedicated to her and her good work.

I hope to inspire other transgender people to dream and to make those dreams come true. We can earn respect for who we are if we prove to ourselves that we are worthy of respect. We should stand tall and be proud.

After leaving the Gender Centre in 2002, I was working as a fashion designer in Double Bay with a boutique label Sussie Mooratoff, and with other designers in the following years .

In 2013, I decided to return to study. I enrolled myself at the Fashion Design Studio, Ultimo College; a design school that has produced top Australian designers such as Akira Isogawa, Alex Perry, Romance Was Born, Dion Lee, Lisa Ho, Nicky Zimmermann and many more.

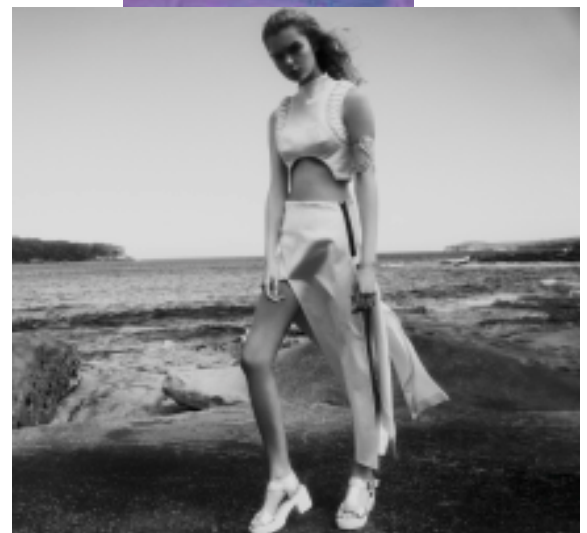
The dress on the right was my first winner in the Dylon Competition at the College in November 2013.



In 2015 I was ask to put on the show for the Applied Fashion Design and Technology end of year runway show at Ultimo College. I showcased three looks of my collection and this collection was featured in *Feroce* magazine.

This was the starting point of my fashion design career as other photographers and models took notice and contacted me for more of my work to be borrowed and shot to be featured in other fashion magazines and their portfolios.

Below are some of my images from magazines such as *Dreamingless*, *HUF* magazine, *Scorpio Jin*, *SÝN*, *Jute*, *Volition* and many more.





In November 2015, *Vogue Italia* featured one of my photo shoots for their “Take me to Hospital” editorial issue [see above].

In February 2016 I was fortunate enough to showcase with the New York organisation RAW in Sydney.

These are some of my works that I would like to share with the Gender Centre. I hope that you would be as proud of me as Paula would.

I know that there is still a lot of room for improvement, but I am proud of who I am, and I really want to be some kind of inspiration for, not just the younger T-girls generation, but to every one of us.

I thank you for taking time to read my contribution to *Polare*. I have a very high respect for the Gender Centre and the great work it offers.



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Except in the case of serious emergencies, please make an appointment before coming to the Gender Centre. We are glad to help you if we can, but someone else may booked the time

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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.

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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 1200 for an appointment.*

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available.

Be Part of the Action!

Can you write? Would you like to write something for *Polare*?

We are looking for writing that expresses some of the viewpoints we seldom see, like the views of younger gender-diverse people.

Email

***resources@gendercentre.org.au* or call 9519 7599**

Transgender Day of Remembrance 2016

Issue One Hundred and Ten

by Katherine Cummings

Every year since 1999 a number of communities of transgender men and women as well as their allies around the world have observed the Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR), a tradition started by an American transgender woman, Gwendolyn Ann Smith, in memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman murdered in Allston, Massachusetts in 1998 and Chanelle Pickett, another transgender woman murdered on the same date three years earlier. Since 1999 many cities in more than twenty countries have adopted the observance of this day.

Customs differ from country to country, but typically transgender people murdered or subjected to serious violence in the previous year are memorialised, and resolutions are made to work for an end to anti-transgender violence.

For a number of years the Gender Centre and its partners have organised two Days of Remembrance, one held on the actual day (20 November) and the other held in Parliament House on the nearest Friday to the proper date. The one held on 20 November was

usually held in the evening, so that those who work during the day can attend.

The one in Parliament House was held earlier

in the day, in the hope that some Members of Parliament might attend, as Friday is a non-sitting day, and we thought that we might persuade some Parliamentarians to agree that revision of the law was needed in a number of areas to grant transgender people the human rights they were still being denied.

It is a sad fact that very few politicians attended, as many left Sydney to return to their homes and electorates for the weekend and others had committee or other responsibilities that prevented them from spending the time to take part in the TDOR observance.

In 2016 TDOR fell on a Sunday and a decision was taken to revert to original pattern of observing the day on the actual date and abandoning the Parliament House secondary observance.

For a number of years TDOR in Sydney has been planned jointly by the Gender Centre, the City of Sydney, the Inner City Legal Centre and the NSW Police Force. This year Sydney Transgender Pride, led by Katherine Wolfgramme, joined the planning group and put forward the idea of a candle-light march followed by a vigil in Taylor Square to follow the TDOR events in Harmony Park, Surry Hills.

A number of venues had been considered but Harmony Park was selected partly for its own qualities as it is a small park, dog-friendly and with a number of shade trees and easy to reach by public transport. It is also adjacent to the NSW Police Centre and the NSW Police were eager to be involved in a number of ways.

The police have been integral with our



Gwendolyn Ann Smith





Supt Tony Crandell

observance of TDOR for a number of years and a solid relationship of goodwill, co-operation and mutual regard has evolved partly through the Gay and Lesbian Liaison (GLLO) project that aims to put an

informed and friendly gay and lesbian liaison officer in every police station.

Chief Superintendent Donna Adney and her successor, Tony Crandell, have led the way in this project and have spoken engagingly at TDOR functions for a number of years, pledging the Police Force to co-operation, compassion and support for transgender men and women and other marginalised groups. In 2016 this support was more marked than ever, ranging from the use of furniture from the Police Centre for use in the park to a promise of shelter if the weather turned against us.

In addition Superintendent Crandell agreed to be our second speaker and expressed a wish to unveil a plaque, pledging support for transgender and other marginalised people.

A number of police personnel were also on hand to help with setting up the venue and providing a free barbecue for all those participating.

The City of Sydney took on the complex issues involved in obtaining permissions to use a public park and providing Porta-Loos for the public. Pip Ditzell, from the City of Sydney also obtained two marquee tents for our Living Library Book event. Living Library Books originated in Sweden and the idea is to provide a “library”



The marquees going up in Harmony Park

of people with expertise in a specific area or an interesting life story to tell. Members of the public (or in our case, those attending TDOR) can reserve a “book” for half an hour or so and talk with them, gaining knowledge they might otherwise never have. I sometimes say it is like speed dating without the sex.

It was suggested that a film, *The Trans List*, could be screened, as it had never been shown in Australia and was well thought of. Permission was sought and granted and the film was screened for the planning committee and approved for screening at the TDOR.



The Transgender Day of Remembrance plaque

The programme was more varied than usual, with the Human Rights Commissioner’s speech as a keynote, to be followed by Tony Crandell and the dedication of the plaque. In turn these would be followed by the Living Library books and the barbecue, with the film screening in the late afternoon and the candlelight march and vigil to follow and conclude the evening.

There were a multitude of minor administrative tasks to be undertaken, creating purple sashes

for the ‘helpers’, printing notes for the people who had generously dedicated part of their afternoon to be Living Library Books, organising transport, sending out invitations to VIPs and so on. There always seemed to be something extra that had been overlooked,



The fine art of herding cats

and because the event was to take place in a park we had to worry about contingency plans for bad weather. The day, in fact, turned out to be a fine and warm with a gentle breeze so that we were fortunate indeed.

Setup commenced around 1.00pm with an advertised starting time of 3.00pm. for the keynote speakers.

Those who wished to attend TDOR soon started to arrive and the first complication made itself obvious.

Because we were in a public park we were sharing the space with members of the public who just happened to be there, with other people giving their dogs and run and, of course, with several delightful dogs.

This only mattered because when the time came for the Human Rights Commissioner, Ed Santow, to give his address there were groups of people settled all over the park, and persuading those who were there for the TDOR to move closer to the speaker was very similar to the well-known problem of trying to herd cats. The helpers did their best to move people closer to the microphones but as a result of having to run around the park (or, in my case, hobble) I missed most of the Commissioner's speech. For anyone else who missed it on the day, I have reprinted it on pages 33 and 34 of this issue.

Ed Santow's speech was followed by some words from Tony Crandell, who invited the audience to move to the corner of the Police Centre where the plaque had been placed and was about to be dedicated.

I cannot give you Tony's wording verbatim as

he speaks without notes, but I know that he read the words of the plaque and commented on the sincerity with which he espouses the aims of reconciliation and future co-operation with the marginalised sectors of society.

He also spoke about the past, and the friction that had existed between law enforcement and some sectors of society that should have been treated with more understanding and compassion.

Tony expressed regret at past events and the impossibility of going back to remedy former attitudes, and made it clear that he wanted a closer liaison in the future and hoped that we could all continue to learn and to improve.

He spoke of wanting transgender people to feel comfortable talking to the police and reporting crime, and the relevance of the location of the plaque, which has been sited not far from the Police Memorial Wall.

The wording on the plaque is as follows:

**NSW Police Force
Transgender Day of Remembrance
November 20
This plaque is dedicated to the
transgender, gender-diverse and
other vulnerable communities who
have experienced discrimination,
abuse and violence
Stand proud**

The NSW Police Force stands with you

and carries the police emblem at the head of the text and the purple transgender ribbon superimposed at the foot.

As mentioned in my editorial there were a number of protesters on the scene, probably between twenty and thirty. I would include a photograph I took of their assembly and protest, but I don't know who they were or how to contact them, and have no way of gaining their permission to include their images.

If, however, they would like to put their point of view in the next issue of *Polare*, I would be glad to consider it for publication.

As it was I went over and talked with them, stating that I respected their right to express their views, and suggesting that, having made their protest, they should join us in the remaining events, including the Living

Library Books, the film and the barbecue. Some of them did.

Judging from their placards I believe their main cause for dissent was our close association with the police, but this is not new and, as Tony Crandell said, we cannot change the past but should work toward a better future.

The Living Library Books segment of the day



went well, with many people expressing a wish to talk with our “books”, who included a psychiatrist, an academic trans-artist, a counsellor, an MTF, the MTF’s wife, the mother of a transgender child and a transgender policewoman.

The living library also involved some cat-herding as a number of people had annexed the chairs in the marquees intended for the “books” and their readers (very sensibly as the marquees provided some shade, and shade was in short supply).

The film, *The Trans List*, made available to us by Queer Screen, had not been screened previously so that we were privileged to receive permission to show it. It was well made but fell into the popular trap of assuming that because someone has a reputation in some other field (athletics, acting or whatever), his or her opinions on transgender life were somehow more significant than those of others.

This is a common assumption in the media and we are frequently advised to buy this or that, or act in a certain way, simply because the person concerned is well known and popular, and not because they have made any particular study of a situation, or devoted serious thought to analysing a social phenomenon. I have long advocated education as the key to

understanding and by this I mean both formal and informal education. Informal education should be through all forms of media, movies, plays, magazine, talk-back radio etc., but we also need formal education starting at the pre-school level and continuing to tertiary courses in universities and colleges.

The barbecue, as one might expect, was well run and popular with all and sundry.

The last event of the day, and one of the most significant, was the march from Harmony Park to Taylor Square, organised by Sydney Trans Pride.

At Taylor Square words were spoken, appropriate songs were sung and, according to Katherine Wolfgramme, the principal organiser, more than three hundred people lit their candles and took part in a vigil of remembrance for those who are no longer with us.

I regret my old legs failed to manage the walk but we have many photos, including the cover of this issue, to remind us of a touching ending to a very full Day of Remembrance.

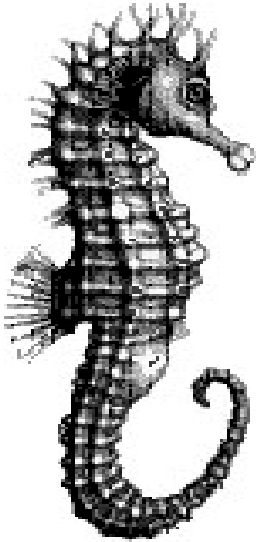
The Gender Centre and its partners would like to thank all those who participated, by planning, providing resources or by attending.

I hope that this year’s TDOR will be as rewarding and comforting as last year’s and that any differences that come to light will be reconciled in a spirit of harmony and general good will.



Participants in the TDOR march and candlelight vigil light their candles in Taylor Square

The 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
Email: crossdress@seahorsesoc.org
“crossdress with dignity”

Nicolsons Electrolysis

Electrolysis is still the only permanent solution for unwanted hair

Nicolsons Electrolysis provides the latest and best in electrolysis technology, and many years of experience with transgender individuals to give you the fastest results

Over 20 years' specialist experience
Registered Nurse (non practising)
Located in Balmain in a private setting with free parking
Daytime, evening and weekend appointments available

Call today to book in for a free consultation and trial

0416 165 475 (02) 9555 7007
nicolsonselectrolysis.com

APILUS
(REGISTERED TRADE MARK)
PLATINUM.
27 MHz

*The Epilator
for the 21st Century*

Psychological Support Services (PSS) for the Transgender Gender Questioning and Gender Diverse Community

Healing and Growth Psychological support groups will be commencing on Saturday, 4 February 2017 so book your place now.

Psychological Support Services are provided as part of the Central and East Sydney Primary Health Network (CESPHN) Mental Health Flexible funding pool. This initiative is funded by the Commonwealth of Australia, Department of Health (DOH). The PSS services provided by the Gender Centre are short term face-to-face psychological group support services providing up to eight group sessions in a twelve-month period and a final follow-up session one-on-one with one of the Counsellors facilitating the groups. This service is seen to be beneficial for clients who may benefit from short term treatment, and are unable to access other available psychological services; all sessions will be run on Saturdays and all sessions are facilitated by professional counsellors: **Anthony Carlino** (Sydney Transgender and Diversity Counselling Service), **Candy Jacques** and **Nicola Williams** (the Gender Centre Inc.), and are FREE with a referral from your GP.

There will be three groups running throughout the year. They are:

- Group 1 Trans Youth 15 to 25
- Group 2 Trans Men
- Group 3 Trans Women

Contact the Counsellor at the Gender Centre for more information and to book your place.

Nutritional Consultations Through the Gender Centre

James Lyons is offering FREE nutritional consultations through the Gender Centre for trans and gender diverse clients who could benefit from nutritional support. James qualified with a Bachelor of Health Science in Nutritional Medicine from the Southern School of Natural Therapies in Melbourne and now practices evidence-based nutrition in Sydney. He is committed to advancing the field of nutrition to better address the needs of marginalised people of all kinds, and is passionate about educating fellow healthcare practitioners on cultural competency in treating trans and gender diverse clients.

Nutritional medicine is a perfect complement to medical model transitioning. It can support the body during HRT, promote desired changes, reduce side effects of medications, improve healing times and outcomes of surgeries, as well as strengthen the immune system, the nervous system, and general well-being.

Appointments: Initial appointment: 1 hour Follow-up appointments: 30 min – 45 mins

Contact the Centre on 9519-7599 to book an appointment

.Introduction

Today, on the Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR), we honour the memory of those trans and gender diverse people who have died in acts of violence due to hate crimes.

The right to live peacefully in a world free from violence is, perhaps, the most basic of our human rights. Living under the threat of violence is an affront to our common humanity. It is an even greater affront when the foundation of that threat is an attribute that is central to one's identity.

As a cis-gendered white man, my life is relatively simple. I can merge easily into the landscape. I can lead a private life in public.

For many trans and gender diverse people, I realize that life isn't nearly so straight forward. There's infinite variety in how we humans present ourselves. And so it is shocking that some forms of that infinite human variety have been historically, and can still be now, dangerous.

A close friend once said to me: "It can be so achingly tiring to go through life as a member of the LGBTI community. I spend so much of my life meeting ignorance and fear, with love. And I have an ever-present anxiety that other people's curiosity can turn, in an instant and without warning, to anger and violence."

She went on to say, "As a teacher, my teaching didn't stop when the children went home from school. I teach my parents, siblings and broader family; I teach my friends and acquaintances; I also teach people on the bus; colleagues; the man who works at the fruit shop. Even when people are just curious and friendly, it can be exhausting."

I don't know if my friend's experience resonates with trans and gender diverse people here today; if you feel the burden of being a teacher for so much of your life.

Certainly, the rest of us need to be mindful of that burden. Curiosity is understandable, but at the foundation of a healthy community are acceptance, respect and love.

Access to healthcare

And so, in that spirit, I would like to talk a bit about the Human Rights Commission's work in this area. Last year, we published a report titled *Resilient Individuals*:

sexual orientation, gender identity and intersex status.

Our starting point was international human rights law. The human right to health is protected in a number of key international human rights treaties, including

ICESCR[and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The right to health includes the right to access services on an equitable, non-discriminatory basis.

Our *Resilient Individuals* report identified a number of significant barriers that trans and gender diverse people face in accessing healthcare in Australia. Key issues in respect of health include:

- ◆ necessary pharmaceutical and surgical procedures are not listed on the Medicare schedule;
- ◆ there's a lack of publicly-funded, appropriately-trained medical specialists, particularly in regional, rural and remote areas;
- ◆ there are huge practical and financial problems bound up in the requirement that young trans people must apply to the Family Court of Australia for a court order to access stage two hormone treatment.

Recent stakeholder engagements

In my first three months as Human Rights Commissioner, I've heard directly from trans and gender diverse people and their families about the consequences of these barriers on their life.

For example, in a visit to Melbourne last month, I heard from the parents of trans young people about the challenges they have faced in navigating the Family Court process to enable their children to access stage two hormone treatment.

I know, as a lawyer, how difficult it can be for people to access the court system. Further attention, therefore, needs to be paid to the particular legal barriers that apply in this area, and whether they can be amended to meet the needs more effectively of trans young people and their families.

Only last week, I heard from a trans man about the difficulties he had encountered in accessing medical treatment in Australia, and the emotional and financial consequences of this process for him and his family.



Edward Santow, Human Rights Commissioner

Issue One Hundred and Ten

Legal recognition of gender identity

The *Resilient Individuals* report also highlighted the ongoing barriers that trans and gender diverse people face in changing the legal record of their gender on official identification documents. There are important human rights at stake here, and these are recognised in the ICCPR.

They include:

- ◆ the right to non-discrimination (articles 2(1) and 26)
- ◆ the right to recognition before the law (article 16)
- ◆ freedom from arbitrary interference with privacy and/or family life (article 10(1))
- ◆ freedom of expression (article 19)
- ◆ freedom of movement and travel (article 12)

In most Australian states and territories people must provide evidence that they're unmarried and have undergone some form of medical treatment, usually surgical intervention, to change the legal register of their gender or sex. Additional barriers exist for trans and gender diverse young people if their parents are not willing to consent to changing the legal record of the young person's gender.

Discrimination in employment, service provision and accommodation

Other work that the Human Rights Commission has done has highlighted serious and numerous experiences of discrimination on the basis of gender identity in a variety of different settings, including accommodation, service provision and employment.

For example, one person told the Commission that after he cut his hair and changed his name, his employer changed his employment type from permanent full-time to casual and told him that he was no longer "fit for full time work". When he challenged the decision, the employer responded, "Face it, you aren't the girl we hired".

These stories of discrimination are in line with complaints of gender identity discrimination that the Commission has received under the Sex Discrimination Act, which explicitly makes it unlawful to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and intersex status.

Violence, bullying and harassment, particularly as applied to young people

We know from the Commission's own research and the research of others that trans and gender diverse people

report disproportionately high rates of violence, harassment, bullying and exclusion related to their identity. Rates are particularly high for trans and gender diverse young people.

For example, in a 2014 report, 66% of survey participants reported that they had experienced verbal abuse on the basis of their gender identity and 21% reported that they had experienced physical abuse on the same basis.

Commission's past work to protect and promote the rights of transgender people

The Human Rights Commission has intervened in two major court cases concerning the rights of transgender people.

The first of those cases was *Re Kevin and Jennifer* ([2003] FamCA 94). In that case, the Family Court affirmed the right of a couple to be married where one member of the couple (Kevin) had been originally assigned a female gender at birth but had since identified as a man.

The second case was *Re Jamie* ([2013] FamCAFC), which dealt with the right of a child and their parents to obtain medical treatment that would allow the child to live in her affirmed gender – as a woman.

Conclusion

Australia, much more than many countries, coheres around good, positive ideas – like the fair go and egalitarianism. These principles are at the heart of human rights and of events such as today's.

Few, if any, of us here today ever met Rita Hester. Her tragic and violent death in Boston in 1998 catalysed the Transgender Day of Remembrance around the world. I'm proud to stand together with all of you to honour Rita, and all other trans and gender diverse people who have suffered violence.

Honouring these people means two things. It means pausing to think about their situations, their stories, the people they loved and who loved them.

It also means working as hard as we possibly can to consign to history hate, violence and other forms of injustice against trans and gender diverse people. In their place will be left a kinder and more respectful community.



A.C.T.

AGENDER AGENDA

works with the sex and gender diverse community. This includes transsexuals, transgender people, intersex people, cross-dressers and other non-gender conforming people. We acknowledge the important role that partners, family members and allies play and these people are specifically welcomed as part of our community.

PO Box 4010, Ainslie, ACT, 2602 Ph: (02) 6162 1924
Fax: (02) 6247 0597
Email: support@genderrights.org.au
Website: www.genderrights.org.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. Havelock House, 85 Northbourne Ave, Turner, ACT 2612
PO Box 5245, Braddon, ACT 2601

Tel: (02) 6257 2855
Email: contact@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:
aacswop@aidsaction.org.au

NEW SOUTH WALES

NSW GENDER CENTRE

Counselling

Provides counselling to residents and clients living in the community. For more information or an appointment contact the Counsellor on 9519 7599 between 10am - 4.30pm.

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 - 4.30pm. Also available to clients confined at home, in hospital or gaol - by appointment only. For an appointment contact Outreach Worker - 9519 7599.

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. 9519 7599

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, including a quarterly magazine *Polare* and a regularly updated website at: www.gendercentre.org.au .

For more information contact the Information Worker Wed-Fri 9519 7599

Drug and alcohol service

Provides education, support and referral to a broad range of services - By appointment only. For an appointment contact the Outreach Worker 9519 7599

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 95197599.

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, 41-43 Parramatta Rd, Annandale or PO Box 266, Petersham NSW 2049
Tel: (02) 9569.2366
Fax: (02) 9569.1176
manager@gendercentre.org.au
http://www.gendercentre.org.au

2010 - TWENTY10 (incorporating the Gay and lesbian Counselling Service of NSW)

A community-based, non-profit support organisation for people of diverse sexes, sexualities and genders, their families and communities across NSW, providing telephone counselling (all ages), support groups, community education and a range of specialised support services for young people (12-26 years old).

For support call 1800 184 527 (QLife, daily, 5.30pm-10.30pm) or (02) 8594 9555 (Sydney) or 1800 65 2010 (regional NSW), Twenty 10, 10.00am-5.00pm Mon-Fri.

Admin enquiries (02) 8594 9550
Email: info@twenty10.org.au
Website: www.twenty10.org.au

ACON HEALTH LTD

Information and education about HIV/AIDS, caring, support for living living with HIV/AIDS. 41 Elizabeth St, Surry Hills, NSW 2011 or POBox 350 Darlinghurst, NSW 1300
Ph: (02) 9206 2000
Fax: (02) 9206 2069
tty: (02) 9283 2088

ACON-HUNTER

129 Maitland Road or PO Box 220, Islington, 2296
Ph: (02) 4927 6808
Fax: (02) 4927 6845
hunter@acon.org.au
www.acon.org.au

ACON-MID-NORTH COAST

Shop 3, 146 Gordon St
Port Macquarie NSW 2444
Tel: (02) 6584 0943
Fax: (02) 6583 3810
mnc@acon.org.au

ACON - NORTHERN RIVERS

27 Uralba Street
Lismore NSW 2480
PO Box 6063
South Lismore NSW 2480
Tel: (02) 6622 1555

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

BOBBY GOLDSMITH FOUNDATION (BGF)

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

Ph: (02) 9283 8666
free call 1800 651 011
www.bgf.org.au
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. Provides support and understanding for families and friends 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

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
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

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

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

FTMAustralia

Contact, support and information for all men (identified *female* at birth), their families, partners, and service providers. Contact FTMAustralia for more information:
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, higher for mobiles)
1800 184 527 (free call for regional NSW callers only)

Admin enquiries: (02) 8594 9500 or
admin@glcsnsw.org.au
website: www.glcsnsw.org.au

HARM MINIMISATION PROGRAM

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

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

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

PO Box 22, Kings Cross, NSW, 1340
Tel: (02) 9360.2766
Fax: (02) 9360.5154

KIRKETON ROAD CENTRE

Needle exchange and other services
Clinic Hours:
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri, 10am - 6pm
Wed 12 noon-6pm
Weekends and public holidays, 10am - 1.45pm (NSP & methodone only)
Outreach Bus - Every Night
100 Darlinghurst Road
(Entrance above the Kings Cross Fire Station Victoria Street

Clinic 180

180 Victoria Street, Potts Point, 2011
Tel: (02) 9357 1299
Fax: (02) 9380 2382

Clinic 180 open

Monday to Saturday
1.30pm-9.00pm
Needle syringe program
Condoms

Monday to Friday

1.30pm-9.00pm
Sexual health screening
HIV screening
hepatitis C testing,
hepatitis B testing and
vaccination
First aid and wound care
Counselling and social
welfare assistance
Drug and alcohol assessment
and referral

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 CHURCH

MCC Sydney is linked with MCCchurches 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

NEWCASTLE SWOP

SWOP at Newcastle has a Mobile Sexual Health Team
4927 6808

NORTHAIDS

A community based organisation providing step down and respite care for PLWHA on the Northern Beaches.

Tel: (02) 9982 2310

OPEN DOOR COMMUNITY OF CHRIST

The Open Door Community of Christ is a church for everyone! We meet every Sunday at 6.00pm. Based in Sydney's west, at Cranebrook, the Open Door has been serving the LGBTIQ community for the past fifteen years. The Western Sydney Transgendered Support Group and the Western Sydney Coming Out Group are sponsored by the Open Door. Bj's cafe is held on Wednesdays from 11.00am-1.00pm. The Youth Is Knocking youth group is held monthly with accredited facilitators.

Contact Pastor Sue Palmer
0411330212 or
pastorsue@theopendoor.org.au
for further information, or check the web page

www.theopendoor.org.au

PARRAMATTA SEXUAL HEALTH CLINIC

provides free, confidential and respectful sexual health information, assessment, treatment and counselling.

Level 1, 162 Marsden (cnr. eorge St)
Parramatta, 2150
Ph: (02) 9843 3124
Mon, Wed, Fri, 9.00am-4.00pm
Tue 9.00am-1.00pm
Fri 9.00am-4.00pm

PLWHA (PEOPLE LIV- ING WITH HIV/AIDS)

PO Box 831, Darlinghurst, NSW, 2010
Ph: (02) 9361 6011
Fax: (02) 9360 3504
www.plwha.org.au
PO Box 187,
Katoomba, NSW, 2780
Ph: (02) 4782 2119
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.

Ph: (02) 9206 2000
www.acon.org.au/education/womens/campaigns.htm

RPA SEXUAL HEALTH

CLINIC provides a free and confidential range of health, counselling and support services. Ph: 9515 1200

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 2193 Boronia Park, NSW, 2111 or Ph: 0423 125

(SWOP) SEX WORKERS OUTREACH TRANSGENDER SUPPORT PROJECT

Provides confidential services for people working in the NSW sex industry. Lvl 4, 414 Elizabeth St, Surry Hills, NSW, 2010

PO Box 1354
Strawberry Hills NSW 2012
Tel: (02) 9206 2159
Fax: (02) 9206 2133
Toll free 1800 622 902
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 3d Sunday of every month followed by a meal. All welcome

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 NET- WORK

Welcomes FTM men.
PO Box 2064, Boronia Park, 2111
Tel: 9879.4979 (Paul Whyte)
paulwhyte@gelworks.com.au

SYDNEY SEXUAL HEALTH CENTRE

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

Level 3, Nightingale Wing, Sydney Hospital, Macquarie Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000

Ph: (02)9382 7440 or freecall from outside Sydney 1800 451 624.
(8.30am-5.00pm)
Fax: (02) 9832 7475
sshc@sasahs.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 Benerembah Street, Griffith
PO Box 2485, Griffith, NSW 2680
Tel: (02) 6964.5524
Fax: (02) 6964.6052
glsg@stealth.com.au

WOMENS AND GIRLS EMERGENCY CENTRE

174 Redfern Street, Redfern
Tel: (02) 9319 4088

National

(ABN) AUSTRALIAN BISEXUAL NETWORK

National network of bisexual women and men, partners and bi-and bi-friendly groups. ABN produces a national 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
www.rainbow.net.au/~ausbinet

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
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 for both public and member-only access.

www.w-o-m-a-n.net

CHANGELING ASPECTS

Organisation for Transsexual people, their partners and families. For information, please write or call.

email:knoble@iinet.net.au
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
mail@ftmaustralia.org

NATIONAL LGBTI HEALTH ALLIANCE

Office: (02) 8568 1110
Fax: (02) 8212 9013
PO Box 51, Newtown, NSW, 2042
www.lgbtihealth.org.au

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
Email: 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 contact:
Email: president@agender.org.nz
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
BM Box 3084 London WC1N 3XX England
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>

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

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
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

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 and 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

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>

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



Can Transgender Art be Therapeutic?

The Transtopia Group at the Gender Centre (14-19 years old) created a collection of artworks in 2016, some of which are on display on the walls of the Gender Centre. Edwina Keelan interviewed Viola, who monitors the Transtopia Group, and Dr Christine Dean, who has made a specialist study of transgender art, and the resultant interviews are summarised on pages 12 and 13 of this issue. Check them out!



Edwina Keelan



Right: Viola with the Transtopia display. -->



Dr Christine Dean talks to the Over-55 group about transgender art.

The Permanent Solution...

in Permanent Hair Removal

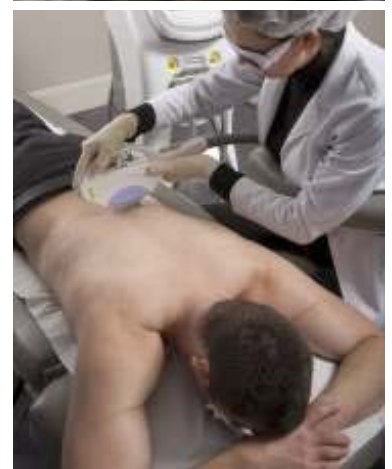
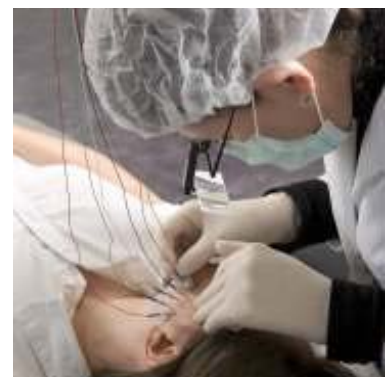
For those who are embarking on the transition from male to female, the permanent removal of hair is vital. However, with so many clinics and procedures to choose from, it's crucial that your chosen solution is reliable, safe and permanent.

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



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ELECTROLYSIS CENTRE

Phone: (02) 9362 1992
9 George Street (just off Oxford St),
Paddington
aecsdney.com.au

