



PFLAG+ Brisbane Newsletter

June 2021

*Our committee hopes that all of our new and existing PFLAG+ members feel welcome into our group and are willing to accept their LGBTIQ+ loved ones. We at PFLAG+ Brisbane are a community of people hoping to support and learn from one another in order to help each of us on our respective journeys as **Parents and Friends of LGBTIQ+ individuals**.*

As a group, our overall goal is to provide non-judgemental, confidential support and resources. If you are new to PFLAG+ Brisbane, or may be struggling with LGBTIQ+ related issues, we hope to provide you with a forum to safely share your concerns, comments or questions.

Next Face-to-face Community Meeting

Date	Saturday, 14th of August
Time	1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
Location	Chermside Library Meeting Room 375 Hamilton Rd, Chermside, Qld 4032 Phone: 07-3403 7200

*Our bi-monthly Community meeting will be **face-to-face** unless Covid restrictions limit our venue's access. Should this occur, an email will be sent out to our mailing list with a Zoom link for online meeting details.*

12 June Community Meeting Update

At our recent Community Meeting we introduced a few new titles to our lending library, including books aimed at children. All of our library books focus on LGBTIQ+ topics and are available to borrow.



Upcoming LGBTIQ+ Dates To Acknowledge

The LGBTIQ+ calendar is full of special days to acknowledge and remember our loved ones of diverse gender and sexuality. Here are a few upcoming events:

3 – 30th June

Sydney Pride Festival

<https://www.sydneypride.com/>

28 June

Stonewall Riots 52nd Anniversary

<https://www.history.com/topics/gay-rights/the-stonewall-riots>

16 July

International Drag Day

<https://anydayguide.com/calendar/1126>

Australian News

Together, we can make a difference for LGBTQ Domestic Violence Awareness

The month of May is recognised as **Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month**.

In fact, this past 28th of May was the second year of recognising LGBTQ Domestic Violence Awareness Day in Queensland. A very special thanks to Brisbane's Queensland Police Service Senior Constable and LGBTI Liaison officer Ben Bjarnesen. This initiative makes a difference to many LGBTIQ people in Queensland. Thank you, Ben, for backing this on-going initiative. PFLAG+ Brisbane appreciates your efforts.

Please see more on:

<https://mypolice.qld.gov.au/news/2021/05/28/together-we-can-make-a-difference-this-lgbtq-domestic-violence-awareness-day/>

Wendybird: Chill BBQ in New Farm: LGBTIQ event on 27 June

Come along for a casual BBQ and relaxing catch up with other LGBTIQ+ people in the Brisbane winter sun. If you're looking for meaningful connections with other LGBTIQ people, Wendybird is the space for you! This is a friendly and safe space for you to meet and engage with a diverse range of people and have conversations about things that matter to you. <https://www.facebook.com/events/1083775642151488>

Kaya Wilson shares near death experience that changed his life

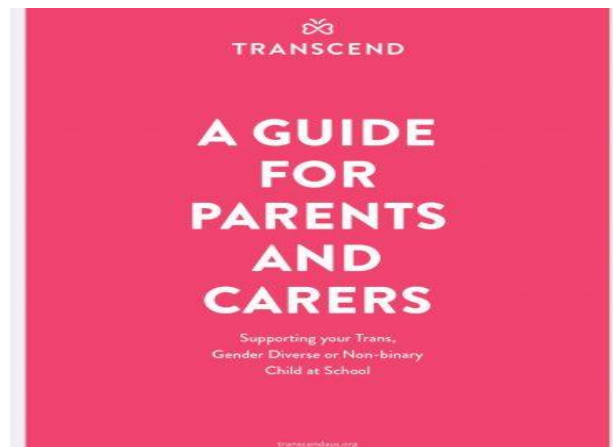
Kaya grew up as a female, but a near death surfing accident changed his thoughts on how he wanted to move forward, so Kaya transitioned.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-05-20/kaya-wilson-trans-author-shares-near-death-experience/100136378>

Trans and gender diverse support services win big in Victorian budget

Victorian Minister for Equality Martin Foley announced on May 19 that [Transgender Victoria](#) and [Transcend Australia](#) will receive funding as part of this year's state budget, to expand their peer support services.

<https://www.starobserver.com.au/news/trans-and-gender-diverse-support-services-win-big-in-victorian-budget/203325>



Australian LGBTIQ Awards for LGBTQ inclusion in the workplace

Australia's celebration of LGBTQ workplace inclusion, hosted by ACON's Pride Inclusion Programs, are based on the results of the Australian Workplace Equality Index (AWEI) – which is now in its eleventh year – and the third Health + Wellbeing Equality Index (HWEI). The AWEI and HWEI are rigorous and evidence-based benchmarking tools that annually assesses workplaces in the progress and impact of LGBTQ inclusion initiatives. To see the results, visit: <https://www.pid-awei.com.au/2021-lgbtq-inclusion-awards-results/>

International News

Dozens of UK theatres make powerful pledge to cast trans, non-binary, and non-conforming actors for “any role regardless of gender”

Many UK theatres are releasing statements that commit them to finding gender appropriate actors for roles as gay, bi- or trans characters. No longer will they seek out cis-gender actors to fulfill these roles... Bravo.

<https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2021/05/27/uk-theatres-trans-casting-statement-actors-roles-non-binary-royal-court-oxford-playhouse-royal-exchange/>

US President Joe Biden restores transgender health protections

The US will protect [gay and transgender](#) people against sex discrimination in health care, the Biden administration announced Monday, reversing a Trump-era policy that sought to narrow the scope of legal rights in sensitive situations involving medical care.

<https://www.9news.com.au/world/us-joe-biden-restores-transgender-health-protections-reversing-trump-policy/b8cc63e8-8c42-4dc8-b65a-e8f4c65deb95>

Instagram adds pronoun options

Instagram is stepping up its inclusivity by adding a function that allows users to add up to four pronouns to their profile, the company announced Tuesday. These pronouns can be displayed publicly or only to a user's followers.

<https://www.advocate.com/news/2021/5/12/instagram-adds-pronoun-options-profiles>

BBC Young Reporter tells the story of witnessing transphobia against his mother

Growing up Oscar witnessed transphobia towards his mum, year after year, and for some of the worst instances, he was too young to comprehend what was happening.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-somerset-56977034>

Transgender teen Andi shares his journey

Discover the story behind a viral video as Andi comes out, graduates high school and celebrates life as a trans teen.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/world-us-canada-57102694>

Gay couple banned from flying a Pride flag in front of their own home respond

Despite having a rainbow flag flying in front of their house since 2016, a gay couple in Wisconsin, USA have recently been banned by their homeowner's association from flying their flag. Their response to the ban is impressive...

<https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2021/06/08/gay-couple-wisconsin-pride-flag-hoa-rules-rainbow-house-reddit/>



Watch

Australian Story: A Balancing Act

ABC's *Australian Story* profiles Melbourne's top paediatric/gender specialist, Dr Michelle Telfer. The show aired on the 24th of May. Dr Telfer is an associate professor and the head of the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne Gender Services.

To see the full show, as well as the touching introduction by the admirable transgender young woman, Georgie Stone, go to the following ABC iView link:

<https://www.abc.net.au/austory/a-balancing-act/13352452>

Love, Victor

It started with the hit US film, then continued into a television series. Now, *Love, Victor* continues into season two on Disney Plus, the streaming app. After coming out in season one, Victor now has to navigate high school life and a new relationship with Benji, all while coping with his relationship with his parents.

To see the trailer,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=84Aw758vyOk>

Special

Being queer and disabled isn't easy for Ryan, or anyone for that matter. In this second season television show on Netflix, we learn more about the challenges Ryan faces as he comes out in the dating scene. The show is based on the memoir "*I'm Special: And other lies we tell ourselves*" written by Ryan O'Connell.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L44wjEGibbM&t=55s>

See

Queerstories back at Brisbane Powerhouse on 31 July

Queerstories returns to *Brisbane Comedy Festival* once more for a stellar line up of unexpected tales, stories of pride, prejudice, resilience and resistance, delivered with warmth and humour by some of Australia's best LGBTIQ+ comedians as well as incredible local storytellers. For more information and tickets, go to:

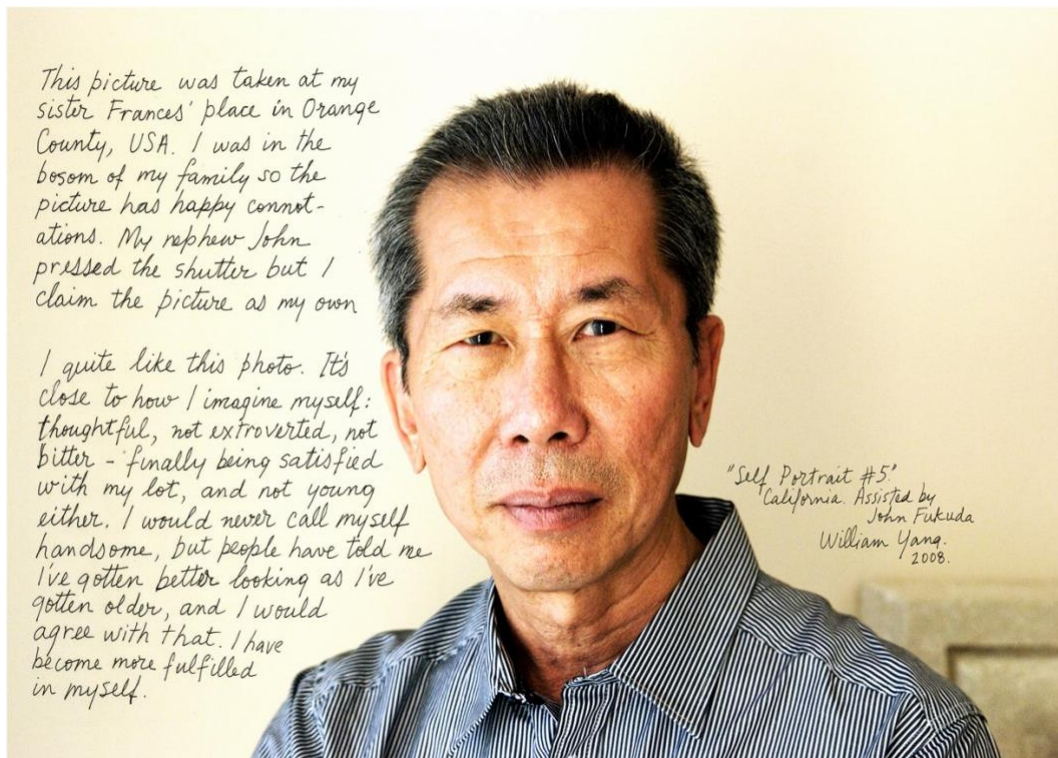
<https://brisbanepowerhouse.org/whats-on/event/queer-stories/>

William Yang: Seeing and Being Seen

Queensland Art Gallery - through 22 August (Gallery 4)

William Yang, a Queensland-born photographer whose work has spanned fifty years, is best known for his work in the 70's and 80's LGBTIQ+ scene and is now on show at the Queensland Art Gallery. Please visit this link for more information:

<https://www.qagoma.qld.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions/william-yang>



Read

Trans actress Evie Macdonald's ABC series is getting a second season

Australian transgender teenager, Evie Macdonald made her TV acting debut in the groundbreaking ABC children's series *First Day* last year. The ABC has commissioned a second season for ABC's streaming service, iView. This is great news for young transgender people and their families. To read more, visit:

<https://qnews.com.au/transgender-actress-evie-macdonalds-abc-series-is-getting-a-second-season/>

Listen

Apple Podcasts - Conversations 2 June 2021: The gay preacher

Anthony Venn-Brown was a gay teenager when he gave his life to God. After enduring gay conversion, he became a “Rockstar” Pentecostal preacher. Then everything came crashing down. Hear his story on:

<https://podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/conversations/id94688506?i=1000523870025>

LGBTIQ+ Resources and Information

Transcend Australia

Transcend Australia is an amazing online resource for parents and carers of trans, Gender-diverse and non-binary children, adolescents and young people. Transcend was founded in 2012 by Rebekah Robertson. It is a grassroots, unfunded support network and was the first parent-led, peer-support network for the families of transgender children in Australia. In 2007, when Rebekah was desperately searching for information and support in regard to her transgender child, Georgie Stone. Please find more information on the following link:

<https://transcendaus.org/>

Kid's Helpline for Parents with LGBTIQ+ issues

Help for children, young people and their parents.

<https://kidshelpline.com.au/search?key=LGBTI>

<https://kidshelpline.com.au/parents>

LGBTIQ+ Ultimate Dictionary

Written and reviewed by people in the LGBTIQ+ Communities, this is an important list of words that you will hear used.

<https://kidshelpline.com.au/teens/issues/lgbtiq-ultimate-dictionary>

PFLAG Sydney

Our PFLAG counterparts in Sydney create a beautiful newsletter and provide links to other helpful resources. Please feel free to check out their site for more information.

<https://pflagaustralia.org.au/about>

PFLAG+ Brisbane Membership

PFLAG+ Brisbane is a not-for-profit organisation that is run by volunteers. One hundred percent of our funds, including your voluntary membership fees, go to improving our services to you, parents and friends of LGBTIQ+ people. We encourage individuals, families and corporations to pay a voluntary annual membership fee. We recommend \$25 per individual/family, \$100 for corporate membership, or whatever amount you can afford. While it is not compulsory, membership fees received to PFLAG+ Brisbane do help improve our electronic and printed resources, update our website, and cover other administration costs, among other expenses.

To pay your 2021 voluntary membership fees by Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT), PFLAG+ Brisbane's banking details are:

PFLAG+ Brisbane

BSB Number: 124 011

Account Number: 20238607

Reference: Your family name or corporation name

There are many ways to contact PFLAG+ Brisbane



<https://www.pflagbrisbane.org.au>



[@facebook.com/pflagbrisbane](https://www.facebook.com/pflagbrisbane)



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



0400 767 832 for general information and support

With many thanks from the
PFLAG+ Brisbane Committee 2021

