



PFLAG+ Brisbane Newsletter

[April 2021](#)

*Welcome to our PFLAG+ Brisbane Community Newsletter for April 2021. Our Committee hopes that all of our new and existing PFLAG+ members feel welcome in our group and are willing to accept their LGBTIQ+ loved ones. We at PFLAG+ are a community of people hoping to support and learn from and one another in order to help us on our respective journeys as **Parents and Friends of LGBTIQ+ individuals**. Our goal is to provide non-judgemental, confidential support and resources. If you are new to PFLAG+ and are struggling with LGBTIQ+ related issues, we hope to provide you with a forum to safely share your concerns, comments or questions.*

Next Community Meeting

Date	Saturday, 12 th of June
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.*

Transgender Day of Visibility – 31 March

Although the date has just passed, here are some links to peruse regarding Transgender Day of Visibility:

<https://tdov.org.au/>

<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/trans-woman-marci-is-an-open-book-she-wants-you-to-hear-her-story>

Save the date(s) - Upcoming LGBTIQ+ dates to acknowledge

As mentioned above, 31 March was Transgender Day of Visibility. 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:

26 April

Lesbian Visibility Day



<https://www.forgov.qld.gov.au/events/lesbian-day-visibility>

17 May

International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT)

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

<https://mailchi.mp/minus18/adults-idahobit-2021-launch?e=457afede30>

19 May

Agender Pride Day

<https://gender.wikia.org/wiki/Agender>



Shelley Argent, our PFLAG+ Australian Rainbow Mum, is unwell

On 22 March, Shelley Argent shared the news that she has been diagnosed with acute leukemia. Shelley's message to everyone is that she wishes the health news were different, but her ultimate life goal always was to love everyone equally, no matter their gender or sexual preference. For her touching story, please read the beautifully written article about her 20+ year journey as an LGBTIQ+ and PFLAG+ advocate in QNews online:

<https://qnews.com.au/australias-rainbow-mum-diagnosed-with-acute-leukemia/>

Reverend Josephine Inkpin, transgender minister, makes history at Pitt Street Uniting Church, Sydney

Many of our PFLAG+ Brisbane members have been fortunate enough to have met personally or heard Rev Jo Inkpin speak publicly. Jo recently was seen on the ABC's *The Drum* on 31 March, in honour of Transgender Day of Visibility. You may be interested to know that Rev Inkpin has moved from the Anglican Church in Brisbane, and in March, was officially appointed minister of Pitt Street Uniting Church in Sydney. While we in Brisbane will miss her and her wife of many years, Penny, we are proud for their continued involvement in the LGBTIQ+ religious rights debate. For further information regarding Jo's journey to the Pitt Street Uniting Church, please read:

<https://www.starobserver.com.au/news/sydneys-uniting-church-makes-history-appoints-trans-minister-reverend-jo-inkpin/201988>

https://twitter.com/ABCthedrum/status/1378087591979974658?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Etweet

Unsupportive family during lockdown

Minus18 is an amazing organisation out of Victoria that provides support to our questioning/unsure/coming out and fully out young people. It is a valuable resource to parents and friends in that we know there are legitimate sources of support for our young people, particularly during COVID-19 lockdown issues. If in doubt, check them out:

<https://www.minus18.org.au/articles/dealing-with-unsupportive-family-during-lockdown>



Workshops for Rural, Regional or Remote Schools and Youth Groups

Minus18 (as mentioned above) has a limited number of funded (FREE!) workshop opportunities available to deliver to **Rural, Regional or Remote** Schools and Community Youth Groups/Services across QLD and WA! For more info:

<https://mailchi.mp/minus18/workshops-training-wa-qld?e=457afede30>

Be Entertained

Melt: Festival of Queer Arts and Culture – Program line-up revealed

Check out the recently released line-up of the Brisbane Powerhouse's Melt Festival. The Festival runs from 20-30 May.

<https://brisbanepowerhouse.org/whats-on/festival/melt-festival-of-queer-arts-culture/>



Watch

You may be familiar with actor/comedian Josh Thomas' television series, *Please Like Me*, which portrays Josh's coming out as a gay young man, and was aired from 2013 – 2016 (see the Trailer: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2155025/>).

Well now, Josh is back with a new series called *Everything's Gonna Be Okay*. The premise of this show is, Nicholas, a gay young man, must care for his two half sisters after their father is diagnosed with cancer. Is *Everything Gonna Be Ok*? You decide... See the trailer,

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt8680006/>

And find the show on Stan. The Stan link is by subscription only.

<https://www.stan.com.au/watch/everythings-gonna-be-okay>

Read

Queer Intentions – A personal journey through LGBTQ+ culture

Written by Amelia Abraham, *Queer Intentions* addresses the pros and cons of same-sex marriage, the popularity of drag culture, and the corporatisation of Pride parades, among other LGBTQ+ topics.

International News

"Male" and "female" gender binaries aren't as universal as you think

Think about these varied cultures: Albania, Australian indigenous peoples, Samoa, South Asia and indigenous North American peoples. What do they have in common? Historically, all of these cultures include a third gender or gender fluidity. Read more on:

<https://twitter.com/i/events/1379788429890838530>

20 years of same sex marriage in the Netherlands

The Netherlands has been known for its forward thinking and acceptance of alternative lifestyles. The Dutch were the first nation to legalise same sex marriage. To learn more about this milestone, see the following link:

<https://www.9news.com.au/world/amsterdam-celebrates-same-sex-weddings-20-years-world-first-country/bb80d2c3-7d06-4c00-8f54-9ebf9c8a9c91>

Arkansas becomes the first state in the US to ban gender affirming treatment to trans youth

The new law represents a significant step backward for trans Americans fighting for equality in Arkansas, and it comes as Republicans in a number of states push other policies aiming to restrict trans people from participating in common activities, [like high school and college athletics](#). Tuesday's action was swiftly denounced by LGBTQ advocates, who vowed to mount a legal challenge against the law. Read more on:

<https://edition.cnn.com/2021/04/06/politics/arkansas-transgender-health-care-veto-override/index.html>



GLAAD

In 1985, GLAAD, or the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, was formed by a group of journalists and writers in New York. They were protesting the defamatory and sensationalised news coverage regarding AIDS and HIV. In 1988, GLAAD's efforts moved to the West Coast of the US, including San Francisco and Los Angeles. Then the group spread its efforts throughout the states over the upcoming years.

Thankfully, today GLAAD has an excellent website that offers resources to LGBTIQ+ people, parents, workplaces (particularly those who are media related) and LGBTIQ+ allies. For more information, please visit:

<https://www.glaad.org/transgender/allies>

Catholic Church 'cannot bless same-sex unions'

The Catholic Church does not have the power to bless same-sex unions, the Vatican office responsible for doctrine has said. For further details, please read the following article:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-56402096>

(Source: BBC News online). 15 March 2021

The Trials of Oscar Wilde

125 years ago, Oscar Wilde was tried for indecency and homosexuality. We have come a long way, baby...

<https://www.independent.co.uk/independentpremium/long-reads/oscar-wilde-trial-homosexuality-lgbtq-homophobia-victorian-england-a9523996.html>

(Source: The Independent Premium online). 15 March 2021



New PFLAG+ Brisbane Treasurer/Committee Member needed!

As most of you are well aware, PFLAG+ Brisbane is run by volunteers. Our long-standing Treasurer is ready for retirement after nearly 20 years of active service with our organisation. While the job is not highly demanding, it is highly important to our status as a not-for-profit organisation. Please consider contributing a few hours a month to PFLAG+ Brisbane, and you will receive training and the full support of our Committee.

Keeping our newsletter pertinent...

I would like to personally thank every one of our community members who has sent in LGBTIQ+ content, event dates and ideas to include in our monthly newsletter so that we can share the information with our newsletter community. Please keep in mind that all contributions to our PFLAG+ newsletter will be considered for inclusion. Thanks in advance for your continued contributions!



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://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

