



## PFLAG+ Brisbane Newsletter

[March 2021](#)

*Welcome to our PFLAG+ Brisbane Community Newsletter for March 2021. Our Committee hopes that all of our existing and new PFLAG+ members feel welcome in our group, and 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**

<b>Date</b>	Saturday, 10 April 2021
<b>Guest Speaker</b>	TBA
<b>Time</b>	1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
<b>Location</b>	Face-to-face at <b>Chermside Library Meeting Room</b> <b>Registration required – see link below</b> 375 Hamilton Rd, Chermside, Qld 4032 Phone: 07-3403 7200
<b>On-line via Zoom</b>	Zoom link to be provided upon registration in Eventbrite.

**All attendees required to register via Eventbrite in advance of our next meeting:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/pflag-brisbane-community-meeting-april-2021-tickets-145831685497>

## **Shelley Argent Retires as PFLAG National Spokesperson**

Shelley Argent has led an active role in PFLAG+ Brisbane for nearly 22 years, and for the last 13 years she has taken on the role of National Spokesperson for PFLAG+ Australia. Shelley has recently said that the time was right to hand over the reins of the National Spokesperson role to current PFLAG+ Brisbane president, Jane Hopkins.

Thank you, Shelley, for all that you have done over the years to make PFLAG+ a recognisable name for parents, allies, friends, and those in the LGBTIQ+ communities. Additionally, thank you for your advocacy in supporting LGBTIQ+ rights in Australian's political scene.

## **Market Day at ACU**

Last February 2020, Australian Catholic University's **Brisbane LGBTIQ+ Society** was allowed to hold its first stall at Market Day during Orientation Week. PFLAG+ Brisbane was invited to hold a stall and was very well received.

This year, PFLAG+ Brisbane was invited back for the second year in a row! Thank you ACU and the Brisbane LGBTIQ+ Society for allowing us to attend to show our presence, answer queries, and fulfill requests for informational brochures and booklets.

Despite the steamy heat that day, our volunteers' efforts to greet new ACU students into an everchanging and welcoming environment of inclusivity and diversity was worth the effort. Thank you ACU, the Brisbane LGBTI+ Society and to our PFLAG+ Brisbane volunteers!



## Sydney's Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras 2021

In February 2020, Sydney held one of the last Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras parades in the world before COVID-19 shut down public events in order to stem the pandemic. Gratefully, on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2021, Sydney was the first city in the world to safely reinstate the Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade despite the continued struggles around the world with COVID-19. How fortunate are we, people?!

Yes, the venue changed. Yes, the number of participating groups/floats changed. Yes, the audience numbers were lowered to 36,000. But Mardi Gras 2021 went off with a BANG! For more details about the parade and a link to watch the full parade on SBS On Demand, please go to:

<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/sydney-mardi-gras-parade-goes-off-with-a-bang-despite-a-new-venue-and-coronavirus-restrictions>

## Recent LGBTIQ+ Related Research and Polls

### *Writing Themselves In 4*

In 2019, the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society (ARCSHS) at La Trobe University, with support from Rainbow Health Victoria and Rainbow Network, asked 6,418 LGBTQA+ people aged 14 to 21 about their experiences with education, homelessness, harassment, assault, mental health, community connections and more. This is the largest ever study on the experiences of LGBTQA+ young people aged 14-21 in Australia. The results are very telling...

For the full report, follow this link: <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/arcshs/publications/writing-themselves-in-publications/writing-themselves-in-4>.

### *Equality Australia Poll*

A recent poll conducted in July 2020 by YouGov and commissioned by Equality Australia included over 1,000 Australian people aged 18 and over. The poll found the following reassuring support for transgender Australians:

78% of the respondents believe that trans people deserve the same rights and protections as other Australians, while 57% of the research participants **strongly** agree with the above statement. Additionally, 66% believe that religious schools should not be able to fire an employee or expel a student for being transgender. Also, 66% of the poll participants agree that young people should be able to access healthcare supporting them to live as themselves with dignity and without discrimination.

“Our research again confirms Australians are fair-minded and decent, and overwhelmingly back equality for trans Australians,” Equality Australia CEO Anna Brown says.  
(Source: Frooty magazine, Issue 11, February 2021).

## **Word of the Day – Non-binary**

*Non-binary* is a term that refers to people whose gender does not fall exclusively into the category of male or female. Non-binary is an umbrella term that not all of the community uses. These identities fall under the non-binary umbrella: genderfluid, agender, bigender, gender queer, demi boy or demi girl. The list will go on and change...remember fluidity!

There are no rules to being non-binary. These individuals do not have to change anything about themselves if they do not want to. Many non-binary people change their pronouns, but many don't... he/him, she/her, they/them... All correct pronoun use is valid and validating to that individual. (Source: Facebook group Trans Army and @queerivvyart. Posted 10 March 2021).

## **Read**

### ***I Just Came Out As Non-binary, Here's What That Means***

Non-binary young person, Arlo, shared their story with *Minus18* online. Follow this link:  
<https://www.minus18.org.au/articles/i-just-came-out-as-non-binary-here's-what-that-means>

### ***Coming Out in the 70's***

Peter and Bon tell their stories of coming out in the seventies and being part of the 78ers!  
<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/what-it-was-like-to-come-out-in-the-70s?cid=newsapp:socialshare:other>

### ***Rusty Nannup's lifelong journey of being an Aboriginal transgender female***

Rusty relays her journey of 60 years, from becoming a boy in WA to a transgender female in NSW. Please read about her journey on this link:

<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/there-s-more-to-being-trans-than-coming-out-rusty-s-whole-life-has-been-a-journey?cid=newsapp:socialshare:email>

## Watch

### *It's A Sin*

This fictional five-part Stan series highlights 1981, the start of a new decade for Ritchie, Roscoe and Colin to begin a new life in London. A new virus is on the rise, and soon their lives will be tested in ways they never imagined.

### *Triple X*

Written and performed by Trans-Queen Glace Chase, *Triple X* will be showing at the Billie Brown Theatre from 6 March until 1 April. For more information, please contact: <https://queenslandtheatre.com.au/plays/triple-x>

#### **Added bonus:**

Queensland Theatre Company have extended an offer to PFLAG+ Brisbane members, friends and loved ones. They have invited us to join them for QTC's world premiere season of the ground-breaking new play, *Triple X*. A co-production with Sydney Theatre Company, ***Triple X* is the first trans love story on the Australian mainstage.** Following the show, a small group of guests will have the rare opportunity to meet with the sensational playwright and star of *Triple X*, Glace Chase.

Glace Chase will be meeting with guests following these performances:

Monday 22 March 6:30 pm  
Tuesday 23 March 6:30 pm

Monday 29 March 6:30 pm  
Tuesday 30 March 6:30 pm

Tickets will range from \$35 - \$90. Concessions available. If you would like to join them please contact Georgia Lynas, Philanthropy Coordinator at Queensland Theatre on [glynas@queenslandtheatre.com.au](mailto:glynas@queenslandtheatre.com.au) or [\(07\) 3010 7614](tel:0730107614)

## Look Out For

### *Wendybird Returns 21 March!*

Wendybird is a charitable and community organisation led by LGBTIQ+ people working together to create a safe and supportive community for people of diverse bodies, genders and sexualities (including their family friends and children) to find meaningful connections with likeminded people.

Wendybird will return to New Farm Neighbourhood Centre on Saturday 21 March in order to provide a family-friendly, alcohol-free group that will meet from noon until 2:00 pm. All that is required to attend is a gold coin donation to cover facility hire. For more information regarding this event, see the following link: <http://www.wendybird.com.au/>



## *Melt: Festival of Queer Arts and Culture Coming from 20-30 May 2021*

Now in its sixth year, this sizzling festival is designed to celebrate LGBTIQ+ arts and culture to promote visibility and inclusivity among the queer community.

For 11 days, *MELT* will inject both sparkle and substance into Brisbane Powerhouse, with a mix of theatre, cabaret, music, visual arts, storytelling, forums, panels and conversations.

See the following link for more details: <https://brisbanepowerhouse.org/whats-on/festival/melt-festival-of-queer-arts-culture/>

## **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

Be well and stay safe!

With many thanks from the  
PFLAG+ Brisbane Committee 2021

