

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Next CD Meeting Monday, 1 September & 6 October @ 6:30pm
- Fundraiser Dinner 20 September for new and old members
- Next training dates Sep 6,7,20,21- do you need a refresher?
- Next Kamo BBQ Sunday, 7 September
- Next Board Meetings 15, 18 September & 20 October

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Survey - what you said...

Here is a summary of the membership survey. Thank you for taking the time to respond! Please let me know about your ideas.

- Generally improve the building conditions, including the toilet facility
- More parking

Phone line:

- 2/3 agreed that you can find information easily, with advice on ways to improve
- 4/5 use the online roster, but want to be able to have 2 people on a shift
- Blog for members only to increase communication
- 2/3 prefer the 5-7.30pm rather than the late shift
- Almost all felt confident to handle HIV/AIDS calls
- Over half felt confident to handle Genderbridge line

Training:

- 95% received enough pre-course information
- More phone simulations
- 4/5 believe that the time and day of the training sessions are suitable
- CD meetings, people come when they can. Content needs a revamp.



Social activities:

- 70% of people support Outline social activities. Activities more supportive of GLBTT activities, monthly BBQs at Kamo are popular

Moving forward...

We have updated our website to include the CD Meeting information for the next 6 months, under events. Also included with this newsletter. The roster and database are being upgraded with testing currently being done. We are also looking at upgrading the phone system to better enable listening in for training. And finally we are renovating, with new carpets, painted walls, fixing the leaks and an upgraded phone room as you have asked for.

On the horizon...

We are currently working with GayNZ on providing an OUTLine branded online chat counselling service. OUTLine is providing support to the Origins group at Te Piriti Special Unit. Come to the next CD Meeting for more information on this!

Dinner Outing | Volunteers | Training

We have a fabulous dinner fundraiser coming up in September on the Saturday the 20th September @ 6.30pm. The restaurant is called **Don.Bo** in Grey Lynn. I have been told it's a lovely Asian fusion place that will leave you wanting more! Plenty of parking. At \$30pp it's very reasonable. RSVP by 17 September by emailing or calling the office.



We have Marwan Juma joining the team from Monday 25th of August. He will be helping out with various admin tasks as well as organizing the fundraiser dinner. A big thank you to Michael and Jason for their efforts too!

Did you do your training more than 2 years ago? Need a refresher? Join the next training course run by Martin on September 6,7,20,21.

Closing date for applications is Monday, September 1st so get in quick to avoid disappointment. Spots are limited!

Let me know at the CD Meeting if you are interested.

September 2008 - Community Events

MON-	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1 CD Meeting Gay Ski Week	2 Dyke Hikes Pan Pacific conference	3 GABA network- ing	4 UniQ cof- fee night, The boys from Oz	5 Rainbow Youth GQ, Family 3rd Birthday	6 Flirt, Alt. Ball for Youth, Ultra	7 BBQ at Kamo Dyke Hikes
8	9 Gender- bridge & AA Meeting	10 ALBA night, Body +ve Potluck	11 Karaoke at Kamo	12 Queer 4 Shore, Retro@ Random	13 Drag Show @ Kamo	14 Tea Dance, Aquarius
15 OUTLine NZ Board Meeting	16 Chch's gay history screening	17 Queer Sports Night	18 UniQ cof- fee night, Girl Thursday	19 Eurochix fannytas- tic Friday	20 OUTLine Dinner at Danbo. Be there!!!	21 DOC Low- down, I.D.
22	23 Building Diversity Struc- tures	24 DVD movie, Body +ve Luncheon	25 UniQ coffee night, Girl Thursday	26 Lizzie tunes, Piano Bar	27 Hamilton Pride, Ultra	28 Mr Gay Auckland Final, I.D. Bowling
29 Hamilton Pride Week	30	Reminder OUTLine training 6, 7, 20, 21 Sept				



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INC

0800
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What's Going On written by Tom

We are past the middle of the year and Genderbridge is flying by at the speed of light with more and more to do. I was wondering what to share and thought the most exciting news was.....

“OUR BOOKS ARE IN THE OUTLINE NZ LIBRARY!!... AT LAST...”

I would like to introduce you to all our books which Richard has kindly catalogued in the OUTLINE NZ library system. They have a little yellow sticker on the spine that says ‘GB’. By the end of the first

week of September we will have a selection of DVDs in the library as well. Please feel free to watch, read or just flick.

Recently it was a pleasure to share a documentary about transgender women in the NZ Prison System with other volunteers at the CD meeting, some great discussion was had about transgender people in prison and the issues they face, thanks for all the feedback, and the opportunity to listen and share our collective perspectives.

Our tip for the month (thanks to Sir Bob Jones) will be....

Practice gender neutral statements, for e.g. foreperson or if you do not know the persons gender ask them if you may have their name and instead of using him, her, his, hers, she & he you can use a persons name when asking a question. It is helpful when you are trying to ask open ended questions especially when answering calls on the Genderbridge Phone line. At first it feels odd and grammatically incorrect but if you practice it becomes easier.



Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind.
Dr. Seuss

Event news

Pan Pacific Gathering for HIV+ People 2008

Venue: University of Otago, Queen Street, Auckland

Conference dates: Tuesday 2 September to Friday 5 September, 2008

This Gathering is for HIV+ people living in the Pacific. Confirmation of HIV status may be required.



27 September to 5 August
More info at:
www.hamiltonpride.co.nz/

Ladies' Litera-Tea

When: Sunday September 28 1-5pm

Where: St Columba Centre, 40 Vermont St, Ponsonby (Yep! There is parking at the rear!)

An afternoon of women's words for NZ Book Month.

Tickets are \$45 including afternoon tea. Contact the Women's Bookshop 3764399

Reminders for your call sheets

Thanks for coming in to do a shift!!

So it's been a while since you did a shift?... Don't worry.. Here is a brief reminder on what to do..

- Please only choose ONE ORIENTATION! If unsure choose undisclosed or searching if more appropriate.
- Please record all calls - including missed or hoax calls.
- Remember no names in your call sheet notes.
- Please tick all the appropriate discussion topics.
- On the new phones you can see which line the caller used (ie Hotline)

Please record as accurately as possible, remember our funding relies on the accuracy of the statistical information gathered.

Need to debrief?

Had a hard call? Having some relationship issues?

Contact Roseanne on 027 275 8447 or rosaeanneo-liver@xtra.co.nz for free face to face counselling on Saturdays from 9am - 1pm at our OUTLINE office.





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Hours

Weekdays: 10am – 10pm

Weekends: 5pm - 10pm

Mission Statement

To support, affirm and advance the Aotearoa New Zealand Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender & Takataapui (GLBTT) community to achieve successful outcomes by;

- providing programmes which cater for social, educational and emotional support
- advocating for social, cultural and legal rights
- nurturing and providing resources to meet community aspirations



CONTROVERSIAL SWISS FEDERAL AIDS COMMISSION REPORT

The Swiss Federal AIDS Commission has released a report that has raised international concerns about safe sex practices. The statement, on behalf of the Swiss Federal Commission for HIV/AIDS was authored by four of Switzerland's foremost HIV experts.

The experts claim that an HIV-infected person on antiretroviral therapy with completely suppressed viraemia (effective ART) is not sexually infectious, i.e. cannot transmit HIV through sexual contact. The authors clarify the statement indicating that it is only valid while the following strict conditions and someone infected with HIV meets narrow constraints:

- They must be undergoing antiretroviral therapy
- The virus must have been sup-

pressed for at least six months and viral load levels regularly monitored - They must be free of any other sexually transmitted disease.

The Commission states that although available medical and biological evidence does not rule out the possibility of HIV transmission they feel that there is nonetheless enough information to support its statement.

The report was based on studies with heterosexual couples with data confirming the current view that when the viral load is undetectable in blood the risk of HIV transmission is significantly reduced.

What are other organizations recommending in light of the Swiss Report? Read on...

Despite the line being suggested by the Swiss Report most AIDS re-

searchers insist safe sex is the only way to prevent HIV spread. UNAIDS and the World Health Organization have come out strongly in favor of recommending a continued use of a comprehensive package of HIV prevention approaches, including correct and consistent use of condoms. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continues to underscore its recommendation that people living with HIV who are sexually active use condoms consistently and correctly with all sex partners.

Read more at: www.nzaf.org.nz/articles.php?id=940

