



Ten Forty Newsletter

January 2015

www.olderdykes.org

Dinner and Discussion

6pm Saturday 7 February 2015

Feminism, Lesbianism, Activism: How do Lesbians fit into the UN framework?

Speaker: Eileen Pittaway (founder of the Coalition of Activist Lesbians – COAL)

COAL is Australia's national lesbian advocacy organisation and is the only United Nations accredited lesbian non-government organisation. Eileen has worked closely with the UN on women's issues more generally and was one of the main people involved in getting rape recognised as a war crime.

Mervyn Fletcher Hall, 81 Dalhousie Street (cnr Dixon St), Haberfield

BYO food to share and your own drinks.

Entry fee: \$10 fully waged, \$5 concession.

Entry to the Mervyn Fletcher hall is in Dixon Street, which has unrestricted parking after 6pm.

By bus, catch the 436 or 438 buses which set down on the corner of Ramsay Road and Dalhousie Street.

Social Activities

Dykes for Dinner

La Botte D'Oro

137 Marion Street, Leichhardt

6.30pm

Thursday 12 February 2015

Please email

contact@olderdykes.org

by Sunday 8 February

Il Goloso

60 Dalhousie Street, Haberfield

6.30pm

Thursday 12 March 2015

Please email

contact@olderdykes.org

by Sunday 8 March

Ideas welcome

If you have some ideas for social events and/or topics for our bi-monthly dinner and discussion evenings, please contact Jan on 9810 5130 or email contact@olderdykes.org

Photography Walks 2015

Diann runs monthly photography walks where women can practice with others, share skills and explore the workings of your camera. The next photography walk will be at the Botanic Gardens and Sydney Festival Village

4:30 pm

Saturday 17 January

Please email contact@olderdykes.org for further details. Details of future walks will be sent out on contact@olderdykes.org



International Women's Day

We are planning to join the IWD march this year but as yet there appears to be no firm date for it. The Mardi Gras parade is on Saturday 7 March, the closest Saturday to IWD, which is always 8 March. Keep an eye on Contact emails for more information.

Summer Solstice 2014

Celebrating Summer Solstice 2014 at Margot's was yet another successful end-of-year get together.

Is there any better place to hold a party? Thank goodness the threatened rain stayed away so we could indulge our love of great food, good wine and stimulating conversation outside in the newly renovated garden and inside Margot's spacious home. It was wonderful to catch up with many old friends associated with this very special group, and equally enjoyable to meet a few newcomers.

Thanks once more to Margot for hosting a great party.

A weekend away...

Beautiful Berry is the location of a subsidised weekend away from Friday 9 to Sunday 11 October 2015 for members of Ten Forty Matrix Inc.

If you are not already a paid up member (\$20/\$10) pick up your membership form at the next 10/40 Dinner and Discussion night on Saturday 7 February or email contact@olderdykes.org and a membership form will be emailed to you.

The Berry Sport and Recreation Centre is located 2 km outside Berry, is close to the railway station, and only a two hour drive south from Sydney.

It offers comfortable accommodation, full catering with attention to special dietary needs, and a wide range of recreational

activities including a tennis court, swimming pool, canoeing and kayaking.

The weekend is being subsidised from the Julie Hacker bequest. Information about the costs involved and the amount of subsidy will be circulated to members in the near future.



Accommodation for older dykes

If you're 55 or older, you might also be interested in lesbian cluster housing that will soon be offered by Uniting Age Well in both NSW and Victoria. These will be available in Independent Living Units in several of their retirement villages.

Jan recently met with Katherine Wight and Helen Wood (Director of Uniting Care Independent Living in NSW/ACT), to discuss possibilities for lesbian housing.

Jan says: "They are offering three places in a new set of units in Katoomba. We worked out that lesbians who moved in there would need to be assured that their sexuality was accepted by management and that all

staff had been properly trained and were on side. Then they would have to know that others who came into the complex were aware that this was an inclusive facility". The organisation is focussing on achieving their Rainbow Tick accreditation.

Jan commented, "They were going to work on an application form where women could identify as lesbian if they chose. We discussed the means of advertising and I suggested that they approach LOTL for an article on their plan and that Ten Forty could use their contact list to reach lesbians. They do have double units in the new complex and a dyke couple would be eligible. They also have a new place coming on line out near Castle Hills which they aim to be green and slightly alternative."

Plans are in place for a development in Leichhardt which will suit all those Sydney dykes at home in the Inner West.

Katoomba units for over 55s

Available in March 2015. Close to transport and amenities, rents will start from around \$200p/w under National Rental Affordability Scheme. Eligibility conditions apply.

Please contact Katherine Wight on 9376 0485 as soon as possible if you are interested in being considered for these units.

A Mardi Gras event for women only

Women Say Something: Cirque Du Femme combines the majesty of the big top with the fun of a carnival and the quirks of a side show.

At the heart of the event, a selection of inspiring women – Magda Szubanski, Dorothy McCrae-McMahon and Professor Kerryn Phelps and others – will create a dynamic discussion forum unlike any other.

For information on the location and pricing go to www.liveguide.com.au/Events/1065446/Artists/Women_Say_Something or contact womensaysomething@mardigras.org.au

Welcome to the Women's Liberation Music Archive!

Music and Liberation: A Compilation of Music from the Women's Liberation Movement, the CD created for the 'Music and Liberation' exhibition is now available from the Women's Liberation Music Archive womensliberationmusicarchive.co.uk.

Comprising twenty tracks by some of the feminist musicians from the 1970s and 80s – Abandon Your Tutu, Bad Habits, Bright Girls, Fabulous Dirt Sisters, Feminist Improvising Group, Frankie Armstrong, Friggin Little Bits, Ginger and Spice, Hi-Jinx, Jam Today, Mistakes, No Rules OK, Ova, Proper Little Madams, Sadista Sisters, Siren, Spoilsports, Stepney Sisters, York Street Band, plus

an informative booklet – this is a unique opportunity to revisit or discover some of these sounds – or introduce friends and family to the music and activism of the era! All proceeds from the CD will be used for the upkeep of the Women's Liberation Music Archive. Please contact us if you would like a copy at wlmusicarchive@gmail.com.

'This archive is ... an invaluable record of how in the early days of the Women's Liberation Movement the message was in the music as much as in the spoken and written word.' – Sheila Rowbotham

2014 LGBTI Short Story Competition

As always lesbians did very well in the competition, with Diana King taking out 2nd prize, Madeline Shaw coming 3rd, and Emma Ashmere listed in Highly Commendeds.

If you would like to read their winning stories go to www.outstandingstories.net and click on 2014.

Computer safety

Keep your software up to date

Software makers like Microsoft routinely update their software to fix bugs that could potentially be exploited by hackers.

Don't click on links within emails

A good rule of thumb is if you don't recognize a sender of an email, don't click on any links within it.

Use free antivirus software

For Windows users, Microsoft Security Essentials is free. Avast is another free anti-virus program.

Back up your computer

If you don't backup your computer you have no protection from calamities ranging from hard drive failure to your house burning down. If you value your data, back it up.

Use a strong password

A strong password is one that is complex, with a mix of letters, numbers, and symbols. When creating a password, use eight characters or more and, to make them easier to remember, try using short phrases separated by spaces or underscore marks.

It's a funny thing...

I'm at an age when my back goes out more than I do.

Anyone who honestly believes that life begins at forty overlooks the fact that so do fallen arches, rheumatism and faulty eyesight.

At my age everything has either dried up or leaks.

You wouldn't worry so much about what others think about you if you knew how seldom they did.

In the 60s, people took drugs to make the world weird. Now the world is weird, and people take antidepressants to make it normal.



Jeny, Jan, Viv, Rob and Freddie at Sculptures by the Sea on 3 November 2014.

Australia's lesbian magazine (LOTL) to be handed back to the community

LOTL Magazine will complete its 25-year journey and change hands from Avalon Media Pty Ltd to non-profit L Media in January 2015.

The current publisher, Silke Bader, is planning an official event in February where she will hand the magazine back to the community. L Media will publish LOTL magazine under a board structure.

"I am now looking for suitable board members who will act in an advisory capacity and through their own networks contribute to LOTL," said Bader, who is looking for six women with backgrounds in marketing, finance, women's welfare and community organising.

Read more: www.lotl.com/News/Australias-Lesbian-Magazine-To-Be-Handed-Back-To-The-Community-205/

About Ten Forty

The first national conference of Ten Forty in the mid-eighties attracted politically active feminists of all hues and sexualities. However, over time it became obvious that a huge majority of women attending follow-up meetings and activities in Sydney were lesbian feminists. Today Ten Forty and Older Dykes refer to the same group of women.

We enjoy discussion on the issues we face in work, life and at home, and hold regular fun events to keep us in touch with the lighter side of life. Our website www.olderdykes.org encourages national and international connections between older lesbians.

Ten Forty is not an organisation you have to join, but if you want to receive regular information about our activities and our bi-monthly newsletter, email contact@olderdykes.org and ask to be put on our mailing list.

Please note our new postal address is PO Box 1312 Randwick 2031

Newsletter

To receive a free emailed newsletter, please email

contact@olderdykes.org

The web edition and back copies of the newsletter are available for download from our website www.olderdykes.org

Who currently does what?

Events planning: Diann, Gillian, Krystyna, Bronwyn, Mel

Contact listing in LOTL: Jan

Utilities box: Sylvia and Wendy

Money Management: Cheryl

Websisters: Jan, Ruth, Dorothy, Diann, Margot, Sandy

Newsletter: editing and layout Ruth and Dorothy