

# Newsletter

March 2010  
www.olderdykes.org



## Ten Forty Dinner and Discussion

### 6-10pm Saturday 17 April

Summer Hill Community Centre  
BYO food to share & your own drinks.

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

**Topic: "Tweet Tweet Twitter  
Face Space Online New Blog  
things, Safe Sorry or Useful?"  
An evening discovering what  
is possible with online social  
networking.**

If you have a laptop with a wireless internet connection, please bring it with you. And please remember your dongle!

Facilitated by Geek-Grrrl Spider

Summer Hill Community Centre is near Lackey Street, which leads from the station. There is parking near the Centre.

By train, the Community Centre is on the right hand side of the station, going towards the City.

By bus, catch the 413 bus to Junction Road, Summer Hill or the 483 to the junction of Liverpool Road and Carlton Crescent, Summer Hill.

This is a dongle...



### About Ten Forty Matrix

Ten Forty Matrix is an informal group of lesbians over forty, many of whom have been socially and politically active in Sydney since 1987.

We enjoy discussion and debate 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.

Five years ago we established the website [www.olderdykes.org](http://www.olderdykes.org) to encourage national and international connections between older lesbians.

Ten Forty Matrix is not an organisation you have to join, but if you want to receive regular information about our activities and our bi-monthly newsletter, you need to take out a newsletter subscription.

### Newsletter subscription

The annual subscription for a hard copy of our bi-monthly newsletter is \$10 payable in January each year.

Subscriptions can be paid at Ten Forty Dinner and Discussion evenings.

To receive a free emailed newsletter, please email [contact@olderdykes.org](mailto:contact@olderdykes.org).

To receive a hard copy please email [contact@olderdykes.org](mailto:contact@olderdykes.org).



## What's on

### Dykes for Dinner

Thursday 11 March 2010

6.30pm

Il Goloso

60 Dalhousie Street Haberfield

Italian - licensed & BYO

RSVP via email to

[contact@olderdykes.org](mailto:contact@olderdykes.org)

Thursday 8 April 2010

6.30pm

Doytao

207-211 Lyons Road, Drummoyne

Thai - BYO

RSVP via email to

[contact@olderdykes.org](mailto:contact@olderdykes.org)

Thursday 13 May 2010

6.30pm

The Sultan's Table

179 Enmore Road, Enmore

Main courses \$10 - \$20

BYO

Cash only - no credit cards

RSVP via email to

[contact@olderdykes.org](mailto:contact@olderdykes.org)

### Please note

Our August dinner and discussion will be on Saturday 7 August, not 1 August as advertised in the last newsletter.

## More what's on...

Sunday 9 May 2010

### Bush-walk and picnic at Wentworth Falls

Meet at Wentworth Falls at 10.30am for a cuppa followed by a moderate walk of between 1/2 hour and 2 hours.

Please bring your own picnic lunch.

Email [contact@olderdykes.org](mailto:contact@olderdykes.org) for further details and to let Daphne know you are coming. If it's raining bring some games or instruments to play!

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## Feminist Trivia Night No 2

organised by the Feminist Bookshop at the Toxteth on the 4 February 2010 - the olderdykes team in action!



## Report on the Ten Forty session on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)

### How to do it for your friends: cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and first aid facts.

At the February Ten Forty meeting Sylvia asked us: What do you know about first aid? Would you know what to do with an unconscious person? What can you do if you can't do CPR?

Sylvia did a wonderful job educating us about current first aid practice with lots of handouts and practical sessions, which were very interactive.

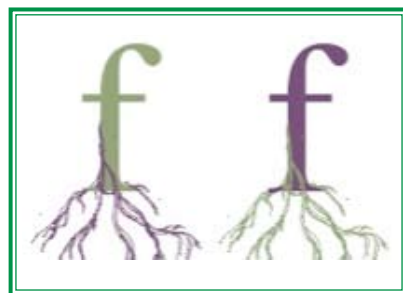
We took turns to role play rescuer and rescuee.

We did some very heavy breathing while we practiced CPR on dummies.

In the end we were all rescued (including the dummies) and we did learn some new information.

For a little taste of first aid info and to refresh your memory, visit these links. And remember, if you can't do CPR, make sure you get someone to ring 000!

First Aid Facts: [http://www.stjohn.org.au/images/stjohn/information/a4 poster drabcd.pdf](http://www.stjohn.org.au/images/stjohn/information/a4%20poster%20drabcd.pdf)



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## Feminist Conference

**A CONFERENCE. A FESTIVAL. A FUTURE.**

On the 10th and 11th of April The F Conference will be held at the Teachers Federation Conference Centre (39 - 41 Reservoir St, Surry Hills). F is the first Sydney feminist activist conference in a decade.

The conference will be held over two days, we will have panels, workshops and discussion on major issues facing women in Australia and across the world. Speakers include Anne Summers, Zora Simic, Elizabeth Broderick and Larissa Behrendt.

For more details and a program, please see our blog:

<http://feministconference.blogspot.com/>

To register for the conference please see our ticketing website:

<http://www.trybooking.com/DDA>

We are inviting feminist organisations, or organisations running feminist campaigns, to hold a stall at the conference. Stalls will cost \$20/day.

Tables will be provided by the conference organisers.

Could you please advise the collective if you would like to hold a stall at the conference by March 12. There are unfortunately a limited number of stalls available, we will endeavour to meet the majority of the requests, and have a representative selection of stalls.

## ZEST APPEAL 3

Saturday 27 March 2010

7.30pm

### Wentworth Falls School of Arts

Lemon Zest presents a Lesbian dance in the Blue Mountains Great dance music from the 70s, 80s, 90s & now!

Dance space, plus chill out space for talking and eating  
BYO supper & drink (tea/coffee available). Wheelchair access.

For more info:

[bushscout@bigpond.com](mailto:bushscout@bigpond.com)

Cnr Great Western Hwy & Adele Avenue opposite Mitre 10 & Wentworth Falls Bowling Club, 1 block from shops & railway station. (Entry to hall on highway side).



## LGHEI

LGHEI (pronounced Elle-Gay) is an expanding worldwide network of lesbians and gay men who offer each other the gift of short-term hospitality at no charge to other members during their travels.

Apart from the obvious financial benefit of staying in members' homes when we travel, the network offers the more significant advantage of cultural, intellectual and social exchanges through such personal contact.

For more information go to [www.lghei.org/English.htm](http://www.lghei.org/English.htm)

## Government policies on older lesbians and gays

In an article called 'Centrelink sympathy for fearful gay couples' published in the SMH on 15 January 2010, Adele Horin writes that:

"The Federal Government has promised to take a compassionate approach to elderly gay couples and same-sex couples living in rural areas who are affected by new social security laws.

In a letter to gay organisations the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, Jenny Macklin, said Centrelink would take into account people's fear of discrimination in determining their social-security debt. If same-sex couples who individually receive government payments had failed to register with Centrelink because of "a legitimate fear that they or their partner will be discriminated

against", Centrelink would consider waiving the debt, the letter said."

To read the full article, go to:

<http://www.smh.com.au/national/centrelink-sympathy-for-fearful-gay-couples-20100113-m71f.html>

In another article on older lesbians and gays, Andrew Potts writes in the Sydney Star Observer on 26 January 2010 that lesbian activist and gerontologist, Jo Harrison, is calling for sweeping reforms to the federal approach to the needs of gay and lesbian seniors.

To read the full article, go to:

<http://www.starobserver.com.au/news/2010/01/26/policy-vacuum-on-gay-seniors/20677>



*The Feminist Hand  
of Cathartic Cynicism  
spells everything correctly...  
and may affect you.*

## Whose laws are they?

*The following is an open letter to Dr. Laura, a US radio personality, penned by Jim, a US resident.*

*(It's been in our newsletter before, but we think it's worth re-printing.)*

Dear Dr. Laura

Thank you for doing so much to educate people regarding God's Law.

I have learned a great deal from your show, and try to share that knowledge with as many people as I can. When someone tries to defend the homosexual lifestyle, for example, I simply remind them that Leviticus 18:22 clearly states it to be an abomination. End of debate.

I do need some advice from you, however, regarding some of the other specific laws and how to follow them.

1. I would like to sell my daughter into slavery, as sanctioned in Exodus 21:7. What do you think would be a fair price for her?

2. I know that I am allowed no contact with a woman while she is in her period of menstrual cleanliness Leviticus 15:19-24. The problem is, how do I tell? I have tried asking, but most women take offense.

3. Leviticus 25:44 states that I may indeed possess slaves, both male and female, pro-

vided they are purchased from neighbouring nations. A friend of mine claims that this applies to Mexicans, but not Canadians. Can you clarify? Why can't I own Canadians?

4. I have a neighbour who insists on working on the Sabbath. Exodus 35:2 clearly states he should be put to death. Am I morally obligated to kill him myself?

5. A friend of mine feels that even though eating shellfish is an abomination - Leviticus 11:1 it is a lesser abomination than homosexuality. I don't agree. Can you settle this?

6. Leviticus 21:20 states that I may not approach the altar of God if I have a defect in my sight. I have to admit that I wear reading glasses. Does my vision have to be 20/20, or is there some wiggle room here?

7. Most of my male friends get their hair trimmed, including the hair around their temples, even though this is expressly forbidden by Leviticus 19:27. How should they die?

8. My uncle has a farm. He violates Leviticus 19:19 by planting two different crops in the same field, as does his wife by wearing garments made of two different kinds of thread (cotton/ polyester blend). He also tends to curse and blaspheme a lot. Is it really necessary that we go to all the trouble of getting

the whole town together to stone them? Leviticus 24:10-16. Couldn't we just burn them to death at a private family affair like we do with people who sleep with their in-laws? (Leviticus 20:14)

I know you have studied these things extensively, so I am confident you can help. Thank you again for reminding us that God's word is eternal and unchanging.

Your devoted fan, Jim

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## Onya, Jan

Jan recently survived an operation to replace a valve to her heart – with a pig valve! Since she's very fond of pigs, this was not a problem for her.

She is now home from hospital and about to embark on an exercise regime – so she says.

On behalf of everyone at 10/40, we wish her a well future – what would we do without her?

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## Edna Awards 2010

**Nominate a feminist you admire.**

Nominations close 16 April 2010.

For more information and to download a nomination form go to: <http://welnsw.org.au>

Presentations will be on Friday 14 May 2010. Venue to be announced - check the WEL website.

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## Ten Forty Matrix

### Who currently does what?

Bookings, liaison, and general contact: Jan

Utilities box: Sylvia and Wendy

Money Management: Esther

Website management: Jan, Ruth, Dorothy, Diana, Robyn, Spider, Kate, Diann and Rosemary

Newsletter: editing and layout Ruth and Dorothy

Photocopying: Judi

Mail-out: Esther

If you would like to become involved in any of the above, please email

[contact@olderdykes.org](mailto:contact@olderdykes.org)