

GLC Centre Inc. Membership Application

New membership / Renewal Form (Please circle one)

Name:

Email:

Postal Address: P/Code:.....

Phone No.(s):

I hereby agree to abide by the rules of the association

Signature: Date:

Name of second person at same address:

Email:

I hereby agree to abide by the rules of the association

Signature: Date:

I/We enclose a cheque/money order for annual membership to GLC Centre Inc. and subscription to newsletter to value of (Please tick one):

- \$25.⁰⁰ **Single Membership** for one person
- \$35.⁰⁰ **Dual Membership** for two people at the same address
- \$15.⁰⁰ **Concession Membership** for one person
(Health Care Card holders – evidence required).

Note: Membership year is from July 1 to June 30. Members joining between January 1 and June 30 each year will not be asked to renew until July the following year.

Please enclose cheque/money order with the completed form and mail to:

GLC Centre Inc./Memberships, PO Box 152, North Hobart, TAS, 7002

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Date Received:	
Membership No.(s):	
Valid To:	



GLC Newsletter

for Tasmania's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered & Intersex Community

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June - Oct

2007



www.glctas.org
glcgeneral@glctas.org

Pride Festival Launch - Oct 12



Come and throw your hands up at the Tasmanian Pride Festival launch - this Friday evening at LGBTI central, 39 Burnett St, North Hobart. Free entry, nibbles and a complementary cocktail on arrival, more drinks available for a donation.

The Pride Festival runs Friday October 12 - Saturday 27, ending with the GLC Halloween Ball at Flamingos. Check out the program inside on pages 10 & 19, or go to: www.glctas.org

DPAC Facilitated Community Meeting

A diverse group of members of the LGBTI community came together on August 4 to discuss how best the Whole of Government (WoG) Reference Group could respond to the needs of our community. The WoG first formed over a year ago and aside from accepting a couple of submissions from stakeholder groups regarding community governance, have done little else.

The Department of Premier and Cabinet generously offered to facilitate a meeting in which organisation and group representatives could come together and discuss the ways and means of communicating needs to the WoG Group, with the hope of seeing some action at last.

The group recognised the value in having a broad cross section of representatives of the community. The value of meeting as a group was empathised and it was agreed that another meeting of those present should be held, with representatives of Government attending. The GLBTI community would like to build on the momentum established at the workshop, and invite Whole-of-Government representatives to another open meeting/workshop.

The group recognised that Government had been active in some key areas, and it was agreed that at the next meeting, Government could report on the progress of implementing the strategies detailed in "Whole-of Government Framework for Tasmania's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex

Communities". This would include information on: Progress; Benchmarks; Action (who, what, when, where).

From this meeting, further refinement of the consultative process can be explored.



Community representatives from all over the state attended the DPAC meeting



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full page

restaurants & cafes

There are several queer friendly cafes and restaurants around Tasmania. They include the **Groovey Penguin** in Penguin, **Fresh on Charles** in Launceston, **Kabuki** near Swansea and, in the Hobart area, **Lebrina** in New Town, **Kaos Café** in Elizabeth Street, **Criterion Café** in Criterion Street, and **Sirens** in Victoria Street, **Retro Café** in Salamanca Place, **Machine Laundry-Café** in Salamanca Square, **Mummies** in Battery Point, **Jackman and McCross** in both New Town and Battery Point, and **Magnolia** in South Hobart, **Granny Lew's Organics** in Huonville, every first Saturday of the month, 11am - 1pm.

Let us know if we've left out your favourite one..

venues



Soak@Kaos café and lounge bar is open 7 days and nights from midday till late at 237 Elizabeth Street, Hobart. Phone 6231 5699 for details.

La Privelage - club for 'slightly older lesbians', 35+, monthly Friday nights at Soak@Kaos, \$5 cover, local women djs.

Flamingos alternative bar is open Saturdays 10.30pm til late at 60 Argyle Street Hobart. Free or low priced entry.

Lalaland bar and club is open the first Saturday of the month upstairs at Halo, 37A Elizabeth Street Mall, Hobart, from 10pm until 5am. Check the Entertainment Section of Saturday's Mercury newspaper. Phone 0408 328 456.

Coven gothic alternative club night, also at Halo (see Lalaland) To check dates go to: www.covenclub.com

Black Prince Hotel, Elizabeth St Hobart, every Friday afternoon, happy hours 5.30pm - 7.30pm.

Indigo Solutions 307 Elizabeth St, North Hobart, ph: 62 alternative therapies and treasures for the alternative soul.

Let us know if your favourite queer venue/event isn't listed here.

Corey Peterson Interview

Corey Peterson is a gay man, originally from Minnesota, USA, who first visited Tasmania in 1996. A network manager and Antarctic marine science technician, he lives with his partner, dog and chickens in West Hobart, and is standing as a Greens candidate for the Hobart City Council elections

in October. GLC News found out why.

Hobart's my true home. There's one person in each generation of my family who found a new

home. My father's family were Scandinavian – Danish, Finnish and Norwegian – and my mother's family Northern German and Native American. I came here from Minnesota to meet an Antarctic research ship and had this immediate feeling when I stepped off the plane of "Wow, I feel like I've come home!" One of the best scenes in Tasmania is coming into Hobart along the Tasman Highway, and as you come round a bend you see the mountain slowly grow larger until it's sitting over and embracing the city. Like the smaller hills around, it's all covered in native bush, with nature at the pinnacle – that said to me that the people here cared about the environment. Then I started meeting the people who were very welcoming and embracing. Now,

whenever friends and family come to visit they say "Ahh, I could live here." We need to protect that, that soft human-scale city where nature is at our core. We shouldn't aspire to be Melbourne or Sydney. Why would we want to live that way?

It took me a while to find this home for which deep down

Being gay...there's this undercurrent that you're not part of society, that you're not welcome, so you learn to be self reliant.

I was always looking, and now it's my turn to give back a bit. There are issues that are important to me, and I'd encourage people to vote on

those issues, plus I'm a member of the GLBTI community. That's not necessarily a reason to vote for me unless someone wants a representative on Council who has lived the sort of life they've lived, but I would like GLBTI people to vote for me so I can represent them when issues specific to our community come up in the system.

Being gay, growing up as a gay person, even if you don't suffer it all the time there's this undercurrent that you're not part of the society, that you're not welcome, so you learn to be self reliant. In Torch Song Trilogy, the main character Arnold lived who he was at whatever the cost to himself, and brought a richness to all the lives

Continued page 11

the rights stuff

A recent action outside the International AIDS Conference in Sydney against the ban on all blood donation by sexually-active gay and bisexual men, has caused quite a stir (for photos from the action

visit www.rodneycroome.id.au/other?id=C0_4_2).

The action was designed to highlight a case currently before the Tasmanian Anti-Discrimination Tribunal from Launceston gay man, Michael Cain. Michael was refused the opportunity to donate blood by the Red Cross in Launceston in 2005. His case is that all potential donors should be screened for the safety of their sexual activity, not the gender of their sexual partner.

Some people have responded to the Sydney action by declaring blood donation by gay men who practise safe sex to be a threat to the blood supply. They cite the fact that the overwhelming majority of people with HIV in Australia were infected through male-to-male sex.

Michael's response is that these people were infected through unsafe sex, not gay sex. He also

points out that while the overwhelming majority of PLWAs are gay, the overwhelming majority of gay and bisexual men will never have HIV because they practise safe sex.

But the final word must go to the experts.

According to Dr Arthur Caplan, the former Chair of the US Government Advisory Panel on Blood Donation...

"Letting gay men give blood could help bolster the supply. But, incredibly, despite ongoing shortages of blood that can and do cost lives, and no artificial substitute on the horizon, the FDA is letting prejudice and fear - not science - determine whether gays can give blood. At one time, long ago, the gay-blood ban may have made sense. But it no longer does....The FDA just does not get it. Fear and prejudice are terrible reasons to let you or someone you

Gaydar: the uncanny sensory perception that lesbians and gays have of detecting other gay people in their midst.

From 'Pink UK's Gay Slang Dictionary.

groups

counselling, support, referrals and STI testing. Phone Hobart on 6233 2557, Devonport on 6421 7759, Burnie on 6434 6315 or Launceston on 6336 2216.

TasBears is a social group for hairy men and their admirers. (**in hibernation**)

TasCAHRD, the Tasmanian Council on AIDS, Hepatitis and Related Diseases including the Gay Men's Health Program, can be contacted on 6234 1242. Freecall 9am - 5pm 1800 005 900.

Tasmanian Gay and Lesbian Rights Group (TGLRG) can be contacted on 6224 3556 or at www.tglrg.org or via www.rodneycroome.id.au or at their stall at Salamanca Market every Saturday.

TasUnity is an ecumenical support and study group for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, their friends, families and supporters. Phone Pat on 6344 2357 for further information.

Taswomania web-based group for Tasmanian Lesbians to share info: groups.yahoo.com/group/taswomania

Transisters social support group for M2F trans people groups.yahoo.com/group/transisters

Wellington Wanderers Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Activity Group can be contacted on 0418 590 262 or 6223 2690 or 6273 3184 or 6234 2946 or write to GPO Box 1872

Hobart 7001 or email wellingtonwanderers@yahoo.com.au

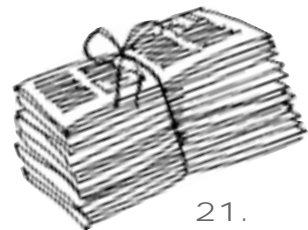
WILLOW, Women in Launceston Loving Other Women, have regular women's walks and social events. Contact through Trish at Working It Out North on 6334 4013.

Working It Out is Tasmania's peak support body for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex communities providing information, support and referral for people of all ages who are coming out or exploring their sexuality and gender. In the South, 6231 1200, in the North, phone 6334 4013, in the NorthWest, phone 6432 3643. To contact WIO: info@workingitout.org.au

Tell us if you know of any others or if any contact details need correcting.

media

This newsletter **GLCNews** is available by subscription – see the back page – or from some of the venues, groups and cafes listed above and on the next page. Or contact us if you'd like copies to distribute through somewhere else you know. Currently, you can get copies at Kaos, Machine, Working It Out, TasCAHRD, Hobart Women's Health Centre and Sexual Health Branches in Hobart and Launceston. Check the GLC website for news and pdf downloads of all our newsletters at: www.glctas.org



organisations and

Bi-Tasmania, a social and support group for bisexual Tasmanians, can be contacted on 0401 054 003.

Borderlines - Queer Radio every Wednesday, 2 - 3pm on Edge Radio 99.3FM

ECQLS East Coast Queer Life Support is a GLBTIQ support association being established in the North-East to co-ordinate and provide services and social activities for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex and questioning people of all ages in the region. For more information, phone Peter on: 0417 017 105 or join the ECQLS informal email network on ecqls@gmail.com

Fruity Bits is a Launceston-based group that aims to have fun and to build positive attitudes towards gender and sexual diversity. Contact them through Working It Out North on 6334 4013.

Gay and Lesbian Community Centre Incorporated (GLC Inc) is Tasmania's premier queer social and community development group. GLC hosts regular events, provides Gay Information Line, and publishes a regular newsletter. To join or subscribe write to PO Box 152 North Hobart 7002 or email glcgeneral@glctas.org or go to the GLC's website www.glctas.org For advertising in this newsletter or the business directory please email glcadvertising@glctas.org

Gay Info Line is a 24hour 5 minute recorded message service funded by GLC Inc. Phone 03 6234 8179.

Hobart Women's Health Centre at 25 Lefroy Street, North Hobart offers lesbian & bi women's counselling, support and referrals. Phone 62313212.

League of Gentlemen (Hoon, Channel and Bruny Island Chapter, Hobart Chapter & more to come) is an informal social group of gay men in the Hoon, Channel and Bruny region who meet about once a month. www.logtas.org Contact Julian Punch on 6239 6606 or email julian@logtas.org

NW Gay Men's Social Group meets weekly, usually on a Tuesday in Ulverstone. For details, please email gjlw@our.net.au

PFFLAG, Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, offers support. Phone Els on 6234 2372, or email pflagtas@yahoo.com.au

QueerTas is Tassie's GLBTI email group. To subscribe, email groups.yahoo.com/group/queertas

Q-Soc, the Queer Uni students society in Hobart, can be contacted via Brad, email queerep@yahoo.com.au

Relationship Registration www.relationshiptasmania.org.au

S.A.F.E Spirituality And Faith Exploration meet f'nightly, for LGBTI people who wish to explore their spirituality, phone Peter 6228 1068 or email safetas@gmail.com

Sexual Health Service offers

love die."

Therein lies the most important response to gay blood donation skeptics: removing the current blanket ban on gay blood donation will not cost lives, it will save them, and that's why people like Michael Cain want change.

The Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (HREOC) has released its final report on same-sex couple entitlements in federal and state law (for a summary visit www.hreoc.gov.au/human_rights/samesex/report/Community_Guide.html).

Tasmania got off relatively lightly, with discrimination against co-mothers of children born through fertility treatment identified as a continuing problem.

Not so, the Federal sphere, in which 58 laws continue to discriminate against same-sex partners.

The Shadow Labor Attorney-General, Joe Ludwig, has responded to the HREOC report by promising that Labor will recognise same-sex de facto

couples across a range of federal laws, if it is elected to government later this year. Meanwhile, Attorney-General, Philip Ruddock, says he will introduce a submission to Federal Cabinet before the election, but has not indicated what areas of law will be included.

... the FDA is letting prejudice and fear - not science - determine whether gays can give blood.

Both major parties remain opposed to same-sex marriage.

Please write to your local Federal MP expressing your support for HREOC's recommendations and asking his or her view.

You may also like to support an up-coming initiative by Parents and Friends of Gays and Lesbians. PFLAG will be publishing a national advertisement in support of same-sex couple equality in the coming weeks. For more on this ad and how to support it contact PFLAG National spokesperson, Shelley Argent, on pflagbris@hotmail.com or visit www.movingforward.org.au

Rodney Croome
Campaign Coordinator
Tasmanian Gay and Lesbian Rights Group

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&

*Helen Burnet for
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Authorised by Mark Rickards, 83 Harrington St., Hobart 7000

Tasmanian LGBTI Pride Festival

October 12—27, 2007

Wellington Wanderers Film Night 7pm

Saturday 13th October

Phone 6223 2690 for venue details.

LOG at Hiba, Bruny Island 12.30pm Sunday

14th October BYO meat/vego fare and drinks,
salads provided. RSVP asap to Julian
on 6239 6606 or email: julian@logtas.org

Pride Cake at the Tasmanian Gay and Lesbian

Rights Group stall at Salamanca Market from

8.30am till 3pm Saturday 20th October

TGLRG Election Forum, vote with pride!

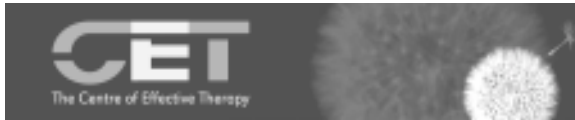
Meeting Rm 2, second floor, McDougall Bldg,
Ellerslie Rd, Battery Point, Monday 22nd October,
6 - 7.30pm. Here's your opportunity to quiz candidates
in this year's Federal election, refreshments provided.

Wellington Wanderers Mt Wellington walk

meet 10am Thursday 25th October,

phone 6223 2690 for details.

More on page 10



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Another successful GLC Artfully Queer Exhibition

The GLC Artfully Queer Exhibition of 2007, After the Liberation - Ten Years of Queer had another successful spell at the Moonah Arts Centre in August. The opening night was packed and William Yang entertained, informed and charmed the crowd all at once.

Congratulations go to the people's choice winner, Paul Rubie for his work: 'Dirty Faggot's, while Baden Phillips came in with a very close second with his entry: 'Home-Oh' The winner of the voters prize was Elizabeth Shuey.

Thanks to Artery and AdArt for the peoples choice prize, and to the Tas Gay & Lesbian Law Reform Group For the voters prize.

Thanks also to Kelly Banister, Jennie Gorringe,

Roger Lovell, Magnolia Café, Jackman & McRoss, Machine Laundry Cafe, the staff at Moonah Arts Centre, Jurithm (Jodie & Jude), William Yang and a HUGE thanks to Rob Duffield our curator. Most of all, thanks to the artists for their fabulous work.



William Yang at the opening night of the Exhibition



glc centre inc.

Get involved in 2007

GLC Management Committee Members

President, Tracey Wing	Vice-President, Richard Hale
Treasurer, Bruce Stocks	Secretary, position vacant
Public Officer, James Mainwaring	Committee Member, Claire Bonner
Committee member, Robert Thompson	Committee member, Dean Duggan

Would you like to get involved with your community? Take part in fundraising, planning and running events, develop community networks, fight homophobia, change the world! You can join the GLC Inc. Management Committee by contacting us: email or post, details front or back of newsletter.

Upcoming Committee Meetings

Subject to changes, all meetings are on Thursday evenings, fortnightly, starting 5.30pm, at 39 Burnett St, Nth Hobart.

Check website for further details, members and guests welcome.

Meeting dates for next couple of months:

AGM October 11th, 6.30pm at 39 Burnett St, Nth Hobart

Committee meetings: October 25, November 8 & 22

Around Hobart...

With Robert

Graeme Innes, the Human Rights Commissioner and Commissioner Responsible for Disability Discrimination, Graeme Innes, hosted the official Tasmanian launch of his report entitled Same Sex: Same Entitlements,



Graeme Innes

National Inquiry into Discrimination Against People in Same-Sex Relationships: Financial and Work-Related Entitlements and Benefits.

The state launch was timed to coincide with the Queer Collaborations 2007 conference and open to the public, at the University of Tasmania Hobart Campus on 13 July. This report can be downloaded at www.humanrights.gov.au

The Lord Mayor hosted the Queer Collaborations Conference launch (see pics) on 9 July at Waterside Pavilion. A contribution of \$250. by GLC Inc sponsored aspects of the conference.

Tasmanian Men in Harmony: An outstanding line-up of ten groups performed to a full house at the Town Hall on Sat 7 July, hosted by the Hobart Men's Barbershop Club. [New members](#) are always made welcome at rehearsals each week at Hytten Hall, University of Tasmania, Tuesday nights from 7:30pm. www.wellingtones.intas.net/

Michael Kirby: (see pic) ATTORNEY-GENERAL Philip Ruddock has dismissed a call from High Court judge Michael Kirby to change the law so that, when he dies, his homosexual partner can access his judicial pension. - The Australian, 13 July 2007 search at www.news.com.au/



Michael Kirby

Men in Tutus – NEW YORK'S *Les Ballets Grandiva*, "artistically brilliant, absolutely hilarious" – New



contributions welcome

Quirky stories. Funny photos. Community group reports. Queer film, theatre, book, music, club or café reviews. Interviews with famous and not so famous local, interstate or international members of our lesbian, gay, bi, transgender and intersex communities.

All these and more are welcome. Write to the Newsletter Editor, PO Box 152, North Hobart 7002 or email glcgeneral@glctas.org

We won't print malicious gossip or oppressive material.

And don't forget to let us know corrections and additions to the contact and venue lists.

North & North-West
Postcards cont.

More on Connect4life:

Following the exciting news of Charity Status for "Working It Out", the fledgling group "Connect4life" are very keen to organise FUNd raising events to help achieve more for WIO. We are off to a flying start with the help of Caroline Greig who has just joined up with us to help plan and run fundraising events Statewide. Caroline has her own Production company and I was involved in a fundraising event with her years ago that was a huge success. She is so full of energy and ideas and I look forward to working with her. We have set 2 dates to mark on your Calendar for a great night out:

Saturday 24th November in Deloraine at the Old Community Complex, a 1940's theme night with "The Deloraine Big Band." A gay friendly night because there is a lot of support and friends of gay people in Deloraine that just love a night out and an excuse to party.

Saturday 15th December in Hobart at a venue to be decided, a

christmas party, call me, Sharon, at Working It Out - North for more info.

Reminder from:

[womenupnorth Yahoo! Group](#)

Monthly brunch at Deloraine
Date: Saturday **September 1**, 2007. Time: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
This event repeats every month on the first Saturday.

Location: Deloraine Deli , 36 Emu Bay Rd (the main drag) Deloraine
Table is booked under the name "Ros". Staff are very lesbian-friendly so don't be shy to ask!

GirlFest News

Well here we go again another absolute cracker is being put together, for all of you for the upcoming GF08. For those that made it for GF07, you know what I am talking about, and yes you are right I can not argue, it is well worth the trip. For those of you that are yet to experience what they are all talking about, come play with us this coming January, 25th-28th. We guarantee you it is worth the short flight or drive to the beautiful Sunshine Coast of Queensland Australia.

Come visit us at [www.girlfest.org](#) have a look around our site we have sections from 07 as well as 06. Come experience what they are all talking about!!!!

York Post. Theatre Royal, Tue 9 October,
[www.theatreroyal.com.au](#)
or phone 6233 2299

Among the multitude of internet sites for our readers is this one which monitors TV and movie advertising. You can check out their research, play the videos, feed-back, cast a vote at [www.commercialcloset.org](#)

International News, Reviews & Commentary on Gay and Bisexual Men in Entertainment and the Media are reviewed at [www.afterelton.com/](#)

Desperate Housewives to add gay couple: Wisteria Lane's newest residents will hang a rainbow flag in front of their house. Producers announced that this season's newest neighbors on ABC's *Desperate Housewives* will be a gay couple, AfterElton.com reports. "We're going to have the first male desperate housewives," show creator and head writer Marc Cherry said on the site. "They will move into the old Applewhite house and one of the gay men will just have a fractious, hateful relationship with Teri Hatcher." The couple are scheduled to make their first appearance around episode 5, according to the site. (*The Advocate*)

Elton John's much heralded visit to Tassie will be well supported. After all he is a strong advocate of equal rights for same-sex couples and other gay rights.

Mardi Gras 2008 – Planning is underway to enter a Tasmanian float, the 'Tassie Devils', in Mardi Gras next year. If you would like to get involved please email tassiedevils@mac.com or sms 0438028599 for more details.

Tasmanian Pride Choir

We rehearse at Hobart Women's Health Centre, 25 Lefroy Street, North Hobart under the professional leadership of Hans Kooij at 6:30pm every Thursday. We invite all singers and potential singers to come along for lessons and the fun. Donation just \$5.



glc inc. calendar

Tasmanian LGBTI Pride Festival

October 12—27, 2007

Opening event Pride Cocktail Party
Friday, October 12, 5.30pm - 8pm
39 Burnett St, Nth Hobart
Free nibbles, cheap drinks,
Complementary cocktail on arrival

Family event Big Queer Family Picnic
Sunday, October 21, noon - 4pm
Parliament St Reserve, Sandy Bay
Handbag throwing, tug'o'war & more
BYO Picnic, best friend etc

Closing event GLC Halloween Ball
Saturday night, October 27,
9pm - late, Flamingos Niteclub
Liverpool St, Hobart
DJs on 2 levels, Drag and dance acts,
Prizes and more. Rocky Horror Theme

More on page 19

Devonport. Food will be provided.
Service provider focused forums (which young people are also invited to) will be held on Monday September 3rd from 1.30pm-3.30pm at Burnie TAFE, Room 122, C Block, Ground Floor, 41 Moorville Road, Burnie; and on Tuesday **September 4th** from 10am-12pm at Devonport TAFE, Room DEVA 1025, A Block, 1st Floor Business Area, 20 Valley Road, Devonport. For more info contact Ros Albiston on 03 64407131 or email ros.albiston@dhhs.tas.gov.au

Ernest Dinner There is a dinner at Emesete Restaurant in Burnie on **September the 15th**. This is a great opportunity for people to expand their social networks and have a fabulous dinner cooked by Chef extraordinaire Alli Brotherton! Please pass this on to any of your networks. For more info contact Jenny on 0409 175 278 or

jarcher@aspire.org.au

Wilderness Weekend - We are organising a GLBTI and supporters trip to Corinna for the long weekend in **November (3rd, 4th and 5th)**. Activities in the area include fishing, walks, canoeing, boat cruises and more. It promises to be a fantastic experience for everyone involved. There is some great accommodation in the village available. Check it out at www.corinna.com.au At this stage there are about 10 cabins left (1 and 2 bedrooms - prices on website) for the weekend but they are filling fast. Some camping sites are also available at Corinna, but are limited and booking is advised.

Please email jarcher@aspire.org.au or phone me 0409 175 278 if you are interested and I can give you further details. Jenny

More postcards next page (16)

lesbian & bi women's meeting place

The Lounge

 5.30pm

Every second and fourth Tuesday of month @ Hobart Women's Health Centre
25 Lefroy Street North Hobart. For information call Tracey on 62 313 212

Postcards from the North & North-West

Dance Party in Launceston –

The next dance party for Launnie will be on the **1st of December**. Organisers are calling for anyone who would like to help put the event together. Meetings will start regularly in October and then a few more people will be needed on the night. So keep a look out for advertising closer to the time and please contact Donna for more info and to be included on the organising email contact list. Email donla_1@hotmail.com

Connect4life – For those who are not familiar Connect4life, it is a group that was formed from concern about the high rates of depression and suicide within our community. Deloraine based and affiliated with Working It Out, Connect4life has recently started to gather some fantastic support and has a number of exciting activities planned for the near future. Connect 4life have been

meeting after the Deloraine Deli gathering which is from 11am on the first Saturday of each month. The next Connect for life meeting is soon. For more information please contact Sharon at: sharonljones@bigpond.com Hope to see you all there.

Gay Straight Alliance- Working It Out has organised a series of forums for Rural Health Week titled **Young People Challenging Homophobia**. Young people are invited to hear how other young people visiting Tasmania from rural Victoria have developed some innovative approaches to improve the health and well-being of same-sex attracted youth in their communities. Be a part of the on-going work to create a more accepting & diverse community. All welcome! Youth focused forum is on **Monday September 3rd** from 6pm-8pm at The Zone Youth Access & Info Centre, 64 Stewart St,

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around him, even those that didn't embrace him at first. You have to be true to yourself. Joining the GLC almost as soon as I arrived here has helped introduce me to a diverse network of friends, keeps me aware of the issues, and I attend GLC, LOG and Wellington Wanderers events. I always try to make new people feel welcome. I also marched in Mardi Gras with the Tassie Gladdies. I live with my partner of over four years in West Hobart. My sexuality is important



Corey Peterson

to me but it's not all of who I am. Another reason I fell in love with this place is that I saw the changes happening here, the opening up of the community and of people's attitudes. Those who used to outwardly condemn us now have to hide, those who were in the middle are now out and vocal in our support, regardless of the Federal Government's continuing attempts to marginalise us. I also saw Hobart retaining its character, and that's been lost in some other parts of the world. The city has a tremendous amount of built history which mirrors every age, including the destructive 1970s, and many buildings are now being repaired and restored. But keeping that character

is as much a function of looking after the natural world, as it is of the built environment. We need a city with softer edges, more parks established in the CBD, more trees not less. One outrage allowed by Council recently is the "green" building going up in Harrington Street where large trees used by the endangered swift parrot were cut down to make room for it. Where else in the world would you find endangered species using habitat in the middle of a city? Weeds are another huge issue because of Hobart's integration into surrounding bushland. I'd

like to pass a local ordinance that would prohibit the sale of State Government-identified weed species at markets and nurseries. Public transport is becoming a big issue here too. We need a park and ride system, increased number and frequency of buses, and railways kept in public hands. I'd also like to see stricter penalties for hooning and other anti-social behaviour so we can continue Hobart's move to feel like a safer city. As part of this, Council must be pressed to repair streetlights more quickly when they go out.

Unlike larger cities, the GLBTI community here is more integrated in the wider community – there's no

ghetto, we're spread throughout all socio-economic areas – so I believe our individual priorities mostly mirror those of the larger community. That said, it's imperative that we have a strong GLBTI community in Hobart to give support to those who don't have personal support networks. Those of us who do, need to be visible to humanise ourselves to those who may still fear us as the unknown other. The GLBTI Pride Festival is no different to the Greek Festival – it's about celebrating a subculture that gives flavour to the larger community. To address both the general issues as well as our community-specific needs, it's important to be active at a local government level. Acceptance increases with



visibility, and it allows us to demonstrate that our sexuality isn't all of who we are and that we're part of the larger community. I want an inclusive community. It's not just GLBTI people who feel excluded – there are people with disabilities, migrants, people of low socio-economic status – we need to focus on inclusiveness. For example there's been a fuss about building housing department homes in some suburbs – I have housing department

infill development next door and it doesn't worry me. A vibrant community has to have vibrant sub-communities – lots of different people make society interesting. It's about diversity. For example I'd encourage migrants to teach children their native language, and to take pride in their culture. You can have pride in more than one culture without being nationalistic. Real pride doesn't denigrate anyone else. I think it's important to put what you believe into practice. It's about integrity. You can't expect others to change if you don't do it yourself.

You need to embrace it and then pass that on to other people, whether that is about being gay or caring about the environment. We've put double-glazing and insulation in our house extension which has a passive solar design - active solar is next so we can put electricity back into the grid. We keep chickens, grow vegetables and have fruit trees. I bike to work at least twice a week and sometimes carpool. My partner walks to work. We enjoy our lifestyle, we go bushwalking and kayaking, and visit our network of friends. We love the peace and security of this place, we live here, and we maximise our enjoyment of it.

I'm a network manager in Hobart

but still work as a marine science technician and laboratory manager in Antarctica and have since 1992. I lived 'on the Ice' most of the mid-1990s and still go there for 3-5 weeks a year. It's another place that's in my blood, a magical place, like living on another planet.

In the 1990s, Antarctica mirrored Tasmania – if you were gay you didn't talk about it. Now there's a diverse and out GLBTI community at McMurdo – actually I'm not sure if intersex people are represented there but every other letter is – and it's vibrant community artistically, scientifically and politically. A couple of hundred people over-winter there, and there's a lot of mutual respect. We rely on each other.

I was active in high school and college, serving on the student council, and was Vice-President and then the next year President and of the Campus Activities Board which ran the student café and organised concerts and other events. I joined the Green Party in California in the 1990s. There's no proportional representation system there, unlike Hare-Clark here, so minority and alternative viewpoints were locked out at state and federal government levels and Greens were only prominent at a local government level. The Greens recognise multiple levels of government and each level's

I want an inclusive community. It's not just GLBTI people who feel excluded...

responsibilities. As a grass-roots organisation, the Greens recognise what can be accomplished at a local level. I'm civic-minded, and I'd like to help run things more efficiently and be more responsive to people's needs.

Local government elections are not compulsory – only about 50% of those eligible actually vote even though it's so easy. Your election papers are mailed to your house, you vote and mail it back. You're eligible to vote if you're living here or own a business here, so students or temporary residents are eligible, and if you own a business in the city and reside here you can have two votes.*

If people care at all about what happens at a local level, which is where every issue impacts on our daily lives, they should vote. If they want to do any civic-minded thing, they should vote. And to plug myself a bit more, I only need 800 primary votes to stand a good chance of being elected – that's only a portion of the GLBTI and supporters community.

*Forms for both categories can be downloaded from the Tasmanian Electoral Commission website www.elctoral.tas.gov.au, click on Local Government and look in the download list, complete the form and mail them to the Hobart City Council attn General Manager.