



Bfriend Newsletter March/April 2010

Hello Everyone

Well the new year is well and truly underway now and it's been great to catch up with many of you over the last couple of months and hear all about what's going on in your lives. It looks like 2010 is already shaping up to be a great year for many. Long may it continue!

I've been flying solo since I started back mid January, with Paul enjoying a well deserved (and gorgeously long) break. It's been good to get down to things again and I'm happy to report that everything is swinging along well.

We have loads of things planned for the project this year. First up is a digital story telling project. We want to hear your stories about being a newly identifying GLBTQ person! Read all about it in the General News (GN) section. Remember that the Bfriend program is planned in response to your needs and requests, so if you have an idea for a group or activity, please be in touch and share it with us.

Also coming up soon is the first Volunteer training for the year. We are always seeking to expand our pool of volunteers. Please bare in mind that your skills may not be required for some time after you complete the training, but there's always that moment where *YOU* are suddenly absolutely the right person for the job! More about becoming a Bfriend vol in the GN section.

One of the things that we try to do, is to keep you informed about what's on in the community. We try hard to stay on top of what's currently on in Adelaide, but sometimes events or groups slip under the radar. If you are aware of a group or event that is currently not listed, please let us know. Similarly, if you are aware that the contact details or meeting times for the groups that we do list have changed please keep us posted.

Hope you all enjoy the festivals and the end of summer with it's beautiful mild weather.

All the best

fanny

Bfriend General News & Goss....

Bfriend would like to invite project participants and volunteers to take part in a Digital Story Telling Project

Digital stories are short personal documentaries illustrated with photos and/or art-work, accompanied by simple sound-tracks and voice over.

When a collection of stories share a common theme they can offer astonishing insight...and potential to change quite deeply-ingrained attitudes.

Bfriend works primarily with people who are newly identifying as being same sex attracted or questioning their gender identity. It would therefore be important that your story reflect your experience of being newly identifying.

The object of the project is to compile a resource that Bfriend can use as an educational resource for training service providers and also for project participants, their friends and families and supporters.

What you'd have to be up for:

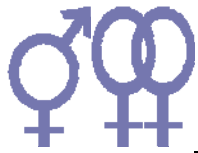
- One introductory session
- Four face to face digital story telling workshops (commencing in April 2009)
- One weekend intensive where you get to put the DVD together
- You have to be comfortable to share your story publicly
- It's voluntary, there's no charge

The **initial introduction session** is scheduled for **Wednesday 17th March from 6pm – 8pm**. If you are interested in participating in this project please RSVP to Fanny 8202 5805 or Paul 8202 5192

Volunteer Training & Mandated Notification

There is still time to register interest in our Volunteer Training. Bfriend relies on the efforts of our volunteers to do link-ups. If you have ever thought about becoming a Bfriend volunteer or know someone you think would make a great volunteer to support someone newly identifying, please call to discuss with Paul 82025192, or Fanny 8202 5805. The next round of training is going to be held in late March (22 – 24).

For those current volunteers interested in attending the FULL COURSE on Mandated Notification please let us know and we can arrange to get you into a session at UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide next year.



Bfriend GATHERINGS



Bfriend Gatherings for Women

Out For Tea

Please Note: Due to the Fringe Festival, Out for Tea will be held at Café Amore in March and that Friday 2 April is Good Friday

Friday 5th March 7pm at Café Amore, 162 - 170 Pulteny Street Adelaide

All self identified women welcome.

Book with Fanny on 8202 5805 or email bfriend@ucwesleyadelaide.org.au

Friday 2nd April – Good Friday - NO OUT FOR TEA

Bfriend Gatherings for Trans folk

Bfriend Trans Dinner

Friday 19th March and Friday 16th April

7pm at *Directors Hotel, Gouger St* Adelaide.

All Trans identified people, their partners & supporters welcome.

Book with Fanny on 82025805 or email: bfriend@ucwesleyadelaide.org.au

RSVP Wednesday before

Bfriend Gatherings for Men

Bfriend Men's Dinner

Friday 12th March and Friday 9th April

Duke of Brunswick hotel 207 Gilbert St 6.30 for 7pm start.

Please phone Paul to RSVP on 8202 5192 or email bfriend@ucwesleyadelaide.org.au

RSVP by the Wednesday before.

BFRIEND is based at UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide, 10 Pitt Street Adelaide, 5000

Fanny 8202 5805 Paul 8202 5192

email bfriend@ucwesleyadelaide.org.au Fax 8202 5807

Women's News

I love summer in Adelaide – the beach, the long, warm evenings, the festivals... a cold beer at the end of a hot day! It really seems to facilitate going out and about and it's been great to catch up with so many of you, both at Out For Tea and at the Golden Club Dance.

I've been chatting to women about "what you want" and it seems as tho the most popular ideas are a writing group and/or a movie group. Here are some of my ideas in response :

The writing group would run for 8 weeks. The group would be an opportunity to read our own work, the work of other inspiring writers plus the opportunity to hear from successful Adelaide lesbian writers, and even spend some time writing collaboratively. At the end of the 8 weeks the works (writing + potentially paintings, photographs, drawings ... etc) could be collated to produce a "zine".

The movie group would be a weekly get together for 6 weeks to watch some lesbian films together and talk about them afterwards.

OK – now it's up to you. Let me know if you are interested on 82025805 or bfriend@ucwesleyadelaide.org.au I will run each group if I hear from 5 women!

HAPPY INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY for MARCH 8!

Love and hugs

Fanny

Trans News

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the dinner on Friday – what a great night! It's good to report that so many newly identifying trans folk continue to contact the project. Please consider volunteering if you feel that you have the time and energy to do so – your help would be greatly appreciated.

Following the success of last year's International Transgender Day of Remembrance event, Bfriend (and hopefully the Carrousel Club) will be talking to Feast about making this important day (which always falls during the Feast Festival) a standout in the festival calendar. I'd love to hear your ideas about how we can celebrate ITDR in Adelaide.

The other thing that has been requested is a support group for young trans folk. I am very willing to run this and would like to gauge the level of interest for such a group. I'm thinking for people 28yrs and under. Let me know what you think on 8202 5805 or bfriend@ucwesleyadelaide.org.au

Love and hugs

Fanny

Men's News

Heya Guys!

Well by the time this lands in your mailbox, Paul should be back on board and after such a lovely break, ready to rock and roll! Make sure to let him know how much you've missed him! I'd like to extend warm thanks to Paul Marsh and Bill Peterson for running the Men's Dinner last month. I'm told it all went splendidly.

Navigayte

Starting at the end of March, Paul will be starting a short weekly group at night for guys who are **newly identifying** or considering **coming out**. The workshop will cover topics related to coming out including coming out to *yourself*, coming out to *significant others*, practical tips and ways, *establishing yourself* in the GLBT community, *safety* etc. If you think this group may be for you and are interested in attending, please contact Paul on 8202 5192 or email bfriend@ucwesleyadelaide.org.au , no later than March 16. Alternatively, if you know someone who may benefit from such a group please pass Paul's details along.

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In The Community

LEMONS ON THE LOOSE

***Sat 17th Apr** : 10-pin Bowling - 2pm at 'Bowland', 2 Clayson Rd., Salisbury - please let us know if you are going - email:lemonsontheloose@hotmail.com or mob:0410 925 537.

UNITY and FRIENDS - GLBTIQ Christian Group Changes to UNITY

From 1 February we will be called Unity and Friends, and there will be only one 'organisation' not two ie 'Unity' and 'Friends of Unity', as there has been for nearly twenty years. We will be meeting at **Church of the Trinity** on the **4th Friday** of every month from February to November 6.45 for 7.00 with the usual shared meal, significant input, Communion. *Church of the Trinity is on Goodwood Rd Clarence Park between Cross Rd and the Goodwood rail subway, on the seaward side. Good parking. Catch buses that run along Goodwood Rd and hop of at either Stop 8 or 9 (the church is between the two on the opposite side of the road)*

BEYOND 'THAT'S SO GAY' BOOK READING AND COMMUNITY GATHERING **A National Challenging Homophobia Tour**

WHEN: Wednesday, 10th March, 2010 from 5pm

WHERE: Second Story Youth Health Service, 57 Hyde St, Adelaide

You are invited come and spend time and have a cuppa with author Daniel Witthaus as he shares over a decade of challenging homophobia. His book, *Beyond 'That's So Gay': Challenging Homophobia in Australian Schools*, offers a comprehensive, effective and fun guide to changing schoolyards and classrooms. The book demonstrates in entertaining detail exactly what happens when teachers, students and parents discuss the emotionally charged topic of sexual diversity. The book reading will last for 30-40 minutes before turning into a conversation with those present. Anyone who has an interest in affirming sexual diversity and challenging homophobia is welcome.

To find out more about the tour, it's itinerary and how to get involved, go to www.thatsogay.com.au or e-mail tour@thatsogay.com.au

Sea SSaw 8 Ball Night

Date: 3rd March

Venue: Semaphore RSL – Semaphore Rd – Beach end

Time: 7:30 – 10PM

Rock up and have a great night out with friends.

More details call Bev on 8244 0924 or 041 678 4204

Or email: sea_ssaw@gmail.com

Out For Tea Down South

for all same-sex attracted women

When: 1st March, 29th March 2010

Time: 6:30pm – 9pm

Where: Deep Blue Café, 324 Esplanade, Moana

Come together to socialise and chat over a meal at a restaurant or café in the South on a monthly basis, and a chance and hear about the Southern Women's Lesbian Health Program.

Bookings are essential! RSVP by the Thursday before each "tea" on 8384 9555 or email Catriona.Kennedy@health.sa.gov.au *Same-sex attracted women from all areas welcome*

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Moolagoo Mob

First there was Nungays, then came First Queers, and now Moolagoo Mob.

These groups were set up by everyday people who saw the importance of having a social and support network for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) community.

Celebrating in each others uniqueness and sharing in each others diversity.

We the Moolagoo Mob, strive to take a leadership role within the Indigenous GLBT community, so that together we can grow in confidence and embrace solidarity.

We strive in maintaining friendships (new and old) through mutual respect that is developed by a shared understanding of what it is to be a minority in two worlds based on race and sexuality.

The first Saturday of every month we meet in different locations, where we can be ourselves in the only way us Nungas know how.

In the past we have had BBQ's, bush walks and dvd nights and there is also the possibility that you could get a call (last minute) that there is something happening in Adelaide "Do Ya Wanna Meet".

**Please feel free to contact Kym on 040 108 517
Check out our website : www.moolagoomob.com**