



## ***Bfriend Newsletter Sept/Oct 2011***

Hey Folks

Spring has sprung! (Well it's on its way) and that means its time to shrug off the winter woollies and get yourselves out & about enjoying the warmer weather and sunny sun! Unless like me you suffer from Hayfever, in which case there will probably be no smelling the roses for you.

Lots is going on in Bfriend at the moment; Firstly welcome to Jacintha Moerman who has begun her time filling in as the Women's Worker while Fanny takes a few months away to complete part of her Uni studies. Jacintha comes to us with a wealth of experience from working in the glbt community for a number of years and currently works at Shopfront in Salisbury as the Northern Rainbow Girls project worker. The Rainbow Girls is a social/support group for young same sex attracted women in the Northern Suburbs, and she has also spent some time with The Second Story's Evolve project (also for young ssa women). She has already been out to her first Out for Tea and Trans Dinners but if you haven't had a chance to say hello yet, feel free to give her a call on 8202 5805 Mondays & Tuesdays. Jacintha will be with us until the end of October.

Paul (that's me) is going on a holiday (whoo hoo), I will be taking a few weeks break at the beginning of September. Jacintha will be holding the fort during that time so if you need to contact us feel free to give her a call. I won't be gone for too long so if Jacintha can't answer your query I will get back to you on my return.

With the warmer weather coming it means Adelaide's annual FEAST Festival is just around the corner so there is a few activities starting to happen in the lead up to the festival, we will keep you informed of any happenings that you can get your party shoes on for but before that happens don't forget about the regular community groups and happenings - check the Groups & What's On pages included with your newsletter. They are always a useful reference if you are in a link up and a great way for new folk to check out what is in our community.

I hope to see many of you out n about soon

Paul

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

**Fanny 8202 5805 Paul 8202 5192**

email [bfriend@ucwesyadelaide.org.au](mailto:bfriend@ucwesyadelaide.org.au) Fax 8202 5807

# Bfriend General News & Goss....

## Stakeholder Consultation & Review For Bfriend

In coming weeks Bfriend will be starting a review of our services over the last 5 years to see what has been working and what might be able to be improved. We are always considering what we do, why we do it and how we do it but haven't done a proper review in about 9 years so we thought it would be timely to do this. We will be organising a stakeholder consultation which means many of you will have an opportunity to have input in informing us about the service and your experience of using Bfriend in the many variety of ways people use us. Jonathon (our manager of Family Services), Fanny or Paul may be in touch in someway soon. Just a Note – This is not something we have been asked to do, but our way of staying in touch with the issues for newly identifying folk, volunteers and regular users of the service.

## VOLUNTEER TRAINING

We are planning to run next Volunteer Training Sessions in early October, if you are interested in becoming a Volunteer contact Paul or Jacintha to discuss your eligibility and what is involved in being a Bfriend Volunteer. We are always on the lookout for new Vols to link with people. The great thing about being a Bfriend volunteer is that it does not require you to commit to every week of your life, unlike other volunteering roles where you may be required to pay to be trained and then commit for several years, it is a sporadic role where you may get 1 link up a year or a couple per year depending on your availability and who is coming in wanting to be linked up.

### **Volunteer Police Checks (in case you missed this in the last newsletter)**

***VOLUNTEERS – Recently many of you would have received Police Check renewal forms and letters from us. A requirement of being a Bfriend Volunteer is all volunteers much have a current check (done every 3 years). It is imperative that we get your updated clearances if you intend on continuing to be a Bfriend Volunteer. If you need a new set of forms please contact us and we can email them out to you. Please remember you need to have the Stat Dec form signed by a JP (we have some in the building if you can't find one) and you MUST bring in your ID (equal to 100 points) for either Fanny or Paul to sight and take a photocopy of. All of your information is kept and regarded as HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL by both Bfriend and UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide's HR Dept. If you have any concerns about this please feel free to contact us and have a chat, it is an annoying process for some but it is a requirement we must all do to ensure all people accessing the service are safe.***

## **New Women's 25ish to 40ish group**

(new and improved name to come so watch this space) has had its first get together. At this stage we meet fortnightly on a Tuesday from around 6pm to 8pm with one group per month being situated at UnitingCare Wesley and the other going out in town for a cheap meal or coffee. If you are interested being on the email distribution list for this group don't hesitate to contact Jacintha at Bfriend by phone or email

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# **Bfriend GATHERINGS**



## **Bfriend Gatherings for Women**

### **Out For Tea**

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept @ the World's End Hotel 208 Hindley St Adelaide**

All self identified women welcome. *(Please Note Jacintha will be on leave for this dinner and Monica has kindly offered to keep an eye out for people).*

**Book with Jacintha on 8202 5805** or email: [bfriend@ucwesleyadelaide.org.au](mailto:bfriend@ucwesleyadelaide.org.au)

*RSVP by Thurs am*

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Oct @ the World's End Hotel 208 Hindley St Adelaide**

All self identified women welcome.

**Book with Jacintha on 8202 5805** or email: [bfriend@ucwesleyadelaide.org.au](mailto:bfriend@ucwesleyadelaide.org.au)

*RSVP by Thurs am*

## **Bfriend Gatherings for Trans folk**

### **Bfriend Trans Dinners**

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Sept** *Time: 7pm Venue: Directors Hotel 247 Gouger Street Adelaide*

*RSVP : Paul or Fanny 82025805 by Thurs before*

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Oct** *Time: 7pm Venue: Directors Hotel 247 Gouger Street Adelaide*

*RSVP : Paul or Fanny 82025805 by Thurs before*

## **Bfriend Gatherings for Men**

### **Bfriend Men's Dinner's**

**Friday 9th Sept** @ 6.30 for 7pm Where: **The Edinburgh Castle Hotel , Currie Street Adelaide** RSVP: Paul by Wednesday Afternoon (before) *at the latest* on 8202 5192

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Oct** @ 6.30 for 7pm Where: **The Edinburgh Castle Hotel , Currie Street Adelaide** RSVP: Paul by Wednesday Afternoon (before) *at the latest* on 8202 5192

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## Men's News

Hello Fellas

Well if you read the front of the newsletter you will be aware that I am taking some holidays in September. I will be away from 1<sup>st</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> of September. The Men's Dinner will still be going ahead at The Edinburgh Castle Hotel, The booking will either be under Bfriend or Bill. Bill has also agreed to keep an eye out for you and will be your host with the most in my absence. I think we are beginning to feel more settled into our new surrounds at The Ed with the good \$10 menu. I am as always happy to hear your thoughts about the venue (I can't always accommodate everybody's tastes but do listen and make changes to our social needs based on what the majority of those who attend tell me. If you don't speak to me to let me know your concerns or appreciations I can't make changes so please don't hesitate to call, email or speak to me about this at anytime).

With Fanny taking leave for her studies I have been quite busy training Jacintha and taking on some extra workload but I am still focused on the needs of the Men in our Bfriend and wider community. Last newsletter I put out I would be interested in running a Men & Relationships workshop for Bfriend guys – to date I have only heard from one person, if you think you would like to do this few week workshop please let me know or I will put it off until early next year.

For the guys who expressed interest in the Bfriend Photography project with the colder weather finishing I am planning to get this project in motion on my return to work so I will contact you regarding start dates and nites to meet. If you were interested there is still time to let me know and get involved. No real photography experience is necessary but you will need access to a digital camera that is 5 megapixels or higher.

While I am away you can RSVP to dinner or if you need any support/help contact Jacintha on 8202 5805, other wise you can all me on my return. Until then take care and I look forward to seeing many of you soon.

## Women's News

Hi everyone – I am Jacintha and I am backfilling Fanny's role at Bfriend whilst she has her placement till the end of October. I am slowly settling into the role and the staff and community have been wonderfully supportive and patient with me. I am very much enjoying making connections with new people and ages then i have been used to. A little bit about me... I currently also work for a project called Northern Rainbow Girls for SSA young women that runs though the Department of Health at Shopfront Youth Health Service in Salisbury on a part time basis and have been for the past three years. I have also on and off over the past five years worked within the Inside Out and Evolve projects working with Young SSA men and women and Young Trans folk that runs though the Department of Health's Second Story in the city.

At this stage the **new 25ish to 40ish group** (new and improved name to come so watch this space) has had its first get together. The participants have enjoyed being involved to the set up of this group and we are exciting at the prospect of getting SSA women and SSA women identified together on a regular basis for connection and social support which in the past has been lost in our community. At this stage we meet fortnightly on a Tuesday from around 6pm to 8pm with one group per month being situated at UnitingCare Wesley and the other going out in town for a cheap meal or coffee. If you are interested being on the email distribution list for this group don't hesitate to contact Bfriend by phone or email

I am on annual leave from the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August and will be back from the 7<sup>th</sup> of September and am excited about continuing to work in this role when i get back. Just to note here that I want to thank the wonderful women that have volunteered to keep an eye over the groups and dinners while I am away.

## Trans News

Hi to all the new folk that have recently been connecting in with Bfriend and attending the monthly dinner. Last month saw a number of new folk coming along and a big thanks to all those who warmly welcomed Jacintha to her first official dinner as well. The dinners are a fantastic way to increase your connections and networks within the Transgender community in an environment that is safe and welcoming. If you have never been along but would like to, contact us at Bfriend for a chat and we can give you all the info on what happens at the dinner and what you can expect when you attend for the first time. It is also useful to let us know you are coming if it's your first time so that we can keep an eye out for you and introduce you to the folk who are there. The Directors hotel is located conveniently in the cities South West area and the staffs are very welcoming to all who attend.

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Also stay tuned for more information about the 2012 International Transgender Day of Remembrance during the Feast Festival for a community get together to connect with friends/family while remembering those who have not survived Transphobia around the world. We will have full details out to you all very soon!

## **In The Community**

### **GLBTI Community Dementia Project**

You may have heard of a new initiative started up in South Australia tackling the issues surrounding LGBTI people and dementia. This project has been funded by Alzheimer's Australia and will examine what specific needs LGBTI people have when it comes to receiving treatment, care and support. This project is being run by Norman Radican who has worked in the Adelaide LGBTI community for many years.

Norman's job is to form partnerships with various gay and lesbian agencies, organisations and communities. As part of that I'd like to do a couple of focus groups to see what people in the community think and then look at developing some resources specific to LGBTI people.

*"As well as dealing with professionals and community groups, Norman would also like to hear from individuals who have experience dealing with or caring for someone with dementia to find out their experiences and how we can improve the care of LGBTI people living with dementia".*

*Are they getting the help they need? Or more correctly, if you are getting help is it appropriate to their needs? What are those needs and how do they differ from the needs of the 'straight' community?*

Norman has already organised and held a community consultation on the needs for women and is keen to hear from men in the community.

As Bfriend is part of this new LGBTI Dementia Advisory Group we will be supporting Norman with this consultation to be held at UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide soon. If you would like to express interest in being part of this consultation or get more information you can **contact Norman on 8372 2100** or email [norman.radican@alzheimerssa.asn.au](mailto:norman.radican@alzheimerssa.asn.au) or you can contact Paul at Bfriend on **8202 5192** or email [bfriend@ucwesleyadelaide.org.au](mailto:bfriend@ucwesleyadelaide.org.au)

### **FEAST Festival**

#### **The Feast Barossa Valley Wine Tour!**

The next fabulous fundraiser on the Feast calendar is the Feast Wine Tour! Join us for a full day of wine tastings and gourmet food as we tour some of your favourite Barossa wineries. Getting tipsy while giving some much-needed support to your Festival? Sounds divine, darling!

**WHEN: Saturday 10 September**

**PICK UP: 9am - Colonel Light Hotel**

**DROP OFF: 5:30pm - Colonel Light Hotel**

**WHERE (wineries subject to change):**

- Bethany Wines
- Grant Burge
- McGuigan Wines
- Lou Miranda Estate
- Chateau Dorrien
- Langmeil Wines

**PRICE: \$80 Per Adult, \$75 Club Feast members and students.**

Includes: Bus transfers from city to wineries and return, wine tastings, morning tea and gourmet lunch

**BOOKINGS: [FEASTiX](#)** or call us at the office on (08) 8463 0684. Numbers are limited so get in quick!

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## SSA&MATES

A chance to keep up to date with current issues, events, support, awareness and a new way to connect with new people through group events/outings or even just for connecting with others. Please let other Same Sex Attracted friends, relatives, etc know about this group and their/your MATES of course. This is an "SSA&MATES" group, hence the name! ;-)

In Adelaide there is something missing for SSA people and their Mates when it comes to connecting and knowing what issues are really going on around us. In creating something new and something for people that want to be a part of something new and that are in the forgotten age bracket of 18-35. But mainly for people that just want to have fun, connect, know there is support and know that there are other people out there that want to socialise on a different level and in a different way than other groups Adelaide try and provide.

For more info about what's happening with this group contact Simon... There is a Face book page do a search for SSA & Mates and it will come up. We will send out more info on activities as we receive it.

## BearStock 11

**BEARSTOCK 11: 24-27 November 2011, Adelaide Australia.** Bearstock 11. With 10 events over 4 days and nights in Adelaide at the end of November, there's something for every bear, cub, daddy, chub and friend



Tickets on sale now at <http://bearstock.bmofa.org.au/>

The bears take over Adelaide for 10 events over 4 days and nights including...

Thurs 24 Nov 8:00pm

### **BAIR ART OPENING: DISSENT**

Exhibition by 2011 BAIR Alexander Evans (Canberra)

Thurs 24 Nov 10:00pm

### **BEAROTICA PRIZE**

Prize for erotic bear writing

<http://bearotica.bmofa.org.au/>

Fri 25 Nov 8:00pm

### **GOLDEN WOOLFS**

International bear short film competition - \$500 prize

<http://goldenwoolfs.bmofa.org.au/>

Fri 25 Nov 10:00pm

### **MR BEAR SA COMPETITION**

Hosted by Melbourne's hilarious Dean Arcuri

Sat 26 Nov 9:00pm

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## **CHUNKY DOES ADELAIDE**

Sydney's legendary Chunky party comes to Adelaide

Full details and tickets at <http://bearstock.bmofa.org.au/>