



MCC METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCHES MCC NEWSLETTER

November / December 2004

Produced by Metropolitan Community Church Brisbane as a service to the glbti communities of CQ and the MCC community of south east Queensland.

We are open to all, and are here especially to serve the glbti community of CQ.

Produced by MCC Rockhampton for the glbti community of CQ.

Services - Rockhampton

Services twice monthly are now held at 6.00 p.m. on the first and third Sundays of each month. Services are held at the Access Recreation Meeting Room on the corner of Caroline St and Upper Dawson Rd - diagonally opposite the Allenstown school.



Services - Brisbane

MCC Brisbane has weekly services at 7.00 p.m. each Sunday at The Friends (Quakers) Meeting House 10 Hampson St Kelvin Grove.

MCC BRISBANE HAVE A NEW PASTOR

Rev Anne James - previously an Assistant pastor of Brisbane working out of Rockhampton- is now the pastor of MCC Brisbane. Rev Iris Saggars - previously an assistant pastor of Brisbane working out of Rockhampton is now the Assistant pastor in Brisbane.

Anne and Iris are partners and they now live in Morningside - contact details on the back of this newsletter.

MCC Rockhampton has a Worship Coordinator who is answerable to MCC Brisbane. Mr Wayne Larson is responsible for services at MCC Rockhampton. Thankyou Wayne.

Rockhampton

Meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 7pm at the Community Health Centre cnr Bolsover and Cambridge Streets. Room 2 - enter via the Cambridge st entrance.

Contact persons : Neville and Rosemary Kajewski (07) 49 287 275

Brisbane

Meetings held bi-monthly

Contact person: Shelley (07) 3017 1739 or mobile 0409 363 335 or Email pflagbris@hotmail.com

PFlag is an organisation which provides support and information to the parents, families and friends of glbti persons. PFlag also supports glbti persons in the 'coming out' process.

PFlag is a great resource for the glbti community - please support them.

Brisbane Functions

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

This will be hosted this year by Acceptance, and will be held at St Mary's Church on the corner of Peel and Merivale Streets South Brisbane on Friday 10th December.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Darryl and Steve are hosting a Christmas Party to support MCC Brisbane ministry.

- ◆ When: Saturday 27th November 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ Where: Stain St Wilston
- ◆ Cost: \$5 per person
- ◆ Food and fun provided.
- ◆ BYO drinks, folding chairs, and a unisex gift (value up to \$5) to put under the tree - secret Santa.
- ◆ RSVP Darryl and Steve by 21/11 at (07) 3352 4578

CQ Events



ICONS meet on the second Friday of each month at the home of Neville and Rosemary Kajewski. ICONS is a Coffee Club which runs for 3 hrs from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., with the option of being present for as much or as little of this time as you wish.

The cost is a gold coin donation to cover expenses.

ROCKHAMPTON CHRISTMAS EVE CELEBRATION

On Dec 24th MCC Rockhampton will host a Christmas Celebration at the Access Recreation Meeting Room cnr Caroline st and Upper Dawson Rd.

This will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will involve carol singing, a Christmas Drama (organised by Jan and Trish), a visit from Santa and a festive supper. Contact Wayne for more information (07) 49 381 214



MERCURE SHOW

The next Rockhampton Show/Dance Party Night is Saturday 20th November from 8.00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. on the 1st floor of the Mercure Inn (cnr of Bolsover and Denham streets) Cost of admission is \$4 pp and this applies whatever time you arrive as Rogalwots have expenses which must be met.

Future Show/Dance Party nights for Rockhampton are 18th December 04, 22nd January 05, 19th February 05, 26th March 05, 16th April 05 and 21st May 05.

PLEASE NOTE management of the Mercure are now restricting entrance to the show/dance party to those over 18 year old and strictly gay, lesbian and transgender youth under 18. If there is a recognised community member who will vouch for them ie: if you are under 18 and gay, lesbian or transgendered then speak with Jan or Trish or Wayne about how you can still enter the Mercure venue.

ROCKHAMPTON COMMUNITY

Trish Hardy is hoping the community will support a needy family with Christmas Hamper and gifts again this year, as you did so generously last year. Speak to Trish about this now ph: (07) 49 278 114 or see her at shows or ICONS>

ORPHAN'S CHRISTMAS

Anne and Iris's home will be open to any who have no-where to go on Christmas Day. If you would like to join us in celebrating Christmas please let us know by ringing (07) 33 99 23 67 or speaking to one of us at church. If you do join us for Christmas we would appreciate some small contribution to the cost of food - if you are able to do so.

QP'S AND QNEWS

are available to Brisbane people at church (thankyou Adrian for organising this) and they are available to Rockhampton people from ICONS, the Love Heart Shop and by asking Wayne.

WORLD AIDS DAY - DECEMBER 1ST

Please give some thought this day to those we have lost to AIDS and to those currently living with the virus.

In Rockhampton you can get information about the memorial from Chris Skinner (0411 028 661) or

Caren Tucker (49 206 262).

In Brisbane Quac (3017 1777) will be able to inform you on World AIDS Day memorials.

ROCKHAMPTON LIBRARY

The library provided by MCC Rockhampton as a service to the glbti community of CQ is situated at the home of Neville and Rosemary Kajewski. Stephen K is the librarian.

Books can be borrowed when ICONS is on - ie: the 2nd Friday of each month, or by arranging with Neville, Rosemary or Stephen to access the books at other times (49 287 275).

MT MORGAN—this group have decided to disband for the time being, however if anyone wishes this group to reform they only need talk to Wayne Larson on 49 381 214

NEWSLETTER—If you receive a snail mail copy of this newsletter - it has cost us around \$1.00 to get it to you.

We would appreciate people either (a) giving us your Email address so we can keep costs down by Emailing the newsletter **OR** (b) sending a donation of \$6 or above to cover the costs involved in sending you your newsletter. Rockhampton people can post their donation to PO Box 317 Fortitude Valley 4006 OR give it to Wayne L or Mark B (treasurer of Rogalwots) to pass on to us. Thankyou. We want this newsletter to continue to keep the glbti people of CQ and the people of MCC Brisbane informed.

SAFE SEX

There has been an increase in the numbers of people diagnosed HIV+ and with other STI's in Australia in recent times - even in areas like Rockhampton!!

Don't run risks! Practise safe-sex.

Free and confidential testing for sti's (sexually transmitted infections) is available to CQ people at the Canning St Clinic (under the Dental Clinic) at 8 Canning St. Free condoms, dams and lube are available from the Canning St Clinic and also by talking to Wayne at ICONS.

ZERO TOLERANCE

MCC Churches, including MCCs Brisbane and Rockhampton have a zero tolerance policy toward sexual harassment or predatory behaviour of any kind. This is true of services and any social or other function organised by or for MCC.

If you need to talk about any bullying, sexual harassment or predatory behaviour you have experienced you can speak with Rev Anne James or Rev Iris Sagers on (07) 33 99 23 67

PASTOR'S PEN-

The other day I was sent this story on the internet - I think it gives us all something to think about whatever our spirituality might be -

THE PINK DRESS

There was this little girl sitting by herself in the park. Everyone passed by her and never stopped to see why she looked so sad. Dressed in a worn pink dress, barefoot and dirty, the girl just sat and watched the people go by. She never tried to speak. She never said a word.

Many people passed her by but none stopped. The next day I decided to go back to the park in curiosity to see if the little girl would still be there. Yes, she was there, right in the very spot where she was yesterday, and still with the same sad look in her eyes. Today I was to make my own move and walk over to the little girl, for as we all know, a park full of strange people is not a place for children to play alone.

As I got closer I could see the back of the little girl's dress. It was grotesquely shaped. I figured that was the reason people just passed by and made no effort to speak to her. Deformities are a low blow to our society and, heaven forbid if you make a step toward assisting someone who is different. As I got closer, the little girl lowered her eyes slightly to avoid my intent stare. As I approached her, I could see the shape of her back more clearly.

She was grotesquely shaped in a humped over form. I smiled to let her know it was OK; I was there to help, to talk. I sat down beside her and opened with a simple "Hello". The little girl acted shocked, and stammered a "hi"; after a long stare into my eyes. I smiled and she shyly smiled back. We talked until darkness fell and the park was completely empty.

I asked the girl why she was so sad. She looked at me with a sad face and said "Because I'm different". I immediately said "That you are!"; and smiled. The little girl acted even sadder and said, "I know". "Little girl," I said "you remind me of an angel, sweet and innocent." She looked at me and smiled, then slowly got to her feet and said, "Really?"

"Yes, you're like a little Guardian Angel sent to watch over all people walking by." She nodded her head yes and smiled. With that she opened the back of her pink dress and allowed her wings to spread, then she said "I am" "I'm your Guardian Angel" with a twinkle in her eye.

I was speechless - sure I was seeing things. She said, "For once you thought of someone other than yourself. My job here is done."

I got to my feet and said, "Wait, why did no one stop to help an angel?" She looked at me, smiled, and said, "You're the only one that could see me," and then she was gone. And with that my life was changed dramatically. So, when you think you're all you have, remember, your angel is always watching over you.

WOMEN'S FANTASY BALL

On Saturday 20th November the women of Townsville are holding a Fantasy Ball at Panorama House Castle Hill - cost \$20 - for more info or to reserve tickets Email tvillegirlzone@hotmail.com

ANNE IN ROCKHAMPTON

Anne will be in Rockhampton from the evening of the 26th Nov to early morning on the 28th Nov - if you want to catch up with Anne for any reason you can ring her mobile on 0401 434 564 or organise in advance by ringing 33 99 23 67.

STUDY GP/ SERVICE PREPARATION

There will be opportunities for Brisbane people to attend nights where we will look at the Bible readings for forthcoming services and try to see what they might be saying to us - this will assist those giving the sermons and will deepen the understandings of those attending.

the first opportunity for this will be at 7pm on Wednesday 24th November at 40 Redfern St Morningside. Come along and help us all with your understandings of the set passages.





"May God stand between you and harm
in all the empty places where you must walk"

CALENDAR of EVENTS

BRISBANE

Friday 19th November QPP cooking
 Sunday 21st November 7:00 pm service
 Wednesday 24th November Study group
 Saturday 27th November Christmas party
 Sunday 28th November 7:00 pm service
 Wednesday 1st December World AIDS Day
 Sunday 5th December 7:00 pm service
 Wednesday 8th December Study group
 Friday 10th December Carols at St Mary's
 Sunday 12th December 7:00 pm service
 Wednesday 15th December Study group
 Sunday 19th December 7:00 pm service
 Christmas Eve/ Christmas Day ? service
 Sunday 26th December 7:00 pm service
 Sunday 2nd January 2005 7:00 pm service

ROCKHAMPTON

Saturday 20th November Show/Dance Party
 Sunday 21st November 6:00 pm service
 Wednesday 1st December World AIDS Day
 Sunday 5th December 6:00 pm service
 Tuesday 7th December PFlag
 Friday 10th December ICONS
 Saturday 18th December Show/Dance party
 Sunday 19th December 6:00 pm service
 Tuesday 24th December Christmas Celebration
 Sunday 2nd January 2005 6:00 pm service



MCC
 METROPOLITAN
 COMMUNITY CHURCHES

Metropolitan Community Church in Queensland.

Consists of MCC Brisbane and MCC Rockhampton which is an outreach of MCC Brisbane. The pastor is Rev Anne James. The Assistant Pastor is Rev Iris Sagers. The Worship coordinator for Rockhampton is Mr Wayne Larson.

Anne and Iris can be contacted by ringing (07) 33 99 23 67 or their mobiles Anne 0401 434 5643 and Iris 0431 671 776.

Anne's Email address is spaganne@iinet.net.au and Iris's Email address is isagers@echidna.id.au.

Anne and Iris in Brisbane along with Wayne, Neville and Rosemary in Rockhampton are all available as a 'friendly ear' or 'shoulder to cry on'.

Anne and Iris are available for Commitment Ceremonies, baptisms and funerals by arrangement.

MCC Brisbane address is PO Box 317 Fortitude valley Qld 4006

MCC Rockhampton address is PO Box 4100 Rockhampton Qld 4700

Brisbane services are held at the Friends Meeting House
 - 10 Hampson St Kelvin Grove

Rockhampton services are held at the Access Recreation Meeting Room
 - cnr Caroline St and Upper Dawson Rd Allenstown