



GRAI Matters

March 2014

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Chair's Report



It is indeed a privilege to be witness to a point of change, to be present at a place of turning.

We are living in a remarkable time, when ancient prejudices are being overturned and we are experiencing the widespread embrace of acceptance of difference in sexuality and gender identity.

However, this embrace does not just happen spontaneously and without effort: there is much learning and un-learning to be done. In the case of aged care providers, to their great credit, I believe we are seeing an interest and approach that reflects their role as carers. They know that they don't know much about a hidden population in their midst, and are keen to redress that.

This month I was invited to speak to a group of community care workers from Rise Network, a community support service based in the Hills area, which provides home-based care and support for youth at risk, older adults, people with a disability, and people with mental health issues. About 30 aged care staff attended the (non-compulsory) meeting and we explored some issues affecting LGBTI older adults. The AMA estimates LGBTI people as comprising about 11% of the population, yet this 'largest minority group' is generally overlooked in an older age setting.

Many of the care workers were saddened to think that their clients are likely to be hiding their 'true selves', and we talked through the historical reasons for this, as well as how our over-reliance on stereotypes adds to the invisibility of LGBTI people. Thus, older LGBTI people not only hide, but are hidden from view. As we know, this fear of disclosure can come at great personal cost to some, although some others have been able to transcend the extreme prejudices of the era they grew up in, and live openly and confidently.

Carers and carer organisations potentially have enormous power for good. If they can demonstrate their unequivocal acceptance of and welcome to LGBTI clients, this can be transformational. We know of one older gay man, who despite suffering years of crippling social anxiety disorder, emerged as a changed man after he was affirmed and encouraged by his carer.

The answers to creating a safe environment for older LGBTI people are neither complicated nor expensive, but do require attention to detail, and a questioning of 'how things have always been done'. Inclusive language is a critical start: not assuming that everyone is heterosexual is the basis of creating an inclusive service. Small 'signals' can be sent to show that the organisation and the carer have positive attitudes to LGBTI people –

using pictures of same gender couples in promotional material, or occasional casual conversation about gay friends or public figures. GRAIs Best Practice Guidelines outlines a number of steps that can be taken to create a safe and inclusive service (available from GRAIs web page).

Finally, we also discussed recent law reform, that gives legal protection to older LGBTI people, and requires service providers to take an active approach to achieve 'substantive equality' – i.e. it is not enough to 'treat everyone the same'.

We only had an hour for this presentation, and the questions were open and lively. I came away greatly encouraged by the warm-heartedness of the interactions,

acutely aware that we were crossing bridges that had not been approached before, and yet, in the eagerness of these carers I saw enormous hope for the future of care for older LGBTI people in WA.

As GRAI is poised to embark on our aged care training project I am optimistic that the goodwill of the staff at Rise Network will be replicated around the state, and that other aged care providers will engage with us to dismantle the bastions of exclusion. Older age brings us many special challenges and rewards. With aged care providers along for the journey, it is never too late to capture our birthright to belong.

- June Lowe, GRAI Chair

Celebrating the older LGBTI woman



55Upitty is a collaborative interview and photography project by Teresa Savage and Viv McGregor.

It's about challenging people's ideas about older LGBTI women; it's about feisty over-55 upitty women. Savage

and McGregor want to pull apart the clichés about women and aging; about the diminishing of sexuality and the relaxation of passions; about what older dykes and queers and lezzos wear and think and believe. Diversity, political awareness and activism, style and beauty, so valued and represented in youth-oriented queer cultures, is not the sole purview of the young, and their project aims to represent—through collaboration, photographic portraits, and interviews—the older LGBTI woman.

55Upitty aims to record the history of women who have been, and the women who still are, involved in lesbian, feminist, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and

queer activism and culture, but also to represent that older LGBTI women are still here. They want to show that age does not make us irrelevant, asexual, harmless, style-less, conservative, invisible, or insignificant. A living archive, 55Upitty is mapping and representing our past, our present and our visions of the future.

www.55uppity.com

<https://www.facebook.com/55Upitty>



I grow happier as I grow older. My life is very fulfilling. I am very lucky because I don't have to struggle with anything now. I just enjoy life.

It's Official - GRAI Training Project ready to roll

It's official! We have final settlement on our contract with the National LGBTI Health Alliance to deliver training to the Aged Care sector in WA. Documents have just been signed, and Susan Harwood, a highly skilled trainer and expert in organisational culture, has been engaged as our Project Co-ordinator. Susan will lead a team of 6 trainers, who will deliver 44, one-day training sessions over a 2 year period, for aged care providers in the metro area and some regional centres.

Training sessions will be offered to residential facilities, retirement villages, community care providers and services engaging with older members of the community, and will help them provide welcoming and inclusive services to their LGBTI clients.

This training is funded by the Commonwealth Government under its commitment to the National LGBTI Ageing and Aged Care Strategy. The National LGBTI Health Alliance is coordinating the national roll-out of the training in partnership with ACON (Aids Council of NSW) who has developed the training materials.

GRAI is excited that this long planned-for project is now coming to fruition. GRAI Chair, June Lowe said she believed that that service providers are keen to learn not only how they can comply with their legal obligations, but also how they can best provide safe and inclusive services to their LGBTI clients.

"There is enormous goodwill in the aged care sector, and I am optimistic that together we can create an environment where older LGBTI adults can feel welcomed and enjoy a sense of belonging", she concluded.

Project Launch

The project launch will be celebrated on Tues 6 May, 5.30 – 8pm. Although details are still being finalised, the evening will feature guest speaker Gavi Ansara PhD from the Alliance, talking on Trans and Intersex issues in ageing. This is a very poorly understood area, so we hope it will attract special interest both from the aged care sector and from the LGBTI community. There will also be a panel discussion, followed by drinks and light refreshments. We will send more information soon, but meanwhile, 'save the date'!

Train the Trainers

ACON trainers are travelling to Perth to deliver a 2-day Train-the-Trainer session on 23 and 24 May, for people interested either in becoming a trainer on this project, or for their own general interest. There is no charge for this, but please contact Susan Harwood for enquiries or to book a place.

Training Calendar

Interested aged care providers can already start booking for the free, 1-day training sessions, which will start from June 2014. These mostly will be delivered in-house in providers' own facilities. There will also be some open-sessions, presenting to a combination of providers and other interested people.

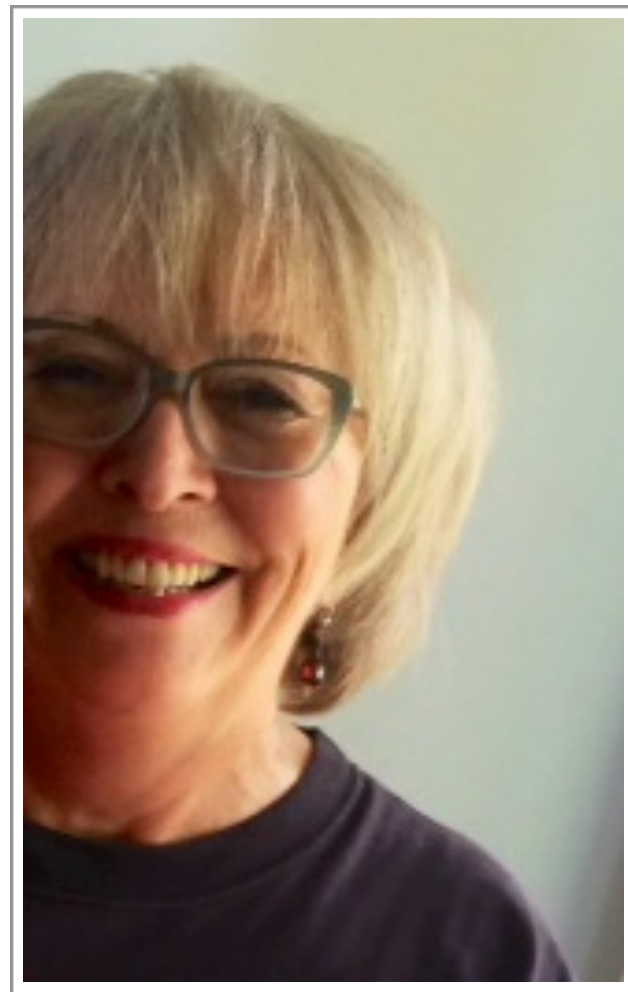
For further information or bookings, contact Susan Harwood on: 0419 906 625

Welcome Susan

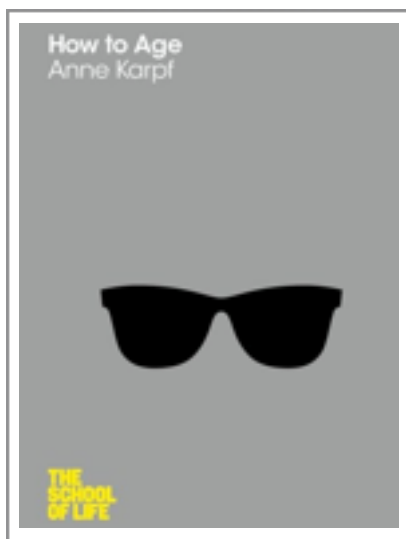
Susan Harwood PhD, AFAIM

We are delighted to welcome on board Dr Susan Harwood, who is taking on the position of Project Coordinator for the training project.

Susan is a Gender Equality Specialist, Researcher, Trainer and accredited Mediator with considerable experience in project management. She has worked in her Northbridge consultancy business since 1994 and is contracted by a range of organisations to conduct leadership development, EEO/discrimination workshops, coaching, and gender mainstreaming projects. Recent contracts include a guidebook for employers on Women's Empowerment Principles (UN Women Serbia) and the implementation of a prevention of bullying/discrimination strategy for a large local government organisation. Last year Susan was appointed as a gender equality specialist to DFAT's Australian Civilian Corps Register for short-term post-conflict, post-disaster deployments. Susan has a strong research background and presents papers on her ongoing work as a practitioner and researcher at international and national conferences. She is a member of the Equality Rights Alliance and has had extensive exposure to the aged care sector through her role as a carer and advocate for family members



How To Age: reimagining growing old



Radio National has been speaking to writer and medical sociologist Anne Karpf, who wants us to 're-imagine' growing old. We are all ageing, or as Anne would say we are all growing and developing each and every day.

She tells us that stereotypes and expectations of older people often arrest our devel-

opment and we need to detoxify ageing. Even though we are living longer, the anxiety about ageing is starting earlier and earlier.

Her latest book is one in a series released by London's School of Life and is called 'How to Age'. In it she ar-

gues that we have to actively embrace aging in order to overcome the gerontophobia that has blossomed in our society. A deep and thoughtful look at what it means to age, how to do it well and why we care at all - she says that the real meaning of ageing well is an engaged life, experiencing as wide a range of human emotions and experiences as possible.

You can listen to Anne's interview at the Radio National website at <http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/lifematters/how-to-age/5281696>

Copies of her book can be purchased directly from www.theschooloflife.org (paper version) or on iTunes at <https://itunes.apple.com/au/book/how-to-age/id768001753?mt=11>

Fun at Fairday



Is there a better way to spend a Sunday than wandering around Fairday? Yes, you could have spent it at the GRAI tent.

Thank you to all of the people who came and spoke to us and took one of our new postcards.

Throughout the day, GRAI Board members spoke to a lot of people, we caught up with old friends and made new ones - some old and some young.

Many in the crowd were pleased to know that someone is looking at LGBTI issues in both community-based and residential aged care. Whether they were the young lesbian couple concerned about their 90 year old

bisexual grandmother or the gay man worried about moving into a retirement village next year or 40 year old man thinking of his future, everyone was happy to



hear that GRAI was on the case.

GRAI relies on the support of its members and we have vacancies on the Board - if you are interested in joining the Board, please contact June Lowe at info@grai.org.au



Brighton & Hove LGBT Switchboard Older LGBT Project

Brighton & Hove City Council have awarded B&H LGBT Switchboard 3 years funding to provide activities to older LGBT people. They will be working with older people's services making existing services more accessible to LGBT older people, as well as developing LGBT specific activities.

Natalie Woods (Director) said: 'We are absolutely delighted with this investment for local LGBT older people – there is a lot of evidence showing how isolated older LGBT people are – this project aims to reduce isolation, and support LGBT older people to access activities and connect with people. We are excited to be leading this work and look forward to working with our partners in the city making life better for LGBT older people'

When will we see this in WA?

How did you get through it?

Dr Catherine Barrett, of La Trobe University and Val's Cafe, is conducting research into older LGBTI people's strategies for managing anxiety and depression. The researchers would like to interview LGBTI people aged 65 years and over in all states/territories.

This is a collaborative project with Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health & Society at La Trobe University, National Ageing Research Institute and RMIT, and is funded by beyondblue.

It will assist in the development of resources for service providers to help them understand how to develop LGBTI inclusive services for older people experiencing anxiety and depression.

Please contact Catherine if you, or someone you know may like to take part. The project runs until June 2014.

Contact

Dr Catherine Barrett, Val's Cafe

Phone: (03) 9479 8702

Email: c.barrett@latrobe.edu.au

Web: valscafe.org.au

Collaborative Partners



Funded by



Who is your favourite Perth Gay Icon?

Perth is full of great people who have made a real difference to Perth's gay history but we don't get to hear their story. GRAI is on the search for other stories to feature in GRAI Matters. Do you know someone we should feature? Who's story to you want to hear?

Send your suggestions to info@grai.org.au and we will try to track them down...

Val's Cafe

Changing Aged Care from the inside...



GRAI has been invited to collaborate in a second training initiative, which focuses on embedding cultural change within an aged care organisation.

This program, Aged Care How2, has been developed by 'Val's Cafe', part of a Sexual Health & Ageing Program at the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health & Society, La Trobe University, Melbourne.

Spearheaded by Dr Catherine Barrett at La Trobe, the Aged Care How2 Program involves five workshops over a 12-month period to coach 'change facilitators' within aged care organisations through the practical steps involved in becoming an LGBTI inclusive service.

Val's Cafe has received an Aged Care Service Improvement and Healthy Ageing (ACSIHAG) grant from the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing, which aims to support the development of LGBTI inclusive services nationally through research and capacity building.

The scope of the project includes working with collaborating organisations in other states and territories to disseminate the Aged Care How2.

As one of the first states to engage in this collaboration, GRAI will audit the five training sessions being held in Victoria during 2014. Following this, GRAI will review the materials and make adjustments where necessary for local conditions. Then in 2015, GRAI will facilitate the delivery of the Aged Care How2 in Western Australia.

The Aged Care How2 program will run concurrently with our other training project, and differs in several key ways. GRAI's first project (Right to Belong which

starts in June this year), offers a free, 1-day training to aged care service providers and will raise awareness of the issues of LGBTI and aged care, with key staff and management. This is an important first step to engage aged care providers in discussions as to what steps they can take to build an LGBTI inclusive service.

The Aged Care How2 will carry this work further, with year-long course that invites aged care providers to send a minimum of 2 staff, or change facilitators, to a series of 5 training sessions. At the outset, the change facilitators will be provided with an audit tool to determine how inclusive their service is for LGBTI consumers.

Over the year, the participants will be supported on a journey of embedding cultural change within their organisation. This process starts with examining the organisations' policies, and looks at ways of implementing inclusivity in all aspects of their organisation's practices, assessments and documentation. With these foundations in place, the organisation can embark on comprehensive staff education, and finally have confidence that their service will be fully safe and supportive should a client choose to disclose their sexuality or gender diversity.

Organisations who have 'graduated' from the How2 course give glowing testimonies to the difference it has made to their service. Their stories often tell of unexpected benefits to the energy and morale of their organisation as they engage in a process that heightens awareness of difference and strengthens the organisation's commitment to be inclusive, not only of clients but also of staff.

The first training session in Melbourne was on 4th March and was attended by June Lowe and Susan Harwood. The second session on 8 April will be attended by June Lowe and (GRAI Secretary) Wendy Bennett.

Home Sweet Nanaheim

Nana Neil, at 73 is an undoubted 'gay icon' of Perth. Being interested in 'positive ageing' I was intrigued to know what makes Nana tick – where does he get the energy to go out 6 nights a week (every week) and what are the qualities that ensure that he is always surrounded by people who care about him?

He says, "Since childhood, I have led a charmed life: I don't know why and I don't ask why."

With an astonishingly precise memory for details and dates, Nana's life makes a colourful tale.

Born in Anaheim, Southern California, 1941, on 25 April, Neil (then George) grew up in a highly conservative family, his grandfather a high Mason and Deacon of their Baptist church. But, as he observes, "oppression breeds revolution" and, scandalising his family, the young George converted to Catholicism at 18 years old, entering the Benedictine order 2 years later. "Catholic converts are the most dangerous people", he smiles, "they take the bit between the teeth and run... become so imbued with religiosity one can become quite mesmerised by the Church." However, this period was short-lived, as he fell in love with a brother, and they both left the order. Did he act on his instincts? "No, that time was so conservative and so anti-homosexual... I continued with a good facade."

In January 1963, two months after leaving the monastery, Neil went entered the navy, serving for four years, sailing twice to Vietnam. Meanwhile, disillusionment with his country was setting in fast. The assassination of President Kennedy in 1963 "really put the icing on the cake".

Thus Neil was ripe for his brush with Australian destiny. His ship was undergoing repairs in Long Beach, and moored alongside HMAS Hobart. "The Aussies on the Hobart were great fun, and when I was off duty we met up... I had a car with a base sticker, and had access to a liquor store that sold Swan lager. We'd buy a case



One of Perth's Gay Icons - Nana Neil

of beer and a case of ice... we'd drink until 2am in the parking lot near the pier!" By the time the Aussies sailed out in August 1966, Neil had already lodged his emigration papers.

Clearly a young man on a mission, exactly one month after being discharged from active duty, Neil got his Australian visa and left America, "arriving in Sydney at 11pm on 17 April 1967" he says, with typical precision.

Neil recalls that Perth in those days "was like being in a time warp. I went back in time 20 years." Filling out a small card for the Labour and National Service office, he listed his previous occupation as, 'Missile man, nuclear weapons systems.' "No jobs in that category," was the dry response, but Woolworths bulk store in Robin-

son Street needed a warehouseman, and so began Neil's career in Perth.

Perth being a very small place, within days Neil had bumped into the brother of one of his drinking companions from the HMAS Hobart, "Tex Croft". His Aussie education began in earnest, as he was schooled in the language, enrolled in rugby training and after dating a girl for 1 year, married her in 1968.

The marriage lasted 10 years, although he started 'cadding around' in 1977. "You don't wanna run away" he says, "it catches up with you in many ways – some of them pretty fabulous!" He credits psychologist Vivien Cass with helping resolve his decision to leave his marriage. "I moved in with my boyfriend who was a ballet dancer: it lasted 1 week!" he laughs.

But, Neil says, he's never looked back. "I'm happy", he says, "No, I'm gay – I AM gay!"

Nana Neil's Perth work life had 2 very distinct phases. After 18 months at the Woolworth's warehouse, he worked for 27 years for the Mines Department as a draftsman. Then, 5 months after retiring at 55, he took a job as a cleaner at the gay sauna, Perth Steam Works. Nana worked at Steam Works for 12 years: "I was the best cleaner they ever had... and I had an absolutely fabulous time!"

The Story behind Nana

"I was getting ready to have my 42nd birthday, or my 'second 21st'. A friend and I decided to combine forces, and had a stage built on the front of the house. He had drag queens do a show – it was a fabulous party with showgirls and the most gorgeous mocha cake, covered in green marzipan icing." "At that time I was in a group, 6 of us with names like Narelle, and Nannette. I was still Neil. Then someone said, 'You're old enough to be a Nana' (like Nana Mouskouri)." And the name stuck.

"Later on that year, The Queen Victoria [gay 'monarch' of Perth - Victor who ran Beaufort 565] at her garden/pool party gave me a knighthood, as Sir Nana Neil. I

didn't like it at the time, as I felt it like a put down, but eventually I realised that people actually thought of me as their Nana."

Nana Neil has been at the heart of Perth's gay scene for decades, his collection of about 2000 photos captures the parties and shenanigans. Carefully filed in 9 albums, they are testimony to wild times in an era still fraught with danger.

Nana recalls there used to be royal hierarchies all over the world, crazy parodies of mainstream society. In San Francisco they had the Empress, who was elected yearly as a fund raiser. There were various categories of royal families, minor royals and ladies in waiting with their own coteries. "Queen Victoria had a real presence: a room would fall silent when she entered, until she had greeted each one." "These days there are no



Nana Neil sharing his vast collection of photos and memories with June Lowe.

more communities, and so little cohesiveness. We shot ourselves in the foot when we got ourselves legalised,” Neil observes.

Nana sees the impact the AIDS epidemic has had, leaving a huge gap in the oral histories of the gay community. “The AIDS epidemic lost a whole generation of people in our community – their histories have not been passed on to the younger generation.”

However, on the up-side, Nana Neil expresses amazement at the social changes. “I see younger people who have never known anything other than acceptance. In the Brisbane, I watch things I wouldn’t have believed possible 30 years ago!”

Secret of a happy life

Asked the secret of a happy life, Nana Neil briskly ticks off three fingers: “Red wine; Nivea Q10 Plus; and the company of younger friends.” “The Brisbane is such a melting pot. I’m 73 and out 6 nights out of 7. I did have it down to 5 out of 7, but now I go to Connections to watch the Bingay.”

Nana Neil’s house is full of curios – travel souvenirs jostle with family heirlooms, hinting at his abiding affection for his family and signalling his eclectic taste and unquenchable curiosity. These days Nana has long left Christianity behind. “One myth is just as good as another,” he quips, and is equally at home talking about Buddhism or Arthurian legends. However, he wonders if the effects of “early training, always get in there somewhere,” as he freely extends his friendship, relaxing perhaps at the Brisbane Hotel, or perhaps at Connections, and becomes the quiet confidante to so many.

“You let people know who you are and something magical happens. If you think positively, this positive energy is translated to other people. Sometimes I’m quite amazed when people come up to me. ‘Are you Nana Neil? Oh I remember from...’ Then they stand and chat for ages.”

Interview with Nana Neill: 18 March 2014

A longer version of this article appears on the GRAI website www.grai.org.au



What’s wrong with these images?

It’s great to see images of older LGBTI people. Showing the diversity of our community. Saying that we don’t disappear after we leave the nightclub scene. So what’s wrong with that? There is only one thing wrong with these images. All of them were taken from the internet - we need our own pictures. We need to show Australian pictures, local pictures. We need older LGBTI people at Fairday, we need older LGBTI people enjoying life, loving their partner or sharing their life with friends and family.

Are you interested in becoming the next GRAI supermodel? As you know GRAI produces brochures and reports on LGBTI ageing but we don’t have any images to show that we are here and enjoying life. If you would like to help GRAI collect images of LGBTI elders living well, then give us a call. One of our volunteer photographers would love to catch up and take a few snaps.

News

LGBTI HEALTH ALLIANCE RECOGNISED

At its meeting in Canberra on 6 and 7 February, the National Aged Care Alliance (NACA) approved an up-

grade in the National LGBTI Health Alliance's status from Associate to Full Member of NACA.



NACA's decision acknowledges that the Alliance

meets the criteria as a Full Member in its Terms of Reference as a national aged care consumer group that advocates for and/or delivers services to older people in Australia.

Also at today's NACA meeting, the Assistant Minister for Social Services, with ministerial responsibility for Aged Care and National Disability, gave special recognition to NACA as his principal adviser on aged care.

The Alliance sees this as a welcoming assurance that they now have equal rights as accorded to other Full Members of NACA.

EXPERIENCES OF AGING SURVEY

A Gender Agenda works with transgender, intersex, and other sex and gender diverse individuals and their families in the ACT to reduce social isolation and improve health and well-being outcomes. They also provide sex and gender diversity training to government, community and private sector organisations.

As part of their research they are conducting a survey trying to reach out to those who are transgender, intersex, and other sex and gender diverse individuals who are 55 years of age, as well as their families and friends.

It is a very open-ended survey; they are basically looking to find out who is out there as well as what issues of concern might be identified. Benjamin Hegarty, PhD candidate, will also be conducting a number of in-depth interviews. All of this information will all go into a report which will inform further research and the provision of services. Though their focus is the ACT they are happy to hear from people anywhere in Australia.

If you think you can help, you can take the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2PLNQZW>

Telling your story...

Australian Lesbian and Gay Life Stories is the first Australia-wide project to record and collect the experiences of different generations of lesbians and gay men. A team of scholars will work with the National Library of Australia to record this valuable history, which will be lost if not captured urgently.

Social attitudes towards lesbian and gay people have undergone a remarkable transformation over the past fifty years. This project explores the life experiences of five different generations of lesbians and gay men (those born up to 1940, those born between 1941 and 1956, those born between 1957 and 1966, those born

between 1967 and 1984 and those born between 1985 and 1994). It will consider what it has been like to live as a gay man or lesbian woman at various times in Australian history and will investigate the way attitudes towards homosexuality have impacted on different generations. It will provide a unique insight into the way individuals negotiate intimate social change and will also expand understandings of Australian history by incorporating the voices of lesbian and gay people, who have often been excluded from national narratives.

For more information visit <http://www.australianlesbianandgaylifestories.org.au>

Prime Timers

Prime Timers is a remarkable organisation - appearing to effortlessly provide a warm and welcoming social group for mature gay and bisexual men of widely diverse backgrounds. In addition to the monthly afternoon tea (second Sunday of the month), members self-organise a range of other activities – the book club, music group, film showings, dinner evenings, coffee club, picnics and other outings.



GRAI Chair June Lowe chats about GRAI with Prime Timer Ian Johnson at the February meeting.

GRAI Chair June Lowe and Board Member (and Prime Timer) Dan Parker were invited to speak at the Prime Timers' February meeting, and talked about GRAI's activities and the implications of recent law reforms in aged care. It is remarkable to reflect how, in a few short years, GRAI's research and lobbying has contributed to law reform and the newly emerging attitudinal changes within the aged care sector.

The discussion following the talk was also very interesting. In common, was the history of growing up in a world where being gay was illegal and often dangerous – as one man noted, he was 50 before the law was changed to make homosexuality legal. However, with about 30 men present, a wide breadth of experiences were represented - from knowing one was gay as a small child, to having only recently come out at 72; from having had 'very difficult times', to having had an unusually supportive environment. Contrasting with more commonly heard stories of rejection, one man related how when he came out to his parents (in 1956) they affirmed their love for him, and took him to a psychiatrist who reinforced that he was normal and should believe in himself! He was fortunate indeed to meet with such enlightened perspectives in that era.

Conversation veered to the mutual benefits of intergenerational exchanges – and someone suggested an “adopt a granny” plan! There was also interest in a potential workshop on legal issues, health care directives, wills etc – perhaps we can look to a future collaboration on this.

Our thanks go to Prime Timers for their hospitality and also for the opportunity to exchange information and views.

For further information about Prime Timers, <http://www.primetimerswa.com>



Goodbye Dan

We are very sad to say that valued Board Member and Treasurer, Dan Parker, will be leaving the GRAI Board.

Dan's smile and gentle manner will be missed by all of the GRAI Board. He has provided a calmness of spirit to many a Board meeting and we wish him well.

Dan is a clinical psychologist who has specialised for over 20 years in providing mental health services within the LGBTI community, and to persons with HIV/AIDS, both in Western Australia and California. In recent years, he has focused his clinical and community work on issues of LGBTI healthy ageing.

In 2010-2011, Dan was the Director of Wellness and Counselling Services at the Golden Rainbow Centre—SAGE in Palm Springs, California, an innovative program serving LGBTI older adults. He is a clinical psychologist with the WA Department of Health's Older Adult Mental Health program, and has a private psychology practice in Mount Lawley.

Dan has been active in LGBTI community and progressive political issues since the 1970s, in San Francisco, Palm Springs, and now Western Australia.



GRAI



GLBTI Rights in Ageing Inc.

Do you have some news that we should share with the rest of GRAI? Contact the Editor, Brett Tizard, at the address below.

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Web: www.grai.org.au

GRAI was established in August 2005 to explore the development of retirement and aged care services and facilities for older and ageing people of diverse sexualities and gender identities.

We want a world where older GLBTI will enjoy a rewarding quality of life. We want to create a responsive and inclusive mature age environment that promotes and supports a quality life for older people of diverse sexualities and gender identities.

GRAI is keen to explore opportunities to talk with current providers of retirement and aged care services, government agencies and industry groups to ensure the issues of GLBTI ageing and retirement are being taken seriously.

GRAI continues to work to establish successful partnerships with providers, services and agencies that acknowledge the needs of older GLBTI people and encouraging the GLBTI community to support these organisations when they need to access relevant services.