

ALGA Bulletin

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ALGA AGM DATE REMINDER

Wednesday 16 November, 7.30 pm at the Victorian AIDS Council, 6 Claremont Street, South Yarra. All members and friends warmly invited.

SHELVING FOR SALE

ALGA will be disposing of some surplus open metal shelving in the near future, and we invite bids from people on our email list (otherwise eBay!). The shelving is in excellent condition (Dexion brand). There are 5 bays in all, 2 x 1200 and 2 x 900 and 1 x 1200, 6 storage levels per bay, 2400 mm high. The shelf depth for all bays is 300 mm. Photos are available (the 2 x 1200 is pictured opposite). At present the shelves are in storage and currently not assembled. We want to sell all components rather than pieces. Pickup would be from Brunswick. Price is open to negotiation (we paid about \$1800 four years ago, we'd hope about \$600). Email algarchives@hotmail.com if you're interested.



AFTER *HOMOSEXUAL* CONFERENCE 2-4 FEB 2012 – REGISTER ONLINE NOW

The Archives has partnered with La Trobe University, Victoria University and Midsumma to host an international conference marking the fortieth anniversary of the publication of Dennis Altman's *Homosexual: Oppression and Liberation*. Over 80 speakers from around the world, including keynotes Jeffrey Weeks (UK) and Alice Echols (USA), will be coming to Melbourne in February for what is sure to be a fantastic event. Early bird conference registrations are open now via the following link: www.latrobe.edu.au/humanities/about/events/after-homosexual.

For those not able to attend the whole conference, a forum and panel discussion will be held on the evening of Thursday, 2 February, featuring the keynotes plus Dennis Altman and hosted by Helen Razer. Further details on this event, along with how to get tickets, will be available once the Midsumma program launches in a couple of months time. Mark your diaries now!

VOLUNTEERS' WORK OVER PAST FEW MONTHS

- Lee J has completed an index of *Melbourne Gay Liberation Newsletter* (20 issues, 1973-76, 320 records) and is now working on an index of *Sydney Gay Liberation Newsletter*.
- Kristy has commenced an index of *Wicked Women* (Sydney, 1987-96).
- Carla has commenced an audit and rehousing of the ephemera file collection – this will be a long task and could benefit with help (best done in pairs).
- Chris and Mohamed have helped with filing and rehousing, Murray with photo identifications.
- Anton has completed the conversion of ALGA's photos list from a Word document to an Excel spreadsheet providing more powerful searching and filtering options. For the first time we have an accurate count of ALGA's photo collection (about 3400 with data from a few albums yet to be entered). Anton has also documented ALGA's holdings of ephemera for gay and lesbian film events or festivals prior to 1991 (when the first National Gay and Lesbian Film Festival was held), 151 records.
- Trevor has digitised a photo album donated by The Organizers (Melbourne social functions including Queen's Birthday picnics, late 1960s to early 1980s), and a collection of photos from the estate of the late Bill Brooks (Boilers functions among others).
- Nick has produced finding aids for various parts of the collection – including Transgender and gender-questioning communities, and the processing and listing of some personal collections (Peter Tully, Margaret Bernasconi, Ralph McLean).
- The digitisation of oral history interviews recorded on analogue cassettes continues – Francis with help from others from time to time

- An audit and rehousing of the book collection, following the relocation of first-copy books to VAC, is about 90% complete (duplicates remain off-site) – this has been a major project over the several months involving Anton, Gary, Graham C and John W.
- John W (who manages ALGA's website) is in the process of revamping the website in preparation for using WordPress as a content management system
- A group of volunteers, including John S, Cornel, Joh, Michael, Nick and Sarah have been working on the 'big catalogue' project to bring ALGA's collection lists and indexes together in a single online catalogue. Such a catalogue would enable access to information about the collection items online, including digital images of some collection items. The group is about to start testing a sample set of data relating to a number of collection material types through two open-source collection database software systems. This project is supported by a grant from Grants to Voluntary Environment and Heritage Organisations program.
- Training for volunteers interested in conducting oral history interviews is about to commence, conducted by Sarah Rood, who works professionally in this area.

POSITION VACANT

The Archives has more than 45,000 clippings from newspapers throughout Australia, filed chronologically, and listed electronically up to 1969 and patchily after that. The collection is particularly strong in the period 1970 to early 1990s (the pre-internet era) when it benefited from donations of material about homosexuality from nationwide media monitoring services. Since 2005 we have not actively collected press clippings, because the online databases are able to do this much more comprehensively than we can. We do however make a small exception: just to keep a manageable record of coverage GLBT issues in the non-gay media, we clip the Melbourne AGE. We have a very diligent clipper (Kevin) who is adept at picking up the nuances of gay-relevance that electronic services can't really be expected to find. We would however welcome help with computer listing of the AGE clippings: putting them into a spreadsheet and if possible, attaching an internet link to them. This task would probably be most conveniently done at home by a person who has a computer (preferably with Excel but that's not essential) and an internet connection. Copies of clippings could be picked up/returned from time to time. If this is something you'd like to do, do get in touch – email algarchives@hotmail.com

NORTHERN RIVERS QUEER HISTORY PROJECT

The Northern Rivers Queer History Project has been established to gather the rich queer history of the area. Co-ordinator Peter Mitchell is being assisted by Ian Gray and Vera Bourne (Vera started the first gay-and-lesbian group in the region 30 years ago). Contributions of memorabilia, photographs or other items of significance are invited. Contact the project by email: queerhistory2@gmail.com, or phone (02) 6622 6440 (through [Tropical Fruits Inc](#)).

ORAL HISTORY ONLINE

The website of the South Australian Branch of the Oral History Association contains an interesting method of presenting oral history online, combining audio, transcript and time-coded summary. For a sample, see <http://ohaa-sa.com.au/interviews/oh8004-silver-moon/#more-409>, an interview by Alison Murchie in 2007 with an Adelaide woman who goes by the name Silver Moon (b.1951). In the interview Silver talks about men, her motor bikes, getting married and her decision to live as a lesbian. Well worth a look.

DEATH OF THE LAST PINK TRIANGLE SURVIVOR : RUDOLF BRAZDA 1913-2011

The recent death in Paris of Rudolf Brazda, thought to be the last of the "Pink Triangles", those interned in Nazi concentration camps due to their homosexuality, has been widely reported in [Australia](#) and [elsewhere](#). Brazda's experience of the horrors of Buchenwald have been extensively recorded since his decision in 2008 to speak publicly about his time in the camps. There is an 11 minute interview (sub-titled) on [YouTube](#) and an informative entry on [Wikipedia](#). Two biographies of Brazda have been written although neither is yet available in English.

Thanks to Keith Stodden for drawing our attention to a report on Rudolf Brazda's death in Melbourne's Italian language newspaper, *Il Globo*, and for providing a translation.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS – THANKS TO ALL DONORS

- Original uniform worn by staff in the early years of the Melbourne venue 3 Faces (1990-99) – from JI, who was a lighting operator and designer at the time
- A personal collection of 34 gay-themed / political protest issue badges, mid 1970s to mid 80s, with notes on their origins – from Peter Mansell
- A postcard series promoting safe-sex pitched at younger gay men, *The adventures of Dermott : The cute gay nerd!*, published in 2008 by Victorian AIDS Council / Gay Men's Health Centre [companion to a comic of the same title, text by Grant O'Sullivan, illustrator Douglas Holgate] - from Colin Krycer
- Two DVDs from *Queer as F**k* series 1 and 4 – from Colin Batrouney for VAC/Gay Men's Health Centre
- A copy of the Scotland Yard report (1972) on the death of Dr George Duncan with extracts from *Hansard* for the South Australian Legislative Assembly (2002) as background to the release of the report with some names deleted – from Glen Ralph (Wilmar Library, Adelaide)
- A large collection of *Polare* (bimonthly magazine providing information and services on gender issues) – from the Gender Centre, Sydney [see http://www.gendercentre.org.au/polare_archive.htm for an *Polare's* online archive, 1993-2011]
- DVD, *m2F : a journey in gender identity*, documentary narrated by Jon Faine, Director, producer: Dee McLachlan; plus notes 'Transgenderism in the 21st century : debunking some rubbery figures', a research project by Patricia Church and Dee McLachlan, 2003, updated 2009 - from Nick Henderson
- Author donation of *F2m : the boy within* by Hazel Edwards and Ryan Kennedy (Melbourne, Ford Street Publishing, 2010) – from Hazel Edwards
- Books, periodicals and/or ephemera donated by Dennis Altman, Mathew Bills, Chris Butler, Nick Henderson, Manny, Keith Stodden - and not to forget the many groups around Australia which continue - year in, year out - to send us regular gratis copies of their periodicals.



Reverse side lettering:
3 Faces : The total venue

FEAST EVENT: 'I REMEMBER IT WELL – SHARING QUEER CULTURAL MEMORY'

Adelaide's Feast Festival will host this event on Sunday 20 November, 12 noon at the Feast Hub Precinct, The Camp Site, Light Square Adelaide – here's more from the [Feast 2011](#) program:

Almost all the stories and memories that make up our LGBTIQ history aren't shared, even with friends. Yet, once we start remembering we have so much to talk about. Yes, I Remember it Well focuses on the many amazing, fascinating, important untold stories of LGBTIQ events, places and history that have taken place in Adelaide within living memory. Come and hear some of them. There will be time to tell your own too, if you want to.

MEDIA HISTORY PROJECT GETS GOOD COVERAGE

Bill Calder's history of the gay and lesbian press in Australia has been well reported in the community press in Melbourne and Sydney. A recent article in the [Sydney Star Observer](#) resulted in one of the "lost publishers" of early 70s gay papers (Bill Munro) making contact, happy to share his recollections of *Butch*, *Little Butch* and *Gay*. Bill C is still hoping to make contact with John Baker and William Easton from *William and John*, Michelle Daw from *Labrys*, Peter Langford from *Campaign* and *Cruiser*, Harry Lyle Mitchell from *Oxford Lifestyle Magazine*, Brian Lamb from *Now in Melbourne*, and Glenn Wells from *Village Voice*. For more about the project, visit <http://gaymediahistory.wordpress.com/>

THE UNSTRAIGHT MUSEUM

An online museum originating in Sweden “dedicated to LGBT history in all its forms”: <http://www.unstraight.org/>. The project is in an early stage of development but contributions from around the world are already there and more are invited.

ALGA NEWLY PUBLISHED BOOKS WOULD MAKE GREAT CHRISTMAS PRESENTS!

Check out the [merchandise page](#) for details.

DONORS IN 2010-11

As ALGA's financial year draws to a close (30 September), we gratefully acknowledge the following people and organisations for supporting ALGA in the past year. Also a reminder – donations of \$2 or more to ALGA are tax deductible, as are donations of property ('property' is interpreted broadly by ATO in this context, essentially any material item, but not services). We welcome enquiries on the scope for tax deductible property gifts to ALGA.

Anonymous	Peter Di Sciascio	Ken Rathbone
Australian GLBTI	ED	John Rickard
Multicultural Council Inc	Mohamed Duar	Peter Robinson
National LGBTI Health	Alan Duncan	Joe Rocca
Alliance	Beatrice Faust	ES
Dennis Altman	Michael Fenaughty	Jeff Slingsby
Kevin A	Francis Good	Geoffrey Stewardson
A/Prof Barbara Baird	Ian Gould	Keith Stodden
Gregory Barrett	Hiba Pty Ltd	Richard Stone
Laurie Bebbington	David Hilliard	John Storey
JB	Leigh Keen	Trevor Sutherland
Mathew Bills	DL	Robert Taylor
Frank Bongiorno	Philip Lidbury	Gregory Thompson
Peter Bonsall-Boone	KL	Alison Thorne
David and Michael	Robert Manning	Lin Tobias
Rodney Burrows	David Menadue	Noel Tovey
JC	KO'L	Tropical Fruits Inc
Sharron R. Carroll	Phyllis Papps and	CT
Paul Caulfield	Francesca Curtis	Bart van der Wel
David Conolly	Michael Parry	VicBears
Christopher Cutler	MP	Ross Watson
Julie Daley	Richard Peterson and	Dale Withers
Ken Davis	Darrell Dear	Margaret Young
Mannie De Saxe	David Provan	Darian Zam
Peter De Waal	Ian Purcell	

Thinking of donating material?

If you are thinking of donating material to ALGA, please contact us first – email algarchives@hotmail.com. ALGA's collecting policy is online at <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~alga/docs/collectionpolicy.pdf>. Whilst some larger offers are on hold (pending processing and relocation of a few large collections still stored offsite), we are happy to accept smaller quantities (up to say 10 cm shelf space) that meet our collecting policy. Offers are considered by the committee on a monthly basis.

Best wishes

From the Australian Lesbian & Gay Archives Inc
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website: www.alga.org.au