



*Issue 10, August 2025*

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The Silver Pride Advocacy Network e-newsletter is brought to you by LGBTIQ+ Health Australia (LHA).

Each edition of this newsletter will let you know about opportunities to contribute your ideas about LGBTI ageing and aged care. It will also feature initiatives that enhance the lives of LGBTI older people. We hope these good practice projects will inspire you.

Please share this newsletter with anyone who may be interested. New readers can subscribe [here](#). You can print back-issues from [here](#).



**Back into the closet: is aged care failing LGBTI+ older people? Webinar**

LHA invites you to a webinar on the experiences of LGBTI+ older people in aged care.

Lead researcher, Sarah McMullen-Roach, will share the results from a major study conducted by the University of South Australia. Sarah will discuss insights from the University's review of 55 studies that drew on the voices of more than 3000 LGBTI+ people aged 50-94 from 11 countries.

**Date:** Thursday 11 September 2025 **Time:** 1:00 – 1:45 pm AEST **Where:** Zoom

Garry White and Ross Bell, members of the Silver Pride Advocacy Network, Lived Experience Advocacy Panel, will respond to the findings. They will share their views as LGBTI older people who have experience with aged care.

You can sign up for the webinar [here](#). Readers of this newsletter can attend the webinar for free, as members of the Silver Pride Advocacy Network.

## Disability Pride Month: an advocate's reflection



Garry White (He/Him) is a community advocate. He is a gay man with a disability. He has worked as an educator, disability consultant for TAFE NSW, small business owner, and Manager/CEO of Home and Community Care services. Garry is a member of the Silver Pride Advocacy Network and other advisory committees.

Below, Garry provides his reflections about Disability Pride Month, held in July.

### ***Disability Pride Month – Celebrating identity, visibility and inclusion***

*July is Disability Pride Month, a time to honour the identity, resilience, and contributions of people with disabilities*

*It's more than just raising awareness; it celebrates diversity and challenges outdated views of disability.*

### ***Intersection with LGBTQIA+ Pride***

*Disability Pride and Gay Pride are closely linked. Both movements aim for visibility, acceptance, and rights. But what's it like to be LGBTQIA+ and disabled?*

*As a gay man with a disability, I think our rainbow community has work to do. Accessibility is still a big issue. Why are so many venues up a flight of stairs? What message does the focus on "body beautiful" send to those who can't meet those ideals?*

*This month reminds us to recognise disability as a natural part of life. It celebrates progress through activism and encourages pride in identity and community. Visibility*

*is vital, giving people with disabilities space to share stories and advocate for their rights.*

### **The Disability Pride flag**

*The flag has a charcoal grey background with five diagonal stripes in red, gold, grey, blue, green and white.*

*Each colour stands for a different aspect of disability:*



-  *Charcoal Grey: Mourning those lost to ableist violence, abuse, suicide, and illness*
-  *Red: Physical disabilities*
-  *White: Invisible and undiagnosed disabilities*
-  *Gold: Neurodiversity*
-  *Blue: Emotional and psychiatric disabilities*
-  *Green: Sensory disabilities*

*Disability Pride calls for real change. It demands accessible spaces, inclusive policies, and equal opportunities. It also highlights the extra challenges faced by those in multiple-marginalised groups.*



**Better Together® 2025: rainbow community conference**

The Equality Project® has announced [Better Together® 2025](#), Australia's national LGBTIQ+ community conference. The conference is from 31 October to 1 November 2025. It will take place in Kaurua Country at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

Better Together® 2025 will explore the current issues facing the rainbow movement in Australia. Join a national gathering of changemakers. Rainbow communities, families, elders, organisations, businesses, government and allies come together to tackle the issues that matter.

The program is shaped by community voices. Expect bold conversations, diverse lived experiences and fresh perspectives. It will include the voices and stories of LGBTI older people.

[Scholarships](#) are available to help community members attend. Apply early, as numbers are limited.



### **Rainbow Leaders' Summit 2025**

Alongside the conference, The Equality Project® will host the Rainbow Leaders' Summit. This unique programme is for leaders in the LGBTIQ+ community and sector.

The Summit offers space to connect, reflect, and build skills.

It's designed for leaders of all ages and backgrounds, including those in health, advocacy, community organisations, and policy. The focus is on developing strong, inclusive leadership that supports our diverse communities.

[Applications](#) are open now until 31 August 2025 and places are limited. If you're a leader or an emerging leader, this is your chance to grow your skills and contribute to LGBTIQ+ advocacy.

### **Why this matters for LGBTI older people**

Events like Better Together® and the Rainbow Leaders' Summit help shape a more inclusive Australia. They ensure the experiences of LGBTI older people are recognised and valued.

Attending, or encouraging others to attend, helps keep issues of ageing, health care, safety, and visibility on the national agenda. It's also a chance to meet others, share wisdom, and feel the strength of community across generations.



## **Aged Care Council of Elders: nominations open**

The [Australian Government](#) is calling for [Expressions of Interest](#) from older people across Australia to join the Aged Care Council of Elders in 2026.

The Council consists of 14 older people who communicate directly with the Minister for Aged Care and Seniors. Members share views from the community and ensure older people's voices are heard on important issues.

LHA warmly encourages LGBTI older people to apply. Your voice and lived experience are crucial for shaping the future of ageing and aged care in Australia.

Applications close 26 September 2025.



Thanks for reading! To find out more please email: [silverpride@lgbtiqhealth.org.au](mailto:silverpride@lgbtiqhealth.org.au)

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LGBTIQ+ Health Australia acknowledges the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia, their diversity, histories and knowledge and their continuing connections to land and community. We pay our respects to all Australian Indigenous Peoples and their cultures, and to Elders past and present.

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