



# Silver Pride Advocacy Network

Amplifying the voices of LGBTI older people



Issue 14, early November 2025

## In this edition:

- Have your say on the future of LGBTI+ ageing
- Reflections on a recent Ageing Australia® conference by a LGBTI older person
- Get involved in Trans Awareness Week
- Help improve support for unpaid carers: do the survey

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 pass this newsletter on to others who might be interested. They can [subscribe](#) here. You can print back-issues from [here](#).



## Have your say on the future of LGBTI+ ageing

Have your voice heard in the future of aged care for LGBTI+ older adults: participate in an online community consultation session with the University of South Australia.

If you are interested in the future of LGBTI+ ageing, they would love to hear from you! Join their online community consultation to help shape the future of ageing and aged care for LGBTI+ people.

In this interactive session, Sarah McMullen-Roach, UniSA PhD Candidate, occupational therapist and lesbian will showcase findings from 3 studies completed across the last 3 years of her PhD.



**Where:** Zoom (see link below)

**When:** 13 November 2025

**Time:**

**SA:** 2 pm to 3:30 pm

**QLD:** 1:30 pm to 3 pm

**NT:** 1 pm to 2:30 pm

**WA:** 11:30 am to 1 pm

**NSW, ACT, VIC, TAS:** 2:30 pm to 4 pm

You will be the first to hear about contemporary research exploring global and national perspectives of ageing and aged care for LGBTI+ individuals. This will include findings from a global literature synthesis capturing the voices of over 3000 LGBTI+ older adults (Study 1), first-of-its-kind Australian epidemiological data (Study 2) and interviews conducted with LGBTI+ older adults (Study 3).

Participation involves engagement in an online workshop with opportunities for discussion, idea sharing and shaping recommendations for the future. If you are interested, please register [here](#).

This project has been approved by the University of South Australia's Human Research Ethics Committee (Ethics Protocol Number 206194).

For further clarifications, please contact the primary researcher, Sarah McMullen-Roach at [sarah.mcmullen-roach@unisa.edu.au](mailto:sarah.mcmullen-roach@unisa.edu.au) or 08 8302 2692.

---

## Reflections on the recent Ageing Australia® Conference by a LGBTI older person

Christine Sellman (She/Her) recently attended [Ageing Australia®](#)'s 2025 National Conference. Ageing Australia® is a national peak body for aged care providers. Christine provides her reflections on the event below.

Christine is a 65-year-old registered nurse, Qigong practitioner and support worker. She is a member of the Silver Pride Advocacy Network's Living Experience Advocacy Panel (LEAP). Christine says:



Attending the [Ageing Australia® Conference](#) on the Gold Coast for LHA was a gift on so many levels. The conference theme, “Meeting the Moment, Shaping the Future”, felt especially fitting. This is because the new Aged Care Act 2024 was coming into effect on 1 November 2025. The new Act will bring greater transparency and new challenges.

[Tribal Experiences](#) opened the conference with a powerful Welcome to Country. The sound of their didgeridoo grounded the 2,500 attendees who had gathered from across Australia and beyond. It reminded us that we were home together, as one family, for the three days of the conference.

I was honoured to join a panel discussion titled “Welcome Home – Not for Everyone.”

The diverse panel focused on the need for culturally safe home care. Other panellists included Bev Lange, Sharon Wood, Shane Klintworth, Gwenda Darling and Marie Alford. We discussed diversity, bias, culture and the need for more inclusive care.

I also helped on LHA’s stall at the conference. It was both educational and rewarding. Several resources on the stall were popular. These included the [Silver Rainbow Fact Sheets](#) and [LGBTI and Dementia](#) booklet. I was especially fond of [Visiting Someone Living with Dementia: A Guide for Volunteers](#). This is a small but powerful resource.

The stall also gave me a chance to connect more with other members of the LEAP. I heard some of their stories and shared some of my own. Wearing a rainbow lanyard sparked many meaningful moments with attendees who stopped to share personal experiences. We shared tears and our emotions eased. I left the conference feeling profoundly grateful to be part of the Silver Pride Advocacy Network.

---



## Get involved in Trans Awareness Week

Every year from 13 to 19 November, we come together for Trans Awareness Week. It's a time for people of goodwill to celebrate transgender, gender diverse, and non-binary people. The week is recognised around the world and in many places, it has grown into a full month of events.

In Australia, November is full of activities. These include picnics, support groups, film screenings and more. You can find events on the Transgender Victoria [website](#). Most in-person events are in Melbourne and surrounds, but there are online options too. You can also register your own event on the site. Some local councils also raise trans flags to mark the day.

There are many resources available to help you celebrate, show your support or learn. Resources range from screen backgrounds to flags to information packs. You can find them at organisations like [Minus 18](#), [A Gender Agenda](#), [Transfolk WA](#) and [Transgender Victoria](#).

There are also general resources for trans and gender diverse people and their allies on [TransHub](#), [the Gender Centre Inc](#), [Transcend Australia](#), and the [Zoe Bell Gender Collective](#).

LHA has produced a [webinar](#) "You Can't Deny It: Gender Euphoria Saves Lives." Trans people share how gender-affirming care helps them feel safe and joyful. They talk about the joy of self-expression and feeling comfortable in their own skin. LHA has also developed resources to help aged care workers support LGBTI+ older people. This includes one specific to [trans and gender diverse people](#).

Trans Awareness Week closes with Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 20. It's a day to remember those who have lost their lives to transphobia and violence. Events are held across Australia. This includes [Sydney](#), [Perth](#), [Melbourne](#), [Adelaide](#), [Queensland](#) and [Hobart](#). These events are likely to include discussion of suicide and violence, Unfortunately this reflects the experiences of many trans and gender diverse

people. Remember that [QLife](#) is available to provide support online or by phone on 1800 184 527.



**Kathy Mansfield** (pictured) is a proud trans woman and member of the Silver Pride Advocacy Network. She talks about the importance of Transgender Awareness Week:

*"I can only reflect back some years ago when the local council flew a flag on that day and gave me hope. It gave me hope that there are people of goodwill that are able to try to support us in our search for human rights because trans and gender diversity is simply about a human right. It's about the right of an individual to reflect on the outside what this spirit says on the inside."*



# Help improve support for unpaid carers: do the survey

You are invited to participate in a survey to help the Australian Government improve support services for unpaid carers. This includes unpaid carers from LGBTIQ+ communities.

You can participate if you provide unpaid care, support or assistance to someone who has a disability, a medical condition (including a terminal or chronic illness), has a mental illness or is frail and aged.

## The survey focuses on:

- improving counselling and mental health support
- making respite care more accessible
- supporting unpaid carers from diverse backgrounds, including First Nations, culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD), LGBTQIA+, carers with disability, carers of veterans, and young carers.

## You'll be asked:

- what would make the biggest difference for supporting carers
- what better support could look like?

Your feedback will help shape the [National Carer Strategy Action Plan 2024–2027](#).

The survey is open until 19 November 2025 at 11:59 pm. Take part or learn more [here](#).



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

**If you have enjoyed this newsletter, please pass it on to other people who may be interested in subscribing.**

**SUBSCRIBE NOW**



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 of past and present.

**LGBTIQ+ Health Australia**  
Gadigal Land of the Eora Nation, Suite 2101, Level 21, 233  
Castlereagh Street, Sydney NSW 2000 ABN 45 138 151 569

LGBTIQ+ Health Australia gratefully acknowledges the support of the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.



Copyright © LGBTIQ+ Health Australia. All rights reserved.  
This email was sent to [jo.alley@lgbtiqhealth.org.au](mailto:jo.alley@lgbtiqhealth.org.au) · [Unsubscribe](#)