



**OUT** IN THE **OPEN**  
**GREATER SHEPPARTON** *Festival*

*Celebrating*  
**LGBTIQA+**  
*Pride & Diversity*

**OFFICIAL GIG GUIDE 2021**  
**outintheopen.org.au**

# Welcome to the 10th annual OUTintheOPEN Festival!

We did it! Double digits! The BIG 10!  
We've got our big pants on! Ha!

Thank you, #festivalfans, for sticking with us!  
This year we're delighted to be OUTintheOPEN...  
literally! Come one, come all, and visit us  
in Greater Shepparton. #proud

Toss those COVID blues aside and join us for  
brunch, dinner or afternoon tea (yes, they all  
include food!) ... or jump online for Carnival Day,  
forums, trivia, singalongs, rainbow story time &  
even connect with nature!

There's some art therapy in the flesh, plus some  
portraits of LGBTIQ+ elders to view at GOTAFE  
as we celebrate and commemorate 40 years  
since the decriminalisation of homosexuality,  
accompanied by podcasts of their (hi)stories.

Perhaps meeting new people and networking  
is your thing? Jump online and meet busy  
working people from all across Victoria. It's City  
vs. Country as we hear from regional diversity  
champions, and connect with like-minded peers.  
Let's settle this rivalry once and for all! Who does  
diversity better, and do ALL LGBTIQ+ people  
want to move to the big smoke?

A few events have been postponed until 2022,  
but we're still super keen to be safely bringing  
you more than 20 events as we celebrate ten  
huge years! Happy birthday to us! Please don't  
sneeze on the birthday cake - bring masks, check  
in using QR codes, get Fabsolutely Jubulated...  
and have a ball!

Of course, none of this would be possible without  
our amazing committee and team of volunteers,  
our sponsors and supporters. Much gratitude. We  
hope you enjoy the Festival, and continue to get  
OUTintheOPEN with us for another 10 years to  
come!

**Damien Stevens-Todd  
and Georgina Poort  
Co-Convenors**



[outintheopen.org.au](http://outintheopen.org.au)



#### Festival Co-Convenors

Damien Stevens-Todd & Georgina Poort

#### Artistic Director

Jenni George

#### Treasurer & Governance

Kieran Murphy

#### Secretary & Admin. Support

Ian Smith

#### Volunteer Coordinator

Deb Chumbley

#### Entertainment Coordinator/ Stage Manager (Carnival Day)

Clare Rich

OUTintheOPEN logo and O motif  
© Aaron David Palmer 2012

# Our Services in Greater Shepparton



The place to meet, socialise,  
and spend time with those you  
KNOW exist, but you cannot  
seem to find...

FUN  
FRIENDSHIP  
FAMILY  
COMMUNITY

visit us @ [gvpride.org](http://gvpride.org)

Find us on [gvprideshepparton](https://www.facebook.com/gvprideshepparton)

Goulburn Valley's LGBTIQ+ peer-led social support & advocacy organisation



The Diversity Group is Greater Shepparton's  
LGBTIQ+ social support group for young people  
aged 12-25 (and their friends).

Monthly meetings include  
games, activities  
and opportunities for  
peer connections.



Find us on [DiversityProjectGreaterShepparton](https://www.facebook.com/DiversityProjectGreaterShepparton)

P: (03) 5831 6157  
SMS / Mob: 0419 503 654  
E: [georgina.poort@vt.uniting.org](mailto:georgina.poort@vt.uniting.org)



**Uniting**



TAG (Transgender and Gender Diverse Advisory Group) Shepparton is a friendly place for people in the Goulburn Valley and surrounding areas to come together, make peer connections, find resources and peer support.

TAG is open to all people who identify as Transgender and Gender Diverse.

We are also happy to have inclusive and supportive allies.

We occasionally catch up in person for a quiet picnic, coffee events and short trips.

During these events we share resources, our experiences and any information to help people on their journey whether that is help filling out gender-affirming paperwork, GP recommendations and many other helpful resources.

Email: [TAG@gvpride.org](mailto:TAG@gvpride.org) Find us on @TAGShepparton Web: [www.gvpride.org/tag](http://www.gvpride.org/tag)



The "Diversity Project" aims to create a safer and  
healthier community for LGBTIQ+ young people under  
25 across Greater Shepparton and Moira Shire.

Find us on [DiversityProjectGreaterShepparton](https://www.facebook.com/DiversityProjectGreaterShepparton)

P: (03) 5831 6157  
SMS / Mob: 0419 503 654  
E: [georgina.poort@vt.uniting.org](mailto:georgina.poort@vt.uniting.org)

**Uniting**

# Celebrating LGBTIQA+

## Pride & Diversity in Greater Shepparton & across Victoria



Let me wish you a happy 10-year-anniversary of the OUTintheOPEN Festival!  
I love and admire our LGBTIQ+ communities and our resilience has never been more important. Being a descendant of the Kalarie peoples of the Wiradjuri nation who identifies as queer, I grew up in my rural hometown of Condobolin in NSW. I know how much support and visibility means in regional and rural Australia. OUTintheOPEN is yet another example of Victoria leading the way. It's so good that LGBTIQ+ communities - and our friends,

families and allies - are creating a safer and more inclusive regional and rural Victoria. Lockdowns have hit us in different ways across the state, some communities have carried a burden more than others. As we carefully reopen, I'm looking forward to our rainbow communities uniting online and in real life, promoting our connections, reducing isolation and celebrating our rich diversities. Thank you, Goulburn Valley Pride, for being as flexible as we all need in organising this hybrid Festival. You continue to provide safe spaces and support for LGBTIQ+ community members not just for your region, but for all of Victoria. I look forward to joining you all online, and later, as soon as I can, in real life!

*Todd Fernando*  
Victoria's Commissioner  
for LGBTIQ+ Communities



I am delighted that we are celebrating the 2021 OUTintheOPEN Festival, albeit semi-virtually, this year. It is a credit to GV Pride that they managed to host this event in a COVID-safe way and overcame the barriers of constant restriction changes. This year we are celebrating 10 years of the OUTintheOPEN Festival, which brings the entire community

together in an environment of inclusion, kindness, and support. Everyone involved in this festival has done an excellent job in organising this important event, which celebrates our LGBTIQA+ community and brings us together in the spirit of friendship.

*Suzanna Sheed MP*  
Independent Member for  
Shepparton District

# Welcome

## to Greater Shepparton



Greater Shepparton City Council congratulates the OUTintheOPEN festival on reaching their 10 year milestone. Council is proud to support the festival committee members, staff and volunteers who have provided opportunities for people to come together and celebrate in an environment which they feel comfortable and accepted during this time.

It is important to continue to address the inequalities faced by the local LGBTIQA+ community. Events such as this are an important tool in building a more inclusive and harmonious community in our region.

Greater Shepparton has a strong diverse community and the past 18 months has been a reminder of how essential staying connected is and Council applauds the festivals efforts for showing a great sense of inclusion and diversity while navigating through COVID-19 restrictions.

Please enjoy the festival and all its elements, in person events and live streams, and celebrate community diversity in all its forms across the region.

*Greater Shepparton City Council*



**SAFE AND RESPECTFUL  
QUALITY CARE FOR ALL**  
We offer inclusive, caring and  
tailored services.



# Festival Overview

OUTintheOPEN is Greater Shepparton's Festival celebrating LGBTIQ+ pride & community diversity. 2012 was our inaugural year. OUTintheOPEN was developed to address some of the inequalities faced by the local lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans & gender diverse, intersex, queer, asexual (LGBTIQ+) communities and to build a more inclusive community in Greater Shepparton. We are now in our 10th year. OUTintheOPEN Festival is a project lead by Goulburn Valley Pride Inc. and is proudly supported by many other organisations and community groups. The Festival consists of health/wellbeing forums in Shepparton's CBD, a Carnival Day on the first weekend in November, and a further 25+ events in this it's tenth year. Community festivals can increase feelings of belonging to a community, create connections, bring diverse people and organisations together, both through the festival planning and festival events, and build social inclusion, which has been linked with improved mental health and wellbeing (Barraket & Kaiser, 2007). Social inclusion can be defined as "where all people feel valued, their differences are respected and their basic needs are met so they can live in dignity". We're pretty proud of what we've achieved! For further information about the history and background of OUTintheOPEN Festival, along with a full list of our community partners and sponsors, please visit our website @ [outintheopen.org.au](http://outintheopen.org.au)



1 Sobraon St, Shepparton  
P: 1300 488 226  
[www.intereach.com.au](http://www.intereach.com.au)

## Meet the Commish/Fab Jab via Zoom

fab  
jab

For communities including Shepparton, Benalla, Violet Town, Wangaratta and Albury-Wodonga:

Meet the new Commissioner for LGBTIQ+ Communities, Todd Fernando, hear all about the latest 'Fab Jab' Campaign to vaccinate LGBTIQ+ communities, find out what's next on the regional & rural LGBTIQ+ agenda and let the Commissioner know what's most important for your community right now.

THU  
28  
OCT 5.30pm

FREE EVENT

Online Event  
Registrations: [outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/](http://outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/)

## Pride in Diversity Show One FM Radio 98.5



Join host, Damien Stevens-Todd.

Tune in as we share stories of Victorian regional LGBTIQ+ elders and history as we celebrate and commemorate the 40th anniversary of the decriminalisation of homosexuality.

A series of podcasts will capture the joys and sorrows of being LGBTIQ+ over the last 100yrs in regional Victoria.

THU  
28  
OCT 8.00pm

THU  
4  
NOV 8.00pm

FREE EVENT

Online Event  
Listen In: [fm985.com.au/](http://fm985.com.au/)

# Queer Trivia Night

brought to you by LINE Wangaratta

LGBTQIA+ In the North East



Join LINE Wangaratta for an online trivia night, celebrating the 10th anniversary of the OUTintheOPEN festival.

Bring together a team or play individually – it's your choice but first place wins a rainbow pack (including flag, gift card, mug, chocolates and more!) – so the pressure is on!

FRI  
**29** 7.00pm  
OCT

FREE EVENT

Online Event

Teams Link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/555744139040293>

# Community Gathering

Virtual Bi+ & Multi-Gender Attracted



Come along and hang out with Bisexual Alliance Victoria (BAV) as part of OUTintheOPEN. BAV is based in Melbourne so sadly thanks to the lock down we can't all be with you in person, and we hope we can travel up and visit you soon.

This event is an opportunity to hear about BAV, who we are and what we do, and then a discussion about what you'd like from the bi+ community, ways to connect, what is (or is not) different between metro and regional needs and experiences of being multi-gender attracted. We'd also love to hear about how you've been connecting with community and your experiences.

SAT  
**30** 4.00pm  
OCT

FREE EVENT

Online Event

Registrations: [outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/](https://outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/)

# Queer Nature Connection

via Zoom



As part of Shepparton's 10th anniversary of OUTintheOPEN, RiverConnect and Firekeepers invite you to take time out of your regular life to connect with yourself, with the land around you, as well as birds, animals and fellow LGBTQIA+ folks.

Mel from Firekeepers will offer a facilitated queer circle as well as nature connection activities to get you out in the actual open! It will be a gentle space to relax and unwind and become more aware of the natural world around you. We look forward to seeing you there!

SAT  
**30** 10.00am  
OCT

FREE EVENT

Online Event

Registrations: [outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/](https://outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/)

# BIG Milestone Brunch

Annual Fundraising Event



Festival fans are invited to join us for the official OUTintheOPEN Festival Fundraising Brunch, taking place at Milestone.

The Festival Fundraising Brunch provides a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the Festival together with friends over a cup of great coffee and a spread of goodies fresh out of the Milestone kitchen.

Due to social distancing requirements we're having TWO sittings this year!

SUN  
**31** 9.30am  
OCT

SUN  
**31** 11.30am  
OCT

Milestone Cafe & Bistro, Emerald Bank, Kialla

Bookings: [outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/](https://outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/)



# N.E. Rainbow Flag Project

Fly the colours with us!



Join LINE (LGBTQIA+ In the North East) Wangaratta as we create a gigantic rainbow flag.

Over 5 months, the LINE Wangaratta volunteers will be visiting all corners of the north east and inviting the LGBTQIA+ community and allies to help create a 4m rainbow flag.

We will be scheduling visits to Mansfield, Bright, Benalla, Myrtleford, Rutherglen, Yackandandah, Beechworth, Yarrawonga and Wangaratta to meet with local community members as we spread the rainbow pride across the region.

SUN  
**31**  
OCT 10.00am

FREE EVENT

Benalla  
Registrations: [outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/](https://outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/)

# LGBTI+ Histories

Celebrating and Talking



This 90 minute workshop designed for the LGBTI+ community will focus on strategies to ensure the services you're working with are inclusive.

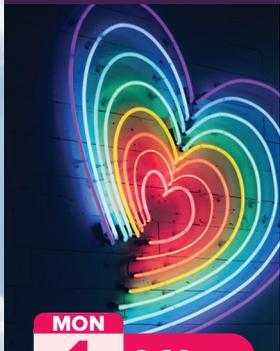
Join the Val's team for this engaging session where we look at 20th century LGBTI histories and their impacts for LGBTI people of all ages. We will be exploring how the community has developed and grown in the face of social disapproval and adversity and we will celebrate the joy of its achievements.

WED  
**3**  
NOV 10.00am

FREE EVENT

Online Event  
Registrations: [outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/](https://outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/)

# Regional LGBTQIA+ Community of Practice



Join LINE Wangaratta and The Diversity Project at Uniting Vic. Tas. for a special OUTintheOPEN edition of the Regional LGBTQIA+ Community of Practice.

This special edition of the Regional LGBTQIA+ Community of Practice will feature local organisations talking about their journey to LGBTQIA+ inclusion, Rainbow Tick Accreditation, and working collaboratively in the north-east region.

MON  
**1**  
NOV 9.30am

FREE EVENT

Online Event  
Registrations: [outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/](https://outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/)

# Winner, Winner!

## Schnitz for Dinner!



Join us for a COVID-19-friendly, socially-distanced, scrumptious meal from Schnitz in Shepparton as part of OUTintheOPEN Festival.

Love a good feed? The team at Schnitz have the best menu goin' on with great value, super tasty schnitzels, parmas, wraps and rolls...and omg have you tried the seasoned chips?

Tickets/bookings \$10pp to confirm your spot, then when you rock up on the night we'll return your \$10pp to spend on the food! Easy!

WED  
**3**  
NOV 6.00pm

Schnitz, 124-126 Fryers St, Shepparton  
Bookings: [outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/](https://outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/)



# Virtual Networking

## GLOBE & GV Pride



You will have the opportunity to connect and network with fellow community members and wonderful people, all across our state, all from the comfort of your own couch!

We will kick off the night at 7pm and hear from some great speakers who will share about the amazing work that is happening in our regions to uplift and unite our wonderful LGBTIQ communities! We will also have our usual networking and finish off the night with some amazing entertainment by Robert Baxter!

THU  
**4**  
NOV 7.00pm

FREE EVENT

Online Event  
Bookings: [outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/](https://outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/)

# Frock Up Friday Singalong

## with Frock Hudson



Frock Hudson is back, bringing the online extravaganza that has kept our communities singing camp classics late into the eve during locked down Friday nights, with a special OUTintheOPEN Edition - and this time, its virtual (again)!

It's the ultimate evening pregame for Carnival Day with a karaoke like no other. Streaming live from the OUTintheOPEN Facebook Page, you pick the songs, then Frock sings along!

It's that easy.

FRI  
**5**  
NOV 8.30pm

FREE EVENT

Online Event  
Facebook: [facebook.com/events/598654954614920](https://facebook.com/events/598654954614920)

# Think About It? Did It!

## Common Ground Cafe, GOTAFE, Shepparton

View the portraits of those Victorian regional LGBTIQ+ elders sharing their stories and history as we celebrate and commemorate the 40th anniversary of the decriminalisation of homosexuality.

A series of podcasts on ONE FM (98.5) will follow, photos and podcasts both capturing the joys and sorrows of being LGBTIQ+ over the last 100yrs in regional Victoria.

Due to COVID we can only host 30 attendees. Registrations a must.

Think  
About It?  
*Did It!*

FRI  
**5**  
NOV 3.00pm

FREE EVENT

GOTAFE, 152-200 Fryers Street, Shepparton  
Registrations: [outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/](https://outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/)



# Rainbow Story Time

## with Frock Hudson & Shepparton Library



A fabulous morning of stories and fun online and live via Facebook!

Pick up your rainbow drum craft pack at Shepparton, Mooroopna and Tatura libraries between Nov 1 - 6!

SAT  
**6**  
NOV 10.30am

FREE EVENT

Online Event  
Facebook: [@GVLibraries](https://facebook.com/@GVLibraries)

# Carnival Day

via Facebook Live!



Carnival Day is our BIG event!

Come and join us online as we share highlights from the last 10 years & for this fantastic line-up of entertainment:

Co-hosted by drag superstars Frock Hudson and Pattie Choux, enjoy the voices of Adam Thompson from Chocolate Starfish and local talent including Justin Dohrman, Ellia + Keegan, Robert Baxter, Shannon Lemin, Tom Nethersole and many more.



SAT  
**6**  
NOV 1.00pm

Online Event  
Facebook: @OUTintheOPENFestival

FREE EVENT



# BIG Lemon Tree Brunch

Annual Fundraising Event



Festival fans are invited to join us for the 'other' official OUTintheOPEN Festival Fundraising Brunch, taking place at the Lemon Tree Cafe.

The Festival Fundraising Brunch provides a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the Festival together with friends over a cup of great coffee and a spread of goodies fresh out of long time supporters, Lemon Tree Cafe's kitchen.

Due to social distancing requirements we're having TWO sittings!

SUN  
**7**  
NOV 9.30am

SUN  
**7**  
NOV 11.30am

Lemon Tree Cafe, 98 Fryers St, Shepparton  
Bookings: [outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/](http://outintheopen.org.au/events-2021/)



# Postponed Events

due to COVID restrictions

Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, the following planned events have had to be postponed until 2022. Judging by the stellar list below, there's certainly something to look forward to!

- **LGBTIQA+ Health and Wellbeing Day (Mooroopna)**
- **Rainbow Gala (Wangaratta)**
- **Land of Plenty (feat. G Flip) Festival (Shepparton)**
- **THRIVE: QUEER VOICES, OUT LOUD (Shepparton)**
- **Neutralising Queerphobia workshop (ONLINE/Shepparton)**
- **Outside Adventures Canoeing/Kayaking (Shepparton)**
- **Transmansplaining (GOTAFE/Shepparton)**
- **Q+ Hub & Gay Stuff Markets (Shepparton)**
- **TGD Clothing Swap (GOTAFE/Shepparton)**
- **Homophonic! (Shepparton)**
- **THirsty Questions: sexual health webinar (ONLINE)**



Our whole community is stronger and richer for the support of GV Pride and its annual OUTintheOPEN Festival, helping our LGBTIQA+ community and creating a welcoming environment for everyone.



[www.suzannasheed.com.au](http://www.suzannasheed.com.au)  
03 5831 6944  
5 Vaughan St, Shepparton VIC

**Suzanna Sheed MP**  
INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR SHEPPARTON DISTRICT

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