

MATRIX

GUILD

Newsletter

October 2008

Matrix Guild for lesbians over forty years of age.

We are committed to support, appropriate care and alternative lifestyle options for the older lesbians.

Matrix is non funded and relies on fundraising and financial donations, which are Tax Deductible.

Matrix and GLBTI Seniors Radio Program

The Matrix Guild and Vintage Men present a programme on

JOY 94.9 Sunday mornings from 7am to 9am.

The programme is called Sunday and the presenters are Paul and Gordon from Vintage Men and Sangita from the Matrix Guild. We are mainly presenting a music programme, very varied but hopefully catering for all tastes. There are also community announcements (Around the Traps) and the occasional interview.

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Coming Home: Interviews with Women who Came Out After 40.

Edited by Elisabeth Speller

You could ring Jane and ask for one to be sent in the post.

Coming out stories from older lesbians.- \$8 a copy.

MATRIX AND RESEARCH:

As you may remember from previous Matrix Newsletters we have been successful in gaining funding from the Reichstein Foundation for research on seniors GLBTI people.

The first of two research projects has resulted in a report titled
My People: A project exploring the experiences of GLBTI seniors in aged care.

The report is finished and is available on our web site,

www.matrixguildvic.org.au

The 2nd project is about to result in a further report late 2008. Our aim with it has been to determine strategies to enhance aged care services for GLBTI seniors.

In late 2006 we received a grant from the Reichstein Foundation to conduct Stage One of this Program entitled *Exploring the Experiences of Non-Heterosexuals in Aged Care Services*. These consultations revealed the need to develop a Program which aimed to redress the unmet needs of GLBTI seniors in receipt of aged care services. The first step towards achieving this aim was to interview GLBTI seniors about their experiences of aged care services. Interviews, which formed Stage One of the Program, revealed a number of challenges in changing the structure of aged care services to meet the needs of this group. Additionally, while interviewees provided consensus on the need to educate aged care service providers around GLBTI issues they were unsure how change could occur.

It therefore became apparent that Stage Two of the Program needed to determine the perspectives of aged care services providers. This will complement Stage One data by providing a strong foundation for leverage for change in Stage Three. The Stage One Report, which is complete now, will be dovetailed with the Stage Two Report and both will be available for the public in late 2008.

We will keep you up dated as to Stage Two and the release of the Report.

Partnerships with other groups involved with the Project.

Those on the committee are representatives from: Matrix Guild; Vintage Men Inc., a social and support group for mature gay and bisexual men and their friends; A General Practitioner, The Carlton Clinic and Senior Lecturer, The Department of General Practice, University of Melbourne, Member Australian Lesbian Medical Association Committee and Member Ministerial Advisory Committee on Gay and Lesbian Health; Admissions Officer Brotherhood of St Laurence; Victorian Gay & Lesbian Rights Lobby; Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria; The ALSO Foundation; Women's Health East; Women's Health in the South East; Women's Health West; A Consultant Geriatrician and Australian Lesbian Medical Association; School of Health Sciences (OT Program) University of South Australia, and Expert Advisor to the Steering Committee.

MATRIX GUILD HOME BASED SERVICES

SERVICES FOR SENIOR LESBIANS

Matrix Guild's *Home Based Services* incorporate

★ Health, Counselling, Home Care, and Maintenance.

Matrix Guild facilitates qualified practitioners for you.

- ★ If you are a senior lesbian and/or a disabled lesbian and want a qualified lesbian to assist you in the above areas for affordable rates (means tested) give us a call.
- ★ If you are looking for contracted work, are qualified in one of these areas and would like to be considered for the service send your resume to Jane Kent
0438 411 441 - jkent6@bigpond

Matrix Guild's Managing Committee

Meets 6.30 pm the 3rd Tuesday of the month in St Kilda –
You are most welcome to attend and contribute. Ring to check if meeting is still on 3rd Tues. before you come and also



to get venue new details - 0438 411 441.

Come and meet more lesbians.

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"Dance With Dusty" 2 August 2008

As an events co coordinator there is nothing more rewarding and pleasing than a sell out event.

The Afternoon saw members of The Committee of Management, decorators and the DJ working together as a solid team setting up equipment, completing final sound checks and transforming The Northcote Town Hall into a floral extravaganza, notably the beautiful floral arrangements displayed in the foyer, the main hall and the DJ Area. Each table was given its own decorative finish with the centrepiece being an old LP record together with a floral arrangement. The white linen tablecloths were a wonderful contrast for the display of the pink and gold table accessories, which beautifully coincided with the Dusty Springfield Theme.

Guests arrived early and were escorted to their tables anticipating an exciting night ahead filled with great company, fine food, dancing, music and hearing the awesome talent of Wendy Stapleton performing as "Dusty".

The atmosphere was vibrant and fantastic. Throughout the evening guests were busy filling in their dance cards and the dance floor was alive throughout the entire evening.

The music was provided by DJ Trish and given the diverse age group, a wonderful selection of music was provided ranging from the 60's to today.

Then, the moment we had all been waiting for. The hall was silent in gasp for an entrance by "Dusty". Many guests moved from their tables and came to the stage area. The guests continued to thoroughly enjoy the dynamic and memorable performance provided by Wendy Stapleton.

Our Committee members were busy throughout the evening ensuring that the night ran smoothly, and selling raffle tickets and mingling with the guests.

A special thank you to our sponsors, who generously donated prizes for our raffle. {Sponsors listed in alphabetical order}.

- ** AALASMEER FLORAL STUDIO
- ** BLISS
- ** BNEWS
- ** DANCE CATS
- ** HAPPY MEDIUM
- ** HARES & HYENAS
- ** JOY FM
- ** PARTYLITES {Samantha Garden}
- ** PINK SOFA
- ** RAINBOW WAREHOUSE
- ** RED TENT WOMAN
- ** SHEBAR
- ** SONTAYA RESTRAUNT

I would like to take this opportunity to thank The Matrix Guild of Victoria Inc. for inviting me to be a part of their team as the Events Coordinator. On behalf of The Committee of Management I would like to thank everyone who attended and a further thank you to our sponsors of this major fundraising event, for making this, what was a very successful evening. With everyone's assistance and support in turn allows The Matrix Guild of Victoria to continue their work by assisting those within our women's community.

Sharon E Stanton
Matrix Guild Events Coordinator.



Domestic Violence in Lesbian Relationships

Belinda Morris

Contrary to common perception, domestic violence is not an exclusively heterosexual affliction. Whilst data is still somewhat limited, many studies have claimed a high prevalence of violence within lesbian and gay relationships, some stating that the incidence rates are comparable to DV within heterosexual relationships – although others vehemently contest this. Regardless of the statistics, same-sex domestic violence is clearly an issue which needs to be addressed.

As with other ‘double disadvantage’ issues such as CALD and women with disabilities, the problem is often seen as being someone else’s responsibility, with many lesbian and gay advocacy services unequipped to deal with family violence concerns, and some DV services unsure of the issues which are unique to survivors of same-sex domestic violence. As a consequence, there is a paucity of adequate support services.

As workers in the family violence field, it is important that we know of appropriate organisations to refer clients to for their specific requirements, but it is also imperative that we make an effort to understand the diversity of issues which clients may be dealing with. As a starting point, it should not be assumed that all of the women utilising our services are heterosexual.

The following information is compiled from recent resources on domestic violence within same-sex relationships, and the references below – while by no means a comprehensive list – are a source of much greater detail.

Domestic violence in lesbian relationships has many commonalities with violence in heterosexual relationships, in that it can range from physical and sexual violence to psychological, emotional, or economic abuse, may be a gradual escalation of abusive behaviours, erodes the self confidence and independence of the victim, and isolates her from supportive friends and family.

However there are also forms of DV, and ramifications of it, which are unique to lesbian relationships. Some of these abusive practices include:

Threatening to ‘out’ a partner to family or workmates who may not know she is a lesbian.

Telling the abused woman that she will lose custody of the children as a result of being ‘outed’, or access to children if she leaves.

Stating that no one will help because the legal justice system is homophobic.

Convincing a partner she will be ostracised from the lesbian community.

Using sexuality as a means to isolate a partner from family and friends.

Telling the victim she deserves it because she is a lesbian – this type of abuse is indicative of internalised homophobia or self-hatred by an abuser.

Telling a woman that the behaviour is normal within lesbian relationships and that she does not understand because of heterosexism.

Not allowing an abused partner the privacy to see health professionals, support workers etc on her own, perhaps instead ‘posing’ as a supportive friend or sister.

Reluctance to Disclose

Many lesbians who are/have been the victims of DV are even more reluctant to disclose their experiences than women who have been abused by male partners. One reason for this is fear of being viewed as a traitor, and ostracised from the

lesbian community. Another is the desperation not to reveal a situation they believe would fuel society's hatred for lesbians. Many survivors have been made to feel guilty for betraying their community by exposing this taboo. Others may believe that their sexuality, and others' acceptance of it, is dependent on this relationship. They may also believe that service providers will not understand or accept them, and that they will be unable to offer adequate assistance.

Disclosing intimate partner violence can be extremely difficult for anyone. In many circumstances, discussing one's sexuality with a stranger can be fraught with trepidation. Lesbian survivors of domestic violence face a double disclosure when they seek support, potentially making the experience seem more harrowing.

Because of homophobic attitudes, and a general lack of understanding, a lot of lesbians are not comfortable disclosing their sexuality to health care workers, police etc, and therefore feel unable to broach with them issues regarding their relationship. They may worry that their sexuality will be seen as the problem rather than the violence.

Homophobic assumptions by workers can lead to damaging misconceptions, including the notion that the perpetrator must be the 'man' or 'butch' and the victim must be the 'woman' or 'femme', in emulation of heterosexual relationships; that it must be mutual abuse, with each perpetrating equally; and that same-sex partner violence is not as severe as when a woman is abused by a man.

As support workers we must be mindful of the possibility of same-sex domestic violence. We need to indicate to clients that the service is willing and able to address the issue, by the usual methods such as asking questions which show a readiness to discuss, mentioning it in service material and displaying relevant pamphlets.

Further Information

Another Closet: Domestic Violence in Gay and Lesbian Relationships
www.ssdv.acon.org.au/

ACON's Lesbian and Gay Anti-Violence Project

<http://avp.acon.org.au>

aardvark.org: An Abuse, Rape and Domestic Violence Aid and Resource Collection
www.aardvarc.org/dv/gay.shtml

A Comparison of the Police Response to Heterosexual Versus Same-Sex Intimate Partner Violence (2007) Pattavina, A., Hirschel, D., Buzawa, E., Faggiani, D. and Bentley, H. *Violence Against Women* 13 Sage Publications

Comparing Domestic Abuse in Same Sex and Heterosexual Relationships (2006) Donovan, C., Hester, M., Holmes, J. & McCarry, M. University of Sunderland and University of Bristol

Domestic Violence in Gay and Lesbian Relationships (2005) Chan, C. *Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse Topic Paper*

Intimate Betrayal: Domestic Violence in Lesbian Relationships (2001) Kaschak, E. Haworth Press

No More Secrets: Violence in Lesbian Relationships (2002) Ristock, J. Routledge

Prevalence of Domestic Violence among Lesbians and Gay Men (2003) Henderson, L. London: Sigma Research.

Towards a Feminist Analysis of Lesbian Relationship Violence (2004) Bird, K. available from: www.ssdv.acon.org.au/providerinfo/researchpublications.php

Kara House Lesbian Domestic Violence Outreach Centre

Email Karahouse@infoxchange.net.au

National Centre for Lesbian Rights

Dorothy L. (Del) Martin (May 5, 1921 – August 27, 2008)

Died on Wednesday, August 27, 2008 at UCSF Hospice, San Francisco, California. ...

An eloquent organizer for civil rights, civil liberties, and human dignity, Del Martin created and helped shape the

modern lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) and feminist movements. She was a woman of extraordinary courage, persistence, intelligence, humour, and fundamental decency, who refused to be silenced by fear and never stopped fighting for equality. Her last public political act, on June 16, 2008, was to marry Phyllis Lyon, her partner of 55 years. They were the first couple to wed in San Francisco after the California Supreme Court recognized that marriage for same-sex couples is a fundamental right in a case brought by plaintiffs including Martin and Lyon.

Born in San Francisco on May 5, 1921, Dorothy L. Taliaferro, or Del as she would come to be known, was salutatorian of the first graduating class of George Washington High School and went on to study journalism at the University of California at Berkeley. At 19, after transferring to San Francisco State College (now San Francisco State University), she married James Martin and two years later gave birth to their daughter Kendra. The marriage ended in divorce. Del Martin met the love of her life, Phyllis Lyon, in Seattle in 1950 when they worked for the same publication company. They became lovers in 1952 and formalized their partnership on Valentine's Day in 1953 when they moved in together in San Francisco. In 1955, they bought the small home that has been theirs ever since. In what would prove to be an act that would change history, Martin, Lyon, and six other lesbians co-founded the Daughters of Bilitis (DOB) in San Francisco in 1955. DOB, which was named after an obscure book of lesbian love poetry, initially was organized to provide secret mutual support and social activities. It became the first public and political lesbian rights organization in the United States, laying a foundation for the women's and lesbian and gay liberation movements that flowered in the early 1970s and continue today. Del Martin used her writing and speaking talents to challenge misconceptions about gender and sexuality.

"We were fighting the church, the couch, and the courts," she often remembered years later, naming the array of social and cultural forces early activists confronted when homosexuals were treated as immoral, mentally ill, and illegal. As the first President of DOB, she penned stirring calls to arms. "Nothing was ever accomplished by hiding in a dark corner. Why not discard the hermitage for the heritage that awaits any red-blooded American woman who dares to claim it?"

She was the second editor (after Phyllis Lyon) of DOB's groundbreaking monthly magazine, *The Ladder*, from 1960 to 1962 and ushered in a new decade of political engagement and media visibility for the nascent gay rights movement. *The Ladder* grew from a mimeographed newsletter in 1956 to an internationally recognized magazine with thousands of subscribers

by 1970, and thousands more readers who copied its contents or circulated it among friends and co-workers. Martin's many contributions to *The Ladder* ranged from short stories to editorials to missives: one of the most famous is "If That's All There Is," a searing condemnation of sexism in the gay rights movement written in 1970. Due to Martin's influence, *The Ladder* provided one of the few media outlets confronting misogyny in the decade before the rebirth of women's liberation.

In 1964, Del Martin was part of a group that founded the Council on Religion and the Homosexual in order to lobby city lawmakers more effectively to reduce police harassment and modify the sex laws that criminalized homosexual behaviour. In later years, Martin was also a founding member of the Lesbian Mother's Union, the San Francisco Women's Centres, and the Bay Area Women's Coalition, among other organizations. As an early member of the National Organization for Women (NOW), Del Martin worked to counter homophobia within the women's movement – fear of the so-called "lavender menace." She and Lyon were the first lesbians to insist on joining with a "couples' membership rate" and Martin was the first out lesbian on NOW's Board of Directors. Their efforts helped to insure the inclusion of lesbian rights on NOW's agenda in the early 1970's. *Lesbian/Woman*, the book they co-authored in 1972, is one of Martin and Lyon's landmark accomplishments. The book described lesbian lives in a positive, knowledgeable way almost unknown at the time. In 1992,

Publishers Weekly chose it as one of the 20 most influential women's books of the last 20 years.

For many years, Del Martin was a leader in the campaign to persuade the American Psychiatric Association to declare that homosexuality was not a mental illness. This goal was finally achieved in 1973. Del Martin's publication of *Battered Wives* in 1976 was a major catalyst for the movement against domestic violence. Martin became a nationally known advocate for battered women, and was a co-founder of the Coalition for Justice for Battered Women (1975), *La Casa de las Madres* (a shelter for battered women) founded in 1976, and the California Coalition against Domestic Violence (1977). She lectured at colleges and universities around the country. Martin received her doctorate from the Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality in 1987. Martin's keen political instincts and interests extended her influence into the mainstream Democratic Party. She and Lyon were co-founders, in 1972, of the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club, the first gay political club in the United States. Martin was appointed Chair of the San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women in

1976 and served on the committee until 1979. She worked as a member of many other councils and boards including the San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women. Throughout the years, many politicians recognized their stature as community leaders and sought advice and endorsement from Martin and Lyon. It is difficult to separate Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon and write about only one of them. Their lives and their work have intertwined and their enduring dedication to social justice has been recognized many times. In 1979, local health care providers established a clinic to give lesbians in the San Francisco Bay area access to non-judgemental, affordable health care and named it Lyon-Martin Health Services in their honour. In 1990, the American Civil

Liberties Union (ACLU) of Northern California awarded the couple with its highest honour, the Earl Warren Civil Liberties Award. In 1995, Senator Dianne Feinstein named Martin, and Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi named Lyon, as delegates to the White House Conference on Aging, where they made headlines by using their moment at the podium to remind the 125,000 attendees that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people grow old, too, and must be included explicitly in aging policies. The Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality gave Martin and Lyon their Outstanding Public Service Award in 1996. They are among the most beloved figures in the LGBT community and have served as Grand Marshals at Pride marches across the nation and been honoured by every major LGBT organization in the country.

Del Martin identified her own legacy in 1984 when she said that her most important contribution was "being able to help make changes in the way lesbians and gay men view themselves and how the larger society views lesbians and gay men." She had the courage to be true to herself when the world offered only condemnation for lesbians. Martin showed all of us how to have what she called "self-acceptance and a good sense of my own self-worth." Del Martin never backed down from her insistence on full equality for all people and, even at 87 years old, she kept moving all of us closer to her ideal.

WIP - Petition

To: The Medical Community of the United States

From: Women In Pain

Stop the bias which prevents the ethical and equal treatment of women with chronic pain diseases - now. Women in this country have for years suffered from a destructive bias and prejudice by the medical establishment when it comes to the assessment and treatment of their chronic pain conditions.

All too often, their pain reports are discounted as "emotional," psychogenic or "all in their head," and therefore, not real. Women for their complaints of chronic pain are often prescribed sedatives to "calm their nerves" while their male counterparts are prescribed painkillers.

Multiple studies support the fact that while women are more likely to seek treatment for their chronic pain, they are also more likely to be inadequately treated by healthcare providers. This is in large part due to the provider's discount of a woman's verbal pain report and the medical profession's over emphasis placed on biological pain contributors rather than emotional or psycho-social pain contributors.

Typically, a woman expresses her pain experience in emotional terms, often describing how her chronic pain negatively impacts her family and social life. She may even cry which leads the healthcare provider, due to old cultural and social perceptions, to assess that the pain is psychologically-based without any physiological basis. This is often the plight of women afflicted with chronic pain conditions such as Fibromyalgia, reflex sympathetic dystrophy, pelvic pain and TMJ.

In the Fall of 2001, a report in the Journal of Law, Medicine and Ethics titled "[The Girl Who Cried Pain: A Bias Against Women in the Treatment of Pain](#)" (.PDF) perfectly articulated

and substantiated this endemic shortfall of pain treatment for women. It concluded, among other things, that “women’s pain reports are taken less seriously than men’s, and women receive less aggressive treatment than men for their pain.” Furthermore, an article in the New York Times (6/23/02) written by Nancy Wartik cited this report and exposed this ongoing medical scandal.

I, myself, have been an unfortunate victim of medical gender bias. My story began two and a half decades ago when I was a 21-year-old ballerina with a very bright future. Then one day I suffered a minor ballet injury that quickly turned my storybook life into a living hell. For the first thirteen years of my illness (reflex sympathetic dystrophy), my doctors, predominately male, told me my physical problems were “all in my head” while the disease progressed throughout my entire body, eventually leaving me bedridden with chronic, intractable pain.

Despite my multiple symptoms (burning, stabbing, spreading pain, limb contractures, muscle tremors and atrophy, skin discolouration, etc.), my doctors condescendingly explained away my problems as psychological. I was told that I was suffering from stage-fright, enjoying the benefits of secondary gain, or had “tendonitis from Mars.” One doctor told me I was contracting my limb with my mind just the way one levitates oneself! My medical experience is an excellent example of what women afflicted with chronic pain are often subjected to in the male-dominated medical community.

This type of treatment smacks of gender discrimination and must stop now. Women should no longer accept or tolerate second-rate treatment and condescending mind-sets which put them at risk of life-long disability or worse. The emotional and psychological traumas these practices exact are immeasurable and ultimately destructive to the spirit and soul of the sufferer.

“First, do no harm” is an oath a doctor takes as a pledge to patient care; however, harm, more often than not, is the result when it comes to treatment for women with their chronic pain diseases.

I have taken the liberty of drawing up a [Women In Pain Bill of Rights](#) to articulate what I see as essential demands for a woman suffering from chronic pain and the expectations she should have of her health care provider. Feel free to share it with others.

Thousands upon thousands of women suffer needlessly on a daily basis due to the old attitudes and gender bias which permeate the medical establishment. These practices must end now before more harm comes to those who need help most.

Please sign this petition to support the spotlighting of this crucial healthcare issue and

forward it to as many people as you can. All signatures and comments will be presented to media sources and legislators to help give this agenda the urgent attention it so desperately needs.

Thank you for your time and much-needed signature of support,

Cynthia Toussaint , Founder & Spokesperson For Grace

WIP Bill of Rights

“I have learned a great deal, the hard way, about how to manage pain that won’t go away, which includes addressing and treating the mental and emotional pain that inevitably accompanies chronic pain.”

A woman in pain has the right to:

Have her self-report of pain taken seriously, without prejudice, bias or dismissal.

Express her pain experience in its fullest context in a way that is true to her nature.

Have her pain experience equally assessed to that of a man’s.

Not have her pain experience dismissed or discounted condescendingly as “all in her head,” “hysterical,” “hormonal,” “psychogenic,” “too emotional,” etc.

Have a free and open DIALOGUE with her physician about her pain experience and its impact on all aspects of her life.

Receive treatment that is consistent with current pain management standards.

Be treated by a physician enlightened to the fact that women and men experience pain differently.

Challenge her physician about diagnosis and prescribed treatments without fear of being labelled “hostile” or “difficult.”

Be treated in a clinical setting which understands and appreciates pain as a mind/body experience and accepts that emotional overlay (depression, anxiety, etc.), secondary to the organic cause, can adversely affect pain level.

Seek relief by whatever means is most effective, be it alternative, complementary, traditional Western or by other treatment regimen.

FOR YOUR PERUSAL

LINTON ESTATE

Ageing with dignity regardless of sexual preference is everyone’s right.

The first premier gay, lesbian & transgender retirement haven in Ballan Victoria.

A retirement haven tolerant of all.

Register your interest online now:

www.lintonestate.com.au

or post your name, mailing address & contact details to: Linton Estate,

PO Box 326, Yarraville Vic 3013

Peter Dickson has dreamed and planned for decades about a retirement community for gays, lesbians and transgender people. A conversation at a dinner party sixteen years ago inspired Peter to pursue this dream and that dream has come to fruition with the introduction of LINTON ESTATE.

Oscar Wilde wrote, *the tragedy of old age is not that one is old, but that one is young!*

The tragedy of old age in Australia for the gay community is an ever increasing problem and there is increasing evidence among the Australian gay population that there are major concerns that a growing number within the gay, lesbian and transgender community in particular are facing a discriminatory environment when it comes to current attitudes to ageing and the development of facilities and / or services for same sex attracted people.

Post war baby boomers have started to retire, with large numbers of openly gay, lesbian and transgender people entering old age for the first time, the emerging questions is raised, what is going to happen to this once invisible group of people in their old age? Never have there been so many people heading into retirement age in Australia, and baby boomers are on the move from sea changes, to tree changes they are moving out in abundance out of the cities, and facing their future, the questions arise will they eventually be forced to submit to old institutions, draining the colour and freedom from their lives. Or will they continue to live the life they have enjoyed as a life choice like minded people to surround themselves with. The answer is LINTON ESTATE, a \$26 million project with 120 single storey independent living units, a village mini bus, 24/7 emergency system, tennis court, bowling green, club house, the first premier gay, lesbian and transgender retirement haven will be environment friendly – with solar HWS, grey water systems, water tanks, solar power, storm water lake and creek, it also boasts an open air theatre for twilight concerts. It is situated in the town of Ballan in Victoria in the Shire of Moorabool, a 60 minute drive from Melbourne CBD.

Residents will acquire a residence right in the form of a long term lease to occupy a villa unit and use the facilities of the Retirement Haven in common with other residents for the life of the resident unless the lease is terminated earlier by the resident or because the resident is no longer capable of living in the villa or is in breach of the rules and regulations of the Village. Leases will be available for purchase “off the plan” or on completion of the village. If purchasing off the plan, the purchaser will pay a deposit and enter into an Agreement for Lease with the operator which commits both parties to enter into a lease of the villa unit which commences on completion of the Village. In return for the grant of the lease for life, residents will pay: an ingoing contribution incorporating non-refundable (lease premium) and refundable components; a deferred management fee; the usual service charges and contribution to the maintenance of the village. The lease will set out the obligations of the operator to properly operate the village and provide the agreed services together with the resident’s obligations in relation to occupancy of the villa unit and the use of the village facilities. The refundable component of the ingoing contribution is protected by a statutory charge under the Victorian Retirement Villages Act 1986.

SHE BAR - Women Only Events
2nd and 4th Saturday Every Month

Fun and friendly atmosphere with regular live acts, female DJs and special events.

BENDIGO HOTEL 125 Johnston Street, Collingwood.
www.shebar.org - Call Sharon & Andrea 0419 992 066

<http://www.SameSame.com.au>

GAY & LESBIAN COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

For a comprehensive list of upcoming events visit the Gay & Lesbian
Community Events Calendar at <http://www.glcec.20m.com>

**FOR PHOTOS AND INFORMATION ABOUT OUR EVENTS, FOR BACK
COPIES OF NEWSLETTERS, AND FULL UPDATES OF THE MATRIX
RESEARCH PROJECT REFER TO**

THE MATRIX WEB PAGE

www.matrixguildvic.org.au

Thanks to Pat Mitchell for designing, producing and keeping the page up to date

Matrix Guild Victoria Inc

A voice for older lesbians

Matrix Guild was founded by and for the benefit of lesbians over forty years of age. We are committed to the support of appropriate care and alternative lifestyle options for older lesbians in Victoria.

Matrix Guild was founded by a group of lesbians and it was incorporated in September 1992. The visions and aims of these women were to raise money to assist older/ disabled lesbians.

Matrix Guild Statement of Purposes

The Guild is established for the public charitable purposes of the relief of poverty, helplessness and suffering of women, and in particular lesbians, by without limitation providing home based services and accommodation to aged, disadvantaged and disabled women.

As an incidental and ancillary purpose, the Guild may provide training and education to home care providers on issues relevant to caring for lesbians to increase the sensitivities of the carers and the standard of home care to lesbians.

Do you want to support Matrix? Here's what you can do.

- Attend Matrix Guild fundraisers.
 - Include Matrix Guild Victoria Inc as a beneficiary in your will. Phone Jane Kent on 03 9309 5896 or 0438 411 441 for information on how to go about it.
 - Become a financial member.
-

If you would like to make a tax deductible donation to Matrix Guild

You will receive a receipt from Matrix, with our
ABN number on it, that states
the receipt is for a tax deductible gift for
Matrix Guild Benevolent Services.

Application/Renewal Matrix Guild Membership

Yearly fee period from Annual General Meeting (Aug/Sept)

Full membership: \$20 waged / \$15 concession

Organisation membership: \$50 (or donation)

Send to: The Secretary, PO Box 99 Fairfield, Vic 3078

Name:

Address:

Phone:

This is a renewal / new membership.

I agree / do not agree to my name and details as listed above being made available to Matrix Guild members.

Signature:

Date: