

---

February 2023 - Newsletter

---

# Three Sisters Social Group

Box 7074 LEURA NSW 2780

[www.threesisterssocial.asn.au](http://www.threesisterssocial.asn.au)

[info@threesisterssocial.asn.au](mailto:info@threesisterssocial.asn.au)

[bookings@threesisterssocial.asn.au](mailto:bookings@threesisterssocial.asn.au)

## Committee

President: Terence Preeo - [president@threesisterssocial.asn.au](mailto:president@threesisterssocial.asn.au)

Vice-president: John Wilson - [vice-president@threesisterssocial.asn.au](mailto:vice-president@threesisterssocial.asn.au)

Secretary: Larry Singer - [secretary@threesisterssocial.asn.au](mailto:secretary@threesisterssocial.asn.au)

Treasurer: Allan Kerr - [treasurer@threesisterssocial.asn.au](mailto:treasurer@threesisterssocial.asn.au)

Committee members: Thomas Naylor, Rick Hawthorne



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly **DINNER**

### **Canton Palace**

**7 Station St  
Wentworth Falls**

**7pm Tuesday  
14 February 2023**

**Banquet  
Price \$45**

**Reservations: by the Sunday  
evening prior**

[bookings@threesisterssocial.asn.au](mailto:bookings@threesisterssocial.asn.au)

## *WorldPride Luncheon*

### **The Grandview Hotel**

**Great Western Highway  
Wentworth Falls.**

**12pm Tuesday  
28 February 2023**

**A choice of main course and  
dessert**

**Price: \$37**

**Reservations: by the Sunday  
evening prior**

[bookings@threesisterssocial.asn.au](mailto:bookings@threesisterssocial.asn.au)

Dear Friends

It's almost February, it's the last day of January as I write. The 'lazy' month has passed. The time to recharge the batteries has been and gone.

That's the story we have been fed for many a year. I call that nonsense. Retirement is a time to smell the roses. Well, my roses are swamped by weeds, the grass (it's not lawn) is ankle deep. Neglect is rampant. Life is non-stop and January is just another month. I have been told, quite often, that my story is not unique.

February may, or may not, be calmer.

"On the Catwalk" went on general sale today. The initial feeling is that it will sell out quickly.

The Three Sisters calendar is filling up and we are planning a few surprises. So maybe February won't be as calm as desired.

I suppose with Mardi Gras sprinkling its fairy dust later in the month and WorldPride bursting out in March, one will be tempted by their sundry delights. We'll have to see.

WorldPride seems to have caught me by surprise. Our mountain eyrie appears to be somewhat above the city shenanigans. However, it is going to be an amazing event which aims to promote and advocate for LGBTQIA+ human rights around the world.

We will be celebrating WorldPride in our own little way. This month's luncheon and next month's dinner have been renamed in its honour.

As I perused the various programs available in February/March, I marvelled just how far our community has come in its tolerance and acceptance of the other. "All the World is Queer" wrote Dickens. Little did he know.

On our journey, a long journey for some of us, we tend not to have noticed the changes and advances that our community has made. Sometimes we feel a tad remote from it all.

One aspect that we may find challenging in our changing world is the rise of awareness of individual identity. Sometimes encountering the self-awareness and confidence of those going through their journey can be a bit confusing.

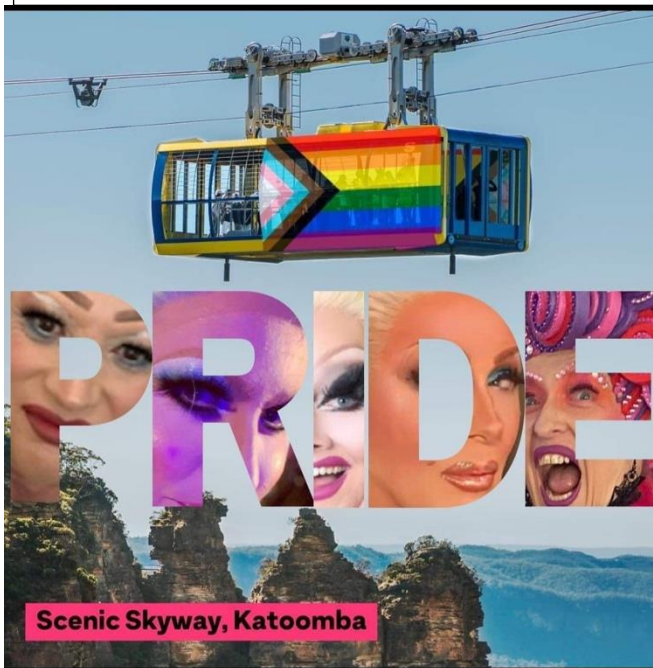
Larry has written clear and lucid article in this newsletter about the modern world of difference and identity and how to address this in a social setting. I strongly commend it to you.

Stay safe

Terry

## WorldPride Comes to the Blue Mountains

In case you've missed it, WorldPride will be held in Sydney in March. Not to miss out, WP is coming to the Blue Mountains.



### Scenic WorldPride!

**We're thrilled to be able to host a weekend of celebration as part of WorldPride Amplified.**

Take a ride on the world's steepest train with a drag king. Have your face painted in the rainbow and enjoy a burlesque show. Strut the runway of the Progress Skyway with a drag queen. And musical acts, burlesque dancers and more! Enjoy unlimited rides across the site. All included within the regular Unlimited Discovery Pass ticket/price.

18-19 Feb 2023 // [scenicworld.com.au/worldpride](https://scenicworld.com.au/worldpride)



## **On the Catwalk.**

We are excited to announce that On the Catwalk will be held at the Carrington, Katoomba.

The Carrington is a marvelous venue, steeped in history and having a unique style of its own. A style that our community can well match, or outdo.

### **Tickets**

Tickets will go on sale on 1 February, 2023, from the Carrington Hotel, 02 4782 1111.

Ticket price is \$195.

**For full details go to our web site.**

Three Sisters <https://www.threesisterssocial.asn.au/>

## **Inspiration for the Artwork for On the Catwalk**

We took our inspiration for the the Artwork from the fabulous designer Thierry Mugler which was reimaged by our fabulous graphic designer, Dani.

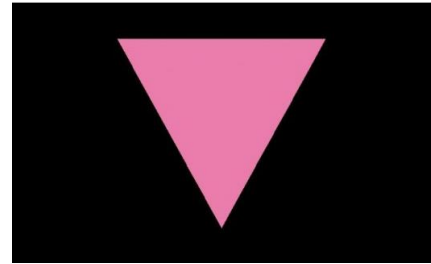
Just search for Thierry Mugler Vintage for an eyefull. The link was too big to put here.

## Beyond Gay

On the eve of Sydney WorldPride we live in a different world to that many of us grew up in. When we were coming to terms with our sexuality it was all about coming out as gay, camp, queer or homosexual, terms were used by both men and women.

During the 1980s women started to use the term lesbian in preference to gay. Sydney Gay Mardi Gras became Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras. We also saw the emergence of LGBT and GLBT, used interchangeably.

The 1980s were also significant in that homosexuality was decriminalised in many states. However, we saw the emergence of AIDS and HIV, which devastated our community.



Stonewall is considered the birth of the modern gay rights movement. It served as a focus for the rights movement and a rallying point for action. Many of us fought for the legal right to have sex and we have won those rights in most countries around the world. We have fought for the right not to be discriminated against and have gained acceptance almost everywhere in Australia. We have fought for marriage rights, which we now have in 33 countries. These reforms have led to gay men and lesbians becoming more and more visible so that being gay or lesbian in Australia is now seen as "normal" in many places.

Having achieved so much that we fought for we now live in the world we could only imagine 30, 50 or more years ago. Many young people no longer need to come out because they have never had to hide in their closets. They are able to be open about their sexuality without fear.

But our community encompasses more than just lesbian and gay. Transgender people, for instance, have always been an important part of our community. We have always embraced both gender and sexual diversity.

The old binary categories are no longer adequate. Our language is evolving, and we are seeing many different terms to describe sexuality and gender identity. People are finding terms that describe better how they identify, such as asexual, pansexual and gender non-binary. People with these identities are becoming more visible, including high profile people such as pop stars.



Some people are no longer comfortable being she/her or he/him. They do not identify with either gender strongly, so prefer the pronouns they/them or ze/hir, etc. Others may use different pronouns at different times. Using a person's preferred pronouns shows respect.

It can be difficult to change our habits and use someone's preferred pronouns. Most people don't mind honest mistakes if they see you are trying. Simply apologise and move on.

It is amazing to live in a country where we can (mostly) be who we want to be, love who we want to love and present how we want to present without fear. Other parts of the world

are not as enlightened. While WorldPride is a celebration of how far we have come, it is also showing support to those places where people are still struggling for these rights.



Join the Three Sisters at bentART Trivia.

BentART and the Three Sisters have a long association having provided a consummate queer experience over the June Long Weekend for the LGBTIQ community. The bentART art exhibition has been an integral part of the then Queen's and now King's Birthday long weekend festivities.

The Three Sisters is proud of our sponsorship of this wonderful annual event.

We generally host a table at the annual trivia and will love members and friends to join us in April. We will have more information in the next newsletter.

### **Trivia**

**When: Sunday, 30th April 2023**

**Time: 2 pm – 5 pm**

**Where: RSL Katoomba (Auditorium), 86 Lurline St Katoomba**

**Cost: \$20 members, \$25 non-members**

**More information at <https://bentart.com.au/events/>**

As part of the fund-raising events bentART has also arranged the following activity:

### **Sip and Learn to Paint for non-artists**

**When: Saturday, 4th February 2023**

**Time: 2 pm – 5 pm**

**Where: Blackheath RSL, 2 Bundarra St, Blackheath**

**Cost: \$50 for members, \$60 for non-members**

**Art supplies and equipment provided**

# Happy Snap

Luncheon 24 January 2023.

A wonderful luncheon in our very own room at the Grandview Hotel, Wentworth Falls.

