

1995

A chronology of LGBTIQ+ communities and movements in Sydney from 1969 to 2018

Updated on 6/10/2019

Date	Location (if not Sydney)	Event	Reference
January 1995		The Lesbian Space Project's (LSP) new Committee affirms its intentions to buy a building.	SSO 254
3 January 1995		Mardi Gras relocates to 21-23 Erskineville Road, Newtown.	SSO 250
13 January 1995	Gundagai	The body of bushranger Captain Moonlight (Andrew George Scott) is exhumed from Rookwood Cemetery and re-buried near where the body of accomplice James Nesbitt was placed in accordance with the bushranger's last wish.	SSO 253
18-19 January 1995		Roman Catholic gay and lesbian group, Acceptance, refuses to celebrate Pope John Paul II's visit to Sydney because of his anti-homosexual statements.	CQ 120
February 1995		The NSW Education Minister releases an anti-discrimination policy for schools which addresses lesbian and gay and HIV status harassment and vilification.	SSO 253
February 1995		The experimental anti-viral drug 3TC, for people with a low CD-4 cell count, is made available under the Special Access Scheme.	SSO 255
February 1995		An AGB McNair survey of attitudes of people in Sydney show that 58% thought it was "right" to have a homosexual relationship, 31% thought it was wrong and 11% were undecided.	SSO 256
February 1995		The Office of Film and Literature Classification bans <i>In a Glass Cage</i> an entry in the 1995 Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras (SGLMG) Film Festival.	CQ 123
February 1995		Redfern Legal Centre publishes the 5 th edition of the NSW Law Handbook with a chapter on lesbian and gay relationships.	CQ 123
February 1995	London	Rupert Everett comes out in the February issue of <i>attitude</i> .	CQ 125
February 1995		The first sexual health information booklet for lesbians is produced by the Women and AIDS Project at ACON.	CQ 126
February 1995		Tennis Sydney reverses its ban on tranny Linda Ferner and allows her to compete at the Mardi Gras Sports Festival.	CQ 126



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February 1995		A gay man is awarded compensation from a doctor who denied him treatment because he refused to undergo a HIV test in 1991.	CQ 127
February 1995		A 17-year-old former High School student is Sydney's western suburbs brings a claim of homophobia against his school to the Anti-Discrimination Board.	CQ 127
3 February 1995		A crowd of more than 5,000 gather on the forecourt of the Museum of Contemporary Art to launch the 1995 SGLMG Festival.	SSO 254
3 February 1995		Solicitor John Marsden welcomes Colin John Fisk's retraction of a statement he made to police that he was a paedophile.	CQ 124
8 February 1995		The first edition of <i>blue</i> with photos of Ian Roberts, Manly Rugby League footballer goes on sale.	CQ 123
12 February 1995		SGLMG Fair Day is held at Jubilee Park, Glebe.	SSO 254
14 February 1995		Perverts Against Sexual Hypocrisy: Out Now's (PASHON) "kiss in" at Taylor Square aims to draw attention to positive sexuality, the need for legal recognition for gay and lesbian relationships and an equal age of consent for everyone.	SSO 255
20 February 1995		St Vincent's Hospital opens its new AIDS unit	SSO 255
March 1995		<i>The School Watch Report – A Study into Anti-Lesbian and Anti-Gay Harassment and Violence</i> is launched at Randwick Boy's High School by the NSW Minister of Education	SSO 256
March 1995		8 members of the Australian Defence Forces have had their applications for recognition of their de facto lesbian and gay relationships refused, despite the ban on homosexuals being lifted in 1993.	SSO 257
March 1995		The Advertising Standards Council investigates complaints against a community advertisement for the Gay and Lesbian Counselling Service which features same sex couples kissing	CQ 129
2 March 1995		Gay and Lesbian Teachers and Students splits as two Executive Committees seek to take control of the Association.	SSO 257

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4 March 1995		Rains keep crowds to 150,000 for the 18 th SGLMG Parade, but 4,000 with 140 entries march to the Showgrounds where 20,000 party was described as the best one ever.	SSO 256
5 March 1995		The ABC telecasts the coverage of the SGLMG parade on Sunday. It includes personalities, Julian Clary, Elle McFeast and Julie McCrossin.	CQ 124 SSO 256
27 March 1995		Gay and Lesbian Assault Survivors create a forum to share information and support.	SSO 257
April 1995		Team Sydney announces plans to send 200 participants to the 1998 Gay Games in Amsterdam	SSO 258
April 1995		An agreement between the NSW Government, the NSW Labor Council and the Employers' Federation of NSW) that gay and lesbian couples will be included as "families" for the purposes of Family Leave, is registered at the NSW Industrial Relations Commission (NSW IRC).	SSO 259
April 1995		Penrith's lesbian owned nightclub, <i>Nautilus</i> collapses	SSO 259
April 1995		The Gay and Lesbian Electoral Lobby forms to provide electoral action on gay and lesbian community issues.	CQ 133
1 April 1995		Independent MP Clover Moore is returned to office, defeating ALP candidate, Susan Harben in the NSW State Elections	SSO 258
6 April 1995		Bruce Pollack, director and a founder of the AIDS Trust of Australia fundraising arm, steps down after 7 years.	SSO 259
8 April 1995	Lismore	The Gay and Lesbian Road Show begins a tour of rural NSW to resource local organisations and hold public forums.	CQ 132
28 April 1995		A new information kit to help prevent discrimination against people with HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis B and C, is launched by the NSW Department of Community Services.	CQ 136
May 1995		Dennis Watkins is appointed SGLMG Festival Director.	CQ 138
May 1995	Melbourne	Greg Brown is denied spousal benefits from his late partner's, Commonwealth Superannuation Fund.	CQ 138
May 1995		Darlinghurst Patrol folds.	CQ 138
May 1995		Telstra launches a series of advertisements aimed specifically at the gay and lesbian community – "So glad you're there".	CQ 140
May 1995		BGF Secretary, Ian Malloy announces a \$188,384 operating loss for 1994.	CQ 140



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6 May 1995		The Queer Youth Cultural Coalition organises a one-day literary workshop for young gays and lesbians interested in writing plays, poetry, songs and short stories.	CQ 135
10 May 1995		Lezbiz (Lesbians in Business) holds its inaugural breakfast for 25 Sydney businesswomen	SSO 261
12 May 1995		The NSW IRC extends paid leave to employees to care for their same sex partners.	SSO 261
14 May 1995		15,000 gather for the 12 th Annual International Candlelight AIDS Memorial procession from Darlinghurst to the Domain.	SSO 261
18 May 1995	Canberra	Federal Justice Minister, Duncan Kerr announces an inquiry into discrimination against lesbians and gay men to be held under the auspices of the Human Rights and Discrimination Law Centre.	SSO 261
22 May 1995		<i>Squishy</i> - an exhibition of works of the UNSW College of Fine Arts inaugural Lesbian and Gay Theory Class is held at the ARTHAUS Gallery in Newtown.	SSO 261
27 May 1995		Clover Moore MP convenes her first gay and lesbian forum to consult with the gay and lesbian community	SSO 262
June 1995		Lesbian Line is given notice to quit the Everywoman's Health Centre in Leichhardt in July after it is announced that the Centre would be sold.	SSO 263
June 1995	Gold Coast	The Governor General, Bill Hayden calls for lesbian and gay adoption rights, the recognition of homosexual relationships and the legalisation of active euthanasia in a speech to the Australasian College of Physicians.	SSO 264
June 1995		Tony Keen steps down from the Presidency of AFAO and is succeeded by Bill O'Loughlin.	CQ 136
June 1995		Westpac agrees to extend family leave to employees who are in a de facto relationship with a person of the same sex.	CQ 141
June 1995		An Australian Centre for Lesbian and Gay Research forum <i>Less than the Sum of Us: Representations of Homosexuality on the Australian Screen</i> is held at the Pitt Centre Cinema	CQ 143
June 1995		The Anti-Violence Project (AVP) launches a training project aimed at reducing the level and impact of violence against lesbians.	CQ 143

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June 1995	Canberra	The Australian Council for Lesbian and Gay Rights (ACLGR) meets in Canberra and pursues a range of issues with federal parliamentarians.	CQ 144
7 June 1995		The NSW Attorney-General announces that his Criminal Law Review Division will conduct a formal examination of the so-called 'homosexual panic defence'.	SSO 262
9 June 1995		Ozbears winds up, five years after it was founded.	CQ 138
19 June 1995		South Sydney Council's Local Environment Plan, which aims to reinforce Oxford Street's gay and lesbian identity, is presented to the Council's gay and lesbian community consultation committee.	CQ 140
25 June 1995		The PRIDE Sydney Lesbian and Gay Community Centre at 26 Hutchinson Street, Surry Hills is opened by Federal MP Peter Baldwin and the State MP Clover Moore with an afternoon of celebration	SSO 263
30 June 1995		<i>Out and Out</i> , the national gay and lesbian radio program folds due to lack of funding.	CQ 140
July 1995		The NSW Government signs over 75% of the Royal Agricultural Showground to Fox Studios.	SSO 265
3 July 1995		NSW Premier Bob Carr announces that his government is committed only to specific homosexual reforms – clarifying property transfers during inheritance and hospital access when there is a same sex partner dying in hospital.	SSO 265
3 July 1995	Canberra	The Federal Department of Immigration introduces changes to its "Interdependency" visa category which grants lesbians and gay men applying for off shore migration, the same rights as heterosexual de facto spouses.	CQ 143
7 July 1995	Canberra	Federal Defence Minister Robert Ray objects to the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (HREOC) ruling that the army had unlawfully discriminated against a HIV positive soldier.	CQ146
8 July 1995		Bev Lange is elected President of SGLMG.	SSO 265
10-14 July 1995	Melbourne	Queer Collaborations draws 200 students from across Australia for a week of workshops, plenaries and social activities.	CQ 147



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15 July 1995		SGLMG announces a \$167,000 loss and staff cuts and lower production budgets for Sleaze and Mardi Gras parties.	SSO 265
20 July 1995		The Equal Opportunity Tribunal rules that Newcastle couple, Andrew Hope and Bill Brown and their son are entitled to family cover from their health insurer, NIB Health Fund.	SSO 266
25 July 1995		Dykes on Bikes Inc votes in favour of having transgender members.	SSO 266
30 July 1995		The Gay and Lesbian Business Association (GLBA) holds its first Conference <i>Business in the gay Nineties</i> .	SSO 267
August 1995		Sydney's gay saunas and backrooms announce they will sign a voluntary code of conduct to set minimum safe sex, hygiene, safety and staff awareness standards.	SSO 267
August 1995		Bronte Morris is appointed Executive Director of the Pride Centre.	CQ 151
2 August 1995		<i>As long as I've got my doona</i> – a report by 2010 on youth homelessness is co-launched by the NSW Community Service Minister.	SSO 267
6 August 1995		Enola Gay Group participates in a march to commemorate the 50 th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and lesbian activist Zohl de Ishtar later joins a protest ship bound for Mururoa, the French nuclear testing site.	CQ 150
8 August 1995		NSW employers are obliged by law to eliminate discriminatory provisions in partner benefits in all awards and agreements.	CQ 149
12 August 1995		Positive Relief organises a forum to address poverty of people living with HIV/AIDS.	CQ 151
16 August 1995	Melbourne	The 20 th Anniversary of the first National Homosexual Conference is marked with the launch of an information kit focusing on the major milestones of gay and lesbian history in Australia.	CQ 151
26-27 August 1995		<i>Queerlit 95</i> Australia's largest lesbian and gay literary event is held at Rozelle Writers' Centre.	SSO 267
27 August 1995		200 protest against the Fox Corporation's planned development of the Royal Agricultural Showground and the absence of a transparent planning and consent process.	SSO 269
31 August 1995		The South Pacific Motor Club (SPMC) folds after 25 years	CQ 151



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September 1995		The results of a major US HIV drug treatments trial, challenges the effectiveness of using AZT on its own.	SSO 270
September 1995		The words "sexual orientation" is omitted from the Platform for Action document at the Beijing World Conference on Women.	SSO 270
September 1995	Canberra	The Prime Minister, Paul Keating announces Federal Government funding and implementation of the 3 rd National HIV/AIDS Strategy from June 1996.	CQ 157
September 1995	Los Angeles	Many rugby league footballer, Ian Roberts comes out in <i>The Advocate</i> .	CQ 157
2 September 1995		The Sydney Star Observer is published weekly.	SSO 266
9 September 1995		The group, Indigenous or What (IOW) is officially launched and aims to combat myths and provide support for indigenous people living in Australia.	SSO 271
9 September 1995		Labor candidate, Greg Waters and independent candidate Councillor John Fowler are elected to the South Sydney Council.	CQ 155
9 September 1995		<i>Fur Bar</i> , a new lesbian bar opens at 274 Victoria Street, Darlinghurst.	CQ 155
29-30 September 1995		The <i>Emerging Lesbian and Gay Communities</i> Conference explores the lesbian and gay identities in the Asia-Pacific region.	SSO 270
October 1995		Fox Studio's Chief Executive announces that Fox will guarantee SGLMG access to existing spaces they currently use.	SSO 275
October 1995		The PRIDE Centre takes down any reference to lesbians and gay men from its facade after attacks and threats.	SSO 275
October 1995		PLWHA (NSW) becomes the first HIV/AIDS organisation in Australia to appoint an officer to campaign on treatments issues.	SSO 276
October 1995		Co-President Karen Smith is re-elected and Steve Auburn is elected Co-President at Pride's AGM.	CQ 160
28 October 1995		NSW Police Minister launches the NSW Police Service's Gay and Lesbian Police Employees Network which aims to provide support for gay and lesbian police.	SSO 279



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November 1995		The Federal Industrial Relations Commission extends family leave to same sex couple under Federal Awards.	CQ 166
November 1995	Tasmania	Activists take a case to the Australian High Court asking the court to find that the Federal Human Rights and Sexual Conduct Act overrides Tasmania's anti-homosexual law.	RF
2 November 1995		The Communications, Electrical, Plumbing Union steps in to support a gay member, threatened by the manager of Telstra's Paging Centre for bringing copies of the <i>Sydney Star Observer</i> to work.	SSO 277
4 November 1995		NSW Young Lawyers vote to support legislative change to recognise same sex relationships.	SSO 277
23 November 1995		2 huge red ribbons are hung from the pylons of the Sydney Harbour Bridge to encourage Australians to participate in World AIDS day.	CQ 166
24 November 1995		LSP agree to buy 43-45 Bedford Street, Newtown.	SSO 280
29 November 1995	Canberra	The Australian Democrats introduce their Sexuality Discrimination Bill into the Senate to make discrimination and vilification against gay men and lesbians unlawful.	CQ 166
30 November 1995	Canberra	Federal Health Minister Carmen Lawrence announces the government will cut the approval of anti-HIV drugs by up to 2 months.	CQ 166
December 1995		Simon Hunt submits a petition to the Office of Film and Literature Classification urging the removal of "homosexuality" from its list of "adult themes".	SSO 282
December 1995		Any major changes to the SGLMG parade, now requires development approval from the Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning rather than the South Sydney Council.	CQ 167
December 1995		Telstra is a major sponsor for the 1996 SGLMG Parade.	CQ 168
December 1995		A \$600,000 plan by the Roads and Traffic Authority to landscape Taylor Square and improve safety, is announced.	CQ 168
December 1995		Chief of the Defence Force, Lieutenant John Baker, gives approval for a support group for gays and lesbians in the Australian Defence Force (ADF) to have a float in the 1996 Mardi Gras parade.	SSO 286



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1 December 1995		The Department of Public Prosecutions clears gay solicitor, John Marsden of child sex allegations, first raised in NSW Parliament in December 1994.	SSO 281
1 December 1995	Canberra	Federal Cabinet bans people with HIV from being recruited into the Australian Defence Forces.	CQ 167
8 December 1995		Over 200 attend the <i>Representing Sexualities Conference</i> staged at Sydney University.	SSO 281
12 December 1995		The 1996 Mg Guide, with its distinctive 9 silhouette cover design by Brandon Williamson, is launched at the Powerhouse Museum.	CQ 168
14 December 1995		20 protestors greet the Federal Health Minister at an ALP fundraiser, demanding speedier approval of new AIDS treatment drugs.	SSO 283
15 December 1995		Michael Kirby is appointed to the High Court of Australian replacing Justice William Deane.	CQ 169

Sources:

SSO = Sydney Star Observer

CQ = Capital Q

RF = Robert French

Based partly on previous listings by:

- Craig Johnston
- Maurice Blackman, Lex Watson and Robert French
- Kendall Lovett, John Cozijn and Ken Davis

Brisbane: by Nick Ward and by Carol Low in association with the Qld Association for Healthy Communities LGBT History Project and the Museum of Brisbane's Prejudice and Pride exhibition and with the assistance of Clive Moore

Melbourne – by Jamie Gardiner and Graham

Hobart – by Rodney Croome and the Tasmanian Gay and Lesbian Group website

Adelaide – by David Hilliard, the late John Lee, Chris Smith, Malcolm Cowan and Dino Hodge

Perth – by Neil Roberts

Northern Territory – by Dino Hodge

