

First Mardi Gras

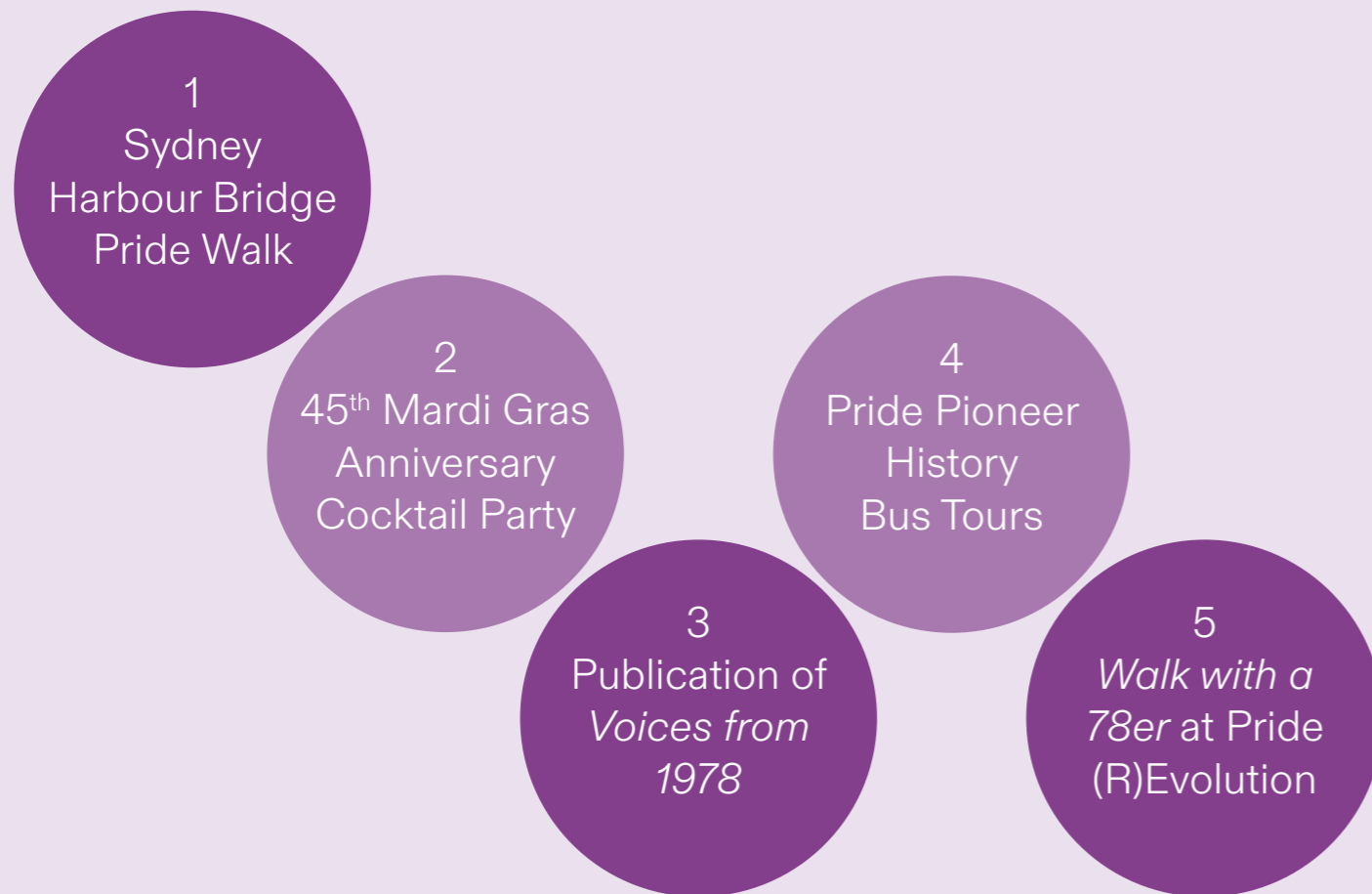
FIRST MARDI GRAS



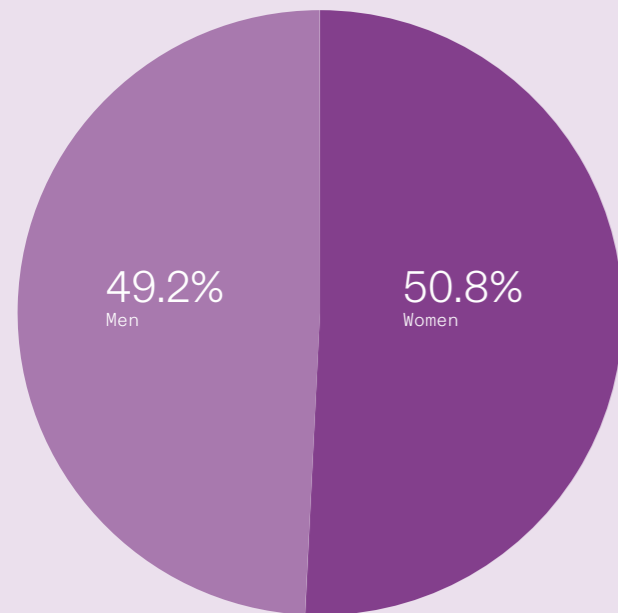
Annual Report 2023

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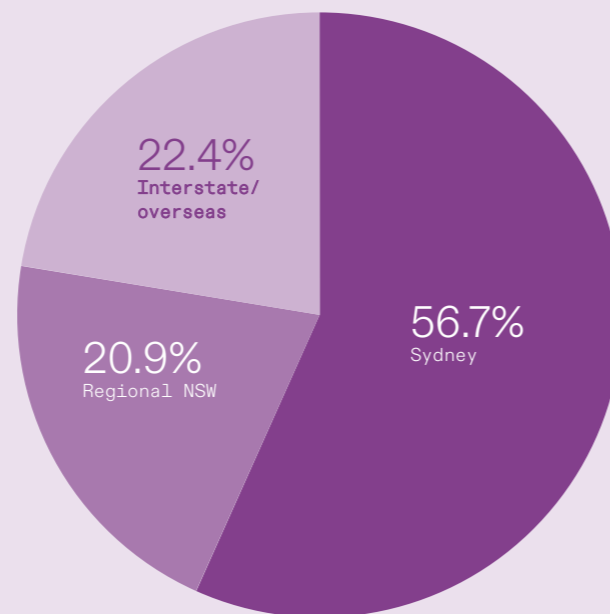
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Membership



Membership location



About First Mardi Gras Inc.

First Mardi Gras Inc. (FMG Inc.) is a not for profit, incorporated community association for 78ers, formed in April 2017.

While FMG Inc. initially focused on commemorations for the 40th anniversary of the first Sydney Gay and Lesbian Parade, over time our range of activities has significantly expanded to include:

- Public speaking and media
- Community education
- Advocacy
- Publications
- Social events.

Our Objectives

Celebrate our history

- Raise awareness of the role of 78ers as the foundation generation of Mardi Gras.
- Educate the broader community on the 42 years of LGBTIQ history that followed the first Mardi Gras.

Inspire our community

- Encourage younger LGBTIQ Australians to take collective action on issues they care about.
- Showcase the progress on LGBTIQ+ rights made in NSW and Australia in a way that can be replicated across our global community.

Fight for the future

- Increase understanding of human rights issues currently affecting LGBTIQ communities within Australia and internationally.
- As an ageing community, advocate for appropriate support and services.



1 Betty Hounslow at the book launch of *Voices from 1978*, 27.6.23
Photo William Brougham

2 Fabian LoSchiavo arriving at the 2019 Mardi Gras Parade.
Photo William Brougham

3 Ken Davis addressing the rally for LGBTIQ+ rights at CARR protest at George Pell's memorial mass. Photo Community Action for Rainbow Rights

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Highlights

FMG Inc. continued supporting campaigns against anti-LGBTIQ+ actions and injustice:

- 6 December—condemned police actions at Special Commission inquiring into historical LGBTIQI hate crimes.
- 13 December—joined with 220 organisations to condemn a climate activist’s jail sentence and new anti-protest laws.
- 2 March—Ken Davis spoke at Community Action for Rainbow Rights rally outside the Requiem Mass at St Mary’s Cathedral for Cardinal George Pell.
- 2 April—78ers marched in the Pride in Protest organised Trans Day of Visibility rally in Newtown.
- 25 June—Jesse Hooley spoke at a Trans Rights rally at Town Hall.

Key to the City—Friday 17 February

Lord Mayor Clover Moore presented Robyn Kennedy with the Key to the City—recognising Pride movement achievements since the formation of CAMP in 1970.

LGBTQ History Walk—18 February

Robert French led the 34th Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence (SPI) History Walk on Oxford Street. There was a large participation of Sisters including activists Fabian LoSchiavo and Peter Mitchell.

Fair Day—19 February

The 78ers Tent was in the thick of things this year. We had lots of visitors and sold copies of our newly printed book *Voices from 1978*.

Pride Pioneer Bus Tours—23–28 February

We conducted eight Pride Pioneer Bus Tours for local and international guests attending Sydney WorldPride. The tour was for two-hours and followed the route of the first Mardi Gras.

Cocktail Party—Thursday 23 February

Thanks to Diageo and other sponsors, we were able to hold a 45th Anniversary celebration for 78ers in a classy venue and a number of out of town 78ers were able to join us.

Opening Concert—Friday 24 February

A star-studded Sydney WorldPride Opening Concert was held at the Domain and included a powerful spoken word performance by Robyn Kennedy.

Parade—25 February

This year our Parade was back on Oxford Street after two years at the Sydney Cricket Ground. On our 45th anniversary a near record number of 78ers turned out to march.



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1 Jesse Hooley speaking at 25 June Trans Rights rally. Photo Deborah Macarthur-Newson

2 SPI History Walk, Robert French (centre), Fabian LoSchiavo (with red bag). Photo Robert French

3 Inside the 78ers tent, L-R: Robyn Kennedy, Bob Harvey, Betty Hounslow, Wanda Kluge. Photo Anne Morphet

4 Cocktail Party, L-R: Vic Smith, Amanda Holt, David Abello, Garry Case. Photo Rebell Barnes

5 Book Launch, L-R: Mel Schwerdt, Mardi Gras Director; Giovanni Campolo-Arcidiaco Mardi Gras Chair. Photo Anne Morphet

6 78ers in Parade 2023. Photo William Brougham

Human Rights Conference—1–3 March

Many 78ers attended the conference after the provision of discounted tickets. Dennis Altman and Robyn Kennedy spoke at a plenary, Diane Minnis was on a panel, and Ken Davis, Betty Hounslow and Susan Ardill facilitated roundtables.

Pride History Group Conference—

Saturday 4 March

The conference at Marrickville Library included presentations by Sallie Colechin, Ken Davis and John Witte.

Harbour Bridge Walk—5 March

50,000 people marched across the Sydney Harbour Bridge to celebrate Sydney World Pride, with 78ers as one of the first groups in the march.

Mardi Gras Sapphire Anniversary—24 June

A good number of 78ers—some who travelled to Sydney for events over the weekend—enjoyed the event and 78ers were celebrated.

78ers Drinks—25 June

Nearly 40 78ers, partners and guests gathered at Kinselas to celebrate the first Mardi Gras 45th anniversary.

Launch of Voices from 1978—27 June

Our formal launch of *Voices from 1978: The first Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras* was held at the State Library. We heard from Kate Harrison, Karl Zlotkowski and Betty Hounslow about their experiences during June, July and August 1978.



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Report from Co-Chairs

For us it was a good year, busy, but also hard, full of memorable achievements, but also losses.

2022–3 was year with new governments in Canberra and Macquarie Street, with less religious leaders, opening new possibilities to advance our freedom and equality.

Our activities associated with World Pride, and the 46th Mardi Gras in Sydney, the State Library exhibition, and then the 45th anniversary in June of the first Mardi Gras in 1978, generated highlights. These included: our new book, speaking and media engagements, involvement in the Human Rights Conference, the Harbour Bridge Walk, and being towards the front of the Parade in Oxford Street.

These activities show the hard work of our Committee and many members and volunteers. Our thanks to committee members: David Abello, Rebell Barnes, Sue Fletcher, Robyn Kennedy, Richard Thode and Karl Zlotkowski; to Barry Charles and Fiona Hulme, Membership Coordinators, Sandra Gobbo, Social Media support and Em Cunningham for IT support. And also the six people elected to the SGLMG 78ers Committee: Rebell Barnes, Sue Fletcher, Helen Gollan, Penny Gulliver, Diane Minnis and Karl Zlotkowski.

We have been honoured to collaborate with not only SGLMG, but also with the Pride History Group, Australian Queer Archives, Sydney City Council, ACON, Union Pride, Oceania Pride, NSW State Library, Qtopia, Community Action for Rainbow Rights, and Equality Australia.

From 1970 and more so from 1978, we learned that our diverse visibility is our most valuable goal, and that it is hard-won, requiring talented ongoing and innovative efforts.

We remain passionate and active advocates for LGBTIQ struggles, here and globally. We hold different perspectives, yet can cooperate on advocacy and activism. We are not just in organisational meetings, and in the streets, but also creating warm social events for us veterans. We have increased our presence outside downtown Sydney, with attendance at Pride events in regional cities.

WorldPride made a big impact in Australia and across the seas, showcasing the stories of a range of LGBTIQA+ personalities. However, the calls of leading 78ers in the Human Rights Conference for mobilising timely and effective cohesive international solidarity campaigns for our human rights emergencies achieved minimal tangible results.



Diane Minnis Parade 2023.
Photo Steve McLaren

But in 2022–3 some of our best have fallen, including Sue Wills and Fabian Lo Schiavo, so it has also been a time of grief. The task of recording and retelling the stories of our movements and communities in the 1970s becomes more urgent.

Ken Davis and Diane Minnis
Co-Chairs
First Mardi Gras Inc.



Ken Davis Parade 2023.
Photo Anne Morphett

Special Thanks

First Mardi Gras Inc. would like to acknowledge the sponsorship, some substantial, we received that made our 78ers Cocktail Party possible: from Diageo Australia, Treasury Wine Estates, Sydney WorldPride, Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras and Fit for a King Catering.

We also welcomed financial support from sponsors for the publication of Voices from 1978 from Box Bar and Prohibition Liquor Co and their special edition Spirit of Pride Gin and Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras.

We would like to thank these people for their generous financial and raffle prize contributions during the year: Rebell Barnes, Gary Case, Ross Smith, Karen Askew, Diane Minnis, Karl Zlotkowski, Anne Morphett, Robyn Kennedy, Karen Banfield, Wanda Kluge, Sandra Gobbo, Andrew Newman, Margo Moore and Denise McGrath.

Many thanks to the following photographers and videographers who allowed us to use their work this year: Anne Morphett, Garry Case, Adrian Burns, Rebell Barnes, Garry Case, Steve McLaren, Toby Zoates, John Englart, William Brougham, William Yang, C Moore Hardy, Dave Urquhart and Sallie Colechin.

DIAGEO



**TREASURY
WINE ESTATES**



**Sydney Gay and Lesbian
MARDI GRAS**



**BOX
BAR**

CAMP

On 29th September 2022, 78ers Robyn Kennedy and Robyn Plaister launched their book, *CAMP: Australia's Pioneer Homosexual Rights Activists* at the State Library. CAMP (Campaign Against Moral Persecution), established in 1970, laid the foundation for the Pride movement in Australia. Founded in Sydney, CAMP quickly spread to all capital cities and university campuses. The book fills a gap in the recorded history of Australia's early Pride movement, particularly the role of women. New portrait photography of CAMP activists from across Australia was commissioned for the book, contrasted with historical images. The book presents a wealth of many previously unseen archival images as well as first person stories.

Inspired by the success of the book, Robyn Kennedy conceived the idea of using the material captured in the book as the basis for a play. With funding from Create NSW, she commissioned playwright Elais Jamieson Brown to draft a script while retaining an active role in the process. The finished product, *CAMP*, was performed at the Seymour Centre over a two-week period during Sydney WorldPride. The play centres on the lives and activism of three female characters during the 1970s. A very talented team of actors played younger and older versions of key characters—which were an amalgam of real-life CAMP activists. Robyn Kennedy was Associate Producer of the play, which received strong reviews.

Order a copy from pridepublish@gmail.com.



Robyn Kennedy (left) and Robyn Plaister (right) at the launch of their book on CAMP. Photo Giovanni Campolo-Arcidiaco



Still from CAMP play, Seymour Centre. Photo Alex Vaughn

Voices from 1978 Book Launch

In celebration of 45 years since 1978, First Mardi Gras Inc. has assembled a collection of reflections and reminiscences from 78ers – *Voices from 1978: The first Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras*. The 104 page A5 book weaves together the stories of over 30 people with photos to tell the saga of the first Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras and Drop the Charges campaign.

Three days after it was delivered from the printer, we were delighted to initially launch our book from the main stage at Mardi Gras Fair Day on Sunday 19 February. This was an opportunity to thank our editor Graeme Head and designer Hannah Evans as well as all those who contributed their stories and photos.

Reviewer Dr Sophie Robinson wrote: "*Voices from 1978 is a critical and inclusive addition to the storytelling, curated by community activists Diane Minnis, Ken Davis, Dr David Abello and Karl Zlotkowski and filled with detailed historical summary and diverse reflections from participants...*"

We welcomed financial support from sponsors Box Bar and Prohibition Liquor Co and their special edition Spirit of Pride Gin, and Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras.

Order a copy from our website: \$15 + \$5 postage.
Order from The Bookshop Darlinghurst: \$19.99 + postage.
They also ship overseas, email them for a quote.



Cover artwork, *Voices from 1978*



On stage at Mardi Gras Fair Day from left: Diane Minnis, Karl Zlotkowski, David Abello and host Nate Byrne. Front of stage from left: contributors Lance Mumby, Sallie Colechin, Johnny Whitehead and Rebell Barnes. Photo William Brougham

Fifty Years of Visibility

In 1973 there were increasing calls for homosexual law reform and steps towards removal of discrimination, including the:

- Federal Labor government's removal of gay and women's discrimination in Public Service and in the provision of social security benefits
- Federal Parliament voting 60–40 for the Gorton-Cass motion supporting decriminalisation
- ANZ College of Psychiatry declaration that homosexuality is not an illness

On 13 April, Phone-a Friend was founded by Peter Bonsall-Boone and Peter de Waal at their home in Balmain, together with Brian Westwood. Many CAMP members were volunteers. On 18 August, the service moved to the new headquarters of CAMP NSW at 33a Glebe Point Road in Glebe and Phone-a-Friend became a group within CAMP NSW.

There was growing activism, with protests against psychosurgery and aversion therapy and outside St Andrew's Cathedral. Women's Liberation and Gay Liberationists stormed the platform at the May Day rally to protest sexism in the trade union movement.

When Gay Lib activist Jeremy Fisher was expelled from Menzies College at Macquarie University on 4 June, the Builders Labourers' Federation put pink bans on construction at the university. This is believed to have been the very first industrial action in support of LGBTIQ rights for a non-member of the union anywhere in the world.

Also on 4 June, the CAMP Women's Association was formed. From 6 to 8 July there was a Radicalesbian conference at Sorrento, Victoria and a Lesbian Liberation Conference was held at Minto, NSW, from 7 to 8 December.

Inspired by the build-up of gay protests, including one in Auckland of 300 people on 29 June, Gay Lib groups in Melbourne, Brisbane, Sydney and Adelaide organised the first national Gay Pride Week from 6 to 18 September.

In Sydney we held:

- A speak-out about oppression
- A Sunday festival/zap in the Domain
- Two small zaps in Martin Place during the week, one following a picket of the office of a psychiatrist, Dr Harry Bailey (where they tipped a bucket of sheep's brains in the reception area) and one on the day the elected socialist government of Chile was overthrown
- A public meeting of political leaders in Paddington Town Hall



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1 Peter de Waal speaking on the 50th anniversary of Phone-a-Friend. Photo William Brougham.

2 Jeremy Fisher at 50th anniversary celebration of the pink bans. Photo Diane Minnis

3,4 Gay Pride Week 1973. Photos John Englart

5 Camp Women's Association with banner, International Women's Day 1973

6 Gay Pride Week 1973. Photo John Englart

- The Saturday march through the city chanting "ho, ho, homosexuals!" and "2-4-6-8, gay is just as good as straight!"
- A Saturday night dance at Sydney Uni
- A Sunday picnic in Centennial Park.

One person was arrested during the weekday demonstrations and 17 arrested, quite brutally, during the Saturday march in Sydney.

On 5 December the Gay Teachers' Discussion Group was formed, a precursor to gay activism within the NSW Teacher's Federation.

In the 2023 Mardi Gras Parade, the 78ers contingent celebrated Fifty Years of LGBTIQ+ Visibility by carrying placards commemorating key events and of 1973.



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78ers and Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras

The elected SGLMG 78ers Committee liaises between Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras and all 78ers. The committee is responsible for coordinating our involvement in Fair Day and Parade, distributing 78ers t-shirts and recommending 78ers for nomination as Life Members of SGLMG.

In late 2022, Karl Zlotkowski and Penny Gulliver were re-elected and Rebell Barnes was elected to the committee. They joined Diane Minnis, Sue Fletcher and Helen Gollan, who were elected the previous year.

Fair Day—Sunday 19 February

This year, SGLMG's 78ers Committee negotiated a much-improved 78ers tent location and we were in the thick of things, adjacent to Pride History Group and Mature Aged Gays.

All 78ers were welcome at the tent and we enjoyed catching up with old friends and the many enthusiastic visitors both young and old(er), including overseas visitors here for Sydney WorldPride.

We were able to sell about 100 copies our new book *Voices from 1978*. Thanks to all 78ers who staffed the stall in the warm conditions and to Karl Zlotkowski who got there early to set up.

Cocktail Party—Thursday 23 February

The First Mardi Gras Inc. 78ers Cocktail Party was a well-attended and enjoyable 45th Anniversary celebration. The Diageo function centre in Macquarie Street, Sydney was ideal and allowed us to catch up with people we had not seen for some time.

Ken Davis spoke about celebrating our achievements, including: our pioneers who have died, the 50th anniversary of the first national Gay Pride Week in 1973, the 45th anniversary of 24 June 1978, our diverse commitment and contributions to social justice, our unfinished agenda, the vitality of the current international struggle, the contributions of the elected SGLMG 78ers committee and our organisation—First Mardi Gras Inc.

The Cocktail Party would not have been possible without Diageo hosting us and providing cocktails and mocktails. Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras supplied the beer and Treasury Wine Estates donated wines. Sydney WorldPride contributed to food costs and Fit for a King gave us a discounted price for their excellent catering. We thank these organisations for supporting our 45th Anniversary celebration.



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1 The 78ers tent at Fair Day. Photo Anne Morphet

2 Inside the 78ers tent. Photo Corrie Kronenberg

3 Cocktail Party crowd. Photo Anne Morphet

4 Kell Boston, Roger F Williams, Mark Gillespie. Photo Anne Morphet

5 Ken Davis, Stephen Soelistio, Max Pearce. Photo Anne Morphet

6 L to R Sandra MacKay, Chris Pearce, Leonie Noyce, Cath Walker, Kath Burns, Elaine Spicer. Photo Anne Morphet

Parade—Saturday 26 February

This year our Parade was back where it belongs on Oxford Street after two years at the Sydney Cricket Ground. This was something we all looked forward to, especially given that it was our 45th anniversary, and a near record number of 78ers turned out to celebrate.

The SGLMG 78ers Committee worked with the SGLMG Workshop and Parade teams to deliver an event that presented the 78ers front-and-centre as the elders of the Mardi Gras community. Our parade entry is about celebrating the 78er contribution to the struggles of the past and our leadership in the struggles of the present.

In 2023 we achieved this, but only just. The Parade itself was as fabulous as ever—after all the 78ers know better than anyone else how to march on Oxford Street. There were over 150 of us, out of the 220 who registered, and we continued with our theme of celebrating 50 Years of Visibility with placards highlighting events from 1973.

This year we added some big political slogans on the side of the bus: *Unsolved Hate Murders—Why?*, *Russia Out of Ukraine!* and *Indigenous Voice—Yes!*. A few personal contributions made an appearance, including a reproduction of the *Love Has No Discrimination* placard from the night of 24 June 1978 and a small *Hello Woy Woy!* sign.

The crowd this year were very close—just an arm's length away. The path up Oxford Street was narrower than in the past, in order to accommodate a larger crowd, and this unexpectedly brought us all closer together. There was an intimacy (a very loud intimacy) that we could never have felt at the Cricket Ground. Viewed from the air there are moments when the parade almost seems lost in the embrace of the crowd.

All this was wonderful, which made up in part for several avoidable stuff-ups. The event was ticketed, with tickets promised to be released three days before the event, but they didn't arrive till that afternoon. Access, security and crowd control in Hyde Park were, as usual, chaotic despite years of experience.

It was at the end of the parade, where we have a reserved seating area, that only 100 places were available. When 220 people registered to march, SGLMG proposed a second viewing area in Moore Park, but with no signage or guidance from SGLMG marshals it was almost impossible to gain access.

The disrespect shown towards the elders of the Mardi Gras community by SGLMG has been noted, and the 78ers Committee have made this clear to Mardi Gras and will make sure this doesn't happen again in 2024. But all of this was worth it to be back on the street again!



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7, 10, 12, 15 Photos Steve McLaren

8, 9, 16, 17 Photos William Brougham

11 Photo Rebell Barnes

13, 14 Photos Anne Morphett

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15, 16

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17, 18



78ers and Sydney World Pride

Key to the City—17 February

In the first event of the Sydney World Pride and Mardi Gras season, Robyn Kennedy was presented with the Key to the City by the City of Sydney Lord Mayor Clover Moore.

The Key presentation aimed to recognise the achievements of the Pride movement since its inception in 1970 with the formation of CAMP. In presenting the key Clover Moore said, *“The Key to the City is the highest honour we can bestow upon an individual or organisation, and it is my privilege to present it to Robyn Kennedy, a 78er with a long history of Pride activism.”*

In her acceptance speech Robyn said *“I accept this key on behalf of past and present heroes of the Pride movement; on behalf of our pioneer activists, our advocates, our AIDS carers, our community historians, and photographers who have kept our lived experience relevant and vital. And our creative community who continue to drive a vibrant and unique queer culture of inclusion, diversity and of course, over the top fabulousness. Who else could have started a party that’s still going 45 years later?”*

Robyn specifically acknowledged the role of 78ers: *“Our victories have been hard fought, often at the cost of significant personal sacrifice, but being fearless is at the heart of everything we do—our 78ers are shining examples of standing your ground against overwhelming odds.”*

The Key ceremony was followed by raising of the Progress Pride flag as the official start to the Mardi Gras/Sydney WorldPride festival. The Key and accompanying plaque will be held by the Qtopia Pride Museum in Darlinghurst in perpetuity.

Pride Pioneer Bus Tours—23–28 February

First Mardi Gras Inc conducted eight Pride Pioneer Bus Tours for local and international guests attending Sydney WorldPride. This was an event in the Pride Amplified program—a fringe festival during the Sydney World Pride and Mardi Gras season.

The tour was for two-hours and followed the route of the first Mardi Gras, with talks outside the bus at Taylor Square, El Alamein Fountain, Kings Cross and the old Darlinghurst Police Station.

Throughout the tour, commentary and responses to questions was provided by 78ers on board. Passengers on all tours were very engaged and went away more informed about our Pride history.



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1 L to R Jenny Leong (MP for Newtown), Alex Greenwich (MP for Sydney), Lord Mayor Clover Moore, Robyn Kennedy, Kate Wickett (SWP), Albert Kruger (SGLMG), Vasyi Myroshnychenko (Ukrainian Ambassador). Photo Nick Langley.

2 On the steps of the Town Hall at the Progress Pride flag raising. Photo Nick Langley.

3 Robyn Kennedy speaking at the concert. From ABC video

78ers who presented the tours, and sold books and badges, included Diane Minnis, Bob Harvey, Rebell Barnes, Fiona Hulme, Ken Davis, Karl Zlotkowski, Barry Charles, Richard Thode, Michael Fenaughty, Fabian LoSchiavo, Donnie McPherson, and Robyn Kennedy.

Opening Concert—24 February

WorldPride Opening Concert held at the Domain. Entertainment included an all-Australian line-up of performers including Kylie and Danni Minogue, Courtney Act, Jessica Mauboy, Casey Donovan and Electric Fields as well as a Priscilla, Queen of the Desert Tribute.

Robyn Kennedy gave a powerful spoken word performance as part of *Rise* sung by Sheldon Riley and a 300-member choir. Projections of Pride history including the events of 1978 provided a stirring backdrop to the performance.

Human Rights Conference—1–3 March

The Sydney WorldPride Human Rights Conference was held over three days, with the ABC broadcasting live from the conference and sessions also available on ABC iView. The Conference was produced by a consortium of community not for profits led by Equality Australia.

Many 78ers were in attendance, largely made possible by the provision of discounted tickets after community pushback against the original price structure. Like many community groups, First Mardi Gras Inc. suggestions for sessions were rebuffed. The conference was attended by around 2,000 people from 43 countries, with diverse topics covered by the 227 presenters and facilitators.

Diane Minnis was a panel member for the session on *Pride across the globe: Protest and international solidarity*, while Ken Davis, Betty Hounslow and Susan Ardill facilitated roundtables on *Intergenerational Learning*.

Dennis Altman and Robyn Kennedy both spoke as part of the Closing Session, appealing for a greater sense of urgency in addressing queer refugees and regressive anti-homosexual policies in regions such as Africa, the Middle East, Eastern Europe, Asia and the Pacific. Whilst the conference was inspiring, it was more performative than participatory, and there were few tangible results. A report on the Conference is available from [Sydney World Pride Human Rights Conference—Equality Australia](#).



4, 5, 6

4 Bus tour at El Alamein Fountain, Kings Cross with Diane Minnis and Bob Harvey. Photo Rebell Barnes

5 Bus tour at El Alamein Fountain, Kings Cross with Robyn Kennedy and Diane Minnis. Photo Barry Mckay

6 Spoken word and choir performance. Photo Doug Kerr

Pride History Group Conference—4 March

Sydney's Pride History Group (PHG) held a conference at Marrickville Library which included presentations by three 78ers. These were: Sallie Colechin on the role of women in SGLMG; Ken Davis on the history of unions and lesbian and gay rights in NSW; John Witte on the NSW Gay Trade Unionists' Group 1978-1980; and Ken Davis on Fifty Years of Activism and International Solidarity.

At the reception held the previous evening, PHG President, Shirleene Robinson presented Awards for Excellence to three past PHG office bearers—Robert French, Diane Minnis and John Witte—in recognition of their outstanding contribution to preserving Sydney's LGBTIQ+ history.

Sydney Harbour Bridge Pride Walk—5 March

In an historic event, 50,000 people marched across the Sydney Harbour Bridge to celebrate Sydney World Pride. 78ers were one of the first groups in the march—a great experience but one that required getting to North Sydney very early in the morning!

The march was attended by the Prime Minister Anthony Albanese along with Senator Penny Wong, other politicians, and celebrities. Robyn Kennedy spoke at the commencement of the march, urging those present to remember our communities in countries which deny the right to peaceful public assembly including Pride events.



11, 12, 13

14, 15



7 Betty Hounslow and Susan Ardiff, Human Rights Conference. Photo Anne Morphet

8 Ken Davis at Human Rights Conference. Photo Anne Morphet

9 Robyn Kennedy speaking at Human Rights Conference. Photo Lars Ostegreen

10 Diane Minnis speaking at Human Rights Conference. Photo Anne Morphet

11 Sallie Colechin speaking at Pride History Group Conference. Photo Sallie Colechin

12 John Witte speaking at Pride History Group Conference. Photo Sallie Colechin

13 Ken Davis speaking at Pride History Group Conference. Photo Sallie Colechin

14 Bridge Walk. Photo Anne Morphet

15 Bridge Walk, L to R Ben Graetz (SWP), Ebony Williams (SWP), Anthony Albanese, Kate Wickett (SWP), Robyn Kennedy, Penny Wong, Anna Brown (Equality Australia). Photo @Sallie Colechin.

16 Bridge Walk, leading the 78ers contingent Leonard Watson, Johnny Whitehead, Helen Gollan. Photo Alice Anderson

17 Bridge Walk. Photo Garry Case



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Media and Speaking Engagements

During 2022–23 public speaking and media engagements by 78ers doubled compared to the previous year. Factors contributing to increased demand include 2022–23 being the 45th anniversary of the first Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade and the concurrent staging of Sydney WorldPride.

Pride functions

Robert French took Senior Executives from Woolworths on a Queer History Walk. Robert was joined by Fabian Lo Schiavo for a Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence Oxford St walk. John Witte led the Hunter Rainbow History Group on tour of Queer Crime History.

Members, including David Abello, Lance Mumby, Fiona Hulme, Ken Davis, Diane Minnis, Penny Gulliver, Maree Marsh and Frank Howarth gave talks on the history of Mardi Gras to both government and corporate Pride groups such as NBN, Colonial First State, CSIRO, Westfield, Macquarie Park, Department of Home Affairs, Sydney Grammar, Corrections NSW and CBRE. Penny Gulliver gave the keynote address at the Corrective Services Inaugural Pride Conference.

Helen Gollan spoke at regional Pride marches and Fair Days including Hunter and Newcastle Pride and Tamworth Pride where she was joined by Bob Harvey. Robyn Kennedy and Robyn Plaister focused on early lesbian history at a talk to the Women's Library while Robyn Kennedy spoke about CAMP Women's Night at *Eulogy for a Dyke Bar* at the National Arts School.

Several members attended the Launch of the Heritage Listing of the Mardi Gras Parade Route while Betty Hounslow was a member of the panel speaking on *Our Queer Futures* at the State Library Pride Month Forum. Barry Charles and Garry Wotherspoon both gave oral evidence and presented submissions to the Special Commission into Anti LGBTQ Violence.

Toby Zoates spoke at the opening night of his exhibition *Dancing in the Garden of Pan* at Pass-Port Store and Gallery as well as other exhibitions at the Tin Sheds Gallery and Sydney Contemporary Art Fair 2022 at Carriageworks.

Online and print media

Ken Davis dragged up for *Enthroned: Honouring Pride Royalty* as part of the Queen Victoria Building Pride Campaign. [Enthroned: Honouring Pride Royalty | Ken Davis | LBBOnline](#). Vogue featured Gail Hewison and Karl Zlotkowski in *Look Back and Look Forward*. Diane Minnis was a guest writer for a National Film and Sound Archive of Australia blog on the gay rights protests of 15 July and 24 August 1978.



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[ABC Radio](#) took an active role in highlighting the events of 1978 including producing a 3D retelling of the parade on 24 June featuring Robyn Plaister, Ken Davis, Peter Murphy, Sallie Colechin and Marg Lyons.

Star Observer promoted First Mardi Gras' History Bus Tours during SWP while David Abello and Robyn Kennedy both gave interviews to Refinery29. David spoke on the history of Pride in Australia while Robyn addressed intergenerational queer conversations.

The Sydney Morning Herald published Ken Davis' tribute to Fabian LoSchiavo—*Schiavo, The gay Christian 'nun' and satirist who became a queer legend*.

Radio and podcasts

Karl Zlotkowski and Robyn Kennedy did a podcast on the 70s for Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Queer Thinking. [The 70s—Queer Thinking | Podcast on Spotify](#). Karl also did a podcast for Charles Sturt University on Conversations for a Brave New World—LGBT Rights while Robyn was a panel member on the ABC Radio Innies + Outies podcast, [Ask an Elder](#).

Ken Davis, Rebell Barnes, Robyn Kennedy and Helen Gollan all gave live interviews on national and regional radio stations on aspects of Pride history.

Betty Hounslow [Item 1: Betty Hounslow interview by Holly Zwalf | Collection—State Library of NSW](#) and Robyn Kennedy [Item 1: Robyn Kennedy interview by Holly Zwalf | Collection—State Library of NSW](#) both did oral audio history interviews for the State Library.

TV news and programs

All local TV networks provided extensive coverage of Mardi Gras, Sydney WorldPride and LGBTQI+ issues. ABC TV Riverina focused on 78ers in the region through interviews with Ray Goodlass and Denise McGrath while Kate Rowe and Lance Day were interviewed at the pre-Parade press conference. Rebell Barnes was interviewed by TV Networks 7 and 9 at the Pride Harbour Bridge Walk while Frank Howarth was featured in BBC coverage of Sydney WorldPride.

SBS and ABC TV featured Garry Wotherspoon in its coverage of the Special Commission into Anti-LGBTQ violence. The ABC's *You Can't Ask That* included a replay of the episode on *Gay Men* featuring Barry Charles.

Several 78ers featured in episodes of ABC TV *Queerstralia* including Diane Minnis, Penny Gulliver, Alex Kaufman, Dennis Altman, Ian Gray, Kimberley O'Sullivan, and Peter de Waal.

Helen Gollan and her partner Virginia Mansell Lees were among several couples interviewed on air for the SBS Insight program, [Soulmates](#).



4, 5, 6

1 Robyn Kennedy with Jason Om at 45th anniversary of Star Observer. Photo William Bougham

2 Toby Zoates at Pass Port Store and Gallery. Photo William Bougham

3 Ken Davis Enthroned – Honouring Pride Royalty. Image TBWA Sydney

4 Dennis Altman in ABC's Queerstralia. Image ABC

5 Kimberly O'Sullivan in ABC's Queerstralia. Image ABC

6 Helen Gollan (R) and Virginia Mansell Lee on SBS Insight. Image SBS

Exhibitions

Pride (R)Evolution—18 February to 9 July

The State Library presented a special exhibition for Sydney WorldPride, *Pride (R)Evolution*, a much larger and more interactive exhibition than their previous *Coming Out in the 70s*. Continuing their involvement from *Coming Out in the 70s*, Garry Wotherspoon, Robert French and Robyn Kennedy participated in the Exhibition Advisory Committee.

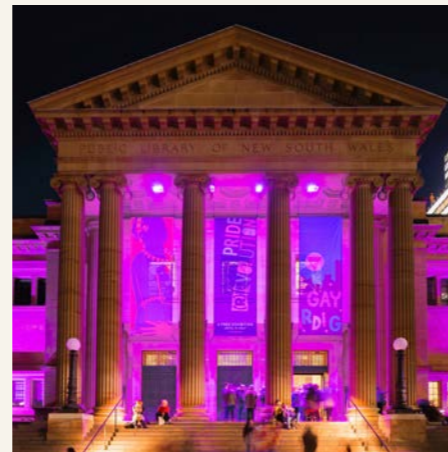
During Pride Month in June, First Mardi Gras provided tour guides for small groups of visitors to the exhibition—*Walk with a 78er*. These guides included Diane Minnis, Ken Davis, Barry Charles, Sandra Gobbo, Terry Batterham, Rebell Barnes and Maree Marsh.

Pride (R)Evolution encapsulated 50 years of the modern Pride movement in NSW as well as our more hidden history including a tribute to the first female Mitchell Librarian, Ida Leeson (1885–1964) who was described as “a small woman with short-cropped hair, steel-rimmed glasses, tailored suits and sensible shoes.” *It was noted that Ida was never given the recognition due to her because of her gender, working class background and “unorthodox choice of partner”,* YWCA official Florence Birch.

The exhibition included a recreation of the slideshow by Garry Wotherspoon and Robert French, *A Sodom in the South 1770–1970* (updated in 1986) which focused on clandestine meeting places for gay men from colonial times. In another exhibit, the dulcet tones of Dave Urquhart could be heard from a booth dedicated to *Gaywaves*, the first lesbian and gay radio program in Australia. *Gaywaves* aired on Sydney’s 2SER radio station each Thursday 10pm to 1am from 1979 to 2005. The exhibit panel noted “*We will never know how many lives Gaywaves affected or saved. Many remember it as their first point of contact with the queer community.*”

A Sun newspaper poster proclaimed, *Outrage on Gay Migrant Scheme* (1988), referring to the significant reforms to the immigration rights of same sex partners achieved by the Gay and Lesbian Immigration Task Force—of which Betty Hounslow and Ken Davis were active members.

The exhibition included a tribute to the Lesbian Mothers Group founded by Robyn Plaister in 1976. At that time many formerly married lesbian mothers lost custody of their children, particularly those who were judged to be political or overt in their sexuality. The Lesbian Mothers Group was a focal point for political campaigning on child custody issues and a support group for lesbian mothers, their partners, and children.



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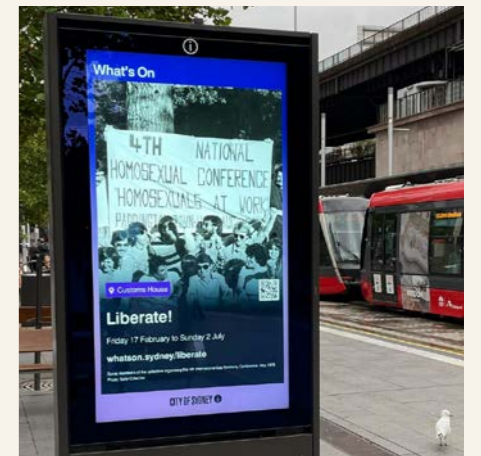
As an adjunct to the exhibition, the State Library also completed oral history interviews including those of Betty Hounslow and Robyn Kennedy, which are available on the State Library website.

Liberate!—18 February to 2 July

The City of Sydney’s *Liberate!* Exhibition, at Customs House, Circular Quay, featured the work of eight queer photographers, including C.Moore Hardy and Sallie Colechin.

The photographs were on rotating display on six large screens—covering themes of *Fighting For Our Lives, Party With Us!, Community Made + Queering Spaces, Transcend, First Nations* and *Protest*. There were explanatory panels and quotes, including from Ken Davis and Diane Minnis in the *Protest* section, to round out the stories told by the images.

There was also a panel discussion on Saturday 24 June, focussing on the photography of history making moments across 45 years with four photographers including Sallie Colechin.



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1 Pride (R)Evolution Exhibition banners outside the library. Photo State Library

2 Gay and Lesbian Immigration Task Force and Lesbian Mums displays. Photo State Library.

3 Poster for Liberate! Exhibition. Poster image Sallie Colechin. Photo Diane Minnis.

4 Some 78ers who took part in Walks With A 78er. L-R: Sandra Gobbo, Barry Charles, Diane Minnis, Ken Davis. Photo State Library.

5 Robert French with a photograph of himself and Lex Watson signing statutory declarations in 1983. Photo William Brougham.

InterPride and Oceania Pride

InterPride is the world's largest association of Pride organisers with 415 members from over 70 countries. InterPride licenses WorldPride celebrations—including Sydney in 2023. First Mardi Gras Inc is a member of InterPride.

InterPride AGM and World Conference 2022

InterPride's 2022 Annual General Meeting and World Conference was hosted by Guadalajara Pride, Mexico from October 27–30 2022. It was the first in-person conference in two years and the first in Latin America. First Mardi Gras was represented by Diane Minnis and Robyn Kennedy.

There were a number of interesting workshops including one by Anna Sharyhina from Kharkiv Pride in Ukraine.

There were presentations from cities vying to hold future WorldPride events. It was agreed that WorldPride 2025 would go ahead in Washington DC. Both Amsterdam and Orlando, Florida made presentations for WorldPride 2026; and Amsterdam was selected. Hopefully, the InterPride Board will regularise WorldPride as a biennial event after 2026.

The other important issue discussed was By-Law changes which aim to put into effect a new structure for InterPride, as agreed by members in April 2022. The by-law changes would enable replacement of the current US-centric structure—for example, the US is currently considered as six regions; while all of Asia and Africa are considered as only one region each; as is all of Oceania.

As then Vice President Global Outreach, Robyn Kennedy presented the By-Law changes, through which the current formulation of “regions” would be abolished and individual Pride organisers

1 InterPride AGM and World Conference 2022

2 Newcastle Pride Fair Day 2019. Photo courtesy Newcastle Pride Inc.

3 Tikone theatre production. Photo courtesy Trikone Australasia.

4 Tonga Leiti's Association meeting. Photo courtesy Tonga Leiti's Association.



would be represented by their regional Pride Platform. This means that Board membership would consist of representatives of each Regional Pride Platform. There are several existing Pride platforms including the US, Canada, UK and Europe. However the decision to change the structure of InterPride was held off for six months. Diane Minnis is part of a By-Laws committee working on this issue. So, the struggle for an equitable and more inclusive structure for InterPride continues. (See *78ers and Sydney WorldPride page 18 for coverage of Sydney WorldPride 2023*).

Oceania Pride Organisers

Oceania Pride began as an informal gathering of Pride organisers in the Oceania region that has been meeting regularly since July 2020. Many, but not all, are members of InterPride and including Prides from Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific.

In June 2022, financial members of InterPride in the region met to start the process of incorporating an association to better support Pride organisers in Oceania. The group also aimed to provide a stronger voice for Oceania in InterPride.

A Working Group was formed and began to prepare a constitution for Oceania Pride Organisers Inc. as well as a website and membership application process.

It's great that a diverse group of Prides were active in the Working Group, including: First Mardi Gras; Trikone Australasia Inc. (a South Asian Pride); Trans Pride Australia; Team Rainbow Queensland, (a sporting group); Newcastle Pride; Tonga Leiti Association; Ambassadors & Bridge Builders International; and Chillout Daylesford.

In September 2022, Oceania Pride Organisers Inc. was registered and the Working Group began to prepare to open for membership and hold an AGM after the end of the financial year in June 2023.

By working together we hope to more effectively campaign for our rights, apply for grants and attract sponsorship. And if the membership decides, to apply to be a Pride Platform partner with InterPride.



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Pride Month Events

As part of Sydney Pride Festival commemorations in June, First Mardi Gras Inc. presented two events: our 78ers Mardi Gras 45th Anniversary Drinks and the launch of *Voices from 1978*. Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras held a gala Sapphire Anniversary evening, which a number of 78ers attended.

SGLMG Sapphire Anniversary— Saturday 24 June

The large space at Carriageworks enabled 78ers and other Mardi Gras members to move around to see friends and costumes, artworks and inflatables from the archives.

78ers were celebrated—with key segments of 78er Digby Duncan’s iconic film *Witches, Faggots, Dykes and Poofters* shown between performances and speeches. Diane Minnis spoke on behalf of the Mardi Gas 78ers Committee, and paid tribute to the many members of our community, allies and friends who have made these 45 years possible.

78ers 45th Anniversary Drinks— Sunday 25 June

It was great to get together at Kinselas to celebrate this key 45th anniversary of the first Mardi Gras. Nearly 40 78ers, partners and guests gathered in this accessible venue with good catering and drinks service. First Mardi Gras Inc. arranged for canapés and sold raffle tickets to defray costs.



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1 SGLMG Sapphire Anniversary, Greg Reading. Photo Stephen Soelistio

2 SGLMG Sapphire Anniversary, Maree Marsh. Photo Steve McLaren

3 Dennis Altman and Ken Davis at 45th Anniversary Drinks. Photo Anne Morphet

4 Robyn Kennedy, Philippa Nichol and Bob Harvey at 45th Anniversary Drinks. Photo Anne Morphet



Voices from 1978 Launch— Tuesday 27 June

Our formal launch of *Voices from 1978: The first Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras* was held at the State Library.

We heard from Kate Harrison, Karl Zlotkowski and Betty Hounslow about their experiences at the first Mardi Gas and in the major Drop the Charges demonstrations in July and August 1978. At times harrowing, at times hilarious, they shared reminiscences of the activism of 1978 and how it led to changes for our community.

Mardi Gras Chair, Giovanni Campolo-Arcidiaco, spoke about the importance of the book and the legacy of 78ers. Karen Askew contributed a fantastic portrait of the late Fabian LoSchiavo for the raffle, which was the best-selling raffle we have ever had.

The audience of 50 plus was very varied with 78ers, community activists and younger people—all moved and motivated by what we heard that evening.

5 Serena Gahagan, Ross Smith and Fiona Hulme at Book launch. Photo Anne Morphet

6 Dave Urquhart and Anne Morphet at Book launch. Photo Anne Morphet

7 Lance Mumby and Sandra Gobbo at Book launch. Photo Anne Morphet

8 From left: Giovanni Campolo-Arcidiaco, Karl Zlotkowski, Betty Hounslow, Diane Minnis, Ken Davis, Kate Harrison at Book Launch. Photo William Brougham

9 Maree Marsh, Rebell Barnes and Richard Thode at Book launch. Photo Anne Morphet



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Social Events

During the year we held eight Social Lunches and one Brunch. The lunches were on the first Sunday of most months at The Terminus Hotel, Pyrmont, with its easy bus, light rail and parking access. We were able to secure a private downstairs room off the courtyard, making our lunches more accessible.

On 2 April, the lunch became a brunch in Newtown so that 78ers could attend the Trans Day of Visibility rally and march in Newtown.

We believe it is important to bring people together regularly and give opportunities for 78ers visiting Sydney to attend.

On 11 December, we celebrated Christmas at Kinselas, in their easy to access ground floor bar. We had a great roll-up with 78ers, partners and friends enjoying catching up. First Mardi Gras Inc. provided finger food and conducted a raffle. Kinselas have reasonable drinks prices and played retro music for us.



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1 Pre-Mardi Gras Lunch on Sunday 5 February, 2023. Photo Diane Minnis

2, 3 Christmas at Kinselas. Photos Sallie Colechin

4 Christmas at Kinselas. Photo Garry Case

Membership

By the end of June 2022, 196 people had joined First Mardi Gras Inc. 163 of those members are 78ers and we have 24 Associate Members, who are not 78ers. Six 78er members have passed away and three members declined to renew.

Our membership is still close to half women and men, with 95 (50.8%) women and 92 men (49.2%). Overall, 106 (56.7%) First Mardi Gras Inc. members live in Sydney, 39 members (20.9%) live in regional NSW and 42 (22.4%) live interstate or overseas.



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1 Cat Gander and Lesley Laing Parade 2023. Photo Anne Mophett

2 Harry Fransen Parade 2023. Photo Anne Mophett

3 Karl Zlotkowski Parade 2023. Photo Anne Mophett

4 Virginia Illif and Sandra Gobbo Parade 2023. Photo Anne Mophett

5 Ken Davis and friend, Parade 2023. Photo Steve McLaren

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Financial Report

Summary

First Mardi Gras Inc. (FMG) fared remarkably well financially during the 45th Mardi Gras and Sydney World Pride period, and in Pride Month in June 2003. Donations associated with speaking engagements for corporates, typically their internal Pride groups, contributed almost \$13,000 to our income.

Membership renewals came to \$840 of which \$530 was memberships paid in advance, and donations were \$415. As well, FMG members and friends were very generous with raffles and with merchandise sales, which together earned us \$3,147.

The decision to publish *Voices from 1978* proved sound as, even though it seriously depleted our financial resources in the run-up to the 2023 Mardi Gras season, we recovered many of those costs during the Financial Year. Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras (SGLMG) contributed \$1,744 in funding to increase the print run from 1000 to 2000 books, so we had good stocks in hand at year end (1174 @ \$5.57 = \$6,539).

The decision to purchase a Square tile meant that from the December 2022 Cocktail Party we were able to accept electronic payments, much appreciated by many members and also helpful for some corporate speaking payments. The convenience of e-commerce unfortunately has the downside of a nearly two percent fee but we feel it has helped a greater generosity from members e.g. for raffles.

Catering for social events for members cost us \$5,922, though we were generously supported by Diageo's provision of a venue and drinks for the Mardi Gras Cocktail Party. Bus hire for bus tours during Mardi Gras was cost-neutral, with \$2,800 hire costs and \$2,818 in receipts. Publication of *Voices from 1978* cost \$11,215, offset by the grant of \$1,744 from SGLMG. As well, we had operational costs (business expenses) of \$1,437, InterPride membership of \$56, and some other one-off expenditures including printing of signage and repayment of purchases made by members on behalf of First Mardi Gras Inc.

While overall it was a good year financially, the period up to and around Mardi Gras itself was very challenging as we had substantial financial outgoings yet receipts from speaking engagements were very slow to come in.

Over the next few years our finances are unlikely to be so good, although we hope to break even. We certainly cannot expect such a high demand for speakers as in this very special year;

also book sales have tapered off. Since the end of the Financial Year we have set aside \$10,000 in a Term Deposit as a financial buffer while maintaining a reasonable amount of cash in the bank.

Profit and Loss

First Mardi Gras Inc. ABN 23 393 628 948
for the period 01 July 2022 to 30 June 2023

Income	2023	2022
Membership	\$840	\$1,365
Donations	\$415	\$700
Book sales	\$8,525	-
Bus Tour	\$2,818	-
Merchandise & Raffles	\$3,148	-
Speaking Engagements	\$12,976	\$7,272
Fundraising	-	\$1,309
Grants	\$1,744	-
Other Revenue	\$192	\$163
Total Income	\$30,658	\$10,809

Expenses	2023	2022
Advertising	199	179
Bus Charter	2,800	-
Catering	5,923	360
Domain Name Fees (Vodien)	-	33
Email Hosting (Vodien)	114	114
Additional Domain Names (78ers.sydney and 78ers.au)	-	393
Facebook and Google	59	-
Fundraising	-	275
Insurance	-	-
InterPride Membership	56	52
Miscellaneous	1,206	128
Postage	604	-
Printing (Voices)	11,215	-
Reporting (Fair Trading)	50	48
Software (Adobe Acrobat)	353	65
Venue Hire	-	-
Web Hosting (Squarespace)	322	307
Zoom Subscription	231	231
Total Expenses	23,132	2,185

Notes

1) Venue hire will again be a feature in the next Financial Year, as we are now back to face to face activities.

2) InterPride membership is paid in USD and therefore subject to exchange rate variation. We discontinued our Associate Membership in EPOA (European Pride Organisers Association) in favour of the new body Oceania Pride, which was still being set up in FY 2022-2023.

Statement of Financial Position

First Mardi Gras Inc. ABN 23 393 628 948

As at 30 June 2023

Assets	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank	\$20,197	\$12,671
Books (Voice from 1978)	\$6,539	—
Invoices outstanding	\$6,616	—
Total Assets	\$32,352	\$12,671
Current Liabilities		
Membership in advance	\$805	\$550
Net Assets	\$32,547	\$12,121
Equity		
Retained earnings	\$12,121	\$4,047
Result for year Profit/(Loss)	\$20,426	\$8,074
Total Equity	\$32,547	\$12,121

Notes

Total Equity was overstated in 2021–2022 results as value of Membership in Advance was not deducted. Now corrected.



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1 78ers in Parade 2023.
Photo William Brougham

2, 3 78ers in Bridge Walk.
Photo Anne Morphet

Vale

We remember three 78ers who sadly passed away during the year: Sue Wills, Linda Bowman and Fabian LoSchiavo. If you know of any other 78ers who have passed away, please let us know using our contact details on page 48.

Dr Sue Wills passed away peacefully on 26 August 2022 aged 78 while being treated for pneumonia and lung cancer.

Sue became involved in CAMP in the early 1970s and was elected Co-President along with the late Lex Watson. They were both tutors in the Department of Government, University of Sydney.

Sue and Lex spoke to many groups and media outlets and created visibility of homosexuality in a time of systemic discrimination. Sue was an early campaigner against psychiatric abuse of lesbians and gay men. In Sue's appearance with then-partner Gabrielle Antolovich on the ABC TV Chequerboard program, they spoke eloquently about lesbians and their lives.

In 1974, Sue, Lex and Gabrielle resigned from CAMP citing sexism and a shift towards welfarism rather than political engagement. After CAMP, Sue turned her attention to the women's movement. In 1978, Sue was involved in the first Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras and Drop the Charges campaign.

In 1981, Sue completed her doctoral thesis: *The Politics of Women's Liberation* and was EEO Officer at Macquarie University from 1984.

Sue was featured in the 2005 film, *The Hidden History of Homosexual Australia*. In 2009, she was a panellist at the 40th Anniversary of CAMP conference, and was the 2010 Community Hero in ACONs Honour Awards.

Over the last two decades Sue devoted herself work on *The First Ten Years of Sydney Women's Liberation*. In February 2020 Sue spoke at *A Lavender Menace? Australia's Early Lesbian Movement*, a forum by First Mardi Inc. and Pride History Group. The audience, mainly women, hung on Sue's every word.

Sue was a true pioneer of the Pride and women's liberation movements and spent her life in service to a vision of social equality.



Sue Wills in 2014. Photo Digby Duncan

Dr Linda Bowman was born in the USA in 1946 and migrated to Australia in 1973. She was an academic; a Russian historian in the Economic History Department at the University of Sydney and also at the School of History at the Australian Defence Force Academy. Linda was a much loved member of the Sydney Gay & Lesbian Choir.

Linda died peacefully from Alzheimer's disease in April 2023. She is survived by her long-time partner, Dr Lyn Fong and their two adorable doggies. Linda and Lyn were able to participate in the 78ers contingent in the 2021 and 2022 Mardi Gras Parade at the SCG, but she was too ill to take part in 2023.

Fabian LoSchiavo, 15 December 1949—11 May 2023

Fabian grew up in Eastwood, in a family of Irish and southern Italian heritage. He spent several years in seminaries in Australia and the USA. In 1972, facing contradictions about his sexuality, he returned to Australia and sought aversion therapy, which failed to cure his homosexuality.

In 1973, Fabian went to UNSW, focussing on archives, and got involved in gay groups. After graduation, Fabian worked for decades with the NSW State Archives, until he retired in 2012.

In 1978, Fabian sewed flags and banners for protests, and came to the morning march on 24 June 1978 with a sign saying "*Gay, Free and C of E*". He became active in the Gay Solidarity Group and helped found AngGays.

In 1981 Fabian was a founder of the Gay Liberation Quire and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, later as Mother Inferior. Fabian's personas later included Monsignor Porcamadonna and the Pentecostal Rev Oral Riches. All were anarchic satirical weapons in the struggle against heterosexism, hypocrisy, sexism, racism, war, and capitalism.

In 1986 during the visit of Pope John Paul II, Mother Inferior and another sister were arrested for the slogan: "Anti-Woman, Anti-Gay, Fascist Pope Go Away!". In 1989 the Sisters carried a papier maché head of Fred Nile on a platter in the Mardi Gras parade. The Quire's anthem "Thank You Lord for Gay Liberation" was transformed by the ecstatic preaching of Rev Oral Riches.

Mother Inferior pioneered the Sisters providing pastoral care with ceremonies for naming children, relationships and memorial services and safe sex education. Fabian contributed to gay groups, such as GayWaves radio, and Inside Out prisoners' support.

Fabian always went into the Mardi Gras parades, with different religious and ethnic identities. In recent years he was with the 78ers' group in the parade and he officiated at many of our FMG Inc. commemorative and social events. Fabian, and his various personas, through his multiple contributions to queer culture and many other communities, became a very widely loved national treasure.



Lyn Fong and Linda Bowman at the 2021 Mardi Gras Parade. Photo Anne Morphet



Fabian LoSchiavo on the Bridge Walk, 5.3.23. Photo C Moore Hardy

Media and Speaking Engagements

Organisation/Event/Media	Title	78ers	Date	Link
Tin Sheds Gallery	Sydney Buries Its Past Exhibition	Toby Zoates	14-Jul-22 to 20-Aug-22	
Resistance	Discussion following screening of Riot	Robyn Plaister, Ken Davis	16-Jul-22	
Sydney City Archives	Consultation on SSO pictorial collection	Diane Minnis, Robert French	25-Aug-22	
Woolworths Senior Executives	Queer History Walk	Robert French	26-Aug-22	
Student	Student interview – the first Mardi Gras	Diane Minnis	28-Aug-22	
2DRYFM Broken Hill	What was it like before and after 1978	Helen Gollan	12-Sep-22	
Sydney Contemporary Art Fair 2022 – Carriageworks	TENSE – Political Posters Past/ Present	Toby Zoates	8-Sep-22 to 11-Sep-22	
Pride Publishing	Launch of CAMP: Australia's pioneer homosexual rights activists	Robyn Kennedy, Robyn Plaister	29-Sep-22	
State Library of NSW	Personal oral history audio recording	Betty Hounslow	12-Oct-22	Betty Hounslow interview by Holly Zwalf. Collection – State Library of NSW
Radio 3RRR	CAMP Queer View Mirror Chat	Robyn Kennedy, Robyn Plaister	24-Oct-22	
Dept of Transport Pride Forum	Address to Pride Forum and History Walk	Robert French	27-Oct-22	
Tamworth Pride	Main stage speaker and local radio interview	Helen Gollan, Bob Harvey	29-Oct-22	
Hunter Rainbow History Group	Queer Crime History Walk	John Witte	5-Nov-22	
Newcastle and Hunter Pride Fair Day	Speech from main stage	Helen Gollan	5-Nov-22	
Box Bar and Prohibition Liquor Co.	Photos for Spirit of Pride Gin label	Branco Gaica	8-Nov-22	
Sydney Grammar Pride Club	Events of 1978	Ken Davis	9-Nov-22	
State Library of NSW	Personal oral history audio recording	Robyn Kennedy	16-Nov-22	Robyn Kennedy interview by Holly Zwalf. Collection – State Library of NSW
Emerging Transgender Researchers Conference	Past and Current Research: What Needs to be Done?	Jesse Hooley	18-Nov-22	
Special Commission into Anti LGBTQ Violence	In person evidence and written submissions	Barry Charles, Garry Wotherspoon	21-Nov-22	https://www.specialcommission.nsw.gov.au/media/media-releases/special-commission-to-hear-from-first-witnesses-in-lgbtqi-hate-crimes-inquiry/
ABC TV Evening news	Special Commission into Anti LGBTQ Violence	Garry Wotherspoon	21-Nov-22	
SBS TV News	Special Commission into Anti LGBTQ Violence	Garry Wotherspoon	21-Nov-22	

Organisation/Event/Media	Title	78ers	Date	Link
Sydney Morning Herald	Interview 'Just another night in the life of a gay man': Hate crimes inquiry told of brutal attacks	Garry Wotherspoon	21-Nov-22	https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/just-another-night-in-the-life-of-a-gay-man-inquiry-into-hate-crimes-told-of-brutal-attacks-20221121-p5bzw5.html
ABC TV Morning News	Special Commission into Anti LGBTQ Violence	Garry Wotherspoon	22-Nov-22	
Sydney Morning Herald	Interview: 'You had to find a secret place': Growing up gay in a violent Sydney shadow world	Barry Charles	22-Nov-22	LGBTIQ rights: Inquiry into gay hate crimes told of growing up gay in a violent Sydney shadow world (smh.com.au)
ABC TV 7.30	Special Commission into Anti LGBTQ Violence	Garry Wotherspoon	24-Nov-22	
Union Pride	History of queer union activism	Ken Davis	25-Nov-22	
10/40/Matrix	Discussion of CAMP	Robyn Kennedy, Robyn Plaister	26-Nov-22	
Victorian Pride Centre	The Making of The Pride Centre Book Launch MC	Julie McCrossin	2-Dec-22	
Star Observer	78ers Slam NSW Police Over Objections Before Sydney Hates Crimes Deaths Inquiry	First Mardi Gras Inc.	7-Dec-22	https://www.starobserver.com.au/news/78ers-slam-nsw-police-over-objections-before-sydney-hate-crime-deaths-inquiry/219077
First Mardi Gras Inc.	Christmas at Kinseles	Rebell Barnes	11-Dec-22	
LOTL	Australia's largely unknown queer history	Robyn Kennedy	15-Dec-22	https://www.lotl.com/culture/history/australias-largely-unknown-queer-history/
City Hub Sydney	CAMP: where it all began	Robyn Kennedy	6-Jan-23	CAMP – where it all began – City Hub Sydney Your Local Independent News
ABC Radio Nightlife	Books That Made Me – Robyn Kennedy	Robyn Kennedy	13-Jan-23	www.abc.net.au/radio/programs/nightlife/books-that-made-me-robyn-kennedy/101855066
ABC TV	You Can't Ask That – Gay Men, repeat broadcast	Barry Charles	15-Jan-23	
New Idea	45th Anniversary of First Mardi Gras Parade	Robyn Kennedy	17-Jan-23	
Westfield	Interview for Sydney WorldPride booth	Diane Minnis	24-Jan-23	
Sydney Morning Herald	History of Mardi Gras	Ken Davis	26-Jan-23	
Pride Guide 2023	Feature article on CAMP	Robyn Kennedy	30-Dec-22	SYDNEY PRIDE GUIDE WORLDPRIDE EDITION 2023 (calameo.com)
Heritage NSW	Photos, video for Launch of Heritage Listing of Mardi Gras route	Geoff Friend, Dave Urquhart, Digby Duncan	2-Feb-23	
Heritage NSW	Launch of Heritage Listing of Mardi Gras route	Garry Wotherspoon, Peter De Waal, Ken Davis, Diane Minnis, Frank Howarth	2-Feb-23	
Nine.com.au	45th Mardi Gras anniversary	Ken Davis	2-Feb-23	
ABC TV Riverina, News Channel	78ers in our region on World Pride and Mardi Gras	Ray Goodlass, Denise McGrath	4-Feb-23	https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-02-04/lgbt-communities-cared-for-by-these-original-mardi-gras-marchers/101894562

Organisation/Event/Media	Title	78ers	Date	Link
ABC News online	78ers in our region on World Pride and Mardi Gras	Ray Goodlass, Denise McGrath	4-Feb-23	LGBT communities safer thanks to change championed over decades by marchers in first Mardi Gras - ABC News
RUSSH	Interview about 78ers and Mardi Gras	David Abello	7-Feb-23	
Thriller List USA	78er perspective on Sydney WorldPride	Robyn Kennedy	7-Feb-23	
The Australian	Stage tribute recalls the courage of gay and lesbian pioneers	Robyn Kennedy	8-Feb-23	https://www.theaustralian.com.au/arts/sydney-worldpride-recalls-courage-of-gay-and-lesbian-pioneers-in-camp/news-story/57de22bbf3bd3d16e1ec9060cb18fc82
Inner West Council	Discussion of CAMP	Robyn Kennedy, Robyn Plaister	8-Feb-23	
Queen Victoria Building Pride Campaign	Enthroned: Honouring Pride Royalty	Ken Davis	9-Feb-23	Enthroned: Honouring Pride Royalty Ken Davis LBBOnline
Time Out	The road to Sydney's first Pride Museum	Robyn Kennedy	10-Feb-23	Qtopia Sydney: the road to Australia's first LGBTQIA+ museum (timeout.com)
ABC radio Innies + Outies podcast	Ask an Elder	Robyn Kennedy	13-Feb-23	Ask an Elder - ABC Radio
ABC TV	History of 1978 and what's left to do	Diane Minnis	13-Feb-23	
BBC Sydney	SWP what it means to have it here with city all dressed up	Frank Howarth	14-Feb-23	
Daily Telegraph	Bid to reclaim site of oppression	Robyn Kennedy	14-Feb-23	
Newswire	How Mardi Gras has changed	Robert French	15-Feb-23	
capital-e	45th anniversary of first Mardi Gras Parade	Robyn Kennedy	15-Feb-23	
ABC Radio National Breakfast Program	CAMP explores the birth of Australia's gay rights movement	Robyn Kennedy	15-Feb-23	'CAMP' explores the birth of Australia's gay rights movement - ABC Radio National
Star Observer	This February, Go On A Bus Adventure With 78ers During Sydney WorldPride	Robyn Kennedy	16-Feb-23	This February, Go On A Bus Adventure With 78ers During Sydney WorldPride - Star Observer
First Mardi Gras Inc.	Photographs in Voices from 1978: The first Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras	Sallie Colechin, Digby Duncan, Jeffrey Feng, Robert French, Geoff Friend, Branco Gaica, Anne Morphet, Kathie O'Rourke, Dave Urquhart, Johnny Whitehead	16-Feb-23	
City of Sydney Council	Keys to the City at Pride Flag Raising	Robyn Kennedy	17-Feb-23	
Bloomberg	Sydney World Pride	Robyn Kennedy	17-Feb-23	Sydney's WorldPride Party Masks Tough Truths for LGBTQ Workers - Bloomberg
National Film and Sound Archive of Australia	Guest Writer - blog on the gay rights protests of 15 July and 24 August 1978	Diane Minnis	17-Feb-23	Lesbian and Gay Rights Protests of 1978 National Film and Sound Archive of Australia (nfsa.gov.au)
SBS News live cross	Struggles of the past are still with us	Karl Zlotkowski	17-Feb-23	

Organisation/Event/Media	Title	78ers	Date	Link
News Weekend Magazine	History of Mardi Gras	Diane Minnis, Ken Davis, David Abello	17-Feb-23	
State Library of NSW	Pride (R)Evolution Exhibition Advisory Panel	Robert French, Garry Wotherspoon, Robyn Kennedy	18-Feb-23 to 9-Jul-23	
GLMA Martial Arts	Welcome speech at Martial Arts Championships, Sydney WorldPride Sports	Penny Gulliver	18-Feb-23	
Randwick City Council	Randwick Pride at Coogee Beach 2023, MC	Julie McCrossin	18-Feb-23	https://www.randwick.nsw.gov.au/community/whats-on/major-events/randwick-pride
SPI History Walk	Oxford Street Walk	Robert French, Fabian LoSchiavo	18-Feb-23	
The Guardian	"I had to get out of there" with Lee Clayton	Robyn Kennedy	18-Feb-23	'I had to get out of there': an Australian survivor of homosexuality 'cures' tells her story Sydney WorldPride The Guardian
City of Sydney	Liberate! Exhibition	Sallie Colechin (photographs); Diane Minnis, Ken Davis (quotes)	18-Feb-23 to 2-Jul-23	
ABC Radio	Replay at Fair Day	Robyn Kennedy	19-Feb-23	
Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Fair Day	Initial launch of Voices from 1978: The first Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras	David Abello, Diane Minnis, Karl Zlotkowski	19-Feb-23	
ABC Radio	What does Fair Day mean to me	Rebell Barnes	19-Feb-23	
ABC TV	Interview about Martial Arts Championships, part of Sydney WorldPride Sports	Penny Gulliver	19-Feb-23	
Wentworth Courier	SWP and 45th anniversary	Robyn Kennedy	19-Feb-23	
Refinery29	History of pride in Australia	David Abello	20-Feb-23	
MamaMia	The first Mardi Gras	Sandra Gobbo	21-Feb-23	
Westfield	Interview for Sydney WorldPride booth	Diane Minnis	21-Feb-23	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZ-J0dHP9EI&ab_channel=WestfieldANZ
Mammalian Productions/Darlinghurst Theatre	All The Sex I've Ever Had	Peter Murphy, Titi Chartay, John Turner, Barry Charles	21-Feb-23	https://www.darlinghursttheatre.com/allthesex
ABC current affairs daily news podcast	History of queer rights struggles in Australia	Ken Davis	22-Feb-23	
Nous Proud Group	The first Mardi Gras	David Abello	22-Feb-23	
Mammalian Productions/Darlinghurst Theatre	All The Sex I've Ever Had	Peter Murphy, Titi Chartay, John Turner, Barry Charles	22-Feb-23	https://www.darlinghursttheatre.com/allthesex
National Arts School	Eulogy for a Dyke Bar - CAMP night	Robyn Kennedy	22-Mar-23	
First Mardi Gras Inc.	Pride Pioneers Bus Tour - morning	Diane Minnis, Bob Harvey, Rebell Barnes	23-Feb-23	
First Mardi Gras Inc.	Pride Pioneers Bus Tour - afternoon	Diane Minnis, Bob Harvey, Rebell Barnes	23-Feb-23	

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abc.net.au	3D retelling of the first Mardi Gras	Robyn Plaister, Ken Davis, Peter Murphy, Sallie Colechin, Marg Lyons,	23-Feb-23	Sydney Mardi Gras: How one night of violence in 1978 forever changed Australia's LGBTQIA+ movement - ABC News
Sun-Herald	Mardi Gras this weekend	Bob Harvey, Rebell Barnes	23-Feb-23	
Diversity & Inclusion Employee Action Group at Colonial First State	Mardi Gras and World Pride, history of 'Pride', why Allies are important	David Abello	23-Feb-23	
Sydney Morning Herald	The first Mardi Gras and queer rights struggles	Ken Davis	23-Feb-23	
Macquarie Park, staff, local MP for World Pride	1973 events	Ken Davis	23-Feb-23	
ABC Illawarra	Radio interview	Ken Davis	23-Feb-23	
Union Pride reception	78ers speech	Ken Davis	23-Feb-23	
ABC TV News Breakfast	Live interview on board the Rainbow Bus	Robyn Kennedy	23-Feb-23	
First Mardi Gras Inc.	78ers Cocktail Party	Ken Davis, Diane Minnis MC	23-Feb-23	
Vogue Australia Magazine	The good fight: two members of the 78ers look back and look forward	Gail Hewison, Karl Zlotkowski	24-Feb-23	Vogue: The good fight: 2 members of the 78ers look back-and look forward - First Mardi Gras
First Mardi Gras Inc.	Pride Pioneers Bus Tour - morning	Diane Minnis, Fiona Hulme, Ken Davis	24-Feb-23	
Dutch broadcaster NOS and newspaper NRC	Interviews with Pride Pioneers Bus Tour presenters and participants	Diane Minnis, Fiona Hulme, Ken Davis	24-Feb-23	
First Mardi Gras Inc.	Pride Pioneers Bus Tour - afternoon	Diane Minnis, Fiona Hulme, Karl Zlotkowski, Barry Charles	24-Feb-23	
CSIRO	History of Mardi Gras	Lance Mumby	24-Feb-23	
Asana	Discussion about Mardi Gras and Pride along with Daniel Howie and Penelope Pettigrew	David Abello	24-Feb-23	
Mammalian Productions/Darlinghurst Theatre	All The Sex I've Ever Had	Peter Murphy, Titi Chartay, John Turner, Barry Charles	24-Feb-23	https://www.darlinghursttheatre.com/allthesex
Rainbow Routes Bus	Rainbow Routes Bus Tour	Robyn Kennedy, Fabian Lo Schiavo	24-Feb-23	
2GB Radio	Live interview at SWP Opening Concert	Robyn Kennedy	24-Feb-23	
SydneyWorldPride Opening Concert	"Rise" with Sheldon Riley and Robyn Kennedy	Robyn Kennedy	24-Feb-23	Sheldon Riley with Robyn Kennedy - Rise Live & Proud: Sydney WorldPride Opening Concert - YouTube
Channel 7 and Daily Telegraph	Pre-Parade press conference	Kate Rowe and Lance Day	24-Feb-23	

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Sydney Morning Herald	Take Mardi Gras Joyride	Robyn Kennedy	25-Feb-23	
Spinal Cord Injury Association	Podcast about the early activism in queer and disability spaces	David Abello	25-Feb-23	
Korean Radio 6	Intevuew at beginning of Parade - who are we and what float represents	Rebell Barnes	25-Feb-23	
Channel 7	78ers in the Mardi Gras Parade	Kate Rowe	25-Feb-23	
Mammalian Productions/Darlinghurst Theatre	All The Sex I've Ever Had	Peter Murphy, Titi Chartay, John Turner, Barry Charles	26-Feb-23	https://www.darlinghursttheatre.com/allthesex
First Mardi Gras Inc.	Pride Pioneers Bus Tour	Diane Minnis, Fiona Hulme, Richard Thode, Barry Charles	27-Feb-23	
First Mardi Gras Inc.	Pride Pioneers Bus Tour	Diane Minnis, Fiona Hulme, Richard Thode, Michael Fenaughty, Fabian LoSchiavo, Donnie McPherson	27-Feb-23	
Refinery29	This Is Why We Need More Intergenerational Queer Conversations	Robyn Kennedy	28-Feb-23	Why We Need More Intergenerational Queer Conversations (refinery29.com)
First Mardi Gras Inc.	Pride Pioneers Bus Tour	Diane Minnis, Robyn Kennedy, Fiona Hulme	28-Feb-23	
First Mardi Gras Inc.	Pride Pioneers Bus Tour	Diane Minnis, Robyn Kennedy, Fiona Hulme	28-Feb-23	
CISCO	The first Mardi Gras and LGBTIQ people in sport	Ken Davis, Penny Gulliver	28-Feb-23	
Star Observer	Ejected 78er Brings Her Own Hot Pink Fluffy Handcuffs To Sydney Mardi Gras	Barbara Karpinski	28-Feb-23	
ABC TV	Queerstralia	Peter De Waal, Dennis Altman, Diane Minnis	28-Feb-23	
Corrections NSW	The first Mardi Gras	Maree Marsh	2-Mar-23	
World Pride Human Rights Conference	Intergenerational Round Tables	Ken Davis, Betty Hounslow, Susan Ardill	2-Mar-23	
World Pride Human Rights Conference	Panel: Pride across the globe - protest and international solidarity	Diane Minnis	2-Mar-23	
World Pride Human Rights Conference	Closing sessions	Robyn Kennedy, Dennis Altman	2-Mar-23	
CBRE	Speak at Inclusion Month event	Frank Howarth	2-Mar-23	
Rally outside Cardinal Pell Requiem Mass	Pell as an abuser and enabler of exploitation and sexual abuse	Ken Davis	2-Mar-23	
NSW Transport Heritage Community of Practice	World Pride 2023 from 78er and Heritage Council perspectives	Frank Howarth	3-Mar-23	
The Stages Podcast	CAMP: The evolution of a movement and the movment of a play	Robyn Kennedy	3-Mar-23	https://open.spotify.com/episode/6fj0osifVfLkRZ5GPe34DZ?si=A4xoJhmbRSChamdKJ20JRQ
Pride History Group Conference	Fifty years of Activism and International Solidarity; History unions and lesbian and gay rights in NSW	Ken Davis	4-Mar-23	

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Pride History Group Conference	Tthe role of women in SGLMG	Sallie Colechin	4-Mar-23	
Pride History Group Conference	NSW Gay Trade Unionists' Group 1978-1980	John Witte	4-Mar-23	
Pride History Group Conference	Trans activists and The Gender Centre	Jesse Hooley	4-Mar-23	
Sydney WorldPride	Pride Harbour Bridge Walk opening speech	Robyn Kennedy	5-Mar-23	
Channel 9	Interviewed on the Bridge before we marched	Rebell Barnes	5-Mar-23	
Channel 7	Interviewed after the Bridge Walk - what does today mean to you	Rebell Barnes	5-Mar-23	
Channel 9	Interviewed after the Bridge Walk - what does today mean to you	Rebell Barnes	5-Mar-23	
CARR Snap Action	Distress caused by Christian Lives Matter actions	Diane Fieldes, Jesse Hooley	5-Mar-23	
ABC Online	Interview with ABC Online - after Bridge Walk	Barry Charles	5-Mar-23	
ABC TV	Queerstralia	Diane Minnis, Penny Gulliver, Alex Kaufman, Dennis Altman	7-Mar-23	
ABC TV	Queerstralia	Dennis Altman, Ian Gray, Penny Gulliver, Alex Kaufman	14-Mar-23	
Boomplay	Barry Charles is a respected member of the 78er's but his fight for equality started in 1971	Barry Charles	15-Mar-23	Barry Charles is a respected member of the 78er's but his fight for equality started in 1971. Podcast Boomplay
ACON	Pride in Health and Wellbeing Awards, Host	Julie McCrossin	21-Mar-23	
ABC TV	Queerstralia	Kimberly O'Sullivan	21-Mar-23	
Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade Awards	Presenting the Spirit of 1978 Award to Union Pride	Karl Zlotkowski	25-Mar-23	
SBS Insight	Soulmates	Helen Gollan	28-Mar-23	Soulmates SBS On Demand
ACON	IWD Talk	Robyn Plaister	29-Mar-23	
UNSW Galleries	Culture and Sex 80s-90s	Barry Charles	1-Apr-23	
Waverley Municipal Council/UNSW Galleries	LGBTQI History Walk Oxford Street - Interview	Barry Charles	2-Apr-23	
Treasury Estate Wines/ Studio Mason/Joy FM	Seventy Eight: The story of the first Mardi Gras	Diane Minnis, Rebell Barnes, Maree Marsh, Lance Mumby	6-Apr-23	https://joy.org.au/78the-story-of-the-first-mardi-gras/
Pass-Port Store and Gallery	Dancing in the Garden of Pan Exhibition	Toby Zoates	8-Apr-23 to 20-04-2023	
Pass-Port Store and Gallery	Speech at Dancing in the Garden of Pan Exhibition	Toby Zoates	8-Apr-23	
ABC TV	Compass: Sacred Space - Julie McCrossin	Julie McCrossin	9-Apr-23	Compass: ABC iview
Uni student interview	The first Mardi Gras	Maree Marsh	12-Apr-23	
Uni student interview	Inappropriateness of aged care services in the ageing LGBTQIA+ community	David Abello	11-Apr-23	
Twenty10/Gay and Lesbian Counselling Service	Phone-A-Friend 50th Anniversary	Peter De Waal	13-Apr-23	
UNSW student magazine	Interview, 1978	Ken Davis	14-Apr-23	

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Generation Women	Story telling including 78er experience	Kate Rowe	19-Apr-23	
NBN Pride Network	Panel on 78ers history	Ken Davis	20-Apr-23	
Pass-Port Store and Gallery	Speech at Dancing in the Garden of Pan Exhibition	Toby Zoates	20-Apr-23	
Macca's World video podcast prisoners support show	Queer struggles and lifestyles, 1978 events	Toby Zoates	21-Apr-23	
Clouds of Magellan	Novel Death in the Sauna	Dennis Altman	1-May-23	
Queensland Council for LGBTI Health Volunteer Awards	Speech when presented with the President's Award	Dr Bernard Gardiner	13-May-23	
Diageo	IDAHOBIT event on the first Mardi Gras	Diane Minnis, David Abello	17-May-23	
Blasé Sound podcast	Life and struggles of a queer artist, 1978 riots	Toby Zoates	22-May-23	Episode 19 - Toby Zoates - Blasé Sound Podcast on Spotify
Generation Women	Story telling including 78er experience	Kate Rowe	31-May-23	
Stonewall Hotel	Launch of Pride Month	Robyn Kennedy	1-Jun-23	
Star Observer	Sydney LGBT Museum: Rough Justice Survivors Speak Out About Darlo Jail	Barbara Karpinski, Peter Murphy	1-Jun-23	Sydney LGBT Museum: Rough Justice Survivors Speak Out About Darlo Jail - Star Observer
VICE magazine	The wild life of Toby Zoates	Toby Zoates	6-Jun-23	The Wild Life of Toby Zoates: Sydney's Squatting Movement, Acid, Protests and Art (vice.com)
SBS Insight	Episode 18: Protest	Peter Murphy	7-Jun-23	https://www.sbs.com.au/ondemand/news-series/insight/insight-2023/insight-s2023-ep18/2218098243549
Vicinity/QVB staff	Panel discussion	Ken Davis	7-Jun-23	
Sydney Morning Herald	The gay Christian 'nun' and satirist who became a queer legend	Ken Davis	7-Jun-23	Fabian Lo Schiavo: Longtime gay activist dead (smh.com.au)
Heritage NSW	Importance of preserving Mardi Gras heritage	Diane Minnis, Frank Howarth	8-Jun-23	
State Library	Pride (R)Evolution Exhibition 'Walk with a 78er'	Barry Charles	8-Jun-23	
State Library	Pride (R)Evolution Exhibition 'Walk with a 78er'	Terry Batterham, Diane Minnis	10-Jun-23	
State Library	Pride (R)Evolution Exhibition 'Walk with a 78er'	Sandra Gobbo, Terry Batterham	12-Jun-23	
Resolution Life Pride Group	The first Mardi Gras	Diane Minnis, Fiona Hulme	14-Jun-23	
Arcadis PRIDE Affinity Group	The first Mardi Gras	Diane Minnis	15-Jun-23	
NSW Police Academy	78ers LGBTQIA+ communities and police	Jesse Hooley	15-Jun-23	
State Library	Pride (R)Evolution Exhibition 'Walk with a 78er'	Barry Charles	16-Jun-23	
Newtown Women's Library	Discussion of CAMP	Robyn Kennedy, Robyn Plaister	17-Jun-23	
State Library	Pride (R)Evolution Exhibition 'Walk with a 78er'	Diane Minnis	17-Jun-23	
62nd Queens Ball Awards	Speech on receiving Queens Ball Lifetime Achievement Award,	Dr Bernard Gardiner	17-Jun-23	Dr Bernard Gardiner honoured with top Queens Ball Award (qnews.com.au)
State Library	Pride (R)Evolution Exhibition 'Walk with a 78er'	Sandra Gobbo, Rebell Barnes	20-Jun-23	

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Podcast, Charles Sturt University	Conversations for a Brave New World - LGBT Rights	Karl Zlotkowski	20-Jun-23	
Corrective Services NSW	Keynote Speaker address at Corrective Services Inaugural Pride Conference	Penny Gulliver	22-Jun-23	
State Library Library Pride Month forum	Our Queer Futures	Betty Hounslow	22-Jun-23	
Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Queer Thinking	The 70s podcast	Robyn Kennedy, Karl Zlotkowski	22-Jun-23	The 70s - Queer Thinking Podcast on Spotify
City of Sydney Archives	Forum facilitated by Jacqui North with Liberate! exhibition photographers	Sallie Colechin	24-Jun-23	
Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras	Sapphire Anniversary of Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras	Diane Minnis	24-Jun-23	
Hunter Rainbow History Evening	45th Anniversary of the Sydney Mardi Gras with a Newcastle Twist	John Witte, Helen Gollan	25-Jun-23	
Trans Rights rally	Defend Trans rights	Jesse Hooley	25-Jun-23	
First Mardi Gras Inc	45th Anniversary Drinks	Diane Minnis, Ken Davis	25-Jun-23	
107 Redfern	Brilliant Queer Youth Workshop	Barry Charles	25-Jun-23	
State Library	Pride (R)Evolution Exhibition 'Walk with a 78er'	Barry Charles, Terry Batterham	26-Jun-23	
Better Read Than Dead	Launch of Death in the Sauna	Dennis Altman	26-Jun-23	
First Mardi Gras Inc.	Official launch of Voices from 1978: The first Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras	Kate Harrison, Karl Zlotkowski, Betty Hounslow, Diane Minnis MC, Ken Davis MC	27-Jun-23	
Dept of Home Affairs	78er experience, panel discussion	Fiona Hulme	27-Jun-23	
State Library	Pride (R)Evolution Exhibition 'Walk with a 78er'	Maree Marsh, Terry Batterham	29-Jun-23	
Star Observer	Speaker at 45th year of publication celebrations	Robyn Kennedy	29-Jun-23	
ACTU History	Interview on LGBTIQ union history	Ken Davis	30-Jun-23	

FIRST MARDI GRAS

