

# 1973

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

Updated on 4/10/2019

Date	Location (if not Sydney)	Event	Reference
27 January 1973		A zap held on Sydney City Circle train, when 3 men showed open affection toward each other.	SGLV1N7
February 1973		<i>William and John</i> are prosecuted in NSW and Victoria.	MM
February 1973		A Catholic Group within CAMP forms to meet the needs of homosexual Catholics and establish a dialogue with Catholic authorities and clergy.	CN Feb73
2 February 1973	Canberra	Prime Minister Whitlam raises the question of discrimination against homosexuals with the Commonwealth Public Service Board.	RF
12 February 1973		CAMP Inc holds its first meeting at 10 David Street, Forrest Lodge.	CI V3N2
17 February 1973		The CAMP Women's Association is formed.	CN Feb73
March 1973		The NSW Labor Party Women's Conference votes in favour of homosexual law reform.	MM
13 March 1973		The homosexuality of Jeff Hayler made an issue in the Student President elections at Macquarie University in Sydney. Hayler eventually wins the election.	RF
Easter 1973		Gay Christian vigils leaflet Anglican and Catholic cathedrals.	KD
April 1973		Gays picket Dr Harry Bailey in Macquarie Street for using psychosurgery to cure homosexuality.	KD
13 April 1973		Phone A Friend starts receiving calls from 6pm.	CN May73
May 1973		Sydney Gay Liberation moves from 67 Glebe Point Road, to share 10 David Street, Forrest Lodge with CAMP.	CN May73
5 May 1973		Gay Liberation Dance at Paddington Town Hall. 700 attend and some are harassed by sharpies in the street	SGLV1N8
8 May 1973		<i>The Australian</i> reports Congregational Reverend Mario Schoenmaker marrying 2 lesbians in CAMP WA's clubrooms.	CN May73
May Day 1973		Gay liberationists and feminists storm the speaker's platform at the May Day Rally in the Domain to protest against the sexism of the labour movement.	KD



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23 May 1973	Canberra	The Federal Social Security Minister, Bill Hayden directs that homosexuality not be a determinant in the assessment of Social Security rights. (This is the first anti-discrimination measure by any government.)	RF
June 1973		Sydney Gay Liberation holds a dance at Paddington Town Hall.	MM
June 1973		Sydney Gay Liberation and CAMP are forced to move from 10 David Street, Forrest Lodge. CWA meets at Women's Liberation House. SGL meets at 14 Australia Street.	CN June73
3 June 1973		A Zap is held at the Domain, with a leaflet handed out by Gay Liberationists to the people listening to the Sunday speakers.	SGLV1N9
4 June 1973		Gay Lib activist Jeremy Fisher is expelled from Menzies college at Macquarie University. As a result, the Builders Labourers' Federation (BLF) bans construction at the University.	KD
4 June 1973		First meeting of the CAMP Women's Association Research Group in Susan Street, Leichhardt	CWAV2N3
5 June 1973		CAMP Poetry Group holds its first meeting.	CN June73
6-8 July 1973	Sorrento Victoria	A Radicalesbian conference is held with 60 women attending.	KD
10 July 1973		"The Glebe" campaigns against the use of 10 David Street as a gay centre in a residentially zoned residence.	SGLV1N9
27 July 1973		CAMP Ball is held at Balmain Town Hall	CN June73
6 August 1973		Dr Neil McConaughy's aversion therapy seminar at the University of NSW is disrupted by gay activists.	MM
18 August 1973		The NSW Liberal Party State Council votes in favour of homosexual law reform.	MM
18 August 1973		Sydney Gay Liberation moves into 33a Glebe Point Road.	SGLV1N11
26 August 1973	Newcastle	Marxism-Human Liberation Forum is held at Newcastle Trades Hall and is attended by Sydney Gay Liberation.	SGLV1N11
11-15 September 1973	Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide	Gay Pride Week is held throughout Australia.	KD
15 September 1973		17 gay activists are arrested in the Gay Pride Week march from the Town Hall to Martin Place.	KD

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19 September 1973	Adelaide	Peter Duncan introduces a Bill to decriminalise homosexual acts in SA.	RF
October 1973		Sydney Gay Liberation dissolves. It becomes the Gay Liberation Front.	KD
October 1973		The Sydney Anglican Synod releases its <i>Report on Homosexuality</i> .	MM
October 1973	Adelaide	The Duncan Bill passes the SA House of Assembly.	RF
5 October 1973		Fire destroys well known gay night spot Capriccio's.	CI V3N7
15 October 1973		The Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatry Federal Council declares homosexuality not an illness – the first such body in the world to do so.	MM
18 October 1973	Canberra	Federal Parliament votes 60-40 for the Gorton-Cass motion in favour of decriminalising homosexual acts. Subsequently the Commonwealth Public Service Board investigates changing its recruitment policy.	RF
20 October 1973		A special meeting of Sydney Gay Liberation is held to discuss its future.	SGLV1N14
28 October 1973		Martin Smith announces he will run as a gay candidate for the State seat of Waverley.	KD
November 1973		Gay evening of roller skating is held every Wednesday at the Olympia Skating Rink, Annandale.	SGLF 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov 73
2 November 1973		Sydney University Gay Liberation Dance is held at the Manning Building, University of Sydney.	SGLF 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov 73
5 November 1973		Public meeting to launch Martin Smith's campaign for the electorate of Waverley.	SGLF 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov 73
9 November 1973		Acceptance, the gay Catholic group meets at St Vincents Church in Redfern	SGLF 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov 73
10 November 1973		Sydney Gay Liberation Front holds a dance at Balmain Town Hall.	SGLF 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov 73
17 November 1973		Gay Political Action Group's Martin Smith fails to win Waverley in the State election.	GLN Dec 73
21 November 1973	Adelaide	The Duncan Bill is defeated in the SA Legislative Council on the casting vote of the President.	RF



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28 November 1973	Adelaide	A new homosexual law reform Bill passes in the SA Parliament.	RF
December 1973		CAMP takes over the premises at 33A Glebe Point Road vacated by Sydney Gay Liberation.	KD
December 1973		The Metropolitan Community Church study group is formed.	KD
1 December 1973		Gay Liberation Dance is held at Paddington Town Hall. Profits are used to pay for damage to the Hall.	GLN Dec 73
5 December 1973		Gay Teachers' Discussion Group is held at 376 Cleveland Street Surry Hills.	GLN Dec 73
7-8 December 1973		Lesbian Liberation Conference is held at Minto.	SGLF 2nd Nov 73
9 December 1973		Demonstration against the oppression of young women in girls' homes outside Parramatta Girls Home	GLN Dec 73
14 December 1973		CAMP Christmas Dance is held at Balmain Town Hall	CN Dec73

#### Sources:

MM = Murray McLachlan

KD = Ken Davis

RF = Robert French

Based partly on previous listings by:

- Craig Johnston
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- 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

CI = Camp Ink

CN = CAMP NSW Newsletter

SGL = Sydney Gay Liberation Newsletter

SGLF = Sydney Gay Liberation Front Newsletter

GLN = Gay Lib News

CWA = CAMP Women's Association Newsletter

