

1993

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

Updated on 5/10/2019

Date	Location (if not Sydney)	Event	Reference
January 1993		A lesbian couple, Miranda and Belinda and their child are denied family health insurance coverage by Medibank Private.	SSO 201
January 1993		The Lesbian and Gay Solidarity Group (LGSG) refuses to endorse Sydney's bid to host the 1998 Gay Games, because it sees more pressing needs in the community.	SSO 201
January 1993		The formation of the new Sydney Gay and Lesbian Big Band is announced.	CQ 21
January 1993		A national media campaign revolving around ordinary people with HIV - <i>HIV doesn't discriminate ... people do</i> - begins.	CQ 21
1 January 1993		The Pride NYE dance party raises \$50,000 towards a new lesbian and gay community centre.	SSO 201
7 January 1993		Rudolf Nureyev dies in Paris of an AIDS related illness, aged 54.	SSO 200
17 January 1993	Melbourne	A national media campaign to educate people living with HIV and AIDS about their rights under the new Disability Discrimination Act is launched.	SSO 201
20 – 27 January 1993		The Anti-Violence Project's (AVP) Lesbian and Gay Violence Awareness Week is held.	SSO 201
23 January 1993		Attitude-Locker Room presents <i>Primal</i> dance party at the Stadium.	SSO 201
28 January 1993		Deborah Conway launches the new <i>Open the Door</i> poster for AIDS Council of NSW's (ACON) women and AIDS project.	SSO 202
February 1993		The Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras (SGLMG) rejects a \$33,000 condom sponsorship deal which would have tied Playboy Magazine's bunny trademark to the Mardi Gras.	SSO 202
February 1993		A plain clothes police constable, accused of assaulting a gay demonstrator during the 1990 Fred Nile 'Cleanse the Cross' rally, is cleared of assault charges.	SSO 203
1 February 1993		Nudity at Reef Beach is made illegal by Manly Municipal Council after a 17 year battle by local residents' association which largely relied on a homophobic campaign.	SSO 200
1 February 1993		Mardi Gras 1993 is launched in Green Park, Darlinghurst.	CQ 23



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7 February 1993		Mardi Gras Fair Day is held at Jubilee Park, Glebe.	CQ 22
12 February 1993		The 1993 Gay and Lesbian Film Festival is launched at the Academy Twin Cinema.	CQ 25
13 February 1993		2000AD and 69 Entertainment present <i>Love Parade</i> dance party at the Wesley Theatre in George Street.	SSO 201
20 February 1993		The Sydney Theatre Company's <i>Angels in America</i> directed by Michael Gow opens at the Wharf Theatre.	SSO 202
20 February 1993		<i>Shop Yourself Stupid</i> is held in Oxford Street.	CQ 26
27 February 1993		Sydney's 16 th Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras parade captures a record crowd of 500,000 which watches 118 entries in a 2 hour, 2 ½ km parade. The Party at the Showgrounds raises \$800,000.	SSO 204
March 1993		Tiresias House obtains funding for a full time HIV community outreach worker for transgender people.	SSO 201
March 1993		The Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby's Anti-Violence Project (AVP) receives 156 reports of anti-gay assaults for the four month period November 1992 – February 1993.	SSO 205
March 1993		The Amigos, the third gay and lesbian ten pin bowling league in Sydney meets at the Rockdale Bowling Centre.	SSO 205
March 1993		Queer Screen is formed to promote film culture.	SSO 206
March 1993		Abuse and harassment of staff and residents of the 2010 refuge in Glebe force its re-location.	CQ 30
1 March 1993	Canberra	The Federal Disability Discrimination Bill makes discrimination unlawful on the basis of AIDS/HIV in employment and accommodation.	CQ 27
24 March 1993	Canberra	Gay and lesbian couples are specifically excluded from child adoption legislation which passes the ACT Legislative Assembly.	CQ 31
25 March 1993		GLRL transgender activist, Norrie-May Welby is expelled at a management committee meeting for twice publically criticising the Lobby.	SSO 206
29 March 1993	New York	International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA) is given consultative status at the United Nations.	CQ 33



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April 1993		An American anti-gay video <i>The Gay Agenda</i> is sent to every politician in NSW.	SSO 203
April 1993		Amusement centre company, Avel Pty Ltd, announces a proposal to develop 173-175 Oxford Street, Darlinghurst as an amusement centre. The proposal is opposed by locals and lesbian and gay community groups.	SSO 207
April 1993		The Department of School Education's <i>Resources For Teaching Against Violence</i> is reported as having a low take up rate among NSW schools.	SSO 207
4 April 1993		The newly formed Australian Council for Lesbian and Gay Rights meets to elect 2 NSW Representatives to the national body.	SSO 206
7 April 1993		The NSW Health Minister, Ron Phillips announces support for implementing the recommendations of the AVP <i>Off Our Backs</i> report into anti-lesbian violence. He also announces \$100,000 government funding for the AVP.	SSO 207
7 April 1993		Wellcome Pharmaceuticals hosts a press conference at which a panel of leading AIDS experts unanimously urge people living with HIV/AIDS not to abandon AZT treatments. This follows published findings that cast doubts on the value of AZT in treating HIV.	SSO 207
10 April 1993		Sweatbox presents <i>Boypussy</i> dance party at the Alexandria Basketball Stadium.	SSO 205
20 April 1993		The Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby (GLRL) votes 88 to 39 "to resist any change in the foreseeable future" to broaden its constitution to embrace transgender and bi-sexual issues.	SSO 208
20 April 1993		Transgender activist Norrie-May Welby appeals against her expulsion at a Special General Meeting of GLRL.	SSO 207
24 April 1993		Pride and the Leather Pride Week Association present the <i>Inquisition</i> dance party at the Dome RAS Showgrounds.	SSO 207
May 1993	Melbourne	A brief history of homosexual law reform in Australian is published by the Australian Lesbian and Gay Archives (ALGA) as part of an educational kit for secondary school students.	SSO 210
May 1993		<i>Gayblade</i> – the world's first gay and lesbian computer game is advertised for sale in the US.	SSO 209



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May 1993		The South Sydney Council approves prohibiting amusement centres on Oxford Street. (see April 1993)	CQ 36
May 1993		A new \$3.5m HIV/AIDS specialist centre at Prince of Wales Hospital is announced by NSW Minister for Health Ron Phillips, amalgamating the Albion Street (AIDS) Centre and the AIDS beds at Prince Henry Hospital.	CQ 36
May 1993		The Katana Club, Exchange Hotel, opens and caters for Sydney's gay Asian men and their friends.	CQ 81
2 May 1993		The Boys Own Bake Off is held at the Oxford Hotel.	SSO 207
19 May 1993		A special HIV/AIDS edition of DEAFWIZE, the world's first comic for deaf people is launched by Sophie Lee at ACON.	SSO 209
20 May 1993		<i>Absolutely Girls</i> a play written by Melinda Smith opens at the Pilgrim Theatre.	SSO 209
21 May 1993		Clover Moore's anti-vilification legislation is defeated after a second reading in the NSW Upper House.	CQ 38
23 May 1993		Up to 12,000 take part in the 10 th International Candlelight AIDS Memorial from Green Park to Sandringham Gardens in Hyde Park North.	SSO 210
June 1993	Adelaide	A Sydney lesbian couple are the first allowed to adopt a child. One partner is deemed a "single person" and the legal parent.	SSO 212
June 1993		The co-convenor of the Gay and Lesbian Teachers and Student Association (GaLTaS), teacher Jacqui Griffin, lodges a complaint with the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (HREOC) after the Sydney Catholic Education Office refuses her a teaching post.	SSO 211
June 1993		Same sex de facto partners will now be counted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in the next census. The architect of the change was solicitor Andrea Wilson.	SSO 211
June 1993		A season of <i>Relative Merits</i> a play by Barry Lowe is held at the Stables Theatre, Kings Cross.	SSO 211
June 1993		The GLCS is now allocating lesbian councillors to the second and fourth Monday each month. 22% of calls received by GLCS are from lesbians.	CQ 42
12 June 1993		ACON and PRIDE fundraising dance <i>Hand in Hand</i> is held at the Hordern Pavilion.	SSO 212



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12 June 1993		Beat Boys present <i>Performance</i> dance party at Birmingham Street, Alexandria.	SSO 209
13 June 1993		A poster designed by Kaye Shumack aimed at reducing the high level of violence against lesbians is launched by the AVP.	SSO 211
25-26 June 1993		The Australian Centre for Gay and Lesbian Research holds its inaugural conference, entitled <i>Activism in the 1990s</i> .	SSO 215
26 June 1993		A night time commemorative pilgrimage to Kings Cross following the route of the first mardi gras and themed <i>We Are Family</i> ", is organised by the 1993 Stonewall Committee.	SSO 209
26 June 1993		Barbara Farrelly becomes the first lesbian editor of the Sydney Star Observer.	SSO 211
26 June 1993		22 members of the Sydney congregation of the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) stage a protest outside a Call to Australia meeting at St Albans Anglican Church, Rooty Hill.	CQ 43
July 1993		Bridges Sharpe Consultancy is hired to raise \$200,000 worth of corporate sponsorship for the 1994 SGLMG.	SSO 215
July 1993		The annual conference of the Federation of Parents and Citizens Association votes to support the inclusion of material on homosexuality in the NSW school syllabus.	SSO 215
July 1993		Tony Kean is appointed national president of AFAO following the resignation of Bill Bowtell.	SSO214
July 1993		A \$200,000 <i>Talk Early Treatments</i> Campaign, sponsored by the drug company Wellcome (Australia), is launched by the NSW Health Minister.	SSO 214
July 1993		The NSW Parents and Citizens Association AGM urges the Department of Education to require schools to implement anti-homophobia programs.	CQ 49
July 1993		A rainbow flag is presented to South Sydney Council by SGLMG and the Federation of Gay Games to hang in its chambers.	CQ 51
2 July 1993		The Governor General, Bill Hayden launches the Australian Centre for Gay and Lesbian Research at University of Sydney.	CQ 43
2 July 1993		The Sydney bid for the 1998 Gay Games (<i>Victory Down Under</i>) is launch at JBF.	CQ 44

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16 July 1993		A Transgender Anti-Violence project is launched at an ACON sponsored benefit at the Rex Hotel.	SSO 213
17 July 1993		GalTaS establishes a 24 hour peer and counselling support phone line for gay and lesbian students who are victims of harassment or violence.	CQ 44
29 July 1993		Results of a major international study in the <i>New England Journal of Medicine</i> shows the use of anti-HIV drug AZT in the early stages of HIV infection can reduce progression of the disease by up to 50%.	CQ 48
31 July – 1 August 1993		The inaugural QueerLit Conference is held in the grounds of Balmain Hospital.	CQ 47
August 1993		A Sydney University Graduate School of Management Study is released and estimates the economic impact to the economy of the SGLMG Parade and Festival to be \$38 million.	SSO 217
August 1993		A housing scheme to subsidise people with AIDS who choose to stay in private rental accommodation, is announced by the NSW Minister of Housing.	SSO 217
August 1993		The Maitraya Foundation, originally established to set up a permanent HIV/AIDS day centre, winds up.	SSO 216
August 1993		The Department of Community Services invites GLRL to contribute to discussions in October “aimed at celebrating and strengthening families”.	CQ 49
August 1993		SGLMG records a loss of \$97,000 in the 1992 – 1993 financial year.	CQ 50
August 1993		Louis Santos becomes the first gay man from South America to be granted refugee status on the grounds of his homosexuality.	CQ 50
16 August 1993		The Gay and Lesbian Memorial Project (GLMP) unveils its design for “our monument”. The project aims to raise \$40,000 to build the monument.	CQ 50
22 August 1993		The SGLMG secures a \$50,000 grant from the South Sydney Council for the 1994 Mardi Gras Parade.	CQ 51
23 August 1993		Robert Walmsley, one of the longest-serving members of the ACON Committee, dies aged 52.	CQ 52
28 August 1993		Bacchanalia dance party <i>Step Back In time ... Again</i> is held at “a secured venue 5 mins from Oxford Street”.	CQ 49



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September 1993		The SGLMG Board decides not to reappoint 7 members of the SGLMG Festival Committee and others resign in protest.	SSO 219
1 September 1993		The Australian Press Council dismisses Mannie De Saxe and Ian MacNeill's complaint against the Sydney Morning Herald's use of the term HIV and AIDS 'victims'.	SSO 217
4 September 1993		All fourteen nominees on Susan Harben's ticket are elected to the Board of SGLMG. It is the first Board with gender parity.	CQ 53
7 September 1993		South Sydney Council establishes a Gay and Lesbian Liaison Committee.	CQ 53
11 September 1993		Fire and Water Productions 1993 Ms Lesbian contest is won by Nicola Dorne at the Exchange Hotel.	CQ 54
13 September 1993		Pride appoints a consultancy and research company to examine the requirements of the lesbian and gay communities.	CQ 54
14 September 1993		2,000 demonstrate at NSW Parliament House against the dropping of a homosexual vilification Bill.	CQ 54
21 September 1993		Waverley Council is the first council to approve a plan to set up a block of residential home units, specifically to house people with HIV/AIDS.	CQ 55
23 September 1993		David McLachlan is elected as a new co-convenor of GLRL.	CQ 56
24 September – 3 October 1993		The inaugural SGLMG funded 1993 Sydney International Queer Film Festival is held at the AFI Cinema in Paddington.	CQ 49
28 September 1993		Pride Co-Presidents, Gillian Minervini and Gary Cox step down from the Board, and suggest that buying a building may no longer be a feasible option.	SSO 219
30 September 1993		The Beauchamp Hotel – "a new gay pub" opens on Oxford Street.	CQ 55
October 1993		Sasha Soldatow's <i>Mayakovsky in Bondi</i> is published by Black Wattle Press.	SSO 220
October 1993	Paris	Researchers at the Pasteur Institute discover a molecule on human immune cells which acts as a door for HIV to enter and destroy them.	CQ 60



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October 1993	Germany	The country's Supreme Court upholds a ban on gay and lesbian marriages.	CQ 60
October 1993		St Vincent's Hospital Immunology department receives \$6,000 from the proceeds of a sale of the uniforms collection from the late Allan Jennings' estate.	CQ 61
October 1993		The NSW Council of Civil Liberties endorses anti-vilification legislation before the NSW parliament.	CQ 59
October 1993		The annual conference of the Independent Teachers' Association votes in favour of extending homosexual and HIV related anti-vilification legislation to Catholic and private schools.	CQ 61
2 October 1993		<i>Sleaze: a lesbian and gay costume ball</i> is held at Royal Agricultural Society Showground.	SSO 218
3 October 1993		Victor Li and Kinselas present <i>Born to be Alive</i> , a dance benefit for the AVP at Kinselas.	CQ 55
4 October 1993		A documentary <i>Positive Art</i> , produced and directed by Greg Shears is screened on ABC TV.	CQ 56
8 October 1993		International Lesbian Day is organised by the Lesbian Space Project.	CQ 58
10 October 1993		Thousands of gays and lesbians rally at Taylor Square to protest the delays to anti-homosexual vilification legislation.	SSO 220
22 October 1993	Newcastle	"The Great Queer Debate", organised by the Newcastle Gay and Lesbian Information Service, is held at the Karumah Day Centre, Newcastle.	SSO 220
25 October 1993		Peter MacDonnell, director of the 1988 and 1989 Mardi Gras parties dies aged 49.	SSO 221
27 October 1993		Gay man, Paul Mortimer, bashed by two police officers in 1985, finally wins a substantial damages claim from the two men in the Civil District Court.	CQ 61
29 October 1993		The annual <i>Reclaim the Night</i> march is held from Hyde Park along George Street, ending with a concert in First Fleet Park, Circular Quay.	CQ 61
30 October 1993		45 Peacemaker Productions presents <i>Loud and Proud</i> dance party at the Alexandria Basketball Stadium.	SSO 220

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November 1993	Adelaide	Playwright David Jobling wins a landmark sexual discrimination case in Adelaide, after he was sacked from a teaching post for being gay and HIV positive.	SSO 223
November 1993		Both the Prime Minister, Paul Keating and the Federal Opposition Leader, Dr John Hewson endorse Sydney's bid to host the 1998 Gay Games.	CQ 62
November 1993		GLRL goes ahead with a plan to produce an anti-homophobic kit aimed at combating discrimination against lesbians and gay men in the workplace.	CQ 62
November 1993		Ashfield residents picket the Ashfield Park toilet block in an ongoing campaign to stop men using it as a place for sexual activity.	CQ 63
6 November 1993		DCM presents <i>When the Cat's Away</i> at the Alexandria Basketball Stadium. Funds are raised for Ward 17 South and the Gay and Lesbian Counselling Service (GLCS).	SSO 220
7 November 1993		The 17 th annual Polympics is held at Erskineville Oval.	SSO 222
16 November 1993		Graeme Harris, trade union and HIV/AIDS activist dies aged 46.	SSO 224
18 November 1993		Clover Moore's Private Member's Homosexual Vilification Amendment (to the 1977 Anti-Discrimination Act) Bill is passed by NSW Parliament, making NSW the first Australian state to do so.	CQ 63 SSO 223
24 November 1993		Christopher Paul McKinnon is acquitted by a jury in the Supreme Court for the bashing murder of Maurice McCarty. He had claimed his actions were justified because they were in self-defence.	SSO 224
27 November 1993		DMC Promotions presents <i>Summer Party</i> dance party at the Stadium – a fundraiser for the AIDS Trust of Australia.	SSO 221
December 1993		<i>Camping by a Billabong</i> by Robert French is published by Black Wattle Press.	SSO 224
December 1993		A report into discrimination in the insurance industry highlights AIDS exclusion clauses in superannuation funds and life insurance policies. Federal Minister of Health, Graham Richardson threatens legislation if the industry continues discriminating.	CQ 66

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December 1993		The Australian Council of Lesbian and Gay rights labels calls by Tim Fisher, National Party leader to exclude gay and lesbian couples from welfare benefits, as based on hate and prejudice.	CQ 69
December 1993	Hobart	Museums Australia, resolves at its inaugural meeting to develop a policy to guide its members on the interpretation and presentation of material on gay men and lesbians in all public art galleries and museums in Australia.	Q 89
9 December 1993		A Democrat's amendment to the Federal Government's Industrial Relations legislation is passed. The amendment adds "sexual preference, age, physical or mental disability" to the list of prohibited grounds of discrimination.	CQ 66
10 December 1993		The Lesbian Space Project succeeds in reaching its \$250,000 target at a deadline fund raising concert at Sydney Town Hall.	SSO 225
31 December 1993		Pride holds its biggest New Year's Eve Party with 8,100 attending and \$170,000 generated.	SSO 226
31 December 1993		Sweatbox presents <i>Let the Music Take U Higher!</i> Dance party at the Alexandria Basketball Stadium. Proceeds go to the AVP.	SSO 224
31 December 1993		Blackmarket Nightclub and Allan Anders present <i>Venus</i> NYE dance party at the Alexandria Sports Centre.	SSO 224

Sources:

SSO = Sydney Star Observer

CQ = Capital Q

