

2017

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

Updated on 26/10/2019

Date	Location (if not Sydney)	Event	Reference
19 May 2017	Sydney	Peter Bonsall-Boone, long time gay rights activist, dies.	YYY p189
9 August 2017	Canberra	The federal coalition government moves a procedural motion to bring on the plebiscite Bill again. They fail, and the next day announce a postal survey will be held instead.	YYY p198
26 August 2017	Melbourne, Sydney	20,000 attend a marriage equality rally in Melbourne followed the next weekend by 30,000 in Sydney.	YYY p223
September 2017	Canberra	The postal survey is challenged in the High Court by two cases brought on by the Public Interest Advocacy Centre and the Human Rights Law Centre.	YYY p199
7 September 2017	Canberra	The High Court rules 7-0 to dismiss challenges to the Federal Government's same-sex marriage postal survey.	ABC
12 September 2017	Melbourne	The Australian Bureau of Statistics mails our 16 million survey forms which had to be returned by the 7 November 2017.	YYY p219
September 2017		The Lord Mayors of Sydney, Brisbane, Perth, Newcastle, Hobart and Wollongong fly YES banners in support of marriage equality.	YYY p220
21, 22 October 2017	Sydney, Brisbane, Alice Springs, Hobart	Marriage equality rallies are held to maintain the momentum to ensure postal ballots are returned.	YYY p239, Huff
23 October 2017	National	Magda Szubanski speaks in support of marriage equality on the Today Show, Current Affair and Q&A.	YYY p248
15 November 2017	National	The postal survey returns a 61.6% vote in favour of same sex marriage.	YYY p258
15 November 2017	Canberra	Dean Smith's Marriage Amendment (Definition and Religious Freedoms) Bill 2017 is introduced. It is co-sponsored by Labor, Greens, Nick Xenophon Team, Derryn Hinch's Justice Party.	YYY p277
8 December 2017	Canberra	The Marriage Amendment (Definition and Religious Freedoms) Bill 2017 passes both houses and receives Royal Assent.	APH
15 December 2017	Sunshine Coast Q	Jill Kindt and Jo Grant are granted an exemption and are the first same sex couple to marry.	YYY p304

Sources:

YYY = Yes, Yes, Yes: Alex Greenwich and Shirleene Robinson, 2018

APH = Australian Parliament House, [LINK](#)

ABC = Australian Broadcasting Corporation, [LINK](#)

Huff = Huffington Post, [LINK](#)

