

Winter 2015

# Positive News

A round-up of news from Bobby Goldsmith Foundation



**bobby  
goldsmith  
foundation**

practical emotional  
financial support

## Art Exhibition - A Wow Factor



Client artwork at *The Urban Landscape*,  
Phoenix Art Exhibition in Kings Cross

**Bobby Goldsmith Foundation's (BGF) inspirational *Phoenix Art* workshops run throughout 2014 culminated in a colourful art exhibition as part of the World AIDS Day activities.**

Entitled *The Urban Landscape*, the exhibition was a beautiful visual display of one of BGF's most popular client programs.

Curated by Ian Barnett, the show exhibited 15 works of art at the Kings Cross Library. Over 50 guests attended the opening night on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014, many of whom commented on the exceptional talent and the vibrancy of the artworks. Over the course of the exhibition, a number of people registered interest in buying pieces.

The *Phoenix Art* workshops run over three semesters, each one lasting six weeks. The aim of the workshops is



Curator & Artistic Tutor, Ian Barnett (left) with  
BGF Program Coordinator, Richard Kennedy (right)

to improve confidence, reduce social isolation, and nurture artistic talent.

After many years of leading the workshops, Ian is stepping down for a break, however, BGF is pleased to be able to continue the workshops throughout 2015 under the artistic tutoring of Jane Caveney.

BGF would like to thank Ian Barnett, Phillip Relf, Pine Street Creative Arts Centre, and City of Sydney. To view more photos check out the photo album on our Facebook page.

## Message from our CEO



David Riddell

Since the last edition of *Positive News*, Bobby Goldsmith Foundation (BGF) has seen a number of changes take place. Some of these will have an ongoing impact on the organisation.

Firstly, BGF has welcomed a number of new staff, bringing qualified, diverse, multi-skilled people on board. Whilst these changes have strengthened our Casework Team, staff turnover is often difficult for our clients, particularly as they develop long-term and trusted working relationships. To their credit, caseworkers have managed to reduce the impact. I was reassured too that our 2014 Client Survey showed an increased level of satisfaction in terms of BGF's service delivery.

Another change taking place relates to our funding from NSW Health. From 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015, BGF's grant has moved from South East Sydney Local Health District directly to the Ministry of Health. This decision was made to bring BGF into line with the funding arrangements of other state-wide NSW Health funded non-government organisations (NGO's).

Also worth noting is that as of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016, it is anticipated that NGO's will move from grant funding to open tender contracts with rigorous Key Performance Indicators. Over the last two years, BGF has been preparing for this change, having initiated organisational improvements such as quality of data collection, relationship building and strengthening of staff skills and proficiencies.

*Continued over ...*

## Message from our CEO

... continued ...

Perhaps the biggest change for BGF occurred in December 2014. The closure of Bobby Goldsmith House, a ten unit residential facility BGF co-owned with NSW Housing since 1997 marked the end of an era.

A special function was held in January to formally recognise this momentous change, with heartfelt speeches from an ex-resident of the House; BGF long-term staff member, Richard Kennedy; and CEO of the Australian Society of HIV Medicine (ASHM), Levinia Crooks.



Levinia Crooks, ASHM CEO and past BGF CEO, speaks at the official closing of BG House

Levinia was CEO of BGF in 1997 when the House first opened. Her speech beautifully articulated the history of the House and the changing needs of the community.

Other organisational initiatives have seen BGF work extensively to transition to a new model of community support while continuing to deliver the vital, personalised care and support our clients need.

Such pragmatic evolution has been a constant part of BGF for over thirty years, ensuring the organisation remains as relevant today as it was when it first came into being - delivering care and support to the maximum number of people in NSW.

Together, we embrace the future as we acknowledge the past. Thank you for your ongoing support.

## Community Support



BGF's Community Support Workers

**At the closure of BG House at the end of 2014, BGF was pleased to see all former residents happily re-housed in the community.**

The closing of the House was carefully thought through with extensive stakeholder consultation. Consideration and time was taken to help each resident find the right home, to be as independent as possible, and to continue to receive high level of care from BGF's Community Support Workers.

Ex-residents of the House are now living in a mixture of Housing NSW properties, Community Housing Organisations and Aged Care Facilities. BGF staff work closely with these clients and supporting agencies to ensure each person receives

adequate assistance with medication adherence, as well as psycho-social support to address isolation, mental health issues, coaching to wellness, and engagement with their community, among other things.

### Rapid Referrals

Removing barriers to HIV medication for our most vulnerable and marginalised populations continues to be a top priority for BGF.

To achieve this goal, BGF has developed two new rapid referral pathway programs. One is for Aboriginal people living with HIV (PLHIV). The second is for PLHIV who present with chaotic and complex qualities. BGF aims to expedite access to HIV medications for these people to create as smooth and seamless a process as possible to ensure they receive their HIV meds and remain on treatment.

The BGF model of care is invaluable. Your support enables our clients to re-gain control of their lives – to live well, to live with dignity, and to live fulfilling, healthier lives.  
*Thank you!*

## 2014 Client Survey: Key Findings

### SERVICE DELIVERY

- 88% were satisfied with BGF's **outreach program**
- 88% rated **general care** satisfactory or better
- 85% indicated **financial counselling** was satisfactory or better
- 83% felt the **financial assistance** they received was satisfactory or better

### SOCIAL ISOLATION

Nearly 6 of every 10 clients surveyed felt **socially isolated** during the past 24 months. Of those, nearly 50% felt BGF should do something to help alleviate social isolation.

### HEALTH AND MEDICATIONS

- Whilst 92% of clients surveyed rated their **HIV health** satisfactory or better, only 67% rated their **mental health** satisfactory or better
- 96% of clients surveyed are currently on **Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART) medication** of which 92% consider themselves as being **adherent**
- Nearly 2 out of every 3 clients surveyed relied on BGF to provide financial assistance for their **ART medication**



# Entertainment Community Raises \$60k for HIV Charities

**Oz Showbiz Cares / Equity Fights AIDS (OSCEFA) fundraising has been astonishing—a credit to the entertainment industry and everyone who shows their support.**

Throughout the World AIDS Day weekend BGF and ACON worked with OSCEFA to ring in volunteers to bucket collect at live theatres across Sydney's CBD. Patrons attending the 20 or more shows dug deep, collectively donating a staggering \$30,000 – an amount we were all ecstatic about. OSCEFA generously

gifted these proceeds evenly to BGF and ACON.

In February, OSCEFA set about impressing the community once again with their annual production of *Hats Off*. Now in its 18th year, *Hats Off* continues to showcase the crème de la crème of Australia's finest singers, dancers and musicians who volunteer their time for the production.

The one-night-only show, held at the Seymour Centre in Chippendale, was a sensation, featuring a galaxy of

musical theatre stars. *Hats Off* raised \$30,000, which was also donated evenly to BGF and ACON.

*Thank you Oz Showbiz Cares.*



## WORLD AIDS DAY 2014

**For Bobby Goldsmith Foundation, World AIDS Day is a time to remember those we have loved and lost. It's also a time to consider the many thousands of people who live with HIV globally. Selfless generosity comes out of the woodwork around World AIDS Day (WAD) and BGF feels fortunate to be part of such a motivated and incredibly supportive community.**

### CHARITY SCREENINGS

BGF held two charity screenings of the wonderful and highly recommended British movie *Pride*. Both screenings made for memorable evenings of solidarity, laughter, and a tear or two, raising over \$4,000 (net).

The first screening was at Dendy Cinema Newtown, bringing together 160 friends who were welcomed by the glamorous Madani Rivers to drinks and nibbles before the film.

The second screening was held at the charming Regal Cinema in Newcastle provided in-kind by owner, Jo Smith. Keen to deliver the same show as Newtown, Madani Rivers joined us for the road trip, along with Jon Coll, to host the event. Whilst the Newcastle numbers were fewer, the reception was fantastic with an invitation for BGF to return again.

To maximise monies raised, State Street came on board to sponsor the Dendy event and also provide volunteers to help out on the night. Volunteers from MAC Cosmetics operated the box office in Newcastle.



Dendy Pride Screening—From top left, CEO David Riddell, Madani Rivers, State Street volunteers, Jane, Keppel, Susan and Alan (kneeling), and BGF volunteer, Jon Coll.

BGF would also like to thank Lisa McGuigan Wines; Erskineville Deli and Maggie's Thai for the tasty delicacies; and the wonderful staff at the Dendy and the Regal.

### WORLD AIDS DAY BARBEQUE

BGF staff honoured WAD with a relaxed afternoon barbeque at BG House, with ex-residents and supporters from the HIV community and health sector.

BGF extend thanks to our friends at Westpac Surry Hills Branch for catering the event; to volunteers from MAC Cosmetics, and to Lisa McGuigan Wines. Their generosity made for a very enjoyable afternoon.



Guests at BGF's World AIDS Day Barbeque



### RED RIBBONS

**A variety of clubs and workplaces sold red ribbons on behalf of BGF. These thoughtful gestures raised \$1,945.**

Thank you South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health Districts, Surry Hills Police, Action Aid, SX, Alex Greenwich, Westpac (local branches); Unity Wollongong, Imperial Hotel, Sydney Theatre Company and MAC Cosmetics, and to everyone for helping to raise awareness for people living with HIV and honouring World AIDS Day.

# Community Fundraising ... Invigorating

## AFL GRAND FINAL

In September, the Kinselas Hotel in Darlinghurst hosted a screening of the AFL Grand Final and very kindly transformed the evening into a fundraiser for BGF. The Swans may have lost but the afternoon raised just over **\$1,000**.

*Thank you Kinselas!*



An outside view of Kinselas for the AFL Grand Final

## GLASSHOUSE CANDLES



A surprising telephone call led to a sweet smelling Mardi Gras for BGF. We were approached by the Sapphire Group to be involved in the production of a new limited edition Glasshouse candle.

Celebrating Mardi Gras, the candle, *Passion* hit stores in February this year just in time for the festive season. They flew off the shelves and a second production commenced within a matter of weeks.

Even Dannii Minogue tweeted how much she loves her *Passion* candle!

Sapphire Group kindly offered to donate a percentage from every sale to BGF generating a magnificent gift of **\$13,115** to support our work.

*Thank you Glasshouse!* The candles smell and look simply beautiful.

## ELIZABETH BAY CELLARS

BGF was approached with another fruitful partnership by Elizabeth Bay Cellars with an offer that couldn't be resisted.

Their wine aficionados were keen to support BGF over Mardi Gras with a special promotion. They committed to donating \$2 from each \$10 bottle of their limited edition In the Loop Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Noir wines—raising **\$1,536**.

*Thank you Betty Bay Cellars!*

Some staff said the wine was a perfect match for a night in with the scent of the *Passion* candle!



## PYMBLE LADIES COLLEGE

A passionate group of high school students reached out to BGF at the end of last year with high hopes of fundraising for our clients.

The four friends hosted a pizza lunch at their school, asking for a donation per slice. As expected, they sold out quickly – raising **\$296** for BGF.  
*Thank you ladies!*

## DIVING FOR LIFE

Local dive club Sydney Underwater Bushwalking Society (SUBS) continues to stand up for the LGBTI community and for BGF.

Since 2004, SUBS has been actively participating in Diving for Life's annual gay and lesbian diving event. As part of Diving for Life's mission, they strive to raise money for health charities that are focused on the lives of the LGBTI community.

For the second year in a row SUBS dived once again for BGF. *Thank you Diving for Life* for your gift of **\$1,965!** We couldn't be happier.

***Bobby Goldsmith Foundation are humbled and grateful for all of the support given by community members, groups and businesses.***

*For your community fundraising efforts, thank you:*

*Justice Elizabeth Fullerton, Sydney City Steam, Different Strokes Dragon Boat Club, Fitness First, Sydney Symphony Orchestra's Jingle Bell Frock, Inspired Adventures, Terry Meanwell, Donal Byrne, Tim Blanshard, Kelley Fields, Paulo Cardona, Novo Group, Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District, Misha's Fine Wines, Adult Shop Oxford St, Toolshed Darlinghurst, Toolshed Taylor Square, Bodyline, Bookshop Darlinghurst, Bottle O Taylor Square!*

***Together you raised nearly \$10,000 for BGF. Your ongoing support is highly valued.***

# Thank you for all you do for Bobby Goldsmith Foundation



# Kinship Across Sydney ... *thank you!*

## THREE FLOORS OF FUR

Harbour City Bears (HCB) hosted an event on the 6<sup>th</sup> March, entitled 'Three Floors of Fur'. The evening comprised DJs and dancing on each of the three levels of Kinselas Hotel. HCB invited BGF volunteers to collect gold coin donations at the door, raising a whopping **\$1,230**.

*Thank you Beary much Harbour City Bears!*

## BROWN-FORMAN AUSTRALIA

The kind staff at the Australian branch of spirit company, Brown-Forman, made the generous choice to invite BGF to be involved in a Mardi Gras special they had planned.

For six-weeks, the Zanzibar in Newtown matched Brown-Forman's donation—so for every cocktail jug sold, 50 cents was donated to BGF to support our clients.

We're happy to share that monies raised at Zanzibar totalled **\$450**. Now that's a lot of cocktails jugs!

*Thank you Brown-Forman Australia!*

## SYDNEY GAY AND LESBIAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

BGF extends thanks to the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Business Assoc. (SGLBA) for their ongoing support via their networking events, *Lemons With A Twist* and *Fruits In Suits*.

BGF has been invited to run the cloak room for a gold coin donation. Throughout the 2014-2015 financial year a total of **\$2,185** was raised.

BGF's devoted volunteers are always taken care of at these well attended events. If you haven't be, we recommend you do.  
*Thank you SGLBA!*

## QUEER SCREEN FILM FESTIVAL

Queer Screen's Mardi Gras Film Festival has become a go-to festival for many in the community.

This year, BGF was invited to co-present two charity film screenings—*Waiting in the Wings* and the ever-moving *Brokeback Mountain*.

The film screenings raised **\$600** in bucket collections for our clients.  
*Thank you Queer Screen!*



Queer Screen President Giovanni Campolo-Arcidiaco, BGF Fundraising Manager Barb Smith, *Waiting in the Wings* Writer & Star Jeffrey Johns, BGF CEO David Riddell, & Queer Screen Director Paul Struthers.

## CITY OF SYDNEY LIVING COLOUR PLANT GIVEAWAY

The beautiful plants seen each day throughout the city become prized possessions a few times each year. Approached by City of Sydney to host the plant sale, Autumn 2015 was BGF's moment. For a gold coin donation, people gathered to take home plants. **\$867** was raised to support our clients. Beautiful.  
*Thank you City of Sydney!*



## BEAR SLAVE AUCTION



The five Bears who kindly offered to be auctioned at the now infamous Bear Slave Auction

Honey Productions held a Bear Slave Auction at the Exchange Hotel in Darlinghurst as part of their pop-up 'Bear Bar' during Mardi Gras.

Five of the club members, or Bears as they are affectionately known, were auctioned off by Romany Brooks and Barry Taylor. The excitement was overflowing on the night, especially when surprise Bear Slave #6 entered the stage.

*Thanks Honey* for raising an incredible **\$4,000** for BGF thanks to the generosity of the Bear community!

## WINTER POP UP BEAR BAR

Honey Productions hosted another Pop Up Bear Bar in July. BGF was honoured to have been selected as their charity of choice.

Volunteers assisted the Bears from 17<sup>th</sup>—25<sup>th</sup> July in selling raffle tickets (thanks prize donors), bucket shaking, running a BGF stall at the Bear Market and attending the Christmas in July festivities - raising a total of **\$1,500**.

*Thank you Honey Productions for standing with us once again!*

# ... and for making all of these events possible!



# Trivia With A Twist Delivers An Exciting Fundraiser

Bobby Goldsmith Foundation kicked off the Mardi Gras season with a brand new and very entertaining event ... **Trivia With A Twist**. It was nominated for the Mardi Gras Best Community Event!

Held on 20<sup>th</sup> February at Paddington RSL, *Trivia With A Twist* marked a exciting start to the festive season. The evening's glorious hosts, Portia Turbo and Auntie Mavis, had the 230 guests in stitches the entire night.

We were pleased to be joined by a wide variety of community and sporting groups, including the Dykes on Bikes, Mature Age Gays, Sydney Stingers and Sydney Rangers.

The competition was fierce, with teams and groups of friends set to battle it out. Beyond the trivia, there were games, performances, and special guests. Pru Holloway, Lyn Shakespeare, Burley Chassis and musical director, Bev Kennedy, delighted the audience with their songs and jokes.

Thank you to all who were involved and attended for helping to raise over \$4,000 (net) for BGF's work. We have our fingers crossed that *Trivia With A Twist* will once again appear on the Mardi Gras calendar.



230 guests enjoyed games, trivia, and a night of fundraising for BGF's clients



The Sydney Stingers booked a full table and successfully distracted the audience from the trivia



Burley Chassis joins one of our dedicated volunteers for a quick photo before her performance



Trivia With A Twist hosts—Portia Turbo and Auntie Mavis test the audience's trivia knowledge

## Night and Day - Supporters Stand With BGF



There was no shortage of spirit in BGF's Mardi Gras Parade procession or Fair Day Stall this year.

The 70+ people who marched with BGF exuded a vitality that's seen in few places other than the annual Mardi Gras Parade. Continuing our *Stand With Us* campaign, we walked

through the streets with red light sabres, ribbons and hearts held high. The night of the Parade was exhilarating, celebrating BGF's work in the LGBTI community.

At Fair Day, the BGF stall was the place to be. It was a hot day and our spot at the Tree of Remembrance was perfect for some shade with a great view of the main stage.

Featuring a larger-than-life BGF red ribbon logo, the likes of Sydney Lord Mayor Clover Moore, MP Alex Greenwich, and the Sisters of

Perpetual Indulgence gladly posing in the cut outs.

BGF were proud to be announced the winner of this year's Best Fair Day Community Stall. Thank you to everyone involved! See our Facebook page for some photos!





# Taking it Personally: A Donor's Story

Donating money to charity is a personal choice. The motivation and thought that goes into the decision can be deeply personal. BGF recently spoke with one of our long term donors and Friends, Neil Galletly, to find out what motivates him to donate.

*"My late brother John Galletly was a founding member of BGF. Through John I learned of the plight of his friends, and of course his own illness as it turned out. I began my support in memory of John."*

*The longevity of BGF speaks for itself. To have started out as a few friends helping each other with basic, but vital, assistance, to grow on to provide enduring and sophisticated support within a society that is often actively ignorant, or simply naive, shows it [BGF] is a pillar in our society and culture."*

***"To me BGF means strength and compassion."***

*Living with any long term illness is difficult... I am healthy now, but should that change, I would love to receive some kindness, in addition to practical support, from a community that truly understands and cares. I am so proud of what my brother John achieved all those years ago. He lives on through BGF."*

John Galletly was the founding President of Bobby Goldsmith Foundation.

BGF's regular giving program allows Neil to continue to provide reliable support for people living with HIV across NSW.

To become a Friend of Bobby Goldsmith Foundation, visit: [m.bgf.org.au/MonthlyGiving](https://m.bgf.org.au/MonthlyGiving), call us on (02) 9283 8666 or return the form over the page.



BGF Friend, Neil Galletly out and about in his community

# STAND WITH US. SHOW YOUR SUPPORT.



**IF I HAD HIV,  
WOULD YOU  
STAND WITH ME?**

**BEING IGNORED  
HURTS MORE  
THAN HAVING HIV.**

**WHEN YOU HAVE  
HIV, WHO CAN  
YOU TRUST?**

**THERE'S A  
POSITIVE SIDE TO  
BEING HIV POSITIVE.**

# DONATE TODAY.



(02) 9283 8666  
[www.bgf.org.au](https://www.bgf.org.au)  
#BGFstandwithus



bobby goldsmith foundation  
practical emotional financial support

# BGF Auction

BGF is thrilled to announce the success of its 2015 Auction held Upstairs at the Beresford Hotel in June, raising over \$50,000 (net) to provide support and care for people living with HIV in NSW.



Memorable speeches by Ita Buttrose and Jose Herrera silenced guests as they listened to the impact HIV continues to have on people's lives - diagnosis, stigma, social isolation, living remotely, and the effects of ageing with HIV.

As a duo, celebrity hosts Erika Heynatz and Adam Richard had the audience captured. Queen of the Hammer, Romany Brooks famously auctioned fantastic prizes, including: dinner with Ita Buttrose and Group Captain Catherine McGregor at Rockpool; a catered lunch by chef Christine Manfield; a weekend for two at Gwinganna Resort; and a week in a 6-star waterfront apartment on Hamilton Island.

Mary Kiani performed classic hits that entertained the crowd and DJ Kate Monroe kept guests dancing til the night's end.

BGF are grateful for the support of: sponsors Imagination, MAC AIDS Fund and Grey Goose; all prize donors, artists, special guests, donors, media supporters and our wonderful volunteers. Thank you Merivale for a terrific partnership to put on the show and also to all the staff at the Beresford Hotel.

# Staff Update

BGF warmly welcomes new Caseworkers: Jon Panther, Chloe Turner; Community Support Worker: Dianne Nyoni, Daniel Lees; Receptionist: Angela Thornton. We wish our very best to Terry Armstrong, Katy Roy, Hugh Pape, Laurence Stark.

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## BOBBY GOLDSMITH FOUNDATION

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# STAND WITH US. SHOW YOUR SUPPORT.



**bobby goldsmith foundation**  
practical emotional financial support

**Yes, I will stand with people living with HIV. Please accept my gift:**

☐ One-off donation

☐ I would like to become a Friend of Bobby Goldsmith Foundation with a Monthly Donation  
(Via credit card on this form, or call us for direct debit)

☐ \$30   ☐ \$50   ☐ \$100   ☐ \$250   ☐ My Choice: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment details:

☐ Cheque or Money Order (payable to Bobby Goldsmith Foundation)  
☐ Credit Card (Visa, MasterCard, or American Express)

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## My details:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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