

Bound to consent . . .

a project targeting SM dykes to counter the myth of HIV being a low risk factor for lesbians will be launched on Friday September 23. Created by LIP, the Lesbian Information Project, resources include a poster, a booklet and the new fisting safe sex pack.

Drawing: Elle Cameron

**Club closes**

The Brisbane lesbian venue, The Club, has closed down despite a last ditch attempt by 30 women to keep it going.

Operating Wednesday through to Sunday, the club's two levels included a fully licensed restaurant, bar, nightclub, pool tables and a movie screen.

The Club closed on July 31 after a major shareholder criticised lesbians for supporting other women's and mixed clubs most of which profited men.

The Club's shareholder's said they had not received any return on their money since opening on December 17 last year and perhaps Brisbane wasn't ready for a woman-only space.

However, Jen Midkiff, who rallied to save The Club

disagreed saying it was a shame shareholders could not have let the community know sooner they were having financial difficulties. Instead they were left with two weeks to try to find a manager and support staff to run the venue.

Airing tranny debate

The controversial and often heated debate which ended when trans were ousted from the recent fifth National Lesbian Conference in Brisbane will be broadcast on ABC Radio as part of The Coming Out Show's confest coverage which includes festival highlights. Produced by Abby Duruz and Ilana Kaplin, the program can be heard on Radio National on Thursday, September 15 from 5.10pm and will be repeated the following on Saturday at 7.15pm.

Beat up at the Star?

Claims of violence and harassment have been denied by a Wauchope publican whose patrons include lesbians living in the outlying bushland known as Amazon Acres.

Following complaints to Sydney's Lesbian and Gay Anti-Violence Project, the NSW Anti-Discrimination Board has signalled a future visit to Wauchope to test claims of escalating discrimination and violence against lesbians and gays in rural NSW.

Star Hotel licensee, former policeman Adrian Hogan, hotly denied he condoned violence against local women and said two lesbians were recently convicted of offences and ordered to make restitution after \$1,000 worth of damage was done to the hotel. Hogan has barred about 20 men and two or three women so far this year.

The publican said he doesn't

allow 'girls' to 'smooch' in his pub.

"I don't allow male and female attachments to carry on the same way, just as I won't allow children in the hotel after 9pm and I won't allow any girls to go topless," he said.

Following the latest violent incident in which a woman was injured, local lesbians are believed to be boycotting the Star Hotel although LOTL understands the community is divided over the complaints but agreed that a police gay and lesbian liaison officer should be appointed to the northern NSW township.

Lesbians involved in recent incidents declined to comment.

• Wauchope's lesbian community is hosting the inaugural Amazing Amazon Brain games at the nearby Pappinbarra Field Studies Centre from October 1-3. Enquiries: (065) 861044.



Lesbian performer Anique Lamerduc (pictured) released her new CD *Lower Mine* at this year's Out Proud Gay and Lesbian Festival in Townsville, north Queensland. Highlights of the annual festival included an art exhibition and film festival. For the first time the Townsville Pacific Festival has

thrown its support behind the local lesbian and gay community and included the festival in its program.

Incest support

Healing incest abuse needs support, compassion and patience, according to Shushan Movessian, a therapist experienced in relationship counselling who is setting up a regular women's group for incest survivors on Thursday evenings from 6.30pm-9pm at Paddington's Royal Women's Hospital. Sessions are \$20 each. Contact 387 2598 for more information.

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