

Out and about in the South West

Bunbury raised transgender actress Dannielle Alexis from the TV show *Wentworth* led a candid discussion about acceptance and understanding at a Pride Breakfast hosted by OUT South West on Saturday 25 November 2017.

Dannielle brought an honest, authentic and at times emotional message to the very diverse audience about what it means to be a transgender person in our society, and spoke about the importance of understanding and awareness to end discrimination and transphobia. This message was particularly poignant given the recent marriage equality survey and the debate which continues in Federal Parliament.

'Our audience included ECU SW staff, students, members of the local LGBTIQ community, and perhaps most importantly young trans people from local SW schools.' said ECU Senior Lecturer and OUT South West Chairman, Dr David Rhodes.

The Breakfast, jointly sponsored by Edith Cowan University and The Burlington Hotel, was the latest in a series of events organised by OUT South West, a new local service that provides a safe space for LGBTIQ youth in the area. OUT South West is a volunteer-led organisation that is dependent on sponsors and funding from community organisations. Sponsorship has been generously provided for previous events from a range of community organisations and businesses, including the Consul General of the United States of America, ALCOA, the City of Bunbury, and Milligan House, to raise awareness about support for LGBTIQ youth in the greater Bunbury area, and to combat discrimination and homophobia.



Picture: Actress Dannielle Alexis speaks at the SW Pride Breakfast as part of PrideFest South West, 25 November 2017.