

## Our First Melbourne Midsumma

Written by Graeme Dunne

Wednesday, 20 January 2010 06:28

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We had a great day yesterday at the Gay / Lesbian Midsumma Fair in Melbourne. It was my first Midsumma Fair and the atmosphere and the crowd were fabulous. People of all ages, shapes, sizes and sexual persuasions came along to picnic, check out the stalls and have fun. Melbourne provided its usual mix of summer weather one minute, winter the next but thankfully summer won out for the most of the day.

The Sex Party stall was extremely popular and looked great thanks to the design and decorative trimmings of Calvita's Dean Beck. We had seven very enthusiastic volunteers at different times throughout the day plus Fiona and myself. Luckily there were four of us to cover the slower morning and early afternoon and five to seven of us for the peak 2-6pm period. At times people were three deep at the stall. Our Vote 1 Sex temporary tattoos were a hit and of course our Sex Party T shirts stood out. Lots of people wanted to engage with us to learn more about the Sex Party and its platforms/policies. OK, so we were engaging with what should be a core constituency, but they need a message rev up and reminder too. I was somewhat surprised that a lot of people hadn't previously heard about us. We had a great location directly opposite the main open-air bar zone. The Sex Party banners and name were clearly visible, even from 40 metres away on the far side of the bar area.



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The Libs, ALP and Greens all had rather drab looking stalls by comparison! All staffed by workers who were somewhat lethargic and in need of a good Sex Party! Fiona and I visited their stalls and had a chat. The ALP gave us strong encouragement to contest the VIC state elections. Fiona and I made time to walk around the whole Fair area checking out the various stalls and talking to people about the Sex Party.

We signed up new members and collected email addresses from people who were keen to get some follow up via a guessing competition to win toy and product hampers - kindly donated by Calvista.

We are now all geared up and getting excited about taking part in Melbourne's Pride March.

[Link To Photo Gallery](#)