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# bent

**JULIAN CLARY**

ME AND NOEL COWARD

**MATTHEW BOURNE**

A LITTLE CRACKER

**RORY COWAN**

MRS BROWN'S GAY BOY

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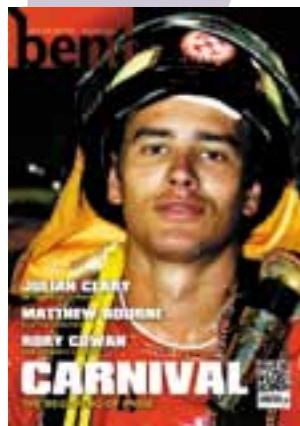
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# Camelot



**FAIRYtales**  
by Allan Christian Hansen

## Top 3 European Gay Cars

Ledorga an organisation for gay car enthusiasts and who organise events and meeting across Europe have come up with this year's top 'gay' car. Members are invited to cast their votes (naturally, only one vote per person) and the winner is the car that has collected the majority of the votes. So not voted for by a panel of self-important journos.

1. Citroen DS4
2. Range Rover Evoque
3. Mini Coupe

[www.ledorga.fr](http://www.ledorga.fr)



## STREET OF DREAMS

Street of Dreams is a major live musical event in celebration of Coronation Street and will embark on a spectacular arena tour of the UK and Ireland after its world premiere at the Manchester Arena. Starring faces from the UK's most famous street, past and present, and hosted by the country's favourite entertainer, Paul O'Grady, Street of Dreams is a live musical tribute to Britain's best loved soap and will be staged with a spectacular recreation of the iconic TV set with outstanding visual effects. It will feature a 25 piece orchestra playing music by award winning musical writer, composer and lyricist, Trisha Ward and is directed by Academy Award winning film and stage director, John Stephenson. A dazzling West End cast will be choreographed by Olivier award winners Stephen Mear and Karen Bruce.

[www.streetofdreams.co.uk](http://www.streetofdreams.co.uk)



## Kushkamp Festival

KUSHKAMP is an exciting new concept in queer outdoors activity. No, we don't mean cruising. KUSHKAMP is the first UK music festival aimed at the gay market. You'll find artists like Crystal Castles, Patrick Wolf and Goldfrapp played between tracks from Grease, Scissor Sisters and 5ive. The Main Stage will present some of the best up-and-coming music artists such as Dance a la Plage and Fynn Farrell. This will all be mixed up with inflatable castles, fire-eaters, cake, spin the bottle, toasted marshmallows, foam machines and maybe a bit of sun. Oh, did we mention that it all takes place over three nights? You'll have to bring a tent to crash in each night—maybe an airbed and a sleeping bag would be to your advantage too. This isn't anything like a pride—it's not for celebrating being gay or looking for acceptance. It's a chance to meet other gay guys and girls who just want to have a good time rather than worry about what way their hair is parted. Organisers assure us this will be something completely original for gay crowds.

'We spent about three weeks looking through 1,000s of videos online to discover something a bit different—acts who we thought were unique,' said event manager Daniel Tait.

'Of the acts we booked, Fynn Farrell has already become quite big now. He's had over a million views on YouTube, and is currently in talks with a major record company about signing a deal towards next year. Other ones we really like include Dance a la Plage, Athletes in Paris, Alice Olivia and Alfie Ordinary—though, naturally, we think all the acts are really talented. There will be four main arenas: the Main Stage Arena, the DJ Tent, the Entertainment Arena and the Stalls.

The festival isn't about gay rights or equality. That's what Pride is for. Instead, the festival is a combination of what organisers think every gay person would want from a music festival. This is reflected in the minor details, such as hot showers that you don't have to queue hours for, to the major details, such as the music played and the activities on offer. It also helps that it will be a friendly, inclusive environment for gay people and their friends. Like the gay scene, this will be a safe space, where we can cruise and club and kiss in comfort. Organisers hope to create a welcoming atmosphere and a place people can enjoy themselves without the worry of discrimination.

Friday 13th July-Monday 16th July  
Willow Farm - Lippits Hill - Loughton - Essex - IG10 4AL

## Win This

**COMPETITION TIME**  
KUSHKAMP are offering a pair of VIP tickets to one lucky Bent reader. Included in the VIP Tickets are;

- Early Entry to beat the queues and get a better camping spot
- Taxi from local station to the site
- VIP Showers – Piping hot showers available every hour of the festival
- Free Drinks – Up to 24 drinks over the weekend
- VIP Tent – Exclusive space for VIP Guests
- Meet and Greet – This is available with all the artists and our special guest who'll be announcing around May/June
- Charity Donation - £25 is donated between the festivals charities (Stonewall, Albert Kennedy Trust and GMFA) each time we sell or give away a VIP ticket as a competition prize.

To be in with a chance of winning, just answer this simple question: Which county is KUSHKAMP being held?

Send answer to [comp@bent.com](mailto:comp@bent.com) – remember to add your name and address. For Rules see page 62



Top to bottom: Fynn Farrell, Dance a la plage





## Man Of A Thousand Faces

- Comedian Charlie Hides is the latest YouTube sensation with his hilarious, uncanny portrayal of a wide range of celebrities. From Madonna and Lady Gaga to Justin Bieber and Elton John, no celebrity escapes Charlie's unique sense of humour. Born in Boston Massachusetts, the 7th of ten children Charlie developed a skill for mimicry on the school playground, imitating teachers, classmates and the comedians he'd seen on television. In 1999 he moved to London and has been performing stand up and in cabaret and fringe theatre productions. He appeared at the Edinburgh Festival in 2001 (as part of Wood and Hides 'Wild on TV') and in 2002 in a solo show, 'Kandi Kane - Native New Yorker'. In March of 2011 a friend suggested he upload some of his comedy videos to YouTube and now posts weekly videos via his YouTube channel Charlie Hides TV.

These comedy videos are all written and filmed by Charlie Hides, in his home in London where he also creates everything from all the costumes to the sets, props and effects himself. Despite the fact he often targets Madonna, Cher and Lady Gaga, he has impressed and gained a loyal following from their legions of devoted fan clubs, blogs and their official fan sites because his gently mocking portrayals are affectionate and not malicious. Following millions of views on YouTube he's acquired a loyal following who eagerly anticipate his weekly comedy sketches - including Kylie Minogue who called him "a genius" on Twitter, Boy George, and even Cher.

[www.charliehidestv.com](http://www.charliehidestv.com)

Photos: Claire Lawrie



## Hit Factory Live

- CELEBRATING OVER 250 MILLION SINGLE SALES**

Live Nation are excited to announce the Hit Factory Live, a once-in-a-lifetime spectacular taking place in London's Hyde Park on 11th July. For the first time ever, the classic artists from the PWL Hit Factory will perform together on one bill.

This unmissable show celebrates the legendary Stock Aitken Waterman songwriting and production team, the phenomenal success of Pete Waterman's PWL label and, above all, the irresistible pop that came to define an era in British music history. Once called 'The Sound of a Bright Young Britain', it undoubtedly now stands as the soundtrack to a generation, with sales of over 500 million units worldwide.

Pete Waterman said: "I've been saying no for years to a Hit Factory concert but now, 25 years on, the timing feels right. It's time to celebrate the hit single and we have a tremendous line-up of our classic artists confirmed to play - it's set to be the biggest and best ever celebration of SAW and PWL!"

Names of those stars taking part: STEPS, RICK ASTLEY, JASON DONOVAN, BANANARAMA, DEAD OR ALIVE, PEPSI & SHIRLIE, PRINCESS, SINITTA, HAZELL DEAN, SONIA, SYBIL, 2 UNLIMITED, LONNIE GORDON, BROTHER BEYOND and many, many more...

[www.livenation.co.uk](http://www.livenation.co.uk)

## Scouse Wives

- Meet the self described 'Gay power couple' of Liverpool. Mark & Christopher Johnson White have been married for 2 years and are now best known for their appearance on Desperate Scousewives, a reality TV show shown on E4. With TV series like Desperate Scousewives slowly taking over every corner of our televisions we sent **Ryan Houston** to meet the pair and find out more about Desperate Scousewives.

**How did you guys get involved in Desperate Scousewives?**

Mark: Desperate Scousewives was on the topic on Scouse Lips for a while and we had known that the show was in progress, I was in my normal day job when a producer scouted me and auditioned me.

Chris: I have never been interested in TV work really that's more Marks area and as per usual Mark persuaded me to go with him for the audition. And it's been the best thing for us in my opinion.

**Do you find it hard being a couple in front of the camera?**

Mark: Not at all. Chris and I have natural chemistry and we are what you see on TV. We don't take things so seriously and we love to have a laugh with each other. So being in front of the camera was exactly the same only we were being filmed.

Chris: Mark and I have had an amazing feedback from the public and that's because we are dead natural with each other, I think we are toned down on TV though because we are a lot wilder in real life.

**Have you guys been recognised from the show during your normal day-to-day activity?**



Mark: From doing the show we have become icons and it's so surreal. It's a nice feeling knowing you can make someone's day because they have seen you. I really like that feeling.

Chris: Everywhere we go we are recognised and it's a good feeling, don't get me wrong, if I need a quick shop it's a lot longer than it would usually take us but we do love our fans and it's nice just to take that minute or so and spend time with them.

**If you were given the choice to go back do you think the show was the right move for you as a couple?**

Mark: Absolutely definitely. I am in a big believer in things happening for a reason, it has been the most amazing experience we have had and to make friends that we have it's been amazing.

Chris: At first I was very unsure as I am a realist and I am a worrier. At first I thought was it the right thing to do because of work and other commitments yet, when we watched the finished product and experienced what we did it was amazing and I wouldn't have changed a thing. On top of that it was something that Mark and I shared together, which made it extra special.

Photo: E4

## GayXchange TV

- Late night trawling of those high numbers as you flit across those SKY porn channels can come up with some surprises. GayXchange is the newest TV channel on Sky channel 876, it's a great way to meet guys from all over the country, you can put your picture or your text profile on the screen for free! Or you can contact the hundreds of guys that are online now, and as a special offer all new users get £10 of chatting free! By the way, GayXchange is on air 24/7 so you can contact others all day long.



## The Game Is On!

- Rufus Wainwright releases 'Out Of The Game' - the first single from his new, Mark Ronson produced LP of the same title.

It's the perfect opener to an LP which unashamedly celebrates the spirit of the 70s and which Rufus calls "the most pop album" he's ever made. A bold, heavenly jewel in the crown, 'Out Of The Game', is undeniably Rufus, his honey-toned voice cushioned by gospel singers as it glides through piano and electric guitar.

Rufus explains that the song was inspired by the YouTube obsessed kids of today. "For the first two verses I'm complaining, but in the third verse, it's tinged with envy as well," he says. "I'd like to be that age again and that silly, that excited about idiotic things. So I'm not being insensitive, just tired."

The single is taken from one of the most eagerly anticipated LPs of the year - 'Out Of The Game' - Rufus Wainwright's 7th studio album which is released on April 23rd.

Rufus Wainwright plays the Lyceum Theatre on 30th April

[www.rufuswainwright.com](http://www.rufuswainwright.com)





## Oedipussy Boobs, Sphinx-sters and Melodrama

Spymonkey teams up with Royal & Derngate in the campest version of a Greek tragedy ever. Taking as its starting point the tragedy of Oedipus, who discovers his new wife is actually his mother, Oedipussy is an hilarious romp through destiny, self-fulfilling prophecies, saxophones and incest. Influences include Barbarella, Flash Gordon and Rock Horror, it seems. Emma Rice and Carl Groce's script zings and sparkles, full of quintessentially British physical comedy and musical numbers to have you in stitches.

### Tour dates:

- 10 - 21 April, Lyric Hammersmith London
- 24 - 25 April, Corn Exchange Newbury
- 27 - 28 April, Wales Millennium Centre Cardiff
- 1 - 5 May, Nuffield Southampton
- 7 - 9 May, Hall for Cornwall Truro
- 14 - 16 May, Theatre Royal, Brighton Festival

Photo: Johan Perrson



## Federation Experience.

- The Federation brand started in Leeds nine years ago - the brainchild of Shaun Wilson and a group of like-minded friends, it soon became THE big event in the city. Such was its success that the Federation experience, a cross between a clubnight and theatre, was in demand and a satellite event was quickly started in Manchester. Since those early days Federation has appeared at large venues across the UK and has delved into the club fiesta that is Ibiza. Unfortunately, as Shaun says, "The club scene has taken quite a financial hit in recent years, so we pulled out of club tours to concentrate on our core business, which is Leeds and Manchester." Federation is an expensive night to run because it's not all about the music. "Music is of course the main thing", explains Shaun, "but we want the public who come to us to go away having had a truly satisfying, if unusual, night out." "We could have a murder taking place; sexy lads and lasses dressed as sexy cops with flashing blue lights on their heads and taping off the 'crime scene'. While, somewhere else there's a stilt-walker or fire eater or some equally bizarre themed piece of theatre going on." Top DJs, incredible dancers, epic themes make Federation a night you won't forget. Why not be there and take the Federation Experience away with you.



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## Can't Say No to Conor

There's no stopping nineteen year-old pop wunderkind Conor Maynard. Hot on the heels of his sold-out London show, which according to the Daily Star, "was swamped by hysteria as the self-dubbed Mayniacs vied for his attention", he flew to Miami to record with Pharrell Williams who was blown away by his talent, inviting a string of high-profile musicians into the studio to meet and collaborate with him including Tyler the Creator and Ludacris.

With word in the US spreading fast about Conor's incredible musicianship and songwriting skills, instead of heading home he's just been whisked off to Los Angeles to record with Ne-Yo, who was the first artist to spot his talent back in 2010 when Conor's cover of his track 'Beautiful Monster' exploded over the internet.

In the UK Conor has just hit the number one spot on Shazam's pre-order chart and the video for his debut single has had more than 2 million views since it went live a fortnight ago. With playlist rotation across the nation's airwaves, almost 200,000 Facebook fans and nearly 100,000 Twitter followers, Conor is fast becoming the hottest male singer in the UK

This is no manufactured pop act on a wave of carefully-created hype, but the real deal – a creative young artist whose talent and cheeky personality are capturing the ears of some of the world's most credible and exciting artists alongside the legions of 'Mayniacs' who are growing by the hour as he reaches out to them directly. The single 'Can't Say No' is out on 16th April. His much-anticipated debut album will be out this summer.

[www.conor-maynard.com](http://www.conor-maynard.com)



## Blogs

- What's My Intent is just nice pics of lads taking their tops off, showing off their undies and looking cute and sexy. No great comments just an appreciation of lads doing their thing.

<http://whatsmyintent.tumblr.com/>



- This site is strangely addictive - A photocaption/ photomanipulation blog with original stories about enforced male chastity, boyification, penis reduction, mounding, age regression, erotic fashion, cfm, cmnm, femdom, role-reversal, cuckolding, asfr, transformations, and more. All models used to create the composite pictures and captions are 18 years of age or older.



<http://maleprotection.blogspot.co.uk>



- Homosigns has some fun and chuckleworthy images that he's created with the more outlandish side of gay life in mind.

<http://homosigns.tumblr.com>

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PEACE THE UK



# Singles Adam Lowe

**Lana Del Rey**  
Blue Jeans  
8th April



Whenever I log into Facebook, it seems there are at least five people who've just listened to Lana del Ray on Spotify. If this annoys you, it might be best to go offline for a while longer. Lana returns with new single 'Blue Jeans': a powerful, atmospheric track, full of the singer's trademark dark voice.

**Conor Maynard**  
Can't Say No  
16th April



Recently announced runaway winner of MTV's Brand New for 2012, Conor Maynard is the Brighton-born youth-popper after Justin Bieber's crown. This debut single by the much-hyped, twinkish singer is infused with electronica and R&B, with production by The Invisible Men. It's guaranteed to be played at every pride event this year.

**Alex Day**  
Lady Godiva  
1st April



Alex Day does a good job of updating 'Lady Godiva' for modern audiences. Laced with retro charisma, this new version comfortably features synths and chimes alongside traditional recording techniques. The result is an upbeat backdrop for Day's ironic interpretation of the song's cynical lyrics. This is fun, endearing pop with a touch of old-school magic.

**David John**  
Mr Fantastic  
30th April



Co-written by the man behind Kylie, Jay Sean and J-Lo (Lil Eddie), with production by the man behind Jessie J (Mickey Modelle & Steve Ingham), this song is a summer party smash-in-waiting. Remix duties come from Pacha residents Erick Morillo, Harry 'Choo Choo' Romero and Jose Nunez (known collectively as Sympho Nympho). 'Mr Fantastic' is big, undeniably cool and pretty damn clever.



**KARAOKE, DANCE SHOWS, FREE SHOTS, COCKTAILS, HAPPY HOUR, BAR DANCERS, FUN HOUSE GAMES, TRIBUTE ACTS, CABARET, PERFORMANCES... in other words it's just CAMP, CAMP, CAMP!**

Timmy J Wright and the team invite you to the biggest showbar in Leeds. Get acquainted with the wonderful Danny Cher Baily (ITV 1 'The Drag Queens' and The Birdcage), the delightful (dancing queen herself) Anja Bach and the ever popular Cherry Pops (winner of Drag Idol) as they, and the sexy boy dancers Aaron and Andrew, give their all in hilarious and original stage performances. Arrive early for the longest of long Happy Hours from noon to 8pm and there's FREE entertainment every night.

The Viaduct itself has had a bit of a make-over with new lighting, new sound and new sets, so it was only fair that the 'Girls' themselves were treated to new costumes. You won't be able to move for the feathers, sequins and special LED outfits on display (ask nicely and I'm sure they will share their wardrobe secrets with you)

Meanwhile, The Viaduct Showgirls have also been booked to perform at Maspalomas Pride, one of the biggest in Europe and which regularly features on Spanish TV.

## There is always a week of entertainment at the Viaduct

**Monday** – KandyFloss with DJ Timmy J Wright. Drinks from £1 from open til close.

**Tuesday** – Raise Your Voice with Marky Mark! Karaoke and free shots for every singer. 7pm – 1am

**Wednesday** – Big Mommas Fun House with Fairground fun and games throughout the evening and draught at £2.00 all night! With The cuddly momma Coil seeing to all your needs.

**Thursday** - POPTARTZ! With ALL of our SHOW CAST taking to the decks - with drinks from just £1.50.

**Friday** – From 2pm til 8pm enjoy S.A.S.S.E.E with award winning DJ Susan Platt then taking over is your DJ and Host for the night DJ Degsie! 9.30 - IT'S SHOWTIME. The first of the weekend performances.

**Saturday** – Once again we start off the day with S.A.S.S.E.E and Susan Platt playing all your favorite old time hits and stone-age classics with draught from £2 til 8. The taking us into the rest of the night is the fantastic Blanche Deveraux with The Viaduct Show Girls up to 3am!

**Sunday** – Marky Mark joins us with more karaoke and games from 7pm, but not before Kira and Charlie (Kiralive.com) warm you up with some live-lounge talents and open mic from 1pm.

**Big Show Sundays!!!** – The Last Sunday Of Every Month!! Bringing You the HOTTEST talent, Tributes and Drag artists throughout the country and beyond.

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**Free Shot for every Facebook Check In**  
**Zero entrance fee –times are hard so we will never charge on the door.**



## Hardship Fund for people with HIV

HIV and sexual health charity Terrence Higgins Trust has relaunched a national Hardship Fund for people living with HIV in severe financial need. Funding has been secured from the Elton John AIDS Foundation and the M·A·C AIDS Fund, as well as via Terrence Higgins Trust's annual Walk For Life fundraising event, to provide £1.5million of grants over a period of three years. Through the Hardship Fund, Terrence Higgins Trust aims to make it as easy as possible for people with HIV to apply for financial support, should they need it. Applications can now be made through one of over fifty referral gateways across the UK, selected to represent a wide geographical spread and cover areas which have, historically, shown the greatest need.

Further info on referral gateways go to:

[www.myhiv.org.uk/News/Latest-news/The-Hardship-Fund](http://www.myhiv.org.uk/News/Latest-news/The-Hardship-Fund)



## Most Trusted Celebrities

Would you trust a celebrity to place a bet for you? Which famous person would return your winnings and who would you fear might leg it with the proceeds?

According to a new poll QI host, Stephen Fry is Britain's most trustworthy celebrity with a resounding 83% of respondents trusting him to place a bet for them. Noted wit and raconteur Fry, narrowly beat former Countdown favourite Carol Vorderman, who was seen as trustworthy by 79% of people, into second place. The survey, conducted by leading online casino RoxyPalace.com, gave members of the public a list of 20 celebrities and asked them, 'would you trust this celebrity to place a bet for you and return all of your winnings?' Respondents were given a simple yes or no response.

Other celebs in the top ten included the One Show presenter Matt Baker, Downton Abbey star Dame Maggie Smith, and Strictly judge Len Goodman who scored 78%, 75% and 74% respectively.

However, the news wasn't as good for other TV talent show judge Simon Cowell with only a measly 31% of people viewing him as trustworthy.





# Albums Adam Lowe

## Seeker Lover Keeper

Micro Data  
2nd April



Imagine three of the best female artists teaming up to produce a kick-arse collaboration. No, we're not talking about Madge, M.I.A. and Nicki Minaj. We're talking about Seeker Lover Keeper: Sarah Blasko, Sarah Seltmann and Holly Throsby. Recorded in just two weeks, this sumptuous album is the very best of all three singer-songwriters. A cinescape of love and tenderness, charting a search towards emotional maturity and fulfilment.

## Marina and the Diamonds

Electra Heart  
30th April



Marina shows her growth as an artist on new album Electra Heart. Her confidence has grown, and with it, her ambition. Her long list of collaborators, while expected, are nevertheless at the top of their game: Dr Luke (Katy Perry), Rick Nowels (Madonna), Liam Howe (Sneaker Pimps) and Greg Kurstin (Lily Allen). This blistering album is choc full of hope and romance, love and rejection, bound in a frank narrative of identity.

## Huoratron

Cryptocracy  
24th April



Monstrous techno straight from the coldest, cruelest corners of Scandinavia, Cryptocracy howls onto the dancefloor this April. Finnish producer Huoratron (AKA Aku Raski) has a cult following of hardcore rock fans and underground punk kids, and was discovered, oddly enough, at a Dutch metal festival. Now he serves up his debut album, which features the kind of electronica Ozzie Osbourne would make, if Underworld ever let him.

## Juan Zelada

High Ceilings and Collarbones  
16th April



This instantly likeable album fuses pop, blues, jazz and folk, into one charmingly joyful package. Comparisons to Paulo Nutini, Jack Johnson and David Gray abound, but Juan Zelada has a delicious flavour of his own, with a versatility few male solo artists can manage these days.

## Calvin Harris

Following the 2011 worldwide hit 'We Found Love' with Rihanna and radio and chart smashes 'Bounce' feat. Kelis and 'Feel So Close', Calvin Harris releases new single 'Let's Go' feat. Ne-Yo.



'Let's Go' was first played exclusively on Pete Tong's Radio 1 show and features Ne-Yo's catchy vocals alongside signature Calvin Harris electro beats which build massively into a huge addictive, dance chorus. It is sure to be one of the floor fillers of 2012.

Calvin Harris has had a crazy few years with eight Top 10 singles in his career, including three #1 singles with 'We Found Love', 'I'm Not Alone' and 'Dance With Me' (with Dizzee Rascal) and over 500,000 albums sold in the UK. Since his last album, Calvin has been touring the world DJ'ing everywhere from Las Vegas to Ibiza to Australia. He is currently working on his new album, which will be released this summer and he joins Swedish House Mafia as support at their Milton Keynes Bowl headline show on 14th July.

Out: 22ND April - 'Let's Go' Feat. Ne-Yo

## 'Sh\*t gay guys say about HIV'

An online video, produced by GMFA, the gay men's health charity, is encouraging gay men to think about the assumptions that they make about their sexual partner's HIV status.

Riffing on a theme that has taken off online over the past couple of months, GMFA produced 'Sh\*t gay guys say about HIV' ([http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=TbEt7\\_9ehpl](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=TbEt7_9ehpl)).

Actors in the video articulate some of the contradictory, or plain bizarre, things that some gay men say about HIV.

Viewers of the video are invited to give feedback on the impact that the video had on them. Initial findings suggest that two-thirds of viewers were inspired to think about the assumptions that they make about their sexual partner's HIV status and a majority of viewers were moved to consider who has the responsibility for safer sex and to think about the likelihood of disclosure of HIV status.

[www.gmfa.org.uk/sex](http://www.gmfa.org.uk/sex)



## Bradford Pride

Saturday 26th May 2

A city centre celebration with the LGBT communities in Bradford  
1-7pm – Bar and market open  
1.30-6.30pm live acts on stage

Eurovision favourites SCOOCH will headline the show alongside amazing performances from drag artistes Jonathan Mayor, Sordid Secret and Bradford's own Marigold Adams.

Live music from singer-songwriter Jess Gardham, original dance music from Beauty and a performance from Pride favourite Ryan Jagger.

Plus a personal appearance from Mr Gay UK, guests and surprises on the day.

Bradford Pride welcomes everyone to join in the celebrations. Get your face painted, enjoy some food, drink or ice-cream, and check out the colourful market stalls.

The event is **FREE**, but please make your donation as follows:

Please donate online by visiting

<http://www2.charitychoice.co.uk/equitypartnership/events/bradford-pride-2012>

Or, simply text BGAY12 £5 to 70070 to donate £5, or change the amount to anything else you want to give. Every penny counts and the organisers are counting on donations to ensure Pride goes ahead.

For additional information get in touch with the Committee by emailing

[bradfordpride12@live.co.uk](mailto:bradfordpride12@live.co.uk)



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## BEYONCE - IT'S A QUEER THING, THIS MARRIAGE

So religious leaders have come out in force to declare gay marriage as perversions of a basic human right. They've said that gay men and women are a danger to families and to children. They've said we're asking to have a millennia-old tradition changed just for our benefit, and against the wishes of the country.

Bollocks. The point of human rights is that they belong to all humans, not just those humans you happen to agree with. Religious marriages are in vast decline, and heterosexual couples can no more keep things together than anyone else. Do we need to point out such standard bearers for the institution as Britney Spears? I'm also not sure why we're a danger to families, unless the Government introduces some kind of 'one-in-one-out' rule, where we can only get married if we break up a happily married straight couple first. And as for being a danger to children: many gay people don't want children; most child abuse is inflicted by family members; and there aren't many groups of people with dodgier track-records on child protection issues than the Catholic Church.

Marriage is a legal institution in modern Britain, not a religious one. And in a free society, the law cannot justifiably discriminate against members of that society. If marriage was only a religious institution, then why isn't every marriage held in a church?

Marriage has and will change. In the past polygamy, rape and incest was allowed at different times and in certain cultures. Christianity has been as liberal in its interpretations of marriage as the next group.

Now, I've never really seen myself as the marrying kind. I'm not sure I will get married. But that's not the point. The point is I should be legally allowed to marry if I so wish, as should every other gay person in the country.

Civil partnerships are not the same as marriage. The fact they have different names makes that clear. Equivalence is not the same as equality, and I don't want to be almost the same, or pretty much the same, as the next person. I want the law to recognise me as equal to everybody else.

The good news is: even the politicians aren't listening to the religious nuts this time round. They can say we're not equal as much as they want—but the fact is, we don't need their permission. We're already equal and soon the law will change to reflect that.

## Bradford's Vibrant New Scene

- Over the past 12 months there have been major changes in Bradford with ALL gay venues changing ownership and more recently the addition of a brand new bar! All this activity has given the Bradford Scene a much-needed revival & created a fantastic night out!

Bradford's oldest and proudest Gay Bar, **The Sun Hotel**, is still a popular focal point in the city. Located on Sunbridge Road, The Sun is open from 12pm Mon-Sat & 3pm on Sunday and boasts a variety of entertainment throughout the week, with some fantastic daily drinks promotions, that won't leave your purse empty! Resident DJ's host karaoke every Wednesday and Sunday night, and on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights The Sun camps it up with some of the hottest Drag Acts in Yorkshire, showcasing some of the very best in Drag talent! There's even a brand new all day Karaoke Disco held every Sunday from 3pm! The Sun is an exciting place to be!

**Uber Village** has gone through a few changes and come out stronger than ever before. The Uber section is open daily from 2pm until close while the Village is open Friday and Saturday from 11pm until late. With music that gives you the best chart, dance and anthems from their fabulous DJs and amazing drinks offers, you are guaranteed a night out that isn't going to break the bank. Have You Got Talent - Uber Village is offering a prize of £200 to the winner of their search for a star competition. The winner also gets the opportunity of appearing on the main stage at Bradford's Pride in May. Easter Sunday 8th April from 5pm til late - sees the return of Bradford's infamous Terrace Party! Live entertainment from your host Sordid Secret, Bradford's own Danny Tetley, drag goddess Mysti Valentine, and the very sexy Ryan Jagger.

Uber Village is available for private functions, birthdays, civil partnerships and FREE HIRE subject to terms and conditions  
Email: [baruber@mail.com](mailto:baruber@mail.com) Facebook: [UberVillage](#)

The newest addition to the scene, **The Lemon Shed**, is Bradford's Brand new girls bar, run by girls for girls with a host of big performances and DJ's every weekend. Every Saturday Night Manchester's Enchanted holds a residency with a variety of girl DJs. Situated on Sackville Street The Lemon Shed is open Weds and Thurs 3pm till late and Friday and Saturday from 8.30pm till very late! Don't miss MC Mac performing on the 24th March with her big hits 'Na-na, I told you so' and 'Run Run Run'!



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Grand Final 6th May

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Saturday 26th May -  
**BRADFORD PRIDE**  
Sunday 3rd June -  
Queer Jubilee  
Sunday 28th August -  
Closing Party

**UBER VILLAGE**





Left to Right: JJ, Ben, Jamie, Josh, Billy.

## REWIND

• Dubbed by the media as the UK's No.1 new Boyband, REWIND have injected personality back into pop since exploding onto the scene in 2012. They are - The boys are- Josh 18, JJ 19, Ben 19, Jay 20 and Billy 20 REWIND are now preparing to take the music industry by storm working alongside award winning writers and producers, so expect their careers to reach dizzying heights. Bent asked the boys to reveal some special about themselves.

**JJ** - People have always scared me a bit, you see - they're so complicated. I suppose that's why I prefer horses... unless you could be 'the one' to make me change my mind?

**Ben** -I'm such a good lover because I practice a lot on my own, but all that could change now I am in 'REWIND'. Well, that is what I was hoping... that's why I joined a band!

**Billy** - We love all our fans no matter what colour, race or creed they are. It is them that help us achieve our dreams and buy our records, we are nothing without them. Although it is weird when people call us sex symbols, it makes me laugh, as at school I was the geek who sat in the corner that no-one paid any attention to, the furthest thing from a sex symbol... Now I have fans outside my house watching my mum hang out my undies...one of them even stole a pair off the line -.lol

**JAY** - I'd like to be on all the clubs VIP lists, turn up with all my mates, drink as much as possible, and party till I drop, then wake up each morning feeling a new man...!

**Billy** - Jay, you do all that already -lol

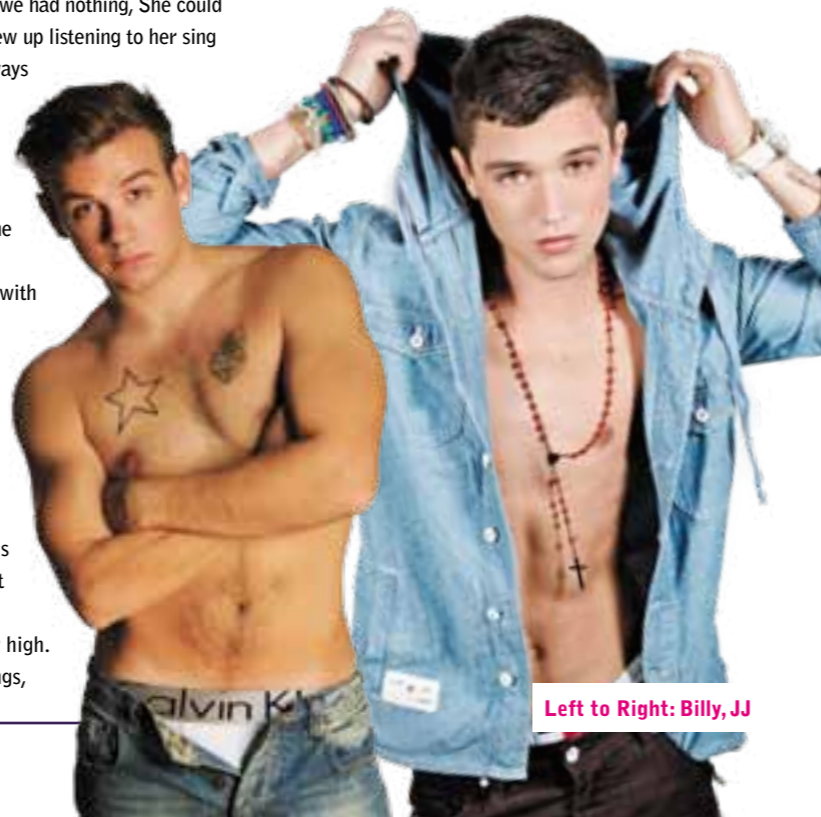
**JOSH** - I admire my Nan, I was just gutted when she died last year. She struggled as a single mum to raise a family and we had nothing, She could always sing, and I grew up listening to her sing to us as kids. She always taught me to be humble and take every chance you get as things happen for a reason....so if she is looking down I am grabbing this chance with both hands nan

With radio roadshows, festivals and live PAs at some of the country's top venues chasing at their heels they are the UK best kept secret, demand for REWIND is very high. International bookings,

sponsorship endorsements and national media interest means there's only one Boyband you need to remember this year.

Watch out for them popping up at a Pride event near you.

To listen to REWIND – Taken Away go to: <http://soundcloud.com/kaseymonroe>



Left to Right: Billy, JJ

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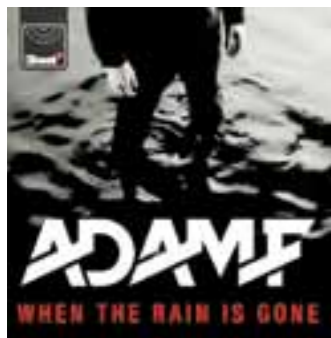




• The first Manchester Federation of 2012 is back at the mighty Sankeys on Easter Sunday. Then look out for the next Manchester Federation instalment on Bank Holiday Sunday 6th May for Ménage-A-Trios at Factory (formerly Paradise Factory!). You can catch me playing at both. Find out more at [www.clubfederation.com](http://www.clubfederation.com). As usual, you can download my monthly podcast filled with feel good, uplifting house - simply search for 'Jason Guy' in iTunes or download directly from [www.jasonguy.podomatic.com](http://www.jasonguy.podomatic.com). If you'd like to see your track, club, or event featured here, contact me at [jason@bent.com](mailto:jason@bent.com).

## Adam F

When The Rain Is Gone  
(3 Beat)



Adam F is a huge name on the Drum & Bass scene... but wait, read on. My musical tastes haven't changed! Although the original of this is a dubstep anthem, there's a secret weapon in this release that makes it worth checking out! Taking it in a completely different direction, revered progressive house producer Michael Woods fills it with a completely different energy. Rebuilding it completely, he pares back the synths of the track and distorts the bass to produce one of his finest remixes to date.

## Senadee

Life Support Machine  
(Perfecto Records)



Senadee's debut on Perfecto Records is a sublime mix of electronic and pop, with a healthy dose of euphoric, rich vocals thrown in for good measure. The standout mix on this release is from Richard Beynon, who creates a big room interpretation with powerful chords and energetic beats. Or for those who like their house more progressive, New York's Bissen's delivers a mix that is more of a banging offering. For those who like it hard and fast!

## Roger Shah & Sian Kosheen

Shine  
(Magic Island)



German producer Roger Shah teams up with singer Sian Kosheen once more, with another track from his 'Openminded?!' album, with this being one of the more housier offerings. They first teamed up when Shah remixed the classic 'Hide U' last year. With a full set of remixes, 'Shine' will most certainly be done justice on the floors. The standout mix here is from German house master Stefan Dabruck (better known as half of Dabruck & Klein) with his hand in the air, contagiously tough remix.

## Donati & Amato

Back In My Arms  
(Azuli Records)



Donati & Amato are two of my favourite DJs/producers and created one of the best house tracks of the past year in 'Falling' that gained the number 1 position in the UK Club Chart. They're back with a vengeance with yet another stomer. Strong beats, brilliantly arranged melodies and once again the vocals of the fabulous Lili Rose, whose vocal chords are out of this world. Chunky, uplifting with a killer breakdown, just how I like my house!

# Guilty Pleasures

By Les Lea

• OK. OK. I have to hold my hands up (it's safer that way) but when I see that there's a theatre production where hunky men get naked, I get all excited. On this occasion the show is the world premiere of Guilty Pleasures, a raunchy and risqué comedy set in a steamy 'ladies-only' health spa. One of the show's stars is Craig Chalmers, who is perhaps best known from his appearance on the BBC's search for a star to play Joseph in the series, Any Dream Will Do.

The blond bombshell from Scotland had a few standout moments on the programme but unfortunately didn't win the show and star in the West End as Joseph. However, as luck would have it, he was snapped up by producer Bill Kenwright to star in the touring version of the same musical.

"Obviously, I was very, very happy to play the part on a UK tour even though I didn't win... the mania and audiences were incredible following the TV programme."

**You managed to sustain the part of Joseph for a record-breaking length of time, over 1500 shows, so how did that feel?**

The pressure was intense because for three-years I was being reviewed every single Monday night in a different city, whether I'd been there or not. I had to be on stage performing ten shows a week, every week so, that's why I'm so glad I was brought up to be a hardworking chap from a relatively grounded background. But it was fantastic experiencing amazing shows, amazing crowds and amazing theatres all around the country.

**Craig has been touring the pubs and clubs around Scotland and performing on stage since he was 17. His first exposure to a television talent show was with his band No Reason in 2003 on Pop Idol but he is now about to take centre-stage in a whole new production and one that is a million miles from his character of Joseph.**

Guilty Pleasures is a riotous play that follows the comedic misadventures of GC, the bold and brazen spa owner, and his hilarious staff of fantasy men with their sizzling spa specials! Fun ensues as they try to fulfil the special requests of their demanding female clients. But, when things start to get out of control, will they escape unscathed? And, when one of the men reveals he has testicular cancer, a more dramatic and serious side to the piece emerges. As all their various stories unfold and unravel, audiences will share their laughter and tears in this hilarious production tinged with a bittersweet edge.

**You play the 'hunky, nice but dim' character Tommy in the show so what preparations have you made for this role?**

For the last few weeks it has all been purely physical, I have been in the gym 5 days a week on a weight-training programme, which has been quite tough. I think that that type of person in that type of job would want to be at his best. Obviously, with the potential of semi-nude and nakedness, I thought I'd make the character look good in small fabrics of clothing.

**You are going to be no stranger with an audience coming to see you in a loincloth and swooning accordingly, so what can you offer your fans on this particular outing?**

I think maybe the loincloth would be a little overdressed for some of the things I get to wear in this production.

Others in the cast include high-profile hunks: Marc Bannerman (Gianni di Marco in EastEnders & former I'm A Celebrity . . . Get Me Out of Here! contestant) and CJ de Mooi (Eggheads), while Spa-owner, GC, will be played by David Van Day (from the pop groups Dollar, Bucks Fizz, Guys 'n' Dolls; and former I'm A Celebrity . . . Get Me Out of Here!)

So, to experience the ultimate girls' night out, get your gladrags on, meet up with your mates and prepare yourselves for 'personal services'. Remember, at the GC Spa, your pleasure is their business and their motto is 'Satisfaction Guaranteed'.

A percentage of the profits from the production shall go to raising awareness and money for Everyman, the UK's leading prostate and testicular cancer charity.

For full tour details visit [www.theatre-productions.com](http://www.theatre-productions.com)





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## Mrs. Brown's Boys

• Mrs Brown's Boys is a comedy sitcom on BBC One, created by and starring Irish writer and performer Brendan O'Carroll. Although Mrs Brown and her boys (and girls) is new to the UK comedy scene, the show has been around in one form or another since 1992, when it started life as a radio comedy soap opera. Now in its successful second series we sent **Ryan Houston** to catch up with one of the show's most popular characters Rory, played by **Rory Cowan**.

### How does it feel to be part of such an amazingly successful TV series?

I'm stunned by the size of the success of Mrs Brown. I knew it would be successful, because the live shows have been selling out venues in the UK and Ireland since 1999. North of Birmingham we were very popular, but the TV series has opened up the whole of the UK for us, and we are now doing much bigger venues than we did before. In most cases we are now playing 6000 seat arenas and before the TV series we were playing 1500 seat theatres.

### Do you find it difficult working with the cast, as they are all quite close as a family?

I'm one of the few people that isn't related to Brendan. Grandad, Mark and Dino are the other three. When Mrs Brown started off on radio Brendan used all the people who worked with him. It was just easier at the time to use people he knew. I was his publicist, Grandad was the roadie and 'Mark' was the sound man and Brendan met Gary, who plays Dino when they were in a Panto together in Glasgow. Everyone who worked with him was playing a character in the radio soap. So by the time we went on the road Brendan's wife Jenny, Danny, his son, Fiona, his daughter, Eilish, his sister, Amanda,

his daughter-in-law and Marty, his son-in-law, were all in it. Initially the BBC wanted to get experienced TV actors to play these roles, but Brendan insisted that the actors on stage had to be the same actors on the TV series and he insisted the F word was included too. He wanted the TV shows to reflect what the audiences would see and hear in the stage shows. And it was a good decision on his part to do that.

### How do you personally feel about the character you play in the series?

I love that character Rory. He is such fun to play. Initially when Brendan wrote that character he based him on me. Now back in 1992 homosexuality was illegal in Ireland. Homosexuality wasn't spoken about outside of the gay scene. Families with gay sons or daughters or brothers or sisters didn't talk about it that much. It's weird looking back because that's only 20 years ago and homosexuality was very hush hush here and people weren't coming out in any great numbers. But Brendan wrote the gay characters of Rory and Dino and they were likeable characters and they became very popular. We started to notice that people were saying how much they liked Rory and Dino and how they had an uncle, brother, sister, who was gay but the family never talked about it. All of which I found very sad in a way. But by writing those gay characters into the soap people felt they were able to talk about homosexuality. Now Brendan didn't do anything to legalise homosexuality, I'm not saying that, but he did push the envelope a bit to make people think and talk about it and accept their family members as being gay.

### How did you decide to play his character?

Now of course the way I play Rory is to a stereotype. That was my choice and Brendan gives me great leeway in how I play him. I didn't want to play him as a gay character that would be a surprise to the audience. I wanted him to be out there and I wanted the audience to know the character was gay from the minute he sets foot on the stage. And Mrs Brown plays the perfect mother for a gay son or daughter. It's all comedy, but the message is always there that she wants her son to be happy and if being with a man makes him happy then that's fine with her.

### When did she find out about her 'delicate boy's' sexuality?

Ah, she found out in the first series. Rory was trying to tell her but it went right over her head. So the rest of the family decided to tell her that one of the family was gay and she was trying to think who it was. She went through them all one by one and when she was reading a book about homosexuality, that Cathy gave her, she came to the conclusion that it must be her, Mrs Brown, that was gay. In the book it said something along the line that gay women have a very close relationship with another woman. She thought that as Winnie was her best friend and were so close that it must be her that was gay. And all along she never dreams it's her son Rory. He was the only one she didn't think was gay. When she eventually was told she decided that she better explain to Rory that he was gay and she did it really well. She told him that he was her son and she loved him no matter what. In the end Rory didn't have to tell her, she told him. Of course with it being a comedy, she then said to Cathy it was one of the hardest things she ever had to do, telling her child he was gay. And she hoped that Rory would never have to do such a thing with any of his children when he gets married to a woman and has a family of his own. So Mrs Brown knows Rory is gay, but she's still trying to understand what being gay is.

### You've also told me that Brendan (Mrs Brown) is currently writing the third series of Mrs Brown's Boys... does this mean a third series for BBC One?

There will be a third series for BBC and we will be filming that in Oct and November this year. But before that we are on tour in the UK and I can't wait to get back on the road. This is going to be a great year.

<http://www.mrsbrownsboys.com/>

Photo: BBC/Alan Peebles



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# Going nuts over Matthew Bourne

By Lyndsey Winship



There's no-one in the dance world quite like Matthew Bourne. Not many people can say they've invented a new genre of dance, but Bourne could make that claim. The choreographer has made his name reinventing the classics with a twist, like Swan Lake, where he famously made all the swans male, or Cinderella, where he turned a well-worn fairy tale into a cinematic wartime romance. His work lies somewhere between dance, theatre and silent film – you could call it movement-

theatre, or wordless storytelling. But whatever you call it, it's hugely popular, with endless sell-out shows, worldwide tours and celebrities such as Johnny Depp, Jack Nicholson and Stephen Fry are queuing up to gush about the man's talents. As well as currently working on a new projects, Bourne is touring his souped-up version of ballet classic Nutcracker!, a kitsch and colourful take on the traditional story that's as fun and fresh now as it was when it was originally made 20 years ago.



## It's your company's 25th anniversary. Did you ever anticipate getting this far? Was there a grand plan?

No, there was no big grand plan. In the early days it was just from performance to performance. It was all unpaid and we all had part time jobs. We got together as a company just for the chance to choreograph and to perform. At that point we would never have dreamt it would have led here.

## You came to formal dance training quite late. What made you decide that dance was the medium you wanted to work in?

I think I was after something to express myself with and knew I wanted to entertain. From a very early age I was always putting on a show in some form or other. I became a big movie fan and was taken to the theatre by my parents. I thought I wanted to act, I thought that was my destiny, and then I tried it and I didn't like using my voice! I felt really uncomfortable with my voice at that age, 14-15, and so it sort of gradually moved towards dance being the thing. I think the things that were always there were storytelling and wanting to entertain people.

## When you came out of college in the late-80s, the contemporary dance scene was very alternative and experimental, with people like Michael Clark and Lea Anderson. Storytelling and entertainment were pretty unfashionable, weren't they?

They were, very unfashionable. Obviously when you're a student you try and please your teachers and I was trying to do what I thought was the right thing. It took until I got to the third year till I thought I should be doing what's right for me, something that's from the heart, rather than trying to second guess the trends.

## Nutcracker was the show that set you on the path to success, your first re-writing of a classic. How did it come about?

Opera North, and their then Director Nicolas Payne, came to us in 1992 and said they were

recreating the bill on which Nutcracker was premiered in 1892 with the opera Iolanta, for its centenary. There were a lot of classical versions around and they thought they'd ask someone who could do something a bit different with it. They'd seen one of our small pieces, with a cast of six people. It was a big leap of faith on their part, to pick me to do it. I can't imagine anyone doing that now.

## That famous Tchaikovsky music was the first big classical score you'd tackled. Did you already know the music?

I'd seen the ballet a few times, and I knew some of the music from Fantasia, which I'd seen when I was a kid. I wasn't brought up with classical music in the house, it was all musicals, but I loved it. To me, Tchaikovsky's music is the best musical ever written without words. It's one melody after another. You do come out humming the tunes.



## Tchaikovsky wrote the music for Sleeping Beauty and Swan Lake as well. What made him so good at ballet music?

He was obviously brilliant at melody and orchestration, but I think it's more than that. I think it was a lot to do with the closeness of the collaboration [between composer and choreographer] when they were made. It was concise; he couldn't waffle on, whereas when you're writing a symphony... maybe 'waffling on' is the wrong term!

He had to think of a different melody for each dance. You have these brief numbers where you get one idea and another idea and another. Especially in this day and age where attention span is brief, I think it suits the modern age, in a way.

## Do you start with the music when you're making a piece? What comes into your head – images, movements, emotions?

All those things. Sometimes when I'm on a train and I've got nothing to do but listen, I visualise a whole series of moves and dances, and I think, oh god, it's going so well in my head, I wish I could remember all this! Sometimes I'm really just trying to find a way of telling a story and it's not about movement. It's the rhythm of the evening that's very important to me, the arc of the story.

## How much has Nutcracker changed since its first performance?

A lot! It had a big overhaul 10 years ago and since then it's had little bits and pieces. There's a moment when the character Fritz gets snowballs thrown at him to get him off the stage, that only came in a couple of weeks ago. I love reviving and redoing pieces because every day there's something more to say. It's an ongoing, movable feast. That's why I love live theatre as opposed to film. You can keep growing.

## Do you change things depending on the reaction of the audience?

Yes, very much. We talk about that a lot, at each venue we go to: What did they get last night, what didn't they get?

## Not all choreographers think like that...

I think I've learned all that from directors I've worked with in musical theatre. All the things I've heard Trevor Nunn or Richard Eyre say. I learned that for those directors, pace is the most important thing. Don't let the audience drop – that happens in dance massively, all the time: someone comes on, walks to a space, miserable face, starts to move, stops. It doesn't grab me. I want more than that. You need to take the people and lift them, take them with you. I find audience psychology fascinating. I'm a person who sits in audiences a lot, to experience their experience.

## And are you sometimes surprised at the audience's reactions?

Completely, always. There are always things you think are really good that no-one gets, or no-one seems to notice. And then sometimes there's a reaction to something, and you go, what are they looking at?

For tour dates and further info: [www.new-adventures.net](http://www.new-adventures.net)  
Photos: Simon Annand/Bill Cooper



# WHAT THE BUTLER SAW

Joe Orton was one of the 60s 'enfant terribles' of the theatre world. His plays were funny and sexual, crude and clever, mocking and debauched, the like of which we don't see today. Thankfully his plays are occasionally resurrected and one of his great comedies What The Butler Saw has a terrific cast when it opens at the Vauderville Theatre in London in May. When psychoanalyst Dr Prentice, played by Tim McInnerny, instructs his new secretary (Georgia Moffett) to undress, little does he expect to be interrupted by his wife (Samantha Bond), her blackmailing lover (Nick Hendrix), a meddling government inspector (Omid Djalili) and an inquisitive policeman (Jason Thorpe). But hiding a naked woman is the least of his worries, as libidos run riot, identities are swapped and social decorum is buried. Tim McInnerny, Samantha Bond and Georgia Moffett will be joining

Omid Djalili, for a strictly limited season Omid Djalili said, "The team assembled for this production is really exciting. I'm looking forward to what promises to be a challenging and hugely enjoyable next few months."

Vaudeville Theatre, 404 Strand, London WC2R 0NH  
[www.whatthebutlersawtheplay.com](http://www.whatthebutlersawtheplay.com)



# VOLCANO

Never performed in Noel Coward's lifetime, this is the first major production of a work which gives a fascinating insight into the glamorous and scandalous Caribbean lifestyle that Coward himself enjoyed.

The tour starts in May and for more details go to: [www.target-live.co.uk](http://www.target-live.co.uk) or [www.kenwright.com](http://www.kenwright.com)

Recently widowed Adela Shelly finds herself being seduced by the suave Guy Littleton, a visitor to her elegant Caribbean house on the side of an island volcano. When Guy's acid-tongued wife Melissa decides to fly in to see off the competition, she hasn't considered that Adela's best friend, Ellen, might also be falling for her husband's charms! As tensions bubble up from under the surface and begin to erupt, so does the volcano, all with explosive consequences...





# Scrubbing up nicely

By Jasper Rees

Zach Braff is overwhelmingly known as the star of *Scrubs*, the hugely popular American hospital comedy which came with a side order of surrealism. But fans of low-budget indie cinema will also know Braff for *Garden State*, which he wrote, directed and starred in alongside Natalie Portman.

After this promising debut in film, Braff retreated into silence. Pinioned for nine seasons in a contract which made him available for other work for only four months of the year 'scheduling things became difficult,' he explains. 'I tried to make another film and we were all set to go and then some amazing actor's schedule shifted and they couldn't do it.'

When *Scrubs* finished he was free to pursue other avenues, the first of which was a play. The idea came to him when he was looking for a summer house to rent for his father on Long Beach Island. 'You go down in the winter to pick one out. It was so desolate and spooky. I was so taken by the isolation and the loneliness and it was like a eureka moment: I want to set it in a beach house in the dead of winter.'

He wrote *All New People* over five months and last summer it opened *Off Broadway*. Now a UK production with a predominately British cast, Braff stars, as in *Garden State*, playing another lonely Jersey boy.

When the curtain goes up, Charlie is attempting to forget that it's his 35th birthday, only to be interrupted by a young female English letting agent with visa problems (*Torchwood's* Eve Myles), an over-educated fireman and an extremely expensive escort.

'Sad Jews in New Jersey is my speciality,' he advises. 'If there's a common thread it's navigating loneliness. Ultimately you are still going through this journey of life on your own. If both the leading characters have something in common it's that they are having trouble dealing with that. And it's about what rescues them. In the case of *Garden State*, it was true love. And in the case of this, it's the friendship and kindness of strangers.'

Braff is keen to advertise that there are not only structural surprises in *All New People*, but also laughs – lots of them. 'That's my favourite type of tone, where you can vacillate belly laughing and turn a corner and something quite serious in someone's life has happened.'

It's a thematic tightrope walk that won't be entirely unfamiliar to *Scrubs* fans, with its trapeze-like swings between fantasy sequences and bedside trauma. 'I always felt *Scrubs* was like a comic strip. People think of the characters as their friends. They just want to check in with them for half an hour. And that's why the show worked so well.'



Following sell-out weeks in Manchester and Glasgow, *All New People* is now at The Duke of York's Theatre on St. Martin's Lane until 28 April.

[www.allnewpeople.co.uk](http://www.allnewpeople.co.uk)



## 1 SUPER ZOOM'

The new Olympus SZ-14 'Super Zoom' compact camera, benefits from a massive 24x or 25-600mm\* wide optical zoom lens, allowing you to shoot close ups without capturing your shadow or disturbing your subject. It also features Multi-motion Movie Image Stabilisation (Movie IS) for 720p HD movies that are crisp and clear with reduced blur, even when you are walking. Available in silver, black and red, the SZ-14 features the new Telephoto Macro that gets you up close for standout Macro shots. There are even more things to discover with this new generation of digi-cameras. **£199.99**

[www.olympus.co.uk](http://www.olympus.co.uk)

## 2 TIGER WATCHING

Retro inspired Onitsuka Tiger men's Snapback Chronograph, in solid stainless steel, with a very cool dark green dial, orange and yellow detailing on the chapter ring and second hand, with tachymetre. Silver subdials complete the symmetry of the dial. Solid case and bracelet with curved mineral crystal finish the retro styling.

**£250**

[www.WatchShop.com](http://www.WatchShop.com)

## 3 CHARGE OF THE BRIGADE

Laptops and netbooks are wonderfully lightweight and versatile gadgets. But all these portable credentials go out the window when you have to pack loads of power cables with them. But now there's a way to pack light and still get hours out of your portable PC. The Pebble Pro Netbook Charger is a serious bit of kit for anyone who owns a laptop, netbook, tablet, iPhone, smartphone, or any USB gadget. And with its meaty 13,200mAh battery it can charge an iPhone over ten times and a standard netbook for five hours or more!

**£69.99**

[www.firebox.com](http://www.firebox.com)

# Gadgets

## 5 STRESS RELIEF

There's a new little gizmo on the market, which says it can help you learn to relax your mind, which helps to reduce stress, anxiety and insomnia.

Using a Procyon is easy. Simply sit or lay down in a comfortable position, put on the headphones and light-stimulation glasses and select a relaxation programme or meditation programme.

After a few seconds, you'll hear soothing pulses through the headphones and at the same time, through your closed eyelids, you'll be aware of softly flickering lights produced by the glasses. The lights and sounds start to slow down in synchrony and, without any effort, your mind and body will automatically start to slow down and relax. By the end of the session you will feel a calmness that will stay with you. Regular use of the Procyon will help you to manage stress much more effectively. It will set you back £185 and is not recommended for people with Photosensitive epilepsy, so in doubt check with your MD before you buy.

[www.meditations-uk.com](http://www.meditations-uk.com)

## 4 SOUNDS SMALL DELIVERS BIG

The Bayan 3 speaker dock packs a big punch into a small design, with 45W RMS of power performance alongside 5.25" bass and tuned bass reflex port plus a 2" mid/high frequency speaker. Featuring pseudo-stereo technology, listeners can enjoy a rich, wide sound which defies the Bayan 3's modest price tag – and with a modern, clean design it will add sleek style to any room in the home. Charge & Play dock at the front of the device for iPod/ iPhone

**£99.99**

[www.bayanaudio.com](http://www.bayanaudio.com)





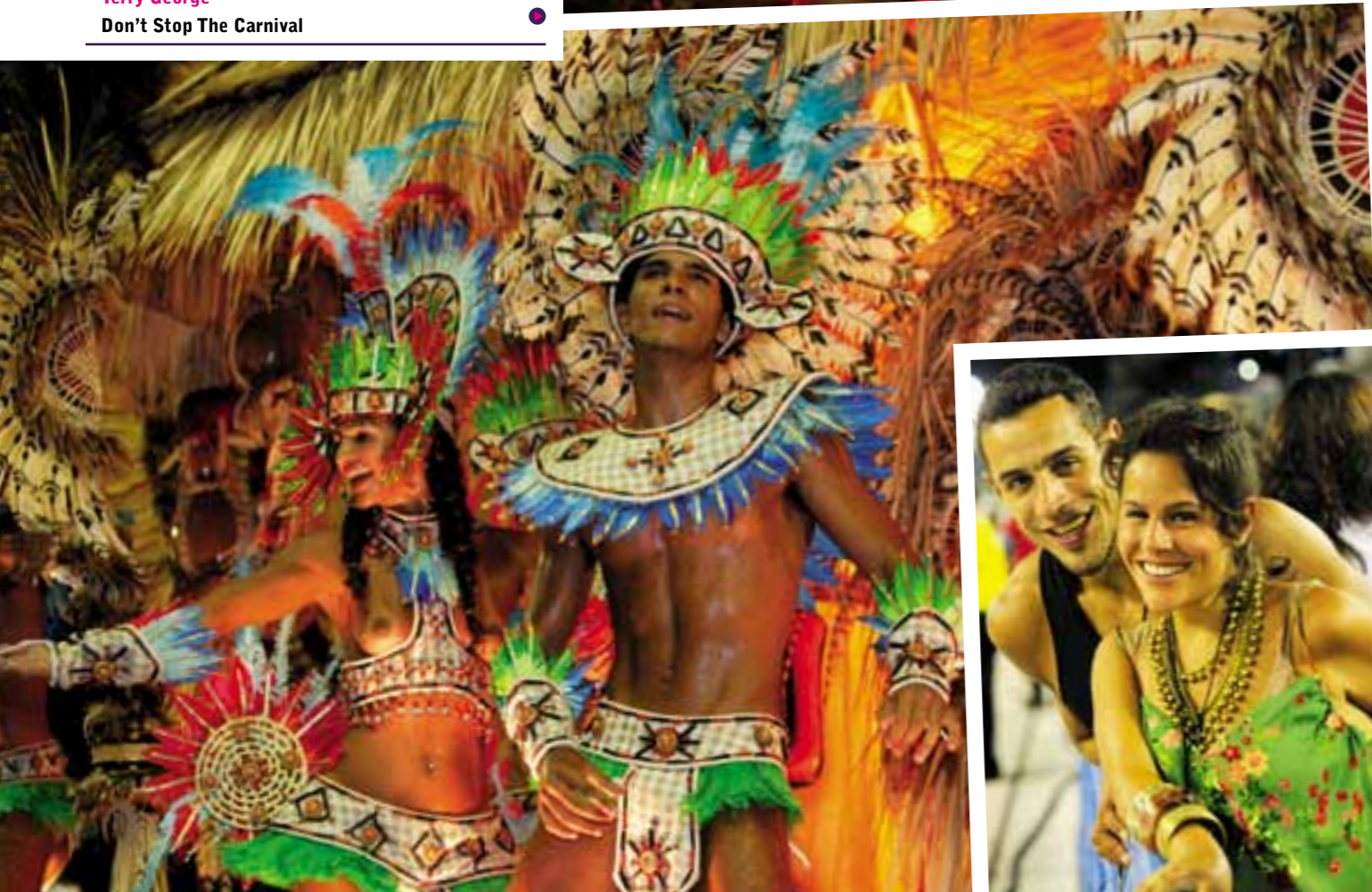
For regular readers of Bent, you may know of my annual pilgrimage to the Rio Carnival. I am drawn to this event for several reasons; the glamour, the colour, the sounds and the beautiful bodies all add to making this an unmissable spectacle. There is nothing new to report, the event is the event, but I'm always interested in meeting up with new people who, like me, have been to Prides, Mardi Gras and Carnivals across the entire globe but who continually say that this is not only the best but also a definite MUST SEE occasion to experience.

Away from the parade, people still ask me how I cope with the mass of happy dancers crowding the streets but I have to tell them, it doesn't take place in the streets. There is a massive stadium – the Sambadrome (the Samba being the local rhythm that everyone dances and sways to) and the parade takes place in that. Although there are many street parties and shows happening across the city, the Sambadrome is where you'll have the full colourful, pulsating experience. The floats (and not one of them proclaiming they are from Salford Van Hire) are festooned with shiny ribbons, huge crape paper designs and loaded with the most gorgeous looking people you are ever likely to see. Some readers may think this is the gayest of events, it is, but it is not a gay event. Although that perception could be my fault as I tend to concentrate my lens on all those gorgeous boys in their sequins and feathers.



## Tellin' Stories

Terry George  
Don't Stop The Carnival



Travel info:  
I travelled Leeds to London by rail with East Coast Trains: Advance Return fares booked online, start from £26 standard class or £79 first class. Book via: [www.eastcoast.co.uk](http://www.eastcoast.co.uk) or call 08457 225225  
If you would like to buy Terry's coffee table style photo book then enter the following into google: Carnival in Rio: Samba, Samba, Samba: isbn 3937406387





● However, the families and locals take it all very seriously, albeit in a happy, friendly, extravagant way, as the many Samba schools taking part (and there are literally hundreds of people involved) aim to be crowned... not unlike Crufts... the best in show. In the past, I have seen many famous people cheering on this stunning procession but this time I only clocked one... Ms Jennifer Lopez. I'm not sure if this was because the event itself is getting very expensive to attend. Packages for hotels and event tickets have risen dramatically in recent years, which unfortunately may well mean that those who might have planned a once-in-a-lifetime trip could now find it just too expensive. It is a shame. Meanwhile, I met up with la Lopez. To be honest, it was my friend actor Leon Lopez who I met up with and after the parade, we went off to see the sites. The statue of Christ the Redeemer is the main focal point of Rio. This sculptured colossus sits atop the Corcovado Mountain and attracts visitors by the thousands every day. Leon and I arrived at 10am to purchase our tickets only to find that the demand to get to the top was so huge, we wouldn't be there until 4pm. Through a bit of haggling and a little 'tip' we managed to exchange the tickets with a tour guide and at 11am went up on the little train/tram that travels to the top of the mountain. There is absolutely no doubt that the view is quite spectacular and the figure itself is quite awesome but for me at least, it was a bit of a disappointment. They had installed an escalator for when the Pope had last visited, as they didn't want him to have to take on the many steps leading up into

it, and I thought it cheapened the mysticism of the place. Not that I'm particularly religious but it did make me think. Once we'd taken our photos and done the touristy stuff we decided to head back but as the little train is the only way to return to the base, there was another long queue to get back down. I'm not one for standing in long lines and asked, as an actor, if Leon had ever had to play someone who was disabled. He said "No" and then queried my question "Why?" I grabbed a nearby wheelchair, which was there to help with old and infirm people who were finding the incline too much for them, and plonked myself down. Leon was laughing but said that we can't do that. I told him not to worry and to just push. He was very reticent but, as I insisted and set off without him, he followed and steered me through the crowds all gathering for their decent. The staff were helpful and opened barriers to let me through; I kept my head down as Leon pushed mouthing the words to anyone who was interested that I had a bad foot. I told him not to say anything unless we were challenged but he apologised at

every opportunity to anyone who would listen or understood what he was telling them. Eventually we got to the front of the queue and I hobbled from the chair to find a seat. Everyone was being especially friendly and going out of their way to accommodate my injured foot. We arrived at the base of the mountain and as I got up to leave, I heard this American voice, who had noticed I wasn't limping anymore, shout "He's a fraud." Others began to join in the shouting but I said that it was a miracle, after being to meet Jesus I had been cured. No one seemed to be buying that excuse so Leon and I hot-footed it as quickly as we could to get a taxi back to town. I have to say that I owe this ingenious idea to Little Britain as I based my entire 'act' on Lou and Andy.







## Johan' Blog We're having a gangbang .

hard. It's just a totally horny but utterly relaxed atmosphere. Indeed, it reminds me of the good old times in the locker rooms and showers after sports class at school.

Incidentally, I must tell you a funny story from a shoot that I had recently – one with my old friend, Mike Cage, who I knew from school in my home town of Liberec, Czech Republic. The storyline was that he got lost in some town, asks for the way in a bar and then gets abused and raped by the bar staff on the pool table – in short, a total classic! However, he ended up enjoying the abuse so much – even including the double-fisting that always puts a horny smile on his face – that we ended up putting 3 (!!!) billiard balls up his ass. What's more, he actually ended up asking for more! Our director almost got quite cross, but Mike was just having the time of his life. It's funny how people can change. At school, he was a shy, innocent lad, but now he's one of the most popular double-fisting twinks around! You can check out the transformation on the DVD "Extreme Twinks", set to be released this month on Homoactive.com.

Hugs Johan

• A gangbang surely has to be everyone's biggest dream. Every gay guy wants to be in the middle of one – be it as a top, as a bottom, or maybe even in both positions!

To be right in the middle of a bunch of horny, muscular guys who have just one thing in mind: hot, sweaty, totally intense sex! Be it in one of the classic locations such as a locker-room or the showers, or in a darkroom, a sex-shop cinema, in the back room of a raunchy club or indeed anywhere else. The fact of the matter is that it's always about the same thing: to fuck or be fucked! No discussions, no big deals – just pure, unadulterated sex!

Under normal circumstances, of course, very few of us would ever get into the situation of a gangbang. I'm actually a member of different gyms and play a variety of team sports, but even so, I've never had a private gangbang in either the locker rooms or the showers. Neither have I ever heard of any spontaneous gangbangs taking place in the clubs – gay or otherwise – in my town. In short, it's just a big dream.

Fortunately for me, however, I'm a porn actor and (as a result) get to enjoy my own little gangbangs on a regular basis. Of course, they're always in front of a camera and have to follow a strict script written by a horny and arguably slightly perverted writer/producer, which is a bit of a shame – I'd definitely prefer a private affair – but a gangbang on a movie-set is better than none!

I was involved in the shooting of a gangbang just recently – the sequel of STAXUS's hugely successful "German Bitch Gangbang". This time, the poor (or lucky, depending on how you regard it) German guy called Sebastian had to take no less than 25 guys in one session. Mind, the Germans are really weird when it comes to sex. Years ago their fetish was sniffing stinking sweaty socks and trainers, now it's all about

gangbangs and abuse – the result, perhaps, of having Merkel as Chancellor! Whatever the reason, it was Sebastian who contacted us and asked us to make his dream come true – something we were more than willing to arrange.

Mind, you can imagine how much preparation was involved in not only booking 25 good-looking guys but also planning the shooting of all the ensuing fucking. Suffice it to say that the only guy who was totally relaxed and fully enjoying the scene was Sebastian himself; whilst the tops and the three cameramen were all as stressed as hell!

This 25-man gangbang was special even for me. It was a wild, horny orgy, which almost got out of control as a result of us all being so hot and energetic! You'll see what I mean when you check out the STAXUS DVD "25 Cocks – 1 Blond Twink" at Homoactive.com. Maybe you'll also recognize that the bed we had for the gangbang on actually broke during filming. My recommendation: don't buy a bed at IKEA if you want to use it for a nice fucking session with more than 10 people!

For me, the horniest part of the whole thing were the preparations, when all of us models are standing together, wanking, chatting and giving each other blow-jobs to get our cocks



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## Do It Yourself!

By Stephan Niederwieser



- In his latest sex manual, Stephan Niederwieser goes 'back to basics': the noble art of masturbation. This is one of the most popular kinds of sex, yet people are reluctant to discuss it. Do it Yourself places the emphasis on your personal instincts and fantasies, although it goes without saying that you don't have to try everything on your own. This book tells you how to enjoy yourself and other people—and does so in a clear and humorous way. Have fun!

[www.brunogmuender.com](http://www.brunogmuender.com)

## Give It To Me

By Sean Wolfe



- Wolfe is a master of crafty sexy, provocative stories that are as smart and as literate as they are hot. In this latest collection, he delves even deeper into his wicked imagination and explores even more irresistible encounters that fuel the darkest of fantasies.

Kennington

## Le Gang

By Sean Wolfe



- The French porn studio Citebeur is famous for its macho movies with Arabs and Latinos playing the leads. Now they are about to celebrate their 10th anniversary in an extraordinary way: with a juicy comic book. In this collector's edition the studio's most famous models—Kader, Aziz and Tarek among others—invite you to share ten shag sessions, in their hood, in jail and on a holiday trip to Africa. Also discover twelve fantastic sex stories written by Skarlaone and illustrated with photos of models that have marked the history of Citebeur.com.

[www.brunogmuender.com](http://www.brunogmuender.com)

## Encountering Julian Briefly

By Gordon Hopps

- We love Julian. We love him for being Julian. We love the way he can insinuate and double entendre and outrage... while not shouting at his audience or giving a lecture. We love him for the way his live shows invite us all to be intimate (though don't get too close, one needs one's space) and invites us into the special camp world of this gentle spoken comedian. Of course he's not just a stand-up comic with a dog fetish... oh no... this man has got a great deal of talent and proves his writing abilities with the release of his fourth novel, Briefs Encountered. Set in the here and now, as actor Richard Stent buys Noel Coward's old retreat from Julian (yes he even has himself in the book) and the 20s, when the golden era of Coward's talent shone most brightly and as he sought the strong manly arms of his American lover Jack. If only the walls of this famous romantic building could speak, what delicious and salacious gossip would they deliver? Actually, this house has a way of letting the owners know exactly what it's thinking.

**In Briefs Encountered the character Richard buys the house from you because he is a Noel Coward fan... did you buy it for the same reason.**

I was a fan of Noel's. What happened was Paul O'Grady, who is a friend of mine, suggested the place when I was thinking of somewhere rustic to live. I came down and looked at it and I bought it. It was as simple as that.

**As in the book was there plenty of work to do on it?**

Yes that's all true... a lot of the book is true... it was really as written, it needed a new roof, new guttering, new piping, new boiler, windows and all those things. I've been doing all that for the last five years.

**Were you a fan of Noel Cowards before the house and the novel?**

Yes, I grew up in Teddington where Noel Coward was born so yes, I've always loved his writing and his music and his attitude to life really. The glamour and frivolity of the 20s and 30s is very appealing.

**Do you think that the era was very exciting to be gay because in the book Noel and his lover Jack seem to have little trouble with being gay even though it was still regarded as illegal. They seemed to feel they were 'special'.**

I think that's exactly right. They thought they were special and in that time between the wars there was a particular kind of confidence and determination to enjoy themselves, which has gone now but I think that was epitomised by Noel.

**Do you find writing easy or is it a chore to hit deadlines?**

No, I think you must take no notice of deadlines. I quite like the pressure of knowing something is due in a few months but, with this book, the deadline had to wait. I think it's six months later than it was scheduled to be but I don't think you can rush these things.

**Has country living changed your outlook on life?**

I wouldn't go that far (laughs). I just enjoy rustic living; sunsets, trees and having hens and ducks around.

**So, you've done television, stage, panto and books, what's next for you... a musical?**

Yes, I think I'd like to write a musical.

**As well as having a writing talent do you have a musical bent?**

No. I could write the book but not the music. I think I know my limitations. I know when I was in Taboo and Cabaret in the West End I got to liking the structure of musicals, how they were put together but I'm sure it's more difficult than I think it is. Whether or not I'd ever get round to it... I don't know.

**Unfortunately, you don't seem appear on TV that regularly these days. Is there something you are waiting for or have you some majestic plan to bring back Terry and Julian (a personal fave) ?**

I don't want to do television at the moment. I have no interest in it. So... I'm not doing any for that reason. I enjoy writing and touring and doing panto for the money, so those are my three activities. I don't need the stress of television.

**So there's no chance in seeing you in another Strictly Come Dancing type of show?**

No.

**You say you like touring is there one coming up?**

Yes, at the end of the year for 45 dates.

**Are you doing stadiums?**

No, I do theatre tours.

**Do you think that your act wouldn't work in a stadium.**

I couldn't fill a stadium... no theatres are fine ... no stadiums involved.

**Getting back to your writing, this is your fourth novel. Any chance of them being made into feature films?**

They are all available if anyone is interested in buying the film rights.

**I just like the idea of your first novel 'A Young Man's Passage' being on the front of a movie complex.**

Yes, so do I (laughs).

**What do you feel about the current hot topic of Gay Marriage? You have a boyfriend of some years...**

I'm all for it. I think it's all about playing with words. Most people who have had a Civil Partnership treat it as marriage so I suppose it's



a pity it wasn't called marriage in the first place. It's like all the people's fear and ignorance about what would happen to society if gay people get married, well we've already been through all that and I don't think they need to worry as much as they do.

**It's a shame the churches who are up in arms about it at the moment can't see that.**

I think these days more people know what their human rights are and I think we are going to get gay marriage... so people will just have to get used to it.

[www.julianclary.co.uk](http://www.julianclary.co.uk) or follow him on Twitter: @Julian Clary

## Briefs Encountered

By Julian Clary

- Noel Coward is the toast of the twenties... a brilliant playwright, composer and entertainer whose witty songs and pithy lines don't quite tell the full story. Goldenhurst, his house in Kent, provides a place where he can be himself. More importantly, where he can be with his lover, Jack, without fear of arrest or judgement. But their romantic idyll is ruined, first by the arrival of Noel's demanding relatives and then by a mysterious death. Many years later, film star and Coward fan Richard Stent buys the house from its current owner, annoying camp comic and renowned homosexual Julian Clary. Goldenhurst is supposed to be a respite from all of Richard's worries but this is a house with a very rich and not always pleasant history.

Julian weaves a magical spell between what is now and what was then, back in the flamboyant 20s. Young love, old love, obsessive love, secret love and the body of a hunky young gardener, what more could a novel need? Whether

they are witty epithets, shrill retorts, classic observations or local accents... each character is instantly in the readers mind... Noel would be proud.

Ebury Press







## HUGO

Out: 2nd April - Entertainment in Video



In 1931, Hugo Cabret, a 12-year-old boy, lives with his widowed father, a master clockmaker in Paris. Hugo's father takes him to see films and particularly loves the films of Georges Méliès. Hugo's father dies in a museum fire, and Hugo is taken away by his uncle, an alcoholic watchmaker who is responsible for maintaining the clocks in the railway station Gare Montparnasse. His uncle teaches him to take care of the clocks and then disappears. Hugo lives between the walls of the station, maintaining the clocks, stealing food and working on his father's most ambitious project: repairing a broken automaton, a mechanical man who is supposed to write with a pen. Convinced the automaton contains a message from his father, Hugo goes to desperate lengths to fix it. He steals mechanical parts to repair the automaton, but he is caught by a toy store owner... now his adventure really starts.

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this DVD, just answer this question:  
In which French city is the Gare Montparnasse?

## THE PROMOTION

Out 23rd April - High Flyer Film



Living the American Dream, happily married Doug Stauber's professional ambitions are about to be realised when his boss at the Chicago supermarket chain where he works assures him he's a shoo-in to manage a new neighbourhood store. However, enter rival Richard Wehlner. He wants the job too, has a better CV than Doug, has a wife and a daughter and is regarded by seemingly everybody as an all-round terrific guy. How should Doug react to this challenge? Should he regard Richard as a friend, a colleague, a competitor or an enemy?

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this DVD, just answer this question: Chicago is the home of which basketball team?  
A, The Bulls. B, The Cows. C, The Calves.

## DREAM HOUSE

Out: 16 April - Warner Home Video



This is the chilling tale of Will Atenton (Daniel Craig), a high-profile, Manhattan publisher who leaves the big city behind to relocate his wife and their two daughters to a quaint New England town.

As the family settles into their new lives they learn that their beloved dream home has a history of murder. When Will dares to delve further into the mysteries of the house, he is not sure if he is seeing ghosts or if the tragic events are somehow related to his past. The only clues come from his cryptic neighbour who helps him piece together this haunting puzzle.

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this DVD, just answer this question:  
Daniel Craig plays which agent known as 007?

## JITTERS

Out: 9th April - TLA Releasing



Like an Icelandic Skins, Jitters captures the excitement and trauma of a group of teens as they enter young adulthood, all orbiting around the resonant story

of the gay romance blossoming between the uptight teen Gabriel and free-spirited Marcus. Becoming friends whilst studying in Manchester, things change on their last night together when they share an unexpected kiss. However, the romance is quickly curtailed when they go their separate ways upon returning home. Slowly, family and friends notice a change in handsome Gabriel, who realises he is gay but decides to keep it a secret.

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this DVD, just answer this question:  
What is the capital of Iceland?

## TEXAS KILLING FIELDS

Out: 9th April - Entertainment Video



Inspired by true events, this is an action crime thriller about two detectives in Texas City trying to solve several mysterious local murders. Homicide detectives fight a spate of recent murders battling each other and the lure

of the haunted dumping ground known as The Killing Fields. Hard-nosed homicide Detective Mike Souder (Sam Worthington) and his New York transplant partner are called to help in the case of a missing girl in a neighboring county. The detectives feel she's in the Fields and knows they have got to go in after her. What they don't know is if once they're in The Killing Fields, will any of them come out alive...

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this DVD, just answer this question:  
What is the State capital of Texas?  
A, Los Angeles. B, New York. C, Austin.

# Eating Out with Aaron Milo



American hottie Aaron Milo made a splash as man-eater Benji in last year's Eating Out: Drama Camp and returns to the fray in the red-hot follow-up Eating Out: The Open Weekend, which has just been released to DVD! We caught up with him to find out more and the ups-and-downs of working on the ground-breaking gay franchise.

### How did it feel coming back for another instalment of Eating Out?

Well, we actually filmed Open Weekend before Drama Camp! We filmed both movies back-to-back, but it was a bit backwards because of some weather issues when we began filming Drama Camp, so we shot like two days of Drama Camp and then because of stormy weather had to move locations and film Open Weekend first.

### What kind of vibe does the set have?

Open Weekend was filmed on location in Palm Springs, CA so it felt like a bit of a vacation, but it was also high pressure at times because we only had 10 days to shoot. So, some scenes where you would normally get a bunch of takes, we had to just go with our first or second shot because of time issues.

### Did you enjoy getting up close and personal to Chris Salvatore? We're slightly jealous!

Ha, yes - as a new actor in the series Chris was very welcoming and great to work with. This cast in particular was really close on set and we had a great time filming.

### Do you think you'll be back another Eating Out adventure?

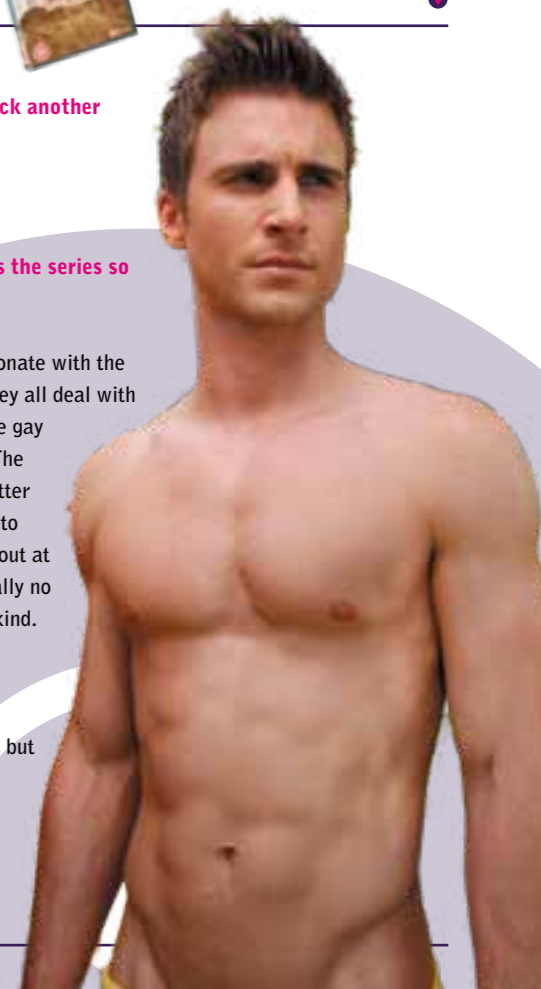
Only time will tell.

### What do you think makes the series so popular?

I think the films really resonate with the gay community because they all deal with situational humour that the gay community can relate to. The industry is getting a bit better about integrating LGBT into film, but Eating Out came out at a time when there was really no other gay comedies of its kind.

### What's next for you?

Nothing is set in stone yet, but I would really love to do a television sitcom next.



**EATING OUT THE OPEN WEEKEND**  
A Film by G. Ashpbrook  
Out Now

**JITTERS**  
A Film by Robert Z.  
Out April 9

Streaming instantly at **tla**gay.co.uk!

Available now on DVD at **amazon.co.uk**





**AVENGERS ASSEMBLE** Out 26th April

Continuing the epic big-screen adventures started in Iron Man, The Incredible Hulk, Iron Man 2, Thor and Captain America: The First Avenger, Marvel's The Avengers is the super hero team up of a lifetime. When an unexpected enemy emerges that threatens global safety and security, Nick Fury, director of the international peacekeeping agency known as S.H.I.E.L.D., finds himself in need of a team to pull the world back from the brink of disaster. Superhero fans are gagging for this... something you probably won't hear is that Lou Ferrigno who played The Hulk in the cult TV series is credited for providing the voice for the The Incredible Hulk.

**BATTLESHIP**

Out: 11th April



An epic action-adventure that unfolds across the seas, in the skies and over land as our planet fights for survival against a superior force. Based on Hasbro's classic naval combat game, Battleship stars Taylor Kitsch (John Carter) as Hopper, a Naval officer assigned to the USS John Paul Jones; Brooklyn Decker as Sam, a physical therapist and Hopper's fiancée; Alexander Skarsgård as Hopper's older brother, Commanding Officer Stone of the USS Samson; Rihanna as Lt. Raikes, Hopper's crewmate and a weapons specialist on the USS John Paul Jones; and international superstar Liam Neeson as Hopper and Stone's superior (and Sam's father), Admiral Shane.

**BEAUTY**

Out 20th April



Francois lives a skillfully controlled, well managed life, in Bloemfontein, South Africa. Father of two daughters and a devoted husband, he is wholly unprepared when a chance encounter unravels his clean and ordered existence. 23-year-old Christian is the son of a long lost friend. By all accounts he is the personification of a handsome young man in the prime of his life. Francois is so disarmed by the young man that it instantly ignites within him an all consuming infatuation and misplaced lust. Despite his careful concealed disgust for himself, Francois pours out the lost emotions he has despised all his life in what becomes a desperate attempt at taking from the world that which he has always secretly wanted: Happiness.

**HEADHUNTERS**

Out 2nd April



A fast paced thriller from the makers of the first (and superior in my opinion) Girl With Dragon Tattoo. Roger Brown seems to have it all. An exceedingly beautiful wife, a luxurious villa and a job as a successful corporate headhunter. He is the best in the business and he knows it. But one career is not enough to fund Brown's extravagant lifestyle and he becomes embroiled in high profile theft on the side, relieving his wealthy new recruits of their valuable artwork. So when Brown discovers his latest candidate, the accomplished and handsome Clas Greve owns one of the most sought after paintings in the world, he sees a way out of his financial problems for good and embarks on his most dangerous heist yet. But nothing could prepare Brown for what he finds in Greve's apartment and what follows is a dark and relentless game of cat and mouse, as the hunter becomes the hunted. Not to be missed.

**CABIN IN THE WOODS**

Out 11th April



Five friends go to a remote cabin in the woods. Bad things happen. If you think you know this story, think again. From firm favourites Joss Whedon and Drew Goddard comes The Cabin in the Woods, a mind blowing horror film that turns the genre inside out. Concrete details about the plot are few, but the flick is said to be a twisted and darkly humorous take on the conventional horror genre movie about young people who unwisely head out to party at a remote lodge in the forest – and all hell breaks loose soon thereafter.

**10 THINGS YOU NEVER KNEW ABOUT GUY PEARCE**

1. Born in 1967 in Cambridgeshire, England, Guy and his family traveled to Australia when he was just 3-years-old.
2. Turned down the title role in Daredevil.
3. Father was a test pilot who died in a crash in 1976.
4. Guy has an older sister, Tracey, who is intellectually disabled.
5. At age 11 Guy joined a local theatre group. He appeared in amateur theatre productions of The King and I, Alice in Wonderland and The Wizard of Oz.
6. Guy Pearce suffered a mental breakdown in 2001 he was physically and mentally exhausted he began shutting himself off from the everyone (except his wife).
7. Guy was a naturally thin boy and had some insecurities about his body. As a way of dealing with these insecurities he became involved in bodybuilding around the age of 15. He went on to win Mr. Junior bodybuilding competition.
8. Guy is a keen musician, he plays the guitar, saxophone and piano, but his musical talents go beyond that, he is also a bit of a songwriter.
9. Guy married his childhood sweetheart, Kate Mestitz, in 1997. The couple shared a house together for a short time after marrying, but now live apart (due to Guy's moodiness).
10. He will next be seen in Ridley Scott's Prometheus out on 1st June.



This month Guy stars in the action thriller Lockout in cinemas on 20th April.



## Brighton Pride A Place To Stay



Legends is a taste of elegance on the seafront, in the heart of gay Brighton. Finished to the highest standards with bespoke furnishings. The hotel offers an amazing array of quality rooms, many with stunning sea views. It's a place where you can relax in luxury or be part of the hustle and bustle on your doorstep. Legends Bar & The Basement Club are also within the hotel complex. Legends Bar is the best placed gay bar in Brighton, just high enough to afford stunning sea views from both the bar and the sun terrace. If dancing is your thing then get down to The Basement Club, our new subterranean club. With great DJs and late opening till 4am .

[www.legendsbrighton.com](http://www.legendsbrighton.com)



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\*T&C's below

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(T&C's: 2 night minimum stay in full rate standard double or above in April 2012 - (Subject to Availability - Some exceptions apply)

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**SATURDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER 2012**  
DATE CHANGE DUE TO THE OLYMPIC GAMES

A BRAND NEW COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY DEDICATED TO RAISING AWARENESS & MUCH NEEDED FUNDS FOR THE LGBT COMMUNITY GROUPS

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## Pride Events 2012

The Rio Carnival is always a glittering occasion and perhaps unwittingly announces the start of the Pride Festival season. Across the world, nearly every major (and not so major) city and town will be busy planning their way of celebrating all things gay. For some it's a chance to hold hands with their partner without having to worry about being abused, for others it's an opportunity to be totally uninhibited and spend their day in nothing but their knickers (or less), while for others it is still about making a political statement about 'gay rights'. Whatever the reason for being there just remember that these events don't just happen. They take many months of organisation, time and money. Acts don't just magically appear on stage, the DJ and pa system aren't a permanent fixture on the streets or in the park and that float for the crowds to parade behind hasn't appeared from nowhere. If you can be involved do so but if not, and you go, then at least appreciate what others have contributed to make the event happen and the minimum you can do is give a few quid to help with its expense. Here are just a few of the events happening over the next few months.

### May

7-13 – Maspalomas Pride, Gran Canaria  
7 – Pride Scotia, Edinburgh  
26 – Bradford Pride

### June

2 - 3 – Birmingham Pride  
2 – Sheffield Pride  
8-10 – Blackpool Pride  
15-23 – New York Pride  
16 – Calderdale Pride, Halifax  
16 – Lancaster Pride  
17-26 – Dublin Pride  
23-24 - San Francisco Pride  
23 June – 8 July – WorldPride – London

### July

14 – Pride Glasgow  
14 – Bourne Free Pride, Bournemouth  
21 – Northern Pride, Newcastle  
21 - York Pride  
21-22 – Hull Pride  
22 – Pink Picnic, Huddersfield  
28 – Norwich Pride  
28 – Nottingham Pride

### August

3-5 – Amsterdam Pride  
4 – Liverpool Pride  
5 – Leeds Pride  
5 – Doncaster Pride  
8 - Wakefield  
17-27 - Manchester Pride  
25 – Cornwall Pride, Truro

### September

1-2 – Brighton Pride  
1 – Leicester Pride  
1 – Cardiff LGBT Mardi Gras  
23 – Sunderland Pride

## Gay Pride Maspalomas

The International Gay Pride Maspalomas 2012 will be held from 7 – 13 May in Gran Canaria and promises to offer an attractive programme which includes the famous Saturday Parade, four nights with live shows, Mr Gay and Miss Lesbian Gran Canaria, Foam Party, Dance Sessions, Beach Parties and much more. Participants may also visit cultural events such as gay cinema and gay art exhibitions. Fun and freedom of expression are guaranteed during the 11th Festival in the Yumbo Shopping Centre and surroundings.

The opening ceremony of this year's Gay Pride Maspalomas will be on Monday, 7 May at 21.00 hours by the mayor of Maspalomas and will kick off a week full of activities. The theme of that night, Eurovision, will be represented by live performances from Niamh Kavanagh, Katrina (formerly of the Waves), DQ and Sieneke.

The following day, Tuesday 8th, is Pink Day (and Night) with street entertainment, Zumba, fire eaters, stilt walkers etc. In the evening visitors can enjoy the Gay Anthems Top 15 on huge screens on the main stage. On Wednesday 9th May the new Mr Gay Gran Canaria will be announced during the popular Men's pool party at Hotel Walkirias which will attract the maximum 1000 visitors.

This is followed in the evening by the Interactive Screen showing on the main stage of the Rocky Horror Picture Show.

Thursday 10th, starts with BLUE, adult Comedy Drag Mayhem, followed by the second live show of the week, to be held during the night for the local HIV/AIDS charity and offers many international artists. The following day, Friday 11th, visitors can enjoy the open air T-Dance Party held at the Aqua Ocean Club, Meloneras, in a private ambience on the first beach line with sexy gogos, djs and delicious champagne and cocktails after which they can visit the popular Diva Drag Gala Show in the main Yumbo Square.

Thousand of people will visit the Saturday 12th Parade, after which they will go down to the Yumbo Main Stage where a 5 hour dance session will continue the biggest open air disco of Gran Canaria! The live show show promises to be an explosive hot night in Maspalomas with artists like Basshunter, Jody Bernal, Eva la Diva, The Cheeky Girls, Kamaliya, Tina Cousins and many more!

The Closing Foam Party on Sunday 13th will be the final day and is hosted by DJ Jean known from global No. 1 hit The Launch.

[www.gaypridemaspalomas.com](http://www.gaypridemaspalomas.com)



## Win This

2 Pairs of tickets to the Pool Party and the Blue Party. Just answer this question. What is happening on Monday the 7th May at 21:00?



# Bienvenidos a, welcome to Gran Canaria!

# MASPALOMAS GAYPRIDE



7-13  
MAY 2012

**Government Support**



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[www.gaypridemaspalomas.com](http://www.gaypridemaspalomas.com)





# Amsterdam

Amsterdam is one of the most attractive cities in Europe for gays and lesbians. It's the city with the very first gay monument, as well as the world's first gay marriage. Nowhere else will you find as many gay attractions per square metre as in the centre of Amsterdam. It's no wonder that Amsterdam is so popular with gay and lesbian visitors so, here a just a few of the city's premier events.

Rapido Queensday	29 April
Queensday	30 April
Amsterdam Gay Pride	28 July - 5 August
Rapido Pride edition	5 August
Hartjesdagen street festival Zeedijk	24-26 August
Get Ruff Leatherpride	2-4 November
Pink Christmas	14-27 December

For additional information for visitors on gay Amsterdam and tourist and cultural events visit

- [www.gayamsterdam.com](http://www.gayamsterdam.com)
- [www.amsterdam4gays.com](http://www.amsterdam4gays.com)
- [www.iamsterdam.com/visiting](http://www.iamsterdam.com/visiting)



## Bag it up

Just what a gym bunny needs, a good, strong holdall, which doubles for those long weekends away.

This butch looking men's holdall in coated canvas, has cotton webbing handles and shoulder strap, brushed nickel finish to metal badge, stud rivets and buckles.

'Shackleton' is priced at **£59.99** and is available from [www.stormlondon.com](http://www.stormlondon.com)



# San Diego

By Lee Hudson



As you travel south through California, the last great city before the border into Mexico is San Diego, known for its all-year-round wonderful climate, its Naval Base and nearby Marine Corps and is also the home of staunch Republicanism. However, don't let that last fact stop you from visiting this fantastic cosmopolitan metropolis.

It may be best known for its huge conference centres, after all it does hold that dandy of all geek events, the world renowned ComiCon (if you've been watching The Big Bang Theory you'll already know all about it). Again, unless you are really into Superheroes and SciFi, don't let that put you off either because this is possibly one of the most gay-friendly places in the USA. Same sex couples hold hands, rainbow flags flutter all around, gay papers are stacked at store entrances, and straight businesses advertise in the gay press. This is an out and proud city with loads going for it. In fact, the annual San Diego LGBT Pride Parade (<http://sdpride.org/>) is the 5th largest in the United States attracting 150,000 cheering spectators and significant media participation. This year the event is scheduled to take place on Saturday, 21st July. However, the latest news regarding the popular Gay Rodeo is that it has been temporarily suspended although the organizers are looking for new ideas to fill that particular 'cowboy' void.

The gayest area is Hillcrest, centred at the intersection of Fifth and University avenues

where you'll find an abundance of bars, coffee shops, restaurants, gyms, bookstores, and kitsch outlets - many of them gay-owned. Several other neighbourhoods - including North Park, University Heights, Normal Heights, and Kensington - have large gay populations and a smattering of gay businesses.

According to the Gay San Diego Guide (<http://sandiego.gaycities.com>) the bear/leather scene is centered in North Park, however, across the city there are about 30 gay bars (plus eight more 15 miles south in Tijuana) and a full range of gay businesses and organizations.

Hotels that charge about \$50 a night may still be found throughout the city; and at least four in Hillcrest target gay consumers so you should have no trouble finding something to keep you to a tight budget.

The sun shines here more than 300 days a year, which means the ocean is warm enough for swimming about half the year. One thing you'll never tire of in this city is beaches and all those wonderfully athletic servicemen, gay boys and body conscious straight lads who run sexily along the various causeways and sandy coastline. For the time when you just don't want to laze and take in the beneficial rays, there is a Seaworld ([www.seaworld.com](http://www.seaworld.com)) and a world famous and award winning zoo, ([www.sandiegozoo.org](http://www.sandiegozoo.org)) both not to be missed.



# San Diego Gay Bars.

- Bacchus House - North Park's dance bar
- Bourbon Street - The place to see and be seen.
- Caliph Lounge - Cozy piano bar
- Cheers - Local neighborhood dive
- University Flame - Hopping dance club, seven days a week.
- Flicks - Popular video bar.
- Martinis Above Fourth - Cabaret lounge
- Number One (#1) Fifth Ave. - Casual hangout.
- Numbers - Popular dance club with two rooms.
- Peccs - Speakeasy style cruise bar.
- Redwing Bar & Grill - Redwings and red beer.
- Rich's San Diego - Hopping dance spot.
- San Diego Eagle - San Diego's only leather bar.
- SRO Lounge - Great for groups.
- The Brass Rail - Dance bar with a diverse crowd.
- The Hole - "A world famous dive".
- The Loft - A dive bar with heavy-handed bartenders.
- Universal Hillcrest - Amaze your eyes with this sensual landscape lounge.
- Urban Mo's - True fun Saturdays while two-stepping (and other music throughout the week).

# San Diego Gay Beaches

- These beaches are recommended by travellers.
- Black's Beach - Bare buns.
- La Jolla - Torrey Pines Scenic Drive.
- Ocean Beach - Paws in the sand.







## Book a Break in Brussels...



Brussels is probably best known for being the home of the European Parliament or a great place for chocolate, not as a great getaway destination. We sent **Simon Savidge** to see just what Bent Brussels had to offer and why you should be booking a trip there in 2012.

Even though it is only 2 hours away on the Eurostar or just over an hour in the air, I don't think most of us would consider Brussels as an instant hot spot for a long weekend away. You would probably associate it with chocolate and waffles, where the European Parliament meet, or see it as somewhere you travel through on your way to somewhere else. In actual fact, Brussels is a city that surprises you as soon as you enter. It has a feeling as if Prague and Paris have met somewhere in the middle, it's a hub of history and culture... and it's got a pretty cracking nightlife too.

Brussels is one of those cities where when you turn into each street there is always something of interest. One minute you can be walking through

a street teaming with high street stores, the next you are walking down a road of high end designer stores and boutiques, perhaps finding yourself in a secret hidden park, or walking past a historical building like the stunning and grand City Hall. It's a compact city, so whilst you are never far away from anywhere you can have that delightful feeling of being lost with endless possibilities to explore down each street you turn onto.

It is also a city of museums. The Margritte Museum could easily contend with the Tate or the Louvre for its impressive collection of fine and modern art. It houses separate buildings for touring worldwide collections, in fact, each year the city hosts a country of which it embraces - putting on music, culinary and film events celebrating that culture further, at present it is Brazil. With Brussels being the home of Tintin you also have about five different museums celebrating the most famous Belgian character, the best the aptly titled The Comic Strip Museum. There is also the wonderfully unusual Museum of Musical

Instruments, which houses a secret roof top cafe overlooking the whole city and is worth it for the hot chocolate and views alone.

Brussels is also the perfect city if you enjoy fine cuisine, in fact the culture of the city and its people is very much one of dinners that last for hours while you catch up over a bottle of fine wine... or several bottles of beer. We would advise you distance yourself from the main tourist strip however, this is brimming with restaurants but they are expensive and don't show the true cuisine of the area... instead favouring crepes and omelettes with frites. We would strongly recommend the typical delightfully oldy-worldy feel of Le Brassiere de Bruxelles (<http://sites.resto.com/b/labrassieriedebruxelles/>), walk in and you feel like you have gone straight back to a stereotypical European bistro in the 1930's. There is also the upmarket decadence of a converted bank of Belga Queen, where you can go and smoke cigars in the old vault and where

each course can be matched with its own special personalised beer, something else for which Belgium is famous.

If you are looking for a party then the biggest one in Brussels is La Demence ([www.lademence.com](http://www.lademence.com))

which sees not only all the gay men from the city itself come out but also many from the nearby cities and from

all over Europe. The transport links mean you can come from France, Germany, Italy etc and simply book a cheap hotel or travel there and back over a couple of days. Meaning, that the selection of men you can feast your eyes on is as varied in type (MuscleMarys, bears, twink, average joe's) as their nationality. In fact, some people choose not to even book a hotel and party all night long before travelling back the next day.

Now having visited the city I would heartily recommend you stay and make a long weekend of it as with so much else going on, and we don't just mean the gay neighbourhood, though it is quite a place to hang out. There are a wealth of bars hidden away down historical old streets we would recommend: Homo Erectus ([www.homoerectus.com](http://www.homoerectus.com)) or the wonderful cabaret bar Chez Maman ([www.chezmaman.com](http://www.chezmaman.com))

if La Demence isn't on, or its a little hard for your tastes, then you will find just a varied a group of men at the Tea Dance ([www.leyougayteadance.be](http://www.leyougayteadance.be)) which is a poptastic night of fun.

There is also much to do on the outskirts of the city if you want to be lost in wide open spaces. Ten minutes outside the city and you can find yourself at one of the most famous of Brussels buildings - the Atomium, known by locals as 'the balls of the city'. You can take a tour inside them learning the

history of the city and the area it lies in, which was a former World Exhibition Centre. You can also eat in the panoramic restaurant open till 11pm, it would make the ideal dining experience at dusk with views at 110meters high. Wander the park surrounding it and you will discover hidden Chinese pagodas, art deco buildings and Greek temples, it's a bizarre and brilliant space. You may even find yourself in Mini-Europe, not a model village, but a model Europe no less.

If you want something extra special then another ten-minute trip out of the city and you could end up eating in the woods, in a chalet, on an island in the middle of the lake at Chalet Robinsons ([www.chaletrobinson.be](http://www.chaletrobinson.be)) in La Cambre Wood, which is quite unlike anything I have experienced before. An ideal hidden romantic getaway in a setting... with gourmet food.

As you can see there is so much to experience in this lesser known city that it's a surprise everyone isn't going there. It is certainly one of our destinations for 2012, be it that you want a change of scene for a weekend of partying or a romantic break away for two then Brussels will more than happily meet your needs, get booking a break there now before everyone else cottons on.

Simon stayed at the Sofitel Louise ([www.sofitel.com](http://www.sofitel.com)) and flew with Brussels Airlines. For more information on the gay Brussels visit <http://visitbrussels.be/>





## Do You Suffer Sun Damage?.

● Too much time on sunbeds? Forgot to put on sunscreen too many times? We all know now how the sun ages your skin dramatically. Now you can reverse the signs of aging caused by too much sun with photorejuvenation.

Photorejuvenation treatment using IPL (intense pulse light) technology to improve the appearance of photoaged skin, removes age spots (sun-induced freckles), most benign brown pigments, and redness caused by broken capillaries. The process is ideal for patients with active lifestyles because the procedure requires no downtime and has a low risk of side effects.

### How it Works

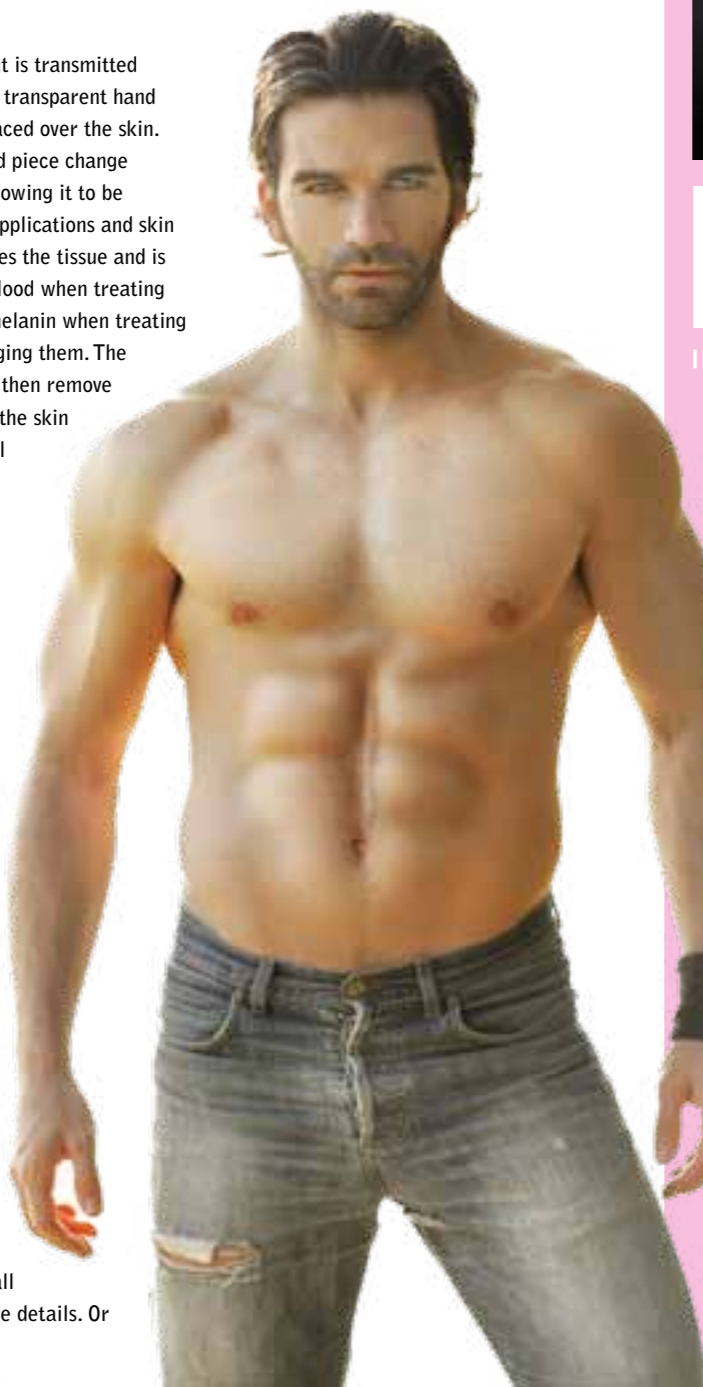
A broad spectrum of light is transmitted through a small, smooth, transparent hand piece, which is gently placed over the skin. Cut-off filters in the hand piece change the wavelength range allowing it to be optimized for different applications and skin types. The light penetrates the tissue and is absorbed by either the blood when treating vascular lesions or the melanin when treating pigmented lesions damaging them. The body's natural processes then remove the injured tissue giving the skin a more even and youthful appearance.

IPL Skin Treatments using Photorejuvenation often consist of full-face treatment or treatment of isolated body areas like the hands or chest. The treatment regimen typically consists of four to six treatments administered at three week intervals.

Skin Health Spa has been at the forefront of skin treatment since 1999 and have clinics in London, Birmingham, Manchester, Cheshire and Leamington. If you are concerned about your skin and wish to book in for a FREE consultation to see an expert about this then call 0800 24 25 145 for more details. Or book online at [www.skinhealthspa.com](http://www.skinhealthspa.com)

### Did You Know?

Many of the day moisturisers on the market come with an SPF factor as standard, such is the importance of protecting your skin from harmful rays. Even when you think there is no sun out, the rays still come through, so all year round protection is needed. If you do want to look your tanned best, the best alternative to damaging your skin with sun bathing is to use self tanning lotions. Be sure to exfoliate regularly and follow the instructions for a clean streak free tan.



## Win This



## Grooming for Men

Discover the Titan Series grooming range from Sassoon for Men, the brand of choice for the everyday man who is looking for grooming products of high quality design and function.

The Titan Series includes four staple electrical products, with true professional hairdressing heritage, helping you look and feel your best day after day. The full range includes a Mains Clipper for professional results from the comfort of your own home, a Rechargeable Clipper ideal for travel, a Rechargeable Beard Trimmer designed for the man who won't compromise on facial style and a Hygiene Trimmer with nano silver technology blade for anti-bacterial action which makes the tricky ears and nasal hair easier than even.

The Titan Series range is available from Asda, Amazon.co.uk and Currys.

[www.sassoonformen.com](http://www.sassoonformen.com)

### COMPETITION TIME

To be in with the chance of winning the entire Titan series from Sassoon for Men, just answer this simple question:

In which area did Vidal Sassoon make his name?

- A, Hair dressing.
- B, Clothes design.
- C, Pop music.

## Beauty



### Rhubarb, Rhubarb, Rhubarb

● NGT by Nougat launches its new male fragrance, Amber & Vetiver. Warming and sophisticated, this modern Eau de Toilette is designed for the metropolitan man who likes a classic signature scent that's as distinct as he is. The fragrance opens with a combination of fresh bergamot and grapefruit with spicy black and pink pepper, which is instantly seductive. The heart of the fragrance is an unusual combination of geranium and rhubarb that works to perfection, before settling into a deep base of Amber, Patchouli, Vetiver, Musk and Moss.  
**£35 - 100ml**  
[www.nougatlondon.co.uk](http://www.nougatlondon.co.uk)

### Anti-dandruff shampoo for men

● The refreshing shampoo is specifically designed with a formula to tackle dandruff. Containing the REF hero ingredient, Tamanu Oil, it also contains Piroctone Olamine, the ingredient known for effectively counteracting dandruff. Recommended for use twice a week, hair will feel visibly cleaner and healthier, as the soothing formula eradicates dandruff.  
**£7.95**  
[www.referencehaircare.com](http://www.referencehaircare.com)

### Akin

● Refresh and recharge your skin. Created in nature's healing garden and crafted in Australia, each product in the A'Kin pureMAN® range contains a blend of the purist botanical (plant-based) active ingredients, many of which are 18certified organic, to deliver the ultimate in radiant and healthy looking skin naturally.  
**Range from £9.50 - £18**  
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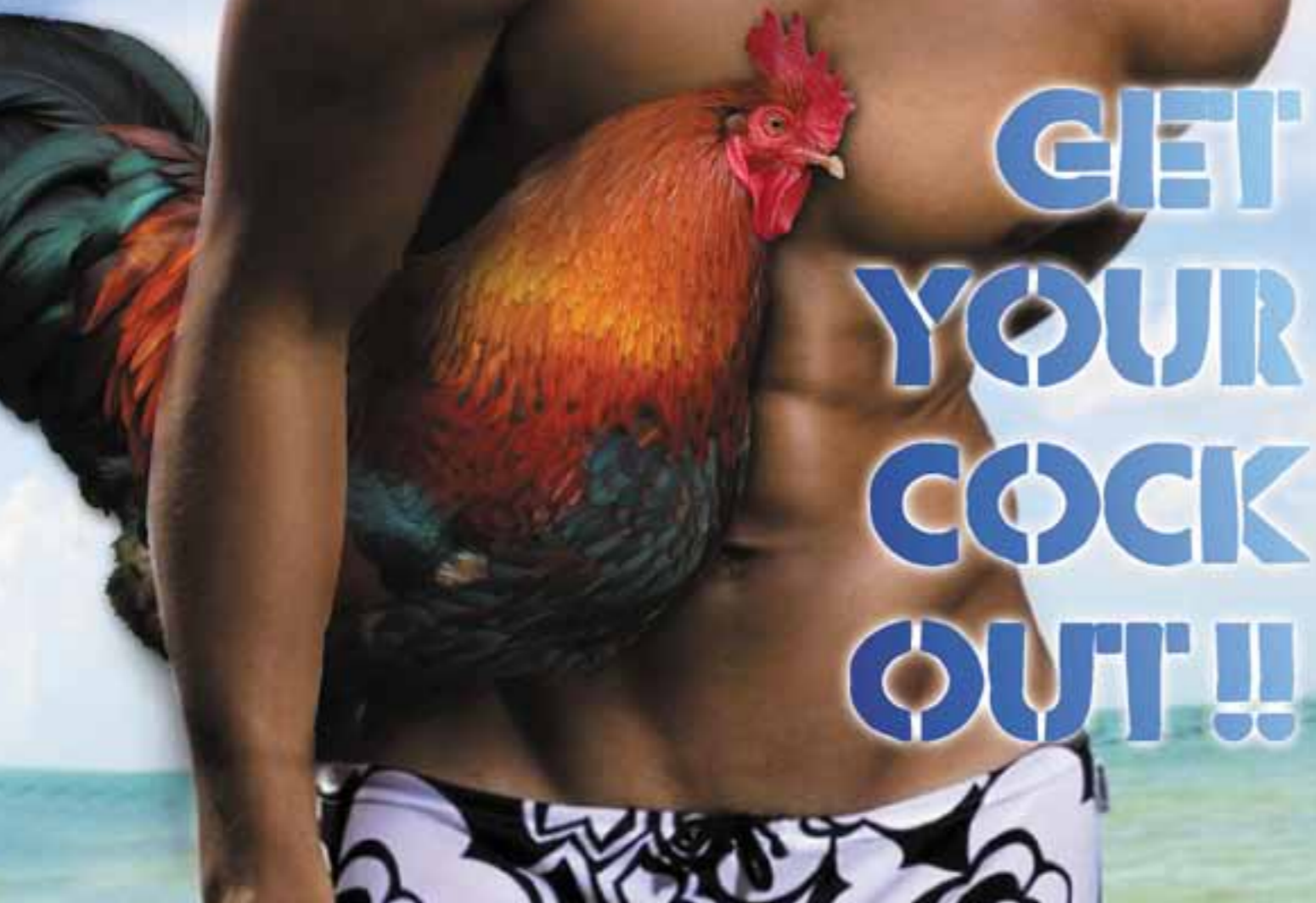
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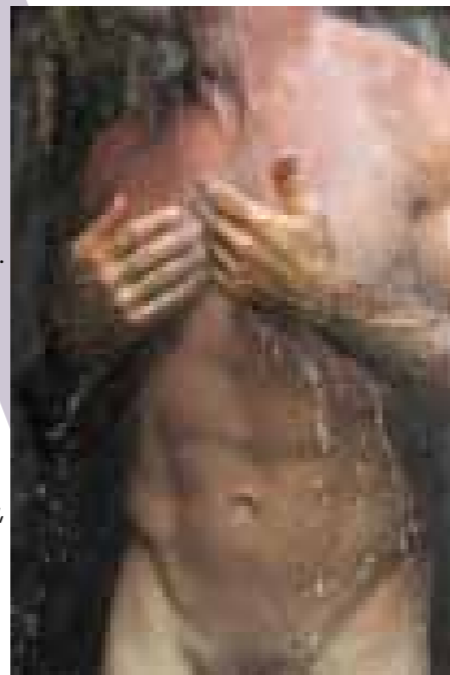
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## My First Time at a Gay Sauna

I was aged 24, I was on holiday in Florida, and I found myself at a gay sauna that I'd read about in one of the free gay mags I picked up in a bar there. I was actually in Fort Lauderdale and the entire place seemed gay to me with loads of hunks on the beach and in the clubs. Anyway, one night I decided to be brave and try this sauna as the image on the advert was pretty hot. They guy on reception was drop dead gorgeous, and he seemed to like my broad English accent. He came out from behind his desk, all smiles and wearing a brief pair of white shorts and a T-shirt with the sauna name written across the front, with STAFF, written across the back. He showed me around and the place seemed a lot bigger inside than I could have imagined. I changed at the lockers and wrapped the towel around my waist and we set off on the guided tour. He was very touchy feely and I was in my element, loving every bit of attention this smiling hunk was giving me. Having said that, there were many equally hunky guys wandering around and I knew I was in for a treat. Eventually my guide had to return to reception and wished me luck as I was left on my own. I wasn't alone for long as I was soon being cruised and touched up by a curly-haired Hispanic looking guy. He guided me to the showers where we watched each other slowly soap ourselves and then, once towelled off, he found us a little cabin where we could have some privacy. He fucked me with slow deliberate and deep strokes that made me cling on to the thin mattress for dear life. I think I was squealing a bit but he appeared to like the noises I was making as he encouraged me with each thrust to 'sing' louder. In total that night, I sang for about ten people and I succeeded in shagging a couple myself. I managed to get a few minutes sleep in between all the sex and come the morning, as the guy on reception was clocking off and I was also leaving, he invited me out to grab some breakfast. I spent the rest of the day with my legs in the air and loving America and Americans for their friendliness, hospitality and the gorgeous sexy, horny, sun-tanned guys it produced. It was the best holiday I have ever had.

Lee - Manchester



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## Bent Fiction - Massage

By Les Lea

Mark was my regular masseur. He was proficient and accomplished in sports therapy and his deep tissue massage had been a boon to my own body recovering after several sporting events. I'm not a professional or anything but I do play for a Sunday pub football team - The Crown - and I am a regular in the squash courts or playing badminton. I like the run around and the camaraderie perhaps more than the competition, although I'm told I can be very competitive. My knee was giving me a bit of a problem on this particular Monday morning, owing to a rather over-zealous tackle on a huge centre forward in the game the day before. I called Mark but was informed that he was away on a course for a couple of weeks, so they gave me the number of an alternative. I called but they couldn't fit me in for a couple of days and as I was very sore I decided I'd look online and see if I could find someone nearby who could maybe see me immediately. I searched and it wasn't difficult to find a couple of masseurs who lived in my area. A couple of calls later I found Keith who was available and only lived a 10-minute drive away. He said he gave sports massages and was fully qualified but that he operated from home, which had all the facilities needed. I arrived ten minutes early but was greeted by a smiling man about 10 years older than I was who looked in great shape. I'm 25 and trim but his solid looking body immediately attracted me. He wore a white vest and white shiny adidas shorts and invited me in. After I'd filled out a

form to let him know if I had any ailments or was allergic to any oils he might use, I was whisked into a small warm backroom that had a masseurs table as its central point. There was a large pink towel covering it and a small pink towel placed on top. We had a brief chat about what I needed and he checked out my body to see if there were any other aches or pains lurking beneath my skin. His fingers felt terrific as he explored my body, pushing and squeezing various muscles and joints... and that was just the preliminaries. I'm used to being naked in front of other guys, at the gym, in the changing room for footie etc so when he told me to strip I did just that. He smiled as I whipped off my underpants and lay face up on his table. He draped the small towel over my genitals and proceeded to oil up my legs, giving most attention to my aching and sore knee. His fingers soon found the spot that was giving me grief as the tentatively dug around my kneecap to see where the main damage might be. He found the spot and I jerked my knee automatically as a painful spasm jolted through my body. He apologised but said that if I could stand a brief bit of pain he thought he could fix the problem immediately. I was doubtful but he pressed his thumb against some piece of muscle or gristle and pain again shot up my leg and made me bolt violently upright. The little towel went flying and I was just about to give him a right mouthful when I suddenly realised I could move my knee in a way I couldn't before Keith had started his work.

I was in a bit of a state because his manipulations had been painful but he seemed to have fixed the problem, and besides that, I was standing naked next to him desperately trying to get my breathing back under control. He patted the table and told me to get back down and the rest of the massage would be nothing but a relaxing treat. With the help of his strong hands I clambered back and lay out as he suggested. He oiled me up and for the next 45 minutes he slowly and methodically massaged every bit of my anatomy including my dick that, without anything to hide it away, throbbed and bounced around every time his slick fingers passed anywhere near my crotch. Even the slightest touch had me on the verge of orgasm and it was with some relief that Keith took the entire length in hand and helped me toward a terrific conclusion to my visit. I could see inside his bulging shorts that he was as hard as I was so I reached out and gave his dick a squeeze. And, as he performed a slow and oily masturbation on me, I rubbed his dick through the shiny material of his shorts. I wasn't long in coming and produced several thick spurts all over my chest. Keith was also at the zone and he wasn't fast enough to get his dick out and came in a huge noisy gush into the front of his little shorts. The look in his eye told me he'd like things to go further but I had to get back to work. However, I booked a two-hour session for the following lunchtime and I think I will be leaving Mark as my masseur for future sessions.







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# HOROSCOPES

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## Taurus

(Apr21/May21)

Your enthusiasm for life will be hard to resist. So if you've a mind to update ways of dealing with duties now is the time to either discuss them with others or to even take the bull by the horns and simply get on and put them into action. Sometimes actions speak louder than words and this could well be just such an occasion. Over the weeks ahead there could be the first signs that someone you've worshipped from afar has an interest in you. When you're together you will feel your life is more interesting and fun.

## Gemini

(May22/June21)

Decisions, decisions and more decisions! So many of the choices you will be making now and over the weeks ahead could have a big impact on your future. Your powers of self expression go from strength to strength. Use this fortunate phase to catch up on matters like overdue emails and telephone calls. It's also a good time for explaining future hopes and dreams to those who are closest to your heart. Even ideas you thought would get the thumbs down may in reality gain other people's approval.

## Cancer

(Jun22/Jul23)

Despite your intention to get on top of your usual routines, these next few weeks are when you will get most pleasure from spontaneous plans and decisions. You feel more confident and sociable, your ideas are inspirational and you're making a big impression on those around you. A friendship could turn into something more loving and romantic. If you've found that certain someone you want to spend the rest of your life with, being able to talk about your thoughts, ideas and feelings will bring you even closer.

## Leo

(July24/Aug23)

Channel your energy into something positive rather than just drift along hoping things will happen. Writing and other methods of communication could play a larger role in your life over the weeks ahead. If you've been thinking about making a fresh start with a close relationship or any other kind of partnership, this is when you should put all your energy into it. Make a promise to yourself and others to put past disagreements and difficulties behind you. Keep your hopes high and look to the future with that wonderful brand of Leo optimism.

## Virgo

(Aug24/Sept23)

Currently long term security could be the overriding force in your thoughts and actions. Making other people understand the importance of getting this side of life in ship shape order is not as easy as you had hoped. Even so, expect to see a distinct change of attitude to such affairs over the weeks ahead. If recently you lost your nerve and let a golden chance to improve your earnings pass you by, this lost opportunity will continue to prey on your mind. The good news is: you could be lucky enough to be offered a second bite of that cherry.

## Libra

(Sept24/Oct23)

The desire for new experiences burns strong within you now. Travel is an obvious way of dealing with this restlessness. But if circumstances, over the next few weeks stop you from being on the move, try busying yourself with anything that's unfamiliar and mentally stimulating. Your thinking will be fast and decisive and as a result you should be one step ahead of others. Move quickly, especially when it comes to opportunities to better your lot.

## Sagittarius

(Nov23/Dec21)

Continue to add plenty variety to the pattern of your days. Your craving for something different to your usual routines will be strongly apparent. If you can arrange it so you can spend time away from home and familiar places, so much the better. Because of your restless mood it could hard to concentrate on any one subject for very long. Others sharing your world will understand and they will encourage ideas on how to add a touch of difference to life. A friend may come up with a brilliant travel suggestion.

## Capricorn

(Dec22/Jan20)

Contact with someone from your past could have a highly beneficial effect on your future. You should find it easier than usual to channel your energies in the most productive directions. Don't be afraid to take on extra commitments. These days it will be hard for you to fail in anything you attempt with you feeling so confident and positive. A new friendship or even romance is possible if you don't demand impossibly high standards from others. Creative matters will go well over the weeks ahead. At work extra efforts will certainly pay off.

## Aquarius

(Jan21/Feb19)

Whatever you're planning for the weeks ahead, for some reason you should be able to do it with an extra spring in your step and a mile wide smile on your face! The reason you feel so good could stem from a variety of events. But it's most likely someone who lets you know how special you are to them that will bring it about! Single? A magnetic person catches your attention. Even if you have very little in common there is chemistry between you that cannot be ignored.

## Pisces

(Feb20/Mar20)

The weeks ahead will not be a time for day dreaming about what might have been. What will count is being prepared to create your own opportunities especially if you want to widen your social circle. Slowly and surely you are finding ways to make sure you do more in life that suits you and less at the command of others. It may sound a shade selfish but you must now begin to work towards your own important and unfulfilled goals. Encourage a partner's efforts to spruce up your surroundings at every opportunity. Your approval means a lot to them.

## Aries

(Mar21/Apr20)

Draw on your strong spirit of adventure over the weeks ahead. Don't let your more cautious friends hold you back from broadening your experiences. If changes don't happen on their own accord you'll almost certainly instigate some for yourself. The desire to experience new places or situations and to meet fresh faces should not be pushed aside. Be bold in your approach. A new partner will prove to be agile and interesting and you will be spending as much time as you can arrange, with each other.



Zack Braff 06/04

## Celebrity Aries

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28/03 Vince Vaughan	11/04 Joss Stone
29/03 Lucy Lawless	12/04 Claire Danes
30/03 Celine Dion	13/04 Al Green
31/03 Ewan McGregor	15/04 Emma Thompson
01/04 Debby Reynolds	16/04 Charles Chaplin
02/04 Alec Guinness	17/04 Victoria Beckham
03/04 Eddie Murphy	18/04 Melissa Joan Hart
05/04 Bette Davis	20/04 Adolf Hitler

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