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Mardi Gras of the North, based in Southport, Lancashire will host a spectacular fully residential Club and Entertainment weekend sleepover to be held at the Mardi Gras Holiday Village over 3rd, 4th & 5th December 2010.

A range of top name clubs will be there including European super-club, Super MartXe, Manchester based dance legend, Federation, London hot favourite Salvation plus popular brands Homo, Freakshow as well as others to be announced.

The Mardi Gras Holiday Village surrounded by the wonderful Ainsdale beach and dunes will host two all night parties over three nights in the massive Dance Factory and The Hellfire Club. Daytime entertainment and evening events will include shows around the Olympic size heated indoor swimming pool (but you can forget the 'Hi Di Hi' style knobby knees contest), drag extravaganzas, a Christmas market, gay bingo and karaoke in The Queens' Bar plus funfair rides and a go-kart track, to name just a few of the events that will be on this weekend.

"This will be the largest gay spectacular the North has ever seen" said festival director Jason Pollock. "We have a capacity of three thousand residents at the Village and with early bird prices starting from just £35.00 for three nights accommodation and no door fees for the entire weekend it's bound to be a sell out!"

For more information and a full run down of Mardi Gras of the North events check out our information and booking page at www.pridelife.co.uk/mardigras



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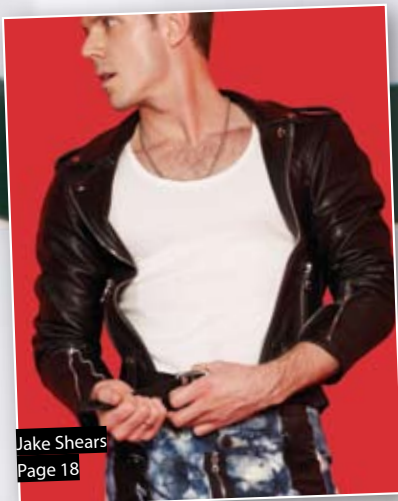
* Acts and artists mentioned are scheduled to appear at the time of print

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GAYDIO

Hot Village

pridelife.co.uk



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EDITOR'S WORDS

Well, the World Cup is over but the big gay news is that the agent of one of the players of the German football squad says that the reason the team played so well is that they are a "bunch of gays". We are led to believe that this was supposed to be a detrimental comment (as the player he represented didn't get a game because of injury) but the young guys, playing a less aggressive game with more flair, came a creditable 3rd out of the 32 teams that started the competition. "GO GAYS""GO GAYS""GO GAYS" say I.

Talking about a gay squad; is anyone else completely hooked on Bravo's Spartacus-Blood and Sand TV series? I'm finding it a damn sight more erotic than a lot of the adult porn that seems to gravitate towards my desk, and yes I know it's violent, but such sexy, semi (and occasionally no) clothed hunky bodies filling my



screen has to be worth a drool! I can't think of another show that seems to tick all the 'gay' boxes, although I suppose that could be just me. I know I wouldn't have lasted long in the Gladiatorial arena but I could see myself as the guy who rubbed oil into those hard bodies... surely someone had to do it. The show's star Andy Whitfield had to delay the start of filming the 2nd series because he was diagnosed with the early stages of non-Hodgkin lymphoma but now he's been given the all clear so work has now begun... great news on both counts.

Meanwhile, a recent TV programme concerning gays in Africa, and the fairly recent upsurge in religious homophobia was both depressing and an eye opener. The brave gay souls that tried to live their lives openly were in constant danger from church and family. Until the religious missionaries set about turning the entire continent Christian most African tribes had no problem with people being different. It was only

with their continued corrupt teachings, that has led to this very grave problem. One sweet lad said on camera that his family had spent three days praying for him to turn his back on such a lifestyle, while another put it more succinctly: The pastor says that it's the white man that brought homosexuality here... what they don't realise is that

it is the white man who brought homophobia here! Needless to say that at the heart of all this terror, viciousness and downright lies was the money and influence of some right wing American fundamental 'Christians', who seem to revel in this kind of resentment. It amazes me, when the entire world is broke and scrabbling around for money, the church and its many off-shoots, never have any problem pumping money into making life worse for some people.

And finally, a message to David Cameron and Nick Clegg - If you are really serious about wanting to save money - dump this fatuous visit by the Pope, the cost of which has now tripled since it was announced, and let the Church pay for it... apparently they have tons of the stuff.

Hugs,
Gordon



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WHAT YOU WANT, WHEN YOU WANT IT

GAY MISTER WALES

An openly gay man from Cardiff has taken the title of Mister Wales 2010 making history in the competition as the first ever gay man to be crowned Mister Wales.

Andrew Western, 22, a health and safety advisor living in Cardiff recently competed against 20 other men from across South Wales at St David's Hall to be given the title of Mister Wales. He was judged by Mister Wales 2008 Jonny Rees, Big Brother winner Brian Dowling, Gladiator Amy Guy and 'Over the Rainbow' finalist Sophie Evans.

Andrew said: "I am completely overwhelmed about winning the title and have been buzzing all weekend. I am really proud to stand up and represent the gay community in Wales and show them just how cosmopolitan the Mister Wales competition is and that nowadays competitions like this are open to men from all ethnic and sexual backgrounds".

Mister Wales is not a bodybuilding contest, it is about finding Wales's most



desirable man. The organisers are not just searching for someone with great looks, they need to have style, charm, intelligence, charisma and should be between 18-30 years old.

Entries are already open for the Mister Wales 2011 competition.
www.misterwales.co.uk

CLUB FINED FOR HOMOPHOBIC ABUSE

When Rugby Union star Gareth Thomas came out last year he said he was 'proud' and 'relieved' that he could now be himself. Since then he has changed codes from Union to League and joined rugby's SuperLeague team- The Crusaders. Unfortunately, in only his second game, and playing against the Castleford Tigers, he came in for some homophobic abuse. Many people thought "Well what do you expect?" and "So what... he's a big enough guy to take it." but the RFL took a different view and issued the Tigers a whopping £40,000 fine for its fans action.

Thomas' manager Emanuele Palladino issued a statement congratulating the RFL on taking the strong and historic

stance. "Gareth Thomas is all about delivering positive messages and positive changes and, to that end, this was a huge step forward for Gareth and the world of sport. It is not about the fine, but rather recognition that this behaviour from a small section of the Castleford fans is not acceptable in 2010."

In a recent televised interview Thomas said that the general reaction from fans has been very positive and that he was surprised about the abuse from a small minority of people. He described how he felt at hearing the match slurs. "I'm only human and I can't deny I was hurt. . . I've been told there were people in the crowd telling those chanting to shut up.... Perhaps we need to go through this so that those few people realise no one else will stand for it and then it hopefully won't happen to the next person who comes out."

The RFL's action of slamming the club with such a huge fine is in stark contrast to the Football League's approach to such incidents... when a slap on the wrist is deemed punishment enough.



COOL & HIP



Marc Eckō, designer and creator of some of the hottest global fashion lines for men (and women) has launched a long awaited fragrance to his collection of legendary hip and innovative designs. Eckō electrifies with sparks of icy cool notes of spice and citrus. Chilled ginger, infused with white grapefruit creates an intoxicating icy elegance while a breath of Absinthe softens the bite with its warm sensuality and hallucinatory allure.

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www.thefragranceshop.co.uk

ARE YOU READY TO BE FREDDIE?



Freddie For A Day is a celebration of the life of Freddie Mercury which falls around his birthday date. It is meant to engage members of the public in a fun way to remember one of our greatest artists, but behind it is the earnest purpose of raising funds to support the continued work in fighting HIV AIDS worldwide through the Mercury Phoenix Trust, the HIV AIDS charitable organisation set up in Freddie's memory after his passing almost 20 years ago. There have been many phases of Freddie... from the pomp rock god to the camp drag queen... frock up, have fun and raise some money... you know you want to!

Freddie Mercury: Freddie For A Day – 3rd September
www.mercuryphoenixtrust.com

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Nottingham	HGN	Manchester	LGF	Newcastle	MESMAC NE
Sheffield	Centre for HIV & Sexual Health	Plymouth	Eddystone Trust		
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GMFA courses delivered nationally in partnership with





ALL-STARS

As part of their busy summer schedule, The Justin Fashanu All-Stars travelled to Prague last month to take part in the 2010 Galibi Cup. The tournament, organised for gay and gay-friendly teams, proved to be a superb event despite the sweltering temperatures, with teams from Germany, France, Italy, Slovakia and the host country all taking part along with the All-Stars.

The All-Stars started the competition slowly but improved over the course of the day, eventually making it out of the group stages and on to a hard-fought clash with Cargo Lyon for a place in the semi-finals. However, despite their best efforts, the All-Stars ultimately went down 2-0. The final was won by German side Team München Streetboys.

Overall, the tournament proved to be a fabulous experience for all involved, and one which the All-Stars will hope to attend again next year.



TAKEAWAY PUZZLE – PIZZA

Treat yourself to a night in and get stuck into a tasty Pizza Takeaway Jigsaw Puzzle. This frustratingly impossible 400 pieces jigsaw puzzle will help satisfy your hunger for takeaways without ruining your appetite, so not only will you give your brain a work out, but your body will benefit too!

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GAY SPORTS DAY RETURNS

Never mind the World Cup and Wimbledon and forget our sporting failures – get ready for the real sporting highlight of the year. The annual GMFA/Royal Vauxhall Tavern Gay Sports Day returns when teams will battle for victory in events such as the drag relay, the handbag throw and the fabulous 50m mince. Registration is now open at www.gmfa.org.uk/sportsday, so you can sign your team up, get training and help raise vital money to benefit gay men and the local community.

The Vauxhall Sports Day is a gay institution dating back to the 80s. This is the fourth year

that GMFA, the gay men's health charity, and the Royal Vauxhall Tavern have joined forces to host the event. The money raised will go towards helping GMFA carry out its vital work with gay men. The charity works with volunteers, most of whom are gay men, to tackle gay men's health issues, including sexual health, general wellbeing, and self-esteem. Money will also go to two organisations that help look after the local Vauxhall community - Vauxhall City Farm, a working farm that volunteers transformed from a derelict piece of land back in the 70s, and The Friends of Spring Gardens, which helps maintain the land where Sports Day takes place.

The event will start at 1pm in Spring Gardens, Vauxhall (behind the Royal Vauxhall Tavern) on Bank Holiday Monday, 30th August.



MULTI-COLOURS AUDIO PLAYERS PACK A PUNCH

Great music is all about light and shade and Yamaha look set to top the colour charts with the introduction of the new high-performance MCR-040 and MCR-141 Micro Audio Systems. Available in TEN colour options, all with integral iPod dock, they are the perfect partner for the colour-coordinated fashion conscious. As the world's most successful producer of musical instruments and professional audio gear, Yamaha knows about top quality sound – and these stylish and highly compact models sound as good as they look, delivering powerful, punchy detailed

and dynamic sound. Superb audio quality is achieved thanks to a combination of hi-tech Yamaha innovations including the unique AST (Active Servo Technology) speaker setup and a highly efficient and powerful digital amplifier delivering a whopping 30 watts of pure music power. Both models offer a CD player, radio, USB connections and the obligatory iPod dock. The MCR-141 offers Yamaha's acclaimed air-wired technology allowing the system to be controlled wirelessly from an iPod.

Expected street prices are £220 for the MCR-040 and £275 for the MCR-140. <http://uk.yamaha.com>

COMPETITION TIME

Bent, in conjunction with Yamaha, are offering its readers the chance to win one of these fantastic 'sound machines'. To be in with a chance, all you have to do is answer this simple question:

How many colour options are there in the MCR-040 range?

COMPETITION TIME
TURN TO PAGE 78 FOR ENTRY DETAILS

www.squirt.org

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Visionary multimedia brand Radiopaq announces the launch of their diminutive, dynamic designer dots. – an outstanding, affordable range of metal earphones packed with great features to enhance the audio experience for music-lovers of all tastes. Trendy and designed for flaunting in seven funky colours. £15 www.radiopaqproducts.com

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HOT AND NEW FROM THE USA

Tim Wildman, the man who pioneered the male enhancing underwear craze with the original Ball Lifter®, has created a new collection of Wildmant briefs and swim gear that he promises will turn heads in the locker room and on the beach.

"We've all spotted that one person on the sand that made us think 'Good God, what is he wearing,'" said Tim. "We created this summer's line for that guy: the wild man who is untamed and unashamed."

Wildmant launched in 2008 with the Ball Lifter®, a soft elastic band that rests under a man's genitals, lifting them up and pushing them forward. The simple technology created the fullest package possible while maintaining style and comfort. It was heralded as the "Wonderbra for men" and launched a new revolution in male support garments.

Made from a breathable, body-conforming polyester stretch fabric, this summer's wildmant swimmers are available in square cut, bikini, and low-rise bikini. They come in an assortment of candy-inspired colors including Cyan Blue, Purple, Green and Yellow.

www.Wildmant.com





Show off your booty... Be a bum-chums model!

This month we're throwing our doors open to all exhibitionists! If you fancy becoming a bum-chums model, then simply send your contact details and some full length pants pics to chums@bum-chums.com and we'll pick the winner at the end of the month.

It doesn't matter if you've done anything like this before or not, you'll be sure to have lots of fun taking part. Plus, you'll have a new photo for your facebook profile... or parent's mantelpiece!

The winner will be invited to one of our photoshoots, get paid for the day and best of all, will get a whole new bum-chums pants collection!!!

Bum-chums.com
"bum-lovin' pants" 

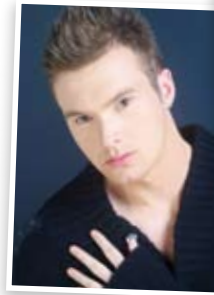
Starstruck?!



www.bum-chums.com

Bent continues its look at the current crop of boybands with the latest male RnB group with flair, style and last but not least, talent - Frixion

IS THERE A BIT OF FRIXION IN YOUR LIFE?



Jonny



Neil



Dave

After their amazing performance on tour with N-Dubz, their pages on MySpace and Facebook rocketed to over 80,000 friends and now Frixion, the new boys on the block, are in great demand. Their debut single 'Afraid' has just been released and received rave reviews amongst industry professionals. So, the lads from the Midlands are set to conquer the hearts and minds of a population hungry for a new credible boy band to grace the UK music scene.

How did you guys get together?

Neil: Me and Dave formed the group back in college. Then we held a few auditions through The Stage newspaper and found Johnny.

Johnny: They've been stuck with me ever since! Lol

Why go the R'n'B route rather than the more poppy one?

Dave: We wanted to be true to ourselves. We could have easily pushed out a pop album to sell units, but that wouldn't be us.

Johnny: We all love pop music, but R'n'B is where our roots lie.

Neil: We think it's essential to be able to play your own music back and enjoy it.

Tell us about the new single Afraid... and what can we expect from any future album?

Johnny: It's basically about liking someone but their partner is treating them bad. It's telling them not to be 'Afraid' of leaving them and getting with us.

Dave: We feel a lot of people can relate to that!

Neil: As for the album, it's pretty much just gonna be full of R'n'B tunes with catchy melodies! We've recorded around 3 albums worth of material so only the best of the best will make the final release!

Johnny: It'll be kinda 'all killer, no filler' album!

OK. So the lads are out there letting their music speak for itself but as is Bent's bent, we need a little more gayformation.

How do you feel about doing gay Prides?

Neil: We have so much fun doing Pride events! The crowd are always really responsive and up for a laugh!

Johnny: We've done loads of Gay Pride shows now and the response has always been amazing!

Are any members of the band gay (or just very happy)?

Dave: We're all EXTREMELY happy! Haha

Johnny: We're very comfortable with our sexuality. We get a lot of attention when we do gay venues and it's very flattering! We don't understand the kinda guys who are scared to go to gay clubs because they think every guy will hit on them. It's just narrow-minded... and big-headed!

What gay celebs have you bumped into as you travel around?

Dave: We met Louis Spence (Pineapple Dance Studio) last week at a gig. He was filming for his new TV show, he's so funny!

Johnny: I met Gok Won once on a night out in London. He was such a down to earth guy and we had a laugh! He didn't say anything bad about my dress sense either, which I suppose is a bonus! Lol

Neil: You should have asked him for some fashion advice. Lol

What's the gayest thing you've ever done?

Neil: We always tend to have 'gay-offs' or 'gay-chicken' as it's better known! We just joke about.

Johnny: Once we were doing a show in Minehead and as we were getting changed backstage we decided to do some last minute push-ups. Because we didn't want to ruin our clothes we just did them in our underwear. The sound guy just walked in and walked straight back out!

What is your ultimate Guilty Pleasure?

Johnny: GLEE!! I'm addicted to it!

Neil: The Saturdays, especially Mollie!

Dave: Bananas dipped in chocolate... (?)...if you haven't tried it, you should! It's heaven!

And the most important question of all... what are your favourite undies?

Dave: My lucky Superman boxers! I'm proud to own up to that!

Neil: Calvin Klein

Johnny: Emporio Armani is my favourite, but going commando also works for me.

Frixion are touring the UK extensively during the summer, with over 50 dates confirmed, including support slots with USA star Mario and UK heavyweights N-Dubz, Mr Hudson, Chipmunk, Tinie Tempah, McFly, Alesha Dixon and Tinny Stryder. The boys have teamed up with another explosive UK band - FDM (formerly Fun*dmental) who are signed to Universal Geffen USA, hit-maker Ne Yo's label. The FDM collaboration, has given additional hype to an already explosive debut single by the Frixion boys!

Single - 'Afraid' out now.
www.myspace.com/frixionstyle
www.frixionmusic.com



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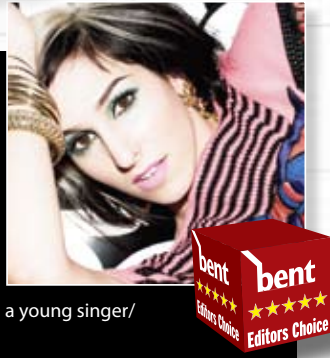
ALBUMS

SINGLES

▶ ZARIF

Box of Secrets
Out: 16th August

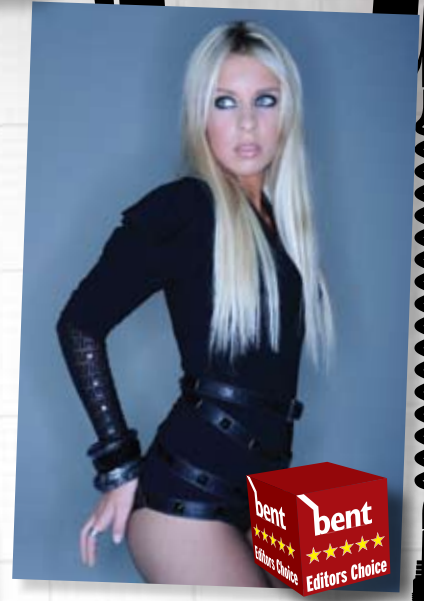
UK soulstress Zarif opens her Box of Secrets for the gays, and boy, do we love it! The sassy North Londoner has worked with the likes of Breakage, Groove Armada and Danny Byrd, and now she steps out on her own with a sharp slice of soul, jazz and pop. This is a wonderfully eclectic and fresh album from a young singer/songwriter who knows what she's doing.



▶ LASGO

Lost
Out: 2nd August

Lasgo are back from a small musical sabbatical with another romping dance smash. 'Lost' takes us back to the early noughties with their familiar sound, but now with 18 year-old front girl Jelle van Dael. This euphoric, bittersweet Euro dance anthem has a bouncy pop aesthetic and a mesmerising vocal hook.



▶ KIRSTY ALMEIDA

Pure Blue Green
Out: 30th August

Huge tunes, huge performances, Kirsty is a one woman spectacular; a truly unique writer and performer. This mesmerising mix of soul, folk and blues features a seven-piece band and production from the excellent Youth. Her first single, voodoo pop gem 'Spider', is just one highlight of this tasty debut.



▶ MARINA & THE DIAMONDS

Oh No
Out: 2nd August

'Oh No!' is a big fan favourite and the last track completed for Marina's debut album The Family Jewels. This pop record is exactly what we've come to expect from Marina & the Diamonds and that's not too bad a thing. Someone get the Pimm's and lemonade.

▶ CHRIS SINGLETON & THE DISTRACTIONS

Lady Gasoline
Out: 2nd August

Chris Singleton writes songs drenched in melody. This is an ambitious album, inspired by wildly different muses and music. Gloriously flitting between eras, the album takes us from seventies glam, to 80s electro-pop, to 90s indie. Mastered by the guy behind the recent Beatles remasters, this is an album that just screams class.



▶ HURTS

Wonderful Life
Out: 16th August

Yummy Mancunian boyband Hurts release their second single this month. It's already an online hit, with over a million plays at last check. Remixes come from Arthur Baker, Mantronix, Stuart Price and everyone's favourite mix-masters, the Freemasons.



▶ MIDNIGHT JUGGERNAUGHTS

The Crystal Axis
Out: 2nd August

Featuring twelve tracks sparkling with a new kind of kaleidoscopic warped pop, including the band's first single 'This New Technology', and now 'Vital Signs', The Crystal Axis is a 50-minute symphony of synth-rock invention. Veering from percussive, hypnotic grooves to luxuriant jams, via rich Morricone-esque textural diversions, walls of sound and 70s AM melodic forks, this album is a strong sophomore release from a highly creative band.



▶ GINA STAR

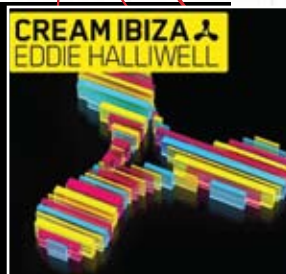
I Want It Now
Out: 23rd August

Taking an unmistakable hook from Queen and mixing it into dancetastic oblivion, Gina Star shows she knows exactly what clubbers want. Remixes come from Robbie Rivera and Keith & Superbeatz, souping this up to epic proportions. Gina Star will no doubt be appearing at gay prides for years to come.

▶ EDDIE HALLIWELL

Cream Ibiza
Out: 5th August

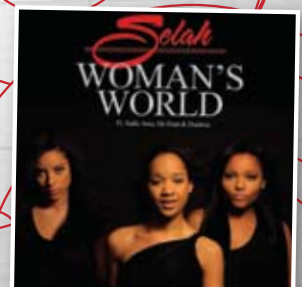
The next instalment of award-winning compilation Cream Ibiza sees legend Eddie Halliwell take the helm for the second time, this time on his own. Deadmau5, Steve Angello, Joris Voorn and Sander van Doorn are just some of the tasty names featured on the beatrocking album.



▶ SELAH FT. SADIA AMA, MZ BRATT & DUCHESS

Woman's World
Out: 2nd August

Selah has officially arrived with the strong debut 'Woman's World'. Featuring help from three she-devils of urban music, she serves up a collaboration of devastating proportions. The song has been described by fans as a 'female anthem' and has received heavy airplay, and we have no problems seeing why.





NOTHING LIKE A VUVUZELA

Locnville are 20 year old twin brothers Andrew and Brian Chaplin. Born in New York and raised in South Africa, Their debut single 'Sun in my Pocket' has already swept their native South Africa and the international musical landscape like a gasoline fuelled dance rocket; the name Locnville is on the tip of everybody's tongues from Cape Town & London through to Paris and Los Angeles and they are fast becoming the most talked about electro pop duo on the planet.

Having spent the better part of their lives immersed in the music creation, they recorded their first song 'Amnesia' at the age of 7; by the age of 11 they recorded their first full set of rock songs written by themselves and inspired by rock acts such as AC/DC, Kiss, Staind, Nirvana and Limp Bizkit.

While in their teenage years Andrew



and Brian moved back to the US where they became fans of Hip hop, creating connections with the local scene and performing their own music. Back in South Africa they became exposed to electronic music, which was exploding locally. These different experiences and musical influences added up to what Locnville is today.

'Sun in my Pocket'
Out: 5th September - Epic
www.myspace.com/locnville



MARIA MENA

Great things are expected from this 23 year-old Norwegian songstress. Already a big name in her own country, and garnering many fans around the rest of the world (she was the guest artist at Stevie Wonder's recent Hyde Park gig), Maria Mena has now come to the attention of the UK public with an absolute gem of a single.

'Just Hold Me' is the 2nd UK single release from this young and talented Grammy award winning sensation and it was this new single which gained over 5.5 million hits on YouTube and catapulted Maria in to the International spotlight. From signing her first record deal at the age of 14, earning her first platinum record by 15 and gaining a wealth of awards through the

years - including a Grammy for Best Female Artist and 2009 Norwegian Music Awards - Best Female Maria's success story just keeps on growing.

Maria writes all her own tracks, which are well-known for their raw emotion and honesty, containing unique melodies and powerful lyrics about her life, experiences and issues she has overcome. The single is classy, well produced and should be something of a constant on Radio 2's playlist.

Single: Just Hold Me
out 25th August
Album: Cause and Effect out now
on Sony Music



WIN THIS

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The award-winning festival heavyweight GlobalGathering is celebrating a mighty 10 years in the business this summer! The two-day event sees over 150 of the world's biggest artists alongside 80,000 electronic music fans enjoying the alfresco vibe. CD1 kicks off proceedings with 2010's biggest festival anthems, including Wiley 'electric boogaloo', Tensnake 'coma cat', Fake Blood 'i think i like it' and Axxwell's epic

remix of tv rock 'in the air'. CD2 takes us on a trip down memory lane with festival classics such as Faithless 'insomnia', Nalin & Kane 'beachball', Tiesto 'adagio for strings' and the massive anthem from Guru Josh Project 'infinity 2008'. CD3 continues to fly the festival classics flag with the likes of Groove Armada, Prodigy and the ultimate festival classic 'rockefeller skank' from Fatboy Slim.

Out Now on New State Music
www.globalgathering.com

To be in with a chance to win one of these fantastic 3CD compilations, just answer this simple question:
Who had a Number 1 hit with Bonkers?

COMPETITION TIME
TURN TO PAGE 76 FOR ENTRY DETAILS



This month you can catch me DJing for Federation in Blackpool and as part of Uni Challenge for Manchester Pride, along with the Leeds Pride Courtyard Party and my continuing Freakshow residency in Manchester. Don't forget to download my monthly podcasts from www.jasonguy.podomatic.com, and if you'd like to see your track, club, or event featured in Bent then contact me on jason@bent.com.

TRACK REVIEW**TOP TRACKS OF THE MONTH****TRACK OF THE MONTH****▷ ANNIE LEKTRO FT KIMMIE****- Take Me Away (Retox Recordings)**

Summer is here and brings with it another storming house track from Manchester based Retox Recordings. Written and produced by Jerry Coughlin (better known as DJ Thaddeus) who was inspired to write the track whilst in Ibiza late last year, Take Me Away is a piano-driven, uplifting anthem that just oozes quality. Pick of the mixes for me is the XS Vocal mix, the same guys who delivered the killer Sex Shoes remix from last year, who bring us a chunkier, strings filled offering that has also received great reactions from the Freakshow crowd in Manchester.

**▷ DEUX FT SHELA CUFFY****- Diskout (Urbana Recordings)**

Spanish based producers Deux (David Penn and Toni Bass) can do no wrong and their latest offering is probably their finest moment since 2004's Sun Rising Up. Not as deep as some of their previous offerings, Diskout pays homage to everything, well, disco... comparing clubbing to fairy tales, throwing in a smattering of lasers and discoballs, and backing it all up with a tech-influenced, Spanish baseline. Besides, how can a track whose lyrics tell you to wear a crown, not a hat, actually fail?

**▷ JUANJO MARTIN & ALBERT NEVE****- Don't Stop Til You Get Enough****(1 One Records)**

Now, Michael Jackson cover versions are normally pretty rosey... there's something not quite right about hearing other people sing vocals that are so closely associated with MJ, but this is an exception. This is another Spanish house track, this time from the Supermarxte crew, who turn this disco classic into a peak-time progressive crowd-pleaser. The vocals, provided by diva Nalaya work perfectly, even if some of the English pronunciations are a little off.

**▷ DR. KUCHO!****- Getting Better (Disco Doctor)**

Spanish tracks really are the flavour of the month for me in August. Getting Better from Dr. Kucho is a real mixture of funky basslines, old school pianos and Daft Punkesque computerised vocals all thrown into a pot and mixed together. On this release though, I'd head straight for the remix from Grande Vue, a dance music team from Rotterdam, who turn this down the progressive route. It's ridiculously catchy and I've found myself humming it on more than one occasion.

**▷ JAY C & FELIX BAUMGARTNER****- Souk (Toolroom Records)**

This cheeky bootleg by Northern DJs Jay C and Felix Baumgartner has been packing the floors at every gig I've played for the past couple of months and has now been picked up by Toolroom Records for a major release. Sampling the killer guitar hook from Djuma Soundsystem 2007 hit 'Les Djinns', this progressive reworking builds the dancefloor slowly until..... boom!

**TOP FIVE BARS: NEW YORK**

By Adam Lowe

SPANK

The aptly-named Spank is a crazy melange of DJs, live performance, art and the coolest crowd in town. Expect to see the stars of NYC indie-flick Shortbus chit-chatting with strident models and effervescent dancers dressed as testicles. Artists such as Xavier and Yozmit will wow you, and sexy band Street Hero will arouse you, but watch out for En Subtitles, whose act, when we saw it, included emerging from a giant vagina wrapped in fake placenta. Add to this dance remixes of legendary calypso song 'Day-O (The Banana Boat Song)' and the most banging beats this side of the Atlantic, and this place is sure to be a hit with UK crowds with a more discerning taste when it comes to club music. One for fans of Circus and Shoreditch. Littlefield, 622 Degraw Street, Gowanus, Brooklyn, NY 11217

THERAPY

This sexy venue has cabaret, comedy and delish cocktails for the palate. Minimalism presides in this two-level space, where hot boys mill around the cozy fireplace, drinking their Freudian Sips and nibbling on their famous 12-inch weiner or Therapy Burger. Watch out for the Electro Shock Therapy Comedy Hour every Sunday. 384 W 52nd Street, Midtown West, NY 10019

SPLASH BAR

Although this is called a bar, this is perhaps more properly a small club. With regular events like Twink Tuesdays, Bingo Sundays and Campus Thursdays, younger partygoers are sure to want to dive right in! Emily McNamara compères on Mondays. 50 West 17 Street, NY 10011

BARTINI ULTRA LOUNGE

Famous for its Lychee Martinis and cocktail happy hour, Hell's Kitchen hotspot Bartini Ultra Lounge is chilled early in the evening and full of clubbing sophisticates come nighttime. Expect underlit neon, white, flowers, and dance remixes of everything gay and poppy you can think of. Okay, it's maybe not quite as fashionable nor as cutting edge it likes to think it is, but it has good drinks and doorwhoring by NYC's finest diva, Emily McNamara. Another big bonus is that they sell a super-exclusive vodka called White Lotus. It's especially infused with vitamins and minerals to help prevent hangovers. Seriously. 642 10th Ave, NY 10036

GYM BAR

Whether you like football or figure skating, Gym Bar is the sports bar for you. Macho musclemen rub shoulders with gym bunnies and gymnasts, and happy hour is weekdays from 4-9pm. And with 2-for-1 drinks offers you'll be very happy indeed. If you're feeling like getting up close and personal, then check out The Locker Room: full of video screens, brick walls and a copper-topped bar, where punters are encouraged to get sweaty. 167 8th Avenue, NY 10011

PEP

Post Exposure Prophylaxis



PEP must be taken within 72 hours of possible HIV exposure. The faster you start PEP the more effective it is.

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The Brunswick Centre:
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SHEARS HARD WORK

By Sean Johnson

To promote the new Scissor Sisters album 'Nightwork', the band's front man Jake Shears placed an ad, including erotic nude photos, on the male escort site, Rentboy.com. He lists his talents as "go-go dancing and stripping" and his out rate as \$11.99, the price of the new album.

Do you have a fascination with rentboys?

Rentboys and sex workers operate outside the lines of our society. They make their living through sex and showing people a good time. We, in the band, feel we're on the same team.

Except you're not selling sex.

There should be no shame in using sex as self-employment. I have an incredible amount of respect for sex workers. I think it's a fully valid profession that deserves to be treated as any other.

The Nightwork album cover is a photograph of a ballet dancer's butt by artist Robert Mapplethorpe.

Mapplethorpe was someone who relentlessly explored pushing his own limits.

According to Patti Smith's memoir "Just Kids", Mapplethorpe worked as a street hustler in New York City to support himself as a struggling artist. Reportedly, he loved the mystery and glamour of the hustler lifestyle.



He was a fascinating man. By all means an outsider who was turned on by very dark stuff. He was able to turn those influences into something incredibly beautiful.

Is it true you worked as a go-go dancer in New York City?

Go-go dancing is what got me into performing in the first place. It was a great way for me to get up in front of a bunch of people, shake it and not be shy. When I started getting bored with it, I wondered how I was going to make it more interesting for me. That's when I started singing.

Has your go-go past helped you in your career today?

There's not a huge difference to what I did then and what I do now on stage.

How do you feel about today's party scene?

I think it's a great time right now for dance music. There's so much good stuff coming out, and I feel like it's a great time for people to really dive in.

Invisible Light is a particular standout on the album. It's a magic, mystical dance song with overtones of Gandalf, Lord of the Rings and Pink Floyd.

It's about tripping the light fantastic. I wanted to make a song that brought you to the edge of a void. It really takes you to Mars. It's like just staring into a storable light.

Has your singing style changed with this third album? I hear less falsetto—which you are known for—and more passionate mid-range singing.

I wanted to rely less on the falsetto, to give people an idea of what kind of range I can really do. I wanted to sound a bit sexier this time around.

And Ana Matronic appears more on the new album.

Ana's on this record more than ever and has also co-written more tracks than ever before.

Tell us about your new musical based on Amistead Maupin's Tales of the City.

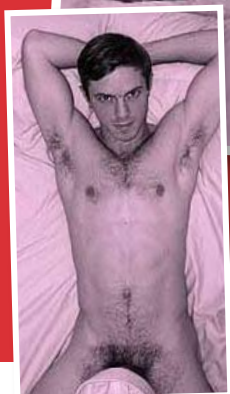
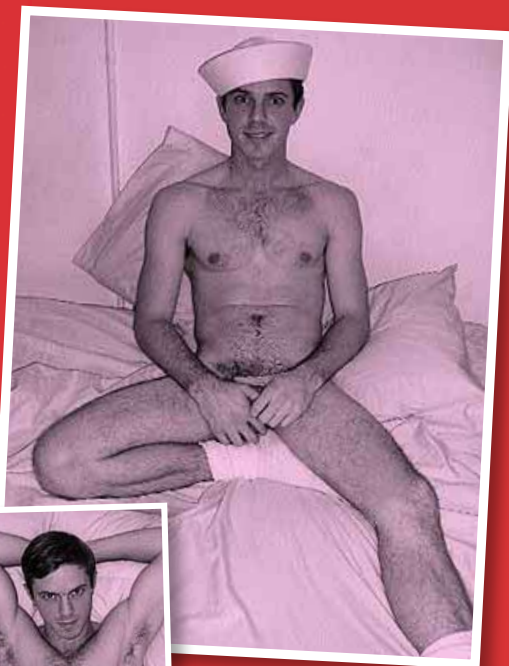
Everybody's a ho in Tales! No, really. It's a very sex-positive show, and there is plenty of gay action. In a lot of ways it's a really queer musical, though I think it will be accessible to just about anybody. It's co-written with Jeff Whitty of Avenue Q fame.

Do you have a final message you'd like to relay to the thousands of rentboys around the world?

Fight for your rights and never let anybody make you feel less than the truly beautiful person that you are.



Visit Jake Shear's Rentboy profile at www.rentboy.com/Nightwork. Scissor Sister album Nightwork is out now



10 THINGS ABOUT JAKE SHEARS

1. His real name is Jason Sellards
2. He is five feet seven and a half inches tall.
3. Has been going out with Chris his boyfriend for over 6 years - though they aren't yet married.
4. Wrote occasional fiction pieces and music reviews for a couple of American mags
5. Formed Scissor Sisters with Babydaddy as a performance 'lark'.
6. He's as famous for his flamboyant outfits as well as appearing on stage almost naked.
7. Has co-written tracks with Elton John and Calvin Harris (for Kylie)
8. Kylie appeared at the Scissor Sisters Glastonbury show earlier this year after he text her from an airport asking if she'd like to do a song with them on stage. *Her reply was "HELL YEAH!"*
9. He's also a huge fan of Lady Gaga
10. Has been to a Radical Faeries gathering (RF - people seeking to reject hetero-imitation and redefine queer identity through spirituality.)



The Most Incredible Thing
World Premiere
Sadler's Wells 22 - 26
March 2011
Tickets not yet on sale

SADLER'S WELLS V PET SHOP BOYS

Sadler's Wells has just announced its next new production, a full-length dance work with music by Pet Shop Boys and choreography by Javier De Frutos, featuring Ivan Putrov.

Based on a Hans Christian Andersen story, PSB have composed an original score for their first ever full-length dance work and their first collaboration with Sadler's Wells. Titled *The Most Incredible Thing*, the production makes its world premiere in Spring 2011. A team of world-class creative collaborators join choreographer/director Javier De Frutos who brings his unique brand of visceral intensity to this modern fairy tale, which celebrates the power of art in the face of human destruction.

Andersen's *The Most Incredible Thing* was written in 1870 and tells the story

of a princess, a kingdom, and of two very different approaches to the task of creating something extraordinary. This new production is designed on a large scale, featuring a cast of 15, a 26-piece orchestra, and a message of hope that lies at the heart of Andersen's tale.

Pet Shop Boys comment "This is a very exciting project to be part of. In the past we have written music for the club dancefloor so to write music for the ballet stage seems like a logical development. Also we have always been fascinated by giving our music a theatrical context."



IT'S A LITTLE BIT COUNTRY

McKendree is an openly gay singer who was successfully making country music from his hometown of Nashville, Tennessee. Being the heart of the bible belt you can only imagine how 'distasteful' his peers saw him in the industry and he received offers of salvation etc from bible nutters. Needless to say that although he is a musician through and through he felt that if you

can't be yourself at home then where can you be yourself? So, he met up with Brit dance producer Pete Brazier and together they produced a remarkable album. The standout track is McKendree's version of the Dolly Parton hit *Jolene* and the accompanying video, which features two guys kissing in a bar, has already produced quite a reaction and a number of hits on YouTube.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vbg04w2IEFE>

Find out more about the man himself on: www.mckendreemaniaman.com



SING AS YOU GO...

By Alex Wiggan

There are many great things in life which must always exist. One is air. Another is water. Of course the other and possibly most vital of all, is the Musical. Without this, the other life support systems have no great value and guys would be forever fated to a monotonous existence, where they work all night and work all day, to pay the bills they have to pay. Ain't it sad? But dry those tears and put those jazz hands back in place because thankfully all good friends of Dorothy will never have to worry about living a life where sequins, sensationalism and spotlights don't exist, as long as they embrace what the Musical has to offer. Whether it's Moulin Rouge, Chicago, Gypsy, Wicked or The Sound of Music, there's plenty to go around, because after all life is a cabaret old chum and the curtain never falls during the performance of

a lifetime. Oh it may not always seem like something which Earth relies on, and the Musical might not always hit the headlines, but that is most likely because it asks for very little and instead lives off the happiness of others. So if your future is unclear now, and you're not sure what's left of your career now, you can at least be content knowing the life-giving properties of the Musical will always be around to perk a chap up, even if he's a beauty school dropout.

Take the recent television treat that is Glee, a show about a bunch of high school students who sing their hearts out or Sister Act the musical which just asks you to simply raise your voice. In essence singing is the ideal platform to get an issue off the chest whilst also doing justice to some fabulous lyrics, but make it a musical number and that tune is suddenly given the old razzle dazzle. This isn't any ordinary bit of tweaking; it's instead the precise amount of pomp and pizzazz, to encourage guys everywhere to burst into song at any given opportunity. Oh and this doesn't have to be a designated location, because if the Musical has taught anything, it's that there is much joy to be found performing a quick number in the most random of places. Yes, whether it's walking through town on a busy Saturday afternoon or whilst trying to smuggle 8 items through the 5 items or less counter at Tesco's, nowhere should ever be ruled out from becoming a stage. Whilst at the carnival with her friends, did Sandy think twice about telling Danny to shape up in Grease? No! Was Don Lockwood fussed that belting out tunes in the middle of a downpour was not the best idea in Singing in the Rain? Of course he wasn't. Let's not even question any of Mary Poppins motives, because to do so would be an insult to cockney

chimney sweepers, cartoon animals and magical nannies of London! These locations were just a convenient landscape to put on a show stopping sequence, and if any passersby wanted to suddenly stop and join in as backup singers, then there's no valid reason as to why they wouldn't be allowed.

Musicals are magical, they're spectacular, they're an emotional rollercoaster the likes of which you promised never to go on again, and chances are, they're gayer than you! You see the Musical inspires the shy retiring types by giving them that one opportunity to imagine themselves as a headlining act where they're soaring, flying and generally breaking free. At the same time they cast light on a traumatic situation something every guy has found himself in, whether it's working out who their dad is from a list of three suspects, or waking one day to find they're in a gingham dress and clearly not in Kansas anymore. The Musical also provokes a reaction in others, because sing a few bars from any of the songs in The Little Mermaid and you can finally break the ice with the guy you had previously wasted a Bacardi and Coke on, to no avail. Knock out a rendition of the theme from Beauty and the Beast and you're practically planning the civil ceremony. A journey exists within one musical, so take the highs with the lows, prepare to fall in love, witness hearts being broken and experience those foot tapping, hand clapping once upon a time moments. Soak them up, let musicals get in the blood, the soul and that spare bit of brain matter you were saving for a rainy day! Come what may, they're always going to be here, so welcome them, celebrate them, learn the routines and above all else never forget to sing along with them. Now let's take it from the top





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STRAIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE

By Alex Wiggan

Admit it boys, behind every good comedy double-act there's always a straight man; and for YouTube stars Him and Me (aka Shea 'gay' Taylor and Steve 'straight' Langstaff) it's no different. Keen not to discriminate, Bent caught up with the dynamic duo to see what it's like working so closely together as they prepare to take their act from the digital realm into the real one, with some live gigs.

So Shea and Steve, let's not beat around the Kate Bush; do people think you're a couple?

Shea – Yeah all the time. My mum, my dad, the guy who lives down the hall; they think we're either in a civil partnership or that Steve is gay and I'm his trophy boyfriend.

Steve – I think people assume we're a dirty version of Ant & Dec, or possibly Sam and Mark.

Well your hit YouTube spoof of Russell Brand & Katy Perry did seem to get a little heated towards the end. Was that almost a kiss?

Steve – Yeah, almost a bit of lip-locking. We'll do anything to make a scene work!
Shea – We wanted to provide a 'will they, won't they' moment, to keep fans on the edge of their beanbag chairs; but of course we wouldn't want to overstep the mark. Steve probably would though. He'd have slipped the tongue in if he'd had chance.

Steve – I'm too afraid of what might happen if we actually ever went there. It'd be like Brokeback Mountain. There'd be no going back.

Shea – Yeah true and Steve's not good with heights. But no in all seriousness, it's never happened. We're actually repulsed by each other.

You've covered a number of celebs in your spoof videos (Duffy, Britney, Amy Winehouse), but who gets to decide who plays the female parts?

Shea – It depends on what seems funny. I'm ganglier which fits some of the parts, where as Steve's more aggressive looking. Let's be honest, what's funnier than a straight guy in a dress looking like it's that time of the month again?

Steve – I think half the time I'm in a dress to ugly-me-up, to stop me getting all the attention from Shea's groupies.

Shea – Well that's because Steve gets more attention than I do; often from lesbians. He looks like the winner of Eurovision 2007. What was her name?
Steve – Marija Serifovic. You know I once kissed a lesbian on Canal Street.

Shea – See he also brings communities together. He's like a modern day Martin Luther King for gays. He's almost one of us.

Well you're branching out from the internet to live comedy sketches, so have you started playing the gay scene yet?

Shea – No. We'd love to take our sketches into gay venues, but we're just not flamboyant enough.

Steve – They'd be disappointed when they realised it was just a bloke in a dress with no sparkles.

Not even as Lady Gaga? That sketch proved a big hit online, could a Kylie spoof be coming soon?

Steve – We probably won't spoof Kylie. Gaga is this huge icon at the moment and it seems strange to say it, but she's pretty much a blank canvas in terms of her personality, which means she's great for spoofing. With Kylie we already know too much about her, so she's a bit bland. Can I say that in a gay magazine?

Shea – Oh great, you've lost us the pink poke now by insulting a Minogue. He doesn't mean she's bland.

Steve – I do. She is.

But you've spoofed Dannii in your X-Factor sketches?

Steve – We've been rumbled!

Shea – Yeah we did, but that was because of the situation she was put into last year surrounding the 'outing' of Danyl Johnson on the X-Factor. As far as we were concerned she didn't do anything wrong, so we decided to parody the situation more than anything.

Steve – We also gave her a personality.

Shea – You've done it again. Don't you know, everyone likes Dannii now?!

Steve – I like Dannii!

Shea – There he goes again, jumping on the bandwagon.

Steve – You know, I think it's stuff like this which leads people to think we're a couple.

www.himandme.tv



TELL ME ON A SUNDAY

Claire Sweeney stars in Andrew Lloyd Webber and Don Black's piece of musical theatre, Tell Me On A Sunday, which embarks on a major national tour from the end of August. Perhaps one of the lesser known of the Webber's creations it has still stood the test of time with the odd update (even a new song for this production) from when it was originally conceived as a television vehicle for the vocal talents of Marti Webb. Gays have loved this production ever since the original soundtrack came out in 1980 as it tells the story of the romantic misadventures of a young English girl newly arrived in New York (haven't we all been there?). The massive tour takes in over 50 dates - check on line to see if it will be appearing in a theatre near you.

www.tellmeontour.co.uk

ELEGIES FOR ANGELS, PUNKS AND RAGING QUEENS

This month sees the first major UK revival of the musical Elegies for Angels, Punks and Raging Queens since its critically applauded West End debut in 1993. With music by Janet Hood and lyrics by Bill Russell, Elegies tells the stories of 30 people who died with AIDS, and the family and friends they left behind. Combining free-verse monologues with songs inspired by the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt and Edgar Lee Masters' Spoon River Anthology, Elegies packs an emotional punch that is by turn hilarious and heart-warming, poignant and heart-breaking.

The 30-strong cast who will include: actress and disco/soul songstress Miquel Brown (who sang the 80s hit So Many Men, So Little Time) and Jonathan Hellyer, one of the UK's most popular gay cabaret performers. The cast will be joined by famous faces who will appear



for one-night-only throughout the run.

The Shaw Theatre, 100-110 Euston Road, London 10th – 28th August
For the latest casting news, visit:
www.shaw-theatre.com



LES BALLETTS TROCKADERO DE MONTE CARLO

Watch out London, ballet's very-grandes dames are back! Winners of the Critics' Circle National Dance Award and the TMA Theatre Award, the Trocks' combination of pure comedy, extraordinary technical prowess and genuine love of ballet has made them a global phenomenon since they formed in New York in 1974.

Both programmes offer a mix of much-loved classics and new, unseen works from the company's repertoire. The likes of 'abstract ballet' ChopEniana, the Merce Cunningham-inspired Patterns in Space, the second act of Swan Lake and a 'pas d'action' from Marius Petipa's delightful Harlequinade. The evening is completed by "Walpurgisnacht" – set to music from the opera Faust.

Peacock Theatre, WC2
14 - 25 September
Ticket Office: 0844 412 4322 or
www.sadlerswells.com



Catch Robert from the 5th to 30th August at 9.30 at the Gilded Balloon at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival
www.edfringe.com

WHITE ON THE FRINGE

After a musical growing-up of various stages; through choir boy, junior trumpet star, ragtime pianist, song writer, music graduate, inadequate teacher and finally overlooked and somewhat failed composer, Robert White took a jump out of the comfort zone of his parochial home town into London's under-world of artistic opportunity in order to continue his life's love affair with music and instead was seduced by comedy.

Where are you from originally?

A town so boring the only things to do were go to the library or have a walk in the park, and I'm dyslexic! So I had a wank in the park.

I see from your press pic that you do some of your composing in the loo... are you a big fan of chamber music?

I see what you've done there! How very clever?! Well Ah Yes! Chamber music, toilet humour and putting people on a pedestal are all part of what I do. That's why I look so flushed. Ta Daa!!

What are your influences?

I grew up in a very musical house! It was ... A-flat. Ta Daa!! (you started it!)

Tell us how you made it in the comedy world?

A lot of hard work, hard graft, luck and allowing agents to use me as a fluffer.

Why is the Edinburgh Fringe so important to comedians... surely it can't be just the idea of all those kilts?

Obviously, easy access to naughty bits is imperative to making it big at the world's number one comedy festival. NOT! But then again don't forget the gay Gordons.

They say you are idiosyncratic... what the hell does that mean?

I think it's a polite way of people saying they think I'm mental. You know in the same way that grandmothers aren't racist they're just traditional. No offence to my grandmother by the way she's not racist ... she's just traditional!

Do you have a particular gay stance for your comedy?

I find it's best to face the audience, unless you've reached the point of needing to run away.

Are we going to see you touring? If so where?

I'm constantly doing gigs in London and all over, but my next big thing is my Edinburgh Fringe debut this August. Watch out for me at the Gilded Balloon at 9.30pm every night from 5th - 30th August. Expect eccentric puns and silly randomness, obscure musical inventions, heartfelt songs and a partly exploding trumpet.

I see you were a choir boy... do you want to talk about it?

Nowadays I get dressed up in a camp fashion and sing ridiculous words to randomly mental music with an ever-present undercurrent of gayness. So being a choirboy was just the same really, but with more sex.



WONDER WOMAN IN THE WEST END

Following dates in New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Washington and New Jersey, screen legend Lynda Carter, best known for playing the iconic role of Wonder Woman in the hit TV series, returns to the West End for her first solo appearance in 30 years for two nights only, to celebrate her solo album, At Last. Lynda Carter: At Last is a rare

musical evening with a living legend. Join Lynda as she infuses some of her favourite music with her own inimitable passion and style. In a true homage to her musical heroes, this critically lauded singer, whose successful sell-out concerts throughout America are second only to her global status as part of a true TV phenomenon, is backed by a live band on stage, showcasing her vocal talent at its very best.

Garrick Theatre, London - 17th-18th September

www.lyndainlondon.com
www.lyndacartersings.com

WHOOPI'S BACK IN THE HABIT!

Whoopi Goldberg will join the cast of the hit musical comedy Sister Act this summer to play the role of Mother Superior. No stranger to stages around the world, the role however marks Whoopi's West End debut.

Whoopi follows the hugely popular Sheila Hancock, who created the role and has played Mother Superior since the show opened in May last year. She is joined on stage by the critically acclaimed Patina Miller in the lead role of Deloris Van Cartier (Whoopi's role in the original movie), recording artist Simon Webbe as Curtis Shank and Dads Army star Ian Lavender as Monsignor. She will open on 10th-31st August, playing an exclusive 23 show season



Photo: Timothy White

**Sister Act
 The London
 Palladium, Argyll Street,
 London W1
 Tel: 0844 412 2704
sisteractthemusical.com**



**Edinburgh Fringe
 Gilded Balloon Teviot
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www.gildedballoon.co.uk
www.myspace.com/richardfry**

HOMO ASBO

Richard Fry (Bully, Killing Me Softly) returns to The Gilded Balloon this Fringe with two brand new plays, Smiler & Homo Asbo. 'He's just come out and he's going straight' Fresh out of prison and stuck in his flat on a tag, Winston has had time to reflect on his misdemeanours. Previously homophobic, he deconstructs his own homosexuality and questions why he never felt 'gay'. He delves into gay history and finds things that appeal to him and as he becomes more secure, he challenges society's perception and the media's portrayal of gay men. 'I'm happy to be homosexual, I just don't feel very gay'. Armed with his guitar and ghetto blaster, Winston assassinates bigots and takes pot shots at celebrity bad boys, gay icons, straight lad culture and men who wax.



DO YOU WANT TO INCREASE YOUR BENCH PRESS?

So then boyz, you want to increase you bench press? I'm going to tell you 3 simple ways to get the strength you've always wanted.

1: Exercise Your Rotator Cuffs!

The Rotator Cuffs are a vital muscle group to maximizing your bench, they are responsible for internal and external rotation of the humerus (arm bone) as well as flexion and extension of the arm and also abduction and adduction of the arm. All these movements are intrinsically involved in the actions of the bench press. If we take a moment to think of this and look at the bench press from an analytical perspective - we start the movement with the shoulder joint in the flexed position and also in the adducted position - as we move through the eccentric phase of the exercise we transfer from those positions into the extended and abducted position. Bear in mind that the muscles responsible for these actions are small in comparison to the prime movers of the bench press (pectorals major) and even the assisting muscles, triceps and anterior deltoid. Exercising your rotator cuff muscles will aid in the stabilization of the shoulder joint as a whole, minimizing the risk of injury while also allowing you to control more weight during the performance of the exercise.

2: Build Stronger Triceps!

Strong triceps are also a necessity for having a strong bench; after all they are solely responsible for the "lock out" phase of the movement. Increasing the strength of the triceps through similar movements is a great approach to take when trying to increase the amount of poundage being used. Close-grip bench pressing increases the range of motion of the elbow joint during the "lock out" phase maximizing the number of motor units being utilized to complete the movement, in other words, transferring the emphasis from the pectoral muscles to the triceps. The increased strength gained from performing this exercise transfers perfectly into the traditional bench press because of the biomechanical similarities between the two movements.

3: Try Eccentric Flat Bench Press!

Eccentric Flat Bench Press are of major benefit to your strength. A training partner is vital for this phase of your training programme. For eccentric training to be truly effective you must have a training partner who is at the same level of strength and is also switched on to your capabilities. Here a heavier weight will be used than when performing the regular exercise. As you lower the bar without aid and under complete control, your training partner should be ready to take up to 75% of the load when going through the concentric or positive phase of the movement, this method helps the muscles to adapt to the increased load in a more progressive manner, and the strength increase transfers to the conventional bench press in a relatively short period of time.

Thanks to muscle memory the body realizes that it has already adapted to using such weight, when performing the eccentric or negative phase the muscles brace in anticipation of the load and as they extend they create an elastic like effect, the tension created allows one to press the increased weight under a greater level of control, in other words you have gotten stronger.

JarrettJames.co.uk



CLEAN UP YOUR ACT

Forget blackheads, clogged pores, dull and lifeless skin caused by late nights and city living with Ginvera Marvel Gel. Quick and effective, this time saving product works like magic, restoring a healthy glow to blemished skin. Take a few minutes in the evening to use this wonder gel, which lifts the dead skin in a matter of a few gentle rubs to leave you with smooth skin and refined pores.

£15 - 30 gm £25 - 60 gm retails
www.happybabble.com



BENT ON... PORN

By Alex Wiggan

Think you've got it hard? Bet you've never considered how hard it must be for a porn star, have you? Yes whilst you kick back and spend some quality time alone (or in the company of others if preferred), why not consider the pain that a porn star goes through just to bring a bit of pleasure to the world.

Those guys are troopers and never during the entire length of their latest DVD release do you ever hear them moan about the fact they've been on their legs all day working up a sweat. How many times have you heard them utter a complaint that they've spent too long bent over a picnic bench, or an ironing board, or three other men? Never! They wouldn't because they're professionals and although at times it may look as if they're lying down on the job, the truth is they're always alert; because a moments lapse in concentration can often come as rude slap in the face. It's not about knowing which angle to be positioned in it's about how best to avoid a rogue bit of man meat. Porn stars are disciplined, trained, focused; they're like a ripped Mr Miyagi (Karate Kid reference there) with legs like an Olympic gymnast and the stamina of Superman on Red Bull. Nothing gets in their way from completing a shoot; not stubble rash, not dry mouth and not even a less than attractive burly member of the production crew doubling as a fluffer. These guys are ready to suffer for their art even if it could lead to a spot of Repetitive Thrust Injury, because they know that in order to put a smile on someone's face it can often mean biting the bullet, or the pillow.

Oh you may think that you've got the whole package when it comes to doing porn, but have you even taken into account all the preparation that's involved? For the porn star it can often mean a tiring day of dressing up to dress down, as one minute they're a student in search of love and the next they're a local baker with a fresh bloomer in need of buttering. However, costumes are the least of a porn stars worries, as what's worse is having to remember the names of half a dozen German lads



"Porn stars are disciplined, trained, focused"

"Pick the wrong name like Dusty Sprinkler and it could all be over before it's begun"

who they will only meet for 10 minutes in a crowded pool scene; and even then the chances are they won't see their faces again. Then of course there's all that location shooting where one minute they're half way up a mountain, the next they're in a French Chateau and before the day is out they're by the side of the A6 offering a stranded cyclist a go with their bicycle pump. This is all on top of learning numerous suggestive lines that all boil down to the same thing and it's not as if they can pin the script to someone for quick reference. Oh and putting a bit of blusher on a blokes tackle has got to be a little awkward as well and yet they'd never get embarrassed, they'd just clench and get back in there.

The job isn't something they take lightly, because before they even begin they have to come up with the right name to help sell them as a star whilst protecting their true identity. Pick the wrong name like Dusty Sprinkler and it could all be over before it's begun. So their name must be carefully calculated to show they mean business and that they'll be there waiting for you when other boys have let you down! They also need to make sure they fit in with the current trend as turning up for a casting call for Emo Bangers 5 is no good when looking like a bear. Then there's the added problem that if the film is Emo Bangers 5 or perhaps Carry On Emo Abroad, there's all that hair that needs to be straightened and preened for the purposes of continuity. It's a tough industry and with all the free porn available on the internet for a quick digital distraction, it can mean there's less work for the boys. Like the Spice Girls, everyone has their favourite and so these boys have to tick all the boxes. So we need to treasure these heroes, these men who put their backs into it, give it their all and who strive forward in the name of adult entertainment. They aren't just porn stars they're pulse pounding pioneers! They're erotic adventurers dedicated to relieving stress and other men of their clothing! Their days are long, their sex-capades are never over, but come rain, come shine, no matter what, for us they just keep coming...
...back for more.

Images: Staxus.com, Eurocrme.com
Mustang/Falcon, Flava Works

Earlier this year we were lucky enough to be invited to the Hustlaball in London where we met some incredibly sexy people and a host of horny porn stars. One who particularly made an impression for his friendly openness was newcomer Deangelo Jackson who had recently signed for US porn label Flavaworks. We asked him what he thought of making personal appearances and what it was like being new to the porn business.

DEANGELO JACKSON

We loved seeing you at Hustlaball... are these events good for you?

I do enjoy meeting and greeting the fans... I do have a good time over all.

How did you feel in your first scene on your first adult movie?

It was extremely nerve-wracking. First of all... I'd never done anything with a guy... this was my first experience... and in front of a camera and I didn't know what to expect. Once I got into the groove of it... it was OK.

What did you have to do?

It was a little oral. I had to eat out an ass. I was the top of course but I was completely new and didn't know about tops and bottoms but I knew what I wasn't going to do and that was bottom. So, I did a combination of a few different things.

What made it better for you?

I was actually attracted to the person I was doing the scene with... we had chemistry... that made it easier for me. He was very relaxed and cool and everything went off smooth but I didn't get along with the other porn star.

The guys you shag in Mixed Nuts 2 are white, does this make a difference?

No not at all... I actually enjoy diversity

What do you have to think about to make a scene work for you?

I just go into the zone. The best thing for me is to clear my mind and focus and get into position, make sure I can be seen by the camera... focus on what I'm supposed to be doing... that's all you really can do... otherwise it's not going to be a hot scene

What turns you on about a guy?

His eyes, smile, figure and personality.

Is there any fetish stuff you'd like to do?

Strapped down. I'd strap someone down and have my way with them sort of thing. I think that would be hot and it's something I'd want to do... all cuffed and tied down and starting off innocent... a massage... and then...!

You say you're only in this for the money... is that coming your way from the movies or from other business opportunities?

A bit of both... but mainly from the business opportunities.



You can see more of Deangelo in his latest DVD offering MiXXed Nuts 2 – Flavaworks



lights, camera and crew. In private you have more time for really nice sex, and you don't pay attention to a script or screaming from a hysterical director.

Is shooting porn a pleasure for you, or do you make it only for money?

I am happy that I can select my scenes and my partners in the movies. So the sex can be really fun and I totally enjoy it, especially when there are on expensive locations. So, when you then get money for having fun – what could be better!

Which actor is your favourite and why?

I really like Brent Everett. I think he is damn sexy!!! I only met him one time at some erotic fair - but I never had sex with him! Czech actor George Basten is really cute and great fun. He is small but with a huge cock - not a bad combination!

Do you remember your best experience on a shoot?

I like that I can have sex with guys in front of a camera which I would never find in my private life. I remember that in the night after I had a scene with some really great guys we did it also in private in our hotel. Actually that was the best threesome I ever had in my life. I won't give any more details here... porn actors can be discreet.

What can you advise people who want become pornstars

Be smart, select a big studio with a very good reputation, use your cock AND your brain, don't make porn only for money and always give your best.



"For me the sexiest part of a man is his arse, then maybe dick and belly."

A QUESTION OF SEX!

Thanks to the World Cup the last four weeks have been really horrible for our adult entertainment industry, since nobody has been interested in sex. Instead, everyone's been watching football, with sex only taking place during the 15-minute break between the two halves of the game!

Exactly the same has happened to me on a personal level. I've hardly had any sex for the duration of the World Cup, with the exception of some wanking whilst enjoying erotic fantasies of those sexy, horny, sweaty players!

As a result, I've saved up quite a bit of spunk and aggressive sexual energy to get me through the next few weeks, which are all set to be full of scenes that I have to produce as an active actor for my next movie and my own internet site. No question about it, my partners can expect a hard ride because almost 4 weeks without a fuck is a really long time for me and I sure as hell need to make up for things right now!

Sexual abstinence is most definitely NOT my cup of tea! I've really missed my regular fucking sessions, not to mention my scenes in front of the camera. Indeed, I'm quite surprised to have to admit it, but I've even missed being the bottom for my friend!

So watch out my site www.Johan-Volny.com as I'll be uploading all the new scenes regularly over these weeks!

Meanwhile, as Bent's Euro porn god gets his dick into gear (and anyone else available) we ask him to give us the ten most asked questions by his fans.

What is the biggest misconception people have about you?

People often think bad of the porn industry. They think it is dirty and not professional but that is the old porn. New porn is very professional. Some people often have bad opinion of me, that I am just a wild animal, that I am stupid and only fuck around. But that is not the truth.... I hope!

How often do you have sex?

I have sex 5 days a week, including some shootings (but excluded my wankings) - so I think I am still horny enough

What do you regard as the sexiest part of a man's body?

For me the sexiest part of a man is his arse, then maybe dick and belly.

Which type of guy do you prefer?

My ideal looks like this: 20 year-old, blond, blue-eyes, sporty, muscular, not too slim, natural guy... and must be full of energy. I don't like queens and princesses.

Which sexual positions you prefer in private and front of the camera?

In both I prefer to be top. But in private I am also versatile... especially for my boyfriend I like to be bottom, too. In front of camera I've only been bottom a few times.

Is there any difference between private sex and your porn career?

Of course! In front of camera it should be possible to see feelings, but there you can only play at it because you have to pay more attention to setting,



RISING STARZ

By Owen Keehnen

The latest instalment in the Starz series – featuring interviews with all the hottest stars in the business of gay adult entertainment – once again ventures behind the scenes and into the lives of the fantasy men... we fantasise about. Who do they love to bottom for? What was their biggest sexual scene? Who do they fantasise about? It really is a fascinating book and provides some often surprising insights into the gay sex DVD business.

Skye Woods – On being asked what he likes about being a porn star: "I love the attention I get from the gay public. People wanting their picture taken with me, my autograph - it just feels good to me."

Ethan Wolfe – On being asked for his perfect night out: "I'm very traditional. I love going out to a nice dinner and a movie, then retiring to the sling where I get fucked and pissed on all night long."

Josh West - On being asked his favourite porn moment; "... the memory of looking at Vince Ferrelli's furry arsehole before I started to eat it... then fuck it."

£13.99 – StarBooks Press

TERRY GEORGE: TELLIN' STORIES



FRYING TONIGHT

It's been a hectic few weeks for me and my feet have hardly touched the ground. However, recently I had one of the most terrifying experiences of my life. Let me explain.

It was the annual Gala Dinner for the Terrence Higgins Trust' Friends for Life in London and I was just one of the many guests that were invited along to hand over some cash and enjoy the company of those similar minded to myself. This event is high on the gay social calendar so quite an important do with loads of tables and famous folk scattered everywhere. Some times you can get lost at these huge events but Not to worry, I thought, I know quite a lot of the people here. Some of soap stars from Corrie and Eastenders I'm on more than just nodding acquaintance with, while there were other celebs from fashion, film, TV, radio and various businesses who I've run into at other such extravaganzas. I was wandering around, nodding to the good and powerful, looking for my place card and wondering which famous person I'd end up having a laugh with over the three-course meal. Alas, as I traipsed from table to table I couldn't find my illustrious name and I thought either I'd been forgotten or I was scheduled to serve the soup to everyone else.

Eventually, I made my way to the centre table, where the guest-of-honour, a certain Mr Stephen Fry, would be sitting for the evening's entertainment. Mega actress and

Bond's M, Dame Judi Dench was flanking one side while on the other it was... me. I thought they'd got it wrong or that perhaps there was another Terry George that Stephen knew and I should continue my search. But I recognized that my guest's name was at the side of mine so I was obviously, if not surprisingly, in the correct place. Unfortunately, my apprehension took over and I wondered how the hell had I ended up on the main table. As I took my seat next to Stephen I shook uncontrollably as I realised; this is the man with the brain the size of a planet, who writes books, plays, he's an accomplished actor, is called upon by politicians for his opinion and fronts clever clogs quiz show QI. How the hell was I going to be QI as I know nothing? My GCSE in home economics is hardly going to hold me in good stead should the conversation drift away from 'what makes a good omelette?' – and once I'd replied 'eggs' I was stuffed. I had nothing more to say, I was absolutely terrified of not only showing myself up but with all the celebs (who were quite rightly wondering what on earth was I doing at Stephen's table) laughing at me as I slunk under the table (no not for that... do you mind) out of embarrassment. Shaking I turned to my guest and asked him what on earth I should talk about. He glanced at Stephen, then Dame Judi and then glanced at everyone else at the table and boldly said SEX. So somewhat apprehensive I ventured a joke that broke the ice and all seemed well however, mine was nothing compared to the one Dame Judi told. I wish I could tell you what it was but I'm afraid the Secret Service will come round and silence me forever. Perhaps that could be the title of a new James Bond movie.



REPORTS OF MALE FORCED MARRIAGE UP 65%

There has been an increase in reports of men being forced into marriage over the last two years, according to figures released today by the Forced Marriage Unit (FMU). Last year the FMU, a joint-initiative between the Foreign & Commonwealth Office and Home Office, received over 220 emails and calls to its helpline about suspected forced marriages involving male victims - up from 134 in 2008, an increase of 65%. With the summer holidays approaching, traditionally a time when incidents increase, the FMU is warning professionals who work with young people to be alert and act on any concerns they may have.

Jeremy Browne, Foreign & Commonwealth Office Minister for Consular Policy, said:

"Boys and men who are forced into marriage find it harder to ask for help than women, but we are urging males affected by forced marriage to speak out and seek the help that is available to them.

Lynne Featherstone, Equalities Minister said:

"When young men are forced into marrying women it can be because they are gay or bisexual, or their

families suspect that they are. This kind of abuse must not be tolerated."

Tim Sigsworth, Chief Executive of the Albert Kennedy Trust, has seen first hand the impact that forced marriage can have on young men: "The impact for many young gay and bisexual men facing a forced marriage is twofold. They not only experience a sense of loss from the rejection or ejection by their family and possibly community, but they may also be struggling to come to terms with their sexual orientation without the love, support and guidance which parents may have offered them in other areas of their lives."

Male and female victims of forced marriage, or others acting on their behalf, can apply for a Forced Marriage Protection Order. An order can be used to prevent someone being forced into marriage or to protect a person where a marriage has already taken place. People can be arrested if they do not comply with the orders. Since coming into force in November 2008, over 150 orders have been taken out.

Helpline: 0207 008 0151

www.fco.gov.uk/forcedmarriage

'BLACK & GAY IN THE UK'



Big Up at GMFA presents 'Black & Gay in the UK: Rising against the challenges of homophobia, racism and HIV/AIDS'; a free event that will feature a screening of the documentary film 'Beyond Labels'. Directed by Jaime Sylla, the film explores the Black gay male experience in London across the generations – from Gay Lib pioneer Ted Walker to the 'Oh WoW Boys'; two young Black gay men and modern day YouTube stars. The event will take place from 6:30pm on Tuesday, 3 August at The Rich Mix, Bethnal Green Road, E1 6LA.

To book your free tickets, please email bigup@gmfa.org.uk with your name and the number of tickets you would like. A maximum of four tickets can be issued per person.

If you don't have access to the internet, you can reserve your tickets by calling 020 7738 3712.

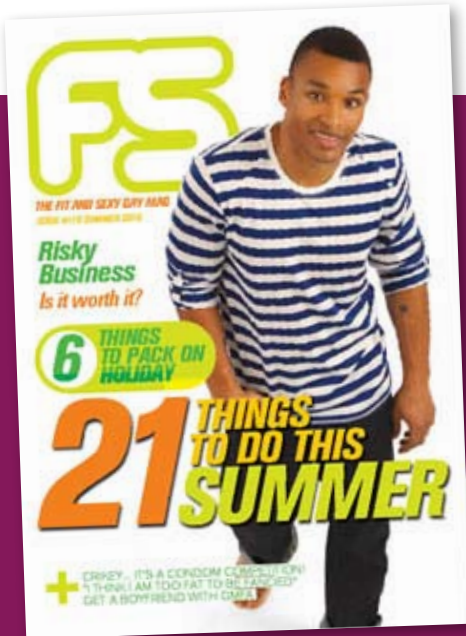
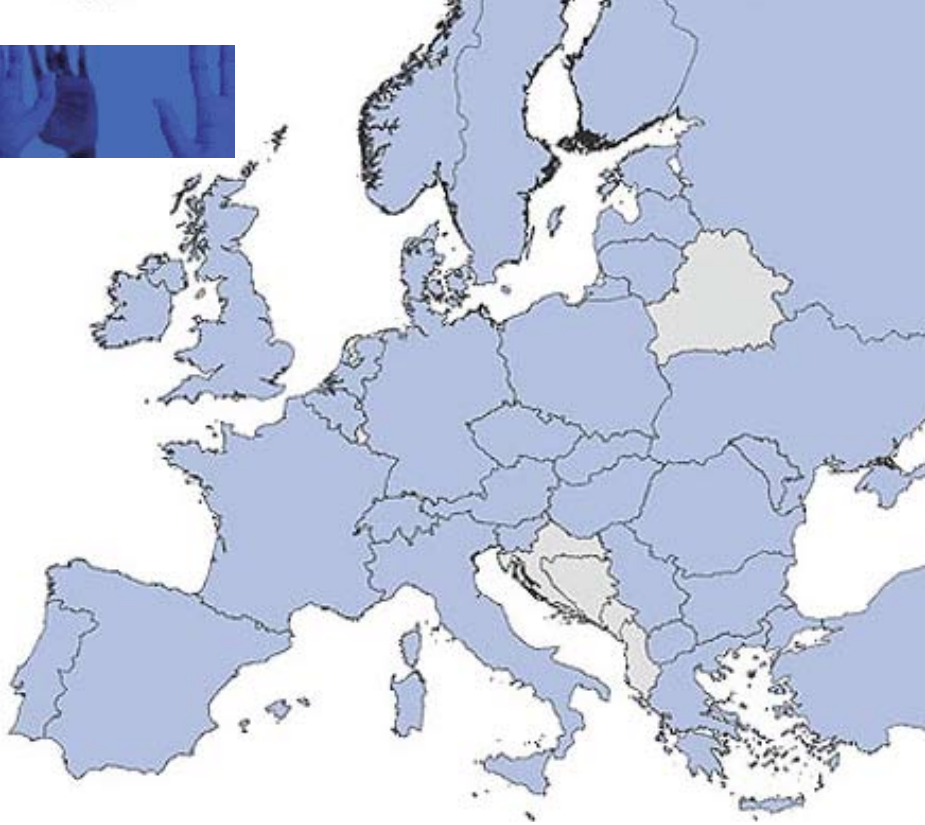
EMIS

TAKE PART IN SOMETHING HUGE

The largest European online sex survey, available in 25 languages and 31 countries, has been launched to help gay and bisexual men across Europe improve their sex lives and prevent sexual health problems, including reducing new HIV infections.

The European gay and bisexual men's internet sex survey (EMIS) runs until Tuesday 31st August and covers sex, health and relationships; in particular stigma and discrimination, sexuality, socialising and HIV prevention. With a target sample of at least 100,000 gay and bisexual men, EMIS will be the largest survey of this population undertaken anywhere in the world.

Supported by Terrence Higgins Trust through CHAPS, the national HIV prevention programme for gay and bisexual men funded by the Department of Health, the questionnaire is anonymous, safe, and takes around 20 minutes to complete.
www.emis-survey.eu



DRINK, DRUGS AND SEX

Drink, drugs and sex might seem fun, but mixed together they can have serious consequences. In the latest issue of FS magazine from GMFA, the gay men's health charity, three guys tell how being under the influence led to them taking risks that they later regretted.

Apart from reporting on some scary actual real-life experiences the article includes tips on how to be smart when you drink, including: decide how much you are going to drink before you go out and practice sticking to the target; avoid top ups so that you can keep track of how much you are drinking; and avoid rounds. It advises: "If you are dedicated to using condoms when you are sober, chances are you will be more likely to use condoms when you are wasted. Don't let alcohol or drugs be an excuse for making choices you will regret later."

To read the full article, 'Risky Business', as well as other features including '21 Things to do this Summer' and 'Six Things to Pack for Holiday', look out for your copy of FS, issue 118. It's available for free in gay venues and GUM clinics across the UK or can be downloaded at www.gmfa.org.uk/fsnation.

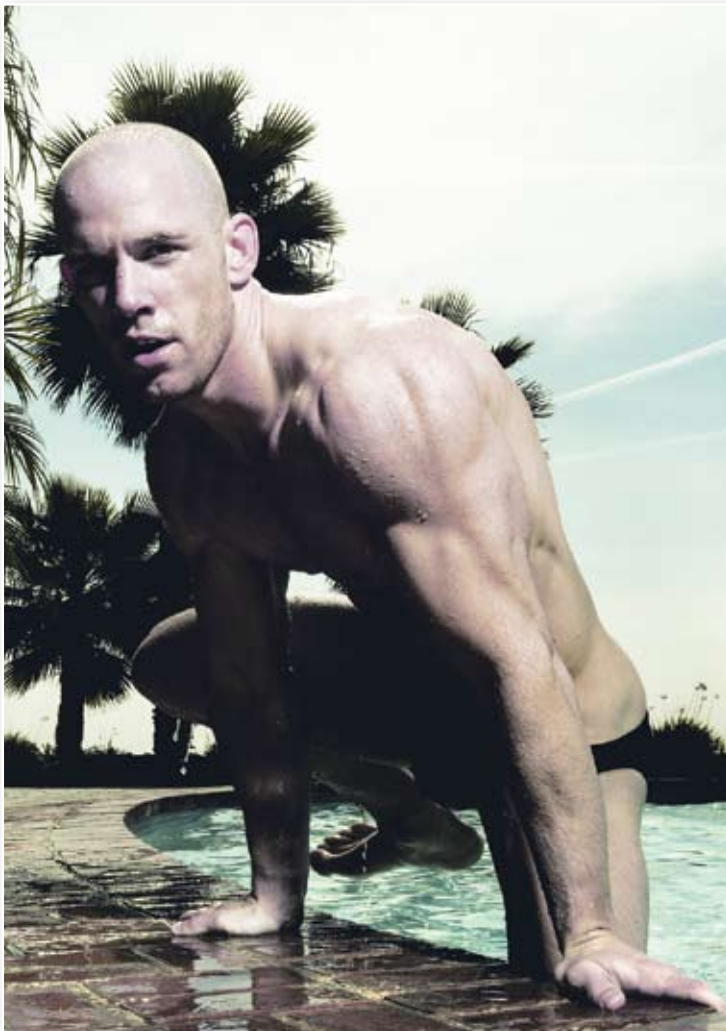
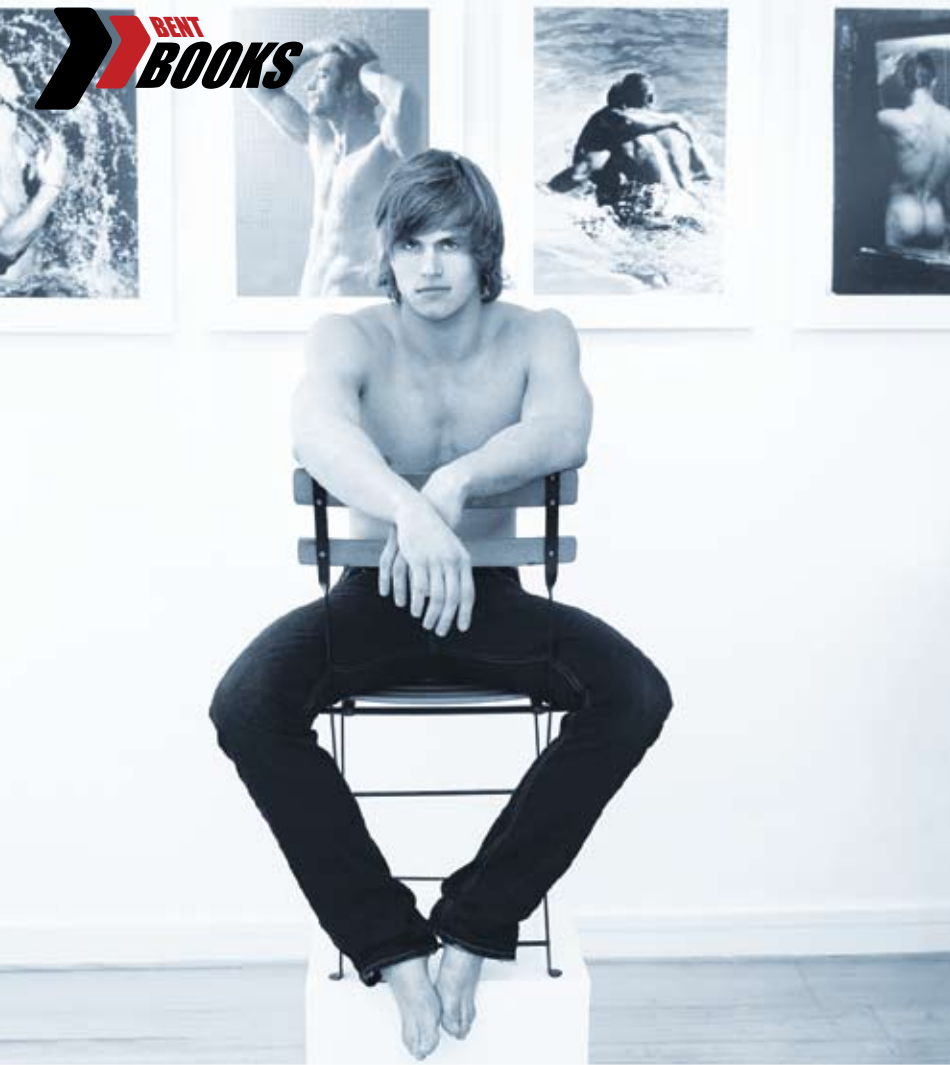


GAYDAR★U

GAYDAR GIVES STUDENTS FREE UPGRADES

Gaydar the world's largest gay dating site has launched Gaydar University and is calling all on students under 24 years old to claim their free Gaydar upgrade. Unlike tuition fees, there's no payback. While the 'university' doesn't offer degrees or have vast libraries of books, Gaydar is home to over six million guys with 1.8 million (30%) aged 18-24. Successful applicants receive full access to Gaydar and all its features including unlimited messages, profile views, access to photos and videos and the iPhone app. Jason Rosenbaum, marketing manager at Gaydar said; "With students leaving university with an average debt of £24,000 we're waiving the upgrade fee so students can enjoy the benefits of Gaydar and make new friends while they're away from home."
<http://www.gaydaru.com>



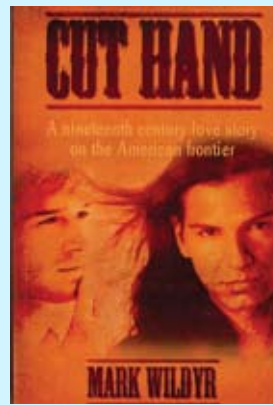


CINQ

By Fred Goudon

The number five—*cinq* in the French language—is in many cultures a symbol for the human being, for love, but also for unity, harmony and balance. “This is what I feel when I am working”, explains Goudon. Of course “Five” also stands for the five senses. And one can truly gain the impression that this is a book for all of our senses: You can almost smell the alluring odor of these infatuating men, feel their strong bodies, taste the salt on their skin and hear their sighs ... it’s due to Goudon’s unique talent that every single picture is drenched with amazing intimacy.

£49.99 - Bruno Gmünder.

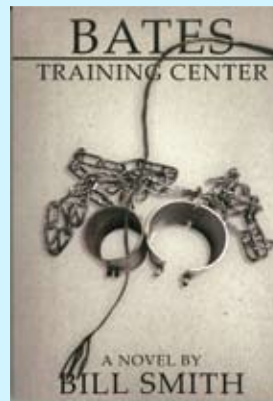


CUT HAND

By Mark Wildyr

Homosexuals have been with us forever but denigration of such a culture is not always the same, indeed some view 'Two-Spirit' people through more respectful eyes. This romantic action epic is set in the early 1800s and deals with the unorthodox love between a white youth on the American frontier, escaping his family past, and a young Indian warrior destined for the leadership of his tribe.

£12.99 – Starbooks Press



BATES TRAINING CENTER

By Bill Smith

The death of an obscure great-uncle means that there is a new man in charge at the country's most renowned slave training center. The new, young, inexperienced owner soon discovers he has a real talent for the business as he develops the business and his interest in having a few highly trained personal sex slaves at his command. From poor boy to millionaire... on the backs of 'willing' slaves from around the world.

£10.99 - Nazca Plains

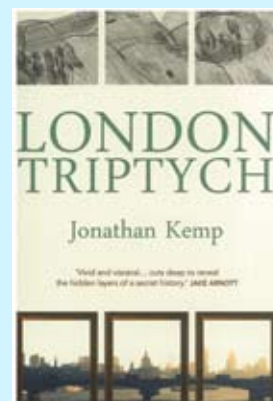


IRREVOCABLE

By T. E. Shaw

Laurence Price is young and studious, and he has two of the best friends anyone could ever hope for. He occasionally helps his dad and nana in running their B&B home in the idyllic, rural Suffolk village of Hobden, where the remote location often causes identity issues that can make for very confusing and lonely times. Despite that, life seems pretty great for 16-year-old Loz—that is, until the incredibly handsome and charismatic Dean Mackellar becomes a tenant along with his mum at the Brambles.

www.authoright.com



LONDON TRIPTYCH

By Jonathan Kemp

Three men, three lives and three eras sinuously entwine in a dark and startling narrative of sex, exploitation and dependence set against London's strangely constant gay underworld. Populated with rent boys, aristocrats, artists and criminals... the connections keep the reader enthralled from start to finish as each layer in the story is revealed.

£7.99 – MyriadEditions.com

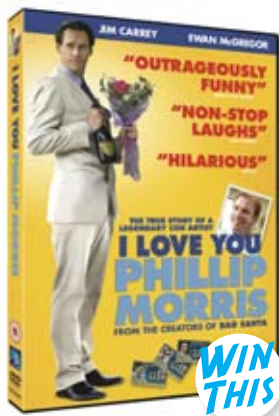


ILLUSTRATIONS

By Patrick Fillion

Patrick's new book *ILLUSTRATIONS* is once more a delightful piece of incredibly sexy gay comic art. His heroes—the breathtakingly hung red haired Justice, the sex greedy cat man Camili Cat, fiery Flamer and many others—are doing it the horny way and they are doing it wild and nasty. Sex is the weapon with which these amazing hunks are fighting for a randy and better world. Muscle men and catchy colours, stunning action, even more stunning dicks and of course excellent drawings.

£16.99 – Bruno Gmunder



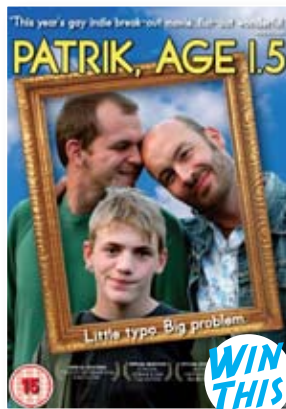
I LOVE YOU PHILLIP MORRIS

Steven Russell (Jim Carey) is your average, everyday guy. He has a well respected career within the local police force and is a happily married man. After narrowly surviving a horrific car accident he is provoked into reassessing his life and finally reveals his true self. He's gay and he's suddenly living a life of excess and luxury which he can't afford. Suddenly he finds himself in jail and meets his soul mate, the softly spoken Phillip Morris (Ewan McGregor). Based on a true story this sees Carey at his very, very best.

Out: 2nd August - DVD and BluRay - E1 Entertainment

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this terrific DVD, all you have to do is answer this simple question:

In a Batman movie what character did Jim Carey play - a. The Iceman, b. The Riddler, c. The Penguin



PATRIK, AGE 1.5

This is a funny, affectionate and unpredictable gay family comedy. After a seemingly endless wait, long-term gay couple Goran and Sven have had their adoption papers approved - and infant Patrik, age 1.5 is on his way! Everything would have been perfect too, had it not been for just a little error at the adoption agency. It seems one decimal point had been misplaced, and when a 15-year-old homophobe with a criminal past shows at their door the perfect home quickly becomes the setting for the perfect storm.

Out: 23rd August - £14.99 - tla releasing

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this terrific DVD, all you have to do is answer this simple question:
When did the Civil Partnership become law in the UK - a. 2005. b. 2006. c. 2007.



PORNOGRAPHY: A THRILLER

Continuing the theme of this month's Bent, we offer a rather uncomfortable thriller set in the world of adult films. A famous gay model disappears at the height of his fame. Rumours about murder and blackmail abound for years until a young journalist decides to investigate the strange events. A touch of the paranormal, folk going missing; all adds up to a great storyline for a film that might just end with horrifying results.

Out: 29th August - £14.99 - Peccadillo Pictures

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this terrific DVD, all you have to do is answer this simple question:

Complete the name of this famous drag porn director - Chi Chi _____



THE BOY WITH THE SUN IN HIS EYES

Kevin's funeral rockets John into the orbit of the flamboyant Solange a b-movie actress/ one hit wonder best known in Europe for her roles in 80's Italian horror movies. As he follows her into heady whirlwind romances with cute French pop stars and deadly (but hot!) Milanese model managers, they barely survive murderous performance artists in Paris and fatal gourmet food poisonings in Italy. John begins to realize that Solange's world is far more complex and dangerous than he could possibly have imagined. Her chosen lifestyle abounds with trips, tricks, and traps. And John's the bait!

Out: 23rd August - £14.99 - Bounty Films (From the Gay Culture Cinema)

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this terrific DVD, all you have to do is answer this simple question:

How long does it take for the sun's rays to reach the Earth? a. 8 seconds, b. 8 minutes, c. 8 hours?

COMPETITION TIME

TURN TO PAGE 78 FOR ENTRY DETAILS

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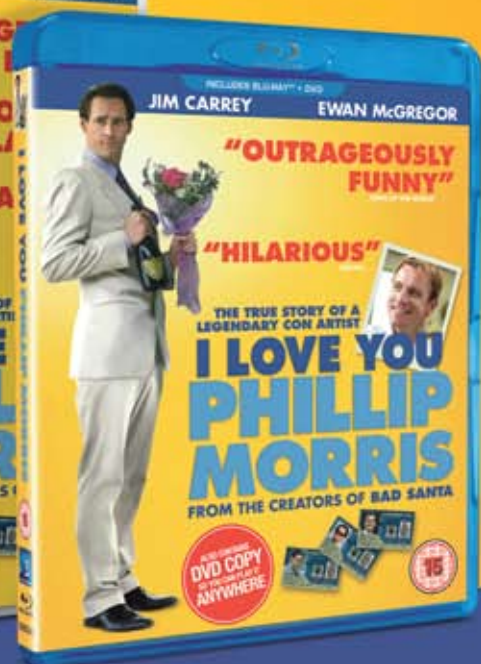
★★★★★
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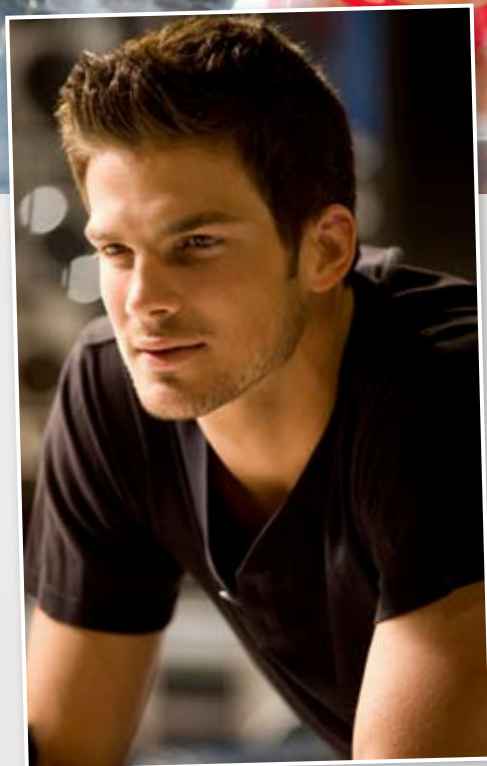
WARNER BROS. PICTURES
© 2007 WARNER BROS. PICTURES



KNIGHT & DAY

Out 6th August

Tom Cruise and Cameron Diaz star in this action-comedy thrill-ride. During their glamorous and sometimes deadly adventure, nothing and no one – even the now fugitive couple – are what they seem. Amid shifting alliances and unexpected betrayals, they race across the globe, with their survival ultimately hinging on the battle of truth vs. trust. This is the Tom Cruise cinema-goes love and a return to form. It didn't do so well in the States but is a great popcorn flick.



MOVIE BUZZ

Edward Norton has given up being the Hulk and it looks like Mark Ruffalo is set to play the green one in Marvel's *The Avengers* to be directed by Joss Whedon. The film is already set for a May 4, 2012 release with production expected to begin sometime early next year.

In *Mission: Impossible: IV* it looks like Tom Cruise may serve as a mentor to a young operative this time out (please, anyone but Shia Labeouf).

Although *The Hobbit* has not yet been given the greenlight, that seems to be a foregone conclusion since Peter Jackson has been meeting with actors in both New York and the U.K. for his two-part fantasy novel adaptation. While Jackson hasn't yet officially signed on to direct the films, this news makes his intentions pretty clear.

Despite Joaquin Phoenix's alleged retirement from acting back in October 2008 he has hit headlines with his bizarre bearded antics. Well the result is a mockumentary shot by his best friend and brother-in-law Casey Affleck called *I'm Still Here* and will be released in cinemas later this year.

Brian Cox has joined the cast of *Rise of the Apes* and will play the villainous owner of a primate sanctuary who runs the facility without compassion for the animals that live there. He joins previously cast James Franco, John Lithgow, Freida Pinto, Andy Serkis and Don Cheadle. The film is described as an origin story in the truest sense of the term as it sets out to tell the story before Charlton Heston ever crash landed on the Planet of the Apes in 1968.

▲ *STEP UP 3D*

Out 6th August

New York's intense street dancing underground comes alive in eye-popping Digital 3D in the third instalment of the popular *Step Up* franchise as the raw, passion-fuelled culture goes global. A tight-knit group of street dancers, including Luke (mega hot Rick Malambri) and Natalie (Sharni Vinson) team up with NYU freshman Moose (Adam Sevani), and find themselves pitted against the world's best hip hop dancers in a high-stakes showdown that will change their lives forever.



▲ *SALT*

Out 20 August

Angelina Jolie stars as Evelyn Salt, a CIA officer who swore an oath to duty, honour, and country. When she is accused by a defector of being a Russian sleeper spy, Salt goes on the run to clear her name and ultimately prove she is a patriot. Using all her skills and years of experience as a covert operative, she must elude capture and protect her husband or the world's most powerful forces will erase any trace of her existence.

▲ *UNDERTOW*

Out 6th August

Winner of the 2010 Sundance World Cinema Audience Award, *Undertow* is the impressive debut feature film of Javier Fuentes-León, continuing Latin-America's exploration of 'magical realism' in modern cinema. Capturing the hidden beauty of the sweeping Peruvian coastline with stunning photography, this haunting, bittersweet tale of a unique love-triangle set within a small fishing village, explores the quest to define contemporary sexual identity, confronted by dogma and tradition and the forces of courage, honour and truth that compel us to challenge them.



▲ **DOG POUND**

Out 27 August

Dog Pound doesn't hide its despair about the juvenile prison where its story takes place. From young French director, Kim Chapiron this drama is a chilling walk

through a training ground for violence and aggression, able to stand up on its own bare-boned terms to comparisons with Jacques Audiard's A Prophet, Dog Pound follows three young offenders with a camera that couldn't be closer to the skin. Cinematographer Andre Chemetoff sustains that tautility throughout the film, so the cramped spaces are felt as much as seen.

▶ **HUMAN CENTIPEDE**

Out 20 August

Two pretty but ditsy American girls are on a road trip through Europe. In Germany, they end up alone at night with a broken car in the woods. They search for help and find an isolated villa. The next day, they awaken to find themselves trapped in a terrifying makeshift basement hospital along with a Japanese man. An older German man identifies himself as a retired surgeon specialized in separating Siamese twins. However, his three "patients" are not about to be separated but joined together in a horrific operation. He plans to be the first person to connect people via their gastric systems. By doing so, he plans to bring to life his sick lifetime fantasy, the human centipede.



▲ **THE SORCERER'S APPRENTICE**

Out 11 August

You could be forgiven for thinking this is another Harry Potter instalment; however, this is Walt Disney Studios and producer Jerry Bruckheimer and director Jon Turteltaub, the creators of the National Treasure franchise, attempt to kick-start a new money maker. The Sorcerer's Apprentice - an innovative and epic comedy adventure about a sorcerer and his hapless apprentice who are swept into the center of an ancient conflict between good and evil. Balthazar Blake (Nicolas Cage) is a master sorcerer in modern-day Manhattan trying to defend the city from his arch-nemesis, Maxim Horvath. Balthazar can't do it alone, so he recruits Dave Stutler (Jay Baruchel), a seemingly average guy who demonstrates hidden potential, as his reluctant protégé.

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★★★★ TOTAL FILM

★★★★ DAILY EXPRESS

UNDERTOW

(CONTRACORRIENTE)

A film by Javier Fuentes-León

dynamis SHORELINE AXIOM FILMS

www.axiomfilms.co.uk

IN CINEMAS 6TH AUGUST

LONDON GAY PRIDE

Words and pictures Darrell Hirst

The papers said that there were a million people who flocked to the capital to help celebrate this year's London Gay Pride. Thankfully, the weather was gorgeous, which encouraged more cuties and muscle boys to show off all they had, which let's face it, is what Pride is all about? Well, perhaps not the only thing. This year the event was also celebrating 40 years of the Gay Liberation Front, the organization that brought the concept of Pride to the UK. We've come a long way since those early political marches, when angry gay men, lesbians et al took to the streets of the capital to make sure that, 40 years on, a gay chap can kiss another in public and others can flaunt their sexuality in any way they feel they want to. Leathermen, marching dykes, colourful floats, union flags, police, servicemen... you name it, 40 years on, nearly everyone is represented in a Pride march. Now more party than political (even though Mayor Boris Johnson led the parade), it's always heartwarming to see so many people out... and OUT to celebrate. The entertainment took over Trafalgar Square, Leicester Square and Soho's famously bender-heavy streets... perhaps the only thing lacking was a huge glossy star name to centre the event. Nonetheless, it was a terrific occasion that passed off relatively trouble free and any accolades going should go to the organizing committee for making the centre of our capital the centre of gaydom, even if it is for only one huge and spectacular day.

See You Next Year! July 2nd 2011
Stay connected at pridelondon.org





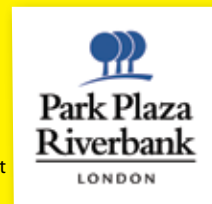
The four-star deluxe Park Plaza Riverbank London is a chic, contemporary hotel situated on the south side of the River Thames. The hotel overlooks the Houses of Parliament, Big Ben and The London Eye and is located directly across the River from the Tate Britain. Close by is the Oval Cricket Ground, the London Aquarium and the Imperial War Museum, making this a great location for sight-seeing.



All 394 rooms at Park Plaza Riverbank London are en-suite with separate bath and shower, air-conditioning, TV with on demand movies and music channels, wireless internet access, laptop safe, work desk, hairdryer, iron and ironing board, mini-bar and tea & coffee making facilities. The hotel offers a beautifully designed Brassiere serving European cuisine as well as 24 hour room service.

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Mid-week prices start from £149 per room per night (room only; excludes VAT)

Chino Latino

Chino Latino is an award winning restaurant that serves Pan-Asian fare and Latin cocktails. It is regarded as a leading Pan-Asian brand throughout the UK and Europe and is critically acclaimed for its impressive cuisine, creative presentation and contemporary décor.



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Canteen

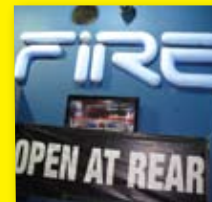
Award winning restaurant Canteen is open from 8am to 11pm Monday to Friday and 9am-11pm Saturday to Sunday, offering an all day menu offering total dining flexibility. Most importantly everything that features on the Canteen menu is made in the kitchen that day with ingredients that have been ethically sourced from the best possible supplier.



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THE GREAT GIVEAWAY

Volunteers from GMFA, the gay men's health charity, were out in force at Pride London on Saturday. The charity gave out around 3,000 free condoms and lube in specially designed 'Ride Safely' travelcard wallets to the thousands of revellers along the parade route, as well as on the stall in Trafalgar Square. Around 50 volunteers, kitted out in funky T-shirts, marched with placards emblazoned with safer sex messages.

Matthew Hodson, Head of Programmes at GMFA, commented: "The day was full of the fun and celebration we've come to expect from Pride. We want to help men stay safe, so we're delighted that so many were eager to get their hands on our supply of condoms and lube."

Volunteer or donate at www.gmfa.org.uk/aboutgmfa



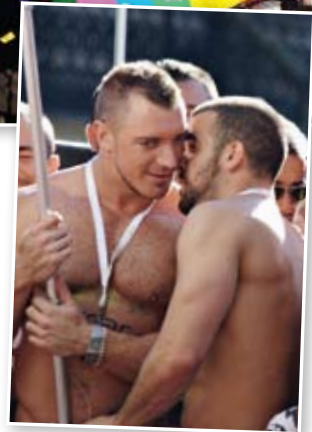
Madrid on the map as leading gay destination

The gay scene in Madrid is one that has been rapidly growing over the past few years and illustrates just how open-minded the city has become. This stems from the Spanish government, recognised as being one of the most progressive in Europe in terms of legislation and rights for the gay and lesbian community.

Awarded status as the "Best Gay Pride in the World" by MTV this year, Madrid is putting itself on the map as a destination for both gay tourists and residents. The Chueca district is central to the gay community and the traditional neighbourhood has become a mecca for the latest fashion and design. It is home to a young and happening music scene and offers a wealth of chic, independently run restaurants and renowned bars. Parties often run into the early hours of the morning and the two main avenues Calle Fuencarral and Calle Hortaleza are alive and kicking almost 24 hours a day.

Madrid is a truly vibrant city and although Chueca is known as the gay district, the whole city is there to be explored and enjoyed by all.

For more information, please visit www.spain.info/uk



INSECT REPELLENT CLOTHING

Following the news that Cheryl Cole has contracted Malaria, Craghoppers, the leading travel and outdoor brand, has launched a brand new clothing collection for 2010 called NosiLife - the world's first range of travel clothing that actively repels mosquitoes and other biting insects for the LIFETIME of the garment. Previously, insect repellent fabric treatments had a limited lifespan; however Craghoppers have been working with a dedicated team of experts from HHL Technology to develop a way of permanently locking its Insect Protection technology into Craghoppers fabrics. Having been successful in this endeavour, the new NosiLife range has incorporated this new technology throughout the whole collection.

- * 45% reduction in mosquito landings
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Every year approximately 2,000 British travellers return home with malaria and the UK is one of the biggest importers of malaria among industrialised countries. British travellers are increasingly visiting countries where malaria is prevalent; there has been a 190% increase in travel to malarious destinations amongst British travellers in the last ten years.

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Spain

In this time of recession we are all looking for a delightful seaside haven, perhaps with a bit of a break from clubbing, but we don't want to pay the earth. Simon Savidge packed his bags for a trip to the Isle of Man to find out if an island, less than an hour away by plane, could be the answer to our travel troubles?



Escape to an Isle of Man

Once the Isle of Man was THE place to visit if you wanted the perfect beach holiday. OK, so we are talking in the Victorian era and once arriving on this small island in the middle of the Irish Sea you can instantly see why. As you descend from the flight a stunning view of sandy beaches stretches out ahead and you find yourself craning your neck to work out how the hell you can get to them as soon as you leave the airport. However, there is much more to do in the Isle of Man than just lounge on a beach – though if you wanted to only do that there are plenty of perfect, empty sandy places to enjoy.

History seeps out of every street in the Isle of Man, in fact, if you didn't see the odd bus and supermarket every now and again you could be forgiven for thinking that modern life stopped in the 1920s. If castles are your kind of thing then you have plenty of choice; from the Medieval Castletown, the ruins of Peel (which look like they could belong in a Famous Five adventure) to the Grove in Ramsey - a perfect example of a Victorian Mansion.



If you're looking to get back to nature then you have to visit The Calf of Man, a little island that has become a bit of a wildlife haven. There are many boat tours; we not only got to see seals but also some whales leaping from the sea only

a few miles off-shore, which was amazing. Here's a tip; take lunch at the wonderful National Trust Café - the food is superb. There is the option of diving with basking sharks - an experience that you can't put into words, quad biking, horse riding, rock/cliff climbing, cave diving – basically there's lots to do.

Many people will hire a car to get around the island but I would recommend not doing so as part of the charm of the Isle of Man is the way that you can get around. In the south it's via steam train and in the north it's by electric railway and both are brilliant and you have to give them a try. The views and different landscapes you get to see are wonderful but I suggest that you don't do it by bus on Sundays as the public transport is rather sporadic, but doing a tour any other day should be fine.

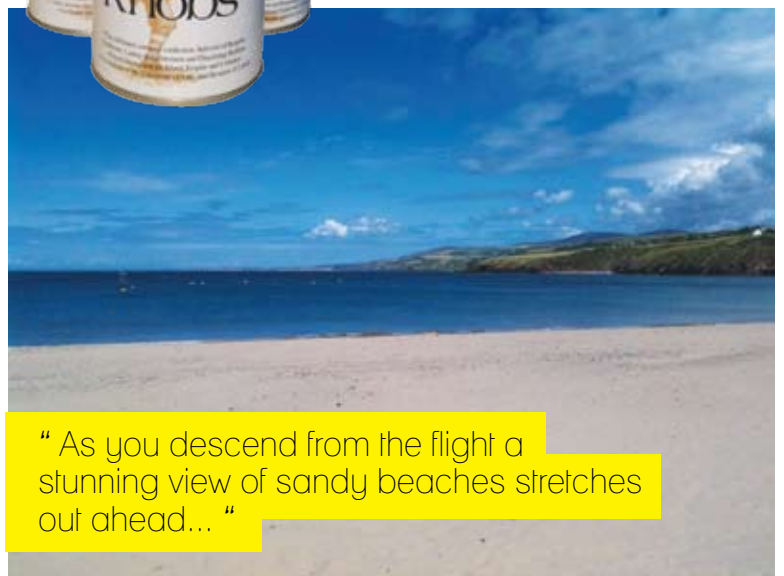
Now there isn't a massive nightlife for the gay guy in the Isle of Man, though there are monthly events put on by the IoM LGBT (www.gayinfo.org.im). There are lots of 'olde worlde' pubs which you can happily spend a good few hours in. Don't forget the wonderful and aptly named Gaiety Theatre in Douglas home to many of the West End touring shows (we watched Joseph). (www.gov.im/villagaiety). I would strongly advise you go on one of the many island Ghost Tours (www.iomghosttours.com) you will scream and laugh for a whole two hours. You could also spend a nice evening wandering the promenades with some takeaway fish and chips - yum. I might add that it's best to ask the locals for the best places to eat or visit because, not only are they very friendly, they are also very knowledgeable.

If anyone had said that you could get sunburn on the Isle of Man I probably would have laughed at the thought. I might even have agreed with anyone who implied there would have been nothing to do. Yet the four days of my visit simply wasn't long enough and I returned home looking rather like one of the lobsters I had spent

the previous night eating. The Isle of Man is a place that has a very chequered history... especially with reference to gays but all I found was unjudgemental people, relaxed and enjoying a part of the UK that visitors have almost forgotten but that is ready for a resurgence in tourism. It is perfect for a break if you just want to get away from it all or if you fancy an idyllic romantic retreat. The cans of Manx Knobs on the shelves is not a dire warning but a sweet confection... not unlike the Isle of Man itself. Suck it and see!



For much more information on the Isle of Man go to www.visitisleofman.com Simon stayed at the really wonderful Breagle Glen B&B in Port Erin www.isleofmanaccommodation.com and The Regency Hotel in Douglas www.regency.im and flew with Aer Arann www.aerarann.com



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Sauna Protocol...

All across the UK there are plenty of gay saunas where gay men can unwind and meet other gay men. Whilst such saunas are perfect for relaxation and recreation, anybody who plans to visit should be aware of how most of them operate.

Once you pay your money at the door (or there might be a membership scheme in place) you'll be given a towel and a locker key, please note - in general you are required to wear your towel in all 'public' areas but removing it elsewhere is fine.

There is no law that says you have to take part in whatever is on offer but, if you don't want to, a polite refusal will not cause offence. If you feel uncomfortable with some attention you have already refused - mention it to a member of staff who is there for your safety and to help in such situations.

In terms of protection, some saunas may hand out condoms and lube, others may not. It is advisable to bring your own.



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WHAT'S ON

FREAKSHOW

The Studio



After their huge re lunch party last month Freakshow shows no sign of slowing down. Building each and every week the team seems to have settled in to their new home nicely once again providing Manchester with a destination for music lovers and clubbers on a Saturday Night.

With an amazing stable of DJs including Nik Denton, Jason Guy, Gregg Holden, Lee Yeomans, Psyche & Lawrence Clark Freakshow delivers a fresh, upfront soundtrack of chunky, fierce & tuff house that is sure to keep you and the hottest crowd in the north on the dance floor all night long.

FREAKSHOW

Each & Every Saturday Night
11pm - 5am @ The Studio,
Bloom Street, Manchester.
For more info and free DJ podcasts go to
www.clubfreakshow.com and join them on facebook

MANCUNIA'S OFFICIAL PRIDE DANCE WEEKENDER

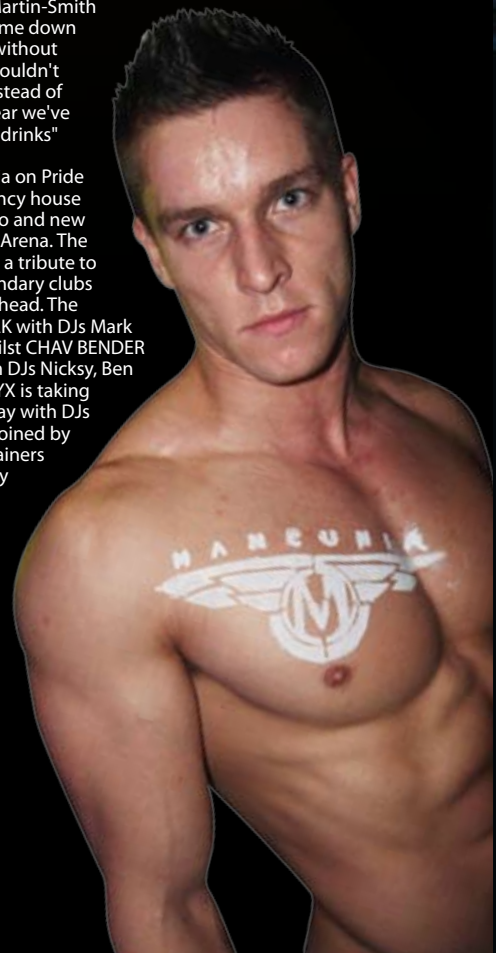
Mancunia (formerly Essential) and Queer Café Bar are leading the way at this years Pride by ensuring that their customers, who are already suffering because of the recession, can party without breaking the bank!

Tickets for the big parties at Mancunia this year are just £10 and special discounts on drinks will be offered at Mancunia and Queer throughout the weekend. Owner of both venues Nigel Martin-Smith said "We want everyone to come down and celebrate Pride this year without worrying about the cost. We couldn't ignore the credit crunch so instead of booking big name acts this year we've cut the cost of admission and drinks"

The party kicks off at Mancunia on Pride Friday with their massive bouncy house night BOUNCEoff in The Studio and new night CANDYpop in The Main Arena. The big Saturday event this year is a tribute to Essential with two of the legendary clubs biggest nights going head to head. The Studio hosts CIRQUE DU FREAK with DJs Mark Tillotson and Scott Walker whilst CHAV BENDER takes over The Pop Arena with DJs Nicky, Ben & Kevin. Top London club ONYX is taking over Mancunia on Pride Sunday with DJs Tuomo Fox and Phil Marriott joined by the ONYX dancers and entertainers and if you still have any energy left after all that, you can get into Mancunia's Official Pride Closing Party FREE on Monday night before 1am.

As usual Queer will be hosting their MORNIN GLORY Pride Saturday and Sunday after parties for those of you who never want the music to stop!

For more information on all our events see our website mancuniaclub.co.uk



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FRIDAY 27TH AUGUST

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in The Pop Arena with
Nicksy & Co

Hosted by **Scott & Ben**

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PRIDE DANCE EVENTS

M A N C U N I A

WEEKEND 2010

MONDAY 30TH AUGUST

OFFICIAL MANCHESTER PRIDE CLOSING PARTY

Mancunia host the official closing party for this years event with **Alan Stevens, Aphrodite,** and **Thaddeus** in The Studio and **Nicksy & Co** in the Pop Arena

11pm - 5am

FREE ADMISSION before 1am to everyone with a Pride wristband

Queer

The Sound Of Canal Street

Open throughout Pride playing vocal funky house in the Main Room

and pop and party sounds downstairs in GLAM

"We're here, we're QUEER - Get used to it!"

Queer Cafe Bar
4 Canal Street, Manchester. M1

MORNING GLORY

Manchester's biggest afterhours party 4am -10am

With bouncy house in the cellar bar and vocal house in Café Del Queer

Queer, (Richmond Street Entrance) Manchester. M1

M A N C U N I A



**RECESSION BUSTING
ENTRY AND
DRINK PRICES**

TAKE THE CHALLENGE



The UK's ultimate clubbing collective, Uni Challenge celebrates its 11th anniversary with a special call to arms. We're uniting the coolest coalition of brands in gay clubland for our army themed event.

This year we've packed even more brands into the Uni so there really is something for everyone no matter what music style you like. From the chunky house sounds of Federation and Freakshow, the international flavour of Salvation, to the fierce rulin' underground vibe that is Trade, hands in the air anthems from Federation's Classics arena and bubble gum pop from Yorkshire's Homo and Backdoor Disco.

Not only is this the biggest event of Manchester Pride's Big Weekend, but also the event with the cheapest bar prices too - with student union bar prices all night!

TICKET INFO

Early Bird Tickets £18

Available exclusively from www.ticketweb.co.uk until 31st July

Advance Tickets £23

Online at www.ticketweb.co.uk or from Clone Zone, Spirit, Manto, Taurus, Velvet, Village Off Licence, Spar (Piccadilly) and Spar (Oxford Rd/Hulme St junction) in Manchester, Fibre in Leeds and Clone Zone in Soho, London.

Limited Edition Dog Tag Joint Tickets £30

For both Uni Challenge & Federation Tanked Up @ The Ritz on the 29th August. Dog tags are exclusive to Clone Zone in Manchester and limited to 200. Available from Monday 2nd August.

Uni Challenge, Saturday 28th August

@ Manchester Student's Union, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PR

www.uni-challenge.com



MOUNT OLYMPUS

This year Cruz 101 hosts its 18th Manchester Pride guaranteeing a party to remember as we take a step back into the pages of history to Ancient Greece, home of Legendary Heroes such as Hercules and Achilles, Ferocious monsters, Flying horses, The Olympic Games and of course, Mount Olympus, home to the Gods and Goddesses who wielded their powers over the earth below.


Cruz 101 will be transformed into your very own Mount Olympus complete with Greek pillars and temples where you can party till dawn and admire the local Adonis (who knows you may even wake up with him!)

The 10 day pride festival kicks off with a special ribbon cutting ceremony to mark the opening of Pride on Friday 20th August and a rainbow of fun and frolics continues over this 10 day festival. Miss Cara and a host of our finest DJs keep the party pumping right through the rest of the month. Don't forget our fabulous Got Talent - The Final - on Monday 23rd, where you and the judges decide who will go forward to perform on the Main Stage over The BIG Weekend. Always the best prices, the best entertainment and the best atmosphere.

www.Cruz101.com



THE BIGGEST & MOST LOVED PARTY OF MANCHESTER PRIDE RETURNS FOR ITS 11TH YEAR


JUMPIN'
THROUGH
HOOPS
PRODUCTIONS
Issue 11
28 Aug 10

UNI-CHALLENGE



PROUD
TO SUPPORT
MANCHESTER
PRIDE
2010



SATURDAY 28TH AUGUST

FEATURING THE COOLEST COALITION OF BRANDS IN GAY CLUBLAND

FREAKSHOW

FEDERATION
FEDERATION

homo

SALVATION

Backdoor
Disco

trade

10PM-5AM MANCHESTER STUDENT'S UNION
OXFORD ROAD, MANCHESTER

WWW.UNI-CHALLENGE.COM

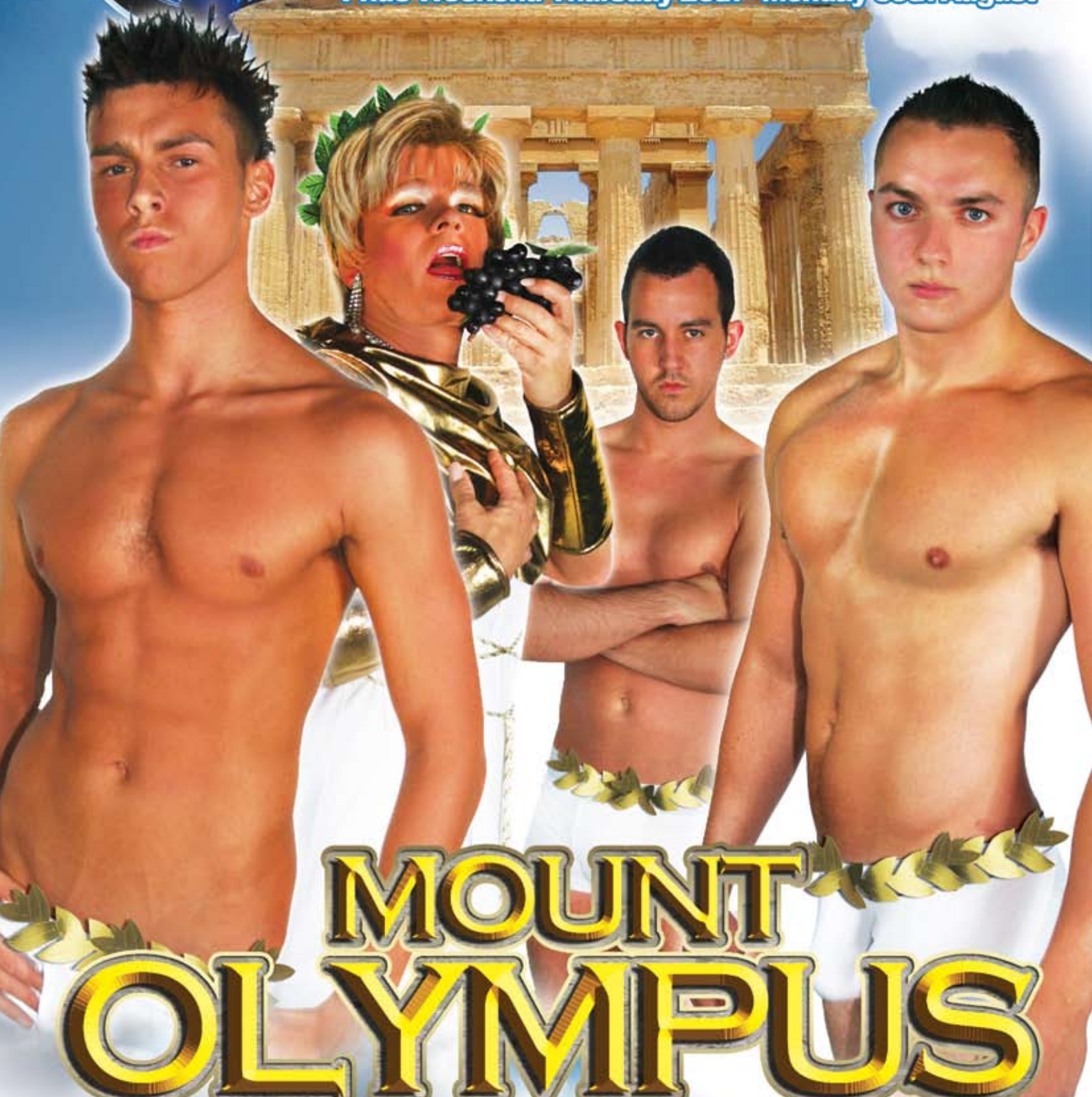
MANHUNT



Manchester's Favourite Gay Venue

CRUZ 101

Pride Weekend Thursday 26th - Monday 30th August



MOUNT OLYMPUS

Join Miss Cara & the Cruz team at a Heavenly Disco!

Spend Pride weekend with the Gods at Cruz 101

Thursday 26th August • £5 members

CLASH OF THE TITANS

Two of Manchester's clubbing giants duke it out on the dance floor at this special Pride Back2Back!

Cruz 101 & Poptastic in bed together

Floor 1 • Mr Poptastic John Hamilton • Pop, Disco, Dance & RnB

Floor 2 • Rob James • Classic & Funky House



PROUD
TO SUPPORT
MANCHESTER
PRIDE
2010

Friday 27th August • £5 advance ticket & members

DISCO OF THE GODS

Miss Cara, the Goddess Of Drag, welcomes you to her heavenly Disco

Get your hands on some fantastic Pride goodies!

Floor 1 • Darren Leasley • Pop, Disco, Dance & RnB

Floor 2 • Rob James • Classic & Funky House



Saturday 28th August • £12 advance ticket & members

POSEIDON'S ADVENTURE

Packed out every year on both floors, dont miss out!

Floor 1 • Almighty Donald & Rob James • Pop, Disco, Dance & RnB

Floor 2 • Little Mis Natalie & Brian Smith • Bouncy House & Trance **DIAGEO**

P.A. by Amanda Wilson (Freemasons) • 'Love On My Mind' • 'Watching'

Katherine Ellis (Freemasons) • 'Make A Move On Me' • 'Rain Down Love'



Sunday 29th August • £10 advance ticket & members

MINOTAUR'S LAIR

Sunday night mayhem from Miss Cara & DJ Spook with Tony Woof mixing it up downstairs in Sub!

Floor 1 • www.djspook.com • Pop, Disco, Dance, RnB & House

Floor 2 • Tony Woof • Hi NRG Pop, Disco & Dance

P.A. by Lisa Scott Lee • Performing her fantastic Steps medley



Monday 30th August • £6 advance ticket • Pride volunteers free

DISCO INFERNO Official Pride Closing Party

The only place to end your Pride at the longest running night in the Village!

Floor 1 • Dino • 4 decades of Pop & Disco Classics

Floor 2 • Rob James • Euphoric Dance & Trance Anthems

P.A. by Hazell Dean • 'Searching' • 'Who's Leaving Who' • 'Love Pains'



Tickets available from Clone Zone & www.quaytickets.com • T: 0870 4280 785

101 Princes Street, Manchester • T: 0161 9500 101 • www.cruz101.com • Limited wheelchair access • www.drinkaware.co.uk



TANKED UP

Federation is all tanked up and ready to blow for this year's Manchester Pride Party on Bank Holiday Sunday 29th August, to many Federation is considered the clubbing highlight of Manchester Pride's Big Weekend so suit up in your best war paint and army gear and rally the troops as the Federation faithful unite to party.

Expect over the top production, spectacular stage and walk about shows to entertain the troops. With an awesome soundtrack of funky, chunky & tuff house to keep you marching all night.

11.00PM - 5.00AM @ The Ritz, Whitworth Street, Manchester

Advance tickets £15 on sale on line from ticketweb.co.uk

or from our outlets Clone Zone, Spirit, Manto, Taurus, Velvet, Village Off Licence, Spar (Piccadilly) and Spar (Oxford Rd/Hulme St junction) in Manchester, Fibre in Leeds.

Limited Edition joint ticket Dog Tags only £30 - Joint tickets for Uni-Challenge & Federation Tanked Up @ The Ritz on 29th August.

These dog tags are exclusive to Clone Zone in Manchester and limited to 200. Available from Monday 2nd August



PRIDE PERFORMER BEVERLEY KNIGHT

The reigning UK queen of soul, who over the course of 15 years has amassed over 6 best-selling albums and performed countless sell out shows, hits the main stage at this year's Manchester Pride.

In an interview given to Bent last year she said how much she loves performing for a gay audience, which isn't all that surprising really. She is an active campaigner for anti-Aids organisations such as the Stop AIDS Campaign and The Terrence Higgins Trust and is also a vocal campaigner against homophobic lyrics in urban music.

Beverley is best known for her hit singles Greatest Day, Get Up!, Shoulda Woulda Coulda and Come As You Are but you can bet she will be previewing songs from her soon to be released album 100%. For those of us lucky enough to have seen Bev in concert... you know you are going to get nothing but 100% from her performance. www.manchesterpride.com



TANKED UP & READY TO BLOW

PROUD
TO SUPPORT
MANCHESTER
PRIDE
2010



TANKED UP

**BANK HOLIDAY SUNDAY
29TH AUGUST 2010**

11PM - 5AM

THE RITZ, WHITWORTH ST, MANCHESTER

TICKETS ON SALE FROM WWW.TICKETWEB.CO.UK

WWW.CLUBFEDERATION.COM

POPTASTIC ARMY

We want you !

We want you !

We want you as a new recruit.

Yes it's that time of year when Manchester Pride kicks in and we the Poptastic team are happy to take part in our 15th Pride. We can promise you a spectacular event in our fully air conditioned home Club Alter Ego for this Poptastic Army Party!

2 Rooms

Sergeant Major Si Parker will be hitting the Decks with his alternative music sound fresh from his NME DJ set in the Drill Square.

Captain John Hamilton in the officer's mess will be hosting & bringing you all to attention with his selection of Kitsch Bitch sounds.

Canteen Services will be supplied by our Door Whore!

As always offering value for money with drinks from £1.90 and No Pride wristband needed as we are outside the village cordon.

Lights out at 5am, N.B. Please note this event sold out last year, you have been warned!

So whether you are a GI Jane or GI Joe dig out your Army Gear and join in the fun!

The date: Saturday 28th August

The Place: Club Alter Ego, Princess Street, Manchester.

Doors 11pm – 5am

Price: £10 advance. Tickets are available from, Clone Zone, the Village Shop & www.poptastic.co.uk



HARD ON @ MANFEST PRIDE

Strict Dress Code – If you don't want to play along with our strict dress code we will not want to play with you.

This has become one of the Highlight of Manchester Pride as it is the only Men's Fetish Dance Events to be held at this big weekend.

After last year we proved that we had to move to a bigger Venue that can accommodate the extra numbers expected.

Last year it sold out.

Last year the beer ran out

Last year the cloakroom was full.

This year we are much bigger and a fully stocked Bar!

With a theatrical Dungeon and the legendary Maze.

What else...? Answer is, we are very pleased to have as our special; Guests ,

Suzie Krueger's 'HARD ON ' from London.

This will guarantee to liven up Manchester Pride 2010.

The date: Saturday 29th August

The Place: Moho Live, Tib Street, Manchester.

Doors 10pm – 5am

Price: £10 advance.

Tickets are available from, Clone Zone, the Village Shop & www.manfest.co.uk



Special Guest SUZIE KRUEGER'S

HARD ON

Photo by TROOPER / Image courtesy of www.rob.nl

MANIFEST

SUNDAY 29 AUGUST

MANCHESTER PRIDE 2010

HELD AT OUR NEW VENUE

DRESS CODE: Rubber / Military / Leather
Skin Gear or just Boots!

NO WRISTBAND NEEDED! OUTSIDE VILLAGE CORDON

Tickets from Clone Zone, ROB and the Village shop tel: 07974 248 247 www.manfest.co.uk



THE SPIRIT BEYOND

Prepare to be blasted into another Universe as London's biggest and most loved afterhours heads to Manchester Pride as part of its 2010 world wide tour. On Sunday Morning of 29th August London super-club Beyond is moving into Audio/Spirit for a special one-off as the official after party for this years huge Uni Challenge event. In the capital Beyond has a reputation of being the city's favourite gay clubbing destination and the team behind the clubbing giant plan to land in Manchester with all the best bits that make them stand out from the rest. Heading the event are the irresistible and legendary Sharp Boys who will be joined on the decks by DJ Devilish, Gary H. Nik Denton and Riano to name just a few. Expect a fully transformed venue with Beyond décor and extra lighting installations designed to mess with your senses! This will be no ordinary after-hours party! Please note that there will be a strict Gay door policy for this event and that a Manchester Pride wristband is required for entry into the village for this event.

Tickets are on sale now from www.moreonthedoor.com and will be available from 1st August @ Clone Zone, Spirit & Taurus in Manchester



PRIDE PERFORMER ALEXANDER PRICE

Rent by the Pet Shop Boys has become something of a masterpiece. Even Liza Minnelli has given us her version of this evocative tune but now, 22 year-old South Yorkshire singer/songwriter Alexander Price has added his vocal talents to a new version that might just reinvent this pop classic.

Price's lone, distant yet charismatic vocal glides over a winning combination of space disco and electro pop which soothes and subtly provokes before igniting an explosive dancefloor eruption. Recorded on a vintage microphone especially purchased by Bryan Adams and known in the industry as "The Celine Dion mic" Rent was recorded as a collaboration between Price and acclaimed producer Ben Dobie (Bryan Addams, Natalie Imbruglia, Sugababes, Kylie Minogue)

Price, a natural performer, landed at the Sylvia Young Theatre School in London, where the bright eyed teenager trained alongside the like of Billie Piper, Amy Winehouse and Eliza Doolittle, appearing in the usual run of TV commercials, pop videos and dance shows. His wanderlust meant he was dissatisfied with the saccharine and regimented nature of stage school and felt a leaning towards more rebellious strands of performance. The stage school rebel frequented many of the capitals most talked about nightclubs. It was on the club scene that Price's wild dance floor antics would earn him money as a go-go dancer, a job that would pay his rent.

www.alexanderpricemusic.com

He plays Cardiff Mardi Gras in September.



ORANGE RECREATION @ PRIDE

Citrus clubbing well and truly hits Manchester this Pride as London clubbing brand Orange teams up with Manchester's Recreation for a very special one off event that promises to be as juicy as it is recreational! DJ's The Oli, Andy Mac, DJ Devilish, Gregg Holden and Chris Bell are just a few of the fruitful DJs picked fresh for this event and are ready to pump you senseless with only the very best house music around! Orange Recreation will take place at Spirit and Audio on Canal Street from 9pm until 8am with two very different soundtracks spread over two floors. Choose between the chunky grooves of Recreation or the uplifting vocal soundtrack that Orange champions like no other Limited discount wristbands will be available to purchase @ Spirit and Clone Zone from 1st August. Price will be more on the door.

Photos: Chris Jepson.com/Darrell Hirst



PRIDE

A DEEPER LOVE

A PRIDE EXPERIENCE LIKE NO OTHER @ SPIRIT & AUDIO
WITH A 72 DJ MARATHON FEATURING A HUGE SOUNDTRACK FROM DJS:

THE SHARP BOYS

THE OLI | NIK DENTON | DJ DEVILISH
ROGER DA'SILVA | GREGG HOLDEN | RIANO
ROSS HOMSON | BEN HAMILTON | TOM PLATT
ANDY MAC | CHRIS BELL | DJ DUSTY | GARY H
GREG KANE | ANDY WHEELER | DJ MISS HEBBIE
SCOTT WALDRON | LASZLO HORVATH | DJ KOSTELLO
FUNKY BOYS | DAN SHAW | BELINDA AND MORE TBA



72 HOUR DJ MARATHON | 27TH - 30TH AUGUST 2010
WITH SOME OF THE UKS BIGGEST & BEST GAY CLUBBING BRANDS
@ SPIRIT & AUDIO, CANAL STREET, MANCHESTER

SEE INDIVIDUAL FLIERS FOR FULL EVENT DETAILS

PRIDE WRISTBAND REQUIRED FOR ENTRY INTO THE VILLAGE



GAYLICIOUS DARLINGTON

July has been amazing at Joe's Bar, with fabulous Drag hosts working to bring you some fantastic events. The Gaylicious White Party saw collaboration from the whole scene, and the return of DJ Dave Robson (Kaz Bar, The Edge, Dalston Superstore, Heaven/G-A-Y.) Christmas in July was a huge success with tunes provided by David Bourne (Satur-Gay, Slag, Superstar Boudoir).

August is set to be a real scorcher with the main event being Darlington Pride 2010, which will be hosted by Darlington's very own 2009 Drag Pageant winner Gina Tonic and the truly divine Duchess Davinya.



CITY TURNS PINK

16000 people turned out in Newcastle upon Tyne on Saturday 17th July for Northern Pride, the region's biggest gay pride event.

The fun started at noon when 1500 members of the LGBT community, their families and friends set off from Newcastle Civic Centre to march through the streets of the city in a colourful and celebratory Pride Parade.

The parade arrived at Leazes Park for the Pink Picnic at 1pm, where a crowd of 12000 gathered for an afternoon of free music entertainment.

The picnic began with a speech by renowned gay rights activist Peter Tatchell who celebrated the achievements of the LGBT community but reminded them that the battle for equality is not yet won.

He told them "We won't stop fighting until we win full equality - it is our right to be free."

The music line-up was headed by dance music superstar Basshunter who wowed the crowd and led them in a chant of "We are party people, we are sexy people."

He was joined on the bill by Lisa Scott Lee, Andy Scott Lee and Same Difference and by rising stars on the Newcastle and UK music scenes.

People were also able to enjoy performances by dancers, comedians and burlesque and drag artistes; try out swing and line-dancing; have a consultation with the Northern Pride street doctors at the B-Smart Health Circus; and burn off a few calories at the Sports Gay.

People can find out more about Northern Pride on www.npride.org.uk

Photos: Paul Highmoor, Dare2flarephotography.com



gaylicious



Darlington's fruitiest drag extravaganza just got even more fabulous...

Darlington Pride 2010
Mon 9th Aug

Hosted by 2009 Drag Pageant winner
Gina Tonic & special guest DJ Duchess Davinya.

JOE'S
CELLAR BAR



IN ASSOCIATION WITH

GAY
MONDAYS

seen
queen

PLUS REGULARS Flick Ma Bean,
Uma Gaud & Her Madjesti

PLUS DJs Wendy Mitchell,
Vinna Cliffe, Dave Robson & Jigs

free entry | open til late

JOE'S CELLAR BAR @ JOE RIGATONIS • THE IMPERIAL CENTRE, GRANGE ROAD, DARLINGTON

CENTRAL
BOOKINGS
LINE

01-642-244777

www.joerigatoni.co.uk



LEEDS PRIDE

As the day approaches, the organisers of Leeds Pride have confirmed the acts to appear on stage in Millennium Square. Kicking off the event will be Gay Abandon with their own vocal take on some of our favourite songs. Some of the local gay bars have their own 'specialty' acts lined up to entertain the masses before the stage is given over to tribute acts, the wonderful Dame Shirley Bassey Experience and a host of new artists breaking

into the pop business. Boyband Inju5tice, Laura Steel, Scarlett Fever join the ranks of more established stars like ex-Atomic Kitten, Liz McClarnon and making his return to the music scene... Adam Rickitt. Once all the Millennium acts have finished why not join the parade down to Lower Briggate for even more distractions. As well as an array of interesting stalls, there will be of course a DJ booth, while all the bars will offer free entertainment... though they will be looking for donations to help pay for this event.

www.leedspride.com



PRIDE PERFORMER

ADAM RICKITT

Yes, it's that lad of 'Corrie', you know the cute one who got naked for his pop career? Well he's back, older and wiser and about to re-launching himself, via various pride events, onto the British public.

Some might think that Adam Rickitt has been quiet for the past few years but they couldn't be more wrong. He's been the star of New Zealand's biggest show "Shortland Street" for the past 4-years, playing the network's most loved and popular character in its history - Kieran Mitchell.

Adam has many projects lined-up but first he's re-producing his biggest hit "I Breathe Again" with clubland producer Micky Modelle. He's currently working with some of music's biggest producers, Freddie Le Grande, Jason Nevins and others we cant name just yet!

Don't expect him to get too naked on stage but it will be interesting to see what he has to offer his gay fans this time around.

Adam will be playing at five pride events over the next couple of months.





Leedspride⁵
LGBT.2010

Sunday 1st August
from 12 noon in Millennium Square
parade & afterparty at lower briggate
Don't miss out!



the VIADUCT

So, the facelift has had the finest plastic surgeons in the business tinkering and lipo-ing those aging bits of the Viaduct to reveal, Gok Wan like, a youthful, effervescent venue ready to take on the best in entertainment anywhere in Leeds. A new, bigger stage with fantastic lighting will be ready for the brilliant Pride Night's festivities on Sunday 1st August, with a cast of thousands, well not quite thousands but lots: The Dame Shirley B Experience, Erased, Tia Maria, and dance superstar Kelly Llorenna, plus the Viaduct girls and go-go boys. The show kicks off with an early 6pm start with that HINRG goddess - the fantastic Carol Jiani.

Meanwhile, the venue has more capacity, the drinks are still cheap and there is still entertainment every night of the week.

And once you've got your breath back from all that excitement, Miss Orry and Anna Glypta continue to make the place bop every Friday and Saturday, while the fantastic once-a-month Big Sunday Night on the 29th August features the brilliant Titti La Camp.

Tel: 01133912741
viaductleedsfacebook



Photos: Darrell Hirst

TIA MARIA – SWEETER THAN HEAVEN, HOTTER THAN HELL!

Tia Maria burst (quite literally) on to the Leeds drag scene at Drag Idol 2009, where amongst a flurry of glitter and bad wigs they fought it out over a half naked man to Shakespear's Sister song 'Stay'. (Maria still has a scar on her leg from that infamous fall). After scoring a ten from each of the four judges, as well as two standing ovations from the crowd they took the Drag Idol crown.

From there Tia Maria have gone from strength to strength (and the make-up's got much better too!), performing at Mission, Blayds Bar, The Viaduct as well as at fetish nights, Universities and infamous DIY disco Sapphic Traffic. Tia Maria also had the honour of performing at Mesmac's 20th Birthday Party this year.

Tia Maria try to offer something different to the world of drag by combining humour with story telling, high fashion and the unexpected. (The Tia Maria family also includes a burlesque dancer).

Tia Jerker and Maria Millionaire can be seen across many of the Pride's happening around Yorkshire this summer. They are ecstatic to be performing at The Viaduct at their closing and Pride parties, and the opportunity to share the stage with some of Leeds' finest drag queens. This summer Tia Maria will also be the first drag queens ever to perform at Limetree Festival in North Yorkshire.

You can add us as a friend, or join our group on Facebook, watch us on Youtube, or read Maria's behind-the-scenes Pride blog over at The Culture Vulture website.



the
**VIADUCT
SHOWBAR**

GRAND RELAUNCH

FRIDAY 30th JULY

WEEKEND



ANJA BACH **MISS ORRY** CARLA JACKSON

Bringing our **BRAND NEW** shows to the Viaduct Showbar stage

SUNDAY 1st AUGUST

VIADUCT PRIDE HEADLINERS

CAROL JIANI
ERASED
EXCLUSIVE: KELLY LLORENA
TIA MARIA
DAME SHIRLEY BASSEY
TAMIKA
VIADUCT SHOWBAR FOLLIES

DJS / HOSTS
ANNA GLYPTA
MISS ORRY
CARLA JACKSON
ANJA BACH
TIMMY J WRIGHT
MARKY MARK



FREE
ENTRY

SUNDAY 29th AUGUST

BIG SUNDAY NIGHTS
INTERNATIONAL DRAG ARTISTS AND TRIBUTE ACTS

TITTI LA CAMP



WE NOW HAVE FREE **WIFI** FACILITY FOR ALL OUR CUSTOMERS
THE VIADUCT | LOWER BRIGGATE | LEEDS | LS1 4AE | TEL: 0113 391 2741 | [facebook](#) VIADUCTLEEDS

PRIDE EVENTS 2010

31st July
- 8th Aug

BRIGHTON & HOVE PRIDE
- 7th PARADE

31st July
- 31st Aug

GAY GAMES VIII- COLOGNE

1st
Aug

LEEDS PRIDE

7th
Aug

LIVERPOOL PRIDE

8th
Aug

WAKEFIELD PRIDE

9th
Aug

DARLINGTON PRIDE

14th
Aug

STOKE PRIDE
YORK PRIDE
SWINDON AND WILTSHIRE PRIDE

16th- 31st
Aug

PRIDE BRISTOL - 21st PARADE

21st
Aug

DONCASTER PRIDE

Aug
Bank
Holiday

MANCHESTER PRIDE

28th
Aug

CORNWALL GAY PRIDE - TRURO

4th
Sep

READING GAY PRIDE

4th
Sep

ESSEX PRIDE - CHELMSFORD

6-9th
Oct

**IRIS PRIZE - LGBT FILM
FESTIVAL - CARDIFF**

Photos: terrygeorge.co.uk / Mark Hawkins



**£2.50
DRINKS**
FROM 12PM-4PM

MEAT IN THE STREET



SUNDAY 1ST AUGUST

@ Queens Court/Fibre Courtyard, Lower Briggate Leeds
Open: Midday until Midnight

Fibre & Queens Court join forces once again to present the mother of all gay parties for Leeds Pride in the open-air courtyard between both venues.

MISS ORRY, JASON GUY
AMANDA HAMMOND
LADY LLOYD

FREE ADMISSION

www.barfibre.com www.queens-court.co.uk

Disco **HOMO** **QUEENS COURT** **Fibre**



**LEADS
PRIDE**



HOMO



RE-FRESHING

After a crazily busy year, Back Door Disco and Homo are shutting-up shop before the Autumn to spend time revamping the brand to ensure the best clubbing experience for Leeds party goers. They'll return on Saturday 18th September in time for Fresher's week. Mission 2 – where the nights are held – will get a mini make-over and you can expect an enhanced DJ line up and more high-end events. However, it's not all change. Clubbers we still get the same rock bottom drink prices, quality music sets and unbeatable door tax offers.

Before they close, both nights will be throwing mammoth going away parties on Saturday 28th and Monday 30th August. Scene superstar, Lady Lloyd, will be on the decks and drinks will be at just £1.50 each at Homo. Don't forget to dress to impress at your last chance to party at Mission this Summer.

For more info go to www.clubmission.com

Photos: Tilllate.com, Rachael Jackson



PRIDE PERFORMER

S CLUB

Originally the concept of Spice Girls manager, Simon Fuller, S Club rose to fame in their own BBC television series, Miami 7, in 1999. They had success after success with UK number 1 singles and albums, a string of number 1 singles throughout Europe, and top-ten singles in the United States, Asia, Latin America, and Africa. They recorded a total of four studio albums with worldwide sales of over seventeen million.

Their television series went on to last four series, seeing the group travel across the United States and eventually ending up in Barcelona, Spain. It became popular in 100 different countries where the show was watched by over 90 million viewers.

As well as the popularity of their television series, S Club 7 won two BRIT Awards—in 2000 for British breakthrough act and in 2002, for best British single. In 2001, the group earned the Record of the Year award. Now down to a three piece the band are a huge hit at student venues and pride events because of their fantastic back catalogue of sing-a-long hits.

Don't miss them when they appear at Doncaster Pride at the Racecourse 21st August. www.doncasterpride.co.uk



Backdoor Dance VS HOMO



LEEDS' GAY PRIDE OFFICIAL AFTER PARTY

OPEN:
10.30PM
UNTIL LATE!
ADMISSION
£3 BEFORE MIDNIGHT
£4 AFTER

mission
2

NOW ALL DRINKS £2.50 ALL NIGHT LONG

SUNDAY 1ST AUGUST

@ MISSION 2, LOWER BRIGGATE, LEEDS.

Terrace & Arena 2 - New entrance on Lower Briggate
between The Viaduct and Stone Roses bar.

8-13 Heatons Court Leeds LS1 4ER Tel 08701 220114 www.clubmission.com



FEDERATION

LIFE FORCE

Federation is one of the biggest house brands in the UK and along with their team of entertainers they've toured the length and breadth of the UK and abroad. This theatrical masterpiece of clubbing has it all! From its fully charged soundtrack and stage and walk-about entertainment (where there is always something to capture your attention) to super hot gogos and a quartet of mad drag - The Fedettes. Eight years ago a new star was born in Leeds - housed in the empty underground arches below Leeds' train station, Federation created a unique underground vibe, and quickly rocketed to become the jewel in the crown of northern clubbing. Our team of resident DJs play an award winning blend of upfront turbo-charged house that can be tailored to suit all crowds

The Fedettes are a trio of madness and fun made up of Lady Shaun, Courtesan & Lil. They're the life and soul of any party but at Federation they can usually be found a top the highest podium available ensuring they are the centre of attention. Beware not to try and upstage them or there will be war! One love is the madness behind Federation, from the themed stage shows to the eye opening, full scale fire-breathing and angle grinding shows.

Our Team of hot and sexy dancers are always on hand to tease you and keep you close to the stage with your phone at the ready to take that snap shot.

Submerge yourself into the world of Federation.

Mission, Heaton's Court, Leeds
11pm-5am - last Saturday of each month.

www.clubfederation.com



**LEEDS' BIGGEST FUNKY CLUBS UNITE
ON THE LAST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH**



SATURDAY 31ST JULY

**A DEEP SEA DIVIN', BOAT COLLIDING', ANCHOR DROPPIN', EAR POPPIN',
SHARK BATIN', CATCH WAITIN', PIRANHA FLAPPIN', SEA BED MAPPIN',
SHIP WRECKIN', SCRUBBED DECKIN', BOAT DOCKIN', CLUB NIGHT ROCKIN'!!!
UNDERWATER ADVENTURE IN TRUE FEDERATION STYLE**

ARENA ONE: FEDERATION

GREGG HOLDEN
CHRISTIAN APPLEBY
STUART ROBINSON
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Photos: Darrell Hirst



PRIDE PERFORMER SAME DIFFERENCE

It's Official: Polka dot dresses and cherry-topped milkshakes have been terminally trashed, and the band that many loved-to-hate has undergone something of a transformation. Beware – you could find yourselves liking what you see.

Free from the kiddy-pop confines of their Syco deal with Simon Cowell, Same Difference aka Sean and Sarah Smith, are back with a striking image makeover, new label and management and a rather good new single entitled, Shine On Forever (Photo Frame)'. A hook-filled modern pop record, with an almighty power-pop chorus, the single, co-written by Sean & Sarah, comfortably bridges the gap from their first album to their next release, due in November.

Same Difference's metamorphic infiltration has already begun with a series of 'is that really them?' photos surfacing on the net, followed by an oldie but goodie trick of the trade. When a hot white label entitled 'Spot The Difference', from fidget house maestro's Beardy Kids, fell into the hands - and on the decks - of some of the UK's coolest DJ's, little did they realise it was in fact the new Same Difference single. A few key plays, rave reviews and behind the scenes sniggers later, the revelation was a full throttle slushee in the face of the haters.

Already favourites at many gay venues and topping the bill at some of this year's Pride events... we liked them before and we'll like 'em now... after all... it's Same Difference!

Shine On Forever (Photo Frame) out: 29th August - PopLife Records. www.samedifferenceworld.com



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PAINTBALLS AND COCKS

By Les Lea

Terry was getting married. Although I tried to be pleased for him, I was really quite sad. He was 25, cute in a very boyish way and I was crazy about him. Out of the dozen or so guys in the office, whose ages ranged from 22 through to late 40s, he was the one I really wished were gay. I'd met his girlfriend Jean when I once bumped into them both in a pub in town. I took an immediate dislike to her. Terry seemed genuinely pleased to see me and started chatting but Jean took the hump and complained that he was out with her and not on some "...bloody works outing". He sheepishly went off with her and I didn't forgive her for embarrassing the poor guy like that. He was only being himself, friendly to all and liked by everyone. Anyway, no matter how much I thought it a mistake he was getting married, the guys in the office had decided he wasn't going to have a Stag night but a Stag day of organised events.

The fateful day arrived and we ended up the middle of a forest getting kitted out in camouflage gear for a paintball shoot. It was bloody hot, at least 80 degrees, and I couldn't stand the thought of more clothes on top of my jeans and t-shirt so, I stripped down to my white y-fronts and pulled on the outfit we'd been given. God, my camo pants were made of plastic, which I suppose made sense if they were going to be covered in paint but I wasn't expecting them to feel so fantastic against my skin. The others just wore them over their clothes and we were next armed with our goggles and paintball guns. I'd expected that we would be split into two groups and would have to battle between ourselves but the owner of the shoot said that another group had arrived with ten people and were keen to

take on all comers. I was a bit weary of this turn of events but the others seemed full of bravado and thought it was a great opportunity for a touch of macho crap. We were to be the blue team; we had a blue bib and were issued with blue paintballs and our foe, who were

already setting up their base camp deep in the wood, were the yellow team. After a brief discussion on various points of safety; always where your goggles, and a briefing on what

our soldierly objectives were, we deployed into the hot and buzzing greenery that was to be our 'field of operations.'

Now I have to say at this point that paintballing was not my idea and that being a part of an army and shooting people, albeit with paint, didn't excite me in the least. So, it came as a bit of a surprise when I saw everyone kitted out in the jungle gear provided, that I found it quite a visual turn-on. I couldn't say that khaki had, up until that point, played any part in my fantasies at all but, with the feel of those plastic trousers hugging my legs and sticking to my arse, cock and balls, I got an immediate stiffy. Our commander, Jim from the office, who was actually in the Territorials and had assumed the mantle for organisation and strategy, gave us our orders. Shortly after getting ourselves anywhere near the combat zone he was shot. A hail of yellow splats made a very decisive pattern on his blue bib and the rest of our rapidly depleting army dispersed in an attempt to salvage something other than complete and instant annihilation. I know it was only a game but suddenly I wanted to survive, even if I had to cheat to do so. I double backed on myself and found a dip in the ground on a slight incline surrounded by tall grass. It was here that I decided to give myself a few moments before the 'big push'.

The heat was increasing with every minute and I suppose running around a forest didn't help to cool things down much. I could feel the sweat pouring off my body. My arms, chest and back were soaking wet and I could feel rivulets of moisture coursing from the small of my back into my briefs and from my hairy crotch down to my ankles. I looked around to see if I could find any other survivors from my Blue pack but I was completely alone. The feeling of the plastic pants though was such a turn-on and I wanted to experience more. So, I pulled them off and removed my sodden y-fronts before pulling the damp plastic pants back on and feeling them slide over my sweaty legs before clinging around my arse, cock and balls. Christ my stiff dick proved how much I was enjoying this sensation as I ran my hands over the smooth fabric and felt each silky, hot muscle and warm sweaty crevice. My hand wandered over my arse wrapped tightly in plastic and

the slippery texture of the waterproof jacket heightened the sensation as I touched the contours of my pecs and nipples. My enlarged and pulsing cock throbbed in its camouflaged lair. I was in absolute ecstasy. I lay up against the sides of my 'dugout' to see if anyone else was in the vicinity but again I could see no one and the noise of intermittent battle was far off in the distance so I knew I wasn't going to

be disturbed. Besides, the feeling as I lay on my front gently rocking backwards and forwards as my rock hard cock ground against the earth was driving me nuts. My nuts were on the verge of exploding but the thrilling experience as I felt my excitement grow made me want to prolong the sensation for as long as possible.

As my slowly gyrating body ground my cock

between sweaty skin, plastic and the grassy hill my fingertips searched each silky crevice and bulge as my senses transformed them into erotic fantasies. I was building to a shuddering climax. My eyes were closed and as I humped my body into the little hillside. The heat was even more intense as my body's sweat system seemed to go into overdrive and floods of salty perspiration cascaded from my thighs and swamped my cock and balls. The palms of my hands caressing the smoothness of my plastic encased arse cheeks seductively kept driving me forward towards that final release. Suddenly I felt a painful smack on my right arse cheek that was almost immediately followed by a second on my left. They stung quite a bit and as I spun over, and out of my erotic revelry, I saw who it was... Terry. He took in my bulging crotch and smiled. "I've been watching you for some time." I could see he also had an erection pushing out his camo gear. "Looks like you could do with a bit of..." I didn't get to finish my line. He was stroking the outline of my cock and rubbing his own dick at the same time. We went missing for about 30 minutes only reappearing when we'd shot the paint in our own balls a couple of times, and not over our blue vests... somewhere much, much better.



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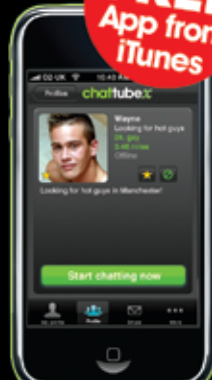


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SIMON SAYS...



Dear Simon

My boyfriend and I are really arguing at the moment over something which should be a positive... holidays. He really wants to go somewhere that's a real gay hot spot. Whereas, I would rather go somewhere quiet and have some recuperation rather than spend a few days clubbing my brains out, we can do that any weekend in town. I don't know how we can come to a compromise. It's not like we even have two weeks so we could do one week of his sort of thing and then mine the next. What do you suggest? Dave, Newcastle

Dear Dave, I think really you need to stand your ground to be honest. This isn't just one person's holiday this is for both of you and you're going to be one of the people who is footing the bill for the whole thing. Holidays should be enjoyable and a time you get to do what you want to do, we don't get them that often do we? I suggest you find a nice city and have say three days of the night life and then move to a beach nearby for the next four? Maybe that could work?

Dear Simon

I don't quite know what to do with regard to my latest boyfriend as there is quite an age difference. I myself am 25 however my new man, and emphasis on man, is 55 years old. Now despite being a bit of a silver fox he really doesn't look or act like people would think a 55 year old would. I actually also chased him, though no one believes that's the case. The thing is... we have now been going out for quite some time and he wants to meet the family. I met his which didn't go too well as his mother kept calling me 'the child'. I am just worried about what my parents will say as my friends were initially really anti the whole thing though they have gotten used to it eight months down the line. Luke, Bradford

Dear Luke

I think something that you actually said in your question is something you have to remember. People will

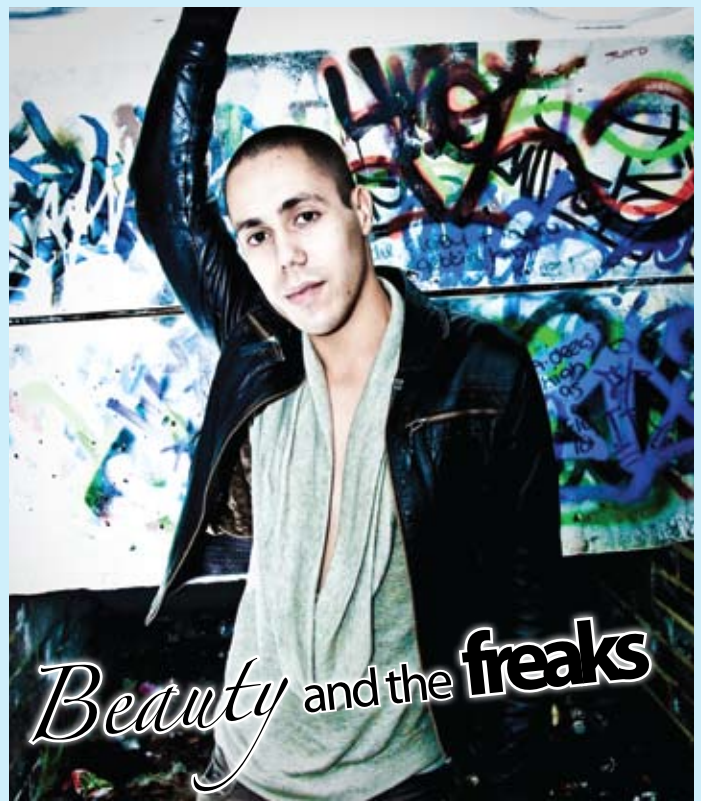
get used to it. So even if your family flip and get quite angry about it just give them some time to get used to the idea. The longer you are together the longer people will have to get used to it and see that you two are still together. I think as long as you are both happy then what does it matter, age isn't anything but a number so they say.

Dear Simon

I am quite concerned as my boyfriend is having his summer holiday without me. I wouldn't mind if he was going off to Bognor or something with his mates for a week but they have decided to head to San Francisco and then Miami to have a real gay old time. I am worried that while he is away he might meet someone else or do something with someone else. I was invited to go, and some couples are going, but I couldn't afford it. So now he is using the 'You were invited, if I wanted to go off and do something I wouldn't invite you and I could do that here!' I see his point but I know the whole two weeks I will be worrying. Karl, Manchester

Dear Karl,

Why would it be OK to go off to Bognor without you but not San Francisco? He could still meet someone anywhere the location doesn't really come into it. However, I think the best thing for you to do is to book some time away with a couple of your friends. It doesn't have to be anywhere swanky just what you can afford. That way you're both having a break and it means you will be focussed on something positive rather than spending two weeks at home moping and worrying. I don't know how long you and your boyfriend have been together, I am guessing not too long due to your worry but you need to not get too paranoid as it could cause some serious issues along the way. You're going to have to trust him, after all, he may be thinking that for two weeks you are out there on your own... perhaps you'll stray.



I'LL JUST GO BACK TO TALKING ABOUT COCKS, SHALL I?

Anyone who follows me on Facebook will know I'm something of a prolific user. And that's putting it lightly. Links, thoughts, musings and rants spout forth perhaps not as quick as water, but maybe as steadily as treacle from a spoon.

This past month I've been ranting and raving about all things political. Whether it's the Institute of Financial Studies claiming police forces might be cut by 40% or paedophile transsexuals evading jail terms because the sentencing judge couldn't bear to put her in a prison, I've had an opinion. Well it's unsurprising really. Any of my regular readers will know I'm something of an opinionated bitch, if occasionally a bit soppy and usually staunchly libertarian. People want me that way. If I get too political, their ears start bleeding as their brains melt. They can't understand how things might not be what they seem.

And now I've had to promise myself of a return to more frivolous statuses. It's all going to be: 'Wow! What a big cock

he had!' and 'Rule #247: just because he's less good looking than you, it doesn't mean he won't hurt you!'

So let's start by saying how glad I am that, as I write this, it's the weekend and I have a shag lined up. I've been horny as sin ever since it started warming up, and my DVD collection is starting to get rather sticky. It doesn't matter how often I pull, I still get horny four times a day, without fail.

Which leads me to my next frivolous point: do not mix class A substances with herbal viagra and then go into a dodgy gay bar with too many UV lights. Seriously. The world will appear to turn purple and you'll delight in telling everyone.

And next time I get drunk, don't let me eat dodgy takeaway dinner kebabs. Or as I call them, listeria specials. Though the dicky stomach helps me lose the weight afterwards, I can't stand all the time on the bog.

There. Was that shallow enough for you? No? Well I can't be arsed writing anymore—my taxi's waiting outside to take me for my weekly eyelid rejuvenation and my Krug is getting warm!

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- 03 I got a boner watching mi mate playing footy & his filthy dad saw me
- 04 I kissed mi f**k buddy for the first time while he was deep in me!
- 05 I'll take yer full length in mi gob. Hold the back of my neck & force me!
- 06 I grabbed the w**k mag off the str8 scally and grabbed his c**k (18+)
- 07 I w**ked off a scally thug to stop him from deckin me
- 08 Lads get well homy playing strip snooker in the crowded pub (18+)
- 09 Hard hung lads let you carry on slamming after you have c**m (18+)
- 10 I luv mi bird to bits but I luv having sex with guys, love to get f**ked!
- 11 My mate took me in from the rain & pulled my wet trackies off (18+)
- 12 Me & my bezzie mate had fun while his bird watched. She loved it!
- 13 Mi sleeping mates boner was up against my arse (18+)
- 14 Me & you get our boners out in the sauna and have some hot fun
- 15 Naked college boy w**king on the top of his desk for sir (18+)
- 16 Newsagent gets a shock when a naked 18 y/o walks in to get papers
- 17 Old man & teenage lad rub their c**ks together till they cum (18+)
- 18 I'm a slender teen and I'll try my new swimming trunks on for you (18+)
- 19 Rude scally lad loves c**k. He'd love to get down on his knees (18+)
- 20 Lads swapping their speedos in the local baths (18+)
- 21 Nasty scally lad gets his 7 inch cock out on the bus & gets blowy (18+)
- 22 18 year old chav guy gets his sweaty boner out of the crowded train.
- 23 Scally pissed in a bottle & poured it over his sleepin mates d**kl
- 24 Fit f**king scally lad strips off in the off license (18+)
- 25 Sir got mi mums boyfriend to spank my ass at college (18+)
- 26 I love skinny lads with big fat c**ks (18+)
- 27 Slender bloke with donkey d**k loves whipping his c**k out in public!
- 28 Wet tongue under a guys stinky foreskin for a sweaty cheesy taste!
- 29 I love sucking lads big d**ks n getting my lips round it!
- 30 Sweet hoodie points hit rock hard c**k at me in the urinals! (18+)
- 31 Teach me what you want to do with my sweet c**k
- 32 Hot teenage lad will lick your tight arse (18+)
- 33 Shop boy loves going commando at work (18+)
- 34 I love the feel of a lguys smooth shaved c**k & balls
- 35 Was watchin my mate play footy when his dad made a move on me.
- 36 I let two blokes watch me get a boner at the urinals
- 37 Hottest thing I ever saw was two guys pissin down an alley
- 38 Mate, you're my fantasy f**k & I'll tell you everything I wanna do to you
- 39 Rude boy gets his c**k out for a w**k on the bus. (18+)
- 40 Mate get yer hand up the leg of mi footy shorts
- 41 Wrestling with my fit mate gets me c**k rock hard
- 42 Oh yeah! Love a young guys d**k deep in my throat
- 43 Dirty old man fiddled with 18 year old lads hard d**k.
- 44 The Dr pulled my pants down to see my hard c**k
- 45 Uniform off to reveal his hot body and big d**k & balls.
- 46 Oh yeah! It feels good to have it sucked
- 47 After the footy game antics....
- 48 Your hand up the leg of footy shorts

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Philip writes detailed monthly travel horoscopes in addition to his existing content of weekly love & gay horoscopes, daily horoscopes and weekly & monthly in depth scripts for phone lines.



Celebrity Horoscopes and Psychic readings at: www.philipgarcia.com

LEO (July 24 / Aug 23)

Art, music and creative past-times can be enormously therapeutic over the weeks ahead. After a positive and hopeful start to the month, communications later will call attention to a money matter that needs to be dealt with. To take your mind off any frustrations, you will get a lot of satisfaction over the weeks ahead from using your imagination. If you are creative or artistic you might feel an urge to get out into the world around you with your paintbrushes to capture a favourite scene on canvas.



CELEBRITY LEO

24/7 Jennifer Lopez
25/7 Matt LeBlanc
26/7 Helen Mirren
27/7 Bobby Gentry
28/7 Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis
29/7 Benito Mussolini
30/7 Arnold Schwarzenegger
31/7 J.K. Rowling
01/8 Yves Saint Laurent
02/8 Peter O'Toole
03/8 Martha Stewart
04/8 Billy Bob Thornton
05/8 Neil Armstrong

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11/8 Hulk Hogan
12/8 Cecil B. DeMille
13/8 Alfred Hitchcock
14/8 Halle Berry
15/8 Ben Affleck
16/8 Madonna
17/8 Sean Penn
18/8 Edward Norton
19/8 Bill Clinton
20/8 Fred Durst
21/8 Kim Cattrall
22/8 Tori Amos
23/8 River Phoenix

and distractions around you might prevent you from doing what you really want to do. As well as enjoying your social life outside working hours you might be doing your best to get to know those you work with a bit better.

PISCES (Feb20/Mar20)

Someone will try to pick your brains early in August only to use what you tell them to their advantage later. That's why, over the weeks ahead, you should be careful about how much of yourself you reveal to others. Increased understanding between you and someone you're fond of will make for an exciting few weeks romantically. A platonic relationship could be turning into something more meaningful.

ARIES (Mar21/Apr20)

Some anxiety about how those sharing your workplace might take to your ideas will ease the moment you realise you're going to get the support you're hoping for. These next few weeks, your colleagues will be glad you're taking the initiative in something they haven't the courage to do. Your ruler Mars in your partnership zone suggests it's a time when joint affairs will make significant progress.

TAURUS (Apr21/May21)

With this being such a romantic and social time of the year it won't be easy to fit in all your usual responsibilities. Even so if you forget to fulfil a promise early in the month, expect someone to pull you up on it later. Sometimes it is better to admit to your mistakes and try to make amends. Work pressure increases as the month wears on and it might feel you're trying to squeeze a number of jobs into a very short space of time.

GEMINI (May22/June21)

Home and family matters should be settled during the first two weeks of the month. Later, your ruler Mercury will turn retrograde and there is a probability of your efforts to move forward in this area being thwarted. There could be a tendency for others to want to call the tune and set the pace at home and you will feel as if you're at the constant beck and call of the family. As August continues expect to feel a strong need to get out and about and enjoy a bit of variety.

CANCER (June22/July23)

A close relative has something to celebrate as the month begins. This will sow the seeds of a growing excitement within the family. You will be feeling generous and warm-hearted during the first half of August. Even so you're going to have to get more serious later when a self-set task will call for all your energy and concentration to complete. Your partner or another loved one might start to feel a little neglected and left out of things.

VIRGO (Aug24/Sept23)

Your mood, these next few weeks, could well keep you in the background; you feel a strong need for more independence. A rather strange phase you are going through will make you rebellious. The first half of August will be a good time to assert yourself and let others know how you are feeling. Later, be prepared to flow with the tide. This could bring changes into your life. Some discussions will be extremely interesting.

LIBRA (Sept24/Oct23)

Because you start August feeling inspired and determined it shouldn't be long before you start to see progress. For a wee while your future prospects could hardly be more attractive. Even so Mercury will be turning retrograde later in the month so don't allow yourself to be led astray by the appealing picture as not everyone is telling you the truth. You will have to use a fair amount of willpower to resist a charming stranger who is soon to enter your life.

SCORPIO (Oct24/Nov22)

You intend to lead by example as the month begins. This is a good time to roll up your sleeves and get on with joint responsibilities. When other people see how willing you are to do the work, they will be happy to follow your lead. Later in August expect to have to sort out problems within a friendship and this is an issue you've both been ignoring for some time. Events will bring things to a head and you will be glad of this when you realise how easy it is to resolve the matter.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov23/Dec21)

You may have to bend a few rules in the workplace if you want to get ahead. This could involve treading on someone's delicate toes but this person has held you back for too long now. What spurs you on is the knowledge that determination will bring achievement and will make up for the temporary tension that's apparent over the weeks ahead, in a working relationship.

CAPRICORN (Dec22/Jan20)

To get the holiday or break you're hoping for you may have to accept the need to double your efforts as the month begins to finish an important job. Even if, over the weeks ahead, you do manage to get away, it might seem as if you can't get your mind off matters that still need to be resolved closer to home. Some social plans could be cancelled later in the month when not everyone will be able to afford the ideas being discussed.

AQUARIUS (Jan21/Feb19)

You will be more confident about your abilities to reach a special target and if you set a deadline for mid-August there's every chance you will achieve your goal. Later in the month demands



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7. The winner(s) will be the first valid entry drawn at random.
8. Bent reserves the right to substitute the prize for another prize of equal value.
9. There are no alternative cash prizes.
10. Bent Magazine's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
11. When you enter a prize draw, your details will be used to provide you with updates, information and promotions from Bent and other members of APN Ltd. You can opt out at

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12. By submitting an entry, all entrants acknowledge and accept these terms and conditions. By taking part in any prize draws or competitions, you agree to be bound by these rules and the decisions of Bent Magazine which are final.
13. Bent Magazine reserves the right to disqualify any entrant and/or winner in its absolute discretion for any reason and without notice.

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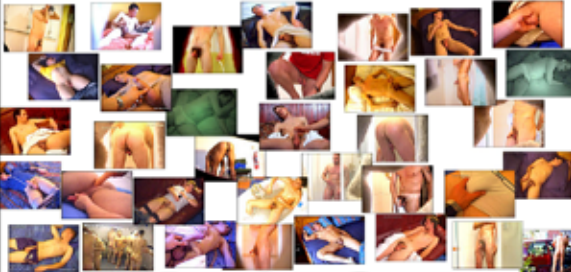
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