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# bent



2011  
A GAY ODYSSEY

WHY SCI-FI?



# EVENT



## FUN TIMES AT THE CHRISTMAS SLEEPOVER!

A fantastic weekend was had by all at the Mardi Gras of The North Christmas Event, according to one reveller who posted his message on The Mardi Gras Facebook after enjoying this spectacular weekend in early December. The event, held at Pontins on the North West coast, was a huge success with nearly 1,000 people enjoying the three day festival of music and campery and fun. Many more messages from happy revellers demonstrated how much they enjoyed the weekend, the entertainment and activities, with some even asking when the next event will be!

Acts included Danyl Johnson, XFactor 2009 contestant, who really got the crowd going, singing all the favourites he's known for including the Beatles Classic hit 'With

a Little Help from My Friends'. His set was followed by the outrageously fabulous XFactor 2010 contestants, Diva Fever. And if that was not enough to wear out the crowds, when the clubbing started it was Freakshow and Federation that led the way with their brilliant DJs and showmen and women putting on a different style of entertainment. Super MartXe and Homo really brought the roof down as the crowds dug out their dancing shoes and boogied until the early hours. Sunday was not much quieter, but the revellers enjoyed some relaxation and were entertained around the swimming pool. Fabulous Drag Acts such as Sandra and Dame Edna Experience were also on hand to keep the crowds amused.



# WHATS ON

## MANCHESTER



## NEW YEAR 2010 AT CRUZ 101

### New Years Eve 10pm - 7am

Join Miss Cara & the Cruz team as we prepare to ring out the old and ring in the new year of 2011. Get here early to make sure you get your spot on what will be a packed-out dance floor as people jockey to get the best views to welcome in 2011. If you took advantage of the Early Bird ticket offers you're guaranteed to have a great value night out as the Cruz team have a selection of drink offers to stretch your pink pound like you've never felt before! Almighty Donald and Rob James fight it out on the decks to see who's the supremo ExpertInPop for 2011 playing the best tracks of 2010, classics and chart topping pop and dance music.

### Saturday 1st January - Back2Back Recovery Party - 11pm - 6am

Poptastic pop, disco, dance & r'n'b anthems in Cruz from John Hamilton while Little

Miss Natalie plays funky & electro house downstairs in Sub. Cruz and the Poptastic team jump into bed together on New Year's Day to spread some much needed T.L.C. at the Village Recovery Party! Listen out for John Hamilton inviting you to find out 'What's in his Box' and giving 3 lucky contestants the chance to win prizes ranging from a toilet roll to a huge cash prize!

### Sunday 2nd January - SundayNightSleepers - 11pm - 5am

DJ Spook plays a New Year mash-up of edgy pop and dance as those who've worked all over the festive period come out to let their hair down and party, and those who are taking advantage of the extra bank-holiday play out for one last time before heading back to work. Village Staff Christmas & New Year party. Village staff free as always.

## ENOUGH CLOWNING AROUND... WE'RE BACK FOR GOOD

**Launching Saturday 15th January and every Saturday thereafter. The Freakshow Team are bringing their production, lasers and glitter to the most underground clubbing space in the gay village, Sub101 (Below Cruz101).**

With their inimitable upfront soundtrack of chunky, fierce and tuff house from DJs Nik Denton, Jason Guy, Gregg Holden, Lee Yeomans, Psyche, Lawrence Clark & Andy Mac.

Tune in to Nik Denton's Gaydio radio show on 88.4FM or by going to [www.gaydio.co.uk](http://www.gaydio.co.uk) every Friday and Saturday night from 8pm -10pm.

You'll hear guest DJ mixes and special Freakshow competitions... the perfect thing to listen to as you get ready for Freakshow.

Don't forget Freakshow will be holding their annual Boxing Day Special on Sunday 26th December at Sub101 - The Twisted Fairytale seems to be the hottest clubbing event in the village for Christmas holidays season.

For more info, photos, videos and DJ downloads go [www.clubfreakshow.com](http://www.clubfreakshow.com) or join the official Freakshow group on facebook.





**Friday 31st December**  
**10pm - 6am**

**Miss Cara & the Cruz team invite you to come & welcome in the new year at Cruz 101. Get here early & don't miss out on the best party night of the year with a spectacular light show at midnight!**



**NEW YEARS  
EVE**

**The Cruz Experts In Pop Almighty Donald & Rob James play the best selection of pop, disco, dance & r'n'b party anthems to keep you going til the early hours!**

Manchester's Favourite Gay Venue  
**CRUZ 101**

101 Princess Street, Manchester. M1 6DD • T: 0161 9500 101  
www.cruz101.com • Limited wheelchair access



# EDITORS WORDS



Scarlette Fever / Page 18



Keith Jack / Page 32



Sarah Millican / Page 34



SCI-FI FOR THE GAY-GI?  
PAGE 40

I was trying to find something warm, cozy, inspiring and heart-warming to start 2011 but alas, it seems to be mainly the same ridiculous prejudices.

However, a Christian writer who used to campaign against gay ministers in the church and any acceptance of gays in general is planning an act of 'repentance'. Symon Hill, the associate director of the pro-gay Eklesia think-tank, says he will walk from Birmingham to London and speak at churches along the way to encourage Christians to rethink their views on homosexuality. So I suppose that is one down... unfortunately there are a few more to go.

One tiny bit of 'fun' news was the first 'in-air' wedding of two German guys - Aleksander and Shantu - where the Scandinavian airline SAS displayed their pro-gay colours to the pink travelling public by running a competition to win this accolade.

On a slightly different tack, the campaign for equality in marriage continues as gay couples try to marry and straight couples try for a Civil Partnership. Campaigner, Peter Tatchell says: "The bans on same-sex civil marriages and on opposite-sex civil partnerships are a form of sexual apartheid. There is one law for straight couples and another law for gay partners. Two wrongs don't make a right." This appears to be one of those subjects that has a lot of mileage left in it... if only the government had gone for equality rather than diversity we wouldn't be having this problem.



In a Piers Morgan interview Elton John said of his Civil Partnership to David Furnish that he was really proud of the British public's reaction. He'd expected the 'odd flower pot' being chucked but instead they had received nothing but positive comments and an acceptance from the public, other countries could do well to emulate.

Meanwhile, over in the USofA, the senate there has failed to overturn their stupid 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' rule for homosexuals within the military ranks (Just look at the way they advertised the forces when they needed volunteers... I would say they aimed it at gay people as much as anyone). Despite all the research and professional opinion on the matter, we still have a dumb majority who thinks it makes a difference. This is even more reinforced when a judge in that fair country said that a lesbian could be cured by a damn good shafting from some all American boy. It makes me suspicious when, perhaps, in a couple of years down the line, he comes out as gay and tells everyone he was a complete hettie until he took it up the arse. Maybe we should use him to see if his hypothesis is correct.

It does seem a real problem that people worry about what other's get up to in their private lives. Whenever I get this type of negative comment from anyone I always ask them very firmly "How exactly does it affect you?" Be very clear on this, don't let them get away with all that religious mumbo jumbo, or personal opinions... make them say how it affects them and keep grinding at them until you have an answer. The chances are that they don't have one because nothing you, me or they do sexually is of any consequence to anyone else.

Hugs, Gordon



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# FREAKSHOW



ENOUGH  
CLOWNING  
AROUND...  
WE'RE  
BACK!

## EVERY SATURDAY

LAUNCHING

## SATURDAY 15TH JANUARY

THE FREAKSHOW TEAM ARE BRINGING THEIR PRODUCTION, LASERS AND GLITTER TO THE MOST UNDERGROUND CLUBBING SPACE IN THE GAY VILLAGE. WITH THEIR INIMITABLE **UPFRONT** SOUNDTRACK OF **CHUNKY**, **FIERCE** & **TUFF HOUSE** FROM DJs

NIK DENTON    JASON GUY  
GREGG HOLDEN    LEE YEOMANS  
PSYCHE    LAWRENCE CLARK    ANDY MAC



**11PM - 5AM @ SUB 101**

BELOW CRUZ 101, PRINCESS ST, MANCHESTER

(PLEASE USE SUB 101'S DOOR TO THE LEFT OF CRUZ 101'S MAIN DOOR)



[CLUBFREAKSHOW.COM](http://CLUBFREAKSHOW.COM)





# BITES

## BALLETBOYZ - THE TALENT

Ten remarkable dancers, handpicked from open auditions by artistic directors Michael Nunn and William Trevitt, star in this explosive feast of exhilarating dance, fused with the company's trademark use of film and behind the scenes footage.

The TALENT features a mixed programme of four works including a mesmerising re-working of Russell Maliphant's Torsion, Paul Roberts' haunting Alpha plus two brand new works commissioned by Sadler's Wells.

Founded in 2001, Balletboyz has established itself as one of the most original and innovative forces in modern dance. Led by former Royal Ballet lead dancers Michael Nunn and William Trevitt, the company has thrilled audiences and critics alike the world over with its distinctive style which blends spectacular dance with stunning music and film. In the TALENT, they pass the baton to a new generation of dancers in an evening of energy, grace and sheer talent.

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



### 2011 TOUR SCHEDULE

1st February, Richmond Theatre, London  
 4th February, His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen  
 8th February, Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham  
 10th February, artsdepot, London  
 15th February, Waterside Theatre, Aylesbury  
 18th & 19th February, Dance City, Newcastle  
 1st March, Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury  
 4th March, The Hawth, Crawley  
 24th March, Theatre at The Mill, Newtownabbey, NI  
 29th March – 2nd April, Sadler's Wells, London

## CELEBRITY GAY ZOMBIES

Spandex, the world's first all-gay superhero team and stars of their own award-nominated comic, are back! And in the brand new issue, things take an unexpected turn, when the team face a whole horde of ...celebrity gay zombies!

Spandex Comic creator Martin Eden comments: "I was doodling one of the pages and I thought it would be fun to cram in as many famous gay people as possible – as zombies! It's a bit of a who's-who of LGBT people in the media – they just look a bit scarier..."

The new Spandex issue, entitled '...If you were the last person on Earth', is a one-shot sci-fi/horror story, where the world's population is enslaved and turned into the living dead by an alien creature called Nadir.

Since its launch in November 2009, Spandex comic has earned an Eagle Award nomination for Best British Comic, and gained national radio, television and newspaper coverage, including appearances in The Sun and The Metro.

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



## RUGBY STAR

Word is out that Hollywood star Mickey Rourke is planning a movie based on the life of out and proud gay rugby bugger, Gareth Thomas. Thirty seven year-old Gareth is said to be pleased that the 58 year-old actor would play him but one cannot help but wonder if a better looking bit of filmic totty might not bring the true story to a larger and more sympathetic audience. We can think of several spunky stars we'd love to see in a ruck... as long as they keep their teeth.



£9.95

## OILER & BOILER

Heavily inspired by the US preppy, classic look of the Hamptons, Oiler & Boiler captures the essence of Long Island style, providing stylish swimwear and underwear, all with a fantastically refreshing, affordable price tag. While next year sees the launch of their swimwear range the first to hit the stores right now is the underwear range, available in Fenwick's and House of Fraser amongst others.

Stockists: 01604 654277

## SPY WATCH

This is no ordinary Watch...this is a Watch with a concealed digital video camera inside which can record digital video and sound!

Beware the unprofessional Company Boss – HR department are going to hate this device..... Celebs...no picking your nose or indiscretions in public...it will be in the tabloids in no time!

It's a Watch - It can record digital video with audio - It's a digital camera and can take digital images - It's a 2GB USB storage device – store computer files on your watch!

It's a gadget for the boy who has everything.

[www.chilli-tech.com](http://www.chilli-tech.com).



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# DECEMBER 2010

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at **ESSENTIAL**

**SATURDAY 4TH**  
**X FACTOR'S**  
**AIDEN GRIMSHAW**



**FRIDAY 10TH**  
**QUEER'S 7TH BIRTHDAY**  
**FREE DRINKS & BUFFET**

**SATURDAY 11TH**  
**CHAY bender**  
WITH:  
**X FACTOR FINALIST LIVE**

**SATURDAY 18TH**  
**MILITARY bender**  
WITH:  
**X FACTOR FINALIST LIVE**

**BOXING DAY bender**

**4TH PLACE X FACTOR ACT LIVE**

IN THE STUDIO:

**DAVID DUNNE, APHRODITE and MARK TILLOTSON**

**26TH DECEMBER**  
**11PM - 5AM**

FOLLOWED BY:

**GLORY**

# ESSENTIAL



# BITES

## BETTY LEGS IT TO NEWCASTLE

One of the countries best loved female impersonators has packed her stilettos and headed North to headline at a new £1.5m cabaret club.

Betty Legs Diamond, who starred for more than 15 years at the world renowned Funny Girls at Blackpool, is now the star of a brand new venue on Tyneside. Betty has choreographed and stars in the full stage production shows at The Boulevard, Newcastle, supported by a team of experienced dancers. Since opening its doors to the public in November the club – a former warehouse – has become a huge hit with audiences who have never experienced this kind of entertainment in the North East before.

Betty is a renowned entertainer and as well as her time as part of the Funny Girls, has appeared in many TV shows including Come Dine With Me, The Weakest Link (both of which she won) and From Guys to Dolls for One Night Only where she taught a group of builders how to become drag queens. She has also appeared on The Royal Variety Performance seven times.

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



## GOLD

Bruno Banani's Gold Fever Short shimmers in the Gold or Black versions, each matched to an ultra smart branded waistband, super flat for a flattering fit. A string, tanga and v-neck shirt are all available in the same two colour options.

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



## ERASURE RETURN

After more than four years away from recording and live performance, Erasure have announced the Total Pop! tour, a series of dates for summer 2011 playing their hits as part of Forestry Commission Live Music, where acts perform in spectacular woodland locations across the country. The Total Pop! tour will coincide with the release of Erasure's brand new album, planned for release in summer 2011.

Commenting on the tour, Erasure's Andy Bell said, "This wonderful opportunity to perform for the fans in such a unique backdrop feels like just the right way to jump back in to Erasure after a four year break. We're excited to be playing in the woods and really hope it doesn't rain."

**10th June**  
Thetford Forest, Nr Brandon, Suffolk.

**11th June**  
Bedgebury Pinetum & Forest, Nr Goudhurst, Kent.

**17th June**  
Sherwood Pines Forest Park, Nr Edwinstowe, Nottinghamshire.

**18th June**  
Westonbirt Arboretum, Nr Tetbury, Gloucestershire.

**24th June**  
Cannock Chase Forest, Nr Rugeley, Staffordshire.

**25th June**  
Dalby Forest, Nr Pickering, North Yorks.

**1st July**  
Delamere Forest, Delamere, Cheshire.

**Box office: 03000 680400**

**online: [www.forestry.gov.uk/music](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/music)  
info: [www.erasureinfo.com](http://www.erasureinfo.com)**

## MAJOR QUEEN EXHIBITION

**Queens' 40th anniversary kicks off in spectacular style with the opening of 'Stormtroopers in Stilettos: Queen, The Early Years', a major retrospective exhibition celebrating the formation and first five albums of one of the most exciting, glamorous and influential bands in global musical history.**

'Stormtroopers in Stilettos' promises to be one of the key events in London's cultural calendar for 2011 and offer a rare insight into what it means to be in a successful rock band, taking visitors to the heart of Queen by combining unique interactive audio and visual environments with historic and never-before-seen memorabilia; themed rooms and music all created from the bands personal archive will come together to create an exciting, fun, entertaining and engaging insight into the foundation and rise of the global super group Queen became.

**'Stormtroopers in Stilettos' Opening on 25th February -12th March.**

**Old Truman Brewery on Brick Lane, London**

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



# STORMTROOPERS IN STILETTOS



# ESSENTIAL

FRI 31ST DEC 2010 10PM - 5AM  
NEW YEAR'S EVE

## THE WHITE PARTY

THE BIGGEST NEW YEAR'S EVE EVENT IN THE GAY VILLAGE

## HEDKANDI'S

DAVID DUNNE & MARK TILLOTSON  
PLAY IN THE STUDIO

IN THE POP LOUNGE:  
NICKSY & KEVIN BLEASDALE  
PLAY POP AND PARTY SOUNDS

- CHAMPAGNE RECEPTION
- PRIZES FOR BEST WHITE THEMED COSTUMES
- MUSCLE (SNOW)MEN

ADVANCE TICKETS: £9 +BF

PRE PARTY FROM 8PM

Queer

NYD AFTERPARTY FROM 4AM

MORNING  
GLORY

ESSENTIAL  
THE NU GENERATION



# BITES



## CALL FOR DECRIMINALISATION OF HOMOSEXUALITY

The secretary-general of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon, has condemned violence against LGBT citizens and called for homosexuality to be decriminalised globally. Speaking recently on Human Rights Day, Mr Ban said that people were "not put on this planet to live in fear of their fellow human beings" and that human rights must trump cultural attitudes. He went on: "Personal

disapproval, even society's disapproval, is no excuse to arrest, detain, imprison, harass or torture anyone – ever." He urged people to work together to change attitudes. "Stigma and discrimination will end only when we agree to speak out. "That requires all of us to do our part. To speak out – at home, at work, in our schools and communities."

## LGBT SUPPORTERS NOT WELCOME WORLD CUP 2022

The GFSN was established in 1989 as a social network for gay football fans across the country. Since then it has expanded into hosting its own national league and aims to take the lead in tackling homophobia in football.

In a statement the organisation said: "GFSN is shocked to learn that the FIFA World Cup 2022 will be held in Qatar, a country where homosexuality is illegal and consenting sexual acts can be punished with up to 5 years in prison. We strongly condemn FIFA's decision and will be leading a LGBT boycott of all activities associated with World Cup 2022. We do not feel the World Cup should be held in any country that abuses and disregards the basic human rights of LGBT people."

FIFA president Sepp Blatter talks of his wish for inclusivity and to bring the game to

the whole world. By holding the competition in Qatar he is alienating the millions of LGBT football fans around the globe who will feel unwelcome in a homophobic country where they can be arrested just for being themselves.

Says Ed Connell, GFSN Campaigns Officer: "With FIFA's failure to condemn the recent homophobic remarks of the Croatian manager followed swiftly by their decision to award Qatar the World Cup, it is clear that there is still much progress to be made before football really is for all." When asked about gay football fans visiting Qatar, the FIFA President Sepp Blatter is said to have joked: "I would say they should refrain from any sexual activities."



# BEYONCE

## BEAUTY AND THE FREAKS



### THE WAITING GAME

I hate waiting for boys to text back. If ever there was a way to drive me to the very depths of despair and then to the heights of insanity, it would be this. I try everything to divert my mind from the obvious—he's not going to text back, or if he does it's to give bad news.

I pace the kitchen, turning Tracy Chapman up on the stereo, sliding barefoot on the smooth wooden floor. Feels like palms against my soles, just for a second. I unsheathe bananas, just to imagine, and eat them ritualistically, as if tasting him.

I scramble eggs furiously, beating back my doubts as I work on my wrist action. Serve with ham, granary loaf, Harrod's breakfast tea. I close the curtains and turn the heating up. After I finish my food I pour a glass of champagne, splash with pulpy orange, to treat myself, and contemplate running a bath.

I nibble on something every hour, feeling my insides growling empty.

It helps to have distractions at times like these. An old flame, an old friend, an old fuck. The Three Musketeers of the waiting game. I text them all, and see if I can either flirt, laugh or get laid.

Today the flame is in London, burning quietly and too far away to get me hot. The old friend has boyfriend troubles of his own, so can't offer his humorous sidekickery tonight. The old fuck, though, is reliable. He always is. His reliability is the only thing that prevents him being boyfriend material. Who wants a boyfriend you can predict? He turns up at the cinema, blonde, young,

but willing to suck you off at a bus-stop or in a nightclub toilet for half a pill. Qualities I admire in a man. I tote a bag bursting with half the off-licence spirits shelf, and we pick the emptiest, deadest film—the latest showing.

It's almost too easy, but we sit at the back, and for a long time no one else enters the theatre. Then one more person enters: probably a member of staff just finished his shift, wanting to catch the only film he's not yet seen twenty times already. He sits near the middle, back to us. Setting a challenge.

Within minutes my jeans are round my thighs, and blondie has his hands on my knees, his mouth round the beak of my cock, sliding it quickly to the back of his throat. Ten minutes in and I pin him to the floor on the back row, heaving inside him, and we come among popcorn and beer cans. The thrill of getting caught brings us to it faster than we planned, and we shift in the dark, sliding on clothes and getting kernels in uncomfortable nooks and crannies.

We return to our seats and watch the rest of the film. It's surprisingly good.

We bid farewell to each other at the front of the cinema, and we make our own way home in the dark.

The next morning I wake to a text message from the boy: of course he wants to meet up again. How am I fixed for Friday? I think about it. I think about the old flame returning on his train in the downpour. Maybe I'm not that interested, after all.







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# DUDE WHERE'S MY HOVERBOARD?

By Alex Wiggan

There have been many lies over the years that we have all happily let wash over us without question. Many have come directly from an ex-boyfriend's mouth, but there are some lies however that were so believable, we'd have sold our own granny to own one if they were true.

## FLYING CARS



Imagine throwing your Speedos into the back of your Fiat Punto and flying off to Lanzarote for a weekend in the sun with the other half. Well if musical film *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (1968) was to be believed then flying cars were possible. Although some techno geniuses have managed to combine planes and cars to some degree of success in the past, *Chitty* came out over 40 years ago, so why the hell are we fannying about with a damn Prius?!

## TELEPORTER



Admittedly Jeff Goldblum didn't have much luck with teleporting himself in horror movie *The Fly* (1986) and so it's fair to say that the possibility of your willy dropping off as you mutate into a bug is a bit off putting. But think how much time you'd save if teleportation was real, it would surely make juggling boyfriend time and shopping more manageable.

## ETERNAL YOUTH



Botox, anti-aging cream, vampirism, trapping your image in a painting or sleeping in a giant Tupperware container will sadly not stop your arse sagging as you get older. Eternal youth might sound like a possibility, but unfortunately it doesn't exist, so cutting out the fags and detoxing is the only way around this one.

## INVISIBILITY



Imagine the possibilities of being invisible. You could perv on Gavin Henson when he's getting changed, you could perv on JLS when they're getting changed and you could perv on Ashley Cole when he's... well, doing whatever he does when he's alone. Either way being invisible would allow you to do a lot of sneaky spying (before being arrested), so it's such a shame that it's not possible.

## SPIDER-MAN



Getting bitten by a radioactive spider will stop you being a geek and will also give you superpowers? No, it won't. Anyway even if it did, chances are you'd end up having to shoot webs out of your arse and that would seriously ruin your chances of pulling a fit guy.

## HOVERBOARD

Ever since Marty McFly jumped on a hoverboard in *Back To The Future Part II* (1989), it has been the most sought after invention since the iPhone. Unfortunately despite movie director Robert Zemeckis claiming that hoverboards were real in order to drum up excitement over the sequel, they're sadly not. Oh bugger.

## TIME MACHINE



Every Saturday night millions of us watch an eccentric chap travel through time in a blue box, so if he can do it, why can't we? Author H.G Wells wrote about a time machine in 1895 and even high school students *Bill & Ted* managed to zip back and forth in a phone booth, so somebody please get it sorted!

## JURASSIC PARK



Recreating dinosaurs from DNA discovered in amber preserved mosquitoes sounded like it was actually possible. Unfortunately it was just an idea cooked up by author Michael Crichton and scientists pretty much shot down the theory. It would of course explain how *Last of the Summer Wine* remained on BBC One for so long before being axed.

## MILLENNIUM BUG



On December 31st 1999 as the world ushered in a new millennium and most lads stuck their tongues down some boy's throat, everything was supposed to grind to a halt due to a technological glitch caused by the date change. It was of course a big fat load of rubbish as there was no global apocalypse. No doubt many guys fearing it was the end of days confessed their undying love on New Year's Eve to ugly boys, amidst a sea of streamers and gyrating scene queens.

## EVERLASTING GOBSTOPPER



Willy Wonka promised an everlasting gobstopper. Willy Wonka lied. To be fair American candy company Breaker Confections did produce an everlasting gobstopper, but it should have been done for breaching the Trade Descriptions Act as Elizabeth Taylor had marriages that lasted longer!





ESSENTIAL PRESENTS

# The Studio

The most exciting line up of DJ talent  
EVER to play The Village

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GRAEME PARK  
ANDY DANIELS  
SHARON O LOVE  
JOSHUA ROBERTS  
MARK TILLOTSON  
APHRODITE  
ALAN STEVENS  
SCOTT WALKER

LEGENDARY NAMES  
LEGENDARY NIGHTS



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# BEYONCE'S BITCHIN' PREDICTIONS

**Another year over with. Thank god. Here are my (possibly) serious predictions for the coming year:**

**GAGA** having outdone herself in competitive vocal combat against Beyonce (Knowles not Holes) this year with 'Telephone', will become the lesbian undead and hunt down her former duet buddy. The film will be called Lady Gaga vs Beyonce: The Zombie Years. Grace Jones, who will become a bounty hunter of celebrity zombies, will turn up at the end to deliver the decapitating blow.

**SIMON COWELL** will be cloned repeatedly, with each clone thrown into a gladiatorial arena with lions bearing the face of Sharon Osbourne. The point isn't for any of them to survive, but for audiences to text in more and more gruesome ways for the Sharon Cats to dispatch that irritating twat.

**KATE MIDDLETON** and **PRINCE WILLIAM's** wedding will see Nazi vampires from outer space (or Harry's fancy dress closet) tearing the congregation to bloody ribbons. Queen Liz will whip out her emergency shotgun and get down and dirty as she pumps the vampire legions with lead.



**TONY BLAIR** will be abducted by aliens who brutally sodomise him with copies of his own book. In a gesture of friendship, they broadcast the whole thing to us via satellite link. Press the red button to get interactive, folks!



**DAVID CAMERON**, who has already discovered he has no reflection and therefore no soul, will decide to become a world-famous soccer star. The Devil, thinking the toff's had way too many favours off him already, turns him into David Beckham's right bollock, after David's gets ripped off by an angry Victoria when he won't wear a silver shirt to match her tiara.

**SUSAN BOYLE** undergoes drastic surgery when she is discovered to have a terminal case of ugly bitchitis. The shavings from her eyebrows mean Gail Porter finally has something to cover her pate up with. Susan, meanwhile, becomes the next Bond babe, starring alongside new Bond, Graham Norton.



**NATASHA KAPLINSKY** stars on I'm a Celebrity and is eaten alive by a hungry Amy Winehouse in the throes of withdrawal. Amy cracks her skull open like an egg. Unsurprisingly, this isn't the most disgusting thing eaten on the show.

**LORRAINE KELLY**, in violent rebellion against Daybreak, bursts into the studio with mysteriously-acquired WMDs from Iraq, and destroys the whole of ITV studios.



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# FIRST FLOOR GRILL

## ABOVE BROOKLYN BAR LEEDS

Brooklyn Bar certainly fits the bill for the kind of sophisticated hangout you would expect to find in Leeds - boasts a staggering selection of cocktails, polished décor and urbane young clientele.

It's little surprise that the bar's success has been capitalised on by expanding its upper level into a gourmet destination. In October, after launching the downstairs bar's wholesome bar snack menu, the upstairs First Floor Grill opened for business, specialising in prime locally-sourced steaks.

With its atmospheric lighting, chandelier fixtures, dark oak furnishings and padded leather seats, the restaurant has a luxurious and relaxing ambience. Service is friendly yet non-intrusive and professional. The cuisine is faultless and the prices are fair for the quality and freshness of the ingredients.

The impressive open kitchen is all exposed brickwork and glossy chrome, and given that downstairs takes its bar selection very seriously, it is a given that the drinks menu allows you to take your pick of cocktails, wines and several champagnes. Or if you just fancy a cold bottled beer, they do those too.



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# CATCHING FEVER

## SCARLETTE FEVER

Hertfordshire-born pop chanteuse Scarlette Fever unleashes her new single 'Crash & Burn' to the new legion of fans she gained when she performed at many of the Gay Pride events in 2010.

I love doing Pride events. There's always an amazing carnival atmosphere, outrageous outfits and extreme partying all of which are right up my street. I'm very proud that I appeal to such fabulous people.

**You're not a disco diva (or perhaps you secretly are) so where do you think your appeal lies?**

I've always tried to write music that I would love to listen to which is why my album 'Medication Time' is so eclectic. It really reflects all the different sides to my personality. If you check out my website, yes you will even find a disco room page.

**The single Crash and Burn is terrific pop music with a touch of driving paths (if that isn't a contradiction in terms)... there's a touch of it being a classic... bit like Snow Patrol's Chasing Cars... would you like that accolade?**

Of course, that would be amazing! I think that everybody likes praise and obviously a comparison to Snow Patrol is incredible.

**The pop charts seem to be full of female singers at the moment... are there too many?**

Not yet, I think that there's room for one more....!

**Who do you like to listen to?**

I love so many different styles of music and artists... it just depends on what mood I'm in. I watched Cadillac Records recently, which was amazing, so I have that soundtrack on loop right now.

**How do you relax?**

I couldn't live without my bathtub. Roasting hot baths with a book, candles and of course music is how unwind. (I'm such a girl!).

**Shows like X Factor and Britain's Got Talent are always trying to find the weird or quirky singer... does that annoy you at all?**

To quote Mr Mugatu, "That Simon Cowell is so hot right now". He is like a force of nature. Yes, freezing your arse off in the rain isn't fun but what can you do about it?

**How did you manage to change careers from being a marine biologist to being in the music business?**

I didn't actually make it as far as becoming a marine biologist. All through school, that was

my plan but I also lived to sing so after my A-Levels I thought that I'd take a gap year to try and get some where in music and here I am years later!

**What's your secret indulgence?**

That's a naughty question, if I tell you than it won't be a secret anymore....

**What do you hope for 2011?**

That's a tough question... according to the Mayan calendar the world is due to end in 2012 so I guess that 2011 needs to be pretty damn incredible.

**'CRASH & BURN' Out: 24th January on Starfish Records**  
[www.scarlettefever.co.uk](http://www.scarlettefever.co.uk)



## DIVA DARLINGS

By Darrell Hirst

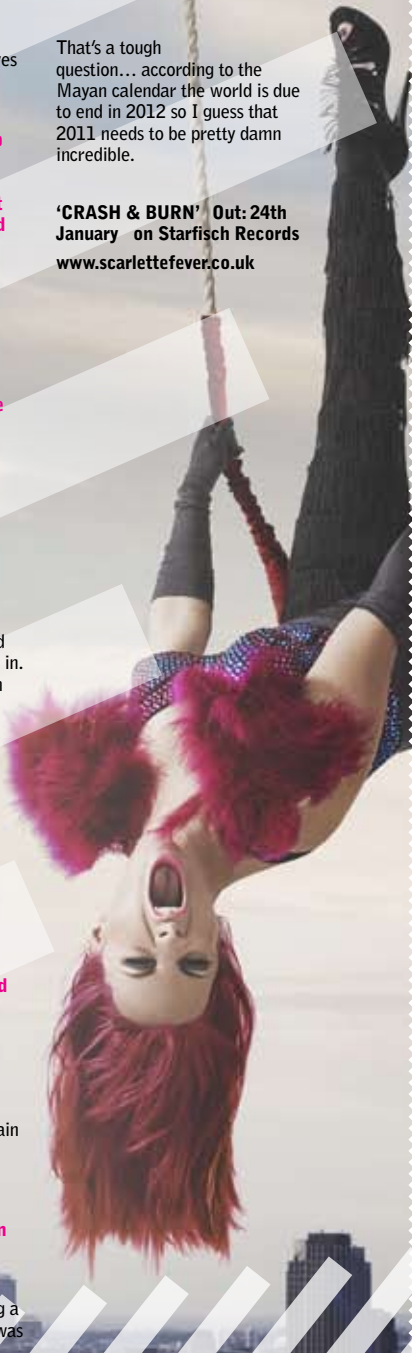
Diva Fever seem to be everywhere at the moment. The X Factor wannabes unfortunately didn't make it to the final but were included in the live TV shows at the start of the series. Their colourful and camp outrageousness, with more than a hint of talent, was well received by the public but alas they failed to garner enough votes to keep them in the running for very long. The show's failure to keep the 'feel-good' act in was the rest of the countries gain as they have set about appearing at venues all across the UK to the delight of gay public looking for something new. Craig Sadders and his partner Joe Al-Amadi are Diva Fever and if the reaction to the boys at a recent appearance at the Viaduct in Leeds is anything to go by... the lads have hit on a winning formula. They sang, chatted and had their photos taken with a very appreciative crowd who screamed their approval from the moment the duo took to the stage until the moment they left. A great night and a fun act that deserve the applause and accolades they are currently getting. I can't wait to see them again soon.

[www.diva-fever-world.com](http://www.diva-fever-world.com)

After the success of the recent World Aids Day concert at the Viaduct Showbar, featuring Diva Fever and a terrific supporting cast, £2000 was raised for the local MESMAC so a huge thanks must go to all the people who gave so generously.

Meanwhile, performing her hi-NRG set... the irrepressible Angie Brown is the special guest for Boxing Gay (yes the folk at the Viaduct are making Boxing Day a gay holiday), while Miss Carla Jackson brings on the girls and boys in a special dazzling production. Then, if you have the strength, the New Year's Party promises to keep the place a hive of excess and fun from 7pm - it's going to be busy, so for the best night out in Leeds - BETHERE to see in 2011.

Viaduct Showbar - Lower Briggate - Leeds | [join our facebook the viaductsahowbar](#)





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# TRACK REVIEW

By Jason Guy



Make sure you put Saturday 15th of January in your diaries, as this date marks the relaunch of **Freakshow** on a weekly basis in Manchester. Find out more at [www.clubfreakshow.com](http://www.clubfreakshow.com). As usual, you can download my monthly podcast - simply search for 'Jason Guy' in iTunes or download directly from [www.jasonguy.podomatic.com](http://www.jasonguy.podomatic.com). If you'd like to see your track, club, or event featured here, contact me at [jason@bent.com](mailto:jason@bent.com).

**Copyright ft Imaani  
Nobody (Defected)**

Defected are on fire at the moment, releasing some killer pieces of house music, and this is a prime example. With their long time collaborator (Imaani) in tow, *Nobody* is already a massive anthem for me, with a typically catchy vocal hook and trademark percussive beats. With a harder edge than previous works, 'Nobody' lays further weight to Copyright's advancement as producers. Killer songs like this don't come along too often."



TRACK OF THE MONTH

COPYRIGHT FEAT. IMAANI  
**NOBODY**  
Defected

**The Shapeshifters  
She Freaks (Defected)**

With a title like this, it's no surprise this track caught my attention. The Shapeshifters can be pretty hit and miss for me, but this is definitely one of their better, more charging pieces of house music. Pounding drums and razor sharp hats drive you towards the predictable (but every so well done) breakdown, culminating in a vocal hook you'll be singing for weeks to come. Another electrifying, hands-in-the-air moment that continues the rich vein of form this duo are currently mining. Expect this to be played at **Freakshow** for weeks to come.



Stefano Noferini  
Back As U Were EP

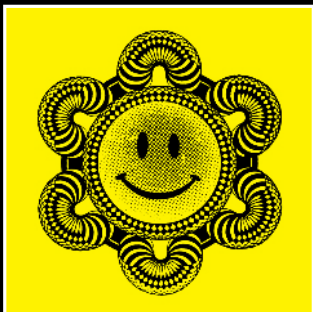


**Stefano Noferini  
Back As U Were EP (Deep Perfect)**

Italian house star Stefano Noferini is going from strength to strength. He's recently reached the Beatport top 10 in both House and Tech House charts with "It's War", "Ghurroom" & "Maky" on (Toolroom) respectively and now he's back with this double offering. Both EP tracks (Big Bug and Move Your Body) are tough club music at its best. Classic house vibes combined with big bass and beats and that will shake any floor. Another 2 future **Freakshow** anthems in the making.

**Together ft Trigma & Sushy  
Hardcore Upoar (House Trained Records)**

I'm old enough to remember this the first time round at the Hacienda in Manchester, and I didn't think it would be possible to bring this old-skool rave anthem up to date, without sounding a bit cheesy. But I was wrong. With raves back in fashion (that's what happens every recession apparently) **Hardcore Upoar** is right on time with its freshly updated mixes from Lee Mortimer and Ali Wilson & Tristan Ingram. Also included are the superb remixes from Grum Remix and Sharooz.



# RAE OF LIGHT

By Jason Guy

There's an irresistible passion that has driven Rae's elevation within the house scene. A shining light, hell-bent on blowing up dance-floors with her dynamic, tech-kissed DJ sets as she has evolved from collaborative artist to a vital star in her own right.

Rae is the voice behind Kings Of Tomorrow's 'Can't Stop', ATFC's 'Give Me Luv' and Sandy Rivera's awesome remake of Kosheen's 'Hide U' which is currently riding high in the club charts.

"My first single "Can't Stop" was my introduction as an artist & songwriter, coming into the house world... It was a real surprise to me to get so much love for my first release. This was my first collaboration with Kings Of Tomorrow/Sandy Rivera, we had a great connection."

Rae is a member of a small, illustrious group of artists who not only DJs, but performs live PAs of her tracks during her sets. "I'm lucky I can do both, in fact I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to combine all of my creative arts and perform. It all goes hand in hand for me and it always feels amazing live. Lost in the set, mixing my track and singing it live, it's the best."

"For me it just makes no sense to be playing one of my songs with a vocal and not be singing it live. That's my thing, that's what I do and that's what I wanna be known to do."

With a very definitive style, fashion and image are obviously very close to her heart. "I love dressing up, hair and make up. I take inspirations from loads of places and put effort into my look. I have good days, bad days but for my gigs I always take time and make sure I'm gonna be happy on stage."

Why did Rae choose to recreate the Kosheen classic 'Hide U' with Mr Rivera? "The song takes me back to a great time in music, it was

a club anthem back then and I am so happy to be bringing it back, I hope it hits the spot. Performing the song at Pacha Ibiza's closing party was a real moment for me. Amazing response. It rocked!"

Alongside 'Hide U', she's recently finished the 2nd CD for the 'Defected In The House Tokyo 2011' compilation, featuring a heap of her favourite records (including my own personal top Ibiza anthem - G Club's 'Guitarra G'). If you haven't had a chance to check this mix out, then I highly recommend it!

"I loved doing this mix, I wanted to put my sound across and add the elements that reflect what I'm about. It's a journey and I'm really happy with it. It's got the hands in the air moments, the under your skin vibe, takes you back but slams it upfront too, you got to listen and feel it..."

You can download 'Hide U' and 'Defected In The House Tokyo 2011' from [www.defected.com](http://www.defected.com) and find out more about Rae at:

[www.facebook.com/rae.djartist](http://www.facebook.com/rae.djartist)



## EXPANDING HOMO

Leeds' best week day gay night, **Homo**, is expanding with a brand new dance room from Monday 27th January. Named the **Test Lounge**, it will run alongside the infamous dance arena every week. Resident DJs Mark Park and Chris B will be joined by a brand new mix master who will be bringing some new and harder sounds to **Homo**. However, the club night will still be offering the same great value with all drinks at just £1.50 and entry costs at £3 before midnight. For more details, check out

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





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# SINGLES

By Adam Lowe



**BLACK POWDER FT. ADEOLA SHYLLON**  
**One Chance**  
24th January

Black Powder is the fusion of soul legend Blackwax with house-head Powdersoul. Not content with rebrandings and new names, the pair recruit singer Adeola Shyllon (previously Ranson) for this disco-tinged soulful house single. 'One Chance' isn't as belting as 'I Got My Pride' by SuSu Bobien, above, and is a much more tranquil affair, but it works in contrast as a nice chillout track in various guises (some more focussed on the dancefloor than others). Adeola's vocals scud cloudily between the 80s synths and adds a touch of real class to the proceedings. With remixes from Matthew Bandy and Love Over Money, this a single to look out for.



**MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE**  
**Sing**  
10th January

'Sing' starts off as something of a slow-burner, but the illusion is broken when it kicks into life. It's also much less 'emo' than you'd expect. Despite being something of an anti-emo snob, I'd quite readily admit to liking this, and I've never so much as looked longingly at a razorblade in my life. Guitarist Frank Iero says the band's decade-long career is 'a long time to stay in one shade' and that 'you need these different feelings in your life'. 'Sing', therefore, is rather upbeat and seems more driven by rock than suicidal tendencies. Look past the band's image and give this one a whirl.



**JESSIE J**  
**Do It Like A Dude**  
3rd January

This urban pop-tune opens with the boisterous first line 'Stomp, stomp, I've arrived!', gushing over juddering beats. This single bursts with sordid swagger drenched in ghetto pomp and skank frenzy. Check out the fluorescent remix from Labyrinth, which shot this track right to the top spot on the HypeMachine charts in less than a day.



**SUSU BOBIEN**  
**I Got My Pride**  
24th January

SuSu Bobien is a gospel house diva of the big, booming, knock-er-socks-off variety. She could out-warble Angie Brown, out-funk Angie Stone and out-class Andrea Burke. 'I Got My Pride' is a kickass, funk-ed-up, oldschool-flavour club anthem. If you like funky house, soul or divas with huge presence and even bigger hair, you'll love this. And come on, you're gay, right?

## NO CLOSET FOR JOE

Joe Worricker was eight when it dawned on him that there was something remarkable about his voice. "It was my sister's tenth birthday," he remembers, "and I was singing Buggy Malone in the corridor when I realised that I was a really jazzy singer." Sitting in a pub in Soho 13 years later, singing a few lines to demonstrate – 'I'm feeling fine, filled with emotion, stronger than wine' – the effect, you imagine, is no less startling than it was back then. In person, Worricker is a skinny, white 21-year-old from Chelmsford in Essex, albeit with the lips of the young Mick Jagger. Yet when he sings it's like his larynx is haunted. Deep, rich and smoky, Worricker seems to channel classic singers from Jackie Wilson to Arthur Russell – not to mention a phalanx of 40s jazz chanteuses. "The weird thing was that I sounded like a jazz woman rather than a jazz man," he remembers, then shrugs. "I am a wannabe jazz woman anyway. I'm a wannabe diva."

Behaviourwise, Joe Worricker has some way to go in the diva stakes – he admits that until recently he used to go purple in the face with shyness whenever he performed onstage. Yet as a singer he's already fully-fledged. His voice has the kind of nonchalant versatility that only the truly talented possess, defiant on his song Finger-Waggers, bluesily intimate on Wrap Me Up and husky and yearning on Fairytales. His music, co-written with collaborators ranging from Scritti Politti legend Green Gartside to Lauryn Hill collaborator Jaz Rogers, takes in influences from the neo-soul Worricker grew up listening to the epically ambitious psychedelia of Kate Bush or the Beatles. A sharp pop sensibility brings it all into focus. "It's going to be really beautiful," says Worricker, "but it's not going to be wet – it's going to be punchy."

The lyrics, all written by Worricker, deal with subjects from rejection ("I've had so much it's unbelievable") to the importance of self-belief. "Finger-Waggers is about people trying to make you feel bad about yourself when you should

love yourself. It's just like 'shut up, you piece of shit!'" Oh, and boys. No closeted pop star, Worricker is lyrically unafraid of the male personal pronoun. "Some people might think it's my Lily Allen thing," he smiles, meaning that they might think he's being 'controversial'. "Even when I came out in school some people were like, 'you're not even gay, you can't even know you're gay yet'. But I've tried to write in a truthful way which represents me and my character." As the label that brought artists from the Smiths to Antony and the Johnsons to the world, Rough Trade, the iconic indie record label to which Worricker signed to last year (turning down a five-album deal one major offered), weren't about to force him to compromise. "They've given me total creative freedom – they just want to create something beautiful rather than turn it into a product. And that isn't just a phony thing, that's how they are."

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=8u0PcSbHTmM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8u0PcSbHTmM)

[www.myspace.com/joeworricker](http://www.myspace.com/joeworricker)







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# MUSIC COMPETITION

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Turn to page 62 for details

## SUPERCLUB

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## RUNNING TRAX 2

As the New Year resolutions follow after one too many mince pies, Running Trax 2 is at the ready to provide the motivation everyone needs. Music has been shown to boost performance by up to 15%, and Ministry of Sound has taken the most upbeat & energetic tracks to spur you towards the peak of physical fitness. Not only that but there is a booklet, which gives careful & professional advice on how to start training for your own race & top tips to keep you feeling confident up to race day & beyond.



Out Now - CD1 Cream CD2 Gatecrasher CD3 Pacha - One More Tune

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God is a \_\_\_\_\_.

## IN DE-NIALL

We at Bent love gay role models. Especially ones with real talent, as opposed to designer fringes styled after the Sydney Opera House. It's also nice to see a gay man that isn't a wafer-thin blonde strutting about in Prada. This month Adam Lowe gets to grips with the rugged one-man music sensation The Niallist, and decides he quite likes bears too.

For newcomers to your music, can you describe your sound for us in three words?  
Sentient electronic disco.

You've remixed the likes of Franz Ferdinand, Late Of The Pier, Wave Machines, La Roux, Lady Gaga and Scream Club ft Beth Ditto. Who was your favourite to work with and who was the most challenging?

I just produced a track for the rap group Yo! Majesty, who were great to work with, very quick and easy and they got where I was coming from straight away. And I'm working on a remix right now for the band Age Of Consent which ridiculously catchy 80s-esque pop. The rock bands I have mixed like Divorce or Franz Ferdinand are generally pretty challenging, which is why I do them!

Who would you like to work with in future?

Oh there's a long list... Róisín Murphy, Little Boots, Ebony Bones, Missy Elliot, lots of folk!

In terms of your musical influences, who's had the greatest impact?

Well, if I had to pick one single act it would probably be Prince as he is just ridiculously talented and writes incredible music. But on the whole probably my biggest influence is disco music. We'll never see the likes of it again, it came from a time and a place that was just perfect.

How do you think modern music is changing? How are people's tastes and the way people purchase music changing? How can new artists accommodate this?

It's changing so fast as to make predictions irrelevant really. What I do know is that people are never going to not want music, so there should always be a market. Whether people want to pay for the music is a different question. I don't think artists should worry about it too much though, our job is to make art.

Why do you think there's such a dearth of gay role models in British pop culture these days? Do you think queer artists have a duty to be open and proud? Would you consider yourself a role model?

I don't consider myself a role model, but then I guess it's not up to me really. If you happen to represent something in the

media that no-one else is, it can be forced upon you. Lately I've been arguing with my mate over whether Lindsey Lohan is a good role model for queer/bi youth. But why should she be? She never set out to be a role model for anyone.

Now to be a bit shallow. Kylie or Madonna? Britney or Christina? Beyonce or Gaga?

Queen B is a GODDESS, I like Britney more than Xtina, but I'm torn between Mads and Kylie. Probably Mads as her hit count is higher, though she has totally lost it of late.

You were a resident musician for four years at legendary Glasgow underground epicentre The Chateau where other distinguished alumni include Franz Ferdinand and Shitdisco. What other challenges have you set yourself for your future?

Well my next challenge is to get my album done to the best it possibly can be. The Chateau was a wonderful time, if a bit stressful, as we had to do everything ourselves. We're now running a HI-NRG night in Glasgow called MENERGY, and we just had our first ever drag ball at the couture house Che Camille. It was incredible! We're now planning one for Manchester too in January, which is called Vogue Brawl. For more details check out our website at [menergy.tv](http://menergy.tv).

You also run Little Rock Records. Can you tell us something about that and the acts you have?

I set up Little Rock as a digital download label in 2007, and at the moment we've put out about 70 releases, including some on vinyl. In general the stuff is quite experimental, but there is some accessible dance music there too. We're currently prepping a release for the post-crunk producer Fox Gut

Daata, and I have always been proud of putting out music by Perth noise merchants Tayside Mental Health.

Any last messages to our readers?  
It's chilly outside, so stay warm!

The Niallist's grrr-eat single 'I Came' is out now from Little Rock Records.

[www.niallism.com](http://www.niallism.com)  
[www.menergy.tv](http://www.menergy.tv)





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# TERRY GEORGE TELLIN' STORIES

## BY ROYAL APPOINTMENT

Despite all the raucous noise outside in the streets of London as protesters made their feelings known about the government's change in the financing of the country's education, I cosied down, in the presence of HRH Prince Charles and his missus, to an evening's entertainment thanks to the Royal Variety Performance.

It's my fourth such event and, like on every other occasion, the acts were brilliant but it was the post-show that was the most fun. Don't ask me how I did it but I managed to

and some words of shock at seeing me backstage. He was obviously still on a high having all the boys back together and happy that the old magic was there. The staging was pretty

see Michael McIntyre, who, a couple of years ago was a newcomer on the bill and desperate for a few nice words as he was very nervous. I complimented him at the time and he seemed really grateful that I'd taken time out to offer him encouragement. Oh heck, how things change. This time I was looked at suspiciously and the request for a photograph was, after some debate, reluctantly agreed. He may well be thought of as the funniest man in the UK at the moment... and he was very, very funny hosting the event, but... and I realise this might be just me... that kind of attitude doesn't suit anyone.

**"The staging was pretty spectacular with what seemed like a cast of thousands"**

I wonder if the rumours about him and other comedians on the circuit are true!

sneak my way backstage to hobnob with the stars after their appearance. The first person I bumped in to was Robbie Williams. Now he and I go way back but alas, the last time we met he didn't remember me at all referring to his months in re-hab and his memory problem. This time I detected a brief recognition and once we got chatting he remembered who I was and we got on like a house on fire. It was like going back to those halcyon days when Take That were just starting their career and making appearances at gay clubs all across the UK. Mark came up and greeted me with a hug and a kiss, Jason was his usual friendly self, Howard, who knew me from those early days and from when he occasionally took to the decks at one of my clubs, came over for a chat. It was good to see the ever-smiling Gary greet me enthusiastically with a firm shake of the hand

spectacular with what seemed like a cast of thousands and of course they were simply fantastic... no wonder their album, Progress, was the fastest selling album of 2010. I have to say that I love the Royal Variety Performance simply because you get such a fantastic mix of acts. Where else would you get the likes of Susan Boyle and Kylie on the same bill as the fantastic acrobatic troupe Spelbound, comedienne Sarah Millican (see our fun interview in this issue) and Jamie Callum. The list of stars goes on but I wouldn't have missed the show for anything it is just such a fun occasion and completely unlike anything else on TV. Continuing back stage I was happy to chat to Russell Watson, who had stayed at the castle we now rent out to those who want a bit of luxury and privacy and he said he was planning a return visit soon as he'd loved it so much. I popped in to





# BRIGHTON HOTELS

## KARAOKE LEGEND

£250 quid is nothing to be sniffed at right? Christmas is over and plenty of us are a little in need of a cash injection right now. Well if you think you've got talent then you might be on to a winner as Legends are giving one lucky winner £250 and a booking, plus heat winners get a £50 prize!! All you've got to do is get down to Legends any Wednesday in January to be in with a chance of winning 250 quid! 'Karaoke Legend' is hosted by Brighton's favourite karaoke queen Tammy Twinkle and sponsored by Tuaca. Legends & Tuaca will be giving away Tuaca shots all night, so it's surely gonna be a great night whether your a singer or a spectator. It's cabaret time on Fridays with 'FRIDAY FRENZY'. Forget those weekday blues and celebrate the weekend with great entertainment and a great Friday night party at Legends & the Basement Club.

First up on 3rd January it's Brighton favourite Miss Jason @ 9.30pm followed by a great night in Legends and the Basement club with DJ Peter Castle playing great party tracks. Plus £1.50 shots and drinks giveaways.

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# BARBARELLAS

Back in the late 90s a band of four denim-clad girls from Ireland took the UK charts by storm. Wracking up an impressive four number one singles with their first 4 releases B\*witched made industry history and the youthful girls became the darlings of the pop world, enjoying success across Europe and North America.

Perhaps what wasn't so well known was that this particular girl band wrote their own material and, led by the talented Lynch twins Keavy and Edele (whose brother Shane happened to be a member of Boyzone) proved that they weren't just an all singing, all-dancing act, as their outstanding song-writing talent underpinned the group's success.

For the Lynch twins, pop success seems nearly a God-given right. For them, singing, dancing and writing music was something that came naturally from their earliest possible memories. "It never occurred to us NOT to write, sing and dance. It was just something that we loved and always did", comment the girls.

However, after the band split up the twins kept working together, writing songs for both Girls Aloud and Sugababes and formulated a new act to take the pop world by storm. As Edele comments, "I think people were always afraid to touch us after B\*witched. We'd become so entrenched in the band, that when we were seen together nobody could get past seeing us as B\*witched. We needed to spend time apart and let the B\*witched tag wear off a bit before we could actually come back and work together as sisters".

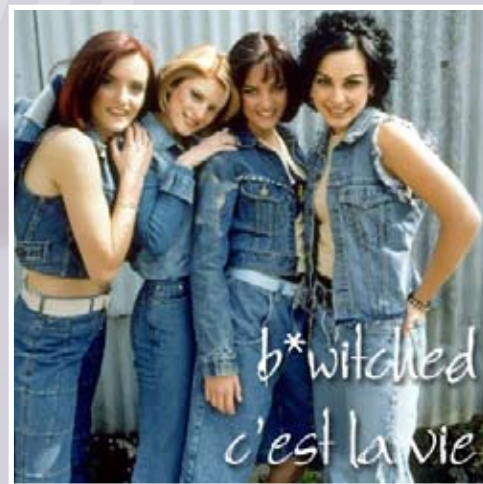
Now all grown up and sophisticated Edele and Keavy Lynch

have come of age and shimmer into the limelight - bold, charismatic and super sexy - as the newly created Barbarellas.

As Barbarellas, the twins have been carefully reconstructing their sound, chiselling and pruning their music so that it reflects who they truly are now. After four-years of meticulous work and perfecting, the result is a sizzling hot metamorphosis of womanhood, with lyrical wisdom and an enriched sound that demonstrates a true coming of age from these once pop-teens. The girls invited ex-chairman of Sony, Paul Burger, to see their live performance and he was instantly transfixed and undertook management of the band. "I found their performance so musically compelling and so choreographically sexy that I instantly knew this was a project that I had to get behind. Since then we've spent time putting together the label, finding the right producer, working on all the elements necessary to break a sophisticated pop act in the current environment."

Judging by the sexy video for the single 'Body Rock', the girls loved the 60's movie, Barbarella, a camp sci-fi classic starring Jane Fonda. But, other than the name, Barbarellas is a musical expression of who the Lynch twins really are now.

**Barbarellas' debut single, 'Body Rock', hits the streets on 31st January**



# SOAP STUDS

It opened in Berlin for an amazing two year run, received fantastic praise when shown in London and proved one of the biggest hits at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Now Soap fresh from The Sydney Opera House is coming to the North West for a 10 day run as part of the Blackpool Showzam Festival in February, where it will be performed at The Globe Theatre, Pleasure Beach Blackpool.

We can never complain about muscular hunks in their wet skivvies and shorts performing for our pleasure but I'm getting a bit ahead of myself - the show centres around seven bath tubs from which performers emerge dripping in water. Dancers, silk aerialists, contortionists, trapeze artists and even live singers all perform both in and around steaming roll top bathtubs in sequences which will change bath time forever!

The production boasts a global cast with each performer drenched in talent having performed in previous productions such as Britney Spears Circus Tour and several Cirque Du Soleil shows. SOAP slips into Blackpool as part of its world tour, having entertained audiences of half a million.

**Soap opens on 17th February - 27th February. Tickets and info are available from**

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

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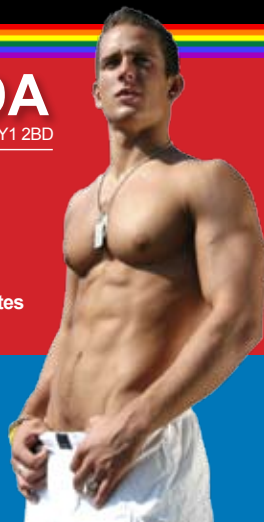
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Diane Lee Carol



Joanna Shorrocks



Brad Leigh Scott

Saturday 1st January

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(Afternoon)

Brad Leigh Scott (Vocalist)

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(Evening)

Chelsea Stevens (Vocalist)

Cheap Drinks from noon until 7pm

Admission £2 from 9pm

Open until 3am



Chelsea Stevens



Sunday 2nd January

(Afternoon)

Stella Artois 2:30pm until 7pm

Hustler (Male Stripper)

(Evening)

Donna Reid (Vocalist) - 8pm

Irene Silva (Vocalist)

Storm (Male Stripper)

Cheap Drinks from noon until close

FREE admission

Open until 3am



Stella Artois



Hustler



Donna Reid



Irene Silva

# Happy New Year



# GRAS



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# REVIEW

By Adam Lowe

## ADAM LAMBERT

He dresses like a drunk gypsy. He sounds like a crackhead cabaret singer. But he electrifies like a Guantanamo torture expert. He is, of course, Adam Lambert. Woefully undervalued, and still one of only a few out gay performers in the States, he stands as a reminder of everything wrong with conservative America. But he's a bloody good performer.

Strutting onstage with all the swagger of an 80s rockstar, it was no surprise half the audience were as old as my dad, but the atmosphere was buzzing. There was a paucity of queers, which I hadn't expected, but everyone was so welcoming there were strangers holding hands and hugging. Lambert has definite 'rock star' swagger and I think it's this that gives him his fanbase. I did feel like I had stepped back in time.

Lambert's vocal skills are clearly unmatched by most. He has a range of god knows how many octaves, which he deftly slides through with shimmering panache. To say he has a range isn't doing him justice—it's more like a big, belting, rainbow-coloured spectrum.

My only gripe was that Lambert, who isn't half as famous as he should be, was only given the smaller O2 Arena in Manchester. The room was packed out, but it wasn't a Madonna gig by any means. The benefit of this was you could almost taste Lambert's sweat on your tongue and the entire

show was given an aura of intimacy you can't get at a bigger venue.

Overall, I think Adam Lambert is an excellent example of how our music icons should be: smart, sassy, outrageously talented and unashamedly open.



# HITTING THE ROAD - JACK

Keith Jack first made his name when he came 2nd in the BBC One Show 'Any Dream Will Do', narrowly missing out on the leading role of Joseph in the West End production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. However, he always knew that his time would come and he now stars in the touring version in the title role.

**It's been a while since the TV show 'Any Dream Will Do', why do you think it has taken so long to cast you in a part you were obviously meant to play?**

I'm not sure really... it was maybe not my time back then... and good things come to those who wait

**What has changed for you since 'Any Dream Will Do'?**

A lot really, I'm working in the industry I have always wanted to work in and I've moved from Scotland to live in London... very big change.

**You obviously haven't just been sat on your butt waiting for this part to come along so, what have you been up to?**

I have done different musicals, a film soundtrack, two albums, 2 tours 2 pantos... lots of big concerts, including joining John Barrowman on his album and in concert.

**Is there any part of you that misses your previous life as a shelf stacker?**

Ehh not really... I love my life just now.

**Are you completely sold on musical theatre. or is there another aspect to the Arts you'd like to conquer?**

I love theatre but I would also love to do other things like a film or TV.

**Which part would you kill to get (stage, TV or film)?**

Phantom when I'm older.

**What's the worst part of going to an audition?**

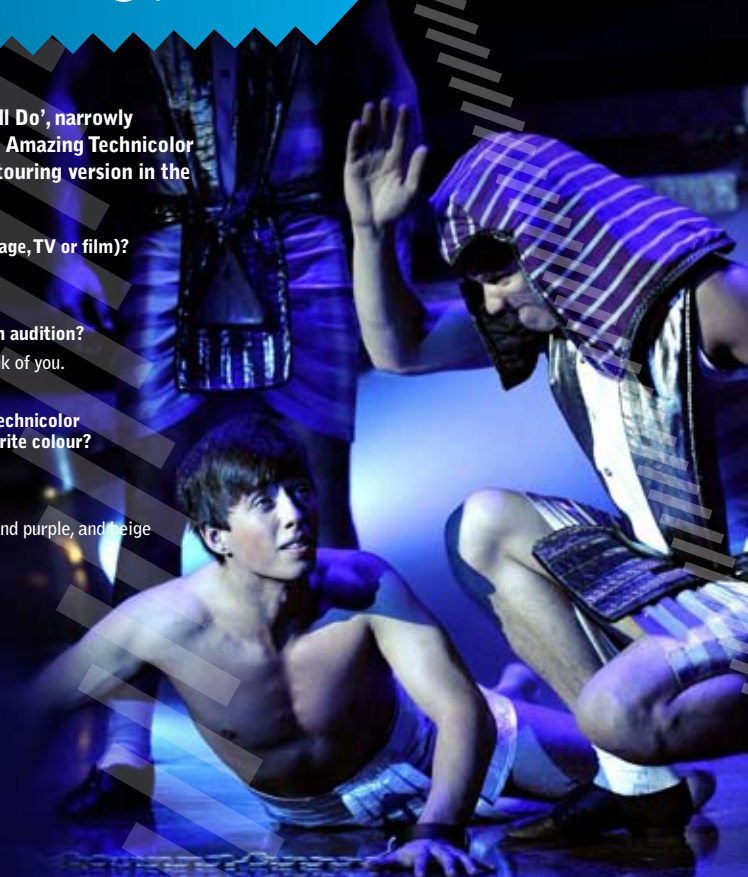
Just not knowing what they really think of you.

**So you've made it and now star in Technicolor Dreamcoat... So, what's your favourite colour?**

Yellow.

( and... pink, and green, and scarlet, and purple, and beige and aubergine, and orange... )

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# THE QUITE NICE SARAH MILLICAN

Since winning the 2008 *if.comedy* Best Newcomer Award for her debut solo show *Sarah Millican's Not Nice* at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Sarah is fast on her way to becoming a household name. A consummate live performer, she has notched up a number of appearances on top comedy shows including *Mock the Week*, *Have I Got News For You*, *8 Out of 10 Cats*, *Live at the Apollo* and Michael McIntyre's *Comedy Roadshow*. In addition, Sarah can be heard as a regular guest on the Radio 5 Live series *7 Day Sunday* and has recently had a second series of her self-penned *Sarah Millican's Support Group* commissioned for Radio 4.

## Were you ready for the success you've achieved?

I don't think you're ever prepared because you just don't know what's going to happen. Perhaps being prepared for the best of the worst... if it had happened when I was 21 then I would be terrified... and some of the things I still do are quite nerve wracking... but because I'm 35 I've been through scarier things... performing in front of people is never going to be as terrifying as finding out test results from family members... so, it's still exciting and amazing. However, you've got to take it all with a pinch of salt, don't believe everything that's said about you... otherwise you'd look a dick!

## You've won awards for Best Newcomer but...is it all about the winning or just wonderful being nominated?

To be honest it's great to be nominated but Best Newcomer was amazing to win because... I really bloody wanted it. Laughs. At least I'm honest.

## You came across as a nice lass but that first show was called *Sarah Millican's Not Nice*... what went... right?

Laughs. It's a kind of play on words because... well... I can be a bit of a cow and that's the angle I was coming in at... but the main reason it was called 'Not Nice' is because when we were little that's what we'd call our lady parts (laughs). Because when I was tiny and me and my sister were playing with our bits, mam would go "Stop... that's not nice". So it just sort of stuck. So, the audience thinks about me being a bit of a cow and having a go at my ex but then about three quarters way through the show... I let them in on the real reason.

## Has your Geordie accent caused you problems when on stage?

Not really. I've played overseas as well as down south and I've just slowed down the way I speak and avoided using slang terms. If my mum hears me on the radio she'll phone up and say... "Oh you're posh now." Because I don't speak like that at home... but 30 minutes back together and the accent comes back as strong as ever.

## You've been on several panel shows but is it a huge competition to see which comedian can get the most jokes...

*Mock the Week* is often a 2-3 hour shoot... so you can't be 'on' all the time though you try to be. The show is well edited so, if you can get 3 or 4 good gags in that feels good.

## Does the BBC compliance rules affect what you say?

Well, the show is live in the studio and after the record it's a matter of the lawyer and the producers saying "Well that's not going in." (giggles) but it's funny for the audience, which is why they want to come to live recordings, it's like an exclusive little club... seeing things other's aren't going to get the chance to see or hear.

## Your live tour is called *Chatterbox*... have you ever thought about going down the Jason Manford route... presenting, not sending dubious text messages? *Daybreak*... they could really do with you?

Laughs. Oh bless you. No, not really thought about presenting although I have got several projects in the pipeline but, as always, I can't discuss them now.

## A sit-com perhaps?

Not really, I wouldn't mind writing one, as I've been writing bits since I was 17 year-old but I don't think I'd want to star in one. I don't think I'm that good an actor... and I wouldn't be keen on saying other people's words. In my act there's a kernel of truth in all that I say... it's not made up... and I relate to it. I've tried acting. I wasn't convincing.

## Are you aware that you have quite a large gay following?

Yes I am... and I love it. (laughs) Because I used to play some gay gigs at the Vauxhall Tavern... and I bloody loved those gigs... they were amazing. I mean, recently I was playing in Manchester and I was told there was a Bear Convention in town and I was asked if I knew what a bear was and I said I totally know what a bear is. Sometimes I feel like I'm a female, straight bear. Because I do like eating... and sometimes I've got a beard! If I was a gay bloke I'd totally be a bear... because they are so comfortable with themselves. I've got the beard... I've got the belly I'm half way there love. I mean, bears are like the cake loving sector of the gay community... so what's not to love?

Sarah Millican's *Chatterbox* tour begins on Jan 29 at Coventry's Warwick Arts Centre and runs until Apr 20, closing at The Forum in Barrow-in-Furness.

For more details please visit [www.sarahmillican.co.uk](http://www.sarahmillican.co.uk)





# WHATS ON

## CHESTERFIELD

### ESCAPADES I-CANDY

Gay clubbing in the North Midlands has always been a hit and miss affair. Well it was until i-CANDY arrived on the scene. So the city with the bent spire now offers all its bent citizens, and their friends, a place to party on a Wednesday night. This gay clubbing experience was born over a year ago and has changed midweek clubbing in the region. With live P.A's, resident drag queens and a club packed full

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# A BRIEF HISTORY OF... BRIEFS

To begin with we are all born naked but some times a chap's dangling bits needed to be taken care of, cupped out of the way and protected.



A figleaf is thought by some to be the first piece of underwear but, this is highly unlikely as it doesn't hold or protect, it just obscures.

Perhaps taking that idea further, ancient man intertwined grasses and twigs together to form a rudimentary design. Perhaps, the masochists of the time preferring to incorporate nettles into this embryonic bollock-holding creation.

Later, when animal skins were found to help keep out the cold, scraps of fur and leather were used to tie around the waist and between the legs... securing the genitals comfortably in place. All the better to help run away from the meat-eating animals incensed at their ex-family members being used to cup a cock. (You should not try to re recreate this historical image by strapping a couple of kittens to your groin... you know it's wrong).



Once weaving fabric had been invented a piece of material

could be passed around the waist (as in a nappy) and held in place without much difficulty. Ancient Egyptian burial sites give testimony to this fact... unless the pharaohs were all into being adult babies.

In colder climates keeping clothes on was the order of the day and with garments becoming tighter and more complex an easy access to the genitals came about with the introduction of the cod-piece; an adorned piece of leather to attract the envy (?) of other males.

A period of long linen underwear followed until the 1930s when the brief was introduced and became an overnight sensation. Where the product became available, men were casting off the boring, loose fitting pants to show a bit of leg with this new stunning and sexy creation. It was around this time that the first underwear nights in night clubs were introduced.

Adaptions of this snug item, the one thing that is closer to you than almost anything else, has produced; the boxer, the trunk, the slip, the g-string, the bikini, the thong and a multitude of others in a variety of styles, fabrics, colours and patterns... but the brief still reigns supreme for comfort and doing the job it was designed for in the first place - To hold in comfort and protect. (Could be the motto for a gay police force?)

**Prof. P.Antiman - BA (Hons) History**



## STILL SPURTING

Back in September 1992 a small A5 rough and ready fanzine was launched.

Unlike other fanzines at the time which dealt with sport, celebs and music this one was dedicated purely to lovers of underwear. The first edition of SPURT was born and in January 2011 it celebrates its 100th edition. As long time fans of this brilliant little fetish-mag Bent caught up with its editor Ben Lawrence to find out how it all began.

When we launched SPURT! I don't think we had great expectations for it to last the distance: we weren't sure how many underwear lovers were out there, nor how many of them wanted our kind of magazine. Our first mail out was to 63 subscribers who we'd gained from an advert in BOYZ. We thought that if we made it to issue 10 that might be quite an achievement! But as the editions came and went the readership numbers gradually grew from hundreds to thousands, and the subscribers showed a real dedication to the SPURT! style. The letters rolled in and they were a great boost to us as the guys told us how much they loved what we were doing, how much they liked our different kind of gay man's magazine, and most of them seemed genuinely surprised and delighted at just how popular underwear pleasure was with gay men. Guys started sending in their own erotic confessions and sex-tales, then their photographs, then they started to visit us in Manchester to get photographed by us for the magazine... the letters became more lively... and I think we realised that there were more gay underwear lovers out there than even we imagined!

### Why is it only available by subscription?

We wanted to produce a magazine that would be fun and informative, would turn underwear-lovers on, and perhaps inspire them with their underwear desires, and let them meet-up with like-minded guys. Right from the beginning we wanted this to be more than just another contact sheet, so from day one our mission statement was to: inform, inspire, delight and excite gay underwear lovers by publishing a lively, horny, all-action erotic magazine to turn guys on and massage their underwear love. An erotic magazine that was going to be packed from cover-to-cover, a magazine that was going to be more than just a ten-minute read. We decided early on not to include any trade advertising in the magazine

and we wanted to be different to that... we just wanted a magazine dedicated to underwear. We also wanted a magazine that was more interested in content rather than clever-clever style, and I think the fanzine-style that we adopted allowed us to achieve that, and it has always been well received by our readers. By being a privately published magazine we've been able to be much, much more erotic than other magazines might be.

### So what makes SPURT! so special?

Each edition is crammed with our subscribers' true-life experiences, some very erotic fiction and sex-tales, loads of features to inform guys about what's happening in the ever-changing world of underwear, pictures of some of the horniest guys showing off in their underwear (many of which are our readers), and we still have a really lively mix of contact adverts from our readers. During SPURT!'s 18 years we've witnessed the growth of the internet to come and dominate the porn industry, and we've seen plenty of other erotic magazines disappear from view, but our readers seem to still love our kind of lively underwear magazine. We currently have over 2500 subscribers regularly spurting with us. Our 100th edition (published on the 2nd January) is obviously a major landmark for us, and we're intent on bringing a very special mix of our kind of eroticism. We've got some very special features planned, without sinking into any kind of nostalgia trip. We've got a few special interviews planned with celebrities talking about their underwear, some great photoshoots of extra-horny guys in and out of their undies but mostly we are planning that SPURT! 100 should be an intense underwear experience.

**An annual subscription to SPURT! is £36 (for 6 editions).**

### The address is:

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## SPURT!





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# GROUND CONTROL TO MAJOR HOM...

Gareth Longstaff takes you on a Gay-Sci-Fi odyssey through pop, performance, people, and porn related...

Is there such a thing as Gay Sci-fi? Or do we even have to ask the question? Camp chic and ironic exaggerations seem to be just about everywhere in elements of gay and sci-fi culture so blending the two together often results in a compound of originality and style – a way of simultaneously experiencing 1978 in 2011. Let's take a trip through some of the best sounds, sights, styles and perhaps most importantly sexual splendours of the third dimension.

Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars (Or just about anything David Bowie did between 1968-1975) is a perfect place to start. Alter-ego's, glitter, kooky make-up and glamorous trash all converge in one lavish and epic musical gesture. Bowie acts as a catalyst with the most imaginative and first truly popular example of 'Gay Sci-Fi' that mixes together an orgy of futuristic originality. Follow up albums like Aladdin Sane and Diamond Dogs are just as frighteningly sexy and to watch Bowies very own odyssey as he metamorphosis from rock star to space cadet to cyborg to avatar we get in a very short time span the original man who fell to earth.

A 21st century incarnation of all of this has to be Lady Gaga. With her range of savvy and intellectual takes on art, performance and pop Gaga disrupts and confuses our sense of sinister fashion and dangerous sexuality – perfect for our celebrity hungry age with its appetite for all things edgy, virtual, simulated and extreme. The video for Bad Romance alone gives us an insight into a surreal pleasure-universe where cloned humanoids emerge from space pods and dance in an intergalactic 'Bath Haus of Gaga'.

This abandonment of space time and logic is used by Gaga but in early films such as 'Attack of the 50 ft Woman' from 1958 we get another level to gay sci-fi – sci-fi as camp performance!

And any film that involves a woman called Nancy with a drink problem, aliens with diamond fetishes and lots of revenge surely deserves a mention. Still, it has to be the 1968 movie 'Barbarella' which gives us the ultimate realisation

of this campiness. Jane Fonda plays the 'Queen of the Galaxy' in this moment of sheer visual pleasure and strictly speaking, this is the gay man's 2001: A Space Odyssey! Her powerful sense of sexual control and feminine self-determination takes apart the sci-fi super-hero and for gays there is nothing better than an independent woman (especially when she has fierce hair and a ray-gun) and has a beautiful blind angel as her companion.

We all have super-hero fantasies and when we are talking gay sci-fi then there is a long list of rather strange but arousing men we'd happily be saved by; Superman, Batman and Flash Gordon are muscular, virile and incredibly seductive object of desires and because we can't have them perhaps they remain the ultimate fantasy! So what happens when the sci-fi superhero is gay? Captain Jack Harness in Dr. Who and Torchwood combines matinee idol good looks and sexy teasing but always sways a little too far on the barometer of bisexuality and the plain old world of Sci-fi compared to the spectacle of gay sci-fi already seems a bit drab, so last but by no means least, and what you've all been waiting for - Porn!

In this digital age of manipulation and simulation the gay porn industry is oddly enough chock-full of films which go for reality or authenticity. In the last decade chavs, rugby players and builders have transformed the real life situation into wank-fantasy and you may well think there is little demand for Sci-Fi porn. You'd be wrong. Raging Stallion's Studio's Sci Fi Porn 'The Visitor' is one such example. It combines hard bodied aliens, and stars the tribal tattooed god Logan McCree, who speaks Klingon with a German accent; granted the sex is sometimes undermined by the absurdity but there is something to be said for an outer-space orgasm and this seems to exemplify what to do with a big budget gay sex flick! So there you have it...a bizarre odyssey through something which offers us gays something both alternative but also very recognisable, and as technology becomes more and more advanced and aspects of sci-fi merge with reality we see just how much it suits us gays and the ways in which we enjoy thinking (and of course behaving) a lot of out the ordinary.

**“We all have super-hero fantasies and when we are talking gay sci-fi there is a long list of arousing men”**





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# SCI-FI FOR THE GAY-GI?

By Alex Wiggan



**“in the realm of science fiction and fantasy you’re never too far away from a bit of eye candy”**

Whether it’s taking a rocket ride to Uranus or just circling the outer rim, gay boys love sci-fi. Don’t think so? Well just check out half a dozen Fitlads profiles and you’ll see they’re all into it. So don’t worry about being ‘outed’ as a geek and becoming forever ignored at social gatherings with your closest biatches, because those who don’t love it are in the minority. In fact to be a fan of pointy-eared space-travellers is suddenly geek-chic, so set your phasers to fun because it seems there are plenty of reasons to be a sci-fi lover.

From Star Wars’ whiney cry-baby Anakin Skywalker to the camp-o-rama of Flash Gordon (1980), in the realm of science fiction and fantasy you’re never too far away from a bit of eye candy. You see, Anakin may have been moody but he always knew what to do with his lightsaber and let’s be honest, who didn’t get excited by seeing Flash in his leather shorts? But laser swords and tantalising torture scenes aside, surely gay guys aren’t just sci-fi and fantasy fans because of all those hunks... are they? Well checking out the latest piece of man-meat from another world (or often this one) is part of being human, yet when it comes down to it everyone likes a bit of fantasy.

Often it’s a break from the norm and it certainly helps that the men of science-fiction are well turned out guys who seem to be able to balance saving the universe with a daily workout at the Gym. Just check out Dolph Lundgren’s oiled torso in Masters of The Universe (1987) which had more screen time than David Bowie’s crotch in Labyrinth (1986) and you’ll see why He-Man was able to catch a boy’s eye. Of course if a ‘himbo’ is not your thing then there are those lovely brothers Sam and Dean Winchester from hit TV show Supernatural to keep you company at night. They may be brothers but the writers of the show constantly joke around that they’re gay and as they’re both so fit this just increases their appeal. Let’s also not forget the stalwart of sci-fi, Star Trek, where Captain Jean-Luc Picard made reading a till receipt seem sexy and it’s hard to believe that not once did Will Riker suggest a nudie bunk-up in the lower decks of the Enterprise. Well you would, wouldn’t you? What with all of those boldly going blokes, plus topless vampires and werewolves in the Twilight saga, Clark Kent still flexing his muscles on Smallville and Robert Downey JR being so damn irresistible as Iron Man, it’s hard not to just see the world of science-fiction as a playground for sexual shenanigans.





There are however other reasons that sci-fi is so popular and one of these is the escapism element to the genre. Through science-fiction women have become empowered and although that might not automatically seem like the first thing to grab the attention of a gay guy, you'd be surprised. Some boys like to dress as women we all know this; but some just want to be their favourite heroines. Buffy, Xena, Wonder Woman, She-Ra and Seven of Nine are the sci-fi equivalent of the ballsy barmaids of Corrie and for that reason they are iconic legends in Gaysville. Come on admit it, you know you spun around like Wonder Woman and pretended you had a set of bullet bouncing bracelets and matching tiara when your mom wasn't looking! Heck, even bad girls like Poison Ivy, Catwoman, The Rani and that slutty Cylon from Battlestar Galactica make a boy want to glam up and get down with his feminine side. Sod the Spice Girls these are the women men secretly want to be, because they can kick butt, do cartwheels and make boys do exactly what they want. Ok, so back in the day the Spice Girls could too, but this is Fantasy Land and so Catwoman will be able to do this forever without the need of a comeback tour and a union jack dress. She also had Batman wrapped around her little PVC covered finger and that's power you just can't buy.

Another reason that boys become transfixed by Sci-fi is due to the drama becoming scarily close to home on some occasions. Watching an episode of Angel is like looking in a mirror for some guys; if of course vampires could see their own reflection. The story of a single guy, always on the prowl, never settling down and becoming an insatiable animal after a drink could certainly ring a few bells with the Saturday night party boys. Then there's the shock value of something like *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (1975), a musical comedy that parodies science fiction and B-movies. The film resonates with the repressed guys who are just bursting to be free and who feel they can do so with just a jump to the left and then a step to the right. Loving Science-fiction is something that has become part of a gay guy's life and is as much an accessory as Guyliner and an iPhone application. It's fun, it's sexy, it can speak volumes about who a person is deep down inside, but above all else it's what all the gays are into nowadays! Beaming up with Kirk and Co might not be possible just yet, but the amount of love for the genre amongst the lads is definitely more fact than fiction.

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





# INTERVIEW: GRUFF DAVIES

A new Sci-Fi writer is soon to take the publishing world by storm with his first book – *The Looking Glass Club*. Hunky gay author, Gruff Davies doesn't just spin a cracking good yarn he is also an inventor, entrepreneur and a technological consultant... he also has a PhD in Physics... and offering £1million to anyone who can crack the puzzles in the book. Interested? Then read on.

## Should we all really address you as Doctor Gruff?

Ha! Hi. Well, I did a doctorate in physics, but I'm not a practising scientist any longer. I'm a tech entrepreneur these days, as well as a writer. Everyone just calls me Gruff.

## You've been working on this book for a while, where did the inspiration come from?

Yes, it's taken six years part-time from start to finish. The inspiration came from my love of physics and philosophy. I'm still a physicist at heart. I try to stay current and read about new ideas all the time. I became so engaged in some ideas I was exploring that I considered developing a new theory and writing a real physics book; then I realised that realistically that probably wasn't going to happen - it would take decades of dedication and incredible mathematical rigour so I thought I would do the next best thing and write the ideas into a novel instead. Perhaps not your first choice of topic for a fast-paced thriller, I admit, but I've worked really hard to make it fun and accessible – it seems to have paid off. The last two years I've been fine-tuning the story and creating the puzzles that live between each chapter. I'm offering up to £1 million to the person or team who solves them all so they had to be pretty good. The puzzles in the book reinforce one of its foundational ideas: that information is relative and that our physical reality may derive from that.

## Are you a Sci Fi nut in the first place... a geek perhaps?

I guess that goes without saying given my background. There's actually a strong statistical correlation between science & technology and homosexuality. Richard Florida of Carnegie Mellon University published findings in 2001 that showed that the leading indicator of an area's high-technology success is a large gay population. Not only that, but gay population density serves as the best indicator for technological growth. Also, census data from Florida 1990 shows that gay men are about 1.3 times more likely to be scientists or engineers than the population in general, 2.3 times more likely to be in the computer and data processing services; whilst lesbians are 1.3 times more likely. So I guess being a gay geek is kinda normal.

## It has some very technical info in it... do you think you might lose some possible readers?

Yes and no. I've tried to keep the hard-core physics and philosophy to the edges of the novel so they don't interfere

asleep from exhaustion before I could go through with it and when I woke up I had a renewed sense of resolve. I vowed never to think that way again and I never have. The recent gay teenage suicides in the USA had me in pieces. They touched many of us so personally. The incredible "It gets better" messages that followed are the best thing to come out of that; and so true. I hope I can add my voice to those. It really does get so much better. I honestly feel it's a privilege to be gay now. Knowing novelists like the incredible Clive Barker were out certainly helped me. I hope I can be a role model for gay teens too.

## You seem to have a very colourful background... entrepreneur and inventor... is that all?

I have ADOS. Attention Deficit...Ooh Shiny! Interested in everything and struggle with focus. I can't imagine a life doing just one thing. Very short attention span. I've had a ridiculous number of interests and hobbies over time: Judo, Gymnastics, Magic, Neuroscience, Snowboarding, I learned five languages because I couldn't stick to one, I was British University Jive Champion once, Screenwriting, Acting, Directing... the list goes on. I took up piano this year. Someone once kindly called me "Renaissance Man" which I thought was a nicer label than "ADHD" so I've adopted that now. It was okay in Renaissance times to be both a scientist and an artist but these days we're expected to specialise. I recently learned that some people believe that Leonardo da Vinci had "ADHD". He'd go on week-long artistic or scientific "binges" and then collapse exhausted, unable to work at all for 3 days. I'm no da Vinci, but I do have a similar boom-bust work cycle and it helped me to see it as a gift rather than a curse. That's partly why writing *The Looking Glass Club* took six years.

## Where do you go to relax... is there a favourite 'club' (not necessarily the Looking Glass variety)?

Relax? What's that? Haha! I'm a bit of a workaholic, I suppose. I find it hard to sit still unless I've worked myself ill, which happens with disturbing regularity, but I absolutely love the mountains. They're like enormous batteries for me, I go there to plug in and recharge, and I hopefully get in some decent snowboarding. I prefer active holidays, though there's nothing better than a hot tub, sauna and a sports massage after a hard days' boarding!

## What are you working on at the moment?

Promoting the book is taking up most of my writing time at the moment, but I am about a third of the way into an unrelated novel called *Supernova* (another SF thriller, exploring some more big ideas that grabbed me). There's also a sequel to *The Looking Glass Club* that I have planned, plus two SF screenplays which I've started but put on ice until I find more writing time, otherwise I'll just end up breaking. Lots more in the pipeline. The rest of my time I spend on one of my businesses, *BitesizedLanguages.com*, and I consult part-time for *moonfruit.com* which I helped start back in 1999 with University friends.

## And now a bit of kilter... do you have a secret fetish?

Cheeky! It's not a secret if I tell, is it? I wouldn't call it a fetish, but Winter Sports are pretty sexy aren't they? Who doesn't think ski instructors are hot?

## The Looking Glass Club By Gruff Davies

This is one of those books that draws you in and then you simply cannot put it down. A brilliant future/sci fi/thriller that asks questions; social, psychological, technological, moral... and the meaning of drug induced fairytales! It is geeky enough for those who are technical, it's imaginative enough for those who like a fast-paced Dan Brown style romp and it's clever and speculative and scary for those of us who just like a bloody good read. Characters you can identify with and worry about, strange and mind bending situations (there's a chance to win £1million if you can solve the puzzles) and a plot that involves drugs, cryonics and frightening insects... hope this gets made into a film soon, it has all the hallmarks of an intelligent blockbuster.

A superb idea from a fantastic new gay author!

Sencillo Press ([amazon.co.uk](http://amazon.co.uk))  
[www.TheLookingGlassClub.com](http://www.TheLookingGlassClub.com)



**“Most people who love reading are almost certainly clever enough to understand the book”**

with what's otherwise an edgy, page-turner. Much of it ended up in quotations at the start of chapters, for example, so you can fully enjoy the story without needing to understand any of the physics. My agent told me to dumb it down; I refused and lost the agent. No regrets, it was absolutely the right decision. I hate the fact that so much gets dumbed down these days. Commerciality stifles diversity. Most people who love reading are almost certainly clever enough to understand the book and not everyone likes to be patronised. It seems to have worked: I'm getting incredible reviews from a very diverse range of readers!

## There is a gay character in the book but it seems that it's never an issue... has it been for you at any stage?

Well, without giving away plot details, that particular character actually goes through some pretty rough events and almost throws himself off a roof, so I wouldn't say it's never an issue. His story is very tragic. And yes, it was a massive issue for me growing up gay; it was far from easy. I read SF to escape in many ways. I reached a really low-point aged 18 and actually decided to commit suicide. Fortunately, I fell



# BOOKS



## BRIEF ENCOUNTERS

Edited - Jason Salzenstein

Good packaging is half the battle ... Well, that's actually not a real saying, but it should be, when it comes to the most important part of the male body: It all began in the mid 90s when Calvin Klein caused a real hype with his sexy advertising campaigns. Since then every designer who wants to be taken seriously has a line of lingerie; we don't wear pants anymore, we wear briefs; they are "lifestyle" and an expression of our unique personality. Fashion editor Jason Salzenstein has gathered the best known brands and introduces them with short but informing texts; long disquisitions would be redundant, since the spectacular images of the advertising campaigns speak a clear language. If you are a fan of briefs already, you shouldn't wait to get your copy of Brief Encounters.

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## Video Boys

Edited by Mickey Erlach

In these days of X-Tube, VideoExpose and even Facebook, it seems everyone is seeking their 15 minutes of fame. Becoming a porn star is no longer the exclusive right of those picked by the 'adult video industry'. Now, just about anyone can display their talents to the world... and many boys like to be caught on camera.

£13.99 - Starbooks



## Hot Tales of Gay Lust

By Landon Dixon

Hard, raw man-sex; in the bedroom, on the job, in prison, in the washroom, on the road, outdoors; two men, three men, more men; leg worship, arse worship, bondage, spanking, rimming. This is man-on-man action at its most searingly erotic... all taboos broken.

£7.99 - Xcite Books



## Ships That Pass In The Night

By John Butler

This is the long awaited sequel to WonderLUST and brings the two protagonists, Tom & Tony full circle 30 years later. The early book featured their teenage fumbles through to gang-bangs and orgies. A huge cast of characters and sexual partners, innocence and experience are mapped out in these pages and continues the authors, no-holds-barred approach to his writing.

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# DVDS

## DOG POUND

A raw and unsparing look at the world of juvenile detention centres, following the varying fortunes of three new inmates, Butch, Davis and Angel, as they attempt to keep their heads down and noses clean. Despite their different crimes they jointly meet the same fate in Enola Vale Correctional facility, which they soon find is a training ground for violence, aggression and bureaucratic incompetence...sparking a spiral of retribution that will engulf the entire facility.

Out: 3rd January - £19.99 - Optimum Home Ents

To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD, all you have to do is answer this simple question: The UK's Correctional Institutions used to be called what: A. Bedlam, C. Borstal, C. Dunroamin



# WIN THESE!

Turn to page 62 for details

### Family Guy: It's a Trap

This is the third installment of the hilarious Star Wars satire - following 2005's "Family Guy: Blue Harvest" and last year's "Family Guy: Something, Something, Something Dark Side" - the Griffins reprise their intergalactic roles in an outrageous retelling of Star Wars: Episode VI Return of the Jedi.

In this spectacular and offensively uproarious final chapter, Luke Skywalker (Chris) and Princess Leia (Lois) must travel to Tatooine to free Han Solo (Peter) by infiltrating the wretched stronghold of Jabba the Hutt (Joe), the galaxy's most loathsome and dreadful gangster. The Galactic Civil War has never been more outrageous, as the Rebel forces gather to attack the seemingly defenseless and incomplete second Death Star in the battle that will determine the fate of the galaxy.

Out Now - DVD & BluRay - 20th Century Fox Home Ents

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

What is the name of the Griffin Family's oldest son?



### Jonah Hex

Academy Award-winner Josh Brolin swaggers on screen as Jonah Hex, a scarred bounty hunter on the edge of sanity who is hell bent on revenge against John Malkovich's sinister terrorist, Quentin Turnbull. A stoic, battle-hardened anti-hero, Jonah Hex has survived near-death at the hands of Turnbull, seen his family slayed before his eyes and had his face horrifically branded. With nothing left to live for except the company of his sole human connection, Lilah, Hex agrees to help the military track down psychotic Turnbull and prevent his army from unleashing hell on earth, in exchange for his own freedom - be it in life or death.

Out: 27th December - DVD & BluRay - Warner Home Videos



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

To put a hex on somebody is to: A. Criticize their clothing, B. Mess their hair, C. Put a spell on them.



### DEAD SPACE: AFTERMATH

The year is 2509. The first-responder ship USG O'Bannon has arrived at Aegis VII, attempting to hold the planet together in the wake of the catastrophe that destroyed the Ishimura. But only four members of the O'Bannon crew have survived, and the catastrophe remains unchecked. What went wrong? What secrets do they hide? And what new threats have been revealed...in the Aftermath!

Featuring the best in CGI/Manga action and horror.

Out: 24th January - DVD & BluRay - Anchor Bay Entertainment

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

Manga is best known as the artwork from which country? A. Japan, B. England, C. France

### K-20: The Legend of the Black Mask

With a twist on the story of Robin Hood, this villain steals only for himself but, when he frames an innocent man... he soon begins to wish he hadn't. A cool, light-hearted caper packed with exceptional stunt work, thrilling set pieces and impressive action sequences (including some amazing free running), this is a thoroughly enjoyable and uniquely Japanese take on the superhero movie.

Out: 10th January - DVD & BluRay - Manga Entertainment



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

Which forest in the UK is most associated with Robin Hood?

### Strapped

A routine trick propels a tall, dark, cynical hustler (the strikingly handsome newcomer Ben Bonenfant) into a series of life-changing encounters in this stunningly photographed drama. But this amicable and sexually efficient rent boy begins to look at himself differently when he finds himself lost in a maze-like apartment building. As he wanders through the building, he tricks with a variety of johns; sex is the commonality, but out of that commodity comes raw, unguarded emotions for all. Witty, sexy and touching, Strapped is an unforgettable look into one young man's moving journey towards understanding.

Out 17th Jan - £15.99 - tla releasing

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

If you say you are 'strapped for cash' does it mean: A. You have plenty of money, B. You have very little money, C. You are asking for a loan.



### THE REEF

For four old friends a week sailing on the Great Barrier Reef should have been a dream come true. But when the vessel capsizes, plunging its human cargo into the depths of the treacherous ocean, that dream turns into a nightmare. What should they do? Stay with the damaged boat that could sink at any moment? Or take their chances and swim for land they hope lies 10 miles away? Seasoned fisherman Warren, fearful of what lies beneath, decides to stay with the wreck, whilst the others take to the open water.

Out: 24th January - DVD - Momentum Pictures



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

The Great Barrier Reef is off which country?



### THE OTHER GUYS

Funnyman Will Ferrell re-teams with director Adam McKay and partners onscreen with Mark Wahlberg for this hilarious tale of misfit detectives who finally get the chance to step out from behind their desks and into the line of fire. But every cop has his or her day and soon the two stumble into a seemingly innocuous case no other detective wants to touch that could turn into New York City's biggest crime. Featuring hilarious supporting turns from Eva Mendes, Michael Keaton, Steve Coogan, Dwayne Johnson and Samuel L. Jackson.

Out: 24th January - DVD & BluRay - Sony Pictures Home Ents

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

When he was younger Mark Wahlberg used to be the face of which underwear company?



Joel

Denis

Leon



James

Toshio

Chris



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# FILM

By Chris Amos

## BLUE VALENTINE Out 14th January

Yet another film with a colour in it's title this month. Blue Valentine has taken over a decade to finally hit the big screen. It is easy to understand why as the film centers on a couple (Ryan Gosling and Michelle Williams) whose marriage is failing, and as their relationship hits the rocks, they recall better days. Not exactly the subject material people rush out to buy tickets for. My friend who saw this with me summed up the film perfectly... "most real

and intimate depiction of a love relationship I've ever seen on the big screen". Young love, romance, awkward family moments and desperation are all captured in such intricate detail you can't help but reflect on your own love life and feel compassion for the on-screen couple. Ryan Gosling is super hot here too making it a bearable two hours watching a couple falling out of love. Not exactly entertaining but thought provoking nevertheless.

## MOVIE BUZZ

Andy and Lana Wachowski (The Matrix) will direct Hood, a modern version of the Robin Hood myth. We've seen so many retellings of this story, but the Wachowskis wrote the script! It's rumoured that they are reaching out to actors (including Will Smith) to star in the project.

Orlando Bloom is "near a deal" to join other Lord of the Rings actors in The Hobbit. New Line announced Cate Blanchett would reprise her Rings role of Galadriel, the deals for fellow "Rings" vets Ian McKellen, Andy Serkis and Hugo Weaving have apparently yet to close. The Hobbit and its sequel will be filmed back-to-back with expectation to take over a year with filming taking place in New Zealand in February 2011. The films are currently set to be released in December 2012 and December 2013.

Steven Spielberg is a busy guy. Not only is he directing The Adventures of Tintin: Secret of the Unicorn and War Horse coming out in 2012, he is to direct Robopocalypse and has just announced he will direct Daniel Day-Lewis in the lead role as Lincoln.

Moulin Rouge director Baz Luhrmann has been preparing The Great Gatsby for a return to the big screen, and recently announced Carey Mulligan has been officially offered the role of Daisy Buchanan in the film and she'll star alongside Leonardo DiCaprio as Jay Gatsby.



## THE NEXT THREE DAYS Out: 5th January

Life seems perfect for John Brennan (Russell Crowe) until his wife, Lara (Elizabeth Banks), is arrested for a gruesome murder she says she didn't commit. Three years into her sentence, John is struggling to hold his family together, raising their son and teaching at college while he pursues every means available to prove her innocence. With the rejection of their

final appeal, Lara becomes suicidal and John decides there is only one possible, bearable solution: to break his wife out of prison. Refusing to be deterred by impossible odds or his own inexperience, John devises an elaborate escape plot and plunges into a dangerous and unfamiliar world, ultimately risking everything for the woman he loves.



## THE KING'S SPEECH Out 7th January

Another Oscar-buss flick - got to love this time of year when quality films are released. After the death of his father King George V (Michael Gambon) and the scandalous abdication of Prince Edward VII's (Guy Pearce), Bertie (Colin Firth) who has suffered from a debilitating speech impediment all his life, is suddenly crowned King George VI of England.

With his country on the brink of war and in desperate need of a leader, his wife, Elizabeth (Helena Bonham Carter), the future Queen Mother, arranges for her husband to see an eccentric speech therapist, Lionel Logue (Geoffrey Rush). After a rough start, the two delve into an unorthodox course of treatment and eventually form an unbreakable bond.

With the support of Logue, his family, his government and Winston Churchill (Timothy Spall), the King will overcome his stammer and deliver a radio-address that inspires his people and unites them in battle. Based on the true story of King George VI, many think this is the film to beat at the Oscars this year.

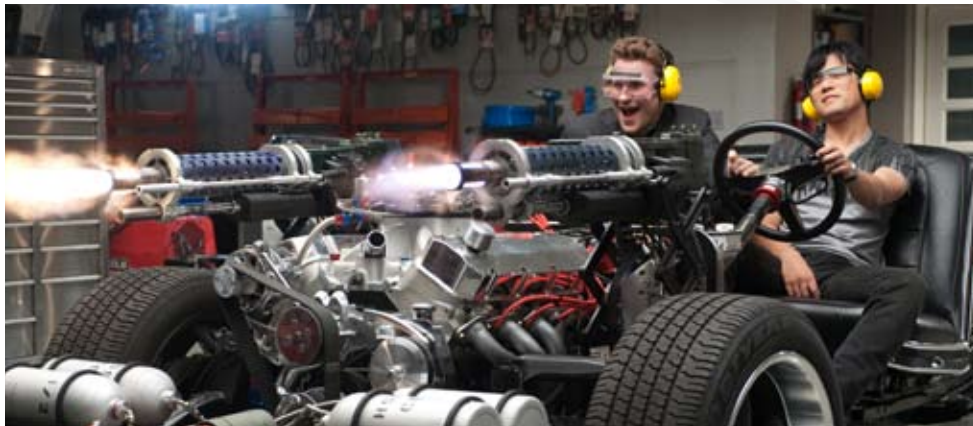




## BLACK SWAN Out 21st January

Okay, this is my favourite film of the Oscar contenders on release this month. Director Darren Aronofsky (Requiem for a Dream, The Wrestler) has created a masterpiece with this astounding movie. Black Swan follows the story of Nina (Portman), a ballerina in a New York City ballet company whose life is completely consumed with dance. She lives with her retired ballerina mother Erica (Barbara Hershey) who zealously

supports her daughter's professional ambition. When artistic director Thomas Leroy (Vincent Cassel) decides to replace prima ballerina Beth MacIntyre (Winona Ryder) for the opening production of their new season, Swan Lake, Nina is his first choice. What follows is a tale of intrigue and paranoia expertly filmed and acted. The finest thriller to hit cinema screens in a long time. Goosebump stuff.



## THE GREEN HORNET Out 14th January

Sadly a fun but low tech adaptation of one of my favourite super heroes. Britt Reid is the son of LA's most prominent and respected media magnate and perfectly happy to maintain a directionless existence on the party scene — until his father mysteriously dies, leaving Britt his vast media empire. Striking an unlikely friendship with one of his father's more industrious and inventive employees, Kato,

they see their chance to do something meaningful for the first time in their lives: fight crime. But in order to do this, they decide to become criminals themselves — protecting the law by breaking it, Britt becomes the vigilante Green Hornet as he and Kato hit the streets. Stars Seth Rogen as the green one, and he looks good, having shed lots of weight for the role, Cameron Diaz also stars.



## 127 HOURS Out 7th January

An incredible movie from Danny Boyle (Slumdog Millionaire), 127 Hours is the true story of mountain climber Aron Ralston's (James Franco) remarkable adventure to save himself after a fallen boulder crashes on his arm and traps him in an isolated canyon in Utah. Over the next five days Ralston examines his life and survives the elements to finally discover he has the courage and the wherewithal to extricate himself by any means necessary, scale a 65 foot wall and hike over eight miles before he is

finally rescued. Throughout his journey, Ralston recalls friends, lovers (Clemence Poesy), family, and the two hikers (Amber Tamblyn and Kate Mara) he met before his accident. Will they be the last two people he ever had the chance to meet? It is a visceral, thrilling story that will take an audience on a never before experienced journey and prove what we can do when we choose life. James Franco gives an incredible performance which many say will nab him an Oscar.

# TEN THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT RYAN GOSLING



1. Is an accomplished jazz guitarist.
2. Was taken out of elementary school as a child and taught at home by his mother because of constant abuse from other students.
3. Dated Murder by Numbers co-star Sandra Bullock for 2 years.
4. Built the kitchen table featured in The Notebook (2004) in preparation for his role as Noah.
5. While on Mickey Mouse Club in 1989 he lived with Justin Timberlake and his mother.
6. Favourite movie is East of Eden (1955)
7. His favourite actor is Gary Oldman.
8. Born in the same hospital as his The Notebook co-star Rachel McAdams (who he also dated in real life).
9. Has released a song titled Put Me in the Car, which can be found on his website.
10. Was originally cast in The Lovely Bones (2009) as Jack Salmon, but pulled out of the project a day before shooting began despite gaining 20 pounds of weight and growing a beard. Mark Wahlberg played the role eventually.

**Canadian hunk Ryan Gosling stars in Blue Valentine out 21st January.**



## TALKING STALKING!

I thought this kind of thing only happened to celebrities, but just a few weeks ago I realized that I had a stalker. At first I felt quite honoured about it, but it wasn't long before it developed into a rather scary problem.

It all began some months ago with some seemingly innocent letters and e-mails. I love getting mail (of any description) from my fans, but it's obviously a little unusual to receive communications from the same person day after day. What's more, the things that he wrote became increasingly personal. First he told me that he liked my work and my movies. Then he mentioned that he was in love with me. Finally he said that he wanted to marry me. You get the idea, I'm sure ...

Why is it that fans always say that they "love" their idol and want to live with them? The fact of the matter is that they don't really know anything about the person they idolize. A movie star plays out a role, a famous singer lives according to the image that supports his music sales. So when people tell me in their letters that they love me I feel a strange mix of honour and bewilderment. After all, the only thing they know about me is my body and my cock – not my personality or any of my foibles or dirty secrets. Even my boyfriend – who I've known now for more than three years – is still surprised sometimes when he discovers some new little detail about me!

Anyway, back to my stalker. After a while he started to send me photos – not of his face, but with close-up shots of his (hard) cock, open ass and so forth. Given his wrinkles and belly it's clear that this fellow is over 60 years of age – so it's not hard to appreciate that the said photos are not exactly the sort of thing that you want to browse through over your breakfast! Geez, they're the kind of images that remain with you for the rest of the day!

Then the other week he started to send me packages of used underwear – Large size, as it happens! Old pants that he'd

obviously worn for several days on the trot without changing, with brown, yellow and dubious (!!) stains. Accompanying these were some used white tennis socks – also smelly, dirty and (from the look of them) very much the worse for a

minimum of four days in sport shoes! But excuse me, that's definitely not my sort of thing! I like sex to be clean. Sweat's okay if you're sweaty because of playing sport or having sex. But not old sweat, cum or shit in unwashed pants! Uuurgh!!! Then things really started to turn scary, when he followed me and my boyfriend. I have no idea how he found my address, but one day we noticed an older guy standing on the opposite side of the road to our house. Then, when I left the house to walk to a restaurant or a bar or even to do a bit of shopping, he followed behind by a short distance. Whenever I stopped to turn to confront him he immediately disappeared around the next corner – but he was always back at the front of our house the following day. As I'm sure you can imagine - this all scared the shit out of me!

I began to get paranoid, constantly checking behind me to see if he was about around. Sometimes I was even too scared to leave the house; and both my boyfriend and I found ourselves continually watching our backs whenever we travelled around the city. Needless to say, we went to the police, but all they said (incredibly!) was that they couldn't do anything for us until he'd actually physically attacked us! The Czech Republic is a free country, they informed us, and it's not against the law to stand in a street in front of someone's house or to walk around following someone! This went on every day for almost a fortnight – at which point he suddenly disappeared.

He no longer stood in front of our house, and the letters and parcels stopped. Not that I'm sorry about that, of course, but the sudden turnaround of events left me with somewhat mixed emotions, which surprised me considerably and which I've discussed with one of my friends quite a bit ever since. I mean, what exactly is going on in this man's mind? Why has he suddenly stopped stalking me? Doesn't he like me anymore? Doesn't he find me sexy? Have I become fat? The truth is, I don't know; in fact, maybe he doesn't even know himself.

Well, by the time you read these lines you'll already have celebrated the festive season. Maybe you still have a headache from a mammoth party on the big night; or maybe you've even broken all the good intentions that you promised you'd take on New Year's Eve ... Personally, I have a live show lined up for New Year and will be partying with friends in Berlin with lots of alcohol and plenty of horny sex on-stage. Now that's what I call a fantastic start to the New Year! Fingers crossed you'll be enjoying, or have enjoyed, something very similar!

I wish you all the best for 2011.

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

*Kisses, Johan*





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# HEALTH

## SCULPT A SIX-PACK

Twenty-nine year old London guy - Mayur Padia who works in the city wanted to re-vamp his appearance before his 30th birthday – he says, "I dedicated a lot of my time to my work and over the years this has resulted in me spending less time looking after my health and appearance. As I was approaching the big 30 it was evident that time was running its course on my body."

After researching various procedures, he came across the Vaser Hi Def at The Private Clinic – (in essence, the doctor sculpts a six pack into the stomach area) – which is an advanced body sculpting technique, preciously removing

both superficial and deep fat from around muscle groups to enhance the visibility of the underlying musculature.

Vaser Hi Def is the latest technology for fat removal. It is far less invasive than traditional liposuction and is performed under local anaesthetic. A small probe transmits ultrasound energy to break up the fatty tissues. The liquefied fat is then removed through a gentle suction process.

Vaser allows for up to 2.5 litres of fat to be removed. Limited downtime (you can go straight home after procedure) although it's

best to avoid vigorous physical activity or sports for up to two weeks. There's less scarring, less bruising, reduced risk of irregularities and the procedure stimulates collagen production and tightening of the skin. After the treatment, patients wear a special compression garment for 7 to 14 days to help minimise bruising and swelling.

**The process costs around £9K but for more info:**

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



## GREY... WHAT GREY?

GrayBan is an exciting and innovative grey hair treatment that's set to revolutionise the UK beauty market by restoring natural hair colour and pigmentation.

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## CAN ALL TEETH BE WHITENED?

**With teeth whitening being all the rage in Tinsel Town and with celebrities, we are all coming under pressure to polish our pearlys, but can we all have that perfect smile... and at what cost?**

### Can all teeth be whitened?

The Simple answer is NO. A dentist would first need to assess the health of your gums and teeth before you should consider whitening. Did you know if you have existing crowns, veneers or filling that these won't whiten and you may end up having to replace them. The result could be white natural teeth and an old yellow crown or veneer. Natural teeth will whiten but restorations will not. Please keep this in mind or your "cheap whitening" may turn out to be more expensive.

### Why isn't brushing your teeth enough anymore?

It never has been. This will keep your teeth clean, but the stains that build up underneath the tooth surface can only be removed by bleaching the tooth. However it is far more important for the health of your mouth to ensure that you brush and floss everyday than have them whitened. Furthermore a recent study showed that flossing your teeth and keeping your gums healthy helps prevent erectile dysfunction.

### Would gum disease prevent a Cosmetic procedure?

It depends on the severity of your gum disease but it would be the priority of any dentist

to get any active gum disease under control before undertaking any whitening treatments

### Do fillings respond to treatment?

Fillings do not respond to teeth whitening and so we would advise to have a whitening treatment and then replace any tooth coloured fillings with new fillings to match your new tooth colour – remember you will need to keep your teeth whitening topped up after this though.

### Do you need perfect teeth to begin with?

Perfect is how you define it, some people are famous for having gapped tooth smiles such as Gareth Gates and Madonna but they can still have whitening. The great thing about whitening is that it doesn't matter if you teeth are slightly crooked, have gaps or are misshapen they will still respond to teeth whitening. It is also probably one of the most cost effective ways to improve your smile without spending £1000's on cosmetic veneers.

### Is it a just a veneer or the complete tooth?

Teeth whitening doesn't work on veneers as mentioned above but it works on natural teeth, veneers can reshape your smile and give them a whiteness that bleaching could not possibly achieve. The price difference is huge!

### Why should I have it done?

It may improve your confidence, sex life, job prospects / opportunities, because you are embarrassed by your off colour smile. It may

be that you want to give up smoking and have your teeth whitened as a starting point to encourage you... There are lots of reasons!

### Could it all be done in one visit?

Absolutely! In and out in about 90 minutes but professional home whitening with deep bleaching over a period of 2 weeks gives a longer lasting and more dramatic result. However power whitening is great if you have an event that you need to smile for in 3 days!

### Do you have to have regular re-visits to keep them in condition?

After the initial whitening it is recommended that you top your teeth up every 3-6 months to keep them sparkling. The amount of time it lasts depends on your eating, smoking / drinking habits as well as your level of oral hygiene

### Is there a limit to the number of times you can whiten your teeth?

There is no limit to the number of times you can have whitening believe it or not some of our patients whiten their teeth every week on a Thursday night before going out on a Friday. The only downside would be that if you were sensitive to whitening or had sensitive teeth this may cause an issue. Most dentists would recommend topping your whitening up every few months.

### Is it costly?

You should expect to pay between £300 - £700 depending on the brand of whitening

used and the clinic you have the treatment. You can try over the counter treatments at your own risk, however Cosmetic Dentistry Guide would advise that you undertake any treatments with a dentists consultation and if necessary, supervision.

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





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## SAUNA RULES

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Don't be afraid to start something... you never know what it might turn in to.

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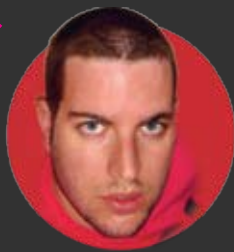
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# ADVICE

## SIMON SAYS



Dear Simon,

I'm really freaked out because I've fallen for a friend. He's a friend who I have sex with I suppose fairly regularly, but he regards it as just 'a friend looking after a friend'. He has a boyfriend, so I suppose I'm a bit on the side, except, I've known him a lot longer than his boyfriend has. I wasn't jealous at first, because he's the type of guy who anyone would want to go to bed with but, I now just hate the thought that he's having sex with anyone but me. How do I deal with it?

Anon - Newcastle

Oh dear, I wonder if you'd feel the same way if you had a boyfriend - as you never mentioned you did I'll assume you don't. If he has a boyfriend and still sleeps around then you have to realize... that is how he is. I suggest you just make yourself a little less available and gradually wean yourself off him. Tell him that although you want to stay friends that you're looking for something a bit more permanent and exclusive and see what his reaction is. It may be good, it may be bad but unless he wants you exclusively too... you might as well say goodbye to him now cos he's not going to change.

Dear Simon,

I'm not sure this 'gay thing' is all it's cracked up to be. I came out a few months ago and all I've seen is stupid, loud, noisy lads drinking too much and getting high. I drink very little and hate the idea of drugs so I'm finding it hard to fit in... do you have any suggestions?

Anon - London

It can be difficult when you hit the 'scene' for the first time and questions are bound to arise: Where exactly do I fit in? Do I have to act a certain way? Am I really like these other people? The answer is - it is entirely up to you. You have shaken off the restrictions of being 'closeted' so now you can be just who you want to be... but... everyone is different. Think about what interests you and search the net... you'll be surprised how many gay groups there are out there and how varied their interest. A little bit of research should help.

Dear Simon,

There is this guy that I've known for a while now and although I really like him we haven't done anything sexual. In fact, I'm not sure if that's where I want a relationship to go as I'm not all that interested in sex, however, I'd like to spend my life with him. Am I just dreaming of something that could never happen?

Jordan - Birmingham

I'm sure there will be many people who disagree but a relationship doesn't always revolve around sex. Building trust and knowing your partner can be the key to a lasting relationship. However, you will have to ask yourself if the fact you don't want a sexual relationship is as a result of some trauma or event in your early life? If it is, maybe it could be sorted with therapy. Also, what do you think the man of your dreams might want. Would no sex be OK for him? If he is content being a good friend, then start being the best friend you can be... if not... let him be!

Dear Simon,

I'd love to be in a porn movie... how do I go about it?

Brian - Manchester

I suggest you go online and search for adult videos companies that make gay porn. Nearly all of them have a "Want to be a Porn Star" tag, so see if you're what they're looking for. Many hold auditions around the country, some are by invitation and some are open but you'll have to check with the company as they aren't usually well advertised. You'll be asked to perform in front of a camera and with others around and if you pass that they'll let you know when/if they need you for a shoot. Before you commit yourself just make sure it really is what you want to do. Once your image is on DVD getting a right rogering, it's hard to deny, in years to come, that it never happened.



## SIDE-EFFECTS OF PARTY DRUGS

There is no way to predict how a party drug, or a combination of party drugs, will affect you or your friends. Remember that the effects of party drugs can vary greatly due to how you are feeling emotionally, where you are and who you are with. Taking drugs when you feel depressed or anxious can make you feel much worse. Physical fitness and weight also alter the impacts of drugs. Combining party drugs with alcohol, prescribed drugs or another party drug can result in unexpected reactions. Watch out for heat exhaustion or overheating in your friends. Symptoms include dizziness, feeling sick, sudden tiredness and headaches or cramps. If you or a friend is feeling anxious, move

away from lights, music and crowds and find a quiet place to chat and calm down. If you see any of the following symptoms in your friends, get medical help:

- Cocaine - confusion and dizziness, combined with a dry throat and/or erratic breathing
- Ketamine - temporary paralysis, nausea, vomiting, or slurring of speech
- Speed - collapse
- Ecstasy - hyperventilation, overheating and unconsciousness
- Poppers - poisonous if swallowed, can cause fainting and collapse
- GHB - overdose symptoms are convulsions, coma and inability to breathe.

## HIGH HIV INFECTIONS AMONG GAY MEN

Recently released figures by the Health Protection Agency (HPA) show that, in 2009, an estimated 2,760 men who have sex with men (MSM) were newly diagnosed with HIV, a slight decrease on the previous year's figures (2773). In 2009, 42% of all new HIV diagnoses were among MSM, and gay men are still by far the most at risk of HIV infection in the UK.

The Health Protection Agency now recommends that GPs should routinely offer HIV tests in places with a high prevalence of HIV. This would include cities with large gay populations, like London, Brighton, and Manchester. Sir Nick Partridge, Terrence Higgins Trust's Chief Executive, said: "Far too many gay men are getting HIV. We have to re-inforce the community norm that

condoms are anticipated, expected and used every time. The decrease in new HIV diagnoses last year shows that we can drive down new infections, and that it takes the whole community working together to achieve this. But, with one in four gay men with HIV remaining undiagnosed, we need to make regular testing for HIV-negative gay men an expected part of safer sex."

Make it a New Year's Resolution - Get Tested!



## CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

### The issues should a partner pass away

Some 6,000 gay and lesbian men and women tied the knot last year in the UK - this still means many thousands of relationships are not recognised in law should one of the partners dies.

There are many couples that do not get a civil partnership or even write a Will, which can store up serious problems.

This can lead to a situation where control of estates goes completely out of the hands

of a partner in the event of a passing. The surviving partner might find that they do not have any rights to the home they live in or even a say in the funeral service wanted. There are other key issues such as not having a Will - civil partners will receive up to £200,000 of the estate with the balance being distributed amongst the partner and family of the deceased. So if the deceased had wanted his or her family to receive assets and the will amounted to less than £200,000, then they would get nothing.

These are just a couple of points that need to be considered amongst many. [www.lanesmithshindler.com/lss/](http://www.lanesmithshindler.com/lss/)





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- 09097 9051 05 Feelin a lads arse at work lead to more
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- 09097 9051 39 Scally in TJ Hughes smellin of cum
- 09097 9051 40 Scally mates find out they are both into cock
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- 09097 9051 42 Scally removes baseball cap and the rest in shop
- 09097 9051 43 Sir likes naked boys wiv big dicks (18)
- 09097 9051 44 Sniffin teenage sweat between balls and thigh
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- 09097 9051 46 Till tonite it woz just about wrestlin fully naked
- 09097 9051 47 Wet naked guy sits on lifeguards lap at the baths
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# URGES

By Les Lea

'Mitchell' was worried. It had been many years since he'd last felt the urge, indeed, since his brain had been the driving force of SP4NK, his reinvention as the Automnibot X max, all his thoughts had been aimed at a much higher level. Solving the BIG questions, developing new theories, inventing the Quintillion Expergerator, justifying the universal laws of Quandramic Function... these were just some of his vast achievements over the past centuries since his brain was taken from his redundant body and given this plasmetal form as its host. SP4NK was now his name and reference and he was surprised that his ancient name 'Mitchell' had suddenly entered into his thought process but at the moment, his head was full of strange and disturbing needs... urges he had given up even when he was a full human, who knew how many hundreds of years ago that was. Time, as he once knew it, just didn't 'compute' in his current form.

It started seven specral days ago as the craft SP4NK was piloting from Globulus 69 encountered that strange 'space goo' that his onboard equipment simply couldn't analyse. It sort of surrounded his craft and held it fast making the power thrusters almost obsolete, although the strange dipping and reversing, the plunging and vibrating of his craft had been very unnerving. SP4NK remembered it was at the final release and massive boost that shot the craft through this space stuff that the very first thoughts of 'Mitchell', a name he'd dumped eons ago, entered into that vast collection of cells, neurons and synaptic connections. His thought process was interrupted. He also remembered the terrific shudder and groan the craft made as it freed itself from whatever it was that held it, controlled it and eventually released it. It was like... it was like... erm... his brain was thinking... what was it like? Somewhere at the back of his mind he had an idea that it meant something, a memory tripped but not yet focused.

But now, with the passing of time, 'Mitchell' had come to mean something more to him. Despite his attempts at analysing the stuff from space he'd encountered and the theories he postulated... none seemed to take his mind off 'Mitchell'. In fact it was very specific, it was 'Mitchell' as a youthful 18 year-old; fresh from the Molecular Advancement University where he'd developed his very first none-quintessential theory of G'netic Panathorus. He was on such a high after it had been published that he and his best friend... erm... it was coming back to him... Blake, yes that's him, Blake had gone out to celebrate. After consuming too much Regulo100 they had returned to their shared rooms and had the most amazing... what was it called? Oh, this was getting frustrating... what was it that they'd had... SEX. That was it. They had incredible sex... Blake taking Mitchell on a journey into the wild

side of his education that he'd simply not known about. SEX, that was it. A simple word that meant everything and now it explained so much. The 'goo', the space craft vibrating, the thrusting, the pitching and tossing... it was all amalgamating into one experience... the sheer pleasure that the first night with Blake had given him. The 'space goo' seemed to be a memory of that moment. The amount of sperm that both had sprayed around; in, on and over each other had blown his momentous theory into the backwaters of his mind as he gave himself over to Blake. They had spent the next week just fucking and sucking and....

SP4NK looked down at his plasmetal frame. The silky smart liquid body shone with a purple luminescence. It replicated the perfect toned body of an Olympic athlete... copied from the ancient marble statues that filled the Global Museum in the capital. His brain may have been hundreds of years old but his body was that of an 18 year-old gymnast. Now his thoughts had returned to that time in his past, his needs and desires creeping into his mind and obliterating his theory on... damn it... he couldn't remember what he was theorising about. His body shook as sensations that had not been part of his quantrillion-cell brain for years blasted into his every thought. His left plasmetal hand reached up and touched his breast while his right plasmetal hand ventured down to his slim glowing hips. SP4NK/Mitchell moaned in anticipation. Alas, his searching right hand found nothing but the silken plasma crotch, a slight bump in the shape of his body, an image of something but in fact zilch. There was nothing there to help with those overpowering urges that had completely over taken every aspect of his being. Once his body was made up from scores of elements, nerves, electrical pulses, bones, flesh and blood... what a time to realise that, in this advanced and highly developed state, he couldn't even have a simple wank to relive all that built up tension.

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## ARIES

(Mar21/Apr20)

The cosmic pattern that's now unfolding favours any effort you make to better yourself and bring improvements into your life. New job projects should get off to a flying start. As the month progresses a few lucky breaks will help you on your way so expect to be taking one more step up the ladder of success. Relationships get better and better. New doors are opening up to you now. An important venture is set underway and you've got a big part to play in it.

## TAURUS

(Apr21/May21)

People you meet as the year begins will get you interested in new subjects and different situations. You want to explore the world outside your usual stamping ground. Travel will be enjoyable over the weeks ahead, especially if you're taking someone along for company. Spend as much time as you can with new friends or a new partner as this will help you in touch with each other's thoughts and feelings.

## GEMINI

(May22/June21)

Legal and partnership matters will go better than anticipated but don't be tempted to push your luck. A mix of paying attention and intuition should make it easy for you to realise when, over the next few weeks, it is best not to make snap decisions. You need time to think over proposals in peace and a partner too needs space to make decisions without being influenced by your incessant chatter! Even though they will mean this in the nicest possible way!

## CANCER

(June22/July23)

Almost as soon as 2011 gets under way you could end up doing a lot more than you bargained for. Friends need advice, colleagues want you to do them favours and everyone asks so nicely you haven't the heart to refuse. Ask what you are really letting yourself in for or by the end of the month you will wish you had made some excuses and always weren't so obliging. You will enjoy many happy moments with someone you love.

## LEO

(July24/Aug23)

From the very start of the year and over the weeks to come, you will experience a phase of increased opportunity. There's also likely to be more chance of improving your job prospects. Someone owns equipment you happen to need. You might offer to do something for them in exchange for a loan of this item. The month ahead is great for pushing through important business transactions. Your talents show in your workmanship and you get to make a start on a long term project.

## VIRGO

(Aug24/Sept23)

Luck surrounds loving couples and close friends. Someone who is special to you or who will grow to mean a lot to you will play a lively part in your activities over the weeks ahead. If you've been unsure about a relationship that began at the

end of last year you might discover your partner cares for you more deeply than you imagined. Sporting events will go well but don't overstretch your physical stamina.

## LIBRA

(Sept24/Oct23)

Keep plans on the flexible side as the year begins and don't commit yourself to anything too binding for over the weeks ahead. Some arrangements may not go as planned and you won't want to feel as if you've got into a situation you can't get out of. Matters that crop up on the domestic scene could take slightly longer to sort out than you bargained for. Welcome the chance to get to know someone who lives nearby a little better, later in the month.

## SCORPIO

(Oct24/Nov22)

Offers made to you as the year begins will clash in that it would mean you have to be in two places at the same time. Because of this all proposals need thorough thinking through. Home and property matters will demand more attention over the weeks ahead. It's only sensible to attend to essential repairs immediately. Any problems that do occur will be fairly minor ones but it will be a lot simpler to deal with them sooner rather than later.

## SAGITTARIUS

(Dec22/Jan20)

When you're dealing with money over the weeks ahead, there may be factors to be taken into account that you aren't yet aware of. January's not a good month to take risks. In business and finance, wherever possible try to get a second opinion. In romance, hasty action may also be regretted. A first date or new relationship will go well and you could find yourself weaving wonderful dreams around someone only to discover later in the month that they never had any intention of this being anything but a fun romantic fling.

## AQUARIUS

(Jan21/Feb19)

You could start the year in a surprisingly quiet and reflective frame of mind. A relationship hasn't gone as expected or a challenge you took up wasn't as successful as hoped and you might feel a little unsure of yourself now. The weeks ahead could be fun if you push negative thoughts out of your head. What's done is done, put it down to experience and start to think positively for the future.

## PISCES

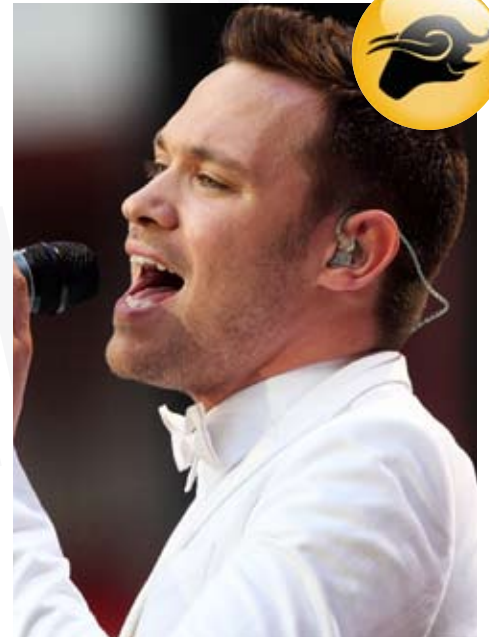
(Feb20/Mar20)

You might be thinking about expanding your interests over the weeks and months ahead. Be realistic Pisces! It might be well to make sure you can fit new projects into an increasingly hectic schedule. A close friend or partner will try to get you interested in joining them in a campaign, fund raising event or community exercise and it would be awful if you've taken on so much elsewhere that you have to let them down.

## CAPRICORN

(Mar21/Apr20)

By nature you are a determined soul who doesn't shirk duty and as 2011 begins, you are very much aware of your responsibilities. You wouldn't ever tackle chores in a slap dash fashion and that's why you could get irritated over the weeks ahead with someone's lackadaisical ways. A new neighbour will be visiting regularly and they never seem in a hurry to go. It could be they're hoping for friendship to turn into something more romantic!



WILL YOUNG 20/01

## CELEBRITY CAPRICORN

22/12 Noel Edmonds	07/01 Nicolas Cage
23/12 Carol Smillie	08/01 David Bowie
24/12 Ricky Martin	09/01 Joely Richardson
25/12 Annie Lennox	10/01 Rod Stewart
26/12 Jared Leto	11/01 Mary J. Blige
27/12 Gerard Depardieu	12/01 Melanie "Sporty Spice" Chisholm
28/12 Denzel Washington	13/01 Orlando Bloom
29/12 Jude Law	14/01 LL Cool J
30/12 Tiger Woods	15/01 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
31/12 Anthony Hopkins	16/01 Kate Moss
01/01 Cate Blanchett	17/01 Jim Carrey
02/01 Cuba Gooding Jr.	18/01 Samantha Mumba
03/01 Mel Gibson	19/01 Dolly Parton
04/01 Michael Stipe	20/01 Will Young
05/01 Marilyn Manson	
06/01 Rowan Atkinson	

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### Competition Time

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5. Winners will be notified within 28 days after the competition closes.
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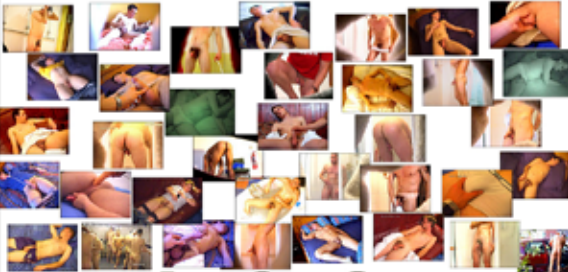
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