

ISSN 1745-3050
9 1745 3050 0001
£1.95 €3.00

bent



THE STUD ADVANTAGE

With Dorian Black

Rikki Beadle-Blair • Alexander Bracq • Carsten Andersson



O2-UK 10:40 AM



Hunky
Athletic male
621 metres



Hunky Lad
Athletic male
621 metres
Online



What can I say? I like to keep fit and play sports. I love going to concerts and gigs. I'd like to think I'm a good catch. Let's find out if its tru.

Hobbies

Rugby, Football, Tennis
Going to the cinema
and meeting



Matty
Friendly Lad
2128 metres 25
Age 28
Height 185cm
Weight 85kg
Hair White



Bit of rough
;-D
3129 metres Online



Andy B
Friendship & more?

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- SEARCH BY LOCATION
- EASY & INSTANT ACCESS



HUNDREDS OF GUYS AT HOME OR ON THE MOVE...

FUNCTION
ACCESS

search 'gayxchange' on itunes

Available on the iPhone
 **App Store**

Editors Words



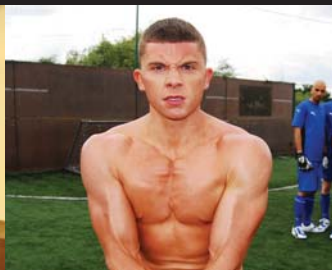
Page 32 **The Stud Advantage**



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Carsten Andersson



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Terry George in Rio



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Kick Off

With the world in disarray; what with earthquakes, tsunamis, people uprising against autonomous self-serving oligarchs and the continued tension throughout the UK as prices hit an all-time high, the jobless figures are through the roof and there appears to be no future for the country's youth, why am I, a middle aged, comfortably well off, happily married gay guy... so bloody angry with everything?

There are things that I cannot influence, there are those things that even if I could influence I would perhaps choose not to and yet the feeling of futility is all pervading. I know there are some who fall to their knees in prayer and call on some ephemeral character to put the world to rights. Alas, as people have been doing this for thousands and thousands of years, and we're still no better off, I think we can forget about the chances of divine intervention. Despite this, I feel the need to do something. I could send all my money to a charity but... I have always been dubious about such organisations. There is no doubt that some do a fantastic job but there are many that don't and I play the caution game before I dip into my pocket. Also, I often wonder why a country of our supposed wealth actually needs a charity base? I may be very naive here but couldn't we fund everything from public money? After all our government bodies seem happy to waste our taxes on the most stupid things - I am referring to the fact that the Ministry of Defence recently reported that they pay £22 for a 65p light bulb and of course this is but one of the many misuses of our finances.

I could go on and list other such financial black holes... and the part that politicians, accountants,

bankers and big corporates play in this deceit... but it only makes me even angrier.

To relax, I watched a game of football. I'm not particularly partisan but the sight of watching 22 healthy young guys in shorts, running around displaying their skills for 90 minutes, has aesthetic qualities other than the actual game. One of the teams wore a very nice blue strip, while then other team wore a rather fetching cerise (some might call it a deep pink) shirt that had the commentators agog with wonder. Of course we grown-ups don't bat an eyelid over a colour but, the retarded folk who pontificate on the game seemed horrified at such an 'effeminate' transgression. Perhaps they'd like to share their views with the various rugby teams that have been wearing pink in support of a charity for a couple of years now. Alas, this attitude in football makes it more and more difficult for gay players to come out (and bless the young Swedish player who has the balls to do just that) when these dumb fucks conjure up 'demons' where there aren't any.



Oh hell, I better go lie down as I can feel I'm getting angry again and I don't want to take it out on the Bent office boy... oh well... maybe it will make me feel a bit better!

"COLIN... get your arse in here!"

Gordon



APRIL 2011 // ISSUE 147

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NEXT ISSUE OUT // 3RD MAY

Distribution and Availability
08712 246 529

Clubs & Bars Distribution
Dale Express

Bent Ltd. APN House, Leeds LS11 8BP

SUBSCRIPTION
Tel: 08712 246 529
Web: mag.bent.com

Basic annual rate:
UK £36.00
International Call:
+44 113 3449529

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Fax: 08701 222 666

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A product of a sustainable resource

Image by Jaime Sylla. Benches by Leo Asemota



BE SWITCHED ON

As LGBT people we've all faced discrimination. Within our own community some of us also feel excluded because of the colour of our skin. A divided community makes us all weaker.

Embrace diversity in our community.

To hear the stories of our rainbow spokes-models, go to www.gmfa.org.uk/SwitchedOn

Charity No. 1076854



Big Up is the volunteer group working to improve Black gay men's health. To volunteer for Big Up, or any other GMFA group, or to make a donation, visit www.gmfa.org.uk or call 020 7738 6872. For more information on HIV, AIDS and safer sex for gay men, visit www.gmfa.org.uk





Bites

Volunteer for Pride?

Manchester Pride, the city's annual lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) festival is looking for volunteers for this year's event, which takes place from Friday 19 August – Monday 29 August 2011.

The charity organisation is seeking volunteers from a wealth of backgrounds to help festival attendees from the UK (and beyond) have a fantastic time in Manchester and enjoy every moment of their stay. Volunteers will learn new skills, meet lots of great people and have fun whilst helping to deliver a world-class event. Opportunities that are available include Big Weekend crew, promotions assistants, parade stewards and parade collectors.

Matt Horwood, a Manchester Pride volunteer, said: "I have been volunteering with Manchester Pride for three months now, and have enjoyed every second of what I do. The office ethic is fantastic, the goals the organisation work towards amicable, and I have had a lot of fun along the way. I cannot wait for Manchester Pride 2011 and helping secure, with my fellow volunteers, that it enjoys the best birthday ever."

To register as a volunteer with Manchester Pride, please call: **0161 831 7700** download the application pack via www.manchesterpride.com

Morrissey on tour

The man with a cat on his head Morrissey, actually he's probably know for other things than that, has announced he plans to tour the UK starting in June.

There can hardly be a gay boy of a certain age who hasn't identified with the young Stephen Patrick Morrissey lyrics or felt the pain of 'being different' in what can be a very cruel world.

As there is 'The Very Best Of Morrissey' album planned, with a track list chosen by the man himself, we can only hope that this tour will be bit of a belter.

The former Smiths frontman will play a total of nine dates with support from Flats, Mona and Brother.

www.gigwise.com



Heady delights

The new Jaybird Sportsband 2 Bluetooth Headphones produce a bass-rich Bluetooth music experience with any regular Bluetooth music device. Listen to your iPod, MP3 player, iPhone and even take calls via this sleek, colourful device. It comes with apt-X on board, which cleans up, adds depth, bass and treble to your Bluetooth music with technical specifications matching that of CD quality output. Choose from a selection of cool colours: Midnight Black, Toffee Apple, Sonic Blue, Runners Red.

www.Firebox.com



Whats on // Manchester



Eggciting Cruz

Manchester's Cruz 101 is a unique gem of a club unrelenting in its popularity even in the current thrifty climate. The guys have just won Best Club in the UK's Pink Paper Awards voted for by you guys and being a true gay-party-club with a reputation most clubs would die for, and open 6 nights a week, Cruz is the destination for the gay clubbing community of Manchester.

Since the team at Cruz love a party, the end of April is like Christmas come early - except it's not Christmas - it's Easter! Plus Wills & Kate have given us all a free day off making this April particularly special - four bank holidays in two weeks. Whoo Hoo!! We gays love an excuse to party! This Easter the club kicks things off with its weekly night with pop giant Poptastic as they go Back2Back in a six hour marathon session with John Hamilton playing the trashiest pop he can muster on the main floor and Rob James funking things up in Sub with a special trance/house mash-up. Be warned this is a first-come first-served basis so make sure you get there early. Easter Friday see's Miss Cara making an Easter outing to host an 'egg-stra' special BigGayFriday with a camp-it-up retro pop night on the main floor and a more housey thing going on downstairs. Saturday sees the return of the now legendary 'ExpertsInPop' night hosted every Saturday at the club with the

gay scene's biggest names on rotation. Almighty Donald (it's all in the name) presents a mix of pop and chart music others can only hope of dreaming to copy. Sunday is all about an edgy pop funky house mash-up sure to get the neighbours complaining from DJ Spook whilst Monday's Disco Inferno featuring Eurovision part 1 closes the weekend.

A couple of days off and things are off again with the build up to the Gay Village-wide 'Best of British Weekend' to celebrate all things Britain and the wedding of Wills & Kate. Expect a Royal Weekend of parties from Cruz (see advert in this magazine for full details) kicking off with Back2Back & Poptastic on the Thursday, the BigGayFriday, RoyaltyPlaysPop on the Saturday, SundayNightScreamers. Pushing the weekend all the way into Monday where it belongs, the conclusion of this batch of gay-romping is the 'Now that's what I call Disco Inferno' special Best of British featuring the best of the original boy bands. Expect a whole load of tracks from the 80's & 90's like Duran Duran and Bros.

Don't miss out - you'll regret it.

Full info on each night : www.cruz101.com/whatson



Manchester's Favourite Gay Venue

St George's Day

CRUZ
101

Easter

Thursday 21st - Monday 25th April

Thursday 21st April • 11pm - 6am

Back2Back

Cruz & Poptastic shacked-up in bed together!

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

Floor 2 • Rob James • Funky & Electro House

Friday Bank Holiday 22nd April • 11pm - 6am

Big Gay Friday

Miss Cara gets all patriotic in the run up to St George's Day

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

Floor 2 • Rob James • Funky & Electro House

Saturday 23rd April • 11pm - 6am

St George's Day Experts In Pop

The ultimate Saturday night out in the Village

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

Floor 2 • Nik Denton & Guests

Sunday 24th April • 11pm - 6am

SundayNight Screammers

Make the most of your extended weekend!

Floor 1 • Spook • Edgy Pop & Funky House mash-up

Monday Bank Holiday 25th April • 11pm - 5am

Disco Inferno

Tonights featured artist is the sound of Eurovision

Floor 1 • Dino • 4 decades of Pop & Disco

PinkPaper
readers'
awards
2011

Winner
Best Club
In The
North West



Photo: Darrell Hirst

Bites

The Boy is back

I suppose in many ways Boy George has never been away. He may not have had a hit record in the last umpteen years but he's still never been far from the headlines.

Recently he told Gaydar Radio that he might be planning on reforming his old band Culture Club. He said: "Next year would be our 30-year anniversary and I just think it's a great opportunity to do something really fun and we're going to do a mental show." He went on to say: "The drag's back and the

stuff that influenced me from the '70s. All of that. We're going to out-GaGa GaGa."

Meanwhile, as he approaches his 50th birthday, in an interview with The Observer he was asked if he was

still shocked to be so well-loved after the many ups and downs of his lengthy career.

"I know that there are some people who don't like me and that kind of surprises me more than the people who love me," he said. "I mean, I don't dislike anybody, really. Sometimes my friends are so judgemental and critical and I'm just grateful I'm not in that space." Asked if he was always so easy-going, George admitted: "No! No, I was awful, the worst. I kept reading all these nasty things I'd said about people. If you're concentrating on someone else's drama then you ain't got to deal with yours."

Colourful Casio

These retro watches are bang on trend this season, complementing the current fashion craze for colour blocking. Choose from an array of acid bright styles including shocking pink, zesty orange and neon yellow, while those searching for a more subtle look should opt for the new pastel coloured collection from Casio.

Currently priced at £11.10 at www.amazon.co.uk



Make Dance Apps

Have you been waiting for the spotlight to find you? Have you been wishing for dance moves to come your way? Featuring live footage of some of the biggest names on the British dance scene, MAKE DANCE PARTY and MAKE DANCE STREET apps teach dance lovers the coolest dance moves out there to make you stand out from the crowd! From Salsa and Hip-Hop to Dancehall, Popping and straight-up fun grooves, the app teaches users over 30 different moves to practice and there is even a slow-motion function to help you perfect them all.

MAKE DANCE from the Apple App store for just £1.79 today!



Whats on // Manchester



Club HD

Club HD is Manchester's newest club venue, with a launch party on Saturday the 9th April featuring Pav Percussion originally from Hed Kandi (a one man orchestra!) and hussle residents Psyche & Freerunner on the decks playing tuff & dirty house til 5am (only £5 entry b4 midnight)!

Paul Stacey and Nathan Carroll teamed up to create Club HD to bring back true music-led attitude-free clubbing to Manchester's gay/mixed scene. Nathan's playground was Paradise Factory and the infamous Manto 'Breakfast Club', having clubbed or worked in the best the northwest has to offer inc Federation, Speed Queen, Space, Stinkys etc. Paul also owns Showtech UK (www.showtechuk.com) which provides sound and music equipment to performances and venues nationwide.

Club HD therefore has a state-of-the-art music and entertainment system with intelligent lighting and a full colour lazer. The interior is cool, minimalistic and industrial with a mezzanine lounge area and a dance area and balcony which perfectly feeds the energy in the venue between the

DJs and the crowd. A brand new slick bar adds to the finished product. Hussle, Sin:ergy & Toolbox are 3 major promotions over the last decade renowned for bringing a crowd from across the UK to their events. Jeremy Cozens will be promoting his house night hussle in Club HD every Saturday plus his classic hardhouse night Sin:ergy on Easter Sunday 24th April & the Spring Break Hol on 29th May. Nik Denton is promoting his Toolbox event on May Day Bank Holiday Sunday 1st May (for full line-ups see advert), pushing the boundaries with the best DJ talent and entertainment. With a strict no-attitude policy which runs from staff through to customers, HD looks to attract a mix open minded clubbers of all ages with its fresh image and intimate layout. The venue is steeped in clubbing history. It was an pioneering gay club in the early 80's, 'Archway' inspired by London's gay night 'Heaven' before becoming leading indie venue 'The Brickhouse' during the 'Madchester' days. The venue owners & promoters alike are looking to put Arch 66 back on the clubbing map.

A new Club HD is born



MANCHESTER'S BRAND NEW CLUBBING VENUE



hussle

LAUNCH NIGHT: SATURDAY 9TH APRIL
11PM TILL 5AM

SPECIAL LIVE GUEST: PAV PERCUSSION (HED KANDI)

PLUS WEEKLY SATURDAYS DJS ON ROTATION:
PSYCHE | FREERUNNER | BINI | D&G | JTL | MORE TBC

ENTRY: £5.00 B4 MIDNIGHT // £8.00 AFTER



EASTER SUNDAY 24TH APRIL 10PM TILL 4AM
SPECIAL GUEST DJ: KARIM

NEXT EVENT: BANK HOLIDAY SUNDAY 29TH MAY
SPECIAL GUEST DJ: IAN M

PLUS DJS ON ROTATION: BIG BRETT | TONY TAYLOR | JASON FORD
LITTLE MISS NATALIE | STEVE-NRG | TIM 'FLASH' GORDON | KRS

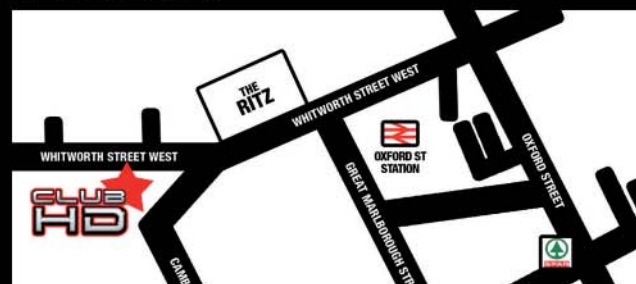
ENTRY: EARLY BIRD TICKETS £5.00 // STANDARD TICKETS: £8.00 // OR PAY ON THE DOOR // MOTD



BANK HOLIDAY SUNDAY 1ST MAY 10PM - 4AM
FRUIT MACHINE | BEN STEVENS | NIK DENTON
FRANK FARRELL | DAVE OWENS | ROSS HOMSON
ROBBIE MUIR | RICH RESONATE

ENTRY: EARLY BIRD TICKETS £5.00
STANDARD TICKETS: £8.00 // OR PAY ON THE DOOR // MOTD
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM WWW.TOOLBOXMUSICSHOP.COM

CLUB HD | ARCH 66 | WHITWORTH STREET | MANCHESTER | M1 5WQ
2 FLOORS | BALCONY | FULL COLOUR LAZER | LAST ENTRY 3AM
WWW.HDCLUBBING.COM



Manchester Scene Report

Manchester is rightly seen as one of the country's top gay destinations. Although not as big as London, it boasts a compact and decidedly varied scene, with prices that won't exactly break the bank. Bent magazine's Features Editor, Adam Lowe, has been trawling through the city's haunts for the past few months. Purely for research purposes, you understand.



Crunch

Crunch makes the perfect first stop on any tour of the gay scene. Drop in to get cash from their free indoor ATM, neck five shots for a fiver and glug on a couple of double vodka cokes. The lot will come to less than £10 if you have a Crunch card, and will net you points to spend in future. What's not to love? They also have cocktails upstairs in Upper Crunch and cheesy pop downstairs in Under Crunch.

The Thompson's

Arms

Thompson's is cheap, cheerful and dragtastic. Miss Thunderpussy is the resident tranny who takes to the stage every Thursday and Sunday, belting out hits like 'Poundland' (to the tune of 'Downtown') and 'Gonorrhoea' (to the tune of 'Mama Mia'). Occasionally she'll also treat fans to 'I Will Follow Him' from Sister Act. The toilets stink, the house vodka is vile and most of the regulars look like victims from Chernobyl dressed by Geri Halliwell—but the place has an irresistible charm that can't be denied. See you there!

AXM

Affectionately referred to as GayXM, this bar is narrow but always thronging with punters. It has gaudy lights, friendly staff and the tiniest dancefloor in the world (that looks like a flashing Rubik's Cube). Mid-week and Sundays are popular with the local queens.

Baa Bar

Colourful, spangly and with more students than the NUS, Baa Bar is full of brightly coloured drinks and teeth-rotting shooters.

Taurus

Taurus is a warm, friendly bar, known for its events. At the very heart of the community, Taurus hosts weddings, fringe theatre productions and literary events. It also has a charming staff and comfortable surroundings.

Manto

Set over three floors, Manto is one of the original features of Canal Street—and appeared in the original Queer as Folk back in the day. There's a really welcoming atmosphere and the covered, heated balcony makes for perfect summer afternoons.

Vanilla

Lesbians always have one destination in mind: Vanilla. Not really of interest to anyone who hasn't got a manic craving for mince, but useful if you want to rid yourself of the women in your party. Just walk past and watch as they peel off and got lost. Then the remaining boys can go off to do what boys do best.

Velvet Lounge Bar

Velvet is the plush, super stylish bar you'll want to visit if you're an urban professional. The colours are dark, deep reds, purples and golds, and there's a nice range of drinks on offer. The big sofas will swallow even the biggest butts and the downstairs restaurant is the place to dine on Canal Street.

Eden

Across the canal of the street's namesake, Eden offers a brasserie-style bar and restaurant. Come here for a shot of absinthe on a night out, or for a bite to eat during the day.

View

Upstairs is full of sofas and tellies, while downstairs is a sprawling dancefloor with plenty of crevices to pull fit young boys in.

Poptastic

Set within Alter Ego, beneath Princess Street, Poptastic plays cheesy pop and popular indie every Tuesday and Saturday. Tuesdays are predominantly for gay students and their faghags, but Saturdays tend to have a much more diverse crowd. Ask any self-respecting scene queen, and he will tell you 'proper' gays don't go on the Tuesdays. They leave that to the kids instead.

New Union

Another bar to feature in Queer as Folk, the New Union is an old-fashioned gay bar with the kind of clientèle that entails.

Company Bar

A dark but friendly leather bar, which offers something different to the sparkle and glitter of Canal Street. Even the posh twink we escorted there found himself wanting to stay.

VIA

Via snakes and winds through an oddly shaped building. It has a very traditional 'pub' feel and sports a dancefloor downstairs. The overwhelming impression, however, is of bannisters and church pews flung together to make a quaint but vibrant scene space.

New York New York

Regular cabaret keeps the crowds pouring through the door, particularly with Peggy Wessex on alternate Sundays. The perfect venue for camp times and pre-club drinking.

Queer

Queer is the clubbing equivalent of Fanta: sugary, sweet and very, very orange. Watch tanorexic princesses strut their stuff to house music, burning holes in the walls with evil eyes signposted by overplucked eyebrows. Downstairs is Glam, which is dirtier, camper and much, much darker.

Cruz101

Cruz is something of a legend in Manchester. The hardcore clubbers will be downstairs in Freakshow there every Saturday, and the scene queens will be onstage for camp games on Thursdays. A regular phrase among Mancunians is 'CTC?' (short for 'Crunch/Thompson's/Cruz?').

Essential

Essential has changed directions to many times it's like a weathervane in Hurricane Katrina. Now it's been revamped (again) and looks the best it has in a while. It also boasts ridiculously late licences and frequently has X Factor rejects performing live on stage.

G-A-Y (Coming Soon)

Taking over at Spirit on Canal Street is the latest venue to carry the G-A-Y name. Jeremy Joseph and his team have invested in Manchester to bring a little bit of their heavenly touch to the gay capital of the North. Expect twinks-a-plenty once the venue receives its finishing touches... the venue is already advertising for staff and an early spring opening is anticipated.



See the people of Manchester village sing Lady GaGa's Born This Way: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1kcr9T5Ni70>




CRUZ 101

The Royal Weekend

Thursday 28th April - Monday 2nd May

Thursday 28th April • 11pm - 5am

Back2Back

Cruz & Poptastic reign the dancefloor
 Floor 1 • John Hamilton • Poptastic Pop, Dance & RnB
 Floor 2 • Rob James • Funky & Electro House

Friday 29th April • 11pm - 5am

Big Gay Friday

Miss Cara invites you to her 'Royal knees-up!'
 Floor 1 • Spook • Pop, Disco, Dance & RnB
 Floor 2 • Rob James • Funky & Electro House

Saturday 30th April • 11pm - 6am

Experts In Pop

The Cruz residents play the best Pop in town!
 Floor 1 • Almighty Donald • Pop, Disco, Dance & RnB
 Floor 2 • Nik Denton & Guests

Sunday 1st May • 11pm - 6am

SundayNight Screamers

The only place to spend your Sunday
 Floor 1 • Spook • Edgy Pop & Funky House mash-up

Monday Bank Holiday 2nd May • 11pm - 5am

Disco Inferno

This week's featured artist is Duran Duran
 Floor 1 • Dino • 4 decades of Pop & Disco

**"One requests the pleasure
 of your company to help
 Manchester's Favourite
 Gay Venue celebrate
 the Royal Wedding."**



Bites

Cleveland Street The Musical

Queen Victoria is on the throne. Not far away, Post Office Telegraph messenger boys are being recruited for a male brothel in a smart townhouse in Cleveland Street W1. Among their clients are Lords, politicians - and possibly even the Queen's grandson. Set to a fabulous, rollicking score this is a wicked and bawdy tale of sex, lies, hypocrisy and cover-ups.

Above the Stag Theatre:
15 Bressenden Place,
London SW1E 5DD
Dates: 26th April to 29th May
Box Office: 020 8932 4747

clevelandstreetthemusical.com
and www.abovestag.com

NOTE: This production contains male nudity

Gay Art for a Fest

GFEST – Gaywise FESTival has announced the call for entries - open to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGB & T) and queer artists - the festival accepts submissions in 3 main categories : Short Films, Visual Arts and Performances.

This will be fifth year for GFEST and Arts Council England has supported the ever evolving festival programme over the past 4 years. GFEST was forced to face a controversy last year when its visual arts exhibition was deemed partly unsuitable for some children's groups by the exhibition venue in Camden last year.

GFEST is internationally recognised as high profile festival by media and other festivals. The festival is supported by celebrities like Stephen Fry, Sarah Waters and Peter Tatchell, as well as ministers and politicians from both sides of the House.

For further info:
www.gaywisefestival.org.uk



The Hippo and The Leper The Musical

iPhone/iPad App (By Darren Bolton)

If you've ever longed to find the perfect fella, then you'll probably appreciate the plight of the title characters in Darren Bolton's musical storybook *The Hippo and The Leper*. The unlikely duo discovers love, heartache and the problems of falling for a guy with leprosy in this bittersweet story App for iPad and iPhone. With melancholy songs, special features and original illustrations by Anastasia Neislotova, this is a bizarre tale of two males and their acceptance of the hand that fate dealt them.

Whats on // Manchester



Fed on the move

Manchester is still at fever pitch over the exciting news that Federation has moved across town to the amazing club 'Sankeys' at Beehive Mills. The club has recently undergone a massive refurbishment and was voted 'Worldwide Club of the Year' in Mixmag 2010. With Federation hosting such an amazing space this is sure to be an awesome night. Federation will now offer three rooms of music with our funky, chunky and tuff house in the main room, Federation Classics in room two and New York Electronic Disco in room three.

Room 1: Federation Main Room with Nik Denton, Jason Guy and Gregg Holden

Room 2: Federation Classics with Stuart Robinson & Thaddeus

Room 3: Federation Electronique with Trafford Lovething

Tickets £12.00 on sale until 8pm on the day of the event from:

Manchester: Clone Zone, Taurus, Manto, Velvet, Village Off License and Spar (Oxford Road/Piccadilly Approach & Piccadilly Gardens)
Leeds: Fibre or Online from: Ticketweb.co.uk and Sankeys.info Or pay more on the door.

Sankey's Disco Bus: Save your energy for the dance-floor and jump on the free Disco Bus which will leave from outside Chorlton Street (outside the old Bar Risa / Opposite Churchill's) every 30 minutes from 11pm until 2am. Just hop on, it's Free.

Federation Manchester
Easter Bank Holiday Sunday 24th April & Spring Bank Holiday Sunday 29th May

11pm-5am @ Sankeys, Beehive Mills, Radium Street, Manchester M4 6AY
www.clubfederation.com
www.sankeys.info





FEDERATION™

EASTER BANK HOLIDAY

SUNDAY 24TH APRIL 2011

SANKEYS . MANCHESTER . 11PM - 5AM

Sankeys, Beehive Mills, Radium Street, Manchester M4 6AY



Tickets £12 on sale until 8pm on the day of the event from:

Manchester: Clone Zone, Taurus, Manto, Velvet, Village Off Licence and Spar (Oxford Road/Piccadilly Approach & Piccadilly Gardens) **Leeds:** Fibre
On Line: Ticketweb.co.uk and Sankeys.info / or pay more on the door

Sankey's Disco Bus:

Leaves from Chorlton Street (outside the old Bar Risa / Opposite Churchill's) every 30 minutes from 11pm until 2am. **Just hop on, it's Free.**

www.clubfederation.com / www.sankeys.info

NEXT EVENT: BANK HOLIDAY SUNDAY 29TH MAY

DANCE TRAX

With Jason Guy

Easter Sunday can't come quick enough as the North's finest gay house night moves to it's new home of Sankeys – the world's Number 1 club. Catch me playing from 1-3 in the main room. Find out more at www.clubfederation.com. As usual, you can download my monthly podcast - simply search for 'Jason Guy' in iTunes or download directly from www.jasonguy.podomatic.com. If you'd like to see your track, club, or event featured here, contact me at jason@bent.com.



Olav Basoski
New Day (Defected)

Taken from Defected's Miami Battle Weapons 2011 collection of upfront and unreleased remixes that stole the show at this year's Winter Music Conference. Last seen flying the flag for Defected over 10 years ago, Olav is well and truly back in the form that made him one of the most celebrated house producers of recent times. Described by the man himself as "half house, half disco", this will be played everywhere all summer! Catchy vocals, funky breakdown and a driving baseline. What's not to like!



Jon Craig
Malmo (Toolbox House)

Toolbox House starts its 2011 account with Manchester based producer Jon Craig's huge progressive floor filler 'Malmo'. Fresh from 2 huge releases on the almighty Axis & Pornstar labels Jon has certainly kicked the door down to 2011 with a massive and impressive thud, ultimately clearing the way for what looks set to be a promising year. Label owner Nik Denton gets in on the action for the one and only remix on this release, beefing up the bass line, forging some extra riffs and offering up a tougher progressive version for the DJs and floors that like to take it harder. Exactly the kind of production Nik is loved for!



Nelson Grover
Awake (Animal Language)

The first artist to sign to Dutch producers' Mason's Animal Language label, and what a way to launch! Awake is a bouncy and chunky slab of house with one of the mothers of all piano breaks that teases like a go-go boy on heat, before smacking you in the mouth with its huge uplifting hook. If ever there was a tune made for peak, then this is it! Plenty of remix options to choose from, but the label owner's is far and away the standout choice!



Sander van Doorn Featuring Carol Lee
Love Is Darkness (Spinnin' Records)

Already receiving support from some of the big guns including Judge Jules & Armin Van Buuren, the first ever track from Van Doorn that includes vocals in set to be huge! It's the words that make this track, written by vocalist Carol Lee about the pain and fragility that occurs during a fractured relationship. Not exactly the happiest of tracks, but head straight for the Manual De La Mare remix and try not dancing around to it! As the promo wording goes... "if you were expecting a love song, then move along!" A big room anthem if ever there was one.

Whats on // Manchester



FREAKSHOW

Freakshow - A new beginning...not the end!

Ladies and Gentleman, we have an announcement to make about the future of Freakshow in Manchester. After much discussion and deliberation we have decided to move forward in a different way with the brand during 2011 and concentrate on running more high profile, high production value events at alternative locations and spaces to the village as with our sister brand Federation. Our company has always been about providing something exciting and different for our customers and we feel that this can only be achieved if we run less events and concentrate on quality not quantity. This means that unfortunately Freakshow will no longer be a weekly Saturday night at Sub 101 after Saturday 2nd April. We have enjoyed some great nights at Sub and would like to dearly thank Gerard and his team for letting us

use the club for the last few months but we feel that the time is right for us to go in a different direction. The final night will feature DJs Andy Mac, Jason Guy and Nik Denton so we really do hope you can join us to say Farewell to Sub 101.

We have already got our first big Freakshow event sorted and we are really excited as the venue is fantastic! So put a make a date in your diary for Bank Holiday Sunday 1st May when we'll be taking over the stunning 'Avici White' 111A Deansgate, Manchester M3 2BQ from 11pm until late.

Thanks to all our loyal Freakshow customers and we hope to see you at Sub for the final blowout or at our new party in just a few weeks!

Gareth, Shaun and the Freakshow team XX



FROM THE CREATORS OF FEDERATION & UNI-CHALLENGE



FREAKSHOW

A LITTLE BIT CRAZY...

**BANK HOLIDAY SUNDAY
1ST MAY 2011**

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gaydar.co.uk

WWW.CLUBFREAKSHOW.COM


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Bites

Iolanthe

Universally regarded as Sir Arthur Sullivan's most beautiful score, the all-male production of *Iolanthe* is a topsyturvy love story involving fairies and members of the House of Lords. Set in a public boy's school it's a perfectly pertinent story for today, where a coalition is wittily struck between the Liberals and Conservatives. A political fairy tale that only Gilbert and Sullivan could conceive!

Wilton's Music Hall, Graces Alley, off Ensign Street, London E1 8JB
On now until the 7th May

Box Office: 020 7702 2789
www.wiltons.org.uk

Swedish Soccer star comes out

If you missed it the latest sporting star to come out is a young Swedish footballer called Anton Hysen who announced he is gay in an interview with *Offside* magazine. The 20-year-old, who has been capped for the country's youth team plays for Swedish 4th tier side Utsiktens BK.

He told the magazine today that it was "fucked up" that no other Swedish player had come out yet.

"I am a footballer and gay. If I perform as a footballer, then I do not think it matters if I like girls or boys". He also admitted that the announcement could affect his career, but pointed out that other players had to deal with issues like racism from coaches and team bosses.

"That is their problem and not mine," he told the magazine. "People may call me anything they want, it will just make me even more psyched."

Meanwhile, in the *Star* newspaper, PR guru Max Clifford has said that sadly there are at least two Premiership players who are hiding their sexuality and are in fear of being 'outed'.



Bubbleology

Bubble Tea is set to be the newest tea craze to hit our shores, with a huge following already in Chinatown NYC and throughout the USA, Australia, Canada and all of Asia. Bubbleology will bring this cult drink into the heart of London.



Served warm or cool, Bubble Tea drinks have a red, white or green tea base which are infused with delicious fruit flavourings, with the unique and hugely addictive addition of Tapioca pearls at the bottom.

The teas come in 13 varieties and are either fruit or milk based. The fruit based teas are made with green or red tea, and come in a number of fantastic flavours.

The teas are priced at £2.95 for standard and £3.35 for extra large cups.

Bubbleology, 49 Rupert Street, Soho, London

www.bubbleology.co.uk



Whats on // Huddersfield

The Underground @ Lily's

The Underground@ Lily's is a new name, with new ideas, new entertainment and becomes the latest gay venue for Huddersfield. Formerly Bar Nefertiti, ex New Union hosts Danielle and Pat have taken the place over, given it a damn good scrub and now invite the local gay community to come and have some fun. With drinks offers, competitions, drag and the

occasion showcase spectacular the premium is on a party atmosphere that isn't going to break the bank. There will also be karaoke nights for those who think they could be the next Susan Boyle... or Olly Murs ... and earn a prize while doing so, the mic is just waiting for your dulcet tones.



Music Competition

NOW 78 – That's What I Call Music

Who needs the Easter Bunny when the biggest & best Now album is about to land. Now 78 is bursting at the seams with the biggest pop hits known to radio, spread over 2 CDs & over 40 tracks Now 78 has been expertly picked to keep the speakers pumping this spring! Bringing you the biggest and best means we've included the latest radio smash from JLS ft Tinie Tempah 'Eyes Wide Shut', and Britney Spears' 'Hold It Against Me'. Now 78 is the only album where you can just sit back & leave hit after hit playing. It's the perfect album to shed those winter blues to & a reminder that it's time to pack those winter scarf's away.



To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this double CD, just answer this simple question:
What explosive device did Bruno Mars sing about?

Win This
Turn to page 62 for details

Out: 11th April - Label: EMI TV



HUDDERSFIELD



EASTER SUNDAY

**WITH LUCY LASTIC
& DJ PEPE**

MONDAY	CLOSED
TUESDAY	FREE POOL DRINK OFFERS
WEDNESDAY	CASH POT KARAOKE WITH SARAH JAY
THURSDAY	FREE POOL DRINK OFFERS
FRIDAY	"PICK & MIX" MUSIC THROUGH THE AGES WITH DJ PEPE
SATURDAY	THE FRESH & FUNKY SOUNDZ OF DJ PEPE
SUNDAY	HER NAMES NOT LOLA, SHES NOT A SHOW GIRL BUT COME TO OUR CABARET (DRAG QUEEN ONCE A MONTH)

COMING SOON
THURSDAYS
FUN & GAMES
WITH MINCY MOOSE

Northumberland Street, HD1 1DT Huddersfield

Divas Deliver

Hot on the heels of Billie Ray Martin's new solo single 'Sweet Suburban Disco' comes a stunning collaboration with darlings of the underground Hard Ton.

On a new song entitled 'Sold Life' and a cover of Phuture Phantasy Club's classic 'Fantasy Girl', Billie returns to her classic house beginnings and a nod to her Electribe 101 roots.

After first appearing as a guest singer on electro pioneers S-Express's hit single 'Hey Music Lover' (as well as two tracks on their debut album), Billie Ray Martin came to greater prominence leading the acclaimed deep house act Electribe 101, her unique voice hitting the house scene and charts alike with a serious infusion of soul. Electribe 101 scored a brace of hits including the classic "Talking With Myself" before Billie departed to continue exploring fusions of electronic music, pop and soul. After releasing the thoroughly scary "Persuasion" with Spooky and the monumentally beautiful "Four Ambient Tales" with The Grid, Billie found herself with a worldwide number 1 in "Your Loving Arms"; now considered one of the all-time classics of dance music. Three more hits and the album "Deadline for My Memories" followed.

Sold Life E.P. Out: 26th April – Disco Activisto



Whats on // Leeds

Steak – a claim

If you are out and about in Leeds and feeling hungry we can recommend a trip down Call Lane to the First Floor Grill above Brooklyn Bar. These days we are constantly told to cut down on our intake of red meat but that would be a huge mistake (sorry) mistake as this place has the tastiest and tenderest steaks in town. The grill boasts that, where possible, all ingredients are sourced locally and you can really tell the high quality with each flavourful bite. Fear not if you're not a beef lover as there are plenty of other mouth-watering entrees and

a fantastic selection of tasty puds on offer.

With a well-stocked bar downstairs and a selection of wine, beer and cocktails to enjoy on either level, you can quite happily spend an entire evening enjoying tasty treats... at a reasonable price.

First Floor Grill, above Brooklyn Bar, Call Lane, Leeds

Tel: 0113 2443932

www.firstfloorgrill.co.uk

Utter relief!

England and Surrey wicketkeeper Steven Davies is the first professional cricketer to come out. The 24 year-old said that he told his team mates and they were fine with it and admits: "This is the right time for me. I'm comfortable with who I am – and happy to say who I am in public. I feel it is right to be out in the open about my sexuality. If more people do it, the more acceptable it will become. That must be a good thing." He went on to say: "To speak out is a massive relief for me. If I can just help one person to deal with their sexuality, then that's all I care about."

Davies publicly praised his teammates and management, in particular Andrew Strauss and Matt Prior, and the England team director Andy Flower, for the way they had handled the situation. Flower said: "His private life is his own concern and has absolutely no bearing on his ability to excel at the very highest level in international sport and I have no doubt that he will continue to work hard to regain a place in the England squad."



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MINISTRY OF SOUNDS CLUB RESIDENTS
Michael Woods
 25th April

Michael Woods takes the decks at Ministry of Sounds and spins us into a new dance-o-sphere. Unreleased tracks from the man himself include 'Front Line' and 'I Hate Love'. These are coupled with his signature tunes 'Midnight Run', 'Nitro', 'Dynamik' and 'Drop Zone', and his collabo with Chris Lake, 'Domino's'. There are mixes of Deadmau5, La Roux, Underworld, Martin Solveig and Moguai to round things off, of course—and to guarantee that this album really does kick arse and then some.



ELIZA NEWMAN
Pie in the Sky
 4th April

Icelandic popstrel Eliza Newman's sophomore album is typified by songs such as 'Ukulele Song For You'. That is, bonkers, delightful and uplifting. This is folk-pop with mesmerising vocals that harken back to Kate Bush, Debbie Harry and Nico, among others. The former Bellatrix frontwoman hasn't skimped on substance, despite trading in rock for something gentler, and though she once toured with Coldplay, she trounces their whiny male pathos any day.



KNIGHTS OF THE PLAYBOY MANSION
Bob Sinclar & Dimitri from Paris
 4th April

Dimitri from Paris and Bob Sinclar performed at the Playboy Mansion and created this album. Full of disco flavours, this two-disc album is the perfect accompaniment to a dip in a hot tub with long-legged blondes. Failing that, it's also the perfect soundtrack to summer parties. Just stay indoors with the heating up, pop your sunglasses on and pretend you're in LA.



EZIO
This is the Day
 4th April

Recorded in a rustic country house in northern Germany, this is being touted as 'Ezio in a nutshell'. Indeed, it seems the essence of Ezio's musical legacy is distilled into fruit juice concentrate here: nourishing, refreshing and sharp. Rock, folk and stripped back piano ballads combine to create a subtle, well-considered album that typifies everything the Cambridge duo stand for.



Cicada

Following Cicada's extremely well received cover of the evergreen Chicago house anthem, 'Your Love', comes 'Fast Cars'. This is their first original release in over 12 months and one of the debut tracks from their third artist album.

'Fast Cars' features vocals from Nik Yiannikas, the singer from Australian indie rockers Lost Valentinos. It's the first male vocal track from the band in several years, and Yiannikas' delivery sits perfectly on top of the building synth lines and chords that have become Cicada's dancefloor signature.

Following the release of their 2009 album, ROULETTE, Cicada have returned to explore the spaced-out disco sounds that characterised their early limited edition coloured vinyl releases.

Alex and Aaron are currently finishing recording sessions with a range of different vocalists for the new studio album, due to be released in June. The original track comes in several versions to suit all floors and tastes, including a club mix, instrumental, and dub. Swedish rising star, Sebjak, who's enjoyed a phenomenal rise to worldwide attention via his tracks on Size, Subliminal, and WePlay, turns in a vocal remix and dub, both of which eloquently illustrate his canny ability to craft peak time dancefloor bombs.

Cicada will announce details of worldwide gig dates in due course.

Out: 11th April
'Fast Cars' – Critical Mass

www.myspace.com/cicada1

To all helmet lovers

Our favourite frontman, and a chap who has never shirked from revealing his inner (and outer) self, Scissor Sister, Jake Shears shows that he can really hold his own in a shower... as long as there's someone else around to buff his helmet. This image courtesy of those lovely folk at...

www.digitalspy.co.uk/gayspy



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SINGLES | By Adam Lowe



THE ULTRA GIRLS
Girls Will Be Girls
18th April

'Girls Will Be Girls' are the former Leeds Rhinos cheerleaders-cum-girlband. They reached the X Factor bootcamp in 2009 and are touring with Kylie this spring. During the last two years they've been working hard and return now with this infectious pop song in shades of cheerful pink.

CEE LO GREEN
Bright Lights Bigger City
10th April

Cee Lo's latest single sees his futuristic soul stylings soar over a cinematic backdrop of synths and strings. This third single is the latest to be released from his genre-defining album *The Lady Killer*. If you liked his work as part of Gnarls Barkley, you'll love this.



TATIANA
Spider Web
18th April

A hunk of 'ye olde hiNRG' from Poland's latest export. She seems to be cropping up everywhere at the moment, so expect her doing a PA at a club near you. And why not? It's catchy, bouncy and with a refrain that is meant for joining in... this should have the POPTASTIC crowd gyrating their little arse's off.



COLIN DEVLIN
The Heart Won't Be Denied
18th April

If you've heard this one before, it's because it features on the latest series of *One Tree Hill*, which was shown last year on E4. Along with his brother, The Devlins scored half the film and television output of the 1990s, with a steady procession of cinematic rock hits with atmospheric grooves and regular praise from the likes of Rolling Stone. Now Colin, going it alone, strips back the layers and opts for intimate simplicity in 'The Heart Won't Be Denied'. Lush acoustics and nuanced vocals make this the soundtrack to youthful heartache.



TOY HORSES
And it Was You
4th April

Hotly tipped by critics to break into the mainstream with their inventive, instant indie gems, the musical whirlwind Toy Horses are ones to watch for 2011. They have an affinity for 60s sounds with playful melodies and tragic, poetic lyrics, yet with a decidedly modern slant. This is an accessible, thoroughly British track, relevant to today's audiences.



Emily Osment

Yes it's that girl from Hannah Montana, no not that one... the other one. Already tipped as a 'Song Of The Day' on www.popjustice.com her single 'Lovesick' is a bright neon-filled electro pop gem. The video features Tron-esque robots vogueing with Emily, whilst she struts her stuff like some glamorous Blade Runner replicant.

Emily Osment has been making music almost as long as she's been acting. And even though she's just 18, don't expect disposable Top 40 teen-pop on her debut, 'Fight or Flight', produced by U.K. auteur Nellee Hooper, whose credits include Gwen Stefani and No Doubt, U2, Bjork, Madonna, and Massive Attack. An accomplished

musician, whose mom first taught her to play guitar, Osment wrote most of the songs on 'Fight or Flight' in recording studios in New York and L.A.

As Emily is confident she can artfully balance—and maintain—her burgeoning careers in both acting and music, without sacrificing quality in either, something she learned only too well from watching others close to her such as her brother actor Haley Joel Osment. "Whether it's going to school and taking on film roles or doing music and acting, I'm lucky to be pursuing both of my passions."

'Lovesick' is taken from Emily's forthcoming debut album 'Fight or Flight' (released 4th July)

Johnny Mathis

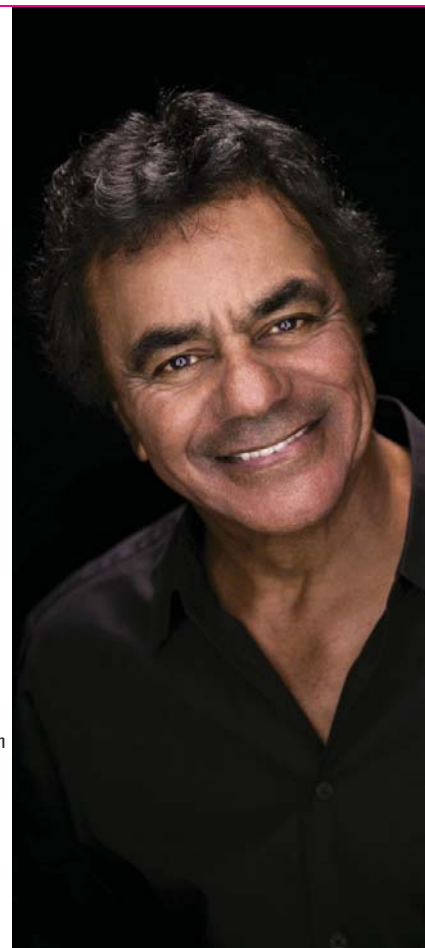
Now into his 76th year on planet Earth, the legend that is Johnny Mathis plans a rare visit to these shores for just three concerts. Johnny's accomplishments are numerous and varied. He holds many records and has set many precedents in the music industry. In 1958, two years after being signed by Columbia Records, Johnny's Greatest Hits was released. It began a "Greatest Hits" tradition copied by every record company since. Johnny's Greatest Hits became one of the most popular albums of all time and spent an unprecedented 490 continuous weeks (almost ten years) on the Billboard Top Albums Chart. This record has been noted in the Guinness Book of World Records, so don't miss the man with the smoothest voice in show-business.

12th October – o2 Arena – London

14th October – LG Arena – Birmingham

16th October – MEN Arena – Manchester

www.ticketline.co.uk





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Bites

Batman Live

For those who love comic book heroes, there's a new show that should have us all jumping for joy when Gotham City's finest hits the stage this year. The first visually stunning live production to feature Batman and a host of iconic characters and settings from the famed world of DC Comics

Opening in Manchester in July and visiting a host of arenas across the UK, **BATMAN LIVE** is an exciting production, complete with a brand new original storyline. The live show will feature Batman, his trusty counterpart Robin, tireless butler Alfred and a host of other favourite Batman characters, including Villains such as The Joker,

The Riddler, Catwoman and The Penguin. The story will take place in several settings from the famed DC Comics stories, including Gotham City, Wayne Manor, the Batcave and Arkham Asylum.

BATMAN LIVE will be a totally unique experience. This is not a musical but a high quality live show with a thrilling Batman story, filled with action, that will appeal to adults, teenagers and families... as well as comic book geeks everywhere.

For more information go to www.batmanlive.com

Bedtime

Dwelling in Bed Ain't Bad is a story of two passionate young men who discuss their lives whilst lying in bed together. Their conversation moves effortlessly between the universal themes of love, jealousy and hope, and will strike a chord with many – a humorous performance but with an insightful perspective on everyday life. One is a sensible ex-tv host in his mid-thirties, the other is younger and more philosophical.

TimeOut (Amsterdam) wrote: The play

has been praised for its intimate observation of two men's attempt to come to terms with the fact that they each have a past that's not necessarily all that loveable. Art with a heart!

Studio 3, Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, Hammersmith, London W6 9RL
10th -15th May

Box office 020 - 8237 1111

www.riversidestudios.co.uk
www.dwellinginbed.com



LGBT Expo

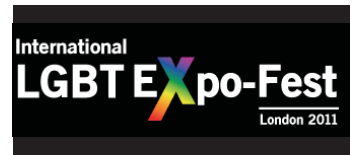
The International LGBT Expo-Fest, the first of its kind in the Capital, creates a truly unique weekend for the LGBT community, family, friends and supporters. Its mission: to build a promotional platform for LGBT businesses, while supporting charity causes and emerging artists - as well as bridging the gap between the social and professional lives of the LGBT community, and providing a springboard to developing the pink pound from the community to the community. The event will see up to 150 exhibitors, thousands of attendees and an action-packed entertainment agenda with BIG surprises yet to be revealed.

Event Director, Rita Palmeiro: "The gay community is often labelled a

"party only" community, which is totally inaccurate. It has accentuated cultural interests such as fashion, the arts, gastronomy, sports, well-being, entertainment, travel and many have a successful career or own their own business."

The International LGBT Expo-Fest , Royal Horticultural Halls, 80 Vincent Square, London SW1P 2PE

29t -30th October
www.lgbt-expofest.com



Transgender Event

Evolve is a new beginning, a chance to change, a chance for people to express who they really are. Evolve is the start of one of the greatest international transgender events you will ever experience!

This will be the first year of this event and we are all very excited about it. This event is to compliment events available to the transgender community across the globe.

Evolve will provide live entertainment, makeovers and photo shoots, fringe

events, shopping and socialising in friendly surroundings. There will be discounts available on hotels, restaurants, shops and bars. Evolve is a non-profit making event. Evolve welcomes all people who are part of, and empathetic to, the Transgender community.

Evolve, takes place on the 5th, 6th & 7th August.

www.evolvevg.org



Let me see your true colours

By Alex Wiggan

You know, Dorothy might have been onto something when she sang about going over the rainbow in the Wizard of Oz (1939), because with all those pretty colours in one place, the pint-sized tyke must have known there was more to that piece of meteorological phenomena than first appeared. Dorothy believed that the rainbow represented an escape route to a place of her dreams; a place where she could be free of the drudgery of daily life. Ok, so this same kid also spent an unhealthy amount of time alone amongst the cornfields, but is it any wonder that with the rainbow representing happiness, the gay community quickly noticed Dorothy's particular stance on combined colours? Yep, with just six different stripes, the homosexually inclined quickly turned the rainbow into something that became the ultimate gateway to a happier existence. Some may know it as the Rainbow Flag others call it the Pride Flag, but whatever your own personal preference the flag is a very important bit of material that is more than just a name. Rainbow flags have been around for years, but they were made extremely popular in 1978 thanks to the work of San Francisco artist Gilbert Baker. Since then the colours of the flags have become synonymous with gay life and there's not a summer that goes by where the flag isn't seen at a Pride event being brandished like a bit of sexually orientated semaphore. Oh it might not be so easily noticeable during the rest of the year, but look hard enough and you'll see it cropping up on badges, outside bars and during the summer

months it'll be wrapped around the crotches of scantily clad twinks. Admittedly the mixture of colours might clash with that new frilly top you bought from Vivienne Westwood/Primani, but have you ever really stopped to think what it's all about? Have you ever considered that there might be more to the flag than just some random combination of colours? The flag is made up of red, orange, yellow, green, blue and purple and is said to represent life, healing, sunlight, nature, harmony and spirit, respectively. Hmm, sounds like a New Age painting chart from B & Q, doesn't it? Well it might, but hold up there homoboy and keep on following these words, because that's one courageous collage of colours on that there flag and so it's time you got hip to the beat. Instead of what you're told, why not take the colours and think about other associations that they could represent; then maybe you'll reconsider your way of thinking. Let's say red represents passion, orange a citrus food, yellow is happiness, green jealousy, blue depression and purple is royalty. Now that sounds about right, doesn't it? No? So you're saying that you're not a sex-starved fruit, who is equal parts cheery, jealous and depressed, whilst also a bit of a queen? Oh come on, that sums up the average emotional range of most boys! The Pride Flag is representative of all of these aspects; it's like multiculturalism and multicoloured..ism and perhaps anything else that you can add ism to the end of, all wrapped up in one bit of cloth. It's not just a flag it's a brave banner, valiantly bringing homosexual ways to the masses!

Gay Pride

Calendar 2011

April

- 9 Exeter LGBT Pride
- 15-16 North Wales Mardi Gras - Anglesey
- 29-30 National Students Pride - Brighton

May

- 1 Brighton Equality Walk - Stonewall
- 6-15 Gay Pride Maspalomas - Gran Canaria
- 17 International Day Against Homophobia - IDAHO
- 21 Bradford Pride
- 28-29 Birmingham Pride

June

- 1-12 EuroPride - Rome
- 3-12 Oxford Pride
- 11-12 Blackpool Pride
- 17 June - 3 July Pride London Festival
- 17-26 Dublin Pride
- 18 Gloucestershire Pride
- 18 Calderdale Pride - Halifax
- 25 Swansea Pride

July

- 2 Pride London - Parade and rally
- 8-10 Bourne Free - Bournemouth Pride
- 8-12 Sitges Pride - Spain
- 9 Lincoln Pride
- 16 Sheffield Pride
- 16 Bristol Pride
- 16 Northern Pride - Newcastle-upon-Tyne
- 23-30 Belfast Pride
- 28-31 Pride Torbay
- 30 Norwich Pride
- 30 Hull Pride
- 30 Nottinghamshire Pride - Nottingham
- 30 July-7 Aug Amsterdam Gay Pride
- 31 Huddersfield Pink Picnic

August

- 6 Liverpool Pride
- 6 Cotswold Pride - Cheltenham
- 6-14 Brighton and Hove Pride - Parade and Party
- 7 Leeds Pride
- 14 Wakefield Pride (TBC)
- 19-29 Manchester Gay Pride - Parade 27 August
- 20 Derby Goes Pink
- 20 Doncaster Pride
- 24-28 Foyle Pride - Londonderry N.I.
- 27 Cornwall Gay Pride - Truro

September

- 3 Leicester Pride
- 3 Mardi Gras - Cardiff

BEYONCE

BEAUTY AND THE FREAKS

'Tis Pity She's A Whore

I'm sure we've all heard the line 'It's not you, it's me'. Usually it means 'It's not me, it is you'. But what about the times it means exactly what it sounds like?

What if you meet the man who, in other circumstances, would be perfect for you? What if the real problem is—to put it bluntly—that you're simply a whore?

I think that happened to me. I met The Boy a few months ago. It was a spur of the moment thing that neither of us expected to go anywhere. But then it spiralled out of control and became something much, much more involved.

The problem wasn't him at all. He was patient. He was kind. He was fantastic in bed. He flipped my switch and short-circuited my brain. But I simply wasn't ready. I've spent five years doing as I please when I please. That was okay because I had no one to hurt by doing so.

To be placed in the situation where my actions directly impacted upon someone else's emotional wellbeing was a shock. I wouldn't be able to

sleep with whoever I wanted. I would have to sleep with only one person.

But there was more still. I would have to give as good as I got. If he told me he loved me, I would be expected to do the same. And yet, it's been so long since I've told someone that. How could I do it? The requirement of reciprocity is not one I'm used to. I want to feel what is right when it feels right to feel it. Someone who hasn't had a long-term relationship in half a decade will need longer than someone who regularly has long-term relationships in comparison.

So I couldn't do it. I chickened out. As much as I cared for him and wanted him, when I saw that spark in his eyes, I feared I couldn't light up in the same way, and it turned me cold with guilt.

I had to let him go. Undoubtedly it was the right thing to do. But undoubtedly it was the wrong thing to do too.

Things could've been perfect. 'Tis pity I'm a whore.

Record attendance at 5-a-side

Yorkshire Terriers FC's annual football tournament was held last month in Leeds with a record attendance of 33 teams and over 200 players. Squads from the length and breadth of the UK travelled to the South Leeds Stadium in order to take part in this ever-popular LGBT football competition. The tournament was won by previously perennial runners-up, Mersey Marauders FC (Liverpool), beating recent GFSN additions Exeter Lions 2-0 in an

exciting final. Amongst the teams were Hotscots FC (Edinburgh), Village Manchester FC, Nottingham Ballbois, Cardiff Dragons, London Titans, Trowbridge Tigers and many more. At a fun and noisy ceremony the winning team were presented with their trophy at the Viaduct Showbar in the city.

[www.facebook.com
GayFootballSupportersNetwork](http://www.facebook.com/GayFootballSupportersNetwork)



Magnetic Music

The Magnetic Fields are the music of songwriter- producer-instrumentalist Stephin Merritt, who lives and records in New York City. Adept at computer music programming and production, Merritt records his own albums and plays almost everything on them with help from cellist Sam Davol, banjo player/second guitarist John Woo, and percussionist/pianist Claudia Gonson. Stephin Merritt's openly gay identity as singer and song-writer of the Magnetic Fields has led some fans to humorously dub The Magnetic Fields' genre as "gay synth-pop." In an interview with The Advocate, Gonson famously remarked:

"When we started Magnetic Fields we purposely had one lesbian, one gay guy, one straight woman, and

one straight man. The audience could identify with whomever they wanted. I hang out with more gay women now, but I guess I'm more of a fag hag than a lezzie hag."

In that interview, Gonson noted that she feels that Merritt's songs are predominantly about "Loneliness, isolation, and the need to be recognized by another person." She believes that if homophobia were not so prevalent, these experiences "would be less rampant instead of being so associated with the gay personality." Gonson believes that many LGBT youth and straight young females turn to The Magnetic Fields for "words of wisdom." There's a new documentary about the band out now called "Strange Power".

www.houseoftomorrow.com

Music Competition

Win These
Turn to page 62 for details

"Glee: The Music, Volume 5"

To date over 13 million Glee songs have been digitally downloaded, with nearly 9 million albums sold worldwide. The new Glee album debut's the first ever two new original songs, "Loser Like Me", is a high-energy track co-written by pop mastermind Max Martin (Britney Spears, Pink) and "Get it Right" an emotional ballad that is done justice by the immensity of Lea Michele's vocal.

"Firework" and Justin Bieber's "Baby". The album also features Glee cast's mash-up of Michael Jackson's "Thriller" and the Yeah Yeah Yeah's "Head Will Roll."



Out: 11th April - Epic Records

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this fantastic CD, just answer this simple question. What is the name of the High School in which Glee is set?

In addition to the original tracks 'Glee: The Music, Volume 5' features the Glee cast at their best once again performing classics such as Lady Antebellum's "Need You Now", Katy Perry's

Late Night Sessions

This is a cool, sophisticated compilation, ideal for chilling out at home with friends or the perfect album to create those cosy and laid-back late night bar vibes. A smooth, relaxing and quirky track-listing, bringing together credible tracks by only the biggest artists of this genre.

gems like Caribou, Maya-Jane Cole, Hercules & Love Affair and Space Dimension Controller.



Out: 18th April - Ministry of Sound

Late Night Sessions features huge album selling names such as Hurts, Hot Chip, Simian Mobile Disco, The Cinematic Orchestra and Moby alongside more underground

To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic double CD, just complete the title of this Hurts hit – Wonderful _____.

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Email: blast@mesmac.co.uk / p.mitchell@mesmac.co.uk

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FASHION // DARK INK.JACKADAMS H

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www.bent.shop.com



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Spray pants

Diesel Underwear Blade Spray Paint Logo Briefs in an aqua blue with a neon yellow Diesel graffiti print. They have a fully functioning front fly and feature a print front and back and are made from 90% cotton 10% elastane. Elasticated supportive cotton briefs with the guarantee of Diesel quality and durability.

www.banglads.com



£26

Humor It

At Humor it's OK for things to be in a state of flux – the colours, patterns, graphic prints and styling. It's casual, edgy and different. That's why the company is working with a whole new silhouette that samples elements from work wear, sportswear and classic club wear. It may be a detail mounted in a surprisingly new way or mixed in over a piece of clothing... just as we mix music.

£18 - Jakato tshirt
£60 - Firko cardigan
£60 - Lago Shorts

The stockist number is:
0203 174 0148



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Clothes to Pose have been designing exclusive underwear and swimwear for more than 5 years and continue to come up with exclusive and individual items ahead of trend.

Like these sexy underwear briefs with a gorgeous hologram shine front pouch and framed in wide gauge mesh. Embellish your buns with these cheeky briefs and feel like a million dollars.

www.clothestopose.co.uk



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£124

Energie

The great thing about the Italian Energie brand is that you never know what direction they are going to take or what they are going to mix with what. Old fashioned denim paired with dayglo pink jacket... inspirational!

Darryll Jacket, Stockist
0207 700 6470

www.energie.it



Dark Ink

Forget what you've heard about Neoprene clothing. Rough Trade's Neoprene Gear really pushes the envelope, with its unique styles and designs made to show-off all the masculine features of the body with its rugged and sexy look. Next time you're shopping for a high-quality pair of Racer Pants or Vest, take a look at our Rough Trade's Neoprene Gear, we guarantee you'll find a new kinky you!

Available only from
www.dark-ink.com

coming to UK stores soon...

Time to go balm-y

The new Bulldog After Shave Balm is built around the amazing properties of rosehip oil, one of nature's most powerful skincare ingredients. This product also includes a unique blend of 8 essential oils, as well as green tea and vitamin E, which are renowned for their antioxidant qualities.



£4.99

The Spa Treatment



£71.50

The Kerstin Florian Men's Starter Kit includes a Raspberry Post Shave Extract which nourishes the skin while soothing any razor burn. This kit also includes a deep cleansing scrub, face wash and hydrating face lotion.

www.kerstinflorian.co.uk

Sunsense

With the Spring and Summer months lying in wait, we can take the opportunity to get stocked up on some protection from those rays we all love so much. Developed in Australia, a Sunsense is their leading brand of sunscreen.

£12.99 - Sport Gel SPF 30

£9.49 - Aftersun cooling crème gel



Do you have recession induced worry-lines?



£8.99

The Fade Out White Anti Shadow Brightening Eye Cream has been selling out in Boots stores nationwide – and its men who are driving the sales forward! With a 200% increase in sales, this 2 in 1 miracle cream is perfect for hiding puffy eyes and dark circles; a look that more and more men have been sporting since the recession! The wonder product helps to reduce under eye shadows and delay the signs of ageing with a tinted eye cream specially formulated with light reflecting particles to instantly hide imperfections. Also enriched with Vitamin A to hydrate and assist the production of collagen helping skin appear firmer.

Body makeover

Spring has finally arrived and the sunshine season is on the horizon. Now is the time to get into a 'much-needed' self-care ritual to restore skin health and harmony before you 'prepare to bare' with some luxurious face and body beautifiers from I Coloniali by J&E Atkinsons.

Inspired by eastern Indian culture and philosophy, each face, body and bath treatment is enriched with natural ingredients from the orient, recognised for centuries for their cleansing and healing properties,

For a cool, smooth shave

Apply this plant based, super rich shave gel to dampened skin or lather up with a drop of water and your razor will glide through the stubble, no trouble. Stubble Trouble contains a fusion of soothing herbal extracts to reduce skin irritation and a reviving blend of aromatic oils to kick start your morning.

www.Templespa.com

Don't ask and definitely don't tell

Ssh! Lose Weight in 20 Minutes goes against traditional dieting wisdom and strongly encourages followers not to share their goals or even tell anyone they're losing weight. By setting tiny, achievable eating and activity goals, The author Alex Buckley's plan supports steady, long term and sustainable weight loss and health improvements. It's all accomplished by changing your habits for a total of just 20 minutes every other day.

MX Publishing

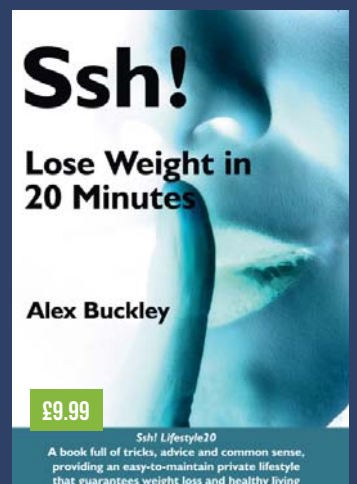


and ability to capture an aura of calm and deeper well-being. An epitome of chic and elegance, each product is wrapped in natural and recyclable materials.

Prices range from around £10 - £30



£15



£9.99

Ssh! Lifestyle20
A book full of tricks, advice and common sense, providing an easy-to-maintain private lifestyle that guarantees weight loss and healthy living

A gay boys dream?



Twenty-five year-old **Carsten Andersson**, who hails from a small town near the **German/Danish border**, started his **pop career** as the member of boyband - **eastbloc**, which he was unceremoniously kicked out of when a friend leaked to the press he had appeared in **gay porn movies**.

Since then he's moved up the porn star ladder but still likes to throw his vocal talents behind the occasional pop tune. His latest single 'FUN' is the product of a collaboration with British production team Zebra 1, who have had hits by Sugababes, Aaron Carter and Hear Say, so his ambitions are not only to be storming the adult movie DVD charts but also the world's pop charts.

It seems being a pop star and a porn star covers just about every gay boys fantasy... is it as good as it sounds?

I must admit... some times it definitely is. We had this fantastic shoot in Berlin with LucasEntertainment a few months ago, and the set was full of hot naked porn stars from all over the world, and I just found myself thinking "Is this real, or am I dreaming?" Sure, there are also days when you are stressed, bored or just in a surrounding that does not make you feel comfortable, but that's rare... otherwise I would not do this job anymore.

The Lucas Entertainment site says this about you:

Blonde, smooth and muscular he has a thick uncut cock and round perky ass that are both perfect for fucking! Carsten isn't shy about showing off his sex-pro skills on camera. This tri-lingual German stud loves deep rimming and his sexual fantasy is to get fucked by a biker gang! Carsten Andersson loves the gym, travelling and sensual massages.



So we ask... What are the drawbacks?

You must always realise that the sex you have on camera is not for your own pleasure, it's a job, and there is a high pressure on you. Time is money, when you are not doing good "work", the whole team gets a little stressed,

which then puts you in a delay. Not always the best or most comfortable surrounding in which to get a hard-on within 60 seconds after the camera man shouts: "OK, we are ready!"

With your pop credentials, shouldn't there be a porn musical, a sort of "12 inches of Glee", waiting for you to star in?

Ha-ha...not at all! I am sure I would not be the best actor for something like that.

Would you appear in Glee if you were asked and who would you like to do a scene with?

I am not a good actor. When I shoot porn it's like "Take a look through the keyhole and watch Carsten having sex" what you see is the real me... that's how I have sex, there's not much acting in it.

Which current pop/rock star would you like to get in front of the camera for a heavy sex scene?

Tim McGraw is a hot dude...I love cowboy style, I love rough masculine guys and I love a man in leather...I mean he is not one of those dressed up leather-fetish fags, he just wears leather pants and jacket, because he is a rough guy who feels comfortable in it. That's what makes it so sexy...I am sure in bed he can be a real man.

Tell me about your pop career so far?

The pop career was just a crazy idea that I had, like so many other crazy ideas I have. It was more for fun and the fact that it finally ended up receiving quite a positive echo in the media, and even remarkable record sales in countries I had not even heard of before, surprised me and made me proud. However, I don't see myself as the new Elton John. I don't have the

voice and...yes I totally admit that my song material doesn't really have the highest quality to become, or be, a long lasting serious popstar. It is...as the song already says, just for "Fun" What are the plans with your new record production team - Zebra 1. Zebra 1 are great! After I got kicked out of the kids popband eastbloc because of my porn past they said they would work with me again, which was a great honour, it made me so proud. The new production, which is going to be a cover version, will be produced by a team in Denmark, they are great guys too.

It says that for the next single you are going to be more controversial than Lady Gaga or Paris Hilton... what do you plan on doing?

Just living my life...that's going to be controversial enough...

Can Bent be there to watch... film.... take part?

Sure!! Whenever you guys want to...!

What is the next single or porn feature... and when are we going to see you here in the UK?

As soon as my new single is out, I will definitely be touring across the UK, I had so many great offers from clubs in London, but not enough song material to perform a full show. Perhaps I should have filled the rest of the time with porn acting...? He-he. So I wanted to wait till I have more songs and then...guys get ready for Carsten Andersson... Live!

**The single 'FUN' is out now and available from iTunes
www.carstenandersson.com**

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The Stud

Advantage

It's no secret we are a culture consumed by image.

Consider the following: Over his career, a good-looking man will make £100,000s more than his least-attractive counterpart.

By Mark Gray

It's called the "beauty premium": the idea that pretty people, whatever their aspirations, tend to do better in, well, almost everything. Handsome men earn, on average, 5 percent more than less-attractive men. They get more attention from teachers, bosses, and mentors; even babies stare longer at good-looking faces (and we stare longer at good-looking babies).

A couple of years ago, when the economy was thriving, we might have brushed off those statistics as superficial. But in 2011, when employers have more hiring options than ever, looking good is no longer something we can dismiss as frivolous or vain. When it comes to the workplace, its looks, not merit, that all too often rule. We spoke with former US model turned business financier, Dorian Black, on how his beauty has helped him rise up the corporate ladder.



Has anyone ever told you that you look like Robert Downey Jr.?

I have heard that. It depends on the day. When I am unshaven, I get Hugh Jackman.

Do you agree that being attractive has opened doors for you?

I believe attractiveness is more than just good looks; it's an overall appeal. If one presents with confidence, his energy and passion will be evident and people will subconsciously gravitate toward him.

What role have your looks played in your quick rise up the corporate ladder?

My rise up the corporate ladder wasn't due to good looks. So much of my business takes place overseas. Oftentimes I'm at my desk holding meetings via conference call so clients can't even see what I look like. Still, I admit my looks can be an advantage when I eventually meet a client in person to close the deal.

Do you rely on your looks to close a deal?

No, it's more accurate to say I rely on my polished presentation. I think a well-presented businessman is always going to come off as organized, successful, and driven. My looks are a small part of it. The confidence I exude plays a much larger role.

Do you believe you would have that same confidence if you were 5' 6" tall and 200 pounds?

Confidence doesn't depend on weight or height. I work with all facets of individuals, large and small, who know they are great and aren't afraid to show it off.

Have you mastered the art of influencing people and getting them to like you?

Before every meeting, I do my research on the companies and the executives I will be in front of that day. Recently, I met with an oil tycoon from Texas. Through research, I discovered he enjoyed 18th century art that focused on polo championships. In the first hour of our meeting, most of our conversation was centered on his love; particular artists and styles. We eventually got to discussing business and within 15 minutes, he agreed to invest with my company.

So you influence people by pretending to have an appreciation for what they enjoy?

I strive to build a connection to their world. That allows them to trust me. It's not manipulation; it's communication.

What do you do to maintain your looks?

I do 45 minutes of cardio every morning, followed by weight training in the afternoons and diligent boxing twice a week.

How important is diet?

I eat six small meals a day, with limited amount of sodium. And yes, I get one day off a week to eat what I like. But, I have found that lately, I prefer to eat healthy even on my days off.

How important are clothes?

Clothes are essential to the presentation. I wear labels but I never buy them unless they are on sale. Recently, I bought a Prada Suit that was 60% off. I advise guys to spend £250-£300 on a suit. Spend a bit more on the tie and shoes and wear a shirt that requires cufflinks.

What about the briefcase?

If you are going to splurge, splurge on a great briefcase. It may sound strange, but it is something that everyone notices. It is an accessory that spells out the type of client and employee you can and will be. I recently scored, finding a £1500 Zegna briefcase for 80% off – now that's a bargain!

How important is it to be up on football and golf stats?

I have found discussing sports before a meeting is a cop-out. It's too general. If you do the research on the executives you will be meeting with, then you can lead the conversation to more polished subject matters that they will be interested in.

Is there something else the well-groomed man should know if he wants to fit in with the white collar set?

My father always told me, "be willing to spend money to fly first class, because you never know who you will be sitting next to". It could be your next boss or client.

Have your looks ever been a detriment in the board room?

No, but my youth has. Not everyone is willing to take a CEO in his early 30s seriously. But, as long as I maintain my confidence, without going overboard and falling into cockiness, I'm usually able to convince them I'm the right man for the job.

What advice can you offer men on how to raise their attractiveness to get more attention on the job?

Eat well, exercise, and be the best you can be. The well groomed man is polished and exudes confidence. You will find that being attractive requires not just a good suit, but also a great attitude and a lot passion.



“I believe attractiveness is more than just good looks”

Photos by Justin Monroe





The **Rio Carnival** looked under threat earlier this year when a fire ripped through the warehouses in the city that housed the famous **samba creations**. It was said that around 90% of the **exotic costumes** were destroyed, and, as the teams work on them all year round, some wondered if the **parade** would suffer as a result.

I should have known the resilience of the Brazilian people wouldn't allow such a small thing as a catastrophic fire to stop them from celebrating in the only way Rio knows how... OTT!

I'm not sure if I've mentioned it before but the groups in their glittering, feathery, silky and brilliantly ornate concepts are not only there to look fantastic, the teams are actually competing for the accolade of 'best in show', to take a piece of Crufts terminology. The top-tier samba schools vie fiercely to have their performance judged the best, which includes the choreography, music and the superb visual spectacle and although there's no cash prize for first place, only a trophy, the winning team have the bragging rights that last a year until the next Carnival.

The weather wasn't the best that I've experienced at past Carnivals but, like the resolute spirit of all those taking part, the public swarmed in their thousands in cheering appreciation. I bumped into superstar Jude Law, best known for playing Dr Watson in the recent Sherlock Holmes movie opposite Robert Downey Jr and Stephen Fry's plaything 'Bosie' Douglas in the film Oscar Wilde, and asked him just what he thought of the parade: "Truly amazing... I've never seen anything like it in my life." Now chatting to my latest chum he went on to tell me this was his first time and he was only here for the night.

And also in the crowd, direct from her panto season in Liverpool (Oh yes she did!) the glamorous, ex Baywatch star Pamela Anderson surrounded by an army of admirers said: "Spectacular hun... the best... fantastic."

Normally I stay at a hotel in Copacabana but on this occasion I thought... damn it... and eventually I stayed on the gayest of gay streets Rua Farm de Amoeda, in Ipanema. The area was packed, wall to wall, end to end, with people snogging each other's face off... all very full on and incredibly sexy. I am pleased to report my bum was pinched and a few hunky strangers seemed happy to exchange a bit of 'lip-service' as I struggled down the road. It could have been quite an ordeal had I not been having so much fun. A word if you are planning a visit: Ipanema is the gay centre and especially at Carnival, you might find it difficult to get accommodation. They may say it is all full, and it may well be true but, some hotels have exclusive deals with various travel companies, so keep searching, you will find something... although don't expect a budget holiday.

All hotels in Ipanema are in walking distance from the beach. This means less than 5 minutes on foot. Ipanema is a narrow strip of land between the beach and the lake. You will find everything from small family-owned and run hotels, to luxury 5-stars which have had guests such as Madonna.

The parade is a noisy procession that at times sends more than just a shiver of excitement up and down the spine. The sheer joy and enthusiasm for Carnival is both contagious and addictive but as they dance through the Sambadrome stadium there are other events that are to be looked forward to... the parties. Pool Party was the most prestigious, a bit like the Circuit party, which appealed to hunks in trunks and boys just out to have a great time. Also there was the Maxim party, which attracted a mixed crowd most with toned bodies that you could tell, like the teams in the parade, they'd been working hard on all year.

However, the entire place is just one big party with events going on all over the place so, here it isn't all about the outrageous and glamorous outfits that are the draw. In fact, it's more the sheer beauty of the guys stripped down to the bare essentials and having a good time dancing to a different rhythm that makes these events such a must-do. It's mesmerising to see so many gorgeous boys throwing themselves with so much passion into a hedonistic carnival that leaves just about all other carnivals in the shade. Rio, recently voted the gayest destination in the world, is THE party capital, every Brazilian, whether from Rio or not, looks forward to it... and so do I.

I'm already planning my trip for next year... hope you can make it.





Travel Info //

I travelled from Leeds to London by rail with East Coast Trains: advance return fares, booked online, start from £26 Standard Class or £79 First Class: book via:

www.eastcoast.co.uk,
call 08457 225225

or visit any staffed station.

I flew from London to Rio with British Airways. www.BA.com
I stayed at the Ipanema Hotel.
ipanemaplaza.com.br

Carnival tickets are available from:
<http://www.grupopacifica.com.br>

Johan's Blog

Fit – to drop!

I always thought that I was quite fit.

After all, I go to the gym three times each week to lift weights. Then twice a week I do kickboxing, which I even undertook on a professional basis a few years back. Plus all of the mountain biking I do through the countryside on the weekends. Oh yes, and not forgetting the obvious multi-hour sex sessions both in front of the camera and in private, of course. In short, I should be in top-notch form!

It just so happens that my boyfriend and I are both long-term members of the same gym; but whilst I focus on the weights and the sauna, he's more involved in courses and exercises such as spinning, power-hotstepping, yoga and body-pumping. I always have to laugh when I see the guys behind the window – jumping around, lifting their small weights and sweating like hell in the process! It always looks really funny to me, and I can't help but think that my boyfriend exaggerates how difficult it is when he walks out of his hour-long body-pumping class looking half-dead and staggers on to join me in the sauna!

Well, at least that's how I used to think – until he talked me into joining one of his "body power pumping" classes. Being the fool that I am, I chose to join the advanced course, seeing as my boyfriend is in the "professional" group and I'm both younger and (presumably) fitter than him!

But what can I say? It was hell! After just 30 minutes I almost puked; and after 50 minutes I had to leave the class because I just couldn't move anymore. I thought I was gonna be doing a little bit of aerobic exercise with a few light weights and some loud music. What I definitely didn't expect was having the company of the boot-camp instructor from hell! Okay, so this trainer was cute, damn fit and very innocent looking – aged about 22, with short blond hair and an athletic body that he liked to show off in his tight cycling shorts and tank-top – but he was as physically ruthless as they come!

He was the kind of guy I'd have loved to have had in bed, where I can show him that I'm the boss! But here in the gym I had to do exactly what he wanted. And to my credit I tried – I really tried ...

It started with us attaching some small weights to our hands and ankles. Then everyone got themselves a dumbbell and a small bench – at which point the music started. The angelic face of our trainer quickly changed into a demonic grin, as he began to shout out his satanic orders!

The first few minutes were great fun and the music was fantastic. But it wasn't long before the weights on my legs and arms started to take

their toll. Indeed, after 20 minutes it was pretty obvious to me: I was never going to survive the hour! To make matter worse, my boyfriend and all the others weren't even breaking into a sweat – whilst I was on the point of fainting! Meanwhile, the horrible drill instructor continued to shout out his orders, as he now began to turn his focus on me. Needless to say, I hated him as I carried on trying to jump on and off my little bench whilst lifting the dumbbell into the air. Never in my life has 30cms seemed so high or 10kgs seemed so heavy!

Afterwards, in the showers, my legs were so weak and shaky that I had to sit under the shower-head on the floor! I just couldn't stand upright anymore. Then, in the sauna afterwards, the comely-looking trainer sat down right next to me. Once again, he was his charming, sexy self – a far cry from the bellowing, half-mad drill instructor he had been just a few minutes before. He explained that I'd done quite well in his class and that a few more hours of training would see me getting through the whole 60 minutes. Then he put his hand down on my naked, still slightly shaking thigh. He asked me if I wanted to meet up later that evening for another training session – "maybe at his place" – but believe it or not I actually turned the offer down. Don't get me wrong, I definitely wanted to have this guy in my bed, but I was just so totally exhausted from this damn body-pumping class that I just couldn't stand the thought of any more exercise for at least the next couple of days – sex and blow-jobs included! Meantime, in the opposite (dark) corner I heard my friend giggling, which I knew meant that he himself had already enjoyed the experience with this trainer and had found it pretty satisfying. Geez, what a bloody mess!

So you can see that I definitely have to work on my fitness levels, which of course means attending the body-pumping classes again in future – this time, however, in the beginner course!

Hugs,

Johan

<http://exclusive.johan-volny.com/>





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Books

Bend Over!

by Stephan Niederwieser



"Bend over!"—two words that can provoke a lot of anxieties. Will it hurt? Will I be able to relax? Will I enjoy it? Bend Over: The Complete Guide to Anal Sex for Men tackles these and other questions head on. Geared toward both the beginner as well as the seasoned practitioner, Bend Over is a comprehensive, user friendly guide to the unique pleasures of anal sex. Everything is covered, from basic anatomy and solo sex to technique, positions, sex toys, lube, S&M and much, much more—and never lets you forget that the bottom line in anal sex is fun.

£11.99 - www.brunogmuender.com

Gaga

By Johnny Morgan



She is the most talked about personality of the moment and not surprisingly everyone has their own comments on the phenomenon that is Lady Gaga. She has taken the world by storm, setting sales records and becoming an overnight style icon. This lavish volume examines the Lady's history and phenomenal rise, her music and videos and her unique look and chameleon-like nature. Chock full of photos that capture Gaga from childhood through to stardom, it also includes images of those who have influenced her style and an appraisal of her place in the pantheon of performance artists. Gaga is a must-have for the millions of music and fashion fans who love this very special performer.

£16.99 - Sterling - www.thegmcgroup.com

The Set

By Roger Ward



It outraged seventies Australia with its uncompromising look at teenage sexuality and identity, at a time when homosexuality was not only taboo, but illegal. Described as a 'time capsule' of the heady days of Australia's sexual revolution, this novel still has the power to shock with its bold depictions of sexual experimentation, teen angst, rebellion and death.

£14.99 - Janus Publishing

Runaways

Edited by John Patrick



This compilation of short stories explores the seldom discussed world of boys who have left the comforts of home to pursue their dreams and escape an unenviable reality to find themselves in need of a home-cooked meal, a roof over their heads and a warm bed. More often than not, they find what they need and more as men of power and privilege do what they can to help them find their way.

£13.99 - Starbooks

Blood Dreams

By Jack Stevens



Sean Sinclair is handsome, brilliant and completely self-centred, so it is no surprise that his main ambition is to succeed as Master at a prestigious university. He is more than happy to add his many sexual conquests to his CV as he climbs the academic ladder but when one of his ex-lovers goes missing, and under grisly circumstances, he is dragged into a world of ancient horror and a centuries old war between light and darkness.

£12.99 - Starbooks

Best Gay Romance

2011

Edited by Richard Labonte



With stories that are sometimes rowdy, always randy and surprisingly tender, the bar is once again raised on gay romantic fiction. This collection of short stories covers every romantic possibility for hot boy on boy action, including first love, true love, wake-up sex, make-up sex and everything in between.

£10.99 - Cleis Press

My Brother and His Brother

By Håkan Lindquist



This is a novel about two brothers. The story is told by one of them, Jonas, an 18 year old boy. Throughout his teenage years he has been trying to get an image of Paul, the brother he never met; a brother who died at the age of 16, the year before Jonas himself was born. In his search for his brother, Jonas soon finds out that Paul had an intense love affair with another boy during the last year of his life. Step by Step Jonas reveals the secret love and life of his brother Paul

£9.99 - www.brunogmuender.com

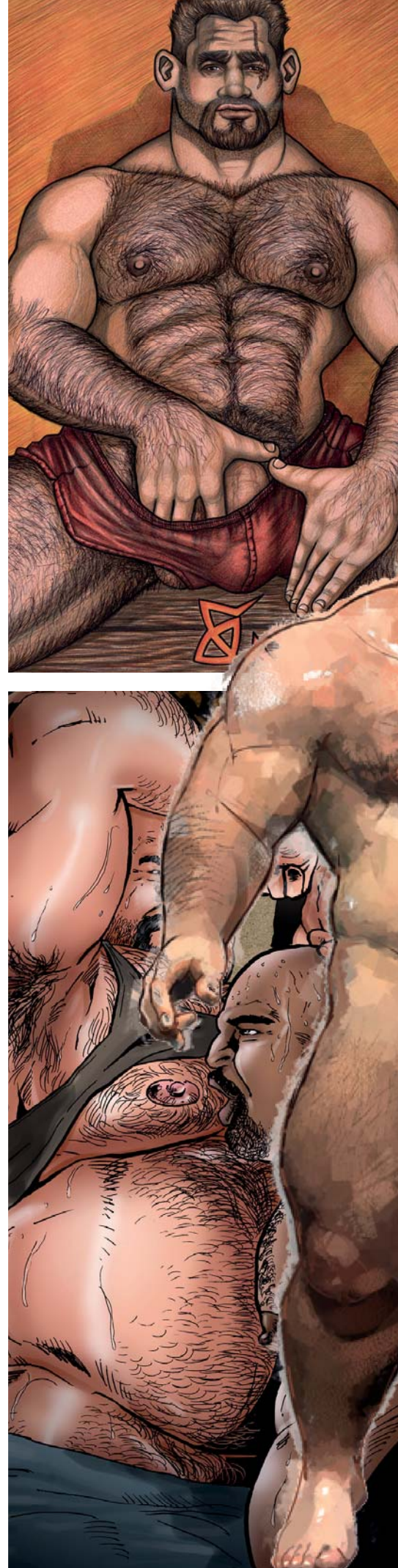
Becoming Nancy

By Terry Ronald



Here's a heart-warming new novel about the coming out and falling in love of a young teenager in working-class 1970s London. Filled with well-developed characters and brilliant observations on adolescence, music of the era and the trials and tribulations associated with the school's up and coming production of the musical Oliver. Our hero has been cast as Nancy but that isn't the only thing he has to worry about as his class mates have already caught onto his wide-eyed appreciation of the new boy in school... the new good looking football captain.

£12.99 - Bantam Press





BIG LOVE

Sexy Bears in Gay Art

Huge, hairy hunks, strong and a little snugly, tender when it comes to cuddling, passionate when it comes to sex: gay bears are the embodiment of masculinity. This comic and art anthology is dedicated to those who have the hots for men who let it grow, who don't have to prove anything with a gym shaped body. Come and find out yourself, there's a lot to discover in the bear world. Artists from all parts of the world contributed their unique skills for this book—and none of them make a secret of their fetish for big men full of virility and self confidence. From cartoons to photo realistic works, from digital art to crayons and watercolor: BIG LOVE is about all the facets of love between king size men.

£24.99

www.brunogmuender.com



Seeing Heaven



Seeing Heaven is a new intense and dark scary movie, which is about to hit our screens, that adds a new depth to the **psychological horrors** that the mind can produce. It introduces cute 21 year-old newcomer **Alexander Bracq** as the worried, confused, ultimately haunted and yet highly desirable **gay escort Paul**.

How did you get into acting?

From a young age, I would always jump at opportunities, relating to performing arts, whether this was entering a modelling or singing competition (although I can't sing for the life of me) or auditioning for roles in musicals and performance pieces. This constant drive and pursuit for performing, later led me in choosing 'performing arts' for one of my A-Levels which further motivated me in wanting to become an actor.

What have you done before Seeing Heaven?

This was my first time performing in front of a camera, professional filming crew and a reasonably financed production. Before Seeing Heaven, I did what most actors do before they get their big break I tried getting as much experience as possible by being a part of as many performing jobs as possible. This would include unpaid/expenses only jobs as an extra in music videos such as Mika's 'Big Girls you are beautiful' to being a background extra in smaller, self-financed productions.

What kind of research did you have to do for the part of Paul the escort?

Although I did some in depth research in order to get into the mind set of my character, I felt it important not to be too self aware when playing Paul and

to primarily act on instinct in order to portray the character from my own perspective. I found this amalgamation of in-depth research (including watching other people's performances in films) and ability to portray my character, based on my own instincts to be key in allowing me to effectively play 'Paul', especially due to the fact that the shoot of the film was over such a short period...only 12 days!

Do you know anyone who is an escort?

Yes, before Seeing Heaven, when I was performing in music videos and acting in smaller scale projects, one of the other actors who I spoke with during breaks in filming did escorting as his main job while trying to become a professional actor in whatever free time he had.

You're very cute (sorry I know I shouldn't say) how do you feel about your up-coming gay iconic status on the back of this movie?

No that's okay. I and I'm sure many other people, don't mind if they are complimented on the way they look, so thank you for the compliment. I would have to say that I am excited due to the fact that if I am seen as a gay icon, then I know I portrayed 'Paul', my character as I best felt he would be as a person in the real world. Also if I become a gay icon, specifically due to this film, then I would feel proud and

happy that it was this film as it not only explored the in-depth darkness of the porn industry in a real life context but it also promotes the important yet diminishing element of 'safe sex'.

Who would you most like to appear opposite?

I guess I would have to say Jim Carry, as when I was younger and saw 'The Mask', for the weeks and possibly months that followed, I would be acting all the scenes of this film to my family and friends.

I gather you're a pretty active type but when you're not acting how do you relax?

Twice a week I am able to relieve stress by attending my kickboxing society, which I have been with for the past 4 years. Another little thing I do to wind down or relax, is listen to music, watch a movie, cycle everywhere I go rather than driving and one of my favourite past times, which I never get enough of, is sleep!

What is your next project?

I currently have only 2 months left in completing my university degree, so I am concentrating and dedicating my full efforts to this before I branch out, find and dedicate myself to my next project.

Seeing Heaven

Dark and twisted, this psycho-sexual thriller set in the world of pornography and escorting. Handsome but troubled Paul is desired by everyone but

lost to himself. He is obsessed with finding his twin brother whom he has not seen since childhood. Paul's vivid visions of him are unconsciously transferred during sex to his unsuspected sexual partners. His role in an adult film triggers his quest, a journey which takes him into the murky, dangerous sexual underworld of London – replete with drugs and associations with characters whose motives are hard to ascertain.

Out: 25th April - £15.99 tla releasing

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this fantastic DVD, just answer this simple question.

In psychic phenomena what do the letters ESP stand for?



Win This
Turn to page 62 for details

DVD



Burlesque

Ali (Aguilera) is a small-town girl with a big voice who escapes hardship and an uncertain future to follow her dreams to LA. After stumbling upon The Burlesque Lounge, a majestic but ailing theatre that is home to an inspired musical revue, Ali lands a job

Out: 25th April

as a cocktail waitress from Tess (Cher), the club's proprietor and headliner. Burlesque's outrageous costumes and bold choreography enrapture the young ingénue, who vows to perform there one day.

DVD & BluRay – Sony Home Entertainment

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this fantastic DVD, just answer this simple question. In her 1989 hit, what did Cher wish she could turn back?



Win These
Turn to page 62 for details

Glee Season 2: Volume 1

Glee out with your favourite McKinney High students when TV's most spectacular musical sensation returns! Despite school budget cuts and a setback at Regionals, New Directions is more energized than ever. As fresh romances develop and old ones are tested, the club embraces an exciting new year of challenges. Glee is jam packed with the hottest Hollywood cameos, from Britney Spears to Gwyneth Paltrow, plus mash-ups of your favourite songs and killer dance moves.

Out: 4th April - £27.99 - Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment



To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this fantastic DVD, just answer this simple question.

Chris Colfer plays which gay Glee character? A, Artie, B, Finn, C, Kurt

The Tourist

Johnny Depp and Angelina Jolie star in this gangster driven romp across Europe in search of an embezzled fortune. Depp plays the innocent abroad who is seduced into helping an heiress on the run both suddenly become hotly pursued by a posse of Russian hit-men and Scotland Yard's finest. He finds himself thrust from his low-key holiday into life or death chases over rooftops and through the narrow streets and waterways of Venice, as their pursuers close in. In the midst of sparks flying, each begins to suspect that the other may not be quite what they seem...

Out: 24th April - £17.99 – Optimum Home Entertainment



To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this fantastic DVD, just answer this simple question.

What is the name of Johnny Depp's character in Pirates of the Caribbean?

The Four Faced Liar

Vibrant, witty and undeniably charming, this DVD shines a sexy spotlight on the tangled lives of four 20-something New Yorkers. Bridget is a hip, womanizing lesbian who lives with her best friend Trip. One alcohol-fuelled night they meet straight-laced childhood sweethearts Greg and Molly at their favourite bar, the Four-Faced Liar. While Greg and Trip bond over sports, Bridget and Molly discover a mutual appreciation for Emily Brontë. As sexual tensions build, the notoriously promiscuous Bridget realises she's falling in love for the first time with the soon-to-be married Molly and a risky and sexually-charged affair ensues.

Out: 11th April - £15.99 – tla releasing



To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this fantastic DVD, just complete this title of an Emily Bronte book:

Wuthering _____.

Ink

As the light fades and the city goes to sleep, two forces emerge. They are invisible except for the power they exert over us in our sleep, battling for our souls through dreams. One force delivers hope and strength through good dreams; the other infuses the subconscious with desperation through nightmares. Ink has been hailed as the new "it" movie and compared to cult classics Brazil, Donnie Dark, the Matrix, Twelve Monkeys and Pan's Labyrinth.

Out: 25th April – DVD & Blu-ray – Digital 4 Media



To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this fantastic DVD, just answer this simple question.

Which liquid do both squid and octopus spray to escape their predators?

The Man who fell to Earth

Nic Roeg's science-fiction cult classic The Man Who Fell To Earth starring David Bowie celebrates its 35th Anniversary in 2011 as well as being included in the BFI Roeg retrospective in March. Crash landing on Earth from his dying planet, an alien humanoid travelling by the name of Thomas Jerome Newton (Bowie) uses his superior intelligence to build a vast business empire. As he takes on, and beats, every major US corporation, people can only guess his true purpose – to save his dying world from drought.

Out: 4th April – Blu-ray Only – Optimum Classics



To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this fantastic DVD, just answer this simple question.

Complete the name of a Bowie character – Ziggy _____?

From Beginning To End

One of the most controversial gay-themed films since Cruising, this Brazilian romantic drama centres on the intimate bond between two men – who just happen to be brothers. As children, Francisco and his younger half-brother Thomás, were best friends and unusually close to each other – so much so that their intimacy brings vocal concerns from relatives that maybe they are too close. Fastforward several years with the now strikingly handsome, bronzed young men taking their childhood intensity into a torrid sexual relationship. But can their love survive society's discerning gaze?

Out Now - £15.99 – tla releasing



To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this fantastic DVD, just answer this simple question.

What is the national language in Brazil? A, Portugese, B, German, C, French



KICK OFF

Rikki Beadle-Blair is a passionate fighter for gay rights. From the age of 17 he was writing and performing at Gays the Word book shop in London, one of the few gay spaces that wasn't a bar or a club.



Since then he's gone on to become an actor, director, screenwriter, playwright, singer, aerobics teacher, designer, choreographer/dancer and songwriter... in fact, in his 50 years here on Earth, there is very little he hasn't done.

Last year his anti-bullying DVD FIT, was not only released to the general public but sent to every school in the UK and received unanimous support from all quarters. Now his latest creation, Kick Off, takes a humorous look at a gay 5-a-side team as they prepare to take on 'straight' opposition for the first time.

You seem to get yourself involved in these projects with a message... is this something you've always done?

I'm a 60s baby you know... went to an experimental school in the 70s where I could learn what I wanted, wear what I wanted and say what I wanted so, as I travel down my life's road I'm drawn to the concept of making entertaining but also mind expanding work.

OK. Tell Bent the inspiration behind Kick Off.

That's simple. My family is football mad so I wanted to do something that they could watch. I really wanted to approach that whole thing of "... where are all the gay sportsmen?" Even though recently we've doubled our out gay sports men (with cricketer Stephen Davies coming out to join rugby star Gareth Thomas) but when

we conceived this project there was no one... it's encouraging but it is still just a drip, drip really slow and I wanted to do something that. Gay people are so alienated from sport. There are many who like it, many who take part in it but that there is still a perception of separation in society... particularly between gay men and sport.

In the movie you mention the only out gay football player Justin Fashanu who died under very sad circumstances... how do you feel about the current crop of out sportsmen?

Hopefully they won't have sad endings and that the current coming out stories can inspire us, even though it may be painful... they can still inspire. Now it serves as something that makes the establishment look and think - OK maybe we can handle this better because, unless you are way down the

road of homophobia, you don't want our best sportsmen killing themselves.

In the movie, despite the lack of football I gather you had a strict fitness regime that the guys had to undertake.

There is football in it but you're right... I wanted to make a film for people who liked football to enjoy and for people who didn't like football to enjoy so, a lot of what actually goes on is them trying to get the game started. A lot of the football you see in it is just one take on a long panning shot and so they had to do the football tricks and dribbling that was needed. Of course I wanted them to have great bodies because I wanted to bring in people who weren't particularly crazy about football of all sexualities and appealing looking people can help with that. Also the actors themselves wanted to show off their bodies so I organised for all the boys to go on a gruelling two hour training course around London twice a week, which despite being hard was also a great bonding exercise

In the movie you play a bit of a screamer, a schemer and a tactical genius... is this how you see yourself?

(Descends into laughter) If only. My character is the same one I had ten years ago when I played a part on TV in show called Metrosexuality and

I pulled that character right over to this project. Max, the character, is a gay parent but it isn't really me, it's more like my mum. I'm a product of a gay family... my mum's gay and so that's kinda representing her. I wanted to portray the difficulty of being a gay parent, or parent at all, wanting to control everything and wanting them to have freedom and always struggling between that. It was a bit like a director or a football coach... wanting to keep control of the project giving discipline, keep them focused but giving them the chance to let their genius come out

On the Rikki Beadle-Blair Wikipedia site you have tons of credits mostly around gay rights... what are you most proud of?

I don't do anything that I'm not proud of but you're asking what am I most proud of... I guess the project FIT (the anti school bullying play, movie, DVD) as it has gone to every school in the country. We get loads of e-mails from gay people in countries all over who have been really positive about what we've done. I'm so proud of the group of actors who have been great ambassadors all round the world. We have a new film based around Urban Music about to be released called 'Bashment' which I'm also very proud of. We trailed it as a play and we performed it in front of a very, very homophobic audiences and

it completely changed the way they responded to gay characters during the performance.

So what would you say is the biggest threat to gay rights?

Gays themselves. Whatever others might say about us they cannot have nearly as much power if we don't accept it or believe it. We can accept that they have that opinion but we don't have to accept that opinion within ourselves. Our biggest problem is when we fight and turn on each other as opposed to having diverse opinions, disagreements and spirited debates. When we start attacking one and other and being mean about each other, not supporting people who come out and being fearful... that's when we're in trouble. As Eleanor Roosevelt said: "No one can make you feel inferior without your consent."

OK, final question and it's back to football and perhaps the crux of what the film is all about. What is it about you... and very short shorts?

(Dissolves into laughter) I have to be honest. I put them in those pink short shorts as I thought it would be more fun to watch.

And who are we to disagree?

Kick Off

What happens when the hardest team in the Sunday Soccer league comes up against a gay team and finds they've finally met their match? Watch and wince as fledging referee Elton Glixton struggles to control this testosterone tsunami as rude-boy meets bum-boy in this outrageous new comedy set in the crazy gung-ho world of 5-a-side football. Pink shorts may not be to every players taste but these boys fill them out perfectly. An amusing gay slant on the meaning of team building and terrific fun.



Out: 11th April – £14.99 – Peccadillo Pictures

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this fantastic DVD, just answer this simple question. In the name Stonewall FC, what do the letters FC stand for?

Win This
Turn to page 62 for details

Children of God

From Beginning to End

Both Out Now

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

Available now on DVD at:
amazon.co.uk

Film

By Chris Amos

Source Code

David Bowie's son, Duncan Jones, made a big impact with this first film *Moon*. Now he directs his first Hollywood blockbuster. When decorated soldier Captain Colter Stevens (Gyllenhaal) wakes up in the body of an unknown man, he discovers he's part of a mission to find the bomber of a Chicago commuter

Out 1st April

train. In an assignment unlike any he's ever known, he learns he's part of a government experiment called the "Source Code," a program that enables him to cross over into another man's identity in the last 8 minutes of his life. With a second, much larger target threatening to kill millions in downtown

Chicago, Colter re-lives the incident over and over again, gathering clues each time, until he can solve the mystery of who is behind the bombs and prevent the next attack. Filled with mind-boggling twists and heart-pounding suspense, *Source Code* is a smart action-thriller.



Sucker Punch

Sucker Punch is an epic action fantasy from 300 director Zack Snyder that takes us into the vivid imagination of a young girl whose dream world provides the ultimate escape from her darker reality. Unrestrained by the boundaries of time and place, she is free to go where her mind takes her, and her incredible adventures blur the lines between what's real and what is imaginary. She has been locked away against her will, but Babydoll

Out 1st April

(Emily Browning) has not lost her will to survive. Determined to fight for her freedom, she urges four other young girls - the outspoken Rocket (Jena Malone), the street-smart Blondie (Vanessa Hudgens), the fiercely loyal Amber (Jamie Chung) and the reluctant Sweet Pea (Abbie Cornish) - to band together and try to escape their terrible fate at the hands of their captors.



Scream 4

The film reunites most of the main cast from the original films with Neve Campbell, Courtney Cox and David Arquette all returning for another Woodsboro-killing-spree adventure. Joining them is Emma Roberts, Rory Culklin, Hayden Panettiere and a number of other awesome people (Kristen Bell, Anna Paquin, Alison Brie, Sidney Prescott (Campbell)), now the author of a self-help book,

Out 15th April

returns home to Woodsboro on the last stop of her book tour. There she reconnects with Sheriff Dewey (Arquette) and Gale (Cox), who are now married, as well as her cousin Jill (Roberts). Unfortunately Sidney's appearance also brings about the return of Ghostface, putting Sidney, Gale, and Dewey, along with Jill, her friends, and the whole town of Woodsboro in danger.

MOVIE BUZZ

A sequel to 'How to Train Your Dragon' the Academy Award-nominated film is in the works for release in 2014.

More casting news for Zack Snyder's *Superman: Man of Steel*. Diane Lane has been cast as Martha Kent, the only mother Clark Kent (aka Superman) has ever known. Lane will play the Earth born mother to Kent to be played by Henry Cavill (*The Tudors*) in the film, which is currently targeting a December 2012 release date. Kevin Costner has been speculated to be Jonathan "Pa" Kent

MGM has targeted Brazilian director Jose Padilha to direct their remake of 1987's *Robocop*. Padilha is most known for directing the Brazilian crime dramas *Elite Force* and *Elite Force 2: The Enemy Within*.

Channing Tatum, screenwriter Billy Ray (*Shattered Glass*, *Breach*) and producer Joe Roth are looking to tell the origin of *Peter Pan* with a project currently titled *Peter Pan Begins*. Roth is one of the leading culprits of the recent trend of resuscitating classic literature and fairy tales, having produced *Alice in Wonderland* and the upcoming *Oz*, *The Great and Powerful* and *Snow White and the Huntsman*.

Screen Gems has acquired the rights for a big screen version of the video game series *Devil May Cry*, which centres on a man who avenges his mother's murder by killing off demons. The game sold more than 10 million copies worldwide and spawned five subsequent games in the series. The studio hopes to make it their next successful franchise, following in the steps of the *Resident Evil* films.

Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief could shoot as early as this summer. The film will be based on the second instalment in Rick Riordan's five-book series, titled *The Sea of Monsters*. Logan Lerman will be back as Percy Jackson. Until now, a sequel has been a big question mark after the first film performed modestly.



Fast Five

Vin Diesel and Paul Walker lead a reunion of returning all-stars from every chapter of the explosive franchise built on speed in Fast Five. In this instalment former cop Brian O'Conner (Paul Walker) partners with ex-con Dom Toretto (Vin Diesel) on the opposite side of the law. Dwayne Johnson joins returning favourites Jordana Brewster, Chris 'Ludacris'

Out 21st April

Bridges, Tyrese Gibson, Sung Kang, Gal Gadot, Matt Schulze, Tego Calderon and Don Omar for this ultimate high-stakes race. Since Brian and Mia Toretto (Brewster) broke Dom out of custody, they've blown across many borders to elude authorities. Now backed into a corner in Rio de Janeiro, they must pull one last job in order to gain their freedom.



Taxi Zum Klo

The film reunites most of the main cast from the original films with Neve Campbell, Courtney Cox and David Arquette all returning for another Woodsboro-killing-sprees adventure. Joining them is Emma Roberts, Rory Culkin, Hayden Panettiere and a number of other awesome people (Kristen Bell, Anna Paquin, Alison Brie, Sidney Prescott (Campbell)), now the author of a self-help book, returns home

Out 22nd April

to Woodsboro on the last stop of her book tour. There she reconnects with Sheriff Dewey (Arquette) and Gale (Cox), who are now married, as well as her cousin Jill (Roberts). Unfortunately Sidney's appearance also brings about the return of Ghostface, putting Sidney, Gale, and Dewey, along with Jill, her friends, and the whole town of Woodsboro in danger.



Your Highness

Throughout history, tales of chivalry have burnished the legends of brave, handsome knights who rescue fair damsels, slay dragons and conquer evil. But behind many a hero is a good-for-nothing younger brother trying just to stay out of the way of those dragons, evil and trouble in general. Danny

Out 13 April

McBride and James Franco team up for an epic comedy adventure set in a fantastical world-Your Highness. As two princes on a daring mission to save their land, they must rescue the heir apparent's fiancée (Natalie Portman) before their kingdom is destroyed.



WHO IS CHRIS HEMSWORTH?

Remember his name because Chris Hemsworth is the next big thing in movies. This stunning 6'3" hunk has moved from Summer Bar to Hollywood. The blond stud stars in the hotly anticipated superhero big screen treatment, Thor.

Thor is a powerful but arrogant warrior whose reckless actions reignite an ancient war. Cast down to Earth by his father Odin (Anthony Hopkins), he is forced to live among humans. A beautiful, young scientist, Jane Foster (Natalie Portman), has a profound effect on Thor, as she ultimately becomes his first love. It's while here on Earth that Thor learns what it takes to be a true hero when the most dangerous villain of his world sends the darkest forces of Asgard to invade Earth.

Chris best known till now for Australian TV soap Home and Away has two brothers who are also actors. His younger brother Liam Hemsworth recently starred as Miley Cyrus' love interest in the Last Song (they also dated off screen). Liam will soon appear as Ali Baba in Arabian Nights, coincidentally alongside Anthony Hopkins who also stars in Thor. Meanwhile Liam's older brother Luke use to appear in Neighbours from 2001 to 2008.

Sadly for us gays Liam recently married to super hot Spanish actress Elsa Pataky at the end of last year. But luckily he stars in some more big films coming to cinema this year including horror thriller The Cabin in The Woods and the action film Red Dawn. Plus he will join Robert Downey Jr' Iron Man and Chris Evans' Captain America in next year's massive superhero movie The Avengers.



Queer Canaries

Bent's intrepid **Adrian Gillan** explores some high-contrast **Canary Islands** – indisputably gayest **Gran Canaria**; plus quiet little **La Gomera**, reached by short ferry ride from mighty **Tenerife!**

Just three and half hours from the UK by plane, due south, the gay-friendly Canary Islands - volcanic idylls, rising up out of the mighty North Atlantic - seem a million sunny miles away.

Gran Canaria

A tiny speck of Spain off the African coast, Gran Canaria is a "mini continent" in its own right, boasting cliffs, dunes, mountains, valleys and lush forests. Third largest of the Canaries, it also - famously - attracts hoards of queers, mainly German and English, to its eternally sunny southern shores, notably to buzzing Playa del Ingles, plus adjoining, tad classier, Maspalomas, or more laid-back San Agustín.

Stay at Gloria Palace San Agustín (Las Margaritas, San Agustín, Gran Canaria; T: +34 928128500; www.gloriapalaceth.com), a fine 4-star hotel, with attractive grounds, attentive service, fine dining and - star of the show - large, adjoining seawater spa (thalasso) offering salty pool and jets, plus a range of wonderful massages and other treatments. Try their amazing chocolate exfoliation and thermal wrap!

A pleasant walk along the seafront from San Agustín, enjoy the dozens of gay bars, clubs, saunas and shops in Playa del Ingles: mainly in the infamous Yumbo Centre. Maybe time a trip around Maspalomas Pride (6-15 May 2011, www.gaypridemaspalomas.com)

Of course, you may well wish to just lounge about on the sand, or at your hotel. But the more discerning tourist can take a coach tour, or hire car, through the island's spectacular Central Highlands, peaking at a giddy 2000m; or explore island capital, Las Palmas, on the north-eastern tip.

Along the west coast, visit picturesque Mogán with its nice eateries, marina and boat trips - perhaps lunching inland a tad at the high-perched Las Cañadas rustic restaurant, with fine views

Useful Info

Award-winning low fares airline Monarch offers year-round flights to Tenerife from Birmingham, London Gatwick, London Luton and Manchester airports with fares, including taxes, starting from £77.50 one way (£138.99 return). Monarch also offers scheduled flights to Gran Canaria from Birmingham and Manchester airports with fares, including taxes, starting from £62.99 one way (£108.50 return). Monarch provides a unique range of tasty hot and cold food onboard with prices from £2. Seats can be pre-booked at £8.50 per one-way flight to avoid the last minute free-for-all experienced on some other airlines; or, for only £25, extra-legroom seats are available, with up to six inches of extra space. Passengers travelling on scheduled flights can also avoid airport queues by using online check-in, available between 7 days and 4.5 hours pre-departure. For more info or to book: www.monarch.co.uk
General info about Gran Canaria, Tenerife, La Gomera and the other Canary Islands:

www.grancanaria.com
www.webtenerife.com
www.gomera-island.com

www.turismodecanarias.com

General info on Spain: www.spain.info/uk; or request a brochure via 08459 400 180 (24 hrs)

Spanish Tourist Office: PO Box 4009, London, W1A 6NB; 020 7486 8077

info.londres@tourspain.es

down the valley back towards the sea. Pass through San Nicolás de Tolentino

to the old village of Agaete. You might even stop a night or two at the nearby Finca Las Longueras (Valle de Agaete, Agaete; T: +34 928 898 145; www.laslongueras.com) - a luxuriously homely, secluded rural hotel retreat, built in English colonial



style, with lofty rooms, comfy lounge, sociable dining room and luscious grounds with pool and bar.

La Gomera

Less than an hour away from Los Cristianos in south west Tenerife - by the excellent Línea Armas (www.naviaraarmas.com) ferry - lies San Sebastián, main town on La Gomera: itself the sixth largest Canary, and one of the oldest, hence its relatively small area having been well carved by wind and rain into distinctive steep valleys, dropping and radiating away from a high,



central "mist forest" plateau.

Stay at Hotel Torre del Conde (C/ Ruiz de Peron 19, San Sebastián, La Gomera; T: +34 922 870 000; www.hoteltorredelconde.com), good 3-star accommodation bang in the centre of main small town, San Sebastián - overlooking the eponymous Torre del Conde and its park, mere yards from sea. Fab eatery.

In San Sebastian itself, visit Casa de la Aguada (the well where Columbus draw his water from before setting sail for the so-called "New World"), Casa de Colón (where he stayed), Church of the Assumption (where he prayed) and Torre del Conde (where he supposedly got laid, with a local noblewoman). Also see the cute little Church of San Sebastián, the Archaeological Museum, plus port, marina and beach.

Thereafter, pretty much the only way to get around the island is via hire car (www.autoslarueda.es). To the north, visit the coastal village of Agulo and hill village of Vallehermoso - learning more about the island's geology and botany at the Canada Grande info centre and gardens, complete with nice café. To the west, visit the Mirador del Palmarejo, with its César Manrique-designed viewing platform and restaurant; plus little

Arure village, to dine at marvellous Casa Conchita (Carretera General Arure, Arure; T: +34 922 80 4110; www.casaconchita.es) - serving up traditional Canarian food, with a twist, high in the hills - before dropping down into the one-time hippy haunt of Valle Gran Grey.

In the island's centre lies the lofty UNESCO-protected Garajonay National Park, a mist forest home to countless moisture-loving plants. Take a stroll through this ancient wilderness at La Laguna Grande. Making your way back to San Sebastián, stopping variously for yet more breathtaking panoramic views.

Tenerife

To reach the small island of La Gomera, you'll most likely do so via Tenerife, the largest of the seven Canaries: home to banana plantations and tropical groves, all dominated by Mount Teide - Spain's highest peak; and Earth's third largest volcano, thankfully dormant! Head north to make chic, queer-enticing Puerto de la Cruz your base (www.hotelbotanico.com) - with the island's bustling capital, Santa Cruz, not far away. In the interior, enjoy Teide National Park's unique, barren landscape. For all things gay, head back south to the tourist-brimming southern coastal resort of Playa de las Americas!

Maintaining the lead - Blackpool

Blackpool has, for a long time now, been the premier holiday destination for those seeking a thrilling daytime matched by an exciting evening's entertainment. The Pleasure Beach is packed with white-knuckle (and pink-knuckle) rides and enough silly, enjoyable entertainment to keep the visitor happy no matter what age. In the winter months opening hours are limited but, with the warmer weather just around the corner, this bustling area will become a hive for 7 days of top class fun. For any gay boy (or girl) the Pleasure Beach gives you carte blanche to scream your tits off... should you need an excuse.

Meanwhile, after the spectacular (and some would say quite erotic show) SOAP, those nice folk at the "Beach" see the return in July of the popular HOT ICE spectacular, featuring 28 of the best ice skating performers. If you like a lot of sparkle, fit guys in tight outfits or just love seeing people artistically interpret music while perched on blades... this is the show for you. There are some terrific offers of tickets that combine entrance to the Pleasure Beach as well as to the show. www.blackpoolpleasurebeach.com

On an evening, as the Pleasure Beach calms down, a wander up the Golden Mile to the centre of the town, leads to the gay hotspots and all that they have

to offer. The Mardi Gras, Flamingo, Funny Girls, Flying Handbag, Kaos to name but a few...and for those who need to 'rest' the saunas are all in close proximity to one and other and easy to find.

Accommodation at the reasonably priced gay B&Bs and hotels are nearly all situated within walking distance of the gay village, however, should you wish to stay near the Pleasure Beach, the complex has it's own hotel, Big Blue, a large boutique style place with bar and restaurant and rooms overlooking the Big One.

www.bigbluehotel.com

www.blackpoolgayscene.com



Blackpool Hotels

Granby Lodge is a well-established quality bed and breakfast, which has been owned and run by Brian and Geoff for 14 years and prides itself on its very high standards of cleanliness, service and catering. Situated within easy walking distance of the railway station, the bus station, the North Pier and the city centre, it is an ideal location for any visit for any length of time.

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Brighton Getting ready for summer

Legends is gearing up for Summer with a great new food menu plus new club hours 7 nights a week.

Monday to Sunday there's a great new spring and summer menu. With lunch from as little as £3.50 there's sure to be something that will whet your appetite.

Plus Legends 'Basement club' is now open 7 nights a week. Monday to Thursday there's a mix of new DJ's including some of the best new talent on Brighton's club scene. Selected drinks will be £2.50 from Monday to Thursday, quality brands all at great mid-week prices and with FREE ENTRY all week who can't quibble at that. With all this on offer there really is no better late night venue in GAY Brighton.

Acts coming up at 'FRIDAY FRENZY' include a clutch of Brighton's favourite acts including Dave Lynn (8th April), followed by the lady with the fabulous

legs, the one and only Lady James (15th April) and the lovely Lola Lasagne with the help of some very cute Easter bunny boys on the 22nd April.

Finally on the Friday 29th April there's a Royal Wedding Special, hosted by Stephanie Starlet. Willy and his Kate are getting married but an old queen from the past may have something to say about it as Queen Vicky is resurrected from the grave to try and stop the wedding. Will she succeed or will Kate get her Prince Charming. Get down to Legends to see Kate and old Vicky fright it out! All acts will be on stage at 9.30pm. So shake off the weekday blues at 'FRIDAY FRENZY' every week.

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Advice

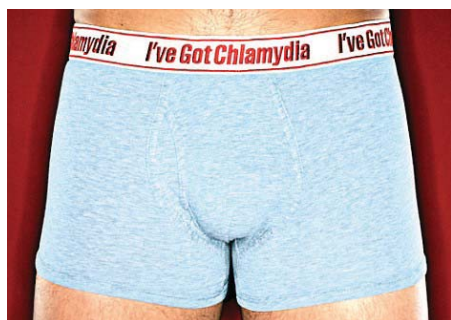
Alert gay men at risk of STIs

A major UK-wide scheme to notify partners of gay men diagnosed with sexually transmitted infections (STIs) is to be piloted from this month. The Sexual Health Messaging Service is developed by GMFA, the gay men's health charity, in collaboration with seven GU clinics, and the gay dating websites Fitlads, Gaydar, Manhunt and Recon. The scheme is funded by the Elton John AIDS Foundation and aims to reduce the number of men with undiagnosed STIs, including HIV. Men who are diagnosed with an STI can notify previous sexual partners via an online system, so the partners can get tested and, if necessary, treated. The HPA estimates that over a quarter of gay men with HIV are unaware they have the virus, and its data shows that the number of new STI diagnoses among gay men rose in 2008 and 2009. GMFA's own research shows that the vast majority of gay men (99.3%) want to be notified by their sexual partner if they get diagnosed with an STI and 97.5% want to be told if their partner gets diagnosed with HIV. Matthew Hodson, Head of Programmes at GMFA, comments: "Many STIs don't show any symptoms, so lots of men may be infected and not know it. While it's best to tell men you've had sex with if you find out you've picked up an STI, making that awkward phone call or sending an email can be difficult. As a result, some men choose not to tell, even though they know they should. We've made the process as easy as possible by doing most of the work for you – all you need is a contact for your partners and we'll take care of the rest."



With GMFA's Sexual Health Messaging Service, men are given a unique reference number by their clinic so they can log in to the online system and send notifications via a number of contact methods, including dating website profile name, cruising app profile name, mobile or email. The message is composed for them and includes links to details of where their partners can go for testing. While men are encouraged to identify themselves in the message, it can be kept anonymous.

Men can use the service to send messages to members of the four participating gay dating websites (Fitlads, Gaydar, Manhunt and Recon) plus the cruising app, Bender. Members of these websites are urged to opt-in to receive notifications when they are sent the invite to do so.



GMFA tackles racism on the gay scene

The 'Switched On' campaign from GMFA, the gay men's health charity, aims to raise awareness of racial discrimination in LGB&T spaces, and empower individuals to tackle the issue and embrace a multi-cultural community. The campaign was developed by Big Up, the Black gay men's project at GMFA, which receives Big Lottery funding.

Jaime Sylla, project manager for Big Up, comments: "These are big and historically complicated issues we're dealing with. While we don't expect to solve the problem of discrimination in one go, we hope this campaign provokes discussion and encourages everyone to recognise the benefits of ethnic diversity. We also hope that LGB&T people, irrespective of ethnic background, can draw parallels between the experience of homophobia and that of racism,

'Pink Finance Re-launched'

Compass, the gay financial advisers are re-launching Pink Finance the gay finance magazine as an online blog. The new online publication will once again be edited by Chris Morgan and be focused on improving the financial landscape for the gay community. Pink Finance was originally introduced in 2000, as a response to the blatant discrimination faced by the gay community from the financial services industry. They have now decided to celebrate its anniversary by evolving it into a new format with new focus. Chris Morgan, Marketing Manager of Compass and Editor of Pink Finance Said,

and appreciate that our common struggle far outweighs what we think separates us." Even on days which are intended to celebrate the whole gay community, racism can be felt, as Hanaan Baig discovered. "There was an incident several years ago while me and other group members of Imaan (who provide support for LGB&T Muslims) were marching at London Pride: other gay marchers came up to us and said, 'I didn't know we were marching with terrorists today!' And that was a Pride day... yet there were other LGB&T people that felt it was necessary or perhaps even humorous to make such comments. It was pretty offensive."

www.gmfa.org.uk/switchedon also includes details of organisations that individuals can turn to for legal advice and other forms of support.

'Pink Finance was the UK's first gay finance magazine of its type and has enjoyed considerable success campaigning over the years. We are very proud of our track record of representing the gay community within the financial services industry'. We are particularly proud of our work with the Association of British Insurers, which led to the removal of the 'Gay Question' from life assurance applications. There are literally thousands of people who have been forced to answer this intrusive question in the past'.

www.pinkfinance.co.uk

Red card to homophobia in sport

Britain's biggest sports are backing a new government campaign to stamp out homophobia and transphobia. The Football Association, the Lawn Tennis Association, the England and Wales Cricket Board, the Rugby Football League and the Rugby Football Union joined the London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (LOCOG) in becoming the first signatories of the Charter for Action, which aims to make sport a welcoming environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGB and T) people.

The Charter has four points:

* We believe that everyone should be able to participate in and enjoy sport – whoever they are and whatever their background.

* We believe that sport is about fairness and equality, respect and dignity. Sport teaches individuals how to strive and succeed, how to cope with success and disappointment, and brings people together with a common goal.

* We are committed to making these values a reality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. We will work together, and individually, to rid sport of homophobia and transphobia.

* We will make sport a welcome place for everyone – for those participating in sport, those attending sporting events and for those working or volunteering in sports at any level. We will work with all these groups to ensure they have a voice, and to challenge unacceptable behaviour.

Equalities Minister Lynne Featherstone said: "Sport should be about what you can do, not who you are. But too many lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people feel that the sports field is not somewhere they can be themselves, and that prejudice and discrimination will mean their sexuality is always talked about more than their ability with a ball, bat or racket. I'm delighted that so many sporting bodies are backing our campaign to stamp it out at all levels, from local parks to Olympic stadiums."

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Sauna Guide.



REM Sauna Newcastle

The REM Sauna Newcastle is the newest addition to the REM Group following the successful launch of the REM Bar and REM Hotel in Manchester's Canal Steet last year.

The REM Sauna is located close to the heart of Newcastle city centre and is situated in the building which formerly housed Top2Bottom Sauna. Designed exclusively for gay and bisexual men, the building has been totally refurbished, modernised and adapted for 2011 and has a fresh new management and staff team.

Facilities include a large modern spa room, spacious steam room and relaxing sauna. The modern lounge area includes a 50" plasma tv, free internet terminals and a new fully licensed bar and kitchen area for meals and refreshments. Free tea and coffee is available at all times. And for those guests who require a special pampering, a professional masseur is available to help you unwind and relax.

Downstairs a stylish and unique metal-mesh maze area has been

installed and includes special play areas, private cabins and darkrooms. There is also a cinema room and luxury cabins with personal screens for those who prefer a more intimate and private space. REM Sauna is fully licensed by Newcastle City Council to show adult films.

Our current monthly program includes regular theme and fetish nights, special guest appearances and regular development of our facilities and play areas.

As with all REM venues, we welcome gay and bisexual men of all ages (18+), cultures and backgrounds. Our friendly and helpful team are always happy to show new members around and make your visit special.

The REM Sauna is open from 10am- 10pm weekdays and 24 hours from Friday to Sunday. We hope to see you soon!

Warehouse Sauna

There has been a sort of renaissance in the sauna business over the past few years – gone are the seedy, uncared for, grotty damp corners to be replaced by state of the art, hi-tech and clean establishments. Warehouse Sauna is the new sauna experience opened by the folks behind Poptastic. Walking round the complex it's evident that attention has been paid to detail. The facilities are top of the range, and the overall atmosphere is light and airy, as opposed to the dark and seedy effect of most saunas. In fact it compares more with the sunny bathhouses of Key West and Florida than the dingy sex pits of urban Britain.

The extensive facilities include two dry sauna cabins, a jacuzzi, two steam rooms, 30 private cabins, and a live webcam room for the exhibitionists. There are also six private executive rooms with secure locker and fridge, a sling room, a gay cinema, dark rooms, a secure locker room, and a massage room with shower facility and qualified masseurs on-hand to help

you relax. The beauty treatment room offers a range of treatments, including piercings and tattoos, and the in-house shop will supply you with all the dildos and bumming paraphernalia a man could want.

Finally, to round it off, there is an internet café, a games area including pool table and fruit machines, a large TV room, and a restaurant and fully licensed bar. There is also entertainment on weekends, such as the wonderful Miss Thunderpussey, who hosted the VIP opening.

The upstairs bar is sizeable and light, with neutral colours and the intriguing addition of a Tardis in the far corner. The locker room is vast, so there's room for all (and plenty of opportunity to cruise). Overall the sauna offers something that hasn't been seen yet in the UK, and makes the sauna experience more akin to those on the continent. This is definitely one for the connoisseurs, whether you just want to relax or whether you want to pull.



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New sauna for Nottingham



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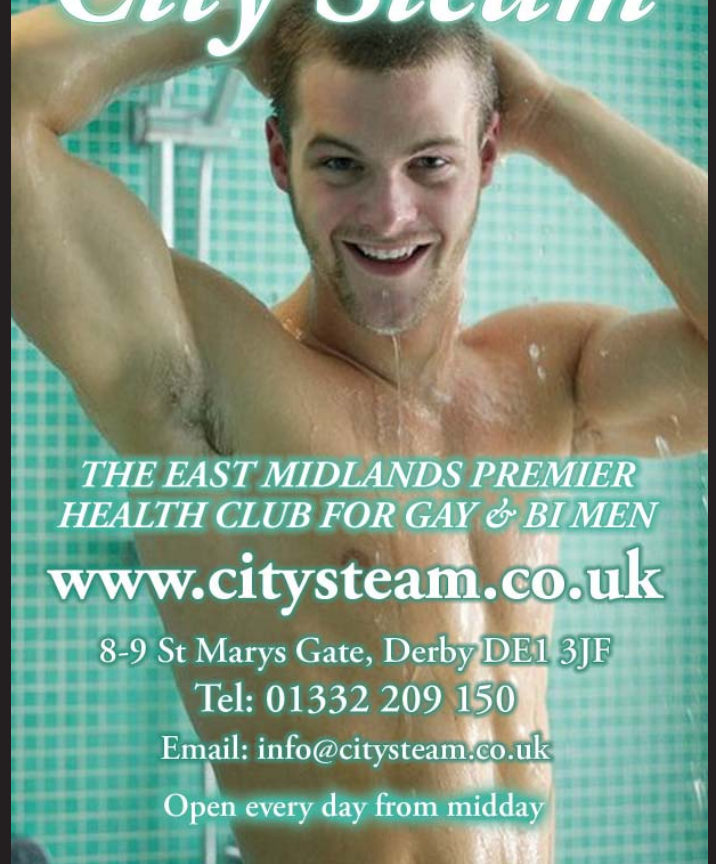
The plans for the 4000sq feet venue will feature, over two floors, a Large sauna, jacuzzi and bespoke steam room, plus modern high powered showers and private rooms. All equipment will be new and of the same high standard of cleanliness and hygiene as at Derby. More details on exact location and opening date will be confirmed shortly.

For updates join them on:
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MY SON'S MATE



BY LES LEA

My son's mate Ricky is a horny little sod and he seems to spend more time at our place than he does his own. He's been a visitor to our home since Thomas, my son, and he became friends at junior school. He's always been cute.

they used to. A couple of weeks ago, when the college was on yet another break, the little bugger came to visit when Thomas was still at work, Liz was also out and I'd been doing some odd jobs around the house.

Even as a little kid he was difficult to turn away, with his huge brown eyes, floppy hair and cheeky smile making him always look just so adorable. He spent as much time as he could with Thomas and I have to say they made a sweet little couple of kids who did everything together. I know he didn't have the best of time at home and he would occasionally seek a place to stay if his mum and dad were kicking off, which seemed to be more and more often as he grew up... or perhaps more to the point... as his parents grew apart. Anyway, Liz my wife would pick up on the little guy's distress and phone his parents to ask if he could stay the night and play with Thomas. They never refused. Over the years he's nearly become one of the family, although now he lives at home with just his mother and things seem a little more settled. He still looks as cute as button and whereas my son has filled out and grown up, Ricky seems to still be a fun-loving big kid. He and Thomas still hang out together but as one is working (my son) and the other is still in college, they don't see as much of each other as

It was a lovely hot summer's day and I was in my denim cut-offs and blue T-shirt and sweating like a pig as I hammered and sawed trying to get things finished before everyone else was home. Apparently, he knew I was home alone and, as he had nothing better to do, popped round to chat and see if he could help. I was pleased to see him but laughed as most of the hard work had already been done by the time he arrived and it was just a matter of finishing up. He went to the fridge and brought out two cold beers, one for himself now he was old enough to drink and one for me which he said, while passing it to me, I deserved as things in the garden were looking pretty good. He was full of compliments and despite me being old enough to be his dad, in fact I was a year older than his dad, he flirted with me like a little street whore. I'd never seen him like this but it seemed he was enjoying the joke of making me feel embarrassed by his constant flattering and occasionally cheeky remarks, all delivered with a smile and a wink. I thought I'd teach him a lesson and grabbed him, pulled

him over my knee and threatened to spank his little arse if he carried on. I was surprised when he pleaded with me to "do it" and my playful taps got harder and harder as he screamed out in mock pain but I could feel his cock growing as it pressed into my thigh. I realise I should have known better but in truth, I was enjoying the experience of having his wriggling little body in my control. He was really into it, so, I pulled down his shorts, his little white briefs were stretched invitingly across his cute little rump and I thought how fucking horny the lad had become. I don't know why but I continued to spank the lad even harder and he just squealed, moaned and encouraged me more. He wriggled out of his underwear and left me to spank his glowing bum, which appeared to dance and bounce with each hard slap. With one final swat he moaned and I realised, despite his hot little ass being red raw, he'd cum. He pulled up his pants and posed by the kitchen door looking like he'd just had the best time ever... and I was responsible for it. He told me that for many years

he'd dreamed of me doing that to him, taking him in hand and disciplining him for being naughty. Before he pulled up his shorts he showed me just how much he'd enjoyed it by displaying his stiff and dripping dick. Hell, I'd known the lad for ages but had no idea the boy had got so big... and it looked even more impressive on such a small frame. Anyway, now he comes round when no one else is home... and I love his visits. I love spanking his bum and at times wish I'd been more of a disciplinarian with Thomas when he was getting into his defiant and often obnoxious teens. Liz would have none of it. She thought any form of physical punishment meant we had failed as parents so was adamant her child would not get a beating no matter what he did. Young Ricky has released something in me at the same time I have released a need in him. The problem is, I'm hooked on the lad and want to take it further but I'm not sure how all this will end. However, I certainly hope, for both our sakes, it isn't soon.

Gay Chat

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filth

- 09097 9051 28 Night of stiff cocks wiv me Mums boyfriend
- 09097 9051 29 Old man and teenage boy rub cocks together (18)
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- 09097 9051 31 Pothead woz off his face so I sat on it
- 09097 9051 32 Pretend bummin turns real for str8 mates
- 09097 9051 33 Pullin down ASDA lads uniform trousers
- 09097 9051 34 Rude boy luvs yer cock(18)
- 09097 9051 35 Rude boys swap speedos at the baths (18)
- 09097 9051 36 Scallies and moshers havin dick fun on a bus
- 09097 9051 37 Scallies kiss and copper gets hard-on
- 09097 9051 38 Scally gets his sweaty boner out on a crowded train
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- 09097 9051 40 Scally mates find out they are both into cock
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- 09097 9051 43 Sir likes naked boys wiv big dicks (18)
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Pisces

(Feb20/Mar20)

You might be feeling lazy but there will be no loafing about or twiddling thumbs this week. In your better moments you are capable of coming up with great ideas and putting creativity into your work. A change of routine at the start of the week will mean a heavier schedule than normal. Although this will be a turbulent few days, your imaginative efforts won't go unnoticed and there is every chance that soon you will receive official recognition of your talents.

Taurus

(Apr21/May21)

You've always appreciated beauty in all forms and you are more aware, now, of what is lacking in your life. You are focused on something you don't have enough of and you intend to change this soon. Whether this missing ingredient in your life is romance, friendship, fun or a lack of money, you are determined to find a way to fill this gap. Once you set your mind to something, there will be no stopping you. What comes as a big surprise is how supportive friends and loved ones are.

Gemini

(May22/June21)

The first few days of the week seem to belong more to other people than to you. A friend has something to celebrate and you will be happy for them. Later, a social event could take you out of the area and even if this is all because you are doing someone a favour, you could enjoy the experience more than you expected. It could turn out to be a pleasant change. An intriguing introduction in the weekend will make things more interesting. Despite your initial doubts, there will be plenty for you to enjoy after all!

Cancer

(June22/July23)

You wish a friend who can get loud and boisterous when excited, would curb their exuberance. You see excitement for what it is but you also sense other people are more wary. Especially when their input into a team effort makes them sound like a know it all. Your reaction can help calm the atmosphere and encourage people to see beyond their mannerisms. All going well, by the end of the week, others too will start to respect the more sensitive and serious side of their nature.

Leo

(July24/Aug23)

There is no way you will turn down the chance to make a long journey. This may be overnight or it will be undertaken in the course of one day. Because there is a serious reason behind your travels, you might not get the chance you had hoped for, to appreciate the beauty of your surroundings. Even so, you won't feel it has been a waste of time. Decisions made now have far reaching consequences. By the weekend you will be wrapped up in your thoughts as you have a lot of planning to do and a lot to look forward to.

Virgo

(Aug24/Sept23)

Even when some commitments you have to get on with are unavoidable, you will only have half a mind on your work. Your normally observant eye could therefore miss anything that does not stand out as obvious. The small details you often pride

yourself in not ever missing, could escape your notice this week. This could lead to annoying little mistakes. Avoid making decisions until you feel more alert. You will sense from the start that your judgement isn't as good as it should be.

Libra

(Sept24/Oct23)

You've always been an approachable person and others value the advice you have to offer. You can see both sides of any coin and that's why your views are sought by friends and workmates. It would be fair to say you aren't so good at dealing with problematic situations where you are at the centre. You could be prone to taking the easy way out and blaming someone else for your difficulties. If you know you've brought some problems on yourself because a friend is taking advantage of your kindness, it is time to walk away.

Scorpio

(Oct24/Nov22)

The first few days of the week are perfect for giving free reign to your imagination. Lose yourself in a world of escapism of your own making if this is what you desire. Romantic developments will have you walking on air and there is no reason why you can't enjoy your daydreaming. You are also in a philosophical frame of mind. As the week draws to a close you will put some long and careful thought into the important affairs of your life and you will come to what you feel are balanced conclusions.

Sagittarius

(Dec22/Jan20)

You have strong views about issues being discussed now and this can make you appear very powerful. Few people will object if there is something you propose to do, to get a team effort moving again. You would love to be free to live out your fantasies and follow the sense of adventure that burns deep inside. But you also know that currently, other people need you and are relying on you. You haven't the heart to let them down.

Capricorn

(Dec22/Jan20)

If you're feeling tense and irritable, don't think your needs aren't important. As the days wear on and there is no sign of this mood wearing off, you should try to analyse what has brought it on. It may be excess stress or too much work that is causing all the tension. The best way to combat the situation, and the stress related headaches that could increase throughout the week, will be to take a day off, put your feet up and enjoy some peace and quiet!

Aquarius

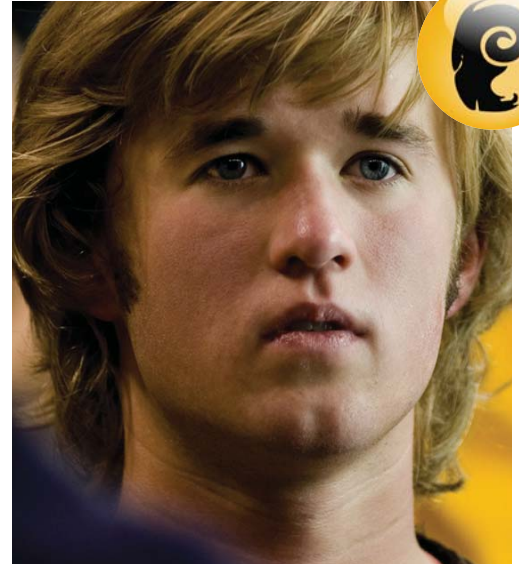
(Jan21/Feb19)

You're constantly on the go and often found in the company of stimulating people. This week there will be a need to translate ideas into activities and vice-versa. You have great compassion for the suffering of others and at some point; voluntary efforts will involve helping those who can't help themselves. Others will notice your kindness and try to take advantage. Make sure you are suitably discriminating as you don't want to use up your energies for no good reason at all.

Aries

(Mar21/Apr20)

There is nowhere to go without everyone clamouring for your company. At first you will make the most of this and revel in all the attention. Later you will wonder if every day this week is going to be so busy without a moment to call your own. It means a lot to know other people admire and respect you but if someone's starting to lean on you too heavily, gently encourage them to back off. Give them too much of your time, this week, and it will feel as if you will never get rid of them as April ends.



Haley Joel Osment 18/03 Celebrity Aries

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23/03 Chaka Khan	06/04 Zach Braff
24/03 Steve McQueen	07/04 Russell Crowe
25/03 Elton John	08/04 Julian Lennon
26/03 Diana Ross	09/04 Rachel Stevens
27/03 Mariah Carey	11/04 Joss Stone
28/03 Vince Vaughan	12/04 Claire Danes
29/03 Lucy Lawless	13/04 Al Green
30/03 Celine Dion	15/04 Emma Thompson
31/03 Ewan McGregor	16/04 Charles Chaplin
01/04 Debby Reynolds	17/04 Victoria Beckham
02/04 Alec Guinness	18/04 Melissa Joan Hart
03/04 Eddie Murphy	19/04 Hayden Christensen
04/04 Robert Downey Jr.	

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