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LEE RYAN

VENGABOYS

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CONFESSIONS OF A
BLUE MAN

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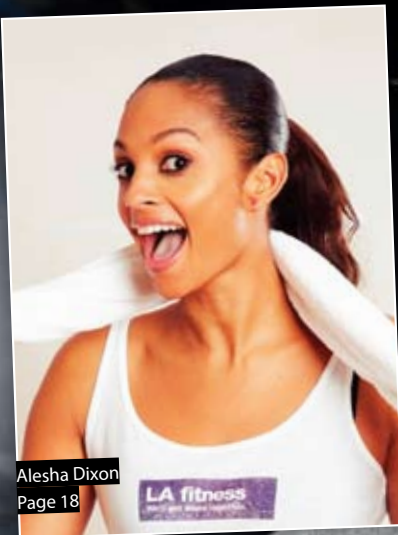


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WARNING!
OUR RANGE IS SERIOUSLY SEXY

PHOTOGRAPHY BY TSAI STUART-YIP



Alesha Dixon
Page 18



Vengaboys
Page 17

EDITOR'S WORDS

How do you think the coalition government is doing? Big Dave and Our Nick seem to have got a team together despite some very obvious political differences. Could this be a new era of cooperation and understanding or is it just a marriage (or should that be a civil partnership) of convenience?

At a recent reception at 10 Downing Street hosted by the Prime Minister for a horde of gay, lesbian and trans-generated people, he said that after last year's Pride events where he admitted that his party had "... not always got this issue (gay rights) right", things were now different. In an opening speech he repeated and expanded on the topic to the gathered politicians, charity heads, gay business leaders and assorted gay do-gooders. "I know we didn't get this right in the past, I know that we were slow learners, we had a long way to travel, but I am proud of the fact that we have travelled a long way in terms of supporting civil partnerships, in terms of standing up for equal rights and for equal treatment, and I think that is very important."

One very important person missing from this gay collective is the man I have bestowed a sainthood on because of his ceaseless work on behalf of gays everywhere... Mr Peter Tatchell. Although Peter is thought of by some to be the 'negative' side of gay campaigning,



Saint Peter

what is indisputable is his passion for equality for all and his consistent objection to anyone who reviled the gay community. He has centred a spotlight on our gripes and injustices for more years than I bet even he cares to remember... and yet, he's still there, pushing the boundaries and demanding action. His selfless work has seen him verbally, emotionally and physically attacked for his beliefs and in any other area of such

dedicated campaigning would have been offered some national recognition by now. Alas, over the years, all UK governments have run and hidden from Peter's non-equivocal approach to his message - treat everyone equally, if you don't there will be someone to pull you on what you say and do.

I think the gay community owes so much to Peter and I'm sad that even Nick Glegg, the Lib Dem leader and the party that has espoused gay rights, didn't seem to feel it necessary to invite our greatest gay campaigner to the party in 'our' honour. Peter is too big a man to care about such a slight, after all, he's used to it, but this was a glorious opportunity missed for some kind of recognition and because of that, I hope the coalition government doesn't come up short on any its other gay specific policies for trans people and the pledge to remove historic convictions for now-legal gay sex offences. Peter isn't the only one who'll wait and judge on performance.

To make a donation to Peter Tatchell's Human Rights fund; www.tatchellrightsfund.org

Hugs,
Gordon

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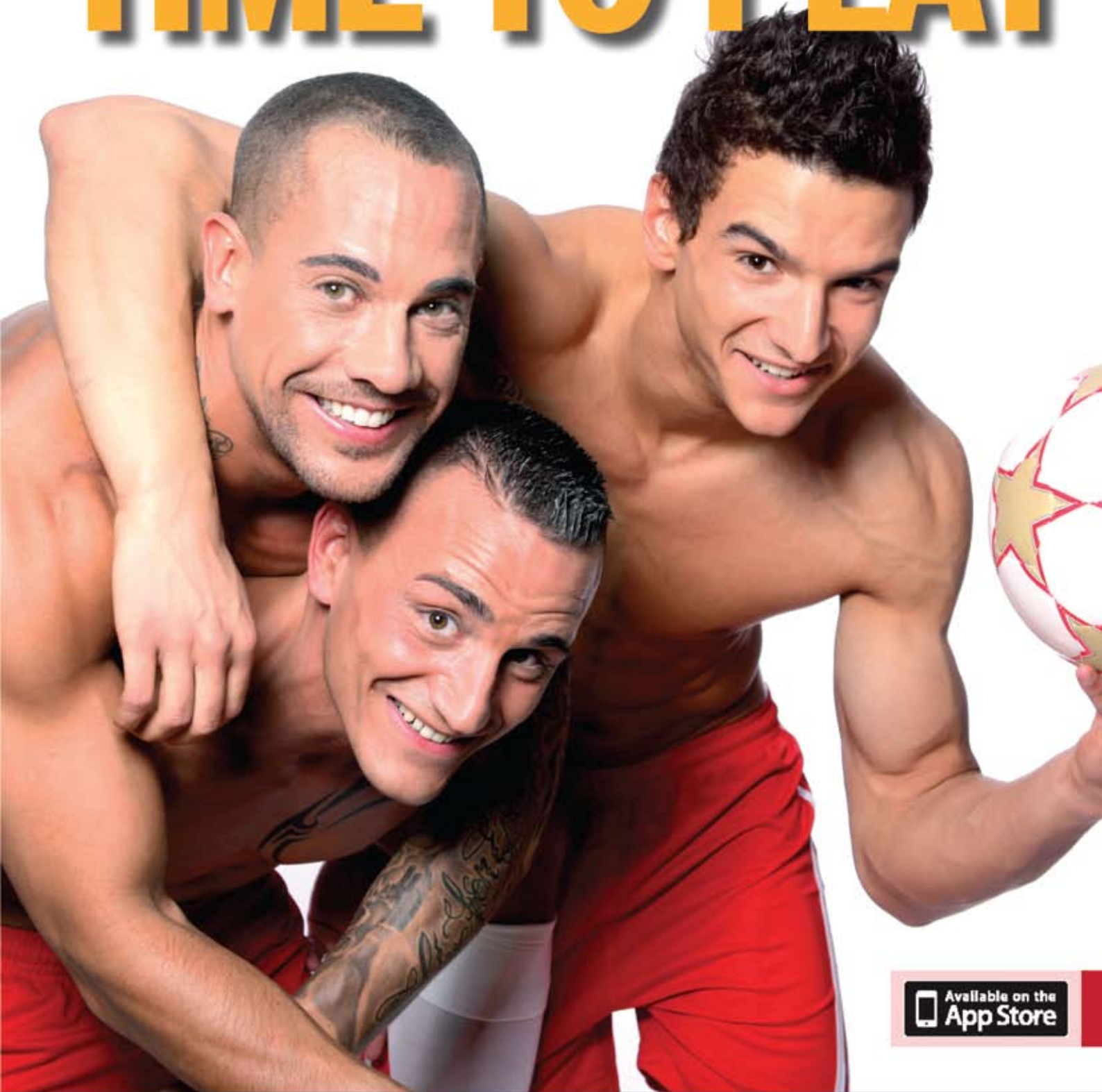
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Do Not Worry



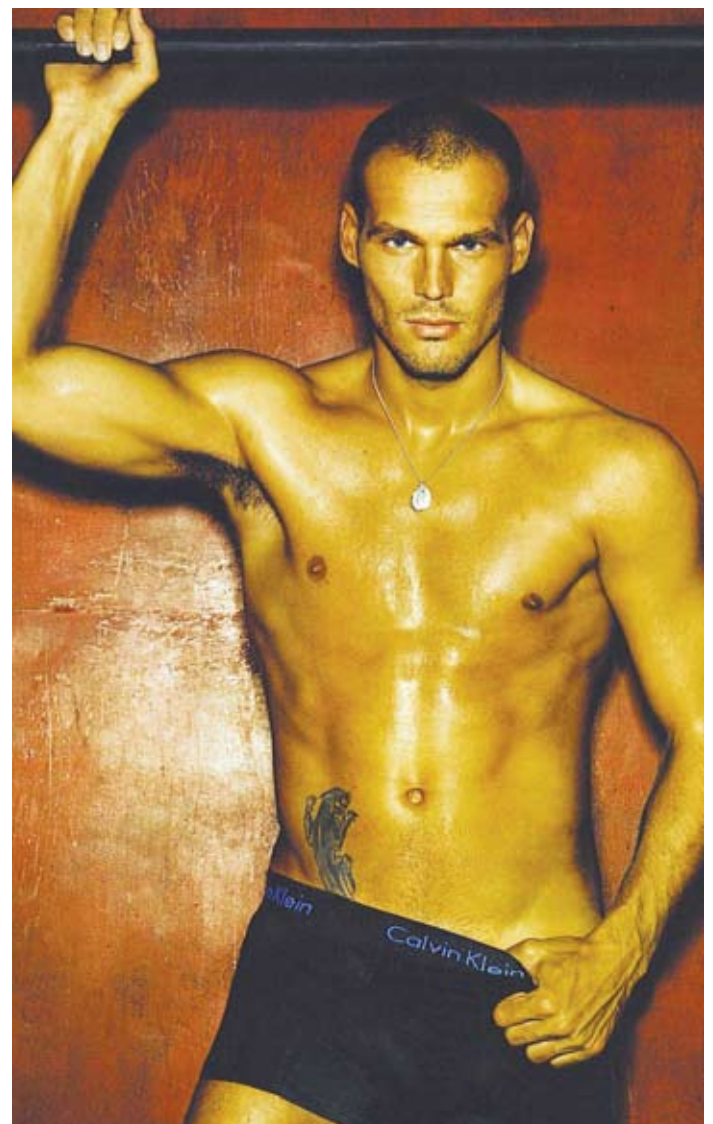
Seminal emissions at night are natural
Most healthy older boys have them

Unless emissions occur very frequently,
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FILL YOUR HEARTS WITH... GLEE

Channel 4's spectacularly successful musical comedy series Glee is gearing up for next season with a few surprises in the cast. Top stars are lining up and waiting for an invite but Little Britain star Matt Lucas is already rumoured to appear as an English teacher at the High School. In the interim, while the programme is on a break Matthew Morrison is planning on making an album, and Lea Michele is apparently pissing everybody off with her diva attitude (we love her even more for that) but the big news is... John Barrowman is still angling for a role.



According to Pink News.co.uk - Swedish football star Freddie Ljungberg says he is "proud" of the rumours he is gay. The 33-year-old player has been the subject of gossip about his sexuality for years, due to his bachelor lifestyle and love of musicals and fashion.
He told the New York Times: "There's been a gay rumour for a long time. I don't mind at all. I am proud of that. I love fashion, and I think so many gay people have amazing style. So that is a compliment to me."
He added: "I really don't know why people are so interested. I just made a decision that I won't talk about it." The Calvin Klein underwear model has frequently been ranked one of football's gay favourites, alongside David Beckham and Cristiano Ronaldo.
But reacting to one accolade in 2006, he said: "I am not gay. If I was I would just say I was and it wouldn't bother me."



RETROART

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'PLANET JEDWARD

In a world where gravity defying quiffs rule and the Irish lilt is the language of angels, be prepared to journey to the furthest corners of the solar system to find a race of enthusiastic twins and a land known simply as... 'Planet Jedward'!

Following on from their Number Two smash hit single Under Pressure (Ice Ice Baby) the dynamic duo are set to follow up their previous chart success

with their debut album. It will feature the high-octane favourites from their hugely successful sell out Irish tour, all reinterpreted in the boys' inimitable style. Planet Jedward has been produced by Nigel Wright, famed for his work with Take That, Boyzone and his long association with Andrew Lloyd Webber, as well as his role as Musical Director of The X Factor since 2004. Jedward will embark on a second Irish tour in August and their first UK tour will be announced shortly. For details go to planetjedward.net
Album released 19th July - Universal

WALK FOR LIFE

Over 2,000 took to the streets of the capital on Sunday 6th June to help leading HIV and AIDS charity Crusaids celebrate the 21st Birthday of Crusaids' Walk for Life. Walkers of all ages attended the event clad in spectacular fancy dress costumes in a bid to raise vital funds for the charity's work helping adults and children living with HIV and AIDS in the UK and internationally. They were joined by a host of famous faces including 4 Poofs & A Piano, Hollyoaks star Glen Wallace and chart-topping band The Feeling. It is estimated that this year's Crusaids' Walk for Life has raised an astonishing £250,000 so far, and the money continues to roll in with all walkers able to continue fundraising up until the beginning of September when the sponsorship window closes. Meanwhile, Crusaids and sexual health charity Terrence Higgins Trust have announced their merger. The merged organisation aims



to preserve a much-needed safety-net for people with HIV living in poverty and strengthen fundraising for HIV in the UK. Jordan Hay, Chief Executive of Crusaids, said: "We initiated this merger to ensure that our hardship fund can continue to make a vital difference to the ever-increasing numbers of people diagnosed with HIV each year in the UK. THT shares our vision and values and we are excited about the opportunities to support people with HIV that this merger presents." www.walkforlife.co.uk

ORCA WATER POLO

The Gay Games commence on 31st July in Cologne where 12,000 participants from over 70 countries will be taking part. Among them will be the London Orca Water Polo team. After the club's recent successes at the Tournoi International de Paris where 1500 gay and lesbian competitors were in action across a range of sports they are hopeful of further success in Germany. The Orca's goalkeeper Gareth Johnson says, "Team sports such as water polo and events like the Tournoi International and Gay Games are not only a great way to keep fit and challenge yourself physically, but also an important reminder that the LGBT community is so broad and diverse that there are no limitations on who you can be." **If you want to know more about joining a swim club go to: outtoswim.org**



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COMPETITION TIME
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LEONE

Building on the success of the casual Leone - the new spring summer 2010 collection by Maruti has been specially designed for the young professional. With its slogan "the world at my feet", the range of fashionable footwear continues.
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BIRMINGHAM PRIDE 2010

by ChrisGeary.com

Advertised as the biggest free 2 day gay party in the UK, Birmingham Pride was a great weekend away to catch up with old friends and new. The annual event always takes place over the spring bank holiday weekend, this year was no different.

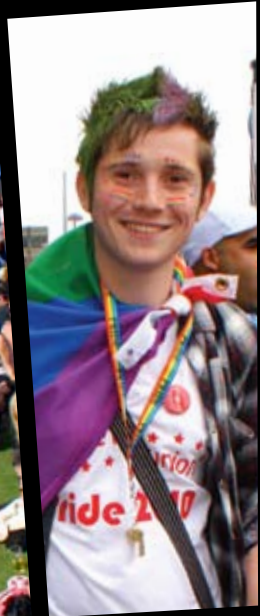
The carnival parade launched the event at noon in Victoria Square with a speech from the mayor of Birmingham. The colourful parade, which had as this year's theme 'Equality Over The Decades' to recognise the equality the LGBT community have achieved since 1967 when homosexuality was legalized. The message was evident in the parade, which saw hundreds of people making their way through the streets on foot, alongside a large number of superbly decorated floats, winding their way through the city centre, finishing in the gay village where the 2 day festival then kicked off. Unfortunately, the heavens opened with heavy rain just before everyone gathered for the parade, and stayed that way till about half way through the route. Dancing in the rain has never been such fun, with umbrellas up and the music from the floats pumping, everyone was full of smiles and laughter, waving their rainbow flags and feather boas with pride. Sunday's

weather was much better; enough for the boy's tops to come off for some fun in the sun.

The main stage outside Nightingale was the festival's focal point, and was much bigger than last year. Acts sang and entertained the crowds, while the big dance tents allowed the party people to let their hair down. If you fancied a giggle then there was a cabaret/comedy marquee. Mix in some great funfair rides, market and community stalls, a chill-out village green, oh and about 70,000 people; Birmingham Pride had everything for a great weekend of Gay Pride celebrations.

Over 15 gay bars and clubs make up the city's gay village, the biggest club is of course the Nightingale, which had a special PA from boy band Blue's Lee Ryan www.Lee-Ryan.org. He proved to be very popular with the crowds especially in his camp pink top. However on stage he admitted that the press reports about him and fellow Blue singer Duncan James (who this year admitted he was bi-sexual) were untrue. He went on to say that Blue will be getting back together for a reunion tour very soon.

Birmingham Pride info:
www.BirminghamPride.com



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and AF Tracking to avoid images from blurring, even when subjects are on the move, perfect for action shots. A unique Tap Control function lets you operate the camera by tapping the body; great when you are wearing thick gloves in the snow or are underwater.

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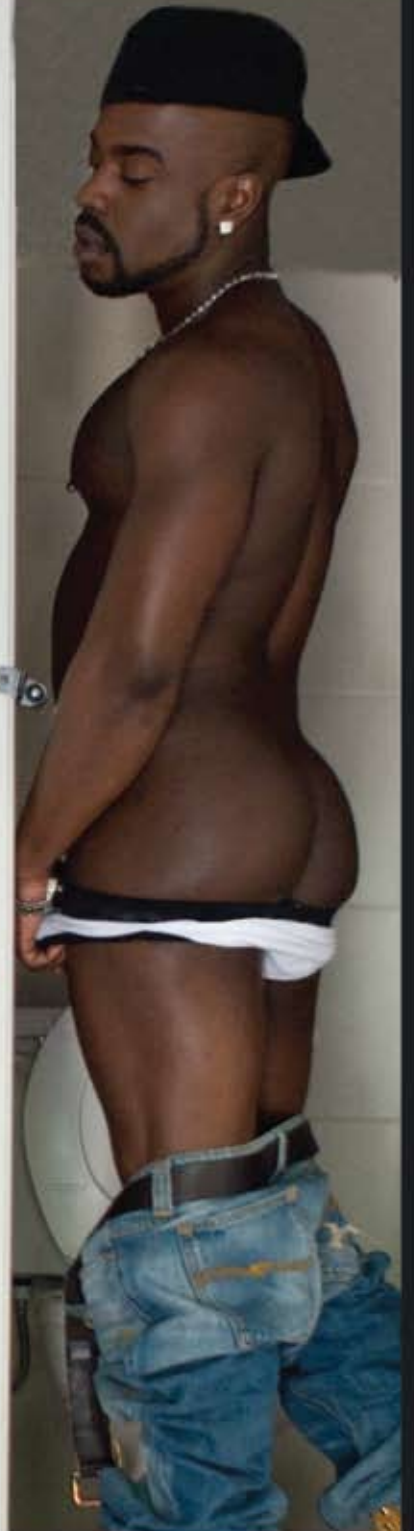
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Lee Ryan is a man on a mission. The Blue singer has just completed an autobiographical album full of personal lyrics and heartfelt emotions called - Confessions. The first single, I Am Who I Am is a superb, yet defiant, ballad that will speak to many who feel misunderstood... for whatever reason.

I AM WHO I AM

"For me... and I think especially for the gay community who live in this world, they will really relate to it. I think that anyone who is perceived as kinda different, not of the norm or what society expects, can really, really relate to this song."

For some reason this track wasn't what the record buying world were lead to believe was what the new album was all about. The press had said it was a dance album...

"Yes I know, that wasn't me or the record company... it was basically the press taking what they wanted from it and kinda slagging it off really." He seemed a bit miffed with the press in general. "It's far from a dance album, it's actually a well composed and honestly written album."

Lee has had many moments of madness. His tirade about 9/11, his attack on a taxi driver and a few other altercations with the press but he is desperate to put all the silliness behind him and try to move on. "This is something I've never been able to do before. There are some songs about who I am, where I've been and what I believe in... that's why I wanted to call it Confessions really."

Continuing in the confessional mode Lee speaks from the heart when mentions his early life when he was found to be dyslexic. "I've struggled really badly with being called thick all my life because I haven't been able to articulate myself... it's hard being put down like that. I came out of school being called thick and it continued through the Blue days and it becomes... frustrating. Now I've got the chance to tell people they got me wrong... and this is what I want to say. I could scream off the mountain tops and do a million interviews trying to rectify any situation that's happened

over the years but, I've found the press don't write what I say... they write what they want."

His frustration with the press seems to continue when he quotes some lines from one of the tracks on his album "I've made mistakes but who are you to put me down under your shoe. In your glass house don't you throw stones because you'll smash your ego to the bones."

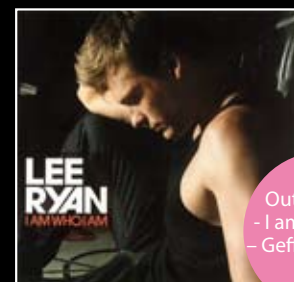
Cheering up, Lee was very enthusiastic about his recent appearance at Birmingham Pride. "I love doing gay gigs." And there is always the spectre of more from Blue, a subject that was all on a few months ago but has suddenly gone quiet. "No, there will be something (on the Blue front) we're just figuring it out at the moment but we are going to be doing some stuff."

Lee has appeared on stage and in a couple of movies but is more enthusiastic about another project that will surprise fans and the pop business glitterarty itself. "I love films. I have a script that I have written myself and I'm off to a meeting about it today. It's my first film that I've written that has actually been picked up. It's based on Retalin and dyslexia." Two subject matters that don't sound too uplifting but Lee continues, "It's a very powerful piece... a sort of psychological horror story. Many people who have read it are quite shocked that I have written the story and the script for it. They never thought I would come up with something like it."

So, with a new album, a film producer and writing career would there be any opportunity for him to delve back into reality programmes such as 'Come Dine With Me' that Lee won on the celebrity version last year. "Damn straight I'd do that again. I loved it. It was brilliant... but I am a good cook... and pretty big-headed... so that helps."



At 26 Lee has given his music career another ten years then he hopes to concentrate on film production. However, in the meantime we can enjoy his fantastic new single and look forward to the release of what promises to be a brilliant new album



Out: 5th July
- I am who I am
- Geffen Records



FOX

GAY-PER-VIEW

By Alex Wiggan

TV's gone gay. It has. There's no denying it. When it comes to what's on the box, Gays are more popular than cookery shows and reality programming featuring Simon Cowell. The great thing is that all this interest in letting homo-capables rule the airwaves is having a positive effect on the way in which homosexuality is viewed. Take Kurt Hummel on uber-popular show Glee, who not only commands some of the snappiest dialogue in the whole series but has proved such a hit with fans that Glee creator Ryan Murphy has said the perky character will never play the victim. Then of course cast your eye over BBC One's ever revolving door of camp-a-rama on a Saturday night, where the legendary likes of Norton, Winton and Barrowman regularly pop up between Doctor Who and the bubbling bromance going on in Merlin. So with the dark days of closeted TV stars rapidly becoming a thing of the past, and everyone and their mother waking up to the fact that gays are around to stay, it seems no one has begun to embrace this more than soap land. In a twisted way soaps are meant to reflect what is going on in society and although it really is too farfetched to believe anyone would have an affair with Corrie's Kevin Webster, the soaps are at least tapping into some important issues concerning gay relationships.

There have been 'sensational' gay storylines popping up onscreen in soaps for years, from Colin and Barry in Eastenders to Todd Grimshaw trying to cop off with Nick Tilsley in Coronation Street. Many have come and gone due to the nature of the plots or because the characters failed to connect with the audience, but of course some characters like Corrie barman/factory worker Sean Tully have proved so likeable they've remained. The reason for Tully's continued presence, played by actor Antony Cotton could be chalked up to the fact that he represents the average gay guy who doesn't have to be causing a soap style drama every week. It could also be because although he's had his fair share of fun stories, he's so far never been caught in a Cabin tryst with Norris, or tried to convince Emily to come out of the closet. His presence on the country's most famous cobbles has been a positive move and in its own way has made a subtle step forward without a fuss. There is of course one gay storyline that has made an impact over recent years which has not only touched



on the traditional theme of a difficult romance but one that looks at a gay man's faith as the backdrop of this as well.

The rocky relationship between Syed Masood and Christian Clarke on Eastenders has caught the attention of the nation by grabbing it firmly by the unmentionables. The tale of Syed and Christian's ill-fated romance has been an exhausting emotional journey, which is not something that would come as a surprise to anyone familiar to Walford; an area that should be dubbed the worst place to live in Britain. What certainly has helped sell the story is that actors Marc Elliott and John Partridge are so damn foxy, but if honesty must prevail it's really because the story about Syed's conflict over his faith as a Muslim has been the cornerstone of the drama. Tackling a subject such as two men falling in love is old news, but throwing in the pressure of a religious belief like the one Syed has had to face, has made the situation something which has really developed the story. The constant problems the couple have faced will no doubt be familiar to some, but for many it's a subject they may not have even considered. Those viewers who perhaps don't have a cuddly little gay in their lives (well at least that they know of) could be prone to forming opinions on homosexuality from what they see beamed out to them via their digital devices in the corner of the room. This means that a question of one's faith is not something that is even considered, even though it is a big part of that person's life. For Syed it has meant often making difficult decisions going against what his heart wants in order to appease his family. With Eastenders covering a storyline like this it has added another layer to the type of situations gay men find themselves in; you know, day-to-day stuff the same as anyone else. TV really has gone gay and although we shouldn't have to be thankful for it, we should perhaps champion each and every move that it makes because it will all work out for the best in the long run. So next time you flick over to BBC One and Graham Norton's searching for Dorothy, yes you can snigger, but remember any friend of Dorothy's is a friend of yours too.

SOUTH AFRICA'S HOTTEST POP EXPORT

With the world's eyes focused on South Africa and the football World Cup it has given a chance for the countries home grown talent to shine... step forward Elan Lea.

Signed to Universal Music South Africa, he has been winning admirers all over the world with his unique brand of melodic, piano-driven pop and his debut album 'My Only Excuse' and exciting first single 'Right Anyway', heralds the arrival in the UK of a special talent.

Elan has been described as 'the new Robbie Williams' and My Only Excuse features the Guy Chambers-penned hit in waiting 'Lucky Day'. The album also boasts the unforgettable track 'I don't know about that' by Diane Warren, the GRAMMY award winning songwriter behind LeAnn Rimes' 'How do I live?' Toni Braxton's 'Un-break my heart' and Aerosmith's 'I Don't Want to Miss a Thing'.

Something of a sex symbol in his homeland, Elan's massive following has seen him regularly adorn the pages of South African magazines, while the UK edition of Heat magazine has already featured him on their 'Man-o-meter' and commented "the South African pop sensation sounds as good as he looks."

However Elan's easy on the eye appearance only tells half the story - he attributes his driven and focused approach to music to his other true love, Kung Fu and Mixed Martial Arts which have given him the inner-discipline required to achieve chart success.

Album My Only Excuse and single Right Away are out now on Universal Music www.elanlea.com



ALBUMS

SINGLES

▶ JIMMY EDGAR

XXX - Out: 26th July

Detroit futuristic funk has a new master, and they call him Jimmy Edgar. Bent fans will love 'Hot, Raw, Sex' for its passionate synth stabs and crazed hand clapping. 'Midnight Fone Call' is lush, quiet and powerful. 'Push' is staccato, and as in-your-face-sexually as Timbaland on *Viagra*. XXX is a super-sexy, trumped up dance record with plenty of charisma.



▶ KATY MELUA

A Happy Place - Out: 26th July

Katie Melua is revelling in her new alt-pop sound for this track. Melua and Guy Chambers work together on this more sophisticated offering from the slushy pop princess. The music is more central, more varied, and the vocals more strident. This is a Katie Melua who is familiar yet has grown, and this musical tale of the pressures of modern life covers similar themes but in a more successful manner than some of her earlier work.



▶ STEFANO NOFERINI

Club Edition Ibiza 2010 - Out: 19th July

Progressive, deep and tribal dance has never been in better hands than Stefano Neferini's. The Italian producer has been labelled a pioneer by some and has appeared on labels such as CR2, Stealth, Toolroom and Deeperfect Records (which he also set up). David Guetta, Paul van Dyk and Carl Cox are all fans, and last year he topped the

US Billboard Hot Play charts with his collaboration with Matteo Marini and Sylvia Tosun, 'Push n Pull'. This is a collection happily fat on sexy house, disco and deep progressive beats, which never fails to let go.



▶ PEARL & THE PUPPETS

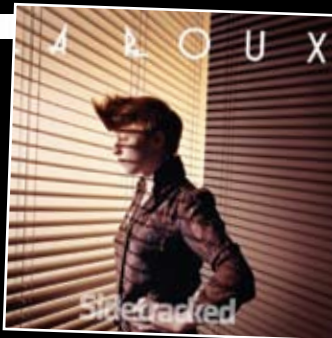
Make Me Smile - Out: 19th July

This breezily melodic summer pop song is as feelgood as a 99 on a trip to the seaside. Sure to put a grin on your face, 'Make Me Smile' succeeds in its quest to be a delicious holiday anthem. No wonder she's appeared everywhere from *The Great Escape* to the BBC's Hogmanay show to gigging as a support act for Sir Elton John. Embrace the summer and give this a spin.

▶ LA ROUX

Sidetracked - Out: 26th July

La Roux helms the second release in the Sidetracked series. Full of bleeping good mixes of the likes of Heaven 17, Doris Troy and Fox The Fox, and also including La Roux' cover of the Stones' 'Under My Thumb'. This is a bombastic showcase of a variety of electronic outfits you might not otherwise listen to, and the La Roux recommendation is a good one. Definitely worth checking out.



▶ THE REALM FT CHOKLATE

I'll Let It - Out: 12th July

Soulful underground comes centre stage with Chocolate's collaboration with The Realm. Percussive beats ripple under bubbling bass and innovative key undercurrents perfectly match Chocolate's smoky vocal. Chocolate's gospel roots simmer throughout the record, adding a powerful, diva-esque touch any gay man will love.



▶ COLD SEEDS

Cold Seeds
Out: 28th July

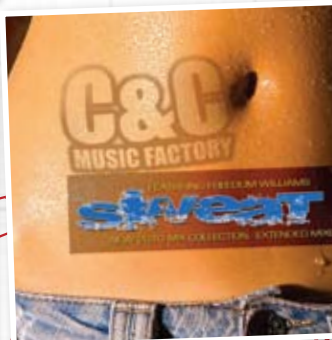
Cold Seeds is the folk experimentation of Kenny Anderson, France Donnelly and Pete Harvey. Unusual noises, charming rhythms and wonky visions of the world make this a creative take on folk music for those who like their music easy on the ear without being sentimental.



▶ C&C MUSIC FACTORY FT. FREEDOM WILLIAMS

Sweat: New 2010 Mix Collection
Out: 2nd July

'Sweat' was a hugely popular house track back in the early 90s. Now it goes through the rinse with a host of remixes from the likes of Nightstylers, DJ Bomber and Soulseekers. The original of course features the rapping of Brooklyn-based MC Frederick 'Freedom' Williams and the power vocals of San Fran worbler Martha Wash, which alone makes the single worthy of a rerelease, but the range of mixes are an extra added bonus for dance lovers.



▶ MICHAEL MORPH

Something for the Weakened - Out: 26th July

OK, I'm not a great fan of electro-house but Brighton hotshot Mr Morph has punched out an album to enhance the weakened (great play on words by the way). Sliding around on a synth and bass rhythm, which mixes ambient and nu-rave styles to mind-blowing FX. Squish and bumps along to an occasional vocal blurt and a popping piece of electronica... it will either drive you to the dancefloor... or completely insane!



▶ WE HAVE BAND

Oh! - Out: 12th July

'Oh!' is a fan favourite in We Have Band circles. Previously released as a 7" through 50 Bones, this sweaty electro romp will go down a treat with the skinny jeans and mascara crowd. Live instruments, combined vocals and electronic doodads collide in a yummy indie dance stylee. Well worth a listen.





ROCKET TO THE VENGABOYS

After a 10 year hiatus, Dutch dance four-piece Vengaboys are venturing into the pop stratosphere once again, this time with a high speed rocket bound for the seventh planet. Already causing a commotion in many a European club; Kim, Denice, Robin and new addition Ma'Donny describe the track as "Spaceage disco for 2010, with addictive lyrics and big Venga-sounds you can't resist." Taken from the band's celebratory 'Best Of' album and DVD releases (out July 19th) the song is certainly recognisably Venga, but with added

gusto and laced with more than a touch of irony.

We caught up with Vengaboy Robin Pors in Israel to ask him just who came up with the title of the single...

'Rocket to Uranus'... isn't it lovely? It's outrageous. We have two gorgeous producers... actually not too handsome but we love them... and they came up with it. They are always funny... like Boom Boom Boom I want you in my room... kiddies singing the song but they don't know what it means. Rocket to Uranus... pretty funny right?

Have you had anybody say they weren't going to play it because of the title?

Yes, but we are on a trip... a Rocket to Uranus... in space... so I think that's the fun of it.

The video for the track has appearances by Perez Hilton and the legendary Pete Burns, how did you get them involved?

Well, we met them at a very 'special' party (laughs) and they were such fun...and their rockets were so big... we just had to include them.

What can we expect from a Vengaboys show these days?

Well, our shows are uplifting and we have all ages. Kids come and go away singing the songs, then their parents start to sing them...

You seem to have even crossed over to the student audiences these days...

Yes, we like a large audience. Our songs are fun and full of love, as are we... so that is all fine. People leave a Vengaboys show happy and singing our songs.

I see that your outfits are as outrageous as ever... who designs them for you?

Well, it's... erm... how do you call it... H&M. Yes it's their new collection...

Laughter from interviewer... You joke...

You want them...?

Yes sure... let's kit out the Bent team in the sparkly jock strap please...

You can get them at H&M. (laughter)

Will you be touring in the near future?

Yes, the new album, we've recorded some new songs so... we'll be touring around the world pretty soon.

**Rocket to Uranus - Out 12th July
Best Of... album and DVD - Out July 19th - All Around the World/UMTV**

CREAM IBIZA

Leading global clubbing super-brand Cream is proud to announce the next instalment of award winning compilation Cream Ibiza. Global turntable hero Eddie Halliwell returns, for a second year running, this time flying solo, to rule across both discs.

Eddie Halliwell is one of the most talented and inspiring DJ's on the planet, with over half of the tracks in Eddie's Cream Ibiza 2010 mix having undergone his genius ED-IT treatment, expect summer anthems from the likes of Deadmau5 Strobe, Steve Angello Monday, Joris Voorn The Secret, and Afrojack Pacha On Acid on CD1 whilst you'll find big room tunes on CD2 including Jerome Isma-Ae Smile When You Kill Me, Umek Work This Data, Richard Durand Xelerate and Sander van Doorn Ninety.

www.creamibiza.com

To be in with a chance of winning a copy of this fantastic 2CD compilation of Eddie's brilliance, just answer this simple question. Ibiza is an island in which sea?



WIN THIS



WIN THIS

LANGE - Harmonic Motion

Harmonic Motion is an album of genius and perfection in this new era where trance has come to encompass everything and anything, a synchronization of melody and groove. Ranking 31 in the world (2009 DJ Mag Top 100 Poll), Lange is recognized as one of the most influential dance artists of the past decade. After one of his most prolific years in recent times, with productions and remixes such as, I Am What I Am, Happiness Happening 2009, Let It All Out, Stadium Four and Wanderlust receiving across the board support and seeing him tour worldwide, enthraling clubbers across the globe. Harmonic Motion is set to be another key marker in his ever-rising career, and considering his production success of the last 12 months, is going to be shaping many a DJ's record box for the months to come.

Out: 12th July - New State Music
www.lange-music.com | www.newstatemusic.com

To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic CD just answer this simple question: What ranking was Lange in the 2009 DJ Mag poll?

COMPETITION TIME

TURN TO PAGE 78 FOR ENTRY DETAILS

PACHA IBIZA CLASSICS

One of the most prolific brands in the world, Pacha is renowned for its glamorous clubbing experiences, hosting some of the world's biggest clubnights and DJs on a daily basis throughout the season. Mixed by Pacha residents in the know John Jaconsen, Josef Bamba and Peter Brown, the three discs draw on a selection of bona fide club anthems, clubland killers and new reworks of classic tracks. Highlights include Jamiroquai Space Cowboy (David Morales Remix), Guru Josh Project Infinity (Klaas Remix), Shapeshifters Lola's Theme, through to modern day anthems such as Gramophonedzie Why Don't You, Deadmau5 & Kaskade I Remember plus David Guetta & Kelly Rowland's When Love Takes Over.

www.newstatemusic.com | www.pacha.com

To be in with a chance to win a copy of this luxury 3xCD wallet with gold foil Pacha logo just complete this Jamiroquai hit title: Space _____?



WIN THIS

Alesha Dixon has always been a woman that we gays have adored ever since those 'Scandalous' days in Mis-teeq. We further loved her when she went onto Strictly Come Dancing and won, and then started releasing pop gems with lyrics like 'do it the Madonna way'. We sent Simon Savidge to catch up with her on all things strictly, what we can expect from the new album and why she is urging all us boys to get on the dancefloor... in the gym?



For more information on Alesha's Dance Fusion classes visit www.lafitness.co.uk/alesha/
Alesha information visit www.aleshadixon.co.uk/

STRICTLY COME DANCING DIVA

There are two things that announce Alesha Dixon is in a room before you actually meet her. The first is her cackle, she is laughing with everyone pretty much every other minute "Life is funny, you have to laugh, even when it's rubbish you have to laugh, maybe even more so". The second thing is her legs, they seem to arrive about five minutes before she does and even the gayest of us gay men would not be able to stop themselves from staring. "I do like to get them out a lot" she cackles before becoming very serious "I have awful feet though, seriously, I have to disguise them in faaaabulous shoes."

Those feet however changed Alesha's life; it's down to them that Alesha won Strictly Come Dancing and the hearts of the nation after Mis-teeq disbanded. "I honestly couldn't believe it; I didn't think I had a chance. I know everyone said 'oh you were in a girl band you could dance already' but there's a huge difference between wiggling about in a video and then the dancing you do on the show." Now though, Alesha is fronting a new fitness regime that could get all of us showing people how its done on the dancefloor all by popping to your local LA Fitness and taking part in her Dance Fusion classes. "It's a mix of Latin, hip-hop, street and I doubt I will have to ask too many gay men to join, you boys all love to get down on the floor, it's one of the many things I love about you all."

Alesha became the Creative Director of LA Fitness earlier in the year. "It's something different. I like challenges and doing new things. I think most importantly though is that I want to promote something that is healthy. We don't all have to be toned to the max, as long as we are healthy... that's all that matters." She cackles "There is also the added bonus of looking at hot men working out at the gym. Not that I am all about looks but when you are going through the pain barrier doing a new routine it's nice to have some eye candy to look at isn't it... come on you know it is."

I find it hard to believe that Alesha isn't bothered about image and looking good. "Honestly it's true, I mean, I like

to look nice in my videos and when I am on the telly that's part and parcel of the job. I don't need to straighten my hair or apply foundation just to pop to the local newsagent like some celebs. I also don't watch what I eat. If I want a pizza I have a pizza... or a tub of ice-cream, some days I don't want to work out. You have to treat yourself sometimes. I know it's a cliché but when you are healthier you're happier. I have found that to be true... and we all know I have lived."

Though we don't talk about how her marriage broke down, after her ex-husband had a rather public affair, you get a feeling that this is initially what she might be thinking about. There is also how she felt after her first label dropped her before an album release. "I thought the world had ended it was horrific It's all I have ever wanted to do and I thought it had all gone." There was also her controversial appointment onto the Strictly Come Dancing judging panel. "It is hard when you have been given a job and everyone is saying that you don't deserve it. You wouldn't get that in any other profession. I stuck to it... I think I have won people round." Will she be back for the next series? "I hope so. Nothing is officially signed yet but it's looking very likely. I bloody love love that show."

There is also something on the horizon that Alesha is very, very excited about, her new album which comes out in the autumn. "We have some amazing songs. There's currently only one ballad and that might be how it stays, I want a party album. I think actually this is the album that everyone thought I would make after I left the band. I am ridiculously excited about it." There goes that cackle again. "Oooh I want it to be out now!" Is she ready to be the UK's disco diva? "Too right, I want all the 'boys' dancing in the clubs to it." Would she like to be a gay icon? "Of course, which girl out there wouldn't? In fact," she muses, "I want Alesha Dixon Drag Queens... do you know if I have any? It would be amazing I would love that." Alesha bursts into fits of cackles again and we are done... her laughter leaving the room long after her enviable legs have.

PEP

Post Exposure Prophylaxis



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

PEP should be available from sexual health clinics and A&E departments.

On occasion people do experience side effects.

PEP is not a cure for HIV

There is no guarantee that it will prevent HIV transmission.

Condoms and lube used correctly are the most effective way of preventing HIV transmission during sex.

Yorkshire MESMAC:
0113 2444 209

The Brunswick Centre:
01422 341 764

THE DANCER

I'd seen him dancing on the podium at my local club. I was never sure if he was spaced out or not but he seemed to be able to throw his lithe body around that tiny stage the entire night. He wore the sexiest, slinkiest, briefest of briefs as he bounced around and the sweat just poured in buckets down his slim but well developed frame. His tiny, shiny nylon briefs almost transparent from the moisture collected in the material as he gyrated in that throbbing cocoon he seemed to be confined to. Beams of flashing light pin-pointed other dancers spaced around the club but, all eyes were on him. When those beams tracked across the crowd and blazed into the undoubted star performer everyone was totally engrossed in his spinning, flexing, rhythmic dance. He looked just beautiful... I mean, really beautiful... not a term I would normally use about another guy but on this occasion I can't think of a better description. Of course I was just one of a hundred or so other guys who were besotted by what they saw. That sweaty, silky, smooth body sensuously swirling, dipping, clapping and spinning in time to the pulsating beat that reverberated through everyone's body was just mesmerising. His unbelievably cute and tight little bum just inches away from my face as I struggled to get ever nearer to this vision, this beautiful boy... my boy. It was always difficult because when he hit the podium... a huge crowd gathered around, others, like me getting off on the fact that some of his sweat sprayed out on to us mere mortals as he spun in what seemed complete ecstasy.

For several weeks I would go to the club just to watch him... never bothering who else was there, I didn't want to pick someone up... it would have been a betrayal of my sexy lad up on the podium working his butt off. I pretended to myself that he was mine, we were together and all his sexy dancing was aimed just at me. When I went home after the club had closed I'd strip, lie on my bed and think of him; my pillow coming in for gallons of sweaty, spunky loads as I ground my hips into my pretend lover. I spent literally days just watching him gyrating, being particularly engrossed in the tattoo he had just above his right hip. It was quite a large depiction of a stalking panther and with every movement of the young lad's body the tattoo seemed to move in its own special way. I was engrossed by him and his 'mobile' tattoo and wished that I could meet up with both and get to know them better. As my bedroom fever took complete control of my body I would make love to my pillow as if it were him. Stroking, soothing but pumping him full of my never ending 'love'. In the morning my cock would be raw and my bollocks hurting from the number of times my love had pasted the cotton pillow case. I was obsessed about someone completely unobtainable and even though I knew it in my head, my heart wouldn't give up on the sheer joy he brought me as he took to that small stage and performed for just 'my' benefit.



EXPECTATIONS

Expectations has gone through somewhat of a transition in the last 6 months in order to bring fresh interest into a brand that has been catering for the fetish market for more than 30 years. With a gay scene that moves with the times in every sense of the phrase it became apparent that it was important to remind existing and new customers that the brand is still thriving and offering the largest selection of quality goods in the UK.

The ethos behind doing this was to appeal to a wider target audience and focus on not only a younger group of gay guys who enjoy dressing up and looking good, but also looking at the straight market of fetish clubbers, as well as the somewhat ignored Lesbian market, whilst retaining our existing client base.

The website was launched just a few short weeks ago, and thus far has received a good response due to new features that make online shopping as simple as possible.

It features new lifestyle images designed to appeal to anyone interested in passionate role play whilst dressed in the latest quality fetish wear. The images were shot on location in the store itself and feature models R J Fisher and unknown model Idan Tohami. Both models were chosen not only for their good looks and great physiques, but because it was felt that they would make great ambassadors for the brand itself.

Along with clearer images, the website offers customers a new improved check out, easier site navigation, a zoom facility that enables the viewer to see the detail and craftsmanship in much of the products, important news regarding club nights geared towards the fetish market, a great new search option, detailed product information from the experts (the store sales staff), as well as a multi-currency display that will cater for our customers abroad who purchase goods time and time again.

**WARNING OUR RANGE IS
(STILL) SERIOUSLY SEXY.**

www.expectations.co.uk



TAKING A LITTLE KAOS INTO THE CHARTS

Introducing Kaos Theory, a sensational new British boy band who, contrary to their name, are predicted to make a single minded, targeted smash onto the UK music scene. Kaos Theory are a funky four-piece who promise to blast unsuspecting audiences into previously unknown dimensions. Oozing charisma, vocals to die for and looking as if they should be on the cover of a fashion mag, Kaos Theory have the perfect chemistry for a world-class pop boy band.

Kaos Theory is a line-up of four seriously talented boys who promise to leave audiences instantly smitten and delightfully shell shocked. Their catchy RnB sound is sassy, up-beat and ferociously addictive and promises to re-inject the UK music scene with the much needed boy-band fever that it's long been pining for. The band's cosmopolitan make-up also makes them a hot property for the overseas market, something which the boys are already targeting as they sing in multi-languages including English, Spanish, Portuguese and Italian.

OK boys let's find out a bit more about you:

When were you last star-struck?

We don't really get star struck easily but at a blue after show party David Beckham bought Jordan a drink which was pretty cool. It's hard not to be star struck by David Beckham.

Who is your favourite hero of all time?

We've all got different heroes and influences but one which we all agree on is Michael Jackson. There will never be another entertainer like him.

What would be your fantasy gig?

Ermmmm, our own world tour supported by Stevie Wonder, Lady Gaga, Usher and Justin Timberlake, oh and it would be free for anyone who wanted to come.

Pride season is now upon us... will we be seeing you around?

We recently did Blackpool Pride, which was a really good day... but prides are always brilliant shows to do. The audience is always crazy and fun... really up for it.

What is the most expensive thing you've ever bought?

Hmmmmm ... we do like a good spend every now and again, Chris bought a home studio which was pretty expensive... probably why he's so reluctant to buy a drink when we're out - ha!

What is your guilty pleasure?

Our fans buy us loads of sweets and chocolates, which we always seem to finish in the car.

Favourite underwear?

Because we're always travelling around we spend a lot on fresh underwear. You've gotta stick with Mr. Calvin Klein... there's something about having that man's name on your underwear - ha. Boxers mainly. Although Jay has all kinds of crazy underwear, one pair has jelly beans all over them.

Kaos Theory will give UK audiences an upfront taster of their music when they unleash a free download - an acapella version of - 'Would I Listen', on 25th July.

Kaos Theory is the future of British boy-band pop - be part of it from the start!

For more band info visit

www.myspace.com/kaostheoryofficial



Chris: Born in 1985 in Shoreham-by-Sea. Sings and plays clarinet, saxophone and piano. At the age of 18, Chris entered Pop Idol then spent the following 4-years gigging as a solo artist until he later joined a band, which was to become, Kaos Theory. Has written tracks with many top writers, including one released by the Indonesian Pop Idol winner.



Jay: Jay is the really active member of the band, loving outdoor sports including surfing, snorkelling, mountain biking and swimming. But like all true music talents, nothing comes close the adrenalin rush that he gets from a live audience - the bigger the audience the better. In a previous life, Jay was part of a US based boy-band and was part of the support line up for Westlife on their UK arena tour.



Jordan: Born in Leeds, the young Jordan was a true sportsman. He loved boxing, competed in gymnastics throughout Europe and played football for Leeds City Boys, his footie skills even took him to trials for Bradford City and Blackburn Rovers. But music was his true passion and when his best mate's cousin got into a girl band and took them backstage at a gig (the cousin was Mel B - the band was the Spice Girls), Jordan instantly knew that this was where he belonged.



Alberto: Born in Brazil, Alberto's talent was obvious from the moment he could talk. At the age of 5 he was performing solo at his Baptist church, he then went on to record three albums with well-acclaimed gospel bands in Brazil. This talented boy then headed to London where he immediately began regular gigging at eMusic Boxi, hosted by Patrick Alan across some of the most prestigious venues in London.



'SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE'

One of the best-known disco divas of the late Eighties and early Nineties, Kym Mazelle is joining 'Over The Rainbow' finalist Steph Fearon, to star in the first major production of the musical 'Smokey Joe's Cafe', a musical revue showcasing 39 pop standards, including rock and roll, rhythm and blues by songwriters Jerry Lieber and Mike Stoller.

Kym Mazelle grew up in Gary, Indiana, just streets away from one of pop music's ultimate dynasties: Michael Jackson and his brothers and sisters. During her studies at Mundelein University, Kym set out to become a diva in the true sense of the

word by studying opera. But disillusioned by the genre, Kym quickly realised that she would have to take a different path to divadom. The world of opera's potential loss was dance music's great gain, with Kym emerging as one of the earliest pioneers of Chicago House Music. Kym is now recognised as the "Queen of House Music".

Steph Fearon recently reached the semi finals wowing audiences every Saturday night on BBC 1's 'Over The Rainbow', competing for the West End role of Dorothy in Andrew Lloyd Webber's production of 'The Wizard Of Oz'.

Landor Theatre 13th July -15th August
70 Landor Road, London SW9 9PH
Box Office: 020 7737 7276
landortheatre.co.uk

the UNCONVENTIONALS



With the success on our TV screens of American show feel good show Glee, the UK is currently undergoing a sort of renaissance for music with harmony, production and inspiration. The Glee-folk have certainly set the benchmark but we are not slow in coming forward ourselves when it comes the all-singing, all-dancing, sunshine pop... let me introduce 'The Unconventionals!'

Born when six experienced West-End musical professionals decided to form a vocal group to celebrate fantastic upbeat music, regardless of age, shape, size... or sexuality. With inspiration and influence from a host of big harmony/big personalities bands of the past, there are lots of smiles and even more energy energy – the band has the power and talent to make you feel great. You may remember the group made the live finals on the X Factor 2 years ago. They wowed the judges with their sunshine pop version of Top of the World by The Carpenters and went on to make the live finals. They then were personally asked by Louis Walsh to support Westlife on tour and it was Westlife who said to them to hang tight because soon the

harmony bands and 60s-esq sounds like The Beach Boys and Monkees would be back in fashion. And they were spot on.

Their album 'Flower to the People' is a mixture of original songs and covers delivered in their own inimitable style, with strong vocals, harmonies and melodies. It includes the brand new single 'Push the Button' which is a unique interpretation of the Sugababes classic, and even includes cameos from the acclaimed Matt Lucas, who plays various comical parts throughout the CD.

Album 'Flower to the People' out 26th July – Western Songs



BENT

Martin Sherman's iconic play, Bent, is set in 1930's Berlin: decadent Max and partner Rudy are on the run after witnessing the murder of a German SA Officer who Max had brought home the night before. The couple flee Berlin to avoid arrest and subsequent imprisonment, however they are caught by the Gestapo and put on a train headed straight for Dachau, the infamous concentration camp. What follows is a story of survival, love and self-discovery.

Since it first opened at the Royal Court in 1979, Bent has been staged in over 40 countries and translated into at least 21 different languages. It contains nudity and scenes which some people may find disturbing

Tabard Theatre, 2 Bath Road, London W4 1LW 6th July – 8th August
www.tabardtheatre.co.uk
or call: 08448 472264



FRINGE ON THE TOPPING

Michael Topping the senior half of Topping and Butch is returning to his solo satirical roots for this years Edinburgh Fringe Festival – his new show 'Heels over Head in Love' is a lyrical romp highlighting the ups and downs of love, sex and relationships as seen through his demure yet knowing

eye. Michael, who is 67, has been performing professionally since he was 17 years old – his first performance was as the rehearsal pianist for the Blackpool Children's Pantomime. The ensuing 50 years have encompassed a wide array of manifestations including Musical Director, solo cabaret, working with Hinge and Brackett, drag cabaret as Countess Malitza Von Hove and for the last 12 years he has been partnered with Joe Simmons as Edinburgh Fringe Festival Cabaret Award winners and firm favorites Topping and Butch.

'Heels over Head in Love' is Michael's first foray into solo performing for more than 14 years and he has compiled a programme of songs and stories that commemorate the 50 year long rocky road of love and disappointment including 'The Man who never Came', unrequited love for a senior politician, 'the girl who cant say yes' and the many facets of geriatric passion to name just a handful!

Surgeons Hall, Edinburgh 4th-28th August

HOT ICE RETURNS!

Hot Ice, a stunning ice skating show at Blackpool's famous Pleasure Beach Resort, is back with the most lavish production ever staged!

The show, produced and directed by Amanda Thompson, is fast moving and thrilling, with skaters who have travelled from every corner of the globe to entertain with speed, grace and elegance, whilst balancing on the fine edge of steel.

Hot Ice was recently awarded "Best Show" at the Big E awards in Las Vegas. It features the best in ice-skating, including stylish costumes, unbelievable feathers and glittering rhinestones to set the ice alight with sparkle. The show boasts innovative lighting designs and special effects that will thrill the audience.

Hot Ice sees a cast of 28 international performers take to the ice. Stunning musical arrangements and lighting sequences depict the performers as they glide across the ice, contained within the purpose build Arena Theatre.

Hot Ice, The Arena, Pleasure Beach, Blackpool 14th July - 5th September. Call 0871 222 9090 for bookings
www.hoticeshow.com



DANGEROUS

Dangerous is a raunchy, fast paced and entertaining adaptation of the notorious novel Les Liaisons Dangereuses, exposing the sexual power games of a group of gay men in London and Bournemouth in the 21st century. Cheated on and cheating, the charismatic Marcus and Alexander are both rivals and partners in crime, vying to out-scheme the other. For them, lust and indulgence are king; love and compassion a sign of weakness. Enter the naive and innocent gym trainer Jason and trainee priest Trevor who seem destined to be caught in the crossfire.

Dangerous is on now until 11th July and contains male nudity and is not suitable for under 18 year olds.

Above The Stag Theatre, 15 Bressenden Place, London, SW1E 5DD (directly behind Victoria Palace Theatre - Billy Elliot)

www.abovesthag.com

BUTCH TV

'Edinburgh Tonight with Joe Simmons' is a brand new hour-long tv format, guest, chat and game show devised exclusively for this years Edinburgh Festival, featuring Joe Simmons, aka 'Butch' the younger half of Fringe Festival favourite double-act 'Topping & Butch'.

As well as presenting his cheeky humorous observation on pop culture, politics, and current events, the show will also preview highlights of musical, comedy, theatrical and other fringe and festival shows providing audiences with a 'try before you buy' taste of whats on in Edinburgh tonight!

Celebrity and human interest guests from all of Edinburgh's festivals (Media, Theatre, Fringe, Comedy and Book Festivals) will join Joe for a mix of fast moving chat and challenges that will provide an entertaining and unique perspective on the days big issues.



Audiences will have 'personal voting panels' which will allow them, to vote and play along with a variety of games and competitions with prizes of tickets for other Festival shows, dinners, group outings, celebrity giveaways, and a whole host of other must have goodies.

theSpace @ Symposium Hall, Edinburgh 8th -28th August

HOT ICE



PLEASURE BEACH ARENA
BLACKPOOL

14 JULY TO 5 SEPTEMBER 2010

BOX OFFICE
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SPINNING

M ntréal And Me



I flew into Canada as a guest of the Tourisme Montreal and thought I'd landed in Manchester, the weather was overcast and wet. I was a little down-hearted to be in the country's second-largest city as I'd left the UK in sunshine and was hoping for much the same. However, once I got my feet sorted, realised I was in the host city for Cirque du Soleil (I'm a big fan) and had a bit of a look around, together with the genuinely warm welcome I received from everyone, things took off and I was amazed at what Montreal had to offer... especially for a gay visitor... cum rain or shine... or snow for that matter.

Montreal's main language is French but there is a huge proportion of the population who speak both English and French so you'll have very little trouble travelling about, and being understood, anywhere the city. The place is incredibly green – with many parks and areas of floral beauty to sit and enjoy but they are also used – it seems each place had a forthcoming event; a concert, a dance event, show or exhibition and all for free. No need to buy tickets, just turn up and enjoy the party atmosphere. Indeed, I went to one such event Piknic Electronik - pikniclectronik.com which on a fine day intends to bring music-lovers together in a unique and friendly atmosphere where they can take advantage of the warm weather, enjoy a breathtaking view of the city, and listen to quality electronic music. However, I spied an absolutely gorgeous young guy, who I thought represented all that I'd previously thought about when I occasionally let my mind wonder to North American hunks – he was worth the trip alone and an immediate re-booking of my return air fare.



On the cultural aspect the city is full of museums, not just the usual 'boring' ones but places like the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts with its tribute to Miles Davis: jazz legend. Theatres abound and you can see ballet, a play or spectacular show. However, there are a number of Queer festivals the organisers are keen for visitors to experience.

Festival International Montréal en Arts

(aka FIMA, the Montreal queer arts festival)
1-11 July
festivaldesarts.org/frame_accueil_eng.htm

Divers/Cité (a gay cultural festival that used to be our Pride event)
26 July-1 August
diverscite.org/2010/anglais/index.htm

Montreal Pride

10-15 August
fiertemontrealpride.com/home.htm

Black and Blue

(a huge circuit party hosted by BBCM. They also host 3 other big circuit parties throughout the year. All info can be found on the www.bbcm.org website)
6-12 Oct,
bbcm.org/black-and-blue-program/

Image+Nation (our LGBT film fest)
End of October, 2010- final dates TBA
image-nation.org/corporatif/index-eng.php

Not unlike Manchester, Montreal has its own Gay Village, but maybe three times larger. It's located on Ste-Catherine St. East between St-Hubert and Papineau Streets, and is one of the largest gay Villages in the world. Needless to say, once the gays moved in and started doing up what was once fairly rundown, it is now a much desired area to live. From late May to early September, the Village is transformed into a pedestrian walkway, closed off to all automobile traffic. For more information on this summer celebration, please visit aireslibres.com





“Montreal has something for everyone’s taste”



PLACES TO EAT

There is something for everyone from upmarket to the best little burger bar... but the food is all of a superb high standard

Le Saloon - For a night out or just a brief “5 à 7” cameo after work, Le Saloon is a fashionable place to see and be seen in the Gay Village. Treat your taste buds to an internationally-inspired menu, served against a backdrop of sexy house and lounge music. lesaloon.ca

La Paryse - For the best burgers and fries in the city (and yes, they do have a choice of veggie burgers!) look no further than La Paryse.

KoKo Restaurant + Bar - Contemporary Asian-inspired cuisine served sharing style blends Far Eastern flavours with Western culinary techniques. The intimate atmosphere and refined décor of the terrace sets the perfect mood for a friendly gathering under the moonlight. kokomontreal.com

Le Cartet - A self proclaimed “boutique alimentaire,” Cartet offers a wonderland of lovingly crafted gourmet treats to-go and amazing in-house meals. Designed by architect-designer Joanne Godin, the space is bright, cool and whitewashed.

BARS AND CLUBS

Montreal has something for everyone’s taste – leather, bear, fetish, drag or cuties on podiums, it’s difficult not to find a place you’ll find comfortable to visit.

Sky Club - complexesky.com
The Sky Complex is one of the city’s oldest gay and lesbian clubs, and remains one of the most popular. With 3 floors, a rooftop terrace and 4 different dance spaces, Sky is popular from the 5pm. happy hour until closing time at 3am. Mainly gay men, but you will often find lesbians in the urban room, the Latin room and the rooftop terrace.

Club Unity - clubunitymontreal.com
Mixed dance club (more lesbians on Friday, more gay men on Saturdays) that is especially popular with the under-25 crowd.

Parking Nightclub - parkingbar.com
Men’s dance bar that is home to one of the city’s best sound systems. Great DJs, great ambiance, Parking is especially popular with the 30+ crowd.

Le Drugstore - ledrugstore.com
Montreal’s main lesbian club, with four floors and a beautiful rooftop terrace. Friday happy-hour, weekend evenings and Sunday afternoons are especially busy.

Hôtel St-Paul - is located at the gateway of Old Montréal and just steps away from all tourist attractions. A heritage building, beautifully restored, features a surprisingly modern and serene interior. Turn-down service and deluxe continental breakfast included. Fabulous in-house restaurant, Vauvert, and room service.

SINCERE THANKS TO:

tourisme-montreal.org

Current special offers available in Montreal i.e. hotel and flight deals etc can also be viewed at montrealsweetdeals.com

EAST COAST

I travelled from Leeds to London by rail with East Coast Trains. I always find easier than flying down as the journey only takes just over 2 hours. Advance return fares, booked online, start from £23 Standard Class or £94 First Class: book via www.eastcoast.co.uk, call 08457 225225 or visit any staffed station

QUEER AWARD

The city is inviting individuals from far and wide to enter the competition at www.queeroftheyearcontest.com for a chance to win this coveted title, as well as an opportunity to take part in Montreal’s Pride Parade, and enjoy a VIP treatment package worth \$4,000 CAD



CASTING COUCH & DIRTY F*CKERS

I can certainly have no complaints about my job. It's true – after all, I turned my hobbies into a vocation! Sex as a job – can there be anything better? And I'm not talking about being an escort. I'm talking about being a porn actor, porn director, porn-site manager and (best of all!) a porn-model scout!

No doubt about it, the model castings are definitely the best part of my job. Even though the days of new models having to fuck the director on the casting couch are now long over – rather unfortunately, given that I'm now a director myself! – it's still lots of fun.

There's never a day when I don't approach some cute guy and ask him if he would be interested in modelling for my studio, STAXUS. Of course, I never actually start with "Hey, do you want to make a porn movie with me?!" Instead, I always begin with some positive remarks about his looks, and then introduce the idea of some photo-shooting. If he's still interested then I explain the things that we're doing and ask him if he'd like to take a test photo-shoot, i.e. a casting, at our office. And this is where all the fun begins ...

I do castings every few weeks all over the Czech Republic and sometimes in other European cities beyond its borders. To these I invite all the boys that I cast myself, plus (after an initial screening) all the guys who have sent their applications to us via e-mail or through our various online sites. It's fun to see the different behaviour and attitudes of the guys. Some are very self-confident, others are pretty shy. In most cases, however, it's the quiet, cute guys who always impress me most.

Such was the case last week when this shy boy came through the door – very skinny, maybe 160cms tall, and 19 years old. When he dropped his pants he'd already got a hard-on – and jeez, was it BIG! Maybe 24cms – and unarguably fat! Why, from the right perspective you'd have been forgiven for thinking that the cock was bigger than the whole guy! What's more, he behaved in front of the camera as if he'd been doing porn for the whole of his life. He didn't even want to stop, but instead asked for some dildos. In short, a really sleazy bitch – and exactly the sort we like for our movies! That said, as soon as I put the camera away he suddenly returned to being the quiet, shy guy of before. Why, it was almost as much as he could do to tell me his name and age, never mind speak or look into my eyes!

I'm sure some sleazy old porn producers still have their "casting couches" but STAXUS has never had them. That doesn't mean that I will never interact with a model on a casting, indeed sometimes, when we're really very convinced about the quality of a model, it's possible that we film some duo scene right there and then. That's when I have to jump into the job with both feet, so to speak – which, as you can imagine, can be really hard and stressful for me. After all, I have to spend all day watching castings, seeing cute guys, hard cocks and cumshots; and then I have to finish things off by fucking a guy for a test duo scene. Honestly, it's a complete nightmare! :-)

Anyway, another funny thing has happened over the last couple of months ...

You already know that I have my own internet clubsite: www.Johan-Volny.com. And you are already a member – I hope! (If not, sign up now! This month you'll get 2 DVDs when you sign up!!!) On this site you'll see me and all my horny fuck buddies doing forbidden things, with tons of totally exclusive content for download or streaming.

Well, now I've launched my second internet project in cooperation with STAXUS, www.DirtyFuckers.net. This site is not about me, and you won't find me anywhere in a scene or a photo series. At last, a site with REAL sex. No cuddling, no kissing. These boys like their action just as it should be: raw, sleazy, hard and totally, utterly filthy! Quite simply, they're real DirtyFuckers!



HOW!

When it comes to sex and sexual health, gay men's number one concern is 'how to get fucked', according to GMFA, the gay men's health charity. This is based on questions men asked GMFA through its online 'Ask a Question' service at www.gmfa.org.uk/sex, between December 2009 and May 2010. The risk of STIs and HIV from oral sex is the second most common concern, followed by questions about the risks from fucking and problems with cumming too quickly, or not at all.

Matthew Hodson, Head of Programmes at GMFA, comments: "Gay men are rarely taught how to have sex, so it's perhaps not surprising that we get a lot of questions about how to get fucked. Most gay men who have HIV caught

it from getting fucked without a condom, so it's important that men are well-informed about the risks of fucking, as well as about how to make it more enjoyable. We respond individually to men's questions with honest information to help them make the right choices."

Douching can irritate the lining of the arse, making it more vulnerable to infections. If you do douche, only ever use plain, clean water, preferably at body temperature. You shouldn't use antiseptics, disinfectants or anything else in a douche, as they can all irritate the lining of the arse even more.

As far as gay sex goes, getting fucked without a condom, and having your partner cum inside you, carries the highest risk of HIV transmission. Men also remain concerned about the risks from oral sex. It is possible to get HIV

from sucking cock but the likelihood of this occurring is relatively low. Oral sex is a lot safer than getting fucked because the throat is not as vulnerable to infection as the arse. It is even safer if he doesn't cum in your mouth.

The advice GMFA provides through its 'Ask a Question' service is intended to support, not replace the relationship that exists between gay men and their doctors. The service is anonymous and is accessed through GMFA's Sex & Sexual Health website at www.gmfa.org.uk/sex, which provides up-to-date and accessible sexual health information for gay men.



A LOAD OF BOLLOCKS (THAT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE)



Simon, from Essex, was 32 years-old and leading a busy career as a paramedic working in London when he first realised that there was a problem. He discovered this one day whilst at work because he was getting some slight discomfort when crossing his legs. After dropping his pants for a bit of self examination he noticed that his left testicle felt different but not in relation to a lump... more like a peach stone.

I'm sure it came as a shock but how soon were you diagnosed and treatment start for testicular cancer?

I had a scan within an hour of being seen in A&E and, being in the profession, I could understand the scan so had a good idea what it showed. At that point I was thinking "Oh god, I'm going to lose the testicle"

not that it could be cancer. Once it was confirmed, I was happy to have it removed but needed it to be replaced (with a prosthetic) straight away as I felt this would make me less of a man if I only had one. The actual diagnosis of cancer was something I didn't think of until it had spread to my lungs and lymph nodes. I was then having chemotherapy three months later. This was three sessions of IV chemo over a 72 hour period, with a few weeks' gap between each session. Again I didn't think of what was happening until my hair starting falling out then I knew I was really ill.

What were your worries about the treatment?

My main worry was leaving my children and explaining to them how I might look and feel. Also, it does go through your mind "what if the treatment doesn't work?" Being sick is something I can't stand so I was worried how I would cope with that side effect but now being sick is no issue - I'm kind of used to it now ;)

How did it affect your relationship?

The first time my partner and I were together after the operation, I was worried that it would look and feel different. Being in a gay relationship, we can compare so I was worried I would never be the same. However, I'm lucky to have such a wonderful partner in Chris. There was no pressure and it was like nothing had changed. Chris nursed me through the whole chemo period and never left my side. It made our relationship so much stronger and we became even more thankful for what we have. We live for today now and make more time for each other and time with the children.

Do you know if a history of cancer in the family makes you more susceptible to the disease?

No one in my family has had testicular cancer, however my mum had breast cancer and her brother had bowel cancer so maybe.

Did you feel that your lifestyle in anyway had 'added' to the problem?

No I don't really drink and I go to the gym three or four times a week. I do smoke but guess I will not know if this was a factor or not.

What's the prognosis now?

Prognosis is very good. I should have my final CT scan in May and then hopefully be discharged. To date, all blood tests and check ups have been good.

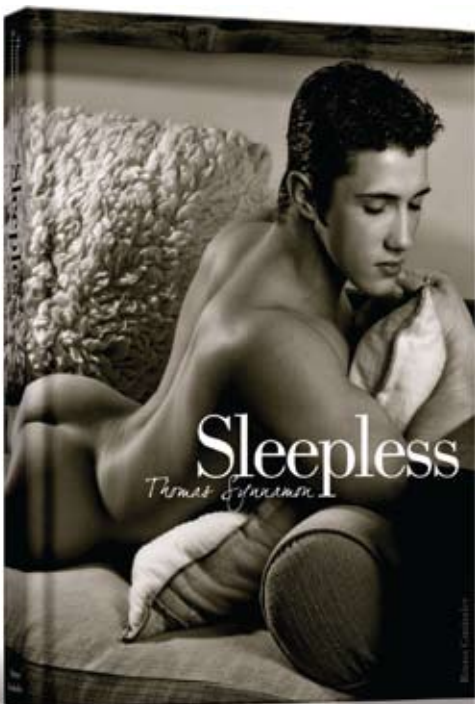
Is there any advice you'd give to our readers?

My advice is: don't be embarrassed to get any problems checked out. This type of cancer can spread fast like mine did and like me I had none of the normal symptoms, so any abnormalities are best to be checked out as soon as possible. If anyone wants to know any more about signs, symptoms, risks or to make a donation, they can visit www.everyman-campaign.org



TESTICULAR FACTS

- Testicular cancer is the most common cancer in men aged 15 – 44
- 2,000 men are diagnosed with testicular cancer each year in the UK
- Testicular cancer is 99% curable if caught early, which is why it's imperative men are aware of the symptoms
- If men notice any lumps, bumps or something changes – they need to go get it checked out by a doctor ASAP



SLEEPLESS

Thomas Synnamon

These gorgeous guys have surely been the reason for some sleepless nights—and they might easily steal your sleep too. Synnamon catches intimate and bewitching images of them, as if he was looking through the keyhole of their bedroom door with his camera. He's capable of portraying virility in all its facets, discovering its secrets without being voyeuristic. He always shows the male body in a new way, always beautiful and sexy. So whoever has a foible for great photo artwork and for the beauty of men (and who wouldn't shout "I do!" now?) should definitely get a copy of this book.

£34.99 - brunogmuender.com



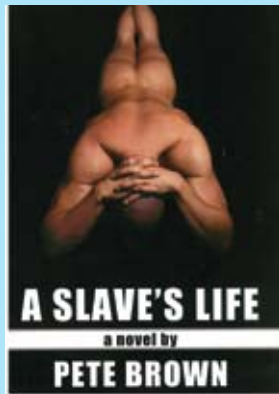


UNIFORMS AND CUMSLUTS

A collection of erotic gay stories by Ted Gay

If you can't get stimulated with these raunchy stories, then you're probably not a gay or bisexual man with erotic fantasies. All these short stories have one common theme – uniformed figures of authority and the men wishing to be subservient to them.

£12.99 – Nazca Plains Corp

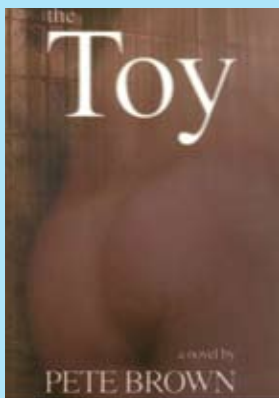


A SLAVE'S LIFE

By Pete Brown

Big butch and rugby stud Steve woke up one morning, naked and in a place that wasn't his home. He'd been taken to fulfil an order to collect beautiful young men and would learn, the hard way, to do as he was ordered. His life was not his own and others could and would do what they want to his firm young body.

£12.99 – Nazca Plains Corp



THE TOY

By Pete Brown

Steve should have said "No" to Dave, that day he came up with his devil's offer. But Steve was so eager to get out of prison – get out from under a life sentence without the possibility of parole – he stupidly agreed to do whatever the handsome Dave wanted. If only he had known he was to be given as a 'gift' to a despotic Middle-Eastern ruler as a way to cement relationships between that country and the USA. He was to become a sexual plaything for another man.

£12.99 – Nazca Plains Corp.

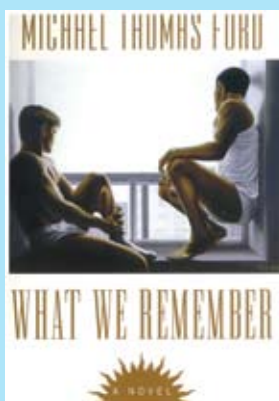


KIDNAPPED BY A SEX MANIAC

By Christopher Price

Do you have fantasies about being abducted, or carried off or captured? Do you want to be abused while awaiting payment of a ransom? Does the thought of being blindfolded naked in a musty basement get you hot? Then these stories are for you.

£12.99 Starbooks Press



WHAT WE REMEMBER

By Michael Thomas Ford

James McCloud, a district attorney, gets an early morning call from his sister announcing that their missing father's body has been found. When James returns home to New York he's reunited with his younger brother Billy who is gay and very troubled. As the truth about their father's death emerges, so do secrets powerful enough to threaten another life and destroy the bonds that will remain.

£10.99 – Kensington



SUBURBAN PLEASURES

Mark Henderson

Last year saw the release of the opulent photo book Household Idols, which was the first release of photographer Mark Henderson and instantly became a huge success. For his new project he chose a more urban setting. What remains is his penchant for alienating single picture elements—as



well as these incredibly well built models. The book is obviously not only about first-class photography but also about the male body as a work of art. Catchy colourings and divine men compete for the viewer's attention. In the end the winner is always the complete work, the sexy and brilliant style of Henderson, who goes his own new way in the art of picturing the male nude.

£ 44.99 - brunogmuender.com



EROTIC TRIGGERS

Tom Bianchi

Men, muscles, sensations! Tom Bianchi—American artist and photographer—finally completed his fabulous new photo book Erotic Triggers. In his point of view erotic is not about posing and perfection; erotic is about sex, about nearness and living out



your secret fantasies. Bianchi doesn't take models to a studio to picture them—he invites men that attract him into his home. He relies on the male instinct and on the play instinct with which he and his hunks discover each other. He generally remains master of his camera, but leaves plenty of free space for erotic encounters.

£ 29.99 - brunogmuender.com

DON'T STOP - CAN'T STOP THE MUSIC

By the time this movie came out, the Village People bubble was almost over. Many critics blamed *Can't Stop The Music* for hastening the death of disco but that seems a little unfair. Although it was without doubt one of the worst films of its time, you may have left the cinema shaking your head at the memory but you also left with a smile on your face.

The Village People were really just cartoon characters dressed up in human



form... and perhaps that is the real failing of this epic musical, it should have been done by Walt Disney... or Hanna Barbera. The human cast made a hash of the dubious script (even the professional actors, of which there were few) seemed out of their depth and with a mish mash style of influences from TV, film and theatre by director Nancy Walker, the end result is a colourful splurge on the big screen. Indeed, it was this film that "won" the very first RAZZIE award for Worst Picture and is listed among the 100 Most Enjoyably Bad Movies Ever Made in Golden Raspberry Award founder John Wilson's book *The Official Razzie® Movie Guide*. This alone makes *CSTM* a must for all movie buffs or those who just can't get the rhythm of *YMCA* out of their heads.

The Village People were created for a gay audience but found that their music and style appealed to everyone. Making a movie that would appeal across the board was, back in '80s America, a tall order... perhaps this is the reason it failed on most fronts. However, the film did have its high points:



Besides the often unintentional humour of the script there is a visual feast in the reworking of perhaps the VP's most influential number 'YMCA'. There's also the epic ode to milk, with a chorus line and production for the song 'Milkshake' that probably took most of the movie's budget.

With 30 years separating us from this musical 'classic' we can now revisit it and enjoy it for what it is - the best bit of over-the-top campy ever filmed. Grab a bottle or two (you might need them) and settle down in front of the TV for a fun night of almost sexless Village People music and dance. I doubt if it will make you feel hot under the collar but it should bring a smile to your face and who knows... perhaps it's time for this Milkshake to bring all the boys to the yard!



CAN'T STOP THE MUSIC

Welcome to the not quite straight story of the creation of the Village People in their one and only musical extravaganza... *Can't Stop the Music!*

Reviled by critics but beloved by fans, the newly released DVD is still a jaw-dropping experience for everyone... which features unforgettable dialogue, unimaginable performances, unbelievable production numbers of hits like "Y.M.C.A." and so much more!

New York City DJ/songwriter Jack Morell (Steve Guttenberg) needs just one big break to get his music heard and land a record deal. But with the help of his retired supermodel roommate (Valerie Perrine) and an uptight tax attorney (Olympic champion Bruce Jenner), they bring together six singing 'macho men' from the Greenwich Village scene for an outrageously '80s adventure of fun, fantasy and disco fever

Out Now - £15.99 - Optimum Classics

To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just complete the title of a Village People hit: Macho _____?

COMPETITION TIME

TURN TO PAGE 78 FOR ENTRY DETAILS

COMPETITION TIME



CLASH OF THE TITANS

Greek mythology was never better than when it pits mortals against the Gods. You may think that it is a very uneven battle but it is under such circumstances that a human rises up and taunts the Gods, foiling and fooling them... no matter what grotesque beasts and monster are sent to beguile, ensnare or devour him. That hero is Perseus... a man to set to become legend. **Out: 26 July - Blu-ray & DVD - Warner Home Video**

To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just answer this simple question: Who was the Greek god of the sea: Zeus or Poseidon?



DONNIE DARKO

Donnie Darko doesn't get on with many people, despite an understanding girlfriend and a sympathetic psychiatrist, he receives a disturbing vision that the world will end very soon. With the help of various characters, including a 6 foot rabbit called Frank, he slowly discovers the mysterious physical and metaphysical laws that govern his life and that will lead up to the destruction of the universe. The film that helped make the young Jake Gyllenhaal into a star. **Out: 19th July - 2 CD Blu Ray £24.99 - Metrodome**

To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just complete the title of this Jake Gyllenhaal movie; *Brokeback _____?*





RAGING SUN

Kieri and Ryo, two young, handsome Mexican men have an unquestioning love for each other; a love expressed through an intense sexual bond that gives meaning to both their lives. But when Ryo is abducted, Kieri embarks a journey to reunite with his soulmate under the watchful eye of a female spirit. But the voyage is not an easy one and when Ryo escapes, a chain of events will test the lovers' true devotion to each other. **Out: 12th July - £14.99 - tlareleasing**

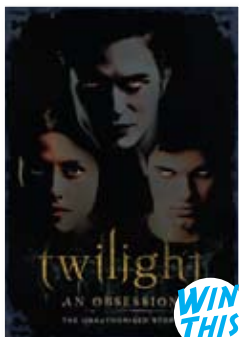
To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just answer this simple question: What is the capital of Mexico?



VAMPIRE

Following a string of bloody murders a creature of myth and legend, a real Vampire, is injured and captured by a mysterious secret military unit, imprisoned in a high security medical centre and then subjected to horrific and brutal medical experiments in an attempt to discover the source of his power. As the medical experiments become viler and more gruesome, the project's Doctor becomes torn between sympathy for the patient's suffering and the concern for the evil that threatens to consume everyone involved. **Out: 5th July - £9.99 - Stax Entertainment**

To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just answer this simple question: Vampires usually turn into - A Tax Officer or a Bat?



TWILIGHT - AN OBSESSION

Since the release of Stephenie Meyer's 2005 novel Twilight, the world read on in eager anticipation as Bella Swan fell in love with the enigmatic, 104 year-old vampire Edward Cullen. Twilight: An Obsession the Unauthorised Story is a behind-the-scenes expose on what is undoubtedly one of the world's most celebrated phenomena since Harry Potter. Get up close and personal with sultry vampire Robert Pattinson, his on and off screen flame - Kristen Stewart and of course werewolf, and teen-hottie, Taylor Lautner. **Out: 5th July - £9.99 - 4DigitalMedia**

To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just answer this simple question: Vampires are famous for drinking - Tea or Blood?



WORRIED ABOUT THE BOY

This is the story of a young Boy George and his journey from cloakroom attendant to international cultural icon set against a backdrop of the flamboyant fashion and pop music scene of the early 80s. With a passion for fashion, make-up and music, George O'Dowd realised he was not like other boys his age. Vowing never to Fade to Grey, George soon fled his suburban home of Eltham to become a fixture at the infamous Blitz Club, the favourite haunt of all those at the forefront of the New Romantic movement. **Out: 5th July - £19.99 - Limited Edition DVD & CD - Universal-Playback**

To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just complete the title of this Culture Club hit record; Do you really want to _____?



VACATIONLAND

Life in picturesque Bangor, Maine, is complicated for blisteringly sexy high-school senior Joe. Living with his single mother and older sister in a rough housing project, Joe takes a job as a live-in model for Victor, an artist, to save money for art school. Joe's equally good looking best friend Andrew has no ambition besides playing football, shoplifting and getting drunk. When their girlfriends point out the obvious - that Joe and Andrew are in love with one another - the two boys begin a relationship and start exploring gay life in their small town but complications arise when Joe's past comes back to haunt him. **Out: 26th July - £14.99 - Bounty Films**

To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just answer this simple question: Bangor, Maine is in which country?



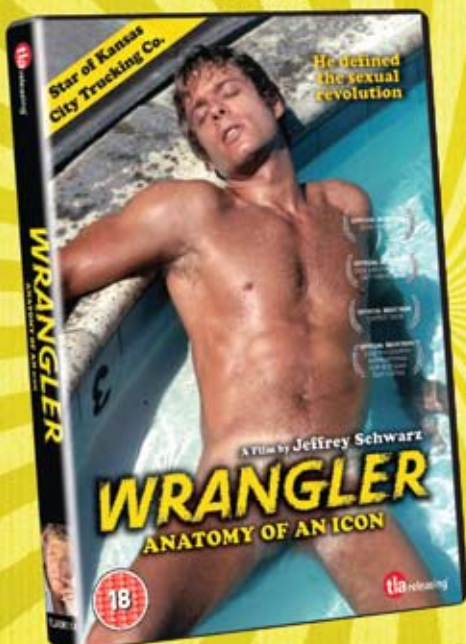
COMPETITION TIME

TURN TO PAGE 78 FOR ENTRY DETAILS

COMPETITION TIME

**"Seriously fun stuff!
A scintillating documentary"**

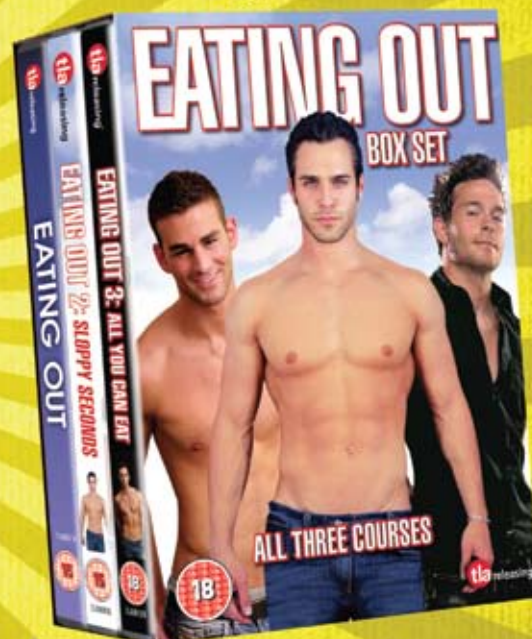
- AfterElton.com



Out Now

**"Rarely is a gay comedy
as hilarious and touching!"**

- GaydarNation



Out Now

Available at:
amazon.co.uk



Watch hundreds of other gay films instantly at





THE A TEAM

Out: 23rd July

The classic 80's TV show comes to the big screen after many years in development. The A-Team follows the exciting and daring exploits of a colourful team of former Special Forces soldiers who were set up for a crime they did not commit. Going "rogue," they utilize their unique talents to try and clear their names and find the true culprit. Liam Neeson, Bradley Cooper (The Hangover), mixed martial arts champ Quinton "Rampage" Jackson, and "District 9" star Sharlto Copley, are The A-Team. Full of fast-paced action scenes.



▶ TOY STORY 3

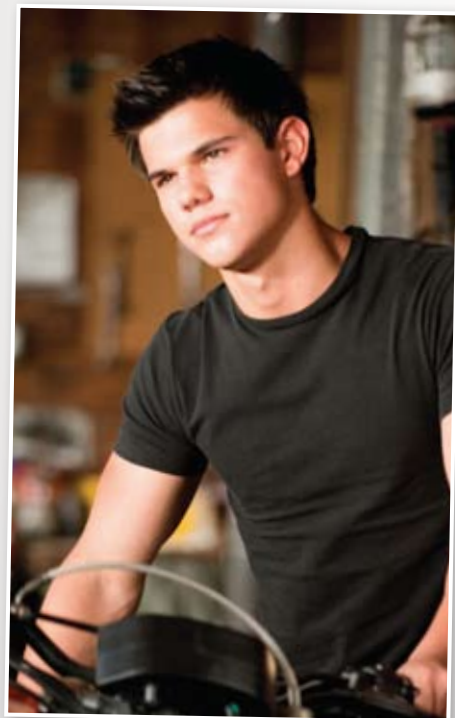
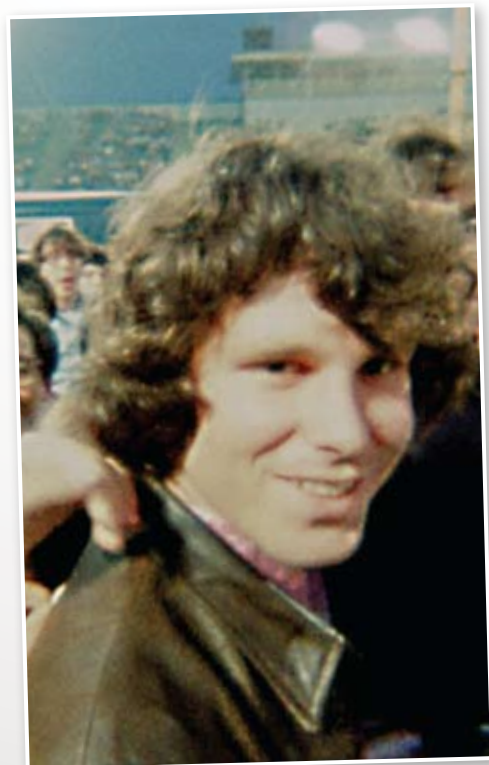
Out: 19th July

Woody, Buzz and the whole gang are back. As their owner Andy prepares to depart for college, his loyal toys find themselves in daycare where untamed tots with their sticky little fingers do not play nice. So, it's all for one and one for all as they join Barbie's counterpart Ken, a thespian hedgehog named Mr. Pricklepants and a pink, strawberry-scented teddy bear called Lots-o'-Huggin' Bear to plan their great escape.

▶ WHEN YOU'RE STRANGE: A FILM ABOUT THE DOORS

Out: 3rd July

When You're Strange uncovers historic and previously unseen footage of the illustrious rock quartet and provides new insight into the revolutionary impact of the Doors' music and legacy. Directed by award-winning writer/director Tom DiCillo and narrated by Johnny Depp, the documentary is a riveting account of the band's history. The film reveals an intimate perspective on the creative chemistry between drummer John Densmore, guitarist Robby Krieger, keyboardist Ray Manzarek and singer Jim Morrison — four brilliant artists who made The Doors one of America's most iconic and influential rock bands. For Doors lovers and the uninitiated, this is a chance to see what made Jim Morrison so alluring to both men and women.



▶ THE TWILIGHT SAGA: ECLIPSE

Out: 9th July

The movie phenomenon is back for a third instalment of hot hunks and damsel in distress. In Twilight's saga Eclipse, Bella once again finds herself surrounded by danger as Seattle is ravaged by a string of mysterious killings and a malicious vampire continues her quest for revenge. In the midst of it all, she is forced to choose between her love for Edward and her friendship with Jacob — knowing that her decision has the potential to ignite the ageless struggle between vampire and werewolf. With her graduation quickly approaching, Bella has one more decision to make: life or death.

10 THINGS YOU NEVER KNEW ABOUT...

KELLAN LUTZ

1. Kellan was featured in People magazine's "Summer's Hottest Bachelors" 2009.

2. Kellan intended on keeping his natural curly hair for the role of Emmett Cullen in the film, Twilight, however, he had recently had a buzz cut for a different film and his hair didn't grow fast enough for the filming of Twilight.

3. Kellan's favourite book is Wild at Heart. He is also a fan of John Grisham's books.

4. Kellan's role models are his mum, Robert Redford, and Leonardo DiCaprio.

5. Kellan has been modelling since he was 13 or 14.

6. Before breaking in to acting, Kellan was to attend Orange County's Chapman University for chemical engineering.

7. Kellan's guilty pleasure is anything with strawberries or strawberry flavour.

8. Kellan can speak fluent Spanish.

9. Kellan wears size 12 in shoes.

10. Kellan was in the Elizabeth Arden Fragrance commercial, starring Hilary Duff and her music video of the single With Love.

Kellan stars in The Twilight Saga: Eclipse out 9th July.



REVIEW
FILM

▲ *SPLICE*

Out: 23rd July

Clive (Adrien Brody) and Elsa (Sarah Polley) are young, brilliant and ambitious. The new animal species they engineered have made them rebel superstars of the scientific world. In secret, they introduce human

DNA into the experiment. The result is something that is greater than the sum of its parts: a female animal-human hybrid that may be a step up on the evolutionary ladder. Clive and Elsa think they may have designed the perfect organism, until she makes a final shocking metamorphosis that could destroy them... into a deadly creature. A classic horror premise that delivers all the shocks and thrills you would hope for.

MOVIE BUZZ

Sam Raimi (Spider-Man 1,2&3) will direct a sequel to Wizard Of Oz titled Oz, the Great and Powerful for Walt Disney Pictures with the current expectation for Robert Downey Jr. to play the wizard.

The future of The Hobbit adaptation takes another blow as Guillermo del Toro has dropped off the project and will no longer direct, but will remain as a credited screenwriter. Fingers crossed Peter Jackson may come back and direct.

James McAvoy will star in Matthew Vaughn's X-Men: First Class, the prequel film charting the beginning of the X-Men saga. McAvoy steps into shoes that have previously been filled by Patrick Stewart in the first three X-Men films and it should be interesting to see McAvoy as a bald-headed telepath.

Gary Oldman will be one of the voices in sequel Kung Fu Panda: The Kaboom of Doom along with Michelle Yeoh, Jean Claude Van Damme who will join original cast Jack Black, Angelina Jolie, Dustin Hoffman, Jackie Chan, Seth Rogen, Lucy Liu and David Cross. Oldman voices the character of Lord Shen (a peacock), the film's formidable new villain.

James Franco will star in Rises of the Apes, the prequel to Planet of the Apes is set in present day San Francisco and deals with the aftermath of man's experiments with genetic engineering that lead to the development of intelligence in apes and the onset of a war for supremacy. Franco will play a driven scientist who becomes a crucial figure in the war between humans and apes.

Leonardo DiCaprio has been recruited by Clint Eastwood to play former head of the FBI

J. Edgar Hoover. The script is by 'Milk' writer and openly out Dustin Lance Black.



▲ *INCEPTION*

Out: 16th July

Maverick director Chris Nolan (The Dark Knight) returns with an original film concept. Dom Cobb (Leonardo DiCaprio) is a skilled thief, the absolute best in the dangerous art of extraction: stealing valuable secrets from deep within the subconscious during the dream state when the mind is at its most vulnerable. Cobb's rare ability has made him a coveted player in this treacherous new world of corporate espionage, but it has also made him an international fugitive and cost him everything he has ever loved. Now Cobb is being offered a chance at redemption. One last job could give him his life back but only if he can accomplish the impossible-inception. Instead of the perfect heist, Cobb and his team of specialists have to pull off the reverse; their task is not to steal an idea but to plant one. If they succeed, it could be the perfect crime. But no amount of careful planning or expertise can prepare the team for the dangerous enemy that seems to predict their every move. An enemy that only Cobb could have seen coming. A mind-bending thriller that will have you riveted to your seat.

▶ *GAINSBOURG*

Out: 23rd July

From visionary graphic artist and director Joann Sfar comes a completely original take on one of France's greatest musical mavericks, the illustrious and infamous Serge Gainsbourg. Gainsbourg is an enchanting glimpse at his early life, growing up in 1940s Nazi-occupied Paris, and through his successful song-writing years in the 1960s until his death in 1991. Taking the best from La Vie En Rose and Amelie, Gainsbourg is a critically acclaimed biopic that offers some cultural respite amongst the summer Hollywood blockbusters currently on release. For those not familiar with the rebel Gainsbourg you will be converted into a fan by the end of this film.



TEL AVIV



Yam, Samesh & Hatichi
That's Hebrew for Sea, Sun and Hot Guys!

Words and photos by Darrell Hirst

There are many reasons for a trip to Israel; Jews from around the world returning to their homeland to live or visit, tourists enjoying the East Mediterranean climate and of course the many faiths that see pilgrims flocking to historical sites of sacred significance. The profile of Jerusalem, and indeed all aspects of this Biblical destination, often makes people who have never visited this part of the world believe that the country is set in the ancient, mystical past and has very little going for a young, fun, vibrant crowd.

How wrong they are.

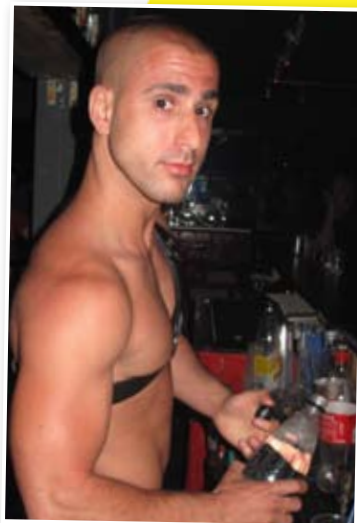
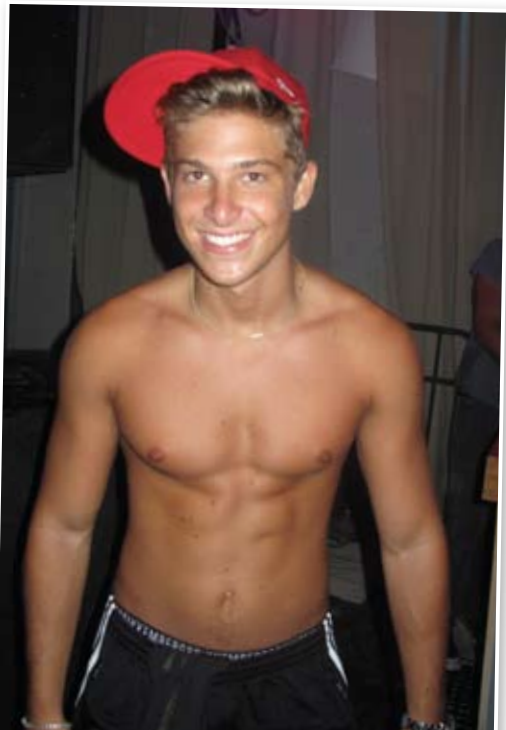
Tel Aviv is new and modern. It thrives on its young, bustling and upwardly mobile population who make it the financial, cultural and business capital of the country. The city itself grew up out of the old town of Jaffa, which is mentioned in the Bible, and has a history dating back several epochs that would keep any student of archaeology happy, the port also forms the gateway into all facets of the Holy Land.

However enticing all that history may be, Tel Aviv is (if you'll pardon the cross religion reference) an absolute Mecca for gay boys and girls. The city's Pride Weekend goes on for months and it seems that a huge percentage of the population are just a bunch of rainbow flag waving members of the queer fraternity. Even when Gay Pride isn't on, the City That Never Sleeps, as TA is known, has a multitude of bars, clubs and restaurants to cater for our needs. There's even a queer film festival (www.TLVfest.com) that is attracting a great deal of interest. Meanwhile, the gay beach is a welcome haven to all and is filled with young, spunky hunks fresh out of the military or just about to go in to do their 3 years National Service. All the boys are fit, toned and take pleasure in being incredibly friendly; the guys I spoke to wanted everyone to know that they are a peace-loving bunch and it's the old politicians that are holding the country back on that particular front.

In recent surveys Tel Aviv was reckoned to have almost 35% of the city's population who identify as gay. Whether this is true or not doesn't really matter as the place is just so gay friendly. Walking the streets hand-in-hand with your partner is not questioned and you'll rarely find so much as a disapproving shake of the head. The city also has a helpful and knowledgeable gay centre (www.glb.org.il) that will happily point you in the right direction, and give you up to date info on the current scene. For bargain hunters there are the usual flea markets and souvenir stalls or there are some of the best brand named boutiques and stores around. The restaurants are a culinary treat where I found new flavours and food combinations taking my taste buds to new heights.

Gay Pride is an event that seems to capture the entire city. Everywhere, bunting, flags and poster are out in celebration as are the public who fill the streets to party and have fun. The beach is a mass of bars, music and dancing, while those who have already partied too hard or just want some peace can find the occasional spare spot on the sand. However, be prepared... Gordon Beach is the area where an excess of sexy bodies, in tiny swimwear, frolic, swim or just take time out to relax... and be admired (those bodies don't just happen)!

Over Pride the famous international gay and lesbian event – Circuit – hit town and that brings in its own partying faithful of half naked men keen to be seen shaking their tight tushes around on the podiums.



thinkisrael.com THE COMPLETE STORY



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Crowne Plaza Hotel, Tel Aviv, which also has its own gay bar leading to the gay beach
www.crowneplaza.com

Tel Aviv is the perfect place if you want to launch yourself into the entire culture and trips to Jerusalem and the Dead Sea are easily organised. The tourist office offers superb advice on the best places for adventure, excitement and history but there is no denying that the Gay Pride celebrations bring in visitors from around the globe. The reputation for this superb event just increases year on year and already the Bent office is planning on its next visit.

Ibiza Geezer!

Already mad about Mallorca and Menorca, Adrian Gillan samples that gayest of Balearics: Ibiza!

It attracted artists in the 50s, hippies in the 60s, the jet-set in the 70s and clubbers in the 80s and 90s. 150 miles south of Barcelona, the Spanish, Catalan-speaking Mediterranean island of Ibiza is constantly reinventing itself, currently developing chic spas and rural options to compliment its still-renowned club scene. As well as heaving resorts and sizable English and German expat communities, Ibiza also boasts secluded coves and beaches, hilly villages and its very own baby-brother island, Formentera. Its 100,000 inhabitants are vastly outnumbered by tourists during sun-drenched May-Sept – everyone coexisting in an area the size of the Isle of Man! A third of Ibiza's population live in Ibiza Town (a.k.a. Eivissa) itself, home - along with adjoining resort, Figueretes - to the island's main gay scene.

TO STAY

Hotel Cenit (C/Archiduque Luis Salvador, s/n- Los Molinos; T: +34 971 30 14 04 / 971 30 40 93; www.hotelcenit.com) – Gay-friendly, with spectacular sea views, near all scene and sights.

TO SEE 'N DO

Ibiza Town, Old Town (Dalt Vila) – Medieval hill-top zone, with cathedral, museums and seminary, made a World Heritage Site in 1999. Stroll winding lanes aimlessly; or walk atop renaissance walls.

San Antonio – Large Brit-dominated resort with great nightlife (clubs Paradis and Eden) on the west of the island, thereby prized as the place to watch the sun go down, on its "Sunset Strip". Check out the famous Café del Mar, plus buzzing West End district.

Rural Ibiza – Quiet villages like Sant Mateu d'Aubarca, with its glorious restaurant, Can Cires. Beaches – From crammed Patja d'en Bossa near Ibiza Town to quieter gems like Cala Gracio just north of San Antonio, or Cala d'Hort with its stunning views out over the "magic isle" of Es Vedrà.

Mega-clubbing – Both in the port district of Ibiza Town; and in San Antonio on the other side of the island. Electro/trance DJs fill clubs such as Pacha, Space and - the world's biggest club, capacity 10,000 - Privilege. Expect a mixed-straight Euro-crowd; steep entrance and drinks charges; and to dance 'til, at the very least, dawn.

Hippy markets – Found all over the island, not least the large one in Es Canar on Wednesdays. Formentera – Smallest Balearic, reached by regular 30-60 minute ferry ride from Ibiza Town. Sandy, with La Mola cliffs (190m) and population of just 7,500. Relatively flat, so hire a bike for the day to whiz around – taking in the cliffy cave in Cap de Barbaria, tiny San Francesc capital, quaint little Sant Ferran village, ancient stone circles and tasty restaurant Pequeña Isla in El Pilar.

TO BOOZE 'N CRUISE

Most of the gay bars and clubs on Ibiza are found in Ibiza Town's Old Town, Marina and port - plus along the promenade of adjoining resort, Figueretes. Many are only open May-Sept...

BARS

- Angelo** (Alfonso XII, 11)
- Bar 22** (C./ de la Virgen, 22)
- Cube** (C./ Pere Escanelles, 3, Figueretes)
- Dôme** (Alfonso XII, 5)
- EXIS** (C./ de la Virgen, 57)
- JJ Bar** (C./ de la Virgen, 79)
- Kitsch** (C./ Ramón Muntaner, 26, Figueretes)
- Leon** (C./ de la Virgen, 62)
- Magnus** (Paseo Marítimo, Figueretes)
- Mona Lisa** (Alfonso XII, 3)
- Soap Up** (Rincón de Santa Lucía, 21)

CLUBS

- Anfora** (San Carlos, 7; www.disco-anfora.com)
- Lola's** (Alfonso XII, 9)

SAUNA / SEX CLUB

- Deep Club** (Galicia, 1, Figueretes)
- La Muralla** (C./ de la Carrossa, 3)

OUTDOOR CRUISING

Es Cavallet gay nudist beach – 10 miles south of Ibiza Town near the salt flats, reached by the No 11 bus from Ibiza Town, hubbed around a rainbow flag and the Charingay bar-restaurant.

Otherwise, gents oft "take airs", by night, atop the Old Town ramparts behind the cathedral in Ibiza Town itself, or on the rocky/bushy Es Soto headland just below.



USEFUL CONTACTS

Award-winning low fares airline Monarch offers flights to Ibiza, during the summer season, from Birmingham, London Gatwick and Manchester airports with fares, including taxes, from £48.99 one way (£79.50 return).. For more info or to book: www.monarch.co.uk

GENERAL INFO ABOUT IBIZA:

www.ibiza.travel / www.illesbalears.es

GENERAL INFO ON SPAIN:

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Visit Spain

Over the past few decades the Brits have descended on Spain in their millions. The coastal regions are awash with signs of this invasion with bars and restaurants either owned by expats or giving the visiting hordes a taste of home. But Spain is a huge place that has a history and grandeur far more interesting than just the beaches and bars.

The Mediterranean coast offers everything we tourists call for with some of the hottest bars and clubs catering for our nocturnal needs to party. This is all well and good... however, even the smallest village in Spain has its own folklore and celebrations; with religious festivities, fiestas, parades and feasts. Local restaurants offer exquisite food prepared by chefs who have recipes handed down from

generation to generation. Or maybe seek out local bars and try a glass or two of produce grown and bottled in the region while enjoying a selection of tapas. The towns and cities are full of culture, with museums, galleries and where sophistication and tradition offer something different... well away from any semblance of an 'Bernie's Fish and Chippy' or a 'Kings Head' pub.

There is no denying that for most Brits the weather and the beaches are the main draw together with the ease of actually getting there. Most flights from the UK take between 2-3 hours to get to either the mainland or the Balearic Islands and with the cost of ticket so low this allows for the possibility of more than one holiday a year.

So whether it's the coast or the culture - get reacquainted with Spain because there's so much more with each visit. www.spain.info



* Where prejudice stays in the closet



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WILL IT WORK FOR **YOU?**

Have you ever thought to yourself why lot's guys keep packing the mass on every year while others seem to take one step forward, and then three steps back? "The Secret" to achieving continuous gains without setbacks is not found in a supplement, a routine or a drug. It's all a matter of sticking to a basic set of common-sense rules that help keep you on the gaining track. Let me take you through them one by one. It's not rocket science, and you've probably heard some of this before. Put it all together and stay on the right course, and you're guaranteed to get results. I promise!

1: Don't Injure Yourself

This seems so obvious. If you tear a muscle, you will not be able to train it properly. And worse yet, you may have to stay out of the gym for a month to let it heal, which will make you slide back considerably. The good news is that it is relatively easy to regain lost mass, but this is where many guys repeat their mistake. They either start training again before the injury is fully healed, or they are so eager to get back in the swing of things that they immediately pick up with the same amount of weight they used before. Either way, you're back to square one. The remedy is simple enough: check your ego at the door, focus on good form and listen to your body. Don't jerk or bounce the weights. 1 Rep Max attempts should be done very sparingly, if at all. If your joints are aching, it may be a good idea to cut them some slack. Training smart is more important than lifting heavy.

2: Go With What Works For You

All the magazines you read are filled with workout routines, fads and specific exercises that such-and-such bodybuilder swears by. Well boyz, guess what? If deadlifting hurts your lower back, it is totally irrelevant that a pro gets excellent results from deadlifting. There will always be those who don't benefit from certain exercises. Some typical examples besides Deadlifts: Squats, barbell curls with straight bar kills the wrists in some people. Behind-the-neck lat pulls forces those with stiff shoulders to hunch over and rob the lats from a large part of the load. While dips can be beneficial to tricep-development for some, others only seem to hit their pecs and delts. You probably know a few exercises that just don't feel right, even though you use textbook form. They either hurt in a negative way (as opposed to the positive pain you get from exhaustion) or you may just not feel anything at all in the targeted muscle. That doesn't mean there's something wrong with you - the exercise itself isn't working for you. Simply put, don't listen to the all the dogma - use your own head and reject exercises that won't do it for you. If your training partner happens to like one of your "bad" exercises, try to find a compromise, or simply agree to do those particular sets on different machines.

Goodluck boyz!

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Sauna Rules



- 1 People wearing jockstraps tend to make it with other people wearing jockstraps. Nobody makes it with people wearing pink bikinis.
- 2 You can never be too rich, too muscular, or have too big of a dick.
- 3 If everyone who said "I don't come here often" was telling the truth, there would be no one there.
- 4 Conversations in the orgy room should be kept to a minimum. Grunts and groans are acceptable; discussions of the weather, ex-lovers, favourite lubricants are not.
- 5 Finish what you start.



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WHATS ON

BY GUM LEEDS PRIDE

Leeds LGBT Pride is on 1st August – Yorkshire Day and is a celebration of everything Yorkshire.

"It's going to hard to beat last year's event which saw over 17,000 people pack the city's streets, but we aim to do it," says Tom Doyle, Chair of the Pride planning group.

Leeds Pride will keep its much loved and unique format. The huge Real Radio main stage on Millennium Square, from noon featuring local dignitaries and activists, interspersed with top local and national acts. Unconfirmed, are fantastic new boyband Inju5tice and ex Atomic Kitten star, Liz McClarnon plus a host of other fantastic, show-stopping

acts... check out the website for regular updates.

The Parade kicks off on the stroke of three to begin its whooping, whistling and dancing way through the city centre. Leeds LGBT Pride are eager that as many people as possible take part in this year's Parade, there is an accessible bus that can take people round the route or part of the route.

Lower Briggate and the Calls is the final destination for the parade where the Leeds Gay scene is waiting to entertain the crowds until the early hours. Expect top DJs, fantastic turns and personal appearances. Food concessions, a funfair, youth area and even more alfresco entertainment means that the energy and excitement levels will be high all day long.

Away from the pounding music those

of a more sedate nature can enjoy a tea dance being hosted by the Cosmopolitan Hotel, and those of who want to escape the hurly burly of the day are invited Leeds Buddhist Centre, just over Leeds Bridge for a friendly cup of tea or coffee and then a period of contemplation, meditation or quietness.

The message coming strongly from the planning committee is that they want to keep LGBT Pride a free celebration of our communities' diversity. You can contribute to this by making a donation in the official collection tins in the venues or by texting Pride to 88211, which will cost you £2 plus your standard network fee for a text.

For more information about Leeds LGBT Pride visit www.leedspride.com



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FACELIFT AT THE VIADUCT

Don't worry Viaduct fans, even though the place is undergoing a massive new facelift, the doors will remain open. All the changes will take place between now and Pride with whole new décor, lighting, sound system, drapes and a bigger stage area. And for those who like to know these things, the new toilets are going to be situated downstairs with a huge mural of gay icons guiding you to pee.

To compliment this exciting change for their customers, the Viaduct girls; Miss Orry, Anya Back and Miss Carla Jackson will be presenting their new, never-been-seen before show to what is hoped to be a thrilled (and maybe gob-smacked) appreciative audience.

Before all that though there is the small matter of raising funds for Pride and to this end the 'girls' want to invite all drag queens and would-be

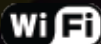
dragsters to a huge meet up at the Viaduct at noon on the 3rd July – don't worry, the venue will help get you frocked and made-up – for an awareness and fund-raising event outside the city's Harvey Nicks.

Talking of Pride, the Viaduct is presenting a special show with the fabulous Kelly Llorrena (see the Pride Performers piece) on Pride night. Also we have Drag Idol winner, Tia Maria - the new faces on the scene – fresh, enthusiastic, different and funny - **plus free admission.**

The popular Big Sunday Shows are set to continue with the likes of Topping and Butch, West End star of Priscilla Queen of the Desert - Wezley Sebastian and drag superstar, Titti la Camp - plus all their usual specialist nights of music, mayhem and madness.

The Viaduct Showbar,
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Photos: Darrell Hirst



PRIDE PERFORMER

KELLY LLORENNNA

Although born in London, Kelly was raised in Oldham where she attended college in the town. Her debut hit was the iconic N-Trance song 'Set You Free', but the tune wasn't an immediate hit and it took several re-releases before the song went to Number 2 in the charts back in 95. While her involvement with N-Trance seems to have been on and off for many years, Kelly has successfully teamed up with producers Flip and Fill and Love Infinity to produce a handful of dancefloor greats; her soaring vocals on the old Donna Summer classic 'This Time I Know It's For Real' being a Bent favourite.

Kelly will be popping up at several Pride events and is scheduled for an



appearance at the Pink Picnic and is the special guest act at the Viaduct in Leeds on the city's Pride night.

www.myspace.com/kellyllorrennaofficial

the VIADUCT SHOWBAR

SUNDAY 1st AUGUST



**EXCLUSIVE
TO THE VIADUCT**

**FREE
ENTRY**

KELLY LLORENNNA
DANCE SUPERSTAR



ALSO DRAG IDOL WINNERS - TIA MARIA

ANNA GLYPTA / MISS ORRY / CARLA JACKSON / ANJA BACH / DJ TIMMY & DJ MARKY MARK

MONDAYS *Kandyfloss* **THE PRE-HOMO PARTY**

BIG BEATS, CAMP POP & DANCE / 8 TILL LATE WITH DJ'S TIMMY & JONNY BOY

Fosters £1.50 a Pint / Shooters £1 / All House Doubles £2

TUESDAYS **CHILL OUT NIGHT**

WEDNESDAYS **MOVIE NIGHT**

THURSDAYS **CARLA JACKSON DRAG DJ**

FRIDAYS **DRAG DJ HOST MISS ORRY**

WITH SHOWS FROM CARLA JACKSON / ANJA BACH

SATURDAYS **DRAG DJ HOST ANNA GLYPTA**

WITH SHOWS FROM CARLA JACKSON, ANJA BACH

SUNDAYS **DJ TIMMY & FRIENDS**



AWARD WINNING

88

BEST BAR NONE
BEST OVERALL WINNER
BEST PUB

WE NOW HAVE FREE **WI FI** FACILITY FOR ALL OUR CUSTOMERS
THE VIADUCT | LOWER BRIGGATE | LEEDS | LS1 4AE TEL: 0113 391 2741 VIADUCTLEEDSFACBOOK

facebook



Fibre

FIBRE AWARD



Over the years Bar Fibre has stood proud amongst some of the most funky and trendy bars in Leeds with its plush, relaxing atmosphere during the week to energetic and vocal funky house to dance all the way through until late at the weekends. Each year Leeds hosts the Best Bar None awards, which is to promote the responsible management and operation of alcohol-licensed premises; it is supported by the Home Office and runs in more than 80 locations across the country.

Venues that sign up to the scheme will be visited by licensing experts from the council and the police to assess how well they meet current licensing and trading laws. Those meeting the Best Bar None criteria will be accredited to the scheme and allowed to display signs to that effect inside and outside their premise.

Bar Fibre is proud to announce that we won 'Best Bar' category in the awards! We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who voted for us and to the customers who makes Fibre the cool and funky place to be seen!

MEAT IN THE STREET

Leeds Pride news gets better and better with the announcement that Queens Court and Fibre are planning another fantastic 'Meat in the Street' in the courtyard between the two venues. The best sound system, brilliant lighting and a selection of top DJs will have the place bumping from noon until the midnight hour, with a £2.50 drinks special until 4pm. Let's hope for hot weather and even hotter men as, if last year is anything to go by, the boys can't wait to get their shirts off. Admission is free but this place really is a magnet for the crowds so get their early and reserve yourself a place at the best event over pride.



£2.50
DRINKS
FROM 12PM-4PM

MEAT IN THE STREET!



SUNDAY 1ST AUGUST

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

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

**MISS ORRY, JASON GUY
AMANDA HAMMOND
LADY LLOYD**

FREE ADMISSION

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

Disco HOMO QUEENS COURT Fibre



**LEADS
PRIDE**



MISSION

LEEDS PRIDE AFTER PARTY

On Sunday 1st August, Mission 2 will throw open its doors for the fairy god mother of all after parties.

To celebrate Leeds' Gay Pride, the city's two biggest gay nights – Back Door Disco and Homo – will join forces to create the most exciting queer clubbing event of the summer. Showcasing the best DJing talent from both nights, this party will make sure the fun and celebrations continue right into the early hours of the morning.

Clubbers can gain entry to the event for just £3 if they get in before midnight and drinks will be from as little as £2.50.

Mission 2 is located on Lower Briggate in Leeds' gay quarter, next door to The Viaduct Show bar and opposite Fibre. For more information go to www.clubmission.com

HOMO

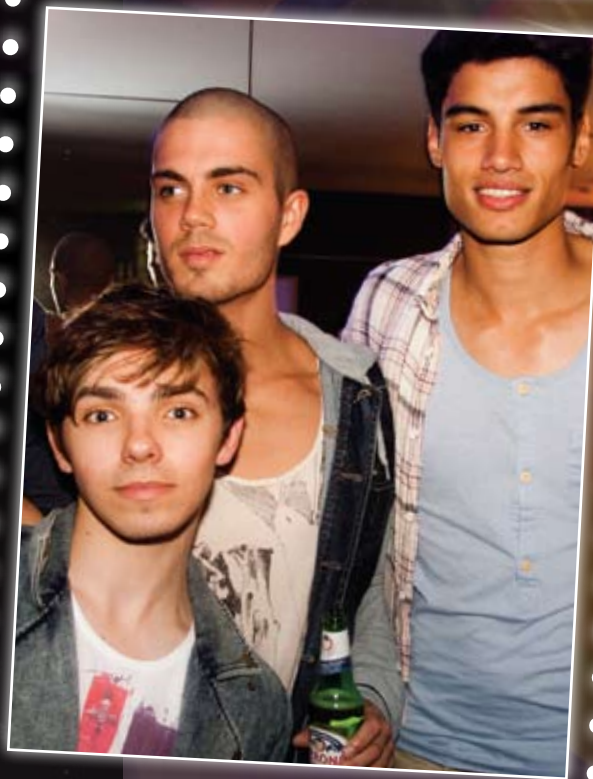


June saw Leeds' best week day Gay night, Homo @ Mission 2, go all out with some amazing events for the queer inhabitants of the city. At the beginning of the month, Homo threw a huge foam party, with the hottest clubbers turning up in their designer beach wear.

As dawn approached, huge cannons sprayed foam on the scantily-clad guests as they danced away to the very best in modern-to-the-minute pop and commercial house from Homo's resident DJs. Although even the most carefully prepared hairstyles and make up didn't survive the foam, it was undoubtedly one of the most fun nights in town.

The following week, Homo hosted a live performance from up and coming, super hot boy band, The Wanted. The band is made up of five cute boys from all over the UK and wowed clubbers with their on stage singing in between DJ sets. They even stuck around after their gig to sign autographs and have their photo taken with regulars in the club's VIP room.

If June was anything to go by, then this summer at Homo is going to be unmissable. Keep checking the Mission website for info on forthcoming events, including a chance to dress up as cowboys and Indians in July. www.clubmission.com



Backdoor Dance VS HOMO



LEEDS' GAY PRIDE OFFICIAL AFTER PARTY



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



NOW ALL DRINKS £2.50 ALL NIGHT LONG

SUNDAY 1ST AUGUST

@ MISSION 2, LOWER BRIGGATE, LEEDS.

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

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



Wow - Last month's relaunch of Freakshow in Manchester saw the biggest queues outside a club I have ever seen, with literally hundreds turned away. To celebrate the return of Freakshow - Manchester's favourite gay club night, I've uploaded a new podcast to www.jasonguy.podomatic.com. This month, catch me playing for Federation, Freakshow and the new Hydrolinx club in Hull. And if you'd like to see your track, club, or event featured in Bent please contact jason@bent.com.

TRACK REVIEW

TOP TRACKS OF THE MONTH



TRACK OF THE MONTH

▷ VALERIYA

- *All That I Want (Nox Music Russia)*

Russia's biggest popstar is back! Wait, that's not quite as bad as it sounds! This time she's been re-mixed by Michael Gray of Full Intention fame, who turns out a Summer-tinged club groove in both vocal and dub formats, while Ministry Of Sound's DJ DLG delivers a more hands-in-the-air moment for more commercial dancefloors. Give it a few plays and you won't be able to get this out of your head. Feel good, big room, summer house doesn't get any better than this.



▷ RINO CABRERA

- *Creopola (Unreleased digital)*

Rino Cabrera produced one of my biggest tracks of last year, the awesome Best Of Me and this next offering is just as cool. Another summer tinged track that just needs to be played on a terrace in the sun. It grinding and heavy bassline forces you to dance and once the breakdown kicks in, you're treated to the infamous "a the famous 'ain't no tooty fruity get on the floor if u got that booty" lyrics. Shouldn't work, but it does. Extremely well.



▷ DANNY'S

- *Keep Me Hanging On (Hypetraxx Records)*

Every so often, certain tracks just seem to pass you by and I'll be honest, this is over a year old and until last week I'd never heard anyone play it before. A cover of The Supremes (or Kim Wilde if you can't remember past the 80s) classic. The only version worth playing is the Taito remix, who turns this into a electro peak-time anthem. Just watch the reactions when the familiar vocals kick in! Set me free, why don't cha babe.



▷ WIDEBOYS & MAJESTIC

ft *B-Live and Boy Better Know*

- *In The VIP (Loaded Records)*

Expect to hear a lot of this track over the coming months. The vocals, a twisted satirical look at the VIP culture that exists on the London club scene are pretty cool for the first couple of plays. But once they become annoying (and they will) I recommend you head for the Jack Rokka dub. Rokka has created a tough, charging, big room remix - part progressive house, part electro house that just builds and builds, interspersed with just the right amount of vocals, namely "Put your hands up" and "In the VIP".



▷ MICHAEL CANTROT

- *You and I (Aime Music)*

Michael's previous release, Desire has been one of my biggest Federation and Freakshow tracks of the year so far. The follow up by the French DJ/Producer looks set to be just as huge. You and I is a slab of feel good, progressive house, with a great remix from Tristan Garner. Big vocals and big breakdowns have had the crowd screaming for more from the first time I dropped it. OK, so it borders on the commercial side, but in my opinion its head and shoulders above the majority of dull, empty tech & progressive house currently doing the rounds.



FEDERATION

GETTING ALL DEEP WITH FED

Federation returns to Mission for their Summer Season of Parties on the last Saturday of each month, Saturday 31st July.

FEDERATION & BACK2FUNKY PRESENT SUBMERGED

A Deep Sea Divin', Boat Colliding', Anchor Droppin', Ear Poppin', Shark Batin', Catch Waitin', Piranha Flappin', Sea Bed Mappin' Ship Wreckin', Scrubbed Deckin', Boat Dockin', Club Night Rockin!!! Underwater Adventure in true Federation Style

Dress with our theme in mind; wear your favourite, swimming trunks, wet suits, flippers and snorkels. The main room will feature Federation's trademark 'Turbo Charged House' whilst the Annexe will be providing funky house and classics.

Arena One - Federation: Gregg Holden, Christian Appleby & Stuart Robinson playing upfront pumpin' house.

Arena Two - Back2funky: Jon Rush, John Marshall & Graham Dixon & Paul Rough (Back2back) play funky house classics.

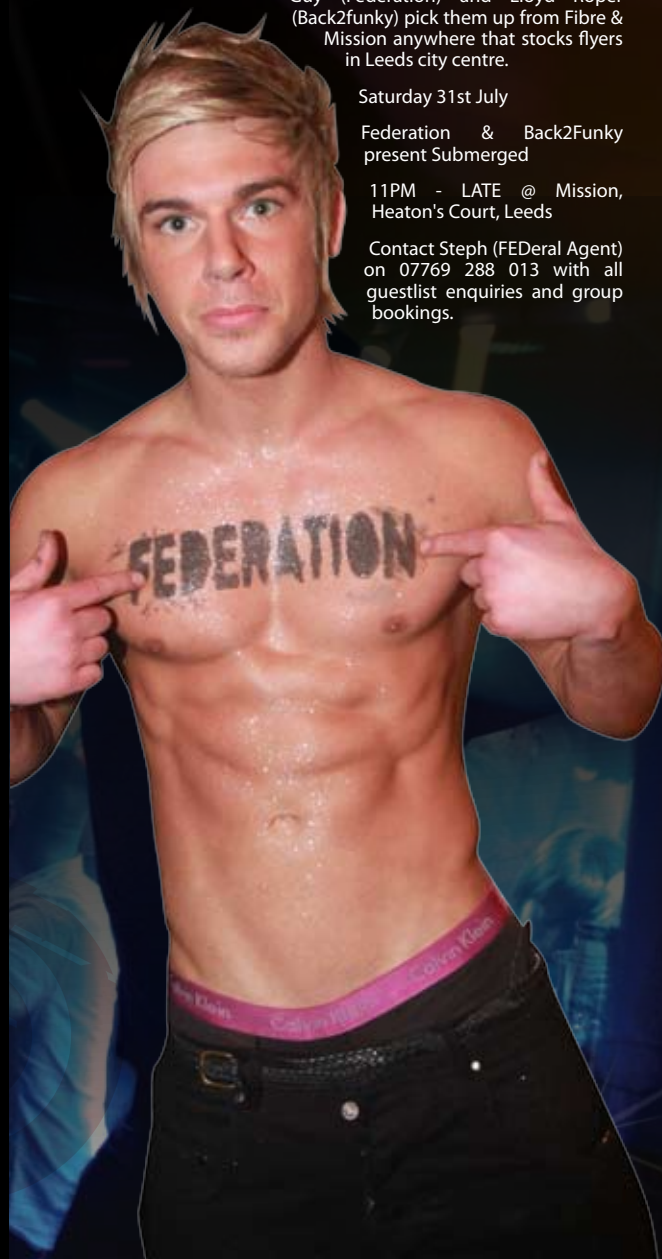
Check out our new double pack CD mixed by Jason Guy (Federation) and Lloyd Roper (Back2funky) pick them up from Fibre & Mission anywhere that stocks flyers in Leeds city centre.

Saturday 31st July

Federation & Back2Funky present Submerged

11PM - LATE @ Mission, Heaton's Court, Leeds

Contact Steph (FEDeral Agent) on 07769 288 013 with all guestlist enquiries and group bookings.



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



SATURDAY 31ST JULY

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

ARENA ONE: FEDERATION

GREGG HOLDEN
CHRISTIAN APPLEBY
STUART ROBINSON

PLAYING UPFRONT PUMPIN' HOUSE

ARENA TWO: BACK2FUNKY

JON RUSH
JOHN MARSHALL
GRAHAM DIXON & PAUL ROUGH B2B

PLAYING FUNKY HOUSE CLASSICS

11PM - 5AM



MISSION

HEATON'S COURT LEEDS



WWW.CLUBFEDERATION.COM
WWW.CLUBMISSION.COM



GET A MERMAN'S SIX
PACK FOR THE
SUMMER! PICK UP A
FREE VIRGIN ACTIVE
PASS AT 'SUBMERGED'

NU WAKEFIELD PRIDE:

After last year's hugely successful Wakefield Pride, organised by The New Union, there is a real buzz and air of anticipation this year amongst the Wakefield LGBT community. As the event is just around the corner everyone is looking forward to seeing what the newly united Wakefield Pride Committee have got lined up for the 8th August. The Main Event is being held on Southgate (outside The New Union) and will run from Noon to 18.00. The traditional Pride March through the city will set off from outside The New Union at 18:15 and return back just in time for The New Union to take over the stage and provide a bumper evening of entertainment through till 23:00. There's a plan to light the sky and illuminate all our visitors with a fantastic firework display at 22:00, the night ends with a massive after-party inside The New Union through till 02:00. As always the day's entertainment will be all held together by The Fabulous Miss Blanche & The Infamous MarkyMark, while in the evening they will be joined by Miss Sordid. The stage will be BSL signed. For full details check out www.WakefieldPride.net

PRIDE PERFORMER

RYAN RETURNS

"Ryan Jagger is the best writer to emerge from Cleethorpes since Rod Temperton [Thriller writer]. He has a flair for songwriting, performance and production that mark him as a talent to watch." - Paul Gambaccini

We can't argue with Gambo and since Bent featured out singer Ryan last year the boy from the East coast has not stopped.

"I've been working my ass off in the studio on original euro-dance flavoured pop & released a new single, 'Carousel', world-wide on iTunes a couple of weeks ago which got a thumbs up from Alan Carr's BBC show! I have just embarked on a summer Pride tour after rocking Birmingham's main stage & getting ready for some larger crowds over the next couple of months. I've just released a new single on iTunes, but will be following it up with two E.P.s shortly - the first being 'Hallucinate', which is a pure slice of summer vibin', packed with some XL remixes! The second, 'B.Y.O.B (Bring Your Own Booze)', is a harder clubland sound which has really ignited Pride crowds this summer."

CATCH RYAN AT THESE PRIDE EVENTS

10th July Derby Goes Pink

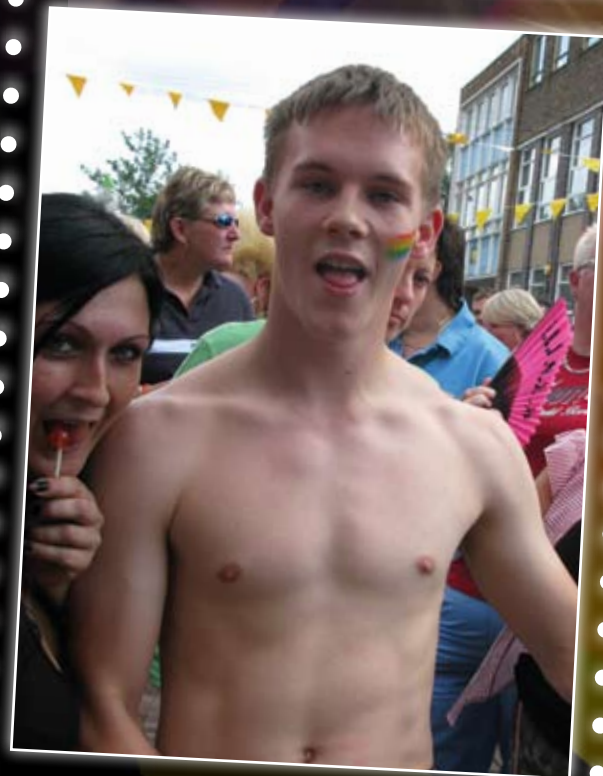
17th July Glasgow Pride

31st July Hull Pride

29th Aug Manchester Pride

www.Myspace.com/RyanOfficial

Photo: Andy Houghton



SUNDAY
8th
Aug

WAKEFIELD LGBT PRIDE

www.WakefieldPride.net



Hosted by The Fabulous Miss Blanche & The Infamous MarkyMark

~ 11 Hours Of Free Entertainment Featuring ~

- Angie Brown Vs The Sleazesisters • S Club 3 • Big Soul • Miss Sordid • Kira •
- Lianne King • The Diamond Divas • Tia Maria • Tucker • Collar 'N' Cuffs • Erased •
- Ricky Glass • Back To The Future • Wendy Marshal's Music 4 Kids • The Red Pills •

~ This Event Will Be BSL Singed Between 12:00 - 19:00 ~

12:00 - 23:00 On Southgate (Outside The New Union)

THE 24TH HUDDERSFIELD PINK PICNIC:

The big day is almost upon us and another year of hard work and planning over as 25th July will see the biggest ever Pink Picnic to date... we'll be keeping our fingers crossed that the weather is as kind to The Pink Picnic as it was to The Calderdale & Bradford Prides.

The new, larger, easier to get to site at Moor End Farm South, Crosland is set to be the perfect setting to host over 5000 attitude-free people from the LGBT community; their friends and families. The lively family friendly atmosphere, The Pink Picnic is famous for, is one of the main reasons this event continues to grow year in year out and as last year proved, not even a heavy downpour could dampen people's spirits.

There's a diverse line up of local and national acts who will take to the stage throughout the day, which once again will be hosted by The Infamous MarkyMark from Queens Court & The New Union. This year the gorgeous Kelly Llorenna will 'Set You Free' as she headlines the day's entertainment. The Pink Picnic wouldn't be the same without the eclectic mix of community and commercial stalls offering everything from sexual health advice and screening to relaxing pamper products.

The beer tent will once again be provided by The Greyhound, who will also be providing a regular bus service throughout the day to take people up to the new site and back. The bus will leave from outside The Greyhound and at £1 each way, it's the perfect excuse to leave your car at home and do your bit for the environment. An interactive map giving door to field directions is available on HuddersfieldPinkPicnic.co.uk for anyone who plans to make their own way to the Picnic and ample free parking will be available as always.

FESTIVAL KITS

As much as we all love the UK's Summer festivals and Prides, many of us are not so keen on the discomforts that so often accompany them. Whilst the typical British weather brings the inevitable downpour and festival goers face the ongoing challenge of keeping clean, festival life can be a somewhat uncomfortable affair. Now all that is about to change thanks to a brilliant new range of 'festival kits' launched this week by Totally4 Ltd. The case of each kit is reusable and includes a well thought out range of accessories and toiletries as well as other useful items such as a rain poncho, LED torch, earplugs, condoms, carabina and cotton bag. Now there's no need to trudge around with lots of different sized toiletry bottles, dispensers and aerosols as each of these specially designed festival kit provides all the handy sized toiletries you'll need to last you through the duration of the festival.

The kits start at £19.99 or a deluxe version at £24.99. totally4.com.



Huddersfield Pink Picnic

Sunday 25th July 2010

12noon - 7pm Moor End Farm

South Crosland HD4 7BZ Huddersfield

£3
VOLUNTARY
ENTRY
DONATION

Live Entertainment

Hosted by The Infamous Marky Mark
of Queens Court/The New Union



Kelly Llorenna

will 'set you free'
'tell it to my heart'



Lisa McCheyne

The ultimate Madonna experience



Tania Alboni

is the ultimate Cher experience



Collar 'N' Cuffs

Anna Glypta & Anja Bach

Lianne King

clubland's newest female vocalist

Bears Aloud

sponsored by Plastic Ivy sauna

Erase'd

Live vocal Erasure tribute

Tucker

As seen on
Holly Oaks Music
Live on Channel 4



Beer Tent Market and information stalls

Pride Art

Fun Fair

Food stalls

Bring your own picnic
Sorry, but you will not be
allowed in with alcohol.
No Bar-B-Q's Please.



West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service: Proud supporters of Pink Picnic



huddersfieldpinkpicnic.co.uk

THE NEW UNION

PRE PICNIC PARTY

The New Union in Huddersfield is cranking up the pre-Pink Picnic festivities with parties before and after the event. If you call in and buy a drink at the bar on Friday 2nd, 9th or 16th July you will be entitled to a ticket (1 ticket per person) for the After Picnic Party. This year sees the new Bears Aloud line-up, the fantastic Sarah Jay, Back to the Future and we're promised some exciting 'fleshy bits' with both male and female strippers. DJs Wayne and Pepe will keep the atmosphere buzzing and the entire event will be hosted by the fabulous Miss Bubbles La Belle. Of course, the New Union has something going on all the time and with drinks offers, music and live entertainment... plus their alfresco courtyard... it isn't surprising that the venue has gained such an incredible reputation with the gay community.



PRIDE GETS "REAL"

This year Doncaster Pride has a new radio partner in Real Radio. The two organisations have teamed up to make Pride 2010 at the Racecourse even bigger and better.

Pride spokesperson Jenny Dewsnap said "Since we announced the move to the Racecourse we've been aware that we needed to find and work with a local radio station. We decided that as Pride is growing we needed to get our messages out across a wider area and bring people to Doncaster for the event. Real broadcast to listeners all over Yorkshire and this will increase our potential to attract people from wider area.

Doncaster Pride is keen to stress that our event is open to anyone and is not an exclusively gay event. Many of the visitors are families and supporters or friends of gay people but many are not - they are there to have a great day out. Doncaster Pride welcomes everyone and believes equality and acceptance can only come from events where all people of all backgrounds come together to have fun and enjoy themselves.

Tickets for Pride on the 21st August are now on sale for £3 (under 16's free) and this is one admission price for the full 12 hour event.

Meanwhile, Doncaster Pride is pleased to announce this year's after party will be brought to you by Sheffield based club sensation "Climax". For the first time ever in Doncaster Climax DJ's will round off the 12 hour spectacular at the Racecourse with their mix of classic pop and dance music. Climax host regular club nights in Sheffield and have built a reputation over the years as being a great night out so if you have the stamina after the 8 hours of the Pride day stage then stay on for what promises to be a party like Doncaster has never seen.

The after party starts at 10pm, immediately after the close of the live stage and admission is included in the day admission price of just £3. Buy your queue jump tickets online and jump to the front!

www.doncasterpride.co.uk

THE NEW UNION

HUDDERSFIELD

BIG PINK WEEKENDER

FRIDAY
23rd
JULY

DJ PEPE

YOUR FAVOURITE TUNES UNTIL THE SMALL HOURS

SATURDAY
24th
JULY

PRE PINK PICNIC WARM-UP

WITH THE FANTASTIC HELTER SKELTER
ROCKING THE COURTYARD. LOADS OF
DRINKS OFFERS GETTING YOU IN THE
MOOD FOR THE BIG DAY



SUNDAY
25th
JULY

PRE PINK PICNIC WARM-UP

OPEN NOON WITH PRE-PINK PICNIC DRINKS FROM £1
2PM - DJ CRAZY WAYNE AND HIS CRAZY CAPERS

AFTER PARTY LINEUP

HOSTED BY MISS BUBBLES LA BELLE



SPONSORED BY

Corona
Extra

FEATURING:

BEARS ALOUD

SARAH JAY

BACK TO THE FUTURE

DJ CRAZY WAYNE & DJ PEPE



OUR WEEKLY LINEUP

TUESDAY

KARAOKE

FREE POOL
(21:00 TIL CLOSE)

WEDNESDAY

WHAT THE
CUSTOMER WANTS...
"SOMETHING FOR
EVERYONE"

FRIDAY

DJ PEPE

BUY 2 WKD'S OR 2 CORONA'S AND GET A
FREE SHOT* FREE POOL 21:00 - 23:00

SATURDAY

DJ CRAZY WAYNE

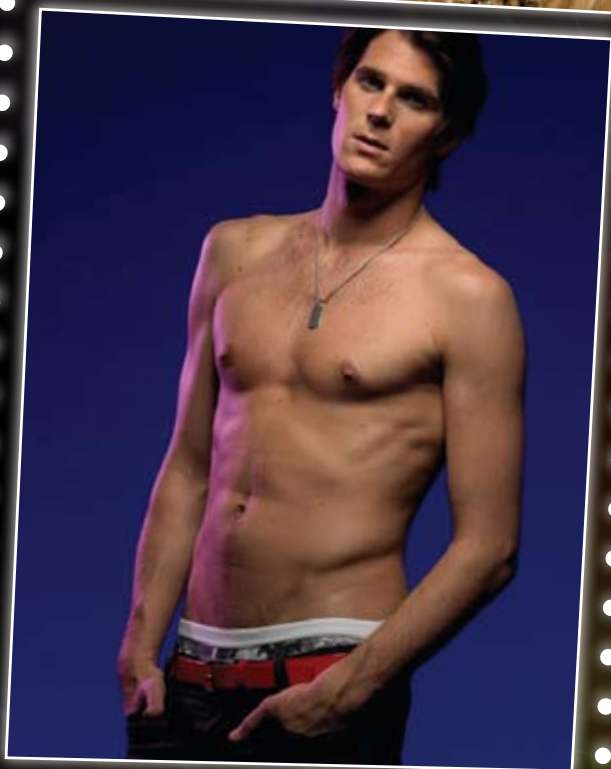
THE NEW UNION

HUDDERSFIELD

3 UNION BANK, HD1 2BP 01484 535 435

STAR AND GARTER

Hull's Pride event at West Park is on Saturday 31 July. The festivities starts at 12.30 and, in keeping with tradition, is going to be full of activities, events, performances, song and dance, parades and a lot more. This is the eighth such event in Hull and the organizers are leaving no stones unturned to make this the most successful yet. The Hull pride is a public event and is open for everyone. But afterwards... make a bee-line to the Star and Garter where they are planning an after-pride party you wont forget. Two camp Discos with fantastic DJs to keep the mood festive and bubbling - plus an awful lot more guaranteed top keep all that Pride fun going until the early hours. Before all that though check out Kinisha on the 11th July - The Voice, the Heels the Strut are back on stage. So, capture the moment as she delivers a pulsating show, emulating the sounds of the greatest ever female Rock Legend.



STELLAR LINE-UP ANNOUNCED FOR NORTHERN PRIDE

Dance music superstar Basshunter heads the line-up at what organisers are promising will be the best Northern Pride yet.

Northern Pride, North East England's biggest Gay Pride, takes place on Saturday 17th July in Newcastle.

The fun starts at 11.30am at Newcastle Civic Centre when members of the LGBT community, their families and friends will gather for a colourful and celebratory Pride Parade through Newcastle city centre.

They'll arrive at Leazes Park at 1pm for the Pink Picnic. Organisers are expecting 10000 people from across the region and the UK to come along for an afternoon of music, dance, cabaret and merriment.

Basshunter will be joined on the bill by Lisa

Scott Lee, X Factor finalists Same Difference, rising stars on the Newcastle and UK music scenes, dancers, comedians, burlesque performers and drag artistes performing across three stages.

There'll also be a tea tent, a licensed bar, a variety of stalls and people can of course bring a picnic!

For the first time, Northern Pride also has its own radio station Pride Radio, which began broadcasting all the LGBT news and events plus some great music on 87.9FM in Newcastle and Gateshead and online at

www.prideradio.co.uk

Northern Pride is not just the picnic for a full list of events: www.npride.org.uk

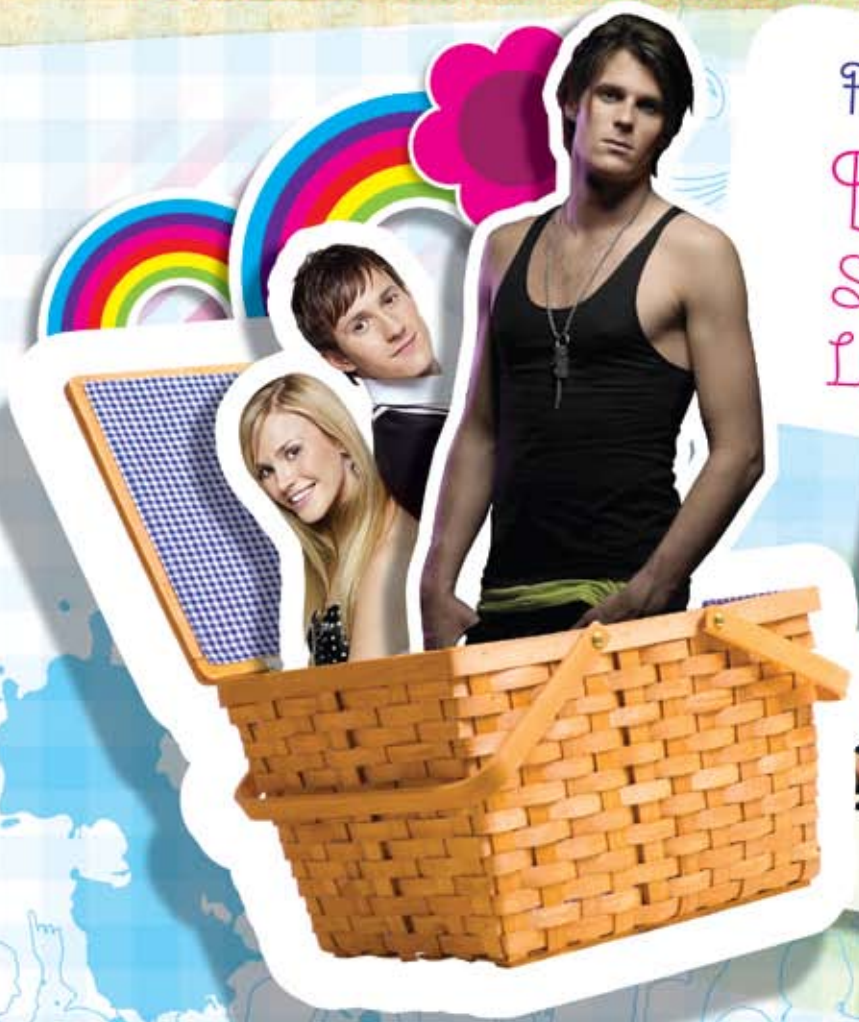


northernpride

THE NORTH EAST'S BIGGEST GAY PRIDE

PINK PICNIC

SATURDAY 17TH JULY 2010 1pm-6pm
LEAZES PARK NEWCASTLE



Featuring
Basshunter
Same Difference
Lisa Scott Lee



SERVING THE LGBT
COMMUNITY FOR
30 YEARS

A LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND
TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY FESTIVAL



www.npride.org.uk

JULY LISTINGS



SUNDAY 11th July

UK's No1 Tribute to Tina Turner -

KINISHA

A TRIBUTE TO A STAR



FRIDAY 16th July

Join us for The Star's **4th Birthday Bash**

With special guest **Almost Pink**

Come join the funhouse with fab drag **ANNA-REXIC**
- the best DJ in HULL

SUNDAY 1st August

A tribute to the campest
female act ever...

**DOLLY
PARTON**
(Kelly Obrien)

SATURDAY 31st July

HULL PRIDE

at West Park, then back to The
Star for a party you won't forget.
- 2 camp discos with 2 fantastic
DJs - ALL NIGHT LONG!



WEEKLY EVENTS

£1
drinks

Friday & Saturday
7-9pm

Monday

SAMBUCA MONDAY with DJ
RANDY ANDY £1 drinks all night

Wednesday

RED HOT WEDNESDAY's WHERE BOYS,
MEET BOYS with DJ RANDY ANDY £1
drinks all night

Thursday

FROCK OFF FEVER with CISSY STAR & MISS
DOLLY FUDGE fun games & lots more

Friday

CAMP AS TITS with the one & only LUCY
GARTER fantastically funny Drag hostess
5am close

Saturday

CAMPTASTIC with ANNA-REXIC & MISS
DOLLY FUDGE - 2 outrageous Drag
hostesses

Sunday

SUNDAY NIGHTS ROCK @ STAR with a
Completely different Act every Sunday

**FREE
ENTRY**

Fri / Sat / Sun
& 5am Close

COMING IN SEPTEMBER

A tribute to a legend of British comedy,
the UK's No1 tribute to

ROY CHUBBY BROWN
(Dion Griffiths)



TEL: Tony: 07508-563935 or Jim: 07548-908754



CORRAS PRIDE

The cast of Coronation Street is to take part in the Manchester Pride Parade as part of the show's 50th anniversary celebrations.

Manchester Pride patron, Antony Cotton – who plays Corrie favourite Sean Tully in the hit show – will join cast and crew in the parade on Saturday 28th August, which this year has adopted a 'Through the decades' theme.

Jackie Crozier, festival director of Manchester Pride, said: "Coronation Street is a Mancunian institution with a global following and we're delighted they're teaming up with Manchester Pride in this, their 50th anniversary year.

"Through characters like Sean Tully, Hayley Cropper, Todd Grimshaw and, most recently, Sophie Webster, they have helped to raise awareness of the issues facing the LGBT community to millions of loyal viewers.

"The parade is always a highlight of the festival and I look forward to seeing the cast of 'Corrie'



take to the streets of the city centre in aid of Manchester Pride and all of the good causes that we support."

Executive Producer of Coronation Street, Kieran Roberts, says: "This is going to be one of the best weekends of the year in the city, and we're honoured that Manchester Pride has allowed us to head up the country's most glamorous parade. Prepare for Corrie like you've never seen it before".

With over 100 entries each year, the Manchester Pride Parade is one of the main highlights of the Big Weekend and remains the biggest parade in the city. It celebrates the LGBT community in Greater Manchester and raises awareness of the issues around HIV.

Manchester Pride 2010 takes place 20 – 30th August.
manchesterpride.com.

FREAKSHOW



FREAKSHOW'S RETURN

Freakshow made its triumphant return to Manchester on Saturday 19th June in its brand new home of Mancunia.

We at Bent were on hand to cover the return. So, we arrived early to capture the action as it unfolded and was greeted by a very large queue stretching right down road - luckily it was not long before we were inside along with the hottest crowd we've seen in a while. The music, the crowd, the DJs, Freaky entertainers all add up to an amazing atmosphere.

Now a weekly event - Freakshow is every Saturday 11pm - 5am @ The Studio (above Mancunia), Bloom Street, Manchester (Please use the separate entrance on Bloom St)

For more info go to www.clubfreakshow.com or join their facebook group.

Photos: Rob Kimpton



FROM THE CREATORS OF FEDERATION & UNI-CHALLENGE

FREAKSHOW

WELCOME TO THE HOUSE OF FUN



EVERY SATURDAY

WITH THEIR
FRESH UPFRONT SOUNDTRACK OF FIERCE & TUFF HOUSE
FROM DJS NIK DENTON, JASON GUY, GREGG HOLDEN,
LEE YEOMANS, PSYCHE & LAWRENCE CLARK

11PM - 5AM

**The
Studio**

(ABOVE MANCUNIA) | MANCHESTER
USE SEPARATE ENTRANCE ON BLOOM STREET

CLUBFREAKSHOW.COM


JUMPIN'
THROUGH
HOOPS
PRODUCTIONS



RUDEBOIZ MANCHESTER:

At last... The UK's No.1 destination for lads who like lads hits Manchester, after securing a venue completely suitable to the needs of the country's sexiest party, namely The Studio (above Mancunia)!

Firmly established in London as the UK's biggest and naughtiest event of its kind, the RudeBoiz crew certainly know how to make a party swing and will be bringing the entire team - and feeling - up to Manchester to re-create the energy and vibe that has proven so successful in the Capital and they will be pulling out all the stops to make this launch party simply unmissable.

Bringing the mischief on the night will be those sexy stars from Eurocreme and www.rudeboiz.com films, as well as competitions on the night to keep the ladz wanting more.

The dirty underground soundtrack from London and Manchester's finest DJ talent, Devilish (RudeBoiz, Fire London), Riano (RudeBoiz, Organic), Nik Denton (Organic, Freakshow, Federation) and Andy Mac (Organic).

Rudeboiz has no dresscode, although sports/scally gear is preferred.

This one is just for the ladz!



PRIDE PERFORMER

SCOUCH

Despite having been formed for over 10 years, Scooch are often only remembered for their Eurovision Song Contest entry, Flying the Flag, in 2007. The camp routine and controversy that surrounded their performance didn't make it a winner in the competition but did see it peak at Number 5 in the UK charts. Since those high-flying Flying the Flag days the band members have gone their separate ways and forged careers in music and theatre production as well as appearances on the West End stage. However, the band have never forgotten their gay fans and have reformed time and time again to perform at many different Pride and Eurovision events (after all they are one and the same aren't they?) where, we are pleased to say, over-the-top campy and a catchy singalong tune are seen as a huge bonus.

Scooch will be Flying the Flag for Derby Pride but keep an eye out for them turning up at your favourite gay venue - they are one of the most entertaining acts around.



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CRUISE DESTINATION FOR
LADZ WHO LIKE LADZ
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MANCHESTER

Design: D Sharp Media

FRIDAY 30TH JULY
23:00PM - 05:00AM

DIRTY SEXY UNDERGROUND SOUNDS
FROM RUDEBOIZ RESIDENTS
DEVILISH (RUDEBOIZ, FIRE LONDON)
RIANO (RUDEBOIZ, ORGANIC)
ANDY MAC (ORGANIC)
NIK DENTON (ORGANIC, FREAKSHOW)

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The Studio

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DONT FORGET: **RUDEBOIZ @ FIRE** LONDON. EVERY FRIDAY 23:00 - 04:30

CRUZ 101

Manchester's Favourite Gay Venue

EXPERTS IN POP

With 18 years of experience under our belts you can be safe in the knowledge that at Cruz 101 you will hear the best pop & dance tracks six nights a week.

MONDAY - The Village's longest running night, Disco Inferno. DJ Dino plays an exclusive mix of classics from the 70's, 80's & 90's in Cruz. Expect tunes from Donna Summer, Rick Astley, The Bee Gees, Sonia, Kylie & Barry White to be gracing your ears with 4 decades of all things pop & disco.

PINK WEDNESDAYS - Join us this Wednesday for pink bingo with loads of prizes up for grabs, just collect your bingo card on arrival for your chance to win. The Pink Wii challenge is open to all who would like to show off their skills.

THURSDAY - Back2Back John Hamilton presents "What's In The Box?"

BIG GAY FRIDAY - The only place to start the weekend - packed out every week and absolutely guaranteed attitude free fun filled clubbing for Manchester. Miss Cara works the mic like an old pro every week with Manchester's very own superstar DJ Spook on the main floor playing tracks you won't hear anywhere else.

SATURDAY - Drama Queen presents Cruz 101's Experts in Pop

SUNDAY NIGHT SCREAMERS - It's All Too Shocking! The very best way to round off your weekend harder edged pop, disco, dance, r'n'b & house anthems from DJ Spook. www.djspook.com

For more info go to: cruz101.com

PRIDE PERFORMER

BELINDA CARLISLE

The ex lead vocalist of The Go-Go's, Belinda Carlisle is to headline the main stage at this



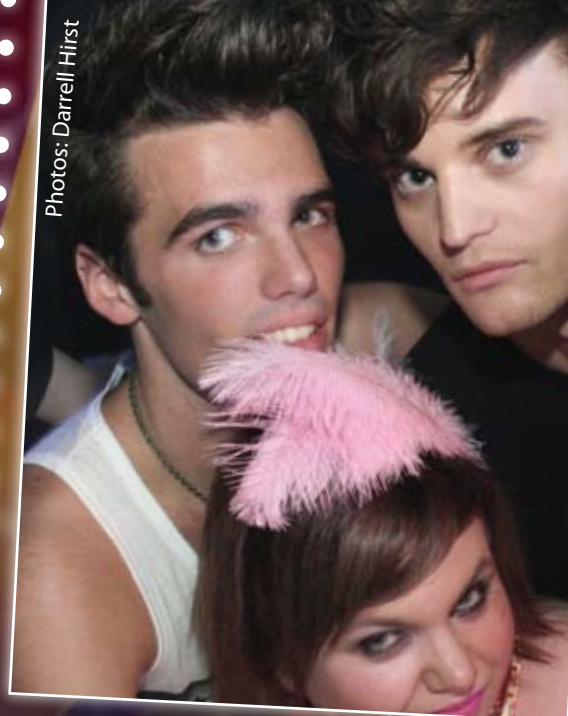
year's Manchester Pride event. Despite huge US success with this ground-breaking all-girl band in the 80s, she became better known in the UK when she launched herself into a solo career that spawned hits such as "Circle in the Sand," "I Get Weak," "Leave a Light On" and "Heaven Is a Place on Earth".

She recently toured as part of the Regeneration tour in the U.S., and the Here and Now tour in the UK and Ireland in 2008 and summer of 2009. The line up included Carlisle, as well as other acts such as The Human League, Bananarama, Boy George, Howard Jones, Paul Young, Naked Eyes, ABC, T'Pau, and Cutting Crew.

She took part in the reality show Hell's Kitchen and in the American equivalent of Strictly Come Dancing, Dancing With The Stars. Last year she was also seen playing the role of Velma Von Tussle in London's West End production of Hairspray.

Come August Bank Holiday weekend - Heaven is a Place in Manchester.

Photos: Darrell Hirst



Experts In Pop

Six Nights A Week

Monday

Disco Inferno

DJ Dino plays 3 decades of pop & disco classics

Wednesday

Pink Wednesday

Rob James mixing the best in pop, disco, dance & RnB

Thursday

Back2Back

Mr Poptastic John Hamilton
Rob James playing funky house

Friday

Big Gay Friday

*Residents mixing rare tracks only to be heard at Cruz
Rob James in Sub playing funky house

Saturday

Drama Queen

*The very best pop, disco, dance & RnB from the Cruz residents
Little Miss Natalie spinning bouncy house & vocal trance in Sub

Sunday

SundayNight Screamers

DJ Spook mixing harder edged pop with funky house • www.djspook.com

*Residents Almighty Donald • Rob James • Darren Leasley • DJ Spook on rotation

VS & Carlsberg bottles £1.90 • Premium Doubles & postmixer £4 • Smirnoff Vodka £4.50

Manchester's Favourite Gay Venue

CRUZ 101



MAKE A DATE NOW

Uni Challenge - Celebrating 11 years as Manchester Pride's biggest and most loved clubbing events.

Each year it just gets bigger and bigger as the leading names in UK gay clubbing join forces to bring you the coolest coalition of 2010, including Federation, Trade, Freakshow, Homo, Backdoor Disco and Gaydio.

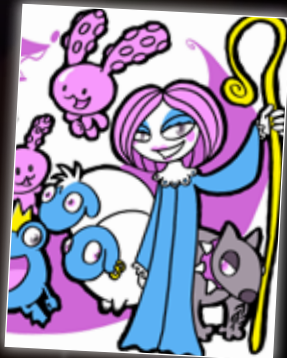
For special limited edition, early bird tickets got to www.ticketweb.co.uk and search for Uni Challenge.

NOT ONLY IS THIS THE BIGGEST EVENT OF MANCHESTER PRIDE'S BIG WEEKEND BUT ALSO THE CHEAPEST WITH STUDENT UNION BAR PRICES

Saturday 28th August.
10PM - 5AM @ Manchester Student's Union,
Oxford Road, Manchester
for more info www.uni-challenge.com

FAIRY TALES

As part of this year's Manchester Pride Fringe, illustrator, Phil Corbett will present his collection, 'Scary Mary's Hairy Beary Fairy Tales', of unusual characters from childhood fairy tales, between 19 August - 16 September. The collection is free of charge to view and will be displayed at Odder Bar (14 Oxford Road, Manchester).



Phil Corbett, who is best known for his quirky design for Aussie Bum, shows his collection of prints and paintings with illustrations including; 'Scary Mary and her flock of sheep,' 'The Three Bears,' 'With Two Daddy Bears,' and 'You won't believe what happened to the Three Little Pigs,' amongst others.

Phil said: "It's great to be involved in Manchester Pride, I was hankering for doing a mascot for the event but this will have to do. Maybe they'll let me do it next year! My characters fit firmly into the fun vibe of the event and as a Lancastrian myself; it's good to be working up north again."

www.manchesterpride.com



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


JUMPIN'
THROUGH
HOOPS
PRODUCTIONS
issue 11
28 Aug 10

UNI-CHALLENGE



SATURDAY 28TH AUGUST

FEATURING THE COOLEST COALITION OF BRANDS IN GAY CLUBLAND

FREAKSHOW

FEDERATION

homo


GAYDIO

Backdoor
Disco

trade....

10PM - 5AM
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OXFORD RD, MANCHESTER

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WWW.UNI-CHALLENGE.COM

MANHUNT



MAIN STAGE

Once again there's a mix of politics and party at the heart of one of the world's most famous squares. Expect some pretty senior people from politics, campaigning and sport before we all get down to some serious partying!

This year sees old favourites in the form of the legendary Kym Mazelle, The One and Only DE Experience and the Fabba Girls. The London Gay Men's Chorus will be singing for your enjoyment and don't miss the rocking funky sound from Paleday who will also be playing live with the pure fun camp that are the Pink Singers (audience participation is non-negotiable). The cast of HAIR will "let the sunshine in" and a message from the cast of Wicked including a performance from their leading lady will entertain you musical fans before The Freemasons Feat Amanda Wilson, Tameka, Sonique and Livin Joy rock the square.

For full listings see our website at www.pridelondon.org/3rdjuly/mainstage

PARADE

It's not too late to showcase your group, charity, business event or club?! With crowds of over half a million expected to pack Oxford and Regent Streets, through to the heart of London's West End it's the kind of exposure that can't fail to have an impact.

For more information, or to register a float or walking group see www.pridelondon.org/getinvolved

Photo: ChrisGeary.com



SCALLY PRIDE

This London Pride weekend sees the BIGGEST pride event aimed at Ladz who like to be ladz and like their ladz the same. This will be THE 'chavtastic' gathering of the scally circuit with the leading names in scally club events, clubs, websites and porn, showing a united front for the sexiest scally Pride event taking over 4 arches at Fire/The LightBox, all cumming together for one hell of a party.

This huge gathering deserves a DJ massive line-up, so come and check out the talent as the UK's hottest scally boy DJs prime their 12 inches and take to the decks to bring the best in upfront house and underground sounds to keep you pumpin' all night long. DJ's on the night include Brighton's rising star and www.fitlads.net porn producer Zack Hadley, Rudeboiz residents Riano and Devilish and RudeBoyz original DJ Paul Martin.

There will be XXTRA RUDE & NUDE LIVE SHOWS on the night, giveaways and later on it all gets naughty with the opening of SCALLY ALLY and the CRUSIE ROOM for all the ladz to play. We will also be looking for MR SCALLY PRIDE 2010 with the Amateur strip contest with £20 for all that enter plus £100 and a chance to be featured in a Rudeboiz advert for the winner!

Scally Pride is proud to welcome all you horny boys for all over the UK and celebrate Pride with us in the sexiest/horniest way possible.

There is no strict dresscode at Scally pride, although sports and scallywear is preferred, just come and have fun

Entry is just £7 with flyer or advert, or even cheaper entry is available from any of our sponsors.

Friday 2nd July 22:00 - 06:00

scally pride @ lighbox at fire, south lambeth road, vauxhall, london, sw8 1rt

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**FRIDAY
2ND JULY 2010
22:00 - 06:00**

SCALLY PRIDE



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MR SCALLY PRIDE 2010?

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£100 FOR THE WINNER
THE CHANCE TO BE
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UNDERGROUND SOUNDS
FROM DJ'S
**DEVILISH
PAUL MARTIN
RIANO
ZACK HADLEY**

- + GIVEAWAYS
- + SCALLY ALLEY
- + THE RUDE ROOM

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& NUDE LIVE
SHOWS FROM THE
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WOOF! WOOF!

Dog lovers from all over Brighton and Hove, as well as the rest of the country will be heading for Hove Rugby Football Club on the Old Shoreham Road on Sunday, 4th July for this year's Pride Companion Dog Show in association with Coastway Veterinary Group.

The organizers are hoping to beat last year's record entry of more than 600 dogs to the wide variety of classes – both pedigree, condition and novelty.

Speaking ahead of the ever popular Pride fundraiser Coastway partner Tony Cowie said: "Every year the Pride Companion Dog Show gets bigger and bigger and we are aiming to beat last year's record entry. It is a great day out that caters for the serious dog shower, but also allows us to reflect the fun of the Pride celebrations. Even if people don't own a dog it is a great day out for spectators and participants alike."

Entries for the various classes cost just £2 and the proceeds go to Pride in Brighton & Hove. Hove Rugby Football Club, who are donating the venue free of charge again have organized another attraction for this year's event. Food Solutions Partnerships, the club's official caterers, will be laying on a hog roast barbecue. As usual the rugby club bar will be open throughout the event.

www.brightonpride.org

Photo: Doug Craib.



BRIGHTON PRE-PRIDE EVENTS

*Pride's Got Talent at the Queen's Arms has already kicked off with the final on 28th July... with the winner to perform their act on the stage of the Cabaret Tent on the Park.

*A 12 hour karaoke Marathon at the Caroline of Brunswick. Cazza Karaoke gets going at 1 pm on Saturday 31st July.

*A fashion show in aid of Pride at Charles Street on Tuesday, 3rd August

*The Marlborough pub is staging its own street party with all proceeds going to Pride on Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th August.

*Queens Hotel's Dine with the Stars, includes a 3 course dinner and a 20 minute cabaret slot from acts including the redoubtable Maisie Trollette, Dave Lynn and Lady James all taking place on Thursday, 29th July.

*The Big Pride Quiz! @ The PV at The Jury's Out. £1 to enter with all proceeds going to Pride (PV will match money raised). How much do you know about Pride, so don't be prejudiced & join in the fun on Wednesday, 4th August.

*A cabaret evening, MindOut for the Laughs will take place at the Komedia on Thursday, 5th August. Performers include Zoe Lyons, Hope Springs, Debra Jane Appleby and Cat Harding.

*Brighton & Hove Gay Men's Chorus, Born Free at St Andrew's Church, Waterloo Street, Hove on Thursday, 5th and Friday, 6th August.

Details of all Pride fundraisers and community events will be published on the Pride website, in the Pride magazine (out at the beginning of July) and on the Official Pride Facebook page.

Pride Parade and Main Event - Saturday 7th August

www.brightonpride.org

Photo: ChrisGeary.com

DERBY PRIDE

A flamboyant street parade through the city centre will kick start Derby Pride from 11am.

The all-day free festival is suitable for all, with a Family Zone support by DRFF (Derbyshire Rainbow Fringe Festival), the Derbyshire Friend Main Stage, and a quiet area for reflection supported by Derby Libraries. Also exhibiting will be the LGBT Heritage Tent, many food outlets, a bungee run, bucking bronco, over 50 information stands and a champagne tent. Celebrity acts performing on the day, include Laura White (X factor contestant and Peter Andre tour support act) and Scooch (Eurovision contestants), alongside local acts such as Dammit Jack (Derbyshire band), and Hayley Elliott (Derby vocalist). **Derby Pride, Saturday 10th July from 12-8pm on Bass Rec, Derby.**

Visit www.derbypride.org.uk.



GET YER BANNER OUT FOR THE BOYS

Organisers of Liverpool's first ever official Lesbian Gay Bisexual & Transgender Pride festival have released details of the 'Pride March', which will kick-start the festivities in style on Saturday 7th August.

Those who would like to take part are urged to bring banners, flags, posters, glittering costumes (or lack thereof) and most importantly your friends, family and yourself along to St Georges Plateau for 11.30am and soak up the pre-march atmosphere with other Pride goers.

The end of the march will be marked with a speech from the main stage, before we strike up the live acts on the three stages and the

Rainbow Circus themed celebrations begin throughout the Dale St area. Before attending the march; individuals, groups and organisations wishing to take part are asked to register at www.liverpoolpride.co.uk/get-involved so that festival organisers can gain an estimate of how many people will be coming along. for more information go to liverpoolpride.co.uk.



A DIAMOND IN BRIGHTON

Australia's No.1 drag queen Dolly Diamond takes you on a magical journey over the rainbow and leaves you right up there. So if you're bored with the usual drag fare then don't miss her exclusive Brighton show at Legends. She is comfortable across many styles from pop to musicals. Whilst she loves the songs just the way they are, you'll find Dolly's knack

of changing the lyrics to suit her agenda really gets the audience going. Classics such as 'Que Sera Sera' and 'Love Is In The Air' are wickedly transformed into wonderfully bitchy narcissistic commentaries. The best of them is 'I Will Survive' where poor David and Victoria Beckham get a few strips chopped off their egos, if only they could hear what Dolly has to say about them. So if there is only one thing you can do this month, Do Dolly and she will make you enjoy every last bit of her - Sunday 25th July @ 9.30pm.

Legends & The Basement Club, 31-34 Marine Parade, Brighton Tel: 01273 624462

PRIDE EVENTS 2010

- 9th July **SPARKLE (TRANSGENDER PRIDE) - MANCHESTER**
- 10th July **DERBY GOES PINK**
- 17th July **EUROPRIDE - WARSAW, POLAND**
- 24-31st July **BELFAST GAY PRIDE**
- 25th July **HUDDERSFIELD PINK PICNIC**
- 25th July **NORWICH PRIDE**
- 31st July **HULL PRIDE**
- 31st July **NOTTINGHAM PRIDE**
- 31st July - 8th Aug **BRIGHTON & HOVE PRIDE - 7th PARADE**

31st July - 31st Aug

GAY GAMES VIII- COLOGNE

1st Aug

LEEDS PRIDE

7th Aug

LIVERPOOL PRIDE

8th Aug

WAKEFIELD PRIDE

14th Aug

STOKE PRIDE
YORK PRIDE

16th - 31st Aug

PRIDE BRISTOL - 21st PARADE

21st Aug

DONCASTER PRIDE

Aug Bank Holiday

MANCHESTER PRIDE

28th Aug

CORNWALL GAY PRIDE - TRURO

4th Sep

READING GAY PRIDE

6-9th Oct

IRIS PRIZE - LGBT FILM FESTIVAL - CARDIFF



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STAR & GARTER, HULL
Portland Street, Hull.
Tel: 01482 211 298

QUEENS COURT, LEEDS
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Leeds, LS1 6NA. Tel: 0113 245 9449

FIBRE, LEEDS
Bar Fibre, 168 Lower Briggate, Leeds, LS1 6LY.
Tel: 08710 200 888

MISSION 2, LEEDS
Heaton's Court Leeds LS1. Tel: 08701 220 114

VIADUCT, LEEDS
11 Briggate, Leeds LS1 6ER. Tel: 0113 245 4863

BLAYD'S BAR, LEEDS
3-7 Blayd's Yard, Lower Briggate, Leeds, LS1 4AD. Tel: 0113 244 5590

STEAM COMPLEX, ARMLEY, LEEDS
Steam Complex, Eyres Avenue, Armley,
Leeds, LS12 3BA. Tel: 01132 798 885

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Tel: 01924 378 215
3 Union Bank Yard, New St, Huddersfield HD1 2BP.
Tel: 01484 535 435



LONDON, BIRMINGHAM, BRIGHTON
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Tel: 0121 665 6379
5-7 Brewer Street, Soho, London, W1F 0RF.
Tel: 020 7734 4037
112-113 St. James Street, Brighton, BN2 1TH.
Tel: 01273 683 680

SAUNA 52, NEWCASTLE
50-52 Scotswood Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE4 7JB. Tel: 0191 221 2189

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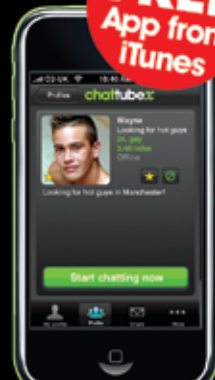
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SIMON SAYS...



Dear Simon
I have become addicted to Grindr on my iPhone. Not only am I flirting with everyone locally that I physically can but even sleeping with quite a few of them. I have now actually started in the area where I work, in the pubs in town, anywhere and everywhere really. I am slightly worried I might not have only become the local bike, but the city bike. I am letting anyone and everyone have a go. How can I stop?
Luke, Manchester

Dear Luke,
As long as you are safe, not hurting anyone and enjoying it... why stop. Isn't part of the fun of being single the fact that you are allowed to do what you damn well please? We all have peaks and lows in our sex lives and it looks like this is a real peak for you. I suggest you enjoy it but as soon as it stops being fun... stop... or change your phone.

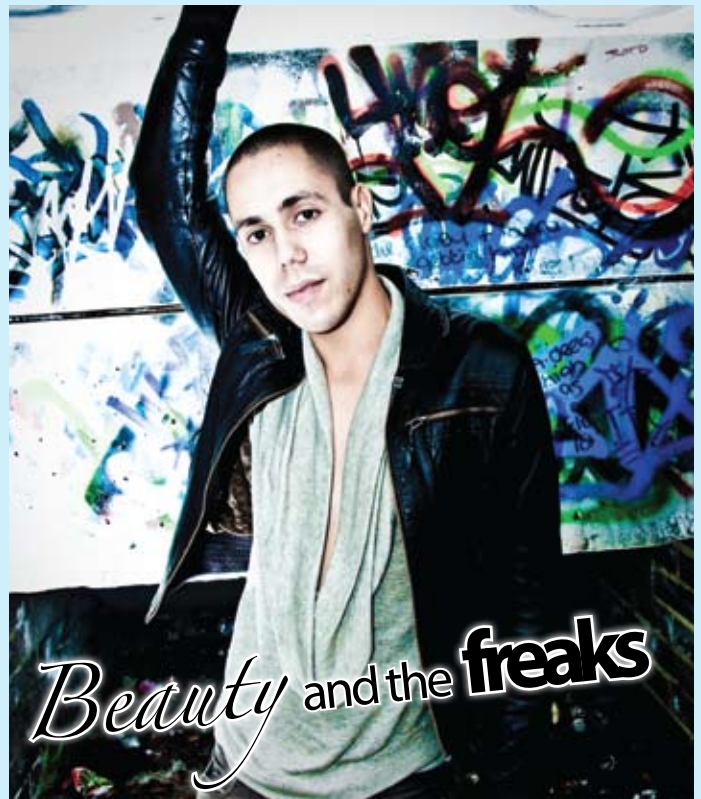
Dear Simon
I have become a World Cup widow and what's worrying is that it looks like I am going to remain one after the whole ridiculous event has finished. I should explain more. My boyfriend, who I had no idea liked football (aren't gay men supposed to be allergic to football) and his mates have started having football parties. Yes, this include dressing up in outfits to match the countries etc so it's not too macho. Anyway they have all now made a pact to go and support local teams over the weekends when the season starts. Should I be worried?
Alex, London

Dear Alex,
I don't think that all gay men have to be allergic to football isn't that a little stereotypical? In fact, as someone ones pointed out; what could be more gay than 22 healthy young guys running around in their tight shorts? But back to your problem. I don't think there is anything to worry

about to be honest. We don't always have to have the same interests or even have to like the interests that our partners have. It would be frightfully boring if we all liked the same things. If you're worried about having your sex-filled weekends disrupted by him gaping at other sexy lads... perhaps you should just pre-empt it by slipping into a footie kit and see how often you both score.

Dear Simon
I bumped into an old flame of mine, one that I used to have lots and lots of no-strings fun with before I met my partner of four years. We hadn't seen each other for five years and the attraction and chemistry was instantly there. He came round for coffee and we didn't have sex but there was a lot of fooling around and we have arranged to do it again. We met each others boyfriends and we don't want to break up with them... or tell them, so who is it hurting. It's just fun and technically its not cheating as I met him first.
Stewart, Leeds

Dear Stewart
Let's face it, if you don't want to tell your partner... you already know you're cheating. I don't think its not cheating just because you two knew each other before you met your prospective boyfriends. It's cheating if you aren't aren't in open relationships or have certain understandings already sorted between your partners. Though this may be fun now however, you have mentioned chemistry and attraction, which suggests you have feelings for each other. Why did you stop speaking, or lose touch with each other? It's all too easy to get wrapped up in the excitement of meeting people again but take those rose-tinted glasses off from time to time and look at the situation objectively if you can. If you continue be prepared for tears!



Beauty and the freaks

WALES OF A TIME

You guide me round Bangor, opening the city up like ripe fruit, and I'm lost in the Wordsworthiness of it all. Spreading blue skies, clear as hotel pool waters, pour down wide-yawning sunshine, and I am speechless.

At the pier we eat sandwiches, gradually emerging from hangover, and gaze out at yachts like they might be our dreams, bobbing just out of reach, promising warmth. Never mind that we fucked for three hours the night before.

We take tea in a poetry café, and talk about study, migration, growing up. There comes a time when the carefree dissolves to responsibility; when we must lay down the accoutrements of rebellion and join society. I shiver.

Your friend calls. She has locked herself in her back garden, and though she lives in a sprawling shared house, there are no communal areas and she knows none of her housemates. This is what life, out of necessity, becomes. Living with strangers we never see; being rescued from our own back gardens by best friends interrupted

over cinnamon and ginger rootbus, on dates with men four hours away by train we picked up when drunk.

Now three of us, we wander shops for fancy dress. Cowboys and the American South, although you can't take out a toy gun. We sit at the foot of the cathedral after making do with some plastic tat and talk about my hometown and why I could never live in London. Soon you'll be moving to Reading for work, and you were the one that chased me.

When the time comes to leave, you take me to the train station and tell me to sit on the Western side of the train so I can see the sun setting over the sea. I smile. We might've worked, even if just for a day, but we both know we'll never see each other again.

At high school I chose History over Geography, and I'm still living with that choice now.

Beyoncé

Gay Chat

08715 223 033



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TURNED ON!
PRESS 1 TO
SKIP STORIES

HORN STORIES

DIAL **09097 90 51** THEN THE
EXTENSION OF THE STORY YOU WANT!

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

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



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

CANCER (May 22/June 21)

Appreciation for efforts of the past now come your way. If the work was linked with your career, your boss will want to see a repeat performance! Some challenges are pretty daunting but continuing to push forward is a worthwhile thing to do. If you sense your partner's starting to feel lonely or neglected, aim to make romance a priority over the weeks ahead. After all, you can't sustain a loving relationship if you don't spend quality time together!



CELEBRITY CANCER

22/6 Meryl Streep
23/6 Selma Blair
24/6 Jeff Beck
25/6 George Michael
26/6 Chris O'Donnell
27/6 Tobey McGuire
28/6 Mel Brooks
29/6 Ingrid Bergman
30/6 Mike Tyson
01/7 Princess Diana
02/7 Lindsay Lohan
03/7 Tom Cruise
04/7 Jo Whaley
05/7 Jean Cocteau

06/7 George W. Bush
07/7 Pierre Cardin
08/7 Kevin Bacon
09/7 Tom Hanks
10/7 Jessica Simpson
11/7 Giorgio Armani
12/7 Gareth Gates
13/7 Harrison Ford
14/7 Matthew Fox
15/7 Bridgitt Nielsen
16/7 Corey Feldman
17/7 David Hasselhoff
18/7 Vin Diesel
19/7 Brian May
20/7 Dame Diana Rigg
21/7 Josh Hartnett
22/7 Rufus Wainwright
23/7 Daniel Radcliffe

LEO

(July 24/Aug 23)

Expect there to be a lot of involvement with others over the weeks ahead. Your work, income and private areas are also emphasised so there's likely to be quite a bit going on. What you'd really love to do is jump on a boat, plane or train and get away from it all but you're too conscious of your responsibilities. Even so it won't be all work and no play and there could be a few surprises of the romantic kind in store this July.

VIRGO

(Aug 24/Sept 23)

Those born under your opposite sign Pisces will be unusually difficult and contrary over the weeks ahead. Your boss or a colleague might seem a little tense these days too. Because of this you shouldn't rely on other people's judgement or advice. In fact if you feel anyone's making a wrong decision, point this out to them. You will feel more comfortable getting on quietly, on your own, for a good percentage of July.

LIBRA

(Sept 24/Oct 23)

Soon you will be meeting someone you've always looked up to and admired from a distance. Relax and refuse to allow awe and admiration get the better of you or this will leave you tongue-tied and feeling awkward. You will be encouraged to share your views in casual conversations. Once you've met up a few times you will find they're no different from anyone else! Teamwork brings some incredible results. By the end of July you should have plenty to look back on and be proud of.

SCORPIO

(Oct 24/Nov 22)

You need change and stimulation these next few weeks or you will get restless. Venus moving into your social zone suggests a desire for fun and variety. This July, look for interests and activities that might help alleviate the monotony of everyday routine. A new job opportunity could be just what you're looking for later in the month so rest assured, there is a light at the end of the tunnel. Things will soon be looking up!

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov 23/Dec 21)

Lots of activity with friends means less time for family and romance. For a wee while you will enjoy social opportunities for who can resist the great invitations coming your way? Soon however a healthy dollop of common sense will make you realise it's time to face up to other responsibilities. A dilemma later in the month will involve a new romance. Take a deep breath and do what your heart says is right for you.

CAPRICORN

(Dec 22/Jan 20)

Health-wise you will seem to swing from one extreme to the other over the weeks ahead. There will be moments when you're energetic, sociable and you just want to have fun. Other times you will be a little low and that's because you're uncertain about the future. A friend or loved one wants to make changes.

You are more cautious in outlook but ask yourself: are your conservative ideas standing in their way or blocking the progress of a close relationship?

AQUARIUS

(Jan 21/Feb 19)

You will be feeling loving, passionate and generous over the weeks ahead. It's a great time to share your thoughts and feelings. You've always been honest in your relationships and what's great in July is your loved ones will be even more open than usual with you. A lot about the future can be decided on now. A financial transaction will put you in a cheery frame of mind later in the month.

PISCES

(Feb 20/Mar 20)

There's an independent streak to your nature on show now. Others will see that you can be assertive and even charmingly persuasive when you want to be. A partnership deal will go well at some time over the weeks ahead. Your mind is on a far-off goal and if you can get the support of your family or your significant other, so much the better. If someone tries to get in your way you will stand your ground. Others will start to realise this month you won't be crossed!

ARIES

(Mar 21/Apr 20)

Some conflict you're about to face within a close relationship could have an adverse affect on your health. These next few weeks expect to have trouble seeing eye-to-eye with a family member or housemate. The tension will become far worse if you don't stand up for yourself and your ideas. New sporting activities or helping to arrange a forthcoming event will provide a release from your daily routines.

TAURUS

(Apr 21/May 21)

Your hunches could lead you to buying a few lottery tickets or trying some other light form of gamble. This isn't likely to be anything you do regularly but if you feel you're on a winning streak, trust your intuition. Just as, if, over the weeks ahead a little voice tells you to follow a certain romantic avenue, you could be pleasantly surprised at where this will take you.

GEMINI

(May 22/June 21)

A meeting you'd been nervous about will go better than expected. In fact over the month to come, most career problems won't be as tricky as you imagined they were going to be! You will start to see some big business people through different eyes when they take a step back and allow others to voice ideas and experiment with fresh concepts. Also, when an opportunity to better yourself arises later in July, someone at home will give you a push in the right direction.



COMPETITION TIME

Send your entries to:

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or: comp@bent.com (inc. name and address)

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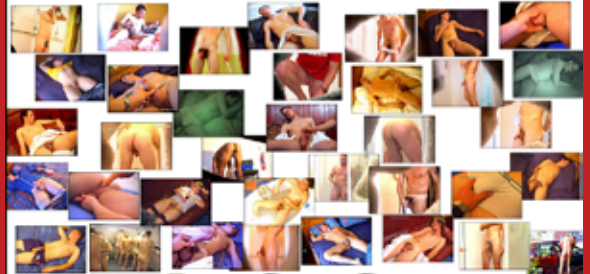
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