ISSUE 132 - JANUARY 2010 MAG.BENT.COM





# The world of ENV

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Bent on...Boy Bands

# PROPAGANDA NOTTINGHAM

#### Beautifully stylish, yet ... cheap and cheerful!

It's only been open for just over a month but the latest addition to the gay scene in Nottingham has already taken it in hand, shaken it up and given it a good spanking!

Propaganda is situated amongst the smart, cosmopolitan bars of the city's arty Lace Market area and is, without doubt, the most stylish of gay venues; the straights must be livid! The bare brick walls, white leather booths and slate floors have all the appeal of a bar in Soho but more importantly, the lighting on a night is perfectly flattering, so you won't mind bumping into your Ex here! Furthermore, there are plenty of glass reflections to keep an eye on your appearance wherever you are in the bar! The staff are friendly but not 'up themselves', so you won't mind popping in on your own either (ok, you can bring the boyf if you want!).

Resident drag DJs Leiza and Carrie Love happily spin tunes (and rip the piss!) throughout the week, with all shades of pop and commercial dance to shake your ass to. As if the constant drinks offers (for members) weren't generous enough, entry throughout the week is free! **And on Wednesdays, selected drinks are just £1!** 





**Propaganda is open:** 3pm – 2am, 7 days a week.

Website: www.propagandanottingaham.co.uk

*Facebook group:* www.groups.to/propagandanottingham



### "NOTTINGHAM'S BUSIEST WEEKDAY NIGHT"

# 

PROPAGANDA 8-10 BROADWAY, NOTTINGHAM NG1 1PS Become a member: www.propagandnottingham.co.uk

Facebook: www.groups.to/propagandnottingham





#### EDITOR'S WORDS

Well, 2010 looks promising. I like to at least try to be positive at the beginning of each year, then I know I haven't brought the gloom and general despondency on myself right from the start. However, a new book out called "Dear Me: A Letter To My Sixteen-Year-Old Self," in which celebrities write a note to themselves in the past, has got me thinking of my own youth. Now, as age creeps up; hair colour changes (and not thanks to L'Oreal, even if I am worth it), I need stronger glasses and heaven knows why these pants don't fit any more... what pearls of wisdom would I offer to my young self that would make a difference?



It is one of those debates that once started everyone has there own thoughts. In the book famous people advise themselves to beware of certain people who will break their heart, while others offer up sound words to help their careers. Captain Jack, John Barrowman asks his younger self to switch off Dynasty to read the letter, in which he reveals: "Dream big, work hard and floss every day. Trust me. All three will pay off." Now who can deny such perception? On the various newsgroups that have taken up this challenge all manner of sage advice has cropped up. On one gay site the relevant and honest counsel was"...do not assume you are useless just because you are different." On a funnier level another writer says "... David who sat next to you in maths. he's one as well... so say hello." A more pragmatic approach was, "Don't fight it, don't waste time regretting it, or feel guilty... if it feels good, do it again, and again, and again." Some offered a timely safe sex message, even if obliquely "Don't go 'paddling' without your wellies on." Another just simply asked, "...which sixteen year old would listen anyway?"

Having taken all this guidance on board I asked myself again what would I say to the teenage me. I think the one thing I really

regret is not enjoying sport. As a schoolboy I'd rather sit and do maths or write out 1000 times 'l must not forget my football kit', than venture onto a playing field. How I nervously hid in corners away from all the other boys as they whooped and laughed at each other as they changed and showered after a hectic game of football, rugby or even rounders. I missed out on being part of something that could have been so bloody enjoyable because I was not at ease around other boys. The fun and opportunities missed is a shame, I could and perhaps should have been running, screaming, kicking, hitting and sweating as I grew stronger and confident. Out in all weathers getting wet, soaking up the sun, freezing my bollocks off with the boys looking sexy and cute in their kit. Instead of staying in and watching TV, even if Tarzan was a complete turn-on.. I'm hopeless at sport now but I'm happy to watch... so, I think I'd advise my young self to "Be a doer... not a watcher."

**DILLON BUCK** 

Page 22

Hugs and a Happy New Year

Gordon

Dear Me: A Letter To My Sixteen-Year-Old Self is available in book stores now.



# JANUARY 2010 ISSUE 132

Publisher: **Terry George** Editor: Gordon Hopps 08712 246 511 editor@bent.com Advertising Director: Darrell Hirst 08712 246 529 darrell@bent.com Features Editor: Adam Lowe adam.lowe@bent.com London Editor: Simon Savidge simon.savidge@ber Designer: **Tom Schofield** designer@bent.com Mark Hawkins, Photo Editor: mark@bent.com IT Support: **Jimmy Forrester-**Fellowes lan Ellis Finance Director: Louise Lee Accounts: 08712 246 516 accounts@bent.com **Publishing Director: Michael Rothwell** Astrologer: Philip Garcia Cover: Dillon Buck Photo by: David Hart

(www.shootmeup.co.uk)

Contributors: Beyonce, Adrian Gillan, Lee Hudson, Terry George, Chris Amos, Jarrett James, Jason Guy, Johan Volny, Les Lea, Aamyko, David Hart, Darrell Hirst, Karen Witter, Alex Wiggan, Daniel Lee.

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### Hannah

The Eurovision Song Contest is often the only contact the British public has with the rest of Europe's music scene. Sometimes this appears a good thing, at other times we often miss out on quite exceptional talents.

Hannah is an Estonian superstar. She is that country's biggest singing sensation, has ruled the charts in her homeland for more than a decade and her mantelpiece groans under the weight of awards. She has enjoyed massive record success on six albums and now residing in London she has collaborated with some of the hottest writers and producers, ready to make an imprint on the UK pop scene. Her latest collaboration, and a single that was released last month 'Shadow on the Wall', is with award-winning song writer Steve Booker, who was behind the huge international number one 'Mercy' for Duffy in 2008.

It follows her huge club single 'Keeping Score' that lent itself to a great Bimbo Jones remix and Hannah is pleased to say Bimbo Jones and Riff & Rays are back on board to remix the brand new single.

Hannah has been something of a child star, joining Tallinn's distinguished Children's Music Studio at three, and then the Estonian Radio Singing Studio at five. She joined the Tallinn Music School at seven and then the Estonian National TV Choir. With those years of rich experience under her belt as a vocalist and pianist, perhaps it was no surprise when she entered the Estonian Children's Song Competition and won it, with her own composition, at a mere 13. By 16, Hannah was ready to leave the choir and start a career in music that ran alongside her media and advertising studies at university. Before long, she was reaping commercial rewards and plenty of awards too, including Best Dance Hit of 2001 at the Estonian Musical Awards with 'Blinded' which also went to number one in the US in 2002. She also achieved a hat-trick of victories over the years at the Estonian Golden Record Awards: Best Female Artist in both 2003 and 2005, and Best Album, also in 2005. Small wonder, then, that as such a great representative of the country's cultural vibrancy, Hannah was named Estonia's official Ambassador for Tourism.

"I'm very proud to come from Estonia. It's beautiful, but quite undiscovered, and I'm looking forward to introducing people to the stunning countryside, the wonderfully rejuvenating health spas, the islands, the nature and our incredible history."

Out this month: 'I believe in you' - Snowdog Records

#### TOP OF THE POLL

Sir Elton John is the top male gay icon of all time. A spokesperson from www.OnePoll.com - who commissioned the survey of over 5,000 gay men and women - said: "Interestingly only one of the men in the top 10 list of male celebrity gay icons isn't gay -David Beckham. And yet most of the women put on a pedestal by the gay community are straight. "It just shows that to advocate a certain way of living, you don't have to live the lifestyle but simply be more accepting of those around you."

Surprisingly, teatime chat show host star Paul O'Grady made both lists - as himself and former drag alter ego Lily Savage.

#### *Top Ten Male Celebrity Gay Icons of All Time*

- 1. Elton John
- 2. Freddie Mercury
- 3. Stephen Fry
- 4. George Michael
- 5. Oscar Wilde
- 6. Will Young
- 7. Alan Carr
- 8. Paul O'Grady
- 9. Boy George
- 10. David Beckham



### Life is. uncertain Eat dessert

#### **DEAR EDITOR:**

As a regular reader of Bent I was very disappointed to read you comments in "Editor's Words" (November issue 130) concerning Life Coaching. It seems somewhat closed minded to say no to something when you hardly seem to know what you are saying no to! Also to compare Life Coaching to "psychics, ghost hunters and pyramid schemes" I find quite insulting.

Let me hasten to add that I am not a Life Coach although I have for a short period used the servicing of a Life Coach and have found the process of considerable benefit.

Would you similarly rubbish the services of a Personal Trainer at the gym in order to learn techniques to improve your level of fitness and or health?

Qualified Life Coaches can see things which you cannot see in yourself and are able to offer advice and suggestions in an impartial and confidential way which family, friends and colleagues are often unable to do.

I am surprised that a publication which, presumably, encourages "diversity" chooses to discredit something which is a useful alternative and addition to other more familiar routes to self development and improvement.

Yours faithfully

Robert Taylor Nottingham



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## BITES

#### **New Year Resolutions**

... and the ones you can actually keep!

Watch less porn Lose 10 pounds Go to the gym

Give up gossip

Refuse to visit that

Staycation this year

Don't be so 'out'

Only drink domestic beer

expensive club

at Primark

Watch more porn Gain 10 pounds Save the membership fee and visit McDonalds every day instead!

Adopt a child ???

Make sure hes over 16 Make up more outrageous numours Save money and only shop Only shop at Prada

Love to be seen at the expensive club Voddy & Champers for all! A month in Oz sounds divine

Be even more fabulous







#### CIRQUE DU SOLEIL.

Between whirlwind and lull, prowess and poetry, Saltimbanco takes spectators on an allegorical and acrobatic journey into the heart of the city.

Classic Cirque at its best, Saltimbanco is a thrilling and kaleidoscopic celebration of awe inspiring artistry and agility. It features breathtaking acrobatics and unbelievable athleticism during solo spotlights and epic ensembles.

With a cast of over 50 highcalibre artists hailing from 20 countries Saltimbanco is set to enthral. From the seemingly impossible balancing, jumping and spinning during the Chinese Poles or the Russian

Swing to the gravity-defying Bungees and Trapeze, the crowd pleasing Juggling and Acrobatic Bicycle, to the celebrated and very unique Clowns. Technical expertise and extravagant design are woven together by uplifting spectacular costumes, amazing lighting, humour and enchanting music and magic. Full of colour, amusement and amazement, Saltimbanco is a fun show for the whole family to enjoy.

#### Arena Dates:

20–23 May	Sheffield Arena
26–30 May	Liverpool Echo
2–6 June	Glasgow SECC
9–14 June	Manchester MEN
17–27 June	<b>Birmingham NIA</b>
30 June - 4 July	Newcastle Metro
7–11, 13–18 July	Dublin 02
21–25 July	Nottingham Tren
28 July–1 Aug	London Wembley

www.livenation.co.uk www.cirquedusoleil.com

#### **BOUND TO PLEASE**

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Segreto London has launched its debut range; 'Kink Excite' shows the darker side to a man's wardrobe, one where he shows not only a kinkier but more excited attitude to both his work and play clothes. The range features designs inspired by the beauty and definition of the male frame and draws on experimental experiences of a man exploring his fetishes and dreams from around the globe.

The T-Shirt range is made from fine viscose and cotton and is available exclusively online at www.segretolondon.com with prices starting from £65 (sizes S, M, L).

Ever wanted to know more about your arse? On this one day course you'll learn how to keep sex fun, safe, pain free and pleasurable, whether you top, bottom or flip both ways

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Saturday 23 Jan 2010		Saturday 30 Jan 2010		Saturday 6 Feb 2010		Saturday 13 Feb 2010	
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Brighton	THT South	Birmingham	THT Midlands	Wakefield	Yorkshire MESMAC	Norwich	Ten
Bristol	THT West	Liverpool	Armistead Project	London	GMFA	Sheffield	Centre for HIV & Sexual Health
Manchester	LGF			Newcastle	MESMAC North East	Southampton	GCHS

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**CAT CHECK** 

# whatever Rodrigo Moratto

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#### **GOING GREEN**

A collection that is sartorial yet modish, Nanny State is stepping it up a gear with their famed quirky designs and individuality that is second to none.

£49.99 - Brogue Boot

£44.99 - Miliband Quilted



£34.99 - Preppy Basic www.drshoes.co.uk

#### **TROUSERS FIVE**

100% Raw Organic Denim. Silver coloured metal-ware bearing the Trousers London motif. These jeans are limited edition and each pair carries a unique ID number.

£185 www.trouserslondon.co.uk





He's cute, has those Latino good looks and South American flare as well as a pretty infectious new single called "Whatever, Whatever" and we think he's destined for the same kind of profile as our dear Enrique and Ricky (not the one from Eastenders). Rodrigo hails from Brazil where from the age of 4 he grew up in a remote village in the Amazon Rainforest. At the age of 11 he moved to New York to study at the famous Broadway Dance Center, which is the place that inspired the film Fame, where he rubbed shoulders with some of the industry's top performers and choreographers. On his return to San Paulo, he set up his own record label and soon found himself and his music being celebrated on video TV, local radio stations as well as being featured in the pop press and before becoming a star all over Brazil. Now it's the UK's turn to get in touch with Rodrigo... For more information: ww.myspace.com/rodrigomoratto



### 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



### SHARAM JEY

When it comes to dance music most people tend to automatically switch off and think of repetitive, unenlightened, brain-poaching drivel. However there are still a few DJs/producers out there who continue to burn the light bright and keep striving to push sound forward, onward and upward and find a way to take it and relate it to the masses' and taking it to the masses is one thing Cologne's Sharam Jey does best.

'Army of Men' is the next single that precedes Sharam Jey's highly anticipated second artist album, 'In My Blood'. Featuring hotly tipped Swedish chanteuse Cornelia on vocals; this prime cut is a taste of the superlative electro sound that Jey has made his own. Army Of Men also comes with a typically impressive remix package, featuring re-workings and re-rubs by the likes of new-comer TAI (fresh from the Boys Noize stable); Disco Trash Music (who have been causing a stir with their Neon Disco EP out on Freaks Me Out); and disco-legend Arthur Bakerwho delivers a lip-licking nu-disco version of the track. 'Army of Men' Out:18th January -

King Kong Records www.myspace.com/sharamjey www.sharamjey.com







In addition to his work with Madonna, Blur, Prince, Pink, New Order, All Saints, Robbie Williams, U2, and many others from the world's music A-list, William Orbit carries impeccable dance music credentials.

The producer, composer, and multi-instrumentalist who co-founded seminal British dance label, Guerilla, was the musical force behind early 90's dance outfit, Bassomatic, and has consistently enriched the 'ambient' electronica canon for the past two decades.

'Odyssey' is Orbit's first compilation, and something of a coup for Europe's biggest independent label, Ministry Of Sound. As a radio and (occasional) club DJ, his sets are characterised by the kind of track selection and programming you'd expect from such a music obsessive (his 'Stereo Odyssey' show on KCRW in America being a prime example).

'Odyssey' features 42 tracks, including many of Orbit's own exclusives. The album is divided into 3 discs, taking in some of the finest horizontal dance music to be fed through a circuit board. Discs 1 and 2 are unmixed, with many tracks reinterpreted to a greater or lesser extent, while Disc 3 is a continuous DJ mix.

Album: Odyssey - Out:18th January – Ministry of Sound www.williamorbit.com



### FROM TEL AVIV with Love...

#### By Jason Guy

Offer Nissim's story is an outstanding one. From a boy playing music on for his neighbours in Tel Aviv, he has become the leading Israeli DJ in the world.

It has all started back in 1979, when he was offered to substitute for a sick DJ at a local gay party and entered the DJ booth although he was actually too young to even enter the club. The audience instantly fell in love with his music and it didn't take long before he began performing at various parties around Israel.

About a decade later he met Dana International, a young singer he saw great potential in. Together they released three highly successful albums, including "Diva", of which the title track won first place in the 1998 Eurovision Contest.

He has remixed just about every major star going and just months before Michael Jackson died, Offer remixed Billie Jean. "I was in New York when I got the news about his death. Every single person was talking about him. That night I opened my set with my remix. It was one of the memorable moments of my life!"

He's worked closely with artists as

diverse as Christina Aguilera and Jennifer Lopez and has remixed everyone from Abba to Shirley Bassey. So, how does he choose who to work with? "It s all about the skill of the artist, if they manage to excite me, then they'll win me over. The name of the artist alone does not impress, no matter how famous they are."



For anyone who isn't familiar with Offer, I'd recommend checking him out on YouTube. You'll then realise he's far more than a DJ or producer. He's a performer... who conducts his crowd to perfection."If I was only allowed to dance or conduct along to one track at the moment it would be Russian Roulette from Rihanna."

In 2004 he met DJ and Grammy Award winning producer Peter Rauhofer at the "TLV" club, where Offer held residency at the successful gay night "FFF". Rauhofer was highly impressed by his work and immediately asked him to join his leading dance label in New York - Star 69. The two have performed in numerous parties together, including the black party in New York and the closing party of the legendary Roxy, where they have also released a double remix CD, as a tribut puble remix CD, as a tribute dary club. to the legel

So why hasn't he been booked to play am very excited about in the UK yet playing in the U Many opportunities he years, I was, have sprung up o however, not so ex bout the offe s take I received." So club promo to tempt him over to this isle it needs to be something impressive!

"I always strive to merge music styles from the West with those from the East in order to bridge different musical influences. In other words, it does not matter where I play because I believe that my music satisfies all tastes."

When pressed about Tel Aviv his eyes light up! "Tel Aviv has a bustling gay scene and there's lots going on in the city. Of course, not to forget all the gorgeous boys." That statement just makes me want to head out to the middle east as soon as I can!"

Which leaves me time to ask 1 more question before Offer has to head off to the studio. What can we expect to see from him in 2010? "Lots of beautifu things, I promise that you'll be mesmerized!"

You can catch me playing at Freakshow Boxing Day (No.1 Club Manchester), Federation New Year's Eve (The Ritz Manchester) and the official Fed afterhours Freakshow special. January sees me continue my residency at Manchester's Freakshow, Fibre in Leeds and the UK tours of Federation. You can download my mixes from www.jasonguy podomatic.com. For more information on having a track, clubnight or DJ feature in Bent, please contact jason@bent.com.

by JASON GUY

#### RACKREVIEV JEROMEISMA-AE **OF THE MONTH**

#### Hold That Sucker Down

One of the biggest gay scene tracks of the past 20 years in back. And in a big way. Originally released by the OT Ouartet back in 1994 and a huge anthem at the likes of Trade. Jerome breathes new life

into this classic. This intense remake is a pure progressive delight. 'Hold That Sucker Down' is a ierce weapon on the dancefloor, peak-time and building tension from the very first beat. Rumbling beats, deep but infectious melodies and heavy distortion make this new Jerome Isma-Ae an absolute crowd-pleaser. Without a doubt, the best reactions I've seen on the Freakshow dancefloor

(No1 Club – Manchester every Saturday) to date.

#### DANCEFLOOR WHORES Summer Rain (Toolbox House

Known from their previous chart rocker on Blue Dove Recordings, the self titled release "Dancefloor Whores"... the whores are back! In its original format Summer Rain bounces along with a commercial undercurrent that rides synth hooks and a voca that has the ability to whip any dancefloor in to a frenzy! Remixes come from Danny Owen and label boss Nik Denton. Danny Owen works the vocal into a funky house groove that again wil have commercial appeal and Nik Denton stamps his trade mark tough sound, concentrating on the bass line to work the rest of the track. This package could see them cross over into the mainstream









#### PETULA CAESAR

Sex Shoes (Retox Records) Very much is the same vein as Sweet Pussy Pauline (aka Candy J from the Candy Girls) from the 80s and 90s , Sex Shoes is an infectious track, spoken diva track. Tula, as she's affectionately known tells us all about her sexcapades while wearing her 4 inch high, red leather shoes. The majority of mixes were released in December (including the funky and bounce version), but Retox Recordings have saved the best until last... the XS mix due for release in January 2010. A charging, hi-energy tinged monster featuring some of the most X rated vocals I've heard in years. "The only things in my wardrobe these shoes go with is me. Naked!

#### Higher State (Digitraxx)

With the soft lush vocals form Manchester based songstress Jodie Connor, its already gained support from the likes of Peter Gelderblom, Judge Jules and Phil Marriot at Gaydar radio, where its just been A listed on the daytime playlist. Higher State very much captures the trance/prog sound of the moment, with a great package of remixes from Nathan C, Christian Davies & Jason Young. Another Freakshow favourite, this track is sure to help take Bailey to the next level

#### RICHARD GREY

l'm Back (Subliminal One of the biggest gay crowd pleaser for months. Sampling the infamous Gloria Gaynor from Will Survive (but in a good way!), Richard Grey takes just a couple of lines from the best known vocals in the world, adds in some killer drums patterns and creates an out and out dance floor classic. With Ibiza already a distant memory this is destined to warm any winter dance floor. Head straight for the One Night In Pacha mix, for addec Spanish guitars. Already huge at every gay nigh that counts, from Federation to Bevond

www.mag.bent.com



### SINGLES OVE ME YOUR LOVE

Give Me Your Love Out: 10th January

and a spaced-out, floating vocal.

🛆 LOVERUSH UKI FT, CARLA WERNER

Some of you may remember sublime songstress Carla Werner from

Oakenfold's 'Southern Sun'. Here she teams up with beatgrinding 'S Reasons' DJing legends Loverush UK!. This is progressive house with the emphasis on progression, as the smooth, gleaming mixing acts like grease on a dancefloor. Alex M.O.R.P.H.'s trance remix is guaranteed to get your hands in the air and Max Sanna's Italian-flavoured remix offers us the chunky house version with a sumptuous groove

#### NEW BOYS

Skinny Jeans and a Mic **Out: 11th January** 

Jerk music is a new craze in the charts, with teen pair New Boyz at the forefront. By charting the rise of the genre in their debut single 'You're A Jerk', New Boyz have set themselves up as the leaders of a new movement, and 'Skinny Jeans and a Mic' is forced to deliver on that promise. Luckily, the guys succeed, and a quick glance at their YouTube video will show the appeal of jerk in slack-limbed, super-elastic dance troupes. This is clumsy in a sexy-fumbling kind of way and demands that the listener throw their body into all manner of beat-induced contortions for the sheer love of it.

bent

Editors Cho



#### **VIARMEAN**

Mind the Gap **Out: 18th January** Funk and skankalong reggae outfit Jarmean? present urban poetry and a female drummer to the world. Their blend of skat jazz, cabaret, vaudeville, rag time and tavern shanties makes them a music hall freakshow with roots and culture, although they claim to be 'vaudeville anarchists'. Full of energy, rife with nostalgia, then smashing it into

the thoroughly modern, Jarmean? are not to be missed.

#### **JUPITER ONE**

Sunshower **Out: 25th January** Far-out freshness fused with timeless musical inspirations make this a bittersweet indie-pop rock concoction produced by Chris' Mary J. Blige' Ribando. Infectious choruses and kaleidoscopic arrangements complement the lyrical effervescence and vocals, while the current single 'Flaming Arrow' is a shimmering acoustic folk tune. Definitely a powerful



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Won't Go Quietly **Out:18th January** This must-have single is, unsurprisingly, a great example of the forthcoming album from Example. Though Example's success has been rather overground, his music still has that genuine underground quality that lends him an air of respectability. Example blurs genres and kicks arse, and he's been touring with Lily of Allen. Cool enough for you? bent

Editors Choic

vent

#### **V DI MANNY D& GERIDEAU**

How Much I Feel **Out: This month** 80s disco-pop favourite 'How Much I Feel' (originally by Ambrosia) gets a reworking and a nip/tuck here in a new US vocal house stylee with swinging keys to boot. Remixes come from Greg Stainer, Lady D and Frankie Estevez, delivering chunky vocal madness with manic key stabs, a progressive dub and vocal version with a darker twist and bouncing rave keys and a broken-beat mimimalism, respectively.

#### FOOLS GOLD

#### Fool's Gold Out: 25th January

African rhythms and melodies weave together with thoroughly western pop aesthetics. Fool's Gold began as an LA duo, but quickly grew to a fully-fledged band after inviting all their mates to join in on their love for Krautrock, African music, 80s dance and pop. This is

truly melting-pot music, which marketing cynics would label world music, but the sheer joy of playing reverberates throughout to give this real character and verve.

2IMA

#### ► WAXSON

#### If Life Gives You Lemons, Make Lemonade *Out: 25th January*

Modern house music could do with more of the likes of Riva Starr. The producer and DJ from Naples has been working in various capacities within the music industry for the last ten years and has put out two albums previously to this one. Starr snatches from various musical styles to build his sonic landscapes piecemeal from disparate parts. The result is vibrant house music with enough flavour to stand





#### BEN DALBY

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#### Doctor Can Out: 18th January

Mark 'U2' Wallis produces alt-pop-rock singer/ songwriter Ben Dalby. Comparisons have already been made to Lou Reed and Gary Numan, and he lists Pink Floyd, Prince and Jeff Beck among his influences. Intimate and beautifully sung, 'Doctor Can' is a thought-provoking ballad with all the unique music stylings of previous singles 'The Credit Crunch Song' and 'Chinese Friends'.

#### 1 FUGATINE

Supafly **Out: 18th January** 

Hiphop newcomer Fugative shows the world what he's made of and then some with his debut single, 'Supafly'. That this whippersnapper is only 15 makes this song all the more incredible. This melange of hiphop and pop comes with remixes from Drumsound & Bassline Smith, A1 Bassline, Tek-One, Cookie Monsta, Bass Slammers and Static Shokx.



JAN 2010

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#### SHOWZAM

Blackpool comes even more alive next month when West End superstars La Clique join some of the hottest acts currently on the circuit for a week long extravaganza of circus, magic and new variety at the Showzam festival 12th -21st February. You can also catch Australian hula queen Marawa, the irrefutable Miss Behave, American operatic Diva Le Gateau Chocolat, World runner-up same sex ballroom dancers the Sugar Dandies, Hula Boy Elvis, Mrs Barbara Nice, burlesque star Amber Topaz and a host of others at venues across the town. There's also a huge parade, music and public fire show from La Machine on Saturday 20th Feb

Many events free. For more info go to: www.visitblackpool.com www.Showzam .co.uk

#### WHO'S T-SHIRT With 'geek chic' one of the leading trends this

With 'geek chic' one of the leading trends this autumn/winter, fashion lovers and fans of Doctor Who will want to get their hands on a new range of trendy retro Doctor Who t-shirts

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#### AN EVENING WITH: RUFUS WAINWRIGHT

Set to be one of the highlights for 2010's musical calendar, Rufus Wainwright announces a 10-date solo UK tour in April where he will be armed and dangerous with a piano, a microphone and his eagerly anticipated forthcoming album 'All Days Are Nights: Songs for Lulu'.

Rufus Wainwright UK tour dates are:

#### April 2010

- 13th London, Sadler's Wells
- 15th Glasgow, Royal Concert Hall
- 16th Edinburgh, Usher Hall17th Sheffield, City Hall
- 19th Gateshead, The Sage
- 20th Birmingham, Symphony Hall
- 22nd Manchester, Apollo
- 23rd Bristol, Colston Hall
- 25th Nottingham, Royal Concert Hall
- 26th Oxford, New Theatre
- 29th Ipswich, Regent Theatre

Box Office Number: 0871 230 0333 Website: www.artistticket.com www.rufuswainwright.com







#### **CELEBRITY RESOLUTIONS...**

After quitting the Jungle in 'I'm a Celebrity...' last year... we can only hope that Katie Price aka Jordan - makes a concerted effort to forget about all reality shows and goes into hibernation for a year. Take some time off girl... you've earned it... but we doubt if she will. (Photo: ITV)

### **Scarlette Fever**

You may already be familiar with Scarlette's debut single, the John Barry/Midnight Cowboy inspired song, "You Don't Know My Name", a haunting and effective piece of music that promises 'good things' from her forth coming album, Medication Time.

Scarlette was brought up on a farm in a Hertfordshire village. In her words "growing up here I've had the best of both worlds. I'm close to London but I still get to walk my dogs in the woods every day " Her family were music fans rather than musicians, describing herself as a "child of karaoke": influenced by her mother's extensive, eclectic record collection, Dusty Springfield, Annie Lennox, Ella Fitzgerald. She began formal vocal training at 15 combined with writing songs in her post-A-level gap year. A late start given that this is the age at which nascent pop singer-songwriters are now expected to trot out perfectly polished debut albums.

As a writer Scarlette focuses on lyrical details and the tightly constructed narratives of her songs. "I have a methodical brain, but also a wild side which makes me feel like my mind is going to explode"; indeed she has a penchant for everything theatrical. Evident in her stage name 'Scarlette Fever', chosen because "it appeals to my drag queen inner self; she always feels the colour scarlet summarises who she is intense and fiery. She states that "one of the fantastic things about writing songs is that you can create characters to wear. So on stage I can be anybody".

Single: 'You Don't Know My Name' out 18th January Album: 'Medication Time' out 25th January. www.scarlettefevermusic.com www.myspace.com/scarlettefevermusic



www.mag.bent.com

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She is probably the world's most famous Madonna impersonator and she's back in the UK gigging and with a rather stylish new single about to be released. Simon Savidge caught up with her and asked:



Madonna, Lady Gaga or Kylie? I have to say Madonna here really don't l? In terms of Lady Gaga though, wow what a year and what an artist. I mean how can you not love her and what she has done this year... and... ahd... she can sing, it's awesome! I cant put her above Madonna though as look at career spans. I do really like the Gaga though. As for Kylie she is sweet and all but until Can't Get You Out of My Head I didn't really know who she was... I do now of course.

7/10 We would have liked to have had some dirt on Madge but what can you do? We do like the fact that there is clearly the fickle factor here which we gays are so prone to and embrace.

#### What's the campest thing you have ever done?

Saying dressing up as Madonna for a living isn't going to cut it with you is it? Hmmm what's the campest things I have done... there are so many. Swallowing a goldfish whole isn't camp is it? Why did I do it? We were playing Madonna's Truth or Dare, it was a tour thing. Camp, camp, camp? Well I did once get on stage in my Madonna drag, I call it that even though I am a woman, with goggles and a duster in one hand and a stuffed hamster in another and dust Elvis and his dancers bottoms during Jailhouse Rock. What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas.

9/10 Dressing up and being Madonna for a living would have sufficed as being pretty much one of the campest things you could do other than actually being Madonna. The Elvis thing is just crazy and creates quite an image. One mark deducted for Goldfish swallowing, especially when adding how she could feel it swimming when it had been swallowed.

#### Prada or Primark?

Oh dear... well you see the thing is. Sometimes you will have been looking for the perfect outfit for you and your dancers that needs to be cut and ripped... I couldn't deface Prada, their designs are heavenly, I do like Primark. Oh Prada though... it's just so... (goes of into a Prada dream world).

10/10 You needed to be there to see the dreamlike look on Melissa's eyes when she vanished off into that distant fairy Prada land. We also love the fact she uses Primark and isn't ashamed.

#### How many gay friends are too many?

What a stupid question. I mean really, do I even need to answer that.

9/10 True it is a silly question... but some more expansion would have been nice, you know telling us how amazing we are, giving us her complete devotion.

#### Do you like a gossip?

Not so much. I mean I do but really here it all still goes over my head. I don't know who anyone is. Example... for ages I was thinking 'wow Katie Price and that erm... Jordan, that's the one, don't they look alike... and they had the same boyfriend and everything. I am

#### Can We Be Your New Gay Best Friend... MELISSA TOTTEN

hopeless with British celebs. I will get there though and then maybe we can gossip more.

10/10 Just for thinking Jordan and Katie Priceless were two different people but shagging the same guy... whilst being in all the papers. In this case innocence on that subject really is bliss.

#### What's your best one line put down?

I used to be a bartender in Chicago and when pain in the ass people would come up and just rudely shout 'make me a gin and tonic' I would do jazz hands and go all David Copperfield and say 'ta-dah... you're a gin and tonic'. See I don't do mean really. I don't want people to be scared of me and weirdly when I dress up as her Madonna-ness people get a little scared.

8/10 She may not be nasty but we know secretly Melissa loves a good bitch, she cant hide it from us we do it so often too!!!

#### Do you have any dressing room demands?

(Laughs) I am just grateful for a dressing room these days it has to be said. Back when I was doing the shows in Vegas there were plates of food, flowers, towels the works. Now I am a club hopper, some are nice and some... well... My demands on a cold damp British night are; a shot of your cheapest brandy, generic red bull of some sort and the remnants of a roll of toilet paper!

#### 10/10 For almost making us wet ourselves.

#### What's the biggest diva strop you have ever had?

Oh it was all because of Facebook and Blackberry's, can you believe it? I honestly don't do diva strops I really don't. But one of my dancers for Manchester Pride put on his status he was rehearsing with me at Pineapple dance studios and in minutes I get a text from an ex-dancer who I might have fired (laughs) saying why aren't they on tour with me. This guy superglued his passport photo back onto his passport so when I flew them all out to Romania he couldn't get in. His mum had to be brought out. I went off on one then, and again in a text. It's rare, but it happens.

9/10 Anyone who can go off on one in a text is sooooo able to kick off. Also loving the fact that a diva strop was caused by such random things... facebook, Romania, blackberry's and a dance studio – how 2010!!!

#### How many gay weddings have you been too?

Well I have been invited to lots... but I always miss them. It's too bad as I would love to go to them, in fact I would like to become The Gay Wedding Singer, wouldn't that be amazing. Once some fans of mine came from their wedding early to see a show of mine, which was very kind of them. I love you guys!

7/10 OK so valid excuses for not going as when you need to be on stage you need to be on stage. But the world is a stage to us and we still show up at gay weddings even if it is for the free booze and to dance around to Kylie eating cake.

What's your biggest extravagance?

Hmmm... goodness... I don't really have any. Oh no... wait... I do. My big extravagance is acupuncture for my dog (laughs as Simons jaw drops) I know, I know, no acupuncture for me, though maybe soon as apparently it is amazing facially, but acupuncture for my dog. She has been so ill and this has honestly worked. I think natural stuff is actually my biggest extravagance and treat. If I have extra cash I go mad for pine nuts and sunflower seeds (laughs) crazy huh?

20/10 Yes we can give marks like that... for acupuncture for a dog how could we not. It is bordering on Paris Hilton like behaviour. It makes up for the Goldfish incident too!

99/100 Melissa Totten is one of us, we love her, we want to stalk her and become her very gay best friend. We have a feeling we may have quite some competition there though.

Melissa Totten's new album 'Madonnalicious' Melissa Totten vs. Klub Kids is out now on iTunes or you can buy it whilst finding out much more about her at: www.melissatotten.com





The inside of the arse absorbs fluids like a sponge. Cum and pre-cum quickly pass through it, letting HIV into the bloodstream.

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# bent on... Boy Bands By Alex Wiggan



Boy bands. The combination of youth, hot guys, dance moves, hot guys, floppy hair, hot guys and soppy love songs is possibly the greatest invention since someone came up with the idea of cutting bread into much smaller and more manageable sections, and selling it in a plastic bag. Pre-packaged, moulded into recognisable shapes and filled out with an adequate number of good-looking members, boy bands brighten up even the dullest of moments. Unlike lame ex-boyfriends the lads in a boy band manage to stylishly back flip their way into a guy's heart and yet even when harping on about love, never wear out their welcome. In fact what kind of world would it be if the likes of JLS, East 17, Backstreet Boys or N\*Sync didn't exist? Clearly it would be a dreadful place, devoid of excellent choreography, colour coordinated clothes and washboard abs, and doesn't even bear contemplating. These guys, who have selflessly given up their time in the pursuit of creating everlasting happiness, should be given constant recognition for services to entertainment and not just fobbed off with an old Smash Hits award. No, no matter what, the world and possibly even the universe need boy bands, and here's why.

Rewind back to a more carefree time, when it was acceptable to watch

children's television on a Saturday morning, and memories will be stirred of seeing O-Town, A1, Five or BBMak prancing around on a brightly lit stage between cookery segments and episodes of Pokemon. Do you think these guys were happy to be slotted in between the latest recipe for Rice Krispies cakes and a cartoon that made little sense to anyone above the age of ten? No of course not, but they were there, week in, week out, giving every ounce of their vocal range and clutching microphones as though their lives depended on it. Yes, even those members who were never given any of the good lyrics, still turned up and moved perfectly in time, reached out their hands and winked during all the correct moments. They didn't let down their fans because they'd got wasted the night before or called in sick with Man Flu, the deadliest form of illness known to man. These guys were a constant force for good, and had more moves under their belts than a crack commando team put together by Hong Kong Phooey.



Even when the heavy hitters, like Take That or Westlife lost a member once they passed the bands life

expectancy, it didn't stop the rest of them

from belting out their tunes and rising up

from stools during the key change in a song. These guys were professionals, and

age, and so-called real bands don't look very appealing splashed across a copy

of Top of the Pops magazine. No, boy

bands have it all, relighting fires, getting

hearts beating again and always being

prepared to swear by the moon and the

stars in the sky. They hold a very special

place in everyone's hearts, yes even the

hearts of heterosexual men, because they

Boy bands will forever have a place in not only the music hall of fame, but also the very fabric of time and space they never feel uncomfortable when asked to cover someone else's song. If ever there was

a time when boy bands were no longer needed, then something sinister will have taken place, but for now rest in the knowledge they have made their mark. Or their Gary. Or Jason. Or Howard.

still are, even after escaping that awkward faze where technically they become too old to be regarded as boys. This doesn't stop them, and even if One True Voice, Bros or Phixx have faded out of existence, there will always be another band waiting in the wings to pick up the torch, especially if they happen to be related. Boy bands will forever have a place in not only the music hall of fame, but also the very fabric of time and space, one which even the Doctor couldn't erase with a carefully crafted flick of his sonic screwdriver. Like the fabled Hydra, cut off one head and two more will take its place, as though if this didn't happen Earth would just somehow simply fall off its axis. They're perfect, they're uniform, they cover all the bases and they're often symmetrically placed. Girl groups have too many girls in them, vocal harmony groups don't have a cute yet quiet member who never seems to











#### HOLLYWOOD CLOSET

Actor (ands to some, a heart-throb) Colin Firth is convinced Hollywood is full of secretly gay actors. He says it is easier for a straight actor to play a gay man, as he does in his latest film, A Single Man than for an out gay actor. In an interview with Parade magazine he says that any gay actor in Hollywood is forced to stay in the closet to survive. Fellow Brit Rupert Everett recently revealed he has been shut out of the movie business since he 'came out.' Everett also claims there are many high profile gay actors who are forced to keep their true sexuality a secret in order to protect their careers.

Men's Novelty Camper Van Slippers by Animal £19.99 www.hiccupgifts.com

#### WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND

An extraordinary and uplifting tale, Whistle Down the Wind is based on the beloved sixties film starring Hayley Mills and Alan Bates, and features numerous multi-award-winning songs, including Boyzone's international smash hit No Matter What (which topped the UK charts for 6 weeks).

The musical shows how powerful love can be when the innocence of childhood collides with the cynicism of the adult world. In a stunning combination of multiaward-winning songs, powerful all new staging and epic storytelling, Whistle Down the Wind is a record breaking theatrical sensation that is both mesmerizing and moving.

Jonathan Ansell, who won the heart of the nation as lead vocalist in X-Factor runners-up G4, has been cast in his musical debut in Andrew

Lloyd Webber's, Whistle Down The Wind. The show embarks on a national tour, opening at the Liverpool Empire from 20th January. www.target-live.co.uk





#### **GET INTERACTIVE WITH ABBA**

The film Mamma Mia and the continued success of the stage show throughout the world has meant that ABBA are still one of the most loved music acts... ever

To emphasize this, a new production called ABBAWORLD will make its stunning, sequin spangled, world debut in London at Earls Court on 27th January. The hugely interactive experience will take visitors on a mind-blowing journey through ABBAWORLD'S 25 rooms, bursting with exclusive music, footage, images and never-before-displayed memorabilia from the personal collections of the world's most cherished pop icons: Agnetha, Benny, Björn and Frida.

The phenomenon of ABBA will be brought to life with interactive highlights including 'Perform with ABBA' which will allow fans to get up on stage with their idols, as part of a stunning 3D holographic illusion. 'Tretow MIX Challenge' - a chance to mix things up and re-create the ABBA sound, the 'ABBA Quiz' which will test fans knowledge. There is also the opportunity to Sing-A-Long and dance with ABBA, plus a chance for fans to see themselves as part of an ABBA video.

www.livenation.co.uk www.abbaworld.com



#### **KAPOW AND MAJESTY**

Printed cushions featuring bold prints from our funky new lconic Pop collection. Graphic prints are a key trend this season. So, cuddle up to some art on your sofa. £29.99 each: www.digetex.com

#### **GEORGE CHASES THE DRAGON**

George Michael loves to cruise. Yep, not surprisingly, he likes to go up to Hampstead Heath on a warm summer's night and get a little of what he fancies. He knows he can have anyone he wants but, he

says, he likes all kinds... and he has friends up there. Last month's new release, December Song, was possibly the only new material we're going to get from him for a while. He's given several interviews recently about his various addictions and tastes (both druggy and otherwise), but only teased us with the possibility of fantastic new creative tunes finding their way into the public domain. What must it be like to be a musical genius?

# FROM ENVY TO ENV

Back in July 2008 Bent chatted to a new cute gay rapper on the scene called DJ Envy. Classically trained and with the confidence of youth he predicted that his star would burn bright in 2009, so, we caught up with him to see how it all went... and what he has planned for this year.

"Things are going really well thanks. This last year has been crazy for me and I can't wait for what's to come in 2010. In 2009 I toured America, performed throughout Europe, my new music video was also featured on MTV and the best thing of all is that I getting to do what I love and follow my dream..."

The name change from MC Envy to E.N.V was in itself the continued show of progression to his success, as he himself admits he felt the name was not showing his full ability as a musician, so E.N.V was created... but just how is this London lad received in other countries

"To be honest, the reception I've been receiving in other countries has been incredible. I'm starting to think am I'm living in the wrong country. lol. But it's all good. When I was touring America, night after night, the audiences were getting bigger and the screams and applause were louder and louder, it was amazing!"

With confidence growing with each performance no doubt there were some shows that stuck in his memory as defining moments...

"Apart from performing in Trafalgar Square (London Pride) and in front of City Hall (San Francisco Pride) my best gig to date has to be in Berlin @ The Bassy Club back in November. I was pretty nervous before this show as it was my debut in Berlin and I was worried about how the language barrier would work with my music... but everyone loved what I did, so much so that I'm back in Berlin to do 5 shows at the end of this month."

With one album behind him and a steadily growing legion of fans waiting on his next move, what can be expected in 2010?

"I'm currently just finishing my second studio album, which I'm planning on releasing at the end of summer/autumn. As far as singles go... I'm off to Mexico in March to shoot the new video, which is going to be Hot!!! So that single will be out around May, which is also when I will be starting my second American Tour.

Being a single guy (although he says open to offers) when he gets home from all the touring he can usually be found out and about partying at his favourite London haunts - XXL, Kings Arms, Barcode, Duke of Welly, Eagle and White Swan. However, work-wise he has a list of artists he'd love to collaborate with.

"Chase and Status, Scissor Sisters, N-Dubz, Tinchy Stryder, Rodney Jerkins and Jay Sean to name a few...."

ENV launched himself as a gay rapper but now as he's maturing does the homo label mean as much

"I love it but know no different... I have been gay all my life even when I wasn't out... I wouldn't want it any other way."

www.env-music.com www.myspace.com/envmusicuk www.facebook.com/envfanpage www.twitter.com/envmusic

### IJUST CAN'T GET ENOUGH

#### By Alex Wiggan

Apparently there's no business quite like show business, and with the constant introduction of new celebrities into the industry, it seems there's also no business quite so cramped. One way to help eager fans wade through the excess of stardom's newest and brightest talent has been the reduction of their names into words barely making two syllables. So over the past few years the likes of Robert Pattinson, John and Edward and erm, Kevin Federline have become RPattz, Jedward and



K-Fed; which is handy for those with short term memories or a disliking for letters. However, the erosion of names is not the only noticeable difference though between stars of today and stars of the past, as flick on any digital television channel and there's a chance reality TV will be turning another member of the public into a household name, or reminding us of how much we love Peter Andre. But it isn't just reality TV which is at the root of all things celebrity, as come on, we all kind of loved Andre anyway, no there's definitely something else going on which we just can't admit to. It

seems that deep down, no matter how much it's denied, everyone has started to become a bit of a stalker. This doesn't mean the nation as a whole has suddenly started riffling through the bins of John Barrowman, though given half the chance I'm sure a few would, and it's not stalking in the traditional sense, but rather it's the feeling that everyone is getting a little obsessed.

Take the hugely popular Twilight series, which if the rock hard abs of Taylor Lautner somehow managed to pass you by last year, is a series of books and films about a girl who falls in love with a couple of creatures of the night. Ok, sounds like something a few lads would find familiar, but they probably wouldn't get the kind of attention that the young stars of the films get; well not unless these creatures of the night started making a scene down Canal Street on a Saturday. These young stars including the aforementioned RPattz and Lautner are constantly finding themselves being followed left, right, and all over, by a growing horde of super-fans. These aren't just ordinary fanatics, the Twihards as they're called, have even made it into the internet's Urban Dictionary where there are more than a couple of definitions for them, thanks to their ability to know practically everything there is to know where Twilight's concerned. The strange thing is, apparently this is now quite acceptable, and is a clear sign of how much celebrity has become part of the norm. There was even a DVD out called Robsessed last year, which was the first exclusive RPattz documentary, meaning guys up and down the country could get there fix without having to hang around with a bunch of screaming teens who had actually read the books.

These same teens may have also been responsible for last year's rise to fame of Jedward on X-Factor, who transformed from unknown Irish twins into headlinegrabbing household names, in less time than it takes to check an ex's Facebook status. The Jedward phenomenon saw youngsters flocking to the X-Factor house in the hopes of catching the

twosome's eyes, or any other bits of them not hidden behind a pair of curtains, and gave everyone else something to moan about on Twitter. It didn't matter what side of the Jedward argument you stood for, the simple fact was that no one could stop talking about them, meaning hunks like Jamie Afro were left rocking out on the sidelines whilst the duo rose in popularity. Clearly this was a shame as just imagine the possibilities with Jaime's hair and a night in with the straighteners! Still this year will see yet more opportunities for guys to get a little obsessed over thanks to the release of another Twilight film, another Harry Potter and a variety of reality shows throughout 2010, creating endless arguments with the hubby over who can skate the best or whether or not Ron Weasley is fit? Either way there's a good bet whatever the answer is to that one, there's bound to be a group dedicated to it on Facebook where those not usually happy to admit it, can electronically voice their opinions without fear of being ostracised by the guys who have a thing for Harry.





# DRESSED for success

#### By Aamyko

He called and said his train was running about and hour late. So I had a bit more time to get ready for my first encounter with a full-fledged gay porn star, Dillon Buck.

Dillon got into the adult industry in 2006 and quickly shot to fame with his sexy mysterious demeanor and of course ruggedly masculine good looks. He has worked with the most important studios such as Men at Play, (they gave him his big break) Titan Men, Falcon, UK Naked Men, Alpha Male Studios, just to name a few.

As I arrived at Euston station, I called Dillon to let him know that I was there and after about 5 minutes of him directing me to the front, (I know, how hard can that be?) I saw him standing next to the escalators and I immediately noticed 2 things about him, 1. He is very, but I mean very attractively sexy, 2. he had a huge suitcase. (Minds out of the gutter, please!)

After talking for about 2 minutes another thing I noticed was how easy it was to talk to him! I felt





as though I was just chatting to a friend. There was nothing forced or studied about him, he was just, (dare I say the word?) normal!

Trying to 'fight' our way through the commuters at the station, we made our way to a coffee shop, ordered 2 lattes and sat down for a quick chat before we headed over to the photo shoot. We pretty much talked about everything, from his love of photography and travel to his degrees in design, there is so much more to this man than meets the eye.

Knowing that the life of a gay porn actor and model doesn't last forever, Dillon has intelligently ventured into another area of business, clothing design. He started Dillon Buck Designs with a range of t-shirts and is now launching a sexy new line of neoprene fetish wear. With comfortable and sleek designs, there is no doubt in anyone's mind that it will be a complete and utter success.

...it was time for the photo shoot, and boy did he deliver! He looked incredible with everything he tried on! But the buck doesn't stop there. He is also a passionate scuba diver and plans to get his advanced 'PADI' diving certificate sometime next year and he has also received a unique offer from an established video director to shoot a commercial for DillonBuckDesigns.

After the lattes and our interview, it was time for the photo shoot, and boy did he deliver! He looked incredible with everything he tried on! From his Todger underwear (he is one of their exclusive models) to his fetish wear, this is a guy that knows what he is doing and was professional through and through.

Once it was all over and we had said our goodbyes, a thought came to my mind, it has been said that nice guys always finish last but after meeting Dillon, I think he's just might be the one to "buck" that trend

Photos by David Hart for: wwwshootmeup.co.uk www.dillonbuckdesigns.com





#### **DEBBIE REYNOLDS:** Alive and Fabulous

Debbie Reynolds, MGM le and star of 'Singing in the Rain', 'The Unsinkable Molly Brown' and 'That's Entertainment!', is celebrating more than 50 years in showbusiness by bringing her award-winning onewoman show, Debbie Reynolds Alive and Fabulous to the UK.



The show features actual MGM movie clips as Debbie reminisces about her glittering

ALL YOU WANT

ILL MAKE MORE

career, her many husbands and her incredible life of song and dance. "It's a variety show," she says. "I get to do impressions of Barbra Streisand, Mae West, Katherine Hepburn - even Jimmy Stewart!" In recent years she has appeared across the globe in her famous nightclub act, and was a series regular on TV's 'Will and Grace', playing Grace's mother, Bobbi Adler. She is the mother of Star Wars' Princess Leia, actress and scriptwriter, Carrie Fisher.

As a pre-West End warm-up she will tour the UK, for 15 dates, starting 7th April at Norwich and dates in Liverpool, Manchester, Cardiff, Brighton, Bristol, Birmingham, Basingstoke, Leicester, Windsor, Southend, Northampton, Cambridge, Malvern and Leeds. www.debbiereynolds.co.uk

### So...

Madonna is thinking of adopting again. As soon as the Bent office heard this they all sent her their CVs... it's like being back in kindergarten at the moment... mind you, one or two have scrubbed up pretty well.



#### There is no finer way of getting to know somebody than with a full body massage. I know of very few people who, when offered a massage, decline... unless they have a problem with their body. Even when a complete stranger does it, it is still a magical experience as those oily hands sweep up and down, across and between your muscle groups. Massage therapists use long smooth strokes, kneading and circular movements on superficial layers of muscle using massage lotion or oil but a rudimentary grasp of such techniques can be to everyone's advantage. A stressful day can be completely alleviated, and the world returned to some semblance of order. once a rejuvenating, or relaxing body rub has been administered.

Getting your partner to grease up his hands and smooth out your stress, or offering him the benefit of your hardworking hands rubbing and soothing his pliant body, can do wonders for a relationship. If there is fear of such intimacy... then that is a shame but shouldn't prevent you from seeking out those who can offer the ultimate personal experience... without sex. Of course they are those who offer massage... when they really mean sex of some form... and they are to be applauded for offering a valuable service... however, I mean a qualified masseur... who wont rub you up the wrong way.

There are several different forms of professional massage that you might find suits your purpose.

**Swedish Massage** – This therapy can be very gentle and relaxing. If you've never had massage before, this is a good one to try first.

#### Aromatherapy Massage - Is

massage therapy with the addition of one or more scented plant oils called essential oils to address specific needs; relaxing, energising, stressreducing, balancing, etc. One of the most common essential oils used in aromatherapy massage is lavender.

**Deep Tissue Massage** - Targets the deeper layers of muscle and connective tissue and is used for chronically tight or painful muscles, repetitive strain, postural problems, or recovery from injury. People often feel sore for one to two days after deep tissue massage.

**Shiatsu** - Is a form of Japanese bodywork that uses localized finger pressure in a rhythmic sequence on

acupuncture meridians. Each point is held for two to eight seconds to improve the flow of energy and help the body regain balance.

**Thai Massage** - Like shiatsu, Thai massage aligns the energies of the body using gentle pressure on specific points. You don't just lie there--the therapist moves and stretches you into a sequence of postures. It's like yoga without doing any work. Thai massage is more energizing than other forms of massage. It is also reduces stress and improves flexibility and range of motion.

**Reflexology** – This is more than just a foot massage. It involves applying pressure to certain points

on the foot that correspond to organs and systems in the body. Reflexology is very relaxing, especially for people who stand on their feet all day or just have tired, achy feet.

**Sports Massage** - Is specifically designed for people who are involved in physical activity. But you don't have to be a professional athlete to have one-it's also used by people who are active and work out often. The focus isn't on relaxation but on preventing and treating injury and enhancing athletic performance.

Strip off, stretch out and let a mate's miraculous hands caress you into a state of wellbeing.



Images courtesy: Manworks.com



#### SENSUAL ADVENTURES In Tantric Massage

#### By Simon Savidge

A massage is a massage. Right? It can be relaxing, stimulating, relaxing, invigorating and just about the most intimate thing one person can do to another. However, a Tantric Massage takes you to another depth of human contact and one that left me blissful and complete in so many ways.

Michael Dotchin, who some of you may remember from Metrosexuality, has been doing massage for quite sometime after training to be a fitness instructor "one seemed to follow the other". It was an eventual meeting with Armin C Heining which lead him into the niche of Gay-Tantra massage, something that is quite different from your average massage and which only two people in the UK are believed to practice. "People instantly think of sex when you mention Tantra," sighs Michael, "but it's actually a belief and a way of life. I won't go on about that as it sounds preachy but basically, what I do is use tantric principles to give a different but hopefully very special massage." Michael was pleased to discover this new form of massage. "When I

started massage I was always asked what services I provided and how far I would take the massage. People were interested in taking it to that very intimate stage and I wasn't sure how I felt about this. Part of me could understand why people would want that, I mean we all like sex don't we. I had to have boundaries though. When I found tantric massage it answered my dilemma because although it's very intimate it's just part of full massage therapy. The penis is only a part of the body after all. It works perfectly. It also teaches people about their own body and that's the reason I want to do more" Like any of Michael's massages we started off by having a nice cup of tea and a chat. His practice is based in his stunning flat in Clerkenwell, London and you are instantly made to feel very welcome, while luxuriating around are gorgeous cats... everywhere. Before you realise it you have been nattering away for so long you've forget that you are there for a massage and haven't just popped round to see a friend. "It makes people comfortable, which for me is the most important thing. It's also a way of learning about the person as



you can find out a lot from chatting with someone, their body language can give a lot of things away and hints to use later on."

Then it's off upstairs for the main event. Michael has several spaces to work as he also does holistic massage as well as Gay-Tantra Massage. The room for the massage couldn't be more welcoming, with a massive luxurious bed, velvet throws, drapes, relaxing music and cushions everywhere. After a shower (not together!) we get naked and it's on to what is one of the most amazing massages I have ever had, which lasted for over 90 minutes. My eyes were closed during the whole experience; senses are heightened and using various items such as velvet, feathers, his beard, his full body... you have a sensory

experience that is quite unlike anything else and leads to a rather climatic finish. "I like to call it a full body orgasm" Michael laughs. Afterwards my body is in a state that I'd never experienced before... I was buzzing and electrified by the entire process. Chatting later I learn each massage is different as Michael follows the clients body's reactions. "If they like certain bits of their back being done, or a certain routine of the massage, then their body will give it away ad so you do that more. If they don't like something they tense up... so you stop." Michael likes to get a response to his work and asked what I thought. I have to say I didn't know what to expect but it was better, warmer and much more relaxing than I thought it could ever have been... and I had high hopes before I arrived.





#### GOLDEN TOUCH By Daniel Lee

When The Pointers Sister sang about wanting a man with a slow hand, were they referring to you? If you've been told you have magic fingers, your touch may be worth charging. Turning your talents into currency isn't that difficult, but to make it a sustainable business requires a bit more consideration.

#### Know Why You Are Doing It.

Your reasons don't have to be noble. It could be that you're unemployed, want a change in careers, or just some more spending money. Not everyone is trying to subsidize a PhD with the profits, but whatever the reasons, know what they are because these reasons will get you up in the morning, keep you motivated, get you to grow your business. It's self-defeating if at the end of the day, you wonder why oh why you are doing something you ultimately don't want to do.

#### Know What You Are Going to Do.

What kind of bodywork will you provide? Does what you want to offer require certification or a license? You need to decide what kind of services you will offer: erotic massage? Reiki healing? Your own mixed bag of therapeutic massage techniques? You may need more initial investment if you decide more training is necessary before you begin your practice. Likewise, you must decide where or how you'll practice. For yourself? At a spa? Make decisions so you have a plan.

#### Sell It.

Since now you know what you're selling, go and sell it. Advertising is key, and gay media or classified websites like Manworks.com that specialize in body workers can be the lifeline of your business, exposing you to thousands of people from the Internet. Getting the most of what you can from these resources require doing your part too. Write a compelling ad, have appealing pictures, get clients to post amazing reviews. Be a professional. Your work is a business. Treat it like one.

#### Reflect and Maintain Balance.

Habitually evaluating your goals, your life, and your needs is essential if you are going to survive as a masseur or in any line of work. After a year as a skilled "amateur," perhaps getting certified in a certain technique is the next step for growing your business. Maybe you've finished funding that initial project and now you have decided to save up for a grand holiday. Or perhaps you have been taking on too many clients and you want to spend more time with your friends. Checking in on where you are at and where you are going is a good practice for happiness.

After all, massage shouldn't be a pain.

#### NEW YEAR SALE AS GAY UK COP VOWS TO SLIM THE NATION!

Mark Carter, former Mr Gay UK and British Police Officer has launched his own sports brand, MarkCarterSports.com

The Sports Science graduate and former professional football coach has developed the brand which begins by targeting weight loss. His new product, which should compliment a healthy lifestyle, aids natural metabolic burning of unwanted fat, thus allowing people to lose weight and feel good.

Carter stated, "We are very excited about this product and it's initial and continued success - I have always been keen on making my body look its best throughout my sporting years, trying different supplements and weight loss techniques for photo shoots and of course various Mr Gay competitions. However, I have never come across a fat burning product that I can say really works like this one." "Mark Carter Fat Burners" (capsules) can be used by healthy individuals - both men and women - who either want to shed unwanted fat from those hard to reach stubborn areas or rip their already toned stomachs down to reveal the famous 6-pack. They also suppress the appetite and prevent in between meal snacking - which is key to losing and maintaining your chosen weight.

The product contains key natural ingredients and has already provided amazing results. Users - especially those with current or previous illness - are advised to contact their GP before starting any diet or weight loss regime.

The product has been significantly reduced for a LIMITED PERIOD in a 'NEW YEAR SALE', and is now priced at £27.95 - this still includes FREE P&P! It's a small price to pay for a big step forward to looking the best you can.

www.markcartersports.com





www.markcartersports.com

FAT BURNERS

STRONGEST WEIGHT LOSS PRODUCT



- SUPPRESS YOUR APPETITE
- FEEL GOOD BURN FAT
- SUPER EFFECTIVE FOR MEN & WOMEN

"So easy to use - now a valuable part of my diet and training program. Top product!" Rachel O Connor - Norwich (Image concious)

"Fantastic Fat Burners Mark, great before the gym for extra energy - kept me ripped through winter too! Thanks!" James Holroyd - Leeds (Gym junkie)

"I cannot believe the results, such a strong boost when shifting this weight. A wonder product?" Paul Hunt - Bradford (Weightwatcher)

"Such a safe and effective way to lose those extra pounds - NI be back! Cheers Mark." Lauren Watson - Glasgow (Active minded)

"This product is by far the best fat stripper fve have tried - that is why I am endorsing it! I bring it to you with absolute confidence. Yours in training." Mark Carter







# THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE SHOW BUSINESS

We've really had a lot of shows this recently, in Germany, Belgium and Austria. As a result, I've been on the road every weekend this month, and on occasion have even had three performances in three different cities in one weekend!

As you know, the shows are always hot and horny for all of us - thanks to the sleazy things we're constantly getting up to. But sometimes the trips to and from the shows are even hotter!

You know me well enough by now to realise that I'm not the sort of guy who goes for cheap toilet-sex, but on occasion I do make an exception. This happened the other day. I was sitting at the airport and waiting for my flight, which had been delaved - this was at Heathrow. by the way, so what else should I have expected? Anyway, I passed the time glancing around the waiting area, when all of a sudden I noticed this blond twink, who was about 19 years old. Having gained eye-contact, he promptly began to play the "I want to shag you" game. You know what I mean ... provocatively lifting his tee-shirt, spreading his legs, scratching his cock and watching me whilst licking his lips.

I've never had sex in a public toilet in the UK before, and I've never had sex with a British guy outside the movies. So I decided to follow him. We didn't exchange a single word whilst sucking and stuffing each other, and it was only after we both came that we smiled and introduced ourselves to each other. So it was only then that I realised that he was Czech, too, and that he was actually waiting for the same flight back to Prague! Honestly, I'm starting to think that I shall never enjoy private sex with an English guy.

We don't always fly, however quite often we take the car to participate in shows, especially when they take place in Southern Germany. I like driving on the German autobahns because there's no speed limit and they're in very good condition - the result of German efficiency, I'm quite sure. Whenever you use the roads in the Czech Republic you begin to appreciate such things! Anyway, another big plus about driving is the monotonous vibrations that you experience

- something that always makes me and other boys especially horny, particularly after you've come straight from some hot and sweaty party where you've had

sex on the bar in front of several thousand party guests!

It's happened several times now that one of the other guys has sucked me off whilst I've been driving back from a show though always at night so that no truck driver can see what's happening behind the steering wheel of my little Ford Puma. I must confess that I really enjoy this sort of thing - made all the better by the fact that my friends, Jimmy Call and Robin Few, have developed a truly excellent technique in sucking a car-driver whilst he pelts at full speed along the German motorways!

Sadly, that's all I've got time for right now - for various reasons. Firstly, Gordon, the chief-editor of Bent Magazine, is waiting rather nervously for this blog, which (as always) is late again! I'm sure he curses the day when he first met me and offered me a deal to write for his magazine! Secondly, I still have to wear the nice "Van Damme" underpants that one of you lucky readers will win this month. As promised, you will not receive a fresh pair, but rather one that's signed (and used!) by me. And thirdly, I'm due to meet up with my friends at the winter market, to enjoy a few glasses of hot, mulled wine. Suffice it to say that the only way you can get through the cold, snowy winters that we have here in the Czech Republic is to get lots of alcohol inside you and remain perpetually half-drunk!

See you all again very soon! And don't forget to check my site: www.Johan-Volny.com

Kiss Johan



#### MEGAN MULLALLY & SUPREME MUSIC PROGRAM

Best known for her two-time Emmy and four-time Screen Actors Guild Award-winning role as Karen Walker on American TV comedy Will & Grace, Megan made her Broadway debut in the 1994 revival of Grease with Rosie O' Donnell. She received an Outer Critics Circle Award nomination for her performance as Rosemary in the Broadway revival of How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying opposite Matthew Broderick and starred in the hit Mel Brooks musical Young Frankenstein. Her new show at the Vaudeville Theatre will include songs from her three albums alongside previously unheard material. It is the first time she has ever toured with her band outside of the US, making Megan Mullally & Supreme Music Program a rare chance to catch this charismatic, versatile and popular performer for a strictly limited run.

Vaudeville Theatre, 404 Strand, London 16th-21st Feb Box Office: 0844 412 4663 www.meganinlondon.com



#### ANTI HOMOPHOBIA CAMPAIGN

The first annual Justin Fashanu Cup has been staged in Brighton. The football tournament aimed at building bridges between people of different sexuality brought together teams from across the UK. Gay, bisexual and heterosexual people of different ability and gender battled it out for a glitter encrusted World Cup replica which was presented to Bristol's Eastern Cowboys. Other teams playing included the Easton Cowgirls, Brighton Bombers, Cliff Unathletic and others including the Justin Fashanu All-Stars.

The event was topped off by a raucous night of male pole dancing, poetry, drag cheer leading, town crying and vegan delicacies at the Portland pub in Hove. A football shirt kindly donated and signed by Brighton & Hove Albion was raffled and raised over £200 towards The Justin Campaign, which campaigns nationally to end homophobia in professional football.

Jason Hall founder of The Justin Campaign said "Two years ago this was all just

a dream – watching such a diverse crowd unite playing football today reassures me that together conquering homophobia in football is possible!!

Roll on Justin Fashanu Cup 2011″ BITES



#### **FITLADS EMPIRE**

Those nice and sexy folk at Fitlads have got some incredible things to tempt you with for the new year.

They have an exciting iPhone nap that will soon be available to drive you all wild. You can check out how things are going in development at: www.youtube. com/watch?v=JhIHpyiEcjM

Meanwhile, Fitlads 2 - the latest DVD featuring the best in horny chav lads is available. Four spunky and sexy scenes that will have you with your hand down the front of your pants in appreciation.

Fitlads now has their own downloadable magazine www.fitlads.net/mag/pdf/fitlads-issue-6.pdf and if you're quick you might het a special Fitlads membership deal.

Just log on and check out what is on offer. www.fitlads.net

GAY DALE'S DIARY?

Emmerdale viewers are about discover there is more to troubled teenager Aaron (Danny Miller) than meets the eye when he's left in turmoil after discovering he has feelings for another man.

After months of chasing Holly (Sophie Powles), Aaron's pursuit finally pays off but just as things are about to hot up between them, he finds himself attracted to her brother, Adam (Adam Thomas). In the heat of the moment, Aaron moves into kiss Adam who quickly recoils leaving Aaron stunned about his own actions and confused about his sexuality. The storyline will see Aaron battle with his feelings as he goes on an emotional journey of self loathing and denial.

(6)

The story heats up in the new year.

Emmerdale, ITV1, Monday, Tuesday Wednesday and Friday 7pm and Thursday 7pm and 8pm.

www.itv.com/emmerdale Photo: ITV

# TERRY GEORGI TELLIN' STORIE Me and Her Maj.



It was the hottest ticket of last month... not the X Factor final (which was fantastic and huge congrats to Joe, I was rooting for you from the first programme) no, it was the Royal Variety Performance. It felt like the night of a million stars all giving their all for Her Majesty's pleasure in that centre of entertainment, Blackpool.

Those who know me already are aware that I love these occasions. Not only meeting the stars but rubbing shoulders with royalty and the like, gives me a bit of a thrill. I thought this might be the perfect opportunity

to drop hints to Her Máj about the Knighthood I thought I'd angle for, Sir Terrence of Leeds would be a start.

Anyway, as it turned out, the powers that be wouldn't let me anywhere near to HRH (and l'd been practicing my curtsey) so that didn't happen although a friend did say that she'd quite possibly make me a Count, but spell it wrong... not quite sure what he meant by that!

As for the show, well you've probably all seen it by now and it was a spectacular event, and my congrats go to everyone at Blackpool who had it organised to perfection.

I'd gone with my party of 20 people aged from 17 to over 50 and we loved it. I was even surprised at how my young nephew was quite overawed being in the presence of royalty, he really was impressed.

The line-up was also most impressive with Michael Buble, Bette Midler, Peter Kay, Britain's Got Talent winners Diversity, Katherine Jenkins, Lady GaGa; Paddy McGuinness, The Soldiers - Trooper Ryan Idzi, Sergeant Richie Maddocks and Sergeant Major Gary Chilton - a singing trio who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. 2008 X Factor winner Alexandra Burke, Whoopi Goldberg, Miley Cyrus, and the cast of Here Come the Girls; Anastacia, Lulu and Chaka Khan- wow!

thing – he's a stand up comedian with a camp sense of humour – a cross between Alan Carr and Michael McIntyre – he's married with children although he said he forgives people who think he's gav.

The ventriloquist, Paul Zerdin was the only act the Queen laughed at, it appeared she was not amused at most of the performances and never cracked a smile. She may have struggled



to understand Peter Kay and Paddy McGuinness though as they have such strong Lancashire accents – it may be a good thing really as Paddy's jokes weren't fit for a Queen or a family audience.

Lady Gaga was brilliant but apparently had to tone down her performance quite drastically to get it past those anonymous folk who think the Queen far too sensitive to see anything too modern.

At the after show party I met Michael Buble, Whoopi Goldberg (always wanted to meet her), Miley Cyrus and a few comedians. I can't dish any dirt as they were all very nice to us, probably because they didn't have their 'people' with them except Miley Cyrus who's Manager tried to stop us having a photo with her but Miley just side stepped him and had it taken

anyway.

Overall I felt Bette Midler and Michael Buble stole the show. Bette said she'd spent her life performing in front of Queens but never the real one... until now





#### **GMFA'S ARSE CLASS RETURNS IN THE NEW** YEAR

Want to know more about your arse? GMFA, the gay men's health charity, announces the return of its popular arse class, a free one-day course that will run in 11 cities across the UK in the New Year. The course will teach you everything you wanted to know about your arse, including how to keep sex fun, safe and pleasurable, whether you are a top, bottom or flip both ways.

Matthew Hodson, Head of Programmes at GMFA, says: "It's rare that anyone really teaches gay guys about their arses and sex - we're just expected to picks things up as we go along. Unfortunately, there are a lot of myths and misinformation around fucking and men get worried that they're not having sex properly or safely. The arse class gives men the chance to explore the arse and find out the things they've always wanted to know."

The course will help you explore the many different aspects of the arse in a fun way. This includes how to make fucking more comfortable, how to use sex toys properly, why the arse is a vulnerable area for disease, and which lubes are best for which situation.

All of GMFA's courses and workshops are free of charge to participants but places are limited and must be booked in advance. To book a place, go to www.gmfa.org.uk/national

or call 020 7738 3712

The Arse class takes place on a Saturday from 10am to 5pm. The dates for 2010 are:

23rd Jan: Brighton, Bristol and Manchester Birmingham and Liverpool 30rd Jan: 6th Feb: London, Newcastle and Wakefield Norwich, Sheffield and Southampton 13th Feb:

> GMFA's national arse class is funded by CHAPS.

#### **BRUNO BANANI** LOST PARADISE

Shirt - £45 Hipster - £27

www.deadgoodundies.com



#### SEXPLOITATION CONFERENCE

The BLAST Project works with boys and young men across Leeds and Bradford, who are being sexually exploited, at risk of being sexually exploited and selling sex. The project provides a wide variety of services including 1-2-1 support, free condoms and lube, a drop in service and much more.

BLAST will be hosting the first ever West Yorkshire Child Sexual Exploitation Conference next year in April. "This is an excellent opportunity for professionals and front line workers to share knowledge and experience, and promote good practice" says Phil Mitchell, the BLAST Project Development Worker. "Lots of people are not aware that West Yorkshire has it's own specific procedures in place to deal with the sexual exploitation of children and young people. If we have our own procedures, why not have our own conference?"

Although the BLAST Project works with boys and young men the conference is all about the sexual exploitation of



children and young people across West Yorkshire and aims to raise further awareness of this issue.

The conference will be held at Morley High School on Thursday 15th April. The conference will run from 10am – 4pm and delegates will have the opportunity to attend three training workshops, listen to leading experts in the field of sexual exploitation and enjoy a fabulous dinner.

If you would like further details you can contact Phil directly on 07921 372896 or drop him an email at p.mitchell@mesmac.co.uk

#### **LEGALADVICE:** Pre-Nuptuals

Q: My partner and I are holding a civil ceremony next year. Although it isn't something I wish to consider, I am aware that if the marriage did break up, I would be financially vulnerable. Would it be possible to draw up a prenuptial agreement to secure us both in the event that it doesn't work out?

A. Yes. You and your partner would be able to enter into a pre-civil partnership agreement which would set out your financial responsibilities to each other in the event that the civil partnership broke down and there were dissolution proceedings.

Pre-civil partnership agreements are not automatically binding and don't replace the jurisdiction of the court, or the Child Support Agency. However, they can provide significant evidential value, of your respective intentions, if one party tries to make a financial claim against the other if there are dissolution proceedings.

In a recent case involving a pre-nuptial agreement, the Court of Appeal has indicated that, in future, if an agreement is entered into freely by both parties, due weight should be given to the agreement. It is also now possible for the person wishing to rely on the agreement to ask the court to make an order requiring their civil partner to show good reason why the agreement should not be made into an order. To try and ensure that the agreement is given due weight you should make sure:

\*That each party to the agreement has been properly advised as to the terms, preferably with independent legal advice

\*That each party has disclosed their full financial circumstances to the other

\*That the agreement is not entered into at the last minute before the civil partnership ceremony. Ideally, it should be signed and finalised weeks, if not months, beforehand – this shows that neither party has been pressured into agreeing to the terms

In addition, if the court is asked to consider a pre-civil partnership agreement, it will consider whether or not the agreement made was a fair one, and whether implementing the terms of the agreement would result in a fair outcome now.

Where a couple have already entered into a civil partnership, without a pre-civil partnership agreement, it is possible to have a post-civil partnership agreement which is created after the ceremony, but for the same reasons.

It is always sensible to take legal advice before entering into any agreement, even if you are happy with the terms, particularly when it may have a significant impact on your future.

Karen Witter is an associate at law firm Davis Blank Furniss. Karen.witter@dbf-law.co.uk



#### **THE HISTORY BOYS**

A group of sixth formers at Cutlers' Grammar School in Sheffield are aiming for Oxbridge, despite the best efforts of their endearingly eccentric teacher Hector to put them off. Taking them through an eclectic timetable encompassing everything from the great poets to Edith Piaf, Hector insists that learning is for life, not just the exam room. However, when the Headmaster brings in a bright young junior master to coach the boys for their entrance exam, the pupils' allegiances are divided. Bennett's brilliantly observed comedy follows the exploits of eight boys as they move from Sheffield to the world beyond. The return of the Alan Bennett modern classic.

West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds 3rd Feb –6th March Box office: 0113 213 7700 www.wyp.org.uk

#### **HEY JOE!**

The X Factor final was a huge audience pleaser, taking 61% of all possible viewers available, and producing a winner who had been consistently brilliant from his first audition. Joe McElderry, the teenager from South Shields, knocked the opposition for six and is now no doubt sitting atop the singles charts with The Climb. The good looking singer, with a penchant for show tunes, has an incredible voice for someone so young, and put a couple of the 'name' guest stars in the shade with the power of his voice and sheer professionalism we don't often see these days. We can't wait for that all important first album...

(Photo: ITV)



# PRIDE EVENTS 2010





#### 27 Feb

3 -10 May 15-16 May 17 May

29 May 8-13 June 19 June-4 July

26 June 26 June 10 July 17 July 25 July 31 July 31 July-8 Aug

31 July-31 August 1 August 7 August Aug Bank Holiday

lmmis

..... Lesbian & Gay

Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras – Australia **Gran Canaria Pride Blackpool Pride International Day Against** Homophobia - IDAHO **Birmingham Gay Pride Pride Youth Games - Manchester** Pride London Festival (Parade on 3rd) **Worcester Pride** Swansea Pride **Derby Goes Pink EuroPride in Warsaw - Poland Norwich Pride Nottingham Pride Brighton and Hove Gay Pride** Festival **Gay Games VIII - Cologne Leeds Pride Liverpool Pride Manchester Pride** 



#### leans

Underwear If you have not made an impression by the time you have stripped down to the bare essentials then their stunning underwear is a must have and will do the job for you.

The selection of denim wear can not really be described as just jeans. There are upwards of 15 styles to choose from each offering the wearer a chance to really say something about who they are and where they are going. Don't settle for ordinary when you can have the extraordinary!

# DON'T LOOK BAC



You don't have to spend the earth to mean the world to someone special

#### **T-Shirts**

T shirts and shirts that are guaranteed to turn heads...a unique and refreshing range of T shirts that get even the most reluctant party animal launched into the limelight.



KINGZ C

If you missed out on getting that special someone the perfect gift for Christmas don't worry... New Year and new gear is online. At this time of year those three little words can mean so much... RIO BEACH ONLINE....so check out the amazing array of items on the newly launched Riobeach.co.uk

Have a look at some of the items on offer...



#### **Belts and accessories**

A great selection of belts that always moves with the times. From a plain leather belt and buckle for the more conservative amongst us to something really flamboyant.!

We also have a range of stylish accessories from the unique magnetic bracelets to the trendy key rings, wallets and necklaces.

#### Calling All Book Geeks!

Our very own self confessed Gay Book Geek Simon Savidge is on the hunt for the Great Gay Reads of All Time. He needs your recommendations and input. You can go to greatgayreads.wordpress.com to see his journey through the highs and lows of gay writing. To email him with suggestions of your favourite gay reads drop him a line at greatgayreads@googlemail.com





#### 50 GAY & LESBIAN BOOKS EVERYBODY MUST READ

Edited by Richard Channing

Quite a bold statement and one I suspect many would resent. However, this book is a compilation of many different contributors giving their own opinion on certain, possibly historical and challenging novels, that have influenced the perception of all things gay. It might be just the entrée needed to take another look, or maybe a first look, at some pretty amazing literature.

£ 10.99 – Alyson Books

#### THE EDMONTON DRAG **QUEEN** By Darrin Hagen

The author, under the mentorship of his drag mother, Lulu LaRude, rose to the height of glamour as Gloria Hole, performer extraordinaire at the legendary Flashback night-club. Beneath the layers of nightlife, stage lights and make-up lay the complex relationships of a chosen family. It is both hilarious and moving as we visit this exclusive party from an award winning drag star.

£ 16.99 – Heritage House





LANCE KYLE



Ainsley

#### LOVE IN BLACK & WHITE

By Lance Kyle

Scenes set in local cafes, universities, saunas the world he has created comes to take over

£12.99 – Nazca Plains

#### THE SPACE ADVENTURE **OFALEX-BOOK1** By Ainsley

Academy on Earth, he joins the Space Corps our Solar System. Even though the year is 2523, and humankind has conquered most of the world's problems... they still have a problem with love and sex. Alex is out to discover his real self... where ever he may find that elusive being.

£12.99 – Nazca Plains



#### The Cadogan Hotel

It isn't very often that you can find somewhere to stay for a city break that is a part of gay history. At The Cadogan Hotel in Knightsbridge you can find all this and more. Simon Savidge sleeps on the Wilde side…

In this very historic and old fashioned, yet bizarrely luxurious and modern, hotel you can stay in the very room where Oscar Wilde was arrested before his infamous trial.

Although the Cadogan has all the mod cons that you could possibly desire from a hotel, when you pass through the welcoming doorway it's like you are somewhere time seems to have forgotten. It's a mixture of the voluptuous Victorian and Agatha Christie chic, where afternoon tea (with never ending Champagne) is the order of the day. The food; be it afternoon tea or dinner in Lillie Langtry's famous restaurant, is absolutely stunning and really one nights stay is not enough to experience the delights of the food alone.

You also could not be located any better for some of the most delicious designer parts of London. With Prada, Dior and Valentino on the same road as the hotel, Harrods is but a five minute walk away, while Sloane Square and the Kings Road a similar walk in the other direction. So you can shop till you drop before coming back to the quiet and relaxing surroundings of the hotel lounge or your spacious room.

The rooms are incredible and though they have all the modern tweaks they still have a huge sense of history and decadence behind them, which was the theme of the hotel in its original heyday. Alas, there is no indoor pool but any fitness buffs can work out in the gym. There are also the gardens opposite, which feature tennis courts and can be gained entry from a key at reception, though if you can manage to get out of



the incredibly comfortable beds we would be amazed. Oscar's room is available but all the rooms are excellent in their size and comfort.

With such a historic room available (though do request it), such wonderful food, delightful shops nearby and friendly and attentive staff, what better way could there be to spoil yourself and a loved one over a weekend... or even have your civil partnership there! The perfect break away.

Simon was lucky enough to try the Green Carnation package weekend, which is one night with Perrier Jouet Champagne on arrival, a three course meal for two and late checkout of 4pm the next day for £399.00. For more details visit www.cadogan.com



If you'd like the chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just answer this simple question: Complete the title of another Oscar Wilde classic: The Ballad of Reading \_\_\_\_\_?

15



#### **V BLOOD AND BONE** With a frenetic pace, action and brutality



to rival any film in the genre, this is an essential recommendation for all fans of UFC, Cage Fighting and any other martial arts form. It is the story of Isaiah Bone, a mysterious drifter and master fighter who after release from prison arrives on the inner-city streets of Los Angeles to take on the meanest and toughest fighters in the underground world of street fighting and the most powerful criminal organisation on the West Coast. The heady world of back alley street fighting collides with a visually stunning action packed plot that will show the audience the real side of Ultimate Fighting.

#### Out: 25th January - £15.99 – Momentum Pictures

If you'd like the chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just answer this simple question: What do the letters UFC stand for?



#### 1 CHEFSSPECIAL



WIN

WIN

THIS

HIS

Pulsating with the energy and wit of Almodovar, director Nacho G Velilla's awardwinning debut stars Javier Cámara as Chef Maxi, a culinary genius/drama queen with too much on his plate. As if keeping his chic restaurant in the black and wrangling with his wild staff aren't enough, add in a steamy romance with a closeted soccer superstar, sexual competition from gal pal Alex and a tense reunion with his estranged children. A box-office smash in Spain and a festival favourite around the globe, this saucy comedy serves up a bellyful of laughs.

Out: 18th January - £14.99 – TLA Releasing

If you'd like the chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just answer this simple question: What do you call the small savoury appetisers served with drinks?





George Simmons (Adam Sandler) is a

successful, yet self-involved stand-up comedian and his world is turned upside down when it's revealed he has an incurable blood disorder and less than a year to live. Meanwhile, Ira Wright is a struggling up-and-coming comedian. An unlikely friendship ensues between the two funny men when George watches Ira's performance, and hires him as his opening act. Forming a close bond these two men help each other as George teaches Ira how to win the crowd and Ira helps the dying George find closure in his legacy.

Out: 18th January – DVD & Bluray - Universal Pictures Home Ents

If you'd like the chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just answer this simple question: Complete this title of another Sandler movie: I Now Pronounce You . Chuck & 7





An intense portrayal of elite soldiers who have one of the most dangerous jobs in the world: disarming bombs in the heat of combat. When a new sergeant, James, takes over a highly trained bomb disposal team amidst violent conflict, he surprises his two subordinates, Sanborn and Eldridge, by recklessly plunging them into a deadly game of urban combat. James behaves as if he's indifferent to death. As the men struggle to control their wild new leader, the city explodes into chaos, and James' true character reveals itself in a way that will change each man forever.

Out Now: DVD £19.99 BluRay £24.99 – Lionsgate/Optimum If you'd like the chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just answer this simple question: In the military what do the letters SAS stand for?





#### 🗸 A CHOICE OF COWARD

For three weeks in 1964, ITV's prestigious Play of the Week slot was given over to a short series of plays by one of the most popular and beloved playwrights of the 20th century, the legendary Noel Coward

#### Present Laughter

Garry Essendine's little indiscretions cause more than a slight upheaval in his household - particularly when everyone

decides they are going to Africa with him. Blithe Spirit Holding a seance seems like a terrific lark, but for Charles Condomine it's something a bit more than that when the ghost of his first wife turns up to haunt him.

#### The Vortex

Florence Lancaster is a neurotic woman still living in the past - she was a great beauty - and now finds pleasure in attracting younger men. Design for Living

Gilda, Otto and Leo carry on a complicated three-way relationship. Entangled with first Otto and then Leo, Gilda finally marries Ernest - but cannot dismiss "the two" out of her mind.

#### Out: 18th January - £19.99 - Network DVD

If you'd like the chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just answer this simple question: In 1968 Noel Coward starred alongside Michael Caine in which famous comedy crime caper?



#### **√** REDWOODS



#### Both original and incredibly

romantic, Redwoods tells the story of an already-partnered man whose love is tested his small Northern California town. Everett and Miles are in a comfortably platonic relationship, which is held together by raising their disabled son. While his family finally has time to himself - that is unti Chase a strikingly handsome writer, pulls up in front of his house...

**Out 11th January - £14.99 – TLA Releasing** If you'd like the chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just answer this simple question: What is the state capital of California?







It is May 1968 and the youth of France are in revolt. Catherine, Yves and Hervé are in the throes of a passionate three-way relationship, but when student uprisings turn Paris into a revolutionary warzone, they flee to the countryside and set up a commune free from morals, taboos and sexual boundaries However, the years of free love are shortlived, as their ambitions and pursuit of personal fulfilment leads to choices that will tear them apart.

Out: 25th January - £14.99 – Peccadillo Pictures If you would like the chance of winning a copy of this DVD just answer this simple question: What is the capital of France?





# SPREAD

#### **Out: 1st January**

Set in modern day Los Angeles, Spread is a hard biting story about a high-end lethario, Nikki (Ashton Kutcher), who has slept his way into a life of privilege. He shares his secrets with us as he hosts parties and beds scores of women, all while living it up at the Hollywood Hills home of a middle-aged female attorney, Samantha (Anne Heche). Everything is going swimmingly until Nikki meets gorgeous waitress, Heather (Margarita Levieva), who, unbeknownst to him, is playing the same game that he is. Inspired by classics like Shampoo, Breakfast at Tiffanys, and America Gigolo, director David Mackenzie (Hallam Foe, Young Adam), gives us an iconic look at the lure of sex, money, and access that Hollywood offers to the beautiful people, and the karmic price they must ultimately pay to live that lifestyle.

#### ▲ THE ROAD

#### Out: 8th January

Based on Cormac McCarthy's beloved, best-selling and Pulitzer Prize winning novel, Academy Award nominee Viggo Mortensen leads an all-star cast in the big screen adaptation of The Road, the epic post-apocalyptic tale of a journey taken by a father (Mortensen) and his young son (newcomer Kodi Smit-McPhee) across a barren landscape that was blasted by an unnamed cataclysm that destroyed civilization and most life on earth. Forget 2012 this is the real end of the world. Moving and captivating, one of the Oscar hopefuls we expect.



Forget Transformers... Micronauts are coming. Because we don't already have enough American toys to make movies out of, Hollywood hotshot J.J. Abrams wants to produce a movie about the Japanese interchangeable action figures.

Roland Emmerich teased us by suggesting that his world-destroying 2012 would really, no really, be his last disaster movie. Instead, he wants to bring disaster to your TV screen with a series about rebuilding after 2012

#### A PROPHET

#### Out: 22nd January

The winner of the 2009 Cannes Film Festival Grand Prix and France's official selection for the 2010 Academy Awards. Condemned to six years in prison, Malik El Djebena cannot read nor write. Arriving at the jail entirely alone, he appears younger and more fragile than the other convicts. He is 19 years old. Cornered by the leader of the Corsican gang who rules the prison, he is given a number of "missions" to carry out, toughening him up and gaining the gang leader's confidence in the process. But Malik is brave and a fast learner, daring to secretly develop his own plans. The best prison movie since Midnight Express. Also the main star, Tahar Rahim, is hot!





#### BROTHERS

#### Out: 22nd January

When a decorated Marine goes missing overseas, his black-sheep younger brother cares for his wife and children at home—with consequences that will shake the foundation of the entire family. Brothers tells the powerful story of two siblings, thirty-something Captain Sam Cahill (Tobey Maguire) and younger brother Tommy Cahill (Jake Gyllenhaal), who are polar opposites. A Marine about to embark on his fourth tour of duty, Sam is a steadfast family man married to his high school sweetheart, the aptly named Grace (Natalie Portman), with whom he has two young daughters. Tommy, his charismatic younger brother, is a drifter just out of jail who's always gotten by on wit and charm. When Sam unexpectedly returns to the States, a nervous mood settles over the family. Sam, uncharacteristically withdrawn and volatile, grows suspicious of his brother and his wife.

bent


### ▲ SEX & DRUGS & ROCK & ROLL

#### Out: 8th January

Destined to have a movie made about him, this Brit flick tells the story of lan Dury (Andy Serkis –aka Gollum), lead singer of the Blockheads who, severely disabled by polio as a boy, defied the odds to become one of Britain's most original and influential singer-songwriters. Artist, actor, the Godfather of punk, husband, lover and errant father, lan Dury was the man who put the phrase "Sex & Drugs & Rock & Roll" into the English language. Andy Serkis is mesmerizing as the legendary Dury. A performance which deserves to be rewarded with plenty of awards. If you like a bit of anarchy in your life this is for you.

### PRECIOUS

#### Out: 29th January

Already out in America, this film has been packing them into cinemas in limited release. Precious is a vibrant, honest and resoundingly hopeful film about the human capacity to grow and overcome. Set in Harlem in 1987, it is the story of Clarecee "Precious" Jones (Gabourey Sidibe), a sixteen-year-old African-American girl born into a life no one would want. She's pregnant for the second time by her absent father; at home, she must wait hand and foot on her mother (Mo'Nique), a poisonously angry woman who abuses her emotionally and physically. School is a place of chaos, and Precious has reached the ninth grade with good marks and an awful secret: she can neither read nor write. Despite all this Precious begins a journey that will lead her from darkness, pain and powerlessness to light, love and self-determination. Incredible movie. Mariah Carey has a supporting role too.

Yogi Bear will get the big-screen 3-D treatment with Dan Aykroyd voicing the titular teddy and Justin Timberlake voicing Boo Boo, his diminutive sarcastic sidekick.





Director Tony Scott is attached to direct a biopic of the guy who created Chippendales, got super rich, went batshit crazy, and died in jail. A sleazefest must-see for the bods and big hair alone!

From the rumour mill comes word that another stab at making a decent Star Wars trilogy that isn't a craptastic cartoon or TV series may be under way, to be completely 3-D. Before you start rolling your eyes, know this: this rumor also claims George Lucas wouldn't direct it.

Zombieland 2! Despite piracy rumours stunting sequel plans, director Ruben Fleischer confirms everyone's down for Zombieland Part Deux. Possibly even in 3D!



### TENTHINGS YOU NEVER KNEW ABOUT GEORGE GLOONEY

1. He says he will never get married again, nor have any children, but Michelle Pfeiffer and Nicole Kidman both bet \$10,000 each that he would be a father before he turned 40. They were both wrong, and each sent him a cheque. He returned the money, betting double or nothing that he won't have kids by age 50. He is now 48.

2. Nephew of singer/actress Rosemary Clooney and Betty Clooney.

3. Owned a pet pig named Max, given to him by Kelly Preston, for eighteen years. Max died on December 1, 2006.

4. Studied acting at The Beverley Hills Playhouse.

5. He was talk-show host Rosie O'Donnell's very first guest when her TV show debuted.

6. Committed to O Brother, Where Art Thou? (2000) before even reading a script.

7. Has stated in several interviews that he has suffered from bleeding stomach ulcers and is still on medication for stomach pain to this day.

8. In winning the Best Supporting Actor Oscar for Syriana (2005), he became the second generation of his family to win an Oscar. His uncle, José Ferrer, won a Best Actor Oscar for playing in Cyrano de Bergerac (1950).

9. He loves South Park. He got hold of Trey Parker, the creator of the series, and asked for a part in an episode. He was given the role of Sparky, the gay dog.

10. Auditioned five times for Ridley Scott for the role of J.D. in Thelma & Louise (1991), a role that ultimately went to future friend Brad Pitt and catapulted Pitt to super-stardom.

The grey-haired hunk that is George Clooney stars in new comedy drama Up In The Air from Juno director Jason Reitman, out 15th January.





IN THAILAND

### **By Darrell Hirst**

Few capital cities can regard themselves as on a par with Bangkok. Thailand's main urban centre is simply excess in all of its unrestrained glory. Bigger, better, more; the city is insatiable, a monster that feeds on its people, its smells, its tuk-tuk exhaust and carries poverty and extravagance as easily as religion and repression. Mainly a Buddhist culture where smiles and sà-nùk (the Thai word for 'fun') and a few Thai Bart... are the key passports into Bangkok life.

The best place to start your Bangkok experience is the fabulous Babylon Complex. Set just slightly away from the gay Bangkok streets, its popularity and pulling power as the-place-to-be is signified by the stream of taxis that constantly arrive at its plush entrance to unload visitors from all over the world.

From the genuine greeting at reception from the hotel boys you know that you are in for an experience of a lifetime. Babylon has everything. A huge, and incredibly busy sauna, a large glass fronted gym where locals as well as guests pump their muscles and sweat as they rep those heavy weights. The sight of all those firm torsos, bulging pecs and gorgeous guys is worth a visit to the complex on its own. In the bars and restaurants a very international clientele chat amiably with each other and the locals and, with regular events and parties by the pool, the fun and festive atmosphere soon reaches a hot and dynamic crescendo.

Should you want to visit the city's night life beyond Babylon – the gay bars, clubs and entertainment are but a short taxi or tuk-tuk ride away

Babylon offers accommodation at all levels. From the cheaper bed & breakfast rooms with communal showers (a favourite with many guests) to the fabulous penthouse apartments. Each suite has been individually designed and furnished yet all reflecting the unique Babylon Style; a bold and sophisticated fusion of Thai and Western interior decorative inspiration, which makes extensive use of natural materials. Classical and modern, traditional yet contemporary; these suites take the concept of accommodation to a new level of elegance, sophistication and comfort.

There are areas to relax and with a bevy of cute professional masseurs you shouldn't miss out on the opportunity to experience something that you wont forget for a long time. Meanwhile, and for those who are interested in such things, the complex and rooms are virtually completely wi-fi accessible but, I would argue that if you are sat at your computer... you are not experiencing everything that Babylon has to offer... a veritable pleasuredome of taste... and fun... and freedom.

Bent would like to thank everyone at Babylon for the attention they received on their recent visit. In particular the General Manager, Sak and Adrian, the Marketing Manager both of whose enthusiasm for the complex was very contagious... we just cannot wait to return.

www.babylonbangkok.com







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## Welcome to BOYZTOWN words and pics by Darrell Hirst

Pattaya is Thailand's main beach resort town, about 2 hours drive southeast of Bangkok on the Gulf of Thailand, and one & half hours from the International Airport.

It is a big, bustling town with tourists and resident ex-pats from all over the world. There are many gay and gay friendly hotels that will make you feel welcome and it has an almost exclusively commercial gay scene, centred mainly around "Boyztown".

Many say Boyztown is the Blackpool of Asia... but with the heat... and it has to be said, that the place has everything you could possibly want without the tower. By day the place has a long beach on which to relax, taking in the gorgeous swim-suited guys or enjoying a Thai massage but as the evening draws on, the colour and life's blood of the resort comes to life.

Boys Boys Boys is the place to go for fabulous drag shows hosted by the lovely Jim.

With lavish frocks, glitter décor and sparkling setting, the venue really does get you in the

swing for a party. As well as the drag is the gorgeous parade of Thai cuties dancing and twirling their supple bodies to the best disco beats.

No matter where you go in the town there is always gay entertainment in one form or another. Everywhere has a show, even the lads on the street corners want to show you what they've got... and for a few Thai baht they are happy to share it with you.

There's a new super club called Nab which has quickly become one of the places to be seen. This is the place where the Thai non working boys go to but still has a huge compliment of hot and sexy dancers and models with bodies to match.

There are a multitude of bars, go-go clubs, saunas, gay-friendly cafes and restaurants but often the turn around, name changes or they just close down means that keeping an up to date list is very difficult. Check online for current venues.

There are a lot of willing 'boys' in Pattaya who offer their services through the go-go bars, or on a 'freelance' basis. After an introductory chat and a few drinks, an agreement may be made to leave an establishment with a partner, and, if a fee is involved, this will usually be negotiated beforehand.

Some people despair at this side of Thai culture, others see it as a way of finding a partner, other's regard it as a fact of life. Thailand is a beautiful country and for many visitor it's just... Paradise.

With thanks to The Ambiance Hotel: located just around the corner from the beach and right in the middle of Boyztown, is Pattaya's premiere destination for the most discriminating gay traveller.

www.ambiance-pattaya.com www.gayaffairspattaya.com







### FANTASTIC FUERTEVENTURA!

Loved Lanzarote? Tried Tenerife? Done Gran Can? Adrian Gillan samples that other volcanic Atlantic Spanish island idyll off the African coast: glorious Fuerteventura!

It might not be the biggest Canary - it's second to Tenerife on that count - but Fuerteventura is definitely the longest, measuring 60 miles from Corralejo in the north to Punta de Jandia in the south; and is just 8 miles south of neighbouring Lanzarote and scarce 60 miles west of the West African coast.

Invaded by Spain six centuries ago, Fuerteventura's current 80,000-strong resident population has become increasingly dwarfed, since the 1970s, by an invasion of tourists seeking its year-round warmth and sunshine - plus cooling, steady breezes, so perfect for wind- and water-sports. This influx has brought a degree of financial security, plus the odd maverick call for independence from the motherland!



### TO STAY

Corralejo Beach Hotel (Víctor Grau Bassas 1; T: +34 928 068 000; www.corralejobeach.com) – Stylish gay-friendly 4\* hotel on the north western tip of the island, just a one minute stroll from the main "downtown" beach in buzzing Carralejo. Excellent pool, grounds and eatery.

## TO BOOZE'N CRUISE

Corralejo... C.C. Sol Atlántico - Since the recent closure of Bubbles bar, local gays have generally shifted a few yards over to mixed Dorada bar and Mafasca club, both in the C.C. Sol Atlántico, between the high street and beach - especially street and beach – especially later on at night, post 2am, when queer hotel staff clock off. Corralejo Grandes Playas -South of Corralejo lies the 11 km long dune area of the National Park (Parque Natural de las Dunas de Corralejo). Naturists use the quieter parts of the beach just south of the Tres Islas hotel. Elsewhere... More secluded bits of almost

any naturist beach!

### **TO SEE & DO** NORTH

Bahia Vital Spa @ Gran Hotel Atlantis Bahía Real, Corralejo (www.granhotelatlantisbahiareal. com) - Choose from seventeen treatment areas and rooms, including heated swimming pool with a sub-aquatic massage circuit, shower temple, hydro jet, Turkish baths, sauna, oriental rasulbath and outside Jacuzzi, plus fully equipped gym. Treat yourself to a hot stone massage or cleansing hamam ritual!

Parque Natural de las Dunas – Europe's very own Sahara! Large sandy dunes bordering the sea just south of Corralejo, brimming with wildlife – including the human kind!Isla de los Lobos Nature reserve just off-shore from Corralejo, easily reached by boat, and perfect for a secluded 3-4 hour round-ramble!Lanzarote – Fuerteventura's famous volcanic neighbour lies mere minutes north of Corralejo by regular high-speed ferry, docking at the pleasant resort of Playa Blanca.Cueva del Llano – Fascinating volcanic lava flow tunnel and cave system, also home to unique insect species.

*El Toston* – Historic garrison tower on rocky cliffs overlooking

charming fishing village, El Cotillo, just 15 miles south west of Corralejo. Near fab beaches, many nude.La Oliva – Picturesque town 10 miles south of Corralejo, full of interesting 18th Century architecture, including the delightful gem that is the Casa de los Coroneles, the island's HQ for two centuries. A little further south lies the distinctively pyramidal "Sacred Mount" Tindaya, from the top of which one can, on a clear day, see all the way over to Mount Teide on Tenerifé.Puerto del Rosario – Fuerteventura's capital city, with its promenade beach complete with lime ovens, brand new cruise port and Las Rotondas shopping centre. Check out the El Cangrejo Colorao restaurant (C/ Juan Ramon Jimenez, 1 Puerto del Rosario; T: +34 928 858477), boasting traditional Canary food.



**Betancuria** - Historical oldest settlement of all the Canary Islands. Important sites include the San Buenaventura Convent Archaeological Museum and Santa María de Betancuria church. Also check out the wonderful Casa Santa Maria restaurant (www. restaurantecasasantamaria.com) with its magical interior and courtyard.

Vega de Rio Palmas (Valley of Palms) – Ancient route of settlers and pilgrims, this lush literal valley of palms is an oasis winding through an otherwise dry and barren landscape, and dotted with picturesque villages, and atmospheric restaurants like Don Antonio (www. restaurantedonantonio.eu). Ajuy – On the central west coast, dramatic black sandy beach beneath fossil-dune cliffs plus caves.

Jandia Peninsula – Mountains, wildlife and stunning beaches: the southern peninsula of Fuerteventura has it all! Enjoy La Barca beach, the new Mirador de Los Canarios viewing-point, the Esquinzo-Butihondo area (including fab Marabú restaurant, www.marabu-online.com), Morro Jable, plus sundry sandy beaches. Caleta de Fuste -Important touristic centre, featuring castle, beach and golf courses.

Monarch 101010-001 111111111111

### **OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS**

Award-winning low fares airline Monarch offers year-round flights to Fuerteventura from Birmingham, London Gatwick, London Luton and Manchester airports with fares, including taxes, starting from £53 one way (£90 return). Monarch also offers a unique range of tasty hot and cold meals onboard, with prices from £3.00. Seats can be pre-booked at £7.50 per one-way flight to avoid the last minute free-for-all experienced on some other airlines; or, for only £25, extra-legroom seats are available, with up to six inches of extra space. Passengers travelling on scheduled flights can also avoid the queues at the airport and take advantage of online check-in, available between seven days and 4½ hours prior to departure. For more information or to book, visit www.monarch.co.uk General info about Fuerteventura: www.fuerteventuraturismo.com Gay info about Fuerteventura: www.fuerteventuragayguide.com or www.gayfuerteventura.com General info on Spain: www.spain.info/uk; or request a brochure via 08459 400 180 (24 hrs)

Spanish Tourist Office: PO Box 4009, London, W1A 6NB; T: 020 7486 8077; F: 020 7486 8034; E: info.londres@tourspain.es

### **BE RESOLUTE**

The secret to keeping to an exercise programme throughout the year is for fitness to become a routine rather than just another one of those resolutions we make. Exercise must become part of a long-term regular routine rather than be thought of as a short-term solution.

The No. 1 New Year's resolution people have is to tone up and lose weight and it is really not that difficult. The problem is many people expect it to be done overnight and they lose their motivation when it doesn't happen. To help stick with a new workout plan, I would like to give you this quick and simple advice.

Join a gym that is convenient - someplace close.

Ask for personal attention, most gyms have fitness advisors or personal trainers that can help navigate equipment and devise a fitness plan for you to follow (check my site for more info on this service).

> Get the OK from a doctor before beginning a new workout routine.

Aim to meet goals gradually.

Schedule exercise into your calendar and incorporate exercise into your daily routine.

For the best results... and to give you something to aim for... make that commitment now... summer isn't that far away.

Good luck boyz!

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### The Back Strengthener

Simply lie face down on your bed, your arms crossed and your head gently resting on them. Let all your muscles sink in to your mattress, then focus on drawing your belly button up tight to your spine. Hold this for 10 seconds then release. Repeat 3 times. This will strengthen the core muscles that support your back and tone your waist at the same time.

### The Cat Stretch

Now come up on to your hands and knees, still staying on the bed. Ensure your palms are directly under your shoulders and your knees directly under your hips. Arch your back as if you are being pulled up by a belt, hold this stretch in your back and then, keeping your hands in the same position, slowly aim to sit on your heels. This will give you a great stretch through your back. Hold for 5 seconds, slowly come back up to the start position and repeat twice more.

### The Curl Up

Roll over so you are lying on your back and gently bend both your knees to your chest. Place your arms around your knees, hugging them close into you and hold this for 10 seconds.

### The Twist

Finish off with gently easing your feet back to the bed. Keeping knees bent, take your arms over to one side and, gently keeping the knees together, let them drop to the opposite side to your arms. You will feel a lovely stretch through your back. Hold for 10 seconds then slowly bring the knees back up to the centre and gently let them ease down to the other side and bring your arms over to the opposite side. Hold for 10 seconds.

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Basement Leeds: Purpose built just three years ago, on two floors in a railway arch just a few steps away from Leeds' gay scene and yards from the city's train station. Both venues offer the best in sauna facilities; with stunning lounges, fun wet zones and large cruising areas. www.basementcomplex.co.uk

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www.basebargc.com

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Gran Canaria's newest Cruz Bar in the Yumbo 0034 928 764611



- 1 If you are there busily cheating on your lover, don't make a scene should you discover him enjoying what is on offer.
- 2 People who say, "I've never done that before," should be informed that the ability to deep throat is not genetic.
- 3 The law of increasing good looks: People tend to become more attractive the longer you are there.
- 4

There's an old saying that 'in the dark all cats are 'grey', but believe me... you can always tell when it's ten inches.

It's okay to bring your own rope; it's not okay to tie yourself up.





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- Internet access

Open seven days a week: Sun to Thurs 11am - 10pm. Fri & Sat 11am - 7am. Entrance fee from £8

50-52 Scotswood Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7JB t: 0191 2212189 e: info@number52sauna.co.uk Newcastle's hottest new venue Number 52 has now gone over the 6 month mark and is fast becoming the most recommend sauna in the North East. Situated in the heart of the gay triangle Number 52 is the only sauna which boasts a full premises license.

Since opening in May this stylish new venue is going from strength to strength. With everything you'd expect from a sauna and more, it's not surprising it is now Newcastle's favourite hot (and steamy) spot. It even has its own private courtyard and provides dressing gowns for the clients to use. (nice touch)

Their first Bears night mid-December was a great success, with hairy, heavy, horny guys descending on the sauna from all over the area. Plans are now underway for a second Bear extravaganza so, visit the website for further details at www.number52sauna.co.uk Where you can sign up as a member, to receive news and special offers as well as post comments and chat in their forum.

### With a very warm welcome we're sure you won't be disappointed with what this popular venue has to offer.

Number 52 Sauna, 52 Scotswood Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7JB. Tel: 0191 2212189 info@number52sauna.co.uk







46

# Wet and steamy

WetWetWet Sauna is ideally located within the centre of Blackpool, being just a 2 minutes walk from the Gay Village and Blackpool North Train Station. Our aim is to provide you with a quality experience, second to none in Blackpool, with all the facilities you would expect while offering you a safe, comfortable and relaxed environment where you can unwind and enter a world of relaxation and enjoyment.

Our 12 man Dry Sauna is a great place to get hot and sweaty and not just from the heat! It features comfortable wooden seating, allowing you to relax and unwind while your imagination takes you wherever you want to go.

Our bespoke Steam takes up to 13 guys, is hot and humid with a hint of Eucalyptus and sometimes gets very steamy! The bubbling Hot Tub is located within the decked garden area and enables you to lay back while being massaged by the powerful water jets. Monday 11am until Late (Yes the return of the best way to start the week)

Saturday Noon right thru to Sunday 10pm (The weekend has never been so wet... for so long!)

Wet Wet Wet Complex 1-3 Charles Street Blackpool FY1 3EJ t. 01253 751 119 e.wetwetwetsauna@btinternet.com www.wetwetwetsauna.co.uk





# CSSCRIDTA PARRYING

No self respecting gay boy or girl should visit Manchester without stopping for a drink or two in The Gay Village. If that drink (or three) should turn into a full-on party then there is only one place that will guarantee lots of gorgeous totty and a great night out - Manchester's very own gay superclub - Essential.

Spanning three floors, you can dance your ass off to the latest tunes in The Main Arena - party in the Pop Lounge or just sit and chill with your mates on The Middle Floor.

As ever, Hostess with the Mostest, Miss Chrissy Darling will be on hand to take your photo (or pinch your bum)and those hot muscle boys just get better and better.

**ESSENTIAL** so aptly named as it has been an essential part of The Gay Village for years!

www.essentialmanchester.con



# saturday 26th december 2009 11pm - 6am

**BOXING DA** 

THADDEUS, ALAN STEVENS & APHRODITE IN THE MAIN ARENA & NICKSY & CO IN THE POP LOUNGE

plus club freaks | sexy muscle boys | go-go dancers

### ADMISSION: £5 BEFORE MIDNIGHT

THEN £7 MEMBERS / £8 GUESTS







The big New Year's Eve event in The Village this year is Cirque d'Essential a huge all nighter from 10pm - 6am. Tickets for this event are a credit crunch bustin £10 available from Clone Zone Manchester and Queer Bar - buy early to avoid disappointment! A NYE special Mornin' Glory will take place at Queer (Richmond Street Entrance)

The best music from the best DJs and an atmosphere that will be second to none... performing animals may be out... but hunky muscle boys... now that's a different thing altogether.

www.essentialmanchester.com







# THURSDAY 31ST DECEMBER 09 10PM - 6AM

essentia

NEW YEAR'S EVE

THE BIG COUNT DOWN BEGINS WITH THE BIGGEST NYE PARTY IN THE VILLAGE DJ'S THADDEUS, ALAN STEVENS & APHRODITE IN THE MAIN ARENA & NICKSY & CO IN THE POP LOUNGE. HOSTED BY CHRISSY DARLING AND HER MUSCLE BOYS

### ADVANCE TICKETS JUST £10 FROM CLONE ZONE MANCHESTER & QUEER BAR

FOLLOWED BY: NEW YEAR'S MORNIN' GLORY @ QUEER (RICHMOND STREET ENTRANCE)



# NEWYEAR'S EVE

17

### THURSDAY 31ST DEC 2009 10.30PM – MEGA LATE!

Don't miss the biggest party in Gay Manchester, packed full of Village people welcoming in the New Year and partying til the early hours!

Miss Cara and the Cruz team will ensure you have way too much fun!

Almighty Donald & Rob James play Pop, Disco, Dance & RnB Party Anthems, remixes you will not hear anywhere else in the Village.

Early Bird Tickets are available now from Cruz reception and cost just £5, Advance tickets from Monday 7th Dec will cost £9 and then £10 from Monday 21st Dec. Make sure you buy your tickets early to get a great bargain!

### FRIDAY 1ST JAN 2010 NEW YEAR'S DAY

The Back2Back Village Recovery Party

Cruz & Poptastic join forces to bring you the first Back2Back of 2010 & the wildest Friday night party in Manchester.



The busiest place to welcome in 2010 Join Miss Cara & the Cruz team for the party of the year!

> Pop, Disco, Dance & RnB Party Anthems Almighty Donald & Rob James Advance Tickets 21st Dec - 31st Dec • £10 Available from www.guaytickets.com • T: 0843 208 0500 • Clone Zone • Cruz Reception



101 Princess Street, Manchester. M1 6DD. T: 0161 9500 101 F: 0161 2373 412 www.cruz101.com Limited wheelchair access



# is going to be huge this year!

We feel with money being tight people are looking for a bargain night out this New Year's Eve - and at VIA you will certainly not be disappointed. With Tuitti Fruitti again taking centre stage, which means party-pop playing upstairs with all the classics from the 70s, 80s, 90s - when they new how to make 'exciting' videos relayed on the giant plasma screens

Down stairs in VIA 2, DJ's Dean Savage and Andy Heyward will be playing their own hot house, club classics, gay anthems right thru 'til 4 am, admission is for a nominal £2.00 per head and a mere £l more after midnight. Why not make this New Year's Eve really special and enjoy a 4 course gourmet meal in our restaurant? Full choice of menu for only £22.95 per head, including admission, early booking for this Gaia evening in our restaurant is advisable







### STOP PRESS!

Photos: Darrell Hirst

Make a note of the date -Friday Showtime 15th January - after her sensational appearance here at Manchester Pride we welcome back the sensational Melissa Totten... she is Madonna

# VIA

bar - restaurant - club

# **TUTTI FRUTTI** where the party is!

With your hostess Rusty Springflaps and DJs Savage and Aitch

# entry £2 donation only **8pm - 4am** speciality 4 course menu only £22.95 + free entry

28/30 Canal Street, Manchester, M1 3EZ tel: 0161 236 6523 email; via0975@tcg-uk.com



# The spirit of... NEWYEAR

It's that special night of the year when kissing a loved one or snogging a stranger is what celebrating the New Year is all about. Spirit is offering a free glass of bubbly to the first 200 guests plus free shots giveaways to keep the festive spirit going.

Meanwhile, the venue's hot and sexy bar boys and dancers will be keeping the temperature high as they mix and mingle in the best party tradition. And, with just one party left of the season, Organic have certainly pulled it out of the bag. For their NYE 2010 after-hours they are teaming up with Bounce Therapy, Spirit Bar and Toolbox House for what they are calling Pandora's Box. From 2am until 12noon Spirit & Audio on Canal Street will transform into a den of curiosity after-hours style and feature the biggest and best DJ's from Manchester Gay Scene... past and present. Three floors of fun for those who like it chic, up-beat and welcoming, where party people can party hard.

Spirit, Canal Street, Manchester www.spiritbar.uk.com

AR . CLUB & ROOF TERRACE





# (Spirit) **Boxing Day Madness!**

# Get into the Boxing Day Spirit with free shot giveaways, prizes, sexy bar boyz & dancers!

Lounge Bar 9pm-4am The Funkmeister Roger da Silva's funky floor fillers Audio Room 9pm-3am The Pop Diva with balls - Belinda // pop / old skool disco / chart

Audio Room - super late 3am-8am The greatest and longest gay after-hours club night ORGANIC Enjoy a free shot on arrival and the cheapest drinks offers in the village!

# New Year's Eve Ball

# Free glass of bubbly for first 200 guests Free shot giveaways, sexy bar boyz & dancers!

Lounge Bar 9pm-4am

Roger da Silva giving away his FREE Spirit CD! Plus special guest DJs

### Audio Room 9pm-2am

The best drag DJ of all - Belinda spinning the best 2009 chart toppers, yesteryear pop and old skool party hits... And giving away lovely prizes from her sack!

Audio Room - super late 3am-12noon ORGANIC presents 'Pandora's Box' with undoubtably the best line up of DJs to hit Canal St, seeing in

VODKA KICK

Download some amazing drinks vouchers from www.spiritbar.uk.com Spirit, Canal Street, Manchester 0161 2379725 SPONSORED BY ROAR. Management reserve right to withdraw offers. Over 18s. Please drink responsibly.



0





# 12 Hours of Celebration

Prepare yourself for the definitive party night of the year, as once again the Flamingo brings you the ultimate end of year celebrations. Don those glad rags for the grand finale to 2009, and welcome in 2010 in style.

Expect nothing less than an astounding night filled with style, uplifting anthems and a live performance from the voice of the Freemasons, Amanda Wilson – making a welcome return to Flamingo bringing her inimitable style and glamour to the best party in town. Boy George also returns to the decks at Flamingo for a live DJ set, alongside resident DJ's keeping the beats fierce, and the mix bold in a 12 hour extravaganza from 9pm to 9am.

Flamingo has a reputation for bringing only the best and most memorable events to the town... so make sure you don't miss out. Advance tickets are £12

Flamingo, 44 Queen Street, Blackpool. www.flamingoonline.co.uk





# ARDIGRAS

The name Mardi Gras stands for carnival and celebration and those lovely folk at Blackpool's finest venue are not stinting on the entertainment over the New Year period.

With free entry on New Year's Eve afternoon and a bevy of talent on the night... the merriment continues well into 2010. For those who can't get enough... they are open New Years Day, once again offering entertainment and cheap drinks from noon until 7pm. Then over the festive weekend (and before the inevitable return to work) there's even more entertainment from strippers, to drag, to singers and to Eurovision Song Contestant, Nicki French. Party til.... Late!

Tickets are now on sale for New Years Eve and for full listings of all the Cabaret check out the Mardi Gras Website at www.themardigrasblackpool.com







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Club & Sauna concessions

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www.granbylodge.com





**OPEN ALL YEAR** Minutes from the Gay Scene mail: willowfieldgh@blueyonder.co.uk www.willowfield-guesthouse.co.uk



### Monday -Thursday nights **MEN ONLY. NO DRESS CODE**

Usual facilities in all rooms. Close to scene and shops etc. Most rooms en-suite and late 'Brekkie'.

www.westfieldhousehotel.co.uk westfield house@hotmail.com Concessions to The Flamingo and Aqua Sauna

### Look at what we have wrapped up this Christmas & New Year

Christmas Eve: Christmas Day: Boxing Day: Sun 27th Dec: New Years Day: Most Drinks £1 Kelly Wilde Fierce Claudia Patrice Rowetta

# BOY GEORGE Exclusive DJ Set

**Advance Tickets** 

now on sale @

ann

AMANDA WILSON Voice of the freemasons

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MARCVED

Live DJ Set

44 Queen Street. Blackpool. FY1 2AY. Tel: 01253 649151. www.flamingoonline.co.uk - www.facebook.com/flamingoonline

# New Years Eve MARD

(afternoon) pen from noon until 6pm + FREE ADMISSION CHEAP DRINKS NOON UNTIL 6pm

### re-open @ 8pm (evening)

Merci (Vocal Duo) Joanna Shorrock (Vocalist) with DJ Keiron & Stella Artois

Open until 4am

New Years Day

(afternoon)

🗼 \* Laina B (Vocalist)

Maurice Malone (Vocalist) 🏄

(evening)

Stephanie Young (Vocalist)

Nikki Millar (Vocalist)

Cheap drinks noon until 7pm.

Admission £2 from 9pm

Open until 3am



# Sat 21

(after Dynamite (M (ever The Stars fr Cheap drinks r Admission £2 Open ur

# Sunday

(after Stella Artois 2 Staxx (Mal (ever Roberts an (Vocalis Emma Wrig

+ our Spe Nikki (Voca

als Tyson (Mal Cheap Drinks n Free Admission

114 talbot road blackpool tel: 01253 > 06

# GRAS Id Jan

noon) ale Stripper) ning) om the Bars oon until 7pm .00 from 9pm ntil 3am

# 3rd Jan

noon) 2:30pm - 7pm e Stripper) ning) d Ashcroft t) - 8pm nt (Vocalist) cial Guest French alist)

so e Stripper) oon until close open until 4am



Thursday 28th

an

Launch Party with lots of Special Guests

Auction & Raffle Cheap Drinks neon until close FREE Admission Open until 3am

## 262 www.themardigrasblackpool.com

Vilde

French



# the VIADUCT

### **The Viaduct Showbar**

Everyone is talking about the New Year's Eve Masquerade Ball, where you are encouraged to frock-up to access and celebrate the coming of the new year with style, panache and a costume as outrageous as you dare. For a mere £6 admission they are offering, music, a show, a prize for the best costume and... a buffet. In these cash strapped times it will be hard to find a better offer for what promises to me a memorable night.

Meanwhile, the team are already planning an exciting 2010, and with something going on every night of the week, Anna Glypta and Miss Carla Jackson will be showcasing even more talented acts, both old and new, at the Viaduct.

### Check out – viaductleedsfacebook for all the latest news and offers .

The Viaduct, Lower Briggate, Leeds Tel: 01133912741





# NEW YEAR'S EVE MASQUERADE BALL

ine

## THURSDAY 31ST DEC BUFFET, PRIZE FOR BEST COSTUME £6 Ask at the venue for details

MONDAY CHILL OUT House Doubles & Mixer only £2.00 Draught / Fosters £1.50 Pint 6PM Till Close

> **TUESDAY** KARAOKE

WEDNESDAY CAMP NIGHT WITH DJ DEGGSIE

THURSDAY MISS CARLA JACKSON & GUESTS

> FRIDAY DJ ANNA GLYPTA

SATURDAY MISS CARLA JACKSONS SEXY BOYS & GIRLS SHOW

DJ DCB PLAYING ON THE DECKS



The Management Staff would like to thank you for your fantastic support during 2009! Wishing you the very best for 2010

THE VIADUCT | LOWER BRIGGATE | LEEDS | LS1 4AE TEL 0113 391 2741 VIADUCTLEEDSFACEBOOK





### Fun Fundraiser

All the staff and management would like to thank all there customers for the massive effort's they made for the World Aids Charity event! We managed to raise over £500 with Nicky Cordingley raising £170 by having her head shaved! We are however hoping to eventually make that up to over a £1000 as we have still got 2 raffle's still to be drawn! So call in and buy a raffle ticket you could win 1a gallon of draught every week for 1 whole year! and or a room for 2 @ The Great Victoria Hote!!

Ladies! We are having a night on the last Thursday in January especially for all you sexy ladies... so keep checking out facebook for all the details, special offers and prizes!!!! Any Drag Kings and or Burlesque dancers interested in performing should give Uber a call!

Massive new news for Bradford's ever growing gay scene is the arrival of a brand new spectacular Cabaret Nightclub 'THE VILLAGE' opening soon!

The club will be open 7 nights with a 3am license from Sunday to Wednesday and a 6am license from Thursday to Saturday!

There will also be a free bus returning back to Brighouse/Halifax/Huddersfield... Leeds... Keighley! Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights only!

So keep watching this space and check out 'The Village' on Facebook for the latest news about VIP entry and guest list!

Bar Uber, 26 Sackville Street, Bradford BD1 2A







#### State of the second second

SASS AND FUNK TO

### CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR HIGHLIGHTS:

BRINGING STYLE, THE BRADFO

CHRISTMAS EVE SEXY SANTA NIGHT & FREE DRINK

for every SEXY SANTA, visit our winter wonderland with amazing PYROTECHNICS and SNOW MACHINE. Along with the gorgeous 'ROSE KELLY' bringing you festive fun, tunes and CABARET

**BOXING DAY** 'MATT ZINA' plays the very best in FUNKY HOUSE and DANCE!

**SUNDAY 27th** We have a SPECIAL EVENT for you...'MAYHEM and MADNESS' with 'THAT BLONDE MAN' playing the very best in VOCAL ELECTRO

**NEW YEAR'S EVE** the biggest and bestest party of the year with a FREE DRINK for everyone in FANCY DRESS plus 'MATT ZINA' manning the decks. Bring in the NEW YEAR with fabulous party FIREWORKS and PYROTECHNICS. The party starts @ 7pm with a little break from 11.55pm to 12.05 am so that you can bring in the NEW YEAR singing 'AULD LANG SYNE' and kiss all those people you have been wanting to kiss all year long. The party will then continue till 4am

26 SACKVILLE STREET, BRADFORD B

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS:

**THURSDAYS** Every THURSDAY we have the cheeky 'MISS GRETA ORTON' bringing you karaoke and a FREE SUPPER plus HAPPY HOUR prices!

**FRIDAYS** Every Friday we have the wicked and wonderful 'MISS BLANCHE"

**SATURDAYS** Every SATURDAY our very own MATT ZINA plays the very best in FUNKY HOUSE and DANCE!

**SUNDAY 3rd JAN** We will be bringing you a repeat performance of the SUNDAY MAYHEM vocal electro. ALL DRINKS 2-4-1!

> SUNDAYS: ALL DRINKS 2-4-1, thats EVERY DRINK 2-4-1

### **HAPPY HOURS**

House Doubles - £1.49

Carling - £1.75

John Smiths - £1.60

VK - 2-4-1

### WHAT'S ON BRADFORD

# The New Union at.. THESUN

With daily happy hours, regular 2-4-1 special offers, consistently low prices coupled with the best of Bradford's entertainers... it is no surprise The Sun has regained it's status as the city's best gay party pub.

Open 7 nights a week and with something different every night there is never an excuse to be bored at home. The entire staff at The New Union are busy planning how to make sure 2010 will be one of The Sun's best years ever. We can already confirm that after a very successful search to find a star 'The Sun's Got Talent' will return bigger than before full details coming soon. To keep up to date and get all the latest news on the pub's goings on - make sure you join their facebook group "The New Union @ The Sun"











Mon BOGOF 2-4-1 On Selected Drink

N/

## Tue

Dame Judy's Quiz & Bingo With Free Supper

Wed Free Pool From 7pm

Thu Open The Box With Marigold Addams

Thank Frock It's Friday With The Best Drag Entertainers Around

Fri

The Origianl & Still The Best Gay Party Pub In Bradford Open 7 Days A Week

Fun In The Sun Madness & Mayhem With Missy Mincin & DJ Adam

Sat

Camp Karaoke With The Infamous MarkyMark + 2-4-1 VK's & Free Shots For Singers

Su

The New Union @ The Sun 124 Sunbridge Road Bradford BD1 2ND | Tel: 01274 737722





After an amazing 2009 the team at The New Union Wakefield are looking forward to bringing you a great 2010 full of drinks offers and great entertainment.

Talking of great entertainment; on top of everyone's favourite night - Saturday Night Live, which will be every third Saturday, we will be bringing a different live act to Wakefield every month. From tribute acts such as Melissa Totten, the UK's No1 Madonna tribute and Kyla Porter who is the closest thing toP!nk without being the girl herself. Diva's like Hed Kandi & Fierce Angel's Soraya Vivian to 80's Sensation Hazell Dean. With MarkyMark & Miss Sordid as your hosts Saturday Night Live will be the biggest night of the month. As always at The New Union Wakefield, it will be FREE Entry with some of the cheapest drinks in town.

All your usual favourite nights like Miss Sordid's Politically Incorrect Quiz & Bingo on Tuesdays, MarkyMark's Camp Karaoke on Thursdays, Just B with DJ Tommi B on Fridays and Over The Rainbow with MarkyMark & Miss Sordid on Saturdays will continue to keep you all entertained throughout 2010.

Management and staff would also like to offer a big THANK YOU for continuing to make The New Union, the No1 choice for a night out in Wakefield. Prices will be slashed during January to make sure no matter how skint you are after Christmas you can still afford to play out.

The New Union January Sale starts at 7pm on 2nd January and will continue all through the month.













# GAYLICIOUS

Now in its successful 4th year, and having hosted the 2009 Darlington Pride after party, Gaylicious keeps going from strength to strength. Comfortably nestled in the cellar bar of Joe's Restaurant and Bar this a once a week extravaganza is enough to entice any gay boy or girl to let go of their inhibitions.

Every Monday night dig out your frocks and join the Gaylicious team where music, drag, entertainment and sweet boys are around to make the night go with a hoot. Friendly staff are on hand to efficiently dispense your desired tipple with a smile and no attitude... and with the entry set at the delicious price of free... it couldn't really get much better.

Joe's Cellar Bar @ Joe Rigatonis, The Imperial Centre, Grange Road, Darlington Tel: 001642244777







RESTAURANT BAR



### Darlington's fruitiest drag extravaganza.

every monday

CELLAR BAR

TAX

flick ma beanduchess davinyalucyliciousher madgestiuma gawdgina tonic& guests

at

FREE ENTRY all night!

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

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# GY/IAWAKENING

MARKUS

FIGTION

an awakening... to the real pleasures of the gym.

You know, that moment when someone catches your eye and all your thoughts are directed towards that person. Ideas creep into your head about what you'd like to do to him and what you hope he'd do to you and that's all you can think about. Last Monday was that day. I was in the locker room changing into my kit and had just pulled on my shorts when the sexy image of a hot hunk changing in the corner caught my eye and sent my mind racing towards all kinds of possibilities. It was his trackie bottoms that did it; tight, very shiny, almost plastic-looking that wrapped around his arse muscles and superbly packed crotch, making it look like he was especially fitted into them. Hell, I thought, this is one very sexy young guy and I couldn't take my eyes off of him. He pulled off his sweaty T-shirt and threw it onto the bench and reached for a towel hidden in his locker. His taut muscles looked fantastic and as he stood on his tiptoes a little to get a better reach, his pants slicked to his body like cling-film. I could have made a mess in my shorts there and then but he seemed totally unaware of my existence... or so I thought.



He saw me in mid-ogle and smiled mischievously at my discomfort. His face lit up as he nodded an acknowledgement and looked down at my stiffness pushing out the fabric of my flimsy shorts. His tight trackie bottoms had pulled tightly around his crotch and displayed a very welcoming and sturdy piece of youthful meat. He stood for a moment aware of the affect he was having on me and then seemed

to make a decision. He pulled down his trackie bottoms to reveal a matching pair of tight plastic briefs. Jesus, this guy was just sex on legs and knew how to show it all off. He nodded toward the showers and waited for my response. Ohh jeez, I knew I would probably regret it, imagining a bitter put down, or at least a cryptic comment but that strange feeling was still vibrating through my body and I just had to act on the impulse. I followed him into one of the shower stalls and, as I got onto my knees in adoration, he turned on the warm, comforting water. As it cascaded over us I pulled down the front of what were now see-through briefs and feasted on the sight of his rigid cock. He tenderly stroked my wet hair and gently guided my lips towards tits target. I couldn't believe what was happening, and although still expecting an instant rejection, I quickly opened my mouth and was sucking, licking and encouraging his thick, veiny dick to do some cascading of its own. His tight chest muscles looked like a sculptor had been carving away at a piece of shiny marble to create an object of total excellence. I forgot about my own body image, while I concentrated on the task in mouth. Everything about him was superb but I was buzzing in appreciation that I was allowed to be so close, to have sex with this specimen of chiselled youth. His eyes were closed as I drew him closer and, as he let loose his load, my entire mouth was treated to a sudden salty rush that I swallowed with more enjoyment than I would have thought possible. Once his orgasm had evaporated he looked down, pulled me to my feet and kissed me gently on the lips. I wasn't sure if it was a kiss goodbye or a kiss of thanks but I knew my time was up. I wondered out of that shower still electrified as to what had happened and with the sure knowledge that I would be coming to the gym on a more regular basis.

Track suit and briefs courtesy www.markus-brighton.com Photos: Terrygeorge.co.uk

By Les Lea

I thought it was the worst Christmas present ever. My mate had enrolled me at my local gym and the idea was that we would go training together. I'd only said that I was interested in joining because, well, he was cute but in truth, I had no real intention of exercising at all. That was until I got this rather expensive gift for Christmas. Hell, all I got him was a subscription to a magazine and a bottle of his favourite smelly stuff... I thought he knew I was being ironic when I said that 'nothing would please me more than membership to the Fitness and Wellbeing Club'.

On the first two occasions I'd gone along with my mate but absolutely hated it. All that posing and sweating... I could barely manage the posing... I smiled through the ordeal but promised myself that I would have an airtight excuse the next time he asked me to go. Then, yesterday morning it happened: I looked in the mirror and there was this chubby guy looking back and I didn't clock at first that it was me. God, I had let myself go and my friend had just been too polite to suggest that I could do with getting myself into shape. So,

without him being there, I decided I'd go along to the gym on my own and see if I could summon up enough enthusiasm to get into a routine. This was an early morning visit before work when I thought few people would be there to see my pathetic attempts at exercise but... I was completely bowled over by this... well... how can I put it? Something happened to me that affected my mind and body like nothing else ever has. I suppose you could call it









Find more out about Simon or message him your problems at www.myspace.com/simonsavidge

# SIMON SAYS...

#### **Dear Simon**

Everyone says it's a new year and a new start, only for me its not. I simply haven't gotten over my ex boyfriend who dumped me a few months ago. I can't stop thinking or dreaming about him and it's getting me down. What can I do, I so want the new year to be a fresh start Mark, Plymouth

#### Dear Mark,

The mind is a wonderful thing. One minute you can be thinking of that hunky sex god and the next... whether to have beans or scrambled eggs on your toast. You need a distraction from your obsessing about the past and the only way to do that is move forward. Do you think that he is daydreaming about you? He probably isn't. OK, he was fantastic in every possible way but you found that person that did it for you once, why not go out and meet the next guy who is going to do even more for you.

#### **Dear Simon**

I have met a guy who I think is totally gorgeous. He is kind, sweet, funny and really good in the sack. However, we have been seeing each other for three weeks and he has asked me to go away with him. I want to but think it's too soon; does this make him a psycho? Craig, London

#### Dear Craig,

Well, why would you think he might even be a psycho? If the alarm bells are ringing now either there's something wrong with him or you're letting paranoia rule your life. Where does he want to take you? Is it equal shares? Will there be other people around? What can he do to you away... that he couldn't do to you at home? If you are worried just say No that you think it's too soon. You'll know from his reaction whether he's the right guy for you.

#### Dear Simon,

Every single year I make the resolution that I will get rid of my beary image and become a muscular god. Every single year I am stuffing myself with chocolate before there is even a whiff of Easter. How can I keep my resolution this year and end 2010 with a new and sexy image? Dan, Glasgow

#### Dear Dan,

I am possibly not the best person to ask as every year I make exactly the same resolution myself. I also think if you are a bear embrace being just that, it's hot look to some people. Take a look at your shape. Is it something you can change (as not everyone looks like a CK One model) as you body may not be designed to be more than what it is. Get rid of those chocs and you might get rid of the pounds. If you are really keen to do it the only thing that can is personal training, or the cheaper option of sheer determined will power. Good luck with it all and do report back!



### New Queer Resolutions:

A new year has arrived and I have decided, in my great drunken wisdom, that I should celebrate it with a new queer. Oh, the old queers are all fine, if a little predictable, but my fuck buddy closet needs a good dusting out, the old fucks need sending to the Salvation Army and I need me some hot new man-meat. The problem is, as always, where to find them. With birth rates plummeting and not every guy being my type, I'm not sure if nature and teenage chavs alone are enough to keep the world well stocked with well hung, tasty young men.

I want a man with an arse I can bite into like a crisp Granny Smith. I want a man to sit on my face and replace my smile. I want a man with muscles that flow and ripple as cleanly as an Evian spring. And I want a man with a sack fuller than Santa's before he heads out the house on Christmas Eve. I don't think I ask for too much.

To save much time and frustration, I have knocked together a quick quiz to see if you're appropriate. Fill it in and send your entries to Beyonce's Hole, Bent, All Points North Publications Ltd, APN House, Temple Crescent, Leeds LS11 8BP. Send it in second class and I will make the same assumption about you.

The number of toes you have is:

- A) 10; B) 9 (you had a terrible accident as a child):
- C) 12 (you mother and father were related);

D) 36, you think. But you were never very good at maths.

Your new year's resolutions are: A) botox:

- B) to join the gym;
- C) to appear on Jeremy Kyle; D) to parade round Brett Corrigan's
- cock as if it were a Maypole.

In terms of looks, you are: A) about average; B) less good looking than me, of course; C) uuuuuuuuuuuugly; D) you are da bomb!

When you catch your boyfriend cheating on you, do you: A) join in;

B) beat him round the head with a hot iron;

C) pretend you're cool with it but secretly put bleach in his shampoo; D) laugh and remind yourself you've got to dash and meet your next fuck in fifteen minutes?

When you see someone fall over in the street you: A) run to help them; B) point and laugh; C) see if they drop their money so you can slyly steal it; D) check if they've got a fit arse, and if they have, fall on top of and then inside them.

When you read a magazine you: A) flip straight for the sauna pages and make a note of your local escorts in the sex ads, too; B) read the music reviews in the hope someone's mentioned Mariah Carey again; C) read the editor's letter and get

bored; D) give up at the title because you can't read.

The last time you got wet was: A) when you had a shower; B) when you got caught in the rain; C) when you saw Jedward on TV; D) when you got pissed on by six men in the local park.

Reality is:

A) a type of TV show; B) Adam Rickett's nipples; C) Gaydar; D) something that occasionally rudely interrupts when your medication wears off.

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CANNABIS

Cannabis is the most widely used illegal drug in Britain. Made from parts of the cannabis plant, it's a naturally occurring drug. It is a mild sedative (often causing a chilled out feeling or actual sleepiness) and it's also a mild hallucinogen (meaning you may experience a state where you see objects and reality in a distorted way and may even hallucinate). The main active compound in cannabis is tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).

#### The effects

Some people may feel chilled out, relaxed and happy, while others have one puff and feel sick. Others get the giggles and may become talkative. Hunger pangs are common and are known as 'getting the munchies'. Users may become more aware of their senses or get a feeling of slowing of time, which are due to its hallucinogenic effects. Stronger 'joints' (e.g. typically when skunk or sinsemilla is used) may have more powerful effects. Some users may moderate this effect by actually inhaling and using less strong cannabis; but others may find it becomes tempting to 'binge smoke' them.

The regular use of cannabis is known to be associated with an increase in the risk of later developing psychotic illnesses including schizophrenia. If the recent increase in availability of stronger forms of cannabis does lead to an increase in total use by some people, this might also lead to an increase in their future risk of developing mental health problems. Nobody knows the answer to this question yet...

However, if you have a problem with drugs or want further info on their effects of please contact: 0800 77 66 00 www.talktofrank.com

JAN 2010 bent

74



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- 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 26 I love skinny lads with big fat c\*\*ks (18+) 1 got a boner watching mi mate playing footy & his filthy dad saw me 27 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 horny playing strip snooker in the crowded pub (18+) 32 09 Hard hung lads let you carry on slamming after you have c\*m (18+) 10 Huv mi bird to bits but Huv 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+). 37 14 Me & you get our boners out in the sauna and have some hot fun 38 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+ 41

   18
   I'm a slender teen and I'll try my new swimming trunks on for you (18+) 42

   Rude scally lad loves c\*\*k. He'd love to get down on his knees (18+) 19 Lads swapping their speedos in the local baths (18+) 20 Nasty scally lad gets his 7 inch cock out on the bus & gets blowy (18+) 45 Uniform off to reveal his hot body and big d\*\*k & balls. 21 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\*\*k!
- 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+) Slender bloke with donkey d\*\*k loves whipping his c\*\*k out in public! Wet tongue under a guys stinky foreskin for a sweaty cheesy taste! 29 Hove sucking lads big d\*\*ks n getting my lips round it! 30 Sweet hoody 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 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 Iguys smooth shaved c\*\*k & balls
   35 Was watchin my mate play footy when his dad made a move on me. 36 Het two blokes watch me get a boner at the urinals Hottest thing I ever saw was two guys pissin down an alley 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
  - Oh yeah! It feels good to have 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
  - VYESS
  - 46 Oh yeah! It feels good to have it sucked
  - 47 After the footy game antics....



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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.

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**CAPRICORN** (Dec22/Jan20) Dividing your time between your private goals and your public interests is becoming really difficult. A friend might complain about having nothing to do; you can't even imagine what this must be like. You might reach the stage where you are ready to delegate some responsibilities in order to get your life more organised. You could also make a determined effort to scale back your duties so you are choosing what to do with your time rather than feeling life is all'obligation! all 'obligation!'



### CELEBRITY CAPRICORI

22/12 Noel Edmonds 23/12 Carol Smillie 24/12 Ricky Martin 25/12 Annie Lennox 26/12 Jared Leto 27/12 Gerard Depardieu 28/12 Denzel Washington 29/12 Jude Law 30/12 Tiger Woods 31/12 Anthony Hopkins 01/01 Cate Blanchett 02/01 Cuba Gooding Jr. 03/01 Mel Gibson 04/01 Michael Stipe

05/01 Marilyn Manson 06/01 Rowan Atkinson 07/01 Nicolas Cage 08/01 David Bowie 09/01 Joely Richardson 10/01 Rod Stewart 11/01 Mary J. Blige 12/01 Mel "Sporty Spice" C. 13/01Orlando Bloom 14/01 LL Cool J 15/01 Martin Luther King, Jr. 16/01 Kate Moss 17/01 Jim Carrey 18/01 Samantha Mumba 19/01 Dolly Parton 20/01 Will Young

### ARIES

(Mar21/Apr20)

You're feeling inspired as 2010 begins and you want to live life to the full. Even so there is no sense in over-reaching yourself physically or financially. Both Mercury and Mars are retrograde and together they urge a degree of caution. Don't for instance leap without looking or you could end up in a situation you don't feel prepared for. If you're single and there is a chance of romance, trust your instincts even if someone else is trying to warn you against this relationship. What do they know?

### TAURUS

(Apr21/May21)

With emphasis now on your travel zone, you might feel an overwhelming desire to widen your horizons. If life has seemed rather dull of late or if work is unfulfilling, your need for change will be almost too strong to ignore. This might be just the inspiration you need to explore new possibilities. There may have recently been some discord within a group of friends you are fond of. A celebration arranged for the weekend will soon get you back in step with the band.

### GEMINI

(May22/June21) This is an ideal time to look for a new home if you are thinking it is time to move on. A short trip to a place that has always interested you could get you thinking about spending more time in this area. This could give you the idea too, to look up some old friends. Their enthusiastic reception will prove there was no need to feel nervous about contacting them. In existing relationships, lavish those you adore or have a fancy for, with compliments, invitations and surprise gifts.

### CANCER

(Jun22/Jul23)

It doesn't matter how hard you try, there is someone in your life who you just can't satisfy. If their complaints and grumbles are starting to make you feel useless and inadequate, it is time to look for new people to spend your days with. There is really no need to feel guilty if a relationship is turning out to be incompatible. With no less than four planets in your partnership zone, this is an ideal time to think about making some changes in your closest alliances.

### LEO

(Jul24/Aug23)

Conflicting advice and a variety of demands from other people will make you wonder whether you're ever going to get some time for yourself. At times it might seem as if it's impossible to please people. So, what's most important is to please yourself! It's also essential you care for your health this week. You don't want to burn yourself out and you will need some energy and creativity for the romantic plans your lover has in mind for the weekend.

### VIRGO

### (Aug24/Sept23)

Despite being in the mood for love, with Mercury retrograde in your fifth house, this probably isn't the best time to begin a romance. Complications you hadn't anticipated could arise and make you wonder whether you

made a right choice. At the same time, love is rarely convenient and if you don't want to let a romántic opportunity páss you by, grasp it. But be ready for the hurdles that must be overcome before this relationship can really get off the around.

#### LIBRA (Sept24/Oct23)

Your home or relationship worlds seem to be going through some changes. This is probably what's needed to move your life forward but if alarm bells are ringing and you feel some plans aren't for the best, let other people know it. Don't let anyone pressure you. There is really no need to rush into anything and the more thought put into new arrangements, the more successful they are likely to be.

#### **SCORPIO** (Oct24/Nov22)

You're seriously thinking about taking up a course of study or a new interest that involves the communications industry. Despite some initial problems in the form of a difficult person or procedures that must be followed before you can really get going, you know that you're moving in the right direction. You should be seeing some improvement in a close relationship that has been a bit tense lately. Keep Friday evening free for a romantic rendezvous.

### SAGITTARIUS (Nov23/Dec21)

Issues brought to your attention to do with the past may make you question the strength of a relationship. Don't jump to conclusions and don't believe all you hear. Somehow you and a partner have grown slightly apart and it might do you both some good to get together and discuss what's caused you to lose sight of each other. If one of you has been working too hard or has taken on too many commitments elsewhere, reducing outside obligations may be all that's needed to get this relationship back on track.

#### AQUARIUS (Jan21/Feb19)

A secret crush occupies your thoughts and keeps your imagination active. With Mercury retrograde in your twelfth house this might not be a good time to reveal your feelings. Wait a while longer until you feel more sure about whether or not you wish to make a move on new romantic possibilities. If it seems as if a friend or loved-one isn't keen on your suggestions why not express your ideas in an on-line forum? This could be just what's needed to boost your self-confidence.

### PISCES

### (Feb20/Mar20)

A loved-one is full of wonderful ideas and they have a little extra surprise in store for you this week. A special moment shared will be heart-stopping and it will feel like a dream come true. You're in the mood to go out, enjoy social relationships and have a good time now. This may cause some tension in the family if housemates are expecting your help with household chores but you really aren't in the mood.

### **COMPETITION TIME** Send your entries to:

**Competition Time** Bent, APN House **Temple Crescent** Leeds, LS11 8BP

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

Bent Magazine Prize Draw Terms & Conditions 1. The prize draws are open to UK residents aged 18 and over. 2. No purchase is necessary.

Only one entry per person is allowed and multiple entries will result in an entrant being disqualified.

4. The deadline for receiving entries for the competition is the last working day of the magazine's month.

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

6. Proof of delivery or email will not constitute

- proof of entering the prize draws and no responsibility will be accepted for lost, corrupted, delayed or mislaid entries. 7. The winner(s) will be the first valid entry drawn at random.
- 8. Bent reserves the right to substitute the prize for another prize of equal value.
- 9. There are no alternative cash prizes
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13. Bent Magazine reserves the right to disqualify any entrant and/or winner in its absolute discretion for any reason and without notice



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