LIZ MCCLARNON LIKES A NICE GAY GOSSIP

PIERRE LEWIS IN SYNC WITH THE CHARTS

FIRE ISLEND PINES

VELVET THE SWEDISH INVASION CONTINUES

GOSSIP||WHATZON||INTERVIEWS||COMPETITIONS||REVIEWS||CLASSIFIEDS||

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EDITOR'S WORDS

I keep promising myself not to get drawn in to all these religious folk who keep pontificating on about 'marriage' and 'family' being the sole province of the church. Even with religious wars still being fought today and religious bigotry out of control right around the world many churches still maintain that they have some kind of 'moral high ground'. Thankfully, there are some countries that separate church and state, refusing to let someone else's faith interfere with that of another person, and making sure that all have an equal opportunity to believe... or more importantly... not believe. Sadly, the church hates losing the influence that it has built up over hundreds of years of hate, fear and corruption. Change isn't really at the top of any church's manifesto and although, at a grass-roots level it may be desired, the hierarchy of most religions will refuse to adopt, or consider any lessening of the 'faith' that they have clung to, rightly or wrongly, over the millennia. The church has only changed when it has been forced into doing so. When governments, elected by the people, have said, "Enough is enough. No more special treatment. No more illogical reasoning and perhaps just as importantly... no more moral blackmail."

The current Pope Benedict has made some mad pronouncements since he got the top god job, none more so than his judgement that 'the existence of gay people threatens humanity'. Now the newly converted Catholic, ex Prime Minister Tony Blair, has taken it upon himself to criticise his church. He's not a man I have a great deal of time for but, under his government, we did see a few of the anti-gay prejudices, from both the church and the right-wing, ripped aside by introducing pro-gay legislation. (Many of us would rather see 'Equality for all' being the main thrust of any government but let's take what we can get for the moment!) In an interview with Attitude magazine, he says that the Vatican needed to rethink such engrained views towards homosexuality, which he feels are out of step with the feelings of most Catholics. He went on to point out that faith should evolve and not be stuck with outdated and 'entrenched' concepts. All very reasonable and liberal. To move with the times, to lose the dogmatic assumption that the church is always right, shows a man who is thinking in the here and now, not in a murky unsubstantiated past. However, the newly appointed Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, The Most Rev Vincent Gerard Nichols not surprisingly disagrees... he thinks that 'entrenched' views are what make the church great. Bring on the inquisition!

AND FINALLY...

Three boys; a blond, a brunette and a redhead, enter a tower block elevator together. As the doors close, they notice a small puddle of white liquid on the floor. The brunette bends down for a closer look and says, "It looks like cum."

The redhead bends down a little closer, takes a deep breath and agrees, "Yes, it smells like cum." The blond stoops closer yet, dips the tip of his finger into the puddle, touches it to his tongue and after a few seconds declares, "Well, it's nobody from this building."







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MAY 2009





THE NEU OUEEN OF POP?

SWEDEN'S SINGING SENSATION JENNY PATTERSON HAS UNDERGONE A HUGE CHANGE OF FORTUNE SINCE SHE BECAME VELVET. HAVING WOWED THE REST OF EUROPE, SHE IS JUST ABOUT TO TOUR AND RELEASE HER FIRST ALBUM HERE IN THE UK. SIMON SAVIDGE WENT TO FIND OUT IF SHE IS THE NEW QUEEN OF POP.

Where did the name Velvet come from?

It was my idea originally. My label wanted a name for the project and they had some suggestions I didn't like very much so, I went away and thought of Velvet. It's quite me; it's sensual, feminine and quite glamorous. Also, when you think of Velvet you think of purple, well I do, and that's my favourite colour. I think it's nice, for me anyway, to have the persona of the singer, then go away, and just be Jenny with my friends if you know what I mean. It's nice to have a character to play; I can be a bit crazier and naughtier as Velvet.

Describe your sound to those crazy gay men who don't know who you are yet...

I do party music. Music that makes you want to dance and enjoy yourself. My new album 'The Queen' is definitely an album to have on when you're getting ready for a night out. The new single 'Chemistry', my first in the UK, is definitely one for the clubs.

How do you feel about your first tour of the UK?

I am so excited about releasing stuff over here. It's always been my dream to have hit songs in the UK. I can't wait to get to do live shows when I will be supporting Basshunter... who has done so well in the UK.

So, what can we expect from a Velvet show?

(Laughs) You can expect me to come out and be fabulous of course. I like to put on a show. I like the dancers, the wonderful outfits and the drama of it all, so you can expect all of that too. This is my first tour in England so this is my chance to show what I am able to do and what I am about. Unlike some artists, I will be singing live (laughs) it's my thing.

You took part in the Melodifestivalen this year with the song 'The Queen', which has already become a bit of a cult gay anthem in the UK already and a big hit on youtube, how does it feel to have a big gay audience already?

It's amazing; in fact, I want to say a big thank you to my gay fans in the UK. To have any audience before you release anything officially in a country is amazing. I love my gay fans all over Europe and so want to perform for them because you do have the most amazing nights when you are with a gay audience.

Here in the UK we call gay men 'queens' so I think it has extra meaning... Exactly, it has many meanings. Some people have thought 'who does this Velvet girl think she is saying I am your Queen' and it's not meant like that (laughs) well in a way it is I suppose. It's a song you can sing when you are having a bad day, to cheer yourself up - that is what pop music should do after all.

Velvet's single 'Chemistry' is out now. The album 'The Queen' will follow later in the year. For more information visit www.velvetofficial.com



HOLIDAY DOS AND DON'TS



Get a tan, so you can show up all those fake-baked nancyboys what it's all about. Get laid. Extra points if it was on the beach.



Get drunk. Foreign countries often have foreign drinks, so try one. Then you can at least claim to have shown an interest in the local culture. Go to the beach. Wear your tightest AussieBums to flash off that bulge and make sure you've at least joined a gym before setting off on holiday. You'll want to look hot! See number two.

Take a good book. No one will think you're clever reading The Da Vinci Code (again!).



Forget where your hotel is and sleep in a bin-yard in the red light district.

Eat live jelly-fish. Yes, it might make your lips bigger, but it'll also make your throat and mouth swell too, and it'll likely hurt. A lot.

Don't tell the locals you hate their king and will sleep with their sons. It doesn't go down too well.

Don't buy cheap crack from the hooker on the corner. Especially if she has mange. Don't let that dodgy-looking tourist 'look after' your passport and bags. It won't end well.

bent

Photo – Aussiehum con

If you put your cock in someone's arse without a condom you can get HIV. Condoms protect.





Big Up is the volunteer group at GMFA working to improve Black gay men's health. To volunteer for Big Up, or any other GMFA group, or to make a donation, visit www.gmfa.org.uk/supportgmfa or call 020 7738 6872. For more information on HIV, AIDS and safer sex, visit www.gmfa.org.uk or call THT Direct on 0845 122 1200

TOMS

30





JUST DUSTY





HIV - FROM THE BOTTOM TO THE TOP

Big Up, the Black gay men's project at GMFA, is launching a new advertising campaign focussing on the risk of HIV for Black gay men who are insertive during unprotected anal sex. The campaign follows research showing Black gay men are less likely to use condoms when they are the 'top' than guys from other ethnic groups. Gay men use a variety of approaches to minimise the risk of HIV but sometimes we don't have all the facts. That's why the Big Up group decided to dispel the myth that being a top during unprotected anal sex can protect you.

www.gmfa.org.uk/sex

Now here's something that is a rarity - a compilation album where every one of the 26 tracks is an absolute classic. Throughout her career Dusty Springfield never released an unworthy track and this tribute to one of the UK's finest female singers is a must for any true collector of British greats.

It was her distinct, rich and sensuous soul vocals that made Dusty one of the most exalted white soul artists in the world and the female singer who made the biggest impression on the US market in the 1960s. 'Just Dusty' out now on UMTV

Acclaimed American entertainer Jim Bailey is to mark the 40th anniversary of the death of the egendary Judy Garland with 6

spectacular West End hows. ludy would have

peen 87 years old on 10th June, and Bailey, America's foremost impersonator, is marking the occasion with his acclaimed portrayal. In an evening full of song, hysterical anecdotes and MGM

stories once told by the lady herself,

Bailey - Las Vegas Entertainer of the Year four times will be singing all Judy's greatest hits, including "Over the Rainbow", "Get Happy", "The Trolley Song", "The Man That Got Away" and some rare gems.

eicester Square Theatre, London th – 14th June ox office: 0844 847 2475



He comes from a family of thinkers and doers, his father was

re comes from a family of unificers and overs, instanted was a physicist and inventor and a relative was offered the throne Fry struggled to keep his homosexuality secret during his teenage years at public school, and was celibate for ins recharge years at public school, and was centrate for 16 years. When asked when he first acknowledged his sexuality, Fry quipped:"I suppose it all began when I came out of the womb. I looked back up at my mother and thought to טו עופי איטווט. ווטטאפע אפעה עף פניוויז ווטעופי פוע נוסט myself, That's the last time I'm going up one of those."

He was expelled from school at the age of 15 and at 17. spent 3 months in prison for fraud after stealing a family

He later went to Cambridge University and gained friend's credit card. a degree in English Literature, he also joined the a محرورة الله المراجعة المراجع Footlights Review, a Uni-inspired comedy group that had, over the years, produced some of the best comedy talent in the UK... members of Monty

wineuy talent in the uk... members of M Python were just some of its ex-old boys. Cronies of Fry's include Kenneth Branagh, Emma Thompson, Tony Slattery and of course, Hugh Laurie (House) with whom he teamed up with for a'Bit of Fry and Laurie'. The show ran for several a bit of Fry and Laune. The show fail of several series and introduced the clever word play (and obvious love of language) for which Fry was to become famous. They also had a terrific

He is bipolar, which can often take him into the penchant for dragging up. depths of depression at a moments notice. He dites this as the main reason he fled to abroad when he was about to open in a West End play called Cell Mates. He was later found in play called Cell mates, i le was later found in Belgium and didn't quite understand why the papers were full of phrases calling him "A

He was the obvious choice when casting for National Treasure." the lead in the movie Oscar was announced. Few could see any other actor playing the

part and making it convincing. He's a prolific writer with several novels to his credit, as well as plays and adapted the musical, Me and My Girl for the West End. More recently, he has become a real TWIT, leading the way for the latest technical info portal – twitter. He has appeared in many of the best-

loved TV series in the UK including the Blackadder, Jeeves and Wooster and as host of the quite interesting comedy quiz show QI for which in 2006, he won the Rose d'Or for "Best Games Show Host".

MINOR GODS

In a dingy motel room outside Washington D.C., Henry, a prominent geneticist hires a rent boy, Felix, only hours prior to testifying before a senate sub-committee on his 'life's work.' As the night unfolds a life-long connection that has haunted these two men since childhood reveals itself in the separate paths they've chosen. With years of research at Henry's back, Felix is asked to answer the simplest of questions: if he could erase the source of all of the alienation in his entire life, would he do it... whatever the cost? Teetering between ethics and genetics, sin and sexuality, love and lust, these two men must confront their pasts, their desires, and their deepest fears before the sun rises and Henry announces his devastating discovery to the world. Above the Stag Theatre, 15 Bressenden Place, London, SW1E 5DD 12th – 31st May Box Office: 0844 478 0030



DORRAD GRAS From the creator of Nutcracker!, The Car Man, Edward Scissorhands and the

From the creator of Nutcracker!, The Car Man, Edward Scisson and the internow legendary, all-male Swan Lake comes the first new production in 3 years. Oscar Wilde's gothic fable becomes a darkly seductive dance theatre event from that master of storytelling, Matthew Bourne. Set in the image-obsessed world of contemporary art and politics, this 'black fairy tale' tells the story of an exceptionally alluring young man who makes a pact with the Devil.

TOUR DATES:

Churchill Theatre, Bromley Milton Keynes Theatre The Alhambra, Bradford Sadler's Wells, London The Curve, Leicester The Lyceum, Sheffield Theatre Royal, Glasgow The New Wimbledon Theatre The Lowry, Salford Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff The Swan, High Wycombe Birmingham Hippodrome The New Victoria Theatre, Woking www.new-adventures.net 3rd – 6th June 9th – 13th June 30th June – 4th July 7th– 19th July 15th – 19th September 22nd – 26th September 29th September – 3rd October 6th – 10th October 21st – 24th October 27th – 31st October 3rd – 7th November 10th – 14th November 17th – 21st November

OZ 'EXTREME' HUNKS HIT LONDON

LNOR

Following sell-out seasons at the Sydney Opera House and Edinburgh Festival, and direct from a Broadway theatre season, Australia's sensational Tom Tom Crew arrives in London with its super-charged collision of circus, heart pumping music and 21st Century spectacle. Combining Australia's freshest acrobats, champion beat-boxer Tom Thum, drumming sensation Ben Walsh and master record scratcher DJ Dizz1, Tom Tom Crew is an extraordinary mix of Asian-inspired drumming, extreme circus acrobatics and raw, contemporary music, Tom Tom Crew is an unmissable summer treat for all ages.

Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road, London SE1 8XX Box Office: 0871 663 2538 www.southbankcentre.co.uk/udderbelly





WWW.MAG.BENT.COM

interview MARK EVANS

YOU MAY REMEMBER THE FACE FROM THE RECENT BBC PROGRAMME 'YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS YOU' WHERE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER AND THE VIEWING PUBLIC CHOSE A SINGER TO REPRESENT THE UK IN THIS YEAR'S EUROVISION SONG CONTEST. MARK CAME THIRD IN THAT PARTICULAR FUN-FEST BUT HAS THE 'DUBIOUS' HONOUR OF BEING THE FIRST PERSON TO SING OUR ENTRY - MY TIME' TO A SPELL-BOUND BRITISH PUBLIC. BENT MET UP WITH MARK AT THE RECENT BIRMINGHAM PRIDE FUND-RAISER AND ASKED THE OBVIOUS QUESTION; WILL HE BE DOING MORE OF THESE GAY EVENTS?

I loved performing at the Pride Ball. The crowd were fantastic and gave me a great welcome. I've not performed at many gay events actually. I'd like to, because the atmosphere is always really positive. When I played Troy in the London production of High School Musical I tended to get lots of gay attention but I think that's just because they couldn't see Zac Efron so they made do with me. Ha.

How did you feel about the 'Your Country Needs You' show?

To be honest I really wasn't sure whether or not to do the show when I found out I was in the final six. I was thrilled that Andrew Lloyd Webber had hand picked me to perform live on BBC Saturday night TV but because of the UK's view of the Eurovision Song Contest, there's become a huge stigma over it as a competition. I'm a ridiculously hard worker and want to be recognized as a credible performer and thought it could have gone against me. But it was the best thing I've ever done and I thank my lucky stars that I was given the opportunity to do it.

How did you find Andrew and what did you think of the song.?

Andrew is a very kind-hearted man. It was nice to get to know him off camera and away from the public eye. I loved performing the song especially as I premiered it by being the first one up to sing it on the show. I've heard real mixed reviews since from lots of people, but no one can deny that it's catchy, which is what makes a good Eurovision song. I think the new version that Jade has recorded is fantastic and hope she gets the good result that she deserves.

When did you first appear on stage?

When I was 10 my first public solo performance was in a local supermarket, where I sang a welsh version of 'Walking In The Air' and I was dressed like a snowman. I felt like such an ass! From then I performed as often as I could.

Are musicals in your blood?

Well it's definitely not in the family gene. Ha. If you heard my brothers sing I think your ears would bleed. All I know is that I could not do anything else with my life other than work in this industry. I'm very lucky to be doing a job that I enjoy so much.

What's next in the pipeline?

I've just finished in Jet Set Go! - the cabin crew musical at the Jermyn Street Theatre where I played the straight acting gay steward Richard. He dreams of finding the right guy, which in the show we discover for him is a tall Italian man who he can live with and open up their Pizzeria in the Tuscan mountains. I loved playing this part. I have a few exciting things in the pipeline but I'm not allowed to confirm any as yet - Watch this space.

www.MarkEvansOnline.co.uk





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SONG CONTEST RUSSIA 2009

TURGCISION

EUROVISION TRIVIA

THE FIRST EVER COMPETITION STAGED WAS IN SWITZERLAND IN 1956 THE MAXIMUM LENGTH OF A EUROVISION SONG IS ALSO THE PERFECT TIME IT TAKES TO BOIL AN EGG. THREE MINUTES.

Spain's winning entry 'La La La La' in 1968 used the word "La" 138 times! It was a last minute replacement for the official entry because the country's dictator Franco wanted a more populist song to help improve Spain's International reputation. Cliff Richard has competed twice but never quite brought home the bacon for the UK, finishing in second and third place in 1968 and 1973 respectively. However, there is a conspiracy theory doing the rounds about Cliff's song 'Congratulations' actually winning but corruption by the Spanish contingent meant their song (see above) was nominated the winner.

A little known popular beat combo from Sweden by the name of Abba were the run away winners back in 1974 with their classic pop hit 'Waterloo'. You may have heard of them.

Ireland has won most often with seven victories compared to the UK's five. The UK have finished in second place an incredible 15 times. Canadian chanteuse Celine Dion sang Ne Partez Pas Sans Moi, the winning entry for Switzerland in 1988.

The last UK winners were Katrina and the Waves with 'Love Shine A Light' in 1997. In 1998, the competition was won by controversial Israeli transgender act Dana International with a song called Diva.

BBC Three 1st Semi-Final - Tuesday 12th May 8pm – 10pm BBC Three 2nd Semi-Final - Thursday 14th May 8pm – 10pm BBC 1 Grand Final - Saturday 16th May 8pm – 11.15pm

Eurovision goes interactive!

Throughout the semi-finals and final, digital TV viewers can also access a host of features by pressing their red buttons, including a Eurovision Sing-a-long and fun country facts hosted by Paddy O'Connell and Boogaloo Stu.

Jade isn't so green Having been the runaway winner on the build up show 'Your Country Needs You', Jade was picked to represent the UK at this year's **Eurovision Song** Contest. It is now down to her to make the Andrew Lloyd Webber penned song 'My Life' appeal to the crowds in Moscow and those millions of viewers around the world who all tune in for this camp songfest. Her powerful vocals, and

a reworking of the song from its original concept, have made it one of the bookies favourites for this year. We hope Jade can break the recent lack of UK success but in the meantime here are a few facts about the girl our hopes hang on. Likes - Thai food, song writing, 'Heroes' and 'Desperate Housewives'.

Dislikes - Tomatoes, pigeons, hospitals, needles.

Top talent - Jade has always wanted to perform and her dreams began to be realised when she was



a 1 in 1000 full scholarship to the Sylvia Young Theatre School. Previously signed to Sony BMG with girl band Trinity Stone. One of the other members of the group was Mica Paris's niece Cherry - who is still one of Jade's best friends. At twelve years old, Jade successfully auditioned for the role of Nala in "The Lion King" in the West End.

She has also appeared in TV programmes such as The Bill and Casualty, where she played a pregnant teenager.

D THE PENNY BLACK REMEDY

BY ADAM LOWE

The Penny Black Remedy fuse country, reggae and punk into some sort of weird musical brew that rampages from your stereo into your brain. This is their first ull-length album, produced in Croatia of all places. It showcases the songwriting skills of lead singer Keith Thomson, whose approach to music is to take a hammer to it and then try gluing it back together by sticking it in a blender with a Pritt Stick. It's manic, it's all over the place and it's naïve, but therein lies its charm. Gone is the postmodern knowingness that ruins so much cross-genre music, but luckily these guys have managed to avoid that particular pitfall.

bent

of the **MONT**

DANCE NATION

Hard2Beat

Out: 4th May

Hard2Beat is the home of Basshunter, September and Sash! The label has had five top 10 hits in 2 years, a pair of platinum-selling albums and #1 hits in both the single and album charts. So, it comes as no surprise that now they're releasing a dance compilation to cash in on this success. As dance albums go, however, it's not bad. There are remixes of gay-faves such as Christina Aguilera, Clavin Harris, September and Britney Spears, amongst others, so it's a surefire hit. Especially when the remixes are this yummy.



GLOBAL GROOVE

Out: 28th April

Dance

Global Groove's latest compilation, Global Groove: Dance, is a New York dance mix with a difference. First, it's helmed by DJ Escape, a hot new producer and remix maestro on the NY scene, who's already been getting accolades in his hometown. Apparently, he also looks like Vin Diesel too, which can only make this record better, in my opinion. The 'groove' part here is essential and so is the 'global', because there are definitely elements from a wide variety of genres and musical styles. DJ Escape's is also a global view. Definitely worth a listen.

SINGLE_{of the}MON

benu

YS LEVI S

's the Weeken

If it seems like everyone and his dog is involved in this project, then you're probably right. Multiple tracks collide and kaleidoscope together, and you're never quite sure if you recognise this or that loop or beat or sample, but you're quite sure it's good. Sometimes the familiarity becomes uncanny and unsettling as a result, but other times it's simply fun. The acid house rap is courtesy of Fast Eddie, whilst the Andrew Friendly touches recall his remixes of Justice and Simian. There's a rapid piano line courtesy of Shave, who in turn looted it from Levi 5Star, after Shave was listening in to Friendly's studio work. The result is interesting and empowered rather than confused by its collaborative nature.

M83

Graveyard Girl Out: 11th May

M83, who will be supporting Depeche Mode at the O2 Arena on 30th May, released their fifth studio album this year. 'Gravevard Girl' shows M83's renewed focus to form and structure. This is elegant and taut music, but without becoming singing-by-numbers. It's hard to believe these guys have already released five albums when they're so woefully underappreciated, but hopefully a sellout gig at the O2 will sort that out.

MARTIN EAST PROJECT FT. JARED DOUGLAS

Release

Out: 14th May

The aptly titled 'Release' is LA deep house at its best. Sexy, with grooves that enfold you and pull you under, 'Release' is a slice of DJ Martin East class with vocalist Jared Douglas sass. Jazz maestro Marconi de Morais provides delicious, ripe keys to add a more soulful note, fully explored in the six mixes on this CD. The Vocal Mix is a trip to a sensory deprivation tank in the middle of a VIP white party, whilst the Broken Beat Mix is a body-twisting, hip-winding journey to funky electro. This is definitely one to give a spin on those hot, sweaty summer nights or dark, deep early mornings.



Love is Struggling

Out: 25th May Dark, underground disco is the order of the day on this album by Naommon. This is modern Euro-dance with a twist, and shows Naommon's development from first album Allnighter. Gone is the sensation that he might be fumbling a little, and instead comes a cocksure, easy confidence with music that makes this sound a lot more impressive than it would otherwise. Naommon knows what he's doing and he does it well.



LEVELLOAD

've Been Thinking Out: 25th May

New wave artrockers Levelload focus on the scuzzyend of post-punk quasi-pop. This song is about stalking, of all things, and reverberates with sinister grime. Blondie, Gang of Four and Link Wray are all influences (as is the colour vellow, apparently), and this slice of Japanese rock is a refreshing change to the drab melodramatic guitar-pop which passes for the genre in this hemisphere. Give it a spin and see what you think.



bent

MAY 2009

RACK_{of the} MONTH

FORTHCOMING



1 OLAV BASOSHI FT ERROL REID – BEAT OF MY HEART

BY J<mark>ason Guy</mark>

Dutch born Olav has been producing quality house music for the past 2 decades, but I think his latest release is his finest moment yet. Making a welcome return to Spinnin' Records, Olav delivers an awesome slab of uplifting, vocal house, with a top-notch

driving remix provided by Redroche who adds a hint of the Far East. There's also a superb electro rework by Kid Massive which works just as well. Vocals come courtesy of Errol Reid, who part of boyband China Black. www.olavbasoski.nl



David Penn is another prolific producer and has used many pseudonyms over the years from Kadoc (Night Train) to Deux (Sun Rising Up). Here he joins up with fellow Spaniard to remix Our Darkness, an 80s Techno hit from Anne Clark. With more than just

a hint of Sun Rising Up (surely one of the greatest gay anthems ever!) this house monster's driving bassline and synths build you up to a crescendo with each spoken verse. www.urbanarecordings.com



SERCE DEVAILT FT HADLEY ADDISTED

There's certainly a international feel to my reviews this month. Russian born Serge Devant is surely destined for great things. Already earmarked as Tiesto's favourite DJ and the youngest ever DJ to play at New York's Crobar has delivered by the part of the macteria filled with

a mesmerising Matinee-esqe house masterpiece, filled with atmospheric samples and electronic stabs. As the vocals go "gotta get you outta my head". Just try doing that. Amazing reactions from every play over the Easter holidays. www.sergedevant.com



D) ANTIONS - THIS TIME

Over 30 unofficial YouTube videos and 4.5 million views can't be wrong. Originally released back in 2007 this became a big hit across Europe with its unique combination of guitar and electro rhythms. This 2009 remixes should make it the UK hit it serves to be, with my personal favourite mix

coming from Vini Dyagilev. German producer Klaas' version is the one you're more likely to hear in the clubs though and has already helped secure a Number 1 spot on the Upfront Club Charts.

1 SIMPLY RED – MONEYS CO TIENT TO MENTION

Yes – you read the title of this track right. Rereleased and remixed to tie in with their 25th anniversary World Tour, Simply Red's first hit from 1985 has been given one of the best house makeovers I've heard in a long time by Seamus Haji and Paul Emanuel. Mick's beautiful, soulful voice now sits atop a charging, peak-time stormer. Maybe this is a bit of a guilty pleasure as I always loved the original, but it certainly puts smile on your face. www.simplyred.com

RLEERUP

ORCICL

There must be something in that icy water that they drink, as Scandinavians seem to have a particularly keen ear for melody and harmony. Sweden's Andreas Kleerup was half of the act responsible for the Number One hit single "With Every Heartbeat", the other half was of course feisty asymmetrically fringed Robyn. His melancholic electro-pop framed Robyn's ballad about break-up perfectly and secured it as one of the most prolific pop moments of 2007. His new album features further collaborations as well as some exciting experimental electro, which tugs on the apron-strings of Kraftwerk, Vangelis and Buggles. A mix that launches a classy and entertaining debut album from another European performer that every other act will be keeping an eye on.

Debut album 'Kleerup' released 1st June - Positiva www.myspace.com/kleerup

WWW.MAG.BENT.COM

MERI

RELEASE

KLEERUP

INTERVIEW

CAN WE BE YOUR NEW GAY BEST FRIEND LIZZ MCCLARNO

WE SEAT SIMON SAVIDGE, OUR MAN WHO CAN, TO MEET THE POP PRINCESS AND FORMER MEMBER OF ATOMIC HITTEN AS SHE GEARS UP TO RELEASE A NEW SINGLE FOR THE GLOBAL ONE PROJECT AND SEE IF HE CAN WIN HER OVER AND BECOME HER NEW GAY BEST FRIEND.

What's the campest thing you have ever done?

Oh my god, there's loads I am completely camp. Ooooh I know. The campest thing was when I was invited to Mariah Carey's Halloween Party, and rather than just buy a witches costume I went and borrowed a huge 18th Century proper out-there ball gown and huge tall wig from the BBC wardrobe. I turned up and everyone ripped the piss but I thought oh stuff it, I mean their outfits were really obvious. Anyway, Mariah saw me and made me sit with her... she was dressed as a mermaid, that's camp isn't it? Was she nice... oh you love a gossip I can tell, actually she was. (Giggles) There is something else... l do the dance routines to Atomic Kitten songs in gay clubs I was doing that a few weeks ago.

10/10 Simply for sitting next to Mermaid Mariah dressed as a Princess it's almost too much, as for dancing drunk to an Atomic Kitten song or two – we've all been there haven't we? Most Saturday nights actually.

Do you have any diva demands?

Erm... I used to add naughty things on the rider, like knickers and stuff just to see if people actually would do them on our bidding. We once asked for only red Skittles and they did that too. You wouldn't think they would but they did. Would I want puppies... like Mariah? She had lambs once, why would you want lambs? I like me Champagne but I don't have many demands; I am a bit shit I need to sort that out.

7/10 For trying her hardest to see what she could get, but really we expected, in fact demand more. We loved the lamb Gossip, does Mariah sacrifice them or something?

Primark or Prada?

I have to say Primark actually. Mind you actually last time I was in Primark some woman hurt me... seriously, I got elbowed in the face in a fashion stampede. I go in quite a lot as I live not far from the big one in London. I saw this gorgeous coat for bloody eight pounds went to grab it... and got an elbow in my face! I just turned around and walked out in a slight mood.

9/10 For honesty and the fact that she has almost been maimed in the quest for bargain fashion.

When was the last time you had a massive diva strop?

Oh not long ago at all. (Laughs) It definitely happens once a month! I am

hormone central and you don't wanna mess with that. (Gasps) Oh I know... on Ant & Dec because I wanted to throttle Lily Allen. She was so rude. I was walking round kicking off about it. Yvette Fielding had to hold me off. Seriously Simon, when have you ever heard me slag anyone off? 9/10 We would give her ten but even we are smitten with Lily and her evil ways a little too much at the mo. However, Liz doesn't slag anyone off, ever, so for her to let rip was impressive. The idea of Yvette Fielding holding her back from a fight is also too camp.

Do you like a gossip?

Funny you mention that (laughs) but yes I do. I love it, that's my main staple. What's the best gossip I have ever heard about myself? A while ago I heard I was pregnant! Did you know, when I split up with my ex it was on the news in Asia... isn't that weird? I've not been accused of being an alien or anything that far out... oh hang on one of my ex boyfriends did actually. I don't like horrible bitchy bitch gossip, I love a dark juicy factual scoop though. Love that.

10/10 The fact it's her main staple... it's also true, we couldn't print some of the things that we discussed!

Kylie or Madonna?

Oh you see you're just not playing fair, I mean really that's not fair. I would have to say Madonna... mainly because of her fella; he's a beautiful boy isn't he? It's all about the boyfriend; I mean Kylie's new one is cute but nothing on Madonna's. Kylie is cute and sweet, which I like but I also like the grittiness of Madonna. 10/10 Sod the ladies it's all about the men they can pull and we have to agree we would do Madge's fella over the Minogue's... though it's a tight competition.

What's your favourite put down line?

Oh that's easy "you've just wasted oxygen" I say that quite a lot. 8/10 For the speed that it was delivered.

How many gay friends are too many?

I would say you can never have enough... but I think if you only have gay friends as a straight female then that's a little bit weird. Not one straight friend then I think you might have a problem. You know that's a bit heterophobic isn't it? I do have more gay friends than straight friends but it's not just you fabulous gays. 9/10 She loves the gays. Deducted a point as it wasn't all about us and as every gay man knows... it is all about us.

If you could be, which girl band would you be in now?

Ooh, that's a really good question. I think it would have to be The Saturday's I love



them (goes all dreamy). Oh no I would, love, love, love to be in The Saturday's. I wouldn't be in the Sugababes... I was in a band with Heidi, hmmm moving on, I don't think she likes me anymore. It was me, Kerry and Heidi and we were called Mayhem, Heidi left to be a solo singer, which is interesting. I like Girls Aloud; if I have to have a favourite then it would be... Kimberly. Will Atomic Kitten ever get back together... sadly no. We are still mates but no. Sorry!

9/10 Didn't unleash some girl band hatred but we have to agree if we couldn't be Cheryl Cole and her destined solo career we would so be Frankie in The Saturday's – very possibly the next Posh Spice.

81/100 Yes we love the McClarnon and the McClarnon loves us, in fact we have now become the height of friends in 2009 – yes we are facebook buddies! We are smitten with the girl once of Atomic Kitten.

Liz's single 'Lately' is out now. For more information on the Global One Project please visit http://globalonemusic. com/ For more info on Liz and news on her forthcoming debut album due later in 2009 visit www.lizmcclarnon.com

bent

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AKT NEED VOLUNTEERS



If you have a small amount of spare time, why not channel your creative, planning and organisation skills towards an exciting initiative that aims to help young lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people who are homeless or living in a hostile environment, in Manchester. The Albert Kennedy Trust, a charity helping young LGBT people in oppressive situations, is seeking twelve volunteer

committee members to steer its fundraising activities in the city. Requirements are relatively low - volunteers only need to attend one evening meeting every two weeks, to discuss the planning and co-ordination of campaigns, discuss budgets and come up with fundraising ideas, alongside other public-spirited individuals. The AKT relies on donations to help the increasing number of young LGBT people who suffer rejection by parents, families and carers, as a consequence of 'coming out'. For more details, about how you can help the AKT steering committee, please contact Jonathan Penny, on 020 7831 6562 or jonathan@akt.org.uk.





WHNTED: QUEER ARTISTS AND TALENT

GFest – gayWise LGBT Arts Festival, London's crossarts festival that showcases upcoming and leading Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) and queer artists, opened its call for submissions for this year's festival, GFest 2009, which will take place in various London venues from 9th – 22nd November. Recognised as London's LGBT cross-arts festival for

Recognised as London's LGB1 cross-arts festival for all, GFest 09 will be bigger than ever with more than 100 LGBT and queer artists and talent due to take part, programmed via the open selection process, which now invites submissions for the festival's three keys strand of visual arts, performance and short films. GFest receives submission of interests from LGBT artists throughout the year from different corners of the world.

www.gaywisefestival.org.uk

Age Concern has produced a life planning guide packed full of practical, financial and emotional advice for older people who are gay, lesbian or bisexual. The guide highlights life decisions that may require special knowledge, profiles powerful case histories and details useful support organisations. Financial issues are discussed including housing and council tax benefits. Case studies demonstrate civil partnership issues that are often not obvious for many gay couples. The guide then moves on to the practical issues of pensions, tax, inheritance and tenancy as well as the emotional issues around bereavement. Age Concern's 'Later Life as an older

Age Concern's 'Later Life as an older lesbian, gay or bisexual person' can be ordered from the following number: Freephone 0800 00 99 66 Or downloaded from the following website: www.ageconcern.org.uk





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forkshire MESMAC: 0113 2444 209 The Brunswick Centre: 01422 341 764

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PIERRE LEWIS

Pierre Lewis? Pierre can't be a name in regular use around Reading can it?

(Laughs) No, my Dad just loves France, no French connection unfortunately.

Just how much of a party boy were you... what clubs did you get to and who did you meet?

I did most of the clubs most nights. It's bad though because I discovered credit cards around the same time (laughs). I met so many cool people from the spectacular to the surreal... One I wont forget; it was a Smash Hits party at Camouflage in Soho. I was leaving with a couple of friends and the club door was shut. There was a very moody looking girl on the door I presumed was doing the guest list, normally they would be polite and open the door, but she didn't... she just tut-ed. So, I frowned as if to say 'hey your rude lady'. I got home and my friend text me to say 'check the pap sites', anyhow, it turns out Miss Moody was someone called Rihanna!

You've got an eclectic number of influences... but who would you say inspired you most?

I'd say Michael Jackson, undoubtedly, he's just so unique I don't think there's many artists, certainly within the R&B pop genre that wouldn't say he was an influence. That said, and it sounds barmy, but I can identify more with Elvis. I read a great deal into other musos/creative's lives and all the books I read on Elvis, I could draw similarities in our personalities, issues and even spiritual uncertainties and searching's.

Your vocals have been compared to Justin Timberlake and I detect a touch of Darren Hayes... do you hate this type of comparison?

Not at all, I think at first people need to be able to give a comparison so they can place you into a genre, it's a massive compliment, I think they are both incredible artists.

How did the collaboration with Aaron Accetta come about?

We actually got in touch via the net, he saw my myspace and had heard a bit about me and really wanted to get involved. It was amazing to write with Aaron, he's a legend in pop having worked with the likes of Nsync, Aaron Carter etc. Not only that but we gelled, when you have a good friendship with someone, certainly in the creative zones, it really helps and the art just comes across more natural.

Are we going to see you on the live gig circuit

I had a UK tour last year and I've just come off a school tour which was great. There's nothing set in stone at the moment as I'm busy promoting the new single 'Going' as well as some other writing projects. I really hope to get back out soon on tour because for me, it's the best part of what I do.

You're a good looking lad... you'd wow them on any gay Pride stage

Thank you (he smiles) I have a few friends that have been to various pride events and I once saw a big pride celebration in London, it looked amazing, I love all the colours and the energy was spectacular.

What is your guilty pleasure?

I have loads – (laughs). Fast food really has to be the biggest though, and when on tour it's so hard to be good when the service stations are full of seductive chocolate and varieties of flavoured crisps. I'd have to say Little Chef too, LOVE IT, their fry up for the big juicy burger they do with bacon...Mmm...I'm hungry now – (laughs).

New single 'Going' is out 4th May on Colonel Music UK and the album 'Mindset' is out around November. myspace.com/pierreofficialmusic

POUGICE MA

AT THE AGE OF 18 PIERRE LEWIS LEFT HIS HOMETOWN OF READING AND EMBARKED ON THE LIFE OF A 'PARTY BOY' IN LONDON. DESPITE HAVING A GREAT TIME AND TRYING ALL HINDS OF JOBS HIS SUDDEN REALISATION THAT THERE WAS MORE TO LIFE LED HIM BACK TO HIS FIRST LOVE.... THAT THERE WAS MORE TO LIFE LED HIM BACK TO HIS FIRST LOVE.... MUSIC. NOW THE 23 YEAR-OLD HAS PARTNERED UP WITH NSYNC'S PRODUCER TO RELEASE A PRETTY GROOVY ALBUM WE'RE SURE YOU'LL BE HEARING A LOT OF OVER THE COMING MONTHS.

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JOHAN'S BLOG

Of course, with all this travelling I have a list of my favourite places to visit; Berlin and London are there but one place I love is Hamburg. Recently, I was there with my boyfriend. (Yes, I have a boyfriend.... sorry!). We wanted to spend a relaxing weekend without any work and so we choose Hamburg as I know a few people there. Even better – I know a lot of great clubs and bars in the city where we got free entry and drinks! For me the problem with Hamburg is always the same: I drink too much! The club scene is so great over there that I have too much fun. And when I enjoy it too much I drink too much. Does it sound logical? I don't know – but with too much alcohol I can become dangerous...

I remember a situation when I was out with my best friend. I was totally drunk and he had more or less to carry me to a taxi. On our way back to the hotel I constantly wanted to open the doors and jump out of the car – while it was still moving. My mate had to pull me back all the time (and pay the driver a huge tip). Later in the hotel I wanted to have sex with my friend. He always said "No" but when I am drunk I can be very persistent and strong... so, he had to serve (and take) me that night. (That's what I mean when I say it can be dangerous when I am drunk.)

Back to my recent visit of Hamburg and a funny story: We were a little bit drunk (again), staggering down the Reeperbahn and finally entered the famous Herbertstraße. I always ask myself why there isn't anything like that for us gays? A street full of escort bars where cute young guys sit in the windows just waiting for customers – and give their services for free when you just smile invitingly. It must be heaven!! Unfortunately, here in Hamburg they have hundreds of girls in the windows and while we walked down the road they opened the doors and asked us to come inside. We declined their kind invitation but one of the girls stepped outside and pulled me on my arm. She was very nice, maybe 20 with a great body.

She: Hi darling, can I help you? You want sex? I: A cute guy and a huge dick would cater my taste. Not you. We are gay.

She: Nobody is 100% gay. Let me show you. Deep inside your heart you like pussies. And I have a wonderful one. You will love it. Try me...

My boyfriend: How much would that lesson be for us?

She: You are so cute. I can give you a special price: Oral EUR 50, all together. Plus tip.

We thought that this was a fair offer – at least we would learn something. So we tried and went with her (damn alcohol!).

What can I say? She tried her best (at least that is what I remember). But I am 110% gay and so is my boyfriend. The alcohol, the strange atmosphere and a clumsy prostitute with long pink fingernails grabbing and sucking my soft dick is not helpful when you try to get an erection. Nothing moved below my hips – neither with me nor with my boyfriend. She tried each of us for approximately 5 minutes, then she gave up.

When we walked out (after paying as there is no satisfaction guarantee on that street) she told us: "You are really gay. You must be sooo gay! Until today every guy got a hard dick with me – I am the best sucker here."

Wow, that's what I call a compliment from a real professional. I am really proud and unbelievably GAY!!!

www.JohanVolny.com



DUE TO MY JOB I TRAVEL A LOT THROUGH EUROPE. FOR THE STUDIO STAXUS - I HAVE MOVIE SHOOTS IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES II PREFER BEACHES AND SOUTHERN EUROPE, OF COURSE - SMILEI ALSO I DO A LOT OF PROMOTION FOR MY SITE, AUTOGRAPH SIGNINGS FOR MOVIE RELEASES AND ALSO SOME LIVE SHOWS ALL OVER EUROPE FOR THE 'STRXUSONTOUR'.



TERRY GEORGE TELLIN' STORIES UST BOOK OFF

I RECENTLY SAW IN THE NEWSPAPERS THAT MY OLD MATE PAUL O.GRADY IS DEMANDING £2MILLION FOR THE SECOND PART OF HIS AUTOBIOGRAPHY.



His first book 'At My Mother's Knee and Other Low Joints' proving very successful and topped the bestsellers chart over Christmas. It got me thinking about my own autobiography (asking price £3million... sorry Paul!) and I was wondering who I could get to write it... perhaps I should have a go. I remember once being told by a famous writer that I should get the title first, because that's how she did it, and the rest would just flow accordingly. (I'm not at liberty to say who the author was but she always called me her 'Half Blood Prince... or was it half price prince? No matter). I thought about 'Agadoandme', a reference to my early years as a DJ when I took Benidorm by storm with my collection of 45s with Agado and the Birdie Dance being favourites of the crowd I was playing to. The Spanish seaside resort was then the equivalent of what Ibiza is now... except Ibiza seemed a word whispered on the breeze as if some enchanted, mythical destination. How times change. Oddly enough,

I never had a bad gig in Beni. How could I? I was a fresh faced, eager youth with my colourful WHAM inspired shorts and a battery of discs that got everyone up and dancing... and those who couldn't dance went through the motions. Seeing a disabled pensioner sat in her chair doing all the moves to Agado made the words "Push Pineapple, shake the tree" all the more moving.

That naughty little terror, Sacha Baron Cohen, aka Ali G and Borat, I see has been at it again. He seems to have upset some high powered American with Bruno, his mincing European fashion reporter character, when he enticed the VIP to be interviewed and ended up getting him into his bedroom and making a pass. No doubt the next Borat film will reveal what actually happened. He's also been seen taking the piss out of Madonna. Ohh Kabbalah! There's a photo of him holding an African baby and saying he thought it was a two-for-one offer, so he'd gone back for the other. I bet he's not on her Christmas card list anymore.

Saint Peter Tatchell, one of Britain 's best known human rights campaigners, has been awarded a "blue plaque" by Southwark council - an honour given to prominent individuals connected with the borough, as well as placed on local heritage sites.

It is only fitting that in the same Borough where Peter fought the 1983 Bermondsey by-election - widely regarded as the dirtiest and most violent election campaign in Britain- a blue plaque will now denote where one of the world's human rights' heroes lives.



Peter's place in our history is marked alongside esteemed Southwark residents of times gone by including Charles Dickens, Charlie Chaplin, Oliver Goldsmith and Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

Congratulations Peter!

HEY GUYS HOPE EVERYONE'S HAVING A GOOD MONTH AND ENJOYING THE FIRST BIT OF NICE WEATHER THIS YEAR - I KNOW I AM.

MR GAY UK

I've had a good month up in London and back in Wales for Easter. I've been busy as usual, working hard in my new job but of course, I found time to have some fun! I recently went to see a play in London called 'A Plague Over England' at the Duchess Theatre, which I really enjoyed! It follows the notorious arrest of famous actor John Gielgud in a public

toilet. It's about homosexuality in the 50s and the progression the law and society have made over time into the Thatcher years. I loved the subtle witty humour and Michael Feast's performance as John Gielgud. I'm still in the middle of auditioning for drama schools, it's a gruelling process but I'm really enjoying it... apart from the waiting. Good news though, so far I've been accepted



into two schools for the BA(hons) acting course. So, I start my training in September, just uncertain where I'll choose to go at the mo, but I can't wait!

I bought Kelly Clarkson's new album 'All I Ever Wanted' the other day and I absolutely love it! Kelly's gone and done it again with a brilliant record, she worked with superstar producer Max Martin on her hit 'My Life Would Suck Without You' and even teamed up with Katy Perry on her forthcoming single 'I Do Not Hook Up' and 'Long Shot'. Kelly really shows off her writing skills as well and writes six of the songs on the album – my favourite being 'Cry'! It's definitely worth getting! Good job Kell! Five stars. I went to see 'A Haunting in Connecticut' at the cinema a few weeks ago. I nearly f*cking shat myself! I love a good horror but I still scream like a bitch! It's a good iob we were at the late night showing or I would have seriously embarrassed myself! The film has plenty of unsuspected 'jumpy' bits that will get you pulse going! Overall, I thought it was pretty good - a good scare but not the best horror I've ever seen. I found the constant merge of reality with dreaming slightly annoying and it dragged a little at parts, but other than that... good! Worth a watch – go in the daytime though, I was so scared going home afterwards – I was twitching and looking behind me every two seconds ha-ha! Right, I've got work bright and early peeps so I'll love you and leave you to it! Hope you have a great month!



Meanwhile, I hope to see you on Sunday 3rd May at Stonewall's Equality Walk in Brighton. This fabulously fun annual 10k walk is back with a bang and this year we are raising funds to tackle the issue of homophobic bullying in schools. There's registration taking place from noon by the Pavilion Gardens and the actual event kicks off at 2... so come along and give me some support if you can. I'll be the one looking knackered...









この学習を発

SHOOTING MALE

Schwabel, gay himself and not yet 30, candidly confesses that it's sometimes just the attractiveness of his models that inspires him. That doesn't mean though, that he would ever waive from his perfectionist ambitions. Falling roof beams in burning houses, cold showers on the street in November – his models have to follow him to the utmost for a good shot. His definition of "male" is open-minded and includes immaculate guys as well as aging drag queens. Sex appeal and genuineness dash against spirit and perfection—and the result is no less than phenomenal!

£29.99 - Bruno Gmunder

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REVIEW BOOKS

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 http://greatgayreads.blogspot.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

TO THE LAST MAN

Raging Stallion

To the last man is a Cowboy romance of the finest order. The viewer feels as if he is sitting with these Cowboys at the campfire, the idyll is electrifying. The men, burly, rough and heavy hung, exhibit a yearning and the need for tenderness. Set in the remoteness of the Arizona Mountains this photo book is the results of a photo shoot for a porn flick with the same title.

£29.95 - Bruno Gmunder





▲ OUT OF THE BLUE -CONFESSIONS OF AN UNLIKELY PORN STAR

By Blue Blake

Sex 'n' drugs 'n' cock 'n' roleplay... meet the UK's foremost gay porn star Blue Blake or as his mum called him Glenn Marsh. Just a skinny lad from Nottingham who went on to star in many porn movies in the US. His life of taking it up the arse by some of America's largest cocks, his ego and his ability to fit into any situation turned him into an unlikely superstar. A mixture of the fantastic and the revealing... makes this autobiography a terrific, fast paced, entertaining read.

£8.99 – Running Press



▲ THE GAY DIVORCEE

By Paul Burston

Married life can be bliss, except when it was rushed into and you're a gay man. Twenty years later, when the man of your dreams comes along and you want to marry him, there is just one problem... you never did get that divorce. There's an even bigger complication when the ex wife reveals there is a son you never knew about. Is this a start of a brand new relationship or is it all going to end in tears? Paul Burston rarely tells anything but a terrific yarn... and you'll just love this one.

£12.99 – Sphere



▲ PIN-UPS

By Maurice Vellekoop

A collection of sensational pictures of men and boys of all shapes and sizes, drawn from the artist's delicious imagination. In classic porn style, Vellekoop's models look out at the viewer, smiling mischievously or glaring haughtily. Sexy, colourful, fun and drenched in naughty suggestion.

£13.99 – Green Candy Press



SHUCK

By Daniel Allen Cox

Shuck is the intense, dazzling diary of Jaeven Marshall, a quasi-homeless hustler who seeks fame and fortune in New York. As he tries to keep up his reputation as the porn star of the moment, he also seeks to be published and be acknowledged for his writing. Not great at relationships, he has a messy, although at times creative life with a series of encounters.

£11.99 – Arsenal Pulp Press



THE SPIRIT

Rookie cop, Denny Colt, AKA The Spirit (Gabriel Macht) returns from the dead to fight crime from the shadows of the Gotham-like Central City. But he brings with him an irresistible sex appeal that hinders his quest as much as it helps. A hero driven by a mission to fight the forces of evil and corruption, The Spirit meets his nemesis in the form of The Octopus (Samuel L. Jackson) a megalomaniac master of disguise who does not think twice about killing anyone unfortunate enough to see his face.

Out: 25th May - DVD£19.99 Bluray £24.99 - Lionsgate

To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just answer this simple question:

Complete the title of this Samuel L Jackson movie, Snakes on a _____?



THE LAST OF THE CRAZY PEOPLE

Young Martin watches the extraordinary events that occur in and around the family home and barn from a distance. Quiet and introverted, it is only the housemaid and occasionally his gay brother Didier, who pay him any attention. As for his mother, she has locked herself away in her room, while his grandmother assumes control of the household, which is slowly falling apart. When Didier discovers that his next-door neighbour and lover want to get married, all hell breaks loose, and the family disintegrates, with terrifying results. Unable to bear it any longer, Martin reaches for a revolver...

Out 25th May - £14.99 – Peccadillo Pictures To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just answer this simple question:

Which Martin starred in the TV comedy series Men Behaving Badly?



> THE CELLULOID CLOSET

Narrated by Lily Tomlin and based on Vito Russo's groundbreaking book, The Celluloid Closet is a fascinating and elegant look at human sexuality and identity. An epic story and by turns surprising, hilarious and disturbing makes us see Hollywood images in a whole new light. The extras on this disc include 21 additional scenes – Rescued from the Closet. **Out 4th May - £17.99 – HBO/Channel4**

To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just answer this simple question:

Hollywood is a suburb of which Californian city?

> **COMPETITION TIME** Turn to page 78 for entry details



TRADE

Small time thief, Jorge, spends his days stealing from tourists on the streets of Mexico City. His world is turned upside down when the thing most precious to him, his little sister Adrianna, is suddenly kidnapped on her 13th birthday. Jorge sets off on a desperate mission to find Adrianna before her captors sell her off to the highest bidder.

Out: 11th May - £15.99 - Lionsgate Film To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just answer this simple question:

Which country does the drink Tequila come from?



THE DA VINCI CODE: EXTENDED CUT

For those not up to speed on this film adaptation of the Dan Brown best seller - noted symbologist Professor Robert Langdon (Tom Hanks) and police cryptologist Sophie Neveu (Tautou) go on a heartracing quest to unearth the biggest cover-up in human history. Langdon is called to the Louvre Museum late one night where a curator has been murdered, leaving behind a mysterious trail of symbols and clues. With his own survival at stake, Langdon unveils a series of stunning secrets hidden in the artwork of Leonardo Da Vinci, all leading to a covert society dedicated to guarding an ancient secret that has remained hidden for 2000 years. This new extended cut has 28 minutes of never before seen footage.

Out: 4th May - £XX XX – Sony Home Entertainment

To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just answer this simple question: Complete the title of this Tom Hanks movie, Forrest _____?



WERE THE WORLD MINE

After being cast as the star of his high school's production of a Midsummer Night's Dream, gay town outcast Timothy discovers a magical love potion that has the power to turn complete strangers desperately in love. However, what initially seems like a dream come true begins to get decidedly complicated when Timothy causes both the jock of his dreams and his best friend to fall in love with him. A fantastical gay take on High School Musical and the genre-defining teen comedies of John Hughes, this DVD explores the pleasure and pain of coming of age in a truly original way.

Out: 18th May - £14.99 - tlareleasing To be in with a chance to win a copy of this fantastic DVD just answer this simple question: Which British playwright wrote A Midsummer Night's Dream?

WWW.MAG.BENT.COM



TO THINGS SOU NEVER MIENT REPORT CLEMMIC TRAVIN

1 Channing Tatum was born on April 26, 1980, in a small town called Cullman, outside of Birmingham, Alabama.

2 Growing up, he was full of energy and somewhat troublesome, so his parents decided to enroll him in different sports such as track and field, baseball, soccer, and football to keep him out of trouble. In the ninth grade he was sent to military school.

3 Tatum is also skilled in Kung Fu and in Gor-Chor Kung Fu, a form of martial arts, in which he has earned belts in both.

4 He has modeled for Abercrombie & Fitch, Nautica, Gap, Aeropostale, Emporio Armani, and has been featured in television commercials for American Eagle, Pepsi, and some very popular Mountain Dew commercials.

5 Channing was also in the very popular TV series CSI: Miami (2002) where he played the role of Bob Davenport.

6 Is of Native American, Irish, and French descent.

7 Big break was being cast in Ricky Martin's video for "She Bangs," where he was paid \$400 for a 7-day shoot.

8 Auditioned for the role of Gambit in X-Men: The Last Stand (2006) before the role was eliminated.

9 Has played a character called Duke twice, once in She's the Man (2006) and again in G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra (2009).

10 Engaged to Jenna Dewan his costar from the movie Step Up (2006) as of September 10, 2008.

Gorgeous Channing stars in urban drama Fighting out on 15 May and later this summer in G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra

▶ Angels and Demons

Out: 14th May

The team behind the global phenomenon The Da Vinci Code returns for the highly anticipated Angels & Demons, in which Tom Hanks reprises his role as Harvard religious expert Robert Langdon. When Langdon discovers evidence of the resurgence of an ancient secret brotherhood known as the Illuminati - the most powerful underground organization in history - he also faces a deadly threat to the existence of the secret organization's most despised enemy: the Catholic Church. When Langdon learns that the clock is ticking on an unstoppable Illuminati time bomb, he jets to Rome, where he joins forces with Vittoria Vetra, a beautiful and enigmatic Italian scientist. Embarking on a nonstop, action-packed hunt through sealed crypts, dangerous catacombs, deserted cathedrals, and even to the heart of the most secretive vault on earth, Langdon and Vetra will follow a 400-year-old trail of ancient symbols that mark the Vatican's only hope for survival. Exciting stuff.

Out: 8th May

From Henry Selick, visionary director of The Nightmare Before Christmas, and based on Neil Gaiman's international best-selling book, comes a spectacular stop-motion animated adventure – the first to be originally filmed in 3D! Coraline Jones (Dakota Fanning) is bored in her new home until she finds a secret door and discovers an alternate version of her life on the other side. On the surface, this parallel reality is eerily similar to her real life and the people in it – only much better. But when this seemingly perfect world turns dangerous, and her other parents (including her Other Mother voiced by Teri Hatcher) try to trap her forever; Coraline must count on her resourcefulness, determination and bravery to escape this increasingly perilous world – and save her family. Visually incredible and great story. My favourite animated film so far this year – an instant classic.

AWAYDAYS

Out: 22nd May When Carty meets Elvis at a Bunnymen gig, they fall headlong into a volatile friendship that each of them aches for but neither can control. Violent, sexy and funny, Awaydays is a blade-sharp rites-of-passage that buzzes with the post-punk energy of its late-70s Liverpool setting. Based on the classic novel by Kevin Sampson, and pulsating to a soundtrack of Joy Division, The Cure, Magazine, Echo & The Bunnymen and Ultravox, Awaydays examines identity, fate, the nature of male longings and their need to belong. It is the first major feature film to be set during, and evocatively portray, the first dawning of the football casual fashion cult. Quadrophenia meets Control? Trainspotting meets Stand By Me? Awaydays is all of these - A Catcher In The Rye with switchblade.



Out: 8th May

From the first scene the Star Trek universe as we knew it has changed forever. Kirk is now an angry wayward young man looking for trouble (played by really hot Chris Pine). He fights with Starfleet cadets in lowa when a Capt. Pike takes an interest in him, finding out he's the only 'genius level repeat offender in the Midwest'. Pike dares Kirk to join Starfleet, goading him with the legacy of his father. A young Spock is tortured over his mixed heritage, the emotions he fights to control and the very different paths he has before him. He must choose between the Vulcan world which will never accept him as anything other than 'half human' and Starfleet Academy, worlds away from everything he has ever known. We meet Dr 'Bones' McCoy and a young linguist Uhura at the Academy and watch as a headstrong Kirk wreaks havoc on Starfleet's rules and regulations. Kirk's antics culminate in his reprogramming the famous Kobayashi Maru test and consequent disciplinary hearing. He comes face to face with the scenario creator, Mr Spock. As this unfolds; a vicious Romulan from the future is hell bent on vengeance upon 'Ambassador' Spock and nothing will get in his way. The fleet is called to arms as peril aims at the heart of the Federation and Kirk and Spock are irrevocably pulled together to save the galaxy - for the first time. Probably the biggest summer blockbuster of the year and one we cannot wait for a sequel to.



> Synecdoch<mark>e, new york</mark>

Out: 15th May

Charlie Kaufman who wrote Being John Malkovich and Eternal Sunshine Of The Mind lends his hand to writing and directing Synecdoche New York. This is a long but incredible film that starts as a regular drama and delves into a surreal world of life imitating art, imitating life and so on. Centered around theater director Caden Cotard (Phillip Seymour Hoffman) as he gathers an ensemble cast into a warehouse in New York City, hoping to create a work of brutal honesty. He directs them in a celebration of the mundane, instructing each to live out their constructed ives in a growing mockup of the city outside. The years rapidly fold into each other, and Caden buries himself deeper into his masterpiece, but the textured tangle of real and theatrical relationships blurs the line between the world of the play and that of Caden's own deteriorating reality. A stellar cast including Catherine Keener, Michelle Williams, Samantha Morton, Hope Davis, Emily Watson, ennifer Jason Leigh and Dianne Wiest.

FILM BUZZ

Green Lantern is going Down Under. Martin Campbell's superhero flick, based on the DC comic about an ordinary man who is transformed into a hero when he wields an all-powerful ring (steady now...), will shoot at Fox Studios Australia, with pre-production on the \$150 million movie beginning in July.

Sexy Patrick Wilson (Nightowl in Watchmen) gets his funny on. With shooting scheduled to start in New York this month, the already heavyweight cast of the sniggertastically-titled Morning Glory includes Patrick's love interest Rachel McAdams' ambitious TV producer. Charged with reviving the flagging fortunes of a morning show, McAdams attempts to coax two antagonistic anchors (Harrison Ford and Diane Keaton) and reverse the ratings slump.

David Duchovny and Tea Leoni's marriage is back on - and the couple have sealed their love with matching wedding ring tattoos. The pair announced the end of their 11-year marriage back in October, after Duchovny underwent a spell in rehab to treat sex addiction.

Heroes villain Zachary Quinto had to crop his famous eyebrows to play Mr. Spock in the new Star Trek movie. The actor is famous for his bushy brows, but director J.J. Abrams insisted they had to go if he was to play the sci-fi Vulcan. Quinto tells Playboy magazine, "I had to shave three quarters off each to play Spock."

Dan Aykroyd has vowed to persuade Sigourney Weaver to sign on to the new Ghostbusters movie. All of the other original castmembers from the cult 1980s films - including Bill Murray, Harold Ramis and Ernie Hudson - have all reportedly signed up for the sequel. Ghostbusters 3 is scheduled to hit cinemas in 2011.

Movie tough-guy Jason Statham was left red-faced filming a sex scene in a shopping mall - his fellow actors took photos of his bare buttocks. The Transporter actor had to strip for a saucy scene in front of dozens of extras playing passers-by. But the British star was in for an embarrassing surprise - when the bit-part actors decided to capture the moment on their mobile phones.

Actor Paul Walker has confirmed reports he'll be back for a fourth Fast & Furious film. The movie hunk, who has played Brian O'Conner in three of the four films in the franchise, felt sure the new film would "close out the franchise", but the movie's breathtaking opening-week success has prompted him and producers to change gear and think again. STUFF



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THE PEN IS MIGHTIER

Wacom unveils Intuos4, a professional pen tablet system that delivers new features and unparalleled performance to photographers, designers and artists. The next generation Intuos is anchored by its new pen performance, capable of capturing the slightest nuance of pen pressure against the tablet surface, as well as offering 2048 levels of pressure sensitivity. Intuos4, comes in four sizes to meet varying workflow and workspace requirements –

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The Memoir FS80 is the world's first to offer an integrated scanner to allow users to convert traditional print photographs into digital files, stored directly on the frames internal memory. The device supports the instant playback of the scanned images, along with existing digital files, on a large and high quality 8" screen. £178 www.skyla.com



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www.philips.co.uk/cinema

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WHY IS GRAN CANARIA SUCH A POPULAR GAY DESTINATION ?

THIS WAS THE QUESTION THAT I WAS ASKED LAST WEEK AND IT SET ME WONDERING. I THINK IT CAN BE SUMMED UP AS - VARIETY, VALUE AND WEATHER.

Certainly, there are few who would be disappointed by the Variety that this small island offers the gay traveller. Whether it is the wide range of exclusively gay male accommodation, self-catering gay friendly apartments or 3 and 4-star luxury gay welcoming hotels, there is something for every taste and budget.

Next there is the Variety of gay activities – laze on the beach, cruise the dunes or take a gay day-out excursion. For those less energetic there is always people watching from a pavement café as the boyz pass by before partying all night the Yumbo bars, clubs or sauna. But to do just that would be to miss out on the spectacular mountain scenery inland so, grab a jeep and tour the island or experience the many fine local restaurants and the fashion stores of Las Palmas.

Then there is Value – even in these "credit crunched and Euro-high times", a week in GC starts from just over £500 in August. Amro Worldwide also has plenty of good deals in the early and late summer seasons.

Finally, there is the Weather – generally, it's just perfect all year round but you could get a cool wind in winter or a Sahara blast of hot air in summer that gets you reaching for the air conditioning. Either way you're sure to come back with a tan.

So head south to this gay island – it's almost a rite of passage for every gay, so go check it out.





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Terms and conditions: All prices are per person, based on 2 adults sharing a twin/double room on selected travel dates between 16/09/09-07/10/09. Beach Boys offer based on stay 11 nights for price of 7 offer for stays in May/ June 2009. Accommodation as stated, flights are with Easyjet, subject to availability. Price match promise: If within, 24 hours of booking you find an identical holiday we will match the price - a genuine written quotation will be required. All prices quoted as correct at time of going to press and subject to booking conditions. We reserve the right to amend or withdraw this offer at any time, without prior notice. Offer expires 30/06/09. TRAVE

Here in the UK we have, in comparison to many other countries, quite a liberal attitude to LGBT matters. We all know that these could be better but I think we can agree that things are improving. However, what is often forgotten when travelling abroad is that some countries have a completely different take on such social issues and can be aggressively homophobic. Just because you have a Civil Partnership here in the UK doesn't mean that when you want to celebrate that wonderful occasion with a honeymoon overseas, they will necessarily greet you with open arms. Please check before you go what the prevailing attitude is before you part with any money. As Steve Jowett – Fleet from the FCO says, "Nothing could be worse than celebrating in a country (or city) that doesn't want you or that there is more than an aggressive attitude by the hotel manager to your stay. So, although it may be a Civil Partnership may legal in a particular country, it doesn't mean that it has a Goods and Services act like we have, to protect against individual discrimination, to run alongside it". Remember that if you meet some one abroad and want to return with that partner... then the Home Office is the place to check out what you'll need for that to be allowed to happen... but your first point of reference while abroad is the local British Consulate. Just to let you know that you can apply to have your Civil Partnership ceremony at the consulate but, the rule is, that would only happen if the country you.'re in has similar civil partnership laws themselves.

The Foreign Office has a site that is full of up to date information or can guide you to other helpful sites...

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

The tips are designed to give general advice to GLBT travellers prior to travelling abroad.

1. Check out the FCO Travel Advice, available online at www.fco.gov.uk/ knowbeforeyougo or by calling 020 7008 0232/0233.

2. Make sure you take out adequate travel insurance before you go, checking that the cover provided is appropriate to you and your circumstances.

3. Get to know your destination. There are many gay travel guides on the market and the Internet and gay press can also be a great resource for travel information.

4. Think about your sexual health before you go. Many sexual health products are not as readily available abroad as they are in the UK and quality can differ depending on where you are.

5. More and more hotels are now actively welcoming same-sex couples. But it's wise to check before you go and make reservations in advance to avoid difficulties when checking in.

6. Bear in mind that some resorts can be quite segregated and, when you're outside distinct gay 'neighbourhoods', open expressions of your sexuality might be frowned upon.

7. Try to avoid potentially risky situations. Be aware of your environment, stay alert and in control.

8. Be aware that criminals have been known to exploit the generally open and relaxed nature of gay 'neighbourhoods' and beaches. Don't leave your belongings unattended and try not to carry large amounts of money around with you.

9. If you get into any difficulties, seek the advice of your tour operator, local police or the nearest British consulate. Our consular staff overseas are there to help all British nationals and your concerns will be taken seriously and handled in a discreet and courteous manner.

10. Have fun! Although attitudes in other countries can be very different to those in the UK, you can have a very positive and enjoyable travelling experience.

OVERSERS MOBILE DOWNLOADING

Ofcom has published a consumer advice video with tips for keeping down the cost of using mobile phones and downloading data whilst travelling abroad as the holiday season starts.

Wireless broadband dongles and smart phones are now increasingly popular but downloading data remains expensive when travelling abroad.

Cases of "bill shock" started to hit the headlines last year. Examples include a consumer who used his £25 per month datacard to download a couple of episodes of his children's favourite TV shows to keep them entertained whilst on holiday in France. He returned to a bill of almost £22,000. We are expecting new rules on roaming charges to come into effect in the summer. In the meantime, these handy tips will help people avoid high mobile bills this holiday season.

The video can be found at: www.ofcom.org.uk/media/features/ mobabvid

www.ofcom.org.uk/consumeradvice/ mobile/cost/reduce/345552/ mobilesabroad.pdf





Mi-Vox are tiny lightweight pre loaded MP3 players. Perfect if you are on the move and for learning a new language. The phrases are short and simple so you can pick up the essentials of your chosen

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TRAVE



By George Shapiro

The music starts at 5pm, and on weekends, it doesn't stop until 5am the next day. There's low tea, high tea, middle tea, an underwear party, and a nightclub called Pavilion. The underwear party has amazing pop music and hundreds of guys dancing around in their underwear. It's so fun! Pavilion is where big name DJs like Brett Henrichsen and Junior Vasquez play. There are also some crazy tranny shows at a restaurant called Blue Whale.

But Fire Island Pines is more than a party. There are fabulous restaurants, a gourmet market, Starbucks, cute shops, and a gym. It's a gay island after all! Plus, the beaches are beautiful. And there are no cars allowed on the island—so you really feel like you are in a gay paradise.

Adam Weaver, who heads the activities on the island, tells us about summer '09:

Why is 2009 the summer to experience the Pines?

Internal US flights are cheap this year, so we're gearing for more boys than ever and we're hoping this helps attract all those hunks from across the water in the UK.

How are you preparing for the extra guests?

We've expanded the high tea room to fit more guys. We've also perfected our DJ roster to include all the favorites as well as some hot, new talent. I've been scouting the bars of NYC for the best, new nightclub performers, and I'm counting on a few big name acts to make it to the Pines too.

Can you give us some of the artists already confirmed?

I'm really excited about the Perry Twins over Ascension weekend. It will be their Fire Island debut! And of course, Joe Gauthreaux at Bay Dance and Tony Moran at Ascension are going to be fierce. I'm so psyched for the holiday weekend line-ups, but really, we've got great talent coming out every night of summer.

When visiting the Pines, what should men include on their itineral

Low Tea is a great place to have drinks and dance with your friends. High Tea follows at 8pm, where the dance party gets a little more wild and crazy. On weekends, there are live performances at Blue Whale Restaurant, which is a great place to have dinner or to just hang out at the bar to see the show. Oh, and if you're here on a Friday, you can't miss the underwear party. It's really hot!

What would you advise all gay men pack in their bag for a funfilled weekend in the Pines?

If you are coming for a day trip, all you need is a towel, sunscreen, sunglasses, and some drinking money. For a longer trip, make sure you bring plenty of cute swimsuits. The daytime look in the Pines is a speedo and designer shades. At night, make sure you have sexy jeans and you may want to pack a hoody for chilly nights.

What does the Pines offer singles that other gay destinations do not?

P-Town is a great place to relax, and Atlantis is a great place to go wild. At the Pines, you get the best of both. You can chill on the beach and hang out with your friends at vour beach house. Or you can go downtown, where there's a party every night. Fire

BAY DANCE takes place July 3-5, featuring DJs Roland Belmares, Junior Vasquez and the Main Event with DJ Joe Gauthreaux. ASCENSION is Aug 14-16, featuring DJs Manny Lehman, Brett Henrichsen, Kimberly S and The Perry Twins, with DJ Tony

Island is what you make it.

Moran headlining the beach party..

You can find everything from the latest summer entertainment schedule to available houses and hotel rooms at www.thepinesfireisland.com.







While our pound takes a pounding against the Euro, it is still holding well against the Turkish Lira. Now is the time to look further afield for summer holidays where your hard-earned cash will get you more. Fortunately, North Cyprus is just 4 hours away by Turkey's premier low cost carrier Pegasus Airlines with a stopover in Istanbul.

On route to always sunny North Cyprus, have a quick stay in Istanbul, the vibrant capital of Turkey is the only city to be half in Asia and half in Europe. This gives the famous historical city a unique appeal that is both cosmopolitan and traditional.

Gay life is in abundance in Istanbul nowadays; indeed you can even take a gay tour with Pride Travel Istanbul (www.turkey-gay-travel.com). Well recommended if you want to visit the famous shopping mall, Istiklal Avenue, starting from Taksim Square that divides the night-life area into two. Most of the gay venues of Istanbul are located in the guirky side lanes connecting to this always busy pedestrian stretch, which is so much better than Oxford Street with high street brands and many a shopping bargain to be found. Furthermore; Istanbul has a huge number of historical landmarks which can be crammed into a day tour if you are short on time. If you need somewhere to stay, the Ritz Carlton (www.ritzcarlton.com) conveniently

located near the gay district offers superb rooms and has one of the city's most exclusive spa for relaxation and beauty treatments.

Unlike the south Cyprus, North Cyprus has been isolated from the rest of Europe until comparatively recently, so this top half of Cyprus is more the Mediterranean of your dreams; quieter, less developed, less tourist-oriented. With near deserted beaches, un-congested roads, soaring mountains and prices lower than Euro zone countries, North Cyprus is how all Cyprus used to be.

There is plenty to see and do here. The area is rich with history so you can take an exploration through time during the day. There are lovely medieval castles and various archeological sites to visit. You can also go walking along the coast for a romantic stroll.

However, the warm climate makes the ocean an inviting place to spend all your time. There is nothing but sunshine for at least 300 days per year so there are plenty of water-sports you can engage in as well. Whether you like surfing, boating, parasailing, swimming, sailing, or skimboarding, you're sure to find a perfect place to do it. North Cyprus is truly a perfect place for water sports.

At night you can enjoy various types of entertainment in clubs around the area and also find live bands performing along the beach if you prefer to spend outdoors. Gay clubs are thin on the ground but a new gay bar recently opened in Kyrenia. And local gays can be found online at Gaydar. As far as accommodation goes, there are plenty of private villas, most of them offer a breath-

taking view of the

your evenings

ocean to wake up to. If you base yourself near the coastal resort of Kyrenia you can get to the nightlife and daytime activities easily by the local transport but hiring a car is recommended to discover the most beautiful beaches.

The Hideaway Club Hotel (www. hideawayclub.com) is the premier boutique hotel of North Cyprus. Just three miles from the coastal resort of Kyrenia; this is the place where travel agents themselves choose to stay. Comprising a selection of Connoisseur Suites and Club Rooms, the superblyrun hotel operates a 'child-free' policy throughout the summer season and has a unique, languid and relaxed atmosphere around the welcoming poolside terrace. In the foothills of the



Kyrenia mountain range and close to all the delights of North Cyprus, the hotel is flanked by the majestic St. Hilarion Castle and has absolutely stunning views of Kyrenia itself; as well as all the North Cyprus Mediterranean coastline. With most parts of the Mediterranean littered with tourist resorts. North Cyprus offers a much more relaxed local atmosphere. English is not the first language like so many tourist spots nowadays. The unspoiled nature of the locals just adds to the uniqueness of this paradise. North Cyprus offers the best conditions for an unforgettable relaxing holiday.

Useful Websites www.gototurkey.co.uk www.flypgs.com/en

TRAVEL



Scotland's largest and most vibrant city: or so it says on the tin. Dockyards and access to America and beyond meant Glasgow quickly grew to become one of the most important trading hubs of the British Empire, as still witnessed by her imposing architecture and squares. She has since re-emerged triumphant from industrial decline, to reinvent herself as a modern, vibrant city of style and culture.

SIGHTS

Take in the central George Square itself, with its imposing columns, statues and City Chambers: the old Cathedral, especially spooky in the basement; the renovated Merchant City quarter; and Glasgow Green with its People's Palace pleasure complex. Explore the amazing masterpieces of Glasgow's most famous architectural son, Charles Rennie Mackintosh - notably the Glasgow School of Art and The Lighthouse centre and tower. Out west take in Kelvingrove Park and its renovated museum, Glasgow Uni and the lovely Botanic Gardens; or peruse the renovated dockside area, with its Science Centre and Tall Ship across the way. For art's sake, enjoy the latest exhibitions at the vibrant Gallery of Modern Art or Centre for Contemporary Art.

SCENE

Near the Central Railway Station, The Waterloo (306 Argyle Street; T: 0141 229 5891) claims to be the city's oldest gay pub, but is just as buzzing and packed now as of yore. That said, it's enough to make you crave a touch of class, so wait no more: a whole clutch of newer gay style venues in the Merchant City quarter await! Court Bar (69 Hutchinson Street; T: 0141 552 2463) makes a perfect springboard into Merchant Pride (20 Candleriggs; T: 0141 564 1285); then Revolver (6a John Street; T: 0141 553 2456), shoots a mean load in its basement bunker full of pool, poofs and grooves.

Delmonica's (68 Virginia Street; T: 0141 552 4803) is a triumph of glass, mirrors, vistas and tunes to set chic toes a tappin'. When Del's bars shut shop and lights flood up, pouting punters dutifully file next door to co-owned Moda (58 Virginia Street; T: 0141 553 2553) - a quieter, more atmospheric haunt late into the evenings - and larger annex, the plush Polo Lounge (84 Wilson Street; T: 0141 553 1221). Don't be fooled: Polo's not quite as pretentious as its ground-floor leatherand-oak gentlemen's club upholstery may suggest. Venture downstairs and you'll soon find your fair share of mature strong cheese in the Trophy Room and some trancy dance in adjoining Club Room. But to view Glasgow's true queer teethn-tits roots, visit timeless Bennets (80-90 Glassford Street; T: 0141 552 5761) that still seems to pull in the crowds.

STAY

Abode Glasgow (129 Bath Street; T: 0141 572 6000; www.abodehotels.co.uk/ glasgow) - Reflecting the city's own modern renaissance, Abode Glasgow combines striking traditional architecture with the most exciting contemporary design and high-tech facilities.

Glasgay is a fantastic cultural celebration of all things gay, every October/ November, featuring over 200 queer events at dozens of venues citywide – due to attract around 30,000 visitors to an orgy of theatre, music, comedy, dance, film, dubs and visual arts: www.glasgay.com For more on Scotland and its cities, including their gay attractions: www. visitscotland.com/citybreaks - or call 0845 22 55 121 to request a Visit Scotland brochure or to book accommodation. Homecoming Scotland 2009 is a year long celebration of Scottish culture, heritage and some of the many great contributions Scotland has given the world: www.homecomingscotland2009.com Glasgow is little more than 4 hours away from London Euston and even closer from other major UK cities, by Virgin Trains: www.virgintrains.co.uk



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By Lee Hudson



It's only a couple of years ago that the press was full of stories about hotels and 🖡 oed and breakfast establishments in 🎆 Scotland who were refusing to let same sex couples stay the night. These reports rightly caused outrage amongst the gay community but unfortunately, to some extent, also tarred all hotels north of the border with the same brush. Thankfully, some hotels have fought hard to get rid of this image. I can testify to the quality, and friendly reception I and my partner received at the Trigony Country House Hotel in Dumfries and Galloway in Scotland.

The owners, Adam and Jan Moore have built the hotel's reputation on the hospitality and the fine cuisine they provide using mostly local, organic ingredients. All the food is prepared with the greatest of care - from the homemade organic bread to the ice-cream. Adam, who is also the head chef, and his partner Jan ensure that the guests can truly enjoy



their stay in the serenity and calmness of this inspiring hideaway. The hotel can arrange a series of activities including; horse-riding, falconry, Land Rover safaris, they can even arrange for a vintage car for you to explore the beautiful countryside and its historical monuments. The area is a haven for walkers and cyclist and perhaps more importantly to all you animal lovers... the hotel is pet friendly.

Tel: 01848 331211

www.countryhousehotelscotland.com info@trigonyhotel.co.uk

Few countries have as complex. dramatic or still-evolving a history as Israel. This proud nation of just 6 million - about the geographical size of Wales - has been forged by ancient Israelite tribes, dispersed by Roman, Christian, Arab and Ottoman incursions. It was even run as the British Protectorate of Palestine, 1917-1948, at the end of which time the modern state of Israel was not uncontroversially founded - in no small part in response to the WW2 Holocaust – and subsequently expanded by Israeli military might via various wars in the 1960s and 70s. Though now relatively stable, areas of dispute still include the Gaza Strip, the West Bank and the Golan Heights. And all citizens, male or female, must still do 2-3 years of national service: hence lots of fit young uniformed guys on almost every street corner.

and the dead sea!

Though now naturally predominantly Jewish, there are also significant Muslim and Christian minorities. And an increasing number of Israelis account themselves "secular Jews" more vis-à-vis ethno-cultural identities than anything more religio-spiritual. Moreover, there is considerable American influence, as manifested in most "English" accents, financial backing and, arguably, the unspoken nuclear stockpile.

Modern style-conscious gay-wooing hub Tel Aviv - founded in 1909, thus now celebrating its mere centenary - is almost another world compared with the likes of Jerusalem; and is the perfect place to base oneself, making thrilling day-tips to other, more historic, sites around the country (see box-out).

Stroll through Tel Aviv's large northern Yarkon Park, taking in the Israel Museum and the Diaspora Museum. After lunch at Little Old Tel Aviv Port, revitalised with cafes and eateries galore, saunter due south along the coast, stopping off to swim or tan at any of the several fine

beaches, until you reach the historic southern zone of Jaffa, exploring its Jewish, Islamic and Christian heritage. Then cut back up any of the long shop-filled avenues like Dizengoff or Ben Yehuda, and gorge on exhibits at the world-class Tel Aviv Museum of Art.

Israel time = GMT + 2.

£1 = approx 6 New Israeli Shekels.

TO STAY

ADRIAN GILLAN BASKS AMIDST THE GAY-FRIENDLY VIBE OF TEL AVIV, ISRAEL'S

Ben Yehuda Apartments (Ben Yehuda Street 119-121, Tel Aviv; Tel: +972 3 522 9393; www.tel-aviv-rental.co.il) -Wonderfully positioned gay-frequented rooms, near beach and scene.

TO FAT

Goo-Cha (corner of Dizengoff and Ben Gurion: T: +972 3 691 1603) – Stunning seafood joint, open noon 'til 2am. Fortuna del Mar (Tel Aviv Marina; T: +972 3 523 6730) - Open 10am 'til late. Fab harbour setting.

TO BOOZE 'N CRUISE

The gay scene is all clustered neatly near the centre...

Evita (Yavne 31; T: +972 3 566 9559) -Open 7pm 'til late. Loungy and busy. Buzzing eatery too. Club

Minus 1 (Nahalat Binyamin Street 52) - Fridays, the main "night out" in a Jewish week. Packed. Boyling (Blackbook Showbar, Menachem Begin Road 37) -Saturdays, heaving.

Sauna

Bars

Sauna City (Hashmonaim 113; www.sauna-citv.com) Sauna Paradise (Allenby 75: www.saunaparadise.co.il)

Beach

Hilton Beach – Just north of the Hilton hotel.

Plus: Gents oft take airs, day or night, in the cat-teeming Haatzmaut Garden, just south of the Hilton.

RUMHU GILLHU BROKO HUUDOT THE GRO-FRIEIDLO VIBE OF TEL HVIV, IOMHEL O BUZZING YET LAID-BACK MEDITERRANEAN METROPOLIS! PLUS: NEARBY JERUSALEM DAY-TRIPS

There are a wide range of wonderful great-value day-trips one can easily take out of Tel Aviv, organised by the likes of United Tours (www.unitedtours.co.il), including...

JERUSALEM (Israel's self-claimed capital, more controversial internationally) – Take in a panoramic view of the city, including the Temple Mount with its iconic golden Dome of the Rock and El Agsa Mosque; the Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, reputed Tomb of the Virgin Mary and Church of the Ascension of Christ; Mount Zion, including King David's alleged tomb and the traditional site of the Last Supper; the bustling Old City, including its Muslim and Jewish Quarters and ancient, now-subterranean, Cardo shopping precinct; Via Dolorosa, supposed site of the Stations of the Cross, all culminating in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, possible site of Golgotha, the Crucifixion and tomb of Christ; the Western 'Wailing" Wall, heard from afar; the Knesset parliament; Ein Kerem, birthplace of John the Baptist; and the new harrowing Yad Va'Shem Holocaust Museum.

DEAD SEA & MASADA – Take in the rugged, mountainous Judean Desert and views of ancient Jericho in the distance; Qumran, site of the Dead Sea Scrolls' discovery; plus the Masada citadel, reached on foot or via cable car, site of the infamous mass-suicide of Jewish zealots, besieged by Roman legions. Visit Ein Gedi Kibbutz-cum-Spa for a swim – or effortless float - in the Dead Sea, the Earth's lowest point, with Jordan's mountains rearing up, simultaneously downwards reflected, over on the far side. Avoid getting the water in your mouth or eyes; carefully wash off the mineral-rich mud or brine to avoid a rash; and wear flip-flops so the salt crystals on the seabed don't cut your feet to shreds!

OTHER - With more time, take in Bethlehem (Church of the Nativity), Nazareth, the Sea of Galilee (site of Sermon on the Mount), Capernaum, Caesarea (old Roman capital), Haifa or Eilat (Red Sea).

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

Thomsonfly offers low fares flights direct to Tel Aviv from London Luton and Manchester, flying three times a week (Tues, Thurs and Sun) from each airport. Prices start from just £89.99 one way, or £179.98 return, including taxes and charges. Thomsonfly now departs from 20 of the UK's favourite airports. Passengers can prebook meals, including a kosher option, as part of the booking process. For further information or to book, visit www.thomsonfly.com or call 0871 231 4787. For general info about Israel: www.thinkisrael.com Useful gay links: www.gaytlvguide.com or www.qlbt.org.il

Tel Aviv Pride, on Fri 12 June 2009, attracts thousands of celebrants annually.
Website:JarrettJames.moonfruit.co.uk Mobile: 0787652539 Location: London Center



AS FAR AS MYSELF AND OTHER PEOPLE IN THE HEALTH AND FITNESS INDUSTRIES ARE CONCERNED, THE TERM 'HARD BODY' SEEMS TO BE THE CATCHPHRASE OF THE MILLENNIUM. UNFORTUNATELY, MANY PEOPLE EVALUATE THEMSELVES BASED ON WHAT THEY SEE IN THE MIRROR AND QUITE OFTEN THEY'RE DISAPPOINTED.

Many think that by changing their physical characteristics, they will be able to raise their self esteem. Obsession with body shape can manifest itself in a number of ways. Of growing concern is the problem of compulsive over-exercising and exercise addiction. Some of the characteristics are: exercising for long durations, multiple work-outs per day, exercising six to seven days of the week, and /or high intensity aerobic work-outs. Health and fitness professionals still cannot agree on how much exercise is too much. Some say that five or more exercise sessions per week of sixty plus minutes is unhealthy while, others say more than four aerobic sessions of approximately thirty minutes in any given week can put someone at risk for exercise addiction. There are many problems associated with over-exercising. Too much exercising, like too little food can slow down the bodies metabolism. When overexercise is combined with dieting, your metabolism slows down even more. This means your body will start to burn calories more slowly; which for people who are trying to tone-up or trim-down is exactly the opposite of what they want.

POMEGRANATE THE ESSENTIAL FRUIT FOR MEN

Anyone who knows their antioxidants should be aware that the pomegranate – the fruit that originates from the Mediterranean Middle East – is good for the heart, so much so that in here the UK pomegranate juices and other food products are officially allowed to claim they help maintain heart health.

But cancer researchers are also interested in the health properties of the pomegranate (or Punica granatum), with studies suggesting compounds found in the fruit may help protect against different types of cancer including breast, skin and prostate cancer.

And now, scientists from the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) believe they've discovered how the pomegranate protects against one particular type of cancer – that is, cancer of the prostate, a disease that kills more than 200,000 men worldwide each year.

According to the authors of the study published in the Journal of Nutritional Biochemistry, polyphenols (a type of antioxidant) in pomegranate extracts and juices may interact directly with genes to reduce the growth of prostate cancer cells as well as induce apoptosis (cell death) in both hormone-dependent and hormone-independent prostate cancer cells.

"This implies the potential possibility that pomegranate and its polyphenols are used as novel dietary supplements with maximum potential for androgen-dependent and androgenindependent prostate chemoprevention," write authors Mee Young Hong, Navindra Seeram, and David Heber.

Earlier studies confirm that the pomegranate may help boost men's health in other ways too. An animal study, published last year in Clinical Nutrition, claims drinking pomegranate juice on a regular basis may boost the quality and mobility of sperm, while research published last year claims a glass a day could help reduce erectile dysfunction, a condition that's thought to affect one in 10 men worldwide.

If you're not into eating fresh fruit (and why not?) try the Powerfruit Supplements range www.powerfruits.co.uk

For men and even women in this case, the combination of over-exercising and dieting can lead to depressed thyroid activity, disturbed sleep patterns, loss of ability to concentrate, depression, irritability and a depressed immune system. If you have inadequate energy intake and excessive energy output, you may start to burn healthy lean muscle mass tissue for energy. Your ability to maintain intense physical exercise and activity therefore decreases, rather than improves. Exercise dependence may also infringe on your mental and emotional well-being. An essential feature of any sort of dependence is the withdrawal symptoms that are experienced when one is not doing the thing they love the most - in this case exercise. The more you depend on physical activity to make you happy or get through your day, the greater the risk that you will never reach your ideal physical goal. A growing dependence comes with increasing performance goals and/or goals for reshaping your body that at some point you will not be able to meet. Learn to recognize the signs of an unhealthy approach to exercise: narrowing in variety of exercise a rigid exercise programme or schedule exercising several times a day giving exercise increased priority over other daily activities, withdrawal symptoms with cessation of exercise routine. Regular exercise is extremely beneficial and necessary for a healthy lifestyle.

The physical benefits include increased lean body mass, decreased blood pressure and improved cardiovascular efficiency. There are also positive impacts on emotional well-being.

The negative effects that can occur during dieting and over-exercising, are both physiological and psychological.

FITNESS & BEAUTY

▲ BOYZILIAN

Yes something for the boys. Women know that the smooth look down below can save the embarrassment of stray hairs when showing all on holiday. Now Enzo's of London are offering boys who like the hairless look, a great deal. Once you're all smooth... who knows what you can do to personalise the new, improved 'canvas'. www.enzo-beauty.co.uk



PULLING IT ALL TOGETHER

A new development in underwear from Australia is this new form-fitting vest. Equmen's cutting edge range incorporates the style elements of the classic undershirt with the physiological science of advanced sportswear to comfortably deliver structure, support and slimming benefits. In short it not only streamlines the male physique but helps to support the core muscles whilst simultaneously improving your posture.

FESTIVALS

29-30TH AUGUST

0

am

DARESBURY, CHESHIRE

Creamfields is the UK's best and most notorious dance festival. Stuff your pockets with disco candy and your rucksack with glowsticks, because it's time to party! The line-up includes Tiesto, David Guetta, Judge Jules, Basement Jaxx and Dizzee Rascal, so don't be the one to

Price: £100 for whole weekend with camping, plus miss out. booking fee / £100 for whole weekend without camping, plus booking fee / £53.50-57.50 per day, plus booking fee / extra for hospitality.

200 AUGUST 29TH JULY

CHEDDAR

20,000 people descend upon Cheddar for the most eco-friendly festival in the world. The site is run entirely sustainably for five days, with events and arenas for all ages, near the beautiful Cheddar Gorge. Run by the original 'Summer of Love' crew. This is their 15th anniversary.

Price: £125, standard adult ticket.

8-10TH MA SOUTHPORT

22 years and 43 evens—Southport's certainly an expert at what it does! Acts this year include D Jazzy Jeff, Kiko Navarro, Steve Sutherland, DJ Da Costa and Dr Bob Jones, bringing you the best in soul, funk, groove and urban music. Price: £150, incl. Self-catering accommodation.



HENHAM PARK ESTATE, SOUTHWOLD. SUFFOLK

The Sunrise Coast hosts another year of the award-winning Latitude Festival. Choc-a-bloc with outdoor theatre, poetry and music, Latitude is a festival with a difference. Bent favourites Patti Plinko & her Boy appear, alongside Comma Film, Ruby and her Whorses, Yanny Mac, Marc Steel, Anthropology, Tangled Feet and Russell Kane. Price: £150 for whole weekend, plus booking ees / £60 per day, plus booking fees (camping ncluded in weekend tickets; both ticket-types nclude car parking)

FESTIVAL FEVER

WITH ALL THE TOP FESTIVALS ABOUT TO START, WE HERE AT BEAT WONDERED IF YOU COULD HIT YOURSELF OUT ON THE CHEAP AND STILL LOOK PRETTY GOOD. YOU CAN ALWAYS SEARCH IN THE CHARITY STORES BUT WE THINK WHETHER YOU WANT TO BE STYLISH, GRUNGY OR JUST A PARTY POPPING PERSON, MATALAN HAS THE ANSWER.





 Straw cowboy hat £5



16TH-19TH JUNE Cornwall

The UK's only student festival, Beach Break Live has a line-up including the Zutons, Dizzee Rascal, Ladyhawke, Friendly Fires, Noisettes and the Mystery Jets. Huge group games and boutique areas will be present, with green initiatives such as group coach trips from all major UK cities. Price: Variable

315T JULY-2ND AUGUST

This festival began as a birthday barbecue and HERTFORDSHIRE spiralled into something much bigger. This year's emerging boutique festival includes secret retreats and arenas. There will be a huge interactive theatre run by Punch Drunk and the Masque of the Red Death actors, and New York designers will be creating a full field art installation on the theme of space. To make matters zanier, there will be a swimming pool with underwater DJ and the poshest loos at any festival, with lighted mirrors and oodles of class.

ice: £89 for standard adult ticket for 3

plus b

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Gran Canaria

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"I went to my first sauna when l lived in the States... and it was fabulous. I was surprised at just how good they've become here in the UK." Bryan, 50, Brighton

"I just love being looked at by other guys. I'm not just there to tease, as I don't think I have the body to do that, but getting a glance from another guy is such a turn on." William, 22, Liverpool

"I used to go to a sauna near Birmingham about 10 years ago. I messed around quite a bit and had some great shags but I also met David my partner there. We still occasionally go back but if it wasn't for the sauna... I wouldn't have met the love of my life."

Ken, 39, Coventry

"We've got a couple of newish saunas in our area now and that has really upped the game. They seem to be trying even harder to get customers and employ some nice lads on reception who are great to chat to." Michael, 31, Yorkshire

"As a married guy… you just can't beat visiting a sauna. I get compliments, which boosts my ego and I get to shag, which boosts my libido..." Tommy, 32, London

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UKs No1 Gay Sauna...



PIPEWORKS WELL INTO THE 3RD YEAR SINCE ITS OPENING THE PIPEWORKS IN GLASGOW IS STILL SETTING THE STANDARD FOR SAUNAS IN SCOTLAND.

The facilities are second to none and the spacious club provides the ideal environment for meeting other guys, chilling out, relaxing and everything else you would expect in a sauna. With a multitude of different public and private spaces and guys of all ages, shapes and sizes you'll be spoilt for choice!!! The forthcoming theme nights and regular bears' night will ensure there is something to suit all tastes and this summer's special offers mean that admission prices start from only £6.50! So there really is no better time to pop along to the Pipeworks and experience the best sauna that the West of Scotland has to offer!



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5-10 Metropole Lane, Glasgow Tel: 0141 552 5502

NEW LOOK WEBSITE WWW.THEPIPEWORKS.COM LAUNCHING SOON







EVENT OF THE MONTH BLACKPOOL PRIDE

With only a few weeks to go until Blackpool Pride 2009, this year really is shaping up to be an X-tra special event.

Until now, the names of the finale acts have been kept strictly under wraps by the organisers and now they are proud to announce that this year will feature two of the biggest stars from last years X Factor – Laura White and Austin Drage.

When Laura, North West born and bred in Atherton, was voted off the X Factor many thought that Laura would win the competition and Louis Walsh was once again accused of tactical voting in order to keep his own act in the race. Unperturbed, Laura has not looked back, has performed all over the country and is currently recording her debut album. It seems only fitting that one of the biggest, rising stars in the North West performs at Blackpool's biggest and best Pride to date.

Joining top billing with Laura will be Austin Drage, another tipped to win the competition last year and described by Simon Cowell as "just what the competition needed". Austin had already become a fan favourite when he appeared in E4's "Boys Will Be Girls", when he and two other male singers posed as a new girl band The Honeytraps. Following from the X Factor, Austin has been performing across the UK and is now pursuing a solo career.

and is now pursuing a solo career. Blackpool Pride will take place on Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th May 2009. Having previously been held on North Pier, this year sees the festival move to Dickson Road, right in the heart of what is fast becoming known as "Blackpool's Gay Village". The Pride enclosure will encompass a number of the Blackpool gay venues and will additionally have an outdoor main stage, marquees, markets, fun fair rides the lot.

Entry to the enclosed area will be strictly by purchase of a wristband and these can be bought at www.prideblackpool.com.

MAY 2009

BLACKPOOL

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Monday -Thursday nights MEN ONLY. NO DRESS CODE

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BLACKPOOL









MAY 2009

P R I D E Blackpool

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DJ Carmen

With Sensational Female Vocalist

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Foam Party



The World Famous Funny Girls Presents Pride 2009 Matinee

Flamingo



SHOWCASE: SATURDAY ISTH MAY EVE

OL PRIDE

TIME

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Collect your united with pride brochure from any of these venues





Discounted admission to our evening events with your pride wristband



Blackpool Pride Weekend



Friday 15th May

Angie Langford is SHANIA TWAIN

+ The Stars from the Bars Cheap drinks noon til 7pm Admission E3 from 8pm Open until 4am

Saturday 16th May Open 11am (Afternoon)

Joanna Shorrock (Vocalist) Falcon (Male Stripper)

(Evening)

Sally Jaxx (Vocalist) Cheap drinks noon til 7pm Admission 63 from 8pm Open until 4am

Sunday 17th May Open 11am (Afternoon) Stella Artois Angel (Male Stripper)

(Evening) Morgan Ward (Vocalist) Alison Burns (Vocalist) Jan Brett (Vocalist) Lee Brady (Vocalist) Deano (Male Stripper)

Morgan

Ward

Dean

Cheap drinks noon til close FREE ADMISSION Open until 4am

114 TALBOT ROAD, BLACKPOOL TE

Bank Holiday Weekend



Friday 22nd May Mikala Leigh (Vocalist) Stephanie Young (Vocalist) The Stars from the Bars

Cheap drinks noon til 7pm Admission E3 from 9pm Open until 3am

Saturday 23rd May (Afternoon)

Double Impact (Male Stripper)

(Evening) Merci (Vocal Duo)

Cheap drinks noon til 7pm Admission 63 from 9pm Open until 3am

Sunday 24th May (Afternoon)

(Evening)

Ashli Waine (Vocalist) - 8pm Brad Leigh Scott (Vocalist) Phoenix (Male Stripper) Cheap drinks noon til close FREE ADMISSION Open until 3am (afternoon) Penetrator (Male Stripper)

Monday 25th

May

(Evening) Jackie Webb is Diana Ross

> Jackie Webb

Hustler (Male Stripper)

Cheap drinks noon til close FREE ADMISSION Open until 3am

L: 01253 296262 www.themardigrasblackpool.com

ephanie Young

Merc

NORTH

Photo: Darrell Hirst



PRIDE AT FLAMINGO

The party starts on Friday with the every popular school disco, with cabaret from Lolly, in our School Prom Night Finale.

Saturday afternoon continues the party with Fomo – as the Arena is transformed into a giant bubble bath, while loads of sexy, sweaty revelers in Speedos, shorts and just about anything lather-it-up on the dance floor for this massive lbiza style foam party. Our resident squad of luscious go-go dancers entertain the masses all afternoon. These boys give their all, their bodies pulsating in mesmerizing dances, gyrating with a relentless energy to the innovative mixes of resident D/s

Saturday evening presents Katherine Ellis, the voice of Freemasons, bringing her inimitable style and glamour to the best party in town, live on stage, and back by popular demand. Expect nothing less than an astounding night filled with style, uplifting anthems, our army of go-go boys, entertainers and fire eaters to keep the crowd throbbing, Our resident DJ's make sure that the beats will be fierce, the mix will be bold, and the crowd eclectic. There's a special girls room, courtesy of Vanilla, and the ever popular Sarah Furey spinning the tunes.

Sunday Sanctuary sees Irene McGarvie undertaking a true marathon set, working the crowd into a frenzy, distilling infectious rhythms, soulful vocals and timeless classics - taking revelers on an exhilarating journey into the early hours. Live PA from Nikki Belle performing her top ten hits 'Sex Shooter' and 'Trippin on You'

With Spring Bank Holiday just around the corner, K-Klass and live PA Bobbi make a welcome return to Flamingo, breaking off from their debut appearance in Canada and the production of their latest celebration album. www.itpleisure.com

MAY 2009

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(CC)

Wristbands now on sale www.prideblackpool.com

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BRUM FUN

Birmingham's annual Pride event will see the return of the hugely popular and colourful parade through the city. The historic parade will include amazing floats and processions from the city's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community, as well as from a host of other organisations. It kicks off a weekend of celebrations in and around Birmingham's gay village on 23rd – 24th May. The event has a green theme and is being supported by the Environment Agency as well as Birmingham-based GB Training Ltd, Birmingham City Council as well as the many clubs, bars and businesses in the village area. It is spreading a pink meets green message with a doubling of effort to encourage more people and businesses to be more environmentally friendly.

The Pride festival takes place in Birmingham's Gay Village, which covers the area around Hurst Street, Bromsgrove Street and Essex Street. More details can be found at www.birminghampride.com

LONDON



COME OUT AND PLAY

Of course it is in your diary but make sure you have ring fenced Saturday 4th July as Pride London invite you to "come out and play", and party with purpose.

With that as our title you can expect our annual LGBT Pride Parade to be a cavalcade of colour and fun through the streets of London. As usual will set off from Baker Street at 1 p.m. and proceed down Oxford Street and Regent Street taking in some of the major sites of London as we swing round through Piccadilly to Trafalgar Square.

In the square you'll find an eclectic mix of speakers, stalls and a great line up of main stage performers from 3 p.m. Alternatively, head into Soho where you'll find the streets closed to traffic and a street party in full swing.

With stages and bars dotted around you'll find plenty of entertainment or a place to chill with mates or space to make new friends. There truly is a place for everyone at this fabulous free event.

www.pridelondon.org/

BOURNEMOUTH



BIG CHANGES For the Bourne Free Big top

Bourne Free have revealed some dramatic changes to the 3 day pride festival in Bournemouth, with both the Friday and Saturday live music events moving to the town's gay village, The Triangle.

Due to the rapidly growing popularity of Bourne Free, the gardens are no longer able to cope with the number of people attending the event and so for 2009 the entire programme has been shaken up.

This year there will be a 12-hour Street Party in The Triangle from 11am through to 11pm on Saturday 11th July. The main stage will host a great line up of performers, from singers and musicians to drag artists and circus acts. Also on offer, a massive bar tent, wide range of food stands and plenty of stalls to browse.

However the beautiful Lower Gardens have not been abandoned, with another new element to the weekend being introduced, a special Family Funday on Sunday 12th July from 1pm. There will be music and games for all the family to enjoy, children's face painting, entertainers, and it's an ideal setting for a leisurely picnic.

Entry to the Launch Night, Pride Parade and Family Funday will be FREE. Entry to the Street Party will require a Bourne Free Wristband, these are available from now until a week before the event for just £7 from www.bournefree.co.uk and for £10 after, all proceeds

go to Bourne Free, which is a registered charity.





Derby Goes Pink (DGP) is happening on the 4th July between 12pm and 6pm, being held at the Bass Recreational Ground, just a short walk from Derby City Centre, Derby Morledge bus station and Derby Railway Station.

Derby Goes Pink is Derby's annual Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender festival, 2009 will mark our second year, and it's going to be better than ever. 2008 saw 3500 in attendance and we expect this year to be in excess of 5000 people. As always the festivities start with a vibrant street procession through the centre of Derby city packed with floats, street performers and people from all walks of life. We actively invite anyone to join in the street parade and take part in the fun. Details of the parade will be on the DGP website and will finish at the Bass Recreation Ground for 12pm on July 4th.

The Bass Recreation Ground will be jam packed with fun for all the family including a main stage with star performances on, fair ground rides, food stalls, community stalls, family tent and bars.



GAY EDINBURGH

Pride Scotia, Scotland's Annual LGBT event, has finally announced a high profile route for the Pride March in Edinburgh on Sat 27th June. Assembly will take place from noon outside the City Chambers in the High Street with speeches from invited politicians and community leaders. Sharp on the One O'Clock Gun, the March will move off down the Royal Mile and will pass the Scottish Parliament and Holyrood Palace before heading up Abbeymount, past the Regent, along Royal Terrace past London Road Gardens, up Baxter's Place past Planet, CC Bloom's and Habana, into Leith Street and will terminate in Calton Square beside the Omni Centre.

Pride Scotia will be looking for volunteers on the day – if you can help, please phone 0131-556 9471 or E-mail: info@pride-scotia.org







Scooch have been confirmed as the headliners for this year's Sheffield Pride on Saturday 20th June but unfortunately one of their members cannot make it. We're giving one lucky winner the chance to fill in as an official Scooch member for the day. The winner will perform Scooch's Eurovision 2007 hit 'Flying the Flag' live on stage, in front of over 4,000 expected attendees. To complete the day the lucky winner and a friend will also gain VIP entry into the official Sheffield Pride after-party.

For your chance to win this fabulous prize just complete the following statement in your own words. Send your answer along with your name and contact number to our pride e-mail address; info@ sheffieldpride.org.uk and place 'Scooch competition' in the subject box. The winner will be chosen and notified by the Committee.

'I would like to perform live on stage with Scooch at Sheffield Pride 2009 because....'

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The last of the last



HOT MUSCLE

Shack up with some hot muscle this June at Essential, at an exciting new night with more muscle than a Mr Universe competition! Think hot ripped guys in jock straps and hung gym-toned hotties in little shorts and you're getting the idea of what's waiting for you inside MUSCLE SHACK. "Grrrrrrr, pass me the baby oil" screamed host Chrissy Darling, "I want that muscle big", she exclaimed! Essential will be pumping up, getting fully loaded and ready to entertain with hot muscle-boy action and production never seen before in the Village. Special guest DJ Dorian direct from The Fridge London in the Main Arena, plus Pop Lounge All-Stars in the Pop Lounge. www.essentialmanchester.com for full events listing

Hot New Night Launches Sauce (Gin June)

then every first Saturday of the month

LOVE MUSCLE-THE FRIDGE, LONDON DJ APHRODITE DJ THADDEUS DJ NICKSY (XEY 100) DJ CARL SPENCER (GALAXY MAGHESTER)



www.essentialmanchester.com

MORE MUSCL MORE BOYS MORE MEN

Non Members £8 before Midnight / £9 after

NDRTH

FEDERATION MANCHESTER'S OTH BIRTHDAY

After six years of leading the way for not only the Manchester gay clubbing scene but for the north of England too, Federation will be hosting a very special party to celebrate their Anniversary on Bank Holiday Sunday 3rd of May. To celebrate the soundtrack that they have pioneered throughout the six years, there will be 3 very special DJ sets, so make sure you arrive early!

Past

10pm – midnight: Stuart Robinson (The original Federation resident) playing you 6 years of Federation Manchester classics.

Present

midnight - 2am: Gregg Holden plays you 2 hours of Federation Manchester's current biggest tracks.

Future

2am – 4am: Jason Guy ends the night with the sounds we know you'll be dancing to for the rest of 2009.

Plus birthday festivities from the Fedettes (Federation's gaggle of Drag Queens), weird and wonderful shows from the One Love Entertainment troupe and ripping muscle action from hottest dancers. All this plus new super powerful lasers, pyrotechnics and one of best sound systems around.

Tickets on sale on-line from ticketweb.co.uk or from our outlets Clone Zone, Village off license, Spirit, Manto, Velvet, Taurus, Spar (Piccadilly and Oxford Rd/Hulme St junction) all in Manchester and Fibre in Leeds.

For more info join the Federation Official Facebook group.

Bank Holiday Sunday 3rd May Federation Manchester's 6th Birthday 10pm until 4am @ The Ritz, Whitworth Street, Manchester

You can now also subscribe to the free Federation podcasts at http://clubfederation. podomatic.com

Further dates planned for Manchester are Bank Holiday Sunday 24th May and Manchester Pride Bank Holiday Sunday 30th August. CHICANERY SHOPFEST!!

CUNQUANT CLEARANCE!

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INCE

6 YEARS OF LEADING THE WAY IN GAY CLUBBING IN MANCHESTER



THE 6TH BIRTHDAY

oc

MANCHESTER

FEDERATION MANCHESTER BANK HOLIDAY SUNDAY 3RD MAY

CELEBRATE OUR 6TH BIRTHDAY WITH THE FIERCE, FUNKY SOUNDS OF STUART ROBINSON, GREGG HOLDEN & JASON GUY

> PLUS ALL NEW BIRTHDAYS SHOWS AND SURPRISES FROM THE FEDERATION ENTERTAINERS

10PM - 4AM @ THE RITZ, WHITWORTH ST, MANCHESTER

ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY £12 AVAILABLE FROM CLONE ZONE, SPIRIT, MANTO, TAURUS, VELVET, VILLAGE OFF LICENCE SPAR (OXFORD RD/HULME ST JUNCTION), SPAR (PICCADILLY) & FIBRE IN LEEDS OR ONLINE FROM WWW.TICKETWEB.CO.UK

SUBSCRIBE TO THE FREE FED PODCASTS # WWW.CLUBFEDERATION.PODOMATIC.COM

OFFICIAL AFTERPARTY - ORGANIC BOOMBOX 3AM UNTIL SUPERLATE @ ALTER EGO, 105-107 PRINCESS STREET

OUR NEXT FEDERATION MANCHESTER EVENT SPRING BANK BANK HOLIDAY SUNDAY 24TH MAY 10PM - 4AM @ THE RITZ

WWW.CLUBFEDERATION.COM

DORTH

LIFE IS JUST A BALL

Last month was a belter at the Viaduct in Leeds. The place just seems to keep upping the pressure on all the other bars and venues around and April saw the place bopping along to their fantastic courtyard parties. May offers the opportunity for two more fantastic FREE events, so keep your Bank Holiday Sunday's open for music, mayhem and the most fun around. The crowds are now being entertained by our very own dragster mamas... the Dazzling Divas, who have co-opted a couple of sweet young lads to go-go dance and wriggle their cute little butts around.

Meanwhile, it gets better and better as Bubbles la Belle take over the Friday nite slot from 9.00pm til 1.00am. Already this classy laydeee has made an instant impression getting her audience jigging around to everyone from Madonna or the Freemasons Anna Glypta then takes to the decks with a her 'After hours' assortment of dance tunes 'taking you all the way until 3.00am !

Saturday and Anna Glypta returns with her Camp Attack... a bit of bile, a bit of acid and a sparkling array of sequins. Come late night and Danny Cher Baily invite you to his highly successful Members Club from 2-6am (free to members - so get your membership form at the bar)

Sunday in May sees a fabulous show featuring those Dazzling Divas and a Top Male Stripper (except Bank Holiday). It would seem that the Leeds audience likes to get an eyeful of a hunk in his pants... well for a short while anyway!!! And finally; Hot roast beef sarnies, pie and peas... in fact just the best tradition food stuff around is served from noon to 8pm... every day. Also this month there's a daily 'special offer' of a bottle of house wine for only £6.

Tel: 0113 3912741 Check out viaductleedsfacebook

CABARET SHOW WHAT'S ON AT YOUR VIADUCT

MONDAY - KARAOKE WITH DJ MARTIN

TUESDAY – CHILLOUT NIGHT

WEDNESDAY - MIDWEEK MADNESS WITH DJ MARKY MARK

THURSDAY – GLAMOUR WITH MISS CARLA JACKSON

FRIDAY – "MISS BUBBLES LA BELLE" DRAG DJ 9PM-1AM "ANNA GLYPTA" AFTER HOURS 1AM - 3AM

SATURDAY – ANNA GLYPTA'S CAMP ATTACK MEMBERS CLUB HOSTED BY DJ DANNY CHER BAILEY



FREE ENTRY FOR MEMBER CARD HOLDERS £3 ON THE DOOR FOR NON-MEMBERS HAPPY HOUR PRICES & DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBER CARD HOLDERS

APPLICATION FORMS AVAILABLE FROM BEHIND THE BAR UPON REQUEST

THE FABULOUS DJ DANNY CHER BAILEY PLAYING CAMP POP, CHART, DANCE & YOUR REQUESTS!

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3rd (Bank Holiday) Viaduct's FREE Courtyard Party!

2pm - 12am Top local DJ's and our very own Miss Sara Jackson

Top Male Strippers in May

'S MAIN EVENTS

10th Top Male

Top Male Stripper Armani Plus The Dazzling Diva's Cabaret Show

17th Top Male Stripper **Conna** Plus The Dazzling Diva's Cabaret Show

24th (Bank Holiday) Viaduct's FREE Courtyard Party!

2pm - 12am Top local DJ's and our very own Miss Sara Jackson

17th

Top Male Stripper **Troy** Plus The Dazzling Diva's Cabaret Show

Tel: 0113 3912741



NORTH

LOVE LEEDS - SUMMER OF LOVE 4TH JULY

First of all there were two huge festivals at Lotherton Hall in Leeds attracting 10,000 people in the summers of 2005 and 2006. Then there in the summers of 2005 and 2006. Then there was the biggest New Years Eve party that Leeds has ever witnessed bringing in 2009 in true party style. Now comes the next mother all of parties – love Leeds – the summer of love 2009 on Saturday 4th July from 7pm until 5am (a massive 10 hours of clubbing mayhem)

12

The coalition of brands for this event include Federation, Filth, KissdaFunk, Purrfect, Blackout and Leeds glamorous and hedonistic party 'Candy Pants' hosting the new VIP arena. Federation will be presenting a special American Independence themed arena with an array of USA themed entertainment. On top of this there will be a massive outdoor area housing two soundstages to include the Filth Ice Cream Van and the Red Bull Hummer truck alongside various white-knuckle funfair rides, outdoor bars, side shows and stalls.

Early bird tickets are on sale now priced at £15.00 but hurry before they all get snapped up and the price increases! And remember the New Years Eve events ticket demand was three times the 2500 capacity. VIP tickets are priced at £30.00 and limited to just 300 on a first come, first served basis. For further information take a look at the website www.lovele_ds.com



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MISSION HEATON'S COURT LEEDS

SHOW YOUR PRIDE AT LEEDS PRIDE 04

LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANS, STRAIGHT, PROUD... JOIN US!

SUNDAY 2ND AUGUST

4, Fore, Four, For

However we spell it, 'Leeds 4th LGBT Pride is 4 us all'. That's the message from this years planning group who are pulling out all the stops for Yorkshire's 4most LGBT event. Tom Doyle, chair of the planning group said, 'The success of Leeds Pride is amazing, in 4 short years we have become one of the top mass participation events in Leeds city centre with an estimated 12 to 15,000 people taking part.'

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4 Real

This year's event on August 2nd will again begin at Millennium Square at 12 noon with the main stage sponsored by Real Radio boasting a host of national and local talent and some major surprises.

4 Square

By working closely with and with the support and expertise of Leeds City Council's events team the organisers are planning to give the huge crowds an even better experience than last year. In addition to an improved main-stage, this year will see Millennium Square play host to a number of food and drink concessions – so no need to go foraging for drink and refreshments during the 3 hour extravaganza of talent.

Best Foot 4ward

3pm is set off time for the massive parade of thousands of LGBT people, our family, friends and allies proudly processing on foot, in wheelchairs, on floats and buses through Yorkshire's stunning capital, eventually dispersing in the queer quarter around Lower Briggate and the Calls.

4 Bar None

Leeds Pride 4 will also see exciting developments in the Lower Briggate/Call Lane area – as well as all the venues playing to their forte ranging from Drag, Live music to pounding dance music, there will also be a stage, and 4 outside bars and numerous food concessions. Following feedback the Community Arena and Market Area will be brought out in the main-street giving the whole area a more continental vibe. The alfresco fun will go on until 10 pm, with the bars and clubs keeping the party going until the early hours of Monday morning.

B4 Leeds Pride

'An event of this size costs a lot of money to put on, somewhere in the region of £15,000' says Liaqat Ali from the planning group, 'We are delighted that in previous years gay and gay friendly venues and businesses across the city have provided the bulk of funding for the event and we hope that this will be the case this year too. So expect to see lots of fun fundraising events in pubs and clubs leading up to the big day itself. There will also be collections tins around the scene and I urge everyone to contribute what they can – If everyone who came to the event put one pound in the collection tins that would just about cover our costs'.



TASTY BACK DOOR FUN

Att .

Club land legend, Tasty Tim, is on his way to Leeds to tear up the decks at the city's newest gay night, Back Door Disco. The original gender-bender-offender of London's queer party circuit will be playing an unmissable set at the third ever event on Saturday 9th May. His appearance comes hot on the heels of the heaving launch last month and will build on the success of the past two events. "If the huge turn out at the opening told us anything, it's that Leeds' queer club kids were in dire need of something new and fun on the scene,' says one of the promoters. 'Now the night is getting into full swing, we'll be bringing just that. Tasty Tim's DJing talents are legendary across the planet and he's a household name amongst gay boys and girls in the capital!

Indeed, Tasty has been a London legend since the 70s when he used to hang out with Boy George and the other Blitz kids, spinning tracks for them at notorious celeb magnets Cha-Cha and The Mud Club. Since then he's dominated that city's gay scene with a string of his own nights and residencies everywhere from Heaven to Trannyshack and The Ghetto. He even got a regular slot Dling at New York's Disco 2000, the setting of Macaulay Culkin's cult classic film, Party Monster.

Tasty will join Scott Kelly and DJ Bdubs on the decks, adding his electrifying mixes to their sets of modern-to-the-minute pop and commercial house.

Back Door Disco featuring Tasty Tim, kicks off at 11pm at a secret venue next door to Club Mission and behind the Fiori Flower Shop. Door tax £5.

For more info go to backdoordisco.com

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Open 11pm till 5am every Saturday www.myspace.com/backdoordiscoleeds For details / Guestlist text 07974 42 55 62 Add us on facebook - BACK DOOR DISCO LEEDS



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BEERS & ALCOPOPS AT



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NORTH

CRUZ 101 - THE 17TH BIRTHDAY

Seventeen years ago Cruz 101 created a ground-breaking venue that would spark a new generation of acceptance for the gay community in Manchester. The club has been leading the Gay Village ever since and continues to be the cornerstone of what has become the largest gay community in the country. Over the 17 years of its life, Cruz has worked with all the venues in the Village, supporting each of them when needed and using it's 17 years experience to lead the Village in an ever changing world.

General Manager, Gerrard Woods, was on hand to let me in on a closely guarded secret to their success. "The Manchester club scene has changed dramatically over the years and we've changed along with it, becoming one of the longest running clubs in the city. We constantly reinvest in the club keeping the club fresh and interesting. Four bars and a comfortable air-conditioned chill-out area mean you can get quick friendly efficient service and sit down for a chat with your mates. Keeping our two huge dancefloors full, our DJs have years of experience in the club and know exactly what our customers want....playing such a wide range of tracks means there's something for everyone. Most of our staff have been with the company for years, and, having such a strong enthusiastic team to work with who are dedicated to everything we do means that our customers feel the benefit of our experience. You can catch us at the club six nights a week and check out our website for details of the fantastic special events we put on throughout the year....like our seventeenth birthday party."

Always one for firsts, Saturday 23rd May Cruz's 17th birthday party, sees Cruz 101 substitute a charity fundraiser birthday party for the traditional chart topping PA, in aid of its local charity, the Lesbian and Gay Foundation. Following in the traditions set out by one of the club's founders, the late Frank 'Foo Foo' Lamar, the club is using this spectacular event to help raise much needed funds in these testing financial times. Putting together a prize fund of over £10000.00, the club has joined forces with the LGF to host a lottery of gay proportions! Tickets will be on sale throughout the Village from the Cruz 101 reception, the Village Off Licence, the LGF and from Napoleons for £1 each, which goes directly to the LGF. Everyone coming to the party gets a ticket on admission. You might be wondering what the top prize is? Well we can reveal today that amazingly the club is putting up for grabs a brand new 2009 Citroen C1 - with private registration plate! One pound – one lucky customer! Just be there to win or get your tickets in advance to increase your chances!

- Saturday 23rd May
- The 17th Birthday
- LGF Lottery Extravaganza
- Lice: sed til 8am
 - Whacrue 101.com

The new union:

With two Bank Holiday weekends in May it's a busy time at The New Union Wakefield. Male and Female strippers are back by popular demand on both Bank Holiday Sundays, Sun 3rd & Sun 24th May. As always MarkyMark will be on hand both dates to make sure the best mix of music keeps you dancing till 2am. With the popularity of Thursday night Karaoke with MarkyMark growing we will be extending the opening times! We will be staying open till 1am every Thursday plus the 2 - 4 - 1 VK offer on a Thursday from 7pm to close will be extended all through May!



The New Union

Join Us For May Day Bank Holiday Weekend & Spring Bank Party's Nale & Female Strippers

Monday: All VK's 2-4-1 Tuesday: Wii, Games & Free Supper Wednesday: Free Pool All Evening Thursday: Karaoke With MarkyMark Friday: DJ Tommi B Saturday: The Infamous MarkyMark Food Served Seven Days A Week

2 Almsgate, Wakefield, WF1 1UZ - 01924 378215 www.thenewunion.com WAKEFIELD'S PREMIER GAY VENUE

MDLANDS

LOVE OF MUSIC, LOVE OF PEOPLE, LOVE OF PARTY

This year's Birmingham Pride is all set to knock the spots off any other happening this year when they launch into their party frenzy with 4 of the best music events going. Direct from Ibiza – La Troya will take on the mega 1500 capacity rave zone with their world famous and legendary stage show and set. In the second arean the Uk's top clubbing brand Federation proves while it is still the hottest name in . clubland. Deep in the industrial Rainbow warehouse, Federation will transform the mundane into the spectacular, with their award winning show and DJs. Make a space for the best in vibe complete with a whole bag of surprises. In the third arena GLAS - the brand has revitalised the party spirit within Birmingham's clubbing scene. Built on the foundations of Music, Madness and Mayhem, the emphasis is all about the clubbers, their atmosphere and vibe of this daytime brand. A strong team of residents supply you with a soundtrack exploring the worlds between jackin' house, garage and beyond progressing the mood of the party throughout the day into the night. With so much clubbing already on offer, the Rainbow pub will operate as an official chill outzone. Toni & Guy Merry Hill, will be setting up shop transforming it into a mini salon. As you move into the back of the pub, you will pass the 'seductive sweet shop' offering a huge pick n' mix range along with many more tantalising treats. The courtyard will be home to another unique chill out zone where DJ's spinning Funk, Soul and RnB will be joined by a huge grill offering burgers, wraps, kebabs chips etc!

www.GLASparty.co.uk

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QUEER

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MIDLANDS



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THE BOSS'S ROUGH JUSTICE By Gary Peterson

A few months ago, I was at an all time low. I'd got myself into a ridiculous amount of debt and could see no way out of my predicament. The flash clothes and the other expensive gifts I'd lavished on myself had fulfilled an ego-boosting need in me... but only for a short while. Now, I felt stupidly guilty about wasting so much money on stuff I didn't need or want. I saw a short-term solution to my problems when I 'borrowed' some money from the works account. After all, I was a trusted employee and had access to all manner of finances within the company and had convinced myself I could pay it back before anyone noticed. Unfortunately, for me it was the day that the boss checked the company accounts. To save a long process of denial I admitted what I'd done and he said he had no options but to fire ne. I asked if there wasn't an alternative as I was up to my eyes in debt and I couldn't see another employer giving me a job if his references said that I'd stolen from the company. I was desperate to keep my job and begged him, no I pleaded with him, to come up with an alternative to being sacked. Mr. Phanasious thought for a while and said there was an alternative... indeed, an old-fashioned cure for what I'd done. He said he was prepared not to fire me if I agreed to his suggestion. The money was to be paid back instantly and if I couldn't do that, my wage would be trimmed by 50% until the money was recovered. I agreed, as I knew that if he'd gone to the police I might have ended up with a record or even worse, sent to prison. I thanked him but he said that there was more. I was relieved I could keep my job so I agreed that I'd do anything he suggested. He went on to say that the only reason he wouldn't go to the police was that I had to take six strokes with a cane across my bare arse every night after work until the debt was paid. I was shocked. Even at school, I'd never received corporal punishment, my parents had never agreed with it either but now well, I had no alternative if I did not want to go to prison. I reluctantly agreed and hung around the office until everyone except Mr. Phanasious had left for the night. Once alone in his office he locked the door and told me to strip to just my underwear. I was nervous and apprehensive of what was about to happen but, while almost naked and held in this older man's gaze, I began to aroused. He walked up behind me carrying a cane he'd pulled from a cupboard, pulled my y-fronts down to my knees, and began to fondle my arse, cock and balls. I 🏼 immediately got even harder and a strange thrill an through my body. He then ordered me to bend over the end of the desk and shoved a finger up my unprotected hole. Mr Phanasious is a big, tough, no-nonsense type of boss, I was at his mercy, and t was turning me on. Then I felt the first sting as he bought the cane down across my arse cheeks. After six cruel agonizing swats, which brought tears to my eyes, he told me my night's punishment had only just begun. I was ordered to remain bent over the desk as he undid his own trousers and pulled out his thick Greek cock. With my arse on fire, he was quick to follow through with the second part of my punishment... although to be honest... I began to appreciate this version of my boss's rough justice. t's now the third month of my sentence and I seem to have hardly paid off any of my debt... but the punishment and sex continues. I'm strangely loving being the sex slave of this hulking brute of a man...I might never pay off my debt at this rate.



SIMULTANEOUSLY RELEASED ON DVD AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE UH ON BLU-RAY I<u>S JET SET MEN'S BRAND NEW FILM, SLI</u>DE.

The action actually does 'slide' together creating a seamless shag-fest of hot, spunk-filled hunks performing by the side of a sun-drenched, tropical pool. The amazingly good-looking Derrick Vineyard (Cock Tease) makes a welcome return along side the likes of Jet Set exclusive David Dakota (Muscle Mountain, Trunks 5) and real life straight guy Rusty Stevens – though being straight adoesn't take away the fact that he loves having both ends filled with colossal cocks!

Sound and picture in High Definition is not just a little better than DVD, it feels as if the sex is actually being performed live in your proom – it's almost voyeuristic!

Slide, Jet Set Men, R18. £29.99. Available from Expectations and Prowler stores now.



WWW.MAG.BENT.COM

REVIEW SIMON & BEYONCE

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

Simon SQYS

Dear Simon

I am new to the country and am finding things quite difficult, if I go out on the scene everyone seems to think that I am a rent boy. Not that there is anything wrong with rent boys but I am not one myself. It's like people automatically make assumptions about me. People make hurtful comments and jokes, meaning I am finding it hard to make friends let alone find a boyfriend. What can I do?

Paolo, Manchester

Dear Paolo,

Mmmm this is a difficult one. People can be unthinking and what appears amusing to some, can be heartbreaking to anothers. Perhaps you should try and find a support group, or a sports group, or something that will give you a group of people who see you as someone other than the 'newbie' on the scene. I'm sure there is a lovely inner you that every one will appreciate once, they get to know you but the truth is, it is always easier if you have a 'support' group around you. Good luck.

Dear Simon

I have a problem with my boyfriend. It isn't your usual 'cheating on me' scenario. I think my boyfriend is doing much worse... I think in fact that he is stealing from me. For the last few weeks I have noticed that the odd tenner or fiver is vanishing here and there... even pound coins. I can't think where else the money could have gone. I genuinely don't know what to do as if he is stealing from me then there is a whole trust issue as well as the possibility that I am dating a thief. If he just wanted to borrow money it would be fine, it's the deceit l don't like Anon, London

Dear Anon,

l think the first thing I would recommend is that you check, double

check and triple check that the money just hasn't been misplaced. I know you are saying that this is regular occurrence but it's best to be sure. Then what I think you need to do is sit down and have a chat with your partner, don't be angry or aggressive simply talk. If you go in open and try and find out what's going on you might get more answers than if you attack. If you are still convinced by the end of that he is still stealing... dump him, as you'll never be able to trust him on any level again.

Dear Simon,

I married my husband early this year, it has been quite a quick relationship, friends and family have been concerned at how fast it has developed. One of my friends told me that behind our backs people hubbie is from Brazil. I have found this hurtful as we really do love each other. I have never met anyone like him and no one has made me this happy and vice versa. It's now made me doubt my friends and who is thinking of me in this way. How can I prove to them it's love? Mark, Liverpool

Dear Mark,

Firstly congrats, it sounds like you have found the love of your life and that's wonderful. I think really 'fuck them' is the term that springs to mind. You have an amazing partner, why do you care what anyone else thinks? Remember... you don't have to prove anything to anyone. Love is difficult to prove it's not something people can measure. The fact that you will stay together and be happy forever should be all the proof you need to shut theses snide people up. Just a word of caution: Often people say "Everyone thinks…" when in fact it is only them who actually is thinking that thought. Don't ignore your friends on the word of one person, it might be just that person who is spreading the malicious gossip out of sheer jealousy. You two just go out and have a happy life.

LOVE ME BENDER

I WAS LOOKING AT YET ANOTHER FRIEND'S PROFILE ON YETANOTHERGAYDATINGWEBSITE. COM, WHEN SOMETHING HIT ME. SEE, I WAS A BIT DISTURBED AT SEEING MY FRIEND STREWN OVER FURNITURE WITH A BULGE DISPLAYED PROMINENTLY BETWEEN HIS SICKLY PALE LEGS.

I was disturbed and a little curious, and started having entirely inappropriate thoughts about crawling between said legs and feasting on what was there. And it occurred to me: every gay man I know (at least, most of them) presents himself as a highly sexualised being. We all want to be hot. We want, indirectly or not, to be sex objects. And it further occurred to me: every time I see a hot man, a sexualised man, I want to sleep with him. Because most of my friends present themselves that way, I often want to sleep with my friends. The same goes for every man I ever meet. If I see them as sexualised, which I often do, I want to have sex with them. Surely there's something wrong if I want to have sex with every attractive gay man I see?

But then I thought about it, and I thought I can't be the only one. In fact, I know I'm not. Many of my friends have the same problem. They all want to shag each other and everyone else. Perhaps this is why so many of the gay relationships I see are so shallow. They meet, advertise their new relationship status on Facebook within a week, then break up within a month or two. Usually because of infidelity or because the sexual spark fizzles out and there's nothing else to hold the two together. This doesn't seem entirely unrelated to how gay men portray themselves. If gay men are obsessed with appearing sexy, and thereby presenting themselves as sex objects, is it any wonder we have trouble seeing each other as anything more? If all we do is chat on dating websites, where we upload vid after vid of us wanking, and pic after pic of our tensed torsos, pulledback cocks and PhotoShopped faces (or else we sit in dingy bars, eyeing up totty and flirting with each other) can we ever be more than walking amateur porn?

Beauty and the FREAKS

So what's the answer? Deleting all your internet profiles? Refraining from posing in skimpy clothes or with pouty lips in your pictures? Maybe you need to hold back when you see a man you like, and try your hardest not to sleep with them?

That is, if you want to have relationships, of course.

If you want to have a relationship, then stop trying to be a sex icon. Don't chase after love when all you know about is lust. Don't complain if your life revolves around sex and you're still single.

If you're not interested in a relationship, of course, you can snap on your thong, oil up your muscles and head down to the local cruising ground. Hm, actually, that sounds like fun! See you there in ... five minutes?

Seyoncé





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Illustrations: Oliver Weiss/oweiss.cor

Taurus (Apr21/May21)

Though it might seem the reins of financial control are slipping through your fingers, bide your time. Eventually you will organise finances so you are back in charge. Someone's interest in you is erratic; sometimes he pays you attention, other times he has no time for you. If you feel your relationship could be better, suggest going on a trip and doing things you both enjoy together. Remember: communication is key.



CELEBRITY TAURUS

21/04 The Queen 22/04 Jack Nicholson 23/04 William Shakespeare 24/04 Barbra Streisand 25/04 Renee Zellweger 26/04 Jet Li 27/04 Sheena Easton 28/04 Penelope Cruz 29/04 Andre Agassi 30/04 Kirsten Dunst 01/05 Joanna Lumley 02/05 David Beckham 03/05 James Brown 04/05 Audrey Hepburn 05/05 Craig David 06/05 George Clooney 07/05 Traci Lords 08/05 Enrique Eglesias 09/05 Albert Finney 10/05 Bono 11/05 Holly Valance 12/05 Jason Biggs 13/05 Stevie Wonder 14/05 George Lucas 15/05 Brian Eno 16/05 Pierce Brosnan 17/05 Enya 18/05 Margot Fonteyn 19/05 Grace Jones 20/05 Cher 21/05 Mr. T

Aries (Mar21/Apr20)

There's some upheaval in the air; misunderstandings, delays, confused messages and the like but with patience you will cope. Many things need your attention these days; there'll be little time to call your own. A romantic issue is on your mind and in a few weeks time you will start to realise you haven't got anything to really worry about. Single? A new love connection is likely soon.

Gemini (May22/June21)

You're looking on the bright side and no matter what occurs, you won't let it darken your optimistic vision. Your ruler Mercury will soon go retrograde and there will be confusion ahead. Stay positive and misunderstandings will be resolved. There will soon be fewer stumbling blocks in your way. Others can rely on you over the weeks ahead as you will be doing all you can to keep things cheerful.

Cancer (Jun22/Jul23)

Close ties and friendships will have their ups and downs over the weeks ahead. In due course all will agree to make an effort to resolve the situation. Your attention will be taken up with personal aims most of the time. On top of this, it's going to be hectic on the career front. Responsibilities keep you on your toes and it might seem, sometimes, as if a friend's determination to involve you in their problems will interfere with your main aims.

Leo (Jul24/Aug23)

Friends might be disappointed when social plans need to be postponed. A close relationship is underlined; you may feel unsettled or confused about a certain partnership. As the weeks go by, you will start feeling happier in this direction. Quite a hardworking few weeks is forecast but there will be diversions in the form of social invitations. Just be careful how you plan your time.

Virgo (Aug24/Sept23)

You're in for a fair to average few weeks ahead with some unexpected developments to help brighten those duller moments. Business and career activities could be topsy-turvy. Money comes under reasonably good influence and you'll be doing some entertaining too. Socialising, romantic trysts and travel are all likely. Looking for love? If the time is right, the magic will happen!

Ibra (Sept24/Oct23)

Far off aims come under discussion and you could be making holiday getaway plans. There's some slight contention in the air and a need for you and a partner to work at understanding each other better. Try your best to separate personal and professional lives to keep your other half happy. Finances and property are emphasized over the weeks ahead; someone will have something to celebrate.

Bent Magazine Prize Draw Terms & Conditions 1. The prize draws are open to UK residents aged 18 and over.

- No purchase is necessary.
 Only one entry per person is allowed and multiple entries will result in an entrant being disqualified.
 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

Scorpio (Oct24/Nov22)

Philip has just started to write 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.

You might be confused as to what a partner wants from your relationship. When you're together you feel at ease and well-matched but when apart, you feel like passing strangers. If only he'd call you or let you feel you're on his mind. Over the weeks ahead, think of ways to arouse his interest and let him know he needs to be more accessible to you. Important relationships touch you deeply now. The Sun in your partnership zone promises good things to come.

Sagittarius (Nov23/Dec21)

Plan your schedule carefully to take into account your flagging energy levels. The very start of the month is when you're more likely to get most done. Relationships could be a problem later; think about getting away for a weekend soon and this will give you the break you need. Friends and romance play an important part in your social world over the weeks ahead.

Capricorn (Dec22/Jan20)

Make an extra effort these next few weeks to draw your partner and others close to you into your activities. You could get so engrossed in some areas people will think you're deliberately trying to avoid them. If they're involved too, this should help bring you closer together instead. At times you don't know where you are with so many demands coming your way.

Aquarius (Jan21/Feb19)

You might almost forget you've got things planned with your partner or a close friend, you seem to have so much else to do now. It is entirely possible you may have bitten off more than you can chew agreeing to appointments and meetings here, there and everywhere. Loved ones will realise you're rushed off your feet but you should also try to find time to relax, over the next few weeks.

PISCES (Feb20/Mar20)

Neighbourhood and community affairs will need a lot of thought. Someone wants you to support an important project but do you have the time? Plan it so that in a few weeks time you get the chance to take a well needed pause from work and other commitments. Later in the month, you will have to turn your attention to personal issues that can't be sidetracked any longer.

Is that special relationship around the corner? Speak to one of Philip Garcia's live psychics now on 0906 117 7584

> for your look into the future. Calls cost £1.50/min from BT Landline. 18+. Calls Recorded. Po Box 322. WA15 8YL

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12. By submitting an entry, all entrants acknowledge and accept these terms and conditions. By taking part in any prize draws or competitions, you agree to be bound by these rules and the decisions of Bent Magazine which are final.

 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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MAY 2009

COMPETITION TIME Send your entries to:

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

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



of entering the prize draws and no responsibility will be accepted for lost, corrupted, delayed or mislaid

7. The winner(s) will be the first valid entry drawn

8. Bent reserves the right to substitute the prize for another prize of equal value.

11. When you enter a prize draw, your details will be used to provide you with updates, information and

9. There are no alternative cash prizes.

10. Bent Magazine's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

entries.

at random.

ALSTORIES Just dial 09097 90 51 then the extension of the horny story you want and get ready to get turned on!

- 00 Uniform comes off to reveal lads big d**k & balls (18+) 01 A slender boys tender d**k deep in yer throat (18+)
- 02 Dirty old man fiddled wiv a lads c**k (18+)
- 03 Doc pulls boys undies down & gives him a boner (18+)
- 04 Feelin a lads arse at work leads to more (18+)
- 05 Footie lads sent for early shower have sex instead (18+)
- 06 Gay porno gets str8 mates sudan d**k
- 07 Groping u leads to hot sex at back of Tesco's
- 08 Homy boy wants yer hot juicy d**k (18+)
- 09 I banged my pool cue into a lads d**k (18+)
- 10 I caught my mate w**kin in me bruv's footie shorts
- 11 I got a boner watching my mate play fottie & his Dad me 12 I kissed me f**k buddy for the first time
- 13 I'll take yer full length in me gob
- 14 I took w**k mag off str8 scally & grabbed his c**k 15 W**ked a scally thug to stop him deckin me
- 16 Lads get well horny playin naked snooker in a pub (18+)
- 17 He let me cany on slammin after I c*m up his bum (18+)
- 18 Luv me bird to bits but I luv havin sex wiv guys
- 19 Dad's mate took me in from rain & pulled off wet tradies
- 20 Me & my bezzie mate got well gay while his bird watched 21 Me sleepin mates boner woz up against me arse
- 22 Me & u with boners in the sauna
- 23 Naked college boy w**kin on top of desk for sir (18+)
- 24 Naked teenboy at the newsagents (18+)
- 25 Old man & teenage boy rub c**ks together (18+)
- Phone hot teen & he'll try his new speedos on (18+) 26
- 27 Rude boy luvs yer cock (18+)
- 28 Rude boys swap speedos at the baths (18+)
- Scallies & moshers havin d**k fun on a bus
- Scally gets his dirty boner out on arowded train
- 31 Guy pi**ed in a bottle & poured it ova my d**k
- 32 Scally removes get c**k out in the offy
- 33 Sir got me Mums b.f to spank me in dass (18+)
- 34 Skinny lads wiv big c**ks (18+) 35 Slender guy wiv donkey d**k
- 36 Suckin guys d**ks round da lock up 37 Suck me pi**y cheesy d**k
- 38 Guy points his hard-on at me in bogs

- 39 Teach me wot to do wiv my untouched d**k(18+)
- 40 Guy will lick yer burn if you let him j*zz over your face
- 42 Smoothness of a boys shaved d**k & balls (18+)
- 43 TLC on a sweet & tender hugs d**k
- Two blokes see homy guy get a boner at the urinals
- 45 Two lads pi**ing down an alley (18+)
- 46 U & your fantasy f**k
- 48 Yer hand up the leg of my footie shorts
- 49 Wrestlin wiv me cuz gets me c**k well hard
- 50 I slid c**kskin up & down a skinheads boner in a pub
- 51 F**k yer fist & imagine it's a boy's arse (18+)
- Scally wiv a big d**k in tight silky trackies
- 53 Blond haired boys wiv d**ks (18+)
- Boner alert wiv scrappin scallies
- 55 Bored srt8 mates experiment wiv their d**ks
- 56 Breeze up leg of shorts gets a scally's c**k well stiff
- College boys snoggin & w**kin in front of dass (18+)
- Cute guy gets a good mouthful of yer hot c**k
- Dirty scally plays wiv his mates d**k whilst he sleeps
- 60 Dirty stained undies get scallys c**k well ard!
- 61 Flash yer stiff c**k wiv a scally outside McDonalds
- 62 Horny boys wiv pi**in d**ks (18+)

63 Horny neighbours have mutual w**k & more 64 House full of naked guys playin wiv their burns & d**ks 41 Tesco guy going commando wiv sp**k down his thighs 65 I found out me mate woz gay & I let him have my bum 66 I found out sweet boy next door was into c**k(18+) 67 I saw a cute guy w**kin naked in the park 68 I showed my arsehole to me old school teacher 69 Jacuzzi bubbles round my balls & arse 70 Lads drinkin cider & w**kin naked on the corner (18+) 47 W**kin rude boy on a bus whilst he talked 2 his mates 71 Lads ridin bikes wiv their naked boners showin (18+) 72 Late nite summer w**kin on the swings in the park 73 Me bird loves watchin c**k action wiv me & gay mate 74 Me gay friends showed me what I'd been missin 75 Me mates Dad did me hard & fast up the arse 76 My sisters b.f went further than a stiff c**k wrestle 77 Me & u wiv stiff c**ks in & out of our Calvin's 78 Musty whiff of a boys sweaty balls in footie shorts (18+) 79 Naked guys face the main road, kissin & w**kin 80 Naked wiv me str8 mate after a footy game 81 Night of stiff c**ks wiv me Mums boyfriend 82 Butt knacked wiv me str8 pal all night long 82 Night of stiff c**ks wiv me Mums boyfriend 83 Pothead woz off his face so I sat on his d**k 84 Prentend bummin tums real for str8 mates 85 Pullin down ASDA lads uniform trousers (18+) 86 Scallies kiss & copper gets hard-on 87 Scally in TJ Hughs smellin of cum 88 Scally mates find out they are both into c**k 89 Sir likes naked boys wiv big d**ks (18+) 90 Sir saw me gay c**k suckin doodles in my pad at college 91 Sniffin teenage sweat between balls & thighs (18+) 92 Scally looked well pissed off so I sucked his c**k 98 Tender guy d**s get stiff in changing room at baths 94 Till tonite it woz just about wrestlin naked wiv stiff c**ks 95 Wet naked guy sits on lifeguards lap at the baths 96 Wot happens when u get 2 horny teens in a room (18+) 97 Wot I did after I got my wasted mate naked 98 Wot I get up to wiv people I shouldn't have been wiv 99 Yer hot boner squirtin in a aute hoddies mouth (18+) 99 College lads tease sir wiv their c**ks (18+)



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