

October 2007

Q
MAGAZINE

Inside this Issue:

Q Story with Mel Williams,
Q Business with the Stingo,
Q Cabaret, Q Theatre, Q Movies,
Q Law with David Bounfy,
and much more.

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OCTOBER 2007

Issue 40

q comment: LIFE BEGINS AT

Firstly this month, and where the pictures on this page were taken, I would like to thank everyone who attended the Annual Great Aussie Bake-Off at the Stingo Hotel in September.

As Secretary of Pride March Victoria, I can't thank the Stingo enough for their amazing support over the past twelve months or so by donating a percentage from meal sales on a Sunday to the March. In addition, their generosity on the day of Bake-Off was unbelievable. Peter, Jason and all of their staff deserve your support. They are truly and honestly doing it all out of the goodness of their hearts - and from a belief that they should support the community which supports them [more about the hotel and its management in our q business article this month].

I would also like to thank our esteemed judges - [in no specific order] Rob "Belvedere" Mascara, Jason [from the Stingo], Wes Snelling and Paul Hollingworth [from OUT Video] for giving up a part of their busy schedules to assist us. You're all fabulous.

Now speaking of the Stingo - it will be the venue for Q Magazine's 40th Birthday. It certainly is exciting for a publisher to reach another milestone such as this. Q Magazine is also approaching its 4th year of publication, and I could not have gotten this far without the support of my wonderful and constantly supportive advertisers, my team of incredibly talented writers, and of course, you for picking it up and reading it religiously each month. I have actually been amazed [in a good way] the number of people who, on a monthly basis, approach their favourite outlet and ask when the next issue will be available.

Now on to the details of the birthday - Sunday the 28th of this month [October] from 6pm, Stingo Hotel, corner Langridge and Hoddle Streets, Abbotsford. It will be, once again, a fundraiser for the Michael Masters Fund - with a gold coin donation entry fee and an auction held on the day to support those living in our community with HIV/AIDS in poverty.

I hope to see you all there and have a drink or ten with you. Knowing Peter and Jason as I do, I suspect it will be one hell of a shindig - and may include a surprise or two - plus the usual entertainment of course.



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ABN 21 631 209 230



q business: with THE STINGO HOTEL

In our continuing series of interviews with local gay / gay friendly businesses and the people who run them, this month the focus turns to the north side, and the newest kid on the block [although it has been operating under its current management for over a year now]. The Yorkshire Stingo Hotel - affectionately referred to simply as The Stingo is run by a management team of Peter Comben and Jason Clark.

This team is backed up by some of the most professional staff I have had the great opportunity to meet in Melbourne. Attentive, courteous, professional and friendly are just some words to describe the team of hard working boys [and some girls]. Featuring a bar, pool room, restaurant, TAB, bottle shop and beer garden, the Stingo operates seven days a week and features drag on three of the nights. Jason said one of his main issues is that opening and closing times are not negotiable.

"If we say we are open at specific times that is precisely when we will be open. As a customer, I find one of the most frustrating things about venues is when they decide to close simply because they don't have the desired number of customers on the premises and they want to save money by closing early. All this does is confuse people and potentially lose return business after someone comes to your venue and finds you shut when you have advertised to be open".

Peter, although having worked in pubs and the liquor trade for many years, has not ever run a pub before. He is quick to add that it has had its fair share of challenges, but after a year and a bit, all the hard work and worry is starting to pay off.

"I can not thank my Mum and Dad enough for having the faith in me by assisting in this venture. They have just been wonderful and even a bit surprising on occasion. I remember Dad at a party one night asking someone if they were a top or a bottom. I just shook my head, and Mum was quick to add - we know more about all this stuff than you think. They have just been so supportive and I could not have done it without them".

The other aspect of the Stingo is their community involvement. For the whole time they have been operating, they have donated, on a weekly basis,

money to Pride March Victoria. This started off by donating the proceeds of their weekly sausage sizzle to now donating a percentage of all meals purchased on a Sunday evening.

Peter added, "We are very serious about giving back to the community who support us. We are unashamedly a gay venue that welcomes everyone [as long as they support our community] and our support for Pride March Victoria and PLWHA Victoria will be ongoing".

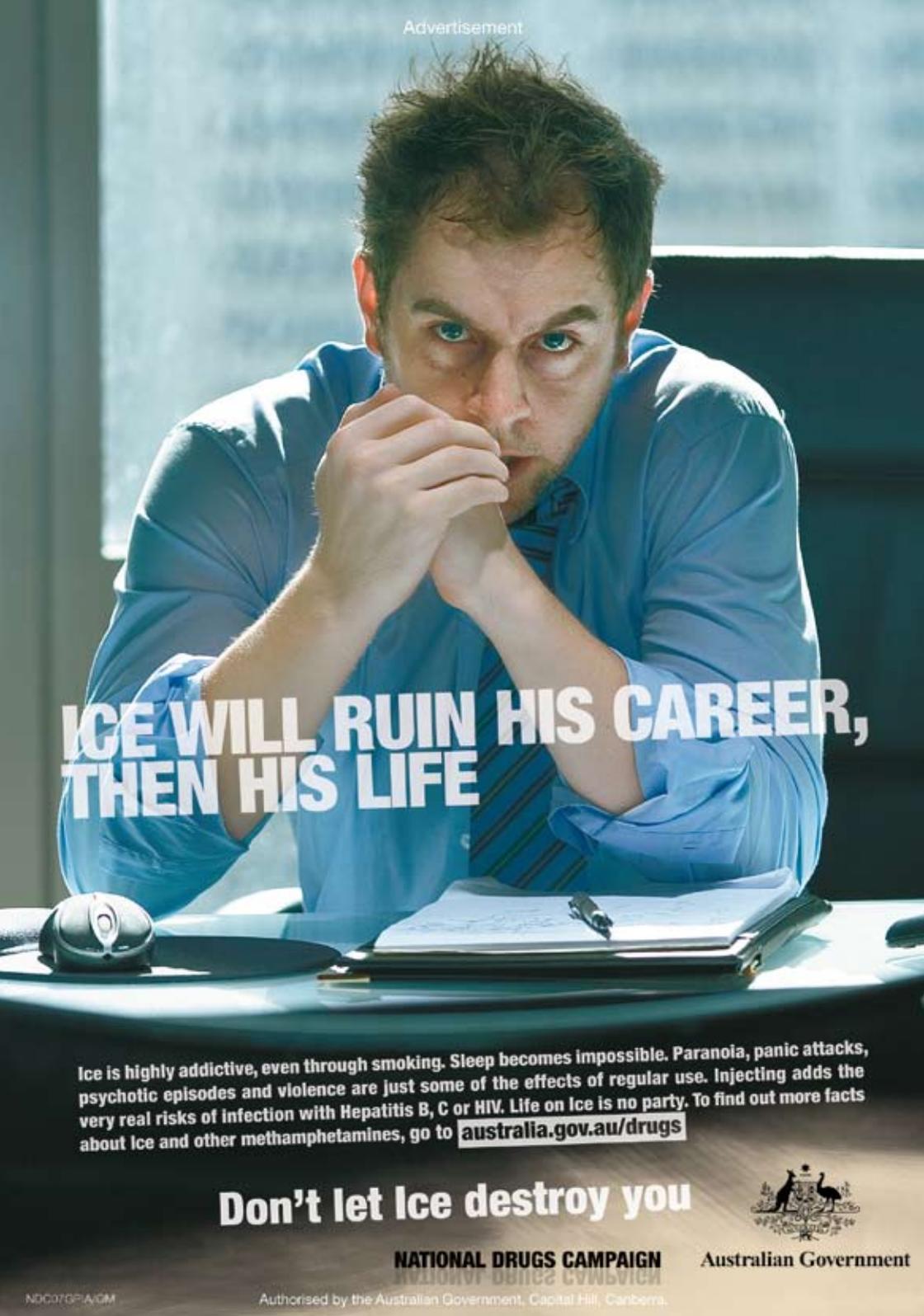
Two of most pleasing aspects of the hotel to me are the drink and food prices - drinks are kept to a reasonable price [\$6 for a spirit mix for example], and frequent specials throughout the week, including the amazing food deals. Speaking of the restaurant side - you must try it to believe it. The menu is extensive and changes regularly, the wine selection is second to none, and the service is exceptional.

Jason explained, "The beer garden - although a huge amount of work to bring to fruition - will give the Stingo something unique in the gay venues of Melbourne. It will be the only all weather [half covered, half open] eating, drinking, smoking and entertainment area in the city. It has cost us a lot of money and energy to do, but we believe it will pay off in the end when our patrons can enjoy everything this city has to offer in such a fabulous atmosphere outdoors".

In conclusion, if you have not already been, or are coming to Melbourne for a visit, make sure you place the Stingo on your "to do" list. Remember that the accommodation on offer is very well priced and consists of a good selection of clean, large and comfortable rooms [with televisions and all the modern conveniences you are used to] and you won't be far from the facilities or the weekly specials and entertainment.

Peter ended by saying, "I want to publicly thank Jason for his energy, enthusiasm, friendship, and hard work - without which we would not be where we are today".





**ICE WILL RUIN HIS CAREER,
THEN HIS LIFE**

Ice is highly addictive, even through smoking. Sleep becomes impossible. Paranoia, panic attacks, psychotic episodes and violence are just some of the effects of regular use. Injecting adds the very real risks of infection with Hepatitis B, C or HIV. Life on Ice is no party. To find out more facts about Ice and other methamphetamines, go to australia.gov.au/drugs

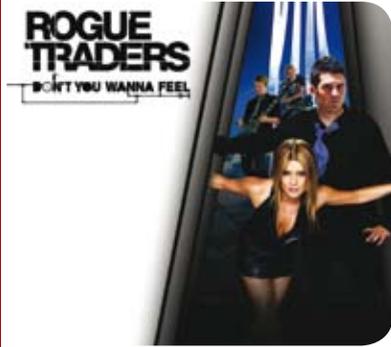
Don't let Ice destroy you



NATIONAL DRUGS CAMPAIGN

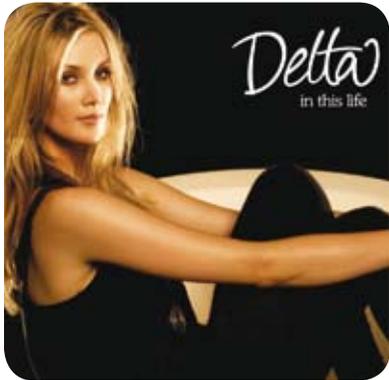
Australian Government

q review: THE HOTTEST TITLES NOW



SonyBMG

The explosive brand new single from Rogue Traders Don't You Wanna Feel has already premiered on Australian radio. Co-written by James Ash, the band's co-founder, keyboard player, producer and songwriter and lead singer Natalie Bassingthwaite Don't You Wanna Feel was released on September 29 and is the first single to be lifted from the band's highly anticipated 3rd album, in stores on October 13.



SonyBMG

'In This Life' strikes an infectious energetic chord with its positive uplifting message and melodic hook truly showcasing Delta's stunning vocals. It is the first preview to Goodrem's highly anticipated third studio album set for release on October 20th and simply titled 'DELTA'. The forthcoming music matches the 22 year old's new found sense of fun and determination to enjoy her experiences and this exciting new chapter in her distinguished career. "I have faltered, I have stumbled, I have found my feet again; I've been angry, I've been shaken, found a new place to begin" Delta sings on the single, striking a chord with her fans and the entertainment industry since its welcomed debut on radio and video airwaves.



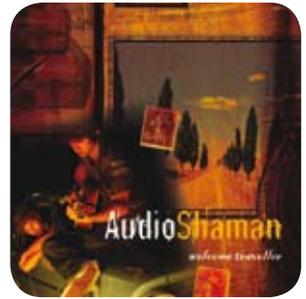
Liberation Music

The world's #1 DJ and Grammy nominee, Paul van Dyk is back with a dynamic new effort that spotlights his incredible talent as a producer and recording artist. The long awaited new original album "In Between," is his most personal and strongest album to date. The album features a wide range of collaborations including David Byrne of the Talking Heads, Jessica Sutta of the Pussycat Dolls, and Wayne Jackson.



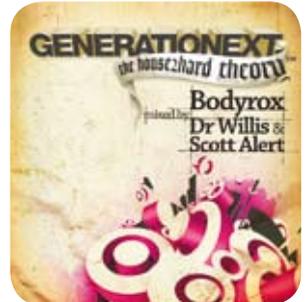
Central Station Records

Nick Skitz returns with installment 27 in one of the most successful mix CD series of all time. As one of the most enduringly popular performers on the Australian club scene, Nick Skitz is without equal. The double CD releases in the massively popular Skitzmix series never fail to achieve gold status, and with one disc of trademark Skitz club bangers alongside an essential selection of DVD material, this latest installment is sure to continue the trend. This latest release [out on the 20th of this month] also sees Nick Skitz making a triumphant return to Melbourne, with a massive event at Billboards Nightclub.



Beat Broker

Australian pair Paul George and Carey O'Sullivan [Audio Shaman] have created an album that you rarely see or hear anymore. An album that has you dreaming the day away. Recorded everywhere from India, London, and the French countryside, it is a true global work of art.



Beat Broker

Generationnext "House2Hard Theory" has done away with the usual genre specific mix compilations rule and dished up a sound orgy treat! Encompassing electro, tech, trance and hard trance, this double album is definitely one you should not miss out on adding to your collection.

generationq.net
headlines for
OCTOBER

Sing Out For
Tolerance
Street Angels Taking
Back the Street
The 3 DJ's interviews
Gay Socialite Awards

Alive & kicking

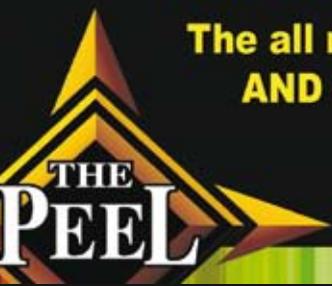


**The Peel is having a little makeover.
In the meantime.....enjoy our**

New Entry * New Smoking Area * New Djs

**The all new Bull Bar will be opening this month,
AND watch out for Summer and the 1st Floor
Sky Garden & Lounge.**

Wed - Sun from 9pm til dawn



q art: with DAVID WESTLAKE

"Today is tomorrow's man."

You say, "what the hell does that mean", don't ask me, I can't answer.

But when it comes to collecting, I can. Today I, with the ever-loving other half, went to the Camberwell Sunday Market. I found a few pieces - cut glass and flowers, flowers, flowers.

I know I am degressing but I want to talk about a close friend who has passed away. This man I met over 20 years ago at Pips and Mandate. Yes, I am that old. Terry Bear was one of the most caring and loving men you could ever meet. This man, who I miss every day, was one of the greatest collectors I have ever known. In particular, his passion for our history was amazing. Copies of Outrage (that was a glossy magazine), City Rhythm (that was a newspaper) and porn, porn, porn young guys would blush at.

Terry suffered a lot in life. He was forced to leave the air force after being outed (yes, they really did do this back then). Later in life he was

diagnosed HIV+. A few years later was hit by a runaway car when crossing the road. But nothing stopped him being proud. He created Drag in the Park and supported many other events.

I don't know where Terry's collection has gone, but what he had was priceless. It was amazing how simple things were so important - he loved that we could be us, and to see us being ourselves after his Air Force incident. And he kept everything! Yes, he was collecting our history. Why does it take someone who has all the shit in the world thrown at him to show us how to grow?

Some of you may ask what has this got to do with collecting? It does. Terry managed to hold a great history of gay Melbourne. Where is that collection of our history? Has it gone to the tip? The shredder? Or hopefully somewhere where it can be preserved and saved.

Dollars aren't the only things that can make something important - we need to also collect ideas, history and culture.

It's often called ephemera, but it's really our history.

And it's not disposable.



q "to do's": MELBOURNE MUSEUM

The Mind: Enter the Labyrinth

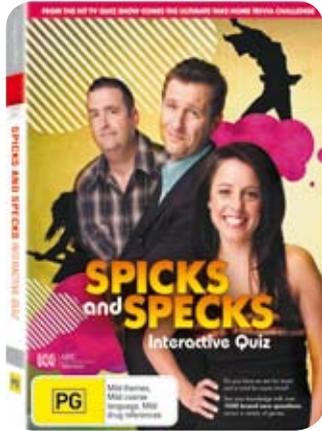
This new exhibition will explore the working of the human mind by entering a world of emotions, thoughts, memories and dreams. You will step into the shoes of those that see the world from different mind perspectives. Discover the ways in which drugs and disorders affect our minds and question your attitudes to normality. On now. Free with Museum entry.



Pictured is a Restraining coat used at one of Victoria's psychiatric institutions, pre 1940 and an Electro-convulsive therapy unit, about 1940. Electro-convulsive, or shock, therapy was used for the treatment of many mental illnesses. Despite its controversial history, it is still administered, with consent, to people with severe depression who do not respond to medication. Both pictures taken by Michelle McFarlane.



q win: **FILL YOUR DRAWERS**



Hopscotch

From the top rating ABC TV quiz show Spicks and Specks, comes the ultimate take home music trivia challenge. Join Adam Hills, Myf Warhurst and Alan Brough as they take you on a journey of musical history in the Spicks and Specks Interactive Quiz. Get your friends around, get your drinks topped up and get ready to play! Laugh hysterically as your two teams go head to head singing, shouting and delving deep into the recesses of your collective minds to help earn your team points to win an extremely inglorious victory.

We have 5 to give away, so simply email getfree@qmagazine.com.au OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with *Hopscotch* in the subject line and you could be having hours of fun at home.

Red Diamond Records

Red Diamond Records is pleased to announce the debut solo album, "Brighter Day," from singer/songwriter, Joshua Harrell. Joshua's soul-searching sound reflects a vulnerable space where electronica fuses with raw

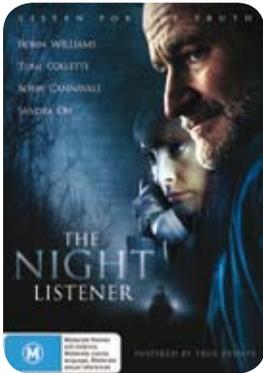
emotion. While incorporating a wide range of influences, Joshua delivers a fluid message that delves fearlessly into the depths of the human condition. In "Brighter Day," Joshua delivers a genuine mix of electronic blue-eyed soul, ethereal beats and forceful energy. His lyrics ring true to life. His stories stir the deepest universal emotions.



We have 5 albums to give away, so simply email getfree@qmagazine.com.au OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with *Joshua* in the subject line.

Roadshow Entertainment

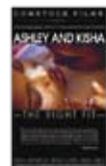
Academy Award® winner Robin Williams is unforgettable in a riveting, critically acclaimed psychological thriller based on true events. Gabriel Noone (Williams), a celebrated writer and late-night talk show host, becomes captivated by the harrowing story of a young listener and his adoptive mother (Toni Collette). When troubling questions arise about this boy's identity, however, Noone finds himself drawn into a widening mystery that hides a deadly secret! Also starring Sandra Oh and based on the best-selling novel by Armistead Maupin, *The Night Listener* delivers unpredictable twists and turns that will keep you on the edge of your seat!



We have 5 DVDs to give away, so simply email getfree@qmagazine.com.au OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with *Night Listener* in the subject line [see q movies for more].

*All prizes are open to everyone, except those which specifically state you must be over 18 to enter. Entries close on the final day of each calendar month with the prize draw taking place at 5pm the following day at Apt. 7, 16 Westbury Grove, St. Kilda East 3183. Names and addresses of people winning prizes valued at or over \$250 ONLY will be published in the following issue of QMagazine. All monthly winners are notified by email or SMS.

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q whispers: with ADDAM STOBBS

The annihilation of the homosexual.

The Human Genome project was one of the most mammoth undertakings of science. Completed in 2003, this massive research project mapped the 25000 genes in human DNA. Deoxyribose nucleic acid is the blue print of growth and development, and indeed the fundamental building block of all life on earth. Mapping the protein sequences in DNA will give science remarkable insight into the microcosm that makes up human diversity. There are about 2 billion possible combinations of chemical base pairs that make up the gene sequence that determines a lot about how life will be expressed (the phenotype – the physical and possibly behavioural expression of the genes).

Although there is fierce debate about it, it is likely that there will eventually turn up some predetermining factors that will genetically predispose a person to be homosexual. The big unresolved argument is this: is homosexuality a learned, environmental or consequential aspect, or it is genetic? There is a lot of support for an “all of the above” approach, but it seems to me from reading the arguments, that there is some likelihood that there may be indeed, something genetic that causes a person to be same sex attracted. The processing of the Human genome project and the subsequent understanding of the huge amount of probabilities and alternatives will allow humans to alter DNA, and we will be able to edit out undesirable genetic elements that may predispose offspring to undesirable characteristics, such as cancer, diabetes, schizophrenia and other things.

In some Asian countries, there is some tendency to prefer male children rather than female children. I posed this ethical enquiry to an ethics expert recently, expecting she would find these interferences with the natural development of humans outrageous. I was flabbergasted at first, to see that she thought it was all quite reasonable, as our society already

goes to huge lengths to engineer the outcomes of our children - what's the difference in preferring to have male children?

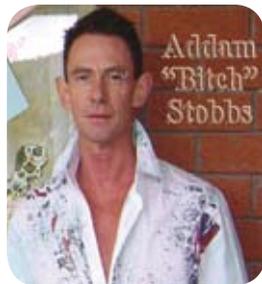
Is it therefore quite reasonable to predispose your offspring to be heterosexual? Is this not homophobia? My immediate thought was YES this is terrible, but is it? What is SO great about being gay that would make potential parents to want their children to be homosexual? I

am at a loss to have a convincing argument. It's tampering with nature - yes that is for sure, but that argument fits just about everything we do in our daily lives, from driving to work, to having our teeth filled with mercury amalgam. Parents already do a lot to develop children to fit their own templates. If the technology comes along that would enable parents to be able to alter genetic structure so that their children are heterosexual, would it happen?

Would the world be worse off if there were no homosexuals? Looking at the actual contribution of gay people - is it because they were gay? Or does it happen that they were gay anyway? Who knows for sure. It messes with ones head (and in my case filled with expensive private school education). The greater ethical debate should take place, but it might not. Should governments allow parents to determine the sexuality of their children? Looking at the “Gay Marriage” debate and how the Liberals and ALP reacted to that challenge will give you some idea.

This is not likely to happen soon. It's decades away, but it's coming, as sure as immortality (or VERY long life spans). It's about 30-50 years away. These concepts are difficult to understand from a very limited viewpoint, we simply have no similar experiences to draw on. We are also looking at these issues through the values of societies in 2007, these values change. To have some idea how we might use the selective genetic manipulation, gene technology, and behavioural engineering, we need to look at how we have embraced change as a species. Our report card is not great, but humanity is moving to a greater level of understanding and we are on the precipice of the ascent of mankind. Let's hope that as humans become more capable of manipulating DNA and other aspects of our own lives, that we do so wisely.

So the question still remains, what reason does society have to protect the sanctity of the homosexual? Questions for another time mayhap.



Final Q Cuties winner for 2007

Our final Q Cuties for 2007 goes to our cutie from the Grosvenor Hotel. Congratulations, you can pick up your \$50 drink voucher from Mitch on any Friday Night.

Thanks also to everyone who has entered Q Cuties over the past couple of years - keep picking up your copy of Q Magazine - it might just make a come back in the new year.



He's cool.
I'm sure
he'd tell me
if he's HIV.

He might
say no if I
tell him I'm
positive.

Is he thinking what I'm thinking?

HIV transmissions are happening because gay men are making different assumptions about each other. Assumptions about whether he is positive or negative. Assumptions about whether he'd tell if he was positive.

This campaign is not about what should or shouldn't happen. It is asking you to think about what is actually happening - because when it comes to HIV, it is often the case that he is not thinking what you are thinking.

napwa
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF ACTIVE GAY AND BISEXUAL

AFAO

People
with
Living
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q lifestyle: with PETE DILLON

A monthly review of the world of Food, Bars, and Wine

My Ramblings have taken me out bush of late here in Victoria, and so my focus this month is regional Victoria

The Royal Mail Hotel – Dunkeld.

When is a country pub not a country pub? When it is the Royal Mail Hotel complex in the verdant hills of Western Victoria's Grampians region.

And of what value is a country pub to Australia's queer population? A perfect destination to be savoured and enjoyed in an idyllic setting, perfect for romance or a damned fine country knees up for you and a bunch of your closest.

With the success of the Spring Migration in Yackandandah and Chill Out in Daylesford, maybe it is time a summer migration to Dunkeld was planned for country loving queers. With stunning accommodation to suit every budget and style and the recent arrival of uber talented chef Dan Hunter, fresh from work in some of the most famed Spanish restaurants, (and a CV that boasts some of Melbourne's best eateries), you can't be anything but excited. A \$3 million wine cellar that would be the envy of every queer quaffer and wine wanker, and 27000 acres of stunning farmland to get lost in, this is simply the best country Victorian destination for food and beverage, to be had.

A fabulous 1850's homestead that has been refurbished to its former glory sleeps a dozen for just \$1000 a night, sits on the property that is a working farm. It doesn't get much more authentic or grand. Imagine you and a bunch of your friends on the deck of this house, with Mt. Sturgeon overlooking your every move. What more could you ask for? If you want more, it's there.

A stunning 3-4 hour drive from Melbourne, bypassing many quality wineries on the way, and you have arrived in Dunkeld in time for a sunset and a bottle of red collected on the way.

You can relax in the homestead, the farmhouse, or a simpler apartment. Bush walking and sharing space with local fauna and birds, or leisure activities like golf, museums and swimming are all available, or simply relax and take in this amazing property.

This has to be the best unheard of queer destination Victoria has to offer.

So queer Victorians, forget the usual country drives and head west. I am sure you will be pleasantly surprised, as I was [Ed: see pics below].

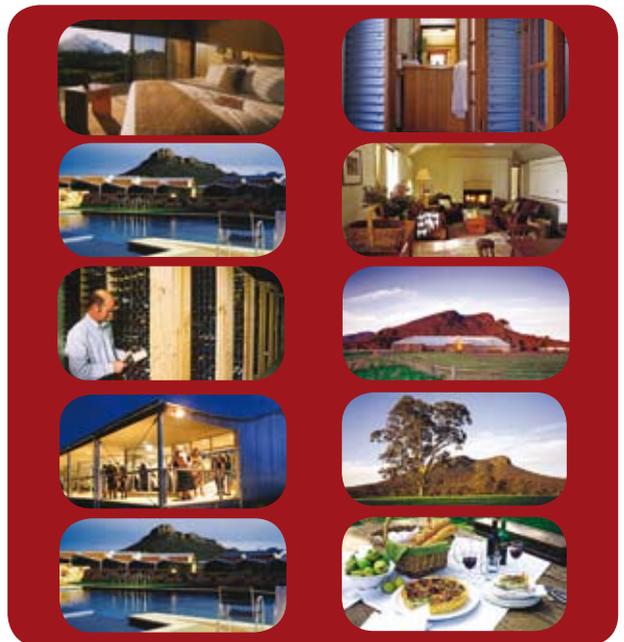
Glenrowan Winemakers Weekend

Glenrowan Winemakers Weekend takes place on October 6 and 7. Set in the NE of Victoria in some amazing wine country, this weekend covers all things wine. There will be a slow food festival, winery and winemaking tours, wine school and everything you could imagine you would want to find in one weekend.

While you are there, call in on Bob and Diane Morrison, at Morrisons of Glenrowan. This is a cellar door experience to be cherished, and never have I met such enthusiasm and passion as Bob will share with you. Bob will start a wine school just for you and you can spend all day there, savouring his reds and talking through his process and his love for wine.

Their Shiraz Vioignier is enough to make any sane man or woman moist and at \$12-15 a bottle, you would be completely foolish to do anything but buy it.

This is a great weekend of food and wine and I would highly recommend you take the trip.



q generation: **with LUKE HUGGARD**

When an eighteen year old gay man posed the question: "What advice would you give me?" recently, having come out of the closet and just entered the gay scene, surprisingly I was unprepared to provide a response. I, the self-proclaimed academic, writer and aspiring left-wing lawyer, with several years of gay life and a fair share of hangovers behind me... was speechless. The numerous lessons and painful realisations that come only from the 'journey' of those first years of gay life failed to verbalise as I stood there dumbfounded and reached for yet another cigarette.

The official line would go something like this: Work hard, party harder, have fun, join a gym, rent a townhouse in Prahran, Collingwood, Darlinghurst or Newtown, and never be too nice. But then that would just be blatant consumerism and clever marketing. For some reason, I felt such an analysis would insult this young man's intelligence, and in my role as a sort of brother like figure, it would be clearly irresponsible. It is not so much that I lacked advice, having a plethora of mistakes and valuable lessons to draw on, but exactly where to start and how to consolidate such knowledge into a sentence or two was the hard part. Maintaining an upbeat, optimistic tone was even harder and as I struggled to formulate an approach I couldn't help but pose the question...have I turned cynical?

And if I have, is that simply apart of growing up, a rite of passage per se? Perhaps realism is a more adequate term than cynicism and the shattering of perceptions of gay life, community and identity is a natural part of this passage? Only now did I realise that this young man's question may have struck a personal note in my young, twenty-two year old life, and through evaluating the advice we give to others we may also gain insight into our own lives.

The author and activist Larry Kramer was once spat upon by fellow gay people in the streets of San Francisco for suggesting that much of gay culture is self-deprecating. He questioned the status quo on gay sexual practices and inevitably left some readers to pose that formidable question...Is being gay really that fabulous? In many respects it is and the positives

far outweigh the negatives - but the trappings of a deceiving 'gay utopia', a glamorous lifestyle of fun that lacks dire emotional and physical consequences, continues to capture young gay people's minds and bodies. The looks on the faces of the other men in the beer garden of the Stingo on this particular Saturday afternoon conveyed the same reaction to this boy's youthful excitement, optimism and naivety. He would probably go on to make many of the same mistakes we have and hopefully come out stronger and maybe even a bit wiser. And hopefully he will realise sooner than later that 'gay utopia' is exactly that, a utopian ideal that is never truly what it seems.



So I told him to be safe and to be true to himself, not because gay culture dictates that is who he should be, but because at eighteen he knows who he is, the trick is not forgetting that.



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q beauty: with **GEORGE ALEXANDER**

BOTOX: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Recently I have been approached by readers to discuss Botox and what it is all about. While many people think of Botox as an exciting new treatment for wrinkles, it has actually been used for several years to treat certain medical conditions. In fact, its use as a cosmetic treatment was only discovered when people using it to treat facial muscle spasms noticed an improvement in their wrinkles.

What is Botox?

Botox is a purified form of botulinum toxin type A, a chemical toxin that is produced by Clostridium botulinum bacteria. Although this is the same toxin that causes botulism - a type of infection that can result in life-threatening muscle paralysis - Botox is safe to use as an injectable medicine because it is used in such small quantities and injected directly into specific sites. Another brand of botulinum toxin type A, called Dysport, is also available.

How does it work?

Botox works by blocking the release of a neurotransmitter (a chemical messenger) known as acetylcholine from nerve cells. Acetylcholine normally transmits nerve impulses to muscle cells. Without acetylcholine, the affected nerve is unable to send a signal to the muscle it supplies, resulting in a weakened or paralysed muscle. The effect of Botox is restricted to the area being treated, and because the nerve fibres usually regenerate after a couple of months, the effect is only temporary.

What is it used for?

Botox is used to treat medical conditions such as:

- blepharospasm (twitching or spasm of the eyelid);
- cervical dystonia, or spasmodic torticollis (a type of muscle spasm in the neck);
- facial or other localised muscle spasms;
- muscle spasticity due to cerebral palsy; and
- strabismus (a condition where the eyes are not properly aligned).

Botox can also be injected into the skin to block the action of the nerves that control your sweat glands. It can be used in this way to treat excessive localised sweating (hyperhidrosis), especially severe underarm sweating.

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (the Australian drug regulatory agency) first approved Botox for medical use in 1999. It has been approved for cosmetic use (specifically, the treatment of vertical frown lines) since 2002. There is interest and ongoing research into using Botox for treating migraine headaches, but it has not been approved for this use. Another brand of botulinum toxin type A, known as Dysport, is also available and has been approved for the treatment of moderate to severe vertical frown lines between the eyebrows.

How is Botox used to treat wrinkles?

Botox can be used to weaken or immobilise some of the facial muscles that pull on your skin and cause wrinkles. So, about 2 to 7 days after being injected with Botox, the lines and wrinkles that are normally caused by certain facial expressions start to disappear. Because treatment with Botox targets specific, individual muscles, the ability to form most facial expressions should not be affected.

Botox has been used to reduce the prominence of vertical and horizontal frown lines on the forehead and lines around the eyes. In Australia, Botox is currently only approved for the treatment of glabellar lines - vertical frown lines between the eyebrows that are caused by the muscles that contract when you frown, squint or concentrate.

How long does the effect last?

The improvement in the appearance of your wrinkles usually lasts for 3 to 6 months, and repeated injections are required to maintain the effect. With continued use, the effects may start to last longer.

Is Botox safe?

Botox is a relatively safe treatment when administered by a medical professional who is trained in its use. As with all treatments, there are some side effects associated with Botox, but most of these are mild and temporary. Pain, tenderness and bruising may be associated with the injection, and some people have reported a slight headache after treatment.

There is only a small risk of significant side effects from Botox treatment. In fact, the most common significant side effect - a drooping eyelid, which usually only lasts a few days, but can last longer - was reported in only 3.2 per cent of people in one study.

It's important to remember that that all medical procedures carry risks as well as benefits, and you need to discuss these with your doctor.

Where can I get it?

Botox is only available on prescription from a doctor, and should always be given by a trained medical professional who is familiar with the correct technique. Your doctor will be able to let you know whether Botox is a treatment that is suitable for you.

Cosmetic procedures can be performed by various health professionals, including plastic surgeons, cosmetic surgeons and physicians, dermatologists and nurses. It is possible to go directly to some of these professionals for Botox treatment, but it is preferable to have a referral from your GP.

For more information you can contact the Beacon Cove Medical Centre on 03 9646 4655 and Dr Richard Young can give you a complete consultation.



q fashion: with ALEX & TRISTAN

Well here we are again, the first month of spring has gone, and by now we should all have started refreshing our wardrobes with all the best the new season has to offer. With such a wide range of colours and styles already out, and no doubt plenty more to come, there is no reason for any of us to look anything but dead sexy. This sadly will be our last article (very sad..we know..tissues anyone?) so let's take one last look at some of the hot stuff we should all have at home.

Spring/Summer is always about colour, this year more than ever, and the easiest way to get into it is with a few new tee's. Just about every colour is available and in a wide array of prints, patterns and cuts. Just about everyone seems to be wearing a fluoro tee this year, so to stand out without blending into the crowd go for a nice bold colour such as yellow which is hot this year. For those who don't like anything too bright, there is still plenty of great choices in light greens and blues to get you looking good.

When you're shopping for your new tee's, be sure to keep on the lookout for the new short sleeve shirts about. They are going to be must have come Summer, and can create a great look layered with ya tee's if you pick the right ones. If layering is your thing, go for the bright tee's and look for a simple s/s shirt to go over the top. Otherwise ditch the tee and let the shirt do the talking, again with great colours available, in plain, stripes or checks there is bound to be a few that catch your eye, or more importantly some admiring eyes.

On the more formal front, and the side that is

most exciting at this time of year with all the races coming up, there is plenty to choose from too. Suits are out in all the normal styles and colours, with a few new ones arriving at the perfect time. The way to stand out in those big crowds though is going to be with a sizzling shirt and tie combo.

Shirts this season are like everything, - full of colour, which is great, so whether you go for a lighter colour in your shirt with a loud tie or vice versa, there are plenty of great options. With the weather looking to heat up, it's also a great idea to look for shirts that are 100% cotton as they breathe more, keeping you that bit cooler. That is unless you pick a losing horse...

Don't neglect the finishing touches either or you can ruin your whole outfit. There is no point having the hottest suit, or formal outfit and wearing your old worn out shoes.

There is a great range of hot shoes around so it may be time to pick up a new pair or two for the season. White/ash is a big winner at the moment and will look great with the lighter grey suits, even the simple black ones. Just remember to always match your belt colour to that of your shoes, this way you achieve a great outfit that ties everything in.

So don't waste time, get out there and snap up the hot new fashions, so come race day you'll be turning heads, and even if the horses don't race (I'm sure some of us didn't even realise there were horses) you should be able to pick up a winner at the field...

Well that's fashion for another fab month, and farewell from us boys. It's been great fun, we hope we've helped some of you along the way, and if we haven't done that, at least provided a laugh or two.



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q travel: PORT SMITH ARMAGEDDON

pictures and story by Shek Graham



A couple of days had stretched into two weeks, then three and now four, and still we were enjoying the solitude, peace and tranquillity of the beaches near Port Smith. Every morning we woke up to the sound of birds...or zips, dogs and cutlery! After a leisurely breakfast we would drive to our favourite beach and depending on the tide, explore the rock pools or go for a swim. Penda and Pumpkin loved these days of freedom on the beach. They could wander up and down the beach digging holes, or chasing after the birds, which fortunately, were always too quick for them.

The land that we drove on to get to the beach belonged to the local Indigenous people. They were very good at doing controlled burns to stop wild fires getting out of control. Every time we drove through the grassy plains by the coast we would see lots of wildlife. There would be wallabies enjoying the new grass shoots after a burn; cockatoos and parrots of every colour and hue enjoying the seeds; and even brolgas stalking through the tall grass with their long legs.

The weather was beautifully warm during the day, but as soon as the sun went down, the evening would turn quite cool, and often there was fog on the way back to camp after a sunset barbecue. The change between night and day temperatures sometimes would create a temperature inversion creating layers of warm and cold air in the atmosphere. One particularly still and windless day, the inversion served to trap the smoke from one of the controlled burns in a dense cloud that almost blocked out the sun, even during the brightest part of the day. The quality of the light through the smoke tinged everything with shades of bronze and gold. As the sun got lower in the sky and the horizon filled with smoke, the effect was quite surreal.

As we drove back to the caravan park towards sunset on this day, we seemed to be heading straight into the smoke. The day began to have an eerie feel to it... almost as if the end of the world was upon us... You might say that I had a bit too much wine or something else that day, but I swear I was clean and sober! Perhaps I have a vivid imagination, but you had to be there. As usual my photographic skills cannot capture the feel of the atmosphere, the crackling of the fire in the distance, which changed to a roar as we got closer, and the smell of burning, but perhaps as you look at the photos you can use your imagination too!

q law: with DAVID BOUNDY

principal of Boundy Legal, Sydney



Well boys and girls, it's that time again. Time for another exciting legal story. This time we might talk about Wills.

Now nobody likes to think about that because it also means thinking about death, and we just never think that it will happen to us - although lots of us have friends we have lost. Writing a Will isn't just jotting down a few notes for someone to find. There are legal technicalities to make sure that it's all good and proper, and to make sure that the greedy nephew / niece (and everyone seems to have one) doesn't think that they can take it to Court because they didn't get left the priceless [insert article here].

So what to do. Think about who you want to get things, but think in general terms e.g. if Great Aunt Muriel's cup and saucer set have to stay in the family, then name that item, or if you want to leave your extensive underwear collection to Fred, but otherwise think in terms of 'personal property' and 'real property'. Real property is real estate and that is obvious enough, and personal property is everything else left over.

The other major point of a Will is who handles it when you're gone, and that person is called the Executor. You should think about who might be able to cope with the emotion when it happens (and most times it's a shock to people), but also who is strong enough to deal with the legal issues and also talking to those, often family, who don't like the way you've left things. Think about appointing two people to do this job together, or at least a second person in case the first person can't do it for some reason.

Tell them that you've named them as Executor, and possibly give them a copy of the Will so they know what's to be done. This is also a good idea if you leave instructions as to whether you are buried or cremated, and any special details for the service.

There is more to it, and that's why you see a solicitor. I would never recommend you use a Will kit because if something isn't done properly, we can't check with you when we need to.

That's it for this time. An open invite to you all - if you have any questions please feel free to write into our lovely Editor and I'll try and cover your point in the next edition.

A promotional graphic for the website www.gaydestination.net.au. The background is dark with colorful, swirling patterns in shades of blue, red, and yellow. The text is white and orange. At the top left, it says "A must see for the Gay Community". Below that, it describes the website's content: "For everything you need to know from local & national news, reviews and events. gaydestination.net.au is the place to find it. It also features a community and business guide and great photo gallery. The name to remember is gaydestination.net.au". The website URL "www.gaydestination.net.au" is prominently displayed in a white banner. In the top right corner, there is a logo consisting of the letters "GD" in a stylized, overlapping font, with "GAY DESTINATION" written below it. At the bottom left, there is a small logo for "GAY AND LESBIAN TOURISM AUSTRALIA" with the year "2012" below it. Three circular inset images are visible: one showing a tropical beach with palm trees, one showing a blue abstract shape, and one showing a group of people in a social setting.

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\$1.50 carlton post 3 - 4

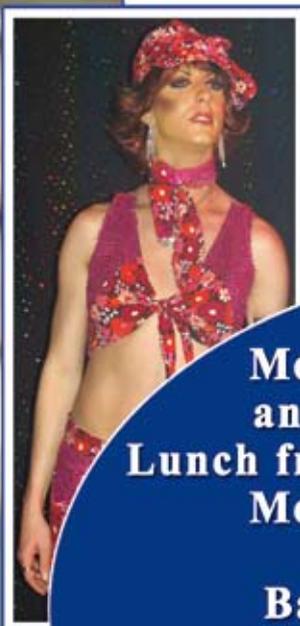
\$2 carlton pots 4 - 5

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q theatre: **NOBODY DOES IT BETTER**



The Production Company Season 2007 42ND STREET - State Theatre, the Arts Centre, 100 St Kilda Rd, 6 performances only - Wednesday 3 – Sunday 7 October Wed – Sat at 7.30pm, Sat matinee 2pm and Sunday matinee 3pm Bookings: Ticketmaster Ph 1300 136 166 or ticketmaster.com.au \$37 - \$75

Based on the film of the same name, 42ND STREET is the tale of young hopeful Peggy Sawyer, a chorus girl who has just arrived in New York and has to save the big new Broadway musical Pretty Lady. 42ND STREET premiered on Broadway in 1980, won five Tony

Awards and entertained audiences for an impressive 8-year season. A revival in 2001 clocked up a 4-year run and two more Tony Awards.

The songs in 42ND STREET, by the immortal team of Harry Warren and Al Dubin, remain among the most infectious tunes ever written about Manhattan, and are as energetic, tough-hearted and self-romanticizing as New York itself. No sooner does the orchestra strike up the overture with "We're in the Money" you will feel yourself grinning with anticipation of what's to follow. Among the other hit songs are "Lullaby of Broadway", "Young and Healthy", "I Only Have Eyes For You" and "Shuffle Off To Buffalo".

Lucy Durack as Peggy Sawyer, heads up a stellar cast of musical performers. Most recently seen in the hit musical RESPECT, Lucy has previously delighted Melbourne audiences with her engaging performances in Thoroughly Modern Millie, Oklahoma!, and Kiss Me Kate. Nicki Wendt who gave a scene stealing performance as the evil laundress Mrs Meers in Thoroughly Modern Millie in 2006, portrays the prima donna, Dorothy Brock, renowned for her inability to dance. Adam Murphy, Thern Reynolds, Melissa Langton, Alan Brough, Chris Horsey, Peter Hosking, Brendan Coustley also star and lookout for a cameo appearance by AFL legend Anthony Koutoufides.

Terence O'Connell returns to The Production Company to helm 42ND STREET. He has previously directed The Pajama Game, Oklahoma!, and They're Playing Our Song. Peter Casey will conduct Orchestra Victoria, and Alana Scanlan will create the energetic show-stopping choreography and tap routines.

The Production Company Chairman Jeanne Pratt said, "42ND STREET is our most ambitious undertaking yet. With a cast of 40, this all-singing, all-dancing musical extravaganza will delight young and old Melbourne audiences alike. Its feel good message will have you cheering for the young Peggy Sawyer getting her big break on 42nd Street!"

American Apparel and jobsjobsjobs.com.au in association with PANTRY present FULLY COMMITTED by Becky Mode Starring Spencer McLaren. The Athenaeum Theatre, Collins St Melbourne From October 3rd 2007 Wed 8pm, Thur 7 & 9pm, Fri 11:15pm, Sat 2 & 11:15pm, Sun 5pm TIX: Ticketmaster 136 100 (\$29 full, \$25 conc)

1 man, 1 hr, 40 characters! Directed by Gary Young (Mamma Mia, Menopause) this hilarious one man comedy introduces us to the crazy world of chic restaurants, power-mad chefs, domineering Maitre-d's and scheming socialites, and stars Spencer McLaren (The Secret life of Us, McLeod's Daughters) who produces a bewildering range of accents and mannerisms to bring to life a cast of over 40 characters! How far would you go to get a table at the best restaurant in town? Sam, in the reservations department of Manhattan's hottest restaurant, knows exactly how far. At a time when, thanks to the likes of Gordon Ramsey and Jamie Oliver the restaurant business has never been more topical, Fully Committed is a funny and poignant reminder that celebrity chefs are not the only cog in a restaurant's machinery. Fully Committed is about getting what you need out of life and making it work for you. Anyone who



has ever worked in a job they don't like, or has ever had a really bad day will immediately respond to Sam's plight.

Spencer McLaren is no stranger to the Australian public being an original cast member of The Secret Life of Us, as well as appearing in McLeod's Daughters, Blue Heelers, Home and Away, Footloose the Musical (Kevin Bacon role), Beauty and the Beast (Beast), and West Side Story.

q life tips: from MARK McKEON

Tips for October:

1 - Take the exit.

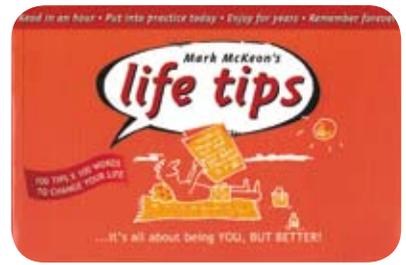
Ever seen a fly repeatedly crashing into a glass window, despite an open door being only a few centimetres away? Ever seen a human continually being frustrated, but somehow expecting a different result, while they repeat the same mistakes over and over again? It happens with school work, career choices, relationships, sport, driving, gambling, and even drug use. The fly has no brain, it didn't have a choice - WE DO!

2 - Smile from the heart.

In our society, laughter is transparent. It's good, but then it's gone. An ancient tenet from Zen Buddhism encourages us to hold and refer back to happy thoughts throughout the day. It's called smiling from the heart. It boosts our hypothalamus and immune system. It's why we have laughter clubs and doctors dressing as clowns. When you find something funny, admirable, beautiful or poignant, don't let it go. Get the boost of hearing a funny joke, but over and over again, all day. If laughter is the best medicine, smiling from the heart's the best prevention.

3 - Take a holiday.

Only 15% of business managers take four weeks annual holiday. Maybe that's where the saying "the dumb majority" comes from. Smart people take at least short breaks quarterly, and longer breaks annually. Plan it, inform your colleagues, book it, and pay for it. Look forward with anticipation and make sure you actually take it.



q win extra:

The Beauty Room at the Charsfield Hotel

Under new management, The Beauty Room at the Charsfield Hotel is now open for hotel guests and outside visitors alike. As well as a full range of beauty treatments for men and women using only the best products and techniques, The Beauty Room is pleased to offer The Yin Yang Face Rejuvenation System, an innovative and holistic non-surgical facelift treatment, which combines the best of traditional Eastern and Western anti-aging technologies, which produces spectacular results. They are also pleased to offer the Imperial Jade Hot Stone Massage, a revolutionary new relaxation procedure. This exclusive treatment draws on ancient Asian health practices, combining the use of hot and cold jade stones and traditional Chinese medicinal herbal pods, to activate acupressure points and energy meridians while massaging the body. They would love to welcome you for some pampering at the Charsfield. Phone to make your appointment now on (03) 9866 5511.

The Beauty Room in conjunction with Q Magazine is pleased to offer a chance for two lucky readers to experience these fantastic treatments. We have one gift voucher for a Yin Yang Facial and one gift voucher for an Imperial Jade Hot Stone Massage at the Charsfield Hotel.

To enter email getfree@qmagazine.com.au OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with *Beauty Room* in the subject line.



A promotional advertisement for Heaven@151 Cafe/Bar. The top part features a yellow banner with the text "Heaven@151" and a small illustration of a cherub. Below the banner, it says "CAFE / BAR meet, greet & eat". The main image shows two men, one with his hand on the other's shoulder. Below the image, it says "New Menu + FREE WINE or COCKTAIL with every main meal throughout October". At the bottom, it provides the address "151 Commercial Road South Yarra", the phone number "Phone: 9827 9151", and the website "heavensdoor.ent@gmail.com" and "myspace.com/heavensdoorbar". There is also a small note: "* free glass of wine with dinner or free cocktail @ Heavens Door after (exclusive to other specials)".

in bed with: **BEN**

We Have Our Own Dog Years! What the? In male to male relationships there is an underlying conflict that needs to be addressed, so what the hell is it and what are you going to do about it?

Have you ever wondered why gay relationships seem to be so fickle and seem to last for a short period of time? For example, 6 months in a gay relationship is approximately 10 years in a heterosexual relationship (yes we have our own dog years, yay for us!).

I personally believe that this has to do with the natural instincts of the male, being to find a suitable partner and be the hunter and gatherer.

So what happens when you have two males attempting to be the hunter and gatherers at the same time?

One ends up feeling emasculated and feeling like they have nothing to offer the partnership and if a male no longer feels needed in a relationship, they find someone else who they can provide for!

What role are you playing?

Now this is where it gets confusing and does my head in! In a male to male relationship one partner (especially in the early days) is going to need to be the pursuer of the relationship and the other needs to be the pursued. This goes against our natural instincts of being a male, being to find and pursue a partner and needs to be made as a conscious choice and then stuck too.

Why do we need to do it?

Because whatever we're doing in the gay community right now for relationships isn't working! We are in the process of creating and evolving our personal relationships, what they look like, what the boundaries are and how we're meant to interact with one another, especially when dating. This is going to be an incredibly long process due to a lack of sufficient role models that have established loving and long term relationships in the public eye.

Males like a chase. If you don't give them a chase and they feel like they can have you at a snap of a finger, suddenly the relationship changes. There is less respect, the phone calls slow down and practically stop and the relationship or the

formation of the relationship starts to disintegrate.

It's interesting as there is quite a distinct point that this occurs, typically when one male gives of themselves too easily. Unfortunately we have been conditioned to believe it's ok to jump in the sack on the first date (yeah that will get you a call back? Not! Ok maybe if you're really good in bed!).

If we take a look at heterosexual relationships, the male may have to wait for quite a few months before they even go there (bed I mean)! In the meantime the challenge is on and the interest remains high giving both partners the chance to build a solid base of trust and respect from the relationship to grow from. Consider this, are you the pursuer or are you being pursued? If whatever you're doing isn't working, isn't it about time to try something different!



q shows: **DESTINY**

What sort of entertainment does The Vampire Destiny provide?

The stage show is a spectacle of costume, magic, fire-eating, music, comedy and illusions. A feast for the senses! The séance is true mystery entertainment. There's magic and mind reading and, of course, we chat with the 'not so dearly departed.' There's also a few "WTF" moments along the way.

What makes your show stand out from the rest?

I'm a mythical being, not a real person. That encourages my audiences to suspend their beliefs - as they do at a movie. They can believe, for a time, that the impossible is not only possible but probable. Of course, I am an evil blood sucking succubus, spewed from Hell - but I do want every single person who sees me perform to be happier for it. I want them to laugh - to wonder at the mysteries of the world - to take fright, but most of all - I want them to be happier for having seen the show.

Do you think audiences have become too sensitive in this day and age to political correctness?

As one of the Undead, I take the world of the living as I find it. I am never politically correct, but I do believe in good manners. If you invite a vampire in to take an hour of your life, you expect that vampire to be house trained. I do not discuss politics, religion or sex. I do not swear. I do not mock or belittle. There's enough argument in the world.

How did a show like this come about?

I've spent 30 years as an entertainer in a myriad of genres - Fire-eater, clown trainer, director of Aboriginal Cultural shows, MC of corporate and civic events. I worked for years doing crocodile and other wildlife shows, directed and hosted strip shows, fashion parades, drag shows and cabaret magic shows. It's been a wild and wonderful ride and I've taken all the best bits and put them into The Vampire Destiny. I wanted to create entertainment for adults that was not 'Adult Entertainment.' My audiences are happy with the end result, so I'm happy.



q world: with LAUREN SCHIPP



Ahhh Paris, what a wonderful city. It eases all the senses. From the magnificent gothic gargoyles of Notre Dame, to the small cobbled lane ways of Montmartre that nearly every artist famous, or not, has sipped absinth, the wine, the champagne, the French boys, the shopping...

When to go:

Paris is sensational in Spring and Autumn. Summer can be really humid and very over crowded with tourists, you will be waiting in lines for hours to see all the sites and scratching people's eyes out to even get a glimpse of Mona.

Getting around:

The underground is a great way to get around, sometimes finding what direction you're going in is confusing. Just remember, the line will have a number and colour, then state what is its last destination; if you remember that, you will have no problem. Taxis are a good way to get around at night, try and hail them off the street, when you call or take them off the rank you get hit with up to 7 Euro charge. And arguing with a French taxi driver, you will never win.

Must Do's:

Spend the days getting to all your favourites; mine personally is walking through Montmartre heading up to

Sacre Coeur and soaking in the marvelous view. Try and take one day for a tour of the beautiful Palace a Versailles, it is breathtaking. You can get there by underground which takes approximately 30 minutes. Take a picnic if you can, the gardens are to die for. One tip to remember - don't stand in that huge line when you first walk in the gate, head straight

to Marie Antoinette's estates and you can buy the tickets for the whole Palace there with no lines. You can also catch a small train that takes you around the estate or hire a buggy, as it is really too large to walk.

Places to eat and sleep:

I always stay at Hotel Francais, it is directly across from Gare de l'est and short walk from Gare de Nord. It is well priced and clean. The staff are very friendly and willing to help - hotelfrancais.com

If you choose one restaurant from my list make it this one. Nos Ancetres les Gaulois nosancetreslesgaulois.com The experience is worth every penny and for the amount of food you get 45 euros per head is a steal (this includes wine). La Maison Rose, 2 rue de l'Abreuvoir 75018. In a great area, has a small menu with traditional food. Brasserie Le Bourbon, 1 Place Du Palais Bourbon. Very sheik lots of beautiful French locals sit and have wine and pate.

q grooming: YOUR Q & A SECTION

Q - How can I keep my hands smooth and healthy?

It's important to exfoliate, moisturise and massage hands to keep the skin in good condition. Regular massage can help to improve circulation, encouraging good health, and massaging cuticles will also help to improve nail health and strength. Keeping your nails well groomed with regular filing, instead of clipping, will also encourage better health, stronger nails, and allow you to achieve a better shape. And, of course, remember to protect the skin on your hands with sunscreen, as these are the first area of the body to show signs of ageing.

TRY: Daintree by The Natural Source - Hand & Nail Crème - Price \$26.95

Email: grooming@qmagazine.com.au

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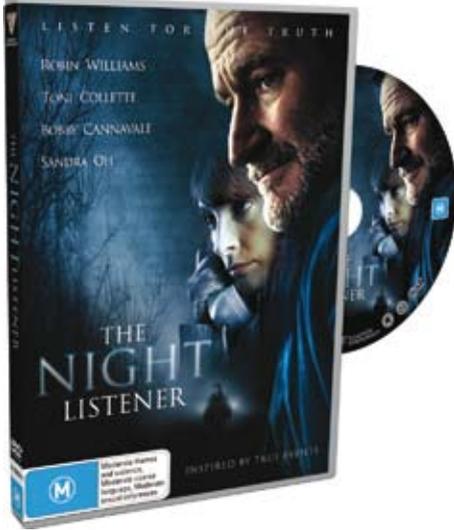
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q movies: **THREE EXCELLENT FLICKS**



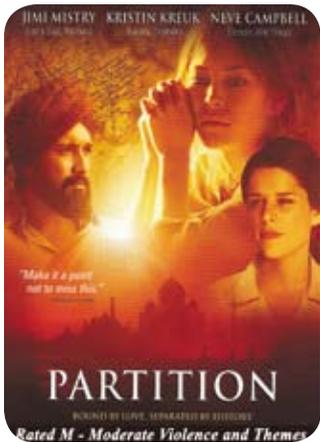
Roadshow Entertainment is proud to release **The Night Listener** - a story about a gay writer/broadcaster who becomes embroiled in a story that not even he could have created. Available for hire or purchase now through **OUT Video** - 108 St. Kilda Road.

Robin Williams [the male lead] never fails to amaze me with his acting ability, and Toni Collette is pure brilliance [as the main female character].

Following his separation from his HIV positive partner [although his status does not play a significant part in the film], Williams' character gets handed a manuscript from a young boy about a terrible life of abuse at



the hands of his parents and their paedophile ring from the tender age of eight - at which point he also contracted syphilis causing major damage to his lungs, resulting in a terrible cough and long bouts of hospitalisation. Shortly after, he starts conversing with the child and becomes emotionally attached to him. His estranged partner however doubts the validity of the story, igniting a journey to discover the truth. The series of events that follow will have you on the edge of your seat. Intrigue, deceit, remorse, deep sadness, and healing are all dealt with perfectly in this film. I would highly recommend this film and give it a top five star rating. If you like a good life mystery drama, then you will love **The Night Listener**.



Available for hire through **21st Century Pictures, Partition** is a gripping drama about the lives of a connected group of friends and lovers at the time of the partition of India and Pakistan.

Superbly acted, this film is gripping from beginning to rather sad end. In short: the war ends in personal loss; a man rescues a woman after a terrible massacre; that man ends up falling in love with the woman, they marry, and have a child; the woman finds her family is live and living in opposition territory; the woman visits her family with ghastly circumstances. To say anything more would be to give the film totally away. Suffice to say, I enjoyed it immensely and I am sure you will too. Ask for it at your favourite video store today.

I have always loved films about **Beethoven** - and **Copying Beethoven** is one of the best I have seen.

It is Vienna, 1824. Beethoven, played brilliantly by Ed Harris is racing to finish his new symphony. However, it has been years since his last success and he is plagued by deafness, loneliness and personal trauma. A copyist is urgently needed to help the composer finish in time for the scheduled first performance. Insightful young conservatory student and aspiring composer Anna Holtz is recommended for the position. Beethoven is sceptical and tries to overawe the eager student. But Anna is undeterred and boldly enters his mesmerizing realm, assisting his manic efforts to tap the deepest recesses of his talents, and he slowly comes to trust his new assistant. Absolutely brilliant! In all good video stores now through Hopscotch. 10 out of 10 from me.



q exhibition: IMMIGRATION MUSEUM

An exhibition of rare and spectacular masks from China will go on show for the first and only time in Australia at the Immigration Museum.

The exhibition *Masks of China: Ritual and Legend* will showcase around 100 stunning handmade masks. Drawn from the collections of the China Museum of the Cultural Palace of Nationalities in Beijing, *Masks of China*, highlights the living tradition of mask-making among the diverse cultural groups in China today.

"This is a unique collection of beautiful and rare objects never before seen in Australia," comments Padmini Sebastian, Manager, Immigration Museum. "Some of the objects in *Masks of China* are up to 200 years old, but most have been collected in more recent times and reflect the continuing significance of a practice which is thousands of years old."

In China, masks are thought to have originated from ancient religious ceremonies. Images of people wearing masks have been found in ancient rock paintings along the Yangtze River, and it is believed by experts that mask-making developed from rituals associated with hunting and the worship of heads and skulls.

"Masks are a way for humans to transform themselves into non-human forms, such as animals, spirits and gods," Sebastian continues. "Masks of China brings together beliefs, myths and symbols from Shamanism and Buddhism, and these depictions are designed both to entertain the living and amuse the deities."

"Each mask in the exhibition has been elaborately made by hand from a wide range of materials, including paper, metal, wood, cotton, bamboo and felt. Visitors will experience a range of colours, materials and facial expressions in this fascinating exhibition, which brings adults and children face to face with these beautiful masks."

Masks of China is arranged along five key themes reflecting the typical uses of masks: Ceremonial Dance, Opera, Weddings and Funerals, Protecting the Home, and Festivals and Ritual.

Some of the masks on display include:

- "Shigong" dance masks used in shamanic rituals to thank the gods

- "Nuo" dance masks used to drive away bad spirits and ask for blessings (the name "Nuo" comes from the word shouted during the ritual)

- Wedding masks used to pray for good luck and a lasting marriage

- "Swallowing Animal" masks associated with protecting the home and symbolising the "swallowing" of disaster

- "Ground Opera" masks used in a basic form of opera performed without a stage or backdrop



The Museum will offer a specially-developed children's trail through the *Masks of China* exhibition, as well as associated programs for education and summer school holiday visitors.

Masks of China: Ritual and Legend will show at the Immigration Museum from 8 October 2007 until 24 March 2008. Admission (includes Museum entry): \$12 adult; \$6 conc; \$3 MV members; children FREE.

Masks of China has been developed by the China Museum of the Cultural Palace of Nationalities, Beijing, and is supported by the State Ethnic Affairs Commission of the People's Republic of China, the Australian Multicultural Foundation, the Scanlon Foundation and Rendezvous Hotel. Immigration Museum, 400 Flinders St, Melbourne Enquiries: 13 11 02 or museumvictoria.com.au



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q scene: OUT & ABOUT



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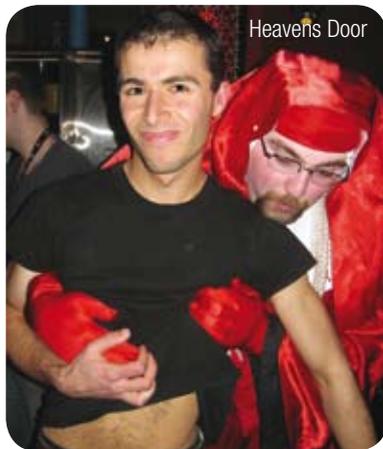
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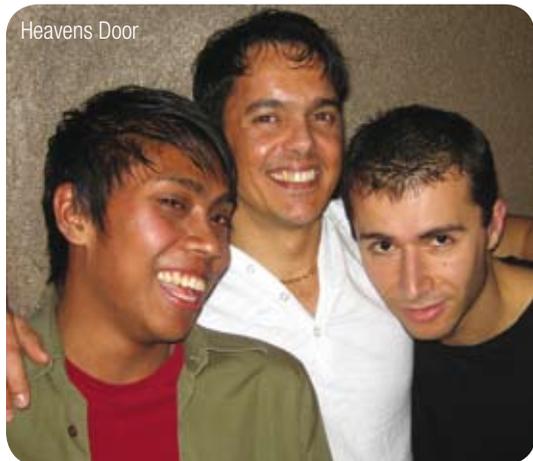
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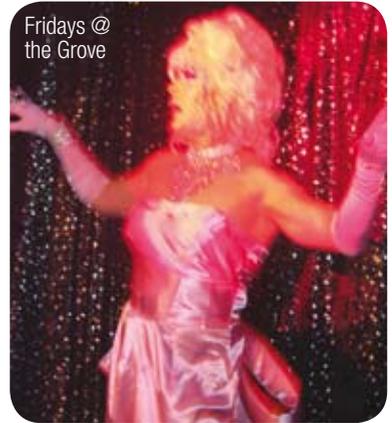
Fridays @
the Grove



Fridays @
the Grove

A business card for MADDa Design Company Pty Ltd. The card features a logo of a green alien character with a large eye and a small antenna. The text on the card includes:

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q scene: OUT & ABOUT



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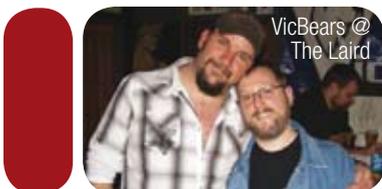
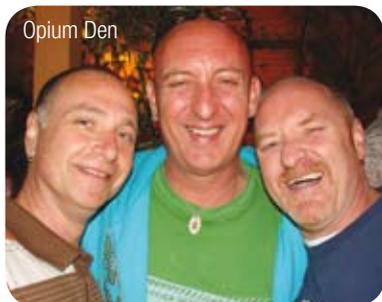


DIVA



DIVA

q scene: **OUT & ABOUT**



Paul and Richard, the proprietors of Dungeon Warehouse held a little party at their shop late September. The walls were covered in camouflage, the beer and champers freely flowed, and at the back of the store a rectangular stage was erected, full lighting rig above, and the fashion parade commenced.

The show was called Excalibur, and highlighted the latest designs from Dean Pearce's world renowned label Demon Leather. Q Magazine was there to capture all the glitz and glamour of the evening.

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q story: by MEL WILLIAMS

The current proliferation of same-sex parented families, and the way they have changed the face of our community, should be a cause for great celebration.

We have pushed the boundaries of the traditional perception of family, and contrary to the ranting rhetoric of the religious rabble, no-one's ended up in hell so far!

The recent recommendations by the Australian Law Reform Commission relating to enhanced rights for same-sex couples and families have come about through intensive lobbying by these "Rainbow Families" and their supporters. It is a source of great delight and satisfaction to me that the term "Rainbow Families" has ever been coined.

Thirteen years ago, when my partner and I first explored the possibility of becoming parents, it was a virtual wasteland of information. You could practically see the tumbleweeds blowing down the deserted highway of the ghost town known as "Gay Parenting". Just when we thought we would have to head to the U.S. to gain access to fertility services, I noticed an advertisement in one of the gay street press announcing that a "Lesbian Parenting Conference" was to be held over a weekend in a school hall in Carlton. I was ecstatic! Were there really like-minded women such as my partner and I who wanted to create their own family? Would we finally be able to access the information we had been searching for so fruitlessly?

The rest is history.

At the conference we met a woman and her partner who gave us the details of an IVF clinic in Sydney where they became pregnant through donor insemination. Our journey has begun! And what a roller-coaster it transpired to be.

After nearly a year of monthly flights between Melbourne and Sydney, a plethora of tests and medical procedures, and fertility drugs that made me teary and emotional, I became pregnant.

Our son was born in 1997 and has grown into an incredible child whom we absolutely adore. He attends a great school where our family is warmly and intellectually accepted. In fact, it was through our family that the school amended the wording on enrolment forms and other official documents to read "Parent/Guardian" rather than "Mother/Father". Our soon-to-be ten year old son has loads of friends, loves his football, and doesn't bat an eyelid at drag queens. Most people he has contact with comment on what an incredibly well-rounded soul he is.



It seems incredible that in just a decade, we have gone from being the only pram and rainbow "t'shirted" baby at Carnival to an IKEA sponsored designated kid zone. We have internet sites such as lovemakesafamilyaustralia.org and an abundance of rainbow family playgroups. There's even a gay dads group.

I look forward with excitement to the future and what it will bring for our families, and to the knowledge that one day society will be as shamed and scornful of our family's inequality and lack of basic rights as they are today of denying women and Koori's the right to vote, or of homosexuality once being a criminal offense.

I also look with pride to the past at the courage and conviction of a few who chose to defy convention and discrimination to create their own loving families. After-all, as the song says "We are Family" and of that we should all be proud.

Q Jokes of the Month

How do you piss your boyfriend/girlfriend off when you're having sex?
Give them a call!

Little boy in the shower with his mum, points to his testicles and asks
"Are these my brains"? His mother replies "No...not yet"

A gay man goes to the counter of a pharmacy and asked the chemist,
"What can I do to get rid of my boyfriend's dandruff?" "Simple,"
replied the chemist, "Give him some Head & Shoulders." The twink
asked inquisitively, "How do you give shoulders?"



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q cabaret: with THE BUTTERFLY CLUB

Cabaret news: Now open from 5.00pm Wednesday to Sunday, so the perfect place for after-work drinks. All Sunday shows are now scheduled an hour earlier than other nights. The Butterfly Club 204 Bank Street, South Melbourne Telephone (03) 9690 2000 or on the web at: thebutterflyclub.com OR myspace.com/thebutterflyclub.

Looking ahead: The Butterfly Club welcome back Australia's queen of blues, Kerri Simpson, with her brand new swingin' xmas gospel show from 6 – 9 December.

Holly McBride and Brenton Amies in 52 PICK UP

A Butterfly at the Melbourne Fringe Festival event
A shuffle of the deck, a flip of the card.
A guy and a girl, suspending their act on the chance of a one off deal. 52 Pick Up shows the progression of a relationship between two people in 52 scenes, according to the turn of a card. The fate of the relationship lies on what card is turned over and when. We guarantee no two shows are ever the same! With this unique and random construction, 52 Pick Up showcases the turbulent and impulsive nature of relationships and the complexities of love. Thursday 11 to Sunday 14 October 7.00pm Thurs – Sat / 6.00 pm Sunday \$20 full / \$15 concession and for groups of 8 or more.



DON'T HATE US BECAUSE WE'RE GOOD

A Butterfly at the Melbourne Fringe Festival event
Disappointed that Hedda Gabler lacked speedboat chases? Feel that The Satanic Verses went on a bit? You're not alone. A heady cocktail of stalkers, fringe dwellers, interpretive dancers and faith healers awaits in the delightfully twisted playground of Don't Hate Us Because We're Good. It's funny and it's edgy. It's a celebration of silly songs and dark cabaret. It's about an hour. Join three of Australia's most witty and critically tolerated singer/songwriters as they fight for the preservation of content-free entertainment! Featuring Stephen Anderson (Swan Lake, Dead Man Walking) and Crystal Hegedis (the award winning A4 2 A3) with Musical Direction by Jason Pestana. Thursday 11 to Sunday 14 October 9.00pm Thurs – Sat / 8.00 pm Sunday \$20 full / \$15 concession and for groups of 8 or more.



The Butterfly Glee Club's Most Amazing Ever 80's Movie & Tv Themes Trivia Night. A Butterfly at the Melbourne Fringe Festival event. Note: The venue for this show is the Ballroom at the Lithuanian Club in the Festival Hub, 44 Errol Street, North Melbourne. A night of song, trivia, mirth and prizes! It's time to

remember your favourite TV and Movie themes from the 80s, courtesy of The Butterfly Glee Club, the "rad sing-a-long choir" – The Pun. Hosted by Vicky Jacobs. Friday 12 and Saturday 13 October, both shows at 10.00pm \$22 full / \$18 concession and for groups of 8 or more Bookings: melbournefringe.com.au



Shannon Woodford and Phillipa Chalke – IN BED WITH MY DOONA

High heels hurt my feet, no one can get a cab from the city and I burst the zipper in that old little black dress. Not to mention that the music is so loud I can't hear anything anyone says. Why would anyone want to go out when they have a doona at home? Except to come join these two mildly overweight funny ladies for a bit of good old doona dancing (and we don't mean the big brother kind). Moccasins welcome. Thursday 18 to Sunday 21 October 7.00pm Thurs – Sat / 6.00pm Sunday \$16 full / \$12 concession and for groups of 8 or more.



Hayley Robinson in WELCOME HOME HARLEY

Join Hayley Robinson as she introduces character Venus Harley in her new cabaret WELCOME HOME HARLEY. Melbourne celebrity Venus Harley, granddaughter of the original Vegemite kid and heiress to the Vegemite empire has just returned to Melbourne after a year backpacking abroad. Rumour has it invitations were sent out today for the star's welcome home party, with only the elite invited. Thursday 25 to Sunday 28 October 7.00pm Thurs – Sat / 6.00pm Sunday \$20 full / \$15 concession and for groups of 8 or more.



Jacqui Hoy in ZEN AND THE ART OF BAKING

It's a cabaret AND a cooking show! Join award winning cabaret vixen Jacqui Hoy for this culinary cabaret concoction! Stories, laughs, songs and the odd bit of whipped cream are all on the menu when we take a step into Jacqui's favourite place, the kitchen. With her favourite co-star – FOOD – and the deliciously talented Vicki Jacobs tinkling the keys and licking the beaters, it's sure to be the tastiest cabaret morsel in town! Thursday 25 to Sunday 28 October 9.00pm Thurs – Sat / 8.00pm Sunday \$20 full / \$15 concession and for groups of 8 or more.

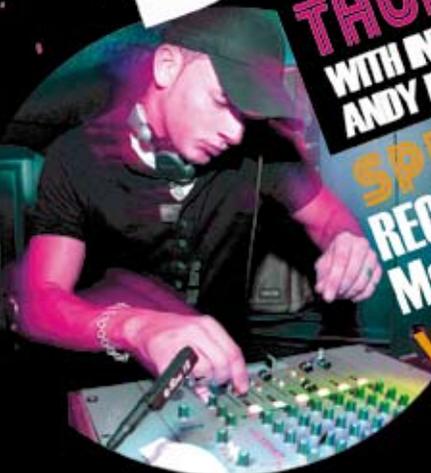


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