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q comment: YOU & YOUR POLITICS

I want to ask the questions: how much does politics affect your life? Does the political party in power matter to you? Do you really care who wins a State or Federal election? How much does your sexuality effect the way you vote?

A great deal has been said in recent times regarding "gay rights". Is it really about rights in respect to sexuality or is it basic human rights? Have our lobby groups (and the men and women leading that charge) played the marriage card too hard and hence limiting our community's ability to achieve some basic changes to policy? Is there really a political party in Australia that truly cares about the LGBT community? Are there really massive philosophical differences between Labor and Liberal policy in relation to the LGBT community?

I don't profess to have all the answers to any or all of those questions, although obviously I have my own point of view in regard to several of them.

With the Federal election on the 21st of this month, it is time for all members of our community to ask those questions and have clear answers to them. Voting is not a right, it is a privilege (in my humble opinion). It is also something that you should take very seriously. You should have a set of principles by which you gauge the performance of your local member and all political parties - regardless of jurisdiction.

Most importantly: you should vote!

Too often, people from all walks of life criticise the government without ever exercising their democratic privilege of having their say at an election. You have, by definition, no right to make comment about a Government or member of a Government if you have not had your say at the polling booth.

I do realise that at times this process seems laborious, resulting in little to no change, however you can not expect change without participating in the process.

Spend some time visiting your local member and asking where they stand in regard to human rights. Again by definition, they are public servants and a huge part of their job is to serve the public.



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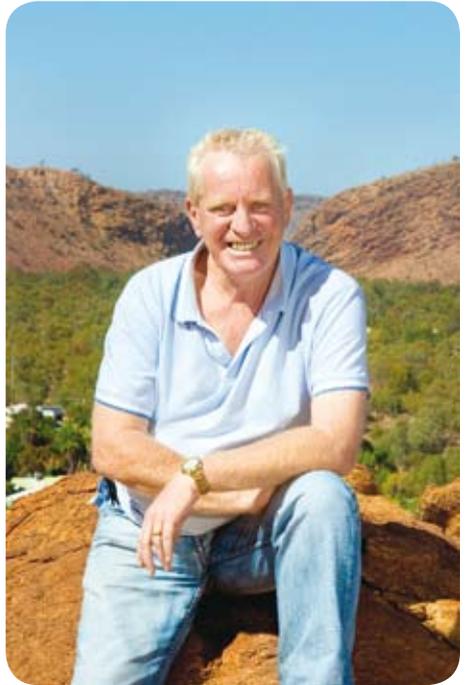


q feature: PHIL THE GAP

Phil Walcott has been a friend and colleague of mine for quite some time. He is a truly nice man - genuine, intelligent, hard working and caring. Although the election is some time off, I thought I would take the opportunity to find out a little about the man and his political aspirations for the Northern Territory elections. I started in the usual fashion by finding out a little history about this wonderful individual.

I was born in Sydney 28th August, 1954. Grew up in Sydney (inner and western suburbs) until my late 30's. Attended Teacher's College (Nepean) and University (New England and Macquarie). Became involved in student politics whilst in high school and that continued into my professional careers as both a teacher and psychologist (school counsellor and part-time private practice). 3 fabulous siblings (2 sisters and 1 brother) and two terrific parents. Entered my first long-term (11 year) gay relationship at age 21 (we were 'married' in a commitment ceremony in September 1978).

Realised I was same sex attracted from a very young age and 'mucked around' with male friends from the age of 8 through late childhood, adolescence and into adulthood. Involvement in Gay Teachers & Students (GAYTAS) as a young teacher for some years operating from the Gay centre in Glebe. Activism included being involved as a marcher in the first Mardi Gras and street demonstrations in the late 1970's. Attended parliamentary sessions on gay reform legislation. Worked with and supported the great work of ACON into the 1980s. My last 13 years living in Sydney was in Erskineville where I learned many of my 'networking' and '(gay) community building' skills.



When did you move to the NT (and specifically Alice Springs)?

Moved to Alice Springs on 26th August, 1993 to begin my role as an educator & counsellor with the former AIDS Council of Central Australia (now NT AIDS & Hepatitis Council - NTAHC). Appointed to the NT Psychologists Registration Board in October that year as a Professional member of the Board (6 year tenure).

What have you been doing in the Alice since moving there?

Worked with ACOCA for about 14 months when I was 'headhunted' to work with the Health Department as a psychologist / care worker on the newly emerging Community Mental Health team. Worked with that team until 2000 then seconded to the Education Department for a 12 month period as a Guidance Officer. I was Acting Manager Student Services at the conclusion of my secondment. Began my foray into tourism in 1999 establishing 'The Rainbow Connection' as the first ever gay and lesbian specific hosted accommodation B&B provider in Central Australia - the only one for about 1200 kms in any one direction!! Moved to a local independent secondary school as consultant psychologist and college counsellor from 2001-2009 in conjunction with operating TRC with my life partner, Glenn (since 2001). TRC won the Hidden Jewel Award (2008) and I won the Central Australian Tourism Industry Award (2008). Joined Gay & Lesbian Tourism Australia Board and became NT Regional Director from 2000. Significant partnerships with Tourism NT and Tourism Central Australia with both organisations demonstrating significant support for developing the gay & lesbian travel markets into the NT generally and Central Australia in particular. I currently sit as an Executive Member of Tourism Central Australia. On-going support with NTAHC and it's initiatives as well as being a 'colourful' identity in the local gay / lesbian social networks and communities all helps. The Alice boasts a very strong gay and lesbian fraternity with regard to passion.

Why did you decide to enter the world of politics and what position are you running for?

I've been politically active since high school so this is simply the next 'logical' step for me. I believe strongly in what I call 'The Journey Story' (elements of which can be found on my www.philwalcott.com.au site). It has taken this time for me to learn the skills required and develop the experience required to take on this projected role and deliver for the people of my electorate and whole-of-community. I'm an IndependentNT candidate for the electorate of Greatorex (one of the 3 Alice Springs urban electorates) as a member of next Northern Territory Legislative Assembly. There are about 5,000 voters in an electorate of about 10,000 people (includes kids and other under 18 year olds).

What do you think you can bring to the political landscape of the region and do you have any specific policies at this point?

I bring to the political landscape a fresh approach to the ways in which governments can and should operate. My two major platforms are building social harmony within a whole-of-community model and flattening the structure of the inefficient and costly bureaucracies that we have evolved over the past 50 years. It's about encouraging people to think positively rather than negatively - live in hope, not fear; be independent not dependent; encourage a hand-up not a hand-out mentality; be a survivor; not a victim etc. It's about 'philling the gaps' with humanity, honesty, integrity, compassion and love. The web-site explains the position more and details what some of my specific visions around particular policies are. People's contributions (from wherever they live) are welcomed - the better informed I am, the better job I can do. Phil The Gap (of knowledge)!



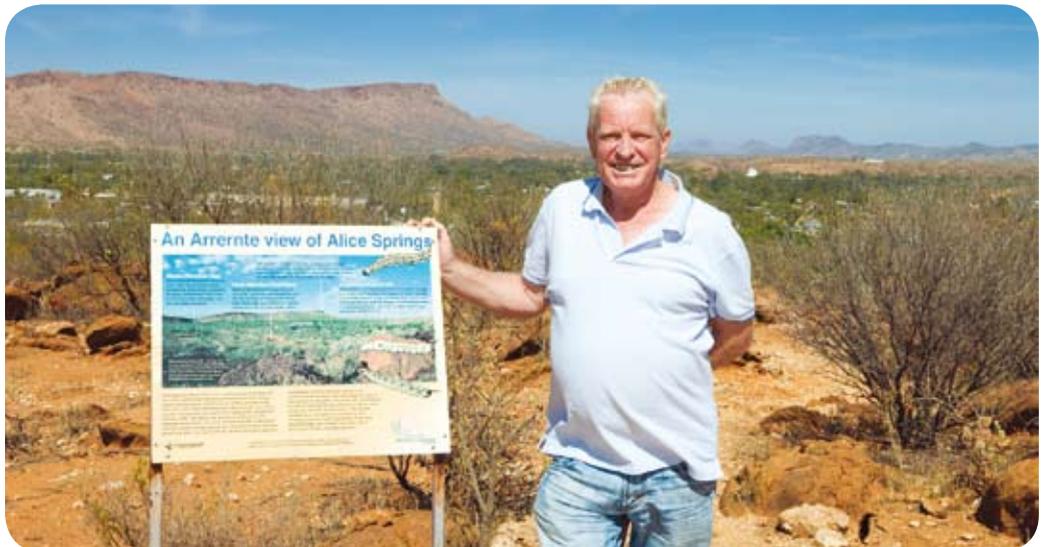
What do you think your chances of winning are?

I am particularly encouraged by the level of support I have been receiving around my attempts since I announced my candidacy about 6 months ago. People in politics, government agencies and departments, incumbent and former MLA's (of all persuasions), MPs and the local business community have been so very supportive. I already enjoy a particularly positive community profile through my work in education, health and tourism built up over the past almost 17 years so lots of people know who I am and how I work.

Contesting the seat as an Independent clearly has more challenges than if I was to align with one of the two major and one minor political parties that will be contesting the election as well. If I am to achieve what I envisage, however, then there is no time to be involved in the constraints that being a party member and having to 'fall into the party line and ranks' would bring. All things equal, the next election is not due until 25th August 2012. That gives me up to two years to continue building my profile and presence. I'm clearly working every day with regard to my work in building individual, group and whole-of-community perspectives. This is a relatively expensive exercise with regard to energy, time, emotion and finances but I believe that the investment into the local communities specifically and Central Australia generally is well worth it. This truly is a remarkable place (as many of your readers will attest) so the opportunity to help build and grow it's positive present and future is a real honour and privilege. I will work comprehensively with whichever political party wins government and contribute my ideas and robust debate to the floor of the Parliament.

Anything else you wish to share with the Q Magazine readers?

Many thanks to Q Magazine and it's readership for the opportunity to promote my mission. I welcome reader's comments, suggestions, etc. via the web-site. I plan to be at Melbourne MIDSUMMA Festival Fair Day 2011 as part of the GALTA promotion team and would love to catch up with anyone who would like to drop by the booth for a chat.



q community: **SHOW YOUR SUPPORT**

Trinity Bay State High School in Cairns is celebrating 50 years (1960-2010) of quality education with the following events:

Friday 17th September

Guided tours and Morning tea - No charge. 9.30am to 11.30am. Welcome by TBSHS Principal, Steven Savvakis. Follow the School Leaders on a guided tour through the school. Plans of the new building being constructed on the site of the original school building, which burnt down last year, will be on display. Finish at the Tuckshop and line up for morning tea. Please remember, No Smoking on School grounds.

Cocktail Catchup - \$25 per head

4.30pm to 7.00pm Come and catchup with friends and teachers in and around the Theatre (front of school). Register and receive your 50th Anniversary Certificate and a TBSHS Mocktail. Canapes will be served from 5.30 to 6.30pm. A cash bar will be available for further refreshments.

Find your Signature Brick on the wall and view the contents of the old Time Capsule. Write a note in the Time Capsule book, which will be opened again in 25 years. Reflex Photography will be on hand to capture classmates catching up. Please remember, No Smoking on School grounds. 7pm - time to join your friends for dinner somewhere - a suggestion is a wonderful BBQ at the Salt House Bar and Restaurant on the Esplanade (caterers for both our events) or for a wonderful meal at any of the many restaurants in Cairns.

Saturday 18th September

Celebration Dinner - \$99 per head. 6pm to midnight, in the relaxed tropical setting of Salt House, Marina Point. Ochre BBQ Buffet includes Cold Buffet, Seafood Platters, Cold Meat Platters, Hot Buffet, Dessert, tea and coffee. Cash bar facilities available. Entertainment by Kickstart. Reflex Photography available to capture each decade group and classmates groups as required. Foundation Students roll call, TBSHS Trivia questions, Celebration cake and presentation of the 50th Anniversary Bell.

Scanned Year and Senior Books and School photos @ \$5 each

Did you miss out on getting your school photo or year/senior book when you were at school? A scanned version is now available for various years. A Disc with the scanned images for up to 6 years can be ordered.

Signature Brick @ \$30 each

Have your name preserved by purchasing a Signature Brick. The bricks will be built into a wall near the Time Capsule.

The TBSHS 50th Celebration DVD showcasing 50 years of quality education at TBSHS and the 50th Celebrations will be available by end of October. Any profit made by these Celebration Events will be donated to the school for a worthy project.

For further enquiries see the school's website or email tbshs50th@hotmail.com

AGMC Inc. is looking for couples to be involved in a Midsummer visual arts project in 2011.

AGMC Inc. is a peak body for individuals/groups from a Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Queer (GLBTIQ) multicultural background. AGMC is undertaking a visual arts event called "Love Journeys: Stories of Gay and Lesbian Migration to Australia". The exhibition will take place in January and February 2011 as part of the Midsumma program, with support from the City of Port Phillip.



In summary, the visual arts event will include photographs of five gay and lesbian couples that have been able to migrate to Australia because one of their partners was an Australian citizen or resident. The photographs will be taken in the couple's intimate surroundings like their homes and will be accompanied with 2 full-size written texts: one explaining the official story/journey (relating to existing laws that permit partners to migrate); and the second describing the personal journey of the couple involved. The exhibition will be shown at the Alliance Française in St Kilda.

The purpose of the exhibition will be to educate the GLBTIQ and mainstream communities about current immigration laws in relation to the GLBTIQ community. It will show how far we have come in accepting same-sex partners but also make viewers aware of potential shortcomings or limitations in the Australian legal system.

If you have migrated to Australia for love and you and your partner would be interested in participating in Love Journeys, please contact Julien Leyre on 0420225834, or send an email to journeys@agmc.org.au. For more information on Love Journeys please do not hesitate to contact the AGMC as above or visit their blog at www.love-journeys.blogspot.com.

q money: with EVAN DAVIS

Lots of my friends, lots of their friends and all of our respective 'plus ones' went to Minh Minh, Melbourne's best (and gayest) little Vietnamese eatery. This meal reminded me that people can be impolite and extremely ungracious, particularly when money is concerned.

A rude and drunk 'plus one', who hadn't introduced himself, was grilling me on my new business acquisition. (Expect the shirt in my photo to change). After many leading questions he finally asked...

"So what did the new business cost you"?

I am a money man. It's what I do for a living and talking about it is something I find easy. However, some people would rather run naked down Victoria Street, than speak about their personal finances. My partner feels this way. After all, personal finances are just that, personal. I was saved the bother of answering the question with his quick response.



"The business cost significantly more than you make in an entire year. It also cost more than you could ever afford to spend."

When financial questions are cutting needlessly close to the bone, being rude is one way of hinting subtly at your displeasure. Simply changing the conversation topic is another. Had it been a friend or someone I was close to, perhaps the response would have been different. Remember when pressed for financial information in a social context, you're under no obligation to tell them. Stranger's finances are one area, where it is polite to adopt a don't ask, don't tell policy.

Thankfully I was saved by the bill. Disappointingly, it never ceases to amaze me how many people within a large group of dinners are still surprised when the bill arrives. When dining out the meal is seldom free and getting a bill should never be looked upon as a novelty.

It amazes me still further, when people are slow to go for their wallets. Or worse, look around quickly to see if someone is going to dive on the fiscal hand grenade, saving the table from parting with their dosh. Round the bill off, by which I mean round up. Then divide the bill by the number at the table, sorted. Your iPhone can probably do this for you and work out the tip.

If paying at the end of a meal is that hard, stay home. Sure, if the meal is going to be five-star, you can't afford it and your friends insist then perhaps a different, more equitable split is in order. It is okay to ask about this before the meal is booked and venue chosen. Open a dialogue and ensure everyone is on the same page.

One individual, despite his reluctance to pay keenly carried the tray with the table's payment to the counter. I watched him. He waited for the owner to count out the change which he slipped into his pocket. He then realised I had seen him and put the money into the tip jar where it belonged, the cheap bastard!

An advertisement for Mannhaus. On the left, a man in a black leather vest and chaps sits on a motorcycle against a brick wall. A large blue circular graphic is partially visible behind him. On the right, white text on a black background reads: "Gear For Your Lifestyle. Proudly serving our community for over 6 years. Leather. Rubber. Lifestyle. Gear. 130 Hoddle Street, Abbotsford 03 9416 4800 www.mannhaus.com.au Find us on Facebook". At the bottom right is the Mannhaus logo, a blue circle with a white 'm' inside, followed by the word "MANNHAUS" in white capital letters.

q review: PHILLIP ISLAND

A short hour and a half drive south of Melbourne is beautiful Phillip Island. A tourist mecca of monumental proportions the Island features accommodation galore, cafes, restaurants, bars and tourist facilities second to none. I was fortunate to be invited to sample the hospitality of this area by the region's peak tourism body.

It would be remiss of me not to mention that the weather at this time of year is freezing cold, but equally remiss not to add that heating is a plenty including ornate fire places everywhere you go.

Our first port of call was **Cliff Top Boutique Accommodation (1 Marine Street, Smiths Beach - www.clifftop.com.au)** - a stunning B & B recently taken over by Adam Tinsey and Lucas Bracken. The house features seven rooms of all different configurations, a common area complete with open fire place, large comfortable lounges, a huge dining table, pool table and spectacular views over a stunning beach. From the moment we arrived we were greeted by our hosts, shown to our room and made feel extremely welcome.

That evening we dined at **The Foreshore Bar & Restaurant (11 Beach Road, Rhyll)** - with rustic interiors and a very extensive menu. Unfortunately the place was bombarded by an extraordinary surge in customers and the time between entrees and mains was disappointingly long. I can not however fault the cuisine or the wine list.

Saturday saw the beginning of our Phillip Island discovery. With our 3 Parks Pass in hand (something I would highly recommend you purchasing) we commenced with a tour through the **Koala Conservation Centre**. If you know nothing (or very little) about Australia's fauna and flora (or even as a refresher course) this is an excellent way to begin. The centre has an interactive display about Australian wildlife and the treetop walk is truly educational. Next stop (via the Phillip Island Grand Prix track) was the **Nobbies Centre**. This new state of the art facility is Australia's newest marine attraction and is the gateway to seeing the Island's Seal population up close and personal.

A short drive back toward our accommodation we stopped at **The Phillip Island Vinyard & Winery (414 Berrys Beach Road, Ventor)**. Tim O'Brien bought this property only recently and is quickly transforming it into a first class facility. His staff are very professional and the tasting is certainly well worth the visit. They also offer travellers a selection of cheese platters and the like, served in a toasty fire place heated environment that is both relaxing and highly enjoyable.

Finally, what would a trip to Phillip Island be with a night time visit to see the **Penguin Parade (www.penguins.org.au)**. Again something one should rug up for if visiting during winter. Fortunately we were pleasantly surprised to be treated to a SkyBox VIP pass so didn't have to endure the elements - viewing the migration of the Penguins from the warmth of a fully enclosed viewing box (complete with complimentary tea, coffee, hot chocolate and some light eats). The commentary is educational and entertaining and the whole experience is a must do!

I would definitely revisit Phillip Island and highly recommend it to anyone who wants a weekend away from the hustle and bustle of city life. There is very little to do in the way of nightlife - but that is part of it's charm.



q cuisine: with CHEF NATHAN



After a recent dining experience with some awesome friends, we decided to treat our taste buds with the Saganaki as a tapas style entrée.

A good friend had never tried this delicious grilled cheese dish, so he was pleasantly surprised with the dish that was presented to us. It was of course cheesy, but the intense flavours of the cheese are released when cooked in this style. Saganaki literally means little frying pan and gets its name from the single-serving frying pan it is cooked in. The cheeses that can be used vary depending of what product is available and how much you are prepared to spend, so speak to your local Deli for suggestions. Being inspired by my latest treat, here is my version of Saganaki.

Saganaki

Ingredients:

500gm of pecorino romano or halloumi cheese
1/2 cup of olive oil



2/3 cup of flour for dredging
2-3 lemons, quartered

Preparation:

1. Cut the cheese into slices that are 1/2 inch thick by 2 1/2 to 3 inches wide.
2. Moisten each slice with cold water and dredge in the flour.
3. In a small heavy-bottomed frying pan (cast-iron preferably), heat the oil over medium-high heat.
4. Sear each slice in 1 tablespoon of oil until golden-brown on both sides.
5. Serve hot with a last-minute squeeze of fresh lemon juice.

Serve with wine, olives and crusty bread.

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q lifestyle: with PETE DILLON

Several months ago I wrote about my addiction to food porn, and I am pleased to say it has reached new heights of depravity. Reason, with its sensible shoes and homely cardigans, encourages common sense in a time of the horrid darkness of election campaigns and ice road truckers dominating the viewing time. It is this reason that has departed from my life and I confess I am all agog of what to do.



I scour the papers daily, searching to determine how many of my food fantasies might come true, and to date, so many have. Meeting Heston Blumenthal and Ferran Adria - done. Being in a lift with Jamie Oliver - done. Sitting in awe of David Chang in a Master Class - done and done! Having dinner with Manu, Pete, Adrian, Miguel, Michel Roux - all done. What in Nigella's name remains? Nigella herself and can I say, as sick as it sounds, I am somewhat beside myself that Ms Lawson will grace our shores in 2011 as part of the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival.

This news is bliss. I don't know what it is about Nigella or any of these other celebrity culinary boffins that makes me so unreasonable. It can't be because they are women, as in most cases, this encourages a sense of awe and confusion on my behalf. I think it is mostly that these personages, when hovering above a Miele hob and sweating food platitudes, that my inner core of desire and any of those other deadly sins, is indeed satiated in a way nothing else suffices.

I tried to have casual relationships with food programs and sadly, my attempt at casual satisfaction has failed miserably. Popping in and out of food shows has left me unsatisfied and feeling like a cheat...It is not like these women and men of the culinary trade are overly special. Perhaps it starts something in my inner core - a spark of wanton desire or lust, greed or avarice. Or perhaps it is just nice clean viewing in a world dominated by smut and bad behaviour - in a world of television that promises much but delivers tits and ass!

There have been many viewing moments that have revved my inner core - and so many of those have come from meeting the peoples discussed above, in their finest personage. People who spend their lives creating. Mixing flavour, colour, texture and scent makes them special. Whisking, slicing, chopping and dicing with a sense of flourish and theatre that encourages such delight inside so many of us...

One wonders how we become obsessed with anything - food, sex, cars, chickens, meccano. Each of these obsessions in its own right is a valid and normal thing. The dictionary tells me about obsession: - noun

1. the domination of one's thoughts or feelings by a persistent idea, image, desire, etc.
2. the idea, image, desire, feeling, etc., itself.
3. the state of being obsessed.
4. the act of obsessing.

How do you become dominated by these thoughts, feelings, or images and desires? Why does the television inform so many of our ideas about food? I think it is because it is doable, because we know how to source and create the food that we are shown, and that we lust after. It is because we reach a realisation that these folk are accessible and that they are just like us. That they weep with sharp onions, that they cut themselves and bleed. It provides us with an opportunity to realise that we can be like them in some small way.

We can make our way to the fridge at midnight to eat a spoon or two of chocolate ganache that we prepared earlier in the day, that we didn't eat. Nigella can do it, which gives us permission to do it. Jamie has his mates around and knocks up some pucker tucker...and we can do that. Granted we all can't be like Heston or Ferran or any of the alchemists who meld and divine new flavour from bog standard ingredients...but we can try.

The Melbourne Food and Wine Festival is on again in 2011 and if you want to rub shoulders with some of these food gods and goddesses - get along to an intimate master class and meet them. Your life might never be the same.

For more information, contact Pete at pete.dillon@kooki.com.au or listen in to Cravings every Saturday on JOY 94.9 from 1 pm for more of Pete's take on the world of food and wine.

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q youth: with **TASMAN ANDERSON**

Decisions, Decisions, Decisions! Is it just me or does it feel like we are constantly making plans and decisions regarding our future? With time ticking away faster than usual, high school students are left figuring out exactly what they want to do with their lives and whether the choices they make are the right ones.

It is officially term three and for us senior students, it is the most stressful time of them all. Not only is this the last term that our assignment and exam grades count the most but the dreaded QCS (HSC for those in NSW) is only a few weeks away.

I remember my Deputy Principal telling us that this term was going to be the term that we would wish we'd never have been born and that we should all expect to break down at least once. Yeah, imagine hearing that your first day back from holidays. To me, deciding upon your entire future at seventeen years old seems a little daunting to say the least. I might be convinced that I want to be a Journalist but who's to say that I wouldn't like being a doctor or a scientist? No one can truly know what career they want to be for the rest of their lives when they're not even an adult yet. I know that sounds like I'm saying we're immature but that's not my intention. I merely think that at our age, we're still figuring out who we are and what we like and dislike. Of course, there's no way for us to avoid it, we are going to have to and pick something to study in university, or TAFE or something we want to do during our Gap year. This August is full of decision making and staying true to ourselves.

I recently discovered just how close my future is when last month I went for my initial interview at Bond University. I had been working toward the John Burton Cadetship for two years so you can imagine my surprise when the interview popped out of nowhere. With all the planning we do and all the choices we make, can we ever be truly ready? Even though I had been working towards the scholarship for years, I was still left in a nervous bubble in the interview lobby, trying to remember my own name.

That's another thing we need to deal with, nerves. A month ago I went for my Provisional driver's license and I was so incredibly nervous that I was forgetting which way was left and which was right! It was an intense feeling that I'm sure everyone feels.

So how do we overcome nerves and how do we decide on our future? That can't be easily answered. People are all different, some need time to consider what they want to do and take the gap year off and some people just pick a career out of a hat and stick with it. No one can truly know what they want to be in life until they've lived it. I think we need to keep in mind that what we decide now isn't final. We have the power and time to change our minds. Just because we studied one profession doesn't mean we can't change our minds and try something else. If you left high school only to discover that you are now doing nothing with your time, you can always go back. There is always an alternative way into a career, never give up.

So what is it that you want to be? A fireman? Dancer? Actor? Send me an email on youth@qmagazine.com.au tell me who you want to be and how you plan to make your dream a reality.



q circus: **NICA AUDITIONS**

Every year at around this time, young people with dreams about a serious future in the circus world start to prepare for the National Institute of Circus Arts (NICA) auditions. Applications are now open for auditions to be held around the country during September / October this year. Some have backgrounds in gymnastics, some in dance or martial arts and others come from a sporting background. However, all applicants share the desire to become professional circus artists. Since 2001, NICA has been preparing Australia's leading circus and physical theatre performers for exciting international careers. As Australia's centre of excellence in contemporary circus arts, NICA offers intensive training in custom-built, award-winning facilities by trainers who are among the world's top performers and educators.



Audition dates and venues: Melbourne: Wednesday 29 September, Thursday 30 September & Thursday 7 October (NICA, Prahran); Brisbane: Monday 4 October (Flipside Circus, Alderley); Sydney: Tuesday 5 October (Aerialize, Marrickville). Auditions in Perth and Adelaide will be held subject to the number of applicants.

Applications close on: Friday 3 September 2010 for local applicants (attending auditions) and Friday 17 September 2010 for international and geographically remote applicants (applying by DVD/ Video). Applicants are required to register for an audition via the NICA website at www.nica.com.au or by phoning NICA on 03 9214 6975.

Q epicure: with PAUL PANAYI

Café Sydney Level 5, Customs House, 31 Alfred Street, Circular Quay, NSW (03) 9251 8683 Modern Australian



The thing I miss most about living in Sydney is the view of the Sydney Harbour. Where better then to take in these delights than Café Sydney? The distinctly understated name belies the sheer sassiness of this Sydney hot spot. Make your way up to Level Five to the rooftop of the Sydney Customs House. As you get out of the elevator, you are immediately greeted by spectacular views of the Opera House and the Harbour Bridge. It's one of the best views in the city.

A stylish cocktail lounge awaits you on arrival. The cocktails menu is extensive. I had a dry martini. I'm very particular about my martinis, and there are only six places in Australia I'd risk ordering one. It was excellent. Now there are seven.

Moving to the outdoor terrace for dinner was a treat. I got us a table right on the glass balcony. My somewhat delicate dining companion from Sydney was concerned about the cold. "But, you're from Melbourne!" he protested. Despite the risk, the overhead gas heating kept us toasty all night and we got the prime position for the million-dollar view.

We started off with a platter of Moreton Bay Bugs to share. These were the largest I've ever seen. They were delectably fresh, just perfectly cooked and served with a creamy, zesty mayonnaise sauce and fresh lemon. For main, it was the grilled sword fish for me, served with chorizo cassoulet, fennel cream and brown butter. My friend had twice cooked pork belly, with caramelised pear, speck, pistachio and jus. We shared a desert of coconut panna cotta, with coconut sorbet and fresh mango.

The food was excellent. The wine list was extensive, expensive and voluminous. However, there were 48 excellent wines available by the glass; one of the largest by-the-glass selections in town. But we had several bottles of a dreamy Sancerre, because we were very thirsty (at least that was my excuse). The service was brilliant and our waiter was flirting outrageously all night in that very Sydney way that makes you think they are after more than just a big tip.

I really loved this place. It was elegant, ever so sophisticated, and very very Sydney. Bookings are essential and make sure you do so well in advance as it is always full at the end of the week. There were lots of celebrities hanging around the cocktail lounge, which is also a popular Friday night drinks venue.

When you are next in Sydney, treat yourself to a splendid night out at this divine location. For a delicious dinner (liquid or otherwise), Café Sydney is very now. My friend wrote his number on the back of the invoice and gave it to our spunky waiter as we paid. A call came through within minutes of our departure. He got a big tip. How Sydney!

Open: Monday - Friday noon -11pm, Saturday 5 -11pm, Sunday noon - 4pm Prices: Entree \$24 - \$26, Main \$32 - \$39, Dessert \$17 - 18 Chef: Matt Bates Seats: Roof top; indoor or outdoor seating

POSITION VACANT

We are looking for a highly motivated experienced self starter for the position of Sales Executive with our publication.

Q Magazine is the ONLY A5 free to street full gloss publication of its kind for the LGBT community of Melbourne and Australia and is now in its seventh year of publication.

Immediate start. Full time or part time. Non gender or age specific. Knowledge of Victoria's LGBT business community would be an advantage.

Retainer & Commission negotiable for successful applicant.

Send detailed CV to Q Magazine P.O. Box 7479 St. Kilda Road VIC 8004 or email editor@qmagazine.com.au

q candidate: **KEVIN EKENDAHL**



Kevin Ekendahl is the only out and proud gay candidate standing for election to the House of Representatives for either of the major parties in this year's Federal election. He works for a charity as the General Manager - Social Enterprises and has also worked in the media sales industry for a number of years.

He is very involved with the GLBTI community - volunteering with MIDSUMMA Festival, MQFF and other community organisations - and is a keen runner and member of the FrontRunners club. He is also a keen supporter of the Melbourne Chargers for which his partner plays.

I met Kevin at the 2010 Pride March Victoria and caught up again with him recently to find out more about the man and what he stands for. I hope the following questions allow you to make an informed choice come election day. I wish him and all the candidates the best of luck and hope the men men and women are elected for the health and wealth of our great nation.

What Federal seat are you contesting? Who currently holds it and what swing do you need to win it?

I am running for the seat of Melbourne Ports, which covers the suburbs from Port Melbourne to St Kilda and St Kilda East to Caulfield and Elwood. It has been held by the Labor Party for more than 100 years. The swing required to win this seat is 7.2% which may seem quite high, however, there has been some significant changes in the electorate in the past three years, which makes this seat quite winnable for me.

Why should voters in that electorate vote for you (as opposed to the current member)? What plans or policies do you bring to the table for consideration?

While being out and about in the electorate, people are telling me that they feel their vote has been taken for granted. Because this seat has been held by Labor for more than 100 years, the party has become a bit complacent.

I hope people will vote for me because I am energetic and enthusiastic about representing them. I certainly won't take their vote for granted and will stand up for the people in my local community. I am passionate about making a difference and I will fight to ensure we remove any discrimination in the law, fight for equality and ensure we live in safer neighbourhoods.



We have recently seen politicians toe the party line in respect to rather important issues to the LGBTI community. What is your view on Same Sex Marriage and will you maintain this view if elected or simply follow the party line (if it is opposed to your current beliefs)?

There are a number of issues that affect the LGBTI community which I am concerned about. I want to ensure all Australians are treated equally before the law and I will fight to remove any discrimination that exists in current legislation. I will also ensure that any future legislation does not discriminate against anyone in our community, but treats every citizen with equality and with respect.

What are the main issues you believe voters should be considering before making their decision at the ballot box on August 21?

Over the last few weeks I have been meeting many people all over the electorate. I have also been speaking to many people in our community about LGBTI issues, however, most people that I speak to are very concerned about ending Labor's waste and bringing the budget back into surplus. They have also been speaking about raising standards in education, providing for safer neighbourhoods and taking real action on water and the environment.



I am part of a team that will bring about real action on these issues.

q people: with MARC J PORTER

Masculine and sexy model Bryan Slater has been appearing in porn and strutting his stuff around New York for some years now. Bryan has appeared in such flicks as International Studs from Lucas Entertainment and Distraction from Titan Men.

Tell us about your new film Jock Park from Ray Dragon, who was your scene partner and how much fun did you have?

I had a great time shooting Jock Park, I got to work with lots of gorgeous studs like David Chase, Mike Dreyden, Chad Brock and Colin Steele, these sexy men are the new breed of American gay porn stars.

On your wonderful blog Bryan Slater XXX you have this kinky habit of showing your bits in weird and wonderful places, it's called Whip It Out Wednesday, have you ever been caught?

Ha! Thanks. I haven't been caught... yet. Last summer, I was asked to be the first guest host for a new event at The Ice Palace on Fire Island called WHIP IT OUT WEDNESDAY. I had such a good time, I decided to see if I could translate it into a Twitter event. That way, the guys who couldn't actually make it out to The Ice Palace could feel like they could still participate. I'll be guest hosting the event again this summer and have confirmed dates on June 23rd and 30th!

I loved you in Titan Men's Triage, you looked like you had a good time, will you keep working with Titan Men in the future?

Thank you! I love working for Titan. Other than TRIAGE, I also appear in Titan's BATTLE CREEK BREAKDOWN and DISTRACTION. Brian Mills, Paul Wilde and Patrick O'Conner have been so good to me there. I look forward to working for them again!

You have a very large package I must say, does this get you things you usually wouldn't and how do your scene partners take it?

Ha! Well, as I've said before, it's all about my bits and my abs. The rest of me is just along for the ride. Uh, most of the scene partners have no problem. I've been told that because of the way it curves slightly upward, it hits the right spot!

Who has been your fave scene partner so far and why?

Ooohh... I get asked that pretty often and I am reluctant to give a definitive, one-name answer because I've enjoyed most of my scene partners. In my newest film, JOCK PARK, Spike and I had a really great time. It was such an easy scene to shoot because Spike is such a pro. Similarly, I loved working with my buddy, Race Cooper, for his website Edger9.com. He's a total pro, too, and just one of the funniest, hottest guys in the business. I had a fantastic, on-camera connection with Scott Alexander (in Titan's Distraction) and with super-sexy Dean Flynn (in Titan's Battle Creek Breakdown). Ugh. I've totally whimped out on your question by giving you four names and I still haven't mentioned gorgeous Ludovic Canot!

What else does Bryan Slater get up to besides porn?

I actually lead a really quiet, normal life when not performing or modeling. I enjoy museums and the theater. Wow. I sound so boring.

You live in New York, I love visiting it, what is the gay scene like for someone who lives there?

The gay scene in New York is exactly what you make of it. If you are inclined to attend a lot of events, there are several every night of the week. As I said, I'm really quiet and unassuming in my everyday life. I have, however, enjoyed participating in Mike Dreyden's WOOOF at View Bar and Will Clark's PORN BINGO at Pieces Bar. I'd love to do something at The Cock sometime and maybe at Colton Ford's DILF. Oh! I almost forgot... I'm scheduled to appear at Will Clark's BAD BOYS ON THE HUDSON this summer with Michael Brandon, Colin Steele and Mike Dreyden. Sounds like naughty fun!

Do you ever get recognised when you're out and about?

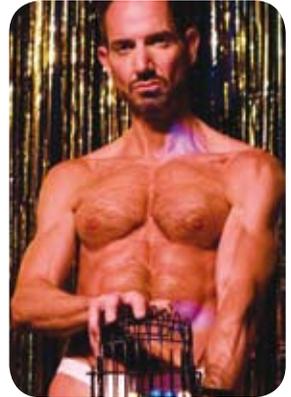
All the time. I'm on the cover of NEXT Magazine here in NYC. It's so exciting.

Are there any hidden talents to Bryan that we might not know?

I tap dance and crochet. Not at the same time. But all porn stars do that. Ray Dragon makes me submit 6 granny squares and do a clean triple time step before I enter the set. That's normal, right?

Finally, will you ever come visit Australia and do some club appearances? We'd love to see you down under.

I WOULD LOVE IT! I've never been to Oz! Someone needs to make that happen... preferably during the summer so I could get naked on Bondi Beach. My head is swimming at the idea! I've been told Australia has some of the best clubs and hottest guys in the world. And, I would love to pose for Simon Le, do a scene for Bentley Race, make out with my online boyfriend, Richie. And, of course, meet you, Marc Porter!



q drag: **AND THE AWARD GOES TO...**

Awards nights are not new to Melbourne. Alan Mayberry, one of the founders of the original Rainbows, looks at how the tradition began and the many guises they have taken.

From the 90s Sydney had its glamorous Diva Awards and before long Melbourne had its own community achievement awards. Sydney's **Drag Industry Variety Awards** celebrated drag queens, and the talented people who make up the local gay entertainment industry. It started off at DCM nightclub in Oxford Street. For over a decade they were the city's most glamorous event held at many venues from the Sydney Town Hall, Hordern Pavillion, Fox Studios to Star City Casino. In 2009 they were scaled back and held at The Bourbon on Kings Cross, but were a shadow of their former glory. A not-for-profit company ensured that the Awards stayed independent. In 2011 they will take place at the Museum of Contemporary Art and do a back flip, again focusing on the best of drag as performers and hosts.

In Melbourne, where Pokeys reigned supreme at the Prince of Wales, the late Jan Hillier got the ball rolling in the 80s by presenting annual, witty Australia Day Awards. The Xchange tried the Moccasin awards. But these were not enough. When the Fantasy Ball was attracting 700 people a year, its organisers decided Melbourne needed an awards night on a grand scale to match Sydney.

What resulted was **The Rainbow Awards** (Hillier wanted them to be called the Melbas but lost out to the memory Garland and *The Wizard of Oz*). They were first presented at The Palace in St Kilda in 1993 hosted by drag icon Maria Venuti.

But the Sydney Divas and Logies set very high standards and it wasn't long before expectations of the Rainbows exceeded the limits of the Palace, with its off quoted sleazy night club reputation. Brighton International Receptions, complete with marble colonnade, manicured garden and curved drive way, fitted the bill for an upgrade, providing quality food and wine but with the nightmare of having to import the stage and equipment. More than 600 people were happy to pay the cost. Those were the days when venues each booked 3-4 tables. The best-dressed award encouraged people to dress up and arrive in limousines.

The aim was to please everyone - community and venue alike. All the serious awards were over and done with between the entree and the main course. By the end of the night, at least the drunks were only heckling the big-name drag queens, who were quite capable of giving as good as they got.

The fairness of the voting system was always questioned. While each of the Rainbow's lavish production numbers were subsidised by venues, the committee felt it vital the awards themselves be autonomous. The public needed to have confidence in the fairness of the voting. A very hard task even in the days of pre-online voting. There was never any way to completely abolished cheating, apart from disqualifying similar handwriting, and the Metropolitan Community Church did the counting.

That first generation Rainbow Awards did a lot to unite a diverse selection of the community. Headliners like Rhonda Burchmore, Julie Anthony and John Michael Howson added to the prestige of the night and were helped by political heavies like John Thwaites, Rob Hulls and Lord Mayor John So. But there were disasters as everyone remembers, especially the night in 40 degree temperatures when the smoke machine went haywire and forced the evacuation of the ballroom, while the compere Simone Troy got more and more 'under the weather' as the night went on.



In 1997 the Awards were taken over by GLADE an off shoot of ALSO set up by Bruce McNicol. Moving to the National Theatre the ticket price dropped by half along with the number of awards catering to drag entertainment. The result a dismal failure, with fewer than 300 attending. Kerrie Le Gore and Miss Candee were asked to be in the background of a production number featuring Sarah Pax singing live. Le Gore said: 'Certainly, anything to help the cause. What colour would you like us in?' An instant answer was not possible as the committee had to meet to deliberate – finally the artistic director replied, 'Shades of sepia brown and mauve.' Le Gore snapped: 'You're not after showgirls, you're after the cast of *The Sullivans*. Try ringing Crawford's!' Luckily Miss Candee managed to add some glamour by sneaking in a Victory roll and full-length simulated sepia mink, and Kerrie presented the Hall of Fame.

There followed a succession of events with the **PRIDE Awards** held first at the DOME and then the San Remo Ballroom. A great time was had by all but the trophy categories were criticised. Three times with Pride and Diva Awards it was felt everyone went home with a prize, taking away credibility. Dulcie sent it up at DTs saying everyone got one - even Auntie Glad for being 100!!!

The most glamorous gay awards night Melbourne has ever seen was the 1999 **Melbourne Divas** at Crown Casino. But it came at a huge cost with Carlotta headlining and stepping out of a Rolls Royce driven onstage. But the glamour almost sent the organisers to bankruptcy.

In 2003, a decade after their birth, the Rainbows returned for 4 years organised by the now defunct Bnews and held at the Lido in Hawthorn and finally the Lincoln Centre in Trak. But it was questioned if there was enough turn over of shows and talent to warrant an annual event - biannual being a better option.

In 2008 ALSO took the reins again with a formal and glamorous sit down function at the former RACV Centre, but it too came at a high cost. This year saw a return to the National Theatre to help reduce presentation costs. But to many it was an unacceptable compromise.

Now the Peel's Tom McFeely hopes to restore some of that prestige and is proposing a November Awards Night dubbed the Gay Retail and Hospitality Awards Melbourne (The GRAHAMs). Many link that name more with Graham Kennedy and Swanston Street's favorite gay drinking hole of the 60s the Graham Hotel!

Tom sees it as 'an industry night for gay business owners, workers and performers to kick up their heels'. He stresses it is not an attempt to upstage the community-based ALSO Awards as the two serve different purposes. He thinks there is room for both – the community can be more focused around the ALSO Awards and be given the respect they're due, and those who want the flamboyance and a more sit down scenario can have it.

He claims, 'Personally, I think trying to mix industry and community in that type of night, does not work. The gradual decrease in venue-based awards hasn't been a good thing. Most venues see the awards as their once-a-year self-congratulatory pat on the back for their peers.

We want one night of the year when we can take the staff out, enjoy ourselves and be just with our peers - and it's normally been the staff Christmas party as well. I'm not asking a community organisation to necessarily facilitate this. I'm quite comfortable organising this event and obviously helping to fund it. I'm thinking in the region of 200-plus guests.'

Let's hope the vision succeeds and the awards continue in some cabaret form. To me you really need 400 people at least to give a sense of occasion. As Paris says 'if you're cooking a roast you may as well make it as a feast not a famine!'

As one correspondent to MCV said 'the danger is that we will end up with so many awards nights that everyone will get awards fatigue and no one will turn up for any. We still need to show there is unity in the Melbourne community and this means everyone participating.'

No matter what the outcome, the one thing missing will be the gorgeous Vivien St James as hostess. She raised the Awards stakes from the Palace in St Kilda to the Palace on Broadway!



Support real action.

Kevin Ekenda

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KEVIN EKENDAHL has the energy and dedication to tackle the real issues important to our community and get real results.

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To find out more about Kevin visit
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ahl
SPORTS

q review: **TURTLE COVE RESORT**

I caught the Queensland rail's Tilt Train for a night departure to Cairns - twenty four hours of sitting back and watching the passing panorama of the Queensland country-side. At sunset the next day I was in Cairns. Business class had plenty of leg room, my single seat having both window and aisle access and a small screen with 14 channels of entertainment to play with. Discovery Tours North Queensland were there early to whisk us away to Turtle Cove Beach Resort.



There has been plenty written and I know there has been a lot said about the comings and goings at Turtle Cove. The new owners have taken these on board and started renovating guest rooms with refreshing soft furnishings, new furniture, a new paint job, the installation of new wall mounted flat screen TVs (with many more channels), and the replanting of the gardens. There was a new menu and an even newer one coming. The chef was great. I found all the staff were all smiling people with a professional attitude and that personal touch. The private beach for many is Turtle Cove's best asset. I spent the whole day seeing evidence that others were in the same pursuit. Some energetic worker queens even attended to the decor on the beach repositioning the rocks and concocting some clever art pieces.



At the sandbar I spoke with Robert on his first time to Turtle Cove - over from New Zealand. He loved it so much he booked for Christmas.

On my last night I was joined by Kelvin & Jacinta (the new owners). I took the opportunity to ask them what the future holds for Turtle Cove. They see a bright future for Turtle Cove and have no intentions of turning the place into a Str8.



From what I've seen, Turtle Cove is still here and still Queer! If we keep going and going - it will stay that way. I enjoyed the weekend and look forward to coming back.

Wally Cowin traveled as a guest of Queensland Rail, Discovery Tours North Queensland and Turtle Cove Resort. For further information visit www.turtlecove.com OR www.galta.com.au

ICONIC PERFORMER TO APPEAR IN FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND. The legendary Carlotta is heading north for an appearance **EXCLUSIVELY** at Turtle Cove Beach Resort with her award winning "CARLOTTA LIVE AND INTIMATE" one woman show.

Possibly Australia's best known drag queen Carlotta started out as a boy from Sydney's working class Balmain. Her sex change operation in the early 1970's was not the first such procedure in Australia but because of her celebrity status it became the first to receive publicity here.

Carlotta began her career as an original member of the long running Les Girls Cabaret Show in Sydney's infamous Kings Cross and rose through the ranks and soon became the show's compare and most famous member. Her career has seen her perform to adoring crowds across Australia as well as through out New Zealand, the United States and Europe.

Carlotta was the inspiration behind the motion picture Pricilla Queen of the Desert and has appeared in numerous television productions including Number 96 - the soap opera which so shocked the Australian viewing public in the 1970's - and on the long running panel show Beauty and the Beast.

CARLOTTA - LIVE AND INTIMATE gives a glimpse of the life and times of Carlotta in words, music and on the screen with all the Las Vegas style and glamour we have come to expect from this truly polished performer.

Carlotta will be performing exclusively at Turtle Cove Resort on Saturday September 18th. For tickets or further information contact the resort at info@turtlecove.com or on 07 40 591800

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Want to improve your strength & increase your flexibility?

Functional Training is the way to go. Functional Training incorporates exercises that mimic the active motions of your body during daily activities.

Functional Training uses your body's own weight, together with free weights such as dumb bells and bars, rather than machines. The whole body is given a great workout and develops functional strength, as opposed to linear or brute strength. This result is better coordination, balance and stability, meaning that you can move about with greater ease and less effort. You will also find an increase of strength and flexibility to your core. Functional Training develops the body in a natural, rather than artificial manner and this can only provide better results

The alternative of course is single muscle training, or Isolated exercise which utilise machines and simplistic weight training and has no real advantages if wanting to improve overall strength. The only time Isolated exercises are recommended is during rehabilitation or for body building, where the goal is to work on a single muscle.

Time and time again, research shows that regular exercise brings about other benefits such as improvements to energy, better sleep and mood. Exercise can reduce stress and the symptoms of depression. A training technique that integrates multiple muscles at the same time makes sense and feels more natural, as muscles never operate alone.

Here are some great functional exercises that will exercise your whole body and cover a wide range of muscles. They are very effective when performed with correct technique for overall body conditioning.

1) Push ups

For your chest, arms, abs, shoulders and back. You can start off with wall push ups and then after some practice, you can make use of the kitchen counter for added intensity, moving onto the floor as you build up strength over time.

2) Squats

Reflect common actions that we do throughout the day like reaching, lifting, bending involves an element of squatting or lunging. The functional exercises for legs are the squats. They help in strengthening the quadriceps and the gluteal muscles.

3) Back extensions

As we age, we find our posture changes and flexibility of the spine deteriorates. This functional exercise is used not just for the aging population but also for the young. This will help strengthening the back muscles as well as aid in the release of tension which can mount on the cervical disc.

4) Lunges

This is a functional exercise for runners. It retains the bending habits and gives free leg and back exercises at the same time. Doing this exercise properly helps in preventing back and knee pain.

5) Plank

A functional exercise that is very powerful in strengthening the core. The replacement to the old fashioned sit-up, this exercise helps protect the back while improving on back and abdomen strength.

(always consult your doctor or fitness specialist before commencing any new exercise)

I strongly recommend you stay active and incorporate functional movement and resistance training into your daily routine.

Go on, stop reading and start training!



q products: WHAT'S HOT

Fashion has long ceased to be "for women only". More and more men refine their style with eye-catching bags, accessories and purses. After all, men also want to carry their keys, mobile phones, credit cards and notebooks in a stylish way! And that's where Vienna-based design label URBAN TOOL comes into play with their men's collection of businessHolster, ihipHolster and pocketHolster bags. A perfect combination of form and functionality, these bags know how to impress a demanding male target group. URBAN TOOL's products are available on www.urbantool.com.au.



Urban guys need outfits and accessories that underline their personality. However, the products also need to be functional - after all, men are known to be sticklers for materials and technology. URBAN TOOL's stylish businessHolster, ihipHolster and pocketHolster bags live up to the highest demands. They are not just head-turning accessories but also the perfect choice to carry state-of-the-art gadgets, for instance with the ihipHolster's built-in iPod/iPhone functionality.



pocketBar the ideal iPad carry bag! Convenient shoulder bag in new pocket design, wearable around your body or around your waist. Individual pockets on the front side, roomy main pocket (20 x 28 cm, 7.87 x 11.02 in.) with waterproof zipper closing. Removable wearing strap. Durable and protective material, with carabiner and key strap with yo-yo.

Urban Tool is offering a 25% discount to all Q Magazine Readers on their full range of products. Type "qmagazine" into the Discount field at checkout in the ColouredLIME online store at www.colouredlime.com.au to get your 25% discount on Urban Tool products.

Australian electronics brand Tyagi has launched Australia's first 24" LED TV. Retailing for a mere \$525, the Tyagi 24" LED TV is the most affordable LED on the market - stocked exclusively at www.tyagi.com.au.

Combining A grade LCD panels with energy efficient LED backlights, the Tyagi 24" LED TV not only saves consumers money in the initial purchase, it will reduce their electricity bill and is better for the environment since Tyagi LED TVs use 50 per cent less energy than LCD TVs.

At only 2.2cm wide, the Tyagi 24" LED is Tyagi's slimmest television on offer. This ultra slim television also comes with a built in HD Tuner, eliminating the need for a HD set top box and making it ideal for small living spaces like apartments, caravans or yachts. It is also the first LED to run on 12V, which makes it appropriate for use in a caravan or boat.

The Tyagi 24" LED TV is sold online via the official Tyagi website and TV's are dispatched on the same day if purchase is made before 11am. Tyagi customers are also entitled to a seven day money back guarantee and a one year on-site warranty which provides customers with at-home service if something should go wrong.



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Sing-A-Long-A Sound of Music

Have you ever truly forgotten that glorious moment when Captain Von Trapp and Maria finally kiss? Re-live it and more when Sing-A-Long-A Sound of Music returns to the Canberra Theatre on Saturday 21 August 2010 (7:30pm).

Lovers of The Sound of Music (and what's not to love?) join in an

unforgettable interactive experience and tribute to the film that continues to have millions of hearts swelling.

Admit it, you know the words. Presented in full-screen technicolour with song lyrics accompanying each song, Sing-A-Long-A Sound of Music is an audience participation event where the surprise host leads a vocal warm-up, gives a guide to the use of the interactive fun pack and accompanying actions and (with a little help from the audience) judges the Costume Parade - a highlight of the night that separates the die-hards from the dabblers! And the costume turn out is truly inspiring! Sing-a-Long-A Sound of Music lovers dress up as anything and everything represented in the film. Nuns, the Alps (covered in shaving cream), "Ray" a drop of golden sun, brown paper packages tied up with string, goats (with or without lonely goatherds).



For further information go to www.singalonga.net

We have 2 double passes for our Canberra readers (or anyone who will be in Canberra on that date) so email getfree@qmagazine.com.au with **sound of music** in the subject line to see if you're a winner.



Q Magazine

Do you live outside a capital city? Would you like Q Magazine delivered to your front door for a full twelve months? Well you can get that happening by subscribing to Q Magazine (information on our website).

However this month, to celebrate my birthday, I am giving away 3 subscriptions to Q Magazine. You will receive a full twelve issues delivered to your door (valued at \$36).

Email getfree@qmagazine.com.au with **qmagazine** in the subject line to see if you're a winner and will enjoy reading Q Magazine for the next twelve months delivered to your front door.

* 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.

q tours: **KATIE UNDERWOOD**

BEAUTIFUL JAZZ TOUR 2010. Katie Underwood is set to enchant audiences and transport them to the glamour of a 1920s late night Jazz club with her Beautiful Jazz Tour in August. Katie and her band will be playing shows in Melbourne, Adelaide and Sydney where Katie proves she has talent and grace undeniably suited to the elegant and seductive jazz world.

Katie's debut album 'Ain't Nobody's Baby' highlights her sultry vocals which exquisitely deliver a selection of jazz standards and original songs penned by Katie herself, plus an exclusive jazz-infused recording of her classic dance hit 'Beautiful'. This album utilises Katie's versatility as a singer and also a songwriter creating music that no doubt inspires as well as excites.

Katie Underwood started her professional career in Australia in the year 2000 as a member of the pop group Bardot. The band was launched on the hugely successful TV program 'Popstars'. Bardot achieved massive success in Australia, New Zealand and Singapore, with more than double-platinum sales for their debut album and singles. Katie left the group in 2001.

In 2002 Katie returned to the music scene with Australian dance act Disco Montego. Together they had a HUGE hit with the song 'Beautiful'. The song was certified GOLD and peaked at No. 9 on the ARIA charts. It was a No. 1 Club hit, for which they also won an APRA award in 2003. Katie's association with Disco Montego continued with the follow up single 'Magic' which also featured on their Top 20 album, 'Disco Montego'. Katie's first solo single 'Danger' earned her another APRA nomination in 2004. Katie's song writing skills were again highlighted when her song Pop Trash, was released by South African and Serbian Idol winners in 2005 and 2006. More recently Katie worked with T-Funk on track 'Please Be Together', which was released by Ministry of Sound in June 2006 and went to No. 1 on the ARIA club chart.

Katie's career propelled her into television, working as a presenter in the Channel 7 series Undercover Angels as well as performing at numerous public, TV and charity events over the years. These include Carols in the Domain, Rumba, Fashion Rocks, Style Aid and Pride (Perth) to name a few. Her more recent appearances include a headline performance at the Opening of Melbourne's Midsumma Carnival in and SleazeBall in Sydney in 2006. Katie won the Rainbow Award for Best Live Performance in 2006.

Her first venture into theatre production was the comedy/burlesque musical, Dark Angels, in Melbourne in 2007, for which she also wrote 3 songs and starred in the lead role. Dolls, Doves and a Diva, was her next cabaret venture, produced for the Melbourne Comedy Festival 2008. She also recently starred in a successful season of David Tydd's musical Valentino in 2009, alongside her fellow Bardot band mate Tiffani Wood and Normie Rowe.

This year sees Katie Underwood transform into the jazz soulstress she was born to be! These intimate shows around the country are not to be missed as Katie mesmerises her audience with class and a voice that truly belongs in the ambience and mood of a live jazz setting.

Tour Dates:

Melbourne

Thursday 12th August - Red Bennies

Adelaide

Thursday 19th August - The Promethean

Sydney

Friday 20th August - The Vanguard

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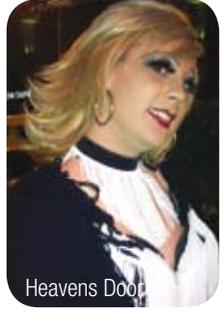
q scene: **OUT & ABOUT**



Heavens Door



Heavens Door
Play R 'n' B



Heavens Door



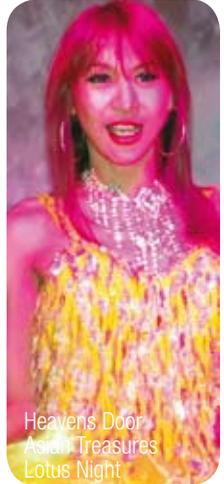
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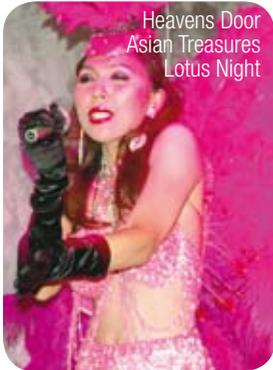
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Asian Treasures
Lotus Night



HD



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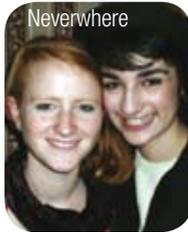
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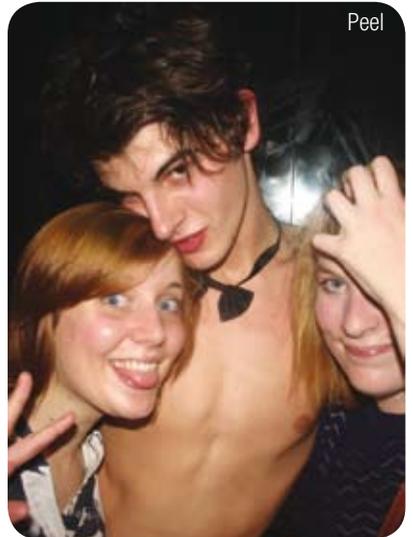


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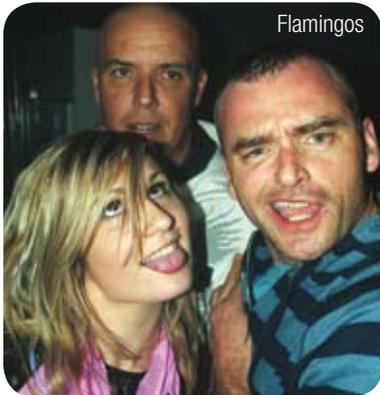
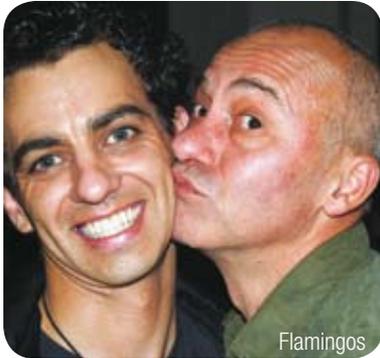
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q scene: **OUT & ABOUT**





q scene: **OUT & ABOUT**





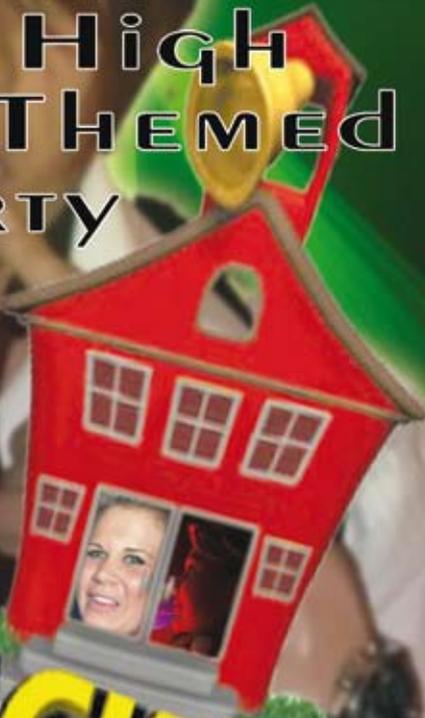
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q current affairs: **ASH HOGAN**

Ash has been a long term friend of Q Magazine and I am so delighted he has agreed to come back to the writing team as our current affairs/foreign correspondent. I look forward to many interesting and thought-provoking articles from Ash - sent in from the gay mecca itself, San Francisco.

The demise of the Howard era in 2007 brought a number of changes to the Australian political landscape. Campaign “Kevin ‘07” was a runaway success; not only did the Australian Labor party form the right to govern for the first time since the 1990’s, but even the Honourable John Howard was evicted from his seat of Bennelong by television identity Maxine McKew from the ABC. It was as Queen Elizabeth II put it several years previously, “Annus horribilis” for the former Coalition party. The question that remains is whether a three year redemption plus the actions of the incumbent Gillard government will be enough to force a change of Prime Minister and governing party in the upcoming August 21 poll.



Both parties have tussled with policies, pragmatism and leadership since that eventful 2007 date. Julia Gillard spent almost one quarter of her time during the first elected term of government as acting Prime Minister, ousting Kevin Rudd as “Kevin 747” and eventually utilizing the powerbrokers of the Labor Party to throw him out altogether. I bet he wish that Julia hadn’t done such a great seat-warming job. Whether the leadership spill was right will be decided within this five-week campaign. But the Coalition government also faced its own demons; Peter Costello finally declared he wasn’t interested in being the Opposition leader, and we soon learned that Brendan Nelson and Malcolm Turnbull weren’t party fit either. It took our first “budgie smuggler” leader Tony Abbott to bring back a combination of Howard era policies combined with a fresh 2010 touch to reignite the party faithful; suggesting that perhaps the Liberals and Nationals could make a change and stand up for “real action” and combat the Labor policy push of “moving forward”.

Australian politics have never been without controversy. Whether it is the ousting of Whitlam, or the endorsing of Gillard, our country rises to antagonize and embrace change. Party faithful lines move frequently; the committed these days need to be a hardcore bunch to hang around at the much-maligned televised events showing victors versus losers. Policies that start with the left can be disparaged by the right; but depending on what day, what time, and what minister is under fire, can move from move from conceptual to legislation in short increments of time. We are clearly an unsatisfied nation who demands the best, but are unsure how it should be delivered and by what medium.

For the first time in a long time, we are electing a leader of our country based on a popularity contest. If anyone thought the impact on the Sunrise programme on the Seven Network had little impact on “Kevin ‘07”, then have a think about Gillard versus Abbott on the Today Show produced by the Nine Network. We have had the opportunity to score both potential leaders at a social level for at least 12 months; whether we like or dislike them, we have seen them flirt and drink coffee before 9am once a week for at least a year. Is it enough to form a voter perspective? Well given breakfast television now out rates the nightly news on a regular basis, it’s a given that some voters will be swayed by the Gillard/Abbott love fest. In fact it could be the only voting decision some of the electoral brethren make this year subject to their work and life commitments. Quite frankly television and social media on this campaign will have a significant impact on how we vote and in what manner.

So. Gillard versus Abbott. Labor versus Coalition. Where is the difference, which is forcing changes to policy, which is making a definitive change for a better Australia? Well according to Greens Federal leader Bob Brown, neither. Savaging a “breathtaking lack of vision” from both the ALP and the federal coalition, he suggests that only his party will force Australians to realize real issues through their balance of power approach in the Senate, where a veto against the norm can be held. But we have trusted the independents before; will we ever forget the Democrats roll over on the GST and Cheryl Kermot’s affair with not only the Labor Party but also Gareth Evans. Now that was a bitter pill to swallow, and one that came with a lot of baggage.

The most important thing you can do on August 21 is vote. Make sure you stand up for our country and invest in our future. Whilst “Gillard ‘10”, “Abbott for budgie smuggler” and “Bob is Green” don’t hold the same conversational weight, consider this. Failure to vote may lead to the chaos and election of people and policies we likely don’t want. So get out and make it happen Australia. Our future is in your hands.

Ashley Hogan is an Australian writer based in San Francisco, who calls the world home.

q books: **MARC RICHARD ANDREWS**

Debut novel from Marc Andrews **Revelations: 2 Weeks In Tel Aviv** out now to commemorate first anniversary of August 1, 2009 gay hate crime shooting in Tel Aviv

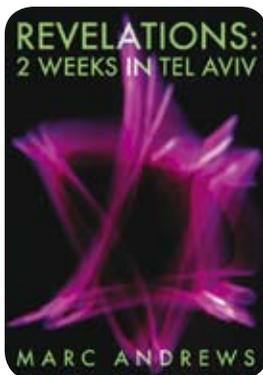
As a journalist with over 20 years' experience, Marc Andrews has made his name in the media and entertainment industry. He is currently assistant editor at "industry bible" MEDIAWEEK trade journal.

On August 1, 2010 Andrews unveiled his debut novel, *Revelations: 2 Weeks In Tel Aviv*, based around a real-life incident. Exactly one year ago, on August 1, 2009 a masked gunman burst into a gay youth centre in Tel Aviv killing two innocent victims and injuring eight more, before miraculously disappearing never to be found again.

Andrews' novel chronicles David, an Australian man visiting his Israeli boyfriend in the Holy Land who finds his life unravelling around him. Simultaneously Yaniv, an ex-gay fundamentalist, arrives in Tel Aviv to commit what he considers to be an act of God. As these two very different men's paths collide, amid one of the most callous gay hate crimes in recent memory, both David and Yaniv, hero and villain alike, must confront and question their pasts, their fears and their very beliefs.

Andrews was in Tel Aviv at the time of the shooting, returning for a month in January 2010 to research his book and speak to some of those present when this terrible tragedy occurred. *Revelations: 2 Weeks In Tel Aviv* is an exceptional novel, both confronting and unsettling, but ultimately life-affirming. It is available through marcandrewsblog.blogspot.com.

All proceeds from this book will be donated to ORAM international, the global organisation that advocates for refugees fleeing sexual or gender-based violence.



q forum: **REGIONAL HEALTH**

Gay and Lesbian Rural Health and Wellbeing Forum to look at strategies to ensure inclusion to services - Take Care OutBack There Rural Health and Wellbeing Forum 2 to 4 September at the Pines Conference Centre in Beechworth.

What do GPs need to think about when taking a medical history from a lesbian? How do rural services make sure that they are accessible and welcoming to a transgender person? What strategies can gay and lesbian people use to address homophobia and violence in small country towns? "In many ways we have moved in leaps and bounds in terms of equal rights for gays and lesbians over recent years." Adam Wright, Executive Officer of Country Awareness Network, one of the organisations involved in the forum said. "But just because laws change, doesn't mean that services or communities are any more responsive to issues related to sexual orientation and gender identity," Adam added. "In some small rural communities homophobic attitudes are magnified and never more evident to the gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender people living there. That can be a very isolating experience."



The Forum is an opportunity for all who care about improving the health and wellbeing of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) people who live work or play in rural, regional and remote communities. It also acknowledges some of the barriers to inclusion that are unique to the GLBT community, these might include heterosexist attitudes or practices that some services may not even be aware that they are displaying.

{also} is particularly pleased to be a part of this important social forum. CEO Crusader Hillis said, "{also}'s role in Regional and rural Victoria is set to grow in coming years, and this forum will provide an important litmus test for what the crucial issues are in regards to health and wellbeing and being queer in the country. I encourage our metropolitan organisations and representatives to take this opportunity to learn about these issues and to incorporate them in their planning processes for an all-Victoria inclusive approach to services."

Take Care Out Back There Rural Health and Wellbeing Forum is currently calling for abstracts and for expressions of interest in attending the Forum. See www.takecare.org.au for further information.

Q travel: with **BARRIE MAHONEY**

'Tweeters from the Atlantic'



Barrie Mahoney was a teacher, head teacher and school inspector in the UK, as well as a reporter in Spain, before moving to the Canary Islands as a newspaper editor. He is still enjoying life in the sun as a writer and author.

The Beautiful Game? I have always hated sport. Yes, I've said it aloud at last and I feel much better for it! It stems from the days when I attended my grammar school in Lincolnshire. I still have nightmares about those cold, wet and interminably long Thursday afternoons on the rugby field wishing, begging and pleading for the game to be over for another week, and I could return inside to the warmth. There were just so many things that I did not understand. Why was the ball that stupid shape anyway? I could see the point of football, but we were neither allowed to mention, let alone play soccer from the moment that we arrived at that ghastly institution at the tender age of eleven until we managed to escape its clutches forever.

Maybe it had something to do with having to wear my brother's elderly rugby boots. I really do believe that Noah had this particular pair in a cupboard in the Ark - just waiting for one of the tribe to play rugby! By the time they were handed down to me they were real antiques and, my goodness, didn't the other boys let me know it! They were made from painfully strong, inflexible leather and how my feet hurt afterwards. What I would have given for a pair of modern Nikes! Most of all it was the weather. It was always cold, wet and foggy and how I wished I didn't have to be the hooker yet again!

However, I quickly learned escape tactics. Although I couldn't physically escape from the game, match or whatever it was called, unless I had yet another sick note from my mother, I did retreat into my own very special world. Daydream, make-believe or fantasy, whatever you like to call it, but it was a far better place to be and I spent much of my time there. This probably explains why I was always the last boy to be chosen for the team. Mind you, this world of my own special creation is still a wonderful place to be, and, now that I am a writer, it has proved to be invaluable resource. Maybe I did learn something from that place after all.

I now realise that the main reason that I hated sport so much was that I couldn't actually see the ball! Not very well anyway, and so maybe things would have been very different if that little problem had been corrected many years ago. Nevertheless, I suspect that I would always have day-dreamed and my own special world was never very far away. Athletics, and javelin throwing in particular, were yet another issue of considerable concern. Readers may be relieved to know that teachers quickly realised that letting me loose with a javelin was not a good idea and forced me to 'put the shot' or 'shot the put' (I can never remember which it is) instead.

Over the last few weeks, my attitudes and opinions have gradually changed because of the World Cup. I have seen the pleasure, involvement and excitement of local Spanish and Canarian people, as well as people of all nationalities visiting the islands on holiday. It has brought welcome relief at a time when we all need a break from the recession, financial and work problems, politicians, corruption and all the usual things that plague our daily lives. I love to hear the cheers and groans from the bars as yet another goal or penalty followed by the crazy tooting of car horns, cheering, fireworks and tremendous camaraderie following the recent Spanish victories on the playing field.

Possibly, I am a reformed sports person and maybe I have finally changed my mind about football after watching the World Cup finals. I now realise that perhaps I should have given it a far better shot than I have so far. Maybe in a different time and place, I would have done. Even so, it doesn't change my mind about that game of the Devil - cricket, but that's a story for another time!

If you enjoyed this article, take a look at Barrie's websites: www.barriemahoney.com and www.thecanaryislander.com or read his latest novel, 'Journeys and Jigsaws' (ISBN: 9781843865384).

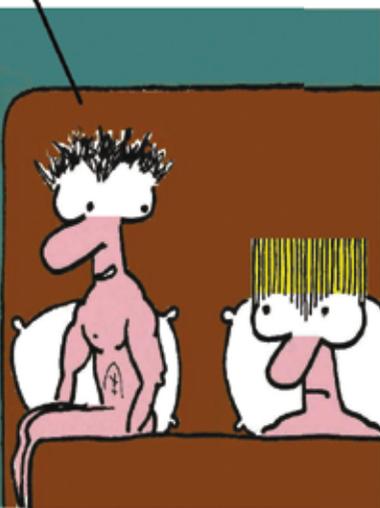
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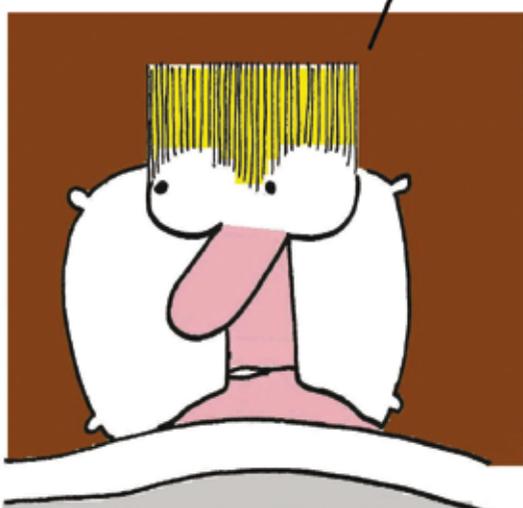
Gaylord Blade

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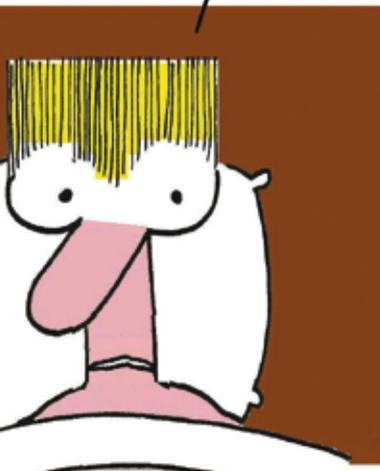
Gotta go, Gaylord. I'm SEXED-OUT!
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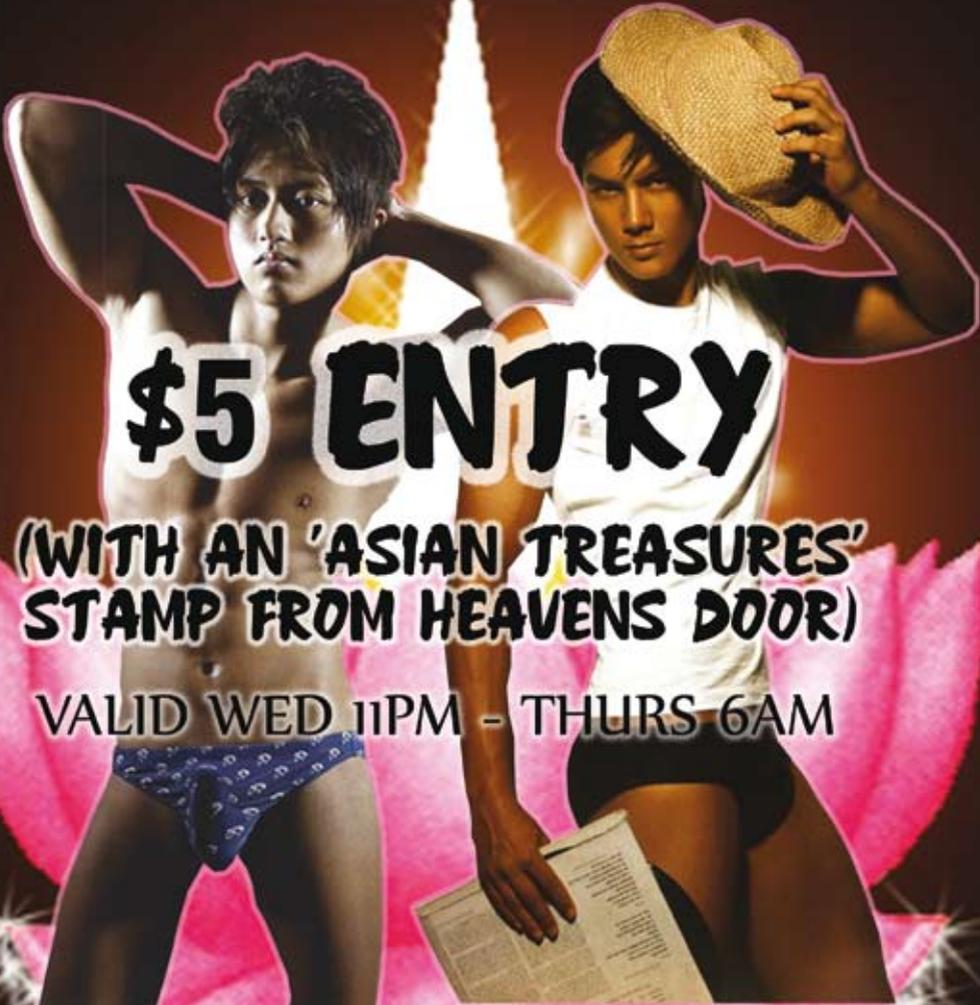


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