



December 2005

Q MAGAZINE



Including:

2nd Instalment of our
special Q Cosmetic,
Introducing Q Beauty,
Miss Daisy drives the
"Gay Car of the Year",
Introducing Queer Wine,
Q Travel goes Gardening,
Q Invest, Q Fashion File,
and even more.

*From all of us at Q Magazine - we hope you have a safe and
happy 2005 Festive Season and that 2006 brings you
everything your heart desires. Thank you for your support.
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December 2005

Issue 20

This week was a huge week for some in our community - as the annual winners of the Rainbow Awards.

Due to timing [which means we would have needed the results prior to the evening], we can only bring you two of the winners. We, at Q Magazine, however, would like to congratulate all winners and trust the best man/woman/event/venue won. Particular congratulations to our two political candidates - Hon. John Thwaites - Community Supporter of the Year - and Cr. Darren Ray - Man of the Year.

Well we have finally come to the end of the Calendar competition at Heaven @ 151. Congratulations to all the monthly winners - I look forward to seeing the calendar in 2006 and the start of a new Calendar competition as well. Q Magazine has been proud to sponsor this competition and thank Brian and his team at Heaven@151 for the opportunity.

Please remember to play safe throughout the Festive Season. Many events, parties and the like will be happening - try not to end up a statistic. Slip Slop Slap if you're out in the Sun, and use a condom if your fun involves someone else.

Finally, I am extremely pleased to announce another two editorial additions - Q Beauty and Queer Wine. When added to the incredible editorial content we already have, Q Magazine is now the most lifestyle orientated magazine of its kind in the country. My sincerest gratitude to our fabulous writers - all of whom deserve Rainbow Awards of their own.

Hoping you enjoy your Q! See you in all the best places throughout Australia again in January for Melbourne's MIDSUMMA Carnival.

Have a Great One!



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driving: with MISS DAISY

"GAY Car of the Year"

Finally! A Sports car that has two seats without the superfluous "back seat" that no-one could fit in anyway. This space dedicated instead to a handy and accessible storage compartment.

I invited [rather tall] Mark from the Saville South Yarra to test drive the Gay Car of the Year – the Holden Tigrā – not only because of his height but also the location of the Saville – being on our Gay strip. Pleasingly, it was not a squeeze at all – with ample leg room and seat adjustability to fit just about anyone.

We started by effortlessly lowering the electronic roof, strapping ourselves into the body hugging leather sports seats, and firmly clasp ing the padded leather steering wheel. Fortunately there were no police patrolling at the time, so we got from the Saville to the bridge in a very short time. The Tigrā has amazing pick up without the feeling of inertia one often feels – and the gears glide very easily from one to five. The ride is also very comfortable – something not common in sports cars.

Stereo playing [the Tigrā has a CD/MP3/Radio fitted] it was time to cruise Commercial Road. You certainly get noticed in this stylishly cute little number (which is also the case inside the vehicle – the sleek lines, simple and uncluttered controls, and the very visible and easy to operate [from the steering wheel] centre control display panel are a true delight).

Once back at the Saville, we played a while – learning all we could about this gorgeous little thing – and discovered that even the boot was electronically controlled – very cute indeed. It should probably be said that two gay boys on a holiday would find it difficult to place their cosmetic bags in the somewhat limited boot space – but that just means sharing for a change.

Holden – you are definitely on a winner here – it is little wonder why you won Gay Car of the Year with the Tigrā! The Tigrā is also as cute and sexy with the roof up as it is down.



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q: PROPERTY

Invest in the New St Kilda – Condominiums with No Stamp Duty and No Legal Fees.
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O.H Life Property Investments and Bellbird Park Developments are offering a fantastic investment opportunity at Scarborough Walk in South East Queensland.

Created for the astute investor, the offer includes brand new fully completed condominiums where, until the end of January 2006 the developer will pay the purchasers stamp duty and legal fees. That's a saving from \$7,000 on a dwelling priced at \$323,000 (to approved purchasers).

According to O.H Life Property Investments General Manager Adam Renouf, this offer is a great opportunity for the first time or professional investor.

"Condominiums are priced from \$323,000 and under the current promotion investors can save around \$7,000 in stamp duty and legal fees"

Scarborough Walk condominiums comprise stunning



architectural facades and come in 2 or 3 bedroom options. Each dwelling contains European stainless steel kitchen appliances, reconstituted stone beach tops, floor coverings, exterior paving, car accommodation and private balconies.

Buyers will also be impressed with the location of Scarborough Walk with Scarborough Beach, retail outlets, cafes and recreational amenities all in walking distance of the development. In addition Scarborough is only 20 minutes north of Brisbane's CBD.

This offer is valid until 31st January 2006 or until properties are sold out.

O.H Life Property Investment is a division of Oliver Hume Real Estate Group, who are currently the marketing agents for in excess of 76 residential communities along the eastern seaboard of Australia.

For further information please contact: Adam Renouf at Oliver Hume Real Estate Group Ph: 03 9669 5999
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get free: Q MAGAZINE'S CHRISTMAS HAMPER



Sony BMG

From our very good friends at SonyBMG (who have been with Q from inception) we have a real Christmas package of prizes for you: 5 Delta Goodrem DVDs; 5 Rogue Traders CDs; 5 Il Divo CDs; and 5 Human Nature CDs.

Kusco Murphy

From Kusco Murphy, your hair will never look as good as it does with this fabulous range of hair care products. The package includes Nourishing Rinse, Body Boosting Wash and styling gels.

Festival Mushroom Records

Another great record company - and one which has supported Q Magazine from the very beginning is FMR. For Christmas we have a six packs to give away - totalling a massive 30 CDs: 5 Delerium "Afterall"; 5 Olivia "Gold"; 5 Desperate Housewives "Songs inspired by and from"; 5 Paul Weller "Studio 150"; 5 Queer As Folk "Final Series Soundtrack"; and 5 Kylie Minogue "Body Language".

David Austin Photography

Men Men and more Men. With the compliments of David Austin Photography, we have both series one and series two of his fabulous greeting cards and a magnificent 2006 Calendar as well. To see more of David Austin's work, go to www.menaustralia.com



As a Christmas present from us and our fabulous supporters to you our valued readers, we have a huge hamper of goodies to give away. Simply email getfree@qmagazine.com.au OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with "Christmas" in the subject line to win one (or more) of the many prizes we have to offer. All prizes will be drawn prior to Christmas day. The prize you win will be "pot luck" - but they are all excellent prizes anyway.

* 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 Appt. 3, 15 - 17 Charnwood Road, St. Kilda 3182. 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.

q music: CHRISTMAS GOODIES



JOY Melbourne 94.9fm

From Central Station records comes a compilation of monumental proportions – 36 tracks over 2 CDs of the finest music around. It's a perfect Christmas gift idea for any member of your family.....and you'll be supporting the country's first Gay and Lesbian radio station – JOY Melbourne 94.9fm [also streaming through joy.org.au].



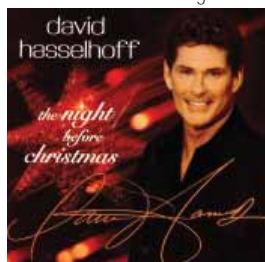
Dreadzone

Beat Broker proudly announces the release of Dreadzone's highly anticipated album "Once Upon A Time". To say it's all about the music would be an understatement - brilliant!! - musically and vocally.



Jessie McCartney / LIVE

Recorded on the Australian leg of his "Beatiful Soul" tour. As a bonus, the DVD comes with a 6 track CD. Out now through FMR.



David Hasselhoff

From Shock Records comes "the Hoff's" Christmas album - 14 tracks to sing along to over the Festive Season.



Madonna

Queen Madge has left the "I'm white but wanna be black" sound behind and come back to what she knows. Disco anthems and drag numbers aplenty rock the latest Madonna album – "Confessions on a Dance Floor". Hung Up, Sorry and Jump are sure to be dance floor fillers. Welcome back Queen Madge. Out now through Warner Music.

REACH OUT THE MOTOWN RECORD HUMAN NATURE

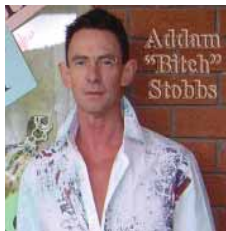


Human Nature

Singularly one of the finest albums I have had the great pleasure of listening to in a long time - Human Nature "Reach Out" - the Motown Record. A superb walk down memory lane with all those fabulous songs from the Motown era. Exceptional from beginning to end and out now through Sony BMG. Our exclusive interview with the boys starts in this issue and continues in January.

cheekyboy.com

q whispers: with ADDAM STOBBS



"What are you scared of?"

Are gay men obsessed with youth and beauty that is but skin deep? I am, and I love it, shamelessly. I get regular injections of Botox and Restylane, and other EXPENSIVE chemicals that re-irrigate the dried up beds a smiles that creep around under my eyes and across my forehead. Why? - because the culture I have had forced down my throat for the last XX years I have been alive, is ALL based on this equation: Youth + beauty = Happiness. Is it true? How many happy old ugly men do I know? A lot.

I can tell you, but it depends how old you are. Recently, when I was working on a documentary project, I asked 15 young people aged 18 - 22 what they thought they would be like when they were 50. The 100% response was that they all thought/hoped they would be dead by 50. Most young People are scared of growing old.

It's all a lie, youth and beauty are transient, and those who (like me) try to chase it forever, should spend the money on a psychologist rather than getting a face pumped full of left over chemical weapons and nerve gas agents, and learn to grow old with dignity and grace. If you don't, you'll end up a bitter old queen, trying to lure handsome younger men.

Some of us that cannot accept that growing old is "great" or "The best years of our lives", often wear clothes that belong to a much younger generation, the "Mutton dressed as lamb" set, and that's me! But what's the alternative? Mutton dressed as Mutton? Doesn't sound that great to me.

So it would appear that many of us are obsessed with preserving and rediscovering our youth for a bit of shallow, self-indulgent sexual gratification that younger men who are a bit desperate can give us. I'll worry about the getting old gracefully part some other time. So my best advice based on experience? Go see Dr. Spano, lose weight and go shopping for some new younger looking clothes. Stuff growing old gracefully, I want the skin deep sex and empty compliments, and lying little tarts that tell me I'm cute and try to take advantage of me.

q says: with TIFFANY STONE

To those of you who are fans of Kellie Clarkson, make sure you head down to [Ed: a venue on the other side of the bridge on Commercial Road] on Friday Nights to see for yourself one the B.L.O.N.D.E.S. best production shows to date starring Sondra, Divine, and myself - hosted by the one and only Miss Tabitha Turlington. It is one show not to be missed.

If it is Sunday that has been left blank in your calendar, head down to DIVA Bar. It is the most fun you will have and with Swish and I heading up the entertainment, well anything is possible.

Be safe and take care of each other,

Love,
Tiffany Stone.

[Ed: I have enjoyed the work of this young lady from the moment I first saw her. Witty, funny, articulate and very entertaining. Make sure you catch her in action soon.]



q joke of the month

A gay couple is driving along one afternoon, and while stopped at a stop sign, they are rear ended by a big semi.

Furious, the guy in the passenger seat throws his purse on the seat, gets out of the car, goes back to the truck and starts banging on the door.

The truck driver opens the door and the gay guy, standing there with his hands on his hips, says, "I'm gonna sue your ass, Buddy!" The truck driver, being a truck driver, laughs and says, "Suck my d**k!" The gay guy stands there for a second, then his eyes get real big and his face just lights up.

He runs back to the car, and says excitedly to his lover, "You won't believe it, he wants to settle out of court!"

queer: WINE

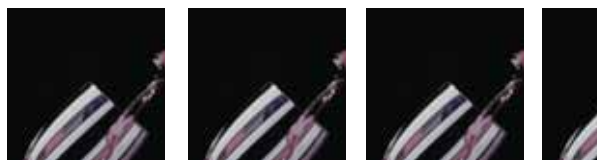
For further information on any of the wines highlighted in Queer Wine, please either email wine@qmagazine.com.au or call 0409142365



If white wine was a poof, it would be a Viognier (Vee On Yay). Often described as soft yet strong, full bodied, powerful, delicate, oily/waxy, this wine is one of the less popular whites and is often overlooked. For the NMC drinkers (no more chardy), this is the perfect option, and West Cape Howe Viognier from Denmark WA is a brilliant example. It is highly aromatic and versatile (aren't we all) with apricot, gingerbread and citrus bouquet when you smell it. The palate is rich and full (just like we like our men to be) and has very good length (hmmmm). Some refreshing acidity (like a new drag queen) lends itself well to this wine. With over 13% alcohol content, it will get you through any Sunday afternoon come down BBQ. \$18.90



Lawson Dry Hills Pinot Noir from NZ is another story. Ruby in colour (like my slippers) it is a complex wine, with rich earthy cherry flavours, and an organic, leather and barnyard aroma (kind of like a porn film I know). The palate is firm with supple tannins and very good length in the finish (no comment). This classic Pinot is like new trade... worth lying down for a while or hopping into right now. \$27.50



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q: INVEST



Lisa Parker

Did you plan to get your finances on track this year.....but “kinda didn’t get around to it” ?

To help you get a head start on next year we are “gifting” you with a simple checklist to help you take stock of your finances. So go and gather up all of your financial documentation and find out exactly what your finances are doing.

Tip

Keep all of your records in order and in a folder that is easily accessible, so it should only take you a second or two to locate them when you need them most. Here are a few areas that can usually do with some tweaking that will help you reduce debt and save more money:

Savings Accounts

Is there a better place to park your cash than in a regular Savings or Bank Account? If you have a home or personal loan, consider parking your savings in an offset account, which could save you at least 7%pa.

Loans

Should you consider consolidating or paying down certain loans? If you want to be sure you have the very best finance structure (which is helping you reduce debt faster), find an investment-savvy finance broker and ask for a Home Loan Health Check. It will only take a few moments and it could save you thousands.

Credit cards

If you have a number of credit cards, consider rolling them over to a card that has the most interest free

days and lowest interest rate, and rip any unnecessary cards up – they are seriously effecting your ability to repay debt and borrow more money to invest in income producing assets. Some people are able to pay off credit card debt much faster by rolling debt from one low interest credit card to another.

Pay yourself first

Get into the habit of paying yourself. Consider yourself a liability - a bill you are obligated to pay - and automatically deduct a nominal amount from your wages (perhaps 10%) and transfer it into a separate savings account. It is so easy to build a nice little nest egg for yourself without feeling the pinch – if you get into the habit of doing this weekly.

These are just a few ways you can take control of your finances, but saving and cutting back is just the beginning. If you really want to become wealthy, you have to invest - and a considered and strategic approach to investing will always get you the best returns.

Free Gift to help you on your way

To help you on your way to financial freedom and to thank you for being a Q Invest reader, I have arranged 20 free Financial Planning sessions, valued at \$299, for the first 20 Q readers who email me at invest@qmagazine.com.au with “free financial planning session” in the subject line.



q: PEOPLE

This is Part 1 of our exclusive interview with one of Australia's finest male vocal groups - Human Nature. Part 2 will be in the MIDSUMMA Issue.

How did Human Nature form?

It's been about 16 years. We were all at school together. We were all in the school choir and doing musical things, and it was Andrew's idea to arrange an old 50's song and asked us if we would be interested in giving it a go (as a four part thing) – we did it and loved it.

Were you all trained as vocalists?

We all had lessons, but we weren't trained as singers. We all, except Phil had musical families – our Mum is a music teacher – and at our school, we were practically the only guys in the choir so it just felt like a cool thing to branch out and form a vocal group.

What about the dancing?

We were dancing at school as well [the guys laughingly say "we were so cool"]. We were in every facet of music – the band, dancing – whatever was happening in the music department, we were part of it. Then when we formed the group, we felt that we needed to do what the Four Tops did, and the Temptations – we needed to bring that element to the group – that's when we started learning dancing – and it's still happening today.

Is the choreography difficult to do along with concentrating on your vocals?

It can be. When we got our first choreographer, she seemed to really hit it on the head as to how heavy the choreography could be – so we really managed to balance it out quite well and made sure the singing never suffered. On the current album (see Q Music) – with our new choreographers - we've learned our own limits as far as putting the dancing and singing together – once you learn the moves it becomes as natural as the phrasing of a song – it's the learning part that is difficult. Singing is always the number one priority.



What makes four white boys dedicate a whole album to black music?

Because we can!! [laughs] The root of everything we have done has been soul based. All the music we have listened to has been that as well. In the middle of a tour last year, we did a few Motown songs [Q! Great musical genre] Yes! and for vocal groups it's one of the richest eras – The Supremes, The Four Tops, Jackson Five – so, when we did that in the show it was such a highlight, the audience loved it, so we thought it was something we could do an album of. All the singers we look up to – Marvin Gay, Stevie Wonder – they're all our inspiration and that was what led us to the Motown era.

How did you choose the particular tracks for this album?

It was a tough call actually cause there are so many great songs from the era – and I guess we had a few pages of songs – then it was just a matter of which ones we felt the closest to or that we felt we could bring our sound to in the best way. Some of the tracks we have been doing for years as well [I'll be there – Jackson Five] at high school – and actually when we were the Four Tracks we did that song on the Derryn Hinch show [when he was hosting midday] – it was the song we always wanted to do but felt we weren't men enough – so we had to wait ten years – and now we can [once the balls dropped we were fine].



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in bed with: **BEN**

"Vanity"



How obsessed are we about the way we look?

Apparently I'm more obsessed than I thought. After writing the first draft of an article on vanity and re-reading it, I thought "wow this guy is vain".

The question you must ask yourself is: "How do you know when you look good?" Is it determined by the number of times you get checked out in one night or by how you feel about yourself on the inside & out? Are you trying to look good for someone else or yourself? Do it for the right reasons. Yourself!

What is the most vain thing you have ever done?

As a gay man, (oh my god I think I just came out) I've done most of it - plucked the eye brows occasionally, gone to the solarium, seen an image consultant and, more recently, had laser hair removal. Why do I do it? Because I feel good about myself when I look after myself, inside & out. I go to the gym for me, I go to the solarium for me and laser hair removal, well that has benefits to both me and hmmm, someone special. Although in 10 or 20 years I may wish I had that hair to transplant to my head if I go bald!

Get it off?

Participating in laser hair removal only just the other week, was an experience in itself. It was like getting a small sting from a rubber band over and over. It may sound kinky, I assure you if it was a buff Adonis doing it, it probably would be.

So why did I do it? Because I feel good when I look smooth, simple as that. It's not to impress anyone other than myself. It's like putting on a piece of clothing you love and you just feel right and know you look good in it. When that happens, you feel more confident and outgoing. Plus the benefits are tenfold.

I'm not one for shaving or waxing, way too painful and time consuming. I believe in doing it in a couple of hits and then never having to do it again.

Merry Christmas from the Bed of Ben

This month the Cellulite Institute, and no I'm not getting my cellulite done! Wait a sec I don't have any! They are giving "In Bed With Ben" readers a massive 50% off your first visit on laser hair removal. This offer is limited to the first 10 people who respond to info@celluliteinstitute.com.au

As for my journey with laser hair removal, hmmm, we may even publish some "after" photos in next month's column. Who's gonna wanna take pictures of me with my top off? Please send your applications too!!!

Am I vain or do I just look after myself?

Being vain in my books means trying to look good to impress everyone else. Looking after yourself is having enough self respect to be healthy, look good and feel good. So am I vain? No, I just look after myself. I don't spend hours in front of the mirror, just enough time for me to be happy and feel confident.

Until next year, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

If you have a question you'd like answered, you can email ben@qmagazine.com.au

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Q Cuties November Winner

Well we finish off 2005 with a bang and another month of record votes for our Q Cuties. Congratulations for November goes to the Heaven's Door entrant. You have won a \$50 drink card at Heaven's Door - which can be collected anytime from the bar by simply identifying yourself to one of the friendly staff. You now have until the MIDSUMMA Issue of Q Magazine to vote for our December entrants.

Throughout 2006 we will continue to have our selection of beautiful boy pics from around the scene in our Q Cuties section.

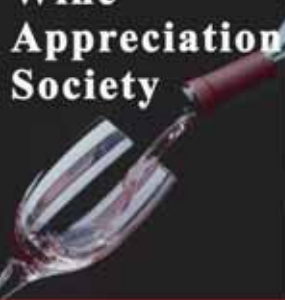
q cuties: BOYS BOYS BOYS!



The idea is YOU choose the picture you think has the cutest guy or guys in it and sms 0429 88 QMAG with the corresponding number. The pic with the most votes will win a fabulous prize with the compliments of one of our advertisers and Q Magazine. So get your fingers working and vote today!!

Conditions: All Qmagazine competitions are open to everyone, except those that specifically state you must be over 18 to enter. Competitions close on the final day of each calendar month with all prizes being drawn at 5pm the following day at Apartment 3, 15 - 17 Charnwood Road, St. Kilda 3182. Names and addresses of people winning prizes valued at or over \$250 ONLY will be published in the following issue of Qmagazine. All monthly Q Cuties winners will appear in the following edition of the publication.

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q travel: SHEK'S BACK YARD

Pictures and article by Shek Graham & Jan Hassack

The garden can be an amazing place for wild life, both the everyday and the unusual. It is just a matter of looking. Being naturally curious, some might say even nosey, we spend a lot of time in the garden and all of these weird and wonderful creatures just seem to come out to be photographed. We all want to be admired!

Being in the tropics, of course, there are a myriad of species ranging from the bizarre to the weird and wonderful. There are the slithery reptilian kind; the croaky amphibian kind; very strange and colourful insects; and the creepiest, hairiest, most enormous spiders we have ever seen. When we first came to Cairns we were intrigued by the huge Rhino beetles. They make a loud hissing noise, particularly if trapped and relocated from the bedroom to outside the house!

Indeed, just last night we had another visitor of the slithery kind, a metre long baby Amethystine Python. It is the third python we've seen in the garden in as many months. We are sure they are coming in to check out our cats and dogs as a potential meal. We can never seem to get the registered snake catchers to come out, (snakes are active at night – snake catchers are not), so we have started catching them and relocating them ourselves. Luckily the pythons seem to be getting smaller, but as it is getting warmer, they are a lot livelier and not so easy to shove into a bag without getting bitten.

Every month we see different creatures emerging from whom knows where to do its hissing, screeching, or mating thing before disappearing again. The midnight garden is also very different from that during the day... full of strange noises, rustlings in the undergrowth, and things that bite. Stone curlews have a chilling cry and sometimes even sound like a lost child, causing us to be searching around in the middle of the night!

During certain months, curious brown things appear attached to trees, and even the walls of the house. These are empty cicada cases. One night we were lucky enough to see a Greengrocer cicada resting on its old skin, having just shed it. These insects are the loudest insects ever recorded! Just one sounds like an electric saw inches from your ear. There is always a surprise around the corner, under a leaf, on top of a flower, or just to scare the hell out of you, falling onto your head – a gecko a couple of nights ago!

Being in the tropics, of course, there are a myriad of species ranging from the bizarre to the weird and wonderful. There are the slithery reptilian kind; the croaky amphibian kind; very strange and colourful insects; and the creepiest, hairiest, most enormous spiders we have ever seen. When we first came to Cairns we were intrigued by the huge Rhino beetles. They make a loud hissing noise, particularly if trapped and relocated from the bedroom to outside the house!

Indeed, just last night we had another visitor of the slithery kind, a metre long baby Amethystine Python. It is the third python we've seen in the garden in as many months. We are sure they are coming in to check out our cats and dogs as a potential meal. We can never seem to get the registered snake catchers to come out, (snakes are active at night – snake catchers are not), so we have started catching them and relocating them ourselves. Luckily the pythons seem to be getting smaller, but as it is getting warmer, they are a lot livelier and not so easy to shove into a bag without getting bitten.



Every month we see different creatures emerging from whom knows where to do its hissing, screeching, or mating thing before disappearing again. The midnight garden is also very different from that during the day... full of strange noises, rustlings in the undergrowth, and things that bite. Stone curlews have a chilling cry and sometimes even sound like a lost child, causing us to be searching around in the middle of the night!

During certain months, curious brown things appear attached to trees, and even the walls of the house. These are empty cicada cases. One night we were lucky enough to see a Greengrocer cicada resting on its old skin, having just shed it. These insects are the loudest insects ever recorded! Just one sounds like an electric saw inches from your ear. There is always a surprise around the corner, under a leaf, on top of a flower, or just to scare the hell out of you, falling onto your head – a gecko a couple of nights ago!

So the garden is not just worth visiting for the obvious – the pretty flowers, vegetables, or garden ornaments, but for the secret life that abounds if only you are interested enough to spend some time, day or night, finding out what lives there. Its amazing when you start taking note of what is happening right under your nose or even caught up in your hair!

We love our garden!

MIDSUMMA Q! will feature some more diving from Shek, but this time from the beautiful waters of Egypt.



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On behalf of everyone at MoneyOnline, MoneyOnline 'imoney' and our business partner Auto Group Ltd we would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe, happy and prosperous 2006.



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From the Doctor's Desk....

Dear Santa, I have been very good all year, not naughty even once, therefore I would like alot of presents. If they are big & expensive don't worry I won't be embarrassed. Yours truly, the best girl in the world! XOXO



dear: DR TIFFANY

Dear Dr Tiffany,

I recently came out, or at least I thought I did until I decided to visit the bars on the scene. I have always been quite scared of the women I used to meet when I was out drinking with my straight mates at pubs in Altona. The girls I met convinced me that I was gay. However, after spending several nights on the Commercial Road strip, I'm beginning to think that perhaps my decision to "come out" was premature. Firstly, most of the "guys" were more female than the girls, and secondly, because of the large amount of friendly women in these bars, I began to feel quite relaxed and I started to look at the girls in a sexual manner. Although I wanted to strangle most of the guys, I did find them pleasing to the eye as well. So, am I a straight guy who just doesn't like western suburban scrubbers, or am I gay but I just like my men to be men?

Confused (From Laverton)

Dear Confused,

If you have slept with someone of the same sex and absolutely adored it, you are gay. There are certain hormones that make us the way we are. For instance, the guys in Commercial Road have a lot more queeny hormones than say the guys

who frequent the Laird. It is whatever gives your particular personality a comfort zone. When I was younger, I found "x" amount of straight companionship was necessary to off-set the gay side of things. But as I grew older, it is really not an issue. I have found after a bottle of vodka, a couple of BIG Camparis & just a few champagnes with a dash of Grand Marnier, as long as there is something to hold onto below, your hormones are fine.

Dear Dr Tiffany,

I recently moved from Jamaica where I used to be a successful model, mainly modelling club wear & youth apparel (as I'm only 18 years of age but look much younger). My dilemma is, I joined the local cricket club (everyone is very nice) but when it was my turn to bat, I could not fit my genitals into the cricket box. What should I do?

Signed, All Scrunched Up!

Dear Scrunched,

We need to talk!

I'm having a small Christmas Day lunch. If you're not going home for lunch, you're more than welcome. After lunch, we always have a hit of cricket in the huge backyard. You bring the bat & I will bring the b __ _ mince tarts.

See you then you gorgeous thing!

If you would like advice from, or tell something to, Dr Tiffany, email deardrtiffany@qmagazine.com.au Remember it can be anything - something about work, your personal life or just something you wanted to know more about.

generation: q

"What's in a Word?"



It's Saturday night and I can't help but get excited over the possible encounters and good times ahead - and by my third glass of wine, those optimistic plans of an early night seem very far away indeed. After all, I'm young and healthy and the world is waiting! (By this stage, my friends are urging me to drink more water instead of another glass of wine, however I will not be deterred!) Besides, don't we all work hard enough at uni or work, political or community events, to deserve one night of the week on which our only concern is what drinks to order next?

Having spent significantly more time with my gay friends lately, I can't help but be fascinated by the complexity of their sex, dating and relationship lives. Some are looking for great love, all are looking for great sex and, while discussing the latest ups and downs (especially the ups!) of our young lives, I had to pose the question - "What exactly do boys want?"

On this particular evening I wanted sex, correction, great sex! However, my hedonistic ambitions were somewhat restricted by an influence we are all too well aware of - Gay Attitude. That's right people - I'm as shocked as you are by the realisation that there are some bitchy gay people out there.

The first sign that the night was taking a sour

turn was probably when two guys I thought were checking me out were actually attempting to steal my mobile phone. This was followed by aggressive and uninvited fashion advice from this creature in a tracksuit, and evil stares from an intimidating group of young gay guys once I did find my guy for the night.

Traditionally, the term "gay" was used to represent happiness, adopted by the gay movement as a symbol of pride and defiance. However, in a rapidly materialising scene, is the term "pretentious" becoming more appropriate to represent a large portion of gay youth, a culture of bitchiness having slowly evolved over time? The answer to this question is endless.

Maybe pretentiousness and bitchiness are not sold separately to liberation and self-expression, cornerstones of the movement, gay life and culture. However, it would be unwise to use the insecurities of some to describe a whole community. And on closer inspection, some degree of these superficial elements may be evident in all of us.

I say - it's Christmas, let's be merry, brotherly instead of bitchy, generous and gay in its pure sense - just happy! (And no I'm not drunk!)

Merry Christmas!

A poster for an event titled "Vanessa's Christmas Nosh". The poster has a festive border of red and green holly leaves and berries. The title "Vanessa's Christmas Nosh" is in large, bold, black letters. Below the title, it says "An update on new HIV treatments with Dr Jonathan Anderson and other guests." There is a circular inset image of a woman with blonde hair, wearing a white party hat with a pom-pom and sunglasses, and a red sequined top. To the right of this image is the logo for "People Living With HIV/AIDS" which includes a stylized heart shape. Below the logo, the event details are listed: "Sunday 11 December, 1 to 6 pm, Vibe Café and Bar, 123 Smith Street, Fitzroy". It also mentions "Free drinks, food, door prizes and end of year party." and provides a contact number: "For further information please call Frank on 03 9865 6772". At the bottom, there are logos for sponsors including "Melbourne Gay & Lesbian Community Centre", "Redding's", "Black & White", "GILEAD", and "Bupa".



an alternative look at a ~~lads~~, girls night out with morag

camp: CAPERS

November, I have decided, was this years 'Month of Learning'. When you're in the constant gaze of the paparazzi and you feel everyone is watching your every move, sometimes, well, one's feet does get off one's ground, and you can almost feel immortal: flawless: & Godlike.

As most of you will know by now, I DO try and keep my feet firmly on the ground and I try not to let my celebrity status effect how I communicate with the more common queens on the scene. Occasionally however, one does like to actually slum it.

*"...needless to say, I won't be sending her
for balls for my tree".*

Having spent half the day in the Birdcage, I decided to give the masses what they really came to see, and I (along with my Bull-Dyke bodyguards – they really are the toughest you can get you know), went for a walk-a-bout through the common people at the Melbourne Cup. Although it wasn't easy, I did manage to spot a few Spring Chickens in the crowd that had actually never had the pleasure that is 'Me'. As the crowd numbers where down this year, at first I wasn't too sure if in fact I would find a young piece of meat that hadn't already been on my menu – but I suppose it was a 43,000-1 chance. Upon finding three young stallions who, luckily, had already drunk 4 slabs of VB and a dozen Bundy & Cokes between them, I invited them to join me for some fun at my own private 'Love Tent' just behind the stables. I normally leave the 'Three at Once' scenarios to my dear slut of a friend Jennifer Ann Wells, however, as it turns out these boys were builders labourers from Coburg and they ALL had a bit of the Wog in them. Well! You know what that means. So, it wasn't too long before I had a bit of wog in me! As I was laying there in the hay with my kilt hoisted up over my face and Boy number 2 was having his 4th turn, I heard over the tannoy system, the compliment that every girl wants to hear – "That was absolutely the BEST ride of my life!" I know I'm good, but you don't have to tell the whole world I thought to myself. "Yes," said the voice, "Mykebe Diva is the best horse I've ever ridden". That was lesson number one. Now I doubt if any of you poor unfortunate folk who read this have ever even dreamed of getting out of your humdrum existence let alone actually achieving any form of Super Stardom like myself. But, if you do, take my advice: even although millions adore you, and you think you are the bees knees, out there somewhere is a "Better Ride"



I'm often asked why I gave up my modelling career completely, when I started doing movies and expanded my writing talents. As some of you may know - actually, how the hell would some of YOU lot know what it's like! Anyway, when one has offers from all over the world and from the best directors around, one simply can't continually be selfish and just stick to being page 3 of a well known British tabloid. One has to think of the fans, and what better way of pleasing them more, than letting them see me all over the big screen. I'm sure ALL of you have seen my trilogy:

1. 'Titanic – the true story of how one woman saved a lot of Seamen'.
2. 'The Bodyguard – a torrid lesbian love thriller'. (I thought I would try it)
3. 'Mission Impossible – where one woman tries and fails to keep her virginity in an all boys' school'.

Apart from the movies, writing is my true passion. Remember my number one best seller – 'The boy from Prague', and my follow up hit – 'The boy from Berlin', & not forgetting – 'The boy from Bendigo'. I know sometimes my books can be a bit long winded for some readers, but with the combination of pictures and words, I think the whole story HAS to be told. That's why my latest novel – 'The boy from Guatemala', has over 5 pages of text along with the 87 pictorial pages.

As for the modelling, well, that was lesson number two last month. After seeing my dear colleague Michelle Leslie being treated like a criminal for what was in her handbag, I thought it best to keep my modelling and my handbag quite, quite separate. And frankly, my handbag (or what's in it), will always come first!

When it comes to family, one always has to at least try and look after the less fortunate. As you know, my dear sister Tiffany hasn't been too well recently. Well, with the mistake at the plastic surgeons, and her already natural abnormalities, I tried to find her some purpose in life, and I asked the editor of Q if there was any work going. Although Tiffany is quite gifted mentally - and she demonstrates this quite well in her LITTLE problem page - she isn't too good at following instructions. That was lesson three last month. Don't trust Tiffany's judgement on ANYTHING! "Go and get me some pictures of young chickens for my article", I said. Well, what more does one say.....

Needless to say, I won't be sending her for balls for my tree.

Have a safe and happy Christmas.

Love as always,

Morag



q: FASHION



with Craig Michaels

Thanks for all the questions you sent in from last month's edition. Who do you ask if you are unsure about what you should really be wearing? Do you trust your best mate or the guy from work or do they just want to look better than you?

Last month I was asked by "Adam" how do I know what colour works for me?

Adam this is something that a lot of people have a problem with. Just look around and I'm sure you will see a few people wearing something to which you would say "what were they thinking? They can't wear that!"

There is a very easy way to identify what colour works for you:

When choosing a shirt or top - before you even try it on - go to the mirror and hold it up to your face; one of two things will happen:

It will either add colour to your face or it will drain colour - making you look pale?

When you are looking at a jacket or new suit - stand back from the mirror and look at yourself and ask:

Do you see the jacket or suit colour first or do you carry the colour well (by this I mean do you see the whole package and not just focus on the clothing)? After all, we want to dress the package to sell the package.

However, when you are going out you want to stand out from the crowd so try wearing a colour t-shirt to stand out from the rest. Remember to check that the colour works for you though.

Hope this helps you next time you're shopping Adam.

Another question from "Tim" was why does my boyfriend always say that my old favourite suit makes me look fat?

Well Tim, without seeing you it is a bit hard to say, however, the tricks of the trade to make you look slimmer in a suit are the following:

Don't buy a double breasted suit as these were originally designed for the larger guy. They had a lot more fabric in the jacket to cover that tummy or those favorite winter love handles that we all try to get rid of by summer.

The trouser is also important. When buying your next suit, only buy a single pleat trouser or a flat front. Both of these styles will give your boyfriend the illusion of you being a size smaller in the waist. You have to love that!

A few friends have asked me about the dramatic change in the new season suits in shops currently.

If you walk along Chapel Street you will see almost every store now has a high 2 button Jacket. The original 2 button jacket design basically focused on your stomach (not a flattering look in most cases). What designers have tried to do now is to re-invent the "two button" jacket. The reason for this is simple - to sell you more products!

When you are trying on a 2 button jacket, look to see where the focus point is. Are you distracted and look at the chest or do you focus on your face? Before you buy this new design, ask to try on a 3 button jacket and see which suits you better. The 3 button jacket is a proven strong style whether it is for office or social use. The 2 button is a new fad. Judge for yourself, and don't just listen to the cute sales person.

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q cosmetic: WITH DR. PAUL SPANO

"Testosterone Supplementation and THE ANDROPAUSE" - Part 2 - some FAQ

What are the symptoms of hypogonadism ("low testosterone")?

*Fatigue *Loss of muscle mass
*Fat gain *Poor recovery *Irritability
*Depression *Decreased memory
*Lack of libido *Erectile Dysfunction

A problem with using these symptoms to diagnose hypogonadism is that you cannot directly relate either the number of symptoms present, or the severity of any of them, to the actual severity of the hypogonadism. That is why proper evaluation by a physician specifically trained in this type of medicine, as well as appropriate laboratory testing is absolutely necessary.

What diseases are associated with hypogonadism?

*Cardiovascular disease *Cancer
*Diabetes *Osteoporosis *Depression
*Dementia (including Alzheimer's)
*Erectile Dysfunction

Is TRT helpful in treating these diseases and conditions?

Yes, it is not enough to recognise that low hormone levels are associated with a given disease state or physical symptom. It also must be shown that raising that hormone's level reduces the risk of developing,

or dramatically improves-even eliminates--that disease or symptom. Fortunately, scientific studies have shown that TRT does this for every single one of the above listed diseases AND symptoms.

Is TRT dangerous?

Literally millions of men, from all over the world, have enjoyed the benefits of TRT. To date, we have not found a single case of appropriate TRT hurting anyone.

Can TRT give me cancer?

Absolutely not. In fact, appropriate TRT has been shown to reduce your risk of cancer, probably due to its immune system boosting benefits.

What are the possible negative side effects of TRT?

Some men report some water retention. This usually subsides, but if it doesn't, can be easily controlled by using a medication or OTC (Over-the-Counter) supplement to lower estrogen-the usual cause of chronic water weight gain while on TRT. I have never heard of appropriate TRT damaging the liver. While the possibility of inducing, or increasing, the symptoms of BPH (Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy) is often

mentioned, numerous studies have shown this is not the case. TRT has also been shown to not increase the risk of prostate cancer as well. On the subject of prostate cancer, that is one of two medical conditions which are, at this time, an absolute contraindication (meaning a reason to withhold treatment) to TRT. That is why doctors who administer TRT monitor prostate health with regular PSA tests and Digital Rectal Exams. The other contraindication is male breast cancer.

Patients on blood thinners may need to have these medications dosed differently, as TRT also helps protect against unwanted clotting. On the other hand, the consistency of the blood is appropriately monitored while on TRT, as a few men will develop polycythemia (blood that is too thick)-a completely reversible condition. In fact, TRT's ability to build up the blood is why it is one of the treatments for anemia. Diabetics-whether on insulin or oral medications-usually need to have the dosages of these medications decreased, often dramatically. TRT is profoundly effective at controlling blood sugar levels. Patients with hypertension (high blood pressure) on a class of medications called beta blockers may need to have their meds monitored as well.

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q: COMMUNITY



Chorus Establishes New Youth Chorus

Melbourne's premier GLBTI musical organisation, The Melbourne Gay & Lesbian Chorus is pleased to announce the establishment of a new Youth Chorus.

"This is an exciting new arm of the Chorus, and will give younger singers a fantastic forum to develop their singing skills in a safe and friendly environment", said Chorus President, Philip Platon. "Singers between the ages of 16 – 25 will join together in a separate rehearsal, and will then combine with the main Chorus to develop their musical repertoire".

The Chorus is also pleased to announce the appointment of Ms Gudula Kinzler as Music Director of the Youth Chorus. Gudula comes from a strong choral conducting background in Europe, and brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience.

The new Youth Chorus will be known as the 'Melbourne Gay & Lesbian Youth Chorus'.

Rehearsals will be held from 6pm – 7pm each Wednesday at the Ruskin Hall, Melba Conservatorium of Music, 45 York Street, Richmond, 3121, followed by the main Chorus rehearsal from 7.15pm – 9.45pm.

MGLC Music Director, Jonathon Welch says, "The Youth Chorus will perform some of their own work within the framework of major MGLC concerts, as well as being an integral part of the main Chorus. Its establishment will add a further dimension to the marvelous talents of the current singers."

For further information about the Chorus, please visit the MGLC Web site at www.mglc.org.au. To request an information pack about joining the new Melbourne Gay & Lesbian Youth Chorus, send an e-mail to: info@mglc.org.au.



Morris & Co.

As the leading figure of the decorative arts in the nineteenth century, William Morris has been referred to as the father of modern design. This exhibition features furniture, carpets, textiles, ceramics, wallpapers and stained glass.

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Melbourne Museum is revealing the marvellous and magnificent personal collections of Victorians in Community Collections. Collections on display include radios, scout badges, pencils, cats and much more.

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Marine Life: Exploring our seas

Victoria's marine world has it all - dramatic underwater cliffs, colourful sponge gardens, tall kelp forests, vibrant seagrass beds, vast rich sand plains, surging waves and tranquil coves. Over 12 000 marine animals and plants are estimated to live in Victorian waters. Melbourne Museum's latest blockbuster exhibition takes visitors on a journey through our unique underwater world. This exhibition features rare specimens, photographs and never-before-seen footage, so take the plunge, and come and dive into our seas in Marine Life – Exploring our Seas.

Opens 26 December 2005
Cost Free with Museum entry

Pictures: Museum Victoria



q: PROFILE



Abandon yourself to Skinny Dips Resort and Spa (formerly called 18-24 James Street) - a secluded, stunning, intimate, all-weather retreat for the discerning gay traveller.

Skinny Dips is a plantation style resort in the heart of Cairns and only a leisurely stroll from the City Centre, Casino, and the Convention Centre. Imagine a vibrant, masculine décor, a funky Martini Bar & Bistro, a casual Poolside Café, a clothing optional pool, spa and sun-drenched courtyard, a Chillout Centre with fitness room, sauna, internet station and leisure lounge and a Spa Centre boasting an extensive range of massage and pamper treatments designed with guys in mind. Skinny Dips is about getting away from it all and surrendering to the rhythm of the tropics.

Skinny Dips Resort offers you the freedom to enjoy the countless possibilities of the tropics, the Great Barrier Reef, the World Heritage Rainforest, white water rafting and the new lagoon beach in the city. On top of all these indulgences, Cairns casino, gay bars and endless restaurants light up your night and are just a walk away.



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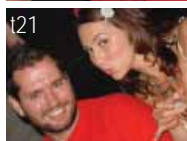
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what's been on around town



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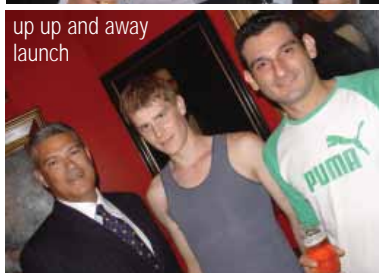
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up and away
launch



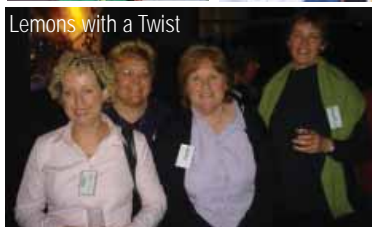
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q art: WITH FIONA SPROLES



British Art & the 60s from Tate Britain was, of all exhibitions, one of the easiest to lure my wife into attending due to its "hey, that's groovy" factor. Here is where I unashamedly plagiarise the description of the exhibition from the NGV adverts: [This exhibition] explores new departures in the form and content of art in Britain from 1956 to 1968... a period of seismic change in Britain and in British culture. The art of the period both reflected and participated in the social revolution that became mythologised as the 'Swinging Sixties'.

Back to my rambling...as I have learnt over many years of attending exhibitions, the span and depth of media and expression consistently exceeds the popular comprehension of a person

or an era. Therefore it was no surprise to discover that British Art in the 60s' was something other than psychedelic expressions of love and peace ...and of course, The Beatles.

Yes, apparently there was more to the 60's, such as the Suez Canal Crisis, student riots in Europe, the invasion of Czechoslovakia by the USSR and the Anti-Vietnam war protests. Incidentally, my wife was also born in the 60's, thus making it a period to celebrate, regardless of what else was going on in the world!

The shock of war in art also introduced the shock of the new in art. Innovation, design, sexuality and destruction were explored in both static and dynamic forums. Representations in

art challenged the status quo, particularly that of women as they were taken beyond their domestic parameters and captured via film and paint as dynamic, liberated, vibrant contributors to society. The realisation of this in British homes was considerably slower than the time it took to hang the images on walls, however, these portraits certainly didn't hinder the continuing progression towards equality and the perception of independence.

This was a fascinating and "hip" exhibition, however, as with all exhibitions that focus on society, you will undoubtedly locate the pocket of destruction that with unnerving consistency, achieves its aim in deflecting the viewers discomfort back onto itself and making us look into our prejudice and hypocrisy.

In contextualising this period for an Australian audience, the NGV

created a newspaper mural of local and international events as narrated by Australian media.

What most fascinated me in this endeavour to navigate the audience was the representation of international events that were seemingly insignificant at the time, but have since taken on proportions of overwhelming magnitude. Marilyn Monroe was one example. Her death notice was a small and narrow column on the day after she died, as was the death of Che Guevara (that guy who is on everyone's t-shirts but no-one seems to know what he really did).

This outcome can only be attributed to the undeniable influence of repeated mass imagery that is captured in this exhibition, but more exhaustively in the impressive...and free... Brit Prints exhibition just next door. Check 'em out, you won't regret it.

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q: BEAUTY

"Protecting your body's largest organ"

Every month I plan to take you through your skin's current issues, as well as the 'must have products' for your bathroom. With over 15 years experience in training, marketing and managing cosmetic companies, I intend to impart some of my experience to inform you on making the discerning and value for money choices when choosing the perfect products.

So it's time to start protecting your body's largest organ. Now get your mind out of your ego gutter, what I'm talking about here is your skin. With summer almost upon us, we face many challenges with our skin.

Firstly, stress! Office parties, Christmas, New Year, all contribute to our mind and body becoming stressed, so too does our skin. This inevitably affects your skin's appearance by sensitising it, and breakout can become more prevalent.

Secondly, change of diet. Through the summer months many of us will go through a change of diet. We all tend to indulge just that little bit more on food that we usually wouldn't. Attending parties can be a real challenge too, especially with the temptation of celebratory alcohol. The combination can truly play havoc with one's skin and will definitely sensitise it.

Thirdly, the sun. Australia has the highest incidence of skin cancers in the world. Our sun is direct, harsh and in some cases fatal. We always recommend that if you are going to be in the sun, that an appropriate sunscreen is used, together with long sleeve tops and a wide brimmed hat.

The consequences of baking yourself: Dehydration of the skin; Deterioration of the elastic fibres, leading to the formation of wrinkles and lines; Dilation of the blood vessels, causing swelling; Skin discolouration or pigmentation

In order to protect your skin: Filter UVA/UVB rays to prevent sunburn and their penetration to the skin's deeper layer, the dermis. When applying sunscreens, make sure your skin is clean and that the application is made at least 30 minutes before sun exposure. Reapply sunscreen as often as possible, every hour would be ideal.

What to avoid: Avoid sun exposure between 11am and 3pm because the sun is at its maximum intensity and UV rays are fully active; Avoid exposure if you are taking "photosensitive" medication such as antibiotics. Consult your doctor or pharmacist; Avoid sun beds, or solariums...you may not burn, but you will certainly age; Avoid perfumes and fragranced products unless they are tested and proven to be non photo-sensitive. Otherwise they may cause pigmentation marks which are difficult to eliminate.

Sunscreen – Your first defence against skin ageing and sensitivity.

Ego Sun Sense Matte Finish SPF 30+ - This is truly a winner in my book. Light textured, all-day matte finish, with high protection that won't leave you looking 'zinc' white and pasty, like most of them do.



Clarins SPF 30+ for face - It has a great summer smell and is also broad-spectrum and protects against infra-red (IR) rays, that can cause damage even on a cloudy day.

Lancôme Primordial 15+ - For those who require the anti-ageing benefits of a treatment cream with the added protection of sunscreen.

Self Tanning Products – A tan in less than 2 hours, without leaving your bathroom.

Guinot Self Tanning Cream (for face & body) - The crème della crème of self tanners! Instantly bronzes the palest God or Goddess. Smells great and is easy to apply.

Clarins Men Self Tanning Gel (for face) - This product can be used daily as a moisturiser until you achieve the tan you want. It's a great two in one product for all year round!

SHE Australia Golden Body Self Tanning - A great Aussie company, Golden Body gives a great natural tan in 3 hours. Loaded with botanicals, not only does it smell great but is good for your skin too.

In order to obtain an even looking, long-lasting tan, there are three things to consider...exfoliate, exfoliate and exfoliate. Use a facial exfoliator (or scrub) on your face and a specific exfoliator for your body. Concentrate on areas such as elbows and knees to avoid dark patches. Oh, and wash hands immediately after use.

Recommendations: Guinot Homme Exfoliating Scrub for Face; Kusco-Murphy Exfoliating Body Scrub.

Instant Bronzers – an instant tan that washes off when you do

Jean Paul Gaultier 'Le Male' Instant Bronzer - Moisturiser and bronzer in one. Won't streak and comes complete with skin care treatment benefits.



Jean Paul Gaultier 'Le Male' Bronzing Powder - A ten-second tan that's delivered by a brush that looks more like a shaving brush.

She Australia Brazilian Bronzing Lotion instantly delivers a radiant glow! It gives great colour, washes off easily and smells great.

For your nearest stockists, please call: Guinot: 1300 300 954; Clarins: 02 9663 4277; Kusco-Murphy: 03 9706 5599; She: 03 9421 1400; Lancôme: 02 9931 8899; Jean-Paul Gaultier: 02 9695 5614; Ego Pharmaceuticals: 03 9706 5599

By George Alexander

We are giving away a "Protect Your Largest Organ – Summer Care Pack" which includes: Sun Sense Matte Finish SPF30+ 150ml, Clarins Men Self Tanning Gel 50ml, SHE Australia Bronzing Lotion 200ml and a Kusco-Murphy Body Scrub 250ml. For your chance to win this great prize, simply email competitions@qmagazine.com.au with "Beauty" in the subject line.

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