

JULY 2007

Q MAGAZINE

Inside this Issue:

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Q Focus with Lyn Morgain,  
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Q Story with Sam Parkinson,  
and much much more.

*In a Q Youth special, we speak with Jarrod Madsen about  
life, love and more through a young gay man's eyes.  
Q Magazine - Made Locally! Enjoyed Nationally!*

A photograph of two men sitting at a table in a cafe. The man on the left is wearing a light blue shirt and a striped tie, looking towards the other man. The man on the right is wearing a dark shirt and has a goatee, looking back at him. They are both holding coffee cups. In the background, other people are seated at tables, and the interior of the cafe is visible.

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**napwa**

# q comment: NEWS FROM THE EDITOR

## Men On Men

I probably said it last year as well, but I am in a state of constant amazement at the level of talent in our community - particularly when looking at the entries in the Men on Men Art Competition at the Laird Hotel. Every year, the standard just seems to get higher and higher, with this year posing the most difficult of challenges to judge winners in the categories of Painting, Drawings, and Photographs. A small representation takes pride of place as my Q Comment pictures this month. Congratulations to all who entered and in particular those who gained themselves a trophy for their mantelpiece.

## HIV / Sexual Health Connect Line

As President of PLWHA Victoria, it gives me great pleasure to recognise the formation of this line. Please refer to the advertisement in this issue for the times of operation, and the nature of the service available. The new Hep C Line is also up and running. Refer to the Hep C Council of Victoria's website for further details or call their info line on 1800 703 003



## Dental Treatment for HIV+ people

The Federal Government announced a \$377 million initiative in the May budget to improve access to dental care for people with chronic and complex conditions - including HIV. The new funding will provide up to \$2000 per calendar year per patient for treatment through private dental practitioners.

The scheme is scheduled to start in November 2007 after some legislative changes go through Parliament. It is unclear if it will be means tested although this seems unlikely as other EPC program items are not. People who have private dental cover can use their \$2000 per calendar year on treatments and then utilise their private scheme for further treatments within the calendar year but cannot claim for both treatments at once. Further information at [health.gov.au](http://health.gov.au) (look for enhanced primary care). Ask your GP about setting up an EPC Plan if you would like to access this scheme in the future.



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# q youth: with JARROD MADSEN

I first saw our cover boy at Heaven @ 151 and sheepishly asked him if he would model for Q Magazine [being mindful that it would sound very much like a pick-up line]. He agreed and here we are. Jarrod is an intelligent, articulate and very good looking young man [obviously]. It was truly refreshing to find all of that in someone so young. I started with the usual "getting to know you" questions.

I'm 22 years old, 23 in October (I'm a Libran if anyone's wondering). I currently work in a publishing house, though don't ask me to get into the specifics of my job, unless you choose a day of the week first! In short, I do a varying array of tasks, ranging from design and layout work to general office tasks (i.e. filing and packing. Oh such fun!). If nothing else, I suppose my ever changing workload keeps me actively thinking and expanding my skills. I've previously worked in retail, as well as having done a couple of minor acting jobs.

I was born and raised in Melbourne, although my cultural background is somewhat of a melting pot. My dad is Australian, with European (primarily Danish) decent, and my mother is originally from Calcutta, and her background includes Indian, English, Burmese, Scottish and Spanish. There's probably a few more in there somewhere. For lack of a better word, I'm diverse!

**When did you know you were gay? When did you come out? Are you out to everyone?**

I think I realised I was gay during my final years of high school. I used to get picked on a fair bit, and several of the names thrown at me were along the lines of being gay. At first, I didn't really take what others said to heart, but as I developed, I started asking myself, "well, am I gay?". After I found myself being attracted to others in my year level, I think it finally answered my question. Going to an all boys school can be an obvious, if not difficult, experience in discovering your own sexuality.

I came out to my parents during the latter half of high school, when I was discussing with them about problems at school. I can recall them turning to me with half smirks and asking, "well, are you?". I smiled back. Suffice it to say, my parents were and are happy that I'm gay.

At the moment, I'm out to practically everyone I know, family, friends, co-workers, - who are all very supportive of me. And anyone I've missed, well, I'll just get them to read a copy of this!

**Have you ever experienced homophobia – either in the workplace or home or friends etc?**

I've been out in the gay scene for short while now, but from what I've seen and heard, my coming out experience has been much easier than most. Apart from my time at school, I've faced little if any homophobic reactions. My point of view is that being gay is not the be all and end all of who I am. It certainly is a part of me and affects aspects of my life, but there's more to me than just that.

Although I'm not about to start wearing badges that read "I'm gay, ask me how", I don't try to hide who I am. I express myself freely to others. If they happen to find out about me somehow, so be it. If those people end up having problems with me being gay, then it is just that, their problem. I can't solve it for them. Luckily though, I haven't had to face that very often.

I've always had the support of my entire family. It saddens me to hear people who've faced hardship in coming out, especially when it involves their own family. For anyone out there who doesn't feel like they have that kind of support, I'd like to think, blindly optimistic though it may be, that they're your parents. If push comes to shove, they'll be there for you.

**Although not limited to the young in our community, the drug culture is certainly prevalent. What are your thoughts in relation to this?**

Again, I've not been long out in the gay scene, so I do tend to be a little naive about some aspects of it. The drug culture, however, is one I'm happy to avoid. There's no attraction for me, for a couple reasons. As paranoid as it may sound, one thing that I have a fear of is not being in control of myself, especially in unfamiliar surroundings. You never know what could happen.

I can understand that some people may need some kind of escape if they're having issues in their lives, and countless members of the gay community often face some form of adversity. But I know that there are better ways to deal with such things - having been involved in a gay youth community group - and that if anyone has problems, help is out there.

Lastly, I've had people tell me that drugs can enhance the experience of going out somewhere or doing something. Well, that's fine for them. For me, if a place or event needs drugs to make it fun, then it can't be all that much fun to begin with.

I'm not trying to preach or anything. What people do is their own business. The drug culture just doesn't do anything for me, and I'm happy about that.

**What long term goals do you have for yourself e.g. finding a husband, getting married (to a guy)...**

Hmm. Finding the right guy is certainly up there on my list. Still searching, I tend to be a bit picky. I'm a romantic at heart though. I do have a somewhat "romantic-comedy film" view of where I'd like my life to go (me obviously being the love-struck semi-klutzy lead character). I'm fascinated by the idea of soul mates, in that two people can click from the word go and connect on so many levels. I look at family and friends who are in positive relationships and say, "one day, that'll be me". I believe that the right one for me is out there somewhere...

# q business: with THE LAIRD HOTEL

A new dawn has broken in Abbotsford with the new management team taking the reigns of the Laird Hotel. In usual fashion I wanted to know a little about the boys before talking about the pub and what is in store for patrons at this fabulous Melbourne landmark.

## Brett

Born & bred in the Yarra Valley. The usual country child-hood of fishing, camping & getting up to no good in an innocent kind of way (BMX Bandit style). I've worked in forestry & banking, but mostly hospitality. I started as a dish-pig at the Grand Hotel in Yarra Glen. Moved to the city and had various hospitality jobs. It was when I was working as barman at The Duke in St Kilda that I met the beautiful Miss Vic who got me a job at 44. From there I met Mark & a whole lot of wonderful people. I first went to The Laird in 1996 (it was my first gay venue). I was amazed at how welcoming & helpful the staff were. It was a great initiation to the scene & it's pretty safe to say the atmosphere hasn't changed since.

## Mark

Born in Sydney, (I like to think not all that long ago) the last of seven in the Carney family. I started my working life as a chemist delivery boy after school, when I left school I went down the path of trying a few different jobs until I found what best suited me at the time, customer service with a national transport company, I ended up staying with the company, up till recently for a total of 23 years in various management roles. In early 2000 I meet Brett at Bar 44 where he was managing at the time. I took a chance, sold my apartment in Sydney, got a transfer with the company and said goodbye to my family and friends and moved down to Melbourne in mid 2000. I have to say the chance paid off. I have met some of the most amazing and supportive people, and people that I now call my closest friends by taking that one step. I first went to the Laird 14 years ago and just found it totally different to what I was used to in Sydney, it was a comfortable feeling, and the people were genuine.

**So guys, tell me a little about your ideas, challenges, and future plans for the Laird please.**

Our major challenges in taking over the Laird are ensuring the standards set by previous management are maintained. The community & historical importance of the pub is fantastic & we are thrilled to have this chance to keep it going. The work done in the past for various charities has been

amazing & we fully intend to keep giving all we can for the community.

We can assure everyone that there will be no big changes. Trivia night, Spit N Polish & the weekend DJ line-up will stay the same, but with a few guest DJ's thrown in here & there as well. As well as this there's the Underwear Party (1st Monday of the month) and our other monthly nights for the Melbourne Leather Men (2nd Saturday) & Vic Bears (4th Saturday). Keep



an eye out for guest DJ's on these nights.



We've always loved The Laird for what it is. Being able to feel 100% comfortable in a relaxed atmosphere is invaluable for

gay men, whether local, rural, interstate or overseas. In short: "THE TRADITION CONTINUES".

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# q people: with DEAN GEYER

It's been a while since I have visited the splendid SonyBMG offices in South Melbourne, and this time was truly a delight – meeting and chatting with Idol heartthrob Dean Geyer. A really lovely guy, down to earth, and very easy to speak with – and his white South African accent is just delightful. Not to mention, of course, how easy he is on the eye. His album is out now in all good record stores.

I commenced our chat by asking if he had written any of the songs on his new album.

I have co-written most of it with some song writers in Sydney and Melbourne. The rest are a collection of songs SonyBMG received from overseas... which were presented to me and if I wanted them then we took them, if I didn't then we didn't... so I picked five of them.

**Is this your first time writing?**

First time co-writing, because I've been writing songs since I was sixteen, so I've just been writing alone. Coming into the co-writing scene is a good thing for me because the stuff I have written on my own is more alternative, so this exercise has brought me back down the commercial line.

**How would you describe the album?**

It is very similar to the kind of music I sang on Australian Idol. I got a lot of my influence from them. Very commercial, catchy, radio stuff – I guess you can say it is rock/pop – but it's a little bit more rocky than poppy.

**Speaking about Idol, what was the journey like for you?**

It was amazing. I used to think I was too much of a "musos" musician to enter the competition, and until I had entered it, I didn't realise how good an experience it is. I will never forget it – it seems like yesterday – I can still remember everything I did. I made some of the best friends. I mean, how many people get to sing live in front of millions of people around Australia, and along with good friendships, just having the pressure to have to get up there live and sing in front of people makes you increase your level of vocal and performance... it gave me that extra edge. Also being thrust into the media light helped me a lot. It was almost like a boot camp for while.

**What influence do you think the judges comments have on whether you survive each week?**

A lot! And I think they [the judges] think about it a lot as well. Some people may think that Kyle just says things for the sake of saying them, but I think he has a reason for saying everything he does, and I think he is very clever – he thinks like the public thinks. As much as some of the public think they disagree with him, most of the time they end up agreeing with him. In the end though, I guess people end up making up their own minds.

**Back to song writing, what influences you?**

I've gone into the song writing sessions, and we have tried not to copy anything. Obviously, when you write song, it's going to sound familiar cause it comes from you. I guess John Mayer has been an influence for me, the Goo Goo Dolls – I have fairly broad tastes in music I guess.

**Dean, I wish you the best with your album, and look forward to you touring it later this year or early next.**

Thank you Brett.



*generationq.net  
headlines for  
JULY*

Interview with Sexy fitness  
and food guru Jesse Brune.

Dean Geyer.

New section, My City –  
whats happening, what's  
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The Lost Boys – Survivors  
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# q art: with DAVID WESTLAKE

## Collecting for tomorrow

"Tomorrow is another day," we say, but thinking of tomorrow can make collecting interesting.

My partner and I dropped around to see the Laird art exhibition and the quality has improved incredibly over the years. We instantly fell in love with two pieces which will now have a home on our walls - we were pleasantly surprised to realise one was by a friend of ours, this is the more serious side of collecting today's objects for tomorrow.

People have collections of barbed wire, bottle caps, even tram tickets and yes, stuffed toys. (You should see my husband's collection! I will admit to purchasing all but one - this little stuffed toy. I can't remember his name, I'll call him Bluey. He was destined for the op shop because of mum and dad's house clearing. But since he was my husband's little childhood friend, he couldn't go and now proudly sits watching his every move in his office.

We have always collected these simple little objects. For example, when I was a small boy (many years ago) in country SA I use to dig in the old dumps and found many bottles, old tins and odd pieces of china. These stoked my interest in the past.

But its time to look at other areas. Have you considered the future from today? Think of

everyday items that we take for granted that are going to be unique examples of how the world has changed.

Think of something that represents changing life in Melbourne in 2007 and base your collection around it. Water. Smoking. Light bulbs. Gas-guzzling cars.

Have you ever considered the future rarity of sprinklers? Even our museums are sourcing these. Remember though, keep them in their packets - this adds a lot to their value.

How about old mobiles, record players and even the vinyls ("records" to those of you too young to know). What about your party tickets (not the ones with stains!) and of course posters.

Look in your cupboard, there is so much that will be collectible for now and the future. Remember, it's about quality, not quantity.

While many of the things we collect are purchased with money, family, friends and memories are not. On a personal note, I ask each of you to remember your friends and family.

These are the most important collection you can ever be part of. Say you love someone, give your friends a hug or maybe a call sometimes or it can be too late. I was too busy recently to contact a very



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email  
art@qmagazine  
.com.au

old and dear friend then suddenly he died. I'm sorry I didn't call him but I do have a long string of memories to keep.

So start your new financial year with a new collection of objects that may grow into a valuable collection in the future.

Or invest some time and energy in your existing collection of family and friends - that always grows you and enjoy the rewards right away.

# q exhibition: FIGMENT



Gasworks Arts Park is proud to present Figment by Sharon Flanagan.

## Non-Visual Art

Vision-loss has created interesting challenges for this artist who has previously explored figurative and landscape inspired themes.

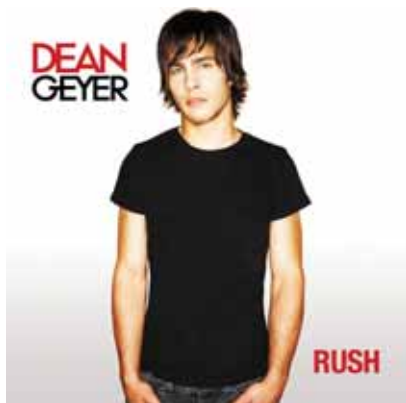
After extensive experimentation with various media, Sharon has developed this exciting new method of producing her art. "I wanted to produce large scale works with energy, strength and spontaneity and it was only in letting go of the need to see the whole canvas that I was able to achieve this" she said.

A figment is "something one has imagined which has no reality." These paintings are the result of intensely personal meditative exploration. The exhibition is a surprisingly bold and powerful collection of abstract statements which are the result of a decision to trust instinct, the "inner eye".

Figment - Angela Roberts-Bird Gallery, Gasworks Arts Park, corner Pickles and Graham Streets, Albert Park, 9am - 5pm , daily, 16 to 29 of this month. Free Entry. Enquiries: (03) 8606 4200 or gasworks.org.au



# q win: MID YEAR OFFERINGS



## SonyBMG

Following on from his debut single and album release - and our exclusive interview with him in this issue, we have 5 of Dean Geyer's fabulous albums to give away. Simply email [getfree@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:getfree@qmagazine.com.au) OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with *Rush* in the subject line and you could take home this excellent album.



## OUT Video

Rated in the top ten of gay and lesbian festivals on the the international website [gay.com](http://gay.com).

The Chill Out Festival is celebrated annually in Daylesford, Victoria, over the Labor Day Long Weekend - recommencing in 2008.

To test your luck to win one of the five copies we have from OUT Video, simply email [getfree@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:getfree@qmagazine.com.au) OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with *OUT - CHILLOUT* in the subject line.

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## Central Station Records

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\*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. 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.

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# q whispers: with ADDAM STOBBS

Cruelty is art.

To be cruel is an act of deliberation, by its very nature, cruelty cannot be accidental, and it is a considered action or set of predetermined circumstances, which inflicts on at least one person some form of distress. "Life is cruel" frequently disguises low self esteem or the inability one may have for controlling their own fate.

The purpose of cruelty is not so clear, as it is as an obvious human trait. Why are we cruel to those around us? (be they human or animal), what does it say about the nature of being, that we perpetrate cruelty with such despicable ease? Cruelty exists because we like it. Not just as an act of self, but as the recipient. Cruelty defines a lot of who we are. Being cruel shows strength of character, it shows that we are masters of the universe, and that we are superior. If this is the case, that cruelty is a purely human condition, and that it is one way of claiming our superiority over others, then it must be art. It is expression, it is contrived and creative, and it is a made up of the intersection of many ideas, both brilliant and horrendous.

"You have to be cruel to be kind" is it so? Or is it a cop out to try to justify acts of unspeakable brutality, from the execution of 6 millions Jews, to denying a child a lolly, this claim has often puzzled. My father told me if he became dictator the first thing he would do for the welfare of the state was to execute all those who in anyway opposed him, and he would also execute all their families, "you don't want the children growing up to hate you and then sow seeds of dissent, that would eventually lead to a revolution". Sounds like good advice to me. I'll bear this in mind when I set up my dictatorial theocracy, and yes, I'll need to be the god-head.

Can cruelty be entertaining? It most certainly can! It has been used as entertainment and mindless

distraction for the whole of history. In roman times the colosseum was the scene of what we now regard as unspeakable acts of horrendous cruelty. Public executions, floggings and torture always drew huge crowds. In some parts of the world this still does. In our utopian society we are all above this now. Public suffering is totally outlawed except in a few instances. Public humiliation however is still alive and well, it ranges from politicians who deny sections of society basic human rights, to awful , vulgar drag queens humiliating straight women by going through their handbags on stage in front of a crowd of leering pisspots. (Including me).

My late partner was an artist of consummate skills in these aspects. Creating public scenes was his fave, and oft at my expense and humiliation. There were his usual displays in restaurants and bars, but occasionally he excelled with exquisite premeditated plots. I want to share thus.

He went overseas for an extended holiday (6 months) and as we were in an open relationship, this was no problem. Video cameras were new at that time and of course I had bought one as soon as they became affordable. I met a particularly handsome and massively endowed guy and we had a 4 week fling. You can see the connection can't you? Home-made intimate videos. Just before my partner returned I very carefully hid the video tape inside the back of a computer, unscrewing it and then putting it back together. No chance of anyone ever finding it, so I could watch it in secret privacy in years to come.

Some weeks after my partner came home, we were hosting a small dinner party with some close friends and I was making the dinner out in the kitchen, but I could hear the drone of conversation. After a while it went quiet and then there was so roaring laughter and a lot of groaning, "they're watching some of the foreign erotica he brought back" I innocently thought. You can guess what he put on for them. It was at this point I became aware of the ghoulish fascination humans have with seeing each other suffer.

God knows how he found the tape, and he went to his grave 12 years ago with that secret, but even worse is, where is that video tape now?

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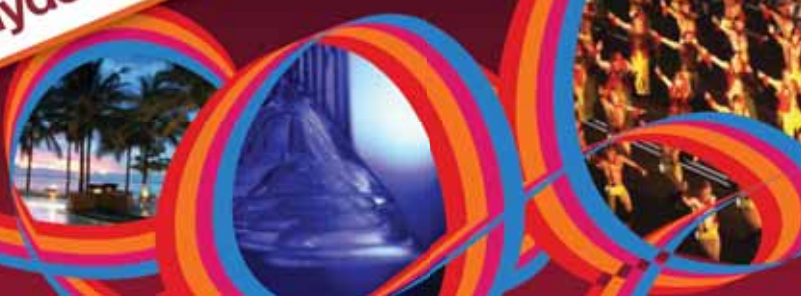
For the past twelve months, the Yorkshire Stingo Hotel has been supporting Pride March Victoria by donating the money raised [gold coin] at each Sunday's Sausage Sizzle. The tins have been cleared 3 times over this time, totalling almost \$2000. This money will be used to buy new and needed assembly entrants signage. To Peter, Jason and all the fabulous crew - thank you - you're true champions. The Sausage Sizzle and Pride fundraising continues each Sunday.



# A must see for the Gay Community

For everything you need to know from local & national news, reviews and events, [gaydestination.net.au](http://gaydestination.net.au) is the place to find it. It also features a community and business guide and great photo gallery. The name to remember is [gaydestination.net.au](http://gaydestination.net.au)

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# q lifestyle: with PETE DILLON

A monthly review of what is great in the world of Food, Bars, and Wine



## Bar - Sabroso – 2 Gamon Street, Seddon

I have always remained transparent and ethical in writing these musings on my life as a gastro gnome. I tend to avoid places where my friends and colleagues work or have a financial involvement, and need to state that this venue is an old workplace of mine.

Having said that, I recently had a wander around to this almost local for a quick catch up and arrived shortly after the introduction of the new menu. This is a bar with some fantastic tapas, cooked by a Kiwi who, although he has never been to Spain, has a great understanding of, and passion for, the trappings of Iberian cuisine.

I enjoyed a seafood chowder, which although is not traditional Spanish fare, had integrated flavours of the region. Joined with some Rabbit empanadas on a momos aioli, it was quite a surprise. I did wonder if it was a tad stodgy and the film on top looked as if the cornflour jar had been given an outing, but no, I was assured that the roux would make this film. It was a great balance between smoky Spanish paprika, seafood and vegetables.

Grilled slices of chorizo on corn fritters with a tangy tomato salsa, a sizeable potato and vegetable tortilla with a spinach mousse, and some beef and pork albondingas (meatballs) with a sherry and paprika jus all followed and were all equally as good.

Whilst this is not the most authentic Tapas you will find in Melbourne, for the value and the venue, you won't get much to compare, especially in the inner west. The venue itself is well known to the queer community on this side of town, has a great wine list, footy on the big screen in the Winter and a great outdoor dining area in the Summer.

A great first date or somewhere to languish on the couch with a lover over a bottle of red.

## Food - The Commoner – 122 Johnston Street, Fitzroy.

Okay I am being a tad Melbourne centric this month but as it is my stomping ground, I spend more time here eating drinking and laughing than anywhere else in the country so forgive me being parochial.

I joined some old mates and a rather handsome new one, at this newish venue and we indulged completely. The menu has a 'feed me' option

where the incredibly delightful staff keep bringing small plates of food until you ask them to stop or you explode and make a mess. Thankfully, we did ask to stop.

We were offered a variety of treats and to use the term degustation would be unfair to both the venue and a degustation menu. Simple dishes such as some very tasty carrots that were spice roasted and served with a yoghurt and coriander topping, were excellent. As were salted cod on thin toast – called something like a bocandero but at this stage, a few pinot gris' and a Stella or two before my arrival was preventing me from completely understanding the traditional names. We were treated to the daily special, some crispy skin fish served at the same time as some potatoes that had been tossed with capsicum and olive oil.

This is a great venue and the outdoor area with cool jazz tunes and a nice open fire was the perfect place for me to sneak and indulge in another of my habits. The food is a fusion mod oz with some strong Spanish influences, and the wine list fantastic. Being offered a taste of the wine before a bottle was opened was a nice touch for a wine tart like myself, and finishing with a little bottle of Hungarian dessert wine was a great end to a splendid evening. The fact that the company was not only good looking but delightful made for a perfect mid week get together.

## Wine – 2001 Coriole Nebbiolo

Smack bang in the middle of Winter, nothing gets better than getting home from the footy on a Friday night or a Saturday evening and opening a bottle of 'warm the cockles of your insides' red wine.

I tend to lean to bigger wines at this time of year, and of course, Shiraz sits at the top of my list. BUT, there are a great many Italian grapes being grown in reasonable proportions and I feel compelled to re-visit an old but favoured winery, Coriole, set on 33 ha in the McLaren Vale region of SA. Known for their interesting use of Italian Grape varieties, Coriole have created some rippers and this Nebbiolo is superb.

It has characteristics on the nose that hint of raspberry jam, black cherries and plums, whilst suggesting leathery and spicy notes. It is a medium bodied wine with strong tannic undertones, yet retains a beautiful balance of fruit and spice on the mid palette.

If this sounds like a bunch of wank, then the simplified version is simply a nicely balanced drop that sits well all the way along the tongue, yet offering a strong and substantial mix of fruit, spice and wood.

Drink it with something gamey like duck, or with a strong cheese, some quince paste and dried figs. It is not cheap, and has seen reviewers of late waxing lyrical all over wine and food pages nationally. Pick it up for under \$30 and enjoy.

To make contact with Pete, email  
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or call 0409 142365

# q generation: with LUKE HUGGARD

## Lets Talk Politics.

It's the conversation everyone loves to hate and it seems to me that politics has become so... well, politicised these days.

As demonstrated by the highly publicised controversy over the Peel Hotel's legal right to refuse entry to heterosexuals and lesbians in recent months, politics is becoming increasingly intertwined with individual's social lives, who otherwise would prefer to avoid politics altogether and dance the night away instead. Tabloid columnists and sensationalist shock jocks have pounced on the opportunity to frame the policy by Peel management as discrimination against heterosexuals, while commentators within the gay community voice their support or rejection for the Peel's precedent. Author and journalist Steve Dow has argued that heterosexuals should not be excluded from our dance spaces in order to prevent alienating ourselves in times when "We'll need our friends more than ever dancing to the same tune". In contrast, owner of the Peel Hotel, Tom McFeely, has pointed out that out of 2,000 venues in Melbourne "Heterosexuals have other places to go, my homosexuals do not." The Peel Hotel's decision to reserve the right to refuse entry to those other than gay men, must stem, at least partly, from a dissatisfaction with the progress of equality for gay people in this country. Is the answer segregation? Of course not - as for most of us, an exclusively gay lifestyle is neither achievable nor desirable, and the exclusion of lesbians seriously challenges broader notions of equality and identity.

However, the immediate safety and comfort of our dance spaces, which have come to represent more than merely nightly clubs (whether we like it or not) is extremely important. Debate will continue, and it should. Hopefully it will replace the numbing silence of politics in our community, as we see gay people on television in Idol or Big Brother, and believe that gay rights are progressing fast enough. We should remember that the very act of being apart of the GLBTi community is in itself political. Same-sex sexual expression is in itself a political act, whether we like it or not. Sexuality is relevant, and to pretend otherwise is bordering on the self deluded. In case you need a reminder, check out organisations such as the Saltshakers who oppose the "normalisation of homosexuality" or read the press release posted on the parliamentary secretary to the Treasurer's website, in which gay men are referred to as "fairies" who should not be counted in the census. NSW State Senator, Rev. Fred Nile is always eager to warn of the inherent evil and dangers of homosexuality,

as he is to publicly pray for rain every Mardi Gras. If the Exclusive Brethren would break their vow of silence and talk to us like they have with National and Liberal party leaders, then maybe they could remind us too. However, such right wing diatribe is being challenged by more progressive elements, and the creation of a state wide relationship register in Victoria by the Bracks government is evidence of such optimistic progression. ACT Chief Minister Jon Stanhope and his government have been working hard for our rights with their courageous attempt to award our relationships proper recognition. Politics hasn't got any prettier, but it's everywhere and will remain increasingly relevant for all of us - whether we like it or not!



To make contact with luke, email  
[luke@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:luke@qmagazine.com.au)

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# q beauty: with GEORGE ALEXANDER

*Q-Beauty Mail Bag, what's your gripe...*

*What should I be using for my pimples? I have oily, blotchy skin and my friends mock me!*

*Anabel, Carlton*

Oh Anabel!

Let's see how we can stop all that mocking...

When taking care of a skin which easily breaks out, the key is to be gentle. Many products for breakout skin tend to be alcohol based and can contain harsh ingredients that irritate and sensitize the skin.

A breakout skin is primarily a weak and sensitive skin and can be easily stripped and irritated.

It's important to use an extremely gentle cleanser. A wash-off cleanser is usually best; however make sure that it contains no SLS, fragrance or alcohol. A good cleanser should not make skin feel tight or taught, like soap does, skin should feel clean, fresh and comfortable.

If your skin is oily and the surface feels dry and/or flaky, then you will need to exfoliate to remove the dryness on the surface. Many alcohol based skin preparations will cause this. No matter how oily your skin may be, if you are drying out the surface, all it is doing is telling the skin that there is not enough lubrication on the skin's surface and as a result will simply produce more oil. As more oil is produced, due to the skin being dry and tight, the oil will not be able to get through to the surface and will create small bumps under the skin, known as congestion.

To remedy this, exfoliation is necessary. There are a few different types of exfoliants. If you have active breakout or acne that is flared and possibly weeping, then an automatic exfoliant is best. This type of exfoliant requires no manual work and products like this usually feature ingredients such as AHA's and BHA's, which weaken skin cell bonds and dislodge dead skin easily. A great range of affordable products you can try is the NeoStrata range available from pharmacies. Simply apply the product and leave it on. It will do the rest.

For those with non-active breakout, or pimples that have not formed a head, then you can use a gentle scrub product. Always be careful when applying to not rub, simply roll the beads over the skin without much movement.

After exfoliating or 2 – 3 times a week, try to use a mask. There are many purifying masks on the market, the best being clay based. Clay is a natural detoxifier and moisturiser in one. Go for one which is as natural as possible and contains a high percentage of clay. As a spot treatment, Ella Bache, Clarins and Botani all have effective spot clearing treatment products. They're all gentle and work efficiently. Again here, try to avoid alcohol based products!



For a moisturiser, make sure it is non-comedogenic, which means it has been tested and does not clog pores. It should contain essential oils, as these have a natural anti-bacterial quality. Botani's Moisture Balancing Moisturiser is great. The key here is to be gentle and respect a breakout skin at all times. Avoid squeezing pimples as this will only spread infection and create more breakouts as a result. If you need extractions to be done, see a reliable and professional skin therapist.

Good luck and look forward to a clear, mock-free future!

To make contact with George, email  
[beauty@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:beauty@qmagazine.com.au)

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# q fashion: with ALEX & TRISTAN

Hello from the boys, here with you for another month of fashion fun from the snow. Well ok, maybe its not quite that cold, but the winter weather has certainly settled in and this means a change is needed in the wardrobe department. As much as we all like to show a little flesh, blue really isnt in as a skin colour this season, so its time to rug up...well a little at least.

The sales have now hit full swing across the land and are clearing the shelves so that next seasons range can start making its way into the shops. The sales can be great for a clothing bargain, provided you can find your size, and stand the bargain hunting crowds that migrate to the shops at this time of year. Just beware you dont wind up buying just because its cheap, there are great offers, but some things are cheap for a reason.. no one else wanted them. So over the next month as the sales wind up we will start seeing new stock hitting the stores in readiness for spring. Exciting times are ahead.

New dress pants have started to filter through and were seeing some fresh lighter colours coming in for spring. Lighter greys and stone are replacing the dark that has been around for winter and will look great as part of a spring carnival outfit, or just a change of looks to impress your colleagues at the office. Browns in both light and dark also look set to form a part of the range for the next few months. To ensure your pants do indeed make you look dressed to impress its important to get them tailored, even if they are only a little to long in the leg. Unlike jeans, the worn ripped look on the bottom of dress pants is not in, so make sure you get the chop.

There hasn't yet been a great change in the shirt department, with the darker colours still very much the way to go. The few new styles that have come through though are pointing towards a lot of colour for spring, which after all is what spring is all about. Patterned shirts with either felt, stitching, or both to add effect and depth to the shirt are still hot and a great way to achieve that dressy casual look. Teamed with some hot denim and a few accessories your sure to get some attention.

Accessories are always a great way to add colour or set your look apart from others. At this time of year the right ones can also be very practice. Scarves are a great accessorie to your winter look, not only providing a great way to keep yourself warm but give colour and some volume too. Simple is often the best look, with 2 or 3 colours at most, and a

reasonable length, too short and it can look like your wearing a neck brace..not good. Also we all love our footy (or maybe its just the hot boys in shorts) but footy scarves are just that... to be worn at the game...not everyday.

On the casual front there hasn't yet been a great deal of change, dark denim is still the way to go, with some of the newer arrivals moving away from the heavily faded, or torn look. These raw denim styles can look great either dressed up with a shirt, or casually with a tee or hoody and a hot jacket to finish off. A couple of the new casual shirts have arrived, the colours are great and the material is thin, not suitable just yet, but when the weather starts warming up they'll be must haves.

So be sure to keep an eye out for new arrivals so your the first with a hot new outfit, and for now if you've forgotten to turn the electric blanket on before going out, just make sure you take someone home to keep you warm... wouldn't want a cold would we... till next month - enjoy.

To make contact with Alex & Tristan, email [fashion@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:fashion@qmagazine.com.au)



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# q travel: EXMOUTH NAVY PIER

pictures and story by Shek Graham



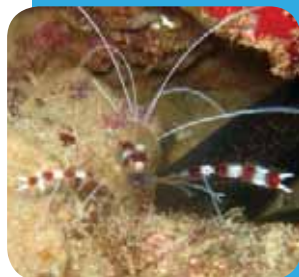
A friend of mine who has dived all over the world, told me that I just had to dive at the Navy Pier if I was going to Exmouth. He had always given me good advice in the past, but I did wonder how a dive amongst the rusty pylons of a pier was going to be so wonderful. But, OMG was he right! There was so much going on I made myself dizzy turning round and round to see what else had appeared behind me!

The whole dive site may only cover a few hundred square metres, but the amount of marine life there was phenomenal. I ended up having to dive it twice as I had only covered about a quarter of the site during the first dive. Actually, I don't think I got a lot further on the second dive...hmm.

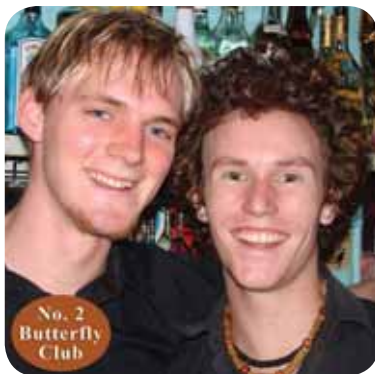
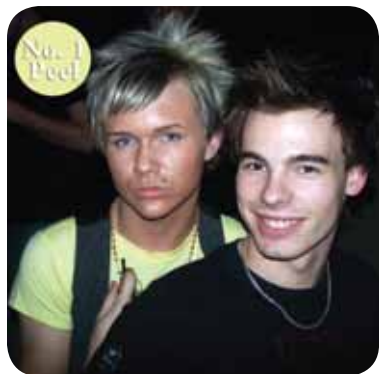


There were enormous shoals of yellow snapper, sharks lying alongside giant groppers; sea slugs of every colour, some that had not even been identified yet; there were sea snakes, bat fish, rays; lion fish, cleaner shrimp cleaning moray eels, tube worms, jelly fish...and much, much more. I may have wet myself in all the excitement (I'm easily excited), but luckily I was wet already!

Oh yes, and just to top it all, did I say there was a manta ray with a remora? They had to drag me kicking and screaming from the water...damn them!



# q cuties: NATURAL BEAUTIES THREE



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

Or you can choose to send in your own picture. It must be accompanied with contact details and must be high quality to make it into print. Our June Q Cuties title goes to our cuties from Heaven's Door. You have won a \$50 drink voucher to share - congratulations.

Conditions: All Omagazine 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 Omagazine. All monthly Q Cuties winners will appear in the following edition of the publication.



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# q focus: SSDV by LYN MORGAIN

**Abuse and violence in 'our' relationships? It's a strange question but one that gets asked more often than one would think.**

The development of the same sex domestic violence project; a collaboration between The ALSO Foundation and Gay Men's Health Centre (and funded by the Department of Human Services) aims to provide training to mainstream providers and promote community education around issues of abuse in same sex relationships. In effect answering (in the affirmative) that very question.

Despite recent research confirming the presence of 'abuse' and 'fears for safety' within the lives of queer folk there is, as yet, insufficient evidence, to say whether more or less than other communities. And really we probably don't need to know, to start doing something about it.

Abusive behaviours in relationships are sufficiently prevalent that our own GLBTIQ, and mainstream, health and welfare agencies like the Police, are concerned to ensure there are appropriate pathways for individuals affected to respond and get help.

Abuse in GLBTIQ relationships, as with others, can take the form of economic or emotional deprivation, isolation from friends and family, name calling, taunting, blackmail and pressure to engage in sexual or other behaviours without consent; through to physical abuse, hitting, shoving, punching, kicking and sexual assault. These may be occasional incidents or long term pattern.

Clearly this is no more acceptable in our relationships than those of heterosexual community.

Sadly it is also clear that the disadvantaged status of our community in a homophobic world means there maybe an added range of behaviours or issues that might be used to perpetuate the cycle of violence. This may include homophobic name calling, threats to 'out' a person, to family and work colleagues or to disclose HIV status or risk custody of children. Leading the victim to feel isolated, worthless and without support.

Experiences of homophobia may also increase an individuals reluctance to name the behaviours, making excuses and trying to protect the individual who is being abusive.

Members of our community may also fear accessing services aimed at supporting people in abusive relationships and threatened with violence,

fearing we will be treated poorly, not taken seriously and that service providers may not understand our relationships.

Whilst there is still a great deal of work to be done, mainstream agencies have been keen to take up the training and work with our community to improve access to services. There are a number of providers including Police who routinely deal with our needs in a respectful and responsive way.



Remembering that no-one is helped by a failure to get help:

## Contacts:

**VAC/GMHC**, Counselling Services, Contact the duty worker, Weekdays between 2 – 4pm (except public holidays), 6 Claremont Street, South Yarra 3141 Phone: (03) 9865 6700 Email: [counselling@vicaidas.asn.au](mailto:counselling@vicaidas.asn.au) Website: [vicaidas.asn.au](http://vicaidas.asn.au) **Drummond Street Relationships Centre**, Phone: (03) 9663 6733 **Gay and Lesbian Switchboard Victoria**, Phone: (03) 9827 8544 or Country 1800 631 493 Daily 6pm – 10pm and Wednesday 2pm – 10pm Email: [glswitch@vicnet.au](mailto:glswitch@vicnet.au) Website: [vicnet.au/~glswitch](http://vicnet.au/~glswitch) **Domestic Violence and Incest Resource Centre (DVIRC)** Mon – Fri 9am – 5pm Phone: (03) 9486 9866 Email: [dvirc@dvirc.org.au](mailto:dvirc@dvirc.org.au) Website: [dvirc.org.au](http://dvirc.org.au) **Police Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officer** Phone: (03) 9247 6666

**Victoria Police take the issue of violence within any relationship seriously. We acknowledge that violence can take place in any type of relationship, whether that is a heterosexual or a homosexual relationship. Police also understand that for some who are suffering violence in their same sex relationship there can be a reluctance to report the matter to police.**

It is estimated that about 20% of heterosexual relationship violence is reported to police, but recent research suggests that this figure is even less for the homosexual community with only about 10% of violence in same sex relationship reported to police. Police understand that there are many barriers to reporting relationship violence to police. These can include:

- the fear of the officers reaction when disclosing a same sex relationship.
- that some people will not want to identify their same sex relationship to police and will pass it off as a friendship or as flatmates
- that some victims are not 'out' to family, friends or work colleagues and that by seeking assistance may cause their sexuality to be disclosed
- the difficulties associated with losing friends. After a relationship breakdown, from within a small community such as the gay and lesbian community there can be social isolation.

Police encourage any person who may be suffering from violence in their relationship to contact us to discuss their options. If you are concerned about how the officer may react then contact a Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officer (GLLO). You can contact a GLLO anonymously if you wish just to obtain advice or get assistance in reporting the violence.

A contact list for Victoria Police GLLOs can be located on the police website [police.vic.gov.au](http://police.vic.gov.au). Alternatively you can email [melbourne.glo@police.vic.gov.au](mailto:melbourne.glo@police.vic.gov.au) Remember their violence is never your fault.

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# q life tips: from MARK McKEON

Tips for July:

## 1 - Don't Work on Your Birthday.

This is your day...celebrate. Don't let it slip past as just another routine, faceless, 'one out of 365' days. Every day is special, but birthdays are milestones, benchmarks.

Put enough birthdays together and you have a life, your life. It is a day to pause, perhaps even reflect if you are that way inclined. Make a fuss, eat ice cream, have a party and get some presents, even if you have to buy them yourself.

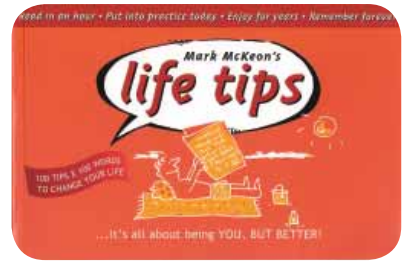
## 2 - Take time to relax - make it your habit.

To find out if you're stressed, just feel the nape of your neck, with the palm of your hand!

One direct physical effect of anxiety is decreasing blood flow to peripheral areas like skin at the back of your neck. This causes reduction in blood flow and therefore a decrease in skin temperature that is noticeably cooler to the touch. If the area between your shoulder blades feels cooler than your forearms or hands...you are stressed!

## 3 - Eat promiscuously.

Eating a variety of foods is the only way to satisfy your body's nutritional needs. While a supplement may help, every vitamin has so many derivatives (500 in vitamin A alone) that no one supplement can capture them all...only food can. We should aim for thirty different foods each week. Most people don't even get to twenty.



# q says: with MINX MWAHZELLE

Being Gay in Today's "Accepting, yet still Homophobic" Society.

Something that came to my attention a few weekends ago, or should I say, was unavoidably thrust in my face, was a public display of affection, that was not only totally over the top, but disgusting to witness.

I was at a very popular Gay Nightclub on Commercial Road one Saturday night not so long ago, when sitting on one of the couches with a couple of friends, two heterosexuals were, now this is an understatement, becoming one. Now I would like to state for the record that, I live by a general 'live and let...what the hell, I'm Hetrophobic! Who am I kidding? When heterosexuals come as tourists into our small little designated parts of the world that they like to tuck us away in, where we can feel free to express OUR feelings, affections, spend time being ourselves with others doing the same (I use that term 'being ourselves' loosely when speaking of the gay scene - but you know what I mean). When they decide to visit us for an excursion, the last thing we want to see them doing is basically having sex out in the open, not a dark corner, right there for everyone to watch. Yeah sure, you say "If you don't want to see it close your eyes," that's all well and good, but then you end up being thrown out for sleeping on the couch by the burly bouncer! No only kidding.

My argument is this. They don't allow us to do that stuff in THEIR clubs...why the hell should we put up with that in ours? I'm not a huge gay activist, by any means. I do my thing, that's about it. I'm not saying they shouldn't come and enjoy our clubs with us, but BEHAVE people, you're in our world! But when is enough enough? True acceptance is still a long way off it feels.



## Q Joke of the Month

Four gay guys walk into a bar and start arguing over whose penis is the longest.

The bar tender finally got sick of hearing them arguing told them he had a way to solve this problem.

"Stick your penis on the bar and I'll tell you who's got the biggest one".

Just as they put their penis on the bar, another gay guy walks in and yells "I'll have the buffet!"





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# in bed with: BEN

You Get What You Think About Every time!

*"It doesn't make sense to jump towards the ground!"*

Was exactly what I was thinking when I recently did bungee jumping on the Gold Coast last month. Height wasn't the issue. I've done skydiving before and absolutely loved it. But the thing with bungee jumping is that you completely relinquish all control of the situation and put your trust in a cord made of rubber!

Why the hell do it? More a personal challenge than anything with a slight mix of idiocy!

The extra bit of idiocy came when I tried to kneel down closer to the ground so I didn't have so far to jump, hmmm, that didn't really work come to think of it. Instead I kind of just rolled off!

And on top of that to make it worse, I had my mate down at the bottom who was laughing his head off calling me a whimp the first time I failed to jump! (It's been edited to whimp to protect the innocent and don't worry Gordon I won't mention your name here, you bastard! Gordon, Gordon, Gordon!)

Any who, where was I? Oh, that's right, what the hell does this have to do with you?

It has a lot more to do with you than what you think! How many things in your life are you currently trying to control and make work instead of allowing to work and flow? What do I mean? I mean when you work so hard to pay off your debts instead of focusing on allowing money to come to you, or pushing up hill to get a relationship off the ground in fear that it will fall apart instead of putting your energy into trusting that it will just turn out exactly how it needs to when it needs to.

Relinquishing control can be one of the hardest things we can do as human beings and even more so when it comes to allowing things to come to us. Instead we focus on what we really don't want, like a cheating partner, road rage, lack of money, lack of love and in my case, jumping to my death!

Now you may be sitting there thinking, "I don't think about those things!" I can tell you right now, if they are appearing in your life you are thinking about them, you just may not be consciously thinking of them!

You see scientists tell us that we only use 5% of our mind being the conscious mind and the other 95% is of the subconscious mind. The subconscious mind stores all of our beliefs about relationships, money, career and life in general and dictates to an enormous degree how we go about our daily lives. What's worse is if we don't know what's going on at a subconscious level then we may have a hard time changing our life at a conscious level.

A very simple and revealing exercise you can do to establish what you truly think about in key areas of your life is to play a word association exercise and write down whatever comes to your



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mind first when you think of things like, relationships, money, wealth, career, family, health and bungee jumping. Do them each individually and keep writing down words for each one until you can't think of anymore. You will reveal a completely different side to your personality that you may never have been aware of!

Do this exercise and ask yourself, are you getting what you really think about most or are you really getting what you think about most? Yes or Yes!

## q movies: ACCENT FILMS

Winner of the Audience Choice Award for Best Documentary at the 2005 Melbourne Queer Film Festival, feature documentary FUNNY KINDA GUY tells the story of the transition from female to male of transgendered singer-songwriter Simon de Voil - on sale and hire at OUT Video now.

A musical odyssey, the film uses Simon's own songs to tell his remarkable story. The journey lasts more than a year and a half, and takes him from his native Scotland to the other side of the world. There is freedom and happiness along the way, as his new-found masculinity flourishes, but there is also sadness and loss, as he irreversibly sacrifices his female singing voice to hormone treatment.





# q hair: with LAUREN SCHIPP

Q magazine readers are lucky this month because I am writing all the way from San Francisco. I have just recently moved here, so I will keep you up to date on what's happening with hair in the city of strong women and pretty men.

Having a "small" drink in the area of Castro, I am noticing lots of fantastic styles. Boys are wearing funky disconnected crops, lots of fringes (Bangs are what they call them here), and retro long styles.

For fringes, they can look so good when they are styled properly. But boys, just like girls, who want to wear a fringe need to blow dry. This will get rid of any weird hair lines and cowlicks. Over all, if you have any curl in your hair and want to style it properly, you should blow dry it straight (the hair, not you!). Yes, even if your hair is short. Ask your stylist to show you how to do it, then practice at home, it will take some time but when you get the hang of it you won't look back. The retro long style that is naturally scrunched dried is great for hair with a slight curl. This style needs to be very well cut. A lot of men make the mistake of just

growing their hair out, but it ends up looking big and scruffy. This cut needs to be layered properly and have weight taken out, especially if the hair is really thick and it should just sit on the shoulders, no longer. The product to use is a very light gel just to get the movement into it. Head bands are also everywhere at the moment with long locks (it really suits some guys who wear them properly) - the bigger the band, the better. It's almost worn like a hat, but it doesn't ruin your gorgeous hair style. Also, extensions are 'in' this month, as long as you wear an orange jumpsuit with them, completed with a set of shiny bracelets at the ankles and wrists.



As this is my first week here, I'll just have to keep going out for the benefit of Q magazine (and all of you) to get all the gorgeous goss...he he!

To make contact with Lauren, email  
[hair@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:hair@qmagazine.com.au)

## q grooming: YOUR Q & A SECTION

Q – My lips always seem to dry out and get cracked...help!

A - If your lips tend to dry out as the day goes on, avoid licking them to moisten, and instead use a lip balm.

At night, you can very gently use a facial exfoliator on lips to get rid of dead skin, and then make sure you pack on the lip balm before you go to sleep. There are no sweat glands in our lips, so we really do need to moisten them to keep them healthy.

TRY: Terra Firma by The Natural Source – Sun & Wind Lip Conditioner - Price \$7.95

Send questions to [grooming@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:grooming@qmagazine.com.au)



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# q happenings: OUTGAMES ANTICS

Volunteers for the 1st Asia Pacific Outgames Melbourne to be held in 2008, took to the streets of Brisbane as part of the Brisbane Pride celebrations.

On Saturday 16 June, volunteers from the Outgames organising team jetted up from the south to join Team Brisbane and a host of local gay & lesbian sports enthusiasts and their friends to celebrate Brisbane Pride and help to spread the word about why the local community should visit Melbourne next year to come and play with your neighbours!

As well as marching with tremendous pride, Outgames volunteers mingled with Brisbane's 'Aqualicious' swim team and individuals from the umbrella GLBTI sports organisation Team Brisbane, to help promote the forthcoming Outgames at Fair Day. The following day, an informal information



capital cities throughout Australia and the Asia Pacific region including Hong Kong, Manila, China, India and New Zealand. The promotional roadshow of leveraging those 'frequent flier points' continued when Outgames volunteers and some local 'Champions' hosted an information night for WA's gay & lesbian sports community at the Court Hotel on Friday 22 in Perth.

exchange forum was staged, where a number of local gay & lesbian sports were represented including Swimming, Running, Tennis and Team Brisbane leaders representing some 10 different sporting bodies.

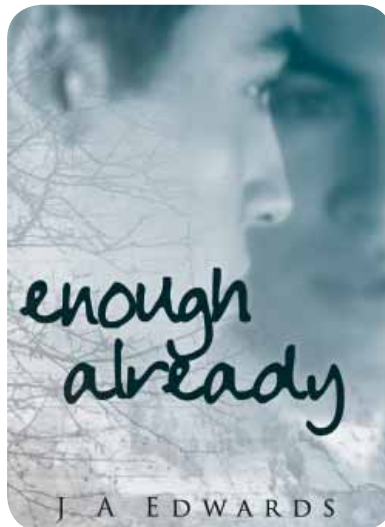
Outgames organisers were also joined by three local 'Champions' who have pledged their support in helping to promote the Outgames locally throughout Queensland. As a result of the Outgames recruitment process, 'Champions' have started to blossom in

Registration for the 1st Asia Pacific Outgames, Melbourne 2008 is to commence next month and regular updates will be available on [melbourneoutgames.org](http://melbourneoutgames.org) and via the Club Melbourne eNewsletter which can be subscribed to directly from the website.

## q books: ENOUGH ALREADY

Respected Brisbane author, J A Edwards has just released her latest novel, *Enough Already* – a sensitively written and well-researched novel that tells of three very different young men's lives, and the reasons and circumstances that made them want to end them.

It is a story about young Australians and the many problems they face growing up – lives that are confused by puberty, peer group pressure, bullying, sex, drugs, racism, violence, unemployment, family pressures and depression. It reflects the difficulty, young people find, of being positive about a future in a less nurturing and more competitive, technological world.



Why did the handsome, popular Jonathon, who was studying medicine on a scholarship, choose to take his own life in such an unpleasant way? Why, only a matter of weeks later, did Ron drive his beloved car off the side of a mountain?

Why was Freddie so obsessed with death and ways of dying? Everyone in the country town of Woodley wondered what was causing its young men to lose their will to live.

In all good book stores now through Zeus Publications.

*"After Jonathon did himself in, the whole town talked about nothing else for weeks. Everyone, including me, wanted to know why. It was one of the reasons I chose to go the way I did."*

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# q scene: OUT & ABOUT



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# q scene: OUT & ABOUT



Opium Den



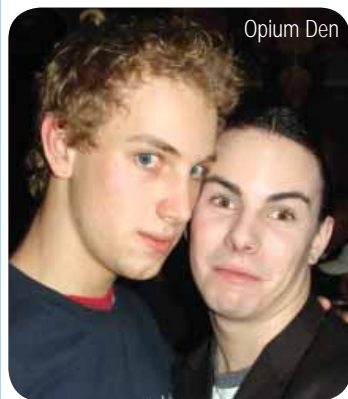
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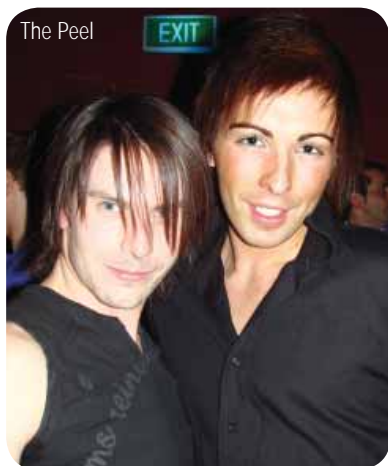
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The Peel



The Peel



The Peel



Opium Den



Opium Den



DIVA Bar



DIVA Bar



DIVA Bar



DIVA Bar



DIVA Bar



DIVA Bar



Darwin Pride



DIVA Bar



Darwin Pride



Darwin Pride





# q scene: OUT & ABOUT





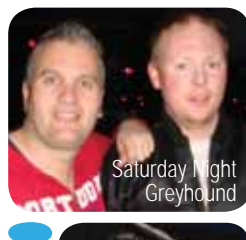
Saturday Night Greyhound



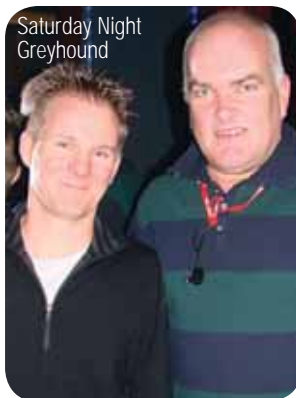
Saturday Night Greyhound



Saturday Night Greyhound



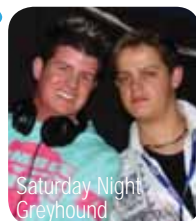
Saturday Night Greyhound



Saturday Night Greyhound



Commercial



Saturday Night Greyhound



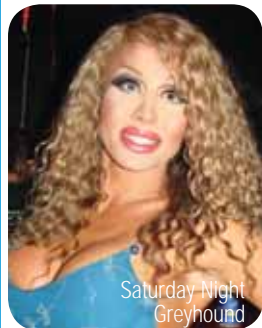
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Saturday Night Greyhound



The Market



Saturday Night Greyhound



The Market



The Market



Saturday Night Greyhound

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# q story: COMING OUT OR STAYING IN

Issues for Gay teens by Sam Parkinson

With same-sex rights at the fore-front of many political debates, it is surprising that the struggle of 'coming out' is rarely mentioned. As a homosexual male, I have often found myself second-guessing my own decision to come out to my family and friends about being gay. The fear, hostility and violence that some gay teenagers face have led me to wonder: when it comes to 'coming out', should some people just 'stay in'?

When a young teen is in the P.E change-rooms at high school and they realise that they are enjoying the view of their class mates a little too much, the questioning of normality and peer acceptance makes itself known.

If predisposed to be more artistic than athletic, a male can be ostracised by his peers and made to feel feminine or like a gender-outcast. The very same can be said for masculine females. A preference for football over dancing can lead to jokes about being a 'dyke' or 'butch'. Adolescence is a period of self exploration where almost every comment is internalised and taken seriously.

Admitting to same-sex attraction while still attending school is a risk many adolescents choose not to take, because they know that their class mates would target them for harassment. The home life for some teenagers is sometimes not much better. Gay teenagers who were raised by religious or close-minded parents may stay in the closet until they feel financially and emotionally independent.

Not adhering to the stereotypical 'gay' behaviour, my own sexuality was never brought into question by my peers. I saw how one young man was treated in school because he acted effeminate, and I knew if I told people I was homosexual then I would become a possible target for prejudice and hostility. It would be a lie if I said that I never thought of suicide at times when my sexuality seemed like a giant burden, but I refused to let the biased opinions of other people define my identity.

After becoming consciously aware that I was gay at the age of 16, I went through a period of 'mourning for my heterosexuality'. All of my friends were straight and I hated the fact that I no longer was. There were instances where I refused to play a sport fearing I would get caught out perving on the guys. People shouldn't feel held back by their

sexuality, but the pressures of adolescence and need for acceptance is often too strong.

I adamantly refused to tell my parents I was gay, afraid that I would let them down. Parents have dreams and aspirations for their children, which rarely include homosexuality. The only people I told were my immediate friends.

The friendships I have today are very reliant on acceptance of my true self. The closest gay friend I have is a high school

class mate, who shares a very similar story on coming out. Rachel and I came out at the same time, both mutually unaware of each others sexuality.

We both held off telling our parents for fear of not being accepted, and we both received initial hostility from our fathers. I told my parents during a time of emotional instability and irritation, when I had just had enough of pretending to be someone I wasn't. Since coming out to my family and friends, I have reached a point where the opinions of others have no impact on my life and I am comfortable within myself.

I find myself to be extremely lucky in the regard that I have never had any serious issues with homophobia, primarily because I have avoided possible instances where my sexuality might become subject to belittlement.

Growing up gay and coming to terms with one's sexuality is a constant struggle. With many countries changing their laws to include same-sex relationships in the definition of 'family' and allowing for marriage and adoption, gay teenagers of today are becoming more accepting of their true selves. With my own personal experiences and the experiences of many of my friends, I am comfortable in saying that homosexuals are not considered to be as separate from the straight world as they once were, however gay teens need to be informed that they aren't the first ones to go through the torment of coming out, and they certainly won't be the last.





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# q cabaret: IT'S A GREAT LIFE

*Cabaret cocktail of the month: Bumbellicious*

*b mb lli'ni (-n) 1. n. (vulg.) an organised collection of brazen babble, beguiling braggadocio and bountiful boobs. 2. n. a cabaret trio featuring ~ set to music (esp. starring Jacqui Hoy, Helen Patterson and Cathy Woodhouse accompanied by Andrew Patterson). 3. n. common misspelling of bomboloni, a traditional jam-or custard-filled doughnut treat [It.]. ~cious (-shus) a. possessing the qualities of ~ in an appealing and/or erotic way.*

## Queenie van de Zandt in CABARET – THE 12 STEP PROGRAM

'Helping us live and work the Twelve Steps to better Cabaret' In CABARET – THE 12 STEP PROGRAM, Queenie, ("... the spectacular musical theatre and cabaret performer..." Sunday Telegraph), reveals the secrets to creating a successful cabaret all while she simultaneously performs a successful cabaret (and just a tip, one of the secrets is not designing a set which consists of pinning all your record covers of Andrew Lloyd Webber shows at interesting angles onto a curtain). Yes – it's a cabaret, within a cabaret, about a cabaret. And if you're confused, just stop being so selfish and think about how she must feel. Written and performed by Queenie van de Zandt. Musical direction by Mark Jones.



Saturdays on 9, 16, 23, 30 June and 7 July, all shows at 10.30pm Ticket price: \$20 full / \$15 for concession-holders and for groups of 8 or more. Duration: one hour approx

**V @ the B** Following sell-out seasons in 2005 and 2006, this years Victorian College of the Arts' graduating Music Theatre students



are presenting their own unique 'take' on cabaret. No topic is taboo and they're not holding back. In collaboration with cabaret experts Queenie van de Zandt, Tim Smith and Martin Croft, 'V @ the B' aims to introduce a new generation of cabaret performers and give the students an understanding of the workings of the form, to enable them to further broaden their future professional careers. Come and see the next big things!

Wednesday 11 July at 8.00pm Alicia Attwood, Jonathan Cook, Kasey McKenzie, Adele Scott, Reece Budin. Thursday 12 July at 8.00pm Melanie Somerville, Jensen Overend, Simon Douglas, Kasey Gambling, Joel Mead, Elle Sejean. Friday 13 July at 8.00pm Alicia Attwood, Jonathan Cook, Kasey McKenzie, Adele Scott, Reece Budin, Kasey McKenzie, Adele Scott, Reece Budin. Saturday 14 July at 8.00pm Melanie

Somerville, Jensen Overend, Simon Douglas, Kasey Gambling, Joel Mead, Elle Sejean Sunday 15 July at 5.00pm Alicia Attwood, Jonathan Cook, Kasey McKenzie, Adele Scott, Reece Budin. Sunday 15 July at 8.00pm Melanie Somerville, Jensen Overend, Simon Douglas, Kasey Gambling, Joel Mead, Elle Sejean

Ticket price: \$25 full / \$20 for concession-holders and for groups of 8 or more. Duration: two hours approx, including intermission

**Graham Foote in MEMOIRS OF A GAY STAR** Join Graham as he adopts the guise of Clarke P. Arnold – a washed-up, has-been musical star. Bring clean hankies as laughs – and maybe a few tears – will abound in this riotous satire of a D-Grade celebrity and his life in cabaret.



Thursday 19 July to Sunday 22 July, all shows at 9.00pm Ticket price: \$25 full / \$20 for concession-holders and for groups of 8 or more. Duration: 70 minutes approx

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