

September 2007

Q MAGAZINE

**Inside this Issue:**

Q People with Damien Leith,  
Q Says with Vicki Vegas,  
Q WIN, Q Accom, Q WIN Extra,  
Q Focus with Same Sex Travel,  
and much more.

*Q Magazine salutes our Bar staff. Inside - find out what  
Melbourne Barmen think about their work.  
Q Magazine - Made Locally! Enjoyed Nationally!*

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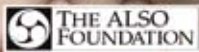
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# SEPTEMBER 2007

Issue 39

## q comment: UP UP AND AWAY

Since becoming President of PLWHA Victoria, I have certainly racked up the frequent flyer points - fortunately I have always loved flying. Although most of my travels for the agency have been to attend conferences, forums and the like, August was also the month where I finally bit the bullet and flew to my home town - Cairns, in Far North Queensland - for my first holiday in many years.

My main motivation was to see my son, James, for the first time in around 5 years [he is now 16 years old]. It was also a chance for me to catch up with some good friends: Shek and Jan [with whom I stayed]; Shar and Kim; John Vickary; Destiny; Brad and Kay; my niece Kaitlin and her girlfriend "George"; "Doris"; and my sister Lynn. Too many people to list really, but it was great to see everyone again after so long.

I also really enjoyed the fresh cool weather.

Cairns and the Far North is as beautiful as it always has been - a true paradise. Beaches a short while north of the city centre, Port Douglas a short coastal drive away, the Great Barrier Reef on your doorstep, and the rich, green, hinterland. I also spent some time enjoying the hospitality of Skinny Dips Resort and Spa. Skinny Dips is SO MUCH MORE than just '18-24 James' re-named. The property has been given an X-Treme Makeover, and emerged as a boutique resort offering quality facilities and services. As part of Skinny Dips birthday celebrations, they are offering a sensational Birthday Package to entice new-comers or previous guests to 18-24 to experience what is now a fresh, friendly, affordable and exclusively gay holiday experience [see q queensland page for more].



I also celebrated my 41st Birthday at the Stingo on the 13th of August. Heart-felt thanks to all who were there - particularly Peter and Jason, the staff and Anita. An extra special thank you to my next door neighbours - Simon and Megan - for taking me out for dinner that night. I had a fabulous evening.



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ABN 21 631 209 230





# q feature: OUR FABBY BAR PEEPS



As a tribute to the hard working Bar men and women of Melbourne [and in fact right across Australia], I asked each participant: What is the best thing about your job, and, What is the worst thing about your job? These are their replies. Obviously, due to space restraints, not all venues are represented, but the ones I have chosen certainly do reflect the diversity and choice of the bars / clubs available to the GLBTi community. Make sure you treat your local barperson with respect and realise that they are simply doing a job - a job however that you would truly miss if it wasn't performed with the professionalism most possess.

I like working @ Heaven's Door cause we're open the nights through to Sunday, and every night we're open, there's something different on - Thursdays is TWISTED DISCO with myself and DJ Andy "HOT", Fridays you have 80s & 90s with Anita Mann, Saturdays you have R'n'B with hot dancers and Sundays, two 4 one cocktails.

If you're in Melbourne, I suggest you pop in 2 Heaven's Door and check it out 4 yourself and come say G'day. If you're out 4 a fun night, I suggest you come down on a Thursday and see my sister in FULL ACTION. Action@TWISTED DISCO! TWISTED...says it all.

The worst part is the fact that I am sober "MOST OF THE TIME" and everyone around me is drunk and trashed...not fair...but other than that it's all good. Management, and everyone I work with are fantastic. You can catch me @ Heaven's Door Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays..catch ya 4 now!



The best part of being bar manager at the Laird O'Cockpen Hotel is meeting people from Melbourne, interstate and around the world. We enjoy making people feel welcome, and after 28 years the Laird has become an icon which Melbourne should be proud.

The worst thing is so many hot men, but so little time to play the game!



The Best thing about my job is the amount of genuinely nice people you get to meet doing bar work. That's not to say you don't get some difficult people, but as a rule at the Grosvenor, we get a pretty good crowd. Oh and the knock off drinks aren't bad either.

I'd have to say The Worst thing about my job is having too many knock off drinks and feeling the effects the next day [laughs].



For me, the best thing about being a bar tender is that I get to meet so many different people. I get to know [more personally] the regular clients, and I've even made some great friends over the bar. For me that makes me happy! Like a lot of people in this industry, it isn't all I do - I'm a circus performer, and in that job, I don't get to interact much with the people I'm performing for so that's why I enjoy meeting new people in this profession!

The worst thing, I would definitely have to say, is cutting people off when they've had too much. I hate to have to be assertive and even sometimes a bit of a bitch, and it gets worse when the client gets angry and aggressive. That scares me a bit, but I've learned to hold my ground and calm the situation. Besides that, I really like this job and everyone I've met, so if I haven't met you yet, come to the Stingo and have a good time and a few drinks with me!



As a boy who grew up in the country in a large family, I loved organising family parties so working at Diva has enabled me to continue one of my childhood loves.

Working at Diva is a neverending party as the staff and customers have such a great rapport and we all party together.

The customers I have met at Diva have been mostly very friendly and well behaved - which makes work a lot easier.

As with any bar person, they will say the worst thing is difficult customers, but usually with communication, a difficult customer usually becomes a very good one.

A hard part of working in a bar is when you see everyone having a great time dancing and you would love to join them, but can't as you must serve the other customers.



Hmmm? There are 2 things I love about my job. I get to meet new people everyday i.e. Cuties and I get to shake my booty behind the bar! Lol

The things I hate most about my job is that I don't get to party with my friends when I work & it's hard to pick up!!



When I was asked the best and worst thing about my job, my first reaction was "depends on the night?"

Some shifts might be 10 hours, cleaning up broken glasses and equal amounts of vomit, but at the end of your shift, sit back and think "what a fabulous night!"

It's about the people you're with and the part you've played in creating a party that people talk about until the next week when we do it all over again!

We all work hospitality for different reasons. I like to think I work at the Peel for the same reason everyone else does. We are a family - from managers to glassies, we all do the same stuff. At the end of the week it's as much fun as it is a labour of love.

They call me Stibbsie, and the Peel is my family :)



# q accom: MARDI GRAS SPECIAL

**Get in early for Mardi Gras 2008 accommodation. Visitors to Sydney's biggest street parade and party, the 2008 Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras are being encouraged to book early to take advantage of early bird accommodation rates.**

Metro Inn Edgecliff is a long standing favourite for visitors to the annual Mardi Gras due to its location and great rates. Ideally located on the fringe of Sydney's CBD, the Hotel offers budget conscious guests the opportunity to enjoy the best that Sydney's fashionable and elegant Eastern Suburbs have to offer, at a very affordable 3 star price.

Travel is easy with the Hotel located directly opposite the major Edgecliff train and bus hub, which can bring visitors to Bondi Beach or to Kings Cross for a night out within ten minutes. A ten minute ride in the other direction finds visitors in the heart of Sydney's CBD. The eclectic and funky weekend Bondi and Paddington markets where some of Australia's most famous designers like Collette Dinnigan first showcased their creations, is also only a short bus trip or taxi ride away.

The nearby Eastern Suburbs shopping 'city' - Westfield Bondi Junction, a multi storied galaxy of department stores, boutiques, music, technology and gift shops or elegant, tree lined Double Bay shopping village, is only a short bus ride away or walk downhill.

Metro Inn Edgecliff's 5 star location means that some rooms have stunning views over the elegant apartment blocks and gardens of some of Sydney's most exclusive residential addresses. All rooms include an en-suite bathroom, air conditioning, tea and coffee making facilities, a fridge, hairdryer, alarm clock and iron with ironing board. Communication with friends and loved ones at home in the country, interstate or overseas is instant, via Internet and telephone connection and every room is also wired for Foxtel and pay movies. A \$5 continental breakfast is available, if required, in the casual 'holiday style' breakfast room.

To book accommodation at Metro Inn Edgecliff for Mardi Gras 2008 call the toll free Central Reservations line on 1800 004 321. Alternatively you can book online at [metrohotels.com.au](http://metrohotels.com.au) or by emailing [edgecliff@metrohg.com](mailto:edgecliff@metrohg.com).



## q win: EXTRA

**It's a simple story. Joshua Harrell, founder of Otter Fashion, has always had a passion for Tee-shirts and sports apparel. Not to mention a penchant for looking damn good while working out. But there were just too many times that he found himself stumbling around his bedroom hunting for cool clothes to wear to the gym with no luck. That's when he decided to create his own line of apparel and accessories, tailored to what he liked and what the world wouldn't expect. As it turns out, his surprising Otter Fashion designs aren't only appropriate for the gym. They're perfect for an evening out, lunch by the pool, a shopping spree, or just about any occasion.**

According to Joshua, "The styles represent what's going on in the world, in life and love. Because an Otter has many different scenes in its life, there's no set style for Otter Fashion. The whole point is to have fun. Feel sexy. And get noticed."

Otter Fashion is more than just a new brand name. It is a rapidly rising fashion icon that is defining what an Otter is with each and every design it develops. So – based on Otter Fashion designs, what do we know about Otters thus far? Otters are playful, unique, social, caring, and – above all else – incredibly sexy creatures.

The Otter Fashion design team is exceedingly creative and extremely prolific, launching new items often! Look for more exciting fashion concepts to be released from la casa de la Otter soon! Otter's boy briefs come in an array of flamboyant colors. After all, Otters are playful and sexy!

For the full range, go to [otterfashion.com](http://otterfashion.com) - and yes! you can buy online. We have 3 different sets to give away, so email [getfree@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:getfree@qmagazine.com.au) OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with **Otter** in the subject line and you could be doing Spring/Summer in real style this year.



# Friday Nights Just Keep Getting Bigger And Better At The Grosvenor Hotel!!

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Don't Forget Saturday Nights, With Dj Pasha Playing All Your Favorite's

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### Saturday SATURDAY GROSVENOR

DJ Pasha spinning all your favorite tunes. Open until 3am. Happy Hour from 8pm - 10pm \$2 local pots and \$4 basic spirits

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# q art: with DAVID WESTLAKE

## Viewing a masterpiece.

As I've always said, one's collection is a display of you.

Recently I had the pleasure of again visiting a friend's wonderful warehouse home. A fantastic contemporary space filled with the most amazing and visually stimulating pieces. Both modern and antique pieces share the space, the eye for detail is brilliant. The home is a real lesson in how to display objects in large space - small objects such as small treen, ivories and ceramics are grouped together on trays or placed close together on large pieces of furniture to give greater impact. The large walls have very little on them, but what is there is given utmost strength by the space around it. The home is a showcase, yet not a precious one. Objects are always moving, being handled and discussed. On a recent visit they had a newly-arrived piece of furniture - quite a spectacular example of its type. Me being the inquisitive type, and they being the go-for-it type, we had the doors open, covers off, discussing the patination and repairs, what had been altered, removed etc. I then gave them ideas

on which wax to use and how to apply it. (in my younger days I assisted in restoring pieces for Museum Victoria and the MCG Cricket museum).

I was in my element! These people follow my values and beliefs. It is important to handle your collection and discuss the pieces. Someone will always notice a little thing you missed, or have that vital piece of information you were looking for, or just make you feel good because they like it.

This leads to what I believe - unless the object is so rare or fragile, it is important to touch, use, discuss. You will be surprised by what you learn from others handling or viewing your pieces. What I am saying is that by sharing your collection, you learn so much more. From another point of view, your friends may be against your ideas but can offer views to help.

Please remember I'm no expert (as in one with a degree) but I have decades in the trade and dealing. I just love collecting and sharing knowledge. Which is why I go back to my friends. Collecting is about sharing. A static collection with no input is just a display; when you can discuss and share ideas, your collection is alive. Remember life is short, the pieces you protect will always have future lovers. Look after them and respect them.

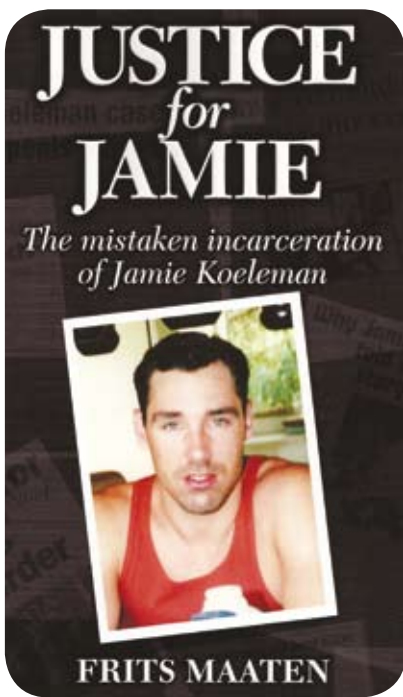


# q books: JUSTICE FOR JAMIE

Arguably one of the most controversial books to be released for quite some time, *Justice for Jamie* is the culmination of a [seemingly] life time of work by author, Frits Maaten [most of you will know him as the previous owner of the Star Hotel]. We hear stories of innocent people being behind bars all the time - Frits strongly believes this to be the case with Jamie Koeleman.

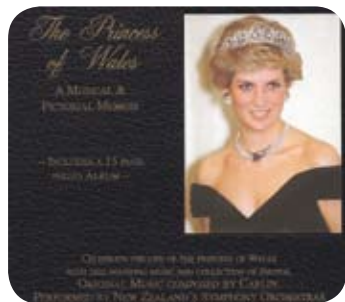
*Justice for Jamie* is a step by step walk through this most intriguing case from beginning to rather sad end [he is currently serving out his sentence in jail]. Frits looks at the man himself - what he was like, his relationships, his then career opportunities and bright future prospects, the interesting series of events that surrounded his eventual incarceration, the way the case was handled [remembering the time this all took place and the less understanding community they were living in, particularly with anything involving homosexuals], and the support - or otherwise - the Melbourne Gay scene gave Frits in his plight to free Jamie from his life behind bars. I, in fact, spoke with Frits for some time regarding the issues, and I applaud him for his relentless quest and support for a person he absolutely believes is innocent of the charges made against him.

*Justice for Jamie* is no brief overview though - it is 356 pages of interviews, recollections, facts, photographs, comments and more. Is Jamie innocent? Were there facts that did not come out in the trial? Was the case based on a man's fantasy and story telling? *Justice for Jamie* allows you to be the "judge". Launching at Hares & Hyenas on the 05th of October. Available in all good book stores from the middle of this month [available now in Hares & Hyenas].





# q win: THE GIFTS KEEP COMING



## Australian Music Biz

We reviewed this fabulous Diana Tribute Album in last month's Q Magazine - now is your chance to get yourself a copy for free. Simply email [getfree@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:getfree@qmagazine.com.au) OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with *Diana* in the subject line and you could be a winner.

## Shaft Store

From my wonderful friend CJ at the Shaft Store, we have two of these amazing adult toys to give away. For information on what they do visit [fleshlight.com](http://fleshlight.com). To take your chance on winning one of them simply email [getfree@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:getfree@qmagazine.com.au) OR sms 0429

88 QMAG with *Shaft Store* in the subject line to test your luck.

Please note: you must be over 18 to win this prize and proof of age will be required.



## East West Health

East West Health is pleased to announce the release of its range of Herbal Health Tea Elixirs. For thousands of years herbs have been used for their medicinal, restorative and health giving properties. For 5000 years the Chinese have used tea to treat many ailments - from colds and coughs to body aches and headaches. More recently researchers have discovered tea's association with the potential management of some diseases. Based on principals compiled over centuries of herbal use, East West Health has based their Herbal Health Elixir Tea Range on traditional Chinese formulas, which have been designed for very precise effects. East West Health has now released a collection of 40 different elixir teas.

The flavours include Party Tea, Male Libido, Female Libido, and teas for Lovers and Energy, Asthma sufferers, Nursing Mothers, and people who want to lose weight or just simply chill out. We have 5 different individual packs to give away, so email [getfree@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:getfree@qmagazine.com.au) OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with *Healthy Teas* in the subject line. Go to [east-west-healing.com](http://east-west-healing.com) for further information.

## Metro Hotels

Metro Hotels would like to offer Q Magazine readers the opportunity to win a two night stay for two people in a Harbour Queen Room, including continental breakfast at Metro Inn Edgecliff - which you will need to use within 3 months of winning. Email [getfree@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:getfree@qmagazine.com.au) OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with *Metro* in the subject line.



## SonyBMG

It's new, it's brilliant and it's in store now - 2006 IDOL winner, Damien Leith's brand new album. I was lucky enough to see the man in concert recently [see interview later in issue]. We have 5 albums up for grabs - email [getfree@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:getfree@qmagazine.com.au) OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with *Damien* in the subject line.

\*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 Q Magazine. All monthly winners are notified by email or SMS.

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# q whispers: with ADDAM STOBBS

**Addam Stobbs destined to burn in hell.**

**For all my life I have been constantly bombarded with messages that I am evil. There are those who would think this is so, but not for the reasons that top the list. The number one on the list of the “you evil queen” things seems to be that I am living at odds with ‘God’s natural law’ (or whatever). There are reasons why I am an atheist, and a non believer in any type of existence after death.**

My parents were very religious during my adolescent years, and whilst they were wonderful parents on most levels, they really put me under a lot of pressure to accept their religious beliefs. The main thing they used was my love of music. They denied me music until I gave my life to Jesus. Needless to say I didn’t capitulate, in fact as is the case with many adolescents, I rejected my parents values with vigour, partly to demonstrate that I was my own person with a holistic sense of self, but also I couldn’t believe any of the religious crap that I was being force-fed.

Ironically I was sent to a number of private schools run by Christian brothers, and I was happy to partake in the religious ceremony at those institutions, but at no time during my education in Catholic (and Anglican) schools did anyone ever try to exorcise the demons of gayness from me, that was handed out aplenty in the state schools. My parents were going places in the Pentecostal Church (Assembly of God) and as my father was an ex-politician, he was making friends in high places. Although I had not come out to them, their fall from grace was due to my sexuality when I was about 17.

There are several really odd coincidences. I spoke to one of the Christian brothers about finding other men sexually attractive at high school, and he knew of my family, and encouraged me not to mention this to my parents until I was able to look after myself (good advice at the time). He was not gay himself, but brother Joseph was completely sane and non-judgemental, and gave me sound advice. He also told me NEVER to apologise for who I am. “If you are homosexual” he said to me, “rejoice in it because God has made you like this for a reason, and he will help you to realise what that reason is”. Well I am still waiting for the divine message, but of course I have always known what it is all about.

My parents’ story in their quest with godliness only came to my attention many years later. While I was at boarding school, they had some idea that I might

be gay, and they mentioned this to the pastor of the church where they were so loved. The ‘elders’ of the church came to the quick conclusion that I was gay because I was 1) Evil, and 2) possessed by demons. They urged my parents to have me exorcised and/or cast me out. At this point my parents were saved and saw the light.



When I came back to live with my parents towards the end of year 12, I realised that I would have to get out, not because of the drama that had been going with the church (and that I had no idea about) but because I wanted to have lots of sex with men and not have to explain myself – I also wanted a boyfriend and quickly found one who lived in another town. I am amazed to find that in almost half an hour whilst I was tucked up in boarding school in Charters Towers, my parents completely changed their belief systems. Most of their lives had been leading up to being one with God, and in one blinding flash of reason they saw the truth (well some of it). They did flirt with spiritualism for a while, in which my mother gathered a large following for her apparently psychic abilities. They were not quite willing to cut the umbilicus to heaven as readily as I was. Now they are about as atheistic as I am. The church fellowships just shook their heads and were very quick to cut off all contact. When my Dad told me about these events that happened all those years ago, I was so proud to be his son. I was right and they were wrong.

Why are so many well educated and intelligent people so willing to swallow mythical guff and swear on it as being truth? In part it harks back to my own rejecting of religion, “I will believe what ever I want”, so fair enough, it’s their right to believe whatever they want as well. My disbelief is based on the lack of evidence in any from of hereafter, or deity. The right to believe is fundamental to our way of life, as is the right to not believe. I respect the beliefs of others although I don’t share them, and I respect the diversity of human nature and sexuality, why can’t everyone else?

I once watched someone close to me change from militant atheist to full believer, but this all took place on his death bed. That’s the clincher! The promise of life after death is the common denominator in all religions, and defines the nature of how many of us live out our lives - we live to die. The fear of death and the unknown – powerful stuff eh? One of the things that’s great about being gay (and being me) is that I think I can see beyond those constraining perspectives and I can see past blind faith, and discover my own beliefs systems...and, so can you. They had better be the same as mine though, otherwise you will go to hell [Wink Wink].

**generationq.net headlines for  
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# q lifestyle: with PETE DILLON

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

I love stumbling on new trends, and so dear readers, remember that you read it here first...all the hip young things and the easily influenced will be drinking - liqueur Muscat on ice or with soda this Summer. A cracker of a beverage and perfect for Summer consumption.

This month brings me back home to roost in Melbourne, and some fave haunts. Here are a couple...

## Bar – BLVD, Southbank, Melbourne.

Stumbling into venues on an accidental whim seems to be de rigueur for me. Thus my recent foray into BLVD in Melbourne's South bank precinct was a pleasant surprise.

Bold primary colours dominate the senses as you enter, and a hip stylish crowd lend an atmosphere to the venue early evening. Late evening things hot up and the crowd gets particularly younger. This is my time to stagger on to the next, more adult, venue.

Overlooking Queensbridge Square and the Yarra, it is a great Spring/Summer venue for outside quaffing of those very much deserved Friday night drinkies. The two indoor levels allow a romantic view over the city with menus to tempt you all day. A Peking duck pizza to help prevent alcohol exhaustion is a great recommendation, along with the quintessential saganaki bites with plum chutney. This all goes so nicely as you are guzzling cocktails from a fairly standard list. The wine list is creative in places, and somewhat regular in others.

Overall, a great after work drinks venue with the potential for dining and continuing later into the night.

**Food – Mo Vida, I Hosier Lane, Melbourne.**

I just love love love this place. A gorgeous tapas bar perched right smack bang in the middle of the CBD, with hotties behind the bar and a cracking wine list - it simply does not get much better. Add to it the Dish of the Year for 07, 'Cecina,' Air cured wagyu beef thinly sliced with a truffle foam and poached egg. Simple but like an orgasm of the taste buds. As is their paella, with traditional calasparra rice, laden with seafood and chicken. There is a wait on this usually, but by golly it is worth it.

The wine list is sensationally long, and features the best of Spanish wines along with brilliant Aussie offerings and some Frenchies, as well as some brilliant Spanish sherries which are about to send the drinking world bonkers. I recommend you try a few.

The staff here rock – there are few better I have found in Melbourne, and some of them are particularly gorgeous. I almost feel guilty sending you all there because now I will never get a table. Book early for this venue and tell Michael, Pete sent you. It is not cheap by any stretch, but after one visit, you will be hooked.

## Plonk: Mollydooker Two Left Feet 2006.

I picked this up because of the name – I am a sucker for a clever wine name, and was incredibly surprised with what was in the bottle. This is a cracking little blend of Shiraz, Cab, and Merlot and with its predecessor being 2nd Best Value Wine in the World under \$20 for 2005, one expects something good.

Bursting with exuberant fruit and a complex aromatic nose, this wine shows lovely integrated hints of vanillin oak and a multitude of flavours ranging from spice, chocolate and blackberry fruit. Both powerful and delightful, this wine exudes all three varietal characters in a strong and harmonious way.

And at \$23 a bottle, it doesn't get much cheaper or better. Get hold of a case or two of this recently released number as they will not last at all.

To make contact with Pete, email [lifestyle@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:lifestyle@qmagazine.com.au) or call 0409 142365



<http://79forresterice-bardon.com/>

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**project  
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sales.**

# q generation: with LUKE HUGGARD

## How safe is safe?

**I recently consoled a distraught friend who had been administered PEP treatment as he may have been exposed to HIV during sexual intercourse.**

The casual sex partner who may have exposed him to the virus, removed the condom during intercourse, and while this brief encounter of unsafe sex must be framed within a calm and sensible context, I am deeply disturbed.

According to a senior Doctor at a Melbourne sexual health clinic, my friend's story is hardly unusual, and follows a steady stream of similar allegations of unethical behaviour during sexual intercourse, usually made by young boys. Throw alcohol and/or drug use into the equation and the picture suddenly becomes even more complex and certainly more dangerous. In the same week, another friend called from his Sydney home to inform me that he had discovered his partner had been unfaithful, possibly more than once and with more than one sexual partner. He had been tested for HIV and was awaiting the results.

Currently, narratives that focus almost obsessively on sex and the body dominate many aspects of contemporary gay culture and almost all the gay press in this country. In the middle of an HIV pandemic, this strikes me as somewhat odd. To question the status quo on gay sexual practices and patterns would be unthinkable. However, recently an Australian gay publication devoted a half page to one of their writer's repugnant attacks on Lesbian's "Butch-Femme" gender roles and toed the 'Boys are boys, girls are girls' line. Launching into an inaccurate, narrow minded and extremely self righteous argument, the writer basically argued that any deviation from his perception of 'normal' gender roles is somehow a travesty and embarrassment to the whole community.

It reminded me of the stinging attacks many commentators within the community have launched against those who "Feel they must conform to heterosexual norms such as monogamy". They are often the same writers who oppose or remain mute on the issue of gay marriage. I am certainly not about to argue that monogamy and gay marriage will definitely provide the solution to the current dilemma many young gay people are confronted with, however, as we achieve equality and gain access to rights and institutions that have traditionally been heterosexually exclusive, same sex attracted youth may be exposed to a wider range of influences to formulate their own understandings of sex and relationships.

A growing number of young men are struggling with the personal dilemma of exactly how to reconcile a sexually liberated lifestyle that the gay scene promotes,

with a strong desire to remain healthy and HIV negative. This extremely complex issue involves everything from perception of risk and limits of trust, to broader concepts of cultural conditioning and gay 'norms'.

I have received emails from young men who share such a sense of confusion and who lack a sense of security when it comes to their sex lives. Frustration and anger are also often included in such a sentiment, as they point the finger at a gay community that they feel have failed to provide such a sense of security. While such a sentiment is understandable, it is also emotionally expedient and unfair, representing the need for renewed dialogue on sexual issues relating to young people. This process will be a long and strenuous one, but is necessary to foster the emergence of a new generation of healthy, happy and informed same sex attracted youth.

**\*\*You can contact the PEP hotline on 1800 737 669.**



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MELBOURNE

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people with HIV  
& their friends**

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or phone 9865 6756



# q beauty: with GEORGE ALEXANDER

**Boss giving you a hard time? Winter blues becoming the mean reds? Then what you might need is a spring mini make-over!**

Recently I have written about the organic product explosion that is currently taking consumers by storm all over the world. Here in Australia we are always a little behind, however, we now have more and more organic products and services to choose from.

Recently, the first organic concept salon offering organic services including hair colour through to hair care and styling, launched in Melbourne.

Metro Organic Salon, situated in Malvern offers a complete list of services. To give you that fresh new look for spring, services include style-cuts to amazing colour techniques that will leave your hair looking healthier than ever, all without the use of chemicals such as ammonia and other toxic ingredients that are synonymous with traditional chemical colour. It covers grey 100%, provides long lasting non-fading vibrant colour, allowing you to achieve any result, just like chemical colour, but without the nasties.

The salon has a real organic feel; the staff are highly experienced and extremely professional. They follow a strict environmental policy and continue the organic experience by serving refreshments and nibbles that are organically sourced, environmentally conscious and come from a sustainable resource.

If you're concerned about the daily toxins that you are exposed to, then take a few steps to live a healthier life by choosing organically sourced products. Hair colour chemicals contain some very nasty ingredients; Metro Organic Salon uses the fastest growing hair colour and hair-care range in the world, Organic Colour Systems.

Using organic natural colour minerals, plant extracts and essential oils, Organic Colour Systems is the ONLY hair colour that is safe enough to be used on women who are pregnant or patients that are undergoing chemotherapy. One thing you will notice immediately is the absence of that toxic chemical smell that you usually have to inhale when in a traditional chemical hair colour salon.

Below is a voucher that is specifically for Q Magazine readers that offers 50% off your first organic hair service and 25% off organic home hair-care products. Metro Organic Salon is situated at 39 Glenferrie Road, Malvern. Simply call 9509 8997 to make an

appointment, present the voucher by taking in this issue, and experience the organic difference for yourself. Enjoy!



**mos**  
metro organic salon

Melbourne's first Organic Concept Salon  
offers certified organic, ammonia-free hair colour  
Present this to receive

**50% off your first visit**

metro organic salon would like the opportunity to let you fall in love with us!  
We invite you to try the world's first and only certified organic, ammonia free permanent hair colour, Organic Colour Systems.

Our products and service will leave your hair healthier, stronger and in better condition than ever before, with long lasting, vibrant colour, which contains natural certified organic ingredients, no ammonia or harsh and toxic chemicals.

To experience the organic difference metro organic salon are offering:  
50% off your first service, and  
25% off organic home hair care range.

To arrange an appointment, please call (03) 9509 8997.

metro organic salon, because falling in love should be an organic experience!

39 Glenferrie Rd, Malvern  
www.metroorganic.com.au  
Ph: (03) 9509 8997

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\*Fee structure applies to basic individual return only



# q fashion: with ALEX & TRISTAN

Hello Spring...oh and hello to all you lovely readers too, we didn't mean to forget you, but this month we're like kids in a candy shop...mmm candy. Why you ask? Well after months of those long, cold, and grey winter days, spring is finally here, and with it brought a dash of colour... ok not a dash, a whole truckload.

A quick visit to any shop will reveal that the spring/summer season is all about colour, lots of it, and there is no better time than now to go shopping for your Spring and Summer outfits. Although the weather isn't exactly warm yet, get in first, leaving your shopping til later could mean you miss out on some hot options.

The most notable change this season is in the tee department, where the comeback of fluoro makes sunglasses a must when shopping. There is a great range of designs and almost every colour under the sun out, but for those of us who aren't fluoro fans there is still plenty of options. Red, blue, yellow and green are all available in a wide range of shades and

prints, and foil prints are back and a lot of black and white tees.

For a hot casual look, layer them up with some of the new collection of short sleeved shirts that are out now. When picking your tee and shirt combo look for some contrast. So if you like that hot red shirt, team it up with a black or white printed tee underneath. If it's the plainer shirts in black, grey or khaki you're into then pick a hot coloured shirt to brighten up the look, or if you're game, a fluoro singlet underneath will stand you out from the crowd.

Whilst on the casual front, there are some new cargos coming out with a bit of a move away from the baggy, zipper filled styles, into a simpler fitted style with some more subtle detailing. There are plenty of lighter style jeans around for Spring, so keep an eye out for something that catches your eye. Shorts have also been arriving, and although we think it may be some time before we can all walk around in them, keeping an eye out for a hot pair that will show off the hard hours spent at the

solarium over winter is a good idea.

In no time Spring carnival and other events will be upon us, and if you're one of the many who likes to attend, either for the excuse to dress up (like we need one) or just to see lots of eye candy in suits, now is the time to look for your formal outfit. With so much colour available in the shirt department you can't go past a grey suit. Any shade will look good, but if you can get yourself a light grey or ash suit, team it up with some of the new latte or ash/white shoes, and you'll be hot to trot come race day.

So guys make sure you get out there and check out the exciting new range, accessorise to make your look your own, and don't be afraid to try something new - or someone new - whichever takes your fancy.



**A must see for the Gay Community**

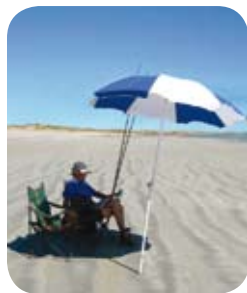
For everything you need to know from local & national news, reviews and events, [gaydestination.net.au](http://gaydestination.net.au) is the place to find it. It also features a community and business guide and great photo gallery. The name to remember is [gaydestination.net.au](http://gaydestination.net.au)

**www.gaydestination.net.au**

GAY AND LESBIAN TOURISM AUSTRALIA MEMBER

# q travel: FUN IN THE SUN

pictures and story by Shek Graham



We had only planned to stay a few days...well, three weeks later we were still camped at Port Smith with no signs of moving on. It was so wonderful to have no schedules to work to, no-one hassling us because they were bored, no-one breaking glasses, ruining tent zips, or forgetting where they had left something...just peace and quiet! Did I say peace and quiet? For several days in a row we were woken up in the pre-dawn by the sounds of zips being pulled open and shut, coins or cutlery being jingled, dogs barking, and even a cat meowing! The latter noises even incensed our dogs! We lay in our tent and cursed these inconsiderate campers. How many times can a person open and shut a tent zip after all?



It was not until some days had passed did I hear all these noises coming from a tree just next to our tent. How could someone be opening a zipper up there? Was this an aerial beat?! I walked under the tree and looked up to see a great bower bird making calls that sounded exactly like a zip, a cash register or drawer of cutlery being jingled and even a dog barking! Had our noisy neighbour been a crazy bower bird, with a warped sense of humour, all along? By the end of our time in Port Smith, this bird was even imitating a cough I had! At least we now had a little laugh every morning at the amazing mimicry of this bird.



Talking of birds, every day we were thrilled by the aerial acrobatics of brown boobies as they swooped across the ocean, their wings skimming the tops of the waves, until they spotted a fish. They then crash-dived into the churning sea to come up with their fishy meal. We were also treated to the beauty of brahmany kites, ospreys, pelicans and white-bellied sea eagles soaring majestically over the ocean and beach; the cute plovers running around on the sand to feed their chicks; and the pied oystercatchers racing against the waves to capture tiny morsels in between each rush of water.



The tides at Port Smith are huge! Sea level can change as much as 8 metres between tides, leaving an enormous expanse of rock, mud and sand flats at low tide. The rocks form shallow tidal pools in which a myriad of sea creatures dwell. Our favourites were the tiny octopi that squirted ink at us if we dared to come too close. One day we even had to rescue a young three-legged green turtle that had become trapped in a drying pool. It had a small stump as one of its legs, perhaps after a shark attack. I picked it up and put it back in the ocean before it died from heat-stroke. We spent many happy hours wondering through the pools, with our dogs, examining beautiful sea shells and finding new creatures every day. We even tried our hand at fishing one day and Jan caught a decent sized fish. However, we didn't have the heart to eat it, and we released it back into the ocean.

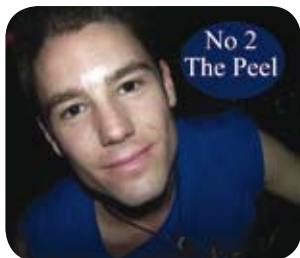


The evenings were especially wonderful, as we watched the sun go down over the ocean. When the tide was out, all the little rock pools became pools of molten gold in the dying sun. It became chilly as soon as the sun got low in the sky and we would start a big camp fire to cook a barbeque on and keep ourselves warm. Then we would sit quietly and watch the stars come out, one by one. Eventually the moon would rise behind us, lighting up the sea again with its steely light. Those were the days and evenings that were the happiest of the journey so far, full of beauty and magic... oh, and silence!





# q cuties: BE STILL MY HEART



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 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 August Q Cuties title goes to our cuties from Fridays @ the Grove. You have won a \$50 drink voucher at the Grosvenor on any Friday Night - simply pop in and see Mitch to collect - congratulations.

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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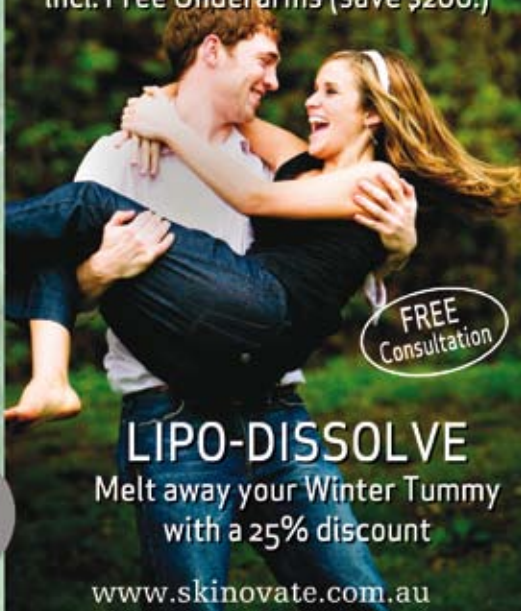
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[www.stingohotel.com](http://www.stingohotel.com)

## ***Mad Mondays***

**\$1 pots from 8pm to midnight  
FREE Juke Box from 8pm**

## ***Tight Arse Tuesdays***

**\$10 bar meals & Jolly Jugs...**

**\$8 jugs of Carlton, Cascade Light or Stingo**

**\$10 jugs of 4 x 30ml shots of top shelf spirits like  
Johnny, Slate, Bundy etc., ice & mix**

## ***Hey Hey It's Hump Day Wednesdays***

**\$10 bar meals & Jolly Jugs...**

**\$8 jugs of Carlton, Cascade Light or Stingo**

**\$10 jugs of 4 x 30ml shots of top shelf spirits like  
Johnny, Slate, Bundy etc., ice & mix**

## ***Do Duck In Oke Thursdays***

**Jolly Jugs & bar meals continue  
with the added fun of karaoke**

## ***Frock Up Fridays***

**Coming in late September - RUDE!  
with shows at 10, 11 and 12 & DJ Dazz  
\$12 - all you can eat roast dinners**

## ***C Men Saturdays***

**with Swish & dancers at 10 and 11  
\$25 steak or seafood & a glass of wine**

## ***Silly Sundayz***

**\$1 carlton pots 2 - 3**

**\$1.50 carlton pots 3 - 4**

**\$2 carlton pots 4 - 5**

**drink specials all night long**

**Shows at  
6.00, 7.30 & 9.30**

**hosted by Anita Beer plus guests & DJ Dazz  
& a chance to roll Nita's knackers**

**Bar Menu Meals from 5 - 9.30**

**with a donation from all**

**going to support**

**Pride March Victoria**

**Open from 11am Monday through Saturday  
and from 2pm on Sundays**

**Lunch from midday, dinner from 6pm  
Monday through Saturday**

**Bar Dining Room TAB Beer Garden**

**Accommodation Take Away Food**

**Pool Table Juke Box DJ VDJ Lounge**

**Shows Karaoke Bottle Shop**

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**Coming Soon**

**One of the biggest all weather  
Beer Gardens in Melbourne  
with bar, stage, smoking and bbq  
all in the one place**

# q says: with VICKI VEGAS

**Nay Nay - Boochunga's - my world welcome to it. Yes it's me Vicki in Melbourne giving that extra touch of Vegas.**

But for now I'm at:

Candy Bar's - Bingo on Mondays with

I'm one of the boys who's one of the girls - who has traveled the country for nearly 20 years next Queens Birthday 2008. And do I still love it I hear you ask...It's still is F@#@k'n FANTASTIC!

Melbourne I love you so much - and hey thanks for the support. You have some great talent here in Melbourne, and I'm chuffed you have embraced me.

I lived here almost 17 years ago and brought a touch of Liza - Thats Liza with a z - not Lisa with a s - in a case of sequins, lashes, and pumps. It was all high kicks and knackers. Melbourne loved it and are still lovin' it. Look out for my new show at end of this year called VEGAS OR BUST. With 2 male dancers and me. Bringing to the stage Bassey, Minnelli, Parton, and even Streisand.



the fabulous Slash Darling.

Every Friday at The Grosvenor With Cherry Ripe and Priscilla Poseley and those hmmm...beautiful dancers Eddie And Jason.

And DT'S every second Saturday - with Dulcie And Jennifer Ann Wells.

See you all there - um mm Southern And Coke Pweese.

## q life tips: from MARK McKEON

**Tips for September:**

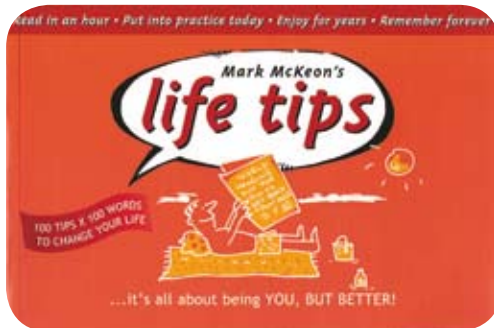
The world's funniest letter writer, Goucho Marx, once wrote: "I must apologise for writing you this three page letter, I didn't have time to write a one page letter".

I'm sure you've been on the receiving end of convoluted emails, brochures and letters. Copious material, much unnecessary, sent or CCd like a tennis player lobbing a ball at you. Not much of a shot, but at least out of their court for a while.

To improve your correspondence, write the bare minimum...then cut by 25%. You will be amazed by the efficiency of, and positive responses to, your communication.

**If you are planning to make a resolution [new years or otherwise] try this: Two guilt-free hours weekly just for you.**

A measure of proper selfishness will refresh and energeise you, and make being selfless for the other 166 hours each week less frustrating and fatiguing...rememer, two for you.



## Q Joke of the Month

A man came home just in time to find his lover in bed with another man.

In a total rage, he dragged his lover down the stairs to the garage and put his penis in a vise. He then secured it tightly and removed the handle. Next he picked up a hacksaw.

The lover terrified, screamed, "Stop! Stop! You're not going to cut it off are you?"

The man, with a gleam of revenge in his eye, said : "Nope. You are. I'm going to set the garage on fire."



He didn't tell  
me he was HIV.  
He must  
be negative.

He didn't ask  
for a condom.  
He must  
be positive.

Is he thinking  
what I'm thinking?

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

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

# q world: with LAUREN SCHIPP

This month I am going deep into the wonderful adventure which is London. A lot of travelers are so over powered by this amazing city with all its vast history and all the amazing sites to take in. I am going to take you to another level of London's qualities that a lot of travelers are not aware of or are usually too tired to explore, but this should make it easier all round (just chuck down a red bull).

**Getting to London:** There are so many carriers now that you can get some pretty good deals, think about booking your flight for the end of August start of September that's when summer holidays are over. It is a little cooler but it is better, hot days in the city are not very nice.

**Getting around:** As much as Londoners complain about it, the tube is such an easy way to get around. If you are short on time The Original Tour Bus is great as it takes you all over London for 18 pound, you can hop on and off for as many times as you like in

24hrs, try and get on the yellow line as they have live commentary and you really are surprised at how much you learn.

**Must Do's:** Head to the theatre! There is so much to choose from including Phantom of the opera which has now been running for 21 years and is still one of the best. Billy Elliott is fantastic and if you go to only one show, this would be my pick. Lord of the Rings, even if you're not a fan of the books or movie this is a must, they have spent a record amount of money on this production and it shows.

**Places to stay:** London has so much choice, but when we convert the Aussie dollar we don't get much bang for our buck. But I have found a gem, The Strand Palace Hotel is situated in Covent Garden for the price of 99 pound per night (twin/double) with full English breakfast. It's small and clean, and for the area, it's cheap. [www.strandpalacehotel.co.uk](http://www.strandpalacehotel.co.uk)

**Places to eat and Drink:** "Great" restaurants in London? Yes they're there, you just have to find them. After you go to Billy Elliott there is a lovely Spanish Tapas bar not far called La Tasca [PP atasca.co.uk](http://PPlatasca.co.uk) and if you're an exchange fan there is a pub called the Stag for drinks afterward. [www.beerintheevening.com](http://www.beerintheevening.com) Apertivo, in Beak St Soho. Italian Tapas and a wonderful wine list it is fantastic [PPP apertivo.com](http://PPPapertivo.com) Then after head to Alphabet bar [alphabetbar.com](http://alphabetbar.com) For food, drinks and to watch beautiful things, head to Old Compton Street, Soho. All your prayers will be answered. If you're up for a really big night you have to go to Heaven, it is still one of the biggest gay clubs in the world you won't regret it. [heaven-london.com](http://heaven-london.com).

I could go on forever but these are just a few of my personal favorites, if you want to know more drop me an email at [world@qmagazine.com.au](mailto:world@qmagazine.com.au)

## q grooming: YOUR Q & A SECTION

Q – What hair removal tips do you have in the lead-up to summer?

A – Waxing is one of the most effective non-permanent hair removal methods, slowing the re-growth of hair over time, and encouraging finer and softer re-growth.

Start by smoothing wax on in the direction of the hair growth, then smooth on the wax strip in the same direction. To remove, hold skin taut and pull the wax strip in the opposite direction to hair growth. After waxing, exfoliate regularly to remove dead skin cells, preventing skin and pores from clogging and creating in-grown hairs.

TRY: Mayaltha by The Natural Source – Better Hair Removal - Price \$26.95

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

## q solutions: with BOTANI

100% Botanical solutions designed to naturally meet the skin care and grooming needs of men

Is your skin blemished or sensitive and prone to irritation after shaving? The Botani Skin Rescue Kit offers a natural, chemical free solution to restore skin balance by treating, healing and preventing blemishes, shaving rash and razor bumps that lead to skin irritation and redness.

The Botani Skin Rescue Kit is a simple, nurturing and complete 3-step system that harmonises skin imbalances. The versatile product trio; Purify Facial Cleanser, Rescue Acne Cream and Boost Balancing Moisturiser introduce a new paradigm of pure plant therapy offering a refreshing yet gentle and effective botanical choice over synthetic and astringent preparations.

Botani products are truly different, because Botani utilises only the healing powers of nature to offer 'green' eco-friendly skin solutions. Botani products contain natural or vegetable derived ingredients and natural preservatives. They are free from toxic chemicals, animal ingredients and artificial colours and fragrances.

Botani is a proudly Australian-owned company and all products are made in Australia and not tested on animals. For further information about Botani and national stockists, visit their website - [botani.com.au](http://botani.com.au)



# q focus: **SAME SEX TRAVEL**

Same Sex Travel is the only comprehensive travel directory in Australian and New Zealand which has been developed by volunteers who were concerned at the lack of an accurate travel directory that lists only Same Sex accommodation providers.

They do not list "so called Gay Friendly" properties on their website nor do they charge any fees for their services. They have found, through their research, that the discerning Lesbian & Gay traveler would prefer to stay at a property that is Lesbian or Gay owned and operated.

Have you ever booked accommodation at a "so called Gay Friendly accommodation" and been questioned whether you really want a double bed by the accommodation provider, well, if you use [samesextravel.com](http://samesextravel.com), you can be sure you will be welcomed by your hosts without the "raised eye brows"!

They have over 235 Same Sex accommodation providers in Australia and New Zealand - all of whom have been checked as genuine Same Sex owned and operated properties.

There are many gay web travel directories who claim to represent the lesbian and gay travel community who only have a very small percentage of lesbian and gay accommodation businesses listed on their directories, they are really only there for the "Pink Dollar".

So when you are planning your next holiday anywhere in Australia or New Zealand, remember to check out [samesextravel.com](http://samesextravel.com) and if you do book your accommodation, be sure to mention [samesextravel.com](http://samesextravel.com) so the accommodation providers know where you found them.

**Same Sex Travel Directory**

If you know of a Same Sex accommodation provider that is not listed on the directory, please let them know so they can help promote their business.

# LAIRD HOTEL

**SATURDAYS IN SEPTEMBER**

**8TH 10PM-LATE  
MELBOURNE LEATHER MEN  
W/ DJ CHARLES  
PLAYING ALTERNATIVE  
DARK ELECTRO**

**15TH 10PM-LATE  
RESIDENT DJ MIKE EVANS**

**22ND 9PM-LATE  
VICBEARS SATURDAY  
DEN NIGHT**

**W/ DJ'S PAPA TOM  
& PETER MAC**

**29TH FROM 1.30PM  
GRAND FINAL ON  
THE BIGSCREEN  
PIES & POTS**

**29TH 10PM-LATE  
BALL PLAY - MELBOURNES  
ONLY SPORTS WEAR  
FETISH NIGHT**



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# 9 people: with DAMIEN LEITH

A truly delightful man - and an incredible talent. Damien Leith won the 2006 series of Australian IDOL and has now released a wonderful album - *Where We Land* [featuring his hit single 22 Steps]. I caught up with him at the SonyBMG offices in South Melbourne and started by asking him about the album - in particular, how many of the tracks he wrote himself.

I wrote nine of them, of which four are co-writes. As co-writes though, they are not traditional co-writes - we didn't go in and start them from scratch, they're originally my songs, they are tracks that we considered needed some extra work done on them. I'm lucky to have to so much of my own stuff on the album.

## How much latitude does SonyBMG give you in that regard?

The thing I found was that I had to be definite about what I wanted to do, and I think Sony really appreciated the fact that I was pretty definite that I wanted to go in a particular direction, and I was willing to work my arse off for it to work out like that - cause over seven months, we certainly had a whole lot of songs but there were gaps, so I had to come up with songs that suited the album. It could've turned out that I had none of them. They really supported me, but at the same time, I had to keep in the back of my mind that the album still had to get made and it still had to have a certain commercial vibe to it.

## As a writer for quite some time, what influence did IDOL have on you?

The main thing it did for me was it got the career started. I've been gigging for about fourteen years - continuously struggling on, making loads of demos, loads of recordings - which has helped out now I'm at this stage, but I didn't have any experience performing live, picking songs that really do grab people's attention [it's so easy to choose a song that you think is great but no-one else does].

## How did you get on with the judges?

During the show they keep their distance. I got on with Marcia Hines like a house on fire from day one - she is just incredible. I got on really well with Mark Holden in lots of ways, and lot of ways with Kyle too. But with the two lads it was more in a school teacher/pupil sort of way. Marcia was always very open and friendly. In the end of it all, I got on really well with all of them. Mark Holden,

who during the show gave me some of the worse reviews, also gave me some of the best advice along the way as well. He does say some things in an odd sort of way but there is a lot of truth in what he says as well.

## How much influence do you think they have over the voting trends of the public?

I think they have a massive

influence. I think a lot of people listen to what they say. If the judges say you were rubbish, you'd be surprised how many people agree with them, but on the flip side, Australians are very supportive of someone who is really trying - which is great - so when the judges do give someone a really bad rap, the Australian public is very good at giving them a shot. Touchdowns - no-one ever goes out to get a touchdown - but if you get one, there is a really good chance you will survive another week, so that has to mean something.

## Your two albums are very different. How would you compare your current one with the first one?

I tried to hold on to elements of the "Winners Journey" - the emotion and the falsetto - they are really fundamental ways I like to sing. It's the thing I specifically do. At the same time, because it's really all original, it definitely has a different slant. It's a commercial album, but I've tried to keep it still very acoustic and that singer/song writer type of vibe as well. That was a difficult line to maintain sometimes.

## Do you think there is a push to more ballads in the marketplace at the moment?

I think for me, there is a lot of rock still in me, but I don't enjoy it as much any more. A couple of years ago I was fine, but in the last little while I'm a lot happier doing things a little differently. I find with a lot of rock songs, they just don't have a lot in them - they're more about the music and not a lot about the singer [not everyone - some guys are doing some great stuff], but I think that's what puts me off - at least with ballads, the focus goes back onto the singing instead of the music. I think what we have done with album is put the focus on the singing rather than the music - as much as possible. It's much louder in the mix - the music is there but the voice is very high in it. We tried to get that intimate thing.

## So tell me about your tour.

My brother is out to play drums for the tour - so that's good. We're doing all the major cities. It's a theatre tour over the month of October. We're in Melbourne right at the start [around the 15th/16th]. Should be a big show. We're going to keep it very intimate as well though - I don't like anything that's too big. I like to be able to see the audience and talk normally. I don't like the over-rehearsed, over-scripted concert. I like every concert to be a little different. So that's what we are aiming for. It's going to be great - we're really looking forward to it.

## You're a musical bunch - the Irish - drinking and singing you do quite a lot of.

Well we definitely do the drinking bit very well [laughs].





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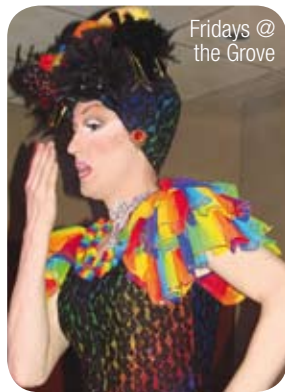




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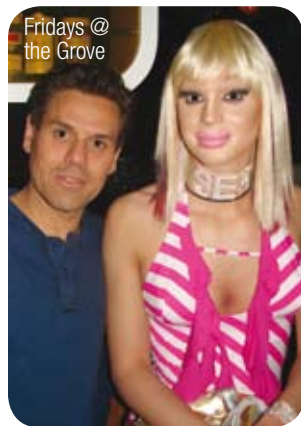
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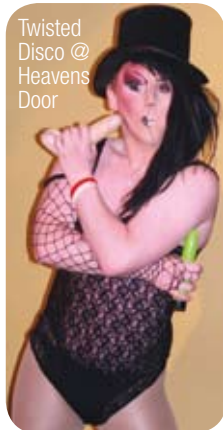
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# q scene: OUT & ABOUT



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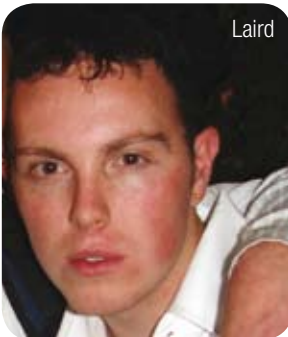
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# in bed with: BEN

Oh My God I'm Scared !^!##\$@!~!

## 3 Ways to Expand Your Comfort Zone and Not Freak Out!

We have a lazy society. Let's face it, as soon as the remote control was created we stopped leaving the couch. We also stopped doing many other things, including expanding our comfort zone in case we freaked out in the face of change (God forbid).

So when was the last time you pushed yourself that little bit further than normal? One leading American personal development specialist calls it moving through the "Terror Barrier" and there is a bloody good reason why!

You see whenever we decide to do something that is a little out of the norm, such as changing a job, starting a business, doing public speaking and even starting a relationship (or committing to a relationship, oh wait that doesn't happen with gay guys!) we decide to freak out. We either take the task by the balls and feel the fear and do it anyway, or we curl ourselves up and hide in the corner until any imminent danger is over.

So what are we meant to do to not only expand ourselves but ask more of ourselves on a daily basis? Here's a couple of steps you can take...

**1. Change Your Daily Routine** - Ok, now I know how small this seems but we've all got to start somewhere. Look at a couple of daily things you do and shake them

up. Go a different way home, eat something bizarre for lunch or dinner (leave Melways Map 58 if you live in South Yarra in Melbourne!) attend a different gym class (or maybe attend a gym class). Do something that you wouldn't normally do. The point is not to make it big, but make it many small things over a period of time. You will slowly get used to the positive change in your life and be compelled to tackle bigger tasks and changers down the path.



**2. Do You Need a Change In Careers?** - If you're looking to change career paths or even, for that matter, start your own business, start doing the research now. Don't commit to starting at a particular time until you've looked at all of your options. If changing careers scares the bajeeba's out of you (yeah i know, it's not a real word, Shakespeare made up words too ya know!) do your research over a period of a few weeks and slowly get yourself used to the ideas of an exciting career change or new business.

**3. Make a Decision**- You've decided you want more in your life, you've done the research about what you want and how you have to go about getting it, now all you have to do is do it - but there is one thing you must do before that! Make a decision that you will follow through with what you've decided and stick to it. Our society is made up of millions of people all seeking instant gratification. We want it now and we want lots of it (especially sex, hmmm, excuse me for a minute, yep all done!), however this causes a slight problem, especially for the big hairy audacious goals that take month's, if not years, to achieve.

Once you've decided what you want, stick to it, act on it and realise that it may not happen overnight but it will eventually happen. As they say, the successful person is the one that fails 5 times but tries 6. Until next time, get off that freakin couch!

# q books: ARTISTIC GENIUS

**Untitled. Portraits of Australian Artists**  
by artist, Sonia Payes

This lavish, large-format, 400-page book was first sighted in Venice where its appearance coincided with the recent opening of the Venice Biennale. It has also been enthusiastically received at London's National Portrait Gallery and at Australia House.

As a grand and spectacular statement about Australia's vibrant visual arts scene and its creative, and often quirky, individuals, *Untitled*. catches 60 Australian painters, sculptors, printmakers and photographers within the idiosyncratic environments that help to shape their work.

Often this is the artist's studio, that special space which is so essential to the creative life. Professor Ted Snell's Introduction to the book provides an historic overview of the role of the studio as it has evolved over time. Another fifty-two leading authors and art world figures who, like the artists, have been selected from across the nation, have contributed the short essays that accompany each artist's six-page section of the book.



The compilation of 700 or so images, requiring Sonia Payes' travel across Australia and overseas, are sensitively revealing of the range of identities who inhabit the pages of the book.



# q queensland: with WALLY COWIN



As a destination or just as a stop-over, Queensland always

has a range of things to do. Queensland's three international airports and with more direct flights from rural destinations to Sydney and Melbourne makes for your visit to the Sunshine State easy. To help get the most out of your next Queensland holiday, this is a short list of things to do.

The next big thing in Queensland is the inaugural Tropical Pride Festival. Launching September 16th at the Tanks Art Center Collins Street Cairns, the noon start for fair day will see local band SMASH MOJO head-lining an afternoon of entertainment including Ken & Barbie, Betty Swallows, Jamel I Lash, Willy BonkHer (Drag King), day time Battle of the D.J's, Matty and D.J. Ess, a visiting Melbourne womens group, Caravan of Love, on their Australian Tour. Other activities include a dog show, food stalls, bar, and information stalls from community and business. The first Tropical Pride Community Awards will also be announced - nominations have been received for The Arts, Community service, Business, Gay & Lesbian Supporter awards. A Twilight T dance will end the day. Go to [tropicalpride.com](http://tropicalpride.com) for further details.

Also in Cairns for the Tropical Pride Festival will be Gay & Lesbian Tourism Australia which will be holding networking functions after five at Skinny Dips Resort Friday the 14th, and a Member forum after lunch at the Annual General Meeting at Turtle Cove on Saturday the 15th.

Down the coast from there, the Sleaze Ball Season starts in Townsville with SLEAZE NQ on the 20th of October 2007 at the Sovereign Hotel on Flinders Street West. Phone (07) 4771 2909 to book accommodation or to buy tickets.

Further Down the coast, Maryborough - on the 3rd Saturday of the month - at the Criterion Hotel on Wharf Street, host a Diversity Show and Party starting at 6pm. In February 2008 is Miss Fraser Coast. Go to [frasergays.com](http://frasergays.com) for further information, dates and bookings.

Skypak Lightning is expected to announce the theme for the Brisbane Sleaze Ball soon. To be held at the RNA Showgrounds on the 10th November 2007. Tickets will be available at Den, Kruse, Wickham & Sportsman Hotels or online at [sleazeball.com.au](http://sleazeball.com.au) from the end of this month.

Across the border in New South Wales, don't forget that for New year 2008, Tropical Fruits will be Camping at Lismore Show grounds - further information at [tropicalfruits.org.au](http://tropicalfruits.org.au) Another entry for your diary is Girfest - Hyatt Regency Coolum. Friday night will feature live comedy from Julia Morris, Gina Yashere, and Fiona McCary, Saturday is party night with live bands then layabout to the sounds on Sunday with Jayne-Anne Power. 25-28 January 2008. Double click on the icon to hear the music at [girfest.org](http://girfest.org)

Australia Day (Saturday 26th January 2008) - all day sail away on Solo. Group Snorkeling, Sand Boarding, visit Marine Park, walk on Moreton Island, and enjoy a tropical lunch on board. Solo all Gay sail tickets are \$115pp Contact Wally on 0415 634 099 or Tracy on 07 3348 6100. Departs William Gunn Jetty Manly 7.30am

Back in 2008, The Wickham Hotel's famous Big Gay Day Street party returns the weekend after Mardi Gras and attracts thousands for a day in the sun - [thewickham.com.au](http://thewickham.com.au) has more details. Lindeman Island (March 2008) the After-Mardi Gras All gay Cruise event is a bargain if you book now. 7 parties, 5 nights with all meals. Deposits are being taken now for \$450 Email [Shipwrecked@allgaycruises.com](mailto:Shipwrecked@allgaycruises.com) for more information.

For a comprehensive list of what's on and where, visit Tourism Queensland's website at [queenslandholidays.com.au](http://queenslandholidays.com.au) or go to galta's website.

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# q charity: GENQ FOUNDATION

The GenQ Foundation is proud to announce it has joined with the inaugural Australian Forever Inside Out Tour from Dec 15 - Jan 15 2008.

The tour will bring together 5 unsigned and unrepresented bands to tour major centres in NSW. The final showcase performance will be in Sydney and include some of Australia's top music industry gurus who will then have the opportunity to sign the bands.

The GenQ Foundation, through its Music Development Project will be putting together a band especially for the tour called "Generation Q". This band will be made up of young GLBT musicians and singers from the ages of 16-30 years. They will learn every aspect of being in a band, recording a demo, stage presence, stage set up and choreography.

It will also be filmed for an up and coming documentary. Auditions are now open for Generation Q the band. We are looking for GLBT singers and musicians from 16 – 30 years. You need to be unsigned and unrepresented.

This tour is unique in that all the bands are unsigned and unrepresented. They will all learn every aspect of touring and be mentored by professionals in the industry in all areas. All the professionals involved are completely donating their time and skills to develop the new vanguard of Australian bands.

The line up for the tour will be announced soon and it will be the best of the best. Applications to be part of the Generation Q band can be made at [GenQfoundation.com/apply.php](http://GenQfoundation.com/apply.php) This is open to all bands throughout Australia. Q Magazine is a proud partner of the GenQ Foundation.

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*bringing together  
tomorrow's leaders*

*with today's*



## q law: with DAVID BOUNDY

principal of Boundy Legal, Sydney

**Hang on to your hats boys and girls, it doesn't get more exciting than this - the inaugural edition of q law. For our first foray into the wild and exciting world of law, I'd thought we'd cover property ownership.**

This is about the two basic methods of 'holding' property, when you buy the house or unit with someone near and dear. Those two methods are joint tenants and tenants-in-common, and which one you chose can make a difference.

Joint tenancy is the traditional style between husband and wife, or in our case husband and husband or wife and wife, or.... no we might stop there. Basically it means that both parties own the whole property, but together. Where this is significant is if one party dies. Their interest in the property passes completely to the surviving partner

and is not part of the Will or the Estate. If you are likely to have difficult family who might make an issue of things, this might at least take the home out of the argument.

The other form is tenants-in-common. This means that each person owns a stated share of the property, be it 50/50 or 90/10. In this case the property would pass just like a share in a company, through the Will to whoever you want to leave it to (and it may not be your partner). It also means, though it rarely happens, that you can sell your share independently to a third party. Tenants-in-common is also used where you want to split income from an investment property in a specific share.

If you already own a place and want to put the other half on the title, you can also do that, but we don't have space to talk about that now. You'll just have to wait for the next action packed edition. See, told you it didn't get more exciting than this...



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