



November 2007

Q MAGAZINE

Inside this Issue:

Q Cabaret with the Butterfly Club,
Q Business with the Dungeon Warehouse,
Q People with Delta Goodrem,
Introducing Q International,
Q Gardening with Pookie,
and heaps more.

*The 2008 MTC program is exceptional. We speak
exclusively to the Artistic Director, Mr. Simon Phillips.
Q Magazine - Made Locally! Enjoyed Nationally!*

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q comment: 26th INTERPRIDE

Last month I had the great opportunity of seeing two fabulous places in the world. Zurich and Singapore. The trip was made possible by a scholarship through InterPride and Pride March Victoria.

The reason for my trip to Europe was to attend the 26th Annual InterPride Conference. You may have read my full report in MCV including the fact that I am now on the Board of Directors of InterPride - representing Region 20 (which includes Australia and New Zealand) and Media/Public Relations Assistant.

This is a truly fabulous thing for us to have a serious voice on the International stage. If you (or anyone you know) has anything to do with a Pride Festival throughout Australia, please contact me to join InterPride or for further information about the organisation by emailing brett.hayhoe@interpride.org. Some photos I took in Zurich and at the amazing Singapore Zoo on the way home are included in this month's Out and About section.

To say that my trip was incredible would be a major understatement. Everything about the conference was well worth the 19 hours spent getting there. This included meeting some of the nicest, intelligent, hard working people in the world.

The pictures to the right, from the top [excluding me] are: Patrick Hardi Huber from CSD Zurich with Farah de Tomi from Gate Events; the founder of the AIDS Memorial Quilt, Mr. Cleve Jones with Mr. International Leather 2007 Michael Gerle; and finally Gilbert Baker, the creator of OUR Gay flag.

I look forward to the 27th Annual InterPride Conference in Vancouver in 1998. The International theme for this coming year is Live, Love, Be.



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ABN 21 631 209 230



q feature: with SIMON PHILLIPS



I met Simon at one of the launches of the new program and knew that I needed to interview him. One of Melbourne's more colourful characters, I certainly wanted to know a little about the man first.

I grew up and went to university and drama school in New Zealand. I directed for a few years at theatre companies in NZ, before coming to Australia in 1984, to take up a position at the Western Australian Academy of the Performing Arts. In 1987 Roger Hodgman invited me to join the MTC as Associate Director, which I did until I was appointed Artistic Director of the State Theatre Company of South Australia in 1990.

I stayed in SA for four years, then freelanced for the rest of the nineties until I rejoined the MTC as Artistic Director in 2000. Over the years I've directed more than 40 productions for the Company.

Obviously I've worked all round Australia, in different fields — drama, opera and musicals. I even choreographed a dance piece once! I've also worked in the UK, America and Germany (as well as New Zealand of course).

I have long considered the MTC to be one of the best Theatre Companies in the World. What are the challenges you and the company face with constantly presenting a world class season program?

I think Australian state theatre companies have one of the highest degrees of productivity in the world. We present twelve plays (10 or 11 of which we create from scratch), without the relief of any sort of repertoire system (like

the National Theatre of Great Britain) or the audience base to rerun past hits (like the opera companies). Our acronym-sake in New York (Manhattan Theatre Club) presents only 7. We develop new works from within Australia and try to deliver to our audiences the very best of the plays that are emerging internationally. We also revisit a couple of classics each year.

This means we're working every moment of the year. The cycle is never ending — people work over Christmas (we have two shows open in early January) and no sooner has one season been launched than we begin talking about the next one. And there's always an element of chance. A work we've commissioned can fail to bear fruit. The international market can yield unexpectedly slim pickings. So we're constantly juggling and balancing the available ingredients.

What are the greatest and worst things about working with the MTC?

The hardest thing at the moment is that there seems to be an expectation we can be all things to all people. When there's not a lot of money in the arts and when each state has a flagship company which receives a substantial chunk of the available dosh, everyone looks to that company to support their needs. The reality is that we're sufficiently funded to do what we do, but not to subsidise all the laudable artistic endeavours in the wind, or cater to the specific taste of every opinionated theatre commentator.

That said, we're forever lending our props, costumes and assistance to less well-resourced companies and our own programme of work is enjoying extraordinary success with our audiences. Most importantly, I have within the company an amazing staff of committed and talented people who devote energy and passion to creating work of the highest standard. And with our own theatre at last becoming a reality there'll be the opportunity to further develop the scope of our activities and perhaps get closer to being able to please most of the people all of the time.

This coming year you are featuring "Holding the Man". Why did you choose this piece of work?

It was such a monster hit for Griffin Theatre Company last year, playing three separate seasons and breaking all their box office records. Tim Conigrave's best selling memoir is an iconic book for the gay community — for many Australians it captured better than any book of the period what it was like growing up gay during the AIDS crisis. And Tommy Murphy's spirited adaptation transfers all its honesty, humour and heart-wrenching irony to the stage. Besides which it's a Melbourne story and Melbourne should see it.

Editor: Holding the Man is presented by the Melbourne Theatre Company from the 14th of March to the 19th of April. Supporting Partner is PLWHA (Victoria).

Any other stand out features of the new season [in your opinion]?

Well of course I think the whole season is fabulous. Every show has its own excitement and idiosyncratic appeal. Personally I found the new Tom Stoppard Rock'n'Roll a particularly inspiring read and the Patrick Marber, Don Juan in Soho, a roller coaster of outrageous delight. I'm looking forward to working on Joanna Murray-Smith's new play Ninety, and being reunited with Caroline O'Connor (who I've been missing since we did Bombshells) on the new Williamson.

But I hate to single anything out really, because I obviously believe in all of them for different reasons.

9 people: with DELTA

Meeting Delta for the first time was a truly lovely. Not only is she beautiful and talented, she is one of the most delightful people I have interviewed. We met at the Hotel Como and I started by asking her how fame has affected her, given she has been in the limelight for such a long time and is now just 22 years old.

You know what...I think you go through phases when you enter the public arena. I think you have that first discovery – when you first step into it and you have nothing to lose, you're all fired up and sing at the top of your lungs, and then you move into the expectations round – when you place far too much pressure on myself, then I went into a whole different phase with my illness, but then coming back into it I got to a place where I could embrace it and go "ok, it's part of my life, I've grown up with it, and I'm no longer phased". I find thought that, as I break into more and countries around the world, that I am the same person regardless of whether I am somewhere that people know me or don't me at all. I think that if you are going to be affected by being in the public eye it will happen straight away.

How are you feeling following your bout with Cancer? I ask this for very personal reasons, as I too had Cancer several years ago so I can empathise with you.

I had a delayed reaction on mentally how I felt about the whole situation. I went hell for leather to get better. I spent the last two years to recover and write my new album [I call it the healing chapter] – I genuinely had mortality issues, I had a lot of really dark thoughts, I was physically in pain during it but mentally I found not until I had stopped treatment did I really get affected by it. I was 18 years old. I know I tried to stand up and talk in public about it, but I was still really young. I was needle-phobic before then...the first time I had a biopsy, I fainted. Chemo, oncologists etc – it was a whole different world. People like you who have been through it, understand what happens. I get really pissed off at people who say I had a mild case. There is no such thing as a mild case of Cancer. I have never touched drugs in my life, I have never smoked, I never drank, and I was the sportiest kid, and then I got ill and I really lost my innocence to it...and being a girl, having no hair was no fun either.

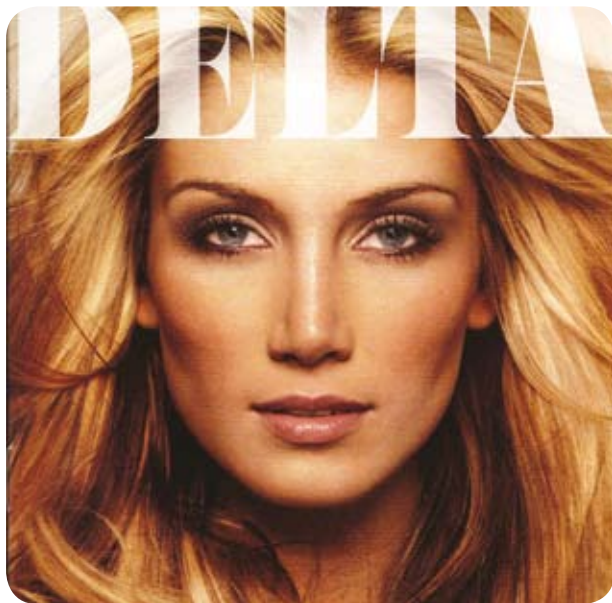
In your words, describe "Delta"

I feel it is very free. The cover is something I had in my head a year ago – I knew exactly what I wanted. When I wrote Believe Again [which is the song I think you will like] everything else just fell into place. I wrote

all tracks except for two. I wasn't writing ballads this time – my ballads were being piano driven and I didn't feel this album was a piano driven album as much because I had stopped playing for a while. After the second album I needed to feel free. I feel this album is a lot of fun. I have a wonderful partner in my life and the two of us were very creative on it. When we started writing together on it, that's when it turned around...I couldn't believe it because I was so adamant that I didn't want to write with him on the album because I didn't want us crawling into each other's professional lives, then we started to write Believe Again and we said "fine, let's write the album together".

Will you be touring "Delta"?

Yes, next year. I want everybody to know the songs first, and I want to be able to release a lot of singles off it as well. So we are going to nurture it, give it a bit of time, release hopefully four or five singles, then when everyone's has got to know it, tour it next year. That's my forte – touring – when you get to do a two hour show and people get to see you as an artist and who you are and what you actually do on stage. I like to chat on stage – I like to chat with the band, the audience, and when I was looking for ideas for the tour, that was my favourite bit. That's where people come into my world – I'm not stepping into somebody's television studio, I'm going "ok, this is me".



q review: CHRISTMAS IS COMING



SonyBMG

Very few artists have had the impact, or for as long as, this lady. Annie Lennox has released a fabulous album entitled "Songs of Mass Destruction" - featuring a selection of brilliant Lennox-style tracks including Dark Road, Ghosts in my Machine, Lost and Fingernail Moon. Get it! Got It! Good!



Beat Broker

Breaking the mould. Blurring the boundaries. Subverting the status quo. From cross-genre sonics, to independent label heroics, Resin Dogs have continuously made their own rules and carved a unique niche in the global scene as one of Australia's most renowned and respected music exports. Now the Dogs return with their massive third album 'More' - 14 tracks of pure, groove-drenched funk - undoubtedly their finest offering to date.



Warner Music

Originally to be a "greatest hits" album, Exile on Mainstream became the best of both worlds with six new songs and 11 previous smash hits for the boys of Matchbox Twenty. Arguably one of the best bands of this century - get your copy of this double CD set today - you will NOT be disappointed.



Central Station Records

Another fun - filled double CD release is out now - supporting the first Gay and Lesbian Radio Station in the country - JOY Melbourne. 36 tracks of the very best from the very best for your listening pleasure. Pick it up today from your favourite record store.



Liberation / BBC / SBS

I think the cover probably says it all - this 2 disc set is simply full of the best driving songs ever compiled. Queen, Deep Purple, ZZ Top and a whole heap more.



Heapsafish Media

JJJ listeners would already know these guys and their music. Now's the time for everyone else to "feel" their sound. Definitely not traditional, possibly left of centre, but somehow extremely entertaining. Just be careful though - some swearing is involved. Watch out also for their National Tour dates in your local papers.

*generationq.
net*
**headlines for
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and Jade Macrae
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The 'not-so-straight' election essentials
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q art: with DAVID WESTLAKE

Gifts from friends - Metal in the garden.

I will admit I love garden collectables, being a keen gardener. Many of you will think of the classic garden items - sculpture, large Italian urns, and Balinese stone Gods.

I have a real love for old metal objects from the past including antique meat hooks - great for hanging pot plants. Kettles to use as plant holders. Parts of old beds, which make great and unique garden fences keeping the dogs out. Mind you, the bloody birds still rip the garden apart.

Nothing adds a unique feel to your garden or balcony as old pieces of metal. I did have quite a few large pieces of wrought iron lacework. They looked great on the garden wall, and I even considered putting them on the dining room wall. But, with their weight, it would have taken serious drilling to hang, so they lived in the garden until we moved, then they took that trip to another collection.

The other great thing about wrought iron

in the garden, it is allowed to look and get dirty developing great patination. Do brush off the cobwebs and dust but don't over clean. Leave that old paint on as it adds that chic French style - so "in" now. Note: if you do want to remove the paint, be careful, use common sense as most old paints are lead-based.

You can acquire these objects from many sources. It's funny what people have sitting in sheds (for you city folk, I mean large country sheds where you can store 3 cars, 1 tractor and a Prahran apartment).

Garage sales and weekend markets, as well as hard rubbish collection days, also skips near house renovations are good sources, as are friends in the country or friends of friends. This leads me to one great lunch I attended recently - soup, roast lamb (even if the host did keep all those crunchy fattening bits for himself) and low and behold what's in the garden but old iron wheels - it was love at first sight. Even better, the same over-fed (re good bits of lamb) host offered to bring some back from the farm. Three to be precise, just perfect to make a small wheel fence. Made my day.

As I always say, things pop up in the strangest places - no pun intended.



q diary: ROYAL MAIL HOTEL DUNKELD



Following Pete Dillon's story last month about this property, I was invited to see it for myself - and boy, am I glad I did. A short 50 minutes plane ride and you reach Hamilton [south western Victoria], from which a short car ride gets you to fabulous Dunkeld.

For the next five hours or so, I was wined, dined, and shown some of the most beautiful countryside I have ever had the great pleasure of viewing. The hotel features no less than six types of accommodation, and as many configurations, leading up to a fully fitted homestead

which houses more than 10 people. Modern, clean, and very spacious accommodation to colonial architecture at its finest.

Chef and his team prepared an eight course meal of mouth watering local cuisine, matched perfectly by a selection of white and red wines, sherry's and cognacs from their own massive cellar - beautifully presented, delicately served - including the selection of home made breads.

Perfect in every way! Take a weekend or a week - it's well worth it. Sharp Airlines fly in and out twice a day or it's only a three hour drive. Visit royalmail.com.au for further information and packages.



q win: JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLS



Otter Fashions

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East West Health

East West Health is pleased to announce the release of their premium beauty product - Anti-aging Serum and Anti-aging Eye Cream [pictured]. Taking three years of research and 12 months in the making, they have produced what they believe to be a potent and unique beauty product that really works. They have drawn on Traditional Chinese Medicine, Western Herbology, Western Cosmetic Science, Aveyudic and Jamu traditions and Medical Aromatherapy in developing this product.

Each of the serums comes in a unique handmade Egyptian Perfume Bottle which features 24 carat gold design work. If you are concerned about you use on your face, then these chemical free products are the ones for you. Look good naturally! With Christmas just around the corner they would also make a fantastic Christmas present for a loved one.

East West Health in conjunction with Q Magazine is offering the chance for two lucky readers to experience these fantastic products. We have one Anti-aging Serum (20ml valued at \$129.95) and one Anti-aging Eye Serum (10ml valued at \$79.95) to give away to two lucky readers. Email getfree@qmagazine.com.au OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with **East West Beauty** in the subject line to enter. Further information on these products can be found at www.east-west-healing.com



East West Health

Christmas is not that far away and to celebrate East West Health have developed a herbal elixir tea based on healthy Green Tea, the popular red Tibetan Go-Ji Berries and the aromatic white Jasmine Flower with a sprinkling of stars and angel shapes made from Tu Fu Ling (Greenbeir Root). Each packet has attached a bonus Christmas CD containing: Midi files of over 10 Christmas Carols to play on your computer; The words of all the carols so they can be printed out; Christmas Screen Savers; Several Christmas computer Games; Christmas Recipes; Puzzles and Games.

East West Health and Q Magazine are giving five lucky readers the chance to win a packet of the Christmas Elixir Tea and bonus disc. To be in the running to win simply email getfree@qmagazine.com.au OR sms 0429 88 QMAG with **East West Teas** 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. 7, 16 Westbury Grove, St. Kilda East 3183. Names and addresses of people winning prizes valued at or over \$250 ONLY will be published in the following issue of QMagazine. All monthly winners are notified by email or SMS.

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q whispers: with ADDAM STOBBS

Creating our own myths:

Some of the common perceptions in our society have become self fulfilling prophecies for a lot (not all) G&L people.

The most prevalent myth is that we are lonely. After talking to many parents of G&L people over the years this has been the most common issue that they have had about the life of their children. "It's a very lonely life". Also linked closely to this is the misconception that they will never be able to form loving relationships, and that they will not know the love of children. I often think there is another, more selfish, dialogue going on with the having children aspect - the parents of G&L people are less likely to have grandchildren from them.

Is it a more lonely life for G&L people? Each person must have their own answer for this, but I think there is an element of truth in it. There certainly is from my perspective, as an upwardly mobile gay man.

Contrary to popular uninformed mystical belief, I think gay men have got it made to meet other gay men in a variety of situations, and we have this facility more than any other sector of society. Not only do we have a plethora of social venues, but we also have a very open attitude to sexual relations, that gives us a certain amount of freedom.

Gay men (and to a degree lesbians) have embraced technology to create an even more exciting environment for meeting people (mind you, the entrepreneurs have also moved into the internet and sms market).

So with all this at our fingertips, why are we still (perceived or real) to be lonely? Why is the image that we have trouble maintaining relationships? Do we really? Having never really been single, I am not qualified to answer, but as is my want, I'll have a go.

I went out to a SOPV recently (about a year ago actually) and a cute male person asked me to go into a private cubicle to spend some time together. I stopped in my tracks, "Private Cubicle" - that meant a commitment to spend time with him, valuable rooting time when I might meet someone better. Was I ready to commit? Was this the best around for the next 15 minutes? Don't risk it! What IS IT with these commitment junkies?

many Gay men and Lesbians. Those of us who grew up in the 60's, 70's, and 80's, were on the receiving end of hateful discrimination and many were too afraid to live out their lives embracing who they were. Transient sexual encounters were possibly the only way many people could experience their sexuality. Is it immoral? Not at all! But it did make it tough to find long-term partners. This transient sex culture has perpetuated for years (well it has for me) and the popular gay media does nothing to dispel it.

So with it being so easy to meet people on a variety of levels, where does this isolationist theory come from? In reality, homosexuals don't seem to be at any greater risk of growing old alone and unloved than any other person, but if we do, I think we seem to have a lot more fun on the way. If homosexuals are lonely it's not from the lack of available ways to meet people.

I think that many heterosexuals like to feel 'sorry' for us, and want to be sympathetic to us (oh, how I need their well meaning sympathy). I've even had nice people come to tell me that they are 'here' for me even though they also frequently add they "don't approve" of my sexuality. I think you know me well enough by now to know what I offer to them in response.

The real myth seems to be the more sex you have the less likely you are to fall in love. Bollocks.



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Transient sexual encounters are nothing new to

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q lifestyle: with PETE DILLON

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

Tis the season to be pissy, fa la la la laaaaa, la la la la. Or something like that.

Spring Carnival and Christmas is my fave time in Melbourne. For any of our potential interstate visitors, this column should be your guide to what is best in this fair city in spring. Rooftop bars are the new thing, of course because of the smoking laws (much to my disgust). There are some offerings below that can help find something interesting and enjoyable.

Bar: The Order of Melbourne, 401 Swanston Street, City

The Order of Melbourne sits on level 2 at 401 Swanston Street in the city. The rooftop terrace is a sensational place for a Sunday sipper. Downstairs the lounge hold 60-70 in boothed areas and open seating and is rather a nice place for a drink and fiddle with your favourite person of the day. A small back bar with full cocktail service is a relaxed place to swill away your "hard earneds" and a Japanese inspired area hosts fashion shows and performance. Check out the dunny for a giggle – golden taps in the shapes of ducks lend a certain tacky opulence to the ablutions moments of your evening. Sundays from 6pm you can find red door burlesque to keep you titillated until the later hours and offers a great end to the week.

Food: The Press Club, 72 Flinders Lane, City

The Age Good Food Guide's chef of the year, George Calombaris' venture on Flinders lane

is a jewel in the Melbourne Food Crown. This venue is the home of some stylishly elegant Greek food with a twist. Beautifully turned out, this interior is dark and sexy, and the food is simply stunning. Start with a selection of small dishes. Peppered fig ravioli and a rabbit spanakopita are my choice of these but there are many to suit any taste. Mains offer a series of clever dishes, and the duck comfit had me salivating into my wine. Being a suck for pork or duck, I willed my date to order the 36 hour pork belly. He will be grateful until he dies for the suggestion. Either that or he might finally jump into the cot with me. Sexy sides and sweet treats for afters are also in plenty. A shed load of local and imported beers, a list of ouzos for those who are that way inclined as well as the usuals in the cocktail and spirit department sit alongside a wine list that is both extensive and cleverly constructed. I would suggest mildly overpriced but that's because I like more than 1 bottle with din dins. Calombaris is the darling of the Melbourne food and wine scene and deservedly so. His product is perfectly placed for the dining taste of this city and there is enough cheek in it to truly show his personal style. Take a date that you are hoping to impress!!!

Wine: Henschke 2003 Sauvignon Blanc Semillon

Whilst we are talking impressed, I am going bonkers for Henschke's 2003 Sauvignon Blanc Semillon at present. Such sexy wine needs to be swilled and swallowed now. It boasts some stunning tropical overtones and has a fresh clean finish. The nose is all passionfruit and lemony tropical scent, with a palate that is clean fresh and very summer. The Semillon adds an almost buttery feel to give it stunning mouth feel and a zesty, lingering finish. Pick it up where you can at less than \$30 per bottle and enjoy with oysters smoked salmon and a totally hot date!



q law: with DAVID BOUNDY

principal of Boundy Legal, Sydney

With an election coming up, lets get political.

The concept of marriage for same sex couples is hotly debated even amongst the GLBTI community, and many people believe that the ability to marry is a right denied and therefore to be fought for. Personally, I was once married to a woman, and I would like the right to marry my current partner, but the current Australian government denies me that basic right.

Even though I can legally marry overseas in many countries that formalisation of my relationship, and all that legally goes with it, would not be recognised once we returned to Australia. In 2004 Mr. Howard proposed a small change in the Marriage Act 1961 that meant marriage was between "a man and a woman to the exclusion of all others" (that's you and me). He also inserted a small section that said that a

marriage in any other country that did not match this definition "must not be recognised in Australia."

Mr Howard is on record as saying that this stance is not discriminatory as it doesn't "take away.. any rights they now have". Interestingly though, in that same speech Mr Howard endorsed the decriminalisation of homosexuality because he believed "the law... had fallen way behind community opinion...and there was a need to have a more sensible and more tolerant law." hmmm

And don't think Mr Howard isn't alone. The Labor Party supported these changes in 2004 and Mr Rudd has since stated he will not change this discriminatory law if he were to become Prime Minister. So why must we not be recognised?



q generation: with LUKE HUGGARD

The jury is back and the verdict is out; the Howard government cares little about the human rights of same-sex attracted Australians in this country.

Since 1996 we have endured nothing less than institutional gay bashing by a national leader who has refused to send a message of support to the annual Mardi Gras festival, yet will meet privately with members of the fanatical and homophobic Exclusive Brethren sect. A dangerous precedent has been set by the Howard government, which has successfully created a political and social climate that excludes discourses that are sympathetic to gay rights and in which the 'Left' often speaks the language of the 'Right'.

No matter how deeply personal we believe sexuality is, to a large extent it is socially constructed and the role of government in such social construction can be a significant one. John Howard's battle to determine 'Australian values' and historical narratives is not spontaneous policy making, but rather is ideologically related to his dangerous brand of neo-Conservatism. His idea of the family does not include those who identify as other than heterosexual, nor does he believe federal law should adequately protect such 'outsiders'.

Make no mistake about it, if you identify as anything other than heterosexual, your place in Howard's Australia is limited to that of an inferior, second class citizen and to pretend otherwise is to ignore both the empirical evidence available and common sense. The Howard government's national approach to us as individuals stops only just short of outright condemnation, and is a detriment to state based education campaigns aimed at tackling homophobia. And that's where the real victims of Howard's Australia are to be found, those who are old enough to know they are somewhat different to their heterosexual peers at school, but young enough to have little or no memory of the 1996 election.

They are the emerging generation of gay youth that instead of entering into a political and social realm much more progressive and socially responsible than it was a decade ago, will inherit the pathetic state of gay rights in this country. The link between institutional recognition and civil equality and the overall health of our communities is an inextricable one. Reform may also foster a new environment in which more gay people treat each other persons rather than as commodities and in which a celebration of sexual freedom is balanced within a morally and emotionally sustainable framework.

It is with pride that I acknowledge the inspiring acts of solidarity with gay rights that those in the wider community continue to display and which have come from such diverse individuals as Kyle Sandilands, Jon Stanhope and in New Zealand, Prime Minister Helen Clark. Their voices are essential to the struggle for equality and to counter the voices of hatred and fear.



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q business: **DUNGEON WAREHOUSE**



Continuing on the north side this month, I am so pleased to be able to highlight a couple of guys I have known for as long as I have lived in Melbourne. Paul and Richard are two of the nicest men I have ever had the great pleasure of meeting, and I started in the traditional way of asking about their personal history, followed by a little about Dungeon Warehouse.

I was born in Ringwood but grew up in Geelong. Most of my working life has been spent in the printing industry but most recently I worked in travel and tourism taking people on tours around Victoria. Richard was born in London and emigrated to Sydney as a kid. He moved down to Melbourne with Ansett and worked with them for many years until the collapse in 2001.

Dungeon Warehouse can best be described as the essential store for men! We stock leather and fetish wear, all sorts of tools and toys, lubes, etc. All of those things that keep life fun and interesting.

What was your motivation / inspiration to open your own store and how long have you been operating?

We both have a great passion for leather and have built up quite a lot of knowledge over the years. Our motivation was to share that passion and help nurture people who are coming out or new to the gay scene. We did not want our store to be confronting like some adult shops around the world which is why we went for a relaxed and fresh approach. There aren't too many stores that dedicate the entire central floor space as a lounge area! We are also more than just a leather store and sell all kinds of toys and personal hygiene products.

Our business has been running now for just on 4 years. We started out as an internet site before an opportunity came up for a retail outlet that was just too good to let go. Richard was up in Sydney at the time and I couldn't wait to show him when he got back. We opened there in March 2003 and thanks to the support of the Melbourne community we have grown into what we are today. We moved into our current location in February last year and it is the most fantastic building. It is over 125 years old and has traded as a leather business for the entire time.

You and your husband work the store together. Have there been any challenges of working and living together on a daily basis?

We are fortunate that Richard and I both operate on the same wavelength and often know what the other is thinking. We are fairly creative in that way and can work together well both professionally and personally. Most people don't realise that we both have fulltime jobs outside of our business and at opposite ends of the day to each other. So life for us is very hectic. However our rule is that we do not take work home with us ... except maybe for a few toys to try out !!

What are your thoughts about gay owned / operated businesses?

Like all things you have to take the good with the bad. From our own perspective it works well. Our target market is men and predominantly gay men. We feel that our customers trust our knowledge of the products through our own personal experiences. That helps them to feel comfortable and find what they are looking for. It is also good when other gay businesses support and work together. We are fortunate have been able to build some strong relationships with other gay-owned businesses and community groups, including VicBears and NAG.

Any future plans for the store that we should know about?

We are just coming to the end of our first business plan and are putting together our ideas for the next 5 years. For us we always like change and staying fresh. We recently had our first in-store function which went well and there are plans for more are on the calendar next year. We are also looking at the educational services we can provide our community through the use of our store and the resources it can provide. Apart from that there are always lots of new toys and designs coming onto the market – we are lucky to have teamed up with some very creative and forward thinking suppliers.



q beauty: with **GEORGE ALEXANDER**

After looking into Botox last month, many readers wanted to know about Perlane. Yet another cosmetic procedure that's safe and effective.

What is Perlane?

Perlane is injectable cosmetic dermal filler that has been used to soften wrinkles and facial lines of individuals. It is also a popular filler for lip augmentation, facial depressions, and facial scarring. It can be used in both sexes.

What is Perlane made of?

Perlane is made from non-animal stabilized hyaluronic acid gel. Perlane is a non animal product and does not pose any risk of allergies. Hyaluronic acid is a resilient chemical and can easily adjust and mold to the facial contours. Unlike other dermal fillers, no prior skin testing is required prior to the injection of Perlane.

How does Perlane work?

The hyaluronic acid in Perlane augments the body's natural supply, which has become depleted with age. The injected Perlane fills up scars, lines and wrinkles on the face. Perlane is not a permanent product and is broken down in the body. At most, the wrinkle free face remains for about 6-8 months after injection of Perlane. This is a much longer period than any of the currently available temporary dermal fillers. Collagen injections, once very popular, are now obsolete in most cosmetic clinic. The availability of better, safer and longer lasting products have entirely replaced collagen. Perlane not only is much safer but also lasts longer than collagen as a dermal filler. Perlane can be combined with other cosmetic products such as Botox. Perlane injections can be used to improve the contour of facial skin, decrease unsightly wrinkles, and reduce fine lines around the nose, folds, scars, and other facial skin depressions.

What conditions can Perlane be used to treat?

- wrinkles on the face · decrease fine lines around the lips, mouth, nose and forehead · lip enhancement · improve the crease lines around the nasolabial area · Chin and lip augmentation · Filling cheek depressions · Redefining lip border · Softening acne scars · Correct the hollows around the eyes · Improve facial depressions.

When can one see the effects of Perlane injection?

The Benefits of Perlane treatments are usually noticeable after 4-8 months. Areas around the lips and chin may require more frequent touch up every 4-6 months, whereas other areas of the face may remain wrinkle free for 6-8 months. The big advantage of Perlane is that it is a non-permanent and natural treatment. The chemical contains a natural bodily chemical which fills up the skin like normal tissues. The modeling and contouring effects appear natural.

How long is a treatment?

Perlane injections do not take long. Most injections can be performed within 30-45 minutes. The injections are usually done in a clinic or a spa. Unlike injection of collagen there is no allergic testing required before injection. The product in Perlane is non animal and has no allergic tendencies. The effects of Perlane last twice as long as collagen- up to 6-8 months. Perlane is not permanent and repeat injections are required to maintain the wrinkle free face. Most individuals will require a repeat session once a year. If treatment is stopped, the wrinkles will re appear.

Is the injection painful?

Most individuals do not like needles but there is minimal pain associated with injection of Perlane. For those who are anxious about needles, the physician can apply a topical local anesthetic 20 minutes prior to the injections. Perlane is generally a safe product. Because it is made up of hyaluronic acid (Which is also a normal component of the human body) the skin does not react adversely to the product. Reports of allergy or granuloma formation are rare.

What side effects have been reported with Perlane?

Studies from Europe where the product has been widely used indicate that side effects are rare. The most common side effects have been temporary redness, swelling, itching or tenderness. These side effects usually resolve in a few weeks.

What is the difference between Perlane and Restylane?

The major difference is that Perlane is a large molecule compared to Restylane, because it contains more hyaluronic acid molecules. This means that Perlane can easily fill in deep skin wrinkles, scars, and creases better than restylane. Restylane on the other hand can be used to treat the finer lines in fair skinned people.

Who performs the treatment?

Perlane injections can be performed by either physicians or nurse practitioners who are experienced in the field of dermal filler. Most nurses and physicians have had relevant training required to ensure that they perform the procedure with due care.

Who should do my procedure and how much is it?

Because of the technical expertise required to do this procedure, without any mistakes, one should take care and select a board certified physician who is familiar with the technique and skillful. One should always ask if the physician is aware of the product and has undergone a training program with fillers. When there is easy money to be made, there is a bandwagon of people rushing to-do this procedure. So buyer beware whom you choose as your surgeon. The cost is variable but each session may start off at \$500 - \$900. Perlane is more expensive than Restylane because of the less animal content of Perlane.

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

q travel: NIGHTLIFE ON GIBB RIVER RD

pictures and story by Shek Graham

We had been at Port Smith for exactly a month. As much as we had loved every minute of every day, it was time to move on. It was with some sadness that I left this wonderful spot, but we were on the way to the Eastern Kimberley – one of the most beautiful areas in Australia. First, we had to traverse the Gibb River Road...a 600 km gravel track that connects Derby and Kununurra via some of the most superb scenery in the world.

Some of the most spectacular trees in the Australia grow in this area, and are my favourites. These are the weird and wonderful boab trees. Each tree looks like a character from the forest in the Lord of the Rings. As I look at each tree I can imagine an ancient old man or woman with a twisted trunk and gnarled limbs – carrying the wisdom of the ages. I can hear the cynical amongst you thinking that I've been smoking the odd leaf or two...but no, it's just me! Some of these natural wonders of our planet were alive when the Romans had their mighty empire!

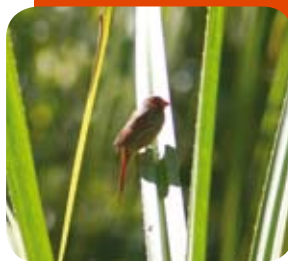
I am glad these trees are wise and patient, as the oldest and most massive of them are covered in meaningless and juvenile graffiti. If I were such a boab, I'd be dropping huge branches on anyone who dared to deface my trunk! Just as well I'm not a boab!!! Some of these trees are so massive their hollow trunks were used to house Indigenous prisoners overnight as they were marched to the nearest town, and were called prison trees. There is one of these prison trees just outside Derby and another one near Kununurra.

Enough of boab trees you say...what about the night life? No, no drag shows, bright lights and club music on this road. The night life here rustles leaves and is hairy...OK, just like a beat in the local park you say. No, these hairy things creep or scamper around...oh, I give up! I'm talking about micro-bats that nest under the bark of trees and come out at night and rustle behind you in the dead of night; or the crazy spotted northern quoll that races around the tent trying to get in, even though you have two dogs going nuts and wanting to eat it!

Let me elaborate: as we sitting around the camp-fire one night, we kept hearing this rustling sound coming from half way up a tree. After much searching, waiting for the noise again, followed by more searching, we finally spotted this tiny

bat emerging from beneath some loose bark. We watched as this tiny creature, no more than the size of my palm, made its way down the tree and into the grass searching for insects. The previous night we had been disturbed at 2.00 am by the dogs barking madly. I managed to quieten them down as I watched in amazement as a quoll (a carnivorous marsupial) sniffed around the rubbish that we had suspended high up on the trailer. It was quite an acrobat, negotiating a series of obstacles to reach the rubbish, before I decided that it was probably not a good idea for it to get at the rubbish.

The next night it was back, and this time I was ready with my camera. It was very cold and I had to quickly don jumpers and socks before I died of exposure. However as it tried to find the rubbish again I managed to get some photos of this rare and amazing creature. It seemed to have no fear of us or the dogs, or even of the flash from the camera. These animals only live for two years, and it might be their lack of fear that causes their rapid demise. It was my birthday and I had seen a quoll, close up and personal. I went back to bed as happy as after a night on the town and no hang-over in the morning!



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ice & mix**

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and Anchorage Bar*



q fundraiser: **MULTICULTURAL EVENT**

The Australian Gay lesbian bisexual transgender and Intersex Multicultural council is proud to announce that Sunday November 25 will see the hottest Gay and Lesbian Multicultural event of the year. United We Dance will come alive in its 6th year of fundraising fun, dance and entertainment.

United We Dance was born six years ago as a result of obvious cultural and religious problems in the world. We as a GLBTIQ multicultural community wanted to set an example and show that we could live in harmony (and party together of course!). At the same time it was decided that all funds raised on the night would be directed back into our community. Such recipients in the past have been Bent TV, JOY 94.9, Positive Attitude, the David Williams Fund and the Australian GLBTIQ Multicultural Council Inc.



This year the half the proceeds will be held in trust by the AGMC to assist individual multicultural groups and the other half will be handed over to the Asia Pacific Outgames. The night is fully organised by volunteers and all performers and the DJ on the night donate their time. The venue will be The Market in South Yarra who have been very supportive of the work of United We Dance. Finger food will be served and a huge cast of performers representing all corners of the globe will be on stage throughout the night. The \$10.00 admission even gets you a drink on arrival and there will be door prizes as well.

This is a night not to be missed. The crowds come back year after year for a taste of multicultural dance grooves as well as supporting some very worthy causes. Sunday 25 November, 6.30 till late, \$10.00 (Tickets only at the door), The Market 143 Commercial Road, South Yarra.

q life tips: **from MARK McKEON**

Tips for November:

1 - Phone a Friend.

Yes, you're busy and it's easy to lose the habit of staying in touch. If your friend is surprised to hear from you, the hidden message is that you've been out of contact for too long. NO - not a text, not an email - Talk to your friends.

2 - Stop thinking about getting up early to walk and improve your fitness.

Start actually doing it. First, make the decision tonight that you will be walking tomorrow. The hardest part is now behind you...next lay out your gear by the bed and set a beeping alarm for the designated time. Get out of bed by the alarm's tenth beep. Put on your clothes and take your first step.

3 - Don't be in a hurry to grow up.

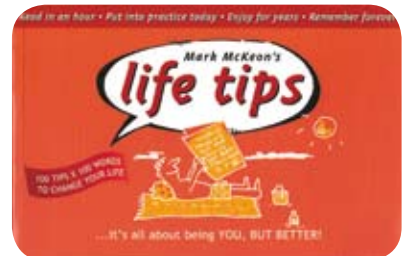
Young people often worry too much about the future. With great passion, social conscience, and desire to make a difference, they agonise about everything from misleading cereal packaging to global warming. Of course, these things are important, they may even become your life's work, but as young people, your job should be to minimise worry and maximise fun.

4 - Keep the Day Ahead.

When your "to do" list is full of unpleasant challenges and obligations, take it one catastrophe at a time. What's worrying you can't hurt you until it actually happens, so deal with the computer meltdowns, personal confrontations, broken dishwashers, dental appointments, or tax returns as they come...and if none are on today's agenda, it may not be that bad after all.

5 - Always be happy, Never be satisfied.

Everyone seems to have a "default" level of happiness. People fall in love, get promoted, buy dream homes, some actually achieve fame. Others suffer hardship, have money problems, or even suffer a tragedy, but they still soon return to this seemingly pre-set happiness level. Most of us will never be totally satisfied, regardless of what happens. So we might as well make a conscious decision to be happy anyway.





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in bed with: BEN

Evolving Revolving Gay Relationships A Chat with Johnnie Cass....

Picking up copies of the latest gay mainstream mags in the last few weeks I'd be very confused to think that as a gay man I need to be a slut, host a sex party and have meaningless sex with male after male! Wow, that all sounds great, but (and yes there's a huge but coming) what the *\$&*#^ are we teaching the younger generation? Our community seems to be so rife with drugs, meaningless sex and superficial relationships. What is an 18 year old gay male with no experience in the gay community meant to believe who he is meant to become as an individual?

As a community, we are lacking solid role models and the ones that we do have, have a revolving door policy. Please note, by no means am I a prude (I like sex as much as the next guy) but I do have great concern for a community with so many self destructive habits being prevalent. Do we think so little of ourselves that, just to feel good about who we are, we need to sleep with every Tom, Dick and Harry to validate ourselves?

This month I had the pleasure of meeting Johnnie Cass from the first season of Big Brother, to discuss with him his own perspective on gay relationships - now coming from the personal development field himself.

Johnnie had this to say:

"As we have moved into a generation of cybersex, Gaydar, Manhunt and more porn than you could poke a stick at (or your own stick at for that matter) why would anybody want a relationship in this day and age. I mean, after a few clicks, one can be online and low and behold presto a smorgasbord, a buffet of men. Hoorah! In every shape, colour, position and cock size you could possibly imagine ...it's like grocery shopping online, quicker home delivery than a dominos pizza!!" Johnnie went on to say; "But just like all those 'eat all you want buffets' in Vegas, you can walk away from a buffet filled with nothing more than a belly full of empty calories and an extra inch or two on your waste line for over indulging on that last one chocolate mousse cake that looked great but really left an awful after taste in your mouth!"

"Being single is great as it is shitty, being in a relationship is great as it is shitty ultimately the choice is yours. Having been in a relationship now for 6 years, I wouldn't change a thing. I once heard it said. You can always check out the menu so long as you eat at home, and well I guess the odd bit of take out doesn't hurt either. So before you step up to the buffet or smorgasbord ask yourself if you really need those empty calories or if your waistline really needs that extra chocolate cake. In a world where many things change quicker than you click a heel and say "I don't think we're in Kansas anymore Toto" some things don't change and one of those things is man or woman's need to be loved and give love. How you choose to do that is up to you".

Johnnie Cass now travels the world delivering life transformational programs working one on one with individuals to help them create their dream life. I'd love to hear your thoughts and opinions on how you feel as an individual the gay community is progressing in the relationships department. Simply write to ben@mqmagazine.com.au Until next time...



q fashion: with LUKE ADAM-ALLDER

It's a fond farewell to Adam and Tristan, and after nearly a year, they leave their fashion quips and quibbles to yours truly.

Fashion is like the fickle finger of fate. What works for Joe Blow may not work for Joe Schmo, so stick with what you know and are comfortable in. If you are not, it will stand out like the proverbial on a dog.

With Summer on the doorstep, a good solid pair of sunglasses is a necessity. Not only do they have to look good, they also need to protect your eyes. \$5 Cotton On specials will not suffice, so head to somewhere like Fendi. Their new season's fss 333, fss 349 and fss 340 are all stunning. Slightly rectangular in shape, they will protect your peepers and allow you to perve without getting caught.

Footwear in Summer also has to be practical. Last years Havianas flip flops won't see you through this season. Prada has a fabulous pair of canvas and crocodile print leather open toed that are so very this season

and can make any outfit from brunch to dinner look smart. Ermenegildo Zegna has capri calfskin loafers that will absorb the heat and keep your feet cool. And they look so hot.

A belt should go with anything and can smarten up even the grubbiest pair of camo cargos. Cloth belts with stylish metal buckles always look great and are parading themselves this season yet again.

Go for a pair of Versace dark denim straight leg jeans, rolled up to mid calf. Slip on the loafers or the Prada flip flops and a big cowboy style buckle and belt, flip on some sunnies and ta dah! You are looking not only sexy but ready to slip from day to evening in a flash.

Finally, don't ignore your wrists. Anything from a chunky Tag Hauer wristwatch, to a leather wristband is great. Those tacky plastic wristbands advertising your insecurities are just not attractive. Check out some of the new seasons stuff in from Paris. Totally sexy!

See you all looking well dressed in a beer garden somewhere.



q world: with LAUREN SCHIPP



Xmas is near and I think we should be asking Santa to give us a pressie to Mykonos next year. I have just returned making it my 5th visit and it just gets better and better.

When to go:

Mykonos is pumping pretty much from April through to the last week in September. High Season is June, July and August; in my opinion, not the best time to go. It is expensive, and really over crowded during this time with the other months sitting on the mid season. The weather is still superb, you might get a little more wind around the end of September but you can still bake on the beach quite happily

Getting there:

Emirates have direct flights from Dubai to Athens so you don't have to stop anywhere else in Europe. Olympic airlines fly from Athens to Mykonos. You also have the ferries which are my choice, make sure you book the fast boats it will only take around 3 hours. Hellenic seaways are the best company.

Getting around the island:

The easiest way of getting round the island is by hiring a scooter which is the most fun. There are bus services that

take you from town to certain parts of the island, but if you're not staying in town it's not that convenient.

Must dos:

Well everyone knows Super Paradise Beach is a must, but there are so many more beautiful beaches to check out. My favourite is Psarou Beach; you can sit and enjoy the gorgeous waiters serving you at your beach bed. And when you are ready for lunch, eat at Nammos, it's wonderful. Elia Beach is also a hot pick. Even if you're not into clubbing you need to check out Cavo Paradiso, the club is set on top of a cliff and as the sun rises in the morning it will take your breath away, and the fact that everyone starts stripping off and jumping in the pool...

Places to eat and sleep:

Hotel Rochari and Little Hotel Rochari are fantastic. Friendly staff, with a great pool, and short walk to the city. rochari.com For a great bite, Eva's Garden - it's in the town, hard to find but everyone knows it so just ask. Gola - this restaurant is just outside the town, but it is exquisite. It's pricey but good for a treat. gola.gr Astra Bar - great place for a drink before you go clubbing astrabar.com

q grooming: YOUR Q & A SECTION

Q - I find my skin dries out a lot easier in summer - how can I prevent this?

A - One of the most common causes of dry summer skin is constant exposure to sun, salt, and chlorine, so you should always wash skin after swimming at the pool or beach to properly remove chlorine and salt, which can dry skin out. Regular exfoliating will also help, by removing dead skin cells, making it easier for your skin to absorb moisture. Applying a body butter or moisturiser at night will also provide a moisture boost, as this is when your skin is best able to absorb moisture.

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q cabaret: A BRILLIANT LINE-UP

Reuben Krum's NAUGHTY SHOW

It's all fun and games til someone loses an eye.

Yes, it's more filth from Reuben Krum. And if anyone can make transgression fun...and dangerous, it's him...After two hit shows, closely followed by two law suits, one walk out due to nausea, and reviews

that warned people not to sit in the front, comes Reuben's third and most salacious show. The songs and comedy bounce from the Jewish Museum, to leprosy and detached love, to the uses of deceased pets and to murder. This

show has something for everyone! If you are easily offended, deeply religious, or just have a weak stomach please be wary or at least bring a sick bag. With songs by Nick Cave, Sarah Silverman, Paul Simon and many other naughty writers...A show that asks you to come, but please... bring your own towel...

Thursday 1 to Saturday 10 November, Thursday 1 to Saturday 3 Nov at 9.00pm, Sunday 4 November at 8.00pm, Plus bonus late shows on Fri 9 and Sat 10 Nov at 10.30pm \$25 full / \$20 concession and for groups of 8 or more

Andrew Pennycuik and Katie Cullinan in THE ADVENTURES OF CRYSTAL WOO WOO AND KATIKINS

It's 7pm and Crystal Woo Woo is nowhere to be found. Crystal Woo Woo is meant to be dressed,

make up and hair done and ready to perform by 7.45pm. Will KatiKins be able to find Crystal Woo Woo in time, get her ready and fulfil their performance obligations? Can Kati survive in the shining light that is Crystal Woo

Woo? Will the drama of the imminent superstardom awaiting Crystal Woo Woo be too much for KatiKins to handle? Or will KatiKins' claws come out? Don't miss the madness and mayhem as Crystal Woo Woo and KatiKins battle against all odds.

Wednesday 7 November at 8.00pm, \$20 full / \$15 concession and for groups of 8 or more

Swingin' Miss present MISSBEHAVIN'

This is the tale of Swingin' Miss – no accompanist

...just four amazing voices in perfect harmony. Missbehavin' tells the story of this jazzy a Capella quartet, and their humble beginnings. Listen as they share their amazing music and some of the tall tales from their time 'on the road'.

Find out what really happens when four women embark on a regional tour with nothing but their stunning harmonies ... and shoes for every occasion.

Thursday 8 to Sunday 11 November 7.00pm, Thurs – Sat / 6.00pm Sunday, \$20 full / \$15 concession and for groups of 8 or more

Melissa Langton and Mark Jones in NO ROOM TO SWING A CAT

Australia's hottest cabaret duo Melissa Langton (The Fabulous Singlettes, We Will Rock You) and Mark Jones (The Beautiful Losers) are bringing their sassy, soul drenched, comic cabaret back to The Butterfly Club!

She's very loud. He's very sarcastic. She sings like Aretha Franklin. He plays like Rowlf the dog. She has very big hair. He is prematurely bald on the verge of a comb over.

Thursday 8 to Saturday 10 November, 9.00 pm, \$25 full / \$20 concession and for groups of 8 or more

Jane Kelson in WONKY EARS

Who do you blame when a song makes no sense? The song? The radio station? Your ears? Be there as writer and performer Jane Kelson guides you through the comical adventures of a lass who has spent her life misinterpreting the music she hears.

Thursday 15 to Sunday 18 November, 7.00pm Thurs – Sat / 6.00pm Sunday, \$20 full / \$15 concession and for groups of 8 or more

FLIGHT OF THE BUMBELINI

It's about love, life, boobs and the state of the universe ... it's the conversations we have when we think no one can hear us – but this time the audience is listening.

Indulge in an exquisite confection of explicit conversation and music ranging from The Andrews Sisters and LaBelle to Chaka Khan and Amy Winehouse. Don't miss award-winning cabaret artists Jacqui Hoy, Helen Patterson and Cathy Woodhouse, accompanied by the astonishing talent of Andrew Patterson, in this hilariously titillating revue, returning exclusively to The Butterfly Club by popular demand.

Friday 16 to Saturday 1 December (Fridays and Saturdays only), all shows at 10.30 pm, \$25



Andrew Threlfall in **LITTLE BOY BLUE**

Who's a naughty boy then? Andrew Threlfall and Musical Director Nigel Ubrihien return to The Butterfly Club with a brand new show. Everyone has a bad side – they'll show you theirs if you show them yours...



ONE NIGHT ONLY! Wednesday 21 November at 8.00pm, \$20 full / \$15 concession and for groups of 8 or more

Emily Goddard in **DON'T HAVE SEX IN PARIS**

From the marvellously mundane Mt Waverley, to the mysteriously magic Montmartre, Mademoiselle Emily Goddard relives a life-savings spent on a one way ticket to the city of lights. Join the baskets of baguettes, bebies of berets, brothels of elephants and one notorious hairy Frenchman with a penchant for physical torture. This journey shatters a European dream with the realisation mother was right ... don't have sex in Paris. For anyone who has ever lost, then found, then lost themselves a long long way from home.



Thursday 22 to Sunday 25 November, 7.00pm Thurs – Sat / 6.00pm Sunday, \$20 full / \$15 concession and for groups of 8 or more

Susan-ann Walker in **CONFESSIONS OF A SEX KITTEN**

From Menopause the Musical to Sex Kitten! "Bubbles de la Titsia" and her main music "Pimp" (a.k.a Mark Jones) are on a mission to "Sex Kitten" the 21st century! Lashes, lips and curves (and that's just Mark!). Join leopard skin and "va va voom" as they celebrate (and educate) through the music and words of some of the sexy mamas who bumped and ground their way through the 20th century ... Eartha, Mae, Sophia ... and now "Bubbles"! WOW!!



Thursday 22 to Sunday 25 November, 9.00pm Thurs – Sat / 8.00pm Sunday, \$25 full / \$20 concession and for groups of 8 or more

Dane Shedden in **I'VE GOT A STORY TO TELL, BUT NOBODY WANTS TO LISTEN!**

When you are a child stories are about people from far off places, who triumph over evil and live happily ever after. Would you be wrong in thinking that this is exactly how the world would be? Come on a magical adventure of deluded idealistic youth. Watch as the spell is broken on our naive adventurer as he battles the feared monsters, reality and acceptance. Add a dash of humour and cheek, a touch of sentiment and compassion and top it off with an extremely generous amount of enthusiasm. The perfect potion for an entertaining night of cabaret.



Thursday 29 to Sunday 2 December, 7.00pm Thurs – Sat / 6.00pm Sunday, \$20

Bob Sedergreen in **HEAR ME TALKING TO YA**

A musical show of highlights from the recently published book **HEAR ME TALKING TO YA** by Melbourne's most notorious jazz pianist Bob Sedegreen. Virtually a musical book launch as Bob narrates and plays musical moments that shaped his life and times. This is a show laced with wit, laughter and above all the masterful musicianship that has characterised his work over some fifty years of performing both here and around the world.



Thursday 29 to Sunday 2 December, 9.00pm Thurs – Sat / 8.00pm Sunday, \$25 full / \$20 concession and for groups of 8 or more

The Butterfly Club, 204 Bank Street, South Melbourne, Phone: (03) 9690 2000 **W:** thebutterflyclub.com **OR** myspace.com/thebutterflyclub,
Open: Wednesday through Sunday from 5.00 pm til late.

Q Magazine - supporting the arts in our community.

Q Joke of the Month

A gay couple had been partnered for 25 years and was celebrating the 60th birthday of one of them. During the party, a fairy appeared and said that because they had been such a loving couple all those years, she would give them one wish each.

The one who was giving the party said, "We've blown all our money on parties and fine dining and decorating this house, I've never gotten to see the world. I wish we could travel all over the world."

The fairy waved her wand and POOF! He had the tickets in his hand.

Next, it was the birthday boy's turn. He paused for a moment, and then with a sly grin said, "Well, I'd like a boyfriend 30 years younger than me."

The fairy waved her wand and POOF! He was 90!

q scene: **OUT & ABOUT**



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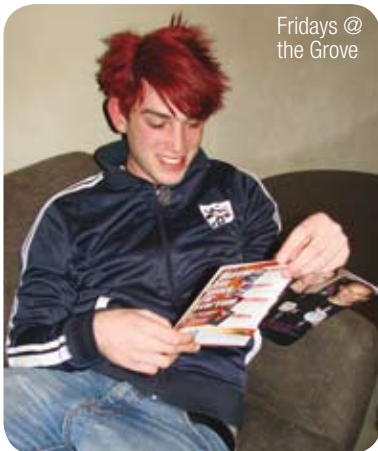
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Fridays @
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the **MELBOURNE**
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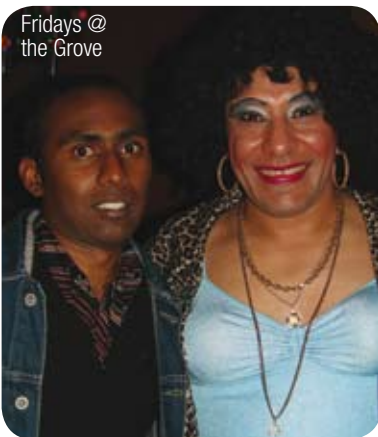
Fridays @
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Fridays @
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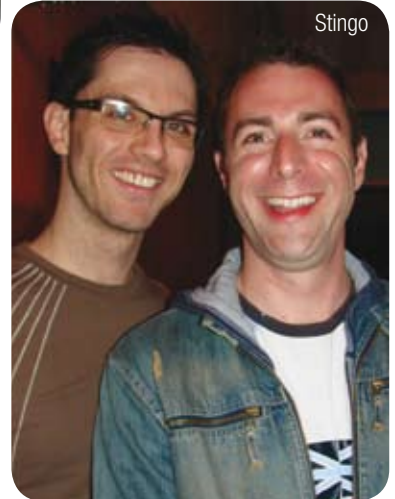
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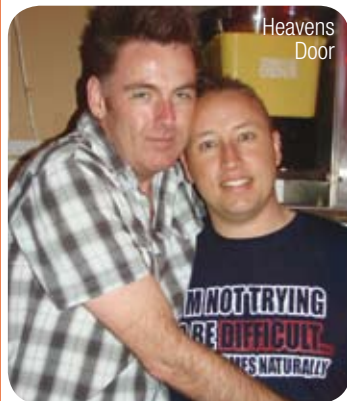
Fridays @
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q scene: OUT & ABOUT



Heavens Door



Heavens Door



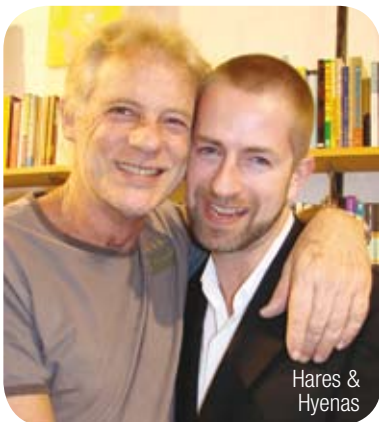
Heavens Door



Heavens Door



Heavens Door



Hares & Hyenas



Hares & Hyenas



Hares & Hyenas



Hares & Hyenas



Heavens Door



Heavens Door



Hares & Hyenas



Peel



Peel



Opium Den



Mr Lotus 2007



Market



Market



DT's



Opium Den



DIVA Bar



DIVA Bar



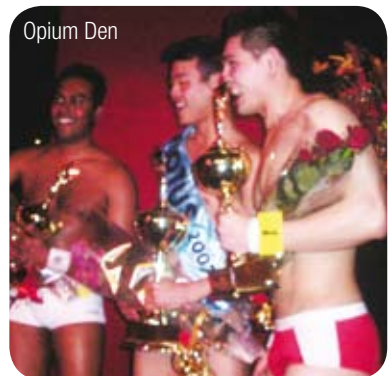
Opium Den



DIVA Bar



DIVA Bar



Opium Den

q scene: OUT & ABOUT





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q international: with ANNA HOOKER

Home Sweet...Hurst Street!

Greetings from England!

They do say that there is no place like home and that for me is Hurst Street, Birmingham. I have had some of the funniest nights in this area and I love frequenting the bars and clubs here.

For those of you who haven't had the pleasure of paying Birmingham's Gay area a visit you don't know what you're missing. It's friendly, fun and actually not that hard on the bank balance either. From the unisex toilets in Nightingale to the foam parties at Route 66, a good night can be had by all.

Birmingham has a small and compact Gay area with several bars and a few clubs all sprinkled in the same section of the city. The biggest and most well known club is Nightingale (The Gale). I remember my first visit here; I was 19, nervous and not sure what to expect. Everyone was so nice! It spans over three floors; the ground floor being the main room playing chart music and mainstream dance, the middle floor having a Grand Piano, sumptuous seating area and restaurant, and the top floor playing specialised dance music for the hardcore music-heads in there. There are always various theme nights and token z-list celebrity appearances, so it is always a good choice for a fabulous night out - nightingaleclub.co.uk

DV8 is fast becoming a popular choice with the locals. Thursday nights sees 'SKINT' I've been stupid enough to attend this night and have work the next day at 8am! Drinking on a 'school night' is never a good plan, even more ridiculous when it is £8 (approx \$18) for the entrance fee and as much as you can drink all night. There are four dance floors and plenty of space to wander around and meet new people. Unlike the Gale, the music is a lot more varied too - clubdv8.co.uk

If a chilled glass of white in a bustling cafe bar is more your thing then The Green Room is the place to go. It is slap bang in the heart of the area and the perfect place for drinks after work. In fact it is even better to people watch. When I first started going there, they used to sell 30 different varieties of flavoured vodka shots. Of course, I have made several attempts to consume all 30 shots in one night, although have never been successful. In fact, I'm a bit of a lightweight and could never get past

8! - greenroomcafebar.co.uk

So in a nutshell, Birmingham has a thriving Gay Community - getting bigger and stronger every year. Pride is growing and there are even Gay and Lesbian lifestyle shops opening in non-gay parts of the City. Prowler Stores is a funky new shop selling everything from DVD's to gifts - prowler-stores.co.uk

If you are thinking of heading to England, then don't just head for the obvious London, Brighton and Manchester and pay Birmingham a visit. In fact, I challenge you to drink all 30 shots in one night... Go on I dare you!



q products with: THE NATURAL SOURCE

The Natural Source is launching five new Organic Skincare products, gentle and safe for your skin and the environment.

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Ultimate Cream Cleanser - \$24.95 A delicate cleanser with aloe vera to gently cleanse without drying, while maintaining your skin's natural pH balance.

Alcohol-Free Balancing Toner - \$22.95 A gentle, alcohol-free toner with aloe vera and vitamin A to tone and brighten the complexion, while removing excess impurities and leaving skin fresh and hydrated.

Skin Recovery Day Moisturiser - \$27.95 A nourishing day cream with jojoba extract and shea butter to help restore skin's healthy balance for smooth, healthy and supple skin.

Ultra Rich Night Cream - \$29.95 An intense, rich moisturising cream with vitamin A and macadamia oil to deeply nourish and rehydrate skin throughout the night.

Skin Recovery Eye Serum - \$32.95 A nutrient-packed eye serum with citrus, ginger, cucumber extract and aloe vera to help hydrate and calm the sensitive skin around the eyes. Refreshing and uplifting.

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q gardening: with POOKIE

Hi everyone. Now with the warm days of spring are coming to a close and the long hot days of summer are just ahead all the avid gardeners are out everywhere. Buds are bursting, seeds are germinating, and plants are shooting fresh green growth.

November and December for myself is a busy time. For any avid gardener, there is so much that has to be done its hard to prioritise what tasks to do. Well first thing is first. By now all of your spring flowering bulbs will be starting to die back and now they are forming new bulbs. It is at this time you should lift them from the garden and store them away. What you do is very simple, just lift them up but be very careful as they would have produce new bulbs and remove the soil from them, just use a soft brush or perhaps an old broom head will do, and store them in a brown paper bag in a cool dry place. That's all you have to do with them until autumn when they will be ready for planting. So in their place the best thing to do here is to pop in my old favorite Snapdragons. Within a few short weeks these will produce flowering spikes that will flower right through to autumn or any other annual will do, might i suggest a display of pansies or the old traditional annual "petunia" just a few dollars spent here will turn any drab and empty spot into a show case.

Next thing to do is to look at your roses. I must say that this year is the best year for mine. Absolutely bursting with buds. But now is the time for spraying them for blackspot. Blackspot is a fungal disease that infects any type of rose. It is a wide spread problem. Its appearance is a round black spot that develops on the upper sides of the leaves. The leaves start to turn yellow and the fungus becomes large and then spreads to other leaves then from rose to rose. In some cases it can destroy the rose bush itself, but here is the best and only way to control this pest. First remove all infected leaves and stems, burn or bin these straight away . This is best done when there is no wind. Why? Well the answer is simple black spot spreads from spores. Once you have remove all infected growth spray all areas of the rose and all surrounding plants with a fungicide spray. You can purchase these sprays from your local hardware or nursery. But remember you are working with chemicals so please use safety gear such as gloves, dust masks and eye protection. Now then spray the top, and under the growth, a complete coverage is what's needed, and do this at ten day intervals for about four to five weeks. This is really best done in the early hours of the day .

Contrary to popular belief, roses are actually drought hardy plants. Drought hardy means that they can go for a few weeks without water. But they are in no way drought tolerant. They will need watering. They also need full sun at least six hours a day. Roses planted where they get only a few hours of sun or if they have been planted in a shady area will not produce good blooms nor will they

grow properly. If they need feeding, well the best thing that they do like is manure - the more the better. But at times you will need to feed them with a well blended mix of all purpose rose food. About once or twice a year is needed but this must be watered in very well. I use grey water to do this, and the use of grey water has given me the best results in years. So there's some food for thought. The next thing to do is pay attention to your lawns. As we can't water them, the best thing to do is remove any weeds that have sprung up and give your lawn a good aerate. Now just use an everyday garden fork and insert this about three to four inches deep then give your lawn a feed uses a complete lawn food. I tend to do this when it's a cool day and rain is expected. Well even though we are still having water restrictions use your grey water from your washing machine. I have connected and installed extended hoses from my drain outlet so when I do my laundry I know that all of my garden is being well watered.

Next thing to do is to start on your pruning. Yes that's right - pruning. With all the new spring growth it is time to give your trees, shrubs etc a bit of a trim. So all you will be doing here is just cutting back and promoting a new growth, and shape and form to trees, shrubs etc. Do not remove too much as the hot summer days can put a lot of stress on your plants. All you do is just take a bit back. Believe me it will do more good than harm. Till next time, Happy Gardening...NOTE: USE GREY WATER - IT'S FANTASTIC.



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