

## Midsumma 2005

Issue 10

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It's been a hectic couple of months since our last issue – way too much to include in one column – however there were some notable highlights:

Tom and the boys from the Peel had a great time at the Rainbow Awards <ask them about the "special water and coke that was on the table>. I went along to make sure they didn't get up to too much mischief <as if I could stop them>.

Congratulations to the Burnett Institute for the Melbourne World AIDS Day Concert in Federation Square. The weather was perfect, the entertainment was varied, and the message was constant. I'm sure the condom flowers gave parents something to explain to their children as well. On World AIDS Day itself, I was privileged to be asked to speak at the performance of Mozart's Requiem at St. Paul Cathedral – a huge crowd packed the Church and a great deal of money was raised for the David Williams Fund.

Speaking of the David Williams Fund – DT's "Santa Bruce" handed over a cool \$1000 to myself and Graeme as funds raised at the Friday night chook raffles in November/December..... and the same weekend, Kerrie LaGore handed over another \$1300 on Commercial Road.

Events coming up:

Pride March Celebrates it's 10thYear this month with a spectacle along Fitzroy Street (and into Catani Gardens) the likes of which Melbourne has never seen.

A huge month of events is planned for MID-SUMMA Festival this year. You may not be able to do or see everything on offer – but I encourage you to participate as much as possible – after all, this is OUR festival.















# Do you Roll, Fold orThrow? By D Allen

It's almost here, that much anticipated holiday to a far off exotic place, but first there's some house keeping to do. Now, you know that traveling anywhere with scissors, nail files, cork screws etc is totally banned and will be confiscated at the airport, so if you really want to toss money away, toss it at me, not those bozo's at the check-in area. Having said that, never and I mean NEVER travel without a cork screw, everything else you can live without, but when confronted with a truly great bottle of wine and no way to open it, well need I say more. ALWAYS PACK A CORKSCREW IN YOU MAIN LUGGAGE.

Ok, so now we're past the basics, let's tackle that suit case. Do you Roll, Fold or Throw?

If you are going to be on the road for several weeks you really need to think about space and the weight of your cases, for this reason I prefer to Roll and Throw. Rolling fits much more in and you don't end up with permanent creases in everything which is a common problem with folding. T-shirts and jeans fit snuggly into little nooks and crannies all over the suit case, it really is amazing just what you can fit in. Leather (Chaps, vests etc) also roll well. Don't forget leather boots are the perfect place to hide socks and jocks.

At this point I should mention that I never iron anything before packing. If you are staying somewhere that doesn't have an iron, leave.

Now for the Throw side of things. This is the second part of successful packing. First go to the wardrobe and drag out all those ol' bits and pieces that haven't seen daylight for twelve months. Shirts, T-shirts, Jeans, Socks, Jocks, Jumpers etc. The philosophy behind this is, wear it, and then throw it away. No washing, no smelly clothes stinking out the case, you end up with lots of room, a lightweight case and you don't spend tedious hours at laundries. Of course you will probably reach a point when you will need to re-supply some of the cast off's, so now you have the perfect excuse to go shopping. Let's face it, in most parts of the world it is very cheap to buy new bits and pieces. In New York a few years ago I sent my T-shirts out to be cleaned. They ended up costing me double what I paid for them new, so keep that in mind. When flying, busing, training or driving, do it in old clothes, it's more comfortable anyway.

Happy Traveling.

# Computer Superstore

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\*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 winners are notified by email. \*\*Must be over 18 years to enter.

We welcome a new Q Magazine friend in this issue - Aresmen! - with one DVD and one Video of their newest release "The Intruders - Cocktails V 1" to give away. Email getfree@qmagazine.com.au with Cocktails in the subject line to win.\*\*

For more information about Aresmen and to buy online - visit www.aresmen.com



### Darren Hayes "Darkness"

This is classic Hayes – sleek, sexy, musically superior, and audibly pleasurable. Out now in all good record stores from our friends at Sony Music, this single release is one definitely for the music loving GLBTi population.

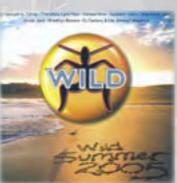


#### **Downsyde "When the Dust Settles"**

This album is a huge step forward since their successful 2003 release "Land of the Giants" and features more than 20 tracks ranging from hiphop party anthems to downbeat monsters – and plenty of surprises in between.

"When the Dust Settles" tells the story or our times since the world went crazy in September 2001. I strongly recommend you have a listen. In stores now from Obese Records and special thanks to Sam @ Beat Brokers for making us aware of it.





#### Wild Summer 2005

What better way to start 2005 and celebrate MIDSUMMA than with an album of unadulterated hits.42 hits over 2 CDs – Wild Summer 2005 is out now from Central Station Records – need I say more?

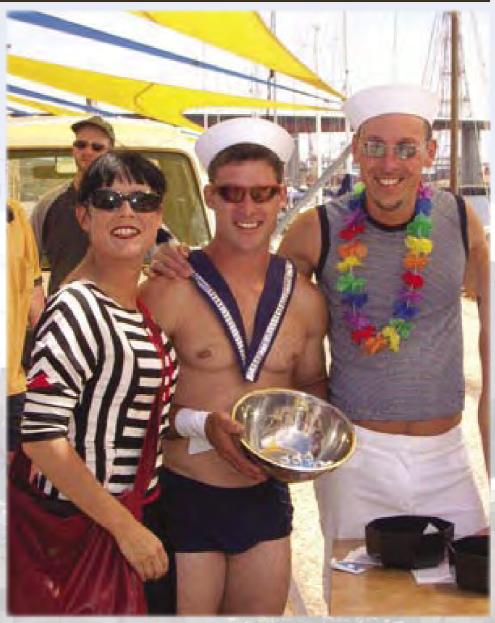


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Summer In Melbourne Means Many Things. The Beach, The Pool, Getting Away, St Kilda, Going Out, The Tennis, Any Manner Of Things But Most Of All, And Perhaps Universally Across Our Great Sandwich Community, It Means Midsumma Festival. Interview By Tim Hunter

Melbourne's premier – but not exclusively gay and lesbian community celebration, as it is called, is seventeen years old this year, and like any adolescent, it's beginning to explore the world around it. So much so that this year's theme is "A Queer New World", and it's inviting people to explore that world with it.

Midsumma President, Kris Darmody, is an enthusiastic and excitable person, and someone who can't hide her passion for the Festival. She's been president since May 2003, but has been involved with the festival since early 2002, ever since she offered to trademark the Midsumma Festival name. "I'd been working as an intellectual property lawyer," she explains, "and I was hopelessly bored one afternoon. Midsumma was on and I decided to see whether or not they had a trademark registered. I'd always wanted experience in arts management, because it complements what I do and where I would like to head." It wasn't long before she found herself on the Board as secretary, and then looking after sponsorship. "It was great because it basically takes you across the festival, in terms of needing to know every single aspect of the festival, its different components and what each of those can offer to sponsors, and in doing that, you're recognising who the audience is to each of those events."

But back to festival and its Queer New World. What exactly is that about? "The focus of this year's festival," explains Darmody, "is basically to encourage and challenge people to look at and go to events and aspects of the program they wouldn't normally go to.

"For a lot of people, Midsumma means Opening Night and Carnival, and that's all it is. But within the three-week period of the festival, there's a vast array of performing arts, cabaret and visual arts. So we're saying, 'this festival is a world of its own, and it's there to be explored, and for every individual or group to get whatever they choose to out of it,' and to push boundaries, and spark some curiosity to see something else, and to meet other people. There are so many wonderful and colourful people within this community, and often we get caught up in our day-today routine, but there's plenty out there to see and do."

As Darmody begins listing the highlights for this year's festival, she gets a little more

excited. Along with the bookend attractions, Opening Night at federation Square again and Carnival in the Alexandra Gardens, there's also a one-off performance by Varla Jean Merman in Girl With a Pearl Necklace at the Forum Theatre, "she is a very well respected and celebrated performer"; indigenous performer and writer Noel Tovey's show Little Black Bastard, "it's important that we have a cultural mix, and he's offering a new aspect to the festival that we haven't had for a couple of years"; Grethe Cammermeyer, ex-US army colonel, who will be speaking at the Health in Difference Conference at Telstra Dome, as well as at a Q&A after the screening of Serving in Silence, the film made about her battle with the US Army's ban on gays in the military.



The visual arts program is also worth a look, says Darmody. "New Q has been renamed into Transitions: Space & Perception, and is an alteration of the previous boutique visual arts event, and then there's the Queer Street walking tour of public spaces throughout the CBD." Novel Conversations this year is also focuses on the Queer New World theme. "We've got a great line up: Sophie Cunningham, Robert Dessaix, Noel Tovey and Marg Vandeleur" And of course, last year's party hit, Summa Cruise, which is back this with two cruises, a daytime and an evening one.

Continued Page 10



As a struggling artist myself I have always attained to master the art of portraiture.

Not because I think portraiture is the highest art form. I've just always been absolutely rotten at it, and it has grown into a considerable hurdle that I attempt to fumble over now and then.

Therefore, I have always been in awe of anyone who makes it to the final 40 of the Archibald Prize.

This year, I was very pleased to see that Craig Ruddy's David Gulpilil was the winner of the Archibald Prize. It was brilliant, it was big, it was sensitively infused with our compromising history and it celebrated the power of this one man to straddle both cultures without comprising himself... although often to his own frustration as he has acknowledged in interviews.

You see, that is what I search for. A portrait of a characters' soul. Maybe even a detailed account of their features and movements. Whilst not going so far as to say "anyone can paint a standard portrait", I do feel that the hallways of many Town Halls are scattered with merely vacuous, cold 'duplications' of a persons' image.

Feature Cont ...

"This sold out very quickly last year, so people had better get their tickets now," Darmody urges.

So, does all this mean the festival's getting bigger and better? Not exactly. "It's changing," she explains. "The festival always tries to maintain some relevance, and to create enough interest to keep its audience, and to serve the GLBTI community. And that does require some kind of change, to keep the program exciting and moving, which doesn't necessarily mean bigger or better." There's no doubt though that the festival's profile has increased. "It's now recognised as one of Melbourne's key festivals on the festival calendar, and plays a major role in the City of Melbourne, one of our supporters."

It's not all about just entertaining the community though. Midsumma is also about getting that same community involved. "It gives queer artists and performers and opportunity to express themselves within a festival that is by definition queer, for the gay and lesbian community. It creates some kind of focus for

If I can look at a portrait and say "yes, even though the nose is a bit out of joint, the colours aren't exact, I know that this captures the very embodiment of that person" then I am happy. Evert Ploegs Jana Wendt; Peter Kendall's Peter Brock and Robert Hannaford's Self Portrait certainly achieved this end, whilst also appealing to my conservative eye.

The artist who I felt really threw the dart on the winning circle (don't ask where I come up with these rubbish expressions) was Henny van den Wildenberg's The Storyteller – Mem Fox. Henny's focus was clearly not on the detail of Mem's face or body, but on the movement, expression and energy that makes this human a personality.

This lyrical evocation of Mem's movement echoed Giacomo Ballas' 1912 Futurist piece, Dynamism of a Dog on a Leash (Leash in Motion) that I fell in love with for the same 'photodynamic' effect.

After all of that, is it any wonder how irate I get when I see pieces such as Joe Furlongers' Peter Hallinan, Tribal Arts dealer (retired) and mountain bike rider. I may be slammed from those that will throw out some toss pot theory on its magnitudinal impact on Modern Art, but ya know, I'll never swallow a raw egg either... no matter how great some people may say it is for me.

I'm not a staid traditionalist, but I must admit that my appreciation of art kicks off with Caravaggio and Goya, sits very comfortably with Bonnard, Matisse and Cezanne then strides forward until it starts to wane around the 1960s Warhol era.

Therefore, a malformed, slap dash, primary school take of a bloke on a bike, with no expression to save its aesthetic failings; is in my opinion, an insult to the other competitors and just...well....total bullocks. The End.

certain works. It also allows people that identify with this community to perform and register an event. And it's about representation and visibility of the queer community in Melbourne. It's very important that we remain visible as a force in the cultural mix, particularly as we are becoming more acceptable in broader society, which is fantastic, but we don't want to be losing a core sense of identity, in whatever form that may take."

There are other ways of getting involved too, of course. "People can volunteer, they can subscribe at the website (www.midsumma.org.au), they can become a member, or they can just hang out."

And what does a Queer New World mean to Darmody herself? "There's so much within this city and this community, and within the three weeks of Midsumma to explore, to discover, to unfold, to challenge yourself, and to learn, to meet new people, to catch up with old friends, there is a plethora of activities, and it's vibrant and colourful and exciting, and it's a Queer New World."



# Congratulations To Mick From Apollo Bay For Winning Our Q Chrismas Hamper. He Has Taken Home:



From Tessa Furniture a fabulous swivel Chair – visit www.tessafurniture.com.au for stockists and a list of their full range of furniture.

From Kusco Murphy a fabulous basket of body care products – the full range of products and stockists are listed at www.kuscomurphy.com.au



From OUT Video the full Queer as Folk Series 1, 2, and 3 Disc sets (Series 4 now showing on SBS) – visit www.out.com.au for the latest releases, competitions and more.





From Peri Homeworks a Collection of Bed Linen from their quality range. The sheets set is called Peri "Fine Linen" and consists of 100% Pure Cotton Flat Sheet, Fitted Sheet and 2 x Pillowcases (white) – go to www.peri.com.au to view their full range of amazingly wonderful products.

Thank you to everyone who entered – we received over 100 individual entries for this competition. Watch out for the next exciting competition in Q – and remember to keep entering for Get Free.

It's Me It's You It's Q!

Go on holidays in your home! With all the unsettlement around the globe why not have the well travelled feel within the sanctuary of your home.



Give your home the feel that most pieces have a story of memories behind them.

How to get the look.....

Use colours from the same palettes such as vanilla, chocolate, late and mocca's for your staples such as the sleek buffalo leather set shown and then splash in your own taste with either deep nature inspired greens, rich plums, bronzed sunset orange or classic cream.

Add depth of texture with woven natural fibre products such as the amazing lamps shown here (available at all Villa & Hut stores nationwide – www.villaandhut.com), detailing on cushions which add variety, throws and interesting one-off pieces such as a chunky chest used as a coffee table or a leather chair in one

corner of a lounge room.

Natural materials are the hottest contemporary look — choose from leather, cotton, wool, linens and silks and mix them up. Combine different weaves and weights of fabric for a beautifully bespoke effect. Forget less is more and layer up!

Dream of the countries you yearn to explore and bring them into your home – tribal African mud cloth wall hangings, colourful mosaic Moroccan bazzar platters, Indian silk lamp shades and jewelled box's or mango wood bowl from Borneo and laquered vases from Vietnam all as pictured here.

Join the mile high club in your home this summer and enjoy.

Courtesy of Villa & Hut: www.villaandhut.com



This is a true story from the WordPerfect helpline. Needless to say, the help desk employee was fired; however, he/she is currently suing the Word Perfect organization for "Termination without Cause." Actual dialogue of a former WordPerfect Customer Support employee with a caller:

"Ridge Hall computer assistant; may I help vou?"

"Yes, well, I'm having trouble with WordPerfect."

"What sort of trouble?"

"Well, I was just typing along, and all of a sudden the words went away."

"Went away?"

"They disappeared."

"Hmm. So what does your screen look like now?"

"Nothing."

"Nothing?"

"It's blank; it won't accept anything when I type."

"Are you still in WordPerfect, or did you get out?"

"How do I tell?"

"Can you see the C: prompt on the screen?"

"What's a sea-prompt?"

"Never mind. Can you move the cursor around on the screen?"

"There isn't any cursor, I told you, it won't accept anything I type."

"Does your monitor have a power indicator?"

"What's a monitor?"

"It's the thing with the screen on it that looks like a TV. Does it have a little light that tells you when it's on?"

"I don't know."

"Well, then look on the back of the monitor and find where the power cord goes into it. Can you see that?"

"Yes, I think so."

"Great. Follow the cord to the plug, and tell me if it's plugged into the wall."

"......Yes, it is."

"When you were behind the monitor, did you notice that there were two cables plugged into the back of it, not just one?"

"No."

"Well, there are. I need you to look back there again and find the other cable."

"......Okay, here it is."

"Follow it for me, and tell me if it's plugged securely into the back of your computer."

"I can't reach."

"Uh huh. Well, can you see if it is?"

lo."

"Even if you maybe put your knee on something and lean way over?"

"Oh, it's not because I don't have the right angle - it's because it's dark."

"Dark?"

"Yes - the office light is off, and the only light I have is coming in from the window."

"Well, turn on the office light then."

"I can't."

"No? Why not?"

"Because there's a power outage."

"A power... A power outage? Ah, Okay, we've got it licked now. Do you still have the boxes and manuals and packing stuff your computer came in?"

"Well, yes, I keep them in the closet."

"Good. Go get them, and unplug your system and pack it up just like it was when you got it. Then take it back to the store you bought it from."

"Really? Is it that bad?"

"Yes. I'm afraid it is."

"Well, all right then, I suppose. What do I tell them?"

"Tell them you're too stupid to own a computer."





#### **ARMPIT SWEATING?** No Sweat!

Summer is here, finally, just as we get back to work. hope you all have a few dollars to spend on yourself after donating to the Tsunami appeals. Its hot, damn hot, real hot and you are staining just as we get back to work. I your shirts with embarrassing underarm flow.

Hyperhidrossis is the medical term for excessive sweating anywhere on the body. Its cause is usually unknown. People with this condition, or those who just sweat a lot under stress or pressure have been very poorly treated by the medical and natural medical professionals. GP's often put people on antidepressants which can cause dry mouth, constipation and a tiny bit of relief for sweating but who wants to take pills that effect your brain every day for a 2-5% improvement in wetness?

Removing the sweat glands surgically left scarring and deformity of the armpit. Other techniques like cutting the nerves that stimulate the sweat glands (part of the Parasympathetic nervous system) gets a bit scary as these nerves lie next to your spinal cord in the neck (yes they use long interments to get in there) and the results are not always good and the procedure has obvious surgical side effects...(get you minds off your long interments and back to those armpits boys).

SOLUTION: 10 mins of tiny tiny injections placed into the skin of your armpit will reduce sweating by 70-90 % (no its not a misprint) and it last about ONE YEAR (no that's not a misprint either). Its true (trust me again I am still a doctor and I gave you the three placing's in the Melb. Cup two weeks before they ran, and look out for Makybe Diva doing the Drag circuit soon). I have found Dysport to be the best and longest acting product and there are NO SIDE EFFECTS, none.

OK, it costs from \$650-750 for the treatment, an anaesthetic cream is used and it works in everybody all the time. Try and find a doctor who has some experience with it and let me tell you ALL the clients I have treated are Very Very happy people. Hairdressers, Flight Attendants, Waiters, Drag Queens, anyone and everyone is getting it done.

So don't leave a smear of sweat on your loved one (or two) when they hug you, dry up those "pits" and they wont give you the "sh-s".

Dr Paul, "no sweat"



#### "The Club Scene is never boring when I have my Q to read"

Congratulations to Chris from Collingwood who has won our January "Show Your Q" competition and is the recipient of our \$100 prize. Michael will also go into the draw for the \$1000 prize being drawn at the end of 2005.

Enter "Show Your Q" by sending a picture of you and your Q - with an appropriate caption to competitions@gmagazine. com.au.



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Q Readers!

Welcome to a new year and another installment of the Fashion Bible!!!

As the New Year welcomes a new outlook for life and we contemplate whether our lives are heading in the right direction... Or at least I do... What opportunities arise and how to best tackle the year to come... We are no doubt left with many a Christmas present that we were inundated with only weeks before. But now that we have our vision for the future but are stuck with items from the past, how do we best prepare ourselves for this exciting time? Easy... take any item of value you were given that will only stay wrapped in its casing or thrown to the side cupboard back to the store and use the returnable items to give your new year the start it deserves!

We are a community that [statistically] has disposable income unlike any other. 'The Pink Dollar' I remember in school watching lifestyle videos and researching marketing campaigns that referred to our community as rarely incurring the expense of child school fees, weddings, and financial burdens that although emotionally make our life difficult, allow us the freedom to spend and save in ways that a heterosexual couple can't. So respectfully knowing this, this issue I offer you the means to make a real start for the New Year. If you are really looking to impress, and importantly do it for no one other than yourself, here are my tips on where to get started.

Introducing Jacob Anthony – THE Q ESSENTIALS COLLECTION! Jacob Anthony has secured the complete collections of legendary fashionista's Vivienne Westwood and Dsquared2. Both of who dress

the successful figures of international celebrities and supermodels, whilst basking in the glory of world domination.

Jacob Luppino and Anthony Pittorino began with a philosophy. To give back to the clientele that supported their first business. A self designed bridal couture house that has today provided them with the platform to expand into their second. With passion, flair and great appreciation for beautiful clothing, JA now represents the current European season of these two great labels as well as a self titled diffusion prêt a porter label of their own.

The store sets a new benchmark for clothing available to the average consumer walking the streets of Melbourne. Top fashion buyers world wide travel extensively to purchase only pieces of the collections that are now home to Greville St. Prahran.

Dsquare2 the High end Milan based label owned by the Diesel revolution, focuses its attention on cut shape and proportion, directly linked to the labels style and form fitting success. The Fall/Winter 04/05 range of Masculine mixed low slung and high waisted designs feature washed and tumbled trousers with an extended crotch, casual and formal suiting, embroidered shirts and loveable 3 ply cashmere. Completed with an individual urban shoe range the quality and exclusivity of fabric texture and detail in the finish and treatment of each garment is quite remarkable.

Partnering this refined collection is Vivienne Westwood, one of this centuries most influential designers and a muse to many of today's fashion designers, captivating audiences worldwide. This season caters to the avant-garde of contemporary youth



with JA presenting Vivienne Westwood Man and Gold Label. The collection is complete with shoes and accessories and co insides with the Vivienne Westwood exhibition currently open at the National Gallery of Australia in Canberra. A shining example that proves credit to her talent and input to the fashion industries world stage.



THE Q ACCESSORIES COLLECTION! I bring attention to Makers Mark of Collins St. Melbourne. Founded by the Noble family in 1977, the initial concept was to showcase its member's diverse and purely Australian creative talents. Everything from product to production is proudly Australian and Makers Mark now represents close to one hundred of Australia's leading jewellers and artists. Jewellery, giftware and precious objects range in price from one hundred and ninety dollars to over one million dollars, makes Makers Mark's affordability accessible to a variety of consumers. This is the stop for a unique item that will not date over time.

To mention only a few of the many exceptional pieces. I highlight rings and cufflinks of a difference. Both items suit a consumer who holds themselves with value and pride.

Ron Kogles Titanium rings are a fusion of patterned metals titanium, gold, platinum and silver that are the fruits of years of classic goldsmith training and experimentation. The design process uses new materials (titanium and zirconium), tools and technology to created bold, sophisticated and flawless pieces of artwork that are one of a kind.

Ina Crombach Cufflinks have been individuality hand made and are a powerful statement for a business suitor with a modern day edge. Made with white and yellow gold and adorned with mother of pearl, the cufflinks glamorize the simplest crisp cuffed shirt and ensure you will always want to have your shirt pressed in honour of the jewels.

Makers Mark have many captivating lifestyle pieces that includes Tribal and Contempory artwork; sculptures; glassware; ceramics; diamonds; pearls; gemstones and precious objects with many of the designers on hand to design or re created works to suit the buver.



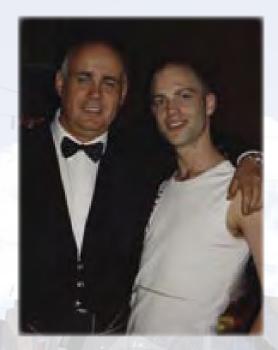
Both stores, in true creative style, are welcome to be viewed as galleries - so start local! For now more than ever Melbourne has great international cred. With the world among the bustle of the streets you will be stylishly prepared to power through the year ahead! Enjoy and absorb for the collections are honestly fabulous!

x Michael.

#### Jacob Anthony 03 9533 8661 Makers Mark 03 9654 8488



# "CAMP CAPERS





Oh our dear, dear, loyal readers. My sister Tiffany & I realise how much you all must have missed not having our wonderful little column to read at the start of the month. But I'm afraid like everyone else in the magazine, we too could not gather enough energy to write articles after our goings on at New Year.

Now I know you are probably expecting to read about stupid old drag queens making fools of themselves in every venue that would let them in. HOWEVER, having listened to some of the sordid stories and having looked at the photos that were taken at Christmas & NYE, I have instead, decided to dedicate this month's column to the Rainbow Awards that happened at the end of November.

Now I KNOW you'll be asking WHY?? Well, frankly, everyone I met, and everyone Tiffany 'bumped' into in the toilets over the last few weeks have all said the same thing. They had a great bloody time! And as I said to my dear friend Lucy Loosebox, "it's not about the winning luv.." "it's about looking more gorgeous than every other bitch in the room!" Now, look at Tiffany for example. Has she ever won an award? No, OF COURSE she hasn't, but does it stop her from enjoying herself and looking good? well, I suppose when I think about it, there has to be SOME reason for her looks and personality (apart from the fact that GOD must have

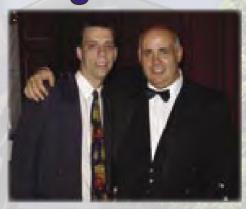
# An alternative look at a lads, girls night out with Tiffany & Morag

cursed her when she was a foetus).

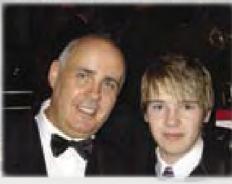
Anyway, back to the rainbows. Or to be more precise, the unofficial after party at the Peel. Now this is where the night of all nights REALLY happened. When we think of the upcoming Midsumma Festival and our PRIDE March, we all like to think of ourselves as a community, or a 'little family'. Sometimes with all the bitchin' that goes on throughout the scene, I wonder if our 'family' would be perfect for a Jerry Springer show. But, when I think back to that night, and all the drags; the boys in their best suits; the old queens you only see once a year, and of course, Miss Candy hanging off the bar telling everyone who she is - like there's someone on this Gay planet that doesn't know! - When I remember the laughter, the fun, the hugs, the kisses, - well, all I can say is thank God for our little family. Hope to see you all during Midsumma and at PRIDE MARCH!

And could at least one of you do me a personal favour – if you do happen to run into my dear Sister Tiffany, or indeed Miss Loosebox. Please give them a hug and tell them how pretty they are. As for Moi!, I already know!

Morag







foam party foam party Saturday 29 January from 9pm til dawn Summa Suas O5. Peel Dancebar presents its annual Raunchy midsumma foam party foam party foam party foam party toam party www.peeldancebar.com.au

## BARE-BACKING AND NAIL-BITING

a hypothetical about sex, pleasure and other catastrophes

#### let's talk about it...



# SUNDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2PM-5PM

St Martin's Youth Arts Centre 28 St Martin's Lane, South Yarra

All welcome! Free entry but places are limited - please call or e-mail to book your place by Friday 4th Feb 2005.

Based on an original idea by PLWHA (NSW)



PLWHA Victoria
Call (03) 9865 6772
or e-mail your details to:
suzy.maihotra@plwhavictoria.org.au

#### Finding "the words to say it" By David Menadue

Disclosure of one's HIV status is still a difficult issue for many HIV-positive people and a campaign being run by PLWHA Victoria during Midsumma aims to clear up some misconceptions about the issue within the gay community whilst hopefully helping positive people to feel more comfortable about it themselves.

"The Words to Say It" is the name of the education campaign and messages and special events around the theme will be a part of PLWHA Victoria's participation in Midsumma this year. In Pride March we will be introducing one of our key messages which aims to reduce some of the barriers which still exist between positive and negative gay men when it comes to sexual negotiation. Using the message "Are You Negative Towards Positives?" we want to challenge the high levels of rejection experienced from HIV-negative gay men by positive men when they disclose their HIV status during sexual negotiation. In Victoria HIV-positive people do not need to disclose their status before sex if they are having safe sex but there is a high expectation from HIV- negative people that this will happen.

We are also directing a message at HIV-positive gay men: "Are You Positive Towards Negatives?" to reinforce the message of personal responsibility for protecting others from HIV whether disclosure happens or not.

The highlight of the campaign will be a fun event open to the whole gay community called "Barebacking and Nailbiting: Sex, Pleasure and Other Catastrophes" to be held at St Martin's Theatre, South Yarra on Sunday February 6 at 2pm. The compere is the wonderfully witty and glamourous Vanessa Wagner. She will be compering a hypothetical play about sex featuring a panel of community identities in a spoof on some of the funny and serious issues which HIV can introduce into our sex lives. The event is free but we would like people to RSVP on 98656772 to give us an idea of numbers for the day.

Further activities will include a presence at the Midsumma Carnival where we will further spread our messages of the campaign and a visit to Chill-Out Festival in Daylesford in March. A forum on sexual health will be held in Bendigo in April and a final forum for the campaign will be held in Melbourne in June.

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#### They wanted each other. Maybe they needed each other...

FLY-ON-THE-WALL as part of 2005 MIDSUM-MA FESTIVAL present FALLING SO SLOWLY

Written by Steve Willis, Directed by Robert Chuter, Designed by Stacy Gardoll, Lighting Design by Christopher Tollefson, Costumes by Alban Farrawell, Produced by Russell Sims & Grant Scicluna with Christopher Pender and Brian Davison

Chronicles the first weeks of a relationship between Bobby, a good looking young Caucasian man from Alabama who has recently moved to NYC, and Grant, an African-American musician from Philadelphia who has lived in Manhattan for several years. After meeting in a bar, Bobby and Grant quickly connect sexually, but struggle in their efforts to share other parts of themselves. Both men are paradoxes: Bobby is full of insecurity, yet he seems to always land on his feet, Grant has the soul of an artist, but he often masks this with a wry sense of humour. As secrets from Bobby's past are revealed along with secrets from his present, Grant also begins to open up more. By confronting their private truths and expressing their needs, Bobby and Grant discover a unique and meaningful rapport.

The acclaimed Falling So Slowly... won the 2004 Carolina Contemporary Playwrights Competition in America. Playwright Steve Willis will be flying in from the U.S. for the premiere.

WORLD PREMIERE -Opening Media/V.I.P. Night - Tuesday, 18 January. Tuesdays - Saturdays, 18 January - 05 February @ 8.00pm

\*This performance contains male nudity and high-level sexual content

ST. MARTIN'S THEATRE [Irene Mitchell Studio] 44 St. Martin's Lane, South Yarra 3141 [Melway Map Ref. 2L C3]

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SPACED OUT is a non-profit science fiction fan club run by volunteers. It is primarily a social group. Membership is open to any science fiction fan that is gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered or intersex. Supportive friends are also welcome. The group is about creating a fun social environment for those in the GLBTIQ community that are Sci Fi fans. We are proud to support PFLAG Victoria as our official club charity.

They have monthly meetings and social events (including bowling, theatre/movie visits, pub nights, dinners, barbecues and picnics). They also publish a quarterly magazine and have published 2 anthologies in the past, had "Bent TV" and "JOY Melbourne" spots and other media interviews/articles plus participation in Pride March.

They won first prize in the novelty section in last year's bakeoff (pictures attached). The club celebrated its 5th anniversary last year. They

always manage to put together an entry for Pride March. Their entry usually grabs the crowd's attention as some of them like to dress up in costume.

Yes they admit to being Queer and Sci Fi nerds <wink>. The club has been involved in some wider Sci Fi conventions including hosting panels. They have also given presentations to the general Melbourne Sci-Fi community on what and how Sci Fi relates to being a GLBTi person.

For further information or to join email: info@spacedoutinc.org, ring the club secretary on 9645 2123 or visit the website http://www.spacedoutinc.org.

Q Magazine - Proud to support OUR Community.



Proudly proclaiming himself to be Mrs Pride March, Garrett Teters is co-convenor of Pride, with Penny McDonald (or Mr Pride to you) as fellow co-convenor. He's been involved in Pride March for nine years (he's only missed the first one), and loves it to death. Interview By Tim Hunter

This year, Pride March is ten years old, and in the spirit of Pride March, this year's theme is simple and direct: Out and Proud for Ten Years. "Let's not confuse the world any more than it already is, because we seem to confuse enough people," he says with the hint of a wicked smile. Because it is the tenth year, and in keeping with the philosophy of Pride March, a poster design competition was held, and won this year by William Ainger. "That's been our philosophy all along. It's not our Pride March, it's yours. We just do some things to let you have it."

And it's this concept that is at the heart of Pride March. It's not Mardi Gras, and it's not a political rally. It has elements of both, but is a whole lot more too, and as Teters suggests, is best described by their Mission Statement: Pride March Victoria is committed to creating the focus through which Lesbians, Gay men, Bisexuals and Transgendered people project their Courage, Solidarity, Pride, Diversity and strong sense of Community.

"It's a celebration," confirms Garrett. "Outside of that, it's difficult to define in terms that it is different for every single person. There are groupings of people that see it as some kind of something, but within that, what it is to them personally is immensely powerful!

"I don't know what kind of ripple effect that this will have. Some young person, or old person who sees someone marching there may then takes a step forward or feel a bit more safe, or love themselves a bit more, and that's powerful stuff. Previous Pride March president Dean Beck said once, 'If we close the road and spend all this money, and one person walks down this street, then that's it, that's enough'."

Last year has given our community a lot to stand up and make some noise about, so does this mean this year's Pride March may be a tad more political this year? "Well, I don't know. Will it?" asks Teters back. "What are you doing? What is your statement this year? What do you need people to hear? What's important to you?

"Is Pride March political? Absolutely. It's one of the beautifully political things that can happen, because it invites all politick. The day Bruce Ruxton and the fundamentalist Christians march with us, we've arrived."

Figures of participants are hard to pin down. Some people, as Teters explains, may just walk half a block before they find it too overwhelming to continue, but it's estimated that across the whole day, which includes marshalling at Lakeside Drive, the March and the concert afterwards, they average between 50 and 75,000 attendees. Speaking of the concert in the Catani Gardens afterwards, Teters highlights some of the performers they've got involved this year. Along with JOY Melbourn'e infamous karaoke stage, "we're absolutely thrilled to have comedian Sue-Ann Post, doing a little routine before the speeches, as well as Luke Gallagher and Kay Sera, the Rainbow Band, and finishing up, as always with DJ Jules"

And does Teters ever see a time when Pride March won't be necessary? "No. Absolutely not. Human beings always need to take a moment to feel good about themselves, to take stock, it always needs to be the case, to feed self esteem, which makes us better people. Alternatively, yes. The day 4-point-something million Victorians take a short stroll together down a street in the City of Port Phillip, maybe we won't need to, but I tell you what, I reckon if that happens, the whole group will say, 'that was fun, let's do it again!"

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